SAP users can now see all the information they need without leaving SAP and trust that it is current, complete, and consistent.

SAP® Plant Maintenance (SAP PM) is the leading solution for asset maintenance in asset intensive industries such as oil, gas, chemicals, and power. However, it is limited in its ability to manage engineering design information or manage all the information that is impacted during ongoing maintenance efforts to make your plant safer, more reliable, and more effective.

Hexagon PPM has specifically designed several products to manage engineering data and documents. HxGN SDx® Connector for Plant Maintenance brings the best of both together, seamlessly. This connector is compatible with the HxGN SDx platform, SmartPlant® Fusion, SmartPlant Enterprise for Owner Operators (SPO), and SmartPlant Foundation (SPF).

The result is less time spent on non-productive tasks, such as finding and verifying information, and more time spent on the activities that are critical to safe, efficient operations.

SAP PM users achieve the following advantages:

- Quick, integrated access to engineering documents with up-to-date engineering revisions
- Simple viewing options for documents stored outside SAP PM
- Info map
  - Requires minimum configuration and skill level to administer
  - Requires minimal end user training
  - Serves as a common search, view, and simple navigation solution for engineering data and documents
  - Operates on thin client architecture with zero footprint in a web browser

High quality engineering data and plant documentation are essential for efficient, safe, and reliable maintenance activities, and effective utilization of SAP PM requires consistent up-to-date master data for functional locations.

While many industry professionals agree to the importance of this, surveys indicate that most companies struggle to make it a reality. The impact of poor quality information in SAP PM includes equipment being incorrectly maintained or not being maintained at all; this maintenance deficit causes a high risk of equipment failure and potential incorrect purchase of replacement equipment and parts.

Frequent causes of maintenance systems being disconnected from engineering data sources include:

- Inadequate handover specification
- Overarching protection of the SAP system
- Aging plants
For more than 20 years, Hexagon PPM ALIM systems have proven their ability to gather, keep up-to-date, and create an engineering design basis, or the asset's "digital twin", to combat this disconnection. Working together to maintain this information now are HxGN SDx, SmartPlant Foundation, SmartPlant Enterprise for Owner Operators (SPO), and SmartPlant Fusion; the SDx Connector for Plant Maintenance is the puzzle piece to match up engineering and maintenance data.

SDx Connector for PM allows integration of SPO Management of Change process with SAP notifications, ensuring that engineering changes executed in SPO get implemented/installed in the plant by maintenance teams controlled via SAP. Once a change request (CR) in SPO has come to an approval stage, SAP maintenance can plan the execution. The SAP connector grabs the change object and transfers it to SAP PM. After a data transformation, the CR/tag pair creates one SAP maintenance notification with one related functional location (FLOC).

There are four important work processes that SDx Connector for PM covers to ensure tight integration between an engineering design basis held in Hexagon PPM ALIM products and SAP PM:

1. Synchronizing Engineering Tags with Operational FLOCs
2. Asset Information Link for SAP
3. Synchronizing Operational Equipment with Hexagon PPM ALIM Solutions
4. Synchronizing Engineering Changes with Operational Notifications in SAP PM

These processes are covered in depth in our white paper, “Bust through Barriers with HxGN SDx Connector for Plant Maintenance,” available for download at hexagonppm.com/go/pmconnector. Contact your account manager or visit hexagonppm.com for more information on SDx Connector for PM.