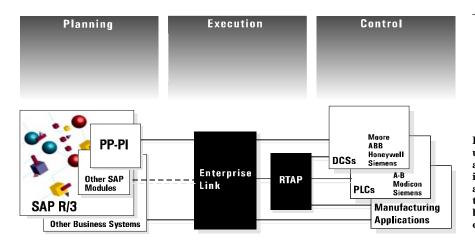


Enterprise Link

Product Overview



Closing the Information Gap

Hewlett-Packard's Enterprise Link is a pacesetting middleware product that integrates SAP's R/3 system with your manufacturing plants —no matter what plant information systems you have. Unlike proprietary point solutions, Enterprise Link is a bold new architecture which can unite any mix of plant systems with SAP's PP-PI module. The result is improved customer service through make-to-order manufacturing, reduced inventory cost, and increased efficiency.

HP's object-oriented design reduces work and risk. Users visually map data between PP-PI and real-time plant systems, configuring a run-time server that uploads process data into R/3 and downloads recipes into your plants. An innovative SAP object communicates with PP-PI through SAP's standard remote function calls, simplifying PP-PI data structures for visual presentation. Other communication objects, written in a powerful scripting language, integrate your mix of control systems into the architecture.

Enterprise Link includes:

- point-and-click data mapping between PP-PI and plant control systems
- flexible message triggering for process uploads and recipe downloads
- real-time data service that automatically links PP-PI with plants
- data protection from network problems
- persistent data store for execution information needed by PP-PI
- a communication object that

Enterprise Link unites SAP, HP, and control partners in a solid, low-risk architecture to close the information gap between planning and execution.

encapsulates PP-PI and simplifies complex data structures

- a communication object for users of HP's RTAP supervisory software
- extensibility to other plant information systems via new communication objects
- interactive tracing and testing tools
- Hewlett-Packard reliability and worldwide support

Configuration

The graphical configuration tool works like a file selector. Tree views of PP-PI and plant data appear side by side. To integrate data between R/3 and your plants data, you select PP-PI fields and attach them visually to corresponding "tags" in the plant information system. In a "trigger" window, you tell Enterprise Link when to move the data — any



combination of time, events, ad hoc, or on SAP request. By simplifying PP-PI data structures and providing visual data mapping, Enterprise Link dramatically cuts the risk and expense of integrating plants with R/3. Data mappings can be imported/exported from ASCII files and edited in standard word processors or spreadsheets. You can save mappings in annotated files for configuration-audit purposes or inclusion in electronic batch records.

Execution

A run-time server, linked with the appropriate communication objects, drives data automatically between PP-PI and your plant information systems.

Either R/3 or the control side can initiate data transfer. Execution data uploads are triggered by time, or by event-driven changes like consumption thresholds, operation/phase changes, quality checks, or alarm conditions. Plant operators can send messages interactively on command. R/3 drives data movement when Enterprise Link gets a call from PP-PI.

Automatic event-driven messaging eliminates the lag and liability of manual data entry. Data movement between plant systems and R/3 is synchronized and tuned to the specific information that needs to flow. With reliable execution data, PP-PI updates other R/3 modules to support key metrics (such as cost-to-manufacture or availability of finished goods) for R/3 clients elsewhere in your enterprise.

Reliability

Expect the best from HP. Enterprise Link protects your data with user-configurable message spooling for dependable recovery from transient network problems. When the network is restored, the Enterprise Link server resumes normal communication, forwarding all spooled messages with no data loss. You can simulate test messages to either PP-PI or the plant system, dynamically tracing the data flowing in Enterprise Link.

Extension

Enterprise Link extends to integrate any mix of plant information systems. Distributed control systems, programmable controllers, supervisory or historian packages, LIMS products —all can reuse HP's Enterprise Link architecture through communication objects developed in a powerful public domain scripting language.

Several major control vendors have endorsed HP's architecture for standard PP-PI connectivity. All are equally welcome to play.

HP RTAP users have an easy path to PP-PI connectivity through a standard communication object, fully supported by HP.

Operating Platform

Enterprise Link will be released initially on UNIX systems from HP. Availability on Windows NT and other UNIX platforms will follow.

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