Automated Tools for Managing Product Information

Organizations today are under increased pressure to improve product designs as well as manufacturability and sustainability while reducing costs and development schedules. These initiatives are taking place in a competitive environment where products are more complex, new technology introduced at a faster rate and critical suppliers are facing a severe economic climate.

Managing components and suppliers is more critical than ever as obsolescence, counterfeit, and non-compliance risks continue to grow. An effective product information management system will enable organizations to increase the pace of new product introductions, avoid costly production interruptions or product redesigns, and improve sustainability over extended service lives.

Collaborate to effectively manage configurations and suppliers

BOM Manager automates product management by linking information, people and processes to:

- Identify obsolescence issues by monitoring component status changes, lifecycle and availability forecasts
- Analyze impacts and risks at the component, assembly, product line and platform levels
- Automate resolution processes and communication with responsible parties
- Enhance practices by documenting issues, resolutions, approvals, costs, and other metrics
- Research parts and suppliers with integrated access to the CAPS Universe electronic, electro-mechanical and fasteners database

Integrated with the CAPS Unified Database

BOM Manager includes access to the IHS CAPS Unified Database, the leading electronic component database with attribute data and documentation on over 470 million electronic, electro-mechanical and fastener parts, from more than 4000 manufacturers, as well as integrated access to the tens of millions of NSNs and part numbers in Haystack Gold. Users can easily research components by part number, manufacturer or attributes and quickly compare parts side-by-side to improve technical, design and sourcing decisions, from within the BOM Manager interface.
Identify potential impacts earlier
- Receive daily updates for component status, PCN and EOL notices, GIDEP alerts, counterfeit, substandard and high risk parts
- Generate life cycle and hazardous material health scores based on the years to end of life forecast, number of active suppliers, RoHS compliance, lead-free status, and hazardous material attributes
- Access EU-RoHS, China-RoHS, REACH, DRC Conflict Mineral-free and Full Material Disclosure (FMD) content
- Determine the presence of hazardous substances from the REACH SVHC lists
- Compile Where-Used and Commonality reports based on part number, technical characteristic, alert notice, or manufacturer
- Generate 2-4-8 year availability forecasts at the assembly and part level.

Manage multiple sources in a Corporate Part List (CPL)
CPL provides the means to manage cross-references between corporate or OEM part numbers and actual manufacturer parts with a part list that is referenced by all of the lists that are loaded into BOM Manager.

The CPL is managed as a master list that can be edited, replaced, or appended within the application and is referenced whenever a list is imported, and includes an option to Auto-Match parts. CPL parts are matched and processed for exceptions and all affected BOMs are automatically updated to eliminate the need to track multiple sources in individual BOMs. In addition to providing ten custom fields that are viewable in the application and exportable in custom BOM reports, the CPL also provides alert notifications through email for EOLs, PCN, Counterfeit, and part status changes for CPL parts.

Automate critical processes
- Organize and manage BOMs in a single, secure environment
- Support fully indentured BOMs; maintain relationships with alphanumeric levels or next higher assembly designation
- Manage part additions/edits/deletions within one application
- Load data easily using the BOM Import Wizard
- Automate part number and manufacturer name cleansing, including part number auto-matching
- Build a knowledgebase of reconciled supplier and part exceptions
- Track new, reviewed, and under investigation alerts
- Generate Approved Manufacturer List (AML) records for parts that match DSCC or Military Specification parts
- Summarize exceptions and obsolescence impacts
- Integrated access to datasheets, environmental documents, technical attributes, and alternates (FFF, equivalent, functional, upgrades, downgrades)
- Manage AMLs containing multiple manufacturer parts with preferred part / manufacturer designation
- Assign part with best life cycle score to matching AML parts
- Identify alternates for at-risk parts, along with the manufacturers that are actively producing the alternates or industry generic parts
- Capture comments and resolutions and automatically copy to matching parts across all BOMs
- Establish Restricted and Read-Only User roles to control import, view, and edit capabilities

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