

# **Reading Sample**

In this chapter excerpt, you'll learn how to perform your key accounts payable tasks. After an overview of the purchase-to-pay process, you'll walk through vendor accounts and invoices and see how to make manual and automatic outgoing payments.









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# Financial Accounting with SAP S/4HANA: Business User Guide

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# Chapter 4

# **Accounts Payable**

Accounts payable is the accounting part of the purchase-to-pay process. Ideally, every acquisition results in a vendor invoice and a payment. The accounts payable ledger in SAP S/4HANA is where all vendor accounts are managed. In this chapter, we'll cover the most important areas of accounts payable, from the purchase-to-pay process through reporting.

Accounts payable in SAP S/4HANA is where you manage and record accounting data for all the vendors with whom your company procures goods and services. From the basis of a purchase order and a goods receipt, you record supplier invoices, perform and approve payment for any purchases, clear the open items in the payable accounts, and process any kind of correction, valuation, and adjustment postings. As you've already learned in Chapter 3, transactions performed in accounts payable are directly reflected in the general ledger. Every posting performed in accounts payable generates an entry in this way on the respective general ledger accounts, which ensures that accounts payable reconciles with general ledger at all times. This real-time updating is possible through the settings in accounts payable and general ledger account master data when the accounts are created. Furthermore, the system provides you with balances and open items reports in accounts payable to track the outstanding payments and balances of all vendors.

Starting from the master data setup of vendor accounts, this chapter shows you how to record vendor invoices and trigger payments, as well as deal with special cases such as credit memos and down payment processing. The chapter ends by discussing the closing process followed by reporting functionalities.

Let's start by discussing the procure-to-pay process in the business context before diving deeper into accounts payable.

# 4.1 Purchase-to-Pay

The procurement process in SAP S/4HANA is triggered when the company needs to purchase goods or services from a vendor of your company. Accounts payable in the purchase-to-pay process is touched by the end of the process when it comes to recording invoices and paying bills.

In SAP S/4HANA, the purchase-to-pay process comprises all the business tasks, starting from a purchase requisition and ending with the payment to the vendor. Following are the basic process activities:

- 1. Prepare a purchase requisition.
- 2. Prepare a purchase order.
- 3. Receive goods delivery and perform inventory management.
- 4. Post a goods receipt.
- 5. Perform invoice verification for the acceptance of goods inspection.
- 6. Enable and issue the payment.

You'll learn how to process each of these steps in SAP S/4HANA in the following sections.

# 4.1.1 Purchase Requisition

The purchase-to-pay business process begins with the creation of a purchase requisition. Generally, every procurement in any organization has requirements gathering as a starting point. As soon as the requirements are collected, the next step is to inform the purchasing organization.

# Note

The purchasing organization is an SAP technical term. From a business perspective, it's the purchasing department at the headquarters, subsidiary, branch office, or plant.

The vehicle to document the collected requirements and needs for any department of your company is a *purchase requisition*. Therefore, a purchase requisition is an internal request for purchasing activities in the form of a document listing the specific requirements for materials or services. Don't consider purchase requisitions as orders to directly buy goods, materials, or services from a vendor; instead, this is an internal request that remains within your company.

When a purchasing requisition is created, it needs approval from the purchasing organization. After approval, purchase requisitions can only be modified to a limited extent.

Depending on the company's procurement process, there are certain types of procurement for which a purchase requisition can be created:

# ■ S: Standard

The company gets the finished materials from the vendor.

# ■ L: Subcontracting

The company provides the raw material to the vendor and gets the finished material.

# ■ K: Consignment

The company procures the materials, which are then stored in its warehouse, and pays the vendor for that.

# ■ U: Stock transfer

The material is taken from the organization internally.

# ■ S: Third party

The company pays an external third party for the service it provides.

Now that you have an overview of the purchase requisition document, you can follow application menu path Logistics • Materials Management • Purchasing • Purchasing Requisition • Create, or use Transaction ME51N.

On the SAP menu screen, you can execute one of the listed functions: **Create**, **Edit**, or **Display** purchase requisition. You're creating a purchase requisition in this example, so click the **Create** button to open the **Create Purchase Requisition** screen, as shown in Figure 4.1.

Fill in all the required fields, such as **Item** number, **Material** number (from the material master), material **Quantity**, **Delivery Date**, and **Plant**. The **Material Data** tab gets filled in automatically as soon as you enter a valid and existing material number in the **Material** field.

To complete the purchase requisition, enter a valuation price in the **Valuation** tab. This valuation price reflects the estimated purchase price. For an accountant, it's important to know that SAP S/4HANA will post the goods receipt to an inventory account based on the entered purchase price.

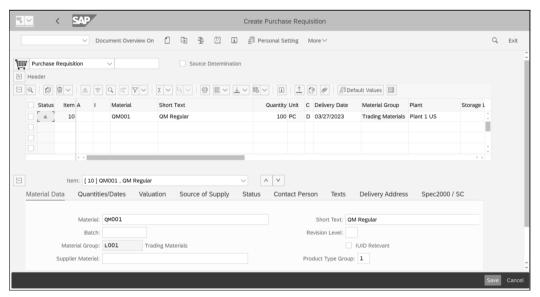


Figure 4.1 Create Purchase Requisition Screen

After you've entered the required details, click the **Save** button. You'll receive the **A new Purchase Requisition has been created** message notification.

To view a purchase requisition, click on **Display** from the application menu path, or use Transaction ME53N. The **Display Purchase Req** screen shows you the latest opened purchase requisition.

To see any other purchase requisition, click More • Purchase Requisition • Other Requisition from the menu bar, or use the Shift + F5 shortcut keys. In the Select Document popup window that appears, enter the purchase requisition number, and click the Other Document button.

In Figure 4.2, you can see all the details of the purchase requisition you're looking for. You can go through different tabs as well, such as Material Data, Quantities/Dates, Valuation, Account Assignment, and so on.

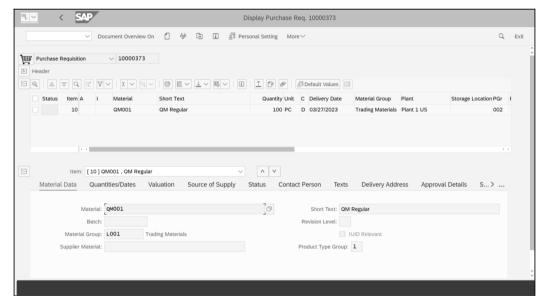
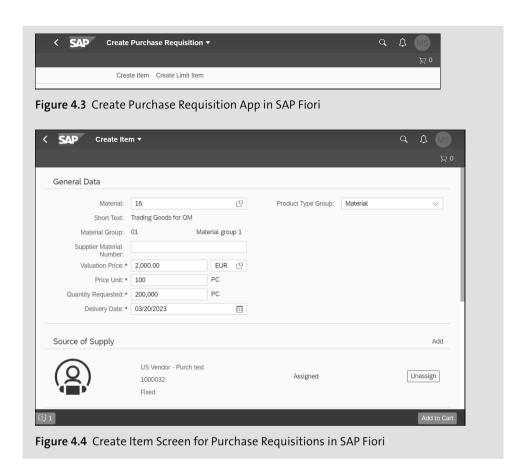


Figure 4.2 Displaying Purchase Requisitions

# **SAP Fiori App**

The corresponding SAP Fiori app is called Create Purchase Requisition (F1643). In Figure 4.3, you can see the screen of the purchase requisition in SAP Fiori. You need to click on the **Create Item** button, and another screen with the same name appears, as shown in Figure 4.4.

After you fill in the required fields (Material, Valuation Price, Price Unit, Quantity Requested, and Delivery Date), you can click on Add to Cart to save the newly created item.



4.1.2 Purchase Order

Unlike purchase requisitions, which are internal requests in your company, the *purchase order* is a document addressed to a vendor. This request form is delivered from the purchasing company to a defined vendor to provide certain products, goods, or services in a specified quantity and on a specific delivery date. When you initiate the creation of a purchase order, you can refer to the previously created purchase requisition. In this section, we'll walk through both creating and displaying a purchase order.

# Create a Purchase Order

To create a purchase order, you can follow application menu path Logistics • Materials Management • Purchasing • Purchase Order • Create. In this menu path, you can select one of the following possible options to create a purchase order:

■ Vendor/Supplying Plant Known (Transaction ME21N)

If you know both the vendor from whom you're buying the material and the plant for which you're performing the goods provisioning, you use this transaction.

■ Via Requisition Assignment List (Transaction ME58)

If a purchase requisition exits, you can derive your purchase order from an existing purchase requisition.

Automatically via Purchase Requisitions (Transaction ME59N)
In the best case, the purchase requisition already contains all the necessary information, so you can convert the purchase requisition into a purchase order automatically via this transaction.

There's also another option to create or display an extended purchase order. Let's consider an example of how to create a purchase order when using the Vendor/Supplying Plant Known option. Double-click Transaction ME21N to open the Create Purchase Order screen, as shown in Figure 4.5.

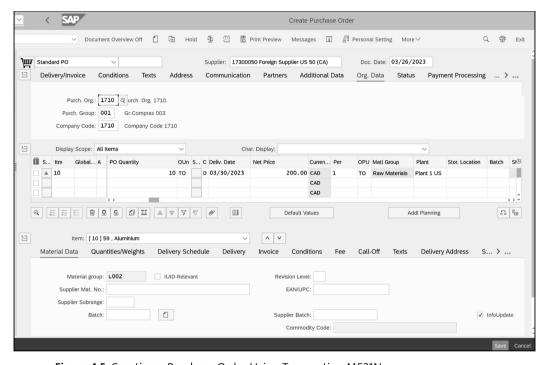


Figure 4.5 Creating a Purchase Order Using Transaction ME21N

Enter the vendor (supplier) number of the **Supplier** from which you want to order the items shown in the lines at the bottom of the screen. The **Doc. Date** is prepopulated by the current date.

On the Org. Data tab, choose the plant to be provisioned (Purch. Org), Purch. Group, and Company Code. The other fields aren't required but should be filled in as well, if applicable.

At the bottom of the screen, enter the Itm (item) number, Material, PO Quantity, and Net Price. After you've filled in all the required entry fields, click Save. The Material group, purchase order unit of measure (OUn), and order price unit (OPU) fields will be populated automatically after you save the purchase order.

# Display a Purchase Order

To see a purchase order, click on ME23N – Display from the application menu path. In the Standard PO screen that appears, as in the purchase requisition example, choose More • Purchase Order • Other Purchase Order from the menu bar, or use the Shift + F5 shortcut. In the Select Document screen, enter the purchase order number, and then click Other Document.

In the lower part of Figure 4.6, you can see all the details of a purchase order by going through different tabs such as Material Data, Quantities/Weights, Delivery Schedule, Invoice, Delivery Address, and so on.

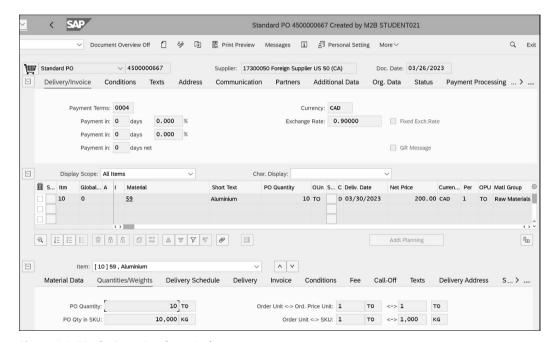


Figure 4.6 Displaying a Purchase Order

# **SAP Fiori App**

The corresponding SAP Fiori app is called Create Purchase Order Advanced (ME21N). It's visually and functionally the same as the SAP GUI transaction.

Now that you understand how to create and proceed with a purchase order, let's follow the workflow with the goods receipt process.

# 4.1.3 Goods Receipt

In the purchasing process, the next step after you've created a purchase order is to receive the goods or the services you've already ordered. A *goods receipt* refers to receiving the goods or materials physically from the external vendor or supplier to the warehouse of the purchaser. In SAP S/4HANA, there are four different types of goods receipts:

# ■ Goods receipt with reference to a purchase order

You've already generated a purchase order in the system. The goods receipt can then be matched with the data of the purchase order.

# ■ Goods receipt with reference to a production order

A production order is open that requires a goods receipt.

# Goods receipt with reference to a delivery

This type of goods receipt is often used with an intercompany stock transfer.

# ■ Goods receipt without reference

Goods can be received without a reference. This may happen if SAP isn't used as the order system, or orders are made through emails, external portals, or even through calls.

To create a goods receipt, you need to execute Transaction MIGO or follow application menu path Logistics • Materials Management • Inventory Management • Material Document • Display, Change, Copy, Cancel, Subsequent Delivery. You'll arrive at the screen shown in Figure 4.7.

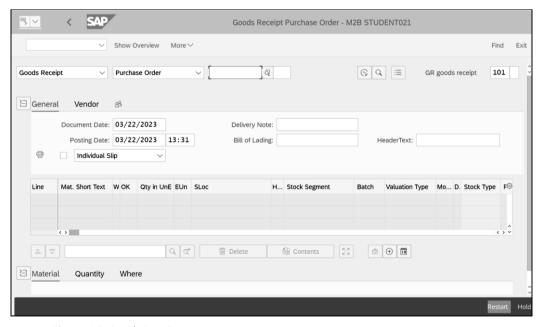


Figure 4.7 Goods Receipt

You just have to enter a purchase order number, which hasn't yet been delivered, next to the **Purchase Order** field (for this example, "4500000668"), and press **Enter**. All fields will be automatically filled in with information from the purchase order, as shown in Figure 4.8.

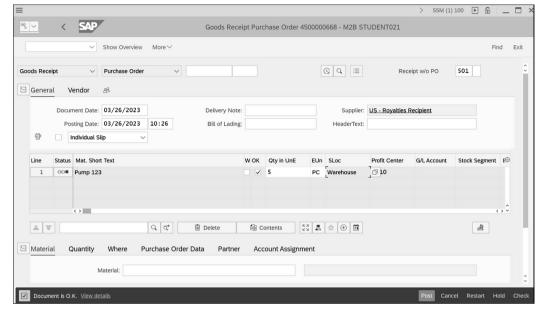


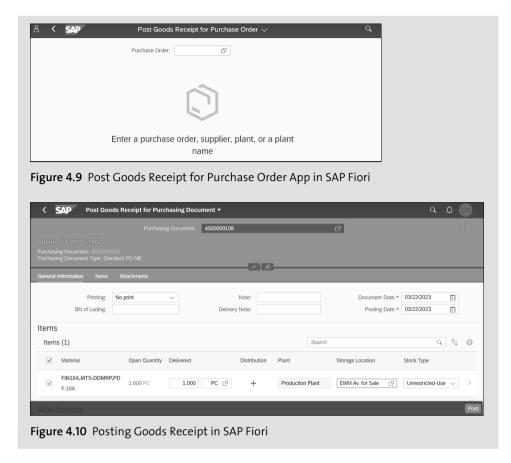
Figure 4.8 Goods Receipt from Purchase Order 4500000668

After reviewing all the entries and double-checking the received quantities, you just need to select the checkbox in the **OK** column and click the **Post** button to post the goods receipt.

# SAP Fiori App

The corresponding SAP Fiori app is called Post Goods Receipt for Purchase Order (F0843). In Figure 4.9, you can see the mentioned app in SAP Fiori. You're asked to enter the purchase order number, supplier, plant or a plant name, and then press the <a href="Enter">Enter</a> key.

In the **Purchase Order** field, enter the purchase order number for which you want to confirm and post the goods receipt. In the screen that appears, all fields are filled in from the purchase order you refer to (see Figure 4.10). Click the **Post** button at the bottom of the screen to finish the transaction.



This posting is the first one in the purchase-to-pay process that touches the general ledger. The goods receipt is usually posted on an inventory account. The counter account according to the standard SAP process is the goods receipt/invoice receipt account (GR/IR). The accounting entry is "debit inventory account credit GR/IR account."

In the next section, we'll explain how to process an invoice receipt subsequently to a goods receipt.

# 4.1.4 Invoice Receipt

Regularly, a supplier invoice (*invoice receipt*) follows a goods receipt and is therefore a subsequent document in the purchase-to-pay process. However, sometimes you first receive the supplier invoice before you receive the ordered material. This may happen, for example, when the shipping of goods takes a long journey by ship across the globe. Regardless, as long as you have a corresponding purchase order in the system, you'll have a unique reference through the process flow.

A supplier invoice is posted as follows: debit GR/IR account, credit supplier account. After performing this accounting entry, the GR/IR account relating to this purchase is balanced

to zero. The GR/IR account therefore is a clearing account. On the debit side of the GR/IR account, all goods receipts are posted; on the credit side, invoices are posted. Ideally, an invoice (more specifically, invoice item lines) matches a goods receipt (more specifically, goods receipt item lines), and they can be cleared against each other. Uncleared items (e.g., a goods receipt without an invoice or vice versa) will remain sitting uncleared on the GR/IR account. A view into the GR/IR account will show all uncleared items. Clearing problems can also derive from differences in prices and quantities between goods receipts and invoice receipts. Therefore, someone has to review this account on a regular basis, which would be a very good internal control in the purchase process.

Now, let's walk through how to create an invoice receipt and perform recurring checks on a specific invoice receipt.

# **Create an Invoice Receipt**

To create an invoice receipt in the system, you can use Transaction MIRO, or you can follow application menu path Logistics • Materials Management • Logistic Invoice Verification • Document Entry • Enter Invoice. In the Enter Incoming Invoice screen, as shown in Figure 4.11, fill in the required data, such as Invoice date, Posting Date, and Reference (usually the document number of the supplier invoice).

Enter the purchase order number next to the Purchase Order/Scheduling Agreement field, and press <code>Enter</code>. The system retrieves the information from the purchase order and the goods receipt, and the line in the PO Reference tab is filled, as shown in Figure 4.11.

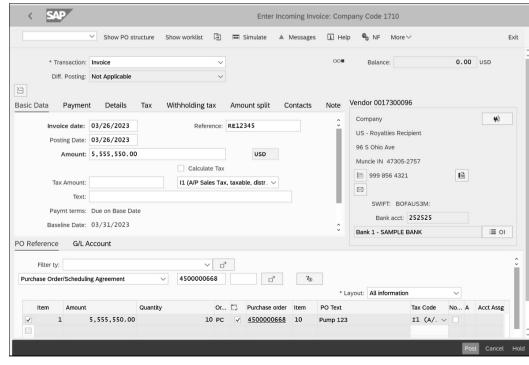


Figure 4.11 Invoice Verification before Posting

Now you can verify the amount and compare it with the supplier invoice. If the amount on the supplier invoice is the same, just enter the amount in the **Amount** field in the **Basic Data** tab, check the **OK** box (next to the **PC** value) in the purchase order line, and press <code>Enter</code>. The traffic light next to the balance will turn green, and the invoice is ready to post.

Click the **Post** button to do so (see Figure 4.12).

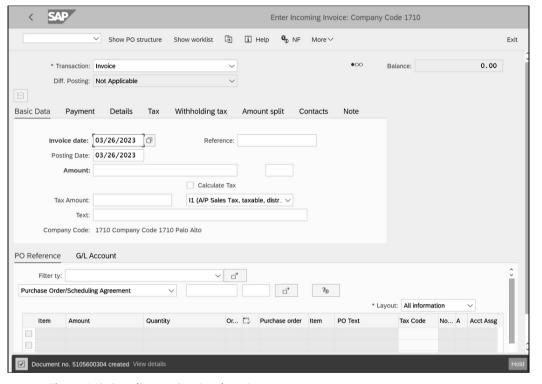


Figure 4.12 Supplier Invoice: Ready to Post

# **SAP Fiori App**

The corresponding SAP Fiori app is called Create Supplier Invoice/Create Supplier Invoice Advanced (MIRO). It's visually and functionally the same as the SAP GUI transaction.

Now if you want to see the document flow from the purchase order to the goods receipt to the supplier invoice, you can, for instance, display the generated invoice by following application menu path Logistics • Materials Management • Logistic Invoice Verification • Further Processing • Display Invoice Document or by using Transaction MIR4.

You'll arrive at the **Display Invoice Document** screen, as shown in Figure 4.13, where you define the **Invoice Document No.** and the **Fiscal Year**.

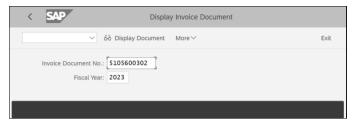


Figure 4.13 Display Invoice Screen

After pressing the <code>Enter</code> key, you'll arrive at the next screen, as shown in Figure 4.14. On the left part of the screen, you see the complete document flow under <code>Display - PO structure</code>.

You can see the source document is purchase order **4500000650**. The follow-on document is goods receipt **5105600302**, posted as of March 21, 2023. Subsequently, there is supplier invoice **5105600168**.

Here, there are no differences between these documents relating to price and quantity. However, if there are differences or missing follow-on documents, recurring checks are needed, which we'll discuss in the next section.

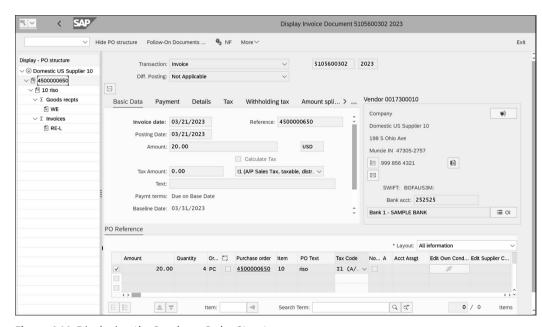


Figure 4.14 Displaying the Purchase Order Structure

# **Perform Recurring Checks**

In SAP S/4HANA, you can check for a specific purchase order if there are differences in terms of quantity and price between goods receipts and received supplier invoices. We mentioned the importance and the necessity of checking the GR/IR clearing account on a regular basis.

To perform recurring checks on at least a monthly basis, you can use a standard list of GR/IR balances report by either starting Transaction MB5S or by following application menu path Logistics • Materials Management • Inventory Management • Environment • Balances Display • List of GR/IR Balances.

In the **List of GR/IR Balances** screen that appears, as shown in Figure 4.15, you can query for your specified purchase order and fill in other criteria as well. For this example, enter the purchase order number, "4500000232". If you've given a unique purchase order number, you don't need to fill in more fields. If you're not sure about that, enter at least the respective **Purch. organization**. To get the full information with this report, select the **Cleared Items too** checkbox, and then click the **Execute** button.

The output report shows you the purchase order, item number, **Quantity Received (12)**, **Invoice Quantity (24)**, **GR value (USD 12)**, and **Invoice amount (24)** from left to right, as shown in Figure 4.16.

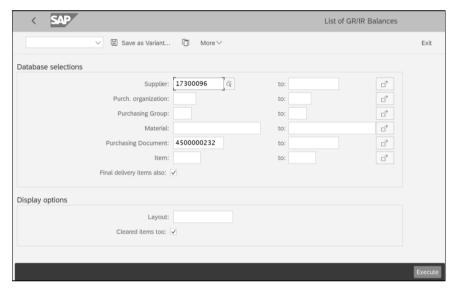


Figure 4.15 List of GR/IR Balances for a Purchase Order: Selection Screen

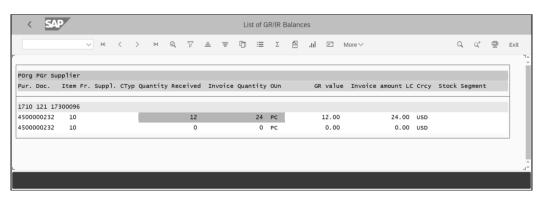


Figure 4.16 List of GR/IR Balances for a Purchase Order: Results

You can double-click on the purchase order record, and another screen appears that shows the history of purchase order **4500000232** for GR/IR, as shown in Figure 4.17.

Here, you can switch between goods receipt (5000000370) and invoice receipts (5105600172, 5105600169) and vice versa by clicking in the respective line. You can also see all the related details for this purchase order, such as vendor data, payment information, bank information, tax details, material document number, amount, accounting document, Material Ledger, and so on. You can click on each of these to check that everything matches between the goods receipt and the invoice receipt.

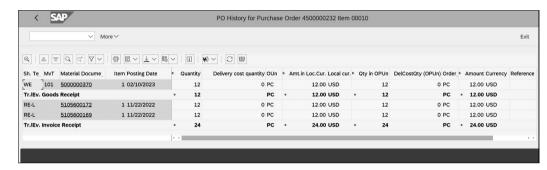


Figure 4.17 History for Purchase Order 4500000232

Now, in the next section, let's discuss the final step of the purchase-to-pay process: invoice payment.

# 4.1.5 Invoice Payment and Vendor Checking Balances

After the accounts payable invoice is created, as explained in the previous section, the final step in the purchase-to-pay process is to perform the payment transfer to the vendor/supplier. In this section, we'll discuss the vendor account balances before and after the payment transfer. You'll find a more detailed description in Section 4.4 in the discussion about outgoing payments.

Now you can refresh your knowledge regarding the open items discussed in Chapter 3. As we've explained, open items are considered incomplete transactions because a final posting in their lifecycle is missing. The open item in terms of an unpaid supplier invoice will be closed through a payment to the supplier. By releasing the payment, the open item will be cleared by the payment, resulting in a zero closing balance.

To see the vendor account balances, you can use Transaction FK10N or follow application menu path Accounting • Financial Accounting • Accounts Payable • Account • Display Balances.

You'll arrive at the **Vendor Balance Display** screen, as shown in Figure 4.18. Here, you need to define the **Supplier** account for which you need to perform an outgoing payment, the **Company Code**, and the **Fiscal Year**. Then click the **Execute** button. Notice

that there are three open items on the vendor account in this example. The open item with the amount **112,000** USD is from invoice 5100000001.

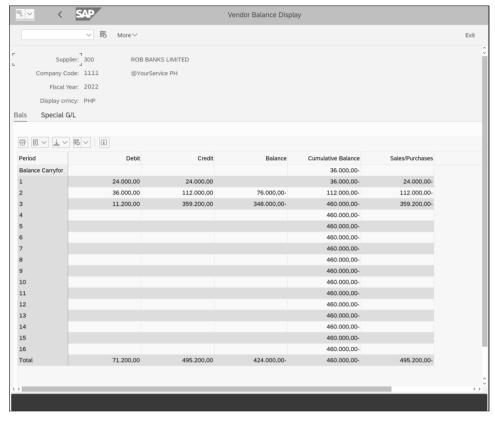


Figure 4.18 Displaying the Vendor Account Balance

Double-click on your relevant line item, and a detailed overview of this open item will open, as shown in Figure 4.19.

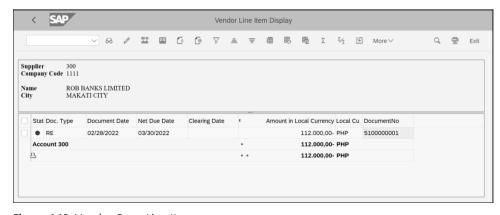


Figure 4.19 Vendor Open Line Item

To clear this item, you need to send the payment to the vendor, which is done using either a periodic payment run for settling open supplier invoices using Transaction F110 or an individual payment using Transaction F-53 (manual payment). Let's skip the payment process here as we'll discuss it further in Section 4.4.

After you've performed all the steps in the outgoing payment process, you can check the balance account again to see how it's presented after the selected open item has been cleared, as shown in Figure 4.20. It's important to mention that the payment was received in 2023.

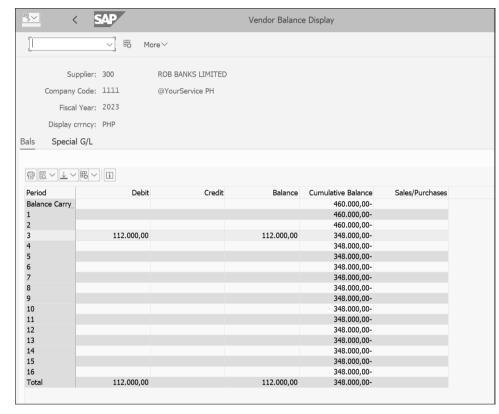


Figure 4.20 Vendor Account Balance after Clearing an Open Item

As you can see, the **Debit** column shows the amount **112,000** (PHP), which is the payment. If you click on the relevant line item, then you'll see that the **Status** has turned to green, which means that it's already a cleared item, as shown in Figure 4.21.

# SAP Fiori App

The corresponding SAP Fiori app is called Display Supplier Balances (FK10N). It's visually and functionally the same as the SAP GUI transaction.

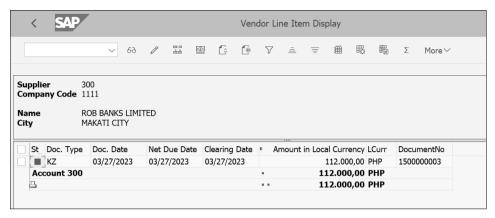


Figure 4.21 Vendor Cleared Line Item

Now that you understand the purchase-to-pay process, we'll focus on the vendor accounts, master data, vendor invoices, and so on in the next section.

# 4.2 Vendor Accounts

A *vendor account* (or supplier) is a master record in accounts payable that is created once for each supplier. The vendor master database contains all the information about the vendors, such as name, address, currency, payment conditions, contact person, and so on. It also includes accounting information, such as the reconciliation account in the general ledger. In large entities, the vendor master record is managed by two departments: accounting and purchasing. Every vendor master record is considered a subledger account, and the accumulative balance of all vendor master records is reflected in a single general ledger account—the accounts payable reconciliation account.

A vendor account has three segments:

# General data at the client level

This segment contains the general data of a vendor account, such as vendor name, vendor number, vendor address, and so on.

# ■ Company code segment

This segment contains specific data of the company code. If it's settled, a business relationship with a specific vendor is also required to be created in the company code segment for that vendor.

# ■ Purchasing area segment

This segment contains all the specific data of the vendor in the purchasing organization.

#### Note

As our focus in this book lies on financial accounting, we won't cover the purchasing area segment because this is part of the materials management and purchasing functionalities.

To create or maintain a vendor master record, you can use Transaction BP to Create, Change and Display a vendor. Although application menu path Accounting • Financial Accounting • Accounts Payable • Master Records still leads you to obsolete Transactions FKO1 (Create), FKO2 (Change), and FKO3 (Edit), those aren't valid anymore, and you'll be redirected to Transaction BP instead.

We'll explore how to create and display vendor master records in the following sections.

# 4.2.1 Vendor General Data

Vendor general data applies to each company code in your organization without exception. In this section, we'll walk through both creating a vendor master record with a supplier business partner and displaying the vendor general data.

#### Create a Business Partner

To create a vendor master record, you need to use Transaction BP in the transaction input field. You'll arrive first at the Maintain Business Partner screen, where you have to choose More in the menu header followed by Business Partner and Create. You can now choose between the creation of Business Partner as Person, Organization, or Group (in this example, Organization was selected), which takes you to the Create Organization screen shown in Figure 4.22. Here, you can see how to create a business partner with a supplier role.

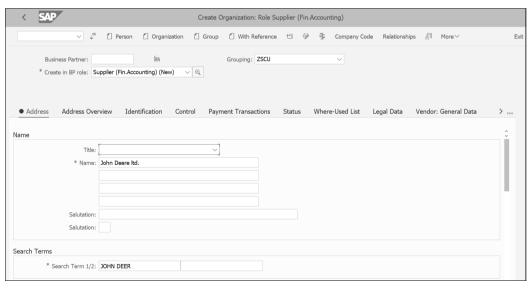


Figure 4.22 Create Vendor Master Record

To create the business partner with a supplier role, select the **Supplier (Fin.Accounting)** (New) role for your business partner in the **Create in BP role** field. Fill out the following tabs:

# Address

In the Address tab, enter at least the last name of your supplier in the Name field and the match code in the Search Term 1/2 field.

#### Address Overview

Enter the complete address in the Address Overview tab.

# Control

Go to the **Control** tab and select a **Business Partner Type**.

Click on Company Code in the menu bar to go from the General Data view to the Company Code data view, as shown in Figure 4.23. You can also toggle back and forth between both views by clicking on General Data or Company Code, depending on where you are at that time.

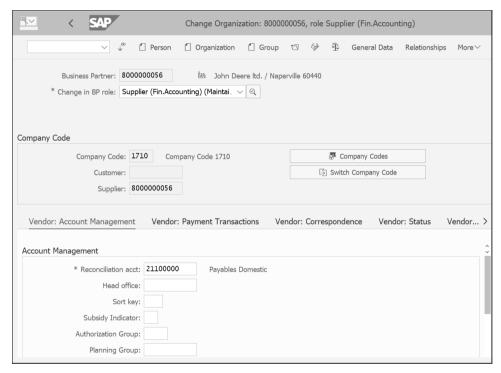


Figure 4.23 Creating Master Data Specific to a Company Code

Select a company code in the **Company Code** field, and press <code>Enter</code>. Enter the reconciliation account in the **Vendor: Account Management** tab and a payment term in the **Vendor: Payment Transactions** tab. After you've filled in all the required data, click the **Save** button.

# Display a Vendor

Next, to display a vendor, enter Transaction BP. The **Maintain Business Partner** screen appears, as shown in Figure 4.24, where you select **Business Partner** from the **Find** field and

**Supplier Number** from the **By** field, followed by the supplier number you enter. Press Enter, and in the window below the selection fields, the business partner appears in one line.

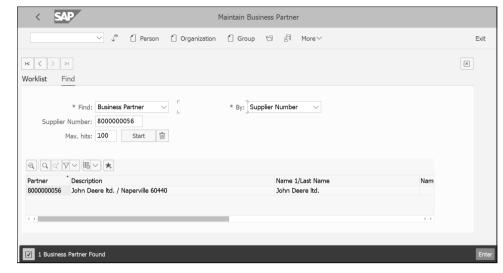


Figure 4.24 Maintain Business Partner

By double-clicking on the **Partner** number that appeared, you'll be directed to the **Display Organization Screen**, as shown in Figure 4.25 and Figure 4.26. Here, you can see all the general data of the supplier such as address, address overview, identification, control, and so on.

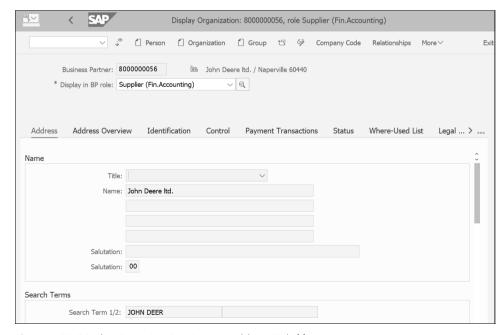


Figure 4.25 Display Organization Screen: Address Tab (1)

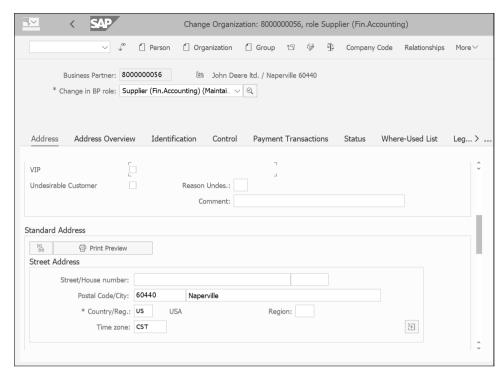


Figure 4.26 Display Organization Screen: Address Tab (2)

Click on the **Identification** tab to see the following key sections, as shown in Figure 4.27 and Figure 4.28:

# Organizational Data

The fields in this box aren't required, but they help to specify your supplier in terms of the legal form and legal entity type.

# Identification Numbers

If your supplier has any external identifiers, you can enter them here.

# Tax Numbers

The tax numbers are critical for any tax reporting purposes and should be maintained in this box. If the supplier is a natural person, check the **Natural Person** box.

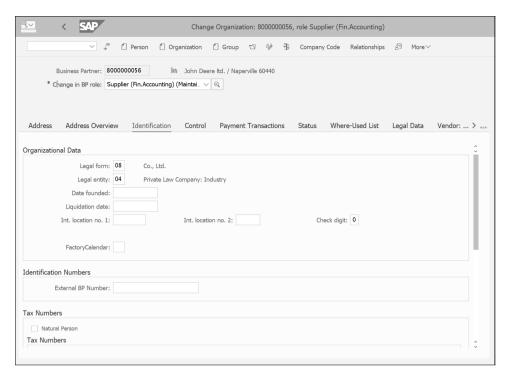


Figure 4.27 Display Organization Screen: Identification Tab (1)

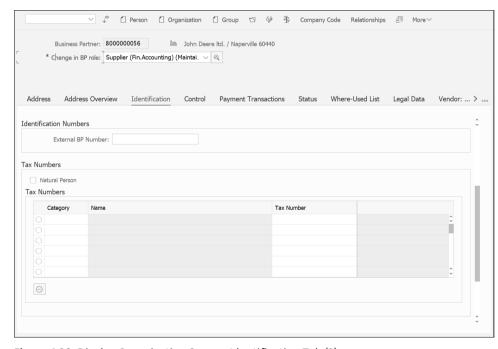


Figure 4.28 Display Organization Screen: Identification Tab (2)

# **SAP Fiori App**

The corresponding SAP Fiori app is called Manage Supplier Master Data (F1053A). In Figure 4.29, you can see how the mentioned app looks in SAP Fiori. All existing vendors are listed from which you can select one to see all of its data.

From this screen, you can click the **Create** button to begin setting up new vendor master data for a **Person** or **Organization**. In Figure 4.30, you can see the fields you need to fill in to create a new vendor for your organization. You enter the same fields as mentioned before (i.e., **Business Partner Role, Name, Standard Address, Company Code**, and **Reconciliation Account**). Click the **OK** button to create your new vendor.

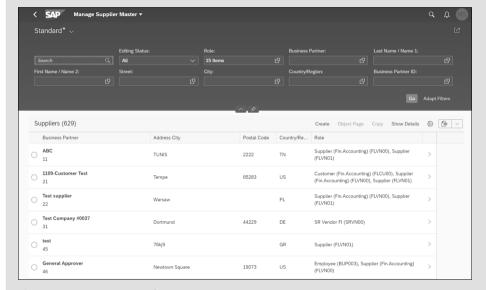


Figure 4.29 Manage Supplier Master Data in SAP Fiori

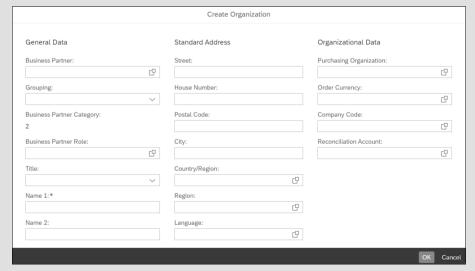


Figure 4.30 Create Vendor Organization Type in SAP Fiori

# 4.2.2 Vendor Company Code Data

You can check vendor company code data using the same Transaction BP (Display), as you did for the general data. Select **Business Partner** in the **Find** field and **Supplier Number** in the **By** field, enter the supplier number, and then press <code>Enter</code> to continue. You then see the selected business partner in a line as shown in Figure 4.31.

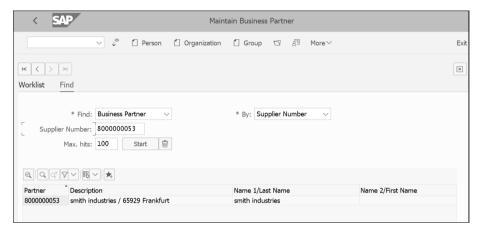


Figure 4.31 Maintain Business Partner

Now double-click on the **Partner** number to go to the general data view, as shown in Figure 4.32 (compare also to the prior section).

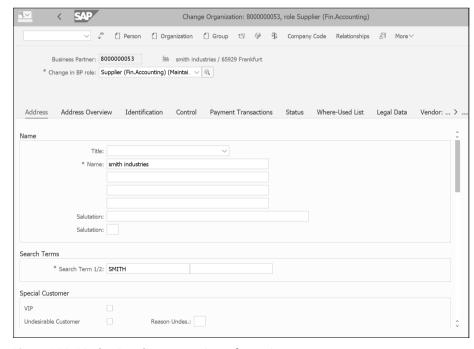


Figure 4.32 Display Supplier Accounting Information

4 Accounts Payable 4.3 Vendor Invoices

Click now on **Company Code** in the menu to explore the company-specific supplier master data. You immediately will see the **Reconciliation acct** of the organization in the **Vendor: Account Management** tab (see Figure 4.33) and all other accounting- and payment-relevant information specific to the company code **4900**. In our example, the reconciliation account in the general ledger for company code **4900** for supplier **8000000053** is **21100000 Payables Domestic**.

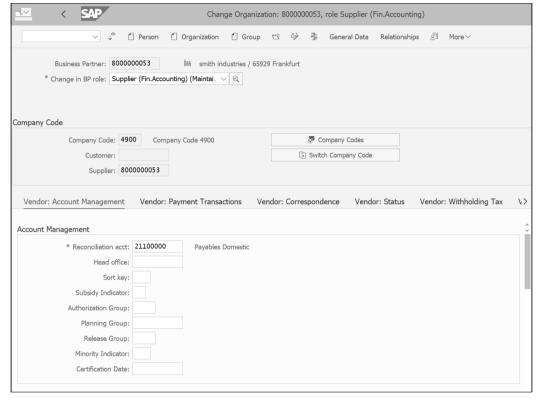


Figure 4.33 Display Reconciliation Account in Company Data

Go to the **Vendor: Payment Transactions** tab next to check the bank details, such as **Bank Key, Bank Account, Country, IBAN**, and so on.

To switch back to the **General Data** view, just click on **General Data** in the menu bar. As mentioned earlier, you can toggle between the **General Data** and **Company Code** views.

SAP S/4HANA separates general data from accounting-relevant master data in a vendor master record because there is a big advantage in doing so. From a group perspective, you need to set up the vendor only once (general data). So that one and the same vendor can be used as a business partner to several companies within your group, you can individually set up and maintain the accounting-relevant information for each of the companies doing business with the vendor. This makes sense because for one company

in your group, the vendor is a domestic supplier (and therefore needs a reconciliation account for domestic payables), but for another company in your group, the vendor may be a cross-border supplier (and therefore needs another reconciliation account). Many more properties (payment terms, shipping information, etc.) can deviate from company to company in your group. Therefore, separating general data from accounting-relevant master data helps to not set up a full vendor master data record of one and the same vendor for several companies in your group. Instead, you create the vendor only once and maintain company code—specific properties in the accounting master data of the vendor. There are plenty of other advantages from a logistics and supply chain perspective, although we won't address those here because they go far beyond the scope of the book.

Now that you've learned about vendor account master data, including general data and company code data, we'll discuss how to create vendor invoices and GR/IR matching in the next section.

# 4.3 Vendor Invoices

Each company needs to pay its suppliers for the goods, materials, or services provided. When you enter the invoice to be paid directly in financial accounting without matching to the respective purchase order, you're recording vendor invoices. This may be the option if your company hasn't placed an order to the supplier through SAP S/4HANA. If there is a purchase order and even a goods receipt, you'll process the invoice through the purchase-to-pay process using the function in logistics where you enter the invoice to be paid in the system that matches the respective purchase order. In this case, when creating the invoice, the system will fill in all the fields automatically. Assuming that there is no difference between purchase order, goods receipt, and supplier invoice, no human intervention is needed. Let's see now how both cases of vendor invoice processing are treated in the system.

# 4.3.1 Automatic Creation of Vendor Invoices (from Logistics)

Creation of *automatic vendor invoices* is only available for purchase order invoices. This process allows you to automatically process invoices initiated from a defined vendor without any human intervention, considering that the automatically extracted data is correct. As mentioned in Section 4.1.4, you can use Transaction MIRO to create an invoice receipt referring to the purchase order. Therefore, the invoice details are populated based on the purchase order details, and when you post the documents, two documents are created: a material document called the *logistics invoice* in materials management and the accounts payable invoice posted in financial accounting.

4.3 Vendor Invoices

4

Let's consider the following illustrative example. You can take any of the fulfilled and billed purchase orders in the system to trace the document flow.

Go to SAP menu path **Logistics • Materials Management • Purchasing • Purchase Order • Display**, or use Transaction ME23N to display a document flow in logistics, as shown in Figure 4.34.

Click on the **Purchase Order History** tab in the **Item** area of the screen. In Figure 4.34, you see the goods receipt and the invoice receipt for purchase order **4500001518**.

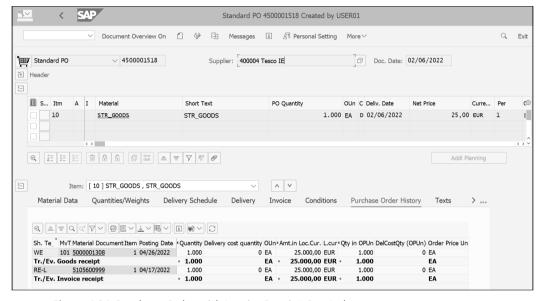


Figure 4.34 Purchase Order with Invoice Receipt Created

Click on the invoice document number **5105600999**, which leads you to the screen **Display Invoice Document**, as shown in Figure 4.35.

Remember that there are two available invoice documents in the system: the material document in materials management and the accounts payable document. In the current view, the material document of a supplier invoice is shown. If you click on the **Follow-On Documents** button on the upper menu, you can also see the financial accounting document in accounts payable, as shown in Figure 4.36.

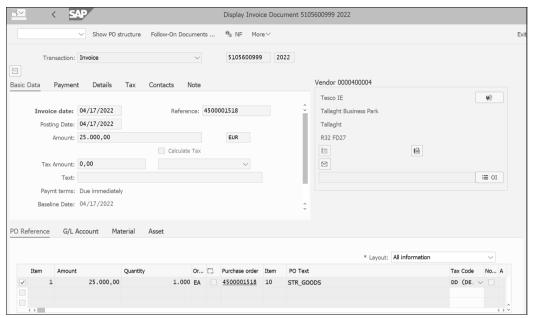


Figure 4.35 Display Invoice Document Screen

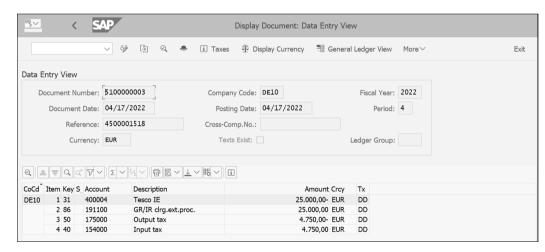


Figure 4.36 Display Document Data Entry View Screen

Click on **General Ledger View** in the menu bar, and the **Display Document: General Ledger View** screen appears, as shown in Figure 4.37.

4 Accounts Payable 4.3 Vendor Invoices

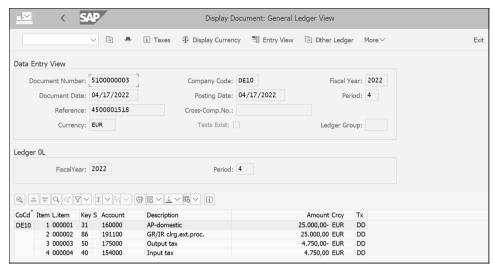


Figure 4.37 Display Document: General Ledger View

Here you see the general ledger accounting entry, which is directly connected to the accounts payable ledger through the supplier account number **400004** (Figure 4.36) and the linked reconciliation account **160000 AP-domestic** (Figure 4.37).

Now, let's jump into the next section where you'll learn how to create a "direct" invoice without connecting to logistics in accounts payable of financial accounting.

# 4.3.2 Direct Invoices

Unlike automatic invoices, direct invoices aren't created by referring to a purchase order. They don't have a respective material invoice number as in the case of automatic invoices. For accounts payable invoices, the standard document type is KR, whereas for the invoices created from logistics, the standard document type is RE. Let's walk through the process to find open items and create direct invoices for them.

# **Find Open Items**

To display and search for direct invoices, you can use the vendor line-item report by following application menu path Accounting • Financial Accounting • Accounts Payable • Account • Display/Change Line Items or using Transaction FBL1N. The Vendor Line Item Display screen will appear, as shown in Figure 4.38.

Here, you can define the range of vendor accounts, company code, and line items (open items, cleared items, all items), depending on your needs.

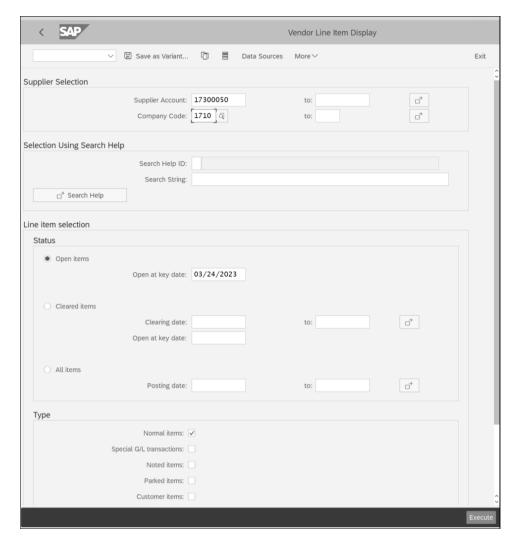


Figure 4.38 Vendor Line Item Display Screen

After you've defined all the criteria, click the **Execute** button to go to the screen shown in Figure 4.39. Here, you can see the line items of the selected vendor. The red status means that the items are still open.

4 Accounts Payable 4.3 Vendor Invoices

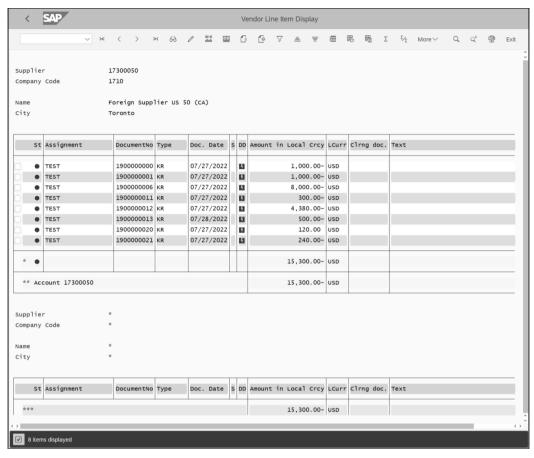


Figure 4.39 Vendor Line Items (KR: Document)

# **SAP Fiori App**

The corresponding SAP Fiori app is called Display Supplier Invoice (MIR4/MIR5). It's visually and functionally the same as the SAP GUI transaction.

# **Create Direct Invoices**

Now that you know how to find direct invoices, let's discuss how to create an accounts payable direct invoice in the first place. Follow application menu path **Accounting • Financial Accounting • Accounts Payable • Document Entry • Invoice**, or use Transaction FB6O.

The Enter Vendor Invoice screen appears, as shown in Figure 4.40. The screen is divided into two main parts: (1) the header information of the transaction with the Basic data, Payment, Details, Tax, Withholding tax, Amount split, and Notes tabs, and (2) the line items, where the debit and credit entries are done. Fill out the following tabs:

# ■ Basic data

In the Basic data tab, enter the Vendor number, Invoice date, Posting Date, Document type (select Vendor Invoice), Amount, Reference, and Text.

# ■ Payment

Enter payment terms in the **Payment** tab to finish the header data entry.

#### Details

In the **Details** tab, enter the header text for the invoice you want to post.

Now you can move on to the line items by selecting the counter account for the vendor **G/L acct**. At least one line has to be filled with a **Debit** entry. Then, if the balance is zero, you can post the transaction by clicking the **Post** button.

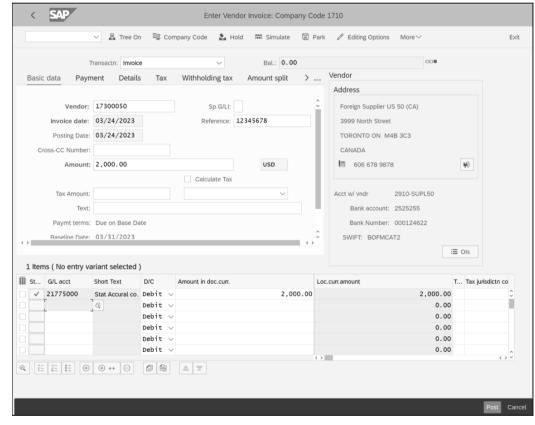


Figure 4.40 Enter Vendor Invoice Screen

Click the **Simulate** button to check if there are any errors before you post the document. If the document simulation is successful, an overview screen will appear with overall information as shown in Figure 4.41.

Finally, click the **Post** button to post the vendor invoice document. You'll receive a message with the new document number at the bottom of the screen.

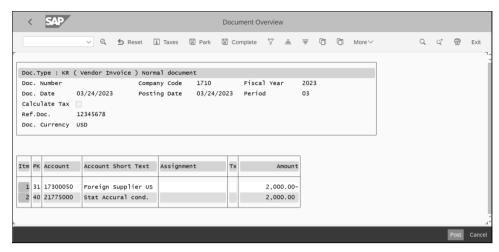


Figure 4.41 Document Overview before Posting



Tax Tax Reporting Date: Tax Fulfill, Date 03/24/2023 03/24/2023 Tax data is calculated automatically. Add 🚳 LC Tax Amou Payment Baseline Date NT45 02/15/2023 Days 1 / In Percent 04/01/2023 Payment Block (JE): Days 2 / In Percent: Free for payment () Discount (Tran Cur.) 0.00 House Bank: House Bank Check Simulate Post Hold Park Save as Completed Figure 4.43 Create New Vendor Invoice (2) Like in SAP GUI, you need to enter the required data in the header and at least one line

Like in SAP GUI, you need to enter the required data in the header and at least one line item in the **Items** area. Then you can click the **Simulate** button to check if there is an error before you post the document. If the simulation process is successfully completed, click the **Post** button to post the vendor invoice.

Now that you've learned how invoices are created, let's see how they are paid.

# 4.4 Outgoing Payments

The outgoing payment process is also important in financial accounting in SAP S/4HANA. After the supplier invoice is recorded, the next step is to settle it when it's due via payment. This is the last step in the procure-to-pay process. However, from an accounting perspective, there may be a few little tasks to be performed such as processing the bank statement and cleanup work if foreign currencies are involved. Today, the most common payment method in business-to-business industries is a transfer of money from bank to bank through a bank transfer. Ideally, supplier accounts are settled on a regular basis, such as weekly or biweekly, or even daily in large companies. Most of the periodic

payments against standard vendors are scheduled to be executed automatically on specific days. However, in urgent situations, you may need to perform manual individual payments as well to avoid any penalties or fines from a business or tax perspective or to account for bank accounts that aren't configured correctly from a system's technical perspective.

Vendor payments can be made via cash, check, letter of credit, manual transfer, payment order, and so on. In this section, we'll talk about two types of payments: direct (manual) invoice payment, where the invoice is directly created, and automatic payment.

The standard is to make an automatic payment through the payment run using Transaction F110. This can be done if all your suppliers have bank accounts, and you can settle the open items by transferring money from your bank account to theirs. The manual payment is normally an exception. Let's assume you paid the supplier by cash. Or, in the other case, you don't want to wait until the next automatic payment run because of a due date you want to hold. Then, the only option you have is to use the manual payment function in SAP S/4HANA.

Let's now see how both transactions work.

# 4.4.1 Manual Payment

Manual payments can be issued using two different transactions: Transaction F-53 (Post) or Transaction F-58 (Post + Print). The difference between these two transactions is that Transaction F-58 generates a printed payment output form, unlike Transaction F-53. Both transactions create a payment document in the system, which clears open invoices and accordingly updates the general ledger.

The manual payment can be performed with two options:

# Partial payment

This type of payment is used when you perform a partial payment for a defined open item. The system will show the payment still in **Unpaid** status until the total amount is settled.

# ■ Residual payment

This payment is similar to partial payments, but the open invoice is cleared with the residual payment, and the system will create a new outstanding document.

To issue a manual outgoing payment, use Transaction F-53, or follow application menu path Accounting • Financial Accounting • Accounts Payable • Document Entry • Outgoing Payment • Post. The Post Outgoing Payments: Header Data screen appears, as shown in Figure 4.44.

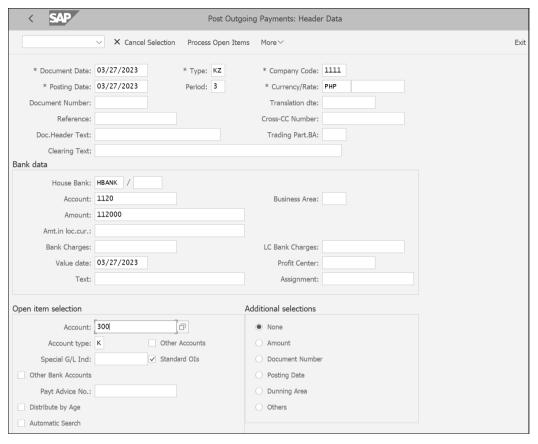


Figure 4.44 Post Outgoing Payments: Header Data Screen

Enter the fields that appear on the header: **Document Date**, **Posting Date**, **Currency/ Rate**, **Company Code**, **Reference** number, and so on. Then, fill in the following areas:

# ■ Bank data

In the **Bank data** area, enter the bank general ledger **Account** number of the bank from which the payment is triggered and the **Amount** you need to pay the vendor. This amount is populated with the purchase invoice amount.

# Open item selection

In the **Open item selection** area, enter the vendor number in the **Account type** field (**K** stands for creditor).

# Additional selections

In the **Additional selections** area, specify more details to find the invoice that will be settled by the manual payment you're going to post. For example, if you know the document number of the invoice, which is paid, select the **Document Number** radio button from the list, and the system will ask for the number. You can also find the

open item (invoice to be paid) quickly if you just know the amount by choosing the **Amount** radio button.

In this example, **None** is selected, so all open items will be shown on the selected vendor account **300**.

After you've filled in the fields on the initial screen, click the **Process Open Items** button at the top of the screen to display the list of open items, as shown in Figure 4.45.

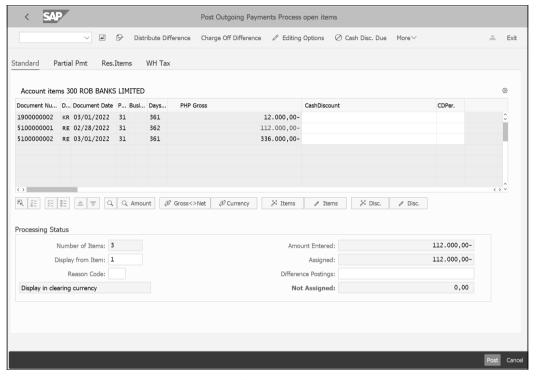


Figure 4.45 Post Outgoing Payments/Process Open Items

If you click on one of the document numbers of the open items, for example, PHP 112,000, it will appear on an overview screen of this open item, as shown in Figure 4.46.

Go back to the **Post Outgoing Payments Process open items** screen shown in Figure 4.45, and continue with the post outgoing payment process. After you check the details of this open invoice, click the **Post** button. The system will create a clearing document that changes the status of the invoice from **Open** to **Clear**.

To reach the screen showing that the selected open item to be paid, PHP 112,000, now appears as a cleared item (see Figure 4.47), follow application menu path Accounting • Financial Accounting • Accounts Payable • Account • Display/Change Line Items, or use Transaction FBL1N. Enter the respective Vendor, and select all items.

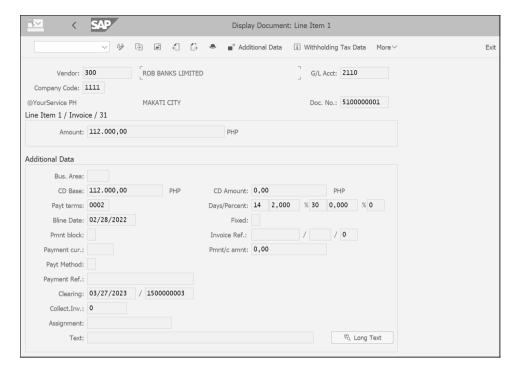


Figure 4.46 Displaying the Open Item

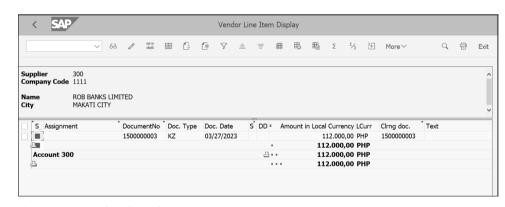


Figure 4.47 Vendor Cleared Item

# **SAP Fiori App**

The corresponding SAP Fiori app is called Post Outgoing Payment (F1612). It's more intuitive and user friendly than Transaction F-53 in SAP GUI. The screen is divided into two parts: the upper part, where you have to specify where the money is paid from, and the lower part, where the payment goes to, as shown in Figure 4.48.

First, enter the General Information (Company Code, Posting Date, and Journal Entry Date), and second, select the bank account from which the money comes (or a petty

cash account if you've paid the supplier in cash), and determine the **Amount** of payment. The **Journal Entry Type** is prefilled with **KZ** (vendor payment), and the **Posting Date** is the current day by default.

If you then enter a specific supplier and click the **Show Items** button, the lower half of the screen will show all open items of the selected supplier, as shown in Figure 4.49. The balance, which is red, is also shown in the upper-right corner of the screen.

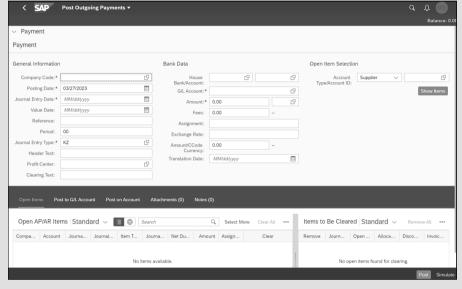


Figure 4.48 Post Outgoing Payment App in SAP Fiori

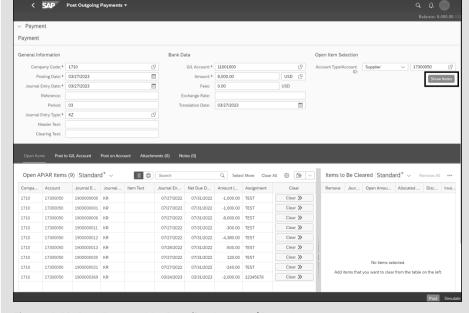


Figure 4.49 Post Payment to Supplier Account/Open Item

Now you just have to select the open item, which should be cleared through the payment. You do this by clicking on the **Clear** button, which sends the item to be cleared to the **Items to Be Cleared** area to the right of the screen, as shown in Figure 4.50.

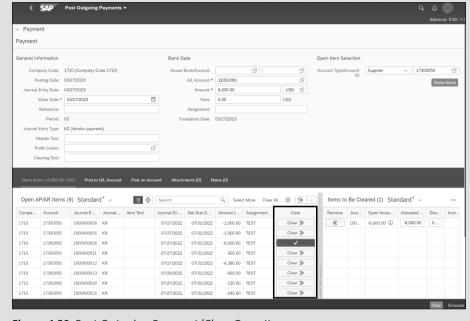


Figure 4.50 Post Outgoing Payment/Clear Open Item

Now the balance in the upper-right corner of the screen has turned green and is zero, meaning that you've completely cleared the open item by clicking the **Post** button.

Now that you've learned how to create a manual outgoing payment, let's discuss the automatic payment process.

# 4.4.2 Automatic Payment Program

The financial accounting *automatic payment program* in SAP S/4HANA is the process of posting accounts payables automatically, such as the payment to a vendor, based on vendor invoices. This program finds the pending invoices and reviews the due date payments, which are then approved and paid. The process of the automated payment program passes through some steps, such as maintaining the program parameters, creating the payment proposal, and then executing the payment order.

Before executing the payment program, you need to configure some settings for the payment process. Next, we'll show you the steps to follow to configure the automated payment program, and then we'll move on to running it.

# Setup

To execute the automated payment program, use Transaction F110, or follow application menu path Accounting • Financial Accounting • Accounts Payable • Periodic Processing • Payments. The Automatic Payment Transactions: Status screen appears, as shown in Figure 4.51.

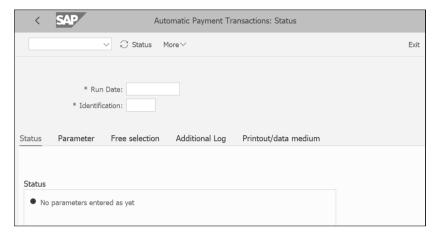


Figure 4.51 Automatic Payment Transactions: Status Screen

Enter the required fields **Run Date** (usually the current date) and **Identification** (any character string with five characters). You can later search for this string to find the performed payment run quicker.

Fill in the parameters for your payment run on the **Parameter** tab, as shown in Figure 4.52. The **Posting Date** and the **Docs Entered up to** are prepopulated by the current date.

In the Payments Control box, the company code, the payment method, and the date for your payment run are populated because you defined the payment run on the Parameter tab. The payment methods (Pmt Meths) have the preconfigured values B for bank transfer (general), C for check, D for domestic bank transfer, or N for card payment. In the Next PstDate field, you can see the next date when the next automatic payment program is expected to run. Until this date, the program finds all the due date invoices after the last run date and schedules them to be paid in this payment run.

In the **Accounts** box, select the range of **Supplier** accounts you want to settle. If you owe money to some of your customers or have the right to direct debit your customers' bank accounts, you can also enter a range of **Customer** accounts.

Save the entries you've made so far by clicking the **Save Parameters** button. You'll receive a message that the details have been saved.

In the Free selection tab, define your exception to exclude certain open items that you don't want to pay. Then, in the Additional Log tab, define what details should be logged in the payment log. Finally, to print the payment transaction, select the printer and media in the Printout/data medium tab.

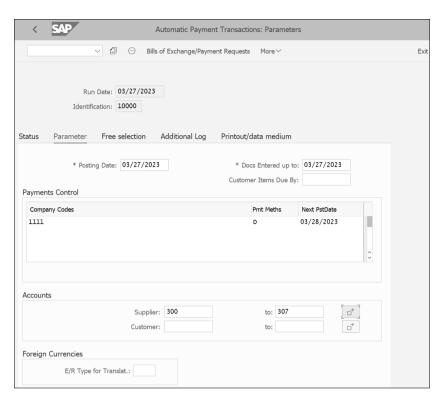


Figure 4.52 Automatic Payment Run: Parameters

Go back to the **Status** tab, and you can see that it has turned green, as shown in Figure 4.53.

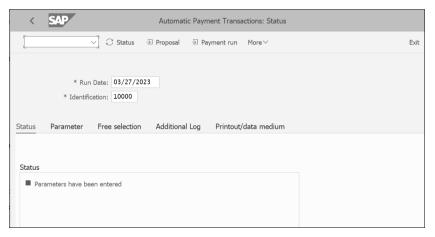


Figure 4.53 Automatic Payment Run: Green Status

Generate a payment proposal run by clicking on the **Proposal** menu bar item or directly start the payment run with the **Payment run** menu bar item. Before executing the payment program, it's recommended to double-check the settings configuration.

You can configure the payment program by choosing **More • Environment • Maintain Configuration** from the menu bar. In the screen that opens (see Figure 4.54), settings for the automatic payment program are categorized into several groups from which you can configure the relevant settings and options:

# ■ All company codes

Click **All company codes**, and you'll arrive at the screen shown in Figure 4.55, where you can select one of the company codes and double-click on it.

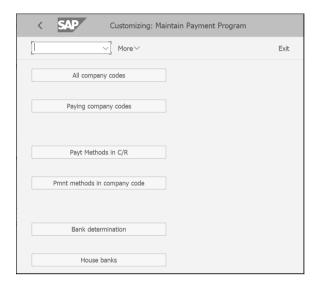


Figure 4.54 Customizing: Maintain Payment Program Screen

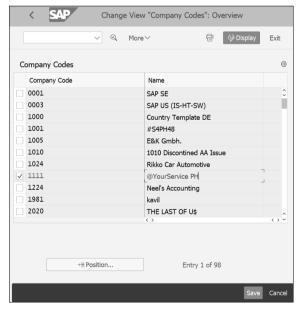


Figure 4.55 Selecting Company Codes

Another screen will appear, as shown in Figure 4.56 and Figure 4.57, where you can define the relevant settings for the selected company code, such as the paying company, which is normally identical with the company code in the header of the screen, as well as cash discounts and tolerances for payments relevant to early payment discounts. After you've entered all the required fields, click **Save** to save the data.

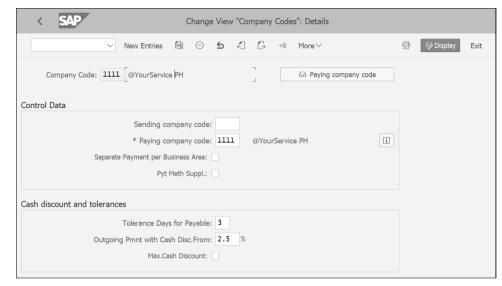


Figure 4.56 Company Codes Settings (1)



Figure 4.57 Company Codes Settings (2)

# Paying company codes

Here, you perform the following settings:

- Control Data: Minimum amounts for incoming and outgoing payment.
- **Bill of Exchange**: Bill of exchange parameters.
- Forms: Forms for payment advice and Electronic Data Interchange (EDI).

Let's start with the Control Data section, as shown in Figure 4.58. Here, you can enter a Minimum Amount for Outgoing Payment (because you don't want to pay cent amounts, the transactions cost would be higher) and a Minimum Amount for Incoming Payment for your customer. Further, if you don't want to have any automatic postings of exchange rate differences, select the box next to No Exchange Rate Differences. The Separate Payment for Each Ref. checkbox may be selected if you don't want to have a netting of incoming and outgoing payments with the same reference. You should select the Bill/Exch Pymt checkbox if you want to use bills of exchange, bill of exchange payment requests, or the check/bill of exchange procedure in the paying company code.

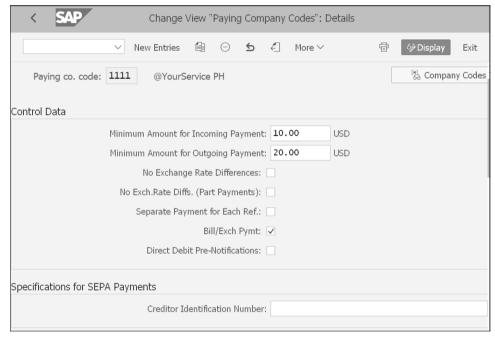


Figure 4.58 Payment Company Codes Settings (1)

In the Bill of Exchange Data section, you can configure how the bill of exchange looks. Although bills of exchange were very common in the 1980s and 1990s, they are disappearing because they are no longer relevant today, so we won't explain them here.

Finally, in the Forms section (see Figure 4.59), you define the format of the payment advice you generate with the payment run. In addition, if you generate an EDI file, you can select the specific data format. SAP has its own format called SAPscript. An SAP consultant can customize this format and add and change Letter Header, Footer, Signature Text, and Sender details to it.

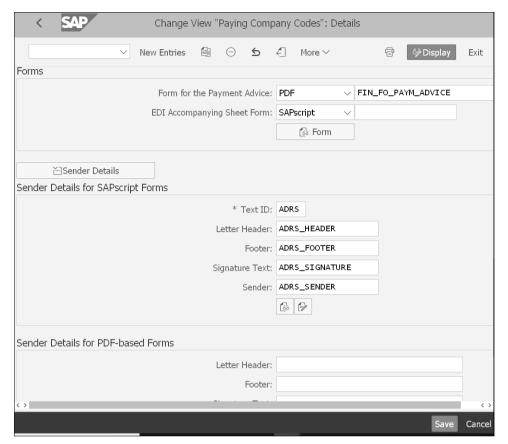


Figure 4.59 Paying Company Codes Settings (2)

After you've filled in the required fields, click the **Save** button, and you receive the message that the data is saved.

# ■ Payt Methods in C/R

Here, you configure the methods of payment, settings for individual payment methods, document types for posting, print programs, and permitted currencies for each country relevant for your organization.

Figure 4.60 shows how the payment method **B** (bank transfers for outgoing payments) for **Country US** is configured.

Scroll down to see further settings for payment type **B – Bank Transfer** (see Figure 4.61). This configuration is country-specific, and the settings are normally preconfigured in so-called country templates when SAP S/4HANA is implemented. To explain all the fields and implications would go far beyond the scope of this book. Any changes would require country-specific expertise by a local SAP consultant.

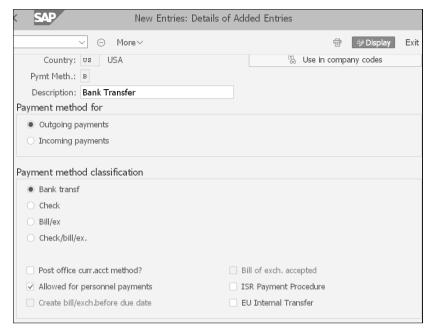


Figure 4.60 Payment Methods in Country (1)

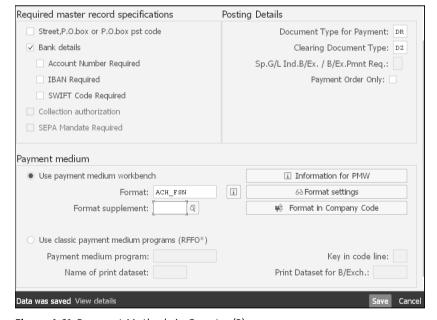


Figure 4.61 Payment Methods in Country (2)

# ■ Pmnt methods in company code

Here, you perform settings such as minimum and maximum payment amounts, grouping possibilities, bank optimization, forms for payment media, and so on.

Figure 4.62 shows the configuration of payment method **T – Bank Transfer** for company code 1111. The payment program will select this payment method for any payments above the minimum amount and below the maximum amount. The payment items can be grouped per day or shown individually. You can further configure whether foreign business partners, foreign currencies, or foreign bank accounts are allowed through the payment method assigned to the specific company code.

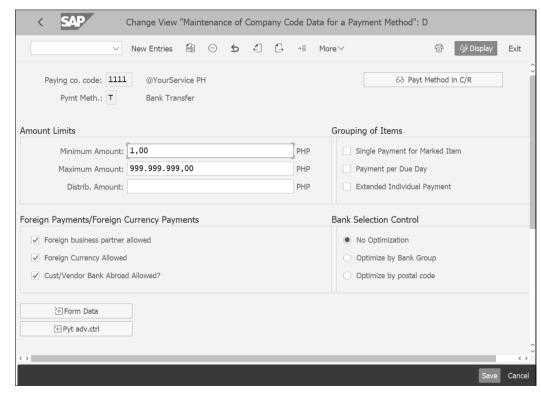


Figure 4.62 Payment Methods in Company Code

# ■ Bank determination

Here, you preconfigure your bank preferences by choosing which bank account is used for the defined payment methods. In our example, as shown in Figure 4.63, payment method **C** (check) is done in **USD** with house bank **USBK1**. On the second rank for the same payment method, you find house bank **USBK2**.

# ■ House banks

Here, you check the assignment of house banks to company codes.

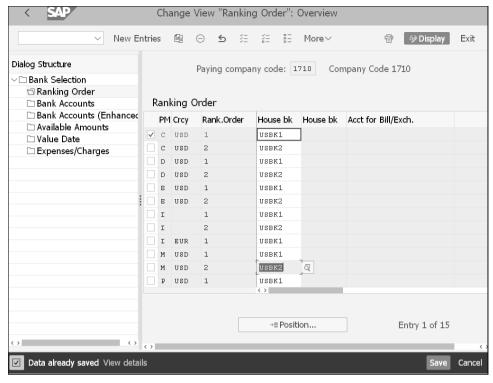


Figure 4.63 Ranking Order

# **Automatic Payment Run**

After you've finished with the configuration steps for the payment process, then you can continue with the execution of the payment program. We'll start back at the **Status** screen shown in Figure 4.64.

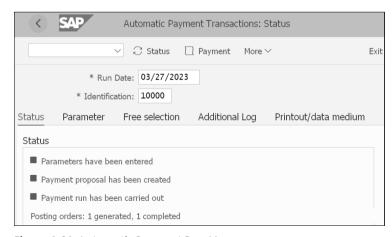


Figure 4.64 Automatic Payment Run Message

In the top menu, choose More • Payment Run • Reorganization. On the screen that appears, select the Start immediately checkbox to start the payment run immediately. Click the Execute icon, or press the Enter key.

After the payment has been performed successfully, a message with green indicators appears in the **Status** tab showing that the payment run has been carried out, the parameters have been entered, and so on (see Figure 4.64).

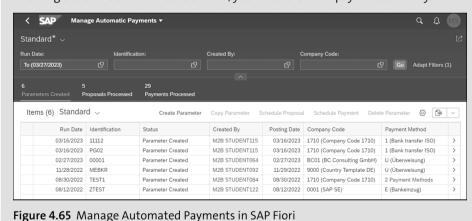
# **SAP Fiori Apps**

The corresponding SAP Fiori apps are called Schedule Automatic Payment (F110) and Schedule Automatic Payment Periodically (F110S). They are visually and functionally the same as SAP GUI.

However, there is also another SAP Fiori app called Manage Automatic Payments (F0770). Figure 4.65 shows the screen where you can configure automated payment in SAP Fiori.

The functions are completely the same even if the visualization is different. First, click on the **Create Parameter** button to create a new payment run. Then, add parameters as you did earlier in SAP GUI with Transaction F110, and schedule the payment run by clicking on **Schedule Payment**, where you can decide whether you want to first run a proposal run before you run the "real" payment. With the **Parameters Created, Proposals Processed**, and **Payments Processed** tabs, switch between the parameters, the processed proposals, and the processed payments.

Knowing the traditional Transaction F110, you'll be able run a payment similarly.



4.5 Process Exceptions

Some exceptions can appear during the process-to-pay process. We'll start with creating vendor credit memos (credit notes) and then explain the treatment for down payments.

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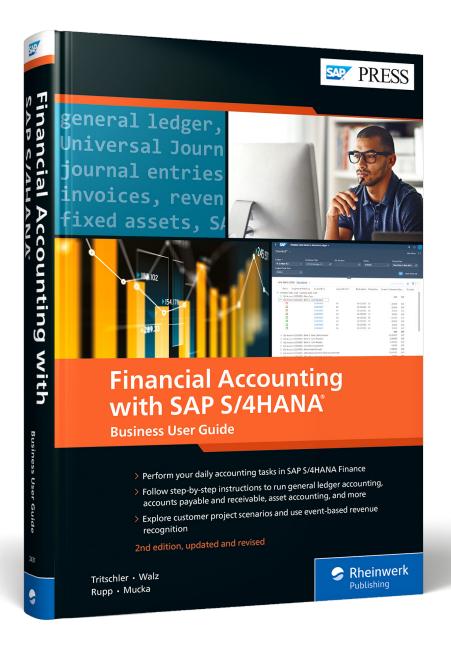
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