

# PM Object Networks Guide

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## Version

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# Overview: Linking Technical Systems in Plant Maintenance

## Overview

This section gives an introduction to the principles of linking technical objects and an explanation of specific terms. It describes the objects that can be linked and the basic considerations that you should take into account.

It contains the following topics:

Structuring Options

Principles of Linking Objects in PM

## Structuring Options

It is important that a company's technical systems are structured sensibly so that plant maintenance receives adequate DP support. How a company structures its technical systems depends both on the type of the company and the type of systems used.

In order to satisfy the requirements of the user, the PM System provides various structuring options that allow the user to structure technical systems both vertically, in other words hierarchically, and horizontally.

These structuring options can also be combined.

### Hierarchical Structure

The PM System provides several options for structuring technical systems:

- functional structure  
You subdivide a technical system into functional locations.
- object-related structure  
You subdivide a technical system into pieces of equipment.
- technical structure  
You allocate the technical objects comprising the system to particular object classes.

In each of the above cases, the hierarchy, in other words the vertical relationship, is at the forefront.

### Horizontal Structure

The PM System also provides the functionality for structuring technical systems horizontally. This allows you to represent the links that exist between various technical systems (for example, between production units alone, between production units and supply systems, and between supply systems and disposal systems), allowing you to form a network of technical objects.

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