

CO - Posting and Allocations

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See Also

[Allocations in Extended General Ledger](#)

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Version

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Introduction

Overview

This section provides general information on

- posting and allocating actual costs
- the objectives of posting and allocating actual costs
- the requirements when posting and allocating actual costs, whether event-based or periodically.

Posting actual costs involves transferring the primary costs recorded in financial accounting, materials management, and asset management to the management accounting (CO) module. You specify a cost accounting object (for example a cost center or internal order) as the target account assignment when working in the FI, MM, and AM Systems, and the system transfers the data to the CO System.

During **internal cost allocation**, the primary costs entered in the feeder systems are transferred, along with details of where they originated. Here, we distinguish between allocations which are event-based and those which are periodic.

Event-based allocations

The internal activities are valued to determine the costs for each business event. These costs are then posted to the sender and receiver objects (debit and credit postings). An internal transfer (for example, where costs are transferred from one object to another to correct a previous error) is another type of event-based allocation. This enables you to produce up-to date statements showing the costs incurred on the cost centers at any point in time.

Periodic allocations

These are usually carried out after all the primary postings for the relevant period have been made. The costs incurred are then distributed according to keys defined by the user. These can take the form of percentage rates or fixed amounts. This means that the actual costs incurred for each period can only be identified after the period concerned is closed. The CO System enables you to perform the following types of periodic allocations:

- periodic transfer
- distribution
- assessment
- calculation of imputed costs

This section contains the following topics:

[Objectives of Posting and Allocating Actual Costs](#)

[Requirements when Posting and Allocating Actual Costs](#)

[Note to the Reader](#)

Objectives of Posting and Allocating Actual Costs

The main aim of these procedures is to enable you to monitor and trace the costs incurred by your company as they arise. This allows you to identify variances quickly and to take appropriate action to combat them. The posting and allocation procedures must be supported by a user friendly reporting system, allowing you to:

- **break down actual costs for a particular period**
- **produce comparisons of**
 - actual costs for two different periods
 - planned and actual costs within a single period.

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