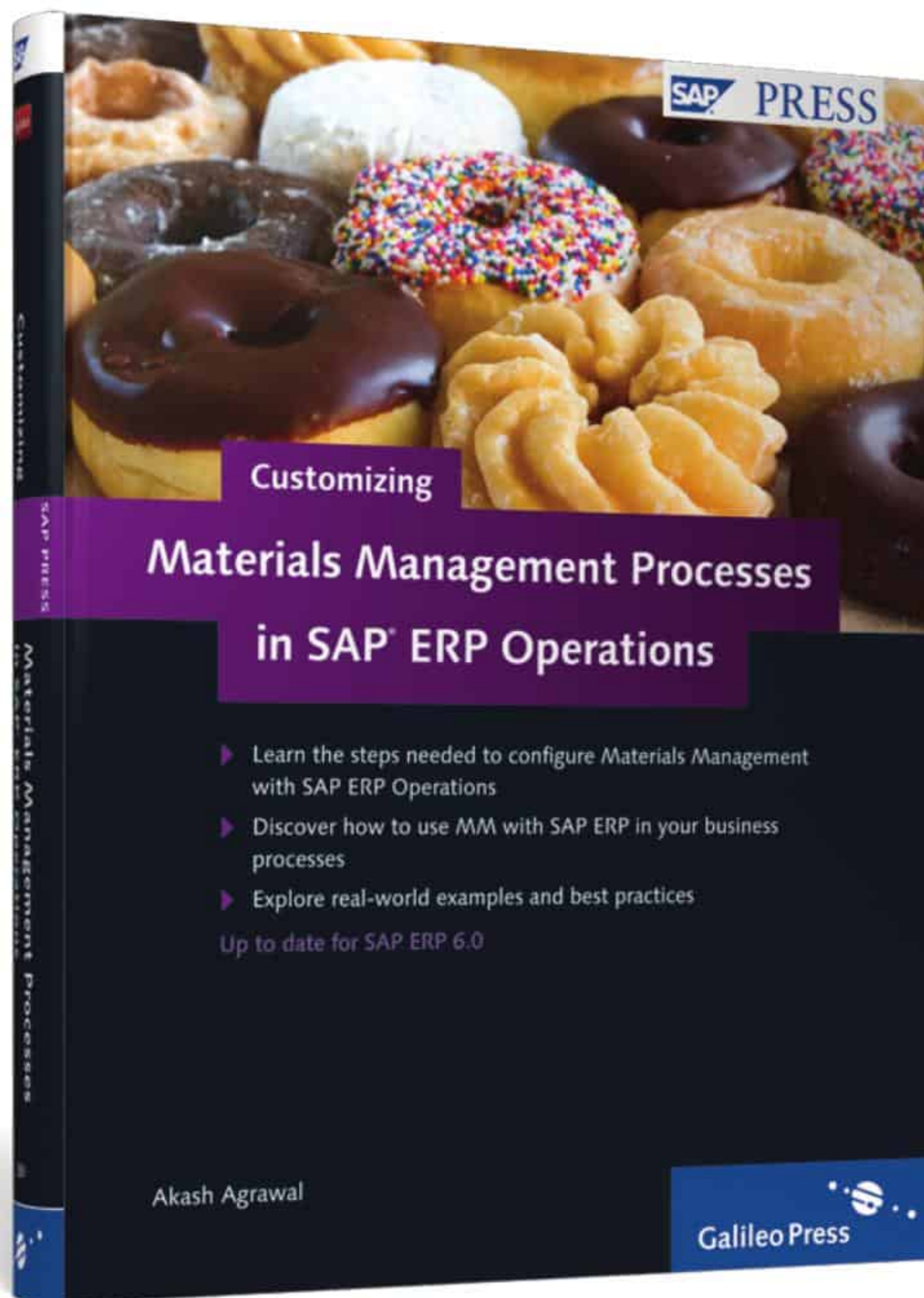


Akash Agrawal

Customizing Materials Management Processes in SAP® ERP Operations



Galileo Press 

Bonn • Boston

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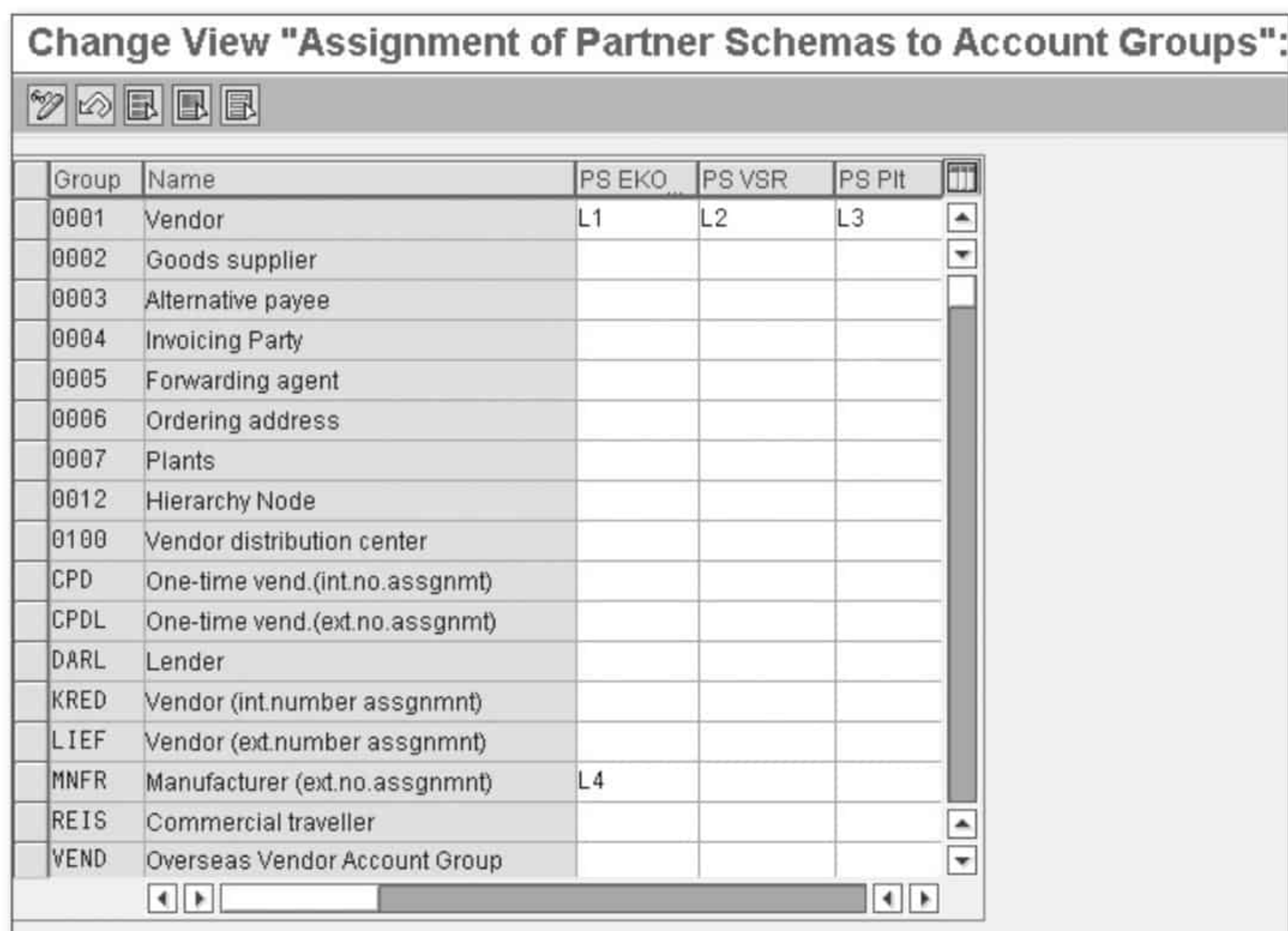
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You can define different partner schemas at different data retention levels within the vendor master record. For example, you can have a different ordering address at the purchasing organization level than you do at the plant level.

2. Assign Partner Schemas to Account Groups

In this step, you assign partner schemas to account groups. Go to SAP IMG • MATERIALS MANAGEMENT • PURCHASING • PARTNER DETERMINATION • PARTNER ROLES • ASSIGN PARTNER SCHEMAS TO ACCOUNT GROUPS, as shown in Figure 3.14.

Change View "Assignment of Partner Schemas to Account Groups":



Group	Name	PS EKO	PS VSR	PS Pit
0001	Vendor	L1	L2	L3
0002	Goods supplier			
0003	Alternative payee			
0004	Invoicing Party			
0005	Forwarding agent			
0006	Ordering address			
0007	Plants			
0012	Hierarchy Node			
0100	Vendor distribution center			
CPD	One-time vend.(int.no.assgnmt)			
CPDL	One-time vend.(ext.no.assgnmt)			
DARL	Lender			
KRED	Vendor (int.number assgnmnt)			
LIEF	Vendor (ext.number assgnmnt)			
MNFR	Manufacturer (ext.no.assgnmnt)	L4		
REIS	Commercial traveller			
VEND	Overseas Vendor Account Group			

Figure 3.14 Assign Partner Schema to Vendor Account Group

In this section, you've learned about the essential characteristics and functions in vendor master records. In the next section, we'll move on to discussing material master records.

3.2 Material Master Records

Material master records are the key element of MM. In this section, we'll discuss how material master records are created at different organizational levels and how

different department-specific data is maintained in different views. We'll also discuss the main controlling elements of material master records such as material type.

Material master records are a company's main source for material-specific data. The transaction codes for material master records are as follows:

- ▶ Create material: MM01
- ▶ Change material: MM02
- ▶ Display material: MM03

Material master data has different views for each department, which are the same as tab pages. For example, the purchasing view is used for ordering, the accounting view is used for material valuation, and the MRP view is used for planning (Figure 3.15).

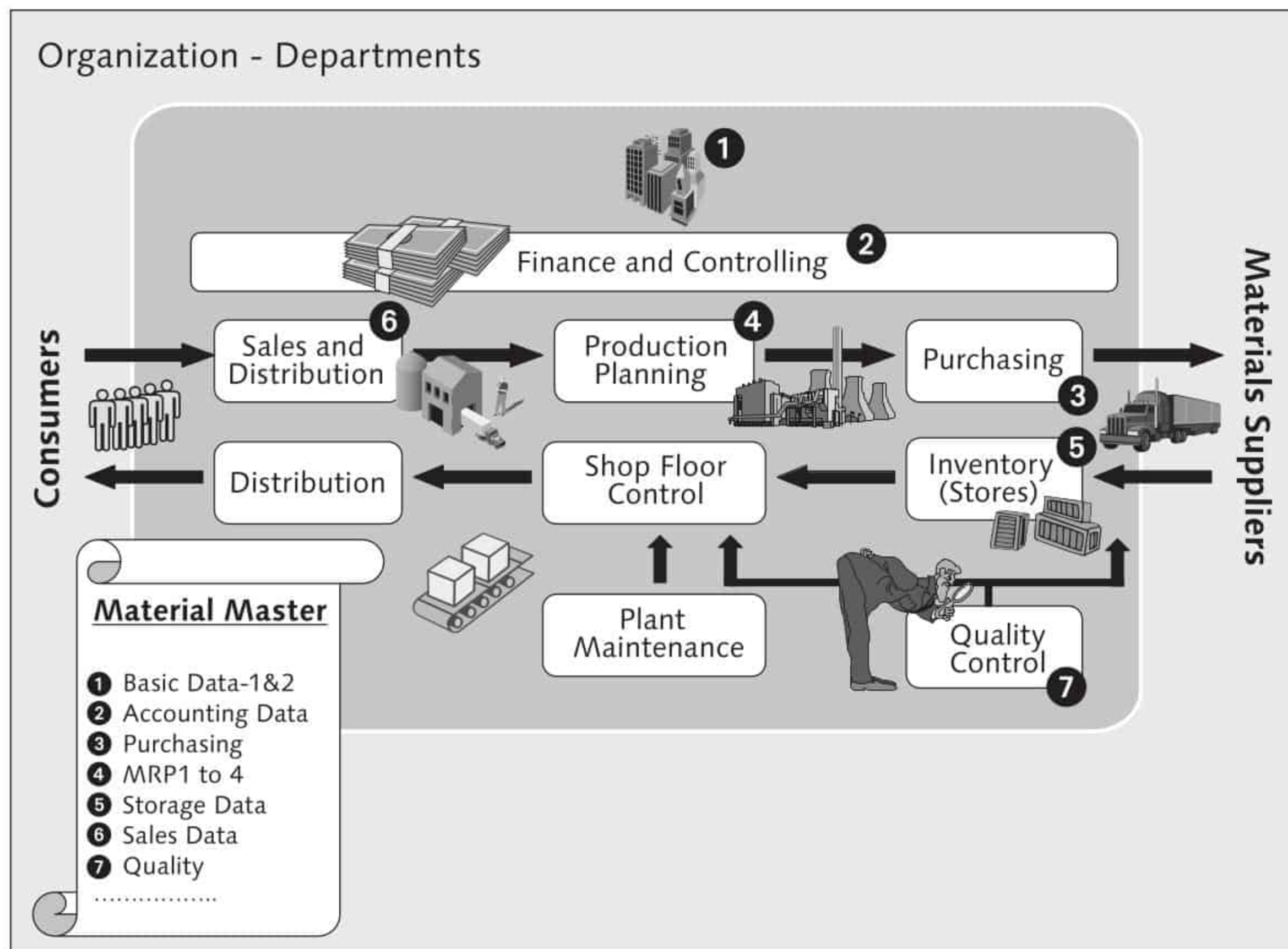


Figure 3.15 Material Master Views for Different Department Data

The material master code is created centrally, and each department can maintain department-specific data in the material master record (just as with the vendor master record). This concept is illustrated in Figure 3.16.

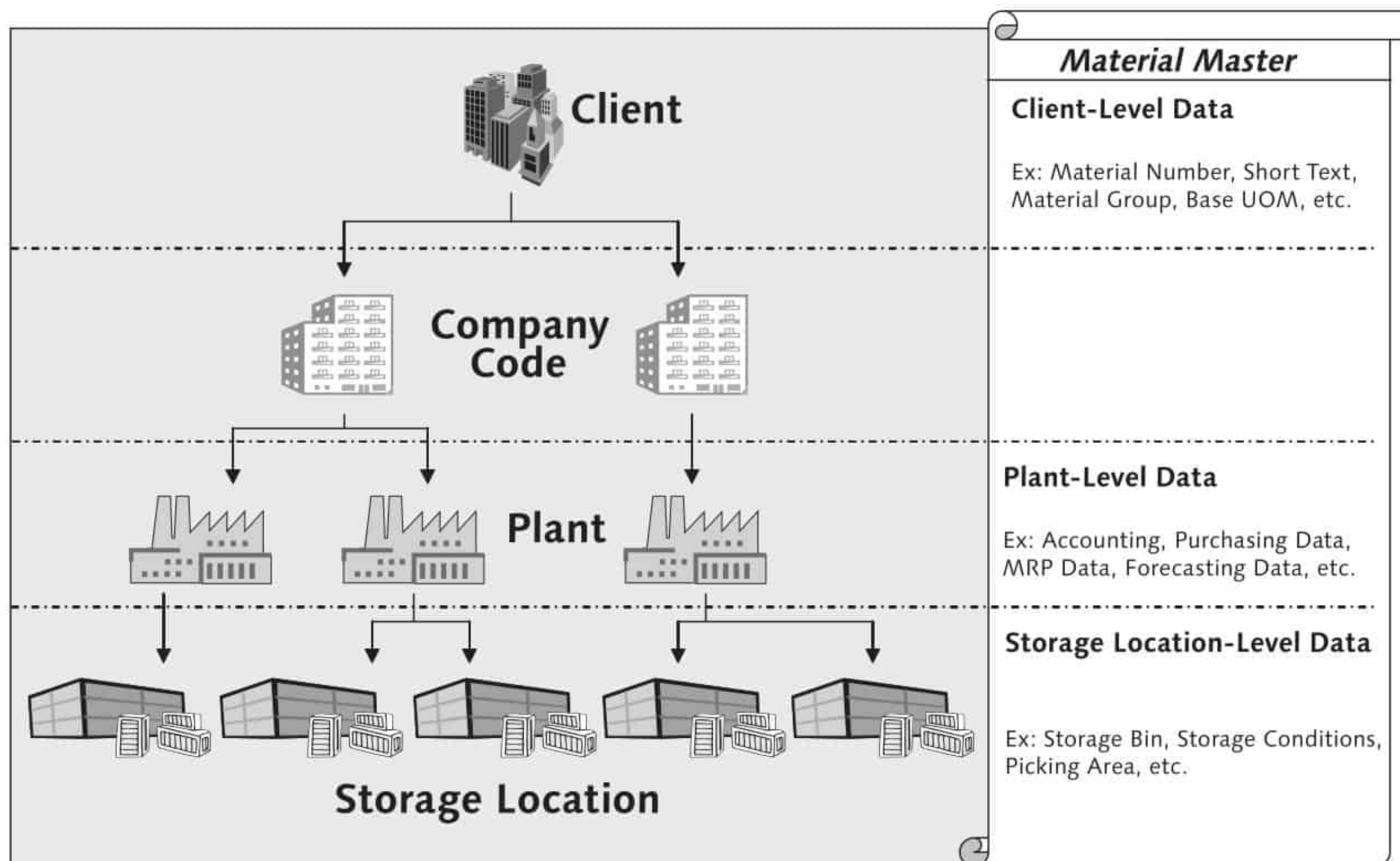


Figure 3.16 Material Master Organizational Level Data

General data that's valid enterprise-wide is stored at the client level, and plant-relevant data is maintained at the plant level. Similarly, data that's valid for a particular storage location is maintained at the storage location level.

In the following sections, you'll learn about the main attributes and configurations of material master data.

3.2.1 Main Attributes

The main attributes of material master data are the material number, industry sector, and material type, as shown in Figure 3.17.

The screenshot shows the 'Create Material (Initial Screen)' with the following fields and callouts:

- Material Number:** 18 character (can be alphanumeric), Internal, external, and mixed number range.
- Industry Sector:** One character (alphanumeric is possible), Controls: Screen setup and screen sequence.
- Material Type:** Four characters, Important control functions:
 - ✓ Screen sequence
 - ✓ Field selection
 - ✓ Procurement type
 - ✓ Number assignment

The screenshot also shows the following fields:

- Select view(s)
- Organizational levels
- Data
- Material: Iron Sheet
- Industry sector: Mechanical engineer
- Material Type: Raw materials
- Change Number

Figure 3.17 Main Attributes of Material Master Data

The *material number* is a unique 18 character field. It can be entered manually, or be created automatically by the system, based on the type of number assignment. For external number assignment, you can enter the material number manually, and for internal number assignment, the system will create the material number automatically when you save the material master record.

The *industry sector*, as shown in Figure 3.17, controls the screen setup and screen sequence. The SAP system includes predefined industry sectors, but if any specific requirement doesn't match with these predefined sectors, you can create your own.

Material types have many controlling functions, including the following:

- ▶ Number assignment
- ▶ Number range
- ▶ Procurement type
- ▶ Screen setup (i.e., allowed views, field selection, and screen sequence)
- ▶ Price control
- ▶ Account determination
- ▶ Quantity and value updating in plants

SAP provides preconfigured material types, but you can also create your own by copying the standard material types and making the required changes. Some of the SAP-provided material types are:

- ▶ ROH: raw material
- ▶ HALB: semi-finished material
- ▶ FERT: finished material

3.2.2 Configuring a New Material Type

To configure a new material type, go to SAP IMG • LOGISTICS-GENERAL • MATERIAL MASTER • BASIC SETTINGS • MATERIAL TYPES • DEFINE ATTRIBUTES OF MATERIAL TYPES (Figure 3.18).

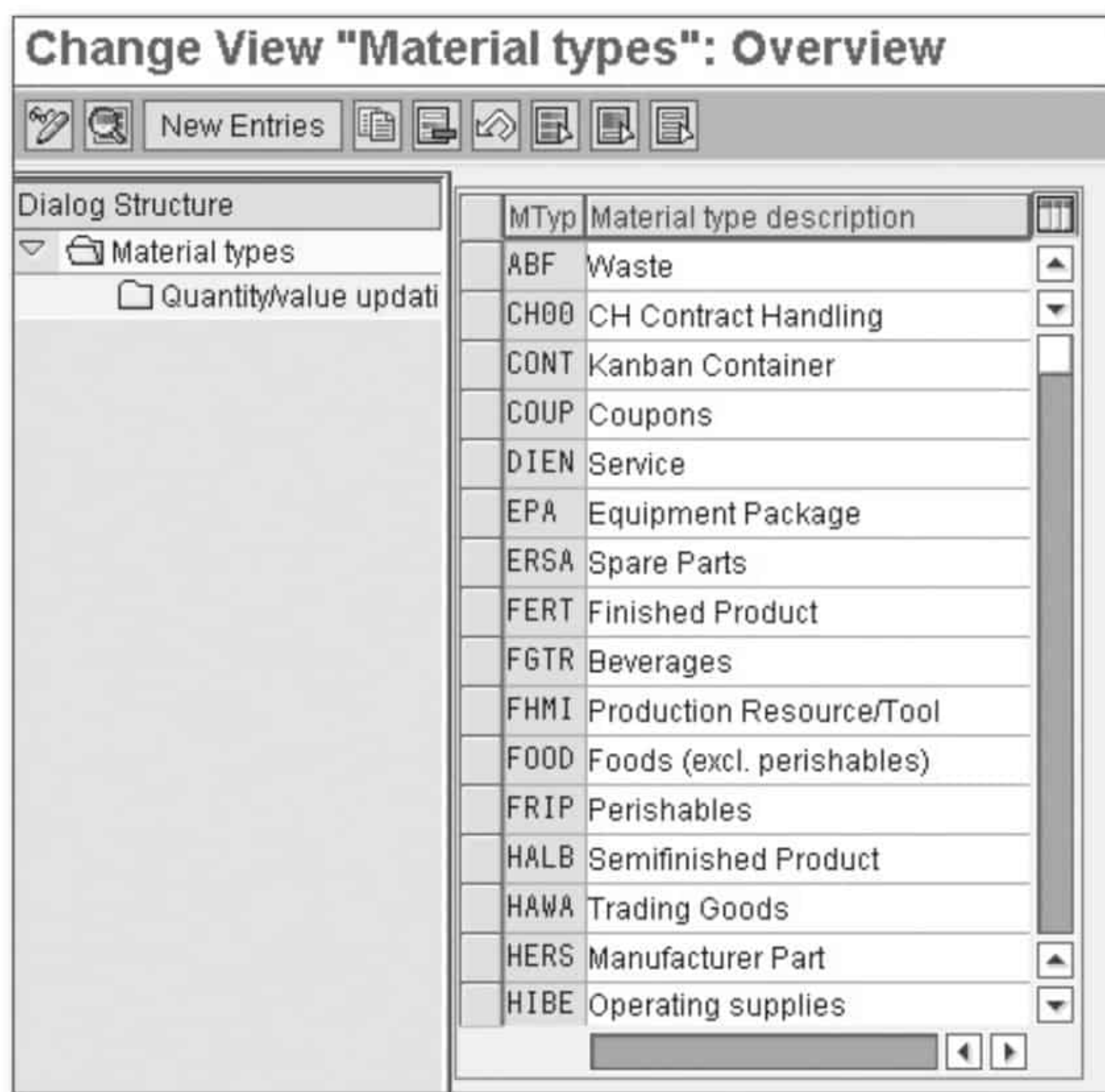


Figure 3.18 Material Types

Here, you can either make changes to an SAP-provided material type (such as DIEN, HALB, or FERT), or you can create a new one. To do the latter, either click on the New Entries button, or copy an existing material type and make the required changes.

Note

If you want to create a new material type, we recommend copying a SAP-provided material type and then making changes, instead of starting from scratch. Otherwise, you need to maintain multiple settings and screens, which can be very time consuming.

For additional settings, select the Material type and click on the Details button. You will see the details of the selected material type as shown in Figure 3.19.

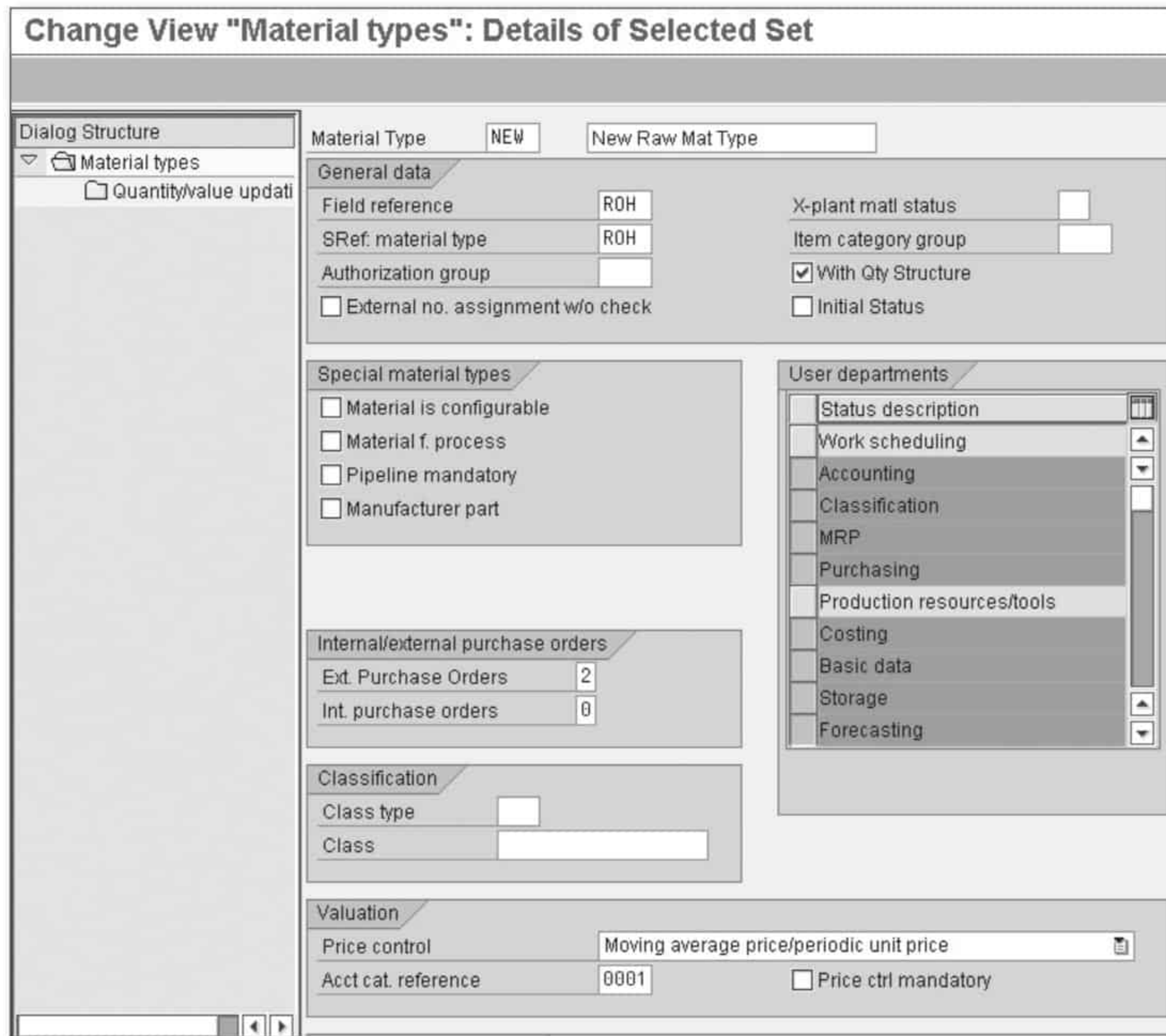


Figure 3.19 Material Type Creation

The following are the key settings in material types (Figure 3.19):

- ▶ **Field Reference Key**
This determines the field status such as Required, Hidden, Display, and Optional.
- ▶ **Views (User Departments)**
User departments such as purchasing, sales, and production are referred to as views in the material master. This determines which views can be selected for the material type. For example, a sales view is essential for finished goods because you need to maintain sales department-specific data to sell the materials.
- ▶ **Pipeline Allowed/Mandatory**
This determines whether pipeline handling is possible or mandatory. It also determines whether it's possible to set external and internal purchase orders, as well as quantity and value updates.
- ▶ **Type of Procurement**
This determines whether internal procurement, external procurement, or both are allowed.
- ▶ **Price Control**
You can select Standard Price or Moving Average Price for a material type, as shown in Figure 3.19. The selected price control is copied (defaulted) when you create a material master record, but you can change price control from Standard Price to Moving Average Price and vice versa. If the checkbox Price Ctrl Mandatory is activated, the price control method selected in the material type cannot be changed while creating a material master record.

After you've selected the material type, click on the Quantity/Value Updating folder (on the left side of the screen). As Figure 3.20 illustrates, you need to select Quantity Update and Value Update in each valuation area. The significance of these fields is as follows:

- ▶ **Quantity Update**
Specifies that the material is managed on a quantity basis in the material master record for the relevant valuation area.
- ▶ **Value Update**
Specifies that the material is managed on a value basis in the material master record for the valuation area concerned. The values are updated in the respective G/L accounts at the same time.

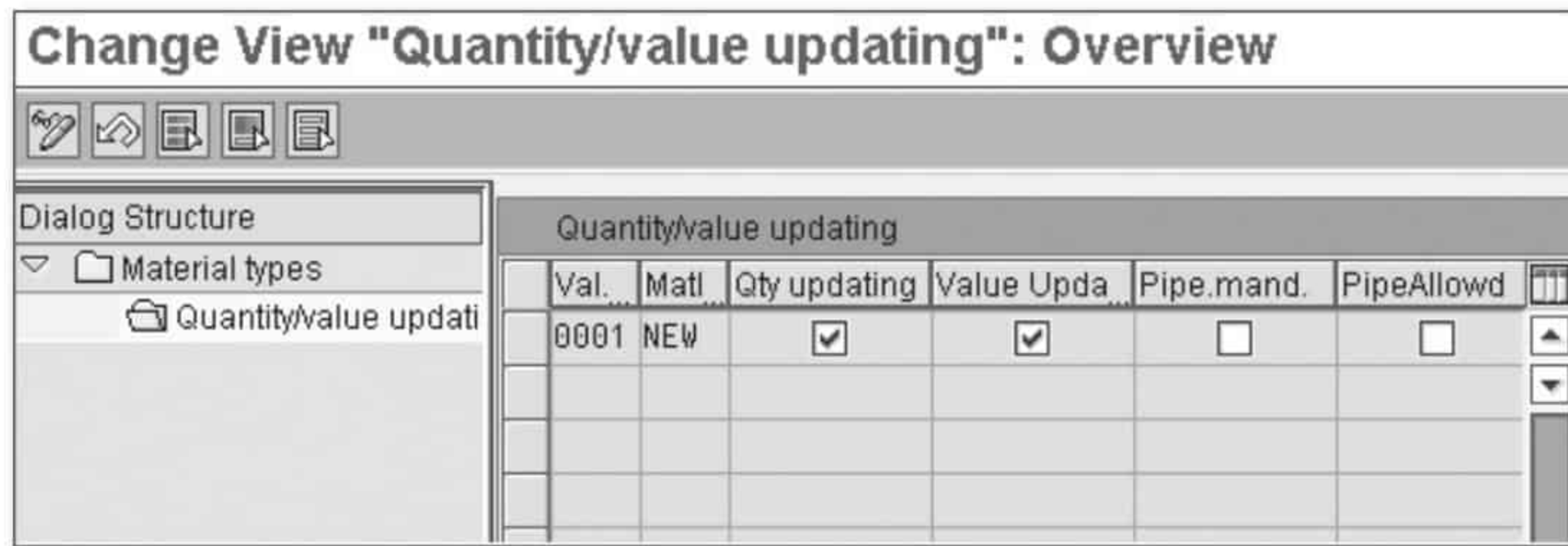


Figure 3.20 Quantity/Value Updating for Material Type and Valuation Area

3.2.3 Defining a Number Range for a Material Type

In this step, you define the type of number assignments and the number of range intervals for material master records. When creating a material master record, you must assign it a unique number. There are two ways of doing this:

1. Internal number assignment

In this case, a number within the defined number range is assigned by the SAP system.

2. External number assignment

In this case, you can assign a number within the defined number range interval. You can define the intervals for external number assignments numerically as well as alphanumerically.

You can also define both an internal and an external number range interval for the material type.

To configure a number range for material types, go to the menu path SAP IMG • LOGISTICS-GENERAL • MATERIAL MASTER • BASIC SETTINGS • MATERIAL TYPES • DEFINE NUMBER RANGE FOR EACH MATERIAL TYPE. (Figure 3.21).

Click on Maintain Group to maintain a new group for the new number range, as shown in Figure 3.21. In the top screen menu, go to GROUP • INSERT (shown in Figure 3.21), the result of which is shown in Figure 3.22. Enter the group Text (the group name) and a new number range in the From Number and To Number fields, and then click Save.

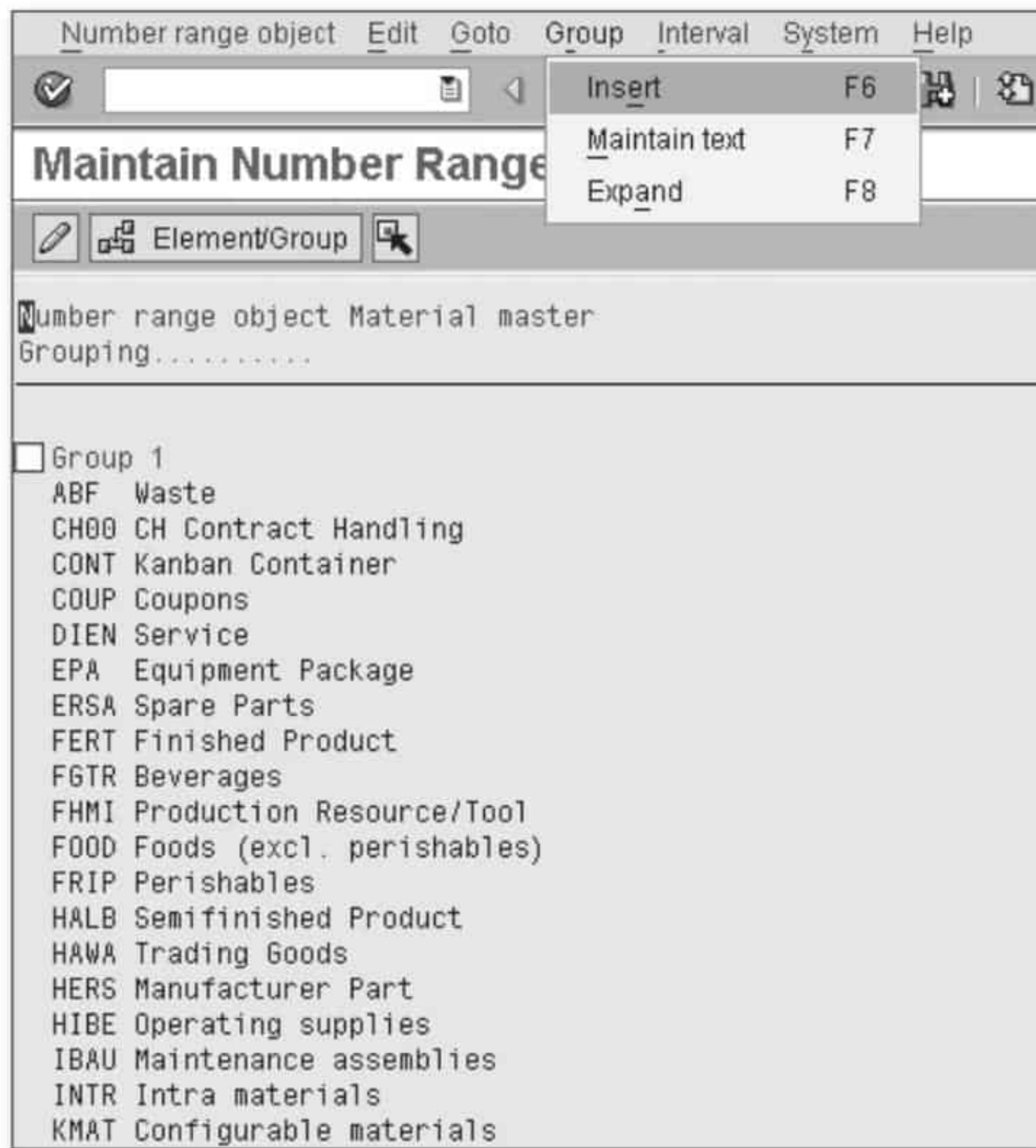


Figure 3.21 Number Range for Material Types

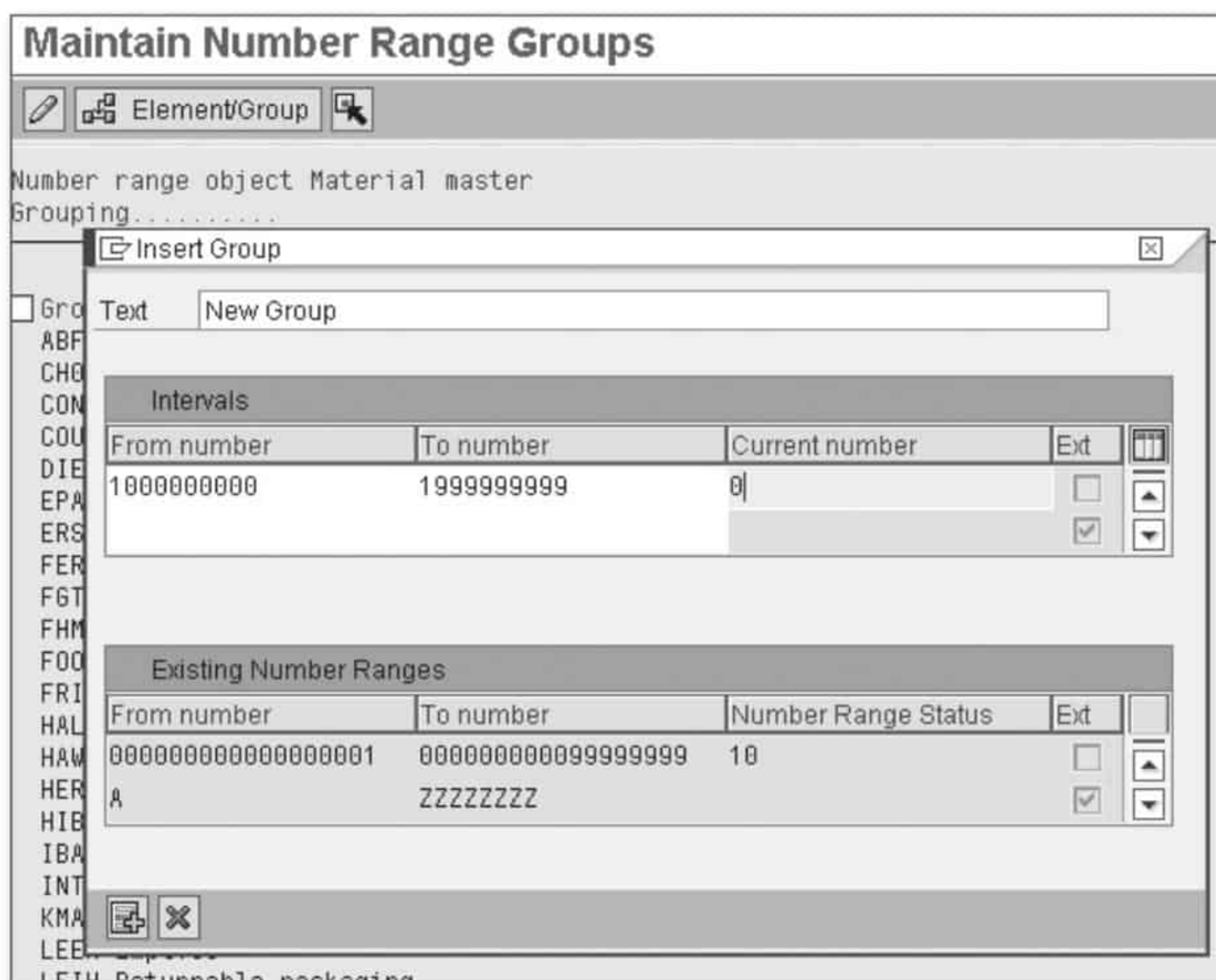


Figure 3.22 Number Range and Number Range Groups for Material Type

3.2.4 Defining Field Selections

The field status of a field in material master data is controlled by the following:

- ▶ Material type
- ▶ Transaction code
- ▶ Industry sector
- ▶ Plant
- ▶ Procurement type (internal/external)

Similar fields are organized under different groups called *field selection groups*. For example, Field Selection Group 1 contains two fields, Base Unit of Measure, and Unit of Measurement Text, as shown in Figure 3.23.

A field reference key is assigned to each of the different controlling units such as material types, transaction codes, industry sectors, plants, and procurement types. For example, Field Reference keys DIEN and MM03 are assigned to the Service material type and the Display Material transaction, respectively.

Maintain the field status for the combination of Field Selection Group and Field Reference Key, as shown in Figure 3.23.

The screenshot shows the SAP 'Change View Field Selection for Data Screens: Overview' interface. It displays two tables. The first table, 'Fields (Field selection group 1)', lists fields with their names and short descriptions. The second table, 'Field selection (Field selection group 1)', shows the status of these fields for different field reference keys (0001, MM03, SAP1, DIEN, E, F).

Fields (Field selection group 1)	
Field name	Short Description
MARA-MEINS	Base Unit of Measure
T006A-MSEHT	Unit of Measurement Text (Maximum 10 Charact

Field selection (Field selection group 1)					
Field ref.	Hide	Display	Reqd Entry	Opt. entry	
0001	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
MM03	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
SAP1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
DIEN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
E	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
F	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	

Figure 3.23 Field Selection in Material Master

It's important to know that SAP recommends the following:

- ▶ The field status of a field selection group for the field reference key prefixed with "SAP" must not be changed.
- ▶ The field reference key for transaction codes and procurement type (E – internal procurement, and F – external procurement) are already configured and cannot be changed.
- ▶ New field reference keys must begin with Y or Z.
- ▶ New field selection groups, if required, can be taken from those that aren't pre-configured. For example, 206 through 240 are available.
- ▶ The system determines how the field status should be set, as follows:
 - ▶ The field status "Hidden" has the highest priority, followed by "Display," "Mandatory," and "Optional," in that order.
 - ▶ As shown in Figure 3.23, while in Transaction code "Display Material (MM03)", all fields in field selection group "1" have a status of "Display."

3.2.5 Defining Material Groups

You can define different material groups to distinguish various materials. For example, an enterprise that manufactures computers can classify computers as desktops, laptops, and servers; each of these would be its own group. To define material groups, go to SAP IMG • LOGISTICS – GENERAL • MATERIAL MASTER • SETTINGS FOR KEY FIELDS • DEFINE MATERIAL GROUPS, as shown in Figure 3.24.

Change View "Material Groups": Overview				
New Entries				
Matl Group	Material Group Desc.	Grp.	D...	Description 2 for the material group
01	Material group 1			
02	Material group 2			
DESKTOP	Desktop Computer			
LAPTOP	Laptop Computer			
SERVER	Server			

Figure 3.24 Material Groups

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