BEST

It's SAP, reconciled

AUTOMATED VENDOR &
GL RECONCILIATIONS IN SAP

NEWS & LATEST HAPPENINGS AT BEST
APRIL 2023

BEST PROJECTS UPDATE

New implementations and updates since our last Newsletter in September 2022…..

•**Shoprite (SA)** – the BEST GL Recons and Clearing modules have been live since October 2022. The BEST Vendor Recons solution and process will cater for many unique requirements. Go Live for BEST Vendor Recons is planned for mid-2023.

•**Pepkor (SA)** – the last of the 3-phase implementation project of the BEST Vendor Recons & Statement Portal modules was completed across the Pepkor entities in September 2022. BEST is now used for PepkorFin, Ackermans and PEP Stores for statement uploading and creditor reconciliations.

•**Debmarine Namibia (Namibia)** – a short and sharp implementation project for the BEST GL and Vendor Recons modules with new client Debmarine Namibia. The project started in November 2022 with all modules live and in use since February 2023.

•**AutoX (SA)** – BEST Vendor Recons project with new client, AutoX, is underway with the Design, Build & Testing phases recently concluded and Cutover & Go Live phases underway.

•**HSE (Ireland)** – the team visited new client, HSE, in Dublin for the Project Kick Off and Design Workshops in February 2023 for BEST Vendor Recons, Statement Reader, GL Recons and Clearing modules. Design, Build and Business Walkthroughs has been concluded and UAT is due to start 17 May.

•**Vedanta (SA)** – the project with new client, Vedanta, started in March 2023 for BEST Vendor Recons and Statement Reader modules. Design is underway.

•**Johannesburg Water (SA)** – using the BEST Vendor Recons module since 2014, are extending the use of BEST to GL Recons with the BEST Clearing module also forming part of the implementation. Design is underway, with the Kick Off and Design workshops completed in March 2023.

•**Cashbuild (SA**) – have been using the BEST Vendor Recons module since 2014 and are now implementing the BEST GL Recons and Statement Reader modules. The Project kicks off in May 2023.

Several BEST module Support Pack upgrades have recently taken place or are underway:
* **Bacardi BEST GL Recons Upgrade**
* **Impala Platinum BEST AP Upgrade**
* **JD Group BEST AP, BSP & GL Clearing Upgrade**
* **UCT BEST AP Upgrade**
* **FSSI BEST AP Upgrade**

AMKA – CLIENT CASE STUDY: BEST VENDOR RECONS & STATEMENT READER MODULES

Amka is a South African company with over 60 years in the Health and Beauty Industry.

This Case Study is from a webinar interview with Sharone Pieterse, Accounts Payable Supervisor conducted 20 October 2022.

The key business driver in implementing the BEST Vendor Recons and BEST Statement Reader modules 6 years ago was that vendor reconciliations was a manual, time consuming activity.

BEST has dramatically transformed the way AMKA performs Month End Reconciliations.

- The main benefit of using BEST is time savings achieved. For the 40 suppliers that I do – it takes 2 to 3 days to finalise recons. Previously this could have taken up to 2 weeks. Also, recons are automatically emailed to suppliers.

- Amka achieves an automatic matching rate of 98,5% i.e. no user involvement required. Our larger statements are loaded through BSR. For smaller statements we use the copy function in BEST.

- The most valuable Recon Category is the Amount Payable per list as we can balance back to open item per vendor. We can easily see if something is missing. Missing invoices and POD's are also in their own category, so makes it easier to relay to the vendor.

- Auditors either access BEST system directly or request downloads. For our Finance Year End – we recon in reverse to get back to 0. With BEST we can review previous months so audits are much easier and can refer back where necessary. With Excel history it was gone or we would have to refer to hard copies. Auditors like to see recons balancing back to ledger.

- The Output Recon report is our most used and important BEST report as it gives a full view if something is missing and shows what the recon looks like pre supplier issue. We can also see all queries via the Statement Reconciliation Report.

For the full Case Study and others please visit:
https://bestsapcbi.com/vendor-reconciliations

CONNECTING SAP Conference for HR + Payroll, Financials & Technologies 2023 – 17 to 18 April 2023, JHB, South Africa

BEST recently attended and hosted a panel discussion with AfriSam on their use of the BEST Vendor and GL Recon Modules.

Werner Jooste, Sales Manager at BEST, attended the conference and had the following to say: "The conference and venue was well organised and a pleasure to attend. I had the opportunity to meet and chat with a few of our clients and prospects. The discussion with our team and AfriSam was refreshing, and the interactions made me appreciate how big a part we play in our client's lives." https://connectingsapconferences.com/3in1/
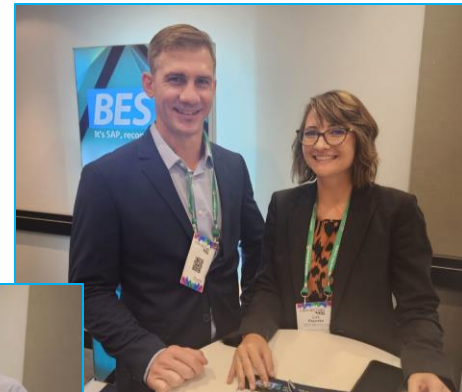
Meet Henry Curtis, Co-Founder and MD of BEST

Henry Curtis, shares some personal insights on who he is and how BEST came to be.

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Henry has 28 years consulting and programming experience on various SAP modules. Realising, with co-founder Alex Bakshi, there was customer demand and SAP product gap given vendor statement reconciliations having to be done outside of SAP, BEST (Minabiz) was founded in 2009 and this first SAP add-on module took off very quickly.

Over the years we have built everything one can think of around finance reconciliations in SAP. We extended the Vendor Recons solution to Balance Sheet Recons, which was also born from our customers asking for this solution. It was much easier second time around, as we had a large code base to work off. Other BEST developed modules include automated GL Clearing for complex open item clearing requirements such as inter company, or across different GL accounts. It was then a natural extension to clear customer accounts against bank payments via an uploaded remittance advice with the Debtors Remit module.

We needed automated ways to bring documents into SAP, which has led to further complimentary add-on modules. While we are true SAP heads, some of the solutions require Windows based add-on solutions for document reading or web-based solutions for third parties to upload documents. With all these different modules, and an excellent name in the market, our customer base has grown phenomenally in recent years.

BEST is built for SAP ECC/Netweaver and S/4HANA. Companies that use this SAP suite tend to be large companies across a variety of industries. All of these organisations perform some type of reconciliation, whether it be Vendor, Balance Sheet, Customer etc. solution in SAP.

With a real customer demand, this SAP add-on module took off very quickly. BEST modules are currently used in 66 countries. New customers, today, require no new coding, with implementation being set up via configuration only. Together with a tried and tested implementation approach, it means quick delivery of an off the shelf solution. We can safely say that all our customers are reference sites and can talk about the benefits they achieved with BEST.

Henry and his wife, Elaine and their two boys Alden and Rohan.

The fact that BEST automates previously manual processes means most customers achieve considerable time and cost savings. However, the robust system and audit controls that BEST delivers inside SAP provide substantial qualitative benefits as well. The BEST team comprises experienced SAP professionals - programmers, functional consultants, project managers and support professionals.

With regards to future development, while new functional requirements are continually being added to the various BEST products, a lot of focus is always required to move with the core SAP product as it progresses and to remain SAP certified.

As a family we enjoy travel and active adventures - when not supporting our two boys on the side of the sports field or pool!

UPCOMING EVENTS

BEST will be at SAPHILA 2023

BEST is excited to be part of the upcoming SAPHILA 2023 Conference taking place from 9 –11 July 2023 at Sun City in the North West.

SAPHILA is a biennial world class information technology conference hosted by the African SAP User Group (AFSUG) in collaboration with SAP.

SAPHILA 2023 promises to elevate the information technology industry by creating an all-encompassing immersive environment for all SAP users to connect, create, collaborate and knowledge share in the very latest innovations, implementations and service delivery best practices, that the world of SAP has to offer.

Register now and ASPIRE to new heights by engaging in unprecedented levels of plenary keynote presentations, industry streams and workshops, partner exhibitions, evening networking and social events and so much more.

Visit us at the BEST stand at SAPHILA 2023.
For more info visit: https://saphila2023.com

CERTIFICATION & RECENT ADVANCES

BEST is now certified on S/4HANA 2022 and re-certified on NetWeaver 7.50.

SAP® Certified
Powered by SAP NetWeaver®

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Certificate
SAP INTEGRATION CERTIFICATION

SAP SE hereby confirms that the interface software for the product **BEST Vendor & General Ledger Reconciliations 7** of the company **MINABIZ (Pty) Ltd Best** has been certified for deployment on **SAP S/4HANA Cloud, private edition, release 2022** via the SAP integration scenario Add-On Deployment for RISE with SAP.

This certificate confirms the technical compliance of **BEST Vendor & General Ledger Reconciliations 7** with SAP certification procedures.

The certification test is documented in report no. **21855 and expires on April 27, 2026.**

SAP Test System: SAP S/4HANA Cloud, private edition, release 2022

The certification is listed on the SAP Certified Solutions Directory: sap.com/csd.

Certified Functions:

Assign Software Component and Namespace
Package Add-On using SAP Add-On Assembly Kit
Deploy using SAP Add-On Installation Tool (SAINT)
Technical Uninstallation Test
SAP Solution Manager Ready functionality
Compatible with SAP S/4HANA
Compatible with SAP S/4HANA Cloud, private edition
Works with RISE with SAP

Christoph Claus
Walldorf, April 27, 2023

SAP Certified
Integration with RISE with SAP S/4HANA Cloud

THE BEST RUN SAP

SAP certification focuses on technical integration with SAP solutions. Vendor is responsible for the product itself, its error-free operation, and adherence to applicable laws.

Certificate
SAP INTEGRATION CERTIFICATION

SAP SE hereby confirms that the interface software for the product **BEST Vendor & General Ledger Reconciliations 7** of the company **MINABIZ (Pty) Ltd Best** has been certified for deployment on **SAP NetWeaver 7.50** via the SAP integration scenario Add-On Deployment for SAP NetWeaver.

This certificate confirms the technical compliance of **BEST Vendor & General Ledger Reconciliations 7** with SAP certification procedures.

The certification test is documented in report no. 21468 and expires on **February 8, 2026.**

SAP Test System: SAP NetWeaver 7.50

The certification is listed on the SAP Certified Solutions Directory: sap.com/csd.

Certified Functions:

Assign Software Component and Namespace
Package Add-On using SAP Add-On Assembly Kit
Deploy using SAP Add-On Installation Tool (SAINT)
Technical Uninstallation Test
SAP Solution Manager Ready functionality
Integration with SAP ERP 6.0 EhP8

Christoph Claus
Walldorf, February 8, 2023

SAP® Certified
Integration with SAP NetWeaver®

THE BEST RUN SAP

SAP certification focuses on technical integration with SAP solutions. Vendor is responsible for the product itself, its error-free operation, and adherence to applicable laws.

Our current certification details for reference.

BEST Software is certified annually with SAP AG.

BEST modules are tested and trusted for SAP integration.

CERTIFICATION & RECENT ADVANCES

SAP® Certified
Powered by SAP NetWeaver®

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BEST is now certified on S/4HANA 2022 and re-certified on NetWeaver 7.50.

BEST GL Recons and Clearing Module Enhancements:

- The derivation of the Bank Statement value has been changed so that the Bank selection logic is now housed in a standard BEST user exit. This allows for Client specific changes to be made to this logic if required due to Client specific Bank Account set up in SAP. As these changes are now in a user exit, these customized changes are not required to be reapplied each time after a future Support Pack upgrade.
- An additional selection option is now available in both the Approval and Recon Hub Programs, that can be selected to show additional Balance fields. Once selected, the output of the Approval and Recon Hub Reports will include totals for each Reconciliation for:
  o PY Year-end Balance
  o PY Period End Balance
  o PY Period Movement
  o PY % Movement (Calculated as PY Period Movement / PY Period End Balance, as a percentage)
  o CY Period End Balance
  o CY Period Movement
  o CY % Movement (Calculated as CY Period Movement / CY Period End Balance, as a percentage)
  o Drill through to Standard SAP Balance Display from Approval & Hub.
  o Due Date value in Recon Report and Ageing Logic.
  o Clearing Error message display for "error" Groups now shown onscreen to provide feedback to the user.
- E-mail notifications can now be generated via the Recon Hub to send an email to the next approver(s) that their approval is pending. The Recon Hub will batch all the relevant approvals together per approver, so that the Approver will only receive one email for all the relevant approvals to be done - as opposed to receiving numerous emails for each approval.
- Intercompany Grouping Key available in the online Reconciliation Report.
- Auto Approval: Additional Currencies available in "Balance Check" Logic.
- A new Master Data table exists whereby specific account groups can be maintained per Company Code and account type (i.e. General Ledger, Customer and Vendor) to be excluded from being selected by the BEST GL Clearing program. This could be used, for instance, if Trade Creditors were required to be excluded from Clearing.

- Customer and Vendor Recon Accounts are now able to use summarized Opening Balance, or summarized Recon Balance, settings.
- This allows for quick balances to be run in the cases where account volumes create performance issues.
- Translations for French, Spanish & Portuguese has been extended to all GL configuration ALV maintenance interfaces.
- To increase the performance of the BEST GL Clearing posting in SAP, a new method of posting clearing has been introduced. In addition to the original document line-item selection for clearing, a new method that uses the line-item text field has been introduced. Using this new method, the items to be cleared in a single group are all updated with a unique clearing reference in the line-item text field. This value is then used to select the updated lines which are then cleared. This method was introduced because it is vastly quicker when posting clearing batches that have large volumes of transactions in one matched group. Therefore, when one wishes to clear 30-thousand-line items with one clearing document, this new method is considerably quicker than the original document selection method. The original document selection method is however still quicker for small groups that are matched and hence is still available. The user has the choice of the clearing method to be used, depending on the make up of the clearing matching being posted.

BEST Debtors Remit Module Enhancements:

- The BEST Debtors Remit module has been enhanced so that the remittance does not need to be uploaded into SAP by a user but can rather be processed automatically directly into SAP - thereby eliminating the need for user intervention. This enhancement now posts the Remittance into SAP via an iDOC as opposed to an Excel upload. The iDOC now performs the validation steps previously performed by a user - including the detection and selection of the payment document(s). The iDOC will post the detailed Remittance lines to the Customer account, clear the Bank payment and then automatically clear the customer account. At the same time, the relevant Remittance files (PDF, Excel) are automatically attached to the iDOC and accounting document posted - for later reference if required.
- An update was made to the iDOC messaging to be able to clearly view the successful attachment message when attachments (such as the Remittance) are made to the iDOC.

CERTIFICATION & RECENT ADVANCES

BEST is now certified on S/4HANA 2022 and re-certified on NetWeaver 7.50.

BEST Debtors Remit Module Enhancements:
- Additional Date Formats with Excel Upload. Prior to this, the BEST Debtors Remit Module catered for 6 different date formats that could be used in the Excel upload file for the "Baseline Date" field. This extends these formats to now contain 20 available formats that can now be used.

BEST AP & BSR Module Enhancements:
- BEST has custom Text, Date and Amount fields. A requirement was raised for additional custom fields. Therefore, the 2 new 100 character text fields, 1 new 30 character text field, 2 new custom date fields, 1 new custom amount field and 1 new custom currency field was added to the standard solution.
- New functionality which allows authorised users to change SAP references to the statement reference where the values are the same is now available.
- Previously if a normal one-to-one match between a SAP and STMT line failed, which would otherwise have been a match (same reference and value within tolerance), then the system would attempt to match the same two lines against each other in a sum match. This could double up on error messaging. Therefore, sum matches between only one SAP and one STMT line are now not attempted.
- Additional customisable fields (Action Points, Responsible Team & Action Owner) has been added to the reconciliation category configuration to allow clients to allocate generic info based on the category.
- The Statement Status Hub Report was enhanced to allow inclusion of attachments in the statement reminder email. The attachment can either be selected from your PC or from a SAP AL11 directory.
- The Statement Status Hub Report was enhanced to report by linked Company Codes. As a standard the report is condensed and reported by the main statement Vendor and Company Code. There are options available where the report can be expanded by either linked Vendor, linked Company Code or linked Vendor and Company Code.
- Statement reminders are sent to the email address as per the "To" email address selection. A new option has been added where a "Copy to" email can be entered. Therefore, the statement reminder will be sent to the vendor as well as the "Copy to" email address.
- Previously, BEST only catered for rejection emails being sent to the previous approver when an approval is rejected. For reconciliations requiring approval, emails can be automatically sent to the designated approver(s) Optionally, approval is possible directly from the email, via clicking a link to SAP login.
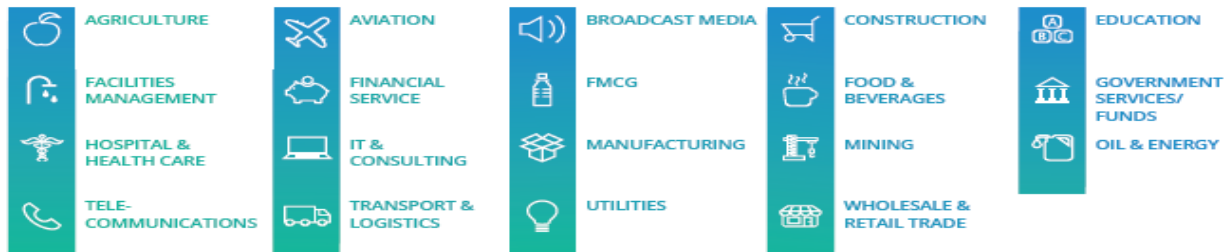
- Where an approval deadline has been missed, escalation can be actioned via automated emails.
- Running the Statement Reconciliation Report with the recon update flag on auto updates the recon start date on the BEST vendor master, to avoid selecting high volumes of old and irrelevant BSAK records.
- The automatic matching program now includes the reconciliation start date in selecting table /BST1/BIND. Reduced and only relevant items are selected improving performance and reducing memory usage.
- A new table parameter and internal table have been declared for the BEST Matching program (/BST1/MATCH) and the BEST Posting Exit (/BST1/RECON_POSTING_EXIT_EG). The purpose of the change was to cater for client specific requirements that are not catered for in the BEST standard exit.
- A new selection parameter "Activate Specific Exit Logic" was created. The exit is always called if configured in the client configuration. However, if some of the exit custom logic should only be called when specifically selected, then this checkbox can be used.
- Translations for French, Spanish & Portuguese has been extended to all Vendor Recon configuration ALV maintenance interfaces.

BEST BSR Enhancements:
- On the BSR tracker where there is an entry in category 499 (SAP message number not categorized) and the error message is "E526" (Reference not populated, row X) this is now allocated to category 370 - Reference not populated.
- The BSR tracker category Master Data transaction has been enhanced to allow for the BSR tracker categories to be split by the "Archive" field indicator.
- For statements that are processed via BSR, BEST is used to delete a line on the statement if the values in the Debit, Credit and Closing Balance fields were zero. Enhancements were applied to also auto delete a line on the statement if the total is zero.
- A modification was made on the BSR cockpit to allow the drill down to the IDOC from the BSR Cockpit.
- A new config option was created to be able to set a default date format to process the IDOCs. The BSR date master data transaction will not be updated if a default date is specified and the system will not take into consideration any date formats maintained in the BSR date master data transaction.
- AD authentication is now catered for in BSR.

BEST WORKS IN THESE INDUSTRIES

The BEST SAP Modules are used by Clients across a wide range of industries as the preferred GL & Vendor Reconciliation solution in SAP.

- AGRICULTURE
- FACILITIES MANAGEMENT
- HOSPITAL & HEALTH CARE
- TELE-COMMUNICATIONS

- AVIATION
- FINANCIAL SERVICE
- IT & CONSULTING
- TRANSPORT & LOGISTICS

- BROADCAST MEDIA
- FMCG
- MANUFACTURING
- UTILITIES

- CONSTRUCTION
- FOOD & BEVERAGES
- MINING
- WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE

- EDUCATION
- GOVERNMENT SERVICES/ FUNDS
- OIL & ENERGY

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"The BEST Vendor Recons Product changed our AP world for the better."
MEDICLINIC

"BEST has carried out the project in a very professional manner. The BEST staff is very knowledgeable of not only their own product but SAP as a whole. The BEST staff is always available for assistance and able to attend to any query at any time."
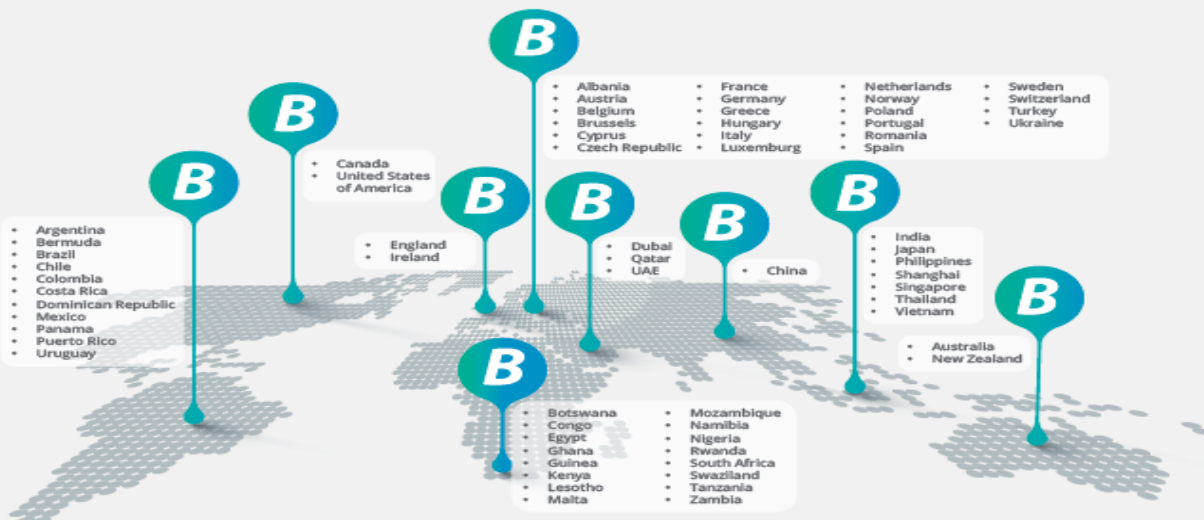**AFRISAM**

- If you know a company who can benefit from BEST – please let us know: **reconcile@bestsapcbi.com.**
- For support please contact: **support@bestsapcbi.com**

BEST WORKS IN & FOR THESE COUNTRIES

BEST Clients & Users are based in & use the BEST SAP Modules for Debtor & Creditor Reconciliations for the below countries currently.

- Albania
- Austria
- Belgium
- Brussels
- Cyprus
- Czech Republic

- France
- Germany
- Greece
- Hungary
- Italy
- Luxemburg

- Netherlands
- Norway
- Poland
- Portugal
- Romania
- Spain

- Sweden
- Switzerland
- Turkey
- Ukraine

- Canada
- United States of America

- Argentina
- Bermuda
- Brazil
- Chile
- Colombia
- Costa Rica
- Dominican Republic
- Mexico
- Panama
- Puerto Rico
- Uruguay

- England
- Ireland

- Dubai
- Qatar
- UAE

- China

- India
- Japan
- Philippines
- Shanghai
- Singapore
- Thailand
- Vietnam

- Australia
- New Zealand

- Botswana
- Congo
- Egypt
- Ghana
- Guinea
- Kenya
- Lesotho
- Malta

- Mozambique
- Namibia
- Nigeria
- Rwanda
- South Africa
- Swaziland
- Tanzania
- Zambia

Some of our clients

WWW.BESTSAPCBI.COM | RECONCILE@BESTSAPCBI.COM