Let's now start looking at some of the open SQL statements we can use in our ABAP programs.

Now in a previous video, I mentioned that open SQL statements we use in our programs allow us to indirectly access or modify records held in the database tables. Many of the examples we have used in this course so far have used the select statements. So, you should be familiar with them. The select statement is very similar to the standard SQL select statements that is used by many other programming languages. The beauty about open SQL is that we can use these types of statements in our ABAP programs, no matter what the underlying database is. Our system could be running an oracle database, Microsoft SQL database or any other. By using Open SQL in our ABAP programs in conjunction with using the ABAP dictionary to create and modify our database tables, we can be 100% certain that our ABAP code will not have any issues in accessing the data held by the specific type of database our SAP system uses.

Now cast your mind back to when we created our first database table. We included the field MANDT, which represents the client number and forms part of our database table key. If you recall, when we created our database table, we included a field called client.

Let's take a quick peak as a reminder. [BLANK\_AUDIO] Here it is. Now this field represents the client number and forms part of our database table key. So, in our ABAP programs, you would think we would have to use this field when we're using our open SQL statements, but actually we don't. This is like a hidden field. All our transactional tables and the majority of our master data and configuration tables include this field in them. And the SAP system has been built in such a way that it will automatically apply a filter on this field based on the client id. The user is using. So, if I'm logged in to client 100, the SAP system will automatically filter all the records held in the database on this client key, and only return me the record for client 100. This is done all automatically. So, when we use open SQL in the programs that we create, the system will manage this for us. Meaning we never have to include this field in any selection or any update statements we use in our programs. This also has the added benefit of giving a security. In the knowledge that any SQL statement we execute in our program. Will only affect the records held in our current clients.