MRP

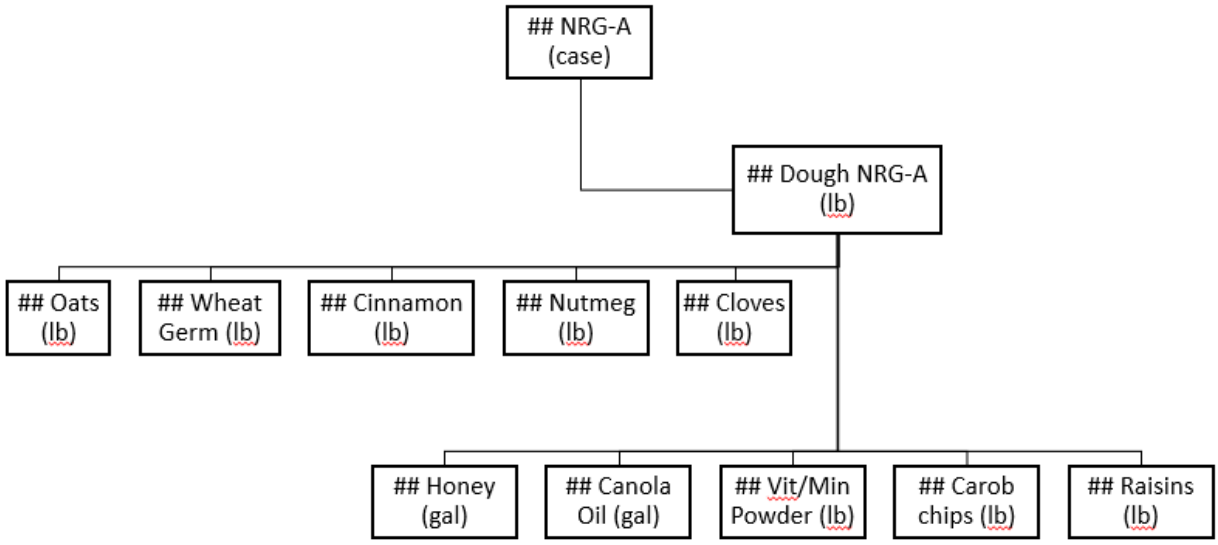
Exercise Introduction

Material resource planning is intended for 3 objectives:

- Ensure materials are available for production and products are available for delivery to customers.
- Maintain the lowest possible material and product levels in store to achieve LEAN processes.
- Plan manufacturing activities, delivery schedules and purchasing activities.

Bill of Material (BOM)

A critical input to the MRP process is the bill of material (BOM), which shows how components and semi-finished products are combined to produce the final product. A graphical representation of the BOM for the NRG-A bar is shown below:



The raw materials (Oats, Wheat Germ, etc.) are combined in a mixer to produce a 500 lb. batch of dough. The dough is then transferred to the baking line, where it is formed into bars, baked and packaged. For simplicity, we have ignored the wrappers, boxes and cases that are needed to produce a complete case of Fitter Snacker bars.

To view the BOMs for Fitter Snacker, follow the menu path:

> **Logistics ▷Production ▷Master Data ▷Bills of Material ▷Reporting ▷BOM Explosion ▷Material BOM ▷Multilevel BOM**

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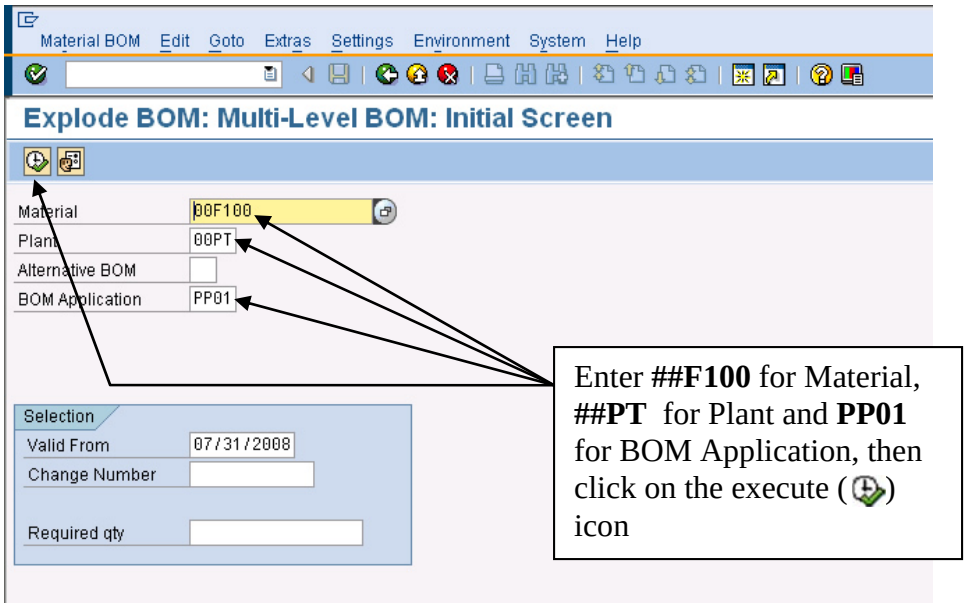
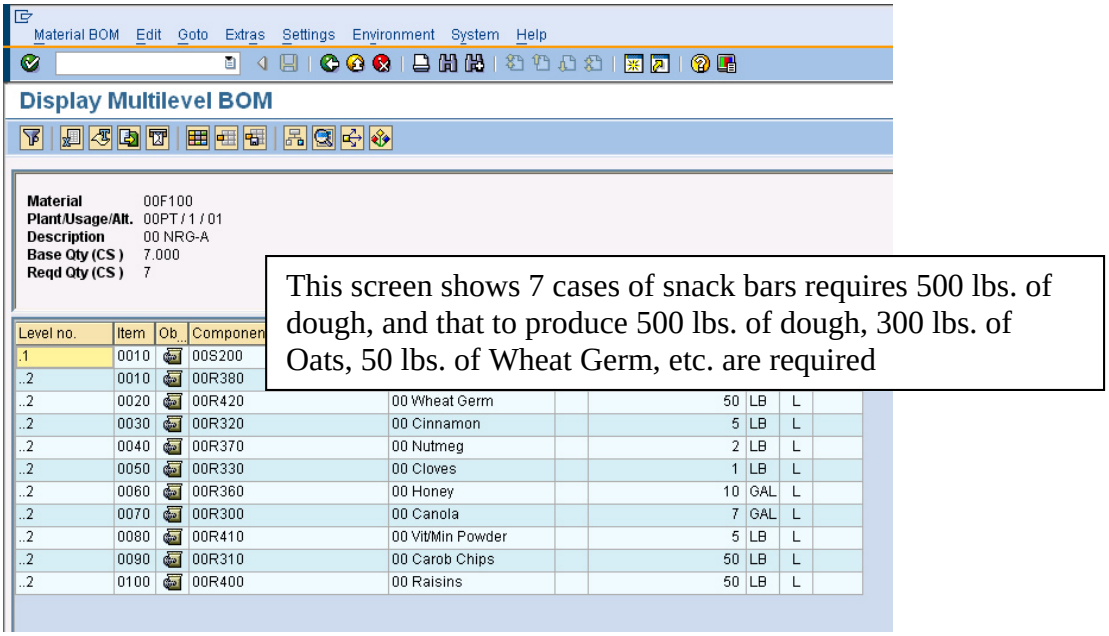
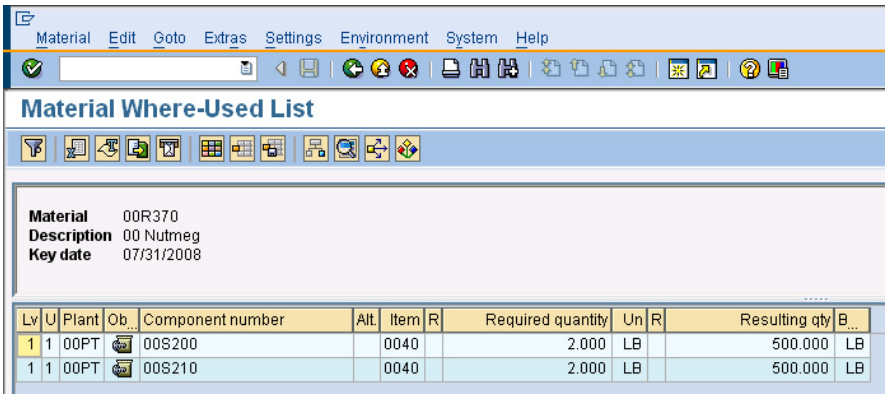




This screen shows the recipe required for seven cases of dough. To learn more about any of the materials required to make an NRG-A bar, select the item and click on the detail icon.

With the nutmeg selected, click on the where-used icon ( ), which will call up the following screen:



This screen shows that Nutmeg is used in two products—the dough for NRG-A and NRG-B bars. (You can double click on each line to view the products.) According to help.sap.com, the where-used list can be used to:

- Determine requirements for a specific material
- Select products that are affected by a change to an individual part
- Find assemblies that will be delayed if, for example, there is a delay in the delivery of a raw material
- Calculate the effect on the cost of a product if the price of a raw material rises

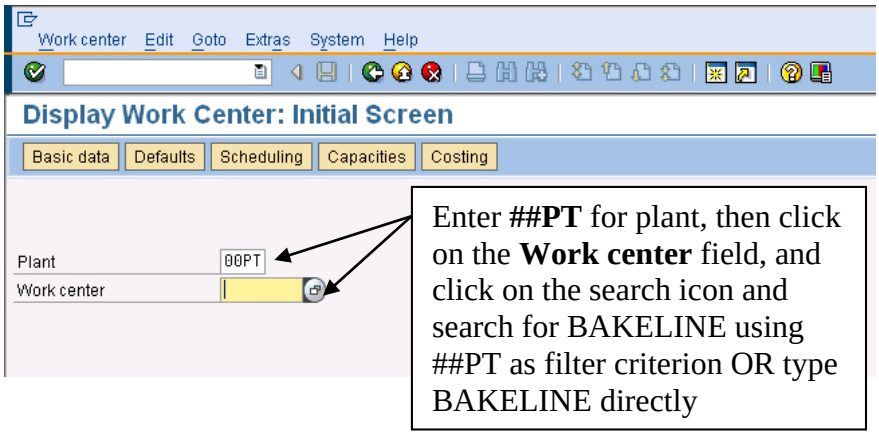
Click on the exit icon ( ) until you return to the SAP Easy Access screen.

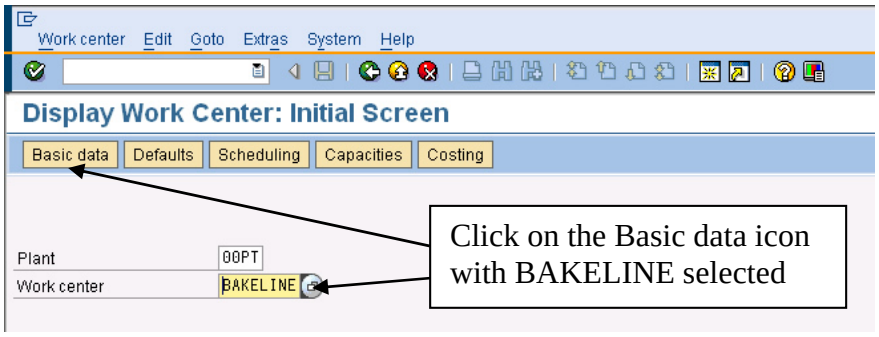
Display Workcenters

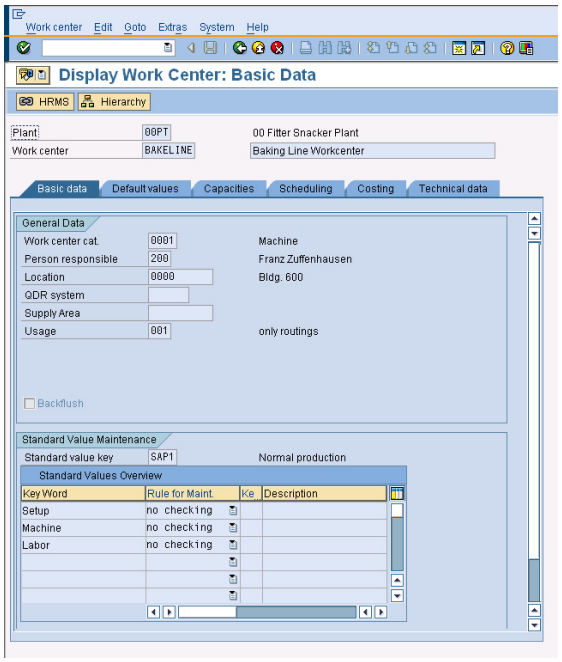
Production is carried out at workcenters. In the SAP ERP system, workcenters can represent machines or groups of machines, production lines, assembly lines, employees or groups of employees.

To display the workcenters used for Fitter Snacker's snack bar production, follow the menu path:

Logistics ▷Production ▷Master Data ▷Work Centers ▷Work Center ▷Display







This multi-tabbed screen contains all relevant data for the workcenter.
Click on the exit icon ( ) until you return to the SAP Easy Access screen.

Routings

Routings define the work centers that a product must visit in the production process. Routings also define the operations that must be performed at each workcenter and the components that are needed for each operation.

1. Create ##F100 (NRG-A bar) and ##F110 (NRG-B bar) Routings

To create a routing for the NRG-A bars, follow the menu path:

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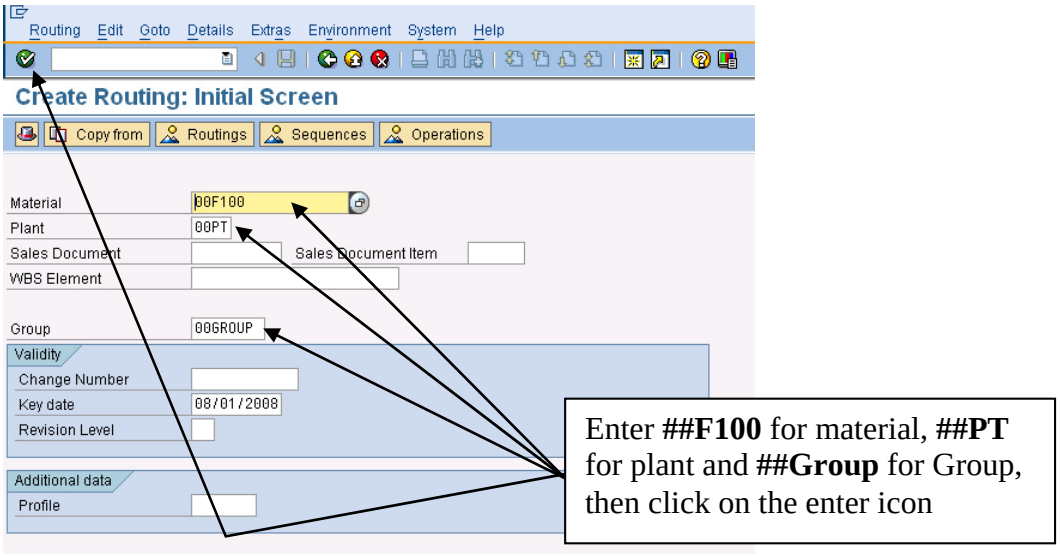
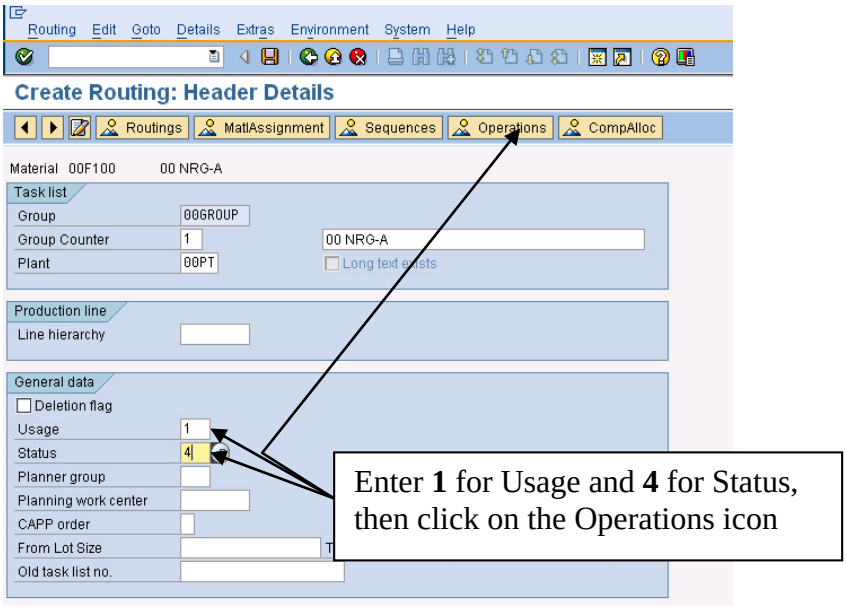
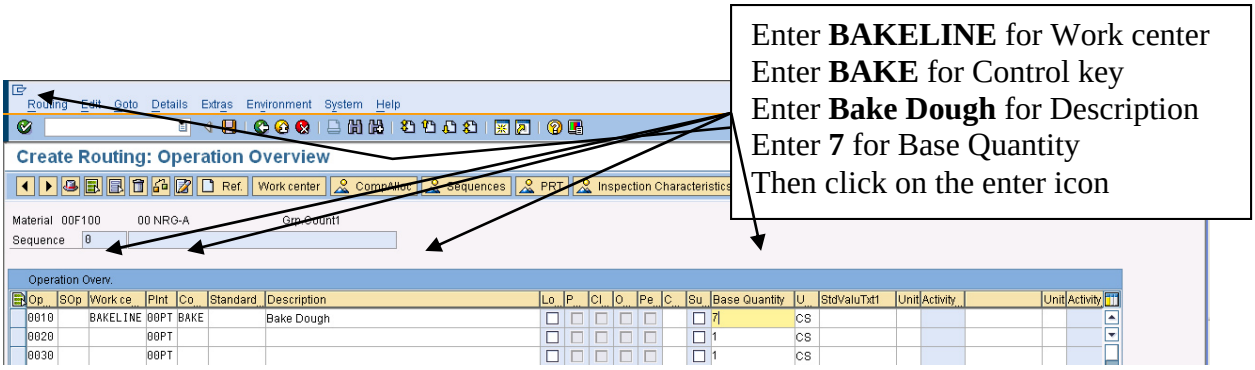
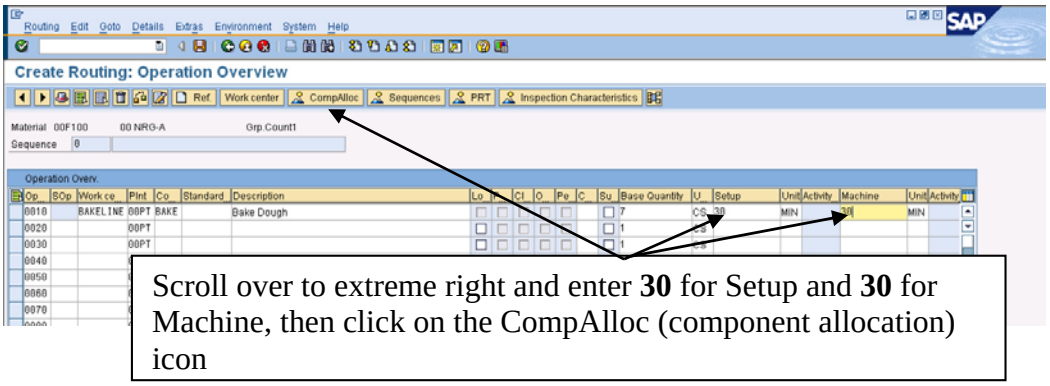
Logistics ▷Production ▷Master Data ▷Routings ▷Routings ▷Standard Routings ▷Create



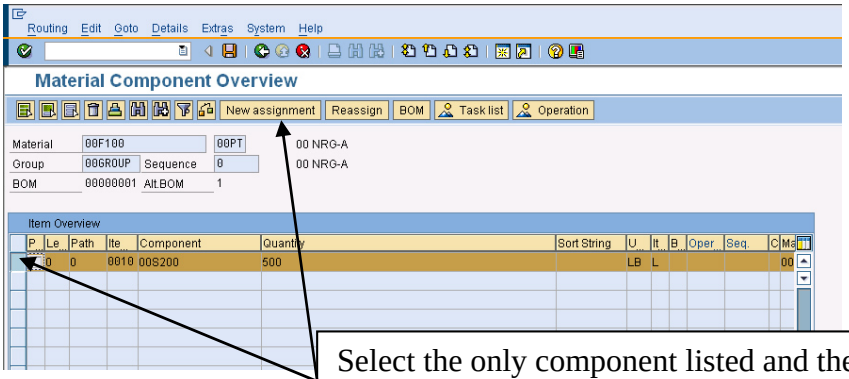




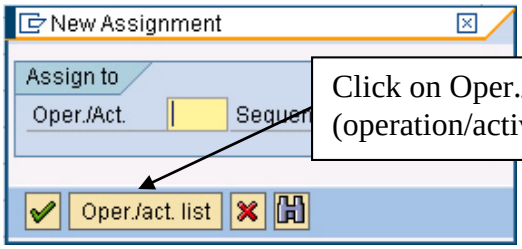
MRP



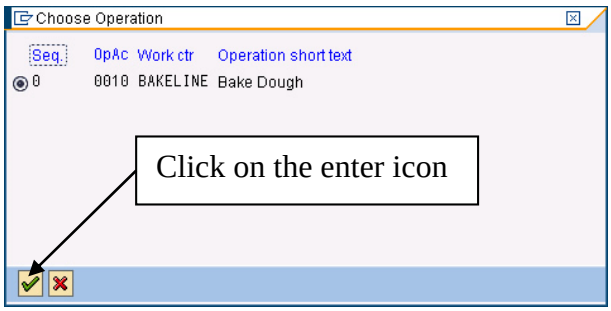
Scroll over to extreme right and enter **30** for Setup and **30** for Machine, then click on the CompAlloc (component allocation) icon



Select the only component listed and then click on the New assignment icon

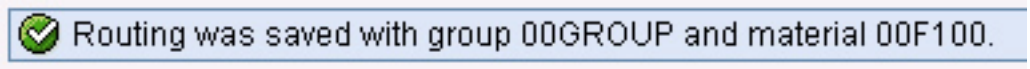


Click on Oper./Act. (operation/activity) list



Click on the enter icon

Click on the save icon ( ) to save the routing. You will get a message like the following:

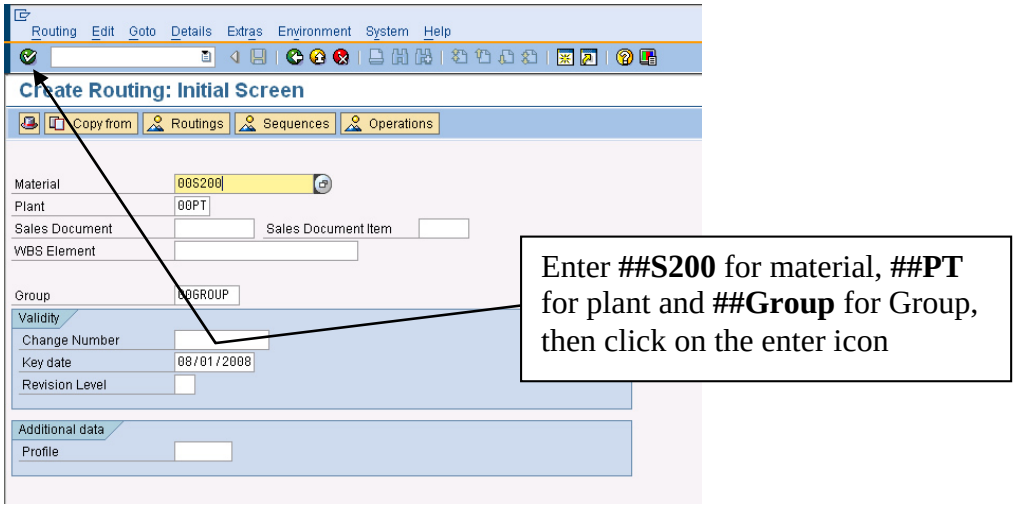


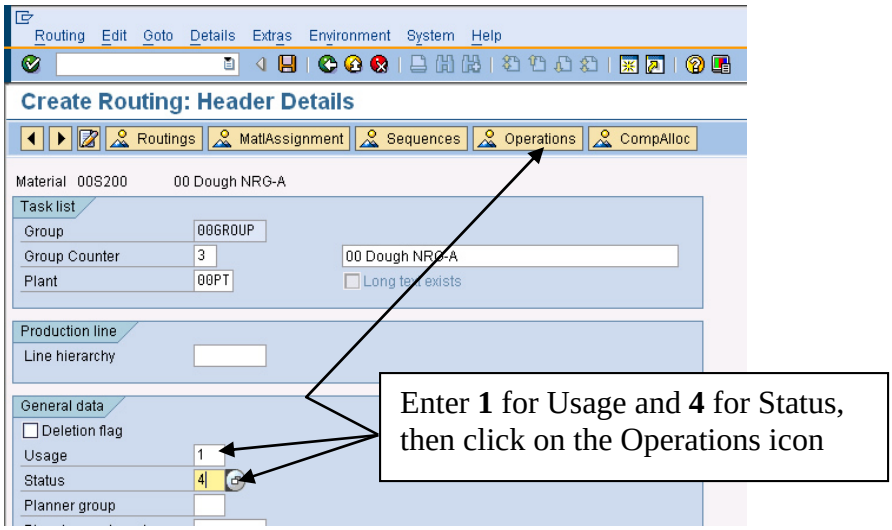
Return to the beginning of section 1 and
repeat the process to create a routing for material **##F110** (NRG-B bars).
All entries are the same as for the **##F100** (NRG-A bars).

2. Create Routings for material ##S200 (dough for NRG-A bars) and ##S210 (dough for NRG-B bars)

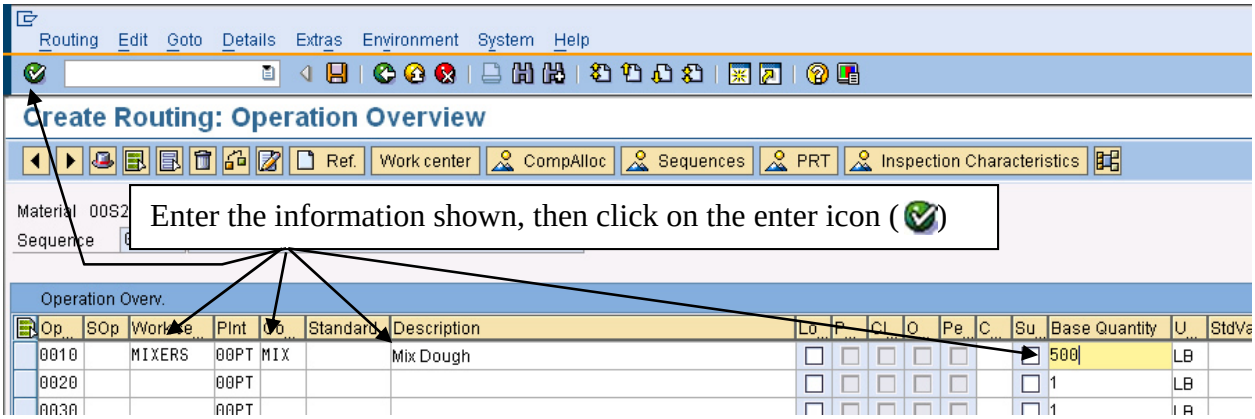
To create a routing for ##S200 (dough for NRG-A bars), again follow the menu path:

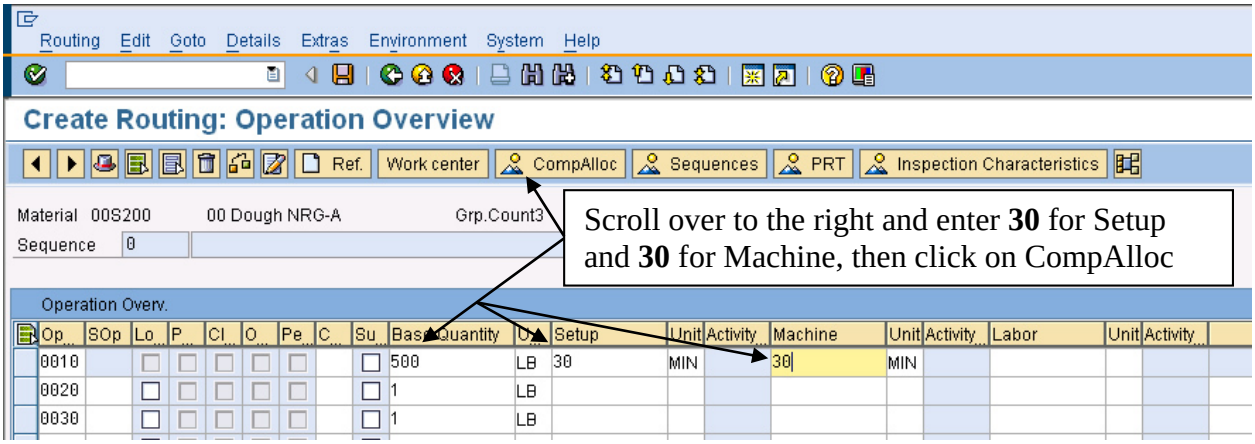
Logistics ▷Production ▷Master Data ▷Routings ▷Routings ▷Standard Routings ▷Create

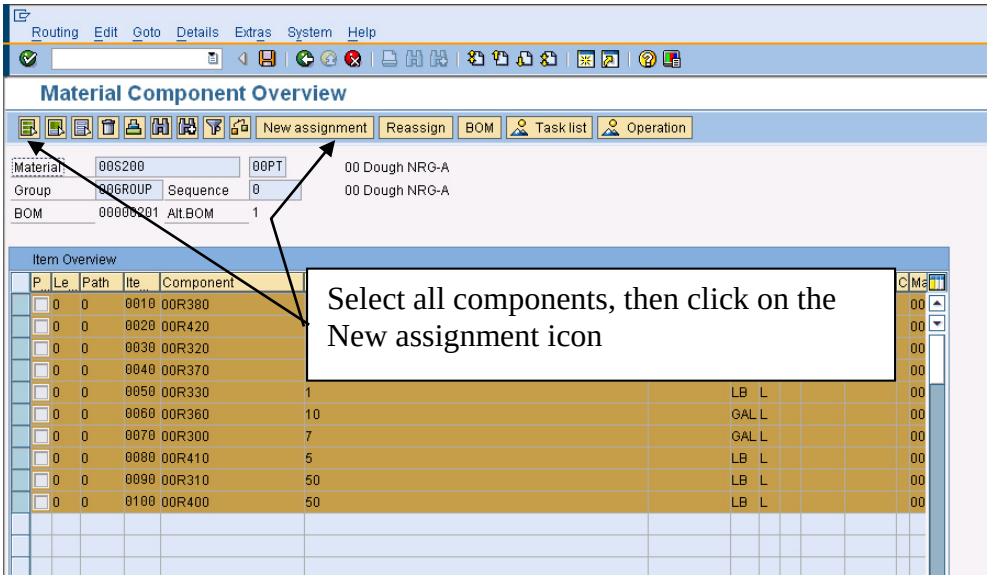


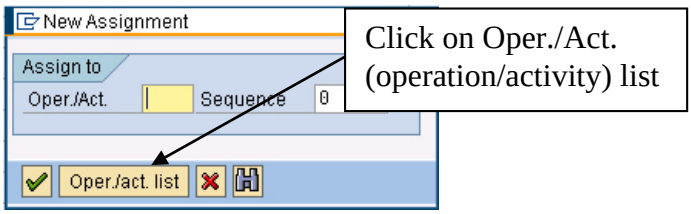


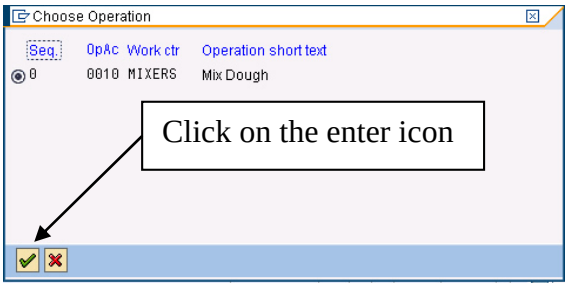
MRP


Routing Edit Goto Details Extras Environment System Help
Create Routing: Operation Overview
Ref. Work center CompAlloc Sequences PRT Inspection Characteristics
Enter the information shown, then click on the enter icon ( )
Operation Overv.
Op SOp Workce Plnt Co Standard Description Lo P Cl O Pe C Su Base Quantity U StdVa
0010 MIXERS 00PT MIX Mix Dough 500 LB
0020 00PT 1 LB
0030 00PT 1 LB

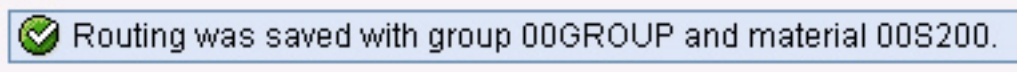

Routing Edit Goto Details Extras Environment System Help
Create Routing: Operation Overview
Ref. Work center CompAlloc Sequences PRT Inspection Characteristics
Material 00S200 00 Dough NRG-A Grp.Count3
Sequence 0
Scroll over to the right and enter **30** for Setup and **30** for Machine, then click on CompAlloc
Operation Overv.
Op SOp Lo P Cl O Pe C Su Base Quantity U Setup Unit Activity Machine Unit Activity Labor Unit Activity
0010 500 LB 30 MIN 30 MIN
0020 1 LB
0030 1 LB


Routing Edit Goto Details Extras System Help
Material Component Overview
New assignment Reassign BOM Task list Operation
Material 00S200 00PT 00 Dough NRG-A
Group 00GROUP Sequence 0 00 Dough NRG-A
BOM 00000201 Alt.BOM 1
Item Overview
P Le Path Ite Component
0 0 0010 00R380
0 0 0020 00R420
0 0 0030 00R320
0 0 0040 00R370
0 0 0050 00R330 1 LB L
0 0 0060 00R360 10 GAL L
0 0 0070 00R300 7 GAL L
0 0 0080 00R410 5 LB L
0 0 0090 00R310 50 LB L
0 0 0100 00R400 50 LB L
Select all components, then click on the New assignment icon





Click on the save icon ( ) to save the routing. You will get a message like the following:



Return to the beginning of section 2 and repeat the process to create a routing for **##S210** (dough for NRG-B bars).
All entries are the same as for **##S200** (dough for NRG-A bars).

3. Create Product Group

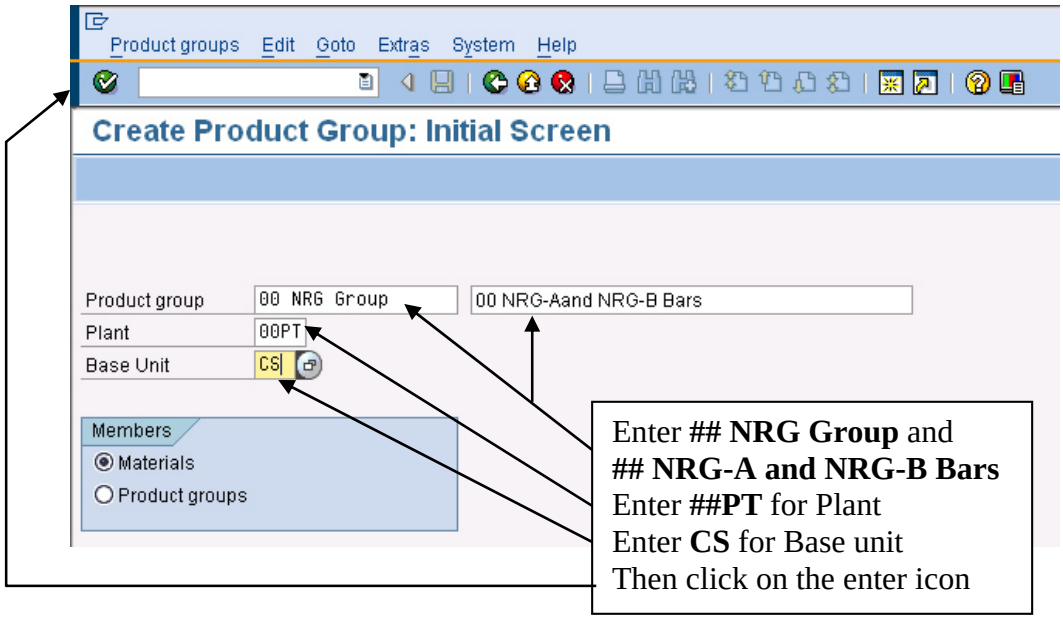
Many firms produce hundreds of products, and planning for each product individually is not feasible or desirable. What these firms do is create product groups, and then plan production for a small number of product groups and then transfer these plans to individual products based on historic percentages. While Fitter Snacker does not have a large of number products, we will use the product group process anyway.

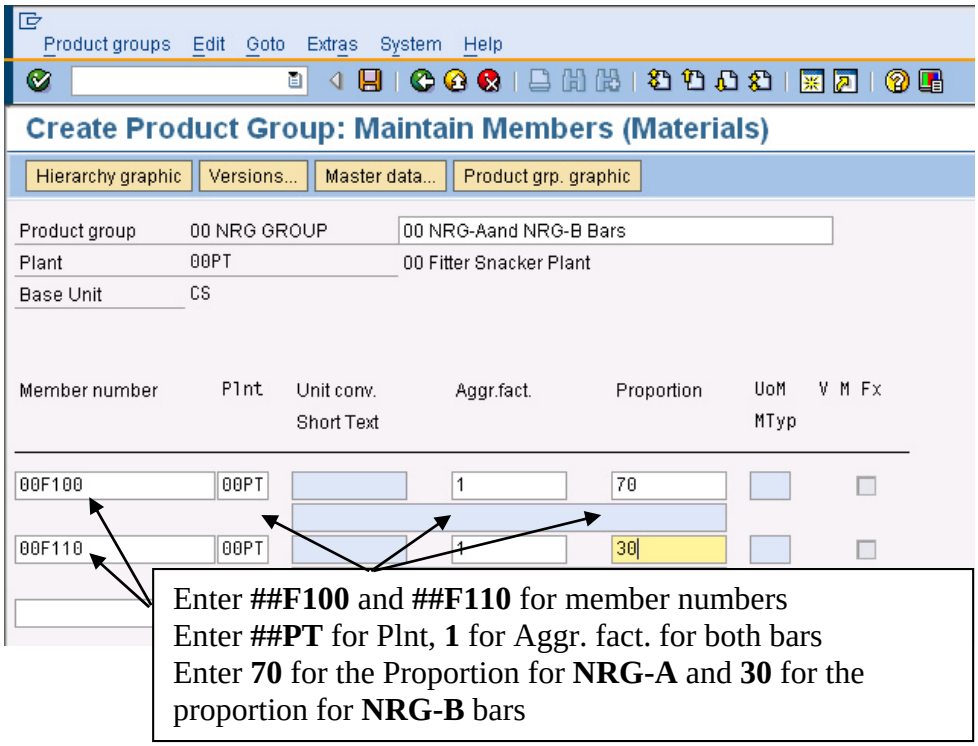
To create a product group for Fitter Snacker, follow the menu path:

Logistics ▷Production ▷SOP ▷Product Group ▷Create

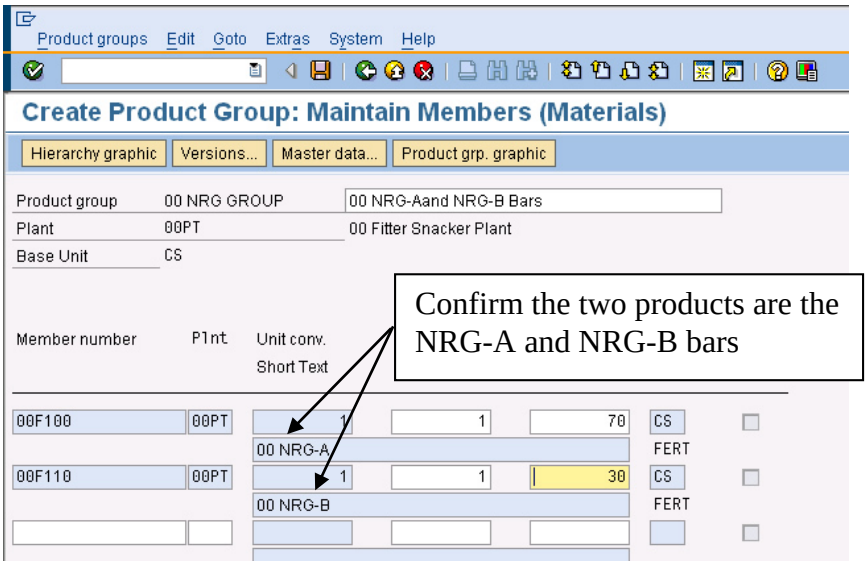
which will produce the following screen:

MRP





These proportions mean that whatever production is planned for the NRG group, it will be assumed that 70% of the production should be NRG-A bars and 30% should be NRG-B bars. Click on the enter icon ( ) to confirm that you have the correct products in the group:

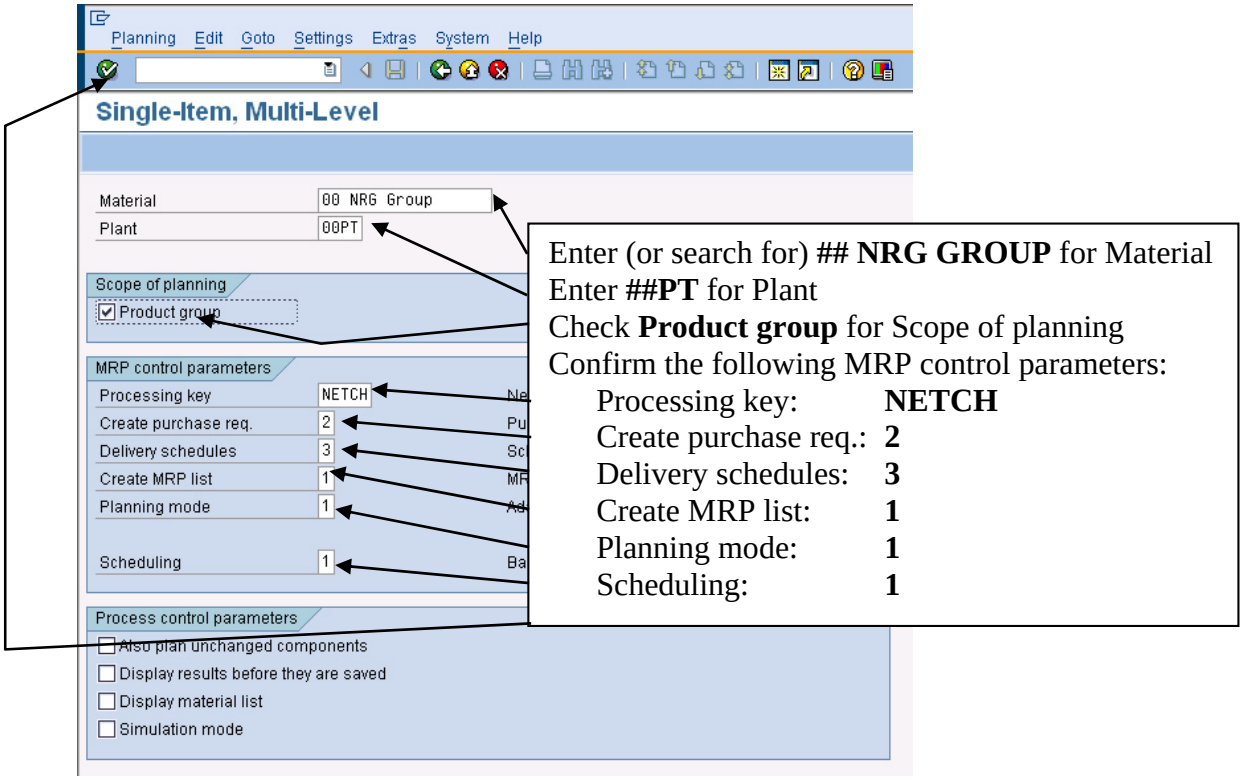


Click on the save icon ( ) to save the product group.

4. Run MRP

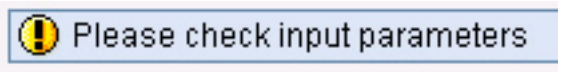
We can run the MRP process on our new product group. To do this, follow the menu path:

Logistics ▷Production ▷MRP ▷Planning ▷Multilevel Single-Item Planning (MD02)

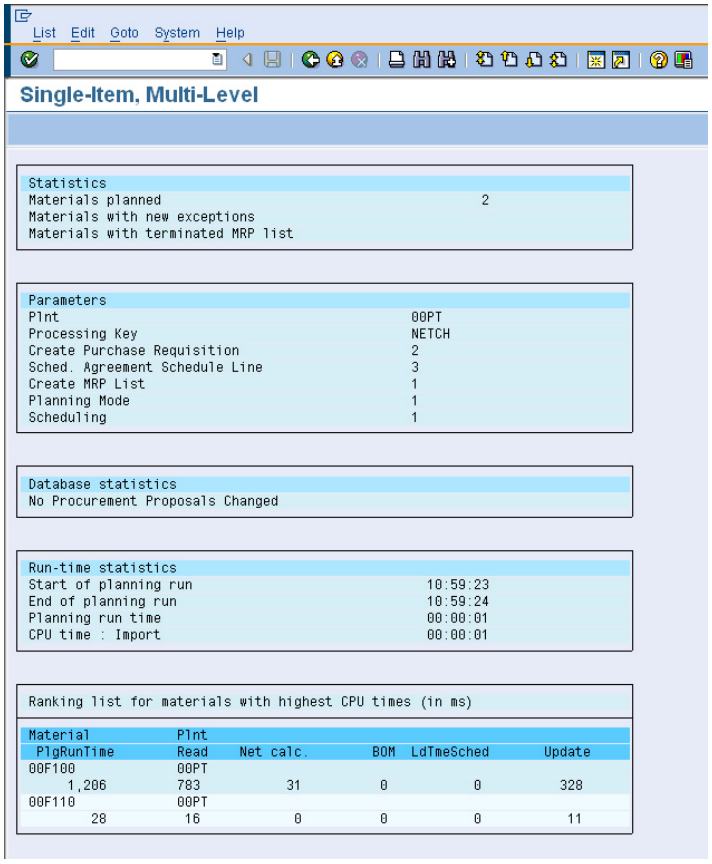


MRP

Enter the information shown above, then click on the enter icon ( ). This will produce the following message:



Click on the enter icon ( ) again and you should get a report like the following:



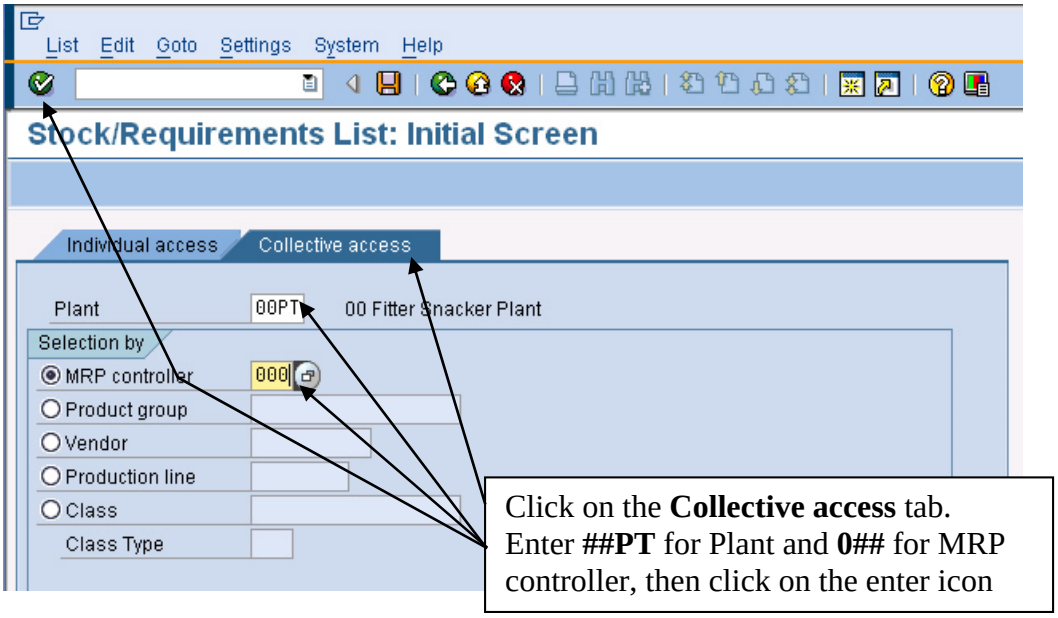
The details of your report may be different, but that is not a problem. As long as you don't have an error messages, things should be okay. To confirm that they are, we can check the status of key materials.

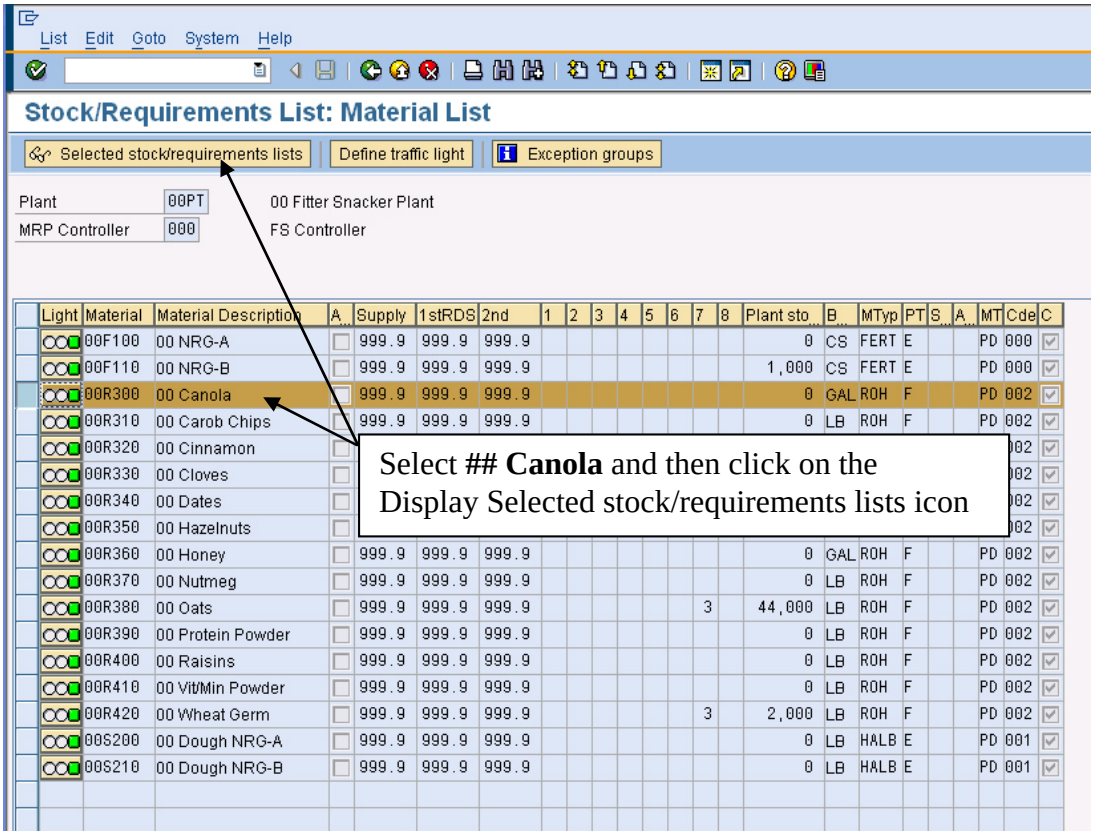
To view the status of a material, we can use the Stock/Requirements list. Like many transactions in the SAP system, there are a number of menu paths that can take you to the Stock/Requirements list. One of these is:

Logistics ▷Production ▷MRP ▷Evaluations ▷Stock/Requirements List (MD04)

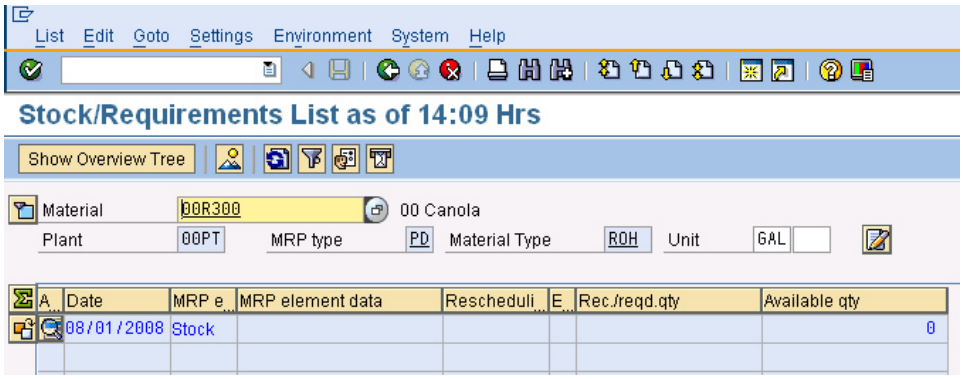
which will produce the following screen:

MRP

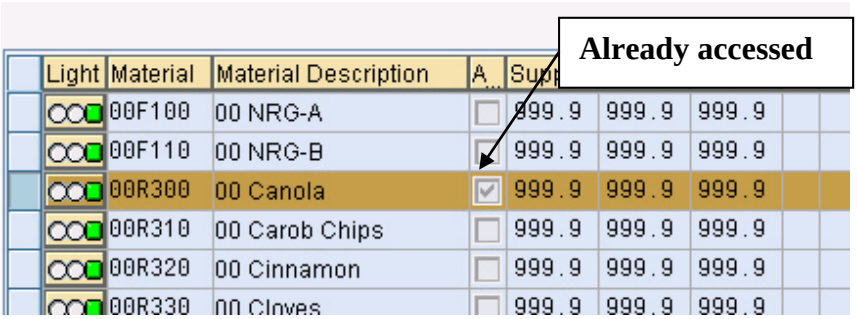

List Edit Goto Settings System Help
Stock/Requirements List: Initial Screen
Individual access
Collective access
Plant
00PT
00 Fitter Snacker Plant
Selection by
MRP controller
000
Product group
Vendor
Production line
Class
Class Type
Click on the **Collective access** tab.
Enter **##PT** for Plant and **0##** for MRP controller, then click on the enter icon


List Edit Goto System Help
Stock/Requirements List: Material List
Selected stock/requirements lists
Define traffic light
Exception groups
Plant
00PT
00 Fitter Snacker Plant
MRP Controller
000
FS Controller
Select ## **Canola** and then click on the Display Selected stock/requirements lists icon

MRP



Click on the back icon, which will bring you back to the list of your materials. Note that there is now a check mark next to **## Canola** in the column **Already accessed:**

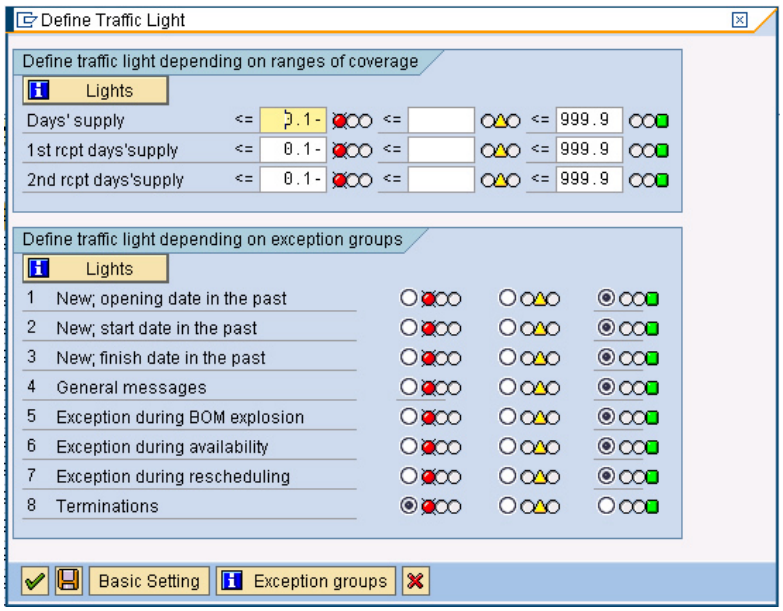


This feature helps the MRP controller keep track of which materials they have already reviewed. The traffic lights also help the MRP controller focus on critical materials. The traffic light concept is used in many areas of the SAP system to help the user prioritize tasks. In our case, the materials with a red traffic light have a non-zero safety stock specified. As there have been no goods receipts for these materials, they are below their safety stock levels and, hence, the red lights.

It is possible to customize the traffic lights.

Click on the Define traffic lights icon (Define traffic light), which will produce the following:

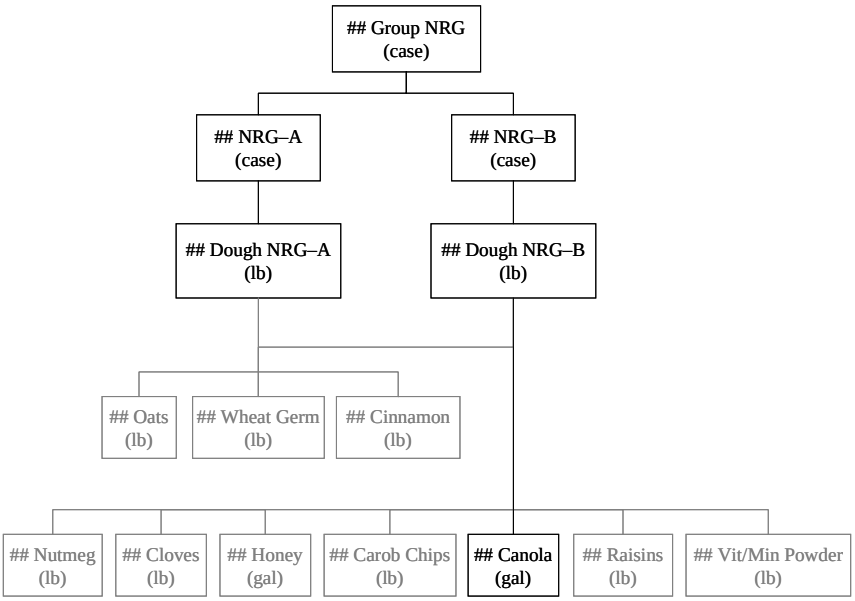
MRP



This screen shows that the SAP system provides the user with a great deal of flexibility in how to configure the traffic light system for issuing warnings as required. Click on the cancel icon (✖) to close this window.

We will keep the Stock/Requirements list open so that we can easily review the results of the MRP process. We will use the following materials to evaluate the MRP process (see figure below):

NRG-A
NRG-B
Dough NRG-A
Dough NRG-B
Canola



At this point, the Stock/Requirements list for these materials is pretty boring as there is no production scheduled.

5. Create Sales and Operations Plan

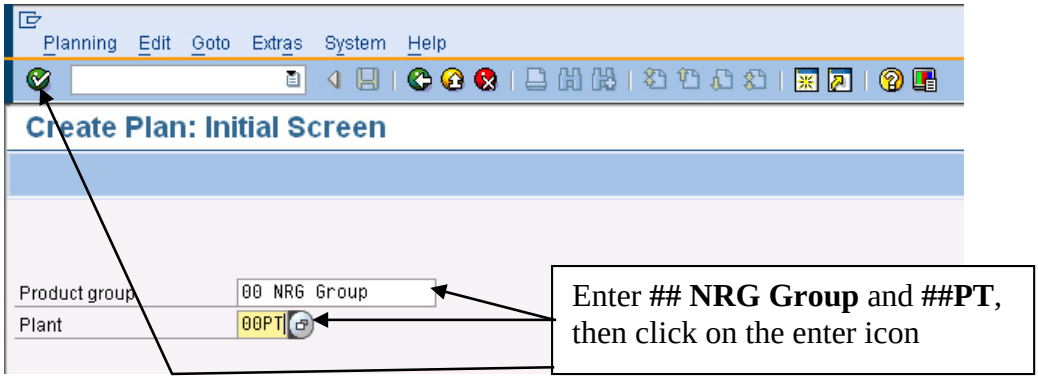
In SAP, the Sales and Operations Planning process is one way to create demand for the MRP process. In practice, Sales and Operations Planning is the process where operations and marketing agree on a demand forecast and a production plan to meet that demand. Ideally, this Sales and Operations Plan should optimize profit for the organization.

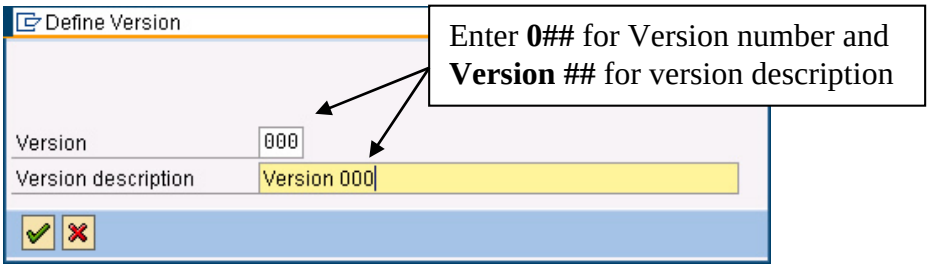
To perform Sales and Operations Planning, open a second session by following the pull-down menu path:

System→Create session

In this second session, follow the menu path:

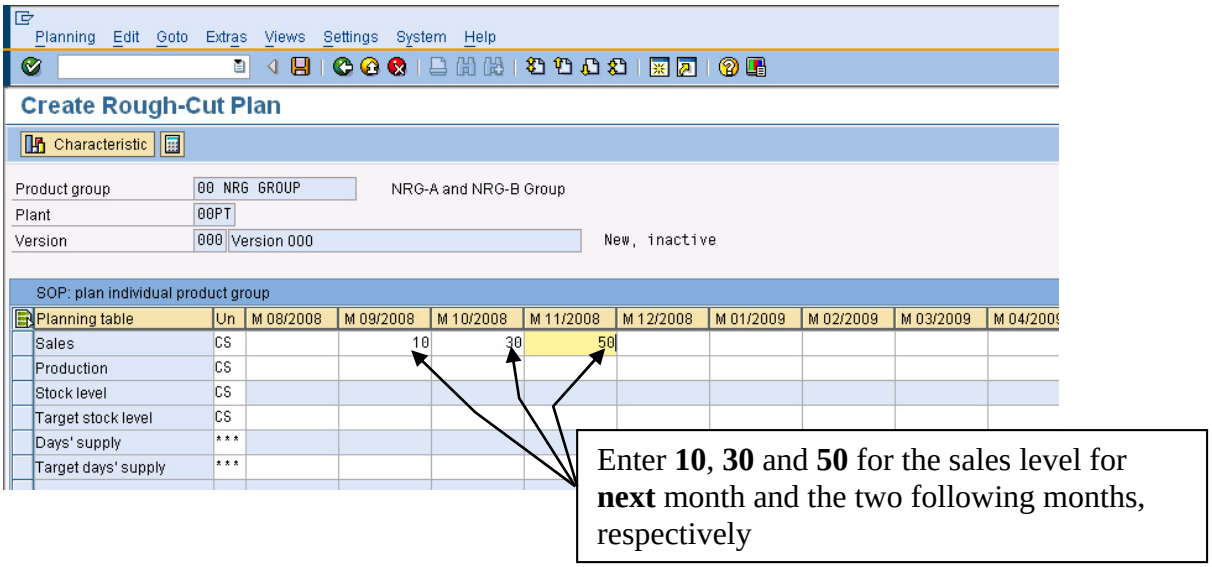
Logistics ▷Production ▷SOP ▷Planning ▷For Product Group ▷Create (MC81)





Click on the enter icon (✔), then the following screen will appear:

MRP

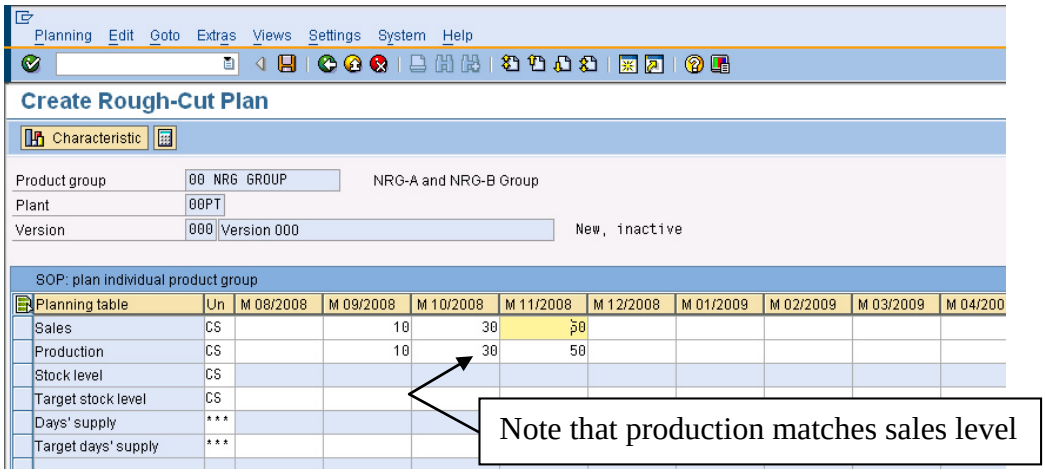


There are a number of ways to develop a sales forecast in the SAP ERP system, however, we'll just enter the values **10**, **30** and **50** as the sales level for **next** month and the two following months, respectively.

There are also a number of ways to develop a production plan—for example, we can have production match sales. To do this automatically, follow the pull-down menu path:

Edit→Create production plan→Synchronous to sales

and the system will create a production plan that exactly matches sales:



We can also develop a plan that allows for a safety stock—a stock level above the expected sales level.