

The IDES Model Company

The Concept Behind IDES

The International Demonstration and Education System (IDES) contains a fully-fledged model company that has been set up in an R/3 System. The IDES corporate group comprises a number of companies, each with predefined business tasks. All of these companies can be used individually, or in interaction with each other, to demonstrate how the R/3 System is integrated, and the range of functions that are available.

IDES is used principally in internal and external training courses, self-learning programs, and for presentations. It aims to prepare project team members and endusers for using the R/3 System in practice. The IDES system provides an ideal learning environment: users get to work in a system that has been fully customized, and contains real-life master data and transaction data. The system further facilitates the transfer of knowledge by providing extensive data descriptions and process descriptions for cross-application business processes.

The realistic business processes of the company group have been set up as self-learning units in IDES. The online documentation in IDES plays a central role in this self-learning process. Since integrated process flows are already defined in the system, users can use the IDES online documentation to familiarize themselves gradually with the core functions in any of the R/3 components. Detailed process descriptions and realistic business data mean that even beginners and users without detailed R/3 knowledge can familiarize themselves quickly with the R/3 System. This online help can also be used as a basis for developing internal training courses and holding R/3 presentations.

Online documentation

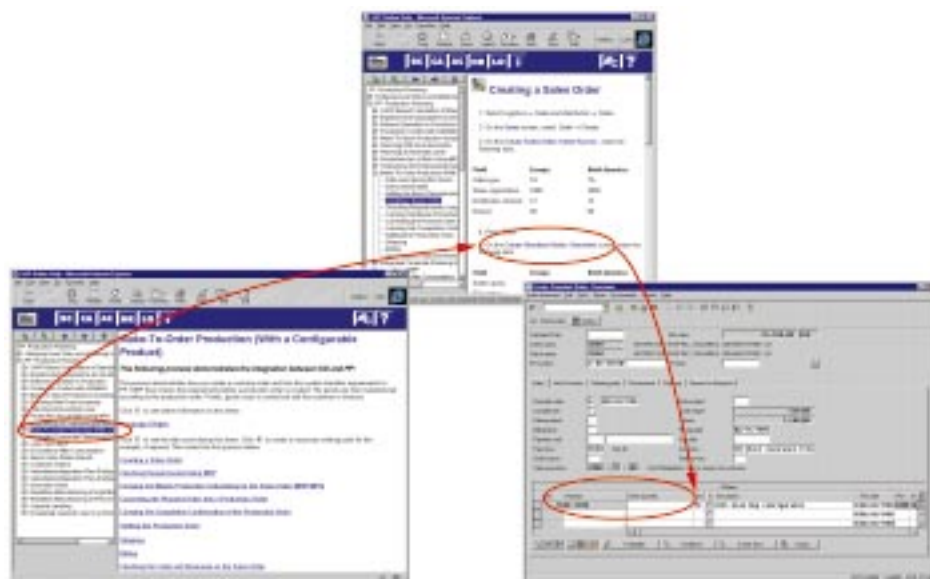


Fig. 1-1: IDES Online Documentation

International R/3 training system	The R/3 training courses offered by SAP AG are based on IDES data. Data for the exercises and demonstrations contained in these R/3 training courses is available as of Release 4.0 of the IDES system. This means that course attendees can then use their training materials to work their way through examples and exercises in the R/3 IDES system, and consolidate what they have learned in their own time. They can also explore the system on their own, and thus further their knowledge of it.
IDES notebook	A laptop version of IDES is also available so that sales staff and consultants can make flexible use of the R/3 Model Company when they are on the move. The entire R/3 IDES system is preinstalled on a hard disk. When a new version is released, IDES Notebook users simply exchange their old hard disk for a new one. Each hard disk also contains a range of important tools, such as the SAP Session Manager, the latest SAPGUI version, parts of the Info DB, the IXOS archive, and all the components required for working through Internet scenarios.
IDES data	The organizational data contained in the IDES system is maintained and updated by the IDES Development team. This team develops planning scenarios with various conditions and aims, performs period-end closing procedures, and generates transaction data so that the information systems in all areas are a true reflection of real-life business. New business scenarios are being added constantly to clearly depict and elucidate the functionality involved.
Release strategy	IDES is available for every release. Hot packages for correction releases can be imported into IDES, but it is not possible to upgrade to a new release. This means that each new IDES release has to be re-installed. This is the only feasible way of ensuring that IDES users receive new, high-quality master data, transaction data, Customizing settings and documentation that have been tried and tested.
Languages	IDES Release 3.1H is available in English, German, French, and Spanish. IDES Release 4.0 will also be available in Japanese and Portuguese. This means that you can access all R/3-specific data, and special IDES features such as Customizing, short texts and long texts in all these languages.

The IDES Organizational Structure and Corporate Structure

The IDES group comprises three subgroups: IDES Europe, IDES America and IDES Asia. In turn, the European subgroup comprises five companies, IDES America three companies, and IDES Asia one company.

The IDES group

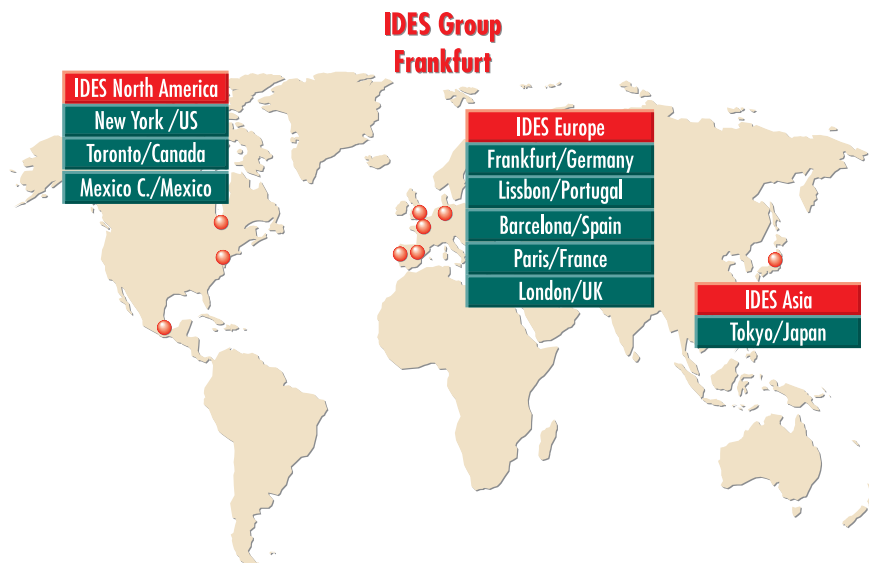


Fig. 1-2: The IDES Group

Each of these companies has a clear-cut business task within the corporate group. Furthermore, each company is organized in accordance with the legal and country-specific requirements of the country in which it is situated. For example, the French subgroup is defined solely as a sales and marketing entity, whereas the Mexican subsidiary is used to show how the material ledger is used in countries with high inflation rates. The German and American subsidiaries function as industrial and trading firms (as of Release 4.0). Production, purchasing and sales all take place in both the German and American subgroups. In each of the individual companies, accounting and human resource management have been adapted to these business tasks.

IDES Europe	Integrated Components
Germany	Entire FI system defined, CO (flexible controlling), SD, PP, PS, MM, QM, SM, PM and HR
Great Britain	FI, CO (static controlling), SD, PP (repetitive manufacturing), MM
France	FI, CO (static controlling), SD
Portugal	FI, PP (connected to Germany via ALE)
Spain	FI, SD (connected to Germany via ALE)

IDES America	Business task
USA	Entire FI system defined, CO (flexible controlling), SD, PP, MM, QM, SM, PM and HR
Mexico	FI, SD, PP and MM (in a country with high inflation)

IDES Asia	Business task
Japan	FI and HR

IDES Business Processes

All the business processes in IDES are complete business processes. They include all the logistical functions you require (Purchasing, Inventory Management, Production, Sales and Distribution), all integrated into Accounting. In addition to the Financial Accounting functions, you can also use Controlling functions based on overhead costs, costing and profitability analysis. The processes are complemented by Human Resource Management functions and concluding management reports.

Industry sectors Even though IDES is not an industry-specific model company, you can still use it for specific industry sectors. This flexibility can be provided because IDES contains a range of organizational entities which all manufacture different products using defined manufacturing processes.

Logistics Each product and product line represents a specific type of planning and shop floor control. IDES contains all the resources required for manufacturing all kinds of products. These resources are assigned to the products in question in bills of material and routings. Fully integrated processes are in place in IDES for producing and selling the following products:

Country	Products
Germany	Elevators, motorcycles, automobiles, pumps, PCs, lightbulbs, paints, tablets
Great Britain	Components for automobile production (onboard computers)
France	Sales and distribution for PCs
Portugal	Components for automobile production (wheels)
Spain	Components for automobile production (wheels)
USA	Motorcycles, pumps, PCs, lightbulbs
Mexico	PC parts

Financial Accounting The Financial Accounting and reporting functions available in IDES comply fully with legal requirements. The hierarchical structure of the IDES corporate group illustrates this ideally.

The European and American subgroups are structured in the same way. However, although both subgroups function according to the same principle, each individual subgroup takes into account the business practices and legal regulations that prevail in its own specific region.

Depending on the company in question, controlling in the IDES system involves scenarios ranging from simple cost accounting structures to a fully rounded controlling model that includes overhead costs, product costs and profitability analysis. The quantity flows and value flows for Europe are handled in conjunction with closely related components such as Production Planning and Materials Management. They mirror processes involving the planning, performing and evaluation of business processes. Profitability Analysis and Enterprise Controlling also provide you with flexible, online reporting tools for conducting contribution margin analyses on the basis of market segments, and analyses of internal and external success factors.

Controlling and Enterprise
Controlling

Human Resources

In the IDES system, the Human Resource Management component (HR) is divided into the areas of personnel administration, personnel organization, and personnel planning. All these HR areas are fully integrated into all departments in the IDES system. The American, German and Japanese subgroups are set up so that payroll accounting can be performed; the payroll results are then passed on to Accounting.

Cross-Application Components

Internet Application Components are solutions that connect the R/3 System to the Internet. IDES contains the most popular distribution scenarios and interoperability scenarios for the consumer-to-business, business-to-business and intranet areas.

Internet

The ALE functionality of three R/3 Systems linked up to each other is simulated in the IDES system using three different clients.

ALE

Technology involving extensive workflow processes that reflect real-life situations are available for all company areas in the IDES system.

Workflow

Technical Information

The IDES system contains model users with predefined authorization profiles. These authorization profiles have been tailored to suit the needs of all those who work with the IDES system. The following users and profiles are available so that you can create users of your own:

IDES users

User	Profile	Description
Super	SAP_ALL, SAP_NEW	All authorizations in the R/3 System
Developer	IDES_DEVELOP	All authorizations except creation of users
Muster	IDES_USER, IDES_90	Master data, transaction data/Customizing/display: dev. environment
Junior	IDES_USER	Master data, transaction data/display: Customizing, dev. environment

Additional software components	The IDES system also contains scenarios that involve third-party software products. If, for example, you are working through or analyzing scenarios that involve Internet components, you will need to install additional modules and/or objects. All the components you require are stored in the shared folders of the IDES system (client 800), and come with installation instructions.
Ordering IDES	IDES Release 3.1 is available free of charge to all SAP customers who have a valid R/3 license. You can call up IDES via the local contracts department. A remote link to the current IDES release in Walldorf is available (Customer and Partner System [CPS]).
Up-to-date information	For up-to-date information on the R/3 IDES system, please refer to SAPNet (R/3 -> Key Topics -> Education and Training). This information is compiled by the IDES Development team in Walldorf.