

# 1 sap wm warehouse management handling unit management

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SAP Warehouse Management: Handling Units and Beyond\*\*

### **Introduction**

Warehouse Management (WM) in SAP is a comprehensive module designed to optimize warehouse operations, from receiving and putaway to picking and shipping. Within this system, handling units play a crucial role in managing and tracking inventory efficiently.

### **Handling Unit in SAP WM**

A handling unit in SAP WM represents a physical grouping of products or materials that are treated as a single entity for handling and storage purposes. It enables the system to manage inventory at the handling unit level, providing visibility into the exact location and quantity of items within the warehouse.

### **Characteristics of Handling Units**

Handling units can be created based on various criteria, such as:

- Product type
- Packaging type
- Weight
- Dimensions
- Handling requirements

## Examples of Handling Units

- Pallet of finished goods
- Box of small components
- Roll of fabric

## Finding Handling Units in SAP

Handling units can be found in SAP by using the following transactions:

- LT01: Create Handling Unit
- LT13: Display Handling Unit
- LT14: Change Handling Unit

## Difference Between SAP WM and WMS

While both SAP WM and Warehouse Management System (WMS) are inventory management solutions, they have distinct roles:

- **SAP WM:** Integrated with SAP ERP, providing real-time inventory visibility and warehouse management capabilities within the broader ERP system.
- **WMS:** Standalone software that specializes in warehouse management, offering a wider range of functionality and integration options with third-party systems.

## Importance of Handling Units

Handling units are essential for efficient warehouse operations because they:

- Simplify inventory tracking
- Optimize space utilization
- Streamline handling and transportation processes
- Improve picking and packing accuracy

## Storage Unit vs. Handling Unit

Storage units represent fixed locations within the warehouse, such as racks or bins, where handling units are stored. Handling units can be moved between storage units as needed, providing flexibility in inventory management.

### **Handling Unit vs. Package**

Packages are the physical containers that hold products, while handling units are the larger units that group packages together for handling and storage.

### **Shipping Handling Unit**

Shipping handling units are used to track products during transportation from the warehouse to the customer. They typically include all the products that are shipped together for a specific order or customer.

### **Pieces vs. Handling Units**

Pieces refer to individual products, while handling units represent a collection of pieces that are handled together. By managing inventory at the handling unit level, SAP WM provides a higher level of aggregation and visibility.

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