

## MaxiSun Integration Module



“MaxiSun is a **RELIABLE** and **ROBUST** system that is very **FLEXIBLE**.

One of the key benefits of using MaxiSun is the ease of integration. We have benefited from reduced data processing time, allowing us to redeploy the resource that was doing this manually.

MaxiSun is a great reason to choose Sapphire over another SunSystems reseller.”

**Ben Westran**  
Group Financial Controller  
Mears Group

At Sapphire, we strive to provide robust technical solutions for our customers. We are committed to working actively to exploit the advantages offered by new technology into our solutions in a proven way. This means continuous investment in technology that enables us to offer best practise solutions and services.

**MaxiSun** is an example of this continuous investment in technology and is Sapphire's powerful interface application, which enables scheduling of a range of user definable data interfaces and synchronisations between your third-party applications and Infor's SunSystems, SAP or other Finance/ERP systems. The data is converted via a series of fully user-definable mappings into a range of data files that conform to the layout of the standard SunSystems / SAP database.

**MaxiSun** is supplied out of the box, and is powered by a powerful central data extraction and conversion programme designed to enable you to add new data types into the existing menu - without the need for extensive development expertise. In addition, the inbuilt data mapping flexibility at record and field level means it can be easily tailored to fit any configuration and set-up that you may have within your SunSystems, SAP or other Finance system installation.

Each data transfer type can be activated or deactivated on a site by site basis using standard parameters within MaxiSun. It is capable of integrating as standard with SunSystems versions 4 & 5 and all currently maintained versions of SAP. Whatever applications you have in your organisation, if they are operating on an ODBC compliant database or have an API/SDK, or import / export system then MaxiSun has the potential to interface to them.

### Key business benefits of MaxiSun:

- Major reductions in data processing
- Accurate two-way data processing between all your business & finance systems
- Entry of data **once only** into a single application
- Real-time view of your business operations.
- Exceptionally easy to use - requires only a few hours training
- Automated Interface scheduled as often as required
- Robust routines guaranteeing data rollback and recovery positions in event of a system failure
- Potential reduction in user count in the finance department

Users of the MaxiSun integration module from Sapphire include:

- International Power
- Mears Group
- BP
- Shell
- Royal Opera House
- Livability
- E.On Ruhrgas
- Net-a-Porter
- George S Hall



“MaxiSun has proved that it can save considerable time and expense in the data transfer process

We find that Sapphire's experience and longevity of support is key in supporting the [Maxisun] implementation long term”

**Bill Hogg**  
IT Project Manager  
International Power

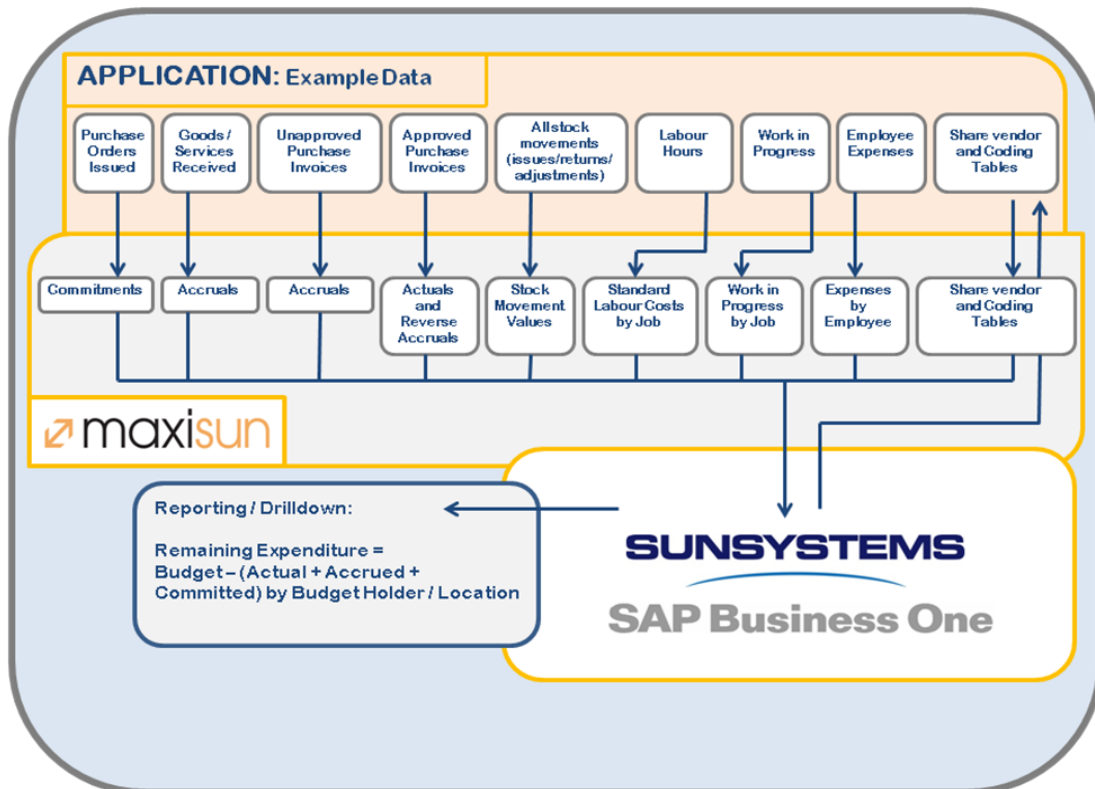
## MaxiSun - A Functional Guide

**MaxiSun** is an interface for SunSystems, SAP or other Finance system to any other third party system. It is designed to handle the automated integration of any data type, regardless of whether it is transactional or reference data.



### Any Data Type

Where standalone systems are in place, data required synchronisation between these systems and other applications to be included in the integration group. Each type of data must be identified and decisions made as to which application is the owner of the create / amend / delete process and which application (s) are the recipient(s) of such actions.





**MaxiSun** can handle unlimited data synchronisation processes, and will synchronise in any direction between any application(s).

#### Data Extraction

- Data Extraction from the source system
- Conversion into SunSystems / SAP/Finance System format
- Validation and Posting

By querying the source system, **MaxiSun** can be easily used to perform SQL statements to prepare and select the relevant data. Many source business systems do not have complete double entry financial integrity and so **MaxiSun** can handle this by allowing the automated creation of duplicate records whilst reversing the +/- sign of user specified values – thus creating a balancing Debit / Credit pair.

Any number of extractions can be defined to extract data from any number of tables in the source system, and output records can be formatted in a header and lines configuration with record and field separators as required.

Extracted records can be flagged with an indicator containing the run date and a run number. This field can also be sent to SunSystems/SAP/Finance System as an analysis code therefore making it possible to reconcile exactly the transactions extracted from the source system with those posted into the destination system.

#### Features of MaxiSun:

- **Packages** - Packages are pre-packaged integrations between two systems, such as SunSystems/SAP and Maximo. Each Package comes “ready to use”, and even provides a custom Wizard to guide users through creating and implementing their integration touch-points.
- **Alerts** - Alerts are a system that allows **MaxiSun** to provide e-mail reports of data within a System, such as SunSystems or SAP, that meet specified criteria.  
i.e. An Alert could be set up to generate an e-mail report containing a list of all customers who are past their payment terms, and send this to the credit controllers in your team.
- **Modular Data Adapters** - By supporting Modular Data Adapters and posting modules, **MaxiSun** is able to provide seamless integrations to any system. The key benefits here are that data can be captured or posted to and from your third party System, or into your Finance system in exactly the required manner.
- **Lookups & Replacements** - Replacements allow certain key words or characters to be substituted with valid characters. E.g. the & character is illegal in XML, and needs to be substituted with &amp; Lookups are fully comprehensive, multi-value substitution tables designed for more strenuous replacement logic.



*"We chose to implement MaxiSun in our power stations, as its data transfer automation tool saves us a significant amount of time that would otherwise be spent in entering data into each system. In addition, as it's automated, MaxiSun allows us to have up-to-date financial information for commitment accounting whenever it's needed."*

**Bill Hogg**  
**IT Project Manager**  
**International Power**

- **Statistical Run Report** - An e-mail is sent out at the end of a **MaxiSun** run informing the specified users of the status of the run.
- **Communication Manager/Error Controller - MaxiSun** ships with two companion products: the Communication Manager and the Error Controller.
  - The **Communication Manager** is a central hub allowing all data adapters/client installs to communicate with MaxiSun. This allows for distributed implementations, immediate remote control and workflow integration.
  - The **Error Controller** is a program error management service allowing for comprehensive error control. It will monitor each program in the MaxiSun deployment, closing them down if they hang, and offering an error handling service for each application in the distribution.
- **Built In Configuration Validation** - Each interface built with **MaxiSun** can be checked by the user, and is automatically checked at run-time by **MaxiSun**. If there are any errors in the configuration, they will be shown in the validation report displayed.
- **Visual Basic .NET Editor - MaxiSun** comes with a built in Visual Basic .NET editor which will allow custom modules to be developed and compiled for use by **MaxiSun**. Detailed instructions on how to implement the interface is provided in the Manual.

#### Data Conversion Overview

**MaxiSun** can be used to extract data from a source system in the event that it does not have the native ability to output data. Once the data is prepared it needs to be converted into a specific format for import to SunSystems / SAP/other Finance system. SunSystems / SAP/Finance systems accept both flat file format and an XML format; however **MaxiSun** extends this to a delimited and fixed width output also. As with all data transfer, the transactional data can be treated during the conversion process using Visual Basic.Net routines as required.

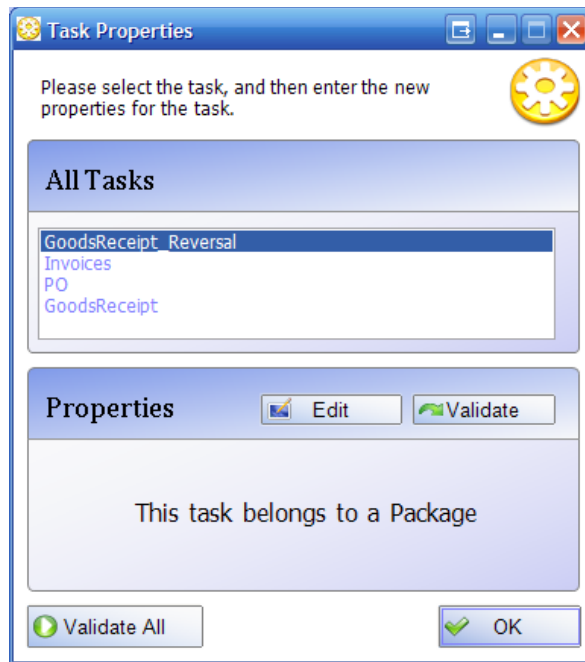
Additionally **MaxiSun** provides a lookup table facility which can be used, for example, to convert account codes from one value to another.

**MaxiSun** is configured on the basis of a list of transfer tasks, each one capable of performing a VBN call or a data conversion operation. The VBN calls can be used to invoke bespoke elements of code allowing for complete customisation and ultimate flexibility in the interface process.



MaxiSun uses Microsoft SQL Server as its configuration setting and data processing database. This ensures fast processing of large volumes of data.

### The MaxiSun Integration Properties Screen



### Validation and Posting

**MaxiSun** takes prepared data and automatically validates it against the installed SunSystems / SAP Business One/Finance system database - using the SunSystems / SAP Business One/Finance system's own import validation rules. Invalid postings are rejected and the user is made aware of any problems at field level so that corrective action can be taken. Valid records are automatically posted to the ledgers.

Depending on the Posting Module, the validation and posting occurs using built-in methods:

**With SunSystems 4.2.6** a flat file is produced and **MaxiSun** launches SunSystems under the control of intelligent, dynamically created macros to perform the import and validation functions.

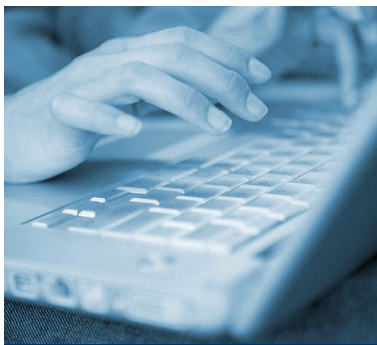
**With SunSystems 5** an XML file is produced and MaxiSun sends this to the SunSystems Connect gateway. **MaxiSun** then receives real-time XML success or failure messages back from SunSystems via the same channel and represent these to the user as intelligent formatted reports.

**With SAP Business One** either XML files or delimited files are used to hold the transactions or reference data, such as business partners and journals. These files are posted to SAP Business One via the Software Development Kit [SDK] – which does not require any additional licenses – thus using the SAP Business One native validation and posting routines. Any errors or failures are added to a posting report which is then

made available to the end user. This report will contain a field level analysis of the failures.

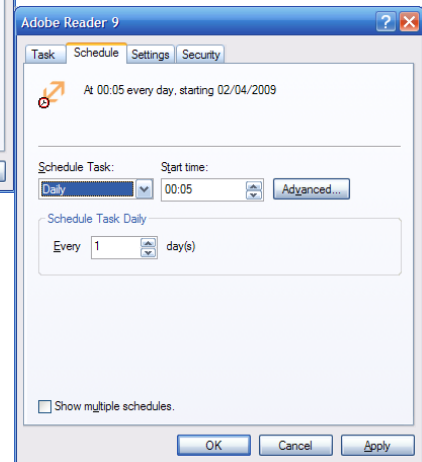
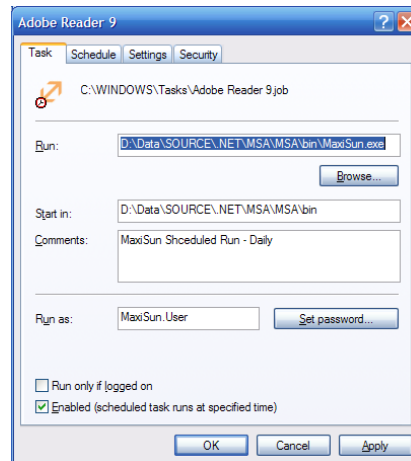
### Automation

As **MaxiSun** can be called either from SQL triggers as the result of database activity in a third party system, or activated periodically on a scheduled basis, a fully automated interface can be created. When running under the scheduler Maxi Sun will issue e-mails to nominated users in the event of any issues occurring. Naturally the process can be initiated manually for complete flexibility.



### Sarbanes Oxley Compliance

The latest security encryption functionality ensures Sarbanes Oxley (SOX) compliance for the integration of data between applications – i.e. secure, controlled and fully audited access to integrated data.



### Security

MaxiSun is protected by 128 bit block cipher encrypted user name and password log in. This ensures that only your authorised users can operate and modify the system. This security is Sarbanes-Oxley (SOX) compliant - ensuring secure, controlled and audited access to the interfaced data.

### Powerful Diagnostics

MaxiSun is fully self monitoring and will alert the user if there are any problems during the transfer - right down to which field, of which record, caused issues. In addition, any transactions that are found to contain errors are rejected from posting to SunSystems /SAP meaning that they can be handled appropriately.

### Further Information

For further information on MaxiSun please email [info@sapphiresystems.co.uk](mailto:info@sapphiresystems.co.uk) ,or call our Product Advisory Team on +44 (0)20 7648 2000