



Sage Geode

Warehouse Management

A Single Vendor Approach

Sage Geode is a versatile Warehouse Management System (WMS) designed for mid-sized manufacturers and distributors that can run either stand-alone or as an integrated component of Sage ERP X3. The system is an ideal incremental step for companies that require more sophisticated warehousing functionality than is available in standard ERP systems, but want to limit the number of vendors used to obtain robust backoffice, shop floor and warehousing capabilities. Sage Geode helps companies move from basic inventory control or radio frequency-based stock locator systems to a truly configurable, rules-based WMS.

Sage Geode is connected with Sage ERP X3 via standard, pre-defined interfaces rather than sharing a database like other WMS offerings associated with ERP companies. This loosely coupled approach is important to ensure that the system easily links with both Sage ERP X3 and other back-office or supply chain management modules that companies might require.

Together with Sage RF Warehousing and Sage ERP X3's Inventory module, Sage Geode offers mid-sized companies a third option to select from based on the complexity of their processing requirements, one that supports more sophisticated warehouse practices typically found only in WMS systems from best of breed companies, such as wave simulations and configurable storage rules.

A Global Solution

Most best-of-breed WMS solutions are developed to support only U.S.-centric business models. As a result, they lack the ability to accommodate global logistics and warehouse management practices. Sage Geode is intrinsically designed to support international data requirements and processing needs found in more sophisticated warehouse storage facilities. Its multi-site, multi-national orientation is ideal for mid-sized companies who have expanded or are seeking to expand their business into global markets.

Examples of this sophistication can be found in the ability of Sage Geode to deal with special needs imposed by language, space limitations and automation availability, as well as the resources and size of emerging growth companies. The system also supports multiple languages, currencies, companies and practices, all in a fully configurable framework.

More importantly, Sage Geode offers world class features and configurability at a small system price, allowing mid-sized companies to leverage the power of the system at a low startup cost and ongoing cost of ownership.

Open and Configurable

Sage Geode has been constructed with flexibility at its core. While such flexibility normally breeds complexity, Sage Geode bridges this complexity by providing an integrated toolset that facilitates adaptation of screens, process logic, and data structures to individual client needs. The Sage ERP X3 Toolset is comprehensive in that it includes a data dictionary, an event-driven 4GL and a multitude of development utilities that help simplify adaptation to a customer's business environment as well as ease upgrades and maintenance.

Beneath the toolset is a data repository with an N-tier architecture, built using modern databases that are cost effective and the most popular choices for mid-market operating platforms. Database choices include either Microsoft's SQL Server or Oracle with the option to select either Microsoft Windows or Unix as the operating system.

Sage Geode easily extends to the Internet through its open web architecture, and uses a thin client to facilitate database and application connections from the client terminal. Through use of XML formatting, Sage Geode is also readily accessible via browser access from remote locations. The toolset will publish Web Services in Java/XML format to simplify the interface to share applications over a network such as the Internet.

A Unique "One Stop Shop" for Software, Hardware and Services

Sage Geode provides users with the ability to enter data and scan labels using RF devices, and to create and print barcodes as well. It works with any ANSI-compatible device, from wireless hand-held RF barcode scanners to fixed station devices such as badge scanners, barcode wands, keyboard wedges, hand-held tethered scanners and clocking stations.

Sage distributes data collection equipment manufactured by leading hardware vendors, providing businesses with a unique one-stop-shop for ERP and WMS software, integrated data collection, barcode label management, hardware devices and full implementation services.

Experience teaches us that implementing a warehouse management system can negatively impact customer service if not properly planned and executed. Sage works closely with customers to minimize the operational impact of "going live." There are several "go live" strategies available depending on individual company operations to help minimize these risks, including an incremental cutover by product line, line of business, carrier or customer, that vary in complexity and effort.

The result is a completely integrated solution designed to provide companies with a rapid return on investment through greater accuracy, faster cycle times, and lower costs.

Best-of-Breed Functionality

Sage offers mid-sized companies the combination they're looking for in a WMS: integrated best-of-breed functionality and software architecture, current technology and open standards, service and support by experienced staff, tools for personalization, and at a reasonable price. Especially differentiating functionality includes:

- Support for English, French and Spanish languages and easy translation to others
- Rule and parameter driven process logic capable of supporting multiple warehouse practices – such as paper and radio frequency modes – in the same warehouse
- Support for multiple warehouses/sites, tenants/depositors, currencies, suppliers, units of measure, container equivalences, customer specific document formats and other features co-mingled in the same logical warehouse
- Ability to generate customer-specific labeling and documentation (to facilitate drop and vendor direct shipments)
- Dock Scheduling
- Wave Simulations and Shipment Planning
- Automated Equipment Integration

Sage Geode is installed throughout Europe and in the U.S. in a variety of target markets including wholesale or retail distributors, process manufacturers (such as chemicals, food and life sciences) and discrete manufacturers (including industrial products, consumer goods and electronics).

Functions and Features

Infrastructure

- Multiple languages
- Multiple sites
- Multi-company (depositor)
- Multiple and external zones (stores)
- Multiple containers and container equivalence
- Web-based user interface (thin client, Internet Explorer)
- Centralized or distributed deployment
- Standard Adonix X3 interfaces
- Support for industry-standard barcode, printer and RF equipment
- Embedded Crystal Reports for ad-hoc needs

Overall System

- ASN/expected receipt support
- Stock reservation management
- Batch/lot control
- Serial number control
- Transfers and external warehouse management
- Date management: Expiration, Use By, Sell By, FIFO, LIFO, other
- EAN-13 code management
- GALIA, INOVERT, EDIFACT, EANCOM EDI standards supported (using 3rd Party translation tools)

Inbound

- Dock scheduling and management
- Blocking and non-conformity management
- Automatic or manual allocation of locations
- Location allocation in proximity of picking bays
- Product consolidation
- Multi-batch/lot and multi-product slot management
- Validation against expected input/ASN
- Bonded stock management
- Quality control
- Apply/remove holds, inbound sampling

Outbound

- Wave simulation and wave management
- Batch picking or order picking (by zone)
- Order Splitting (multiple shipments)
- Back order and short allocation management
- Replenishment (min/max, override, source control)
- Carton sizing/pre-packing or directed packing
- Shipment/load control and document preparation
- Shipping system integration
- Carrier selection
- Freight rating
- Label and document compliance

Benefits

With Sage Geode, companies can benefit from the following:

- Increased productivity through more efficient putaway and pick paths and processes
- Timely, accurate information from capturing information directly in the warehouse via scan or otherwise, validated to eliminate keying errors
- Improved data quality through verification of data before it is posted into Sage ERP X3
- Fewer shipping errors from multiple verifications during picking and loading of products
- More accurate inventory counts results in lower carrying costs and fewer stock outages
- Reduced overhead by accommodating higher material and data volumes with fewer errors and less personnel
- Shorter learning curves for warehouse personnel to learn and utilize automated data entry devices
- Improved warehouse utilization through product consolidation and balanced use of available capacity
- Faster, automated generation of shipping documentation
- Reduced labor from automatic handling of carrier and customer compliant or personalized documentation
- Minimized product handling
- Accurate, more timely labor efficiency and utilization reporting to management
- Improved availability of information for supporting or supported systems; tighter collaboration between business entities and partners through electronic data transfer

Sage Geode is ideal for companies with the following characteristics:

- Receive or ship at least five truckloads/1000 parcels per day
- Replenish a forward picking area manually and need automation to improve productivity
- Need flexible configurations for multiple warehouse sites or business units, but want to stay close to the standard software offering for easy upgrade
- Manage more than 200 SKU's
- Need to interact with automated equipment such as conveyors
- Need software to manage complex or multiple workflows including serial numbers, lot control, date controls and kits
- Are growth-minded and require software that can be re-configured over time, with little or no vendor intervention
- Want to take advantage of new supply chain technology in the future, such as RFID
- Achieve low deployment costs with unlimited desktop access through a browser-based user interface
- Desire short implementation timeframes
- Want a system with the flexibility to quickly leverage market trends when they happen to achieve growth and maintain or improve competitiveness

