## Introduction

### Process and Trigger

*Business Case 1:*

You have run a Business Warehouse (BW) report that identifies a list of objects – employee personnel numbers or purchase orders, for example – and you need to run a second BW report to get more detail on that list. If the list is short enough, you might simply want to key the list into the appropriate field on the Variable Entry screen of the second report. If the list is long, however, keying values in might be too time-consuming and prone to errors.

*Business Case 2:*

Similar to the previous case, you have an external file (an Excel or text file, for example) that contains a list of numbers that you want to use as input to a BW report. To do this, you need to convert the list to SAP syntax.

This document describes a technique to convert a large list of numbers to SAP syntax so they can be used to run or filter a BW report. The list of numbers to be converted might be extracted from a BW report or contained in a file external to BW, e.g., an Excel or text file.

### Prerequisites

- To allow you to follow the steps in this work instruction, it is assumed you have run a BW report that contains many numbers you want to use as input to a second BW report.

### Menu Path

None

### Transaction

None

### Tips and Tricks

- At times you may need to use your scrollbar to view additional information.
- Instructions calling for a mouse right-click can be executed on a Macintosh computer with a one-button mouse by holding down the **CTRL** key while clicking.

### Reports

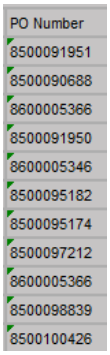
- BW How to - Filter Report Data

## Instructions

The following instructions assume that you have already run a BW report that contains the string of numbers you wish to convert (Business Case 1). Note that the process for Business Case 2 would be similar and would begin at step 2 below.

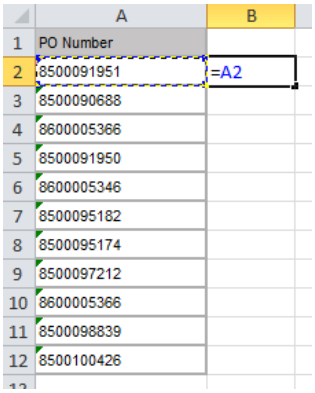
In this example, we will convert a list of Purchase Order numbers to SAP syntax.

1. Export the report output to Excel.
2. Within Excel, select and copy the numbers to be converted.



| PO Number |
|---|
| 8500091951 |
| 8500090688 |
| 8600005366 |
| 8500091950 |
| 8600005346 |
| 8500095182 |
| 8500095174 |
| 8500097212 |
| 8600005366 |
| 8500098839 |
| 8500100426 |

3. Paste the copied cells into a new Excel document. In the cell to the right of the first item in the list (cell B2, in this example), enter the formula “=A2” (no quotes).

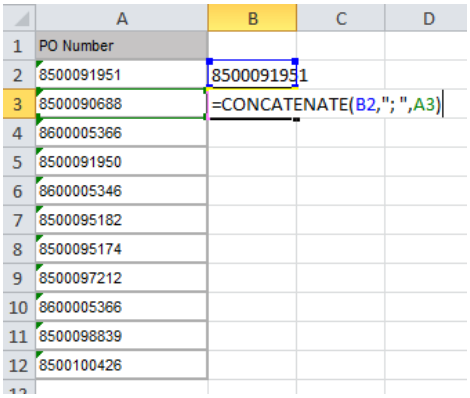


| | A | B |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | PO Number | |
| 2 | 8500091951 | =A2 |
| 3 | 8500090688 | |
| 4 | 8600005366 | |
| 5 | 8500091950 | |
| 6 | 8600005346 | |
| 7 | 8500095182 | |
| 8 | 8500095174 | |
| 9 | 8500097212 | |
| 10 | 8600005366 | |
| 11 | 8500098839 | |
| 12 | 8500100426 | |

4. In the next cell in column B (cell B3), enter this formula:

   =CONCATENATE(B2,”; “,A3)

   This operation will concatenate, or “glue,” the result of the previous cell (B2) together with the character string “; “ (a semicolon plus a space character – which SAP uses as a delimiter between numbers) and the contents of the next item in the original list (cell A3).



| | A | B | C | D |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | PO Number | | | |
| 2 | 8500091951 | 8500091951 | | |
| 3 | 8500090688 | =CONCATENATE(B2,"; ",A3) | | |
| 4 | 8600005366 | | | |
| 5 | 8500091950 | | | |
| 6 | 8600005346 | | | |
| 7 | 8500095182 | | | |
| 8 | 8500095174 | | | |
| 9 | 8500097212 | | | |
| 10 | 8600005366 | | | |
| 11 | 8500098839 | | | |
| 12 | 8500100426 | | | |

5. Next, copy the formula you built in cell B3 into the remaining cells in column B. The result will look similar to the following image.

| | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M | N |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | PO Number | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2 | 8500091951 | 8500091951 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3 | 8500090688 | 8500091951; 8500090688 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4 | 8600005366 | 8500091951; 8500090688; 8600005366 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 5 | 8500091950 | 8500091951; 8500090688; 8600005366; 8500091950 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 6 | 8600005346 | 8500091951; 8500090688; 8600005366; 8500091950; 8600005346 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 7 | 8500095182 | 8500091951; 8500090688; 8600005366; 8500091950; 8600005346; 8500095182 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 8 | 8500095174 | 8500091951; 8500090688; 8600005366; 8500091950; 8600005346; 8500095182; 8500095174 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 9 | 8500097212 | 8500091951; 8500090688; 8600005366; 8500091950; 8600005346; 8500095182; 8500095174; 8500097212 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 10 | 8600005366 | 8500091951; 8500090688; 8600005366; 8500091950; 8600005346; 8500095182; 8500095174; 8500097212; 8600005366 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 11 | 8500098839 | 8500091951; 8500090688; 8600005366; 8500091950; 8600005346; 8500095182; 8500095174; 8500097212; 8600005366; 8500098839 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 12 | 8500100426 | 8500091951; 8500090688; 8600005366; 8500091950; 8600005346; 8500095182; 8500095174; 8500097212; 8600005366; 8500098839; 8500100426 | | | | | | | | | | | | |

6. Finally, select and copy the contents of the last cell in column B – cell B12 in this example. This is the data you will use as input to the second BW report.

## Using the Converted Data as Input to a Second BW Report

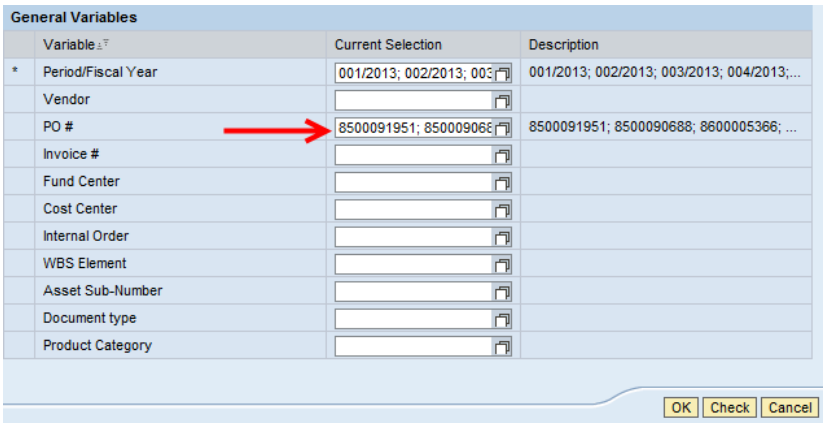
There are myriad ways to use the converted data as input to a BW report. The following examples consider two of the possibilities:

### Input via variable entry

Paste the converted numbers into the appropriate field in the variable list.

Because we converted a string of PO numbers, this is the input field into which we paste the revised numbers.

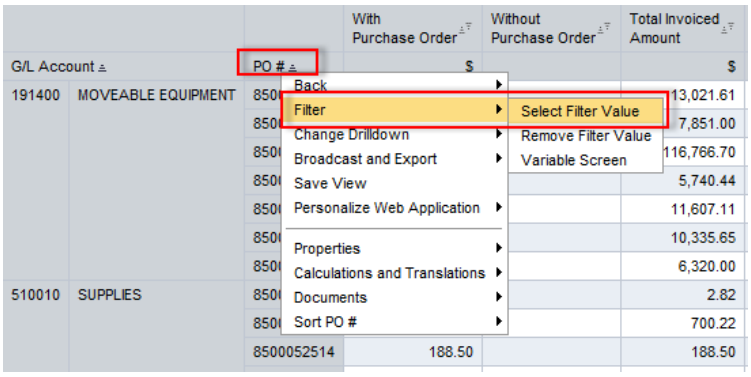
Enter other field information as required and click OK to run the report.




### Input via a Filter

If a field is not available to you in the Variable Entry list, you may first need to run a report and then filter using the converted list after the report has run.

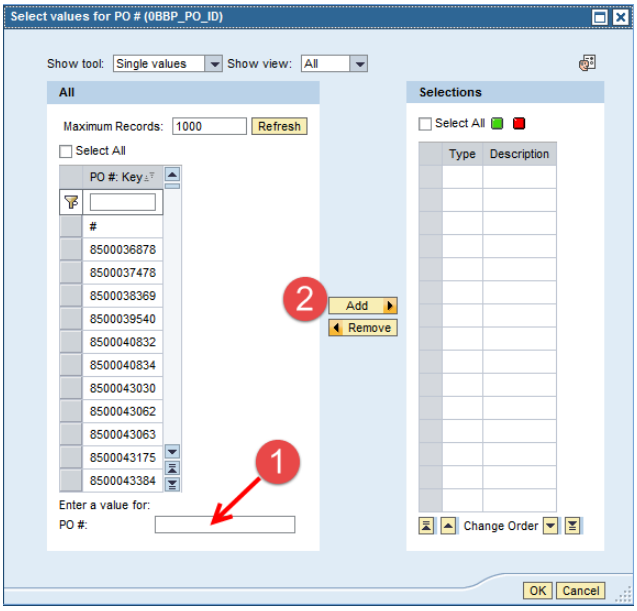
In this example, we filter on the PO Number field (for a full description of filtering, refer to the help document BW How to - Filter Report Data).



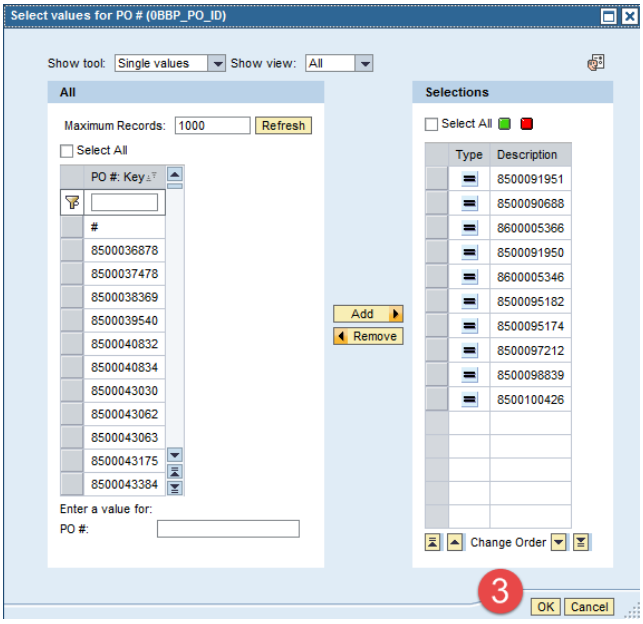

 

1. When the filter window displays, click in the *Enter a value for PO #* field and paste the converted list of purchase order numbers.

2. Then click the **Add** button.




3. Once the converted PO numbers have been moved to the Selections column, click the **OK** button to activate the filter.




## Results and Next Steps

None