



## Accelerating SAP MDM



### Accelerate the Implementation of SAP MDM

SAP NetWeaver Master Data Management (SAP MDM) is an enabling foundation for enterprise services and business process management - providing a single version of the truth for customer, product, employee, supplier or user-defined objects.

SAP MDM works best when it is initially populated with clean, standardized Master Data. SAP MDM is not well-suited to the initial, one-time clean up of Master Data and this remains the leading cause of frustration for new SAP MDM clients.

Master Data eXchange (MDX) from Gaine Solutions Inc. is a complimentary platform to accelerate the adoption of SAP MDM.

MDX provides all of the tools necessary to profile, cleanse, de-duplicate and otherwise prepare Master Data for SAP MDM.

MDX can be deployed on-premise or in-the-cloud and is pre-configured for SAP MDM irrespective of the format or source of Master Data to be loaded.



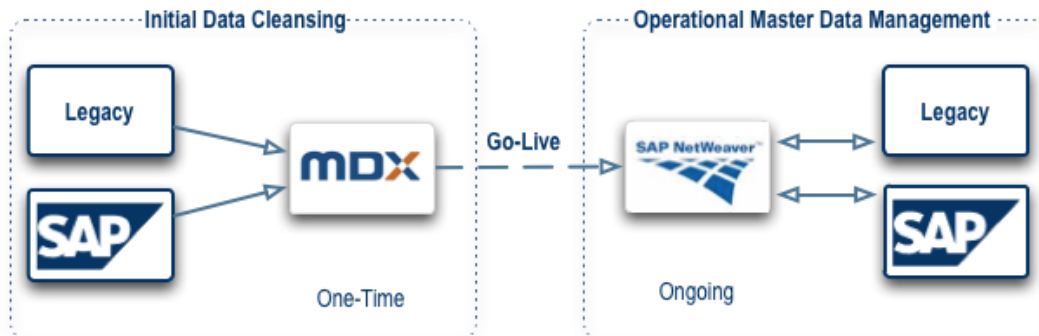
### The Role of MDX

Master Data is typically created from legacy data that may be out-of-date and of poor quality. The documentation of this legacy data is often inaccurate, incomplete or missing entirely and organizations rarely have the people with the time and knowledge of existing data to fill these knowledge gaps.

Gaps in Master Data specifications and inaccurate assumptions of data quality/availability combine with other changes to business requirements to create a "moving target" for the configuration team. SAP MDM does not have the flexibility to deal with frequent configuration changes; Using MDX to initially prepare the Master Data, until the data and business specification is stable, will reduce the time, cost and organizational friction that is common in this type of project.

## Master Data Preparation vs. Ongoing Operations

The process to prepare Master Data files differs significantly from the processes to manage and harmonize Master Data in an operational environment. Here we highlight some of the key differences:



**Set-Based Processing** vs.  
Source records must be compared to multiple records within, and between source systems. Fuzzy logic will produce multiple possible results for each combination of records; the resulting large cartesian sets and associated decision tables creates complexity.

**Sophisticated De-duplication** vs.  
Matching and merging records from different systems with different format, structure and context gives rise to less-definitive results and increases complexity when resolving duplication.

**Requirements Volatility** vs.  
The impact of requirements changes must be minimized to avoid rework. During the initial preparation of Master Data it is necessary to make frequent changes to the rules and it is critical to re-process the impacted data without losing other valid changes.

**Rollback and Un-merge** vs.  
It is necessary to be able to undo changes to Master Data without rebuilding the entire database. Changes to Master records that have multiple contributing records requires specific controls to ensure integrity.

**Transactional Processing**  
Master Data changes are (relatively) infrequent and can be processed record-by-record in real-time. New and updated Master Data is only compared with a single, clean Master Data file which reduces complexity.

**Simple Matching**  
In an operational MDM environment matching and merging is far simpler because the Master Data has a common structure, is well attributed and shares a common set of business rules.

**Requirements Stability**  
In an operational environment the business rules are static. Changes to business rules should only be made in a version-controlled environment and promoted from a development/QA environment to the production system once fully tested.

**No Room for Error**  
An operational MDM system is not subject to changes in requirements and therefore it is not necessary to provide rollback and un-merge functionality in the normal course of business.