Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

AAM's Oracle Project:

1. **What is Oracle**?
   Oracle is AAM's primary Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system, and is used in AAM's Corporate and Driveline Facilities. We currently use Oracle version 11i and will begin implementing Oracle Release 12 (R12) starting in early 2015.

2. **What is the Oracle Project?**
   The Oracle Project is AAM's company-wide, multi-year Enterprise Resource Planning system (ERP) project to enhance our business systems. This is a ***business process and technology re-implementation*** effort, focused on gaining business process efficiencies and maximizing use of our ERP system. This company-wide, multi-year initiative will enhance our global business systems, allow for integration, coordination and visibility of cross-functional process. This focus on business process improvement is consistent with AAM's "Lean" philosophy.

3. **What are the goals of the Oracle Project?**
   The following goals for the ERP project will have a positive impact on our Global Supplier Partners:
   - Establishing common, global business processes in our Global Driveline and Corporate Facilities
   - Improving data integrity and information flow
   - Enhancing AAM's Supply Chain Management capabilities
   - Allowing Global Supplier Partners greater functionality in the iSupplier Portal, including:
     - Self-management of information (e.g., contacts, banking, certifications)
     - Providing improved visibility into Purchase Orders with PDF download capability

The key elements of the new design which impact the Global Supplier Community are shown below, by category:

Materials and Inventory Control:
- Focus in this area is to operate with standard processes for plant materials and inventory control activities.
- We will increase the use of Oracle for supplier scheduling

Purchasing:
A couple of new modules will be implemented, along with new features:

- Supplier Lifecycle Management (SLM) – This new module will be implemented, providing functionality to streamline the registration and review of prospective suppliers and improve management and governance of supplier profiles. Existing suppliers will also have the ability to modify their information within the system and submit for final review/approval (e.g., banking details, contacts, additional sites, certifications, etc.).

- iProcurement – We will increase the use of this module. It is a self-service requisitioning and receipting process for requisitions will be implemented for indirect purchases, to improve the purchasing process through use of an efficient catalog process. The scope of catalog utilization is still under development. Updates will be provided accordingly.

- Incoterms® - We are standardizing our use of International Commercial Terms (Incoterms®) for our commercial terms language. We plan to do this prior to launching R12 in each region by updating current PO's with the correct Incoterms®. The change to Incoterms® will bring the delivery terms in our contract consistent with recognized international standards without changing the agreement between the parties. More detailed information on Incoterms® can be found via an internet search.

Quality:
- We will implement the Oracle Quality module and utilize Oracle to maximize data flow for Quality matters.
- Production Part Approval Process (PPAP) - As part of the upgrade to R12, the supplier Production Part Approval PPAP system that has been used by AAM in the past (AAM Online) will be replaced with an Oracle alternative. Though the PPAP process for input and the requirements will not change, the look and feel of the screens will be different in the new system.

4. **What is the deployment timeline? When will the facilities with which my company transacts make the change?**
   The deployment of R12 will begin in the first quarter of 2015 and continue through early 2016 as follows:

January 1, 2015	U.S. sites
April 1, 2015	AAM do Brazil
Third Quarter 2015	Mexico Sites
Early 2016	AAM Asia, AAM India and AAM Europe sites

   More specific information pertaining to each facility will be shared when available.

5. **What will not change? Can we leverage any current functionality and knowledge?**
   Oracle is AAM's primary ERP system today so the basic foundation of the system will be very familiar to AAM associates, and also suppliers who interact with us through Oracle. This is a benefit to us because we can leverage the knowledge and skills developed over the years as a baseline for this re-implementation.

Purchase Orders in the new System:

6. **What will happen to the Standard Purchase Orders I currently have from AAM?**
   There will be some changes to the way Standard Purchase Orders (also referred to as a "Purchase Agreement", a "PO", and/or a "Spot Buy") are assigned, as well as the way they look.   All of the information you are used to seeing will appear in the PO but the layout will be different.
   - Standard Purchase orders, including partially fulfilled PO's, will be re-issued under the new system, with the same PO number. Partially fulfilled PO's will be re-issued with only the unfilled "amount(s)" or quantity(ies) being displayed

   What will happen to the Blanket Purchase Orders I currently have from AAM?
   Blanket Purchase Agreements ("Blanket PO's") will also have some changes.
   - After we launch R12, existing Blanket PO's will retain their current numbers, but the revision level numbering will revert to zero for the first issuance and then update sequentially with each new revision. This will associate a unique number with the Blanket PO number (as is currently done).
   - After go-live, when ordering items off of a Blanket PO, a Standard Purchase Order will be generated with its own unique number and will reference the Blanket PO number.
   - Releases against the Blanket PO's will no longer exist and will be replaced with the Standard Purchase Orders (generated based on the Blanket PO).

7. **How will I know if a Purchase Order or transaction is originating from the new or current Oracle?**
   New Purchase Orders in R12 will look different than those from the old system. There will be some changes to the way Purchase Orders are assigned and numbered.

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Login Information:

8. Will I get a new Login and Password for the R12 version of AAM iSupplier?
Yes, you will be issued a new Login and Password for the R12 version of AAM iSupplier.

Can I use my current AAM iSupplier ID and Login to get into the R12 version of AAM iSupplier?
No, you will use your new Login and Password for the R12 version of AAM iSupplier and your current Login and Password for our current system. Note: The Login may eventually be the same as the current AAM iSupplier, but for sure, the password will be unique.

AAM's Metal Formed Products Business Unit system – PLEX:

AAM's Metal Formed Products Business Unit (MFPBU) will be transitioning to a new and separate ERP system in 2014. Global Supplier Partners who provide goods or services to both Driveline and MFPBU facilities will need to understand the business process requirements of each system, based on the buying location.

9. What is Plex?
Plex is a SAAS-based ERP system and will be used in AAM's MFPBU

10. May I use my PLEX login for Oracle?
No. PLEX and Oracle are separate systems, each requiring you to use your unique log-in ID.
Supplier access will have to be granted to Plex. Therefore, all MFPBU Suppliers must request login credentials for the Plex system in order to have visibility to material demand and PO's. Suppliers should contact PlexSupport@AAM.com with any questions to obtain access.

11. If I only work with MFPBU do I need an AAM iSupplier login ID and account?
No, if you only sell to the MFPBU you only need to use Plex and you do not need an AAM iSupplier account.
Note:
- If you work with MFPBU and other facilities within AAM (such as Three Rivers, Mexico, World Headquarters, etc.) you will need an R12 AAM iSupplier login ID and account as well as a Plex account and login ID.
- For sites that have yet to convert to R12, you will need to use your current AAM iSupplier access credentials until deployment of R12 takes place (please refer to deployment timeline above).
- It is possible that some Suppliers will have to access PLEX, the current AAM iSupplier Portal and the R12 AAM iSupplier Portal during the implementation period, so three sets of credentials would be required for a limited time during this transition.

Supplier Expectations and Next Steps:

12. How will we be trained?
Training modules and supporting materials for the Global Supplier Partner Community will be offered via eLearning on the AAM iSupplier portal. Below is the initial list of items that will be addressed through AAM's eLearning training modules:

- Viewing production forecasts
- Accessing direct material pulls and creating Advanced Shipping Notices (ASN)
- Accessing, reviewing and acknowledging purchase order
- Reviewing payment information
- Reviewing Bulletins and specifications
- Working with the new Production Part Approval Process (PPAP) system

Notification of training dates and information to access training materials for these important initiatives will be shared as they become available.

13. What do we need or expect from you?
This is an exciting time for the company because we get to introduce new standard processes and an upgraded system. But we will need your support to successfully launch R12. There are a few specific things we ask of you:

- If you currently do not have access to AAM's iSupplier Portal we urge you to obtain the proper login credentials as soon as possible
- Verify that your contact and banking information is accurate through your buyer(s)Read the Oracle Project update letters as they are posted to the current AAM iSupplier Portal and the Supplier Portal
- Participate if invited to informational calls
- Complete the Oracle eLearning when it is made available
- Be aware of the rollout cadence to ensure full utilization of the system
- Don't wait…. ask questions if you aren't sure how this impacts your company
- Be patient, ERP implementations take time and teamwork

14. Where can I get information about the project? How will I be informed?
There will be various forms of communication to keep you advised on the project:
- Check the AAM iSupplier Portal for information and Project updates www.aam.com/suppliers.html
- Check the Supplier Portal http://www.aam.com/Suppliers/Systems-Communications for information and Project updates

15. Who can I contact if I have questions that haven't been answered in this document?
- Contact your buyer(s) of record
- Submit emails to whq.suppliercommunication@AAM.com
- Accounts Payable remains the same and can be contacted at AccountsPayable@aam.com

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