SAP Batch Job Process – A quick look

Project Implementation team

We execute transactions or run standard programs or custom programs to get something done in SAP. We keep doing this often. Now we cannot be running and executing programs or transactions all the time. There is a way to automate this process. Let's take two examples and see if we can understand this better,

Example 1:

We create/change material masters in SAP and sometimes this master data needs to be interfaced to a third party or other internal SAP or non-SAP systems. So that the master data in SAP and other systems are in sync. In order to do this manually, we may need to go to SE38 transaction and execute a program RCCLMDAT and this will trigger the message to the third party system (Now there are several configuration and master data setups that needs to be done before a successful message being created). Now in this example, it's Ok to send once or twice and we can run the program manually but for tons of messages to be sent and to do it in near-real time it's impossible to it manually from productivity stand point.

Example 2:

Let's assume there is a requirement from your business to create a report in some finance module or sales module and that report needs to be executed several times a day and the report be emailed to the business directly. In this case, we may typically create a custom ABAP program in SAP. Once the ABAP program is created then we can run it manually and email the report to the business. But again, running this often manually is not productive.

<u>Need of a batch job process:</u>

In the above to examples, the better idea is to automatically schedule and run the transactions or programs. Scheduling & managing batch jobs can be handled in SAP CCMS (SM37/SM36 transactions).

Most of the clients use third party tools such as Tivoli, Autosys etc, there are tons of them for better management as CCMS in SAP does not provide interactive way of handling the batch jobs such as monitoring them and reporting in real time to the support team. Lets' focus on CCMS, which is a very handy tool for Functional & Technical consultants, specifically in ECC area.

Create a simple CCMS job:

In this section we will see how to create a simple batch job and schedule it to run every 1 minute interval.

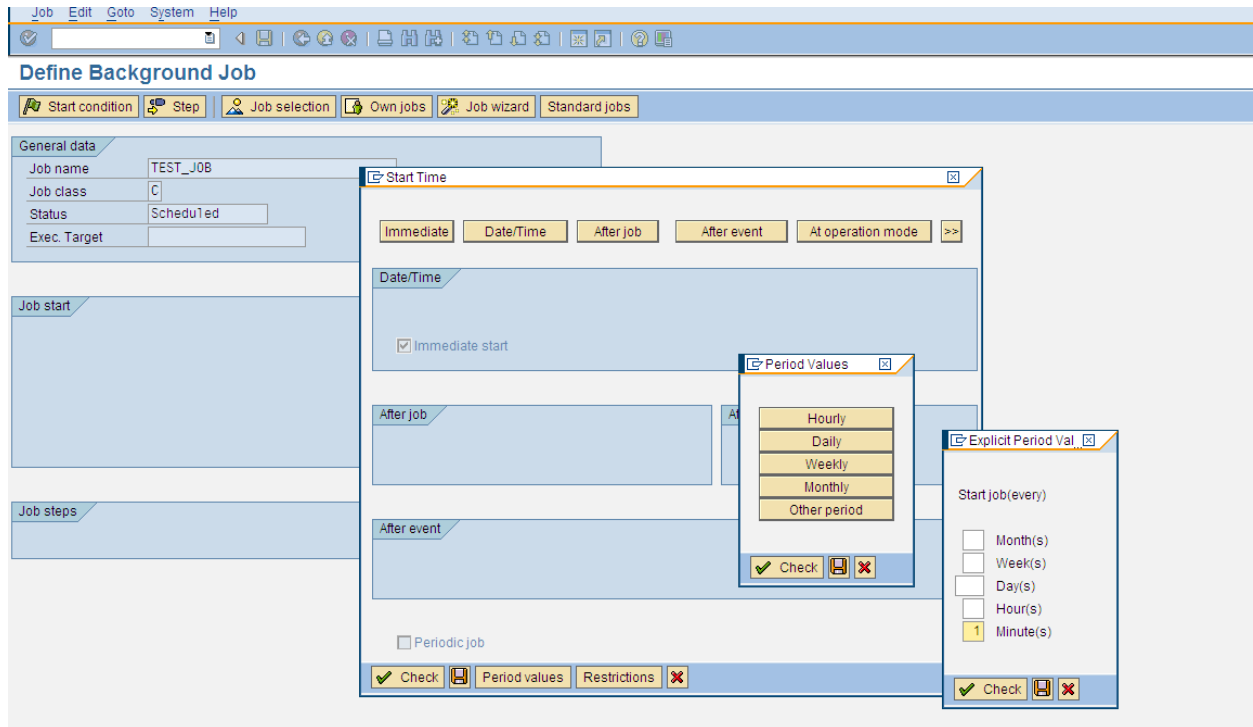*Go to transaction SM36 & give a job name to start with : TEST_JOB*

Now, click on Start Condition button, then click on Immediate, then click on Period Values and then click on Other period & set your value to be 1, this is the time interval for the job to run.

Now click on SAVE, as many ever times required and come back to main screen,

Now click on STEP button on main screen, SAP will take you to a different screen, where you can input your program name, user id to use to run the job.

Now click on SAVE.

Now go back to SM36 main screen and click on SAVE button, Do not go back multiple times.

At the bottom you should see

Your job is successfully scheduled, now to see if its running properly, go to SM37 transaction code and enter necessary parameters to find your job.

If the job is running successfully then, you will see GREEN color status and if it fails to run for some reason, then it will be in RED. In this example , its RED, because something is not right.

You also note that this job was running every 1 minute. To see why it is cancelled, you can choose the job and click on Job log on the top to see what the log says.