

Comparison between SAP Console* and SkyMobile



<i>Area</i>	<i>SAP Console</i>	<i>SkyMobile</i>
<i>Process Automation</i>	Linking two or more transactions together involves complex dialogue and ABAP programming.	SkyMobile allows multi-step transaction processes to be streamlined, updates controlled, and initiated from a single screen or push button on the RF device.
<i>Graphical Interface</i>	Normally only VT220 support (no graphics). 3rd Party add-in software is required in-order to provide basic graphical capability.	Full support for BlackBerry, Windows mobile (with touch screen) and web browser user interfaces. Also supports full VT220 text interface if required.
<i>Device support</i>	No-built in support for devices: you have to program your own via program exits.	Full support for any serial and network enabled device, allowing simple connection to bar-code printers etc.
<i>Choosing suitable hardware devices</i>	Devices need to run a VT220 emulator, which can limit selection of device. This will also need a keypad for accessing function keys to control navigation and data entry.	iQlink will assist you in choosing suitable hardware. SkyMobile runs on a variety of devices including Windows mobile, BlackBerry and browsers, which means that you have plenty of choice to select the device that is most suitable for the job you need to do.
<i>Requirement for a WLAN</i>	A SAP Console implementation requires a Wireless Local Area Network to be installed. This needs to be secured.	SkyMobile can run over a wireless LAN, wired connection, GPRS or Bluetooth. Inbuilt data compression, and data encryption ensures security.
<i>Security</i>	No encryption.	Security data encryption available. Either using an XML gateway connection and / or additional encryption using the Blowfish security algorithm
<i>Data capture mechanisms</i>	Standard user entry via keypad or barcode scanner	Touch screen, graphic input aids (pushbuttons, pop-up calculator / calendar), Voice input, barcode scanner or RFID.

*SAP Console information based on articles published at <http://www.erpgeenie.com/sap/sapfunc/rf.htm>

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Workbench	Requires specialist ABAP dialog programming to build custom functionality. Not conducive to rapid mobile application development.	Fully functional workbench in SAP supporting both ABAP and Java. Highly functional configurable options that require no programming. ABAP and Java programming API's are fully supported to help address more complex logic requirements.
Transaction management	No standard framework to manage asynchronous transactions. Transactions are posted in real time, with the device "held" while SAP updates.	Complete interface management framework for both synchronous and asynchronous transaction management, allowing the user to carry on working whilst SAP updates.
Mobile Integration Framework	Console only provides a standard solution for RF warehouse management integration.	SkyMobile provides a single mobile interface platform for RF, Windows, Mobile, PDA and BlackBerry devices, allowing multiple application deployments from a single core technology platform, with integration into any SAP Module.
Implementation consultants required	ABAP programmer, SAP Console logistics consultant specialising in WM, MM, IM, SD, QM, PP. The more complex your business processes the more skilled SAP consultant you require to develop mini applications for SAP Console.	SkyMobile comes complete with a full training manual so that you can use your existing in-house SAP skills to configure, implement and support your solution. Implementation consultancy can be provided if required.
Software requirements	Telnet server and client, the SAP Console Text GUI, the OS and Emulation software implementation, configuration for hardware devices	SkyMobile runs from <i>within</i> SAP without and additional middleware which simplifies implementation. No other additional software is required.
Business implementation	In the majority of cases, your processes will not be covered by the standard SAP Console processes.	iQlink work with your processes from the beginning, showing only those fields on the handheld device that you need.
Implementation time	A typical implementation can be from 5 – 9 months.	Roll-out is typically 1 – 3 months.

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