

Table of Contents

top flow SE16XXL Permissions	3
SAP Authorization Roles needed to use the program.....	4
Global setting	5
Permission Logic.....	6
Original Permission Logic	7
Tables and fields.....	7
Views.....	9
Forbidden data elements.....	9
New Permission Logic	10
Temporary permissions.....	10
Four-eyes principle.....	10
Tutorial # 1 – define (elementary) access roles	11
Tutorial # 2 – assign access roles to users (directly).....	16
Tutorial # 3 – assign access roles to users (indirectly)	19
Tutorial # 4 – define a complex role	22
Tutorial # 5 – define an explicit permission for a table	24
Tutorial # 6 – define forbidden data elements	27
General remarks	29
Selection Screen	30
Single User – Permissions and Roles.....	32
Navigation	35
Single User – Allowed fields for table / view	36
Users – Permissions	37
Making a copy of a user	37
Defining many users in one operation	38
Users – Assigned roles	39

Access roles	40
Functions pertaining to access roles.....	41
Adding permissions to an access role	41
Other useful functions	43
Complex roles.....	44
Functions pertaining to complex roles	45
Functions for adding or deleting elementary role assignments	45
SAP roles	46
Functions for maintaining SAP roles	47
Functions for associating SAP roles to access roles	47
Explicit tables	48
Available functions	48
Table cross-reference	49
Forbidden Data Elements	50
Data element cross-reference	50
Download	52
Upload	53
Transport	57

System Versions

The program runs from SAP_BASIS Version 700, with and without Unicode. It has been developed in Version 700.

Copyright © 2009-2017 SY-TABIX GmbH - All rights reserved.

Distributed by top *flow* GmbH – D-88348 Bad Saulgau.

No part of this document may be reproduced or transmitted without permission of the author or of the distributor.

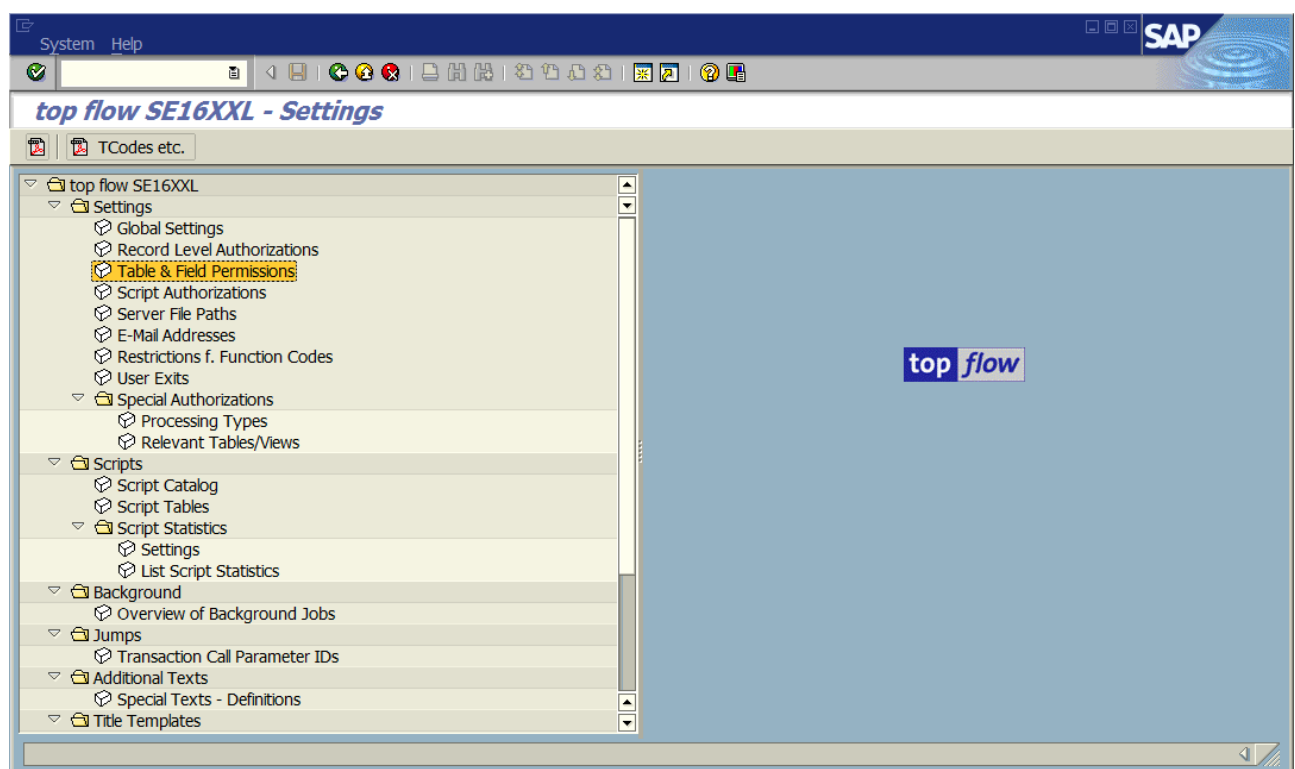
The information contained in the following pages is provided without warranty of any kind. It is subject to change without prior notice. Any data serve information purposes only. Neither the author nor the distributor are liable for any errors or omissions of the documentation.

SAP, the SAP logo, R/3 and ABAP are trademarks or registered trademarks of SAP AG.

top flow SE16XXL Permissions

Using the **TableWizard Table & Field Permissions**, you may define which users can access which tables, and which fields for a given table. This makes the **top flow** SE16XXL interesting for the more security conscious companies as well.

The SE16XXL Table & Field Permissions are best reached by means of transaction **/TFTO/XXL_SETTINGS**:



The authorization to use the program is based on a set of SAP roles which provide the user with more or less administration rights.

These roles are actually empty. Only the assignment to the user is checked. This assignment can be carried out with the standard transaction **PFCG**.

Instead of the roles, authorization objects **/TFTO/XGLB** or **/TFTO/XCUS** may be assigned (refer to [Transaction Codes, Roles and Authorization Objects](#)).

In the following page a list of the involved roles will be given.

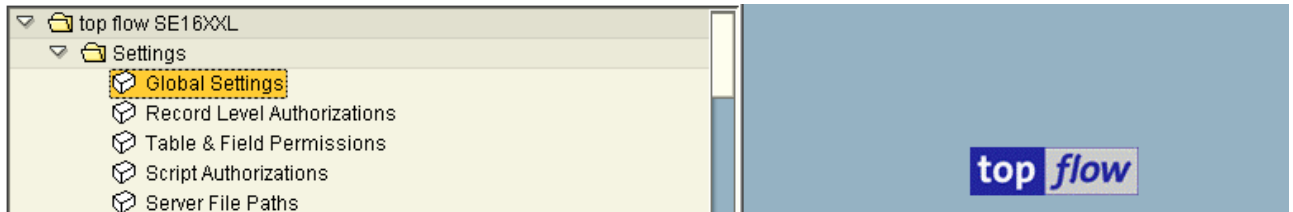
SAP Authorization Roles needed to use the program

SAP Authorization Role	Description
/TFTO/XXL_GLOB_MAINT	Global maintenance of all kinds of SE16XXL settings
/TFTO/XXL_CUSTOM_MAINT	Maintenance of all kind of Table & Field permissions
/TFTO/XXL_CUSTOM_MAINT_ROLES	Maintenance of access roles and their permissions
/TFTO/XXL_CUSTOM_MAINT_USERS	Maintenance of user permissions
/TFTO/XXL_CUSTOM_MAINT_ASSGN	Maintenance of access role assignments to users
/TFTO/XXL_GLOB_DISPL	Global display of all kinds of SE16XXL settings
/TFTO/XXL_CUSTOM_DISPL	Display of all kinds of Table & Field permissions

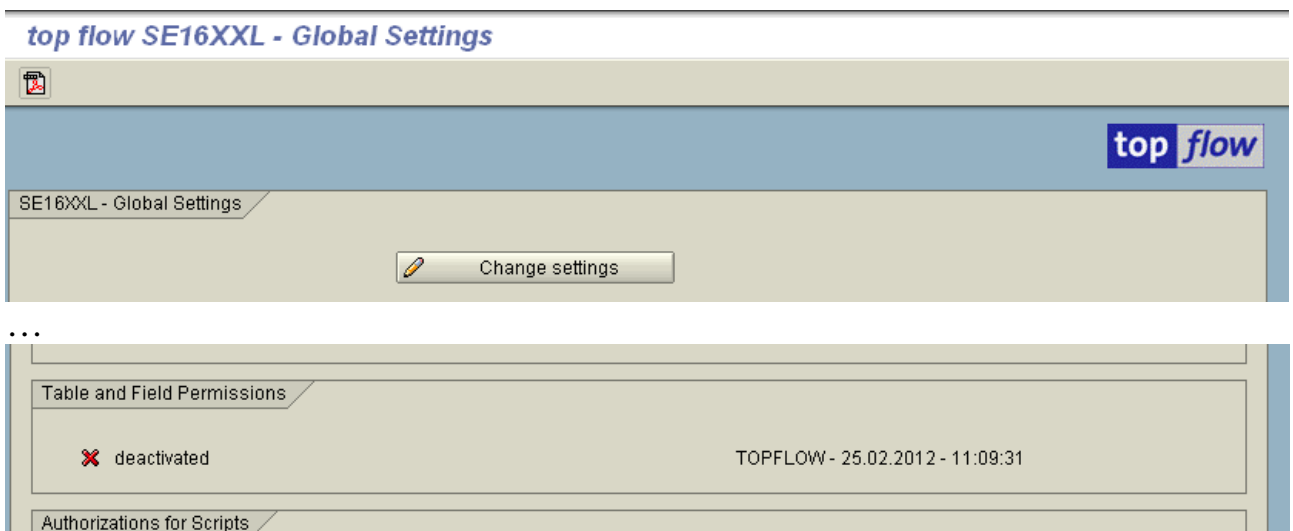
The first two roles give the user all necessary rights to maintain the permissions. The following three give only partial rights and can be used to implement a “**four-eyes principle**”, i.e. the administration of permissions is carried out by more than one person, each person having limited administration rights. The last two roles are just for viewing the permissions. Any kind of maintenance role automatically enables to display all permissions.

Global setting

The permission functionality is delivered in a deactivated state. It can be activated by calling transaction /TFTO/XXL_SETTINGS (global settings):



A double click on  will display the global settings:



Press  and then  :



Don't forget to save the settings by pressing  when you are finished.

The activation should be best performed when all permissions have been defined.

Permission Logic

Before describing the program itself, it makes sense to briefly discuss the underlying permission logic.

Originally, the permissions were completely independent of the SAP authorizations. But many companies, especially larger ones, have an integrated authorization concept in which the SE16XXL permissions in their original form did not quite fit. For this reason, a new way of defining the permissions has been implemented, which allows to assign SE16XXL access roles to SAP authorization roles. Once the access roles have been defined using the present program, they can be assigned to users indirectly by means of the associated SAP roles, just as any other kind of SAP authorization.

The two permission logics, the original one and the new one associated with SAP roles, may be used concurrently, but this probably only makes sense in a transitional period during which the original logic is being phased out.

IMPORTANT: in the following documentation the Tables Wizard access roles will be called either “**access roles**” or just “**roles**” (elementary and complex), whereas the SAP authorization roles will be referred to as “**SAP roles**”.

Original Permission Logic

Tables and fields

You can define permissions at three levels:

- 1) Pseudo user "*" (which means "all users");
- 2) Access roles, which act as abstract users; (these roles don't have anything to do with the standard SAP authorization roles)
- 3) Individual users.

Each level has two types of permissions, explicit and global (or generic):

- An **explicit** permission describes which fields of a particular database table are allowed to be accessed.
- A **global** permission specifies (either by **name** or by **authorization group**) a series of database tables that are allowed to be accessed.

When a user calls up the **top flow** SE16XXL for a particular database table, the following logic is applied:

- 1) Does the user have an explicit permission for this table?
If yes, the explicit permission is taken, and the user can access the allowed fields.
If not, the search goes on.
- 2) Does the user have a global permission which covers the current table?
If yes, all fields of the table are allowed.
If not, the search goes on (this is implied in the following steps).
- 3) If the user has no permission for the current table, the access roles assigned to the user are inspected. Each access role can have the same kind of permission as a user. Since the permissions of the access roles can possibly overlap, the best permission of all is taken. This means that if a given role only allows certain fields of the table, and another role allows all of them, the latter "wins".

- 4) If neither the user himself, nor his assigned access roles have any permission for the table, then the pseudo user "*" (all users) is taken into account. It also can have permissions like a user. If it has any for the current table, it is taken.
- 5) If none of the above criteria have been satisfied, the user is not allowed to access the table, and he gets the message "Sorry, you are not authorized".

This can be visualized by means of a table. The check begins with A – if the user has an explicit permission – and proceeds with B, C, D etc., until a definite result has been obtained.

If more than one role is assigned to the user, the ones that allow all fields are considered first. If no such roles exists, because each role only allows some of the fields, then all allowed fields are merged together to form the permission of the user.

Level	Explicit Permission	Global Permission
User	A	B
Roles of the user	C	D
* (all users)	E	F

To sum the logic up, you define at "all users" level those permissions which all users should have. Then, if you deem it necessary, you can define individual access roles with added permissions, to be assigned selectively to certain users. The permissions of the access roles either enhance or supersede those of "all users".

Finally you can give still more permissions to individual users, adding new permissions or superseding those of the assigned access roles and/or "all users".

Important: you only define which tables are allowed, not which are forbidden. Forbidden are those that are not allowed.

Views

Views are not considered as separate entities. They inherit the permissions of the database tables from which they are derived.

Forbidden data elements

The above described logic shows how the allowed fields of a table are determined. This could already be sufficient.

But in order to add greater flexibility, permissions at data element level may also be defined. They are used to restrict the fields which can be accessed.

Of course only those fields that are associated to a data element.

Data element permissions are global permissions, stating by name which data elements are forbidden (or allowed). They are also defined at the three levels:

- Pseudo user "*" (all users);
- Access roles;
- Individual users.

Only the logic is a bit different here.

At the level "all users", the **forbidden** data elements are defined.

At the other two levels, these forbidden elements can be **re-allowed**, either at role or user level (or both). So you can globally define that certain data elements are forbidden, and then allow them just for a limited number of users.

To return to our permission logic, once the allowed fields have been determined, their data elements are compared with the forbidden ones, and if such are found, the associated fields are also considered as "not allowed".

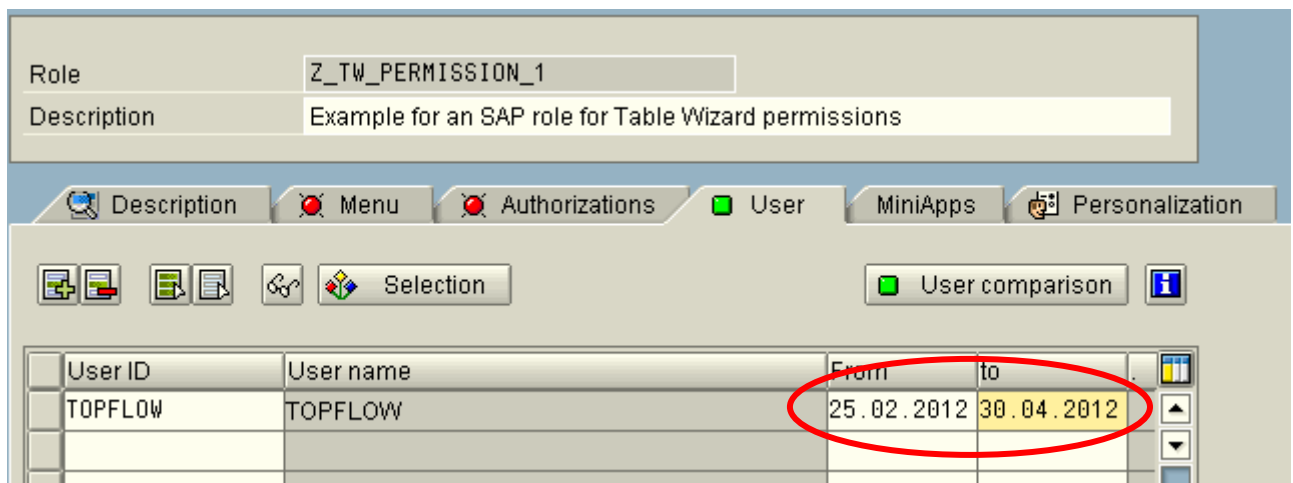
New Permission Logic

In this case, only access roles with their permissions – explicit and/or global – are defined. To each access role an SAP role is associated as an attribute. When the SAP role is assigned by means of transaction PFCG (or SU01) to a user, all access roles associated with the SAP role are indirectly assigned to the user.

The pseudo user “*” (all users) is not strictly necessary in this situation, unless you wish to define “forbidden data elements”.

Temporary permissions

The indirect assignment of access roles through an SAP role enables to restrict the assignment to a specific time period, because this is a standard feature of transaction **PFCG**:




Four-eyes principle

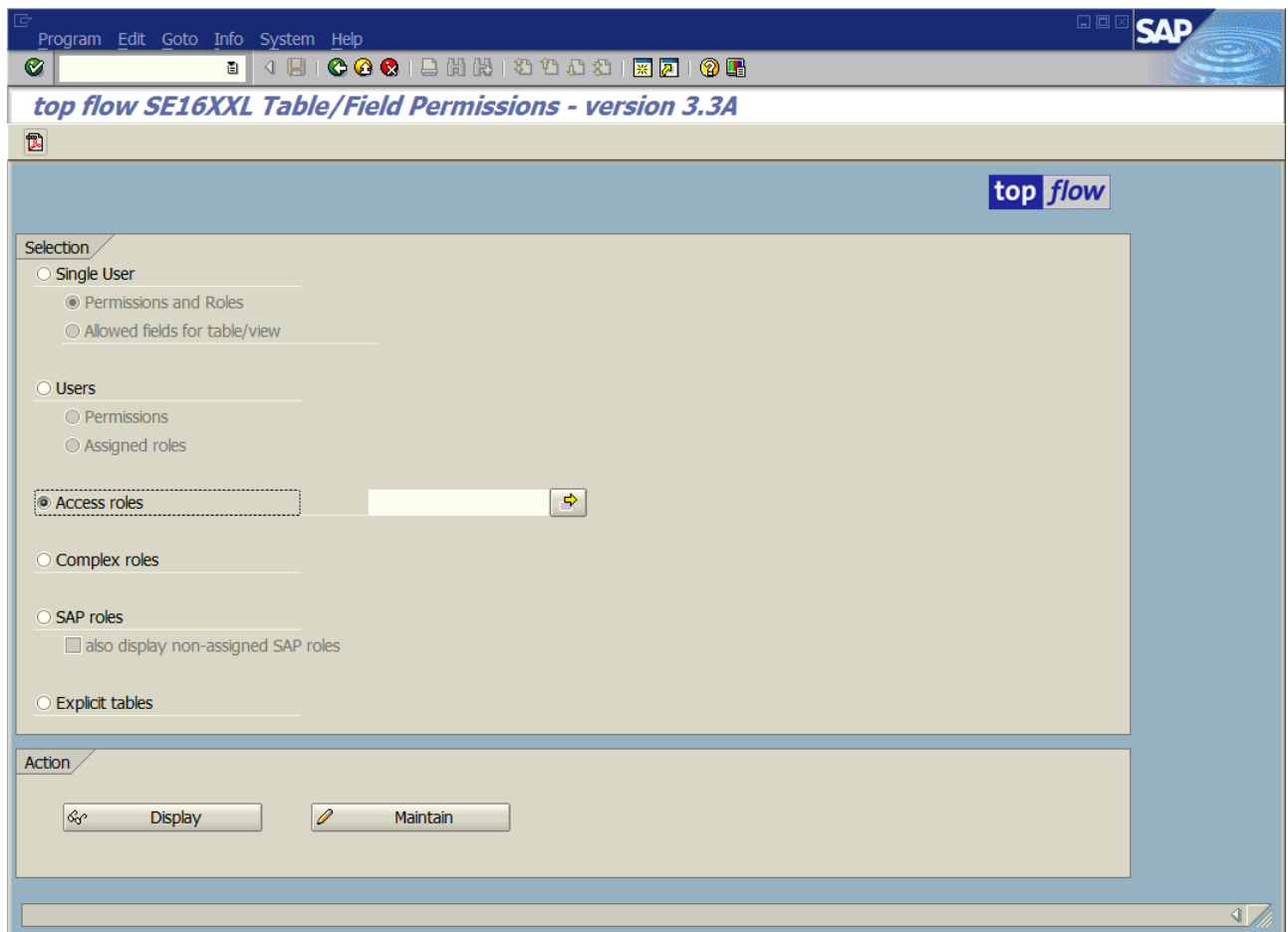
The indirect assignment of roles is also ideal for dividing the maintenance activities upon various persons: one administrator defines the SE16XXL access roles, another one assigns SAP roles to the end users.

We will now describe how the permissions can be configured by means of a brief tutorial. We will start with the more simple scenarios and proceed to the more complicated ones.

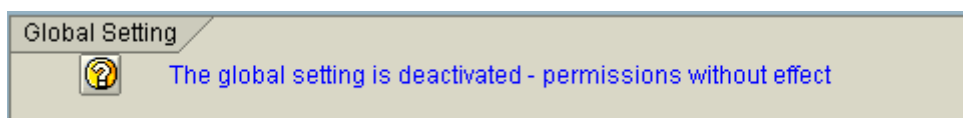
Tutorial # 1 – define (elementary) access roles


The definition of access roles is the most important part of the permission logic. If you wish to implement the new logic with SAP roles, you need access roles – otherwise access roles are not mandatory, but still highly recommendable.

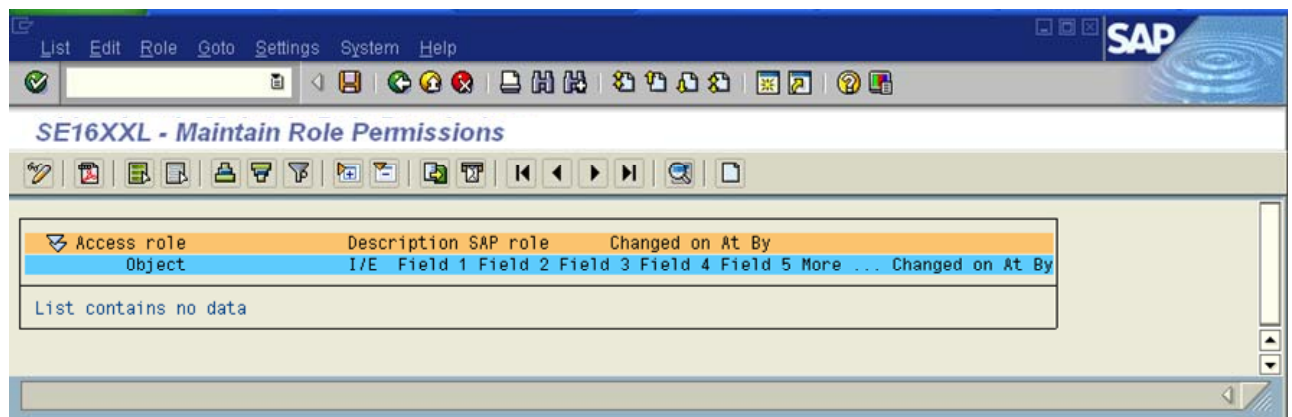
To begin with, double click on  **Table & Field Permissions** on the settings screen. The following selection screen will appear:



NOTE: if the global setting is deactivated, the following block will also be visible:

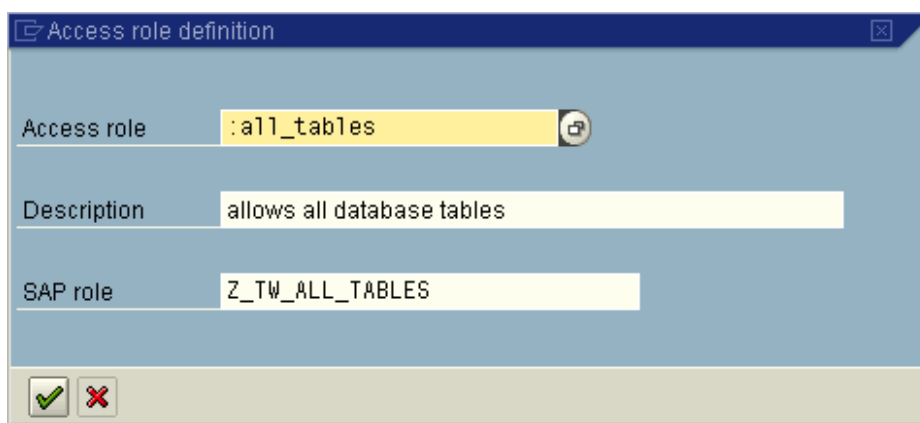


Choose “Access roles” and press  to get a list of the roles already defined. The first time the list will be empty:

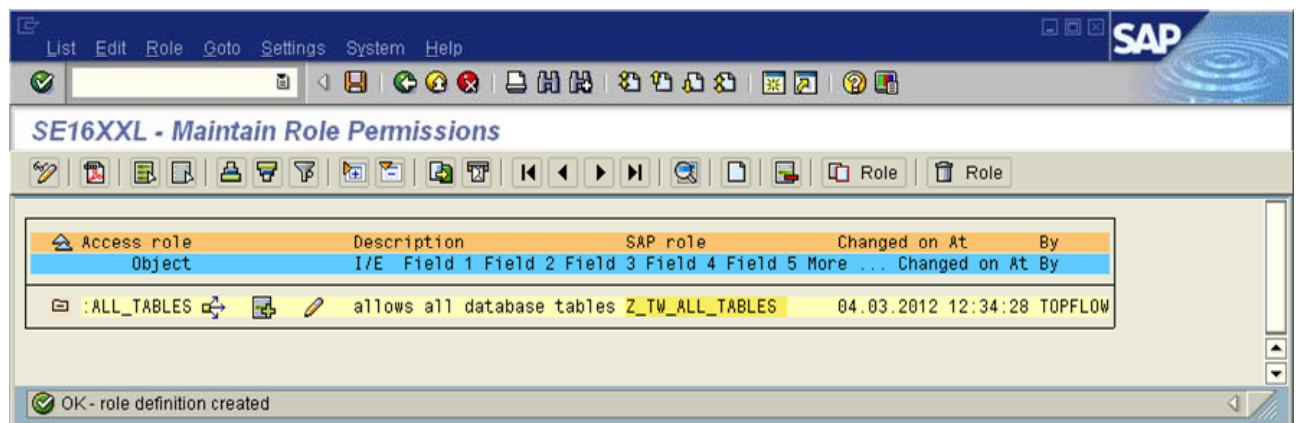



The first access role you wish to create is the one that allows everything, a kind of SAPALL role. You decide to call it ":ALL_TABLES" (roles must begin with a ":").

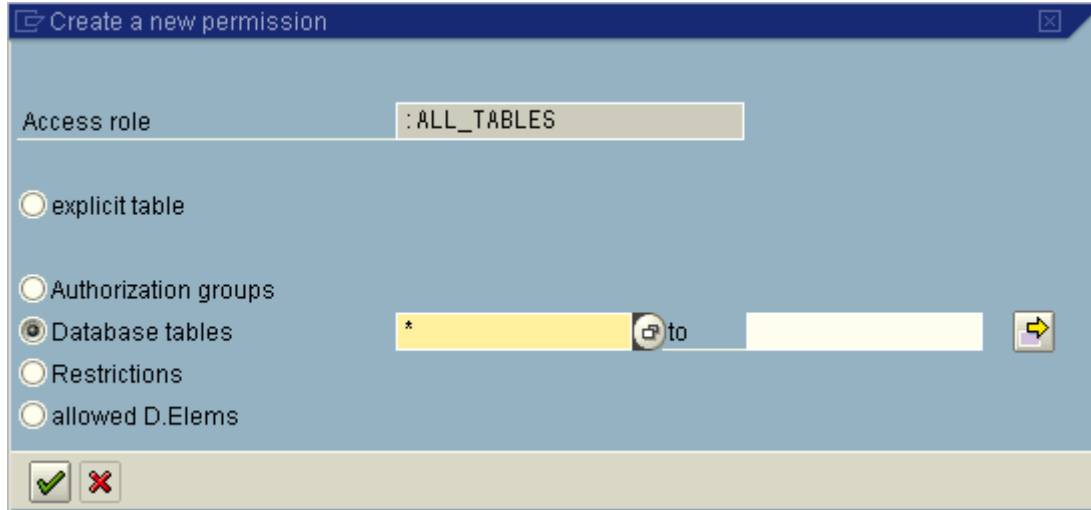
Press  and define the access role:




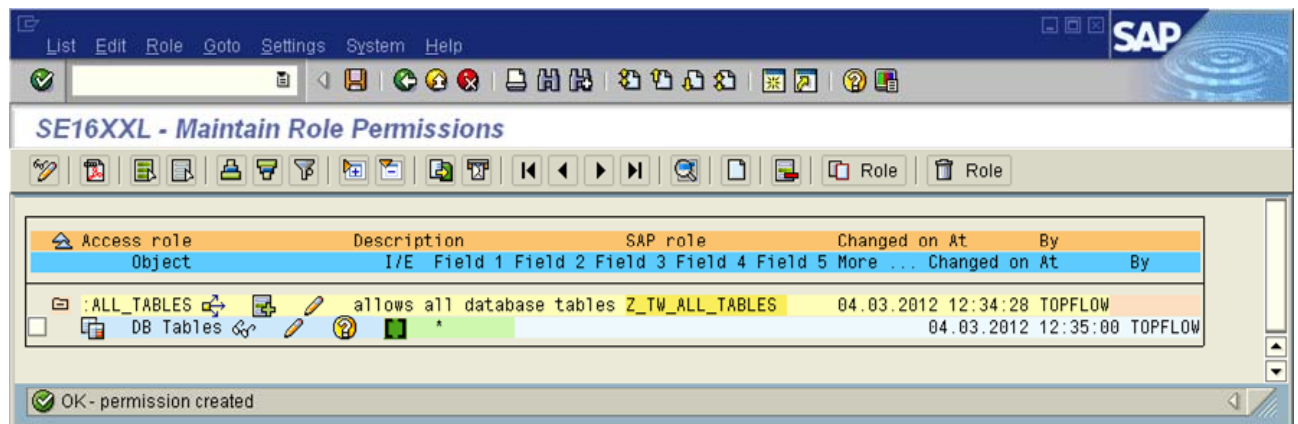
The SAP role is only necessary if you intend to implement the new logic. Otherwise the field can be left empty. The list changes accordingly:




The access role is now defined but still “empty”. It is necessary to define the global permission that allows all database tables. To achieve this, click on the  icon at the right of the access role name. On the ensuing popup, choose “**Database tables**”:

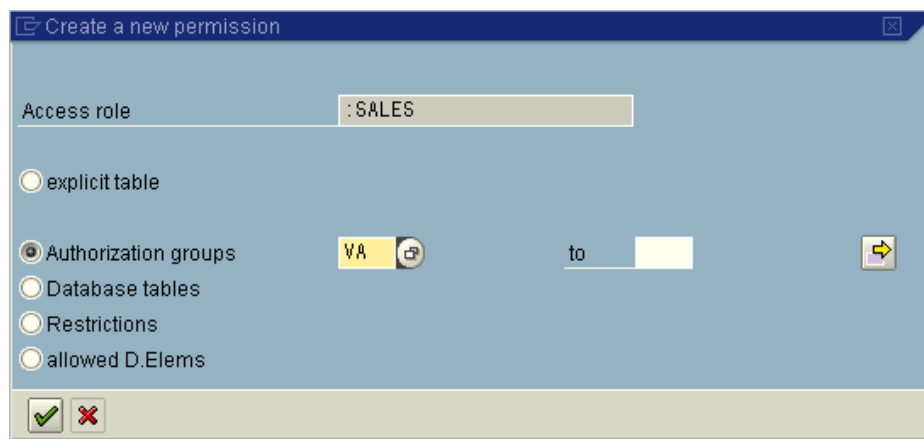


Enter “*” (to denote all tables) and press  to complete the definition. The list is updated correspondingly:

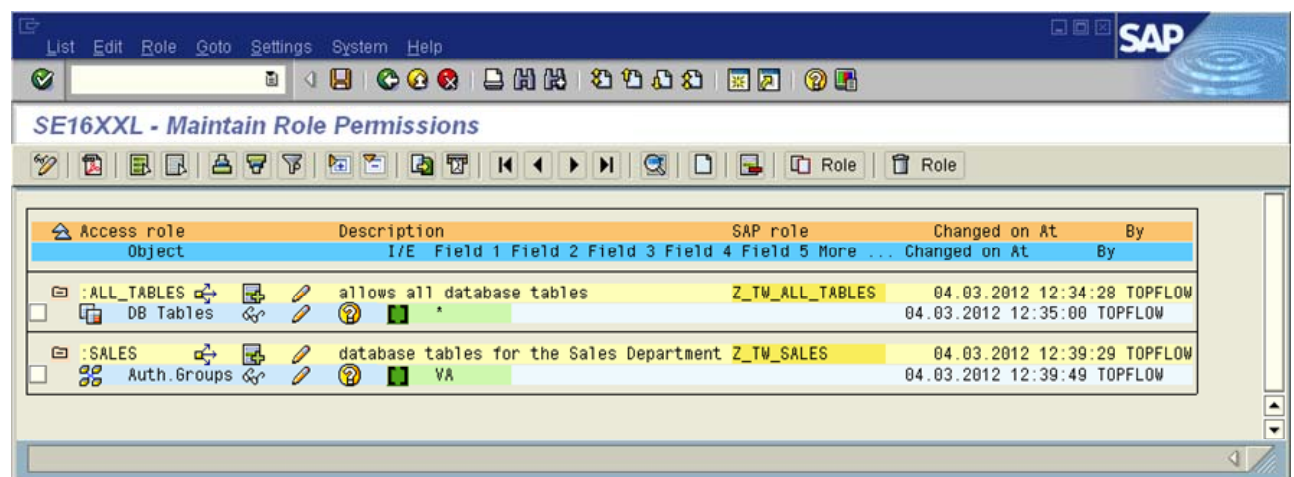



A role that allows everything is necessary for the IT department, but you also need more specific roles for other departments, such as Sales or Planning.

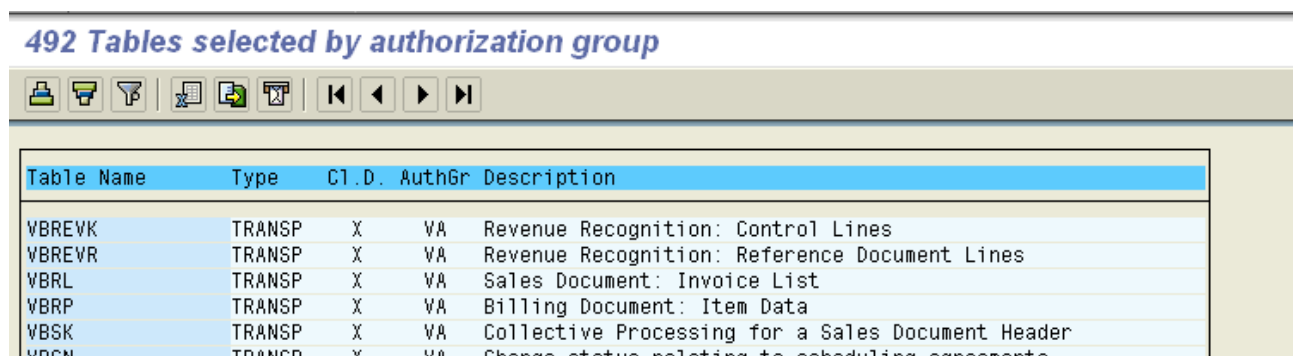
So we proceed by defining an access role – named :SALES – for the Sales Department. The definition itself is carried out as already described above. Since most sales relevant tables have authorization group **VA**, we assign this auth. group to the role. To do this, we click on the  icon as we have already done, but choose “Authorization groups” and enter VA this time:



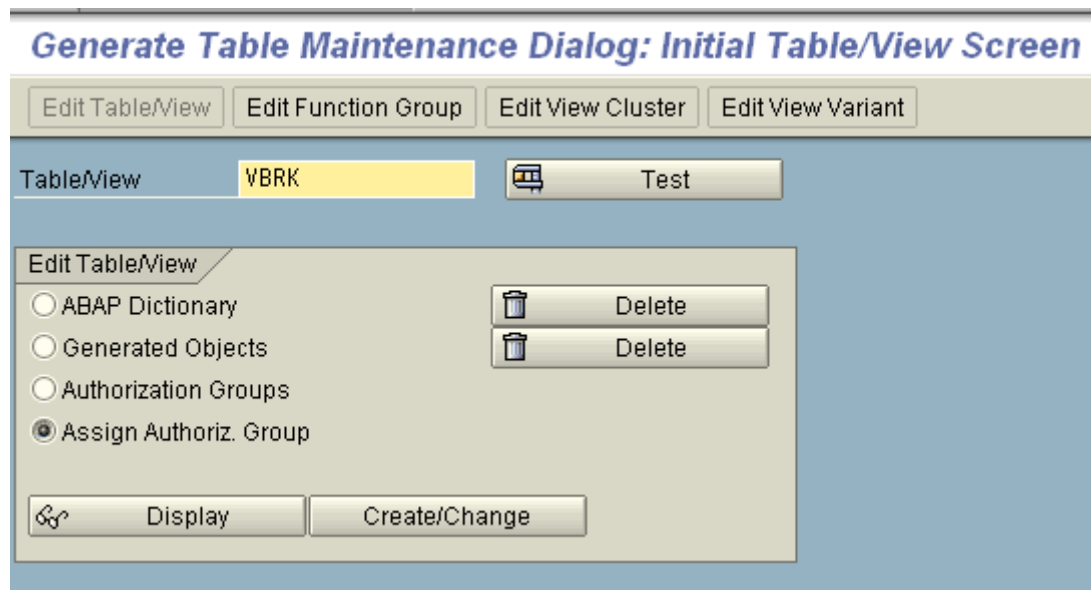
Our list of access roles now looks like this:



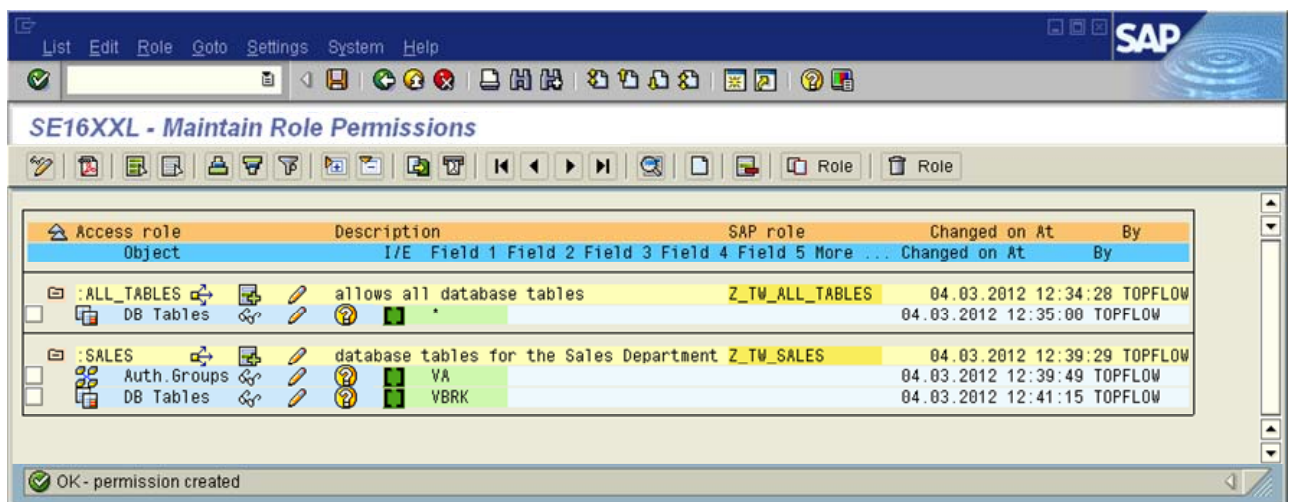
We would like to take a look at the list of selected tables to make sure all sales relevant tables have been taken into account. Such a list is easily produced by clicking on the  icon at the right of the “Auth.Groups” line:




While inspecting the list of selected tables, we notice that **VBRK** (invoice header) is missing from the list. Indeed VBRK belongs to authorization group **MA** – use standard transaction **SE54** to determine the authorization group of a given table:



In order to also cover this database table, we add a corresponding permission by name:



Now we can press the  button and thus save our work – if we forget, the program will remind us when we try to leave it.

Conclusion: we have defined two (elementary) access roles, one covering all database tables for the IT department, the other one allowing only sales relevant database tables for the Sales department.

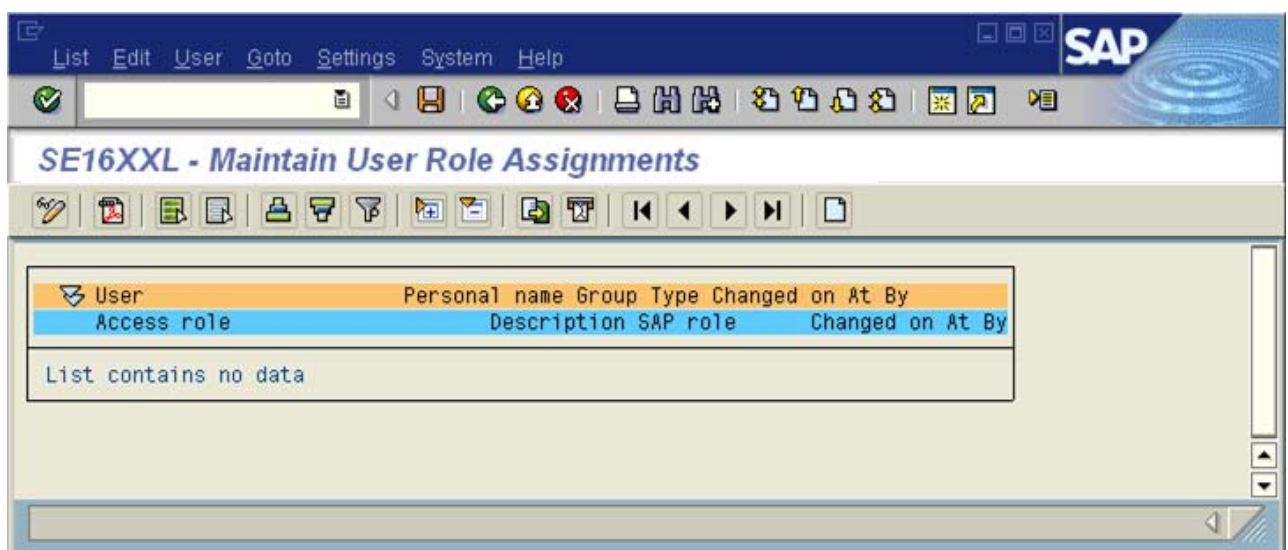
In the next tutorials we will first assign these roles to users **directly** and then – through their associated SAP roles – **indirectly**.

Tutorial # 2 – assign access roles to users (directly)

In order to assign access roles directly to users, call the Table & Field Permissions again and choose “Users” and “Assigned roles”:



As an alternative you may switch to this list without leaving the program by choosing **Goto → Users & assigned roles**. Both ways, the list of users and assigned roles appears – empty at first:

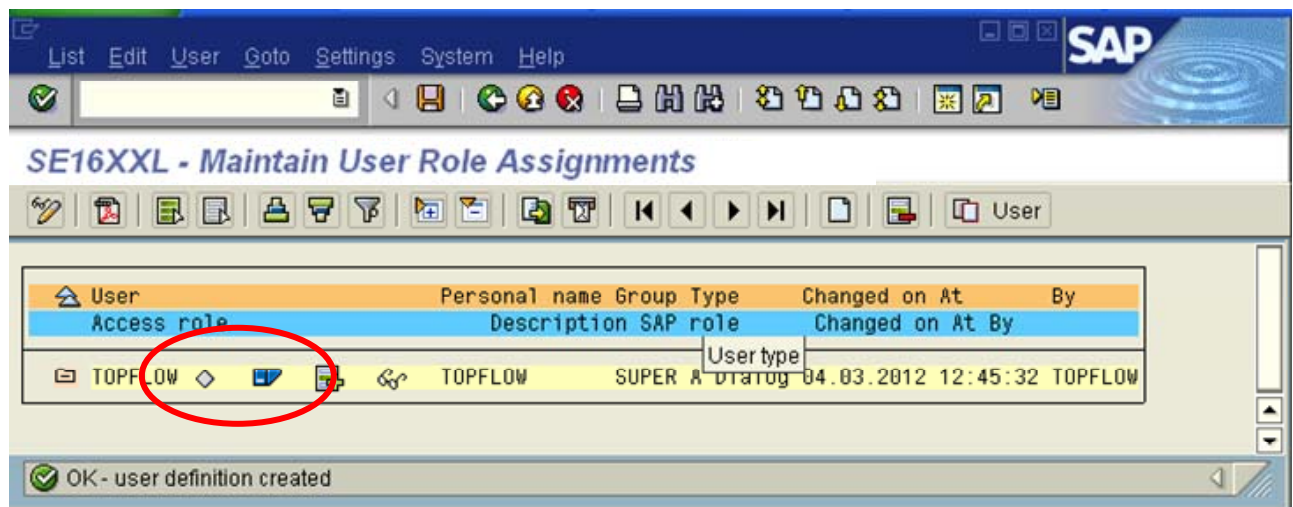


In order to assign an access role to a user, the user himself must be defined first. This definition is only necessary when assigning roles directly, because the program needs to know which users are considered from the point of view of the SE16XXL permissions. As we will see later on, no such definition is necessary when the assignment is performed indirectly by means of SAP roles.



We press the  icon on the application toolbar to define a user:




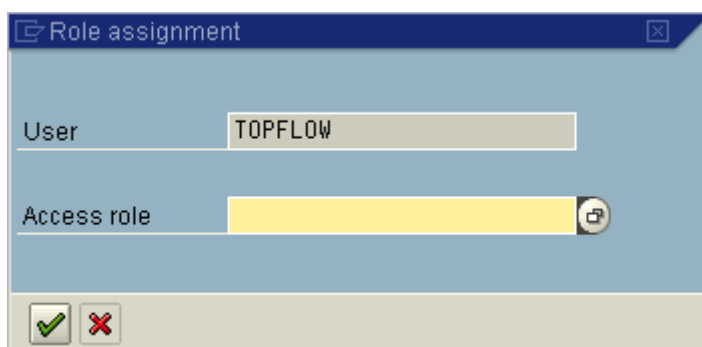
After entering the logon user and pressing , we obtain the following:



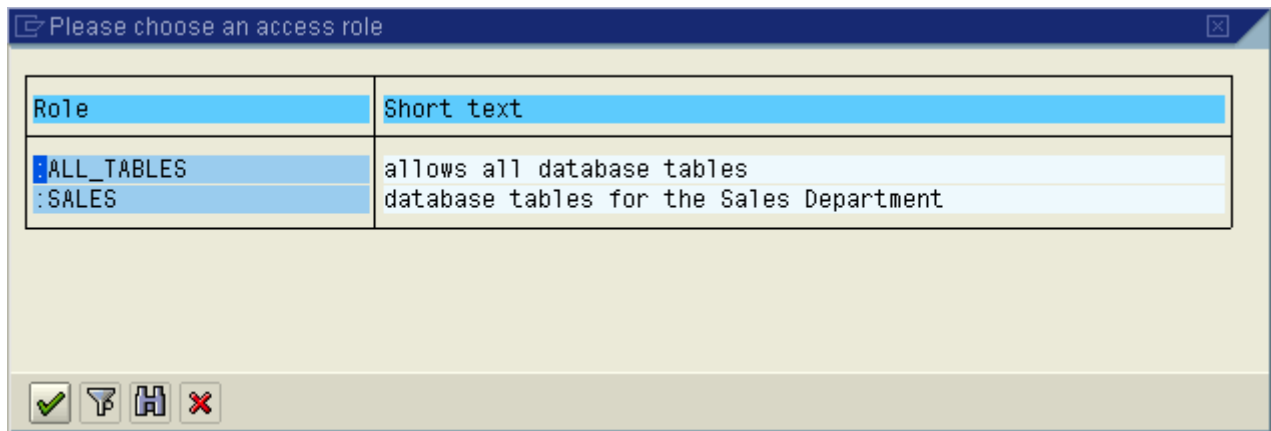
Notice the two icons at the right of the user:

-  signifies that this is a real SAP user (you can create non-existent users using the “copy” function);
-  signifies that the user is also defined as SE16XXL Permissions user.

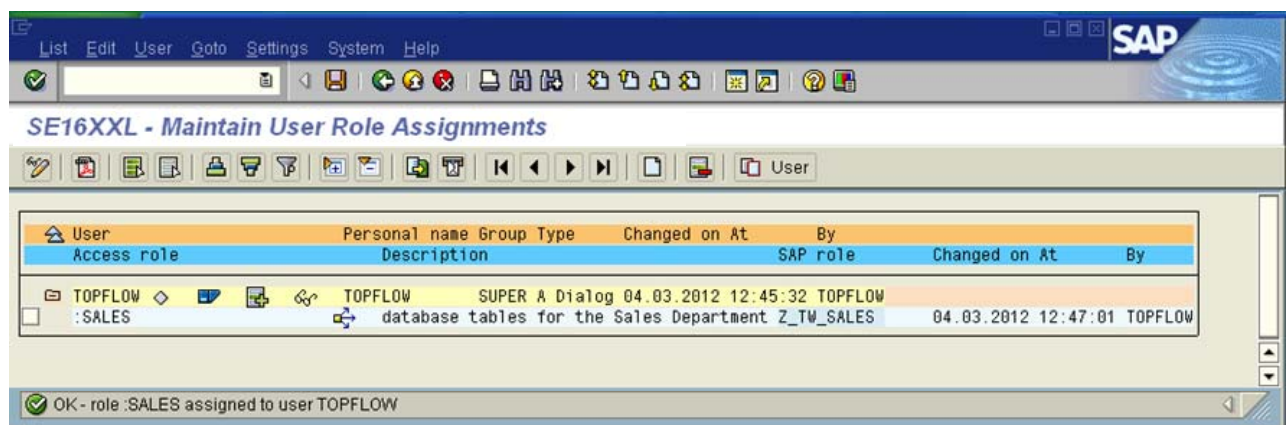
We are now ready to assign an access role to the user. A new role assignment is created with a click on the  icon of the user line:



The value help (F4) provides a list of the available access roles:



Just as an example we choose :SALES – the list changes accordingly:



As you may imagine, it is possible to assign any number of access roles to a user.

NOTE: the present example is based on the assumption that the administrator is authorized to define users **and** to assign access roles to them. If these authorizations belong to different persons, the one authorized to carry out the assignments will have to wait until the users have been defined by the other one.

We will now describe the indirect assignment of access roles.

Tutorial # 3 – assign access roles to users (indirectly)

The best way to perform such an assignment is by calling the Table & Field Permissions and choosing **SAP roles**:


☐ Access roles
☐ Complex roles
☒ SAP roles
☐ also display non-assigned SAP roles


The standard list only takes into account SAP roles associated with SE16XXL roles. To select all SAP roles, also check the ☒ also display non-assigned SAP roles option.

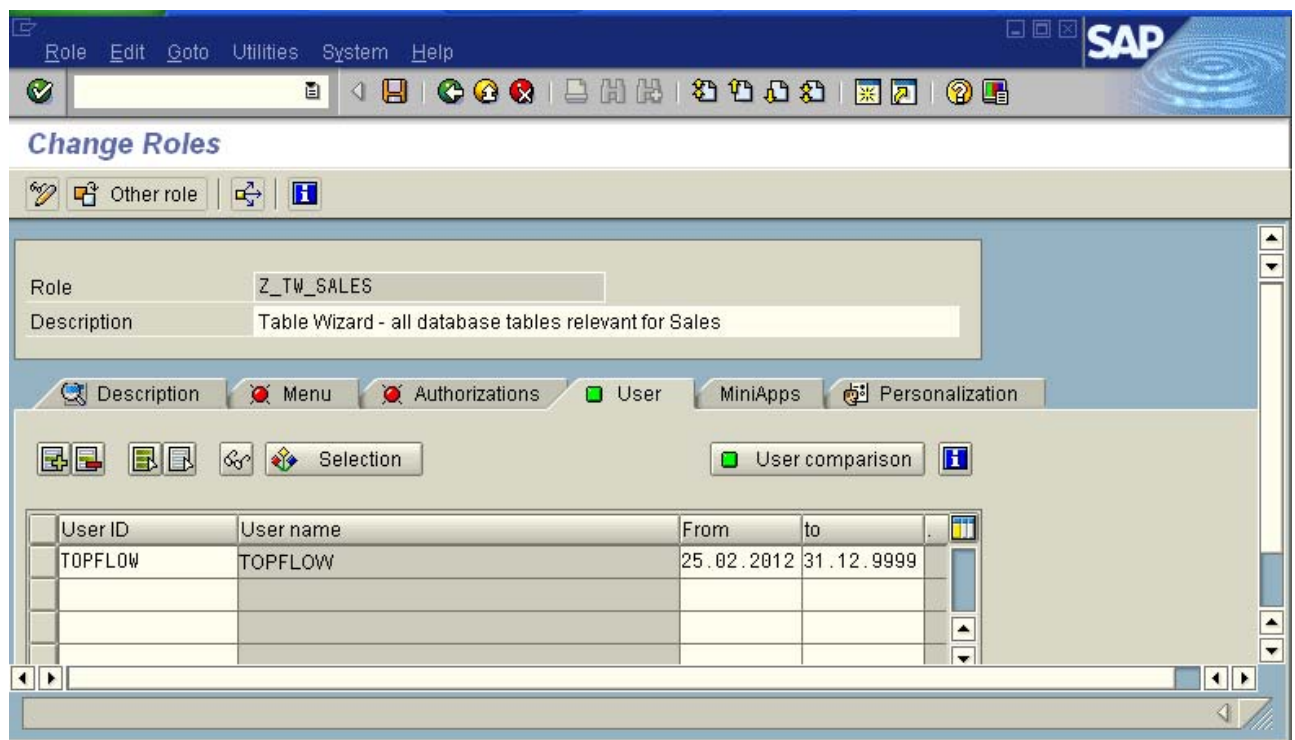
In our example the list looks like this:


SAP role	Description	Changed on At	By
Access role			
Z_TW_ALL_TABLES	Table Wizard - Permission for all database tables	04.03.2012 12:50:09	TOPFLOW
:ALL_TABLES	allows all database tables	26.02.2012 16:57:44	TOPFLOW
Z_TW_SALES	Table Wizard - all database tables relevant for Sales	04.03.2012 12:44:15	TOPFLOW
:SALES	database tables for the Sales Department	26.02.2012 16:58:06	TOPFLOW

Call transaction PFCG for the SAP role

It shows each SAP role and the associated SE16XXL access roles. Associate further access roles by clicking on the  icon at the right of each SAP role.

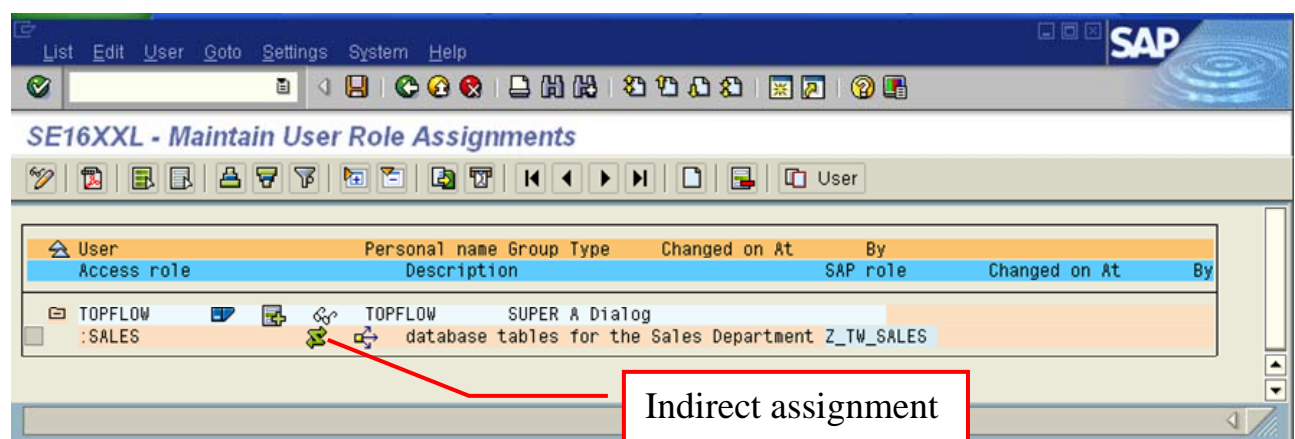
In this tutorial we are interested in performing an indirect assignment of access roles to users. This is achieved by assigning one or more users to an SAP role, thereby assigning to these users all access roles associated with the SAP role. By clicking on the  icon at the right of the SAP role we call standard transaction **PFCG** (you need the corresponding authorization):



After pressing , we exit from PFCG. The following message informs us that the assignment has been carried out for real:





To see the indirect assignment, we call up the list of **users and roles** by means of menu function *Goto* → *Users & assigned roles*:

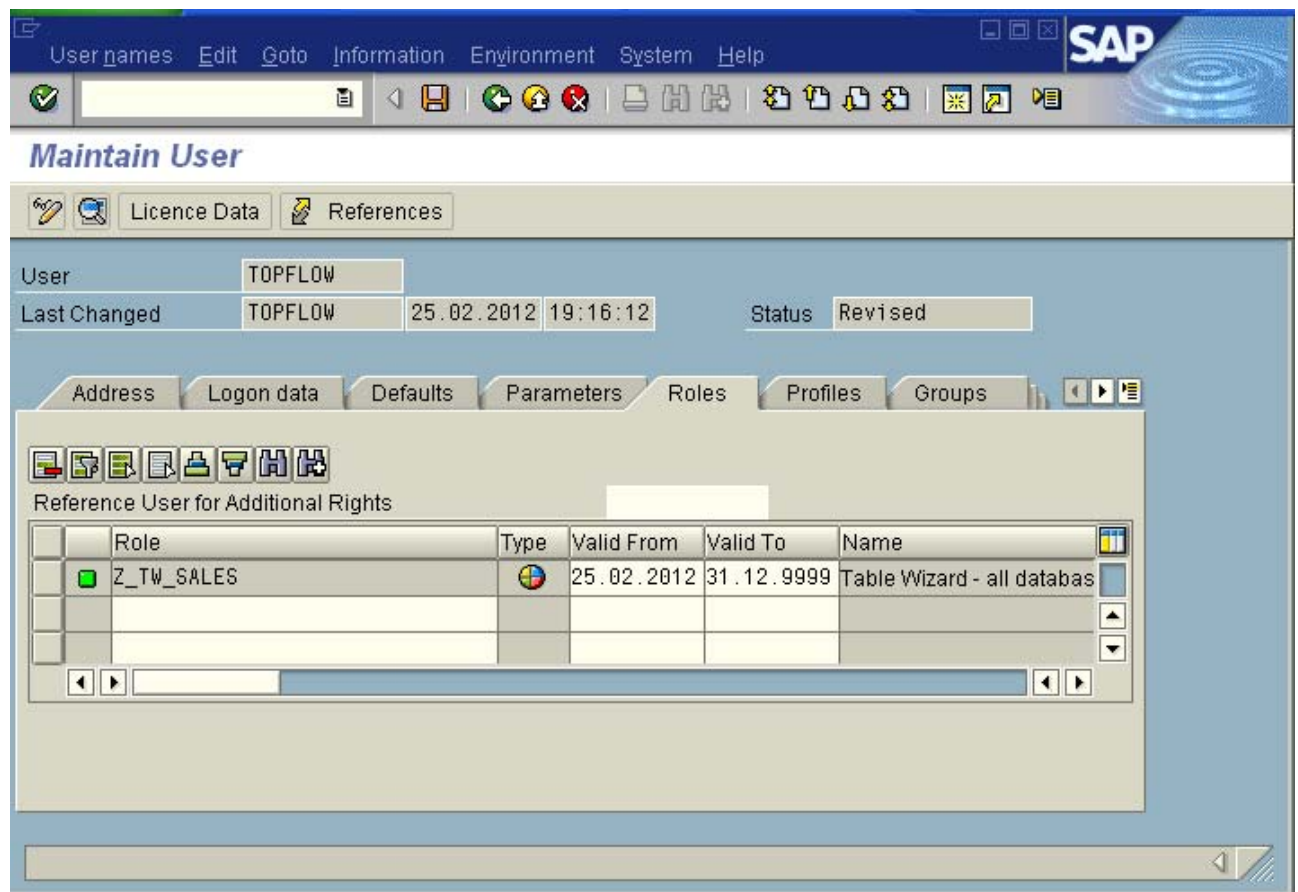


Indirect assignment

Notice that the list is slightly different from the one we have seen in **tutorial # 2**.

- Firstly, no  icon is at the right of the user, which means that the user has not been defined as SE16XXL permission user (we assume that tutorial # 2 has not taken place).
- Secondly, the access role is marked with an  icon, signalingizing that the assignment has been carried out indirectly.
- Thirdly, the colors are different.

Another way to assign an SAP role to a user is standard transaction SU01, which may also be called from the list of **Users & assigned roles** by using menu function *User → Display SAP user (SU01)*.



Tutorial # 4 – define a complex role

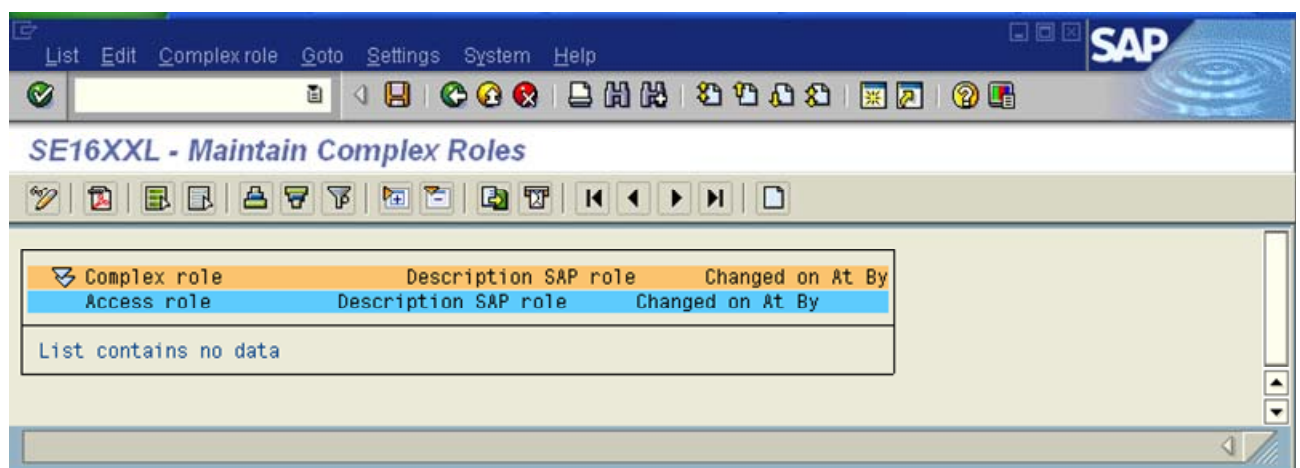
A complex role is for access roles what the composite role is for SAP roles, i.e. a collection of elementary access roles which can all be assigned together. A complex role does not have any permissions itself – the elementary access roles contained in the complex role do.

To define a complex role, we call the program and choose “**Complex roles**”:



☐ Access roles
☒ Complex roles


The corresponding list will be shown – empty at first:

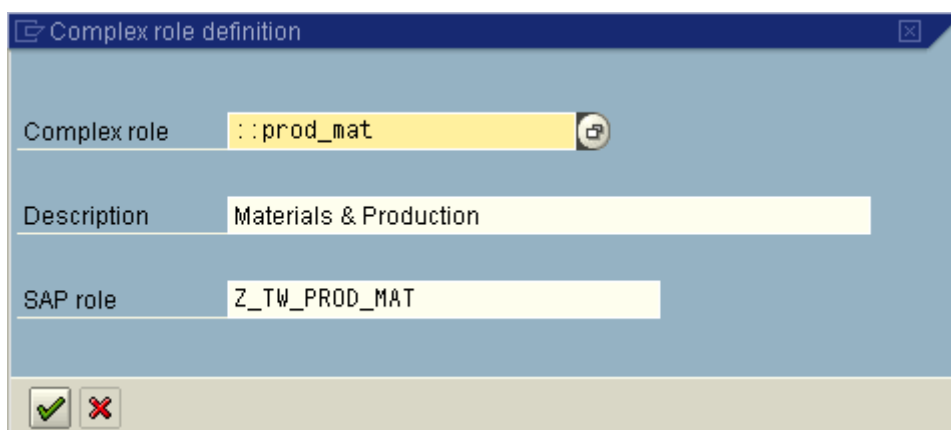


SE16XXL - Maintain Complex Roles

Complex role	Description	SAP role	Changed on	At	By
Access role	Description	SAP role	Changed on	At	By

List contains no data

We press  to define a new complex role (the name must begin with “::”):



Complex role definition

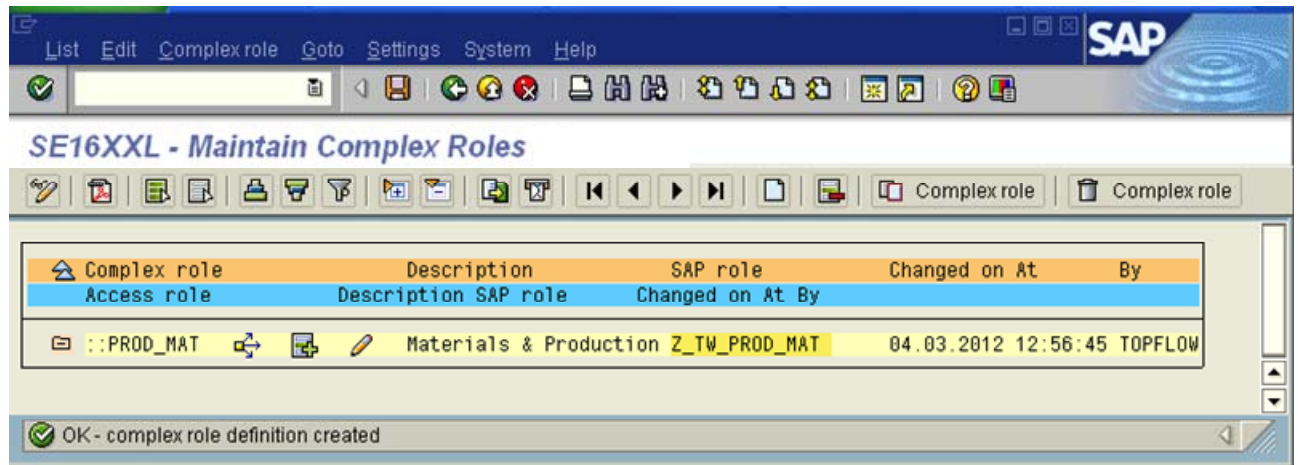
Complex role:


Description:

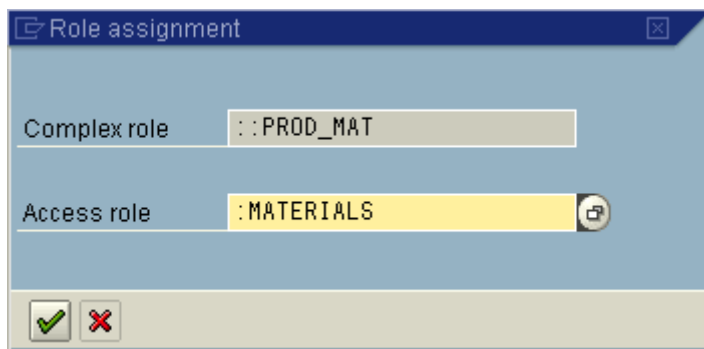
SAP role:

☒ ☐

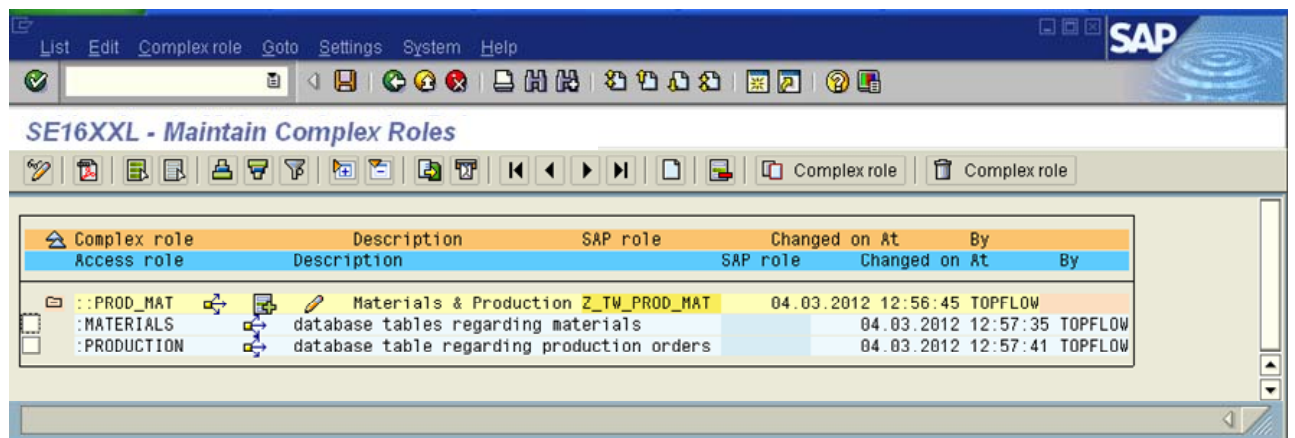
The list is updated accordingly:



Now we assign two elementary access roles to our newly created complex role. A click on the  icon is all that is needed:



We repeat the operation for access role :PRODUCTION. The result is as follows:

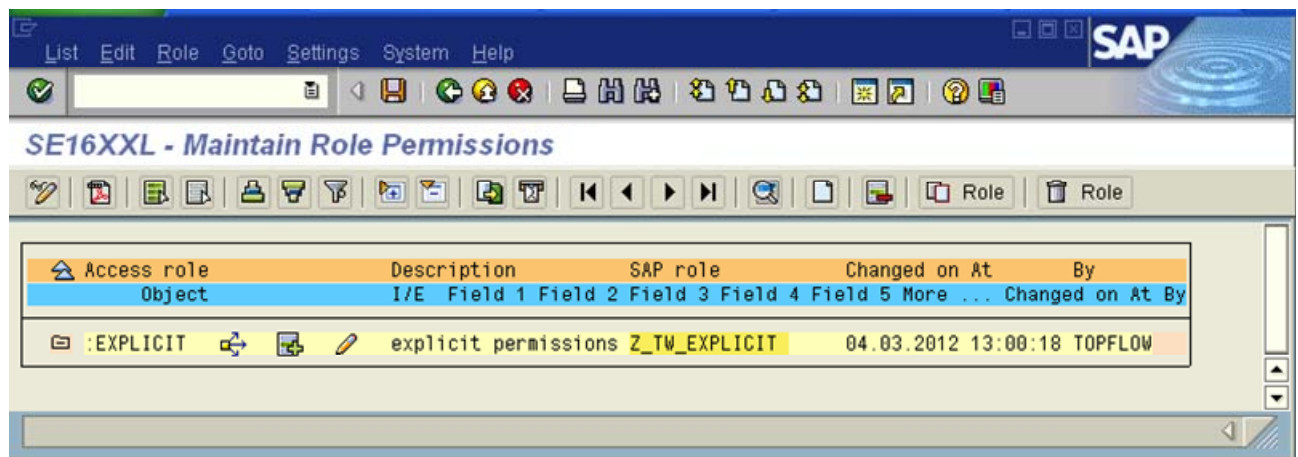



Instead of assigning the two elementary roles to a user, you can assign the complex role. Just as for elementary roles, this assignment can be direct or indirect through the associated SAP role.

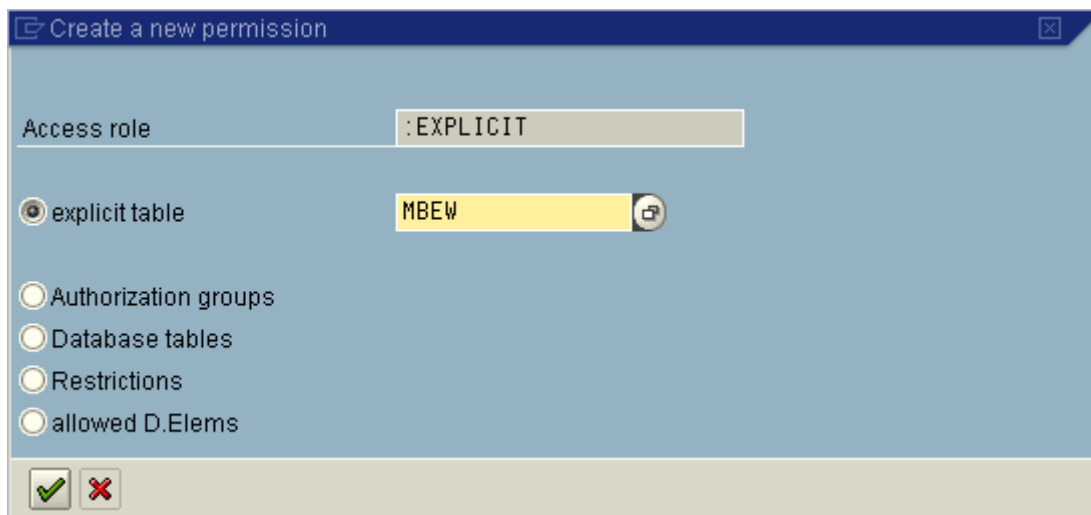
Tutorial # 5 – define an explicit permission for a table

Up to now we have defined permissions for all fields of the database tables involved. This was because we addressed the tables either by name or by authorization group. But – as we already mentioned at the beginning – it is possible to define permissions at field level – i.e. for specific fields of a database table, and not for the table as a whole. A typical example is table MBEW, in which the fields VERPR and STPRS seem to be most sensitive.

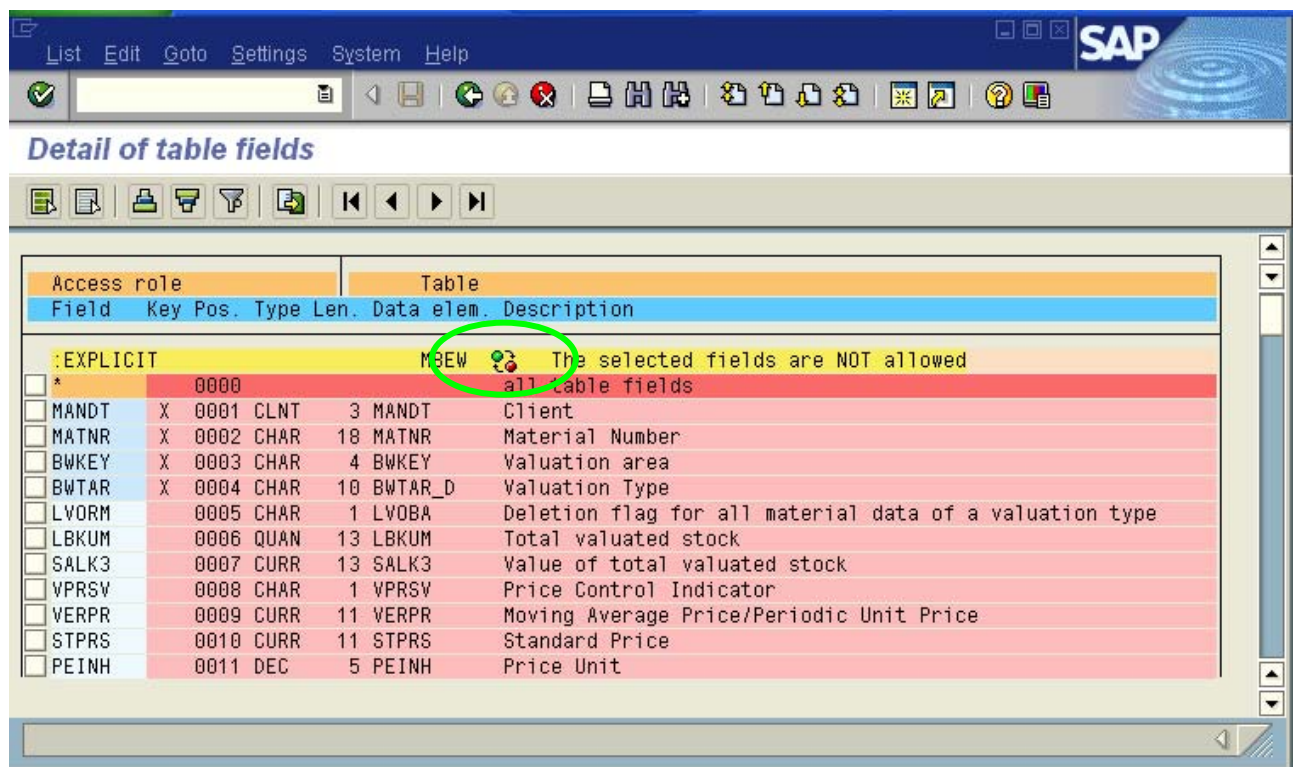
We start by defining a new role called :EXPLICIT.




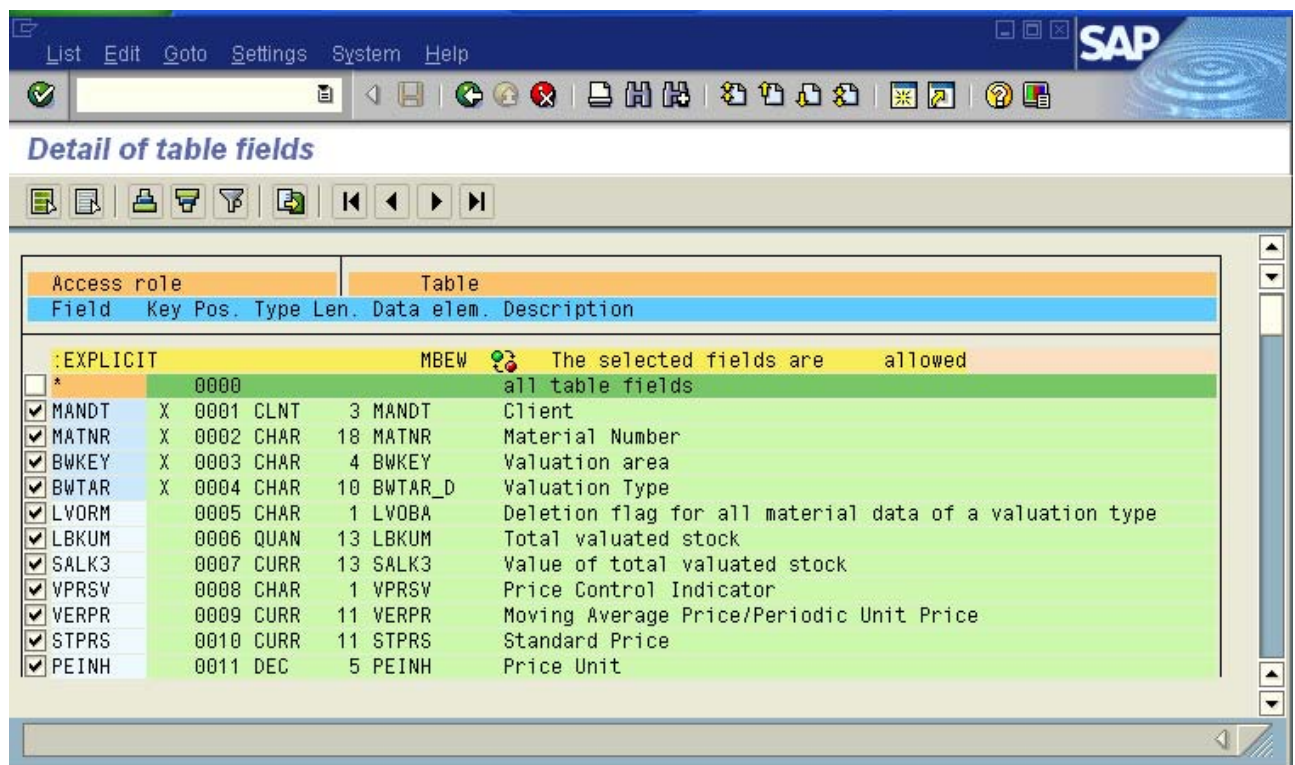
As usual we click on  to define a new permission:



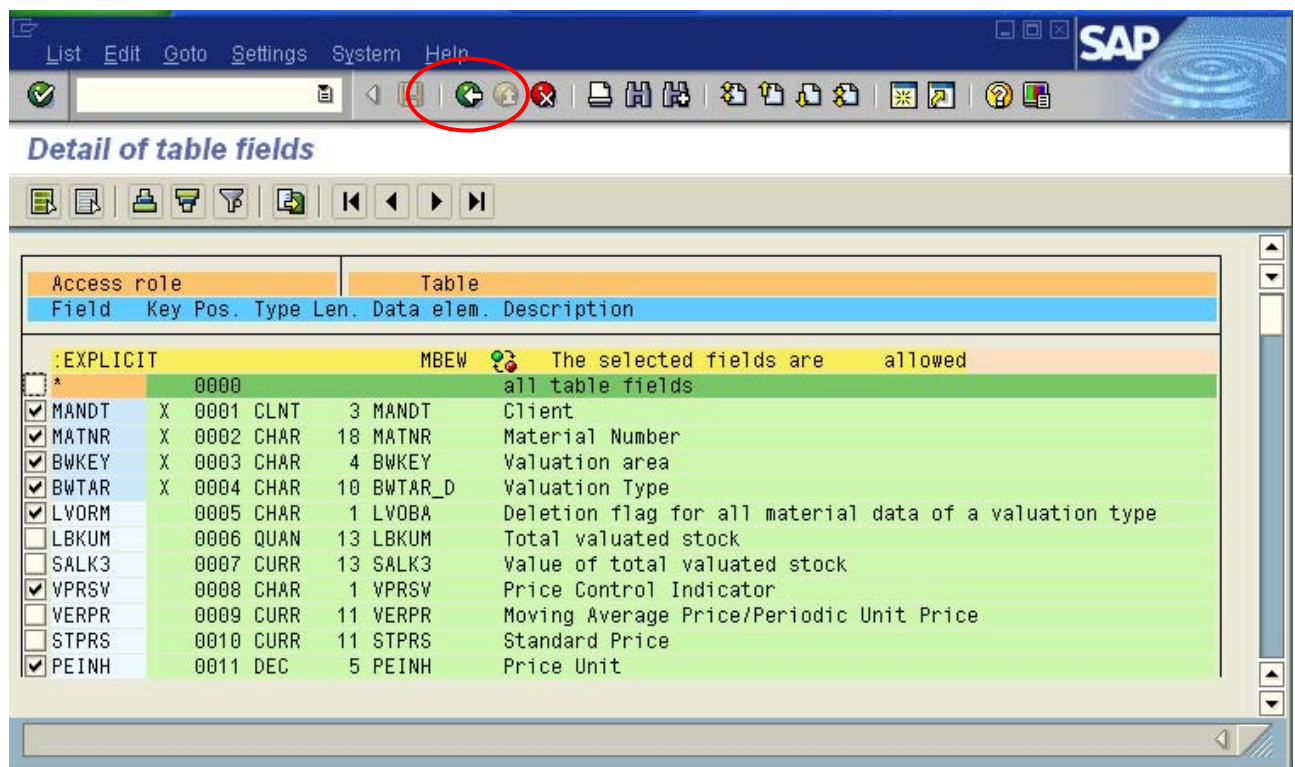
This time we choose “explicit table”. The following list of the table fields appears:



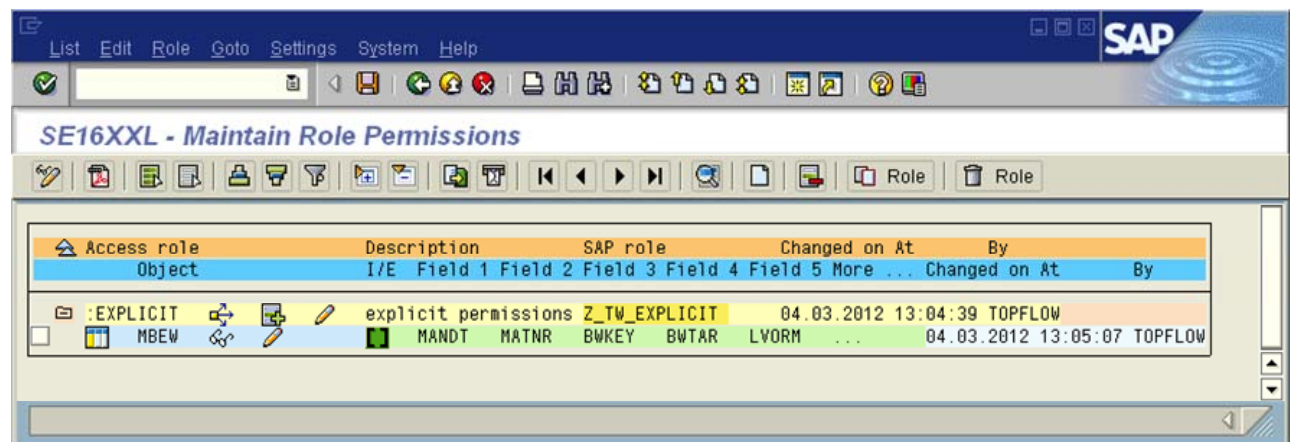
We want to be particularly restrictive in this case, so we switch definition mode by clicking on the  icon:



After pressing the  button we select only those fields which we consider “safe”:



We exit by means of the green button . The list is updated accordingly:



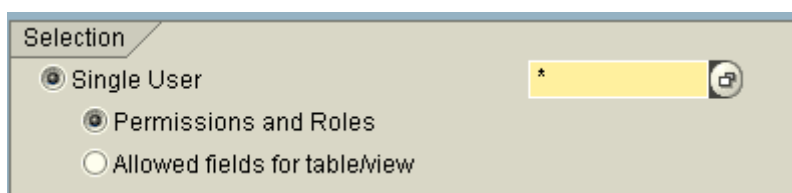
From now on all users to whom the access role is assigned (either directly or indirectly) will only see the allowed fields of table MBEW.

IMPORTANT: if two roles are assigned to a user, one allowing only some fields of a table, the other allowing all fields, the role allowing all fields “wins”. Therefore care should be taken that tables with explicit permissions are not also available as a whole (all fields) in other roles. In our example MBEW should only be addressed in one role.

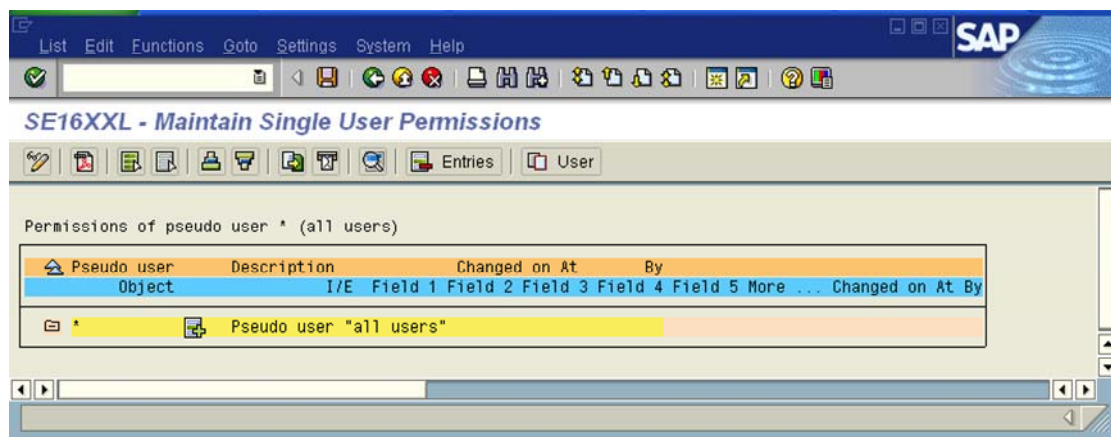
Tutorial # 6 – define forbidden data elements


Up to now, only tables and their fields have been discussed. But, as already mentioned at the beginning, it is also possible to define particular data elements which are forbidden, independently of the database table being considered. In the present tutorial we will demonstrate how this definition is carried out.

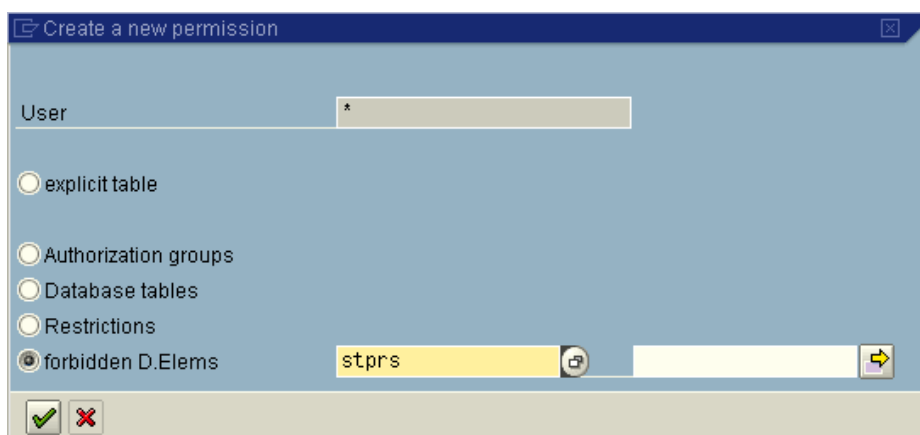
We call Table & Field Permissions and choose “Single User” and “Permissions and Roles” – as user we enter “*” (this is a conventional name for “all users”):



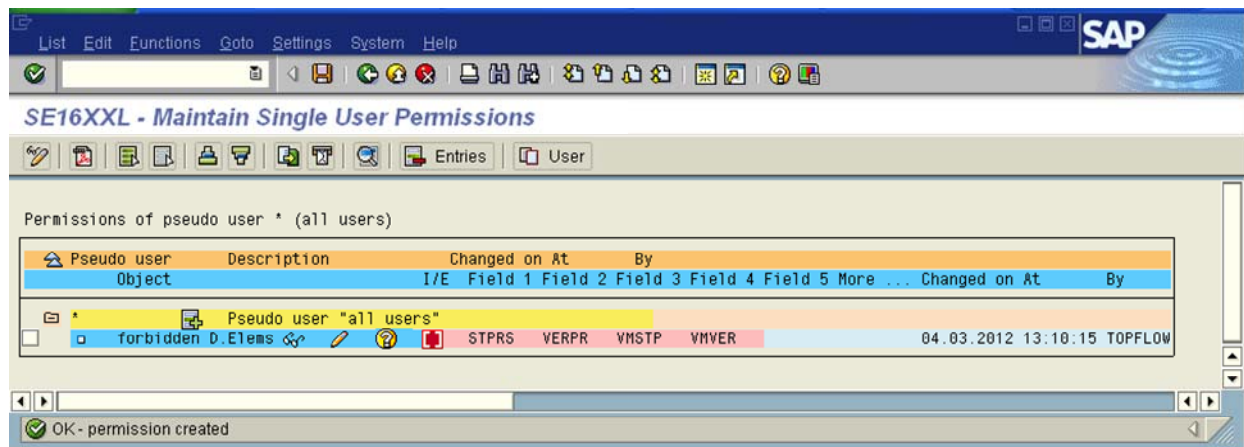
User “*” is predefined and therefore does not need to be defined explicitly:



After clicking on  at the right of the name, we choose “forbidden D.Elems”:

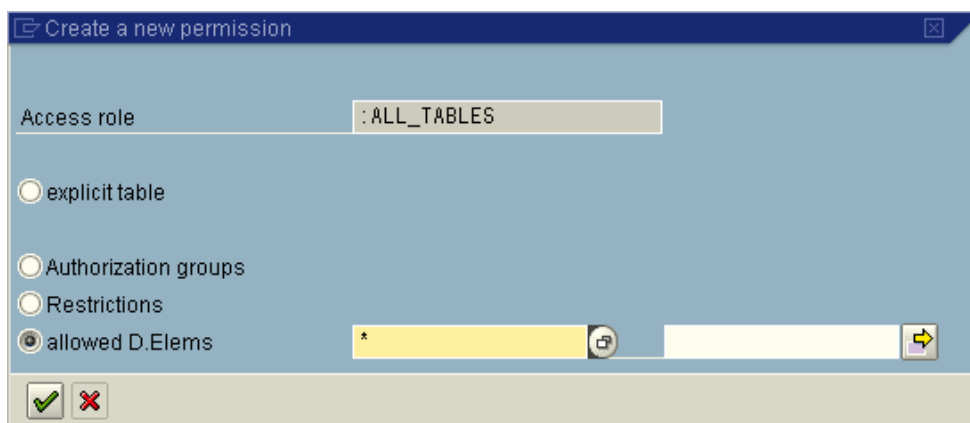


By means of the multiple selection button () more data elements can be entered. The result is:



From now on, all database table fields associated with the forbidden data elements will not be visible to SE16XXL users.

Although some data elements have now been forbidden, it is still possible to allow them for particular access roles and/or users. To show how this is done we will enhance the previously defined role :ALL_TABLES by choosing “allowed D.Elems”:




























The access role now presents itself as follows:


Access role	Description	SAP role	Changed on At	By
Object	I/E	Field 1	Field 2	Field 3
		Field 4	Field 5	More ...
		Changed on	At	By
:ALL_TABLES	allows all database tables	Z_TW_ALL_TABLES	04.03.2012 13:11:42	TOPFLOW
allowed D.Elems	STPRS	VERPR	VMSTP	VMVER
DB Tables	*		04.03.2012 13:12:08	TOPFLOW

These six tutorials should be sufficient to give you an idea of how the program works. We will now take a closer look at the various lists and functions of the tool.

General remarks

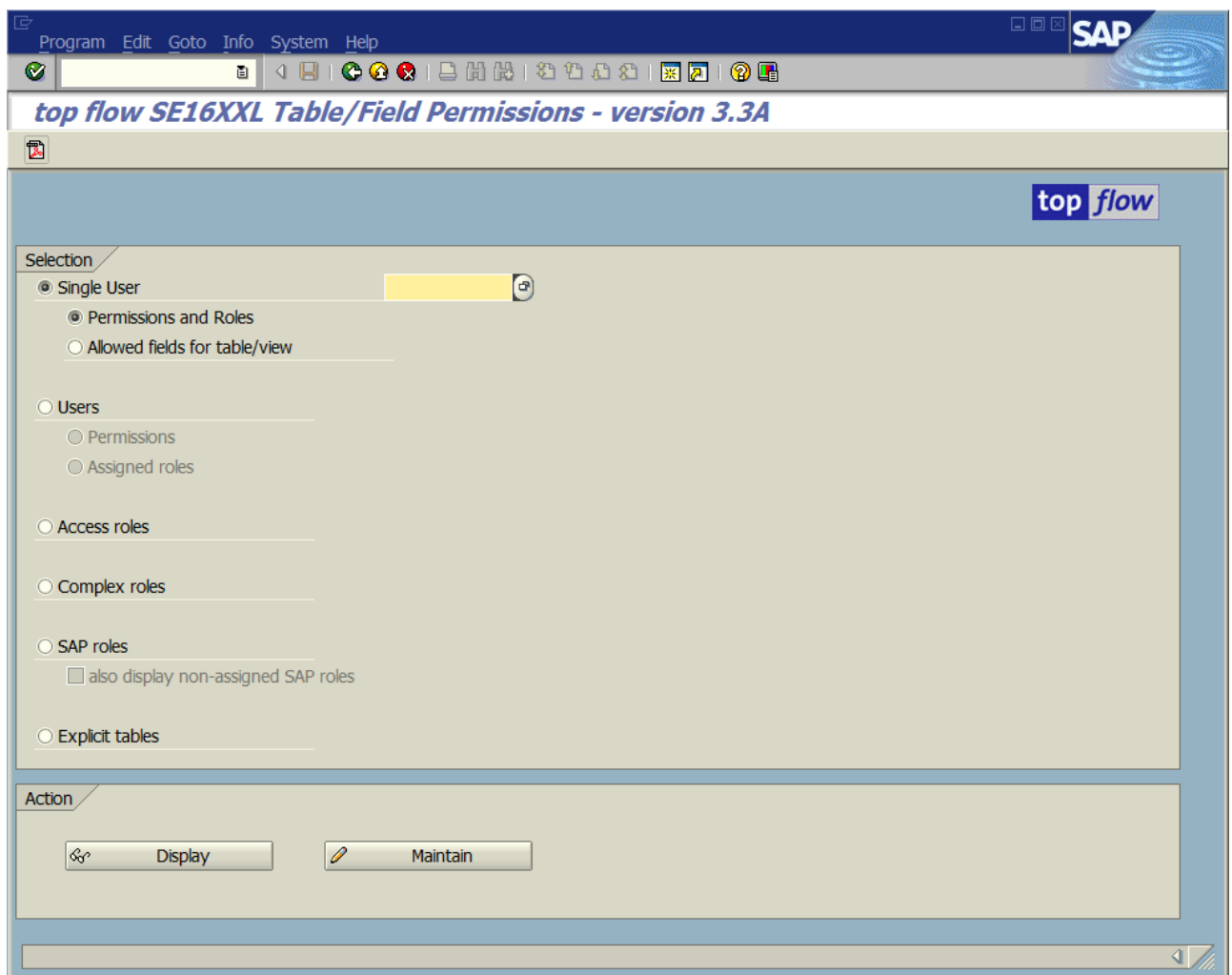
The program offers a series of lists each depicting a particular view of the permissions situation. Throughout these lists, icons are used to denote characteristics or functions. The most frequently used icons are listed below:

Icon	Meaning
	Explicit permission for a table and its fields
	Global permission – database table names
	Global permission – authorization groups
	Global permission – restrictions
	Forbidden (or allowed) data elements
	Selected items allowed
	Selected items excluded
	Forbidden data elements
	Display item in detail
	Where used (X-ref)
	List of tables (or data elements) selected by the permission
	Change item
	Add new permission or assignment
	Delete selected entries
	Detailed list of the allowed fields of a table for a given user
	Define a new user or access role
	Delete a user or access role definition
	Existing SAP logon user
	User not defined in SAP
	User defined in SE16XXL Permissions
	Access role
	Complex role
	Indirect assignment of a role through an SAP role
	Field allowed
	Field not allowed

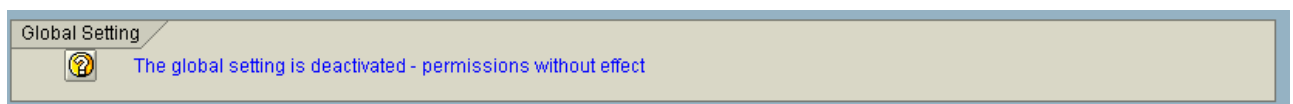
All operations carried out in the program – except the ones performed externally using transactions **PFCG** or **SU01** – do not take effect until you **save your work** by pressing the  button on the system function bar.

We will now begin with the description of the Table & Field Permission tool.

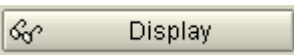


Selection Screen



If the associated global setting is deactivated, the following block will also be visible to warn you about the situation:



This is just a warning – the maintenance of permissions is possible in any case.

Regardless of the button you press to start, either  or , you can switch from maintenance to display mode (and vice versa) any time you wish by pressing the  button on the application toolbar.

Single User – Permissions and Roles

Select this option for an overview of the permission situation of a particular user. The ensuing block list displays all related information. [More ...](#)

Single User – Allowed fields for table / view

This option is useful to get an overview of the permission situation of a particular user in regard to a single database table or view. The resulting list shows if the user has any permission at all, and if yes, how it is configured. [More ...](#)

Users – Permissions

Check this option to obtain a list of users and their directly associated permissions. This option is not relevant if you implement the new logic with SAP roles. [More ...](#)

Users – Assigned roles

This option produces a list of users and their assigned access roles, both elementary and complex. Roles indirectly assigned through an SAP role are also shown. [More ...](#)

Access roles

Select this option to obtain a list of elementary access roles and their associated permissions. This is the list you will probably use most often. [More ...](#)

Complex roles

This option produces a list of complex roles and their associated elementary roles. [More ...](#)

SAP roles

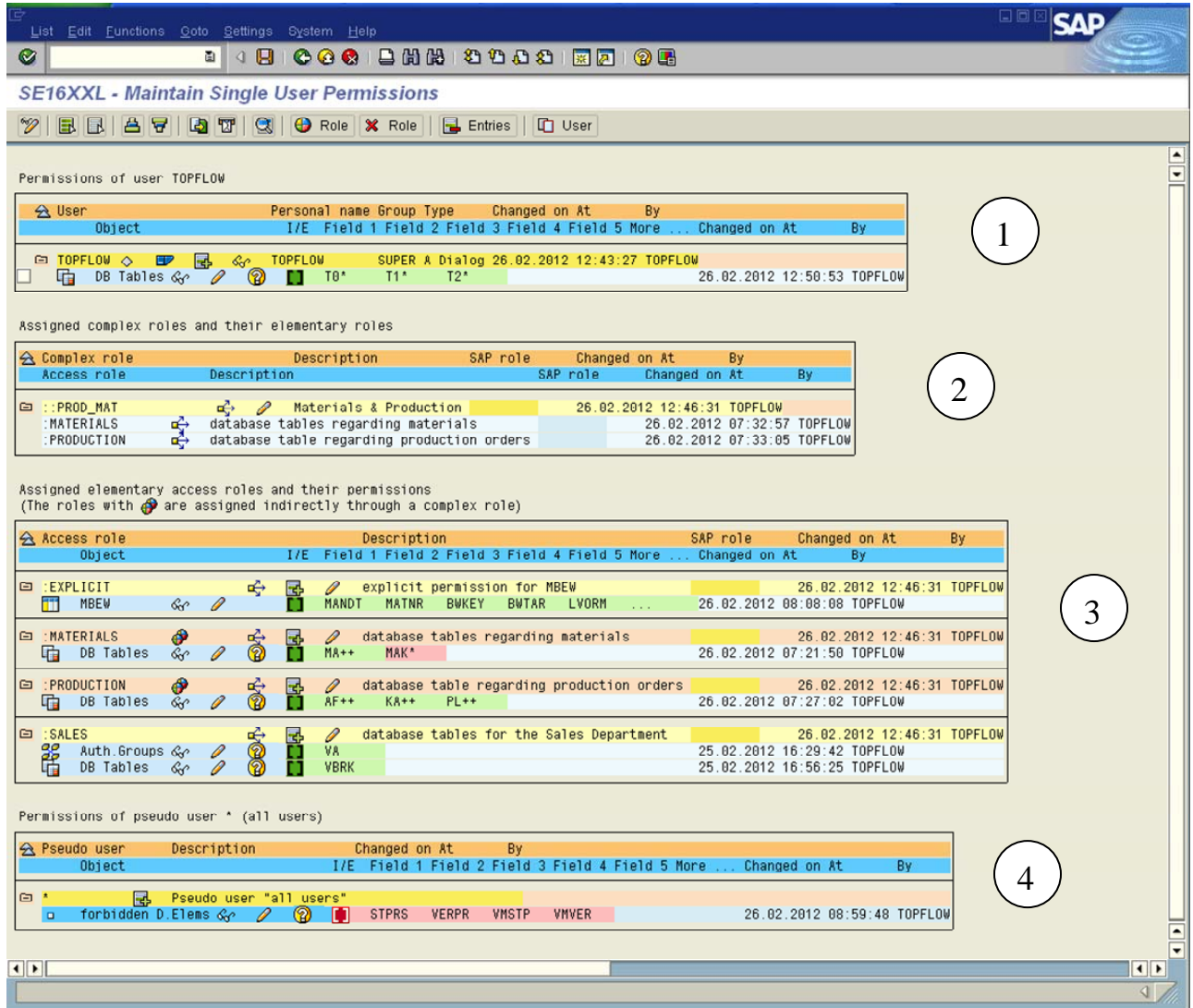
This option is only relevant if you wish to implement the new permission logic based on SAP roles. It shows selected SAP authorization roles together with the associated access roles. [More ...](#)

Explicit tables

Use this option to get an overview of all database tables that have an explicit permission. [More ...](#)

Single User – Permissions and Roles

A typical block list showing the permissions of a user might look like this:




SE16XXL - Maintain Single User Permissions

Permissions of user TOPFLOW

User	Personal name	Group	Type	Changed on	At	By
Object	I/E	Field 1	Field 2	Field 3	Field 4	Field 5 More ...
TOPFLOW	TOPFLOW	SUPER A	Dialog	26.02.2012	12:43:27	TOPFLOW

Assigned complex roles and their elementary roles

Complex role	Description	SAP role	Changed on	At	By
Access role	Description	SAP role	Changed on	At	By
PROD_MAT	Materials & Production		26.02.2012	12:46:31	TOPFLOW
MATERIALS	database tables regarding materials		26.02.2012	07:32:57	TOPFLOW
PRODUCTION	database table regarding production orders		26.02.2012	07:33:05	TOPFLOW

Assigned elementary access roles and their permissions
(The roles with  are assigned indirectly through a complex role)

Access role	Description	SAP role	Changed on	At	By	
Object	I/E	Field 1	Field 2	Field 3	Field 4	Field 5 More ...
EXPLICIT	explicit permission for MBEW		26.02.2012	12:46:31	TOPFLOW	
MBEW	MANDT MATNR BWKEY BWTAR LVORM ...		26.02.2012	08:08:08	TOPFLOW	
MATERIALS	database tables regarding materials		26.02.2012	12:46:31	TOPFLOW	
DB Tables	MA++ MAK*		26.02.2012	07:21:50	TOPFLOW	
PRODUCTION	database table regarding production orders		26.02.2012	12:46:31	TOPFLOW	
DB Tables	AF++ KA++ PL++		26.02.2012	07:27:02	TOPFLOW	
SALES	database tables for the Sales Department		26.02.2012	12:46:31	TOPFLOW	
Auth. Groups	VA		25.02.2012	16:29:42	TOPFLOW	
DB Tables	VBRK		25.02.2012	16:56:25	TOPFLOW	

Permissions of pseudo user * (all users)

Pseudo user	Description	Changed on	At	By		
Object	I/E	Field 1	Field 2	Field 3	Field 4	Field 5 More ...
*	Pseudo user "all users"					
forbidden D. Elements	STPRS VERPR VMSTP VMVER		26.02.2012	08:59:48	TOPFLOW	

Four blocks are visible:

- 1) the definition of the user and the directly assigned permissions;
- 2) a list of assigned complex roles, if any;
- 3) a list of assigned elementary roles – possibly assigned by means of complex roles;
- 4) the permissions of pseudo user “*” (all users).

The above example implies the direct assignment of permissions and roles.
An implementation involving SAP roles would present a slightly different picture:

SE16XXL - Maintain Single User Permissions

Permissions of user TOPFLOW

User	Personal name	Group	Type	Changed on	At	By
Object	I/E	Field 1	Field 2	Field 3	Field 4	Field 5 More ...
TOPFLOW	TOPFLOW	SUPER	A	Dialog		

Assigned complex roles and their elementary roles
(The complex roles with are assigned indirectly through an SAP role)

Complex role	Description	SAP role	Changed on	At	By
Access role	Description	SAP role	Changed on	At	By
PROD_MAT	Materials & Production	Z_TW_PROD_MAT	26.02.2012	16:58:00	TOPFLOW
MATERIALS	database tables regarding materials		26.02.2012	07:32:57	TOPFLOW
PRODUCTION	database table regarding production orders		26.02.2012	07:33:05	TOPFLOW

Assigned elementary access roles and their permissions
(The roles with are assigned indirectly through an SAP role)
(The roles with and are assigned through a complex role which is assigned via an SAP role)

Access role	Description	SAP role	Changed on	At	By	
Object	I/E	Field 1	Field 2	Field 3	Field 4	Field 5 More ...
EXPLICIT	explicit permissions	Z_TW_EXPLICIT	26.02.2012	16:57:50	TOPFLOW	
KNA1	MANDT KUNNR LAND1 NAME1 NAME2 ...		26.02.2012	13:20:36	TOPFLOW	
MATERIALS	database tables regarding materials		26.02.2012	12:46:31	TOPFLOW	
DB Tables	MA++ MB++ MAK*		26.02.2012	13:16:04	TOPFLOW	
PRODUCTION	database table regarding production orders		26.02.2012	12:46:31	TOPFLOW	
DB Tables	AF++ KA++ PL++		26.02.2012	07:27:02	TOPFLOW	
SALES	database tables for the Sales Department	Z_TW_SALES	26.02.2012	16:58:06	TOPFLOW	
Auth.Groups	VA		25.02.2012	16:29:42	TOPFLOW	
DB Tables	VBRK		25.02.2012	16:56:25	TOPFLOW	
T_TABLES	Some tables starting with T	Z_TW_T_TABLES	04.03.2012	13:39:53	TOPFLOW	
DB Tables	TU++ T1++ T2++		26.02.2012	13:18:43	TOPFLOW	

Permissions of pseudo user * (all users)

Pseudo user	Description	Changed on	At	By		
Object	I/E	Field 1	Field 2	Field 3	Field 4	Field 5 More ...
*	Pseudo user "all users"					
Forbidden D.Elems	STPRS VERPR VMSTP VMVER	26.02.2012	08:59:48	TOPFLOW		

NOTE: when using SAP roles, the actual assignment is carried out by means of transaction **PFCG** (or **SU01**). As a consequence, the assignment functions available in the present list – like **Role** and **Role** – are irrelevant and should not be used.

The above described overview is useful to get an idea of the permissions of a single user. But it would be difficult to deduce from it exactly which database tables are allowed for the user in question.

To this end the menu function **Functions** → **List all allowed tables** is available. In our example, it produces the following list:

Table Name	PTy.	Lev.	Type	Cl.D.	AuthGr	Description
KAPA			TRANSP	X	CA	Shift Parameters for Available Capacity
KAPE			TRANSP	X	CA	Capacity unit of measure allocation
KAPS			TRANSP	X	KC	CO Period Locks
KAZY			TRANSP	X	CA	Interval of Available Capacity
KNA1			TRANSP	X	VA	General Data in Customer Master
KNEX			TRANSP	X	VA	Customer Master: Legal Control - Sanctioned Party List
KNMT			TRANSP	X	VA	Customer-Material Info Record Data Table
KNMTK			TRANSP	X	VA	Customer-Material Info Record Header Table
KNVA			TRANSP	X	VA	Customer Master Loading Points

Table KNA1 is a good example of what happens when a table is addressed by more than one role. It has an explicit permission in role :EXPLICIT, but also a global permission in role :SALES (through authorization group VA). As already stated, the widest permission is taken.

Use the button to get a detailed picture of the situation:


Table KNA1 - authorization group VA
(The roles with are assigned indirectly through an SAP role)

Table Name	Field Name	TOPFLOW	:EXPLICIT	:SALES	all users
KNA1	MANDT				
KNA1	KUNNR				
KNA1	LAND1				
KNA1	NAME1				
KNA1	NAME2				
KNA1	ORT01				
KNA1	PSTLZ				
KNA1	REGIO				

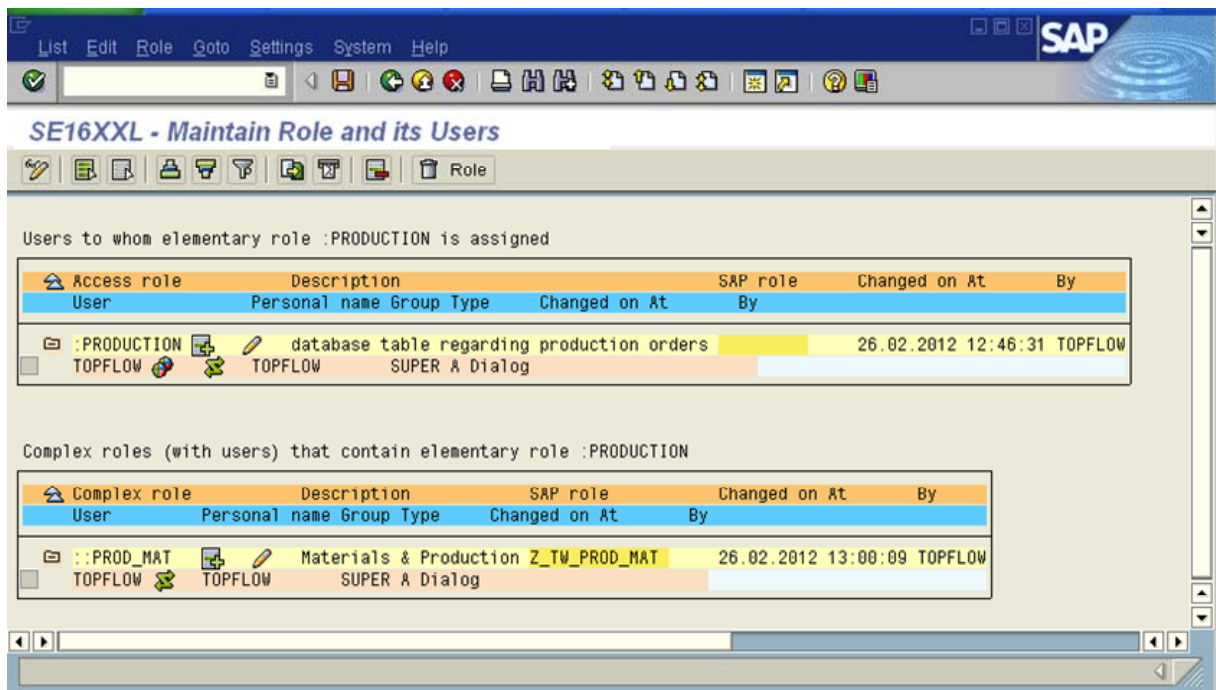
The green fields are allowed.

Navigation

It is possible to navigate from one list to another. This is useful to get a better picture of the current permissions situation. In our example of user TOPFLOW, you may navigate to the definition of complex role ::PROD_MAT by just clicking on the name. The same applies to the elementary roles.

Even more interesting are the “where used” lists, which can be reached by clicking on the corresponding  icon.

If for example you do this for access role :PRODUCTION, you will get the following list, showing both the assigned users and the associated complex role(s):



SE16XXL - Maintain Role and its Users

Users to whom elementary role :PRODUCTION is assigned

Access role	Description	SAP role	Changed on At	By
User	Personal name Group Type	Changed on At	By	
:PRODUCTION	database table regarding production orders		26.02.2012 12:46:31	TOPFLOW
TOPFLOW	TOPFLOW SUPER A Dialog			

Complex roles (with users) that contain elementary role :PRODUCTION

Complex role	Description	SAP role	Changed on At	By
User	Personal name Group Type	Changed on At	By	
::PROD_MAT	Materials & Production Z_TW_PROD_MAT		26.02.2012 13:00:09	TOPFLOW
TOPFLOW	TOPFLOW SUPER A Dialog			


Another possibility is to make use of the **Goto** menu functions:



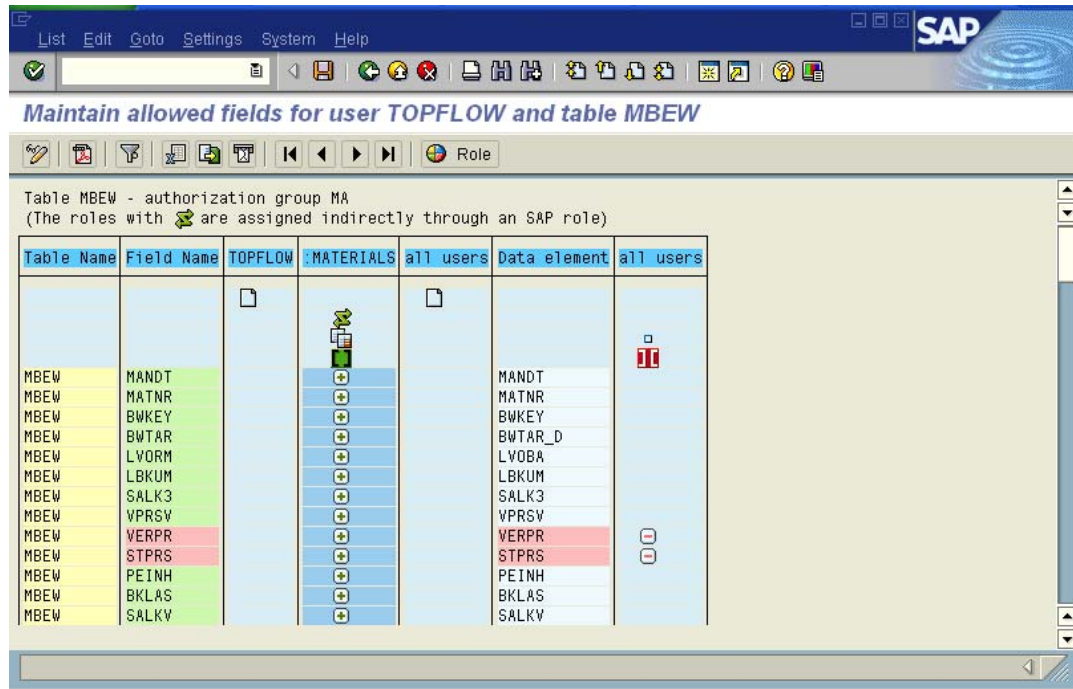
Goto Settings System Help

- Table cross-reference
- Users & permissions
- Users & assigned roles
- Access roles
- Complex roles
- SAP roles
- Explicit tables
- Back F3

Single User – Allowed fields for table / view

This function is also available in most lists ( button). It provides you with a detailed list of the fields of the table in question – showing which are allowed and which are not, and why.

We will make an example with user TOPFLOW and table MBEW:



Maintain allowed fields for user TOPFLOW and table MBEW





















































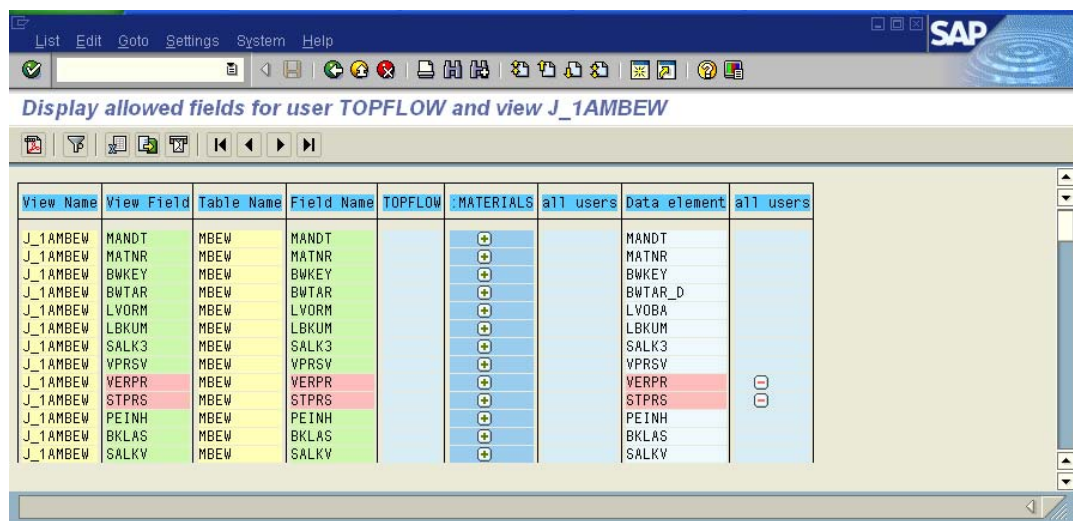
Table MBEW - authorization group MA
(The roles with  are assigned indirectly through an SAP role)

















































Table Name	Field Name	TOPFLOW	MATERIALS	all users	Data element	all users
MBEW	MANDT				MANDT	
MBEW	MATNR				MATNR	
MBEW	BWKEY				BWKEY	
MBEW	BW TAR_D				BW TAR_D	
MBEW	LVORM				LVBKUM	
MBEW	LVBKUM				SALK3	
MBEW	SALK3				VPRSV	
MBEW	VPRSV				VERPR	
MBEW	VERPR				STPRS	
MBEW	STPRS				PEINH	
MBEW	PEINH				BKLAS	
MBEW	BKLAS				SALKV	
MBEW	SALKV					

The fields in red are not allowed.

A similar list can also be produced for a view (only in display mode):

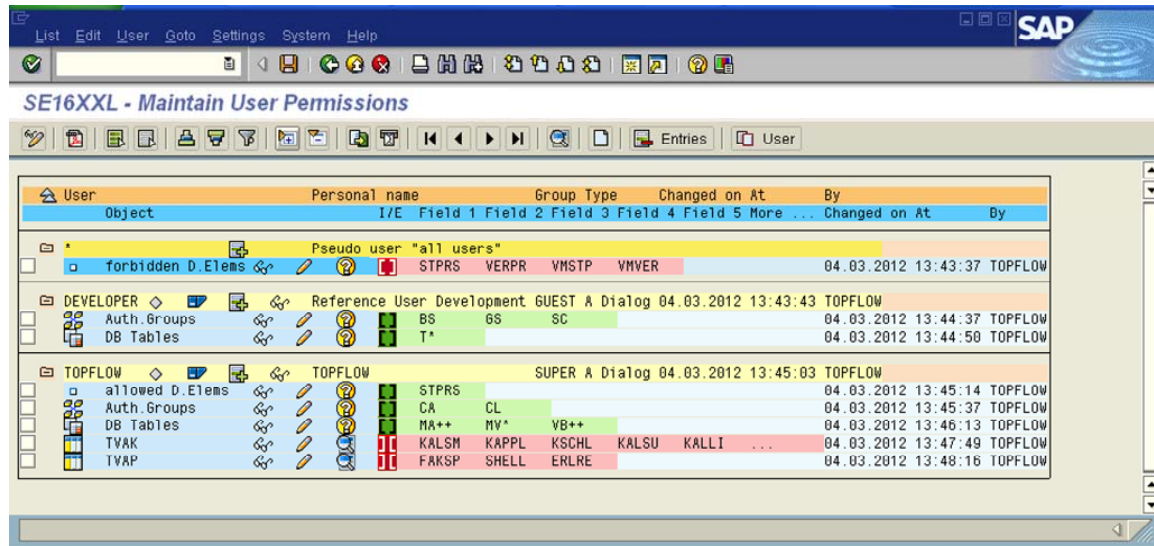


Display allowed fields for user TOPFLOW and view J_1AMBEW

View Name	View Field	Table Name	Field Name	TOPFLOW	MATERIALS	all users	Data element	all users
J_1AMBEW	MANDT	MBEW	MANDT				MANDT	
J_1AMBEW	MATNR	MBEW	MATNR				MATNR	
J_1AMBEW	BWKEY	MBEW	BWKEY				BWKEY	
J_1AMBEW	BW TAR_D	MBEW	BW TAR_D				BW TAR_D	
J_1AMBEW	LVORM	MBEW	LVORM				LVBKUM	
J_1AMBEW	LVBKUM	MBEW	LVBKUM				SALK3	
J_1AMBEW	SALK3	MBEW	SALK3				VPRSV	
J_1AMBEW	VPRSV	MBEW	VPRSV				VERPR	
J_1AMBEW	VERPR	MBEW	VERPR				STPRS	
J_1AMBEW	STPRS	MBEW	STPRS				PEINH	
J_1AMBEW	PEINH	MBEW	PEINH				BKLAS	
J_1AMBEW	BKLAS	MBEW	BKLAS				SALKV	
J_1AMBEW	SALKV	MBEW	SALKV					

Users – Permissions

A list of the defined users and their permissions might look like the following:




User	Personal name	Group	Type	Changed on	At	By
Object	I/E	Field 1	Field 2	Field 3	Field 4	Field 5
More ...						
Pseudo user "all users"						
forbidden D. Elements	STPRS	VERPR	VMSTP	VMVER	04.03.2012 13:43:37	TOPFLOW
DEVELOPER	Reference User	Development	GUEST	A Dialog	04.03.2012 13:43:43	TOPFLOW
Auth. Groups	BS	BS	SC		04.03.2012 13:44:37	TOPFLOW
DB Tables	T*				04.03.2012 13:44:50	TOPFLOW
TOPFLOW						
allowed D. Elements	STPRS				04.03.2012 13:45:14	TOPFLOW
Auth. Groups	CA	CL			04.03.2012 13:45:37	TOPFLOW
DB Tables	MA++	MY*	VB++		04.03.2012 13:46:13	TOPFLOW
TVAK	KALSM	KAPPL	KSCHL	KALSU	KALLI	...
TVAP	FAKSP	SHELL	ERLRE		04.03.2012 13:48:16	TOPFLOW

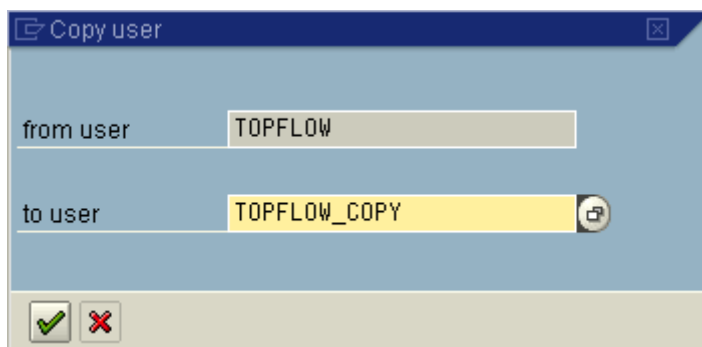
This list only shows the permissions assigned directly to users. Permissions that are derived from assigned access roles are not displayed here.

IMPORTANT: If you are implementing the permission logic based on SAP roles this list should contain at most the pseudo user “*”, which is predefined. No other users should be visible.

Making a copy of a user

Before changing the permissions of a user it may be a good idea to make a copy in order to be able to undo the changes if something goes wrong.

Use function  User to perform this operation. A **non-existing user** is best entered as target:



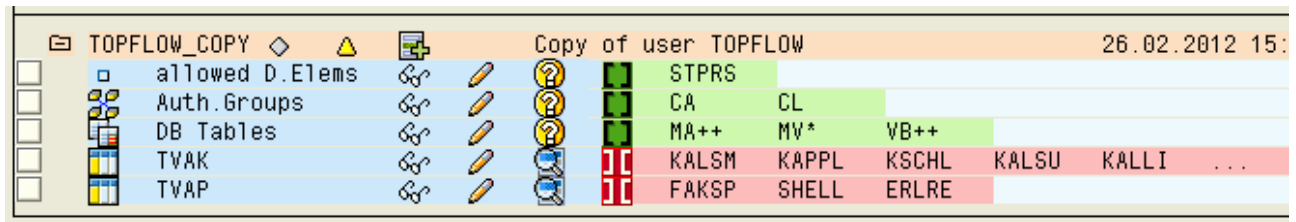
Copy user

from user: TOPFLOW

to user: TOPFLOW_COPY

☒ ☐

The copy has the same permissions as the original user:



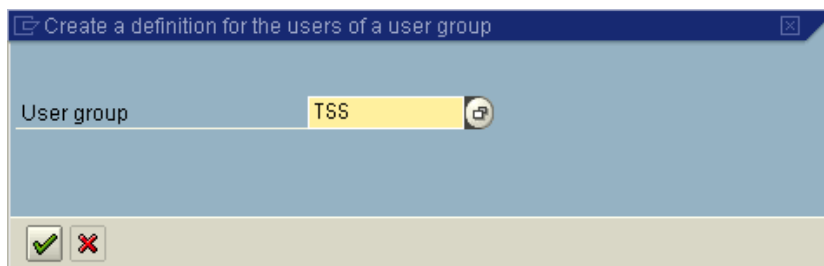
TOPFLOW_COPY		Copy of user TOPFLOW		26.02.2012 15:	
allowed D.Elems	STPRS				
Auth.Groups	CA	CL			
DB Tables	MA++	MV*	VB++		
TVAK	KALSM	KAPPL	KSCHL	KALSU	KALLI ...
TVAP	FAKSP	SHELL	ERLRE		

NOTE: not only the permissions of the original user but also the assigned access roles, both elementary and complex, are copied. This does not apply to roles indirectly assigned through SAP roles, because these assignments lie outside of the responsibility of this tool.

Defining many users in one operation

It may sometimes be necessary to create a definition for many users. Doing this one at a time can be cumbersome. But there is a faster way – menu function

Users → Create a def. for the users of a group:



Create a definition for the users of a user group

User group: TSS

[OK] [Cancel]

From the ensuing list you may select the users to be defined:



User	User group	Type	Full Name
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BATIPPS	TSS	A	Erik Batipps
<input type="checkbox"/> DAVISCH	TSS	A	Christopher Davis
<input type="checkbox"/> LANGSTON	TSS	A	Jeffrey Langston
<input type="checkbox"/> NIEDEROEST	TSS	A	Linda Niederoest
<input type="checkbox"/> WATKINS	TSS	A	Gary Watkins
<input type="checkbox"/> WILLIAMS-RAM	TSS	A	Desiree Williams-Ramos

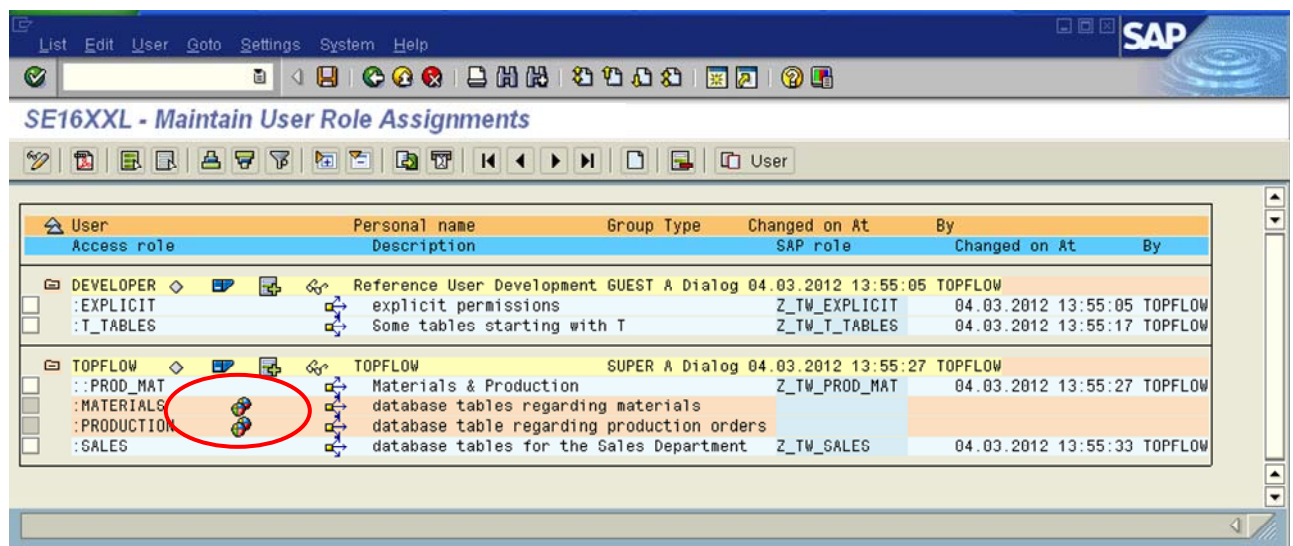
[OK] [Cancel] [Print] [Help] [Close]

As already mentioned, this functionality is not needed if you implement the permission logic based on SAP roles.

Users – Assigned roles

This list is always important, because however you implement your permission logic, you always get an overview of the involved users and their (directly or indirectly) assigned access roles.

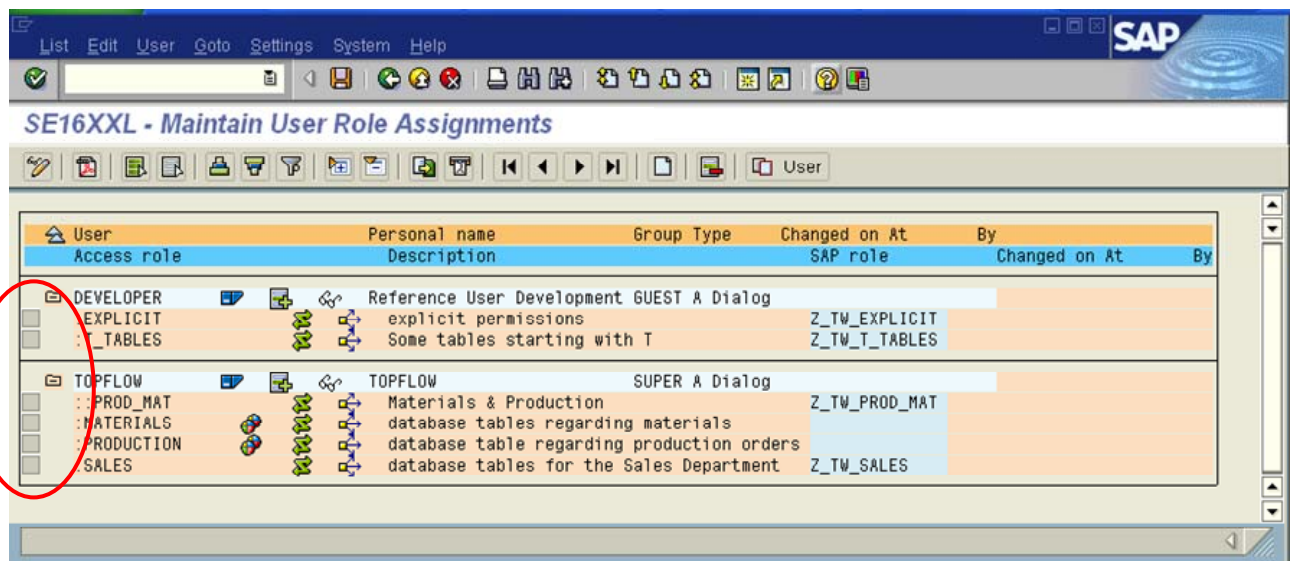
With directly assigned access roles the list might be similar to the following:



The screenshot shows the SAP SE16XXL - Maintain User Role Assignments interface. It displays a list of users and their assigned roles. The 'User' column is expanded, showing a tree structure of roles. The 'Access role' column shows the role name, and the 'Description' column shows the role's description. The 'Group Type' column shows the role's group type. The 'Changed on At' and 'By' columns show the date and user who last modified the role.

User	Personal name	Group Type	Changed on At	By
DEVELOPER	Reference User Development	GUEST A Dialog	04.03.2012 13:55:05	TOPFLOW
EXPLICIT	explicit permissions	Z_TW_EXPLICIT	04.03.2012 13:55:05	TOPFLOW
T_TABLES	Some tables starting with T	Z_TW_T_TABLES	04.03.2012 13:55:17	TOPFLOW
TOPFLOW	TOPFLOW	SUPER A Dialog	04.03.2012 13:55:27	TOPFLOW
PROD_MAT	Materials & Production	Z_TW_PROD_MAT	04.03.2012 13:55:27	TOPFLOW
MATERIALS	database tables regarding materials			
PRODUCTION	database table regarding production orders			
SALES	database tables for the Sales Department	Z_TW_SALES	04.03.2012 13:55:33	TOPFLOW

Notice the elementary roles assigned by means of a complex role (🎯).
The same list using SAP roles would look like this:



The screenshot shows the same SAP SE16XXL - Maintain User Role Assignments interface, but with assignments carried out externally using transaction PFCG. The 'User' column is expanded, showing a tree structure of roles. The 'Access role' column shows the role name, and the 'Description' column shows the role's description. The 'Group Type' column shows the role's group type. The 'Changed on At' and 'By' columns show the date and user who last modified the role.

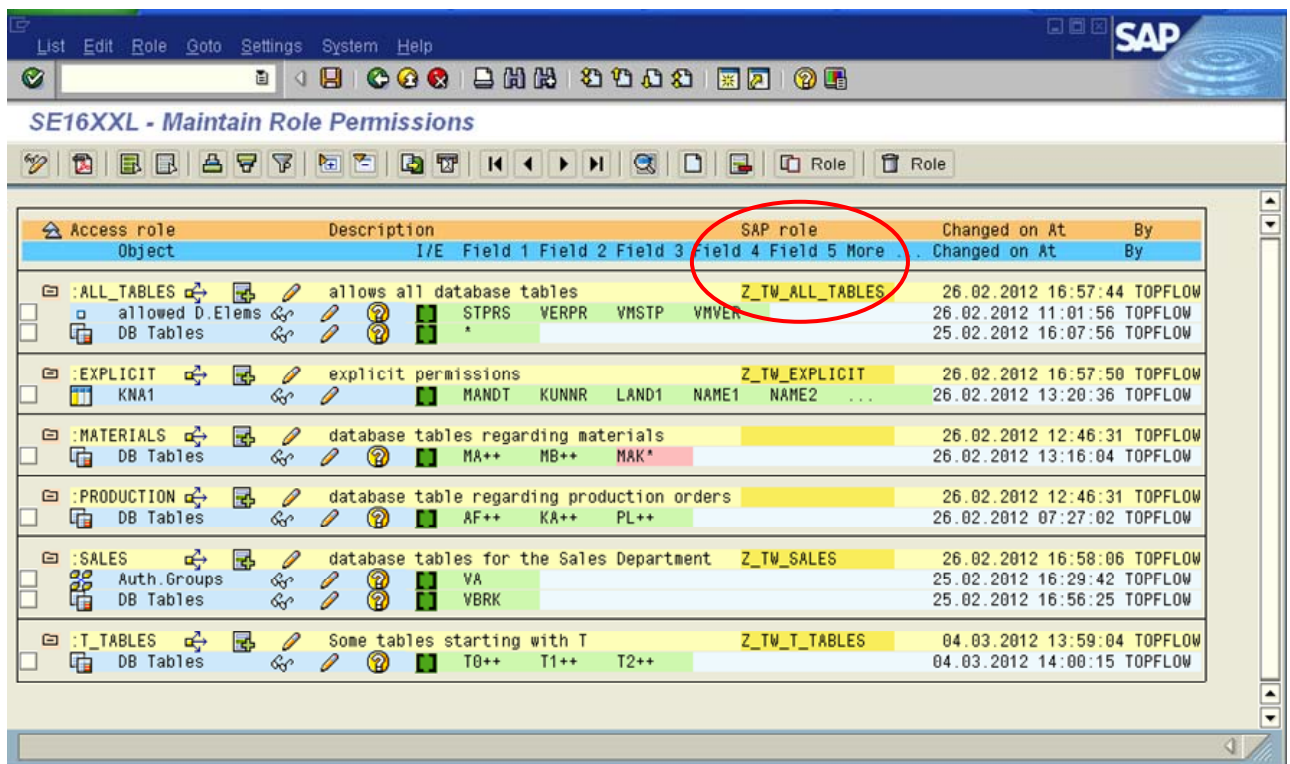
User	Personal name	Group Type	Changed on At	By
DEVELOPER	Reference User Development	GUEST A Dialog		
EXPLICIT	explicit permissions	Z_TW_EXPLICIT		
T_TABLES	Some tables starting with T	Z_TW_T_TABLES		
TOPFLOW	TOPFLOW	SUPER A Dialog		
PROD_MAT	Materials & Production	Z_TW_PROD_MAT		
MATERIALS	database tables regarding materials			
PRODUCTION	database table regarding production orders			
SALES	database tables for the Sales Department	Z_TW_SALES		

Notice in this case that none of the assignments are selectable, because the assignments are carried out externally to the program using transaction **PFCG**.

Access roles

This is the most important list of the permission tool. If you implement the permissions using SAP roles, you need to define access roles with the related permissions. If you choose the original *modus operandi* instead, you might do without access roles, but this is not advisable. So regardless of your implementation, you will most certainly create a series of access roles with well defined permissions.

A typical list of access roles might have the following appearance:






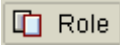
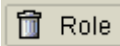
Access role	Description	SAP role	Changed on	At	By
Object	I/E Field 1 Field 2 Field 3 Field 4 Field 5 More				
:ALL_TABLES	allows all database tables	Z_TW_ALL_TABLES	26.02.2012	16:57:44	TOPFLOW
allowed D.Elems	STPRS VERPR VMSTP VMVER		26.02.2012	11:01:56	TOPFLOW
DB Tables	*		25.02.2012	16:07:56	TOPFLOW
:EXPLICIT	explicit permissions	Z_TW_EXPLICIT	26.02.2012	16:57:50	TOPFLOW
KNA1	MANDT KUNNR LAND1 NAME1 NAME2 ...		26.02.2012	13:20:36	TOPFLOW
:MATERIALS	database tables regarding materials		26.02.2012	12:46:31	TOPFLOW
DB Tables	MA++ MB++ MAK*		26.02.2012	13:16:04	TOPFLOW
:PRODUCTION	database table regarding production orders		26.02.2012	12:46:31	TOPFLOW
DB Tables	AF++ KA++ PL++		26.02.2012	07:27:02	TOPFLOW
:SALES	database tables for the Sales Department	Z_TW_SALES	26.02.2012	16:58:06	TOPFLOW
Auth.Groups	VA		25.02.2012	16:29:42	TOPFLOW
DB Tables	VBRK		25.02.2012	16:56:25	TOPFLOW
:T_TABLES	Some tables starting with T	Z_TW_T_TABLES	04.03.2012	13:59:04	TOPFLOW
DB Tables	T0++ T1++ T2++		04.03.2012	14:00:15	TOPFLOW

The attribute “**SAP role**” is only necessary if you implement the new logic.


Since this list is probably the one used most often, we will take a closer look at the available functions.

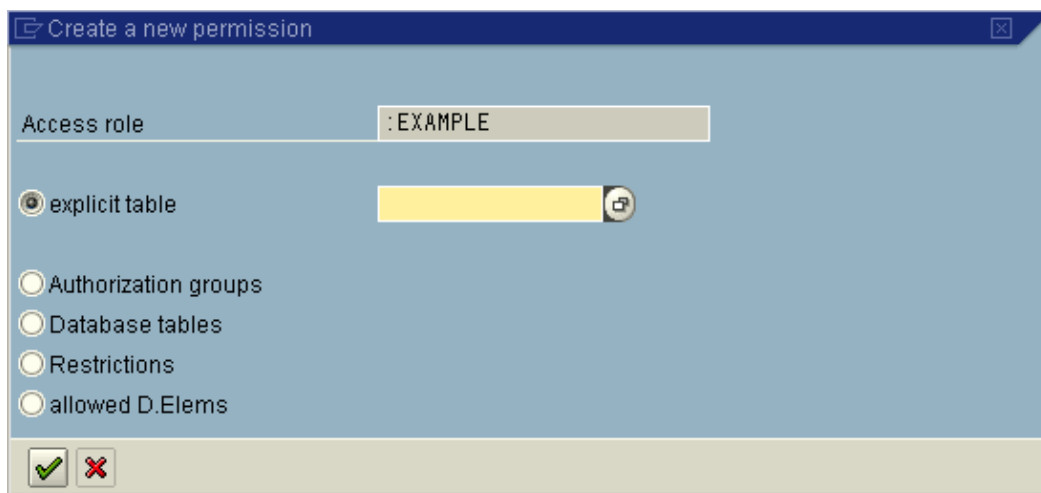
We will begin with the functions needed to create, change, copy and delete access roles. Some functions are available as buttons on the application toolbar.

Functions pertaining to access roles

Function	Description
	Display assignments of a role (the icon is at the right of the role)
	Create a new access role definition
	Change an existing access role (icon at the right of the role)
	Copy an existing role with its permissions. The direct assignments to users are not copied. The SAP role attribute of the original role is not copied.
	Delete an access role with all permissions and assignments
<i>Role → Delete many roles</i>	Menu function to delete many access roles in one operation

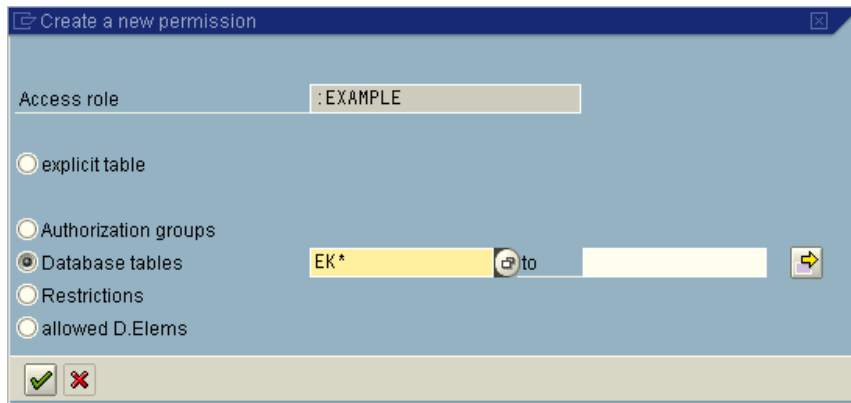
Adding permissions to an access role

Click on the  icon at the right of a role to add a new kind of permission to it. The first time, when the role is brand new, the ensuing popup looks like the following:

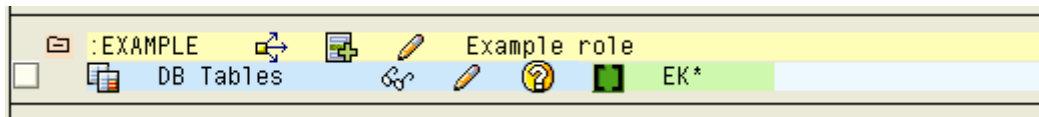



All kinds of permissions are available to be chosen.

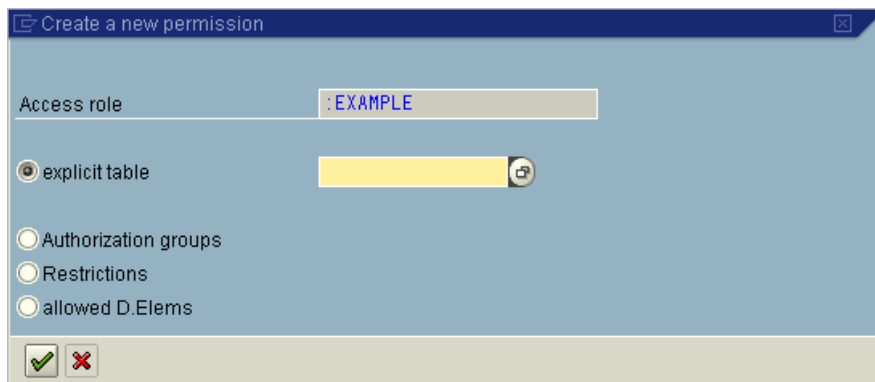
Suppose you choose “Database tables”, i.e. you wish to select the tables by name:




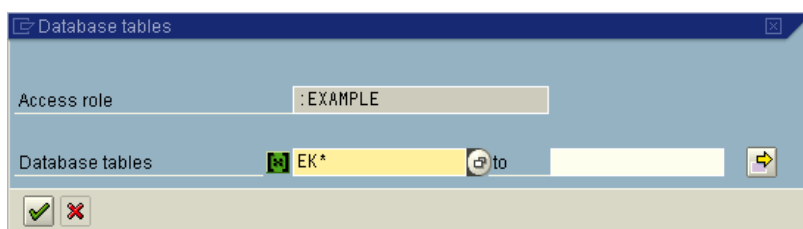
On the list the access role will now be followed by the new permission:



If you now click on the  icon again, you will notice that “Database tables” is not available anymore:

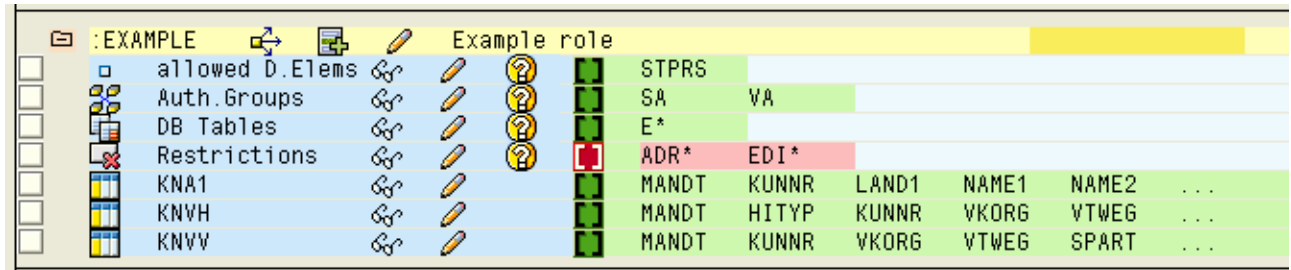


This is because this “kind” of permission has already been assigned. In order to add new selection criteria to “Database tables”, you have to click on the  icon on the corresponding permission line. A matching popup will appear, allowing you to add or change the criteria:



All kinds of permissions behave like this with the exception of explicit tables.




Each explicitly defined table permission occupies a separate line on the list, showing the first fields of the permission. To make a more complicated example, the permissions associated with a given access role might look like the following:



:EXAMPLE		Example role	
allowed D.Elems	STPRS		
Auth.Groups	SA	VA	
DB Tables	E*		
Restrictions	ADR*	EDI*	
KNA1	MANDT	KUNNR	LAND1 NAME1 NAME2 ...
KNVH	MANDT	HITYP	KUNNR VKORG VTWEG ...
KNVV	MANDT	KUNNR	VKORG VTWEG SPART ...

The “Restrictions” are a special kind of global permission. They restrict the other two kinds of global permissions, “DB Tables” and “Auth.Groups”.

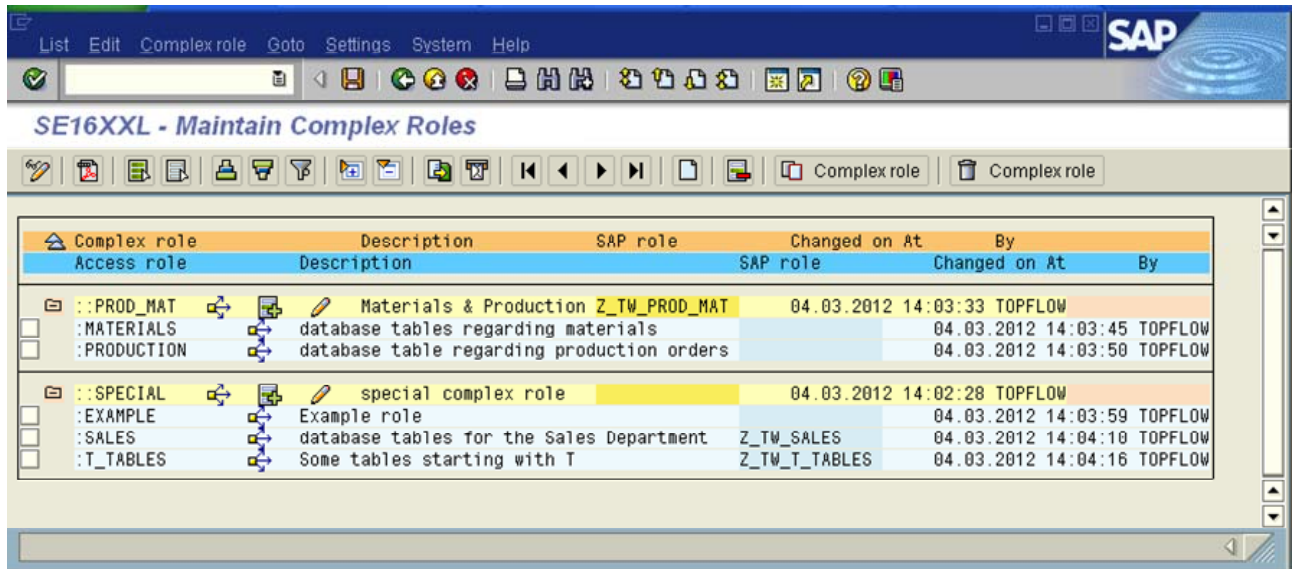
Other useful functions

Function	Description
	Display a global or explicit permission
	List the database tables selected by a global permission
	Delete the selected permissions of one or more roles

NOTE: As in all lists of this tool you can navigate to other lists by using the *Goto* menu functions. This way, if you have changed something, you can see possible effects of your changes on the permission environment without having to save your work.

Complex roles

The list shows complex roles and their assigned elementary roles. A typical list might have the following appearance:



Complex role	Description	SAP role	Changed on At	By
Access role	Description	SAP role	Changed on At	By
PROD_MAT	Materials & Production	Z_TW_PROD_MAT	04.03.2012 14:03:33	TOPFLOW
MATERIALS	database tables regarding materials		04.03.2012 14:03:45	TOPFLOW
PRODUCTION	database table regarding production orders		04.03.2012 14:03:50	TOPFLOW
SPECIAL	special complex role		04.03.2012 14:02:28	TOPFLOW
EXAMPLE	Example role		04.03.2012 14:03:59	TOPFLOW
SALES	database tables for the Sales Department	Z_TW_SALES	04.03.2012 14:04:10	TOPFLOW
T_TABLES	Some tables starting with T	Z_TW_T_TABLES	04.03.2012 14:04:16	TOPFLOW






Complex roles can be convenient to give a certain structure to the many elementary roles you may have defined. But they are not absolutely necessary. Indeed many companies do without them.

In fact there is no “right” way to define permissions. There are many different ways to do it. For example, you might define elementary roles that exactly meet the needs of each department. Or you can break these up into small portions, each containing at most from five to ten database tables, and then group these together by means of complex roles. Or you may use a mixture of both.



With the introduction of SAP roles, even more possibilities open up. It is possible to associate the same SAP role to several access roles, or to have a one-to-one correspondence between access roles and SAP roles. Instead of defining complex roles with this tool, you may then group your associated SAP roles together into a composite SAP role.


Personally, I would try to define relatively small and straightforward elementary roles and then group them together by means of either complex roles or SAP roles which would then be assigned to the users. But this is not necessarily the best solution to your problems.

Functions pertaining to complex roles

Function	Description
	Display user assignments of a complex role (the icon is at the right of the role)
	Create a new complex role definition
	Change an existing complex role (icon at the right of the role)
 Complex role	Copy an existing complex role with its elementary role assignments. The direct assignments to users are not copied. The SAP role attribute of the original role is not copied.
 Complex role	Delete a complex role with all elementary role assignments. The elementary roles themselves are not deleted.
Complex role → Delete many complex roles	Menu function to delete many complex roles in one operation

Functions for adding or deleting elementary role assignments

Function	Description
	Add a new elementary role assignment to the complex role (the icon is at the right of the complex role)
	Delete selected role assignments of one or more complex roles

By clicking on the  icon to the right of a complex or elementary role you navigate to a “Where used” list of the involved role.

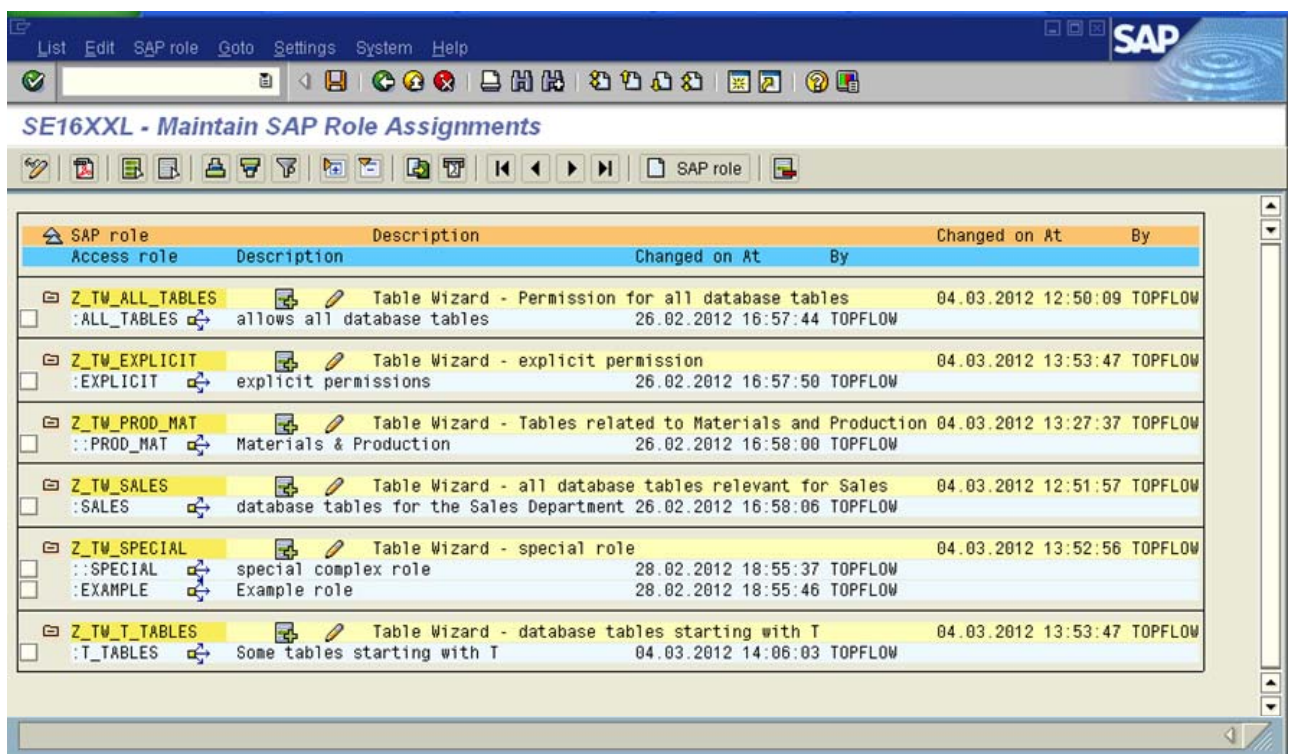
SAP roles

This new list has been added to give you a better overview of the SAP roles involved in your permission implementation. Starting from this list, you can easily call standard transaction **PFCG** to either create a new SAP role or change an existing one. It is also a practical way to associate SAP roles to access roles, both elementary and complex.

The list normally shows only those SAP roles that are associated to access roles. If you wish to select also non-assigned SAP roles, check the following option on the selection screen:

☒ also display non-assigned SAP roles

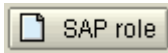

A typical list of SAP roles might look like the following:



SAP role	Access role	Description	Changed on At	By
Z_TW_ALL_TABLES	:ALL_TABLES	Table Wizard - Permission for all database tables allows all database tables	04.03.2012 12:50:09 26.02.2012 16:57:44	TOPFLOW
Z_TW_EXPLICIT	:EXPLICIT	Table Wizard - explicit permission explicit permissions	04.03.2012 13:53:47 26.02.2012 16:57:50	TOPFLOW
Z_TW_PROD_MAT	:PROD_MAT	Table Wizard - Tables related to Materials and Production Materials & Production	04.03.2012 13:27:37 26.02.2012 16:58:00	TOPFLOW
Z_TW_SALES	:SALES	Table Wizard - all database tables relevant for Sales database tables for the Sales Department	04.03.2012 12:51:57 26.02.2012 16:58:06	TOPFLOW
Z_TW_SPECIAL	:SPECIAL	Table Wizard - special role special complex role	04.03.2012 13:52:56 28.02.2012 18:55:37	TOPFLOW
	:EXAMPLE	Example role	28.02.2012 18:55:46	TOPFLOW
Z_TW_T_TABLES	:T_TABLES	Table Wizard - database tables starting with T Some tables starting with T	04.03.2012 13:53:47 04.03.2012 14:06:03	TOPFLOW



Each SAP role is followed by the associated access roles, elementary and complex. For the purpose of permissions, composite SAP roles are treated in the same way as simple SAP roles.


Functions for maintaining SAP roles

Function	Description
	Create a new SAP role with transaction PFCG
	Change an existing SAP role with transaction PFCG (the icon is at the right of the SAP role) Once in PFCG, you can also assign the SAP role to users or delete existing assignments.

NOTE: While most functions of the permission tool only change the definitions in a **virtual** way (i.e. the changes must be **saved** to take effect), using transaction **PFCG** means the changes are **real** – they are carried out **directly on the database**.

Functions for associating SAP roles to access roles

Function	Description
	Assign the SAP role to an existing access role (the icon is at the right of the SAP role)
	Clear the SAP role attribute of the selected access roles (this dissolves the association between access role and SAP role)

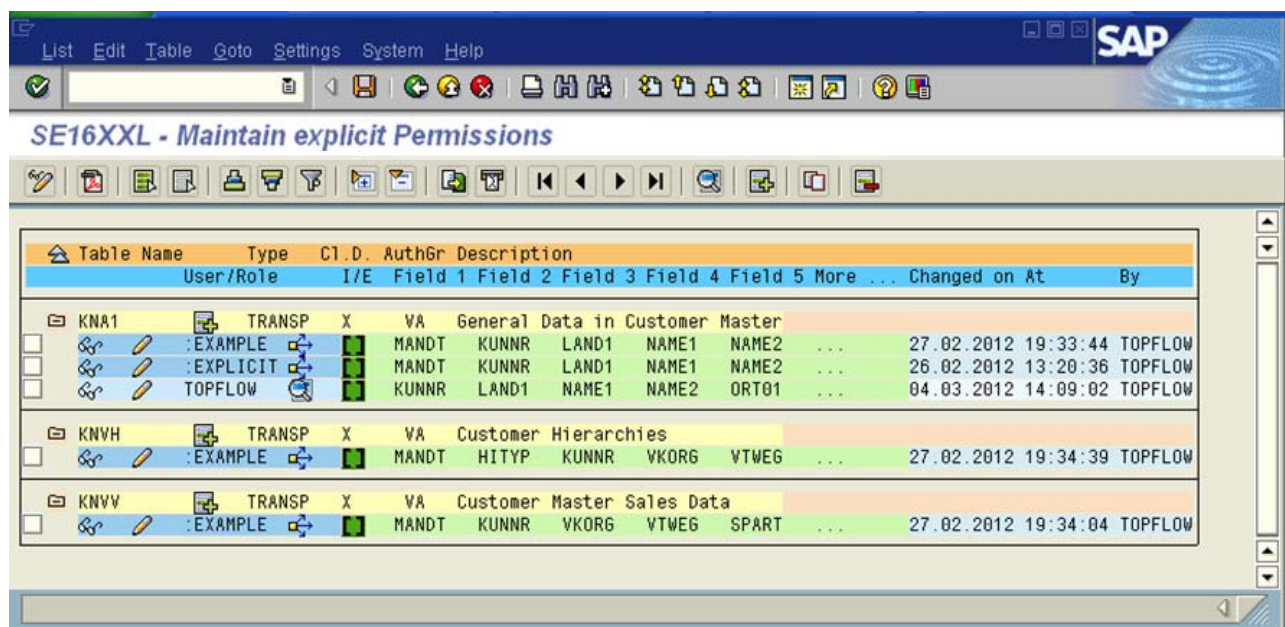
By clicking on the  icon to the right of a complex or elementary access role, you navigate to a “Where used” list of the involved role.

Explicit tables




This list is relevant only in case you have defined explicit permissions at field level. It shows the database tables for which explicit permissions have been defined. Each table is followed by the users and / or access roles which have the permission.





In case you base your implementation on SAP roles, the list should **only** contain access roles and **no** users.

A typical list might have the following appearance:



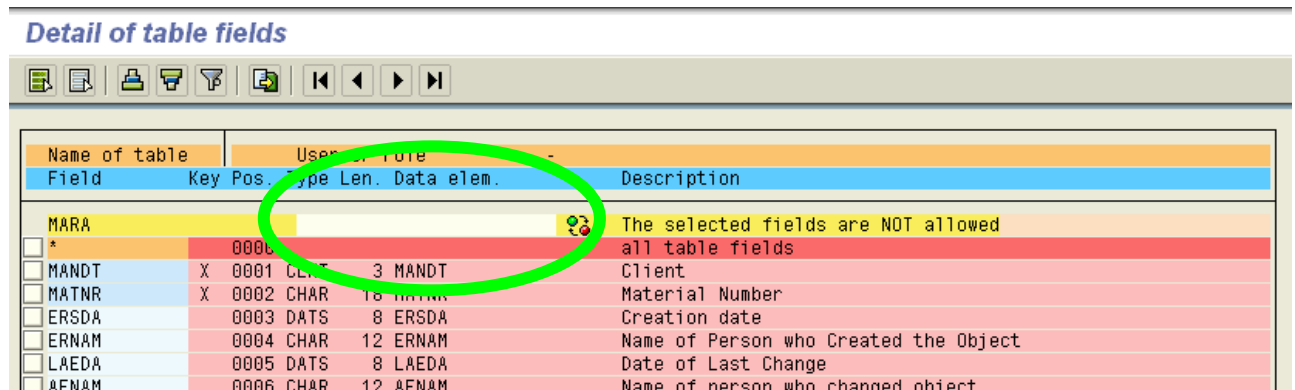
Available functions

Function	Description
	Create a new permission (use the button on the application toolbar to create a permission for a table not yet on the list)
	Change an existing explicit permission
	Delete selected permissions

Function	Description
	Copy an existing explicit permission
	Display an explicit permission
	Detailed list of the allowed fields of a table for a given user
	“Where used” list for a given access role

When creating a new permission (or copying an existing one), the list of fields is output without the owner (user or access role):

Detail of table fields









Name of table	User/Role	Field	Key Pos.	Type	Len.	Data elem.	Description
MARA							The selected fields are NOT allowed
*		0000					all table fields
MANDT	X	0001	CLNT	3	MANDT		Client
MATNR	X	0002	CHAR	18	MATNR		Material Number
ERSDA		0003	DATS	8	ERSDA		Creation date
ERNAM		0004	CHAR	12	ERNAM		Name of Person who Created the Object
LAEDA		0005	DATS	8	LAEDA		Date of Last Change
AFNAM		0006	CHAR	12	AFNAM		Name of person who changed object

You must enter the name of a user or of an elementary access role.

Table cross-reference

Use the menu function **Table → Table cross-reference** to get a list of the access roles and users which have **any kind** of permission for the involved table:

6 users and roles with permissions for table KNA1

User/Role	PTy.	Lev.	Description
:ALL_TABLES			allows all database tables
:EXAMPLE			Example role
:EXPLICIT			explicit permissions
:SALES			database tables for the Sales Department
DEVELOPER			Reference User Development
TOPFLOW			TOPFLOW

Forbidden Data Elements


As already seen in [tutorial # 6](#), it is possible to define data elements that are forbidden independently of the database table or view being considered.

Which data elements are forbidden is defined at the level of the **pseudo user “*”** (that represents all users) – for specific users and / or access roles this prohibition can be overridden by defining the **allowed** data elements.




If you make use of this functionality, it may be interesting to determine for a given forbidden data element which users and / or roles have a special permission for it.

Data element cross-reference

You can find this information as follows:

In the permission list of the pseudo user „*“, click on the  icon on the line „forbidden D.Elems“:


Permissions of pseudo user * (all users)

Pseudo user	Description	Changed on	At	By
Object	I/E	Field 1	Field 2	Field 3
Field 4	Field 5	More	...	
* Pseudo user "all users"				
forbidden D.Elems				STPRS VERPR VMSTP VMVER

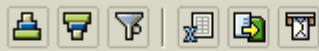
As a result, the list of the forbidden data elements appears:

4 Data elements selected by name

Data element	Type	Lng.	Dec.	Domain	Description
STPRS	CURR	11	2	WERT11V	Standard Price
VERPR	CURR	11	2	WERT11V	Moving Average Price/Periodic Unit Price
VMSTP	CURR	11	2	WERT11V	Standard price in the previous period
VMVER	CURR	11	2	WERT11V	Moving Average Price/Periodic Unit Price in Previous Period

In order to get the cross-reference list, set the cursor on a line and press the  button on the application toolbar. The following list will appear:

6 users and roles with permissions for data element STPRS




User/Role	PTy.	Lev.	Description
*	<input type="checkbox"/>		Pseudo user "all users"
:ALL_TABLES	<input type="checkbox"/>		allows all database tables
:EXAMPLE	<input type="checkbox"/>		Example role
:MATERIALS	<input type="checkbox"/>		database tables regarding materials
DEVELOPER	<input type="checkbox"/>		Reference User Development
TOPFLOW	<input type="checkbox"/>		TOPFLOW



Notice that the users obtain the permission indirectly () through an SAP role.

When you double click on a user (or access role), you get a popup showing the definition of the permission:

Allowed data elements

Access role: :MATERIALS


Allowed data elements: STPRS to 



 

If you double click on the “*” on the first line, you get the definition of the forbidden data elements:

Forbidden data elements

User: *

Forbidden data elements: STPRS to 

Click on  for more details.

Download

The permission data are stored in the database. But it still makes sense to download a copy of them now and then, as a preventive measure against accidental destruction. Furthermore you can download the data on one system and upload them (selectively) on another.

It is also advisable to download the permissions before making major changes, in order to be able to return to the original settings if necessary.

IMPORTANT: In case your implementation is based on SAP roles, only access roles and complex roles are relevant for you.

In the relevant user and role lists, use menu function **List → Download data**. The function is available both in maintain and display mode.

The way the download function works depends on the list from which you call it:

- if you are in a user list, i.e. **Users & Permissions** or **Users & Assigned roles**, then all information associated with the selected users is stored in the download file, i.e. the permissions of the users, the associated roles (either elementary or complex), the roles assigned to the complex roles, and the permissions of all involved elementary roles. And of course the permissions of the pseudo user "*".
- If you are in a role list, either **Access roles** or **Complex Roles**, then only the permissions of the elementary roles, possibly the complex roles associated with the elementary ones, and the roles associated with these etc. are stored in the file. No user information is stored in this case.


This means that when you download roles, you only get role related data on the file, whereas if you download users, you get all the data involved, i.e. also the roles.

Since it could be that not all defined roles are assigned to users, it is advisable to perform two download operations, one with all users, and the other with all roles. The role download should be performed in the **Access roles** selection in order to also get those roles that are not associated with a complex one.

Upload

The upload functionality can be used to transport permissions to another system or another client or to restore corrupted or accidentally deleted permissions.

The menu function **List → Upload data** is only available in maintain mode.

Don't worry about calling this function since it does not overwrite existing data without asking you. And even if you have accidentally overwritten some permissions or assignments, all this is done in virtual memory first and only takes effect after you press the save button ().

If you base your permissions on SAP roles, only access roles and complex roles are of interest to you, since the user assignments are managed externally to this program in transaction PFCG.

The effect of the function depends on the list from where you call it. While the download function stores all related data into the file, the upload function only creates or replaces the data of the list you are in, with the exception of roles, which may be created if not existing.

IMPORTANT: administrators with limited authorizations may not be able to perform all kinds of upload operations.

If you are in **Users & Permissions**, only users and their (explicit or global) permissions are created or replaced.

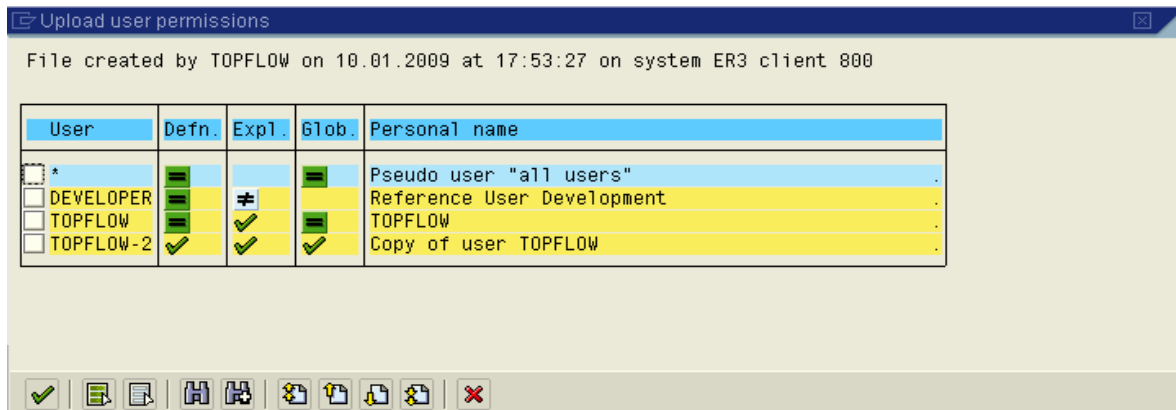
In **Users & Assigned roles** the role assignments are created or replaced. If an assigned role is missing, it is completely created. This also applies to complex roles, i.e. if an assigned complex role does not exist, it is created, and if some of its originally assigned roles do not exist, they are also completely created. So if you download on one system, and upload on another that does not contain any permission data yet, all information accessory to a user is created together with the user definition itself.

In **Access roles** (these are elementary roles), the roles and their permissions are created or replaced. No assignments to users or complex roles are created or replaced.

In **Complex roles** the complex roles are created or replaced. Assigned roles that do not exist are completely created. Already existing ones are left unchanged. No assignments to users are created or replaced.

The following example will show you how it works.

Suppose you have downloaded the user definitions and then made some changes. Afterwards you decide to restore the definitions to their original state. To achieve this you execute the program selecting "*Users & Permissions*". After calling the upload function the following popup appears:



Defn. describes the definition.

Expl. is related to the explicit table permissions.

Glob. describes the global permissions.

The meaning of the icons is as follows:



The current values and the values on the file are identical.



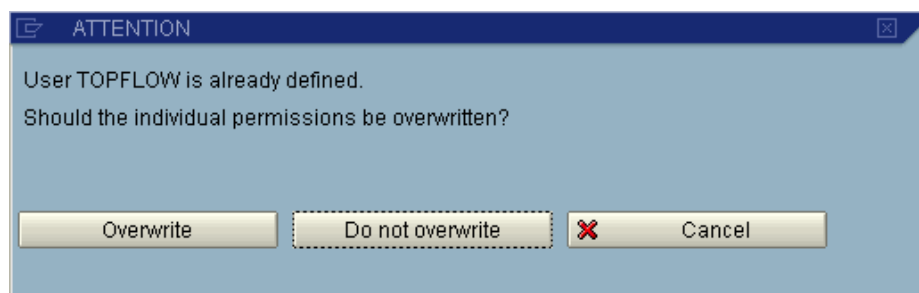
The current values and the values on the file differ.



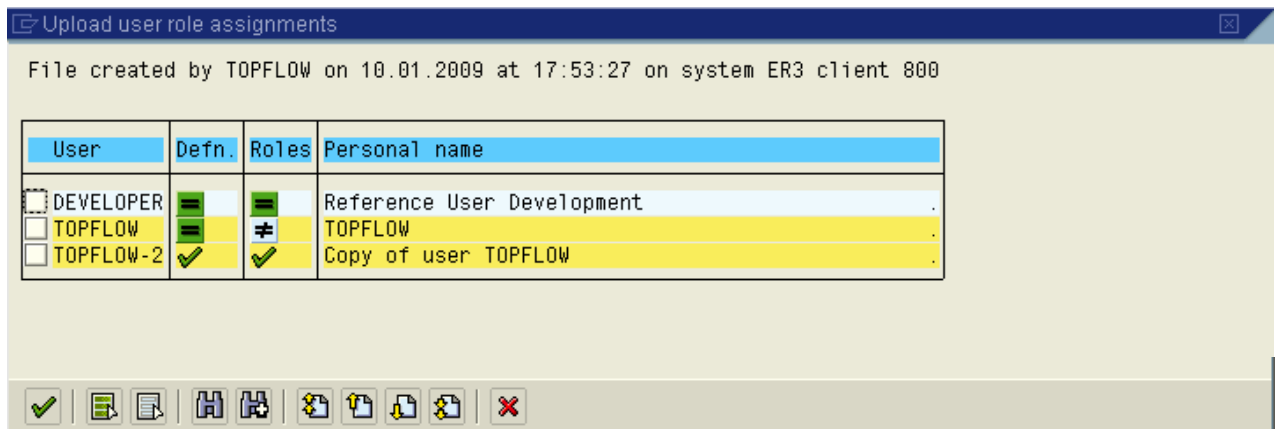
Only values on file exist.

No icon means that neither the user nor the file has such a permission.

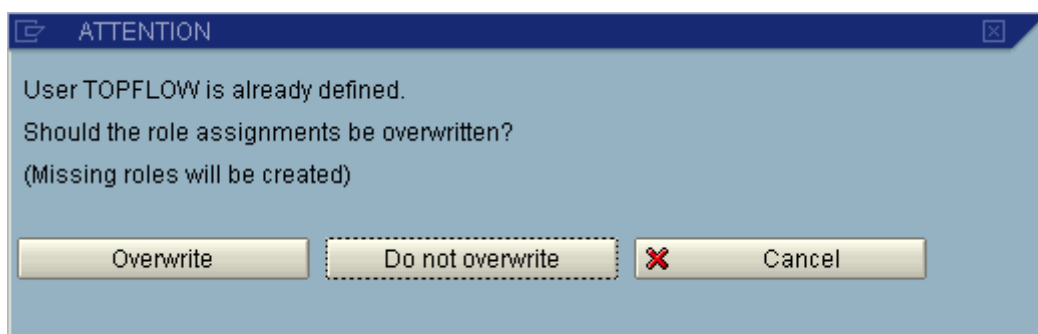
To create or replace a user definition, just check the corresponding box and press ENTER. In case the user already exists, a popup like the following will appear:



Uploading in the "*Users & Assigned roles*" list works in a similar fashion:

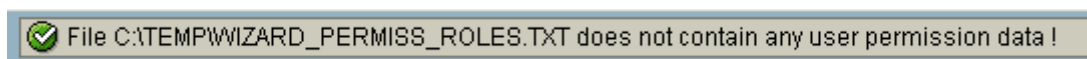


When you upload an existing user, the following popup will ensue:

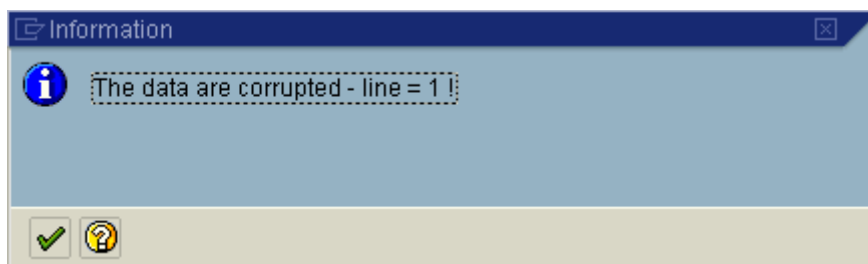


In a similar way you can upload elementary and complex roles.

If you use a file containing only roles to upload user definitions, the program issues the following message:



If you select the wrong file altogether, you could get the following message:



In case you wish to transfer all permissions from one system to another you might proceed as follows:

On the source system:

- download all users;
- download all roles if some roles are not assigned to users.

On the target system:

- upload the elementary roles;
- upload the complex roles, if any exist;
- upload the user permissions;
- upload the user role assignments.

In case you implement permissions based on SAP roles, only the access roles are relevant for download and upload.

The user assignments have to be transferred from the source system to the target system by using the **SAP transport system** (Menu function ***Role** → **Transport*** in transaction **PFCG**).

In such a situation you may dispense with the download / upload functionality altogether and also transfer the SE16XXL access roles by using a workbench transport request. How permissions may be transported is discussed on the following page.

Transport

Instead of using download and upload you can also transport permissions from one system to another.

The menu function is **List → Transport data** (only available in maintain mode).

If you base your permissions on SAP roles, only access roles and complex roles are of interest to you, since the user assignments are managed externally to this program in transaction PFCG.

The working of the function depends on the list from where you call it:

- 1) **Single Use** list: the definition of the user together with the permissions and role assignments are transported. The roles are not transported.
- 2) **Users → Permissions**: the definitions of selected users are transported, together with their permissions. Optionally, the role assignments are also transported. The roles themselves, as in single user mode, are not transported.
- 3) **Users → Assigned roles**: the other way around – the definitions and role assignments are transported, the permissions are only optionally taken into account.
- 4) **Access roles**: only the role definitions and their permissions are transported.
- 5) **Complex roles**: the definitions of the complex roles and their elementary role assignments are transported. The elementary roles themselves are not considered.

In the remaining lists the transport function is not available.

CAUTION: the transport functionality is not as flexible as download/upload. By using the latter you can choose what should be “imported”. This possibility is not available with a transport – in this case all data in the transport request are written to the database, without exception. So it’s better not to transport any accessory data in order to avoid overwriting existing entries.

R3TR TABU is used as transport object. The transport itself should be a workbench request.