

Understanding the Inventory Give-Back Loop

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The “inventory give-back loop” is the part of the aACE COGS engine that accounts for returns and reuse.

For example, suppose we have an inventory lot for ten units of boxes; we ship ten units to a customer, and then the customer returns two. The COGS engine will “give back” two units to that inventory lot, so it has two units available for another shipment to a customer. This example would be reflected in the system as:

- 10 units received from supplier – Inventory Lot created – Lot: 10 units
- 10 units sent to customer – Inventory Usage created (+10 units) – Lot: 0 units
- 2 units received from customer – Inventory Usage created (-2 units) – Lot: 2 units

Give-Back Limits for Inventory Lots

An inventory lot's current Used balance is the largest number of units that can be given back to that lot:

The screenshot displays the 'Inventory Lots' window for 'Inventory Lot: Tblt-1 (50012)'. The 'Current Inventory' section shows the following data:

	Quantity	Value
Received	50	15,000.00
Used	20	6,000.00
Current Inventory	30	9,000.00

The 'Inventory COGS' section shows a usage record:

Usage ID	Trans ID	Trans Date	Reference #(s)	Quantity	Act Unit Cost	Total Cost
> 50010	> SHIP-50012	6/11/2019	Ord #50005	20	300.00	6,000.00

A product return might include more units than can be associated with a single inventory lot:

- If other inventory lots for that line item code are available, those lots are used for the

additional inventory usage quantity.

Note: For returns, additional inventory lots are *always* selected using LIFO logic, even if your accounting preferences specify FIFO. This is because FIFO logic for returns means the cost of the first inventory lot would be used in perpetuity, even though those costs would be increasingly irrelevant over time.

- If no other inventory lots are available, the give-back loop iterates, allocating as much negative usage quantity as possible to the lot, then allocating a corresponding amount of positive usage quantity.

Example of the Inventory Give-Back Loop

The give-back loop is used to [resolve unallocated inventory usage](http://aace5.knowledgeowl.com/help/resolving-unallocated-inventory-usage)

(<http://aace5.knowledgeowl.com/help/resolving-unallocated-inventory-usage>), as shown in this example:

For line item code Tech-003a, a shipment of 50 units was sent to a customer, followed by a return shipment of 50. Both shipments generate inventory usage records:

Usage	Line Item Code	Transaction ID	Date	Office	Order	Ref #(s)	Quantity	~ COGS	Unallocated	Accrued COGS	Status
> 50045	> Tech-003a	> SHIP-50030	07/11/19	AI	> 50020	Ord #50020	50	19,999.50	50	19,999.50	OPEN
> 50046	> Tech-003a	> SHIP-50031	07/11/19	AI	> 50020	Ord #50020	-50	-19,999.50	-50	-19,999.50	OPEN
List Totals							0	0.00	0	0.00	

Tech-003a only has one inventory lot in the system. All 10 units have been allocated to previous inventory usage records from previous shipments, so the inventory lot is currently closed. Because the Lot Quantity is 10 and the Current Quantity is zero, this lot's current give-back limit is 10 (i.e. the lot's quantity Used).

Lot	Line Item Code	Transaction ID	Date	Office	Ref #(s)	Lot Qty	Lot Value	Curr Qty	~Curr Value	Accr Value	Status
Tech-003a Electronic Whiteboard Screen											
> 50018	> Tech-003a	> PO-50016	06/06/19	AI		10	3,999.90	0	0.00	0.00	CLOSED
Tech-003a Electronic Whiteboard Screen						10	3,999.90	0	0.00	0.00	
List Totals						10	3,999.90	0	0.00	0.00	

Before the COGS Reconciliation process begins, the inventory balance is at zero: 0 current

inventory (inventory lot) + 50 unallocated quantity (positive usage) - 50 unallocated quantity (negative usage) = 0.

First Allocation Loop

When the COGS Reconciliation process runs, aACE recognizes that there are no lots with available inventory, so the unallocated positive usage (i.e. the shipment to the customer) remains at 50; however, the negative usage (i.e. the product return) can give back 10 units to that lot, reducing the negative unallocated quantity to -40.

Usage	Line Item Code	Transaction ID	Date	Office	Order	Ref #(s)	Quantity	~ COGS	Unallocated	Accrued COGS	Status
> 50045	> Tech-003a	> SHIP-50030	07/11/19	AI	> 50020	Ord #50020	50	19,999.50	50	19,999.50	OPEN
> 50046	> Tech-003a	> SHIP-50031	07/11/19	AI	> 50020	Ord #50020	-50	-19,999.50	-40	-15,999.60	OPEN
List Totals							0	0.00	10	3,999.90	

At this point, the inventory lot is open again and has 10 units.

Lot	Line Item Code	Transaction ID	Date	Office	Ref #(s)	Lot Qty	Lot Value	Curr Qty	~Curr Value	Accr Value	Status
Tech-003a Electronic Whiteboard Screen											
> 50018	> Tech-003a	> PO-50016	06/06/19	AI		10	3,999.90	10	3,999.90	0.00	OPEN
						10	3,999.90	10	3,999.90	0.00	
List Totals						10	3,999.90	10	3,999.90	0.00	

Second Allocation Loop

Because there was a change in the usage quantities, aACE loops through the allocation process again.

Now the COGS engine can allocate 10 units of positive usage to the inventory lot, decreasing the unallocated positive usage to 40. This also reduces the inventory lot to zero again, preparing the way for 10 more negative usage records to be allocated, leaving -30.

Usage	Line Item Code	Transaction ID	Date	Office	Order	Ref #(s)	Quantity	~ COGS	Unallocated	Accrued COGS	Status
> 50045	> Tech-003a	> SHIP-50030	07/11/19	AI	> 50020	Ord #50020	50	19,999.50	40	15,999.60	OPEN
> 50046	> Tech-003a	> SHIP-50031	07/11/19	AI	> 50020	Ord #50020	-50	-19,999.50	-30	-11,999.70	OPEN
List Totals							0	0.00	10	3,999.90	

This leaves the inventory lot with 10 units again, identical to the screenshot shown previously.

Third Allocation Loop

The process loops again, reducing both the positive and negative unallocated usage by 10 (i.e. +30/-20) as the inventory lot is depleted and replenished again.

Usage	Line Item Code	Transaction ID	Date	Office	Order	Ref #(s)	Quantity	~ COGS	Unallocated	Accrued COGS	Status
> 50045	> Tech-003a	> SHIP-50030	07/11/19	AI	> 50020	Ord #50020	50	19,999.50	30	11,999.70	OPEN
> 50046	> Tech-003a	> SHIP-50031	07/11/19	AI	> 50020	Ord #50020	-50	-19,999.50	-20	-7,999.80	OPEN
List Totals							0	0.00	10	3,999.90	

Fourth Allocation Loop

The process loops again, reducing unallocated usage to +20/-10 as the inventory lot is depleted and replenished.

Usage	Line Item Code	Transaction ID	Date	Office	Order	Ref #(s)	Quantity	~ COGS	Unallocated	Accrued COGS	Status
> 50045	> Tech-003a	> SHIP-50030	07/11/19	AI	> 50020	Ord #50020	50	19,999.50	20	7,999.80	OPEN
> 50046	> Tech-003a	> SHIP-50031	07/11/19	AI	> 50020	Ord #50020	-50	-19,999.50	-10	-3,999.90	OPEN
List Totals							0	0.00	10	3,999.90	

Fifth Allocation Loop

With this loop, the unallocated usage quantities are reduced +10/0. When the inventory lot

is replenished this time, the negative inventory usage quantity reaches zero, so that usage record is closed.

Usage	Line Item Code	Transaction ID	Date	Office	Order	Ref #(s)	Quantity	~ COGS	Unallocated	Accrued COGS	Status
> 50045	> Tech-003a	> SHIP-50030	07/11/19	AI	> 50020	Ord #50020	50	19,999.50	10	3,999.90	OPEN
> 50046	> Tech-003a	> SHIP-50031	07/11/19	AI	> 50020	Ord #50020	-50	-19,999.50	0	0.00	CLOSED
List Totals							0	0.00	10	3,999.90	

Final Allocation

The remaining 10 units of positive unallocated usage are allocated to the lot, reducing that quantity to zero and closing the inventory usage record.

Usage	Line Item Code	Transaction ID	Date	Office	Order	Ref #(s)	Quantity	~ COGS	Unallocated	Accrued COGS	Status
> 50045	> Tech-003a	> SHIP-50030	07/11/19	AI	> 50020	Ord #50020	50	19,999.50	0	0.00	CLOSED
> 50046	> Tech-003a	> SHIP-50031	07/11/19	AI	> 50020	Ord #50020	-50	-19,999.50	0	0.00	CLOSED
List Totals							0	0.00	0	0.00	

This step also leaves the inventory lot record at zero units again, so it is closed.

Lot	Line Item Code	Transaction ID	Date	Office	Ref #(s)	Lot Qty	Lot Value	Curr Qty	~Curr Value	Accr Value	Status
> 50018	> Tech-003a	> PO-50016	06/06/19	AI		10	3,999.90	0	0.00	0.00	CLOSED
Tech-003a Electronic Whiteboard Screen						10	3,999.90	0	0.00	0.00	
List Totals						10	3,999.90	0	0.00	0.00	

After the COGS Reconciliation process ends, the inventory balance is again at zero: 0 current inventory (inventory lot) + 0 unallocated quantity (positive usage) - 0 unallocated quantity (negative usage) = 0.

On the inventory lot detail view, we can review the quantities that were processed. Even though the lot can only receive 10 units (i.e. its give-back limit), the Inventory COGS section

shows -50/+50 for the usage quantities that were processed. This is because the give-back loop processed those 10 units ~five times.

Inventory Lots

Record: 1 of 1

New Edit Delete Print Actions

Inventory Lot: Tech-003a (50018)

CLOSED

Purchase Inventory Lot

Notices Emails Docs

Serialized Track by Mfr Lot

Trans ID > Date Office > Line Item Code > Code Description Reference #(s) *Released to general inventory*

PO-50016 06/06/19 AI Tech-003a Electronic Whiteboard Screen

Ordered / Purchased				Ordered / Received		
	Quantity	Each	Value		Quantity	Value
Ordered	10	399.99	3,999.90	Ordered	10	3,999.90
Purchased	10	399.99	3,999.90	Received	10	3,999.90
Purchased Remaining	0		0.00	Received Remaining	0	0.00

Accrued Inventory			Current Inventory		
	Quantity	Value		Quantity	Value
Received	10	3,999.90	Received	10	3,999.90
Purchased	10	3,999.90	Used	10	3,999.90
Accrued Inventory	0	0.00	Current Inventory	0	0.00

Inventory COGS						
Usage ID	Trans ID	Trans Date	Reference #(s)	Quantity	Act Unit Cost	Total Cost
> 50043	> SHIP-50010	7/11/2019	Ord #50000-1	10	399.99	3,999.90
> 50046	> SHIP-50031	7/11/2019	Ord #50020	-50	399.99	-19,999.50
> 50045	> SHIP-50030	7/11/2019	Ord #50020	50	399.99	19,999.50
				Used	10	3,999.90