The purpose of the Cost Management System (CMS) is to translate AMAPS activities into their financial equivalents. The major features of CMS are single source of both financial and operating data, transparent data input, and the automatic preparation of journal entries. The objective is to focus on the problem rather than just gathering the numbers.

The single source of date provides consistency with CMS, operations and accounting will use the same source data. Operations and accounting use the same source data. The financial system, therefore, reports events at the same cost, the same quantity, and in the same time period as the operations system. The often present disconnect between operations and accounting is eliminated.

Transparent data entry means that there are no account numbers on transactions from the manufacturing system and there are no "significant or coded" manufacturing or purchase order numbers. This approach provides consistent source data, improved accuracy and user acceptance.

Journal entries are automatically sent to the General Ledger (G/L) based on user defined account classifications and cut-offs. The timing of variances is also a user choice since variances may be recognized as they occur or at the time of order close.

CMS will provide either summarized or detailed journal entries. These journal entries are supported with audit trails of all entries as well as a cross reference to the transactions from the manufacturing system that created each entry.

The entries to CMS involve the creation of tables that enable the creation of journal entries from manufacturing activity.
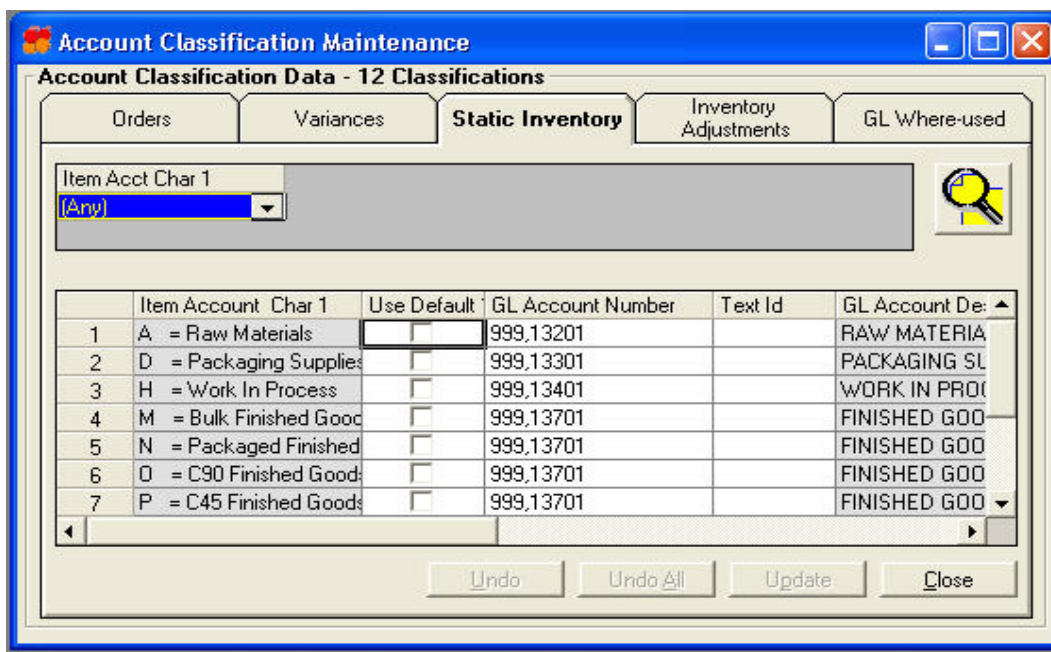
This window is used to classify static inventory based on user designated account characteristics. Each item, for example, has three account characteristics. Each account characteristic may contain up to three alpha-numeric characters. Account characteristics are then associated with general ledger account numbers. This approach removes the problems encountered when the chart of accounts is changed. This approach enables the reassignment of an item from one set of accounts to another just by changing the item's account characteristics.