Introduction

The SLAllocation function allows outstanding sales credit notes / sales receipts to be allocated to outstanding sales invoices / sales payments in Sage 200.

It emulates the **Allocation** feature available in Sage 200 via **Sales** Ledger > Enter Transactions.

The SLAllocation worksheet includes two separate templates which are pre-mapped to Sage 200.

• the **Singleline template** allows you to allocate outstanding sales transactions for a single customer.

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• the **Multiline template** allows you to allocate outstanding sales transactions for multiple customers at once.

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100	Customer WEL001 WEL001 KIT002 KIT002	AllocationDate	GroupByID A A B B B	Indicator Credit Debit Credit Debit	ItemType Receipt Invoice Credit Note Invoice	URN 18446 27084 27083 24303	25-03-2016 10-03-2022 10-03-2022 24-09-2016	25-03-2016 09-04-2022 10-03-2022 24-09-2016	WEL001_19/03/2010		176.25 176.25 2577.8 2577.8
Status	Customer WEL001 WEL001 KIT002 KIT002 BET001	AllocationDate	GroupByID A A B B C	Indicator Credit Debit Credit Debit Credit	ItemType Receipt Invoice Credit Note Invoice Receipt	URN 18446 27084 27083 24303 18633	25-03-2016 10-03-2022 10-03-2022 24-09-2016 01-04-2016	25-03-2016 09-04-2022 10-03-2022 24-09-2016 01-04-2016	WEL001_19/03/2010 0000004989 BET001_26/03/2010		176.25 176.25 2577.8 2577.8 999.98
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Field Mappings

The field mappings are controlled within the **Designer** button in the Excel Data Bridge tab.



TOTAL OF	2↓ 🗉	
•	General	
í.	BrowseResults	BrowseResults
•	Header	
ť,	AllocationDate	AllocationDate
1	Customer	Customer
	GroupByld	
1	Information	- (415-561)
	DiscrepancyAsDiscour	False
	ReduceCreditTotal	False
1	Status	Status
1	Session	
ť,	AllocationValue	AllocationValue
	DueDate	DueDate
1	ItemType	Item Type
	Reference	Reference
í.	SecondReference	SecondReference
í,	TransDate	TransDate
6	URN	URN

The **General** section allows custom cell mappings to be created to hold data from browses. *Not covered in this document*

The **Header** section shows the available Sage 200 fields for the allocation header details in the left-hand column.

If an entry appears in the right-hand column, it means the Sage 200 field is mapped to a cell, or range of cells in the Excel worksheet

The **Information** section contains Excel Data Bridge specific fields, and settings controlling how allocations are posted to Sage 200.

The **Session** section shows the available Sage 200 fields for line items being allocated in the lefthand column.

Again, if an entry appears in the right-hand column, it means the Sage 200 field is mapped to a cell, or range of cells in the worksheet.

An explanation of the property selected is shown at the bottom of the Designer window.

NOTE - These default mappings can be amended to suit your business requirement and will be explained later in the document.

Singleline Template

status

The singleline template is divided into two sections in which you are required to enter data. The **allocation header information** can be entered in the top half of the template: -

2			
3	Status		CustomerName Abbey Retail Ltd
4	CustomerCode	ABB001	AllocationDate
5			



The table below explains the purpose of each of the header fields: -

6	Indicate	Dr	ItemType	URN	TransDate	DueDate	Reference	THE REPORT OF THE PROPERTY OF	AllocationValue
7	Credit		Credit Note	27014	15-05-2017	15-05-2017	000000355	000000381	340.46
8	Debit		Invoice	27016	15-05-2017	14-06-2017	0000005107	0000005128	340.46
9									
		Status	bu • • V! cle fie St ap	ttons on the The defau The defau nen attempti ared, or disp ld will prever ould an erro pear in red .	in selecting eith Excel Data Brid It status on a su It status on a su ng to post to Sa play a status of nt the transaction r be returned in The error shou ared before atte	dge ribbon. uccessful valid uccessful creat age 200, the st Pending . Any on being create this cell wher ld be corrected	ation will be I tion will be Pi tatus field sho other data ei ed in Sage 20 n attempting to d in the works	Pending rocessed ould either be ntered in this 00. o post, it will	
		CustomerCode	Ri Ex	cel Data Brid	either this cell, o dge Browse to a ner code / nam	access Sage 2	200 customer		
		CustomerNam	Ri Ex	cel Data Brid	either this cell, o dge Browse to a ner code / nam	access Sage 2	200 customer		
		AllocationDate	Er da		ation date or le	ave the cell bl	ank to allocat	e using toda	y's

The allocation line-item information can be entered in the main area of the worksheet: -

The table below explains the purpose of each of the line-item fields: -

Indicator	Right click on this cell and select Excel Data Bridge Browse to gain access to all outstanding sales ledger transactions for the customer.
ItemType	The item type will be updated based upon transaction selection from the Indicator field browse.



URN	The original transaction URN will be updated based upon transaction selection from the Indicator field browse.
TransDate	The original transaction date will be updated based upon transaction selection from the Indicator field browse.
DueDate	The original transaction due date will be updated based upon transaction selection from the Indicator field browse.
Reference	The original transaction reference will be updated based upon transaction selection from the Indicator field browse.
2ndReference	The original transaction second reference will be updated based upon transaction selection from the Indicator field browse.
AllocationValue	The original transaction value will be updated based upon transaction selection from the Indicator field browse.
	The value populated in this column can be amended, if only part of the original transaction value is to be allocated.

Creating Transactions

Once you have entered your allocation data in the template, you have the following options: -

- Validate (optional) will run the data through a validation check and result in a status of Pending, if successful. If validation is unsuccessful, an error will be returned in red. This error must be rectified, and the error cleared from the status field before either validating again or selecting to Create SL Allocation.
- Create SL Allocation will attempt to create the allocation in Sage 200. This process also performs a full Sage validation check. If successful, the status cell will change to Processed.

Status	Processed		CustomerName	Abbey Retail Ltd			
CustomerCode	ABB001		AllocationDate				
Indicator	ItemType	URN	TransDate	DueDate	Reference	2ndReference	AllocationValue
Credit	Credit Note	27014	15-05-2017	15-05-2017	000000355	000000381	340.46
Debit	Invoice	27016	15-05-2017	14-06-2017	0000005107	0000005128	340.46



The transactions can be traced in Sage 200 by the **URNs** on the original transactions, and the

ustomer Details												
ode: 🗸	ABB001	Address:	16 Churc	ch Lane, Lochsi	ide, Edinburgh, Midlothian,	EH12 1WE, Great Brita	in					
nort name:	Abbey	✓ Head office:										
stcode: E	H12 1WE	✓ Credit limit:	£	100000.00								
		Balance:	£	21881.50								
urrent Historical												
Iransactions												
Transactions	Trans. Date	✓ Reference	2nd Ref.	1	Value Allocated	Query Status	Memo U	ser	Source	1	URN	1
1.000000000	Trans. Date 17/05/2017	✓ Reference 0000005108	2nd Ref. 0000005129		Value Allocated	Query Status		ser dmin	Source	I	URN 27017	ę.
Trans. Type				:		Query Status Full	A					1
Trans. Type	17/05/2017	0000005108	0000005129	-3	352.48 0.00		A	dmin	SOP		27017	
Trans. Type Invoice Credit Note	17/05/2017 15/05/2017	0000005108 0000000355	0000005129 0000000381		352.48 0.00 340.46 -340.46	Full	A A A	dmin dmin	SOP SOP		27017 27014	
Trans. Type Invoice Credit Note Invoice	17/05/2017 15/05/2017 15/05/2017	0000005108 0000000355 0000005104	0000005129 0000000381 0000005118	- 	352.48 0.00 340.46 -340.46 704.95 0.00	Full	A A A A	dmin dmin dmin	SOP SOP SOP		27017 27014 27015	
Trans. Type Invoice Credit Note Invoice Invoice Invoice	17/05/2017 15/05/2017 15/05/2017 15/05/2017 01/01/2017	0000005108 0000000355 0000005104 0000005107 0000005065	0000005129 0000000381 0000005118 0000005128 0000005060		352.48 0.00 340.46 -340.46 704.95 0.00 340.46 340.46	Full	A A A A	dmin dmin dmin dmin	SOP SOP SOP SOP		27017 27014 27015 27016	
Trans. Type Invoice Credit Note Invoice Invoice Invoice	17/05/2017 15/05/2017 15/05/2017 15/05/2017 01/01/2017	0000005108 0000000355 0000005104 0000005107	0000005129 0000000381 0000005118 0000005128 0000005060		352.48 0.00 340.46 -340.46 704.95 0.00 340.46 340.46	Full	A A A A	dmin dmin dmin dmin	SOP SOP SOP SOP		27017 27014 27015 27016	
Trans. Type Invoice Credit Note Invoice Invoice Invoice Show outstandii	17/05/2017 15/05/2017 15/05/2017 15/05/2017 01/01/2017 ng only Maxi	0000005108 0000000355 0000005104 0000005107 0000005065	0000005129 0000000381 0000005118 0000005128 0000005060		352.48 0.00 340.46 -340.46 704.95 0.00 340.46 340.46	Full	A A A A	dmin dmin dmin dmin	SOP SOP SOP SOP		27017 27014 27015 27016	
Trans. Type Invoice Credit Note Invoice Invoice Invoice Show outstandid Allocation Sessio	17/05/2017 15/05/2017 15/05/2017 15/05/2017 01/01/2017 ng only Maxi	0000005108 0000000355 0000005104 0000005107 0000005065	0000005129 0000000381 0000005118 0000005128 0000005060		352.48 0.00 340.46 -340.46 704.95 0.00 340.46 340.46	Full	A A A A	dmin dmin dmin dmin	SOP SOP SOP SOP SOP		27017 27014 27015 27016	
Invoice Credit Note Invoice Invoice	17/05/2017 15/05/2017 15/05/2017 15/05/2017 01/01/2017 on Only Maxi on Detail User	0000005108 0000000355 0000005104 0000005107 0000005065 mum number of transa	0000005129 0000000381 0000005118 0000005128 0000005060		352.48 0.00 140.46 -340.46 704.95 0.00 340.46 340.46 306.74 0.00	Full	A A A S	dmin dmin dmin DC	SOP SOP SOP SOP SOP	100000	27017 27014 27015 27016 27007	te

Allocation Session / History dropdowns will be populated.

Multiline Template

The format of the multiline template differs to the singleline template but offers similar fields as standard.

Columns A – D represent the header fields of the allocation.

24	A	В	С	D
2				
3	Status	Customer	AllocationDate	GroupByID
4		WEL001		А
5		WEL001		А
6		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
7		KIT002		В
8		KIT002		В

Columns E - L represent the line-item fields of the allocation.



E	F	G	Н	1	J	K	L
Indicator	ItemType	URN	TransDate	DueDate	Reference	2ndReference	AllocationValue
Credit	Receipt	18446	25-03-2016	25-03-2016	WEL001_19/03/2010		176.25
Debit	Invoice	27084	10-03-2022	09-04-2022			176.25
Credit	Credit Note	27083	10-03-2022	10-03-2022			2577.8
Debit	Invoice	24303	24-09-2016	24-09-2016	0000004989	0000004926	2577.8

There will be slight variations in the default mappings shown in the Designer between the singleline and multiline templates, but the Sage 200 fields offered are the same.

NOTE - These default mappings can be amended to suit your business requirement and will be explained later in the document.

An extra field is available to the multiline template for Group By ID.

Group By ID

KIT002

When posting multiple allocations to Sage 200 at once, Excel Data Bridge needs to let Sage 200 know when a new allocation should be created. It does this by assigning certain fields as "key fields" which can be seen by selecting the Key Fields icon from the ribbon.

										×	
	The only I	key field a	assigned in	the SLAI	location wo	orksheet i	s the field fo	or	KeyField prope	erties detected:	
	Group By	/ ID , so w	hen posting	g multiple	allocation	s via Exce	el Data		GroupByld		
	Bridge, it's	s vital tha	t data is en	itered in t	his column	-				-	
										OK	
Customer	AllocationDate	GroupByID	Indicator	ItemType	URN	TransDate	DueDate	Refere	nce	2ndReference	AllocationValue
WEL001		Α	Credit	Receipt	18446	25-03-2016	25-03-2016	WEL00	1_19/03/2010		176.25
WEL001		А	Debit	Invoice	27084	10-03-2022	09-04-2022				176.25
KIT002		В	Credit	Credit Note	27083	10-03-2022	10-03-2022				2577.8

24-09-2016 24-09-2016

See screenshot below where the first allocation contains the letter A in the Group By ID column for each allocation line, and the second allocation contains the letter **B** in the Group By ID column for each allocation line.

24303

Invoice

Any unique data can be used to keep transaction line-items together, so using numbers 1 and 2 instead would have had the same effect.

в

Debit

0000004926

0000004989

2577.8



Note how these two allocations have debit and credit values for an equal amount. Allocations

with equal debit and credit values will post automatically to Sage 200.

Indicator	ItemType	URN	TransDate	DueDate	Reference	2ndReference	AllocationValue
Credit	Receipt	18446	25-03-2016	25-03-2016	WEL001_19/03/2010		176.25
Debit	nvoice	27084	10-03-2022	09-04-2022			176.25
Credit	Credit Note	27083	10-03-2022	10-03-2022			2577.8
Debit	nvoice	24303	24-09-2016	24-09-2016	0000004989	0000004926	2577.8

Please refer to the next section on how to handle allocations where there is an imbalance

A 4	• • E	$\times \checkmark f_x$	The allocatio	on does not l	palance. Pleas	se see the Red	uceCreditTota	al property desc	ription			
1	A	В	С	D	E	F	G	Н	1	J	К	L
2	Status	Customer	AllocationDate	GroupByID	Indicator	ItemType	URN	TransDate	DueDate	Reference	2ndReference	AllocationValue
4	The allocation does	BET001		A	Credit	Receipt	18633	01-04-2016	01-04-2016	BET001_26/03/2010		1067.19
5	The allocation does	BET001		A	Debit	Invoice	27063	01-01-2022	31-01-2022	9317		199.99
6	The allocation does	BET001		A	Debit	Invoice	27064	08-01-2022	07-02-2022	9318		199.99
7	The allocation does	BET001		A	Debit	Invoice	27065	15-01-2022	14-02-2022	9319		200
8	The allocation does	BET001		A	Debit	Invoice	27066	22-01-2022	21-02-2022	9320		200
9	The allocation does	BET001		A	Debit	Invoice	27067	29-01-2022	28-02-2022	9321		200
_												

between the debit and credit values.

Allocation Imbalances

AllocationDate	GroupByID	Indicator	ItemType	URN	TransDate	DueDate	Reference	2ndReference	AllocationValue
	Α	Credit	Receipt	18633	01-04-2016	01-04-2016	BET001_26/03/2010		999.98
	А	Debit	Invoice	27063	01-01-2022	31-01-2022	9317		199.99
	Α	Debit	Invoice	27064	08-01-2022	07-02-2022	9318		199.99
	А	Debit	Invoice	27065	15-01-2022	14-02-2022	9319		200
	А	Debit	Invoice	27066	22-01-2022	21-02-2022	9320		200
	А	Debit	Invoice	27067	29-01-2022	28-02-2022	9321		200
	AllocationDate	A A A A A A	ACreditADebitADebitADebitADebitADebit	A Credit Receipt A Debit Invoice A Debit Invoice A Debit Invoice A Debit Invoice A Debit Invoice	ACreditReceipt18633ADebitInvoice27063ADebitInvoice27064ADebitInvoice27065ADebitInvoice27066	A Credit Receipt 18633 01-04-2016 A Debit Invoice 27063 01-01-2022 A Debit Invoice 27064 08-01-2022 A Debit Invoice 27065 15-01-2022 A Debit Invoice 27065 22-01-2022 A Debit Invoice 27066 22-01-2022	A Credit Receipt 18633 01-04-2016 01-04-2016 A Debit Invoice 27063 01-01-2022 31-01-2022 A Debit Invoice 27064 08-01-2022 07-02-2022 A Debit Invoice 27065 15-01-2022 14-02-2022 A Debit Invoice 27066 22-01-2022 21-02-2022	A Credit Receipt 18633 01-04-2016 01-04-2016 BET001_26/03/2010 A Debit Invoice 27063 01-01-2022 31-01-2022 9317 A Debit Invoice 27064 08-01-2022 07-02-2022 9318 A Debit Invoice 27065 15-01-2022 14-02-2022 9319 A Debit Invoice 27066 22-01-2022 21-02-2022 9320	A Credit Receipt 18633 01-04-2016 01-04-2016 BET001_26/03/2010 A Debit Invoice 27063 01-01-2022 31-01-2022 9317 A Debit Invoice 27064 08-01-2022 07-02-2022 9318 A Debit Invoice 27065 15-01-2022 14-02-2022 9319 A Debit Invoice 27066 22-01-2022 21-02-2022 9320

If the debit and credit values of the transactions being allocated are **not equal**, Excel Data Bridge will **not automatically post** the allocation to Sage 200 but throw an error message instead.

Credit Value greater than Debit Value

See example below where an outstanding **receipt** for **£1067.19** is greater than the total of the outstanding **invoices** it's being allocated against (**£999.98**).

The error message confirms that the allocation does not balance. The error needs to be cleared and the error corrected before posting to Sage 200. This can be resolved by one of two methods.

Method 1 – Manually balance the allocation

Amend the Allocation Value of the receipt to match the total of the invoices. Copyright of Draycir Ltd Version 1.0



Method 2 – Allow Excel Data Bridge to automatically reduce the credit balance Open

the Designer and set the property for **ReduceCreditTotal** to **True**.

	/lap Fields	5.77		×
A A	. 🖻			
∨ G	eneral	777-14 XX		
> Br	owseResults	BrowseRe	sults	
V H	eader			
> AI	locationDate	Allocation	Date	
> C	ustomer	Customer		
> G	roupByld	GroupByle	1	
∨ In	formation	in in in		
- 01	screpancy AsDisco.	T disc		_
and the second second	educeCreditTotal	True		-
	0100	Status		



Credit Value less than Debit Value

See example below where an outstanding **receipt** for **£556.31** is less than the total of the outstanding **invoices** it's being allocated against (**£571.57**). A difference of **£15.26**.

The error message confirms that the allocation does not balance. The error needs to be cleared and the error corrected before posting to Sage 200. This can be resolved by one of two methods.

44	1 · ·	$\times \checkmark f_x$	The allocation	on does not	balance. Plea	se see the Disc	repancyAsDis	count property	description			
4	A	В	С	D	E	F	G	Н	1	L	К	L
	Status	Customer	AllocationDate	GroupByID	Indicator	ItemType	URN	TransDate	DueDate	Reference	2ndReference	AllocationValue
	The allocation does	тот002		A	Credit	Receipt	25592	05-08-2016	05-08-2016	TOT002_30/07/2010		556.31
	The allocation does	TOT002		А	Debit	Invoice	27068	22-01-2022	21-02-2022	2648		240
	The allocation does	TOT002		A	Debit	Invoice	27069	29-01-2022	28-02-2022	2649		240
	The allocation does	TOT002		A	Debit	Invoice	27070	29-01-2022	28-02-2022	2650		91.57

Method 1 – Manually balance the allocation

Amend the Allocation Value of one of the invoices by reducing its value by the difference,

therefore making the debit and credit values match.

Customer	AllocationDate	GroupByID	Indicator	ItemType	URN	TransDate	DueDate	Reference	2ndReference	AllocationValue
TOT002		А	Credit	Receipt	25592	05-08-2016	05-08-2016	TOT002_30/07/2010		556.31
TOT002		A	Debit	Invoice	27068	22-01-2022	21-02-2022	2648		240
TOT002		А	Debit	Invoice	27069	29-01-2022	28-02-2022	2649		240
TOT002		А	Debit	Invoice	27070	29-01-2022	28-02-2022	2650		76.31

Method 2 - Allow Excel Data Bridge to automatically write off the difference as discount

Open the Designer and set the property for **DiscrepancyAsDiscount** to **True**.

9	Map Fields	- 🗆	×
	≜↓		
1	General		
۶.	BrowseResults	BrowseResults	
1	Header		
i.	AllocationDate	AllocationDate	
	Customer	Customer	
۶.	GroupByld	GroupByld	
-	Information		
	DiscrepancyAsDiscount	True	~
	ReducedrealtTotal	T GIGG	
	Status	Status	

On posting to Sage 200, a new transaction for the difference will be posted as a discount.

customer Details	<u>/</u>											
Code:	T0T002	✓ Address:	4 St P	Peter Road, Tysel	ley, Birmingha	am, West Midlan/	ds, B11 1/	AS, Great Bri	itain			
Short name:	Total BI	✓ Head office:	: тото	001 Total Home								
Postcode:	B11 1AS	✓ Credit limit:	£	20000.00								
		Balance:	£	0.00								/
Current Historical												
Transactions												
Trans. Type	e Trans. Date	e 🔻 Reference	2nd Ref.		Value	Allocated	Query	Status	Memo	User	Source	URN 🔽
Receipt	10/03/2022	Sett Disc			-15.26	-15.26		Full		Admin	Sales	27078
												ļ



Amending Templates

Deleting unwanted columns

Deleting unwanted columns within a template is a two-step process: -

- 1. Remove the field mappings from the Designer
- 2. Delete the columns in the Excel template

Open the **Designer** to view the current field mappings. If for example, the **2ndReference** column is not required on the worksheet, this can be unmapped, and the column deleted.

•	2↓ 📼			1. Clear the mapping against the first field no	longer
~	General		-		0
>	BrowseResults	BrowseResults		required	
~	Header	ana ana a	1		
>	AllocationDate	AllocationDate			
>	Customer	Customer		> ItemType ItemType	
>	GroupByld	GroupByld		Reference Reference	
×	Information		-		
	DiscrepancyAsDiscour	False		SecondReference	
	ReduceCreditTotal	False		TransDate TransDate	
	Status	Status		> URN URN	
~	Session				
>	AllocationValue	AllocationValue			
>	DueDate	DueDate			
>	ItemType	Item Type			
~	Reference	Reference			
>	SecondReference	SecondReference		2.Repeat for any other unrequired fields	
1	TransDate	Hansbale			
>	URN	URN			
				3. Close the Designer	
Se	econdReference				
~	he URN is not specified, i		20 C	4. Click Validate Design to check for errors	

Right click the column heading to remove and select **Delete > Table Columns**. Repeat for any other columns required.



2ndReference	*	Cut		
		<u>C</u> opy		
	B	Paste Options:		
		Ĉ		
		Paste <u>S</u> pecial		
	ø	Smart <u>L</u> ookup		
	D	<u>R</u> efresh		
		Insert	E	
		<u>D</u> elete	E	🔀 Table <u>C</u> olumns
		Select	E	∃★ Table <u>R</u> ows

Adding Rows and Columns

The worksheet templates have been created in an Excel table with the correct formatting applied.

To add additional **rows**, firstly locate the cell at the bottom righthand corner of the formatted table.

2ndReference	AllocationValue

Now select the cell, then click and drag down on the arrow. Extra rows will be added with the correct formatting.



If a column has been deleted in error and you'd like to bring it back again, right click on the column heading where you would like your new column to appear and select either: -

- Insert > Table Columns to the Left
- Insert > Table Columns to the Right

Allocation Value	* *	Cu <u>t</u> <u>C</u> opy			
	Ê	Paste Options:			
		Paste <u>S</u> pecial			
	ø	Smart <u>L</u> ookup			
	De	<u>R</u> efresh			
		Insert	×	F	Table Columns to the Left
		Delete	۲	B [‡] B	Table Column to the <u>R</u> ight
		Select	•	14-	Table Rows <u>A</u> bove



A new column will be added, named **Column1**. Rename the column in Excel, then refer to the next section on how to map this column in the Designer.

L
AllocationValue

Mapping a new column

Once a new column has been added to the template, it can be mapped to the required Sage 200 field.

2ndReference column re-added to the multiline template to display the reference against the allocation.

К	L
2ndReference	AllocationValue



Click **Designer** to open the mappings for the template and locate the field to map the column to.

1

1	General			
>	BrowseResults	BrowseResults		
1	Header			
>	AllocationDate	AllocationDate		
>	Customer	Customer		
>	GroupByld	GroupById		
4	Information			
	DiscrepancyAsDiscour	False		
	ReduceCreditTotal	False		
	Status	Status		
1	Session			
>	AllocationValue	AllocationValue		
>	DueDate	DueDate		
>	ItemType	Item Type		
	Peference	Defemane		
>	SecondReference			
	Transpare	Папърас		
	URN	URN		

SecondReference	? ×	
Select cell(s) () SKS4:SKS32		T
0	K Cancel	
	Select cell(s) () SKS4:SKS32	Select cell(s) () SKS4:SKS32

2. Now select the cell range for the **Batch Quantity** column before clicking OK.

The column is now mapped and can be populated in Excel Data Bridge.