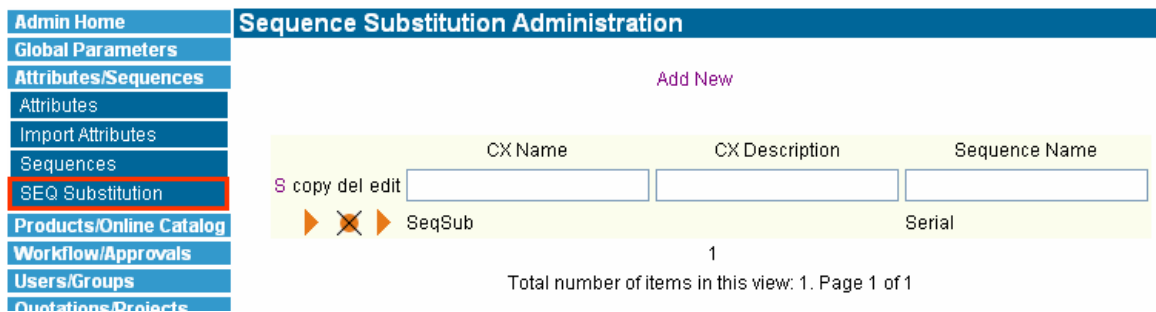


SEQ SUBSTITUTION/INTELLIGENT SERIALIZATION

When dealing with configured products, often times there is a desire for each unique configuration to have a distinct part number. This is not a problem as each product attribute can be joined together to build a part number. However, part numbers, when generated from a fully configured product, can become quite lengthy and are sometimes limited in length by the underlining business systems (ERP, etc.). Because of this, there is a need to serialize part numbers where a portion, or an entire part number, is serialized. **Intelligent Serialization** implies that a part number can be serialized while at the same time preserving the part number intelligence; hence the same configuration would always yield the same serial number.

A simple example of this would be if we have four attributes with three values each, such as: Color (Blue, Red, Green), Material (Wood, Aluminum, Steel), Voltage (120, 480, 600) and Size (Small, Medium, Large). If it is desired to uniquely capture these selections in the part number, then this could be easily done if there would be the luxury of allowing 4 characters to represent these values. Under this scenario a part number could look something like *someprefix-BW1M* for a Medium sized Blue widget, made out of Wood that works with 120 Volts. However, if restricted to only two characters in the part number to represent these 4 attributes, an intelligent **Sequence Substitution** would be defined, where any combination of these four attributes would be replaced with a sequence. The sequence would be defined to range from 1 to 81 (3^4) and the intelligent Sequence Substitution would be defined to use the 4 attributes mentioned above.

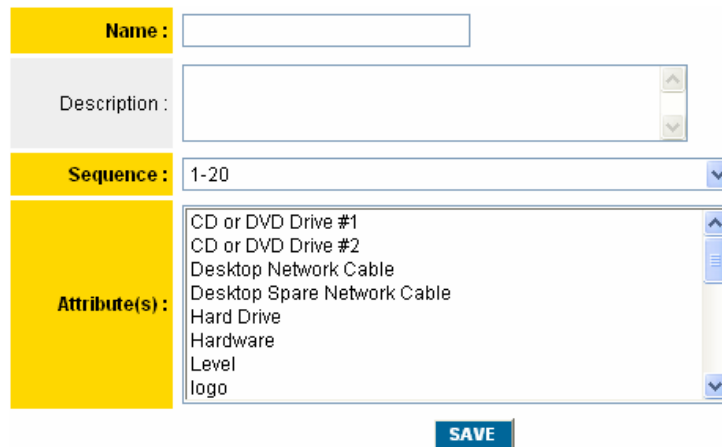
To define a Sequence Substitution, first define a numeric sequence (see Chapter 29); in this example it would be from 1 to 81. Next click on the **SEQ Substitution** link under the **Attributes/Sequences** drop down. This will bring up the page shown in Figure 30-1. Here Sequence Substitutions can be edited, deleted, or copied by selecting the appropriate symbol to the left of the Substitution name. Click **Add New** to create a new Sequence Substitution. This brings up the screen shown in Figure 30-2. This is the same screen displayed if editing.



CX Name	CX Description	Sequence Name
SeqSub		Serial

Total number of items in this view: 1. Page 1 of 1

Figure 30-1 – Sequence Substitution Administration



The form contains the following fields:

- Name :** A text input field.
- Description :** A text area with scrollbars.
- Sequence :** A dropdown menu currently showing "1-20".
- Attribute(s) :** A list box containing the following items: CD or DVD Drive #1, CD or DVD Drive #2, Desktop Network Cable, Desktop Spare Network Cable, Hard Drive, Hardware, Level, and logo.

A **SAVE** button is located below the form.

Figure 30-2 – Sequence Substitution Definition

Fields highlighted in **Yellow** are required to save the Substitution. Click the **Save** button to save the Substitution.

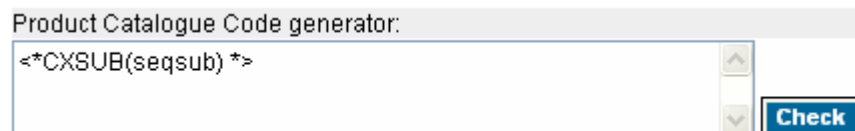
Name – This is the name that will be called by the CXSUB function

Description – Enter a description that is more detailed than the name

Sequence – Select the sequence that will be used in the reference

Attributes – Select the Attributes that when selected should be referenced by the same number.

Once a sequence substitution is defined it can be used in a formula for building a part number using a special tag called `<*CXSUB(sequence substitution name) *>`. Figure 30-3 shows a product using sequence substitution. In this example, **seqsub** is the created Sequence Substitution. To the user, the product number will look like any other product number or serial code.



The form is titled "Product Catalogue Code generator:" and contains a text input field with the code `<*CXSUB(seqsub) *>`. A **Check** button is located to the right of the input field.

Figure 30-3 – Sequence Substitution Tag used in Product Code Generator