

Oracle® Retail Central Office

Release Notes

Release 12.0.1

November 2007

This version of the release notes replaces the Release 12.0 version.

Overview

Oracle Retail Central Office is a web based application used at the corporate office to manage data movement and access real-time information across the enterprise. Data management capabilities provide the ability to control the distribution of information updates between the corporate office and stores to help ensure timely updates and consistent store policies. The use of a centralized corporate database provides enterprise-wide accumulation of transaction, electronic journal, and signature data with the ability to query based on business needs and to monitor for potential fraud.

Functional Enhancements

The following functional enhancements are included in this release:

- [Swan User Interface \(Swan UI\)](#)
- [Locale Support for Internationalization](#)
- [Value Added Tax \(VAT\)](#)
- [Oracle Help for the Web](#)

Swan User Interface (Swan UI)

Swan UI is a set of user interface definitions produced by Oracle which create a consistent interface for Oracle products and an improved user interface for application users. The Oracle Retail Central Office application screens are updated to use the Swan color palette and fonts. A new splash screen is displayed on the Dashboard.

Locale Support for Internationalization

Locale support is tailoring the information displayed on a screen and accepting user-entered data in a format that meets the conventions of the locale, or geographic region, where Oracle Retail Central Office is being used. Limited locale support is provided to enable the date, time, currency, and calendar to be displayed in the conventions defined for the default locale. The default locale is selected during installation.

Value Added Tax (VAT)

Oracle Retail Central Office supports a price inclusive VAT. A price inclusive VAT is a tax added at various stages of production based on the value added to the product at that stage.

When VAT is enabled, sales tax functionality is unavailable. When using Transaction Tracker to display transactions that have associated VAT information, the Tax column is not shown in the Totals section. A tax summary section is added to the Transaction Detail screen. The summary shows information on the VAT applied to the transaction.

Oracle Help for the Web

Online help is changed to use Oracle Help for the Web technology. The content of the online help is generated from the Oracle Retail Central Office User Guide. When the Help tab is clicked, the related section of the user guide for the current screen is displayed in a separate window. From the online help screen, any section of the user guide can be displayed.

Functionality Restricted or Removed

The Store Directory import on the Available Imports screen and the Store Hierarchy import through the Admin tab are no longer available. The import is now handled through the Data Import Subsystem.

Technical Enhancements

The following technical enhancements are included in this release.

Oracle Application Server Environment

Oracle Enterprise Linux is supported.

IBM WebSphere Environment

Deployment on the IBM WebSphere environment is supported.

Data Import Subsystem

Several types of seed data are required when Oracle Retail Central Office is deployed in production. Routine data loading must be done to maintain and update the data on an ongoing basis. The Data Import Subsystem enables external systems to send the following types of data to Oracle Retail Central Office for routine data loading:

- Employee
- Item
- Merchandise Hierarchy
- Store Hierarchy
- Tax

Item Size in the Electronic Journal

Item size is on a separate line in the Electronic Journal (EJournal). If there is no size associated with an item, the line does not appear.

JMS Performance Tuning Support

To better support JMS performance tuning, the following changes are made:

- XA is enabled on all queue and topic connection factories.
- POSLog, EJournal, and signature capture use dedicated connection factories.

The following connection factories are new:

- jms/ApplicationQCF is a general purpose queue connection factory.
- jms/ApplicationTCF is a general purpose topic connection factory.
- jms/POSLogQCF is used for POSLog import.
- jms/EJournalQCF is used for EJournal import.
- jms/SignatureCaptureQCF is used for Signature capture import.

The following connection factories are no longer used:

- jms/QueueConnectionFactory
- jms/TopicConnectionFactory
- jms/COQueueConnectionFactory

Data Purge

A set of scripts is provided to purge aged data from the databases. Purging aged data reduces the amount of disk space used. The following types of data can be purged:

- Retail Transactions (Sale, Return)
- Control Transactions (Void, No Sale, Open Store, Close Store, Open Register, Close Register, Open Till, Close Till)
- Layaway Data
- Financial Accounting Transactions (Till Loan, Till Pickup, Till Pay In, Till Pay Out)
- Orders
- Report Summary
- Financial History (Store, Register, Till)
- Advanced Pricing
- Timed Item Events
- Electronic Journal

Installer Enhancements

The following enhancements are made to the Oracle Retail Central Office installer:

- The installer performs many of the file updates that were previously done manually after running the installer. Screens are added to the installer to capture any information needed by the installer to complete these file updates.
- Troubleshooting information is added to the Oracle Retail Central Office Installation Guide.

Integration Enhancement

Oracle Retail Strategic Store Solutions products are integrated with the following Oracle Retail Merchandise Operations Management products:

- Oracle Retail Merchandising System is used to execute core merchandising activities, including merchandise management, inventory replenishment, purchasing, vendor management, and financial tracking.
- Oracle Retail Price Management is a pricing and promotions execution system that includes the definition, maintenance, and review of price changes, clearances, and promotions.
- Oracle Retail Sales Audit provides the tools to evaluate point-of-sale data to ensure the accuracy and completeness of the information exported to downstream systems used in optimization processes, financial reporting, and analysis.
- Oracle Retail Store Inventory Management is used to execute inventory management activities including receiving inventory, replenishing stock, managing physical inventories, looking up product information, and transferring or returning stock.

Oracle Retail Merchandise Operations Management is the system of record for item, merchandise hierarchy, store hierarchy, and price/promotion data. This data is imported to Oracle Retail Central Office for enterprise management and Back Office and Point-of-Service for managing store operations. Transaction data created through Oracle Retail Point-of-Service is then exported back to Oracle Retail Sales Audit. Oracle Retail Sales Audit processes and provides the updated data to Oracle Retail Merchandising System and Oracle Retail Store Inventory Management.

This is the first phase of the integration with Oracle Retail Merchandise Operations Management. Only common features that are shared between the Oracle Retail Merchandise Operations Management and Oracle Retail Strategic Store Solutions products are integrated in this release. Inventory updates to Oracle Retail Store Inventory Management are done through Oracle Retail Sales Audit.

Note: There are some conditions required on data in order to filter out the Oracle Retail Merchandising System data being extracted to the XML files. This is required mainly because Oracle Retail Point-of-Service has these limitations on data types. Some of these conditions are:

- For the store hierarchy:
 - Store value length is less than or equal to 5
 - Chain value length is less than or equal to 4
 - For items:
 - Item value length is less than or equal to 14
 - UOM length is less than or equal to 2
 - Diff_1 length is less than or equal to 20
 - Diff_2 length is less than or equal to 10
 - Unit retail is less than or equal to 999999.99
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Implementation Guide

An overview of how the products are integrated is included in the Strategic Store Solutions Implementation Guide. This guide was new for Release 12.0. The guide also has information on configuring the Strategic Store Solutions products for the integration.

Integration gaps have been identified between the Oracle Retail Merchandise Operations Management products and the Strategic Store Solutions products. These gaps affect the data files and product functionality. The identified gaps and the resolutions for handling the gaps are described in the Strategic Store Solutions Implementation Guide.

Upgrades to Requirements

For information related to upgrades to the Oracle Retail Central Office requirements (for example, Database Server, Application Server, and so on), see the Oracle Retail Central Office Installation Guide.

Known Issues

The following issues occur in this release.

Installing on the IBM WebSphere Environment

These two issues may occur when installing Oracle Retail Central Office on IBM AIX:

- The installer takes over six hours to complete the installation.
- Initial parameters still need to be imported manually even though the selection was made for the installer to load the initial parameters. Information on how to manually import the initial parameters is included in the Oracle Retail Central Office Installation Guide.

None Displayed for Some Fields on Transaction Detail Screen

Issue: The color, style, and size are selected for an item using Oracle Retail Back Office. When displaying the transaction details for a transaction that includes the item, "None" is displayed for the color, style, and size.

Fix: A fix is in development for Oracle Retail Central Office.

E-check in Non-US Deployments

E-check is not supported as a tender outside the United States. It is recommended that the client not enable the E-Check Functionality parameter. For information on the parameter, see the Oracle Retail Strategic Store Solutions Configuration guide.

Issue: While the E-Check functionality will work for an E-Check tendered in the base currency, if an E-Check is accepted in an alternate tender, it cannot be reconciled during the Register Close process.

Fix: A fix is in development for Oracle Retail Point-of-Service.

Data Import Field Width Maximums

Some fields can potentially overflow at the database level because the fields are not specifically limited in length by the Data Import XSDs. The following table lists the XML elements that are affected.

Table 1 Affected XML Elements

Import	Elements	Maximum Column Size
Employee Import	Employee > EmployeeFullName	VARCHAR(150)
	Employee > EmployeeLastName	VARCHAR(50)
	Employee > EmployeeFirstName	VARCHAR(50)
	Employee > EmployeeMiddleName	VARCHAR(50)
Item Import	Item > RetailStoreItem > POSIdentity@SupplierID	VARCHAR(20)
	PreloadData > Color@Code	VARCHAR(20)
	Item@Color	VARCHAR(20)
	PreloadData > Size@Code	VARCHAR(10)
	Item@Size	VARCHAR(10)

Table 1 (Cont.) Affected XML Elements

Import	Elements	Maximum Column Size
Merchandise Hierarchy Import	PreloadData > MerchandiseGroup > Description	VARCHAR(255)
	PreloadData > POSDepartment > POSDepartmentID	VARCHAR(14)
	PreloadData > POSDepartment > ParentPOSDepartmentID	VARCHAR(14)
	HierarchyList > Hierarchy@Name	VARCHAR(14)
	HierarchyList > Hierarchy > LevelList > Level@Name	VARCHAR(120)
	HierarchyList > Hierarchy > NodeList > Node@ParentNodeID	VARCHAR(14)
	ierarchyList > Hierarchy > NodeList > Node@ID	VARCHAR(14)
Pricing Import	PricingImport > PriceChange @ID	VARCHAR(20)
	PricingImport > PriceChange > Item @ID	VARCHAR(14)
	PricingImport > PriceChange > Item @TemplateType	VARCHAR(8)
	PricingImport > PriceChange @TemplateType	VARCHAR(8)
	PricingImport > PricePromotion @ID	VARCHAR(20)
	PricingImport > PricePromotion @TemplateType	VARCHAR(8)
	PricingImport > PricePromotion @TemplateType	VARCHAR(8)
	DiscountRule > Sources > Source @ID	VARCHAR(14)
	DiscountRule > Targets > Target @ID	VARCHAR(14)
	DiscountRule > Sources > Source @ID	VARCHAR(14)
	DiscountRule > Sources > Source @ID	VARCHAR(10)

Table 1 (Cont.) Affected XML Elements

Import	Elements	Maximum Column Size
Store Hierarchy Import	PreloadData > StoreRegion > RegionID	VARCHAR(14)
	PreloadData > StoreRegion > RegionName	VARCHAR(120)
	PreloadData > StoreDistrict > DistrictID	VARCHAR(14)
	PreloadData > StoreDistrict > RegionID	VARCHAR(14)
	PreloadData > RetailStore > GeoCode	VARCHAR(10)
	PreloadData > StoreDistrict > DistrictName	VARCHAR(120)
	PreloadData > RetailStore > LocationName	VARCHAR(150)
	PreloadData > RetailStore > DistrictID	VARCHAR(14)
	PreloadData > RetailStore > RegionID	VARCHAR(14)
	PreloadData > RetailStore > GeoCode	VARCHAR(10)
	PreloadData > RetailStore > Address > AddressLine1	VARCHAR(30)
	PreloadData > RetailStore > Address > AddressLine2	VARCHAR(30)
	PreloadData > RetailStore > Address > AddressLine3	VARCHAR(30)
	PreloadData > RetailStore > Address > City	VARCHAR(30)
	PreloadData > RetailStore > Address > State	VARCHAR(30)

Table 1 (Cont.) Affected XML Elements

Import	Elements	Maximum Column Size
Store Hierarchy Import (cont.)	PreloadData > RetailStore > Address > PostalCode	VARCHAR(30)
	PreloadData > RetailStore > Address > Territory	VARCHAR(30)
	PreloadData > RetailStore > Address > Country	VARCHAR(30)
	PreloadData > RetailStore > Address > TelephoneCountryCode	VARCHAR(30)
	PreloadData > RetailStore > Address > TelephoneAreaCode	VARCHAR(30)
	PreloadData > RetailStore > Address > TelephoneLocalNumber	VARCHAR(30)
	HierarchyList > Hierarchy@Name	VARCHAR(120)
	HierarchyList > Hierarchy > LevelList > Level@Name	VARCHAR(120)
	HierarchyList > Hierarchy > NodeList > Node@Name	VARCHAR(120)
	HierarchyList > Hierarchy > NodeList > Node@Description	VARCHAR(255)
Tax Import	GEOCode > GeoCodeID	VARCHAR(10)
	GEOCode > TaxJurisdictionName	VARCHAR(50)
	GEOTaxJurisdiction > GeoCodeID	VARCHAR(10)
	TaxAuthority > TaxAuthorityName	VARCHAR(40)
	TaxAuthority > GeoCodeID	VARCHAR(10)
	TaxableGroup > TaxGroupName	VARCHAR(120)
	TaxableGroup > TaxGroupDescription	VARCHAR(255)
	TaxAuthority > AddressLine	VARCHAR(30)
	TaxAuthority > City	VARCHAR(30)
	TaxAuthority > State	VARCHAR(30)
	TaxAuthority > PostalCode	VARCHAR(30)
	TaxAuthority > CountryCode	VARCHAR(30)
	TaxGroupRule > TaxTypeName	VARCHAR(30)
	TaxGroupRule > TaxRuleName	VARCHAR(40)
TaxGroupRule > TaxRuleDescription	VARCHAR(255)	

Defect Documentation

A defect fix is a modification to the base Oracle Retail Central Office code (for example, a bug fix, a performance enhancement, or a functional enhancement). All the bug fixes in each release should be fully reviewed before the release is installed.

The following defect fix is included in this release.

Table 2 Fixed Defect

Internal Bug Number	Description
28432	When a new user logs in for the first time, the Change Password screen is not displayed.

Documentation Update for Release 12.0.1

The following change has been made to the Oracle Retail Central Office documentation set for Release 12.0.1:

- In the Oracle Retail Central Office Installation Guide, the names of the zip files used for installation are updated.

The Oracle Retail Central Office Operations Guide and User Guide are not changed for this release. For these guides, consult the Release 12.0 version.

The following changes have been made to the Strategic Store Solutions documentation set for Release 12.0.1:

- In Strategic Store Solutions Licensing Information, the provider for Spring Framework is corrected and the Oracle Retail Merchandise Operations Management products are added to the list of prerequisite software.
- In the Strategic Store Solutions Implementation Guide, an appendix is added with XSD information and changes are made for discount rule and price look-up enhancements. Additional troubleshooting information is added.

The Oracle Retail Strategic Store Solutions Configuration Guide is not changed for this release. For information on configuring parameters, consult the Release 12.0 version.

The Release 12.0.1 versions are the guides that are updated for this release.

Oracle Retail Central Office Release Notes, Release 12.0.1

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Value-Added Reseller (VAR) Language

(i) the software component known as **ACUMATE** developed and licensed by Lucent Technologies Inc. of Murray Hill, New Jersey, to Oracle and imbedded in the Oracle Retail Predictive Application Server - Enterprise Engine, Oracle Retail Category Management, Oracle Retail Item Planning, Oracle Retail Merchandise Financial Planning, Oracle Retail Advanced Inventory Planning and Oracle Retail Demand Forecasting applications.

(ii) the **MicroStrategy** Components developed and licensed by MicroStrategy Services Corporation (MicroStrategy) of McLean, Virginia to Oracle and imbedded in the MicroStrategy for Oracle Retail Data Warehouse and MicroStrategy for Oracle Retail Planning & Optimization applications.

(iii) the **SeeBeyond** component developed and licensed by Sun Microsystems, Inc. (Sun) of Santa Clara, California, to Oracle and imbedded in the Oracle Retail Integration Bus application.

(iv) the **Wavelink** component developed and licensed by Wavelink Corporation (Wavelink) of Kirkland, Washington, to Oracle and imbedded in Oracle Retail Store Inventory Management.

(v) the software component known as **Crystal Enterprise Professional and/or Crystal Reports Professional** licensed by Business Objects Software Limited ("Business Objects") and imbedded in Oracle Retail Store Inventory Management.

(vi) the software component known as **Access Via™** licensed by Access Via of Seattle, Washington, and imbedded in Oracle Retail Signs and Oracle Retail Labels and Tags.

(vii) the software component known as **Adobe Flex™** licensed by Adobe Systems Incorporated of San Jose, California, and imbedded in Oracle Retail Promotion Planning & Optimization application.

(viii) the software component known as **Style Report™** developed and licensed by InetSoft Technology Corp. of Piscataway, New Jersey, to Oracle and imbedded in the Oracle Retail Value Chain Collaboration application.

(ix) the software component known as **I-net Crystal-Clear™** developed and licensed by I-NET Software Inc. of Berlin, Germany, to Oracle and imbedded in the Oracle Retail Central Office and Oracle Retail Back Office applications.

(x) the software component known as **WebLogic™** developed and licensed by BEA Systems, Inc. of San Jose, California, to Oracle and imbedded in the Oracle Retail Value Chain Collaboration application.

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