Oracle® Retail Store Inventory Management

Release Notes

Release 13.0.1

June 2008

This document highlights functional and technical enhancements, as well as fixed issues and defects, for Oracle Retail Store Inventory Management (SIM) Release 13.0.1.

Functional Enhancements

The following functional enhancements are added for Oracle Retail Store Inventory Management Release 13.0.1.

Oracle BI Publisher: Single Sign-On (SSO) Enabled

The capability was added in SIM to integrate with an SSO-enabled Oracle BI Publisher server for reporting. A new configuration property "Reporting Tool Request User Realm" has been added to the Store Admin screen. This property should be used if SSO policy includes a user realm (known as Company Name in SSO parlance); if not, the property should be left as 'none'.

<OSSO_USER>, <OSSO_PASSWORD>, and <OSSO_USER_REALM> should be used if the Oracle BI Publisher instance does not have local Oracle BI Publisher users and uses Oracle Single Sign-on instead for security.

This is a different login from the SIM application SSO user login, and it depends on the enterprise application SSO security settings.

Technical Enhancements

The following technical enhancements are included in this release.

Operating System Certification

In addition to the support of Linux introduced in SIM 13.0, the SIM 13.0.1 release introduces certification with the following operating systems:

- IBM AIX 5.3
- HP-UX Itanium 11.23
- Sun Solaris 10

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Japanese Language Enablement

The application is now translated into the Japanese language for both the PC and handheld.

In all, SIM is translated into these languages:

- Chinese (Simplified)
- Chinese (Traditional)
- English
- French
- German
- Italian
- Japanese
- Korean
- Portuguese (Brazilian)
- Spanish
- Russian

Changes to Accommodate RPM 13.0.1 Promotion Structure

Oracle Retail Price Management (RPM) 13.0.1 introduced changes to the promotion structure. These changes required modification to the existing message payload and flat files to reflect the new model. The new payload structure and flat file are generalized to represent both simple and complex promotions. Changes were done within SIM to consume this new payload structure. The batch process Bulk Price Processing has also been changed to process the new structure of the input file.

Integration Gaps with RMS and RWMS Resolved

There were integration gaps between SIM and Oracle Retail Merchandising System (RMS) and Oracle Retail Warehouse Management System (RWMS) related to transfers, returns to warehouse, and returns to vendor. These gaps are fixed with this release.

SIM PC Client Tested on IBM SUSE Linux

The SIM PC Client has been tested on SUSE Linux Enterprise Server (i586) Version 9, patch level 3.

Documentation Enhancements

The following document is available as a Metalink note at the following URL:

https://metalink.oracle.com

Oracle Retail White Paper: Oracle Retail Store Inventory Management Handheld Device Configuration for Japanese Display

Metalink Note: 601817.1

This white paper provides an explanation of how the Wavelink Client should be configured to display Japanese text. Japanese language support is newly added for SIM version 13.0.1.

Known Issues

The following are known issues for SIM Release 13.0.1:

- Third party stock counts should not be accessible through the handheld before the batch import file is processed.
- For reporting functionality, default reporting parameters are not set up correctly by the installer.

  Reporting configuration is held as a set of parameters in the RK_STORE_CONFIG table. Each store has its own set of values. When a store is created in SIM (during data seeding, or when a store is added over the RIB), the reporting parameters for the store are given a default set of values. The default values for these parameters are hard-coded. Reporting will not work until these values are changed to values meaningful for the installation environment. It is not currently possible to configure what the default values for new stores should be, so the value for every new store must be changed manually, either through the application (separately for each store) or with a database script to update the values for many stores at the same time.

Performance Assumptions

The following topics describe environmental requirements to provide acceptable SIM PC client performance.

Transaction Size Limitation

SIM does not support display of a single transaction larger than 10,000 lines. This is most often seen in the Stock Count module; therefore, product groups should be limited to 10,000 line items or fewer. Business process and application features can help provide relief for this limitation. Retailers should contact their Oracle Customer Support representative to learn about options, if single transactions need to include more than 10,000 line items.

PC Client–Server Bandwidth

SIM is designed as an in-store application with a centralized application server and database. SIM is sensitive to the bandwidth between the SIM PC client and the data center. Oracle Retail does not recommend or support installations with less than 128 KB bandwidth available between the PC client and the data center. Limiting the client

to less than 128 KB total available bandwidth causes unpredictable network utilization spikes, and performance of the client degrades below requirements established for the product.

The 128 KB requirement provides reasonable, predictable performance and network utilization for transactions within the limits noted in the Transaction Size Limitation section above.

The SIM client that runs on wireless handheld devices is not limited in this way. The handheld client can provide a workable alternative to customers who require SIM functionality in locations that do not provide 128 KB bandwidth.

PC Client–Server Latency

SIM is also sensitive to the network latency between the SIM PC client and the data center. Oracle Retail does not recommend or support installations with more than 50 ms total round-trip network latency between the PC client and the data center. Latency beyond the 50 ms limit causes unpredictable network utilization spikes, and performance of the client degrades below requirements established for the product. The 50 ms limitation provides reasonable, predictable performance and network utilization for transactions within the limits noted in the Transaction Size Limitation section above.

The SIM handheld client is significantly less affected by network latency and can provide a workable alternative to customers who require SIM functionality in locations with excessive network latency.

Related Documentation

For more information, see the following documents in the Store Inventory Management Release 13.0.1 documentation set:

- *Store Inventory Management Data Model*
- *Store Inventory Management Implementation Guide*
- *Store Inventory Management Installation Guide*
- *Store Inventory Management Operations Guide*