

Oracle® Retail Merchandise Financial Planning

Release Notes

Release 13.0.4.20

January 2010

This document highlights the major changes for Oracle Retail Merchandise Financial Planning (MFP) 13.0.4.20. MFP 13.0.4.20 includes functional and technical enhancements.

Note: The previous release of MFP was 13.0.3. In order to align the release numbers with Oracle Retail Predictive Application Server (RPAS), this hot fix of MFP is named 13.0.4.20. There was no 13.0.4 release.

Hardware and Software Requirements

See the *MFP Cost Installation Guide* and *MFP Retail Installation Guide* for information about the following:

- Hardware and software requirements
- Oracle Retail application software compatibility information

Functional Enhancements

MFP 13.0.4.20 includes the following functional enhancements.

MFP on the RPAS Fusion Client

With the introduction of the Oracle Retail Predictive Application Server (RPAS) Fusion Client, customers have a choice to use MFP with either the RPAS Fusion Client or the RPAS Classic Client. For details on the features of the RPAS Fusion Client, see the Oracle Retail Predictive Application Server Release 13.0.4.20 documentation. The only change made to the MFP solution in order to use the solution with the Fusion Client was the addition of the taskflow.

When using the Fusion Client for MFP, the users can utilize the new taskflow feature to understand and follow the MFP business process. MFP Retail and MFP Cost have been preconfigured to contain a default taskflow. This taskflow shows the overall business process and allows the users to understand the tasks they must complete in order to finish the business process.

The taskflow components are described in the table below.

Name	Description
Activity	High level business process or solution. An activity provides visibility to the full business process, supports application navigation, and drives end user activities. Tasks and steps are assigned to an activity to further describe the business flow. An example of an activity is "Create Merchandise Financial Plan."
Task	The second level of an activity flow. A task is associated with a single RPAS workbook template. Steps are assigned to a task. An example of a task is "Develop Department Plans."
Step	The lowest level of an activity flow. A step is associated with an RPAS worksheet or set of worksheets to achieve a specific action. An example of a step is "Getting Started - Seed Plan."

The taskflow for both MFP Retail and MFP Cost covers the preseason and in-season planning processes. The preseason activity for both is called Create Merchandise Financial Plan, and the in-season activity is called Manage / Update Merchandise Financial Plan. There is also an administrative activity called MFP Admin that allows user to perform MFP system administration tasks such as week mapping, setting VAT values, and verifying loaded data. Since the business process is slightly different for MFP Retail and MFP Cost, refer to the appropriate user guides for additional details on the tasks and steps that are required.

Technical Enhancement

MFP 13.0.4.20 includes the following technical enhancement.

MFP on the RPAS Fusion Client

The new RPAS Fusion Client introduces a new layer into the solution architecture. The RPAS Fusion Client is a Web-based user interface that utilizes an application server to allow the end user to communicate with the RPAS server. For more details on the RPAS Fusion Client architecture, see the *Oracle Retail Predictive Application Server Release Notes* for Release 13.0.4.20.

There are no specific technical changes required for MFP when using the Fusion Client. However, please note that the addition of the taskflow within the configuration does require the taskflow files from the domain to be copied to the Fusion Client application servers.

Integration Enhancement

MFP 13.0.4.20 includes the following integration enhancement.

Integration with RMS

To enable integration between Retail Merchandising System (RMS) and MFP, new data extracts have been developed and existing hierarchy files have been modified.

Note: RMS 13.1.2 integrates with MFP 13.0.4.20 running on RPAS 13.0.4.20.

Data Extracts

The following two data extracts have been developed:

- On-order extract

This extract contains future on-order quantities, as well as the cost and retail values of these quantities. The data is aggregated to week/style-color/location level. This extract is run on a weekly basis, because it contains a summary of data by week.

- Inventory extract

This extract contains the current inventory quantities, as well as the cost and retail values of these quantities. The data is aggregated to a week/style-color/location level. This extract is run on a weekly basis, because it contains a summary of data by week.

Hierarchy Files

In addition to the two new extracts, MFP transforms the RMS hierarchy extracts that previously existed and were consumed by RDF. This transformation creates load-ready product, location, and calendar hierarchy files. The hierarchy files contain the required levels and positions needed to support the MFP business process. The positions in these files match the position information in the data files.

Note: The existing RMS store and warehouse extracts have been modified to include channel information.

For information about these data extract programs and hierarchy files, see the Integration chapter in the *Oracle Retail Merchandising Financial Planning Operations Guide*.

Noteworthy Defect Fixes

There are no noteworthy defect fixes in MFP 13.0.4.20.

Known Issues

The following table contains issues that have been identified for the current release. Note that the Known Issues/Defects do not yet have a Defect Number.

Known Issue/Defect	Defect Number
MFP customers who want to use non-English languages should continue to use the RPAS Classic Client. The RPAS Fusion Client does not support translation in the 13.0.4.20 release.	N/A
When building an MFP Retail domain, there are three measures that are listed to load that do not exist in the domain. The log file contains usage information for the loadMeasure utility that states the measure does not exist. The build script finishes successfully. Once the domain is built, the markdown retail measure needs to be manually loaded into the domain since it is missing from the build script.	N/A

Related Documentation

For more information, see the following documents in the Oracle Retail Merchandise Financial Planning 13.0.4.20 documentation set:

- *Oracle Retail Merchandise Financial Planning Retail Installation Guide*
- *Oracle Retail Merchandise Financial Planning Cost Installation Guide*
- *Oracle Retail Merchandise Financial Planning Retail User Guide*
- *Oracle Retail Merchandise Financial Planning Cost User Guide*
- *Oracle Retail Merchandise Financial Planning Operations Guide*

For more information about the RPAS Fusion Client, see the following documents in the Oracle Retail Predictive Application Server 13.0.4.20 documentation set:

- *Oracle Retail Predictive Application Server Release Notes*
- *Oracle Retail Predictive Application Server Licensing Information*
- *Oracle Retail Predictive Application Server Installation Guide*
- *Oracle Retail Predictive Application Server Installation Guide for the Fusion Client*
- *Oracle Retail Predictive Application Server Administration Guide for the Fusion Client*
- *Oracle Retail Predictive Application Server Configuration Tools User Guide*
- *Oracle Retail Predictive Application Server Configuration Tools Online Help*
- *Oracle Retail Predictive Application Server User Guide for the Fusion Client*
- *Oracle Retail Predictive Application Server Online Help for the Fusion Client*

Previous Releases

For additional information on previous Oracle Retail Merchandise Financial Planning release enhancements and additional information, refer to the release notes and documentation that accompany the previous releases.

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