

Oracle® Retail Item Planning Configured for COE

Release Notes

Release 13.3

E27487-01

January 2012

Oracle Retail Item Planning Configured for COE (IP COE) facilitates the translation of merchandise financial plans into execution level, item driven strategies to be followed throughout the life of a product. It represents the bottom-up planning process, complementing and working in concert with the top-down financial plans. By providing weekly visibility into item performance and financial targets, the item planning process increases the likelihood that merchandising strategies are successfully executed within the financial plan parameters.

Item Planning is part of an overall planning process that involves planning at multiple levels of the product hierarchy. The planning process can be thought of as a continual process where each workbook enhances the following, and prior performance affects plans for future performance. Planning takes input from multiple parties, and communication enhances the process to help drive a financial road map for success. Multiple versions of the plan are created to benchmark success as well as provide insight to opportunities and risk for the in-season period.

In addition to the basic item planning process described above, Item Planning Configured for COE supports in-season markdown optimization, analysis, and execution. This is achieved through batch integration and a real-time service call to the Clearance Optimization Engine (COE). COE represents an effort to open up the markdown optimization engine for use in external applications such as IP COE that need an in-season price recommendation and a forecast that accounts for planned promotions and future markdowns and product life cycle. The IP COE exit strategy process has been configured to load the weekly batch forecasts calculated in COE. Based on this recommended information, the user has the ability to run a what-if scenario to the COE optimization engine. In real time, the user receives a revised forecast. Within IP COE, analysis of the key planning metrics, using both the recommended and revised forecasts, takes place in order to execute the optimal markdown recommendation.

Note: Because IP COE uses the Oracle Retail Predictive Application Server (RPAS) platform, Oracle Retail recommends that you review the *RPAS Release Notes* for fixed and known issues that may affect IP COE. In addition, RPAS 13.3 has significant technical enhancements related to hierarchy management (such as integer indexing) that have an effect on the configuration and maintenance of IP COE. You should closely review enhancements listed in the *RPAS Release Notes*.

Overview of the Fashion Planning Bundle

The Fashion Planning Bundle is the integration of Item Planning (IP), Item Planning configured for Clearance Optimization Engine (IP-COE), Assortment Planning (AP), Merchandise Financial Planning (MFP), and Size Profile Optimization (SPO) as a full-suite planning solution for fashion retailers.

Hardware and Software Requirements

See the *Oracle Retail Item Planning Configured for COE Installation Guide* for information about the following:

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

Upgrade Note

While not directly related to Item Planning Configured for COE, the Oracle Retail Predictive Application Server (RPAS) has undergone a major change to simplify hierarchy administration. Full details of these changes are outlined in the *Oracle Retail Predictive Application Server Release Notes*. Due to these changes, configuration updates have been made to Item Planning Configured for COE, and you will need to perform additional steps to upgrade your Item Planning Configured for COE domain, such as setting dimension sizes. The upgrade to RPAS 13.3 for this application includes a conversion process in addition to the normal upgrade process. See the details provided in the "Patch Installation" chapter of the *Oracle Retail Item Planning Configured for COE Installation Guide* and the "Upgrading and Patching" Domains section of the *Oracle Retail Predictive Application Server Administration Guide for the Classic Client* or the *Oracle Retail Predictive Application Server Administration Guide for the Fusion Client*.

Noteworthy Defect Fixes

The following noteworthy defect fixes are included in IP COE 13.3:

Fixed Issue/Defect	Defect Number
The COGS measures that were being passed to Item Planning were not being exported correctly. The interface did not have the correct COGS measures included. The interface (both Enabled ODI Integration and script based) has been updated to include the correct measures (BUOpiCOGSC/BUOpCOGSC and BUCpiCOGSC/BUCpCOGSC).	10194113

Fixed Issue/Defect	Defect Number
<p>Users reported an IllegalDimensionIndex error when trying to build the COE Initial Parameters workbook. This occurred because the required measure (IpWpCoInEolWt1V) was blank. This measure is loaded as part of the COE integration. Although the COE transformation scripts were not doing proper conversion, they did not fail either. The reason was that a sed command used in the script assumes GNU version of sed, which did not seem to be working on AIX.</p> <p>The sed statement has been changed to use standard syntax instead of GNU specific modifiers. This should allow the conversion from COE data to IP measure across all platforms. This will also resolve the error message the user received when building the workbook and the measure will now correctly be populated.</p>	12986841

Known Issues

The following table contains known issues that have been identified for the current release:

Known Issue/Defect	Defect Number
When using Enabled ODI Integration to transfer data from Assortment Planning to Item Planning, several measures may not be transferred and therefore may not be populated in Item Planning. In addition, several other measures may not match between the solutions after the transfer.	10207439
When using the installer in text mode and installing the Fusion Client configuration, stdout may be hidden during the installation progress output phase after reaching the [sshexec] step. The installer appears to fail to respond for a period of time, but returns to prompt upon completion. To see the full output of the installation process, view the installation log file. The graphical user interface (GUI) mode is not affected.	12732394
There are issues with measures not being populated after running flat file integration from Assortment Planning to Item Planning. This issue is within Assortment Planning, and a fix is in development.	13578617

Related Documentation

For more information, see the following documents in the Oracle Retail Item Planning Configured for COE documentation set:

- *Oracle Retail Item Planning Configured for COE Installation Guide*
- *Oracle Retail Item Planning Operation Guide*
- *Oracle Retail Item Planning Configured for COE User Guide for the RPAS Fusion Client*
- *Oracle Retail Item Planning Configured for COE User Guide for the RPAS Classic Client*
- Oracle Retail Item Planning documentation set

For more information about the Fashion Planning Bundle applications see the following documentation sets:

- Oracle Retail Item Planning documentation

- Oracle Retail Item Planning Configured for COE documentation
- Oracle Retail Clearance Optimization Engine documentation
- Oracle Retail Assortment Planning documentation
- Oracle Retail Merchandise Financial Planning documentation
- Oracle Retail Size Profile Optimization documentation

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

For more information about RPAS and the ODI Enabled Integration, see the following documentation sets:

- Oracle Retail ODI Enabled Integration documentation
- Oracle Data Integrator documentation
- Oracle Retail Predictive Application Server documentation

Previous Releases

For additional information on previous Oracle Retail Item Planning Configured for COE release enhancements and additional information, refer to the release notes and documentation that accompany the previous release.

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