

# Oracle® Retail Item Planning Configured for COE

Release Notes

Release 14.0

**E50564-01**

December 2013

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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.

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**Note:** Because IP COE uses the Oracle Retail Predictive Application Server (RPAS) platform, Oracle Retail recommends that you review the *Oracle Retail Predictive Application Server Release Notes* for fixed and known issues that may affect IP COE.

In addition, RPAS 13.3 and later releases have significant technical enhancements related to hierarchy management (such as integer indexing) that have an effect on the configuration and maintenance of IP COE. You must upgrade to key RPAS versions and complete the upgrade process as described in the chapter, "Patch Installation," in the *Oracle Retail Item Planning Configured for COE Installation Guide* before upgrading to a 14.0 IP COE domain.

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## 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 13.3 release of Oracle Retail Predictive Application Server (RPAS) has undergone a major change to simplify hierarchy administration. Full details of these changes are outlined in the 13.3 *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 or later releases for this application includes a conversion process in addition to the normal upgrade process. Details are provided in the chapter, "Patch Installation," in the *Oracle Retail Item Planning Configured for COE Installation Guide*.

## Technical Enhancements

IP COE Release 14.0 includes the following functional enhancement:

## New Way to Connect to COE

For IP to invoke a COE service call, it uses the Oracle Weblogic API to take the password of the client's keystore file, password of the keystore file, private key alias name, password of the private key, and password of COE and provide them to the secure web service being invoked. In previous implementations, these passwords were stored in the IP COE domain using dummy users. Starting with Release 14.0, the implementation for retrieving required passwords is changed to use an auto-login wallet file which is created using Credential Store Manager (CSM) framework. Secret store entries are added to this wallet file for the keystore, private keys, and COE user.

## Noteworthy Defect Fixes

The following noteworthy defect fixes are included in IP COE 14.0:

Fixed Issue/Defect	Defect Number
In the IP COE environment setup script (environment.ksh), the LIBPATH variable pointed to a path that will not exist. This would then manifest itself as a service execution problem: mace caught Exception: java.lang.UnsatisfiedLinkError: net (A file or directory in the path name does not exist.). This is resolved by removing the hard-coded LIBPATH variable from the environment script.	16850188
The script loadactuals.ksh displayed warning messages due to LoadActualsList.txt which contained measures that do not exist in the IP configuration. This is resolved by removing the invalid measure names from LoadActualsList.txt.	16957633

## Known Issues

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

Known Issue/Defect	Defect Number
There is an issue with the calculation for the COE Revised Price % Off Original Price metric. After completing a What-If call in the application, it is expected that the COE Revised Price % Off Original Price metric would calculate.  For example, for the WP Original Ticketed Price measure, there is a value of 30. There is a COE Revised Clearance Retail Price value of 25.46. However, the COE Revised % Off Original Price measure is calculating as zero.	14311258
The WP Current Ticketed Price, COE What-If Clearance Retail Price, and What-If Clearance Retail Price % off are not calculated together. The expectation is that the COE What-If Clearance Retail Price is calculated from the WP Current Ticketed Price and What-If Clearance Retail Price % off measures.	14311533

Known Issue/Defect	Defect Number
When the COE What-If Current Inventory U measure is set to 0 on the What If Request screen, the COE Revised Current Inventory U measure is not set to 0. This is fine. However, what the inventory value COE Revised Current Inventory U is set to is not correct. It is expected to be set to BOP total inventory as of the first forecasted week, but instead it takes the EOP inventory of that week. This also causes the COE Revised EOP Inventory U measure on the Forecast Analysis screen to be calculated using the incorrect number.	14311565

## Related Documentation

For more information, see the following documents in the Oracle Retail Item Planning Configured for COE Release 14.0 documentation set:

- *Oracle Retail Batch Script Architecture Implementation Guide*
- *Oracle Retail Item Planning Configured for COE Installation Guide*
- *Oracle Retail Item Planning Configured for COE User Guide for the RPAS Classic Client*
- *Oracle Retail Item Planning Configured for COE User Guide for the RPAS Fusion 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 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.

# Documentation Accessibility

For information about Oracle's commitment to accessibility, visit the Oracle Accessibility Program website at <http://www.oracle.com/pls/topic/lookup?ctx=acc&id=docacc>.

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Oracle® Retail Item Planning Configured for COE Release Notes, Release 14.0  
E50564-01

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