

Oracle® Retail Price Management
Release Notes
Release 12.0.3

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Preface

A Release Notes document can include some or all of the following sections, depending upon the release:

- Overview of the release
- Functional, technical, integration, and performance enhancements
- Assumptions
- Fixed defects
- Known issues

Because of their brevity, Release Notes do not include chapters, appendixes, or a table of contents.

Audience

Release Notes are a critical communication link between Oracle Retail and its retailer clients. There are four general audiences for whom a Release Notes document is written:

- Retail clients who want to understand the contents of this release
- Integrators and implementation staff who have the overall responsibility for implementing Oracle Retail Price Management (RPM) in their enterprise
- Business analysts who want high-level functional information about this release
- System analysts and system operation personnel who want high-level functional and technical content related to this release

Customer Support

<https://metalink.oracle.com>

When contacting Customer Support, please provide the following:

- Product version and program/module name
- Functional and technical description of the problem (include business impact)
- Detailed step-by-step instructions to re-create
- Exact error message received
- Screen shots of each step you take

Release Notes

Overview

This document describes the enhancements and major defect fixes that were made to this release of Oracle Retail Price Management (RPM).

Technical Enhancements

Oracle Enterprise Linux Release 4 Support

The Oracle Retail Merchandising product suite now supports the Oracle Enterprise Linux Release 4 (OELr4) platform with Oracle RDBMS 10.2.0.3.

The Merchandising products support OELr4:

- Retail Merchandising System (RMS 12.0.3)
- Retail Merchandising Sales Audit (ReSA 12.0.3)
- Retail Price Management (RPM 12.0.3)
- Retail Trade Management (RTM 12.0.3)
- Security Manager (RSM 12.0.2)
- Retail Allocations 12.0.3
- Retail Invoice Matching (ReIM 12.0.3)

Note: A 12.0.0 hot-fix (5985761) is required as a pre-installation step, in order to install Oracle Retail applications on Oracle Enterprise Linux Release 4.

Note: The Retail Integration Bus (RIB) is *not* certified on OELr4. RMS and RPM are supported on OELr4 when database-level integration is being used, rather than RIB integration.

Oracle RDBMS 10.2.0.2 Support

The Oracle Retail Merchandising product suite supports Oracle RDBMS 10.2.0.2 with the following operating systems:

- AIX (v5.2 and v5.3)
- Solaris (v9)
- HP-UX (v11.11)

Oracle Real Application Clusters (RAC) Support

With the 12.0.3 release, RPM supports deployment in an Oracle Real Application Clusters (RAC) environment. Oracle RAC is a cluster database with a shared cache architecture that overcomes the limitations of traditional shared-nothing and shared-disk approaches to provide highly scalable and available database solutions for all your business applications.

Oracle Application Server (OAS) Support

With the 12.0.3 release, RPM supports OAS 10.1.3.0.

Configurable Retail Integration Bus (RIB)

RMS and RPM can integrate through the RIB. Because both RMS and RPM reside on the same database, the RIB integration can add unnecessary processing overhead. This enhancement allows clients to configure their systems to either use the RIB, or to bypass the RIB for RMS-RPM integration. This configuration is controlled by the value of a parameter in the SYSTEM_OPTIONS table.

Additional RPM configuration steps must be completed to configure the RIB. For details about the RPM configuration steps, see “Configuring RPM without the RIB” in the chapter “Backend System Administration and Configuration” of the Retail Price Management Operations Guide.

RPM bug number 5874951 is raised for this enhancement. This bug goes hand-in-hand with RMS bug number 5718852 when applying the patch; otherwise, RMS code will not compile because of missing tables and packages.

Data Conversion Toolset

A data conversion toolset to load the RPM tables is provided to assist with the implementation of Oracle Retail software. The data conversion tools assist the implementation team to do the following:

- Define flat file formats as APIs for legacy
- Provide detailed Operations Guide to help drive the data loading process

Data conversion load scripts are provided for the following functional areas within the Retail Merchandising System:

- Core
- Merchandise Hierarchy
- Organizational Hierarchy
- Suppliers
- Items (Hardlines, Fashion and Grocery)

Note: Load scripts assume clean data.

Functional Enhancements

Simplified Retail Price Management (RPM)

Simplified RPM provides the option to limit the functionality that is accessible in RPM for the following areas:

- Pricing Strategies
- Worksheets
- Candidate Rules
- Calendars
- Market Basket Codes
- Aggregation Level

This is accomplished by supplying new scripts to populate RSM tables with only the permissions available for Simplified RPM. Other functionality (listed above) will not be available in RSM when defining roles.

Documentation Enhancements for Merchandising 12.0.3

The first release on the Merchandising level introduces the following new Oracle Retail end user documents:

- Merchandising Implementation Guide
- Merchandising Batch Schedule
- Merchandising Data Conversion Operations Guide

Note: There is no corresponding Merchandising level code release, and Oracle Retail has no plans to release code on the Merchandising level.

Merchandising Implementation Guide

The purpose of the Merchandising Implementation Guide is to provide a high-level view of how Oracle Retail Merchandising applications are implemented. The guide includes the following:

- How to implement Oracle Retail Merchandising applications
- An overview of each Oracle Retail Merchandising application
- Information that each Oracle Retail Merchandising application maintains
- How each Oracle Retail Merchandising application integrates with other Oracle Retail merchandising applications

This document addresses the following applications:

- Oracle Retail Merchandising System (RMS)
- Oracle Retail Sales Audit (ReSA)
- Oracle Retail Trade Management (RTM)
- Oracle Retail Price Management (RPM)
- Oracle Retail Security Manager (RSM)
- Oracle Retail Invoice Matching (ReIM)
- Oracle Retail Allocation
- Oracle Retail Active Retail Intelligence (ARI)

Merchandising Batch Schedule

The Merchandising Batch Schedule document combines and integrates the batch schedules of Merchandising applications. A single reference now provides the following information for system operators, analysts, integrators, and implementers:

- A listing of all batch programs for the Merchandising applications. For each batch program, the list includes the processing phase in which it runs, its pre- and post-dependencies, and its run parameters.
- An integrated batch schedule diagram that illustrates the sequence and processing dependencies of all phases (0 through 7, ad hoc, and date set phases).
- Flow diagrams for RETL extracts from RMS for Oracle Retail Predictive Application Server (RPAS).
- Flow diagrams for Oracle Retail Extract, Transform, and Load (RETL) extracts from RMS for Oracle Retail Data Warehouse (RDW) or other data warehouse.
- Flow diagram for the RETL extract from RPM for RDW or other data warehouse.
- Flow diagram for the RETL extract from Oracle Retail Invoice Matching (ReIM) for RDW or other data warehouse.

The Merchandising Batch Schedule replaces the separate batch schedule documents for RMS, RPM, and ReIM. Separate batch schedule documents are no longer published for Oracle Retail Merchandising product releases 12.0.x and higher.

The Merchandising applications addressed by the batch schedule include:

- Oracle Retail Merchandising System (RMS)
- Oracle Retail Sales Audit (ReSA)
- Oracle Retail Trade Management (RTM)
- Oracle Retail Price Management (RPM)
- Oracle Retail Invoice Matching (ReIM)
- Oracle Retail Allocation

Merchandising Data Conversion Operations Guide

This guide is a reference for the data conversion operations required to migrate from legacy retail management systems to the Oracle Retail Merchandising software.

The guide describes the data conversion operations that begin with flat files produced from the databases of legacy applications. It details the content and format of each flat file required to perform the data conversion, as well as the tables created and populated by the conversion scripts.

This guide is for the members of the implementation team who plan and execute the migration of data at the retailer's site. The team includes the retailer's systems management, database management, systems analysis, and operations personnel. It also includes Oracle Retail and consultant support staff who assist in the implementation.

The Merchandising applications addressed by the Data Conversion Operations Guide include:

- Oracle Retail Merchandising System (RMS)
- Oracle Retail Sales Audit (ReSA)
- Oracle Retail Trade Management (RTM)
- Oracle Retail Price Management (RPM)

Oracle Retail White Paper: Merchandising Installation Test Cases

Metalink Note: 427812.1

This document provides a series of test cases which will help test the Merchandising installation of the Oracle Retail applications. It contains tests cases related to the following products:

- Oracle Retail Merchandising System (RMS)
- Oracle Retail Sales Audit (ReSA)
- Oracle Retail Trade Management (RTM)
- Oracle Retail Price Management (RPM)
- Oracle Retail Invoice Matching (ReIM)
- Oracle Retail Allocations

Defect Documentation

A defect fix is a modification to base Oracle Retail code (for example, a bug fix, a performance enhancement, or a functional enhancement).

Fixed Issues

Fixed issues have been ported forward into this version of RPM from RPM 11.0.8.3 through RPM 11.0.9.1.1.

To assist with the patch application process, there is a defect module cross-reference spreadsheet (DEFECT MODULE XREF RPM 12.0.3.xls). For each fixed defect, this spreadsheet lists and describes the defect fixes.

Known Issues

Defect 329 (Bug 5995871) (Priority 3): Browser cache - Load balancing issue

Description: This issue deals with the fact that the Web browser can cache the jnlp file. In the event of a failover, the load balancer would generate the correct jnlp file, but the browser cache may prevent this version from being picked up.

Resolution: Development is actively working on a fix for this defect that should be available in a forthcoming hot-fix.

Workaround: There is an additional file called rpm-jnlp-nocache.html in the same directory as rpm.jnlp. This file can be used to launch RPM as an alternative to the rpm.jnlp file. This file performs a redirect to the JNLP to launch the client, using a GET parameter that makes the request URL unique every time. This should prevent the browser from using a cached version of the rpm.jnlp. Another workaround is to delete cookies and clear the browser cache before launching rpm.jnlp.

Defect 131 (Bug 5995935) (Priority 2): On Linux - Promotion Search - No data returned when searching by promotion ID

Defect 285 (Bug 5995935) (Priority 2): On AIX - Promotion Search - Display error when search by promotion ID

Description: Intermittent incorrect results (no results) when searching by promotion ID alone.

Resolution: An Oracle SR has been logged for this issue (SR # 5921386).

Workaround: Include the department ID when searching by promotion ID.

Defect 172 (Bug 5903404) (Priority 2): On AIX (asynch) - Price Changes are getting stuck in Conflict Checking status on Asynch mode

Defect 297 (Bug 5995954) (Priority 2): On AIX (asynch) - Submitting a Price Change displays error on Alert window

Description: Intermittent errors occur during asynchronous processing. (This issue does not seem to be prevalent on the Linux platform.)

Resolution: Development is actively working on a fix for this defect that should be available in a forthcoming hot-fix.

Workaround: Turn off asynchronous processing (background conflict check).

Bug 6008527 (Priority 3): Intermittent IllegalStateException upon login

Description: Intermittent error occurs immediately after login: IllegalStateException

This error is caused by a bug in the polling logic for pulling alerts into the RPM client. The error only occurs immediately after login.

Resolution: Development is actively working on a fix for this defect that should be available in a forthcoming hot-fix.

Workaround: Click the Continue button. The application should function without any problems after that.