Oracle® Retail Merchandising System

Release Notes

Release 13.1

June 2009

This document highlights the major changes for Oracle Retail Merchandising System (RMS) Release 13.1. RMS 13.1 includes functional, technical, integration, and documentation enhancements.

Product Overview

Oracle Retail Merchandising System (RMS) is used to execute core merchandising activities, including merchandise management, inventory replenishment, purchasing, vendor management, and financial tracking.

Oracle Retail Sales Audit (ReSA) provides the tools to evaluate point-of-sale data to ensure the accuracy and completeness of information exported to downstream systems used in optimization processes, financial reporting, and analysis.

Oracle Retail Trade Management (RTM) is used to manage the import process, including automating the steps necessary to import goods, managing file exchanges with trading partners, and providing a central database of critical import order information.

Hardware and Software Requirements

See the *Oracle Retail Merchandising System Installation Guide* for information about the following:

- Hardware and software requirements
- Oracle Retail application software compatibility

Functional Enhancements

The following functional enhancements are introduced for RMS 13.1.

Replenishment Enhancements

Oracle Retail Merchandising System Release 13.1 has several enhancements to the replenishment module that allow greater process control for individual stores. Retailers can utilize these features to provide their customers a more localized experience.

Store order requests that are shipped from a warehouse can have delivery time slots associated with them. This allows multiple deliveries for a store in a given day. Also, the batch process in RMS for the orders from a store can be run

multiple times a day, providing the opportunity to react more quickly to demand changes at a store.

Store replenishment for direct-to-store or warehouse cross-dock orders can be split automatically across multiple suppliers. If a single supplier is not able to consistently meet all of the demand, this permits the ordering process to still be automated while fulfilling demand.

Supplier inventory management parameters used in the replenishment process can be set at the store level, giving greater flexibility, granularity, and control to meet the inventory needs of stores. This also increases the usability of the application by providing more defaulting options.

Import Enhancements

Before Release 13.1, RMS provided robust support to the importing process that is key to retail. In Release 13.1, this functionality is enhanced by adding the option to include an importer and exporter as partners on a purchase order. This permits retailers to better track an order and comply with legal requirements.

RMS now tracks the country of manufacture for items. The Harmonized Tariff Schedule (HTS) for an item can be based on the country of sourcing (origin) or the country of manufacture, allowing increased options for the global retailer.

In some countries, different duties, taxes, and fees are charged based on the point of entry of goods. This requires the ability to set up the same HTS number with multiple rates. RTM was enhanced to allow the setup of multiple rates for a single HTS number based on the point of entry of the goods, called a clearing zone. Clearing zones are defined by import country and are associated with Item/HTS and Order/Item/HTS records. They are used to determine the appropriate duty, tax, and fee rates to be applied.

Cost Component Enhancements

Users can now apply updates to cost component rate information (expenses, upcharges and assessments) to the entities with which they are associated. Users can now default changes to cost components forward to entities with which they are associated. For example, it is possible to default a rate change in a freight cost component to the suppliers and purchase order with which that component is associated. In previous RMS releases, these changes had to be made manually. In Release 13.1, cost component changes can also have an effective date. Because of this, future changes can be entered, and it is not necessary to wait until the day that a change takes effect.

Customer Reservations and Layaway

The Oracle Retail products have been enhanced to provide greater flexibility for consumers in how they purchase and take delivery of merchandise.

Enhancements have been made to ReSA, along with other Oracle Retail applications, to provide additional payment method and merchandise delivery options. Retail customers can now choose to purchase in-stock merchandise that they will pick up at a later time, place special orders for items, and have items delivered or available for pick-up at a different store location. Layaway functionality has also been enhanced for payment flexibility and inventory management.

Release 13.1 adds functionality and integration across the Oracle Retail applications, including ReSA, to support these customer-focused business flows. ReSA has been enhanced to accept new transaction types and their related data from point-of-service systems, and to manage the data across processes. Additional integration between ReSA and Oracle Retail Store Inventory Management (SIM) supports management of store inventory for these processes, with further enhancements supporting downstream integration to RMS and Oracle Retail Data Warehouse (RDW).

Cost Batch Enhancements

Previous releases of RMS performed cost calculations exclusively during the nightly batch run. This functionality was enhanced for retailers who operate low-margin businesses that require more timely cost visibility. With more timely cost calculations, there is increased visibility of the cost impact on margin calculations. The enhanced batch can be run during the day as needed to calculate future costs.

Inner Case Pack Handling

This new feature allows retailers greater flexibility to handle a purchase order at the outer case pack level and track inventory receipts at the inner pack level. Movement of inventory from the distribution center to stores now allows inner pack item level. Complementary functionality was also added to the Oracle Retail Invoice Matching (ReIM) application to allow invoice matching and discrepancy resolution at a case pack level for the same vendors.

Multi-Channel

The single-channel functionality is no longer supported. RMS 13.1 always assumes a multi-channel environment.

Technical Enhancements

RMS 13.1 includes the following technical enhancements.

Upgrading to RMS Release 13.1

For new customers, RMS 13.1 is a base release (a full product installation). Current customers who have installed RMS 13.0.2 also have the option to upgrade to Release 13.1. For information about upgrading, see the following document at My Oracle Support (formerly MetaLink) at the following URL:

https://metalink.oracle.com

Oracle Retail Upgrade Guide (Doc ID 837368.1)

Because the upgrade process varies among Oracle Retail applications, the *Oracle Retail Upgrade Guide* describes the approach that each Oracle Retail application takes for the upgrading process, as well as product-specific upgrade assumptions and considerations. Actual procedures for the upgrade may be included in the application's Installation Guide.

Oracle Database Upgrade

For Release 13.1, RMS and other Oracle Retail applications are supported with Oracle Database 11g (11.1.0.7). See the *Oracle Retail Merchandising System Installation Guide* for complete information about requirements for your operating environment.

Integration Enhancements

The following are integration enhancements for RMS 13.1.

Integration with Oracle Retail Store Inventory Management (SIM)

- RMS provides SIM two new flags that are used to support the SIM simple pack breakdown process, which is a part of a larger requirement to better support selling items in different configurations from the configurations in which they are purchased. For example, an item might be bought and inventoried by weight, and sold either by weight or by the piece at the same time (and at the same store). To sell by the piece, a simple pack item would need to be created to represent the piece item. This item would contain a defined weight of the component item. The flags interfaced to SIM allow RMS and SIM to track the inventory for these special-purpose pack items in the same manner.
- To support the store GMT process, the store's time zone information is now published from RMS to SIM.

Integration with Oracle Retail Warehouse Management System (RWMS)

The item flag that indicates whether an item is perishable is now integrated with RWMS.

Documentation Enhancements

Oracle Help for the Web

The RMS 13.1 Online Help has been upgraded to the Oracle Help for the Web technology. Oracle Help for the Web is a Java servlet and file format specification for delivering HTML-based help in a Web environment. A single installation of the help is managed on a single server. You view and navigate help content through your default Web browser. The help display includes tabs for features such as Contents, Search, and Index that help you locate and navigate to a help topic easily.

Known Issues

The following are known issues in RMS 13.1.

Functional Area	Defect / Reference	Summary
Catchweight items	781	A catchweight type 3 item is saved in the database as catchweight type 4.
Country of manufacture	2019	If the system option for HTS Tracking is set to "Country of Manufacture," every item created requires country of manufacture information. Workaround: Enter the country of manufacture for each item.
EDI download	262	The EDI file downloaded for DSD Invoice does not have VAT details.
EDI invoice download	523	If the supplier site system option setting is ON, the EDI file generated after running the EDIDLINV batch in RMS only contains supplier information, but not the supplier site information. Workaround: ReIM recognizes supplier sites, and invoices can still be raised for them manually in ReIM.
Legal entities	907	When an import PO containing a simple pack is received, the tran code computations are incorrect.
Legal entities	909	When a receiver cost adjustment is performed for an import order with importer/exporter, the TRAN data 37 posted contains an adjustment code of "C".
Legal entities	920	The system creates multiple inter-company book transfers when an import order is received for multiple items in the same location.
Legal entities	956	For import orders, when the item is deleted, the routing location is also cleared out. Validation for the routing location must be done against the locations of the PO and not against the PO header.
Legal entities	985	The transfer cost and transfer retail for an inter-company book transfer are displaying NULL values.
Performance	522	The batch program batch_ itmcostcompupd.ksh runs for a significant amount of time when processing approximately 34,000 items.
Performance	524	There are performance problems with the orddscnt.pc batch. The problem query has "hints" that are no longer valid and should be removed.
Performance	537	Poor performance is observed when applying diffs to an item, applying "ALL Stores," and approving items.

Functional Area	Defect / Reference	Summary
Performance	553	When a new PO is created, after adding items and distributing to locations, clicking the OK button takes a significant amount of time.
Performance	988	Poor performance is observed with the batch program stkvar.pc, which runs for more than an hour when executing on a single statement.
Receiver cost adjustment	1008	When a receiver cost adjustment is performed, the unit cost of the item on the PO is not updated.
ReSA	906	The saimptlogi batch fails with the following error: cannot insert NULL into ("RMS01"."SA_TRAN_ITEM"."UNIT_ RETAIL_VAT_INCL").
Translation	1748	In a translated environment, if the column name in a multi-record block is longer than 30 characters, the field is truncated and a “6502 FRM” error appears.
Upcharge	2018	The future cost for an item does not represent the correct pricing value when the Pricing Upcharge component value is changed.
VAT	943	A VAT error and FRM errors appear while editing tran level 2 and tran level 3 items. The VAT information from the Level 1 item is not defaulted down to the child items.
VAT	980	Data for VAT is not displayed in the EDI flat file for an RTV order.

Related Documentation

For more information, see the following documents in the Oracle Retail Merchandising System Release 13.1 documentation set:

- *Oracle Retail Merchandising System Data Model*
- *Oracle Retail Merchandising System Installation Guide*
- *Oracle Retail Merchandising System Online Help*
- *Oracle Retail Merchandising System Operations Guide*
- *Oracle Retail Merchandising System User Guide*
- *Oracle Retail Merchandising System Reports User Guide*
- *Oracle Retail Sales Audit User Guide*
- *Oracle Retail Trade Management User Guide*

See also:

- *Oracle Retail Merchandising Batch Schedule*
- *Oracle Retail Merchandising Data Conversion Operations Guide*

- *Oracle Retail Merchandising Implementation Guide*
- *Oracle Retail Merchandising Licensing Information*
- Oracle Retail Extract, Transform, and Load (RETL) documentation
- Oracle Retail Integration Bus documentation
- Oracle Retail Service Layer documentation