Oracle® Retail Store Inventory Management

Release Notes

Release 13.2.3

October 2011

This document highlights the major changes for Release 13.2.3 of Oracle Retail Store Inventory Management (SIM).

Release Number

The previous release of Oracle Retail Store Inventory Management was 13.2.1.2. In order to align the release numbers for the Oracle Retail products, this release of Oracle Retail Store Inventory Management is named 13.2.3.

About Patch Releases

Oracle Retail patch releases are periodic releases that can include the following:

- New defect fixes and product enhancements
- All of the defect fixes and enhancements that have been released through bundled hot fix releases since the last patch release

> **Note:** Customers can choose whether to apply bundled hot fix releases, or wait for the next patch release. You must apply this patch release to upgrade your installation to the currently supported level:
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> - Customers who have applied all bundled hot fix releases must apply all new defect fixes and enhancements included in the patch release.
> - Customers who have not applied bundled hot fix releases can instead apply the patch release, which also includes the fixes and enhancements from the bundled hot fix releases.

Documentation for patch releases includes the following:

- New and updated guides (for example, operations and user guides) that apply to the patch release level. These documents include all updates made since the last patch release. See "Related Documentation" for a list of the documents published for SIM 13.2.3.
- Defect reports for new fixes and enhancements for the patch release.
- Defect reports for all bundled hot fix releases since the last patch release.
- All document versions that were released with bundled hot fix releases.

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Note: Documentation is separated into folders that are identified by release numbers. Documents for bundled hot fix releases are provided again as a historical record of the changes made since the last patch release. Always refer to the most recent document versions that apply to the release level you have installed.

See the *Oracle Retail Store Inventory Management Installation Guide* for Release 13.2.3 for instructions about how to apply the defect fixes and enhancements that you have not already applied.

Hardware and Software Requirements

See the *Oracle Retail Store Inventory Management Installation Guide* for information about the following:

- Hardware and software requirements
- Oracle Retail application software compatibility

Application Server Deployment Options

SIM 13.2.3 continues to support two different application servers for deployment:

- Oracle WebLogic Server 11g Enterprise Edition (10.3.3)
- Oracle Application Server 10g Enterprise Edition (10.1.3.4)

See the *Oracle Retail Store Inventory Management Installation Guide* for more information.

Applying the Patch Release

Before applying the SIM 13.2.3 patch release, be sure that:

- SIM 13.2 has been installed
- Patch release SIM 13.2.1 has been applied

If you have applied SIM bundled hot fix release 13.2.1.2, you can apply just the new fixes and enhancements. If you have not applied any bundled hot fix releases, you can apply all fixes and enhancements by applying the SIM 13.2.3 patch release. See "About Patch Releases."

Before applying the release over your files:

- Note whether any modules have been customized. If so, the customizations must be reapplied to the new version of the module, or the fix may need to be applied to the custom version of the code.
- Copy the original files to a different directory before you copy over them, in case you need to refer to them at a later date.

Running Scripts

Back up data before running any script, because the scripts provided *do not* preserve data. See defect reports for details.

Check with your database administrator to determine whether your database should be analyzed after a script is run. In many cases, analysis of the database is necessary to take advantage of new or modified indexes intended to improve performance of the application.

Functional Enhancements

Oracle Retail Store Inventory Management 13.2.3 introduces the following functional enhancements.

Point-of-Sale Disposition Integration

Building on the framework of direct inventory updates for point-of-sale transactions added in an earlier release, SIM can now automatically generate the required transactions to move an item to the correct disposition when a return is processed.

When the point-of-sale application sends a return transaction, the assumption was to always add the item back into inventory. In many cases, however, this is not the appropriate action, as in the following examples:

- Damaged or perishable grocery items that might need to be destroyed
- Electronic equipment that might need to be returned to the vendor
- Clothing that might need steaming before it is ready for sale
- Some returned items that might be sent to an outlet location

Often, the decision about what should happen to a returned item depends on the condition of an item. For example, if an item is damaged, it needs to be returned to the vendor, but if that same item is unopened, it can go back on the shelf.

In Release 13.2.3, the Web service for sales processing uses the disposition status and generates the proper inventory adjustments for returns:

- Move inventory to stock on hand
- Move inventory to unavailable
- Move inventory to out of stock

This new feature removes the manual intervention required in previous releases. It also allows better inventory control and accuracy.

Note: Currently this enhancement is available only if you use a third-party point-of-sale system.This feature is not integrated with any Oracle Retail applications at this time. It will be integrated with a future version of Oracle Retail Point-of-Service (ORPOS). This feature is not enabled when using ReSA or ORPOS at the time of this SIM release.

Item Lookup—Warehouse and Finisher

The item relationship is enforced for warehouse and finisher returns. To help idenitfy items on returns to a finisher or warehouse, the user can look up items by warehouse or finisher on the PC. When item lookup is accessed from a return (to warehouse or finisher) or store order (to a warehouse), the warehouse or finisher from the transaction is automatically supplied as the default lookup method..

Item Lookup—Default Supplier

To make it easier for a user to find a supplier, and to be consistent with the supplier lookup dialog, the supplier number and description field have been separated in the lookup dialog of the PC. In addition, when item lookup is accessed for direct store deliveries, returns to vendor, or store orders, the default primary lookup method is the supplier from the transaction.

Stock Counts Periodic Save

Users have found it cumbersome to save their stock counts regularly. Users often forgot to save, and if a battery or wireless connection failed, the data recorded up to that point was lost.

It is now possible to configure SIM to save the item count automatically for unguided stock counts when the user moves on to a different item. This automatic save reduces the need for store personnel to remember to save manually, and it allows longer scanning periods without interruptions.

Stock Counts Child Lookup

While performing a stock count on the handheld, the user is required to select the part of the count (the child count) that they want to count. SIM 13.2.3 allows the user to search for a child count based on the description of the child count.

This improves productivity, because the user was previously required to page through the list of open child counts. For a very large stock count spanning multiple classes or subclasses, or when performing a location-level stock count, the user can now scan (if the child count is numeric) or enter the description and select the child in a few steps.

Returning Unavailable Inventory to a Supplier, Warehouse, or Finisher

In previous releases, SIM always sent available units on the return to vendor warehouse and finisher transaction, and subsequently published inventory adjustments to move inventory from unavailable to available. This did not reflect the real transaction events.

With this releases, returns to warehouse, finisher, and supplier account for the shipment of unavailable inventory on the transactions, rather than sending inventory adjustments for unavailable inventory.

Returns to warehouse and finisher have also been modified to handle the inventory status at the header level. This means that all items on the return transaction must all be for available stock or all for unavailable stock. Return to supplier remains unchanged, allowing items from both inventory statuses on a return.

Printer User Interface

The new printer user interface allows printers, their logical names, and their URLs to be managed by store operations personnel through the PC client.

Supplier Data Security

Supplier information can be secured in the supplier lookup dialog so that it is visible only to users with the appropriate permission. However, when an item is looked up, the same supplier information that is secured in the supplier lookup dialog is visible in the item lookup dialog. SIM is enhanced to provide the same visibility/security permissions to this information in both dialogs.

Stock Count Extract Report

A new report is added to SIM that allows the retailer to extract all the required information for a third party stock counter.

The format of the report can be changed easily to fit the specific business needs of the third party counter.

User-Defined Attributes

To improve the customer experience and align with functionality available in RMS, SIM subscribes to item-level user-defined attributes (UDA). These attributes can be shared with users on tickets and labels and enable the user to find items faster during a lookup.

Item lookup allows the user to create an ad hoc search using the three types of UDAs supported in the enterprise: text, value, and date. This allows faster customer service, by allowing lookups using retailer-specific attributes.

These attributes are also available to print tickets, so additional information that had to be sourced from the merchandising system can now be looked up in the SIM database.

It is also possible to generate labels and tickets based on UDA changes. For example, if the produce UDA changes, new shelf labels or item tickets can be generated automatically with this information.

Note: Item-UDA is considered part of foundation data. For UDA functionality in SIM 13.2.3 to work, a script needs to be run to populate the UDA tables in SIM from RMS-Item-UDA data. See the "UDA Import Instructions" section of the *Oracle Retail Store Inventory Management Installation Guide* for more information.

Rejection of Direct Store Deliveries

In Brazil, some suppliers do not allow any modifications to the nota fiscal. To support this process, SIM 13.2.3 allows a user to reject an entire direct store delivery if there are any discrepancies in the delivery between expected and received quantities.

In a standalone SIM environment, an indicator at the supplier level can bet set to prompt the user if a delivery from a specific supplier can be accepted or should be rejected when the received quantities do not match the expected quantities.

Printing Auto-Generated Serial Number Tickets

In previous versions, when printing tickets for auto-generated serial numbers (AGSN), SIM sent each item ticket to the printer serially. This could delay receiving processes, because the printing process could prevent tickets from printing in a continuous flow. Release 13.2.3 sends all information to Oracle BI Publisher in one transmission, improving efficiency and reliability.

Technical Enhancements

The following technical enhancements are included in Oracle Retail Store Inventory Management Release 13.2.3.

Oracle Exadata Database Machine X2 Support

Oracle Exadata Database Machine X2 is a combination of smart software and industry-standard hardware. It provides database-aware storage services, such as the ability to offload database processing from the database server to storage, transparently, without affecting SQL processing and your database applications.

Oracle Retail Store Inventory Management Release 13.2.3 is supported on Oracle Exadata Database Machine X2 through the binary compatibility with Oracle Linux Release 5 Update 5 and Oracle Database 11g Release 2 Enterprise Edition on Oracle Real Application Clusters (RAC) 11g.

Defect Fixes and Documentation

A defect fix is a modification to the base Oracle Retail code (for example, a bug fix, a performance enhancement, or a functional enhancement). Each defect fix that is included in this release has a corresponding defect report titled <*defect-number*>.PDF (for example, 12345678.PDF).

Review each defect report carefully before implementing the defect fixes. Note that scripts do not preserve data. Make sure that all data is backed up before you run any script.

Noteworthy Defect Fixes

The following topics highlight:

- Noteworthy defect fixes and enhancements that are new for Release 13.2.3
- Noteworthy defect fixes and enhancements for bundled hot fix release 13.2.1.2

> **Note:** SIM 13.2.1.1 was a documentation-only release that did not include any code.

All defect fixes for Release 13.2.1.2 are also included in Release 13.2.3 and can be applied through the installation of this patch release. See the *Oracle Retail Store Inventory Management Installation Guide* for Release 13.2.3 for instructions to apply the defect fixes and enhancements that you have not already applied.

The following are not complete lists. See the cross-reference spreadsheets and defect reports included with this release for complete lists and full details.

Release 13.2.3

Note: The document **13087684.PDF** summarizes the functional enhancements added to SIM 13.2.3 (see "Functional Enhancements").

The following are noteworthy defect fixes that have not been released previously through a bundled hot fix release. See **DEFECT MODULE XREF SIM 13.2.3.XLS** for a complete list of defect fixes and enhancements for SIM 13.2.3.

Defect Number	Summary
12897454	SIM does not consume the extended reset date of a clearance from RPM.
12914850	A POS transaction with a serial-numbered item with capture time as sale causes a NullPointerException in SIM.
12984432	An item request is created for a hierarchy with items that are not store orderable.

Release 13.2.1.2

The following are noteworthy defect fixes and enhancements that were provided in the SIM 13.2.1.2 release. These are also included in the SIM 13.2.3 patch. See **DEFECT MODULE XREF SIM 13.2.1.2.XLS** for a complete list of SIM 13.2.1.2 defect fixes.

Defect Number	Summary
10314284	Keyboard shortcuts (Alt key combinations) do not work.
10394252	POS transactions do not update the identifier in UIN_DETAIL.
10399102	Price changes with activation date of today and generated by RPM today are not effective in SIM.
10403632	When a transfer is closed in RMS, a transfer/sohdrmod message is sent to SIM, but SIM does not remove the record from the RK_ALLOCATIONS table after the transfer is closed.
10422623	When an attempt is made to sell some complex packs in ORPOS, the inventory is not updated in SIM and an exception occurs.
10431347	Item Basket does not print the item basket ticket automatically on saving basket details when the item basket printing is set to Automatic.
10632424	SIM does not update inventory using decimal places for a sale that occurs in ORPOS.
11061914	If an item has no supplier information, sales transactions are being rejected at POS_TRANSACTION.
11670024	When an accepted transfer has been deleted, the sending location's inventory buckets still show quantities for the UNAVAILABLE and TRANSFER RESERVED buckets of the item.
11792181	Deleting a transaction in SIM with UINs attached does not update the previous status.
11807398	When a merchandise hierarchy is deleted in RMS, it is not deleted in SIM.

Defect Number	Summary
11816861	The ordered quantity field in the item lookup screen does not show the correct value and is dependent on the' not before date' and the 'not after date' of the purchase order
11936875	On the handheld, when using item basket functionality, the quantity is not increased on scanning an item multiple times.

Related Documentation

For more information, see the following documents in the Oracle Retail Store Inventory Management Release 13.2.3 documentation set:

- *Oracle Retail Store Inventory Management Data Model*
- *Oracle Retail Store Inventory Management Implementation Guide*
- *Oracle Retail Store Inventory Management Installation Guide*
- *Oracle Retail Store Inventory Management Licensing Information*
- *Oracle Retail Store Inventory Management Operations Guide*
- *Oracle Retail Store Inventory Management User Guide* and online help