

Oracle® Retail Merchandise Financial Planning

Release Notes

Release 13.4

December 2012

Oracle Retail Merchandise Financial Planning (MFP) provides strategic and financial product planning functions. These functions support industry planning standards for preseason and in-season processes. MFP facilitates the creation of financial plans in a structured method through the following processes:

- Setting and passing targets to lower levels
- Plan reconciliation among top down, middle out, and bottom up levels
- Approval of bottom up plans
- Plan monitoring and maintenance at all levels
- Re-planning at all levels

Note: Because MFP 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 MFP.

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 MFP. You must upgrade to key RPAS versions and complete the upgrade process as described in the chapter, "Patch Installation," in the *Oracle Retail Merchandising Financial Planning Installation Guide* before upgrading to a 13.4 MFP domain.

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 *MFP Cost Installation Guide* and *MFP Retail Installation Guide* for information about the following:

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

Upgrade Note

While not directly related to Merchandise Financial Planning, the 13.3 release of Oracle Retail Predictive Application Server (RPAS) had 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 Merchandise Financial Planning, and you will need to perform additional steps to upgrade your Merchandise Financial Planning domain, such as setting dimension sizes. The upgrade to RPAS 13.3 or later 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 Merchandise Financial Planning Installation Guide*.

Technical Enhancements

MFP 13.4 includes the following technical enhancement.

Batch Script Architecture

All batch scripts that are developed and delivered as part of this application have been rewritten using the Batch Script Architecture. The Batch Script Architecture (BSA) is designed to provide a robust, enterprise-ready architecture for parallel process control, restart control, log consolidation, and dependency checks.

Functionally, the batch operability is enhanced by making it easier to diagnose and correct problems. Errors and exceptions are isolated (contained) within the domains in which they occur. Processing is designed to easily restart and proceed with execution. Parallel tasks are managed, logged, and checked for errors, to the same standard as non-parallel tasks.

Oracle Retail Batch Script Architecture Implementation Guide

The *Oracle Retail Batch Script Architecture Implementation Guide* is new for this release. It documents the features and configuration details for implementing the Batch Script Architecture.

Noteworthy Defect Fixes

The following noteworthy defect fix is included in MFP 13.4:

Fixed Issue/Defect	Defect Number
The exportToIP.ksh and exportToAP.ksh scripts no longer clear the export (approval) flags. The customer must clear these manually by running the new script resetExportFlags.ksh.	14618130

Known Issues

The following table contains a known issue that has been identified for the current release:

Known Issue/Defect	Defect Number
Updates were made to the export to Item Planning and Assortment Planning scripts to not reset the approval flags. This was done in an attempt to handle a case where a customer wants to export the plans to both applications. The functionality of resetting the flags was moved to a new script called resetExportFlags.ksh. However, there is an error in this new script. An incorrect list was provided as the Boolean list of measures. The list included a duplicate measure cp measure instead of one cp and one op measure.	14618130

Related Documentation

For more information, see the following documents in the Oracle Retail Merchandise Financial Planning Release 13.4 documentation set:

- *Oracle Retail Batch Script Architecture Implementation Guide*
- *Oracle Retail Merchandise Financial Planning Cost Installation Guide*
- *Oracle Retail Merchandise Financial Planning Retail Installation Guide*
- *Oracle Retail Merchandise Financial Planning Cost User Guide for the RPAS Classic Client*
- *Oracle Retail Merchandise Financial Planning Cost User Guide for the RPAS Fusion Client*
- *Oracle Retail Merchandise Financial Planning Operations Guide*
- *Oracle Retail Merchandise Financial Planning Retail User Guide for the RPAS Classic Client*
- *Oracle Retail Merchandise Financial Planning Retail User Guide for the RPAS Fusion Client*

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 Size Profile Optimization documentation
- Oracle Retail Merchandise Financial Planning 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 Merchandise Financial Planning release enhancements and additional information, refer to the release notes and documentation that accompany the previous releases.

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Oracle Retail Merchandise Financial Planning Release Notes, Release 13.4

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