

# Oracle® Retail Item Planning Configured for COE

Release Notes

Release 15.0

**E64560-01**

December 2015

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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 15.0 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

## Integration Note

IP COE 15.0 is integrated with Oracle Retail Clearance Optimization Engine (COE) 14.0.3.

## 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*.

## Noteworthy Defect Fixes

The following noteworthy defect fixes are included in this release:

Affected Component	Fixed Issue/Defect	Defect Number
Task Flow	The taskflow is updated to include descriptions for all steps.	10359862
Performance	The performance of IP batch calculations is improved through parallelization. Additionally, some rules are moved to run at the master domain level (rather than local) to avoid possible data contention.	16424043
Batch Scripts	A rule group called by processactuals.ksh was found to have contention errors when run in parallel across local domains. Those contention issues are addressed so that the rule group is again able to be run in parallel.	16809514
Batch Scripts	localdomainlist.cfg is deprecated in all scripts. Improvements in RPAS provide for a simpler approach using the -shellsubdomains option for domaininfo.	19355819
Batch Scripts	An issue is addressed wherein a data contention could occur when loading measures through loadactuals.ksh. This is done by separating measures out into their own databases, rather than including more than one measure in a single database.	20188706
Special Expression	An output message, when a measure being used as an argument to the special expression COEExpression was the incorrect type, is corrected. For example, the message might be "Initiate COE Optimization What-If Call must be of type Boolean." This would only happen if IpWpInCoOpWiCV was not Boolean, but was still passed as an argument to the mask option of COEExpression.  An issue with the usage of the Country parameter is also corrected, which, while it did not cause any discernible error, was not correctly implemented.	19187773

## Related Documentation

For more information, see the following documents in the Oracle Retail Item Planning Configured for COE Release 15.0 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 Assortment Planning documentation
- Oracle Retail Item Planning documentation
- Oracle Retail Item Planning Configured for COE 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.

## Supplemental Training on My Oracle Support

The following document is available through My Oracle Support. Access My Oracle Support at the following URL:

<https://support.oracle.com>

### **Release Readiness Transfer of Information (TOI) Recordings (Doc ID 732026.1)**

Online training is available to Oracle supported customers at product release. These online courses provide release-specific product knowledge that enables your functional and technical teams to plan, implement and/or upgrade and support Oracle Retail applications effectively and efficiently. Note that Oracle Retail products with minor updates often do not have an associated TOI.

## 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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