Oracle® Retail Back Office

Release Notes

Release 13.0

May 2008

This document highlights the major changes for Release 13.0 of Oracle Retail Back Office.

Overview

Oracle Retail Back Office is a web-based application used to access, maintain, and monitor store operations. The store, registers, and tills can be opened at the beginning of the business day, and the registers and store can be closed at the end of the day. Functionality to manage employee status, roles, items, pricing, tills, and data distribution is provided. Standard reports are available to help monitor store activity and performance.

Related Documentation

For more information, see the following documents in the Oracle Retail Back Office documentation set or Oracle Retail Strategic Store Solutions documentation set:

- *Oracle Retail Back Office Installation Guide*

- *Oracle Retail Back Office Operations Guide*

- *Oracle Retail Back Office User Guide*

- *Oracle Retail Strategic Store Solutions Configuration Guide*

- *Oracle Retail Strategic Store Solutions Implementation Guide*

- *Oracle Retail Strategic Store Solutions Licensing Information*

- *Oracle Retail Strategic Store Solutions Security Implementation Guide*

Security Enhancements Aimed at VISA Payment Application Best Practices (PABP)

Security enhancements have been made to Oracle Retail Back Office aimed at obtaining a PABP certificate for the software. These enhancements will help retailers to comply with the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard (PCI-DSS).

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Security Implementation Guide

The *Oracle Retail Strategic Store Solutions Security Implementation Guide* is new for this release. It documents the PABP requirements and describes the specific security features and configuration details for the Strategic Store Solutions products needed to meet the PABP requirements. The guide is available on Metalink:

Metalink Note: 567438.1

Functional Enhancements

The following functional enhancement is included in this release.

Transaction Level Discounts

Transaction level discounts can be imported from a merchandising system to Oracle Retail Back Office using Data Import (DIMP).

Functionality Removed or Restricted

The Figures and Tables tabs are removed from the online help window.

Technical Enhancements

The following technical enhancements are included in this release.

Audit Log

Audit Logging enables a retailer to retain an audit trail history by tracking and reporting certain system events and user activities within Oracle Retail Back Office. The Audit Log contains time-stamped entries which include the event and status of the event that occurred.

Oracle Configuration Manager

Oracle Configuration Manager is an optional configuration data collector that provides continuous tracking of key Oracle and system configuration settings for machines on which it is installed. This tool collects configuration details for customer environments and uploads them to a repository that is viewable through the Software Configuration Manager Metalink Web site. The OCM collector is optionally installed as part of your application installation.

Using Oracle Configuration Manager can reduce a retailer's support costs by providing extra configuration information that otherwise requires a phone call or e-mail correspondence.

> **Note:**   Sensitive configuration information (such as passwords) is not included in Oracle Configuration Manager collection.

The first OCM collector distribution that will be aware of the Oracle Retail applications is in Oracle development. For more information, see the Oracle Retail Back Office Installation Guide.

IBM Store Integration Framework

Oracle Retail Back Office is certified on the IBM Store Integration Framework (SIF) platform.

Upgrades to Requirements

For information related to upgrades to the Oracle Retail Back Office requirements (for example, Database Server, Application Server, and so on), see the *Oracle Retail Back Office Installation Guide*.

Documentation Enhancements

The following enhancements are made to the Oracle Retail Back Office documentation set for this release:

- An index is added to the *Oracle Retail Back Office User Guide* and *Oracle Retail Back Office Operations Guide*.

- Detailed information on Summary Reports is added in a new appendix in the *Oracle Retail Back Office User Guide*.

- The Index and Search tabs are added to the online help window.

- Minimum hardware requirements is added to the *Oracle Retail Back Office Installation Guide*.

Known Issues

The following issues occur in this release.

Integration with Oracle Retail Merchandise Operations Management

The interfaces in Oracle Retail Point-of-Service, Oracle Retail Back Office, and Oracle Retail Central Office have not changed for Release 13.0 and are based on the integration between Oracle Retail Merchandise Operations Management Release 12.0.7 (Retail Merchandising System, Price Management, and Sales Audit) and Oracle Retail Point-of-Service, Oracle Retail Back Office, and Oracle Retail Central Office Release 12.0.2.

Integration testing between the Release 13.0 Oracle Retail Merchandise Operations Management suite and Release 13.0 Oracle Retail Point-of-Service, Oracle Retail Back Office, and Oracle Retail Central Office has not been completed at this time. This integration testing is planned to occur at a later point in time and the applicable documentation will be updated to reflect the results of this testing.

Deployment on IBM WebSphere

Issue: Oracle Retail Back Office cannot be deployed on any version of IBM WebSphere newer than version 6.1.0.5.

Fix: A fix is in development for Oracle Retail Back Office.

Data Import Failure

If an individual batch fails during a data import, there is no retry mechanism to import only the batch that failed. An administrator must resolve the issue that caused the batch failure and recreate the data that consisted of the failed batch.

If the integrity of the incoming data cannot be guaranteed as Data Import expects, it is possible to avoid rolling back valid data within a failed batch by adjusting the size of the import batches from the default size of 1000 to 1 by editing the `spring.properties` file and restarting the application server. Note that this resolution will have a negative impact on performance.

Price Change Applied Before Start Date

Oracle Retail Point-of-Service only supports a physical deployment model where the Point-of-Service clients and in-store server are set to the same system time as the store database. If the in-store server and database are set to different system times, that is, the clock is not set correctly or they exist in different time zones, it is possible that items will ring with incorrect prices as prices change and discount rules are applied. This occurs because the Point-of-Service client relies on the system time of the store database.

Transaction Level Discounts

Issue: If the discount rule type indicates the presence of targets when there are none and you try to display the discount rule, a null exception pointer error occurs.

Fix: A fix is in development for Oracle Retail Back Office.

Incorrect Item Number Assigned

Issue: A search is done for an item using an asterisk in the item number. If the item is not found and it is selected to add the item, the item number for the added item includes an asterisk.

Fix: A fix is in development for Oracle Retail Back Office.

Five Digit Store ID

Issue: The Oracle Retail Strategic Store Solutions products support a maximum store ID length of 5 digits.

Workaround: Use a store ID that is not greater than 5 digits in length.

Data Import Field Width Maximums

Some fields can potentially overflow at the database level because the fields are not specifically limited in length by the Data Import XSDs. The following table lists the XML elements that are affected.

Table 1   Affected XML Elements

Import	Elements	Maximum Column Size
Employee Import	Employee > EmployeeFullName	VARCHAR(150)
	Employee > EmployeeLastName	VARCHAR(50)
	Employee > EmployeeFirstName	VARCHAR(50)
	Employee > EmployeeMiddleName	VARCHAR(50)
Item Import	Item > RetailStoreItem > POSIdentity @SupplierID	VARCHAR(20)
Merchandise Hierarchy Import	PreloadData > MerchandiseGroup > Description	VARCHAR(250)
	PreloadData > POSDepartment > POSDepartmentID	VARCHAR(14)
	PreloadData > POSDepartment > ParentPOSDepartmentID	VARCHAR(14)
	HierarchyList > Hierarchy@Name	VARCHAR(14)
	HierarchyList > Hierarchy > LevelList > Level@Name	VARCHAR(120)
	HierarchyList > Hierarchy > NodeList > Node@ParentNodeID	VARCHAR(14)
	HierarchyList > Hierarchy > NodeList > Node@ID	VARCHAR(14)
Pricing Import	PricingImport > PriceChange @ID	VARCHAR(20)
	PricingImport > PriceChange > Item @ID	VARCHAR(14)
	PricingImport > PriceChange > Item @TemplateType	VARCHAR(8)
	PricingImport > PriceChange @TemplateType	VARCHAR(8)
	PricingImport > PricePromotion @ID	VARCHAR(20)
	PricingImport > PricePromotion @TemplateType	VARCHAR(8)
	PricingImport > PricePromotion @TemplateType	VARCHAR(8)
	DiscountRule > Sources > Source @ID	VARCHAR(14)
	DiscountRule > Targets > Target @ID	VARCHAR(14)
	DiscountRule > Sources > Source @ID	VARCHAR(14)
	DiscountRule > Sources > Source @ID	VARCHAR(10)

Table 1   (Cont.) Affected XML Elements

Import	Elements	Maximum Column Size
Store Hierarchy Import	PreloadData > StoreRegion > RegionID	VARCHAR(14)
	PreloadData > StoreRegion > RegionName	VARCHAR(120)
	PreloadData > StoreDistrict > DistrictID	VARCHAR(14)
	PreloadData > StoreDistrict > RegionID	VARCHAR(14)
	PreloadData > RetailStore > GeoCode	VARCHAR(10)
	PreloadData > StoreDistrict > DistrictName	VARCHAR(120)
	PreloadData > RetailStore > LocationName	VARCHAR(150)
	PreloadData > RetailStore > DistrictID	VARCHAR(14)
	PreloadData > RetailStore > RegionID	VARCHAR(14)
	PreloadData > RetailStore > GeoCode	VARCHAR(10)
	PreloadData > RetailStore > Address > AddressLine1	VARCHAR(30)
	PreloadData > RetailStore > Address > AddressLine2	VARCHAR(30)
	PreloadData > RetailStore > Address > AddressLine3	VARCHAR(30)
	PreloadData > RetailStore > Address > City	VARCHAR(30)
	PreloadData > RetailStore > Address > State	VARCHAR(30)
	PreloadData > RetailStore > Address > PostalCode	VARCHAR(30)
	PreloadData > RetailStore > Address > Territory	VARCHAR(30)
	PreloadData > RetailStore > Address > Country	VARCHAR(30)
	PreloadData > RetailStore > Address > TelephoneCountryCode	VARCHAR(30)
	PreloadData > RetailStore > Address > TelephoneAreaCode	VARCHAR(30)
	PreloadData > RetailStore > Address > TelephoneLocalNumber	VARCHAR(30)
	HierarchyList > Hierarchy@Name	VARCHAR(120)
	HierarchyList > Hierarchy > LevelList > Level@Name	VARCHAR(120)

Table 1   (Cont.) Affected XML Elements

Import	Elements	Maximum Column Size
Store Hierarchy Import (cont.)	HierarchyList > Hierarchy > NodeList > Node@Name	VARCHAR(120)
	HierarchyList > Hierarchy > NodeList > Node@Descripton	VARCHAR(250)
Tax Import	GEOCode > GeoCodeID	VARCHAR(10)
	GEOCode > TaxJurisdictionName	VARCHAR(50)
	GEOTaxJurisdiction > GeoCodeID	VARCHAR(10)
	TaxAuthority > TaxAuthorityName	VARCHAR(40)
	TaxAuthority > GeoCodeID	VARCHAR(10)
	TaxableGroup > TaxGroupName	VARCHAR(120)
	TaxableGroup > TaxGroupDescription	VARCHAR(250)
	TaxAuthority > AddressLine	VARCHAR(30)
	TaxAuthority > City	VARCHAR(30)
	TaxAuthority > State	VARCHAR(30)
	TaxAuthority > PostalCode	VARCHAR(30)
	TaxAuthority > CountryCode	VARCHAR(30)
	TaxGroupRule > TaxTypeName	VARCHAR(30)
	TaxGroupRule > TaxRuleName	VARCHAR(40)
	TaxGroupRule > TaxRuleDescription	VARCHAR(250)

(ii) the **MicroStrategy** Components developed and licensed by MicroStrategy Services Corporation (MicroStrategy) of McLean, Virginia to Oracle and imbedded in the MicroStrategy for Oracle Retail Data Warehouse and MicroStrategy for Oracle Retail Planning & Optimization applications.

(iii) the **SeeBeyond** component developed and licensed by Sun MicroSystems, Inc. (Sun) of Santa Clara, California, to Oracle and imbedded in the Oracle Retail Integration Bus application.

(iv) the **Wavelink** component developed and licensed by Wavelink Corporation (Wavelink) of Kirkland, Washington, to Oracle and imbedded in Oracle Retail Store Inventory Management.

(v) the software component known as **Crystal Enterprise Professional and/or Crystal Reports Professional** licensed by Business Objects Software Limited ("Business Objects") and imbedded in Oracle Retail Store Inventory Management.

(vi) the software component known as **Access Via™** licensed by Access Via of Seattle, Washington, and imbedded in Oracle Retail Signs and Oracle Retail Labels and Tags.

(vii) the software component known as **Adobe Flex™** licensed by Adobe Systems Incorporated of San Jose, California, and imbedded in Oracle Retail Promotion Planning & Optimization application.

(viii) the software component known as **Style Report™** developed and licensed by InetSoft Technology Corp. of Piscataway, New Jersey, to Oracle and imbedded in the Oracle Retail Value Chain Collaboration application.

(ix) the software component known as **WebLogic™** developed and licensed by BEA Systems, Inc. of San Jose, California, to Oracle and imbedded in the Oracle Retail Value Chain Collaboration application.

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