

Oracle® Retail Item Planning Cloud Service

Release Notes

Release 16.0

E83677-02

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This document introduces Oracle Retail Item Planning Cloud Service.

Overview

Oracle Retail Item Planning (IP) Cloud Service represents a bottom-up planning process, complementing and working in concert with top-down assortment and financial plans. By providing the ability to create a pre-season item plan that aligns with assortment and financial plans and then weekly in-season 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 Cloud Service is designed to address the needs of Grocery, Hardlines, and Fashion. It may be used as a standalone solution, or tightly couples with Assortment Planning & Optimization for Grocery/Hardlines Cloud Service to receive an approved Assortment Plan, as well as with Merchandise Financial Planning Cloud Service to receive Current Plan values.

Oracle Retail Item Planning Cloud Service helps the business to anticipate and proactively manage exceptions by utilizing Real-Time alerts, to highlight and focus a planner's attention on item issues that need immediate attention. In this way, the planner can manage by exception versus searching through entire data sets to locate problems, saving time and resources to focus on important issues.

The Item Planning activity consists of two tasks: Pre-Season and In-Season Item Planning. Pre-season focuses on creating a plan in advance of when the merchandise is going to be sold, and in-season focuses on adjusting the original plan based on sales once the season started, as well as factoring in new knowledge about the assortment, promotions, or other factors that were not known during the pre-season. The in-season process also includes what-if optimization for pricing decisions to assist the planner in determining optimal promotions and markdowns.

Benefits

Item Planning Cloud Service provides the following benefits:

- Quantified financial plans.
- Unified financial and item strategies.
- A proactive approach towards business trends as opposed to reactive.
- Exception-driven in-season planning to manage key item performance.
- In-season assortment keep/add/drop capabilities.

- What-if promotional and markdown planning capabilities.
- Reduced markdowns, increased profits and increased return on investment.

Note: Because IP Cloud Service 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 Cloud Service.

Oracle Retail Cloud Services and Business Agility

Oracle Retail Item Planning Cloud Service (IPCS) is hosted in the Oracle Cloud with the security features inherent to Oracle technology and a robust data center classification, providing significant uptime. The Oracle Cloud team is responsible for installing, monitoring, patching, and upgrading retail software.

Included in the service is continuous technical support, access to software feature enhancements, hardware upgrades, and disaster recovery. The Cloud Service model helps to free customer IT resources from the need to perform these tasks, giving retailers greater business agility to respond to changing technologies and to perform more value-added tasks focused on business processes and innovation.

Oracle Retail Software Cloud Service is acquired exclusively through a subscription service (SaaS) model. This shifts funding from a capital investment in software to an operational expense. Subscription-based pricing for retail applications offers flexibility and cost effectiveness.

Client System Requirements

The following technology is supported:

- Operating system:

Note: Oracle Retail assumes that the retailer has ensured its Operating System has been patched with all applicable Windows updates.

- Microsoft Windows 7 Professional with Microsoft Office 2010 or 2013
- Web browsers supported on Microsoft Windows 7 and 8.1:

Note: All browsers must have Adobe Flash Player 9.0 (or later).

- Microsoft Internet Explorer 11
- Mozilla Firefox 45 ESR
- Google Chrome 52+

Related Documentation

For more information, see the following documents in the Oracle Retail Item Planning Cloud Service Release 16.0 documentation set:

- *Oracle Retail Item Planning Cloud Service User Guide*
- *Oracle Retail Shared Services Administration Guide*
- *Oracle Retail Shared Services Implementation Guide*
- Oracle Retail Predictive Application Server documentation

Supplemental Training

The following documents are available through My Oracle Support. Access My Oracle Support at the following URL:

<https://support.oracle.com>

Transfer of Information (TOI) Material (Doc ID 732026.1)

For applicable products, online training is available to Oracle supported customers. 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.

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>.

Access to Oracle Support

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Value-Added Reseller (VAR) Language

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