Oracle® Retail Merchandising Foundation Cloud Service

Release Notes

Release 16.0.030

F20107-01

June 2019

This document highlights the major changes for Release 16.0.030 of Oracle Retail Merchandising Foundation Cloud Service.

Note: The non-sequential version number of this Oracle Retail application is intentional.

Overview

Retailers leverage Oracle Retail Merchandising Foundation Cloud Service (RMFCS) functionality to execute core merchandising activities, including merchandise management, inventory replenishment, purchasing, import processes, sales auditing, and financial tracking. Its Trade Management module is used to manage the import process, including automating the steps necessary to import goods, managing file exchanges with trading partners, and providing a central database of critical import order information.

Merchandising Foundation Cloud Service also includes Sales Audit module. The Sales Audit module evaluates sales transaction from all channels, identifying any missing, duplicate, or erroneous data and highlighting any suspicious transactions, to ensure errors are resolved so that downstream systems operate off the same cleansed sales information.

Oracle Retail Cloud Services and Business Agility

Oracle Retail Foundation Cloud Service 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 Systems

- Microsoft Windows 7
- Microsoft Windows 10

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

Browser Support

- Mozilla Firefox ESR 60+
- Microsoft Internet Explorer 11
- Google Chrome (Desktop) 73+

Functional Enhancements

The functional enhancements below are included in this release.

New Store Attributes

New attributes were added for stores in this release to support customer ordering by clarifying the functions available at the store, as well as by providing a centralized view of store hours that can be used by a retailer's web site or call center to inform customers who are picking up orders in store. These attributes can be updated in the Merchandising screens and are communicated to stores and order management solutions via the BDI and RIB integration updates described below.

Customer Shipping

This flag indicates whether the store will support shipping to the customer for a customer order. It is intended to work in conjunction with the existing Customer Order Location flag, which indicates whether or not the store's inventory can be considered for customer ordering.

Gift Wrapping

This flag indicates whether or not gift wrapping is available at the store. If the customer order specifies that gift wrapping is requested by the customer, this flag may impact the locations from which the order management solution sources the order.

Store Hours

In order to provide visibility order capture and order management solutions to the hours of the store by day of the week, new attributes were added for stores to capture this information.

New Warehouse Attributes

New attributes were added for virtual warehouses in this release to support customer ordering by clarifying the functions available at the warehouse. Both attributes can be updated in the Merchandising screens and are communicated to stores and order management solutions via the BDI and RIB integration updates described below.

Customer Shipping

This flag indicates whether the warehouse will support shipping to the customer for a customer order. This flag is intended to work in conjunction with the existing Customer Order Location flag, which indicates whether or not the warehouse's inventory can be considered for customer ordering.

Gift Wrapping

This flag indicates whether or not gift wrapping is available at the warehouse. If the customer order specifies that gift wrapping is requested by the customer, this flag may impact which locations from which the order management solution sources the order.

New Item Location Attributes

Two new attributes were added for item/location combinations in Merchandising. These attributes can be updated in the online screens individually or using mass update functionality in RMFCS. They can also be updated via the Item Location Subscription API. They are also included in the outbound item/location integration from Merchandising.

Promotable

This attribute, which has valid values of Y or N, determines whether or not the item can be promoted. This flag will be sent to the selling solutions (for example, the point-of -service, order management system, and so on) to help their pricing engines know whether or not to include this item/location in the items eligible for a specific promotion. This new attribute is intended to be used for item/location combinations that are never promoted so that users setting up promotions do not need to specify them as exclusions on the promotion.

RFID

This attribute, which has valid values of Y or N, allows the retailer to specify if the item is RFID tagged or not. This information is used by Store Inventory Operations Cloud Services (SIOCS). It does not support any functionality within the RMFCS.

Class-level VAT Flags

Previously, Merchandising had a system level Class VAT indicator, as well as one defined at the class level. The class level indicator controls whether retail price values are displayed as VAT inclusive or not. However, the system level indicator was only used to indicate whether it could be updated by class. Both of these flags have been changed in this release to be not used, and the retail for items will always be VAT inclusive when displayed in Merchandising screens going forward, if applicable.

Technical Enhancements

The technical enhancements below are included in this release.

Platform Enhancements

The platform enhancements below are included in this release.

Security Policies Differences View

An enhancement has been made to the feature that is used for managing security policies. This enhancement will allow you to more easily see the differences in security policies between patches, which will aid you in merging the base policies back to custom policies after a patch is applied to your environment.

Base & Custom Models View

An enhancement has been made to the feature that supports customization of the sidebar, tasks, reports, dashboards and contextual reports. With this release, you can view the differences between the base functionality and any customizations you have made to help in re-applying customizations after a patch is applied to your environment.

Query Access to Production Database

In this release, a new option in the task list will be made available to users with the right privileges to support query-only access to the database. Accessing this task will take the user to a workspace that has been configured for this purpose and is available as part of the Oracle database via Application Express (APEX). The intent of this access is to allow your application support team to have real time access to the data in the database to troubleshoot issues or answer end-user questions.

Oracle Identity Management Cloud Service

With this version, RMFCS adds integration with Oracle Identity Cloud Service (Oracle IDCS) for new customers. IDCS is a cloud-native, identity and security, multi-tenant platform designed to provide a full set of Identity Access Management and Governance capabilities. IDCS provides a powerful set of hybrid identity features to maintain a single identity for each user across their on premise and in the cloud services. IDCS also includes a set of rich access control policies to allow or grant access to applications.

Integration Enhancements

The integration enhancements described below are included in this release.

Cloud Financials Integration

New integration has been included in this release between RMFCS, both in the Merchandising and Sales Audit modules, and Oracle Cloud Financials. Oracle Retail Invoice Matching Cloud Service (ReIMCS) is also part of this integration with Oracle Cloud Financials. This integration is brokered through the Oracle Retail Integration Cloud Service (RICS) and covers scope similar to that included in the RMFCS integration to Oracle Financials (on premise), which integrated key financials-owned attributes such as suppliers, charts of accounts, sets of books, and so on to RMFCS, and

allowed RMFCS and ReIMCS to post transactions and invoices to the General Ledger and Accounts Payable.

Foundation and Item Integration

In this release, RMFCS has expanded its support for foundation and item integration to add new integration points, as well as update existing, in order to more flexibly share this data with other solutions and expand the attribution that is available via integration. These enhancements were for both the Bulk Data Integration (BDI) as well as Retail Integration Bus (RIB). Both of these integration methods, which are part of the Oracle Retail Integration Cloud Service (RICS), support hybrid cloud/on premise implementations. The bulk component of foundation data integration is intended to support initial conversion/rollout of dependent solutions, while RIB integrations keep data up-to-date as it changes over time.

New Integrations

The following data entities have new integrations introduced in this release. These integrations allow key foundation and item information to be communicated from RMFCS to another solution. See the *Oracle Retail Merchandising Foundation Cloud Service Operations Guide* for more information.

Functional Area	Integration Method
Company Closings and Exceptions	BDI, RIB
Location Closings	BDI, RIB
Differentiator Types	BDI
VAT Item	BDI
Pack Item Details	BDI
Item Tickets	BDI
Item Translations	BDI
Store Hours	BDI
Brands	RIB

Updated Integrations

The following BDI and RIB flows had updates in this release to expand the attributes available in the integration from RMFCS.

Functional Area	Integration Method Impacted
Addresses	BDI, RIB
Stores	BDI, RIB
Warehouses	BDI, RIB
Merchandise Hierarchy	BDI
Diff Groups	BDI
Differentiators	BDI
Suppliers	BDI, RIB
Partners	BDI, RIB

Functional Area	Integration Method Impacted
Items	BDI, RIB
Item Locations	BDI, RIB
Item UDA	BDI
Item Supplier Country Dimension	BDI

Stock Count Delete

In previous releases, when a Unit & Value count is set up in SIM for more than one store, there is functionality to integrate that stock count to RMFCS. Additionally, updates can be made to the scheduled count, including deleting the count itself. However, once the count has occurred, if for some reason that store's count needs to be deleted, the delete that occurred in SIM was not communicated to RMFCS to remove that store from the count. It would need to be manually deleted in RMFCS too. An enhancement has been made in this release to the Stock Count Schedule Subscription API to support the integration of this type of delete.

Documentation Enhancement

The Merchandising Cloud Services documentation libraries have been enhanced functionally and technically. Their new look and feel and navigational structure provides better content usability. The new architecture also better supports ongoing modernization. Changes include easy-to-access links for important user tasks and a unified look and feel that is consistent with content produced by other Oracle lines of business.

Notice of Retirement

The following functional areas in Merchandising will be phased out of the solution and will be completely removed in an upcoming release. Customers using these capabilities should review options to transition to the capabilities outlined as replacements for these functions.

- **Coupons**

  This functionality supports the creation of a temporary discount with an associated coupon code. However, the introduction of the Promotion capability in the Oracle Retail Pricing Cloud Service (RPCS), which allows for a coupon code to be attached to a temporary discount, replaces this functionality with more robust functionality. This functionality will be removed from RMFCS completely in an upcoming release (estimated to be about 18 months from the availability of this patch).

- **Customer Segments**

  This functionality was intended to work with the on premise pricing solution Oracle Retail Price Management (RPM), which supported promotions by customer segment. This functionality is not available in RPCS, as it is a function of the Oracle Retail Customer Engagement cloud service (ORCE), which also is the Oracle Retail owner of customer information. It therefore can be retired from RMFCS. This functionality will be removed from RMFCS completely in an upcoming release (estimated to be about 6 months from the availability of this patch).

- **Merchandising Pricing API**

  This API was introduced as a temporary means of getting price information into Merchandising before the RPCS pricing capabilities were fully functional. However, with the introduction of that solution, as well as the Simplified Pricing option, this is no longer required in RMFCS. This functionality will be removed from RMFCS completely in an upcoming release (estimated to be about 6 months from the availability of this patch). For more on Simplified Pricing, see the RPCS release notes for this release.

Related Documentation

For more information, see the following documents in the Oracle Retail Allocation Cloud Service documentation set:

- Merchandising Cloud Services Administration Guide
- Merchandising Cloud Services Implementation Guide
- Merchandising Cloud Services Batch Schedule
- Operations Guide - Volume 1 - Batch Overviews and Designs
- Operations Guide - Volume 2 - Message Publication and Subscription Designs
- Items User Guide
- Finance User Guide
- Purchase Orders and Contracts User Guide
- Deal and Cost Change User Guide
- Replenishment User Guide
- Price Management User Guide
- Franchise User Guide
- Foundation Data User Guide
- RMFCS Do the Basics User Guide
- Inventory User Guide
- Sales Audit User Guide
- Import Management User Guide

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For training opportunities, see the following web site:

http://www.oracle.com/education

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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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Value-Added Reseller (VAR) Language

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