

Oracle Retail Allocation

Release Notes

Release 19.0

F26128-01

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This document highlights the major changes for Release 19.0 of Oracle Retail Allocation.

Overview

A retailer's most important asset is its inventory. Oracle Retail Allocation helps retailers determine the inventory requirements at the item, store, and week level using real time inventory information. The system calculates individual store need based on parameters you set - whether it's the characteristics of the product, the store, or the category. The result is an allocation tailored to each store's unique need.

Oracle Retail Allocation allows you to allocate either in advance of the order's arrival or at the last minute to leverage real-time sales and inventory information. And when you do allocate, the system provides you the flexibility of basing your allocation on different methods such as: merchandise plans, sales history, corporate rule, or a demand forecast.

Hardware and Software Requirements

See the *Oracle Retail Allocation Installation Guide* for information about the following:

- Hardware and software requirements
- Oracle Retail application software compatibility

Functional Enhancements

The functional enhancements below are included in this release.

Consignment and Concession Items

One of the major enhancements for Merchandising, in this release, was to expand the functionality supported around consignment and concession items. Although not greatly impacted by this enhancement, there were some impacts to Allocation as a result of these changes as well.

In previous releases, consignment and concession items were not available in Allocation at all, as they were not considered inventoried items in Merchandising. But, with the changes in this release, they will now be able to have inventory tracked for them and so will be able to be included in allocations. Additionally, rules were added to ensure that allocations do not violate ownership rules for consignment or concession items, such as allocating between consigned locations with different

suppliers, or creating a what-if allocation that result in a purchase order from a non-primary supplier for one or more of the locations.

Allocation Worksheet Made Optional

Because of an enhancement in this release, when creating allocations, users are now allowed to bypass the Worksheet step in the creation process for standard, what-if, and scheduled allocations. This ability may be useful for customers who are allocating transaction level items only or a single pack configuration, and do not require the worksheet to select items.

Enhanced Item Selection

The widget used for selecting items in Allocation has been updated to use the standard leveraged by other Merchandising Cloud Services, allowing items to be either keyed in or searched for by ID, description, VPN, or reference item.

Updated Naming of Allocation Owned Location Groups

Previously, Allocation-owned Location Groups were referred to as both Allocation Groups and Location Groups. Because of this enhancement, they are now called Location Groups throughout the application.

Updated System Options Screen

In this release, the Systems Options screen has been updated to have a more standardized layout. In addition, options were added for dashboard configuration and contextual business intelligence (BI).

Additional Translations

Translations are now provided and supported from Merchandising for key entities, such as items, locations, and hierarchies. Also, support for Arabic was added in a previous patch (16.0.2.x), bringing the number of languages supported to 19, including English. Additional support is also available for the following languages by adding your own translations: Czech, Danish, Finnish, Hebrew, Norwegian, Thai, Albanian, Latin Bosnian, Bulgarian, Estonian, Latvian, Cyrillic Serbian, Lithuanian, Romanian, Slovakian, and Slovenian.

Technical Enhancements

The technical enhancements described below are included in this release.

Dashboard and User-Interface Configuration

Enhancements have been made to support the configuration of dashboard reports and in-context reports by the application administrator. This ability allows reports to be added and/or removed. In addition, the order of display can be modified in both the dashboard and the contextual pane of the relevant screens.

Functionality was also added to allow the application administrator to configure the tasks and reports menus and the sidebar icons. For example, if no users are using the Scheduled Allocation functionality, this link in the task list can be configured off, which means the privileges for each role do not have to be adjusted. A feature is also

included to allow you to compare the base configuration to any customizations you have made so that customizations can be more easily re-applied after patching.

Security Differences View

An enhancement has been made to the feature in the application that is used for managing application security policies. This enhancement allows you to more easily see the differences in application 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.

Label Customization

This release introduces a new tool that can be used by application administrators to customize the resource strings (labels) used throughout the application. Previously, these actions could only be performed through a backend process. This capability allows you to configure the solution to use terms that are specific to your business, as needed. If more than one language is used, different values can also be defined by language.

Data Filtering

As of this release, Allocation will leverage the Merchandising setup for data filtering. In Allocation, this will limit the items and locations presented to the user when creating allocations, or searching for existing allocations to update. This functionality is optional.

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