

# Oracle® Retail Analytics and Planning Applications

## Release Readiness Guide



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## 2 Noteworthy Fixed Issues

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# Preface

This guide outlines the information you need to know about the Oracle Retail Analytics and Planning applications that have new or improved functionality in this update, and describes any tasks you might need to perform for the update. Each section includes a brief description of the feature, the steps you need to take to enable or begin using the feature, any tips or considerations that you should keep in mind, and the resources available to help you.

## Audience

This document is intended for the users and administrators of the Oracle Analytics and Planning applications.

## 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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- Product version and program/module name
- Functional and technical description of the problem (include business impact)
- Detailed step-by-step instructions to re-create
- Exact error message received
- Screen shots of each step you take

## Oracle Help Center (docs.oracle.com)

Oracle Retail product documentation is available on the Oracle Help Center at <https://docs.oracle.com/en/industries/retail/index.html>.

(Data Model documents can be obtained through My Oracle Support.)

## Comments and Suggestions

Please give us feedback about Oracle Retail Help and Guides. You can send an e-mail to: [retail-doc\\_us@oracle.com](mailto:retail-doc_us@oracle.com)

## Oracle Retail Cloud Services and Business Agility

Oracle Retail Analytics and Planning applications are hosted in the Oracle Cloud with the security features inherent to Oracle technology and a robust data center classification,

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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.

# 1

## Feature Summary

This chapter describes the feature enhancements in this release.

### Noteworthy Enhancements

This guide outlines the information you need to know about new or improved functionality in the Oracle Retail Analytics and Planning applications update and describes any tasks you might need to perform for the update. Each section includes a brief description of the feature, the steps you need to take to enable or begin using the feature, any tips or considerations that you should keep in mind, and the resources available to help you.

#### Column Definitions

- **Feature:** Provides a description of the feature being delivered.
- **Module Impacted:** Identifies the module impacted associated with the feature, if any.
- **Scale:** Identifies the size of the feature. Options are:
  - **Small:** These UI or process-based features are typically comprised of minor field, validation, or program changes. Therefore, the potential impact to users is minimal.
  - **Medium:** These UI or process-based features are typically comprised of field, validation, or program changes. Therefore the potential impact on users is moderate
  - **Large:** These UI or process-based features have more complex designs. Therefore, the potential impact to users is higher.
- **Delivered:** Is the new feature available for use immediately after upgrade or must the feature be enabled or configured? If no, the feature is non-disruptive to end users and action is required (detailed steps below) to make the feature ready to use.
- **Customer Action Required:** You must take action before these features can be used. These features are delivered disabled and you choose if and when to enable them.

**Table 1-1 Noteworthy Enhancements**

Feature	Module Impacted	Scale	Delivered	Customer Action Required?
<b>Retail Analytics and Planning</b>				
<a href="#">Purchase Order Dates in PDS Integration</a>	RAP Integration	Small	Enabled	No
<a href="#">CE Promotion Details to RAP</a>	RAP Integration	Small	Enabled	No
<a href="#">Transformable Item Integration from MFCS</a>	RAP Integration	Small	Enabled	No
<a href="#">Price History Load Changes</a>	RAP Integration	Small	Enabled	No

**Table 1-1 (Cont.) Noteworthy Enhancements**

Feature	Module Impacted	Scale	Delivered	Customer Action Required?
<a href="#">Conversion of Processes to Flows</a>	RAP Integration	Small	Enabled	No
<b>AI Foundation Cloud Service</b>				
<a href="#">Oracle Digital Assistant Usage</a>	AI Foundation	Small	Enabled	No
<a href="#">Data Studio Upgrade</a>	AI Foundation	Small	Enabled	No
<a href="#">Configure Like Item Calculation and New Item Forecasting</a>	AI Foundation	Small	Enabled	No
<a href="#">Forecast Override Source</a>	AI Foundation	Small	Enabled	No
<a href="#">CDT Node Dynamic Grouping</a>	AI Foundation	Small	Enabled	No
<a href="#">Size Profile Escalation with Multiple Attributes</a>	Size Profile Optimization	Medium	Disabled	Yes
<a href="#">Size Profile Bulk Edits</a>	Size Profile Optimization	Small	Enabled	No
<b>Inventory Planning Optimization (IPO) Cloud Service</b>				
<a href="#">Inventory Planning Optimization (IPO) Cloud Service – Inventory Planning</a>	All	Small	Enabled	No
<b>Retail Predictive Application Server Cloud Edition Server</b>				
<a href="#">Enhanced Export Measure Utility</a>	Integration	Small	Disabled	Yes
<a href="#">Enhanced Workbook Build Timeout</a>	Operational Utilities	Small	Disabled	Yes <sup>1</sup>
<a href="#">Improved RPASCE Batch Exports</a>	Batch	Medium	Disabled	Yes <sup>2</sup>
<b>Retail Predictive Application Cloud Edition Client</b>				
<a href="#">Ability to Add Comments to Cell and Row Column Headers</a>	Usability	Small	Enabled	No
<a href="#">Ability to Show/Hide Header Label</a>	Usability	Small	Enabled	No
<a href="#">Keyboard Shortcut For Copy Label</a>	Usability	Small	Enabled	No
<b>Merchandise Financial Planning and Assortment Planning Cloud Service</b>				



**Table 1-1 (Cont.) Noteworthy Enhancements**

Feature	Module Impacted	Scale	Delivered	Customer Action Required?
<a href="#">New Metrics Added</a>	MFP	Small	Enabled	No
<a href="#">Clear Seed Action Plan</a>	MFP	Small	Enabled	No

<sup>1</sup> See feature description for more details.

<sup>2</sup> See feature description for more details.

## New Feature Description

This section describes the new features.

### Analytics and Planning

#### Purchase Order Dates in PDS Integration

When exporting data from the data warehouse to `W_PDS_PO_ONORD_IT_LC_WK_A` table, the date used on the export data is derived from the `OTB_EOW_DATE` input column. In this release, the derivation of those dates has a new configuration option `PDS_EXPORT_DAILY_ONORD` in the `C_ODI_PARAM_VW` configuration. When set to `Y`, the export uses the dates provided by the customer on the input, the same as in prior versions of RAP. When set to another value such as `N` (default value), it converts the `OTB_EOW_DATE` to a week-ending date, regardless of the input value provided. This option provides additional control over the export data to align the dates with your RPAS base intersection.

#### CE Promotion Details to RAP

There is a new integration path to load promotion details from Customer Engagement (CE) to AI Foundation when all applications are on Oracle's next-generation architecture. There is a new staging table `W_RTL_PROMO_CE_IT_LC_DS` to accept item/location level CE promotion details in the same format as existing Pricing Cloud Service integrations. This staging table combines with any Pricing data on the same target table `W_RTL_PROMO_IT_LC_D`. This data load must be used in conjunction with the existing CE data interface `W_RTL_PROMO_CE_DS`. If CE is on an older version or on-premise, then it is possible to manually produce and load a flat file into this new interface.

#### Transformable Item Integration from MFCS

Prior to this release, MFCS transformable items (also known as break-to-sell items) were explicitly filtered out of all integrations and not allowed to come into RAP. Starting in this release, the product dimension interfaces allow such items to come across. This change only applies to the item and product hierarchy data at this time, allowing dimensions to synchronize between MFCS and RAP for the additional item type. All other integrations continue to exclude transformable item data as they do today.

## Price History Load Changes

The RAP price history load program has been altered in this release in ways that make it incompatible with past releases. Price history data that is only partially loaded at the time of upgrade cannot be resumed with the new program without first raising a Service Request to Oracle for assistance converting your data to the new format required. This does not affect price history data which is already loaded in full, or price data being loaded through nightly batches.

## Conversion of Processes to Flows

The main ad hoc data load processes for AIF DATA are converted into POM Flows in this release. Flows are a relatively new concept in POM that allows for parallel execution of jobs and multiple processes all organized within a single executable flow. The following processes will be affected by this change:

- RDE\_EXTRACT\_DIM\_INITIAL\_ADHOC
- RDE\_EXTRACT\_CE\_DIM\_INITIAL\_ADHOC
- RDE\_EXTRACT\_FACT\_INITIAL\_ADHOC
- LOAD\_DIM\_INITIAL\_ADHOC
- LOAD\_DIM\_INITIAL\_STAGE\_ADHOC

After upgrade, if you are using any of these processes you should review which jobs are enabled or disabled in POM before running them again. Also, be aware that the ordering of the jobs in the UI may change because of new process and dependency configurations that are specific to flows.

## AI Foundation Cloud Service

### Oracle Digital Assistant Usage

The Oracle Digital Assistant (ODA) that provides chatbot functionality in some AI Foundation screens is disabled in non-production environments. If you want to interact with ODA, you must use production environments.

### Data Studio Upgrade

This release of AI Foundation will include an upgrade to Data Studio to version 23.4.7 that is automatically applied as part of the upgrade process.

### Configure Like Item Calculation and New Item Forecasting

The forecast configuration user interface in AI Foundation will be enhanced with new screens and options for setting up the like item calculations and new item forecasting process as part of creating new runs.

### Forecast Override Source

Forecast setup (trainstop 3) will have a new field for **Override Source** that indicates the source of overrides for parameters, such as Manual, Forecast Run, or Estimation

Run. This column is intended to show which run ID is applied to override the value of a particular parameter.

## CDT Node Dynamic Grouping

The CDT calculation process will be enhanced with a method for automatically grouping together nodes that only represent a small portion of the data within the tree, based on a configurable threshold to determine when nodes should be merged.

## Size Profile Escalation with Multiple Attributes

When creating runs in SPO, the **Attribute** field is now configurable to be either a single-select or multi-select dropdown. Numerous screens throughout the user interface have also been updated to display the additional attributes as new columns when they are used. A new configuration `MULTI_ATTR_ESC_ENABLED_FLG` determines the behavior. When it is set to `Y`, the dropdown will allow up to three attributes to be selected instead of only one. The default value is `N`, where it only allows a single attribute selection.

## Size Profile Bulk Edits

The Size Profile user interface will be enhanced to support filtering the profiles and then selecting and editing them in bulk instead of individually.

## Inventory Planning Optimization (IPO) Cloud Service

With this update, Oracle is announcing the new IPO Cloud Service module: IPO Cloud Service – Inventory Planning, which provides visibility to the purchase and placement of inventory in a time-phased plan.

## Inventory Planning Optimization (IPO) Cloud Service – Inventory Planning

This Cloud Service generates demand forecasts and inventory plans for the supply chain network. Demand forecasting allows retailers to accurately predict sales. Demand forecasts are the foundation of inventory planning that drives placement of product where it is most needed.

## Retail Predictive Application Server Cloud Edition

### Enhanced Export Measure Utility

The Export Measure utility can now be executed with an additional optional parameter to have a header in the exported files. The new parameter `H` can be specified in the `batch_exportmeas_list.txt` file to either export the header as the measure name or the fact name.

### Enhanced Workbook Build Timeout

Long-running workbooks were originally designed to fail due to timeout after 24 hours. This behavior could potentially block others from completing PDS tasks. To allow the customer finer-grained control over this behavior, an optional parameter to specify the workbook timeout has been introduced. An administrator can set the `RPAS_WORKBOOK_BUILD_TIMEOUT`

parameter using the List/Set/Unset PDS Environment Variables OAT task to specify their desired value, in seconds. If this is unset, the default of 24 hours will be used.



**Note:**

Customer action is only required to take full advantage of the extended functionality. Otherwise, the product will continue to work with its current behavior.

## Improved RPASCE Batch Exports

Batch exports were originally designed to run sequentially. To further reduce batch runtimes, this has been improved to now run batch exports in parallel. To take advantage of this, the customer should update their batch control files to use the new format.



**Note:**

Customer action is only required to take full advantage of the extended functionality. Otherwise, the product will continue to work with its current behavior.

## Retail Predictive Application Cloud Edition Client Changes

### Ability to Add Comments to Cell and Row Column Headers

This enhancement allows the users to add comments to cell and row column headers. The comment feature helps in keeping notes for quick reference during meetings and discussions. These comments can also be used as reminders for the user or others.

### Ability to Show/Hide Header Label

Users are now able to show or hide row and column header labels using the right-click context menu. It provides more working space on the pivot table for users.

### Keyboard Shortcut For Copy Label

With this release, a keyboard shortcut is enabled for copying the column / row header label and z-axis position label. Users can use the [Ctrl]+[q] shortcut to copy the label and quickly transfer the data from RPASCE to an external application.

## Merchandise Financial Planning and Assortment Planning Cloud Service

### New Metrics Added

The following metrics have been added in this version:

1. An editable **Week over Week Build measure** for sales has been added which will help users quickly investigate current week sales data to previous week.
2. **Location Count** and **Average Sales per Location Measure** have been added in MFP. **Location Count** provides the total number of stores and **Average Sales per Location Measure** is defined by dividing the total sales by location count.

## Clear Seed Action Plan

A new custom action **Clear Seed Plan** has been added in MFP to clear the seeded plans. This action will help users to remove the seeded data with just a single click.

# 2

## Noteworthy Fixed Issues

This section highlights specific key fixes that are scheduled to be included in this upcoming release. In some cases, only a percentage of the overall fixed defects are listed.

Affected Component	Defect Number	Summary
RAP Integration	36409011	Fixed issue with W_PRODUCT_FLEX_D table incorrectly allowing duplicate rows which then causes PDS loads to fail.
RAP Integration	36139487	Fixed an issue in nightly W_RTL_INV_IT_LC_DY_F_JOB caused by re-using item identifiers.
Innovation Workbench	36414098	SEC_GROUP synonym was not pointing to MFCS_RDS.RDS_WV_SEC_GROUP. This issue has been fixed.
RPASCE Client	36173081	The changes made to custom measure profiles were not retained after saving the format for self. This issue has been fixed.
RPASCE Client	36415298	The Position filter was removed when users were showing / hiding a measure into the view. This issue is fixed.

# 3

## Deprecated Features

As part of the continuous delivery model for cloud services, features and technical components of a solution may be removed or replaced to enhance the security, performance, and overall quality of the cloud service. When this occurs, the deprecation of a feature or component will be announced in advance, allowing Customers sufficient time to anticipate the change and transition to any enhanced replacement feature/component. After the deprecation is announced, the deprecated feature or component will remain in the solution until the planned removal date and will not be enhanced or made compatible with other new features.

For a full list of declared Planning and Supply Chain deprecated features, see Oracle Retail Predictive Application Server (RPAS) Cloud for Planning and Optimization / Supply Chain Cloud Services Documentation Library (Doc ID [2492295.1](#)).

For a full list of declared AI Foundation Cloud Services and Retail Insights Cloud Service deprecated features, see the Oracle Retail Insights Cloud Service and AI Foundation Cloud Services Documentation Library (Doc ID [2539848.1](#)).