Retek® Data Warehouse 10.1

Release Notes

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When contacting Customer Support, please provide:

- Product version and program/module name.

- Functional and technical description of the problem (include business impact).

- Detailed step by step instructions to recreate.

- Exact error message received.

- Screen shots of each step you take.

Contents

Overview

The RDW 10.1 is a General Availability release that encompasses some significant technical and functional enhancements as compared to the RDW 10.0 release. RDW 10.1 incorporates the changes needed to maintain integration with the Retek Merchandising System, given the functionality changes made in the RMS 10.1 release. It also includes changes required to maintain the interface with Retek Sales Audit. In addition to the functional changes made, the architecture of the RDW version 10.1 has been improved to maintain RDW's Database Independent architecture by removing all pro*C elements.

Functional enhancements

The following features have been significantly modified or are new to RDW for version 10.1:

Differentiator attribute

For Retek 10.1, an item can be tied to no more than 4 differentiating values. These differentiating values (diffs) represent product features such as flavor, scent, pattern, color or size (also known as diff types). Clients can configure RMS to modify and add additional diff types. Any given item may be associated with at most 4 Diffs (each of a different diff type), and RDW supports a fixed number of diff types, a total of 30.

Within RDW 10.1 a user can use these diffs as an attribute by which to filter a report. For example, a report may be generated that reflects sales and profit information for any item within a given Merchandise and/or Organizational hierarchy level that has the assignment of "lemon scented" as a diff. Additionally, the ability to drill down through a product hierarchy to the individual items with an associated diff is supported.

Because diff components were removed from RMS and replaced with the new expanded diff functionality, diff components were also removed from RDW 10.1. In addition, diff groups were removed from RDW 10.1.

VAT localization

For Retek 10.1, RMS made changes to the VAT functionality in order to support the ability to attach Value Added Tax (VAT) at either the class or item level. This enhancement was added to RMS to give a retailer more control over VAT inclusion/exclusion in the download to and upload from the point of sale. DWI code within RDW 10.1 takes account of this functionality when uploading sales from ReSA. ReSA sales, whether inclusive or exclusive of VAT at the point of sale, are stored in RDW as VAT-inclusive if VAT is used in RMS. As with past versions of RDW, the VAT portion of the retail sale is stored as a separate fact along with the actual, VAT-inclusive retail sales amount.

Sales forecast

The RDW 10.1 Sales Forecast datamart was modified to remove sales forecast retail columns from RDW. Because the source for sales forecasts in the Retek enterprise (from RDF through RMS to RDW) only provide forecasted sales units, the business value of forecasted retail values was found to not be an industry best practice. As a result, RDW reports that utilized metrics based on sales forecast amounts have been updated to utilize only the sales forecast units.

Workbench user guide

The RDW 10.1 User Guide has been extensively re-written to provide an increased level of understanding for the end user. From retail data warehousing concepts, to a thorough discussion of attribute hierarchies, to improved business measure discussions across all datamarts, this document will be indispensable for the RDW user looking to increase their analytical abilities and scope.

RDW 10.1 migration guide

A comprehensive migration guide is included with the RDW 10.1 release. This document provides RDW 10.0 clients step-by-step instructions to migrate their 10.0 modules, database objects and MicroStrategy objects to the new 10.1 version. For clients who have only installed RDW 10.0 but have not begun to process data or customize the product in any way, we recommend removing RDW 10.0 and installing RDW 10.1.

Missed scheduled deliveries

It has been determined that the fact column "missed scheduled shipment count" (F_MISSED_SCHED_COUNT) on the supplier compliance datamart table SCMP_RCPT_MISS_LD_DM cannot be populated from RMS. The reason is the RMS tables SOURCE_DLVRY_SCHED and SOURCE_DLVRY_SCHED_DAYS only hold data for when regularly-scheduled shipments from a given supplier should occur, *if* that supplier has a shipment ready. The DWI module scmidldat.pc, in RDW 10.0, was designed on the assumption that these RMS tables held information about shipments suppliers *had* to make. As this assumption was found to be false, that DWI module was removed. This column in the supplier compliance datamart now must be populated by a client-specified process, if the client wishes to capture such data.

Technical enhancements

RDW 10.1 completes the conversion of all Pro*C modules within DWI to Retek Extract Transform and Load (RETL) scripts. DWI fact extract modules have been renamed to *ex.ksh (such as pricing extract, which is now prcildex.ksh, compared to the previous prcildat.pc). As a result all batch ETL code is now written in one, database independent language (RETL .ksh scripts). Review the RDW 10.1 Migration Guide for implementation information on the removal of pro*C. Features and related benefits of this architecture change:

- Four of the DWI fact modules read flat files generated by ReSA to extract sales, loss prevention, tender totals, and tender type information facts. In order for the new RETL DWI fact scripts to process this data, ReSA has created a new PERL script "resa2rdw" to properly format the four flat files. Refer to RMS 10.1 Operations Guide for more information on this script.

- Now that all RDW ETL batch code is written in the same RETL format, customizations and maintenance of RDW batch modules is easier.

- The following DWI database objects have been removed: DWI restart-recovery tables, all DWI triggers and modification tables, and all PL-SQL procedures. This simplifies the DWI installation and decreases on-going maintenance for the DWI environment. .

- Pro-C's multi-threading capabilities that were utilized by DWI fact extraction modules have now been replaced by RETL's version of multi-threading, which uses CPU partitioning and parallelism to efficiently spread the load across processing nodes on the UNIX server.   Refer to the Operations Guide and RETL Programmers Guide for more information.

The RDW 10.1 Operations Guide has further information describing the new DWI fact extract RETL code. In addition, the Operations Guide explains a new type of restart-recovery that has been added to certain modules on both the DWI and RDW side.

Software requirements and configuration matrix

Refer to the RDW 10.1 Installation Guide & Middle Tier Installation Guides, which show all the currently supported software and hardware configurations for RDW 10.1 at the time of release. If a required configuration is not supported, verify with Retek Customer Support to see if the configuration is now supported.

Known limitations and issues of RDW version 10.1

ReSA defects affecting RDW

ReSA defect #329715 is a minor fix that is required to the saexprdw.pc module so that it will export a "-1" to RDW in place of a null SUB_TRAN_TYPE. The RDW 10.1 version of DWI module slsildmex.ksh is already expecting ReSA to export the –1 in this case. Implication: without this minor fix, sales data that includes a null SUB_TRAN_TYPE may not be loaded into RDW.

RMS defects affecting RDW

- RDW defect #328777 is gated by RMS defect #329567. The problem originates when an RTV is created in RMS forms on day 1 with a ship date, but is not actually shipped on day 1. RDW is incorrectly extracting this RTV on day 1, even though it has not shipped. If the RTV ships on day 2, and the ship date is updated to day 2, a discrepancy exists in RDW between the stockledger datamart (which originates in the RMS week_data table) and the RTV datamart (which originate from the RMS rtv_head & rtv_detail tables). Fixes to both products will be coordinated and sent out in patches to the respective products.

- RDW defect #329527 is gated by RMS enhancement defect #329526. The problem originates when an item-contract relationship in RMS is deleted before a contract order is placed for the item. This situation can leave "open" contract positional facts in RDW (such as "quantity contracted") attributed to the now deleted item-contract relationship. RMS will require a small enhancement to assist RDW in properly closing out the contract-item relationship in RDW.

- RMS defect #329668 concerns the fact that if a transaction is written to RMS tran_data table with a timestamp including hours/minutes/seconds, this transaction will not be posted to RDW until the next day. This has the minor business impact in RDW of delaying a user's access to this data by one day.

Known issues concerning tools used with RDW 10.1

MicroStrategy 7.1.6

- The N-Tile Ranking function does not currently have an option to evaluate the Set at default Metric level such as going into Filter Set Qualification and specifying the output level. The output level will be used more frequently than the break by option. This has been logged as an enhancement with MicroStrategy Case # 148054.

- Hidden hierarchy filters do not stay hidden after exiting out of the Desktop application. This will cause the filter to be displayed when drilling from Department to Supplier. This is not the desired result and has been logged as a defect with MicroStrategy Case #140264.

- Age is defined by taking the system date and subtracting the birth date of the customer. This will often result in a decimal, which is then displayed as a whole number reflecting the difference in years. As such, there will be more than one attribute element for a given age within the data explorer. As and example, if you have 3 customers that are 29 with different birth dates, 3 29's will show up in the data explorer as elements of Age. Defect # 000320914.

- If you drill on a report with a hierarchy on the template, and then drill again while keeping the parent, you will get an analytical engine error. This is a known grid formatting issue and not an SQL generation issue. This has been logged as an enhancement with MicroStrategy Case # 155607.

DB2 - decimal divide error

In DB2, the division function subtracts the scale, which causes a loss of precision. MSTR Case# 156493, Enhancement Case # 157845.RDW 10.1 has implemented the following solution: the database configuration parameter MIN_DEC_DIV_3, was changed from the default value of 'NO' to 'YES". If set to YES, the scale is calculated as MAX(3, 31-p+s-s'). This causes the result of decimal division to always have a scale of at least 3. Precision is always 31.

    References: <u>IBM Technote</u>, <u>MSTR Technote</u>.

Teradata – Zeros are returned for compound metrics

In Teradata, the Count function returns an integer. Dividing two integers returns an integer, which would return a zero when numerator is less than denominator. MSTR Enhancement Case # 157845 RDW 10.1 has implemented the following solution: all base formulas that perform a count function, have been updated to multiply the result by (1.00001/1.00001). This changes the resultant data type to a decimal rather than the default integer.

References: <u>MSTR Technote</u>.