

# Retek® Price Management™ 11.0.4

## Release Notes



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Internet (ROCS)	<a href="https://rocs.retek.com">rocs.retek.com</a> Retek's secure client Web site to update and view issues
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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.

## Overview

This document contains information on functional and technical enhancements that have been made to Retek Price Management (RPM) since the previous release. Current known issues and issues that have been fixed since the previous release are also included in this document.

## Supporting Retek products

This version of RPM is compatible with the following Retek products:

- Retek Merchandising System (RMS) 11.0.3 (including Retek Sales Audit)
- Retek Allocation 11.0.2
- Retek Integration Bus (RIB) 11.1
- Retek Service Layer (RSL) 11.1
- Retek Data Warehouse (RDW) 11.0
- Store Inventory Management (SIM), an application on the Integrated Store Operations (ISO) 11.0.0.1 platform
- Retek Extract Transform and Load (RETL) 11.2.2
- Retek Navigator 11.0.1
- Retek Security Manager (RSM) 11.1.1

## Functional enhancements

### Item reclassification

A new item-related RIB interface was added to RPM. The interface keeps RMS and RPM in sync during reclassifications. When an item is reclassified in RMS, RPM receives a RIB message indicating that the item is in a different merchandise hierarchy. RPM updates the future retail table (which holds the hierarchy in order to improve conflict-checking performance) with the item's new hierarchy values.

### Business process considerations for the retailer

A reclassification is an important business decision. When selecting a date for reclassification, the retailer must consider processes that are ‘downstream’ of the reclassification. Note that there is no impact to clearances and price changes, but as the following bulleted list illustrates, pricing strategy worksheets and promotions must be considered when reclassifications are scheduled for an item.

- **Price strategy worksheets business process considerations**



**Note:** This business process consideration is intended for retailers who generate worksheets by running the merchandise extract.

When an item is being reclassified, the retailer should suspend its calendars for the period that overlaps the reclassification date. Once the calendar is suspended, no review of prices can occur for the hierarchy during a reclassification week. The item is ‘moving’ from one hierarchy to the other during the process and cannot be reviewed in either. Note, however, that after the item has been reclassified, the retailer should review it in the new hierarchy.

- **Promotion business process considerations**

The retailer should not reclassify an item during a promotion created against the hierarchy in which it currently exists or against the hierarchy into which it is moving. The logic that lies behind this recommendation is as follows. Promotions can be created at the hierarchy level. When a promotion is approved at the hierarchy level, a record is created for the items in that level. When an item is reclassified, the hierarchy for the item is updated. However, the system continues the promotion of the item based on the original hierarchy promotion. When a reclassification is being considered/scheduled, promotions at the hierarchy level need to be reviewed.



**Note:** Item-level promotions are not an issue for reclassification. RPM writes future retail records at the item level for any price change (promotional or regular). Along with the item number on the record, the department, class, and subclass are also held on the future retail record. In addition, if the price change occurred because of a promotion, the promotion ID is also on the record. However, the promotion header information only holds the hierarchy that was used to create the promotion.

For example:

If item A is in dept 123 and a promotion Z is created for dept 123, a future retail record is written for item A, dept 123, promotion Z. If item A is reclassified into a new department, (dept 789, for example), the future retail record is updated to show the new department number (item A, dept 789, promotion Z). If the promotion Z is then canceled, the future retail records are updated where the department is equal to the department on the promotion. Because the record for item A was updated to show dept 789 (the retail and promotion ID did not change), the canceling of the promotion Z can no longer find item A to update the retails.

## Maintain worksheet views

Users can now delete worksheet detail views that are no longer going to be used. Users are also able to specify a default view. When a user opens a worksheet, the system opens to their saved default view. These changes facilitate ease of maintenance because users are allowed to keep a reasonable number of custom views available for selection. In the Worksheet Details screen, a button called 'Maintain View' was added where users can add, delete or update existing views. When a user clicks the 'Maintain View' button, a new pop-up screen opens to handle the process of maintaining views.

## Wildcard filtering within list of values (LOV)

The LOV pop-up screen was modified so that the tables within the pop-up allow filtering on all columns. When the user opens up an LOV pop-up, the filters row in each column are available and blank. Users can enter values and press enter if they want to filter against the values they have entered. Alternatively, they can use a % filter approach, where the % symbol serves as a wildcard. The search is not case sensitive. Note the examples below:

- If the user enters '%e', the LOV list is limited to those rows in that column that end with the letter 'e'.
- If the user enters 'e%', the LOV list is limited to those rows in that column that begin with the letter 'e'.
- If the user enters '%e%', the LOV list is limited to those rows in that column that contain the letter 'e'.

All of the columns contain the filter capability. The top table of an LOV contains the available list of values to select from. The bottom table of an LOV displays those values that have already been selected. Both tables include the filtering feature. Users may choose to filter on the bottom table if they have multi-selected a large list of items and want to narrow down items to be deselected. Once the user clicks 'Select', the values that are represented in the lower table are applied to the field from which the LOV was accessed.

## Asynchronous conflict checking for promotions

A new system option has been created that allows users to decide how they want conflict checking to be processed for promotions (synchronously or asynchronously). The conflict checking process used to be a synchronous process. Conflict checking is initiated on its own or as part of another action (for example, approving a promotion). However, in previous versions of RPM, the conflict checking process used to block the user while it ran. Now conflict check processing occurs in a background task, and the user who initiated the promotion approval is not blocked. The user receives an alert once the conflict checking process is complete.

## Price inquiry

A new dialog is available in RPM that allows users to search for the price of an item at a single point in time. That point in time can be related to the current price or a future price. Based on the search criteria entered by the user, a listing of item/locations together with the specified prices at a given date is displayed. The results display the item's regular, clearance and promotional retail based on the specified date. If the promotion is complex, the price is not displayed; however, the system indicates that the item is on a complex promotion. The resulting information is available to the user for export.

### Area differentials in initial price setting

Area differentials is now applied to items in RMS initial price setting as well in RPM. Previously, area differentials were only applied to items that were attached to an area differential strategy and price changed in RPM. Now, as long as the item is being added to a merchandise hierarchy/primary zone group that is attached to an area differential strategy, that item has its initial price set accordingly to the rules specified in the area differential strategy.

## Technical enhancements

### Status page application

Because RPM is dependent upon a number of servers, and a number of Retek products are dependent on RPM, a status page was added to help the retailer determine quickly whether RPM and the servers upon which it depends are up and running correctly. The status page application displays the answers to the following questions:

- Is the RPM/RMS\_Database up and running?
- Is the RPM JMS Server up and running?
- Is RSM up and running?
- Can the application get access to the RPM service?
- Can the application log in to RPM?
- Can RPM data be retrieved?
- Can RMS data be retrieved?
- Is the application able to publish to RIB each message type?

### Asynchronous processing

Asynchronous processing can now be multi threaded.

## Performance enhancements

The following functional area within RPM was performance tested and tuned for this release:

- Conflict check upon approval of price, clearance, and promotions.



## Assumptions

- RPM is dependent upon Retek Security Manager (RSM). RSM must be installed prior to installing RPM. See both the RPM and the RSM Installation Guides for further information.
- Minimal conversion and seed data scripts are required at installation time in order to ensure that this release fully functions with existing data. See the RPM Installation Guide for details around these conversion and seed data scripts.
- As a general rule, any RMS data being used in RPM should not be deleted from RMS.
- The table, RPM\_MBC\_LOV\_VALUES, has no associated user interface. Therefore, the values in this table must be inserted at installation time, and maintained by a database administrator (DBA). Please see the RPM Installation Guide for more information on this table.
- RPM\_BATCH\_CONTROL is a DBA-maintained table. Please see the RPM Operations Guide for more information.
- RPM and RIBforRPM cannot be installed in the same WebSphere Application Server (WAS) server.

## RIB for RPM

There is a WebSphere transaction parameter for client inactivity. Because there could potentially be significant processing after the RIB publication, but before the transaction commit for clearances, the RIB transaction could time out. Moving this parameter to a higher value on the RIB should resolve any timeout issues.

## Fixed issues from the 11.0.3.1 RPM release

- RQST00000069653/DEFECT000395054  
POSUPLD is supposed to handle 0 unit\_cost. The error is returned by merch\_retail\_api\_sql.non\_range\_item\_retail(), which validates if the I\_unit\_cost is = 0; and raises an error if it is. However, there is an inconsistency in how the I\_unit\_cost is later used in calculate\_non\_ranged\_retail, which seems to allow the I\_unit\_cost to be 0 and accordingly sets the O\_selling\_retail to 0. The validation that restricts I\_unit\_cost = 0 should be removed from merch\_retail\_api\_sql.non\_range\_item\_retail.
- RQST00000069923/DEFECT000395221  
Transaction rollback errors occur when the system performs asynchronous processing. For example, an issue arises when a user approves a price change, and the asynchronous flag in system options is set to true.

## Known issues

RQST00000071899

RPM 11.0.3 must be restarted if Seebeyond JMS (used by RPM as an external JMS for asynchronous processing) is restarted.

DEFECT000396936

The French version of RPM 11.0.4 webhelp does not include the latest updates from Version 11.0.3.

DEFECT000396939

Reclassification script “itemReclassBatch.sh” contained invalid control characters causing execution issues.

DEFECT000396934

RSM will not create correct privileges to access the new price inquiry functionality. Scripts to change these settings are available as a hot fix for this defect.