

Oracle® Retail Data Warehouse

Release Notes

Release 13.0.1

August 2008

This document describes Oracle Retail Data Warehouse (RDW) Release 13.0.1. RDW Release 13.0.1 is a full product release that replaces RDW 13.0.

Product Overview

Oracle Retail Data Warehouse (RDW) is a decision support solution built specifically for retail. RDW melds massive amounts of data from different systems into user-friendly reporting that provides a single version of accurate information to all users. With its flexible and scalable foundation, RDW provides a place for efficiently storing and analyzing information.

The applications and components that make up the data warehouse perform these functions:

- Organize and standardize data so that it can be stored in a consistent format in the data warehouse.
- Load data to a relational database management system that is specially constructed for decision support.
- Provide analytical tools and interfaces necessary to deliver information throughout the retail organization.

Note: Some RDW extract, transform, and load (ETL) modules may contain references to DB2 and Teradata databases; however, RDW no longer supports these databases.

For complete information about RDW hardware and software requirements and compatibility, see the *Oracle Retail Data Warehouse Installation Guide*.

Functional Enhancements

The following functional enhancements are included in this release.

Wholesale/Franchise

RDW 13.0.1 includes data model, ETL, and report components that provide the ability to report specifically on wholesale and franchise locations. Wholesale and franchise sales value, return sales value, acquisition cost, markup, and markdown values are some of the wholesale/franchise metrics available.

Technical Enhancements

The following technical enhancements are included in this release.

Operating System and Database Support

RDW 13.0.1 is compatible with Oracle Database 10g and the following operating systems:

- Oracle Enterprise Linux 4 Update 5
- HP-UX Itanium 11.23
- IBM AIX 5.3
- Sun Solaris 10

RETL 13.0.1 Certification

RDW 13.0.1 is compatible with Oracle Retail Extract, Transform, and Load (RETL) 13.0.1.

Oracle Business Intelligence Enterprise Edition

Oracle Business Intelligence Enterprise Edition (Oracle BI) now serves as the online analytical processing (OLAP) tool used by RDW. Oracle BI replaces MicroStrategy Desktop, the OLAP tool used in previous RDW releases.

Language Enablement

RDW 13.0.1 is translated into all of these languages:

- Brazilian Portuguese
- Chinese (Simplified)
- Chinese (Traditional)
- English
- French
- German
- Italian
- Japanese
- Korean
- Russian
- Spanish

When accessing the RDW user interface, the user can select any one of these supported languages. Objects such as report and metric names appear in the language selected; however, data values such as item or location descriptions appear as they have been loaded into the RDW data model. There is no translation of data values.

Single Sign-On Enablement

RDW can be enabled to use Oracle Application Server Single Sign-On (SSO). SSO is a component of Oracle Identity Management. In an SSO environment, a user signs on once with user name and password during a Web browser session. The SSO server authenticates the user, and this SSO identity is propagated to each SSO-enabled application used within the same browser session.

SSO enablement is described in the *Oracle Retail Data Warehouse Installation Guide*.

Integration Enhancements

The following integration enhancements are included in this release.

Integration with Oracle Retail Workspace

Oracle Retail Data Warehouse can be integrated with Oracle Retail Workspace. The integration between these applications is optional, and no data flows between the applications. Workspace provides a single point of access to the Oracle Retail applications used by your business. It also provides an integrated platform that can display operational and analytical information from multiple sources. Workspace functionality provides single sign-on, central launch, role-based security, user management, and retailer-specific customization capabilities. Workspace also provides a kit and instructions for dashboard development. For more information, see the Oracle Retail Workspace documentation, the *Oracle Retail Data Warehouse Operations Guide*, and the following:

Metalink Note 559554.1: Oracle Retail Reports Resizing Guide

Due to the space constraints of the content area in Oracle Retail Workspace, reports accessed in a dashboard may need to be resized. This guide provides a step-by-step process for resizing reports in both Oracle Business Intelligence Enterprise Edition (Oracle BI) and Oracle BI Publisher.

Performance Enhancements

The following performance enhancements apply to RDW 13.0.1:

- RDW 13.0.1 provides the capability to partition large fact tables, which will help in improving overall report performance. Configuration files are provided for partitioning these tables. Partitioning of the fact tables is optional but highly recommended. The steps for creating partitions are explained in the RDW Install Guide and the RDW Operations Guide explains the partitioning strategies and examples.
- RDW supplies information at both ITEM-SUPPLIER and ITEM-SUPPLIER-LOCATION levels. The table PROD_ITEM_SUPP_DM (populated by the module prdisdm.ksh) stores ITEM_SUPPLIER level information. The table PROD_ITEM_SUPP_LOC_DM (populated by module prdisldm.ksh) stores ITEM-SUPPLIER-LOCATION level information. Both of these tables are very large, and reporting using them deserves special consideration. To create reports at the ITEM-SUPPLIER level, using the PROD_ITEM_SUPP_DM table is recommended.

- If the PROD_ITEM_SUPP_LOC_DM table is used to create any reports at the ITEM-SUPPLIER level, a significant loss in report performance will be noticed. The PROD_ITEM_SUPP_LOC_DM table is provided for use in creating reports that require one of the following attributes or metrics:
 - Supplier Part Number
 - Presentation Method
 - Supplier Case Quantity

If Supplier Part Number, Presentation Method, or Supplier Case Quantity from the PROD_ITEM_SUPP_LOC_DM table are not required for any report, then you should remove the prdisldm program from the RDW schedule for improved batch performance. The population and reporting from the PROD_ITEM_SUPP_DM table will be faster than from the PROD_ITEM_SUPP_LOC_DM table.

Known Issues

The following are known issues in RDW 13.0.1.

Drop-Down List Prompts

This Oracle BI issue affects reports that contain drop-down list prompts. Oracle BI can handle only a limited number of values in a drop-down list. After the maximum number of values has been exceeded, a “too many values” message appears at the bottom of the drop-down list.

There is a workaround for this issue. Add the following lines to the instanceconfig.xml file:

```
<Prompts>
  <MaxDropDownValues>5000</MaxDropDownValues>
  <ReloadInline>False</ReloadInline>
</Prompts>
```

Ensure that the value in the <MaxDropDownValues> tag is set to a number equal to or greater than the number of drop-down values you have. Query the database to verify the actual number and set the value accordingly (5000 is an example). After saving, restart the Oracle BI server and Oracle BI Presentation server.

Related Documentation

For more information, see the following documents in the Oracle Retail Data Warehouse Release 13.0.1 documentation set:

- *Oracle Retail Data Warehouse Data Model*
- *Oracle Retail Data Warehouse Installation Guide*
- *Oracle Retail Data Warehouse Operations Guide*
- *Oracle Retail Data Warehouse User Guide*

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Value-Added Reseller (VAR) Language

(i) the software component known as **ACUMATE** developed and licensed by Lucent Technologies Inc. of Murray Hill, New Jersey, to Oracle and imbedded in the Oracle Retail Predictive Application Server - Enterprise Engine, Oracle Retail Category Management, Oracle Retail Item Planning, Oracle Retail Merchandise Financial Planning, Oracle Retail Advanced Inventory Planning and Oracle Retail Demand Forecasting applications.

(ii) the **MicroStrategy** Components developed and licensed by MicroStrategy Services Corporation (MicroStrategy) of McLean, Virginia to Oracle and imbedded in the MicroStrategy for Oracle Retail Data Warehouse and MicroStrategy for Oracle Retail Planning & Optimization applications.

(iii) the **SeeBeyond** component developed and licensed by Sun Microsystems, Inc. (Sun) of Santa Clara, California, to Oracle and imbedded in the Oracle Retail Integration Bus application.

(iv) the **Wavelink** component developed and licensed by Wavelink Corporation (Wavelink) of Kirkland, Washington, to Oracle and imbedded in Oracle Retail Store Inventory Management.

(v) the software component known as **Crystal Enterprise Professional and/or Crystal Reports Professional** licensed by Business Objects Software Limited ("Business Objects") and imbedded in Oracle Retail Store Inventory Management.

(vi) the software component known as **Access Via™** licensed by Access Via of Seattle, Washington, and imbedded in Oracle Retail Signs and Oracle Retail Labels and Tags.

(vii) the software component known as **Adobe Flex™** licensed by Adobe Systems Incorporated of San Jose, California, and imbedded in Oracle Retail Promotion Planning & Optimization application.

(viii) the software component known as **Style Report™** developed and licensed by InetSoft Technology Corp. of Piscataway, New Jersey, to Oracle and imbedded in the Oracle Retail Value Chain Collaboration application.

(ix) the software component known as **WebLogic™** developed and licensed by BEA Systems, Inc. of San Jose, California, to Oracle and imbedded in the Oracle Retail Value Chain Collaboration application.

(x) the software component known as **DataBeacon™** developed and licensed by Cognos Incorporated of Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, to Oracle and imbedded in the Oracle Retail Value Chain Collaboration application.

