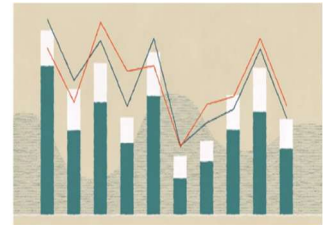




Oracle Retail Merchandise Financial Planning Cloud Service

In retail, it all starts with a plan. Executive leadership sets strategic merchandise and financial objectives - and all other departments aim to meet them. Merchandise Financial Planning is an integral part of retail operations, enabling retailers to align their merchandise plans with financial goals and objectives. It creates a financial roadmap for merchandise and inventory investments.

Merchandise Financial Planning provides retailers with the right tools to forecast demand, plan budgets, and allocate inventory resources effectively across different product categories, seasons, and selling locations.



ENABLING RETAILERS TO DRIVE PROFIT

Paired with Oracle Retail AI Foundation, Oracle Retail Merchandise Financial Planning Cloud Service employs extensible analytics and AI to drive optimal planning decisions.

KEY BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- **Data-driven Insights** – Advanced analytics provide valuable insight into product performance, customer behavior, and market trends.
- **Improved Accuracy** – Common and shared sourced sales and inventory history, weekly trends, and unconstrained forecasts support smarter, more accurate planning and user efficiency.
- **Increased Financial Performance** – Alignment between buying and inventory decisions with financial goals lead to better cash flow management, increased profitability, and reduced costs.
- **Enhanced Inventory Management** - Optimized inventory levels result in appropriate inventory placement, improving working capital efficiency across organizational channels.
- **Better Buying Decisions** – Accurate demand forecasting and OTB management enables buyers to make informed decisions, ensuring the right products, at the right location, at the right time.
- **Operation Efficiency** – Automation of financial planning processes saves time, reduces manual errors, and allows retailers to focus on strategic initiatives with continuous planning capabilities.
- **Scalable and Continuous Delivery** - Solutions scale globally yet are configurable to support changes in local markets through a continuous delivery of enhancements and upgrades.

Benefits

- *Data-driven insights*
- *Improved plan accuracy*
- *Increased gross margin*
- *Maximized return on investment (ROI)*
- *Optimized inventory*
- *Reduced markdowns*
- *Configurable applications provide bespoke retailer's individualization*
- *Streamlined communication between management and planners*
- *Embedded forecast and agile workflows drive user efficiency and effectiveness*

KEY FEATURES INCLUDE:

- **Pre-Season and In-Season Planning** - Provides both pre-season and in-season planning with key financial indicators that include sales, markdowns, receipts, inventory, gross margin, and open-to-buy.
- **Location and Merchandising Planning** - Aligns all levels of strategic targets and financial plans including finance, executive leadership, merchandise planners and location planners. Facilitate connections across multiple planning roles for easy reconciliation and approval through consistent and disciplined processes.
- **Omnichannel & Fulfillment Planning** - Supports the modern retail model of buy anywhere/fulfill anywhere, with channel-specific metrics for brick-and-mortar stores, direct selling operations, and wholesale/franchise enterprises.
- **Integrated Forecasting** - This end-to-end suite of integrated solutions with AI Foundation ensures that all components of the retail enterprise can rely on a common financial plan.
- **Multi-Currency and Geography** - Plans are created, reviewed, and approved in multiple currencies and languages.
- **Seamless Reconciliation** - Ensures that role-based plans reconcile across the organization, promoting corporate communication with a single source of truth.
- **Retail, Hybrid and Cost Accounting** - Retailers can use either cost, hybrid or retail accounting methods supported by individualized configuration.
- **Exception Based** - Exception management functions flag affected areas of a plan that might not be noticed when managing copious amounts of data.
- **Scenario-Based Planning** - Planners can simulate the full impact of different planning strategies, such as a conservative and aggressive version of their plan to evaluate and select the best fit.
- **Portfolio Optimization** - Integrated strategic analysis modeling combinations of potential financial strategies based on historical sales trends and growth correlations between product categories.

ORACLE RETAIL AI FOUNDATION

The Oracle Retail AI Foundation is common across the unified Oracle Retail Analytics and Planning capabilities, harnessing the retail industry's best analytical minds, technology, and data to power decisions. Core areas relevant to Merchandise Financial Planning include:

Forecasting Engine - Provide an intelligent starting point for your planners, increasing automation and accuracy across multiple process and applications.

Innovation Workbench - Leverage open source along with your data science team to create your own AI and ML models. Utilize the language of your choice with Jupyter/Zeppelin notebooks.

Portfolio Optimization - Analyze the highest return for the list risk balanced across the corporate portfolio across combinations of strategic sales targets.

Features

- *Pre-season and in-season planning*
- *Merchandise and location planning*
- *Proven, globally scalable planning platform*
- *Omnichannel and fulfillment planning*
- *Integrated forecasting*
- *Supports multiple currencies and geographies*
- *Seamless reconciliation*
- *Retail, hybrid and cost accounting methods*
- *Automated exception management functions*
- *Simulated scenario-based planning*
- *Designed to be integrated with Oracle Retail solutions*
- *Embedded Retail AI Foundation*
 - *Digital Assistance*
 - *Forecasting Engine*
 - *Innovation Workbench*
 - *Portfolio Optimization*

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