



WHAT HAS CHANGED?



Retail Shelf Planner 2021 Service Pack 1

What's new?



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Author's note

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WHAT HAS CHANGED?

Introduction

It's been several months since we released **Retail Shelf Planner 2021**, and we got a lot of positive feedback on the new and enhanced features. More stability, improved efficiencies, additional analytics, etc. without making the software harder to use, or more expensive.

But, with an ever-increasing group of users, in more and more countries around the globe, sometimes things pop up that don't work exactly as we intended.

In addition, we have been expanding our activities, requiring us to extend the languages for the user interface to include Russian and Thai.

All in all, we've been collecting a range of potential improvements since the release, and have decided to combine all of these in an "interim release". A so-called Service Pack.

This document describes all these improvements.

We trust you will benefit from them!

Regards,

Erwin Bergsma
Managing Director



General Usability & Performance

Look & Feel

- A new toolbar has been implemented with larger and more colorful buttons:



Miscellaneous

- We optimized several of the “behind the scenes” algorithms, reducing the time needed for the “pre-drawing” part of loading a planogram by up to 80%.
- Due to a bug in Windows, the Tile Windows feature to quickly organize multiple open **Retail Shelf Planner** windows failed to restore windows that were minimized. A workaround has been implemented so that it now works correctly.
- When clicking the characteristics dropdowns in the Product dialog they opened and closed again which gave the impression that there were no values to select from. This has been addressed.
- The error message that is displayed when something goes wrong while drawing the planogram now includes additional information which will help to track down the problem.
- When running the software in Portuguese, the Open Planogram in New Window feature now also includes the new rspx-format.
- When applicable, clicking on the icons in the How To... panel will now open the Section, Shelf, Import or Positions dialog which some people find more intuitive than having to click on the toolbar button.
- The Shelf field Dividers, holding the number of dividers on the shelf, is now included in Undo and Redo.
- The Product Find feature now can also find a product if the UPC is selected from the dropdown.
- The menu-option View-Zoom 300% now works correctly.
- When changing the zoom-factor, all menu-items and toolbar-menu items are now properly checked and unchecked.



WHAT HAS CHANGED?

Merchandising

Merging Planograms

- Section Merge now correctly includes the fields Left Overhang, Right Overhang, all Divider fields, and all Squeeze fields for shelves, as well as all Squeeze fields for Products.
- Merging planograms with InfoBoxes with pictures could lead to the linked pictures not being displayed correctly, or even to a crash of the software. This has been fixed.
- Additional error handling has been added to the Section Merge.

Pegboards

- Some people (try to) use pegboards to simulate chests. To avoid slow redrawing of the planogram, peg holes will no longer be drawn when either Peg Horizontal Spacing or Peg Vertical Spacing is set to the minimum value of 0.1. In that case, the dot indicating the peg is also no longer drawn on positions.
- <Ctrl> drag and drop of Positions on a Pegboard caused some positions to “jump” an additional peg hole to the right. Where possible this has been addressed.

Allocate Product Dialog

- The Filters in the Position / Allocate Products dialog have been made more responsive.
- In the Position / Allocate Products dialog, when changing the selected value for the first filter, the applicable values for the second filter are now automatically refreshed.

Squeezing Products

- Horizontal squeezing did not work correctly for the orientations Left, Front 90, Left 90 and Top 90 when the Product settings were used. This has been fixed.
- Planograms where there was the unique combination of a.) Products with a Squeeze Factor, b.) that had Positions on a shelf with Squeeze Product activated, and c.) where the Positions have been given a Capping Style of Med Cap, but d.) where there was no space for a Capped Product, would cause **Retail Shelf Planner** to crash. This has been fixed.
- When copying products between planograms via the clipboard, the new Squeeze fields are now included.

Miscellaneous

- **Retail Shelf Planner** now takes the Z-coordinate of shelves into consideration when the mouse cursor is over them. This makes merchandising shelves or hanging bars in front of pegboards easier and more consistent.
- Leaving the Section dialog with OK, would delete shelves that are on the right outside the section, even if no changes were made to the section properties. These are now retained, unless the number of segments is decreased.
- Copying shelves with the “special functions” button in the Shelf dialog now also includes the fields Left Overhang, Right Overhang, the fields for Dividers, and the fields for Squeeze.
- The user can now manually change the number of segments in the Section dialog, instead of being limited to using the up/down buttons.



Fixture Wizard / Library

Fixture Wizard

- The default values for the Data1-5 fields in the Fixture Wizard were set to 3, which doesn't make sense. They are reset to 0.
- The imperial Default value for Base Height in the Fixture Wizard was incorrectly set to 17". This has been changed to 7".

Fixture Library

- The name of the Fixture Template in the Fixture Library now uses the same font as the rest of the user interface. (Set in Tools-Options.)
- Fixture templates now support Left & Right Overhang, Divider settings, and Squeeze settings.
- When saving a planogram with products as a Fixture Template, the thumbnail would also show dividers, which makes no sense as the location depends on the positions. Dividers are now excluded from being drawn in the thumbnail.

Product List / InfoBox List

Product List

- The Manual Inventory field is now correctly formatted as a number in the Product List.
- The Product List crashed the software when going through the sequence of selecting a product with multiple positions, then switched to the Unallocated Products view with no products being unallocated, and then switched back to one of the view with products. This has been fixed.

InfoBox List

- The InfoBox List now allows the user to change the column widths like the Product List.
- Sometimes duplicating InfoBoxes in the InfoBox List with a right mouse click without selecting the InfoBox first, caused **Retail Shelf Planner** to crash. This has been fixed.



WHAT HAS CHANGED?

Product Library

- When the Product Library Filter dialog was activated with the “...” button in the Tools-Options dialog when the Filter Products option button had not been selected yet, confirming the filter settings would lead to a crash. This has been fixed.
- If the Product Library has been loaded, changing the filter through the Tools-Options dialog would not lead to an automatic refresh. It now does.
- When opening the product library when the How To panel is open, the How To menu option in the Help-menu no longer remains checked.
- When dragging products from the library into the planogram **Retail Shelf Planner** now makes sure that there are no spaces at the front or end of the product ID which could lead to matching problems when saving the planogram to the **Retail Merchandising Center** database.
- Dragging a product from the Product Library without a planogram active would not calculate the product’s financials, but set them all to 0 even if there was performance data in the library. The financial fields are now being calculated where applicable.

Importing Data

- In the Which fields to Import dialog, the All Fields list allowed items to be selected/deselected by clicking the checkbox as well as the fieldname. In the other two lists, selecting/deselecting was only possible by clicking the checkbox. All three lists now work the same, and allow selecting/deselecting items by either clicking the checkbox or the fieldname.
- Un-checking the option “Automatically Update From Product Library” now also inactivates the detail settings below it.
- The lists with fields in the “Select Fields for Import” dialog had a column header that was not translated. The column header didn’t add value and is now no longer displayed.

Position Labels, Shelf Labels, Status Bar

- Clicking in the Selected Fields list in the Position Label dialog when there was no field selected would crash the software. This has been fixed.
- Clicking in the Selected Fields list in the Fixel Label dialog when there was no field selected would crash the software. This has been fixed.



Exchange with other planogramming tools

Space Planning PSA-files

- **Retail Shelf Planner** now supports loading and saving PSA-files with Unicode characters in the data, and/or with Unicode characters in the path/filename.
- When the corresponding product field Peg Vertical Offset (Peg Y) was set to 0, Space Planning would use 0.25" / 0.8cm as the offset when merchandising the product. **Retail Shelf Planner** now sets these values in the PVO field for products on a Pegboard or Hanging Bar when loading the planogram.
- When saving to psa-format, all products on shelves are aligned to the left when the planogram is opened in pro/space. This has been corrected, so that they are placed next to each other from left to right, like in **Retail Shelf Planner**.

Spaceman PLN-files

- **Retail Shelf Planner** now supports loading and saving PLN-files with Unicode characters in the data, and/or with Unicode characters in the path/filename.
- Loading PLN-files that don't have Peg Column as part of the data structure caused all Positions to be merchandised on the first column. This happens among others with PLN-files generated by Apollo. **Retail Shelf Planner** now processes these files in a different way to position the products in the correct place.
- Product Squeeze values are now included when opening and saving a Spaceman PLN file.
- When the corresponding product field Peg Vertical Offset (Peg Loc Down) was set to 0, Spaceman would use 0.25" / 0.8cm as the offset when merchandising the product. **Retail Shelf Planner** now sets these values in the PVO field for products on a Pegboard or Hanging Bar when loading the planogram.
- When saving a planogram in Spaceman PLN-format, pegboards are now assigned the Allow Overlap setting, which should reduce positions being discarded by Spaceman's strict / rigid merchandising rules.

Apollo XML-files

- **Retail Shelf Planner** now supports loading and saving XML-files with Unicode characters in the data, and/or with Unicode characters in the path/filename.
- We improved the loading and saving of Apollo XML planograms with Pegboards. Exact location of Positions with an Orientation other than Front may be slightly different than in Apollo, due to the option of defining the horizontal location of the peg hole, which is not possible in **Retail Shelf Planner**.



WHAT HAS CHANGED?

Internationalization

Non-Western Languages

- **Retail Shelf Planner** now uses a new approach for the display of texts in menus, dialogs, and in the drawings, so that it operates independently of the language of the Windows operating system. This now allows users to properly display “non-western” scripts as Cyrillic, Thai, Korean, etc. even if they are running a “western” language version of Windows.

Russian
Korean
Thai
English OS

ID	UPC	Наименование	Поставщик	Категория	Подкате
8809104293026	8809104293026	예지미인)순환물날대14g	엘프론탈스케어	제지류	생리대
8801166226523	8801166226523	유한)new화이트오버나이트	오하킨백리	제지류	생리대
8801166226684	8801166226684	유한)new화이트시크릿물날대12			생리대
8801166230469	8801166230469	유한)좋은느낌입는오버나이트중형4			생리대
8801166212939	8801166212939	유한)화이트시크릿물날대16입			생리대
8806011632856	8806011632856	동아)엘프래글러10g			생리대
310119034903	310119034903	리뉴)후레쉬한즈세정액355ml			건강식품
0052446	4008569007061	\$ HAHNE ผงซักฟอก 375 n.			Ready To
0131768	4008569007078	\$ HAHNE ผงซักฟอก 500 กรัม			Ready To
0091434	8715523090064	\$ TILO'S มูสลิหรือบิลลด 500 n.			Muesli
0055194	8850076917717	\$ GRANOLA BARSเม็ดอาหารเช้า 254 g	ร้านสะดวกซื้อ เอ็มสตาร์ไทยซบ.มจ.	Breakfast Food	Portable
0055192	8850076917816	\$ GRANOLA BARSเม็ดอาหารเช้า	ร้านสะดวกซื้อ เอ็มสตาร์ไทยซบ.มจ.	Breakfast Food	Portable

Miscellaneous

- Russian and Thai have been added as a new user interface language for **Retail Shelf Planner**.
- The Welcome screen, displayed the first time the software is started after a fresh install, now includes Thai and Russian, and properly displays these languages and Korean, independent of the PC settings.
- When switching between languages the status bar texts showing the lifecycle status and locked/unlocked status of the planogram are now updated to reflect the newly selected language.
- All translations have been updated to correct typos, and include missing items.



Reporting & Analyses

Single Planogram Excel Reports

- If there are no custom templates, the <Create Report> button in the Reports dialog is disabled after selecting “Hide sample templates”. Deselecting the Hide sample templates check, now re-enables that button.
- The “Supplier Performance” and “Subcategory Performance” Excel reporting templates have been reworked to include both Average Inventory in units and value (at cost), and for the ROI column to reflect the same annual return on inventory investment as the Evaluate dialog in **Retail Shelf Planner** does.
- When creating a Product Import Template from RSP, the new Squeeze fields are now included.
- The “All Objects” templates for single planogram reporting now include a tab for the Dividers, and the tab for the Inventory Model details has been renamed to “Inventory Model”.
- The Divider field Shelf ID is now included in the single planogram reporting.
- The Shelf field Dividers, holding the number of dividers on the shelf, is now included in single planogram reporting.
- The Actual Squeeze Percentage position fields are now properly covered by the translation in the single planogram Excel reports.
- The Safety Stock Supply % and Safety Stock Demand % Inventory Model fields are now properly covered by the translation in the single planogram Excel reports.

Multiple Planogram Excel Reports

- When adding the active planogram as the first planogram to the list of planograms for a Multi Planogram Analysis, the <Create Report> button remained disabled, but it was still possible to run a report by double-clicking on the report.
- If there are no custom templates, the <Create Report> button in the Multi Planogram Analysis dialog is disabled after selecting “Hide sample templates”. Deselecting the Hide sample templates check, now re-enables that button.
- After the addition of new fields, several templates for multi planogram reporting left several additional planogram fields in the planogram list. This has been addressed.
- The Divider field Shelf ID is now included in the multiple planogram reporting.
- The Shelf field Dividers, holding the number of dividers on the shelf, is now included in multiple planogram reporting.
- The Actual Squeeze Percentage position fields are now properly covered by the translation in the multi planogram Excel reports.
- The Safety Stock Supply % and Safety Stock Demand % Inventory Model fields are now properly covered by the translation in the multi planogram Excel reports.
- The “All Objects” templates for multi planogram reporting now includes a tab for the Dividers, and the tab for the Inventory Model details has been renamed to “Inventory Model”.



WHAT HAS CHANGED?

Reporting & Analyses, continued

Visual Analyses

- The Group By grid second column now properly aligns to the left when the value starts with a number.
- The texts High and Low in the Hot/Cold Highlight settings could be changed by typing in the box. These texts are now locked.
- Deleting a Product from the right mouse click pop up menu while in Group By Highlight mode no longer crashes the software.

Miscellaneous

- The calculations for Projected GPROII and Target GRPOII have been updated to take the Sales Cycle on 28-days into consideration if that has been selected in the Inventory Model.

Planogram Output / Page Setup

- The button to clear the logo in the page setup was disabled after it was clicked. This was inconsistent with the fact that it is active even if no logo file has been selected. It will now remain active all the time.
- You can now close the Print-Preview screen with the Esc-button.

Advanced Output via PowerPoint templates

Planogram Views

- When creating PowerPoint output, the planogram view(s) on the slide are now processed before the report, so that the data in the report reflects the values of the planogram view. (E.g. Position X depends on Align Left, or Spread.)

Tables

- When creating PowerPoint output, **Retail Shelf Planner** displayed all items that started in the segment in a table. A product that was overhanging on the left of the first segment, therefore would not be included in the output. Also, an item that started beyond the last segment, would not be included in the table. **Retail Shelf Planner** now includes all items that start left of the end of the first segment in the table for that segment, and all items that start on or after the X-coordinate of the last segment are included in the table for that segment.
- The sorting of positions in the Products By Shelf tables in PowerPoint output has been made more logical by sorting pegboard positions first on Peg Row, and then on Peg Column.
- PowerPoint templates now display a fixture label irrespective of the setting for the position label.
- PowerPoint tables now work correctly when the number of columns is larger than 9.
- The field Location ID is no longer formatted with leading zeros in PowerPoint tables.



Advanced Output via PowerPoint templates, continued

Miscellaneous

- In the Create PowerPoint Presentation dialog, when the user increases the number of pages the planogram has to be split in, the applicable option button is now automatically selected.
- If there are no custom templates, the <Create Presentation> button in the Create PowerPoint Presentation dialog is disabled after selecting “Hide sample templates”. Deselecting the Hide sample templates check, now re-enables that button.
- When opening the Create PowerPoint dialog the Segments setting is now automatically set to the value that was used the last time before.
- When opening the Create PowerPoint dialog the Number of Pages textbox now shows the value that was last used to make it in sync with the up/down button next to it.

Retail Merchandising Center Integration

Importing product data

- When selecting the options “Update existing & add new products” or “Only add new products” in the Import from Database dialog, the OK button was always active, even if no field to filter on had been selected.
- The option to update products from the **Retail Merchandising Center** database after a position import was available in the dialog, but wasn’t implemented.
- The Import from Database with the option Only Update Existing Products gave the wrong error message if none of the products exist in the database.

Opening database planograms

- An archived planogram loaded from the database was added to the MRU menu, but could then not be loaded.
- Database planograms passed via a parameter at startup will now only be loaded if the running version is Enterprise Plus.

Miscellaneous

- The Select Fields for Lists dialog didn’t pick up the user-defined labels for the Section-fields Desc 1-5 and Data 1-5, and the **Retail Merchandising Center** Store-fields Desc 1-5 and Data 1-5.

Retail Shelf Planner 2021 Service Pack 1



WHAT HAS CHANGED?

Global Retail Business Solutions is a Belgium based company with over 25 years of experience in data analysis, Category Management, assortment-, floor- and space-planning. Our software and services are delivered directly and through partners to clients around the globe.

In those 25+ years we have worked with hundreds of local and international retailers and suppliers in Food and Non-Food, guiding them in the implementation and successful use of specific software applications supporting their sales, marketing, buying and merchandising departments.

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