

Publishing Platform for Retail

Release Notes

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Overview

Publishing Platform for Retail 9.5.x contains new features, product enhancements, and updates. New features introduce the new functionality available in your Publishing Platform for Retail system. Product enhancements provide an overview of the enhancements made to existing features.

This release notes document includes new features, updates, and enhancements for the following products.

- Central Publisher
- Digital Endcap
- Export Utility
- In-Aisle Publisher
- In-Store Publisher
- Platform Administrator
- Publishing Manager
- Template Designer

Publishing Platform for Retail 9.5.x Release (September 10, 2015)

Note The original 9.5.280 release was released September 2015. 9.5.281 was released in Dec 2015. The additional items in the 281 release are marked accordingly near the end of this document.

Product name changes

All product names changed with the 9.5.x release. Refer to the following table for a list of all rebranded products.

Previous Product Name	New Product Name
AccessVia Designer	Template Designer
Batch Manager	Publishing Manager
Central SignShop	Central Publisher
Mobile In-Aisle Extension	In-Aisle Publisher
Publishing Platform Manager	Platform Administrator
Web dSignShop	In-Store Publisher

New features

This section highlights new features available in Retail Publishing Platform 9.5.x.

Digital Endcap

Publishing Manager now supports the ability for a headquarters user to create endcap signs, slideshows, and menu boards. The headquarters user can distribute the batch of signs to stores, and the signs are automatically published to the selected displays. If the user updates signs in the batch, they can re-publish them to the store display.

In the Digital Endcap mobile user interface, the store user can now see the signs sent by corporate, and they can edit and republish the signs to update the signs on the display.

Export Utility

In addition to exporting templates from a source to target environment, you can now export individual edit forms, edit options, and portfolio records.

Note: When performing a Portfolio export, the following items have to exist in the target database.

- Template Name
- Suite ID
- Template Group
- Batch Type
- Paper Name

In-Aisle Publisher

In Platform Administrator, you can now configure template-specific edit forms for use in In-Aisle Publisher.

The following controls are supported:

- Captions (labels)
- Checkboxes
- Combo boxes (drop-downs)
- Text boxes

To enable this functionality, in the appSettings configuration file located in the `[drive:]inetpub\wwwroot\PPM` directory, use the key: `<add key="BatchItem_FormType" value="Dynamic"/>`. To revert to hard-coded edit forms, change the value to **Static**.

Print Control

Print Control can now run as a Windows service. Previously, it ran only as an ActiveX control. This means that you can now use Google Chrome as well as Microsoft Internet Explorer 10 and 11 to print from applications within the Publishing Platform.

The first time a user tries to print or preview from any application, the new Print Control will prompt installation. The Print Control service can also be installed by administrators.

For more information, refer to the Print Control Installation Guide.

Publishing Manager

In Platform Administrator, you can now configure template-specific edit forms for use in Publishing Manager.

The following controls are supported:

- Captions (labels)
- Checkboxes
- Combo boxes (drop-downs)
- Date pickers
- File selectors
- List boxes (list selections)
- Option buttons (radio buttons)
- Text boxes (text or numeric), with or without spell check
- Text areas (multiple rows of text)

To enable this functionality, in the appSettings configuration file located in the `[drive:]\inetpub\wwwroot\PPM` directory, use the key: `<add key="BatchItem_FormType" value="Dynamic"/>`. To revert to hard-coded edit forms, change the value to **Static**.

Automated Distribution

You can now distribute queued batches automatically with a scheduled task using the AV.AutomatedDistribution executable.

Any errors encountered during the distribution are displayed to the console and logged to the Event Viewer. Refer to the AV.AutomatedDistribution command-line help for a list of parameters and examples. The executable is located in the `[drive:]\inetpub\wwwroot\PPM\bin` directory.

Batch Importer

You can now create a new batch automatically from a CSV file import using the AV.BatchImport executable.

Any errors encountered during the import process are displayed to the console and logged to the Event Viewer. Refer to the AV.BatchImporter command-line help for a list of parameters. The executable is located in the `[drive:]\inetpub\wwwroot\PPM\bin` directory.

Product enhancements

The following enhancements are included in the release of Publishing Platform for Retail 9.5.280.

Central Publisher

Central SignShop was renamed to Central Publisher.

- You can now specify an alternate method for copying files after they have been rendered. The new setting is named `OutputCopyCommand`.

Example:

```
<add key="OutputCopyCommand" value="robocopy {0} {1} *.* /s /is /MOVE /MT:10" />
```

Rendered files are moved from the path listed in `PrintServerOutputPath` to the path listed in `CentralPrintServerOutputPath` and `CentralPrintServerOutputSubFolderPath`.

`{0}` is replaced with the `PrintServerOutputPath` setting.

`{1}` is replaced with the `CentralPrintServerOutputPath` setting and the `CentralPrintServerOutputSubFolderPath` setting.

In-Aisle Publisher

Mobile In-Aisle Workforce was renamed to In-Aisle Publisher.

- You can now specify a new printer by entering an IP address or DNS name from the Settings screen.
- You can now specify the default format and the default print spooler. These settings were added to the `appSettings` configuration file located in the `[drive:]inetpub\wwwroot\PPM` directory.
 - **InAisle_rgdName.** Specifies the default output format. The options include PS for PostScript, GDI for Graphics Device Interface, and GDIPLUS for GDI+. The default is GDI.
 - **InAisle_printerDriver.** Specifies the default print spooler. The default is Lexmark Universal Print Driver v2 PS3.
- You can now print to a local printer when using In-Aisle Publisher from your desktop computer. The printer setting defaults to Local Printer when accessing In-Aisle Publisher from your desktop, or you can select a server printer from the Settings page. Mobile and in-aisle devices do not support the local printer option.
- You can now build batches that contain multi-item signs when using the Build Batch feature.
- You can now print batches. When you click the new Print Batch button on the home screen of the application, a list of available batches is displayed. You can print groups of signs by template or print all signs.
- When printing a batch, you can now view the tray value if it has been specified in the Paper Type record for the template in Platform Administrator. The print job is automatically sent to this tray.
- All menu options and queries are now available the `appSettings` configuration file located in the `[drive:]inetpub\wwwroot\PPM` directory.

- In-Aisle Publisher now logs print activity. The AVJob table lists the JobID, the AVJobRequest table lists the RequestID, and the AVPublishingActivity table is updated with the final logging of print activity.
- You can now change the language on the interface for In-Aisle Publisher.
- In-Aisle Publisher now has a login screen.

In-Store Publisher

Web dSignShop was renamed to In-Store Publisher.

Platform Administrator

Publishing Platform Manager was renamed to Platform Administrator.

- When adding a rule condition to a template assignment, the Field box now has autocomplete functionality that populates the table and column values.
- You can now edit template assignment rules. Previously, you could create or delete rules only.

Publishing Manager

Batch Manager was renamed to Publishing Manager.

- Performance has increased significantly.
- Event logging is now more comprehensive, which allows for more effective troubleshooting.
- Queries required to customize Publishing Manager are now available in sqlserver.appsettings.config for easier implementation.
- You can now edit items on a multi-item sign. Previously, you could create or delete items only.
- You can now restart a failed distribution. Type a URL in the browser bar, as in the following example.
`http://webserver/ppm/AvDistribution/Distribution_OnProgress.aspx?apikey=ABC123&queueeventid=5242&message=continue`
- If you are not using the apikey parameter in your PPM site, you can drop it from the query string. If you do use an apikey parameter in the PPM site, then it must be supplied in this call to validate trust with the caller.
- The queueeventid parameter is the primary key for the distribution event.
- Use the message parameter to pass intent to continue distributing and not rebuild all the associations like is performed when "complete" is sent. "Message=continue" instructs the system to continue distributing a stopped distribution.

Template Designer

AccessVia Designer was renamed to Template Designer.

Updates

This release provides updates to the following products.

- In-Aisle Publisher
- In-Store Publisher
- Print Control Engine
- Publishing Manager
- Publishing Platform for Retail Database Schema

Updated Software Compatibility

You can now install the web and print servers on Microsoft Windows Server 2012 R2. Previously, the most recent version of Windows that was supported was Windows Server 2008 R2.

If you install the sample database, it will install Microsoft SQL Server 2012 Express. Previously, SQL Server 2005 Express was installed.

In-Store Publisher

- Resolved an issue where the ViewItems.asp grid showed both MultitemID 0 and 1 as headers (TFS28035)
- Resolved an issue where a print job might be submitted twice when printing from print preview. (TFS29367)
- Resolved an issue where InStorePublisher Print Manifest shows an “avpc is undefined” error.(TFS29240)
- Resolved an issue where, on the Find.asp page, changing the template might not work correctly. (TFS27789)
- Resolved an issue where a user might be directed to the most recently accessed store regardless of privileges. (TFS27808)
- Resolved an issue where Intellisearch might show deleted batch items in search results. (TFS27866)
- Resolved an issue that might occur when you change the template or copies value, where the sort order might not be retained. (TFS28118)
- Resolved an issue where you could not hide the Advanced Dialog button on the Print Control. (29343)
- Resolved an issue where you might not be able to edit multi-tem signs. (TFS29374)
- Resolved a performance issue with store search functionality. (TFS29326)
- SQTs and stored procedure updates. (TFS29346)
- Resolved an issue that occurred when clicking an item to add it to a library where the Multi-item ID field might be set to 0. (TFS29453)
- Resolved an issue that might affect print performance for multiple batches with additional criteria in JOIN to find sub-items. (US64443)
- Resolved an issue where the SGEEditOpts load limiter missed controls that appear only in multi-item header edit forms. (US70635)

- Multi-item sign fixes for In-Store Publisher (US75471)
- SignID was handled in the SQT as an integer but needs to be quoted because it is a string. Converted SQT datatype from number to string.

Print Control/Engine

- Resolved an issue where a user could not print one copy after entering a copy value greater than one in the Print Control dialog box. (TFS29096)
- Resolved an issue that occurred when printing more than one copy of multi-item signs containing frames and layers. (TFS28303)
- Resolved an issue where multi-item signs might not print correctly. (TFS29189, 29256)

Publishing Manager

- Resolved an issue where the Advanced button might not work correctly in Print Control. (TFS29104)
- Resolved an issue where Publishing Manager might not save the store selection after a user clicked Save List for Later. (TFS29228)
- Resolved an issue where Distribution History BatchID column shows Source BatchID. (TFS29231)
- Resolved an issue where Distribution copying SignIDs when batch goes to multiple stores. (TFS29190)
- Resolved an issue where Preview does not update when you save item on multi-item sign. (TFS29373)
- Users can now only view the distribution history specific to their store group.

Publishing Platform for Retail Database Schema

The following columns were added to these tables.

Table	New Columns
StoreState	DisplayID
ItemPrice	CreateDate ModifiedDate ModifiedBy
AVDisplay	Area
StoreListDetails	DisplayID
SGEDIT	Maxvalue
SignItem	Duration
SignBatch	CreateDate ModifiedDate ModifiedBy DisplayID
AVJobRequest	RequestedTime CompletedTime
SGPORTFLIO	EditNameMobile EditNameMobileH
AVActivityType	ActivityType ActivityTypeName ActivityTypeDescription Comment

Product enhancements 9.5.281

The following additional enhancements are included in the release of Publishing Platform for Retail 9.5.281.

Updated Software Compatibility

Microsoft Windows 10 support: You can now install Template Designer on Microsoft Windows 10. You may also use the web applications.

Compatibility issues with the Edge browser:

- An error importing batches in Publishing Manager may occur. Use IE11 if necessary.
- An error with the Print Control may occur. The download and install appears to work but the browser cannot find it at print time. Use IE11 for client side printing.

In-Aisle Publisher, GHS, Digital Endcap

- Translated into Spanish, Brazilian Portuguese, Swedish, Finnish, Norwegian, and Danish. (85528)

Template Designer

- Resolved an issue where creating a layer rule could crash. (US87286)
- Addressed issue where removing a Rule in Designer fails to delete Rule from DB (TFS29584)
- Updated installer guides to avoid upgrade issues if a previous version is installed. Note, you should uninstall previous versions before installing the new one. (US86012)

Export Utility

- Added an option not to automatically connect to avoid long timeouts when the source and/or target are not available. (US85568)
- Updated the stand-alone Export Utility installer to include the latest version. (US85865)
- Updated install path for Windows Server 2012. (US87281)
- Resolved an issue where Template Export utility fails when connected to an empty database. (TFS29655)

In-Store Publisher

- Resolved issue related to `COALESCE(MultitemID,1) < 2` vs `COALESCE(MultitemID,1) < 1` in `GetBatches.SQT` (US86703)
- Resolved an issue with Show All on the Change Template dialog. (US87583)
- Addressed an issue with Show All Templates in Batch Quick Builder. (US88350)

Print Control/Engine

- Updated Print Control guide. (US86701)
- Addressed an issue running multiple versions of the print control in non-English locales. (US88793)

Publishing Manager

- Added a script to synchronize Digital Endcap Display Manager information into Publishing Platform for Retail. It may be scheduled or run manually from the Maintenance→Script Manager page. Make sure to update the environment specific settings such as database and customer information before running the script. The SyncDECDDisplays.ps1 script is located in the [drive:]inetpub\wwwroot\PPM\AvMaintenance directory. (US86877)
- Added update for SGDEVICE table when publishing DigitalHTML. (US85587)
- Resolved an issue where distribution of digital batches did not message failures. Also added a progress bar when publishing digital batches. (US78602)
- Resolved an issue where adding stores to Store Distribution did not refresh the count. (US85764)
- Addressed issue where column headers on LibraryList.asp are not using resource strings. (TFS29695)
- Addressed issue where BChange.asp had hard coded string for Not Set. (TFS29694)
- Added status feedback for PPM Distribution. (US85861)
- Added status feedback for CAP jobs in PPM. (US85624)
- Addressed an issue where multiple loading dialogs would appear and not dismiss. (TFS29586)
- Updated broken link to customer portal. (US87813)
- Addressed preview issues when using drivers that return margins such as the Lexmark Universal Print Driver. (US86446)