

IBM Emptoris Strategic Supply Management Platform
IBM Emptoris Supplier Lifecycle Management



Release Notes

Version 9.5.0.1

Note: Before using this information and the product it supports, read the information in [Notices on page 13](#).

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What's Supported in Release 9.5.0.1

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About

This chapter contains information on what's supported for the IBM® Emptoris® Supplier Lifecycle Management application and the IBM Emptoris Strategic Supply Management Platform.

Application Server

The following application server is currently supported for all applications:

- IBM WebSphere® 8.0.0.3

Database Server

The following database server is currently supported for all applications:

- Oracle Database 11g Server Standard, and Enterprise editions (11.2.0.2)
- IBM DB2® Universal Database™ (UDF) Enterprise Server Edition (ESE) 9.7 FP5

Operating System for Application Server Machines

The following operating system is currently supported for all applications:

- Red Hat Enterprise Linux 5.7
- Microsoft Windows 2008 R2 (64-bit)

Operating System for End-User Machines

The following operating systems are currently supported for end-user machines:

- Windows XP SP3, Windows Vista SP2, Windows 7 SP1 32-bit & 64-bit
- Apple® Mac OS® X 10.7.3

Web Browsers for End-User Machines

The following web browsers are currently supported for end-user machines:

- Internet Explorer 8, Internet Explorer 9
- Mozilla Firefox 12
- Google Chrome 18
- Apple Safari 5.1.5

Languages Supported

The following languages are supported for Emptoris Strategic Supply Management Platform and Emptoris Supplier Lifecycle Management:

- English
- Brazilian Portuguese
- French
- German
- Italian
- Spanish

What's New in Release 9.5

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About

This chapter describes the new features in the Emptoris Strategic Supply Management Platform suite and in Emptoris Supplier Lifecycle Management

Emptoris Strategic Supply Management Platform

The Emptoris Strategic Supply Management Platform suite acts as a portal for accessing other IBM Emptoris products such as Emptoris Supplier Lifecycle Management.

It also consists of modules that provide the following features:

User management

You can create users, and assign various roles, groups, and applications to each user. Users can perform tasks depending on the permissions assigned to them.

Users can log on using a single user account and access all applications that are integrated with the Emptoris Strategic Supply Management Platform portal.

Organization management

You can create internal organizations with hierarchies. Only internal users can be associated with internal organizations, and one user can be associated with only one organization. Internal organizations created in Emptoris Strategic Supply Management Platform are mapped to the organizations in various applications.

Supplier, Category, & Location management

You can manage suppliers using the IBM Emptoris Virtual Supply Master module within Emptoris Strategic Supply Management Platform. Emptoris Virtual Supply Master is the master repository for suppliers, categories, and regions.

An application or external feed such as an ERP system can be a data source for Emptoris Virtual Supply Master. The records of suppliers are imported from data sources. The data is mastered within Emptoris Virtual Supply Master and a unique ID is assigned to each supplier, category, and region. All applications that subscribe to Emptoris Virtual Supply Master, receive the mastered data back into the application. The mastered data is sent back to the applications asynchronously. The Emptoris Virtual Supply Master maintains a copy of the data that is received from each data source.

Emptoris Supplier Lifecycle Management

IBM Emptoris Supplier Lifecycle Management is now available with the 9.5 release.

Emptoris Supplier Lifecycle Management is a modular, scalable, and proven solution that provides comprehensive support for your end-to-end supplier management needs. It delivers full transparency to all relevant aspects of your strategic relationship with your suppliers and enables you to on-board new suppliers, minimize risk, and optimize the performance of your supply base.

The Emptoris Supplier Lifecycle Management consists of a core functionality with a combination of the optional modules such as Supplier Qualification, Performance Evaluation, Strategic Importance, Supplier Classification, Supplier Development and Supplier Risk.

Supplier Qualification

The Supplier Qualification module allows you to make sure that all suppliers comply with corporate policies and standards. You can collect information from suppliers, validate the correctness of the information and assess if the given information meets the requirements.

You can do one or more of the following:

- Register new potential suppliers and seek general information.
- Assess the supplier to qualify for clearing if they meet the basic requirements of the organization.
- Validate the received information from suppliers.

Performance Evaluation

The Performance Evaluation module is the foundation for making the right decisions in supplier management. It allows you to obtain an objective and comprehensive supplier performance profile by evaluating their strengths and weaknesses based on their past performance.

You can use the Performance Evaluation module for any kind of supplier evaluation, for example:

- Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of a supplier.
- Obtain an objective and comprehensive supplier performance profile.
- Strategy for optimal negotiation.
- Evaluate cross-functional supplier ratings.
- Identify targeted measures for supplier development.
- Construct comprehensive supplier portfolio.

Strategic Importance

The Strategic Importance module allows you to ensure that the critical contractual Service Level Agreements (SLA) are met to achieve sustainable value from the strategic suppliers.

Strategic Importance is a module to create, manage, and evaluate supplier ratings for key suppliers on which the long term success of the company is dependent. It is used to evaluate the strategic importance of specific key suppliers for the organization in the future.

You can use the Strategic Importance module for a specific supplier, for example:

- Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of a supplier.
- Identify key suppliers for long term success of the organization.
- Strategy for optimal negotiation.
- Construct comprehensive supplier portfolio.

Supplier Development

The Supplier Development module allows you to improve the efficiency and productivity of a supplier. It helps to identify the shortcomings of a supplier, plan and execute a supplier improvement program and track the development process.

You can include the planning and implementation of improvement projects and actions and also track the improvement based on the results from other business modules such as Performance Evaluation.

Development of supplier can also be based on categories, organizations, or regions as well across several suppliers.

Supplier Classification

The Supplier Classification module allows you to segment the suppliers and utilize this segmentation to guide personnel and feed data in other systems to help reduce spend and allow organizations to capitalize on the negotiated terms and conditions.

Supplier Classification is the basis for a company's supplier portfolio development and risk management. An objective classification of suppliers help to develop a comprehensive supplier portfolio.

You can use the Supplier Classification module for:

- Classifying the suppliers into different classes. For example, Preferred, Accepted, Restricted, and Rejected.
- Developing a strong supplier portfolio based on the performance evaluation, strategic importance, and supplier qualification results.

Supplier Risk

The Supplier Risk module allows you to reduce the overall risk exposure of the enterprise from suppliers. This can be achieved by determining risk probability and potential impact, proactively alerting key business personnel, and conducting remediation programs.

Known Issues

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This chapter lists the known issues in the Emptoris Strategic Supply Management Platform and Emptoris Supplier Lifecycle Management application.

Component	Tracking Number	Description
Emptoris Strategic Supply Management Platform	CFGS-1283	When you remove the profile of an application on Red Hat Enterprise Linux or Windows machines, the service of the application is not deleted. You must delete it manually.
Emptoris Strategic Supply Management Platform	CFGS-1446	When you start a service on Red Hat Enterprise Linux machines, an error message is displayed. However, the service starts correctly despite the message. You can safely ignore the error message that occurs due to a WebSphere script.
Emptoris Strategic Supply Management Platform	CFGS-1458	Installing applications from a previously saved configuration is not supported for this release. If you use a previously saved configuration, the installation will be successful. However, files are split between two different installation directories. To avoid this issue, you must reinstall the application using the new templates.
Emptoris Strategic Supply Management Platform > Users	VSM-487	Users encounter unexpected results while searching for closest matches during supplier creation. Workaround: The administrator needs to reindex the indices. Go to Administration > Search and re-enable the appropriate entry to reindex the indices.
Emptoris Strategic Supply Management Platform > Search	VSM-600	In Enterprise search, no results are displayed for queries containing the 'a' alphabet.

Component	Tracking Number	Description
Emptoris Strategic Supply Management Platform > Emptoris Virtual Supply Master	VSM-679	You cannot use the create functionality from the horizontal navigation menu bar for creating suppliers, regions, and categories. Workaround: Use the vertical navigation menu bar to create suppliers, regions, and categories.
Emptoris Strategic Supply Management Platform	VSM-870	On Microsoft Internet Explorer 8, security warning messages are received for some components of Emptoris Strategic Supply Management Platform. Workaround: Click No , to continue using the application.
Emptoris Strategic Supply Management Platform > Batch Uploads	VSM-1021	The batch definitions created using SupplierBatchProcessor, CategoryBatchProcessor, and RegionBatchProcessor ignores Skip Required Fields Validation and Auto Create Parent Entities.
Emptoris Strategic Supply Management Platform > Languages	VSM-1022	Users logging on to a newly installed application are not able to see the application in their preferred language. Workaround: The administrator needs to modify the property. Go to Administration > Property and turn on the <i>Enable Translations</i> property and restart the application.
Emptoris Strategic Supply Management Platform > Languages	VSM-1027	Asian languages though not supported are seen on the User Interface (UI) as enabled.
Emptoris Strategic Supply Management Platform > Languages	VSM-1028	You need to restart the application after configuring a new language for categories and regions.
Emptoris Strategic Supply Management Platform > Multi tenancy	N/A	The multi tenant environment is not supported for this release. If you select the <i>Multi-customer features enabled</i> check-box from Properties > System , then it cannot be turned off and the system may become unstable.

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