



TCI Retail Inventory Package

In a deal-driven industry like retail grocery, profits are made by managing high volumes of products with razor-thin margins. Having the right product in the right place at the right time with the right price is critical to achieving business success. Industry buying practices such as promotions, deals, allowances, bill-backs and vendor rebates add to the complexity of effectively managing inventory and its related processes and decisions.

The TCI Retail™ Inventory Package is an integrated solution that empowers grocery chains with the control and automation needed to execute mission-critical decisions about their supply chains. It provides all the capabilities you need for inventory management, from back door receiving and ordering to the front end. This approach helps successful retailers control inventory – their biggest operational investment – and maintain optimal stock levels, reduce out-of-stocks, speed the replenishment process, reduce overhead and maximize item-level profitability.

TCI Retail provides the sophistication, depth and flexibility needed to manage the uniquely complex requirements of the grocery industry, aligning inventory acquisition with product sales movement. Through the Retail Execution System (RES), TCI Retail's foundation, the Inventory Package is integrated with strategic pricing and promotion applications. This provides a complete solution that enables chains to manage and execute strategic merchandising programs from the Point of Decision to the Point of Sale.SM

The TCI Inventory Package consists of four modules: Perpetual Inventory, Computer Assisted Ordering, Scan Based Trading and Store Order. All modules can be implemented as a group, individually or in any combination. And, of course, all modules integrate directly into TCI's Retail Execution System, allowing you to access one central data repository to manage store-level inventory.

INVENTORY PACKAGE

Perpetual Inventory

Computer Assisted Ordering

Scan Based Trading

Store Order

VENDOR
MASTER

ITEM

ST



Perpetual Inventory

The Perpetual Inventory module tracks movement and maintains actual on-hand quantities for an item or groups of items at any point in time. Receiving, sales, transfers, returns, adjustments, deals, allowances, promotions and bill-backs are all taken into account in calculating item movement, resulting in accurate on-hand quantities and costs. Multiple inventory costing options are supported, including LIFO, FIFO, average cost, replacement value and retail price. Item location, including shelf and backroom stock, are also maintained by the TCI system. Perpetual Inventory helps you to:

- Manage inventory investment by tracking value at cost and retail
- Automate inventory updates from receiving, transfers, sales
- Reduce shrink and enhance loss prevention programs
- Improve movement analysis
- Streamline purchase order management

Perpetual Inventory enables you to better control inventory levels, reduce on-hand quantities, minimize out-of-stock situations, identify shrink and lower inventory value.

Computer Assisted Ordering

The Computer Assisted Ordering (CAO) module delivers automated inventory replenishment capabilities for each of a chain's stores. Based on a user-defined reorder point, minimum quantity and maximum quantity, TCI's CAO helps you determine the optimal quantity, timeframe and vendor for item re-orders. It provides flexibility and control to store managers, allowing them to consider external factors, such as upcoming promotions, events, ads, etc. when placing orders, and review and adjust orders before placing them. This results in increased efficiency and effectiveness of the store-level replenishment cycle. Computer Assisted Ordering enables you to:

- Integrate data from existing store systems, such as POS and plan-o-grams, for a complete view of quantities-on-hand
- Prepare orders automatically
- Submit orders to vendors electronically
- Attain optimal inventory levels for each store

Computer Assisted Ordering empowers you to enhance your ordering cycle, improve product freshness, lower out-of-stocks and reduce labor costs associated with managing the replenishment process.

Scan Based Trading

The Scan Based Trading (SBT) module utilizes point-of-sale (POS) sales data to manage payments to vendors for products as they are sold. In an SBT model, vendors own goods and maintain store-level inventory, based on actual product sales. Based on your own item movement data, you pay for the goods once they are sold. Scan Based Trading lets you:

- Reduce inventory carrying costs and increase turns
- Improve in-stock position and customer service
- Streamline and speed distribution and replenishment
- Achieve better cash flow and create savings for the entire supply chain (retailers, distributors and manufacturers) by eliminating invoicing and associated errors and reconciliation

Scan Based Trading creates a cooperative supply chain relationship between all parties, resulting in improved merchandising, reduced shrink, lower labor/overhead and higher sales.

Store Order

The Store Order module provides item information and the ability to generate vendor orders. Supporting a wide variety of handheld devices, Store Order utilizes handheld radio frequency (RF) devices for creating orders or adjusting stock levels. This capability provides untethered real time access and retrieval of inventory data for item management. Store Order is a flexible application that can be customized and configured with user-defined parameters, screens, reports, security, help files and output files for ultimate ease of use. Store Order allows you to:

- Access real-time item-level data using the wireless device of your choice
- Track item movement, including automatic inventory update from receiving, purchase orders, transfers, etc., for optimal ordering
- Create DSD invoices, receivers and purchase orders
- Automate the replenishment cycle

Store Order streamlines your back-door operations and helps achieve total store automation through wireless access to real-time inventory data.



The Retail Execution System™ – the technology behind it all

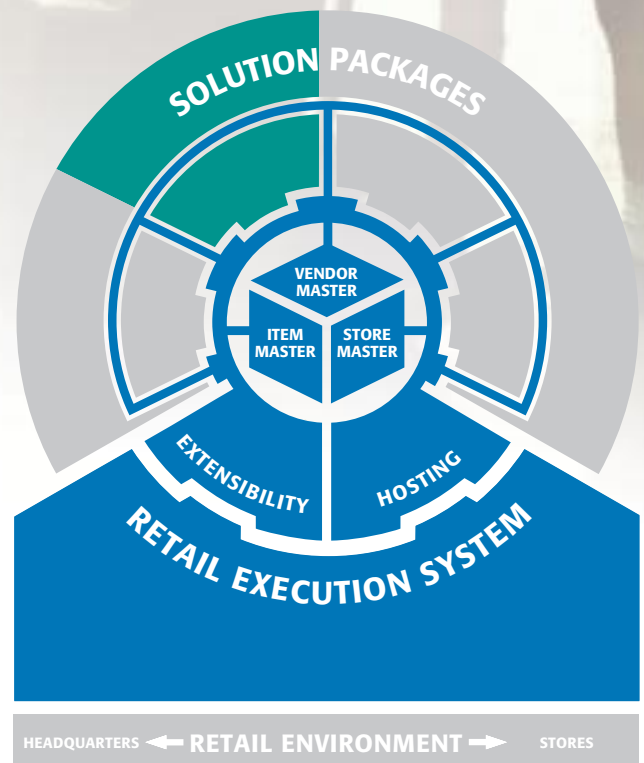
TCI Retail is built on an enterprise platform called the Retail Execution System. The Retail Execution System is the central technology that lets you develop, personalize and manage software solutions to perfectly serve your chain's core business functions.

Its innovative personalization and integration features give you centralized control over your software's foundation. With the Retail Execution System as the core, you can easily manage changes in a single place using intuitive tools, thereby giving you the flexibility to adapt to market changes and competitive pressures quickly. Because you can centrally manage changes to the complex layers of rules that underpin any pricing strategy, your in-house personnel can respond without relying on outside contractors. Plus, you can make changes at a fraction of the cost of adding other packaged applications or developing a complex solution in-house.

It's this flexibility to adapt and execute quickly that will give you a competitive edge. And it's what makes the TCI Retail Inventory Package the ideal solution.

Enterprise-wide solutions enabled by the Retail Execution System

The Retail Execution System serves as the core that enables all of TCI's inventory, pricing, promotions and store operations support solution packages. All the packages are integrated with the core and with each other, making the entire system highly flexible and scalable. Since all the solution packages are centered on the Retail Execution System, any changes you make to the data inside the core are automatically disseminated throughout your entire system, ensuring accuracy and eliminating costly mistakes.





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