

Technical Bulletin

U-Scan No-Sale File to Prevent Specific Item Sales

SC-TECH-11:16 Issue 2
December 14, 2011

U-Scan can prohibit items from being sold at the U-Scan lane.

To implement this you will need to locate the NOSALE.DA_ file in c:\robot\data. Open the file in notepad and follow the instructions that are contained in the file. Follow this to setup the file to prohibit any UPC from being sold at the U-Scan.

Note: it is still be possible to sell these items through U-Scan's Direct Mode.

EXAMPLE

Example of NOSALE.DA_ file in c:\robot\data:

Copyright 2001 Optimal Robotics Corp.

All rights reserved.

This file contains Optimal Robotics Corp. information that is confidential or proprietary in nature and may not be reproduced without the express written consent of Optimal Robotics Corp. This file is being furnished to (STORENAME) strictly for archival purposes, and may not be used for any other purpose or disclosed to any other person.

This is a sample 'no-sale' file. The robot will not vend any item whose UPC is found in this file as a string of at most 12 digits followed by a ':' followed by a (non-blank) description.

Note the description is not used by the robot and is required only for readability. Eg.:

```
01234599999 : vics vapo rub      (UPCA)
21234500000 : hamburger         (NS2 UPCA)
123456123456 : banana cream pie (EAN13 -- 12 digits)
012345*2345 : wild strawberries  (UPCA -- wildcard example)
```

In no case should the UPC field include the barcode's check digit (the rightmost digit on the barcode). 12 digits are allowed to include the possibility of EAN13 barcodes. UPCE barcodes are not directly supported. (They must be converted to their UPCA equivalent, i.e. the UPC as it appears in the store controller's item database record should be used).

Entries for Number System 2 items must be entered with their last five digits as '0' to be recognized (i.e. the UPC as it appears in the store controller's item database record should be used).

An asterix ('*') rather than a digit may be placed at a particular position of the upc field, and will behave as a wildcard. Eg. the 012345*2345 entry above simultaneously identifies the 10 items with the barcodes: 01234502345, 01234512345, 01234522345, ... 01234592345.

The robot will not vend any of the items whose UPC's are in this file. Instead, it will bring up the screen described by the [AGE_VERIFY_FAILS] section in the display.cfg file. This section specifies the prompt that is given to the cashier, which is typically "Take item from customer.". The cashier must acknowledge this message before the customer will be allowed to scan more items.

Note that all text to the right of a "" string will be ignored. Thus this entire section of this file is ignored.

Note that this file must be named "NOSALE.DAT" and be located in the robot's 'Data' directory to be recognized. Thus renaming it to e.g. "NOSALE.DA_" turns its effect completely OFF.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

This discussion has been prompted by new regulations in the State of California, which prohibits sales of alcohol in a "shopper-operated checkout stand."

An alternative to the black-list method above is to assign the permanent "cashier" for U-Scan an under-age spec (U-Scan runs with a single on-going cashier). This will add a second prompt to the standard restricted sale/age ID prompts. Obviously, this is faster and simpler to implement, and can stop any alcohol item.

However, this method will **not** force a re-scan by the cashier (the cashier can simply override and okay the transaction). So if the store intends to sell alcohol — instead of simply prohibit it — this may not be considered an appropriate solution since the shopper's original item scan would remain, as approved, in the transaction.

REGARDLESS, STORENEXT RECOMMENDS THAT THE MERCHANT'S MANAGEMENT AND LEGAL ADVISORS DETERMINE A PLAN BASED ON THEIR OWN READING OF THE CALIFORNIA REGULATIONS.

