Managing Colour/Size Item Variants

eBECS Accelerators for Dynamics NAV

Overview

Retailers, wholesalers and distributors have often coped with product variants such as colour and/or size products by having separate item references per product.

The eBECS Accelerators for Dynamics NAV adds functionality to support colour/size products that is specifically suited to fashion and home furnishings as well as any products that have variants based on colour and/or size.

Using simple to use matrices, order entry and purchasing employees can simply configure qualities of colour/size products without having to enter individual document lines.

Additional tools support product management with the ability to simply create new product variants based on size and/or colour ranges. This also allows bar codes, customer part references, supplier part references and product variant sales and purchase prices to be entered and maintained, without the requirement to maintain data on a product variant by product variant basis.

Colour/size product handling can also be further enhancement by utilising an additional Ratio Packs module that allows colour/size products to be purchased, sold, replenished to stores and managed in the warehouse in pre-defined ratio quantities.

Benefits

- **Reduce Top-level Product Codes**
  Create colour/size variants as a sub-level to the main product reducing time to create a new product line and allowing reporting at both product and variant levels.

- **Ease of Item Variant Creation**
  Quickly create new colour/size product variants by checking the valid combinations in a matrix view.

- **Reduce Data Entry Time**
  Quickly enter quantities on sales, purchase and transfer documents by entering item variants quantities in an easy to use matrix instead of entering a separate document line for each variant.

- **Improve Purchasing Decisions**
  Base purchase and stocking decisions on profiles or sizes and/or colours generated from past sales of the same of equivalent product ranges.

- **Improve Product Identification**
  Create and view colour swatches against the product variant and entry matrices to aid identification. In addition to holding product images, images can also be held at the item colour or variant levels so an accurate representation of the product can be displayed.

- **Improve Sales Analysis**
  Sales can now be analysed at both the product and product variant level. Profiles of colour and size distribution can be utilised to aid future purchase or stocking level decisions. Sales of a particular colour or size can also be analysed across a number of products or styles relating to a particular brand or season.

## Features

Product Management

Standard size and colour ranges can be defined and assigned to products. Item variants can be easily created for allowable combinations by accessing a product matrix against them item. Matrices also allow information specific to an item variant such as bar codes, customer cross-references and supplier cross-references to be entered in a grid format as opposed to amending each item variant individually.

For products where the colour or size may affect the sales or purchase prices additional matrices are provided to allow pricing to be entered in a grid format.

Matrices can also be utilised where there are not both size and colour options.

Product imagery may be stored at item, item colour, and item variant level, ensuring accurate product representations are visible on sales, purchase and transfer documents and the colour/size matrices.

Colour swatches can also be defined. These can be useful when deal with home furnishing or print media. A number of colour models are supported to define a colour swatch or an image can be uploaded to reflect a pattern. The colour/size matrices also allow visibility of current stock availability avoiding the need to check availability on each item variant.
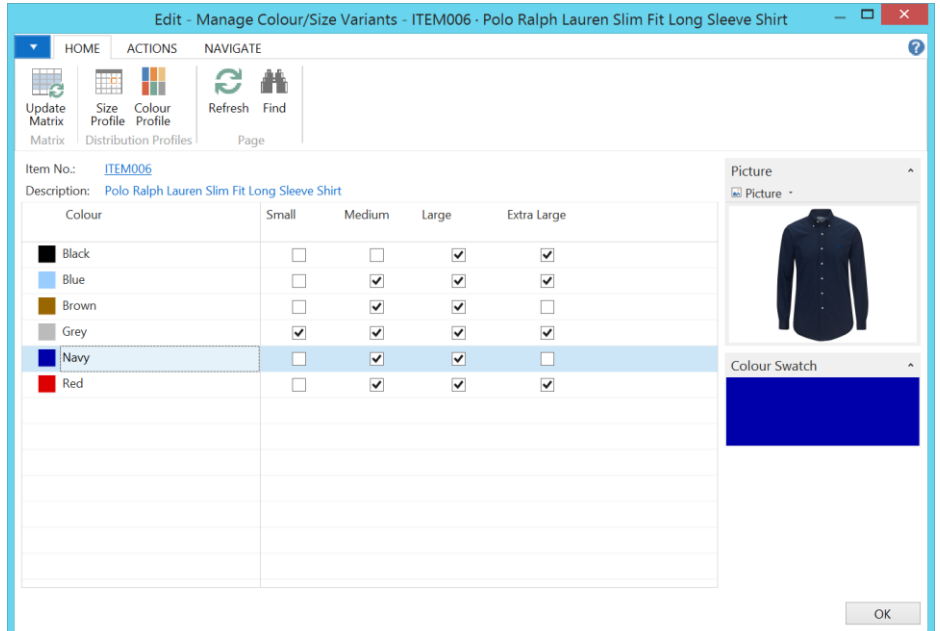
Order Processing

Colour/Size matrices are available from the sales quote, sales order, sales invoice, sales credit memo, sales return orders and sales blanket orders allow easy input or colour/size quantities on sales documents. From a purchasing perspective colour/size matrices are available on purchase quotes, purchase orders, purchase invoices, purchase credit memos, purchase return orders and requisition worksheets. Quantities can be entered by order processors directly into the matrix or can be automatically allocated from a total quantity based on defined colour and/or size profiles, past sales/purchases of the item or sales/purchases of an equivalent product. For internal movements of stock and replenishment of store in a retail environment matrices are also available from transfer orders and range plans.
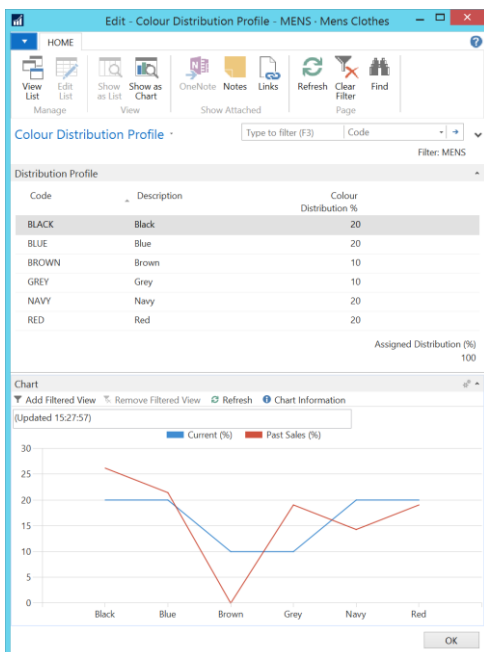
Size Equivalents

Within global trade becoming the norm and fashion sizes varying from county to country, it is possible to hold international size equivalents. When viewing matrices from trade documents it is possible to view the sizes that your trading partners are used to in addition to those of you own local region.

Colour/Size Ranges

Standard size profiles are able to be defined, such as for example, women's shoe size or the width and drop of a range of ready-made curtains. Colour ranges can also be defined that may relate to, for example, fashion brands with a particular season or a range of home furnishings. These ranges make it both quicker to set-up new products and also to analyse data across a range of products that share common colour or size attributes. This is further extended by the use of colour group to group like colours.

This data allows users to easily compare a current size distribution against past sales or a range of products or set the current colour distribution for this season products based on date gathered in previous seasons. This data is, however, can be utilised system wide. Sales of blue men's shirts in one retail outlet can be compared to that of another or the average length of time stock of small men's shirts is sat in a warehouse can be compared that of the large size.

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About eBECS

eBECS is a specialist in total Microsoft Business Solutions, designing and delivering Lean and agile solutions globally for customers in Manufacturing, Distribution, Retail, Services, Not-for-profit and other sectors.

Tailored to industry and business needs, eBECS' award-winning solutions cover Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP), Customer Relationship Management (CRM), Mobile, Field Service, Data Analytics, Business Intelligence (BI), the Internet of Things (IoT), and Cloud and Managed Services. eBECS' solutions draw on the full Microsoft Business stack, including Microsoft Dynamics AX and NAV, Microsoft Dynamics CRM, Microsoft FieldOne, SharePoint Office 365, Microsoft BI and Power BI, Power Apps, and Microsoft Azure.

Just as importantly, eBECS' 'templated' implementation and unique rapid-return methodologies deliver significant time and cost benefits to its customers

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