



Operation Educate is part of a ongoing effort from Ensign Systems Inc., to help better educate POS•IM users with some of the basic features of POS•IM software.

POS•IM, Styles, and eCommerce

Apparel or stylized type inventory is unique in that each Style has different sizes and/or colors. When displaying Apparel type products on an ePOS•IM web site, the need to show one single product style with different color and size combinations is often required. The Product itself is referred to as the Product Style. Each size and color option combination is referred to as Attributes. POS•IM Items can be setup to relate each size/color attribute to one Product Style for displaying the needed options on the web.

Step 1: Understanding the Apparel Model

At this point it is import to understand the Apparel Model and how it works in the POS•IM system. For this example we are going to use a Shirt from XYZ Company. This shirt style is named "Summer Blaze 07". The Shirt comes in five sizes (S,M,L,XL,XXL) and five colors (Black, White, Red, Blue, Green). This one Product style is actually represented as 25 (5 sizes times 5 colors) unique Item Cards in POS•IM. As in any Inventory Management situation, you will want to know how many XL-Red shirts you have versus S-Green shirts. The only way to get this individual item info is to have 25 unique Item Cards in the POS•IM Database.

To correctly configure an Apparel Product in the POS•IM database, you will be using the POS•IM Item Card "Style", "Row" and "Col" fields. These fields can be found in the Classification group box on the Item Card.

Classification

→ Style:	<input type="text" value="XYZSumBlz07"/>	Alt ID / Misc 1:	<input type="text" value="1234567989"/>	>>
→ Row:	<input type="text" value="XXL"/>	Dept. / Misc 2:	<input type="text" value="Apparel"/>	
→ Col:	<input type="text" value="Black"/>	Misc 3:	<input type="text"/>	
Location:	<input type="text" value="Front"/>	Misc 4:	<input type="text"/>	
Manufacturer:	<input type="text" value="XYZ"/>	Misc 5:	<input type="text"/>	
Mfr Item No:	<input type="text" value="SummerBlaze07"/>	Account Group:	<input type="text" value="XHVI"/>	<input type="button" value="Choose..."/>

Step 2: Updating the Style Row and Col field

1. Style Field: (Style Code)

The Style field must contain a unique code for this specific product style. This can be achieved by combining the Manufacturer code with the Mfr Item Code. This Style code must be entered exactly the same on all Item Cards that relate to this specific Product Style. If you duplicate a style code for an existing Product Style, then the system will think they are all one and combine them all together on the web site. (Not what you want) Back to our example, the Style code "XYZSumBlz07" will be entered in the Style field for all 25 of our Item Cards. Remember this style code must be unique to this style and not used again.

The Style field is what the web site will display as the Item's SKU. This is NOT modifiable on the web site, you can change it through POS•IM only. Set it up properly from the start, once set and linked with the web site, it is not advisable to change the Style code.

The Style field is limited to 20 characters.

2. Row Field: (SIZE *see note on COLOR/SIZE switch below)

The Row field will be associated with the SIZE of the product. Each Item card will have its unique size and color combination. Using our previous example you would enter the size of each 25 unique Item cards in the Row field as (S,M,L,XL,XXL). Thus you would have five cards with an "S" code and five with an "M" code, etc.

The Row field is limited to 7 characters.

3. Col Field: (COLOR)*

**IMPORTANT: If the POS•IM database is already setup to associate the COLOR of the product with the ROW field, you will need to let your ePOS•IM Project manager know before uploading ANY apparel products to your ePOS•IM web site. They will flip a switch to default your COLOR field to be associated with the ROW column and the SIZE field with the COL column.*

The Col field will be associated with the COLOR of the product. Each Item card will have its unique color and size combination. Using our previous example you would enter the color of each 25 unique Item cards in the Col field as (Black, White, Red, Blue, Green). Thus you would have five cards with a "Black" code and five with a "White" code, etc.

The Row and Col fields are limited to 7 characters.

It's important to note the Row and Col fields are merely option codes. They will initially display in the Product's drop down on the web exactly the way they are entered in the Row and Col fields on the Item Card. You can however modify them on the web with the ePOS•IM web admin interface. For example: Let's say the color needs to say "Aquamarine". Since the Col field is limited to 7 characters, you would only be able to enter "Aquamar". This is OK. You can login to the ePOS•IM web admin interface and update the option attribute to display the full name of "Aquamarine".

NOTE: You should NOT change the row/col codes in the Item Card once they have been set. Doing so can leave unwanted option attributes for the product. If you run into another attribute that should use the same code for this same product style, you will need to select a different code to use. Remember they are only codes and can be modified as to what actually displays.

Step 3: Updating the Name of the Row / Col labels


When an apparel product is initially setup, the name of the Row and Col fields on the web site defaults to Row = Size and Col = Color. You may change the name to better reflect what the option really is. For example, you may be setting up a pair of pants and want to specify the Length and Inseam. Or you may be doing a Ring and want to specify the Size and Finish. This would be done in the ePOS•IM web site admin interface.

1. Login to the ePOS•IM web admin interface.
2. Click Products -> Manage Options.
3. Here you will see a list of all the options in your store. They are listed by Style_row and Style_Col. With the current label displayed in (parentheses)



Option Groups - Add New	Option Attributes & Product Assignments
0713_col - (Color)	Manage Attributes Delete Group Manage Products: Assign To - Remove From
0713_row - (Size)	Manage Attributes Delete Group Manage Products: Assign To - Remove From
1011BEO_col - (Color)	Manage Attributes Delete Group Manage Products: Assign To - Remove From
1011BEO_row - (Size)	Manage Attributes Delete Group Manage Products: Assign To - Remove From
1011BKO_col - (Color)	Manage Attributes Delete Group Manage Products: Assign To - Remove From
1011BKO_row - (Size)	Manage Attributes Delete Group Manage Products: Assign To - Remove From

4. Locate and Click the option group you wish to edit the label. You will see a screen where you can change the name of the Option Group to anything you wish.



Manage Option Group

Rename Option Group for POSIM Style: (0713_col)

Option Group:

To save your changes click the Rename button.

Step 4: Updating the Attribute Option shown in the Product's Options Dropdown.

Product's Attribute Options will initially display in the Product's dropdown box exactly the way they are entered in the Row and Col fields. The wording in the drop down boxes can be modified once the option is created on the web site. You will be able to update the option wording through the ePOS•IM web admin interface.

Let's refer back to our "Aquamarine" example. On the web when it is initially created it will display as "Aquamar", but you can login to the ePOS•IM web admin interface and update the option attribute to display the full name of "Aquamarine".

1. Login to the ePOS•IM web admin interface.
2. Click Products -> Manage Options.
3. Here you will see a list of all the options in your store. They are listed by Style_row and Style_Col. With the current label

displayed in (parentheses)

Manage Product Options		Back Site Map Start Page
Option Groups - Add New	Option Attributes & Product Assignments	
0713_col - (Color)	Manage Attributes Delete Group	Manage Products: Assign To - Remove From
0713_row - (Size)	Manage Attributes Delete Group	Manage Products: Assign To - Remove From
1011BEO_col - (Color)	Manage Attributes Delete Group	Manage Products: Assign To - Remove From
1011BEO_row - (Size)	Manage Attributes Delete Group	Manage Products: Assign To - Remove From
1011BKO_col - (Color)	Manage Attributes Delete Group	Manage Products: Assign To - Remove From
1011BKO_row - (Size)	Manage Attributes Delete Group	Manage Products: Assign To - Remove From

4. Locate and Click the option group in which the Option Attribute that you wish to change resides. You will see the same screen that you see when editing the Option Group Label name as in Step 3 of this walk through. This time you are looking down to the bottom where you see "Existing Attributes"

Manage Option Group		Back Site Map Start Page
Rename Option Group for POSIM Style: (0713_col)		
Option Group:	<input type="text" value="Color"/>	
Rename	Back	
Existing attributes:		
Attribute Name	Attribute Image	Attribute Code
AQUA	N/A	AQUA
View/Edit - Delete		

5. Click the View/Edit link. You will now see a screen where you can change the way the Attribute displays in the drop down box.

Rename Option Attribute		Back Site Map Start Page
Attribute:	<input type="text" value="AQUA"/>	
Image File:	<input type="text"/>	
Type in the file name, no file path. All images must be located in the 'pc/catalog' folder. This image is displayed on the product details page <i>only</i> when this attribute belongs to the first option group assigned to a product (e.g. color swatch). For more information, please see the Apparel Add-On User Guide. Upload a new image Find an image		
POSIM Style:	0713_col	
Row/Col Code:	AQUA	
Back	Update	

Before:

After:

