REC Release 2.8

Version 2.8.0 Released 14ᵗʰ December 2011.

Major Release – 8 Major & Enhancements

This version is a major release containing some significant new on-page SEO features plus a number of smaller enhancements.

Major Enhancements

Page Manager > SEO On Page Report

This is a powerful, leading-edge feature which you can use to make sure you have optimum page content for maximum SEO friendliness and higher rankings in search engines.

In Page Manager when editing a page, you now the ability to obtain a detailed SEO report on Keyword related data specific to that page. This enables you to optimise each page for maximum search engine ranking in line with our latest research on the major ranking factors derived from 1,000 top ranking websites. Once you have saved a page, click the SEO On Page Report button to access this information in 2 stages:

Keyword Density.
The first report displays the keywords the page appears to be targeted for in descending order.

SEO Page Report.
By clicking on the displayed keywords, you can see a detailed analysis of the major ranking factors and whether you have achieved the correct level of optimisation for each one. There are two columns called High Comp and Low Comp. These show the values for ranking factors for highly competitive marketplaces as well as less competitive ones (i.e. Low) plus how you rate.

Page Manager > Page Name & URL NEW – You can now add symbols into page names, which was previously forbidden. This is especially useful if you need to use & and apostrophes in your page title. You can also enter a different URL to the Page Name to further improve SEO friendliness.

Page Manager > Copying/Backing Up Pages New - When adding a new page you can now copy from another page under "Import another page as a start point" by selecting the page you want to copy and then clicking the Import button. This is a great time saver if you are setting up similar pages/layouts or simply wish to take a backup of a page before changing the original.

Hint: Make sure you set the correct page name before saving the new page!

Order Manager > Batch Print Invoices NEW – You now have the ability to batch print multiple invoices in one go, by ticking the the desired invoices and pressing the "Batch Print Invoices" button at the bottom of the Order Manager page. This saves time having to go into individual orders to print each one off in turn.

Order Manager > Tracking Sales From Social Feeds NEW – On the Order Manager page, under the "Aff" column (Affiliate tracking) the system now displays if an order has originated from Facebook or Twitter.

Payment Processors > Test & Stage Modes NEW – Under Payment Processors you can now test a new payment processor in different modes hidden from the public before making it live and visible to users. These new modes are Test mode (test transactions are sent to a sandbox area and not processed) or Stage Mode (a live transaction can be processed by Admins but the payment processor is not visible to regular visitors).

Paypal Encrypted Payments Manager NEW – This provides improved Paypal security which stops hackers from being able to change values posted in orders. We recommend that everybody using Paypal sets this up.

Access Paypal Ecrypted Payments Manager and follow the 3 step setup process:

Step 1: Generate Certificates. Enter your company details exactly as you have them set up in your Paypal account then click "Generate Certificates".

Step 2: Upload Certificates To Paypal. Follow the on-screen steps to create your security certificates and apply them to Paypal and your website.

Step 3: Completed. Follow the on-screen prompts to configure your new Paypal Encrypted payment processor and replace your current Paypal payment processor.

Modernizr HTML5 Browser Support Added To Codebase (Technical Bit!)
Modernizr is a small JavaScript library that detects the availability of native implementations for next-generation web technologies, i.e. features that stem from the HTML5 and CSS3 specifications. Many of these features are already implemented in at least one major browser (most of them in two or more), and what Modernizr does is, very simply, tell you whether the current browser has this feature natively implemented or not. This paves the way to make even greater use of new HTML5 browser features in future releases.

Minor Enhancements

Product Associations: Reverse Associations & Alternatives NEW – In Product Associations, you can now select the radio button for Related (i.e. associated product) or Alternative (i.e. alternative product) plus there is the option to tick "Copy To Reverse" to set the reverse association automatically for a product to save time.

Alternative products will show up on the product page under "Alternative Products" by ticking Site Setup > Products & Store Pages > Show Alternative Products.

Hide prices on invoice NEW – You now have two ways to hide prices so they don't print on invoices. To stop prices printing globally, under Site Setup, tick "Hide Price On Invoice" to hide prices/totals on **all** invoices. Alternatively, to stop prices being printed on an individual order, when you open the order via Order Manager, tick Hide Prices by the side of the Print button.

Tip: This is particularly useful for gift orders where customers don't want the price to be printed to the person receiving the gift.

Shop Admin > Batch Products Processor: Edit Using ID Range– You are now able to edit products via an ID range in the Product ID's From and To fields.

Checkout > PayPal Payment Processing – The system will now pass through the user's billing address and details into the PayPal form to speed up the PayPal form process.

Site Setup > Coupons"Minimum level of spending to qualify" – You can now decide whether you want delivery and/or tax to be included in the minimum level of spending to trigger a coupon. For example, you might give 10% off when someone spends over £50, but you might not want that to include the delivery charge plus the product price. In Site Setup > Tax Information > Coupons "Minimum level of spending to qualify" set the options to either: 1. Total including tax and delivery: 2. Total before delivery or 3.Total before delivery & Tax (if Tax is set to not show on prices).

Site Setup > Best Sellers Limit – You can now specify a limit on how many bestselling products you want listed on a website page which has the Bestseller app installed. Enter the number of bestsellers to display in Site Setup > Products & Store Pages Setup > Best sellers sidebar app limit.

Page Manager > Purchase Order Page Tags NEW - You can now add user data onto Purchase Orders using the following tags:

{user:name}   Username
{user:email}   User's email address
{user:membership_code}   User's membership code

Checkout > Manage Delivery Addresses: Navigation Improvement – There is now a "Return To Checkout" to take you back to the checkout page once you have managed your delivery addresses.

Social Media Console > Tips – New tips tab has been added detailing some very useful information regarding social media channels / Rules of engagement and how to monitor the selected social media avenues.

Website Design > Edit Template: Improved – The way you access templates for design changes has been improved. The naming convention for the template files has been split into categories with a parental folder holding a related number of files.

Hint: If the code doesn't appear automatically then hit CTRL F5 (CMD R on Macs) to hard refresh the page

Email Manager – You are now able to customise how products appear in your email at the HTML code level via the new built-in editor on the Email Special Offers & News page when setting up an email

Site Setup > Favicon upload NEW – Under site setup you are now able to upload your own Favicon, this is a small icon normally your brand logo or part of it that is positioned in the tab at the top of the page.

Page Manager > Save - Whenever an edit has occurred and the page is saved/updated, a confirmation message saying the page has been saved is shown at the top of the screen for 3 seconds then fades out.

404 Handling: Custom 404 Page NEW – This has been improved so that it now detects 404 requests (i.e. pages which people try to access but which are no longer on the site or the URL is wrong) and if a page called "404page" is setup in Page Manager it will display that page. You can customise this page to help the user navigate elsewhere on the site.

Manage Users: Delete Function NEW – You now have the ability to delete users off the system. This is especially useful if someone only partially registered and then can't use the same email address when they try to register properly for the second time.

Down For Maintenance mode - This no longer redirects to our website, instead it brings up a static html page informing visitors that the website is down for maintenance. (This page can be viewed at down-for-maintenance.php).

Jquery Update. Jquery has now been updated to1.6.4