AuctionMaid MatrixRate Shipping Module

Any questions then contact via email: enquiries@auctionmaid.com

Overview

This shipping module is an adaptation of the Magento TableRates module – in brief it allows multiple table rates to be created via a csv file.

This shipping module provides the following functionality:

1. Completely csv driven, no coding required to change prices, add rates, etc

2. Allows multiple postage rates to be displayed for the customer to choose in particular country/city/region/zipcode/weight range

3. Zipcode based filtering. Can either use the basic "starts with" criteria, or more complex pattern matching

4. Support for zipcode ranges – e.g. specify a price that applies to all postcodes within the range 9755-9999

5. Ability to exclude certain products from free delivery

6. Ability to set certain products to be collection only

7. To be able to specify an upper and lower boundary for price, weight, or item vs destination rates

This module allows the configuration of the shipping rates via a simple CSV file. No coding or backend configuration is required.

A custom attribute is used to exclude items from free delivery, thus allowing very heavy items to be charged accordingly.

Installation

The module can now be installed via Magento Connect. Details can be found here:

http://www.magentocommerce.com/extension/604/auctionmaid-matrixrate

It is highly recommended to backup your server files and database before installing this module. No responsibility can be taken for any adverse effects it may cause. It is also recommended you install on a test server initially to carry out your own testing.

Getting Started with MatrixRate

1. Open Magento Admin

2. Within 'Configuration->Shipping Settings' you should have a shipping method available called "Matrix Rates"

3. Enable Matrix Rates

4. Select the 'Condition' you require.

5. Save Config

6. Change 'Current Configuration Scope' to be the Main Website

7. You should now see an import button box appear with a browse box in Matrix Rates. Browse to a CSV file. Details of CSV file configuration can be found below

8. Save the config to upload the CSV. Any errors in the CSV will be reported here

9. If using zipcode numeric ranges then set "Use Zipcode To/From" range to yes (see below for more info on this)

10. Ensure your products are setup correctly according to rules in CSV file

11. You should then see the appropriate shipping rates appear on the front end upon checkout

CSV Format Options

From version 2.0 of the extension there are 2 different length csv files supported. One is 7 columns, the other 9 columns.

To decide which you need answer these questions:

1. I need to support **numerical** postcode ranges e.g. 9700-9750

2. I need to support postage rates based on city customer is in

3. I need to support postcode rates other than using "starts with" criteria. For example if you only need to support say codes that start with BT as a special case then you would answer no, but if you need to support codes that start with PO1 and PO14 as separate cases then you would answer yes

If you answer yes to any of the above questions then you need the 9 column csv file. Please refer to the appropriate section below. I highly recommend you look at both sections so as to familiarise yourselve with the possible csv combinations.

7 Column CSV File Format

The CSV file consists of 7 fields:

Field Name	Type	Description
Country	String	Country code this rate applies to. Use '*' for all.
Region/State	Decimal	Defined region code this rate applies to. Use '*' for all.
Zip/Postal Code	String	Part, or all of postcode to restrict this rate by, e.g. BT denotes this

		rate only applies to Northern Ireland. Use '*' for all.
Condition from	Real	Starting range, e.g. starting weight at which this price applies
Condition to	Real	End range, e.g. end weight at which this price applies
Shipping Price	Real	Price of shipping
Delivery Type	String	Text describing this delivery, as shown to the customer, e.g. "Via 24-48 Courier"

Example 7 Column CSV file

Country	Region/State	Zip/Postal Code	Weight from	Weight to	Shipping Price	Delivery Type
GBR	*	*	0	5	2.99	1st Class Recorded
GBR	*	*	0	32	7.99	ParcelForce 24-48
GBR	*	*	32	1000	80	Special Pallet Delivery
GBR	*	*	2000	2100	0	Collection Only
GBR	*	BT	0	5	11.99	1st Class Recorded
GBR	*	BT	0	32	14.99	ParcelForce 24-48
GBR	*	BT12	0	1000	200	Special Pallet Delivery
IRL	*	*	0	5	17.99	1st Class Recorded
IRL	*	*	0	32	17.99	ParcelForce 24-48
*	*	*	0	10	50	Worldwide

Using this file above here are some scenarios with rates that would be shown:

Input Criteria	Output Rates
English buyer, total item weight of 3	2.99 - 1st Class Recorded 7.99 - ParcelForce 24-48
NI buyer, total item weight of 3	11.99 - 1st Class Recorded 14.99 - ParcelForce 24-48
English buyer, total item weight of 50	80.00 – Special Pallet Delivery
Ireland buyer, total weight of 15	17.99 - 1st Class Recorded 17.99 - ParcelForce 24-48
French buyer, total weight of 3	50.00 – Worldwide
French buyer, total weight of 15	No options would be displayed
English buyer, total weight of 2040	Collection only

9 Column CSV File Format

The CSV file consists of 9 fields:

Field Name	Type	Description
Country	String	Country code this rate applies to. Use '*' for all.
Region/State	Decimal	Defined region code this rate applies to. Use '*' for all.
City	String	Defined city. Use '*' for all.
Zip/Postal Code From	String	Zipcode search criteria. If using numeric ranges then set this to the number you wish the search to start from. If using pattern

		matching then set this to the pattern you require. See below for more details on patterns available
Zip/Postal Code To	String	Only relevant if you are searching for purely numeric postcode ranges. Please ensure that "Use Zipcode to/from range" is set in the shipping method for this to work correctly.
Condition from	Real	Starting range, e.g. starting weight at which this price applies
Condition to	Real	End range, e.g. end weight at which this price applies
Shipping Price	Real	Price of shipping
Delivery Type	String	Text describing this delivery, as shown to the customer, e.g. "Via 24-48 Courier"

Example 9 Column CSV file

This example shows usage when "Use Zipcode Range to/From" is set to No

Country	Region/ State	City	Zip/ PostCode From	Zip/ PostCode To	Weight from	Weight to	Shipping Price	Delivery Type
GBR	*	*	*	*	0	5	2.99	1st Class Recorded
GBR	*	*	*	*	0	32	5.99	ParcelForce 24-48
GBR	*	*	*	*	33	1000	80.00	Special Pallet Delivery
GBR	*	LONDON	*	*	0	32	7.99	ParcelForce 24-48
GBR	*	LEEDS	*	*	0	32	9.99	ParcelForce 24-48
GBR	*	*	BT%	*	0	5	11.99	1st Class Recorded
GBR	*	*	BT%	*	0	32	14.99	ParcelForce 24-48
GBR	*	*	PO1 ___	*	0	32	8.99	ParcelForce 24-48
GBR	*	*	PO1___	*	0	32	8.99	ParcelForce 24-48
GBR	*	*	PO14___	*	0	32	6.99	ParcelForce 24-48
GBR	*	*	PO14 ___	*	0	32	6.99	ParcelForce 24-48
IRL	*	*	*	*	0	32	17.99	Irish Courier
*	*	*	*	*	0	10	50	Worldwide
GBR	*	*	*	*	2000	2100	0	Collection Only

Using this file above here are some scenarios with rates that would be shown:

Input Criteria	Output Rates
GBR buyer, not from London, or with postcode starting BT, PO1, total item weight of 3	2.99 - 1st Class Recorded 5.99 - ParcelForce 24-48
GBR buyer, postcode starts with BT, weight of 3	11.99 - 1st Class Recorded 14.99 - ParcelForce 24-48
GBR buyer, weight 50	80.00 – Special Pallet Delivery
Ireland buyer, weight 15	17.99 – Irish Courier
French buyer, weight 3	50.00 – Worldwide
French buyer, weight 15	No options would be displayed
GBR buyer, weight 2040	Collection only
GBR buyer, postcode entered as PO1 xxx or PO1xxx, weight 5	8.99 - ParcelForce 24-48
GBR buyer, postcode entered as PO14 xxx or PO14xxx, weight 5	6.99 - ParcelForce 24-48

The following example shows usage when "Use Zipcode Range to/From" is set to Yes

Country	Region/ State	City	Zip/ PostCode From	Zip/ PostCode To	Weight from	Weight to	Shipping Price	Delivery Type
AUS	*	*	*	*	0	20	15.00	Main Post
AUS	*	*	9766	9856	0	20	15.00	Main Post
AUS	*	*	9766	9856	0	20	9.50	Aus Courier1
AUS	*	*	9857	9899	0	20	12.50	Aus Courier2
*	*	*	*	*	0	10	50	Worldwide

Using this file above here are some scenarios with rates that would be shown:

Input Criteria	Output Rates
Aus buyer, zipcode 9770, total item weight of 3	9.50 – Aus Courier1 15.00 – Main Post
Aus buyer, zipcode 9878, total item weight of 3	12.50 – Aus Courier1
Aus buyer, zipcode 3000, weight 3	15.00 – Main Post
French buyer, total weight of 3	50.00 – Worldwide

Zipcode Pattern Matching

This only applies when using the 9-colum csv file, with "Use Zipcode to/from range" set to no.

The pattern matching is done according to the mysql "LIKE" syntax. Here are the options:

Character	Description
%	Matches any number of chars, even zero characters
_ (underscore)	Matches exactly one character
\	Escape char, can be used with % or _ to remove their wildcard status

With a 9-column csv you must specify the "%" to match zipcodes starting with a value. This is not required in the 7-column csv file. Main reasons for this are to reduce complexity for those that do not require it, and for backwards-compatability with earlier extensions.

Getting Started with Optional Free Shipping

A new shipping module is provided which allows for conditional free delivery. If using this module then please ensure the standard Free Shipping module is not enabled.

If you wish to use the optional free shipping functionality then you need to add the attribute "exclude_free_shipping" to the default attribute set. This can be done by navigating to Catalog->Attributes->Manage Attribute Sets.

Instructions for use:

1. Open Magento Admin

2. Within Configuration->Shipping Settings you should have a shipping method available called "Free Optional Shipping"

3. Enable Free Optional Shipping

4. Set the minimum order amount

5. Disable "Free Shipping"

6. For every product you wish to exclude from free shipping set their attribute "exclude_free_shipping" to yes. In testing you will see these do not show a free shipping option.

Note: It is not necessary to use Matrix Rates when using Optional Free Shipping or vice versa.

Collection only items

It is possible using the CSV file to state that a product is collection only. This is done by using a unique weight range, that only applies to collection only items.

In addition if any free delivery has been configured the collection only items must have the "exclude_free_delivery" flag checked.

Un-installation

If for any reason you wish to uninstall manually instructions for this can be found here:

http://www.magentocommerce.com/boards/viewthread/11900/

Technical Information

If you wish to validate the install has succeeded updating the database look for the following:

1. Within the database a new table "shipping_matrixrate" should be present

2. In the DB the table "eav_attribute" should now have a new attribute called "exclude_free_shipping"

Deficiencies

1. Does not currently support exporting of csv rates. To observe these rates please use the database directly (see table shipping_matrixrate).

2. The addition of the attribute "exclude_free_shipping" to the default attribute set is currently manual. I have chosen to do this as many people do not need this functionality. Please be aware that the Exclude Free Shipping will throw an error if you enable it and the default attribute set has not been updated.

This extension has been in circulation as a zip file with manual install since Oct 08 and no deficiencies have been found. As ever installing via Magento Connect has it's issues, as most users will have seen with upgrading Magento and using other extensions. It's hard to eradicate all these as the scenarios are so different, but if you email me then I will do all I can to assist you.

Disclaimer

It is highly recommended to backup your server files and database before installing this module. No responsibility can be taken for any adverse effects installation or advice may cause. It is also recommended you install on a test server initially to carry out your own testing.

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If you are going to use this extension commercially I would request you make a one-off donation of GBP20 to the creator Karen Baker. In return you get free personalised support & major upgrade notices. As you can probably appreciate I spend quite a bit of time developing and testing this extension, so I feel this is a reasonable request.

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Any questions then contact via email: enquiries@auctionmaid.com