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## Overview

### Thank you for purchasing our import module.

HostJars' Total Import PRO module allows a CSV or XML file to be uploaded directly into OpenCart's product catalog in a matter of minutes or seconds. It is a powerful and highly useful extension to your OpenCart store, allowing users to bypass the tedious process of uploading

items manually, one by one.

This user guide documents the features and usage of the Total Import PRO module. See the FAQ for some common issues. If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact us through the contact form at <http://opencart.hostjars.com>.

## CSV Format

The CSV format provides an excellent means for holding tabular data in a lightweight, compatible and easy-to-use format. The data is stored as text, with each line of text (bar the first line) representing a new row of data. CSV stands for "comma-separated values" as, typically, a comma (,) is used to distinguish one field from another in a single row.

A simple example will make this clear:

Make, Model, Colour
Toyota, Corolla, blue
Holden, Commodore, green
Mitsubishi, Lancer, red
BMW, 1-Series, silver
Suzuki, Swift, black

The same data as would be displayed in Microsoft Excel:

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Make	Model	Colour		
2	Toyota	Corolla	blue		
3	Holden	Commodore	green		
4	Mitsubishi	Lancer	red		
5	BMW	1-Series	silver		
6	Suzuki	Swift	black		
7					
8					
9					
10					

The previous example represents five single 'products' with three common descriptors – Make, Model and Colour (highlighted red in both examples). These descriptor headings must form the first line of the CSV file and are not counted as an 'item'. The remaining five lines each describe a single row of data and are each comprised of three 'fields' of information (the make, model and colour of the product).

## XML Format

The XML format is more complex than CSV and usually requires a larger file to express the same information. However, it is good for representing certain types of data.

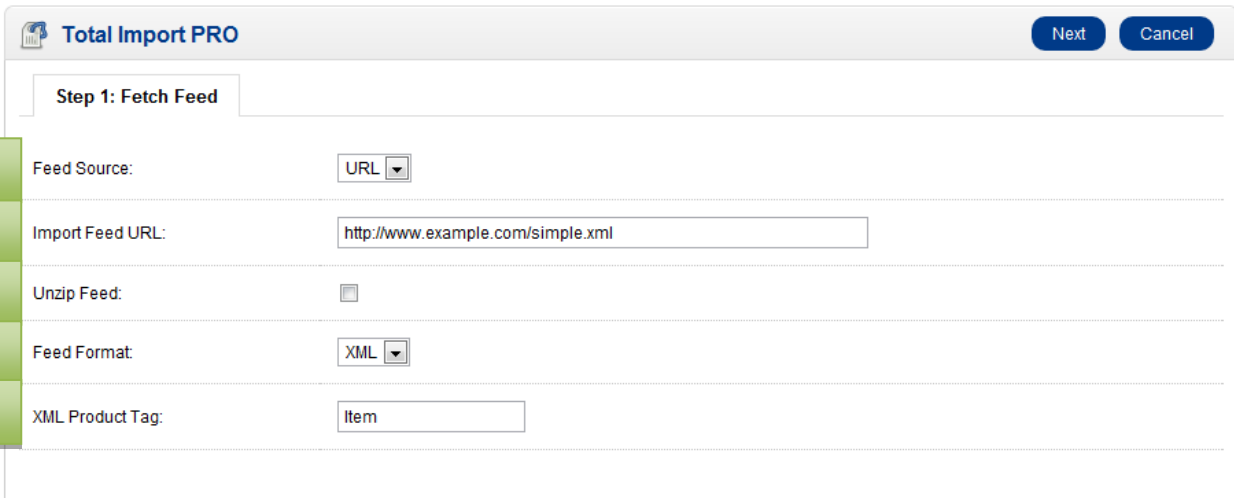
Here is the same data as the previous example, represented in an XML file. Note that each 'product' is enclosed in a distinct tag <product>. The three different fields of information are shown enclosed in an opening and closing tags (e.g. <model>). XML tags may contain attributes also; this is data inside a tag. The example shown here has an attribute "type" found inside the "make" tag.

While a comma is typically used as the separating character in a CSV file, other characters can be used, such as a semi-colon ';' or a vertical bar '|'. This adaptability has also been added into Import PRO (see "Step 1" for more information).

Please note, Microsoft Excel can read CSV files and may appear to display it correctly even when the file is not a valid CSV file. Inversely, a valid CSV may not always display correctly in Microsoft Excel. Instead, it is recommended to view and edit CSV files in a simple text editor such as Notepad. Also, Mac OS uses different line endings and therefore can produce invalid CSV files—if using Microsoft Excel on a Mac computer, save your file as Windows CSV.

```
<xml>
<product_list>
  <product>
    <model>Toyota</model>
    <make
      type="sedan">Corolla</make>
    <colour>blue</colour>
  </product>
  <product>
    <model>Holden</model>
    <make
      type="ute">Commodore</make>
    <colour>green</colour>
  </product>
  <product>
    <model>Mitsubishi</model>
    <make type="sedan">Lancer</make>
    <colour>red</colour>
  </product>
  <product>
    <model>BMW</model>
    <make type="saloon">1-
      Series</make>
    <colour>silver</colour>
  </product>
  <product>
    <model>Suzuki</model>
    <make type="4x4">Swift</make>
    <colour>black</colour>
  </product>
</product_list>
```

## Step 1: Feed Upload



The screenshot shows a software window titled 'Total Import PRO' with a 'Next' and 'Cancel' button in the top right. The main area is labeled 'Step 1: Fetch Feed'. It contains five numbered steps on the left, each corresponding to a form field on the right:

Step	Field	Value
1	Feed Source:	URL
2	Import Feed URL:	http://www.example.com/simple.xml
3	Unzip Feed:	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	Feed Format:	XML
5	XML Product Tag:	Item

1

**Feed Source:** Specify where the feed should come from. This can be either an uploaded File or a URL.

2

**Import Feed URL:** This field will only show if you choose URL as Feed Source. If you choose File it will change to a File upload box. Specify the URL or upload the file here.

3

**Unzip Feed:** If you upload a zip file, or the URL you specify hosts a zip file, the module can automatically unzip it once it is fetched. Check the box to enable this functionality.

4

**Feed Format:** Specify whether your feed is XML or CSV format.

5

**XML Product Tag:** If you are uploading an XML file, you will need to specify the product tag surrounding each product (see details previous page). If you are uploading a CSV file, you will need to specify the delimiter used in your file.

## Step 2: Global Settings

Total Import PRO

NextCancel

Step 2: Global Settings

1	Out of stock status:	Out Of Stock
2	Subtract Stock:	Yes
3	Requires Shipping:	Yes
4	Minimum Quantity:	1
5	Product status:	Enabled
6	Weight Class:	Kilogram
7	Length Class:	Centimeter
8	Tax Class:	Taxable Goods
9	Add Categories to Top Bar:	No
10	Add Products to:	All Categories
11	Category Delimiter:	
12	Download Remote Images:	No
13	Store:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Default

- 1 Out of Stock Status:** Determines the default Out of Stock Status each product will be given.
- 2 Subtract Stock:** Determines the default value given for Subtract Stock for all products
- 3 Requires Shipping:** Determines the default value given to each product for the Requires Shipping field.
- 4 Minimum Quantity:** The default minimum quantity that can be purchased for each product
- 5 Product Status:** Whether imported/updated products are set to enabled or disabled
- 6 Weight Class:** The default weight class for all products
- 7 Length Class:** The default length class for all products
- 8 Tax Class:** The default tax class for all products
- 9 Add Categories to Top Bar:** Whether newly created categories should be automatically assigned to show in the top navigation bar of your site

10

**Add Product to:** Whether products should appear in all applicable categories, or only the bottom level subcategory

11

**Category Delimiter:** If your categories are in a list, delimited by a certain character, place that character here. Eg: for "Top Category > Sub Category" use ">" (without quotes)

12

**Download Remote Images:** Whether the script should attempt to download images from URLs in your feed. This should only be used when running the script from CLI, as it is likely to timeout otherwise

13

**Store:** The store(s) you wish to import products to (for multistore)

## Step 3: Data Modifications - Operations

Save & Continue Skip Cancel

Step 3: Adjust Data

If you need to adjust any data from your feed before importing it you can use the Operations below on the fields in your database. You can also leave this screen open and use phpmyadmin to directly adjust the database table `hj_import` and then return here to complete the import.

Feed Sample

name	price	model	sku	manufacturer	category	sub_category	image	location	description	seo_keyword
1	1150	TEST1	123	Our Brand	GamesTop Cat	Second Cat	data/image.jpg	Auckland	A test productFree Shipping	test1

Operation Type	Description	
1 Replace Text	Replace <input type="text" value="Test"/> with <input type="text" value="Our"/> in <input type="text" value="manufacturer"/>	<span>Remove</span>
2 Append Text	Append <input type="text" value="Test"/> after <input type="text" value="manufacturer"/>	<span>Remove</span>
3 Prepend Text	Prepend <input type="text" value="Free Shipping"/> to <input type="text" value="description"/>	<span>Remove</span>
4 Remove Text	Remove <input type="text" value="Games"/> in <input type="text" value="category"/>	<span>Remove</span>
5 Multiply	Multiply <input type="text" value="name"/> by <input type="text" value="Test"/>	<span>Remove</span>
6 Filter Products	Delete items where <input type="text" value="price"/> equals <input type="text" value="1.15"/>	<span>Remove</span>
	<span>Filter Products</span> <span>Add Adjustment</span>	

7

1

**Replace Text:** Replace a piece of text for another piece of text inside a field. This is useful if you wish to adjust a particular piece of content.

2

**Append Text:** Choose a field to append text to. This is useful if you wish to craft your image field into the format required by OpenCart.

3

**Prepend Text:** Choose a field to prepend text to. This is useful if you wish to craft your image field into the format required by OpenCart, but can also be used to modify other data.

4

**Remove Text:** Select a field to remove text from, and input the text to remove in the Data field. This is useful when you have some generic piece of text you wish to remove.

5

**Multiply:** Allows you to multiply one value by another value. This is useful for adding tax or margins to your pricing.

6

**Filter Products:** This allows you to remove a products where a field exactly matches another field. This is useful if you wish to remove all products with a certain stock level for example.

7

**Add Adjustment:** You can add as many adjustments as you like. The adjustment operations will run in the order they are specified. If you run the Total Import PRO from CLI these will run every time.

**NOTE:** This step is one feature that makes Total Import PRO very flexible. Over time we expect to add other Operations, such as Multiply Field, Duplicate Field, Delete Field and more. This document may not always be up to date and you may find Operations not described here.

## Step 4: Field Mapping

Total Import PRO

NextCancel

Step 4: Field Mapping

The OpenCart field column contains the name of the field in OpenCart, the Feed Field is where you must enter the heading name of the column that you want to import to each OpenCart field. You can set each field to "None" if you do not have anything to import there. None of the fields are required, but the more you can provide the better your import will be.

Sample From Your Feed

Name	Price	Description	Category	Model
Sony Laptop	2500.5	A laptop by SonyFree Shipping	GamesLaptops	1111

OpenCart Field

Feed Field

Name

Price

Special Price

Model

SKU

Description

Manufacturer

Category

Category

Image

Additional Image

UPC

Quantity

Weight

Length

Height

Width

Location

Keyword

Product Tags

Points

Reward Points

Meta Description

Meta Keyword

Option

Attribute

None

None

None

None

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Field Mapping

Field mapping allows you to match your field names or headings to be imported to OpenCart's available fields. The CSV column headings or the XML tag names do not have to match OpenCart's fields.

Also, there is no minimum number of fields that must be inputted, so any or all fields can be left blank—these fields will be given sensible default values in each product where required.

If you wish to deliberately overwrite a field to a null value (for example, you wish to remove the special price of the products), reference a field that is empty in your file. This way the module will import the empty value as the new special price and thus 'delete' the existing special price.

1

**Category:** Products can be imported with **nested categories** (e.g., “Computers > Desktop”); add sub-category fields by clicking the **More ➔** button and adding a vertical column. **Multiple categories** can be added for products by selecting the **More ↓** button creating another row. This allows products to belong to more than one category (e.g. “DVDs” and “Digital files”)

2

**Attribute:** Product attributes can be imported—reference the attribute’s name (e.g., from the example in the “XML Format”, enter “type” without quotation marks). The field name will be used for the Attribute name, and the value in the field for each product will be used for the Attribute value. If you wish to import a particular attribute structure you can do this by using a ':' separated list in your attribute field. This is then imported as '`<group_name>:<attribute_name>:<attribute_value>`' and creates the appropriate attribute group, attribute name and attribute value.

**Options:** Product options can be imported – see the section below on Product Options for the exact requirements for successful import. Use the More button to add multiple product options.

**Additional Images:** Additional images can be imported – simply reference the field, using the More button to add multiple additional image fields.

## Step 5: Import

The screenshot shows the 'Total Import PRO' window at 'Step 5: Import'. The window has a title bar with the application name and two buttons: 'Import' and 'Cancel'. The main area is divided into three sections, each with a green numbered box on the left:

- 1** Empty store before import: No (dropdown menu)
- 2** New Items: Add (dropdown menu)
- 3** Existing Items: Update (dropdown menu) Update Based on Matching Field: Model (dropdown menu)

A green box with the number **4** is located in the top right corner of the main area.

**1 Empty store before import:** If you wish to reset your store, you can choose empty store before import to delete all existing products, categories, options, and manufacturers. Ideally you should only use this when initially setting up your store

**2 New Items:** Specify what to do with new items from your feed. You can either add them as normal, or skip them to run a pure update only.

**3 Existing Items:** You can choose what to do with items in your feed that are also in your store already. You can either update them based on new data from the feed, or simply skip them to only add new products.

**4 Update based on matching field:** In order to identify existing items, you will need to have a field in your feed that matches the same field in your OpenCart store. Here you can specify which field this is, choosing between Model, Name or SKU. It is recommended that you use Model or SKU in preference to Name, as the match must be exact in order to identify existing products. Using Name is more risky.



## Uploading Images

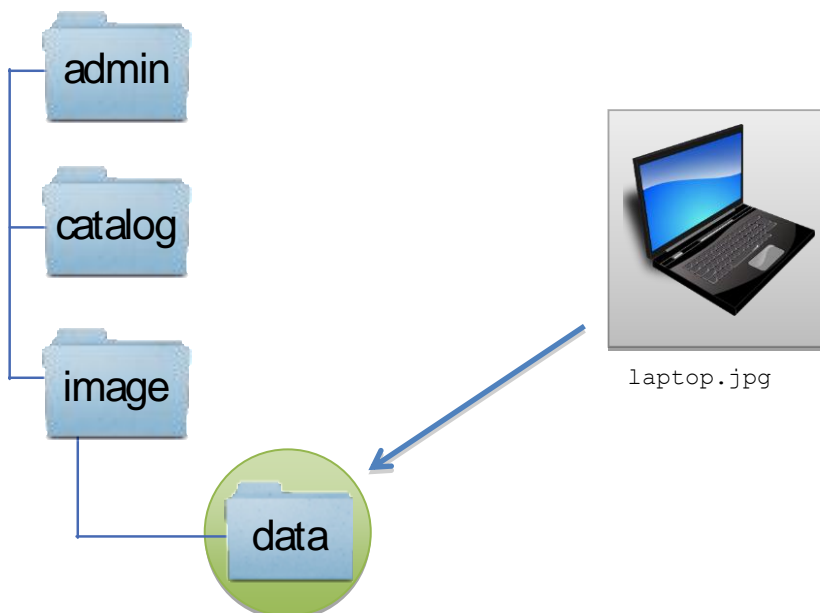
As an example of how images must be uploaded for successful import, if done manually:

**Upload the image to:**

`image/data/laptop.jpg`

**Reference the image in CSV or XML file:**

`data/laptop.jpg`



If you are importing images from remote URL, the Total Import PRO will create the appropriate references to the images it collects. You only need to map the field. It is only recommended that the Fetch Remote Images option be used when running the Total Import PRO from CLI (see the next section).

## Import Through CLI – Cron Task

The Total Import PRO module can be run from the command line in an SSH session, or automatically on a Cron Task, provided your webhost allows you to use these functions. This gives you an extra step of automation over running it manually from the admin of your store.

### How it works

When you go through Steps 1-5, the settings you choose are saved. If you run the module from the command line, either by SSH or a Cron Task, these settings will be used to import your products. The Total Import PRO module includes a file called `cron_index.php`, which will be placed in the `admin/` folder of your store. This is the entry point to the Total Import PRO for SSH or Cron Task. It will bypass the normal OpenCart security system, however it has its own security so that it can only be run from the command line (not through the webserver). This will prevent unwanted access. The CLI version only runs Step 1, 3 and 5 of the import.

There are two ways you may wish to update your store automatically: from a feed file on your filesystem that you or another application is uploading regularly, or from a feed file that can be fetched from a URL.

### Updating from a local file

To update from a local file, you will need to upload the file to your OpenCart store. The Total Import PRO module will search for it in `admin/feed.txt`.

### Updating from a URL

To update from a URL, simply select the URL option on Step 1, and input the full URL where the feed can be found. If you cannot access the feed through your browser, it is unlikely that the Total Import PRO will be able to either. This is a good test to run in your browser before automating the system. The Total Import PRO will search for

### The Cron Command

Use the following command to run the script on a Cron Task or through SSH:

```
php /home/opencart/admin/cron_index.php
```

You will need to replace `/home/opencart/` with the full path to your OpenCart installation.

If you have multiple saved profiles and you want to run each of them on an automatic schedule, you can set up one cron task per profile to do this. Cron tasks should not be running concurrently as they share crucial resources. To run a certain profile, modify the cron command to include your profile name at the end, like so (where you have saved your profile as “`profile_name`”):

```
php /home/opencart/admin/cron_index.php profile_name
```

## Importing Product Options

The Total Import PRO module allows the import of dropdown (select) product options. These require a specific format, described below. Any other formats will not be correctly imported as product options.

### Multiple Product Options

Each product option you wish to import must have its own field in your CSV file, or its own tag in your XML file. If you wish to import Size and Color, you will have a column for each.

### Multiple Product Option Values

If you wish to import multiple product option values per product, these must be separated by a | (pipe). For example, if you are importing Size options, and the first product in your CSV file has two sizes, small and large, the value in that product's row's size column would contain:

small|large

If you wish to import a quantity, additional price, additional weight or sort order for a certain product option value, you can do this by creating a : (colon) separated list for each option value. For example, if you are importing Size options, you have two sizes, small and large, and each has a quantity of 3, additional price of +2.50 and additional weight of +400, the Size column in your CSV file would look like (or the Size tag in your XML file would contain) the following, where the last digit on each option is the sort order:

small:3:2.50:400:1|large:3:2.50:400:3

If you wish to import only sort order alone, you must still specify everything to the left. This applies also to additional weight, price and quantity – you must always specify everything to the left, even if you just use arbitrary values (such as 0 for additional price and weight, and 1000 for quantity).

### Adding and Updating

In order to construct Product Options correctly, the Total Import PRO needs to have all possible Product Options in the file that is being imported. If you only have a subset of your inventory in the feed you are importing, then DO NOT map the "Option" field to import Product Options. Only map this field if all possible Product Options are in the feed being imported, or you will lose existing Product Options.

Although this is slightly annoying, there is no way around it. The way OpenCart stores Product Options means that all Product Options need to be created before they can be added to a product. You will have noticed this if you have ever added products through the admin interface – first you must create the Options, then edit the Products. In order to create the options, the Total Import PRO must know all the options, which means that all the options must exist in the product feed that you are importing.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Can I undo my last import?

No. The Total Import PRO is a powerful tool, but with great power comes great responsibility! If you are still learning to use it, we recommend you either take a backup of your database first, or test it on a development server, or both.

### Why does the upload fail (500 Server Error)?

An upload can fail due to limits imposed by your server in its PHP configuration, either in its restriction of the maximum file size that can be uploaded, or the maximum time it will allow a script to run.

If you are unable to change the PHP configuration to avoid this, you can split the file into several smaller files and upload them individually, or place the file on your webserver by FTP and use the URL feed upload method. The URL feed upload will generally have success with significantly larger files.

### Why weren't my fields updated when I chose "Update" Existing?

Categories and some other fields are unable to be updated during an import and must be manually updated. Global settings, apart from Product Status are not Updated, they are only set when each product is first added.

### What is the correct format to use for prices?

Price fields must include a period (.) to denote the decimal place for cents - any commas included in the price field will be removed by the module on upload.

### I have used the free import/export tool but can't seem to figure out how Total Import PRO works. Can you help me?

This is a common situation. The free import/export tool has limitations that Total Import PRO does not. Our Total Import PRO module will import more products than OpenCart can handle - if you ask it to. It does not have the same memory limitations that the free tool has, nor the same rigid file format requirements.

### How long will it take to import 1000 products?

Total Import PRO is fast. We estimate it will import around 2000 products per second, depending on the type of import settings you select. Most of this time is for the initial file upload. We have users importing 65,000 products. The only limitations are your PHP settings on your server, and your physical server capacity.

### What version of OpenCart does this module work with?

This module is built for OpenCart 1.5.1.3. It will work with all versions from OpenCart 1.5.0, but Additional Images will not work in OpenCart 1.5.1.1. If you are using OpenCart 1.5.1.1 and require Additional Images, send us an email and we can advise you on the simple change required. We have placed the code in the script, it just needs to be activated.

### What are “Missed Products”?

Any row in your CSV file that doesn't have the correct number of columns is missed by Total Import PRO. There is no way to verify which column has been missed and it is safer to skip the row. If you get this error, you should check the format of your CSV feed.

### Why do I get “Warning: No file or empty file!” message?

This is usually caused by attempting to upload a file larger than your php.ini settings allow. If your maximum upload file size is 2mb and your file is 4mb, you will receive this message.

### I have added extra fields to my OpenCart database but I do not see them in the Total Import PRO module.

That is correct, the modules support most default OpenCart fields, we could not guess in advance what other fields might be added by you or other developers, or how these have been added. Therefore, the module will not magically support extra fields. OpenCart 1.5.x supports attributes which should be preferred over OpenCart core modifications where possible.

### Does Total Import PRO support product options?

Yes! They must be in the format outlined above.

### What if I want Total Import PRO to do something that it doesn't?

Our Auto Import tool is the next step up from the Total Import PRO, suitable if you have advanced automation requirements.

### Can I use images from an external server?

Yes. The Total Import PRO will download external images if you select the option at Step 2. However, we recommend only using this option if you are running the tool from the CLI by a Cron Task or SSH. Otherwise it will take too long and time out.

We recommend hosting your own images on your own server. If this is impossible, and you can't run the script through a Cron Task, we sell an “Image Fetcher” script that will download remote images for you.

### Can I run Total Import PRO on a cron job?

Yes! See the section above on CLI.