

Vintages Central Allocation Project

Overview



Today's Objectives



- To communicate project scope and objectives
- To demystify the new Vintages Central Allocation process: explain how it will improve product distribution, sell-through, and overall operational efficiencies
- We ask that you please hold your questions until the end



Change?.....Why?



Change is born of necessity and propelled by vision



Change?.....Why?



- Thanks to the tremendous support and hard work of our Product Consultants and Store Managers, Vintages sales have now outgrown our ability to manage the business through manual processes
- Vintages Central Allocation (VCA) is envisioned as a key tool in helping move the Vintages business forward, to keep up with the dynamic needs of our customers



VCA - Benefits



- Wider, more balanced product distribution throughout the retail network
- More inventory in stores at time of Release
- More accurate sell-through reporting
- Time-saving efficiencies for Inv Team: less follow-up with stores, reduced "rush" orders
- Reduced residual whse inventory



VCA - Opportunities



 Once VCA goes live we will be able to more accurately measure "true" sales, (i.e. less influencing factors, such as limited distribution), so it will be much easier to assess under-performing and/or overpurchased SKU's, which will lead to improved Category purchasing decision-making in the future



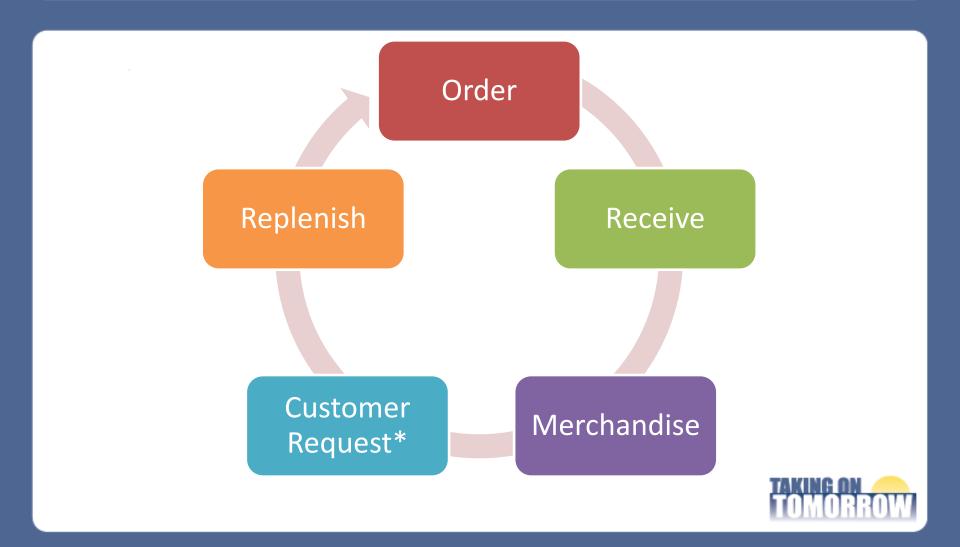
VCA - Opportunities



- Vintages will develop a more firm exit plan strategy for Release items, and execute it in a more timely manner than today to ensure that stores are not stuck with slow-selling items
- This will also ensure that we are in a position to quickly remedy any potentially misallocated items



Current Bi-Weekly Release Cycle



Current Retail Ordering Process

- Stores currently receive an store order form seven weeks prior to Release
- Stores have one week to review brands, determine quantities, and manually input order, (1-4 hours each, depending on store size and terminal availability)

Current Process Gaps



- While individual order requests may appear to be appropriate at an individual store level, the summary result of these orders may not be optimal for the overall Vintages/LCBO business, (i.e. lost sales opportunities)
- Orders often not submitted, requiring followup; (5-10% of stores every two weeks)
- Vintage allocation team must review/reallocate multiple SKU's on every release



Current Process Gaps



- Retail requested "No Force" list, (59% of total 264 Vintages locations currently restricted), meaning store orders cannot be increased
- This results in excessive residual warehouse inventory of saleable products, and/or excessive inventory being sent to remaining stores
- Stores often not "ready for business", resulting in requests for last minute rush orders



Current Process Gaps



- Current practice is to allocate 80% of the <u>total</u> <u>quantity purchased</u> for each release
- This results in excessive residual warehouse inventory on SKU's with low initial store draw
- New system will allocate up to 80% of total quantity of each SKU, reducing residual inventory by ensuring stock is in stores, where it can sell, as opposed to warehouse



Vintages Central Allocation - New

- Release <u>information form</u> will be sent out seven weeks prior to Release, (same as today), instead of store order form
- Store allocations will be based on sales performance, and guided by store capacity limits, (for both unit and SKU count)



Vintages Central Allocation - New

- Each SKU in a new release will have an "Model SKU" assigned to it for forecasting purposes
- The "Model SKU" is a system-determined brand from a previous Vintages Release in the same season, that most closely matches the subset and price-point of the new release SKU
- Vintages Essentials and LCBO brands are <u>not</u> used for modeling



Vintages Central Allocation - New

- Allocation quantities are based on the first three weeks of sales of the Model SKU in applicable stores; (each store's ratio of sales of the model SKU is then applied to the forecast for the new SKU for each store)
- If a store did not sell the Model SKU, allocation eligibility will be determined by the "best fit" sales history at the subset level of the new SKU

Vintages Central Allocation - IPI

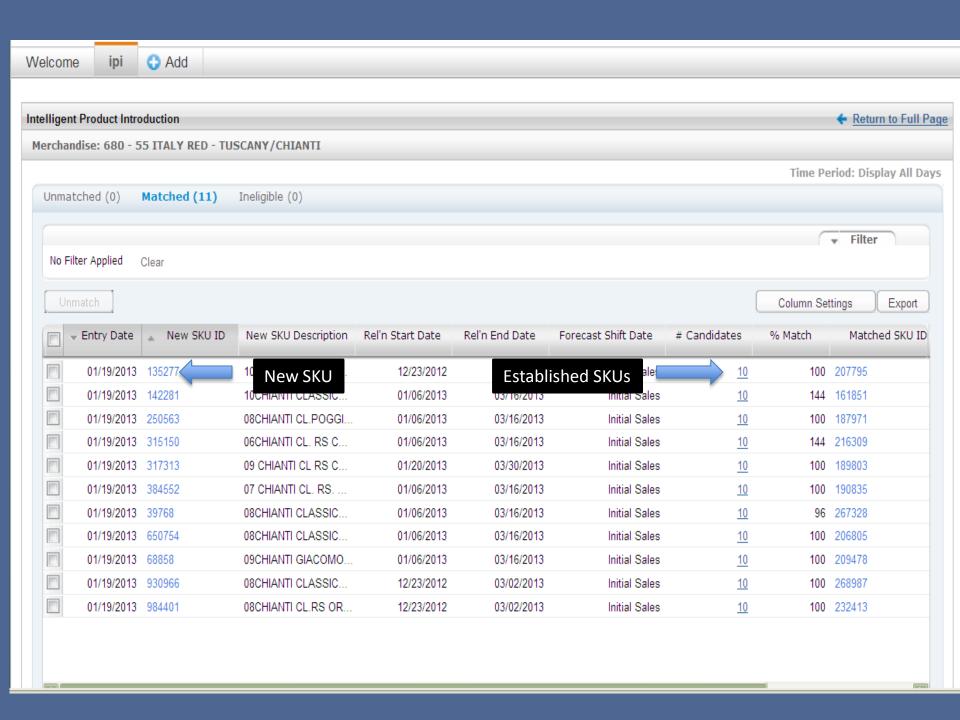
- Intelligent Product Introduction, ("IPI") is a new module in DCM, our corporate forecasting system.
- IPI's primary function is to determine the most appropriate Model SKU to use when introducing new products
- IPI looks at each individual new product assigned to a release, and finds the ten best potential Model SKU's for the new item, based on predetermined selection criteria



Vintages Central Allocation - IPI

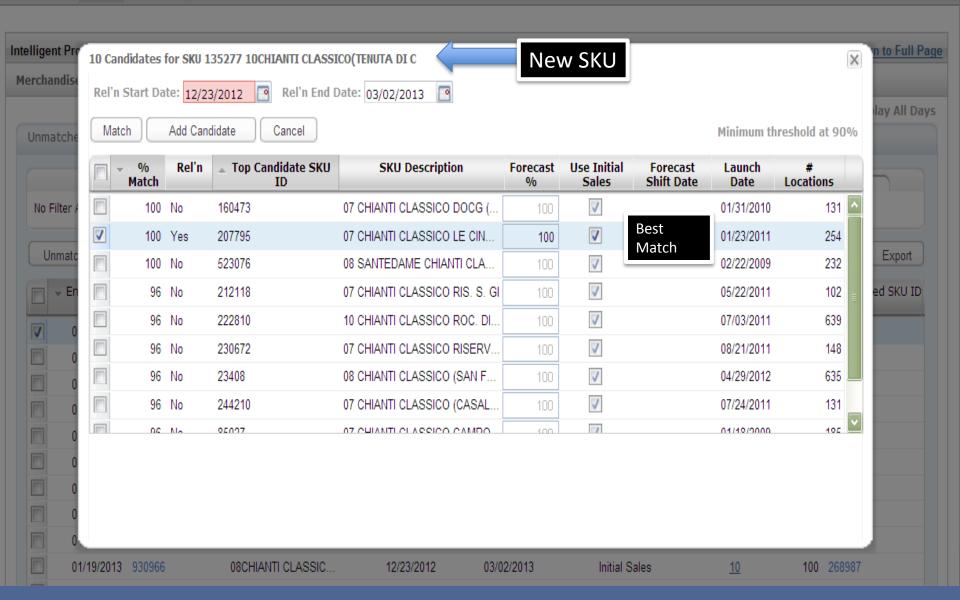
- This selection criteria is primarily based on: subset, price point, and seasonality
- User-defined weighting is applied to all attributes used in the criteria table
- Vintages user has the option of choosing an alternative model SKU, if the best model SKU's do not appear optimal











Vintages Central Allocation – New

- Once Model SKU's have been determined, DCM then creates suggested allocation quantities for each store, based on the forecasted sales of the new SKU's
- The Vintages team then reviews the new Allocation Capacity Report to identify capacity issues at either SKU or unit level; capacity max settings created by Supply Chain, and will be validated by DM's
- Over-allocations are then reduced, so that individual store capacities are not knowingly exceeded

Vintages Store SKU Capacity



LCBO Retail Supply Chain has used the following factors in determining store capacities:

SKU Count:

 Vintages Release SKU's on hand for each location with inventory greater than 2 units, (excludes Gifts, and Vintages Ethnic brands merchandised in LCBO space)



Vintages Store SKU Capacity



Linear Footage:

 Includes all fixtures in a store dedicated to the permanent merchandising of Vintages products, (incl Essentials), with the exception of the Vintages Feature Fixture. Added to this is the Vintages Incremental, which was additional footage collected in discussions with District Managers. It includes Vintages locations used on a permanent basis solely dedicated to Vintages products.

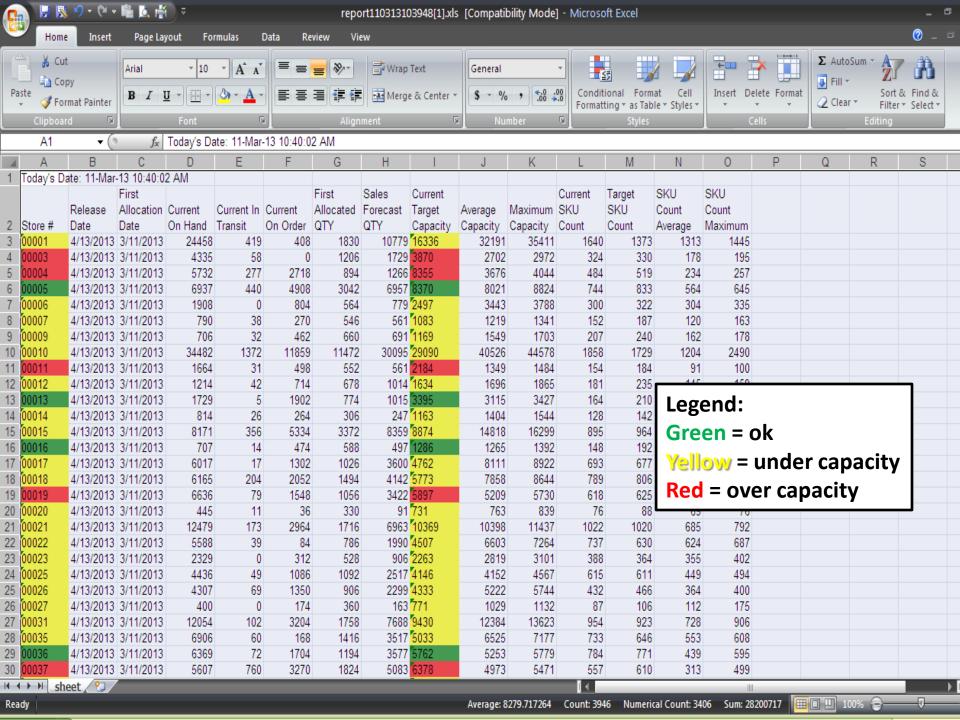
Vintages Store Unit Capacity



Store Unit Capacity

- Average unit capacity is based on the average weekly inventory in each store over the most recent two year period
- Maximum unit capacity = average + 10%, a conservative seeding estimate to mitigate potential overstocks





Vintages Store Unit Capacity



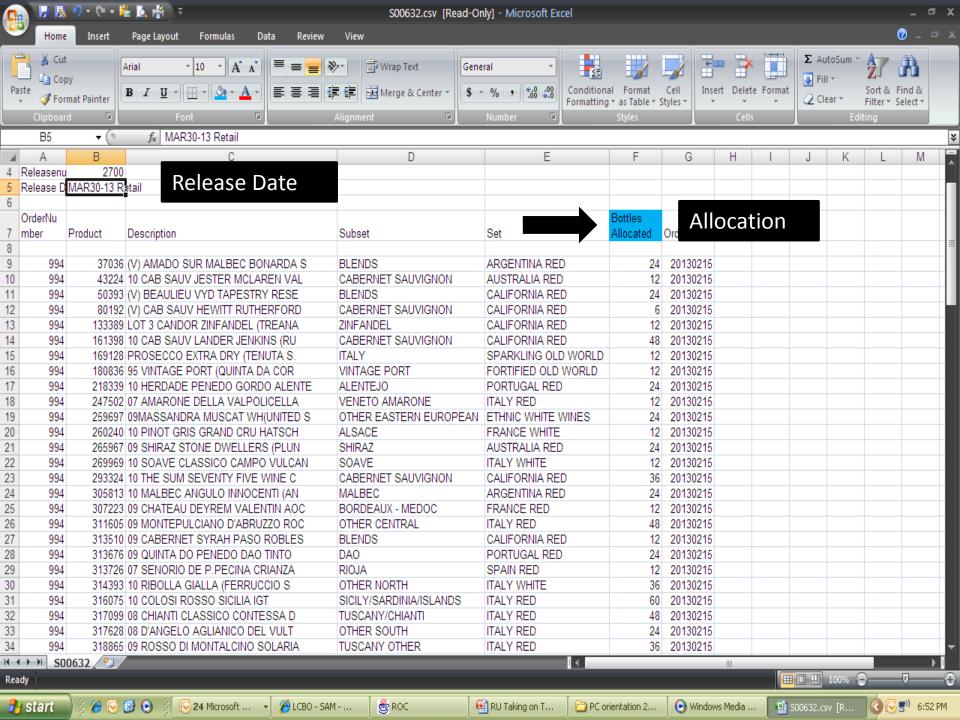
Target Capacity (units) = (current on hand + current in transit + current on order + first allocated quantity) - sales forecast, (sales forecast is based on estimated sales between today's date and release date)



Vintages Store Capacities



- Store DICE orders will affect future allocations as they are included in the capacity calculations to ensure that there are no Health and Safety issues at store level
- Capacity numbers are <u>not</u> static values; if, after a few allocations, our original estimate is problematic, the Store Manager should advise their District Manager, who can then advise Vintages



VCA – Questions & Concerns



Example of Major Issues – product not allocated or insufficient:

- Wines of the Month
- Cover wines
- Food and Drink
- Feature



VCA - New Store Set-up



 We will utilize demographics and capacity information from Retail Supply Chain to assist in set-up, but will welcome input from the Store Manager and/or Product Consultant until the store establishes a definitive sales pattern



VCA - Renovated/Relocated Stores

- Historical sales will still be used to determine product assortment
- Vintages will work with the SM and Product Consultant to collaborate on post-renovation allocations, until the store establishes a definitive sales pattern, (as required)
- SKU count and unit capacities will need to be reviewed/updated to reflect new Vintages selling space



VCA - Retail Benefits



- Frees up valuable Product Consultant time that can/should be spent on the selling floor
- Reduced overstocks and residual inventory at stores
- Improved distribution of product, leading to increased customer satisfaction and sales
- Zero release orders missed due to Product Consultant absence

VCA - Customer Request Process

No change at all to this process



Vintages Central Allocation - FAQ's

Please refer to handout





 The Vintages team met with a focus group of 26 Store Managers and Product Consultants on March 14th to present this same overview of the new Vintages Central Allocation process. Here is some of their feedback.......





- "no brainer choices based on history"
- "less pressure on me to pick products", (SM with no Product Consultant)
- "more effective distribution and uniformity"
- "overall, a more accurate assortment"
- "this will force me to spend more time on Vintages....a good thing!"
- "reduces hoarding"





- "less guesswork at store level"
- "more info for Buyers / demographics"
- "fairer allocation"
- "sell, sell, sell"
- "levels playing field between new and seasoned Consultants"





- " no missed orders"
- "more time spent on customer service"
- More time to dedicate to: "Hello/Bonjour, staff and market education"
- "lose ownership"
- "best for company"



Vintages Central Allocation



Q&A





Vintages Central Allocation



Thank you!

