VP-ASP Shopping Cart

Developer's Guide
Customization and Web Interfaces

Version 5.50

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Copyright
Virtual Programming Pty Ltd
PO Box 1715
Tuggeranong, ACT 2901
Australia
support@vpasp.com
www.vpasp.com

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1 VP-ASP Shopping Cart

Thank you for purchasing the VP-ASP Shopping Cart. We hope you make your fortune selling on the Internet. VP-ASP Shopping Cart has been designed for any type of Internet shop. It has every major feature you would expect from an e-commerce solution and some unique features that can make your shop easier to implement.

VP-ASP is composed of a number of Active Server Page (ASP) files. Active Server Pages consist of a mixture of normal HTML and program logic. The database is used to store product information, customer information and orders and other information.

1.1 This manual

This document will help you to configure VP-ASP in the following areas: formatting, taxes, shipping, discounts, electronic gateways, searching, security, stock control and many other aspects of setting up your shop.

This manual should be read in conjunction with the Merchant's guide, which goes through adding categories, products, bulk mailing and more.

1.2 Overview

VP-ASP Documentation is divided into a number of documents:

- **VP-ASP Merchant Guide -** tells you how to configure and use the VP-ASP Shopping Cart.
- **VP-ASP Developer's Guide** - has information related to altering VP-ASP colors, fonts and look and feel. It also includes a troubleshooting guide for database and mail related problems. Other issues include security, troubleshooting, database format, taxes, shipping, discounts and more.
- **VP-ASP Option Package** - has information related to the VP-ASP Option Package. This includes gift certificates, discount coupons, affiliates, order tracking, html mailing, auto generation of HTML pages, project payments and gift registry.
- **VP-ASP Add-ons** - has information related to the Gift Registry, Recurring Billing, Pin Number and Points Rewards.
- **VP-ASP database** - has table names and field definitions.

An installation Guide is included with your distribution file. It is called install.htm for Windows or installmysql.htm for Unix/MYSQL.

1.3 Requirements Windows

VP-ASP requires a server capable of running Active Server Pages. These servers include Microsoft Personal Web Server on Windows 95/98 and Microsoft IIS on Windows NT/2000/XP/2003.

VP-ASP uses a Microsoft Access Database. An Access 2000 database has been supplied. You do not need to install Microsoft Access or Microsoft Office to use the VP-ASP Shopping Cart. An Access 2002 or Access 97 database can also be used. Some later versions of Microsoft 2000 and XP do not support Access 97 databases.

1.4 Requirements Unix

VP-ASP Unix requires a server have SUN ASP (Chillisoft) installed. This product is supplied by www.chillisoft.com. It also requires that MYSQL database support. The Unix Version and the Windows versions are separate products. Only the Deluxe version of VP-ASP supports both Unix and Windows.

1.5 VP-ASP Add-ons

The VP-ASP Shopping Cart includes the base package and these add-ons that can be purchased separately.

VP-ASP with the Option Package is our most popular product. Purchasing VP-ASP with the Option Package together saves you at least $60.

The VP-ASP Deluxe Version includes VP-ASP base plus all these add-ons. You can save a few hundred dollars by purchasing the Deluxe version.

1.5.1 VP-ASP Option Package

The VP-ASP Option package provides enhanced features and facilities. Not everyone needs these features and in order to keep the price of the basic VP-ASP product very low, these extra features can be purchased as a package called the VP-ASP Option Package. The Option Package can be purchased bundled and integrated with VP-ASP.

- Affiliate processing and reporting
- Mailing to customer and merchant by templates
- Generic Template handling
- Customer Discount Coupons
- Gift Certificates
- Mail to Suppliers
- HTML mailing
- Product ratings and reviews
- Project services using VP-ASP for payment
- Order Tracking
- Image uploading
- Generate static HTML
- Secure digital downloads
- Cookieless VP-ASP
- Project Payments
- SMS interface

1.5.2 Gift Registry

The Gift Registry allows customers to choose a variety of gifts from your shop and save them in the registry. Friends and relatives can then come back to the shop and buy those specific gifts. This can be used for weddings, anniversaries, wish lists, birthdays, Christmas and other events.

1.5.3 Recurring Billing

The recurring billing facility allows the merchant to sell products such as subscriptions, loans, rentals or other types that you bill the customer on a periodic basis such as week, month or year. The billing can be set-up automatically when a customer purchases a product from the shop. The billing can also be manually configured without any purchase from your shop.

1.5.4 Pin Numbers

Automatically sends pin numbers, or other codes you supply, to the customer at the completion of an order.

1.5.5 Points Rewards

Allows your customers to automatically redeem points accumulated by purchasing goods from your Internet shop.

1.6 More Information

We continually add information to our web site **http://www.vpasp.com**
Please check for **What's new** and **Frequently Asked Questions**. Your questions may already be answered.

1.7 Security Issues

Hackers are very persistent. Please follow our security guidelines and check security updates on our site at www.vpasp.com/virtprog/info/faq_security.htm

When setting up your production shop please read the section on security in this guide

1.7.1 Security Updates

VP-ASP does not bulk mail customers when security updates are issued. Please visit our site for the latest updates or notes. In addition we constantly add new free add-ons, tips and gateways on our site.

1.8 Using The VP-ASP Shopping Cart

If you take most of our defaults, use our default home page, then VP-ASP can have your shop up and running in hours. If you choose to modify VP-ASP to match your exact requirements this can be done using our supplied configuration options. The following is a summary of configuration facilities VP-ASP offers.

Shoppage_header.htm	This is a plain HTML file. It is used so that you can totally replace it. It can be edited with your favorite editor such as Frontpage or Dreamweaver. It controls your logo, top and left navigation values
Shoppage_trailer.htm	This is a plain HTML file. It is designed to be totally replaced. It can be edited with your favorite editor. It controls bottom and right navigation
Shop$colors.asp	This is a file you can edit with a plain text editor. It has most of the HTML that VP-ASP uses. Here you can change the colors, fonts and table definitions.
Shop$config.asp	This file tells VP-ASP where your database resides and what type of database it is. Normally you will only change this once when you install VP-ASP for the first time.
Shop Configuration	This is not a file. It a browser based facility that you change using the VP-ASP Administration facility. There are over 400 different options you can select. It controls things such as how products are sorted, what payment options you wish to accept.
Templates	Templates are plain HTML files that allow you to control product and category formatting. If you do not have the VP-ASP Option package there are only a few templates. With the Option Package many are supplied.

By changing values in those files or Shop Configuration you can make your shop look and feel just about any way you choose. If you have a simple shop, then VP-ASP can be configured and set-up in minutes.

1.9 Setting up a production Store

This is a quick summary of what needs to be done to set up your production store. Please also read the section on security.

1. Install VP-ASP. This is covered in the install.htm that came with the VP-ASP distribution file you received.
2. Logon to the VP-ASP Administration System to configure your web hosts and Merchant e-mail system.

3. Edit **Mycompany** table in the database to your merchant name, address, phone etc.
4. Add your products and categories to the database.
5. Decide how you want people to pay you and set-up the payment methods and or SSL.
6. Decide on taxes or shipping costs if required.
7. If you plan to use an electronic gateway (not required), check from our extensive list at www.vpasp.com/virtprog/vpasp_epsystems.htm
8. Make sure your site is secure from hackers. Check this manual for security guidelines and also www.vpasp.com/virtprog/info/faq_security.htm

1.10 Shop Configuration

One of the most important parts of VP-ASP is the Shop Configuration. You can think of the shop configuration as a set of switches that turn on or off various aspects of your store such as taxes, discounts, shipping. There is a whole section in this manual describing the Shop Configuration and this is just a quick summary.

There are over 400 Shop configuration settings. A setting can be either a Yes/No, or a fill in value such as the merchant email address, or it can be a selection such as the credit card types that you allow customers to pay with.

Using the Merchant login, the Shop Configuration is controlled by you using your browser.

1.10.1 Shop Configuration names

Each of the 400 settings has a name. The name is cryptic such **xincludestates, or xshippingform.** How do you know what each setting does? This manual goes through each aspect of setting up your Internet Store. In each section, the list of Shop Configuration values will be displayed with a description of what it does. For example

Xnavigateminicart	No stops minicart from displaying

This says if you do not want to show the minicart, change the value to No. The Shop Configuration Options are shown as above boxed with the Shop Configuration name on the left side and possible values and a description on the right hand side.

1.11 Finding Shop Configuration values

When you are using the Shop Configuration, you will see a menu such as that below. In the search box, you can simply type in the whole name such as **xnavigateminicart or** a partial name such as just **mini.**

Field name [ ] Search

Reload Shop Configuration

Shop Configuration	
1.	**Merchant details**
2.	**Products 1**
3.	**Products 2**
4.	**Customer Information**
5.	**Payments**
6.	**Shipping**
7.	**International**
8.	**Stock Control**
9.	**Option Package-Gifts,Coupons,tracking,mailing**
10.	**Affiliate**
11.	**Template file**
12.	**Buttons and navigation**
13.	**Administration Security**
14.	**Advanced**
15.	**Language**
16.	**View Current Shop Configuration**
17.	**Edit**

2 Quick Guide

So you don't like reading manuals. This short section goes through the major steps necessary to get your shop up and running either on your own PC or your web hosting company.

2.1 Can you actually run VP-ASP on your PC

You can run VP-ASP on your PC if you have Windows 95/98/NT4/2000/2003/XP-Professional. It will not run on Windows ME, XP-Home or Macintosh. A Microsoft facility called IIS (Internet Information Server) is required.

Setting up of IIS is a much larger job than simply installing VP-ASP and therefore is out of the scope of this quick setup guide.

VP-ASP Installation should take less than 5 minutes.

1. VP-ASP comes as a ZIP file. Simply unzip it into a new folder called SHOPPING on your PC or it can be unzipped into an existing folder. The folder name is not important. If you do not know what a zip file is see www.winzip.com
2. Use Windows Explorer, right click the shopping folder, select web sharing and select an alias name such as myshop.
3. Start your favorite web browser such as Internet Explorer
4. In the URL type http://localhost/myshop
5. You should see the VP-ASP default home page
6. Click the diagnostic link and test to make sure the database can be read/written.
7. If the answer is yes, you have completed the install.
8. If you cannot write to the database, you now need to follow the next set of instructions.

2.2 Updating Permissions on your PC to allow database writing

You should only be reading this section if the diagnostic tool said the database could not be written. To fix it you must change the IIS permissions on the folder.

1. Start Windows Explorer (not your browser)
2. Right click on the shopping folder (where you unzipped the VP-ASP files).
3. Select the Security tab.
4. Make sure USERS or IUSR has full control
5. If you do not see the Security tab, you must do the following first. Start Windows Explorer. Select the shopping folder and then click Tools/Folders Options/View. At the very bottom, uncheck simple file sharing mode. Now go back to step 3.

2.3 Can you actually run VP-ASP on Your Web Host

If you want to run VP-ASP on your web host server, you need to determine if your web host is a Windows Hosting (the other type is Unix hosting) and that they support ASP. If you are unsure, please ask them. www.vpasp.com/virtprog/info/faq_hosting.htm

1. VP-ASP comes as a ZIP file. Simply unzip it into a new folder called SHOPPING on your PC or it can be unzipped into an existing folder. If you do not know what a zip file is see www.winzip.com
2. Start your favorite utility that moves files to your web server. This is normally a utility such as CuteFTP or WSFTP. Assume you also call the folder shopping on your web host (it can be called anything)
3. Copy all files EXCEPT the database file shopping500.mdb file (the largest file)

4. Most web hosting companies provide a separate folder for the database. It will normally be called data or database. Copy the database file shopping500.mdb to that folder on your web host.
5. Edit one file on your local PC called shop$config.asp. This tells VP-ASP where you have placed the database file. Normally you only have to change one line:
   const xdblocation="../database"
6. See www.vpasp.com/virtprog/info/faq_databasesetup.htm for other possibilities for updating shop$config.asp.
7. Start your favorite browser and reference the VP-ASP files on your web host: www.yoursitename.com/shopping
9. Click the diagnostic link and test to make sure the database can be read/written.
10. If the answer is yes, you have completed the install.
8. If you cannot write to the database, you now need to discuss this with your web hosting company. Only they can set the correct permissions for the database folder.

2.4 Test VP-ASP by completing an order

If you are reading this then VP-ASP is installed. Click on the shop link to see the demo categories. Go through a complete order. This involves display categories, display products, entering customer details, reviewing your order, putting in payment details and finally getting a confirmation page.

2.5 VP-ASP Administration

Click the Administration link from the home page. Login with userid ADMIN with Password ADMIN. You will now see a large menu of things you can do. Try displaying the order you just completed.

2.6 What Now

Now you probably want to:

1. Change the logo
2. Change the lookup and feel
3. Create your own home page or link to VP-ASP from your existing home page
4. Add your own categories
5. Add your own products
6. Add your own merchant details
7. Setup any taxes
8. Setup any payment types
9. Setup Shipping
10. Setup Security
11. Setup more advanced facilities such as gift certificates, affiliates, discounts, real-time shipping, payment gateway such as Paypal

2.7 More Information

Detailed install instructions come as a file called install.htm in the zip file that you have received. The remainder of this manual contains a wealth of information. Each section is self contained so you do not need to read the whole manual cover to cover.

2.8 Need assistance

For human support use our helpdesk at www.vpasp.com/virtprog/helpdesk or our customer to customer forum at www.vpasp.com/virtprog/vpaspforum

3 Home Page

The home page will almost certainly be unique to your site. This is the first page on your web site that a customer will see.

VP-ASP comes with two sample home pages, **default.htm** and **default.asp**. The purpose is primarily to let you see some common hyperlinks you may wish to use. For Unix these are index.html and index.asp.

Default.htm is plain HTML. Default.asp provides similar hyperlink examples but shows some dynamic features of VP-ASP immediately such as random product displays.

3.1 Default.htm

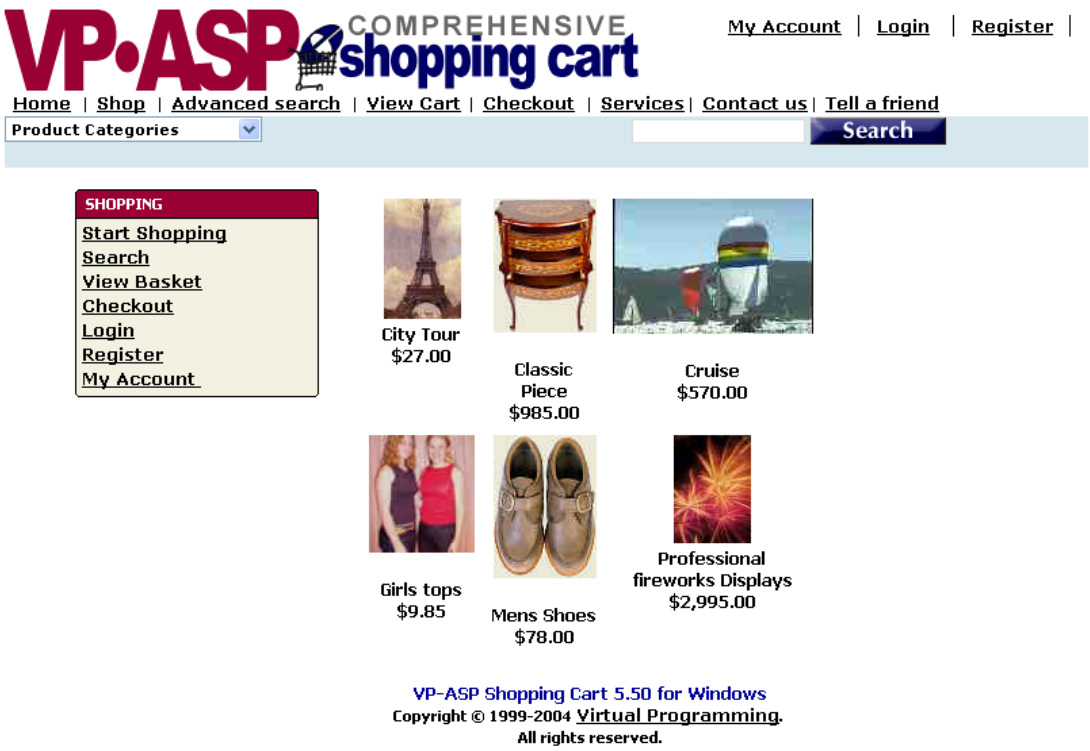
This default.htm page shows you the sample links you can use.

3.1.1 Security Note

We recommend you never have links to your administration page, diagnostic page or template testing. They are provided as samples only. Leaving these links will open your site to potential hackers. See the section on security.

3.2 Default.asp (index.asp)

Default.asp is similar to default.htm but includes dynamic features such as language displays, random products, category list. The hyperlinks to administration have been removed and this can be used as your home page.



The dynamic portion includes all categories with a quick "go to" facility and language switching. This is done by adding the following values into the page

<%navigateshowallcategories%>	Displays the category drop down list
<%navigateshowlanguages%>	Display current languages

3.2.1 Front Page Product displays

The products being displayed on the front page can be controlled by settings in Shop Configuration. The products can be very specific, or they can be random. For example if you wish to display sale products, this can be done. Which products to display is totally up to you unless you select random product displays.

Xfrontpagefield	Frontpage -this is the field in the products table to find the value to be displayed
Xfrontpagevalue	Random – keyword meaning random displays You define other values. For example to have sale items displayed put "sale" (without quotes) in this field. Then in the actual product record also put the word sale in the frontpage field.
Xfrontpagemaxcolumns	3 Is the default number of columns to display
Xfrontpagerecords	6 is the default number of records to display on the front page
XfrontpagerandomField	A field in the products table to be used to select random products instead of using the entire products table
Xfrontpagerandomvalue	The value in the field above to be used when selecting the random products

3.3 Changing the logo

The top logo can be replaced by simply replacing the file **shoplogo.gif** in the VP-ASP directory. This will change the logo throughout the shop.

3.3.1 Front Page Formatting

A template called tmp_frontpage.htm controls the format of the records being displayed**.** Templates are described in more detail later on. Templates are HTML files that represent one cell in the table. You can include images, hyperlinks, prices or any other normal HTML within a template. The template file is called **tmp_frontpage.htm**.

4 Navigation

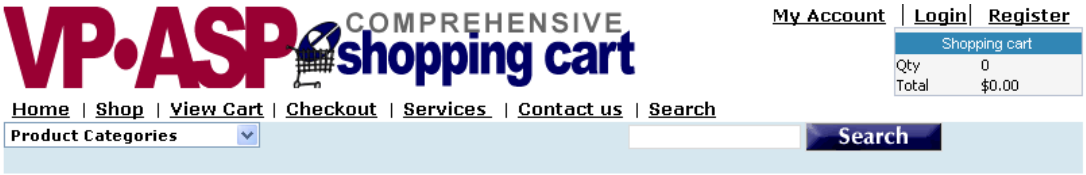
Most webs sites have their own unique top and bottom navigation. Left and right navigation is also common and VP-ASP supports all of these.

4.1 Changing Top Navigation

File **shoppage_header.htm** generates the top navigation, logo, and background for all shopping pages. If you want a background image, the standard HTML BODY tag is in this file.

4.2 Changing the logo image

To keep the same basic navigation but change the logo to your own image, replace file **shoplogo.gif**. or edit shoppage_header.htm and replace the line where shoplogo.gif is used.

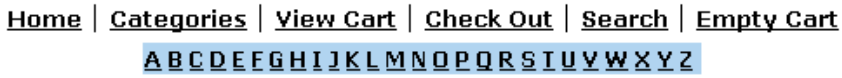


Important

We recommend that the last line in shoppage_header.htm be
`<center>`
This will force centering for all VP-ASP pages. If you see buttons skewed to the left, this tag will normally correct that problem.

4.3 Changing Bottom Navigation

File **shoppage_trailer.htm** generates the bottom navigation, copyright for all shopping pages.



Both of these files are standard HTML and can be replaced easily with your own HTML code.

4.4 Mini Cart at the bottom of the trailer

The supplied VP-ASP automatically displays a “minicart” at the bottom of the trailer in shoppage_trailer.htm.

This is created by 1 line.

<%Navigateshowminicart ""%>

To remove this mini cart, you can:

1. Delete this line.
2. It is also controlled by configuration option.

xnavigateminicart	No stops minicart from displaying

Name	Quantity	Price	Total
Girls Dresses Summer dresses in assorted size and colors	1	$9.85	$9.85
Excludes shipping, taxes and handling		**Product Cost**	**$9.85**

Home Categories View Cart Checkout Search Empty Cart

4.5 Smaller Mini Cart

The MiniCart can be changed to show only quantity and amount by editing shoppage_trailer.htm

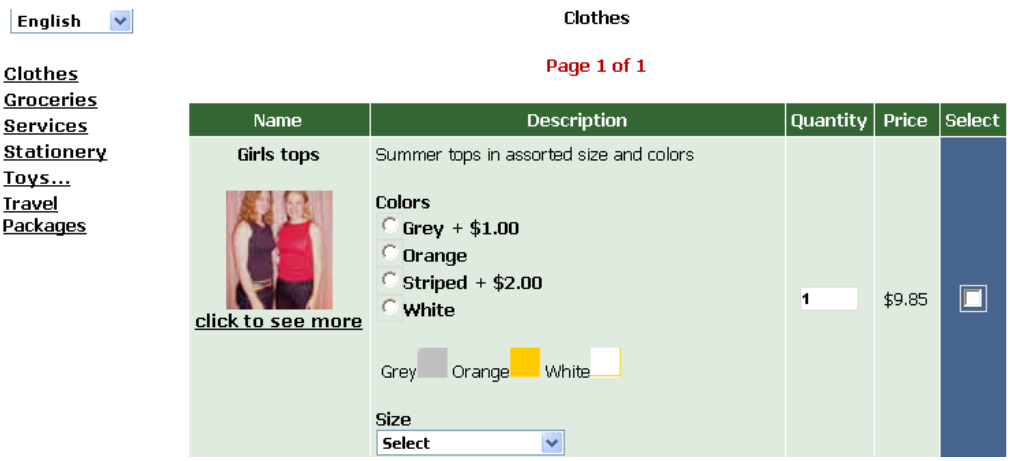
<%Navigateshowminicart “SHORT” %>

4.6 Left Navigation

If you decide you want to have a left navigation bar, a sample is supplied with VP-ASP. To use it rename these files

shoppage_header.htm becomes shoppage_headersave.htm
shoppage_trailer.htm becomes shoppage_trailersave.htm
shoppage_header_left.htm becomes shoppage_header.htm
shoppage_trailer_left.htm becomes shoppage_trailer.htm

The left navigation automatically displays your categories and a search form.



4.7 Alphabetic Hyperlinks

To generate a set of alphabetic letters that will display products with product names starting with these letters, you can add the following to the shoppage_header or shoppage-trailer.htm files

```
<%navigateshowalphabet%>
```

When a letter is clicked it displays products with product names starting with the letter.

Xalphabetdisplay	Yes turns on alphabet displays
Xalphabet	A,B,C This is the set of letters being displayed

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

4.8 Minicart Finer control

Two subroutines are provided that can be called from any ASP file or shoppage_header.htm or shoppage_trailer.htm. These allow you to finecontrol the minicart display.

In the image below the mini cart is displayed in shoppage_header.htm using the HTML shown.

```
<table border="0" cellSpacing="0" cellPadding="1" width="140" class="NAVBOX">
<tr><td><Img src="vpnav_spacer.gif" width="1" height="1"></td></tr>
<tr><td width="100%" class="small-white-text" align="center" colspan="2"
bgcolor="#3186B5">Shopping cart</td></tr>
<tr>
<td nowrap class="small-black-text">Qty</td>
 <td noWrap class="small-black-text"><%=navigateproductquantity()%></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td noWrap class="small-black-text">Total</td>
<td noWrap class="small-black-text"><%=navigateproductTotal()%></td>
</tr>
</table>
```

5 Changing Fonts and Colors -Shop$colors.asp

VP-ASP has something unique that most other shopping cart software does not have. Most other software has numerous ASP pages and if you wish to change anything, you need to edit one file at a time. VP-Asp is different.

Almost all the formatting HTML has been removed from the many ASP pages and placed into one file called **shop$colors.asp**. Most formatting related to tables, fonts and colours are in file **shop$colors.asp**. Think of shop$colors.asp as VP-ASP's style sheet. It has many table definitions, column definitions and font definitions for various VP-ASP pages.

There is also a style sheet **shop.css** that will affect the default fonts, and how submit buttons and dropdown lists appear. With these two files, shop$colors.asp and shop.css you can:

- Alter the color scheme for all data entry forms
- Change the product fields that are being displayed
- Change the font and color for almost all the other customer related pages (not the administration pages)
- Change the sort order for categories, subcategories and products

5.1 Changing Colors and Fonts for forms

Most of the data entry forms in VP-ASP use the following lines in shop$colors.asp.

```
const TableDef="<center><table cellpadding=1 cellspacing=1>"
Const TableDefEnd="</table></center>"
Const TableRow="<tr bgcolor='#C4CEE5'>"
const TableRowEnd="</tr>"
const TableColumn="<td><font face='verdana,arial' size=2 color='#000000'>"
const tableColumnEnd="</font></td>"
Const xTableRowFont="<font face='verdana,arial' size=2 color='#000000'>"
Const xTableRowFontEnd="</font>"
Const xTableRowColor="#C4CEE5"
```

5.2 Change Colors Fonts for Common Messages

Table headers and error messages are commonly used in VP-ASP. These are controlled by two lines in shop$colors.

Email address is not valid

Please select a Shipping Method
If shipping to a location other than your customer address, please fill in all fields

The green is the default error font and the blue is the default information font (largeinfofont).

```
const ErrorFontStart="<font face='verdana,arial' Color='#006600'><b>"
Const LargeinfoFont="<font size=2 face=verdana color='#000066'><b>"
```

5.3 Changing Report Format

Most reports use the following values in shop$colors.asp

```
' Reports
const ReportTableDef="<table border=2 align=center cellpadding=2 cellspacing=2>"
const ReportHeadRow="<tr bgcolor='#0080C0'>"
Const ReportRowEnd="</tr>"
const ReportHeadColumn="<td><font face='Verdana, Arial' size=2 color='#FFFFFF'>"
const ReportHeadColumnEnd="</font></b></td>"
const ReportDetailRow="<tr bgcolor='#E5E5E5'>"
const ReportDetailColumn="<td valign='top'><font face='Verdana, Arial' size=2>"
const reportDetailColumnEnd="</font></td>"
const ReportDetailRowX="<tr bgcolor='#CCCCCC'>"
const ReportTableEnd="</table>"
const ReportInfoFont="<font face='Arial, Verdana' size=3><b>"
const ReportInfoFontEnd="</font></b>"
```

5.4 CSS and VP-ASP

A basic style sheet, shop.css, is now included as part of the VP-ASP Shopping Cart. It has not been fully integrated into all parts of the formatting. You can use it as a starting point or you can remove it. To remove it, edit shoppage_header.htm and shopa_adminheader.htm files. Delete the following line:

```
<link rel="stylesheet" href="shop.css" type="text/css">
```

5.5 Other Formatting Facilities - Templates

For much finer control of product displays and category displays, templates can be used. They are not the default method. VP-ASP generates a default display that does not use a template. For those unfamiliar with HTML we recommend that you use the default method that does not use tempaltes.

A Template is HTML file but with a slight difference. For those developers wanting better control over formatting the templates are primarily HTML and are described in the appropriate category and product sections.

If you also have the VP-ASP Option Package, templates also control mail formatting.

5.6 Dynamic Titles

VP-ASP can dynamically change the title of the categories display, product display and automated extended description display. There is extra database activity in using this facility.

In file shoppage_header.htm change the title value that you may have in the HTML to the following:

<title><%shopdynamictitle%></title>

In the Shop Configuration set the following two values.

Xtitle	VP-ASP Shopping Cart Change this to the default title when no dynamic title is available
Xdynamictitle	Yes turns on dynamic titles

For categories, the title is the catdescription (category name). For products it is the cname (product name)

6 Category Displays

Categories are a method for customers to locate your products. Other methods include searching. VP-ASP puts no limits on the number of categories you have, the depth of the categories or sub categories. If you choose to use VP-ASP dynamic product displays, then every product needs to belong to at least one category.

If you have a simple shop with only one category, it is possible to totally bypass this category and go directly to your product displays. With many products and many categories, this page will be very useful.

6.1 Dynamic Category displays

Almost all pages in VP-ASP are dynamically created. This means that data is read from the database and formatted with HTML and displayed in your browser.

Categories can be displayed in two ways. One is the default method and the other is the template method. The default method allows you to control the category display by altering values in Shop Configuration and the appearance by changing values in shop$colors.asp

6.2 Default Category Display

Automatically displays all the categories in the shopping database. This routine can display images for each category by supplying the image location in catimage field. It can also display multiple columns.

1. Displays categories in a table
2. No knowledge of HTML is required
3. Will automatically display images
4. Will automatically link to any subcategories
5. Will automatically link to any products
6. Will automatically display any associated text

The following are easily changed:

- Number of columns
- Color and size of the table
- Header at the top of the page
- Whether text is displayed under the category name and image

6.2.1 Changing Colors and Fonts and Sort

Change these values in shop$colors.asp to alter the table display. These lines define the table and columns used to create the category display.

```
' Categories
const CatHeader="<b><p align=center><font size='5' color='#990033'>"
const CatRow="<TR bgColor='#FFFFFF'>"
Const CatColumn="<TD><p align=center><b><font face='arial,verdana' size=5 color='#BB0000'>"
Const CatTable="<table border=10 cellpadding=4 width='60%' cellspacing=4 bordercolor='#336699'>"
Const CatColumnEnd="</b></font></p></td>"
```

6.2.2 Changing Column and Sort

VP-ASP Shop Configuration options let you change the sort order, what is displayed, the number of columns displayed. Shop Configuration is something you change by logging into the VP-ASP administration and going to the Shop Configuration page.

xsortcategories	Category sort field
xcatmaxcolumns	Number of columns to display
xcategorydisplaytext	**Yes** uses the catmemo field to display the text under the image
xcategoryproductsonly	**Yes** stops the display of the words products and subcategories under the category image

6.2.3 Subcategories

VP-ASP determines that a category has subcategories if the field **hassubcategory** is filled in with ANYTHING. If you see the word “subcategory” and you don’t have any subcategories, edit the category record and remove anything in the “hassubcategory” field.

If a category has subcategories, click on “products” to see all the products in this category and click on “subcategories” to see the subcategories.

A subcategory in VP-ASP is simply a category that has a value in the highercategoryid field of the category record. Category has 0 in that field, meaning it is the highest level.

6.3 Category Display with Templates

It is possible to replace the default formatting of categories with your own unique HTML. A template can be created using your favorite editor. It is plain HTML with the addition of some special fields that will be filled in by the VP-ASP.

The advantage to using this method and file is that you have more control over category formatting but the disadvantage is that you will need to edit **tmp_categorytemplate.htm.** You can use your favorite HTML editor. A template is simply HTML with special "controls" that tells VP-ASP to substitute data from the categories table.

To use templates, you need to change the first Shop Configuration value.

xcategoryusetemplate	Yes switches to template mode
xcategorydisplaytemplate	The template to use. The default is Number of columns to display tmp_categorytemplate.htm

6.3.1 Category Template

Any field in the categories table can be placed into your template. The field must be surrounded by brackets [field]. For example, to add the category description use [catdescription].

Templates are a mixture of plain HTML and special fields.

```
<center>
<table border="0" cellpadding="2" width="100%">
<tr>
<TD valign=top align=center>
<p><a href="shopdisplayproducts.asp?id=[categoryid]&cat=[urlencode catdescription]">
<img border="0" src="[catimage]"></a></p>
</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td align=center valign=top>
<p><a href="shopdisplayproducts.asp?id=[categoryid]&cat=[urlencode catdescription]">
[catdescription]
</a></p>
</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td valign=top align=center>
<font style='FONT-WEIGHT:600;FONT-SIZE:8pt;COLOR:black;FONT-FAMILY:Tahoma,Verdana'>
$[catmemo]
</font>
</td></tr>
</table>
</center>
```

6.3.2 Database Fields

These are just some of the fields from the categories table that can be included. Any field in the categories table can be substituted using this method.

[categoryid]	Unique category number
[catdescription]	Category name
[catimage]	Category image
[catmemo]	Category text
[catextra]	Unused by VP-ASP

6.4 Additional Controls

Templates are treated as plain text and cannot have logic in them. You can have a different type of template as shown below. The formatimage sub tells VP-ASP to use some logic to determine if the image is to be displayed. The FORMATHYPERLINKS SUB, tells VP-ASP to generate product/subcategory links.

<table border="0" cellpadding="2" width="100%">
<tr>
<td valign=top align=center>
[FORMATIMAGE SUB]
</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td align=center valign=top>
[FORMATHYPERLINKS SUB]
</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td valign=top align=center>
$ [catmemo]
</td>
</tr>
</table>

6.5 Category links from your own pages

By just including a simple link anywhere in the existing web site to routine shopdisplaycategories.asp, all the shopping facilities and product displays are automatic.

```
<a href="shopdisplaycategories.asp">Display Categories</a>

To display a subcategory, use something like

<a href="shopdisplaycategories.asp?id=44">Subcategories for category 44</a>
This will list all subcategories for category with categoryid=44
```

6.6 Category Tree

A file called shopcategorylist.asp displays all your categories and subcategories in a tree form. There are no direct links to this file from within VP-ASP.

7 Product Formatting - Standard

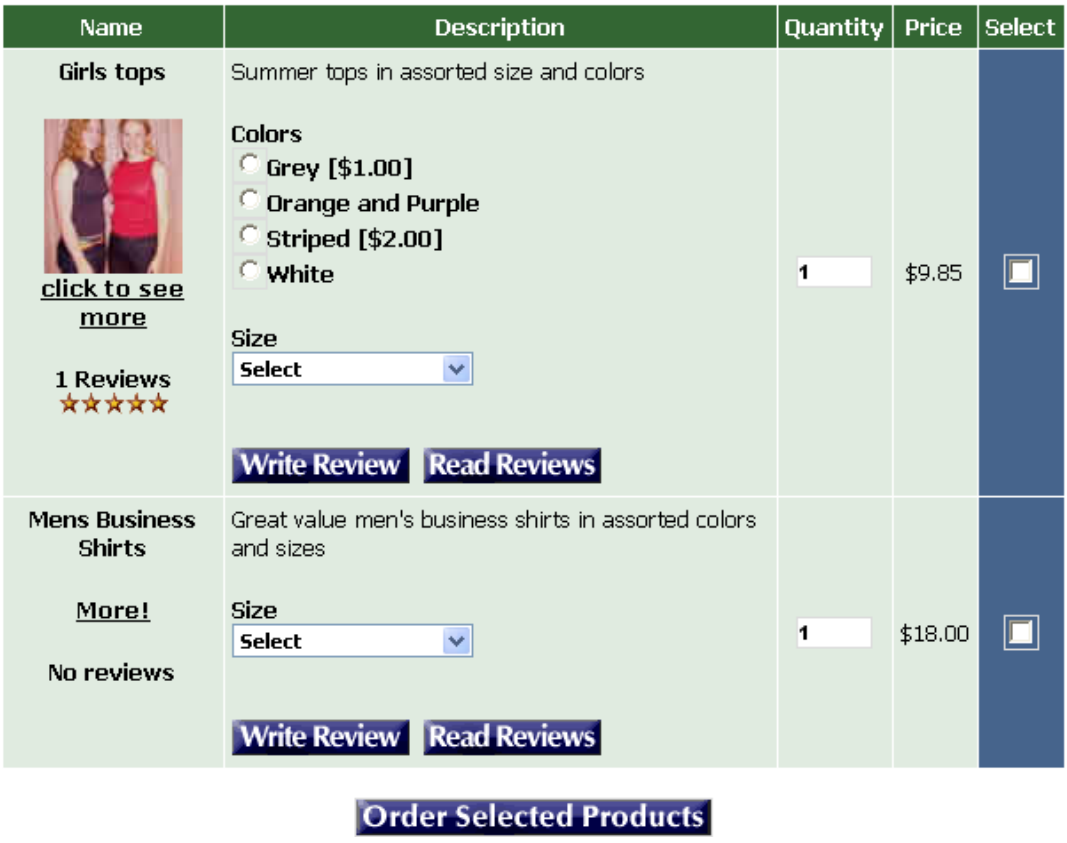
Product displays are probably the most important portion of your web site and VP-ASP provides great flexibility. There are two methods of displaying products. One is the default method and one uses HTML templates. This section goes through the standard product formatting. The next section describes template formatting.

The default displays products one row at a time. You can use Shop Configuration and alter shop$colors to achieve the following:

- Change the number of columns and their order
- Change how products are sorted
- Change colors and fonts
- Change captions of each column
- Change whether one product can be ordered or multiple products from the same page
- Stay on page or automatically start the checkout process
- Add hyperlinks for product reviews, tell a friend and cross selling
- Stop products from being displayed based on stock level
- Show out of stock messages
- Stop the customer from buying anything

7.1 Multi-Product Select

VP-ASP can display products in two different ways. The picture below shows the multi-product selection format. The buyer can click any number of products and order them all at once. Using this type of form, the customer can order more than one product by clicking the checkbox next to each product.
The line in VP-ASP Configuration controls this.



7.1.1 Product sort order

The product sort order is controlled by xsortproducts in VP-ASP configuration.

xdisplaycategoryimages	Yes means that the image for the category or subcategory is displayed at the top of the page
Xsortproducts	Sorting for products
Xfeaturesort	Sort field for product features
Xproductselect	**Yes** means to create checkboxes where customer can select multiple products per page **No**- means use order buttons. If a customer will normally only buy one item at a time, No would be the recommended value
Xdisplaycategoryfiles	Yes means to use the catextra field as a file name. And display that file at the top of the product listing

7.1.2 Changing Colors and Fonts (shop$colors.asp)

The statements below affect how products are displayed. These statements are in shop$colors.asp

```
'Products
```

7.1.3 Changing what fields are displayed

It is possible to alter the fields that are displayed and the order of the display. This is controlled by two shop configuration options. Please note this is a change from previous release, where this was in shop$colors.asp

Prodfields	cname,cdescription,Quantity,cprice
ProdHeaders	LangProductName,LangProductDescription,LangProductQuantity,LangProductPrice

The first line determines the fields displayed and the order in which they are displayed. The names come from the products table. **Quantity** is a special word and it is the only field not in the database.

The second line determines the captions for each column. The words Lang... are the words from the language facility file and are recommended, but they are not strictly necessary and any words in your language can be used.

The prodfields should all be in lower case. The Prod Captions are case independent

So for example to display the stock as the first column

ProdFields	cstock,cname,cdescription,quantity,cprice
ProdHeaders	Stock,LangProductName,LangProductDescription,LangProductQuantity, LangProductPrice

7.2 Displaying Products – Order Button

With this method, the buyer clicks the button or image on the right hand column to order that specific product. This is controlled by the line in VP-ASP configuration.

xproductselect	**No**- means use order buttons
xbuttonimage	Your order button image. If left empty a plain button is created
xbuttontext	The text to appear in the plain button
xproductcatalogonly	Yes stops any ordering from occurring and overrides the above. This is useful to use VP-ASP as a catalog
xdisplayprices	**No** means to allow all product display and ordering but no prices are displayed

In addition to these configuration options, each product can have its own image as an order button. Using this type of form, the customer can order only 1 item by pressing the order button. The customer can then order more products by returning to this page.

7.3 Advanced Product Display Facilities

It is possible to add both an image and or description text above the products. The information displayed comes from the category record associated with the product.

xdisplaycategoryimages	Yes means that the image for the category or subcategory is displayed at the top of the page
Xdisplaycategoryfiles	Yes means to use the catextra field as a file name and display that file at the top of the product listing

A complete range of antique and modern furniture to fit all budgets

Page 1 of 1

Name	Description	Quantity	Price	Select
Chair	Large comfortable chair. Great for relaxing and reading	1	$495.00	
Classic Piece				

The image above the product displays comes from the category record for category furniture.
The text is coming from a file, created by you. The actual file name is stored in the catextra field of the category record. For example if you created furniture.txt or furniture.htm and placed the name in the catextra field for the furniture category, that entire file will be displayed.

7.4 Dual Pricing

VP-ASP supports display of two currencies. This is configured in VP-ASP Configuration.

Xdualprice	Yes displays dual currency
Xdualconversionrate	.800 This number is multiplied by the price to obtain the dual price

This number is multiplied by the real price to obtain the dual price. To alter the conversion you would need to edit shopconvertcurrency.asp. The above conversion rate is only an example.

In shop$language.asp edit the captions for dual pricing. These will appear on the product displays and the shopping cart displays.

const LangDualPrice=" Euro Price "
const LangDualTotal=" Euro Total "

Name	Description	Quantity	Price	Euro Price	Order
Girls tops No reviews	Summer tops in assorted size and colors **Colors** ○ Grey [$1.00] ○ Orange and Purple ○ Striped [$2.00] ○ White **Size** Select Tell a Friend Write Review Read Reviews	1	$9.85	4.93	Buy

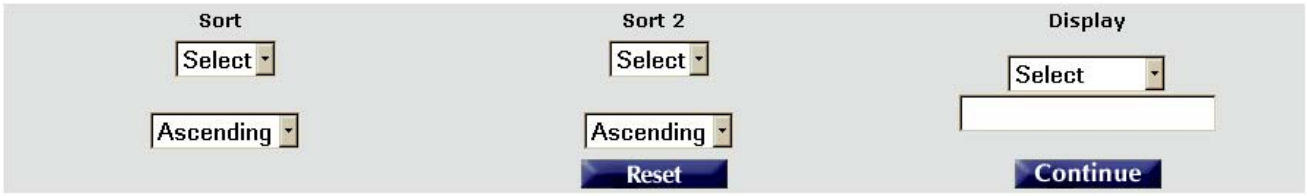
7.4.1 Changing Colors and Fonts (shop$colors.asp)

```
const productfilteringtable="<center><table border='0' cellspacing='0' cellpadding='3' width='90%'
bordercolor='#0080C0'>"
const ProductFilteringRow="<tr bgcolor='#E5E5E5'>"
const productfilteringcolumn="<td width='33%' align=center><p align='center'><font face='verdana'
size=1><b>"
const productfilteringcolumnend="</b></font></td>"
```

7.5 Product Filtering

Product filtering generates another header at the top of the product display that allows customers to re-sort the display or display a subset of the information.

xproductfiltering	



ge 1 of 1

Name	Description	Quantity	Price	Select
Girls tops	Summer tops in assorted size and colors **Colors** ○ Grey [$1.00] ○ Orange and Purple ○ Striped [$2.00] ○ White	1	$9.85	☐

7.6 Customizing Product Displays

You may want to change which columns are displayed, add dual pricing, and change the color or font. Much can be done with simple configuration. By altering the VP-ASP Configuration, you can affect how products are displayed.

xallowratingproducts	Allow customers to review products
xallowratingsummary	Displays a summary of current reviews in the name column. Extra database activity occurs if this is selected.
xcrossselling	Yes automatically displays any defined cross selling products
xcrosssellingimage	Yes displays an image when generating crossselling links
xdisplaycategoryimages	Yes displays category images at the top of product display page
Xdisplayprices	No means to allow all product display and ordering but no prices are displayed
xdualconversionrate	If using dual pricing the number multiplied by the price to obtain the dual price
xdualprice	Yes - displays two prices on product displays
xextendedpopup	Yes – generates a pop-up for extended description pages
xfeaturesrequired	Yes – means that the customer must select all features for a product
xgenerateshopexdlink	Yes – means generate a link to shopexd.asp for all products. This requires the VP-ASP Option Package.
xgeneratesku	Yes - combines product code and codes defined in featureother field to generate a sku. This cannot be used with select lists since they both use the same field
xproductcatalogonly	Yes - stops any ordering from shop$colors.asp and overrides the above. This is useful to use VP-ASP as a catalog
xproductdisplaysaving	Yes -displays the savings (difference between retail price and your price)
xproductfiltering	Yes - allows customers to select values from a product display and to resort the display. A filtering display appears at the bottom of the product display.
xproductlinkreview	Yes – automatically generates a hyperlink to add and list reviews
xproductlinktellafriend	Yes –automatically adds hyperlink to Tell a Friend
Xproductmaximumquantity	Yes - the maximum quantity field in the products table will be used
xproductminimumlist	The number of entries in a drop downlist created. It is used when product must always be purchased in multiple amounts. If the xproductminimumquatity is set to No but there is a value in the product minimumquantity field, a dropdownlist is created. This is the number of entries in that list.
xproductminimumquantity	Yes -use the minimum quantity field as a lower limit for that specific product
xproductpagingnextprevious	Yes **-** replaces the page numbers at the bottom of the page with next and previous buttons or text
xproductquantitylimit	9999 – The maximum number of any one product that can be bought. You can also set a minimum quantity in the product record itself to force customers to buy a minimum amount.
Xproductselect	Yes – means place checkboxes next to each product No – means generate an order button next to each product
Xproductsperpage	10 The number of products displayed per page
xratingmailtomerchant	Yes – mail each customer review to the merchant
Xreviewauthorize	Yes – means that reviews are not automatically displayed. The merchant must authorize each review individually
Xsortproducts	specialoffer desc, cname
Xproductquestion	Generates link so customer send product specific question
Xproductmakeanoffer	Generates link for customer to make an offer on a product
Xwishlistproduct	Generates a link to add product to the wish list

7.7 Product Reviews and Tell A Friend

VP-ASP can automatically create hyperlinks for product rating and tell a friend. Product Rating requires the VP-ASP Option Package. Links for "Ask a question" about a product, Wish list and make an offer can also be automatically generated.

7.7.1 Product Rating

To have the product rating specify the following in VP-ASP Configuration. Ratings are part of the VP-ASP Option Package.

Xratingproducthyperlink	Yes
Xallowratingsummary	Yes puts a summary of the ratings under the image

To have the "tell a friend" hyperlink generated, set the following. Tell a friend is part of the base VP-ASP product.

xproductlinktellafriend	Yes

7.8 Minimum and Maximum Quantity

Minimum quantity is handled in two different ways. VP-ASP can either generate a dropdown list of quantities starting from the amount set in the minimum quantity field of the products table or it can simply prevent the customer from ordering less than the minimum.

Xproductminimumquantity	Yes tells VP-ASP to prevent a customer from ordering less than what is in the minimumquantity field of the products table. No tells VP-ASP to generate a drop down list of quantities based on the minimum quantity field
Xproductminimumlist	6 This is just an example. The number of entries in the drop down list if No is specified above
xproductmaximumquantity	Yes says VP-ASP should enforce the maximum quantity for the product as specified in the product record

7.9 Ordering one of a product

If products are unqiue and only one can be ordered, the following set of configuration option can be used. The first removes the quantity from the product display and the second forces the shopping cart to have a static quantity.

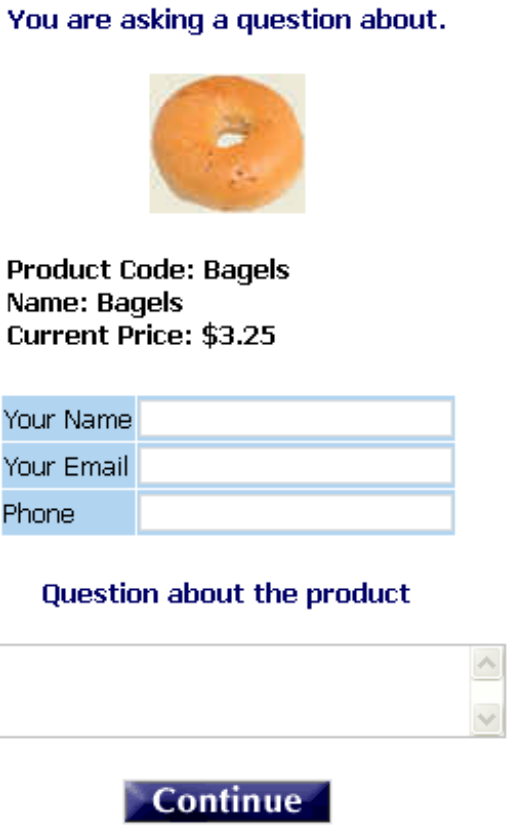
xcartstaticquantity	Yes The customer cannot alter the quantity in the cart
Xproductcaptions	LangProductName,LangProductDescription,LangProductPrice
xproductfields	cname,cdescription,cprice

7.10 Ask a question about product

If you want to be able to receive product specific questions about a product set the following. The form below will appear. In a template you need to add your own hyperlink in the form

```
<a href="shopquestion.asp?id=[catalogid]">Ask a question abou this product</a>
```

Xproductquestion	Yes Generates link so customer send a product specific question when using normal product displays
Xproductquestiontemplate	Template used for product display tmp_productquestion.htm

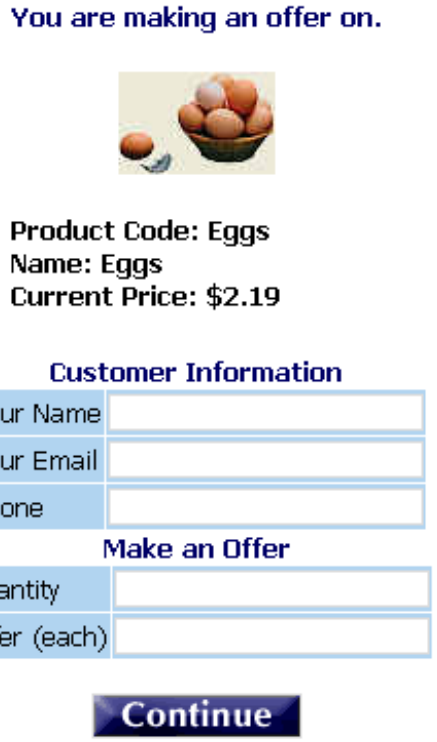


7.11 Make an offer product

If you want to be able to receive an offer for a product set the following. The form below will appear. In a template you need to add your own hyperlink in the form

```
<a href="shopmakeanoffer.asp?id=[catalogid]">Make an offer</a>
```

Xproductmakeanoffer	Yes Generates link so customer can make an offer for a product
Xproductoffertemplate	



7.12 Inventory Products

VP-ASP does not control stock by product features so if you have for example large blue shirts and small green shirts, VP-ASP will only keep track of shirts if green large, small etc are defined as features. If you need complete inventory control, then you need to use Inventory products.

Xinventoryproducts	Yes turns on inventory products checks

With inventory products, you specify a list of products associated with the main product in the inventory field of the product record in the form 77, 66,3,10. This inventory products should have the hide field set so that they are never seen unless the main product is seen.

When the main product is displayed, it cannot be purchased. Only the associated inventory product can be purchased. The main product is designed to show the detailed description of the product, the inventory products can be purchased.

7.13 Dependent Products

Dependent products are designed so that if a persons buys a specific product, they cannot checkout without also purchasing one or more dependent products.

Xproductdependentfield	Pother5 (example) The field in the products table that holds a list of catalogid ids that must also be purchased in the form 44,5,9

When a customer attempts to checkout, if there are any dependent products, an error appears on the shopcustomer.asp page with a hyperlink. When the hyperlink is clicked a list of those products is shown. The customer must then add the item to the cart.

8 Product Formatting - Templates

Formatting with templates gives you more control over how a product is displayed. VP-ASP using templates provides the following facilities:

- Products are formatted with HTML that you create
- A default template tmp_productformat.htm is supplied
- Products in different categories can use different templates
- Specific hyperlinks from your own pages can specify unique templates
  For example sale items can have their own template
- Multiple products per row can be displayed
- Thumbnail displays linking to more extended descriptions can be done
- Full control of which fields are displayed per product

8.1 Where are templates

Templates are plain text HTML files. Templates can be one of two places. They can be a file in the same folder as the rest of VP-ASP files or they are stored in the database table templates. You can mix templates. Some stored in the database and some plain files. In previous releases of VP-ASP templates were only plain files.

The advantage of having templates in the database is that they can be easily edited, added or changed from your browser. In the Shop Configuration you tell VP-ASP where to look for a template. For example to find the product formatting template the file name would be either

tmp_productformat.htm
Or
db=tmp_productformat.htm

The **db=** is a keyword telling VP-ASP to look in the templates table to find the template.

Xproductwithhtml	Yes – means use product format with HTML
Xproductcolumns	If set to more than one, VP-ASP automatically switches from normal product display to use formatting with HTML. It is important to know this because formatting with HTML does not use many of these configuration options
Xproducttemplate	Tmp_productformat.htm the Default template
xproductcolumns=3	If a number greater than 1 is selected VP-ASP automatically switches from normal product display to HTML display.
Xcategoryproducttemplate	Yes means use the template specified with the category to display these products. This allows you to have different templates for different products

8.2 Changing the Template by category

The template being used can be constant, can change by category or it can change on an individual product but cannot be mixed when multiple products are displayed on page.

By default the template **tmp_productformat.htm** is used. In the categories table, you can specify a value in the "cattemplate" field. Each time a category is displayed, the specific template file is used.

Another way of changing templates is to use the template name on a specific hyperlink to shopdisplaycategories.asp

Shopdisplayproducts.asp?id=55&template=myspecialtemplate.htm
In this example, products in category 55 are displayed using template file myspecialtemplate.htm

8.3 Sample Templates

Two sample templates are provided. **tmp_productformat.htm** and **tmp_productthumbnail.htm.**

8.4 Template Files

Any field in the products table can be placed into your template. The field must be surrounded by brackets [field]. For example, to add the stock level of the product use [cstock].

Templates are a mixture of plain HTML and special fields.
In tmp_productthumbnail.htm, we are asking VP-ASP to substitute database values for [catalogid] and the product image [cimageurl]

```
<p align=center>
<a href="shopexd.asp?id=[catalogid]"><img border="0" src="[cimageurl]"></a>
<br><font size=1><a href="shopexd.asp?id=[catalogid]">Click here</a></font>
</p>
```

8.5 Database Fields

These are just some of the fields from the products table that can be included.

Any field in the products table can be substituted using this method.

[formatcurrency cprice]	Price of product
[cname]	Product name
[cdescription]	The description of the product
[ccode]	Product code
[cstock]	Stock level
[mfg]	Manufacturer

8.5.1 Special formatting

The following keywords can precede the variable name

[formatcurrency cprice]	Show the price as currency
[formatnumber cprice]	Format it is a number with decimal points
[Dualprice cprice]	Display dual price for this price
[formatcustomerprice cprice]	Display customer based price
[formatsaving cprice]	Displays savings between current price and retail price
[urlendcode cname]	When using names on hyperlinks they need to be in a special format called url encoded
[dualcustomerprice cprice]	Dual customer based pricing
[dualsaving cprice]	Displays saving using dual price
[formatimage cimageurl]	If the field is not empty it is formatted as an image

8.6 Template Special Fields

Special fields are not in the database but tell VP-ASP to add additional information. This is done to allow you to use already coded complex logic instead of just displaying a field from the database. These particular special functions can ONLY be used for formatting products in template

tmp_productformat.htm. They are NOT available for other template processing such as automatic extended descriptions (described later).

[FORMATIMAGE SUB]	Generate image.
[FORMAT BUTTON SUB]	Generate a check box or order button.
[FORMATHYPERLINKS SUB]	Generates reviews and tell a friend hyperlinks
[FORMATPRODUCTOPTIONS SUB]	Displays product features
[FORMAT QUANTITY SUB]	Display quantity form field
[FORMATOVERALLRATING SUB]	Displays review summary
[ADD_INVENTORYPRODUCTS]	Displays associated products
[ADD-RATINGSUMMARY]	Display star rating for products

8.7 Product Thumbnails

VP-ASP supports thumbnail product displays that generate a hyperlink to a detail description.
It should be noted that in the example we supply, it uses shopexd.asp to generate the extended description automatically. Shopexd.asp is part of the VP-ASP Option Package.

```
<p align=center>
<a href="shopexd.asp?id=[catalogid]"><img border="0" src="[cimageurl]"></a>
<br><font size=1><a href="shopexd.asp?id=[catalogid]">Click here</a></font>
</p>
```

Xproductdisplaytemplate	tmp_productthumbnail.htm

9 Extended Descriptions from Database

How would you like to save on web development time and effort? VP-ASP can generate html pages for you. The pages can be:

- Formatted to your style
- Include extensive information about your products
- Be generated by VP-ASP automatically
- Automatically include an order button and quantity selection text box
- Automatically linked from the product display in the VP-ASP Shopping Cart

9.1 Automated Extended Descriptions

VP-ASP can automatically generate the extended description page for products. It will generate the actual HTML and an order button. This is done using a template. A template is simply an HTML page you create with your favorite editor. In it you place special fields telling VP-ASP to substitute information from the products table. You can create one template for all products or have a few different templates.

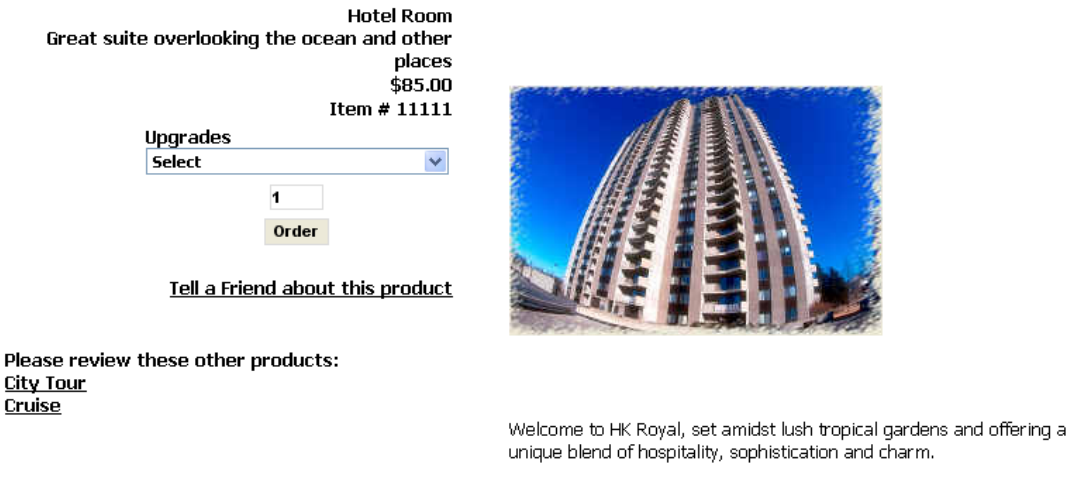
The advantage to this method is you normally need to create only one template instead of one HTML file for each product. If at a later time you change the style of your web site, you can simply change the one template instead of having to re-do all the product extended description pages. For a large set of products this could save many days of HTML development.

9.2 Sample Product Template

Two sample templates are supplied:

- **tmp_product.htm** was created using FrontPage
- tmp_product.txt was created with a plain text editor such as notepad.

The page below was generated by VP-ASP using the supplied tmp_product.htm template.



9.3 More on Templates

If you had 100 products, VP-ASP would generate a similar page for each of those products. How did we do that? The trick is to add information to the database. The extra information such as the information to display below the picture and the large image are stored in fields in the products table.

9.4 Do all my products have to use this format?

Absolutely not. VP-ASP is supplying a sample template. It is expected that you will create a "look" for your site. You will create an html page that has your look and feel. This page can be created by FrontPage, Dream Weaver or any other method you choose. This page becomes your TEMPLATE. It can be called anything you want. Suppose you call it **"myproducts.html"**

9.5 Setting up VP-ASP to generate extended Description

The following steps are necessary to use the Extended Description Facility. Suppose you have 1000 similar products. Normally you would need to create 1000 HTML pages. Using the automated extended description facility you need only create one HTML page.

- Create the one product template using your favorite HTML editor such as FrontPage. Assume you call it myproducts.html. VP-ASP supplies a template called **tmp_product.htm**. This template generated the html page previously shown.
- Where you want fields to be replaced with information from the database, replace those characters in your html with special keywords. For example $20 will be replaced in your HTML by [cprice] the image by [extendedimage].
- You have now finished your template.

9.5.1 Database Fields

VP-ASP needs more information about your product. These are held in the database.

Update the following fields in the products table for each product. The file **shopexd.asp** file actually generates the extended description html page and needs to be set as the extended description URL (cdescURL). You DO NOT use your template name. It must be **shopexd.asp.**

Field in products table	Usage
cdescurl	**shopexd.asp.** This is required and must be entered exactly.
template	If left blank, then the default template from VP-ASP configuration is used. Otherwise it is the HTML file that is the template for this product.
extendedimage	A large picture of the product. If empty then no image is displayed on the extended description page. If blank, no larger image is generated.
extendeddesc	A detailed description of the product. It can include HTML formatting such as <b> etc

9.6 Special Fields

When you create your template you need to add special codes into the file where you want VP-ASP to substitute actual values from the database. Any field in the products table can be used. The ones below are common fields but not the only ones.

[formatcurrency cprice]	Price of product
[extendedimage]	A large picture of the product
[extendeddesc]	A detailed description of the product
[cname]	Product name
[cdescription]	The description of the product
[ccode]	Product code
[formatcurrency retailprice]	Retail price
[weight]	Weight

[mfg]	Manufacturer
[cstock]	Stock level

See the following section on template processing for more information on creating your template.

9.6.1 Updating VP-ASP Configuration

xproducttemplate	Example extended description
xaddcatalogid	Yes, adds product catalog id to hyperlink

9.7 Template Keywords

In the table above formatcurrency is a special keyword, which tells VP-ASP to format the value as a currency. The keywords allowed are:

[formatcurrency cprice]	Price of product
[forcustomerprice cprice]	Calculate the customer special price and display that value
[formatnumber cprice]	Format the value as a number
[formatdate odate]	Format field as a date
[dualprice cprice]	Calculate dual price
[urlencode cname]	Convert name to be used on a hyperlink
[formatimage cimageurl]	If the field is not empty, value is formatted with standard HTML image
[formatdualcustomerprice cprice]	Customer based pricing for dual price

9.8 Testing your Template

It is possible to test your template using our supplied program **shoptmptest.asp**. This is described later.

9.9 Shopexd.asp

Shopexd.asp can also be used stand-alone to display a description of a product. With a hyperlink you can pass two parameters

```
<a href="shopexd.asp?id=3">Display this product</a>
```

ID=xxxx
xxx is the catalogid of the product to be merged with the template
Template=xxx.htm If a template is not supplied, VP-ASP first checks to see if a template is associated with a product (the template field in the product record). Otherwise the default template in VP-ASP Configuration (xproducttemplate) is used.

10 Product Features

Features allow you to add items such as color, size, packaging or other “features” to a specific product or group of products. Features can be:

- Drop Down Lists
- Check Boxes
- Radio buttons
- User Supplied Text
- User Supplied Prices
- Quantities per feature

Other feature attributes are:

- Features can all be required
- Features can be required on an individual basis
- Features can have a fixed price
- Features can have a percentage price of the main product
- Features can have an image

Features are stored primarily in the table prodfeatures.

There is also a special product configurator that is designed for products with many features where prices are dynamically updated before the product is added to the cart.

10.1 Examples of Radio and Select List

10.2 Making Features Required

In Shop Configuration, set the following value if all features must be selected

Xfeaturesrequired	Yes

There is also a field in the ProdFeatures table called “FeatureRequired”. If only a specific feature is required, then set that value to TRUE.

10.3 Product Features

Features are handled by the field "Features" in the Products table. If a product has features then the Features field has a list of numbers such as "1,4,23".

The number represents groups of features on the ProdFeatures Table. If there are four records in the ProdFeatures table with Featurenum1 then the four are displayed in a drop down list. If there are seven features within Featurenum=4 then the seven items are displayed in another drop down list.

10.4 Changing Features

VP-ASP defaults to four features. If you want to have more features then alter some code in script VP-ASP Configuration. These are variables and constants affect the features:

Xmaxfeatures	20

10.5 Using Features Facility

Products may or may not have features. Many products can have the same features. For example clothing may have small, medium, large, x-large. The section list generated for a feature comes from the ProdFeatures table. Each feature needs a FeatureNum and a FeatureCaption. For the sizes above, they would all have the same FeatureNum and same FeatureCaption.

Features are added and changed in the VP-ASP Administation System.

10.5.1 Feature Type

The Feature type field in the ProdFeatures table determines the type of display for the features. Valid entries are shown below. They are not case sensitive.
Dropdown
Radio
CheckBox
SelectList
UserText
UserPrice
Quantity

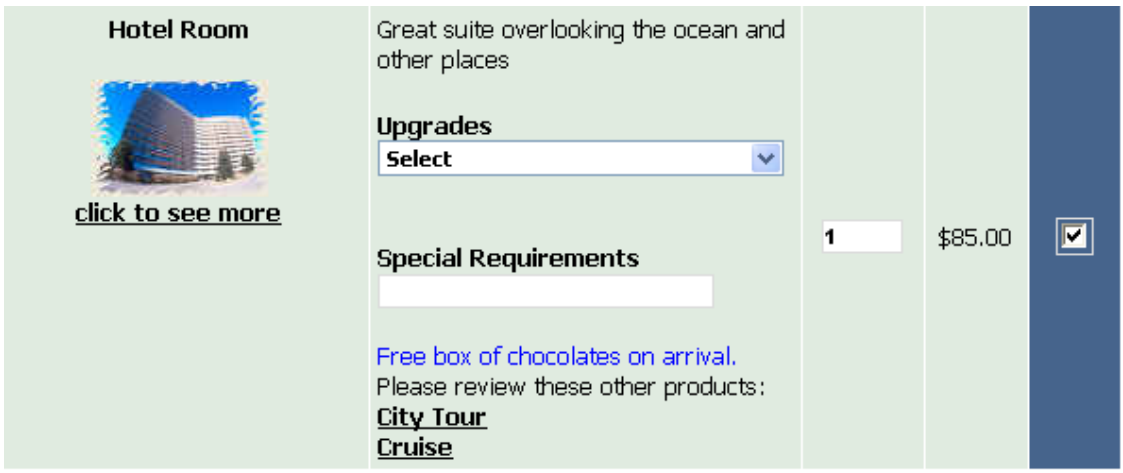
10.5.2 Multiple Selections

By default all features allow the customer to select one option. To allow the customer to select multiple options, enter the word “Yes” (without quotes) into the FeatureMulti field. Radio Buttons cannot have multiple selections so they are automatically converted to checkboxes. Selectlist features are incompatible with multi-selection.

10.5.3 User Supplied Text

FeatureType=UserText
It is possible to allow the customer to enter his or her own details. The caption for the feature is the FeatureCaption field. The featurename field is unused.

If the feature type is a **Textarea**, then a multi line textarea is generated instead of a single textbox. Example is not shown.



10.5.4 Radio Button

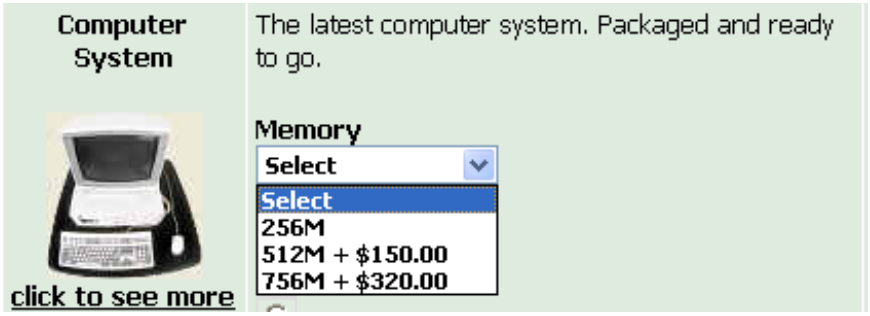
FeatureType=Radio
FeatureCaption should be the same for all items with same featurenum
FeatureName should be the individual different buttons
Featureprice optional price associated with feature

10.5.5 CheckBox

FeatureType=Checkbox
FeatureCaption should be the same for all items with same featurenum
FeatureName should be the individual different buttons
Featureprice optional price associated with feature
FeatureMulti Optional. Use Yes to allow multiple selections

10.5.6 DropDown List

FeatureType=DropDown or Null (nothing in the field)
FeatureCaption should be the same for all items with same featurenum
FeatureName should be the individual different buttons
Featureprice optional price associated with feature
FeatureMulti Optional. Use Yes to allow multiple selections



10.5.7 Inline Selection List

Featuretype=SelectList
FeatureCaption should be the value to be placed above the text box

Sometimes using features becomes too complex. This happens when a range of products has almost the same set of features but not exactly. For example if colours are unique to each shirt. To handle this VP-ASP has the concept of a SelectList. SelectList is a field in the products table where you simply enter the colors (or whatever feature) into that field. For example

grey,red,blue

VP-ASP will then generate a drop down list with grey,red and blue.

To use SelectList as a feature, you must create one feature in the ProdFeatures table and assign this feature to the product(s). The FeatureCaption field will be used as the header for the dropdown list. To assign prices to any of the options using [price] for example

grey [2.00],red,blue [3.00]

grey has a 2 dollar price, red has no additional price and blue is 3 dollars additional.

10.5.8 More SelectList fields

If you need additional fields in the products table to be used to generate select lists, use the **featureother** field in the prodfeatures table. For example create an additional select list using the pother3 field in the products table, set the following in the prodfeatures table.

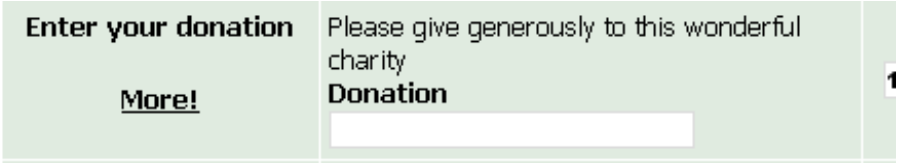
```
Featuretype="selectlist"
Featurecaption="Caption for this feature"
Featureother="pother3"
```

VP-ASP will now look in field **pother3** and generate dropdown lists for anything in that field. It will have the same format described above. There are no limits to the number of select fields you can have. Select list cannot be multi selection. They generate a drop down list only and not radio buttons.

10.5.9 UserPrice

UserPrice can be used for variable amounts. This can be used for example in taking donations.

FeatureType=UserPrice
FeatureCaption should be the value to be placed above the text box



10.5.10 Quantity or QtyProducty

A quantity type feature allows a customer to select x of one type and y of another. Only one feature type quantity or qtyproduct of these is allowed per product and if specified it is automatically required.
The different between feature type Quantity and feature type Qtyproduct is that Qtyproduct clones the product and will add one line item per option selected. Quantity will put all the selected options in the same product as one item in the cart.

Name	Description	Quantity	Price	Select
Memory Chips	A complete range of Memory Memory 0 256M 0 512M + $30.00 0 768M + $50.00	1	$25.00	☐

10.6 Creating and changing product features

Features are defined in the prodfeatures table. Use the VP-ASP administration and select Edit Product features.

Please update values and press the Update button.

Edit Select Table

id	1
Feature Number	1
Feature Caption	Colors
Feature Name	White
Feature Price	0
Feature Type	Radio
featuremulti	No
featurerequired	No
Feature Image	
Feature Weight	2
Other Fields	
Other Fields 1	

Add a Record | Update record

Delete

Id	The unique record number in the prodfeatures table. It is information only
	Every feature needs to have a feature number. If you have three colors, they will all have the same feature number
Feature Caption	The caption to appear with the feature
Feature name	The unique name of this feature. In this case the color. Two other records will have different colors
Feature Price	A feature can be free or have a price
Feature Type	One of the allowed feature types: radio, dropdown, selectlist, checkbox, usertext, quantity, textarea, qtyproduct
Featuremulti	If multiple selections for this feature are allowed, use Yes
Featurerequred	Yes means the feature is required
Feature image	An image to be displayed when the feature is displayed
Feature weight	Weight used in shipping calculations

Other fields	Unused

10.7 Configurator

The Kit Configurator is designed to allow a customer to choose from many different features for a product. The price dynamically changes on the page before the customer adds the product to the cart. It is primarily designed for products with many features.

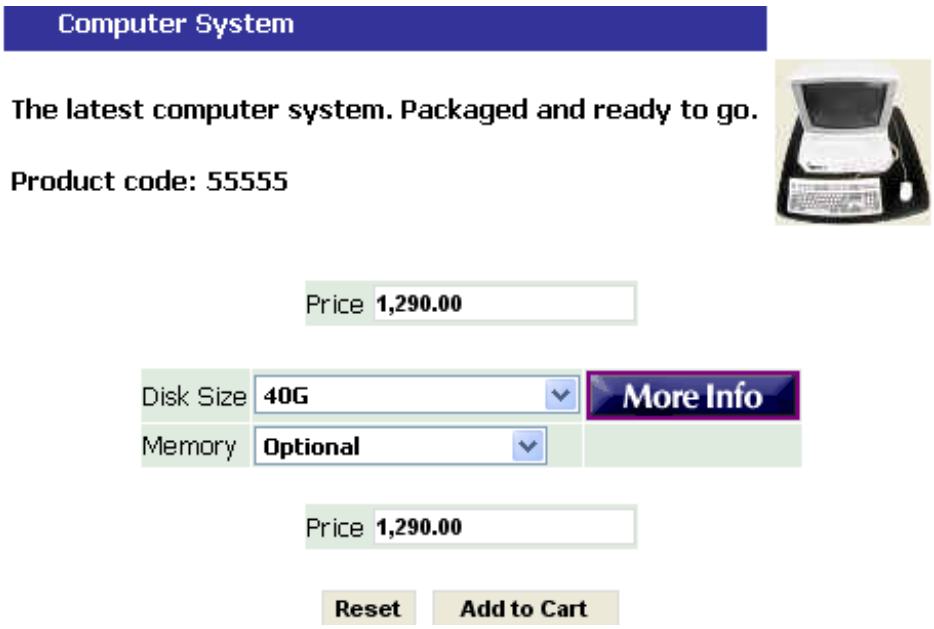
10.8 Link to Configurator

There is no link directly built into VP-ASP. If you wish to use this facility you must create your own hyperlink

Shopkitconfig.asp?catalogid=6
The catalogid is the product catalogid. Six above is just an example.

10.8.1 Restrictions for configurator

Currently the configurator supports only drop down lists. You set up product features as per normal in the prodfeatures table. A feature that is required must also have a default value.



10.8.2 Feature with more information

By setting the featureother1 field for a feature to a url to a file name a link is generated to that url or file for additional information.

11 Shopping Cart Display

The shopping cart display is relatively static. It is not template based but is controlled by Shop Configuration values and shop$colors.asp.

A number of things can be configured including:

- Which product fields to add to the cart
- Colors and fonts
- Whether to allow quantity changes
- Use a hyperlink instead of a checkbox to remove items
- Add a delivery address per product
- Allow customer to save the cart on their own PC – Cookie Wish List
- Allow customer to save cart on server – Permanent Wish List
- Images displayed for the product

11.1 Cart Description

Whatever is in the cart description will also appear on the file invoice, on confirmation e-mails to the merchant or customer. Therefore is it possible to include any field in the cart description by altering the shop Configuration value

Xcartfields	Cname,cdescription

To add the product code to the cart description change the value to:

Xcartfields	Ccode,cname,cdescription

11.2 Fields in the cart

In shop configuration, the fields that get added to the cart can be specified. Any fields in the product table can be used.

Xcartfields	The fields from the product that are seen in the cart and therefore the merchant displays and e-mail to merchant and customer
Xdeliveryaddress	Yes allows customer to specify a delivery address and time on a product by product basis
Xdeliveryrequired	Yes means customer must provide a delivery address
Xdeliveryshipping	Yes means to calculate shipping on a product by product basis
Xproductstayonpage	Yes means to bypass display of this page when displaying products
Xcartstaticquantity	Yes means that the quantity cannot be changed after it is added to the cart
Xbuttonremove	If this is filled in, then the normal remove checkbox is replaced by a button
Xwishlist	Generates a hyperlink that allows the customer to save products in a wish list
Xcontinueshopping	A fixed file or Url where the customer is to go to continue shopping
Xcontinueshoppingdynamic	Yes VP-ASP tries to determine the exact page where the customer came from and return to that page
Xcartimage	Yes - display the image of the product

11.3 Deleting Cart Items

To remove an item, check the checkbox in the remove column and then the recalculate button. You can also have a “remove button” instead of a checkbox. See Shop Configuration value xbuttonremove above. By setting a value in xbuttonremove the checkbox will be replaced by the image.

11.3.1 Adding Other Fields to the shopping cart

Any other field in the products record can be added to the cart. For example if you wanted to add the ccode to the cart, update the configuration as follows.

xcartfields	ccode,cname,cdescription

11.4 Buttons as Images

It is possible to replace any or all buttons using images.

11.5 Buttons

A sample set of buttons is supplied but any valid gif or jpeg can be used. If no button is specified a normal HTML button with text is created

xbuttoncontinue	vpnav_continue.gif
xbuttonrecalculate	vpnav_recalculate.gif
xbuttoncheckout	vpnav_checkout.gif
xbuttonaddressadd	vpnav_addressadd.gif
xbuttonaddresschange	vpnav_addresschange.gif
xbuttonremove	vpnav_remove.gif
xbuttoncontinueshopping	vpnav_continueshopping.gif

11.6 Changing Colors and Fonts

See values in shop$colors.asp.

11.7 Delivery Address

It is possible to associate an address with each product ordered. This is controlled by two configuration options in the Shop Configuration. By specifying a delivery address, the shopping cart is altered to have an additional column.

xdeliveryaddress	Yes means to allow individual delivery address per product
xdeliveryrequired	Yes means that each product MUST have a delivery address
xdeliveryshipping	Yes means that shipping should be calculated on each product separately

Remove	Gift Address	Description	Quantity	Unit Price	Total
☐	Add Address	Girls Dresses Summer dresses in assorted size and colors Base price $9.90 Features/Options: **Colors** Grey Add $1.00 **Size** Extra Large Add $6.00	1	$16.90	$16.90
☐	Add Address	Tuna Fish 425 grams of the finest Tuna fish. Dolphin friendly	7	$3.25	$22.75
			Product Cost		$39.65

Continue Shopping | Recalculate | Proceed to Checkout

The customer can select the delivery address by clicking on "Add Address"

11.8 Deliver Address Form

This routine is used to allow the customer to select a delivery address and put a personal note with the product. The gift can be delivered to oneself.

Fill in and then Continue

Girls tops

Summer tops in assorted size and colors

◉	Deliver as soon as possible
○	Deliver on or before
	January 16 2003
* Delivery Type	Select
* First Name	
* Last Name	
* Address	
* City	
* State	
* Post Code	
* Phone	
Email	
Country	
Company	

Order Comments and Special Requests

11.9 Delivery Display in Shopping Cart

Once the customer enters the details, they are displayed in the cart.

12 Customer Details

Obtaining customer details is one of the most important features of any shopping Cart. VP-ASP has great flexibility in this area. The following items can be configured:

- Login by last name and email
- Login email and password
- Login by userid and password
- No Login
- Forced Login – must login before shopping
- Restricted login – only registered customers can shop
- Customer fields being displayed
- Shipping Fields to be displayed
- Extra site specific customer and shipping fields
- Fonts and colors
- European VAT checks
- Existing customer checks to force login
- Discount coupons
- Gift Certificates
- Additional comments
- Agree to license agreement before continuing
- Removal of shipping form entirely
- Shipping Method display or hidden
- Hear about us
- Delivery time
- Delivery date

12.1 Customer Information Form

The default form is shown below. It displays a form asking for customer name, address etc. It also provides shipping details. This routine can be configured to eliminate fields and even eliminate the shipping table.

Many configuration options can be set to control how much or how little information you need when a customer purchases from your shop. The actual customer form is in shopcustomerform.asp.

The form is composed of four parts:

- Login for quick repeat shopping
- Billing information
- Shipping Information
- Comments

If discount coupons or gift certificates are used, additional fields will be automatically displayed.

12.2 Shipping Fields

VP-ASP does not require that the shipping side be filled in. The shipping form can also be removed if it is not suitable for your shop.

12.3 Customer Configuration Options

Here are some of the VP-ASP configuration options affecting customer displays.

xallowcustomerupdates	Yes allows customers to alter their details when they next purchase
Xallowmaillist	Yes allows customers to join the mailing list
Xallowrestoreorder	Yes allows customers to restore orders for quicker repeat shopping
xcheckexistingcustomer	Yes checks for existing customers to prevent customers from adding duplicate records to the customers table
Xcookielogin	Yes saves a cookie on the customer PC so that they are automatically logged in on repeat shopping
Xcountryrequired	Yes means country is required
Xincludecountries	Yes creates a drop down list of countries
Xincludestates	Yes creates a drop down list of states
Xlogonrequired	Yes forces customers to login before they can shop or register
Xmaillistcheckbox	Yes generates mail list checkbox
Xpassword	Yes requires customer to login via password
Xpromptforcountry	Yes displays country form field
Xpromptforlogin	Yes allows customers to login
Xpromptforoptional	Yes adds additional form fields to this form
Xpromptforstate	Yes displays state form field
Xrestrictedtoexisting	Yes forces customers to login with an existing set of details
Xstaterequired	Yes state must be selected
Xallowcustomerregister	Yes allows customer to enter full address details without purchasing
Xshippingundercustomer	Yes places the shipping table under the customer details table
Xshippingsetfields	Yes means to automatically fill in the shipping fields from the customer fields if they are not filled in
Xvatnumber	Display VAT number of EU VAT exemption handling
Xlicenseagreement	Yes requires the customer to check a box that the license agreement that you supply has been read
XlicenseURL	The file or URL of your license agreement
Xcustomeruserid	Allows the customers to assign their own userid. This can only be used if xpassword is also used.
Xhackercheck	Yes tells VP-ASP to validate the customer against the hackers table
Xdefaultcountry	Sets the default country
Xhearaboutus	Yes displays a list of ways the customer may have heard about your site
Xhearaboutusvalues	A list of ways customer may have found your site
Xhearaboutusrequired	Yes,- the customer must select a value from the hear about us list
xcustomeraddress2	Yes displays a second address field
Xdeliverydate	Yes displays a delivery date drop down list
Xdeliveryexcludedays	Days to exclude from dropdown list 1=1 Sunday, 2= Monday, 3=Tuesday, 4=Wednesday, 5=Thursday, 6=Friday, 7=Saturday
Xdeliverymaxdays	21 Maximum number of days to include in delivery drop down list
Xdeliverytime	Yes displays a time dropdown list
Xdeliverytimemaxhours	Maximum number of hours in delivery time list
Xdeliverytimeinterval	Time between intervals
Xdeliverytimeminimum	The minimum time from now when delivery is allowed

12.4 To remove the shipping table from being displayed at all

In this example we have the minimum amount of information. Removing the shipping form will stop most shipping calculations from occurring unless you also specify a default shipping method using xfixedshippingmethod.

It is possible not to display the shipping form but display only the various shipping methods by using xshippingselection

xshippingform	No Stops shipping form from being displayed
Xshippingdisplay	Yes display shipping selection for the customer but not things like shipping address fields

12.5 Customer Other Fields

It is possible to add your other fields to the customer table and VP-ASP will display those fields and update them. To accomplish this, change these two lines in Shop Configuration. This facility can only be used for text fields (not drop down lists or radio buttons). The extra fields are always placed under the last field in the left hand column.

xcustomerotherfields	accountno,section
xcustomerothercaptions	Account Number,Department
xcustomerotherfieldsinorder	Yes means that the customer fields are placed both in the customers table and in the orders table. No means they are stored only in the customers table
Xcustomerotherbypass	A list of field names not to be automatically displayed.
xshippingotherfields	A list of fields to add to the shipping form
xshippingothercaptions	The captions to be displayed for each field
xshippingotherequired	The list of fields that are required

In this example there are two additional fields in the customers table. You must add these fields yourself to the appropriate tables (customers and orders). When they are displayed the captions are “Account Number” and “Department”.

* First Name	
* Last Name	
* Address	
* City	
* State	
* Post Code	
* Phone	
* Email	
Country	
Company	
Account Number	
Department	

* Shipping Method	Airmail [10.00]
Ship to Name	
Address	
City	
State	
Post Code	
Country	
Company	

12.6 Important Note

When using “customer other fields” facility, it is up to you to physically add the fields to the database. VP-ASP does not alter the structure of the database. It simply generates the form and updates the fields. If you do not add the fields to the database you may receive errors such as

ADODB.Recordset (0x800A0CC1)
Item cannot be found in the collection corresponding to the requested name or ordinal.

It means that you have told VP-ASP to use a new field name, but the actual field is not in the database.

VP-ASP does not automatically ADD extra fields to your database. That is your responsibility. VP-ASP software can use those fields and update them but it will NOT physically alter your database structure.

12.7 Advanced Customer Other Fields

The customer other fields is useful for adding text boxes but it does not support more advanced form fields such as radio buttons or dropdown lists.

These are supported using xcustomerbypass. For example say you want to add a dropdown list to the customer form called doctors. Set the following in Shop Configuration

Xcustomerotherfields	doctor
Xcustomerothercaptions	Doctor’s Name
Xcustomerotherfieldsinorder	doctor
Xcustomerotherbypass	doctor

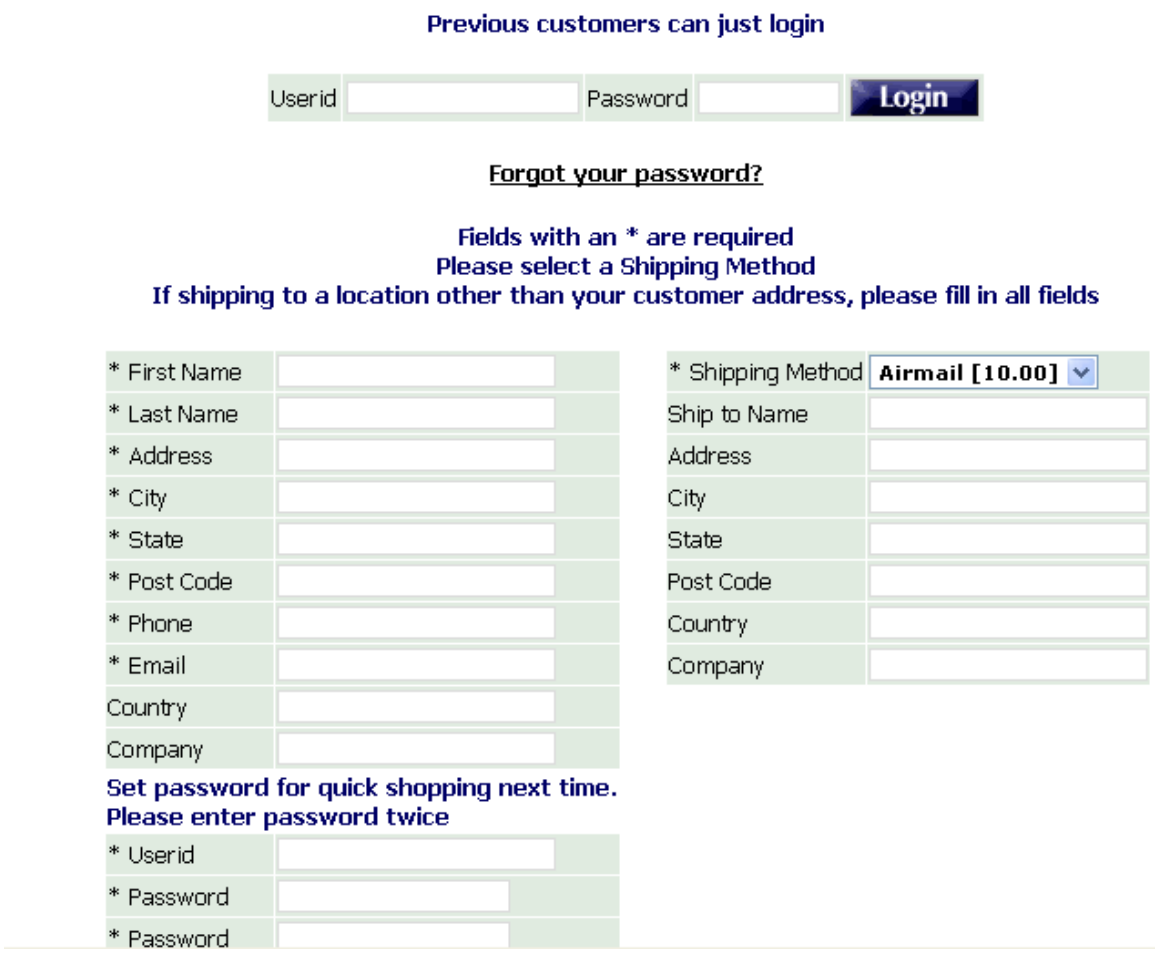
Then you must edit shopcustomer.asp and place your own dropdown list into the file. Locate lines

```
' comments
        Response.write "<p align=center>"
```

Add you additional form dropdown list HTML at this point or after this location in the file. The form name must match the fieldname in Shop configuration (doctor in this case).

12.8 Using Userid and Password

VP-ASP has the facility to allow customers to select their own userid and passwords. If these options are selected the default form would look as follows:



Both values must be set for userid to work properly.

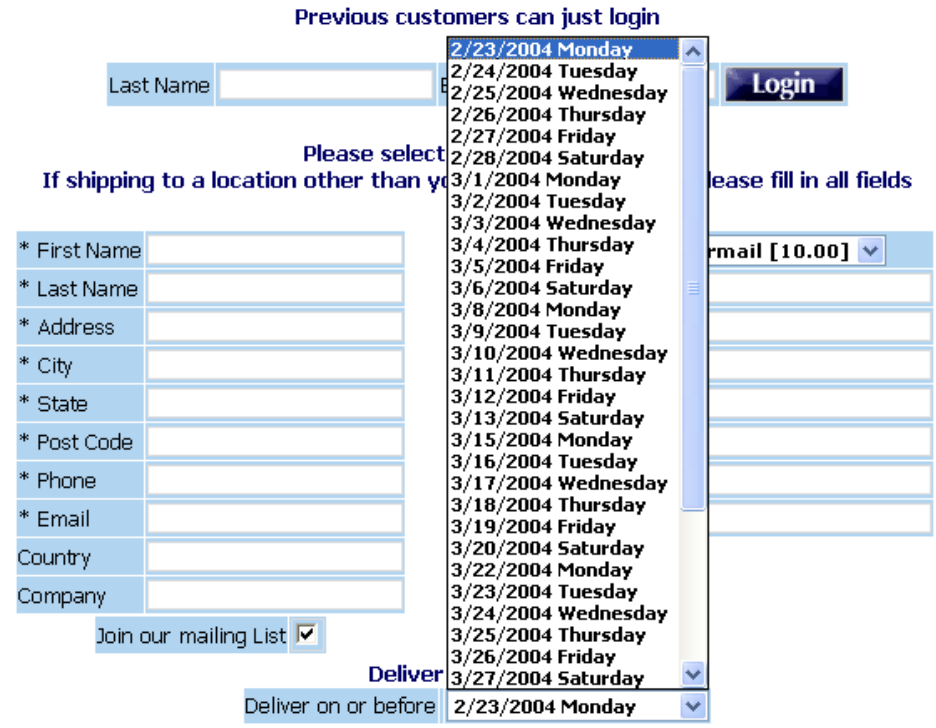
Xcustomeruserid	Yes
Xpassword	Yes

12.9 Delivery Date and time

A delivery date and time can be requested on the customer form. This is order specific and not product specific. If you need delivery date specific per product use the xdeliveryaddress facility. This facility is designed for short term dates within a few days or weeks from the current day. For long term dates using the delivery address facility

For example if you are a food shop that delivers only Monday to Friday, VP-ASP can generate delivery days excuding Saturday and Sunday for x number of days in advance that you choose.

Xdeliverydate	Yes displays a delivery date drop down list
Xdeliverytime	Yes displays a time dropdown list
Xdeliverytimemaxhours	Maximum number of hours in delivery time list
Xdeliverytimeinterval	Time between intervals
Xdeliverytimeminimum	The minimum time from now when delivery is allowed
Xdeliveryexcludedays	Days to exclude from dropdown list 1=1 Sunday, 2= Monday, 3=Tuesday, 4=Wednesday, 5=Thursday, 6=Friday, 7=Saturday
Xdeliverymaxdays	21 Maximum number of days to include in delivery drop down list



13 Order Summary

This is the final chance to cancel before the order is written to the database. All data is in session variables. The buyer is given an opportunity to review the order or print it for manual mailing or faxing. Goes to the payment page.

This form is the first time the customer can see the full payment that includes: shipping, taxes, handling discounts, gift certificates. The order is stored in the database when the customer clicks “Order Now”. Payment details obtained are determined by the next page (shopcheckout.asp).

If the customer decides not to pay, the order will remain in the database with no payment details. This is done to allow flexibility in replacing standard VP-ASP shopcheckout.asp with numerous electronic gateways. It is useful information that can be used to follow-up customers to determine why they left without completing the order.

13.1 Bypassing this display

If you do not want to display this page it can be bypassed. We do not recommend this in most cases since this is the only form where the customer can see the total cost including shipping, handling, taxes, discounts, gift certificates.

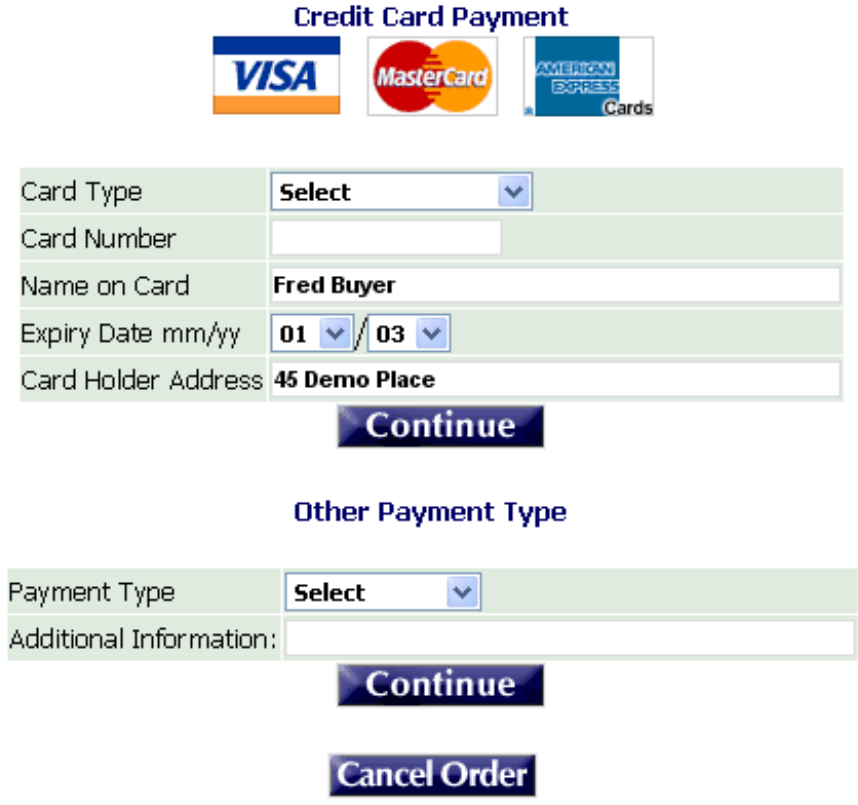
Xbypasscreateorder	Yes Bypasses this page and goes directly to the payment page

14 Payments

This routine provides the form to accept credit card information. It normally is invoked in an SSL secure environment so that the credit information is encrypted. The order is already stored in the database. VP-ASP payment page is very flexible. It can include:

- Taking Credit card details
- No credit cards
- Other payments or no other payments
- Electronic gateway buttons and forms
- Paypal
- Any combination of the above
- European Issue Numbers
- Card Verification numbers (CVN)

If the user enters the proper information, the order is updated with the credit card information. If the user cancels the order at this time, the order and order items are deleted from the database.



14.1 Bypassing this routine.

Shopcheckout.asp can be bypassed by specifying in Shop Configuration

xcheckout	shopcheckoutdummy.asp

There are two ways of totally bypassing shopcheckout. If your shop is configured not to display prices, then no request for payment is made and shopcheckout simply skips itself.

If you are displaying prices but do not wish to ask the customer about payment, then use our supplied shopcheckoutdummy.asp.

14.2 Unpaid Orders

After the customer presses the order button in shopcreateorder.asp, the order is stored in the database. If the customer leaves without paying, there will be nothing in the payment field. This is done to allow flexibility in using different payment gateways.

You can use this information to follow-up customers to try to find out why they left your shop without completing the order.

14.3 Check Configuration Options

You may need to alter the select statement, which determines which credit cards are accepted. See section on altering Payment Options.

Xssl	Use this to allow VP-ASP to switch to SSL mode before displaying this page. You must have SSL on your system for this to work properly. https://www.yoursite.com/shopping
Xcheckout	shopcheckout.asp. This is the standard page and normally will not change. It is now used as the interface to all gateways. This is different from previous releases where this value changed per gateway.
Xencryptcreditcard	Yes means encrypt the credit card before storing it into the database. This is not supported for any gateway code
Xencryptkey	The key to be used for encryption
Xcvndisplay	Yes displays Card Verification Number. This is a 3 or 4 digit number printed on the back of many credit cards
Xcvnrequired	Yes requires the CVN to be entered
Xcreditcardtypes	Visa,Mastercard,American Express List of credit cards that you accept
Xotherpaymenttypes	List of non credit card payments you accept Check,Cash,Phone order
XcardissueNumber	In England this is used if Delta and Solo cards are used No
Xallowcreditcards	Yes displays credit card prompt on the form
Xallowotherpayments	Yes displays other payment on the form
Xallowinvalidcards	Yes is for testing. This bypasses all credit card validation
Xpaymenturl	Some gateway install instructions will tell you to place a name in this field. Otherwise it MUST be left empty
Xcreditcardimages	This is a list of images to be displayed Vpasp_visa.gif,vpasp_mclogo.gif,vpasp_amex.gif
Xkeepcanceledorders	Yes tells VP-ASP to keep any canceled orders in the database. The payment is marked “Canceled”
Xkeepcanceleditems	Yes with xkeepcanceledorders to also keep the order items (products) when an order is canceled.

14.4 Electronic Payment Gateways

VP-ASP supplies add-ons for electronic payment systems. See
www.vpasp.com/virtprog/vpasp_epsystems.htm

2Checkout	Anz Egate	Australia Post
AuthnetSSL	Authorizenet	Bank of America
Bluepay	Echonline	Clikpay
Directone	DPI	Ematters
Egateway	Eprocessing	ESEC
Eway	EZPN	Firstpay
Goemerchant	Goemerchant API	InternetSecure
Innovative	Iongate	ICP
Intellipay	InternetSecure	Itransact

Linkpoint	Merchant Trust	Mirapay
Moneris	NAB	NoChex
Paybycheck	Paygateway	PaymentTech
Payments International	Paypal	Payready
PlugnPay	Protx	Psigate
QuickCommerce	SecurePay	SecureTrading
Skipjack	Technocash	TPPRO
Verisign Payflow Link	Verisign Payflow Pro	USAEPAY
Viaklix	Worldpay	And many others

14.5 Adding your own Payment System

The electronic payment system normally consists of two new files. One file replaces shopcheckout.asp and formats the form fields necessary for the electronic gateway. The second file handles the status return back from the electronic gateway. There are no other changes to VP-ASP code.

14.6 Adding Additional Payment Systems

If you have a payment system that we do not have code for, we can help you build the interface or we can send you sample code on a similar type system.

14.7 Multiple payment methods

Multiple different payment methods can be used at the same time. If you are using a gateway you may wish to turn off the standard VP-ASP credit card and non credit card payment forms. This is done by setting the following in Shop configuration.

Xallowcreditcards	No turns off standard VP-ASP card form
Xallowotherpayments	No turns off other payment types

15 Payment Invoice

The last of the routines for processing an order is the confirmation page.

It creates e-mail for merchant and customer and displays an order confirmation. This routine, shopthanks.asp is very important in VP-ASP. This routine does many things including:

- Mailing to merchant and customer
- Displaying printable invoice
- Updating stock
- Generating download links and attachments
- Mailing affiliates
- Mailing suppliers
- Allowing merchants to add their own special handling in file shopthanksmerchant.asp

Thank you for your order.
You can print this form as your confirmation
Order Number 8 - Sunday 22 December 2002 6:33:11 PM

Products	Quantity	Unit Price	Total
Girls tops Summer tops in assorted size and colors	1	$9.85	$9.85
	Product Cost		$9.85
	Shipping Cost		$10.00
	Total		$19.85

Customer Information	
First Name	Fred
Last Name	Buyer
Address	45 Demo Place
City	Demo City
State	NY
Post Code	11720
Country	US
Email	fred@abc.com
Phone	555 6666
Company	Demo Co
Payment Information	
Payment Type	Check
Shipping Information	
Shipping Method	Airmail

15.1 Configuration Options

Xmailtomerchant	Yes mails message to merchant
Xmailtocustomer	Yes mails order details to customer
xmailwithtemplates	Yes requires the Option Package. Mailing templates are used
Xmailtosuppliers	Yes mails order details to suppliers - requires Option Package
Affmailorder	Yes mails to the affiliate when an order is completed

15.2 Changing Fonts and Colors

In shop$colors.asp the following lines control the formatting of an order. See statements follow the line below in shop$colors.asp

```
'FormatOrder
```

15.3 ShopThanksMerchant.asp -Adding Your Own Messages

Additional messages can be written out to the buyer at this time. Edit file shopthanksmerchant.asp. This routine has the ability to read anything in the order and to look at all products ordered. See the code to determine how to check order fields.

16 Order Attachments and Downloads

At the end of an order VP-ASP can handle electronic delivery of goods in three ways. It can generate an immediate download hyperlink to the file being purchased, it can send the file as an attachment or it can generate a secure download link to the product.

Secure downloads are a separate VP-ASP facility that comes with the VP-ASP Option Package.

Download hyperlinks and attachments are a standard feature of VP-ASP.

16.1 End of order Valid Payments

VP-ASP checks the type of payment being made against a list that is supplied in the Shop Configuration. If the payment does not match then no hyperlink or attachment is added. This helps against hackers trying to steal the goods.

xendofordervalidpayments	Visa,Mastercard is the list of payments that allow either hyperlinks or attachments to be generated

16.2 Download Links

For download links to work the download field in the product table must be filled in and the following Shop Configuration set. The download links are generated as plain, unprotected hyperlinks. **If you need secure hyperlinks, view the secure download facility which is part of the Option Package.**.

xendoforderhyperlinks	Yes tells VP-ASP to generate hyperlinks for products at the end of an order
xendoforderhyperlinkfield	orderdownload – the field in the database to look for hyperlink information

16.3 Attachments

Attachments are added to the order confirmation that goes to the customer. The attachment is set in the attachment field of the product record and must be their physical address of the file.

xendoforderattachments	Yes tells VP-ASP to add attachments to the customer e-mail at the end of the order
xendoforderattachmentfield	orderattachment is the field in the products record to look for attachment. Attachments must be real disk address such as c:\mydirectory\data\abc.zip

17 Mailing

Email is an important feature of VP-ASP Shopping Cart. Mailing occurs in all these places but can be configured on/off for each one:

- Mail to merchant on order completion
- Mail to customer on order completion
- Mail to others (mailing list) on order completion
- Mail to suppliers on order completion
- Mail on customer buying a gift certificate
- Mail to Tell a friend
- Mail on order tracking message to merchant
- Bulk mailing by merchant
- Mail to merchant on new customer registration
- Mail to merchant on new product review
- Mail to customer on order tracking message by merchant
- Mail to merchant on new gift registry creation
- Mail to merchant on affiliate registration
- Mail to affiliate on registration
- When a gift certificate is purchased
- When a customer reviews a product

17.1 Order Completion Emails

By default VP-ASP will automatically e-mail both the merchant and the customer when an order has been completed. Both receive extensive details about the order including prices, name and address and products ordered. VP-ASP does not include credit card information for obvious security reasons.

VP-ASP can send both HTML formatted e-mail and plain text e-mail. HTML formatted e-mail requires the VP-ASP Option Package.

17.2 Changing E-mail Messages

Using the Option Package, mail messages can be fully changed using a plain text editor. The mailing is done using templates tmp_customeremail.txt for the customer and tmp_merchantemail.txt for the merchant.

Without the Option Package, the mailing is done using the file shopmailformat.,asp

xemailwithtemplates	Yes

Some mailing requires the VP-ASP Option Package. With the Option Package, changing simply means editing plain text file called a mailing template. Mailing occurs in the following cases.

17.3 Configuring Mail

VP-ASP does not write directly to your mail server. It needs an interface. We support the 4 most common ones. CDONTs, ASPMAIL, ASPEMAIL and JMAIL. The code we are using is used in 1000s of sites. In addition any other ASP compatible e-mail interface can easily be added. The logic for all mailing is in shopmail.asp

ASPMAIL is a third party product. JMAIL is a free software package.

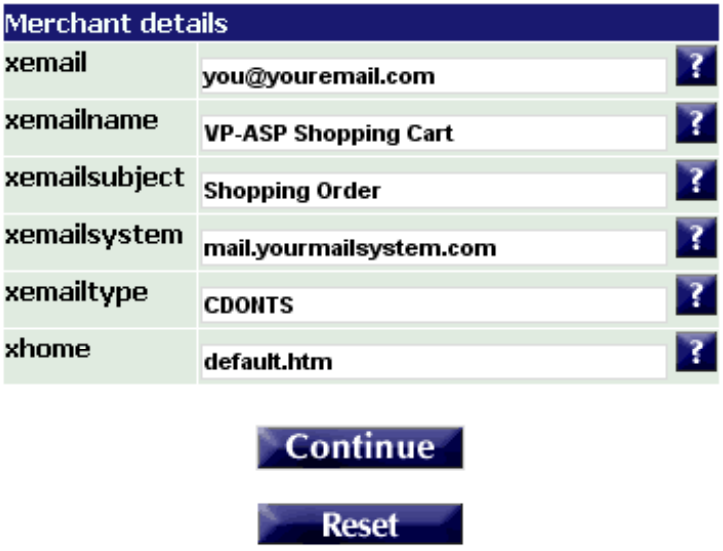
http://www.dimac.net
CDONTS is a free Microsoft add-on for Windows NT/2000
ASPEMAIL is another free product
In order for VP-ASP to be able to e-mail, one of those four software components must be on your server.

17.4 Testing E-mail

Our diagnostic tool diag_dbtest.asp can be used to help you determine what is installed on your system. It will send a 1 line message if it works

17.5 Configuring e-mail

E-mail needs to be configured by specifying a few options in the VP-ASP Shop Configuration. The information that needs to be configured is:



Edit Table Name = mycompany

xemail	After an order has been completed, who should be notified. This is the email address of that person
xemailname	The name of your shop
Xemailsubject	This is simply the subject when the customer gets an e-mail confirmation.
Xemailsystem	This is the name of the mail service on your ISP. Your ISP will need to let you know what this is. It normally will start with mail... or smtp...
xemailtype	This is the person's name to be e-mailed. The customer's name is generated automatically from the order. const xemailtype="CDONTS". The type of E-mail to use. Three types are in VP-ASP, ASPMAIL, CDONTS, JMAIL and ASPEMAIL. Most web hosting companies have one of these installed. See www.vpasp.com/virtprog/info/faq_email.htm

17.6 Email Problems

The most common problem with e-mails is that you do not receive them. Here are some possible causes. There is no way we can tell where the message goes after it is handed to the interface.
We cannot tell if it ever leaves your system or not .

Please run our diagnostic tool diag_dbtest.asp. If it says OK, then it means that VP-ASP has handed the mail to the interface. You now need to ask your ISP why it is not going to the Internet.

Please also see our faq at www.vpasp.com/virtprog/info/faq_email.htm
The two most common problems are:

1. You have the wrong xemailsystem in VP-ASP Shop Configuration. There is no standard name. Only your web hosting company can tell you your e-mail system name.

You are using the wrong Interface. You may have selected CDONTS for example when CDONTS is not supported by your web hosting company. You need to ask them which of the interfaces they support.

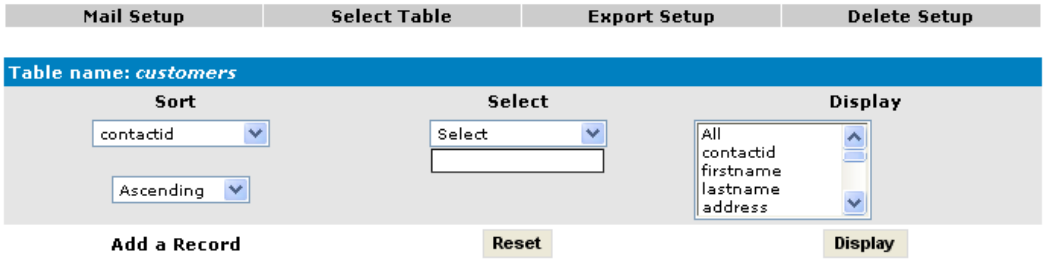
17.7 Other Mailing Issues

Some web hosting companies block emails that they think do not originate in their domain. VP-ASP in some cases sends email where the sender appears to be someone other than you. For example in Tell a Friend, the mail appears to com from the friend. To force all emails to come from your merchant email address set

Xmailfrommerchant	Yes. Force all emails to have a return address of the merchant

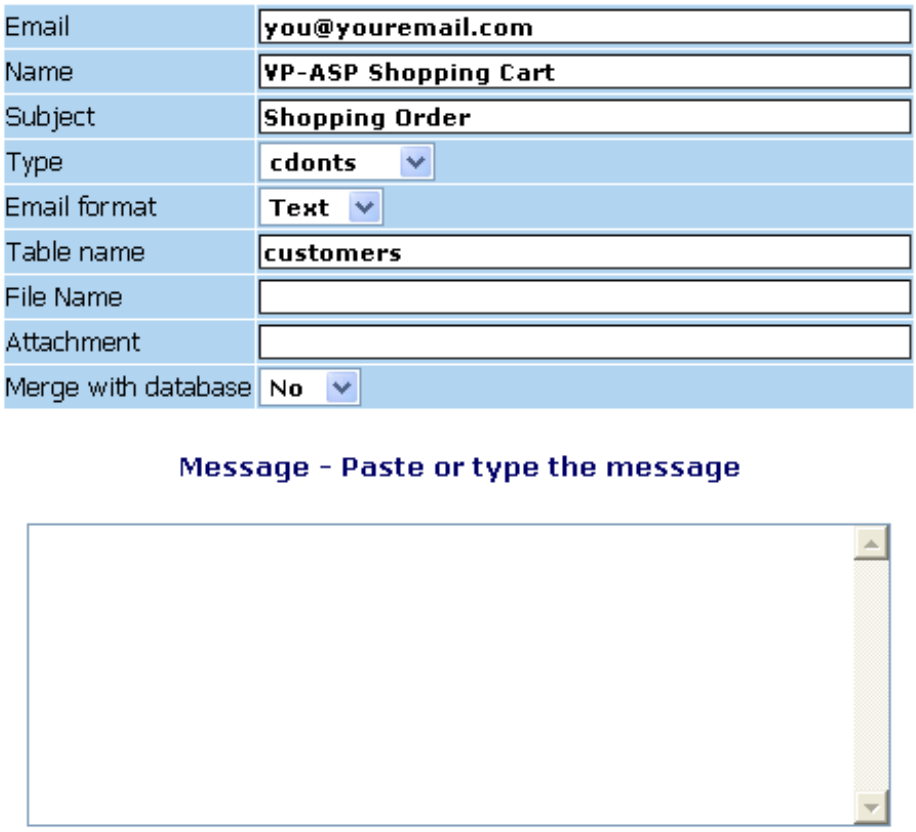
17.8 Bulk Mailing using templates

Bulk mailing can be done using the customers, orders, affiliates and projects table. Use the VP-ASP edit tables facility and select "Mail Setup".



17.8.1 Mailing Form

The form below will appear to allow you to specify how and what you are mailing.
The two items that are important for template mailing are the filename and the database merge.



email	Your email address
Name	This is from name to appear in the e-mail
Subject	This is the subject of their message
type	This is the e-mail interface to use. It is defaulted to the one defined in your shopping configuration and is not normally changed
Email format	If you are sending a file that is in HTML format, change this to **HTML, otherwise leave as text.**
Table name	E-mail can only be done from selected VP-ASP tables: customers, orders, affiliates, projects
File name	If left blank, you must type in or paste the message in the box below. If filled in, then this file is read as the message to be sent
Merge with database	This requires the VP-ASP Option package. If **Yes** then the file is really a template (as defined in the Option Package Design Guide). Database fields are merged with the template to create a customer specific message.
Attachment	A file to be attached. Cannot be a URL. Must be a disk address such as e:\mystuff\abc.txt

17.8.2 Bulk Mailing Restrictions

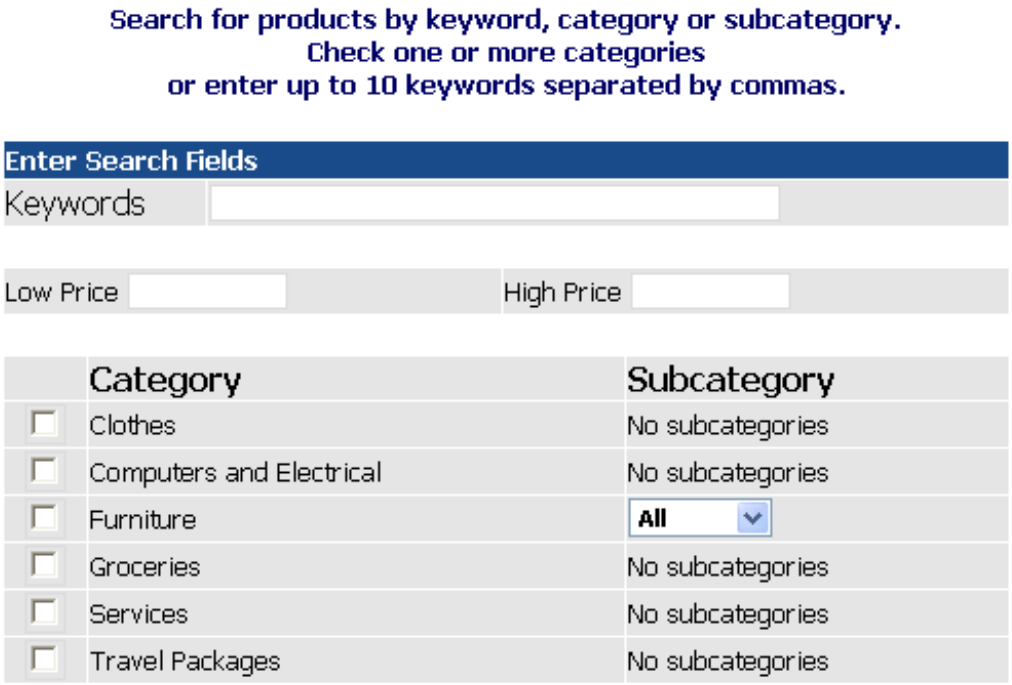
HTML mailing, mail merge requires the VP-ASP Option Package.

18 Searching

Generates SQL to search for a specific product, category or manufacturer. It actually does not display the search results but calls shopdisplayproducts.asp. The SQL is stored in session variable SQL. It treats all data as a string. Up to 10 words or phrases can be used. Logic is to display any that match.

Search can be done by keywords, category or subcategory or a combination of all of these. The search sort is defaulted but a dropdownlist of possible sort fields can be displayed.

If you want to have your own search facility, create any SQL you want, set session variable Session("SQL") and then go to shopdisplayproducts.asp which will generate a list based on your criteria.



18.1 Specifying Sort Fields

By setting the following Shop Configuration Options, the sort fields are displayed. The first value is the actual field name in the database and the second is the caption the customer sees. Access does not allow sorting by memo fields. So sort by cdescription or extendedesc is not allowed

xsearchfortfields	name,cprice,ccode
xsearchsortcaptions	Name, Price, Product code

18.2 Hyperlinking to shopsearch.asp

The preferred method of doing searches from your own web site is to use shopquery.asp. Shopsearch.asp can be used when you want to do keyword searches.

```
<a href="shopsearch.asp?search=YES&keyword=abc,def,jkl">Search for keywords</a>
```

18.2.1 Altering Displays

It is possible to remove the categories and/or subcategories from this display.
In Shop$colors.asp change these values to “No” to remove categories and/or subcategories. Removing categories automatically removes subcategories.

xsearchdisplaycategories	Yes displays current highest level categories
xsearchdisplaysubcat	Yes displays any subcategories to one level down (not all sub sub categories are displayed)

The fields being searched can be changed by altering this VP-ASP Configuration.

xsearchfields	cname,cdescription,ccode,mfg

So to add the keywords field in the products table and the pother1 field it would look like this:

xsearchfields	cname,ccode,cdescription,ccode,keywords,pother1

So to add the keywords field in the products table and the pother1 field it would look like this:

Xsearchbyprice	Adds low and high price options to the display form

18.2.2 Changing Fonts and Colors

See statements following the line below in shop$colors.asp

```
Const SearchKeywordTable="<table cellpadding=1 cellspacing=1 width='70%'>"
```

18.3 Displaying Products by any Criteria - shopquery.asp

VP-ASP also provides a way for you to build or display products using your own hyperlinks or forms.

To display products by any field in the products table, either create a form with the field names or use a hyperlink. See supplied file shopsamplelinks.htm for examples of both. Suppose you want to display all shirts with prices less than $50. Shopquery.asp is an extremely flexible search facility.

18.3.1 Using a hyperlink

```
<a href="shopquery.asp?cprice=50&cname=shirt">Display stuff</a>
<a href="shopquery.asp?cprice=50&cname=shirt&template=mystuff.htm">Display stuff</a>
```

The template facility allows you to specify a specific type of product formatting for this particular display of products.

18.3.2 Using a form

When using a form, the submit button must be called shopquery.

```
<form method="POST" action="shopquery.asp">
Name<input type="text" name="cname" size="30"><br>
Manufacturer<input type="text" name="mfg" size="30"><br>
Price<input type="text" name="cprice" size="30"><br>
<input type="submit" value="Display" name="Shopquery">
<input type="reset" value="Reset" name="resetbutton"></p>
</form>
```

18.4 Search fields starting with a character

By default shopquery will try to find the information such as shirt in any portion of the Field. In the above example the field cname. If you want to find only products where the word shirt is the first few characters of the name, add the following.

```
<a href="shopquery.asp?cname=shirt&queryprefix=No">Display stuff</a>
```

18.5 Search for products by Keyword

The normal shopsearch.asp facility can be used by hyperlink using the following method

```
<a href="shopsearch.asp?search=YES&keyword=abc,def,jkl">Search for keywords</a>
```

18.6 Creating a form on your page to do searching

Below is a sample form to do searching from anyplace on your web site.

```
<form method="POST" action="shopsearch.asp?search=Yes">
<p><input type="text" name="keyword" size="20"><br>
<input type="submit" value="Search" name="B1">
</form>
```

18.7 Limitations and lowprice

Shopquery can only be used against fields directly in the products record. The only exception to that is the special keyword *lowprice*. Lowprice allows you to search for products within a price range value

```
shopquery.asp?lowprice=10&cprice=50
```

This will display all products between $10 and $50.

19 Customer Service Center

The customer control center is the place for the customer to come to:

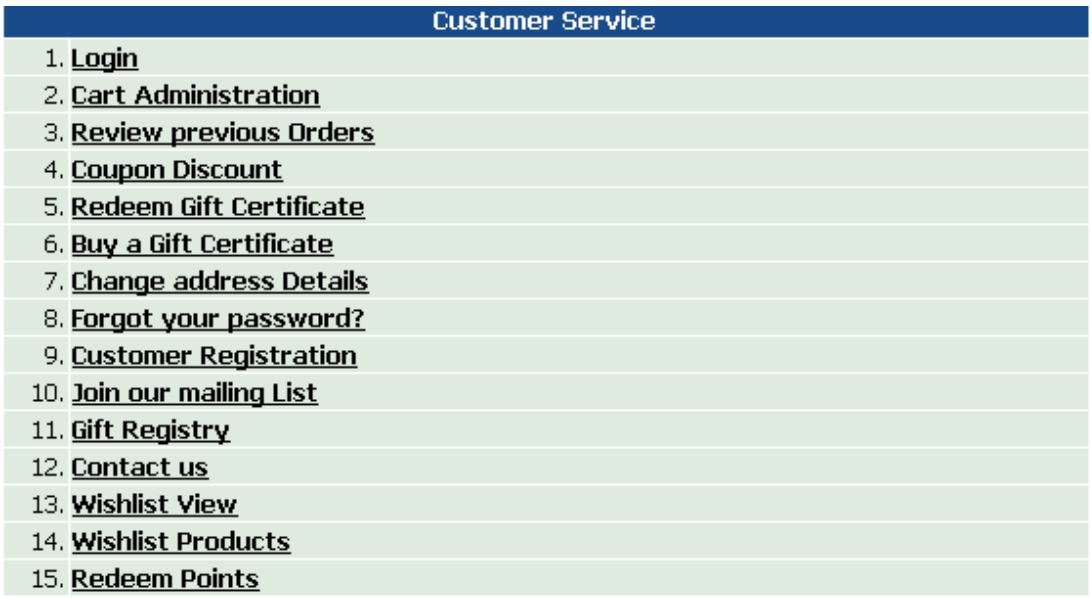
- Login
- Review orders
- Save or restore carts
- Buy or redeem gift certificates
- Enter discount coupons
- Join your mailing list
- Obtain lost password
- Read and write order tracking messages
- Display Wish List
- Create Gift Registry

Depending on the options you select in the shop configuration, more or less menu items will appear. The routine shopcustadmin.asp displays this menu.

The following affect the service center menu:

xallowcustomerupdates	Yes allows customers to update their details
xallowsavecart	Yes allows customers to save wish lists on their own PC as a cookie
xallowrevieworders	Yes allows customers to review previous orders
xallowmaillist	Yes allows non customers to join your mailing list
xallowcustomerregister	Yes allows non customers to enter full address details
xallowcoupons	Yes allows discount coupons
xallowgiftcertificates	Yes allows gift certificates
xtrackingcustomerread	Yes allows customers to read tracking messages
xtrackingcustomerwrite	Yes allow customers to write tracking messages
xmaillisttomerchant	Yes sends e-mail to merchant on either customer registration or joining mailing list
xtracking	Yes means to turn on order tracking
xallowsupplierregister	Yes allows suppliers to create a supplier record
xallowrestoreorders	Yes allows customers to restore orders for quicker repeat shopping
xgiftregistry	Yes enables Gift Registry. Gift registry is a fee paid add-on. It is not included with standard VP-ASP or Option Package
xwishlist	Yes allows customers to save a permanent wish list
Xwishlistproduct	Yes allows individual product wish list

Gift Certificates, Discount Coupons and Order Tracking are supported only with the VP-ASP Option Package. Gift Registry is a separate software package.



19.1.1 Adding Menu Items

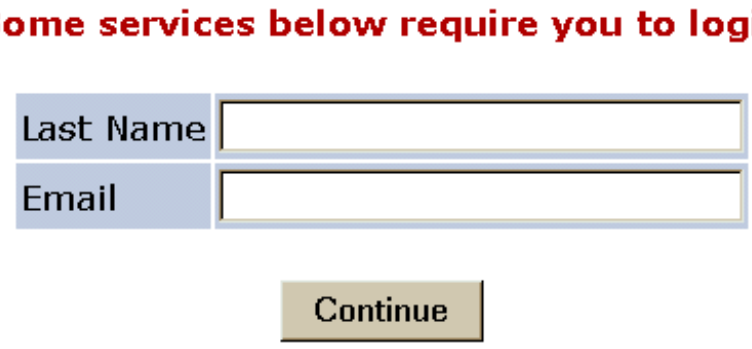
This menu is created dynamically in shopcustadmin.asp. The menu changes depending on the configuration options selected in Shop Configuration. Additional items can be added by altering lines like this near the bottom of the file

```
AddMenuItem LangCustAdminStatus,"shopstatus.asp", "Yes"

LangCustadmin     is the caption
Shopstatus.asp    is the hyperlink
The third value if set to "Yes" the menu item is displayed
```

19.2 Review Previous Orders -Shopstatus.Asp

The customer can enter last name and password to check all orders. To check a specific order the order number can be entered. A new status field has been added to the orders table. This is a text field that is displayed for the customer. If the customer has already logged in, then the login screen is bypassed otherwise file shopcustadminlogin.asp is invoked to get the customer information.



19.3 Status Display – Shopstatus.asp

The display shows orders in descending order by date. The customer can review the entire order by clicking on view. A display of the last 20 orders is the default. The customer can search for a specific order. Tracking is part of the VP-ASP Option Package.

The customer can restore the contents of the order by clicking on the "Yes" under restore order. If you do not want customers to restore orders specify.

xallowrestoreorder	Yes allows customer to restore previously ordered items to the cart

19.3.1 Merchant Responsibilities

The merchant is responsible for setting the processed indicator. This is done when displaying orders in the administration section. The **ostatus** field in the order needs to be filled in by the merchant if anything is to be displayed.

19.4 Tracking Messages

Requires VP-ASP Option Package

Tracking allows communication between merchant and customer. Tracking is part of the VP-ASP Option Package. In VP-ASP configuration the following can be set:

xtracking	Yes turns on order tracking
xtrackingcustomerread	Yes allows customers to read tracking messages from the merchant
xtrackingcustomerwrite	Yes allows customer to write tracking messages to the merchant

The tracking messages are displayed with the latest at the top. If the customer can write tracking messages, the top form is displayed. If they can read tracking messages, the bottom form is displayed.

20 Wish List and Saving Carts

VP-ASP has three methods of allowing customer to save items they wish to purchase or have purchased and then come back to your shop. These method include:

1. Restoring previous orders
2. Saving and restoring carts
3. Saving and restoring wish lists
4. Saving individual products in a wish list

Another VP-ASP product, The Gift Registry, allows a customer to save specific products that will eventually be purchased on their behalf at a later time. This is discussed in VP-ASP Addons Design manual.

In all cases the customers can revise what they restore, alter quantities, delete items and add additional items.

20.1 Restoring previous orders

Restoring carts allows the customer to restore a previous order. This is done via the customer service menu when a customer reviews previous orders. There is no extra overhead in terms of database usage or database activity.

xallowrestoreorder	Yes allows customer to restore previously ordered items to the cart

20.2 Restoring and Saving Carts

Saving carts causes the current shopping cart to be saved and restored at a later date. Saving and Restoring carts are enabled with this line in Shop Configuration

xallowsavecart	Yes allows customers to save wish lists on their own PC as a cookie

Carts are saved on the customer's computer as a set of cookies. The customer can restore the cart or delete the cart. Cart names can be anything. If any carts have been stored on the customer's computer, they are listed. The customer can have any number of carts saved and can name them in any way they choose. There is no overhead on the server. The customer does not need to be registered in any way on your site to use this facility.

20.3 Wish List Carts

A wish list is very similar to a saved cart but the actual information is stored in the VP-ASP database. This means it takes up disk space. A customer can have multiple wish lists but the customer must be registered to use this facility since the wish list is stored by customerid.

Using the Customer Service menu, the wish list can be restored.

Xwishlist	Yes allows customers to save wish lists in the VP-ASP database

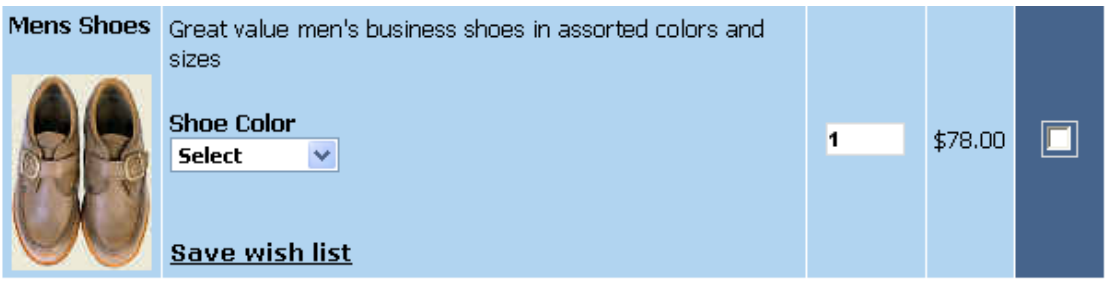
20.4 Wish List by Product

The Wish list by product allows the customer to save individual products in a wish list. They can then be listed and purchased, viewed or deleted.

xproductwishlist	Yes allows customer to save individual products in a wish list

20.4.1 Display wish list hyperlink

Using normal product displays, a hyperlink will be generated that allows a customer to add the item to the wishlist.



When clicked, the item is added and the current wish list is displayed.

Name	Description	Price			
Bagels	Home made fresh out of the oven bagels. Six in a package	$3.25	Delete	View	Order now!
Mens Shoes	Great value men's business shoes in assorted colors and sizes	$78.00	Delete	View	Order now!

The customer can now view the product, delete product from the wish list or buy the product.

21 Miscellaneous VP-ASP Facilities

21.1 Mail Forgotten Password – Shopmailpwd.asp

If you allow customers to use passwords to login, they can retrieve forgotten passwords by entering their e-mail address and name.

21.2 Tell a Friend

This routine allows you to have the customer tell a friend about your site or about a specific product.

In Shop Configuration you must set the following to the location where VP-ASP is installed on your site.

Xmysite	http://www.thisisyoursite.com/shopping
Xproductlinktellafriend	Yes automatically adds a link from the normal product displays to Tell a friend

21.2.1 Hyperlink to shoptellafriend.asp

You can add hyperlinks to shoptellafriend.asp from anywhere on your site.

shoptellafriend.asp Used to tell about your site
shoptellafriend.asp?id=33 Used to tell about a specific product

21.2.2 Tell a Friend Mail

Tell a friend mails the message and a hyperlink. The hyperlink will be different for a product than for a site.

For a product the hyperlink is:

http://www.yoursite/shopping/shopquery.asp?catalogid=1
or if you have the VP-ASP Option Package
http://www.yoursite/shopping/shopexd.asp?id=1

For a site the hyperlink is:
http://www.yoursite/shopping/

22 Administration

The administration components let you view orders, change any table, update product information, search for data, add new products, categories, add and delete users.

Users can be added to the database and have different privileges. There are two administrator users defined in the database.

VPASP and ADMIN.
VPASP only has a subset of privileges and ADMIN has the full set.

We strongly recommend that you rename these userids and passwords before starting your production store.

A detailed section on security reviews the major security issues involved with VP-ASP and the features VP-ASP provides to protect you and your customers

22.1 Shop Administration

Shop administration is for the merchant or web developer and not for the customer. The administration facilities include:

- Add, delete and modify products
- Add, delete and modify any other VP-ASP table
- Define administrator userids
- Define menus and tasks for each administrator
- Restrict administrators to viewing or updating specific tables
- Display sales reports
- Display stock low reports
- Perform searches of the database
- Export data from tables
- Mail to selected customers
- Configure most of VP-ASP options
- Send messages to customers via order tracking *
- Create Projects for special payments *
- Display affiliate reports *
- Display customer reports and details

The items with an * require the VP-ASP Option Package.

22.2 Login to Administration

This is the login screen for shop administration. All the administration routines invoke a subroutine Checkadmin, to verify that the user has logged in. If not then this routine is invoked to display the form. Administrators can add, delete, and alter user privileges.

22.3 Anti Hacker Facilities

A number of anti hacker facilities are available to protect your store. These include:

1. Totally hiding the administrative side of VP-ASP
2. Using two passwords to login
3. Validating IP address of person trying to login
4. Email on hacker attempts
5. Email on successful login

22.4 Predefined userids

Two userids are defined when you receive VP-ASP. We recommend you change these through the user control menu. Log in with userid **admin** to alter, rename or change userids.

userid	password	Description
Vpasp	vpasp	A subset of all the possible administration functions
Admin	admin	Full set of VP-ASP functions

22.5 Changing Userids and passwords

We recommend you change the VP-ASP defined userids and passwords. This can be done by logging in with userid **admin**. Then select User Control.

If you do not, any hacker will be able to come in and view your orders and change your site. See also the detailed security section for a complete set of guidelines.

22.6 Security for shop administration

The filename for login is shopadmin.asp. Additional security against hackers can be obtained by renaming shopadmin.asp to something else. After you do that, update the following shop configuration options.

xadminpage	newfilename.asp
xshowadmin	**No**. This means that only you will know the name of the admin page. It will not be referenced if an admin page is entered incorrectly.

22.7 Menus for Administration

Once a successful login has been done, this routine reads the shop database to determine which menu items are displayed. Each administrative user can be given different menus. An experienced user can bypass the menu and execute any administrative function if they know the script name.

VP-ASP Administrative Facilities

Utility or Function		Utility or Function	
1.	Display orders	2.	Merchant Sales Summary
3.	Shop Configuration	4.	Customer Information
5.	Edit Tables	6.	Categories
7.	Products	8.	Product Features
9.	Shipping	10.	Edit Customers
11.	Edit Order	12.	Quantity discounts
13.	Coupons	14.	Gift Certificate
15.	Edit Projects	16.	Edit Reviews
17.	Affiliate Reports	18.	Product Report
19.	Stock Low Report	20.	Search Report
21.	Display Projects	22.	Languages
23.	Bulk product edits	24.	Bulk Import
25.	SQL Queries	26.	Generate static HTML
27.	Administration users	28.	Administration menus
29.	Administration logins	30.	Templates
31.	Billing Reports	32.	Pin Numbers
33.	Gift Registry	34.	Points
35.	Content		

22.7.1 Adding New menu items

The menu items on this page are dynamically read from the database. Using menu control, you can add/delete and alter what is displayed on this page. Each administrator can be given different menus. For example, one administrator may only be allowed to view orders but not add or alter products.

22.8 Shopa_Menu_control.asp

When a merchant logs on to the administrative system, a list of scripts available are displayed. This is controlled through this menu.

Menus consist of a description, a comment and a URL. Although the shopping system uses only simple file names, full URLs can be used to invoke any other web sites or pages.

These are the menus of this shop

Menu Name	File Name	Edit	Delete
Display Orders	shopa_displayorders.asp	Edit	☐
Edit Categories	shopa_editdisplay.asp?table=categories	Edit	☐
Edit Products	shopa_editdisplay.asp?table=products	Edit	☐
Configure Shopping Cart	shopa_config.asp	Edit	☐
Edit VP-ASP Tables	shopa_tableselect.asp	Edit	☐
Edit Shipping	shopa_editdisplay.asp?table=shipmethods	Edit	☐
Sales Reports	shopa_reports.asp	Edit	☐

In this version the comment field is no longer used but is required.

23 Configuration (shopa_config.asp)

VP-ASP shop configuration is one of the major components of VP-ASP. Through you browser you can turn on/off over 400 options. These include the ability to turn on and off VP-ASP features including::

- Coupons, Gift Certificates, Gift Registry, Pin Numbers, Reward
- Set-up your merchant email details
- Determine taxes, shipping, handling
- Determine sorting, fields to display for products
- Set-up how the customers will use your system: full access, restricted access, semi restricted access
- Determine what features you want customers to use: tracking, review orders, restore orders, reviews, tell a friend, registration, join mailing list
- Set what credit cards you take and what other payment types you accept
- Set what payment gateway you are using
- and much much more

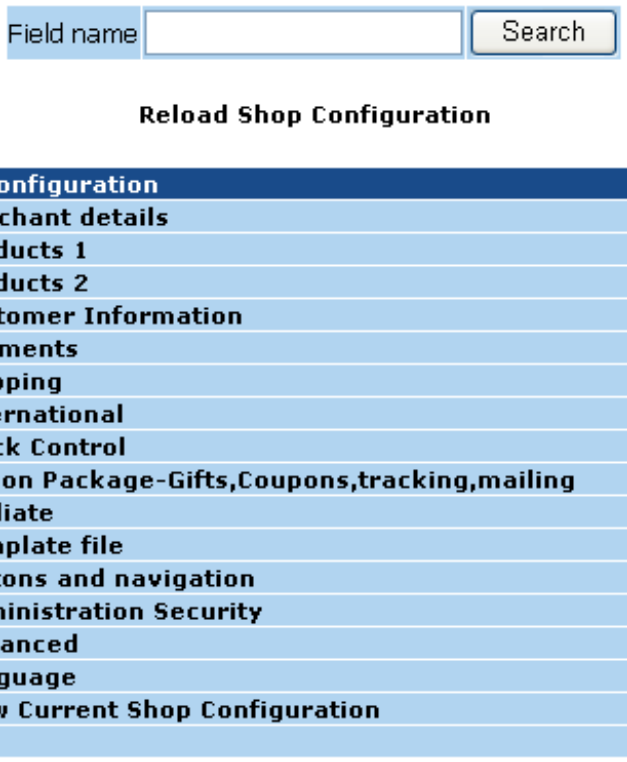
VP-ASP is designed to work immediately with no configuration. There are over four hundred different options that you can alter. They are divided into groups such as payments, customers, affiliates, etc. They mostly start with “x” and have a name that may help you determine what they do. Some are Yes or No. And others require you to fill in details.

23.1 Configuration Usage

How do you know which configuration option to use?. The primary method is the Developer's Guide. Each major page of VP-ASP is displayed with its associated configuration options. Using the search box, you find the option you want and change its value. It is very simple.

For a quick method of finding options, you can enter a partial word such as "tax" and most configuration options related to tax would be displayed.

By clicking on the ? at the right of any option, a description of what the configuration does is displayed.



23.1.1 Searching for specific configuration Option

Configuration options are names such as **xallowcreditcards.** In these manuals you may be asked to alter a configuration option. You do it from this menu. It is possible to locate a specific configuration option by typing its name or partial name and then clicking the search button. You could also search by entering **credit** into the search box and all fields that have credit in their name would be displayed.

23.2 Updating Configuration

Once you have finished defining how you want your shop to run, you must **Reload Shop Configuration**. All the options in your shop are now read from the database and stored as **Application** variables. They immediately take affect. As some are used at certain points in the shopping process, if a person is already shopping, not all may affect such shoppers.

xautoloadconfiguration	Yes eliminates the need to “Reload Shop Configuration” after each change. It is done automatically for you

23.3 Merchant Details

Merchant details should be changed to match your system. Each field on the left is the internal name of the configuration option. You cannot change this. But you can change any or all of the values.

You MUST change **xemail** and **xemailsystem** and possibly **xemailtype**.

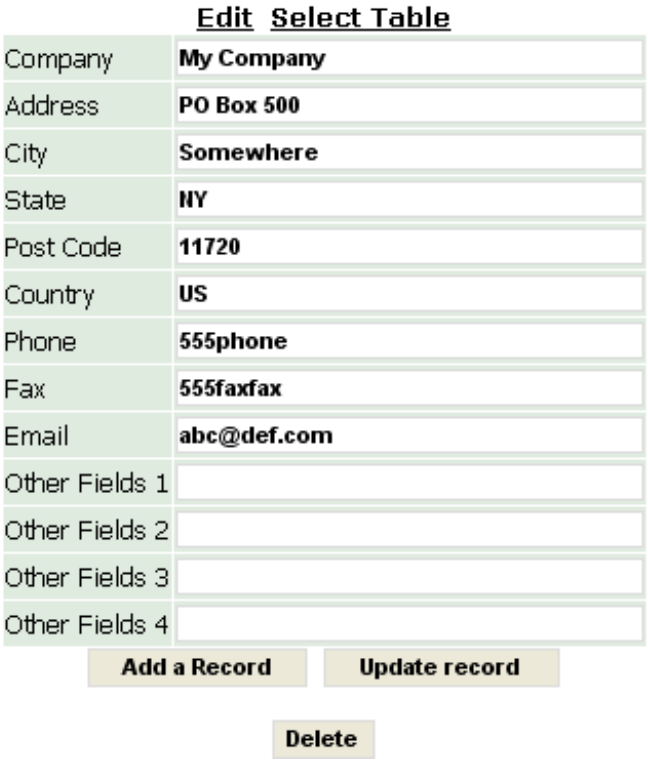
23.4 Merchant Details Fields

These fields should be reviewed by each merchant.

xemail	After an order has been completed, who should be notified. This is the email address of that person
xemailname	The name of your shop
Xemailsubject	This is simply the subject when the customer gets an e-mail confirmation.
Xemailsystem	This is the name of the mail service on your ISP. Your ISP will need to let you know what this is. It normally will start with mail... or smtp...
xemailtype	This is the person's name to be e-mailed. The customer's name is generated automatically from the order. const xemailtype="CDONTS". The type of E-mail to use. Three types are in VP-ASP, ASPMAIL, CDONTS, JMAIL and ASPEMAIL. Most web hosting companies have one of these installed. See http://www.vpasp.com/virtprog/info/faq_email.htm
Xhome	The location where VP-ASP returns after an error or after an order completes

23.5 Other Merchant Details

Other merchant details that display on the printed invoice come from the table **mycompany**. The mycompany table has your company name, address and other details used on the order confirmation form and contact us forms.



23.6 Configuration Help

By clicking on the ? at the right of the row, a help screen appears with a summary of what that particular field actually does. The help screen should appear at the exact field you have clicked. The configuration help file is **shopa_confighelp.asp**. It is plain HTML and can be altered to suit your shop.

23.7 Viewing the Configuration

You can view your current shop's running configuration by clicking "View Configuration". The configuration is divided into two displays: application variables and session variables.

23.8 Application Variables

The application variables are the "running set" of your configuration options. After you run "Reload Shop Configuration", the database of configuration options is loaded into memory and used by all your shoppers. There is only one set of values and all shoppers use them.

When you alter the configuration using the menus that follow, the running shops configuration is not automatically changed.

Only when you select **Reload Shop Configuration** do the application variables change. That is the only time they change unless you specify xautoloadconfiguration=Yes.

Once changed they remain until you reload again. If the server restarts, the application variables are automatically reloaded the first time the database is opened.

23.9 Session Variables

Session Variables are unique to your individual browser session from your PC. They change as you do different things with the shopping cart and they vanish when you close your browser or after a specified time (normally 5-20 minutes).

IMPORTANT

23.10 Test Shops and Production Shops

Application variables are specific to a URL (www.yoursite.com). If you decide to install a test version of VP-ASP into a second directory, the application variables in the test directory will alter the production application variables. To prevent this from happening, edit shop$config.asp and change this line and you should use a different configuration table.

Xshopid	Changes the application variables so that sites in the same domain do not affect each other
xconfigtable	configuration1. There are two configuration tables. Configuration1 is normally unused and is empty

The application variables will now be unique to your test shop and will not affect your production shop.

23.11 Configuration Tables

You only need a different configuration table if you:

- Have multiple directories in the same domain
- Each points to the same database
- Each needs a different set of configuration values

You tell VP-ASP which configuration table with a line in shop$config.asp

xconfigtable=”configuration1”

You can create additional configuration tables using Microsoft Access or the convertsql.asp utility.

By default configuration1 is empty. To add data to it, run the shopcopyconfig.asp utility.

23.12 Session State Replacement

VP-ASP, by design, uses Microsoft’s Session variables to maintain state. This means when you go from page to page while shopping, the session information is maintained on the server. This session information is small bits of information. There are two disadvantages of Microsoft’s session variables. First they expire after a time. This time limit is normall 10-20 minutes. The second is that they require the browser to have “cookies” enabled.

In this release of VP-ASP we have introduced a new facility called sessionless VP-ASP. This allows you to replace Session variables with our own internal session state handling.

See the Option Package Design Guide for setting up this facility.

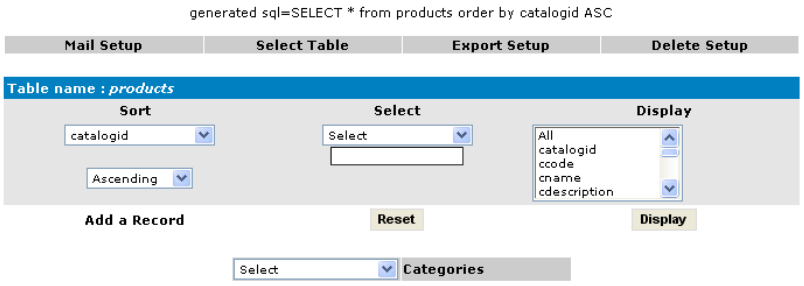
24 Adding Categories

VP-ASP has two main tables related to products: categories and products. You should have at least one category. You can have as many categories as you want. Categories can have subcategories. There is no limit to either the categories or subcategories or the depth of the subcategories (subcategories can have more subcategories.

From the main administrative menu select **Display Categories.**

24.1 Edit Display Menu

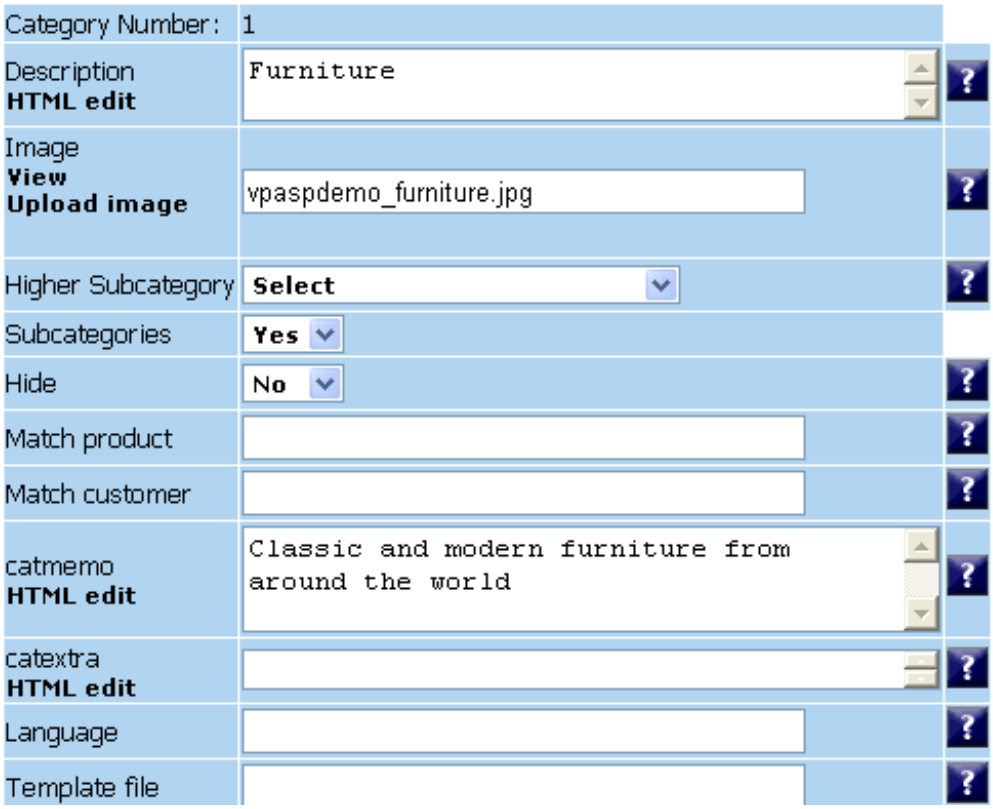
You will see our normal Edit/Display menu which is explained in detail later in this guide. For now you can simply click **Add a record** to create a new category. Or click Edit next to an existing category to change it. Or click the checkbox next to an existing category to delete it.



	catalogid	ccode	cname	cdescription	cprice	ccategory	cdescurl	Delete
Edit	1	11111	Hotel Room	Great suite overlooking the ocean and other places	85	2		☐
Edit	2	22222	City Tour	Tour the city with a local guide. See all the great sights	27	2		☐
Edit	3	33333	Electronic Cannon	Plastic toy cannon that requires battery	1.5	1	vpdemo_cannon.htm	☐
Edit	4	44444	The doll collection	A collection of small dolls	22.5	1		☐
Edit	5	55555	Ream White	Ream of white paper - 500 sheets	5.87	3		☐

24.2 Add a new Category

Select categories from the main menu. Then select **Add a new Record**. The form below will be displayed. Each of the names on the left are field names in the categories table. The only field required is the "**catdescription"**. This is the category name.



description (catdescription)	The category name. Required. No other field is required.
Image (catimage)	If an image is to be displayed, this is either a filename or URL to the image. For example myimage.gif or http://www.mysite.com/images/myimage.gif Image can be viewed. With the Option Package you can also upload images from your local PC
Higher categoryid (highercategoryid)	0 for the top most category (select will generate 0). The categoryid (number) of the category above this category. Every category is assigned a number called the categoryid. The current categories are listed.
Subcategories (hassubcategory)	If this category has subcategories, select Yes. This helps VP-ASP speed up processing.
Hide (cathide)	Leave empty unless you do not want this category to display, otherwise put **Yes** in this field. Anything in this field is the same as Yes
Match Product (matchproduct)	Use only if you want VP-ASP to match the product in shop$config.asp
Match Customer (matchcustomer)	Use only if you want VP-ASP to match same field in customer record
Catmemo	A detailed description of the category that can optionally be displayed
Catextra	Unused except if the following configuration is set xdisplaycategoryfiles=Yes. In that case this is a file name that holds information to be displayed when the products for this category are displayed
Language	The language name such as French. Used only if you are using language switching
Template	If using product formatting with templates, the name of the template to be used to format this category of products. Xcategoryproducttemplates must also be set to Yes

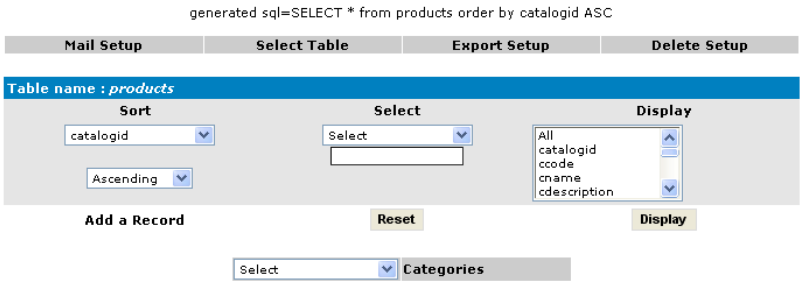
25 Adding a product

This is the main form for adding and altering product information. Certain required fields such as description and price are entered. It also generates a selection list for categories and category codes. Products are very important and this data entry screen forces correct information and makes feature selection easy.

From the main administrative menu select **Display Products.**

25.1 Edit Display Menu

You will see our normal Edit/Display menu, which is explained in detail later in this guide. For now you can simply click **Add a record** to create a new product. Or click Edit next to an existing product to change it. Or click the checkbox next to an existing product to delete it.

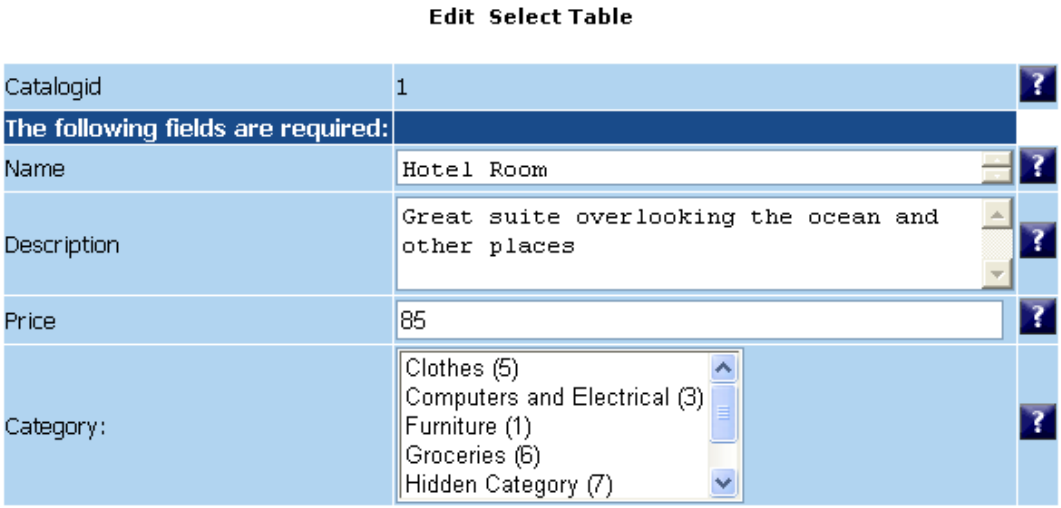


	catalogid	ccode	cname	cdescription	cprice	ccategory	cdescurl	Delete
Edit	1	11111	Hotel Room	Great suite overlooking the ocean and other places	85	2		☐
Edit	2	22222	City Tour	Tour the city with a local guide. See all the great sights	27	2		☐
Edit	3	33333	Electronic Cannon	Plastic toy cannon that requires battery	1.5	1	vpdemo_cannon.htm	☐
Edit	4	44444	The doll collection	A collection of small dolls	22.5	1		☐
Edit	5	55555	Ream White	Ream of white paper - 500 sheets	5.87	3		☐

25.2

There are two buttons at the bottom of the form, Add and Update. After you add a product, if you made a mistake, you can correct it immediately. This only works until you add another product or leave the session.

The captions can be changed by altering the language files shop$language_english.asp and shop$language2_english.asp



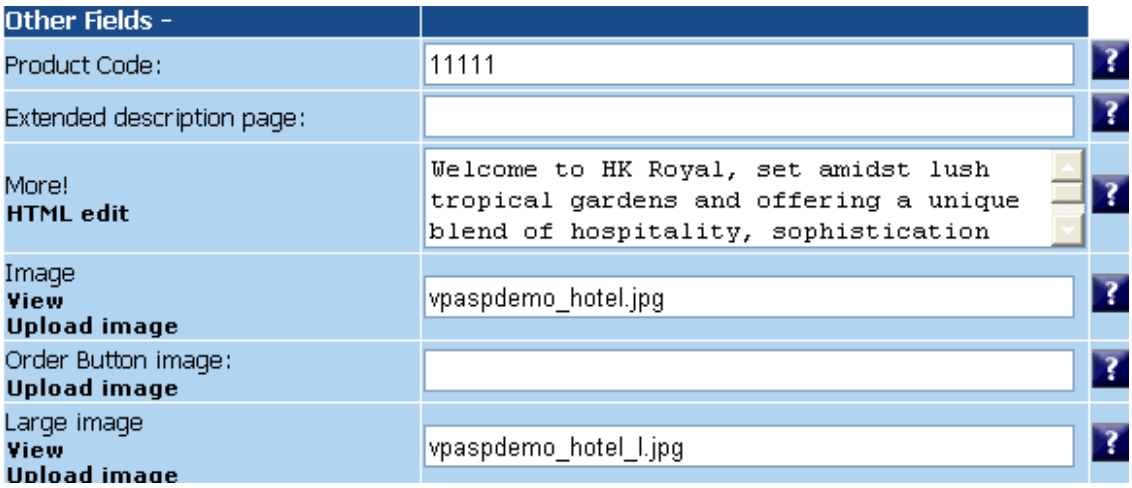
25.2.1 Required Fields

Required fields for each product are name, description price and category. Everything else is optional.

name (cname)	The name of the product
Description (cdescription)	This is a long description of the product. It can be any size and can include HTML
Price (cprice)	The price without $
Category (ccategoryid)	Select one or more categories the product belongs in. To select more than one category, hold down the CTRL key when making a selection

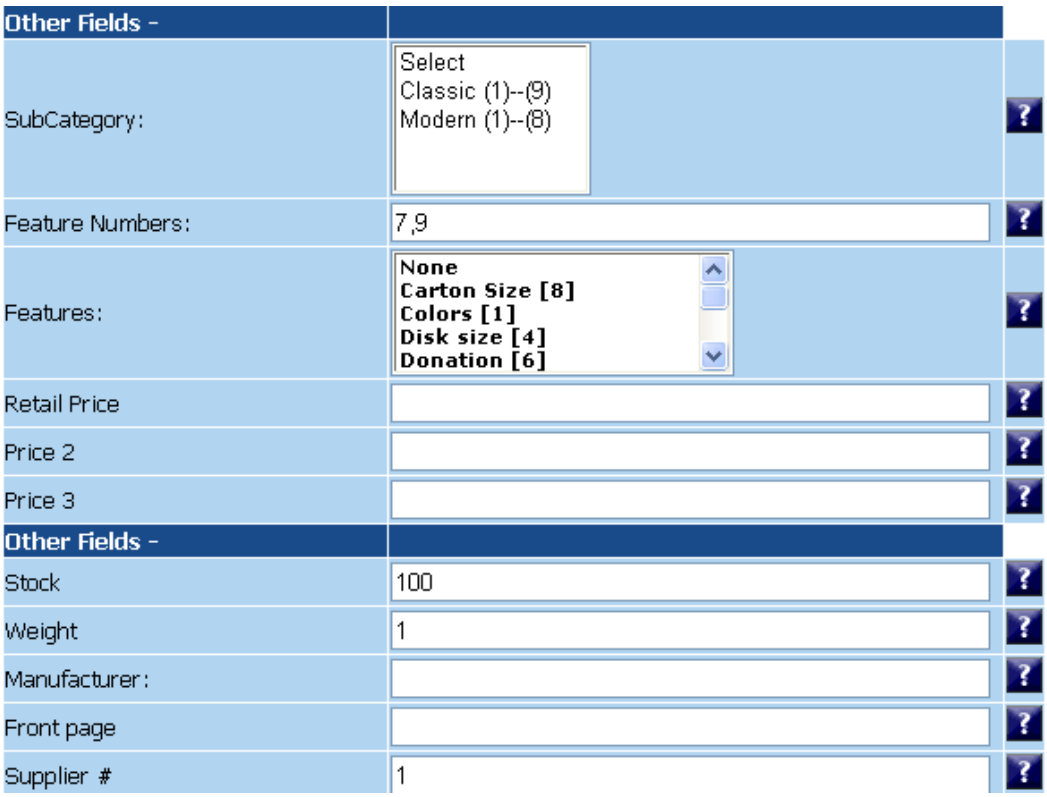
25.2.2 Other Product Fields

All Other Fields are optional

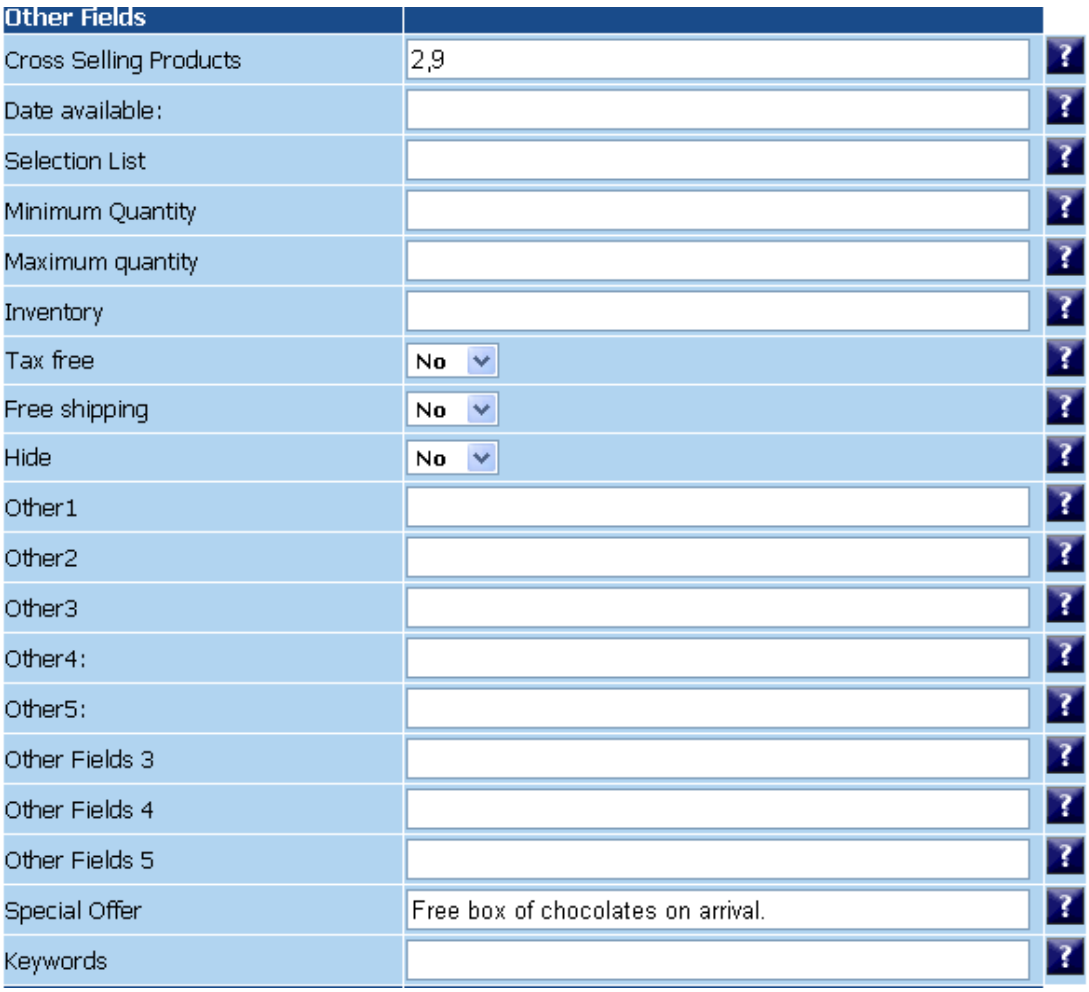


In the descriptions the item in (…) is the field name in the database. This cannot be changed.
The bold field such as **Name** can be changed by editing shop$language_english.asp.

Product Code (ccode)	Product code. Sometimes this is called an SKU.
Extended Description Page (cdescurl)	Filename or ASP page. VP-ASP will automatically generate a hyperlink back to this page when the product is displayed. It can be a full URL (http://www…)
More Information (extendeddesc)	Used only by the Option Package to generate the extended description of the product. There is no limit to the size
Image (cimageurl)	Thumbnail picture of this product
Large Image (extendedimage)	Used only by the Option Package to generate the extended description page. A larger image of the product.
Order Button Image (buttonimage)	If you are using individual order buttons, you can replace the normal default button on a product by product basis. This is the name of an image file



Subcategory (subcategoryid)	Select one or more subcategories the product belongs in. To select more than one category, hold down the CTRL key when making a selection
Feature Numbers (features)	This is normally for display only. It is the features for this product from the prodfeatures table. A list of available features is shown in the form
Features (features)	Select one or more features for the product. To select more than one category, hold down the CTRL key when making a selection
Retail Price (retailprice)	If you want VP-ASP to automatically display a price below the normal price, put a value here. Otherwise it is unused by VP-ASP.
Price 2	Unused
Price 3	Unused
Stock (cstock)	Stock level (a number). Only used if VP-ASP stock control has been activated
Weight (weight)	Number. Only used if you have selected a shipping calculation based on weight
Manufacturer (mfg)	Can be anything. Unused by VP-ASP
Supplier # (supplierid)	Leave blank if you are not using VP-ASP supplier reports. Otherwise it is the supplier number from the suppliers table



Cross Selling Products (crossselling)	A list of associated products. This is a list of catalogids (unique number assigned to a product). For example 99, 123,2
Date Available (cdateavailable)	Unused by VP-ASP
Selection List (selectlist)	Used when features are very specific to the product. A list in the form of Small, Large [2.00], Very Large [3.00]
Minimum Quantity (minimumquantity)	Leave empty unless you want VP-ASP to generate a drop down list for quantity using this number as a base. For example if you put 10 here, then the customer can only buy in multiples of 10. 10,20,30 …
Maximum Quantity (maximumquantity)	Leave empty unless you want VP-ASP to limit quantity being purchased.
Tax Free	Yes This product is not taxable
Free Shipping	Yes This product is not has no shipping cost
Hide **H**ide)	Yes means hide the product from displaying
Inventory	A list of associated products. This is a list of catalogids (unique number assigned to a product). For example 99, 123,2. These are used in the special inventory stock control facility.
Other 1 (pother1)	Unused by VP-ASP
Other 2 (pother2)	Unused by VP-ASP
Other 3 (pother3)	Unused by VP-ASP
Other 4 (pother4)	Unused by VP-ASP
Other 5 (pother5)	Unused by VP-ASP
Special Offer (specialoffer)	If something is in this field, VP-ASP sort displays these products first with the information supplied. Otherwise it is unused.
Keywords (keywords)	Keywords to be used for searching

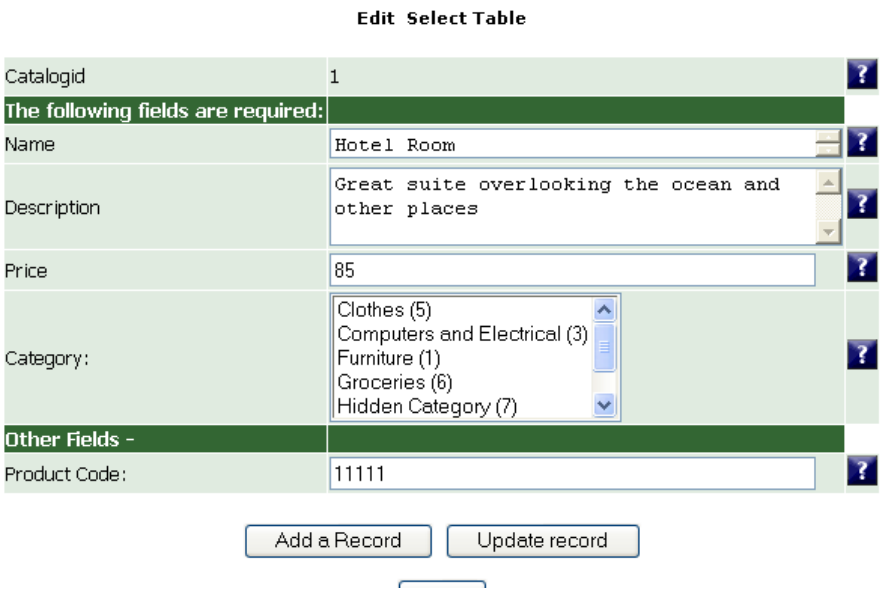
Advanced Fields	
Attachment	**abc.gif**
Download	
Template file	
Discount group	
Language	
Match customer	
Match product	
Points	
Redeem Points	
Userid	**vpasp**
Installments	
Billing	
Installments	
Installment type	
Installment interval	

Attachment (orderattachment)	VP-ASP can automatically add attachments at the completion of the order. This is the location of the file. It cannot be a URL. It must be a full disk address in form c:\mydirectory\myifile.xxx
Download (orderdownload)	VP-ASP can automatically generate download hyperlinks at the end of the order. This is the location of the file. It can be any valid URL or filename
Template File (template)	Using the Option Package extended description, you can supply a unique template per product. The default is tmp_product.htm
Discount Group (groupfordiscount)	You can group products together to form a group where quantity discount will apply. The group name must match a group in the quantity prices table. When a customer purchases products in the same group, then the discount is applied to all the products based on the rules you have created
Language (clanguage)	This name must match the language currently being used. When a language switch occurs, VP-ASP will display products only matching that language. Language switching is part of the VP-ASP Option Package
Match Customer (customermatch)	To restrict products to specific customers, this field matches the same field in the customer record
Match Product (productmatch)	To restrict certain directories to display specific products, this field matches xproductmatch in shop$config.asp
Userid (userid)	The administrative user assigned to the product. Leave blank and VP-ASP will automatically add the current logged in administrator
Points	Used only if points systems is enabled. The number of points customer receives if they purchase the products
Points to Redeem	Unused by VP-ASP

25.3 Simpler Product form

If you do not need all the fields, you can have a much simpler product data entry form by setting

Xproductaddsimplemode	Yes Only a subset of values display on form



25.3.1 Adding additional Fields

Additional fields can be added to the form but this requires a little bit of ASP Programming knowledge. Edit shopa_addproduct.asp, locate lines like

```
PCreateRow  getlang("LangProductWeight"),"strWeight", strWeight
```

Move them BEFORE the line that says
'********** End of Simple mode **********

25.3.2 VP-ASP Configuration Options Adding Products

If *SpecialOffer* is specified, the product will appear at the top of its product list. If *retailprice* is specified, the price appears in italics under the current price of the product.

By default all subcategories are displayed. If you only want subcategories for the selected category to be displayed, set the following in VP-ASP Configuration.

xaddproductsubcategorybycategory	Yes

25.3.3 Product Fields - Other

This display can also include your own non VP-ASP fields and captions. To add your own fields update these two lines in configuration.

xproductotherfields	yourfield2,yourfield2
xproductothercaptions	Your caption,Caption for yourfield2

The first line is the field names as they are in the database. Fieldnames CANNOT have spaces in them. The second line is the captions to appear in the display. Captions can have spaces.

25.3.4 Suppliers

If you have suppliers and wish to select them from the suppliers table, set the following value in VP-ASP Configuration.

xaddproductsupplierdropdown	Yes

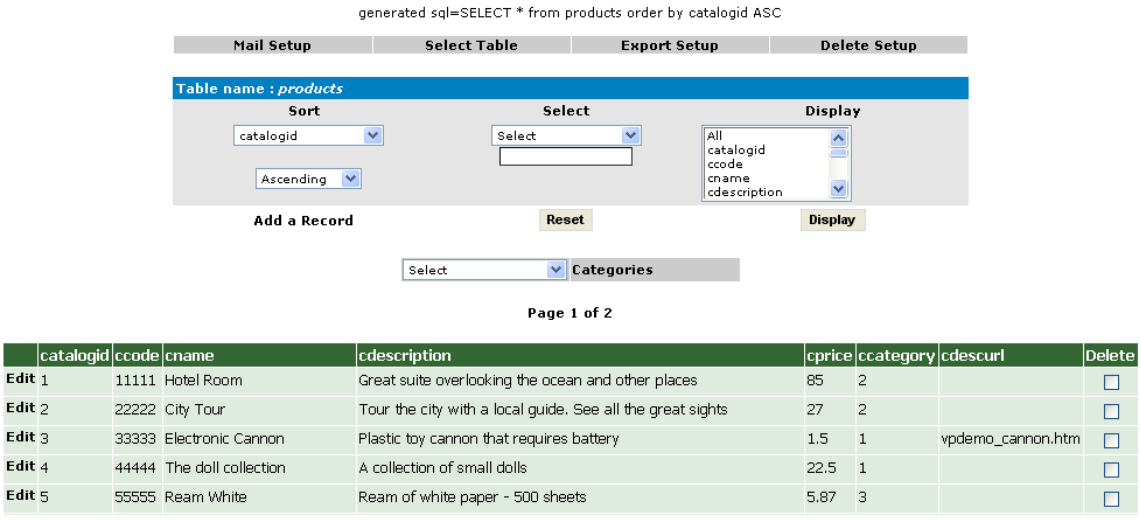
26 Editing VP-ASP Tables

Any VP-ASP table can be edited. Permission is required to edit a table. By selecting Edit VP-ASP Tables, you have displayed a list of tables that you are permitted to view and edit

26.1 Shopa_EditDisplay.asp

This is a general-purpose routine to generate a table for the rows in any table in the database. From this menu you can:

- Sort records
- Select fields to display
- Locate a specific record
- Mail to customers
- Export records from a table
- Delete records
- Edit records
- Add a record



	catalogid	ccode	cname	cdescription	cprice	ccategory	cdescurl	Delete
Edit	1	11111	Hotel Room	Great suite overlooking the ocean and other places	85	2		☐
Edit	2	22222	City Tour	Tour the city with a local guide. See all the great sights	27	2		☐
Edit	3	33333	Electronic Cannon	Plastic toy cannon that requires battery	1.5	1	vpdemo_cannon.htm	☐
Edit	4	44444	The doll collection	A collection of small dolls	22.5	1		☐
Edit	5	55555	Ream White	Ream of white paper - 500 sheets	5.87	3		☐

26.2 The Control Bar

The mail Setup, Export Setup, Delete Setup are used to control those facilities.
Mail Setup runs file shopa_mailsetup.asp
Delete Setup runs shopa_deletesetup.asp
Export Setup Runs shopa_exportsetup.asp
Select Table runs shopa_tableselect.asp

26.3 Deleting Records

Deleting products must be set-up by selecting Delete Setup. This brings up a set of checkboxes on the right hand side of the table. A button will then appear and allow you to delete records.

27 Frames

VP-ASP can run well in a frames environment. Here are a few hints.

This assumes a three frame environment. Top for logo/banner, left for navigation and main for the VP-ASP shopping cart. Almost all the changes have to do with forcing the home page back to your normal framed site.

These hints are based on user experience in generating a framed VP-ASP shop. They are designed to save you time in building your shop. If you require that credit cards be taken in a secure environment then follow the rules below, otherwise no special changes are required to run VP-ASP in a frames environment.

27.1.1 Frames and SSL

In order to allow VP-ASP to switch to secure mode (SSL), you must leave the frames environment. This is done by setting a configuration option xFrames="Yes". You must also tell VP-ASP how to resume your frames environment by setting the following in VP-ASP Configuration that point back to your main site.

VP-ASP Configuration change to:

xframes	Yes
xhome1	Http://www.yoursite.com

1. In the VP-ASP configuration file make sure your xhome points to your middle frame
2. In the file that generates the top navigation and site logo (shoppage_header.htm)
   Remove the reference to the gif file, assuming that the banner is in the top frame. You don't want two banners displaying.

27.2 Frames add-on

A free add-on for frames is available that adds to the frames handling of VP-ASP. It includes

1. Minicart in a left frame with automatic updating. This is normally difficult because one frame needs to notify another frame to update its contents.
2. Support for SSL while staying in a frame. Because it is difficult to get the lock to come on while staying within a frame, this code switches to SSL mode but continues your normal frames environment.

28 Shipping Calculations

VP-ASP has numerous different shipping calculations. Some are built-in and others are provided as free add-ons. The Shipping can be set up in a variety of ways:

1. Customer selects from a list
2. Customer has no choice of shipping
3. No shipping
4. Shipping Message only that says shipping will be added later
5. Free shipping over a certain amount
6. Delivery based shipping where each package is being shipped to different addresses
7. Real time UPS, USPS, Canada Post, Australia Post
8. Real time uses Intershipper Service
9. Database lookup for UPS and Fedex

28.1 Shipping Configuration

These Shop Configuration settings control the shipping calculations

Xdefaultshippingmethod	Yes. If set to NO, the customer must select one from the drop down list. Otherwise the first one on the list is automatically selected.
Xfixedshippingcost	0
Xfixedshippingmethod	How you want to ship
Xmerchantshipzip	The post code of the Merchant
Xshippingcalc	Type of shipping calculation to be used
xshippingdatabaserecords	Yes uses the shipmethods table
Xshippingform	Yes Displays the shipping form
xfixedshippingmethod	This name is used to search the shipmethods table to find the shipping record when the customer cannot select it.
Xshippingfree	100 (example only) an order value over which shipping will be free
Xshippingbycountry	Yes means that certain routines can be selected by country
Xshippingfreeproducts	Yes means that a check should be made to exclude certain products from any shipping calculations. There is extra overhead associated with this
Xshippingdisplay	Yes Used when xshippingform=No to display the shipping drop down list

28.1.1 Shipping Calculations

VP-ASP supports different types of shipping calculations and can easily be modified to support just about any calculations you need. The shipping calculations are controlled by the VP-ASP configuration.

Xshippingcalc	Lookup

Lookup	Customer selects shipping method but the amount is fixed regardless of what is being ordered. This is the default.
Fixed	You set a fixed amount by setting the following configuration. xFixedshippingmethod="Your shipping method" xFixedShippingcost="3.00"
PriceRange	Shipping is calculated by the total price of products ordered and selection made by customer Supports shipping by country
WeightRange	Shipping is calculated by weight of products and selection made by customer Supports shipping by country

PricePercent	Shipping is calculated as a percentage of the product cost
Weight	Weight * Quantity * amount . Customer selects shipping method which determines the amount multiplier Supports shipping by country
Quantity	Quantity * amount . Customer selects shipping method which determines the amount multiplier Supports shipping by country
Write your own	Any calculation can be supported
Other	UPS table lookup (on request), UPS real time (on request)
Product	The actual shipping cost is in the product record. By default the weight field is used
QuantityRange	Different prices based on quantity purchased Supports shipping by country

28.2 Lookup

Simply add your shipping names and prices to the shipmethods table. The customer selects from the list. Fields that need to be set in shipmethods table:

shipmethodID	shipmethod	smprice
1	Express	$4.00
2	Normal	$2.00
3	Airmail	$9.00
4	Download	$0.00

28.3 Fixed

For this you need to change two lines to VP-ASP Configuration.

xfixedshippingmethod	Your shipping method
xFixedshippingcost	3.00

If you do not want the normal shipping methods form to display, set the following.

xshippingdatabaserecords	No
xshippingform	No will stop shipping form from being displayed Yes will display the shipping form but customer cannot select method since it is fixed.

If you have specified that there are shipping free products and only those are purchased, then the shipping cost will be zero

28.4 Calculating by weight

Set the following value in VP-ASP Configuration.

Xshippingcalc	**Weight**

VP-ASP will calculate the shipping price automatically by reading the shipmethods table. You need to update this table to reflect your shipping methods and costs.
For example the following values:

ShipmethodID	shipmethod	ShipBaseCost	ShipExtraCost
1	Express	$2.00	$2.00
2	Normal	$3.95	$1.00
3	Airmail	$6.00	$4.00
4	Download	0	0

ShipBaseCost is the amount that will be charged regardless of weight.
ShipExtraCost is multiplied by weight and quantity
The total is the sum of those amounts

If ShipBasecost is 0, then the base cost is SMPRICE

If you have specified that there are shipping free products and only those are purchased, then the shipping cost will be zero

28.5 Calculating by Quantity

Set the following value in shop$config.asp

Xshippingcalc	Quantity

VP-ASP will calculate the shipping price automatically by reading the shipmethods table. You need to update this table to reflect your shipping methods and costs. For example the following values

shipmethod	ShipBaseCost	ShipExtraCost	ShipOther1	ShipOther2
Express	0	$2.00	0	5

ShipBaseCost is the amount that will be charged regardless of quantity.
ShipExtraCost is multiplied by items
The total is the sum of those amounts

If you have specified that there are shipping free products and only those are purchased, then the shipping cost will be zero

28.6 Calculating by Quantity Range

Set the following value in Shop Configuration.

xshippingcalc	**QuantityRange**

VP-ASP will calculate the shipping price automatically by reading the shipmethods table. You need to update this table to reflect your shipping methods and costs. For example the following values

shipmethod	ShipBaseCost	ShipExtraCost	ShipOther1	ShipOther2
Express	0	$2.00	0	5
Express	5	$4.00	5	10
Express	9	$6.00	10	999

ShipBaseCost is the amount that will be charged regardless of quantity.
ShipExtraCost is multiplied by items
The total is the sum of those amounts

If you have specified that there are shipping free products and only those are purchased, then the shipping cost will be zero

28.7 Price Range

The total cost of the order is compared against a range set in the shipmethods table.
The price is whatever is in ShipBaseCost within that price range.

shipmethod	ShipBaseCost	ShipCost1	ShipCost2
Express	0	0	5
Express	5	5	10
Express	9	10	999

If you have specified that there are shipping free products and only those are purchased, then the shipping cost will be zero

28.8 Price Percent

The shipping cost is calculated as a percentage of the product price. This is done by using the xfixedshipping price value as a percentage value.

xshippingcalc	PricePercent
Xfixedshippingprice	.20 The .20 says that the shipping is to be 20% of the product cost

shipmethod	ShipBaseCost	ShipExtraCost	ShipOther1	ShipOther2
Post	0	0	0	0

If you have specified that there are shipping free products and only those are purchased, then the shipping cost will be zero

28.9 Weight Range

The total weight of the products is compared against a range set in the shipmethods table.
The price is whatever is in ShipBaseCost within that price range.
If there is an amount in ShipExtracost, it is added to the base cost using the following formula

Remainingweight=Totalweight-Loweight (shipother1)
extracost = RemainingWeight*ShipExtraCost
Total Shipping Cost = ShipBaseCost + ExtraCost

Shipmethod	ShipBaseCost	ShipExtraCost	ShipOther1	ShipOther2
Express	0	$2.00	0	5
Express	5	$4.00	5	10

Express	9	$6.00	10	999

If you have specified that there are shipping free products and only those are purchased, then the shipping cost will be zero.

28.10 Other Shipping Routines

VP-ASP supplies free add-ons for other shipping types. For those types specify “OTHER”. The routine names that handle these special shipping types are defined in the shipmethods table field “shiproutine”. Separate instructions come with these other shipping methods.

The others are available, as free add-ons, but do not form part of the official supported product. It is possible for example for UPS or FedEx to change their rules and we do not guarantee that VP-ASP will support these changes. Any or all of these extra add-ons may require that you register with the appropriate companies. Most of the real time interfaces require the Microsoft XML DLL to be installed. This is normally on most modern Windows servers but may not be on your server.

UPS Realtime
UPS by Database Lookup
Australia Post realtime
Canada Post realtime
Fedex database lookup
USPS Realtime lookup

28.11 UPS Shipping

Many customers have asked us about UPS shipping. We have developed two special UPS algorithms that are available free but are not included in the VP-ASP Distribution package. We do not guarantee in any way that these methods will meet your requirements. We provide the tables and the code AS-IS.

28.12 UPS Real Time

VP-ASP calculates the weight of the items, uses your zip code and sends a message to UPS. UPS returns with different costs and the customer can select the type of shipping based on the costs being displayed. The response normally only takes a few seconds. ShipRoutine=shopupsreal.asp.

28.13 UPSDB

UPSDB uses a separate database with UPS tables. These tables were supplied to us by one of our customers. We do not guarantee they are up to date nor can we update them.
One of these tables is a zone table which represents your local zip code. You will need to obtain your specific zone table from UPS themselves. Shiproutine=shopupsdb.asp

VP-ASP calculates the weight of the items, uses the zone table and the shipping zip code and looks up the various prices. The customer can select the type of shipping based on the costs being displayed.

28.13.1 Other Fields in Shipmethods Tables

There are other fields in the shipmethods table that you can use. VP-ASP does not use these fields. They are read in for you automatically by VP-ASP in shopshippcalc.asp but ignored.

28.14 FedEx database

FedEx database uses a separate database with FedEx supplied tables. These tables were downloaded from the FedEx site and are dependent on the zip code you are shipping from.

One of these tables is a zone table which represents your local zip code. You will need to obtain your specific zone table from FedEx. Shiproutine=shopfedexdb.asp

VP-ASP calculates the weight of the items, uses the zone table and the shipping zip code and looks up the various prices. The customer can select the type of shipping based on the costs being displayed.

28.15 Intershipper

Intershipper, www.intershipper.com, provides a commercial service for a fee. Itt does real time shipping calculations for: Airborne Express, ANX, BAX Global, DHL, Emery Worldwide, FedEx Express, United Parcel Service, US Postal Service.

28.16 Other Fields in Shipmethods Tables

There are other fields in the shipmethods table that you can use. VP-ASP does not use these fields. They are read in for you automatically by VP-ASP in shopshipping.asp but ignored.

29 Taxes

Tax handling is very country specific. VP-ASP has a number of built in tax calculations. If these are not suitable, you can modify shoptax.asp to match your exact requirements. The built in tax calculations include:

- Tax by State/Province
- Tax by Country
- Tax by Product
- EU taxes
- Exlude products from tax

A special add-on is available that handles Australia GST when tax is included in the price. This can be obtained on our web site.

Shipping by default is not included in tax calculations. To include the shipping cost set the following. This value does not affect the tax calculation for tax by product but will affect all the other shipping calculations.

Xtaxincludeshipping	Yes
Xtaxfreeproducts	Yes tells VP-ASP to recalculate the product total to exclude products that are tax free. There is extra overhead in using this option

29.1 Tax By State

Tax by state is controlled by two VP-ASP configuration options: xtaxstatename, xtaxstaterates

29.1.1 Sample for Texas

Xtaxstatename	TX
Xtaxstaterates	.075
Xincludestates	Yes

```
The rate above is just an example.
```

It is important that the state drop down list be used to generate the correct state abbreviations.

29.1.2 Multiple States Example

Xtaxstatename	NY,NJ,TX
Xtaxstaterates	.075,.06,.085
Xincludestates	Yes

The rates are purely an example. This says tax should be charged if the customer is in New York, New Jersey or Texas. The rate for New York is 7.5%, the rate for New Jersey is 6% and the rate for Texas is 8.5%.

29.2 Tax By Country

You can specify that customers from certain countries be taxed. With the settings below, only residents of the United Kingdom are charged a tax of 17.5%

xtaxcountryname	UK
xtaxcountryrates	.175
xincludecountries	Yes

It is important that the country drop down list be used to generate the correct state abbreviations.
`xincludecountries=Yes`

29.3 Tax By Product

To tax by product you must fill in the percent rate in the product record. There is no specific field for this so you need to select an unused field. Say you select pother1. In the VP-ASP Configuration set the following:

xtaxperproduct	pother1

VP-ASP will look at this field (pother1). If there is something in it, it will be multiplied by the product price to get a tax for that product. If the field is empty, the product is not taxed.

29.4 European VAT and Taxes

VP-ASP has basic validation for EU VAT numbers and can bypass VAT for companies that supply valid VAT number. Validation is done by shopvalidatevat.asp.

Virtual Programming makes no representation that this is the correct validation rules for EU VAT and customers use these facilities at their own risk.

xvatnumber	Yes tells VP-ASP to display a VAT number on the customer form and validate it if entered.
xtaxEU	Yes tells VP-ASP to use the special EU tax logic built into shoptax.asp
xtaxeurate	.175 EU tax rate
xtaxeucountries	UK,ES,IT,FR,DE,NL,DK,GR,EN,PT,FI,SE,IE,LU,BE
xvatcountry	UK

29.4.1 EU Tax Logic

If xtaxeu is Yes, then if the country is one of the European countries (xtaxeucountries) then the taxrate (xtaxeurate) is multiplied against the product cost. The exception to this is if a valid VAT number was entered on the customer form. The country identified as xvatcountry is always taxed even if a valid VAT number is entered.

29.5 Tax Included with Price

If your products already include the tax and simply want the tax to be a display field, then set. Because this causes a different mathematical calculation, code changes in shoptax.asp will also be required to produce the correct result.

Xtaxincludedinprice	Yes

29.6 Excluding Products from Tax

Specific products can be excluded from taxes. Use the Shop Configuration Option. This is list of catalogids that are excluded. The example below shows how to exclude gift certificates. Or you can mark certain products by using an unused field in the products table

Both a list of products and the database lookup can be used together.

xtaxexcludeproducts	99999
Xtaxexcludeproductsdb	Pother4 for example Exclude products that this field is not null in the product record

30 Handling Fees

Handling fees are optional. The configuration option can be used to set a fixed handling fee or by product.

xhandlingprice	2.50
Xhandlingbyproduct	Fieldname The field in the products table that the handling price is obtained

The two types of handling calculations can be used together. You may have a fixed handling cost plus individual product costs.

If more complicated logic is required, then edit file **shophandling.asp** and add your own handling fee calculation.

31 Discounts

VP-ASP supports the following types of discounts.

- An **overall discount** to the entire order based on the products ordered. This discount is based on a specific customer. The rate is set in the customer table in the discount field. It can also be calculated another way by adding code to file shopdiscount.asp.
- **Quantity discount** for specific products where the price can be altered depending on the quantity the customer buys. The quantity ranges and prices are set in the quantityprices table and calculated in file.
- **Customer Specific Pricing** regardless of quantity.
- **Quantity based discounts** where a number of different products are combined to determine whether quantity based discounts should apply.
- **Price Range Discount** -The customer buys over a certain amount a discount is applied automatically
- **Discount Coupons** - These are described in the VP-ASP Option Package Guide
- **Gift Certificates** - These are described in the VP-ASP Option Package Guide
- **Buy one get one free** - The ability to give away a free product based on the quantity purchased

31.1 Overall Customer Discountsl

To just provide a customer with an overall discount, simply put a discount value in the customer record in the field **discount**. When the customer shops again and logs in, the discount is applied automatically. It only appears when the customer confirms the order in shopcreateorder.asp.

31.2 Quantity Processing

To use quantity pricing set the following value in VP-ASP Configuration. This feature adds additional overhead. VP-ASP needs to check the database every time the quantity for an item is changed to recalculate the price.

xquantityprices	Yes tells VP-ASP to use quantity based pricing

Each time the customer alters the quantity of a product, shopuserprice.asp is called. It looks up the product by catalogid or category. If it finds a record in the "**quantitydiscounts**" table it alters the prices based on the ranges set in that table.

VP-ASP will not group products to apply a discount. If you want different products to be treated as a group you must also set the following.

xproductgroupdiscount	Yes tells VP-ASP to group products. Products are grouped using a field in the products table groupfordiscount.

31.2.1 QuantityDiscounts Table

You can specify in this table the following fields in the quantity

categoryid	Discount should apply to products in this category
catalogid	Discount should apply to this specific product
minquantity	The minimum quantity before the discount should apply
quantity1	The upper level of the quantity. For example if a discount is to be applied for purchases over 5 to 10 items set minquantity 5 and 10 in this field
discount1	The amount of discount. If it is less than 1 such as .10 it is treated as a percent and if greater than 1 it is treated as an actual discount amount

quantity2 and discount2…	These are the next ranges. The quantity must be higher that the previous quantity. You must set the last quantity to a high number such as 99999
groupfordiscount	Will group products before calculating the discount. This allows you to apply a discount across a range of products. This field must match the same field in the products table. If using this facility, make sure cataloged and categoryid are set to null

31.3 Price Range Discount

This is set-up using VP-ASP Configuration

xdiscountlimit	100,500,1000
xdiscountamount	.10,.20,.30

In the above example if a person buys over $100, they get a 10 percent discount. Over $500 they get a 20% discount and over 1000, they get a 30% discount.

Xdiscountlimit are the ranges for which the discounts apply and **xdiscountamount** are the percentages. For European countries where a comma is used as a decimal point, separate the amounts with a semicolon (;).

The calculation is done automatically by file shopdiscount.asp.

31.4 Files used for Discounting

Shopdiscount.asp is used to calculate a discount for a customer. Discount calculations are done by default when a customer logs in and the discount has a non zero value for that customer. The discount field is in the customer record.

Shopuserprice.asp is used to calculate discounts based on the quantity ordered.

Shopcustomerprices.asp is used to alter the price based on a specific customer.

Shopuserprice.asp is used to alter the prices based on the quantity purchased but can also be used to alter the prices based on any other criteria you choose.

31.5 Buy One Get One Free

The facility allows you to offer a free additional product when a certain quantity is purchased. For example buy 4 of something and get an additional one free. Buy 2 of this product and get a free other product.

31.5.1 Restrictions on usage

- Products are not grouped. The limits are based purely on the individual quantities of the products in the cart
- If the free product would exceed the limit of the number of products in the cart, it is not added to the cart.

31.5.2 Configuration values

Xcartspecialhandling	Yes tells VP-ASP that special product handling is required
Xcartspecialhandlingfield	level3 The field in the products table that has the special handling instructions. It can be any field, level3 is just an example This has the quantity limit and the product to be given 5 means if they buy five give the customer a sixth one free 4, 67 means if they buy 4 then give the customer product 67 for free

31.5.3 Free Product on a given quantity

One or two values can be placed in the level3 field. The first number is the quantity that must be purchased. The second is optional. It is the catalogid of the free product. If it is not supplied the customer is given a free copy of the product itself.

32 Customer based pricing

VP-ASP allows you to provide discounts to customers in numerous ways. There are two different ways to do customer based pricing;

1. The first involves using different prices in the products table. With this method you define different types of customers and each sees only the price field in the products table defined for that customer.
2. The second method uses a table called customerprices. The customer will then only see these prices and not the prices normally defined for the products. Customer based prices will add additional overhead. Each time a product is displayed, the customerprices table must be read to determine if the customer should see a special price for this product.

32.1 Customer Pricing based on products record

Specifying different price fields in the products table can now also do customer pricing. Customers can be separated into types such as retail, wholesale; distributor and each can "see" a different price for the same product. The prices are stored in the product record and not dynamically looked up in the customer prices table.

What do you have to do?
1. Tell VP-ASP what types of customers you have
2. Tell VP-ASP where to find their prices
3. For each customer you want a special price for, put their customer type in their customer record

For example

Price level (a)	Price level (b)	Price level (c)
100	95.00	60.00

Price level is set by customer type a-b-c

32.1.1 Shop Configuration Values

The following Shop Configuration values control this enhanced customer pricing

xcustomerprices	Yes Turns on customer based products
xcustomerpriceidentifier	contacttypeid The field in the customer record used to distinguish different customers. contacttypeid is the default. You can use any field in the customers record to hold the information that tells VP-ASP the type of customer this is
xcustomerpricetypes	1,2,3 If you use a text field instead of contacttypeid (which is a number) the different types can be text such as: a,b,c or Wholesale,Distributor,Friend
xcustomerpricefields	cprice,pother5,price3 Fields where prices are entered in the products table. These are the fields in the products table where the prices can be found

32.2 How Customer pricing works

First you must turn on customer based pricing by setting in Shop Configuration.

xcustomerprices	Yes

Next tell VP-ASP which field in the customers table identifies specific customer types. By default VP-ASP will use the normally unused field contacttypeid which is a numeric field but you can use any other field such as custother1 or any field that you add to the customers table.

xcustomerpriceidentifier	contacttypeid or custother1 The field to use in the customer table to identity the customer

Next Tell VP-ASP the types of customers you have. Say you have three types. Retail, wholesale and distributor and they see three different prices. You want retail customers to see the normal price (cprice) but you want wholesalers to see another price and distributors to see a third price. You decide to use custother1 to tell VP-ASP which customers are which.

You do not have to do anything for retail customers. For the others you create an entry in the Shop Configuration. Any keywords will do as long as they match the value you put for the customer in the custother1 field above.

xcustomerpricetypes	Wholesale,Distributor

The last thing is to tell VP-ASP which field in the product's table to find the prices. You want the wholesale price to be in pother1 and the distributor price to be in pother2. Again any fields can be used. The order is important. The first field is used for the first name in the **xcustomerpricetypes.**

xcustomerpricefields	pother5,pother2

32.3 How prices are determined

Normal retail customers will have no value in the field custother1 (xcustomerpriceidentifier) and therefore will see the normal retail price.

Wholesale and Distributors would login before they shop and VP-ASP will save their customer type. When a product is displayed a lookup is done to determine which field in the products table to use as their price by matching the customer type with values in **customerpricetypes**. and determine which fields to use **xcustomerpricefields.**

32.4 Customer Based Pricing using Customer Prices Table

In VP-ASP Configuration, the following value must be set:

xcustomerprices	Yes tells VP-ASP to use customer prices table

32.5 Updating the CustomerPrices Table

The **customerprices** table consists of just a few fields.

customerid	The customer number from the customers table
categoryid	Discount should apply to products in this category
catalogid	Discount should apply to this specific product
discountpercent	The discount percentage. This will be multiplied by the product price to determine the customer's price
discountamount	Actual amount deducted from the product price

32.5.1 How Customer Pricing Works

If the customer has logged in then each time a product record is read from the database, a check is made in the "CustomerPrices" table. If found,the price from the products table is adjusted.

32.5.2 General Discount

If both categoryid and catalogid are set to 0 it is possible to provide a discount for the customer for all products not matched otherwise.

33 SSL

Secure Sockets Layer (SSL) technology encrypts information from a customer PC to your web site. SSL is implemented using what is known as digital certificates that bind an identity to a pair of electronic keys that can be used to encrypt and sign digital information. A Secure Server ID makes it possible to verify someone's claim that they have the right to use a given key, helping to prevent people from using phoney keys to impersonate other users. Used in conjunction with encryption, Secure Server IDs provide a complete security solution, assuring the identity of one or all parties involved in a transaction.

More information at: http://digitalid.verisign.com/server/about/aboutFAQ.htm#whatIs

33.1 Where do I get SSL

SSL certificate is something you purchase from third parties such as Thawte or Verisign. If you have your own SSL certificate, then you can configure VP-ASP to use it. VP-ASP also supports shared SSL. Shared SSL is where your web hosting company provides an SSL certificate for you.

33.2 Do I Need SSL

Maybe!
If you are planning to take credit card information using standard VP-ASP facilities then yes you probably do. Internet buyers will only trust their credit card if they know it is securely transmitted.

But you may not need to buy a digital certificate. Many web hosting companies let you use their digital certificate for free or for a small charge. Check with your web hosting company.

33.3 When you don't need SSL

If you are planning to use an electronic banking gateway that takes the customers credit card information at their own site, then you don't need SSL on your own web host. When the person gets to the point of needing to enter payment information, the button goes to an SSL protecting electronic gateway. VP-ASP supports many of the most popular electronic gateways.

33.4 SSL and VP-ASP

If you are planning to use SSL on your web site with VP-ASP, here are some tips.

1. Edit VP-ASP configuration and change the following statement

Xssl	https://yourweb.com/shopping

It must have https to use SSL encryption

33.5 SSLShopCheckout -Web Hosting Companies SSL on another Server

Some web hosting companies allow you to use their security certificate but sometimes it is on a totally different server. This is called “shared SSL”. Shared SSL is an invention of your web hosting company and every web hosting company implements this uniquely. For this reason VP-ASP requires special handling if you plan to use “shared SSL”.

33.6 Shared SSL restrictions

What is Shared SSL? A "secure server" or "shared SSL" is an invention of your web hosting company. It is a way to use an SSL certificate without actually buying one. Every web hosting company that supplies a "Secure Server" facility does it differently. VP-ASP only supports this shared SSL to take credit cards

using our special sslshopcheckout.asp. This is true whether the "shared ssl" is just a separate folder on the same server or on another sever entirely.

Because this "secure server" is unique to your web hosting company, some of our electronic gateway interfaces can use it. Our forms based gateways may not work but our COM based gateways will work if certain special procedures are followed.

VP-ASP supports this 'secure server" facility only with our special SSLshopcheckout interface.

With a Shared SSL certificate you cannot:

- Use any of our supplied gateways
- Use the VP-ASP Admin system in SSL Mode
- Use any other VP-ASP files in SSL Mode
- It can only be used to store credit card details in the VP-ASP database for manual credit card processing.
- Language switching is not supported

33.7 Using SSLShopcheckout

To allow the SSL to be on a different server (or a different folder on the same server), we have created an interface called sslshopcheckout.asp. This code is allows you to take credit cards using a server with SSL using "shared SSL". This interface does require a number of VP-ASP files to be placed in your secure server. The database does not need to be copied.

33.8 Configuring Shared SSL

Your web hosting company must allow you to install a few files on this “Secure Server”. VP-ASP has a special interface called sslshopcheckout.asp that needs to be installed on the “secure server”. The steps are:

33.8.1 Alter VP-ASP Configuration

Xssl	https://yourwebhostsotherserver.com/yourdirectory
Xcheckout	sslshopcheckout.asp

Copy the Following Files to the secure server.

```
sslshopcheckout.asp
sslshophash.asp
sslshopsess.asp
shop$language_english.asp
shop$colors.asp
shop$config.asp
shop.css
```

33.8.2 Edit SSLshopcheckout.asp

Change these two lines

```
const MYSITE="http://www.YourSite.com/shopping"
const xEncryptkey="agabAhjBcG"
```

The first line points back to where VP-ASP is installed on your main site.
The second is the encryption key. It must match the xencryptkey in your VP-ASP configuration.

33.8.3 SSL ShopCheckout Configuration

Since SSLshopcheckout could be on a server different from the one the VP-ASP shop is on, the normal Shop Configuration Values do not apply. This means that if you wish to change credit card types, turn on or off the Card Verification Number display, turn on an issue number, then all these must be done by altering one or more lines in sslshopcheckout.asp. These lines are near the top of sslshopcheckout.asp

const CVNDisplay="Yes"	Display prompt for Card Verification number
const CVNRequired="No"	Whether CVN is required
const xEncryptkey="agabAhjBcG"	Encrypt key.. Must match your shops encryption key
Const MYSITE="http://www.yourshoppingsite.com/shopping"	Location where normal shop resides
Shop$language_English.asp	Change this to your normal language file

33.8.4 Configure Credit Cards

For example if you take Diners and Bankcard but not American Express the list would look like this:
Const Creditcards="Visa,Mastercard,Diners Club”

33.8.5 Configuring Non-Credit Cards

There is an array of non credit card payment types. Suppose you want to remove cash and add Purchase Order and Fax Order.
Const Otherpayments="Check,Purchase Order, Fax Order,Phone Order"

33.9 What VP-ASP Does with SSL

All that VP-ASP does is switch between non secure mode and SSL mode when invoking page shopcheckout.asp. This is where credit card information is entered. It does this by concatenating what you placed in xSSL in the configuration file with the filename shopcheckout.asp to create a full URL in the form:

https://yourweb.com/shopping/shopcheckout.asp

33.10 Where are my normal headers and footers

Because the sslshopcheckout.asp could be on another server, we have tried to make it easy to install. If you wish to add more information or additional headers or images, you will need to modify sslshopcheckout.asp

You would add additional HTML in these two subroutines

```
Sub NewShopPageHeader
%>
<html>
<head>
<title>Shopping Cart Secure Checkout</title>
<link rel="stylesheet" href="shop.css" type="text/css">
</head>
<body bgcolor="#FFFFFF" text="#000000" link="#BB0000" vlink="#000099"
alink="#336699">
<center>
<%
end sub
Sub NewShopPageTrailer
%>
</body>
</html>
<%
End Sub
```

33.11 SSL Enhancement for Com based gateways

To support Com based gateways and shared SSL, you must use a combination of sslshopcheckout.asp and the gateway interface we supply. Suppose you want to use Verisign Payflowpro. This gateway normally requires that you have your own SSL certificate. VP-ASP allows you to use this gateway with our shared SSL code. But this requires that you do the following extra steps:

1. First install the gateway as per the instructions that come with the gateway interface that we supply.
2. Change the normal install instructions for the gateway that would normally say something like set Shop Configuration

   xcheckout=pfpshopcheckout.asp
   you make this

   xcheckout=sslshopcheckout.asp
   xpaymenturl=pfpshoppayment.asp

   The payment file is totally dependent on the gateway. Each gateway has a different name. For example it may be anaimshoppayment.asp. What the above does is to first use the sslshopcheckout facility to collect the credit card details and then use the actual gateway interface to process the credit card.

   An alternative to xpaymenturl is to actually edit sslresult.asp and change. It is your choice as to which is easier for you.
   Forwardurl="pfpshoppayment.asp"

3. Next change where to go in case the credit card is declined. Edit the pfpshoppayment.asp. The file name is the same as entered in the xpaymenturl above and is dependent on the gateway you are using. For example it could be anaimshoppayment.asp etc.

   backurl="anaimshopcheckout.asp"
   and change to
   backurl="ssldecline.asp"

33.11.1 How it works

The customer shops normally. When they come to enter their card details they go to sslshopcheckout.asp on the "secure server" On return they go to sslresult.asp. It decides whether the gateway code should be called by looking at the xpaymenturl.

The gateway code (say Verisign PayflowPro), then validates the credit card.
If the card is successful the shopping completes normally.

If the card fails, ssldecline.asp is called. It displays why the card failed and gives the customer a chance to try again or cancel the order.

33.11.2 How do you know if it works

If you run a test and you put in the credit card details in sslshopcheckout.asp and if you put in an invalid card and an error message appears in file ssldecline.asp, then it is working.

For a real card, VP-ASP should automatically direct to file shopthanks.asp and the payment type should be the name of your gateway such as Verisign or Authorizenet etc.

34 Language Switching

VP-ASP can dynamically change the captions used from one language to another. Each language needs two files. The steps necessary to use this facility include:

- Obtain the languages files from the VP-ASP site or translate the supplied files
- Load the language into the VP-ASP languages table
- Turn on Language displays
- Set the current language used in the cart
- Delete a language

34.1 Supplied language files

The supplied language files are in English:

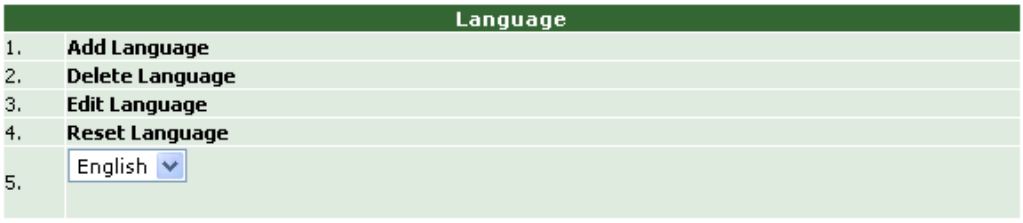
shop$language_english.asp
shop$language2_english.asp

When you purchase VP-ASP you can request up to four additional languages, or you are free to translate VP-ASP language files into as many languages as you can. To download language files please visit our web site.

34.2 Installing a new language

Assuming you wish to install Spanish as your next language. Download the Spanish files from VP-ASP. Then go to VP-ASP administration and go to Languages Administration by selecting Languages.

```
shop$language_spanish.asp
shop$language2_spanish.asp
```



Then select “Add a language”

VP-ASP knows that there are two language files so there is no need to specify shop$language2_Spanish.asp during this process.

34.3 Reset Language

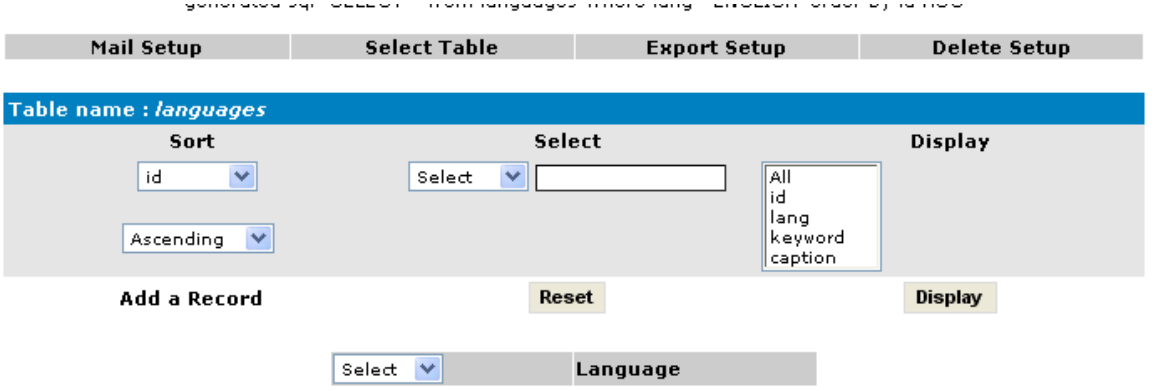
The reset language is used to alter the default language being used by all customers. It essentially reloads all the language values from the database and resets the language application variables. This should be used after you have altered the language values using the edit or add facility

34.4 Drop down list of languages

This is used to alter the currently running language in your session. It can be used to quickly test any language changes you have made.

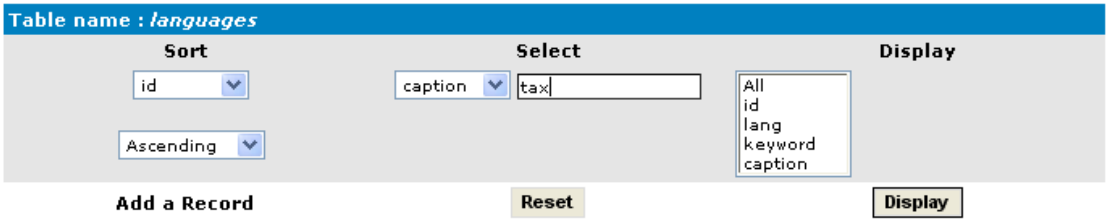
34.5 Changing Language Values – Method 1

Language values can be changed in two ways. You can use your browser by selecting Edit Language from the language administration. The normal VP-ASP edit display menu is shown. Search for the caption or the language keyword and make the change by editing that caption



	id	lang	keyword	caption	Delete
Edit	1	English	langcommonpage	Page	
Edit	2	English	langcommonof	of	
Edit	3	English	langcommonon	on	
Edit	4	English	langcommonyes	Yes	
Edit	5	English	langcommonno	No	
Edit	6	English	langcommonhome	Home	

For example to Change the word Tax to State Tax, search for caption Tax and then click edit next to the record.



34.6 Alternate method of changing values

The other method is to edit the files shop$language_English.asp and then upload the file to your web hosting company.

Select Add a Language. VP-ASP will update or add records as required.

34.7 Using Language Switching

You can add the following ASP statement to any ASP page or shoppage_header.htm or shoppage_trailer.htm. This will display a dropdownlist of all available languages.

<%NavigateShowLanguage%>

34.8 Local Currency

VP-ASP can display local currency. This is normally determined by where the web host is located and what their default setting is. To change to a different local currency, locate the following statement VP-ASP Configuration.

Xlcid	4108

Or you can simply set your own currency symbol.

xcurrencysymbol	xxxx	your own currency symbol

Your local currency should now display.

34.9 Dual Currency Display

VP-ASP can display both the local currency and any other currency. VP-ASP dynamically calculates the second currency using a conversion rate you supply. You can alter the way the conversion is done by changing the logic in shopconvertcurrency.asp

xdualprice	Yes tells VP-ASP to display dual prices
xdualconversionrate	.800 the number to be multiplied by the price to obtain the dual price
Xdualpricefield	Instead of doing a conversion, the exact dual price can be placed in a field in the products table

34.9.1 Language Changes

In shop$language.asp edit the captions for dual pricing
const LangDualPrice=" Euro Price "
const LangDualTotal=" Euro Total "

34.10 Currency Conversion

Currency conversion is done by shopconvertcurrency.asp. The current logic

```
<%
Sub ConvertCurrency (iamount, oamount)
' Convert currency
if xdualconversionrate<>"" then
     oamount=iamount*xdualconversionrate
else
     oamount=iamount
end if
end sub
%>
```

This number is multiplied by the real price to obtain the dual price. To alter the conversion you would need to edit shopconvertcurrency.asp.

34.11 International Currency Conversion

VP-ASP can provide a link to a free international currency conversion service http://www.x-rates.com. The service is is an example. It is linked from the minicart display and the following shop configuration values are required.

Xcurrencylink	Yes
Xcurrencybase	USD The abbreviation for currency required by x-rates-com

The xcurrencybase is the abbreviation used by x-rates.com. For your currency abbreviation, please check their site. X-rates.com may at any time change or discontinue, their service and support for changes in VP-ASP is not guaranteed. It is up to you to determine the usefulness and accurancy of their service. VP-ASP and X-rates.com have no relationship.

34.12 LCID Language LCID Language

The Shop Configuration value , **xlcid**, determines such factors as date format, currency symbol and currency format. LCIDS are supplied by Microsoft and not all may be available on all Window's systems.

```
1078 Afrikaans 1052 Albanian
5121 Arabic(Algeria) 15361 Arabic(Bahrain)
3073 Arabic(Egypt) 2049 Arabic(Iraq)
11265 Arabic(Jordan) 13313 Arabic(Kuwait)
12289 Arabic(Lebanon) 4097 Arabic(Libya)
6145 Arabic(Morocco) 8193 Arabic(Oman)
16385 Arabic(Qatar) 1025 Arabic(Saudi Arabia)
10241 Arabic(Syria) 7169 Arabic(Tunisia)
14337 Arabic(U.A.E.) 9217 Arabic(Yemen)
1069 Basque 1059 Belarusian
1026 Bulgarian 1027 Catalan
3076 Chinese(Hong Kong) 2052 Chinese(PRC)
4100 Chinese(Singapore) 1028 Chinese(Taiwan)
1050 Croatian 1029 Czech
1030 Danish 2067 Dutch(Belgian)
1043 Dutch(Standard) 9 English
3081 English(Australian) 10249 English(Belize)
2057 English(British) 4105 English(Canadian)
9225 English(Caribbean) 6153 English(Ireland)
8201 English(Jamaica) 5129 English(New Zealand)
7177 English(South Africa) 11273 English(Trinidad)
1033 English(United States) 1061 Estonian
1080 Faeroese 1065 Farsi
1035 Finnish 2060 French(Belgian)
3084 French(Canadian) 5132 French(Luxembourg)
1036 French(Standard) 4108 French(Swiss)
```

```
2108 Gaelic(Irish) 1084 Gaelic(Scots)
3079 German(Austrian) 5127 German(Liechtenstein)
4103 German(Luxembourg) 1031 German(Standard)
2055 German(Swiss) 1032 Greek
1037 Hebrew 1081 Hindi
1038 Hungarian 1039 Icelandic
1057 Indonesian 1040 Italian(Standard)
2064 Italian(Swiss) 1041 Japanese
1042 Korean 2066 Korean(Johab)
1062 Latvian 1063 Lithuanian
1071 Macedonian 1086 Malaysian
1082 Maltese 1044 Norwegian(Bokmal)
2068 Norwegian(Nynorsk) 1045 Polish
1046 Portuguese(Brazilian) 2070 Portuguese(Standard)
1047 Rhaeto-Romanic 1048 Romanian
2072 Romanian(Moldavia) 1049 Russian
2073 Russian(Moldavia) 1083 Sami(Lappish)
3098 Serbian(Cyrillic) 2074 Serbian(Latin)
1051 Slovak 1060 Slovenian
1070 Sorbian 11274 Spanish(Argentina)
16394 Spanish(Bolivia) 13322 Spanish(Chile)
9226 Spanish(Colombia) 5130 Spanish(Costa Rica)
7178 Spanish(Dominican Republic) 12298 Spanish(Ecuador)
17418 Spanish(El Salvador) 4106 Spanish(Guatemala)
18442 Spanish(Honduras) 2058 Spanish(Mexican)
19466 Spanish(Nicaragua) 6154 Spanish(Panama)
15370 Spanish(Paraguay) 10250 Spanish(Peru)
20490 Spanish(Puerto Rico) 3082 Spanish(Spain - Modern Sort)
1034 Spanish(Spain - Traditional Sort) 14346 Spanish(Uruguay)
8202 Spanish(Venezuela) 1072 Sutu
1053 Swedish 2077 Swedish(Finland)
1054 Thai 1073 Tsonga
1074 Tswana 1055 Turkish
1058 Ukrainian 1056 Urdu
1075 Venda 1066 Vietnamese
1076 Xhosa 1085 Yiddish
1077 Zulu 2048 default
```

35 Stock Control

VP-ASP has a number of facilities related to stock control.

- Products can be hidden
- Out of Stock message can be displayed
- VP-ASP can limit quantity ordered to the amount in stock
- Decrement the stock level at the end of the order
- Display stock low reports
- Dependent Products - If your purchase x you must also buy y
- Associated Products - Where full stock control by features is required
- Restore stock on incomplete or cancelled orders

35.1 Stock level - Decrementing

VP-ASP can decrement the stock level at the end of the order.

xstockcontrol	Yes tells VP-ASP adjusts stock at end of order

35.2 Stock – Hiding Products

To not display products under a certain stock level, set the following.

Xstocklow	1

Only products with a stock level greater than one will be displayed.

35.3 Stock – Out of Stock Message

To display an out of stock message, set the following in Shop Configuration

Xoutofstocklimit	5

If the stock is 5 or less, then a message will be displayed.

35.4 Stock – Limiting amount ordered

To limit the amount ordered to no more than the level in stock, set the following.

Xcheckstocklevel	Yes limits amount ordered to current stock level

VP-ASP will display warning messages and/or reset the quantity to the stock level.

35.5 Restrictions on Stock Control

VP-ASP cannot stop two separate customers ordering the same item. VP-ASP has no way of locking out one customer. The stock level is decremented only at the completion of the order.

35.6 Inventory Products

VP-ASP does not control stock by product features so if you have for example large blue shirts and small green shirts, VP-ASP will only keep track of shirts if green large, small etc are defined as features. If you need complete inventory control, then you need to use Inventory products.

Xinventoryproducts	Yes turns on inventory products checks

With inventory products, you specify a list of products associated with the main product in the inventory field of the product record in the form 77, 66,3,10. This inventory products should have the hide field set so that they are never seen unless the main product is seen.

When the main product is displayed, it cannot be purchased. Only the associated inventory product can be purchased. The main product is designed to show the detailed description of the product, the inventory products can be purchased.

35.7 Restore Stock on Incomplete or canceled Orders

When an order is viewed from shopa_displayorders, a hyperlink is generated to shopa_ordercancel.asp. When an order is cancelled, the order is marked processed, the order is marked cancelled and the stock is restored for each product if you are using stock control.

Clicking on Cancel Order brings up the next form

36 Limitations

There are a number of limits in VP-ASP. The following can be altered in Shop Configuration. These are designed to reduce memory load and overheads. But if you have more categories than the limit sets, simply change to value close to the number you actually have.

xmaxCartItems = 20	Maximum items in the shopping cart
xMaxCategories=100	Maximum number of categories
xMaxSubCategories=100	Maximum number of subcategories
xMaxSavedCarts=100	Maximum number of saved carts
xMaxFeatures=4	Maximum number of features per product

37 Compatibility with previous releases

This section is only important if you are upgrading from a previous VP-ASP releases. The actual enhancements for VP-ASP in VP-ASP 5.50 are described on our main web site (www.vpasp.com)

37.1 VP-ASP 5.0 Differences

Numerous new features have been added to VP-ASP. For steps necessary to upgrade, please see $upgrade.htm that came with VP-ASP 5.50.

VP-ASP 5.0 and 5.50 are very compatible **except if you use Cookieless VP-ASP or separate products database**. Both of these facilities can significantly effect your conversion and may affect ASP programs you have written. The Option Package Design Guide goes through in detail Cookieless VP-ASP.

See www.vpasp.com/virtprog/vpasp550_planning.htm for features in this release

37.2 VP-ASP 4.50 Differences

The following changes will affect you if you are using VP-ASP 4.50. For the steps necessary to upgrade please refer to $upgrade.htm in the zip file you received.

- Database enhancements. Our conversion utility convert500.asp is designed to add additional fields to your current database without altering any data.
- Languages are now stored in a database table and can be added, deleted or changed using your browser. Any programs that you have written or modified that reference language variables will need to change. New language files need to be downloaded.
- Templates can now be optional stored in a database table and can be added, deleted and changed with your browser.

37.2.1 Language Values

This change will only affect you, if you have written your own ASP code and use any VP-ASP language values that were previously in shop$language_English.asp

Previously you had

Abc=Langcommoncontinue

In this release it is coded like this

```
abc=getlang("langcommoncontinue")
```

37.2.2 Updating the language tables

Download the language files from our site (except for English which is supplied), then either make any changes you have made. Login to the VP-ASP Admin system and add your language. If it is English, the records will be changed and/or updated.

37.2.3 Compatibility mode is no longer supported

If you upgraded to VP-ASP 4.x from a previous release and were using sub categories, VP-ASP 4.50 provided a compatibility mode. This is no longer supported. See the section below on converting categories.

37.3 New From release 3.xx

There are many differences from release 3.00 and 3.50. The major ones include:

- Configuration values are now application variables and not in shop$config
- Categories/subcategories have changed
- Cart Array details have changed
- Supplier userid and password
- Shop$colors has changed significantly
- CSS style sheet shop.css
- Database enhancements. Our conversion utility convert500.asp is designed to add additional fields to your current database without altering any data.
- Languages are now stored in a database table and can be added, deleted or changed using your browser. Any programs that you have written or modified that reference language variables will need to change. New language files need to be downloaded.
- Templates can now be optionally stored in a database table and can be added, deleted and changed with your browser.

37.3.1 Configuration Values

Almost all the shop configuration values are stored in a table called configuration. Logging into the VP-ASP admin system can change these. Go to Shop Configuration and find the value you want to change.

37.3.2 Configuration Values

This change will only affect you, if you have written your own ASP code to look at configuration options that were previously in shop$config.asp, or shop$colors.asp.

If you were previously referring to a VP-ASP configuration option that was in shop$config.asp in previous release the code would look like this:

```
abc=xlcid
```

in this release it is codes like this

```
abc=getconfig("xlcid")
```

37.4 Language Values

This change will only affect you, if you have written your own ASP code and use any VP-ASP language values that were previously in shop$language_English.asp

Previously you had

Abc=Langcommoncontinue

in this release it is codes like this

```
abc=getlang("langcommoncontinue")
```

37.5 Categories and Sub Categories

This is a major area of difference.

- Five tables have been removed from VP-ASP 5.50: subcategories, subcatlevel3, subcatlevel4, subcatlevel5, prodsubcategories. Two tables now handle categories: categories and prodcategories.

- In previous releases of VP-ASP, products could be in one category or in multiple categories. This was configurable. In this release they can automatically be in multiple categories and configuration is not necessary.
- In previous releases, subcategories were in their own table: subcategories. In this release subcategories are in the categories table. What makes them a subcategory is that they have a value in the highersubcategory field with a value not 0.
- In previous releases, sub sub categories were in tables subcatlevel3, subcatlevel4, subcatlevel 5. In this release a sub sub category is in the categories table with a value in the highersubcategory field.

37.6 Category Conversion Tools

This tool will convert the current cataegory/subcategory structure to the VP-ASP 5.50 method of putting all categories into one table, the categories table. The steps will depend on how you are using categories now.

37.6.1 Converting products and categories to the new format

Run the following conversion tool from your browser.

`www.yoursite.com/convertcategories.asp`
This will add records to the prodcategories table

The conversion is now done.

37.6.2 What conversion utility does

The convertcategories.asp does the following:

- Copies all subcategories to the categories table and gives them new category numbers
- Copies all entries in subcatlevel3, subcatlevel4 and subcatlevel5 to the categories table and gives them new category numbers
- For each product it makes sure that the category and subcategory it is defined for has an entry in the prodcategories table.
- For each sub sub category, it adds that subcategory number to the prodcategories table

Once the conversion is done the subcategories table, and the subcatlevelx tables are no longer used.

37.7 Update VP-ASP Configuration

After the conversion, alter the configuration option and reload the configuration.

xoldcategorymode	No

Now Version 5.50 category mode will be used.

37.8 Other changes with categories

In older versions of VP-ASP, if you added a hyperlink in your site to display products in a particular subcategory, you did the following:

```
<a href="shopdisplayproducts.asp?id=2&subcat=3cat=my+subcategory">Products in subcategory 3</a>
```

With Version 5.50 it would be:

To display products for a subcategory the following hyperlink can be used

```
<a href="shopdisplayproducts.asp?id=44&cat=my+subcategory">Products in subcategory 44</a>
```

37.9 Supplier Userid and Password Fields

If you use the supplier table, the field userid and password should be changed to **supplieruserid** and **supplierpassword**. You will need to do this manually using Microsoft Access.

38 Data Entry

The normal VP-ASP data entry is through the VP-ASP administration. This allows full add, update, delete facilities using a browser based facility. The alternatives to using this are the following:

1. Use the VP-ASP Administration interface. This is the preferred method.
2. Use VP-ASP import facility. This is part of the VP-ASP Option Package. It allows you to maintain your database offline and then to create a file that can add/update products on your running shop. See the VP-ASP Option Package Design Guide for details.
3. You may prefer your own method of data entry such as using Microsoft Access. The information below will give you some hints on doing this.

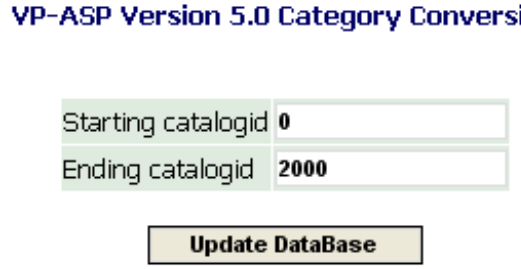
38.1 Using Microsoft Access to Update Products

To use Microsoft Access to do product data entry, you must be aware how VP-ASP handles categories. VP-ASP uses two tables to display products. Products table and the prodcategories table. The prodcategories table tells VP-ASP which categories a product falls into, since a product can be in any number of categories or subcategories.

When you are doing data entry for products using Access, the prodcategories table is not updated. We supply a utility called convertproducts.asp. This will update the prodcategories table based on two fields of the products table, ccategory (categoryid) and subcategory. It does not support products in more than one category or one subcategory. You must run convertproducts.asp on your running VP-ASP system after updating the products table using Access.

38.2 ConvertProducts.asp

Convertproducts reads the products table and tries to synchronize the prodcategories table. To overcome time limitations on very large databases, you can specify ranges of product catalogids.



The normal VP-ASP product record only holds a categoryid and possibly a subcategory id. If you have products in multiple subcategories, you can create a list of these in an unused fdield such as level3. When you load the products table, level 3 may have a list such as 5,6,99,5. These are the subcategoryids for the product. Convertproducts can use this to update the prodcategories table. To change the field being used edit prodcategories.asp and change this line to a different field name

const subcatfield="level3" ' fieldname holding subcategories

38.3 Simple Category Mode

If you have no need to have products in multiple categories at all and you simply want a product to be in at most one category and at most one subcategory, you can tell VP-ASP to totally ignore the prodcategories table.

xproductsimplecategories	Yes Do not use the prodcategories table

39 Security

We recommend you read this section carefully. It will help prevent hackers from stealing sensitive data.

VP-ASP provides extensive security features including:

- Ability to totally hide the administrative side of the shopping cart
- Security for the database
- Ability to set and assign userids with different privileges
- Ability to check for hackers and prevent them from shopping in your store
- Encrypting credit cards
- Supports both standard SSL and shared SSL
- Ability to email on successful login to administrative system
- IP checks on Administrative logins

39.1 Passwords and Userids

The supplied userids and passwords should be changed to avoid other VP-ASP users from accessing your database. Use Microsoft Access to alter the userids and passwords in tblUser or use the User Menu option with userid admin to change the passwords and add your own userids and delete the supplied userids.

39.2 Database

If you are holding secure information in the database such as credit card information, make sure your database is not accessible to a web browser. Most Web Hosting companies will make a directory available to you to hold your database and this directory will be accessible from the VP-ASP Active Server Pages but not by general browsing of your site.

If the database is in the same directory as the rest of VP-ASP files any hacker can steal it.

Please move the database to a directory not viewable from the web

After you move the database follow the instructions in the previous page to update the xdblocation field in shop$config.asp

39.3 Hide Administration pages

You can hide the name of the VP-ASP administration page. Hackers will not be able to even locate the VP-ASP administration page. Change these values in the configuration.

Xadminpage	Youradminpage.asp
Xshowadmin	No prevents VP-ASP from ever listing the above page

The proper steps are:

- Change the Shop Configuration value above for xadminpage to the filename of your choirce
- Then physically change the file shopadmin.asp to the same file name. Now you are the only person who knows how to enter your shops Merchant administration.

39.4 Double Login Password

Currently the userid and password are stored in the database. If someone had access to the database they could login to the administrative system. It is possible to add a second password that is not stored in the database. To do this, edit file shopadmin.asp and change 1 line

const SecondPassword="myownpassword"

Now when you login to the VP-ASP administration system, this screen will be displayed.

The first password is your normal password in the database
Password 2 is the one you just entered in shopadmin.asp

39.5 Credit cards

The best security for credit cards is not to keep them on your site at all. If you are using an electronic gateway they may only be stored on the bank's computers. Not all gateways work like this and you may have the credit cards in the local database even if you are using a gateway.

If you are storing credit cards, then we recommend using VP-ASP encryption. In VP-ASP configuration setup set:

```
xEncryptCreditCard="Yes"
```

In addition we recommend removing the credit card details from the database after you process the order, by editing the order.

39.6 Removing Extra Files

The following files should normally be removed from your production environment.

Convert…	all files starting with convert
diag_sessionlist.asp	Lists Session variables.
diag_dbtest.asp	Tests database and mail.
Vpdemo..	If not using the demo shop

If you have problems and report them to VP-ASP Support Group we may ask that you restore diag_sessionlist.asp and diag_dbtest.asp so that we can diagnose your problems quickly.

39.7 Encryption

By default the encryption key is kept in the configuration file within the database. For added security you can move the encryption key directly into file shophash.asp. So if someone steals the database, they will not also have the encryption key used for credit cards. To do this, edit shophash.asp and change this line:

```
const xencryptkey=""              ' put here for more security
```

To your encyption key

```
const xencryptkey="xxxxxxxxxxx"              ' put here for more security
```

and empty the encryption key in the shop configuration.

39.8 Preventing hackers from shopping

Using VP-ASP anti-hacker checks, you can prevent hackers from shopping in the store. They will be able to browse your shop but will not be able to create and order.

The hackers table can be set to have a record with e-mail addresses or IP addresses of customers whom you do not wish to allow to shop in your store. Additional logic could be added to shophacker.asp to do additional checking.

Xhackercheck	Yes If yes, then the order is checked against the hackers table and hacker countries
Xhackercountries	XX,YY A list of valid country abbreviations. If an order is attempted from these countries, it will not be allowed

When using this facility a message will appear in the form. The number at the end tells you the reason why the customer was rejected

You are not permitted to shop in this store - 4

4	The country matched a value in xhackercountries
5	IP or e-mail address matched that in the hackers table
6	If email address matched

39.9 IP Checking Login to Admin System

An additional anti-hacker checks can be IP checking. The IPS address of the person trying to use the Administration System against a list that you create. The IP addresses can be a full IP address or a partial IP address. First decide if you need IP checking. If you are unsure what your IP address is, login to the VP-ASP admin system, look at the log history to see the IP addresses. In correct use of the facility can lock you out of the administrative system.

Following our other recommendations, shopadmin.asp would have been renamed to some other name. In this case you would edit the real file name ansd not shopadmin.asp as in these examples.

`Const adminips="288.66"`	List of IP addresses that should be allowed to login to admin system. This is in file shopadmin.asp and NOT in the Shop Configuration
`const adminemailIpcheck="Yes"`	If you want to be notified if an attempt is made to access the admin page by an invalid IP address then set to Yes. The yes is case sensitive. It cannot be YES.

For example of your IP address is 288.66.77.999
You can specify
`const adminips="288"`
this will allow anyone with IP starting with 288 to try to login

Example 2
`const adminips="288.66"`
Here the IP address must start with 288.66

Example 3

Multiple addresses can be used

```
const adminips="288,127.0.0.1,299.66"
```
Will allow anyone with IP address starting with 288, or 127.0.0.1 or 299.66 to login.

39.10 Email on Login to Admin System

An email can be sent to the merchant each time a login occurs to the admin system. Changing one line in file shopadmin.asp does this.

`Const adminmail="Yes"`	Mail to merchant on each successful login to administrative system

39.11 Catching Bogus Orders - IP to Country

VP-ASP has the facility to determine the country from which the hacker is actually making an order. This is done by looking up their IP address in a database. The database is not supplied in the distribution paclage and must be downloaded separately from our add-ons.

At the end of an order the IP to country is invoked. If the country does not match the customer's country as supplied on the customer form, two changes are made to the order. The ocardtype field has the country abbreviation added and the IP address has the long country name appended. By changing the ocardtype field, certain automated end of order processing is stopped. For example order attachments and downloads. It also alters the merchant that the order is suspicious

Xhackeriptocountry	Yes If yes, then IP to country checks are turned on. Do not use until Iptocountry database is installed.

39.11.1 IP To Country Restrictions

IP To Country uses a public domain database that is supplied on an as-is basis. VP-ASP does not warrant that this database is complete or accurate. The database may not be updated for future IP changes. You must download this separate database from our web site. It is not supplied in the normal VP-ASP distribution.

39.12 Assigning Tables to Users

Users can be assigned userids and passwords through the administration system. They can also be assigned menu options (a list of tasks they can perform) and tables which they display/edit.
This is not a foolproof system but it provides a measure of protection.

One user may be able to update product details, while another may be able to view orders.

40 Interface to Existing Web

Any existing web can easily interface to VP-ASP. VP-ASP is designed not only as a shopping cart but also as an extremely powerful web site generator. FrontPage and Dreamweaver are totally separate products. We recommend that you first play with VP-ASP independently of other software.. Once you understand all the things that VP-ASP does for you automatically, you will find that for your shop at least you may need to create little or no separate HTML files.

What VP-ASP can do automatically?

- Displays of your products and categories with images and descriptions
- Product searches
- Take customer details using a form
- Take payment details
- Create end of order invoice
- Send emails to both the customer and merchant
- Plus literally hundreds of other merchant related facilities such as reports
- VP-ASP allows you to link directly its facilities and can link back to your hand made pages. Here are some examples.

Link from your site to VP-ASP facilities

- Link from VP-ASP back to your pages
- Automatic link back to your images
- Automatic link back to your pages
- Automatic page generation via HTML templates
- Merge any table with any template
- Service Payments
- Use your editor to modify VP-ASP HTML templates
- Any existing web can easily interface to VP-ASP. A few examples using hyperlinks and forms are shown below. VP-ASP provides facilities to all of the following.

40.1 Displaying Categories

By just including a simple link anywhere in the existing web to routine shopdisplaycategories.asp, all the shopping facilities and product displays are automatic. No further interface is required.

```
<a href="shopdisplaycategories.asp">Display Categories</a>
```

40.2 Add To Cart

The second method of interfacing to your existing web site is slightly more complex. A specific hyperlink is added anywhere in your existing web site to routine *shopaddtocart.asp*. This will allow adding one specific product to the cart from anywhere in the existing web. Two parameters are required: catalogid and Quantity as shown below. The catalogid comes from the products database (catalogid field).

```
<a href="shopaddtocart.asp?catalogid=1&quantity=1">Click to Order</a>
```

Note that in previous versions of VP-ASP, the field “productid” was used. This still works successfully.

40.3 Displaying Products for a category

To display products for a category the following hyperlink can be used

```
<a href="shopdisplayproducts.asp?id=2">Display travel Products</a>
```

40.4 Displaying Products in a Subcategory

To display products for a subcategory the following hyperlink can be used

```
<a href="shopdisplayproducts.asp?id=12">Products in subcategory 12</a>
```

40.5 Displaying Products by name

To display a specific product use:

```
<a href="shopquery.asp?catalogid=1">Products with catalog id 1</a>
```

40.6 Sample Hyperlinks

A file called shopsamplelinks.htm shows you these sample hyperlink examples.

40.7 ShopAddtoCartnodb.asp

Using the file shopaddtocartnodb.asp, it is possible to add an item to the cart without it being in the database. The following fields can be passed as either a form field or on the URL

Two fields are required:

```
Productname       Name to appear in the shopping cart
Price             Price without dollar signs
```

Productname	Name to appear in the cart
Price	Price
Optional fields	
Quantity	Quantity
Catalogid	Product number in the database
Category	Category number in the database
Returnurl	If specified, this routine goes to this page on your web site otherwise the cart is displayed
Weight	Weight of product

This is used only as a hyperlink or form interface. It is never automatically displayed

Example:

```
<a href="shopaddtocartnodb.asp?Productname=Mystuff&price=10.00">Add to cart</a>
<a href="shopaddtocartnodb.asp?Productname=Otherstuff&price=3.95&quantity=2&returnurl=mypage.html">Add to cart</a>
```

40.8 Sample Search Form

The HTML below allows a search form on any of your own pages

```
<form method="POST" action="shopsearch.asp?search=Yes">
<p><input type="text" name="keyword" size="20"><br>
<input type="submit" value="Search" name="B1">
</form>
```

40.9 Sample Login Form

The HTML below allows a login from any of your own pages. The “returnurl” is designed to tell VP-ASP which page to go to after a successful login. If unsuccessful the default login page shopcustadminlogin.asp is displayed.

```
<form action="shoplogin.asp" method="post">
<input type="hidden" name="returnurl" value="shopdisplaycategories.asp">
<input type="text" name="strlastname">
<input type="text" name="stremail">
<input type="submit" value="Login">
</form>
```

41 Processing Products

If you are planning major extensions to VP-ASP you may need to go through the products being ordered. The logic is shown below.

```
Dim productname,productcode,productname quantity, price, cartarray, cartcount
Dim i
cartcount = Getsess("cartcount")
cartarray = Getsess("cartarray")
For i = 1 to cartcount
    productid=cartarray(cProductid,i)
    productcode=cartarray(cProductCode,i)
    productname= cartarray(cProductname,i)
    quantity=cartarray(cQuantity,i)
    Price=cartarray(cUnitPrice, i)
'    debugwrite "catalogid=" & Productid  & " Price=" & Price
Next
```

41.1 Display Buttons

VP-ASP can use either text or buttons for most forms. By leaving the configuration field empty, a text button is created. If you are using multiple languages, we recommend that you do not use image buttons.

xbuttonimage	vpnav_buy.gif
xbuttontext	Order
xbuttoncontinue	vpnav_continue.gif
xbuttonreset	vpnav_reset.gif
Xbuttoncancel	vpnav_cancelorder.gif
Xbuttonorderproduct	vpnav_orderselected.gif
Xbuttonmoreinfo	vpnav_moreinfo.gif
Xbuttonaddressadd	vpnav_addressadd.gif
xbuttonaddresschange	vpnav_addresschange.gif
Xbuttontellafriend	vpnav_tellafriend.gif
Xbuttonreadreview	vpnav_readreview.gif
Xbuttonwritereview	vpnav_writereview.gif
Xbuttonnextpage	vpnav_nextpage.gif
xbuttonpreviouspage	vpnav_previouspage.gif

41.2 Notes

xbuttonimage and xbuttontext are only used if you set xproductSelect="No". The reason for this is that there are no buttons when xproductselect="Yes"; checkboxes are used instead.

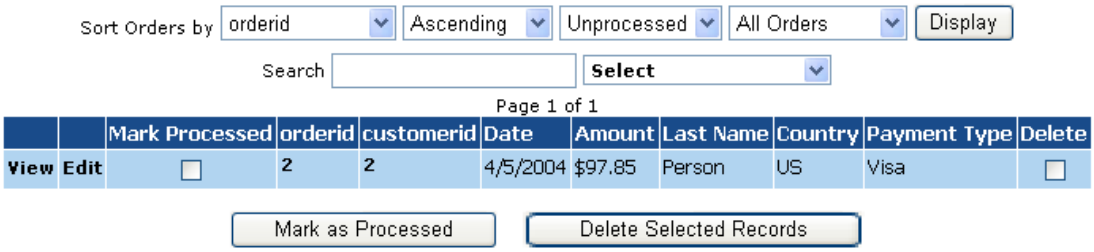
42 Displaying Orders

Many of the main merchant tasks are described in the Merchant's Guide.

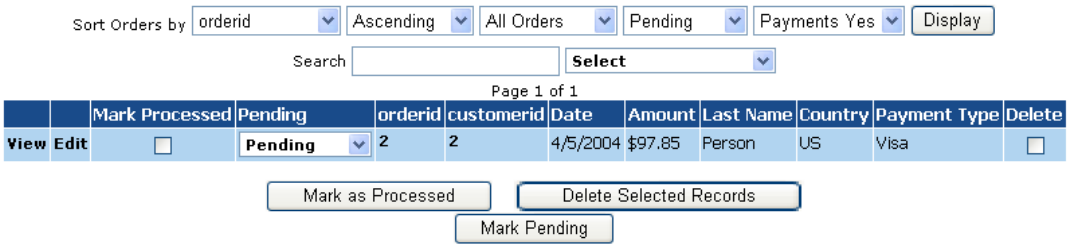
Displaying and processing orders is one of the most important facilities and is repeated here.

VP-ASP allows you to:

- Format an order
- Edit the order
- Restore an order and change items
- Delete an Order
- Restore stock on returned or cancelled orders
- Display orders by criteria such as paid, unpaid, or status. Status types are defined by you
- Mail on processed to the customer
- Mark an order processed or in some other state
- Send tracking messages to the customer
- Display sales reports by any date
- Display orders by specific customers
- Find repeat customers



OR



42.1 Order Processing

This display automatically shows you new orders. New Orders are those that have not been processed. By clicking the processed check box, the order will no longer automatically display the next time you view this page.

From this page you can:

1. View a formatted order (see next page)
2. Edit the order (alter and view individual fields in the database)

3. Edit the customer record by clicking under “Customerid”
4. Delete the order.
5. Mail to customer when order is mark processed

42.1.1 Pending and Other Status

If you need additional status associated with an order set the following values in Shop Configuration to get the second display

Xorderpending	Yes
Xorderpendingvalues	Pending,Back Order,Other

42.2 Viewing the Order

This is the formatted order. It can be printed for manual processing

Edit Order | Order Items | Restore Order

Order Number 1 - Saturday 11 January 2003 12:20:58 PM

Products	Quantity	Unit Price	Total
Girls tops Summer tops in assorted size and colors	1	$9.85	$9.85
	Product Cost		**$9.85**
	Shipping Cost		**$10.00**
	Total		**$19.85**

Customer Information	
First Name	**Test**
Last Name	**Person**
Address	**3 Test Pl**
City	**NY**
State	**NY**
Post Code	**11719**
Country	**US**
Email	**test@person.com**
Phone	**7777777777777**
Payment Information	
Payment Type	**Check**
Affiliate	**1**
Status	**Back Order**
Shipping Information	
Shipping Method	**Airmail**

42.2.1 Editing the order

You can edit the fields of the order by clicking “Edit Order”. To edit the actual order items click “Edit Oitems”. Please note that if you delete or change the order item prices, the total in the order is not automatically updated and the stock levels are not automatically adjusted.

42.3 Display Order Items

The order items can be edited or deleted. You must have permission to edit the oitems table to edit the order item.

Page 1 of 1

Edit	catalogid	Quantity	Name	Price	Euro Price	Supplier #	Gift Address	Dele
Edit	22	1	Pizza Frozen The finest ingredients and self rising crust make this the perfect pizza Base price $5.95 Features/Options: **Topping** Anchovies Add $1.00 **Topping** Mushrooms Add $0.50 **Topping** Onions Marked down today at our special price	$7.45	0	0		

Delete Selected Records

42.4 Mailing to Customer when Mark Processed

When an order is mark processed, and an e-mail can be automatically sent. This feature requires the VP-ASP Option Package. Two Shop Configuration fields control this facility

Xmailprocessed	Yes enables mail on processed facility
Xmailprocessedtemplate	Tmp_customerprocessed.txt The template used to e-mail the customer

Page 1 of 1

			Mark Processed	orderid	customerid	Date	Amount	Last Name	Country	Delete
View	Edit	Track	☑	1	1	2/2/2003	$505.00	Buyer	US	☐
View	Edit	Track	☑	2	1	2/2/2003	$19.85	Person	US	☐
View	Edit	Track	☐	3	10	2/3/2003	$1,250.00	h	US	☐

Mark as Processed Delete Selected Records

The following confirmations will be displayed.

Mailing to Fred Buyer fred@abc.com

Mailing to Other Person person@def.com

42.5 Order Actions

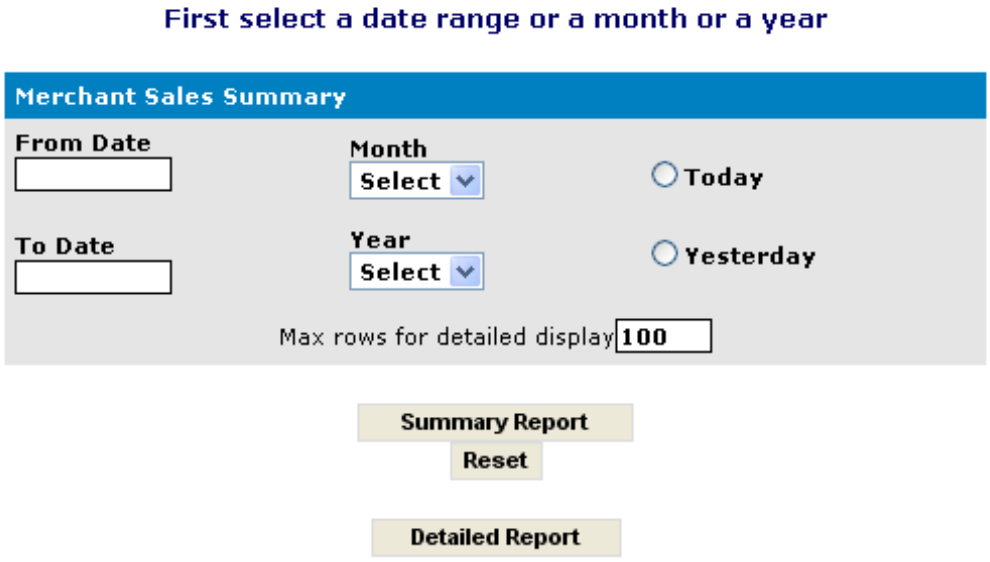
Clicking on the ordered value when an order is displayed can do additional Order actions. This will bring up a menu of actions. This repeats many of the items on the previous page but provides and extensible menu for developers to add order processing tasks.

Order #: 2	
1.	**Edit Order**
2.	**View**
3.	**Order Items**
4.	**Restore**
5.	**Cancel order**

Display orders

42.6 Sales Reports

This sales report routine displays counts and/or details of sales over a date range. Dates are very system specific. Your system may require dd/mm/yyyy or it may require mm/dd/yyyy.



42.7 Sales Reports

The detailed report shows each order and the total sales for the date range specified. The order can be displayed by clicking on the order number. There are two types: a summary report and a detailed report

42.7.1 Summary Report

Report for 1/1/2004 to 1/31/2004

Month	Day	Orders	Total
1	22	1	$111.64
1	23	2	$1,655.64

Sales Summary

	Amount	Orders
Tax	$156.57	3
Handling Cost	$15.00	3
Shipping	$30.00	3
Product Cost	$1,565.70	6
Total	$1,767.27	3

42.7.2 Detailed Report

Report for 1/1/2004 to 1/31/2004

Order Number	Total	Date of Order	First Name	Last Name	Address	City	State	Country
2	$111.64	1/23/2004	Fred	Buyer	45 Demo Place	Demo City	NY	AU
3	$1,544.00	1/23/2004	Fred	Buyer	45 Demo Place	Demo City	NY	AU
4	$111.64	1/22/2004	Fred	Buyer	45 Demo Place	Demo City	NY	AU

[1]

Sales Summary

	Amount	Orders
Tax	$156.57	3
Handling Cost	$15.00	3
Shipping	$30.00	3
Product Cost	$1,565.70	6
Total	$1,767.27	3

42.8 Customer Reports

Customer reports allow you to display a quick summary of your customers and their total purchases. This menu in addition to displaying a customer summary allows you to:

- Select fields to be displayed
- Sort on most fields in the customers table
- Sort on orders and order amount
- List the actual orders by clicking on the order count
- Mail to the customer by clicking on the email address

43 Dynamic Content

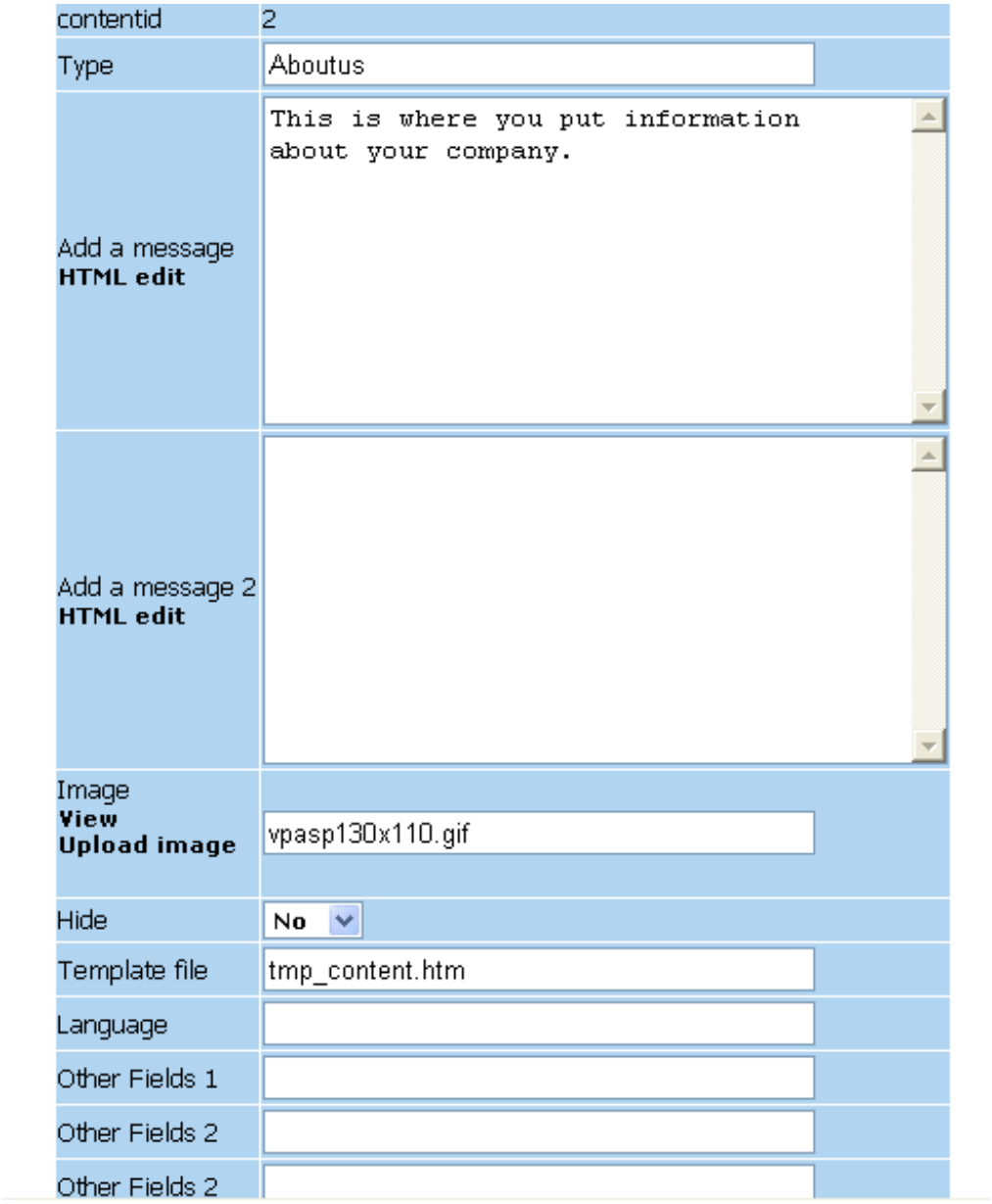
Content allows you dynamically add special pages to your shop with no HTML or program creation. For example you can create an about us page, a privacy policy, a shipping instructions page. There is no limit to what you can create.

The steps in creating dynamic content involve:

1. Add your information to the contnts table
2. Creating a hyperlink to file shopcontents.asp.

43.1 Contents example

If you wanted to create an “about us” page, edit the contents table using the VPASP administration. Give the table a type. In this case “aboutus” The type can be anything you choose. The name is arbitrary. Only two fields are required. Type and “Add a message”. All others are optional



Type	The type of information. This name is arbitrary and is used on the link to shopcontents.asp
Message	Information to be displayed
Message2	Additional information
Image	Image to be displayed
Hided	Yes hides the contents entry
Template	Template to be used to display this contents entry. Sample template is tmp_content.htm
Language	Used only if xselectproductsbylanguage=Yes. Tries to display language specific version of the content details

43.2 Link to Contents Program

To use the contents you must create your own hyperlink someplace on your site. For example to display the about us page, a hyperlink would look like

About us

43.3 Using New Navigation facility

You can add the following to your header or footer to generate a list of current contents entries
<%navigateshowcontent%>

This generates a drop down list of the current contents table entries.

43.4 Changing Contents

There are two ways to change the contents. You can add a new record with the same type. VP-ASP will always display the last one. This is useful to create an historical record of what information was displayed. The last one entered for a specific type is the one that is displayed. Otherwise simply enter the contents record.

44 Database

This is a summary of the database fields and tables in shopping550.mdb. The database tables are now in file www.vpasp.com/virtprog/vpasp550databasedesign.zip

44.1 Split Databases

If you are using Microsoft Access, there may be some advantage in splitting databases. This allows you to have separate databases for affiliates, orders, search term recording, products and customers. If you split databases, you need to copy certain tables into the specific database and set specific configuration options.. Below is a list of which tables can be moved to their own database.

If you split tables into their own databases, it is up to you to actually create the separate database using Microsoft Access and copy the tables from the main database.

Configuration	Tables
Xproductdb	Products, categories, prodcategories, prodfeatures
Xaffilatedb	Affiliates, affiliatelog
Xsearchdb	searchresults
Xorderdb	Orders, ordertracking, oitems, mycompany
Xcustomerdb	customers
Xprojectdb	Projects

If splitting products then special code must be taken if you have written your own ASP programs to read information from the products, categories tables. You must use the following subroutine called

ShopopendatabaseP conn instead of shopopendatabase conn

44.2 Special ODBC Considerations

If you are connection to an SQL server database using ODBC, VP-ASP cannot determine if it is an Access database or a SQL Server database. There are certain differences in database handling that SQL Server requires. If this is the case, use the following Shop Configuration option. This is different from the shop$config.asp value. Which would remain ODBC.

Xdatabasetype	SQLSERVER