

Timekiosk Automation – Stock Update

Date: 04.05.2008

Version: 1.01a

The screenshot shows a web browser window titled "Timekiosk AS - Automation - Welcome! - Windows Internet Explorer". The address bar shows the URL "http://localhost/WebService01/StockUpdate.aspx". The page content is titled "Timekiosk AS - Stock Update User Interface".

The form contains the following fields and controls:

- Provider ID:
- Supplier ID:
- Access code:
- Stock number:
- Update reference:
- Update indextype:
- Create products:
- Create supplier:

Below the form, there is a section for "Input data (TAB separated):" with a text area containing the following data:

1	0	106052
1	0	106152
1	0	106202

At the bottom of the form, there is a message: "Initialize ok - No data to import." and an "Update!" button.

The "Import status:" section is currently empty.

The browser's status bar at the bottom shows "Local intranet" and "100%".

Introduction.

The intention of this routine is to allow Timekiosk customers (aka Providers) and Suppliers of products to make easy updates of stock changes into the Timekiosk central databases, and also create products at the same time if desired.

The interface allows simple "copy-and-paste" of data from a formatted Excel spreadsheet into the web interface. The import status output may then be "copy-and-pasted" back into the spreadsheet for easy control of succesful and failed updates.

Changelog.

Date / Ver.	
04.05.2008: 1.01a	Changelog section added. Added Stock Parameter update as part of routine.

Header information.

Provider ID: <input type="text" value="11111"/>	Stock number: <input type="text" value="22222"/>
Supplier ID: <input type="text" value="33333"/>	Update reference: <input type="text" value="44444"/>
Access code: <input type="text" value="*****"/>	Update indextype: <input style="border: 1px solid blue;" type="text" value="Item number"/>
Create products: <input type="checkbox"/>	Create supplier: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Each field is to be completed as follows:

Name	Sample	Description
Provider ID	11111	The unique number of a Timekiosk providing company that will have its stock information updated by the stock update operation. This is usually the company buying products from the Supplier. This ID number is known by the Provider in speak or may be specified by Timekiosk on request.
Stock number	22222	The unique number of the stock that is to be updated. This is a stock owned by the Timekiosk Provider company. This number is known by the Provider in speak or may be specified by Timekiosk on request.
Supplier ID	33333	The unique ID number of the Supplier of the products added to or subtracted from the stock mentioned above. This ID number is known by the Supplier in speak or may be specified by Timekiosk on request.
Update ref.	44444	The Supplier reference number linked to the stock update operation. This number is typically the order number or purchase number that is the source of the update. This number should be specified by the Supplier for future references to the stock change log.
Access code	Y7uj8dsD	Unique code set per Supplier and Provider relationship. The Access Code is disclosed to both parties from Timekiosk at the time of entering an agreement of creating an Automation relationship.
Update indextype	Item Number	Select the field that should be used for looking up the product for update operations. The options does include "Item number" which typically is the internal product number used by the Supplier, "Barcode" which is the likely to be unique EAN/UPC barcode defined per product and "Name" which is the name of the product. The value will be required to be unique in order to perform an update. Any duplicate will be reported as an update error. If no value is found a "Not found" message will be reported, unless "Create products" has been selected.
Create products		If full product definitions are included with the update any product that is not already in the database will be created using the data specified. If products should be created, please check this option. If checking this option also the "Create supplier" option needs to be checked.
Create supplier		If the updating process of stock/products also should add any missing Supplier to Product/Provider relationships, please check this option.

Input data.

Input data (TAB separated):

1	0	106052
1	0	106152
1	0	106202

Any data input should be formatted according to the local culture used in the Windows operating system in speak. Hence, when adding data to the system in Norway any floating point number should use a comma (",") as a decimal separator. Any data correctly input will be converted to the system format during import. Each column of data is separated by a TAB character, which is the default separating character when pasting data from Excel.

Input data column/field data specification:

Column	Content / description
1	Specify a number between 1 and 4 for stock update operation as follows: 1=IN (add to current level / count) 2=OUT (subtract from current level / count) 3=SALE (subtract from current level / count) 4=SET (set the actual level / count for the product) Option 3 and 4 should normally not be used by Suppliers, unless they do perform actual sales and/or stock accounting on behalf of the Provider.
2	Stock level change. Always specify as a positive integer number.
3	The value used for looking up the product. This should be set according to the selection made in the "Update indextype" header field (see above). This may be the Suppliers internal item number, the barcode or the product name valid for the product in speak. The value is case sensitive and any discrepancy in format or value will hinder the lookup of the appropriate product from the database.
Optional fields used if "Create Products" option has been selected	
4	Brand. String value. This is the top-level category text used by the system.
5	Series. String value. This is the second-level category text used by the system.
6	Name of product. String value.
7	Barcode. String value.
8	Item number. String value.
9	Price. Floating point value.
10	Purchase price. Floating point value.
11	VAT. Floating point value (Eq. 12% = 0,12 or 0.12). If using default VAT value this value may be ignored/omitted by specifying an asterix ("*") as the field value.
Optional add-on fields used to set Stock Parameters controlling purchase	
4 or 12	Order Point value. Specifies the low trigger level for purchase
5 or 13	Order Count value. The count of items to order. If set to -0- the Order Point will be considered the Stock Level target when calculating the order count.

Result report:

A sample "Import status" report may have one or more of the following entries:

***IMPORT STATUS REPORT:
NOT FOUND: [77]: 38676
OK: [78]: 30808
OK: [116]: 32987
OK: [117]: 36920
MULTIPLE: [118]: 26399
OK/NEW: [120]: 36920
DATA IMPORTED!***

The first status word(s) has the following meanings:

NOT FOUND: The system was not able to find the product specified (no update)
OK: The system did find a single product (update ok)
MULTIPLE: The system did find two or more products (no update)
OK/NEW: The system created the product (update ok)
ERROR: Some error prevented the system from updating the product

The number in brackets ([nnn]) is the line number of the item in the report.

The text following the final colon is the search phrase used to lookup the product as specified in the import data. Eq.: the Item Number or the Barcode.

If using Excel as a source of import data one may copy-and-paste the report back into the spreadsheet in order to easily get an overview of succesful and failed import data and sort the spreadsheet to eliminate succesful updates.