

Technical information: transmitting orders via the OCI interface

Unite
Version 2.7 (XX-XX-2025)

Contents

Unite Version 2.7 (XX-XX-2025).....	1
1. Creating the shopping basket and transmitting orders via the OCI interface	4
2. Flowchart.....	4
3. Configuring the OCI URL parameters	4
3.1. Mandatory parameters (Unite's minimum requirements)	5
Direct entry URL.....	5
USERNAME	6
PASSWORD	6
HOOK_URL.....	6
3.2. Automatically transmitted item information	6
3.3. Parameters for basic settings.....	6
http_content_charset.....	6
externalUserId (old shoppingListGroup)	6
externalUserIdParam (old slGroupParam)	6
NEW_ITEM-VENDOR	7
priceUnitIsQuantity.....	7
~TARGET.....	7
3.4. Unite-specific system parameters.....	8
ociButtonName.....	8
hideCheckoutButton.....	8
hideSendBasketButton.....	8
punchoutFormAutoCommit	8
keepBasketAtExport.....	8
addViewOptions.....	8
3.5. NEW_ITEM mapping for standard Unite features.....	9
NEW_ITEM-CUST_FIELD3=__TAX__	9
NEW_ITEM-CUSTOM1=__DELIVERYDATE__	9
NEW_ITEM-CUST_FIELD2=__RCDESC__	9
NEW_ITEM-...=__MANUFACTURER__	9
NEW_ITEM-...=__MANUFACTURER_AID__	9
NEW_ITEM-...=__EAN__	9
3.6. Parameters and NEW_ITEM mapping for product groups.....	9
NEW_ITEM-MATGROUP=__CUSTCLASSSYS__	9
NEW_ITEM-EXT_SCHEMA_TYPE.....	10
shippingMatgroup	10

3.7. NEW_ITEM mapping for G/L accounts relating to products and shipping costs	10
NEW_ITEM-xxx[P]=_ _FEATURE[K-KundennameSK]_ _ (old NEW_ITEM-MATGROUP ¹).....	10
NEW_ITEM-xxx[S]=0815.....	10
3.8. Fixed and variable values from the Buyer AID for Exclusive Catalogues.....	10
3.9. Parameters for shipping costs.....	11
skipZeroShippings	11
shippingMatGroup	11
ociItemserviceMode.....	11
3.10. NEW_ITEM mapping for attachments.....	11
NEW_ITEM-SIDAB=__SIDAB__.....	11
NEW_ITEM-ATTACHMENT=__MIME__	11
allowAttachments	12
3.11. Parameters for transmitting keywords	12
3.12. Shopping lists/Multi-user functionality/Connecting to external webshops.....	12
enableShoppingLists.....	13
3.13. Modifying a shopping basket	13
NI-EXT_QUOTE_ID (formerly: NEW_ITEM-EXT_QUOTE_ID).....	13
EXT_QUOTE_ITEM.....	13
Variant 1: Manual input of the offer number/shopping basket number:.....	13
showGo2QuotField	13
Variant 2: Dynamic URL to call up the existing shopping basket	14
routing=basket&id=<Id>	14
3.14. Resending the shopping basket	14
4. Support	14

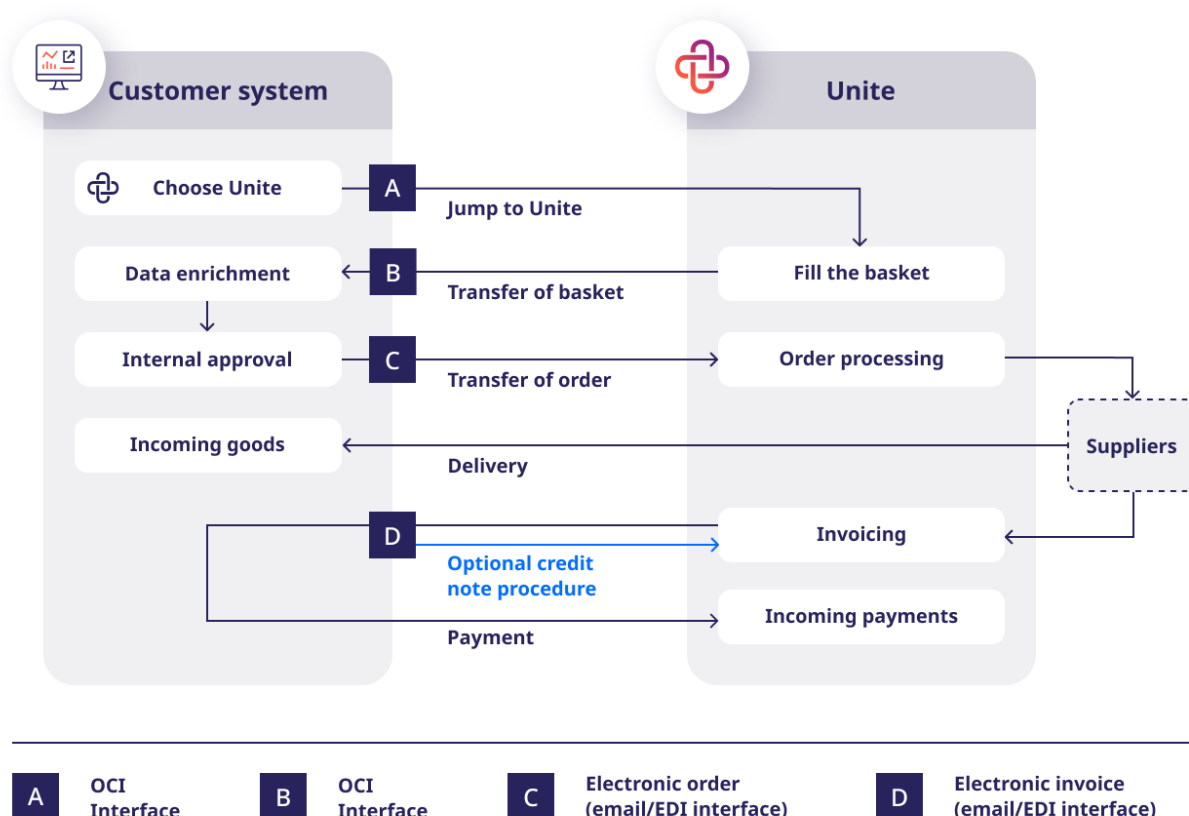
1. Creating the shopping basket and transmitting orders via the OCI interface

With PunchOut, known as OCI in SAP, buyers can jump from your e-procurement system to the Unite platform. On Unite (formerly Mercateo), the buyer selects items to create a shopping basket, which is then sent back to your e-procurement system as a purchase request or as an offer for internal approval. Address data and cost centres can still be changed directly in your e-procurement system. Once approved, the order is transmitted from your e-procurement system back to Unite.

If you've chosen to host Exclusive Catalogues on Unite, then a shopping basket may contain items from both Unite and Exclusive Catalogues. In such cases, supplier numbers are assigned at the item level, allowing your e-procurement system to split purchase requisitions into separate orders and send them to the respective suppliers.

A button will be set up in your e-procurement system containing a URL with parameters that you can configure, including access data. When clicked, the buyer triggers the jump to Unite. After selecting the items, a back button on the shopping basket page sends the purchase request to your system.

2. Flowchart



3. Configuring the OCI URL parameters

The URL that performs the jump to the Unite contains parameters that are assigned certain values. The following example contains the mandatory parameters.

https://www.mercateo.com/basket/oci?USERNAME=IhrUSERNAME&PASSWORD=IhrPASSWORD&NEW_ITEM-MATGROUP=__CUSTCLASSSYS__&NEW_ITEM-VENDOR=IhreMercateoKreditorennummer&keepBasketAtExport=false&hideCheckoutButton=true&HOOK_URL=https://www.mercateo.com/basket/httpcho

If multiple parameters are included in the URL they should be linked by an ampersand (&). Each parameter consists of a name and an assigned value, connected by an equal symbol (=), as shown in the example URL above.

Generally, OCI fields are limited to 255 characters. If more than 255 characters are required, use the parameter [NEW_ITEM-CUST_FIELDx](#) (where x can stand for 1 to n options), as this field supports 1,000 characters.

Parameters starting with 'NEW_ITEM-' can include custom suffixes ([NEW_ITEM-...](#) can also be replaced with [NI-...](#)). For example:

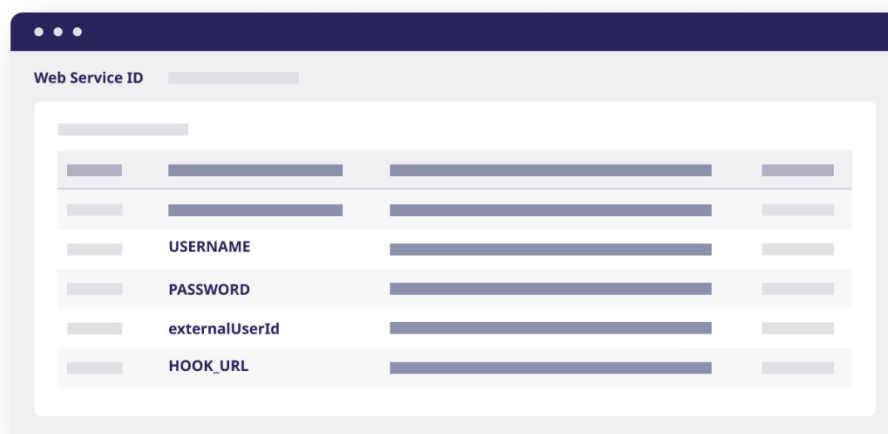
[NEW_ITEM-CUST_FIELDx](#)
[NEW_ITEM-MatGroup](#)
[NEW_ITEM-SomeName](#)

Unite can loop through fixed parameter values (e.g. [shippingMatGroup=99009900](#)) and transfer variable values (e.g. [NEW_ITEM-MATGROUP=__CUSTCLASSSYS__](#)). The parameter value should be separated by double underscores (__).

When you've entered URL parameters into your system for direct entry to Unite, these parameters will overwrite any preset values in the Unite system.

In some procurement systems, such as SAP, the parameters can also be entered into a table.

The figure below shows an example of such a table.



The screenshot shows a web browser window with a title bar. Inside, there's a form titled 'Web Service ID' with a text input field. Below this is a table with four columns. The first column contains parameter names, and the other three columns contain input fields for values. The parameters listed are USERNAME, PASSWORD, externalUserId, and HOOK_URL.

Parameter	Value	Value	Value
USERNAME			
PASSWORD			
externalUserId			
HOOK_URL			

3.1. Mandatory parameters (Unite's minimum requirements)

The following parameters meet Unite's minimum requirements and are mandatory:

Direct entry URL

The direct entry URL is the target address for accessing the Unite (formerly Mercateo) catalogue

<https://www.mercateo.com/basket/oci>

or

<https://www.mercateo.com/basket/oci>

The format will depend on your e-procurement system and version.

USERNAME

This parameter is for authentication and typically contains the customer number assigned by Unite.

PASSWORD

Unite assigns a unique password. If customer-specific views are created, Unite will assign additional passwords. The password for each view must be included as a parameter value in the URL as a parameter value and is the only distinguishing feature between the views.

Note: The PASSWORD parameter is **not** the same password used for logging into www.mercateo.com.

HOOK_URL

This parameter sets the return address for your e-procurement system. (<https://...>).

In the example URL above, the `HOOK_URL` is defined as `&HOOK_URL=https://www.mercateo.com/basket/httpecho`. This `httpecho` has a verification function since it echoes the return values in the browser rather than sending the order to your e-procurement system.

Note: If using SAP systems, this parameter should be placed in the **last position** otherwise any subsequent parameters may not be transmitted correctly.

3.2. Automatically transmitted item information

The parameters that are automatically transmitted in the order: item number (`NEW_ITEM-EXT_PRODUCT_ID`), price (`NEW_ITEM-PRICE`), price unit (`NEW_ITEM-PRICEUNIT`), quantity (`NEW_ITEM-QUANTITY`), item unit (`NEW_ITEM-UNIT`), item description (`NEW_ITEM-DESCRIPTION`), item long description (`NEW_ITEM-LONGTEXT`), currency (`NEW_ITEM-CURRENCY`), offer number/basket ID (`NEW_ITEM-EXT_QUOTE_ID`), and delivery time (`NEW_ITEM-LEADTIME`; in days).

3.3. Parameters for basic settings

Use the following parameters to configure basic settings:

http_content_charset

Default value: `iso-8859-15`

Valid values: `UTF-8`, `iso-8859-15`

This parameter sets the accept-charset attribute in the `<form>` tag for the return. If this parameter is not set, the default value `iso-8859-15` will be used.

If the parameter `http_content_charset=UTF-8` is sent when calling the catalogue, then Unite sets the attribute `accept-charset="UTF-8"` in the OCI data form to let the browser know the preferred parameter coding when creating the HTTP request. However, not all browsers support this.

Note: If characters are still not displayed correctly, add the parameter `NEW_ITEM-IEHACK=☠`

externalUserId (old shoppingListGroup)

The user identification must be transmitted in the field `externalUserId` to personalise individual users when jumping to Unite and in partner webshops.

externalUserIdParam (old s1GroupParam)

If the user identification cannot be transmitted in the field `externalUserId` and is instead transmitted in the field `BENUTZER`, use `externalUserIdParam` to specify this:

externalUserIdParam=BENUTZER

NEW_ITEM-VENDOR

The parameter [NEW_ITEM-VENDOR](#) is used to store your creditor number for Unite.. If you include this parameter in the URL (e.g. [NEW_ITEM-VENDOR=08154711](#)), the value '08154711' is returned for items selected from the marketplace in the order. For items selected from Exclusive Catalogues, Unite replaces '08154711' with the creditor number provided to us for the corresponding Exclusive Catalogue.

priceUnitIsQuantity

Default values: [true](#)

Valid values: [true](#), [false](#)

This parameter determines whether the unit price [NEW_ITEM-PRICE](#) transmits the unit price (or the price of an existing PriceQuantity) or the total price based on the ordered quantity.

If [priceUnitIsQuantity=true](#), then the total price is transmitted and the value of [NEW_ITEM-PRICEUNIT](#) is set to [NEW_ITEM-QUANTITY](#).

Note: If shipping cost splitting is enabled, i.e. shipping costs are proportionally distributed across item prices, this parameter will be ignored.

~TARGET

Default value: [_top](#)

Valid values: [_top](#), [_parent](#), [_main](#), [frameset](#)

The [target](#) attribute is set in the [<form>](#) tag for the return. If the parameter is not set, the default [_top](#) is used as the default value. For [frameset](#), please provide the ID of the desired frame to which the return should be directed.

3.4. Unite-specific system parameters

ociButtonName

This parameter can be used to label the 'OCI export' button on the shopping basket page. A maximum of 30 characters is allowed. Avoid using spaces or umlauts, for example:

`ociButtonName=SAP-Jump`

hideCheckoutButton

Default value: `false`

Valid values: `true`, `false`

If set to `true`, the standard 'Proceed to checkout' button on the shopping basket page will be hidden.

hideSendBasketButton

Default value: `false`

Valid values: `true`, `false`

If set to `true`, the 'Send shopping basket' button on the shopping basket page will be hidden.

punchoutFormAutoCommit

Default value: `false`

Valid values: `true`, `false`

If set to `true`, the second query for sending the shopping basket will be automatically performed.

keepBasketAtExport

Default value: `false`

Valid values: `true`, `false`

If set to `false`, the Unite shopping basket cookie ('korb2') will be deleted from the browser via JavaScript when the 'OCI export' button is clicked.

addViewOptions

Valid values: `uiLanguage.COUNTRYCODE` (e.g. `de`, `gb`, `fr`, `es`, `hu`)

The Unite user interface (GUI), categories and search filters are displayed in the selected language. Content such as product information, Brand Worlds, and content overview pages remain in the national language of the platform.

3.5. NEW_ITEM mapping for standard Unite features

NEW_ITEM-CUST_FIELD3=__TAX__

Value added tax is product-dependent – in Germany it's either 7% or 19%.

- Use `NEW_ITEM-CUST_FIELD3=__TAX__` to configure the VAT rate of the product to be transmitted in this field. The transmitted data will be, for example, `NEW_ITEM-CUST_FIELD3=0.19` or `NEW_ITEM-CUST_FIELD3=0.07`
- Use `NEW_ITEM-CUST_FIELD3=__TAX100__` to configure the VAT rate of the product so it's transmitted as a percentage.
- Use `NEW_ITEM-CUST_FIELD3=__TAX[0.07=a,0.19=b,*=c]__` to customise which value is transmitted for the respective VAT rate (e.g. 7% is mapped to 'a', 19% to 'b', and everything else to 'c').

NEW_ITEM-CUSTOM1=__DELIVERYDATE__

The parameter `NEW_ITEM-CUSTOM1=__DELIVERYDATE__` returns the delivery date (DD-MM-YYYY).

Note: Keep in mind that time passes during your internal approval process, time will pass that you will have to add to the above delivery date. Additionally, stock levels and therefore the delivery time may have changed.

NEW_ITEM-CUST_FIELD2=__RCDESC__

The return conditions are transmitted as plain text. We recommend adding this information to the end of the item's long description (`NEW_ITEM-CUST_FIELD`) as this field supports up to 1,000 characters.

NEW_ITEM-...=__MANUFACTURER__

The manufacturer name is transmitted using the parameter `NEW_ITEM-...=__MANUFACTURER__`

NEW_ITEM-...=__MANUFACTURER_AID__

The manufacturer item number is transmitted using the parameter `NEW_ITEM-...=__MANUFACTURER_AID__`

NEW_ITEM-...=__EAN__

The EAN code is transmitted using the parameter `NEW_ITEM-...=__EAN__`

3.6. Parameters and NEW_ITEM mapping for product groups

NEW_ITEM-MATGROUP=__CUSTCLASSSYS__

Use the `NEW_ITEM-MATGROUP=__CUSTCLASSSYS__` parameter to specify the product group. The classification system is set by the Unite OCI configuration in your specific view. Unite supports the ECLASS and UNSPSC classification systems. If you prefer a customised product group mapping, please contact your Unite technical consultant, who will go through all the further details with you.

NEW_ITEM-EXT_SCHEMA_TYPE

Use this parameter to transmit the classification standard of the product group. The spelling of the classification standard can be customised as needed.

For example:

`NEW_ITEM-EXT_SCHEMA_TYPE=__CUSTCLASSSYSTYPE__`
or

`NEW_ITEM-EXT_SCHEMA_TYPE=__CUSTCLASSSYSTYPE[UNSPSC=Unspsc]__`

If the item does not contain any information about the classification system, a default classification standard can be used with parameter: `defaultMaterialGroupType`

e.g. `defaultMaterialGroupType=ECLASS`

shippingMatgroup

If you want to transmit a fixed product group for shipping costs, such as ECLASS 25070600, set the parameter as follows:
`shippingMatGroup=25070600`

This parameter can only be used if the shipping costs are sent as a separate line item (see section 3.9 'Parameters for shipping costs' below).

3.7. NEW_ITEM mapping for G/L accounts relating to products and shipping costs

`NEW_ITEM-xxx[P]=__FEATURE[K-KundennameSK]__`
(old `NEW_ITEM-MATGROUP1`)

Use the parameter `NEW_ITEM-xxx[P]=__FEATURE[K-KundennameSK1]__` to specify the G/L account.

`NEW_ITEM-xxx[S]=0815`

If the shipping costs are transmitted as a separate line item, this parameter allows a fixed G/L account value to be determined.

For example:

([P] = product)

([S] = shipping costs)

`NEW_ITEM-SACHKONTO[P]=__FEATURE[K-KundennameSK1]__`
`NEW_ITEM-SACHKONTO[S]=0815`

If you wish to transmit the G/L account, please contact your Unite technical consultant, who will go through all the further details with you.

3.8. Fixed and variable values from the Buyer AID for Exclusive Catalogues

With this option a variable value can be read from your Exclusive Catalogue. The value is defined in the `BUYER_AID` field.

If there is no value in the catalogue, a predefined fixed value is transmitted.

`NEW_ITEM-CONTRACT =__FEATURE [variable-exclusive-catalog-Buyer_AID_value, default-fixed-value]`

¹ Will be determined by Unite

For example:

```
NEW_ITEM-CONTRACT = __FEATURE [your_name_contract_ID, 4600020310] __
NEW_ITEM-CONTRACT_ITEM = __FEATURE [Your_Name_Contract_Pos, 10] __
```

Separator = comma (,)

If you want to transmit these values, please contact your Unite technical consultant who will coordinate the necessary setup.

3.9. Parameters for shipping costs

Shipping costs can be transmitted as a separate item or added to the percentile item price (shipping cost splitting). Shipping cost splitting is configured by your designated Unite technical consultant as part of your system setup.

skipZeroShippings

Default value: `false`

Valid values: `true`, `false`

This parameter configures whether shipping cost items with a value of €0 are transmitted or suppressed.

If **shipping cost splitting** isn't enabled, the parameter must be set to `true`.

shippingMatGroup

If you receive shipping costs as a separate line item, you can store a fixed product group for the shipping costs. For the example ECLASS 25070600, you would set the parameter as follows: `shippingMatGroup=25070600`

You can find more information about the product group in section 3.6 'Parameters and NEW_ITEM mapping for product groups' above.

ociItemserviceMode

Default value: `ZERO_ONE`

Valid values: `OMIT`, `TRUE_FALSE`, `ZERO_ONE`, `ONE_ZERO`, `X`

If you receive shipping costs as a separate line item, you can use this parameter to configure whether the item is a product or shipping costs.

`OMIT` = The item row will be omitted

`TRUE_FALSE` = If `true`, then shipping – if `false`, then product

`ZERO_ONE` = If `'0'`, then shipping – if `'1'`, then product

`ONE_ZERO` = If `'1'`, then shipping – if `'0'`, then product

`X` = If `empty`, then shipping – if `'0'`, then product

3.10. NEW_ITEM mapping for attachments

NEW_ITEM-SIDAB=__SIDAB__

The `NEW_ITEM-SIDAB=__SIDAB__` parameter will return the value '1' if a safety data sheet exists. In this case, the URL to the safety data sheet will be sent in the field `NEW_ITEM-ATTACHMENT`. `NEW_ITEM-SIDAB` returns a value of '0' if there is no safety data sheet. An alternative to this is the parameter `NEW_ITEM-ATTACHMENT=__MIME[safetyDatasheet]__`.

NEW_ITEM-ATTACHMENT=__MIME__

This parameter allows access to URLs of images, data sheets, and safety data sheets. An alternative to this is the parameter `NEW_ITEM-SIDAB=__SIDAB__`.

For example:

```
NEW_ITEM-ATTACHMENT=__MIME[image]__
NEW_ITEM-ATTACHMENT1= Article URL Shop (automatically set)
NEW_ITEM-ATTACHMENT2=__MIME[datasheet]__
NEW_ITEM-ATTACHMENT3=__MIME[safetyDatasheet]__
(Alternative to NEW_ITEM-SIDAB)
```

allowAttachments

Default value: `true`

Valid values: `true`, `false`

The transmission of attachments by default can be switched off using `allowAttachments=false`.

3.11. Parameters for transmitting keywords

Use the parameter `routing=category&id=xx` to transmit the user's search keywords to Unite. When accessing via OCI, the corresponding Unite page for the search term will open directly.

Please transmit umlauted letters such as ä, ö, ü as ae, oe, ue and ß as double-s.

Example:

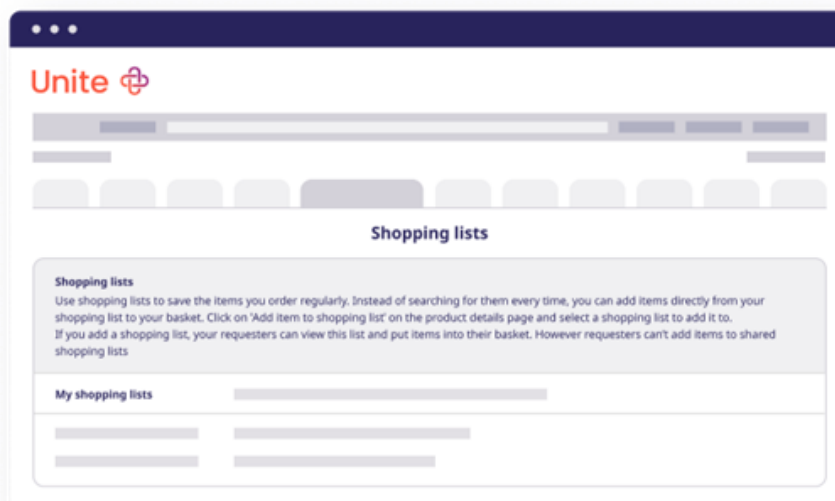
User entry: Transmitting 'Bürobedarf' to Unite:

```
routing=category&id=Buerobedarf
```

3.12. Shopping lists/Multi-user functionality/Connecting to external webshops

The following parameters enable the shopping list feature in Unite. If you have any questions about shopping lists, please get in touch with your Unite technical consultant.

Important: the user-specific identifier must be transferred in the parameter `externalUserId=xx`



enableShoppingLists

Default value: `false`

Valid values: `true`, `false`

`enableShoppingLists=true` is required to use the feature.

3.13. Modifying a shopping basket

This function allows the user to modify shopping baskets or purchase order requests after transmitting the basket but before the order is sent.

Changes must only be made using this function, as item prices and shipping costs can change depending on order quantities. Modifying the shopping basket solely within your system could lead to errors during the ordering process.

If a user makes changes in the basket, a new (!) shopping basket must be created and exported. The old shopping basket must be deactivated in your system.

This can be done in two ways:

- Manual entry: the requester manually enters the offer number or shopping basket number
- Automated: a dynamic URL is used to directly call up the existing shopping basket

Information about the existing shopping basket is contained in the relevant OCI return fields:

NI-EXT_QUOTE_ID (formerly: NEW_ITEM-EXT_QUOTE_ID)

Parameter value: `__EXPORTID__`

The offer number created can be taken from the OCI return field `NI-EXT_QUOTE_ID`.

EXT_QUOTE_ITEM

Parameter value: (no value required)

The item number of the shopping basket can be taken from the OCI return field `EXT_QUOTE_ITEM`.

Variant 1:

Manual input of the offer number/shopping basket number:

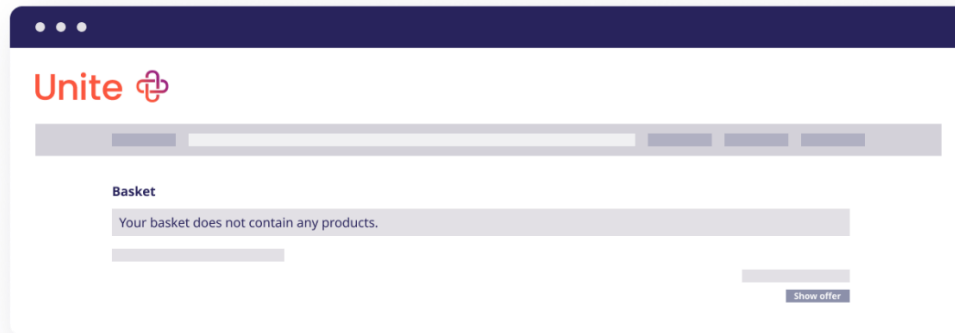
showGo2QuotField

Default value: `false`

Valid values: `true`, `false`

The parameter displays an input field for the offer or shopping basket number on the shopping basket page when navigating to Unite via OCI, provided no items have been selected beforehand. This allows you to make any necessary changes to a previously created offer.

To do this, manually enter the offer or shopping basket ID in the search field. This will take you to the existing offer where you can make the required adjustments.



Variant 2:

Dynamic URL to call up the existing shopping basket

A dynamic URL option can be created to retrieve the offer or shopping basket number of an existing offer or basket and open it in Unite.

routing=basket&id=<Id>

This parameter sends the ID of the existing offer or shopping basket to the Unite system.

For example, shopping basket xyz0815 is called up using the parameter **routing=basket&id=xyz0815**.

In this case, the ID readout from the OCI return value **NI-EXT_QUOTE_ID** must take place in your system.

Your Unite technical consultant can answer any questions related to modifying the shopping basket.

3.14. Resending the shopping basket

This function allows the requester to create a **new** offer or shopping basket based on a previously approved purchase order request (containing the same items). The new request must go through approval again and be sent as an order.

Similar to the two ways of modifying a shopping basket, the process involves accessing the original, already-ordered offer, making the necessary changes, and submitting a new order based on the updated request.

For questions about the resending the shopping basket function, your designated Unite technical consultant will be happy to support you.

If you are using a specific OCI webshop via your Unite solution and need to transmit the item offer number directly to your supplier, your Unite technical consultant can also provide guidance.

4. Support

If you experience **technical problems** or **have questions regarding the interface** after being connected successfully, our support team will be happy to assist you.

You can reach them Monday to Friday between 8 am and 4:30 pm (CET) by **email support@unite.eu** or **phone +49(0)89 2112 9027**.

Please note that our support team handles only technical enquiries and troubleshooting requests.