

IceCat integration

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Overview SaaS

[IceCat](#) is a PIM provider that supplies diverse range of product information and supporting media. SaaS provides a seamless integration with this service, which is configured via system attributes and is facilitated by two recurring tasks: **daily index (DI)** and **product attribute enhancement (PAE)** that run in background in Admin app. There is also an additional job, which is optional **brand attribute enhancement (BAE)**, which allows to download supplier logos and attach them to brand entries.

System preference	Example	Purpose
IceCat_username		Authentication
IceCat_password		Authentication
IceCat_index_uri	http://data.icecat.biz/export/level4/INT/files.index.csv.gz	Main index (DI)
IceCat_supplier_uri	http://data.icecat.biz/export/level4/refs/SuppliersList.xml.gz	Suppliers index (DI)
IceCat_base_uri	http://data.icecat.biz/export/level4/	Base URL where individual product information resides (PAE)
IceCat_temp_dir	file:///some/path/temp/	Temp directory for downloaded files (DI+PAE)
IceCat_langs	EN:en,DE:de	CSV language mapping for downloading country specific product information (PAE)
IceCat_run_only	ABC,EDF	CSV of of product codes to enhance (PAE). This should be used when PAE task needs to be run on specific products only, default is PAE runs on all products with outdated PIM flag in batch size
IceCat_force_image_download		Flag to force re-downloading media files (PAE)
IceCat_max_batch	5000	Maximum products to be enhanced in a single job cycle (default is 5000)
IceCat_enable_SKU_only 3.6.0+	false	Flag set for daily index job. If set to true forces to use SKU only matches (maybe very unreliable).

In addition to above core configuration there are several attributes mapping that can be used to configure default behaviour and enable platform features such as attribute navigation and search index options

System preference	Example	Purpose
IceCat_attribute_prefix	ice_	Prefix that is used for all attributes stored on Product (allows for better system management as these attributes can be easily identified and manipulated if need be as DB level)
IceCat_attribute_store_csv	1234,4556	CSV of IceCat feature codes (e.g. 1234,4556) that need to be marked as storable (allows to store values in index as is and display on category pages)
IceCat_attribute_search_csv	1234,4556	CSV of IceCat feature codes (e.g. 1234,4556) that need to be marked as searchable
IceCat_attribute_primary_csv	1234,4556	CSV of IceCat feature codes (e.g. 1234,4556) that need to be marked as primary (exact searches)

IceCat_attribute_navigation_csv	1234,4556	CSV of IceCat feature codes (e.g. 1234,4556) that need to be marked as navigatable (used in filtered navigation)
IceCat_attribute_navigation_range_csv	1234,4556	CSV of IceCat feature codes (e.g. 1234,4556) that need to be marked as navigatable for purpose of range filters. Values are padded up to 10 character with 3 reserved for decimal places. E.g. 3.5 = 0000003500, 3.5555 = 0000003556
IceCat_attribute_map	1234=DESCRIPTION_en 4556=OTHER_ATTR	Property style mapping to rename features into attributes
IceCat_brand_alias_map	HP=Hewlett-packard	Property style mapping to rename brands E.g. HP=Hewlett-packard
IceCat_associations	accessories	Type of association to use for "related products". Leave blank to disable related products.
IceCat_use_names		Set to true to use product names from IceCat (this will overwrite product i18n names)
IceCat_use_titles		Set to true to use product titles from IceCat (this will overwrite product i18n names)
IceCat_use_descriptions		Set to true to use product descriptions from IceCat

First tasks downloads the master index file in attempt to match the product codes into the platform with IceCat product code using either EAN, SKU+Brand or just SKU. If product has been matched the IceCat code is set in **PIM reference** and product is marked as **PIM data is outdated** (see External tab of the product editor). Additionally other information is stored in custom attributes of the product at this stage, including the type of match that was used to identify IceCat product code (stored in **IceCat_matchedby**).

Second task acts upon outdated products by downloading data from IceCat and enhancing the attributes and media.

Note that for performance reasons media is not re-downloaded every time, use "IceCat_force_image_download" global flag, or set "IceCat_refreshimages" at product level for individual products

IceCat core product attributes	Example	Purpose
PIM reference		Core property of Product used to capture IceCat product code
PIM data is outdated		Core property of Product used to capture signify that product details need to be reloaded
Disable PIM updates		Core property of Product used to disable PIM updates
IceCat_matchedby		Type of match that was used to identify PIM code ICE - strongest match should be set when PIM code is set manually EAN - next level match by EAN code (strongest automatic match) BRAND - next level SKU+Manufacturer name (moderate match) SKU - weakest match, very unreliable (disabled by default in 3.6.0+)
IceCat_producttype		This property holds GUID of product type in IceCat for this product.
IceCat_updatefailures		Count of failures encountered when attempting to update product information. Maximum failure count is set to 5, which means if PAE fails 5 times in a row to update given product it is marked as "PIM disabled" (used to blacklist consistently failing products)
IceCat_refreshimages		If set to true forces redownload of existing images. DI can set it to true automatically if better match is found. Once the images are refreshed the flag is automatically removed.

Recommended schedules

Task	Schedule
(DI) IceCat Daily Index Update	Once a day in the evening, depending on the size of your catalog this could take considerable amount of time

(PAE) IceCat Product Attributes Enhancer	Several times during the day in off peak hours in 15 minutes intervals with batch of 1000 products
(BAE) IceCat Brand Attribute Enhancer	Can be run manually as required once a month.

Useful tips

Checking server connection

IceCat servers require whitelisting enabled. In order to check connectivity you need to log onto server and check if you are able to download a file.

If you need base64 encoded credentials, you can use "IceCatAuthUtils" in the int-module-pim-icecat to generate it.

Run main from you IDE and follow the instructions. To check connectivity try the following URL:

```
wget --user=username --ask-password  
'http://data.icecat.biz/export/level4/refs/SuppliersList.xml.gz'
```

Replace username with your login and enter password when prompted, if supplier file downloads the connection is working.