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Image Upload – FTP CCM 3.1.1.1

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Process

The process of Mass uploading of images can now be done utilizing FTP, to upload a large number of images at one time.

The process can be done in one of 2 ways:

1. FTP images that are specific to products. These images are for the main product image only and will be associated to 1 product.

2. FTP images that can be associated to Multiple products, either as the Main product image or as Relational images. This process does need an associated CSV file to set image properties and to associate the image to more than one product.

    Images in this process must be either the Main product images **or** they must be Additional Relation images. You can not mix them in the same CSV file.

You can only do one of these steps at a time. If there is a CSV file present, the system will only process those files that are named in the file. All image files not listed in the CSV will be ignored.

Processing the Images

Once images have been FTP'ed into the correct folder, processing is initiated in the Marketing → Images area using the "Process FTP'd Images" button. Select which Category the images are to go to and click the button.
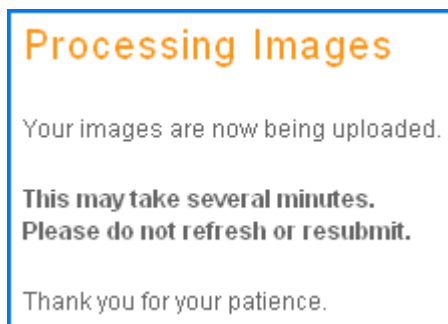
Note: If there is no CSV file present, then CommerceCM cannot process the images into the Product Relations category. A CSV file is required in order to process Product Relations.

Selecting Product will associate the images as the main product image and will place the images into the Product category. Selecting Product Relations, will place images into the Product Relationals category and using the CSV file, the images will be associated to Products as an Additional Image relations.

A CSV file can also be used to manage the main Product images. We will discuss this in the next section.

After clicking the Process FTP'd Images, CommerceCM will open a new window to let you know that the process is underway.

When completed, you will be told if there were any problems during the processing, or if the process completed successfully.

Product Specific Image (no CSV file)

The system is designed to look to see if there is a CSV file in the FTP folder. If one is not found, the system will see if there are any images files in the folder. If there are any found, then it will start to process them using the filename to relate the images to any products.

NOTE: If there is no CSV file, then any attempts to process Product Relations will fail.

With no CSV file, the filename of your images must match the POSID (Product ID in the Products manager) of the product you want to associate it to. So if you have a POSID of "Prod_1234" then the filename of the image must be "Prod_1234.jpg".

The system will then go and look for a product with that POSID and if the POSID exists, the system will then see if there is an image already associated to that product. If so, CommerceCM will then replace the currently existing Main image with this new one, and if the image name does not match the Product name, the Image name will be set to the Product Name.

If there is not an image associated to the Product, this new image will then be associated to the product as the Main image, and the Image name will be changed from the POSID to the Product's name, with the image placed into the Product image category.

If there is no product with that POSID found, CommerceCM will simply add the image to the Product Category. The image name and Alt Text will be the POSID, and the image will have to be associated to the Product manually at a later date, once the product has been created.

NOTE: this process without a CSV file is only used for the Main Product image. It can not be used for Product Relations and Additional Images.

Product Specific Image (with CSV file)

Including a CSV file with the FTP upload of images, allows you to explicitly assign images to products, as either the Main product image or as a product Additional image.

An image can be associated to more than 1 product using the CSV option. And with this option you are also able to set the Image name, Image Description and Image Alternate Text.

If an image is to be associated to a product, the system will first check and see if there is already an image with that Image name associated to that product. If so, the Image will simply be replaced. If there is no image with that image name, then CommerceCM will create a new image with name and associate it to the Product.

You define if the processing of these images with CSV file is for the main product image or the Additional images based on the Category you select for the Process FTP'd Images.

Products category is for the main product image and Product Relations is for Additional Images.

CSV File Format

The information in the CSV file must be set up using the following columns including these column headings to make use of this functionality:

ImageName.jpg – This is the column that defines the actual filename of the image that is to be processed.

ImageName – This is the column that supplies the name of the image that is displayed in the Image Category list.

ImageDescription – This is the Description of the image. It is only used when the image is a Relation Image and is added to the product Additional Images relation.

POSIDs(pipe Separated) – This is a list of the Products that you want to associated the image to. Whether this is going to be a Main image or an Additional image, you must enter in the POSID. If the image is to be associated to more than one product, separate the POSID's by pipe's "|".

AltText1 – This is the Alternate text for the image. It is used to set the main or default language Alternate text for this images.

The following would only be added if your site is multi-language.

AltText2

AltText3

AltTextn….

Once the file is setup, make sure you save it as a ".csv" file. Here is an example of the file layout.

ImageName.jpg	ImageName	ImageDescription	POSIDs(pipe separated)	AltText1
Alpinepowder_ 1600_1200.jpg	ImageName1 - Powder	Powder	BAG0008	Powder Hound
Bat.Belt.jpg	ImageName1 - Belt	Belt	BAG0009|BAG0010	Bat Belt

The filename by default should be "ImageUpload.csv". It can be changed, but the site must be reconfigured to accept a different file name.

If you do not have a CSV example file, contact an ideaLEVER customer representative for one.

FTP details

An ideaLEVER representative will supply you with the FTP details for accessing the FTP Folder for your site. If this has not been supplied contact ideaLEVER.

By default all images and files will go into the Images folder located inside the site FTP folder.

Once you have started the Process Ftp'd Images, CommerceCM will look in this Images folder for a CSV file and then any images. Once it has completed processing the images, all files processed will be deleted from the folder. Any files left in the folder indicate that there was an issue with that file, probably that the Imagename.jpg filename did not match the actual image filename that was uploaded.

To get used to how the FTP of images works, experiment with one Product to get used to the process.

From there you can then start on managing your images and getting them all processed into the System.

If you have any questions at all about the Image FTP process don't hesitate to contact ideaLEVER to clarify them.