≡KOSMOS

Powered by Aucxis

KOSMOS 21.1

RELEASE NOTES

OUR TECHNOLOGY
YOUR FUTURE

Date: 17 June 2021

Index

1   Introduction

Dear customer,

Through this document we would like to inform you about the modifications and improvements in our newest KOSMOS release (21.1).

2   Overview of KOSMOS 21.1 improvements

This new KOSMOS version contains many modifications and improvements on several parts. KOSMOS contains improvements related to and new features provided in:
- The user interface
- The administration part
- The performance and maintenance part
- The accessibility of KOSMOS

The stability/performance of KOSMOS is one of the most important keystones. In order to make KOSMOS more and more future-proof on this part, we have added **load balancing**, provided a **maintenance plan** and increased the **performance** of several processes (e.g. transactions).

Next to these improvements, there are also different usability changes which provides a better user experience. Improvements related to **prebids** is one example. Another example is the addition of the **breadcrumb** principle in the administration menu. Furthermore, a first version of product pictures in combination with the customer's ERP package is also something new.

Obviously, KOSMOS is also extended with a lot of other features. From now on, KOSMOS can be configured in order to work with different **price forks and coin codes**. An obligatory **privacy statement (GDPR)** section is also part of this new version. Especially for the auction staff, we have extended the possibilities in order to **block buyers**, improved our bidding info monitor and increased the speed of loading supply from the catalogue.

Finally, there are two major improvements for the auctioneer: the possibility to create transactions without running the clock and a new widget called "**Lot in preparation**". Here it is possible to modify the upcoming lot.

Check our release notes to have more details about this new KOSMOS version.

3 Automatic maintenance plan

Each new KOSMOS installation will contain a maintenance plan, which will make sure that the KOSMOS databases (clock db and reporting db) will maintain their performance. Two maintenance plans will be installed, one on a daily basis and the other one on a weekly basis.

Our **daily** maintenance plan will execute the following tasks:
- Integrity check
- Indexes will be reorganised
- Statistics will be updated
- Cleanup is performed

Our **weekly** maintenance plan will perform:
- A database shrink
- A rebuild of all indexes

Which data will be cleaned up? Data older than 1 month, **only** for the following tables:
- User logins
- Event logging
- User line times
- User clock selections
- Errors
- Bid monitor info

The KOSMOS reporting database saves all historical data, for an unlimited period of time. If necessary, and upon request of the customer, old unused data can be removed by our KOSMOS experts.

Maintenance plan results? The SQL server log file viewer can be used in order to check the results of the execution of the maintenance plan. Only people who have access and are allowed, can follow up and analyse the execution of the maintenance plan.

Important: Currently the maintenance plan is only introduced for on-premise installations. For Azure (cloud) installations, we are working on a similar solution, which will be available in the next KOSMOS release.

4 Performance improvements

Which parts in KOSMOS have been modified in order to improve the performance?
- Load balancing
- Supply (catalogue) refreshing time
- Validation of transactions
- Bidding info monitor data processing

4.1 Load balancing

By introducing load balancing, KOSMOS can handle more (larger amount of users) communication compared to today. KOSMOS users will be divided into different processes which results in better performance.
Via the support of load balancing in the software, the software automatically takes care of distributing all communication over several servers. It is now possible to add and activate multiple servers, if necessary. Adding and/or scaling up with extra servers will be done and determined by our KOSMOS experts. This will depend on several aspects and can be different per customer. It will depend on the configuration, amount of users, use of KOSMOS,…

4.2 Supply (catalogue) refreshing time

Compared to older KOSMOS releases, the auction staff can now define the refreshing delay of the catalogue. Before this, the refreshing time was a fixed interval in the software. Now this can be changed/set by the auction staff. Instead of a fixed interval of 60 seconds, it is now possible to reduce this time, for example to 5-10 seconds.
The optimised supply matrix makes this possible.

4.3 Validation of transactions

The processing of transaction events has been adjusted and improved in order to prevent communication issues between transactions and other events.

4.4 Bidding info monitor data processing

Compared to the current bidding info monitor (where currently only buyer count and price are displayed in the graph), this new version has a lot of extras.

The bidding info is now available for **all** sales modes except for shout auction (rising clock, falling down mode,…).

Also, the number of buyers who are bidding (pulses and long presses) and the buyer numbers are being displayed.

This information can be very useful for the auctioneer in order to see the amount of interest in the product. The auctioneer can see how many buyers and which buyers are pressing.

Below you will find a print screen of the bidding info widget of KOSMOS 20.X and KOSMOS 21.1.

Bidding info widget KOSMOS 20.X (Rising clock)

Bidding info widget KOSMOS 21.1 (Rising clock)

Price / waiting dot count	Buyer count	Buyer numbers
3.2	0	
3.19	1	DOARE
3.18	2	DOARE,2PORT
3.17	2	DOARE,2PORT
3.16	2	DOARE,2PORT
3.15	2	DOARE,2PORT
3.14	2	DOARE,2PORT
3.13	2	DOARE,2PORT
3.12	2	DOARE,2PORT
3.11	2	DOARE,2PORT
3.1	2	DOARE,2PORT
3.09	2	DOARE,2PORT
3.08 / 1	2	DOARE,2PORT
3.08 / 0	1	DOARE
3.08	1	DOARE

Bidding info widget KOSMOS 21.1 (Falling clock: 2 users stop the clock in the same time frame but on a different price, buyer 721 will be validated as the winner)
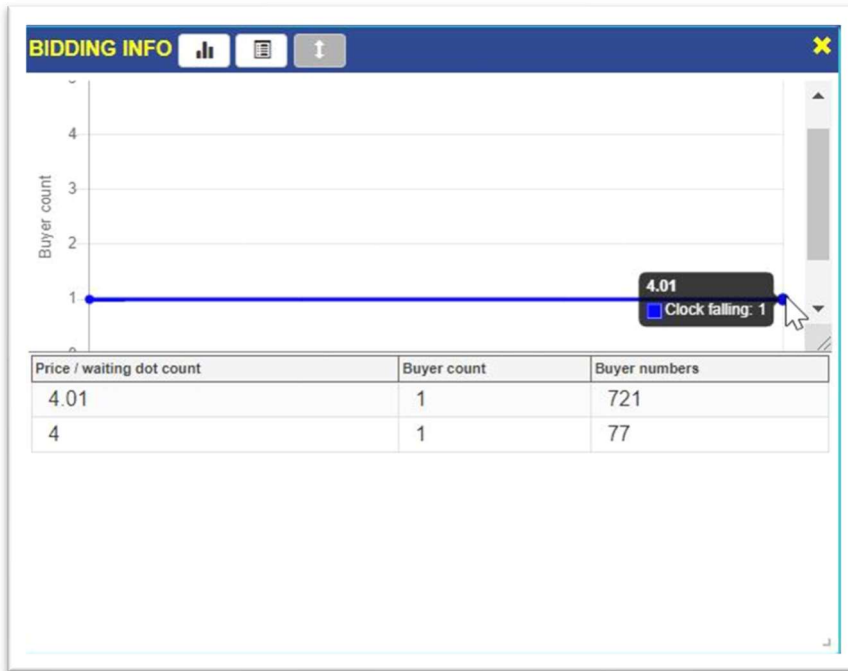
Bidding info widget KOSMOS 21.1 (Falling clock: 2 users stop the clock in the same time frame and on the same price)
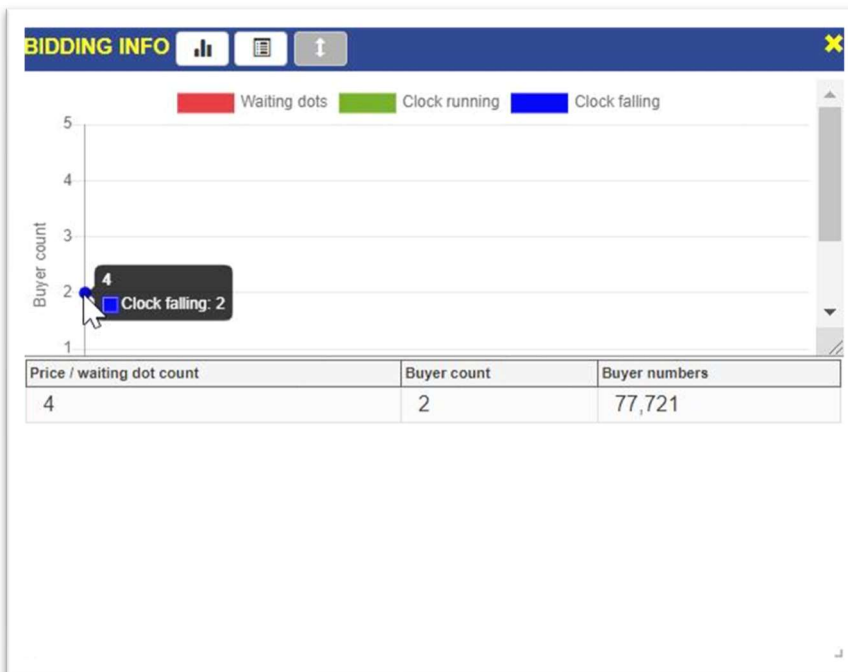
5 General improvements

Overview of general improvements in KOSMOS
- GDPR and Privacy statement
- Product pictures
- Coin codes and price forks
- Loggings
- Create your own content
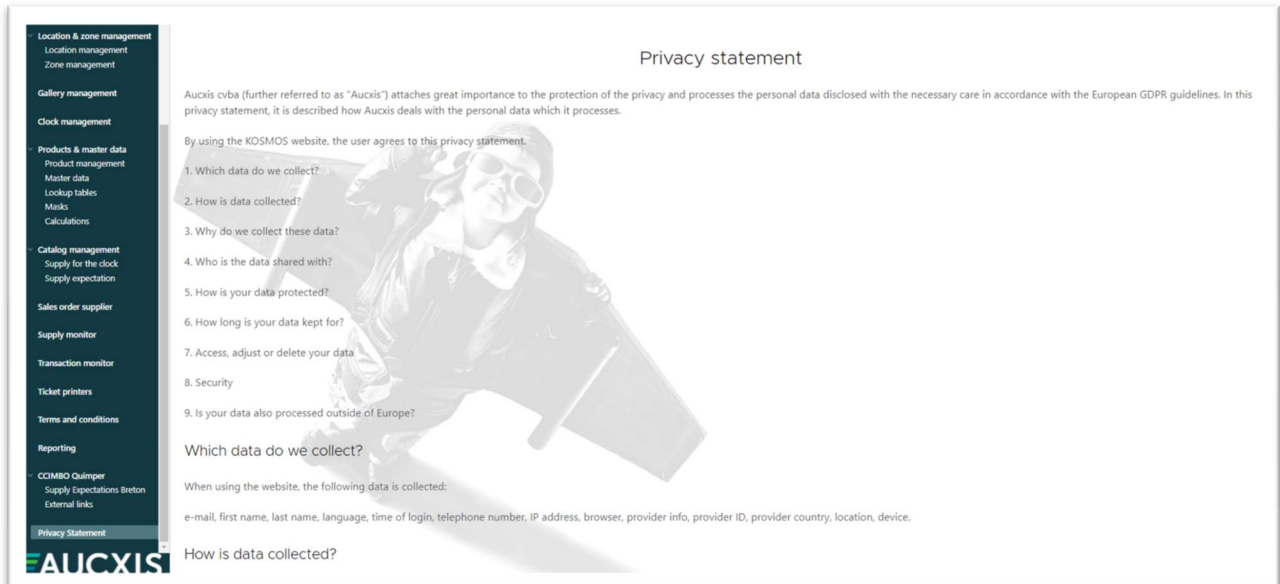
5.1 GDPR and Privacy statement

The KOSMOS menu (see also Additional menu items) is extended with a "Privacy statement" submenu. The privacy statement is provided in the following languages: Dutch, English and French. Additional translations can easily be added if necessary.

The statement describes which data of the user is being used (and saved in cookies) by using the KOSMOS website.

When the user logs in on the KOSMOS platform for the first time, he will need to agree with our privacy policy.

5.2   Product pictures

Product pictures of the supply are finally introduced in KOSMOS.
In this version it is possible to activate the "Images" widget.

Today, pictures (URLs) must be defined by the back-office system (ERP). It is not possible to manage/change/set a picture of a lot inside KOSMOS.
This extra functionality will be covered in our next KOSMOS version (November '21 release).

Currently, when an URL is defined and added to the lot (via ERP), this picture becomes visible if this lot is the current lot on the clock. The buyer needs to activate the "Image" widget in order to see the current lot picture.
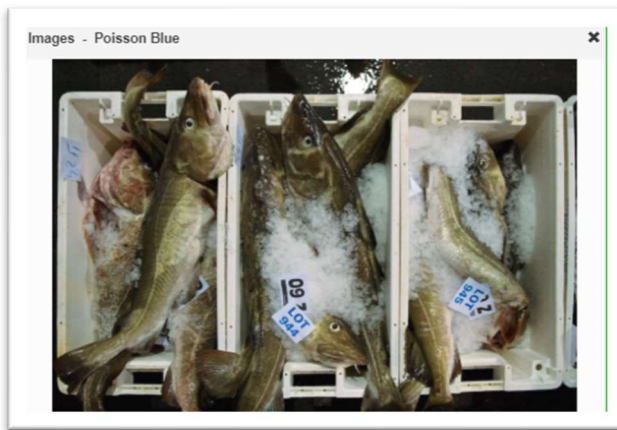
5.3   Coin codes and price forks (Products & Master data > Master data > Coin code)

Compared to older KOSMOS versions, where the auctioneer can modify the current coin code in the clock, it is now possible to define several coin codes which are automatically adjusted during the sale. Depending on the current price, the clock will adjust the current coin code (e.g. from 2 cents to 1 cent).

The example below shows a configuration of 4 fixed coin codes (which was already possible in the older KOSMOS releases) and 1 price fork definition.

By using price forks, the auction staff can define several coin codes in combination with a bottom price. In case the current price goes below the bottom price, the coin code is adjusted.
KOSMOS experts will give the necessary support to modify your coin codes.

Name	Price range
0.01 / step	[{'coincode': 0.01, 'bottomprice': 0}]
0.03 / step	[{'coincode': 0.03, 'bottomprice': 0}]
0.05 / step	[{'coincode': 0.05, 'bottomprice': 0}]
0.10 / step	[{'coincode': 0.1, 'bottomprice': 0}]
Normal1	[{'coincode': 0.01, 'bottomprice': 0},{'coincode': 0.02, 'bottomprice': 4}]

5.4   Loggings

KOSMOS has also paid attention to improve the current loggings. Logging of valuable information is very important, for analysing situations, tracing issues and so much more.

When issues occur, our KOSMOS experts will use these loggings in order to trace and verify the problem.

5.5   Create your own content

From now on, it is also possible to add and create your own content. Auctions can decide which content they add and how the menu is built. Adding extra (sub)menus and content (directing to other web pages via URLs, own content inserted via an editor,…), it is all possible.
Please check chapter 6.7 Additional menu items in the administration and configuration section for more details. Here you will find more information about managing own content.

6   Administration and configuration improvements

Overview of improvements in Administration and Configuration section of KOSMOS
- Navigation (breadcrumb)
- Blocking buyers
- Product management: lot in preparation, calculated fields, price overview
- Supply and Catalogue management: configurable refreshing time of supply, catalogue demo mode, "view only" catalogues, supply matrix configuration, lot editor
- Master data management: auction and catalogue master data
- Printer management: printer status indicator, status information
- Additional menu items: managing and customising menu, support for URLs and content
- Prebids and Markings
- Transaction monitor: bid monitor reporting
- Start price behaviour: extra options "Custom" and "Last transaction price"

6.1   Navigation - Breadcrumb

KOSMOS already has an easy-to-use side panel menu, and now it is also possible to use the title bar to navigate to the required level.
In previous KOSMOS versions, only the side panel was available for navigation. Direct access to a certain level in the menu is now possible. Previously, the user needed to start the navigation from the top level menu.

Supply for the clock > Poisson Blue > Lot editor
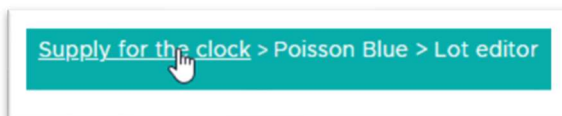
See the following screenshots for more information about how to use the title navigation bar (breadcrumbs).

In previous KOSMOS versions, the user was obliged to use the side panel menu. Now it is possible to navigate directly to the desired level. Here it is possible to go directly to the catalogue "Poisson Blue". Previously, the user needed to navigate to "Supply for the clock" and then he was able to select the right catalogue. Now, less user actions are required and the navigation is faster.
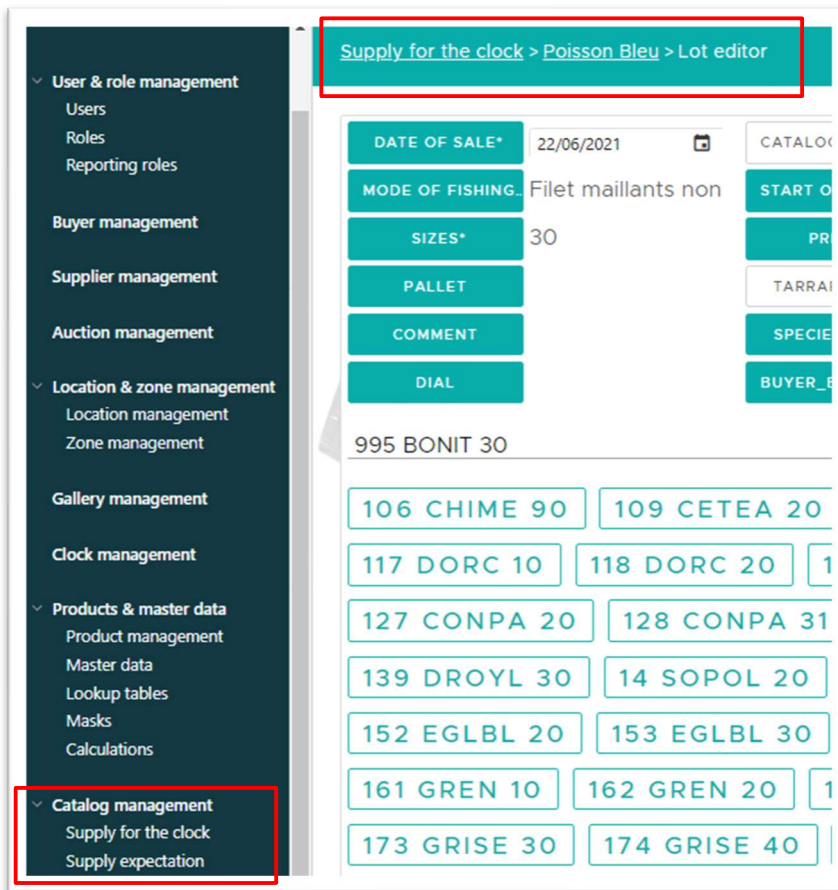
6.2 Blocking buyers (Buyer Management > Edit Buyer > Clock Access)

Buyers can be blocked (or granted access) on auction/clock level. Access can be granted to all available clocks, or it is possible to define specific clocks for which the buyer gets access. These settings can be made in the "Buyer management" section.

Below an example of a buyer who has access to all auctions and clocks.
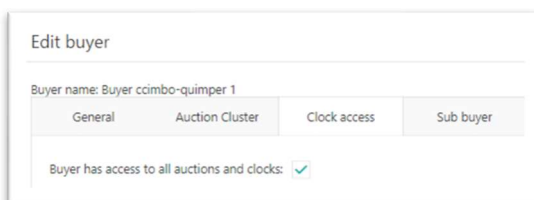
Below a second example where the buyer is blocked for a specific clock.

6.3   Product Management

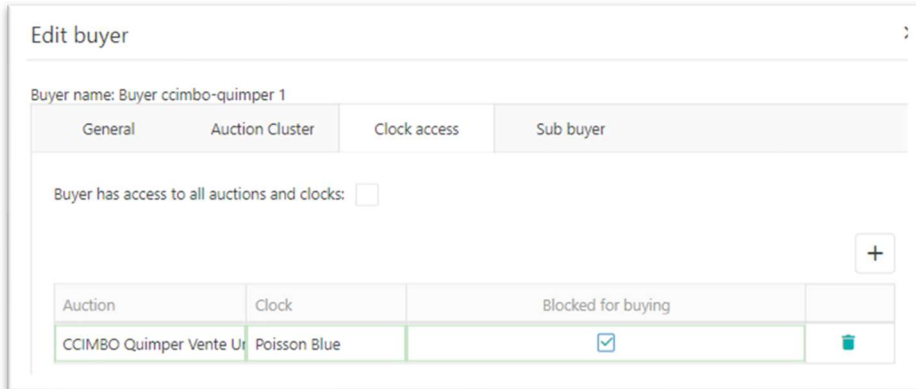### 6.3.1   Lot in preparation (Products & Master data > Product management > Auctioneer > Lot in preparation)

The product management section is extended with a new widget called "Lot in preparation". This widget is only available for the auctioneer and gives the possibility to make a (final) change to the upcoming lot. Depending on the configuration, certain properties of the lot can be changed.
Below you will see an example of the configuration of the "Lot in preparation" widget.
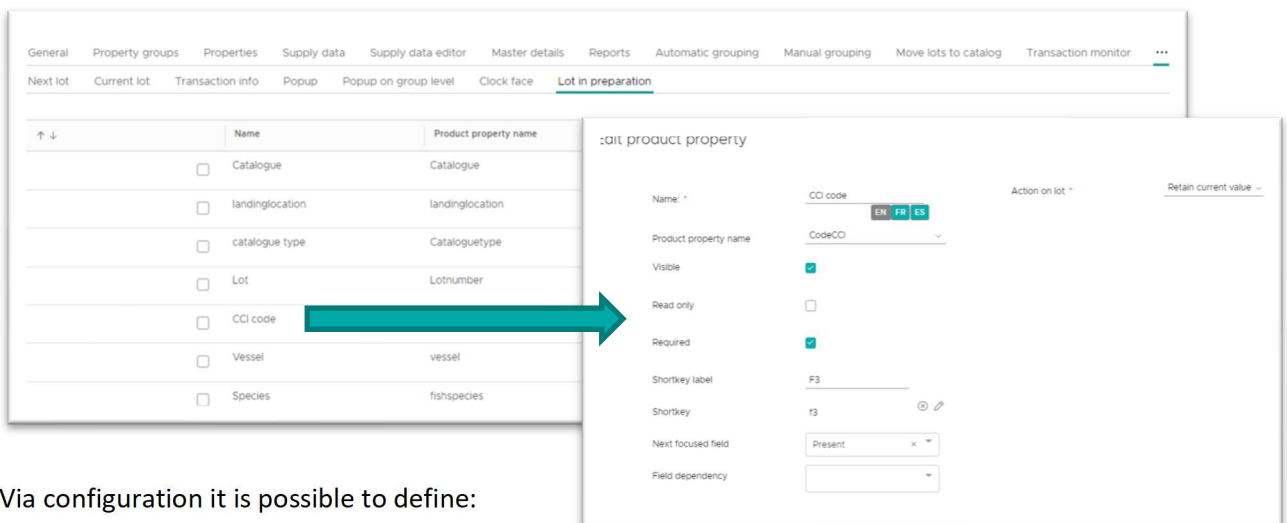
Via configuration it is possible to define:
- Field is visible, read only, required (or not)
- A shortcut (+ label)
- The next focused field (field which gets focus after confirmation)
- Field dependency

How does it work? When the auctioneer starts the clock, the lot in preparation is transferred to the current lot (lot which is being sold) and the next upcoming lot is loaded into the lot in preparation. This lot can be changed by the auctioneer.
When the clock is stopped (by the auctioneer or buyer), and the transaction should be cancelled, the lot becomes available again in this widget and can be modified if necessary. KOSMOS experts will assist with configuring this widget.

6.3.2 Calculated fields (Products & Master data > Calculations)

The "Calculations" section in product management has been improved with the ability to define expressions.

The existing "Math" and "Concatenate" options are replaced by expressions. Expressions give more possibilities and reduce the amount of temporary calculations. Another important advantage is an increased performance using expressions.

KOSMOS experts will assist in setting up the expressions depending on which information the customer wants to see (in the clock, supply and transaction monitor,…).

The expression editor also has a built-in evaluator. Errors (+ syntax) in expressions are displayed in order to notify that the current expression is not ok.

6.3.3 Price overview (Products & Master data > Product management > Price overview grid)

The current price overview has been extended with two extra options, "Show available amount" and "Show total amount". These fields can be helpful for the buyer to know what the available amount is compared to the total amount of that product.

6.4 Supply and Catalogue management

### 6.4.1 Refreshing time supply (Catalogue management > Supply for the clock > Edit catalogue > General)

The catalogue settings are extended with a "Refresh delay" setting which allows the auction staff to define the refreshing rate of the upcoming lots. In our previous KOSMOS version, this interval rate was always 60 seconds. Now we are able to reduce this interval and to increase the refreshing time.

6.4.2 Catalogue demo mode (Catalogue management > Supply for the clock > Edit catalogue > Demo)

The current demo mode has also been improved. In the previous KOSMOS release, it was required to open the auctioneer programme in order to start the demo mode. Now it is possible to start/stop the demo mode by using the play/stop button of a specific clock.
In this way, it is possible to activate a demo clock which can be used for several purposes: training auctioneer, training buyers, testing hardware (gallery, transmitters,…)
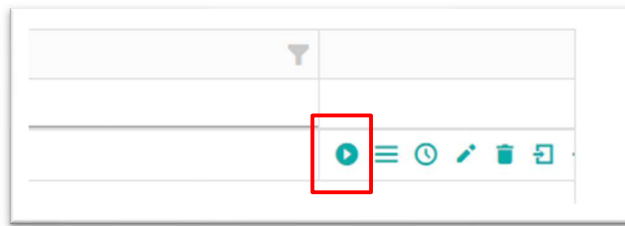
6.4.3 Catalogue View only mode (Catalogue management > Supply for the clock > Edit catalogue > General)

Disabling the management of supply (insert, update, delete, move,…) is now possible by using the new setting "View only mode". This setting is available in the Catalogue settings, tab General. This setting is useful when supply in KOSMOS is inserted via an ERP. Auctions which are using the KOSMOS lot editor will need to be able to manage the supply and will not activate this setting.

6.4.4 Supply matrix configuration (Products & Master data > Product management > Buyer > Supply Matrix)

Compared to the previous KOSMOS releases, now both axes of the supply matrix can be configured. The buyer will still have the possibility to switch rows and columns in the buyer app.

Below you will see an example of a supply matrix with configuration for both axes.

KOSMOS experts will give the necessary support and assistance during the project installation and/or configuration in order to set up the matrix as requested by the customer. Once the configuration is done, the data in the matrix will be displayed as configured.

On the right side you will see the supply matrix which is available for the buyer.

Supply matrix - Poisson Blue		Switch rows/columns		
	TOTAL	002788 - ALONE	001475 - LYCI	001952 - VAGALA 002668
TOTAL	1,307	400	372	221
ANCHOVY, E	440	400	-	-
HORSE MACKEREL, E	309	-	132	-
TRAWL GILT-HEAD SEA BREAM, E	119	-	119	-
EUROPEAN CONGER, E	121	-	121	-
REDFISH, E	123	-	-	123
MONKFISH WHITOUT HEAD, E	45	-	-	45
MONKFISH, E	100	-	-	53
BASS NET, E	50	-	-	-

6.5   Master data (Products & Master data)

The configuration part (extended error checking) in master data management has been improved. Now it is no longer possible to add duplicates in master data.
Furthermore, two new types of master data have been added: "URL" and "Colour".
Example of the use of "URL" type in the Supply monitor and Current lot widget. This allows auctions to provide additional information of the product to their buyers.

Below you will see an example of the supply monitor where the lot contains additional information (Variety), which is an URL.

ProductGroup	Variety	Variety	Lotn°	Supplier	Amount	SalesWeight	TotalWeight	Prebid price	Prebid subbuyer	
Apple	Granny Smith	Product Details		1	100	10	1,000			

Below you will see an example of the current lot widget where the current lot contains additional information (Product details), which is an URL. By clicking on the URL, the corresponding webpage will be opened.

Current lot - Clock 1						❷ ✖
Apple		Granny Smith			100	1,000.00
1	1	A	10kg Box	10	100	1000
Product Details						

6.6   Printer management (Ticket printers)

The printer management is extended with a status indication. In this way, it is possible to get a clear overview of the connected printers. Possible statuses are:
- Connected (green led)
- Disconnected (red led)
- Error (orange led)

Additional (error) information and status changes are also sent to the clock (auctioneer). Each change is displayed like a toast message inside the clock widget. In this way, the auctioneer is getting notified if a problem occurs with one of the printers.

Important: Today this additional information is only available for CAB Eos printers. Zebra and Sato printers need to be further investigated.


6.7   Additional menu items

The additional menu items is a new feature inside KOSMOS. It is replacing the existing "External platforms" section in Platform management.

This new feature has more possibilities compared to the external platforms feature. Where the external platform feature is only capable for supplying URLs, the additional menu item feature is extended with:
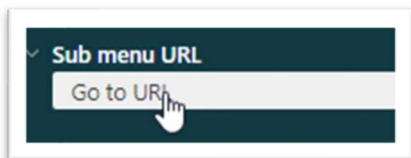
- Customisation and management of this submenu (create multiple (sub)levels and determine the content type: menu, URL, content)
- Managing content

Below you will find some examples of custom-defined menus. Here you see menus, submenus, content pages, links to other URLs…
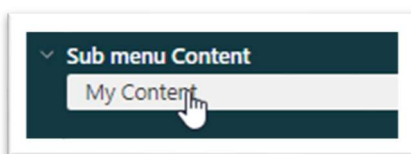
Screenshot of a custom menu
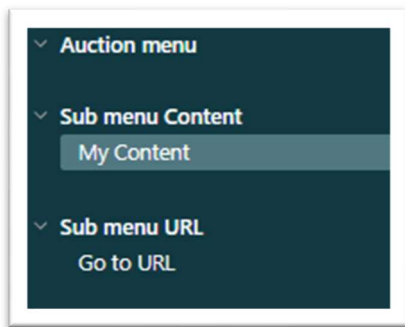
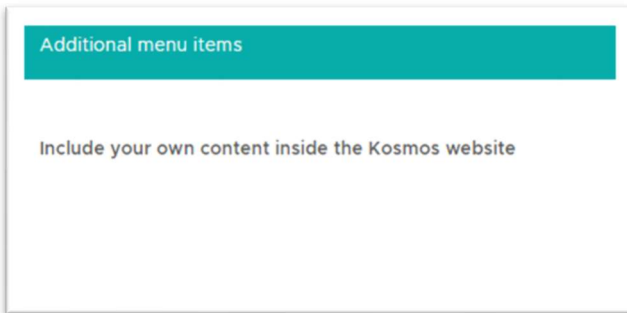*Screenshot of a custom submenu which is linked to an URL*

Screenshot of a custom content menu

Screenshot of own inserted content

6.8   Prebids and Markings

Making prebids is still possible by using the "Supply monitor" or directly in the buyer app. The buyer can choose whether he uses the "supply matrix" and/or the "upcoming lots" widget in order to make a prebid. The biggest change is the simplification of the prebid form.
All unnecessary fields (depending on configuration, can be different for each auction) are removed from the form, which makes it easier for the end user.

Apart from the improved prebid form, the "Supply monitor" is also improved. The supply monitor will now use the same colours as the upcoming lots widget where a marked lot is highlighted in blue and a lot with a prebid is highlighted in green. These colours are also used in the supply monitor now.

Example of the Upcoming lots widget

Example of the supply monitor

6.9   Transaction monitor

The transaction monitor has been modified in order to show deleted transactions. In previous KOSMOS releases, deleted transactions were not listed and this could cause misunderstandings. Now it is easy to check, if, when and which transactions were deleted.

Below you will see a screenshot of the Transaction widget. The indication (crossed out in red) that a transaction is deleted remains the same.

Below you will see a screenshot of the modified transaction monitor. Here the deleted transactions are also crossed out.


6.10   Start price behaviour (Products & Master data > Product management > General)

The start price behaviour setting is extended with an extra option, last transaction price. So now it is possible to set this to:

- None
- Weighted average price
- Maximum price
- Custom (new)
- Last transaction price (new)

Custom start price calculation: Here we can define a custom-made calculation. This option can be used when all other options are not matching with the Auction's needs. For example: average of 50% of last transaction price + 25% of second last transaction + 25% of third last transaction.

If "Last transaction price" is selected, the start price for the next current lot in the clock is the transaction price of the last transaction made, increased with the "Start price increment steps".
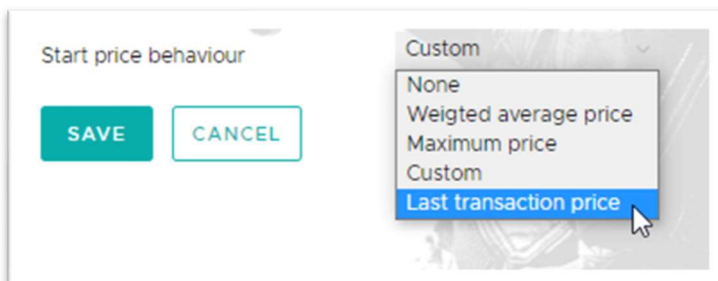
7 User Interface improvements

Overview of improvements in the User interface

The following list gives an overview of all widgets (buyer and/or auctioneer) which have been modified and improved:

- Transaction pop-up (auctioneer)
- Bidding info widget (auctioneer)
- Transaction widget (auctioneer)
- Clock widget (auctioneer)
- Lot in preparation widget (auctioneer)
- Blocked for buying (auctioneer)
- Prebids (buyer)
- Price overview (auctioneer & buyer)

7.1 Transaction pop-up (Auctioneer)

The transaction pop-up has the following extras compared to the previous KOSMOS release:

- The "Minimum price buyer" is highlighted in red when the clock stops on the minimum price.
- The "Buyer not sold" is highlighted in red when the clock is stopped by the auctioneer.

After confirming a transaction (transaction pop-up closes), the auctioneer can make a new transaction without running the clock by using the corresponding short key, by default "Q".

The short key (key binding) can be changed via the Settings of the auctioneer programme.

What happens when this short key is pressed?

A new transaction pop-up is opened and by default all data from the last transaction is presented. The auctioneer can now change the price and/or buyer. By confirming this transaction, the pop-up will close and this new transaction will be added to the transaction overview (widget).

When no more lots are available, or when the clock is running, this function is disabled and cannot be used.
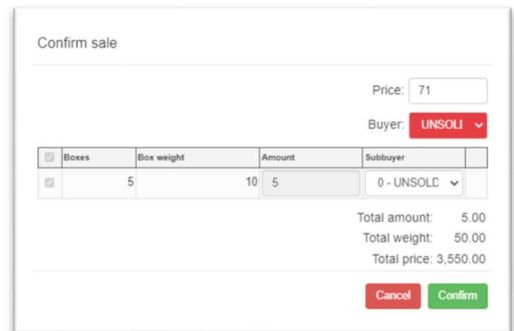
7.2 Bidding info widget (Auctioneer)

The new bidding info widget has several improvements.
Compared to the old bidding info widget, where the auctioneer had to choose between graph and grid mode, the new version can show both. The user can select the desired mode by using the icons in the title bar.
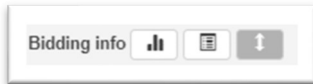
An extra modification is the indication when the clock is in falling mode (in the previous version this was not available).
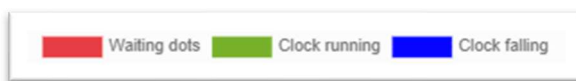
Another improvement is the addition of buyer numbers in the grid. In this way, it is also clear for the auctioneer who is pressing.

7.3 Transaction widget (Auctioneer)

The transaction widget contains a function now to filter the list of transactions. It is possible to filter on "Lot number". Also transactions which are no longer visible (buffer) can be retrieved by using this filter/search option.

The default assigned short key is "G", but can always be changed via the auctioneer's settings menu. In order to close/remove the filter, we also provided a short key (by default "X").

Below you will see an example of a transaction widget with 2 transactions (101006, 101008)

Lot	Port	Ship	Pres.	bins	Weight (Netto)	Buyer	Price	Auction	Species		
101,008	CONCARNEAU	VIKING	ENT	1	400	INVEND0	21.4	1	SKIPJACK TUNA	✎	🗑
101,006	CONCARNEAU	VIKING	ENT	1	400	INVEND0	21.36	1	SKIPJACK TUNA	✎	🗑

Below you will see an example of the same widget where the search filter is opened

Lot	Port	Ship	Pres.	bins	Weight (Netto)	Buyer	Price	Auction	Species		
🔍											⚙
101,008	CONCARNEAU	VIKING	ENT	1	400	INVEND0	21.4	1	SKIPJACK TUNA	✎	🗑
101,006	CONCARNEAU	VIKING	ENT	1	400	INVEND0	21.36	1	SKIPJACK TUNA	✎	🗑

Below you will see an example of the same widget filtered on transaction 101006

Lot	Port	Ship	Pres.	bins	Weight (Netto)	Buyer	Price	Auction	Species		
🔍 101006											⚙
101,006	CONCARNEAU	VIKING	ENT	1	400	INVEND0	21.36	1	SKIPJACK TUNA	✎	🗑

In future versions, we will extend the filter/search option in order to provide more (search) options for the auctioneer.

7.4   Clock widget (Auctioneer)

The Clock widget has the following UI improvements:
- After selling the last lot, the buyer display is cleared
- Prices in the clock are now formatted based on the format settings in the product configuration (product property price field)
- Displaying the printer status (auctioneer is notified when the printer status changes)
- The ability to send a message to all connected buyers (by using the short key "Y", the Messages pop-up will be opened)

Messages	×
Message	
Hello	

Close   Send
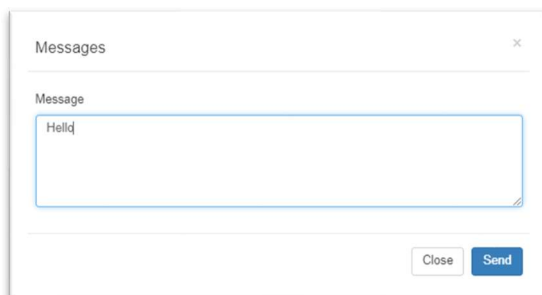
7.5 Lot in preparation widget (Auctioneer)

The "Lot in preparation" widget is an entire new widget!

This widget can only be used when selling in individual mode. Changing properties of grouped lots is not possible.

On the left side you will see an example of a Lot in preparation widget. Here the auctioneer can change the following properties of the lot:

- Code CCI (unique code based on combination of species, size, quality, presentation)
- Supplier
- Quality
- Gross weight
- Package type
- Pallet type
- Net weight
- Additional lot info (comments)
- Start price
- Minimum price supplier
- Minimum price PO

While the clock is running, the auctioneer can adjust the next upcoming lot before it has been sold on the clock. It is possible to sell a lot and change the next lot at the same time!

7.6 Blocked for buying (Auctioneer)

The auction staff can block a buyer in several ways:
- By modifying the settings via the Admin UI (Buyer settings). Here they can block a buyer for all available clocks or for a specific clock only.
  Important: Each time the "Block for buying" option is changed, the buyer is automatically notified and changes are immediately allowed.
- The auctioneer blocks a buyer during the sale. Blocking a buyer is only possible when credit limit verification (clock setting) is activated and when the buyer's credit limit is reached.

When a buyer stops the clock, and the buyer's credit limit is reached, the following options are possible:

- First, the auctioneer needs to confirm or cancel the transaction (similar like today). There is already an indication (on the right side) that the limit has been reached.


- After confirmation, the auctioneer has the following options:
  - Cancel and block: transaction is cancelled and buyer is blocked
  - Cancel only: transaction is cancelled and buyer can still participate to the sale
  - Confirm and block: confirm the transaction and block the buyer (not able to participate to the sale)
  - Confirm only: confirm the transaction and buyer can still participate to the sale

How to know if you are blocked or not (as a buyer)?

Blocked buyers have the "red hand" indicator in their clock widget. When this icon is displayed, it is not possible to stop the clock. When a buyer has bad line timings, the same "red hand" icon is used in combination with the known wifi icon in order to notify the buyer that he cannot participate.
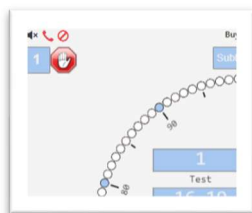
7.7   Price overview widget (Auctioneer & Buyer)

Depending on the configuration, the "Total amount" and "Available amount" can be displayed.
Besides the price trend, the buyer/auctioneer can see the remaining amount of the product. The
total and available amount can also be important for the current price.

Price overview						
Species	Quality	Ship	Total amount	Available amount	Price trend	Top price
POLE SOLE	2|A	OLSO	1,300	400	↓	26
HORSE MACKEREL	2|A	BUTTER	189	11	↓	14.8
HORSE MACKEREL	2|A	A LA V	444	0	↑	7.52