

Session	Question	Answer
01-Overview	How did US Thanksgiving, Black Friday, and soon Cyber Monday go?	http://www-01.ibm.com/software/marketing-solutions/benchmark-hub/index.html
	How do I see which RFEs are delivered in FEP8?	https://www.ibm.com/developerworks/rfe/execute?use_case=searchRFEs&SELECTED_SEARCH_TAB=TAB1&HIDE_DESCRIPTIONS=true&SORT_BY=CREATE_DATE&SORT_ORDER=DESC&is_javascript_enabled=true&BRAND_ID=343&PROD_FAM_ID=465&PROD_ID=964&COMP_ID=0&RESP_ID=5&PRIVATE_CR=0&ibm-search=Search&CREATED_BY=&KEYWORDS=
	Would the management center functionality of FEP8 be compatible with FEP7? Could we just use the Management Center in FEP7?	Backward compatible yes (using FEP 8 Management Center for FEP 7 capability), but not the other way around -- you cannot get FEP 8 capability with FEP 7 Management Center
	Is this promotions data load, will take care of promotions creations as well?	It's just an export of the users in the segment
	Does the email addresses export feature export only emails of users that have agreed to receive marketing content by email?	There is a checkbox in the CMC Marketing UI for this. This will be covered in the Merchandising, Marketing, and Utilities presentation on Friday 5 Dec.
	Config Overload for Analytics... biconfig.xml.... how does it work?	You can set up your analytics configuration under the <biprovider> entry in biConfig.xml That setup will be used by all the stores who use that <biprovider>. Then, every store can override any entry where they want different values.
	"b2b pricing support", does that mean that Search returns customer specific price, that can be used for sorting and faceting?	Yes, pricing based on contracts are in the search index
	Is the auto suggest catalog filter aware, so it does not suggest products that are out of customer's contract ?	Yes, auto suggest uses contract entitlement, assuming the buyer has selected the appropriate contract s/he wants to use
	Does this PDK allow adding individual items instead of adding total kit?	On the pre-configured dynamic kit, the whole dynamic kit is still added, not the individual items The notion of pre-configured is that it helps save time for the buyer, or represents a configuration that is perhaps on sale due to inventory, gross margin, etc.
	Is there any improvement regarding the relevancy of autosuggest?	Autosuggest results can now be scoped to store and sales catalog
	Is autosuggest enabled for different stores with different SKUs? or is it just one autosuggest for all stores?	Autosuggest results can now be scoped to store and sales catalog
	Are there any restrictions on types of data that will be protected in CMC or all changes in CMC will be protected ?	The feature to control merging of data load data with Management Center data is limited to catalog entry data at this point
	With this FEP8, we can create promotions through data load like catalog?	You can create promotions using data load. Not really sure what the specific comparison to Catalog is about, but the ability to load promotions is there.
	Is there a new regression test package?	The Automated Test Framework and scripts were updated for the FEP 8 Aurora starter store
	Are the contracts still created in Accelerator? what's the roadmap for that?	Yes, contracts are still created in Accelerator, and since this is a public enablement, we cannot comment on possible future plans.
	What to use instead of Websphere ESB form integration with an OMS?	The direct WC/OMS integration as introduced in FEP7/OMS 9.3
	Any changes to what we support on installing WC on newer versions of RAD and 64-bit support?	There were no changes to the RAD support statement.

How do I configure a user so he could choose a different contract or organization to shop for? Or do I only shop on behalf of other users?	There is multiple contract support in Aurora B2B. You can always use the ORGANIZATION PARTICIPANT role to allow users to interact with different organizations
shall we expect any significant performance impact when upgrading to FEP8?	The move from DB2 9.5 or 9.7 to 10.5 might deliver some performance improvement at the database level.
Have there been any enhancements on the catentry level, e.g. classifications, customer specific SKUs	The only change in this area is the addition of Predefined Dynamic Kits (PDKs), representing a predefined configuration in the CPQ integration. For more information on this, refer to teh CPQ Integration topic on Monday 8 Dec
So the role is Buyer for shopping in different stores.	Yes, the buyer role is used to determine which store a user can buy from
Is there any significant change in Data cache level?	No major changes. We have improved the standard servlet caching sample file.
How to get support for both B2B and B2C in the same store. that is B2B customers and B2C customers(with guest checkout options). Is there any OOB support for this?	This is a customization, see the Aurora B2B deep-dive session for details
Will we be able to share the shopping cart between the stores	The shared shopping cart support has not changed. It is possible to implement as a customization, and has been done for clients in the past
Is it possible to have products inherit attributes from their assigned category?	No, category-level attributes with inheritance was not added.
With FEP8 the default contract exist for B2C stores? Or need to create contracts for B2C also like B2B?	The B2C store still uses a default contract behind the scenes. And B2C does not use contracts beyond the default contract.
will contract entitlements apply for catalog attachments obtained through search as well?	Contract entitlement is not considered for the unstructured data index.
In FEP8 Do we have same store type (Aurora.sar) for B2B and B2C	In FEP 8, as part of publishing the Aurora starter store, you select B2C or B2B.
Can we have a single storefront for B2B and B2C?	This is a customization, see the Aurora B2B deep-dive session for details
We have today 3 different technologies for fetching data. DataBeans, WebServices and Rest calls. What is the suggested approach and is the Rest API feature complete or do we need to use multiple still?	For customer facing UIs (be it WC stores, 3rd party stores, native apps) the recommended technology is REST (although other technologies will continue to work where applicable, e.g. data beans/BOD services in WC stores). For other use cases (e.g. admin UIs, external system integration) there's no change from previous feature packs.
As we are going with Full store as REST calls, what if my price or inventory comes from 3rd party? Can I customize or extend or replace those related REST services. Like we do commands by replacing cmdreg entry.	Yes, you can either integrate your store directly with those 3rd party services, esp. if they're already available as REST APIs, or you can extend/customize our REST APIs with custom logic - all our REST APIs are based on existing business logic with the existing customization points intact.
Can we share same esite assets like store front assets, catalog assets between B2C and B2B stores?	The same asset sharing for Extended Sites remain, e.g. you can share catalog data through a catalog asset store between B2B and B2C esites
In FEP8, we are using same RUI techniques as we have in FEP7?	Yes, the RWD grid is the same as FEP 7
Any support for cloudant integration included in this release?	We have not added any specific integration to Cloudant in this release.
What we are using in FEP 8 ,instead of Websphere ESB integration with an OMS?	The direct WC/OMS integration as introduced in FEP7/OMS 9.3

	Can you extract Stores.war from WC.ear and deploy it on a separate node? If possible, then do you get extra PVU entitlement as for WCS Search ear?	No change to PVU entitlement. WC Search is limited to # of overall PVU entitlements for WC.
	how long before Softlayer PaaS support ?	We cannot comment on future product directions in this forum. Reach out to your local IBM representatives if you like to discuss future plans.
	Is there a support being added for any other pages in Commerce composer apart from catalog pages. For example checkout pages, My account pages etc.	The Commerce Composer supports creating layouts for any page type, but the Aurora store only shows this for the browsing pages. You can add support for other pages in your store as a customization. See the Knowledge Center for tutorials on doing this.
02-Search	Do you plan to add the SOLR admin web application, witch reguraly comes with the SOLR war? It would be good to have it for testing solr customizations.	We cannot comment on future plans, but the reason we do not ship the admin application is that it doesn't adhere to the IBM rules wrt. localization. You can always deploy it manually yourself, though.
	where can i download solr admin application, can it be used in feature pack 6 also?	
	In earlier versions we had option to deploy search server in remote server out side of commerce, do we still have that option with FEP7/8?	You can still run the search servers on separate servers, but you need to run the search cluster members within the same cell as the WC cluster members
	When we are talking about SOLR JVMs, why do you put IHS in the picture, rather than having WAS directly connect to the SOLR JVM? It doesn't do anything (assuming an external LB)	It is not technically necessary, and some implementors report running without IHS in the search cluster, but it does have advantages, including the ability to configure session affinity in the WAS plugin, which can improve overall performance.
	is there a limit to the number of slaves?	There is technically no limit to the number of slaves you can have.
	how this index prop will work, i mean does this delete all indexes and replace total indexes from master to slave or just update the modified indexes only?	We rely on Solr's index replication functionality to propagate the index. Solr does perform per-file timestamp checks, so only the files that have changed as part of an index build will be transferred.
	Is the assumption then with the 2 Solr clusters that you would index on live compared to indexing and pushing it across from stage?	Where you index depends on your specific circumstances. If possible, we recommend you index on staging and then propagate the index using indexprop, but some clients need to reindex in live, e.g. to ensure up-to-date changes, or to accommodate emergency fixes.
	When it comes to prices. What are the requirements? We have customers with one price per organization in commerce and these prices usually come from an ERP. So what is required to index in order to show articles in lists ext without errors. We have seen that some price information has been required earlier or we get a lot of errors during operation.	The standard reindexing configuration (preprocess and data import) assume prices are in the database, as does the checkout logic in WC. If you are not able to store prices locally, you will need to customize the reindexing configuration, as well as the price fetching logic for the checkout process. One approach could potentially be to use price rules, or apply the existing Knowledge Center tutorials for including external data during reindexing.
	Is the default still to show the offer price in the catalog browsing pages? As opposed to the calculated price?	In FEP8, we include contract prices, including non-complex price rules (price rules that do not rely on customer segments, for instance). These indexed contract prices are used as part of browsing/searching.
	does the order calculation command read an offer price from the index or from db?	Order calculation commands, as well as product detail pages, read the prices from the database as in the past.
	What happens if they are viewing multiple contracts when they search and browse?	The shopping flows in Aurora B2B assume a single, active, contract. The buyer will select an active contract amongst his or her eligible contracts. This is the contract used for the browsing cases. Once on a product page, all eligible contracts are used for price display. Active contract can be changed by the buyer at any time.

How do you assign a contract ? is it rule based configured in the Management Center or is it done just with a price rule	Contracts are assigned in the Accelerator. Contracts are assigned to organizations. Price rules and catalog filters are referenced by contracts. Contracts can also be imported as XML documents.
what happens if contracts has promotional prices based group of products with more than one quantity?	Promotional and tiered prices are not indexed, but will still be used on the product page and checkout logic.
What is meant by "approved content"?	Approved content is content on an authoring server that has been approved by a task group approver and is ready to be propagated to the live environment. It is also known as production-ready data.
that recommendation for pricing indexing strategy for less then 1000 contracts, is it for one currency?	The rule-of-thumb to limit to 1000 contracts is irrespective of currencies. Also, remember it is an approximate recommendation, not a strict limit.
what if the organization has 2 contracts and products of both contracts need to be shown? Is the indexing possible for multiple contracts?	We can index procees for multiple contracts, but a buyer is assumed to only have one active contract selected at a time during browsing.
What happens if one of the shards fails for some reason during the build how does that impact the merge?	If one shard fails, the reindex is rolled back and the error is logged.
do we cover an example in the infocenter of how to setup and perform sharding or its automatic?specifically on how to split the shards optimally.	See http://www-01.ibm.com/support/knowledgecenter/SSZLC2_7.0.0/com.ibm.commerce.developer.doc/concepts/csdsearchparallel.htm?lang=en
I assume that when a buyer get to the product page they will see both contracts, but before that, what happens? Probably one gets picked and that's what they see when browsing. Right now it shows a range when browsing if you have multiple contracts. So if one contract gives the product for \$10 and the other gives it for \$15, when you're browsing you'll see the price as "\$10-\$15". It looks like this capability is not there anymore, but I don't know whether it will say \$10 or \$15.	The price displayed during searching and browsing will be the contract price for the currently selected contract. If the contract is changed, the price will change. Once on the product display page, the prices for all eligible contract will be displayed.
One thing I have noticed is why in the FEP8 Aurora store do you not enabled rule based categories in the sample store?	It is correct that we are not showcasing rule-based categories in the sample data for Aurora, but it is supported and simple to configure.
I'd assume on the result grouping, it will still take in to account any search rules you may have running in the background?	Yes. Search rules are still evaluated for result grouping.
I'm interested in result grouping. Can I use this feature to group results by department and show the results in a grouped manner?	We see no technical limitation for why this is not possible, but the approach would depend on the specific requirements, and we are not sure how it would work from a use case perspective, though.
Does "availability" consider inventory? Or just whether the SKU exists?	When we refer to available SKUs for result grouping, we mean SKUs that are published and marked as buyable under a specific product..
Does this result grouping consider boost and bury rules also?	Yes. Search rules are still evaluated for result grouping.
Does the keyword scope respect the catalog filter? Or will it recommend keywords for products that are filtered out?	Yes. Search rules are still evaluated for keyword suggestions.
Does the keyword handle extendedsites or do we have the same number of keywords for all stores even if they have totally different SKUs?	The scoping for keyword suggestions in the autosuggest is specific to the products available for a catalog and store.
Suggesting products could have an impact on performance. Or at least on the user experience?	Yes, there might be a slight response time difference, since we display more information. We do recommend that you performance test any changes to the storefront to verify the impact in your specific environment.
Regarding the autosuggest improvement: does that mean that the search rules created in MC are applied when using autosuggest? If I rephrase my question, can busines users influence in anyway (with MC or something else) what is returned by autosuggest?	Yes. Search rules are still evaluated for keyword suggestions.

If we have a B2C with just one default contract, but the price is calculated with a price rule, does the index take the calculated price rule for facets?	We evaluate "simple" price rules, i.e. price rules that can be evaluated during reindexing. If your price rules depend on use-specific information, such as customer segments, they are not included in the reindexing.
is there any change with FEP8 regarding how the Search queries are created in WCS before they are passed to Solr?	No, the basic framework is the same, although there are changes introduced to support new features, of course.
When it comes to development environments. Support has told us that since FEP7 we can't use remote SOLR for development is this still true in FEP8?	The standard toolkit configuration assume a local search server. You can reconfigure the toolkit to use a remote server, though.
can we dataload informations directly on SOLR index without a preprocess operation?	A lot of the highly-structured data, e.g. prices, require preprocessing in order to optimize the subsequent data import into the Solr index.
Is the contract based pricing index part subindex of product index? Can you reindex prices more often then products data?	Prices are still part of the catalog entry index. We will publish instructions on splitting prices into a separate index for separate price reindexing at a later time.
Tier prices are also indexed? can we sort based on that tier pricing?	Tiered prices are not stored in the index. When indexing prices, we assume a quantity of 1. They will be evaluated on product display and checkout pages, though.
So the B2B store now only allows one contract at a time until checkout?	The assumption is that the buyer has selected an active contract. The buyer can change the contract at any time. The product page will show prices for all contract.
I'm not sure if I got an answer what is required for search and browsing when it comes to prices... External stock is handled aswell? We have many customers using external prices.. Before we got errors when we didn't have prices in the database.. Do we need to add a offer price or list price in the solr index for catalog viewing?	The reindexing assumes prices are in the database. If you don't have the local prices, you will need to customize the reindexing. Another possibility is to integrate through price rules. Create a price rule with a custom action that calls out to the external price server.
Will the contracts apply to the catalog attachments obtained through searching unstructured core search?	Contract entitlement is not considered for the unstructured data index.
If a store has custom facets in FEP6/5/4, how difficult is migration process to FEP8?	You will need to migrate custom configuration manually, e.g. by comparing schema and other search-specific configuration, unless these facets are defined through the attribute dictionary in the Management Center UI.
Can we use commerce search schema.xml for a new custom index, rather than using solr OOB schema.xml?	The Commerce schema.xml file is very specific to the WC data model, so its usefulness outside of WC is probably limited. There may be licensing issues with doing this as well, so we would discourage this.
Have the search API for dataload changed in this solr version? Asking because we have customers running multiple instances with different versions in one installation.	All APIs are backwards compatible. While we have made changes, the existing fields are maintained as-is, while we have added new resources and fields.
Is there a way to get around this index? What if the browsing prices are extremely different from the given shopper's calculated price?	We still support the price mode configuration, allowing you to use calculated prices, but it does change the price faceting capability.
03-REST Is the REST APIs use in Aurora only for CATALOG module or is this everywhere like checkout/member..	We have full coverage for all Aurora B2C and B2B functions. Not all of the JSPs were updated to use REST, but the coverage is 100%
for new pags, what is recommend: wcf:getData, wcf:rest or data bean?	We recommend using the REST tags for retrieving storefront data
When adding custom tables, what is the recommended data access technology? DataBeans?	We are not recommending one WC persistence technology over others. Use what makes the most sense for your scenario. For example, if you are customizing data for the Catalog component, it would be most appropriate to extend the Catalog DSL configuration.
What about new customizations? Is the recommendation to use databeans/controller commands?	

Can you establish a web session from a REST session that can then be consumed in the WC session?	Yes
So we don't need to use any wc-token to communicate and make use of existing session cookie in place?	Yes, the tokens are the same.
What is the performance difference between local binding vs http we should expect? For comparison/evaluation purposes.	For remote binding, there are more layers involved, including potentially network traffic. The local binding is optimized and not even (de-)marshalling of data is necessary.
Are the REST session / token features extendable for other session cookies we may have in our customized code	We have not added specific customization points for this scenario. We recommend storing session-specific data in a business context.
How can i map my custom table to REST api to insert,update and retrieve data	Tutorials in the Knowledge Center covering this will be published soon.
Can we apply any encryption and decryption on request and response data?	Outside of simply using SSL for encryption, you could use servlet filters to apply data-level encryption of requests and responses.
sorry If this asked earlier as I joined now. Is IBM moving towards legacy command and databean framework again (from the complex BOD framework :-)	We cannot comment on future direction on this call, but we're recognizing that a lot of clients have legacy code using data beans and controller commands, which is why we're providing easier methods for mapping to REST services, instead of requiring a BOD service
And also what about the OOB Aurora will they use REST API everywhere or the BOD or SOI	Aurora uses the REST tags everywhere*. The REST APIs sit on top of the services layers and can call databeans/controller commands/BOD services, so they are not mutually exclusive *: practically everywhere, there are a few exceptions for pages we didn't update.
Keeping of performance and caching in perspective what would be the recommendation for new customizations (command/beans or Rest)	REST sits on top of the underlying persistence and business logic, so it is not a choice between REST and databeans.
What is the underlying implementation for REST API within the WCS?	We use Apache Wink as the basis for our REST framework.
Is it possible to achieve the complete storefront separation with the existing rest services?	This depends on what you mean by separation. Since we now have full coverage of REST APIs, you could build a new storefront and deploy it remotely. However, we do still recommend using Aurora with the benefits it has (e.g. Commerce Composer support), which requires local deployment.
I'm not sure it's wise to promote exposing fine grained Databeans directly in your REST payload. This pattern is typically considered an Anti-pattern and would produce a very messy poorly designed REST API	Yes, you should probably not expose fine-grained databeans as REST resources, although you technically can. Instead you should envelope these in an outer-level databean that relays calls to the underlying beans.
What is the purpose of Swagger UI? What information does it contain that the KC doesn't?	Swagger allows for a more intuitive interface to the resources and also has a test function where you can execute REST calls from within the UI.
Is REST caching supported with local binding?	Yes, we use data cache to cache results of calls that are defined as client-cacheable
are there improvements to the REST caching capabilities?	We use data cache to cache results of calls that are defined as client-cacheable. The existing client and server caching techniques that were supported in past FEPs are also still supported.
i assume that after login from REST (going from guest session -> user session), the prior problem of cart merge goes away since it's now a single session. Correct?	We merge cart data when you log in.
04- AuroraB2B What does the customer get if they buy Express or Pro? Is there still a B2C-only store that comes with those versions?	Express and Pro can only publish the store as B2C

We have a request from client that from B2B also they wants to allow shoppers to buy the products as guest users, so is it posible from this new B2B?	yes, it is possible with some configuration...and this was possible in old Elite too
What sars are available with FEP 8? Does ExtendedSitesV2.sar included the B2B stuff?What are the SARs we are supposed to use for FEP 8?Which Sars were updated as part of FEP 8?	ExtendedSitesV2.sar is updated to show B2C and B2B all using Aurora
So is there now a config option in the Stores tool where you can pick to not see the B2B features?	Anne, yes, it's an option on store publish - aurora as B2B or B2C Anne Marie, I will explain how the store management tool work in terms of all the features
Are there any differences/incompatibilities between the org admin and the storefront? yes, from the migration point of view, are there any table/logic differences that must be considered now that the functions are in the storefront?	we moved all the capabilities that apply to Buyer Administrator/Buyer Approver Seller administrator and Site administrator capabilities are not meant to use the Aurora store Marco, no such migration issues, this solution was mainly a storefront refresh
Are there any improvements to allow business users to build / structure a contract in CMC using the price rule tool?	There were NO contract tooling changes in FEP 8.
is the type ahead only available for requisition list or also in quick add?	SKU type ahead is available in req list and quick order. It is powered by search and it does handle contract properly
Is the type ahead just on Partnumber, or other fields in search too?	SKU type ahead is available in req list and quick order. It is powered by search and it does handle contract properly
I assume that type ahead is powered by Commerce Search? Will it be contract sensitive?	SKU type ahead is available in req list and quick order. It is powered by search and it does handle contract properly
on this req list upload, is there any SKU validation?	SKU type ahead is available in req list and quick order. It is powered by search and it does handle contract properly
is this CSV upload available for order creation also...	CSV upload is only to req list....you can convert req list to order there is no CSV upload an order directly
Is the part search on req lists contract aware/sensitive? as in, it will/won't reveal parts included/excluded from contract	SKU type ahead is available in req list and quick order. It is powered by search and it does handle contract properly
Could Buy-On-Behalf be used to implement CSR functionality? :)	"buy-on-behalf-of buyer" is only created for Buyer Admin to impersonate a Buyer. The RunAsUserInSession capability can be used for this, as a storefront customization. It is this infrastructure that is used for buy on behalf of buyer
Could we use the buy on behalf of in a B2C scenario too? The buyer would then be a call centre agent	"buy-on-behalf-of buyer" is only created for Buyer Admin to impersonate a Buyer. The RunAsUserInSession capability can be used for this, as a storefront customization. It is this infrastructure that is used for buy on behalf of buyer
do you have to select a contract to browse?	yes, after sign in you need to set 1 contract in session
Can we select contract here or when the items are in the order?	contract is selected during sign in
How was JCC Credit Line set up? In account/contract?	the credit line is setup in Account/Contract tooling
Does Purchase Order act the same way? Now listed as a payment option?	Purchase Order is same as before
Can you enter a PO #? Can you add a PO # not in the account/contract list?	Purchase Order is same as before
The approval process / workflow - how many different administrators can be setup? Can specific buyers be assigned to specific approvers? Is it one level or multiple level?	We have not changed the approval framework, so the capabilities are the same as for Elite
is user registration approval also bring into store only?	Yes, that's the "buyers to approve" link in the left nav

Elite lets buyer select contract on the product detail page I assume this is not supported now	Aurora does not show contract selection in product page
Is Buy On Behalf a new role? Or does it leverage Org Participant?	Buyer Admin is the only role that can do buy-on-behalf-of
Ok, so it's automatically available to buyer admin, for all buyers in the org?	yes, Buyer Admin can impersonate anyone that he can manage
So even though Aurora is 1 SAR now, you have to choose upfront if it is going to be B2C or B2B? You can't just "turn on" B2B features via Store Features and widgets?	The new SAR has an option to select B2B or B2C during deployment
Do we have guest checkout functionality in aurora b2b	Enabling guest shopping: http://www-01.ibm.com/support/knowledgecenter/SSZLC2_7.0.0/com.ibm.commerce.aurora-starterstore.doc/tasks/tsmauroraguestshoppingdev.htm?lang=en Disabling guest shopping: http://www-01.ibm.com/support/knowledgecenter/SSZLC2_7.0.0/com.ibm.commerce.aurora-starterstore.doc/tasks/tsmauroradisableguestshopping.htm?lang=en
is there documentation on how to enable those features?	Store functions are special espots with default content, so it is a matter of updating the EMSPOTDEF (if I remember the table name correctly :)
any configuration to skip approval part (like order approval)?	order approvals is a contract setting and only shows up if the b2b buyer has it configured in their contract. So if you don't configure it, it won't show.
05-MMU So, the offline DBClean seems useful for rare cases, however, the one recurring theme I'm hearing is that "Safety checks/constraints are disabled" across the board. How robust is the error handling on this? I'd really hate to do this and have the foreign key constraint violated on start due to a single record delete failure.	Remember we delete from bottom-up, even while the constraints are off, so worst-case scenario is that the business objects may not have all the leaf data. Re-running the scripts after addressing error conditions is safe and should then delete the rest of the data in other words, the DB won't be left in check pending with no way to e-enable constraints
pruneLevel set to 2 is very limiting. Our problem tables typically go much deeper than 2 (member, user, etc.) How is the performance compared to the legacy DBClean if the prune level is deeper than 2?	Whilst the prune tables go much deeper than level 2. We've found typically, the tables with the most data reside in the 1st and 2nd levels of the table hierarchy. So pruning the first two levels is actually quite sufficient. Increase the prune level to 3 or 4 would still offer a performance improvement in comparison to the traditional clean if the amount of table to be cleaned is large enough (i.e. 50+ million records). There is some overhead associated with checking (querying) each table in the hierarchies to check if they should be pruned from the table hierarchy.
any way that utility can be set to put the DB into an exclusive connection mode on the connect string? More worried about something external inadvertently occurring - I know that was set as a limitation on it/requirement to manage, but for some large environments where we're already in a less than ideal maintenance state (10M+ non-cleaned records), that may be hard to 100% guarantee through business process.	We'll need to look into whether you could add something like "IN EXCLUSIVE MODE" to the connect string as a customization.

Is the assumption for using the delta data load file difference, the source data should always have all the records? In other words the delta is not checked against the data already in the WC db (like idresgen), but completely against the source data files?

for Data Load file diff, it is comparing between the old file and the new file, not data from database. If the data row in the old file is not found in the new file, it will not be included in the output. if a row is new in the new file, which is not found in old file, this new row will be included.

So yes, delta is not check against the database for Data Load file diff.

can we extract/import the data from CMC or just command line?

This feature is for the dataload/extract utilities. you could build a UI on top of it, like we have done for catalog load, but this was not added in FEP8

can the marketing mgr manage the customer segments?

The Marketing Manager and Marketing Director can both manage customer segments.
The new "Marketing Director" role can do the same as the existing "Marketing Manager" with the inclusion of viewing exported segments. See http://www-01.ibm.com/support/knowledgecenter/SSZLC2_7.0.0/com.ibm.commerce.admin.doc/concepts/crbmarkr.htm?lang=en

Any instructions available how to customize it to include more information i.e. mobile phone number?

Yes, we have a complete customization tutorial for customer segment export in the knowledge center.

if you export a segment from a SAS, will it ask you to select one esite or aggregate results from all esites of the SAS?

For ESite customers, only the customers in that ESite store will be included in the export, not all other ESite stores.

regarding facebook integration have we made any changes?

We have not changed the Facebook integration. the recommendation is to do direct integration and we have in fact deprecated the old sMash-based social commerce SARs

Is it possible to run segment export/import from a command line?

No, you will need to logon to CMC Marketing UI to do the customer segment export

Are all the triggers for firing indexing documented anywhere? seems like it would be a good reference for business users

http://www-01.ibm.com/support/knowledgecenter/api/content/SSZLC2_7.0.0/com.ibm.commerce.developer.doc/refs/rsdsearchindexhints.htm

06-CPQ How catalog data is kept in synch with Sterling Configurator?

When installing the Sterling foundation for use with WSC.. there are settings in the foundation that let's the Visual Modeler know what Catalog to use and which pricing to use for the Config engine run time. the setting is one or the other

where would be configurator model is store after product modeling is completed.

The model itself is stored in Configurator. WC keeps a reference to the model to use when launching VM or the Configurator

After configuring a product for the cart (or a PDK), the bill of material (BOM) is stored in WC

I assume you can still 'configure' a preconfigured dynamic kit?

Yes, this is stored as a PDK

if there are some additional charges resulting from changing a PDK, can they come from Configurator? or that has to be handled as customization in WCS

The price for a configuration is by standard the sum of the cost of the parts, but there are ways to modify that. For example, you could apply a WC promotion on DPKs, or set up price rules to change the cost of a configuration. Finally, you could also use the Price Lock feature to override the SKU prices in Configurator

Will this concept of PDK be a Omni channel feature Like Field sales, Call Center

CCC does not yet support Configurator, but the concept of a PDK is known across the Smarter Commerce porfolio.