

## ATTRIBUTE DEPENDENCIES

**Attribute Dependencies** give control over how a user selects Attributes. By setting up rules, a user can be forced to select certain Attribute Values, only be allowed to see certain Values based on other selections, and other limitations.

To access **Attribute Dependencies** click the **Products** link under **Products/Online Catalog**. Once the category and product is chosen, a new drop down menu opens under **Current Product**. Under this menu choose **Attribute Dependencies**.

Figure 18-1 shows the main screen that is displayed for Attribute Dependencies. The title bar will display which product is currently being configured. A list is then given of each existing rule for that product. In this example there are 4 rules already created.

Click **Add New** to add a new rule. By selecting a rule from the list and clicking **Edit**, changes can be made to an existing rule. Selecting a rule and clicking **Delete** will allow removal of a rule.

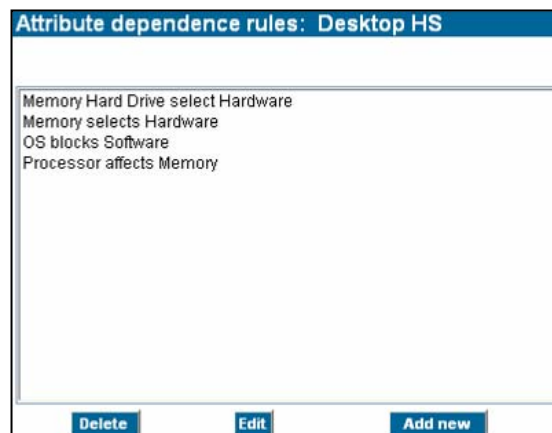


Figure 18-1 – Attribute Dependence Rules

Clicking **Add New** will bring up the screen shown in Figure 18-2. Editing a rule will bring up the same screen, with the exception of the buttons at the bottom of the screen, shown in Figure 18-5.

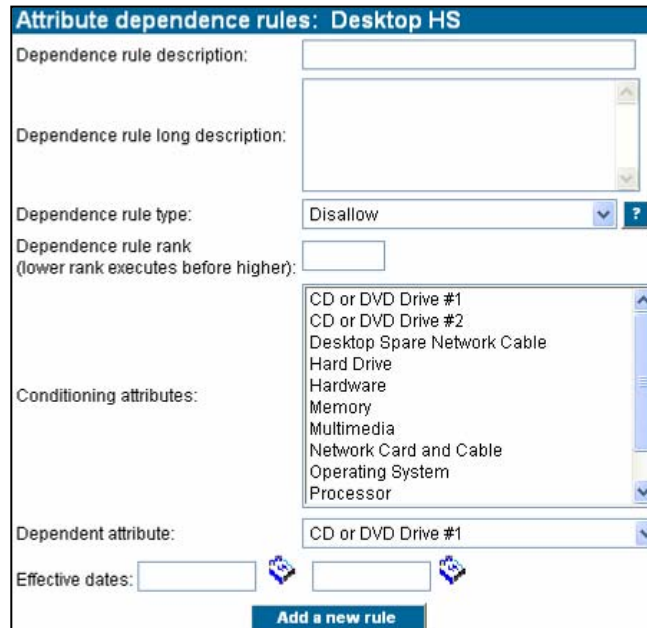


Figure 18-2 – Adding a New Attribute Dependence

**Dependence Rule Description** – Enter a name for the Attribute Dependence. This name will appear in the list on the main Attribute Dependencies screen.

**Dependence Rule Long Description** – This description is only seen at this screen. It can be useful for other administrators that may access the system to understand the Attribute Dependence.

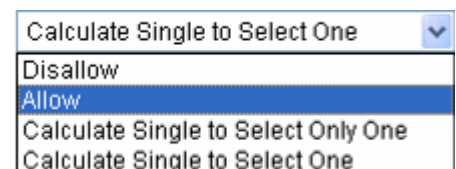
**Dependence Rule Type** – The rule type determines how the rule will behave. There are four rule types to choose from. They are as follows:

**Disallow** – This type prevents a user from being able to select the values you choose. Specified values will be removed from the choices given to the user.

**Allow** – Prevents user from selecting any other values EXCEPT the ones you choose. The specified values will be the only values available to the user.

**Calculate Single to Select Only One** – When the conditioning value is chosen, another value is automatically chosen for the user. It can only be one value and the user cannot deselect the value. Other values cannot be selected.

**Calculate Single to Select One** – When the conditioning value is chosen, other values are automatically chosen for the user. It can be more than one value and the user cannot deselect the values. Other values can be selected and deselected, though.



**Dependence Rule Rank** – The Rule Rank determines which rules are executed first. If multiple rules involve the same value(s), the rule rank will determine which of those rules takes precedence.

**Conditioning Attributes** – Select an Attribute from the list. This Attribute will be the value that, when chosen, will trigger the Dependence Rule.

**Dependent Attribute** – Select an Attribute from the drop down box. This Attribute will be the value that is affected by the Dependence Rule.

**Note:** Attributes available in the Conditioning and Dependent lists are only those that have been selected in Product Attributes (see Chapter 15).

**Effective Dates** – If applicable, enter the dates that the Dependence Rule is effective. Clicking the **Calendar** icon next to the box will bring up a calendar to select the date (see Chapter 13).

When finished entering all the information, click **Add a New Rule**. This button is only available if a new rule is being created. Editing a rule displays other buttons, which will be described later.

After a new rule has been added a confirmation screen will appear with two buttons. One button will open the main screen which lists all the Dependence Rules. The **Edit Dependence List** button will open the screen to pick the affected Attribute Values.

Clicking the Edit Dependence List button brings up the screen shown in Figure 18-3. This page will display any existing dependencies that have been created. To create a new dependency, click the **New Dependence Rule** button. This will bring up the screen shown in Figure 18-4.

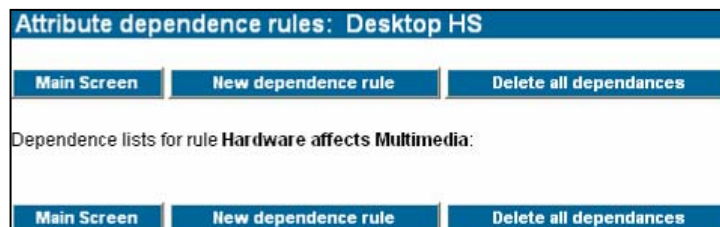


Figure 18-3 – Dependency List

**Attribute dependence rules: Desktop HS**

Define a dependence combination for rule Hardware affects Multimedia

Generate a dependence list
Main Screen

**CONDITION:**

Available attribute values:

1KUPS(Hardware)  
 DIGCAM(Hardware)  
 RFKEYMS(Hardware)  
 SCAN8(Hardware)  
 WEBCAM(Hardware)

>>  
<<

Selected combination for this condition  
**Note: If two or more attribute values are selected, the relationship between them is AND.**

**DEPENDENCY:**

Available Attribute values:

MM250W(Multimedia)  
 MM50W(Multimedia)  
 SSNDSPK(Multimedia)  
 STSPKR(Multimedia)

>>  
<<

Attribute values for that will be selected:

Generate a dependence list
Main Screen

Figure 18-4 – Attribute Value Dependency Selection

This screen is used to choose the Conditioning Value(s) and the Dependent Value(s). If values are not available on this screen, go to Product Attributes and under Attribute Values ensure that the correct values are selected (see Chapter 15).

In the **Condition** section, select the Value(s) that will trigger the dependence rule. To select multiple values hold down the **Ctrl** key. Click the **>>** key to bring the value(s) into the right box. The values in the right box are now selected as Condition Values.

**Note:** If more than one value is selected in the right box, the relationship between them is AND. This means that all the values in that field need to be selected in order for the Dependence Rule to be triggered.

In the **Dependency** section, select the Value(s) that will be affected by the Dependency Rule. To select multiple values hold down the **Ctrl** key. Click the **>>** key to bring the value(s) into the right box. The values in the right box are now selected as Dependent Values.

To remove a Value from the Condition section or the Dependency section, select the Value in the right box and click the << button to send the value into the left box.

When the Conditioning Value(s) and the Dependency Value(s) have been selected, click the **Generate a Dependency List** button. This will save the Dependency, and the newly created Dependency will be displayed in the Dependency List for that Dependency Rule. Add more Dependencies by clicking the **New Dependency Rule** button. Clicking the **Main Screen** button will open the Attribute Dependencies main screen.

When a Dependency is saved, it is listed on the Dependency List page. It is displayed with a short description of which Values are being affected and an **Edit** and **Delete** button. Clicking the Edit button will open the selection screen shown in Figure 18-4. Dependencies can be deleted by either clicking the Delete button next to each Dependency or by clicking the **Delete All Dependencies** button.

Editing a Dependency Rule is handled a little differently. Select the Dependency Rule from the Dependency Rule list on the Attribute Dependency main screen, shown in Figure 18-1. At the bottom of the screen click the **Edit** button. This will bring up a page similar to when a new Dependency Rule is created. The only difference is the buttons at the bottom of the page, which are shown in Figure 18-5.

- Modify Desc. And Rank** – Used to edit only the Description (long or short) and the Rank. Clicking this button will not update any other fields.
- Save Changes** – Used to update all the fields (including Description and Rank)
- Edit Dependence List** – Brings up the Dependency List shown in Figure 18-3. Click this to edit Dependencies without updating any fields.
- Main Screen** – Opens the main Attribute Dependencies screen without updating any fields.



Figure 18-5 – Editing an Attribute – Buttons