

## DEFINING PRODUCT ATTRIBUTES

After the global parameters have been defined and the product definitions have been completed the **Product Attribute** values need to be defined. In order to define Product Attributes, the global attributes need to be defined first (see Chapter 4). Once these are defined, each attribute that will need to be assigned to a Category. These attributes will then be available to use for each product within that category.

To access Product Attributes 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 **Product Attributes** to define that product's attributes.

The first time entering this page the left column will show an **NU** button and the right column will show an attribute (unchecked). If these Product Attributes have been configured already then numbered buttons will be displayed to the left of the NU button. These numbers represent steps, which will be discussed later in this chapter.

To access all the Attributes available, click the **NU** (Not Used) button. This will list all the Attributes that have been assigned to that Category. Selecting an Attribute in the left column will bring up its properties on the right column. If these Product Attributes have already been configured then clicking the numbered step buttons will bring up more Product Attributes.

**Note:** If an Attribute Name is not completely visible, hold the cursor over the name until the complete name is displayed in a tooltip.

At the top of the page, the name of the Product which is being configured is given. Clicking **Reset** at the bottom of the page will restore all information and settings for the current Attribute selected back to when it was previously saved.

In order to use an Attribute with a product it must be **selected**. This is done by clicking the check box next to the Attribute Name in the right column, as shown in the figure below.

- Admin Home
- Global Parameters
- Attributes/Sequences
- Products/Online Catalog
  - Categories
  - Products
  - Product Export/Import
  - Product Types
  - Authorization Types
  - Delivery Types
  - Sales Tax Admin
- Workflow/Approvals
- Users/Groups
- Quotations/Projects
- Priorities
- Current product
  - Product Definition
  - Product Attributes
  - Add Product Alias
  - Code Matching
  - Attribute Dependencies
  - Define Template Fields
  - Rules
- CRM Application
- Parameter Setup
- Add-Ons

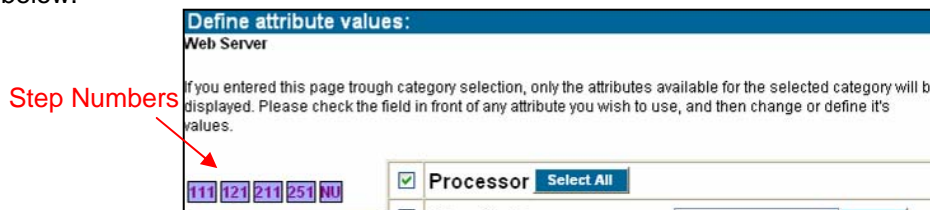


Figure 15-1 – Define Attribute Values

**Select All** – Convenient way to select the Attribute and all the values of the currently selected Attribute. This is helpful if there are a large number of values. Attribute Values are discussed later.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	List as line item	Ref Product :	<input type="text"/>	<input type="button" value="CLEAR"/>
	<input type="button" value="REQUIRED"/>	Display as:		

**List As Line Item** – If checked, the Attribute will show up in the Quote/Cart separate from the Product being configured. An example of this is shown Figure 15-1. Processor and RAM are both attributes but are listed separately from the computer that was configured.

**Ref Product** – Used in conjunction with the Product’s Hierarchy and is explained in Chapter 52.

**Clear** – Removes any products selected in the Ref Products list.

**OPTIONAL/REQUIRED Drop Down Box** – Determines whether this Attribute is required to complete the order. The default is OPTIONAL. If set to REQUIRED then when a user is configuring a product, a notice will be displayed stating the order is Not Complete. Once all attributes set to REQUIRED have been selected, the notice will change to Complete.

Quotation		Quote Properties	Billing & Shipping	Attachments				
<b>Quote #:</b>		<b>Created:</b>		<b>Status:</b>				
000020008		8/14/2006 11:24:47 AM		Open				
Item#	Qty	Part Number	Description	Discount	Unit Price	List Price	Total Price	Actions
1	1	611NB-A312GBH22-DVD64-WH03		0.00%	\$599.00	\$599.00	\$599.00	Complete edit delete refresh
<b>Product Type</b>								
<b>PRODUCT</b>								
2	1	A31	Amtel - 3GHz Processor	0.00%	\$-125.00	\$125.00	\$-125.00	PRODUCT
3	1	2GB	2GB 666MHz DDR SDRAM	0.00%	\$210.00	\$210.00	\$210.00	PRODUCT
<b>Total Net Value</b>							<b>\$684.00</b>	
Freight <input type="button" value="please select"/>							\$0.00	
<b>Total Amount</b>							<b>\$684.00</b>	
<input type="button" value="Add item"/>								
Select market: <input type="button" value="USA Market"/>								

Figure 15-2 – Example-List as line item

Select Operating System:

Linux 10

Linux 10 Server

Windows Professional 2003

Windows Home 2003

**Display As:** This drop down box gives all the choices available for how the attribute will be selected by the user. The choices are as follows:

Select Operating System:

Windows Home 2003

Windows Professional 2003

Linux 10

Linux 10 Server

**Radio Button** – Allows user to pick only one of the Attribute Values.

**Check Box** – Allows user to pick multiple Attribute Values.

**Drop Down** – User can see all values by clicking in the drop down box. Helpful if there are many values but not much space to display each value.

**List Box** – User can select one value from a list of values.

**List Box Multi Select** – User can select multiple values from a list of values by holding down the **Ctrl** key.

**Image Button** – User can select a value by clicking on an image displayed for each value. If text needs to be displayed it must be imbedded into the image.

**Note:** Active and Inactive images need to be set for each Attribute Value. Attribute Values are discussed later in this chapter.

Select Operating System:

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Windows Home 2003

Windows Professional 2003

Linux 10

Linux 10 Server

**Note:** For all selection choices, if the Attribute is set to OPTIONAL then an extra choice will appear stating that no selection value or selection has been made.

Select Operating System:

Windows Home 2003

Windows Professional 2003

Linux 10

Linux 10 Server

**Display Only Text** – Displays only the Display Value text.

**Free Form, Match Lower** – User can enter a number and it can automatically be matched with an Attribute Value. For instance, Attribute Values for extension cord lengths could be 12, 20, 25, and 50. If a user enters a 30 for the length of the extension cord then it will automatically be matched to the Attribute Value of 25. This option though retains the users input for calculations if necessary.

**Free Form, Match Upper** – This works the same way as Match Lower except that it will match an Attribute Value higher instead of lower. For the example given, 50 would be the matched value instead of 30.

**Hidden Calculation, Match Upper** – This is not visible by the user. It can be a formula or logical expression. The results of the expression are dependent on values of other attributes that the hidden expression calculates. One example could be converting a unit of measure. The results are matched to the higher Attribute Value.

**Hidden Calculation, Match Lower** – This works the same as Match Upper except that it will match to the lower Attribute Value.

**Free Input, No Matching** – Allows user to enter in values for an Attribute Value. This value will not be matched to any Attribute Values.

**Hidden Calculation, No Matching** – This works the same as Match Upper and Match Lower except that it will not match to any Attribute Values.

REQUIRED  Display as:

Radio Button

Radio Button

Check Box

Drop Down

List Box

List Box multi.select

Image Button

Display Only Text

Free Form, Match lower

Free Form, Match upper

Hidden calculated, Match upper

Hidden calculated, Match lower

Free Input, no Matching

Hidden, Calculated, no Matching

Free Form, Set Match lower

Free Form, Set Match upper

Free Form, Exact Match

Button

Free Form exact match w. Otherwise option

Select Operating System:

Windows Home 2003

Windows Professional 2003

Linux 10

Linux 10 Server



**Free Form, Set Match Lower** – When a user enters a number it will be matched to the lower Attribute Value. The value the user entered will not be retained but will be replaced with the matched Attribute Value.

**Free Form, Set Match Upper** – Works the same as Set Match Lower except that the entered value will be matched with the higher Attribute Value.

**Free Form, Exact Match** – Allows user to enter number. User must enter a number that exactly matches an Attribute Value or an error is given.

**Button** – A button is displayed for the Attribute.

**Free Form Exact Match with Otherwise Option** – This is not currently used in the system

Custom Range Error Text:	<input type="text"/>
Step: <input type="text" value="1"/>	SubRank: <input type="text" value="1"/>

**Customer Range Error Text** – allows the administrator to display a customer error message if an incorrect value is entered by the user.

**Step** – Used in association with Steps (discussed in Chapter 20). Set each Attribute to the Step it is associated with. If no steps are defined and all Attributes will appear on the same page, then set all Attributes to the same step. Attributes with the same step number will be displayed under that Step Number button displayed in the left column (see Figure 15-1).

**Sub Rank** – This number represents the sequence that the Attribute will be displayed to the user. Lower numbers will be shown first, higher numbers last.

**Properties, Triggers, and Attribute Values** allow further tailoring of the Attribute. Clicking each button will drop down related settings and options. Clicking the button again will remove those settings from the screen. If a section of settings are open and another button is clicked, those settings will then be appended under the already open settings.

Clicking the **Properties** button will drop down the options shown to the right.

**Hint or Calculation Expression** – This is not displayed. If one of the **Hidden Calculated** choices was selected from the **Display As** drop down then this is where the expression can be entered. Click the **Check** button for the **Code Builder** (Chapter Chapter 34).

**Label** – The default label displayed to the user when configuring the product is “Select *attribute name*”. If another label is necessary, enter it here. Though this field is a text field, HTML code can be entered if enhancements to the text such as bold or color is needed.

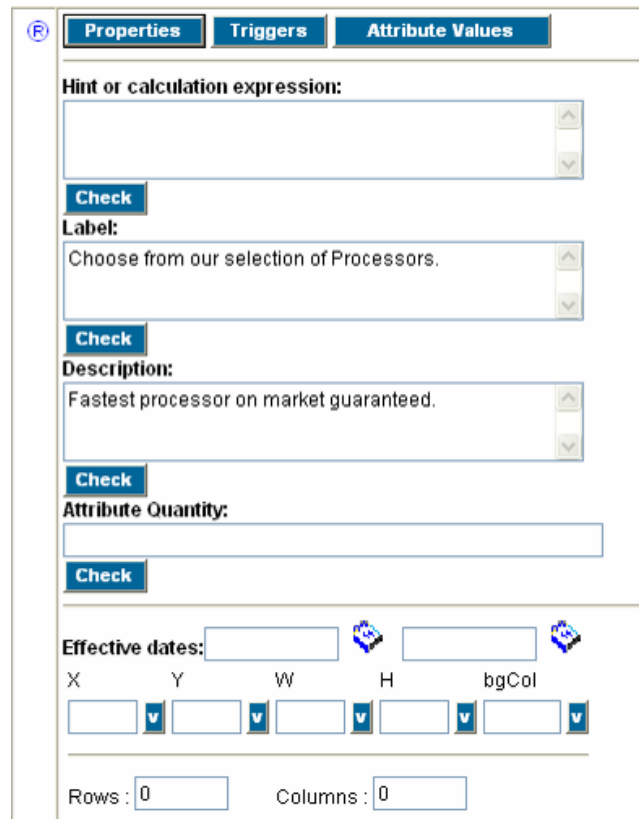
**Description** – If **List as line item** (see above) is selected, text entered here will be displayed next to the item when listed in the car/quote. To add an expression here, click the **Check** button for the **Code Builder** (Chapter Chapter 34).

**Attribute Quantity** – Enter a default quantity of an Attribute that will be added to a cart/quote. To add an expression here, click the **Check** button for the **Code Builder** (Chapter Chapter 34).

**Effective Dates** – If applicable, enter the dates that this Attribute will be available to a user. Click the **Calendar** button to bring up a Calendar where the specific date can be chosen (see Chapter 13).

**X, Y, W, H, bgCol** – Allows custom placement of Attribute on the page by entering in the pixel location on the screen.

**Rows/Columns** – Specifies the number of rows and columns that the Attribute Values will be displayed in.



The screenshot shows a software interface with three tabs: Properties, Triggers, and Attribute Values. The Properties tab is active. It contains several sections:

- Hint or calculation expression:** A text input field with a 'Check' button below it.
- Label:** A text input field containing the text "Choose from our selection of Processors." with a 'Check' button below it.
- Description:** A text input field containing the text "Fastest processor on market guaranteed." with a 'Check' button below it.
- Attribute Quantity:** A text input field with a 'Check' button below it.
- Effective dates:** Two date input fields, each with a calendar icon to its right.
- X, Y, W, H, bgCol:** Five input fields for X, Y, W, H, and bgCol, each with a small 'v' icon to its right.
- Rows/Columns:** Two input fields for Rows and Columns, both currently set to 0.



<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Windows Home 2003</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Preselected	
Add On Price:	0
Value catalogue code:	<input type="text"/> <input type="button" value="Check"/>
Sort rank:	4
Active image:	windows_masthea <input type="button" value="CLEAR"/> <input type="button" value="Upload"/>
Inactive image:	windows_masthea <input type="button" value="CLEAR"/> <input type="button" value="Upload"/>
Default quantity (if not 1):	<input type="text"/>
Price calculation expression (if not static):	<input type="text"/> <input type="button" value="Check"/>
Cost builder:	<input type="text"/> <input type="button" value="Check"/>

Figure 15-3 – Attribute Value Settings

Click the **Triggers** button to open up the Triggers options for this Attribute. Triggers are discussed further in Chapter 33.

Clicking the **Attribute Values** button will open the settings for the Values associated with the Attribute. Each value will have the same options and will look similar to Figure 15-3, which shows only one Value's settings.

In order for the Attribute Value to be available to a user, the Value must be **selected**. Select an Attribute Value by clicking the checkbox next to the Attribute Value name.

In addition, clicking the **Ⓜ** symbol will display any Attribute Dependency (Chapter 18), Trigger (Chapter 33), or Rules (Chapter 34) that that Attribute Value is associated with.

**Preselected** – This indicates that this Value will already be selected for the user when configuring the product.

**Add On Price** – Each Attribute Value selected can add more to the Base Price that was defined in the **Product Definition**. Enter the amount to be added here.

**Note:** If necessary, price can be negative to subtract from the Base Price.

**Value Catalog Code** – Used in specifying the part number. Click the **Check** button for the **Code Builder** (Chapter 34). Use **attribute catalog code** when configuring the Product Catalog Code Generator to use this entered information (see Chapter 13).

**Sort Rank** – It is not necessary that the Attribute Value appear in the same order as listed in the Attribute Value definition list. This sequence can be modified for the user by inserting the desired sequence display rank here. Display rank is shown low to high.

**Active/Inactive Image** – When **Image Button** is selected from the **Display As** box (see above), these images must be indicated. Active designates a value that is selected and Inactive designates a value that is not selected.

**Default Quantity** – Indicates the quantity of this Attribute Value that will be added to the Cart/Quote. Because the default is 1, it is only necessary to enter a number if the quantity will be greater than 1.

**Price Calculation** – If the price of the Attribute Value is not always the same amount and may be dependent on other Attribute Values then an expression can be built to determine the Price of the Attribute Value. Click the **Check** button for the **Code Builder** (Chapter 34).

**Cost Builder** – If the cost for the Attribute Value is not always the same and may be dependent on other Attribute Values then an expression can be built to determine the Cost of the Attribute Value. Click the **Check** button for the **Code Builder** (Chapter 34).

Then finished configuring an Attribute, click the **Next** button to save the Attribute settings. This will bring up a confirmation page to verify the save. A link on that page is directed to the Product Administration page.

To bypass the confirmation page and stay in Product Attributes definition, simply click another Attribute in the left column. This will save the current Attribute while staying in the same section.