RealTimeDesigner.com – Tutorials

LIVE SHIPPING RATES FROM CARRIERS

This chapter is related to some interesting addons for RTD users using online payment options and shipping costs calculations.
As you know, all can be set into the "ONLINE PAYMENT OPTIONS =>Shipping costs" area of your admin panel.

Up to now, the only way to define such rates in RTD was by uploading CSV files.
This method will still be available, as it also allows you to define your own rates and rules (for example, a "Customer Pickup" option).
However, as carriers sometimes changes their rates, using only CSV files to keep your shipping rates table updates may sometime be problematic.

For this reason, RTD now allows users who have accounts with UPS and FEDEX to obtain live shipping rates from the carriers themselves.
In other words, no CSV will be needed at all, if all you want is just a plain calculation of shipping costs based on shipping location, destination and wieght!
However as mentioned, CSV will still be valid: this means that if you have both live rates and CSV methods, both of them will be shown as option to your users.

As each carrier requires different account data, you will have to enter yours for each of the carriers.

A note about cartons calculation: if the total weight to be shipped is 50 LBS, with max weight per carton at 40 LBS, this means 2 cartons.
The simple calc used is simply totalweight/cartons, which is means RTD will ask UPS rates for 2 cartons of 25 LBS each.

SETUP LIVE SHIPPING RATES FOR UPS

The fields you can defined here are:

Zipcode you are shipping FROM: self explanatory
Your UPS license number: self explanatory
Your UPS Username: self explanatory
Your UPS Password: self explanatory
Your UPS shipper number: self explanatory
Max Weight per Carton: numerical value used to calculate the number of cartons to be shipped
Carton size: your shipping cartons size
Modifiers: a fixed or percentual modifier that will be applied to the price returned by the carrier
Enabled methods: the available shipping methods you want to enable

SETUP LIVE SHIPPING RATES FOR FEDEX

The fields you can defined here are:

Zipcode you are shipping FROM: self explanatory
State you are shipping FROM: self explanatory
Your FEDEX Account Number: self explanatory
Your FEDEX Meter Number: self explanatory
Max Weight per Carton: numerical value used to calculate the number of cartons to be shipped
Carton size: your shipping cartons size
Modifiers: a fixed or percentual modifier that will be applied to the price returned by the carrier
Enabled methods: the available shipping methods you want to enable