Manual Shipping Plugin for Hikashop by Brainforge.UK

6.0 Product Category Selection

This feature can be used to include or exclude the shipping method from orders which include products from selected categories.

Using the Hikashop demo categories and products this illustration will enable a shipping method for orders which meet the following criteria.

> Contains products from *either* Men Shoes or Computers criteria.
> > AND
> Does not contain products from *either* Women or Children shoes criteria.

6.0.1 Product Categories and Product Variants

Product categories are assigned to the parent product and, by default, in Hikashop it is not possible to assign individual product variants to other categories.

This can create difficulties if you have a product category, for say large or dangerous products banned by Royal Mail. This product category selection feature works fine until you have a product variant which is too large for Royal Mail, all the other variants for that product maybe within limits.

There are number of potential ways, when setting up a new shop, of handling that. However, for convenience this plugin provides a mechanism for assigning additional categories to a product variant using a Hikashop custom product field named – *product_category4bfmanual*.

On the product administration form enter the numeric *category_id* value of the additional category you want to add to the variant. If necessary you can add more than one as a comma separated field.

If you have a need you can also use this to add an additional category to the parent product. The variant additional category (if defined) will override the additional category of the parent.
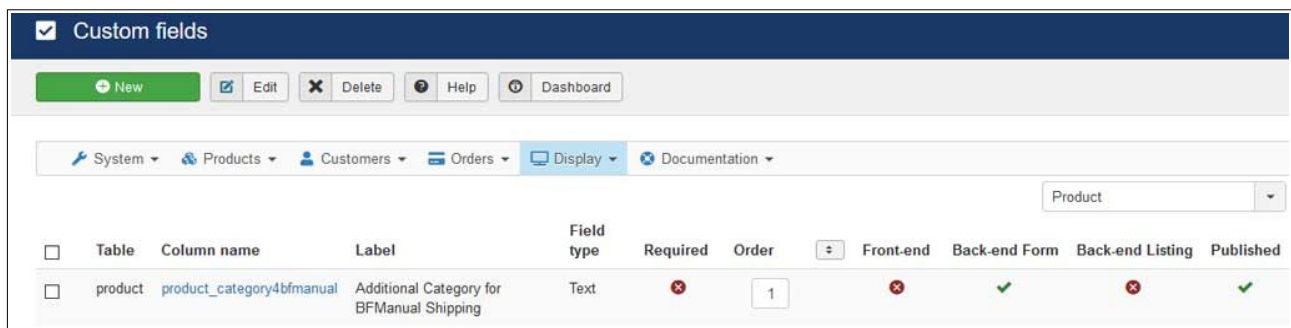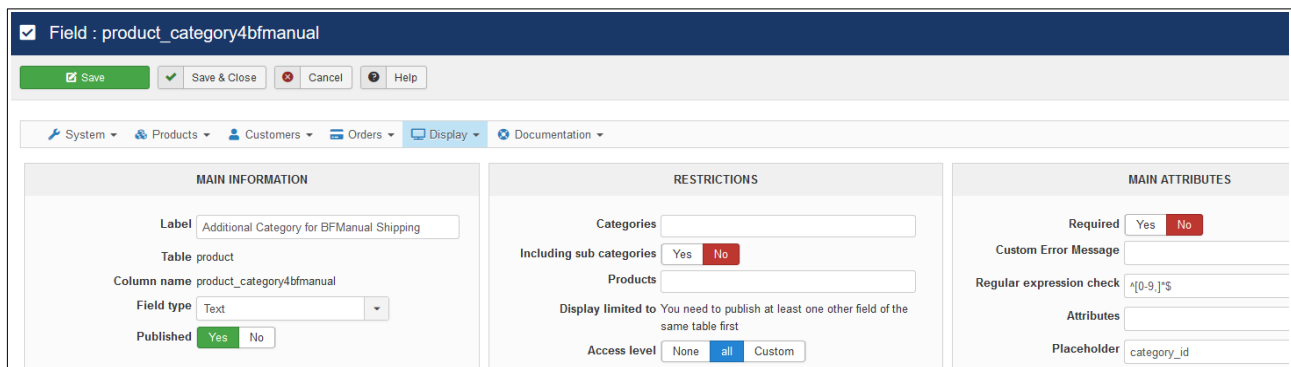

On product administration page this appears in the custom fields block (on both parents & variants).
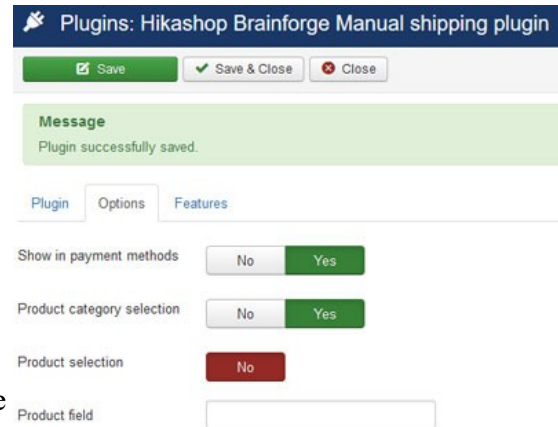

Depending on your usage you might find it more convenient to use a Custom Field Type of *category* (not available in Hikashop 4.0) instead of the Text Field Type. Such a *category* field type will enable you to select the additional category by name instead of entering a numeric value. If this is of interest please contact us for information.

6.1 Product Category Selection (Complex Example)

The product category selection feature can be enabled in the extensions Plug-ins administrator page. This can be used to restrict a particular shipping method to orders with(out) products in a particular category.

Consider an example of shipping methods for a bicycle shop using two product categories.
The shipping price in each case is determined by the number of products in each as follows:

Bicycle Accessories Ordered	Bicycles Ordered	Shipping Cost
1	0	£1.00
2	0	£1.10
3	0	£1.20
10	0	£1.90
0	1	£10.00
0	2	£20.00
1	1	£10.00
2	2	£20.00
10	1	£10.00
10	2	£20.00

This can be configured in the Hikashop shipping plugin configuration pages using two instances of the Brainforge Manual Shipping Plugin as shown below:

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Bicycle Accessory Shipping Method	Bicycle Shipping Method

Bicycle Accessory Shipping Method

Price	0.90000
	£ GBP
Percentage	0 %
Product tax category	None
Use price per product	Yes No
Price per product	0.1
Override shipping address	No
Override tax zone	✎ 🗑

Specific configuration

Include categories	Bicycle Accessories ✕
Include subcategories	Yes No
Exclude categories	Bicycles ✕
Exclude subcategories	Yes No

This shipping method is only available if the order contains a Bicycle Accessory but is not available if the order also contains a bicycle.

Bicycle Shipping Method

Price	0
	£ GBP
Percentage	0 %
Product tax category	None
Use price per product	Yes No
Price per product	10
Override shipping address	No
Override tax zone	✎ 🗑

Specific configuration

Include categories	Bicycles ✕
Include subcategories	Yes No
Exclude categories	
Exclude subcategories	Yes No

This shipping method is only available if the order contains a bicycle.