



Preparing assets: Annotating OnCommand Insight

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Preparing assets: Annotating

Annotating allows you to associate specific tags or labels to the assets you choose, which aids in managing and reporting on those assets.

Creating annotations for your enterprise

This guide describes how to create and customize annotations for your environment that can be used for querying, filtering, alert notifications and reporting.

An annotation is a note or tag that you associate with specific assets in your environment. OnCommand Insight provides several annotations that you can configure for your assets as needed, or you can create your own custom annotations based on your business needs.

The examples that follow are those that are typically configured first in new customer environments, to serve as a baseline for additional actions. Your own annotation needs may vary, but the steps described herein can be used as a guide to configuring any annotations you may need on the assets you desire.

This guide is based on the following assumptions:

- You have OnCommand Insight Server installed and properly licensed.
- You want to explore best practices, not every available option.
- You understand that these are examples only and that your specific needs may vary.

This guide walks you through modifying existing annotations as well as creating custom ones

In our example environment, we wish to be able to list assets according to Data Center, Tier, Service Level and Environment.

Configuring Data Center annotations

The Data Center annotation is typically used to associate a storage array, switch, or physical host asset with a data center location. You may choose to associate the Data Center annotation with other assets in your environment as well.

Steps:

- Log in to Insight as a user with administrative permissions.
- Select **Manage > Annotations**.
- Choose the **Data Center** annotation and click on the **Edit** icon.
- Click **+Add** and add the Name and Description of your first data center to the annotation list.
- Do the same for your other data centers.
- When finished, click **Save**.

Example Data Center annotations:

Name	Description
------	-------------

DC1_SVL	Sunnyvale Bldg 1
DC2_SVLb3	SVL Bldg3 ENG
DC3_NY	New York
DC4_London	London
...	

Insight comes with several out-of-the-box annotation types that allow users to define or modify values to fit their needs. These default annotation types will always be available to the Insight web UI as well as reporting. Newly-created custom annotations are visible in the Insight web UI but require additional measures to make them available to reporting. For information on including custom annotations in reports, contact your NetApp Customer Support representative.



Some users may be inclined to use the Country annotation to set asset locations, as opposed to, or in conjunction with, the Data Center annotation. However, you should bear in mind that the Country annotation is treated as a custom annotation type in the Insight data warehouse and therefore may not show up in reporting at the same granularity as Data Center.

Configure Tier annotations

The Tier annotation is used to associate assets with their respective Tiers, for use in cost accounting, for example. Insight comes with a number of default Tier annotations; you may modify these according to your tiering naming conventions or create your own Tiers as needed.

When setting Tier annotations, keep the following in mind:

- Cost is per gigabyte.
- Tier 1, 2, 3 are default tiers configured at a storage array level, by disk type. However, many customers will have multiple disk types within an array, or across arrays of the same type.
- Best practice is to create Tier annotations based on disk type and/or disk speed. This is a typical Tier methodology; your own needs may vary.

Steps:

- Choose the **Tier** annotation and click on the **Edit** icon.
- If desired, click **+Add** and add the Name and Description of your first tier to the annotation list.
- Do the same for your other tiers.
- When finished, click **Save**.

Example Tier annotations:

Name	Description	Cost per Gb
------	-------------	-------------

Auto Tier	Automatic Storage Tiering Tier	0.5
Tier 1 SSD	All Flash Array	0.5
Tier 2 SAS	SAS	0.25
Tier 3 SATA	SATA	0.1
...		

Configure Service Level annotations

The Service Level annotation is used to associate assets with their respective service levels.

Service Level annotations are typically only set in customer environments that use auto-tiering. In the Insight data warehouse, Tier is preferred. However, best practice is to use Service Level when you want to detail Provisioned Cost vs. Customer Cost. When both are present in Data Warehouse, Service Level will supersede Tier.

Steps:

- Choose the **Service Level** annotation and click on the **Edit** icon.
- Click **+Add** and add the Name and Description of your first service level to the annotation list.
- Do the same for your other service levels.
- When finished, click **Save**.

Example Service Level annotations:

Name	Description	Cost per Gb
Service Level 1	FAS controllers with FC or SAS, local & remote mirror and tape	0.93
Service Level 2	FAS controllers with FC or SAS, local & remote mirrors	0.85
Service Level 3	FAS controllers with SATA and local mirror	0.48
...		

Configure custom Environment annotations

The Environment annotation is a custom annotation for associating assets with their respective environmental location or use, for example, Lab, R&D, Production, etc. By

creating the Environment annotation and setting it onto these assets, you can easily find, filter and report on your Lab assets separately from your Production assets, for example.

Steps:

- Select **Manage > Annotations**.
- Click the **+Add** button at the top of the page.
- For **Name**, enter **'Environment'**.
- For **Description**, enter **'Asset environment type'**.
- For **Type**, select **List**. New fields are displayed for you to create your list.
- For now, leave **Add new assets on the fly** unchecked. You will check this on if you want to be able to add new Environments to the list of choices at the same time you are associating them with assets.
- Enter the Name and Description of your first environment.
- Click **+Add** and do the same for your other environments.
- When finished, click **Save**.

Example Environment annotations:

Name	Description
Lab	Lab
Dev	Development
Prd	Production
...	

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