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Working with Applications

Tracking asset usage by application

Understanding the applications used in your company’s environment helps you to keep track of asset usage and cost.

Before you can track data associated with the applications running in your environment, you must first define those applications and associate them with the appropriate assets. You can associate applications with the following assets: hosts, virtual machines, volumes, internal volumes, qtrees, shares, and hypervisors.

This topic provides an example of tracking the usage of virtual machines that the Marketing Team uses for its Exchange email.

You might want to create a table similar to the following to identify applications used in your environment and note the group or business unit using each application.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tenant</th>
<th>Line of Business</th>
<th>Business Unit</th>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Applications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NetApp</td>
<td>Data Storage</td>
<td>Legal</td>
<td>Patents</td>
<td>Oracle Identity Manager, Oracle On Demand, PatentWiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NetApp</td>
<td>Data Storage</td>
<td>Marketing</td>
<td>Sales Events</td>
<td>Exchange, Oracle Shared DataBase, BlastOff Event Planner</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The table shows that Marketing Team uses the Exchange application. We want to track their virtual machine utilization for Exchange, so that we can predict when we will need to add more storage. We can associate the Exchange application with all of Marketing’s virtual machines:

1. Create an application named Exchange
2. Go to Queries > +New Query to create a new query for virtual machines (or select an existing VM query, if applicable).
   - Assuming the Marketing team’s VMs all have a name containing the string “mkt”, create your query to filter VM name for “mkt”.
3. Select the VMs.
4. Associate the VMs with the Exchange application using Bulk Actions > Add Applications.
5. Select the desired application and click Save.
6. When finished, Save the query.

Creating Applications

To track data associated with specific applications running in your environment, you can define the applications in Cloud Insights.

Before you begin
If you want to associate the application with a business entity, you must create the business entity before you define the application.

**About this task**
Cloud Insights allows you to track data from assets associated with applications for things like usage or cost reporting.

**Steps**
1. In the Cloud Insights menu, click **Manage > Applications**.
   
   The Add Application dialog box displays.

2. Enter a unique name for the application.
3. Select a priority for the application.
4. Click **Save**.

After defining an application, it can be assigned to assets.

**Assigning applications to assets**
This procedure assigns the application to a host as an example. You can assign host, virtual machine, volume, or internal volumes to an application.

**Steps**
1. Locate the asset to which you want to assign the application:
2. Click **Queries > +New Query** and search for Host.
3. Click the check box on the left of the Host you want to associate with the application.
4. Click **Bulk Actions > Add Application**.
5. Select the Application you are assigning the asset to.

Any new applications you assign override any applications on the asset that were derived from another asset. For example, volumes inherit applications from hosts, and when new applications are assigned to a volume, the new application takes precedence over the derived application.

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For environments with large amounts of related assets, inheritance of application assignments to those assets could take several minutes. Please allow more time for inheritance to occur if you have many related assets.

**After you finish**
After assigning the host to the application you can assign the remaining assets to the application. To access the landing page for the application, click **Manage > Application** and select the application you created.