Your corporate structure: setting up business entities and applications

OnCommand Insight

NetApp
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Understanding the elements of your corporate structure helps you to keep track of asset usage and report on costs.

Configuring business entities for your company

Understanding the business elements of your corporate structure helps you to keep track of asset usage and report on costs. Here we will configure your company business entities.

About this task

OnCommand Insight allows you to define business entities in a hierarchy that includes up to four levels of granularity.

- **Tenant**

  Primarily used by service providers to associate resources with a customer. Tenant level is needed if your company is an ISP and you want to track customer usage of resources.

- **Line of Business (LOB)**

  A line of business or product line within a company, for example, Data Storage. Line of Business is needed in the hierarchy if the data for different product lines needs to be tracked.

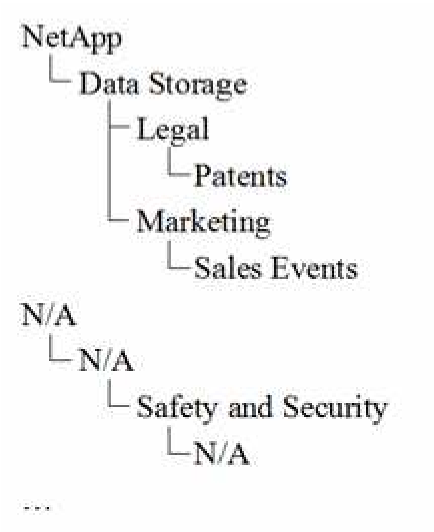
- **Business Unit**

  Represents a traditional business unit such as Legal or Marketing. Business Unit is required if you need to track data for different departments. This level of the hierarchy is often valuable in separating a resource that one department uses that other departments do not.

- **Project**

  Often used to identify a specific project within a business unit for which you want capacity chargeback. For example, “Patents” might be a project name for the Legal business unit and “Sales Events” might be a project name for the Marketing business unit. Note that level names may include spaces.

An example of a business entity hierarchy would be:



Best practice: Create a table with each row showing one full business entity in your hierarchy:

Tenant	Line of Business	Business Unit	Project
NetApp Inc.	Data Storage	Legal	Patents
NetApp Inc.	Data storage	Marketing	Sales Events
N/A	N/A	Safety and Security	N/A
…			

You are not required to use all of the levels in the design of your corporate hierarchy. You can choose “N/A” for levels that you do not use.

To create a business entity hierarchy in Insight:

Steps

1. Log in to Insight as a user with administrative permissions.
2. Select **Manage** > **Business entities**.
3. Click the **+Add** button
4. Click in the **Tenant** box and type your tenant name.

   If you have already entered tenants for your environment, a list of existing tenants will appear from which you may choose. You may also choose N/A if tenant does not apply for this business entity.
5. Repeat for **Line of Business**, **Business Unit**, and **Project**.
6. Click **Save**

After you finish

Best Practices:

- Map out your business hierarchy in a table, and check that the names in the hierarchy will be self-explanatory in Insight views and reports.
- Create your business entities in Insight before creating applications.
- Identify and list all applications that will be associated with each business entity.

Configuring applications for your company

Understanding the applications used in your company’s environment helps you to keep track of asset usage and report on costs. Here we will configure your company’s applications and associate them with the appropriate assets.

About this task

In the *Configuring business entities for your company* section, we created some business entities, and recommended that you list out all the applications you associate with each business entity. OnCommand Insight allows us to then track data associated with those applications for things like usage or cost reporting.

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.

In this walkthrough, we want to track the usage of virtual machines that the Marketing Team uses for its Exchange email. You will remember the following table we created while defining our business entities. Let’s add a column to this worksheet listing the applications used by each business entity. (This table is a worksheet example only. You will not see an “Applications” column in the business entities table in Insight.)

Tenant	Line of Business	Business Unit	Project	Applications
NetApp	Data Storage	Legal	Patents	Oracle Identity Manager, Oracle On Demand, PatentWiz
NetApp	Data storage	Marketing	Sales Events	Exchange, Oracle Shared DataBase, BlastOff Event Planner
N/A	N/A	Safety and Security	N/A	N/A
…				

Creating applications in Insight:

Steps

1. Log in to Insight as a user with administrative permissions.
2. Select **Manage** > **Applications**
3. Click the **+Add** button

4. Enter the name of the application (for our example, enter “Exchange”)
5. Select a priority for the application
6. If you wish to associate the application to a business entity, select one from the **Business Entity** drop-down. Otherwise, you can leave this as “None”.
7. If you want to ensure each host has access to the same volumes in a cluster, ensure that the **Validate volume sharing** box is checked. For example, hosts in high-availability clusters often need to be masked to the same volumes to allow for failover; however, hosts in unrelated applications usually have no need to access the same physical volumes. Additionally, regulatory policies might require you to explicitly disallow unrelated applications from accessing the same physical volumes for security reasons. If you do not use volume sharing, clear the **Validate volume sharing** box. This requires the Assure license.
8. Click Save.
9. Repeat for all other Applications in your environment.

After you finish

We see that the Marketing Team uses the Exchange application. We want to see their virtual machine utilization for Exchange, in order to predict when we will need to add more storage. Let’s associate the Exchange application with all of Marketing’s VM’s. The easiest way to accomplish this is through a query.

By following these steps, you can associate each of your applications with their appropriate assets.

Associating Applications to assets:

Now that you have created your applications (and tied them to business entities, as desired), we can now associate those applications with assets in your environment. In this example, we will associate the Exchange application with a number of virtual machines in your company. The easiest way to do this is what a query.

1. Select **Queries** > **+New query**.
2. In the **Select Resource Type** drop-down, choose *Virtual Machine*
3. We will assume the Marketing team names their assets with the string “_mktg_”. In the Name filter box, enter "`*mktg* `"(without quotes) and click the apply (checkmark) button.
4. The list of all VM’s with the "`*mktg* `"string is shown.
5. If desired, click the **More** drop-down and add additional filters.
6. Select the VM’s used for Exchange by clicking in the checkbox beside each desired VM Name, or select all VMs by clicking the checkbox at the top of the column.
7. When the desired VM’s are selected, click the **Actions** button and choose **Add Application**.
8. In the Assign Application dialog, click the **Application** drop-down and select “Exchange”.
9. Click **Save**.
10. Repeat as necessary to associate the Exchange application with other assets (hosts, volumes, etc.)