REG Matching

TapeTrack supports matching against a list of patterns stored in the Windows Registry using the special filter prefix:

`*REG:registry_value_name`

This allows a filter field to be compared against multiple patterns defined centrally in the Windows Registry.

REG filtering is functionally similar to LIST filtering, however the patterns are stored in a registry value instead of a file.

How REG Matching Works

When a filter begins with:

```
*REG:
```

TapeTrack will:

- open the Windows Registry
- locate the specified value name
- read its contents
- treat the contents as a semicolon-separated list of patterns
- stop as soon as a match is found

Registry Location

Registry location:

```
HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\GazillaByte\TapeTrack\Lists
```

Each registry value under this key represents a reusable filter list.

Example: Description Field Filtering

Assume the TapeMaster Description field contains values similar to:

```
 Production database weekly backup Prod DB full backup Production export
dump PRD database BKP Development database backup Weekly archive - finance
system Prod data backup set
```

Example Registry Value

Registry Key:

```
HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\GazillaByte\TapeTrack\Lists
```

Create a new String Value named:

```
ProdFilters
```

With the following data (semicolon-separated):

```
*prod*;*PRD*;*production*
```

Using the REG Filter in TapeMaster

To filter the Description field using the registry list:

```
*REG:ProdFilters
```

This will match any Description containing:

“prod”

“PRD”

“production”

Expected Matching Results

Using the filter:

```
*REG:ProdFilters
```

The following descriptions would typically match:

Production database weekly backup

Prod DB full backup

Production export dump

PRD database BKP

Prod data backup set

The following descriptions would typically not match:

Development database backup

Weekly archive - finance system

Using Wildcards in REG Values

Each entry in the registry value supports standard TapeTrack wildcard matching.

Example registry value data:

```
*backup*;*archive*;*dump*
```

This allows a single REG filter to match multiple categories of Description text.

When to Use REG vs LIST

Method	Storage Location	Best Used For
LIST	External text file	Shared configuration files
REG	Windows Registry	Centralised per-user configuration

REG filtering is especially useful in environments where:

administrators want centrally managed filter sets

users should not modify external files

reusable filter definitions are required across multiple tools

Summary

REG filtering provides a centralised, reusable method of matching a field against multiple wildcard patterns stored in the Windows Registry.

It behaves the same as LIST filtering, but stores the pattern list inside:

```
HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\GazillaByte\TapeTrack\Lists
```

This makes it ideal for controlled environments where filter rules need to be maintained per user or workstation.

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