Technical Note: Slot Numbering

When a Volume has a slot in TapeTrack, the slot is represented by both a Virtual Slot and Physical Slot.

When displaying Physical Slot, the slot will either be displayed as a slot, or a level and a slot (when the Zone the slot belongs to has defined slots per level).

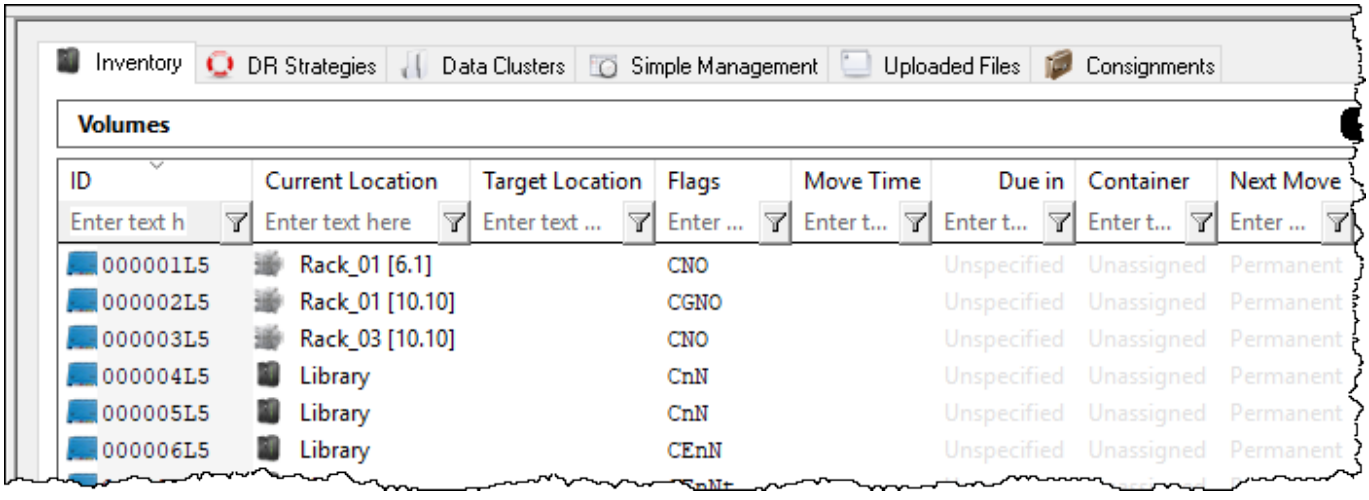
It is possible to change the way a Physical Slot is displayed in TapeTrack Desktop and TapeTrack Batch programs by defining changes in the Configuration File.

Changing Physical Slot Representation

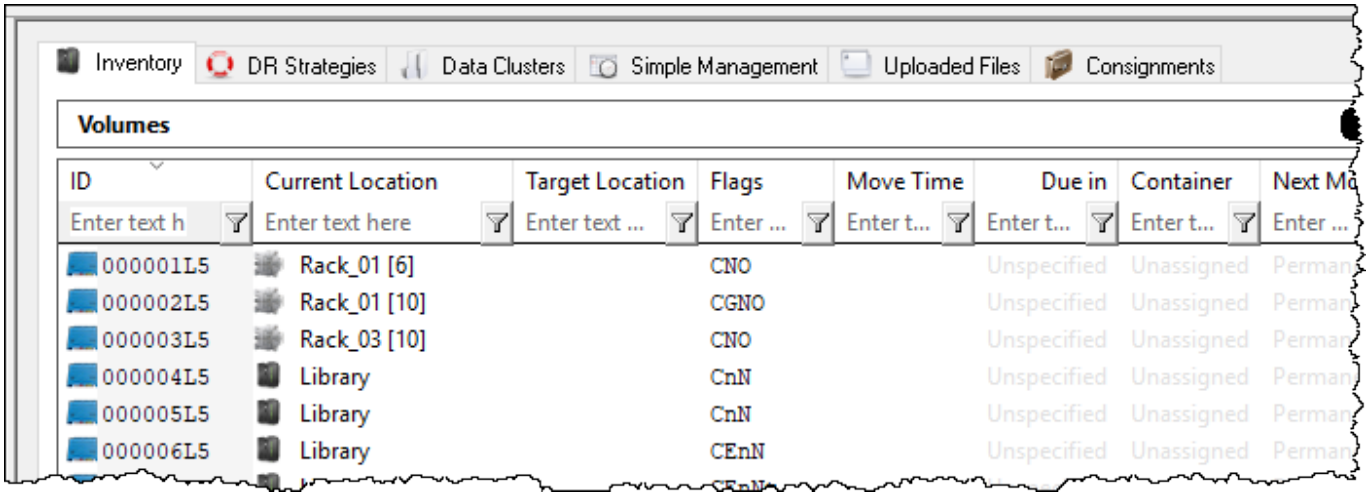
Masking the Slot

The display in TapeMaster and Lite can be modified to mask the slot number of the volumes, displaying zone and shelf only. This can be useful storing tapes in drawers with a limited number of slots, allowing librarians to slot the volumes quickly in a zones shelf location without needing to adhere to a slot number.

No Slot Masking - TapeMaster displaying Zone, shelf and slot (in the format **Zone_ID [shelf_number.slot_number]**).



Slot Masking - TapeMaster displaying Zone and shelf only (in the format **Zone_ID [shelf_number]**).



Further information and instructions on masking slots can be found here

Changing The Level

When creating (or editing) a storage zone for volumes you have the ability to specify not only the number of slots but the number of slots per level or shelf. This enables TapeTrack to display the location of a volume by zone, shelf and slot number.

If you prefer shelf levels to be displayed alphabetically, or any other string values, this can be achieved via the desktop software configuration file.

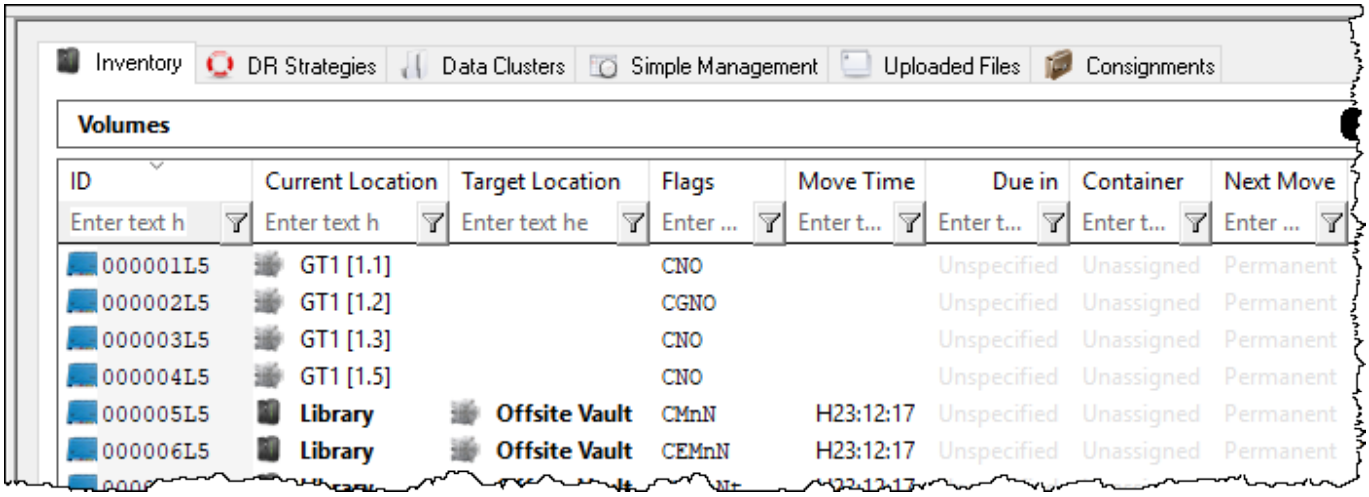
Setting Shelf Name Values

Open the configuration file, found in the desktop installation directory (eg TapeMaster default installation directory `TapeTrack/Tapemaster/TMSSMaster.cfg`, Lite default installation) in a text editor such as Notepad. `TapeTrack/Tapemaster/TMSSLite.cfg`)

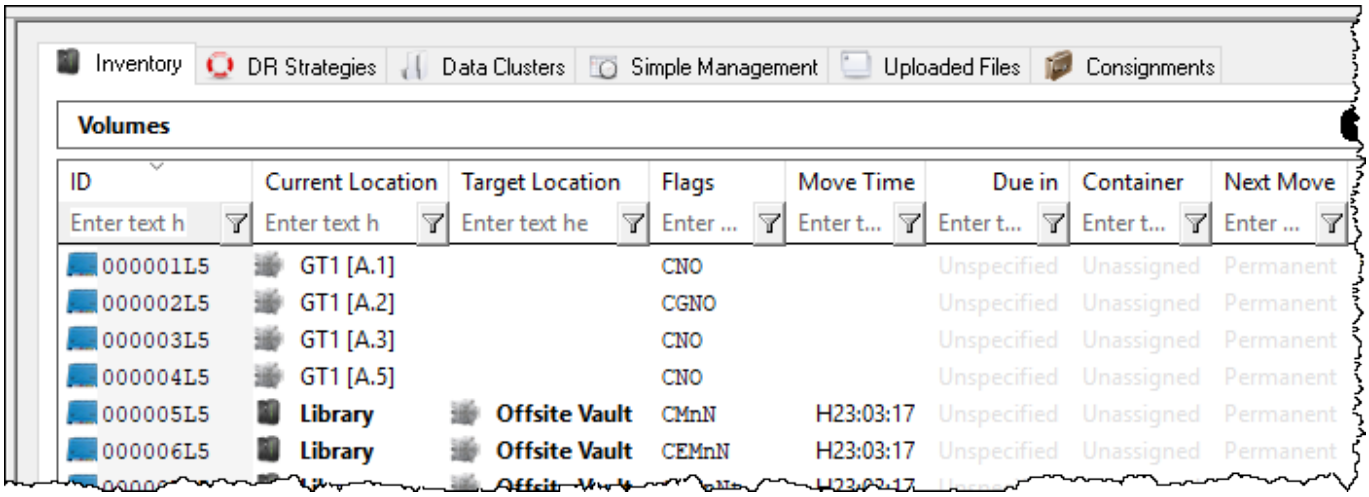
- Uncomment (remove /* above and */ below) the code block `variables = { TMSSLEVELNAMES="A,B,C"; };`
- Set the shelf names as required, default is level 1 = A, level 2 = B and level 3 = C.
- Add any extra shelf names if required, for example if you have 10 shelves TMSSLEVELNAMES="A,B,C,D,E,F,G,H,I,J";
- Save file, ensuring it is saved with the extension .cfg and not .txt
- Restart your desktop software and check the change is effected correctly

Example

TapeTrack TapeMaster display with zone set to 10 slots per shelf. Display for volume 000001L5 shows in Zone Rack_01, shelf 6, slot 1 (in the format **Zone_ID [shelf_number.slot_number]**). The default display mode shows shelf allocation numerically.



After alteration to the `TMSSMaster.cfg` to set TMSSLEVELNAMES="A,B,C", TapeMaster displays the shelf levels alphabetically, exchanging 1 for A, 2 for B etc.



Further information and instructions on changing levels can be found here

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Permanent link:
https://docs.tapetrack.com/technote/slot_numbering?rev=1529364478

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