

# 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:

```
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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