

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).

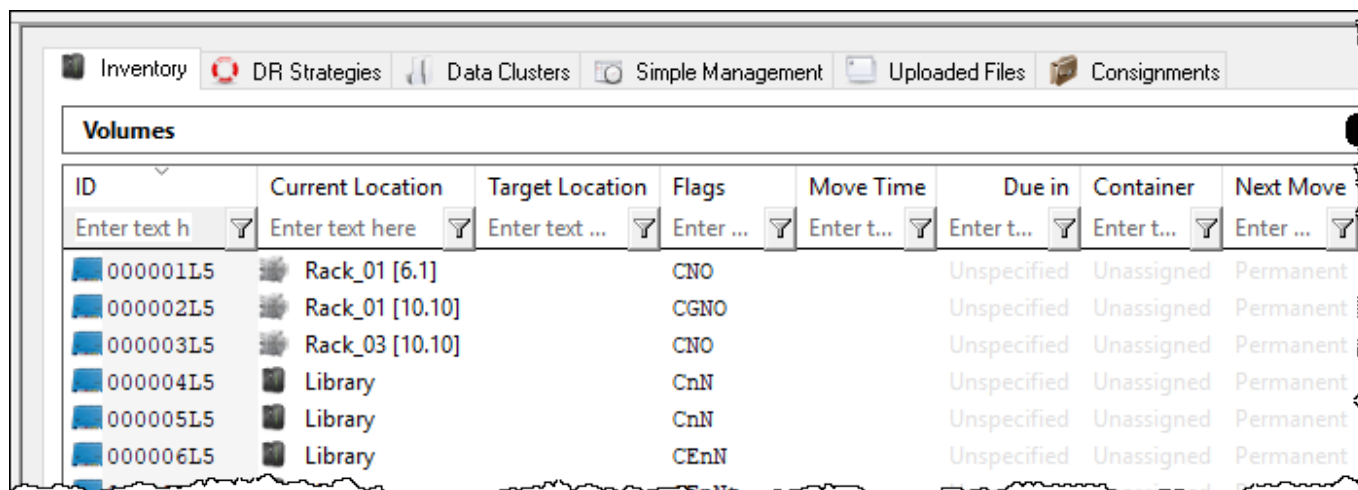
It is possible to change the way a Physical Slot is displayed in TapeTrack Desktop and TapeTrack Batch programs by defining changes in the [Configuration File](#).

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]**).



ID	Current Location	Target Location	Flags	Move Time	Due in	Container	Next Move
000001L5	Rack_01 [6.1]		CNO		Unspecified	Unassigned	Permanent
000002L5	Rack_01 [10.10]		CGNO		Unspecified	Unassigned	Permanent
000003L5	Rack_03 [10.10]		CNO		Unspecified	Unassigned	Permanent
000004L5	Library		CnN		Unspecified	Unassigned	Permanent
000005L5	Library		CnN		Unspecified	Unassigned	Permanent
000006L5	Library		CEnN		Unspecified	Unassigned	Permanent

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

ID	Current Location	Target Location	Flags	Move Time	Due in	Container	Next Move
000001L5	Rack_01 [6]		CNO		Unspecified	Unassigned	Permanent
000002L5	Rack_01 [10]		CGNO		Unspecified	Unassigned	Permanent
000003L5	Rack_03 [10]		CNO		Unspecified	Unassigned	Permanent
000004L5	Library		CnN		Unspecified	Unassigned	Permanent
000005L5	Library		CnN		Unspecified	Unassigned	Permanent
000006L5	Library		CEnN		Unspecified	Unassigned	Permanent

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.

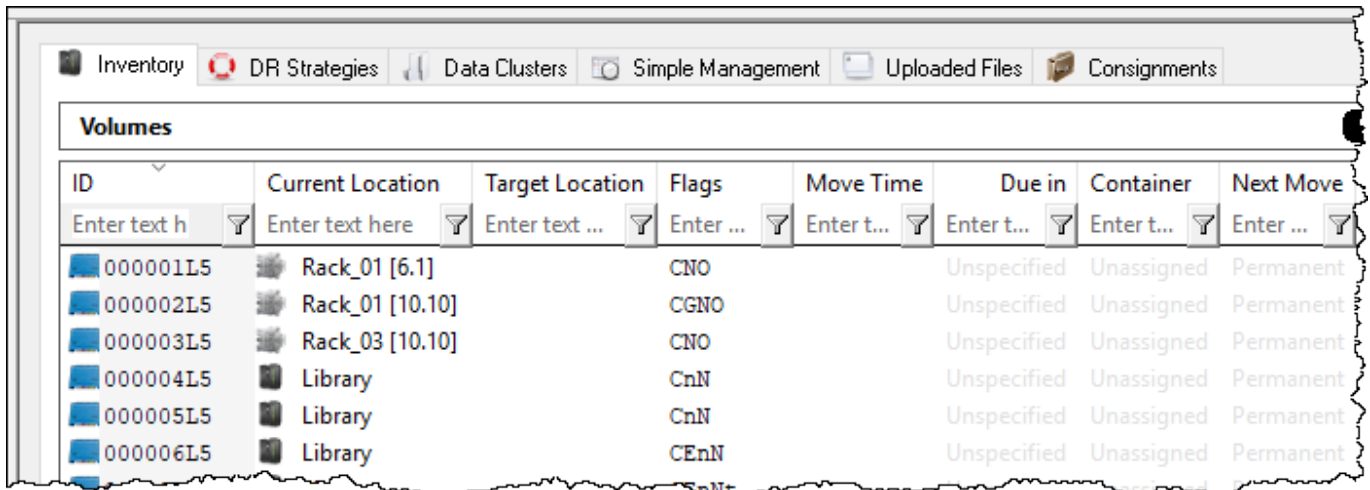
Setting Shelf Name Values

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 the code block **variables = { TMSLEVELNAMES="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
TMSLEVELNAMES="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

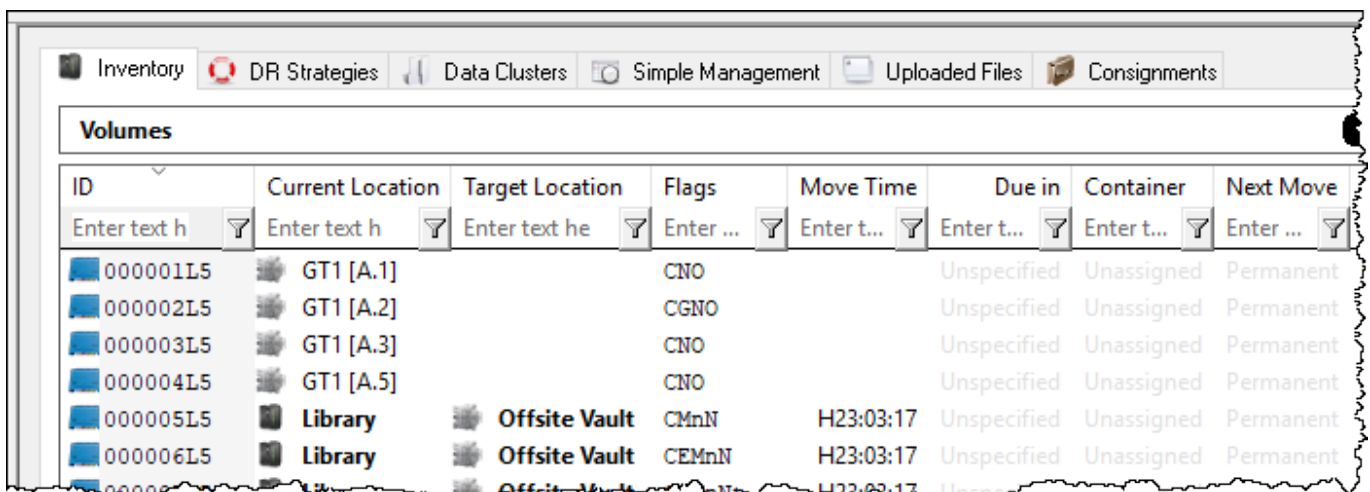
TapeTrack TapeMaster display with zone set to 10 slots per shelf. Display for volume 000001L5 shows in Zone Rack_01, shelf 6, slot 1 (in the format **Zone_ID [shelf_number.slot_number]**). The default display mode shows shelf allocation numerically.



The screenshot shows the 'Volumes' section of the TapeMaster interface. The table lists six volumes with their current and target locations. The current locations are Rack_01 [6.1], Rack_01 [10.10], Rack_03 [10.10], and three Library entries. The target locations are mostly empty, with the last two volumes pointing to 'Offsite Vault'.

ID	Current Location	Target Location	Flags	Move Time	Due in	Container	Next Move
000001L5	Rack_01 [6.1]		CNO		Unspecified	Unassigned	Permanent
000002L5	Rack_01 [10.10]		CGNO		Unspecified	Unassigned	Permanent
000003L5	Rack_03 [10.10]		CNO		Unspecified	Unassigned	Permanent
000004L5	Library		CnN		Unspecified	Unassigned	Permanent
000005L5	Library		CnN		Unspecified	Unassigned	Permanent
000006L5	Library	Offsite Vault	CEnN		Unspecified	Unassigned	Permanent

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



The screenshot shows the 'Volumes' section of the TapeMaster interface after configuration changes. The table lists six volumes. The first three volumes are now located in GT1 [A.1], GT1 [A.2], and GT1 [A.3]. The last two volumes are in Library and have a target location of 'Offsite Vault'.

ID	Current Location	Target Location	Flags	Move Time	Due in	Container	Next Move
000001L5	GT1 [A.1]		CNO		Unspecified	Unassigned	Permanent
000002L5	GT1 [A.2]		CGNO		Unspecified	Unassigned	Permanent
000003L5	GT1 [A.3]		CNO		Unspecified	Unassigned	Permanent
000004L5	GT1 [A.5]		CNO		Unspecified	Unassigned	Permanent
000005L5	Library	Offsite Vault	CMnN	H23:03:17	Unspecified	Unassigned	Permanent
000006L5	Library	Offsite Vault	CEMnN	H23:03:17	Unspecified	Unassigned	Permanent

Further information and instructions on [changing levels can be found here](#)

From: <https://rtfm.tapetrack.com/> - **TapeTrack Documentation**

Permanent link: https://rtfm.tapetrack.com/technote/slot_numbering?rev=1529364208

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