



netTerrain 10.2

Power User Guide



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If rash, irritation, redness, or swelling develops, discontinue reading. Safety goggles may be required during use. Do not eat this guide. This disclaimer is not intended as legal advice. For that, better call Saul.

Image: **Vinton Gray Cerf** (born June 23, 1943).

American Internet pioneer who worked in Professor Leonard Kleinrock's data packet networking group that connected the first two nodes of the ARPANET. He is recognized as one of "the fathers of the Internet" and co-creator (along with Robert Kahn) of the TCP/IP protocol.



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1 About this Guide

This document is divided into the following chapters:

- Chapter 1, "About this Guide": a guide to the guide
- Chapter 2, "Catalog Basics": getting started with the catalog
- Chapter 3, "Node Types": creating and managing generic node types
- Chapter 4, "Link Types": creating and managing link types
- Chapter 5, "Smart Objects": Creating and managing DCIM objects such as devices, racks and cards
- Chapter 6: "Special Objects": A guide to palette objects, images, and other special objects and advanced features

1.1 Who should use it

A netTerrain Power User can modify any data in the project (the end user work area) but is also tasked with managing catalog settings and their associated object types, such as nodes, devices, racks, cards and links. If you are that character, then this guide is for you, dear Power User.

1.2 Assumptions

A netTerrain Power User can modify any data in the project (the end user work area) but is also tasked with managing catalog settings and their associated object types, such as nodes, devices, racks, cards and links. If you are that character, then this guide is for you, dear Power User.

The Power User is also responsible for setting up discovery tasks. The discovery process is reviewed later throughout the guide.

2 Catalog Basics

The netTerrain catalog is the place where power users or administrators can create and manage netTerrain types, which include nodes, devices, racks, cards and links, among other objects.

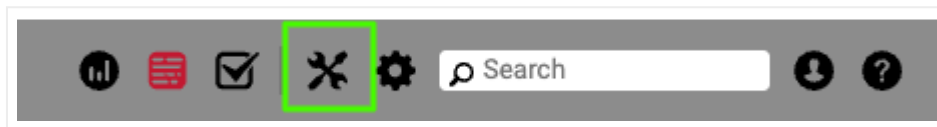
Throughout this guide we will also make several references to the project, which is the user area where diagrams are created.

Also, it is important to differentiate a so-called "instance" from a type. A type is an object created in the netTerrain catalog, which has certain properties and behaviors. Types are then "instantiated" in the project. So, for example we may have a type called "chair" in the catalog, and an instance of that chair on the top left

corner of room 1A in the project. A less generic example (better suited for netTerrain DCIM) would be a type called "Cisco 6509" and an instance, such as the "main Pittsburgh ring 6509 switch", with a DNS name "Pit-6509-1". In this latter example "Pit-6509-1" will inherit all the common properties defined in the catalog for the Cisco 6509, such as width, height, backplane image, peak power consumption, slots, motherboard ports, etc. The instance can also contain properties all its own, such as an IP address, MAC addresses, rack position, supervisor pager, and so on.

2.1 Accessing the catalog

The catalog console area is restricted to users with admin or power user permissions. First, you must log into netTerrain and then to access the catalog simply click on the catalog button, displayed in every netTerrain page right there on the top right section of the page, as depicted below:



Accessing the catalog

You may access the catalog from the project or the admin console, since this button is visible in any view in netTerrain (assuming you are a Power User or better, of course).

If you want to return from the catalog to the project, you can do the following:

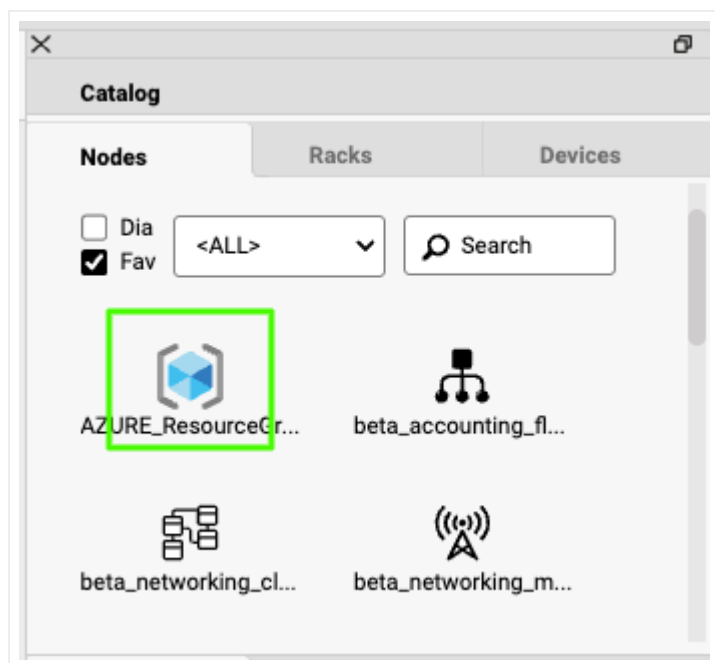
- Click on the project button, which takes you back to the project's top level
- Click on the left arrow, to the left of the project button, which takes you back to the last diagram you visited in the project
- Click on the browser back button, which will take you to the previous project diagram if you come from the project during the current session



Using the project button and arrow to return to the project

2.1.1 Accessing a specific node type directly from the project

netTerrain has a nice shortcut to access a node type directly from the project. Simply double click on the node type in the catalog pane (on the project), and netTerrain takes you straight to the catalog, displaying the type in the node type list view.

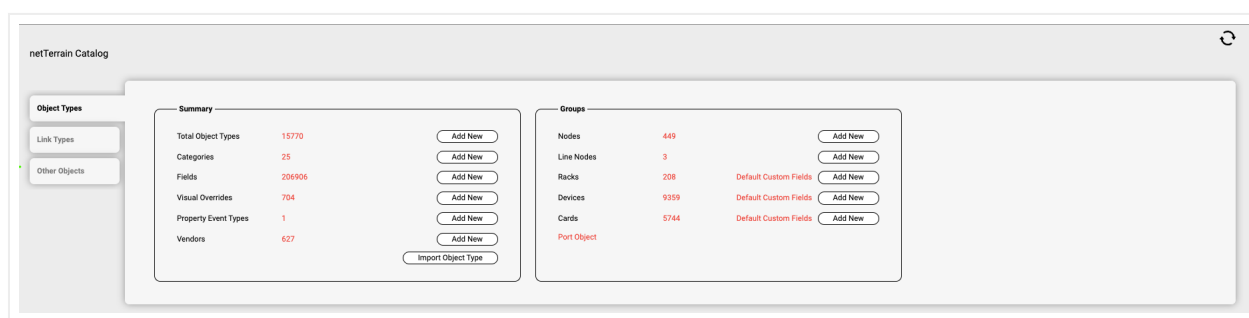


Double-clicking on node item in catalog pane

This shortcut comes in handy to get directly to a catalog definition of a node without having to click through several pages. Notice that you still must be a power user or administrator to take advantage of this feature.

2.2 Summary and groups

Once you click on the catalog button, you will access the so-called catalog dashboard, which consists of several sections, including one concerning object types (more on the other sections later).



Object type section of catalog dashboard

Below is a review of the different links associated with the object types section:

Summary

- Total Object Types: click on the ## value to open a table view of all object types within the netTerrain catalog.
- Categories: click on the ## value to open a table view of all categories within the netTerrain catalog.
- Fields: click on the ## value to see a table view of fields within netTerrain for all object types.
- Visual Overrides: click the ## to open a table view of all fields that have visual overrides.
- Property Event Types: click the ## to open a table view of all property event types.
- Vendors: click the ## to open a table view with a list of vendors in the current catalog.

Groups

- Nodes: click on the ## value to open a table view of all node types within the netTerrain catalog.
- Rack: click on the ## value to open a table view of all rack types.
- Devices: click on the ## value to open a table view of all device.
- Cards: click on the ## value to open a table view of all card types.
- Port Object: This is a shortcut to the port node type in the catalog.

Each section also has a link to create a new catalog entry directly from this view. Racks, devices and cards also have a link to create default custom fields (more on that below).

2.3 Object types

The 'total object types' section provides a list view of all the objects (nodes, racks, devices, cards) that exist in the netTerrain catalog.

Object Types [Switch to category view] To csv To Excel Add New Import Object Type

Records on page: 100 Records in table: 15770

Filter Apply Clear

Records per page 100 Show Id Field Default sorting

#	Group	Name	Category	Default Image	Fields	Overrides	Instances	Is Favorite	Is Enabled	Default Width [cm]	Default Height [cm]	Keep Aspect Ratio	Template	In S
1	Device	NETOPTICS TP-CU3	Core_Devices		18	0	5	☒	☐	0.538	0.113	☒		
2	Device	NETOPTICS TP-CU3(2)	Core_Devices_Patch		18	0	6	☒	☐	0.538	0.113	☒		
3	Node	_ALU_casport	Core_Nodes		5	0	1	☐	☐	1.423443	0.462	☐		
4	Node	_AWS_Instances			19	0	11	☐	☐	0.5	0.5	☐		
5	Node	_empty node			4	0	0	☐	☒	0.00001	0.00001	☐		
6	Node	_empty node (1)			2	0	934	☐	☐	0.00001	0.00001	☐		
7	LineNode	_empty node (2)			2	0	587	☐	☐	0.00001	0.00001	☐		
8	Node	_SNMP_External_IPs			5	0	12	☐	☐	0.5	0.5	☐		
9	Node	_SNMP_External_MACs			5	0	0	☐	☐	0.5	0.5	☐		
10	Slot	<Empty Slot>			4	0	14356	☐	☐	0.7	0.3	☐		
11	Card	020-589-Breaker			7	0	0	☐	☒					
12	Device	12 AC Plugs	Core_Devices_Router		17	0	1	☐	☐	0.13	7.7	☒		
13	Device	12 fiber MPO to MPO-24 f			18	0	6	☐	☐	1.9	0.175	☒		
14	Device	12 port fiber wall mount br			17	0	1	☐	☐	1.9	0.175	☒		
15	Card	12 Port LC Card Patch Par			7	0	0	☐	☒					

1 out of 158 1 Go

Total object types list view

The elements that comprise this view include:

Section A

- To CSV: this button allows you to export the table view to a downloadable CSV file.
- Add new: selecting this will display a form to create a new object.
- Import Zip: Allows you to import a netTerrain device package as a zip file.
- Import Json: Allows you to import a netTerrain device package as a Json file.

Object Types [Switch to category view] To csv To Excel Add New Import Object Type

Records on page: 100 Records in table: 15770

Filter Apply Clear

Records per page 100 Show Id Field Default sorting

#	Group	Name	Category	Default Image	Fields	Overrides	Instances	Is Favorite	Is Enabled	Default Width [cm]	Default Height [cm]	Keep Aspect Ratio	Template	In S
1	Device	NETOPTICS TP-CU3	Core_Devices		18	0	5	☒	☐	0.538	0.113	☒		
2	Device	NETOPTICS TP-CU3(2)	Core_Devices_Patch		18	0	6	☒	☐	0.538	0.113	☒		
3	Node	_ALU_casport	Core_Nodes		5	0	1	☐	☐	1.423443	0.462	☐		
4	Node	_AWS_Instances			19	0	11	☐	☐	0.5	0.5	☐		
5	Node	_empty node			4	0	0	☐	☒	0.00001	0.00001	☐		
6	Node	_empty node (1)			2	0	934	☐	☐	0.00001	0.00001	☐		
7	LineNode	_empty node (2)			2	0	587	☐	☐	0.00001	0.00001	☐		
8	Node	_SNMP_External_IPs			5	0	12	☐	☐	0.5	0.5	☐		
9	Node	_SNMP_External_MACs			5	0	0	☐	☐	0.5	0.5	☐		
10	Slot	<Empty Slot>			4	0	14356	☐	☐	0.7	0.3	☐		
11	Card	020-589-Breaker			7	0	0	☐	☒					
12	Device	12 AC Plugs	Core_Devices_Router		17	0	1	☐	☐	0.13	7.7	☒		
13	Device	12 fiber MPO to MPO-24 f			18	0	6	☐	☐	1.9	0.175	☒		
14	Device	12 port fiber wall mount br			17	0	1	☐	☐	1.9	0.175	☒		

Section B

- Records in table: displays the total number of objects in the table. For example, if this is the nodes view then this will display the total number of nodes in the catalog.
- Records on page: displays the total number of records on the table page that you are currently viewing.

#	Group	Name	Category	Default Image	Fields	Overrides	Instances	Is Favorite	Is Enabled	Default Width [cm]	Default Height [cm]	Keep Aspect Ratio	Template
1	Device	NETOPTICS TP-CU3	Core_Devices		18	0	5	☒	☐	0.538	0.113	☒	
2	Device	NETOPTICS TP-CU3(2)	Core_Devices_Patch		18	0	6	☒	☐	0.538	0.113	☒	
3	Node	_ALLU_csoport	Core_Nodes		5	0	1	☐	☐	1.423443	0.462	☐	
4	Node	_AWS_instances			19	0	11	☐	☐	0.5	0.5	☐	
5	Node	_empty node			4	0	0	☐	☒	0.00001	0.00001	☐	
6	Node	_empty node (1)			2	0	934	☐	☐	0.00001	0.00001	☐	
7	LineNode	_empty node (2)			2	0	587	☐	☐	0.00001	0.00001	☐	
8	Node	_SNMP_External_IPs			5	0	12	☐	☐	0.5	0.5	☐	
9	Node	_SNMP_External_MACs			5	0	0	☐	☐	0.5	0.5	☐	
10	Slot	<Empty Slot>			4	0	14356	☐	☐	0.7	0.3	☐	
11	Card	020-S89-Breaker			7	0	0	☐	☒			☐	
12	Device	12 AC Plugs	Core_Devices_Router		17	0	1	☐	☐	0.13	7.7	☒	
13	Device	12 fiber MPO to MPO-24 f			18	0	6	☐	☐	1.9	0.175	☒	
14	Device	12 port fiber wall mount br			17	0	1	☐	☐	1.9	0.175	☒	

Section C

Filter: allows you to filter information in the current table view. If you would only like to display the objects related to "Cisco" in their name, then type "Cisco" into the filter box and press the 'Apply' button. You can change the filter by simply typing in a different string and pressing the 'Apply' button. If you no longer need the filter, press the 'Clear' button to remove the filter.

#	Group	Name	Category	Default Image	Fields	Overrides	Instances	Is Favorite	Is Enabled	Default Width [cm]	Default Height [cm]	Keep Aspect Ratio	Template
1	Device	NETOPTICS TP-CU3	Core_Devices		18	0	5	☒	☐	0.538	0.113	☒	
2	Device	NETOPTICS TP-CU3(2)	Core_Devices_Patch		18	0	6	☒	☐	0.538	0.113	☒	
3	Node	_ALLU_csoport	Core_Nodes		5	0	1	☐	☐	1.423443	0.462	☐	
4	Node	_AWS_instances			19	0	11	☐	☐	0.5	0.5	☐	
5	Node	_empty node			4	0	0	☐	☒	0.00001	0.00001	☐	
6	Node	_empty node (1)			2	0	934	☐	☐	0.00001	0.00001	☐	
7	LineNode	_empty node (2)			2	0	587	☐	☐	0.00001	0.00001	☐	
8	Node	_SNMP_External_IPs			5	0	12	☐	☐	0.5	0.5	☐	
9	Node	_SNMP_External_MACs			5	0	0	☐	☐	0.5	0.5	☐	
10	Slot	<Empty Slot>			4	0	14356	☐	☐	0.7	0.3	☐	
11	Card	020-S89-Breaker			7	0	0	☐	☒			☐	
12	Device	12 AC Plugs	Core_Devices_Router		17	0	1	☐	☐	0.13	7.7	☒	
13	Device	12 fiber MPO to MPO-24 f			18	0	6	☐	☐	1.9	0.175	☒	

Section D

- Records per page: you can change the records per page value to a value that is less than the default value. Note that the default value is set in the admin console and can only be changed by an administrator.
- Show ID Field: hides or shows the ID value for the record. The ID value is the unique ID that is assigned to each record in netTerrain.
- Default Sorting: if you sorted the table by a column name and would like to return the table to the default sort value, press this button. The default sorting for a table view is by “Name”. Changing the default sorting is temporary. The default is restored once you navigate away from the table view.

Object Types [Switch to category view] To csv To Excel Add New Import Object Type

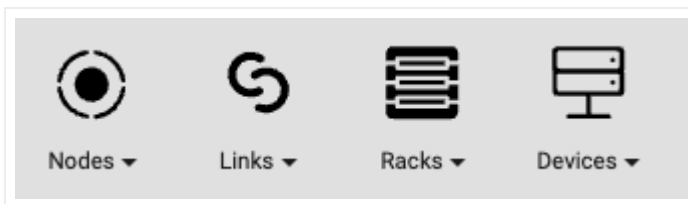
Records on page: 100 Records in table: 15770

Records per page: 100 Show ID Field Default sorting

#	Group	Name	Category	Default Image	Fields	Overrides	Instances	Is Favorite	Is Enabled	Default Width [cm]	Default Height [cm]	Keep Aspect Ratio	Template
1	Device	NETOPTICS TP-CUS	Core_Devices		18	0	5	☒	☐	0.538	0.113	☒	
2	Device	NETOPTICS TP-CU3(2)	Core_Devices_Patch		18	0	6	☒	☐	0.538	0.113	☒	
3	Node	_ALU_csoport	Core_Nodes		5	0	1	☐	☐	1.423443	0.462	☐	
4	Node	_AWS_Instances			19	0	11	☐	☐	0.5	0.5	☐	
5	Node	_empty node			4	0	0	☐	☒	0.00001	0.00001	☐	
6	Node	_empty node (1)			2	0	934	☐	☐	0.00001	0.00001	☐	
7	LineNode	_empty node (2)			2	0	587	☐	☐	0.00001	0.00001	☐	
8	Node	_SNMP_External_IPs			5	0	12	☐	☐	0.5	0.5	☐	
9	Node	_SNMP_External_MACs			5	0	0	☐	☐	0.5	0.5	☐	
10	Slot	<Empty Slot>			4	0	14356	☐	☐	0.7	0.3	☐	
11	Card	020-589-Breaker			7	0	0	☐	☒			☐	
12	Device	12 AC Plugs	Core_Devices_Router		17	0	1	☐	☐	0.13	7.7	☒	

Section E

- #: the row number for the current table view. This will change depending on the filter, sort value or number of records per page. Bear in mind this ## is just a reference to the order in which the record appears in the visual representation of the information on the table and has no relationship to the actual data stored in the database.
- Options (no label): the 'Delete' option allows you to delete an object. Note that you can only delete an object if it is not being used in netTerrain. If it is being used, you would need to remove all instances of the object before you can delete the object.
- Clone: this hyperlink, as the name implies, allows you to clone the type. It creates an exact replica with the type in the catalog, which you can then edit, rename, etc.
- Delete: this hyperlink, when enabled, lets you delete the type from the database. If instances of this type already exist, then the type cannot be deleted.
- Modeler: for devices, racks and cards, this hyperlink provides a shortcut to access the modeler page for that type (more on modeling can be found later in this guide).
- Group: every object type is associated with a certain internal group in netTerrain. The assigned group will be one of the following: node, rack, device, or card. Groups are fixed in netTerrain and cannot be edited, and new groups cannot be added.
- Name: the object's name, which can be changed by editing the text field.
- Category: the category is used as an organizational tool to help you manage and find objects according to custom categories that better suit your needs (more on categories later),
- Default image: the image that will be displayed for any new instances of the object. If there are visual overrides, these will override the default image when the visual override is triggered (more on that later).
- Fields: this number reveals the fields associated with the object and displays a table with all those fields (more on this later).
- Overrides: overrides are rules associated with one or more fields for that type. Clicking on the overrides ## will redirect you to a table with all assigned overrides (more on that later).
- Instances: the number of instances that are active objects in the project. Clicking the number will provide a table of these instances. Note that this table is also editable, which can provide a useful way for quickly changing instance data in table view.
- Is Favorite: when checked, this object will appear in the object's type menu button in the project area or in the drag and drop catalog pane.



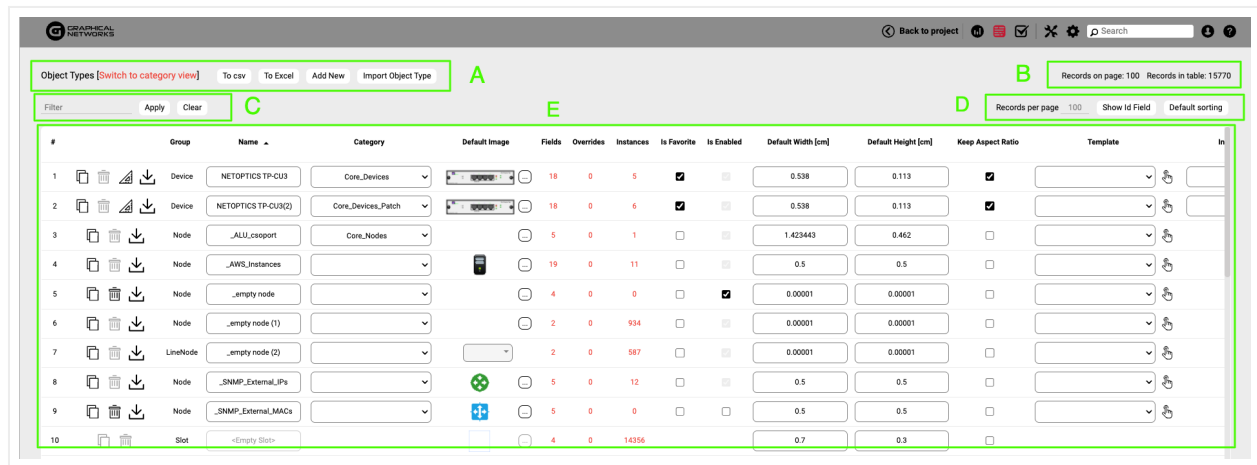
These menu buttons will be populated with a favorites list. Favorites can be added or removed at any time. They have no impact on existing objects in a diagram.

- **Is Enabled:** when checked, this object will be available to users in the project area as they pick an entry from the type drop down field. Objects marked as favorite cannot be disabled. You must first uncheck the favorite option before disabling it.
- **Default width:** the assigned width when a new instance is created. The instance's value can be changed as needed. To change the default width value simply edit the text field. The default size of an object can also be changed when right clicking on an object in the project and choosing the 'set default size' option.
- **Default height:** The assigned height when a new instance is created. The instance's value can be changed as needed. To change the default height value, edit the text field. The default size of an object can also be changed when right clicking on an object in the project and choosing the 'set default size' option.
- **Keep aspect ratio:** when checked the ratio between height and width of the image will remain intact when expanding or decreasing the object's image in the project area. This can also be changed on an individual basis for each instance within the setting window for the object (see User's guide).
- **Template:** this drop-down field assigns a default diagram template (see creating diagram templates in the user guide) to the sub diagram of any new instance of that object type. So, any time this object is used in the project (i.e. an instance of it is created) its sub diagram will have this template automatically assigned.
- **Apply Template:** when clicking on the Apply (hand) button, if a template diagram has been selected in the previous field all instances of that type will use that template.
- **In Stock:** this option lets you limit the number of instances of this type that can be added in the project. Notice that this option is only available for Racks and devices.
- **Audit Trail:** this link will take the user to a table consisting of a history of specific user's actions associated with the object type. Note that the audit trail can only be accessed by administrators.

#	Group	Name	Category	Default Image	Fields	Overrides	Instances	Is Favorite	Is Enabled	Default Width [cm]	Default Height [cm]	Keep Aspect Ratio	Template	In
1	Device	NETOPTICS TP-CU3	Core_Devices		18	0	5	☒	☐	0.538	0.113	☒		
2	Device	NETOPTICS TP-CU3(2)	Core_Devices_Patch		18	0	6	☒	☐	0.538	0.113	☒		
3	Node	.ALLU_csoport	Core_Nodes		5	0	1	☐	☐	1.423443	0.462	☐		
4	Node	.AWS_Instances			19	0	11	☐	☐	0.5	0.5	☐		
5	Node	.empty node			4	0	0	☐	☒	0.00001	0.00001	☐		
6	Node	.empty node (1)			2	0	934	☐	☐	0.00001	0.00001	☐		
7	LineNode	.empty node (2)			2	0	587	☐	☐	0.00001	0.00001	☐		
8	Node	.SNMP_External_IPs			5	0	12	☐	☐	0.5	0.5	☐		
9	Node	.SNMP_External_MACs			5	0	0	☐	☐	0.5	0.5	☐		

2.3.1 Object fields

The 'Fields' link will open a table with all fields associated with all objects in netTerrain. Below we will review the elements comprising this list view, but in general we do recommend accessing the field list for a given object directly from the object itself (see Fields option above).



Field list view

Section A

- To CSV: this button will export the table's data into a downloadable CSV file.
- Create new: clicking this button will display a form for creating a new field.
- Tagging: the tagging button opens a tagging selection dialog, allowing you to assign a set of fields to a "Tag" (a label). All existing tags appear in the settings tab for a diagram in the netTerrain project. Fields associated with a tag label can be turned on and off within a diagram. So, you could assign a field like IP Address to a "Hide IP" tag. If you happen to be on a diagram that has objects containing that field, you could then turn on or off all IP Address fields without having to individually uncheck them from the properties window for each instance.

Section B

- Records in table: Displays the total number of fields in the table.
- Records on page: Displays the total number of records on the table page that you are currently viewing. The records per page default value can be set by the administrator within the admin console.

Section C

- Filter: allows you to filter information in the current table view. If you would only like to display the fields called IP Address, then you simply type in the search criteria into the filter box and press the 'Apply' button. You can change the filter by simply typing in new criteria and pressing the 'Apply' button. If you no longer need the filter press the 'Clear' button to remove the filter.

Section D

- Records per page: you can easily change the records per page value to something less than the default value. So, for instance if the default is 100 records per page and you would like to see 50, simply proceed to change the value. Note that the default value is set in the admin console and can only be changed by an administrator. You cannot exceed the maximum number of records per page that was set within the admin console. If the maximum record count per page is 500 then you will not be able to set a value higher than 500.
- Show ID Field: hides or shows the ID value for the record. The ID value is the unique ID that is assigned to record in netTerrain.

- Default sorting: if you sorted the table by a column name and would like to return the table to the default sort value press this button. The default sorting for a table view is by "Name".

Section E

- #: the row number for the current table view. This will change depending on the filter, sort value or number of records per page. Bear in mind this ## is just a reference to the order in which the record appears in the visual representation of the information on the table and has no relationship to the actual data stored in the database.
- Options (no label): right next to the ## button there are two options under a blank heading ('Apply' and 'Delete'). Using the Apply button will assign any settings that are changed for this field to all instances of the object that the field is being used on. Selecting Delete will remove the field record. If the field is in use and there is data being stored within the field all this data will be lost, so be careful when using this option.
- ID: Displays the unique netTerrain system ID for the object.
- Name: the field name that will be displayed for the associated object type.
- Type: this is the name of the object where this field is used.
- Is in properties: this feature is useful to control what end users can see on the properties window for a given instance of that type. For example, you can uncheck a field and prevent end users from seeing the data associated with the instances on the project.
- Is mandatory: if this option is checked it means that some data must be entered into the field when an object instance is created in the project. This is typically used in conjunction with an assigned default value to ensure some data is entered into this field. This field also cannot be deleted if the mandatory check box is enabled.
- Default value: this is the default value that will be displayed for a given field when a new instance of the object type is created.
- Is tree Label: determines the data value that will be displayed in the hierarchy browser. Change this if you want to see a different value displayed for an instance of this type in the hierarchy. The default is typically the name.
- List Items: list items are like drop down boxes (or combo boxes) that offer end users a finite set of values available for data entry on a given field for a given type. Click on the value to open a table with all list items associated with this field and object type.

- **Overrides:** click on the value to bring up a list of the overrides associated with this field and object type.
- **Lock List:** Allow an override list to be non-editable. If this is checked then a user cannot override the list values. They must choose a value that is already on the list.
- **Is Unique (this type):** Restricts all new inputs of this field for this object type to be unique across all instances.
- **Is Unique (all types):** Restricts all new inputs of this field for any object type to be unique across all instances.
- **Is displayed:** when checked, the field's value will be displayed on the diagram for an instance of this object type. This can also be controlled on an instance basis as well as type-wide (see End User Guide).
- **Justification:** sets the alignment. See the settings for the field instance for more alignment options.
- **Font color:** the color of the text value that is displayed in the project area diagram for this field. Note that you can change the font on an instance-by-instance basis from the project as well (see End User Guide).
- **Fill color:** the background color of the text that is displayed in the project area diagram for this field. Note that you can change the fill color on an instance-by-instance basis from the project as well (see End User Guide).
- **Font size:** the size of the text that is being displayed in the project area diagram for this field. Note that you can change the font size on an instance-by-instance basis from the project as well (see End User Guide).

2.3.2 Visual overrides for objects

Visual Overrides are an important feature in netTerrain akin to 'business rules' that change the appearance of an object when a certain attribute matches a specified value.

For example, a Power User may set up an override for a field called 'status' for an object type called 'Router', such that when the value for status is equal to 'alarmed' then the router icon turns red.

The 'Overrides' link will open a table with all overrides associated with all objects in netTerrain. Below we will review the elements comprising this list view, but in general we do recommend accessing the overrides list for a given field directly from the object itself.

#	Object Type	Field	Value	Rule	Is Override	Override	Instance effect	Parent effect	Upwards propagation	Event Type	Audit Trail
1	2 post rack 42U	Override Test	Test1	=	☒		Blink Object	No Effects	All Levels	Associate New Event Type	0
2	2 post rack 42U	Override Test	test2	=	☒		No Effects	No Effects	No Propagations	Associate New Event Type	0
3	Access Point	Status	Up	=	☒		No Effects	No Effects	No Propagations	Associate New Event Type	0
4	Access Point	Status	Down	=	☒		No Effects	No Effects	No Propagations	Access Point is down	0
5	Access Point	Status	Unknown	=	☒		No Effects	No Effects	No Propagations	Associate New Event Type	0
6	Alcatel 7210 SAS-M	Tulajdonos	Digi	=	☐		No Effects	No Effects	No Propagations	Associate New Event Type	0
7	Alcatel 7210 SAS-M	Tulajdonos	Invitech	=	☐		No Effects	No Effects	No Propagations	Associate New Event Type	0
8	Alcatel 7210 SAS-M	Router	Válassz!	=	☐		No Effects	No Effects	No Propagations	Associate New Event Type	0
9	Alcatel 7210 SAS-M	Router	bix-pe5 EthTr10 - bix-ce11	=	☐		No Effects	No Effects	No Propagations	Associate New Event Type	0
10	Alcatel 7210 SAS-M	Router	bix-pe5 EthTr20 - bix-ce21	=	☐		No Effects	No Effects	No Propagations	Associate New Event Type	0
11	Alcatel 7210 SAS-M	Router	info-pe5 EthTr10 - info-ce	=	☐		No Effects	No Effects	No Propagations	Associate New Event Type	0
12	Alcatel 7210 SAS-M	Router	info-pe5 EthTr20 - info-ce	=	☐		No Effects	No Effects	No Propagations	Associate New Event Type	0
13	Alcatel 7210 SAS-M	Router	god-pe2	=	☐		No Effects	No Effects	No Propagations	Associate New Event Type	0
14	Alcatel 7210 SAS-M	Router	szaged-pe2	=	☐		No Effects	No Effects	No Propagations	Associate New Event Type	0
15	Alcatel 7210 SAS-M	Router	szig-pe2	=	☐		No Effects	No Effects	No Propagations	Associate New Event Type	0

Visual overrides list view

Section A

- To CSV: this button will export the table's data into a downloadable CSV file.
- Create new: clicking this button will display a form for creating a new override.

Section B

- Records in table: displays the total number of overrides in the table.
- Records on page: displays the total number of records on the table page that you are currently viewing. The records per page default value can be set by the administrator within the admin console.

Section C

- Filter: allows you to filter information in the current table view, in the same way as the filters are used for field or object lists.

Section D

- Records per page: you can easily change the records per page value to something less than the default value. So, for instance if the default is 100 records per page and you would like to see 50, simply proceed to change the value. Note that the default value is set in the admin console and can only be changed by an administrator. You cannot exceed the maximum number of records per page that was set within the admin console. If the maximum record count per page is 500 then you will not be able to set a value higher than 500.
- Show ID Field: hides or shows the ID value for the record. The ID value is the unique ID that is assigned to record in netTerrain.
- Default sorting: if you sorted the table by a column name and would like to return the table to the default sort value press this button. The default sorting for a table view is by "Name".

Section E

- #: the row number for the current table view. this will change depending on the filter, sort value or number of records per page. Bear in mind this ## is just a reference to the order in which the record appears in the visual representation of the information on the table and has no relationship to the actual data stored in the database.
- Delete option (no label): selecting 'Delete' will remove the override record.
- Object type: the object with the field that is assigned the override.
- Field: the field with the list or override.
- Value: value of the list or override data. Project instances will switch to the override image when that field contains the same value displayed in the override.
- Rule: the condition that determines how a visual override is used in the project.
- Is Override: Sets the field to be an override type.
- Override: the image (or override itself) that will be used if the rule criteria is met.
- Instance effect: in addition to visual override for an object, rules can be set for additional effects that affect the object itself or the containing object (or entire ancestry) whenever the rule criteria apply. The following effects are currently available for visual overrides in netTerrain:
 - No effects: this is the default, which means that no effect applies to the object instance when the rule is met.
 - Blink object: the object will blink on the diagram when the override criteria is met.
 - Rectangle blink: the object will display with a blinking rectangle that outlines the object.
 - Red triangle indicator: the object will display with a red triangle.
- Parent effect: as mentioned above, effects can propagate to the affected instance's parent object or objects. The following options are available:
 - No effects: this is the default, which means that no effect applies to the parent object of the instance that matched the rule.
 - Blink object: the objects parent will blink on the diagram when the override criteria are met.
 - Rectangle Blink: the objects parent will display with a blinking rectangle that outlines the object.
 - Red Triangle Indicator: the objects parent will display with a red triangle.
- Upwards propagation: you can not only assign effects to the object's ancestry, but you can also define (to a certain extent) how many levels you want to propagate these effects.
- No propagation: effects are only contained within the affected instance, with propagating them upwards.
- Parent only: effects will propagate to the immediate parent.
- Parent and grandparent only: the effect will propagate to the immediate parent object and its own parent.
- Top level only: the effect will be displayed for the top-level object and the instance itself.
- All levels: all objects in the ancestry will display the effect.

2.4 Categories

Categories are like folders, they provide an option in netTerrain to group specific objects that have certain attributes in common. Users can add top level categories or assign a new category to an existing category and create nested catalog hierarchies.

#	Group	Name	Parent	Icon	IsFavorite	Instances (this category)	Instances (including subcategories)	Audit Trail
1	Node	AWS			☒	7	7	0
2	Node	Basic			☒	0	0	0
3	Device	Core_Devices			☒	27	27	0
4	Device	Core_Devices_Patch			☒	5	5	0
5	Device	Core_Devices_Router			☒	3	3	0
6	Device	Core_Devices_Server			☒	5	5	0
7	Device	Core_Devices_Switch			☒	4	4	0
8	Device	Core_Devices_UPS			☒	4	4	0
9	Node	Core_Nodes			☒	10	10	0

Categories list view

Section A

- To CSV: this button will export the table's data into a downloadable CSV file.
- Add new: clicking this button will display a form for creating a new category.

Section B

- Records in table: displays the total number of categories in the table.
- Records on page: displays the total number of records on the table page that you are currently viewing. The records per page default value can be set by the administrator within the admin console.

Section C

- Filter: allows you to filter information in the current table view, like filters on other table views (see previous sections).

Section D

- Records per page: you can easily change the records per page value to something less than the default value. Note that the default value is set in the admin console and can only be changed by an administrator. You cannot exceed the maximum number of records per page that was set within the admin console. If the maximum record count per page is 500 then you will not be able to set a value higher than 500.
- Show ID Field: hides or shows the ID value for the record. The ID value is the unique ID that is assigned to record in netTerrain.
- Default sorting: if you sorted the table by a column name and would like to return the table to the default sort value press this button. The default sorting for a table view is by "Name".

Section E

- #: the row number for the current table view. This will change depending on the filter, sort value or number of records per page. Bear in mind this ## is just a reference to the order in which the record appears in the visual representation of the information on the table and has no relationship to the actual data stored in the database.
- Delete option (no label): selecting Delete will remove the category from the system.
- Group: displays the object type the category is associated with.
- Name: the name of the category that will be displayed as a category option.
- Parent: if the category is nested this will display the categories parent.
- Icon: the assigned image for the category.
- IsFavorite: if checked then the category and its objects will be displayed. If turned off they will not be displayed in a favorites list.

2.4.1 Category views

Category views in the netTerrain catalog act like folders where you can organize your different types for easier management. Category views can also be nested, akin to subfolders inside folders.

Category views can be accessed from any of the group options. So, for example if you click on the Nodes group from the netTerrain Catalog front page, a 'Switch to category view' will be displayed next to the group label, as shown below:

#	Group	Name	Category	Default Image	Fields	Overrides	Instances	Is Favorite	Is Enabled	Default Width [cm]	Default Height [cm]	Keep Aspect Ratio	Template
1	Device	NETOPTICS TP-CU3	Core_Devices		18	0	5	☒	☐	0.538	0.113	☒	
2	Device	NETOPTICS TP-CU3(2)	Core_Devices_Patch		18	0	6	☒	☐	0.538	0.113	☒	
3	Node	_ALLU_csoport1	Core_Nodes		5	0	1	☐	☐	1.423443	0.462	☐	
4	Node	_AWS_Instances			19	0	11	☐	☐	0.5	0.5	☐	
5	Node	_empty node			4	0	0	☐	☒	0.00001	0.00001	☐	
6	Node	_empty node (1)			2	0	934	☐	☐	0.00001	0.00001	☐	
7	LineNode	_empty node (2)			2	0	587	☐	☐	0.00001	0.00001	☐	

Switching to category view from the Node Types group

In the category view you will see your category names and any objects not assigned any category.

#	Type	Name	Icon	Is Favorite	Is Enabled	Children	Fields	Overrides	Instances	Default Width [cm]	Default Height [cm]	Keep Aspect Ratio	Template	Audit Trail
1	Category	Generic Networking Symbols		☒	☐	11								
2	Category	Other		☒	☐	11								
3	Category	Generic Hardware Symbols		☒	☐	15								
4	Category	Transportation		☒	☐	7								
5	Category	Software		☒	☐	10								
6	Category	Generic Networking Symbols		☒	☐	22								
7	Category	Generic Computers Symbols		☒	☐	14								
8	Category	OSP		☒	☐	8								
9	Category	Location		☒	☐	3								
10	Category	Networking - Basic		☒	☐	0								

Category View

For a category to be listed it must contain at least one object type.

The category columns resemble the regular table view columns, except for the children count, which provides a count of all the children objects. This also acts as a hyperlink to the list of all those children objects. Also, the 'is favorite' column can be used for categories to enable or disable them from the favorites sub menu in the project

Category View (Object Types: Nodes) [Switch to table view] Add New Category Add New Type

Records on page: 100 Records in table: 348

Filter Apply Clear Records per page: 100 Show Id Field Default sorting

#	Type	Name	Icon	Is Favorite	Is Enabled	Children	Fields	Overrides	Instances	Default Width [cm]	Default Height [cm]	Keep Aspect Ratio	Template	Audit Trail
1	Node	_AWS_Instances		☐	☐		19	0	11	0.5	0.5	☐		2
2	Node	_empty node		☐	☒		4	0	0	0.00001	0.00001	☐		0
3	Node	_empty node (1)		☐	☐		2	0	934	0.00001	0.00001	☐		0
4	Node	_SNMP_External_IPs		☐	☐		5	0	12	0.5	0.5	☐		7
5	Node	_SNMP_External_MACs		☐	☐		5	0	0	0.5	0.5	☐		0
6	Node	288sr		☐	☒		3	0	0	0.75	0.715	☐		0
7	Node	3600+ NewBridge		☐	☒		2	0	0	0.333	0.333	☐		0
8	Node	3600 NewBridge		☐	☒		2	0	0	0.333	0.333	☐		0
9	Node	4U t4rt0		☐	☒		2	0	0	1.344	0.455	☐		0

Viewing the contents of a category

2.4.1.1 Bulk operations with categories

Notice that category views include checkboxes on the left side. These checkboxes let you select one or more categories or objects and perform some bulk operations from the toolbar at the top of the page. The options in the toolbar are as follows:

- Cut: The cut option would allow you to cut and paste the objects from this category to another category. Just press the cut icon and then switch to a different category table view. Then you can paste the objects into the other category. This is very useful for moving a large selection of objects that are incorrectly categorized or objects that have not been categorized at all.
- Paste: Used in conjunction with the cut option.
- Clone: Allows you to clone multiple selected objects at one time.
- Delete: Allows you to delete one or more objects at once. This will delete the object(s) from the catalog. There is no undo option for this!

To switch back to table view, simply click on the 'Switch to table view' option at the top.

Category View (Object Types: Nodes) [Switch to table view] Add New Category Add New Type

Records on page: 100 Records in table: 348

Filter Apply Clear Records per page: 100 Show Id Field Default sorting

#	Type	Name	Icon	Is Favorite	Is Enabled	Children	Fields	Overrides	Instances	Default Width [cm]	Default Height [cm]	Keep Aspect Ratio	Template	Audit Trail
1	Node	_AWS_Instances		☐	☐		19	0	11	0.5	0.5	☐		2
2	Node	_empty node		☐	☒		4	0	0	0.00001	0.00001	☐		0
3	Node	_empty node (1)		☐	☐		2	0	934	0.00001	0.00001	☐		0
4	Node	_SNMP_External_IPs		☐	☐		5	0	12	0.5	0.5	☐		7
5	Node	_SNMP_External_MACs		☐	☐		5	0	0	0.5	0.5	☐		0
6	Node	288sr		☐	☒		3	0	0	0.75	0.715	☐		0
7	Node	3600+ NewBridge		☐	☒		2	0	0	0.333	0.333	☐		0
8	Node	3600 NewBridge		☐	☒		2	0	0	0.333	0.333	☐		0
9	Node	4U t4rt0		☐	☒		2	0	0	1.344	0.455	☐		0
10	Node	5500		☐	☐		12	0	28	0.5	0.5	☐		5

Switching back to table view

2.5 Vendors list

The 'Vendors' option in netTerrain is just a lookup table to add vendors to the list and then assign a vendor to a device, card or rack type in the catalog.

#	Name	Catalog objects	Audit Trail
1	3Com	342	0
2	Bel	1	0
3	A10 Networks	45	0
4	Accedian	3	0
5	Action	1	0
6	Ace North	0	0
7	Acer	0	0
8	ACT	0	0
9	Acterna	1	0
10	Actiontec	1	0
11	ADC	24	0

Vendors list view

Section A

- To CSV: this button will export the table's data into a downloadable CSV file.
- Add new: clicking this button will display a form for creating a new vendor.

Section B

- Records in table: displays the total number of vendors in the table.
- Records on page: displays the total number of records on the table page that you are currently viewing.

Section C

- Filter: allows you to filter information in the current table view, similar to filters on other table views (see previous sections).

Section D

- Records per page: you can easily change the records per page value to something less than the default value. So, for instance if the default is 100 records per page and you would like to see 50, simply proceed to change the value. Note that the default value is set in the admin console and can only be changed by an administrator. You cannot exceed the maximum number of records per page that was set within the admin console. If the maximum record count per page is 500 then you will not be able to set a value higher than 500.
- Show ID Field: hides or shows the ID value for the record. The ID value is the unique ID that is assigned to the record in netTerrain.
- Default sorting: if you sorted the table by a column name and would like to return the table to the default sort value press this button. The default sorting for a table view is by "Name".

Section E

- #: the row number for the current table view. This will change depending on the filter, sort value or number of records per page. Bear in mind this ## is just a reference to the order in which the record appears in the visual representation of the information on the table and has no relationship to the actual data stored in the database.
- Delete option (no label): selecting 'Delete' will remove the vendor from the system.
- Name: the name of the vendor that will be displayed as a vendor option.
- Catalog objects: contains the number of objects that have been assigned this vendor.

3 Node types

Generic nodes (or simply nodes) are used for a variety of purposes, such as modeling location data, logical representations of networking gear, or even a chair. They have basic capabilities when compared to their cousins, the smart objects, which we will review later.

Nodes are simply modeled as objects that have an image, a set of fields, and visual overrides. Even so, you can create some amazing documentation with these modest nodes. Later we will review how to add new types in the system.

3.1 Nodes vs smart objects

A node is a very unassuming yet flexible object in netTerrain: it can represent anything from a building to transportation equipment, a data center object, location or even a chair or person. Nodes can, of course, be connected with other nodes or to a smart object. Yet nodes are rather modest compared to their cousins, the smart objects. Nodes, as opposed to smart objects are not aware of subcomponents they may contain, their physical dimensions, let alone more sophisticated properties like weight or power usage.

If you are a user of netTerrain DCIM you probably want to use smart objects in case you need to document entities like routers, switches, cards or cabinets, so that you can take advantage of some of the business rules and automation that netTerrain offers. These business rules and features include:

For devices and cards:

- An extensive predefined library of makes and models
- Automatic creation of subcomponents (ports and slot)
- Automatic creation of a background image
- Awareness of physical size and weight
- Easy “snap in” for rack mounting
- Awareness of power consumption
- Ability to receive automatic alarms from the Integration Toolkit (ITK)
- More comprehensive modeling capabilities such as reference node location
- Ability to restrict which card types can be positioned under which slot
- Pre-defined reports in the dashboard

For racks:

- Awareness of rack unit occupancy
- Automatic creation of a background image
- Smart aggregation of dependent devices for rack occupancy, power and weight consumption
- Pre-defined visual overrides on floor plans for rack occupancy, power and weight thresholds
- Pre-defined reports in the dashboard

Generic nodes (or simply nodes) have none of these capabilities. They are simply modeled as objects that have an image, a set of fields, and visual overrides.

3.1.1 Can I use nodes to represent devices?

None of the features for smart devices described above prevent a user from utilizing generic nodes to represent devices. In those cases, netTerrain really doesn't see a difference between your “nodes as devices” and any other node. You can certainly create a node type that looks like a router and later connect it to another instance of a generic node type that looks like a switch. The caveat is that netTerrain will treat these objects as any other generic node. What this means is that if you want to document the ports of a router or switch, you will need to create them manually, and if you want to rack mount it, you will have to resize it and fit it inside a rack diagram manually.

Generic nodes must be used in place of smart devices in netTerrain Logical, since this product does not have smart devices as a feature. Otherwise, we only recommend using generic nodes in place of smart devices if you have little use for tracking things like physical rack locations, devices subcomponents, port occupancy, power and weight consumption, etc.

3.2 Managing Node types

The Node Type list, field list and visual overrides list is almost identical to the object lists reviewed earlier in this guide.

Below you can explore the main sections of the Node Types view.

#	Group	Name	Category	Default Image	Fields	Overrides	Instances	Is Favorite	Is Enabled	Default Width [cm]	Default Height [cm]	Keep Aspect Ratio	Template	Audit
1	Node	_ALU_csoport	Core_Nodes		5	0	1			1.423443	0.462			
2	Node	_AWS_Instances			19	0	11			0.5	0.5			
3	Node	_empty node			4	0	0		☒	0.00001	0.00001			
4	Node	_empty node (1)			2	0	934			0.00001	0.00001			
5	Node	_SNMP_External_IPs			5	0	12			0.5	0.5			
6	Node	_SNMP_External_MACs			5	0	0			0.5	0.5			
7	Node	288sr			3	0	0		☒	0.75	0.715			
8	Node	3600+ NewBridge			2	0	0		☒	0.333	0.333			
9	Node	3600-NewBridge			2	0	0		☒	0.333	0.333			

Node Types list view

The elements that comprise this view include:

Section A

- To CSV: this button allows you to export the table view to a downloadable CSV file.
- Add new: selecting this will display a form to create a new object.
- Import: Allows you to import a netTerrain device package.

Section B

- Records in table: displays the total number of objects in the table. For example, if this is the nodes view then this will display the total number of nodes in the catalog.
- Records on page: displays the total number of records on the table page that you are currently viewing.

Section C

Filter: allows you to filter information in the current table view. If you would only like to display the objects related to "Cisco" in their name, then type "Cisco" into the filter box and press the 'Apply' button. You can

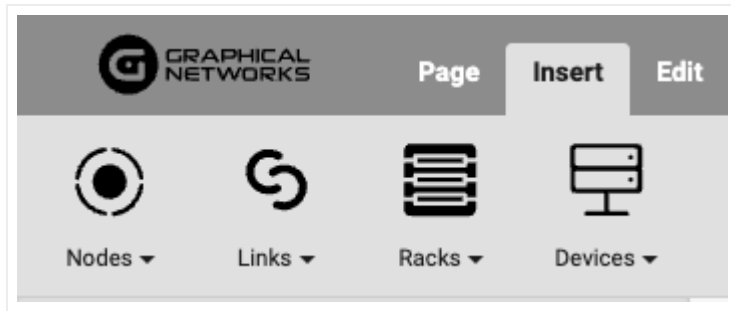
change the filter by simply typing in a different string and pressing the 'Apply' button. If you no longer need the filter, press the 'Clear' button to remove the filter.

Section D

- Records per page: you can change the records per page value to a value that is less than the default value. Note that the default value is set in the admin console and can only be changed by an administrator.
- Show ID Field: hides or shows the ID value for the record. The ID value is the unique ID that is assigned to each record in netTerrain.
- Default Sorting: if you sorted the table by a column name and would like to return the table to the default sort value, press this button. The default sorting for a table view is by "Name". Changing the default sorting is temporary. The default is restored once you navigate away from the table view.

Section E

- #: the row number for the current table view. This will change depending on the filter, sort value or number of records per page. Bear in mind this ## is just a reference to the order in which the record appears in the visual representation of the information on the table and has no relationship to the actual data stored in the database.
- Options (no label): the 'Delete' option allows you to delete an object. Note that you can only delete an object if it is not being used in netTerrain. If it is being used, you would need to remove all instances of the object before you can delete the object.
- Clone: this button, as the name says, allows you to clone the type. In essence it creates an exact replica with the type in the catalog, which you can then edit, rename, etc.
- Delete: quite self-explanatory. Careful with the deletions! This action cannot be undone. Also, you cannot delete a node type of instances of that type exist in the project.
- Group: every object type is associated with a certain internal group in netTerrain. The assigned group will be one of the following: node, rack, device, or card. Groups are fixed in netTerrain and cannot be edited, and new groups cannot be added.
- Name: the object's name, which can be changed by editing the text field.
- Category: allows the user to assign a category to the node type.
- Default image: the image that will be displayed for any new instances of the object. If there are visual overrides, these will override the default image when the visual override is triggered (more on that later).
- Fields: this link shows the number of fields associated with the object and provides a link to access the fields table (more on this later).
- Overrides: overrides are rules associated with one or more fields for that type. Clicking on the overrides ## will redirect you to a table with all assigned overrides (more on that later).
- Instances: the number of instances that are active objects in the project. Clicking the number will provide a table of these instances. Note that this table is also editable, which can provide a useful way for quickly changing instance data in table view.
- Is Favorite: when checked, this object will appear in the object's type menu button in the project area or in the drag and drop catalog pane.



These menu buttons will be populated with a favorites list. Favorites can be added or removed at any time. They have no impact on existing objects in a diagram.

- **Is Enabled:** when checked, this object will be available to users in the project area as they pick an entry from the type drop down field. Objects marked as favorite cannot be disabled. You must first uncheck the favorite option before disabling it.
- **Default width:** the assigned width when a new instance is created. The instance's value can be changed as needed. To change the default width value simply edit the text field. The default size of an object can also be changed when right clicking on an object in the project and choosing the 'set default size' option.
- **Default height:** The assigned height when a new instance is created. The instance's value can be changed as needed. To change the default height value, edit the text field. The default size of an object can also be changed when right clicking on an object in the project and choosing the 'set default size' option.
- **Keep aspect ratio:** when checked, the ratio between height and width of the image will remain intact when expanding or decreasing the object's image in the project area. This can also be changed on an individual basis for each instance within the setting window for the object (see User's guide).
- **Template:** this drop-down field assigns a default diagram template (see creating diagram templates in the user guide) to the sub diagram of any new instance of that object type. So, any time this object is used in the project (i.e. an instance of it is created) its sub diagram will have this template automatically assigned.
- **Apply Template:** when clicking on the Apply (hand) button, if a template diagram has been selected in the previous field all instances of that type will use that template.
- **Audit Trail:** this link will take the user to a table consisting of a history of specific user's actions associated with the object type. Note that the audit trail can only be accessed by administrators.
- **Supports Link Entries:** when checked, this object type can receive generated Link Entries in its sub diagram. Use this for manholes, vaults, splice enclosures, or similar containers. This option works together with the Supports Link Entry setting on link types and should be enabled before instances of the object type are created.

3.2.1 Node fields

The 'Fields' link explained in section E above, opens a table with all fields associated with the node type.

#	Name	Is In Properties	Property Order	Is Mandatory	Default Value	Is Tree Label	List Items	Overrides	Lock List	Is Unique (this type)	Is Displayed	Justification	Font Color	Fill Color	Font Size
1	Author	☒	8	☐	\$zz_Audit_InsertAuthorAllObj	☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐	Center			10
2	Comments	☒	7	☐		☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left			10
3	Contract Expiration	☐	4	☐		☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left			10
4	Cost	☒	3	☐		☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left			10
5	Department	☒	2	☐		☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left			10
6	Description	☒	6	☐		☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left			10
7	Info 1	☒	11	☐		☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐	Center			10

Field list view for a node type

Section A

- To CSV: this button will export the table's data into a downloadable CSV file.
- Create new: clicking this button will display a form for creating a new field for the type. We'll review the process of adding node fields later.
- Tagging: the tagging button opens a tagging selection dialog, allowing you to assign a set of fields to a "Tag" (a label). All existing tags appear in the settings tab for a diagram in the netTerrain project. Fields associated with a tag label can be turned on and off within a diagram. For example, you could assign a field like IP Address to a "Hide IP" tag. If you happen to be on a diagram that has objects containing that field, you could then turn on or off all IP Address fields without having to individually uncheck them from the properties window for each instance.

Section B

- Records in table: Displays the total number of fields in the table.
- Records on page: Displays the total number of records on the table page that you are currently viewing. The records per page default value can be set by the administrator within the admin console.

Section C

- Filter: allows you to filter information in the current table view. If you would only like to display the fields called IP Address, then you simply type in the search criteria into the filter box and press the 'Apply' button. You can change the filter by simply typing in new criteria and pressing the 'Apply' button. If you no longer need the filter press the 'Clear' button to remove the filter.

Section D

- Records per page: you can easily change the records per page value to something less than the default value. So, for instance if the default is 100 records per page and you would like to see 50, simply proceed to change the value. Note that the default value is set in the admin console and can only be changed by an administrator. You cannot exceed the maximum number of records per page that was set within the admin console. If the maximum record count per page is 500 then you will not be able to set a value higher than 500.
- Show ID Field: hides or shows the ID value for the record. The ID value is the unique ID that is assigned to record in netTerrain.
- Default sorting: if you sorted the table by a column name and would like to return the table to the default sort value press this button. The default sorting for a table view is by "Name".

Section E

- #: the row number for the current table view. This will change depending on the filter, sort value or number of records per page. Bear in mind this ## is just a reference to the order in which the record appears in the visual representation of the information on the table and has no relationship to the actual data stored in the database.
- Delete: this is quite self-explanatory: pressing it will remove the field record. If the field is in use and there is data being stored within the field all this data will be lost, so be careful when using this option.
- ID: Displays the unique netTerrain system ID for the object. If you don't see this field, simply press the Show Id Field button.
- Name: the field name that will be displayed for the associated object type.
- Is in properties: this feature is useful to control what end users can see on the properties window for a given instance of that type. For example, you can uncheck a field and prevent end users from seeing the data associated with the instances on the project.
- Is mandatory: if this option is checked it means that some data must be entered into the field when an object instance is created in the project. This is typically used in conjunction with an assigned default value to ensure some data is entered into this field. This field also cannot be deleted if the mandatory check box is enabled.
- Default value: this is the default value that will be displayed for a given field when a new instance of the object type is created. The apply button next to the field lets you apply the default value for that field to all instances of that type in the project.
- Is tree Label: determines the data value that will be displayed in the hierarchy browser. Change this if you want to see a different value displayed for an instance of this type in the hierarchy. The default is typically the name.
- List Items: list items are like drop down boxes (or combo boxes) that offer end users a finite set of values available for data entry on a given field for a given type. Click on the value to open a table with all list items associated with this field and object type.
- Overrides: click on the value to bring up a list of the overrides associated with this field and object type.
- Lock List: Allow an override list to be non-editable. If this is checked then a user cannot override the list values. They must choose a value that is already on the list.
- Is Unique (this type): Restricts all new inputs of this field for this object type to be unique across all instances.
- Is Unique (all types): Restricts all new inputs of this field for any object type to be unique across all instances.
- Is displayed: when checked, the field's value will be displayed on the diagram for an instance of this object type. This can also be controlled on an instance basis as well as type-wide (see End User Guide).
- Justification: sets the alignment. See the settings for the field instance for more alignment options.
- Font color: the color of the text value that is displayed in the project area diagram for this field. Note that you can change the font on an instance-by-instance basis from the project as well (see End User Guide).
- Fill color: the background color of the text that is displayed in the project area diagram for this field. Note that you can change the fill color on an instance-by-instance basis from the project as well (see End User Guide).
- Font size: the size of the text that is being displayed in the project area diagram for this field. Note that you can change the font size on an instance-by-instance basis from the project as well (see End User Guide).

- Apply Font settings link: applies any font settings for this field to all instances of the object where the field is displayed.

3.2.2 Visual overrides and list items for nodes

When clicking on the override number for a given node type field, one can access the visual overrides list for that field, as shown below.

#	Name	Type	Is in Properties	Is Mandatory	Default Value	Is Tree Label	List Items	Overrides	Lock List	Is Unique (this type)	Is Displayed	Justification	Font Color	Fill Color	Font Size	Audit Trail
1	(1)	L2 switch paramderek (CE nem!!)	☒	☐		☐	☐	3 0	☐	☐	☐	Center			10	
2	(1)	L2 switch paramderek (CE nem!!) (1)	☒	☐		☐	☐	3 0	☐	☐	☐	Center			10	
3	(2)	L2 switch paramderek (CE nem!!) (1)	☒	☐		☐	☐	3 0	☐	☐	☐	Center			10	
4	(2)	L2 switch paramderek (CE nem!!)	☒	☐		☐	☐	3 0	☐	☐	☐	Center			10	
5	(1)	L2 switch paramderek (CE nem!!)	☒	☐		☐	☐	3 0	☐	☐	☐	Center			10	
6	(3)	L2 switch paramderek (CE nem!!) (1)	☒	☐		☐	☐	3 0	☐	☐	☐	Center			10	
7	# of Ports	Slot	☒	☐		☐	☐	0 0	☐	☐	☐	Center			10	

Visual override and list item link for node field

This list is similar in structure to the one already seen in the object overrides section earlier:

#	Object Type	Field	Value	Rule	Is Override	Override	Instance effect	Parent effect	Upwards propagation	Event Type	Audit Trail
1	L2 switch paramderek (CE nem!!)	(1)	IPOP mgmt: b1gep5 Eth1	=	☐		No Effects	No Effects	No Propagations	Associate New Event Type	0
2	L2 switch paramderek (CE nem!!)	(1)	IPOP mgmt: info-p5 Eth1	=	☐		No Effects	No Effects	No Propagations	Associate New Event Type	0
3	L2 switch paramderek (CE nem!!)	(1)	IPOP mgmt: l5ad CE	=	☐		No Effects	No Effects	No Propagations	Associate New Event Type	0

Overrides list view for node fields

Section A

- To CSV: this button will export the table's data into a downloadable CSV file.
- Create new: clicking this button will display a form for creating a new override. We'll review the process of creating a visual override for a node type field later.

Section B

- Records in table: displays the total number of overrides in the table.
- Records on page: displays the total number of records on the table page that you are currently viewing. The records per page default value can be set by the administrator within the admin console.

Section C

- Filter: allows you to filter information in the current table view, in the same way as the filters are used for field or object lists.

Section D

- Records per page: you can easily change the records per page value to something less than the default value. So, for instance if the default is 100 records per page and you would like to see 50, simply proceed to change the value. Note that the default value is set in the admin console and can only be changed by an administrator. You cannot exceed the maximum number of records per page that was set within the admin console. If the maximum record count per page is 500 then you will not be able to set a value higher than 500.
- Show ID Field: hides or shows the ID value for the record. The ID value is the unique ID that is assigned to record in netTerrain.
- Default sorting: if you sorted the table by a column name and would like to return the table to the default sort value press this button. The default sorting for a table view is by "Name".

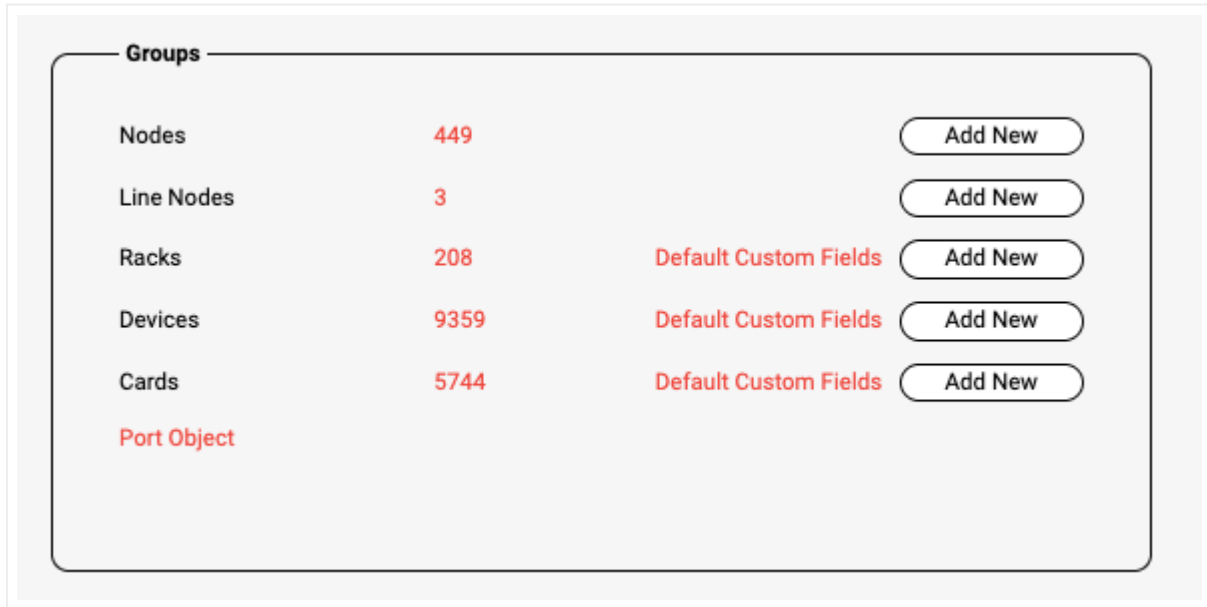
Section E

- #: the row number for the current table view. this will change depending on the filter, sort value or number of records per page. Bear in mind this ## is just a reference to the order in which the record appears in the visual representation of the information on the table and has no relationship to the actual data stored in the database.
- Delete option (no label): selecting 'Delete' will remove the override record.
- Field: the field with the list or override.
- Value: value of the list or override data. Project instances will switch to the override image when that field contains the same value displayed in the override.
- Rule: the condition that determines how a visual override is used in the project.
- Is Override: Sets the field to be an override type.
- Override: the image (or override itself) that will be used if the rule criteria is met.
- Instance effect: in addition to visual override for an object, rules can be set for additional effects that affect the object itself or the containing object (or entire ancestry) whenever the rule criteria apply. The following effects are currently available for visual overrides in netTerrain:
 - No effects: this is the default, which means that no effect applies to the object instance when the rule is met.
 - Blink object: the object will blink on the diagram when the override criteria is met.
 - Rectangle blink: the object will display with a blinking rectangle that outlines the object.
 - Red triangle indicator: the object will display with a red triangle.
 - Parent effect: as mentioned above, effects can propagate to the affected instance's parent object or objects. The following options are available:
 - No effects: this is the default, which means that no effect applies to the parent object of the instance that matched the rule.
 - Blink object: the objects parent will blink on the diagram when the override criteria are met.
 - Rectangle Blink: the objects parent will display with a blinking rectangle that outlines the object.
 - Red Triangle Indicator: the objects parent will display with a red triangle.
 - Upwards propagation: you can not only assign effects to the object's ancestry, but you can also define (to a certain extent) how many levels you want to propagate these effects.
 - No propagation: effects are only contained within the affected instance, with propagating them upwards.
 - Parent only: effects will propagate to the immediate parent.
 - Parent and grandparent only: the effect will propagate to the immediate parent object and its own parent.
 - Top level only: the effect will be displayed for the top-level object and the instance itself.
 - All levels: all objects in the ancestry will display the effect.

3.3 Creating node types

As you start building up your netTerrain project you will probably want to create new node types that represent specific entities that are important to your project.

To add a new node, go to the catalog and look for the 'Add New' button next to the Nodes group. You can also click on the ## value next to the 'Nodes'. This will list all existing nodes. Then you can click the 'Create New' button afterwards.



Object groups section

Pressing the add button will bring up a pop-up dialog box that can be used to create a new node type in the catalog, as depicted below.

Add Object Type

Name:

Group:

Category:

Image:

Favorite:

Enabled:

Default Width [cm]:

Default Height [cm]:

Let's review each field:

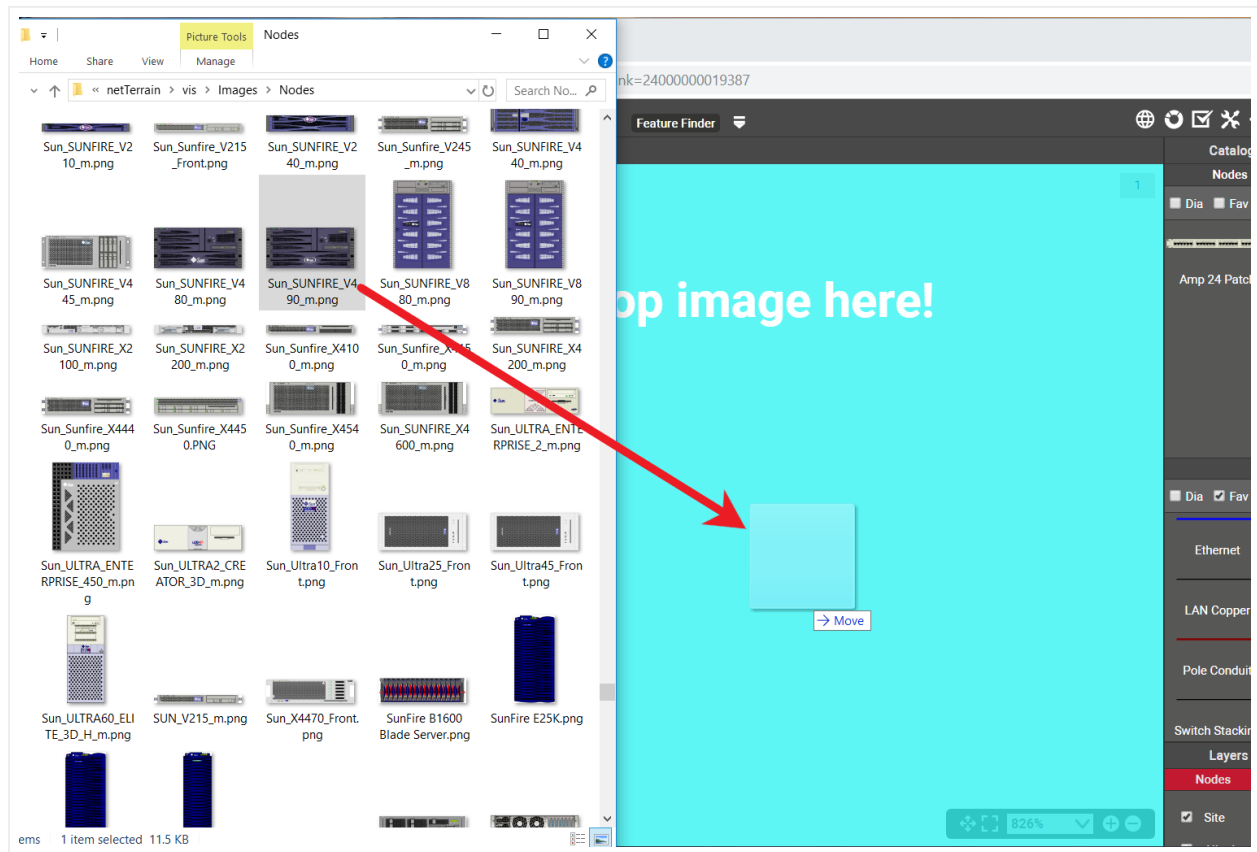
- Name: type in the name of the new node type. This name must be unique and cannot exceed 255 characters.
- Category: Assigns the node type to a category.
- Image: this is a mandatory step when creating a node. The supported image types include PNG, JPEG, GIF, and SVG. The image that is uploaded will be the image that will be displayed when the node is used in a diagram, unless overridden by a visual override. You will also see a thumbnail of the image in certain catalog list views. The image will be uploaded and stored on the netTerrain application server.
- Favorite: set the value as true if you would like the new node to show up in the favorites list in the project. Favorites are filtered from the rest of the types on the project side when clicking on the 'Node' button in the insert menu or checking the 'fav' option in the floating catalog.
- Enabled: if you would like the node type to show up in the type drop down box list when you work with node instances then it needs to be enabled. This list is displayed when you click on an existing node that has been added to a diagram. Disabled nodes are automatically removed from the favorites list.
- Default Width: the default width of new nodes of this type when added to a diagram. Units are in inches.
- Default Height: the default height of new nodes of this type when added to a diagram. Units are in inches.

After the node has been created the node type list will be displayed, filtered by the newly created node type Id.

3.3.1 Adding a node type by dragging and dropping

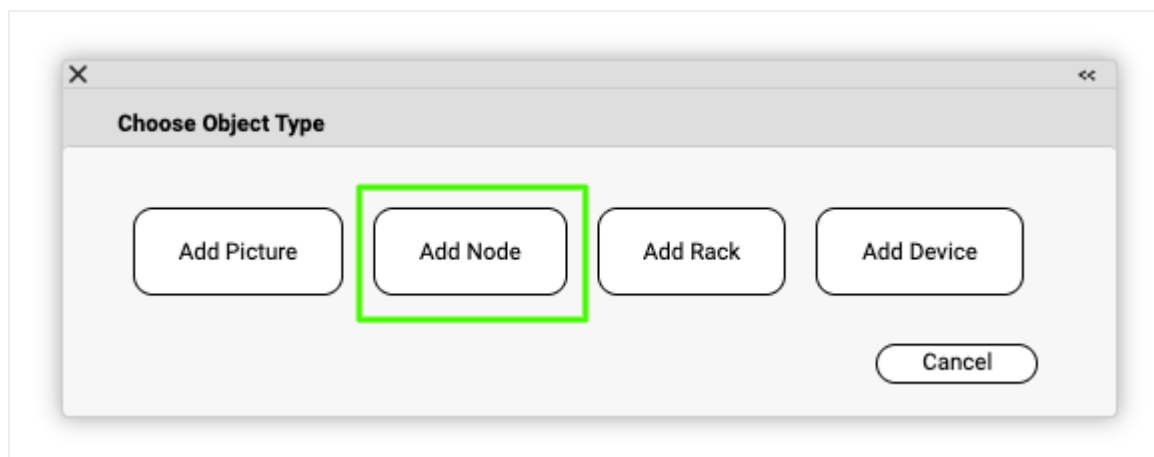
There is a nice trick to add a node type into the catalog quickly: by dragging and dropping an image from a folder or browser! This must be done from the project side, from any diagram.

The best way to use this trick is to have both the netTerrain browser and the folder or website with the image side-by-side. Then, just drag and drop the desired image to the netTerrain diagram, as shown below:



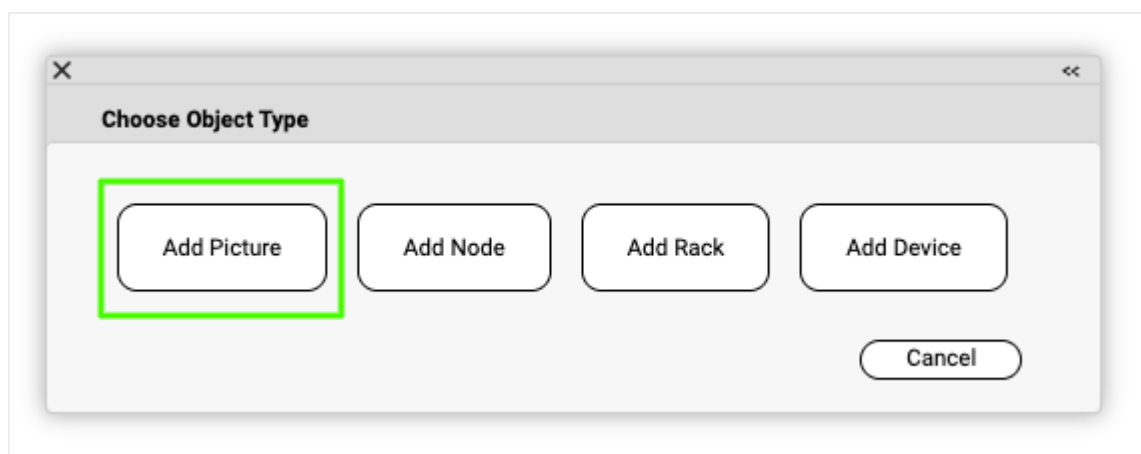
Create a node type by dragging and dropping an image

After you drop the image on the diagram, netTerrain gives you the option to create it as a floating image, a node type, a device type, or a rack type. Choose the 'Node' option:



Choosing the 'Node' option to create a node type

This completes the process. It is up to you to access the catalog for that type and then add any custom properties or behaviors afterwards, but as a quick hack to add an item to the catalog this isn't too bad!



3.3.2 Creating custom fields for nodes

Once a node type has been created, it contains three mandatory fields that exist for every instance of a node type in the project:

- Id: a 14-digit system-generated number (not visible on the field list view)
- Name: the field that will store the name of each instance
- Type: the field that stores the type of node

In addition, you may want to create additional custom fields that represent other properties of the node instances. To create a custom property for a node type, go to the node types list and follow these steps:

- Click on the hyperlink that shows the number of fields (2, when there are no custom fields)

Node Types [Switch to category view] To csv To Excel Add New Import Object Type

Records on page: 100 Records in table: 449

Filter Apply Clear

Records per page 100 Show Id Field Default sorting

#	Group	Name	Category	Default Image	Fields	Overrides	Instances	Is Favorite	Is Enabled	Default Width [cm]	Default Height [cm]	Keep Aspect Ratio	Template	Audit Trail
1	Node	_ALU_casport	Core_Nodes		5	0	1			1.423443	0.462			2
2	Node	_AWS_Instances			19	0	11			0.5	0.5			2
3	Node	_empty node			4	0	0		☒	0.00001	0.00001			0
4	Node	_empty node (1)			2	0	934			0.00001	0.00001			0
5	Node	_SNMP_External_IPs			5	0	12			0.5	0.5			7
6	Node	_SNMP_External_MACs			5	0	0			0.5	0.5			0
7	Node	288sr			3	0	0		☒	0.75	0.715			0
8	Node	3600+ NewBridge			2	0	0		☒	0.333	0.333			0
9	Node	3600-NewBridge			2	0	0		☒	0.333	0.333			0

- This will take you to the fields list for that node type. Click on the 'Add new' button

Object Fields (Type: NETOPTICS-TP-CUS) To csv To Excel Add New Tagging

Records on page: 18 Records in table: 18

Filter Apply Clear

Records per page 100 Show Id Field Default sorting

#	Name	Is In Properties	Property Order	Is Mandatory	Default Value	Is Tree Label	List Items	Overrides	Lock List	Is Unique (this type)	Is Displayed	Justification	Font Color	Fill Color	Font Size	System OID
1	Asset Tag	☒	10	☐	Testing/123		0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left			8	
2	Audit Date	☒	7	☐			0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left			8	
3	Audit Status	☒	8	☐			0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left			5	
4	Audited By	☒	9	☐			0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left			10	
5	Barcode	☒	6	☐			0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left			10	
6	Comments	☒	14	☐			0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left			10	
7	Cost	☒	3	☐			0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left			10	
8	DNS	☒	13	☐			0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left			10	
9	Dynomite	☒	15	☐			0	0	☐	☐	☐	Center			10	

- This opens the dialog for adding a new field, where you:
- name the field
- pick a default value for your field
- pick a font size for the field, if it is displayed on the diagram
- set the field as mandatory during the data entry process
- set it as displayed, so that when it is filled out, that value shows up on the diagram (usually next to the node)
- pick a font color for the field, if it is displayed on the diagram
- pick a fill color for the field, if it is displayed on the diagram

Mandatory	Default Value		Is Tree Label	List Items	Overrides	Lock List	Is Unique
☐	Testing123		☐	0	0	☐	
☐			☐	0	0	☐	
☐			☐	0	0	☐	
☐			☐	0	0	☐	
☐			☐	0	0	☐	
☐			☐	0	0	☐	
☐			☐	0	0	☐	
☐			☐	0	0	☐	
☐			☐	0	0	☐	
☐			☐	0	0	☐	

X

<<

Add Node Property

Name:

Type:

NETOPTICS TP-CU3

▼

Default Value:

Font size:

10

Mandatory:

false

▼

Displayed:

false

▼

Font color:

▼

Fill color:

▼

Submit

Cancel

Once the field has been added you can then edit any field parameters from the fields list, as seen already in the previous section:

- Name: the field name that will be displayed for the associated object type.
- Is in properties: this feature is useful to control what end users can see on the properties window for a given instance of that type. For example, you can uncheck a field and prevent end users from seeing the data associated with the instances on the project.
- Property order: this is self-explanatory and lets you choose the order in which the property appears in the properties window of the project when you click on an instance of that type.
- Is mandatory: if this option is checked it means that some data must be entered into the field when an object instance is created in the project. This is typically used in conjunction with an assigned default value to ensure some data is entered into this field. This field also cannot be deleted if the mandatory check box is enabled.
- Default value: this is the default value that will be displayed for a given field when a new instance of the object type is created. The apply button next to the field lets you apply the default value for that field to all instances of that type in the project.
- Is tree Label: determines the data value that will be displayed in the hierarchy browser. Change this if you want to see a different value displayed for an instance of this type in the hierarchy. The default is typically the name.
- List Items: list items are like drop down boxes (or combo boxes) that offer end users a finite set of values available for data entry on a given field for a given type. Click on the value to open a table with all list items associated with this field and object type.
- Overrides: click on the value to bring up a list of the overrides associated with this field and object type.
- Lock List: Allow an override list to be non-editable. If this is checked then a user cannot override the list values. They must choose a value that is already on the list.
- Is Unique (this type): Restricts all new inputs of this field for this object type to be unique across all instances.
- Is Unique (all types): Restricts all new inputs of this field for any object type to be unique across all instances.
- Is displayed: when checked, the field's value will be displayed on the diagram for an instance of this object type. This can also be controlled on an instance basis as well as type-wide (see End User Guide).
- Justification: sets the alignment. See the settings for the field instance for more alignment options.
- Font color: the color of the text value that is displayed in the project area diagram for this field. Note that you can change the font on an instance-by-instance basis from the project as well (see End User Guide).
- Fill color: the background color of the text that is displayed in the project area diagram for this field. Note that you can change the fill color on an instance-by-instance basis from the project as well (see End User Guide).
- Font size: the size of the text that is being displayed in the project area diagram for this field. Note that you can change the font size on an instance-by-instance basis from the project as well (see End User Guide).
- Apply Font settings link: applies any font settings for this field to all instances of the object where the field is displayed.

Object Fields (Type: NETOPTICS TP-CU3) To csv To Excel Add New Tagging Records on page: 18 Records in table: 18

Filter Apply Clear Records per page: 100 Show Id Field Default sorting

#	Name	Is in Properties	Property Order	Is Mandatory	Default Value	Is Tree Label	List Items	Override s	Lock List	Is Unique (this type)	Is Displayed	Justification	Font Color	Fill Color	Font Size	System OID
1	Asset Tag	☒	10	☐	Testing123	☐	☐	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left			8	☐
2	Audit Date	☒	7	☐		☐	☐	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left			8	☐
3	Audit Status	☒	8	☐		☐	☐	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left			5	☐
4	Audited By	☒	9	☐		☐	☐	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left			10	☐
5	Barcode	☒	6	☐		☐	☐	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left			10	☐
6	Comments	☒	14	☐		☐	☐	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left			10	☐
7	Cost	☒	3	☐		☐	☐	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left			10	☐
8	DNS	☒	13	☐		☐	☐	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left			10	☐
9	Dynomite	☒	15	☐		☐	☐	0	☐	☐	☐	Center			10	☐
10	HostName	☒	11	☐		☐	☐	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left			10	☐

New custom field for a node type

3.3.2.1 Deleting a custom field

Deleting a custom field is easy: go to the fields list view for the node type and simply press the delete button on the left of the field you want to remove.

Object Fields (Type: NETOPTICS TP-CU3) To csv To Excel Add New Tagging Records on page: 18 Records in table: 18

Filter Apply Clear Records per page: 100 Show Id Field Default sorting

#	Name	Is in Properties	Property Order	Is Mandatory	Default Value	Is Tree Label	List Items	Override s	Lock List	Is Unique (this type)	Is Displayed	Justification	Font Color	Fill Color	Font Size	System OID
1	Asset Tag	☒	10	☐	Testing123	☐	☐	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left			8	☐
2	Audit Date	☒	7	☐		☐	☐	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left			8	☐
3	Audit Status	☒	8	☐		☐	☐	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left			5	☐
4	Audited By	☒	9	☐		☐	☐	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left			10	☐
5	Barcode	☒	6	☐		☐	☐	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left			10	☐
6	Comments	☒	14	☐		☐	☐	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left			10	☐
7	Cost	☒	3	☐		☐	☐	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left			10	☐
8	DNS	☒	13	☐		☐	☐	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left			10	☐
9	Dynomite	☒	15	☐		☐	☐	0	☐	☐	☐	Center			10	☐
10	HostName	☒	11	☐		☐	☐	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left			10	☐

Deleting a custom field

Notice that the delete button is not enabled for the Name and Type system fields.

Attention!

As you might expect, all the values for the field corresponding to instances of that type in the project will be deleted. As such, be careful with this operation, since it cannot be undone.

3.3.3 Creating list items and visual overrides for a node field

As we saw before, when clicking on the override number for a given node type field, one can access the list items and visual overrides list, as shown below.

#	Name	Is In Properties	Property Order	Is Mandatory	Default Value	Is Tree Label	List Items	Overrides	Lock List	Is Unique (this type)	Is Displayed	Justification	Font Color	Fill Color	Font Size	System OID
1	Asset Tag	☒	10	☐	Testing123	☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left	Black	Orange	8	
2	Audit Date	☒	7	☐		☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left	Black	Blue	8	
3	Audit Status	☒	8	☐		☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left	Black	Green	5	
4	Audited By	☒	9	☐		☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left	Black	Green	10	
5	Barcode	☒	6	☐		☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left	Black		10	
6	Comments	☒	14	☐		☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left	Black		10	
7	Cost	☒	3	☐		☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left	Black		10	
8	DNS	☒	13	☐		☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left	Black		10	
9	Dynomite	☒	15	☐		☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐	Center	Black		10	
10	HostName	☒	11	☐		☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left	Black		10	

Visual override and list item link for a node field

To create a new list item or visual override for a node type field, go to the fields list and follow these steps:

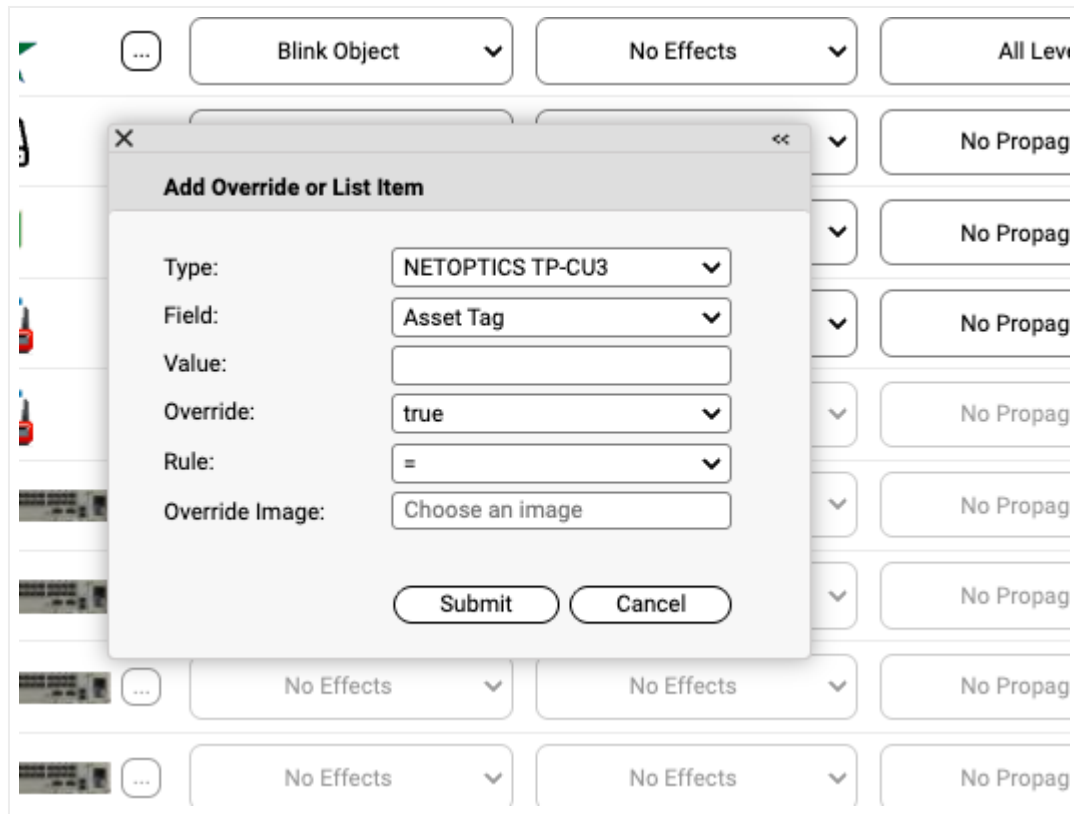
- Click on the hyperlink that shows the number of overrides (obviously 0 when there are none)
- This will take you to the overrides list for that node type. Click on the 'Add new' button

Value Lists and Overrides for Objects

To csv To Excel **Add New**

Filter Apply Clear

- This opens the dialog for adding a new override, where you:
- provide the value that will trigger the override (in the case of a simple list item this is just the list item value)
- specify whether this is an override or not (if you choose false then this completes the process for adding a list item)
- choose the rule that will trigger the override (equal to, contains, greater than, less than)
- set the override image



Once the override has been added you can then edit any parameters from the overrides list, as seen in the previous chapter:

- Value
- Rule
- Is Override
- Override
- Instance effect
- Parent effect
- Upwards propagation

3.3.3.1 Deleting an override or list item

To delete an override or list item for a node field go to the overrides list view for the node type and field and simply press the delete button on the left of the entry you want to remove.

Value Lists and Overrides for Objects To csv To Excel Add New Records on page: 100 Records in table: 704

Filter Apply Clear Records per page: 100 Show Id Field Default sorting

#	Object Type	Field	Value	Rule	Is Override	Override	Instance effect	Parent effect	Upwards propagation	Event Type	Audit Trail
1	2 post rack 42U	Override Test	Test1	=	☒		☐ Blink Object	☐ No Effects	☐ All Levels	Associate New Event Type	0
2	2 post rack 42U	Override Test	test2	=	☒		☐ No Effects	☐ No Effects	☐ No Propagations	Associate New Event Type	0
3	Access Point	Status	Up	=	☒		☐ No Effects	☐ No Effects	☐ No Propagations	Associate New Event Type	0
4	Access Point	Status	Down	=	☒		☐ No Effects	☐ No Effects	☐ No Propagations	Access Point is down	0
5	Access Point	Status	Unknown	=	☐		☐ No Effects	☐ No Effects	☐ No Propagations	Associate New Event Type	0
6	Alcatel 7210 SAS-M	Tulajdonos	Digi	=	☐		☐ No Effects	☐ No Effects	☐ No Propagations	Associate New Event Type	0
7	Alcatel 7210 SAS-M	Tulajdonos	Intivtech	=	☐		☐ No Effects	☐ No Effects	☐ No Propagations	Associate New Event Type	0
8	Alcatel 7210 SAS-M	Router	Válász2	=	☐		☐ No Effects	☐ No Effects	☐ No Propagations	Associate New Event Type	0
9	Alcatel 7210 SAS-M	Router	bix-pe5 EthTr10 - bix-ca11	=	☐		☐ No Effects	☐ No Effects	☐ No Propagations	Associate New Event Type	0
10	Alcatel 7210 SAS-M	Router	bix-pe5 EthTr20 - bix-ca21	=	☐		☐ No Effects	☐ No Effects	☐ No Propagations	Associate New Event Type	0
11	Alcatel 7210 SAS-M	Router	info-pe5 EthTr10 - info-ca	=	☐		☐ No Effects	☐ No Effects	☐ No Propagations	Associate New Event Type	0
12	Alcatel 7210 SAS-M	Router	info-pe5 EthTr20 - info-ca	=	☐		☐ No Effects	☐ No Effects	☐ No Propagations	Associate New Event Type	0

Deleting an override for a field

4 Link Types

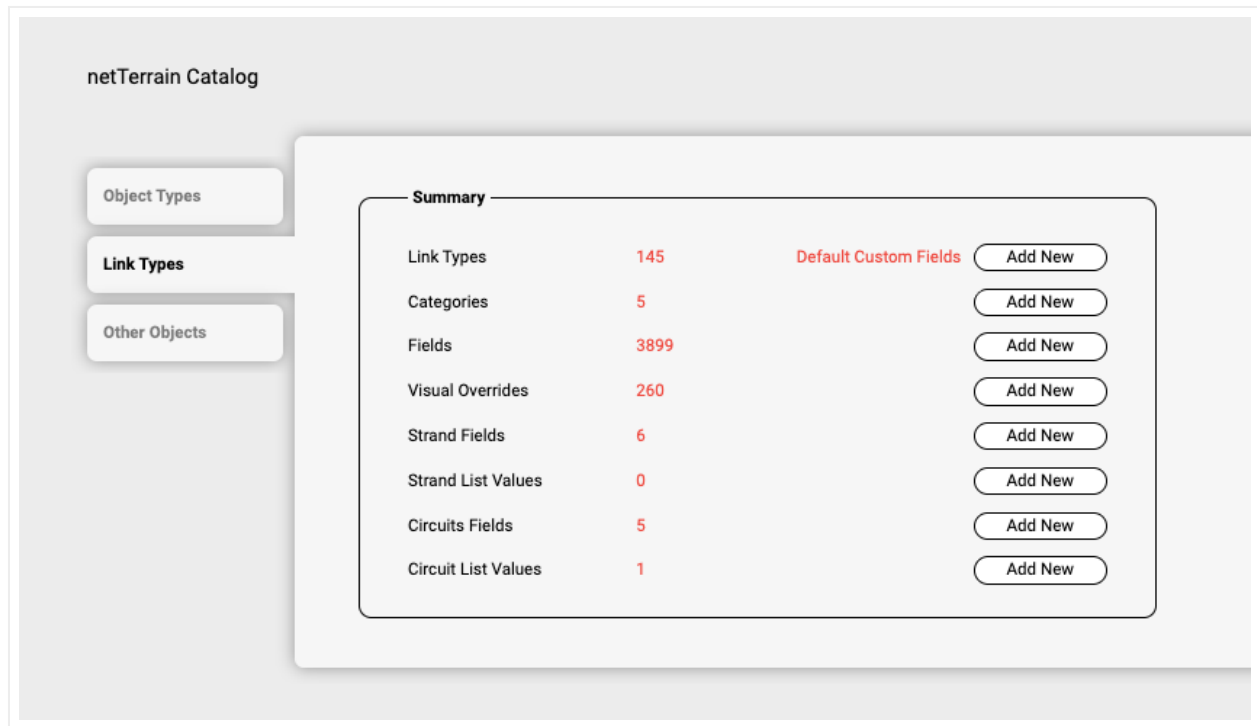
Links in netTerrain are what the name implies: connections between nodes. netTerrain supports both direct and inter diagram links and automatically creates reference nodes as needed. Links can be created between any combination of two node objects of the following classes:

- Nodes
- Devices
- Ports
- Racks

So, it is valid to create a link between, say, a node and a port, or a rack and a device. It is also valid to create more than one link against a single object. As such, a node can serve as a termination point for multiple links. However, it is not valid to create a link between anything other than two objects. A link must always have two and only two endpoints. As opposed to other applications like netViz or Visio, netTerrain does not allow dangling links.

4.1 Managing link types

netTerrain's flexible list of link features is managed from the link types section in the catalog dashboard, as displayed below.



Link Types section

The following shortcuts are available from the link types section:

Summary

- Link Types: the ## of link types within the netTerrain catalog.
- Categories: shortcut to create link categories.
- Fields: the ## of fields associated with the link types in the netTerrain catalog.
- Visual overrides: the number of visual overrides that have been assigned to fields for links within the netTerrain catalog.
- Strand Fields: shortcut to open the list of custom fields configured for strands
- Circuit Fields: shortcut to open the list of custom fields configured for circuits
- List Values: shortcut to open the list of values for strands and circuits

The 'Add New' buttons on the right provide a quick way to create link types, fields or overrides.

4.1.1 Link types view

Just as with node types, this view provides a list of all the link types created in the catalog.

#	Name	Category	Field #	Overrides	Instances	Is Favorite	Is Enabled	Preview	Thickness	Link Style	Color	Start Arrow	End Arrow	Snapped to Edge	Restrictions	Matching Port Connectors
1	_Native_SNMP_Links	Logical	28	0	0	☐	☐		1	Solid	Green	None	None	☐	0	☐
2	_Native_SNMP_Link_Lay	Logical	24	0	0	☐	☐		1	Solid	Blue	None	None	☐	0	☐
3	1 Strand Patch		18	0	13	☒	☐		1	Solid	Pink	None	None	☐	0	☐
4	1 TO 4 BREAKOUT		18	0	5	☒	☐		1	Solid	Black	None	None	☐	0	☐
5	1024 Strands		18	0	23	☒	☐		1	Solid	Black	None	None	☐	0	☐
6	100 Opt - 1 Scales		24	0	0	☐	☒		5	Solid	Green	Plain	Plain	☐	0	☐
7	100 optika		29	0	0	☐	☒		5	Solid	Red	Plain	Plain	☐	0	☐
8	100-BASE-CX		20	0	0	☐	☒		5	Solid	Black	Plain	Plain	☐	0	☐
9	12 Strand Fiber		20	0	109	☒	☐		3	Solid	Red	None	None	☐	0	☐
10	12 strand fiber NPD		18	0	55	☒	☐		1	Solid	Black	None	None	☐	0	☐

Link types list view

Let's review each part of this section:

Section A

- To CSV: this button allows you to export the table view to a downloadable CSV file.
- Add New: selecting this will display a form to create a new object.

Section B

- Records in table: displays the total number of objects in the table.
- Records on page: displays the total number of records on the table page that you are currently viewing.

Section C

- Filter: allows you to filter information in the current table view. If you would only like to display the objects related to "Cisco" in their name, then type "Cisco" into the filter box and press the 'Apply' button. You can change the filter by simply typing in new criteria and pressing the 'Apply' button. If you no longer need the filter press the 'Clear' button to remove the filter.

Section D

- Records per page: you can change the records per page value to a value that is less than the default value. So, if the default is 100 records per page and you would like to see 50 then change the value. Note that the default value is set in the admin console and can only be changed by an administrator.
- Show ID Field: hides or shows the ID value for the record. The ID value is the unique ID that is assigned to record in netTerrain.
- Default Sorting: if you sorted the table by a column name and would like to return the table to the default sort value press this button. The default sorting for a table view is by "Name". Changing the default sorting is temporary. The default is restored once you navigate away from the table view.

Section E

- #: the row number for the current table view. This will change depending on the filter, sort value or number of records per page. Bear in mind this ## is just a reference to the order in which the record appears in the visual representation of the information on the table and has no relationship to the actual data stored in the database.
- Options (no label):
- Delete: the 'Delete' option allows you to delete a link. Note that you can only delete an object if it is not being used in netTerrain. If it is being used, you would need to remove all instances of the object before you can delete it.
- Clone: this button, as the name says, allows you to clone the type. It creates an exact replica with the type in the catalog, which you can then edit, rename, etc.
- ID: Unique netTerrain identifier for the object. This property can be hidden.
- Name: the object's name, which can be changed by editing the text field.
- Category: allows the user to assign a category to a link type.
- Fields: this link shows the number of fields associated with the object and provides a link to access the fields table (more on this later).
- Overrides: overrides are rules associated with one or more fields for that type. Clicking on the overrides ## will redirect you to a table with all assigned overrides (more on that later).
- Instances: the number of instances that are active objects in the project. Clicking the number will provide a table of these instances. Note that this table is also editable, which can provide a useful way for quickly changing instance data in table view.
- Is Favorite: when checked, this object will appear in the object's type menu button in the project area. These menu buttons will be populated with a favorites list. Favorites can be added or removed at any time. They have no impact on existing objects in a diagram.
- Is Enabled: when checked, this object will be available to users in the project area as they pick an entry from the type drop down field. Objects marked as favorite cannot be disabled. You must first uncheck the favorite option before disabling it.
- Preview: this is a visual indicator for the link type in its default configuration (prior to any possible visual overrides being applied).
- Thickness: the default thickness for a given link type. You can use visual overrides to allow the link thickness to be determined by the value of a field.
- Link Style: this is the appearance of a link, which can be solid, dashed, dash-dot, dash-dot-dot, or dotted by default. Link styles can also be changed on a per instance basis using visual overrides.
- Color: the default color for a given link type. This can be changed within the diagram by using a visual override. Link colors can also be changed on a per instance basis using visual overrides.
- Start Arrow: Allows the user to select an arrowhead style for the start of the arrow. Any style selection can be reviewed in the preview window.
- End Arrow: Allows the user to select an arrowhead style for the end of the arrow. Any selection can be viewed in the preview window.
- Snapped to edge: Sets the link to automatically snap the end points to the edge of the object.
- Restrictions: displays the number of restrictions associated with this link type. Restrictions are a set of business rules associated with link types but note that they cannot be created for links that already have

been used in the project (otherwise the business rule may be broken). All restrictions should be set up before using the link type. The following restrictions can be applied to link types:

- **Prevented:** allows you to specify node types that the current link type cannot use as endpoints.
- **Enforced:** this is the opposite of the above, which means that users are forced to use any of the listed node types as endpoints when connecting them with the current link type. You can specify more than one object type to enforce. For example, you may want to only allow a link called “Carrier” to be connected to your buildings.
- **Matching Port Connectors:** Enforces end points to have matching connector values.
- **Strands** (only available for licensed OSP installations): this column lets a power user configure a predetermined number of strands for the link type. When an instance of this type is created in the project, ‘n’ number of strands will also be created for that instance.
- **Mode** (only available for licensed OSP installations): this column lets you specify the mode of the link, if it will be used as a cable containing strands. Modes allow users to restrict and prevent hybrid configurations of circuits during the Automatic Circuit Routing Algorithm (ACRA) process.
- **Use for ACRA Patch** (only available for licensed OSP installations): when this value is checked for a link type, it becomes available as a type that can be used during the patching process of a circuit. Please see the end user guide to learn more about the creation of circuits.
- **Excludable from ACRA** (only available for licensed OSP installations): when this value is checked, instances of that link type are excluded from any ACRA calculations.
- **Audit Trail:** this link will take the user to a table consisting of a history of specific user’s actions associated with the object type. Note that the audit trail can only be accessed by administrators.
- **Supports Link Entry:** when checked, this link type can generate Link Entries on supported container diagrams. Use this for cables, ducts, conduits, or similar links that enter or pass through manholes, vaults, splice enclosures, or other containers. This option works together with the Supports Link Entries setting on object types and should be enabled before instances of the link type are created.

4.1.2 Link fields

Again, just like with node types, there is a list for all the fields associated with a given link type. Below we will review the elements comprising this list view.

#	Name	Is in Properties	Property Order	Is Mandatory	Default Value	List Items	Overrides	Lock List	Is Unique (this type)	Is Displayed	Justification	Font Color	Fill Color	Font Size	Audit Trail	Name
1	Author	☒	7	☐	\$zz_Audit_InsertAuthorAllObjec	0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left			10	0	Author
2	Cable Length	☒	11	☐		0	0	☐	☐	☐	Center			10	0	Cable
3	Change	☒	19	☐		0	0	☐	☐	☐	Center			10	0	Change
4	Color	☒	14	☐		0	0	☐	☐	☐	Center			10	0	Color
5	Connector 1	☒	15	☐		0	0	☐	☐	☐	Center			10	0	Connector
6	Connector 2	☒	16	☐		0	0	☐	☐	☐	Center			10	0	Connector
7	Cost	☒	10	☐		0	0	☐	☐	☐	Center			10	0	Cost
8	Description	☒	12	☐		0	0	☐	☐	☐	Center			10	0	Description
9	Fiber Mode	☒	17	☐		0	0	☐	☐	☐	Center			10	0	Fiber
10	Fiber Type	☒	18	☐		0	0	☐	☐	☐	Center			10	0	Fiber
11	IpRouteAge	☒	5	☐		0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left			8	0	IpRoute

Link Fields list view

Section A

- To CSV: this button will export the table's data into a downloadable CSV file.
- Add new: clicking this button will display a form for creating a new field.
- Tagging: the tagging button opens a tagging selection dialog, allowing you to assign a set of fields to a "Tag" (a label). All existing tags appear in the settings tab for a diagram in the netTerrain project. Fields associated with a tag label can be turned on and off within a diagram. So, you could assign a field like IP Address to a "Hide IP" tag. If you happen to be on a diagram that has links containing that field, you could then turn on or off all IP Address fields without having to individually uncheck them from the properties window for each instance.

Section B

- Records in table: Displays the total number of fields in the table.
- Records on page: Displays the total number of records on the table page that you are currently viewing. The records per page default value can be set by the administrator within the admin console.

Section C

- Filter: allows you to filter information in the current table view. If you would only like to display the fields called IP Address, then you simply type in the search criteria into the filter box and press the 'Apply' button. You can change the filter by simply typing in new criteria and pressing the 'Apply' button. If you no longer need the filter press the 'Clear' button to remove the filter.

Section D

- Records per page: you can easily change the records per page value to something less than the default value. So, for instance if the default is 100 records per page and you would like to see 50, simply proceed to change the value. Note that the default value is set in the admin console and can only be changed by an administrator. You cannot exceed the maximum number of records per page that was set within the admin console. If the maximum record count per page is 500 then you will not be able to set a value higher than 500.
- Show ID Field: hides or shows the ID value for the record. The ID value is the unique ID that is assigned to record in netTerrain.
- Default sorting: if you sorted the table by a column name and would like to return the table to the default sort value press this button. The default sorting for a table view is by "Name".

Section E

- #: the row number for the current table view. This will change depending on the filter, sort value or number of records per page. Bear in mind this ## is just a reference to the order in which the record appears in the visual representation of the information on the table and has no relationship to the actual data stored in the database.
- Delete: as the label implied, clicking on this link will remove the field record for the given type. If the field is in use and there is data being stored within the field all this data will be lost so be careful when using this option.
- Name: the field name that will be displayed for the associated link type.
- Is in properties: this feature is useful to control what end users can see on the properties window for a given instance of that type. For example, you can uncheck a field and prevent end users from seeing the data associated with the instances on the project.
- Property Order: this option lets you control the order in which properties appear in the properties window when you are selecting the object in the project.
- Is mandatory: if this option is checked it means that some data must be entered into the field when an object instance is created in the project. This is typically used in conjunction with an assigned default value to ensure some data is entered into this field. This field also cannot be deleted if the mandatory check box is enabled.
- Default value: this is the default value that will be displayed for a given field when a new instance of the object type is created. The apply button next to the field lets you apply the default value for that field to all instances of that type in the project.
- List Items: list items are like drop down boxes (or combo boxes) that offer end users a finite set of values available for data entry on a given field for a given type. Click on the value to open a table with all list items associated with this field and object type.
- Overrides: click on the value to bring up a list of the overrides associated with this field and object type.
- Lock List: Sets the list as non-editable. Users must choose from the list of values and cannot override the list with a different value.
- Is Unique (this type): Restricts all new inputs of this field for this object type to be unique across all instances.
- Is Unique (all types): Restricts all new inputs of this field for any object type to be unique across all instances.
- Is displayed: when checked, the field's value will be displayed on the diagram for an instance of this link type. This can also be controlled on an instance basis as well as type-wide (see End User Guide).
- Justification: sets the alignment. See the settings for the field instance for more alignment options.
- Font color: the color of the text value that is displayed in the project area diagram for this field. Note that you can change the font on an instance-by-instance basis from the project as well (see End User Guide).
- Fill color: the background color of the text that is displayed in the project area diagram for this field. Note that you can change the fill color on an instance-by-instance basis from the project as well (see End User Guide).
- Font size: the size of the text that is being displayed in the project area diagram for this field. Note that you can change the font size on an instance-by-instance basis from the project as well (see End User Guide).
- Apply Font settings link: applies any font settings for this field to all instances of the object where the field is displayed.

In the case of the system required 'Name' field for links, there is a special drop down for the 'Default Value' which allows for specifying a naming convention for new link instances:

- Node A – Node B
- Parent :: Node A – Parent :: Node B
- Parent :: Parent :: Node A – Parent :: Parent:: Node B
- Link Type :: Link Id

Naming convention options for Name field

4.1.3 Visual overrides for links

Visual Overrides for links work in a similar way as for nodes: they specify a set of 'business rules' that change the appearance of a link when a specified attribute matches a certain value.

For example, a Power User may set up an override for a field called 'status' for a link type called 'Circuit', such that when the value for status is equal to 'alarmed' then the circuit color, for example, changes to red. Overrides for links can change the thickness, color and style of individual link instances in the project.

#	Link Type	Field	Value	Rule	Is Override	Preview	Thickness	Link Style	Color	Start Arrow	End Arrow	Audit Trail
1	100 Opt - 1 Scalas	A modul	SFP-10G-ER-8XD	=		←→	5	Solid	Green	Plain	Plain	0
2	100 Opt - 1 Scalas	A modul	SFP-10G-ER-8XU	=		←→	5	Solid	Green	Plain	Plain	0
3	100 Opt - 1 Scalas	A modul	XFP-10G-8XD	=		←→	5	Solid	Green	Plain	Plain	0
4	100 Opt - 1 Scalas	A modul	XFP-10G-8XU	=		←→	5	Solid	Green	Plain	Plain	0
5	100 Opt - 1 Scalas	B modul	SFP-10G-ER-8XD	=		←→	5	Solid	Green	Plain	Plain	0
6	100 Opt - 1 Scalas	B modul	SFP-10G-ER-8XU	=		←→	5	Solid	Green	Plain	Plain	0
7	100 Opt - 1 Scalas	B modul	XFP-10G-8XD	=		←→	5	Solid	Green	Plain	Plain	0
8	100 Opt - 1 Scalas	B modul	XFP-10G-8XU	=		←→	5	Solid	Green	Plain	Plain	0
9	100 optika	A modul	XENPAK10G-LR	=		←→	5	Solid	Red	Plain	Plain	0
10	100 optika	A modul	XENPAK10G-ER	=		←→	5	Solid	Red	Plain	Plain	0
11	100 optika	A modul	XENPAK10G-ZR	=		←→	5	Solid	Red	Plain	Plain	0

Link visual overrides list view

Below we will review the elements comprising the overrides list view:

Section A

- To CSV: this button will export the table's data into a downloadable CSV file.
- Add new: clicking this button will display a form for creating a new override.

Section B

- Records in table: displays the total number of overrides in the table.
- Records on page: displays the total number of records on the table page that you are currently viewing. The records per page default value can be set by the administrator within the admin console.

Section C

- Filter: allows you to filter information in the current table view, in the same way as the filters are used for field or object lists.

Section D

- Records per page: you can easily change the records per page value to something less than the default value. So, for instance if the default is 100 records per page and you would like to see 50, simply proceed to change the value. Note that the default value is set in the admin console and can only be changed by an administrator. You cannot exceed the maximum number of records per page that was set within the admin console. If the maximum record count per page is 500 then you will not be able to set a value higher than 500.
- Show ID Field: hides or shows the ID value for the record. The ID value is the unique ID that is assigned to record in netTerrain.
- Default sorting: If you sorted the table by a column name and would like to return the table to the default sort value press this button. The default sorting for a table view is by "Name".

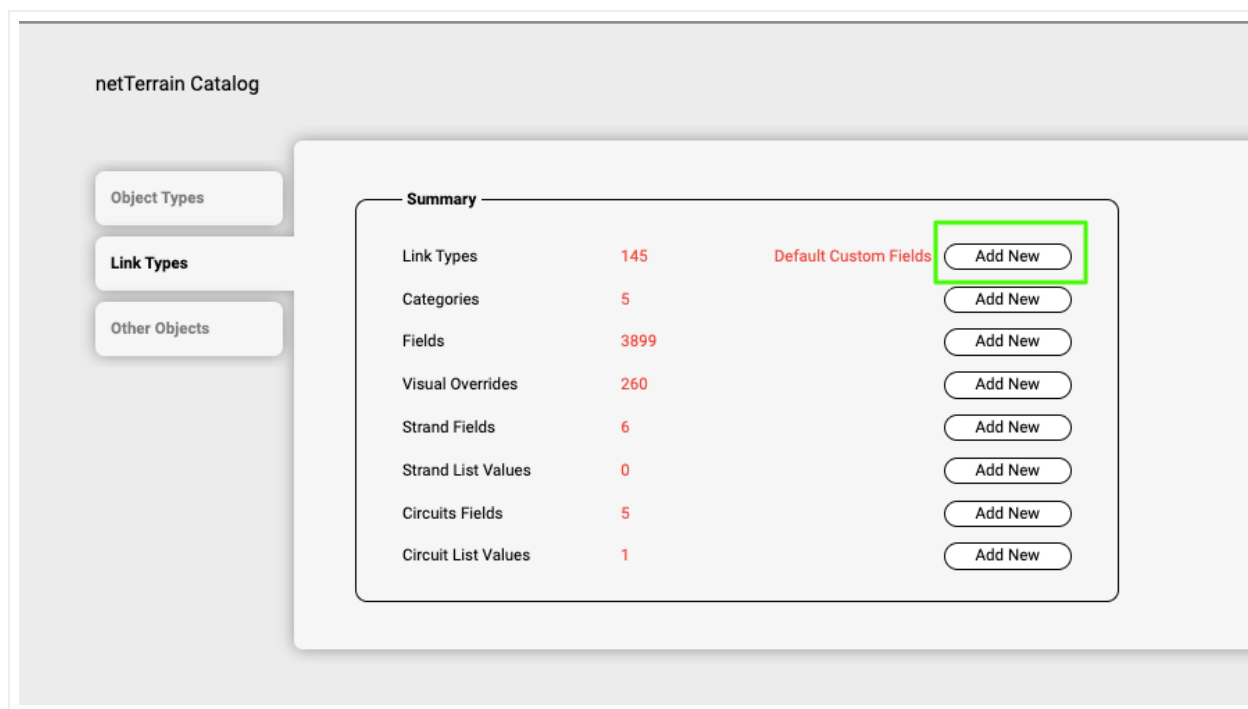
Section E

- #: the row number for the current table view. This will change depending on the filter, sort value or number of records per page. Bear in mind this ## is just a reference to the order in which the record appears in the visual representation of the information on the table and has no relationship to the actual data stored in the database.
- Delete (no title): selecting Delete will remove the override record.
- Link Type: the object with the field that is assigned the override.
- Field: the field with the list or override.
- Value: value of the list or override data. Link instances will switch to the override color, thickness or style when that field contains the same value displayed in the override.
- Rule: the condition that determines how a visual override is used in the project.
- Is Override: Sets the field to allow for a visual override condition.
- Preview: shows a view of the link with assigned color, thickness and style.
- Thickness: assigned line thickness for the link.
- Link style: assigned link style for the type. Options include solid, dashed, dash-dot, dash-dot-dot, or dotted.
- Color: assigned color for the link type.
- Start Arrow: Allows the user to select an arrowhead style for the start of the arrow. Any style selection can be reviewed in the preview window.
- End Arrow: Allows the user to select an arrowhead style for the end of the arrow. Any selection can be viewed in the preview window.

4.2 Creating link types

Same as with the node types, as you start building up your netTerrain project you will probably want to create new link types that represent specific connection entities that are important to your project.

To add a new link, go to the catalog and look for the 'Add New' button next to the 'Link Types' group. You can also click on the ## value next to the 'Links'. This will list all existing link types and from there you can click on the 'Add New' button and proceed.



Adding a new link type

Pressing the add button will bring up a pop-up dialog box that can be used to create a new link type in the catalog, as depicted below.

The image shows a 'Add Link Type' dialog box with the following fields and values:

Field	Value
Name:	
Category:	
Favorite:	true
Enabled:	true
Thickness:	1
Link Style:	Solid
Start Arrow:	None
End Arrow:	None
Snapped To Edge:	false
Color:	
Group:	Link

Buttons: Submit, Cancel

Link type list view with add link type dialog box

Let's review each field:

- **Name:** type in the name of the new link type. This name must be unique and cannot exceed 255 characters.
- **Category:** assigns the node type to a category.
- **Favorite:** set the value as true if you would like the new node to show up in the favorites list in the project. Favorites are filtered from the rest of the types on the project side when clicking on the 'Link' button in the insert menu or checking the 'fav' option in the floating catalog.
- **Thickness:** the default thickness for a given link type. You can use visual overrides to allow the link thickness to be determined by the value of a field.
- **Link Style:** this is the appearance of a link, which can be solid, dashed, dash-dot, dash-dot-dot, or dotted by default. Link styles can also be changed on a per instance basis using visual overrides.
- **Start Arrow:** allows the user to select an arrowhead style for the start of the arrow. Any style selection can be reviewed in the preview window.
- **End Arrow:** allows the user to select an arrowhead style for the end of the arrow. Any selection can be viewed in the preview window.
- **Snapped to Edge:** sets the link to automatically snap the end points to the edge of the object.
- **Color:** the default color for a given link type. This can be changed within the diagram by using a visual override. Link colors can also be changed on a per instance basis using visual overrides.
- **Group:** in this drop down you can define the link as a regular link, a cable for strands or a breakout cable (more on this later).

After the link has been created the link type list will be displayed, filtered by the newly created link type Id.

4.2.1 Creating custom fields for links

Once a link type has been created, it contains three mandatory fields that exist for every instance of a link type in the project:

- **Id:** a 14-digit system-generated number (not visible on the field list view)
- **Name:** the field that will store the name of each instance
- **Type:** the field that stores the type of link

In addition, you may want to create additional custom fields that represent other properties of the link instances. To create a custom property for a link type, go to the link types list and follow these steps:

- Click on the hyperlink that shows the number of fields (2, when there are no custom fields)

Link Types To csv To Excel Add New

Records on page: 100 Records in table: 145

Filter Apply Clear

Records per page: 100 Show Id Field Default sorting

#	Name	Category	Field #	Overrides	Instances	Is Favorite	Is Enabled	Preview	Thickness	Link Style	Color	Start Arrow	End Arrow	Snapped to Edge	Restrictions	Matching Port Connectors
1	_Native_SNMP_Links	Logical	28	0	0	☐	☐		1	Solid		None	None	☐	0	☐
2	_Native_SNMP_Links_Lap	Logical	24	0	0	☐	☐		1	Solid		None	None	☐	0	☐
3	1 Strand Patch		18	0	13	☒	☐		1	Solid		None	None	☐	0	☐
4	1 TO 4 BREAKOUT		18	0	5	☒	☐		1	Solid		None	None	☐	0	☐
5	1024 Strands		18	0	23	☒	☐		1	Solid		None	None	☐	0	☐
6	100 Opt - 1 S2allae		24	0	0	☐	☒		5	Solid		Plain	Plain	☐	0	☐
7	100 optika		29	0	0	☐	☒		5	Solid		Plain	Plain	☐	0	☐
8	100-BASE-CX		20	0	0	☐	☒		5	Solid		Plain	Plain	☐	0	☐

- This will take you to the fields list for that link type. Click on the 'Add new' button

Link Fields (Type: _Native_SNMP_Links) To csv To Excel **Add New** Tagging

Filter Apply Clear

#	Name	Is in Properties	Property Order	Is Mandatory	Default Value	List Items	Overrides	Lock List	Is Unique (this type)
1	Author	☒	7	☐	\$zz_Audit_InsertAuthorAllObjec		0	0	☐
2	Cable Length	☒	11	☐			0	0	☐
3	Change	☒	19	☐			0	0	☐
4	Color	☒	14	☐			0	0	☐
5	Connector 1	☒	15	☐			0	0	☐

- This opens the dialog for adding a new field, where you:
- name the field
- pick a default value for your field
- pick a font size for the field, if it is displayed on the diagram
- set the field as mandatory during the data entry process
- set it as displayed, so that when it is filled out, that value shows up on the diagram (usually next to the link)
- pick a font color for the field, if it is displayed on the diagram
- pick a fill color for the field, if it is displayed on the diagram

lit_InsertAuthorAllObj X

Once the field has been added you can then edit any field parameters from the fields list, as seen already in the previous section:

- **Name:** the field name that will be displayed for the associated link type.
- **Is in properties:** this feature is useful to control what end users can see on the properties window for a given instance of that type. For example, you can uncheck a field and prevent end users from seeing the data associated with the instances on the project.
- **Property Order:** this option lets you control the order in which properties appear in the properties window when you are selecting the object in the project.
- **Is mandatory:** if this option is checked it means that some data must be entered into the field when an object instance is created in the project. This is typically used in conjunction with an assigned default value to ensure some data is entered into this field. This field also cannot be deleted if the mandatory check box is enabled.
- **Default value:** this is the default value that will be displayed for a given field when a new instance of the object type is created. The apply button next to the field lets you apply the default value for that field to all instances of that type in the project.
- **List Items:** list items are like drop down boxes (or combo boxes) that offer end users a finite set of values available for data entry on a given field for a given type. Click on the value to open a table with all list items associated with this field and object type.
- **Overrides:** click on the value to bring up a list of the overrides associated with this field and object type.
- **Lock List:** Sets the list as non-editable. Users must choose from the list of values and cannot override the list with a different value.
- **Is Unique (this type):** Restricts all new inputs of this field for this object type to be unique across all instances.
- **Is Unique (all types):** Restricts all new inputs of this field for any object type to be unique across all instances.
- **Is displayed:** when checked, the field's value will be displayed on the diagram for an instance of this link type. This can also be controlled on an instance basis as well as type-wide (see End User Guide).
- **Justification:** sets the alignment. See the settings for the field instance for more alignment options.
- **Font color:** the color of the text value that is displayed in the project area diagram for this field. Note that you can change the font on an instance-by-instance basis from the project as well (see End User Guide).
- **Fill color:** the background color of the text that is displayed in the project area diagram for this field. Note that you can change the fill color on an instance-by-instance basis from the project as well (see End User Guide).
- **Font size:** the size of the text that is being displayed in the project area diagram for this field. Note that you can change the font size on an instance-by-instance basis from the project as well (see End User Guide).
- **Apply Font settings link:** applies any font settings for this field to all instances of the object where the field is displayed.

Link Fields (Type: *Native_SNMP_Links*) To csv To Excel Add New Tagging Records on page: 28 Records in table: 28

Filter Apply Clear Records per page: 100 Show Id Field Default sorting

#	Name	Is in Properties	Property Order	Is Mandatory	Default Value	List Items	Overrides	Lock List	Is Unique (this type)	Is Displayed	Justification	Font Color	Fill Color	Font Size	Audit Trail	Name
1	Author	☒	7	☐	\$zz_Audit_InsertAuthorAllObjec	0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left			10	0	Author
2	Cable Length	☒	11	☐		0	0	☐	☐	☐	Center			10	0	Cable
3	Change	☒	19	☐		0	0	☐	☐	☐	Center			10	0	Change
4	Color	☒	14	☐		0	0	☐	☐	☐	Center			10	0	Color
5	Connector 1	☒	15	☐		0	0	☐	☐	☐	Center			10	0	Connector 1
6	Connector 2	☒	16	☐		0	0	☐	☐	☐	Center			10	0	Connector 2
7	Cost	☒	10	☐		0	0	☐	☐	☐	Center			10	0	Cost
8	Description	☒	12	☐		0	0	☐	☐	☐	Center			10	0	Description
9	Fiber Mode	☒	17	☐		0	0	☐	☐	☐	Center			10	0	Fiber Mode

Custom field for a link type

4.2.1.1 Default custom fields for links

In many projects that utilize a variety of link types, there may be a set of common fields that apply to any type. To save yourself the effort of having to create these fields every time, for every new link type you add in the catalog, you can predefine the default custom fields that netTerrain should create automatically after adding a new link type.

These default custom fields for links can be managed from the catalog dashboard:

netTerrain Catalog

Object Types

Link Types

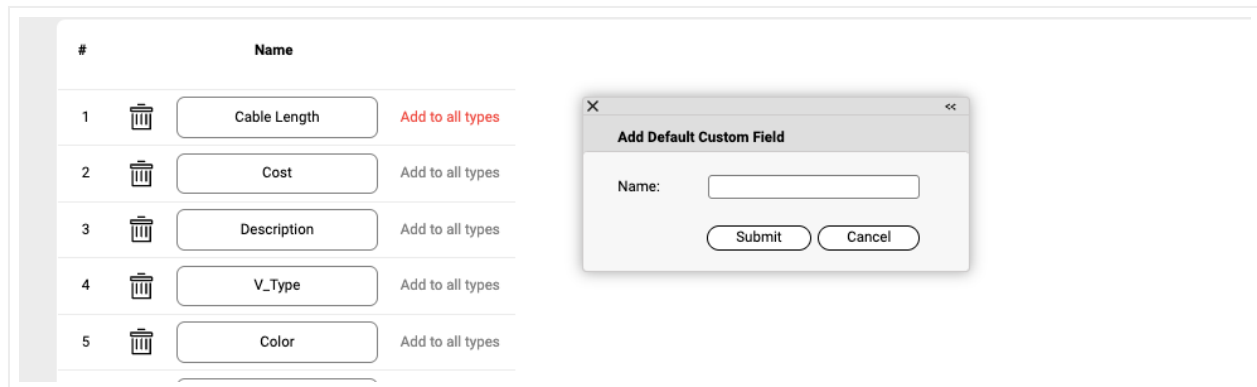
Other Objects

Summary

Link Types	145	Default Custom Fields	Add New
Categories	5		Add New
Fields	3899		Add New
Visual Overrides	260		Add New
Strand Fields	6		Add New
Strand List Values	0		Add New
Circuits Fields	5		Add New
Circuit List Values	1		Add New

Defining default custom fields for links

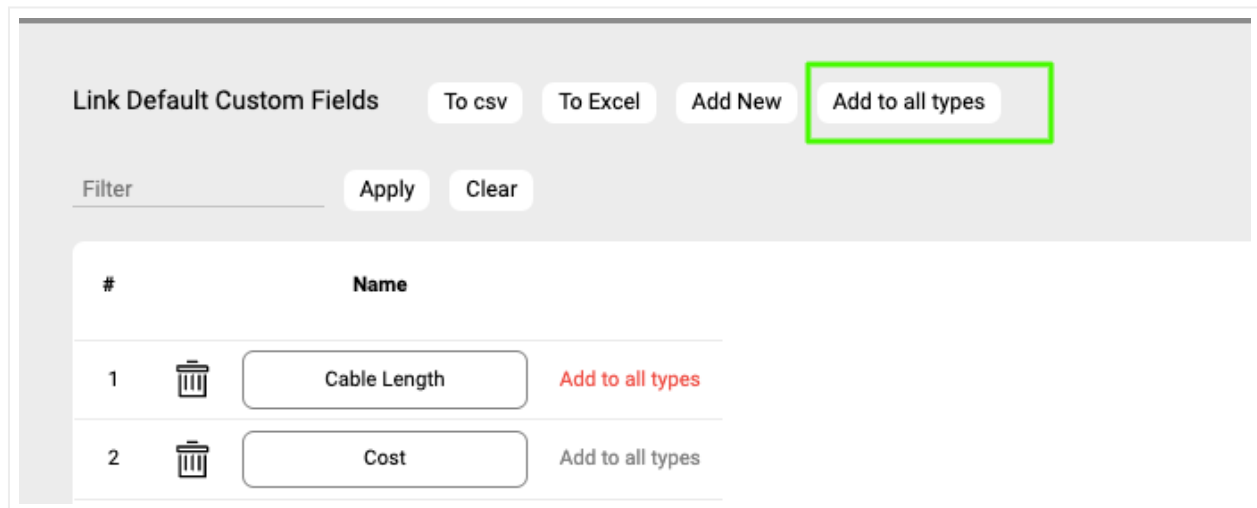
After clicking on the 'Default Custom Fields' link you are taken to a list view where you can manage these default custom fields, as shown below:



Link type default custom fields management

Notice that when you add a new default custom field to the list, the field will be added to any new types created but will not modify the structure of custom fields for existing types.

You can, however, apply all the defined default custom fields to all existing types by pressing on the 'Add to all types' button.



Applying all default custom fields to all types

You can also apply one default custom field to all types by pressing on the "Add to all types" link next to the field, as shown below:

Link Default Custom Fields

To csv

To Excel

Add New

Add to all types

Filter

Apply

Clear

#		Name	
1		Cable Length	Add to all types
2		Cost	Add to all types
3		Description	Add to all types
4		V_Type	Add to all types
5		Color	Add to all types

Adding one default custom field to all types

4.2.1.2 Deleting a custom field

Deleting a custom field is easy: go to the fields list view for the link type and simply press the delete button on the left of the field you want to remove.

Link Fields

To csv

To Excel

Add New

Tagging

Records on page: 100

Records in table: 3899

Filter

Apply

Clear

Records per page: 100

Show Id Field

Default sorting

#	Name	Type	Is in Properties	Is Mandatory	Default Value	List Items	Overrides	Lock List	Is Unique (this type)	Is Displayed	Justification	Font Color	Fill Color	Font Size	Audit Trail	Name
1		A	Console	☒	☐		0	0	☐	☐	Center			10	2	A
2		A name	GE opt.	☒	☐	selfdefrd	0	0	☐	☐	Center			10	0	A name
3		A name	100 optika	☒	☐		0	0	☐	☐	Center			10	0	A name
4		A name	CE 100 link	☒	☐		0	0	☐	☐	Center			10	0	A name
5		A Link cim	CE 100G link	☒	☐		0	0	☐	☐	Center			10	0	A Link
6		A Link cim	CE 1G link	☒	☐		0	0	☐	☐	Center			10	0	A Link
7		A modul	CE 1G link	☒	☐		3	0	☐	☐	Center			10	0	A modul

Deleting a custom field

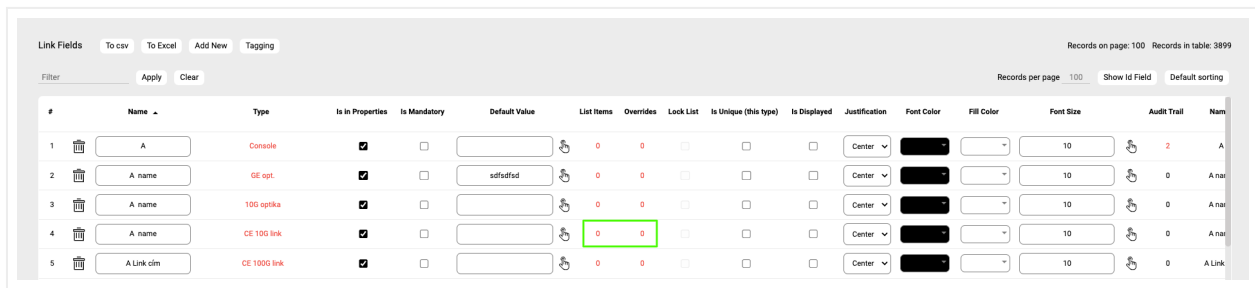
Notice that the delete button is not enabled for the Name and Type system fields.

Attention!

As you might expect, all the values for the field corresponding to instances of that type in the project will be deleted. As such, be careful with this operation, since it cannot be undone.

4.2.2 Creating list items and visual overrides for a link field

As we saw before, when clicking on the override number for a given link type field, one can access the list items and visual overrides list, as shown below.



#	Name	Type	Is In Properties	Is Mandatory	Default Value	List Items	Overrides	Lock List	Is Unique (this type)	Is Displayed	Justification	Font Color	Fill Color	Font Size	Audit Trail	Name
1	A	Console	☒	☐		0	0	☐	☐	☐	Center			10	2	A
2	A name	GE opt.	☒	☐	sdfsd	0	0	☐	☐	☐	Center			10	0	A name
3	A name	100 optika	☒	☐		0	0	☐	☐	☐	Center			10	0	A name
4	A name	CE 100 link	☒	☐		0	0	☐	☐	☐	Center			10	0	A name
5	A Link cdm	CE 100G link	☒	☐		0	0	☐	☐	☐	Center			10	0	A Link

Visual override and list item link for a link field

To create a new list item or visual override for a link type field, go to the fields list and follow these steps:

- Click on the hyperlink that shows the number of overrides (obviously 0 when there are none)
- This will take you to the overrides list for that link type. Click on the 'Add new' button

Value Lists and Overrides for Links To csv To Excel **Add New** Records on page: 100 Records in table: 260

Filter Apply Clear Records per page: 100 Show Id Field Default sorting

#	Link Type	Field	Value	Rule	Is Override	Preview	Thickness	Link Style	Color	Start Arrow	End Arrow	Audit Trail
82	CE 1G link	B modul	10G-ER	=	☐		2	Solid	purple	Plain	Plain	0
83	CE 1G link	B modul	10G-ZR	=	☐		2	Solid	purple	Plain	Plain	0
84	CenturyLink	LType	DIA	=	☒		3	Solid	yellow	Default	Default	0
85	CenturyLink	LType	Cone	=	☒		3	Solid	blue	Default	Default	0
86	CenturyLink	LType	NMI	=	☒		3	Solid	orange	Default	Default	0
87	CenturyLink	LType	TL	=	☒		3	Solid	purple	Default	Default	0
88	Circuit	Fibres	32	=	☒		1	Dash	red	Plain	Plain	0
89	Circuit	Fibres	56	=	☒		1	Dash	red	Plain	Plain	0
90	Circuit	Fibres	128	=	☒		1	Solid	red	Plain	Plain	0

- This opens the dialog for adding a new override. This dialog contains more options than the visual overrides for nodes:
- provide the value that will trigger the override (in the case of a simple list item this is just the list item value)
- specify whether this is an override or not (if you choose false then this completes the process for adding a list item)
- choose the rule that will trigger the override (equal to, contains, greater than, less than)
- set the link thickness, style, arrow terminations and color

Add Override or List Item

Type:

Field:

Value:

Override: ☒

Rule:

Thickness:

Link Style:

Start Arrow:

End Arrow:

Color:

Once the override has been added you can then edit any parameters from the overrides list, as seen in the previous chapter:

- Value
- Rule
- Is Override
- Preview
- Thickness
- Link style
- Color
- Start Arrow
- End Arrow

4.2.2.1 Deleting an override or list item

To delete an override or list item for a link field go to the overrides list view for the link type and field and simply press the delete button on the left of the entry you want to remove.

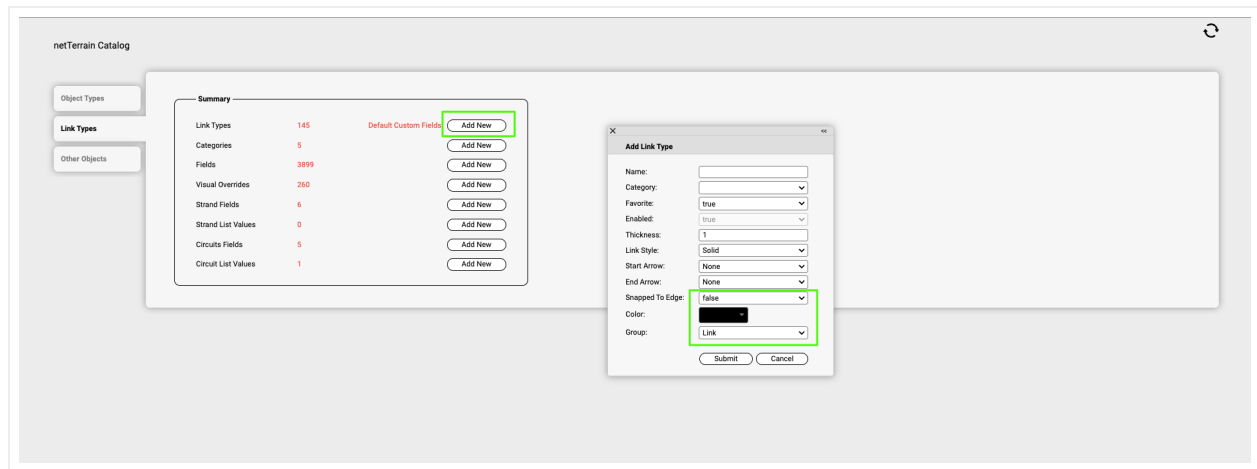
4.3 Cables and strands

Fiber strands are thin glass optical lines bundled inside a bigger fiber cable. They transmit information by means of light signals with certain wavelengths. As shown later in the guide, when a user creates a cable with a strand count greater than 0, strands are created automatically when an end-user creates for an instance of such a cable in the project.

In the context of netTerrain, a cable is a link that contains strands. As soon as you define a strand count greater than zero for a link type, we like to refer to that link as a cable. Cables usually exist in Outside Plant (OSP) projects since these require the management of strands. We'll talk about strands in the next section.

4.3.1 Creating a cable with strands

To create a cable with strand start by creating a regular link as described in the previous section. In the Group drop down box at the end choose the strands cable option.



Once the strands cable option is selected, the 'Mode' and 'StrandQty' fields let you specify the number of strands you want created for every instance of this strands cable type and its mode.

Cables sometimes have a mode assigned (see Link Types View section), so that all its derived strands can inherit that mode. Once strands have been defined for that cable, any instances of that type will automatically have those strands created in the project.

4.3.2 Strand lists

To view the list of strands for a cable type, click on the strand count hyperlink under the strands column:

Link Types															
To csv To Excel Add New Filter Apply Clear Records on page: 100 Records in table: 145 Records per page: 100 Show Id Field Default sorting															
Is Favorite	Is Enabled	Preview	Thickness	Link Style	Color	Start Arrow	End Arrow	Snapped To Edge	Restrictions	Matching Port Connectors	Strands	Use For ACRA Patch	Excludable From ACRA	Audit Trail	Name
☒	☐		1	Solid	Black	None	None	☐	0	☐	1024	☐	☐	0	1024 Strands
☒	☐		1	Solid	Black	None	None	☐	0	☐	512	☐	☐	1	strand color test
☒	☐		1	Solid	Black	None	None	☐	0	☐	288	☐	☐	3	TEST_MADRID
☒	☐		4	Solid	Yellow	None	None	☐	0	☐	288	☐	☐	1	288 Strand SM
☒	☐		1	Solid	Black	None	None	☐	0	☐	288	☐	☐	1	Test Ribbon 1
☒	☐		1	Solid	Black	None	None	☐	0	☐	256	☐	☐	1	256 strands test
☒	☐		1	Solid	Red	None	None	☐	0	☐	144	☐	☐	0	Telstra
☒	☐		1	Solid	Blue	None	None	☐	0	☐	144	☐	☐	0	144 Strand Multi
☒	☐		1	Solid	Blue	None	None	☐	0	☐	82	☐	☐	4	12 strand multi colortest
☒	☐		2	Solid	Red	None	None	☐	0	☐	77	☐	☐	1	77 Strand
☒	☐		1	Solid	Red	None	None	☐	0	☐	72	☐	☐	0	72 Strand Fiber
☒	☐		1	Solid	Black	None	None	☐	0	☐	48	☐	☐	2	48 Strand Cable
☒	☐		1	Solid	Blue	None	None	☐	0	☐	24	☐	☐	1	24 Strand Fiber
☒	☐		1	Solid	Blue	None	None	☐	0	☐	24	☐	☐	22	24 Strand Fiber- cloneHFI

This will open a new table view containing all the strands for that cable:

Predefined Strands (Link Type: 12 strand fiber NPO)

To csv To Excel Add New Add TIA strands

Filter Apply Clear

#		Name	Buffer Color	Strand Color	Stripe Color	Mode	Properties Values
1	 	001				Single	1
2	 	002				Single	1
3	 	003				Single	1
4	 	004				Single	1
5	 	005				Single	1
6	 	006				Single	1
7	 	007				Single	1
8	 	008				Single	1
9	 	009				Single	1
10	 	010				Single	1
11	 	011				Single	1
12	 	012				Single	1

1 out of 1 < > 1 Go

Let us review the different UI elements of this view:

A) Next to the standard buttons you have already seen in other views for csv export and adding new instances, you'll find a particular button to add 'TIA strands'. This is a button that creates a set of 12 strands using the standardized TIA standard color code. B) The delete button, of course, deletes a strand from the cable type and the apply button applies any changes to all instances of the given strand C) The strand and buffer color definitions used here will be reflected in the project for ports that connect a strand and in strand lists. Users can modify the colors of strands and buffers but by default the colors will reflect the TIA standard where the buffer colors will also follow the strand color sequence for every 12 strands. The mode drop-down box lets users define the default mode for that strand, usually to prevent hybrid modes on a circuit path. D) The property values hyperlink opens the Predefined Strand Properties Values list where users can change the default value for a custom property for that strand.

Predefined Strand Properties Values (Strand: 001)
To csv
To Excel

Filter
Apply
Clear

#	Name ▲	Properties Values
1	Assignment	
2	comments	
3	Customer	
4	Name	001
5	Test1	
6	Test2	

1 out of 1
<
>
1
Go

4.3.3 Strand colors

For high strand counts or cables with bundles (or buffers) of 12 strands it is common to identify each strand with a color code standard adopted from the early TIA telephone standards for copper wire, as shown in the table below.

Fiber Number	Color
1	Blue
2	Orange
3	Green
4	Brown
5	Slate
6	White

Fiber Number	Color
7	Red
8	Black
9	Yellow
10	Violet
11	Rose
12	Aqua

The netTerrain catalog supports the TIA standard for the creation of strands in cables by automatically creating sets of 12 strands with the color code shown above. These colors can be overwritten on a strand-by-strand basis.

For cables with less than 145 strands, you typically organize the cable by strands and buffers. Each buffer normally contains 12 strands, and the buffer color (in the TIA standard) follows the same pattern as each strand and changes color every 12 strands.

For very high strand counts netTerrain also supports so-called “stripes”, an extra color-coded category (between the cable and the buffer level). Usually, stripes make sense with cables that have more than 144 strands, since after that, the buffer colors repeat. The idea behind the stripes is to make sure that each strand has a unique color identifier (which, in a 12-color pattern, would see repetitions after 144 strands). With the extra stripe layer, the number of unique color-coded strands would be 12-cubed (1728).

You can set up stripe colors for your cables in the catalog the same way you do it with buffers. By default, netTerrain follows the TIA standard and assigns stripe colors only for cables with a count higher than 144 strands and the color pattern is the same one used for strands and buffers. These patterns and colors can be overwritten on a per strand basis.

For more information about high-density cables using stripe, subunit, strand and buffer configurations and colors, check the section on ribbon cables.

4.3.4 Strand fields

Just like with ports, there are no strand types in the catalog, however, a power-user can create custom fields for those strands. To do this, follow these steps:

1) First, click on the Strand Fields hyperlink located in the summary section of the catalog dashboard:

Summary	
Link Types	55
Categories	5
Fields	291
Visual Overrides	383
Strand Fields	2
Strand List Values	4
Circuits Fields	2
Circuit List Values	2

2) Then from the Strand Properties list view click on 'Add New' to add a new custom property. This property will appear for all strands in the project and will be visible from the strand list (see End-user guide).

Strand Properties

To csv

To Excel

Add New

Filter

Apply

Clear

#		Name ▲	Property Order	List Items
1		Assignment	1 ▼	0
2		comments	2 ▼	0
3		Customer	5 ▼	0
4		Name	0	0
5		Test1	3 ▼	0
6		Test2	4 ▼	0

1 out of 1

< >

1

Go

Add Strand Property

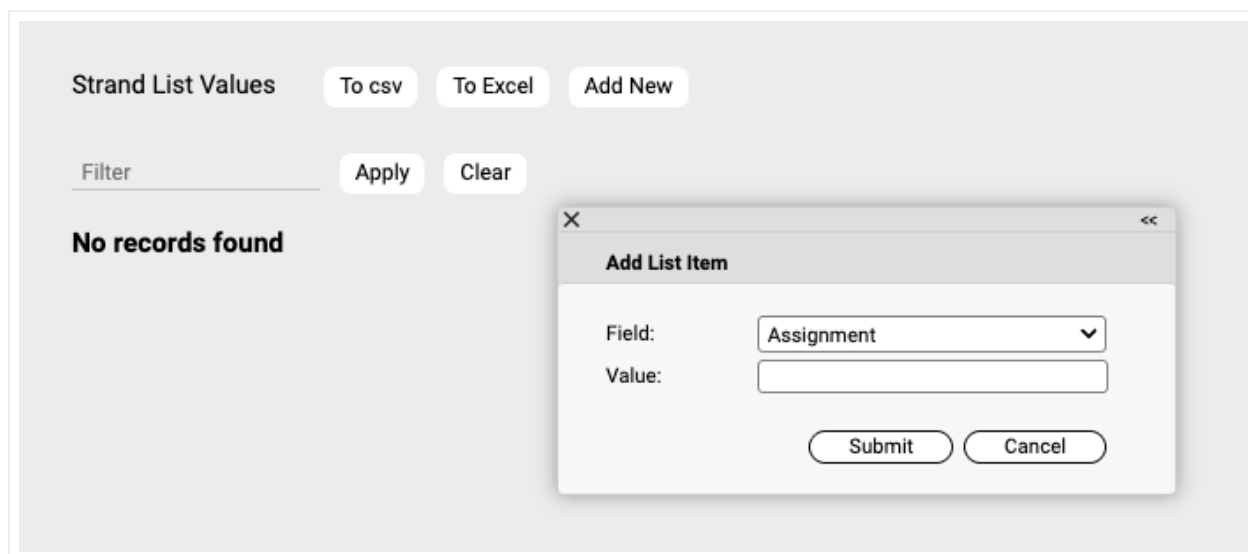
Name:

Submit

Cancel

Adding a custom strand property

Just like with node and link properties, any strand property other than the name can be configured as a list box. Once an item (or value) has been included in the list for a given property, that property will be displayed as a list box in the project. To add values to a list box property simply click on the hyperlink number under the List Items header next to the property. This will take you to the 'Strand list values' view, from where you can add a new value by clicking on the 'Add New' button:

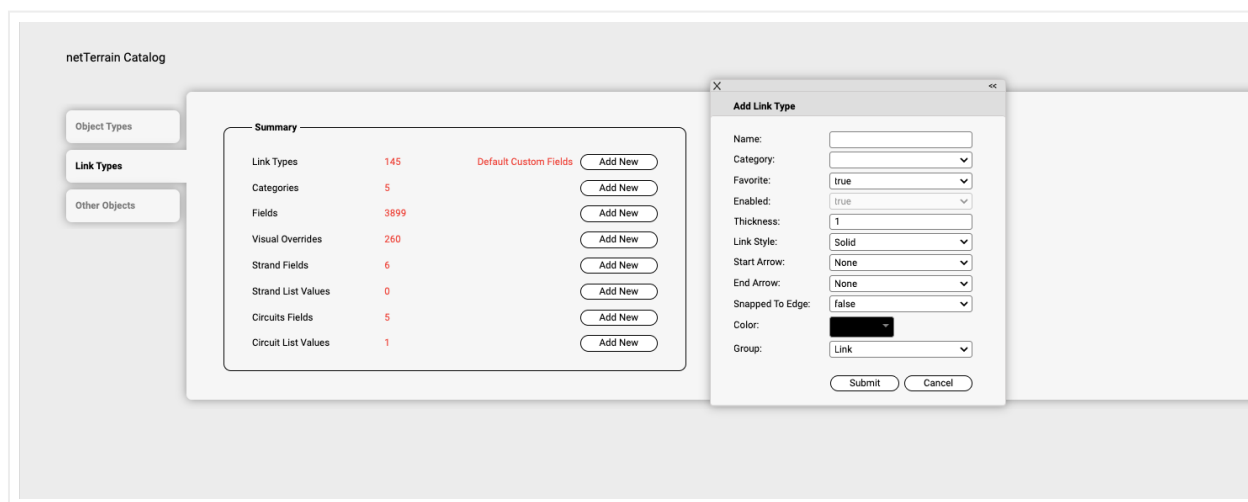


Adding a new value to a List Box property

4.3.5 Breakout cables

In netTerrain you can create cables that don't necessarily have a one-to-one termination layout but instead use an N-to-N configuration, called breakout cables.

To create a breakout cable start by creating a regular link as described in the previous sections. In the Group drop down box at the end choose the breakout cable option.



Once the strands cable option is selected, you can choose the number of terminations on each side.

4.3.6 Ribbon Cables

netTerrain supports fiber optic cable management with automatic color coding based on the **TIA/EIA-598** industry standard. This section explains how ribbon cables are created in the catalog. The admin guide has a section explaining how to customize their color identification through configuration settings.

4.3.6.1 What is a ribbon cable?

A ribbon cable (also known as a fiber ribbon or ribbon fiber cable) is a type of fiber optic cable where multiple optical fibers are arranged side-by-side in a flat, ribbon-like structure. Unlike traditional loose-tube or tight-buffered cables where fibers are bundled loosely, ribbon cables bond fibers together in a precise linear arrangement.

Ribbon cables offer higher density (up to 3,456 fibers in a single cable) , faster splicing with mass fusion splicing allowing 12 fibers to be spliced simultaneously and an overall organized structure ideal for hyperscale data centers.

4.3.6.2 Ribbon configurations

Each strand within a Ribbon Cable has four color properties for identification:

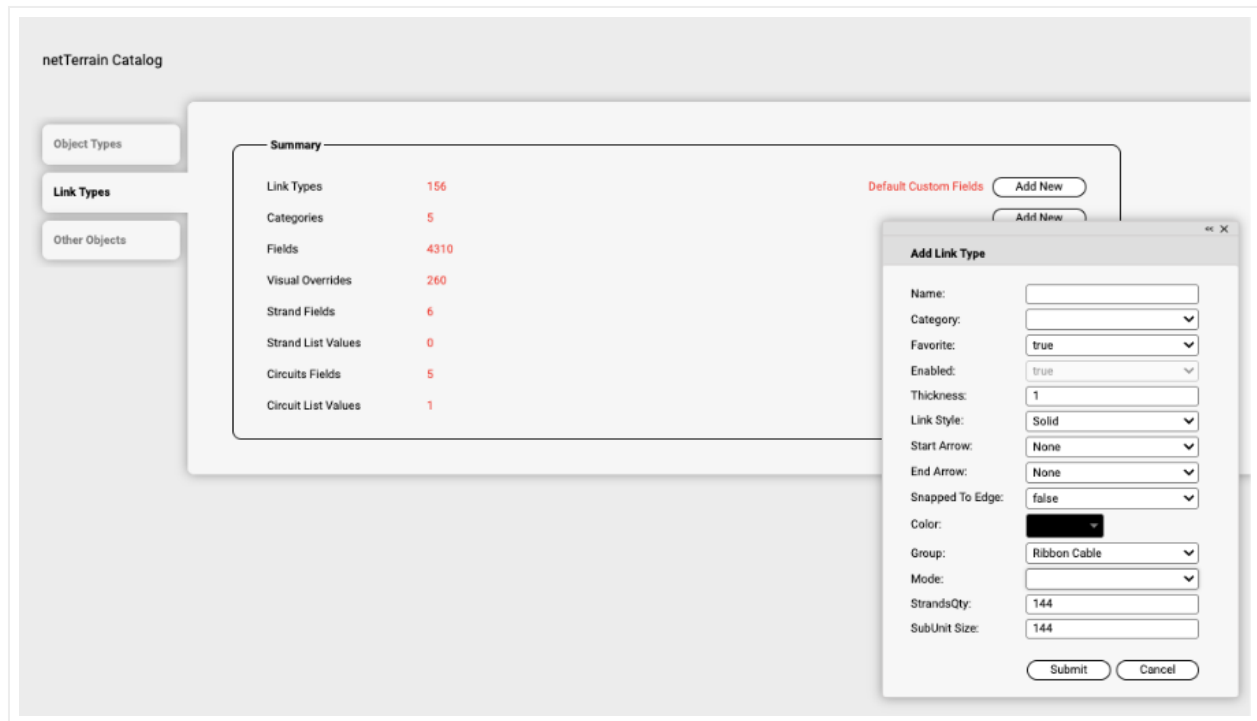
- Strand color: the primary identification color of the individual fiber strand
- Buffer color: color of the buffer tube containing the strand
- Subunit color: color identifying which subunit (ribbon) the strand belongs to
- Stripe color: optional marking stripe for high-density cable differentiation

A subunit represents one physical ribbon within the cable. Each subunit typically contains 12 fibers (though this is configurable), and each fiber within a subunit is color-coded using the (customizable) TIA/EIA-598 standard.

Stripes provide additional identification for high-density cables. The stripe pattern is configurable via Settings.xml.

4.3.6.3 Creating a ribbon cable

To create a ribbon cable in the catalog simply head over to the 'Links' section, add a new link, and then choose 'Ribbon cable' from the group drop-down, as depicted below:



Creating a ribbon cable

The subunit size is typically a fraction of the total strand quantity. For example, if the strand quantity is 288, and the subunit size is 144, then the cable will contain 2 subunits of 144 strands each, where the subunit color cycles from one color for the first 144 strands to the next color from strands 145 to 288 (typically those colors, per TIA standard are first blue, then orange).

Once the ribbon cable is created, any user that instantiate that ribbon type mentioned in the example above, will see a cable with 288 strand instances across two subunits.

4.3.7 Air blown fiber (ABF) cables

4.3.7.1 Introduction to air blown fiber (ABF)

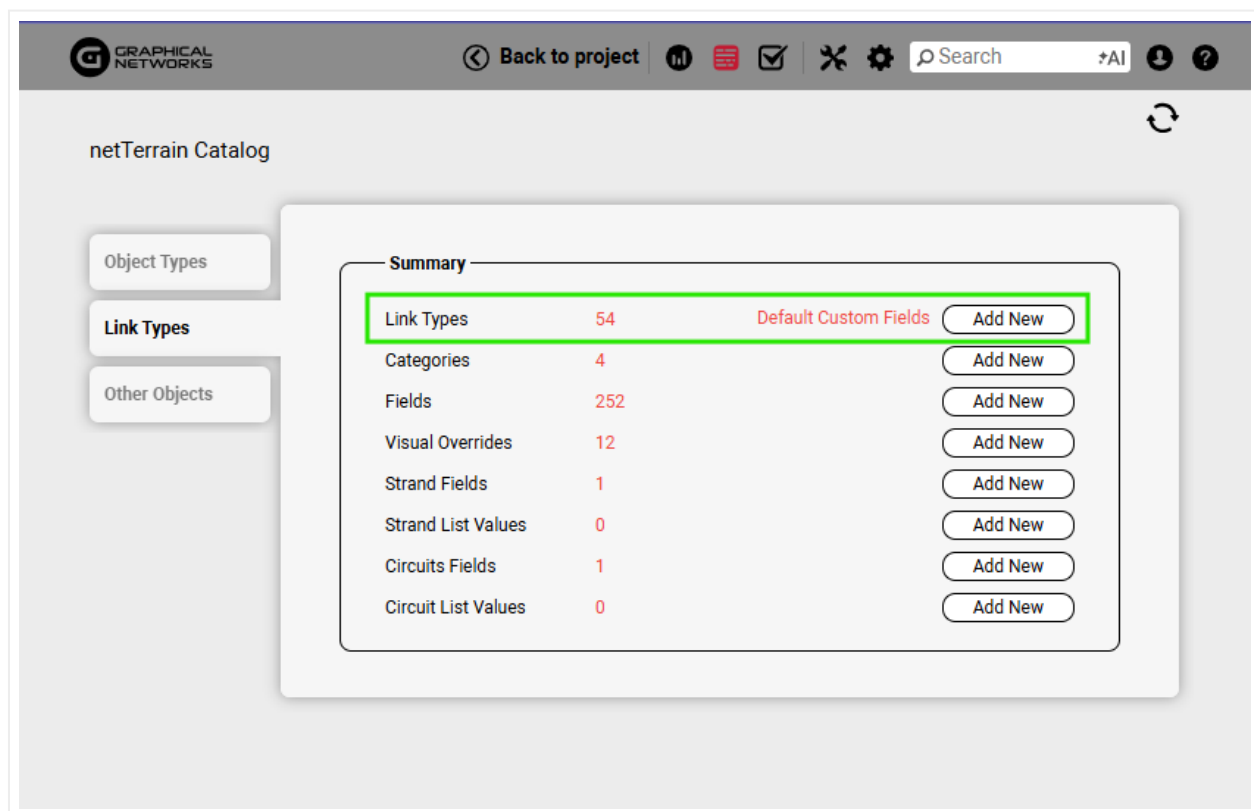
Air blown fiber (ABF) in netTerrain represents a hierarchical fiber infrastructure where fibers are installed inside tubes instead of being directly placed in a conduit. This model reflects real-world deployments where fibers are blown through tubes previously deployed in a network. ABF allows you to visualize, manage, and track capacity at each tube level. By modeling tubes and fibers separately, netTerrain helps you understand how physical space is consumed over time. This approach provides a more accurate representation of modern fiber networks.

ABF is commonly used in different scenarios where flexibility and future expansion are required. It is especially useful when fibers are installed incrementally rather than all at once. ABF helps track which tubes are occupied and which remain available for future growth. It is also valuable for planning upgrades, auditing capacity, and avoiding over-allocation. Network designers and operators use ABF to keep long-term control of physical infrastructure usage.

With ABF, you can model tube structures, create links that include those tubes, and assign fibers to specific tubes. You can visualize how fibers are distributed across the tube hierarchy and monitor available capacity at each level. ABF allows you to move fibers between tubes as the network evolves. Overall, ABF helps you design, operate, and maintain fiber networks more efficiently.

4.3.7.2 Modeling ABF tubes

ABF tubes are modeled from the catalog, by creating a new link type. When defining the link type, you assign a name and select the appropriate group. Within the group options, you choose ABF tube, which enables ABF-specific configuration. This link type defines the tube structure that will later be used when creating links. Modeling ABF always starts at the catalog level and not directly on the link.



Adding a new link

When defining the link type, you assign a name and select the appropriate group. Within the group options, you choose ABF tube, which enables an ABF-specific configuration which sets the tube structure that will later be instantiated in the project.

An ABF structure is hierarchical and starts with a main tube. Inside the main tube, you define one or more subtubes. Subtubes represent smaller tubes that physically exist inside the main tube. This hierarchy reflects how fibers are deployed in real ABF installations. Each level of the hierarchy is used to control capacity and organization.

For each tube, you can specify the number of subtubes and the number of micro-tubes contained within them. Micro-tubes are the smallest units and are typically where fibers are placed. These quantities define the total capacity available for fiber assignments later on. Once saved, this structure becomes part of the link type and is reused consistently across links. The tube structure is fixed at creation time.

In most commercial ABF deployments, micro-tubes are not physically present or actively used. In netTerrain, micro-tubes exist primarily as a logical unit that allows more detailed modeling if needed in the future. They are provided to support advanced or specialized scenarios, but they are not mandatory. When micro-tubes are not used, the micro-tube quantity should be set to zero, allowing fibers to be assigned directly to subtubes. This keeps the model simple while still accurately reflecting real-world installations.

4.4 Circuits

In an OSP project a circuit can be many things: a service between two points A and Z on a map, an MPLS connection going over fiber or really any logical relationship between points that uses physical resources of the network. One thing is quite consistent in fiber plant layouts though: circuits traverse from A to Z over strands that are inside cables (probably in some conduit) through several hops. And there can be thousands of them.

In past versions of netTerrain users created circuits as simple links between two nodes. This is possible to do in OSP projects as well, but not very practical. Traditional netTerrain links are not always well suited for this type of behavior. Therefore, in version 8 we have created a specific entity called circuits, perfectly optimized for fiber plant projects.

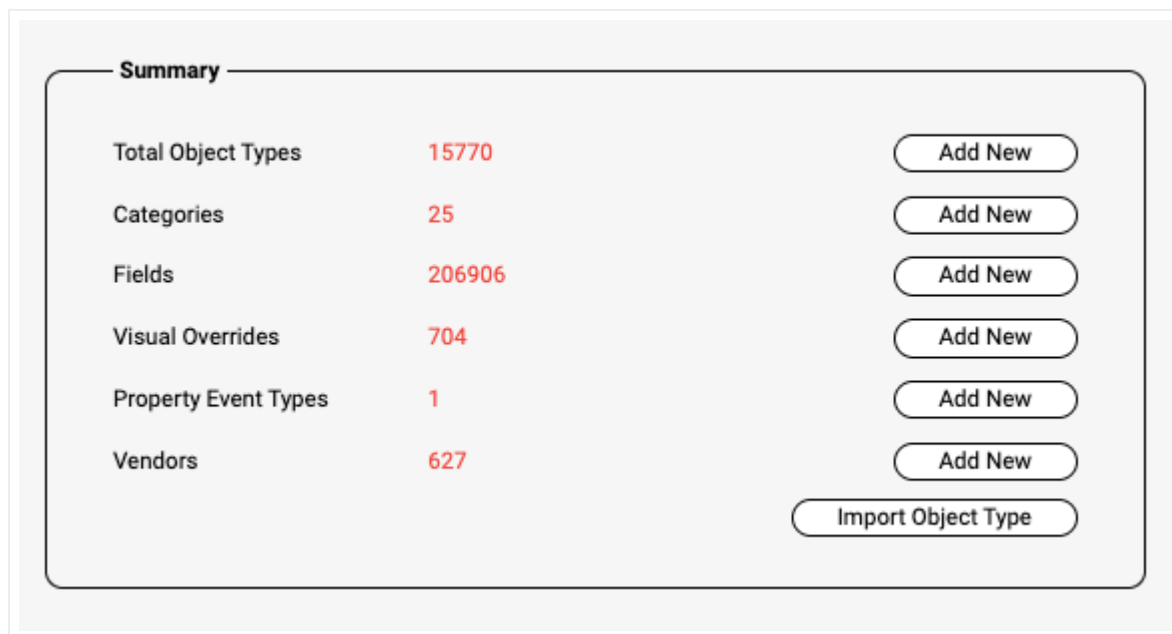
Some of the advantages of using this type of entity to represent your OSP circuits over a traditional link are the following:

- Easy mapping of circuit to strand without having to individually bundle each hop
- Smart algorithm to find the optimal path between two endpoints
- Automatic patching of circuits along its path
- Automatic reservation of resources
- Convenient menu options to create a diverse and redundant circuit from an existing one
- Dedicated circuit views and searches
- Better performance

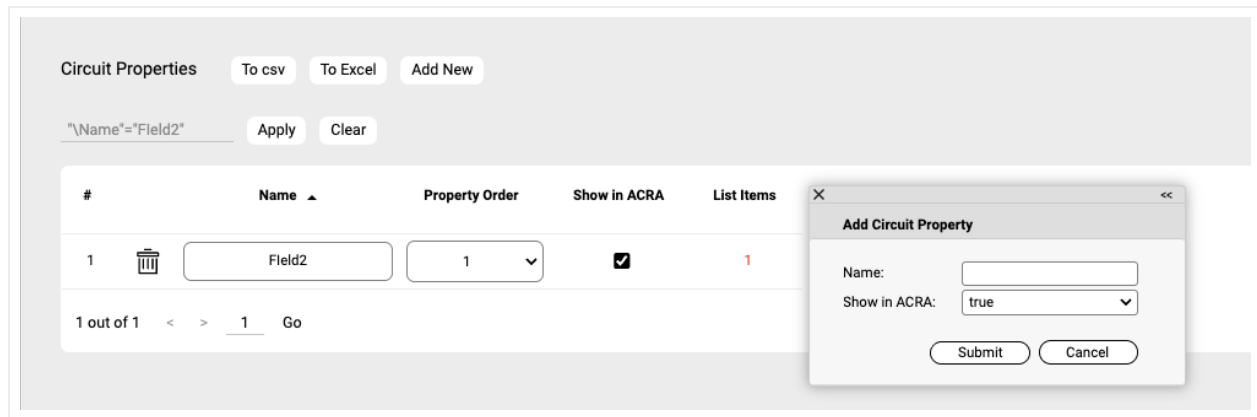
4.4.1 Circuit fields

Just like with strands, there are no circuit types in the catalog, however, a power-user can create custom fields for those circuits. To do this, follow these steps:

1) First, click on the Circuit Fields hyperlink located in the summary section of the catalog dashboard:



2) From the Circuit Properties list view click on 'Add New' to add a new custom property. This property will appear for all circuits in the project and will be visible from the circuit list views. Here you can also check if a custom property appears in the creation process using the Automated Circuit Routing Algorithm (ACRA). If you want to keep a custom field out of the ACRA process, just uncheck the 'Show in ACRA' checkbox. For more information on the ACRA please see the End-user guide.



Adding a custom circuit property

5 Smart Objects

In previous chapters, we learned how to work with nodes and links, which can be used for a variety of purposes. In this chapter, we focus on the more sophisticated part of netTerrain: the creation and modeling of “smart objects” typically used in Data Center Infrastructure Management projects (DCIM).

Previously we saw a brief overview of smart objects and if you are a user of netTerrain DCIM you probably want to use them to document things like routers, switches, cards or cabinets, so that you can take advantage of some of the business rules and automation that netTerrain offers. Let’s review them here again:

For devices and cards:

- An extensive predefined library of makes and models
- Automatic creation of subcomponents (ports and slot)
- Automatic creation of a background image
- Awareness of physical size and weight
- Easy “snap in” for rack mounting
- Awareness of power consumption
- Ability to receive automatic alarms from the Integration Toolkit (ITK)
- More comprehensive modeling capabilities such as reference node location
- Ability to restrict which card types can be positioned under which slot
- Pre-defined reports in the dashboard

For racks:

- Awareness of rack unit occupancy
- Automatic creation of a background image
- Smart aggregation of dependent devices for rack occupancy, power and weight consumption
- Pre-defined visual overrides on floor plans for rack occupancy, power and weight thresholds
- Pre-defined reports in the dashboard

Generic nodes (or simply nodes) have none of these capabilities. They are simply modeled as objects that have an image, a set of fields, and visual overrides.

5.1 Racks

A Rack is a “container” for smart devices. Other objects can also be placed inside the rack diagram, but without the smart rack mounting (snapping) feature and the tracking and aggregation of power, weight and rack occupancy statistics.

Note that racks can only be created and modeled in netTerrain DCIM.

5.1.1 Creating a rack type

You can create a new rack type in a few different ways:

- Import a Json or Zip device package
- Create the rack manually step-by-step from the catalog
- Drag and drop an image from a browser or folder and follow the rest of the process manually

In this section we will go over the import and manual creation process and later we will review the detailed manual rack modeling process.

5.1.1.1 Creating a rack from a Json or Zip package

One of the beauties of maintenance is that Graphical Networks can model device, card and rack types for you. To do so, simply enter a ticket in your support portal with basic information about make and model and we will model the rack with its backplane image, size and more. We will then deliver a Zip or Json file to you, which you can then import into your catalog.

To import the file into the catalog simply go to the catalog Rack section, click on 'Import Zip' or 'Import Json' at the top, browse for your file and voila!

Rack Types

Switch to category view

To csv

To Excel

Add New

Import Object Type

Records on page: 100

Records in table: 208

Filter

Apply

Clear

Records per page 100

Show Id Field

Default sorting

#	Group	Name	Category	Default Image	Fields	Overrides	Instances	Is Favorite	Is Enabled	Default Width [cm]	Default Height [cm]	Keep Aspect Ratio	Template	In Stock
1	Rack	2 post rack 42U			15	2	31			1.09628	1.277694			
2	Rack	38d			14	0	12			0.5	0.5			
3	Rack	40d			14	0	4			0.5	0.5			
4	Rack	42d			15	0	2			0.5	0.5			
5	Rack	44d			14	0	12			0.5	0.5			
6	Rack	47U Rack			14	0	0			0.5	0.5			
7	Rack	AMCO R-TN-42U24-42			14	0	0			0.5	0.5			
8	Rack	APC 48U 60x105			14	0	5			0.5	0.5			
9	Rack	APC 48U 60x105 D			14	0	0			0.5	0.5			

5.1.1.2 Creating a rack manually

To add a new rack type, go to the catalog and look for the 'Add New' button next to the racks group. You can also click on the ## value next to the "Racks". This will list all existing Racks. Then you can click on the 'Create New' button.

Groups				
Nodes	449			Add New
Line Nodes	3			Add New
Racks	208	Default Custom Fields		Add New
Devices	9359	Default Custom Fields		Add New
Cards	5744	Default Custom Fields		Add New
Port Object				

Pressing the add button will bring up a pop-up dialog box that can be used to create a new rack type in the catalog.

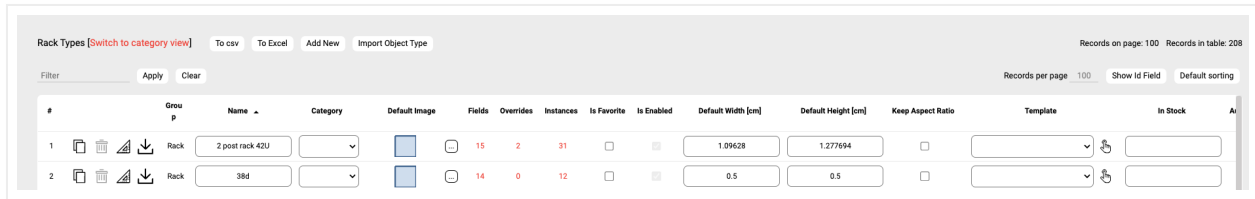
Adding a new rack type

Let's review each field:

- **Name:** type in the name of the new node type. This name must be unique and cannot exceed 255 characters.
- **Category:** assigns the rack to a specific category..
- **Image:** this is a mandatory step when creating a rack. The supported image types include PNG, JPEG, GIF, and SVG. The image that is uploaded will be the image that will be displayed when the rack is used in a diagram, unless overridden by a visual override. You will also see a thumbnail of the image in certain catalog list views. The image will be uploaded and stored on the netTerrain application server. Remember, this is not the rack front or back view image you need here, this is merely the overhead image you want displayed on a floor plan, so we recommend using a simple square.
- **Favorite:** set the value as true if you would like the new rack type to show up in the favorites list in the project. Favorites are filtered from the rest of the types on the project side when clicking on the 'Rack' button in the insert menu or checking the 'fav' option in the floating catalog.
- **Enabled:** if you would like the rack type to show up in the type drop down box list when you work with rack instances then it needs to be enabled. This list is displayed when you click on an existing rack that has been added to a diagram. Disabled racks are automatically removed from the favorites list.
- **Default Width:** the default width of new racks of this type when added to a diagram. Units are in inches.
- **Default Height:** the default height of new racks of this type when added to a diagram. Units are in inches.

Important to note is that the previous sizes refer to the image of the rack node, not the physical dimensions assigned to the container sub diagram. The physical sizes are defined later in this section.

Once the rack has been added to the catalog, netTerrain shows the new type in the rack list view, as depicted below:



#	Group	Name	Category	Default Image	Fields	Overrides	Instances	Is Favorite	Is Enabled	Default Width [cm]	Default Height [cm]	Keep Aspect Ratio	Template	In Stock
1	Rack	2 post rack 42U			15	2	31			1.09628	1.277694			
2	Rack	384			14	0	12			0.5	0.5			

New rack type displayed in the rack list view

Just like we did with regular nodes, you can add custom fields, define visual overrides, assign the type to a category and so on. You can refer to the generic node type section to review each one of these operations.

5.1.1.3 Limiting inventory with the 'In stock' option

If you would like to use netTerrain for inventory control, the 'In Stock' option lets you limit the number of instances of a given rack type that can be added in the project.

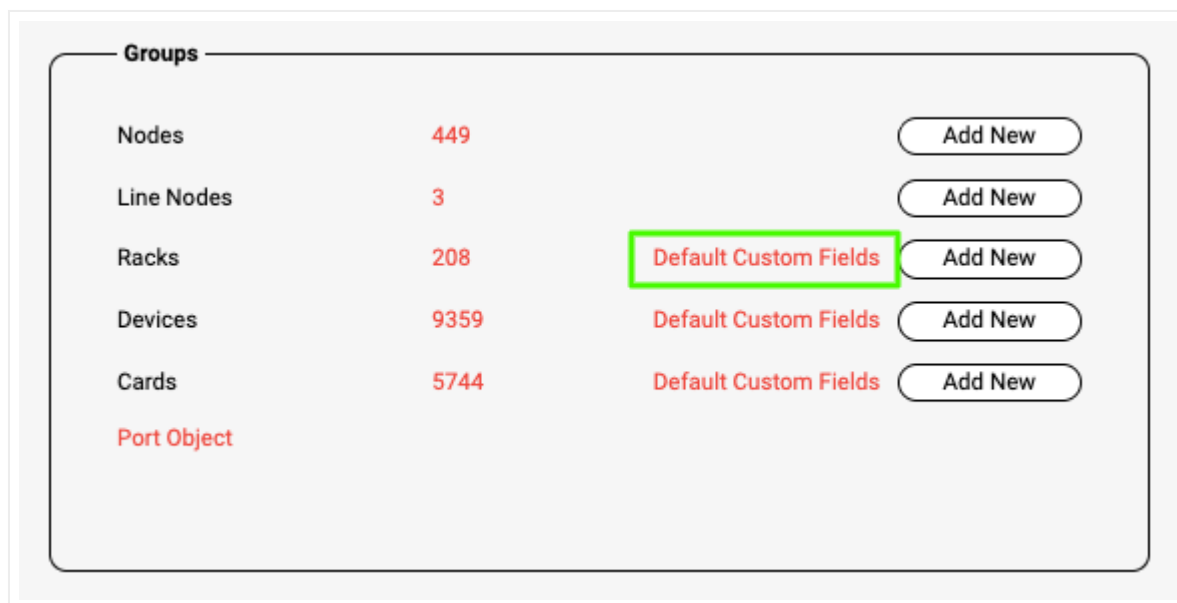
This field is optional and if a rack type has a set 'In stock' value, then any user trying to import or drag and drop a rack of that type into the project, can only do so if the number of instances does not exceed said value.

To remove any existing inventory limits, simply blank out the field.

5.1.1.4 Default custom fields for racks

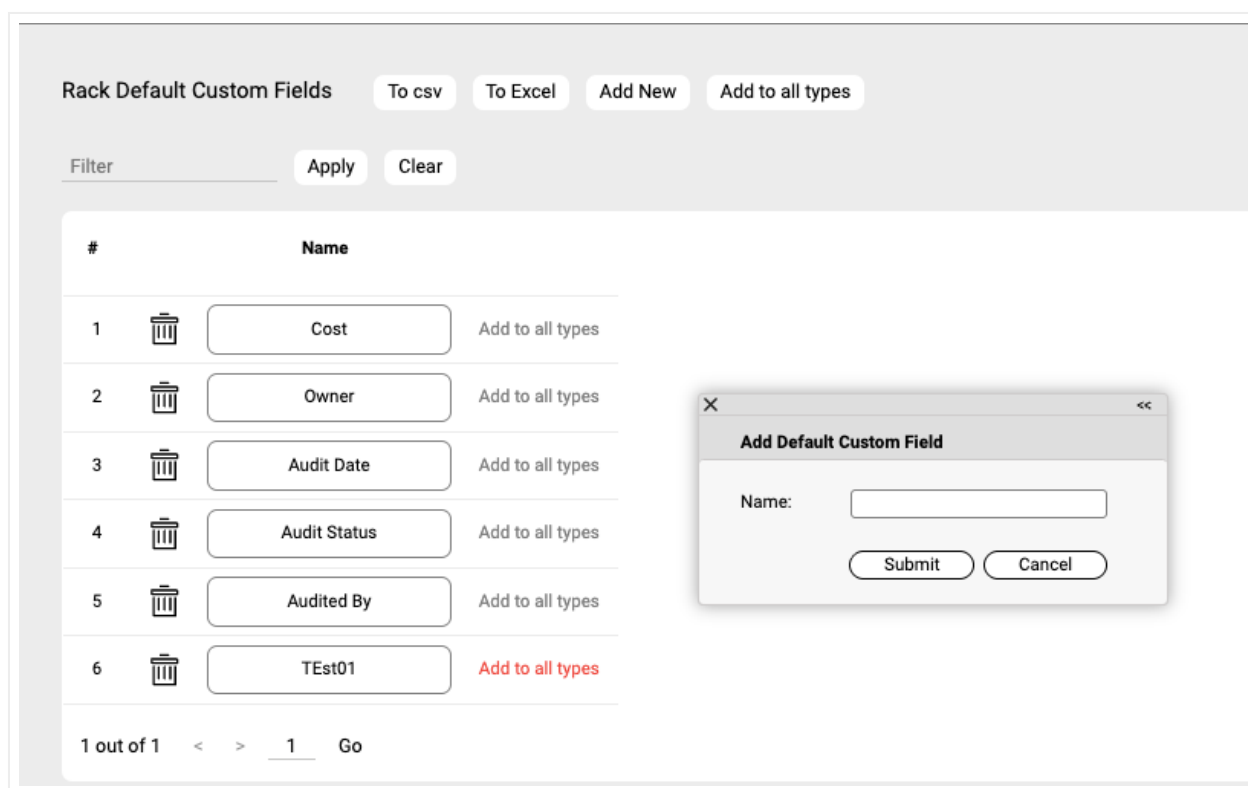
In many projects that utilize a variety of rack types, there may be a set of common fields that apply to any type. To save yourself the effort of having to create these fields every time, for every new rack type you add in the catalog, you can predefine the default custom fields that netTerrain should create automatically after adding a new rack type.

These default custom fields for racks can be managed from the catalog dashboard:



Defining default custom fields for racks

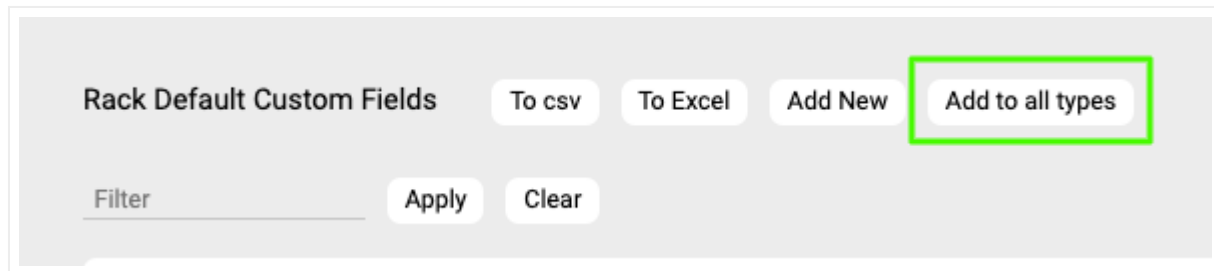
After clicking on the 'Default Custom Fields' link you are taken to a list view where you can manage these default custom fields, as shown below:



Rack type default custom fields management

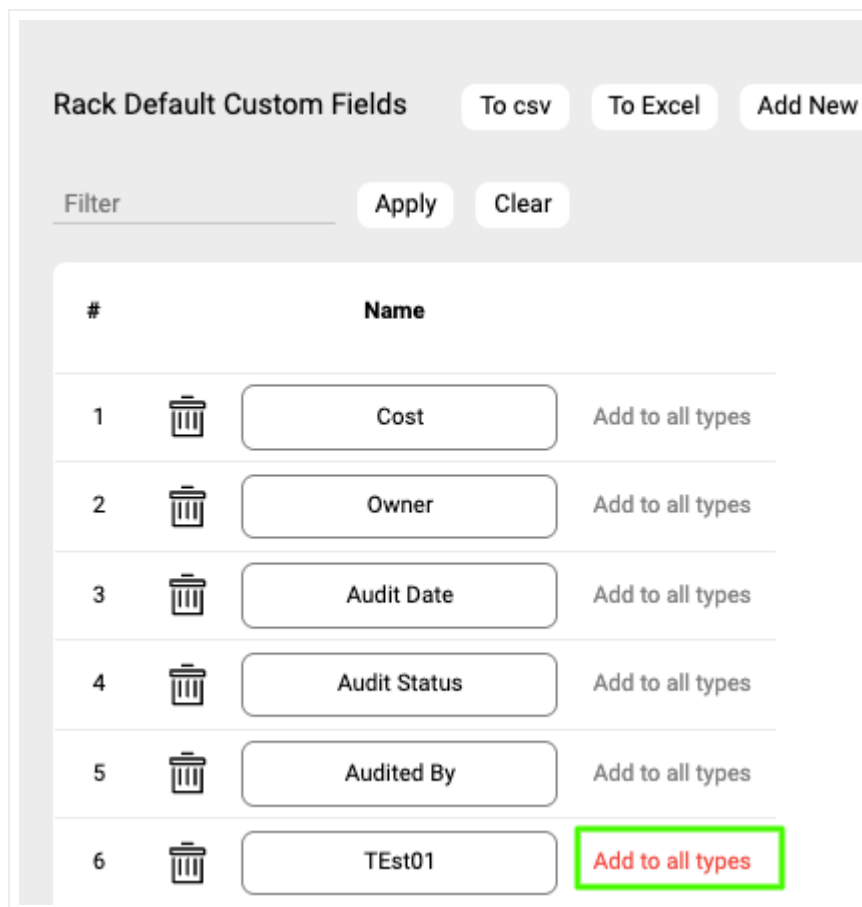
Notice that when you add a new default custom field to the list, the field will be added to any new types created but will not modify the structure of custom fields for existing types.

You can, however, apply the defined default custom fields to all existing types by pressing on the 'Add to all types' button.



Applying default custom fields to all types

You can also apply one default custom field to all types by pressing on the "Add to all types" link next to the field, as shown below:



Adding one default custom field to all types

5.1.2 Rack modeling process

The rack modeling process allows you to create containers inside racks, which can then be used for rack mounting devices. Containers are placeholders for devices, and they are aware of their width and height. Proper sizing of containers will then allow netTerrain to nicely snap devices inside these placeholders and compute rack unit occupancy rates.

In addition to creating containers, the rack modeling process allows you to specify properties for the rack.

After the initial creation of the rack, you can proceed with the modeling. If you are still in the list view for the

rack you created, you should see a 'Modeler' button

Clone Delete Modeler

. If you are

not in the rack list view, go to the 'Catalog' and click on the rack group # count.

To get started with the modeling process, first fill in the rack properties.

Inspector	
Properties	Settings
Power [W]	0
Max Weight [lb]	0
Description	42U rack
Vendor	N/A
Template	
Display Rack Lines ...	No
Coupled Front/Bac...	No
Depth Enabled	No
Container Children	1
Instances	1

Rack properties in modeler

These properties include:

- **Power:** maximum power that this rack type would typically supply for devices that will be rack mounted on it. This is not a mandatory field and can be modified on a per rack instance basis. As such, we could say that this value represents the default peak power supported by this rack type. Note that if the maximum power is exceeded, this will not prevent users from mounting more devices on the rack.
- **Max Weight:** this is the maximum weight of all rack mounted devices that this rack can handle. This is not a mandatory field and can be modified on a per rack instance basis. Note that if the maximum weight is exceeded, this will not prevent users from mounting more devices on the rack.
- **Description:** non-mandatory field used as a short description for this rack type
- **Vendor:** this field is a non-mandatory lookup value from the vendors table. If the vendor is not on the list it will need to be added before proceeding (see previous chapter).
- **Display Rack Lines:** allows the Rack Unit lines to be turned on or off.
- **Coupled Front/Back mounting:** this checkbox enables dual views for devices mounted on one side (more on this later).
- **Depth Enabled:** when Coupled Front/Back mounting is enabled, this option activates depth validation for devices mounted on the rack. When set to Yes, netTerrain checks that front-mounted and rear-mounted devices fit within the rack's physical depth before allowing placement. This option is only editable when Coupled Front/Back mounting is set to Yes, and becomes read-only once rack instances exist in the project.
- **Physical Dep:** the total physical depth of the rack, expressed in the project's configured depth unit. This field appears below the existing physical width and height fields and is used as the reference value for depth validation.
- **Extra Space:** the minimum gap (in depth units) that must remain between the rear face of the front-mounted device and the front face of the rear-mounted device in a coupled slot. This field is only visible when Depth Enabled is set to Yes. Valid range: 0 to the rack's Physical Depth.
- **Container children:** this represents the number of containers used for this rack type. Typically, there are just one or two containers used for a rack. Later, we will review the modeling process for racks and how we can use containers.
- **Instances:** the number of occurrences of this rack type in the project. Naturally, this value is zero if you are modeling this rack type for the first time.

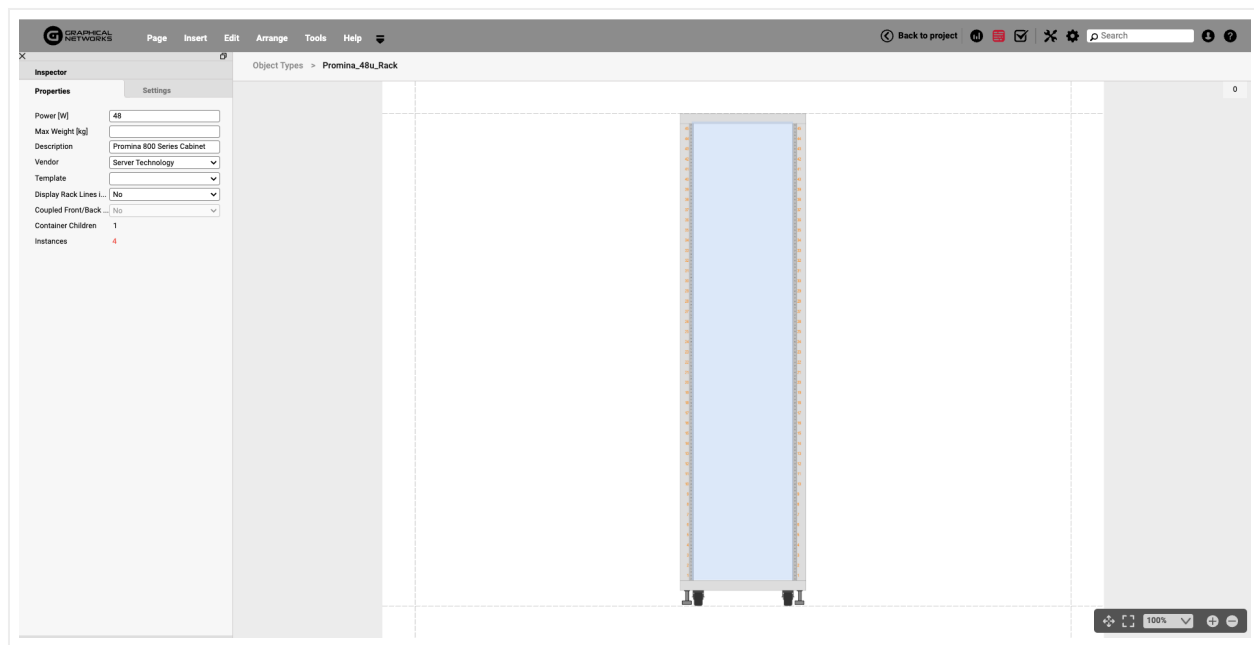
Once the properties have been entered for the rack you can proceed with the actual modeling sequence. First, you need to create a background image that will serve as a guide for placing container objects on top of it. Ideally, the rack image should display rack units on the side that can serve as a reference for users rack

mounting devices. To add the background image, click on the



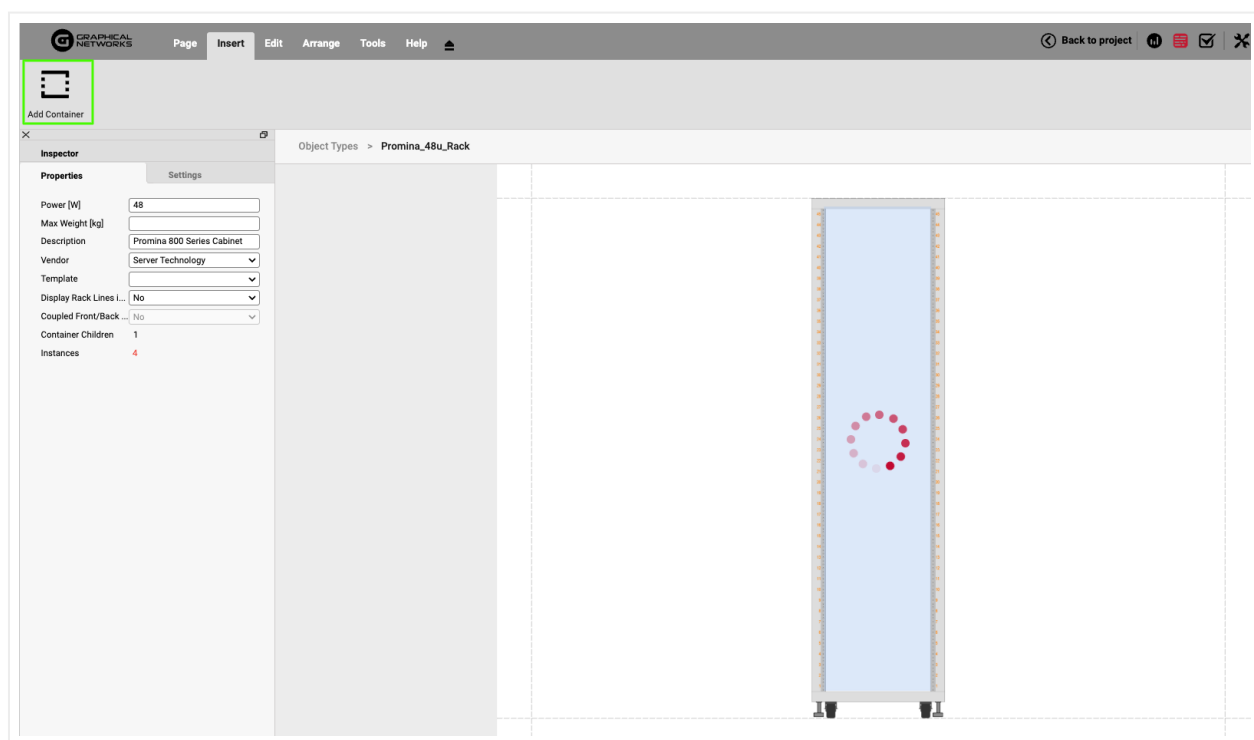
icon in the Page menu. You will then

be able to browse for an image on your local drive. Valid image formats include raster images with PNG, JPEG and GIF extensions and the SVG vector format image type.



Rack modeling process for a front image view of a cabinet

The example image above shows a single sided cabinet view, ready to be modeled with one container object. An appropriate container would probably be laid out exactly on top of the rack mountable area overlaid on top of the cabinet front view. To create the container press the container icon in the insert menu, as shown below.



Adding a container in the rack modeler view

Containers appear as light blue squares on the top left corner of the image. After the container is created, simply move and resize it to the desired position on top of the background image.

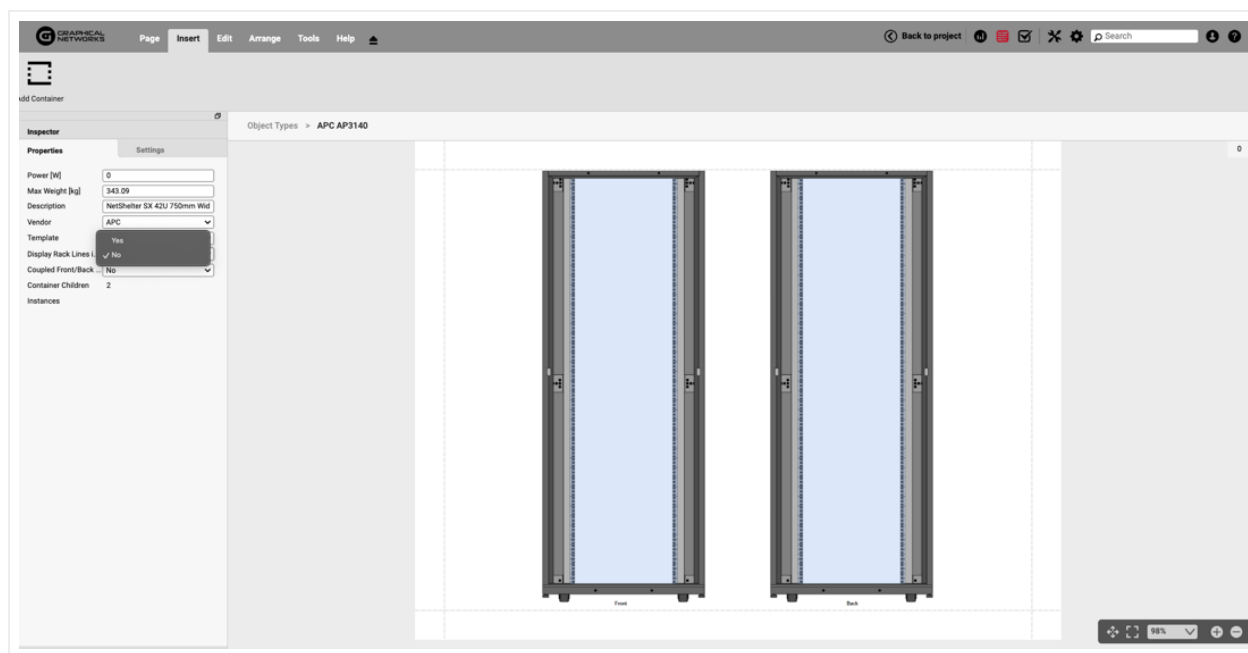
Now that the container is nicely placed, you want to fill out the container properties, by clicking on it and typing in the right values on the properties window:

- Name: The name of the container that you are creating.
- Rack Units: the number of rack units that will be available for this container. This should be a whole number. For example, choose 44 if that is the number rack units for the container. Technically, you can choose any number of rack units for containers, even if it does not match the number of units for the cabinet. In reality, you will probably always choose containers to fill out the whole rack mountable area, in which case the rack units for the container will match the rack units for the rack.
- Width: the width is defined in inches (usually 19, 21 or 23 for most racks).
- Height: the height is also expressed in inches. Since the height and the number of rack units are independent parameters, in theory this allows for non standard rack unit sizes, but in the vast majority of cases the height is simply the number of rack units multiplied by 1.75 inches. So for example a 44U rack will have a height of 77 inches. For precise rack mounting, the height should always be expressed exactly as the number of rack units multiplied by the 1.75 inches, so do not round this number up or down. For example, a 45U rack should have a height of 78.75 inches.

You are done! The rack is now ready to be used in the project and will inherit all the attributes of the type. This means that as soon as you add an instance of this rack type in the project, you will see the available rack units, power and weight automatically added to the rack instance attributes. Double clicking on the rack instance will reveal the background image used and as you start rack mounting devices on it, you will see how they snap in nicely on the rack mountable area. Used rack units will be aggregated automatically and the total power and weight will also be calculated automatically for rack statistics and visual override filters at the rack floor plan level.

5.1.3 Dual view racks (front and back)

Since netTerrain allows more than one container per rack model, you can easily model the front and back view of racks by simply creating two containers during the modeling process and assigning the proper attributes to each.



Dual view rack modeling

When creating rack models with front and back views keep the following in mind:

- If possible, choose a background image that shows the rack frames for both views (like the image above).
- Use the same parameters for both containers (rack units, height and width).
- Take advantage of the arrange and resize buttons to ensure that both containers are of the same size.

The purpose of modeling racks with dual views is to be able to show and mount devices on both sides. To add some sizzle to your DCIM project we provide two ways to model a dual rack in netTerrain: the “old” way (ordinary dual racks) and the “new” way, which is by coupling the front and the back.

In ordinary dual racks, all rack units are available on both sides, which means that the number of rack units available when the rack is empty is the rack unit height times two. As we will see below, you can also design a rack to only allow rack units to be available on either the front or the back so that when you mount a device on one side, the same rack units become unavailable on the other. The latter is the more common usage in Data Center Infrastructure Management, since it better represents how Data Center managers utilize racks.

5.1.3.1 Coupled Front / Back mounting on dual racks

Once you finished modeling the dual view rack you have the choice of having netTerrain display all the devices that you rack mount on one side, on the other side as well. This is called ‘Coupled Front/Back mounting’ (CFBM). CFBM comes in handy when you want to make sure that mounting devices on one side

automatically prevent users from mounting devices that utilize any of those same rack units on the other side.

With CFBM when you rack mount a device on the front, netTerrain will show a faint image of the device on the back and vice versa. That way, users already see from a graphical standpoint that those units are unavailable on either side of the rack. The image below shows a dual rack with CFBM enabled, with two devices mounted on the front and a patch panel on the back.



A dual rack with CFBM enabled

To enable CFBM on a rack, simply select 'yes' on the 'Coupled Front/back mounting' option in the modeler during the rack creation process. You can check that option later, even after the rack was created, however the drop down will be disabled if any instances of the rack already exist in the project. This is to prevent

possible inconsistencies in the rack allocation computations, which brings us to the following rules to consider for CFBM:

- CFBM only works for racks that have two containers.
- Both rack containers must be of the same size and number of rack units.
- To enable the CFBM feature on a rack type, no instances of the rack can exist in the project.
- Rack unit availability is not doubled. A 45U dual rack with CFBM enabled will still have only 45 RUs available.

Depth management for coupled racks

Racks with CFBM enabled can optionally enforce physical depth constraints to prevent configurations where front-mounted and rear-mounted devices would physically interfere with each other. To enable this, set Depth Enabled to Yes in the rack type modeler and specify the rack's Physical Depth. You can also define an Extra Space value to enforce a minimum gap between devices on opposite sides.

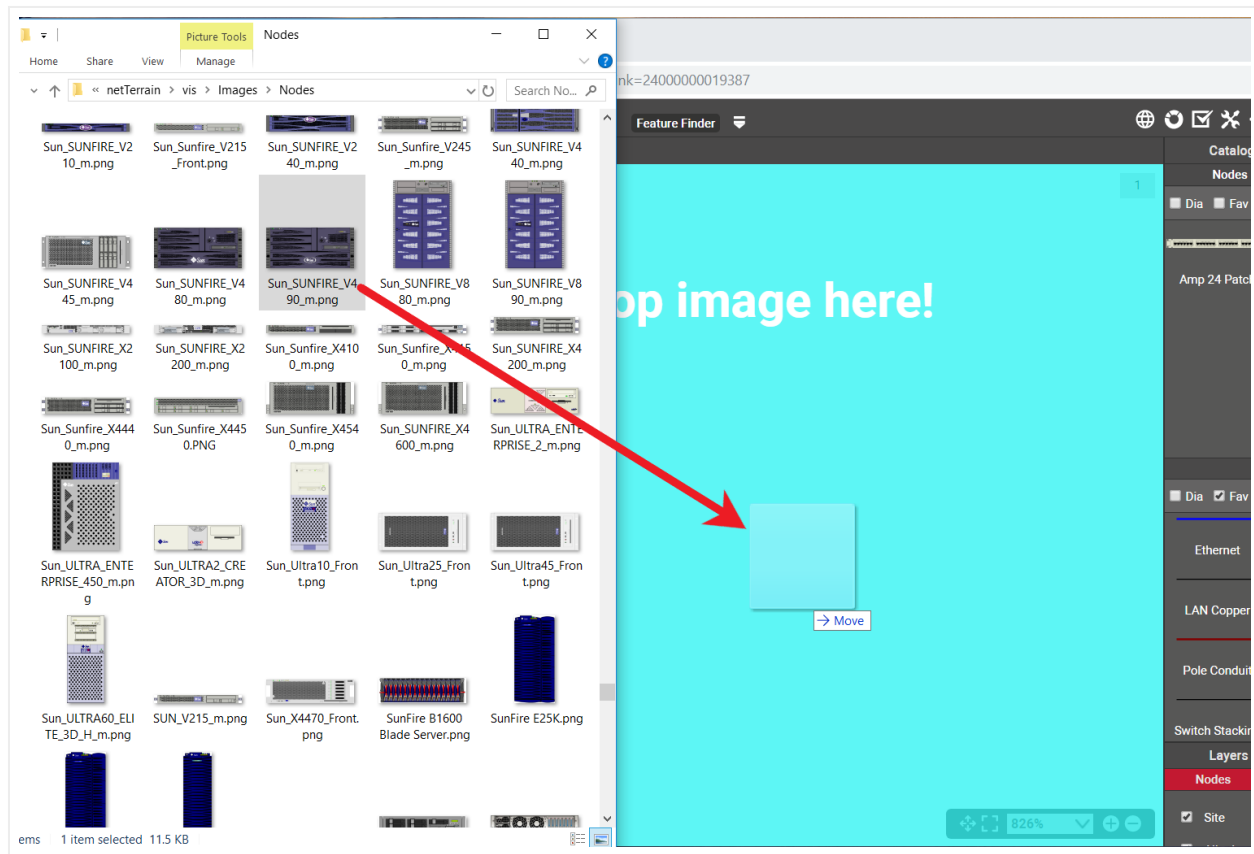
When Depth Enabled is enabled, netTerrain validates every device placement against the rack's available depth. A device can only be mounted if its node type has a Physical Dep value configured. If a rack position already has a device on the opposite side, the system verifies that the combined depth of both devices plus the Min Depth Gap does not exceed the rack's Physical Depth. If either condition fails, the placement is rejected, and an alert message indicates the reason.

The Physical Dep field for node types is in the node type editor, below the existing physical width and height fields. A node type's Physical Dep can be freely edited if none of its instances are mounted in a rack with Depth Enabled; it becomes locked once an instance is placed in a depth-controlled rack.

5.1.4 Adding a rack type by dragging and dropping

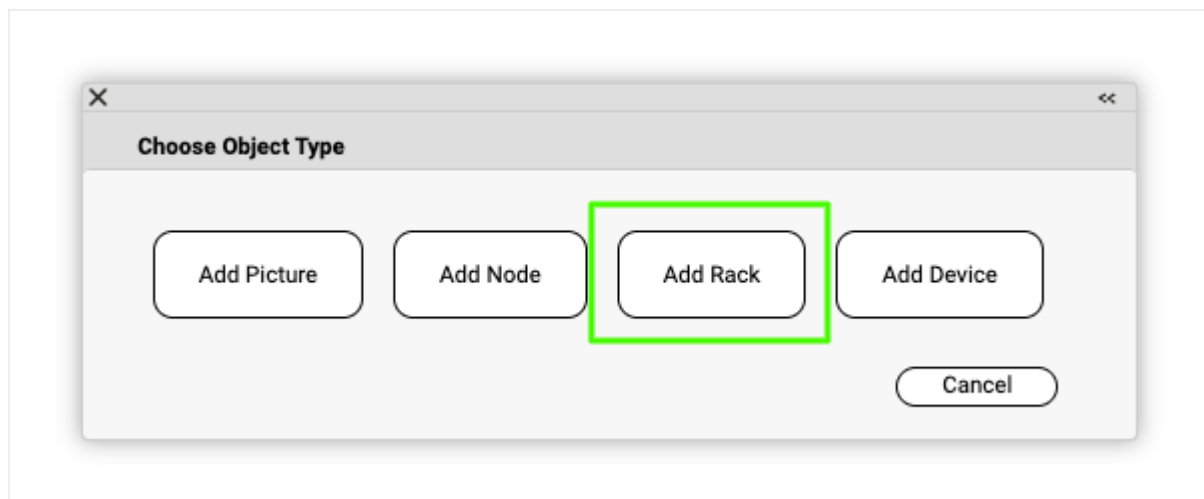
There is a nice trick to add a rack type into the catalog quickly: by dragging and dropping an image from a folder or browser! This must be done from the project side, from any diagram.

The best way to use this trick is to have both the netTerrain browser and the folder or website with the image side-by-side. Then, just drag and drop the desired image to the netTerrain diagram, as shown below:



Create a rack type by dragging and dropping an image

After you drop the image on the diagram, netTerrain gives you the option to create it as a floating image, a node type, a device type, or a rack type. Choose the 'Rack' option:



Choosing the Rack option to create a node type

This completes the modeling process. From here on all that is left is to add custom fields you your rack type.

5.1.5 Special rack fields

Just like with nodes and links, once a rack type has been created, it contains three mandatory fields that exist for every instance of a rack type in the project:

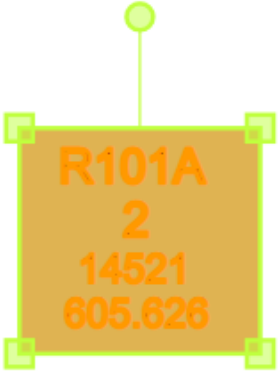
- Id: a 14-digit system-generated number (not visible on the field list view)
- Name: the field that will store the name of each instance
- Type: the field that stores the type of rack

Rack types also contain several special fields: non-editable aggregate values used in conjunction with environmental properties that a user can edit on a per instance basis. These special rack properties are the following:

- Available Units (aggregated): this is the number of rack units that are still available for the rack
- Power [W] (inherited from type – editable): this is the predefined static power value assigned in the rack modeler. The existence of this property does not prevent you from creating other power figures as custom properties.
- Power Used [W] (aggregated): this is the sum of all nameplate power figures for devices rack mounted on that rack. These device nameplate power figures are also created during the device modeling process and are static numbers. netTerrain can also aggregate other power figures into custom fields. For example, dynamic power values could be discovered and automatically populated into a device custom field, and later aggregated as an expression in a rack custom field.
- Max Weight [lb.] (inherited from type – editable): this is the predefined static weight capacity value assigned in the rack modeler. The existence of this property does not prevent you from creating other custom properties related to weight.
- Weight Used [lb.] (aggregated): the sum of the device weight rack mounted on that rack. The device weight values are also created during the device modeling process.

In the project these properties manifest themselves as blue system fields, as depicted below:

Properties		Settings	
Id	24000000217014		
Type	Siemon V61A-2AB1...	---	☐
Name	R101A	---	☒
Available Units	2	---	☒
Power [W]	0	---	☐
Power used [W]	14521	---	☒
Max Weight [lb]	279	---	☐
Weight used [lb]	605.626	---	☒
Catalog	Fields		
Audit Trail	2		



Rack special fields (in blue)

In sum, all rack types contain at least seven system fields. Below is the list of all system fields that exist for a new rack type that was just created in the catalog:

Object Fields (Type: 2 post rack 42U)														Records on page: 15 Records in table: 15	
Filter Apply Clear														Records per page: 100 Show Id Field Default sorting	
#	Name	Is In Properties	Property Order	Is Mandatory	Default Value	Is Tree Label	List Items	Overrides	Lock List	Is Unique (this type)	Is Displayed	Justification	Font Color	Fill Color	Font Size
1	Audit Date	☒	9	☐		☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐	Center			10
2	Audit Status	☒	10	☐		☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐	Center			10
3	Audited By	☒	11	☐		☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐	Center			10
4	Author	☒	5	☐	Szz_Audit_InsertAuthorAllObjec	☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐	Center			10
5	Available Units	☒	0	☒	42	☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left			10
6	Cost	☒	7	☐		☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐	Center			10
7	Max Weight [kg]	☒	3	☒	0	☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left			10
8	Name	☐	-1	☐	<Type>	☒			☐	☐	☐	Top Left			10
9	Override Test	☒	12	☐		☐	2	2	☐	☐	☐	Center			10
10	Owner	☒	8	☐		☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐	Center			10

Minimum set of fields (system fields) for racks

Besides the name, which you can edit using one of the default value auto naming functions, notice the two editable environmental fields, which you can edit:

- Max weight
- Power [W]

As mentioned previously, these two fields are inherited by every instance of the rack type and can be edited (or overridden) in the project on an instance-by-instance basis.

5.1.6 Custom rack fields

Just like with nodes and links, and in addition to modeling your rack types according to your specifications, you may want to create custom fields that represent other properties of the rack instances. To create a custom property for a rack type, go to the rack types list and follow these steps:

- Click on the hyperlink that shows the number of fields (7, when there are no custom fields)

#	Group	Name	Category	Default Image	Fields	Overrides	Instances	Is Favorite	Is Enabled	Default Width [cm]	Default Height [cm]	Keep Aspect Ratio	Template	In Stock	Audit
1	Rack	2 post rack 42U			15	2	31			1.09628	1.277694				
2	Rack	38d			14	0	12			0.5	0.5				
3	Rack	40d			14	0	4			0.5	0.5				
4	Rack	42d			15	0	2			0.5	0.5				
5	Rack	44d			14	0	12			0.5	0.5				
6	Rack	47U Rack			14	0	0		☒	0.5	0.5				
7	Rack	AMCO R-TN-42U24-42			14	0	0		☒	0.5	0.5				
8	Rack	APC 48U 60x105			14	0	5			0.5	0.5				
9	Rack	APC 48U 60x105 D			14	0	0		☒	0.5	0.5				
10	Rack	APC 48U 60x102			14	0	0		☒	0.5	0.5				

- This will take you to the fields list for that rack type. Click on the 'Add new' button

Rack Types [\[Switch to category view\]](#) [To csv](#) [To Excel](#) [Add New](#) [Import Object Type](#) Records on page: 100 Records in table: 208

Filter [Apply](#) [Clear](#) Records per page: 100 [Show Id Field](#) [Default sorting](#)

#	Group	Name	Category	Default Image	Fields	Overrides	Instances	Is Favorite	Is Enabled	Default Width [cm]	Default Height [cm]	Keep Aspect Ratio	Template	In Stock	Audio
1	   	Rack	2 post rack 42U		 15	 2	 31	☐	☐	1.09628	1.277694	☐	 		
2	   	Rack	38d		 14	 0	 12	☐	☐	0.5	0.5	☐	 		
3	   	Rack	40d		 14	 0	 4	☐	☐	0.5	0.5	☐	 		
4	   	Rack	42d		 15	 0	 2	☐	☐	0.5	0.5	☐	 		
5	   	Rack	44d		 14	 0	 12	☐	☐	0.5	0.5	☐	 		
6	   	Rack	47U Rack		 14	 0	 0	☐	☒	0.5	0.5	☐	 		
7	   	Rack	AMCO R-TN-42U24-42		 14	 0	 0	☐	☒	0.5	0.5	☐	 		
8	   	Rack	APC 48U 60x105		 14	 0	 5	☐	☐	0.5	0.5	☐	 		
9	   	Rack	APC 48U 60x105 D		 14	 0	 0	☐	☒	0.5	0.5	☐	 		
10	   	Rack	APC 48U 80x102		 14	 0	 0	☐	☒	0.5	0.5	☐	 		

- This opens the dialog for adding a new field, where you:
- name the field
- pick a default value for your field
- pick a font size for the field, if it is displayed on the diagram
- set the field as mandatory during the data entry process
- set it as displayed, so that when it is filled out, that value shows up on the diagram (usually next to the rack)
- pick a font color for the field, if it is displayed on the diagram
- pick a fill color for the field, if it is displayed on the diagram

Add Node Property

Name:

Type:

Default Value:

Font size:

Mandatory:

Displayed:

Font color:

Fill color:

Once the field has been added you can then edit any field parameters from the fields list, as seen previously:

- **Name:** the field name that will be displayed for the associated object type.
- **Is in properties:** this feature is useful to control what end users can see on the properties window for a given instance of that type. For example, you can uncheck a field and prevent end users from seeing the data associated with the instances on the project.
- **Property order:** this is self-explanatory and lets you choose the order in which the property appears in the properties window of the project when you click on an instance of that type
- **Is mandatory:** if this option is checked it means that some data must be entered into the field when an object instance is created in the project. This is typically used in conjunction with an assigned default value to ensure some data is entered into this field. This field also cannot be deleted if the mandatory check box is enabled.
- **Default value:** this is the default value that will be displayed for a given field when a new instance of the object type is created. The apply button next to the field lets you apply the default value for that field to all instances of that type in the project.
- **Is tree label:** determines the data value that will be displayed in the hierarchy browser. Change this if you want to see a different value displayed for an instance of this type in the hierarchy. The default is typically the name.
- **List items:** list items are like drop down boxes (or combo boxes) that offer end users a finite set of values available for data entry on a given field for a given type. Click on the value to open a table with all list items associated with this field and object type.
- **Overrides:** click on the value to bring up a list of the overrides associated with this field and object type.
- **Lock list:** Allow an override list to be non-editable. If this is checked then a user cannot override the list values. They must choose a value that is already on the list.
- **Is unique (this type):** Restricts all new inputs of this field for this object type to be unique across all instances.
- **Is displayed:** when checked, the field's value will be displayed on the diagram for an instance of this object type. This can also be controlled on an instance basis as well as type-wide (see End User Guide).
- **Justification:** sets the alignment. See the settings for the field instance for more alignment options.
- **Font color:** the color of the text value that is displayed in the project area diagram for this field. Note that you can change the font on an instance-by-instance basis from the project as well (see End User Guide).
- **Fill color:** the background color of the text that is displayed in the project area diagram for this field. Note that you can change the fill color on an instance-by-instance basis from the project as well (see End User Guide).
- **Font size:** the size of the text that is being displayed in the project area diagram for this field. Note that you can change the font size on an instance-by-instance basis from the project as well (see End User Guide).
- **Apply Font settings link:** applies any font settings for this field to all instances of the object where the field is displayed.

Object Fields (Type: 2 post rack 42U) To csv To Excel Add New Tagging Records on page: 15 Records in table: 15

Filter Apply Clear Records per page: 100 Show Id Field Default sorting

#	Name	Is In Properties	Property Order	Is Mandatory	Default Value	Is Tree Label	List Items	Overrides	Lock List	Is Unique (this type)	Is Displayed	Justification	Font Color	Fill Color	Font Size
1	Audit Date	☒	9	☐			0	0	☐	☐	☐	Center	Black		10
2	Audit Status	☒	10	☐			0	0	☐	☐	☐	Center	Black		10
3	Audited By	☒	11	☐			0	0	☐	☐	☐	Center	Black		10
4	Author	☒	5	☐	\$zz_Audit_InsertAuthorAllObjec		0	0	☐	☐	☐	Center	Black		10
5	Available Units	☒	0	☒	42		0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left	Black		10
6	Cost	☒	7	☐			0	0	☐	☐	☐	Center	Black		10
7	Max Weight [kg]	☒	3	☒	0		0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left	Black		10
8	Name	☐	-1	☐	<Type>		0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left	Black		10
9	Override Test	☒	12	☐			2	2	☐	☐	☐	Center	Black		10
10	Owner	☒	8	☐			0	0	☐	☐	☐	Center	Black		10
11	Power [W]	☒	1	☒	0		0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left	Black		10

New custom field for a rack type

5.1.6.1 Deleting a custom field

Deleting a custom field is easy: go to the fields list view for the rack type and simply press the delete button on the left of the field you want to remove.

Object Fields (Type: 2 post rack 42U) To csv To Excel Add New Tagging Records on page: 15 Records in table: 15

Filter Apply Clear Records per page: 100 Show Id Field Default sorting

#	Name	Is In Properties	Property Order	Is Mandatory	Default Value	Is Tree Label	List Items	Overrides	Lock List	Is Unique (this type)	Is Displayed	Justification	Font Color	Fill Color	Font Size
1	Audit Date	☒	9	☐			0	0	☐	☐	☐	Center	Black		10
2	Audit Status	☒	10	☐			0	0	☐	☐	☐	Center	Black		10
3	Audited By	☒	11	☐			0	0	☐	☐	☐	Center	Black		10
4	Author	☒	5	☐	\$zz_Audit_InsertAuthorAllObjec		0	0	☐	☐	☐	Center	Black		10
5	Available Units	☒	0	☒	42		0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left	Black		10
6	Cost	☒	7	☐			0	0	☐	☐	☐	Center	Black		10
7	Max Weight [kg]	☒	3	☒	0		0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left	Black		10
8	Name	☐	-1	☐	<Type>		0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left	Black		10
9	Override Test	☒	12	☐			2	2	☐	☐	☐	Center	Black		10
10	Owner	☒	8	☐			0	0	☐	☐	☐	Center	Black		10

Deleting a custom field for a rack type

Notice that the delete button is not enabled for system fields.

Attention!

As you might expect, all the values for the field corresponding to instances of that type in the project will be deleted. As such, be careful with this operation, since it cannot be undone.

5.1.7 Predefined rack visual overrides

Racks are a bit special in the sense that they already include some predefined overrides. By means of the special system fields we saw above.

Because of aggregate properties being automatically computed for racks, netTerrain can dynamically change the colors of racks based on rack unit occupancy, used power and weight. These visual overrides can be overridden with custom overrides as well, but the main difference between these predefined overrides and custom ones is that the former overrides are included as radio buttons in a Rack Override feature visible in the properties pane (on the project side) that allow users to switch from one override criteria to another, as depicted below.



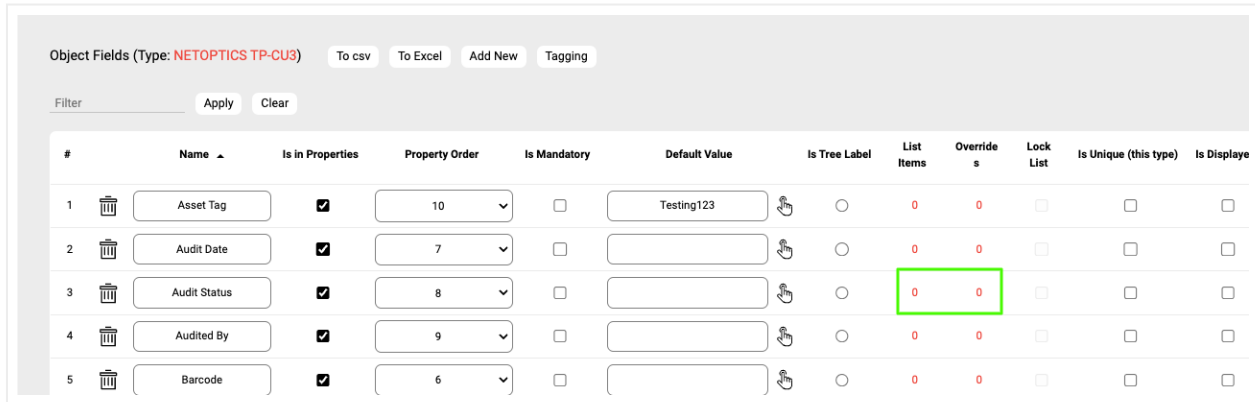
Predefined rack overrides as seen in the project

With this feature, a user can switch from one override criteria to another, and the rack colors will change accordingly. These predefined overrides have a fixed range of colors based on the following rules:

- 0 to 25% is represented in green
- 25% to 50% is represented in yellow
- 50% to 75% is represented in orange
- 75% and higher is represented in red

5.1.8 Creating list items and visual overrides for a rack field

The predefined overrides seen before can be useful, yet you may want to set your own visual overrides for racks. Just like with nodes, one can access the list items and visual overrides list for a rack type field by clicking on the override number, as shown below:



#	Name	Is in Properties	Property Order	Is Mandatory	Default Value	Is Tree Label	List Items	Overrides	Lock List	Is Unique (this type)	Is Displayed
1	Asset Tag	☒	10	☐	Testing123	☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐
2	Audit Date	☒	7	☐		☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐
3	Audit Status	☒	8	☐		☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐
4	Audited By	☒	9	☐		☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐
5	Barcode	☒	6	☐		☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐

Visual override and list item link for a rack field

To create a new list item or visual override for a rack type field, go to the fields list and follow these steps:

- Click on the hyperlink that shows the number of overrides (obviously 0 when there are none)
- This will take you to the overrides list for that rack type. Click on the 'Add new' button

Value Lists and Overrides for Objects To csv To Excel **Add New**

Filter Apply Clear

#	Object Type	Field	Value	Rule	Is Override	Override	Instance effect	Parent effect
8	Alcatel 7210 SAS-M	Router	Valassz!	=	☐		No Effects	No Effects
9	Alcatel 7210 SAS-M	Router	bix-pe5 EthTr10 - bix-ce1 l	=	☐		No Effects	No Effects
10	Alcatel 7210 SAS-M	Router	bix-pe5 EthTr20 - bix-ce2 l	=	☐		No Effects	No Effects
11	Alcatel 7210 SAS-M	Router	info-pe5 EthTr10 - info-ce	=	☐		No Effects	No Effects
12	Alcatel 7210 SAS-M	Router	info-pe5 EthTr20 - info-ce	=	☐		No Effects	No Effects
13	Alcatel 7210 SAS-M	Router	god-pe2	=	☐		No Effects	No Effects

- This opens the dialog for adding a new override, where you:
- provide the value that will trigger the override (in the case of a simple list item this is just the list item value)
- specify whether this is an override or not (if you choose false then this completes the process for adding a list item)
- choose the rule that will trigger the override (equal to, contains, greater than, less than)
- set the override image

Rule	Is Override	Override	Instance effect	Par
=	☒		No	
=	☒		No	
=	☒		No	
=	☒		No	
=	☐		No	
=	☐		No	

Add Override or List Item

Type: NETOPTICS TP-CU3

Field: Asset Tag

Value:

Override: true

Rule: =

Override Image: Choose an image

Submit Cancel

Once the override has been added you can then edit any parameters from the overrides list, as seen before when analyzing nodes:

- Value
- Rule
- Is Override
- Override
- Instance effect
- Parent effect
- Upwards propagation

Attention!

When creating custom visual overrides, these take precedence over any system visual overrides. Once a custom visual override value has been triggered, you will not be able to see the visual override on a system field as netTerrain can only display one type of icon for an instance.

5.1.8.1 Deleting an override or list item

To delete an override or list item for a rack field go to the overrides list view for the rack type and field and simply press the delete button on the left of the entry you want to remove.

5.2 Smart devices

We explained some of the uses of smart devices (or just devices) at the beginning of the chapter. As mentioned above, if you are a user of netTerrain DCIM you probably want to use smart objects in case you

need to document entities like routers, switches, cards or cabinets, so that you can take advantage of some of the business rules and automation that netTerrain offers. These business rules and features include:

- An extensive predefined library of makes and models
- automatic creation of subcomponents (ports and slot)
- automatic creation of a background image
- awareness of physical size and weight
- easy “snap in” for rack mounting
- awareness of power consumption
- ability to receive automatic alarms from the ITK
- more comprehensive modeling capabilities such as the ability to specify reference node location
- ability to restrict which card types can be positioned under which slot
- pre-defined reports in the dashboard
- Discovery capabilities

Strictly speaking, a device is an instance of a type that was created in the catalog using the type group ‘Device’ during the creation process. Of course, this definition is recursive, but it is up to the user to define what exactly constitutes a device. Because of the flexible nature of netTerrain, you could in theory model anything as a device, but in general it is any box (router, server, UPS, switch, patch panel, etc.) that contains subcomponents (such as ports and slots) and has certain default physical and environmental parameters such as size, power and weight.

During the modeling process, devices are built or “modeled” with specific properties, for instance rack unit size, power and weight capacities. In addition, subcomponents such as ports and slots can be added to a device. As mentioned before, this provides a high degree of automation, since every time an instance of a specific device type is added in the project, all the type properties are inherited, and all the subcomponents are automatically created.

A default installation of netTerrain DCIM contains a few thousand common types, but as you will learn later, adding new ones is not complicated. Moreover, if your netTerrain maintenance contract is current, you can request us to model the devices for you at no extra charge. Cause we are nice people, you know.

5.2.1 Creating a new device

You can create a new device type in a few different ways:

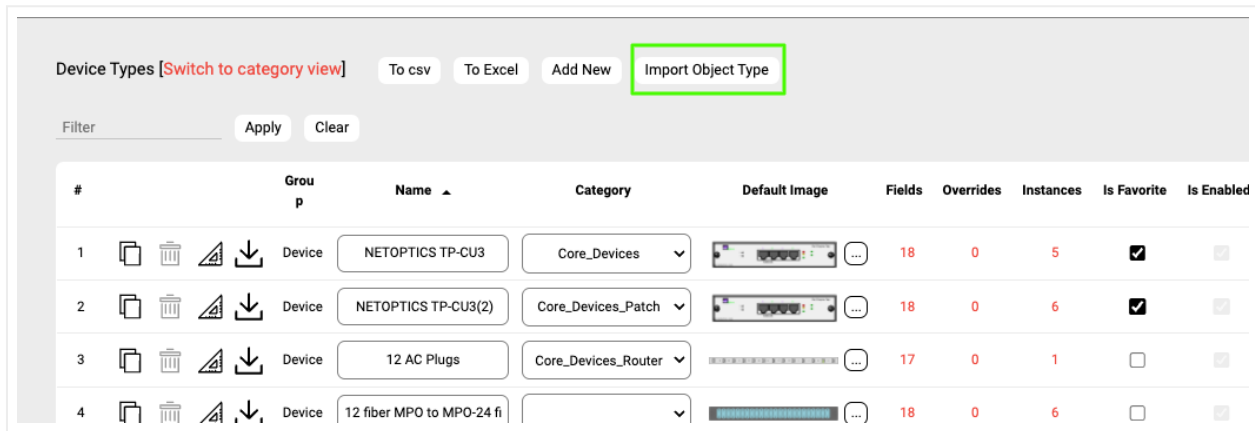
- Import a Json or Zip device package
- Create the device manually step-by-step from the catalog
- Drag and drop an image from a browser or folder and follow the rest of the process manually

In this section we will go over the import and manual creation process and later we will review the detailed manual modeling process.

5.2.1.1 Creating a device from a Json or Zip package

One of the beauties of maintenance is that Graphical Networks can model device, card and rack types for you. To do so, simply enter a ticket in your support portal with basic information about make and model and we will model the device with its backplane image, subcomponents and more. We will then deliver a Zip or Json file to you, which you can then import into your catalog.

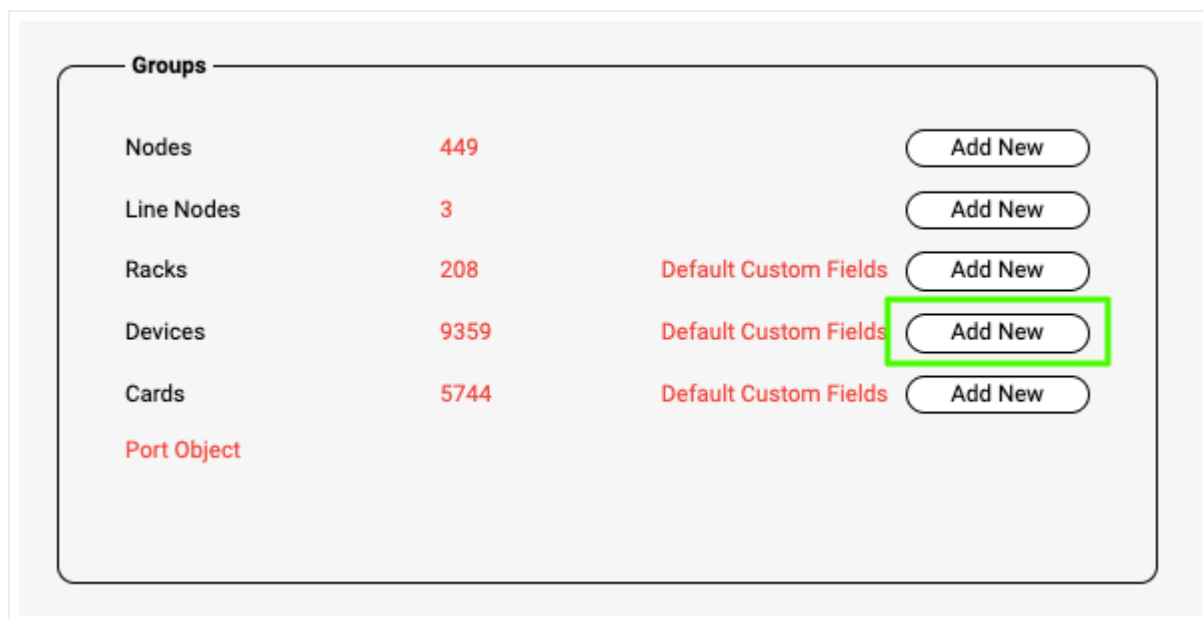
To import the file into the catalog simply go to the catalog Device section, click on 'Import Zip' or 'Import Json' at the top, browse for your file and voila!



#	Group	Name	Category	Default Image	Fields	Overrides	Instances	Is Favorite	Is Enabled
1	Device	NETOPTICS TP-CU3	Core_Devices		18	0	5	☒	☐
2	Device	NETOPTICS TP-CU3(2)	Core_Devices_Patch		18	0	6	☒	☐
3	Device	12 AC Plugs	Core_Devices_Router		17	0	1	☐	☐
4	Device	12 fiber MPO to MPO-24 fi			18	0	6	☐	☐

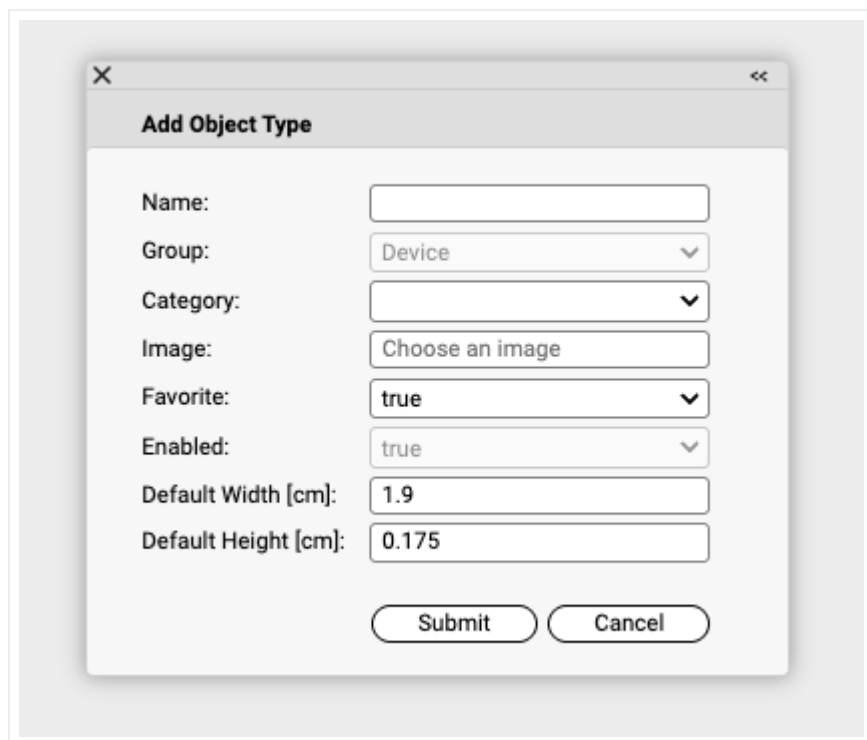
5.2.1.2 Creating a device manually

To add a new device, go to the catalog and look for the 'Add New' button next to the devices group. You can also click on the ## value next to the 'Devices'. This will list all existing devices. Then you can click on the 'Add New' button.



Adding a new device type to the catalog

Pressing the add button will bring up a pop-up dialog box that can be used to create a new device type in the catalog.



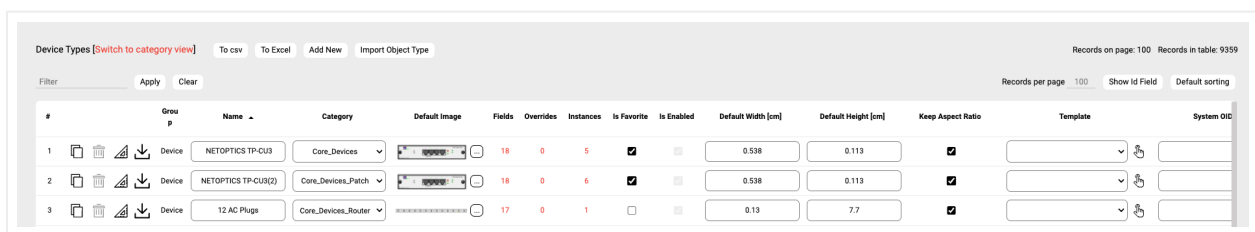
Add device form

Let's review each field:

- Name: must be unique and cannot exceed 255 characters.
- Image: this is a mandatory step when creating a device. The supported image types include PNG, JPEG, GIF, and SVG. The image that is uploaded will be the image that will be displayed when the device is used in a diagram, unless overridden by a visual override. You will also see a thumbnail of the image in certain catalog list views. The image will be uploaded and stored on the netTerrain application server.
- Favorite: set the value as true if you would like the new device to show up in the favorites list in the project. Favorites are filtered from the rest of the types on the project side when clicking on the 'Device' button in the insert menu or checking the 'fav' option in the floating catalog.
- Enabled: if you would like the device type to show up in the type drop down box list when you work with device instances then it needs to be enabled. This list is displayed when you click on an existing device that has been added to a diagram. Disabled devices are automatically removed from the favorites list.
- Default Width: the default width of new devices of this type when added to a diagram. Units are in inches.
- Default Height: The default height of this new device type when added to a diagram. This value is in inches.

It is important to note that the previous sizes refer to the image of the device node, not the physical dimensions that will be computed when rack mounting the device. Devices have effectively two distinct sets of dimensions: one that is only relevant in terms of the relative size of the node on a diagram (the default width and size shown above) and only has meaning in terms of what you would want the default size of that node to be when added to the project diagram, and the other one representing the actual physical size of the device when rack mounted. The physical sizes are defined later in this section, when we model devices, but to keep it simple, many users use the same set of dimensions for both sets. All dimensions for both sets are specified in inches.

After submitting the new device type, it is added to the list of devices. From the device list you can rename the device type assign it to a custom category for better organization, change the default image, or create custom fields and visual overrides, as depicted below:



#	Group	Name	Category	Default Image	Fields	Overrides	Instances	Is Favorite	Is Enabled	Default Width [cm]	Default Height [cm]	Keep Aspect Ratio	Template	System ID
1	Device	NETOPTICS TP-CU3	Core_Devices		18	0	5	☒	☒	0.538	0.113	☒		
2	Device	NETOPTICS TP-CU3(2)	Core_Devices_Patch		18	0	6	☒	☒	0.538	0.113	☒		
3	Device	12 AC Plugs	Core_Devices_Router		17	0	1	☐	☐	0.13	7.7	☒		

New device type displayed in the device list view

Also, from the device list you can control the following settings for each device:

- mark the device as favorite: this will make the device show up in the floating catalog under favorites
- Enable or disable it from the catalog in the project
- Set the default width and height
- Force to keep the aspect ratio during resizing
- Assign a default template to it
- Set the SNMP system object Id for automated type mapping in a discovery

As we mentioned above, just like we did with regular nodes, you can add custom fields, define visual overrides, assign the type to a category and so on. You can refer to the generic node type section to review each one of these operations.

5.2.1.3 Limiting inventory with the 'In stock' option

If you would like to use netTerrain for inventory control, the 'In Stock' option lets you limit the number of instances of a given device type that can be added in the project.

This field is optional and if a device type has a set 'In stock' value, then any user trying to import or drag and drop a device of that type into the project, can only do so if the number of instances does not exceed said value.

To remove any existing inventory limits, simply blank out the field.

5.2.1.4 Custom OIDs

One important difference between the custom field creation for a generic node and a device is that device fields can have an associated custom OID. Without going into too much detail, an OID is an Object Identifier used in the SNMP discovery protocol to identify a property to be discovered for a device. When using the netTerrain discovery collector, netTerrain can automatically request a scan of a specific OID if the discovered device also matches the netTerrain type, which is done via the SystemOID.

5.2.1.5 Model OID for device type differentiation

In certain environments, multiple device models from the same manufacturer may share a single SNMP sysObjectID. This is common when devices use a shared management card or firmware platform. When this happens, netTerrain cannot differentiate between these device models during SNMP discovery, since the System Object Id alone is not sufficient to uniquely identify the type.

To address this, netTerrain provides two additional fields in the device type configuration:

Model OID: an additional SNMP OID that the system queries during discovery to retrieve a model-specific identifier. This OID should return a value that uniquely identifies the physical device model.

Model OID Value: the exact value that the Model OID must return for a device to be assigned this specific type. During import, netTerrain performs an exact match (case-insensitive) between the retrieved value and this field.

These two fields are visible in the Device Types list view, next to the existing System Object Id column. When both fields are populated, netTerrain can distinguish between multiple device types that share the same System Object Id. Each type must have a unique combination of System Object Id, Model OID, and Model OID Value.

Configuring Model OID matching

To set up Model OID-based type differentiation:

In the Catalog, navigate to the Device Types list view. Locate the device type you want to configure (or create a new one). Enter the shared sysObjectID in the System Object Id field. In the Model OID field, enter the OID that returns the model-specific identifier. In the Model OID Value field, enter the exact value that the device must return for this OID. Repeat the process for each additional device type that shares the same System Object Id, specifying the corresponding Model OID Value for each one.

Attention! Both the Model OID and the Model OID Value must be filled in for the secondary matching to take effect. If either field is left blank, the system will rely solely on the System Object Id for type mapping. The combination of System Object Id, Model OID, and Model OID Value must be unique across all device types.

Example: differentiating Vertiv UPS models

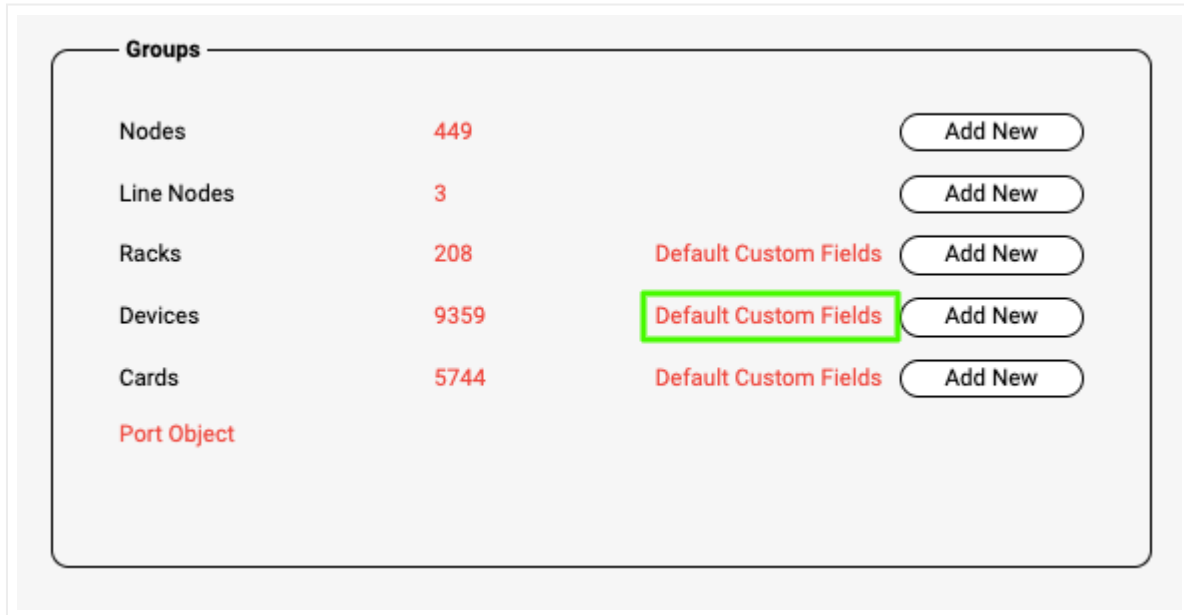
Field	Vertiv GXT5-6K	Vertiv GXT5-2K
System Object Id	.1.3.6.1.4.1.476.1.42	.1.3.6.1.4.1.476.1.42
Model OID	.1.3.6.1.4.1.476.1.42.2.4.2.1.4.1	.1.3.6.1.4.1.476.1.42.2.4.2.1.4.1
Model OID Value	GXT5-6KL630RT5UXLN	GXT5-2000LVRT2UXL

Both device types share the same System Object Id and the same Model OID, but each has a distinct Model OID Value. During discovery and import, netTerrain queries the Model OID from each device and matches the returned value to assign the correct type.

5.2.1.6 Default custom fields for devices

In many projects that utilize a variety of device types, there may be a set of common fields that apply to any type. To save yourself the effort of having to create these fields every time, for every new device type you add in the catalog, you can predefine the default custom fields that netTerrain should create automatically after adding a new device type.

These default custom fields for devices can be managed from the catalog dashboard:



Defining default custom fields for devices

After clicking on the 'Default Custom Fields' link you are taken to a list view where you can manage these default custom fields, as shown below:

Device Default Custom Fields
To csv
To Excel
Add New
Add to all types

Filter
Apply
Clear

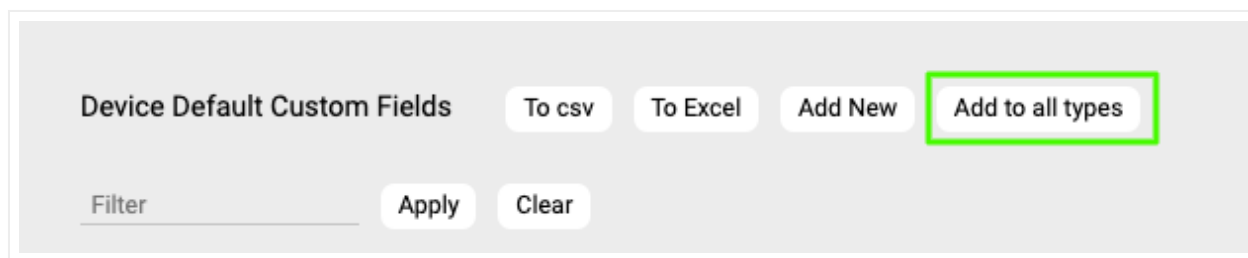
#		Name	
1		Cost	Add to all types
2		Maintenance Date	Add to all types
3		Owner	Add to all types
4		Barcode	Add to all types
5		Audit Date	Add to all types
6		Audit Status	Add to all types
7		Audited By	Add to all types
8		Asset Tag	Add to all types
9		HostName	Add to all types
10		Dynomite	Add to all types

1 out of 1
<
>
1
Go

Device type default custom fields management

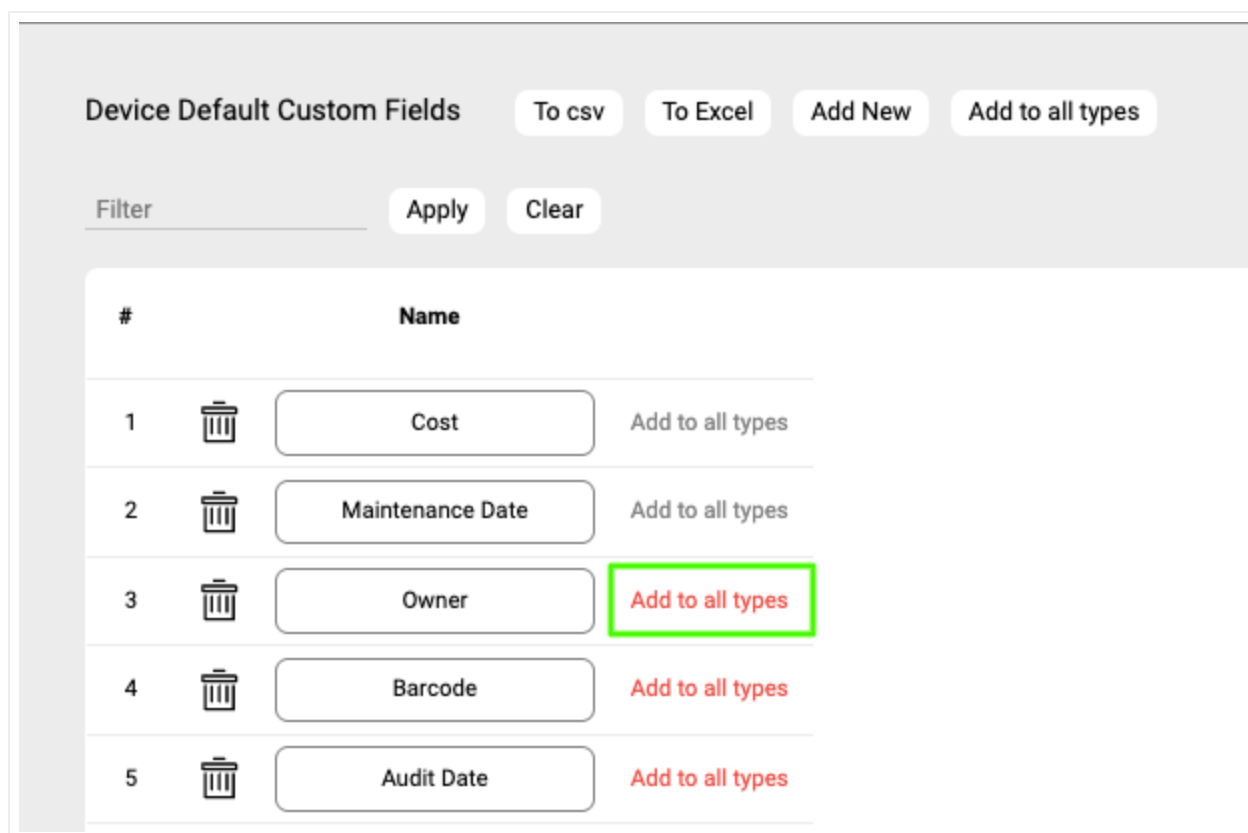
Notice that when you add a new default custom field to the list, the field will be added to any new types created but will not modify the structure of custom fields for existing types.

You can, however, apply all the defined default custom fields to all existing types by pressing on the 'Add to all types' button.



Applying all default custom fields to all types

You can also apply one default custom field to all types by pressing on the “Add to all types” link next to the field, as shown below:



Adding one default custom field to all types

5.2.2 Device modeling process

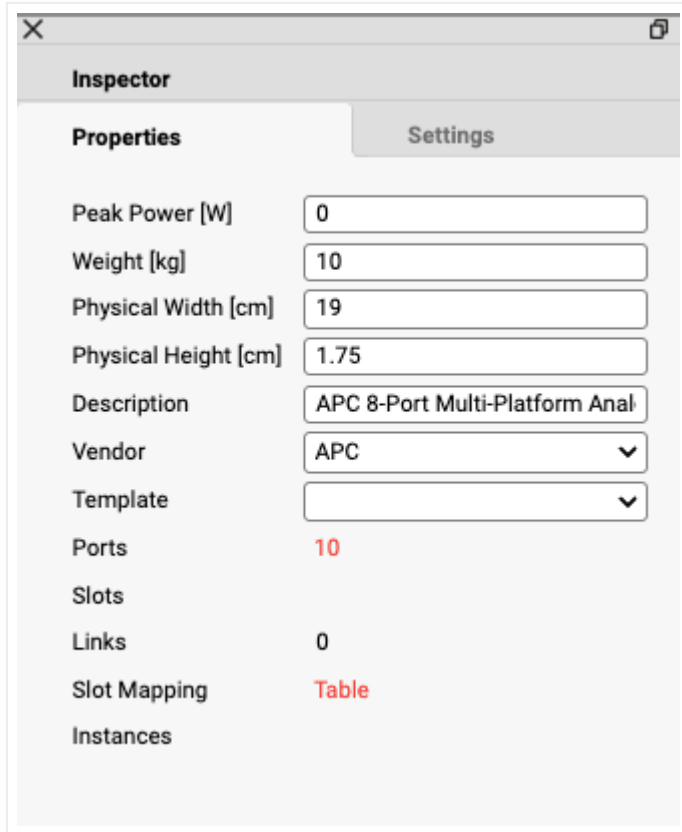
The device modeling process lets you assign a backplane image to the device and overlay subcomponents on top of it, so that end users don’t have to manually create them for each instance.

In addition to creating subcomponents, the device modeling process lets you specify properties for the device.

After the initial creation of the device, you can proceed with the modeling. If you are still in the list view for the device you created, you should see a 'Modeler' button. If you are not in the device list view, go to the 'Catalog' and click on the device group # count.

5.2.2.1 Device properties

To get started with the modeling process, first fill in the device properties, as displayed below.



Inspector	
Properties	Settings
Peak Power [W]	0
Weight [kg]	10
Physical Width [cm]	19
Physical Height [cm]	1.75
Description	APC 8-Port Multi-Platform Anal
Vendor	APC
Template	
Ports	10
Slots	
Links	0
Slot Mapping	Table
Instances	

Device properties in modeler

These properties include:

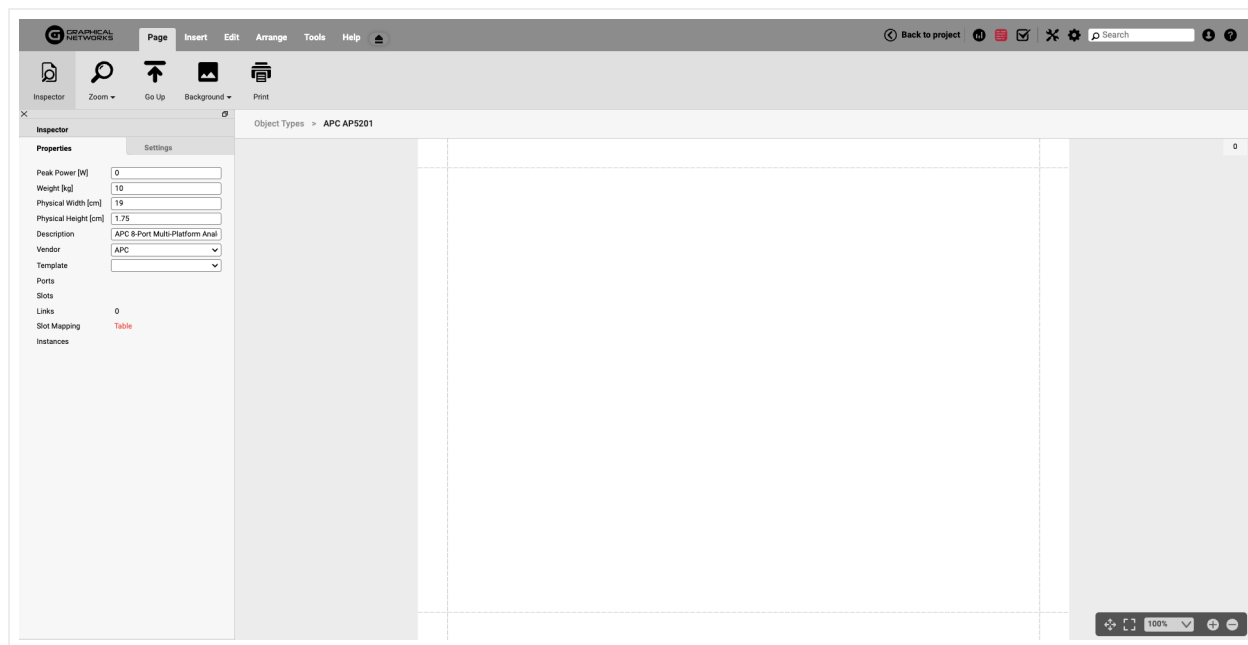
- **Peak Power [W]:** maximum power that this device type supports. This is not a mandatory field and can be modified on a per device instance basis. As such, we could say that this value represents the nameplate device peak power. When rack mounting devices, this is the value that is aggregated in the rack power computation. Check with the manufacturer of the device to get the power specifications for the type.
- **Weight [lb]:** nameplate weight of the device type. This is not a mandatory field and can be modified on a per device instance basis. When rack mounting devices, this is the value that is aggregated in the rack weight computation.
- **Description:** non-mandatory field used as a short description for this rack type
- **Vendor:** this field is a non-mandatory lookup value from the vendors table. If the vendor is not on the list it will need to be added before proceeding (see previous chapter).
- **Template:** if the device will use a standard default diagram template it can be assigned here (see End User Guide for template usage).
- **Ports:** this represents the number of ports on the motherboard of this device type. Click on this ## and a table view of the ports will be displayed and can be edited. Note that this number does not account for any ports associated with cards that can be placed on device slots.
- **Slots:** this represents the number of slots on the motherboard. Slots can be used to mount cards, once card types have been mapped to slots (more on this later).
- **Links:** this number represents the count of internal links that have been modeled for this type. Typically, this is done for patch panels or other devices where a certain number of links are always present even when the device has no external connections. This feature is useful when you want to define internal cross connections for the internal device matrix, or physical cross connections between front and back panels (more on this later).
- **Instances:** the number of occurrences of this type in the project. Naturally, this value is zero if you are modeling this device type for the first time.

5.2.2.2 Backplane image

Once the properties have been entered for the device you can proceed with the actual modeling sequence. First, you need to create a background image that will serve as a guide for placing port or slot objects on top of it. Ideally, the device image should display the backplane of the device and serve as a reference for users assigning ports to it.

Note that some devices have ports on both sides, so it is not uncommon to use a composite device image that has both the front and back view.

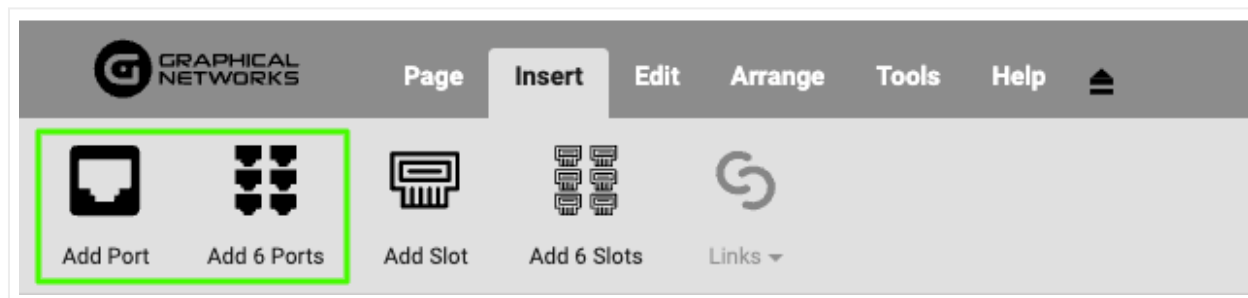
To add the background image, click on the 'Background' button on the Page menu. You will then be able to browse for an image on your local drive. Valid image formats include png, jpg, gif as raster formats and svg as vector formats.



Empty modeler page for a new device type

5.2.2.3 Port modeling

After uploading the background image for the device you can proceed with the modeling of subcomponents (ports and slots). To create a new port for the type simply click on the add port button located in the toolbar. For convenience (especially useful for devices that have multiples of 6 ports) there is also a button to add 6 ports at once.



Buttons to add ports in device model

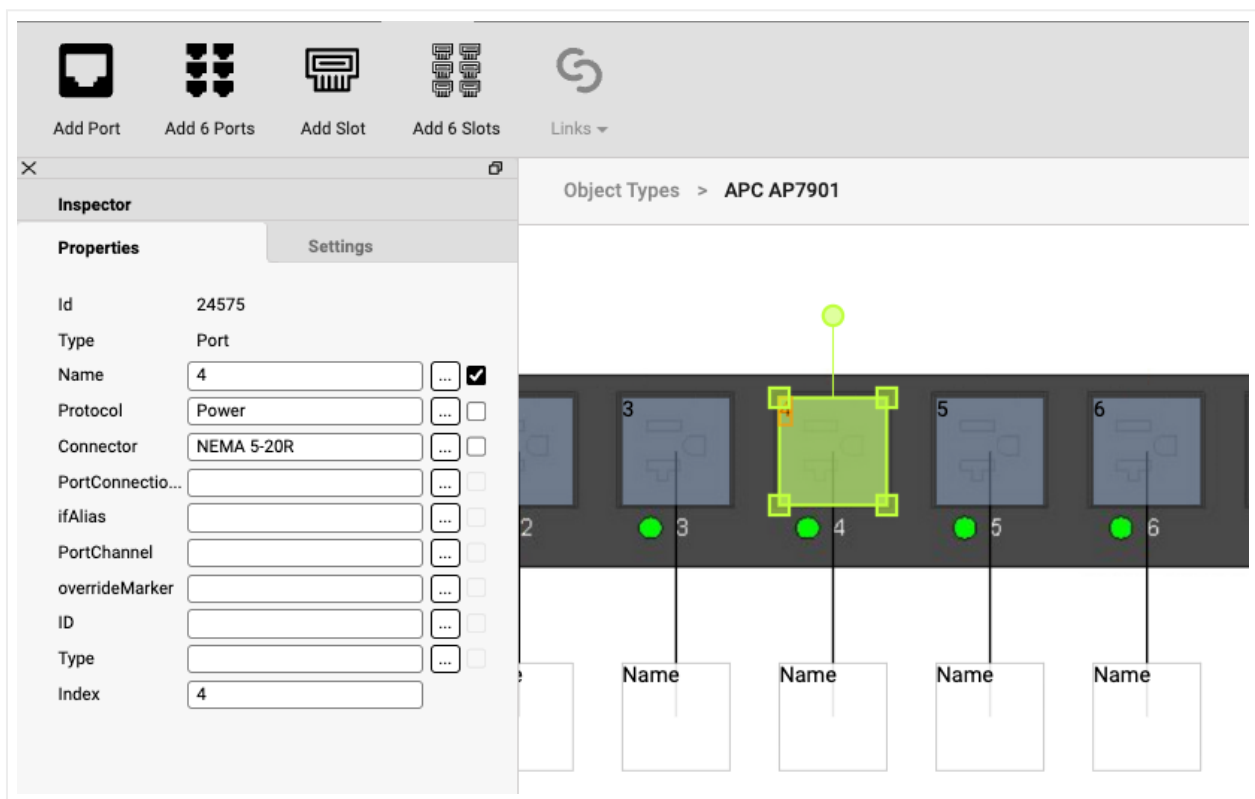
Another convenient way of creating multiple ports is using the copy 6 and copy 24 options in the port right click context menu (more on that later).

Proceed to move and resize the ports as needed. Take advantage of the arrange and resize buttons on the toolbar.

Each port is an object in its own right. As such, when these ports are automatically created in the project, they will inherit default properties from the modeler. These values can be overridden on a per instance basis. These default properties include:

- Name: the name of the port. The default value is numeric and starts with 1 when the first port is created for the device type.
- Protocol: The physical port protocol is user defined, and can be overridden on a per instance basis. Examples of protocol values include ethernet, V.35, fast ethernet, etc.
- Connector: this is a descriptive field that comes in handy when assigning visual overrides based on the port connector. These values are user defined and can be overridden on a per instance basis. Examples of connector values include RJ45, SC or LC.

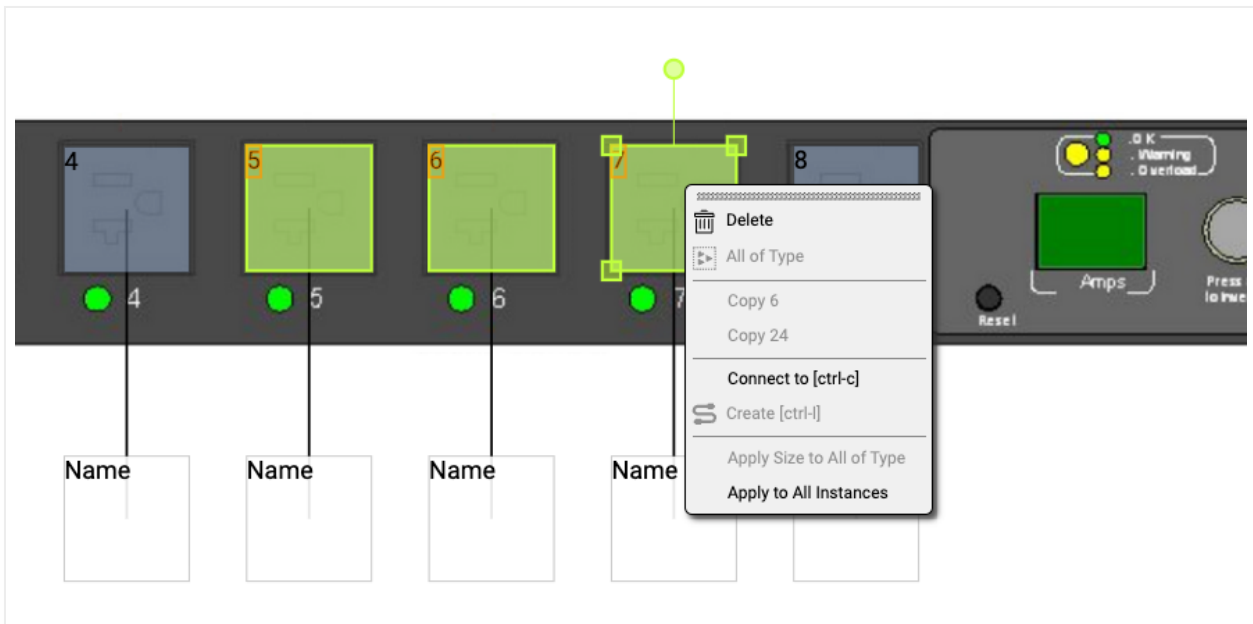
Note that ports can also have additional fields added to them. To do so, go to the catalog and find the 'Port' object. Click on it and add custom fields just like with any other type.



Port modeled on top of a device backplane

Ports have certain right click context menu options, for easy manipulation and modeling:

- Delete: deletes the selected ports. Note that you can delete ports using the toolbar buttons as well and any deleted ports will delete every occurrence of that port in the project.
- Select all of type: selects all instances of references for that type
- Copy 6: creates 6 copies of the selected port. This option is only enabled when one port is selected.
- Copy 24: creates 24 copies of the selected port. This option is only enabled when one port is selected.
- Connect to: this option lets you create pre defined internal connections between ports on the current device types. As explained above, these pre defined links are usually utilized in the context of cross connections.
- Create Connections: If another port has been copied to the clipboard, this option will be available for creating a link. When selected a dialog will appear.
- Apply size to all of type: applies the size of the selected port (only enabled when one is selected) to the rest of the ports.
- Apply to all instances: applies the settings of the selected ports, to all occurrences of those ports in the project.



Right click context menu options for ports

5.2.2.4 Modeling references

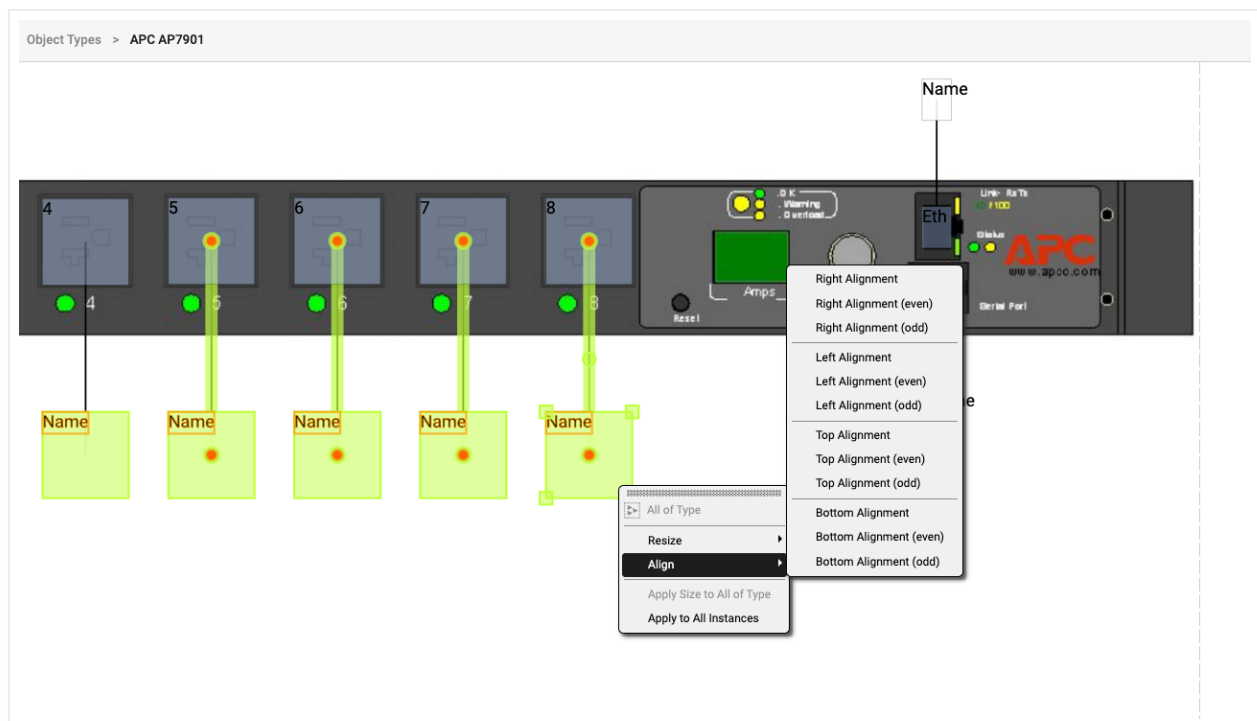
The screenshot above shows a white “name” box. These boxes are created automatically for each port and is called the reference port object. This object is not real, it is just a representation of the location where a reference node would show up, when you connect the port with another node in the project. The white box

then provides a convenient way for nicely auto-placing references in the project. In the project, the reference port is only visible after a connection is made to the physical port for an instance of that device type.

It is preferable to first model the size and position of the “real” ports and then proceed with the resizing and positioning of the references. Sometimes when modeling the “real” ports, these white boxes get in the way (especially for devices with many ports). For that purpose in the modeler you can hide the references, work with the real ports, then display the references again and proceed to model the reference ports. To hide the references simply right click on them and select hide.

Use some of the other right click context options for reference ports:

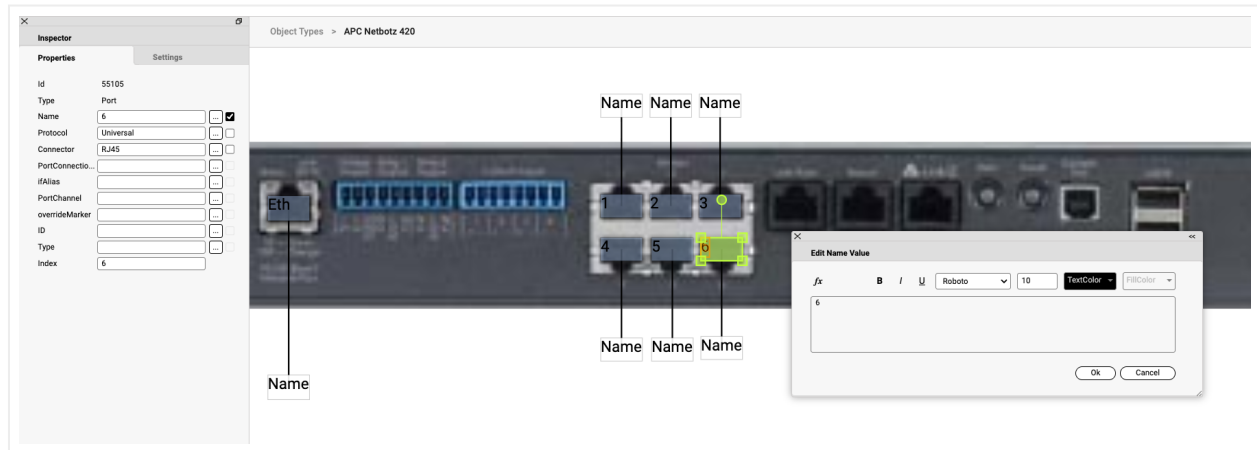
- Select all of type: selects all instances of references for that type
- Resize: provides options to match the width and height of the selected reference/s to the dimensions of the connecting port/s.
- Align: provides options to align the selected reference ports with its connected physical port
- Apply size to all of type: applies the size of the selected reference (only enabled when one reference is selected) to the rest of the references
- Apply to all instances: applies the settings of the selected references, to all occurrences of those references in the project



Right click context menu options for references

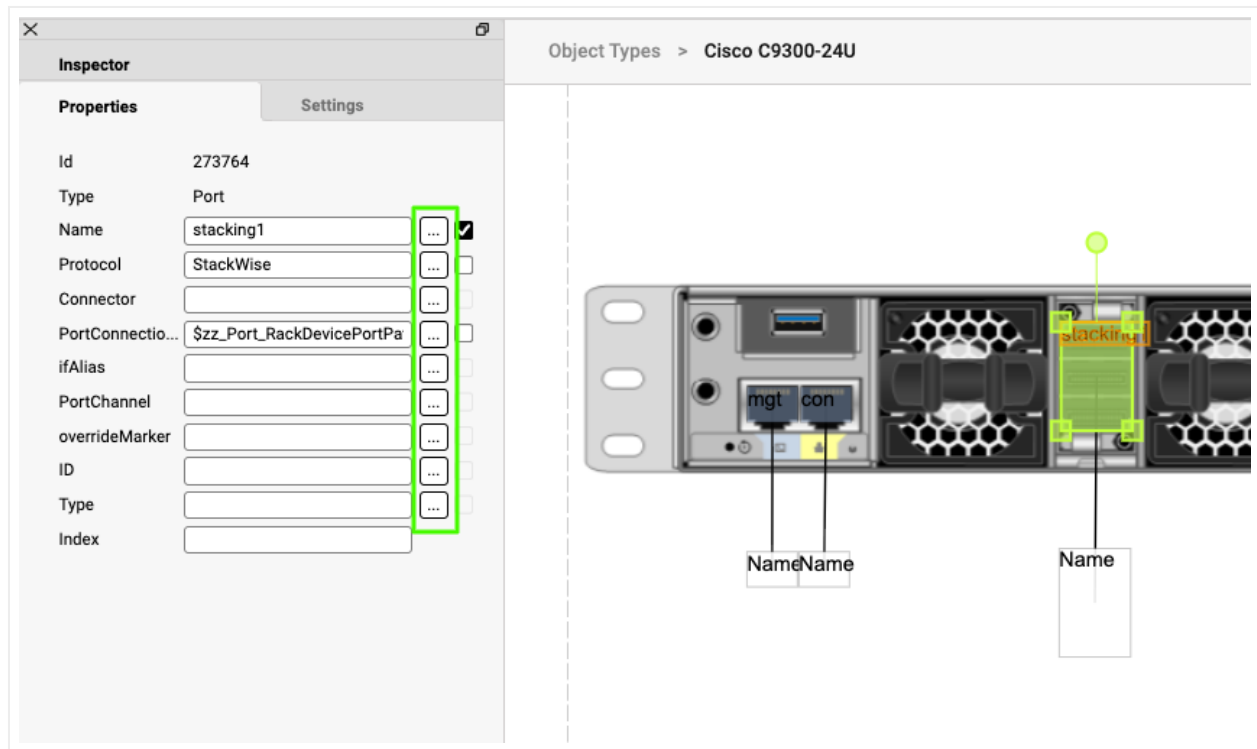
5.2.2.5 Working with text and displayed fields

As explained above, ports can have an unlimited number of custom fields, and you can choose which ones will be displayed on the diagram by default. Port and reference port displayed fields can also be set in advance in the modeler so that they follow a pre defined pattern for each instance in the project. This saves time when creating nice looking device diagrams. Users can edit each text by double clicking on the displayed field or by right clicking on it and selecting 'Text'. Text can be resized and also rotated using the rotation handler.



Editing the text for a port. Rotation handler is shown in the smaller red indicator

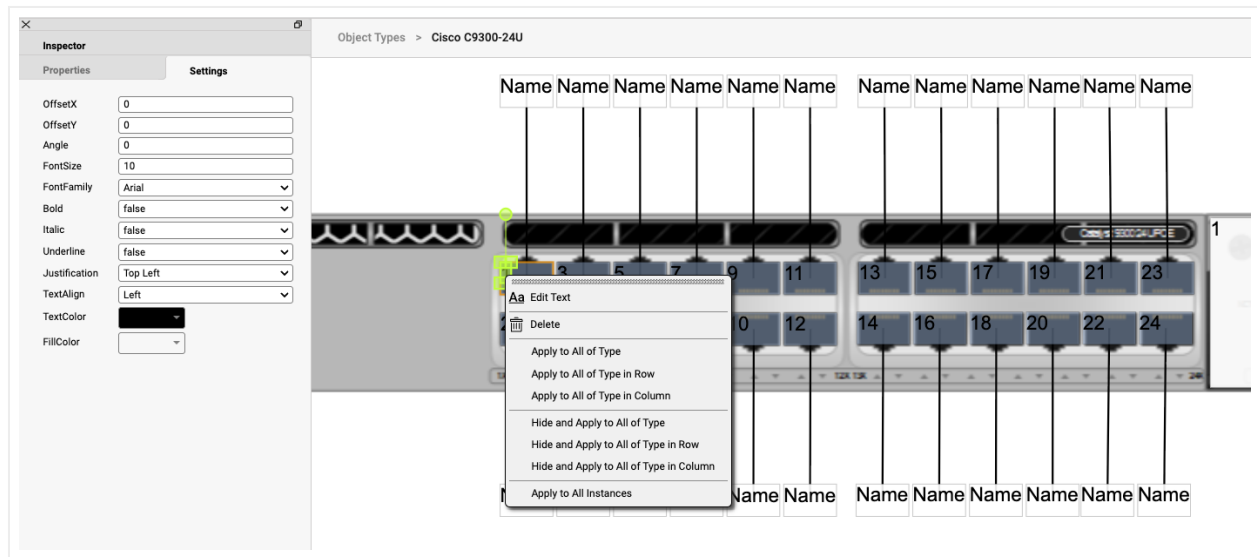
To select which fields should be displayed by default, simply select the port and check the applicable fields on the properties window, as shown below.



Port displayed field selection

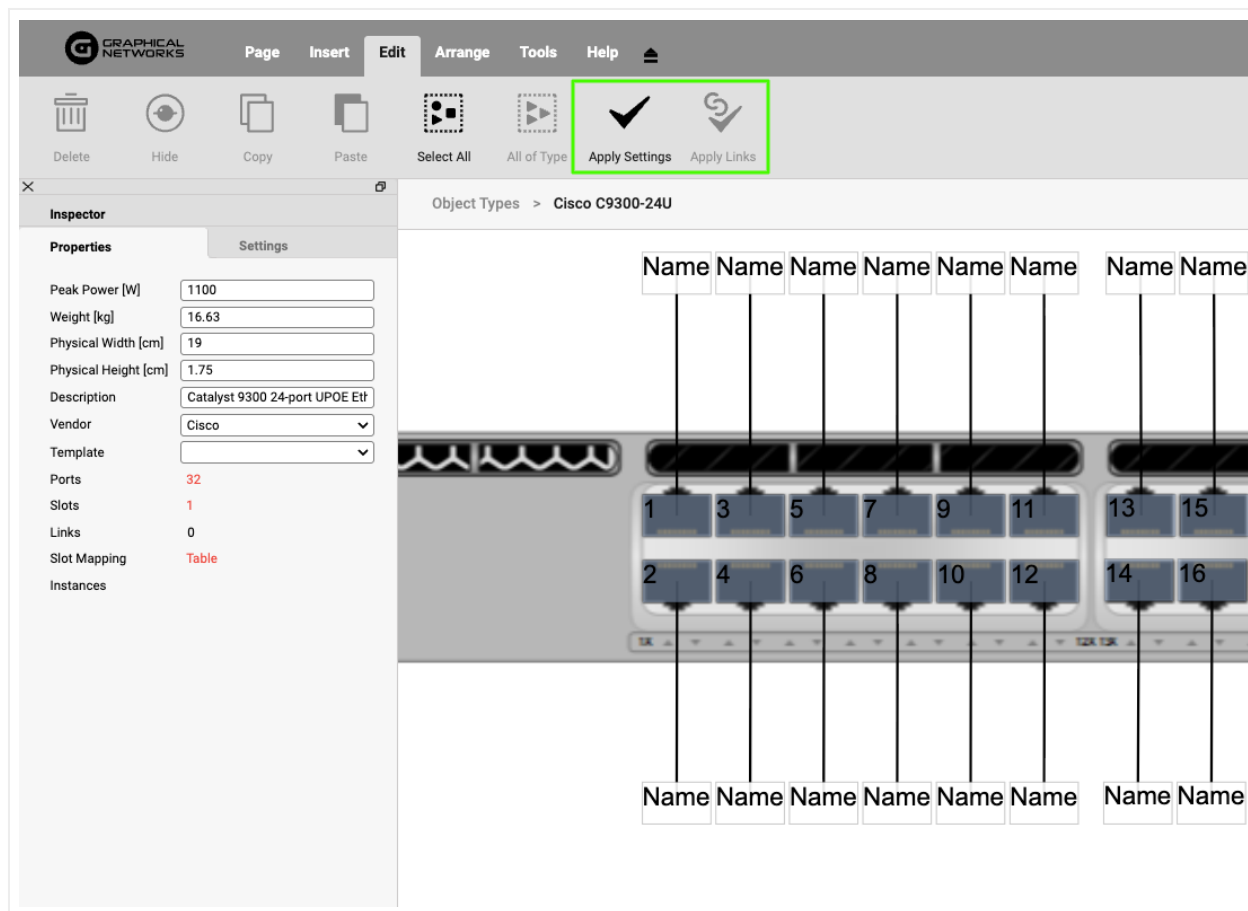
The look and feel of displayed fields can be controlled in bulk using the displayed fields context menu, which includes these options:

- Edit Text: this has the same effect as editing them from the properties or double clicking
- Delete
- Apply to All of Type: applies the displayed field settings to all instances of the same type
- Apply to All of Type in Row: applies the displayed field settings to all instances of the same type for the row. This is a very useful feature for ports, for example where you want the displayed fields for the top row of ports to point in one direction and the bottom in another direction.
- Apply to All of Type in Column: applies the displayed field settings to all instances of the same type for the column.
- Hide and Apply to All of Type: useful feature to remove a field from the displayed set, without having to use the delete function one by one. This deletes the displayed field settings for all instances of the same type.
- Hide and Apply to All of Type in Row: same as above, but for the row.
- Hide and Apply to All of Type in Column: same as above, but for the column.
- Apply to All Instances



5.2.2.6 Apply settings and links to all instances in project

In some cases you want to make sure that changes in the modeling process not only apply to instances created after the model was added or changed, but also to all existing instances. For those cases you can use the 'Apply Settings' button on the toolbar.



This will apply the default values defined in the modeler for all instances of that type in the project, including:

- Default properties defined in the modeler for custom fields
- Physical device properties defined in the modeler (such as Power and weight)
- Default values for custom fields defined for ports
- Default values for custom fields defined for slots

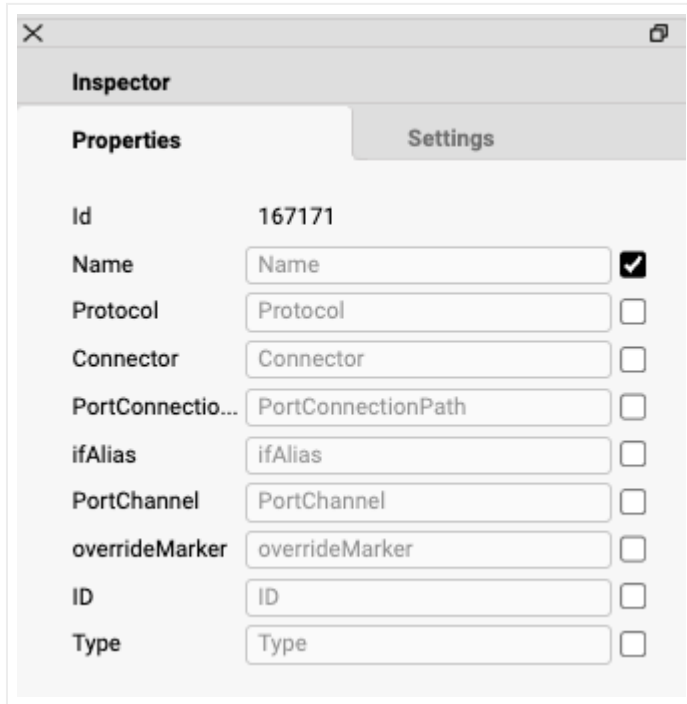
The sizing of ports and slots in the model does not require applying it to all instances, as this is considered a basic characteristic of that type and should be the same for every instance. Hence, if you resize a port or slot, move it, or add new ports or slots, it will automatically make those changes to every instance.

Conversely, the action of applying to all instances does not override displayed fields. This is managed through the right click context menu for displayed fields on the modeler.

In addition users can also override internal cross-connection link data for every instance of the type in the project by using the 'Apply Links' button. This will mimic any cross-connection changes (internal connections) defined in the catalog for all instances of that type.

5.2.2.7 Modeling reference node display field positioning

Selecting a reference node will display a list of all the “port” fields available. These fields can be used to pre-define the default position of a reference node displayed field.

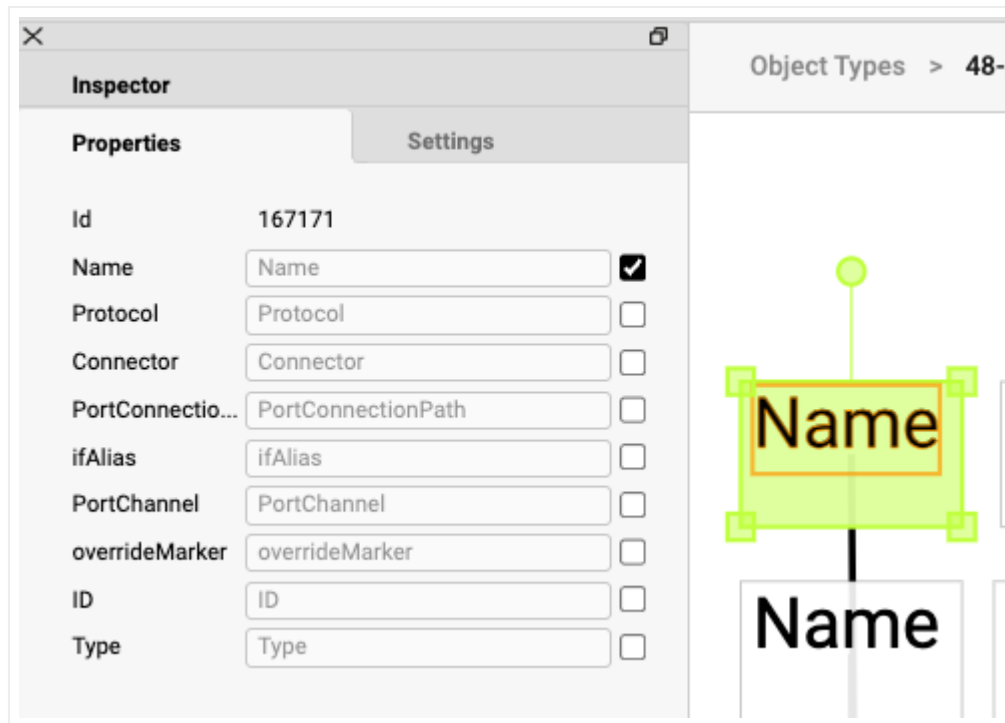


The image shows a software window titled "Inspector" with a close button (X) and a save icon. It has two tabs: "Properties" (selected) and "Settings". Under the "Properties" tab, there is a list of fields with their current values and checkboxes to enable or disable them:

Field Name	Current Value	Enabled
Id	167171	
Name	Name	☒
Protocol	Protocol	☐
Connector	Connector	☐
PortConnectio...	PortConnectionPath	☐
ifAlias	ifAlias	☐
PortChannel	PortChannel	☐
overrideMarker	overrideMarker	☐
ID	ID	☐
Type	Type	☐

Reference node display field selection list

By placing a check mark next to the field name it will enable the field within the modeler. Ultimately this will make the field data for this field type display when the device is used and a connection exists with this port.



Reference node fields marked for display

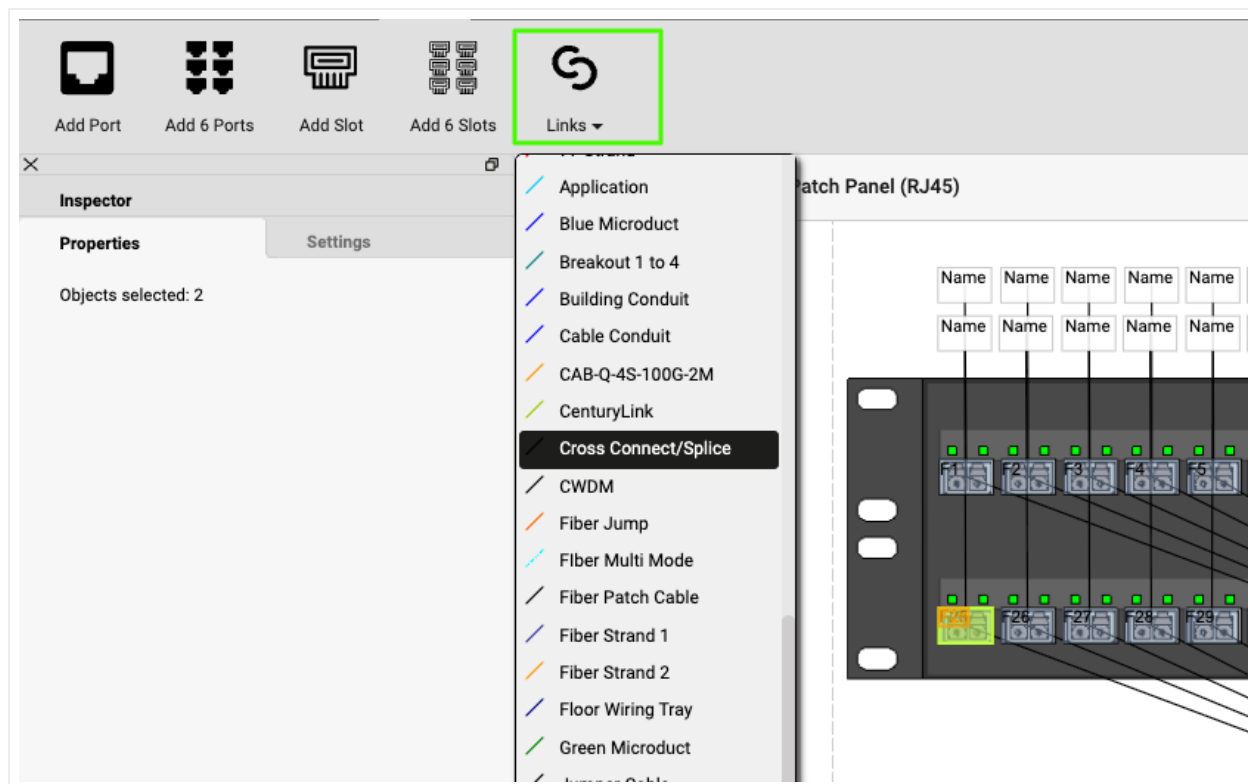
5.2.2.8 Creating predefined links (or cross connections)

As mentioned above, in many cases users want to represent internal connections between ports on the same device and these connections repeat themselves throughout most or all instances of a device type. Examples include internal logical connections for a switch matrix, or physical cross connections between front and back sides of patch panels.

Why would we want to track this? Picture this example: a circuit that traverses certain devices and enters a patch panel. The patch panel has a front and a back side where ports 1f (front) through 24f (front) are always connected to ports 1b (back) through 24b (back). If we were to run a circuit layout record (end to end view of the circuit, see end user guide for this feature) for the circuit, its representation would terminate at the patch panel if these ports were not cross connected.

Also, we may want to understand internal properties of these cross connections, which can be tracked with custom properties assigned to the links representing them.

To create a cross connection in the catalog you can select the two endpoints and then click on the link button on the toolbar and select which link type will be used.



Single cross connection creation process in the modeler

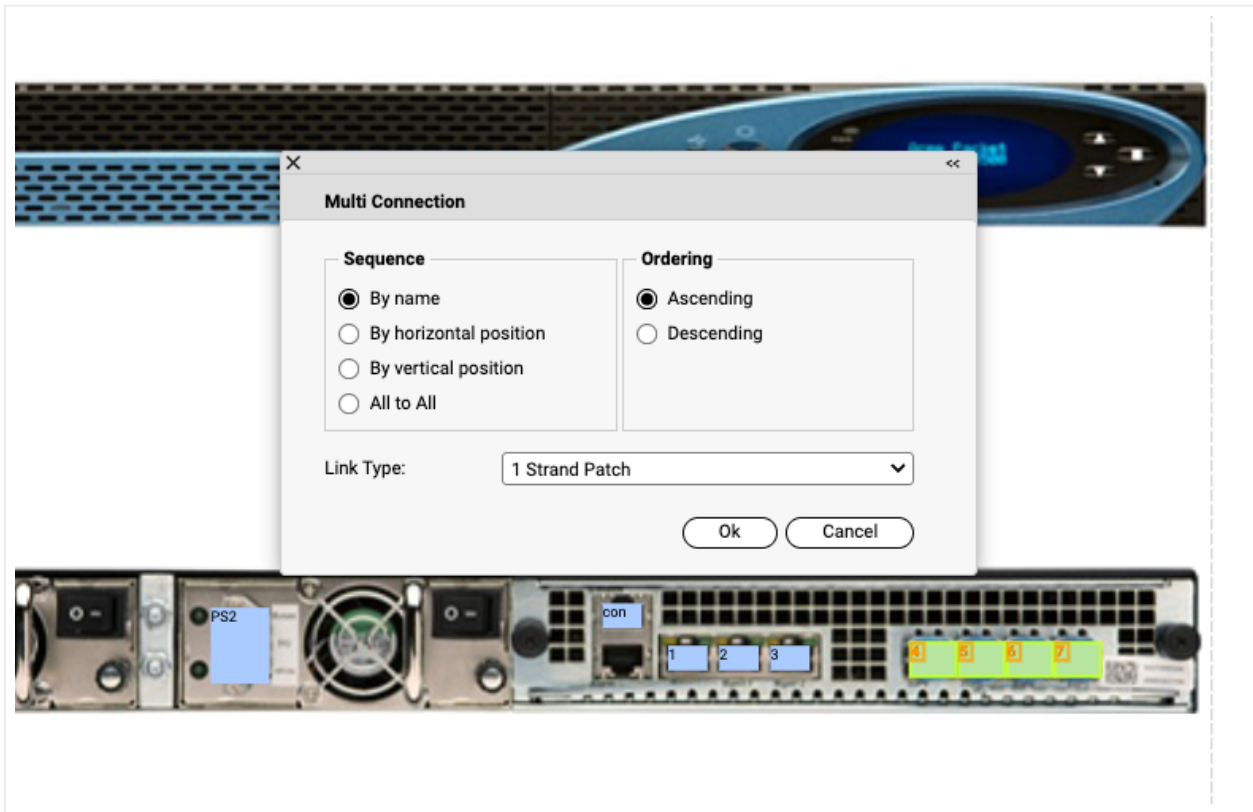
You can also create multiple cross connections at once by following this process:

- select all the starting ports
- copy them to the clipboard
- select the end ports
- right click and select create connections
- pick the connection pattern and link type
- click 'Ok'

Note that you can cross connect multiple ports using different sequencing patterns:

- By name: will choose the starting and ending sequences based on alphabetic sorting of port sets
- By horizontal position: will match the first element of the starting port set with the first element of the ending port set, and so on, using the horizontal positions as ordering criteria
- By vertical position: will match the first element of the starting port set with the first element of the ending port set, and so on, using the vertical positions as ordering criteria
- All to all: will connect every port of the copied set with every port of the selected set.

netTerrain is smart enough to know how to connect ports if the starting and ending sets don't match. Also you can connect one port to many in one simple process by copying the one port to the clipboard, selecting the ending ports and then using the 'All to all' option.



Multi cross connect option

5.2.2.9 Modeling bend points

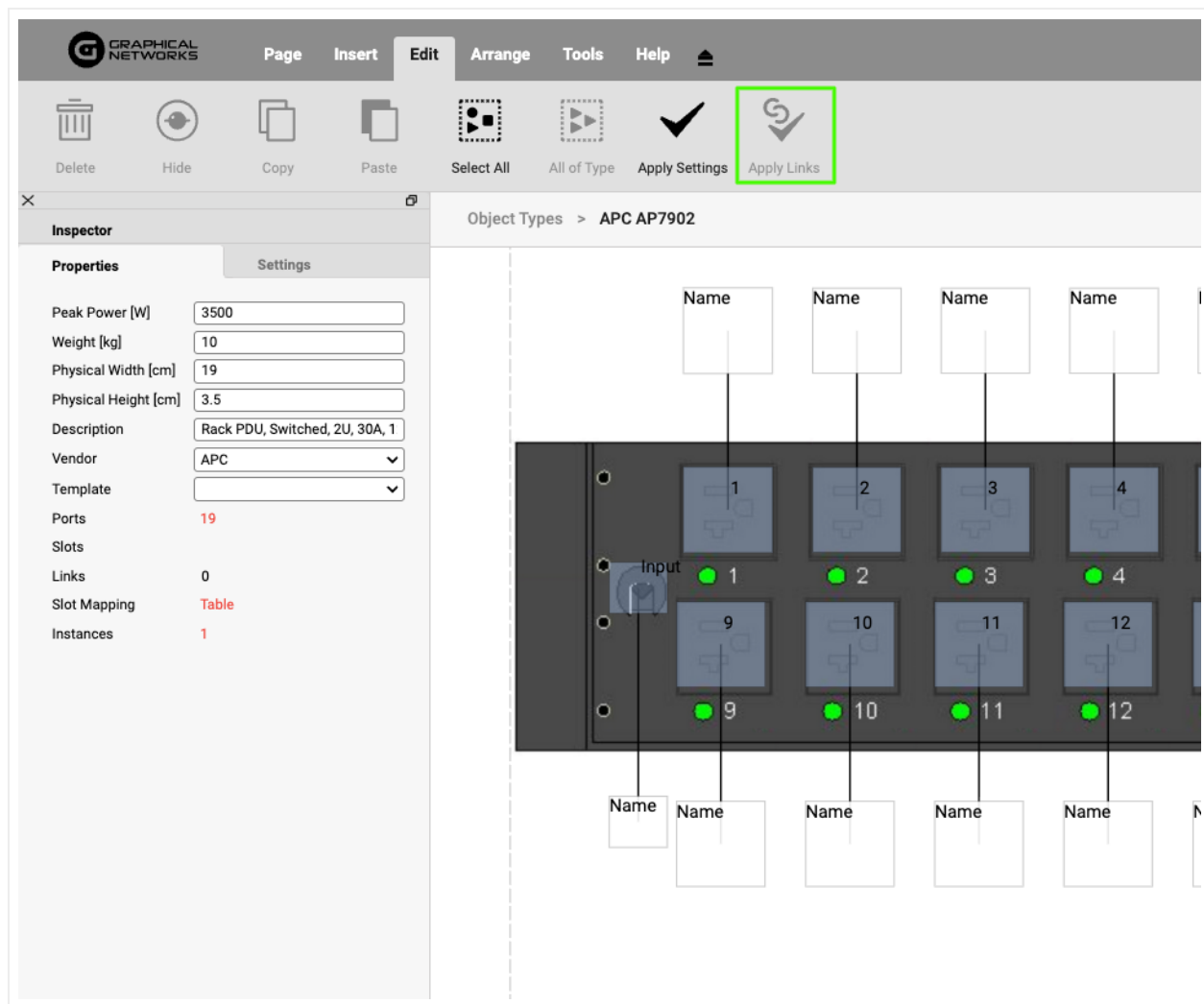
Any lines used in the context of reference ports or internal cross connections can include bend points. This means that when an instance of this device is created in the project, lines generated by references, as well as internal links will already include those predefined bend points. This can be useful in busy diagrams where you want to reroute lines to make the model look better or in such cases where the backplane image itself includes the representation of the lines.

The modeling of bend points works the same way as in the project: right click on any link and add the bend point or press 'b'.



Modeling bend points in the catalog

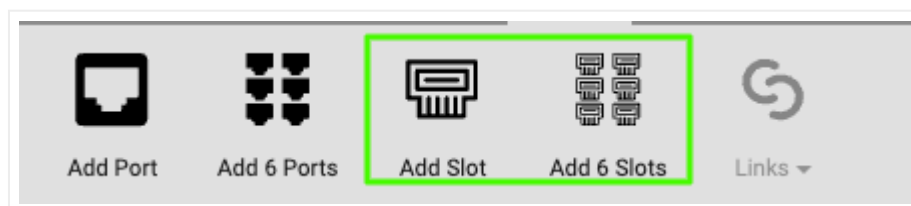
Once you are done modeling bend points, don't forget to press the 'Apply Settings to all instances' button if you also want these bend points to appear on any existing instances of that model in the project.



Applying bend points to existing instances

5.2.3 Modeling slots

In addition to modeling ports you can model slots by clicking on the add slot button in the insert menu. As with ports, there is a button to add 6 slots in one click.

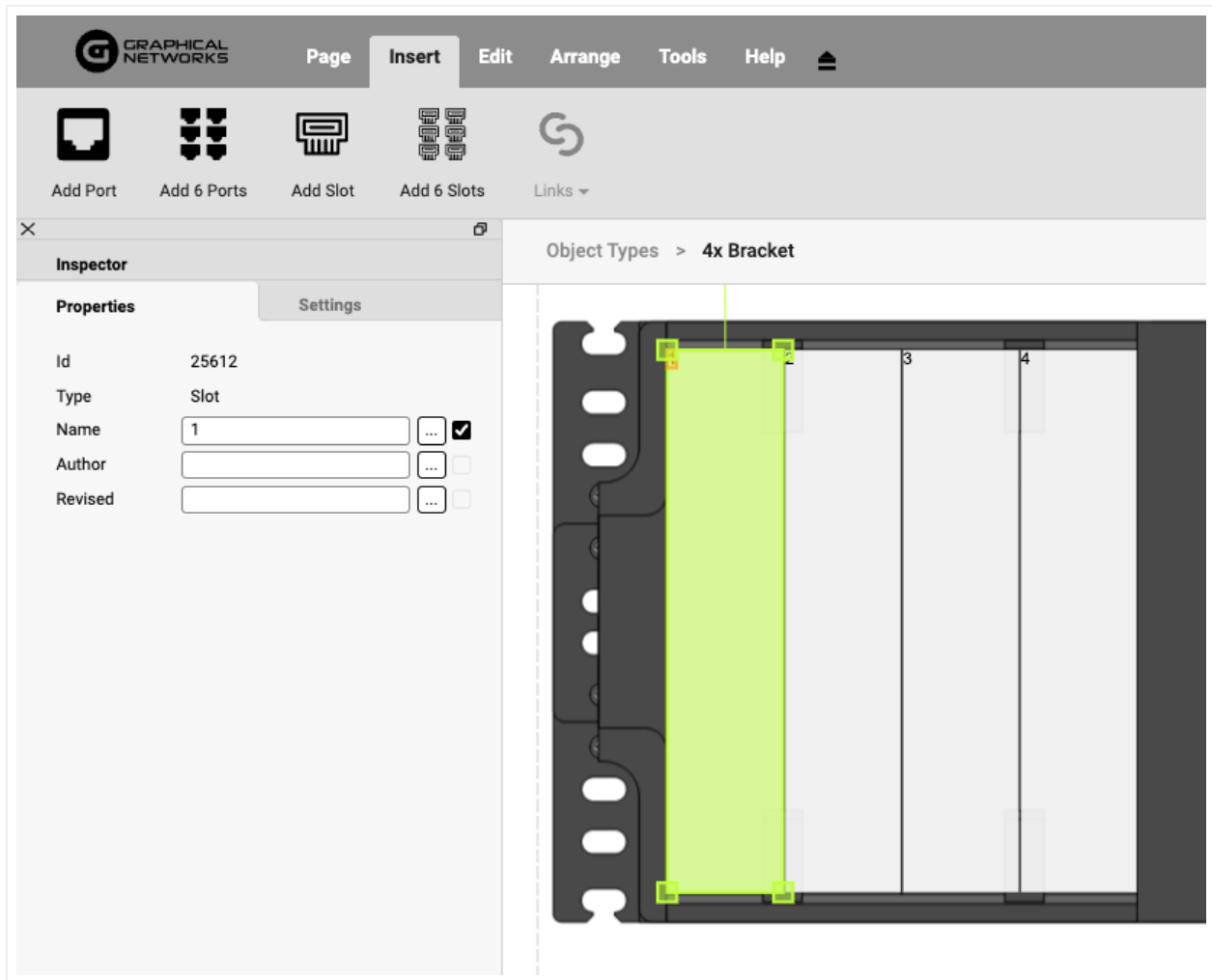


Buttons to add slots to a device model

Once slots have been added, they can be positioned and resized on top of the device backplane image. Each slot name can also be edited.

Slots are displayed as white rectangles in the modeler, so it may be convenient to work with them, with any reference ports hidden, since they are also white.

Just like with ports, slots can also have additional custom fields. Find the slot type in the catalog and proceed to add fields using the same steps as with ports.



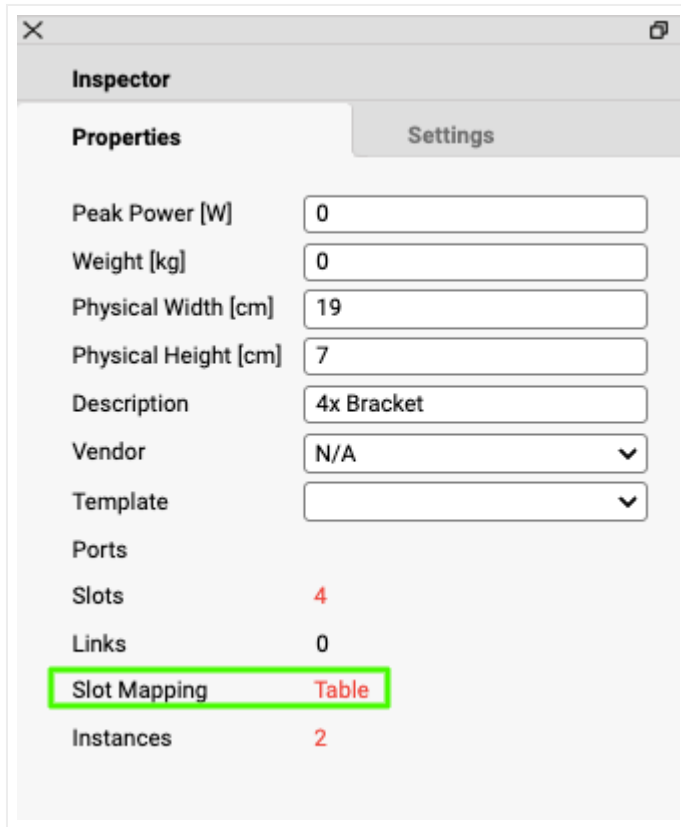
Slot element in modeler

5.2.3.1 Mapping cards to slots

Slots are not very useful unless they support cards. netTerrain has a high degree of control regarding which card types can be mapped to which slot. What this means is that whenever an end user clicks on a slot in the project, a drop-down list of possible cards that can be associated to that slot is provided. To map cards

to slots, the card type must obviously already exist in the catalog (see next section on how to create cards in the catalog).

Cards can be mapped to slots by clicking on the “slot mapping” link available in the properties window for the device modeler.



The image shows a software window titled "Inspector" with a close button (X) and a share icon. It has two tabs: "Properties" (selected) and "Settings". Under the "Properties" tab, there are several input fields for device specifications: Peak Power [W] (0), Weight [kg] (0), Physical Width [cm] (19), Physical Height [cm] (7), Description (4x Bracket), Vendor (N/A with a dropdown arrow), and Template (with a dropdown arrow). Below these fields is a section titled "Ports" containing a table with two rows: "Slots" with a value of 4 in red, and "Links" with a value of 0. Below the "Links" row is a row for "Slot Mapping" with a value of "Table" in red; this row is highlighted with a green rectangular border. At the bottom of the "Ports" section is a row for "Instances" with a value of 2 in red.

Ports	
Slots	4
Links	0
Slot Mapping	Table
Instances	2

Slot mapping feature in device modeler

After clicking on the 'Table' link displayed above, a slot mapping table is displayed. For new device types, or devices that have no cards mapped to its slots, the list will be empty.

Slot Mapping (Device: Cisco WS-C6009)

To csv

Add new

Map to All Slots

Filter

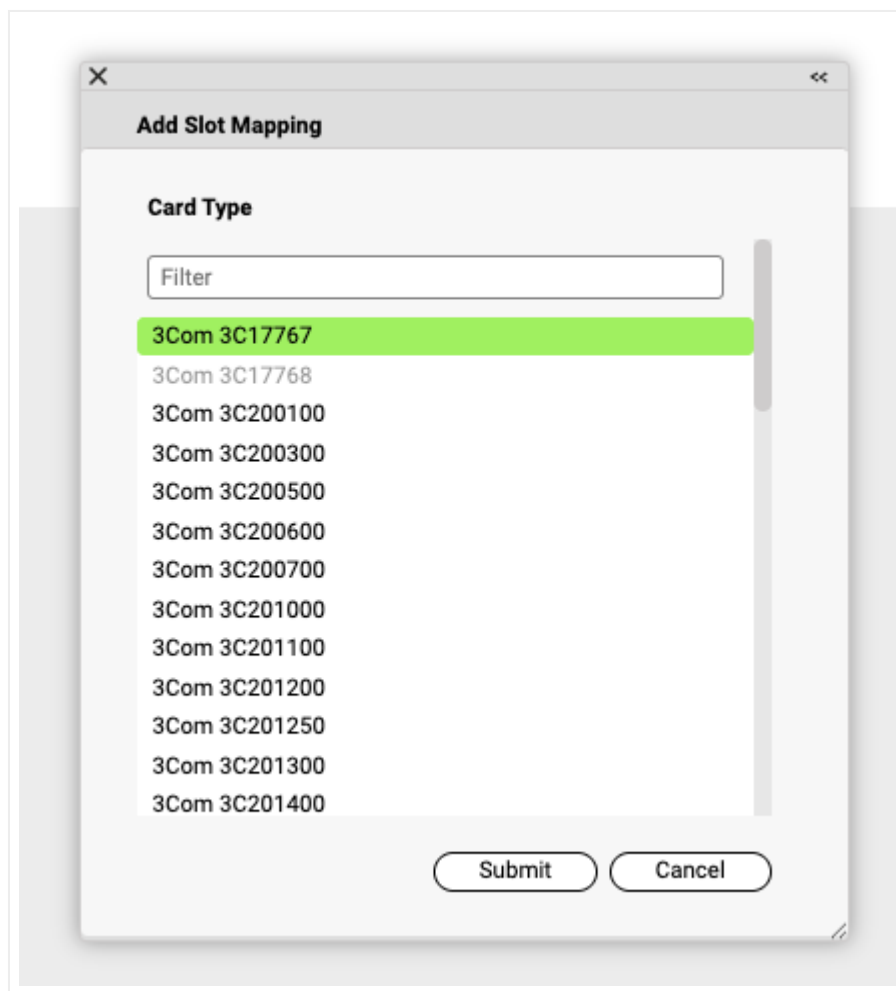
Apply

Clear

#		Device Type	Slot Name	Card Type
1		Cisco WS-C6009	1	Cisco WS-X6516A-GBIC
2		Cisco WS-C6009	1	Cisco WS-X6348-RJ45
3		Cisco WS-C6009	1	Cisco WS-X6516-GE-TX
4		Cisco WS-C6009	1	Cisco WS-X6524-100FX-MM

To map a single card to a specific slot press the 'Add New' option. This will allow you to map a card to a specific slot number. Next, you can pick the slot number you want to map cards to and the card type that goes with that slot.

Since the list of cards can be a very lengthy one, we suggest taking advantage of the filter option to narrow down your choices.



Slot mapping dialog

If a card should be mapped to all slots then use the 'Map to all slots' option. After the cards are mapped to the proper slots, all mappings for the device type will be displayed in the list view. The list view includes the following links:

- Delete: will delete the mapping from the list (this will not remove any existing cards of that type already assigned to that slot in the project)
- Device type: a link to go to the catalog definition of the device
- Slot Name: a shortcut to go to the modeler and highlighted the slot on the chassis
- Card Type: a link to go to the catalog definition of the card

Slots (4x Bracket)
To csv
To Excel

Filter
Apply
Clear

#	Link	Name	Author	Revised	CardsCount
1	 Show in modeler	1			1
2	 Show in modeler	2			0
3	 Show in modeler	3			0
4	 Show in modeler	4			0

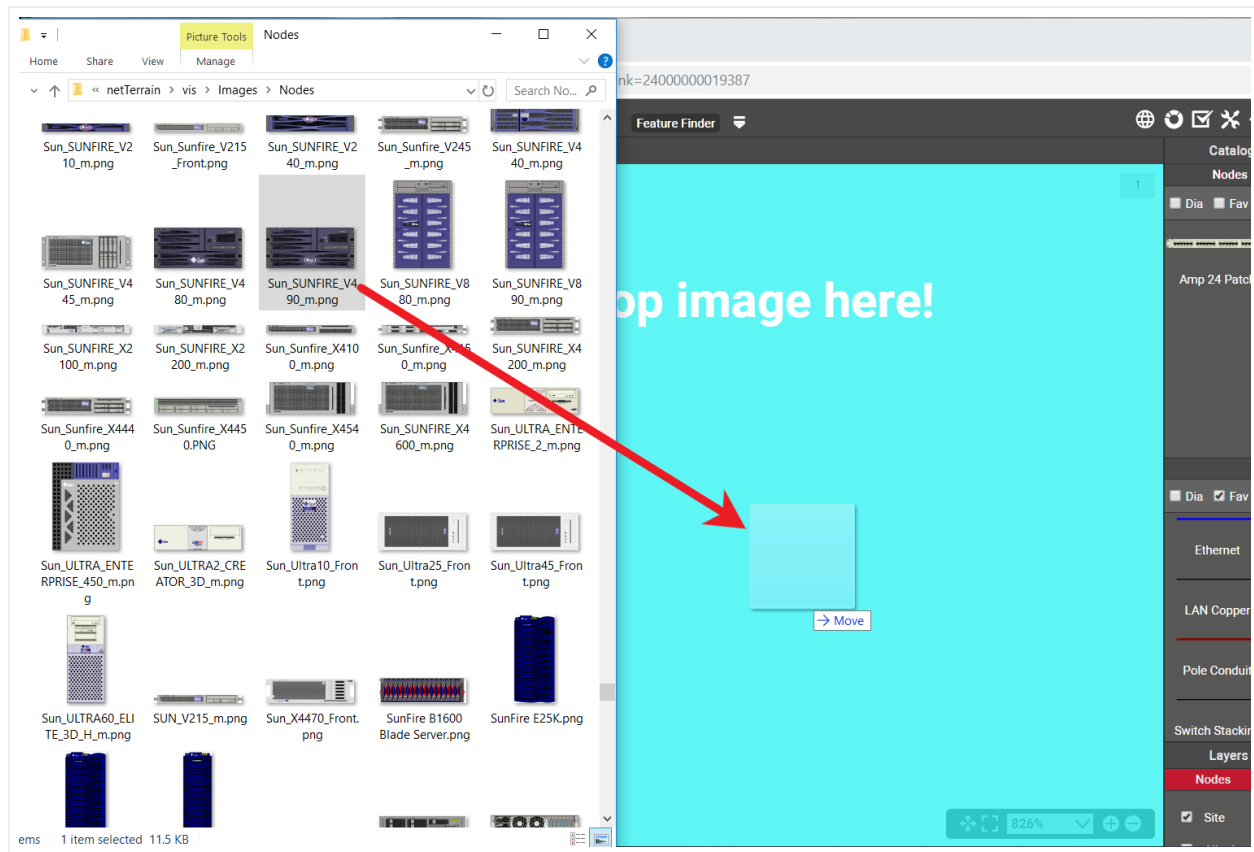
1 out of 1
<
>
1
Go

Populated slot mapping table

5.2.4 Adding a device type by dragging and dropping

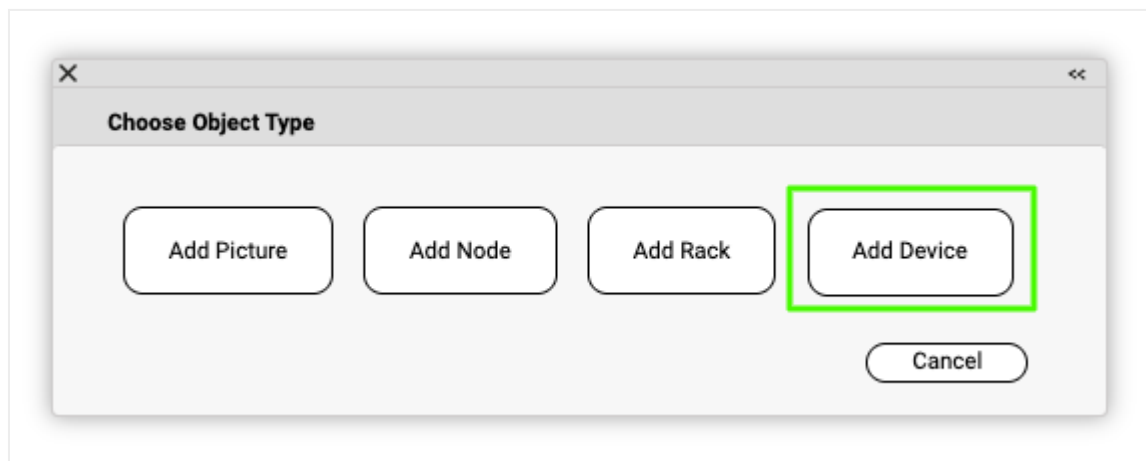
There is a nice trick to add a device type into the catalog quickly: by dragging and dropping an image from a folder or browser! This must be done from the project side, from any diagram.

The best way to use this trick is to have both the netTerrain browser and the folder or website with the image side-by-side. Then, just drag and drop the desired image to the netTerrain diagram, as shown below:



Create a device type by dragging and dropping an image

After you drop the image on the diagram, netTerrain gives you the option to create it as a floating image, a node type, a device type, or a rack type. Choose the 'Device' option:



Choosing the 'Device' option to create a node type

This completes the process; however, it is up to you to access the catalog for that type and then add any custom properties or behaviors or model the device itself.

5.2.5 Special device fields

Just like with nodes and links, once a device type has been created, it contains three mandatory fields that exist for every instance of a device type in the project:

- Id: a 14-digit system-generated number (not visible on the field list view)
- Name: the field that will store the name of each instance
- Type: the field that stores the type of device

Device types also contain a few special fields: environmental properties that a user can edit on a per instance basis and are inherited from the type once you start instantiating them in the project. These special device properties are the following:

- Peak Power [W]: this is the predefined static nameplate power value assigned to the type. Typically, the value entered here is the nameplate power published by the vendor.
- Weight [lb.]: this is the predefined static weight published by the vendor. For modular equipment you may choose whether to populate it with an empty, average or fully loaded configuration. When using the empty configuration, you can create your own expression in netTerrain to aggregate the computed actual weight based on the loaded cards.
- Status (non-mandatory): a value usually associated with the ability of the device in a production environment to respond to a request.

×

Inspector

Properties

Settings

Id

24000000183298

Type

12-port distribution (LC)

...

☐

Name

12-port distribution (LC)

...

☒

Peak Power [W]

0

...

☐

Weight [kg]

0

...

☐

Author

\$zz_Audit_InsertAuthorAllO

...

☐

Revised

\$zz_Audit_LastUpdateAuth

...

☐

Maintenance ...

...

☐

Cost

...

☐

Owner

...

☐

Barcode

...

☐

Audit Date

...

☐

Audit Status

...

☐

Audited By

...

☐

Asset Tag

...

☐

HostName

...

☐

Dynomite

...

☐

Catalog

Fields

Audit Trail

1

_Device special fields _

In sum, all device types contain at least five system fields. Below is the list of all system fields that exist for a new device type that was just created in the catalog:

Object Fields (Type: NETOPTICS-TP-CU3)												
To csv To Excel Add New Tagging												
Filter Apply Clear												
#	Name	Is in Properties	Property Order	Is Mandatory	Default Value	Is Tree Label	List Items	Overrides	Lock List	Is Unique (this type)	Is Displayed	Justification
1	Asset Tag	☒	10	☐	Testing123		0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left
2	Audit Date	☒	7	☐			0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left
3	Audit Status	☒	8	☐			0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left
4	Audited By	☒	9	☐			0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left
5	Barcode	☒	6	☐			0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left
6	Comments	☒	14	☐			0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left
7	Cost	☒	3	☐			0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left

Minimum set of fields (system fields) for devices

Besides the name, which you can edit using one of the default value auto naming functions, notice the two editable environmental fields, which you can edit:

- Max weight
- Power [W]

As mentioned previously, these two fields are inherited by every instance of the device type and can be edited (or overridden) in the project on an instance-by-instance basis.

5.2.6 Custom device fields

Just like with nodes and links, and in addition to modeling your device types according to your specifications, you may want to create custom fields that represent other properties of the device instances. To create a custom property for a device type, go to the device types list and follow these steps:

- Click on the hyperlink that shows the number of fields (5, when there are no custom fields)

Device Types [\[Switch to category view\]](#)

To csv

To Excel

Add New

Import Object Type

Filter

Apply

Clear

#		Group	Name	Category	Default Image	Fields	Overrides	Instances	Is Favorite	Is Enabled
1	   	Device	NETOPTICS TP-CU3	Core_Devices		18	0	5	☒	☒
2	   	Device	NETOPTICS TP-CU3(2)	Core_Devices_Patch		18	0	6	☒	☒
3	   	Device	12 AC Plugs	Core_Devices_Router		17	0	1	☐	☒
4	   	Device	12 fiber MPO to MPO-24 fi			18	0	6	☐	☒
5	   	Device	12 port fiber wall mount b			17	0	1	☐	☒
6	   	Device	12 Slot Patch Panel 4U			17	0	2	☐	☒
7	   	Device	12-port distribution (LC)			17	0	20	☐	☒
8	   	Device	144 Fiber Count			17	0	0	☐	☒
9	   	Device	144count			17	0	0	☐	☒

- This will take you to the fields list for that device type. Click on the 'Add new' button

Object Fields (Type: 19in Blank 1RU)
To csv
To Excel
Add New
Tagging

Filter
Apply
Clear

#	Name ▲	Is in Properties	Property Order	Is Mandatory	Default Value	Is Tree Label	List Items
1	 Asset Tag	☒	12 ▼	☐		 ☐	0
2	 Audit Date	☒	9 ▼	☐		 ☐	0
3	 Audit Status	☒	10 ▼	☐		 ☐	0
4	 Audited By	☒	11 ▼	☐		 ☐	0
5	 Author	☒	3 ▼	☐	\$zz_Audit_InsertAuthorAllObje	 ☐	0
6	 Barcode	☒	8 ▼	☐		 ☐	0
7	 Cost	☒	6 ▼	☐		 ☐	0
8	 Dynamite	☒	14 ▼	☐		 ☐	0

- This opens the dialog for adding a new field, where you:
- name the field
- pick a default value for your field
- pick a font size for the field, if it is displayed on the diagram
- set the field as mandatory during the data entry process
- set it as displayed, so that when it is filled out, that value shows up on the diagram (usually next to the device)
- pick a font color for the field, if it is displayed on the diagram
- pick a fill color for the field, if it is displayed on the diagram

Add Node Property

Name:

Type:

Default Value:

Font size:

Mandatory:

Displayed:

Font color:

Fill color:

Once the field has been added you can then edit any field parameters from the fields list, as seen previously:

- **Name:** the field name that will be displayed for the associated object type.
- **Is in properties:** this feature is useful to control what end users can see on the properties window for a given instance of that type. For example, you can uncheck a field and prevent end users from seeing the data associated with the instances on the project.
- **Property order:** this is self-explanatory and lets you choose the order in which the property appears in the properties window of the project when you click on an instance of that type
- **Is mandatory:** if this option is checked it means that some data must be entered into the field when an object instance is created in the project. This is typically used in conjunction with an assigned default value to ensure some data is entered into this field. This field also cannot be deleted if the mandatory check box is enabled.
- **Default value:** this is the default value that will be displayed for a given field when a new instance of the object type is created. The apply button next to the field lets you apply the default value for that field to all instances of that type in the project.
- **Is tree Label:** determines the data value that will be displayed in the hierarchy browser. Change this if you want to see a different value displayed for an instance of this type in the hierarchy. The default is typically the name.
- **List Items:** list items are like drop down boxes (or combo boxes) that offer end users a finite set of values available for data entry on a given field for a given type. Click on the value to open a table with all list items associated with this field and object type.
- **Overrides:** click on the value to bring up a list of the overrides associated with this field and object type.
- **Lock List:** Allow an override list to be non-editable. If this is checked then a user cannot override the list values. They must choose a value that is already on the list.
- **Is Unique (this type):** Restricts all new inputs of this field for this object type to be unique across all instances.
- **Is Unique (all types):** Restricts all new inputs of this field for any object type to be unique across all instances.
- **Is displayed:** when checked, the field's value will be displayed on the diagram for an instance of this object type. This can also be controlled on an instance basis as well as type-wide (see End User Guide).
- **Justification:** sets the alignment. See the settings for the field instance for more alignment options.
- **Font color:** the color of the text value that is displayed in the project area diagram for this field. Note that you can change the font on an instance-by-instance basis from the project as well (see End User Guide).
- **Fill color:** the background color of the text that is displayed in the project area diagram for this field. Note that you can change the fill color on an instance-by-instance basis from the project as well (see End User Guide).
- **Font size:** the size of the text that is being displayed in the project area diagram for this field. Note that you can change the font size on an instance-by-instance basis from the project as well (see End User Guide).
- **Apply Font settings link:** applies any font settings for this field to all instances of the object where the field is displayed.

Object Fields (Type: **NETOPTICS TP-CU3**) [To csv](#) [To Excel](#) [Add New](#) [Tagging](#)

Records on page: 18 Records in table: 18

Filter [Apply](#) [Clear](#) Records per page: 100 [Show Id Field](#) [Default sorting](#)

#	Name	Is in Properties	Property Order	Is Mandatory	Default Value	Is Tree Label	List Items	Overrides	Lock List	Is Unique (this type)	Is Displayed	Justification	Font Color	Fill Color	Font Size	System OID
1	Asset Tag	☒	10	☐	Testing123	☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left			8	
2	Audit Date	☒	7	☐		☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left			8	
3	Audit Status	☒	8	☐		☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left			5	
4	Audited By	☒	9	☐		☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left			10	
5	Barcode	☒	6	☐		☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left			10	
6	Comments	☒	14	☐		☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left			10	
7	Cost	☒	3	☐		☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left			10	
8	DNS	☒	13	☐		☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left			10	

New custom field for a device type

5.2.6.1 Deleting a custom field

Deleting a custom field is easy: go to the fields list view for the device type and simply press the delete button on the left of the field you want to remove.

Object Fields (Type: **NETOPTICS TP-CU3**) [To csv](#) [To Excel](#) [Add New](#) [Tagging](#)

Filter [Apply](#) [Clear](#)

#	Name	Is in Properties	Property Order	Is Mandatory	Default Value	Is Tree Label	List Items	Overrides	Lock List	Is Unique (this type)	Is Displayed
1	Asset Tag	☒	10	☐	Testing123	☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐
2	Audit Date	☒	7	☐		☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐
3	Audit Status	☒	8	☐		☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐
4	Audited By	☒	9	☐		☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐
5	Barcode	☒	6	☐		☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐
6	Comments	☒	14	☐		☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐
7	Cost	☒	3	☐		☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐

Deleting a custom field for a device type

Notice that the delete button is not enabled for system fields.

Attention!

As you might expect, all the values for the field corresponding to instances of that type in the project will be deleted. As such, be careful with this operation, since it cannot be undone.

5.2.7 Creating list items and visual overrides for a device field

Just as with nodes or racks you may want to set your own visual overrides for devices. You can access the list items and visual overrides list for a device type field by clicking on the override number, as shown below:

Object Fields (Type: NETOPTICS TP-CUS) To csv To Excel Add New Tagging Records on page: 18 Records in table: 18

Filter Apply Clear Records per page: 100 Show Id Field Default sorting

#	Name	Is in Properties	Property Order	Is Mandatory	Default Value	Is Tree Label	List Items	Overrides	Lock List	Is Unique (this type)	Is Displayed	Justification	Font Color	Fill Color	Font Size
1	Asset Tag	☒	10	☐	Testing123	☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left	Black	Orange	8
2	Audit Date	☒	7	☐		☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left	Black	Blue	8
3	Audit Status	☒	8	☐		☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left	Black	Green	5
4	Audited By	☒	9	☐		☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left	Black	Green	10
5	Barcode	☒	6	☐		☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left	Black		10
6	Comments	☒	14	☐		☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left	Black		10
7	Cost	☒	3	☐		☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left	Black		10
8	DNS	☒	13	☐		☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐	Top Left	Black		10
9	Dynomite	☒	15	☐		☐	0	0	☐	☐	☐	Center	Black		10

Visual override and list item link for a device field

To create a new list item or visual override for a device type field, go to the fields list and follow these steps:

- Click on the hyperlink that shows the number of overrides (obviously 0 when there are none)
- This will take you to the overrides list for that device type. Click on the 'Add new' button
- This opens the dialog for adding a new override, where you:
- provide the value that will trigger the override (in the case of a simple list item this is just the list item value)
- specify whether this is an override or not (if you choose false then this completes the process for adding a list item)
- choose the rule that will trigger the override (equal to, contains, greater than, less than)
- set the override image

Once the override has been added you can then edit any parameters from the overrides list, as seen before when analyzing nodes:

- Value
- Rule
- Is Override
- Override
- Instance effect
- Parent effect
- Upwards propagation

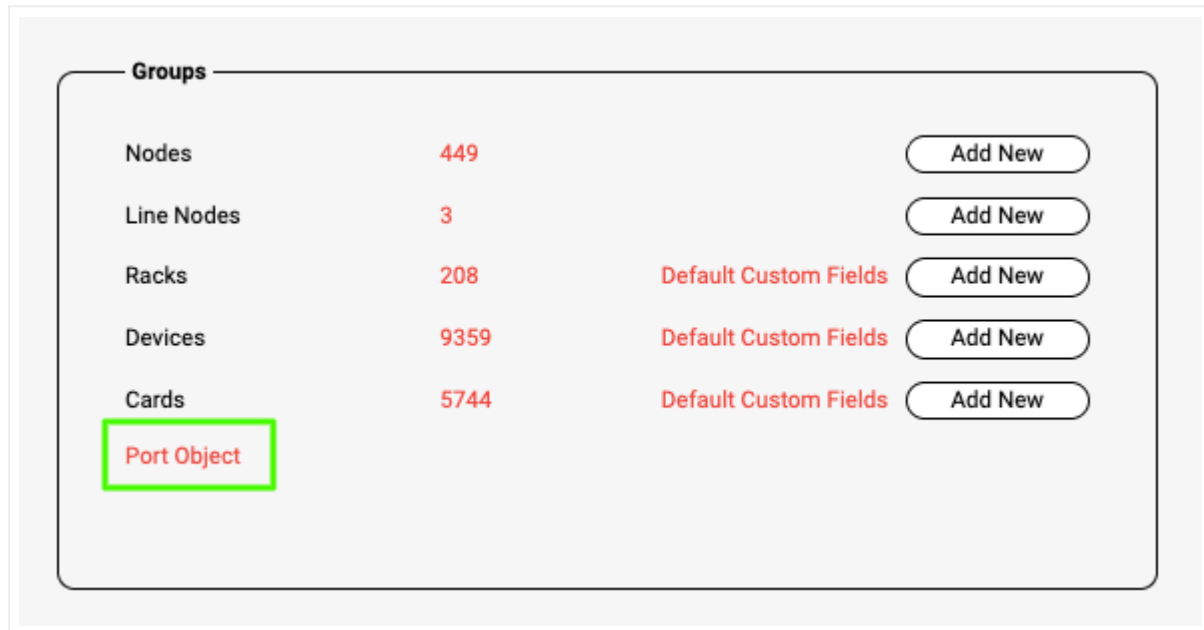
5.2.7.1 Deleting an override or list item

To delete an override or list item for a device field go to the overrides list view for the device type and field and simply press the delete button on the left of the entry you want to remove.

5.2.8 Port object

The port object is a special object in the catalog which manages the properties and behaviors of port instances in the project. The creation of ports in the project only happens because of creating devices or cards and are only instantiated as children of said devices or cards. For each device and card type, their corresponding ports are laid out and predefined as children using one type of entity, which is this port object. As such, the port object does not allow for different types, but catalog managers can modify this port object in terms of adding new properties, behaviors, and other basic physical properties.

To access the port object, click on the 'port object' hyperlink in the main catalog page:



The port object list, which uses the same format as other object type lists, only displays one entry, which cannot be deleted or cloned:

Device Types [Switch to category view] To csv To Excel Add New Import Object Type												
Filter		Apply	Clear									
#	Group	Name	Category	Default Image	Fields	Overrides	Instances	Is Favorite	Is Enabled	Default Width [cm]	Default Height [cm]	K
1	Device	NETOPTICS TP-CU3	Core_Devices		18	0	5	☒	☐	0.538	0.113	
2	Device	NETOPTICS TP-CU3(2)	Core_Devices_Patch		18	0	6	☒	☐	0.538	0.113	
3	Device	12 AC Plugs	Core_Devices_Router		17	0	1	☐	☐	0.13	7.7	

Port object list

Let's review each field:

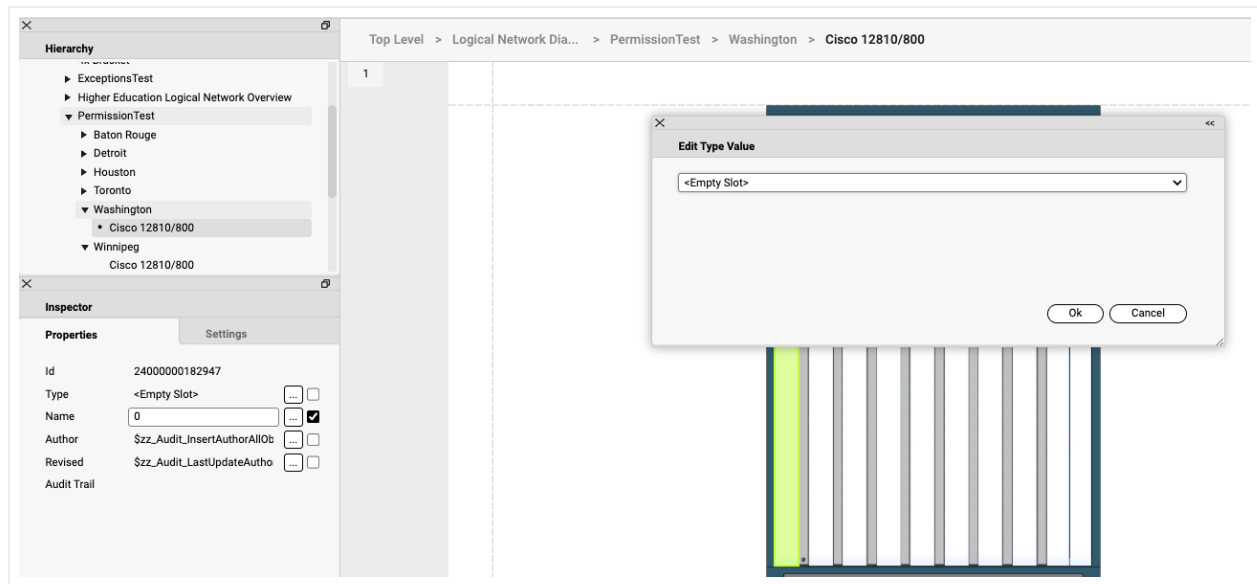
- Name: the name of this type is always "Port" and cannot be changed.
- Category: this entry is empty and cannot be edited as there can't be multiple port object types and it can't be associated with entities from different sections in the catalog.
- Default image: the supported image types include PNG, JPEG, GIF, and SVG.
- Fields: users can add custom fields, just like it is done for device types, node types and so on.
- Overrides: users can modify the behavior of ports by creating custom overrides, just like it is done for device types, node types and so on.
- isFavorite and isEnabled: these settings are not editable for ports as ports are created automatically for the device and card types for ports are modeled.
- Default width and height: these settings refer to the default width and height displayed on the modeler page of devices and cards. When a power user models the ports for a given device or card type the individual port sizes modeled for said types override these defaults.

5.3 Creating and modeling cards

Cards are used in netTerrain DCIM to work in conjunction with their parent devices and are mapped to specific device slots. Cards are modeled in a similar way to devices. The basic difference between a card and a device is that a card is not rack mounted on a rack but only positioned inside a device slot. Users can also model daughter cards (sometimes called modules) which are cards positioned inside cards. We saw this in the hardware model previously. This dependency can have unlimited nesting levels (cards inside cards inside cards, etc.). For this nesting to work, the card modeling process must also support slots.

As mentioned before, slots are placeholders for cards and they are defined in the catalog, typically on top of the device backplane image. Devices that contain slots are sometimes referred to as modular. Slots cannot be moved or resized for an instance (it wouldn't make much sense to do so, when was the last time you could stretch a card on a router!). Slots that have been mapped to card types in the catalog can be populated with instances of those types. The card types that are available will depend on the catalog setup, which we will review when we go over hardware mapping.

In the project, to assign a card on a slot a user simply selects the slot and then picks the card type to place in it, using the type drop down box. The card modeling and hardware mapping in the catalog is what makes all this magic work.

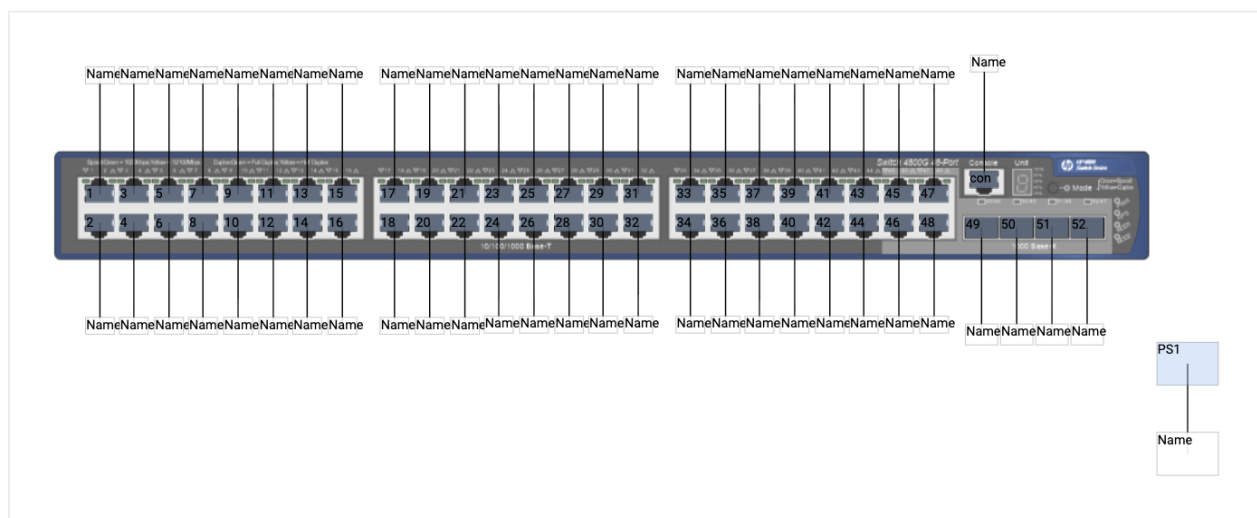


Populating a slot with a card, as seen in the project

A card is modeled in the catalog pretty much like a device. A card can contain:

- Ports
- A background image
- Other slots with cards (or daughter cards)

Once a card has been created, its ports are also created automatically, just like with a device. To see the ports and other subcomponents inside a card just double-click on it.

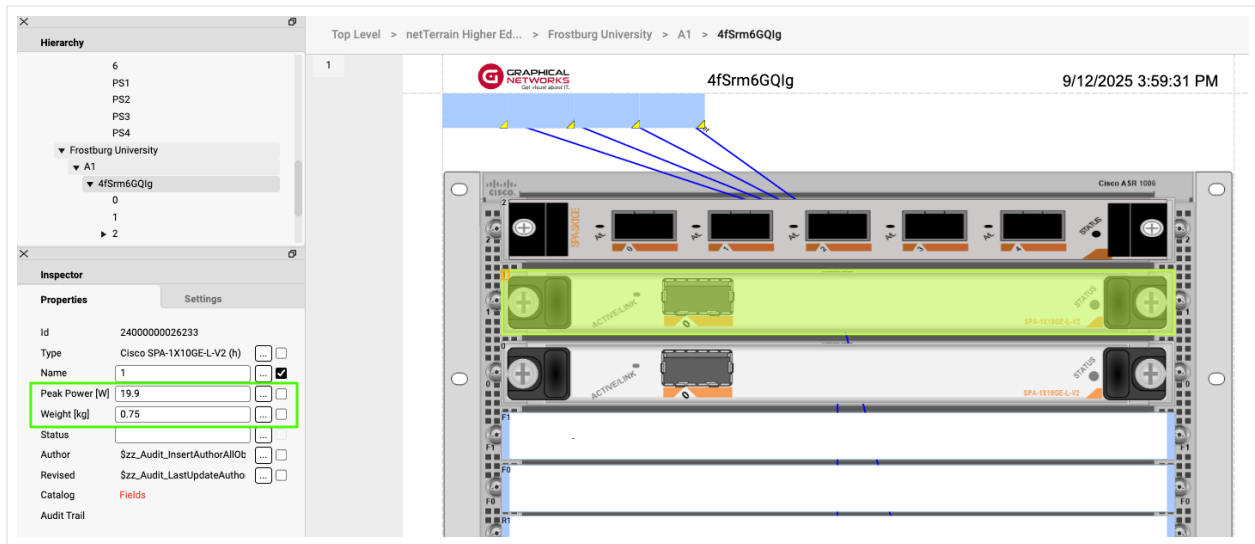


Card backplane with automatically created ports, as seen in the project

5.3.1 Predefined card properties

Cards, just like devices, have the same two predefined properties that are inherited from the catalog:

- Peak Power [W]: this is the predefined nameplate power assigned in the card modeler.
- Weight [lb]: this is the predefined static weight capacity assigned in the card modeler.



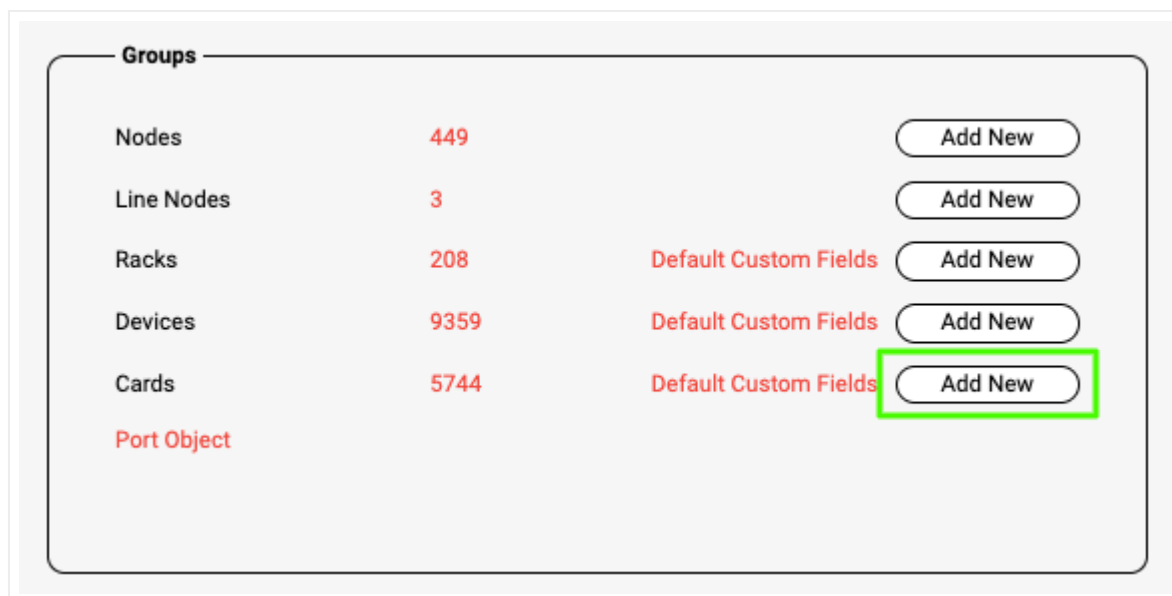
Predefined card fields as seen in the project

These properties can be overridden on an instance-by-instance basis. Also, users can create additional custom fields representing power readings, which can in turn be the result of a discovery or some other importing mechanism.

Card dimensions and power consumption can also be modeled, but they play a minor role in the project. Racks do not currently aggregate card name plate power figures, so we recommend that when you specify power for devices you should account for the maximum power when the device is fully loaded with cards. Also, since cards are mapped to slots, the card dimensions become irrelevant from a diagramming perspective, since the cards will automatically fit inside the slot the card is mapped to.

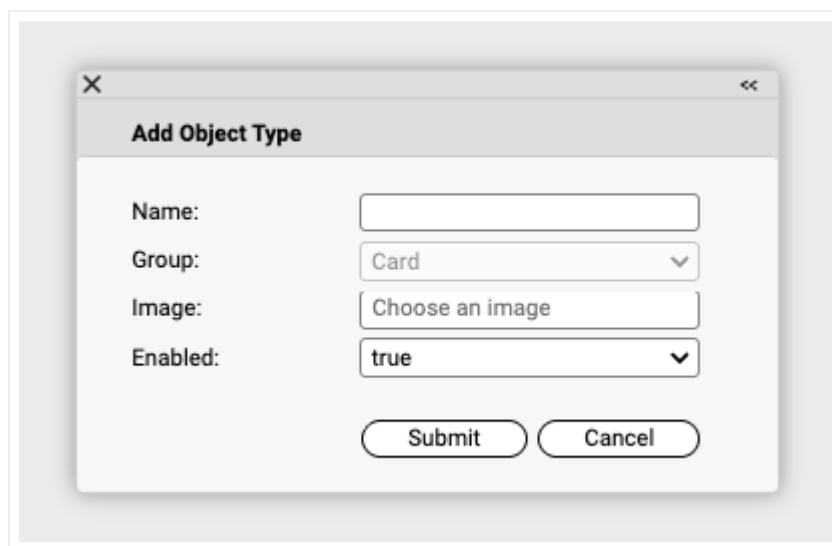
5.3.2 Adding cards

To add a new card, go to the catalog and look for the 'Add New' button next to the cards group. You can also click on the ## value next to the 'Cards'. This will list all existing cards. Then you can click on the 'Add New' button.



Adding a new card type in the catalog

Pressing the add button will bring up a pop-up dialog box that can be used to create a new card type in the catalog.



Adding card type dialog

Once the card has been added to the catalog, netTerrain shows the new type in the card list view.

As you probably know from the device creation process, in netTerrain you can add as many custom fields as possible, on a per card type basis. This gives you maximum granularity when it comes to recording important properties for these objects. Any property for the card can also have visual overrides that can control the look and feel of a card based on changes in any property.

Object Fields

To csv

To Excel

Add New

Tagging

Filter

Apply

Clear

#	Name	Type	Is in Properties	Is Mandatory	Default Value	Is Tree Label	List Items	Overrides	Lock List	Is U
1	(1)	L2 switch paraméterek (CE nem!!!)	☒	☐			3	0	☐	
2	(1)	L2 switch paraméterek (CE nem!!!) (1)	☒	☐			3	0	☐	
3	(2)	L2 switch paraméterek (CE nem!!!) (1)	☒	☐			3	0	☐	
4	(2)	L2 switch paraméterek (CE nem!!!)	☒	☐			3	0	☐	
5	(3)	L2 switch paraméterek (CE nem!!!)	☒	☐			3	0	☐	
6	(3)	L2 switch paraméterek (CE nem!!!) (1)	☒	☐			3	0	☐	

Card properties

As you have seen already, card fields can have all sorts of settings: the order in which they appear in the properties window, whether they are mandatory or not, default values, list items and visual overrides, whether values need to be unique, whether they are displayed on the actual diagram or not and if so, what font type, color, size and so on these properties use.

5.3.2.1 Default custom fields for cards

In many projects that utilize a variety of card types, there may be a set of common fields that apply to any type. To save yourself the effort of having to create these fields every time, for every new card type you add in the catalog, you can predefine the default custom fields that netTerrain should create automatically after adding a new card type.

These default custom fields for cards can be managed from the catalog dashboard:

Groups			
Nodes	449		Add New
Line Nodes	3		Add New
Racks	208	Default Custom Fields	Add New
Devices	9359	Default Custom Fields	Add New
Cards	5744	Default Custom Fields	Add New
Port Object			

Defining default custom fields for cards

After clicking on the 'Default Custom Fields' link you are taken to a list view where you can manage these default custom fields, just like how it is done for devices.

Notice that when you add a new default custom field to the list, the field will be added to any new types created but will not modify the structure of custom fields for existing types.

You can, however, apply all the defined default custom fields to all existing types by pressing on the 'Add to all types' button.

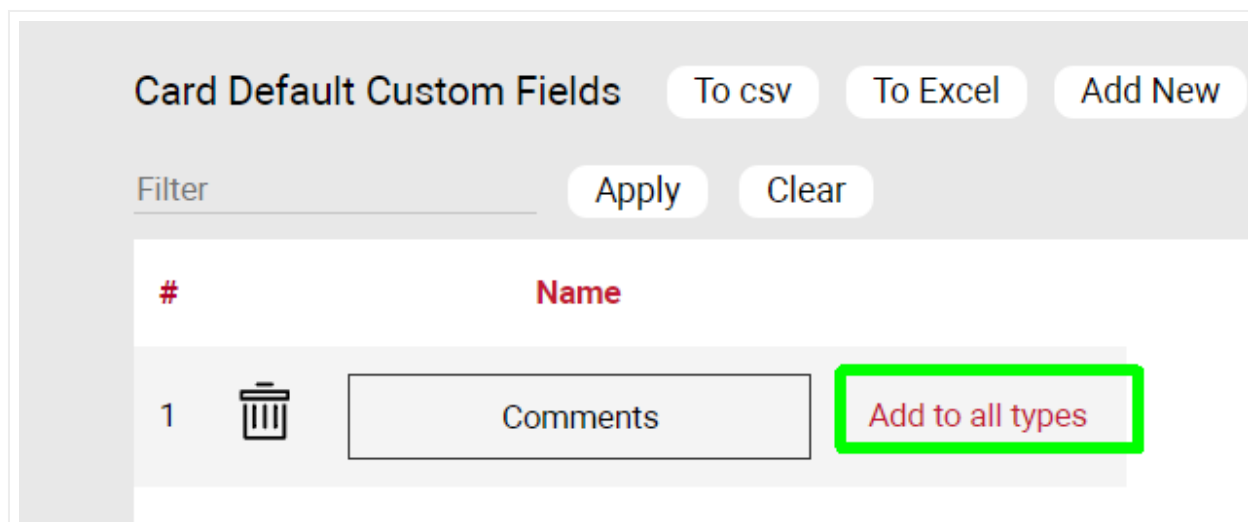
Card Default Custom Fields
[To csv](#)
[To Excel](#)
[Add New](#)
[Add to all types](#)

[Apply](#)
[Clear](#)

No records found

Applying all default custom fields to all types

You can also apply one default custom field to all types by pressing on the "Add to all types" link next to the field, as shown below:



Adding one default custom field to all types

5.3.3 Card modeling

The card modeling process is the same as the process followed for devices, so you can always refer to that section of the guide. We'll review the entire process here again.

The card modeling process lets you assign a backplane image to the card and overlay subcomponents on top of it, so that end users don't have to manually create them for each instance. In addition to creating subcomponents, the card modeling process lets you specify physical properties for the cards. These physical properties should not be confused with the custom fields we mentioned

After the initial creation of the card, you can proceed with the modeling. If you are still in the list view for the

card you created, you should see a 'Modeler' button

Clone Delete Modeler

. If you are

not in the card list view, go to the Catalog and click on the card group ## count.

5.3.3.1 Card properties

To get started with the modeling process, first fill in the card properties, as displayed below.

✕

📄

Inspector

Properties

Settings

Peak Power [W]

18.1

Weight [kg]

0.75

Physical Width [cm]

6.75

Physical Height [cm]

0.8

Description

Cisco 5-Port Gigabit Ethernet S

Vendor

Cisco

▼

Template

▼

Ports

5

Slots

Links

0

Slot Mapping

Table

Device Mapping

Table

Instances

26

Card properties in modeler

These properties include:

- Peak Power [W]: maximum power that this card type supports. This is not a mandatory field and can be modified on a per card instance basis. As such, we could say that this value represents the nameplate card peak power.
- Weight [lb]: nameplate weight of the card type. This is not a mandatory field and can be modified on a per card instance basis.
- Physical Width and Height [in]: as mentioned before, not very relevant from a diagramming perspective, since the cards will automatically fit inside the slot the card is mapped to.
- Description: non-mandatory field used as a short description for this rack type
- Vendor: this field is a non-mandatory lookup value from the vendors table. If the vendor is not on the list it will need to be added before proceeding (see previous chapter).
- Template: if the card uses a standard default diagram template it can be assigned here (see End User Guide for template usage).
- Ports: this represents the number of ports on the motherboard of this card type. Click on this ## and a table view of the ports will be displayed and can be edited.
- Slots: this represents the number of slots on the card. Slots can be used to mount daughtercards.
- Links: this number represents the count of internal links that have been modeled for this type, which is not very common for cards.
- Instances: the number of occurrences of this type in the project. Naturally, this value is zero if you are modeling this card type for the first time.

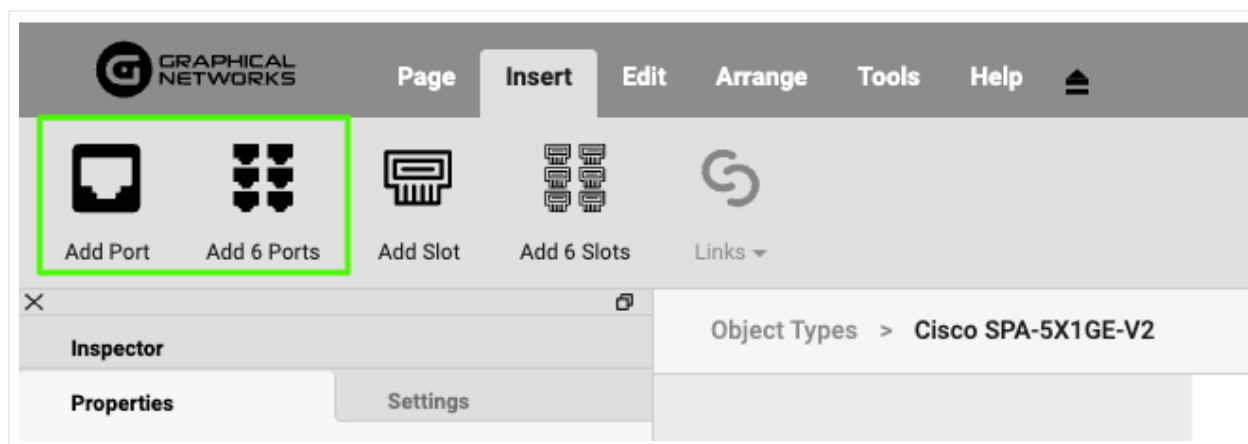
5.3.3.2 Backplane image

Once the properties have been entered for the card you can proceed with the actual modeling sequence. First, you need to create a background image that will serve as a guide for placing port or slot objects on top of it. Ideally, the card image should display the backplane of the card and serve as a reference for users assigning ports to it.

To add the background image, click on the  icon in the Page menu. You will then be able to browse for an image on your local drive. Valid image formats include PNG, JPG, GIF as raster formats and SVG as vector formats.

5.3.3.3 Port modeling

After uploading the background image for the card you can proceed with the modeling of subcomponents. To create a new port for the type simply click on the add port button located in the toolbar. For convenience (especially useful for cards that have multiples of 6 ports) there is also a button to add 6 ports at once.



Buttons to add ports in card model

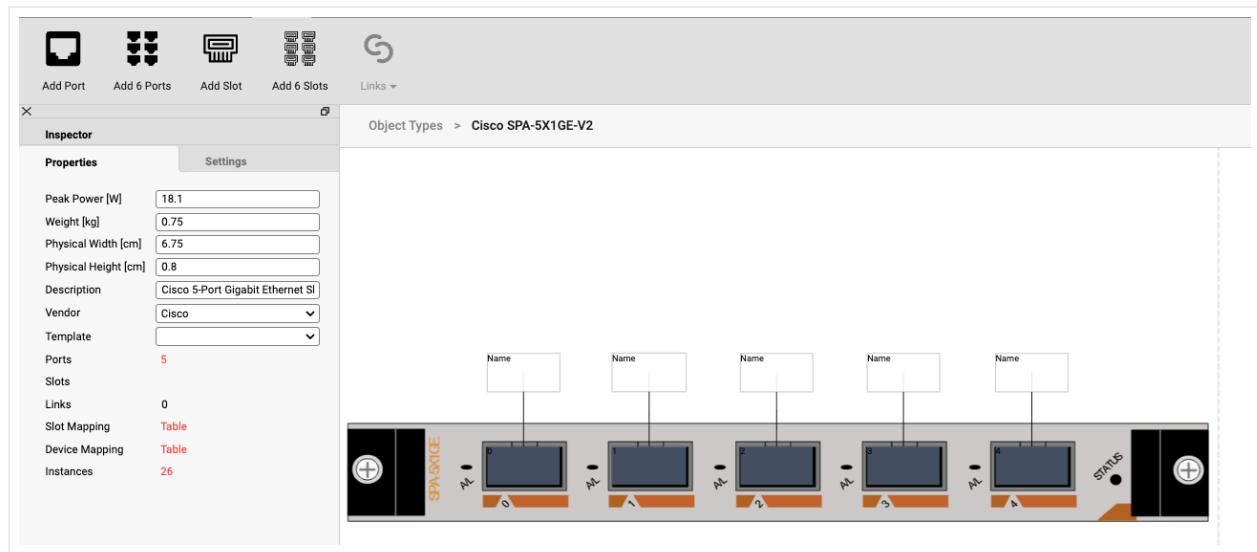
Another convenient way of creating multiple ports is using the copy 6 and copy 24 options in the port right click context menu.

Proceed to move and resize the ports as needed. Take advantage of the arrange and resize buttons on the toolbar.

Each port is an object in its own right. As such, when these ports are automatically created in the project, they will inherit default properties from the modeler. These values can be overridden on a per instance basis. These default properties include:

- **Name:** the name of the port. The default value is numeric and starts with 1 when the first port is created for the card type.
- **Protocol:** The physical port protocol is user defined, and can be overridden on a per instance basis. Examples of protocol values include ethernet, V.35, fast ethernet, etc.
- **Connector:** this is a descriptive field that comes in handy when assigning visual overrides based on the port connector. These values are user defined and can be overridden on a per instance basis. Examples of connector values include RJ45, SC or LC.

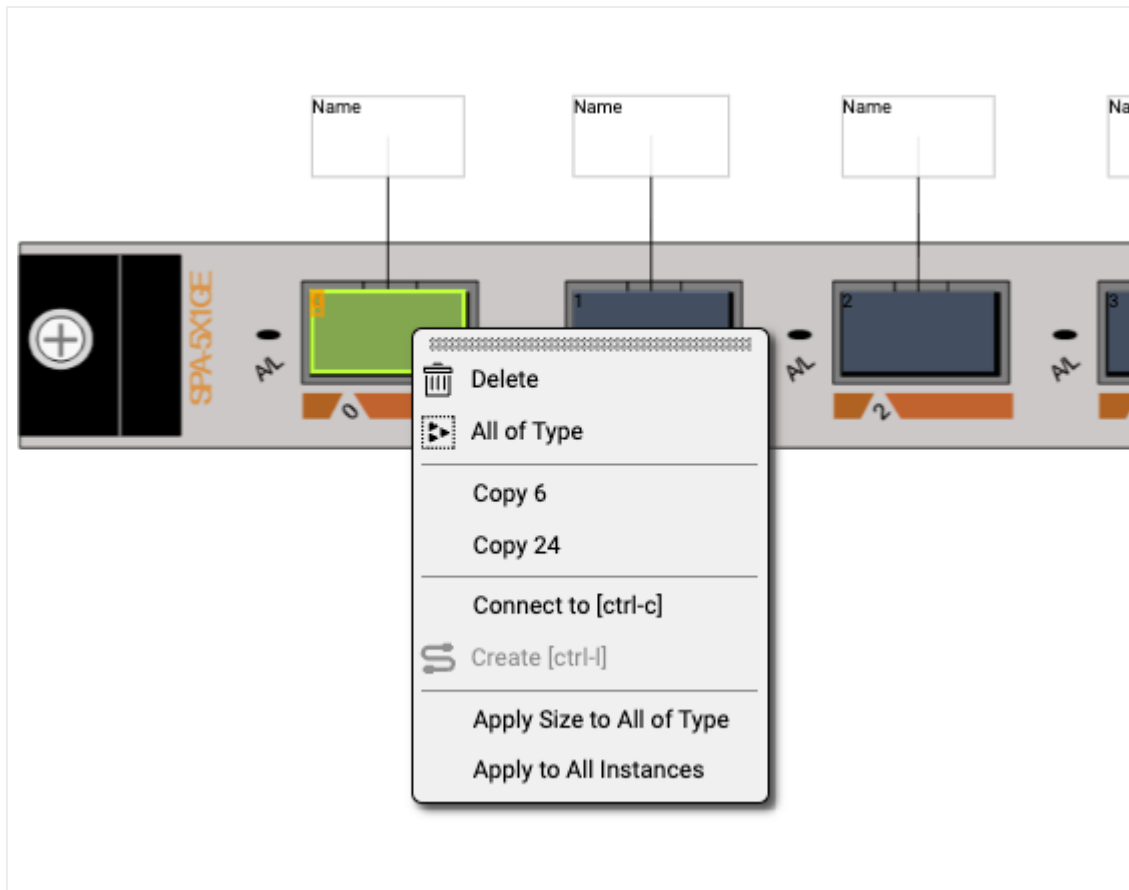
Note that ports can also have additional fields added to them. To do so, go to the catalog and find the 'Port' object. Click on it and add custom fields just like with any other type.



Port modeled on top of a card backplane

Ports have certain right click context menu options, for easy manipulation and modeling:

- Delete: deletes the selected ports. Note that you can delete ports using the toolbar buttons as well and any deleted ports will delete every occurrence of that port in the project.
- Select all of type: selects all instances of references for that type
- Copy 6: creates 6 copies of the selected port. This option is only enabled when one port is selected.
- Copy 24: creates 24 copies of the selected port. This option is only enabled when one port is selected.
- Connect to: this option lets you create pre defined internal connections between ports on the current card types. As explained above, these per defined links are usually utilized in the context of cross connections, not a common scenario for cards.
- Create Connections: If another port has been copied to the clipboard, this option will be available for creating a link. When selected a dialog will appear.
- Apply size to all of type: applies the size of the selected port (only enabled when one is selected) to the rest of the ports.
- Apply to all instances: applies the settings of the selected ports, to all occurrences of those ports in the project.



Right click context menu options for ports

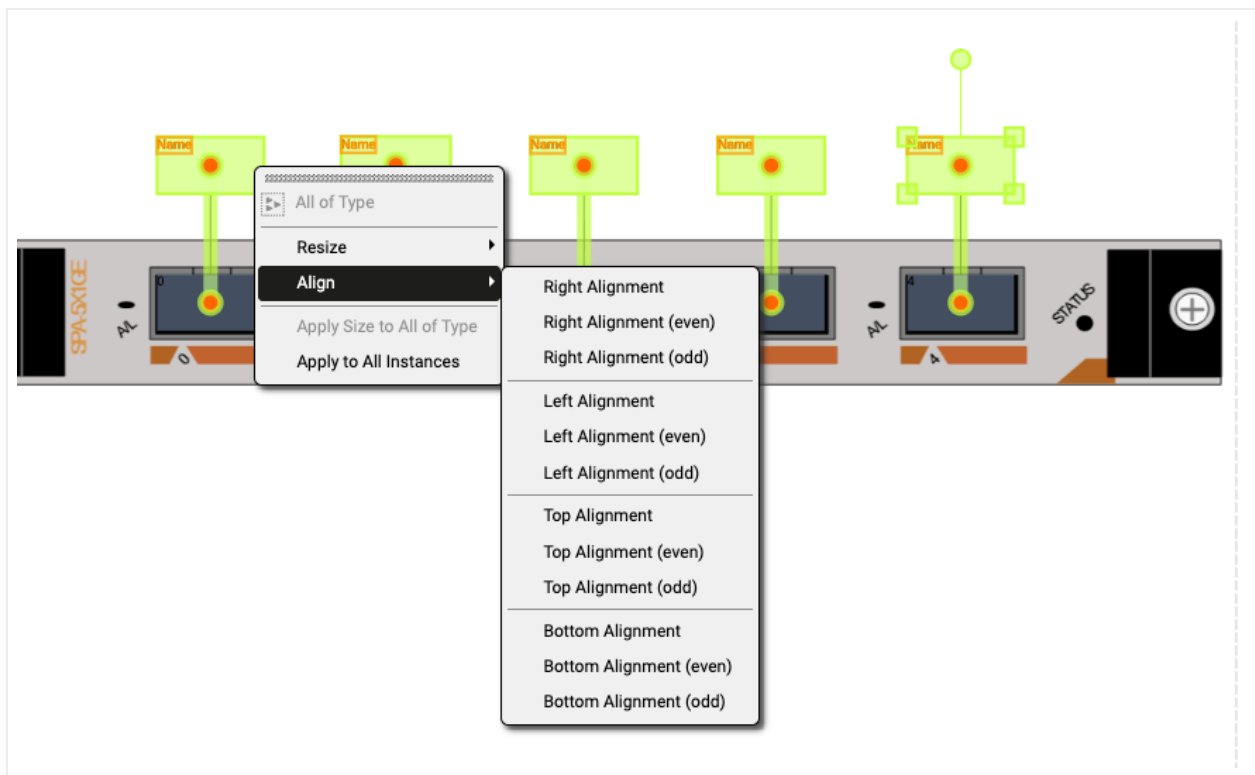
5.3.3.4 Modeling references

The screenshot above shows a white “name” box. These boxes are created automatically for each port and is called the reference port object. This object is not real, it is just a representation of the location where a reference node would show up, when you connect the port with another node in the project. The white box then provides a convenient way for nicely auto-placing references in the project. In the project, the reference port is only visible after a connection is made to the physical port for an instance of that card type.

It is preferable to first model the size and position of the “real” ports and then proceed with the resizing and positioning of the references. Sometimes when modeling the “real” ports, these white boxes get in the way (especially for cards with many ports). For that purpose in the modeler you can hide the references, work with the real ports, then display the references again and proceed to model the reference ports. To hide the references simply right click on them and select hide.

Use some of the other right click context options for reference ports:

- Select all of type: selects all instances of references for that type
- Resize: provides options to match the width and height of the selected reference/s to the dimensions of the connecting port/s.
- Align: provides options to align the selected reference ports with its connected physical port
- Apply size to all of type: applies the size of the selected reference (only enabled when one reference is selected) to the rest of the references
- Apply to all instances: applies the settings of the selected references, to all occurrences of those references in the project

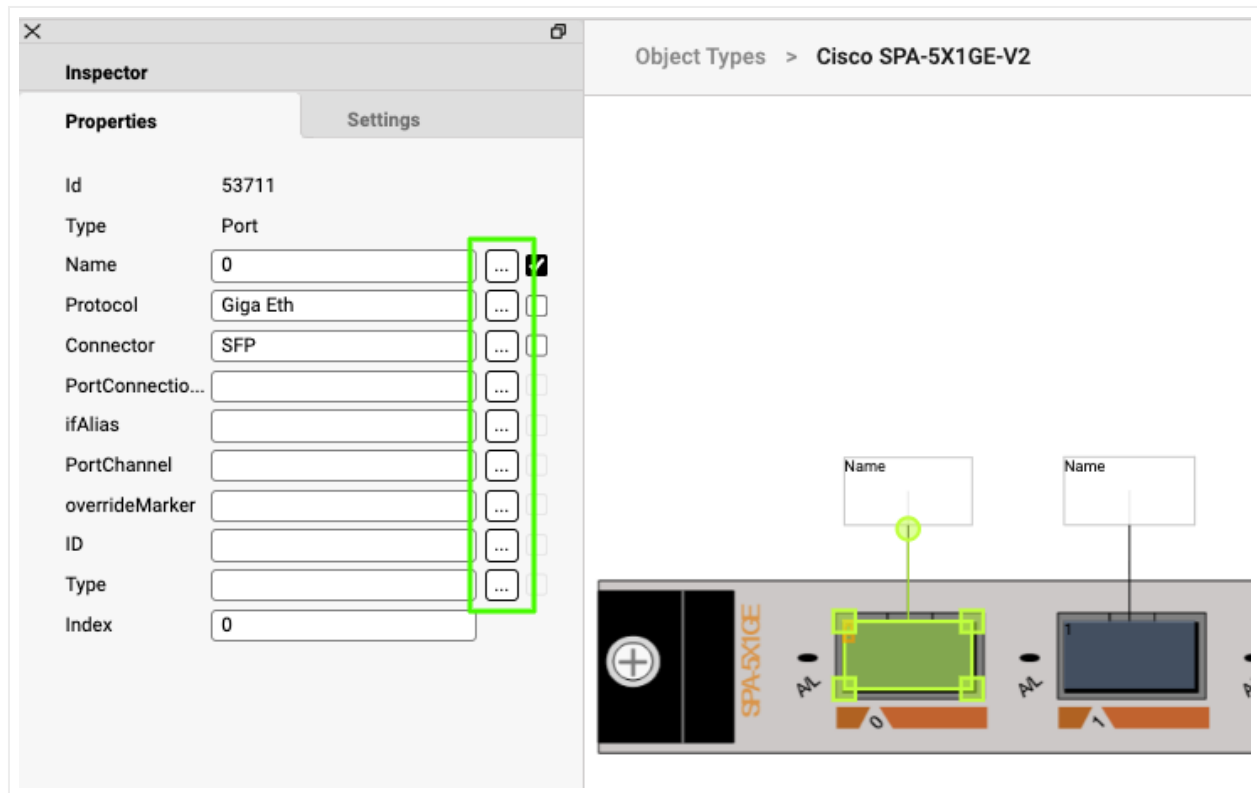


Right click context menu options for references

5.3.3.5 Working with text and displayed fields

As explained above, ports can have an unlimited number of custom fields, and you can choose which ones will be displayed on the diagram by default. Port and reference port displayed fields can also be set in advance in the modeler so that they follow a pre defined pattern for each instance in the project. This saves time when creating nice looking card diagrams. Users can edit each text by double clicking on the displayed field or by right clicking on it and selecting 'Text'. Text can be resized and also rotated using the rotation handler.

To select which fields should be displayed by default, simply select the port and check the applicable fields on the properties window, as shown below.



Port displayed field selection

5.3.3.6 Modeling reference node display field positioning

Selecting a reference node will display a list of all the “port” fields available. These fields can be used to pre-define the default position of a reference node displayed field.

The Inspector window displays the following properties and settings:

Properties		Settings
Id	53711	
Type	Port	
Name	0	☒
Protocol	Giga Eth	☐
Connector	SFP	☐
PortConnectio...		☐
ifAlias		☐
PortChannel		☐
overrideMarker		☐
ID		☐
Type		☐
Index	0	

Reference node display field selection list

By placing a check mark next to the field name it will enable the field within the modeler. Ultimately this will make the field data for this field type display when the card is used and a connection exists with this port.

The Reference node fields marked for display are shown in the Properties panel. The Object Types dropdown is set to Argus_32-0-10A. The fields marked for display are:

Properties	Settings	Object Types
Name	Name	Argus_32-0-10A
Protocol	Protocol	
Connector	Connector	
Status	Status	
Path	Path	
Slot Name	Slot Name	
Project ID	Project ID	
Comment	Comment	
ifOperStatus	ifOperStatus	

The fields marked for display are Name and Protocol. The fields marked for display are Name and Protocol.

Reference node fields marked for display

5.3.3.7 Modeling slots for cards

In addition to modeling ports you can model slots by clicking on the add slot button in the insert menu. We will not go over this in detail as it is not a very common operation and it works exactly the same as with devices.

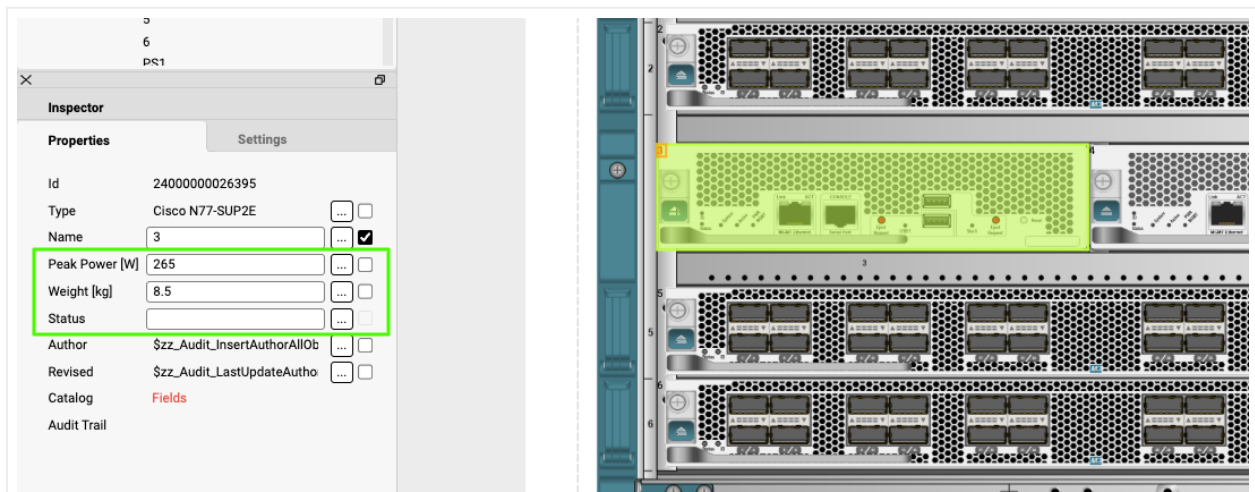
5.3.4 Special card fields

As we have seen with racks and devices, once a card type has been created, it contains three mandatory fields that exist for every instance of a card type in the project:

- Id: a 14-digit system-generated number (not visible on the field list view)
- Name: the field that will store the name of each instance
- Type: the field that stores the type of card

Card types also contain a few special fields: environmental properties that a user can edit on a per instance basis and are inherited from the type once you start instantiating them in the project. These special card properties are the following:

- Peak Power [W]: this is the predefined static nameplate power value assigned to the type. Typically, the value entered here is the nameplate power published by the vendor.
- Weight [lb.]: this is the predefined static weight published by the vendor.
- Status (non-mandatory): a value usually associated with the ability of the card in a production environment to respond to a request.



Card special fields

In sum, all card types contain at least five system fields. Below is the list of all system fields that exist for a new card type that was just created in the catalog:

Object Fields (Type: 020-589-Breaker)						
To csv To Excel Add New Tagging						
Filter Apply Clear						
#		Name ▲	Is in Properties	Property Order	Is Mandatory	Default Value
1		Author	☒	3	☐	\$zz_Audit_InsertAuthorAllObjec
2		Name	☐	-1	☒	<Type>
3		Peak Power [W]	☒	0	☒	0
4		Revised	☒	4	☐	\$zz_Audit_LastUpdateAuthorEr

Minimum set of fields (system fields) for cards

Besides the name, which you can edit using one of the default value auto naming functions, notice the two editable environmental fields, which you can edit:

- Max weight
- Power [W]

As mentioned previously, these two fields are inherited by every instance of the card type and can be edited (or overridden) in the project on an instance-by-instance basis.

5.3.5 Custom card fields

We have seen this before for devices and racks: in addition to modeling your types according to your specifications, you may want to create custom fields that represent other properties of the card instances. To create a custom property for a card type, go to the card types list and follow these steps:

- Click on the hyperlink that shows the number of fields (5, when there are no custom fields)

Card Types [Switch to category view] To csv To Excel Add New Import Object Type

Filter Apply Clear

#		Group	Name ▲	Default Image	Fields	Overrides	Instances	Is Enabled	Template	
1	   	Card	020-589-Breaker		7	0	0	☒		
2	   	Card	12 Port LC Card Patch Panel		7	0	0	☒		
3	   	Card	12 Port LC Card Patch Panel		7	0	0	☒		
4	   	Card	12500E DC Power Supply		7	0	0	☒		
5	   	Card	3Com 3C17766		7	0	0	☒		
6	   	Card	3Com 3C17767		7	0	0	☒		
7	   	Card	3Com 3C17768		7	0	0	☐		
8	   	Card	3Com 3C200100		7	0	0	☒		

- This will take you to the fields list for that card type. Click on the 'Add new' button

Card Types [Switch to category view] To csv To Excel Add New Import Object Type

Filter Apply Clear

#		Group	Name ▲	Default Image	Fields	Overrides	Instances
1	   	Card	020-589-Breaker		7	0	0
2	   	Card	12 Port LC Card Patch Panel		7	0	0

- This opens the dialog for adding a new field, where you:
- name the field
- pick a default value for your field
- pick a font size for the field, if it is displayed on the diagram
- set the field as mandatory during the data entry process
- set it as displayed, so that when it is filled out, that value shows up on the diagram (usually next to the card)
- pick a font color for the field, if it is displayed on the diagram
- pick a fill color for the field, if it is displayed on the diagram

\$zz_Audit_InsertAuthorAllot

Default Value

Is Tree Label

List Items

Overrides

Lock List

Add Node Property

Name:

Type:

Cisco 12810/800

Default Value:

Font size:

10

Mandatory:

false

Displayed:

false

Font color:

Fill color:

Submit

Cancel

Once the field has been added you can then edit any field parameters from the fields list, as seen previously:

- **Name:** the field name that will be displayed for the associated object type.
- **Is in properties:** this feature is useful to control what end users can see on the properties window for a given instance of that type. For example, you can uncheck a field and prevent end users from seeing the data associated with the instances on the project.
- **Property order:** this is self-explanatory and lets you choose the order in which the property appears in the properties window of the project when you click on an instance of that type
- **Is mandatory:** if this option is checked it means that some data must be entered into the field when an object instance is created in the project. This is typically used in conjunction with an assigned default value to ensure some data is entered into this field. This field also cannot be deleted if the mandatory check box is enabled.
- **Default value:** this is the default value that will be displayed for a given field when a new instance of the object type is created. The apply button next to the field lets you apply the default value for that field to all instances of that type in the project.
- **Is tree Label:** determines the data value that will be displayed in the hierarchy browser. Change this if you want to see a different value displayed for an instance of this type in the hierarchy. The default is typically the name.
- **List Items:** list items are like drop down boxes (or combo boxes) that offer end users a finite set of values available for data entry on a given field for a given type. Click on the value to open a table with all list items associated with this field and object type.
- **Overrides:** click on the value to bring up a list of the overrides associated with this field and object type.
- **Lock List:** Allow an override list to be non-editable. If this is checked then a user cannot override the list values. They must choose a value that is already on the list.
- **Is Unique (this type):** Restricts all new inputs of this field for this object type to be unique across all instances.
- **Is Unique (all types):** Restricts all new inputs of this field for any object type to be unique across all instances.
- **Is displayed:** when checked, the field's value will be displayed on the diagram for an instance of this object type. This can also be controlled on an instance basis as well as type-wide (see End User Guide).
- **Justification:** sets the alignment. See the settings for the field instance for more alignment options.
- **Font color:** the color of the text value that is displayed in the project area diagram for this field. Note that you can change the font on an instance-by-instance basis from the project as well (see End User Guide).
- **Fill color:** the background color of the text that is displayed in the project area diagram for this field. Note that you can change the fill color on an instance-by-instance basis from the project as well (see End User Guide).
- **Font size:** the size of the text that is being displayed in the project area diagram for this field. Note that you can change the font size on an instance-by-instance basis from the project as well (see End User Guide).
- **Apply Font settings link:** applies any font settings for this field to all instances of the object where the field is displayed.

Object Fields (Type: Cisco 12810/800)											
To csv To Excel Add New Tagging											
Filter Apply Clear											
#	Name	Is in Properties	Property Order	Is Mandatory	Default Value	Is Tree Label	List Items	Overrides	Lock List	Is	
1	 Asset Tag	☒	12	☐			0	0	☐		
2	 Audit Date	☒	9	☐			0	0	☐		
3	 Audit Status	☒	10	☐			0	0	☐		

New custom field for a card type

5.3.5.1 Deleting a custom field

Deleting a custom field is easy: go to the fields list view for the card type and simply press the delete button on the left of the field you want to remove.

Object Fields (Type: Cisco 12810/800)											
To csv To Excel Add New Tagging											
Filter Apply Clear											
#	Name	Is in Properties	Property Order	Is Mandatory	Default Value	Is Tree Label	List Items	Overrides	Lock List	Is Unique (this type)	
1	 Asset Tag	☒	12	☐			0	0	☐	☐	
2	 Audit Date	☒	9	☐			0	0	☐	☐	
3	 Audit Status	☒	10	☐			0	0	☐	☐	
4	 Audited By	☒	11	☐			0	0	☐	☐	
5	 Author	☒	3	☐	\$zz_Audit_InsertAuthorAllObj		0	0	☐	☐	

Deleting a custom field for a card type

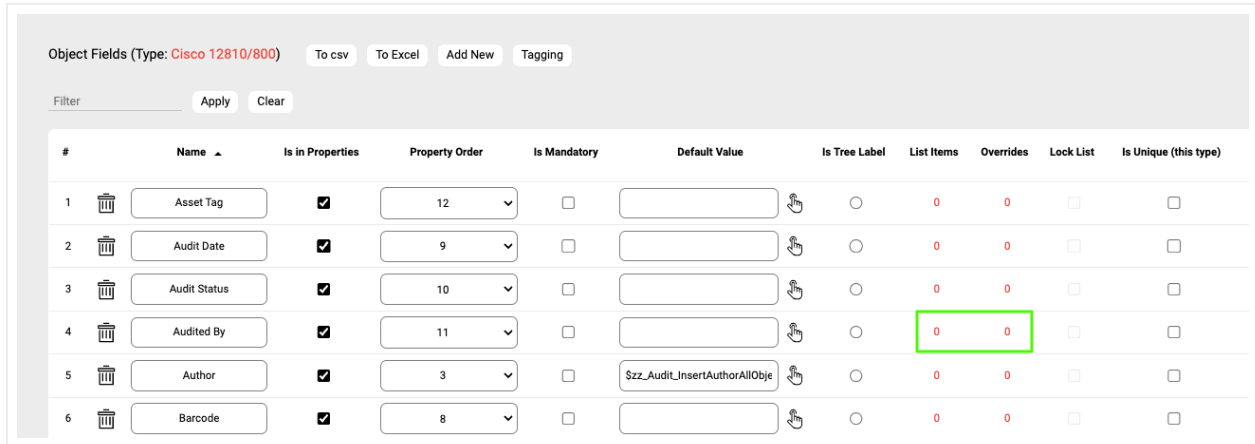
Notice that the delete button is not enabled for system fields.

Attention!

As you might expect, all the values for the field corresponding to instances of that type in the project will be deleted. As such, be careful with this operation, since it cannot be undone.

5.3.6 Creating list items and visual overrides for a card field

Just as with devices or racks you may want to set your own visual overrides for cards. You can access the list items and visual overrides list for a card type field by clicking on the override number, as shown below:

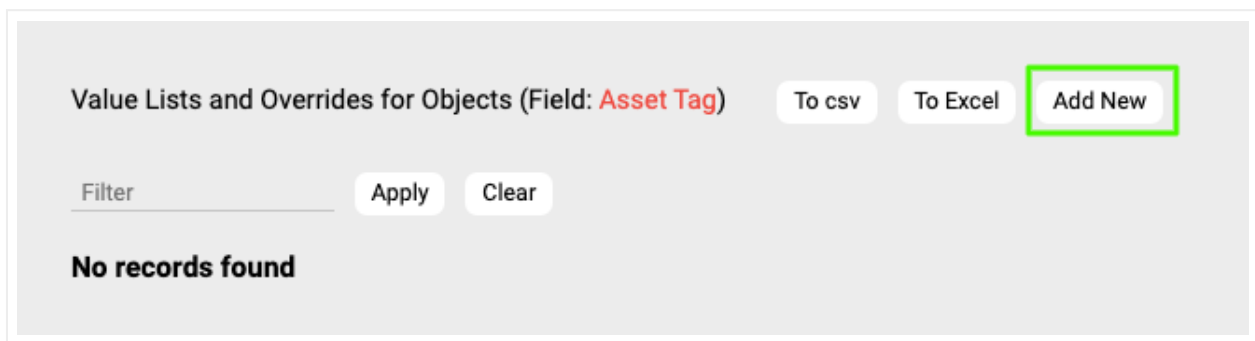


#	Name	Is in Properties	Property Order	Is Mandatory	Default Value	Is Tree Label	List Items	Overrides	Lock List	Is Unique (this type)
1	Asset Tag	☒	12	☐		☐	0	0	☐	☐
2	Audit Date	☒	9	☐		☐	0	0	☐	☐
3	Audit Status	☒	10	☐		☐	0	0	☐	☐
4	Audited By	☒	11	☐		☐	0	0	☐	☐
5	Author	☒	3	☐	\$zz_Audit_InsertAuthorAllObje	☐	0	0	☐	☐
6	Barcode	☒	8	☐		☐	0	0	☐	☐

Visual override and list item link for a card field

To create a new list item or visual override for a card type field, go to the fields list and follow these steps:

- Click on the hyperlink that shows the number of overrides (obviously 0 when there are none)
- This will take you to the overrides list for that card type. Click on the 'Add new' button



Value Lists and Overrides for Objects (Field: Asset Tag)

To csv To Excel **Add New**

Filter Apply Clear

No records found

- This opens the dialog for adding a new override, where you:
- provide the value that will trigger the override (in the case of a simple list item this is just the list item value)
- specify whether this is an override or not (if you choose false then this completes the process for adding a list item)
- choose the rule that will trigger the override (equal to, contains, greater than, less than)
- set the override image

Once the override has been added you can then edit any parameters from the overrides list, as seen before when analyzing nodes:

- Value
- Rule
- Is Override
- Override
- Instance effect
- Parent effect
- Upwards propagation

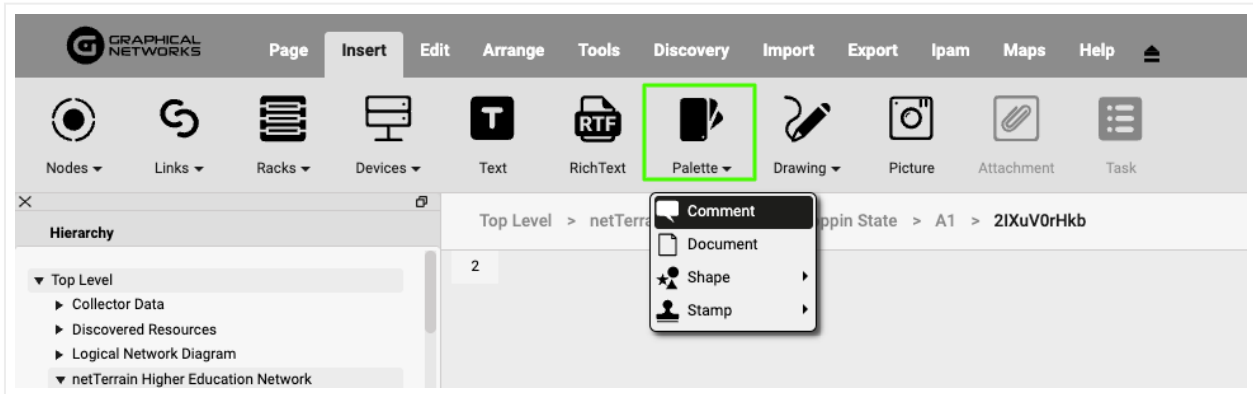
5.3.6.1 Deleting an override or list item

To delete an override or list item for a card field go to the overrides list view for the card type and field and simply press the delete button on the left of the entry you want to remove.

6 Special Objects

netTerrain has a set of predefined categories of objects (a.k.a. “special objects” or “other objects”) which are mostly used as an additional “decoration” or “collaboration” layer in addition to nodes, smart objects and links.

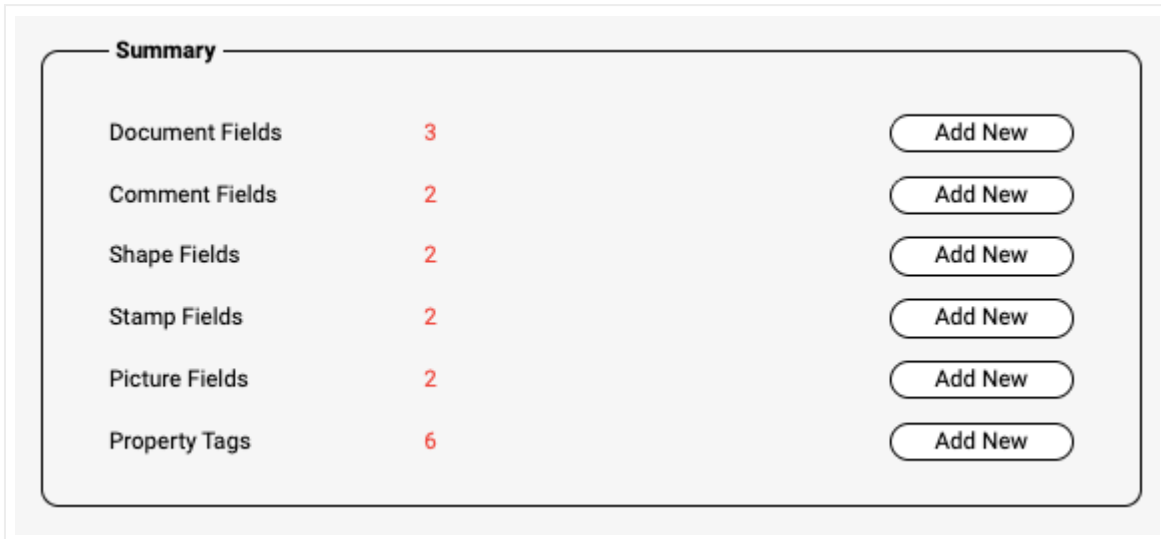
This section includes the “palette” objects (documents, comments, shapes and stamps) as well as free graphics. Palette objects can be added to a project by clicking on the palette object icon under the insert menu or using the diagram right click context menu.



Palette objects button on the project side

Property tags are also grouped here for convenience, although strictly speaking they do not represent objects.

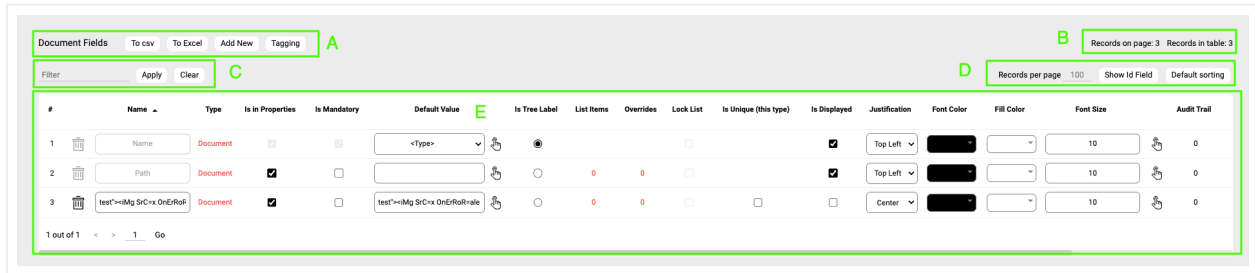
Users can customize these objects by adding their own fields to them, among other features, and they can be accessed from the “other objects” section in the catalog dashboard.



“Other objects” section in the catalog dashboard

6.1 Palette object and picture fields

Customizing a palette object type or free picture type simply requires clicking on the field link, next to the appropriate group, as shown in the previous screenshot. The user will be taken to a list view, like the ones used for regular catalog objects.



Example of a field list for documents

The different sections or features comprising this list field are like other list fields seen before:

Section A

- To CSV: this button will export the table's data into a downloadable CSV file.
- Add New: clicking this button will display a form for creating a new field.
- Tagging: the tagging button opens a tagging selection dialog, allowing you to assign a set of fields to a "Tag" (a label). All existing tags appear in the settings tab for a diagram in the netTerrain project. Fields associated with a tag label can be turned on and off within a diagram.

Section B

- Records in table: displays the total number of fields in the table.
- Records on page: displays the total number of records on the table page that you are currently viewing. The records per page default value can be set by the administrator within the admin console.

Section C

- Filter: allows you to filter information in the current table view. If you would only like to display the fields called IP Address, then you simply type in the search criteria into the filter box and press the 'Apply' button. You can change the filter by typing in new criteria and pressing the 'Apply' button. If you no longer need the filter press the 'Clear' button.

Section D

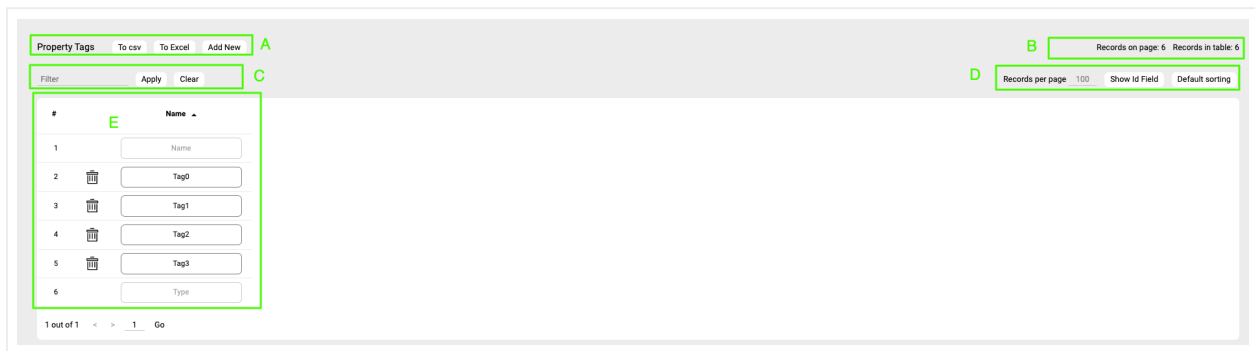
- Records per page: you can easily change the records per page value to something less than the default value. So, for instance if the default is 100 records per page and you would like to see 50, simply proceed to change the value. Note that the default value is set in the admin console and can only be changed by an administrator. You cannot exceed the maximum number of records per page that was set within the admin console. If the maximum record count per page is 500 then you will not be able to set a value higher than 500.
- Show ID Field: hides or shows the ID value for the record. The ID value is the unique ID that is assigned to record in netTerrain.
- Default Sorting: if you sorted the table by a column name and would like to return the table to the default sort value press this button. The default sorting for a table view is by "Name".

Section E

- #: the row number for the current table view. This will change depending on the filter, sort value or number of records per page. Bear in mind this ## is just a reference to the order in which the record appears in the visual representation of the information on the table and has no relationship to the actual data stored in the database.
- Options (no label): right next to the ## button there are two options under a blank heading ('Apply' and 'Delete'). Using the Apply button will assign any settings that are changed for this field to all instances of the object that the field is being used on. Selecting Delete will remove the field record. If the field is in use and there is data being stored within the field all this data will be lost so be careful when using this option.
- Name: the field name that will be displayed for the associated object type.
- Type: Object that the field is associated with.
- Is in properties: this feature is useful to control what end users can see on the properties window for a given instance of that type. For example, you can uncheck a field and prevent end users from seeing the data associated with the instances on the project.
- Is Mandatory: if this option is checked it means that some data must be entered in the field when an object instance is created in the project. This is typically used in conjunction with an assigned default value to ensure some data is entered into this field. This field also cannot be deleted if the mandatory check box is enabled.
- Default value: this is the default value that will be displayed for a given field when a new instance of the object type is created.
- List Items: list items are like drop down boxes (or combo boxes) that offer end users a finite set of values available for data entry on a given field for a given type. Click on the value to open a table with all list items associated with this field and object type.
- Overrides: overrides are rules associated with one or more fields for that type. Clicking on the overrides ## will redirect you to a table with all assigned overrides (more on that later).
- Lock List: Allows an override list to be non-editable. If this is set, then a user cannot override the list values. They must choose a value that is on the list.
- Is Unique (this type): Restricts all new inputs of this field for this object type to be unique across all instances.
- Is Unique (all types): Restricts all new inputs of this field for any object type to be unique across all instances.
- Is displayed: when checked, the field's value will be displayed on the diagram for an instance of this object type. This can also be controlled on an instance basis as well as type-wide (see End User Guide).
- Justification: sets the alignment. See the settings for the field instance for more alignment options.
- Font color: the color of the text value that is displayed in the project area diagram for this field. Note that you can change the font on an instance-by-instance basis from the project as well (see End User Guide).
- Fill color: the background color of the text that is displayed in the project area diagram for this field. Note that you can change the fill color on an instance-by-instance basis from the project as well (see End User Guide).
- Font size: the size of the text that is being displayed in the project area diagram for this field. Note that you can change the font size on an instance-by-instance basis from the project as well (see End User Guide).

6.2 Field or property tags (layering)

As explained in previous sections, property tags allow you to associate fields to a “tag” (i.e. layer or label). All existing tags appear in the settings tab for a diagram in the netTerrain project. Fields associated with a tag label can be turned on and off within a diagram. So, you could assign a field like IP Address to a “Hide IP” tag. If you happen to be on a diagram that has objects containing that field, you could then turn all IP Address fields on or off without having to individually uncheck them from the properties window for each instance. There is a system tag named ‘Uncategorized’ in the diagram settings panel that when toggled affects the display of all fields.



Property tag list view

Let's review each section of this list view:

Section A

- To CSV: this button allows you to export the table view to a downloadable CSV file.
- Add New: clicking this button will display a form for creating a new Property Tag.

Section B

- Records in table: displays the total number of tags in the table.
- Records on page: displays the total number of records on the table page that you are currently viewing.

Section C

- Filter: allows you to filter information in the current table view. If you would only like to display the objects related to “Cisco” in their name, then type “Cisco” into the filter box and press the ‘Apply’ button. You can change the filter by simply typing in new criteria and pressing the ‘Apply’ button. If you no longer need the filter press the ‘Clear’ button to remove the filter.

Section D

- Records per page: you can change the records per page value to a value that is less than the default value. So, if the default is 100 records per page and you would like to see 50 then change the value. Note that the default value is set in the admin console and can only be changed by an administrator.
- Show ID Field: hides or shows the ID value for the record. The ID value is the unique ID that is assigned to record in netTerrain.
- Default Sorting: if you sorted the table by a column name and would like to return the table to the default sort value press this button. The default sorting for a table view is by "Name". Changing the default sorting is temporary. The default is restored once you navigate away from the table view.

Section E

- #: the row number for the current table view. This will change depending on the filter, sort value or number of records per page. Bear in mind this ## is just a reference to the order in which the record appears in the visual representation of the information on the table and has no relationship to the actual data stored in the database.
- Options (no label): the 'Delete' option allows you to delete an object. Note that you can only delete an object if it is not being used in netTerrain. If it is being used, you would need to remove all instances of the object before you can delete the object.
- Name: The name of the tag. Tagging of fields can be setup within the field summary pages of the catalog or by selecting an objects field list.

7 Discovery

The Discovery module in netTerrain allows you to automatically discover and import data from various external sources or directly from the network into your netTerrain project and perform monitoring tasks.

7.1 Getting started

The Discovery module consists of a probe residing on the netTerrain server, that can discover and monitor networks and devices, and a Graphical User Interface to configure and manage the discovered and monitored data.

You can import and reconcile assets from two categories of processes:

- 1) Connectors, which are predefined hooks into third-party systems via so-called connectors
- 2) Native discovery jobs using several protocols to pull data from the network, including:

- SNMP

- SNMPv2c
- SNMPv3
- WMI
- SSH
- Ping

Some of the objects netTerrain can discover include network devices (routers, switches, servers, etc.), port information, layer 3 network connectivity, layer 2 link connectivity, VLAN information, application information as well as properties from public and private MIBs.

The WMI discovery tool can discover hardware and software characteristics from WMI enabled devices.

This Discovery module overlaps with some of the functions of the netTerrain Collector (see netTerrain Collector Guide) and will eventually replace it.

7.1.1 Prerequisites

Before running your first discovery, make sure the Probe Service is installed and properly configured on the target machine. The Probe is the background service responsible for executing all discovery and import operations. Without a working Probe, no discovery tasks can be performed. For more information about the installation of netTerrain, please refer to the netTerrain Installer guide.

7.2 Connectors

The netTerrain discovery module comes equipped with a list of so-called "pre-built connectors" to other commercial products which can be easily enabled through the GUI. We tend to distinguish these from native discovery processes, but technically speaking, any process that discovers data, whether a connector or, say, a native SNMP discovery process requires a connector, so in this chapter, we will focus on all of them, including native discovery connectors such as SNMP.

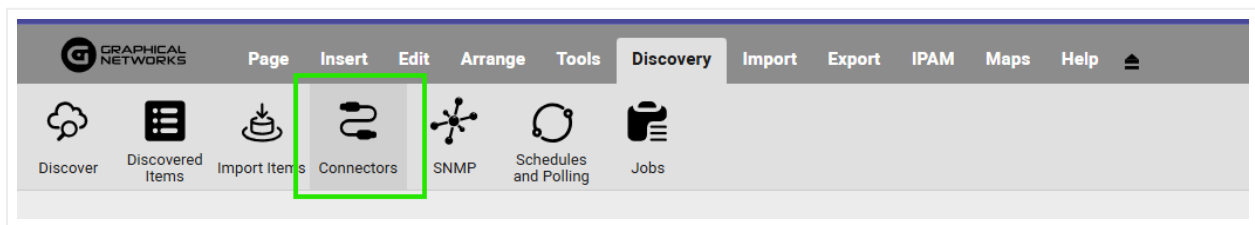
7.2.1 Supported connectors

netTerrain supports multiple types of connectors, allowing flexible integration across environments:

- SNMP Connectors - Discover devices and interfaces within local or remote networks.
- Cloud Connectors - Retrieve assets and topology data from platforms such as AWS, Azure, or Google Cloud.
- Other Connectors - Synchronize data from a variety of protocols and systems that expose device or topology information. Common examples include:
 - PRTG and SolarWinds - for integrating data from network monitoring tools.
 - ServiceNow - for importing configuration items (CIs) and relationships from your CMDB.
 - vCenter - for discovering virtual machines, hosts, and datacenter topology.
 - WMI - for collecting system information from Windows-based environments.
 - SQL DB - for querying and importing data from external databases.

7.2.2 Configuring a connector

In general terms, the configuration process is pretty much the same for all connectors. As an example, we will configure the VCenter connector.



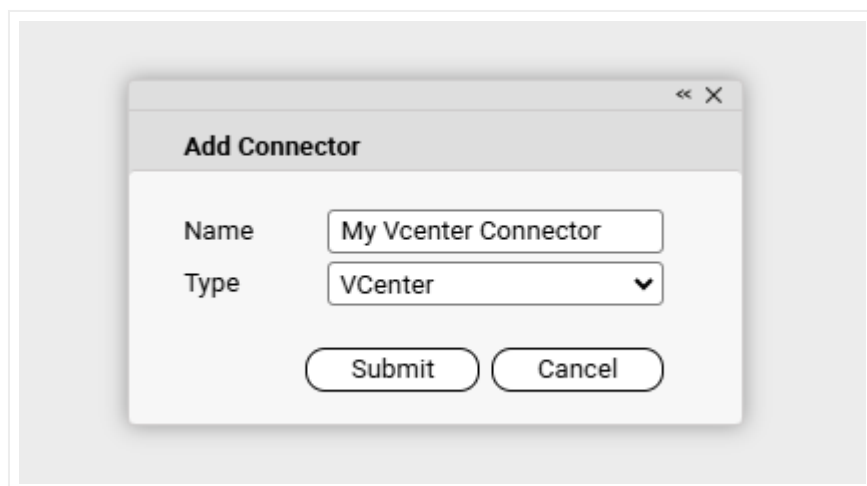
Connectors section

7.2.2.1 Defining basic information

To begin creating a new connector, navigate to the Connectors section and click Add New.

This will open an interface where you can define the basic properties of the connector.

- Name: The display name you want to assign to the connector.
- Type: Select the connector type from the available options.

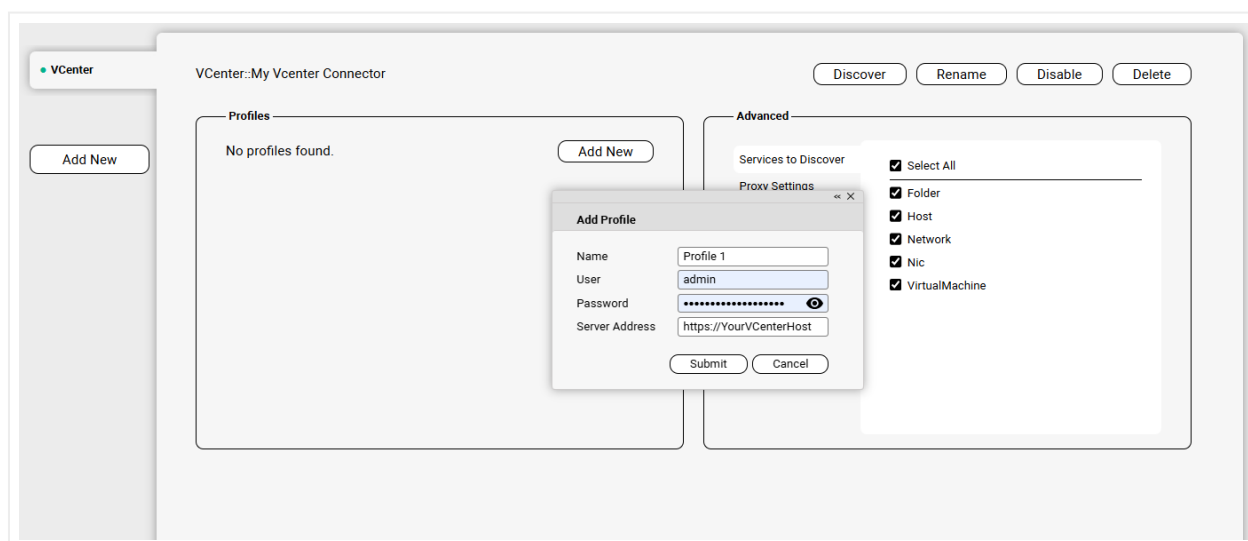


7.2.2.2 Configuring the connector

Each connector can contain multiple profiles, allowing you to manage several data sources under the same connector type.

A profile represents a specific configuration instance - for example, an individual environment, server, or endpoint to which netTerrain connects. For instance, within a vCenter connector, you can create multiple profiles to connect to different vCenter hosts.

Each profile maintains its own connection parameters and credentials, making it possible to independently manage discovery and import tasks across multiple environments. This flexible design allows administrators to standardize configurations by connector type, while keeping individual access details separated per profile.



VCenter connector configuration

7.2.2.3 Advanced settings

All connectors include an Advanced section with additional options that allow you to fine-tune the import process from third-party systems into netTerrain.

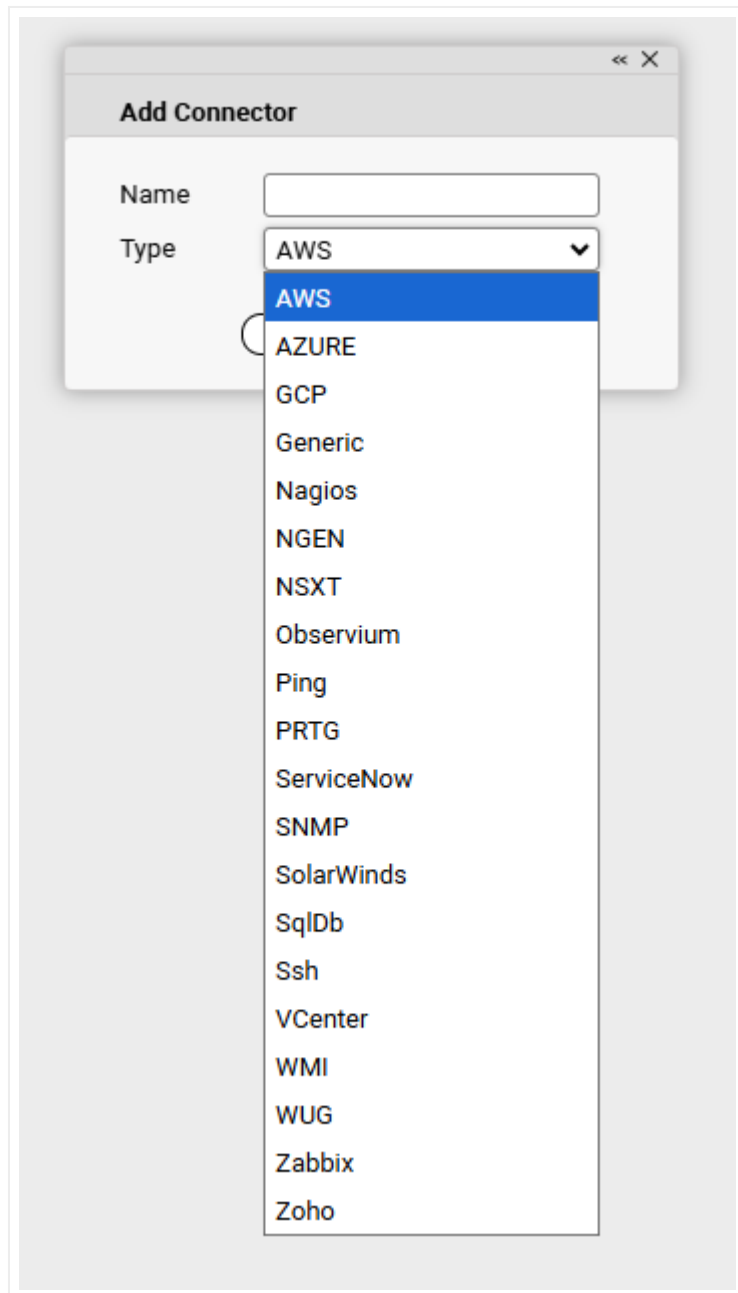
This section provides two common configuration areas available in every connector:

- Proxy Settings - Allows you to manually define proxy server details (host, port, authentication, etc.) if network access requires routing through a proxy.
- Import Settings - Lets you adjust how data is imported, including options to control synchronization behavior, update frequency, and handling of existing records. We will review this section in more detail in the 'Reconciliation' section

In addition to these shared parameters, some connector types may include connector-specific advanced options that depend on the nature of the data source. These additional settings enable deeper customization and more efficient integration for complex systems.

7.2.3 Built-in connectors

All the pre/build connectors will be listed when you configure a new connector



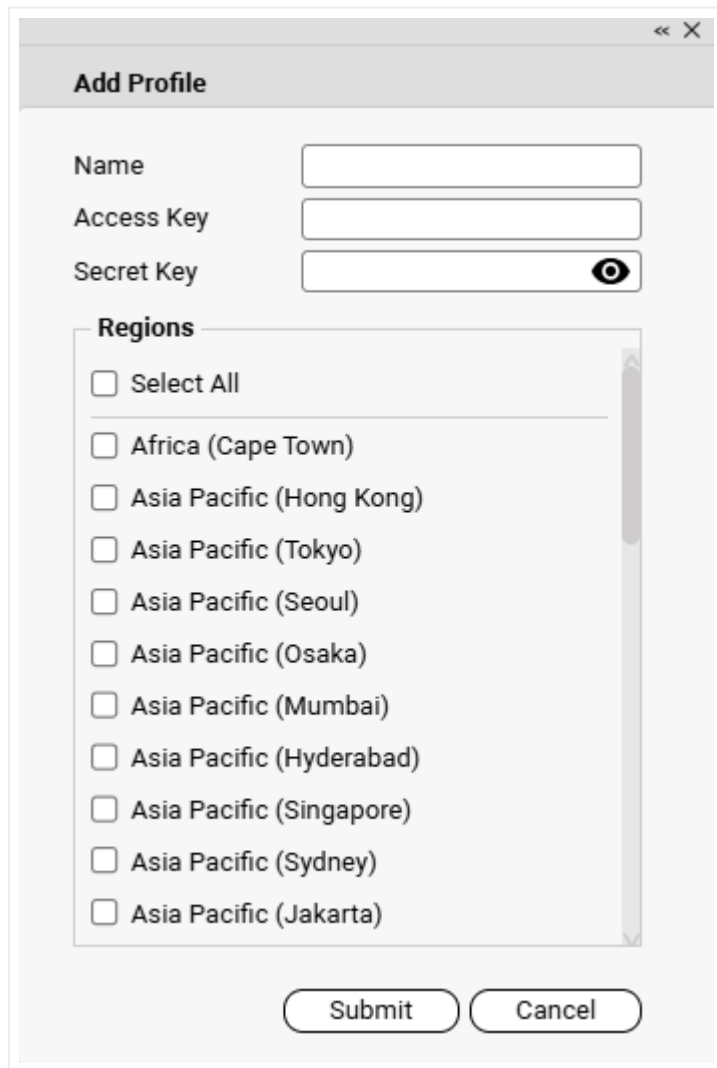
Built-in connectors list

7.2.3.1 AWS

Amazon Web Services (AWS) provides on-demand cloud computing platforms and APIs to individuals, companies, and governments, on a metered pay-as-you-go basis. AWS includes several monitoring tools, which can be consumed from an external platform via the AWS API set.

The AWS connector can pull information from an AWS account and its associated regions, instances and a host of associated data. To connect to your AWS account, you must provide:

- Region
- Access key
- Secret key



The image shows a 'Add Profile' dialog box with a title bar containing a back arrow and a close button. The dialog has a header section with the title 'Add Profile'. Below the header, there are three input fields: 'Name', 'Access Key', and 'Secret Key'. The 'Secret Key' field has a toggle icon (an eye) to its right. Below these fields is a section titled 'Regions' which contains a list of regions with checkboxes next to them. The regions listed are: 'Select All', 'Africa (Cape Town)', 'Asia Pacific (Hong Kong)', 'Asia Pacific (Tokyo)', 'Asia Pacific (Seoul)', 'Asia Pacific (Osaka)', 'Asia Pacific (Mumbai)', 'Asia Pacific (Hyderabad)', 'Asia Pacific (Singapore)', 'Asia Pacific (Sydney)', and 'Asia Pacific (Jakarta)'. At the bottom of the dialog are two buttons: 'Submit' and 'Cancel'.

Add Profile

Name

Access Key

Secret Key 

Regions

☐ Select All

☐ Africa (Cape Town)

☐ Asia Pacific (Hong Kong)

☐ Asia Pacific (Tokyo)

☐ Asia Pacific (Seoul)

☐ Asia Pacific (Osaka)

☐ Asia Pacific (Mumbai)

☐ Asia Pacific (Hyderabad)

☐ Asia Pacific (Singapore)

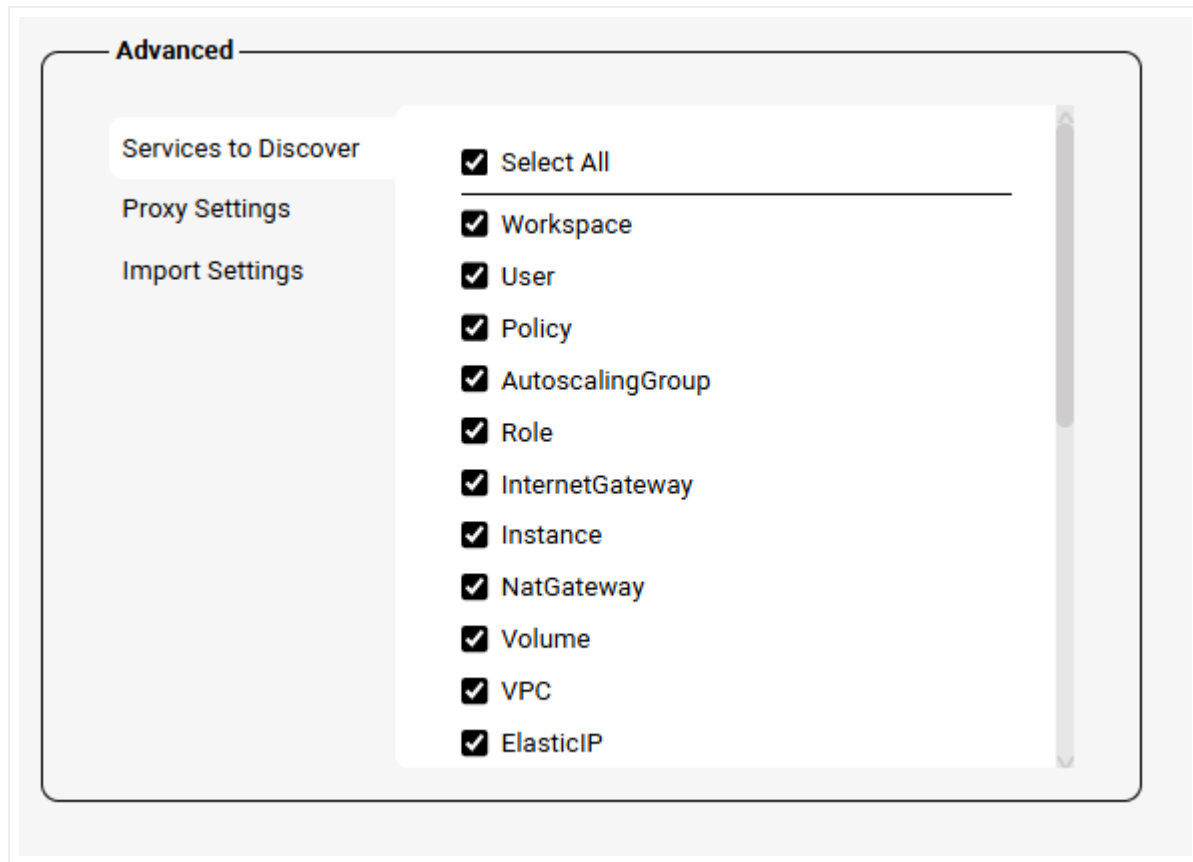
☐ Asia Pacific (Sydney)

☐ Asia Pacific (Jakarta)

AWS profile settings

After configuring the login to AWS, you can specify which services names need to be imported into netTerrain by using the advanced settings. Currently the AWS connector can pull data for the following AWS services:

- Workspace
- User
- Policy
- AutoscalingGroup
- Role
- InternetGateway
- Instance
- NatGateway
- Volume
- VPC
- ElasticIP
- DirectoryService
- NetworksACL
- LambdaLayer
- Image
- Snapshot
- TargetGroup
- Database
- Subnet
- ElasticLoadBalancer
- NetworkInterface
- SecurityGroup
- LambdaFunction
- S3Bucket



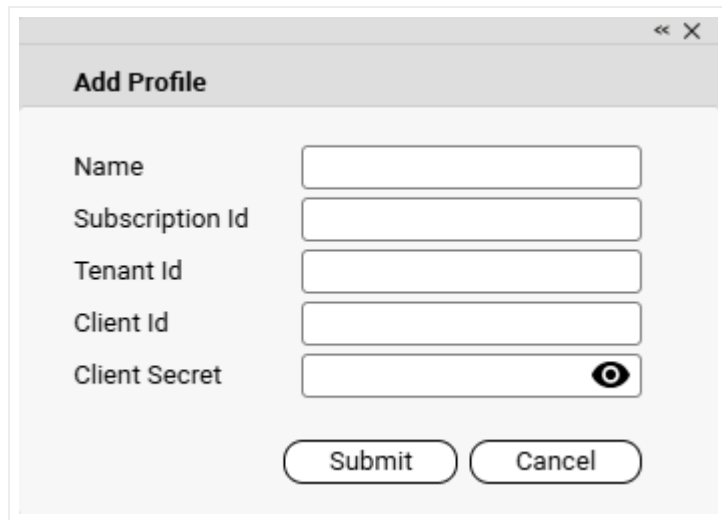
AWS advanced connector settings

7.2.3.2 AZURE

Microsoft Azure, commonly referred to as Azure, is a cloud computing service created by Microsoft for building, testing, deploying, and managing applications and services through Microsoft-managed data centers.

The Azure connector can pull information from an Azure account and its associated servers, resources and more. To connect to your Azure account, you must provide:

- Subscription Id
- Tenant Id
- Client Id
- Client secret key



Add Profile

Name

Subscription Id

Tenant Id

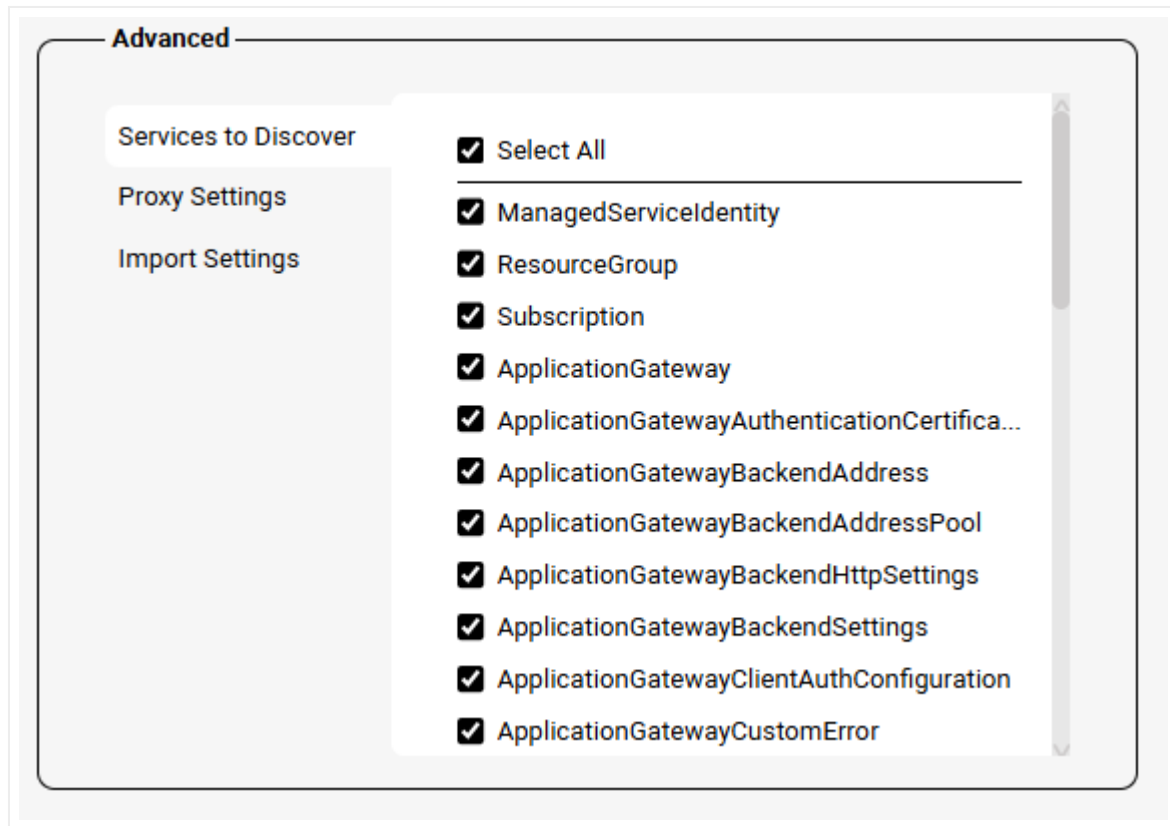
Client Id

Client Secret 

Azure login information

After testing the connection successfully, you can specify which entity names need to be imported into netTerrain by using the advanced settings. Currently the connector can pull data for the following entities:

- Network security groups
- Network security rules
- Resource groups
- Resources
- SQL Servers
- Subscriptions
- Virtual machines
- VM disks



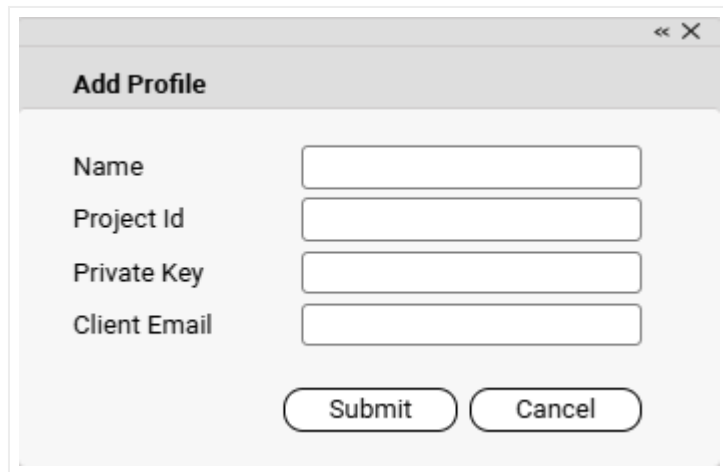
Azure advanced connector settings

7.2.3.3 GCP

Google Cloud Platform (GCP) is a suite of cloud computing services offered by Google that runs on the same infrastructure used internally for its end-user products such as Google Search, Gmail, and YouTube. GCP provides a wide range of tools and APIs for computing, storage, networking, and data analytics, available on a pay-as-you-go model.

The GCP connector allows you to retrieve information from your Google Cloud environment, including projects, regions, virtual machines (Compute Engine instances), and other related resources. To connect to your GCP account, you must provide:

- Project id
- Private key
- Client email

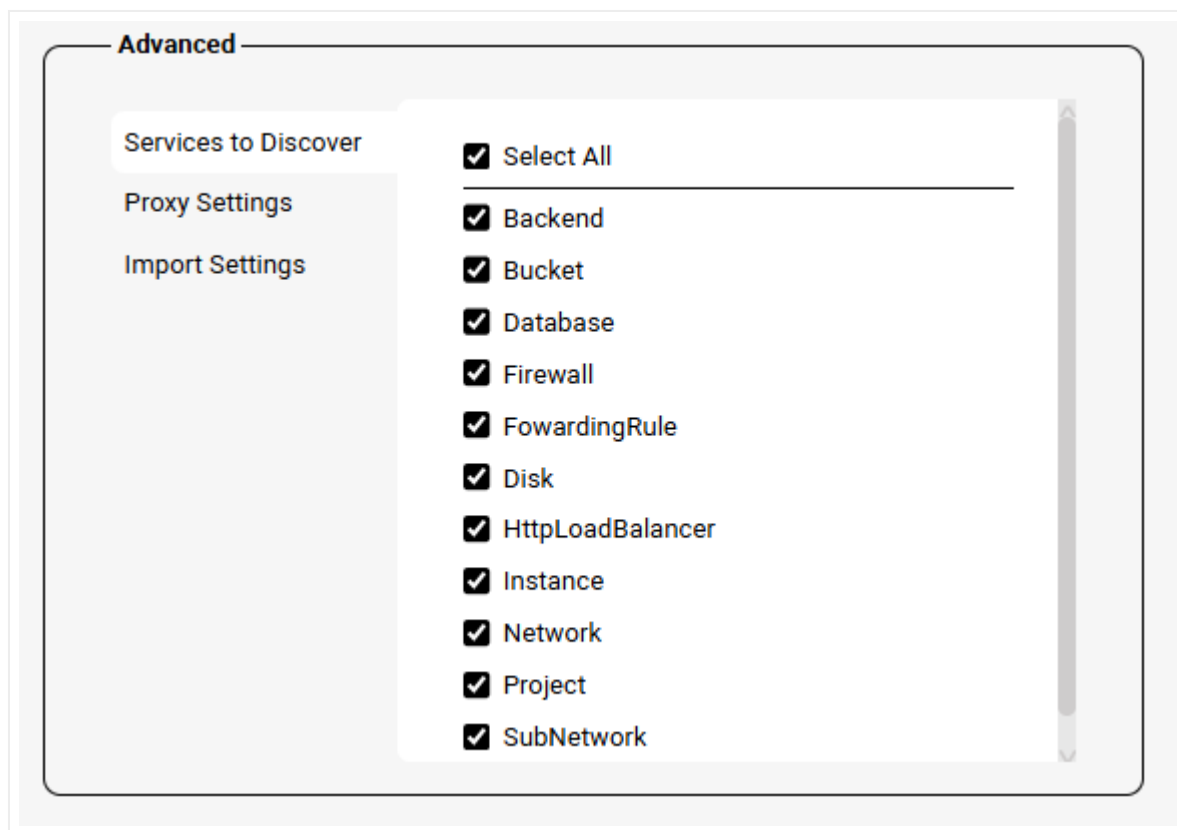
A screenshot of a software dialog box titled "Add Profile". The dialog has a title bar with a back arrow and a close button. Inside, there are four labels on the left: "Name", "Project Id", "Private Key", and "Client Email". Each label is followed by a rectangular text input field. At the bottom of the dialog, there are two rounded buttons: "Submit" and "Cancel".

Add Profile	
Name	
Project Id	
Private Key	
Client Email	
Submit Cancel	

GCP login information

After testing the connection successfully, you can specify which entity names need to be imported into netTerrain by using the advanced settings. Currently the connector can pull data for the following entities:

- Backend
- Bucket
- Database
- Firewall
- FowardingRule
- Disk
- HttpLoadBalancer
- Instance
- Network
- Project
- SubNetwork



GCP advanced connector settings

7.2.3.4 Nagios

Nagios is a network monitoring tool that provides discovery, monitoring and alerting services for network devices such as servers, routers and switches and other IT entities such as applications and services.

The Nagios connector allows netTerrain to import devices and monitoring data from a Nagios monitoring server. It uses a REST-API pull approach to retrieve information about monitored hosts, their statuses, and associated metrics. Once imported, the monitored elements appear in netTerrain with their corresponding IPs and status information, enabling visual correlation with the topology.

The required connection parameters are:

- Name
- API Key
- Server Address

Add Profile

Name

API Key

Server Address

Nagios connector settings

7.2.3.5 Observium

Observium is a network monitoring platform supporting the auto-discovery of device types, platforms and operating systems.

The Observium connector allows netTerrain to import devices and monitoring data from an Observium server. It uses the REST-API pull approach to retrieve information about monitored hosts, interfaces, and status data. Once imported, Observium-managed devices are mapped into netTerrain, linking monitoring information with visual topology.

Required connection parameters include:

- Name
- User
- Password
- Server Address

Add Profile

Name

User

Password 

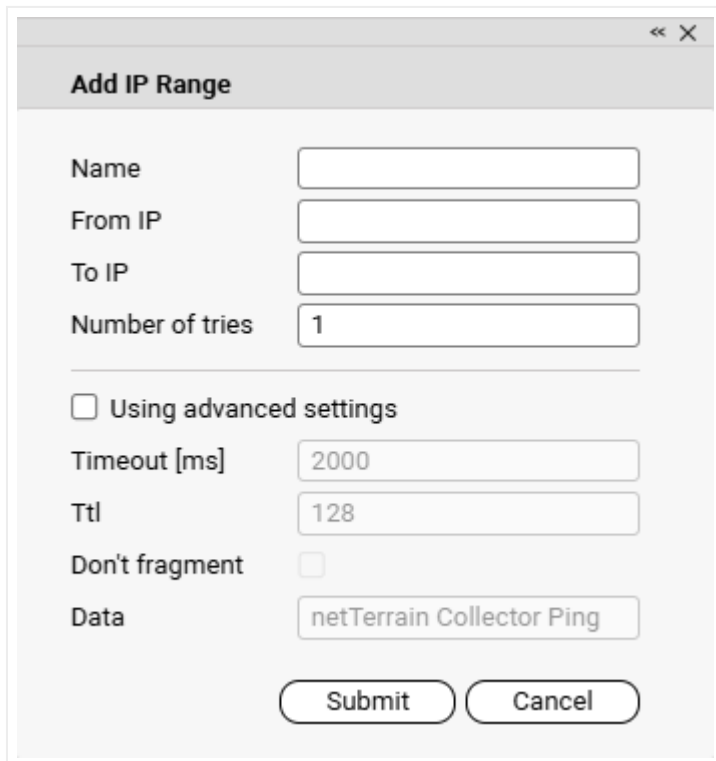
Server Address

7.2.3.6 Ping

The Ping connector allows netTerrain to verify network device availability and response performance by sending ICMP echo requests between two IP addresses. This connector operates without the need for authentication or external APIs, communicating directly over the network layer.

The required connection parameters are:

- Name
- From IP
- To IP
- Number of tries



The screenshot shows a dialog box titled "Add IP Range" with a close button (X) in the top right corner. The dialog contains the following fields and options:

- Name:** A text input field.
- From IP:** A text input field.
- To IP:** A text input field.
- Number of tries:** A text input field containing the value "1".
- Using advanced settings:** A checkbox that is currently unchecked.
- Timeout [ms]:** A text input field containing the value "2000".
- Ttl:** A text input field containing the value "128".
- Don't fragment:** A checkbox that is currently unchecked.
- Data:** A text input field containing the value "netTerrain Collector Ping".
- Buttons:** "Submit" and "Cancel" buttons at the bottom.

Ping connector settings

Advanced settings:

- Timeout [ms] - Defines the maximum time to wait for a reply from the target host.
- TTL (Time to Live) - Sets the maximum number of network hops before the packet is discarded.
- Don't Fragment - Enables or disables IP packet fragmentation.
- Data - Specifies the amount of payload data (in bytes) sent in each ping packet.

Scanning hosts and IP ranges

Each Ping profile supports scanning both individual hosts and IP address ranges. Both modes can be used independently or combined in the same profile.

The screenshot shows the 'Ping::Test' configuration window. At the top, it says 'Ping::Test' and 'Discovered at 11:47 AM'. Below this is a section titled 'IP Ranges'. On the left, there is a sidebar with a list of profiles: 'Demo' and 'JustHost'. The 'JustHost' profile is selected. To the right of the sidebar is a form for configuring the 'JustHost' profile. The form has fields for 'Name' (set to 'JustHost'), 'From IP', 'To IP', and 'Hosts (one per line)' (containing 'https://graphicalnetworks.com/'). There is also a 'Number of tries' field set to '1'. At the bottom of the form, there is a checkbox labeled 'Using advanced settings' which is currently unchecked. On the right side of the form, there are 'Disable' and 'Delete' buttons. An 'Add New' button is located in the sidebar.

The host list accepts hostnames, IP addresses and URLs. When a URL is provided, the connector automatically strips the scheme and path (for example, `https://example.com/` becomes `example.com`). For any responding IP that was specified as an address rather than a hostname, the connector attempts a reverse DNS lookup to resolve the associated hostname.

IP ranges are defined with a From IP and To IP. The connector pings every address in the range sequentially.

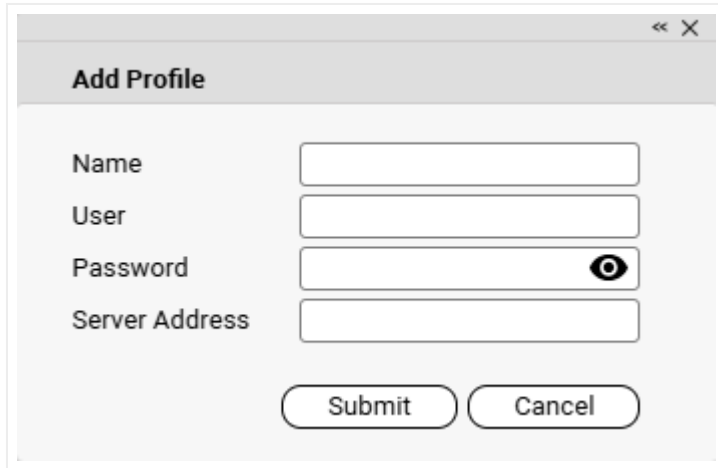
The advanced settings described above (TTL, Don't Fragment, payload data and timeout) apply to both scanning modes.

7.2.3.7 PRTG

The PRTG connector allows netTerrain to pull monitoring data from a PRTG instance. It uses the classic REST-API pull approach, connecting to your PRTG account through user authentication.

The required connection parameters are:

- Name
- User
- Password
- Server Address



The screenshot shows a window titled "Add Profile" with a standard OS window control bar (back arrow and close button). Inside the window, there are four labeled text input fields stacked vertically: "Name", "User", "Password", and "Server Address". To the right of the "Password" field is an eye icon, indicating a password toggle. At the bottom of the window, there are two rounded rectangular buttons: "Submit" and "Cancel".

PRTG connector settings

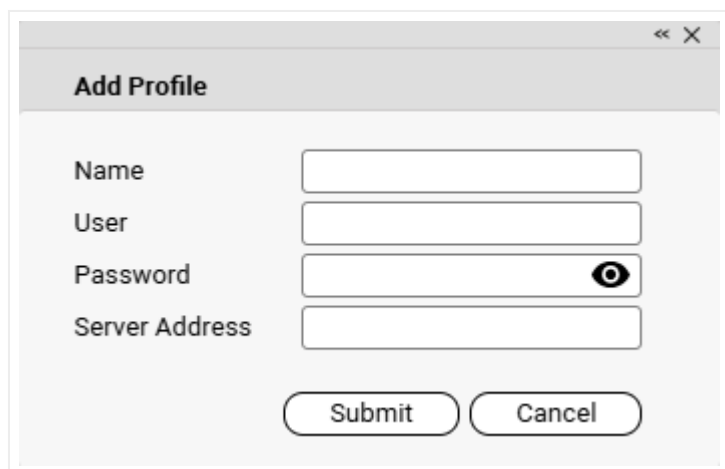
7.2.3.8 ServiceNow

ServiceNow is a cloud-based platform that helps organizations manage and automate digital workflows across IT, HR, security, and other enterprise operations. It provides a centralized system of record that integrates with third-party tools, streamlining service management and improving visibility into business processes.

The ServiceNow connector allows netTerrain to pull configuration and asset data directly from a ServiceNow instance. It uses the classic REST-API pull approach, connecting to your account via a user, a password, and a REST endpoint.

The required connection parameters:

- Name
- User
- Password
- REST endpoint



Add Profile

Name

User

Password 

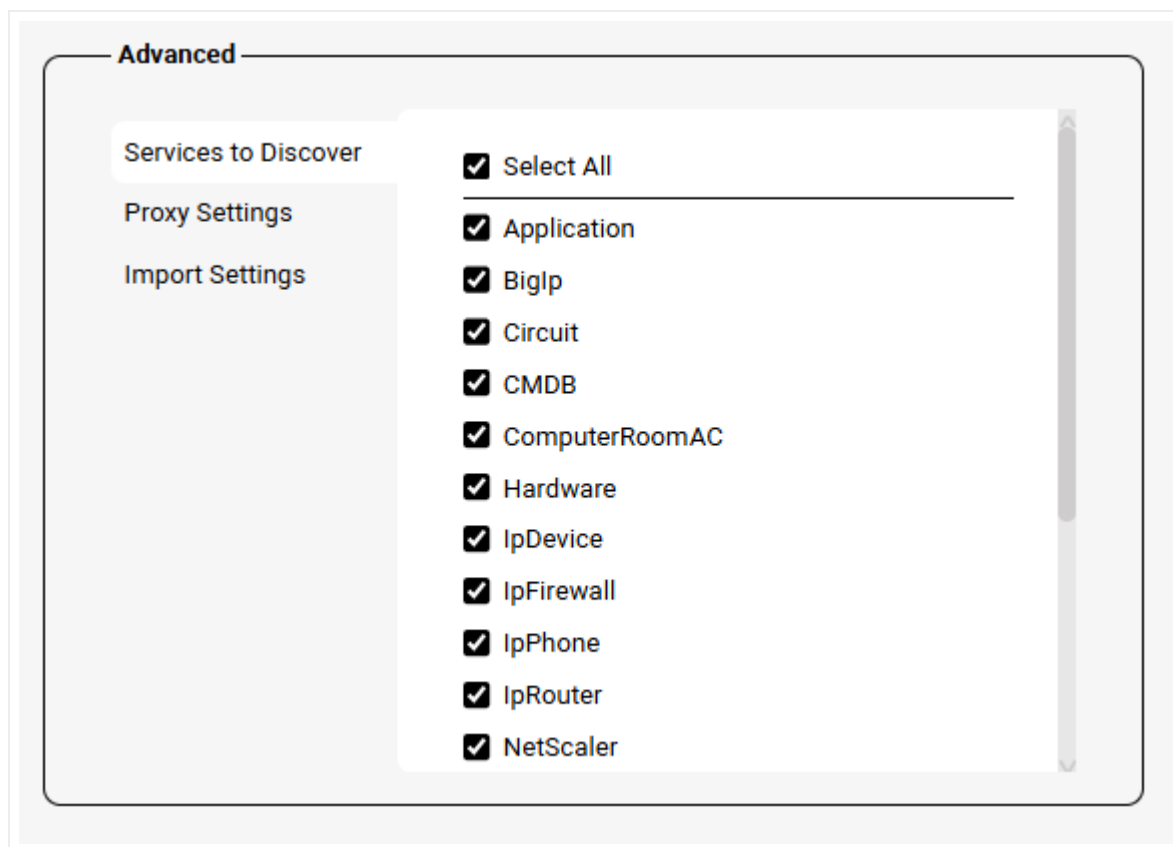
Server Address

ServiceNow connection information

After testing the connection successfully, you can specify which entity names need to be imported into netTerrain by using the advanced settings.

Advanced settings - Entities to be discovered:

- Application
- BigIp
- Circuit
- CMDB
- ComputerRoomAC
- Hardware
- IpDevice
- IpFirewall
- IpPhone
- IpRouter
- NetScaler
- Outlet
- ServersFull
- StockRoom
- UCWarranty
- UCWarrantySupportLevel
- UsersBrief
- Warranty



ServiceNow advanced connector settings

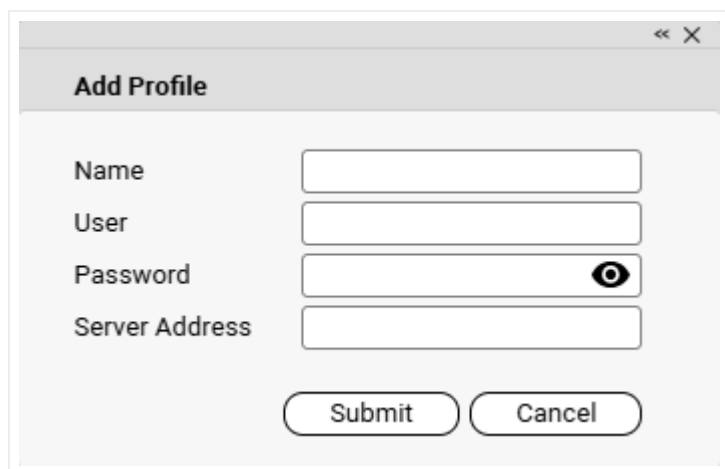
7.2.3.9 SolarWinds

SolarWinds develops software for businesses to help manage networks, systems, and information technology infrastructure. The Network Performance Monitor (NPM) platform is used by companies to discover and monitor computer networks.

The SolarWinds connector for NPM can pull information from a SolarWinds instance using the classic REST-API pull approach where it connects to your account via a user, a password, and a REST endpoint.

The required connection parameters:

- Name
- User
- Password
- REST endpoint

A dialog box titled "Add Profile" with a close button (X) in the top right corner. It contains four input fields: "Name", "User", "Password", and "Server Address". The "Password" field has an eye icon to its right. At the bottom are "Submit" and "Cancel" buttons.

Add Profile

Name

User

Password 

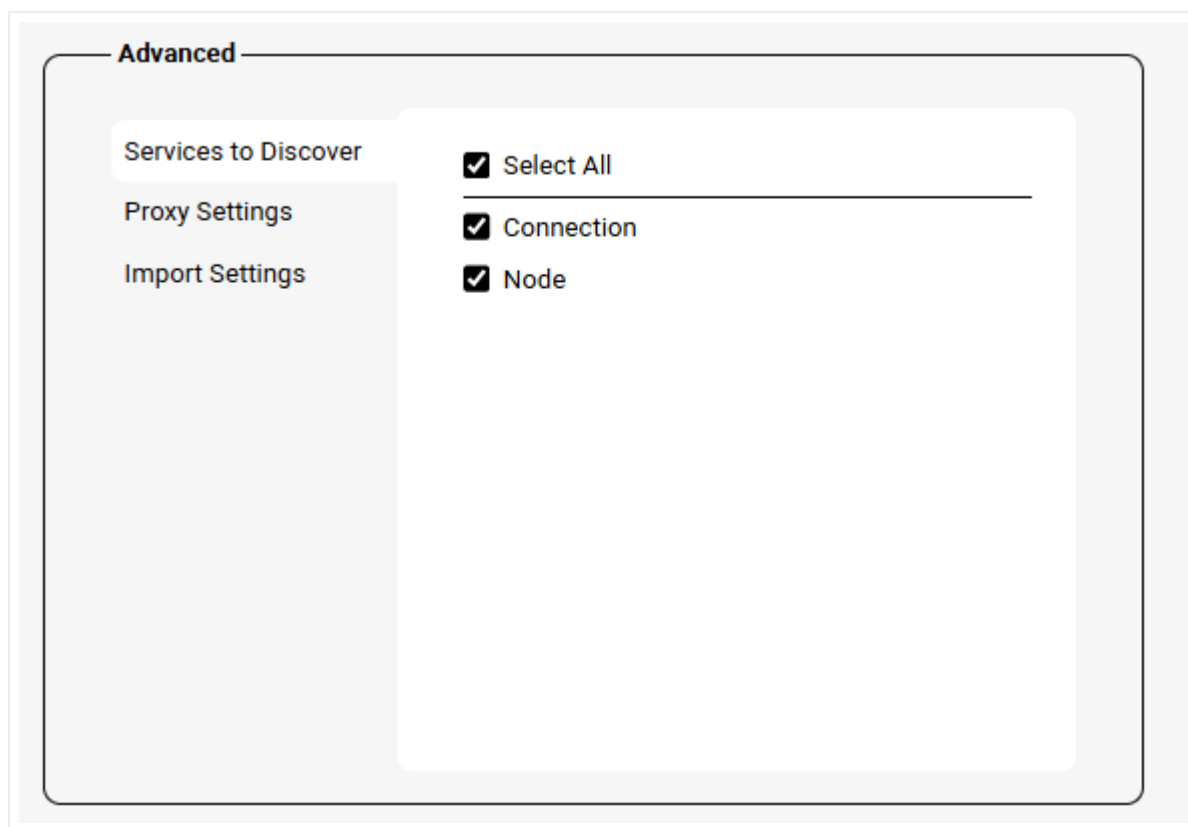
Server Address

SolarWinds connection information

After testing the connection successfully, you can specify which entity names need to be imported into *netTerrain* by using the advanced settings.

Advanced settings - Entities to be discovered:

- Connections
- Nodes

A dialog box titled "Advanced" with a left sidebar containing "Services to Discover", "Proxy Settings", and "Import Settings". The main area shows three checked checkboxes: "Select All", "Connection", and "Node".

Advanced

Services to Discover

☒ Select All

☒ Connection

☒ Node

7.2.3.10 SSH

Secure Shell (SSH) is a cryptographic network protocol used to securely access and manage remote devices over an unsecured network. It provides encrypted communication, command execution, and secure file transfer capabilities between systems.

The SSH connector allows netTerrain to execute commands and collect data from remote devices using the SSH protocol. It connects directly to the target host using the provided credentials and authentication keys.

To configure SSH, you must configure IP addresses or ranges, much like the SNMP connector:

- From IP
- To IP
- User
- Password
- Private Key File
- Port
- Commands (comma separated)



The image shows a dialog box titled "Add IP Range" with a close button (X) in the top right corner. The dialog contains several input fields: "Name", "From IP", "To IP", "User", "Password" (with a toggle icon), "Private Key File", and "Port" (with the value "0"). Below these fields is a text area labeled "Commands (comma separated)". At the bottom are "Submit" and "Cancel" buttons.

Add IP Range	
Name	
From IP	
To IP	
User	
Password	
Private Key File	
Port	0
Commands (comma separated)	
Submit Cancel	

SSH connector settings

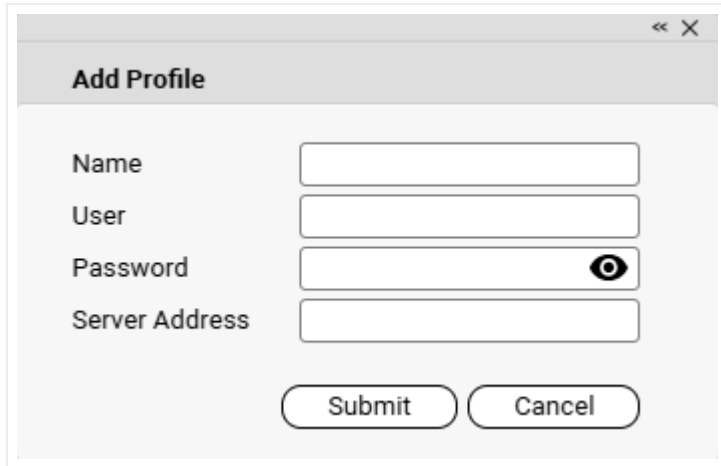
7.2.3.11 VCenter

vCenter Server is VMware's centralized management platform used to manage virtual machines, multiple ESXi hosts, and all related components from a single interface. It provides comprehensive visibility and control over virtualized environments, enabling provisioning, monitoring, and automation of infrastructure resources.

The vCenter connector allows *netTerrain* to retrieve detailed inventory and topology information from a VMware vCenter instance. It uses the classic REST-API pull approach, connecting to your vCenter environment through user authentication and an API endpoint.

The required connection parameters are:

- Name
- User
- Password
- REST endpoint

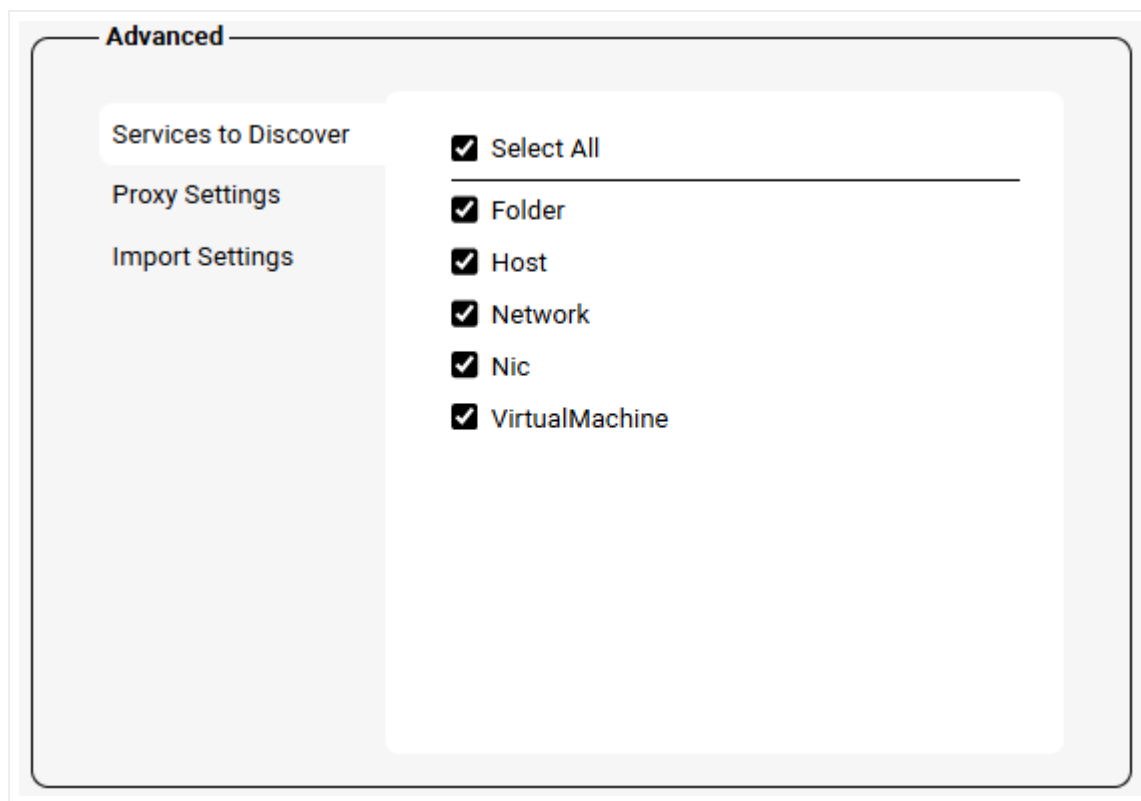
A screenshot of a software dialog box titled "Add Profile". The dialog has a title bar with a back arrow and a close button. Inside, there are four labeled text input fields: "Name", "User", "Password", and "Server Address". The "Password" field has an eye icon to its right, indicating a toggle for visibility. At the bottom of the dialog are two rounded buttons: "Submit" and "Cancel".

vCenter connection information

After testing the connection successfully, you can specify which entity names need to be imported into netTerrain by using the advanced settings.

Advanced settings - Entities to be discovered:

- Folder
- Host
- Network
- Nic
- VirtualMachine



vCenter advanced connector settings

7.2.3.12 WMI

Windows Management Instrumentation (WMI) is primarily used to discover and import Windows server properties into netTerrain. Before running a WMI-based discovery, you must ensure that the feature is enabled on the target servers. To enable WMI, go to Administrative Tools → Services, locate the Windows Management Instrumentation service, and start it.

Once enabled, proceed to create a new WMI profile within the connector. Each profile defines the IP address range to be scanned and the authentication parameters required for access. IP ranges can be added manually by specifying the From IP and To IP values. The IPs must be properly formatted (without CIDR notation). If both fields contain the same IP address, it will be treated as a single host, which is completely valid.

Each profile can also include login credentials (User and Password) used during the discovery process. Profiles can be enabled or disabled as needed, allowing you to run a discovery against specific subsets of IP addresses without deleting or modifying other profiles.

Add Profile

Name

User

Password 

Server Address

WMI connector settings

After setting up the WMI IP ranges and credentials, you can specify which entity names need to be discovered and imported into netTerrain by using advanced settings. Currently the WMI connector can pull data for the following entities:

- BIOS
- Disk
- Memory
- IO
- Process
- Processor
- System
- System enclosure

Add IP Range

Name

From IP

To IP

User

Password 

WMI advanced connector settings

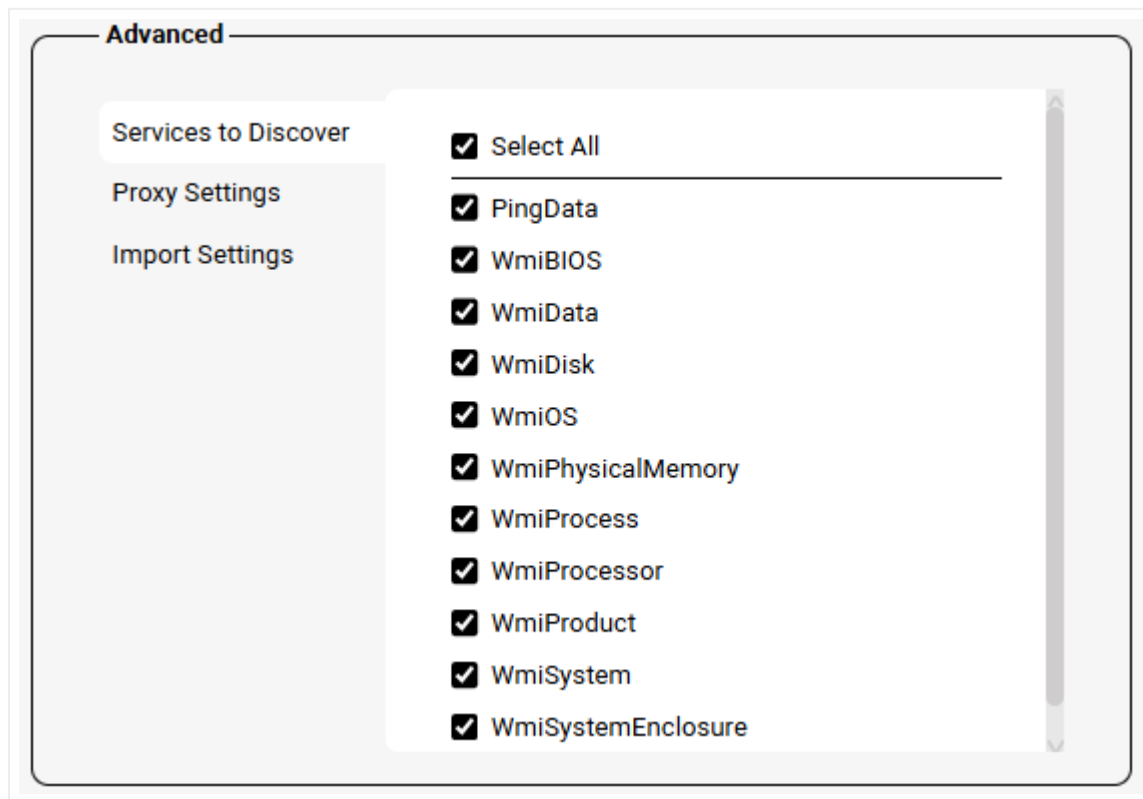
7.2.3.13 WhatsUp Gold

Whats Up Gold (WUG) is a network monitoring tool that provides discovery, monitoring and alerting services for network devices such as servers, routers and switches and other IT entities such as applications and services.

The WhatsUp Gold connector allows netTerrain to import device and monitoring information from a WhatsUp Gold server. It uses a REST-API pull approach to collect data about monitored hosts, their network status, and key performance metrics. The imported data can then be visualized directly within netTerrain's topology views, keeping your monitoring information synchronized with your network diagrams.

The required connection parameters are:

- Name
- UserPassword
- Server Address
- Port



WhatsUp Gold connector settings

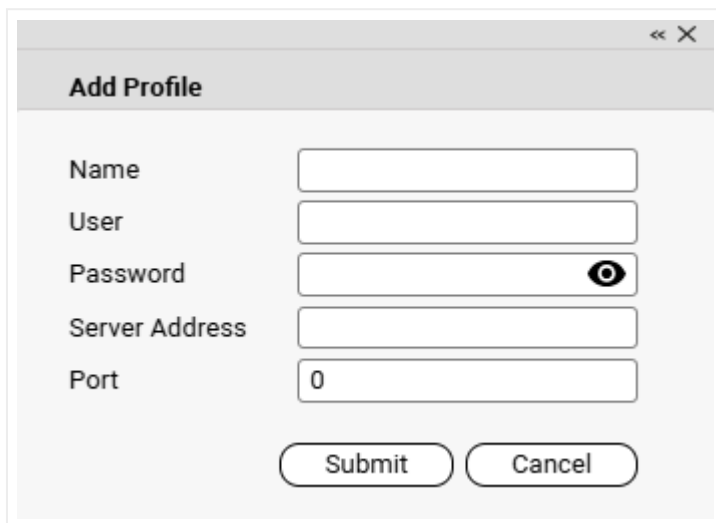
7.2.3.14 Zabbix

Zabbix is an open-source monitoring platform designed for tracking the performance and availability of networks, servers, applications, and cloud resources. It provides real-time monitoring, alerting, and data visualization through a flexible and scalable architecture.

The Zabbix connector allows netTerrain to pull monitoring data directly from a Zabbix instance. It uses the classic REST-API pull approach, connecting to your account through user authentication and an API endpoint.

The required connection parameters are:

- Name
- User
- Password
- REST endpoint

A screenshot of a web-based 'Add Profile' dialog box. The dialog has a title bar with a close button (X) and a maximize button (double arrow). The title 'Add Profile' is in bold. Below the title, there are five input fields with labels to their left: 'Name', 'User', 'Password', 'Server Address', and 'Port'. The 'Port' field contains the number '0'. To the right of the 'Password' field is an eye icon for toggling visibility. At the bottom of the dialog are two buttons: 'Submit' and 'Cancel'.

Zabbix connection information

7.3 SNMP connector

The Native SNMP auto-discovery module can discover devices from the network, by polling the device management IP addresses. It will then discover properties from those devices using a predefined list of so-called 'MIB' (Management Information Base) variables. This component supports all standard SNMP versions:

- SNMPv1

- SNMPv2c

- SNMPv3.

Via SNMP, netTerrain can discover the following device related information:

- Standard System MIB properties

- Any custom (public or private) MIB, which can be mapped to any custom field in netTerrain

- Interface information, including status, reading from the MIB interface table

- Layer 3 links (via IP address and routing tables)

- Layer 2 links (via interface and bridge tables, CDP and LLDP)

- VLAN information

- Stacked switches status and configuration

- Up/down status for devices (this also uses Ping as a primary method, along with SNMP System get as a backup method)

Once devices are discovered, this module behaves much like a device connector in the sense that it maps the discovered elements with devices in netTerrain. As described in the introduction to the chapter, the SNMP method also has a predefined connector listed in the connector list and is called 'SNMP'. This connector can also be scheduled for automatic discovery and reconciliation, just like any other connector, and additionally supports polling operations for continuous variable monitoring.

7.3.1 SNMP accessibility and security

A device is considered discoverable when the following is true:

- The IP address provided to netTerrain is the management IP address of the device
- SNMP is enabled on the device
- The device is, in principle, reachable (such as being on the same network and responding to an SNMP get request)
- The credentials associated with the IP address are correct

SNMP provides a layer of security in its latest version 3. SNMP version 1 and 2 have no security, except for a so-called 'community string', which is a simple string that needs to be provided along with the management IP address.

SNMP version 3 provides additional security features compared to SNMPv1 and v2c:

- A user identifier
- Authentication of the user who sent the PDU. The authentication protocols include SHA and MD5.
- Encryption of protocol data units (PDUs) to prevent unauthorized users from viewing the contents. SNMPv3 supports AES and DES for encryption.
- A context string parameter

As with SNMPv1 and v2c, each IP address or range can have its own SNMPv3 parameters.

Depending on the security settings for the range in question, you can set the flags that define which security features are needed.

<< X

Add IP Range

Name

From IP

To IP

Description

Version

v3

Main Settings

Flags

Auth ON / Encrypt ON

V3 User

Authentication

Method

MD5

Password

Encryption

Method

DES

Key

Use as seed IP

UDP Port

Context

Submit

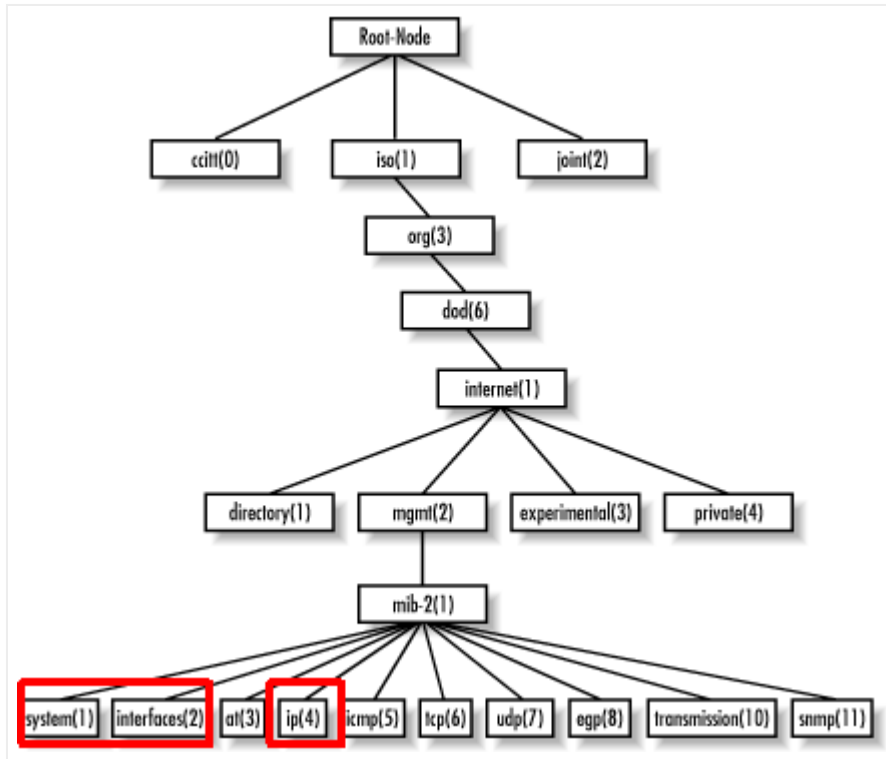
Cancel

SNMP v3 configuration

7.3.2 Built-in MIBs

The foundation of an SNMP-based management system is a database containing information about the objects in the network to be queried. This database is referred to as the Management Information Base (MIB) and each resource to be managed in that database is an object. The MIB then is a structured collection of objects in the form of a tree. Associated with each object in the tree is an object identifier (OID)

which follows a notation (Abstract Syntax Notation 1 or ASN.1) consisting of a set of integers separated by dots. The figure below illustrates part of the MIB-2 structure.



MIB-2 structure

The Native SNMP discovery uses the following OID prefixes (leafs depicted in red above):

- System group (OID 1.3.6.1.2.1.1): they obtain basic device information.
- Interface group (OID 1.3.6.1.2.1.2): they obtain basic interface (port) information. This data can be automatically mapped to the ports defined for a given type in the netTerrain catalog.
- IP address group (OID 1.3.6.1.2.1.4): they comprise the IP address and routing table MIBs to obtain layer 3 link information between devices.

7.3.2.1 System MIBs

The system MIBs that are currently supported include the list below (we also include the ASN.1 definition for each):

- sysName: "An administratively-assigned name for this managed node. By convention, this is the node's fully-qualified domain name".
- ipAddress
- sysObjectId: "The vendor's authoritative identification of the network management subsystem contained in the entity. This value is allocated within the SMI enterprises subtree (1.3.6.1.4.1) and provides an easy and unambiguous means for determining 'what kind of box' is being managed".
- sysUpTime: "The time (in hundredths of a second) since the network management portion of the system was last re-initialized".
- sysContact: "The textual identification of the contact person for this managed node, together with information on how to contact this person".
- sysDescr: "A textual description of the entity. This value should include the full name and version identification of the system's hardware type, software operating-system, and networking software. It is mandatory that this only contain printable ASCII characters".
- sysLocation: "The physical location of this node".
- sysServices: "The value which indicates the set of services that this entity primarily offers. The value is a sum. This sum initially takes the value zero, Then, for each layer, L, in the range 1 through 7, that this node performs transactions for, 2 raised to (L - 1) is added to the sum. For example, a node which performs primarily routing functions would have a value of 4 ($2^{(3-1)}$). In contrast, a node which is a host offering application services would have a value of 72 ($2^{(4-1)} + 2^{(7-1)}$)".
- ifNumber: "The number of network interfaces (regardless of their current state) present on this system".

7.3.2.2 Interface MIBs

When port monitoring is enabled, netTerrain can discover interface properties for devices using the interfaces group MIB . The properties that can be monitored include:

- ifDescr: "Textual string containing information about the interface. This string should include the name of the manufacturer, the product name and the version of the hardware interface".
- ifType: "The type of interface, distinguished according to the physical/link protocol(s) immediately 'below' the network layer in the protocol stack".
- ifSpeed: "An estimate of the interface's current bandwidth in bits per second. For interfaces which do not vary in bandwidth or for those where no accurate estimation can be made, this object should contain the nominal bandwidth".
- ifPhysAddress: "The interface's address at the protocol layer immediately 'below' the network layer in the protocol stack. For interfaces which do not have such an address (e.g., a serial line), this object should contain an octet string of zero length.
- ifAdminStatus: "The desired state of the interface".
- ifOperStatus: "The current operational state of the interface".
- ifLastChange: "The value of sysUpTime at the time the interface entered its current operational state. If the current state was entered prior to the last re-initialization of the local network management subsystem, then this object contains a zero value".

Of special interest are the ifAdminStatus and ifOperStatus, which can be used to represent status values in netTerrain and be used as a visual override to change the port colors. Possible values for these parameters are:

- up (1)
- down (2)
- testing (3)

7.3.2.3 IP address table and routing table MIBs

When link monitoring is enabled, netTerrain can discover layer-3 topology for routers or devices that store routing table information in the IP group MIBs. Discovered links will include the following properties:

- `ipRouteDest`: "The destination IP address of this route. An entry with a value of 0.0.0.0 is considered a default route. Multiple routes to a single destination can appear in the table, but access to such multiple entries is dependent on the table-access mechanisms defined by the network management protocol in use".
- `ipRouteAge`: "The number of seconds since this route was last updated or otherwise determined to be correct".
- `ipRouteMask`: "Indicate the mask to be logical-ANDed with the destination address before being compared to the value in the `ipRouteDest` field".
- `ipRouteIfIndex`: "Index value which uniquely identifies the local interface through which the next hop of this route should be reached. The interface identified by a particular value of this index is the same interface as identified by the same value of `ifIndex`".
- `ipRouteMetric1`: "Primary routing metric for this route. The semantics of this metric are determined by the routing-protocol specified in the route's `ipRouteProto` value. If this metric is not used, its value should be set to -1".
- `ipRouteNextHop`: "IP address of the next hop of this route".
- `ipRouteType`: "Type of route".
- `ipRouteProto`: "Routing mechanism via which this route was learned".

The `ipRouteType` is an integer value with the following translation table:

- 1: other
- 2: invalid
- 3: direct
- 4: indirect

netTerrain will store the actual integer value for each route and append the string value when it reconciles the routes as links in netTerrain.

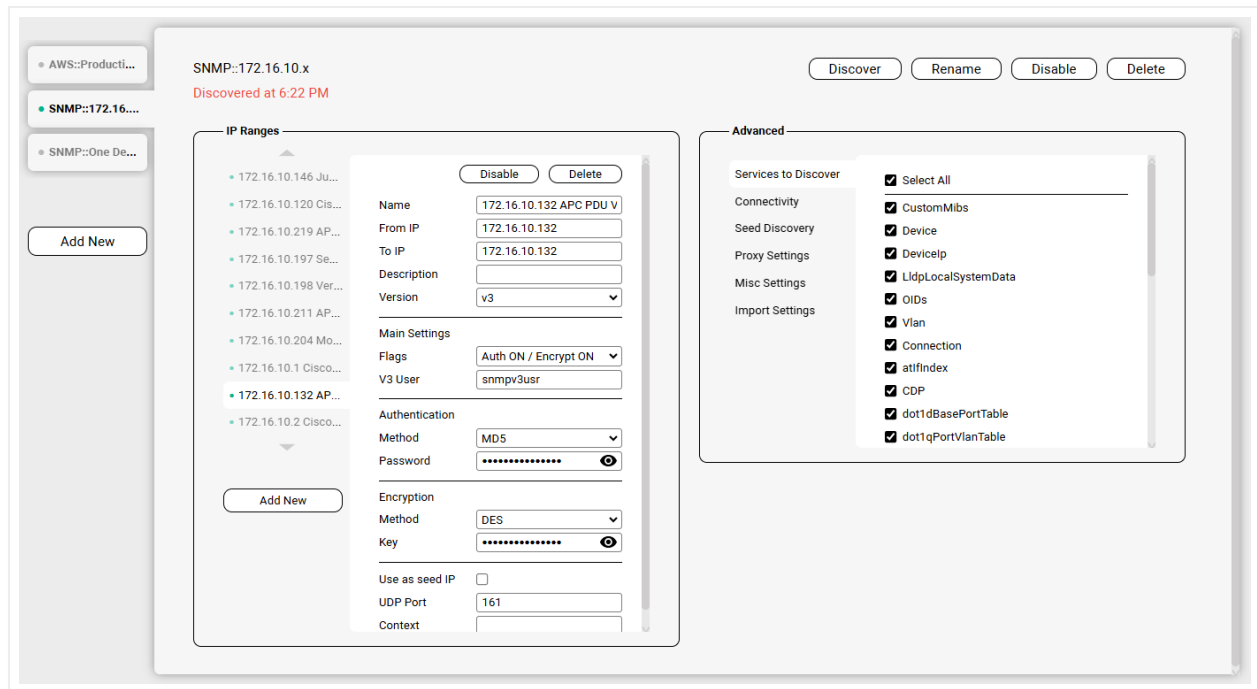
The ipRouteProto is an integer value with the following translation table:

- 1: other
- 2: local
- 3: netmgmt
- 4: icmp
- 5: egp
- 6: ggp
- 7: hello
- 8: rip
- 9: is-is
- 10: es-is
- 11: ciscoIgrp
- 12: bbnSpflgp
- 13: ospf
- 14: bgp

7.3.3 Setting IP addresses and ranges

The first step in setting up SNMP discovery involves the creation of IP address ranges (or single IP addresses) in the connector settings dialog. This is necessary because the SNMP scanning process requires an IP address management to discover the devices. As mentioned before, the Collector supports SNMPv1, SNMPv2, and SNMPv3.

To insert the IP addresses in the settings, open the settings dialog for the SNMP connector.



Connector settings to enter IP addresses

IP address ranges can be added manually by clicking the "Add New" button. Enter each range one at a time, making sure the 'From IP' and 'To IP' fields are properly formatted as IP addresses (without the CIDR notation). If both fields contain the same IP address, it will be treated as a single address, which is completely valid.

To delete a range, click the "Delete" button.

If you don't want a specific range or profile to be scanned during a discovery cycle, you can enable or disable it using the "Enable/Disable" button. This allows you to control which profiles are active without removing them from the list.

The SNMP version can be changed under the drop-down 'Version'. The community strings for SNMP can be entered in the 'Credentials' section. By default, the community string is 'public'.

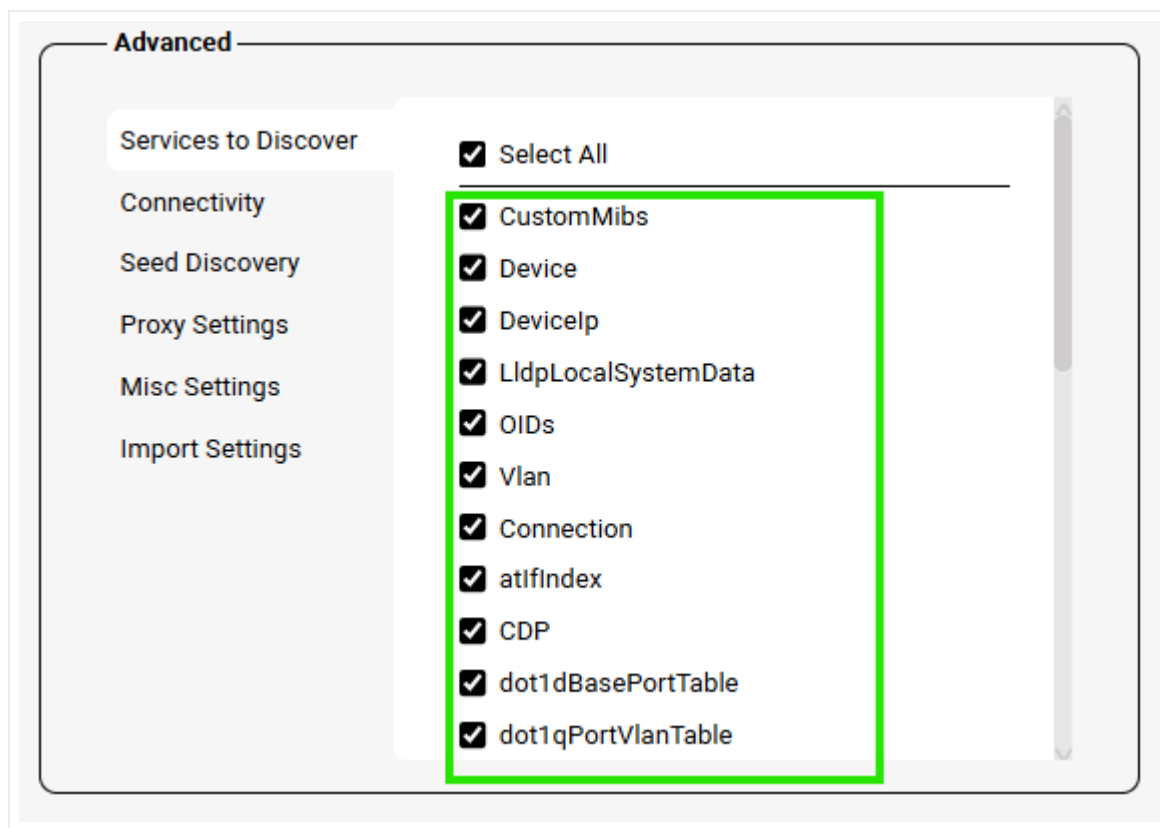
7.3.4 Advanced SNMP settings

For more specific settings the 'Advanced connector settings' dialog includes three tabs to fine tune your SNMP discovery processes.

7.3.4.1 SNMP services to discover

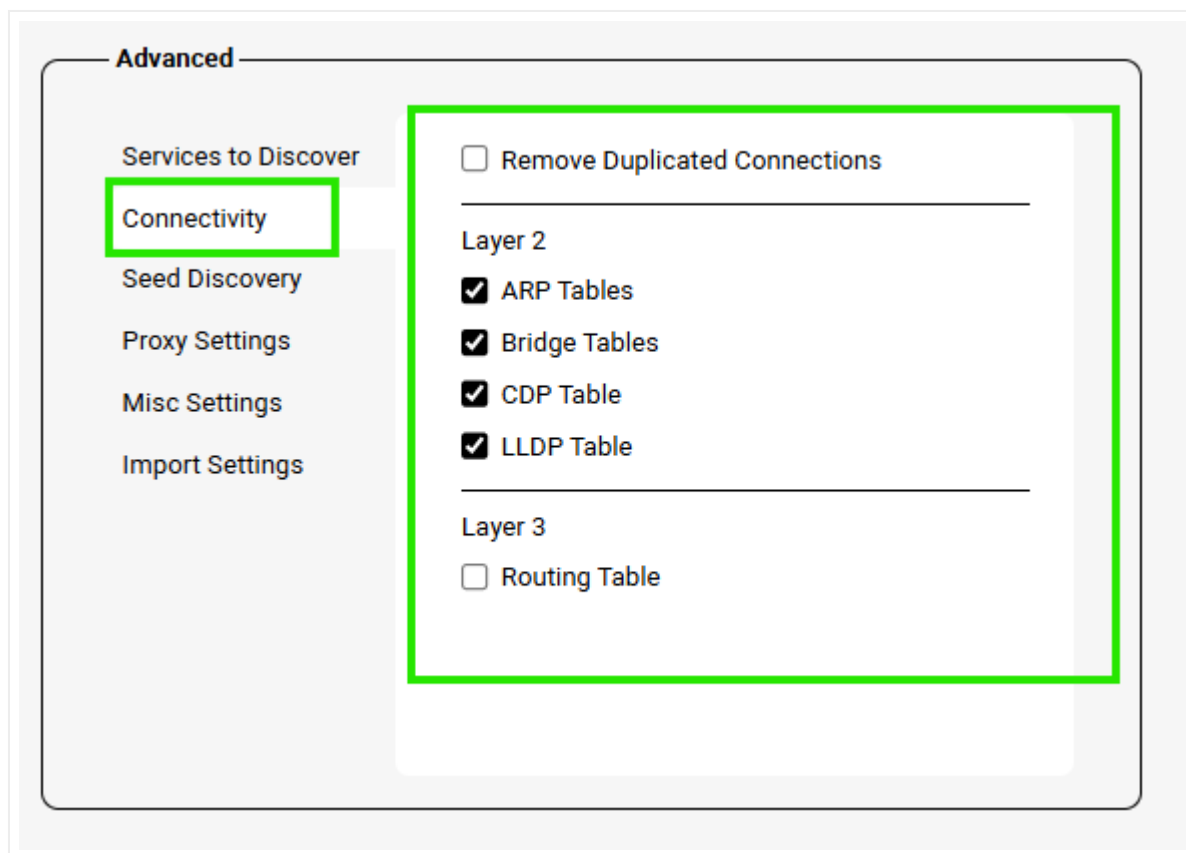
The sub connectors settings tab lets you control the granularity of the information you will be retrieving from the network by letting you specify which entities to enable, upload and map, including:

- CustomMibs
- Device
- DeviceIp
- LldpLocalSystemData
- OIDs
- Vlan
- Connection
- atIfIndex
- CDP
- dot1dBasePortTable
- dot1qPortVlanTable
- dot1qVlanStaticTable
- entPhysicalTable
- hpStackMemberTable
- InetCidrRoute
- Installed
- Ip
- IpCidrRoute
- IpForward
- IPToPhysicalAddress
- jnxVirtualChassisMemberTable
- LLDPLocalPorts
- LLDPRemoteSystems
- MAC
- pagpEtherChannelTable
- Port
- Route
- vmMembershipTable
- vtpVlanTable



7.3.4.2 SNMP connectivity

The second section controls the granularity of the link information you will be retrieving from the network.



When the Layer 2 option is checked, netTerrain will scan one or more layer 2 table data for the managed device to determine what layer 2 links were configured for that device. netTerrain will then display these links as lines between that device and the endpoints.

Layer 2 table options include:

- ARP/Bridge tables, pulled from the bridge MIB data
- CDP /LLDP tables

If you want layer 2 information to be discovered, we recommend having all options checked.

When the Layer 3 option is checked, netTerrain will scan IP address tables and routing tables for the managed device to determine what routes were configured for that device. netTerrain will then display these routes as layer 3 links between that device and the endpoints.

The VLAN section lets you check whether VLANs should be discovered or not. When checked, any VLANs associated with ports will be displayed as table reports in netTerrain associated with said ports.

During the link discovery process netTerrain may create duplicate connections if any link is discovered independently via two or more different discovery protocols. By default, the 'Remove Duplicated Connections' should be checked to prevent these duplicate connections from being created.

7.3.4.3 SNMP seed discovery

The default method for discovering devices is to scan all enabled ranges one at a time. A second method for discovering devices is to set one individual IP address as a so-called 'seed'.

When an IP address is set as a seed, netTerrain starts the discovery process with that specific device and then tries to "crawl" the network by inspecting other existing IP addresses configured on that device.

The seed discovery process can be configured from the 'Advanced' dialog to include specific means to crawl the network, including the crawling depth and methods.

The screenshot shows the 'Advanced' settings dialog. On the left is a sidebar with the following options: 'Services to Discover', 'Connectivity', 'Seed Discovery' (highlighted with a green box), 'Proxy Settings', 'Misc Settings', and 'Import Settings'. The main area on the right is titled 'Seed Discovery' and contains the following settings:

Setting	Value
Crawling Depth	3
Routing tables	☒
CPD tables	☒
LLDP tables	☒

Seed discovery settings

The crawling depth refers to the number of "jumps" (hops, or layers) the discovery process must traverse until it considers the discovery process exhausted. The larger the depth, the longer it takes to process the discovery. While any of the discovery branches that originated from the original seed have not been exhausted, netTerrain will try to keep discovering new devices if the IP addresses discovered from the previous node correspond to actual management IP addresses of new devices and said devices can be accessed.

A sufficiently large depth may ensure that you discover your entire network. This is so, because netTerrain will prevent getting into any loops and eventually IP addresses start repeating themselves, and/or you run out of new IP address to discover.

The crawling methods are the different IP address tables that the discovery process can use to find new potential IP addresses to discover. These must come from each discovered node and include the following:

- Routing tables: the layer 3 table stored in routers to enable IP packet forwarding
- CDP tables: Cisco specific layer 2 tables used to forward packets from one edge to the next
- LLDP tables: CDP-like layer 2 forwarding tables

We recommend keeping the default settings for a crawling process in case seed discovery is to be used.

Attention!

You can only have one IP address entry set for seed discovery, and said entry needs to consist of a single IP address ('From IP' and 'To IP' must coincide).

7.3.4.4 SNMP miscellaneous settings

This section controls general SNMP discovery parameters like the timeout associated with a Get command, the number of threads used for the discovery, the method used for SNMPv3 discovery and others:

Advanced

- Services to Discover
- Connectivity
- Seed Discovery
- Proxy Settings
- Misc Settings**
- Import Settings

Timeout [ms]	2000
Discovery for SNMPv3	Get
Use multi threads	☒
Add pinged devices	☐
Event Driven	☐
Use SSH	☐
NamesAddHashToOid	

7.4 Discovery and reconciliation

In this chapter we will go over the scanning (discovery) and netTerrain reconciliation process, along with all the related settings and actions associated with that, such as flushing the data, logging, additional settings and more.

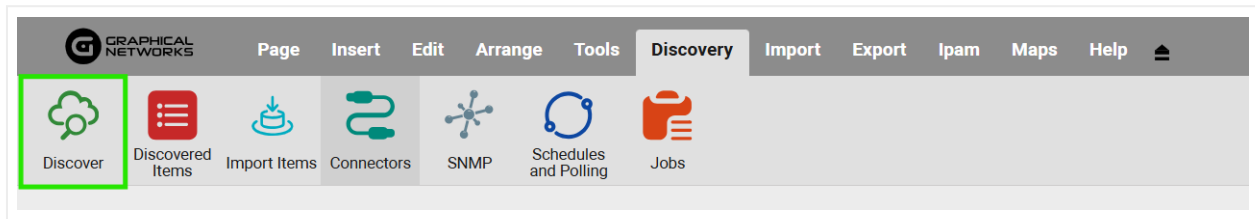
7.4.1 Discovery

The discovery process runs a discovery for each enabled connector, including the native discovery connectors. During this process, netTerrain connects to the third-party sources or the network and attempts to discover data from said sources to bring it into netTerrain as raw data. This process does not include the reconciliation of discovered data into netTerrain. The latter is done during the so-called 'Import Items', which we will review later.

This scan is quite straightforward and can be done in manual fashion or automatically.

7.4.1.1 Manual discovery

To manually scan the network all you do is click on the 'Discover' button from the Discovery toolbar.



Manual discovery

After pressing the 'Discovery' button, netTerrain will start a scan process for each connector that is enabled in your connectors list.

Auto-import after a manual discovery

When a manual discovery is triggered, items found during the scan are not automatically promoted into netTerrain — the user normally has to press Import items afterwards. A new option in the profile Import settings makes this step automatic. To enable it, open the profile Import settings and check the Import automatically after a manual discovery checkbox. The setting is disabled by default, preserving the previous behavior. When the option is enabled, the import runs automatically as soon as the manual discovery completes, so newly discovered items appear in netTerrain without further action. When it is disabled, a warning message is shown at the end of the discovery reminding the user that an import is still required and that they need to press Import items to bring the data into netTerrain.

7.4.1.2 Automatic discovery

The Scheduled Tasks section allows you to automate discovery operations at regular intervals. Each task defines when and how often the discovery process should run, which connectors it should use, and any additional notes or configuration details.

To create a new scheduled discovery task, click Add New. You can then configure the following parameters:

- Name - The name assigned to the scheduled task.
- Repeat every (minutes) - Defines the frequency of the task execution, in minutes. For example, a value of 60 means the discovery will run once every hour.
- Next Run - Displays the next scheduled execution time. You can adjust the date and time manually or click Restart from now to reset the schedule to start immediately.
- Connectors to discover - Allows you to specify which connectors should be included in the discovery cycle. You can select All enabled or limit the task to specific connectors.
- Enabled connectors - Displays a list of all connectors available for the task. You can select or deselect individual connectors as needed.
- Comments - An optional field where you can add notes or details about the task configuration.

Use the Enable, Disable, and Delete buttons to manage the state of the selected task.

- Enable activates the scheduled task so it runs automatically according to the defined interval.
- Disable pauses the task without deleting it.
- Delete permanently removes the task from the list.

The screenshot displays the 'Discovery' section of the netTerrain 10.2 interface. On the left, there are two tabs: 'Discovery' and 'Polling'. The 'Discovery' tab is active, showing a list of tasks under the 'Scheduled Tasks' heading. A task named 'Lab Discovery' is selected, indicated by a green dot. To the right of the task name are 'Disable' and 'Delete' buttons. Below the task name is an 'Add New' button. The configuration details for 'Lab Discovery' are shown in a form on the right. The 'Name' field is 'Lab Discovery'. The 'Repeat every (minutes)' field is '60'. The 'Next Run' field shows '10-20-2025' at '9 PM' and '22' minutes, with a 'Restart from now' button. The 'Connectors to discover' dropdown is set to 'All enabled'. Under 'Enabled connectors', there are checkboxes for 'Select All' and 'SNMP'. A 'Comments' text area is at the bottom.

Discovery

Polling

Scheduled Tasks

- Lab Discovery

Disable Delete

Add New

Name: Lab Discovery

Repeat every (minutes): 60

Next Run: 10-20-2025 9 PM 22 Restart from now

Connectors to discover: All enabled

Enabled connectors

- ☐ Select All
- ☐ SNMP

Comments

Attention!

When a discovery is executed through a scheduled task, the import process is triggered automatically once the scan is completed. This means that all discovered data will be imported into netTerrain without requiring any additional manual action from the user.

7.4.2 Reconciliation

The Import Settings section defines how netTerrain reconciles and imports the data discovered by each connector. These options are available inside each connector's Advanced configuration panel, under the Import Settings tab.

The screenshot displays the netTerrain configuration interface. On the left, a sidebar lists connectors: AWS, SNMP::172.16..., and SNMP::One De... An 'Add New' button is below. The main panel shows the configuration for 'SNMP::172.16.10.x', discovered at 10:29 PM. At the top right are buttons: Discover, Rename, Disable, and Delete. The interface is divided into two main sections: 'IP Ranges' and 'Advanced'. The 'IP Ranges' section lists several IP ranges with their names and versions. A detailed view for '172.16.10.131 Siemon PDL' is shown, including fields for Name, From IP, To IP, Description, Version (v2c), Community strings (one per line), Use as seed IP, UDP Port (161), and Context. The 'Advanced' section contains a sidebar with 'Services to Discover', 'Connectivity', 'Seed Discovery', 'Proxy Settings', 'Misc Settings', and 'Import Settings' (highlighted with a green box). The 'Import Settings' section includes 'Container Name' (set to {Connector}) and 'Parent Diagram' (set to Services Settings).

Import settings

This configuration ensures that the information collected during the discovery phase is correctly mapped, merged, and updated within the project hierarchy - avoiding duplicates and preserving data integrity.

7.4.2.1 Container name

Specifies the name of the diagram that will be created to contain all imported items. By default, it is set to {Connector}, but this value can be customized to better reflect the connector or network segment being imported.

Advanced

Services to Discover

Connectivity

Seed Discovery

Proxy Settings

Misc Settings

Import Settings

Container Name

{Connector}

Parent Diagram

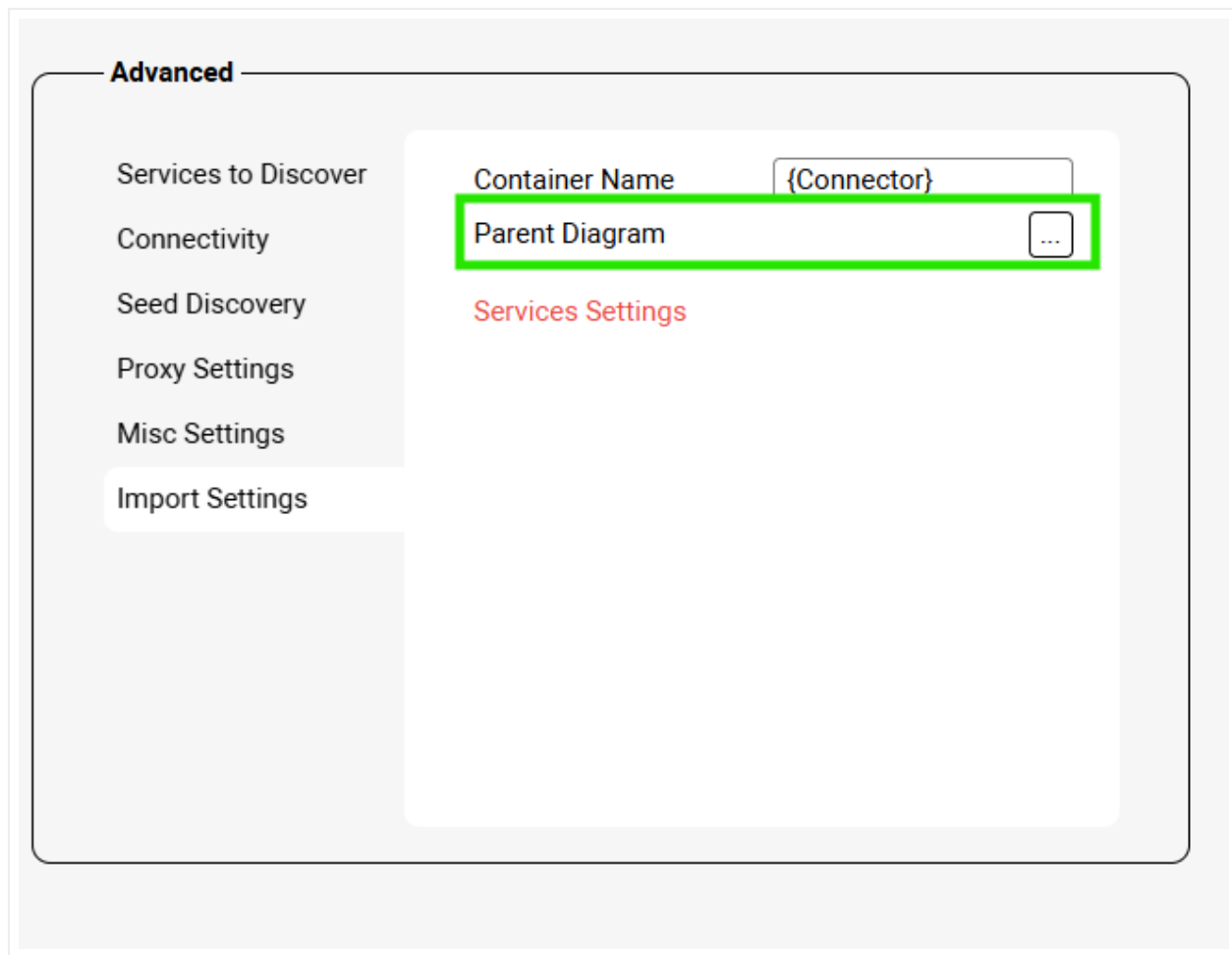
...

Services Settings

Container Name

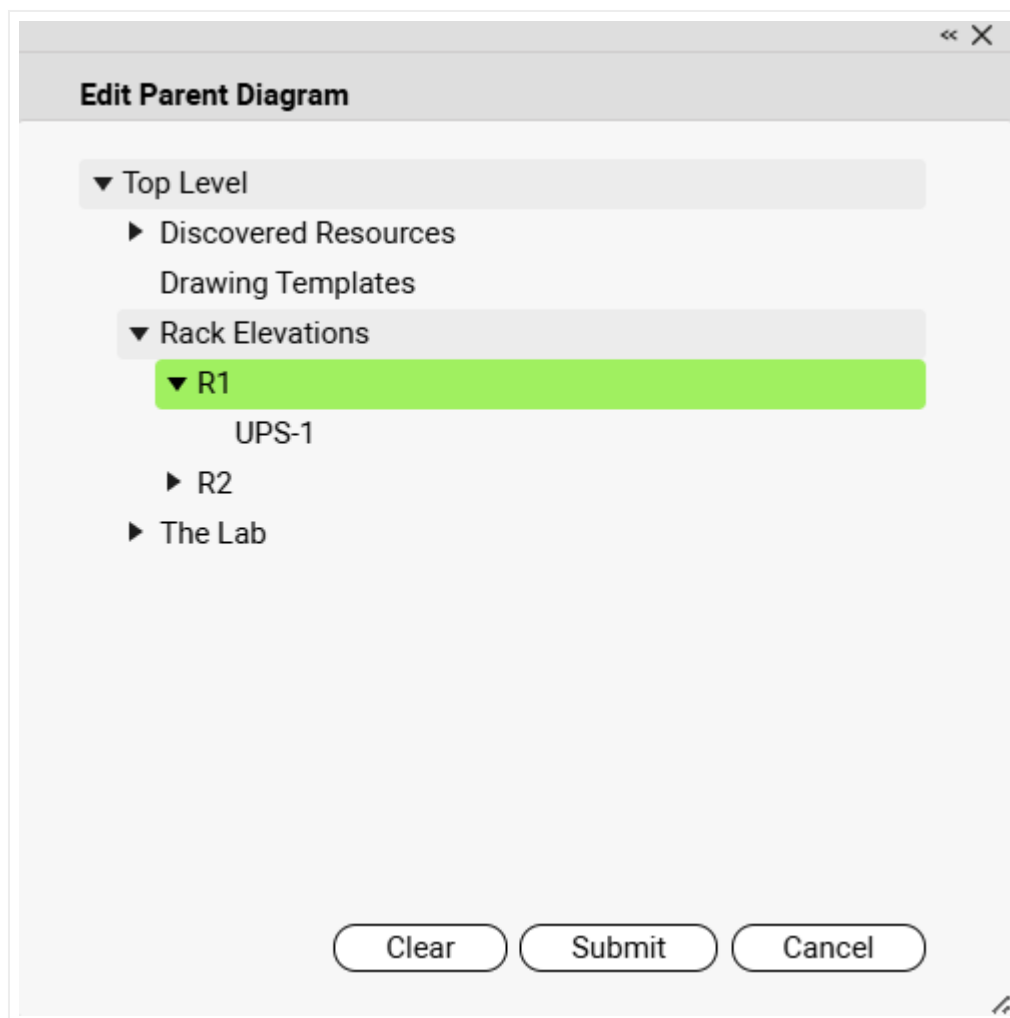
7.4.2.2 Parent Diagram

Users can automate the process of locating discovered items within the netTerrain hierarchy based on embedded data included in the discovery.



Parent diagram configuration

The Parent Diagram setting defines the location within the project hierarchy where the imported items will be placed. By clicking the browse button (...), you can select the parent diagram under which the new container will be created.



Edit parent diagram configuration

7.4.2.3 Services settings

The Services settings option opens a detailed configuration dialog that allows fine-tuning of how each discovered service is imported. Within this dialog, you can:

- Enable or disable import for each discovered service (for example, *Device*, *Connection*, *VLAN*, etc.).
- Choose whether to Keep Raw Data, allowing you to retain the original discovery data for audit or troubleshooting purposes.
- Open the Edit Import Settings panel for a specific service to define more advanced reconciliation rules.

Service import settings dialog

7.4.3 Advanced reconciliation

Each service type (e.g., *Device*, *Port*, *Connection*) can have its own import logic to control how discovered elements are matched and synchronized with existing objects in netTerrain. To access this configuration, you need to click on the pencil icon present in each service setting:

<< X

Services Import Settings

Service	Keep Raw Data	Import
atIflIndex	☐	☐ 
CDP	☐	☐ 
Connection	☐	☒ 
CustomMibs	☐	☐ 
Device	☐	☒ 
DeviceIp	☐	☐ 
dot1dBasePortTa...	☐	☐ 
dot1qPortVlanTa...	☐	☐ 
dot1qVlanStaticT...	☐	☐ 
entPhysicalTable	☐	☐ 
hpStackMemberT...	☐	☐ 
InetCidrRoute	☐	☐ 
Installed	☐	☐ 
Ip	☐	☐ 
IpCidrRoute	☐	☐ 

Close

This configuration allows you to:

- Define the Type Group and Type of objects created in the diagram.
- Specify the Name Field that determines how discovered items are labeled.
- Configure Parent Type, Grouping Rules, and Linking Options between related objects.
- Control data synchronization by setting options for inserting new objects, updating existing ones, and deleting outdated elements.
- Map discovered data fields to netTerrain attributes through Mapped Properties, Mapped Types, and Links to Services.

« X

Edit Import Settings

Service	Device
Type Group	Device ▼
Type	1RU Panel ▼
Name Field	Name ▼

Mapped Properties

Links to Services

Ports Resource	Port ...
Parent Type	- ▼
Group By	{IPRange}
Create Alias Child	false ▼

Types By Row Value	true ▼
Type Field in Source	SysObjectId ▼
SysOld Compliant	true ▼

Mapped Types

Insert New Objects	true ▼
Update Existing Objects	true ▼
Update Type of Existing...	true ▼
Delete Objects Without ...	false ▼
Delete if Count >=	0
Create Type by Old	false ▼

Submit
Cancel

Advanced reconciliation dialog

This reconciliation process ensures that netTerrain imports remain consistent, structured, and aligned with your existing topology. By customizing the import and mapping rules per service, administrators can achieve precise control over how discovered assets are represented within the system.

7.5 Discovered items

The Discovered Items screen displays all elements identified during the discovery process. This view allows you to explore the raw data retrieved from the various connectors, such as SNMP, WMI, Ping, AWS, or other discovery mechanisms configured in netTerrain.

Discovered Items

AWS > Image To Excel To csv

Filter Apply Clear

#	Id	Name
1	ami-06e7608e085337e57	91 installed
2	ami-0d84c09d662cba1a0	96-with-IPAM
3	ami-09010fcd5df46e316	IPAMon97InProgres
4	ami-02dde94f68e99bf9b	GoldAMI_ForMarketplace_WithoutS...
5	ami-08b84c85e3d3c1d04	Clean_96
6	ami-0abe7f836ca5e4ee8	QuestDEV
7	ami-0d4a8b0fd823023ee	Gold_withsysprep
8	ami-0711836ea349d35c8	netTerrain demo server 2022-12-12...
9	ami-098781bf97389051d	9.7 with IPAM
10	ami-018de9a327ab4678e	CLEAN_Ver_9.7.932
11	ami-0a624b35f57e350c3	ntTen

1 out of 1 < > 1 Go

On the left panel, the discovered data is organized hierarchically by connector and protocol. Expanding each section reveals the different discovery tables or datasets available for that specific source (for example,

CDP, Connection, Port, VLAN, etc.). Selecting any of these items loads its corresponding data in the main view.

Discovered Items

AWS > Image To Excel To csv Discovered on 10-20-2025, 9:27:47 PM

Filter Apply Clear Records per page 100 Records on page: 11 Records in table: 11

#	Id	Name	Architecture	CreationDate	Description	EnaSuppo	Hyperviso	ImageLocation
1	ami-06e7608e085337e57	91 installed	x86_64	2022-11-25T14:54:55.000Z	after	True	xen	667904443284/91 insta
2	ami-0d84c09d662cba1a0	96-with-IPAM	x86_64	2022-11-25T20:47:05.000Z		True	xen	667904443284/96-with-I
3	ami-09010fcd5df46e316	IPAMon97InProgres	x86_64	2023-12-29T18:31:45.000Z		True	xen	667904443284/IPAMon97In
4	ami-02dde94f68e99b9fb	GoldAMLForMarketplace_WithoutS...	x86_64	2022-12-15T22:29:30.000Z		True	xen	667904443284/GoldAMLFor
5	ami-08b84c85e3d3c1d04	Clean_96	x86_64	2023-03-15T16:40:35.000Z		True	xen	667904443284/Clean_96
6	ami-0abe7f836ca5e4ee8	QuestDEV	x86_64	2024-06-20T19:09:10.000Z		True	xen	667904443284/QuestDEV
7	ami-0d4a8b0fd823023ee	Gold_withsysprep	x86_64	2022-12-15T22:54:11.000Z	netTerrain	True	xen	667904443284/Gold_withs
8	ami-0711836ea349d35c8	netTerrain demo server 2022-12-12...	x86_64	2022-12-12T23:36:29.000Z		True	xen	667904443284/netTerrain de
9	ami-098781bf97389051d	9.7 with IPAM	x86_64	2023-12-01T18:47:30.000Z		True	xen	667904443284/9.7 with I
10	ami-018de9a327ab4678e	CLEAN_Ver_9.7.932	x86_64	2023-12-30T14:06:58.000Z	Clean NetTerrain installation versio...	True	xen	667904443284/CLEAN_Ver_
11	ami-0a624b35f57e350c3	ntTen	x86_64	2024-09-11T13:49:59.000Z		True	xen	667904443284/ntTen

1 out of 1 < > 1 Go

Discovered Items main view

The main panel on the right presents the discovered records in a tabular format. Each table contains a set of attributes specific to the selected discovery category. The number and type of columns may vary depending on the connector and the protocol used during the scan.

At the top of the table, you can use the Filter bar to refine the displayed data, and the Apply or Clear buttons to execute or reset your filter criteria. The discovered results can be exported directly to Excel or CSV using the provided buttons.

Discovered Items

AWS > Image To Excel To csv Discovered on 10-20-2025, 9:27:47 PM

Filter Apply Clear Records per page 100 Records on page: 11 Records in table: 11

#	Id	Name	Architecture	CreationDate	Description	EnaSuppo	Hyperviso	ImageLocation
1	ami-06e7608e085337e57	91 installed	x86_64	2022-11-25T14:54:55.000Z	after	True	xen	667904443284/91 insta
2	ami-0d84c09d662cba1a0	96-with-IPAM	x86_64	2022-11-25T20:47:05.000Z		True	xen	667904443284/96-with-I
3	ami-09010fcd5df46e316	IPAMon97InProgres	x86_64	2023-12-29T18:31:45.000Z		True	xen	667904443284/IPAMon97In
4	ami-02dde94f68e99b9fb	GoldAMLForMarketplace_WithoutS...	x86_64	2022-12-15T22:29:30.000Z		True	xen	667904443284/GoldAMLFor
5	ami-08b84c85e3d3c1d04	Clean_96	x86_64	2023-03-15T16:40:35.000Z		True	xen	667904443284/Clean_96
6	ami-0abe7f836ca5e4ee8	QuestDEV	x86_64	2024-06-20T19:09:10.000Z		True	xen	667904443284/QuestDEV
7	ami-0d4a8b0fd823023ee	Gold_withsysprep	x86_64	2022-12-15T22:54:11.000Z	netTerrain	True	xen	667904443284/Gold_withs
8	ami-0711836ea349d35c8	netTerrain demo server 2022-12-12...	x86_64	2022-12-12T23:36:29.000Z		True	xen	667904443284/netTerrain de
9	ami-098781bf97389051d	9.7 with IPAM	x86_64	2023-12-01T18:47:30.000Z		True	xen	667904443284/9.7 with I
10	ami-018de9a327ab4678e	CLEAN_Ver_9.7.932	x86_64	2023-12-30T14:06:58.000Z	Clean NetTerrain installation versio...	True	xen	667904443284/CLEAN_Ver_
11	ami-0a624b35f57e350c3	ntTen	x86_64	2024-09-11T13:49:59.000Z		True	xen	667904443284/ntTen

1 out of 1 < > 1 Go

Export options in main view

The information header above the table indicates the discovery source (e.g., *SNMP::172.16.10.x*) and the date and time of the last discovery execution. Pagination controls at the bottom of the table allow you to navigate through large datasets when multiple records are available.

This interface provides a clear and flexible way to review all discovered elements before proceeding to the import stage, ensuring that only validated and relevant data is brought into netTerrain.

7.6 Importing items

The Import Items option allows you to bring the discovered data into netTerrain for visualization and management. After a discovery process has been completed, this feature identifies which connectors have data ready to be imported.

When you click Import Items, a dialog appears listing all connectors that have completed a discovery cycle. For each connector, the following information is displayed:

- Connector - The name or type of the connector that performed the discovery (for example, *AWS*, *SNMP*, etc.).
- Discovered - The time when the last discovery was executed for that connector.
- Import Status - Indicates whether the import is pending or in progress.
- Import Log - Displays the results of previous imports or any errors encountered during the process.

At the bottom of the dialog, you can choose to:

- Import All - Start the import process for all connectors listed.
- Cancel All - Abort any pending imports before they start.
- Close - Exit the dialog without making changes.

This dialog serves as the final step in the discovery workflow, allowing you to control when and which discovered data is synchronized into *netTerrain*.

The screenshot shows the netTerrain interface with the 'Import Items' dialog box open. The dialog lists discovered items with the following columns: Id, Connector, Discovered, Import Status, and Import Log. The 'Import All' button is highlighted in green.

Id	Connector	Discovered	Import Status	Import Log
1 i-00a535806b0c0188a9e	AWS	10:27 PM		Import
2 i-0ba112b5e5df	SNMP::172.16.10.x	10:29 PM		Import
3 i-0ed5f3197276				
4 i-0594008e7c0188a9e	Test AMI after sysprep and task ad	t2.xlarge	subnet-283fa665	stopped
5 i-098c5102e9a9425d9	GoldTestforscriptfromAMI	t2.xlarge	subnet-283fa665	stopped
6 i-0d11cce7091025eaf	TestfromAMIwithsysrep_Success	t2.xlarge	subnet-283fa665	stopped

7.6.1 Model OID type matching

During the import process, netTerrain maps each discovered device to a device type based on its sysObjectID. In cases where multiple device types in the catalog share the same System Object Id, the system performs an additional matching step using the Model OID configuration.

The type resolution process during import follows this sequence:

Step	Description
1	Read the device's sysObjectID from discovery data.
2	Search for an exact match in the catalog (System Object Id field).
3	If a single match is found, assign that type. Done.
4	If multiple types share this System Object Id, check for Model OID configuration.
5	Query the CustomMibs table for the device's Model OID value.
6	Compare the retrieved value against each candidate's Model OID Value (exact, case-insensitive).
7	If a match is found, assign that type. Done.
8	If no match, fall back to vendor catalog lookup or default SNMP_Device type.

Automatic probe configuration

When a Model OID is configured for a device type, netTerrain automatically includes it in the list of OIDs that the discovery probe queries during the scanning process. No manual Custom MIB configuration is required for the Model OID. The probe queries the Model OID alongside other property OIDs during discovery, and the retrieved value is stored in the CustomMibs table for the import process to perform the secondary matching.

The entire process is transparent. Once the Model OID and Model OID Value are configured in the catalog, the discovery and import processes handle the rest automatically.

Attention!

The Model OID must be a valid SNMP OID that the target device supports and responds to. If the device does not respond to the configured Model OID, the secondary matching step is skipped and the system proceeds with the standard fallback behavior.

7.7 Jobs

The Jobs screen provides a complete historical record of all discovery and import operations executed in netTerrain. This view is essential for monitoring, auditing, and troubleshooting the activity of each connector over time.

#	Connector	Probe TaskId	Discovery Author	Discovery Date	Discovery Status	Discovered Items	Import Author	Import Date	Import Status	Import Log	Details
1	AWS	9307b56-80f-4485-ac9-01efb50a77c2	9400000000000004	10/20/2025 9:27:47 PM	CompletedSuccessfully	Show Results	9400000000000004		Started		
2	SNMP-172.16.10.x	ef27c450-550f-4ffa-9e47-90308ccc9e7a	9400000000000004	10/20/2025 9:29:29 PM	CompletedSuccessfully	Show Results					
3	SNMP-172.16.10.x	1d96b34-e331-44c2-8544-5c5b5cd49ed	9400000000000004	10/20/2025 9:28:16 PM	CompletedSuccessfully						
4	SNMP-172.16.10.x	e81b0621-af08-4d87-8985-b51f541147b	9400000000000004	10/20/2025 9:26:56 PM	CompletedSuccessfully						
5	SNMP-172.16.10.x	a973db8a-89de-427a-a3ab-11d664bdfae3	9400000000000006	10/20/2025 9:22:01 PM	CompletedSuccessfully		9400000000000006	10/20/2025 9:23:15 PM	CompletedSuccessfully	Show log	
6	AWS	5a8ef36c-d2c3-4739-bb8e-27f52f9174f7	9400000000000004	10/20/2025 9:20:37 PM	CompletedSuccessfully						
7	AWS	83aeb372-b20d-4395-6988-1b973d798a77	9400000000000004	10/20/2025 9:18:30 PM	CompletedFailed						Failed to save discovered data: dataset is empty
8	AWS	c49e9a80-736d-412a-8128-91570b5d8e3	9400000000000004	10/20/2025 9:17:36 PM	CompletedFailed						Failed to save discovered data: dataset is empty
9	AWS	665cd0c8-79ab-4288-bd07-6bb877f62abd	9400000000000004	10/20/2025 9:14:07 PM	CompletedFailed						Failed to save discovered data: dataset is empty
10	AWS	dba6192d-caba-47ca-8732-a9e58e481d57	9400000000000004	10/20/2025 9:13:17 PM	CompletedFailed						Failed to save discovered data: dataset is empty
11	AWS	e2b300bd-d5e9-49ab-9b09-4e38a7bd28c	9400000000000004	10/20/2025 9:13:04 PM	CompletedFailed						Failed to save discovered data: dataset is empty
12	AWS	ee423f92-e5a9-4cee-a2a6-6b735478230	9400000000000004	10/20/2025 9:13:02 PM	CompletedFailed						Failed to save discovered data: dataset is empty
13	AWS	482066f7-0eda-407f-bb99-b1ba0205a210	9400000000000004	10/20/2025 9:12:41 PM	CompletedFailed						Failed to save discovered data: dataset is empty
14	SNMP-172.16.10.x	daef3557-9015-4b41-a033-5fcb166ecdad	9400000000000004	10/20/2025 8:58:19 PM	CompletedSuccessfully						
15	SNMP-172.16.10.x	09fa2401-fd61-4c9e-9d8a-147b9d26c11	9400000000000004	10/20/2025 8:46:02 PM	CompletedSuccessfully						
16	SNMP-172.16.10.x	34da42ed-13ae-4656-90d6-fa031cc0084e	9400000000000006	10/20/2025 8:22:03 PM	CompletedSuccessfully		9400000000000006	10/20/2025 8:23:27 PM	CompletedSuccessfully	Show log	
17	SNMP-172.16.10.x	48756315-4177-404a-ba44-92c2c1a1819f	9400000000000006	10/20/2025 7:22:01 PM	CompletedSuccessfully		9400000000000006	10/20/2025 7:24:25 PM	CompletedSuccessfully	Show log	
18	SNMP-172.16.10.x	4aa2375b-ae32-437b-a77e-682bae45d3e7	9400000000000006	10/20/2025 6:22:01 PM	CompletedSuccessfully		9400000000000006	10/20/2025 6:23:31 PM	CompletedSuccessfully	Show log	
19	SNMP-172.16.10.x	48a64bb-6c5-466b-b2ab-ae2110b07b44e	9400000000000006	10/20/2025 5:22:02 PM	CompletedSuccessfully		9400000000000006	10/20/2025 5:23:17 PM	CompletedSuccessfully	Show log	
20	SNMP-172.16.10.x	2f08142-159d-4de1-b02a-5d4f529bce16	9400000000000006	10/20/2025 4:22:02 PM	CompletedSuccessfully		9400000000000006	10/20/2025 4:23:39 PM	CompletedSuccessfully	Show log	
21	SNMP-172.16.10.x	82230767-e9e7-4294-8ee5-045155adac1c	9400000000000006	10/20/2025 3:22:01 PM	CompletedSuccessfully		9400000000000006	10/20/2025 3:23:18 PM	CompletedSuccessfully	Show log	
22	SNMP-172.16.10.x	91bb864c-fcfe-4137-85d6-f7546d464d3c	9400000000000006	10/20/2025 2:22:05 PM	CompletedSuccessfully		9400000000000006	10/20/2025 2:23:19 PM	CompletedSuccessfully	Show log	

Each row in the table represents a single discovery or import job, detailing when it occurred, its status, and any related logs or errors. This allows administrators to easily verify which connectors have completed successfully and which may require further attention.

The table includes information such as:

- Connector - Identifies the connector used (for example, *AWS*, *SNMP*, *WMI*, etc.).
- Probe TaskId - The unique identifier for the discovery process instance.
- Discovery Author - Indicates which user or system process initiated the job.
- Discovery Date - The date and time when the discovery was executed.
- Discovery Status - Displays whether the job was completed successfully or failed.
- Discovered Items - Allows viewing the data retrieved in that discovery through the Show Results link.
- Import Author - The user or process responsible for running the import.
- Import Date - The date and time when the discovered data was imported.
- Import Status - Indicates whether the import was successful or encountered issues.
- Import Log - Provides a link (Show Log) to review detailed information about the import process.
- Details - Displays specific error messages or warnings (e.g., *"Failed to save discovered data: dataset is empty"*).

At the top of the screen, you can use the filter bar to narrow down the list of jobs and the apply or clear buttons to manage the filtering criteria. Additionally, results can be exported to CSV or Excel for reporting or backup purposes.

This section offers full visibility into discovery and imports activities, ensuring transparency and facilitating the identification of recurring issues or performance trends across different connectors.

7.8 Polling and custom MIBs

Polling in netTerrain operates through SNMP connectors and is used to periodically collect live data from monitored devices. This process queries specific MIB (Management Information Base) objects defined for each device type and stores the resulting values for performance monitoring and analysis.

In addition to predefined SNMP fields, netTerrain supports Custom MIBs, which allow users to define and poll any additional SNMP variables available on the device. These custom definitions make it possible to monitor virtually any measurable parameter exposed through SNMP.

7.8.1 Defining custom MIB fields

Custom MIBs are configured at the catalog level for each device type. To define them:

1. Open the device type in the Catalog.
2. Access the Fields tab to view all available properties.
3. Create a new field or edit an existing one.
4. In the System OID column, enter the OID corresponding to the SNMP variable you want to monitor.
5. Make sure the Is Pollable checkbox is selected - this enables polling for that specific field.

Once these fields are configured, netTerrain will include them automatically during polling cycles, retrieving live values from the devices using the defined OIDs.

Font Size	System OID	Is Pollable	Chart Type	Units	Min	Max	Divider	Decimal Places	Color	Agg. Intervals	Audit Trail	Name
10		☐	AVG								0	Contact
10	1.3.6.1.4.1.17095.3.14.0	☒	AVG	%	40	110			Red		0	Dew Point
10	1.3.6.1.4.1.17095.3.6.0	☒	AVG	°F	40	110			Cyan		0	Ext. Temp1
10	1.3.6.1.4.1.17095.3.2.0	☒	AVG	°F	40	110			Orange		0	Int. Temp1
10		☐	AVG								2	IP
10		☐	AVG								0	IPRange
10		☐	AVG								0	LastDiscovered
10		☐	AVG								0	Name
10		☐	AVG								0	Peak Power [W]
10		☐	AVG								0	RouteProtocol
10		☐	AVG								0	SerialNumber
10		☐	AVG								0	SmpVersion
10		☐	AVG								0	Status
10		☐	AVG								0	SysDescription
10		☐	AVG								0	SysLocation

Custom MIBs configuration

7.8.2 Polling process

When a Polling Task (configured under *Schedules and Polling* → *Polling*) runs, the system performs the following actions:

- Connects to the target device using the associated SNMP connector.
- Reads all fields that have valid OIDs and are marked as Pollable.
- Stores the collected values in a Time-Series database specifically designed for performance data.

This approach ensures that netTerrain maintains an efficient and scalable repository of historical and real-time measurements. These values are not directly displayed in the diagram but can be visualized through

integrated monitoring charts within netTerrain or through external visualization tools such as Grafana, providing a complete view of device performance and environmental conditions.

The screenshot shows the netTerrain web interface. At the top is a navigation bar with icons and labels for Discover, Discovered Items, Import Items, Connectors, SNMP, Schedules and Polling (which is highlighted), and Jobs. On the left side, there are two tabs: 'Discovery' and 'Polling' (which is selected). The main content area is titled 'Scheduled Tasks' and contains a list with one item, 'Lab Polling'. To the left of this list is an 'Add New' button. To the right of the 'Lab Polling' item are 'Disable' and 'Delete' buttons. The configuration details for 'Lab Polling' are shown in a form: 'Name' is 'Lab Polling', 'Repeat every (minutes)' is '1', 'Device status check' is checked, and 'Field monitoring' is checked. Below these is a 'Next Run' section with explanatory text: 'A polling task is triggered by a successfully completed discovery. The new created or enabled polling task will attempt to start immediately.' Underneath is a 'Connectors to discover' dropdown menu set to 'All enabled'. Below that is an 'Enabled connectors' section with a 'Select All' button and a checkbox for 'SNMP'. At the bottom is a 'Comments' text area.

Polling configuration

7.8.3 Time series charts

netTerrain displays polled data as time series charts using a QuestDB-backed query engine. Each chart aggregates raw SNMP values into fixed-size time buckets and plots the result over a configurable time window.

Chart types

Each chart type defines how raw values within a time bucket are aggregated. The aggregated column is always DValue (the measured metric value).

Chart Type	Aggregation	Description
AVG	avg(DValue)	Average of all raw values within each time bucket.
MIN	min(DValue)	Minimum value within each time bucket.
MAX	max(DValue)	Maximum value within each time bucket.
SUM	sum(DValue)	Sum of all raw values within each time bucket.
DIFF	MAX(val) - MAX(prev)	Delta between consecutive buckets (useful for counters).
PORTRAW	last(value)	Last raw counter value per bucket (used by port monitoring).

All queries use QuestDB's SAMPLE BY clause, which groups raw time-series data into fixed-size time buckets.

Time periods and aggregation steps

The period defines the time window displayed by the chart. The step defines the bucket size, determining how many raw data points are aggregated into a single chart point.

Period	Time Window	Default Step	Approx. Points	Auto-Refresh
FiveMin (0)	5 minutes	2m	2-3	Yes (5s)
OneHour (1)	1 hour	2m	30	Yes (5s)
OneDay (2)	24 hours	30m	48	No
OneWeek (3)	7 days	30m	336	No
OneMonth (4)	~30 days	2h	365	No

The number of raw data points in each bucket depends on the SNMP/collector polling interval. For example, with a 30-second poll and a 2-minute step, each chart point aggregates approximately 4 raw samples.

Custom aggregation steps

The AggregationSteps property on each monitored property can override the default steps. It is a string with 5 comma- or space-separated values, one per period:

Example:

"1m,5m,15m,1h,6h" assigns 1m for FiveMin, 5m for OneHour, 15m for OneDay, 1h for OneWeek, and 6h for OneMonth.

If the value is "default" or empty, the default steps from the table above are used.

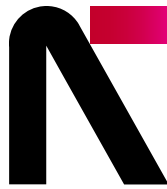
Port monitoring

Port monitoring uses the PORTRAW chart type to retrieve raw SNMP counter values. The server then computes:

The delta between consecutive raw data points (handling counter wrap-around for 32-bit and 64-bit counters). Bits per second (bps) from the delta: $\text{bps} = (\text{delta} \times 8) / \text{interval_seconds}$. If PortSpeed is set, the percentage utilization: $(\text{bps} / \text{portSpeed}) \times 100$.

Attention!

When the aggregation step is smaller than the collector polling interval, QuestDB creates time buckets that contain no raw samples, resulting in visible gaps in the chart. For example, with a 5-minute polling interval and a 2-minute default step, the FiveMin and OneHour periods will produce mostly empty buckets. To avoid this, configure custom aggregation steps that match or exceed the polling interval.



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