

Veritas Information Map Feature Briefing Cost of Information

This document is about the Cost of Information feature available with Veritas Information Map.

If you have any feedback or questions about this document please email them to ii-tec@veritas.com stating the document title.

Feature Description

Along with information size and file count, Veritas Information Map also provides the ability for an organization to visualize the full cost of information. Costs are based upon the following factors:

- Cost to purchase hardware
- Infrastructure costs such as electricity, cooling, etc.
- Labor costs to manage hardware
- Hardware maintenance contracts

Based upon the above mentioned items, Gartner estimates that the average cost per terabyte to be approximately 5000 USD annually. The cost varies depending on the type of storage and regional variations in procuring and managing storage. Greater costs are associated with higher-tiered storage such as filers, SAN-based disk, and locally attached storage. Lower-tiered storage, such as SATA-based storage, would have a proportionately lower annual cost.

The Veritas Information Map administrator can adjust these costs as needed and add support for up to ten different storage tiers. A default storage tier will be applied to all information, but an administrator can override the default at the following levels:

- Location
- Content source
- Share

The displayed costs are automatically adjusted when a user applies filters based upon location, information owner, age, etc.

Business Value

Outside of the IT department, an organization is more likely to understand the impact of information costs rather than the size of information. When organizations have an easier way to visualize their storage costs, they can quickly identify areas where costs can be reduced. Figure 1 provides an example of how Veritas Information Map shows the cost of information on the **Total**, **Orphaned**, **Stale**, and **Non-Business** cards in the dashboard or map view.



Figure 1 – Veritas Information Map Cards Showing Cost of Information

Veritas Information Map's Cost of Information feature can help an organization in the following ways:

- Quickly identify older information and the costs associated with it
- Quickly identify non-business records and the costs associated with it
- Identify the cost of information for each location in the organization
- Identify the cost of information for any filtered data set

- Facilitate charge back to departments within an organization

Underlying Principles

The Cost of Information feature is available to all Veritas Information Map customers. The most effective way of using the cost of information feature is for the Veritas Information Map administrator to define and assign storage tiers to locations, filers/file servers, and optionally file shares (if file shares on the same filer/file server use different types of storage). Once storage tiers are defined and assigned to locations, filers/file servers and file shares, the fabric recalculates the displayed costs in Veritas Information Map within 24 hours.

Guided Tour

Defining storage tiers is performed in the **Administration → Global Settings** section. In the example in Figure 2, ten different storage tiers are defined as well as their annual costs per terabyte (TB). The **DAS SSD** storage tier is selected as the default for this environment.

The screenshot shows the 'Storage Tiers & Cost' configuration page in the Veritas Information Map. The page title is 'Information Map / Administration / Global Settings'. The user is identified as 'InfoMap Demo User'. The left sidebar contains navigation options: Stale Data, Non-Business Data, Storage Tiers & Cost (selected), and various system icons. The main content area is titled 'Storage Tiers & Cost' and includes a description: 'Edit the cost of individual storage tiers utilized within your organization. These storage tiers can then be assigned to locations, content sources and content containers to allow Information Fabric to calculate the cost of your data.' There is a checkbox for 'Display cost of information in the Information Map' which is checked, and a currency dropdown set to 'US Dollar (\$)'. Below this is a table of storage tiers.

Default	Storage Tier label	Cost	
<input type="radio"/>	SAN SSD	\$ 10000	per TB / year
<input type="radio"/>	SAN Disk	\$ 5000	per TB / year
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	DAS SSD	\$ 4500	per TB / year
<input type="radio"/>	DAS Disk	\$ 4000	per TB / year
<input type="radio"/>	EMC NAS	\$ 3500	per TB / year
<input type="radio"/>	NetApp NAS	\$ 3000	per TB / year
<input type="radio"/>	Hitachi NAS	\$ 2000	per TB / year
<input type="radio"/>	External disk	\$ 1000	per TB / year
<input type="radio"/>	Cloud	\$ 750	per TB / year
<input type="radio"/>	Backup	\$ 500	per TB / year

A 'Save' button is located at the bottom right of the page.

Figure 2 – Defining Storage Tiers and Cost in Veritas Information Map

For costs to be shown in Veritas Information Map, it is necessary to ensure that the “Display cost of information in the Information Map” checkbox is marked. The administrator can also select the default currency.

By default, a location uses the global default storage tier as defined in the **Storage Tiers and Cost** section under **Administration → Global Settings** (refer to Figure 2). The default storage tier can be overridden by navigating to **Administration → Locations**. Select the location and the click **Edit**. The administrator can then select the appropriate storage tier for the location (as shown in Figure 3).

Edit Location

Lookup Location

Display Name *

Country *

Address

Region

Contact name

Contact telephone

Contact email

Latitude *

Longitude *

Subnets

Address/Range	Type
192.168.0.0/24	v4

+ Add one + Add multiple...

Notes

Delete this location

Storage tier

- Use global default storage tier
- SSD
- Filer (Default)
- SATA
- Tier 4
- Tier 5
- Tier 6
- Tier 7
- Tier 8
- Tier 9
- Tier 10

Figure 3 – Assigning a Storage Tier to a Location in Veritas Information Map

Additional refinements can be made at the filer/file server level. By default, a filer/file server within a location inherits the location’s storage tier.

To edit the storage tier:

1. Navigate to **Administration** → **Content Sources**.
2. Select the filer/file server, click **Edit** and select the storage tier to be used as shown in Figure 4.

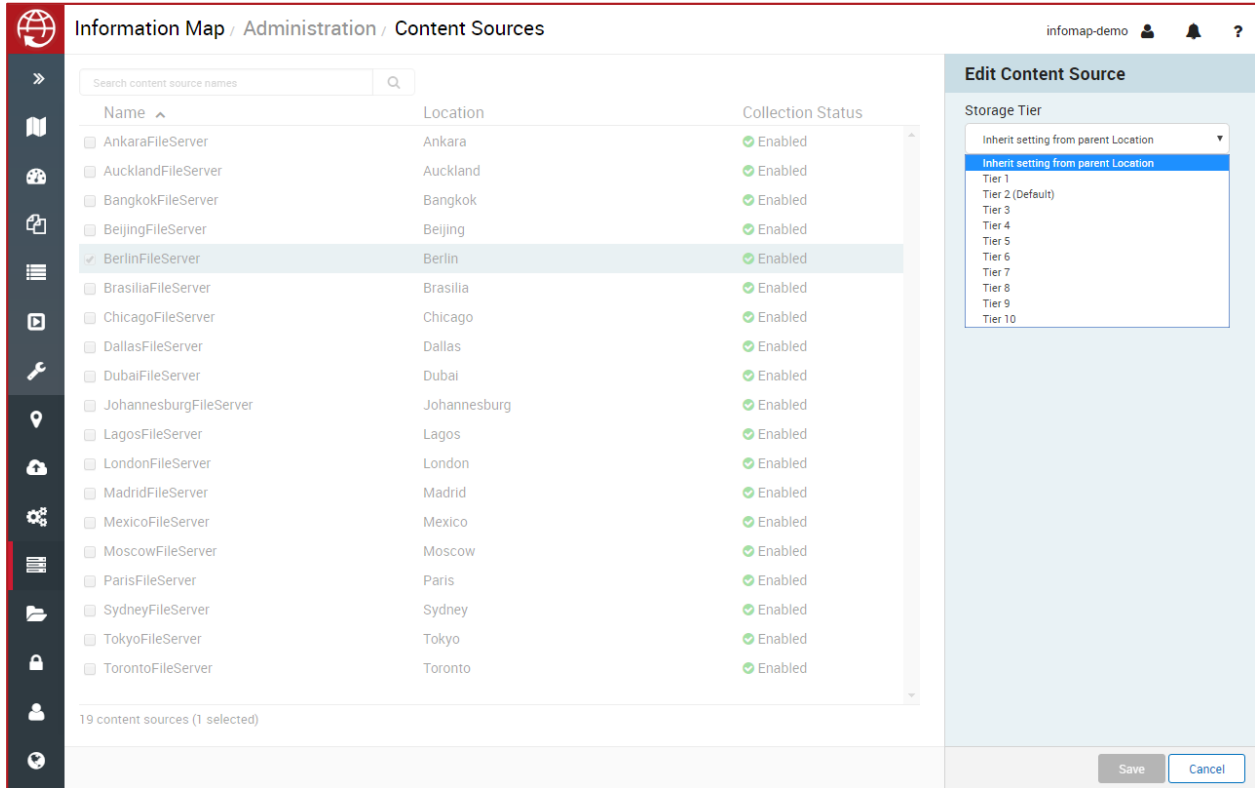


Figure 4 – Defining a Storage Tier for a Content Source in Veritas Information Map

Storage tiers can also be assigned to content containers by navigating to **Administration** → **Content Containers**, selecting the container or share, clicking **Edit** and selecting the storage tier.

When a user applies filters to the Veritas Information Map dashboard or map view, costs will automatically update to reflect the selected filters. Figure 5 shows the cost of information for all locations with no filters applied.



Figure 5 – No Filters Applied

Figure 6 shows cost of information after filters are applied. In this example, a particular location and the **Stale** card are selected.



Figure 6 – Filters Applied

Licensing and support considerations

The Cost of Information feature is automatically included with a Veritas Information Map subscription. No additional purchases are required.

It may take up to 24 hours for Veritas Information Map to be updated when storage tiers are changed and assigned to locations, filers/file servers, and file shares.

About Veritas:

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