

Part 1

Enabling Simple Content Access and registering to Red Hat Insights with Subscription Manager

[Simple Content Access](#) (SCA) allows you to access Red Hat software content without attaching a subscription to a particular system or environment. Separating subscriptions and content management makes it easier for admins to fully utilize their RHEL subscriptions efficiently.

In this three-part series, we will cover how to enable Simple Content Access and register your systems to Red Hat Insights and how to view your Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL) systems in the Red Hat Customer Portal. We'll also cover how to create custom tags to use tag filtering in Red Hat Insights to support more refined views of your RHEL environments.

Enabling Simple Content Access in the Red Hat Customer Portal

A great use case example for SCA is when you want to manage the content of a public cloud marketplace instance of RHEL with Red Hat Smart Management. Recently changed, marketplace images from Red Hat now include Smart Management as part of the subscription.

If you are mixing pay as you go (PAYG) marketplace images with subscriptions that you purchased from Red Hat, and managing both with a Satellite, then the default behavior (without SCA) is that connecting the host to the Satellite will still consume a RHEL subscription.

However, when you enable SCA, you are no longer attaching subscriptions to hosts, and the PAYG host will no longer consume one of your paid RHEL subscriptions.

You also need to know that with SCA enabled, you no longer can view Red Hat software consumption in the Red Hat Customer Portal subscription section. Via the command line, you can see which repositories are enabled on a particular RHEL instance.

If you want to see the consumption of a particular add-on, such as the Extended Life Cycle subscription, you can attach that specific subscription to a RHEL instance.

Note: Even though you are not attaching a subscription to a Red Hat Software product with SCA, you are required to have an active subscription for every instance of that product even if the product is in [Extended Phase Lifecycle](#). For example, if you are running RHEL 4 or 5 along with any other current versions of RHEL, you are required to have active subscriptions to cover all those instances of RHEL.

It is recommended that you use the Insights Subscription service (formerly known as Subscription Watch) to determine the number of RHEL instances that are being used versus the number of subscriptions you are entitled to use.

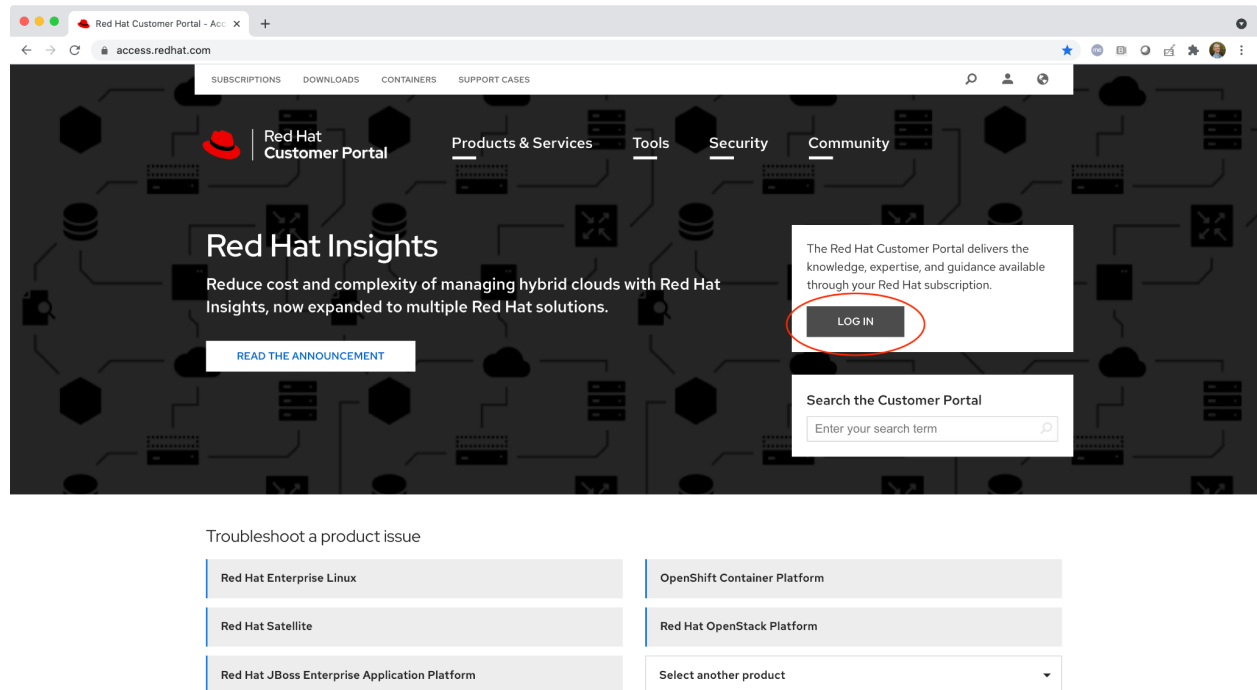
Insights is a great tool for seeing and managing RHEL content, as well as for automatically patching and remediating your RHEL instances. Insights works with RHEL 6.4+, 7.0+ and 8.0+. I would recommend enabling Insights regardless of your content subscription strategy.

Let's walk through how to enable SCA for your account.

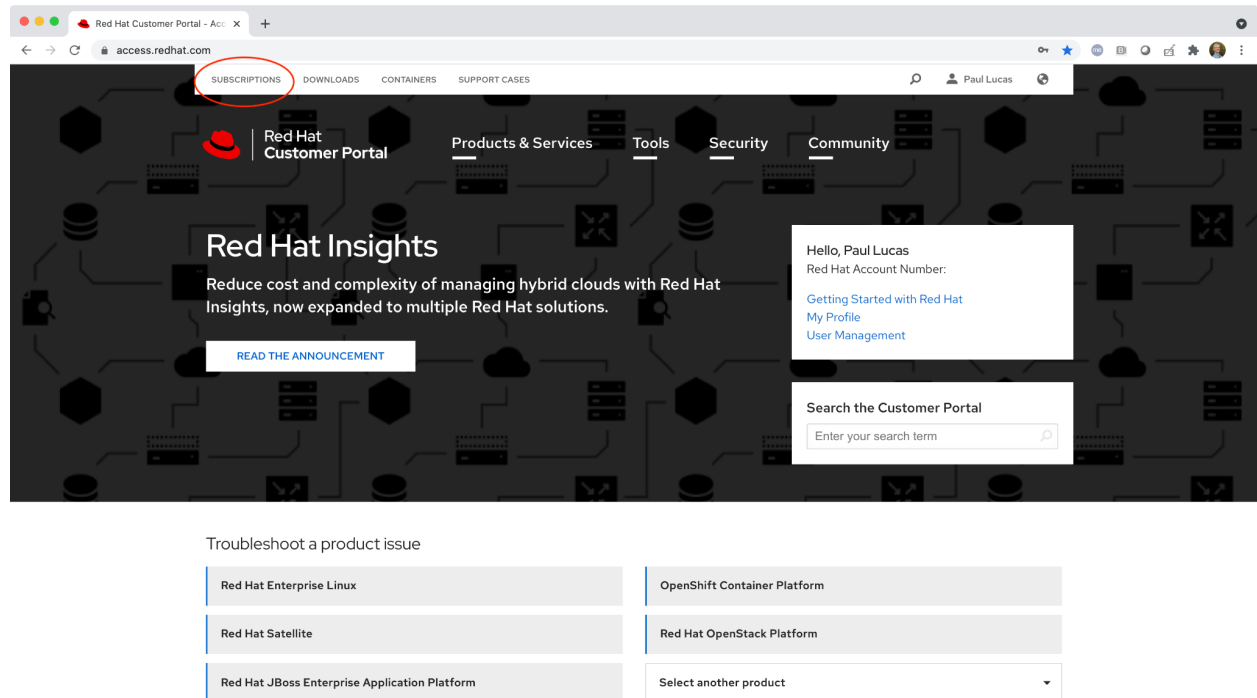
Enable SCA on your Red Hat Customer Portal account

First, be sure SCA is turned on for your account. **Only the account's organization administrator can enable SCA for the account.**

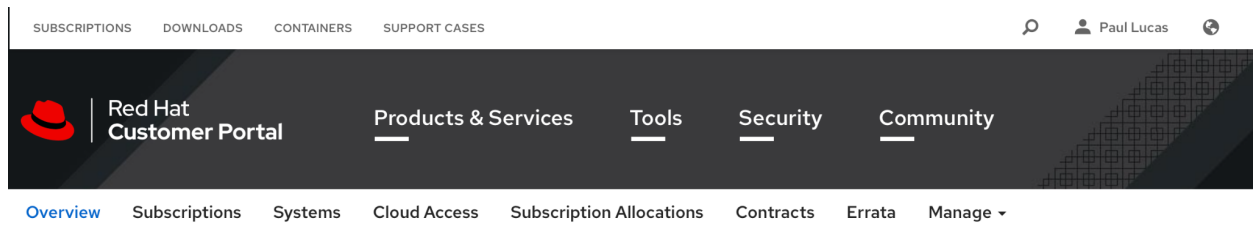
1. Log in in to the [Red Hat Customer Portal](https://access.redhat.com).



2. On the Red Hat Customer Portal page, click the Subscriptions link in the upper left corner.

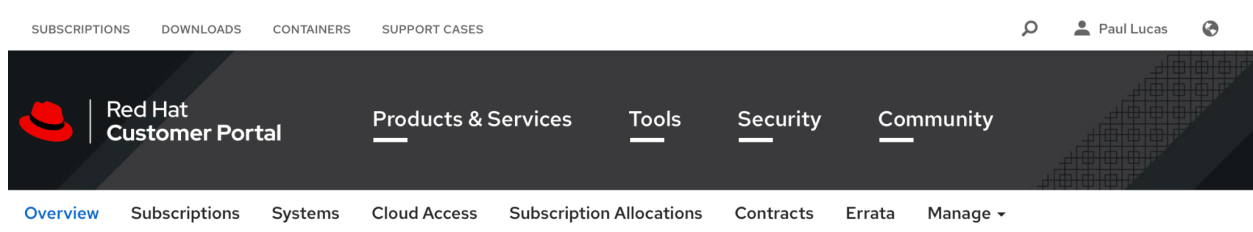


3. On the Overview page, move the slider switch to the right to enable SCA. The background of the slider switch will turn blue and the text will change from Disabled to Enabled.



Simple content access for Red Hat Subscription Management ☐ Disabled

Simple content access simplifies administrator workflows so that you can add, remove, or renew system registrations in a streamlined “register and run” experience. Simply connect Red Hat Enterprise Linux systems and begin installing software. [Learn more about simple content access enablement](#)



Simple content access for Red Hat Subscription Management ☒ Enabled

Simple content access simplifies administrator workflows so that you can add, remove, or renew system registrations in a streamlined “register and run” experience. Simply connect Red Hat Enterprise Linux systems and begin installing software. [Learn more about simple content access enablement](#)

Create an activation key with no subscriptions attached.

Note: Only the account’s organization administrator can create or manage activation keys.

For registering RHEL with Red Hat Subscription Management, I recommend using an Activation Key instead of linking the registration to a user.

1. Click the Manage drop-down link near the upper right of the Red Hat Subscription Management page and choose Activation Keys.

Red Hat Customer Portal

Products & Services Tools Security Community

Overview Subscriptions Systems Cloud Access Subscription Allocations Contracts Errata **Manage**

RHSM API Tokens
Activation Keys

Simple content access for Red Hat Subscription Management ☒ Enabled

Simple content access simplifies administrator work for remove, or renew system registrations in a streamlined "register and run" experience. Simply connect Red Hat Enterprise Linux systems and begin installing software. [Learn more about simple content access enablement](#)

Red Hat Subscription Management

Summary of all active subscriptions and purchased products for account

Subscriptions

87 Active Subscriptions

0 Recently Expired

1 Ready to Renew

[View all Subscriptions](#)

Systems

0 Physical

12 Virtual

0 Hypervisors

[View all Systems](#)

Errata

263 Security Advisories

254 Bug Fixes

51 Product Enhancements

[View all Errata affecting your Systems](#)

2. Click the New button on the right side of the Activation Keys, which will take you to the Organization ID:xxxxxxxxx page to create a new Activation Key.

SUBSCRIPTIONS DOWNLOADS CONTAINERS SUPPORT CASES

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Red Hat Customer Portal

Products & Services Tools Security Community

Overview Subscriptions Systems Cloud Access Subscription Allocations Contracts Errata **Manage**

Activation Keys for Organization ID:

Activation Keys are used when registering systems to Subscription Manager. [Learn More](#)

Filter by Key Name

New

<input type="checkbox"/>	Name	Service Level	Auto Attach	Subscriptions Associated	Last Modified
<input type="checkbox"/>	rhel_test	No Preference	Disabled	0	05/05/2021
<input type="checkbox"/>	rhel_eval	No Preference	Enabled	1	04/27/2021
<input type="checkbox"/>	rhel_sat	No Preference	Enabled	1	04/21/2021
<input type="checkbox"/>	rhel_ansible	No Preference	Enabled	1	04/21/2021
<input type="checkbox"/>	rhel_utility	No Preference	Enabled	1	04/21/2021
<input type="checkbox"/>	ak-ops-rhel7-prem-server	Premium	Disabled	0	03/10/2021

3. On the New Activation Key page, fill in the Name text field with the name of your activation key. Choose a name that makes sense for your organization. Choose Disabled from the Auto Attach drop-down menu. Scroll to the bottom of the page and click the Create button.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

DOWNLOADS

CONTAINERS

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OverviewSubscriptionsSystemsCloud AccessSubscription AllocationsContractsErrataManage

New Activation Key

Details

Name

sca_enabled

Service Level

No Preference

Service Levels define an exact match for which subscriptions should be attached to a system. Only subscriptions which match the SLA exactly will be attached.

Auto Attach

Disabled

Subscriptions

Select one or more subscriptions to attach to units that register with this activation key.

Filter by Subscription Name

Your activation key is ready to use for registering systems with SCA.

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OverviewSubscriptionsSystemsCloud AccessSubscription AllocationsContractsErrataManage

✓ sca_enabled has been created

Activation Keys for Organization ID:

Activation Keys are used when registering systems to Subscription Manager. [Learn More](#)

Filter by Key Name

New

<input type="checkbox"/>	Name	Service Level	Auto Attach	Subscriptions Associated	Last Modified
<input type="checkbox"/>	sca_enabled	No Preference	Disabled	0	05/11/2021

Registering system, adding repos and enabling Red Hat Insights

1. Register a system via the subscription manager for RHEL 6.0+, 7.0+ and 8.0+. You will need to use sudo or be root to execute these commands.

```
# subscription-manager register --org=xxxxxxxx --activationkey=your_key_here
```

Verify that the registered system content access mode is set to SCA. You will only see the SCA status on RHEL 7.0+ and 8.0+

```
# subscription-manager status
```

2. Check which repositories are enabled.

```
# subscription-manager repos --list-enabled
```

Here is a repository enablement example for RHEL 6 ELS.

```
# subscription-manager repos --enable rhel-6-server-els-rpms
```

You can easily find a repository name via the Red Hat Customer Portal. After logging in to the Red Hat Customer Portal, click on the Subscription link near the upper left of the screen. On the Subscriptions page, click the Subscriptions tab and navigate to the subscription with the repository that you want to enable.

3. On the product page, click on the Content tab. I would suggest using the filter field to narrow down the repository list. Look for the Repository Label for the Repository that you want to enable on your RHEL instance.

Red Hat Enterprise Linux Extended Life Cycle Support (Physical or Virtual Nodes)

Overview Subscriptions Utilization Systems **Content**

Content Repositories for Products Provided by this Subscription

rhel-6 Show repos for all products included

Repository Name	Repository Label	Repository Type	Enabled by Default
Red Hat Enterprise Linux 6 Server - Extended Life Cycle Support (ISOs)	rhel-6-server-els-isos	file	No
Red Hat Enterprise Linux 6 Server - Extended Life Cycle Support - Optional (ISOs)	rhel-6-server-els-optional-isos	file	No
Red Hat Enterprise Linux 6 Server - Extended Life Cycle Support (Debug RPMs)	rhel-6-server-els-debug-rpms	yum	No
Red Hat Enterprise Linux 6 Server - Extended Life Cycle Support (RPMs)	rhel-6-server-els-rpms	yum	No
Red Hat Enterprise Linux 6 Server - Extended Life Cycle Support (Source RPMs)	rhel-6-server-els-source-rpms	yum	No
Red Hat Enterprise Linux 6 Server - Extended Life Cycle Support - Optional (Debug RPMs)	rhel-6-server-els-optional-debug-rpms	yum	No
Red Hat Enterprise Linux 6 Server - Extended Life Cycle Support - Optional (RPMs)	rhel-6-server-els-optional-rpms	yum	No

Since you are not assigning a subscription to the RHEL instance, we cannot know if the RHEL instance should count against Premium, Standard or Self-Support subscription.

You can set the RHEL SLA level from the command line with Subscription Manager. Setting the SLA level for each RHEL instance will help you to better understand your subscription usage when viewing subscription consumption in Red Hat Insights.

To set the service Level for RHEL 6.0+ and 7.0+ (premium, standard, self-support), use:

```
- # subscription-manager service-level --set=premium
  # subscription-manager service-level --show
```

To set the service Level for RHEL 8.0+ (Premium, Standard, or Self-Support), use:

```
- # subscription-manager service-level --set=Premium
  # subscription-manager service-level --show
```

Don't forget to install the Insights client to take full advantage of all the capabilities that are part of your RHEL subscription. Insights offers capabilities that are hard to find with other Linux distributions.

To set up Insights setup for RHEL 8, use:

```
- # insights-client --enable
```

To set up Insights setup for RHEL 6.4+ and 7.0+, use:

```
- # yum -y install insights-client
  # insights-client --enable
```

Getting started

In this post, we provided an overview of how to enable Simple Content Access and Red Hat Insights to better monitor and manage your RHEL environments. If you have any questions about the information that Insights collects, be sure to refer to the [Insights Data & Application Security page](#). Stay tuned for our planned posts that can show you even more capabilities of Subscription Manager and Simple Content Access.

Reference

- [Simple Content Access: How do I enable Simple Content Access for Red Hat Subscription Management?](#)
- [Subscription Manager Command Cheat Sheet](#)
- [Client Configuration Guide for Red Hat Insights](#): Create custom tags for your RHEL systems to use a filter on inventory views

Part 2

Subscription Manager and Simple Content Access

Tagging and reviewing systems

We showed you how to enable [Simple Content Access \(SCA\)](#) and register your Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL) with Insights. In this post, we will look at the use of groups in custom tags with Insights.

Reviewing your RHEL systems with groups and custom tags in Red Hat Insights

You can access Red Hat Insights at console.redhat.com and see all of the systems registered in a single place. Insights recognizes specific workloads, such as SAP, automatically, and it can group SAP nodes by SID. Insights also imports tags from Red Hat Satellite, so you can see specific locations, organizations, etc. from within Insights.

Did you know that you can create groups and custom tags for your Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL) instance via the Insights client? You can use these tags in Insights to create more granular views of your systems. For a complete overview of tagging, see "[System tags and groups Red Hat Insights 2020-10](#)."

Tags are created from the command line or by creating tags.yaml file in the /etc/insights-client directory.

Let's go through how to do this.

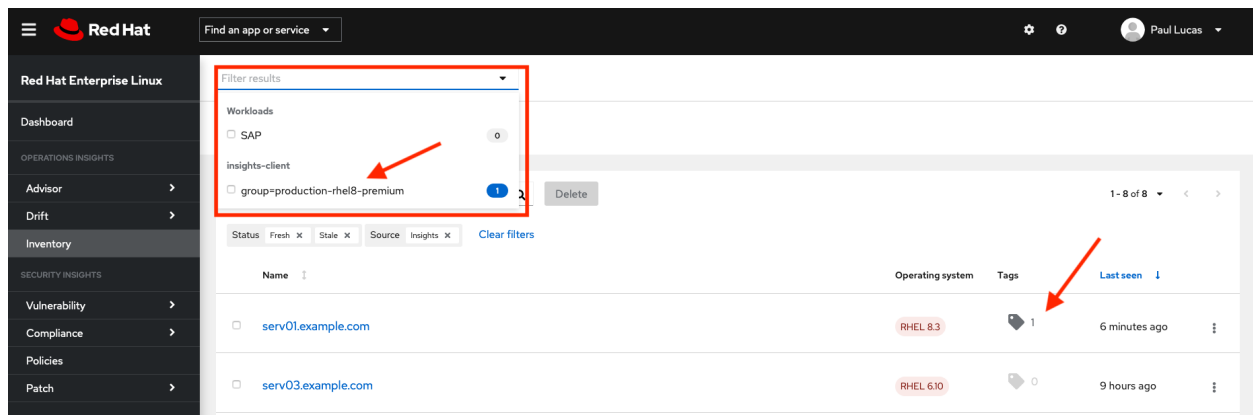
1. Create your first group with the insights-client:

```
# insights-client --group=production-rhel8-premium
```

2. The Insights client will create the group, collect data about your RHEL server and upload to Insights. The output the above insights-client command will look like this:

```
# insights-client --group=production-rhel8-premium
Starting to collect Insights data for serv01.example.com
Uploading Insights data.
Successfully uploaded report from serv01.example.com to account xxxxxxxx.
View details about this system on cloud.redhat.com:
https://cloud.redhat.com/insights/inventory/9xxx063-xx02-4x9xe-xxxx-9x30x54x96
38
```

3. Now when you go to view your RHEL system in Insights under the Inventory tab, you can filter by any groups you have created:



You can now add custom tags to your server instance in the `tags.yaml` file. Custom tags provide you with many ways to create custom filtered views of your systems in the Inventory tab.

4. Navigate to `/etc/insights` and edit the `tags.yaml` file. You can create any number of tags that can be used to filter your systems in Insights.

Here's an example of a `tags.yaml` file:

```
# tags
group: rhel7
serviceLevel: Premium
Lifecycle: Production
Location:
  - Moline data center
Repos:
  - rhel7-server-satellite-6.9-rpms
  - rhel7-server-rpms
```

5. After updating the `/etc/insights-client/tags.yaml` file, run `insights-client` to upload the changes to insights. Note that running the insights-client command immediately refreshes your insights data.

```
# insights-client
```

6. When you look at your registered server list in the Inventory, you'll see in the Tags column. The Tag icon is now "highlighted" with a number next to the Tag icon. The number next to the Tag icon represents the number of tags associated with a particular RHEL instance.

Clicking on a Tag icon for a particular server pops up a dialog box with tags available for a specific registered server.

Red Hat Enterprise Linux

Find an app or service

Filter results

Inventory

Filter by name

Delete

1 - 9 of 9

Status Fresh X Stale X Source Insights X Clear filters

Name	Operating system	Tags	Last seen
serv05.example.com	RHEL 6.10	4	1 hour ago
serv06.example.com	RHEL 6.10	4	1 hour ago
serv03.example.com	RHEL 6.10	4	3 hours ago
ns02.example.com	RHEL 8.3	6	5 hours ago
aap01.example.com	RHEL 8.3	7	6 hours ago
serv01.example.com	RHEL 8.3	6	6 hours ago

ns02.example.com (6)

Filter tags

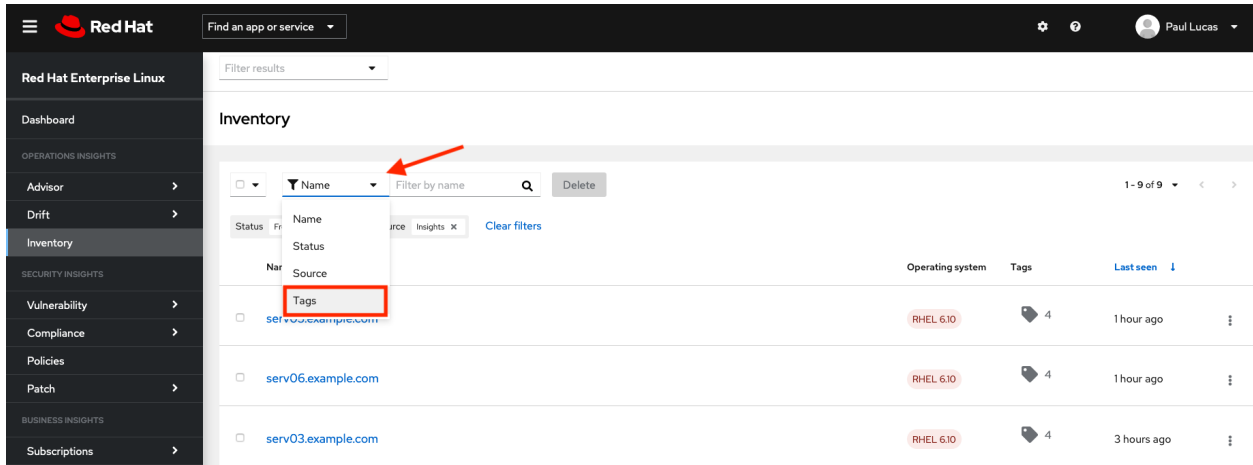
1 - 6 of 6

Name	Value	Tag source
Repos	rhel-8-for-x86_64-appstream-rpms	insights-client
Repos	rhel-8-for-x86_64-baseos-rpms	insights-client
group	rhel8	insights-client
Location	Moline data center	insights-client
Lifecycle	Production	insights-client
serviceLevel	Premium	insights-client

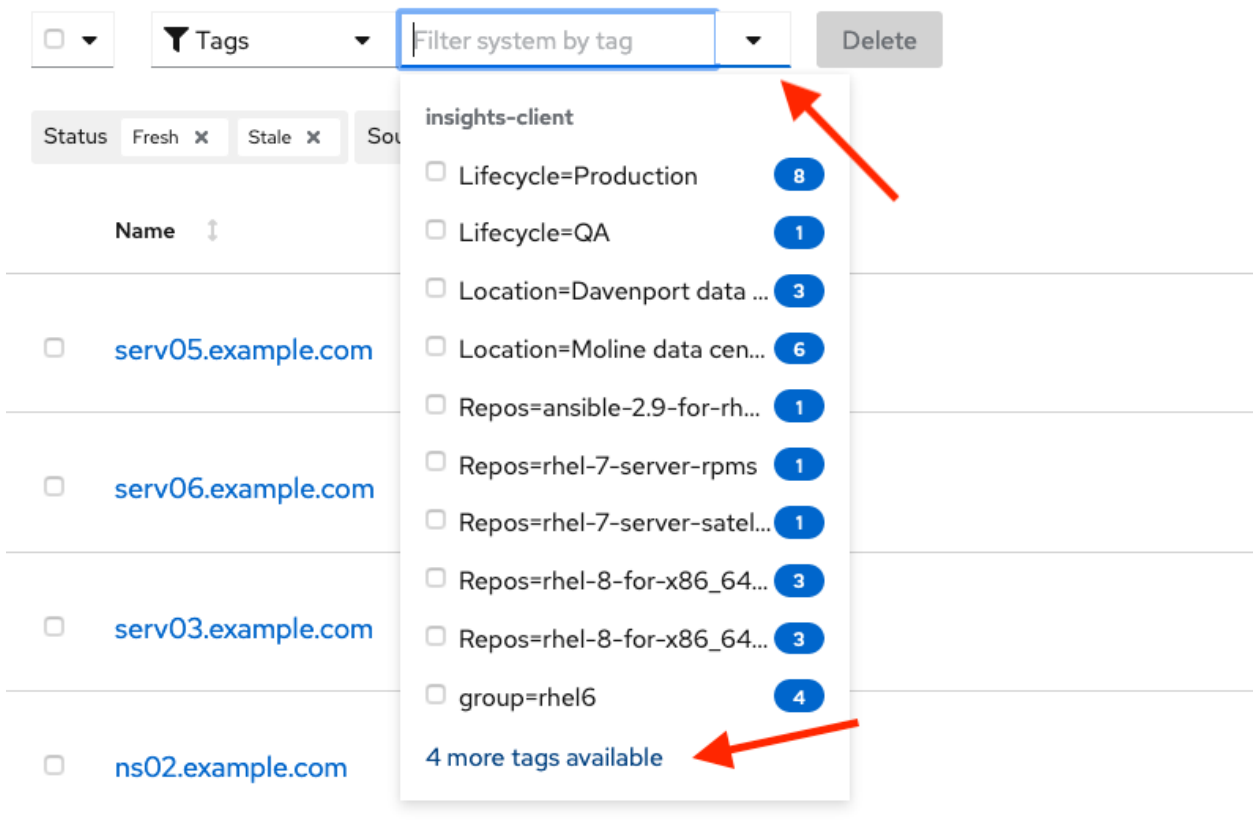
1 - 6 of 6

Let's look at an example at using some of the tags we created to filter our Inventory view.

In the Inventory tab under Inventory section, click the Funnel icon (filter) drop-down list and click on the Tags option.



Click the filter drop-down list to see all the tags available. I have created more tags than can fit on one dialog box, so I'm going to change the dialog view to show all of my tags. Click the “x more tags available” link.



In the “All tags in inventory” dialog box, click the “1 of x” drop-down and choose how many tags per page you would like to see in this dialog box.

All tags in inventory (14)

☐ ▼

	Name	Value	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lifecycle	Production	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lifecycle	QA	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Location	Davenport data center	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Location	Moline data center	insights-client
<input type="checkbox"/>	Repos	ansible-2.9-for-rhel-8-x86_64-rpms	insights-client
<input type="checkbox"/>	Repos	rhel-7-server-rpms	insights-client
<input type="checkbox"/>	Repos	rhel-7-server-satellite-6.9-rpms	insights-client
<input type="checkbox"/>	Repos	rhel-8-for-x86_64-appstream-rpms	insights-client
<input type="checkbox"/>	Repos	rhel-8-for-x86_64-baseos-rpms	insights-client
<input type="checkbox"/>	group	rhel6	insights-client

1 - 10 of 14 ▼

1 of 2

10 per page

20 per page

50 per page

100 per page

Apply tags

Cancel

Now in the “All tags in inventory” dialog box, choose the tag you want to use to create a system view and click the “Apply tags” button at the bottom of the dialog box.

All tags in inventory (14)



<input type="checkbox"/>	Lifecycle	Production	insights-client
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lifecycle	QA	insights-client
<input type="checkbox"/>	Location	Davenport data center	insights-client
<input type="checkbox"/>	Location	Moline data center	insights-client
<input type="checkbox"/>	Repos	ansible-2.9-for-rhel-8-x86_64-rpms	insights-client
<input type="checkbox"/>	Repos	rhel-7-server-rpms	insights-client
<input type="checkbox"/>	Repos	rhel-7-server-satellite-6.9-rpms	insights-client
<input type="checkbox"/>	Repos	rhel-8-for-x86_64-appstream-rpms	insights-client
<input type="checkbox"/>	Repos	rhel-8-for-x86_64-baseos-rpms	insights-client
<input type="checkbox"/>	group	rhel6	insights-client
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	group	rhel7	insights-client
<input type="checkbox"/>	group	rhel8	insights-client
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	serviceLevel	Premium	insights-client
<input type="checkbox"/>	serviceLevel	Standard	insights-client

1 - 14 of 14



1



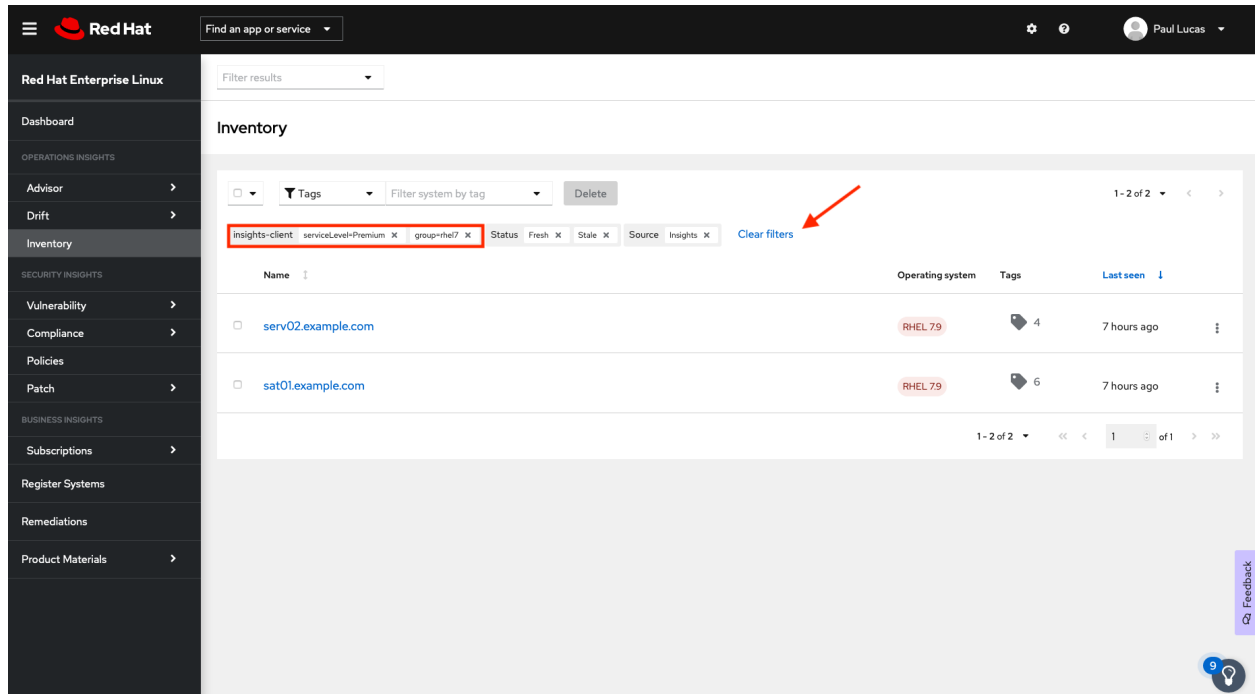
of 1



Apply tags

Cancel

Now we can see how many systems meet our view options. Click the “Clear filters” link to reset your Inventory view.



The screenshot shows the Red Hat Enterprise Linux Insights web console. The left sidebar contains navigation links for Dashboard, OPERATIONS INSIGHTS (Advisor, Drift, Inventory), SECURITY INSIGHTS (Vulnerability, Compliance, Policies, Patch), and BUSINESS INSIGHTS (Subscriptions, Register Systems, Remediations, Product Materials). The main content area is titled 'Inventory' and shows a list of systems. Above the list, there are filters: 'insights-client', 'serviceLevel-Premium', and 'group=rhel7'. A red box highlights these filters, and a red arrow points to the 'Clear filters' link. The table below shows two systems: 'serv02.example.com' and 'sat01.example.com', both running RHEL 7.9. The table has columns for Name, Operating system, Tags, and Last seen. The bottom right corner has a 'Feedback' button and a notification icon.

Name	Operating system	Tags	Last seen
serv02.example.com	RHEL 7.9	4	7 hours ago
sat01.example.com	RHEL 7.9	6	7 hours ago

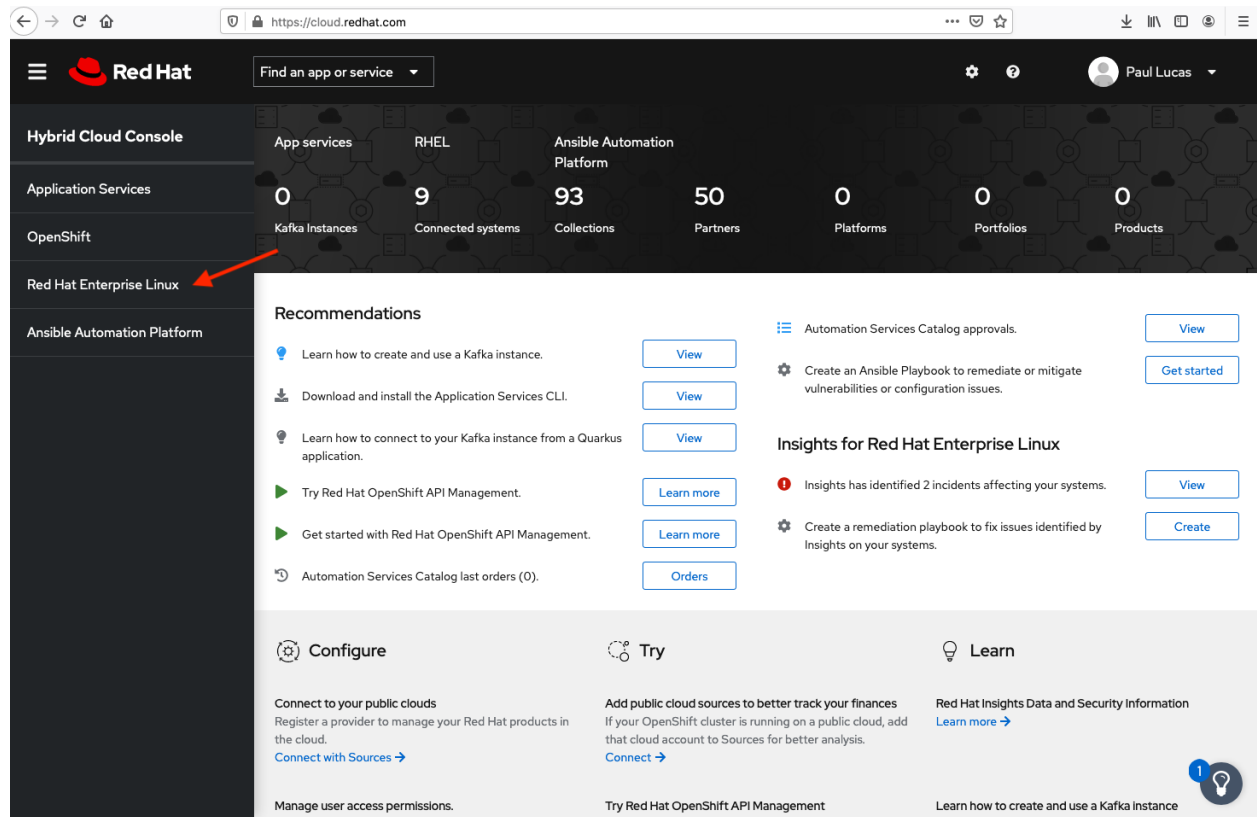
Reviewing your RHEL Systems in Insights for RHEL 6 Extended Lifecycle Updates.

We won't be reviewing all of Insights capabilities in this section, but we will review a couple of things in Insights so that you can check that your RHEL Extended Lifecycle Support (ELS) 6 content is available to your RHEL system with the ELS repository enabled.

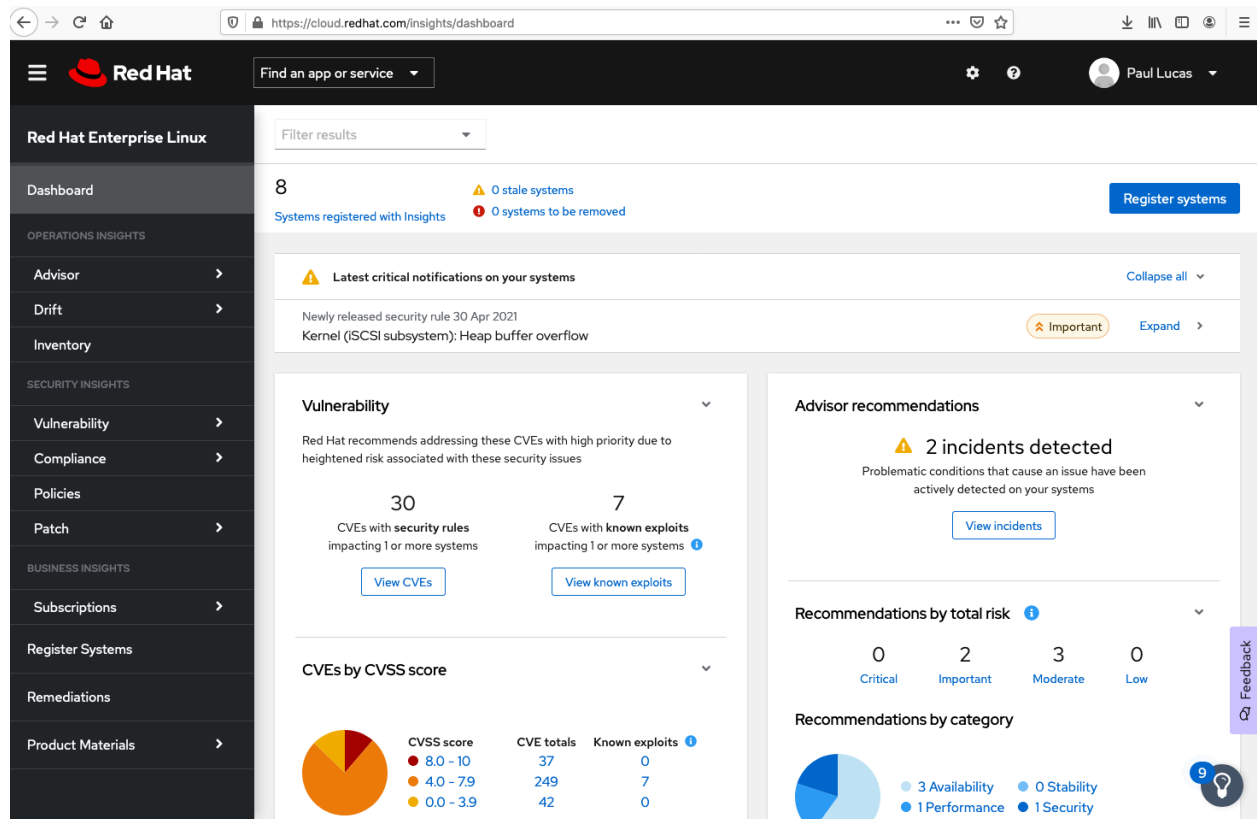
Note: There is a time lag between when you register a system to Insights and when the Insights client has updated your Insights view.

1. [Log in](#) to Insights.

2. On the Hybrid Cloud Console, choose the Red Hat Enterprise Linux link on the left side of the screen.



On the Insights "home page," you'll be presented with a dashboard view of your Insights-registered RHEL systems.



3. Click on the Inventory link on the left to get a list of RHEL systems registered with Insights.

I'm going to choose serv03 as it is a RHEL 6.10 system with the RHEL 6 ELS repository enabled.

Red Hat Enterprise Linux

Find an app or service

Filter results

Inventory

Filter by name

Status Fresh X Stale X Source Insights X Clear filters

Name	Operating system	Tags	Last ...
serv03.example.com	RHEL 6.10	0	7 hours ago
<input type="checkbox"/> serv05.example.com	RHEL 6.10	0	10 hours ago
<input type="checkbox"/> serv06.example.com	RHEL 6.10	0	10 hours ago
<input type="checkbox"/> serv01.example.com	RHEL 8.3	0	13 hours ago

Feedback


You can view the details of serv03 on the General Information tab. While on the General Information tab, scroll down to see the number of repositories enabled for serv03. You'll note in this example there are two repositories enabled: one for RHEL 6 RPMs and one for RHEL 6 ELS.

Red Hat Enterprise Linux

Find an app or service

Filter results

Inventory > serv03.example.com

serv03.example.com  0 [Delete](#)

UUID: abe42da0-a376-4c73-a96a-a6e51b8bd533
Last seen: 11 May 2021 12:07 UTC

[General information](#) [Advisor](#) [Vulnerability](#) [Compliance](#) [Patch](#)

System properties

Host name	serv03.example.com
Display name	serv03.example.com
Ansible hostname	serv03.example.com
SAP	Not available
Number of CPUs	2
Sockets	2
Cores per socket	1
CPU flags	74 flags
RAM	3.74 GB
BIOS	
Vendor	Phoenix Technologies LTD
Version	6.00

Operating system

Release	6.10
Kernel release	2.6.32
Architecture	x86_64
Last boot time	11 May 2021
Kernel modules	59 modules

Infrastructure

Type	virtual
Vendor	vmware

Feedback

Configuration

Installed packages	988 packages
Services	Not available
Running processes	168 processes
Repositories	2 enabled / 567 disabled

Collection information

Insights client	3.0.14
Last check-in	11 May 2021
Registered	10 May 2021
Insights id	62a3fc4b-90bc-4f17-8629-e889d0d3778f
Reporter	puptoo

Feedback

4. Click on the [Repositories](#) link to see the Repositories enabled for this system. You can set a filter on the dialog box to see just the Enabled repositories.

Repositories

Enabled ☐ Filter by Enabled ☐ 1 - 2 of 2

Enabled true x

- ☒ Is enabled
- ☐ Not enabled

Name ↑	Enabled ↑	GPG...
Red Hat Enterprise Linux 6 Server - Extended Life Cycle Support (RPMs)	✓	✓
Red Hat Enterprise Linux 6 Server (RPMs)	✓	✓

1 - 2 of 2 1 of 1

If we now click on the Patch tab, we see that because we enabled the RHEL 6 ELS repository with serv03, there is ELS-related content available (dated after 1 December 2020) for server03

serv03.example.com

UUID: abe42da0-a376-4c73-a96a-a6e51b8bd533

Last seen: 11 May 2021 12:07 UTC

General information Advisor Vulnerability Compliance **Patch**

Advisories Packages

Filter by name or synop... Remediate

1 - 20 of 125

Name	Synopsis	Type	Publish date
RHSA-2021:1468	Important: bind security update	Security	29 Apr 2021
RHSA-2021:1288	Important: kernel security and bug fix update	Security	20 Apr 2021
RHSA-2021:0672	Important: bind security update	Security	01 Mar 2021
RHSA-2021:0227	Important: sudo security update	Security	26 Jan 2021
RHBA-2021:0276	tzdata bug fix and enhancement update	Bugfix	26 Jan 2021
RHSA-2021:0181	Moderate: kernel security update	Security	19 Jan 2021
RHSA-2021:0056	Important: openssl security update	Security	11 Jan 2021
RHBA-2021:0013	tzdata bug fix and enhancement update	Bugfix	04 Jan 2021
RHBA-2020:5570	bind bug fix and enhancement update	Bugfix	16 Dec 2020
RHEA-2020:5391	microcode_ctl bug fix and enhancement update	Enhancement	10 Dec 2020
RHBA-2020:5274	RHEL 6 End of Maintenance Support 2 (PR) Phase Final Retirement Notice	Bugfix	01 Dec 2020
RHSA-2020:5084	Moderate: microcode_ctl security, bug fix, and enhancement update	Security	11 Nov 2020

5. Now, we will compare the content available to a RHEL 6 instance (serv05) that does not have the RHEL 6 ELS repository enabled. We first review the repositories enabled on serv05 and see that only one repository, RHEL 6 RPMs, is enabled

Repositories

Enabled Filter by Enabled 1 - 1 of 1

Enabled true x

- ☒ Is enabled
- ☐ Not enabled

Name ↑	Enabled ↑	GPG check ↑
Red Hat Enterprise Linux 6 Server (RPMs)	✓	✓

1 - 1 of 1 1 of 1

6. Next we go to the **serv05 Patch tab page**. We can see that there is no new content available to this server since 1 December 2020.

With SCA, we simply enable the repositories we need associated with a particular RHEL instance to access that content without attaching a subscription.

Red Hat Find an app or service Paul Lucas

Inventory > serv05.example.com

serv05.example.com Delete

UUID: 3d3a633a-1610-4e30-a61d-996df754190f
Last seen: 11 May 2021 09:37 UTC

General information Advisor Vulnerability Compliance **Patch**

Advisories Packages

Filter by name or synop... Remediate

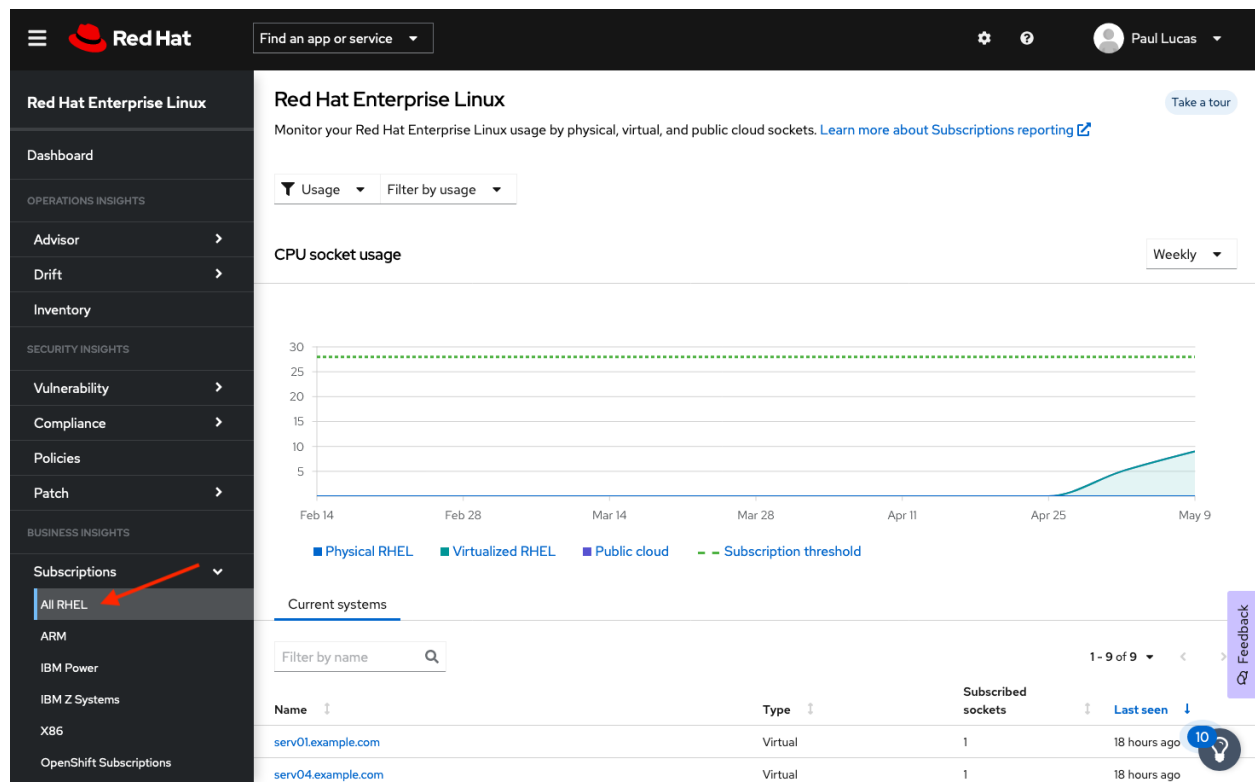
Name	Synopsis	Type	Publish date
RHBA-2020:5274	RHEL 6 End of Maintenance Support 2 (PR) Phase Final Retirement Notice	Bugfix	01 Dec 2020
RHSA-2020:5084	Moderate: microcode_ctl security, bug fix, and enhancement update	Security	11 Nov 2020
RHSA-2020:4953	Important: xorg-x11-server security update	Security	05 Nov 2020
RHSA-2020:4946	Important: libX11 security update	Security	05 Nov 2020
RHBA-2020:4407	RHEL6 End of Maintenance Support 2 (Product Retirement) Phase One Month Notice	Bugfix	29 Oct 2020
RHBA-2020:4329	tzdata enhancement update	Bugfix	26 Oct 2020
RHBA-2020:4282	tzdata enhancement update	Bugfix	19 Oct 2020
RHSA-2020:4183	Moderate: bind security update	Security	06 Oct 2020
RHSA-2020:4182	Important: kernel security and bug fix update	Security	06 Oct 2020
RHSA-2020:3548	Important: kernel security and bug fix update	Security	25 Aug 2020

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Feedback

7. Finally, you can track your subscription usage in the Subscriptions section of the Red Hat Enterprise Linux view of Red Hat Insights.

Note: This tracks your RHEL usage and subscriptions at a high level, i.e., the number of RHEL subscriptions of any type against the number of deployed RHEL systems. It doesn't include add-ons in the subscription usage view. If you have set the RHEL service-level with subscription-manager (see steps above), you can get a more granular view by filtering on SLA by Premium, Standard, Self-Support, or No SLA.



Conclusion

In this article we continue to explore the powerful features of Red Hat Insights that help us as administrators to more efficiently and effectively manage our RHEL environments.

We learned how custom Insights tags can be used via the Insights filtering capability to provide more granular views of our RHEL deployments. We also learned how we can review content information for attached repositories. In the article, we specifically reviewed RHEL 6 Extended Lifecycle Updates as an example. Finally, we briefly touched on how we can quickly review our RHEL subscription usage in a SCA-enabled world.

Don't forget to review our first post on how to enable [Simple Content Access \(SCA\)](#) and register your RHEL with Insights, and stay tuned for future tutorials in this series.

Reference

- [How do I enable Simple Content Access for Red Hat Subscription Management? \(in the Simple Content Access article\)](#)
- [Subscription Manager Command Cheat Sheet](#)

- [Chapter 5. System Tags And Groups](#) - Create custom tags for your RHEL systems to use a filter on inventory views

Part 3

Reviewing RHEL systems on the Red Hat Customer Portal

In previous posts, we showed you how to enable [Simple Content Access \(SCA\)](#), register your Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL) with Insights, and [tag and review systems](#). In this third part of our series on Subscription Manager and SCA, we will look at reviewing your RHEL instances in the Red Hat customer portal.

Review your Registered Systems on the Red Hat Customer Portal

1. Click on the **Systems** tab link in the Red Hat Customer Portal (Note: You need to be in the Subscriptions section on the Red Hat Customer Portal.)

You'll note that there is a question mark (?) by each System Name. This happens when SCA is enabled as you no longer need to attach a subscription to a registered system. If any subscriptions are attached to a registered system, the number of subscriptions attached will be registered in the third column.

The screenshot shows the Red Hat Customer Portal interface. At the top, there are navigation links: SUBSCRIPTIONS, DOWNLOADS, CONTAINERS, and SUPPORT CASES. Below this is a dark header with the Red Hat logo and the text 'Red Hat Customer Portal'. To the right of the logo are links for Products & Services, Tools, Security, and Community. Below the header is a secondary navigation bar with links: Overview, Subscriptions, Systems (highlighted with a red circle), Cloud Access, Subscription Allocations, Contracts, Errata, and Manage. Below the navigation bar, the page title is 'Systems'. A message states: 'Below is a list of systems for this account.' There is a search bar with the placeholder text 'Filter by Name, UUID, System Owner, or Cloud Provider' and two links: 'More Filters' and 'Reset Filters'. To the right of the search bar are two buttons: 'New' and 'Download CSV'. Below the search bar is a table with the following columns: Name, Type, Last Check in, and Errata. The table contains seven rows of data, each representing a registered system.

Name	Type	Last Check in	Errata
aap01.example.com	Virtual System	2021-05-11	1 3 4
ns02.example.com	Virtual System	2021-05-11	0 0 1
sat01.example.com	Virtual System	2021-05-11	55 81 3
serv01.example.com	Virtual System	2021-05-11	0 1 4
serv02.example.com	Virtual System	2021-05-11	Up To Date
serv03.example.com	Virtual System	2021-05-11	63 49 13
serv04.example.com	Virtual System	2021-05-11	119 134 22

2. To see the details of a registered system, click on the system name and make sure you are on the Details tab page.

In this example we chose serv01 which does not have any subscriptions attached.

On the Details tab page, you will notice that the Subscription Management status is unknown and that no subscriptions are attached to the RHEL instance.

serv01.example.com

Virtual System, Last checked in May 11, 2021 17:24

Details

Subscriptions

Errata

Enabled Modules

Installed Packages

System Facts

Basic Information

Name

serv01.example.com

Type

Virtual System

UUID

d57251a4-df62-4197-b17c-11b7b34b7d43

Subscriptions

Subscription Management

Unknown

System may be offline and cannot send its status. Updates cannot be received.

Subscriptions Attached

0

Auto-Attach

Disabled

Operating System Release Preference

Not Set

System Purpose

System Purpose Status

Not Specified

Service Level Agreement (SLA)

Premium

Usage Type

Not Specified

Role

Not Specified

Registration History

Created

May 05, 2021 19:42

Created By

Activation Key

Last Checked In

May 11, 2021 17:24

Remove System

Software Updates

Security Advisories

Critical

Important

Moderate

Low

Bug Fix Advisories

Product Enhancement Advisories

0

0

0

0

1

4

Identity Certificate

Serial Number

8413866743234838765

Create Date

2021-05-05

Expire Date

2022-05-05

Download

3. Click on the Subscriptions tab. You'll notice that there is no subscription information on the Subscriptions Tab page.

SUBSCRIPTIONS DOWNLOADS CONTAINERS SUPPORT CASES

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Products & Services Tools Security Community

Overview Subscriptions **Systems** Cloud Access Subscription Allocations Contracts Errata Manage ▾

serv01.example.com

Virtual System, Last checked in May 11, 2021 17:24

Details **Subscriptions** Errata Enabled Modules Installed Packages System Facts

Subscriptions attached to this system

There are no subscriptions to display

Attach subscriptions for this system to receive updates for installed products
[Learn more about attaching subscriptions to systems](#)

Attach Subscriptions Run Auto-Attach

Note: Even with SCA enabled, you can attach subscriptions to systems if for some reason you want to track and control the subscription usage of a specific add-on like an Extended Life Cycle Support (ELS) subscription.

4. To attach a specific subscription – a RHEL 6 ELS subscription, for example – first, find the Pool ID of the subscription you want to attach, and then subscribe to that pool.

Use subscription-manager list to see that the correct subscription is attached to your RHEL instance. You can also validate that the subscription is attached to your RHEL instance on your Red Hat Customer Portal page under Subscriptions.

```
- # subscription-manager list --available
  # subscription-manager subscribe --pool=xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
  # subscription-manager list
```

5. Choose a RHEL system from the Systems page that has a subscription attached to that system. You will now see the attached subscription and subscription details for that system.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

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Overview

Subscriptions

Systems

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Contracts

Errata

Manage

serv06.example.com

Virtual System, Last checked in May 11, 2021 15:14

Details

Subscriptions

Errata

Enabled Modules

Installed Packages

System Facts

Subscriptions attached to this system

Download Certificates

Attach Subscriptions

Run Auto-Attach

1 subscription attached

Red Hat Enterprise Linux Extended Life Cycle Support (Physical or Virtual Nodes)

Service Level

Layered

SKU

RH00270

Contract Number

12580516

Start Date

January 26, 2021

End Date

January 26, 2022

Entitlements Consumed

1

REMOVE

6. Back on the Red Hat Customer Portal page, choose the Subscriptions link.

In the Subscriptions page, scroll through the list and choose a subscription to review. Make sure you are on the Overview tab of the Subscription page. Here, you can see the subscription quantity available and the number of subscriptions consumed.

SUBSCRIPTIONS DOWNLOADS CONTAINERS SUPPORT CASES

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Overview **Subscriptions** Systems Cloud Access Subscription Allocations Contracts Errata Manage ▾

Red Hat Enterprise Linux Extended Life Cycle Support (Physical or Virtual Nodes)

Overview **Subscriptions** Utilization Systems Content

Entitlement Usage

2 of 10 Entitlements in Use Available 8 20%

2 entitlements used by Systems
0 entitlements used by Subscription Allocations

SKU Details

SKU	RH00270	Stacking: Enabled
Support Level ⓘ	Layered	A stackable flexible subscription model allowing larger systems to apply multiple copies of the same entitlement in order to achieve compliance. Learn how to use subscription stacking.
Support Type	L1-L3	
Subscription Quantity	5 ⓘ Number of active subscriptions	Subscription Type: Instance-based
Entitlement Quantity	10 1 subscription provides 2 entitlements	A subscription type that allows for flexible deployment options. For an instance-based subscription, the quantity of the pool is equal to the purchased quantity multiplied by an instance multiplier. Learn more about instance-based subscriptions.
Capacity per Subscription	2 sockets 1 subscription covers 2 sockets	
Provided Content ⓘ	Red Hat Enterprise Linux Server - Extende...	

7. In the same subscription page, click the Systems tab to see which RHEL instances have the subscription attached to them.

The screenshot shows the Red Hat Customer Portal interface. At the top, there are navigation links: SUBSCRIPTIONS, DOWNLOADS, CONTAINERS, and SUPPORT CASES. Below this is a dark header with the Red Hat logo and 'Red Hat Customer Portal' text, followed by links for Products & Services, Tools, Security, and Community. A secondary navigation bar includes Overview, Subscriptions (highlighted), Systems, Cloud Access, Subscription Allocations, Contracts, Errata, and Manage. The main content area is titled 'Red Hat Enterprise Linux Extended Life Cycle Support (Physical or Virtual Nodes)'. Below this title are tabs for Overview, Subscriptions, Utilization, Systems (circled in red), and Content. The 'Systems' tab displays 'Systems Attached to this Subscription'. There is a filter input 'Filter by Name or UUID' and links for 'More Filters' and 'Reset Filters'. A table lists two systems:

Name	Entitlements Consumed	Type	Status	Last Check In
serv06.example.com	1	Virtual System	Unknown	2021-05-11
serv09.example.com	1	Virtual System	Unknown	2021-05-11

Below the table, it says 'Showing 1 to 2 of 2 entries' and includes pagination controls: First, Previous, 1 (selected), Next, Last.

Conclusion

As you adapt to changing development and workload requirements, you need the flexibility to quickly provision and decommission RHEL machines. Simple Content Access and Red Hat Insights provide you with the flexibility you need to separately manage your RHEL content and subscriptions.

Simple Content Access separates RHEL content consumption from subscription management. You no longer have to worry about whether or not a decommissioned RHEL machine is consuming a subscription that is needed elsewhere in your environment.

Customers are still responsible for subscription compliance and Insights provides you with tools to manage your subscription consumption. Insights lets you share your RHEL consumption information across your IT organization, from procurement to IT management to admins responsible for your RHEL systems.

Custom tagging of your RHEL systems, via Insights, provides you with the ability to create more granular views of your RHEL usage to easily show how and where your RHEL systems are used and deployed.

Simple Content Access with Insights allows you to respond more quickly and efficiently to the constantly changing landscape that makes up your hybrid cloud world. Learn more about [Red Hat Insights](#) and how it can help you manage your IT environment.

Reference

How do I enable Simple Content Access for Red Hat Subscription Management? - in the [Simple Content Access article](#)

[Subscription Manager Command Cheat Sheet](#)

[System Tags and Groups documentation](#) - Create custom tags for your RHEL systems to use a filter on inventory views