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Annotation in CDS Views

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Hello, Welcome to my blog. Today I will explain you different type of Annotations we use in our CDS views. Dependent on the Evaluation, we distinguish two groups of annotations: ABAP Annotations and Framework-specific annotations.

ABAP annotations



ABAP annotations define technical and semantic attributes of a CDS object. They are usually evaluated for every CDS object when activated by the ABAP runtime environment. ABAP annotations can modify the behavior of Open SQL statements that access a CDS entity. One important example is how the client dependency of a CDS entity is defined using the associated ABAP annotation (<https://www.123techguru.com/abap-annotations-in-cds-views/>).

Framework-specific annotations

In most cases, the framework-specific annotations must be evaluated by the frameworks of the corresponding software components using a suitable API and are not relevant for activations and the ABAP runtime environment. Here, the names and values of these framework-specific annotations must follow the rules of the relevant framework. For SAP components, these can be taken from the tables of the Framework-Specific Annotations document.

Dependent on the Scope, we distinguish 5 groups of annotations:

View Annotations

Annotations for a CDS view. Placed in front of the DEFINE VIEW statement.

Element annotations

Annotations for an element of the SELECT list of a CDS view. Placed in front of or after the element.

Parameter annotations

Annotations for a parameter of a CDS view. Placed In front of or after the parameter .

Extension annotations

Annotations for a CDS view extension. Placed in front of the EXTEND VIEW statement.

Function annotations

Annotations for a CDS table function. Placed in front of the DEFINE TABLE FUNCTION statement.



	ABAP Annotations (Evaluated by ABAP runtime)	Framework-specific (Evaluated by Framework like OData, VDM, UI, Analytics, ...) **
View Annotations	<code>@AbapCatalog.sqlViewName</code> <code>@ClientDependent</code> <code>@EndUserText.label</code>	
Element Annotations	<code>@Semantics.unitOfMeasure</code> <code>@EndUserText.label</code>	
Parameter Annotations *	<code>@Environment.systemField</code> <code>@EndUserText.label</code>	
Extension Annotations *	<code>@AbapCatalog.sqlViewAppendName</code>	
Function Annotations *	<code>@ClientDependent</code> <code>@EndUserText.label</code>	

* See details the respective lessons

** See the short outlook on those in the last unit

Annotations in CDS Views



```
@AbapCatalog.sqlViewName: 'S4D430CONN5ANNO'

@ClientDependent: true

@AccessControl.authorizationCheck: #CHECK

@AbapCatalog.compiler.CompareFilter: true

@AbapCatalog.Buffering.type: #GENERIC
@AbapCatalog.Buffering.numberOfKeyFields: 1
@AbapCatalog.Buffering.status: #ACTIVE

define view S4d430_Connection5_Annotations
...
```

Switch on/off
client handling in
Open SQL

Switch on/off implicit
access control in
Open SQL

Control evaluation of
filtered associations

Switch on/off
buffering of SQL
View in Open SQL

ABAP View Annotations

For CDS Views, the following important ABAP annotations exist:

@AbapCatalog.sql ViewName

- Specifies the name of the CDS database view in the CDS view

@ClientDependent

- Defines client handling when Open SQL is used to access the CDS view. Is optional and default value is "true".

@AccessControl.authorizationCheck



- Defines the implicit access control when Open SQL is used to access the CDS view.

@AbapCatalog.compiler.compareFilter

Defines the evaluation of filter conditions in path expressions of the CDS view.

@AbapCatalog.buffering.<...>

Define the buffering of the CDS view in SAP buffering.

ABAP Annotations for View Elements

Semantics for Amount / Currency Code

```
...  
@Semantics.amount.currencyCode: 'CURRENCY' price,  
@Semantics.currencyCode: true          currency,  
...
```

Before or after
the element

Semantics for Quantity / UnitOfMeasure

```
...  
distance @<Semantics.quantity.unitOfMeasure: 'DISTID',  
distid   @<Semantics.unitOfMeasure: true  
...
```

Before or after
the element

ABAP Annotations for View Elements

The Semantics annotations are used to define the currency fields and quantity fields of CDS views and CDS table functions. Like all element annotations they can be located either before or after the element they refer to.

Hint: Compare this to the Currency/Quantity Fields tab that is available when editing transparent tables or structure types in the ABAP Dictionary tool.



View Annotation

```
...  
@EndUserText.label: 'Demo: Simple View Definition'  
...
```

Maximum of
40 Characters

Element Annotations

```
...  
@EndUserText.label: 'Discount'  
@EndUserText.quickInfo: 'Customer Specific Discount'  
  c.discount,  
...
```

Maximum of
40 Characters

Before or after
the element

Note:

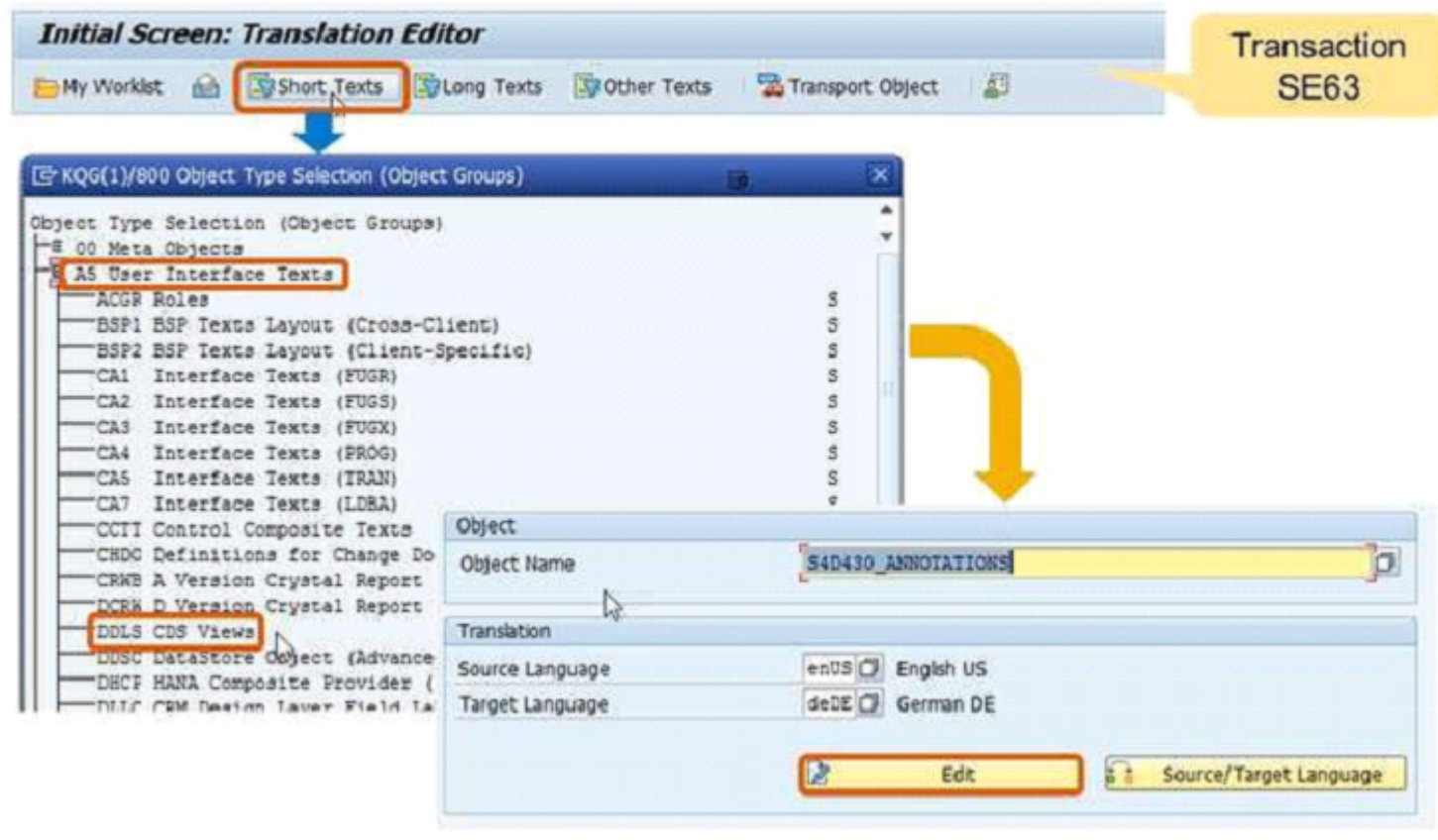
Element text annotations are required if no text is inherited from data source (i.e. table definition or other view)

ABAP Annotations for translatable texts

- ABAP annotations starting with EndUserText are used to define translatable semantic texts for a CDS object.
- EndUserText.label is available as view annotation or as element annotation. The value is limited to a length of 40 characters.
- EndUserText.quickinfo is only available as element annotation. The value is stored as a string and can have arbitrary length.

Translation of Annotations





The values of text annotations are stored in special tables that have a language key and that are translatable. The value specified in the source code should consist of text in the original language of the CDS source code and is translated into the required languages.

Translation of CDS Views is done as usual in the Translation Editor (Transaction Code SE63). A new object type CDS View has been added to object group User Interface Texts.

To translate the texts defined in a given DDL Source, proceed as follows:

- Start Transaction SE63.
- Choose Short Texts from the toolbar.
- On the next dialog window, expand node User Interface Texts .
- Choose sub element DDL S CDS Views.



- On the next dialog window, enter the name of the DDL Source, the source language, and the target language
- Choose Edit.

Please check below some of important Annotations explained in Detail

- ABAP Annotations (<https://www.123techguru.com/abap-annotations-in-cds-views/>)
- Analytics Annotations (<https://www.123techguru.com/analytical-annotations-in-cds-views/>)
- Semantic Annotations (<https://www.123techguru.com/semantic-annotations-in-cds-views/>)
- Object Model Annotations (<https://www.123techguru.com/object-model-annotations-in-cds-views/>)

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