Solution Categories Reference

Organize solutions by categories.

Categories provide metadata labels for organizing and classifying objects throughout your solution. Every configuration table (Tags, Alarms, Devices, Displays, and others) has a Category column where one or more categories can be assigned to each object. Categories also control AI write permissions through the built-in MCP category.

Access: Solution Categories

Categories Grid

The Categories table in Designer shows the following columns:

Column	Description	Type	Required
Name	Category identifier. Must be unique across the solution.	Text	Yes
Description	Purpose or usage notes for this category.	Text	No
EnableMCP	Marks whether AI tools may change this category. See EnableMCP and AI Permissions below.	Checkbox	No

A solution supports up to 64 categories.

Assigning Categories to Objects

Most configuration tables include a **Category** column. Click the Category cell on any object row to open a checkbox dialog where you can select one or more categories. The assigned categories appear as a semicolon-separated list in the cell.

Tables that support category assignment include:

Module	Tables
UNS	Tags
Devices	Channels, Nodes
Alarms	Items
Displays	List, Layouts

Categories are stored internally as a bitmask, which is why the maximum is 64 categories per solution.

EnableMCP and AI Permissions

By default, AI tools work on objects that carry the built-in **MCP** category.

- Objects the AI tools create receive the MCP category automatically.
- To open an existing object to AI changes, add MCP to its Category in Designer.
- The MCP category is created automatically when AI tools are used. It cannot be renamed or deleted.

The **EnableMCP** checkbox on a category marks whether AI tools may change that category itself.

Best Practices

- Define categories before creating objects so they are available for assignment from the start.
- Use a consistent naming convention across the solution.
- Use the Description field to document each category's purpose, especially when multiple engineers work on the same solution.
- Check usage before deleting a category — objects that reference it will lose that classification.

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