

## Nasuni on Microsoft Azure

# NAS Consolidation & Global File Sharing

### The Challenge: Traditional NAS infrastructure is costly and inefficient

IT leaders face a constant challenge budgeting, provisioning, and protecting file storage. An explosion of unstructured data and the need for businesses to gain more leverage and insight from their files has made this challenge even more difficult. Traditional on-premises file infrastructure consisting of NAS, Windows file servers, backup solutions, and remote access and replication technologies is expensive to buy and maintain, and must be continually refreshed, migrated, and redeployed to meet ever-changing business requirements.

### The Nasuni solution: File services platform built for Azure

Nasuni is a file services platform built for the cloud. Powered by the UniFS® global file system, Nasuni consolidates NAS and file server silos in Azure Blob Storage, delivering infinite scale, built-in backup, global file sharing, and local file server performance at half the cost of traditional file infrastructures. Unlike legacy file systems that cannot scale beyond a single device or cluster, UniFS resides and scales within Azure object storage to support unlimited capacity, file versions, file sizes, volume sizes, and file sharing locations. UniFS also extends on-premises to cache actively used files and metadata anywhere high-performance access is needed, so enterprises don't have to worry about cloud latency or data egress charges. Together, Nasuni and Azure Storage offer a modern solution to today's unstructured data management challenges.

## Benefits



### NAS Consolidation

Move NAS and file server silos to Azure, reducing on-premises hardware, simplifying management, and replacing capacity planning with on-demand scale.



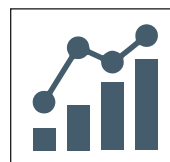
### Modern File Backup & Disaster Recovery

Eliminate traditional file backup infrastructure and gain instant file recovery to any point in time with continuous file versioning.



### Global File Sharing

Streamline workforce collaboration with the combination of multi-site file synchronization, version control, local performance, and cloud scale.



### Data Analytics

Apply Azure AI and analytics services to unstructured file data now that it is all accessible through one global file system.

## Reduced Cost and Complexity

Nasuni and Azure Storage can replace the many on-premises products and technologies currently needed to store, share, and protect file data:

- Network Attached Storage (NAS) and file servers;
- Backup software, tape and disk-based backup hardware, media servers, and tape and disk media;
- Disaster Recovery (DR) sites, co-location facilities, and duplicate file infrastructure;
- Remote access, file replication, and file transfer infrastructure (e.g. MPLS, WAN acceleration hardware and software for file workloads, FTP)
- Enterprise file sync and share tools

(continued)

## Key Features

**99%**  
**CACHE HIT**  
**RATE**

**High performance on-premises file access**

VM or hardware-based Nasuni Edge

Appliances store all files in Azure Storage, while intelligently caching active files locally for high performance access through SMB (CIFS) and NFS protocols. If cached files become inactive, they are evicted, leaving only the gold copies in Azure Storage. If the files become active again, they are automatically retrieved from Azure Storage and re-cached. A cache hit rate of nearly 99% minimizes data egress fees and ensures that file access is almost always at local LAN speeds, even though each appliance is typically 80% smaller than a traditional file server or NAS device.



**Nasuni Continuous File Versioning®**

Nasuni's next-generation snapshot technology continu-

ously captures file changes in every location and stores them as WORM in Azure Storage to create an unlimited, immutable version history. With the need for traditional file backup infrastructure eliminated, IT will never again have to manage backup schedules, restore files from tapes, or manage media servers. All file versions from nearly any point in time can be recovered to any Nasuni Edge appliance from Azure Storage in minutes.



**Multi-Site File Synchronization and Nasuni Global File Lock®**

Nasuni Edge Appli-

ances in multiple locations can be mapped to the same Azure Storage volume, enabling users around the world to concurrently access the same files and shares. File changes from every location are synchronized first to Azure Storage, then to other appliances that are caching the same files. The secure use of internet links offloads the WAN from file transfer traffic, greatly reducing costs. Nasuni Global File Lock ensures only one user at a time in any location can edit shared files, helping minimize data losses caused by version conflict.

## Case Study: Cushman & Wakefield



*Modernizing its file infrastructure across 400+ locations servicing over 45,000 employees to improve access, reduce costs and ensure business communications:*

### Challenges

- Rising file infrastructure costs due to file server and NAS silos
- Costly, hard-to-manage backup
- Expensive co-location facilities for DR
- Mergers and acquisitions hard to integrate

### Solution

By deploying Nasuni with Azure Storage, Cushman & Wakefield consolidated its file server and NAS silos into a single global file estate serving 50,000 employees across 400 locations.

### Results

- File server refreshes, backup servers and software, tape media, and DR sites eliminated
- Unlimited global file storage capacity
- RTO reduced from days to minutes; RPO reduced from weeks to 15 minutes
- 15-20 IT hours saved per office per week
- Rapid, cost-effective office expansion and M&A integration

*“We are getting big savings by eliminating on-premise storage and data protection infrastructure and simplifying management.”*

*— Global Technology Solutions Manager*

**Get started with Nasuni on Microsoft Azure.**

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