

**Solution Brief**

# Nasuni for Windows Server 2008 File Server Migration

**Highlights**

**Gain limitless primary storage capacity** for all file data without hardware upgrades or future data migrations

**Archive inactive files at low cost** without having to migrate data again or give up fast file access

**Eliminate traditional file backup** with built-in data protection that offers faster recovery times and more frequent recovery points

**Eliminate traditional DR infrastructure** with the ability to restore file access anywhere in the world in less than 15 minutes after a regional or site outage

**Save up to 70%** by moving from costly CAPEX file storage to low cost subscription file storage

**Align with a dynamic business environment** by quickly integrating new acquisitions and accelerating digital transformation

## The Challenge: Replacing Windows Server 2008 File Servers Before They Reach End of Support

On January 14, 2020, support for Windows Server 2008 and 2008 R2 will end. With Windows Server 2008 often used as a file server, customers must find a new place to store and share enterprise files.

Migrating file data to new file servers based on Windows Server 2016 or to Network Attached Storage (NAS) is one option. But in 3-5 years, the data will have to be migrated again to the next file server or NAS platform. And with the rapid growth of files straining traditional file server, backup, and disaster recovery solutions, continuing the status quo will only add more cost and complexity.

## The Modern Solution: Using Nasuni to Rehost Files to Azure and Maintain Fast, Local Access

Windows Server 2008 End of Support (EOS) is the perfect opportunity to rehost file server workloads to Microsoft Azure Cloud Storage with Nasuni Cloud File Services™, so files never have to be migrated again.

Nasuni, a top Azure ISV, offers the first file system designed for cloud object storage instead of traditional file servers or NAS systems. Nasuni's patented UniFS® file system enables all file data and metadata currently stored on Windows Server 2008 to be easily migrated to Azure Cloud Storage.

UniFS also extends on-premises to preserve local, high-performance file access. Nasuni Edge Appliances are stateless virtual or hardware appliances that cache actively used files anywhere fast file access is needed. Since active files typically comprise only 15-20% of an average file workload, fast file access can be provided using 80-85% less hardware resource. Nasuni's Intelligent caching yields a 99% cache-hit rate to minimize Azure data egress charges.

Nasuni's unique "cloud-first" architecture offers the best of both worlds: the scalability, durability, and low cost of Azure Cloud Storage, and the CIFS/SMB and NFS-based application compatibility, local LAN file access performance, and Active Directory-based security of traditional Windows file servers.

## How Nasuni Works

Nasuni Cloud File Services is a software-defined platform that consolidates Network Attached Storage (NAS), distributed file servers, data protection, instant recovery, file archiving, multi-site file synchronization, and global file locking in one simple, scalable solution that spans the data center and the cloud.

Features include:

- UniFS object storage-based file system ingests files through CIFS/SMB and writes files and metadata as objects in Azure Cloud Storage, preserving all NTFS permissions and attributes.
- Lightweight edge appliances cache active files on-premises to provide high performance file access, replacing full-sized file servers.
- Nasuni Continuous File Versioning™ writes all file changes as they occur as WORM objects in Azure Cloud Storage, creating an infinite version history that eliminates the need for traditional file backup.
- Edge appliances can be provisioned in any location or in Azure and rehydrated with metadata from georedundant Azure Cloud Storage in less than 15 minutes, providing rapid DR in the event of local outages or regional disasters. The need for dedicated DR sites and infrastructure is eliminated.
- Data is encrypted with customer-controlled keys to ensure data is secure in transit and at rest in Azure.
- Optional multi-site file synchronization and global file locking ensure users in different offices are always working on the latest versions of all files and can collaborate on the same files without version conflict.

### Windows Server 2008 Migration Paths

| Infrastructure          | On-Premises Options   | Cloud Options                                      |
|-------------------------|---|--|
| Server operating system | Upgrade to Windows Server 2016 or later   | Move to Azure                                      |
| Server hardware         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upgrade server hardware</li> <li>• Hyperconverged system</li> <li>• Azure Stack</li> </ul> | Azure Virtual Machines                             |
| File storage            | Nasuni Cloud File Services and Azure Cloud Storage  | Nasuni Cloud File Services and Azure Cloud Storage |
| File backup and DR      | Nasuni Cloud File Services and Azure Cloud Storage  | Nasuni Cloud File Services and Azure Cloud Storage |

## How Nasuni Compares

Nasuni offers unequalled capabilities compared to other cloud-based file storage solutions.

- ✓ No limits on number of files, users, or capacity
- ✓ Unlimited file versions
- ✓ Uses low cost Azure Cool blob storage; compression and deduplication reduce cloud capacity needed
- ✓ Azure used as the authoritative source (gold copy) of all files and metadata, not as a secondary storage tier
- ✓ Inactive data automatically reclassified to lower cost Nasuni Archive subscription; data remains in Azure Cool storage, eliminating need to migrate data to lower cost storage tiers to save money
- ✓ High speed file synchronization and version alignment across all edge appliances for multi-site file sharing
- ✓ Global file locking enables multi-site file collaboration without version conflict
- ✓ Supports multiple private (on-premises) and public cloud object storage platforms to maximize flexibility
- ✓ Multi-site management of edge appliances, shares, protocols, and recoveries to simplify operations

## Proven Technology

Nasuni, together with Microsoft and our joint channel partners, have been helping organizations migrate file data to Azure Cloud Storage since 2013. Full implementations can be completed in a few weeks. Coca-Cola, Condé Nast Publications, Cushman & Wakefield, Jabil, Kiewit, Lloyd's Register, Pernod-Ricard, Ralph Lauren, and Sports Direct are just a few of the customers who have moved their Windows file server infrastructures to Nasuni Cloud File Services and Azure Cloud Storage.

## About Nasuni

Nasuni provides the first multi-cloud platform that enables enterprises to store, protect, synchronize, and collaborate on unstructured file data as it transitions from actively used to inactive. Powered by Nasuni's patented UniFS® global file system, Nasuni Cloud File Services™ stores all files in private or public cloud object storage, caches active files wherever fast access is needed, and automatically correlates what customers pay with how they use their data. By eliminating the need for NAS, file server, backup, archiving, disaster recovery, and file synchronization solutions, Nasuni's consolidated platform improves workforce productivity, simplifies IT operations, and reduces IT costs. The world's largest companies in 12 industry sectors rely on Nasuni to maximize the business value of their file data and ensure business continuity. Nasuni operates globally from its worldwide headquarters in Boston and European office in London.

---

### Trademarks & Copyright

NASUNI, UNIFS, and the intersecting ovals logo are Nasuni trademarks and service marks. All other names, brands and products identified herein are the designations of their respective owners.

© 2018 Nasuni Corporation. All rights reserved. Version 181115

### Contact Us

[www.Nasuni.com](http://www.Nasuni.com) | [Sales@Nasuni.com](mailto:Sales@Nasuni.com) | +1.857.444.8500