

Eliminating Backup Challenges with Nasuni



The Backup Challenge

Backup solutions play a critical role in data storage – providing the ability to recover data from an earlier time or after an unexpected data loss. In order for IT to effectively backup, protect and restore data, multiple components are required, including some combination of backup applications, disks and tapes. In the end, today's best backup solutions still leave IT facing real challenges such as:

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- **Inefficient operations** – Each additional location adds layers of cost and complexity to the systems that comprise a backup solution. Lengthy backup windows result in application downtime and negatively affect end-user performance.
- **Expanding capacity requirements** – Capacity requirements increase with each backup and the process to support capacity scaling is complicated, expensive and time-consuming. Often, several distinct components must be updated in order to keep up with the rapid growth of data.
- **Costly investment** – Purchasing and managing backup systems is an expense added-on to the already costly task of storing the data. In some cases, organizations are forced to limit backup functionality or data retention due to costs.
- **Cumbersome restores** – Restoring data can be a time consuming, onerous process of retrieving tape from offsite and working with outdated technologies. In the meantime, users are unproductive while waiting for data.

As a result of these challenges, today's backup solutions add cost, complexity and management headaches to the data storage infrastructure. To make matters worse, many organizations do not have the confidence they should that their data is sufficiently protected to support a reliable restore process.

The Solution – No Backups

The challenges with today's backup systems stem from the fact that they are separate processes requiring a combination of components in an already complex storage stack. The solution to improving backups is not to buy better components, but rather to eliminate the dependency on separate backup systems.

Cloud storage is a powerful tool that can deliver data protection and availability faster, better and cheaper than today's hardware systems. However, cloud storage doesn't have to be just about backing up data to the cloud. With an all-in-one cloud storage solution, Nasuni Enterprise File Services, organizations can realize all the benefits of backing up data to the cloud as a built-in feature of a storage solution. Nasuni's unique combination of an on-premises controller, cloud storage and an innovative technology delivers a full-service data storage solution including primary, backup, and off-site protection.

Specific to backup, Nasuni delivers the ability to:

- **Take frequent snapshots** – as frequently as every sixty seconds
- **Store an unlimited history** – keep snapshots forever or as long as needed to align to data retention policies
- **Store more copies** – as many as six copies of the data are stored in the service
- **Geographically disperse data** – copies are automatically stored in at least two different geographic locations
- **Maintain consistent performance** – all backup functionality occurs behind the scenes, invisible to end-users and with no disruption to data access and performance

The Result

Eliminating backups simplifies data storage and reduces costs while significantly improving the restore process. Storing unlimited snapshots is included in the cost of the primary storage; organizations no longer have to purchase and manage solutions from multiple vendors. The processes of disaster recovery and data restore take mere minutes instead of hours or days. Because all versions of the files are centrally stored and instantly available at the click of a button, IT and end-users can recover any file from any point in time whenever and wherever they need it. Ironically, the solution to backup challenges, is no backup at all.

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For more information contact:
sales@nasuni.com or call +1.857.444.8500