



# Macmillan Cancer Support Consolidates File Servers in the Cloud with Nasuni®

Macmillan Cancer Support is one of the largest charities in the U.K., providing healthcare, counseling, information, financial support, and more to people impacted by cancer.

## INDUSTRY:

Healthcare

## CLOUD FILE STORAGE:

Nasuni

## OBJECT STORAGE:

Microsoft Azure  
 Blob Storage

## USE CASES:

NAS & File Server Silo Consolidation; File Backup & Recovery; Cloud Modernization; Remote Work & Cloud VDI

## BENEFITS:

Unlimited, cost-effective file storage; avoided expensive infrastructure refresh; wfh and vdi support; enhanced agility and flexibility; simple, fast disaster recovery; faster support resolves

Prior to that strategic IT shift, Macmillan's file storage and data protection infrastructure consisted of multiple end-of-life and end-of-support Windows File Servers, plus a disaster recovery solution that relied on a secondary data center. When Macmillan Server Engineer Tom Steven and his colleagues began looking for alternatives, their trusted representatives at both Microsoft Azure and Gartner suggested Nasuni cloud file storage.

## Nasuni Cloud File Storage

Nasuni consolidates NAS and file server silos into a single, cloud-native global file system. At Macmillan, unstructured data now scales in unlimited, cost-effective Azure Blob Storage, not on-premises hardware. Lightweight Nasuni Edge Appliances cache frequently accessed files locally, maintaining fast access for Macmillan's end users, but unstructured data scales in the cloud. "By moving to Nasuni, we consolidated our two main file shares in London and avoided the expense of refreshing the ageing file server infrastructure at our satellite offices," Steven says. "Nasuni has played a key part in our larger strategic shift to becoming a more agile, cloud-first organization."

## Agile Infrastructure

IT has granted its London HQ and additional offices access to flexible, unlimited file storage capacity in Azure Blob, but Steven and his colleagues now have a more agile, adaptive approach to infrastructure as well. "Nasuni gives us more control and flexibility over where and how we deploy resources," Steven says. "We have a hardware appliance in our London office, but we also have four Nasuni Edge Appliance VMs running in that office, another one deployed on our new virtual infrastructure in Glasgow, and an Azure-based appliance as well."

## Efficient Cloud DR

Previously, Macmillan's IT group relied on a time-consuming disaster recovery (DR) approach that involved replicating backups to a second London data center. "Nasuni has made our DR simulation so much easier. We don't have to replicate from our main office to the SAN, which frees up bandwidth in the evenings and on weekends, and if we have an incident, we can just spin up another virtual edge cache in Azure, put in our details, and we're away," explains Steven. "That alone has made our lives a lot easier."

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## WFH & VDI Support

Macmillan's IT group was uniquely suited to adjust to the pandemic-driven transition to remote work given its embrace of cloud tools like Nasuni. "At the start of the pandemic, we were scrambling to get people working from home as quickly as possible," notes Steven. "With Nasuni being in the cloud, and us just having an edge cache in each location, all we had to do was get people onto our VPN and redirect them to Nasuni for their file shares. It was very smooth." **In the future, Steven and his colleagues might build out a Nasuni-backed cloud VDI solution as an additional remote access option.**

## Faster Support Resolves

Nasuni Continuous File Versioning® eliminates the need for additional backup and makes it easier to recover lost files and folders. At Macmillan, this has supported a larger effort to resolve problems the first time users contact the IT help desk – known as first-time call resolves. "Users are always accidentally deleting or moving things and they come to us for help," notes Steven. "With Nasuni, resolving these issues is an absolute piece of cake. We ended up delegating the responsibility for restoring files to our service desk. End users get their files back right away. This has been quite a win for IT."

## Simple Management

The IT team cites the Nasuni Management Console as an added benefit, as it allows them to control and monitor their infrastructure remotely. "The management console is very user friendly," says Steven. "It gives you a complete picture and makes it easy to communicate growth and usage to management."

"We'd move over a new CIFS share every weekend, which would affect 1,500 people on average, and we'd get **less than a dozen calls to the service desk**. Typically it was because they hadn't shut down and restarted – nothing to do with Nasuni. **That's a massive win for us.**"

– Tom Steven, Macmillan Server Engineer



### ABOUT NASUNI CORPORATION

Nasuni is the leading hybrid cloud storage solution that powers business growth with effortless scalability, built-in security, and fast edge performance using a unique cloud-native architecture. The Nasuni File Data Platform delivers operational excellence by consolidating NAS and backup, eliminating data silos, and making management easy and flexible without changes to apps or workflows. Its built-in security offers proactive defense and rapid recovery, lowering organization's risk from the detrimental effects of ransomware attacks and other disasters. Synchronized access to file data everywhere ensures user productivity by supporting remote and hybrid work. For more information, visit [www.nasuni.com](http://www.nasuni.com).