

Solution Brief

Nasuni & Varonis: Integrated File Storage & Data Security



Highlights

Deploy two best-in-class solutions for file storage and file security with confidence knowing they integrate and work well together.

Consolidate all files on a scalable platform offering limitless capacity, high performance access from any location, and continuous file versioning.

Monitor file activity in real time to detect insider threats, malware, cyberattacks and security violations.

Track and audit file data to assist in meeting security or compliance requirements.

Leverage private or public cloud storage to reduce on-premises storage CapEx up to 70%.

The Challenge: Storing and Securing the Other 80% of Your Data

For most enterprises, only 20% of data resides in highly protected, secure databases. The other 80% is unstructured data residing in file systems scattered across multiple NAS devices and file servers. This creates two serious challenges for modern organizations.

First, traditional NAS, remote office file servers, and backup can no longer keep pace with the rapid growth of unstructured data which, for many organizations, is doubling every year.¹ File storage capacity and performance issues, ineffective multi-site file sharing, inadequate recovery points and recovery times, high costs, and complex administration are now commonplace.

Second, the 80% of data that is unstructured is vulnerable to threats because of its distributed nature and the number of users accessing it every day.² Insider threats, malware, and other types of cyberattacks can be launched – intentionally or not – by internal users who have full access. The result can be devastating: data breaches, sensitive data exposed, privacy violations, destruction of intellectual property, and more.

The Solution: Nasuni® and Varonis®

The joint Nasuni and Varonis solution offers a highly scalable, tightly integrated solution that overcomes both challenges. Nasuni provides the modern file services platform that stores files in limitless private or public cloud object storage, with edge caching appliances in any location for high-performance file access. Varonis provides the data security platform that protects files from cyberattacks and insider threats by analyzing the behavior of the people and machines accessing the data, alerting on misbehavior, and enforcing a least

privilege model. Together, Nasuni and Varonis provide a complete end-to-end solution for unstructured data storage, collaboration, protection, management, security, governance, compliance, and analytics.

Case in Point

Partner Viewpoint



“Companies are shifting from traditional security approaches designed to keep attackers off their networks to a new model that focuses on protecting their critical data from the inside out, while at the same time shifting from traditional file storage approaches to cloud-based architectures that offer scalability and cross-office collaboration. Our integration with Nasuni addresses both transformations, providing joint customers with a comprehensive solution for storing, sharing, protecting, and defending their data on premises and in the cloud – while also addressing GDPR and other requirements by discovering and classifying personal identifying information.”

David Bass
EVP of Engineering and CTO
Varonis

PJ Dick–Trumbull–Lindy Paving is a Top 100 general contracting and construction management firm, providing services for large-scale projects such as the CONSOL Energy Center in Pittsburgh, the first LEED Gold certified NHL arena in the US, and The Tower at PNC Plaza, the world’s greenest skyscraper. Faced with the needs to store and collaborate on fast-growing CAD, LIDAR, and other unstructured data across offices and remote work sites and proactively detect threats to mitigate the impact of cyberattacks, PJ Dick’s IT team turned to Nasuni and Varonis. With Nasuni, the firm is consolidating all its file data from multiple sites into limitless Azure object storage, caching actively used files on premises for high performance access, and improving RPOs and RTOs. With Varonis, PJ Dick is monitoring file access patterns on Nasuni edge appliances to detect suspicious activity and alert on misbehaviors.

Explains Dennis DiPalma, MIS Project Leader at PJ Dick, “Our goal in IT is to deliver efficiency and performance in support of our large-scale contracting projects. With CAD and other types of unstructured data growing and playing a critical role in every project, a scalable file infrastructure that enables us to quickly store, collaborate on, and recover files is essential. At the same time, we need to be able to prevent malware, ransomware, and other threats from compromising our file data. The joint Nasuni-Varonis solution gives us best-in-class capabilities for file storage and file security, and enhances our ability to maintain tight schedules, while keeping IT costs down.”

Key Varonis Capabilities Supported by Nasuni

The integration between Nasuni and Varonis enables IT departments to gain complete control over the unstructured file data stored in Nasuni’s global file system.

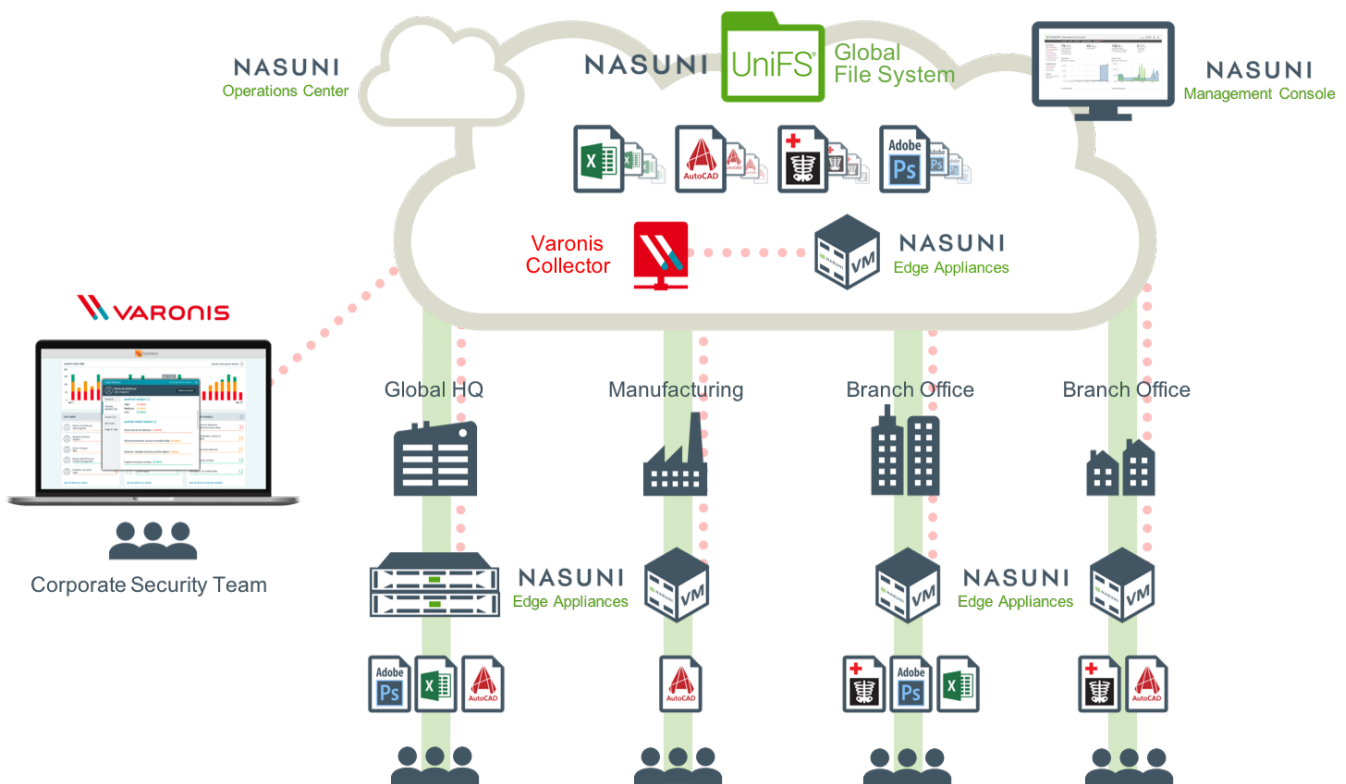
- Complete visibility into users, groups, and folder permissions.
- Detailed audit trail of every access event for compliance and forensics.
- Data classification including regulated, sensitive, and critical data.
- Recommendations on where excess permissions can be removed and the ability to simulate changes without affecting production data.
- Automated entitlement review and authorization processes.
- Security analytics with deep data context.
- Customizable dashboards to remediate risk and monitor data.
- Sophisticated threat models to identify unusual behavior and suspicious activity on your data

How Nasuni and Varonis Work Together

The Nasuni UniFS® global file system stores the gold copies of all files and metadata in private or public cloud object storage platforms such as Amazon S3, Azure Storage, Dell EMC ECS, and IBM COS. Nasuni virtual or physical edge appliances intelligently cache just the active files anywhere high-performance file access is needed.

Each Nasuni appliance looks like a traditional NAS device or file server, leveraging existing Active Directory or LDAP authentication infrastructure and standard file sharing protocols (e.g. CIFS, NFS) to provide file access. However, the appliances require a much smaller storage footprint – typically 80% less capacity – since they are “right-sized” to cache only the active files.

Varonis Collectors can be installed in the cloud or wherever Nasuni appliances are located to provide centralized security monitoring, auditing, analytics, and remediation.

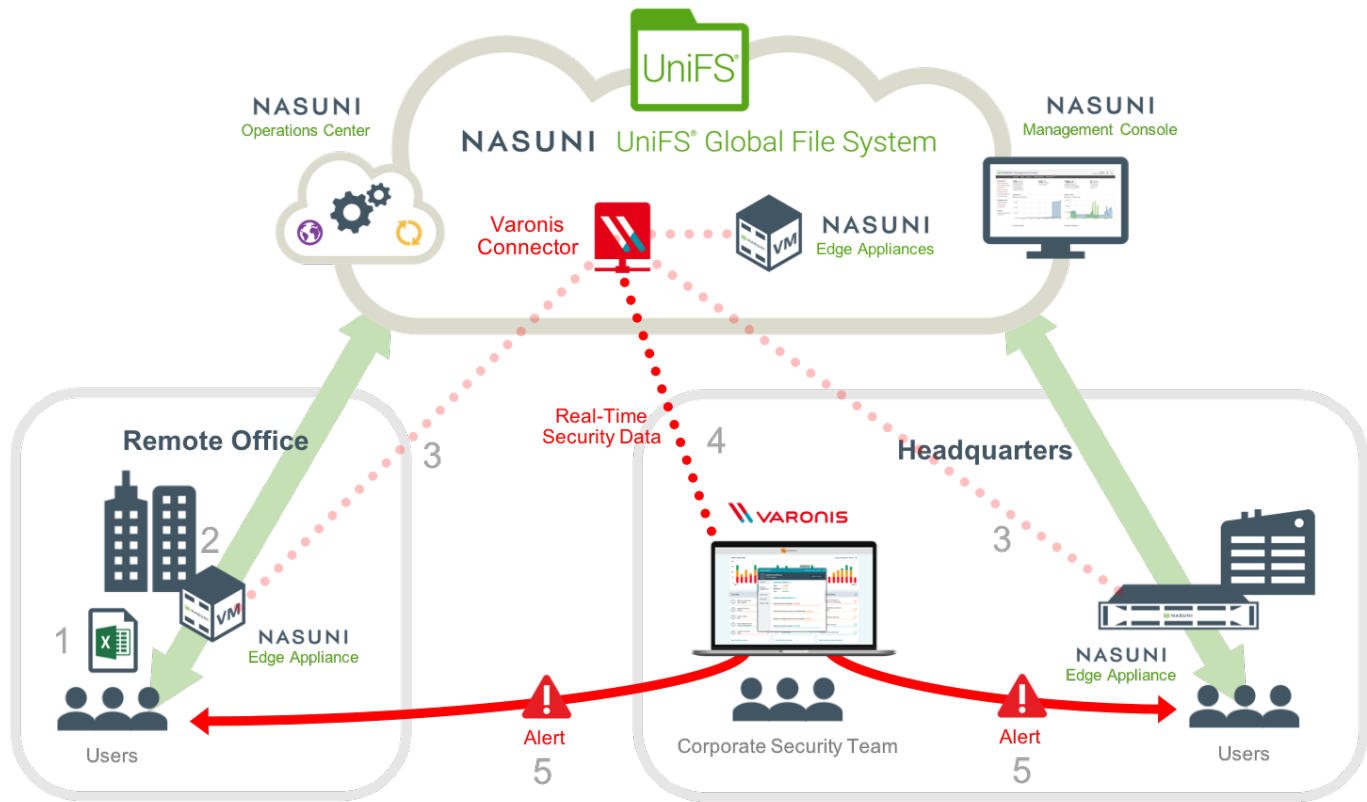


Varonis Collectors integrate with Nasuni Edge Appliances to monitor file activity and detect threats.

When a user or program accesses file data cached on a Nasuni edge appliance, Nasuni automatically sends audit tracking data to a Varonis Collector. The Varonis Data Security platform analyzes the behavior of the people and machines accessing the data and provides real-time alerting and notification of any suspicious activity.

IT administrators can use Varonis to identify compromised accounts, privilege escalations, GPO changes, and malware attacks like ransomware – and stop them before they lead to a data breach.

Varonis can also be used to lock down sensitive data, set permissions, capture detailed audit trails for compliance and forensics, and produce reports.



1 User or program accesses file. 2 Nasuni tracks and logs activity. 3 Nasuni outputs to Varonis Collector via API. 4 Varonis analyzes activity and sends alerts. 5 Varonis locks down data or user if threat detected. Threat detected and disabled in real time.

The Varonis Data Security Platform analyzes data gathered by Varonis Collectors from Nasuni Edge Appliances, sending alerts or taking action if a threat is detected.

Joint Solution Benefits

The Nasuni-Varonis joint solution offers customers:

A highly scalable platform for storing and securing unstructured data on-premises, in the cloud, or in hybrid cloud implementations.

Unlimited file storage capacity for user home drives, department shares, and project directories, with no limits on volume, directory, or file size or the number of locations that can access the same data.

Security analytics with deep data context, combining advanced data classification and access governance with continuous monitoring and alerting on core data stores.

Customizable dashboards to help remediate risk and fix misconfigurations.

A global file system that consolidates file storage, data protection, file synchronization, and management across the enterprise.

Dramatic reduction in file infrastructure costs by minimizing or eliminating the need for NAS, file server, backup, DR, replication, and WAN optimization.

Dramatic reduction in financial losses by minimizing exposure to data breaches, privacy violations, destruction of intellectual property, and non-compliance.

About Varonis

Varonis is a pioneer in data security and analytics, fighting a different battle than conventional cybersecurity companies. Varonis focuses on protecting enterprise data: sensitive files and emails; confidential customer, patient and employee data; financial records; strategic and product plans; and other intellectual property. The Varonis Data Security Platform detects insider threats and cyberattacks by analyzing data, account activity and user behavior; prevents and limits disaster by locking down sensitive and stale data; and efficiently sustains a secure state with automation. With a focus on data security, Varonis serves a variety of use cases including governance, compliance, classification, and threat analytics. Varonis started operations in 2005 and now has thousands of customers worldwide – comprised of industry leaders in many sectors including technology, consumer, retail, financial services, healthcare, manufacturing, energy, media, and education.

About Nasuni

Nasuni enables organizations to store, protect, synchronize and collaborate on files across all locations at scale. Nasuni Cloud File Services™, powered by the Nasuni UniFS® global file system, leverages cloud storage to modernize primary NAS and file server storage; archiving; backup; and disaster recovery, while offering transformational new capabilities for multi-site file sharing. By combining the low cost, unlimited capacity, and durability of object storage from leading cloud vendors such as Amazon, Azure, Dell EMC, and IBM, with the high performance, security, and broad application compatibility of traditional file storage, the Nasuni subscription service 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

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