

# Nasuni Cloud File Storage for Windows Virtual Desktop

## High-Performance File Storage for Windows Virtual Desktop at a Fraction of the Cost

Nasuni® is a modern file storage platform built for the cloud that enables enterprises to deploy Windows Virtual Desktops with limitless file storage for home drives, project shares, group directories, and user profiles. Nasuni uses cost-effective Azure Blob object storage to provide Windows Virtual Desktop file storage that costs up to 50% less than any other alternative, and offers greater scalability, higher performance, and more flexibility than hardware-centric file services built on traditional NAS, file server, backup, replication, and disaster recovery technologies.

A modern cloud VDI solution like Windows Virtual Desktop requires modern cloud file storage. Traditionally, VDI file storage has been based on Network-Attached Storage (NAS) and file server hardware located on-premises, and the accompanying required technology to provide file backups, restoration, and disaster recovery. These traditional approaches are expensive, complex to maintain and administer, and don't scale easily. They will also introduce latency if used with a modern cloud VDI solution like Windows Virtual Desktop due to the physical distance and the slower WAN connections between the desktops based in Azure and the file storage based on-premises.

The solution is Nasuni – a cloud file storage platform built specifically for Azure that offers unlimited file capacity and high-performance file access. Nasuni can be co-located with Windows Virtual Desktop in the same Azure regions to deliver an economical, consolidated global namespace at a fraction of the cost of traditional NAS and Windows file servers. Built-in backups and disaster recovery further reduce costs, complexity, and IT resources.

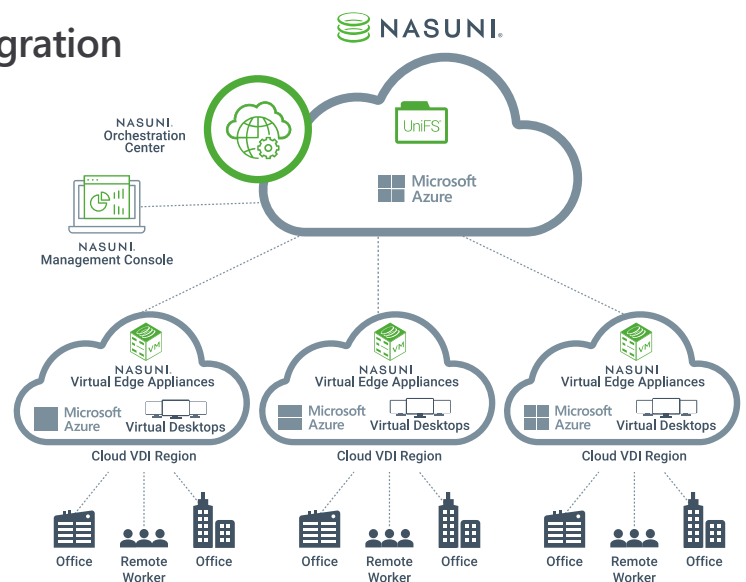
“Nasuni can deliver to Azure customers a global file system with a single namespace, that delivers both performance and low lower costs though Azure blob storage.

**Niko Dukic, senior program manager for Azure Storage, Microsoft**

## Nasuni and Windows Virtual Desktop Integration

### How It Works

Nasuni consolidates all file data in scalable, secure Azure Blob Storage. In each Azure region that is hosting Windows Virtual Desktop, small footprint virtual machines — Nasuni Edge Appliances — cache copies of just the frequently used files on Azure VM disk storage. Since the Windows Virtual Desktop instances are in the same Azure data center as the Azure disk storage, end-users enjoy high-performance, LAN-speed file access.



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## Limitless File Storage

On-demand provisioning so virtual desktops never run out of capacity for department shares, project shares, and home directories.



## Azure Blob Advantage

Object storage durability, scalability, and economics using Azure Blob storage as the backing store.



## Multi-Region File Sharing

Collaboration across WVD regions with high-speed, multi-site file synchronization and Global File Lock®.

## The benefits of using Nasuni for Windows Virtual Desktop

### Cost Savings

Nasuni uses low-cost Azure Blob storage instead of expensive, hardware-constrained block storage. The CapEx of traditional on-premises equipment is replaced by Nasuni's OpEx subscription model, which can reduce costs by up to 50%.

### Simplified IT

With Nasuni, full-sized NAS, file servers, or VM disk storage at each Windows Virtual Desktop region are not required. The Nasuni Management Console greatly reduces IT operational overhead, as shares, volumes, and more can be monitored and managed centrally online from anywhere.

### Built-in Data Protection

Nasuni Continuous File Versioning® eliminates the need for expensive third-party backup hardware, software, media servers, and backup storage, as well as separate cloud backup services. All file changes are captured as read-only 'snapshots' to create an infinite version history.

### Limitless Scale

Customers are dealing with massive files and file shares (e.g. seismic data, CAD files in manufacturing, Revit files in architecture, etc.) and Nasuni scales out with limitless Azure Blob storage, so IT never has to worry about running out of space for users or exceeding volume, directory, or file size limits.

### Global File Sharing

Nasuni enables Windows Virtual Desktop users to share the same files with cross-region file synchronization. Additionally, patented Nasuni Global File Lock® technology ensures that two people (even in different countries) cannot edit a file at the same time, eliminating version conflicts.

## Learn more about how Microsoft and Nasuni work together to deliver a great end-user experience

If an organization is rolling out Windows Virtual Desktop, it's important not to overlook the file storage. I've seen too many times where a company tries to use traditional NAS or file servers and ends up putting a drag on the end user experience. Or they try to use cloud disk storage and end up overspending. Cloud-based Windows Virtual Desktop should be paired with a cloud-based file storage platform, like Nasuni, to optimize expenses, infrastructure, and performance.

John Capello, VP Product Strategy, Nasuni

### About Windows Virtual Desktop

Windows Virtual Desktop offers the best virtual desktop experience delivered on Azure. Windows Virtual Desktop enables organizations to deliver a virtual desktop experience and remote apps to any device — with exceptional scale and reduced IT costs.

### About Nasuni

Nasuni® is a file storage platform built for the cloud, powered by the world's only global file system. Nasuni consolidates Network Attached Storage (NAS) and file server silos in cloud storage, delivering infinite scale, built-in backup, multi-site file synchronization, and local file server performance, all at half the cost of traditional file infrastructures. Enterprises use the Nasuni software-as-a-service platform for NAS consolidation; backup and recovery modernization; global file sharing; and rapid, infrastructure-free disaster recovery, and as a foundation for data analytics and multi-cloud IT initiatives.

For more information, visit <http://www.nasuni.com/>.