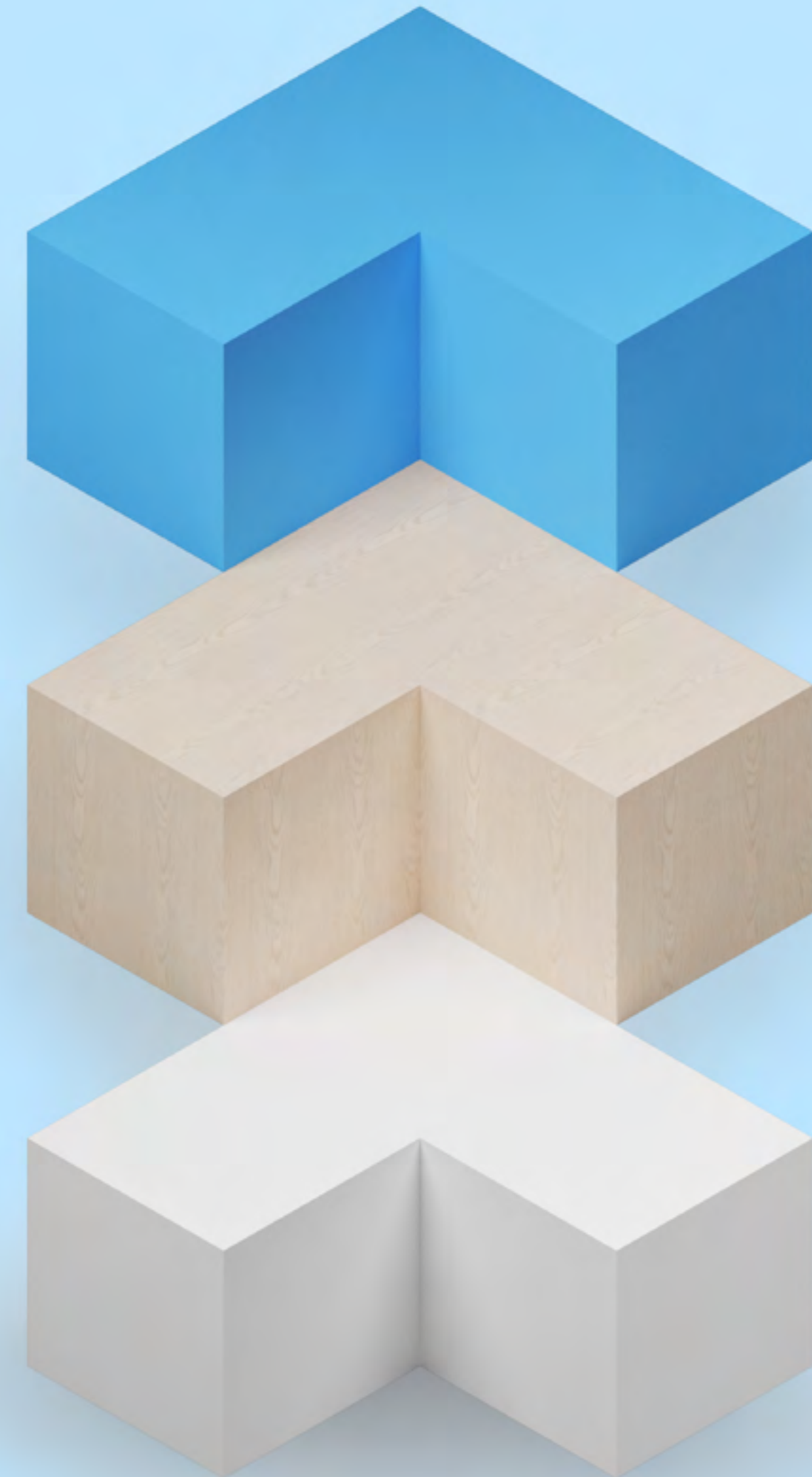# Migrating to Azure? Make your move with confidence

Your guide to planning, implementing, and making the most of your Azure migration.

■ NetApp | **Microsoft Azure**

Making the most out of your migration

Migrating your enterprise IT operations to the cloud can help your business unlock the flexibility and agility it needs for a digital future.

At the same time, it's a complex project that presents plenty of challenges, including how to:

- Control costs

- Protect your apps, data, and infrastructure

- Maintain the same performance and SLA as on-premises

- Do it all on a deadline as your cloud mandate clock ticks away

When you're moving to a new household, it's smart to call on movers to help you do the heavy lifting. When you're moving to the cloud, it's smart to call on NetApp, which offers a powerful, Microsoft-trusted suite of solutions for a safe and smooth migration to Microsoft Azure.

Preparing for the move
Meticulous planning builds the foundation for a successful migration. Here are a few tips for getting started across the three phases of migration: discover, integrate, and optimize.

Discover

In this phase, you'll gain a clear understanding of where your operations are now so that you can decide on the migration strategy that will work best for your enterprise. You'll need to know what you want to accomplish with your migration in order to design an approach that will help you realize those goals.

After you've defined your goals, you should assess your current on-premises environment in order to understand the scope of your migration. You'll need to decide which applications, servers, and services to move, as well as create an inventory and map resources to the same types of resources in Azure. Tools such as Azure Migrate can help you automate these assessments.

NetApp migration discovery solutions
Stay on top of your structured and unstructured data with discovery and classification tools.

- NetApp® Cloud Insights, a SaaS-based monitoring tool, makes it simple for you to assess the capacity and performance of all your cloud and on-premises infrastructure assets so that you can migrate workloads quickly and efficiently.

- NetApp Cloud Data Sense can help map, classify, and streamline your data so you can make a clean migration to the cloud—no matter how complex your data.

Choose your approach

When you have a good grasp on your current environment, it's time to look at which type of migration would work best for your enterprise. Your migration will either use Infrastructure-as-a-Service (IaaS), the fastest method to accomplish migration, or Platform-as-a-Service (PaaS), which is best for companies that work primarily online and in software development. Within those models, you have a choice of four common migration approaches.

Four main migration approaches

Rehost (IaaS)
Also known as lift and shift, this method re-creates your existing infrastructure in Azure. This usually involves moving a virtual machine (VM) from a data center to a VM in Azure and requires only minor changes and minimal work. This works well for legacy migrations and teams with limited cloud skills.
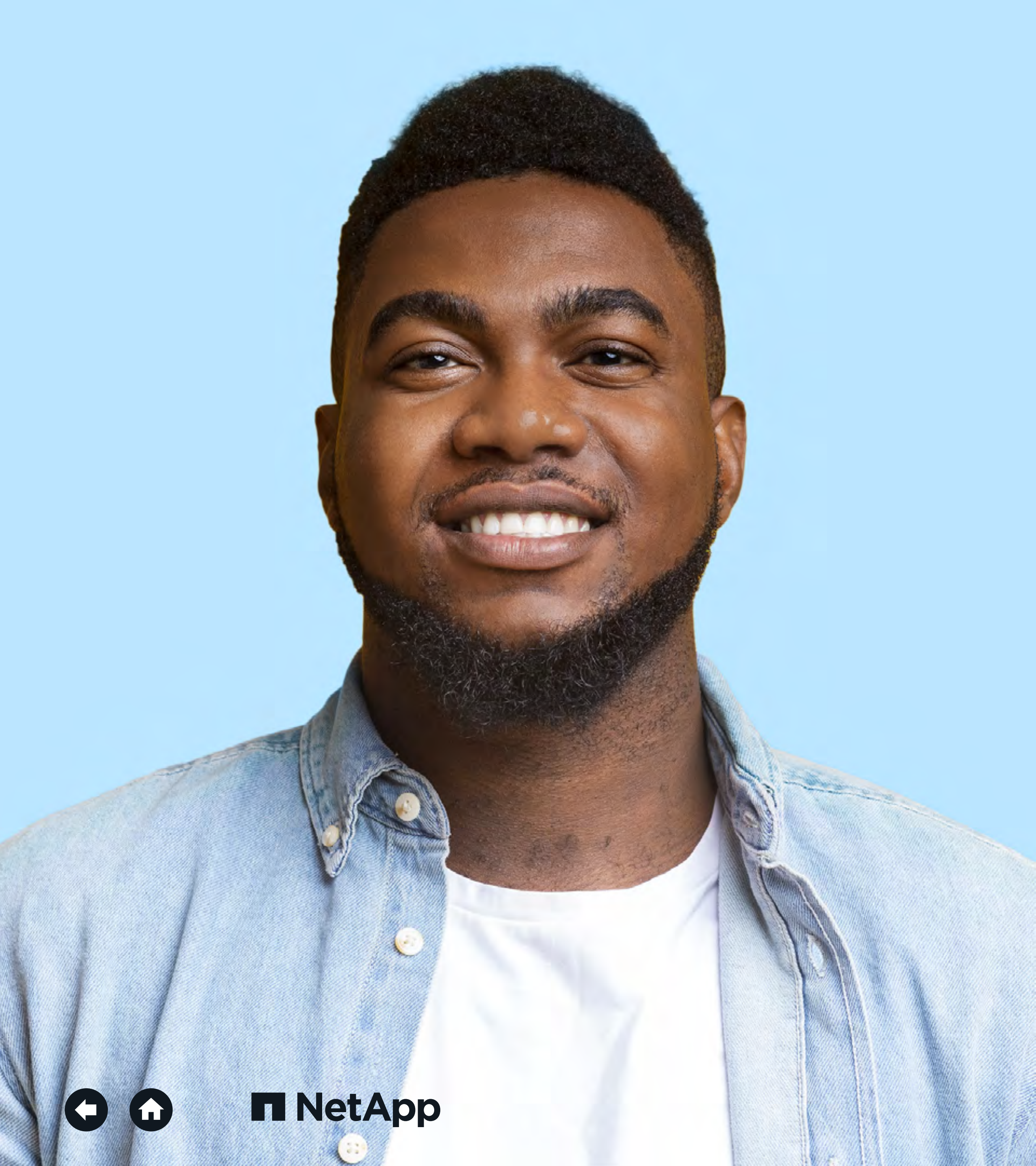
Revise (IaaS)
In this approach, you modify or extend your infrastructure code to fit into the new cloud environment. This revision enables applications to take full advantage of the services available in the cloud.

Refactor (PaaS)
In this method, existing code is run on top of the cloud. Advantages include reduced operational overhead, more agile releases, and cost control. Refactoring works well for business-critical applications that you're concerned about disrupting. It allows architecture improvement but is relatively fast and easy.

Rebuild (PaaS)
This approach rearchitects existing code on top of the cloud. Although rebuilding can make migration more complex and expensive, it does enable a highly scalable, easily deployable application.

Integrate

After you've chosen a migration model and approach, you can move on to choosing the tools that will help you meet your requirements for performance, security, cost savings, and efficiency.

NetApp ONTAP volumes as an Azure service: Azure NetApp Files
An Azure-native, fully managed service that helps you migrate faster and optimize operations. Azure NetApp Files provides the default file storage for Azure.

NetApp ONTAP systems as a service in Azure: NetApp Cloud Volumes ONTAP
Allows you to provision data services across your hybrid cloud by using the same simple, self-service interface as on-premises storage.

Backup and restore services: NetApp Cloud Backup
A simple, reliable, and cost-effective backup service that provides protection and long-term archiving of your data in cloud volumes and on-premises ONTAP clusters.

Tiering: NetApp Cloud Tiering
Efficiently manages the storage pool of your ONTAP-based clusters, leveraging low-cost object storage and placing data at the right tier at the right time.

Data synchronization: NetApp Cloud Sync
A cost-effective service that provides fast, secure data synchronization for all kinds of files. It automates data migration processes on-premises or to the cloud.

Optimize

In the optimization phase of migration, it's time to make sure you're getting the most out of the cloud. At this stage, you can focus on maximizing performance while minimizing costs for a lower total cost of ownership (TCO). With the right tools, you can reduce TCO not just by saving on upfront costs but by building efficiency to save time and money.
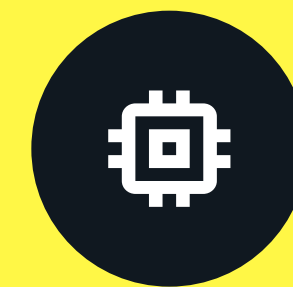
Cloud monitoring: Cloud Insights

Find problems faster and implement solutions sooner with this hybrid cloud monitoring tool that enables you to monitor, troubleshoot, and optimize all resources and applications, on-premises or in the cloud.

DevOps testing: NetApp FlexClone

This Cloud Volumes ONTAP feature was designed to clone volumes as efficiently as possible. It allows you to increase the speed and reduce the complexity of DevOps testing, supporting development and decreasing time to market.

Caching: NetApp Global File Cache

Cut storage costs by using this self-managing cache to eliminate full data copies and backups. Data is consistent anytime, anywhere—and performance is guaranteed.

Storage spending management: Cloud Volumes ONTAP

Dramatically reduce storage spending with a diverse set of data management features, services, and integrated storage efficiency technologies.

Need a hand with the move?
We can help

Migration projects can sometimes seem overwhelming. But there's no need to stress. NetApp has the solutions, experience, and insight you need to see your migration successfully through. And in the end, all the effort will be more than worth it for your enterprise.

Ready to make your move? Talk to a NetApp specialist today and set up a migration planning session.

→ Schedule your session today

Want more information? Read our e-book, Assessing Data Center Resources for Cloud Migration.

About NetApp
In a world full of generalists, NetApp is a specialist. We're focused on one thing, helping your business get the most out of your data. NetApp brings the enterprise-grade data services you rely on into the cloud and the simple flexibility of cloud into the data center. Our industry-leading solutions work across diverse customer environments and the world's biggest public clouds.

As a cloud-led, data-centric software company, only NetApp can help build your unique data fabric, simplify and connect your cloud, and securely deliver the right data, services, and applications to the right people—anytime, anywhere.

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