NetApp

DATA SOVEREIGNTY FOR FINANCIAL SERVICES

Take control of your data without sacrificing innovation and growth.

The challenge

In our dynamic world of escalating cyberthreats and geopolitical instability, digital sovereignty is top of mind for financial organizations across Europe and the Middle East. But cloud sprawl and the proliferation of data and application silos create gaps in data control and security that sacrifice sovereignty and disrupt operations.

Maintaining control and visibility over your data and IT systems, especially in cloud environments, is key to achieving data sovereignty. This includes control over operations, software, access, and the lifecycle of data and infrastructure. It also includes data residency (the physical location where the data is stored) and data governance to ensure compliance with the laws of the country in which the data is stored. Failure to meet any of these requirements results in a loss of sovereignty. And loss of sovereignty can result in heavy fines.

The solution

Intelligent data infrastructure built on NetApp helps financial organizations achieve digital sovereignty with functional solutions that allow you to maintain control and security of your data, meeting local and regional mandates while empowering your overall ecosystem. NetApp® solutions address the four main factors for attaining data sovereignty:

- **Data security:** Safeguarding data from unauthorized access, breach, or cyberthreats.
- **Data residency:** The physical location where your data is stored.
- **Data privacy:** How sensitive data is collected, used, and shared in compliance with regulations like GDPR, DORA, and PDPL.
- **Data sovereignty:** The legal concept that dictates where data can be stored and processed.

Safeguard your data with built-in security

Because of its innately sensitive nature, financial services data is a high-priority target for cyber criminals and other adversaries. Whether you are accessing your data in the boardroom, on the trading floor, or via an online banking app, NetApp offers the most secure storage on the planet. For maximum protection, our security capabilities are built into every system, not bolted on like other solutions.

Encryption is the foundation of data security. To limit access to your data, NetApp solutions provide quantum-proof encryption for data in flight and at rest. External key management means that only you hold the keys. If your data is stolen or intercepted, no matter where it is located, it cannot be accessed or unencrypted—not even by NetApp.

To keep your data safe from cyberthreats, NetApp delivers real-time, AI-driven ransomware protection with 99% accurate detection and instant, proactive response capabilities. Our Zero Trust capabilities protect data and infrastructure from the inside out. Support for a full spectrum of 3-2-1 backup variations, including replication and simple, low-cost disaster recovery protection, keep your data safe from corruption, loss, or accidental deletion.

Policy-controlled trusted data spaces empower you to share data with partners, suppliers, and ecosystem collaborators—locally, regionally, and across borders. You can be confident that your IP and sensitive information remain protected, governed, and sovereign.

Top-level security certifications

NetApp is the safest place to store your data across on-prem and cloud environments with solutions that are proven to meet the most stringent standards for storing and protecting classified data. Our state-of-the-art storage systems are built on rigorous compliance, supply chain transparency, and cybersecurity principles.

NetApp solutions hold top-level security certifications worldwide, including Common Criteria (ISO/IEC 15408), FIPS 140-2, TISAX, and ISO/IEC 27001. Our products map to Certification of Origin and Manufacturing (COOM) requirements using detailed supply chain audits, quality management systems, and third-party validations.

In addition, NetApp solutions meet interoperability standards and also align with DORA, which serves as a security framework that feeds into the EU Sovereignty Framework. And NetApp also maps to the defined requirements in the most recent NATO Data Centric Reference Architecture.

Control your data on premises and in the cloud

For the strictest data residency requirements, NetApp supports dark sites with no external access. For hybrid data management models, NetApp solutions integrate with major

KEY BENEFITS

Safeguard your data with built-in security

- Quantum-proof encryption with external key management prevents stolen or intercepted data from being accessed.
- Built-in ransomware protection with proactive response keeps your data safe from cyberattacks.
- Top-level certifications worldwide ensure that NetApp solutions meet the rigorous standards for protecting classified data.
- Policy controlled trusted data spaces enable secure collaboration locally, regionally, and across borders.

Control your data on premises and in the cloud

- Manage your own data directly, on premises and in the cloud.
- Gain visibility across your entire data estate to easily see and control access, usage, and sharing of your data.

Keep private data private

- Support privacy and compliance across the data lifecycle with NetApp data classification solutions that provide out-of-the box privacy insights.

Enable European and Middle East sovereignty

- Access on-premises and cloud solutions, led by local providers, that meet the strictest regional requirements.
- Secure strategic autonomy while accessing top technologies that enable economic diversification, national security, and AI-driven growth.

cloud providers. No matter where your data resides, NetApp data management tools allow you— not NetApp or a third-party vendor—to manage your data directly. Our observability and monitoring tools provide visibility across your entire data estate, enabling you to easily see and control access, usage, and sharing of your data. When needed, you can move your data seamlessly and securely between cloud and on-premises environments. Role-based access controls, multi-admin verification, and multi-factor authentication prevent unauthorized data access.

To enable true data sovereignty, NetApp applies strict rules to the location and access of any telemetry, metadata, and support data that customers provide, enabling compliance with EU and Middle East sovereignty regulations.

ALIGNED WITH THE EU SOVEREIGNTY FRAMEWORK

NetApp solutions support the sovereignty dimensions defined by the European Commission, ensuring that financial institutions retain full strategic, legal, operational, and technological control over their data across hybrid multicloud environments.

Keep private data private

Data privacy is foundational for sovereignty and compliance—whether under GDPR, DORA, ENISA, PDPL, or other regulations. To enable and maintain data privacy you need to know your data. What types of data do you have? Where does it reside? What are the risks associated with it?

From creation to archival, NetApp solutions support privacy and compliance across the entire data lifecycle. Built-in data classification provides out-of-the-box privacy insights, including Privacy Risk Assessments and Data Subject Access Requests (DSARs). Compliance controls prevent unauthorized deletion or alteration of data—even by NetApp or external parties.

Seamless integration with multiple providers prevents over-reliance on a single vendor, supporting a balanced, flexible, and compliant technology ecosystem.

Accelerate innovation and growth

NetApp solutions combine data sovereignty capabilities with state-of-the-art technology that helps accelerate innovation and business growth. AI-ready data pipelines (powered by NetApp AFX and the NetApp AI Data Engine) deliver governed, fresh, and synchronized data to accelerate AI model cycles, reduce downtime, and unlock new business models—all while maintaining audit-ready evidence for regulators. This enables organizations to scale AI safely and confidently, with full lifecycle governance and compliance.

Enable European and Middle Eastern sovereignty

NetApp solutions align with and support European sovereignty regulations and initiatives such as GDPR, DORA, and EuroStack, as well as Middle Eastern sovereign cloud mandates and national AI strategies, including Saudi Arabia's PDPL laws and the UAE's Federal Decree-Law 45. Our solutions ensure that businesses and government organizations retain full strategic, legal, operational, and technological control over their data across hybrid and multi-partner environments. NetApp advocates for balanced policies that secure strategic autonomy while providing access to top technologies that enable economic diversification, national security, and AI-driven growth.

NetApp on-premises and sovereign cloud partnerships, led by local providers, meet the strictest regional requirements. With offices in Europe and the Middle East, NetApp provides local relevance.

Partner with NetApp for data sovereignty

NetApp enables data sovereignty through control, choice, and security, without sacrificing functionality. Our advanced technologies and ability to support solutions such as explainable AI, autonomous systems, and sovereign cloud offerings reinforces NetApp's commitment to Zero Trust architecture and ethical data practices. By partnering with NetApp, you can build a sovereign data ecosystem where collaboration is secure, compliance is streamlined, and innovation accelerates.

Learn how NetApp can help your organization meet data sovereignty requirements.

→ Request your free data sovereignty assessment.

→ Learn more about data sovereignty with NetApp.

→ Explore NetApp solutions for financial services.

THE NETAPP DIFFERENCE

When it comes to data sovereignty, NetApp steps ahead of the competition with solutions that:

- Deliver the **most secure storage on the planet** with **verifiable trust**
- Provide **control, autonomy, and operational sovereignty** capabilities
- Offer **industry-leading technology** to protect against any foreign-state regulatory reach that is designed to compromise your data sovereignty
- Give you a **sliding scale of sovereignty** for a solution that meets your specific needs

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