

#### **ESG WHITE PAPER**

# How Cloud Storage Infrastructure Can Make or Break Your SAP Migration

Azure's PaaS Cloud Storage for SAP with Azure NetApp Files Offers Breakthrough Gains in Simplicity and Performance

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#### Introduction

In today's data-driven economy, enterprises worldwide rely on SAP to intelligently optimize operations, reduce risk, and improve productivity. In fact, SAP is central to the operations of so many enterprise businesses it is now a significant front in the worldwide migration of IT operations to the public cloud.

As more organizations seek to harness the benefits of cloud infrastructure for SAP workloads, the limitations of native public cloud services compared to data center infrastructure have put a spotlight on specific challenges with SAP cloud migration projects and ongoing operations. Nowhere are those limitations more acute than in the integration of cloud compute and storage services, and yet storage service is among the least deliberated decisions during migration planning for many SAP customers.

While storage is certainly a recognized priority for high performance workloads, it's typically a secondary consideration for most business workload migrations. The game-changing realization for those grappling with SAP migrations is that selecting the right storage infrastructure can mean the difference between acheiving business objectives or refactoring workloads.

In this brief white paper, we'll look at common storage service options typically available for running SAP on native public cloud services, IaaS and SDS, and how they present limitations for achieving the business agility, performance, and productivity managers expect when migrating SAP workloads to the cloud. We'll also look at PaaS as a storage service option, available today with Azure NetApp Files (ANF), and why Microsoft and NetApp have partnered to deliver a native cloud storage solution on Azure with design characteristics that hit the sweet spot for accelerating SAP workloads and migrations.

Whether you're planning an SAP migration or trying to triage a migration that isn't standing up, it's essential to take extra care to ensure the cloud environment meets the needs of your SAP environment. To achieve the objectives of reducing the risk and cost of supporting SAP in the cloud, while improving business agility and productivity, the storage service you select can make all the difference.



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