

Groupama takes control of its colossal data volumes



NetApp AFF storage supports massive unstructured datasets for millions.

When disasters strike, insurance companies have to move quickly to make sure that their customers' property and assets are taken care of. That means making just-in-time decisions that require massive amounts of data. And with massive data comes massive storage requirements.

Groupama is the second-largest mutual insurer in the world, and storage is their lifeblood. Without high-performance, highly scalable storage, they wouldn't be able to meet the demands of their customers, and their business would fall flat. The company manages enormous datasets that users need to be able to access from anywhere, at any time. Legacy storage simply couldn't keep up. It was time to move to the next generation of storage.

**12 million
policyholders
8PB total
storage volume**

“Our challenge is making data accessible at all times. NetApp technology and technical expertise enable us to keep up with massive data volumes while becoming data experts and exceeding the expectations of our customers.”

Frédéric Arlhac
Infrastructure, Storage, and Backup Manager, Groupama

Groupama worked with NetApp and integration partner Stordata to upgrade their NAS storage infrastructure to modern, lightning-fast NetApp® AFF systems. Now Groupama is using their data as a competitive advantage instead of a cost center. How's that for evolution?

Modern data challenges require future-proof solutions

For Groupama (Groupe des Assurances Mutuelles Agricoles), a French multinational insurance provider headquartered in Paris, data is not just an asset—it's a strategic resource. Data makes it possible for Groupama to understand the specific needs of their customers while providing detailed insights into their risks. And as Groupama's 12M+ global customer base continues to expand, data volumes are exploding.

But Groupama's legacy storage architecture couldn't keep up with massively growing unstructured data volumes. The company knew they had to modernize their storage infrastructure while improving governance and scalability.

“Our storage, networking, and capacity requirements have grown by 100 times over the last 10 years,” says Frédéric Arlhac, manager of Infrastructure, Storage, and Backup at Groupama. “If we were to print all of our data on paper, the stack would reach to the moon and back 4 times.”

Making literal mountains of data available and accessible at all times is incredibly challenging, especially when dealing with an inflexible storage architecture. To provide the best service for its customers at an affordable cost, Groupama needed

a storage solution with enterprise-grade data reduction capabilities. They needed to consolidate and streamline their storage infrastructure to increase performance while effortlessly scaling to handle exponentially increasing data volumes.

Flexibility and scalability on demand

Having leveraged NetApp for unstructured NAS projects in the past, Groupama chose NetApp to help them improve scalability without increasing complexity—or breaking the bank.

NetApp AFF and FAS storage gives Groupama the data efficiency it needs with built-in features like aggregation and deduplication, reducing the company's storage and capacity requirements considerably.

“NetApp has done a great job in following the needs of the market with its NAS solutions,” says Arlhac. “We have an excellent relationship with NetApp, and we rely on their technical experts for advice and assistance in delivering enterprise-grade storage services.”

Working with partner Stordata, NetApp implemented a new storage solution built on AFF A400 systems, easily accommodating 1PB of data from the approximately 2PB of total data in their unstructured environment. NetApp storage enables Groupama to seamlessly expand their capacity to meet demand while maintaining 24/7/365 accessibility.

Becoming data experts

With their new storage infrastructure built on NetApp, Groupama is turning their mountains of data from a cost center into a competitive advantage. For Arlhac and his team, the future of Groupama depends on their ability to provide value-added services using data that increases their efficiency and accelerates response times.

“We are called on to become data experts, which will require us to get even closer to the business,” says Arlhac. “It’s important that everyone across the organization understands the possibilities of data as well as the investment in infrastructure required to deliver enhanced services.”

Moving forward, Groupama is keenly focused on delivering data services that create value for the organization and for customers. Leveraging NetApp’s advanced data management capabilities, Groupama can easily identify the most valuable data. By sorting through immense quantities of data and deriving discrete, strategic value, Groupama is not just providing higher quality services for its customers—it’s also leaving the competition in the dust.

[Why should you choose NetApp AFF A-Series?](#)

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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. To learn more, visit www.netapp.com



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