



## SOLUTION BRIEF

# NetApp Private Storage for Microsoft Azure

Harness the power and control of a hybrid cloud from NetApp and Microsoft to transform your data center to meet dynamic business needs

### Key Benefits

#### Agility and Efficiency

Attain the agility and efficiency of a hybrid cloud solution from NetApp and Microsoft.

#### Fast Connectivity

Leverage Microsoft Azure ExpressRoute connectivity for fast, dedicated, high-bandwidth connections to your private storage for secure hybrid cloud performance.

#### Complete Control

With NetApp® Private Storage, you have complete control over your data connected to the Microsoft Azure environment.

#### Secure Private Storage

NetApp Private Storage is located within secure, reliable, tier 1 Equinix data centers, placing your data securely next to Azure public cloud compute resources.

### The Challenge

As CIOs and their teams continue their evolution from being builders of applications and operators of data centers to brokers of information services, they require choice and flexibility to navigate their evolving mobile-first, cloud-first world. They need agile solutions that harness the power of private, public, and hybrid cloud resources to transform their data centers to meet evolving business requirements.

### The Solution

NetApp Private Storage for Microsoft Azure enables your enterprise to build an agile, high-performance cloud infrastructure that balances private and public cloud resources to optimize business outcomes. It is an addition to NetApp's award-winning Microsoft Cloud portfolio, which includes the FlexPod® Datacenter with Microsoft Private Cloud. NetApp Private Storage for Microsoft Azure enables you to leverage the performance, agility, and control of private NetApp storage resources with the savings and elasticity benefits of Microsoft Azure. This capability enables your organization to simply and securely extend into the cloud to enable massive scalability as you need it. And it allows workloads to move seamlessly across cloud resources.

NetApp Private Storage for Microsoft Azure features the NetApp clustered Data ONTAP® storage operating system. This system offers a single storage and data management platform that enables unrestricted and secure data movement across private, public, and hybrid clouds.

NetApp Private Storage connects to Microsoft Azure using Azure ExpressRoute, a private, high-bandwidth, low-latency connection that does not go over the Internet. With ExpressRoute you can connect directly to your private storage at an Equinix cloud access facility to Microsoft Azure. Equinix, a global interconnection and data center company, is the first colocation facility to offer direct, high-speed connections to Microsoft Azure with ExpressRoute. Testing of NetApp Private Storage for Microsoft Azure has shown that ExpressRoute provides 36% better performance versus that of a VPN over public Internet connections.

### Combine Public Cloud Benefits with Proven Enterprise Storage

NetApp Private Storage for Microsoft Azure combines the elasticity and savings of Microsoft Azure with the performance and availability of dedicated NetApp enterprise storage.

- **Enterprise workload optimization.** Your organization will reap the benefits of Microsoft Azure combined with the speed, reliability, and availability of NetApp storage for enterprise workloads such as Microsoft SQL Server, Oracle, SAP, and more.
- **Azure compute for variable workloads.** You can easily match compute resources to utilization and avoid large capex investments that would otherwise be required for peak, unforecasted, or seasonal workloads.



NetApp Alliance Partner

- **Disaster recovery at a lower cost.** You can deploy cost-effective single- or multiregion disaster recovery by activating Azure only in disaster recovery test and failover scenarios.
- **Protecting critical applications.** Take advantage of space-efficient NetApp Snapshot® technology for backup, rapid recovery, and integrated data protection of business-critical applications.

### Your Cloud, Your Terms

With NetApp Private Storage, you have complete control over your data while using Microsoft Azure:

- **Store your data “next to” rather than “in” the cloud.** By locating your data next to Azure, you retain control of your data and enable performance similar to on-premises infrastructure stacks without needing a significant compute investment.
- **Secure connectivity to the cloud.** ExpressRoute enables you to connect NetApp storage with a secure, dedicated, high-speed network connection.
- **Meet compliance and sovereignty regulations.** The use of NetApp Private Storage helps you to meet compliance requirements. You own your storage and know where your data lives at all times. Advanced NetApp compliance features include NetApp SnapLock® software and NetApp disk encryption.
- **Enabling cloud data mobility.** NetApp clustered Data ONTAP offers a single storage and data management platform that makes it easy to move data within your infrastructure based on NetApp, including private, public, and hybrid clouds.
- **World-class physical security.** Placing NetApp storage in tier 1 data centers such as those provided by Equinix offers your organization superior physical and environmental security.

### Optimize Resources Across Private and Public Clouds

With NetApp Private Storage for Microsoft Azure, you can dynamically change your mix of public and private cloud resources to balance your opex-capex profile and meet changing business needs.

- **Accelerate innovation and time to market.** Your organization can leverage the speed and flexibility of Azure compute resources for development and test and then run those workloads on Azure or deploy them on the premises.
- **Optimize cloud resources.** The use of Microsoft System Center 2012 R2 and Data ONTAP PowerShell Toolkit enables management and mobility of data between a private cloud and private storage connected to Microsoft Azure.
- **Data center migration and consolidation.** Move your data to private storage connected to Azure and maintain operations as old data centers are decommissioned. Then leave the data in place or move it to a new data center.

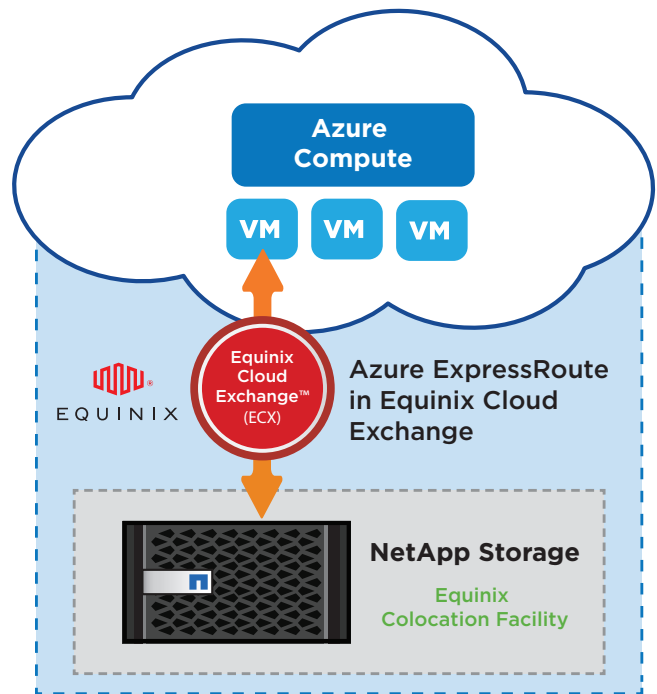


Figure 1) NPS for Azure: Azure ExpressRoute and Equinix Cloud Exchange connect your private storage to Azure compute.

- **Adjust capex-opex spending.** You can adjust your capex-opex spending throughout your software-as-a-service lifecycle. Pay as you go for Azure compute, then repatriate data to a private cloud as you grow.

### Leverage the Experience of Proven Industry Leaders

For over 10 years, NetApp and Microsoft have worked closely to optimize NetApp storage and data management solutions for Microsoft environments and applications. Today, more than 30,000 global enterprise customers store, protect, and manage their Microsoft application data with NetApp. Recently, NetApp was recognized as a “best-in-class” Microsoft partner, with two finalist spots for the Microsoft 2014 Partner of the Year Awards.

### About NetApp

Leading organizations worldwide count on NetApp for software, systems and services to manage and store their data. Customers value our teamwork, expertise and passion for helping them succeed now and into the future.

[www.netapp.com](http://www.netapp.com)