DELL Technologies

Solution Brief

Dell PowerScale for Microsoft Azure

Unlock innovation everywhere with the most advanced file storage capabilities on Azure[1]

ESSENTIALS

Simplified journey to the cloud

- Seamless native replication with cluster-to-cluster SyncIQ
- Common PowerScale OneFS enterprise features on-premises and in the cloud
- Consistent user experience with familiar web UI and APIs

Faster Business Outcomes

- Class-leading file performance
- Scale-out architecture to support up to 18 nodes and 5.6PiB in a single namespace
- Multi-protocol support
- Designed for hybrid cloud and cloud burst use cases
- Access to Azure native AI tools help accelerate demanding AI workloads

Cloud Model

- 1, 3, 4 and 5-year subscription terms
- Deploy on customer or Dell managed Azure infrastructure
- Retire committed cloud spend
- Multiple levels of performance and cost choices with Azure instance option

The Dell Difference

Compared to Azure NetApp Files, Dell PowerScale for Microsoft Azure[2] enables:

- 5x greater cluster performance
- Up to 5x larger namespace
- 2x higher cluster resiliency

Challenges running modern workloads in public cloud

In today's fast-paced digital landscape, data is the key driver of innovation, enabling cutting-edge workloads like artificial intelligence (AI) and analytics that transform the way we live and work. As businesses continue to generate and process more data, they often turn to a public cloud strategy to keep up with the growing demands. However, managing data across multicloud environments can be a complex and frustrating experience.

Silos of data in different clouds can make it difficult to get a clear picture of the entire data landscape, leading to inefficiencies and unnecessary costs. Moreover, the unpredictability of cloud costs and the need for specialized IT skills to manage each cloud environment can be overwhelming. Additionally, varying security standards across different public clouds can create uncertainty and risk. A reliable and efficient file storage solution is essential to overcome these challenges and unlock the full potential of cloud computing.

Dell PowerScale for Microsoft Azure

Dell PowerScale for Azure is a powerful public cloud solution that brings the reliability and performance of Dell on-premises storage technology to the Azure cloud. This software-defined cloud solution combines the trusted enterprise-class data services and processing power of the Dell PowerScale OneFS software platform with the scalability and flexibility of Azure. With Dell PowerScale, organizations can simplify their journey to the cloud with seamless data mobility and operational consistency between on-premises and cloud environments.

Dell PowerScale offers unparalleled flexibility, allowing organizations to balance customization with ease of use, depending on specific requirements, with two distinct service options: Customer Managed and coming soon, Dell Managed. The Customer Managed edition empowers organizations with granular control over infrastructure, design, architecture, deployment, and scalability, ideal for those requiring customized configurations. Conversely, the Dell Managed edition, an Azure Native ISV Service, provides a streamlined experience, with Dell handling deployment, monitoring, maintenance, and upgrades, freeing up IT teams to focus on strategic initiatives.

The integration of native Azure tools with Dell PowerScale enables organizations to unlock the full potential of their data by leveraging advanced analytics, AI and machine learning (ML) capabilities to drive faster insights, improved collaboration, and enhanced decision-making. This combination creates a unified storage layer that simplifies management and provides a robust foundation for a multicloud strategy, allowing businesses to focus on innovation and growth.

Simple and safe cloud migration

Kick-start your cloud journey with a seamless, policy-driven migration of file data from the on-premises appliance to Azure with SyncIQ native replication. With the PowerScale software platform identical in both environments, organizations can avoid any disruption to the underlying storage architecture. Once in the cloud, IT teams leverage the same intuitive user interface, API interfaces, and identity management they already know. This consistency minimizes the need for retraining, reducing the time spent managing data and infrastructure, and simplifying overall management complexity. As a multicloud solution, Dell PowerScale for Azure, built on PowerScale software, empowers organizations to seamlessly integrate cloud and on-premises environments.

Trusted enterprise-class storage

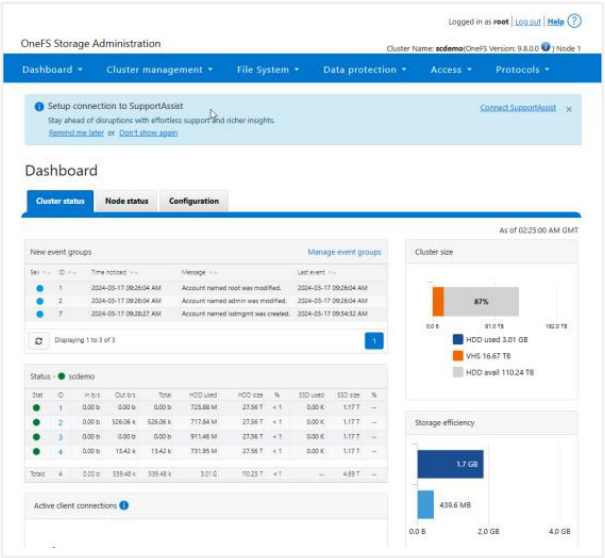
Seamlessly integrate cloud storage with familiar PowerScale data services and robust, built-in security ensuring file data is protected and accessible. With a comprehensive set of enterprise-class features, including multi-protocol access (NFS, SMB, S3), native replication with SyncIQ, snapshots, Quality of Service (QoS), CloudPools and data reduction technologies, IT teams can confidently migrate workloads to the cloud without compromise. With multi- protocol support, organizations can access unstructured data in the same way as on-premises, ensuring seamless integration with existing applications and workflows. This flexibility is critical in the cloud, where applications often require simultaneous file and object access to the same dataset.

Versatile workload support

Dell PowerScale for Azure is purpose-built to meet the unique needs of modern, data-rich workloads. It empowers I T teams to scale capacity on-demand without disruption. With a scale-out architecture designed to support large sets of hot data per cluster, and even more with tiering with CloudPools, organizations can rest assured that their workloads will be supported with the highest level of performance and reliability.

Dell PowerScale for Microsoft Azure delivers the most advanced file storage capabilities in Azure[1] and is designed to handle the most demanding workloads with ease:

- **AI and Analytics:** Leverage AI/ML services, scale data with linear scalability , and tap into the high performance and large capacity of the solution, designed for industries such as Life Sciences, Healthcare, Media & Entertainment (M&E), Financial, Manufacturing, and Electronic Design Automation (EDA).
- **Cloud Burst:** Seamlessly burst applications to the cloud, utilizing Azure compute resources and pointing them to a familiar PowerScale software cluster. Replicate data using to familiar tools, and optionally , bring results or data back on-premises.
- **Disaster Recovery and Ransomware Protector Copy:** Protect data with a second copy of data on a PowerScale file system, addressing regulatory, compliance, availability, and security needs. Enjoy the same experience and data services in both on-premises and cloud environments.
- **Data Center to Cloud Migration:** Move file data from on-premises to run natively in the cloud, and then decommission data centers for “cloud first” strategy. No changes to the storage architecture required, and the experience remains the same as on-premises.



Unlock innovation everywhere data resides

At Dell, our goal is to empower businesses with flexibility and choice when it comes to managing their data. With our unstructured data solutions, organizations can store, protect and manage their file data consistently and securely across a wide rand of environments – from on-premises appliances to Dell PowerScale Subscriptions, to multicloud and cloud adjacent colocation, and in the public cloud with our software-defined offer. By leveraging the proven PowerScale OneFS software platform, businesses can meet their unique needs, no matter where their unstructured data resides – and do so with confidence, knowing they have a trusted partner to support them every step of the way.

Watch this interactive demo to learn more about Dell PowerScale for Azure.

[1] Based on Dell analysis of software capabilities, April 2025.

[2] Based on Dell analysis, April 2025. Performance comparing read throughput per cluster.

Learn more about Dell PowerScale

Contact a Dell Technologies Expert

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