

# Top Ten Reasons: Why Customers Deploy Dell EMC Unity XT for Microsoft SQL Server

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## 1 | Right Sized Array for Initial Deployment & Beyond

Dell EMC's Unity XT is an active-active scale-up architecture, available in variety of models to meet the capacity & performance needs for Microsoft SQL Server database deployments. As databases grow, capacity expansion is simple, scalable in increments as small as just 2 drives. Dell EMC Unity XT systems are 85% efficient and deliver up to 790TB effective capacity per rack unit.

## 2 | Unified File & Block for Simple Data Consolidation

Today's reporting processes require actionable insight to be drawn from a variety of data sources. Dell EMC Unity XT is both a block and file platform, allowing for the consolidation of valuable data required for modern reporting with SQL Server Analysis Services.

## 3 | Up to 5:1 Data Reduction

Data efficiencies help maximize the overall cost effectiveness of any deployments. Dell EMC Unity XT combines inline compression and inline deduplication which combine to provide up to 5:1 data reduction with high resource efficiency that lowers TCO. Leveraging compression on the array instead of row or page compression at the database level can help improve CPU utilization and improve performance.

## 4 | On-Array Database Protection

Protecting Microsoft SQL Server databases is always a multi-prong effort. AlwaysOn replicas provide a great level of high availability natively to Microsoft SQL Server. However, database restores are sometimes unavoidable; restoring from scheduled or ad-hoc snapshots allow for rapid recovery of even your largest production databases. Dell EMC AppSync can be used to provide policy-based orchestration for protection and self-service capabilities for DBAs and application owners alike.

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## 5 Simplified Database Repurposing

Snapshots can also be leveraged as part of Dell EMC Unity XT's Integrated Copy Data Management capabilities to easily provide re-purposed database copies. These copies can be used for simple patch testing or for formalizing a test/dev environment where developers can refresh their database copy from production or a gold master copy via self-service.

## 6 Host I/O Limits for Ensuring Performance

To ensure maximum performance of the array and meet the SLAs made with the business, DBAs or application owners, Dell EMC Unity XT host I/O limits allow your non-critical databases to be limited to a maximum amount of IOPS or bandwidth. Optionally, databases can be allowed to burst to exceed their limits for a small and configurable amount of time, if this does not happen regularly.

## 7 Built for Hybrid Cloud

Cloud integration for Dell EMC Unity XT happens in several ways. As the first external storage platform to be validated for use with VMware Cloud Foundation (VCF), Dell EMC Unity XT offers the best of both worlds for customer's hybrid cloud deployments. For disaster recovery as a service, Dell EMC Unity XT can replicate VMs or data to a managed service provider and run your applications in the cloud with no secondary datacenter required. Cloud Tiering Appliance allows the replication of snapshots to the cloud and back to the same or any other Dell EMC Unity XT array. Dell EMC Cloud Edition is a Dell EMC Unity XT software-defined storage solution deployed with VMware Cloud on the AWS cloud. This block and file solution is ideal for a variety of use cases in the cloud including Test/Dev, or replication services to a third site.

## 8 Superior Security & Compliance

Microsoft SQL Server DBAs, are diligently concerned with the overall security of their data, in-flight and at rest. Dell EMC Unity XT is Dell EMC's most federally certified storage and is on the US DoD approved products list. Dell EMC Unity XT eases the minds of DBAs by meeting database security requirements with D@RE, TLS, and IPv6 dual stack certification and more.

## 9 Predictive Storage Analytics

CloudIQ is a cloud-based application that lets you easily monitor, analyze, and troubleshoot your storage environment from anywhere – it's like a fitness tracker for your storage. With no software to install and support for Dell EMC Unity XT, SC Series, XtremIO, VMAX, and PowerMax, you can start getting your storage environment in better shape today. CloudIQ makes daily storage management tasks easy with limited staff and budgets – saving significant time and costs.

## 10 Future Proof Loyalty Program

The Dell EMC Future-Proof Loyalty Program gives you additional peace of mind with guaranteed satisfaction and investment protection for future technology changes. A 3-year satisfaction guarantee, investment protection, and predictable support pricing all ensure that your purchase of Dell EMC Unity XT is the right fit for your Microsoft SQL Server deployment.