Microsoft Azure StorSimple

8000 Series Datasheet

Hybrid storage with cloud economics and agility

Microsoft Azure StorSimple 8000 Series arrays excel at managing data growth and stopping the endless cycle of buying storage. By tightly-coupling Microsoft Azure services with on-premises hybrid storage, StorSimple lowers the overall cost of storage by 40%-60%, improves data protection and increases storage agility.

Effectively manage data growth and lower storage costs up to 60%

• Cloud storage is used to offload inactive data from on-premises and for storing backup and archive data
• Deduplication and compression reduce storage growth rates and increase storage utilization
• SSDs deliver low-cost IOPs performance

Streamline storage and management

• Primary, backup, snapshot, archive and offsite storage are converged into a hybrid cloud storage solution
• All storage functions are controlled centrally from an Azure management portal
• Automated cloud snapshots replace costly remote replication and time-consuming tape management

Improve DR and compliance

• Instant recovery only downloads data needed by applications for fast RTOs (recovery time objectives)
• Data retention is determined by software policies instead of backup system capacity or tape rotations
• DR testing can be done without disrupting normal daily operations

Migrate and copy data through the cloud

• The Microsoft Azure StorSimple Virtual Appliance makes on-premises data available to applications running in Azure for dev/test and recovery
• Data uploaded to the cloud can be accessed from other sites for recovery and data migrations

The hybrid storage architecture of Microsoft Azure StorSimple 8000 series arrays

Improving storage ROI

High data growth is a way of life for IT professionals who are constantly planning for, acquiring, deploying and managing storage. But spending resources on storage does not contribute to the organization’s bottom line the same way that new application, business intelligence or collaboration projects do. StorSimple is a highly-efficient storage solution that breaks the cycle of storage purchases caused by data growth and slows the rate that datacenter storage is consumed by:

• Converging all forms of storage onto a single solution
• Storing active data on-premises and inactive data in Microsoft Azure
• Data deduplication and compression

The result is a storage solution that significantly reduces the time needed to manage storage and gives the IT team the time and flexibility to work on higher-priority projects that support business goals.
Automated efficiency in data protection

Instead of tape backup or remote replication, StorSimple 8000 Series arrays protect data automatically with cloud snapshots. Cloud snapshots are similar to local snapshots in other products, but are stored remotely in cloud storage where they can be quickly accessed online without the lengthy delays normally incurred with off-site storage.

Minimal RTOs and non-disruptive DR testing

The instant recovery feature of StorSimple 8000 Series arrays accelerates DR by downloading the minimal amount of data needed to resume application processing - saving time when it matters most. Instant recovery also enables DR testing in environments where it had become too disruptive and costly.

Data Mobility and the Virtual Appliance

StorSimple 8000 Series arrays can access enterprise data that has been uploaded to the cloud by other 8000 Series arrays for migrating data between sites and for location-independent disaster recovery.

The Microsoft Azure StorSimple Virtual Appliance is an Azure service that provides Azure VMs access to data that StorSimple 8000 Series arrays have uploaded to Azure Storage. This gives IT teams the flexibility to perform Dev/Test work in Azure using copies of enterprise application data and provides the means to perform disaster recovery in the cloud.

Advanced hybrid storage arrays

StorSimple 8000 Series arrays store data across SSD and HDD tiers like other hybrid storage products, but also add cloud storage as the lowest cost and most scalable tier for storing inactive data. Remote online cloud storage also allows Azure StorSimple appliances to converge multiple kinds of storage including primary, backup, archive and off-site storage onto a single solution that is highly automated and controlled by a centralized management system in the cloud.

Revolutionary management

IT professionals want to manage storage and data more efficiently and reduce the risk of data loss. StorSimple 8000 Series arrays deliver on both goals with advanced automation such as dynamic capacity expansion and cloud snapshot data protection. The Microsoft Azure StorSimple Manager provides centralized management, status reports and alerts for all appliances and data protection operations across the enterprise through a cloud service that is in constant communications with both physical and virtual appliances.