Panzura Solutions for Microsoft Azure

With Panzura for Microsoft Azure, you can easily make the cloud an extension of your datacenter for both file storage and compute resources. Azure becomes your primary file storage, eliminating redundant storage, backup, and archive infrastructure at each office.

Connecting your infrastructure to Azure is simple. You get to bring the economics and flexibility of cloud to your existing file data and applications. Users connect through an on-premise appliance or directly to the cloud, and have access to the same set of consistent data no matter where they are.

With your files available in Azure, you can also host a Panzura controller in the Azure Cloud, so any application or service can run in the cloud the same way it would in your datacenter with no changes. You can run services or applications like virtual desktops, anti-virus scanning, indexing or auditing in the cloud, saving you time and money compared to provisioning new servers in your own datacenter.

Panzura uses Azure Storage as your central authoritative file storage and keeps active files synced on the Panzura controllers in each office for each site. Global file locking ensures data integrity and allows collaboration across sites, even for technical design and CAD applications. Global deduplication can reduce your overall storage footprint by up to 90 percent, while snapshots give administrators and users a "time machine" view of any file.

The Panzura Global File System lets you use Microsoft Azure to:

- Create a cloud-integrated datacenter -- a seamless hybrid cloud that connects your file infrastructure to the Azure Cloud.
- Get off the storage treadmill with pay-as-you-go cloud economics.
- Panzura customers save an average of 42% by consolidating primary NAS, file servers, backups, tapes and site-to-site replication to the cloud.
- Collaborate across sites – even for technical design applications or software developers.
- Ensure robust security and data integrity with end-to-end FIPS 140-2 certified, encryption and secure data erasure. Data integrity for your files.
- Run applications in the cloud when you need them and where you need them, rather than buying extra servers and storage.

The Cloud-Integrated Datacenter

Panzura delivers a cloud-backed NAS underpinned by a global cloud file system, that integrates with Microsoft Azure. Data is always immediately available and consistent in every datacenter and in Microsoft Azure. High-performance computing, antivirus, file auditing, search, indexing, and rendering applications can now run natively in the cloud, in corporate offices, or in both.
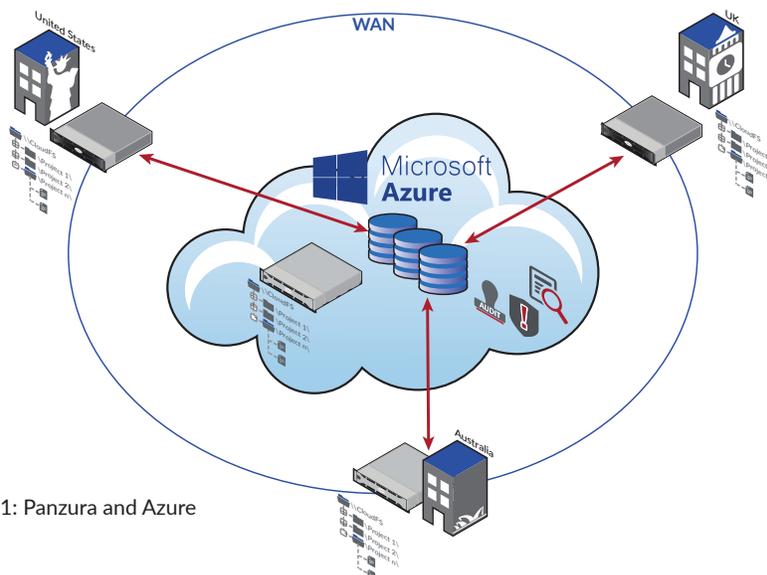

Figure 1: Panzura and Azure

With Panzura, you can extend your corporate datacenter to anywhere in the world. Azure gives you the flexibility to dial up or scale back services as you need them, so you only pay for what you use.

How it Works

A Single Locking File System for Everyone, Everywhere

In a cloud-integrated datacenter, Microsoft Azure becomes the authoritative file storage for your enterprise. With Panzura's Global File System (GFS), all of your users are connected to the same set of consistent files whether they're or connected to an Azure VM or a Panzura controller in an office. The Panzura GFS also ensures data integrity and file consistency with its patented file locking, metadata management and global snapshot capability.

Real-time Cross-Site Collaboration

Panzura's patented file locking works across all of your sites and the cloud. Users can collaborate confidently without worrying about accidentally overwriting files or waiting for files to replicate over the network. Global file locking also eliminates latency for remote collaboration, cutting file open and sync times from 30-plus minutes to just seconds.

Replace Multiple Tiers of File Storage with the Cloud

When you deploy the Panzura GFS, the Azure Cloud becomes your authoritative file storage. All of your file data is stored, backed up, archived and protected in the cloud. You can simplify your infrastructure by eliminating primary storage, local backup servers, mirrored data, tape drives, and fees for offsite storage.

Quickly Add a Cloud Extension to Your Datacenter

Using Panzura, you can set up a virtual controller in any Azure Cloud region. You can connect in-cloud applications to the controller and access corporate file data, or use it for testing, disaster recovery or other services. The Panzura GFS gives you access to the same consistent file data from anywhere, including the cloud allowing you to run applications even when they are not located near the datacenter.

How Panzura for Microsoft Azure Helps You

With Panzura and Microsoft Azure, you can consolidate all of your file storage to the cloud, and still give users local performance for the data they use. You can easily:

1. **Create a hybrid cloud.** Hybrid cloud usually means islands of infrastructure, loosely coupled by complex and expensive networking connections. With Panzura, you can create a cloud-integrated datacenter – a seamless hybrid cloud that connects your infrastructure to the Azure Cloud.
2. **Take advantage of cloud economics.** By using Microsoft Azure to consolidate and extend your infrastructure into the cloud, you avoid deploying expensive servers and storage that rarely get fully used. You can pay as you go, instead of buying ahead and "guestimating" how much storage you'll need in 3 years.
3. **Simplify storage and WAN infrastructure.** With Panzura, Azure takes the place of primary storage, backup and archive. File collaboration and large file transfers are also much more efficient thanks to data deduplication, so you can eliminate costly WAN optimization hardware and dedicated MPLS network links.
4. **Consolidate infrastructure from small sites to the cloud.** Since you can put applications and other services in a cloud region closest to each office, you can eliminate most of the local infrastructure at those offices.

By solving the last mile of hybrid cloud computing, Panzura lets you bring the cloud to your datacenter without any changes to your user workflow. Data is always immediately available and consistent at every site and in the cloud.

panzura

Panzura, Inc. | 695 Campbell Technology Pkwy #225, Campbell, CA, USA | 855-PANZURA | www.panzura.com