

Nasuni for Business Continuity



Summary of Nasuni Capabilities for Business Continuity and Remote Work

Remote File Access Anywhere, Anytime

through standard drive mappings or Web browser

Object Storage Durability, Scalability, and Economics using Azure, AWS, and Google cloud storage

Built-in Backup with Better RPO/RTO with continuous file versioning to cloud storage

Rapid, Low-Cost DR that restores file shares in <15 minutes without needing stand-by DR sites

Multi-Region VDI File Sharing that provides high-performance file access for all locations

Remote File Infrastructure Management that eliminates need for IT staff to be present in datacenters

Modern Cloud File Services Enables Remote Access to Critical File Assets and Remote Administration of File Infrastructure Anytime, Anywhere

A key part of business continuity is maintaining access to critical business content no matter what happens. Files are the fastest-growing business content in almost every industry. Providing remote file access, then, is a first step toward supporting a “Work From Anywhere” model that can sustain business operations through one-off hardware failures, local outages, regional office disasters, or global pandemics.

A remotely accessible file infrastructure that enables remote work must also be remotely manageable. IT departments must be able to provision new file storage capacity, create file shares, map drives, recover data, and more without needing skilled administrators “on the ground” in a datacenter or back office.

Nasuni for Business Continuity and Remote Work Initiatives

As a modern file services platform built for the cloud, Nasuni® enables enterprises to react to unforeseen events with more speed, agility, and flexibility than hardware-centric, on-premises file services built on traditional Network Attached Storage (NAS), file server, backup, replication, and disaster recovery technologies.

Consolidation of Primary File Data in Cloud Storage with Fast, Edge Access

Highly resilient file storage is a fundamental building block for continuous file access. Nasuni stores the “gold copies” of all file data in cloud object storage such as Azure Blob, Amazon S3, or Google Cloud Storage instead of legacy block storage. This approach leverages the superior durability, scalability, and availability of object storage to provision limitless file sharing capacity, at substantially lower cost.

Nasuni Edge Appliances – lightweight virtual machines that cache copies of just the frequently accessed files from cloud storage – can be deployed for as many offices as needed to give workers access to files at local LAN speeds over standard SMB and NFS protocols, while marginalizing cloud latency and data egress fees.

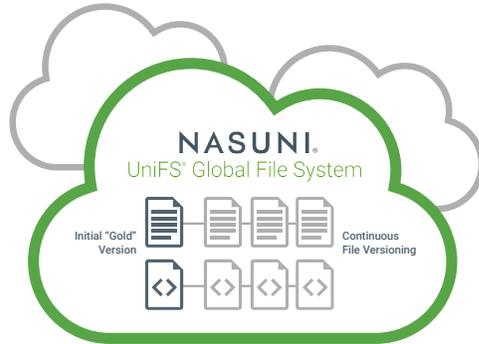
This unique “cache-from-cloud” approach, the center of which is Nasuni’s cloud-native file system UniFS®, is the foundation for the rest of Nasuni’s business continuity capabilities.

“The ability to share the same data to multiple sites makes collaboration and disaster recovery straightforward and easy (especially for end users)”

—IT Manager

Built-in File Backup with Industry-Leading RPO/RTO

Nasuni Continuous File Versioning® technology captures file changes as they occur on Edge Appliances in all locations. By taking continuous snapshots of the file system and storing just the deltas as read-only versions in object storage, Nasuni can restore individual files, whole shares, or entire volumes to virtually any point in time, in any location.



“The ‘bread and butter’ of the Nasuni product works excellently, we are able to sync unstructured data across our global locations seamlessly’... Our global offices have stated that Nasuni has made the largest technological impact in our business over the past 4 years.”

—CIO

Traditional backup software, media servers, tapes, and archival storage, along with their high costs, are no longer needed. Recovery points (RPO) are reduced to minutes, and recovery times (RTO) are reduced to seconds. IT leaders no longer have to worry if backup media will still work, or if data can be recovered. Nor will they need to worry about having personnel on-site to perform backup. Threats like ransomware can be quickly mitigated by restoring the file system to the point just before the attack.

Rapid, Low-Cost Disaster Recovery

Because Nasuni uses geo-redundant cloud storage as the repository for all files and metadata and because Nasuni Edge Appliances are merely stateless access points to active data, restoring file access after a disaster is fast and cost-effective.

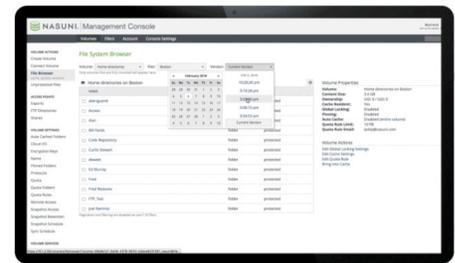
In the event of a site or regional disaster, new Edge Appliance VMs can be provisioned in any safe location – or in the cloud itself – and rehydrated with file system metadata from cloud storage. In less than 15 minutes, workers from the affected site, will be able to view and traverse the file system, while the files themselves are brought into cache in the background to restore file access.

The cost and complexity of dedicated DR sites, co-location facilities, duplicate file infrastructure, network connectivity to replicate data, and intermittent failover tests can all be eliminated.

Remote File Access

Nasuni offers two built-in ways to support “Work From Home” and mobile workforce initiatives, and ensure continuous access to file shares if offices become unavailable.

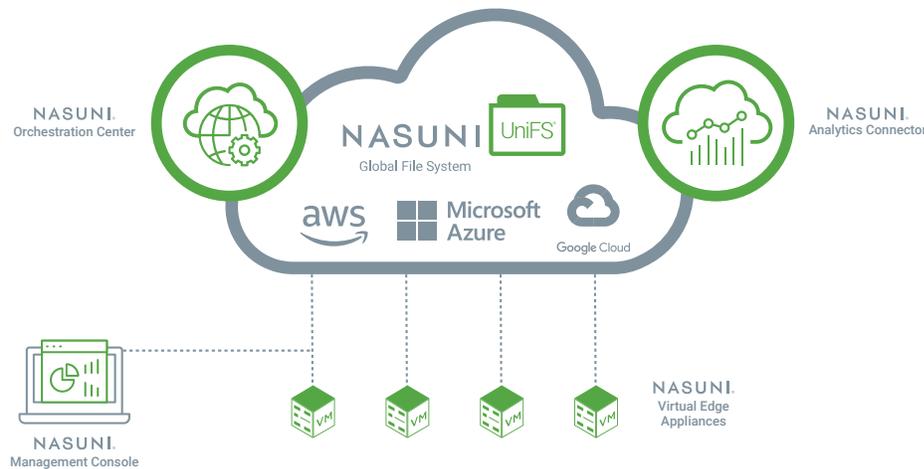
First, employees can continue to connect to their local Edge Appliance through the drive mappings on their Windows PCs and Macs. The only additional requirement is a VPN connection to authenticate workers into the local network.



The other option is to use Nasuni Web Access, a web browser application that looks and feels like a standard file explorer. Since every Nasuni Edge Appliance includes a remote web access server, remote workers can connect to any Edge Appliance using Nasuni Web Access to create directories, download and upload files, share private and public links to documents, and carry out most other daily file sharing tasks.

Multi-Region VDI File Sharing

Virtual Desktop Infrastructure (VDI) and Digital Workspace solutions from AWS, Citrix, Microsoft, VMware, and Workspot are often deployed on-premises or in the cloud to give workers another way to remotely access corporate desktops and applications and support business continuity plans. However, if file storage isn’t located “close to” each pod, zone, or farm of virtual desktops, file sharing performance will suffer and remote workers will be unproductive.



Remote File Infrastructure Management

From IT's perspective, the biggest advantage Nasuni offers may be the ability to remotely manage global file infrastructure. As a software-defined solution that leverages existing virtual infrastructure and cloud resources, Nasuni eliminates the need to “rack and stack” hardware, build file servers, rotate media, and perform other tasks that may be physically impossible in a disaster scenario.

Whether the Nasuni platform is deployed fully on-premises, fully in the cloud, or in a hybrid cloud configuration, the Nasuni Management Console enables administrators to remotely create cloud storage volumes; provision Edge Appliances; add users; expand capacity; set-up shares; configure snapshots; recover files, and monitor status, all through a web browser.

About Nasuni

Nasuni® is a file services platform built for the cloud, powered by the world's only global file system. Nasuni consolidates Network Attached Storage (NAS) and file server silos in cloud storage, delivering infinite scale, built-in backup, multi-site file synchronization, and local file server performance, all at half the cost of traditional file infrastructures. Enterprises use the Nasuni software-as-a-service platform for NAS consolidation; backup and recovery modernization; global file sharing; and rapid, infrastructure-free disaster recovery, and as a foundation for data analytics and multi-cloud IT initiatives.

“But here’s the real point: People now work together in a single file space across all branches and are in near time sync everywhere, protected with Nasuni’s global file locking service to prevent two people on different sites working on the same file. By sharing links using the web-ui of Nasuni, we can invite customers and partners to collaborate with us seamlessly on files and folders.”

—Head of IT