

NetApp Deepens Cloud Relationships

Written by Marco Attard
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Enterprise storage vendor NetApp strikes a pair of relationships in the name of the cloud-- one with Microsoft for NetApp Private Storage (NPS), and an expanded cloud partnership with data centre maker Equinix.



As the company puts it NPS enables customers to extend their infrastructure to the Azure public cloud in order to create "a seamless hybrid cloud environment." It handles storage for enterprise workloads such as Microsoft SQL Server, Oracle and SAP, with NetApp taking care of data control while Azure provides compute resource for peak, unforecasted or seasonal workloads.

Data control comes through SnapLock data permanence functionality and NetApp disk encryption, and a secure, high-speed Azure ExpressRoute connection bridges NetApp and Azure resources together.

"NetApp Private Storage for Microsoft Azure enables organizations to simply and securely extend into the cloud, expanding options for enterprises, without adding complexity," NetApp says. "First with FlexPod for Microsoft Private Cloud and now with the addition of private storage for Microsoft Azure, our vision is to enable workloads to move seamlessly across a portfolio of cloud resources."

Taking care of NPS private cloud duties is Equinix Cloud Exchange, with whose makers NetApp just expanded its partnership. Equinix already works with NetApp to combine NetApp Private Storage with Amazon Web Services (AWS) resources.

According to the two companies Equinix Cloud Exchange improves data throughput between NPS and Azure clouds by an average of 36% in comparison to public networks.

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Equinix Cloud Exchange allows access to cloud services in 16 global markets-- Amsterdam, Atlanta, Chicago, Dallas, Frankfurt, Hong Kong, London, Los Angeles, New York, Seattle, Silicon Valley, Singapore, Sydney, Tokyo, Toronto and Washington D.C-- a number the company will expand to 19 by end 2014.

NPS for Microsoft Azure is currently available in US data centres, with European expansion planned for "the near future."

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Go [Equinix Deepens Hybrid Cloud Partnership with NetApp](#)