



# NAS Archive: Igneous and Microsoft Azure

## Reduce on-premises NAS costs through cloud-based archiving

At a time when most data centers are at or beyond capacity, and when 60% or more of on-premises NAS capacity is occupied by cold data, enterprise organizations are increasingly looking to use public-cloud storage to minimize their data-center footprint. The biggest challenge today is identifying all their cold datasets, moving them at scale into the cloud, and doing it all via a reliable, automated process that makes data archive and retrieval frictionless for both users and administrators.

Igneous and Microsoft Azure enable organizations to implement a comprehensive data-management strategy for cold data: see it, move it, and restore it again when needed – even at scale – with as-a-service simplicity. Offering an ROI savings of 50% or greater, Igneous simplifies the process of moving data to Azure blob storage, streamlining operations and reducing the data-center footprint, while still preserving cold data.

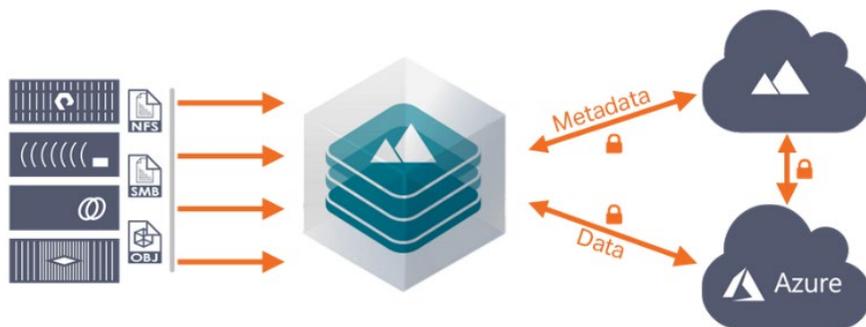
## How It Works

Engineered to scan, identify, and move data at line speed even in multi-petabyte environments, Igneous quickly locates inactive datasets wasting valuable space on primary NAS storage. Its high-performance scan engine delivers initial results within minutes, and can scan an entire NAS system – even billions of files – within hours. And since Igneous also offers seamless integration with Azure blob storage, data owners can create policies to archive cold datasets to any tier of Azure with a simple click.

Azure archive blob storage offers economical, long-term solutions to host your data indefinitely and safeguard it against loss. A software-driven archive solution that leverages the combined features of Igneous and Azure reduces your hardware footprint, freeing up data-center space and eliminating tape backups entirely, all while lowering costs.



Igneous DataDiscover quickly finds and flags cold data and enables painless archive from anywhere in the enterprise.



A single Igneous virtual machine can move data from any on-premises NAS system to any Azure tier.



## Key Benefits

A data archive strategy that leverages Igneous DataDiscover, Igneous DataProtect and Microsoft Azure blob storage delivered as-a-Service offers the following benefits:

**File data visibility.** Igneous' high-speed scan engine quickly discovers and flags cold datasets anywhere in the enterprise, using customizable filters to match your unique needs.

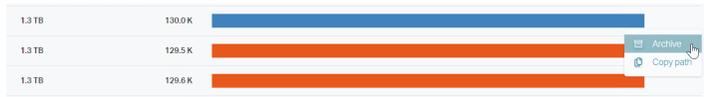
**Archive flexibility.** With its intuitive web portal and native integration with any Azure blob storage tier, Igneous offers click-to-archive simplicity to quickly and easily free up primary storage, even at scale.

**Restore confidence.** Improve business speed and efficiency with a searchable index to quickly find and restore archived files, from any Azure tier to any target, with just a few clicks.

**Operational simplicity.** With an as-a-Service delivery model, Igneous remotely monitors system performance and service telemetry in customer data centers, letting customers focus on business operations without spending additional administrative cycles to manage and monitor backup, archive, and migration tasks.

## Click-to-Archive Simplicity

Igneous is source-vendor-agnostic, able to access and archive data from every type of NAS platform. Organizations that use a heterogeneous mix of NAS systems can consolidate their archive stores into Azure blob storage through a single intuitive web portal.



1.3 TB	130.0 K	<div style="width: 100%;"></div>
1.3 TB	128.5 K	<div style="width: 100%;"></div>
1.3 TB	128.8 K	<div style="width: 100%;"></div>

Once identified, cold data can be moved to Azure with Igneous' simple click-to-archive feature.

With Igneous' powerful archive capabilities, data owners and administrators can create an archive policy that leverages Igneous' data-movement engine and Azure's blob storage to meet any archive requirements – and simplifying the process of finding and restoring data when it's needed again by indexing all data as it moved.

## Microsoft Azure Blob Storage Overview

With 95% of all Fortune 500 customers currently using Microsoft Azure cloud services, Azure Blob storage integrates seamlessly into nearly all enterprise operations already. Azure Blob Storage is available globally for a uniform archiving strategy that uses any of three different tiers, each of which offers high resiliency with set-it-and-forget-it simplicity, and with variable time-to-first-byte access based on cost:

- **Hot storage**, optimized for hosting frequently-accessed data
- **Cool storage**, for data that requires only infrequent access, with similar time-to-access and durability requirements as hot storage, and will be hosted for a minimum of 30 days
- **Archive storage**, used for data that will be rarely needed once uploaded, can be stored offline until needed, and will be hosted for at least 180 days

Igneous includes native support for all three Azure storage tiers and can be configured through simple archive policies to write directly to any Azure tier. Regardless of which tier or region is needed for a specific use case, Igneous delivers consolidated, cloud-based archive at scale, from anywhere.

## Igneous Archive as-a-Service

Simplify and automate archive operations, even at multi-petabyte scales with billions of files. With native support for any file protocol on any NAS system, and the ability to write directly to Azure blob storage, Igneous DataProtect simplifies archive operations for even the largest enterprises.

Igneous is the only archive solution that includes full API integration with Dell EMC Isilon™, NetApp FAS™, Pure Storage FlashBlade™, and Qumulo QF2™, leveraging each platform's specific capabilities for export and share discovery, snapshot management, file-system security, and data-path management for optimal throughput and backup performance.

## Archive Features

- Automated archive job management
- Archive datasets at the system, export, or directory level
- Read-only access via NFS to archived data
- Search-to-restore archived data via direct download, or restore to primary NAS
- Index archived data on ingest

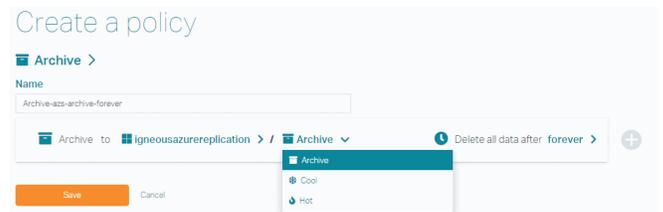
## Cloud-Tiering Features

- Lifecycle management across Igneous and Azure, enabling version control and expiration of old data
- Direct and native integration with all Azure storage tiers
- Efficient movement of data to cloud storage that minimizes ingress and egress transaction costs
- Replication between Igneous and cloud storage for offsite redundancy
- Direct-to-cloud backup and archive for software-only Igneous deployments, and as appropriate for hybrid environments
- Search both onsite and cloud-based datasets, with enforced file permissions, to enable self-service restore operations

## Contact Igneous

To learn more about Igneous and about our data migration solutions, contact us:

1-844-IGNEOUS / 206-504-3685 / [info@igneous.io](mailto:info@igneous.io)



Configuring Azure-based archive settings

## About Igneous

Igneous delivers the industry's only as-a-Service solution for unstructured data management, giving data-centric enterprises visibility, protection, and data mobility at scale.

Igneous' API-enabled, cloud-native solution combines all unstructured data-management services, letting organizations tap the value of their unstructured data while reducing risk and optimizing IT resource utilization.

Igneous: The right data, in the right place, at the right time.

Visit [igneous.io](http://igneous.io) for more information, and to register for a live demo of Igneous' data management services.