

Nasuni Solution for Healthcare Files and PACS Images



Exponential Data Growth in the Healthcare Industry

The healthcare industry is at the forefront of dealing with an explosion of data of all kinds. Structured data, like Electronic Healthcare Records (EHR, sometimes EMR) are growing quickly, but unstructured data, particularly medical images, are exploding with increases in both size and numbers - driving the need for new and innovative file management solutions. Patient imaging is one of the key drivers of growing storage requirements. A single patient exam might generate 5 to 10 more images than 10 years ago, and new technologies are increasing the detail, accuracy and resolution of those images every year. A traditional mammogram image, for example, might be 19 MB, while a new 3D tomography image could be close to 400MB's and require 4 images in one exam.

In addition to the growth of files under management, regulations and policies require institutions to retain files for an extended period (typically up to 10 years), and for a wider user base than ever before. Long term research studies, and large collaborative research projects require scalable file storage, retrieval and archiving that is both affordable and easy to use across multiple locations.

As healthcare storage requirements grow, the needs for scalable, secure and HIPAA compliant storage infrastructure grow along with them. Today's hospitals have to ensure that back-up and recovery technology, as well as disaster-recovery solutions keep pace with their growing storage requirements.

The solution to this explosive growth is not a traditional storage model. There is no way to anticipate how today's healthcare markets will change, even in the short term. And, as the healthcare market context changes, hospitals and services are making individual decisions to consolidate or acquire new operations, depending on their strategic focus. Constant uncertainty makes the time put into traditional storage capacity planning difficult to justify.

What's required is a new approach that brings long-term flexibility and scalability to healthcare storage, without sacrificing security, access, and manageability. What's required is Nasuni.

Unlimited, Secure File Storage with Nasuni

Nasuni Enterprise File Services utilizes a file system built for the cloud, which combines the scalability, accessibility and flexibility of public cloud storage with the local performance and security of on-site storage. Because of its cloud architecture, Nasuni can deliver unlimited capacity, unlimited backup of files, disaster recovery and centralized storage management all in one solution. Whether you are using Nasuni for PACS image storage or general administration files, Nasuni is an especially good fit for the healthcare industry because it securely manages, protects, and archives files while saving organizations money and time. Compared to traditional storage, our clients typically save 40-60%.

Unlimited Scalability

Nasuni combines local Edge appliances with cloud storage to provide unlimited capacity and on-demand scalability. Nasuni caches active files locally, while sending continuous versions of the data as it changes to the cloud. The result is that the bulk of file data and history resides in secure, scalable and far less costly cloud storage. As healthcare offices and hospitals continue to produce new and larger files, they don't need to worry about expanding their storage footprint. With Nasuni, storage scales on-demand in the cloud.

HIPAA Compliant

Data is secure with Nasuni, which works with Active Directory for full integration with existing user authentication and access control rules. Before it's sent to the cloud, data is encrypted using military grade AES-256 encryption. The encryption key is generated and controlled by the agency, so data is never available in any way to the cloud provider or Nasuni. Because of this approach, and the fact that Nasuni stores data in a HIPAA-compliant cloud provider, Nasuni is suitable for the storage of Protected Health Information (PHI).

File Durability and Accessibility

Local file versions are sent to the cloud almost continuously with Nasuni. Nasuni versions are unlimited and perpetual. Your edge appliance are never a point of failure for access to all system files. Permanent "gold" copies of your healthcare files are always in the cloud where geo replication ensures even further durability.

Automatic Archiving and Protection

Individual medical files or data for an entire office can be recovered in minutes in the case of business disruption or equipment failure. There are no limits on retention due to storage or media consumption.

Scalable Backup and Built-in Disaster Recovery

The entire Nasuni solution handles your backup requirements by taking continuous versions of your data. File restore times are reduced to minutes, vs. hours or days, even for large image files. If a location goes down or disaster strikes, files are still accessible by simply setting up a virtual appliance and using your customer-controlled encryption keys.

Rapid Deployment and Integration

When our healthcare clients acquire or partner with a new office, IT does not have to suffer through a complex migration to bring that new location's data under its control. By spinning up a physical or virtual Nasuni appliance at the new office, IT can quickly gain control over the storage infrastructure. Our clients don't have to manage their locations as independent silos of storage.

Central Management

With the Nasuni Management Console, edge appliances in all locations are centrally managed through a single browser-based interface, enabling uniform policies for backup, user access and security across the entire storage infrastructure.

High Volume-Multiple Location Access

Nasuni is designed to deliver high performance local access, while scaling easily to serve multiple sites. Some clients have locations numbering in the hundreds, while others rely on a few sites with thousands of users. However your healthcare organization is structured today, Nasuni can store and deliver files while remaining adaptable to future expansion and consolidation. And Nasuni provides mobile data access on iOS and Android devices as well as file synchronization on laptops.

Increased IT Efficiency and Reduced CapEx

Nasuni's simple, centralized management of storage capacity, access and backup reduces your IT workload and simplifies your storage environment. And depending on your organizations' budgeting priorities, Nasuni can help your organization move to an OpEX model for storage budgeting, using its subscription-based pricing model. All this adds up to savings, and Nasuni clients typically see savings of 40-60% TCO.

The Right Solution for a Dynamic Industry

Data growth in the healthcare industry is not going to stop or even slow. Nasuni empowers our healthcare clients with a cost-effective strategy to manage growth, while also delivering added benefits that create new efficiencies across the organization, from headquarters to the smallest branch office.

For more information on how Nasuni Enterprise File Services has helped other healthcare organizations, go to nasuni.com/healthcare or contact your Nasuni representative.