



Seamlessly Extend Your File Storage Infrastructure to the Cloud

Key benefits

- Maximize cost savings from deploying cloud storage
- Simplify file access to the cloud
- Easily integrate cloud storage offerings into existing file storage environments
- Automatically identify and tier inactive data to the cloud based on policies

Cloud storage offers the potential to reduce the capital and operational costs of managing storage. However, deploying a cloud storage solution can introduce a new set of challenges, from unpredictable network latency affecting access performance to the additional cost of bandwidth used to move data both into and out of the cloud.

ARX® Cloud Extender™ maximizes the benefits of cloud storage while minimizing the challenges and costs of data access. ARX Cloud Extender presents a local file system to seamlessly integrate cloud-based storage into the existing environment and simplify access to data stored in the cloud. When combined with the automated storage tiering capabilities of ARX, ARX Cloud Extender enables you to effortlessly extend your file storage infrastructure from the data center to the cloud.

Maximize cost savings

Cloud storage can offer enterprises significant savings in both capital and operational costs, and ARX solutions help maximize those benefits by ensuring that only inactive data—files that are rarely or never accessed—are tiered to the cloud. This often represents the majority of an organization's storage footprint, which will enable you to reclaim valuable Tier 1 capacity and significantly reduce capital expenditures. In addition, ARX automated storage tiering policies reduce the IT overhead and minimize costly business disruptions.

Simplify file access to the cloud

Many cloud storage providers today deliver storage capacity through application programming interfaces (APIs), making it difficult for enterprises accustomed to accessing file data through standard file

sharing protocols to use capacity from cloud-based storage in the data center.

ARX Cloud Extender translates file access from CIFS and NFS to the relevant API so that users and applications can easily access data stored in the cloud in the same manner as they do today with existing file storage devices.

Easily integrate cloud storage

ARX devices virtualize the file storage infrastructure, federating multiple storage devices and aggregating the total capacity into a single virtual pool. ARX Cloud Extender extends the virtual storage pool to incorporate capacity from both private cloud storage solutions and public cloud storage providers. Combined with ARX, ARX Cloud Extender seamlessly presents this capacity to users and applications as part of their local file systems.

Automatically tier files to the cloud

By combining ARX Cloud Extender with ARX, enterprises can automatically and non-disruptively tier appropriate files to the cloud without affecting user or application access. ARX provides powerful automated storage tiering policies that can migrate individual files between different types of storage based on file attributes such as age, type, and size.

ARX Cloud Extender presents a cloud storage tier that enables ARX to seamlessly integrate cloud-based storage capacity into existing environments and extend the range of its automated storage tiering policies to include the cloud.

ARX Cloud Extender features

Simplified file access

- Native CIFS and NFS protocol support
- Web services API translation

Seamless integration into existing environments

- Global Namespace
- Non-disruptive data migration
- Support for public cloud storage providers and private cloud storage systems

Tiering files to the cloud

- Policy-based storage tiering
- Local metadata cache
- Schedulable cloud migration

Data security

- File access control
- Data encryption

Learn more

For more information about ARX solutions, use the search function on f5.com to find these resources.

Datasheet

[ARX Cloud Extender](#)

Product overview

[ARX Series](#)

White paper

[Intelligent File Virtualization](#)

Analyst report

[Got Files? Get Cloud!](#)

[The Economic Impact of File Virtualization: Reducing Costs and Improving Efficiency for File-Based Storage](#)

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