

# ASSUREON<sup>®</sup> ARCHIVE STORAGE DATA SHEET

There is some data that is too important to lose, too private to be seen and too critical to be tampered with.

## OVERVIEW

The Nexsan Assureon<sup>®</sup> archive storage system is ideal for any organization that needs to implement storage optimization, regulatory and corporate compliance, or the long-term archiving of unstructured data. Users do not need to learn anything new, change how they access data or learn any new processes. And Assureon can store as little as 8TB up to multiple Petabytes of unstructured data.

Now you have the flexibility of utilizing Assureon in conjunction with AWS or Azure. Whether you have information in the cloud that you want to offload to an Assureon archive storage or view on other systems, Assureon Cloud Transfer<sup>™</sup> (ACT) offers the data portability you need.

## STORAGE OPTIMIZATION

Up to 80% of data on primary storage is unstructured. Due to the nature of unstructured data, it either never changes or changes infrequently. This data can be easily and transparently offloaded from Tier-1 or cloud storage onto a cost effective Assureon archive storage system without any disruption to ongoing operations. ACT automatically offloads cloud data from Azure, AWS or other public clouds based on preset rules. You can still reference the archive files from Azure, AWS, or windows servers for cloud data portability thus eliminating cloud vendor lock-in.

In addition to freeing up space on primary or cloud storage for active data, the data on Assureon is automatically protected from day one. Assureon-protected data does not need to be repeatedly backed up during weekly full or daily incremental backups, dramatically reducing the size, time and cost of the backup process. The data on Assureon is better protected and instantly available. The space on primary or cloud storage can be freed up immediately once data is protected by Assureon. Data can also be left on primary or cloud storage for periods of high access then replaced with a shortcut or deleted after a set period of time.

## REGULATORY AND CORPORATE COMPLIANCE

Assureon is ideal for organizations that must comply with governmental regulatory requirements including HIPAA, GLBA, Sarbanes-Oxley, Federal Rules of Civil Procedure (FRCP), CJIS, SEC 17A-4 and PCI DSS. Assureon exceeds even the strictest regulatory requirements for data integrity, protection, privacy, security, longevity and availability with full audit trails. Additionally, Assureon makes it easy and automatic for organizations to adhere to their internal guidelines for data retention, deletion, privacy, protection and risk mitigation.



## ASSUREON FEATURES

### CLOUD

- **Cloud Transfer** – ACT transfers data to or from cloud applications. Reference any or all archive files from AWS, Azure or windows servers for cloud data portability - eliminating cloud vendor lock-in

### INTEGRITY

- **Fingerprints** – Each time a file is saved, a unique fingerprint is generated using both an MD5 and SHA1 hash of its contents and metadata, so history and contents cannot be altered after the fact (WORM storage)
- **Serial Numbers** – Each file is assigned a serial number which is used to ensure no files are missing or inappropriately added
- **Secure Time** – Tampering with the system time clock is prevented by using a global, redundant, secure time source (Stratum Level I hardware time sources)
- **Two Copies** – Each file and its fingerprint are stored twice in the Assureon. The second copy is either stored in a separate RAID disk set in the same Assureon or on a remote Assureon
- **Data Verification** – Files are continually verified against their fingerprints, repaired using their copies and safeguarded by RAID disk arrays for days or decades

### SCALABILITY AND HIGH AVAILABILITY

- **Remote Replication** – Two active Assureon systems can continuously replicate to each other to protect against a site failure
- **Failover/failback** – Native active/active replication protects against site disasters with automatic read failover and manual write failover
- **Performance & Capacity** – Scale capacity up to multiple petabytes and add performance by using multiple Assureon archive storage systems together

### REMOTE AND BRANCH OFFICES

It can be particularly challenging to meet corporate compliance guidelines for data that resides in remote or branch offices, which often have little or no onsite IT personnel. With Assureon, you have choices. One solution to this challenge is to place Assureon at corporate headquarters with an Assureon Edge NAS in each remote office, providing NFS and CIFS shares. All data stored on the branch office Assureon Edge is securely transmitted to the Assureon archive storage system at corporate to be archived. A second option is to install the Assureon Client on a branch office server where it archives selected directories and files by transmitting them to the Assureon archive system at headquarters.

And last but not least, if you rely on a cloud infrastructure to deliver services and data to remote or branch offices, you can use the Assureon Cloud Transfer to offload unstructured data from Amazon AWS or Microsoft Azure cloud based server instances to the Assureon archive storage system at headquarters. Your branch offices can then reference the archive files for cloud data portability.

### LONG-TERM ARCHIVE

The Assureon archive storage system stores data for days or decades with unsurpassed integrity and protection in an easy to administer system that resides on-premise, in the cloud or both. High availability is built into each replicated Assureon system. Each file is fingerprinted and stored twice within Assureon on separate RAID disk sets, or, better yet, on separate Assureon archive storage systems that are geographically separated. Background data integrity auditing uses the fingerprints and duplicate copies to ensure authentic files for days or decades without the need for administrative intervention. Self-healing integrity checks and file availability audits along with digitally signed metadata files and third-party secure time stamps work together for the utmost protection of files within Assureon. Together, this applies a verifiable chain of custody to each data set throughout the retention period.

### ABOUT NEXSAN

Nexsan® is a global enterprise storage leader since 1999 delivering the most reliable, cost-effective and highly efficient storage solutions. Nexsan's solution portfolio empowers enterprises to securely store, protect and manage valuable business data with a broad product line of unified storage, block storage, and secure archiving. [www.nexsan.com](http://www.nexsan.com).