

### Why Are Companies Moving To Microsoft Azure?

- Azure provides the ability to support the computer power needed to analyze large amounts of data and platforms, which is ideal for developing an application and test platform for large data sets.
- Azure allows for the quick and easy switching from a test/dev platform into a production platform.
- Azure Blob (API-based) and File Storage (SMB) provides a rich set of analytics tools that can be run on data that is in the Azure Cloud.
- Azure has a visual studio suite of products that integrates data for scalable and in-demand storage.
- Azure does not require constant, active computer access, and runs only when needed.

## Hybrid Cloud Management with Microsoft Azure/Data Box Services and Data Dynamics StorageX

### Transferring Terabytes of Data into the Cloud Can Be Fast, Easy, Mobile, and Secure with Storage X Tagging/Analytics Capabilities and Data Box Services

The current mantra of every C-Suite executive and IT/infrastructure professional, in all corporation vertical markets, remains the need and desire to develop and leverage a “cloud-first” strategy. The challenge is that very few have any idea what that truly means.

From a data storage perspective, getting “cloud-ready” requires that an enterprise understand the details of its legacy workloads. Then, the digital enterprise must identify where those workloads are which can benefit from movement to the cloud.

Microsoft Azure has a dynamic assemblage of services. When combined with cutting edge data management tagging and analytics of Data Dynamics StorageX® solution, digital enterprise and cloud-based capabilities are limitless.

### Microsoft Solutions

Microsoft solutions all start with Azure Storage, of which there are several flavors. Azure File and Blob being two of the more flexible options. Both platforms can store any type of unstructured data.

Blob is a RESTful-based platform capable of storing hundreds of billions of objects. Once the data is on Blob storage, it is available anywhere using the RESTful API.

## About Microsoft Azure and Data Box

Microsoft Azure is an ever-expanding set of cloud services to help your organization meet your business challenges. It's the freedom to build, manage, and deploy applications on a massive, global network using your favorite tools and frameworks.

To quickly move large amounts of data to Azure at minimal impact to the network, they created the Data Box, a fast, simple, and secure method to move archived data, like old tape data, or for VMs, or for Big Data.

Because it uses the familiar Azure Portal for ordering and management, the Data Box is simple to use and secure. For more information, visit <https://azure.com/databox>

Azure Blob can be used to stream media or deliver content to specific users, or even run some of the big data analytics tools that are available on Azure. This can be a powerful tool when searching for insight in billions of objects.

Azure File provides SMB access to servers either on Azure or at the customer site. This provides standard and proven access to a share from any server throughout the world.

## Moving to Azure

The difficult part can be getting the data to Azure File or Blob. To assist customers in quickly moving data in bulk, Microsoft developed a service called Azure Data Box.

Azure Data Box provides a secure, tamper-resistant method for quick and simple transfer of your data to the Azure storage. The Data Box can be plugged into a customer's network and then seamlessly move data in bulk from their local data center to Azure.

Data Box easily connects with two 10 GB connectors for fast data transfer. It can load up to 80 TB of files onto the system using standard NAS protocols (SMB/CIFS).

Transferring terabytes of data to the cloud can be difficult, slow, expensive, and cumbersome especially for enterprises with challenged operational platforms.



Using the Microsoft Azure Data Box for the transfer of large amounts of data will save substantial time, cost, combined with the migration and management services of StorageX from Data Dynamics Inc., moving to Azure has never been easier.



## Why Azure Services?

The Azure services and appliances are turnkey offerings.

Azure Data Box has some specific attributes that set it apart:

- All files migrated can be securely tracked and managed in the Azure Portal,
- Data is automatically protected using 256-AES encryption.
- The Data Box can easily align with any network.
- The Azure Data Box will help users move data into the Azure platform faster and more securely.
- The Data Box unit weighs 45-pounds is rugged and is tamper resistant for flexible physical mobility.
- The Data Box does not require external packaging for transportation.
- Customers can rent the Data Box, fill it up, and return it!

## Combined Solution

StorageX can be leveraged to identify and move workloads that are primary candidates for Azure Data Box. Once the data is migrated to the Data Box it is moved seamlessly to Azure.

StorageX automates this file discovery and policy-based movement/management for consolidation, tiering and archiving of unstructured data in modern large-scale file system environments.

StorageX also provides custom tagging for file management and is the solution of choice to analyze and consolidate unstructured data from older file storage technologies to modern storage solutions, such as Azure Data Box.

## Story of Your Data

You've got petabytes of orphaned, files stuck on incompatible, aging storage systems. The value of these files is trapped, you generate more each day, and they become more expensive to store and support every year.

To TAP your data...Tag, Analyze, and Purge...a digital enterprise can develop data repository resources and departments to provide value to unstructured data, allowing them to maximize ROI from the data with new, object-based storage technologies that:

- Drive down the cost of storage while increasing storage capability.
- Employ file tagging to expedite access to your files and maximize your investment.
- Turn old file data into accessible, actionable business insights.
- Leverage fast, automated data migrations to drastically reduce costs, free up resources, and lower risk.

## About Data Dynamics

Data Dynamics is a leader in intelligent file management solutions that empower enterprises to seamlessly analyze, move, manage and modernize critical data across hybrid, cloud and object-based storage infrastructures for true business transformation. Its award-winning StorageX platform eliminates vendor lock-in and provides a policy-based, storage management platform to provide the insight, agility, and operational efficiency to transform your data assets into competitive advantage. For more information, visit [www.datadynamicsinc.com](http://www.datadynamicsinc.com).

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## How StorageX Manages and Analyzes Your Data Box

StorageX dynamic file management is a powerful solution for managing your file storage resources based on industry standards. File management uses an automated, policy-based engine to ensure your file movement processes run smoothly and on schedule.

- Accelerate consumption of software-defined storage using powerful analytics to quickly identify sets of matching shares/exports to be moved, consolidated, replicated and, or archived.
- Automated data movement policies facilitate the transfer, archival, or replication, of SMB/NFS source files across heterogeneous storage resources. Move and consolidate an entire share or export to new storage.
- Cutover Estimation estimates the time it will take to move remaining data. Use to decide when “cutover” will occur, or when you will stop sharing the source and start redirecting users to the file data in the new location.
- Automated access control security management for Software Identifiers (SIDs). Make changes to SIDs, remove orphan SIDs and preserve SIDs during file movement.



# STORAGEX®

*Dynamic File Management™*