

# Why choose a managed file service solution?

Enterprises are increasingly turning to modern, proven file services delivered and managed by a specialist MSP to ensure efficient global collaboration. This guide explains why.

Drawing on real-world experiences and business outcomes from leading firms in the architecture, engineering and construction (AEC) industry, it outlines essential steps to deploying file services platforms successfully and how to unlock their full potential.



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The Architecture, Engineering and Construction (AEC) industry is experiencing a data explosion. Trends like generative design, Building Information Modelling, use of drones, laser scanning surveys and augmented and virtual reality all offer organisations a fresh competitive edge, but bring rising demands on IT systems and management.

With the rising need for efficient global collaboration, opting for a hybrid cloud storage and file services platform has the potential to unlock immense business value and productivity. But modernising storage infrastructure and investing in new technologies doesn't always solve the problem - in fact, often it only complicates the issue.

Accessing and sharing file data across locations has never been more challenging. IT infrastructure complexity, growth of unstructured data and increasing file sizes bring limited visibility, replication issues and security risks. It's harder than ever to store, manage and protect data across multiple locations.

Tired of battling latency, inconsistent data sets and cloud and server sprawl, across the AEC industry enterprises are turning to modern, proven file services, delivered and managed by a specialist MSP.

**And for good reason.**





# What difference does a managed file service make?

**Quite a lot, actually.**

**File-as-a-Service is a game-changing solution, powered by Panzura, that revolutionises the storage, access and management of files across global regions, ensuring data is always available, secure and up-to-date. It effortlessly consolidates files from multiple locations, while giving a truly local, high performance file experience.**

Fully managed by Creative ITC, File-as-a-Service is a headache-free, cost-effective solution to help you unlock full technology benefits throughout your organisation. It can be tailored for the most demanding settings, including users of huge datasets and complex files generated by design and visualisation apps. Our specialists help you achieve rapid access and real-time collaboration across global teams so you can deliver projects faster, and at less risk and cost.

Uniquely, File-as-a-Service is hosted in Creative's private cloud, giving you full control, easy scalability and outstanding sustainability, with none of the management headaches or unexpected data egress fees associated with public cloud. Our experts ensure it's rightsized and optimised for your needs, guaranteeing a cost-effective, high-performance scalable solution whatever size your organisation is, how many sites you have, or where your team works.

**Plus, we'll manage your entire environment – cloud and on-premises cache appliances – ensuring the solution runs like clockwork.**

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# Reasons to choose managed File-as-a-Service from Creative

|                   | SELF-MANAGED FILE PLATFORMS                                                                                                                                                          | MANAGED FaaS FROM CREATIVE ITC                                                                                                                                                                           |                 | SELF-MANAGED FILE PLATFORMS                                                                                                                                                  | MANAGED FaaS FROM CREATIVE ITC                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| SOLUTION DESIGN   | Difficulties right-sizing solution capacity, risking performance issues from under-provisioning or unnecessary expense from over-provisioning.                                       | Our experts ensure your environment is rightsized and optimised for your needs.                                                                                                                          | VERSION CONTROL | Local storage, data replication and multiple file versions across locations hamper backups and cause poor recovery times.                                                    | Distributed file locking technologies effortlessly consolidates files from multiple locations into a single global data source that's always available, secure and up-to-date.                                                                               |
| TECHNICAL SUPPORT | Limited support from public cloud providers and lack of in-house specialists to implement and support long-term deployment.                                                          | Best in the business, highly qualified specialists design, deploy, optimise and manage the entire environment, including 24/7 support and proactive monitoring.                                          | RESILIENCE      | Distributed data and hybrid infrastructure complexity hamper backups and cause poor recovery times.                                                                          | Robust security with military-grade encryption, secure erase and other important security features providing immutable data protection and allowing quick recovery from data loss or corruption.                                                             |
| MANAGEMENT        | Limited support from public cloud providers and lack of in-house specialists to implement and support long-term deployment.                                                          | Best in the business, highly qualified specialists design, deploy, optimise and manage the entire environment, including 24/7 support and proactive monitoring.                                          | SECURITY        | Difficulties securing and protecting data from rising cyber threats including ransomware attacks, risking downtime and reputation.                                           | Data stored in an immutable form impervious to cyberattacks and other damage. Snapshots provide granular point-in-time recovery of files, folders or the entire file system in minutes, without data loss – ever.                                            |
| BUSINESS CASE     | Poor ROI due to mounting public cloud charges, while local storage of growing volumes of data results in server sprawl and expensive on-premise hardware upgrades.                   | Unlock greater value with one globally-accessible data set consolidating storage footprint and efficiently managed to ensure secure, rapid access throughout the enterprise.                             | COMPLIANCE      | Global infrastructure complexity and issues managing remote devices to meet security and regulatory compliance.                                                              | Managed global solution meets even the most exacting requirements for data availability, security and compliance at scale.                                                                                                                                   |
| BUDGET            | Poor optimisation and unexpected public cloud data egress charges result in unplanned expense. Large CapEx costs for multi-site hardware refreshes.                                  | Cost effective, predictable and transparent monthly costs at a fraction of the TCO of legacy storage. Optimal efficiency of storage resources with solution tailored to meet needs and easy scalability. | SCALABILITY     | Incur delays and costs when trying to upgrade on premise technologies or expand deployment.                                                                                  | Burst capability to meet ever-changing business needs, including managed scaling for workloads requiring extremely large and/or temporary caching.                                                                                                           |
| USER EXPERIENCE   | Degraded by insufficient compute resources and poor solution optimisation, users suffer slow file transfer speeds while conflicting file versions result in duplication and re-work. | A truly local file experience with expertly managed intelligent caching to deliver performance that's second to none, improved version control and reduced downtime and frustration.                     | FUTURE-PROOFING | Inability to alter public cloud infrastructure while on premise upgrades and evolving technologies incur additional expense and delays.                                      | Benefit from access to the latest technologies and our agility to continuously develop the platform. You can quickly and easily harness cloud-native machine learning, AI, or document imaging tools to turn your data into game-changing business outcomes. |
| ACCESSIBILITY     | Difficulties sharing data - particularly huge complex files - across locations, with latency delaying file transfers and hampering user access and productivity.                     | Experts optimise performance to ensure data is exactly where you need it when you need it. Everyone can access the same data at near zero latency to collaborate in real-time.                           | SUSTAINABILITY  | Complex, costly green approach in on premise data storage, while sustainability performance impacted by public cloud's under-used resources and poor environmental controls. | Data hosted from data centres operating on 100% renewable energy and optimised to achieve industry leading power usage effectiveness.                                                                                                                        |
| COLLABORATION     | Geographical distances, slow file transfer speeds and inconsistent data sets across sites hinder team collaboration.                                                                 | Real-time collaboration across continents as if your team were in the same room. Global metadata synchronisation managed by experts to ensure seamless integration and enhance productivity.             |                 |                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |

# Managed File-as-a-Service

## Global collaboration made simple

Deploying a global file system isn't a simple task. Keeping everything running smoothly over the long term requires a dedicated team. That's where Creative ITC comes in.

With unparalleled expertise in the Architecture, Engineering and Construction industry, we're also one of the few partners in Europe with the expertise to support Panzura technology. Your data couldn't be in better hands.

Our headache-free, managed File-as-a-Service solution ensures everything operates like clockwork. That means more time for your IT team to work on projects that drive your business forward.

To find out more about how our managed File-as-a-Service solution could benefit your organisation, get in touch:

**[enquiries@creative-itc.com](mailto:enquiries@creative-itc.com)**

**+44 (0)20 7682 2820**

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