THE **IVY LEAGUE**

THE IVY LEAGUE | PROBLEM SOLVED

The university has adopted a cloud-first strategy and the IT team is tasked with migrating as many workloads as possible to AWS. They turned to NetApp's Cloud Tiering to simplify their migration.

A Major Ivy League University Cuts Its Data Center Costs with Cloud Tiering

This private Ivy League research university located in a large East Coast city is the fifth oldest institution of higher education in the United States. In addition to its comprehensive undergraduate and graduate programs of study, its more than 200 research centers and institutes benefit from $1+ billion in annual funding.

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Cloud Solution Architect

WHY CLOUD TIERING

The university has adopted a cloud-first strategy and the IT team is tasked with migrating as many workloads as possible to AWS. The nature of their on-premises applications and workloads, however, were making the migration difficult.

The storage team found itself caught between pressure to comply with the cloud-first strategy on the one hand and the increased resistance to purchase new on-premises hardware.

THE CLOUD TIERING SOLUTION

In order to address the challenge, the storage team purchased a license for the tiering of 120 TB of data to Amazon S3 object storage. NetApp's Cloud Tiering service automatically identifies infrequently used data in on-premises storage appliances and moves it seamlessly to lower-cost object storage. When the tiered data is needed, the service automatically moves it back to the high-performance tier on NetApp AFF storage.

USE CASE #1:
TIERING SNAPSHOTS OF ACTIVE VMDK FILES

The university has adopted a cloud-first strategy and the IT team is tasked with migrating as many workloads as possible Applying Cloud Tiering's snapshots-only policy, snapshot data is now being tiered automatically from their on-premises AFF storage appliance to Amazon S3 after a short cooling period. As a result, **they are able to clear 20 TB worth of snapshots to Amazon S3.**

They were also pleased with the recovery time for a tiered 2 TB VM: "Moving a 2TB VM that was residing on AFF from one location to another took about an hour. **Moving the same VM, this time tiered to S3, took us only 2.5 hours,** which is totally acceptable given the cost savings."

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USE CASE #2: TIERING DECOMMISSIONED VMs

The storage team keeps decommissioned VMs for six months before deleting them. They used to move them to inexpensive storage, but now they are using Cloud Tiering's Tier All policy and can move entire volumes directly into Amazon S3. Any active data that has not been accessed for a user-defined period of time is automatically tiered to Amazon S3.

As a result they were able to **clear 100 TB worth of data while saving money on hardware, electricity and space.**

SUMMARY

These two successful use cases have proven that NetApp's Cloud Tiering service significantly reduces hardware, space and storage costs. The university's IT team is seeking to purchase additional AFF appliances so that they can expand the service to more volumes of cold data.

SOLUTION COMPONENTS

NETAPP PRODUCTS

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AWS S3

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