



Solution Brief

Silk vs. Azure NetApp Files: Redefining Cloud Storage for Enterprise Databases

In the race to optimize cloud storage for enterprise workloads, Silk and Azure NetApp Files (ANF) emerge as leading options. This brief highlights the strengths of Silk compared to ANF, emphasizing cost-efficiency, performance, and scalability to help enterprises make informed decisions for their cloud strategies.

Silk: Built for Enterprise Performance

Silk is designed to deliver exceptional performance, scalability, and cost efficiency for cloud databases. By leveraging a dynamic, hardware-agnostic platform, Silk transforms cloud environments into agile, high-performance ecosystems optimized for critical applications like SQL Server and Oracle.

Feature	Silk	Azure NetApp Files (ANF)
Performance	6X faster; up to 2.2 million IOPS, 26.2 GB/s throughput, sub-ms latency	450k IOPS, 4.5 GB/s throughput, latency spikes on cache misses
Cost Efficiency	Up to 76% lower cost per GB with zero-footprint snapshots and clones	Higher cost per GB with additional charges for snapshots and clones
Scalability	Software-defined, scales with workload demand	Hardware-bound, limited scalability
Replication	1-to-many, multi-source, and cascading replication; thin copies are R/W	Limited replication options, thin copies are read-only

Benefits of Silk for Enterprise Database Workloads

1. Unmatched Performance

- Handle mission-critical workloads with ultra-high throughput and consistent sub-millisecond latency.
- Outperforms ANF Ultra and Flexible tiers at every size.

2. Cost Savings

- Reduce storage costs by up to 76%, with no added charges for snapshots or clones.
- Slash data copy expenses with writable thin copies.

3. Future-Proof Flexibility

- Seamlessly integrate with hybrid and multi-cloud environments for unparalleled agility.
- Avoid vendor lock-in with a hardware-agnostic solution.
- Ensure you're always achieving the fastest performance possible with the newest cloud innovations, including Laosv4 and Pv2.

4. Simplified Operations

- Robust automation and dynamic scaling make managing databases effortless.
- Enable rapid qualification of new technologies without resource constraints.

Why Enterprises Choose Silk

For organizations relying on performance-intensive databases, Silk offers an unmatched balance of speed, scalability, and cost efficiency. Unlike ANF, which is hardware-dependent and optimized primarily for file storage, Silk is tailored for enterprise database workloads requiring block storage, providing the agility and innovation needed to thrive in the cloud era.

Silk redefines what's possible in cloud storage, empowering enterprises to unlock the full potential of their databases while driving cost savings and operational efficiency. For a transformative cloud experience, Silk is the superior choice.

Experience the Silk advantage for yourself. Learn more at [Silk.us](https://silk.us)

About Silk

Silk fuels AI innovation by enabling real-time access to production data in the cloud. Seamlessly integrating high-performance cloud storage into AI workflows, Silk empowers organizations to enhance innovation while maintaining security, reliability, and control over trusted enterprise data. With Silk, organizations can mitigate and run their most complex business-critical applications in the public cloud, continuously optimizing performance, reliability, and costs. Silk's agile data delivery eliminates the need to copy production data for Dev/Test teams, enhancing flexibility and enabling production data to be leveraged for Generative AI. Backed by over 20 technology patents,

Silk helps customers unlock the full potential of the public cloud with speed and ease. Silk is headquartered outside of Boston, MA.

To learn more, visit www.silk.us