Tiering Dell EMC PowerScale Data to Wasabi with CloudPools

Reduce On-Premises Primary Storage Footprints and Associated Costs

Most organizations are struggling to keep up with their high-performance storage needs due to unprecedented data growth. Industry-leading studies show that inactive data accounts for more than 50% of total storage capacity. This inactive data typically sits on expensive local high-performance storage, increasing manageability complexity and costs. In order to mitigate these challenges, Dell Technologies recommends the use of CloudPools. CloudPools is a Dell EMC OneFS software feature that enables automated tiering of infrequently accessed data to Wasabi.

CloudPools is transparent to applications and allows organizations to take advantage of Wasabi cloud economics without sacrificing performance, introducing 3rd party archiving software or having to re architect applications. Support for Wasabi cloud storage was made available with the CloudPools in OneFS 9.0 release. The Dell EMC products that support CloudPools tiering data to Wasabi are:

- Dell EMC PowerScale
- Dell EMC Isilon
- Isilon SmartQuota
- Isilon SyncIQ

Infrequently accessed data is an inefficient use of high-performance Dell EMC local storage. Tiering this data to Wasabi is an easy way to reclaim existing capacity. The CloudPools feature of OneFS allows tiering infrequently accessed data to lower-cost cloud storage. It is built on the Dell EMC PowerScale OneFS SmartPools file pool policy framework, which provides control of file placement on a PowerScale cluster. This allows applications and users to seamlessly retain access to the data through the same network path and protocols regardless of where the file data physically resides.

Key Features

- Ultra-low-cost pricing
- Instant accessibility
- Regulatory compliance
- Industry-leading performance
- Native Dell EMC data format

Benefits

- Reclaim space on primary storage
- Reduce TCO of on-premises storage
- Reduce cloud migration complexity

Optimize primary storage capacity

With CloudPools, you can optimize network performance by compressing data into 2 MB chunks before sending it to Wasabi. This reduces the network bandwidth used and allows for faster upload of data to Wasabi. Optimizing the network bandwidth also reduces the download traffic and provides faster response to the end users requests for data.

All the metadata for a tiered file, including its security and file attributes, is still stored as a SmartLink on the primary PowerScale cluster, but the actual data is stored in Wasabi. From a namespace and data access perspective, the PowerScale cluster is still the front-end view to all the data accessible to a user. Using CloudPools in this way allows you to lower data center requirements and associated costs for floor space, power, cooling, and rack space.

Snapshots

Snapshot copies can frequently consume more than 10% of a typical storage environment. Although essential for data protection and disaster recovery, these point-in-time copies are rarely used and are an inefficient use of high-performance Dell EMC local storage. CloudPools eliminates copy-on-writes (CoW) on the primary data source PowerScale cluster when archiving files with snapshots to the Wasabi. The file data is only stored in Wasabi cloud storage, which saves space on the PowerScale cluster.

Wasabi Hot Cloud Storage for Cloud Tiering with Dell EMC CloudPools

Wasabi hot cloud storage is a universal, one size fits all cloud object storage service that eliminates confusing storage tiers and satisfies nearly all storage performance requirements. Wasabi costs less than traditional cold storage and is faster than traditional frequent-access storage services. With Wasabi hot cloud storage all data is treated equal and made readily accessible no matter how you classify it, hot, cool or cold.

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