Microsoft acquires integrated cloud storage vendor StorSimple for an undisclosed sum, a purchase Microsoft says will advance its "Cloud OS vision" while boosting hybrid cloud computing.



StorSimple sells hybrid storage appliances combining traditional hardware with the storage of less accessed data on enterprise-class cloud-based archives. The service also includes encryption, backup and recovery tools.

"Customers faced with explosive growth in data are looking to the cloud to help them store, manage and archive that data. But, to be effective, cloud storage needs to integrate with IT's current investments," Microsoft says.

StorSimple solutions use Microsoft Azure, as well as Amazon S3 cloud storage, HP Cloud Services, AT&T Synaptic, Google, Rackspace and EMC Atmos cloud systems. The company gives no mention whether it will force existing customers to move to Microsoft.

Go Microsoft Reaches Agreement to Acquire StorSimple