

# PeerGFS™ for VDI

USING PEERGFS FOR  
ALWAYS-ON AVAILABILITY AND  
DISASTER RECOVERY IN VDI ENVIRONMENTS



## Introduction

As VDI deployments serve millions of users daily, the mission-critical nature of their operation becomes imperative to business continuity.

Interruptions and delays in service for users either accessing their sessions or data negatively impact productivity and increase costs, especially if a data center location experiences an outage.

Enterprise organizations need to architect highly available infrastructure for resilience in one location utilizing techniques like storage clustering, but also expanding resilience across multiple locations and data centers to meet SLA objectives.

## Achieving Active-Active High Availability Across Locations

In multiple scenarios, the go-to- solution for enabling a reduction in RTO and RPO on VDI user data is to allow the underlying distributed storage systems to participate in an active-active synchronous write approach. Proprietary NAS systems can enable metro replication that ensure data is only confirmed as written once committed to both locations to maintain exact replicas across multiple locations.

But these approaches bring considerable costs in both infrastructure, NAS hardware requirements and personnel for administration.

## Today's Challenges

IT leaders should approach VDI deployments with multiple considerations in mind when designing high availability and disaster recovery capabilities. These typically include cost, RTO (Recovery Time Objective) and RPO (Recovery Point Objective) criteria.

Even though VDI deployments without a disaster recovery strategy will reduce costs in the near term, there will always be at risk of downtime for users regardless of how much local resilience is maintained.

Once disaster occurs, lost productivity along with employee and customer frustration make up part of the story as other losses accumulate while the business battles to recover operations.

To deploy a truly resilient, always-on VDI infrastructure, organizations today must utilize methods to synchronize user and application data to multiple locations. They should also implement a solution that detects outages and automatically fails over to surviving locations to minimize disruptions.

The underlying target system of any metro solution will be maintained as read only while the solution is operational, requiring a degree of manual intervention upon failover

Cloud Gateway products look to achieve these objectives via a consolidated approach for VDI profile data availability and require unstructured data migrations into their proprietary file systems and hardware. Additionally, they are also susceptible to unpredictable cloud costs as the amount of unstructured data swells, this starts to impact RTO and RPO objectives.

# Introducing PeerGFS

Peer Global File Service (PeerGFS) is a software-based Global File Service solution that integrates with, and interconnects disparate on-premises and cloud storage platforms. It was designed from the ground up to solve data management challenges associated with file and

object storage that customers face in multi-site, multi-vendor, and multi-cloud environments. PeerGFS blends real-time replication, fast scanning and multi-directional replication to deliver greater flexibility in how and where customers can store and use their data.

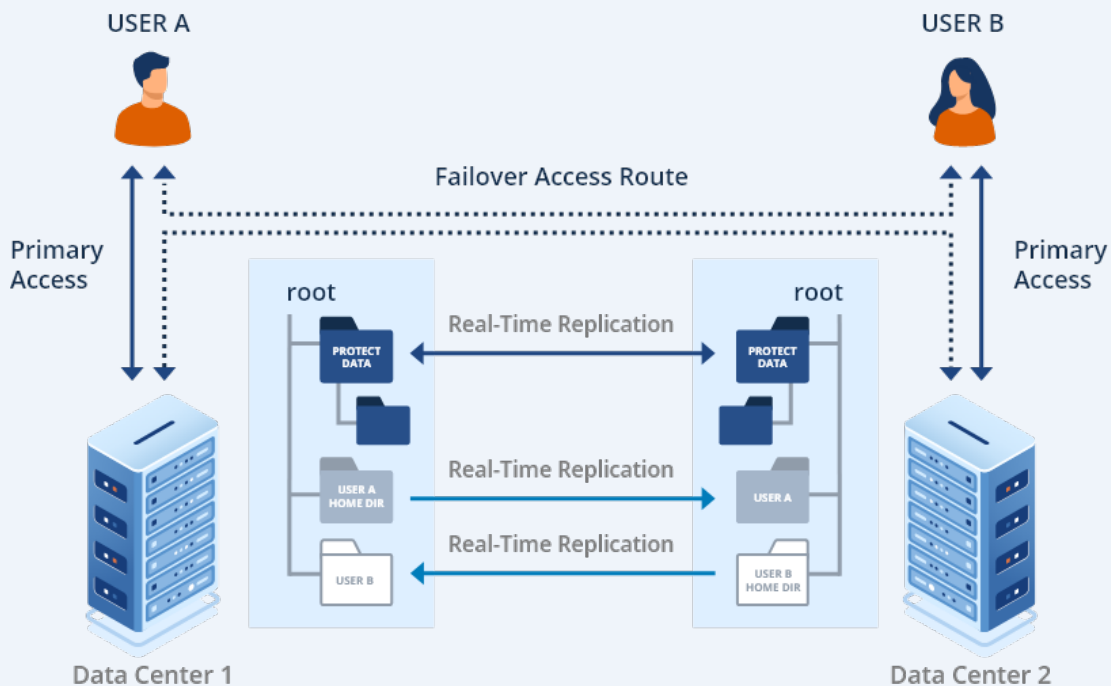
## Peer Delivers Active-Active, Always-on Availability

PeerGFS enables a truly active-active, highly available data set across multiple branch office and data center locations to minimize RTO and RPO in disaster scenarios, with the additional benefit of facilitating failover as well as load balancing of end-user profile and application data.

Centralized VDI deployments can now branch out across environments to facilitate a truly flexible IT system incorporating always accessible, highly available data for users and their applications.

### HOW PEERGFS WORKS

- Synchronize file servers and/or Enterprise NAS storage systems between cloud-zones/cities or countries for disaster recovery capabilities.
- Combine cross-platform replication with a global Microsoft DFS-Namespaces for enhanced resilience in case of failover.
- Synchronize two or more locations to accommodate failover and provide mobile or traveling users fast access to their user data.
- As a bonus, utilize PeerGFS to deploy an enterprise file sharing system with built-in file locking for version integrity.



### ABOUT US

Since 1993, Peer Software has developed data management solutions that address unique challenges related to data synchronization, availability, and file collaboration in hybrid storage environments.

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