



SOLUTION WHITEPAPER

HPE for Azure Local

Bring the cloud to your edge

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



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Executive summary

The rules of enterprise IT are changing. More data than ever is created outside the public cloud, on factory floors, in retail stores and across distributed sites.

That data needs to be processed where it is generated, with the agility and intelligence of the cloud, but without surrendering control, sovereignty or performance. HPE for Azure Local answers that challenge, bringing native Azure services directly to your on-premises and edge environments.

It combines HPE ProLiant hardware with Microsoft Azure to create a secure, scalable and high-performance foundation for mission-critical workloads. You keep complete control of your infrastructure while innovating at the speed of the cloud. As the leading Solutions Integrator, Insight brings it all together, combining the right hardware, software and services so you can move from intent to implementation with confidence.

At a glance



Native **Azure Arc** management across on-premises, edge and cloud from a single control plane.



Two deployment paths: turnkey **Integrated Systems** or flexible **Validated Nodes**.



Consumption economics via **HPE GreenLake**, shifting CapEx to predictable OpEx.



Joint, seamless **support** from HPE and Microsoft, integrated by Insight.



01 The shift to a distributed, hybrid world

The centre of gravity for enterprise data is moving outward. The explosion of edge data, together with a growing need for greater agility and control, is reshaping where and how organisations run their most important workloads.

Cloud transformed how we build and scale, but not every workload belongs in a public data centre. Latency-sensitive processes, data-sovereignty requirements and the sheer volume of information generated at the edge all demand a different approach. Azure Local, powered by HPE, brings cloud capabilities directly to where businesses need them, from factories to retail stores.



Watch the fireside chat

Insight's David Harris and Lee Wilkinson with HPE's David Blucher on the major shift in enterprise IT and how HPE for Azure Local redefines hybrid cloud.

[Watch the video here](#)

75%

of enterprise-generated data will be created and processed outside a traditional data centre or cloud by 2025 (Gartner).

87%

of enterprises already run workloads across multiple platforms, making hybrid the dominant architecture.

\$111_{bn}

global edge computing market in 2026, forecast to reach \$317bn by 2031 (MarketsandMarkets).



02 What is HPE for Azure Local?

HPE for Azure Local is an integrated hybrid cloud platform that extends Azure to your own infrastructure, wherever it sits. It unites the agility of Azure Local with the performance of HPE ProLiant servers to deliver hyperconverged infrastructure (HCI), container orchestration and a robust operating system, not a loose collection of components, but a fully integrated and managed platform.

The power of integration



Native Azure Arc integration

Unify management of on-premises and edge resources through a single control plane in the Azure portal, using the familiar Azure tools you already know.



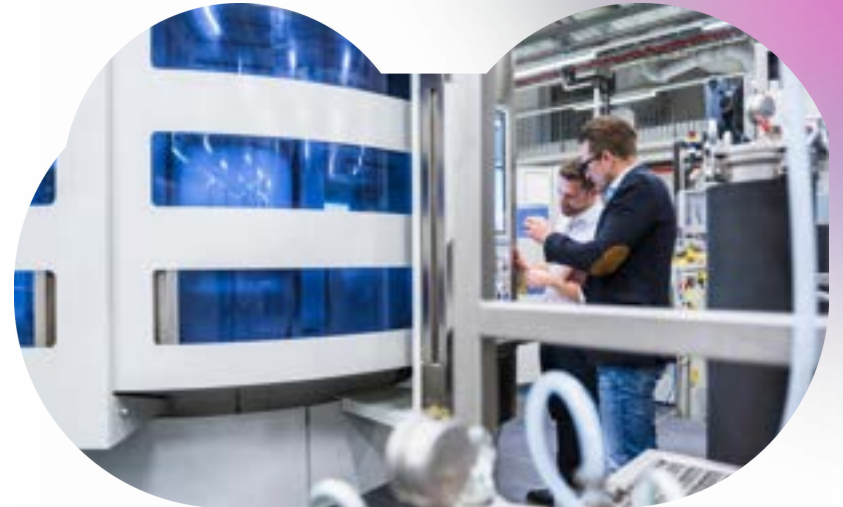
Full-stack lifecycle management

Keep your infrastructure current and performing at its peak with comprehensive, end-to-end lifecycle management built in.



Flexible options

Choose a turnkey Integrated System or Validated Nodes for greater flexibility and customisation to meet specific workload needs.



03 Two ways to deploy

HPE offers two primary approaches, both validated to optimise software-defined storage, compute and networking. The right choice depends on how much you value turnkey simplicity versus configuration flexibility.

Approach	What it is	Best suited to
Integrated Systems	Factory-configured with pre-installed software for an appliance-like experience and faster time to value. ProLiant DL380 Gen11 and DL145 Gen11 available.	Teams wanting a single license bundle and rapid, consistent deployment from data centre to edge.
Validated Nodes	A flexible option using a diverse range of HPE servers and components from the validated list to build a custom solution or reuse existing hardware.	Organisations that want to tailor the build, reuse investments or meet specialised workloads.



Single license bundle

Factory-pre-installed licensing simplifies procurement and management.



Built for distribution

Consistency and reliability across distributed and edge locations.



Joint support

Fully supported by HPE and Microsoft, integrated by Insight.

04 Technical overview

Supported HPE platforms as Validated Nodes



HPE ProLiant DL series (Gen10, Gen10 Plus, Gen11)



HPE Alletra Storage Server 4110



HPE Apollo 4200 (Gen10, Gen10 Plus)



HPE Edgeline EL8000 series

Configuration guidelines



Identical configuration. All cluster nodes use the same firmware, drivers and BIOS settings for stability.



Storage. Follow HPE guidance for Storage Spaces Direct, using specific bus types for cache and capacity.



Updates. Always use the latest Service Pack for ProLiant (SPP) on Validated Nodes.

Solution management tools

Tool	What it does
HPE Server Extension for WAC	Single-pane view of components, health and BIOS in Windows Admin Center, with links to HPE iLO.
HPE Extension for Azure Local	Highlights instance health and surfaces firmware and driver revisions across nodes to prevent drift.
HPE Snap-in for Deployment & Update	Supports firmware and software deployment and updates; install the latest SPP after deployment.

05 A commercial model built for the edge

Modernising distributed infrastructure should not mean a large upfront capital outlay. With HPE GreenLake, HPE for Azure Local can be consumed as a service, aligning cost to actual use.



Consumption-based pricing

Shift IT spend from a large upfront CapEx to a predictable, monthly OpEx.



Scale with confidence

Pay for what you use, scale on demand and avoid over-provisioning.



Services included

Full HPE services for deployment, optimisation and ongoing operations.

You shouldn't have to choose between the control of your own data centre and the agility of the cloud. HPE for Azure Local gives you both.

Insight — the leading Solutions Integrator



06 Where it delivers value

HPE for Azure Local suits a wide range of industries modernising with a hybrid IT strategy. It is an especially strong fit where you have distributed sites, want a single unified control plane, or need to move from a capital to an operational expense model.



Manufacturing

Real-time processing on the factory floor with low latency and local resilience.



Retail

Consistent, cloud-managed infrastructure across every store and distributed site.



Public sector

A secure, sovereign foundation that keeps sensitive data under your control.

07 Why Insight

As the leading Solutions Integrator, our experts solve clients' technology challenges by combining the right hardware, software and services, and we simplify the complexity of hybrid IT along the way. We partnered with HPE and Microsoft precisely so you don't have to choose between control and agility.

Our strength	What it means for you
End-to-end capability	Assessment, design, procurement, deployment, integration and optimisation, all under one partner.
Technology expertise	Deep understanding of infrastructure, cloud, workplace, security and edge across your wider estate.
Deep partner network	Relationships with HPE and Microsoft that give you access to the people driving change.

How we work with you



Strategic partnership

Dedicated architecture, joint planning with HPE, and managed services for complex programmes.



Targeted programmes

Azure Local design reviews, workshops and modernisation planning for common challenges.



Digital resources

Assessment tools, thought leadership and technical guides for earlier-stage journeys.



08 READY TO UNLOCK YOUR EDGE?

Let's build your hybrid cloud foundation.

Connect with an Insight Azure Local technology specialist. We'll help you assess the right deployment model, size the solution to your workloads and build a clear path from where you are today to where you want to be.



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