



AWS  
re:Invent

**STG306-R**

# Deep dive on Amazon FSx for Windows File Server

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Amazon Web Services

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Product Manager, Amazon FSx  
Amazon Web Services

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Solutions Architect, File Services  
Amazon Web Services

# Agenda

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→ What is Amazon FSx for Windows File Server?

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→ Deep dive

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→ Amazon FSx in action

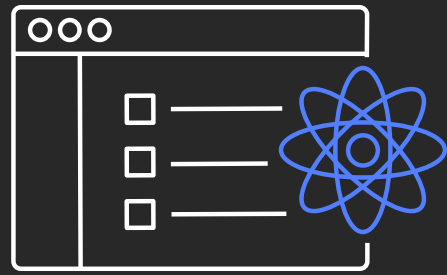
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→ Summary and Q&A

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# What is Amazon FSx for Windows File Server?

# What is Amazon FSx for Windows File Server?



Fully managed native  
Windows file systems



Deeply integrated  
with AWS

# Fully managed means you no longer need to...



## Manage hardware

Plan capacity

Procure and purchase hardware

Set up storage servers and volumes

Detect and address hardware failures

Invest CapEx



## Manage software

Install and configure server software

Set up and configure file systems

Apply Windows updates

Manage software licenses

Manage backups

Monitor security

So, how easy does Amazon FSx make it?

# Creating an Amazon FSx file system

## File system details

File system name - optional [Info](#)

Maximum of 256 Unicode letters, whitespace, and numbers, plus + - = . \_ : /

Deployment type [Info](#)

- ☒ Multi-AZ
- ☐ Single-AZ

Storage capacity [Info](#)

 GiB

Minimum 32 GiB; Maximum 65536 GiB

Throughput capacity [Info](#)

The sustained speed at which the file server hosting your file system can serve data. The file server can also burst to higher speeds for periods of time.

- ☒ Recommended throughput capacity  
8 MB/s
- ☐ Specify throughput capacity

## Windows authentication

Choose an Active Directory to provide user authentication and access control for your file system [Info](#)

- ☒ AWS Managed Microsoft Active Directory
- ☐ Self-managed Microsoft Active Directory

Choose an AWS Managed Microsoft AD directory to use. [Info](#)

[Create new directory](#)



# Rich administrative features, when you need them

## **AWS Management Console / AWS CLI**

CloudWatch metrics

Amazon CloudWatch alarms

On-demand backups

Automatic backups schedule

Tags

## **Amazon FSx CLI on PowerShell**

Shadow copies schedule

Data deduplication

Quotas

Enforcement of encryption in-transit

Managing active user  
sessions and open files

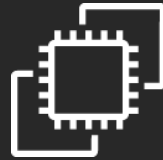
# Broadly accessible

Microsoft Windows  
Server 2008+ and  
Windows 7+

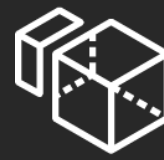
Linux  
(SMB client)

MacOS

OS



Amazon EC2



Amazon  
WorkSpaces



VMware Cloud  
on AWS



Amazon  
AppStream 2.0



On-premises  
compute instance

Compute instance



VPN



AWS Direct  
Connect



VPC Peering



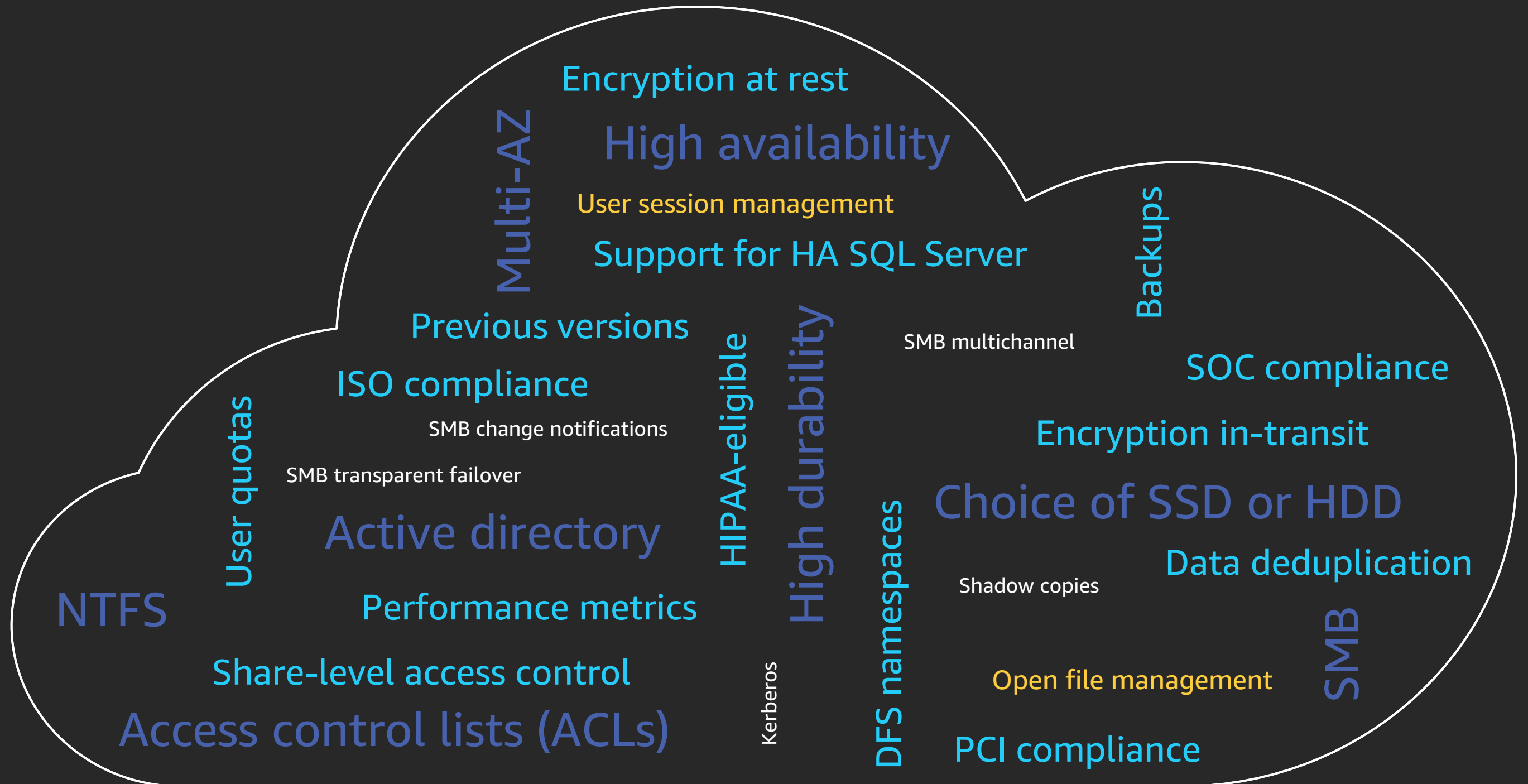
AWS Transit  
Gateway



In-VPC access

Network connectivity

# Fully featured and compatible



# AWS integrations | Amazon FSx

FSx

Amazon FSx



Integrations



Amazon  
VPC



AWS  
IAM



AWS  
KMS



Amazon  
CloudWatch



AWS  
CloudTrail



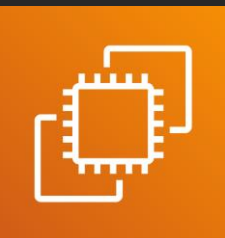
AWS  
CloudFormation



AWS Direct  
Connect



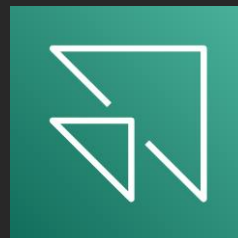
AWS VPN



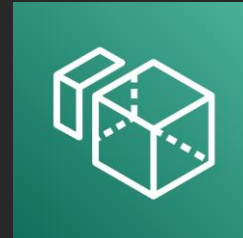
Amazon  
EC2



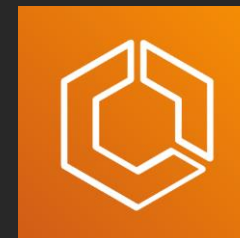
VMware Cloud  
on AWS



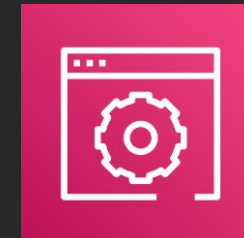
Amazon  
AppStream 2.0



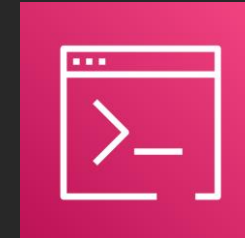
Amazon  
WorkSpaces



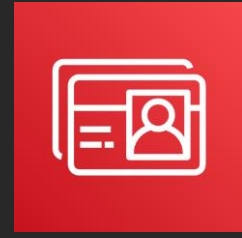
Amazon  
ECS



AWS Management  
Console



AWS CLI



AWS Directory  
Service

# What fully-managed, fully-featured, and compatible means for customers



*"With Amazon FSx we have a **managed solution** that eliminates the need for us to manage the tasks associated with operating file storage, including performing backups and applying software patches."* -Greg Bell, Senior Systems Administrator

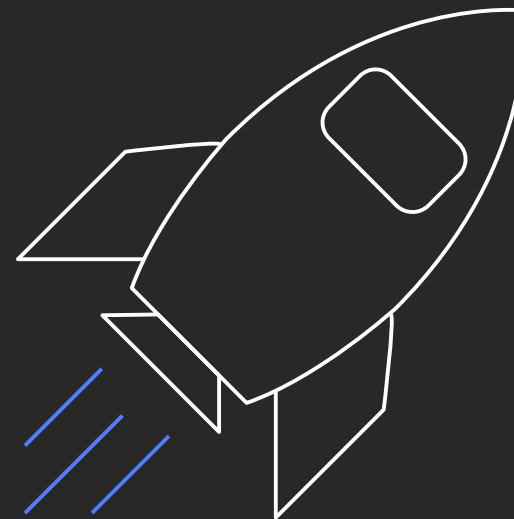
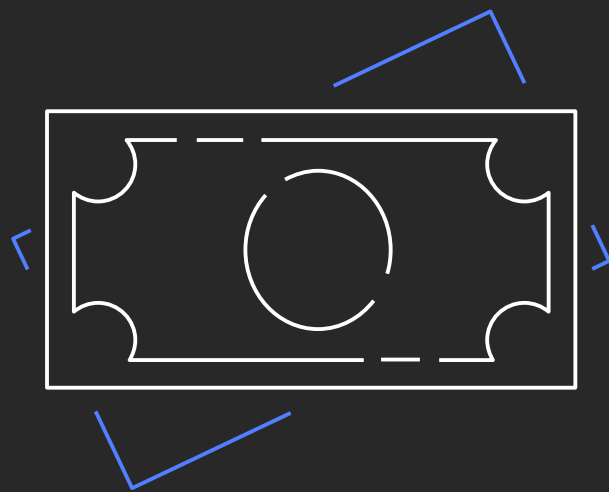


*"We were able move our Windows file-based application to AWS quickly and solved a critical performance issue. Based on our successful lift-and-shift experience, we're looking to move more of our legacy applications requiring Windows native compatibility, to Amazon FSx."* -Hemanth Jayaraman, Director, Cloud Center of Excellence




*"We no longer need to worry about maintenance of the file system environment or patching of the underlying servers. This is allowing the team to **focus on more business-critical parts of our application structure.**"* -John Waller, Senior Engineer, DocXellent

# Beyond simplicity and features...



# Storage pricing


(per GB-month)

	Single-AZ	Multi-AZ
SSD-based storage	13 cents	23 cents
 HDD-based storage	1.3 cents	2.5 cents

*Note: Based on Amazon FSx for Windows File Server pricing in US East (N. Virginia)*

# Effective storage cost with data deduplication

(per GB-month)

	Single-AZ	Multi-AZ
SSD-based storage	6.5 cents	11.5 cents
 HDD-based storage	0.65 cents	1.25 cents

**Typical savings from deduplication for general file shares is 50-60%**

*Note: Based on Amazon FSx for Windows File Server pricing in US East (N. Virginia)*



# High performance

< 1ms latencies

Multiple GB/s

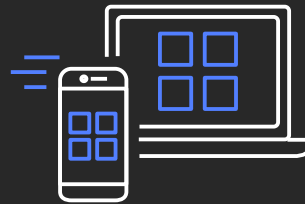
Hundreds of thousands of IOPS

# Designed for a wide spectrum of use cases...

## NAS lift-and-shift



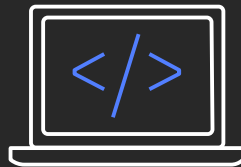
Home  
directories



Line-of-business  
applications



Web serving and  
content management



Software  
development  
environments



**NEW!**

Backup and  
disaster recovery

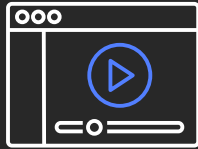


**NEW!**

HA SQL Server  
databases

Designed for a wide spectrum of use cases...

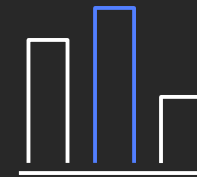
## Cloud-native workloads



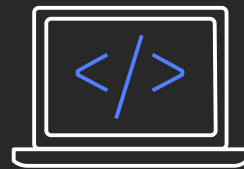
Media  
workflows



Analytics



HPC



Dev and Test  
environments



SaaS applications

# Amazon FSx availability

More coming soon!

## US

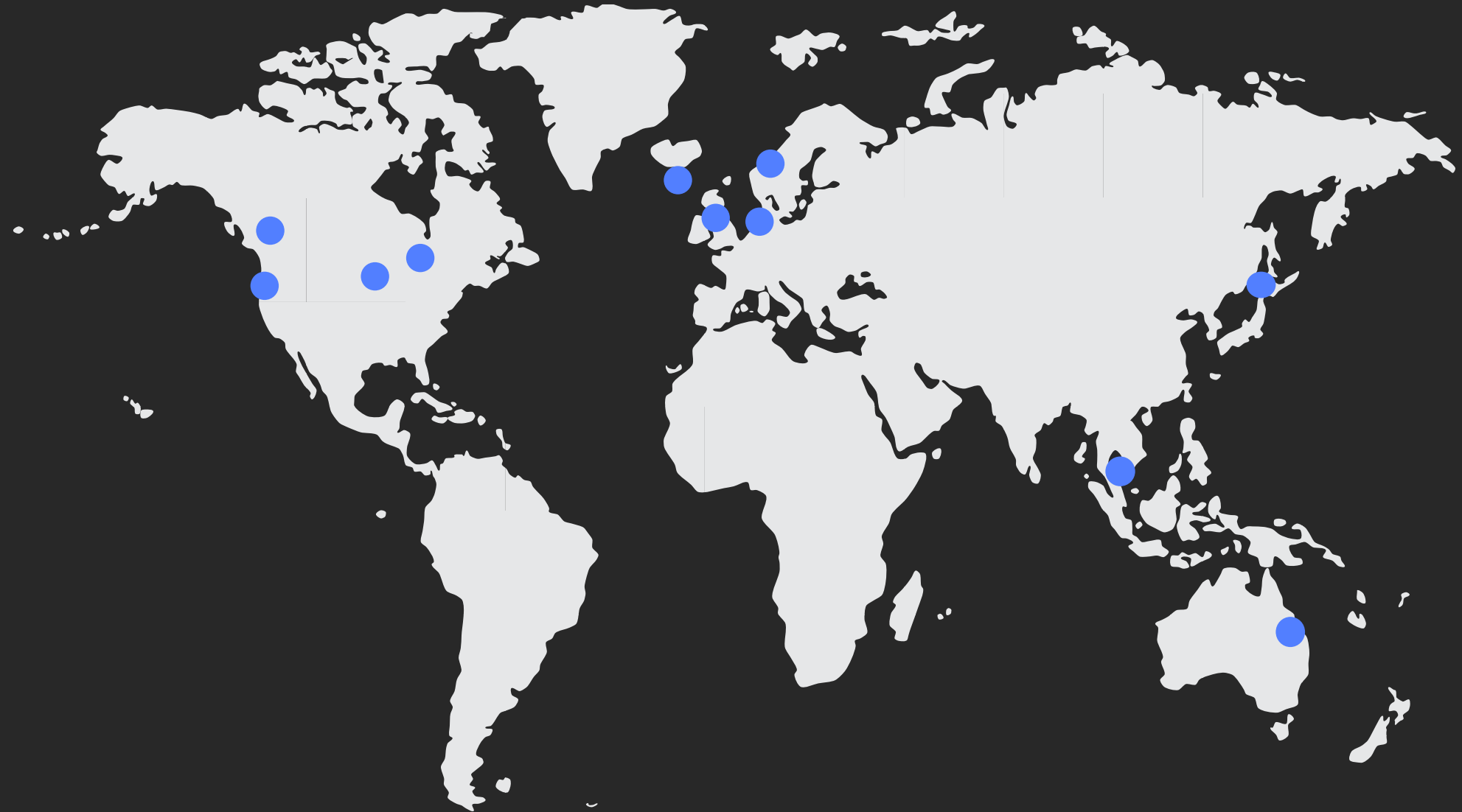
US West (Oregon)  
US West (N. California)  
US East (N. Virginia)  
US East (Ohio)

## EU

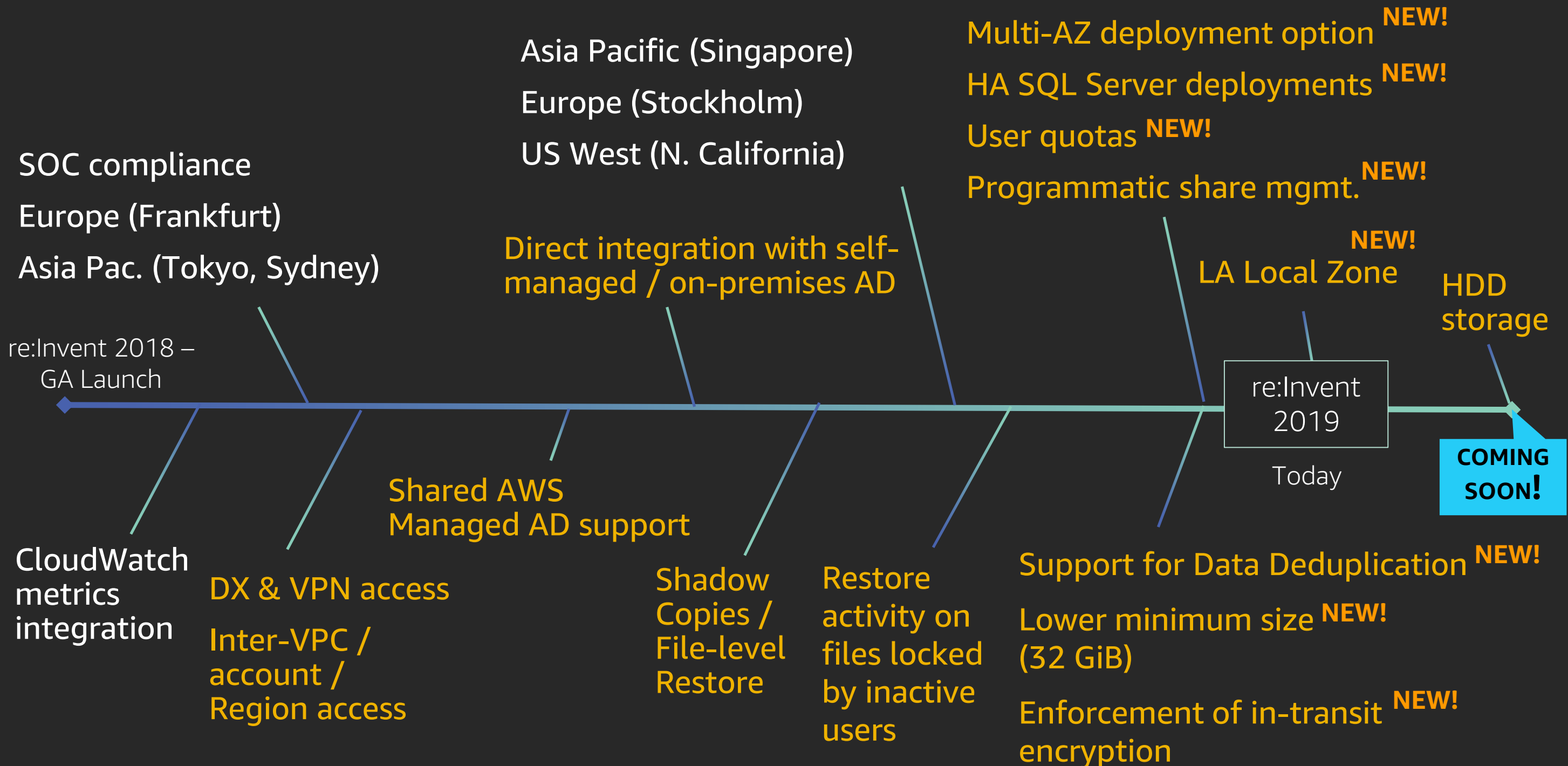
Europe (Ireland)  
Europe (Frankfurt)  
Europe (London)  
Europe (Stockholm)

## APAC

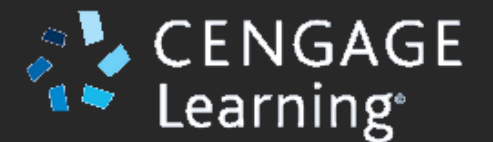
Asia Pacific (Sydney)  
Asia Pacific (Singapore)  
Asia Pacific (Tokyo)



# FSx for Windows File Server Pace of Innovation



# A glimpse of customers using Amazon FSx



# Amazon FSx partners



# Deep dive



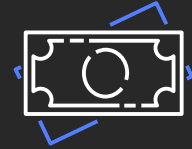
# Six areas we will dive deep on today



**Availability and  
durability**



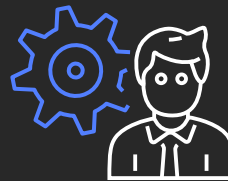
**Performance and scale**



**Cost-  
effectiveness**



**Security and  
data protection**



**Administrative  
tools**



**Migration**

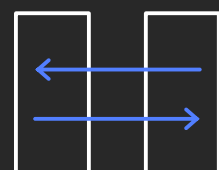
# Availability and durability

# File system deployment options

## Single-AZ



Continually monitors and addresses hardware failures



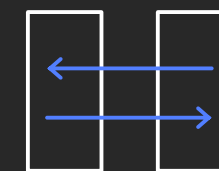
Replicates data within Availability Zone

## Multi-AZ

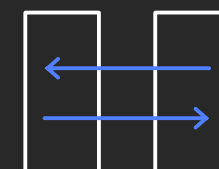
NEW!



Continually monitors and addresses hardware failures



Replicates data within Availability Zone

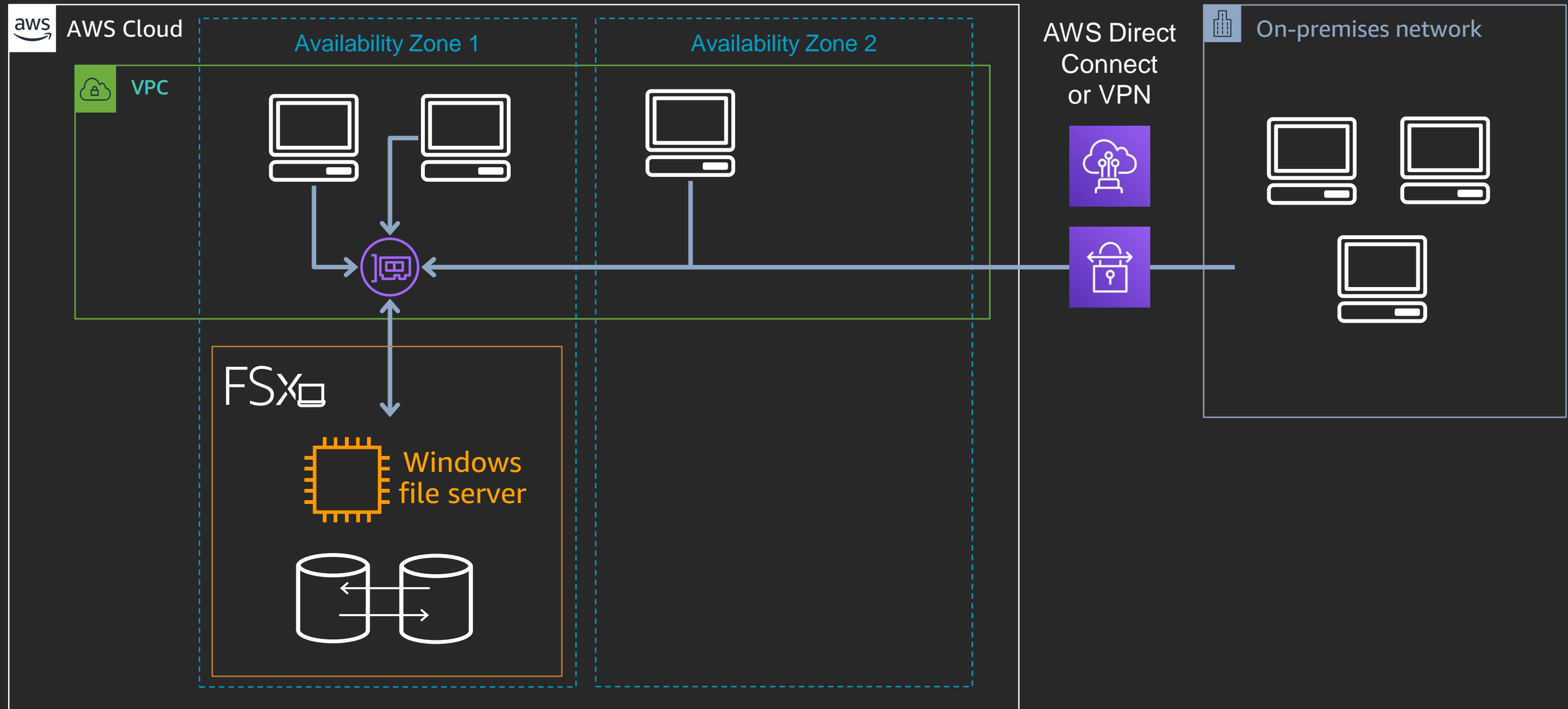


Replicates data across Availability Zones

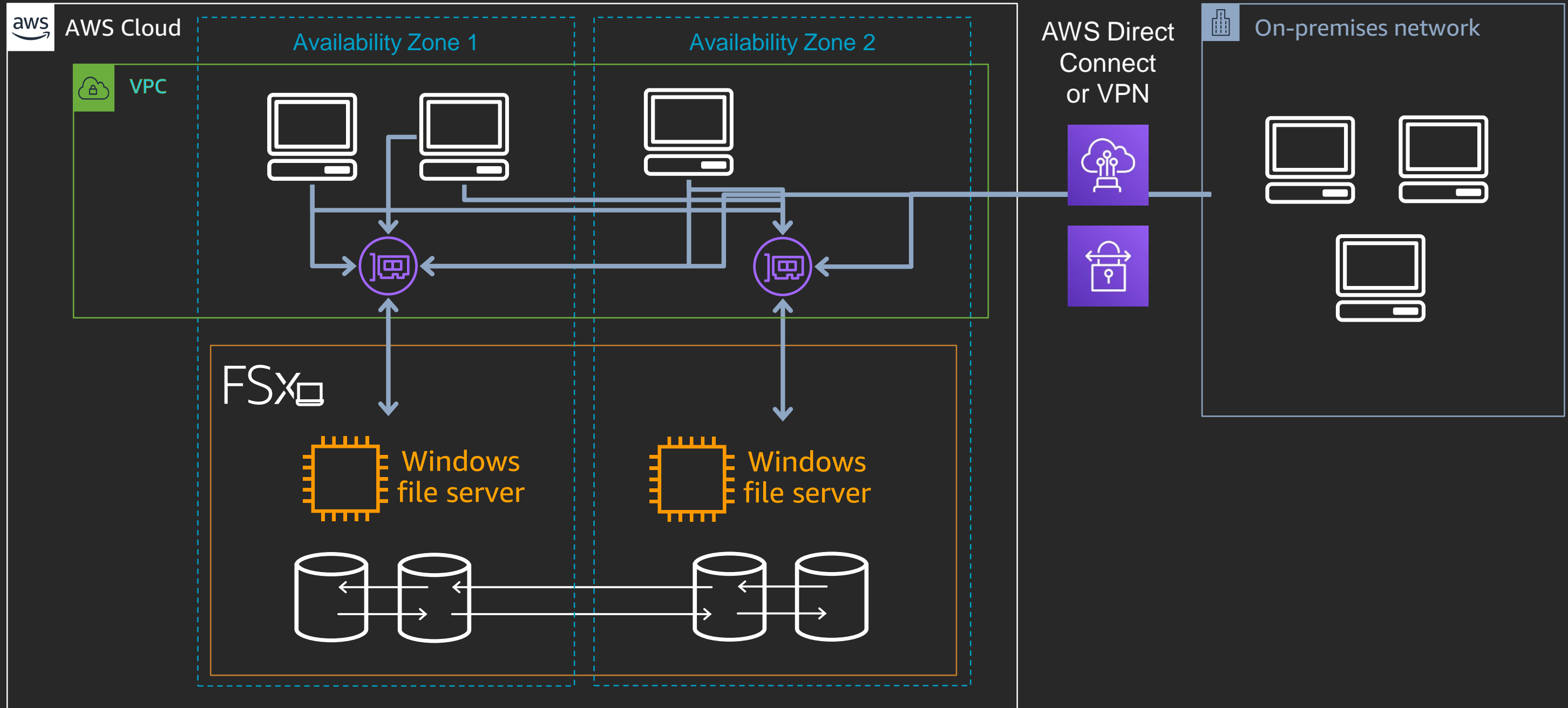


Automatically fails over across Availability Zones

# Single-AZ file system architecture



# Multi-AZ file system architecture

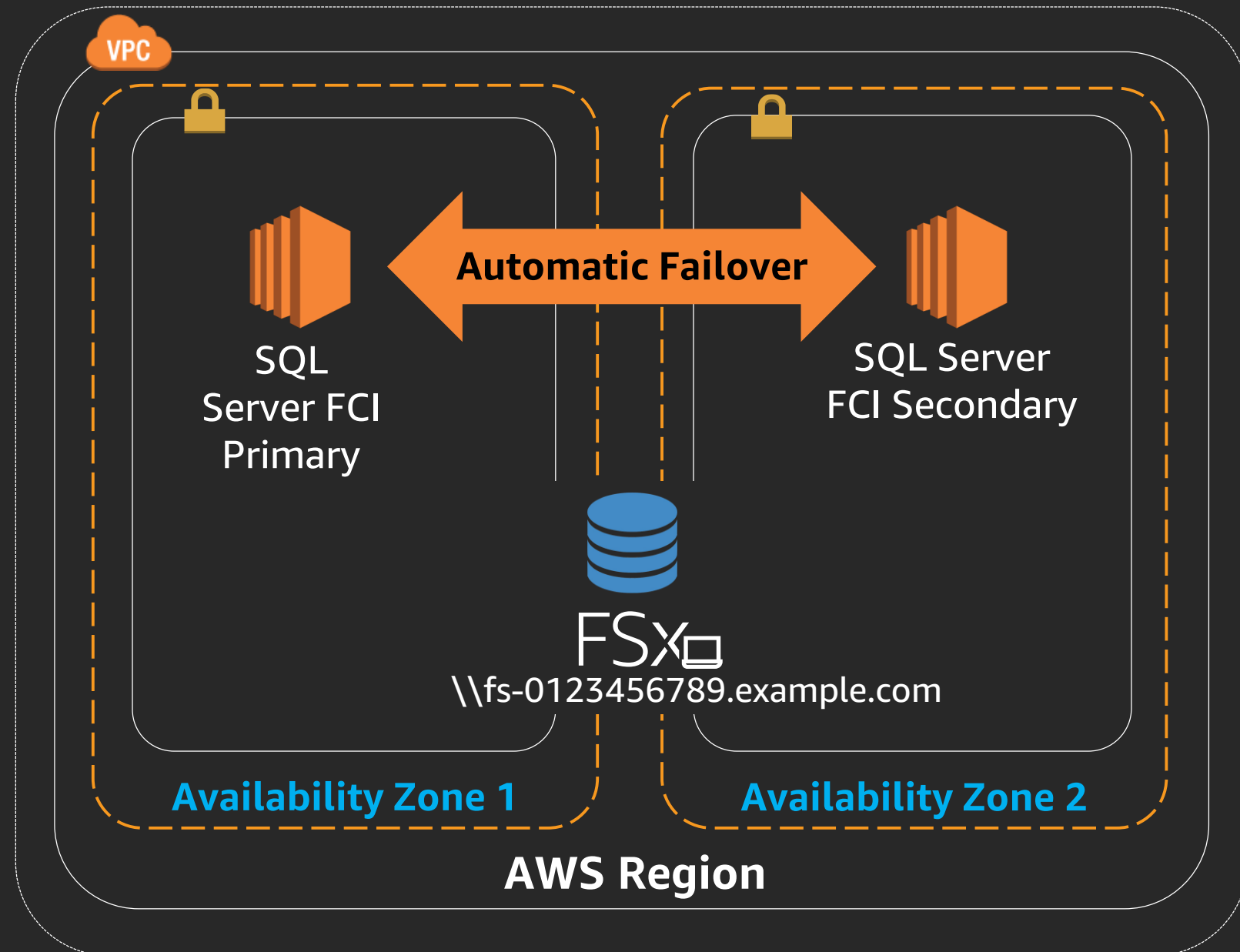


# Events that trigger a Multi-AZ failover

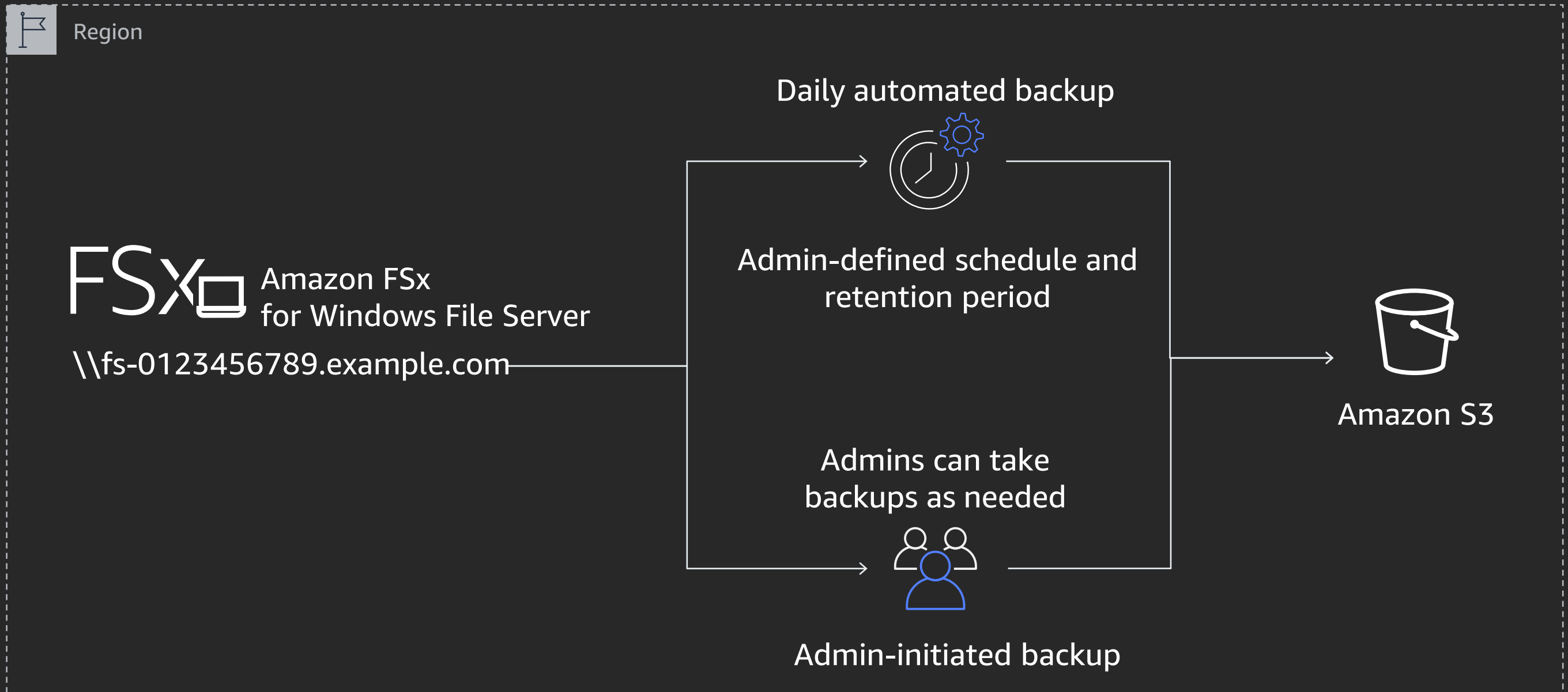
- Loss of availability to preferred file server
  - Unavailability of preferred file server's Availability Zone
  - Unavailability or failure of preferred file server
- Planned maintenance

# Support for SQL Server HA deployments

- Supports SMB Transparent Failover (aka Continuously Available shares)
- Use Amazon FSx to store databases and logs for SQL Server Always On Failover Cluster Instance (FCI) deployments
- No need to deploy, manage, and pay license fees for storage replication software solutions

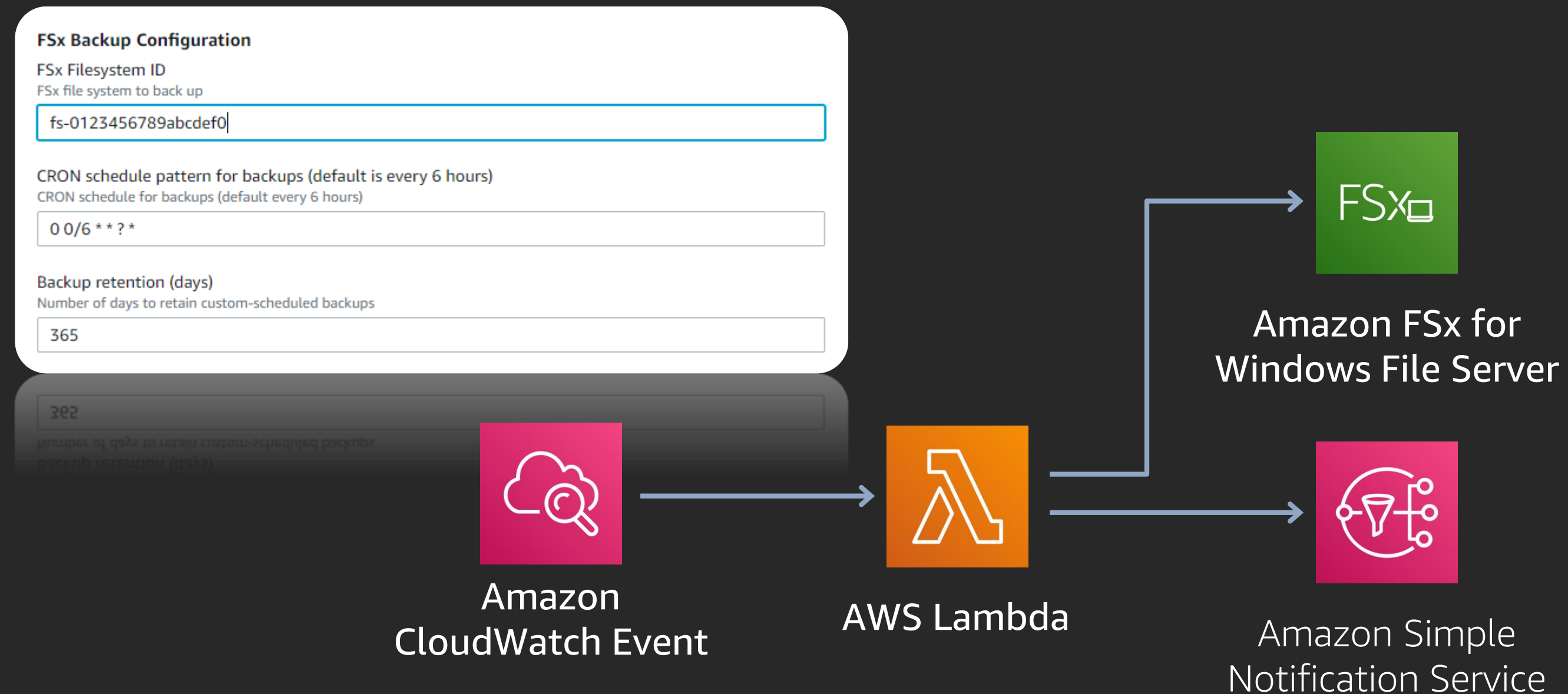


# Backups





# Creating a custom backup schedule



# Performance and scale

# Performance and scale

## **Latency**

Sub-millisecond latencies with SSD

## **Throughput and IOPS**

Direct file server access: up to 3 GB/s of throughput and hundreds of 1000s of IOPS per file system

With client-side caching: up to 10+ GB/s of throughput and millions of IOPS per file system

## **Single-client performance**

With SMB Multichannel, a single client can drive up to the full throughput/IOPS of a file system

# Throughput capacity

- Determines speed at which the file server hosting your file system can serve file data
- Higher levels of throughput -> higher levels of IOPS and more memory for caching

Throughput capacity / Baseline throughput (MBps)	Burst throughput (MBps)
8	192
16	192
32	192
64	256
128	438
256	438
512	N/A
1,024	N/A
2,048	N/A

**You get even higher throughput with in-memory caching on the file server (600 MBps – 3 GBps)**

How do you pick the right level of throughput for your file system?...

# Throughput capacity is automatically picked for you – sufficient for vast majority of apps

Storage capacity [Info](#)

GiB

Minimum 32 GiB; Maximum 65536 GiB

Throughput capacity [Info](#)

The sustained speed at which the file server hosting your file system can serve data. The file server can also burst to higher speeds for periods of time.

☒ Recommended throughput capacity

32 MB/s

☐ Specify throughput capacity

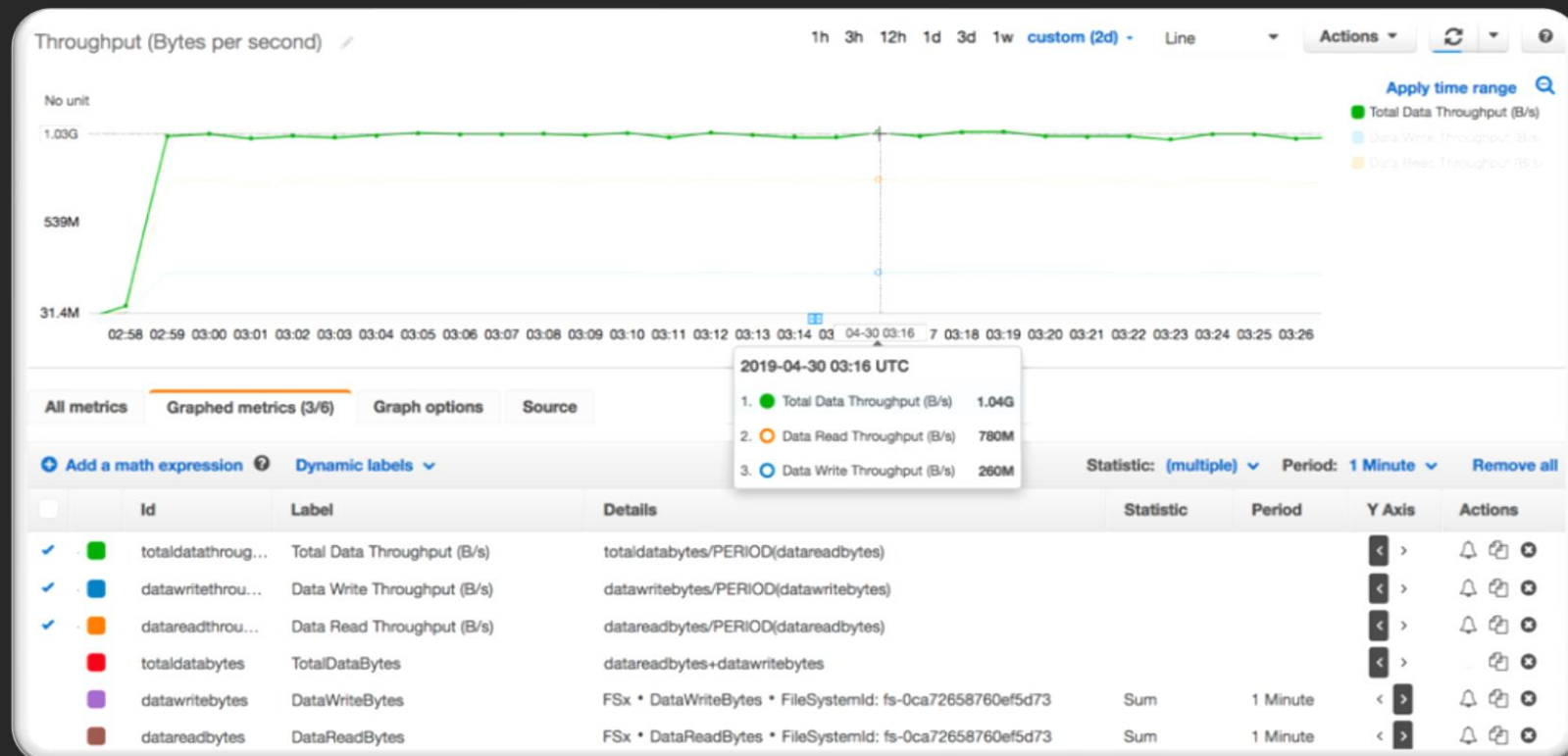
# If you need more than the default...

1. Test your workload with Amazon FSx
2. Look at CloudWatch metrics for your Amazon FSx file system
3. If the total throughput is approaching the throughput capacity limit, pick a higher level

# CloudWatch metrics

Every minute, Amazon FSx emits metrics to Amazon CloudWatch:

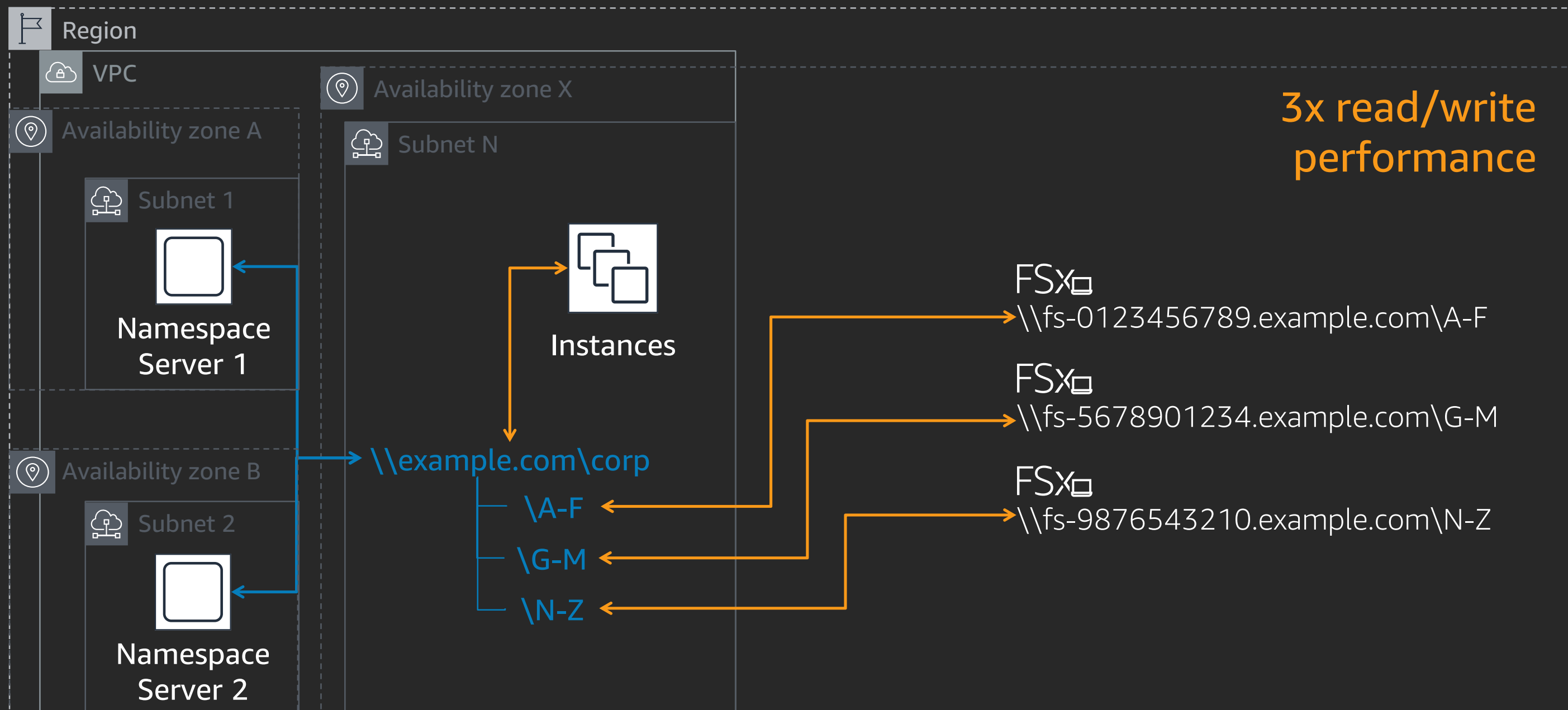
- Free storage capacity
- File system throughput (read & write)
- File system operations (read, write, and metadata)



You can use Metric Math to simplify near real-time monitoring of your file system

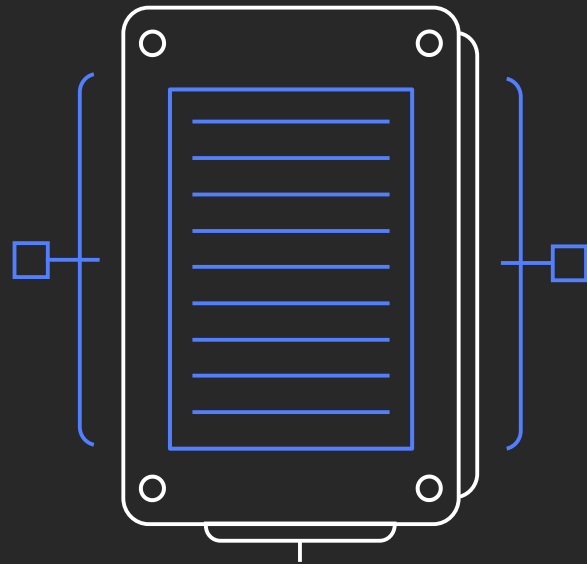


# Scaling out storage & performance with DFSN

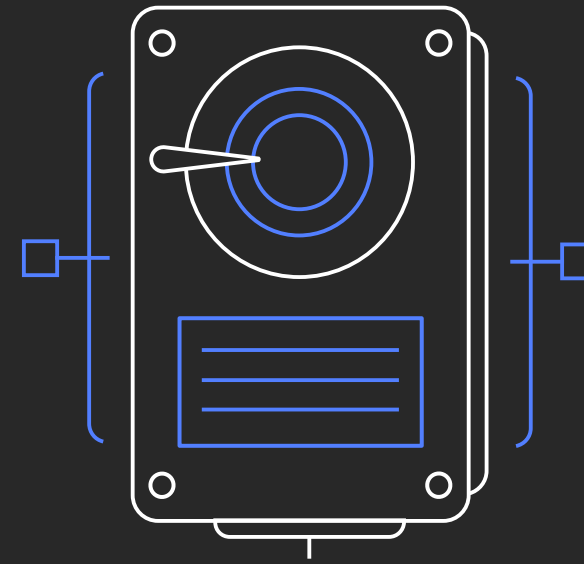


# Cost-effectiveness

# Choose the ideal storage type



SSD



HDD

# Data Deduplication

Large datasets often have a lot of duplication, which increases storage costs

User shares (home directories)

Multiple users have many copies or versions of a file

Software dev shares

Most portions of binaries remain unchanged from build to build

Use Data Deduplication to reduce costs associated with duplicated data

Scenario	Content	Typical space savings
User documents	Office documents, photos, music, and videos	30-50%
Software dev shares	Software binaries, build files, and program symbols	70-80%
General file shares	Mix of the above	50-60%

# Data Deduplication

Works at the sub-file level

Uses post-processing optimization to minimize performance impact

Removes duplicated content and compresses common content

Use remote management PowerShell CLI on your file system to...

- Enable/disable Data Deduplication
- Customize schedule for deduplication jobs
- Monitor how much savings you're achieving with deduplication

```
PS C:\Windows\system32> Invoke-Command -ComputerName amznfsx[REDACTED].fsx-ad.com -ConfigurationName FsxRemoteAdmin -ScriptBlock {  
>> Get-FSxDedupStatus } | select OptimizedFilesCount,OptimizedFilesSize,SavedSpace,OptimizedFilesSavingsRate
```

OptimizedFilesCount	OptimizedFilesSize	SavedSpace	OptimizedFilesSavingsRate
779	1666284377	929007343	55

# User Storage Quotas

- Monitor and control user-level storage space consumption on file systems
- **Use remote management PowerShell CLI on your file system to...**
  - Enable/disable user quotas
  - Configure quota levels for the default and for specific users or groups
  - Choose between *track* and *enforce* modes
  - List current quota violations

```
PS C:\Users\Admin>
PS C:\Users\Admin> Invoke-Command -ComputerName $PS_ENDPOINT -ConfigurationName FSxRemoteAdmin -ScriptBlock {
>>     Get-FSxUserQuotaEntries
>> } | Select User, Status, DiskSpaceUsed, Limit
```

User	Status	DiskSpaceUsed	Limit
Win32_Account (Name = "Admin", Domain = "dom")	Exceeded	22412234752	2147483648

Win32\_Account (Name = "Admin", Domain = "dom") Exceeded 22412234752 2147483648

# Example TCO

## Storage requirements

- 10 TB of storage
- With deduplication, 50% of storage needed
- Deployment type: Multi-AZ
- Storage type: HDD

## Throughput requirements

- 16 MB/s sustained, 100 MB/s burst

## Backup requirements

- Expected backup storage usage: 1x of storage capacity

File system component	Total cost
Storage (Multi-AZ, HDD, 5 TB @ \$0.025/GB-mo)	\$128
Throughput capacity (16 MB/s @ \$4.50/MBps-mo)	\$72
<b>Total cost</b> (excl. backups)	<b>\$200/month</b> (or \$0.02/GB-mo)
Backups (5 TB @ \$0.05/GB-mo)	\$256
<b>Total cost</b> (incl. backups)	<b>\$456/month</b> (or \$0.04/GB-mo)

# Security and data protection



# Security and compliances



Data encrypted  
at-rest and in-transit

Option to enforce  
encryption in-transit

**NEW!**



Integrates with  
your organization's  
AD and supports  
Windows ACLs



Network traffic access  
control using Amazon  
VPC security groups



Admin API  
access control  
using AWS IAM



Monitor and log  
API calls using  
AWS CloudTrail



PCI-DSS + ISO-  
+ SOC + GDPR compliant  
and HIPAA eligible

# Use Amazon FSx with your organization's AD

Directly integrate your Amazon FSx file systems with your organization's Active Directory (on-premises or in-cloud)

- **Authentication:** Your users continue to access file shares by authenticating with their existing AD user credentials
- **Authorization:** You can migrate and use your existing file and folder ACLs, and your share-level access controls as is, without any modifications needed

Supports two AD integration options:

- AWS Managed Microsoft AD
- Self-managed Microsoft AD (on-premises or in-cloud)

# Use Amazon FSx with your self-managed AD

## Windows authentication

Choose an Active Directory to provide user authentication and access control for your file system [Info](#)

- ☐ AWS Managed Microsoft Active Directory
- ☒ Self-managed Microsoft Active Directory

Provide details for your organization's self-managed Active Directory [Info](#)

Fully qualified domain name

domain.com

DNS server IP addresses

IPv4 addresses of the DNS servers for your domain

192.168.0.1

192.168.0.2

Service account username

The username of the service account in your existing AD. Do not include a domain prefix or suffix.

FSxServiceAccount

Service account password

The password for the service account provided above.

.....

Maximum of 128 characters.

# Backups

## Highly durable

Highly durable (11 nines) – stored in Amazon S3

## File system consistent

Capture and restore a point-in-time view of file system  
Ensures file system-consistency using VSS

## Incremental

Only changes after your most recent backup use backup storage

## Fully managed

Automatic daily backups, with retention policy  
Admin-initiated backups via API/Console

# File-level restore by end-users (Shadow copies)



## Undo changes to individual files

No need to restore the entire file system

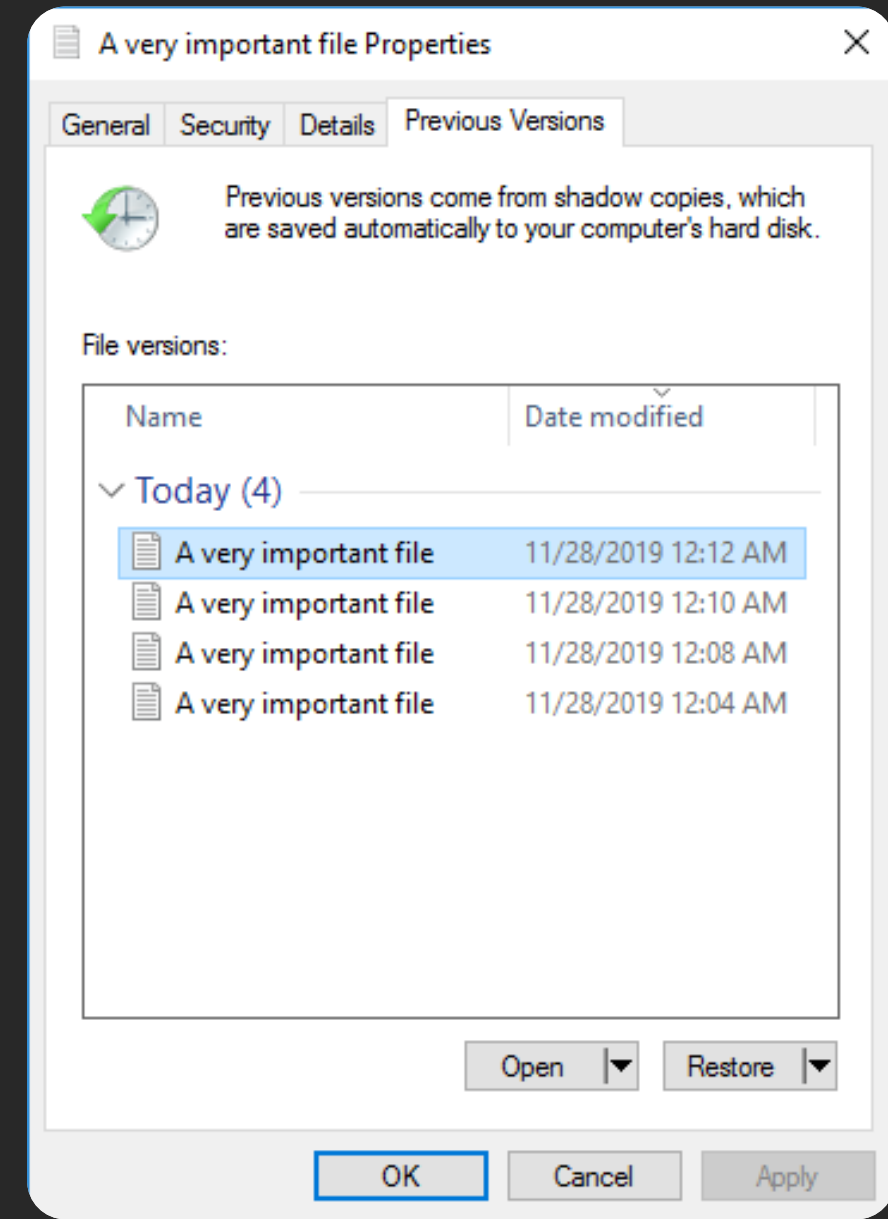


## Self-service

No more filing a ticket to admin



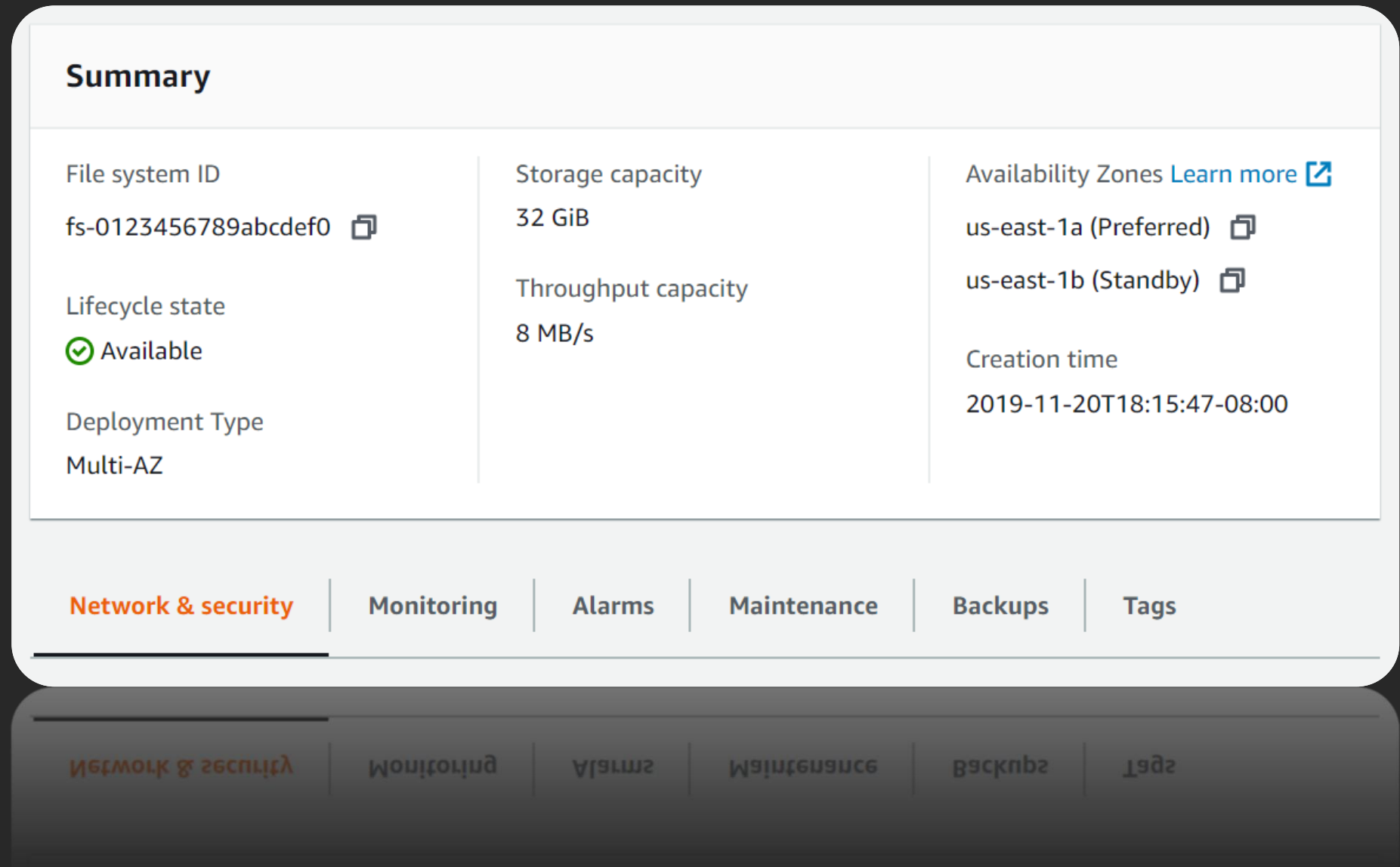
## Compare previous file versions



# Administration

# Administering AWS resource properties

- CloudWatch metrics
- CloudWatch alarms
- Maintenance window
- Automatic backups
- Tags
- Active Directory configuration



The screenshot displays the AWS Management Console interface for an Amazon FSx for Windows file system. The 'Summary' tab is selected, showing key properties in a three-column layout. The first column contains the File system ID (fs-0123456789abcdef0), Lifecycle state (Available with a green checkmark), and Deployment Type (Multi-AZ). The second column shows Storage capacity (32 GiB) and Throughput capacity (8 MB/s). The third column lists Availability Zones (us-east-1a Preferred, us-east-1b Standby) with a 'Learn more' link, and the Creation time (2019-11-20T18:15:47-08:00). Below the summary, a navigation bar includes tabs for Network & security, Monitoring, Alarms, Maintenance, Backups, and Tags. The entire interface is reflected in a dark mirror at the bottom.

Summary		
File system ID fs-0123456789abcdef0	Storage capacity 32 GiB	Availability Zones <a href="#">Learn more</a> us-east-1a (Preferred) us-east-1b (Standby)
Lifecycle state Available	Throughput capacity 8 MB/s	Creation time 2019-11-20T18:15:47-08:00
Deployment Type Multi-AZ		

Navigation tabs: Network & security | Monitoring | Alarms | Maintenance | Backups | Tags

# Administering file system features

What you can configure using remote PowerShell:

- SMB file shares
- Shadow copies
- Data deduplication
- User quotas
- Open sessions / files
- Enforcement of encryption in transit



# Administering file system features

```
PS C:\Users\Admin> Enter-PsSession -ComputerName $PS_ENDPOINT -ConfigurationName FSxRemoteAdmin
[amznfsx45oujbs1.dom.com]: PS>Get-FSxSmbShare

Name  ScopeName      Path      Description
-----
D$    AMZNFSXTNS9I2P4 D:\       Default Share
IPC$  *              Remote IPC
share AMZNFSXTNS9I2P4 D:\share

[amznfsx45oujbs1.dom.com]: PS>Exit-PsSession
PS C:\Users\Admin> _
```

```
PS C:\Users\Admin> Invoke-Command -ComputerName $PS_ENDPOINT -ConfigurationName FSxRemoteAdmin -ScriptBlock {
>>   Get-FSxSmbShare
>> } | Select Name, Path, ScopeName, Description

Name  Path      ScopeName      Description
-----
D$    D:\       AMZNFSXTNS9I2P4 Default Share
IPC$  *         Remote IPC
share D:\share AMZNFSXTNS9I2P4
```

# Migration

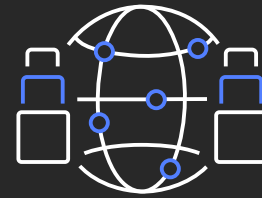
# Migration



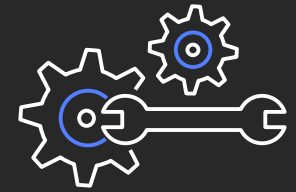
**Simple  
and seamless  
migration**



Migrate files using  
Windows-native  
tools like RoboCopy



Preserve existing  
security (ACLs) and DFS  
Namespaces, and  
continue to use existing  
AD user identities



SMB share  
migration  
tooling

Migration transparent to your applications and users  
i.e., no need to modify your existing applications or user workflows

# Amazon FSx in Action

# Summary and Q&A

# Related sessions

---

STG 201

AWS leadership session: Storage state of the union

---

STG 202

What's new in AWS file storage

---

STG 238

File storage for business-critical applications

---

STG 211

How to use AWS storage for on-premises file applications

---

STG 362

Migrating Windows file servers to Amazon FSx

---

STG 326

Deploy fully managed Amazon FSx for Windows File Server instances in minutes

---

STG 324

Map and drive performance with Amazon FSx for Windows File Server

---

# Thank you!

**Edward Naim**

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