

AvePoint Online Services vs Office 365 – Sites, Files, Emails, and Groups Backup, Management and Archiving

Overview:

AvePoint Online Services is a multi-tenant Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) offering from AvePoint, hosted on Microsoft’s Azure Platform-as-a-Service (PaaS) technology. With a unified, browser-based user interface and a fully-distributed architecture, AvePoint Online Services integrates AvePoint’s powerful data migration, management and protection technologies into a highly scalable solution for Office 365 applications including SharePoint Online, Exchange Online, Project Online, Office 365 Groups, OneDrive for Business and Public Folders. No installation and minimal configuration makes getting to the cloud a breeze!

Product Comparison:

AvePoint Cloud Backup vs. Native Office 365 Backup & Restore Capabilities

AvePoint Cloud Backup empowers organizations with automatic backups and granular, item-level restoration capabilities according to organizational Service Level Agreements (SLAs) to satisfy data protection and retention requirements.

With AvePoint Cloud Backup...

- **Accident-proof SLAs.**
 - Meet stringent SLAs with automatic backups up to four times a day (or every 6 hours*), and get the flexibility to customize your SLAs for RPO and RTO, instead of relying on Microsoft’s default restoration and retention policy.
- **Own your data.**
 - Maintain full access and control over your backup data, not just what’s in your Recycle Bins. Need to store backup files for a longer term (than the 15-30 days provided by Microsoft)? No problem! Compress and encrypt on the storage platform of your choice.
- **Recover on your terms.**
 - You select what and where. Need access to a backup from more than two weeks ago? Need access to files during any service disruption? Perform in-place or out-of-place restores for granular objects or content, without overwriting valuable data since the last backup or having to go through Microsoft Support.

Features		Office 365 Native	AvePoint Cloud Backup
Automatic Backup		YES Backups are automatically taken every 12 hours.	YES Backups are automatic, as often as every 6 hours.
Restore granularity	Site collection	YES	YES
	Site	YES	YES
	List/Library	LIMITED SUPPORT From Recycle Bins only.	YES
	Folder		YES
	List/Library		YES
	Document Version	LIMITED SUPPORT All versions will be automatically included if restoring the document from the recycle bin.	YES Supports restoring all versions or a specified number of the latest major and minor versions.

	User Mailbox	LIMITED SUPPORT Users can restore entire mailboxes only, if it's within the 30-day retention window.	YES Restore an entire mailbox, or individual calendar or item
	User Calendar		
Supported storage locations for backup data	Microsoft Azure Blob Storage	NO Customers have no access to their own backup data.	YES AvePoint Cloud Backup supports data encryption and compression on numerous storage platforms.
	Amazon S3		
	Dropbox		
	FTP		
	SFTP		
Preserve workflow definitions		NO Microsoft manages backups of Office 365 databases and content. All content and configurations are backed up. However, users can only restore entire site collections or individual lists/libraries from the recycle bin, overwriting data since the last backup.	YES
Preserve list views		LIMITED SUPPORT Only when users restore entire site collections via MSFT, potentially overwriting data, or individual lists/libraries from the recycle bin.	YES
Restore methods	Time-based restore – Restore any object based on specified backup time	LIMITED SUPPORT Backups are performed every 12 hours and retained in recycle bins for 14 days for SPO, OD items, up to 30 for some Exchange items. Specific items, files, lists, or libraries can be restored directly from the SharePoint Online recycle bin.	YES
	Object-based restore – Directly locate the objects you want to restore by utilizing full-text search capability	NO	YES

Restore types	In place restore	YES	YES
	Out-of-place restore	NO For Microsoft-maintained backup data, out of place restore is not permitted.	YES
	Restore to storage policy	NO	YES Restore to storage outside of Office 365.
Container level conflict resolution when restoring	Skip	NO	YES
	Merge	NO	YES
	Replace	YES	YES
Content level conflict resolution when restoring	Skip	NO	YES
	Overwrite	YES	YES
	Overwrite by last modified time	NO	YES
	Append an item/document named “_1”	NO	YES
Conflict resolution for App Data	Skip	NO	YES
	Overwrite	YES	YES
Version restore	Restore all versions	YES	YES
	Restore a specified number of latest versions	NO	YES
Granular restore of security (user/group)		NO	YES
Granular restore of item / object properties			YES
Granular restore of views			YES
Granular restore of workflow definition and item history			YES
Restore of item-dependent columns and content types			YES
Schedule backup and restore functions		NO Backups are automatically taken every 12 hours. Customers are not able to control by themselves.	YES

AvePoint Cloud Management vs. Native SharePoint Online, OneDrive for Business, and Office 365 Groups Administration & Reporting Capabilities

Many out-of-the-box (OOTB) administration tasks require the use of PowerShell. An index of available PowerShell commands for managing SharePoint Online users, groups, and sites can be found here:

<https://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/library/fp161364.aspx>

Use AvePoint Cloud Management to gain insight and control over users and data without the use of PowerShell. AvePoint Cloud Management allows you to gain insight into users and content, reporting and monitoring user activity, site usage, content lifecycle, and content type usage.

With AvePoint Cloud Management:

- **Batch control without using PowerShell.**
 - Add and modify users, and controls in batch without code. Quickly filter for sites or users where policies should be applied, and track all administrative actions that are performed through AvePoint Cloud Management to avoid conflicts and prevent conflicts.
- **Enforce governance policies for objects, sites, and security. Retain audit data on your terms.**
 - Define policies to revert or notify if end users modify permissions, object configurations, or features outside your governance policy parameters. Keep Audit data according to your organizational guidelines, not Microsoft's 90-day limit.
- **Migrate, restructure, or synchronize content within or across Office 365 tenants**
 - Evolve your information architecture and site structure on demand, according to business requirements. Maintain valuable properties and metadata. Copy or move content easily to different Site Collections or Office 365 Tenants.
- **Centralized user and site monitoring within or across tenants, as well as Web analytics.**
 - Monitor and report on user and content lifecycles, user activity, and permissions or content type changes. Run configuration reports to understand current site configurations and storage utilization to track adoption over time. View visitor and page trends, including device and browser utilization.

Features		Office 365 Native	AvePoint Cloud Management
Permissions management	Site Collection / Site Level Reporting	YES	YES
	Cross-Site / Cross-Tenant Reporting	NO	YES
	(BULK) Clone / Transfer Permissions	NO	YES
	Grant Temporary Permissions	NO	YES
	Report on External Users	NO	YES
Change management	Bulk Deployment of Design Elements (CSS, Custom Pages, Web Parts, Apps, etc.)	NO* Customers have the option to use Patterns and Practices to create, deploy, and manage design elements. However, this is a community-supported solution only.	YES
	Real-Time Comparison of Feature Differences Cross-Site / Cross-Tenant	NO	YES

Content move	Copy/Migrate SharePoint Online, OneDrive for Business, Office 365 Groups Content (Documents, Items, Folders, Lists, Libraries, Sites) within a single Site Collection	LIMITED SUPPORT Move/ restructure sites, libraries, and documents through Explorer View, Site Content and Structure with limited fidelity	YES
	Copy/Migrate SharePoint Online, OneDrive for Business, Office 365 Groups Content (Documents, Items, Folders, Lists, Libraries, Sites) across Site Collections or O365 Tenants	NO	YES
Automated Policy Enforcement to report on or revert unauthorized or out-of-policy changes to object configuration, security, and sites	The Ability to Configure and Centrally Manage Policies for Configuration, Security, and Sites	NO Office 365 capabilities are often associated with Content Types at more granular levels.	YES
	Automatically Enforce Configurations Policies (Versioning, IRM, Content Types, etc.). Report on or revert out-of-policy objects in SharePoint Online, OneDrive for Business and Office 365 Groups	NO Automated policy association for retention is based on Content Type.	YES
	Automatically Enforce Security Policies (Permission Level restrictions, Site Admin limit controls, restricted sharing, etc.)	NO Permissions policy associations are generally inherited from the parent object.	YES
	Automatically Enforce Site Policies (Site Feature Activation, Site Template, Site Settings, etc.)	NO	YES
	Email Alerts and Notifications on Policy Violations	NO	YES
Replication	Replicate content across SharePoint Online, OneDrive for Business, and Office 365 Groups	NO	YES
	Replicate SharePoint Online, OneDrive for Business, and Office 365 Groups Security settings (Site Collection, Site, List, Folder, and Item permissions)	NO	YES
	Replicate SharePoint Online, OneDrive for Business, and Office 365 Groups Configuration settings (Site Collection, Site, List features, and properties)	NO	YES
	One-way replication: Keep SharePoint Online, OneDrive for Business, and Office 365 Groups content in sync from one site to another (publishing scenario)	NO	YES

	Two-way replication; Keep SharePoint Online content in sync across multiple sites (collaboration scenario)	NO	YES
	Real-time, event-driven replication from (trigger by upload, edit, metadata change, etc.)	NO	YES
Content/item auditing	Open/View/Download	YES In the Office 365 Compliance Center.	YES These capabilities have been fully supported via utilizing newly available activity management API.
	Item Move / Copy	YES	YES
	Edit / Check-Out / Check-In	YES	YES
	Delete / Restore	YES	YES
	Workflow / Content Type Changes	YES	YES
Report types	Auditing / Policy Changes	NO	YES
	Security Settings Changes	YES	YES
Report level	Tenant	NO	YES
	Site Collection / Site	YES	YES
Report viewing	Excel	YES	YES
	Export Report to SharePoint Library	NO	YES
	View Tenant Level Report in Web Interface	NO	YES
Data Management	Audit History	90 Days	Unlimited Retention
	Storage Locations	Office 365 Compliance Center	SQL Azure , SQL Server Coming Soon
Web Analytics	Visitor Trends (Access times, conversions)	NO	YES
	Device Information (Device, Browser, Software, etc.)	NO	YES
	Page Trends (Time on page, breadcrumb, user heat map)	NO	YES

AvePoint Cloud Archiving vs. Native SharePoint Online, Office 365 Groups and OneDrive for Business Archiving

With AvePoint Cloud Archiving:

- **Centrally apply archive and retention policies at any object level maintaining metadata, workflow state, and permissions.**
 - Avoid creating and applying policies, site collection by site collection.
- **Archive based on built-in or customizable properties.**
 - Not just Content Type-driven or date-driven. Avoid reliance on users to assign correct Content Types or site policies to achieve content lifecycle management.
- **Automated control over your data.**
 - Store archived content in any cloud storage drive. Apply retention policies to preserve or remediate content in compliance with information management policies or to move stale content to less expensive storage tiers for reduced costs. Granularly restore archived content back to SharePoint Online.

Features		Office 365 Native	AvePoint Cloud Archiving
Archive/remove dormant content from SharePoint Online, OneDrive for Business and Office 365 Groups (from site collection to item level)		LIMITED SUPPORT Microsoft policies encourage “in-place” records management, leaving content in view of end-users and creating clutter.	YES Configure granular policies to archive site collections, sites, lists, libraries, items, document versions, and attachments based on built-in or customizable properties.
Criteria specified for archiving rules	Name	NO	YES
	Document Size	NO	YES
	Modified Time	YES Via Information Management Policies	YES
	Modified by	NO	YES
	Created Time	YES Via Information Management Policies	YES
	Created by	NO	YES
	Content Type	NO Via Information Management Policies	YES
	Column Field or Metadata(Text, Number, Yes/No, Date, and Time)	NO	YES
	Parent List Type ID	NO	YES
	Parent Folder Name	NO	YES
	Last Accessed Time	NO	YES

Archiver options	Archive and Remove Data from SharePoint Online, OneDrive for Business and Office 365 Groups	LIMITED SUPPORT Document retention policies can be configured within site collections and applied at the item level based on Content Type or site level, according to created/modified date properties only.	YES
	Archive and Keep Data in SharePoint Online, OneDrive for Business and Office 365 Groups as a Read-only Copy	LIMITED SUPPORT Configure document retention policies within site collections only, e.g. declare records after a set time frame. Can't archive in the meantime.	YES
	Move Documents into Another Library and Declare as SharePoint Records	NO	YES
Supported storage for archived data	SharePoint Online Records Center	YES	YES
	Microsoft Azure Storage	NO	YES Compress and encrypt data on the storage device of your choosing.
	Amazon S3		
	Box		
	Dropbox		
	FTP		
	Rackspace Cloud File		
	SFTP		
	IBM Tivoli Storage Manager (TSM)		
	NetApp AltaVault		
OneDrive			
Granularly restore archived content	In place restore	NO	YES
	Out of place restore	NO	YES
E-mail alerts and notifications on archive and restore		LIMITED SUPPORT Site Policies include optional user notification. Workflow configuration is required to incorporate alerts or approvals into content deletion or records declaration processes.	YES
Schedule archive and restore functions		NO	YES