



AZURE ANNOUNCEMENTS NEWSLETTER

June 24, 2022 – June 30, 2022

Announcements Summary

Azure Active Directory	General Availability – 1 Update
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Total Announcements: 8

Announcements Details

Azure Service: Azure Active Directory

General Availability

Temporary access pass (TAP) is now generally available. Temporary access pass can be used to securely register passwordless methods such as phone sign-in, phishing resistant methods like FIDO2, and can even assist in Windows onboarding (Azure AD Join and Windows Hello for Business). Temporary access pass makes recovery easier when you have lost or forgotten your strong authentication methods and need to sign in to register new authentication methods.

Announcement: <https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?linkid=2142159&clid=0x409>

Documentation: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/general-availability-temporary-access-pass-for-azure-active-directory/>

Azure Service: Backup

Preview Features

Azure Virtual Machine Backup enables you to create an enhanced policy to take multiple snapshots a day. Understanding your need to protect mission-critical workloads in Azure Virtual Machines, Azure Backup now previews low recovery point objective (RPO) to as low as four hours.

With this capability, you can define the duration in which your backup jobs would trigger and align your backup schedule with the working hours when there are frequent updates. Understanding your need for higher retention in instant restore, enhanced policy is designed to offer instant restore retention with default of seven days retention and maximum of 30 days. This ensures minimal data loss in the event of corruption or updates.

Announcement: https://docs.microsoft.com/azure/backup/backup-azure-vm-enhanced-policy?WT.mc_id=wwc-aces

Documentation: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/mbpd-azurevm-preview/>

Azure Service: Cost Management

Updated Features

We're always looking for ways to learn more about your challenges and how Microsoft Cost Management can help you better understand where you're accruing costs in the cloud, identify and prevent bad spending patterns, and optimize costs to empower you to do more with less. Here are a few of the latest improvements and updates based on your feedback:

- Viewing cost in the Azure mobile app
- Introducing a new API for configuring cost alerts
- Prevent budget overages with action groups common alert schema
- Amplify your learning experience in Cost Management
- Help shape the future of navigation in Cost Management and Billing
- What's new in Cost Management Labs
- New ways to save money with Microsoft Cloud
- New videos and learning opportunities
- Documentation updates
- Join the Microsoft Cost Management team

Announcement: <https://azure.microsoft.com/blog/microsoft-cost-management-updates-june-2022/>

Documentation: <https://azure.microsoft.com/blog/microsoft-cost-management-updates-june-2022/>

Azure Service: Digital Twins

New Features

The MATCH clause is a query offering that allows you to specify which pattern should be followed while traversing relationships in the Azure Digital Twins graph. The MATCH clause allows you to run variable hop and/or bi-directional queries in your solution.

Announcement: https://docs.microsoft.com/azure/digital-twins/reference-query-clause-match?WT.mc_id=wwc-aces

Documentation: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/matchclausequery/>

Azure Service: IoT Central

General Availability

You can now apply a filter to limit exporting device data including telemetry, property changes, and device events from devices under an organization in your Azure IoT Central data exports. To apply this filter, use the organizations filter, under operator, and specify the organizations path as value in your Azure IoT Central data export. You can also include the entire organizations path in the export message. To include the organizations path, use the data transformation capability in data export to pass the "organizationPaths" in the outgoing message.

Announcement: https://docs.microsoft.com/azure/iot-central/core/overview-iot-central-solution-builder?WT.mc_id=wwc-aces#data-export

Documentation: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/iotc-export-data-under-organization/>

Azure Service: SQL Database

General Availability

We are happy to announce General Availability of Named replicas in the Hyperscale tier of Azure SQL Database. We released public preview of this feature in June 2021, since then this feature has been improved and adopted by many customers across industries.

Named replicas is an addition to Azure SQL Database Hyperscale to scale-out a variety of read workloads, be it highly concurrent OLTP workloads or HTAP solutions for real-time data analytics.

Named Replicas uses cases:

Flexibility: Scale-out read workloads to up to 30 read replicas. Each replica can be scaled to different compute size (Service Level Objectives) than primary compute, to cater to dynamic workloads. For example, new replicas can be added, or existing replicas can be scaled-up to cater peak times like end of month processing/sale period, etc and scale down during lean business times.

Isolation: Multiple application users can work in isolation on their respective named replica as logins/AD group can be granted isolated access and dedicated connection endpoint to respective replica.

Cost savings for read scale-out: Since named replicas share same storage as primary replica, storage cost is saved, and license charge does not apply to named replicas. There are additional cost savings opportunities when named replicas can be scaled down compared to the primary.

Serve modern application architectures for Analytical workloads including Data Science and Reporting.

Announcement: <https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/azure-sql-blog/azure-sql-database-hyperscale-named-replicas-feature-is/ba-p/3455674>

Documentation: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/azure-sql-generally-available-updates-for-late-june-2022/>

Preview Features

You can now Enable new built-in server-level roles in Azure SQL Database for permission management.

Announcement: https://docs.microsoft.com/azure/azure-sql/database/security-server-roles?view=azuresql?WT.mc_id=wwc-aces

Documentation: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/azure-sql-public-preview-updates-for-late-june-2022/>

Azure Service: Storage

Updated Features

Azure Storage is announcing public preview of the ability to create an additional 5000 Azure Storage accounts per subscription per region. This is a 20 times increase from the current limit of 250 and helps you create several hundred or thousand storage accounts to address your storage needs within a single subscription, instead of creating additional subscriptions.

Announcement: <https://techcommunity.microsoft.com/t5/azure-storage-blog/public-preview-create-additional-5000-azure-storage-accounts/ba-p/3465466>

Documentation: <https://azure.microsoft.com/updates/preview-5kaccountlimit/>