Get started

BeeGFS on NetApp with E-Series Storage

NetApp
January 27, 2026

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What's included in this site

This site documents how to deploy and manage BeeGFS on NetApp using both NetApp Verified Architectures (NVAs) and custom architectures. NVA designs are thoroughly tested and provide customers with reference configurations and sizing guidance to minimize deployment risk and accelerate time to market. NetApp also supports custom BeeGFS architectures running on NetApp hardware, giving customers and partners flexibility designing file systems to meet a wide range of requirements. Both approaches leverage Ansible for deployment, providing an appliance-like approach managing BeeGFS at any scale across a flexible range of hardware.

Terms and concepts

The following terms and concepts apply to the BeeGFS on NetApp solution.

See the Administer BeeGFS clusters section for additional details on terms and concepts specific to interacting with BeeGFS high availability (HA) clusters.

Term	Description
AI	Artificial Intelligence.
Ansible Control Node	A physical or virtual machine used to run Ansible CLI.
Ansible Inventory	Directory structure containing YAML files that are used to describe the desired BeeGFS HA cluster.
BMC	Baseboard management controller. Sometimes referred to as a service processor.
Block nodes	E-Series storage systems.
Clients	Nodes in the HPC cluster running applications that need to utilize the file system. Sometimes also referred to as compute or GPU nodes.
DL	Deep Learning.
file nodes	BeeGFS file servers.
HA	High Availability.
HIC	Host Interface Card.
HPC	High-Performance Computing.

Term	Description
HPC-style workloads	HPC-style workloads are typically characterized by multiple compute nodes or GPUs all needing to access the same dataset in parallel to facilitate a distributed compute or training job. These datasets are often comprised of large files that should be striped across multiple physical storage nodes to eliminate the traditional hardware bottlenecks that would prevent concurrent access to a single file.
ML	Machine Learning.
NLP	Natural Language Processing.
NLU	Natural Language Understanding.
NVA	The NetApp Verified Architecture (NVA) program provides reference configurations and sizing guidance for specific workloads and use cases. These solutions are thoroughly tested, and are designed to minimize deployment risks and to accelerate time to market.
storage network / client network	Network used for clients to communicate to the BeeGFS file system. This is often the same network used for parallel Message Passing Interface (MPI) and other application communication between HPC cluster nodes.

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