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|  | **Center BackgroundSystem** |
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|  | Azure Storage spike |
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|  | Azure Storage |
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|  | Gorba AG  Sandackerstrasse  9245 Oberbüren  Switzerland |

# Spike description

The spike contains a WPF application (.NET 4.5.1, WindowsAzure.Storage library 4.3.0) and a Console application (.NET 2.0). They provide the following functionalities:

* WPF Application
  + Upload resource to blob storage
  + Upload resource to file storage
* Console application
  + Download resource from blob storage
    - Optional size limit
  + Download resource from file storage
    - Optional size limit

# Comparison

## Features

Both services allow a client to download a specific range of the file (useful for implementation on units).

The file service adds the possibility to mount a share on a VM, anyway the VM must be on Azure and in the same region of the storage.

## Speed

Speed is similar for blob and file storage services.

Currently, for both services the declared speed is “up to 60MB/s”. In case of blobs, the speed is relative to a block blob, while for files it is relative to a share.

## Pricing

For prices, please refer to <http://azure.microsoft.com/en-gb/pricing/details/storage/>.

The blob storage service is cheaper.

## Remarks

Secured REST interaction requires advanced cryptography functions that are not available on Compact Framework.

With the blob service it’s possible to specify the ContentType (required for ClickOnce).

# Spike results

Form an API perspective, both solutions (blob, file) are very similar and the effort to implement them is the same.

It is possible to download resources split into multiple “chunks”, helpful for implementation on units.

The additional features of the file service (possibility to mount a share with SMB protocol) are not relevant for our scenarios.

# Links

<https://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/azure/dn790517.aspx>