The world's largest marketer of kiwi fruit, Zespri International, relies on a large SAP and SQL Server infrastructure to manage its operations in more than 53 countries.

The Challenge

Zespri began a strategic initiative to move their SAP operations to Microsoft Azure to leverage the flexibility and scalability of the Azure cloud. For this initiative to be successful, they needed to ensure that their business critical SAP and SQL Server applications would continue to meet the stringent levels of service and availability their business demands.

They faced the challenge of delivering high availability and disaster protection for their critical applications in a cloud, where shared storage failover clustering is not available. “We needed a simple, cost-efficient solution that would protect critical SAP Central Services but would not add complexity to our move to Azure,” said Andrew Goodin, Global Manager Information Services, Zespri International.

The Solution

The company’s IT consultant, Datacom recommended using SIOS DataKeeper Cluster Edition software. Zespri added SIOS DataKeeper to its Microsoft Windows Server Failover Clusters to enable them to work in a Microsoft Azure cloud environment and to gain complete configuration flexibility. For Zespri, SIOS DataKeeper synchronizes local storage in cluster nodes located in different Microsoft Azure fault domains for disaster protection. The synchronized storage appears to WSFC as a traditional SAN. As a result, there is no added complexity for the IT team. Today, the Zespri infrastructure is one of the largest SAP deployments in Microsoft Azure worldwide comprising more than 32 nodes running on large Microsoft SQL Server databases.
The Results

By providing the HA and DR foundation needed to support business critical operations, SIOS DataKeeper software played a critical role in enabling Zespri to move to Microsoft Azure. “SIOS DataKeeper provided the configuration flexibility and high availability and disaster protection we needed to deploy our business-critical SAP/ Microsoft SQL Server operations in Microsoft Azure,” said Goodin.

With SIOS DataKeeper, Zespri was able to take advantage of scalability and flexibility of Microsoft Azure environment for their SAP environment while delivering the stringent service levels required of their business-critical applications.

About SIOS Technology Corp.

SIOS Technology Corp. makes software products that provide the insights and guidance IT managers need to optimize and protect business critical applications in large, complex data centers.

SIOS SAN and SANLess software products - SIOS DataKeeper and SIOS Protecton Suite - are an essential part of any cluster solution that provides the flexibility to build Clusters Your Way™ to protect your choice of Windows or Linux environment in any configuration (or combination) of physical, virtual and cloud (public, private, and hybrid) without sacrificing performance or availability.

SIOS iQ is a machine learning analytics software that helps IT managers optimize performance, efficiency, reliability, and capacity utilization in virtualized environments. Founded in 1999, SIOS Technology Corp. (http://us.sios.com) is headquartered in San Mateo, California, and has offices throughout the United States, United Kingdom, Singapore and Japan.