Drilling Services Company Strengthens Disaster Recovery and Migration Strategy with Zerto

A company that provides high-performance, directional drilling for North American energy organizations enables their customers to achieve higher efficiencies at lower project costs.

At any given time, the company could be operating up to 30 drilling sites with 15-20 employees per site. If their SQL server goes down—even for just a few minutes—it could cost the company thousands of dollars and interrupt crucial business processes.

Because of this risk, the company needed a disaster recovery (DR) strategy that would minimize downtime by reducing recovery point objectives (RPOs) and recovery time objectives (RTOs). Additionally, the company wanted to realize the benefits offered by the public cloud and migrate their data to Azure.

Before Zerto, the company was using Veeam, but Veeam’s DR testing process was so lengthy and manual it would take hours to complete. Also, Veeam’s RTOs and RPOs were lengthy—sometimes weeks for RTO and up to a day for RPO—and the cost of the solution was high.

The company chose Zerto, with industry-leading RPOs and RTOs, as the best solution both to protect and backup their on-premises datacenter and to migrate to Azure.

Zerto simplified everything. They achieved better recovery times—as low as 6 seconds—and their shortened DR processes ran much more smoothly. Their compression of 80% allowed them to save resources, and with the streamlined and intuitive Zerto interface, they were able to save even more time and effort.

The company decided to move their accounting department to Azure first so they could test their servers in an isolated network to ensure the process was smooth. Before Zerto, they tried to use Azure Site Recovery (ASR) to migrate some infrastructure to Azure. During the process, ASR took down a Nutanix cluster, forcing them to stop the

“We were up and running within the same day of Zerto deployment. We had six servers backed up in one day, and a recovery time of just 6 to 8 seconds. It was incredible.”

IT Manager, Drilling Services Company
migration and rethink the entire move. When they moved to Zerto, they migrated and tested two accounting boxes within an hour, and they were running live in Azure within two hours.

The company was also using Veeam to back up Office 365. They wanted to be able to easily restore mailboxes and keep records of employees, but this solution instead led to on-premises failures and database corruptions.

Following proven success with Zerto for DR, they expanded to Zerto Backup for SaaS powered by KeepIt, simplifying their Office 365 backup to one solution. This move minimized the use of internal resources for backup and eliminated any need to interrupt data services.

Before Zerto Backup for SaaS, accessing long-term storage was difficult and time intensive. For example, a simple request from HR to access an email from a former employee required intense effort. The process involved retrieving the entire mailbox from one server, restoring it to a computer, and then accessing the huge file. This process would often result in several copies of the data and take a full day of work.

But with Zerto Backup for SaaS, the IT team shares a link with the HR department to give them access to the stored data. The entire process takes only a minute or two. Plus, the security risk in the form of extra copies of data is completely gone.

In the future, the company anticipates continuing to rely on Zerto Backup for SaaS with KeepIt as well as moving more data to Azure with ease, all while achieving more cost savings with Zerto.

“It’s basically going from Office 365 cloud to KeepIt cloud—we’re not interrupting any of our data services to do backups for our email. We don’t have to manage a backup device or storage. And the long-term retention—that’s key for us.”

IT Manager, Drilling Services Company

About Zerto

Zerto, a Hewlett Packard Enterprise company, empowers customers to run an always-on business by simplifying the protection, recovery, and mobility of on-premises and cloud applications. Zerto’s cloud data management and protection solution eliminates the risks and complexity of modernization and cloud adoption across private, public, and hybrid deployments. The simple, software-only solution uses continuous data protection at scale to converge disaster recovery, backup, and data mobility. Zerto is trusted by over 9,500 customers globally and is powering offerings for Microsoft Azure, IBM Cloud, AWS, Google Cloud, Oracle Cloud, and more than 350 managed service providers. www.zerto.com

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