

Major Australian Retailer Migrates to Azure with the Help of Ingram Micro Cloud

INDUSTRY

Retail

LOCATION

Sydney, Australia

EMPLOYEES

1,200+

OPERATING SYSTEM

Microsoft Server 2008 R2

DATABASE

SQL Server 2008 and Windows Hyper-V 2008

AZURE NATIVE TOOLS

Azure Migrate, Azure Virtual Machines, Azure Site Recovery, Azure Backup, SSMA

A major furniture retailer in Australia was operating its on-premises data center at the corporate headquarters in Sydney. These servers were running a popular but outdated ERP, Sage Accpac 5.6, and other business applications at the headquarters and various branches throughout the region. Its SQL Server 2008 and Windows Hyper-V 2008 were reaching the end of life. The retailer turned to Ingram Micro Cloud to help with migrating its data center to the cloud.

The Challenge

With an on-premises data center, the company couldn't keep up with its growing storage needs, and it didn't have a viable disaster recovery system. Operational expenses were increasing, and running servers that couldn't quickly scale up and down added to the growing overhead costs.

The retailer was also unable to upgrade its ERP and other applications because they didn't support the newer version of SQL Server 2008. Updating the environment would require a significant cost to extend support to its current on-premises operation.

The Solution

As part of Ingram Micro Cloud's IaaS Professional Services, Azure experts assessed the retailer's on-premises environment to better understand, classify and size existing workloads. Based on this assessment, they created a migration roadmap that would lead toward a faster progression to Azure.

Ingram Micro Cloud proposed a solution to rehost the retailer's Windows and SQL servers on Azure. By partnering with Ingram Micro Cloud, the company gained more flexibility while removing the common risks associated with migrations, which accelerated the entire process.

The migration solution leveraged Azure Site Recovery targeting Azure Virtual Machines with site-to-site VPN. In addition, Ingram Micro Cloud suggested a set of services that enabled the company to easily scale its infrastructure sizing up and down as needed based on their requirements at any given time. This saved the company money since their locations are not open 24/7.

One of the more glaring inefficiencies of the retailer's legacy system was its lack of a backup solution. Ingram Micro Cloud's professional services filled in that gap by including Azure Site Recovery and configuration of Azure Backup. This ensures that the retailer stays in compliance with the data retention policy of Australia, which requires data to be stored up to four years—two years plus an additional two years after an account has been closed. Ingram Micro Cloud's Security Compliance services also make sure the new Azure environment stays compliant moving forward.

The Results

Cut down cost: After the migration, the retailer maintained a compliant environment while avoiding the significant expense of running legacy software on-premises. The cost of an on-premises extended security update runs at 75% of the EA or licensing price of the latest version of SQL or Windows server version. The retailer also cut IT and operational costs by adding the ability to upgrade and scale its environment to meet changing business needs at any given time.

Operate efficiently: With Ingram Micro Cloud's Managed Services, the retailer can leverage a team of experts to make sure its cloud infrastructure is running at optimal efficiency. The company can also receive technical expertise to resolve any issues quickly if they arise. And lastly, with Ingram Micro Cloud's Cost Optimization Services, the retailer received further recommendations post-migration to keep its cloud costs in check.

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