

Company proves SQL Server license compliance with Zones report



The Challenge

Software asset management is a challenge for any enterprise, but for the world leader in innovation and manufacturing of insulation and engineered foams it was an international quandary.

Microsoft initiated an audit at the company's Germany headquarters, where software licenses are managed. But, the audit required reporting on SQL Server software running at the company's Americas headquarters.

The Solution

To establish license compliance, an organization must have an accurate license count and software inventory. To meet Microsoft Germany's audit requirements, the customer needed a detailed report of the SQL Server software in use at their Americas headquarters.

Zones Discovery Services (ZDS) is a non-intrusive and agentless technology that provides software discovery, analysis, and reporting. Even with multiple SQL Server editions and different licensing models (server and per core) in use at the company's data center, ZDS would provide the required audit data within the limited time available.

Challenge

Respond to Microsoft audit with proof of licensing compliance.

Solution

Zones Discovery Services with SQL Server software reporting.

Results

The company provided Microsoft with proof of licensing compliance and avoided the expense of new licenses.

The Solution *cont.*

At the end of the ZDS discovery and analysis, the company received an infrastructure scorecard of the company's IT environment, VMware ESXi reporting, and SQL Server reporting.

The ZDS report for SQL Server showed multiple data points on all instances of the software running in the company's data center including:

- > Host Name
- > Computer Name
- > SQL Server Product Name
- > SQL Server Edition
- > Machine Type
- > Instance Name
- > Processors
- > Cores Per Processor
- > Total Cores / vCPU
- > Host Physical Processors

The company then compared the ZDS report to their Microsoft License Statement (MLS), a comprehensive overview of the company's Microsoft volume license software assets, to determine the licensing compliance position for each SQL Server instance.

The Results

Using the ZDS and MLS reports, the company was able to show Microsoft Germany the exact numbers of SQL Server running in their environment and that they were licensed properly for them. By satisfying the compliance regulations, the company avoided the expenses of over licensing the software and audit penalties.

In addition to the gathering data about SQL Server, the company used the ZDS technology to gain insight into the state of their VMware ESXi environment. A ZDS report provided virtualization host information and the proper mapping for the guest machines running on that host. This information will help the company make informed decisions during upcoming projects.

Since the ZDS project, the company realized the importance of increasing access and control of their Microsoft environment. Zones software licensing specialists are helping them explore moving license management for their U.S. and Canadian offices from the company's Germany headquarters to the U.S. headquarters.

ZONES™ Discovery Services

Zones Discovery Services (ZDS) combines tools, people, and process to help you quickly and effortlessly gain deep insight into everything that's on your corporate network – and what you need to know about it – to eliminate unnecessary expenditures and minimize risk.

Whether you need to learn how recent software company acquisitions and divestitures affect your license agreements or you want clear visibility into the status of your IT infrastructure, ZDS and the Zones Advanced Solutions Group are here to help. To get started, request a demo at zones.com/discoveryservices or call your Zones account executive.