

# Moving forward with companions towards the same goal #1



Brett Barwick (left side), Principal Software Engineer and Eddie Williams (right side), Senior Principal Software Engineer, at SIOS Technology Corp.

Eddie Williams and Brett Barwick are involved in the development of high-availability solutions at SIOS Technology Corp. We asked them about what they find fulfilling in their work at SIOS Technology Corp.

## Journey as a working professional

### - What is your role at the STC?

Eddie: I am involved in the development of high-availability (HA) solutions as a Linux Architect and Lead Developer at SIOS Technology Corp (STC) . I think many remember the incident in July 2024 when a flaw in a cloud-based security product caused a massive system failure, leading to disruption in corporate activities and customer services worldwide. There is always a risk of system failure, whether in on-premises or cloud environments. However, business and services must continue. We are constantly challenging ourselves to evolve our HA solutions, such as LifeKeeper and DataKeeper, to meet the changing environments and needs of our customers.

Brett: As Principal Software Engineer and Team Lead of the STC API/GUI team, I am responsible for the development of the LifeKeeper and DataKeeper products for Linux. We are working on implementing new features and fixing bugs for a web application that centrally manages HA solutions running on various companies' cloud services, aiming for a more user-friendly product. This application serves as a dashboard that allows users to check the operational status of various systems immediately.

### - What made or motivated you to join STC?

Eddie: I originally worked for NCR Corporation (NCR) developing SCSI drivers and storage for Linux and Solaris. After transferring to SteelEye Technology, Inc., which acquired part of NCR's business in 2000, I have been engaged in the development of LifeKeeper for Linux, mainly working on the development of

storage and related areas. SteelEye became part of the SIOS Group in 2006 and changed its name to the current STC in 2010.

In 2011, after completing a phase of my work at STC, I sought a new career and moved to another software development company. However, in 2018, there were talks of a merger with that company, which led me to consider my future career path. During that time, I was invited by STC to a tour of their newly established office. During the tour, I was approached by a familiar former colleague who asked if I would consider returning to STC. After discussing with my family, I decided to return to STC in 2018. It was just the time when the development of a new HA solution was starting. Since returning to STC, I have been focusing on adding features to DataKeeper for Linux, among other things.

Brett: I earned a Ph.D. in mathematics in 2012 and served as a mathematics professor at a university in South Carolina. In addition to preparing for classes, I was also involved in the administrative operations of the university, leading to very busy days. I taught for six years, but the birth of my child made me think about work-life balance. I had always been interested in computer science and software engineering from a young age, so I decided to pursue a career change to an IT company in South Carolina. During my job search, I found that STC was looking for talent with knowledge in machine learning. I applied and was successfully hired.

(continued in #2)