

Evidian



# **SafeKit Cluster in the Google GCP Marketplace**

## **Startup Guide**

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# 1. Overview

[Evidian SafeKit](#) provides a high availability cluster with synchronous real-time file replication, load balancing and automatic application failover. This clustering solution is recognized as the simplest to implement by our customers and partners. It is also a complete solution that solves hardware failures (20% of problems) including the complete failure of a computer room, software failures (40% of problems) including software error detection and automatic restart and human errors (40% of problems) thanks to its simplicity of administration.

Evidian is a Google partner and provides packaged solutions for SafeKit on Google Cloud Platform (GCP). These enable you to be up and running with SafeKit high availability clusters on GCP quickly and easily. 4 different solutions are offered:

- ⇒ SafeKit mirror cluster on Windows
- ⇒ SafeKit mirror cluster on Linux
- ⇒ SafeKit farm cluster on Windows
- ⇒ SafeKit farm cluster on Linux

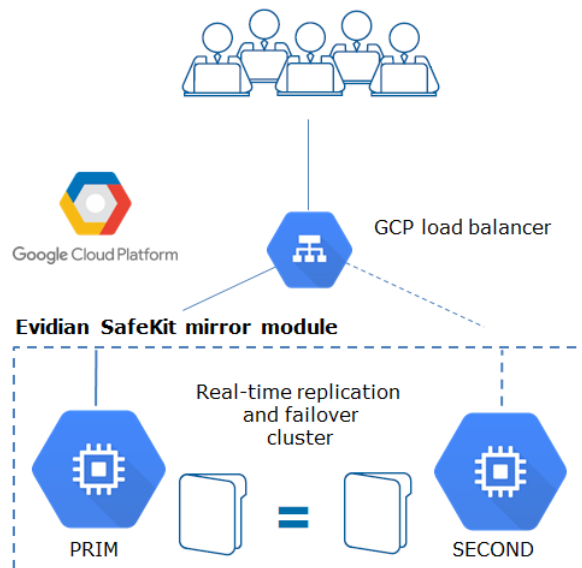
The mirror solutions deploy a high availability cluster with virtual IP, synchronous real-time file replication and automatic application failover, between 2 Windows or CentOS VM instances in different availability zones. For details, refer to [SafeKit Mirror Cluster in Google GCP page 5](#).

The farm solutions deploy a high availability cluster with network load balancing on a virtual IP address and automatic application failover, between 2 Windows or CentOS VM instances in different availability zones. For details, refer to [SafeKit Farm Cluster in Google GCP page 7](#).

For instructions to setup mirror and farm solutions into GCP, refer to [Deploy a SafeKit Cluster Solution page 9](#).



## 2. SafeKit Mirror Cluster in Google GCP



On the previous figure,

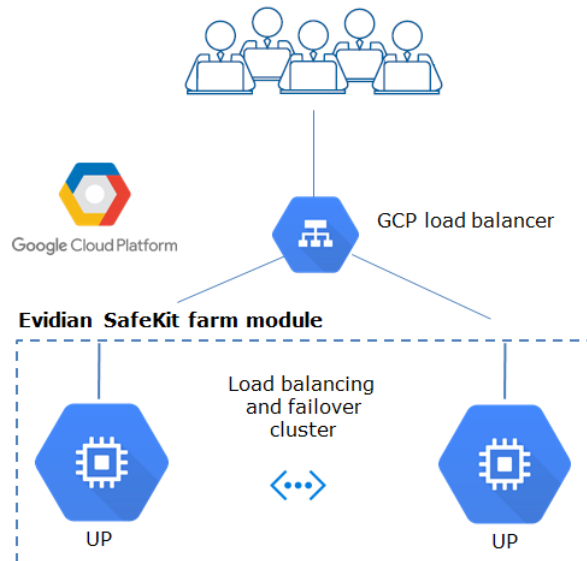
- the servers are running in different availability zones. The VM instances are based on Windows or CentOS depending on the deployed solution
- the critical application is running on the PRIM server
- users are connected to a primary/secondary virtual IP address which is configured in the Google GCP load balancer
- SafeKit provides a generic health check for the load balancer (URL managed by SafeKit and configured in the load balancer). On the PRIM server, the health check returns OK to the load balancer and NOK on the SECOND server.
- in each server, SafeKit monitors the critical application with process checkers and custom checkers
- SafeKit restarts automatically the critical application when there is a software failure or a hardware failure thanks to restart scripts
- SafeKit makes synchronous real-time replication of files containing critical data
- a connector for the SafeKit web console is installed in each server. Thus, the high availability cluster can be managed in a very simple way to avoid human errors

On the previous figure, the server 1/PRIM runs the critical application. Users are connected to the virtual IP address of the mirror cluster. SafeKit replicates files opened by the critical application in real time. Only changes in the files are replicated across the network, thus limiting traffic (byte-level file replication). Names of file directories containing critical data are simply configured in SafeKit. There are no pre-requisites on disk organization for the two servers. Directories to replicate may be located in the system disk. SafeKit implements synchronous replication with no data loss on failure contrary to asynchronous replication.

In case of server 1 failure, there is an automatic failover on server 2 with restart of the critical application. Then, when server 1 is restarted, SafeKit implements automatic

failback with reintegration of data without stopping the critical application on server 2. Finally, the system returns to synchronous replication between server 2 and server 1. The administrator can decide to swap the role of primary and secondary and return to a server 1 running the critical application. The swap can also be done automatically by configuration.

### 3. SafeKit Farm Cluster in Google GCP



On the previous figure,

- ⇒ the servers are running in different availability zones. The VM instances are based on Windows or CentOS depending on the deployed solution.
- the critical application is running in all servers of the farm
- users are connected to a virtual IP address which is configured in the Google GCP load balancer
- SafeKit provides a generic health check for the load balancer (URL managed by SafeKit and configured in the load balancer). When the farm module is stopped in a server, the health check returns NOK to the load balancer which stops the load balancing of requests to the server. The same behavior happens when there is a hardware failure
- in each server, SafeKit monitors the critical application with process checkers and custom checkers
- SafeKit restarts automatically the critical application in a server when there is a software failure thanks to restart scripts
- a connector for the SafeKit web console is installed in each server. Thus, the load balancing cluster can be managed in a very simple way to avoid human errors





## 4. Deploy a SafeKit Cluster Solution

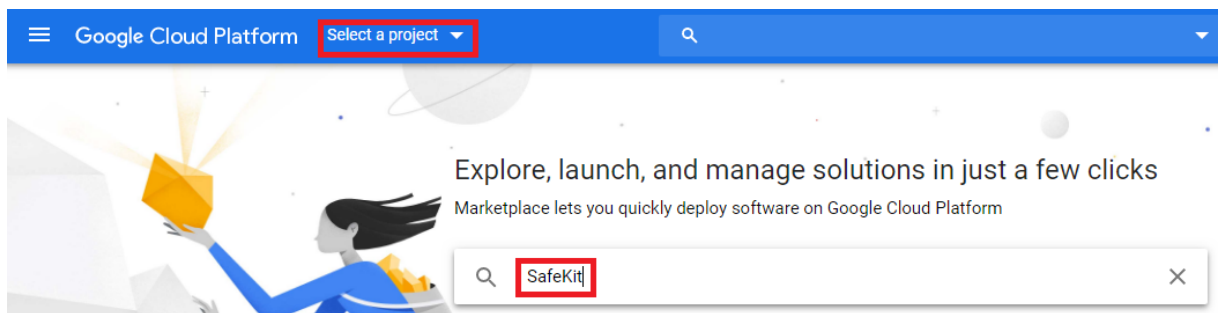
To quickly set up a SafeKit cluster on the Google Cloud Platform, perform the following steps. All the SafeKit solutions are based on the same procedure. In the following, we take the SafeKit mirror cluster on Windows sample.

### 4.1 Prerequisites

- ⇒ you must be able to sign in to the Google Cloud Platform Console using a Google Account. Refer to [Signing In to the Google Cloud Platform Console](#)
- ⇒ You must have Google project(s) and select one for deploying the solution. Refer to [Creating and managing Google Cloud Platform projects](#)
- ⇒ You must have configured a VPC network for the selected project. It will be used to provide connectivity for the VM instances in your project. Refer to [Using VPC networks](#)
- ⇒ The SafeKit solutions are BYOL (Bring Your Own License). The GCP Marketplace deploys the solution but you are responsible for getting the SafeKit license directly from Evidian. You can get [here](#) a free SafeKit one-month key.

### 4.2 Select the SafeKit Solution in Google Marketplace

- ⇒ Sign in to the Google Cloud Platform Console and navigate to the [Google Marketplace](#) page



- ⇒ Select the project that will contain the deployment
- ⇒ Search for SafeKit solutions
- ⇒ According your needs, select either: SafeKit Mirror Cluster on Windows, SafeKit Farm Cluster on Windows, SafeKit Mirror Cluster on Linux, SafeKit Farm Cluster on Linux. For instance, for SafeKit mirror cluster on Windows, it opens the window:

The screenshot shows the Google Cloud Platform marketplace page for the 'SafeKit Mirror Cluster on Windows' solution. The header includes the Google Cloud Platform logo, the project name 'my-project', and a search icon. The main content area features the Evidian logo, the solution name, and a 'LAUNCH ON COMPUTE ENGINE' button. Below this, there are sections for 'Runs on' (Google Compute Engine), 'Type' (Multi VM, BYOL), 'Last updated' (9/17/19, 2:39 PM), and 'Category'. The 'Overview' section describes the solution as a high availability cluster with real-time replication and failover. The 'About Evidian' section states that Evidian is the Identity and Access Management (IAM) software suite in the cybersecurity solution of the Atos Group.

→ Click the **LAUNCH ON COMPUTE ENGINE** button

**LAUNCH ON COMPUTE ENGINE**

### 4.3 Parameterize the Solution

In the Configure & Deploy window:

The screenshot shows the 'Configure & Deploy' window for the 'SafeKit Mirror Cluster on Windows' solution. The header includes the Google Cloud Platform logo, the project name 'my-project', and a search icon. The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column contains configuration options: 'Deployment name' (safekit-mirror-windows-1), 'SafeKit license key' (E.g. 1[Evidian/8e2e5691|16862755|2019|8|1|any|any|7.0|multi-modules|test-driv]), 'SafeKit console access mode' (HTTPS secure mode), 'SafeKit Cluster Zones (into the same region)' (Zone for the first node: europe-west3-a, Zone for the second node: europe-west3-b), 'SafeKit Cluster Nodes' (Show SafeKit Cluster Nodes options), and 'SafeKit Cluster Networking' (Show SafeKit Cluster Networking options). The right column contains the Evidian logo, the solution name, and a 'SafeKit Mirror Cluster on Windows overview' section. This section includes a table with columns for 'Operating System' (Windows (2019)) and 'Software' (SafeKit (7.4)). Below the table, there are sections for 'Launching a BYOL solution' and 'Terms of Service'.

⇒ enter or select appropriate values:

- ✓ get [here](#) a free SafeKit one-month key. You will receive a mail containing a license.txt file that looks like:

```
# Before License Key installation, pay attention to any product-specific
instructions.

# ONLY USE A TEXT EDITOR to edit the specified files. DO NOT USE word processors.

#

# SafeKit

# Please copy or append the License Keys to the safekit/conf/license.txt file.

# Hostname: any

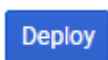
# multi-modules Version 7 license key for machine any OS any available up to
2019/10

1|Evidian/99f05635|16862755|2019|10|1|any|any|7.0|multi-modules|test-
drive|553af1484c6e7887517d3466ec96fae4
```

Copy only the last line into the license key field

- ✓ select HTTP or HTTPS for the SafeKit console access mode; HTTPS requires to manually import certificates into your web browser before starting the SafeKit web console. It is described in Import Certificates in your Web Browser [page 14](#)
- ✓ select 2 different zones, located into the same region, for running the 2 VM instances of the SafeKit cluster

⇒ Click the **Deploy** button



Deployment begins, and you will be redirected to the Deployment Manager where the deployment status is displayed.

### Notes

External IP address is attached to each VM instance to enable external internet access for the SafeKit cluster administration. External IP addresses are stored into the SafeKit cluster configuration and HTTPS configuration when it is selected. By default, the deployment sets static external IP addresses. If you prefer, you can select ephemeral external IP into the SafeKit Cluster Networking options panel. In that case, you will have to change the configuration for the remote administration, when the external IP address value will change on VM instances reboot.

### 4.4 Check the Deployment

The deployment may take several minutes, the time to create all the GCP resources and customize the SafeKit cluster. It appears as pending. Firewall configuration, load balancer for a virtual IP, 2 VMs, installation and configuration of SafeKit are deployed automatically. For details on deployed GCP resources and SafeKit cluster configuration, see SafeKit Mirror Cluster in Google GCP [page 5](#) and SafeKit Farm Cluster in Google GCP [page 7](#).

⇒ A green check mark is displayed one deployment completes successfully.

The image below is the output of the deployment when selecting HTTP for the SafeKit console access mode.

The screenshot displays the Google Cloud Platform Deployment Manager interface. The main heading is 'safekit-mirror-windows-1' with a 'DELETE' button. A green checkmark and the message 'safekit-mirror-windows-1 has been deployed' are visible. The left sidebar shows 'Deployments' and 'Type registry'. The main content area shows a tree view of resources under 'safekit-mirror-windows-1', including 'safekit-mirror-windows', 'safekit-cluster', 'safekit-mirror-windows-1-firewall', 'safekit-mirror-windows-1-node2', and 'safekit-mirror-windows-1-node1'. The right sidebar shows the 'Evidian SafeKit Mirror Cluster on Windows' solution page, which includes a URL for starting the console, the virtual IP address (34.89.229.133), and suggested next steps such as 'Test real-time replication', 'Test the virtual IP', and 'Secure the SafeKit console'.

The image below is the output of the deployment when selecting HTTPS for the SafeKit console access mode.

The screenshot shows the Google Cloud Platform interface. On the left, the 'Deployment Manager' sidebar is visible. The main area displays the deployment 'safekit-mirror-windows-1' with a green checkmark indicating it has been deployed. A tree view shows the deployment structure, including resources like 'safekit-mirror-windows', 'safekit-cluster', and various firewall rules and VM instances. On the right, the 'Evidian' console configuration page is shown, titled 'SafeKit Mirror Cluster on Windows'. It provides details for importing certificates, including the URL for importing certificates, the name and password for the SafeKit administrator, and the URL for starting the console. Below this, there are buttons for 'Import certificates' and 'Start the console', and a section for 'Suggested next steps' with instructions on how to proceed.

At this point, the SafeKit cluster is ready to use and running.

If you have selected the HTTP mode for the console, you can start directly the SafeKit administration console as described in Start the Console [page 19](#). With the console, you can configure, control and monitor the cluster.

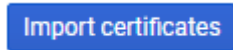
In the HTTPS case, before starting the SafeKit console, you must first import certificates as described in Import Certificates in your Web Browser for HTTPS [page 14](#). The SafeKit administrator name and password, required by this procedure, are displayed on this output page.

### 4.5 Import Certificates in your Web Browser for HTTPS


The SafeKit web console for administering the SafeKit cluster is secured with HTTPS and client certificates. You must import certificates in your web browser before starting the SafeKit web console as described below.

#### 4.5.1 Load the Import Certificates Page

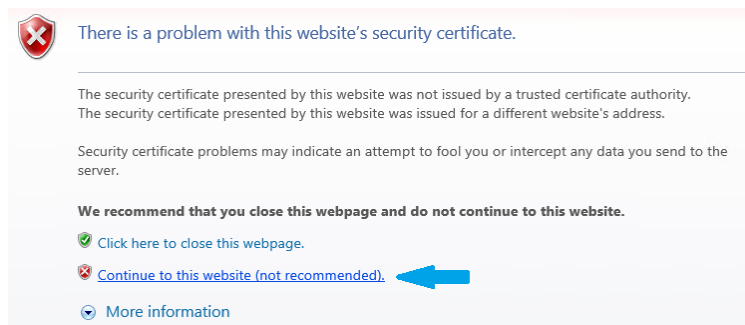
- ⇒ Click on **Import certificates** button



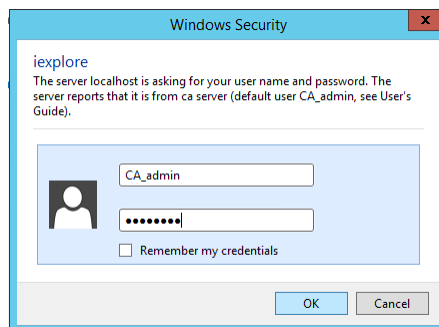
Or

- [Force the load of this page](#) 

- ⇒ When loading the page, the browser will display a security warning saying the certificate is invalid. This is expected, and you must click through the warning to continue.



- ⇒ At the login prompt, enter name and password for the SafeKit administrator



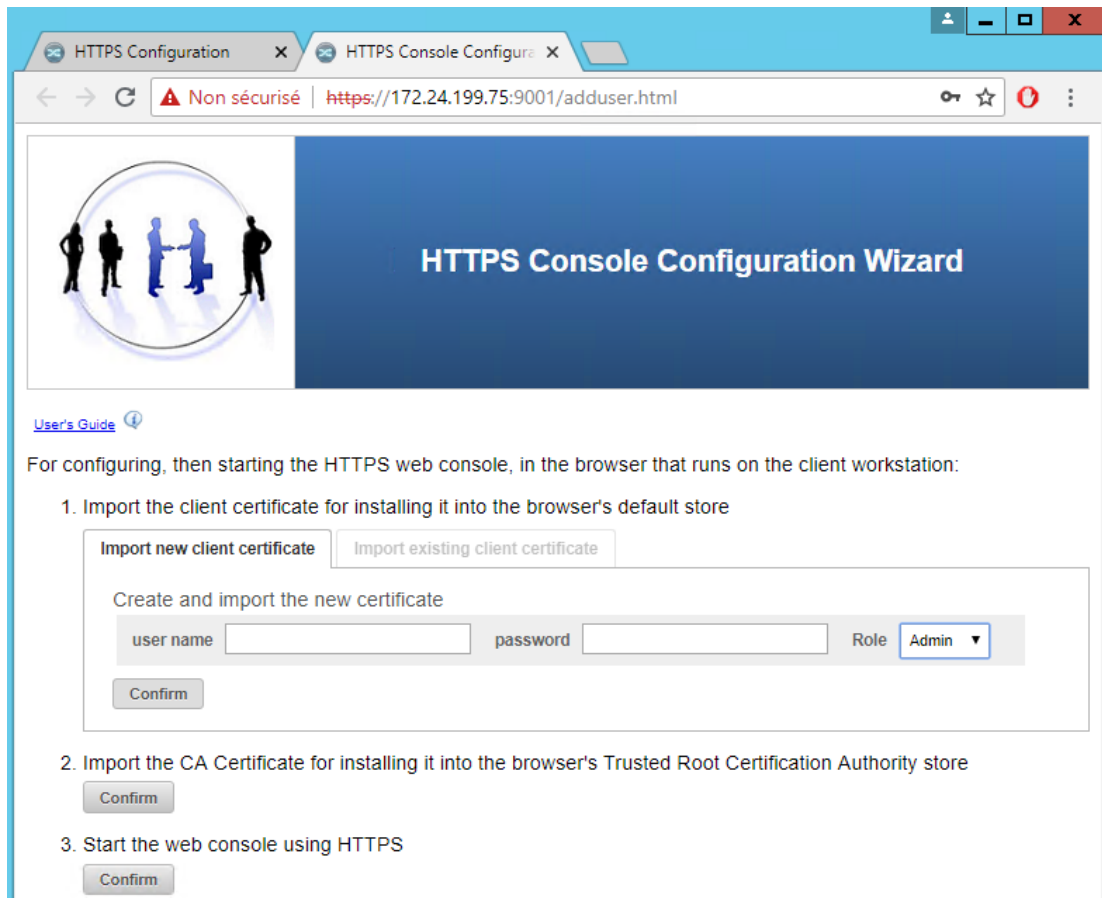
These values are displayed into the deployment output page. For instance:

<b>Name for the SafeKit administrator</b>	CA_admin
<b>Password for the SafeKit administrator</b>	AxPN6h7N

Or

- [Sign in with CA\\_admin and AxPN6h7N](#)

⇒ It opens the following page



#### 4.5.2 Create a New Client Certificate

1. Import the client certificate for installing it into the browser's default store

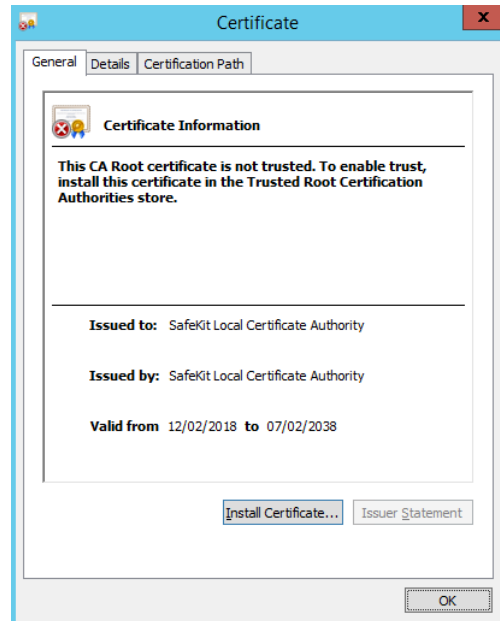
This is a close-up of the form from the previous image. The 'Import new client certificate' tab is selected. Under the heading 'Create and import the new certificate', the 'user name' field contains the text 'admin'. The 'password' field is filled with dots. The 'Role' dropdown menu is open, showing a list of roles: 'Admin' (selected), 'Admin', 'Control', and 'Monitor'. A 'Confirm' button is visible at the bottom left of the form.

- ⇒ Fill in the "user name", "password". Please note that the user name must be unique. Select the Admin role for granting all administration privileges.
- ⇒ Click on "Confirm"
- ⇒ After the form is processed, the resulting client certificate (the user\_Admin\_administrator.p12 file) is downloaded

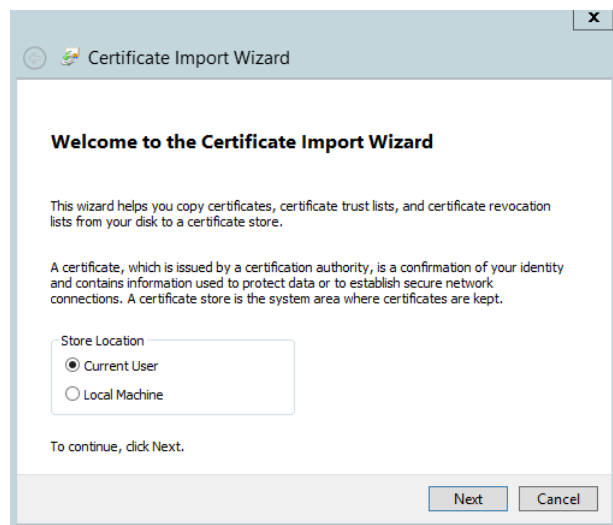
### 4.5.3 Import the Client Certificate

The procedure depends on the browser and the operating system used. The following describes the installation in Windows with Internet Explorer.

- ⇒ Click on the downloaded .p12 file (for instance user\_Admin\_administrator.p12) for opening the certificate window. Then click on "Install Certificate" button.

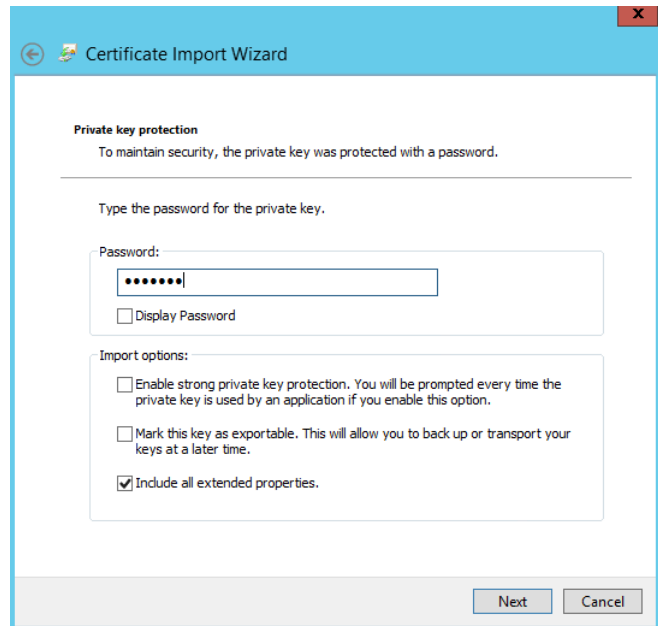


- ⇒ It opens the Certificate Import Wizard. Select "Current User" and click on the "Next" button. Go on until the wizard requires the password that protects the certificate.



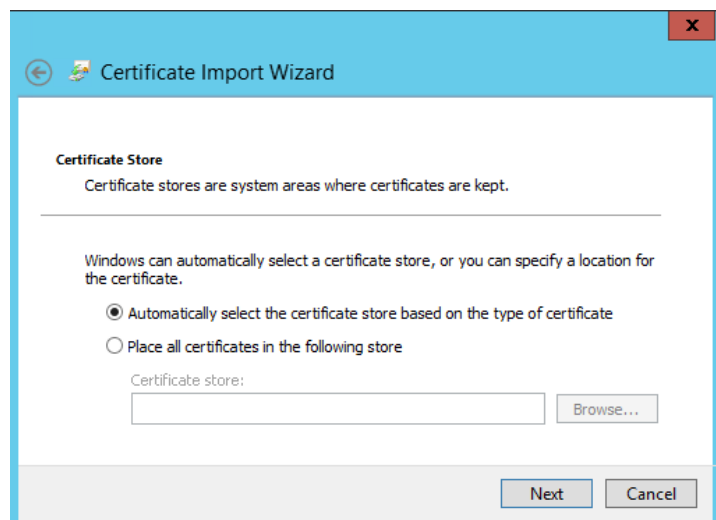


- ⇒ Enter the password when required. The password to use is the one set during client certificate creation



The screenshot shows the 'Certificate Import Wizard' window. The title bar reads 'Certificate Import Wizard'. The main content area is titled 'Private key protection' and contains the following text: 'To maintain security, the private key was protected with a password.' Below this is a horizontal line and the instruction 'Type the password for the private key.' There is a 'Password:' label followed by a text input field containing seven dots. Below the input field is a checkbox labeled 'Display Password'. Underneath is the 'Import options:' section with three checkboxes: 'Enable strong private key protection. You will be prompted every time the private key is used by an application if you enable this option.' (unchecked), 'Mark this key as exportable. This will allow you to back up or transport your keys at a later time.' (unchecked), and 'Include all extended properties.' (checked). At the bottom right are 'Next' and 'Cancel' buttons.

- ⇒ Let the wizard automatically select the certificate store that is the Personal store.



The screenshot shows the 'Certificate Import Wizard' window. The title bar reads 'Certificate Import Wizard'. The main content area is titled 'Certificate Store' and contains the following text: 'Certificate stores are system areas where certificates are kept.' Below this is a horizontal line and the instruction 'Windows can automatically select a certificate store, or you can specify a location for the certificate.' There are two radio button options: 'Automatically select the certificate store based on the type of certificate' (selected) and 'Place all certificates in the following store'. Below the second option is a 'Certificate store:' label followed by a text input field and a 'Browse...' button. At the bottom right are 'Next' and 'Cancel' buttons.

- ⇒ Then complete the certificate import.

### 4.5.4 Import the CA Certificate as Trusted Root Certification Authority



The browser will issue security warnings when you connect to the SafeKit web console unless you install this certificate.

2. Import the CA Certificate for installing it into the browser's Trusted Root Certification Authority store

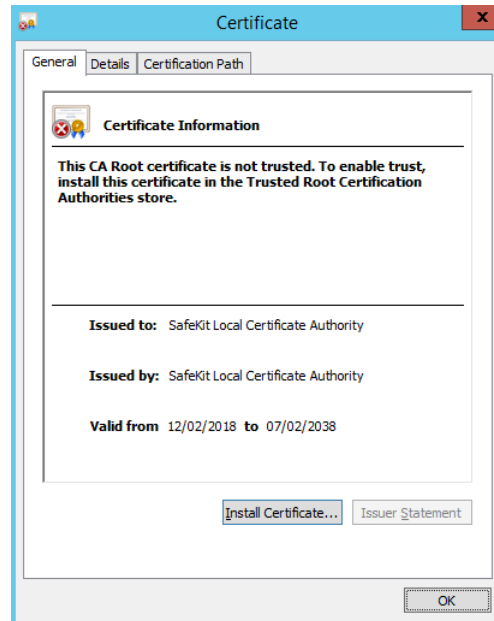
Confirm

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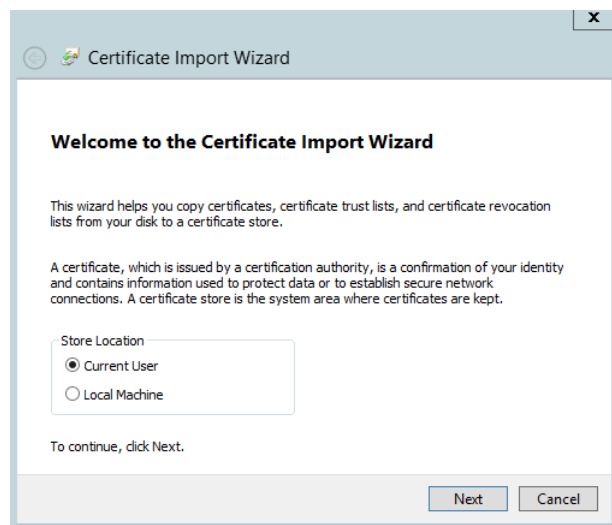
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The procedure depends on the browser and the operating system used. The following describes the installation in Windows with Internet Explorer.

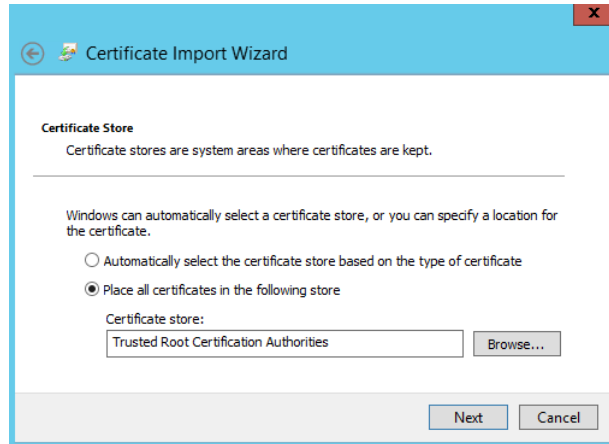
- ⇒ Click on the downloaded `ca-cert.crt` file for opening the certificate window. Then click on "Install Certificate" button



- ⇒ It opens the Certificate Import Wizard. Select "Current User" and click on the "Next" button



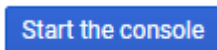
- ⇒ Browse stores to select the “Trusted Root Certification Authorities” store. Then click on “Next” button



- ⇒ Then complete the certificate import.

## 4.6 Start the Console

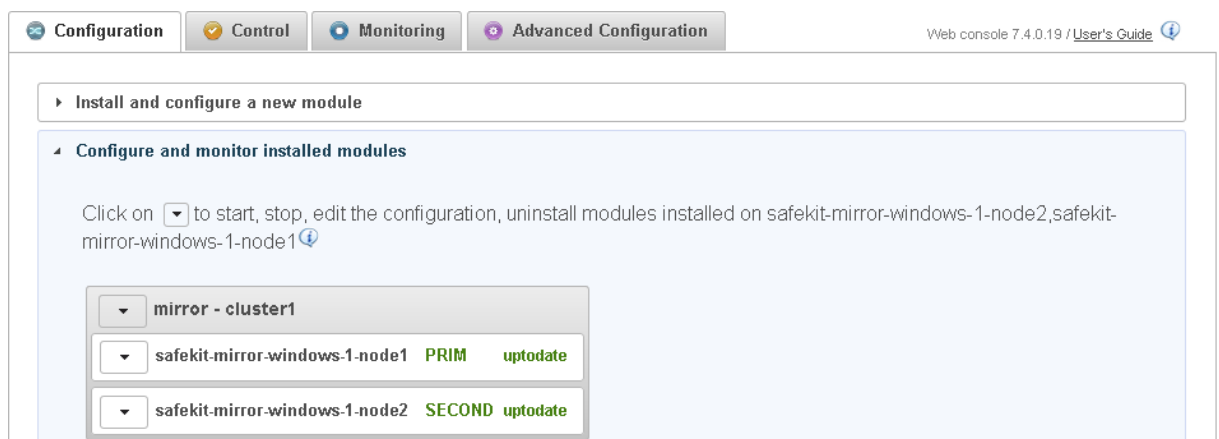
- ⇒ Click on



Or

- [Start the console](#)  
[Start the console](#) [↗](#) only after certificates import

- ⇒ It shows the SafeKit cluster state. Green states show that the SafeKit cluster is operational.



With the SafeKit web console, you can configure, control and monitor the SafeKit cluster. See the [SafeKit User's Guide](#) for details.

### 4.7 Test the Virtual IP

The SafeKit solution configures an external IP address with GCP load-balancer for providing a virtual IP address to access the SafeKit cluster.

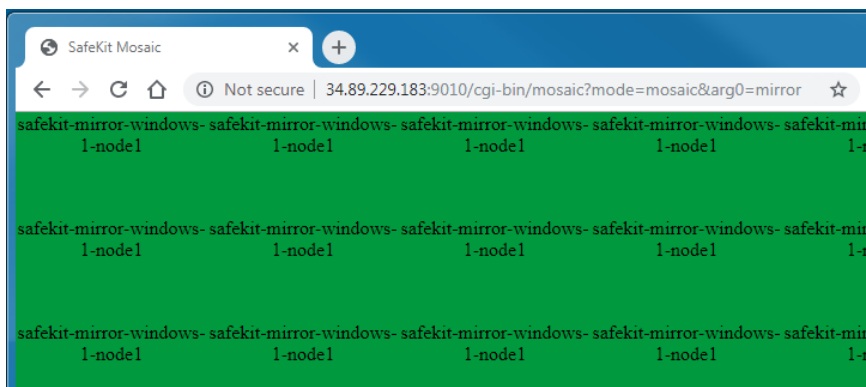
In a SafeKit mirror solution, the virtual IP permits to connect users only to the primary node. In a SafeKit farm solution, the virtual IP permits to load balance TCP sessions between the 2 nodes.

By default, the virtual IP forwarding rules are set according SafeKit console access mode: port TCP/9010 (when HTTP) or TCP/9453 (when HTTPS). This permits to test the virtual IP by loading a web page. You can change forwarding rules according your needs.

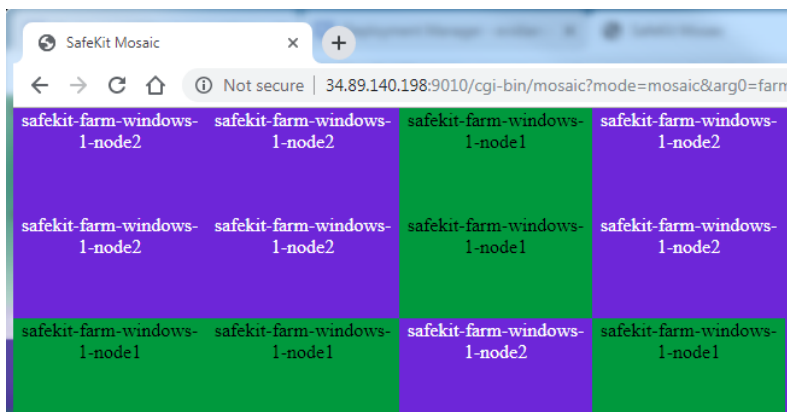
→ Click on the link, displayed into the deployment output page, for testing the virtual IP

- **Test the virtual IP**  
Click [here](#) to show server names displayed according the server answering to the TCP session

In a SafeKit mirror solution, the link displays a page where all connections go to the primary node:



In a SafeKit farm solution, the link displays a page where connections are load-balanced between the 2 nodes:



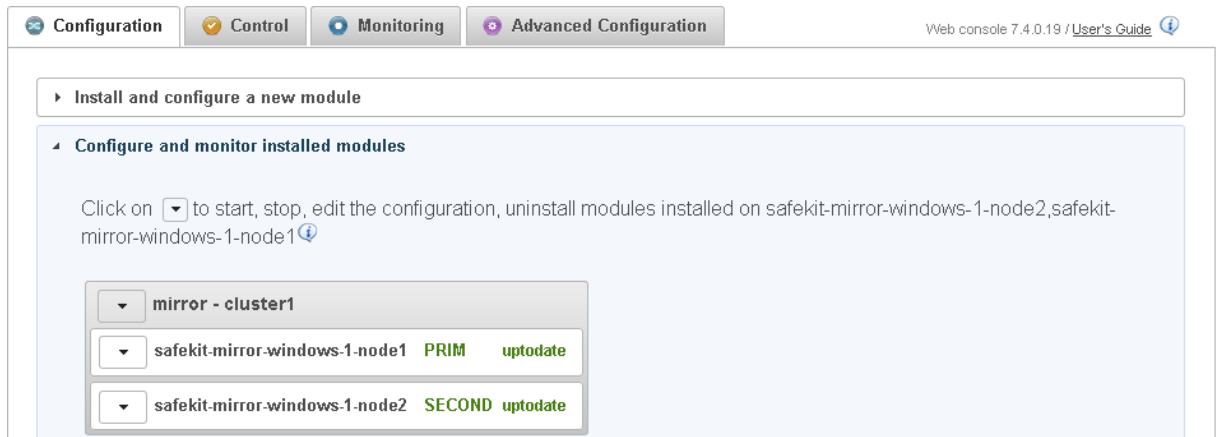
## 4.8 Test the Real-Time Replication in a Mirror Cluster

In SafeKit mirror solutions, the real-time file replication is automatically configured for replicating the directory:

- ⇒ In Windows, c:\replicated
- ⇒ In Linux, /var/replicated

This permits to test the real-time replication:

- ⇒ Start the SafeKit console as described in Start the Console [page 19](#)



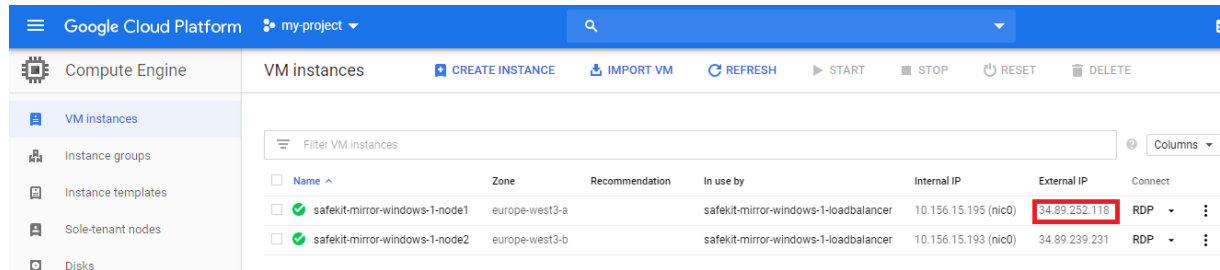
- ⇒ Connect to the 2 SafeKit instances as described in Connect through RDP or SSH to the SafeKit Cluster Nodes [page 22](#)
- ⇒ On the instance with PRIM state, go to the replicated directory and modify the content of the file rep.txt; then save it
- ⇒ On the instance with SECOND state, go to the replicated directory and note that the file rep.txt contains your changes

### 4.9 Connect through RDP or SSH to the SafeKit Cluster Nodes

The SafeKit solution creates 2 VMs instances that run Windows or CentOS. Instances have public external IP addresses and firewall rules has been configured to allow TCP traffic to Remote Desktop port 3389 for Windows or SSH port 22 for Linux. This permits to use the standard GCP procedures for connecting to the SafeKit instances.

#### 4.9.1 Connecting to Windows Instance

⇒ Go to the VM instances page

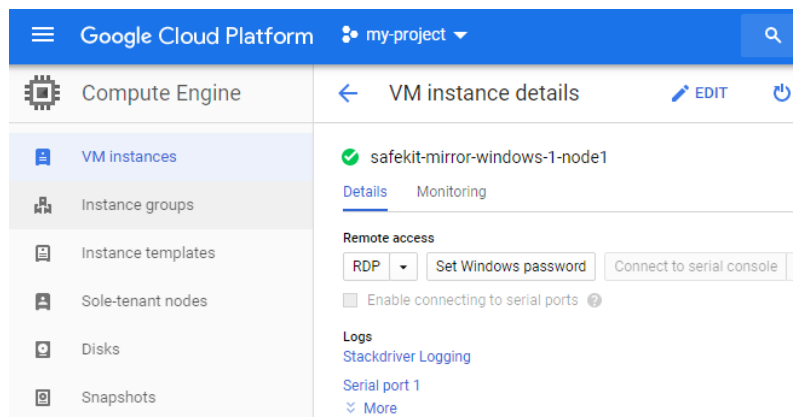


The screenshot shows the Google Cloud Platform interface for VM instances. The left sidebar contains navigation options: VM instances, Instance groups, Instance templates, Sole-tenant nodes, and Disks. The main content area displays a table of VM instances with columns for Name, Zone, Recommendation, In use by, Internal IP, External IP, and Connect. Two instances are listed: 'safekit-mirror-windows-1-node1' and 'safekit-mirror-windows-1-node2'. The external IP address '34.89.252.118' for the first instance is highlighted with a red box.

Name	Zone	Recommendation	In use by	Internal IP	External IP	Connect
safekit-mirror-windows-1-node1	europa-west3-a	safekit-mirror-windows-1-loadbalancer	10.156.15.195 (nic0)	34.89.252.118	RDP	
safekit-mirror-windows-1-node2	europa-west3-b	safekit-mirror-windows-1-loadbalancer	10.156.15.193 (nic0)	34.89.239.231	RDP	

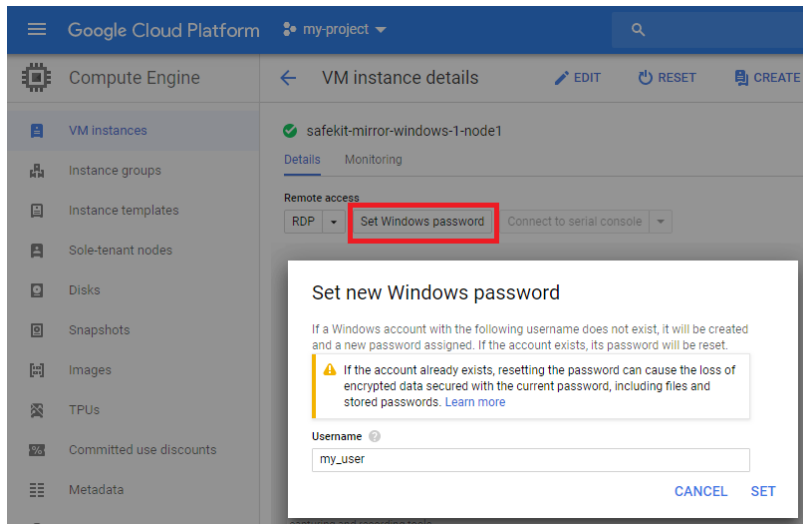
⇒ Note the instance external IP address

⇒ Click on the instance



The screenshot shows the 'VM instance details' page for 'safekit-mirror-windows-1-node1'. The 'Remote access' section is expanded, showing 'RDP' as the connection mode. A 'Set Windows password' button is visible, along with a 'Connect to serial console' button. The 'Logs' section includes links for 'Stackdriver Logging', 'Serial port 1', and 'More'.

⇒ The connection mode is via Remote Desktop. Before you connect, you must create a Windows instance password by clicking on **Set Windows password** button and setting the user name.

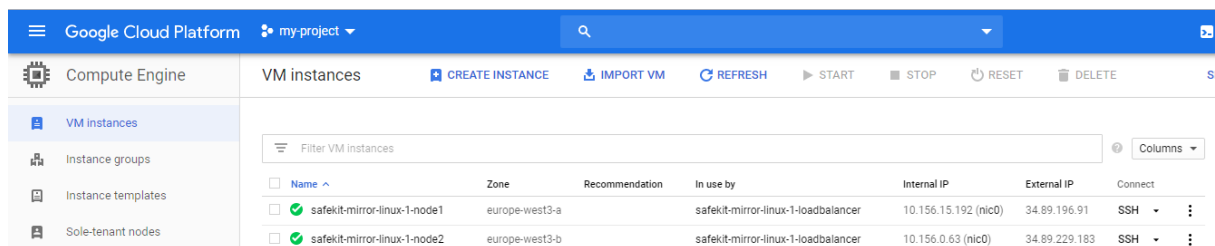


It returns the password value that must be used for connecting with the remote desktop.

Refer to [Connecting to Windows instances](#) for more details.

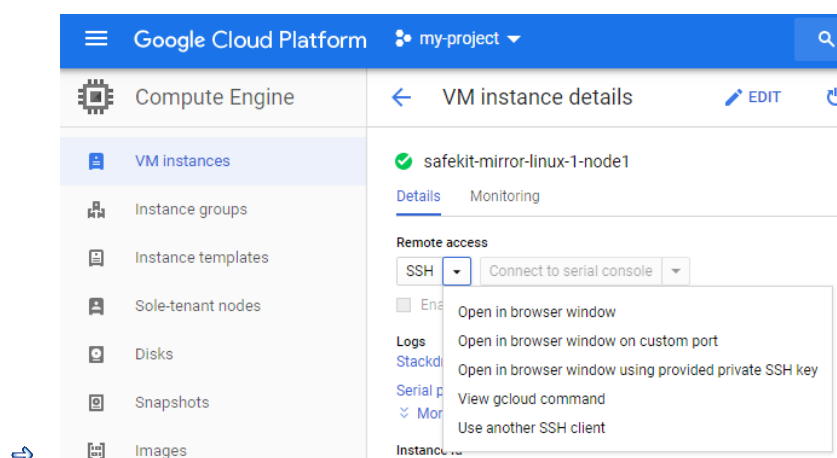
#### 4.9.2 Connecting to Linux Instance

⇒ Go to the VM instances page



⇒ Click on the instance you want to connect to

⇒ Select the ssh connection mode

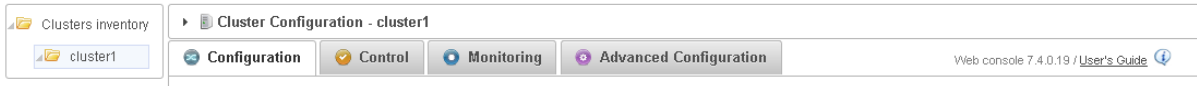


Refer to [Connecting to Linux instances](#) for more details

### 4.10 Access the Open Source Licenses for SafeKit

SafeKit includes open source software. The text of the open source licenses is provided in Third-Party Software section of the [SafeKit User's Guide](#). To access this guide included with the SafeKit VM instance:

- ⇒ either, start the SafeKit console, as described in in Start the Console [page 19](#), then click on the User's Guide link to open the SafeKit User's Guide and read the section on third party software



- ⇒ or connect to the instance, as described in Connect through RDP or SSH to the SafeKit Cluster Nodes [page 22](#), and read license files:
  - in Windows, license files are in c:\safekit\licenses
  - in Linux, license files are in /opt/safekit/licenses