

John Wood Community College achieves cost savings of its IT budget by replacing the piles of hardware resources thanks to StarWind HCA



About the Company

John Wood Community College is a two-year community college located in Quincy, Illinois, that offers a variety of associate degrees, certificates, and community classes on many topics. The college was founded in 1974 to provide residents with high-quality, low-cost higher education.

Company Profile

Education

Contact Person

John Entrup, Server Administrator

Problem

The organization needed to replace its hard-to-maintain servers and storage and lower maintenance costs.

Solution

With StarWind HCA, the organization gets a maintenance-friendly redundant hyperconverged infrastructure with high availability (HA) and high performance.

Problem

Before introducing StarWind HyperConverged Appliance (HCA) into its IT infrastructure, **John Wood Community College** had Dell servers for hosts plus Dell EqualLogic SAN and NetApp SAN for shared storage with Hyper-V on top. Complicated configuration on SANs and inordinate cost to maintain the equipment were the main pain issues of the organization's IT environment. John Wood Community College needed a hyperconverged platform to replace the piles of servers and SANs and achieve simplicity in use.

Solution

StarWind HCA became a painkiller for the organization's issues. Thanks to a single StarWind solution, all hosts and storage were replaced, while many old pieces of hardware were consolidated into a redundant cluster. John Wood Community College no more worries about its SAN's complex configuration since **StarWind HCA** is easy-to-use. The StarWind product allowed the organization to save a lot of money and buy all-flash storage, which further improved the IT infrastructure performance. Considering all that, John Wood Community College plans to expand storage as needed with StarWind for future growth.



We are very happy with StarWind. Easy to use and support is great. The savings allowed us to purchase all-flash storage which significantly increased our performance.

John Entrup, Server Administrator

StarWind HyperConverged Appliance Configuration

Appliance Model	HCA V-Spec 25
Cluster Size	2 nodes
Cluster density	4U
Servers	Dell PowerEdge R740xd
CPU	2 x Intel Silver 4214, 12 cores, 24 threads per node
Memory	20 x 32GB RDIMM, 2400MT/s (640 GB total) per node
Cluster Storage Capacity	25 TB of All-Flash storage
Disk Configuration	PERC H740P LP Adapter 8GB NV Cache 15 x Dell 1.92TB 6Gbps SATA Read Intensive TLC 2.5 SSD S4500 per node Dell BOSS Controller Full Height Card with 2 x 480GB M.2 SSD (RAID 1)
Networking	Intel X520 Dual Port 10Gb SFP & I350 Dual Port 1Gb RJ45 rNDC Mellanox ConnectX-4 CX4121A Dual Port 25GbE SFP+ Full Height
Hypervisor	Hyper-V on Windows Server 2019