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Permolex Ltd. builds a fault-tolerant cluster environment with the help of StarWind

Permolex
ethanol ~ gluten ~ flour

About the Company
Permolex Ltd. is a Canadian company, specializing in manufacturing Ethanol, Gluten and Flour products.

Company Profile
Manufacturing

Contact Person
Ted Feddema, IT Manager

Problem
Standalone Windows server satisfied all the needs except for fault tolerance. The company wanted to build a shared storage cluster to ensure there will be no downtime to disrupt their operations.

Solution
With StarWind VSAN, the company received shared storage at an affordable price, built a fault-tolerant IT infrastructure, and eliminated downtime in case of a power outage.

Problem

Before working with StarWind, **Permolex Ltd.** employed standalone server running Windows Small Business Server (SBS) 2008. Whereas the existing IT infrastructure had a lot of advantages, fault tolerance was not one of them. With the consideration of the fact that Permolex Ltd. is a company that works all the time, 24/7 365 days per year, any significant downtime would have seriously hurt the company's image and workload. If the existing system failed or was down to perform required system updates and maintenance, their production data could be compromised and reputation damaged.
While looking for a solution to create a cluster using shared local storage, **Permolex Ltd.** dismissed more obvious options such as Storage Spaces Direct solution from Microsoft.

Solution

StarWind became a final option because the company decided to bet on what seemed to be an excellent alternative to undesirable SAN solution, and StarWind lived up to their expectations. With **StarWind Virtual SAN (VSAN)**, Permolex Ltd. expanded their infrastructure to the 2-server failover cluster, running their virtual storage on hypervisor nodes. The replication of all critical components established fault tolerance the company needed to increase the quality of their services. StarWind Virtual SAN with the assistance of StarWind support team keeps both servers in the cluster in complete synchronization so **Permolex Ltd.** can perform system updates and maintenance without any impact on their operations on a 24/7 basis.

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StarWind allowed us to configure our storage locally on each server and in any configuration that suited us. Its software keeps both servers of the cluster in complete synchronization

Ted Feddema, IT Manager

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