

# Stevens & Co Ensures HA Without Buying Physical SANs Thanks to **StarWind Virtual SAN (VSAN)**



## About the Company

**Stevens & Co (Pty) Ltd** (located in Midrand, Gauteng, South Africa) is the official distributor of Ryobi products in the African region. Ryobi is one of the leading producers of die cast components internationally. Ryobi also makes industrial and DIY power tools, high-pressure washers, generators, and other equipments, which Stevens & Co distributes.

## Company Profile

Distributor of power tools

## Contact Person

**Christopher Todd**, IT Manager

## Problem

The company needed to ensure high availability without buying new hardware.

## Solution

With StarWind, the company achieved constant application uptime and fault tolerance without buying any new physical storage.

## Problem

**Stevens & Co** was running standalone Hyper-V servers with internal storage. At a certain point, such an infrastructure started to be underwhelming for the amount of IOPS its applications needed. Also, there was the issue of single point of failure (SPOF). The existing infrastructure could not provide high availability (HA). The company considered HP Store Virtual, but the vendor dropped the product. VMware vSAN would require an unnecessary uber-expensive virtualization overhaul. The most suitable terms were offered by StarWind.

## Solution

Thanks to **StarWind**, **Stevens & Co** was able to incur logical expenses without having to remake or update their hardware. **StarWind Virtual SAN** was installed into their existing nodes, creating a true 2-node HeartBeat environment. VSAN's "mirroring" of hard disks and flash between hypervisor servers allows to achieve HA without any witness entities. The solution is also hardware- and hypervisor-agnostic, so as the company grows and will require new software and hardware elements, it can easily scale up and out. Stevens & Co was able to achieve HA and fault tolerance without wasting any costs on unneeded features or hardware otherwise imposed by other vendors that sell virtualization solutions.



Hardware SANs were too expensive for the company at that stage. StarWind allowed to achieve high availability without any unnecessary costs or upgrades.

**Christopher Todd**, IT Manager