Inspired vLabs simplifies operation and saves money with StarWind Virtual SAN

"We like that StarWind is Windows based. We were able to install it on an existing Windows VM within the student lab kit thus eliminating the overhead of an additional OpenFiler VM."

Justin Stoltz, IT Manager, Inspired vLabs

**COMPANY**

Inspired vLabs is a virtual laboratory environment provider for educational purposes, mainly – software training. This US company builds every project from scratch and offers “full service”, where the customer gets a ready solution customized for his own case, without any IT work left to do. Its virtual labs are easily accessible via HTML, so no additional software or hardware is required. The flexibility, agility and security of training platforms are the primary goals for Inspired vLabs, and they are all achieved.

**PROBLEM**

OpenFiler is complex, difficult to configure and a bit bulky, because it requires an extra Linux virtual machine to run. It is an open-source storage management software with all the consequent problems. Most of the IT training process is now Microsoft-based so Inspired vLabs IT guys spend much time on things that could be avoided. “Within our VMware Training labs we used OpenFiler for students to connect ESXi Hosts to iSCSI based storage” – Justin Stolts, IT manager.

**SOLUTION**

StarWind Virtual SAN replaces OpenFiler as virtual storage software, simplifying virtual lab deployment and reducing the required resources for every single case. “StarWind is Windows based. We were able to install it on an existing Windows VM within the student lab kit thus eliminating the overhead of an additional OpenFiler VM”, said Justin Stolts, IT manager in Inspired vLabs.