StarWind RAM Disk

FEBRUARY 2018

TECHNICAL PAPER

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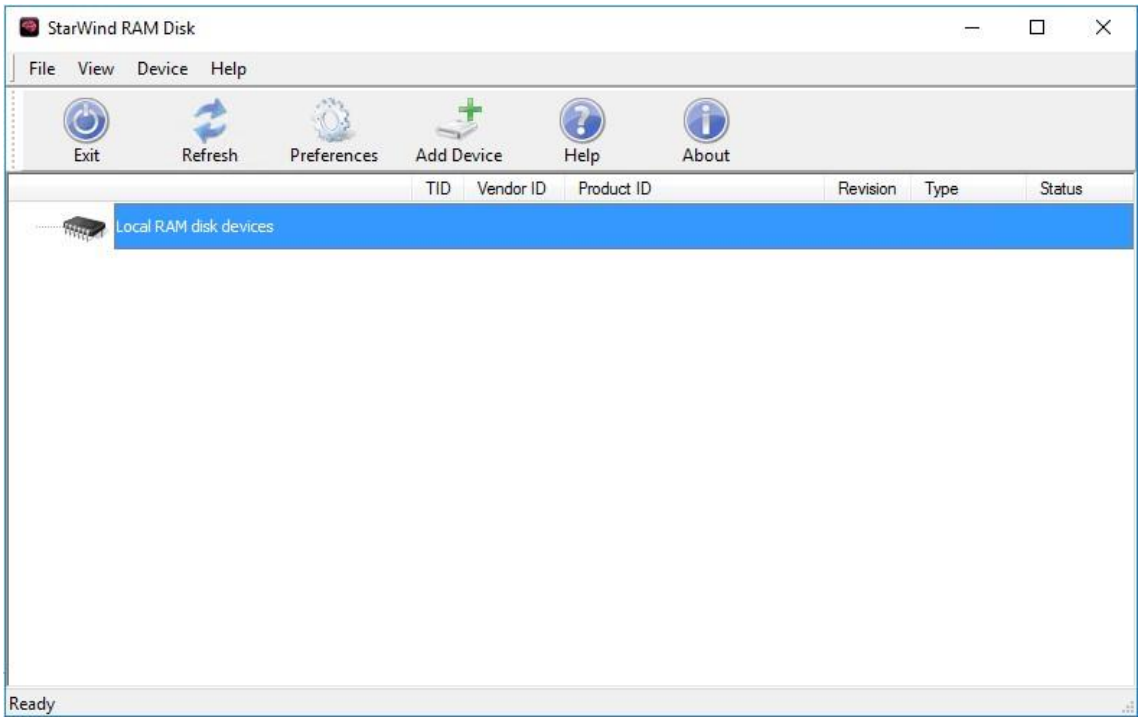
Introduction

RAM disk device is an extremely fast virtual disk that completely resides in the random-access memory. Normally **RAM disk** devices are used to store temporary/cache files. This enables to dramatically improve the system performance.

NOTE: The content of a RAM disk is lost when a host turns off or reboots or the Ram disk device is deleted.

Adding new device

1. Launch the StarWind RAM Disk control application by selecting **Start->All Programs->StarWind Software->RAM Disk->RAM Disk**. After the program is started, its icon appears in the system tray. Double click the icon with the left mouse button or single click it with the right mouse button and select **Start Management** item from the pop-up menu. You'll see a picture like the one below:

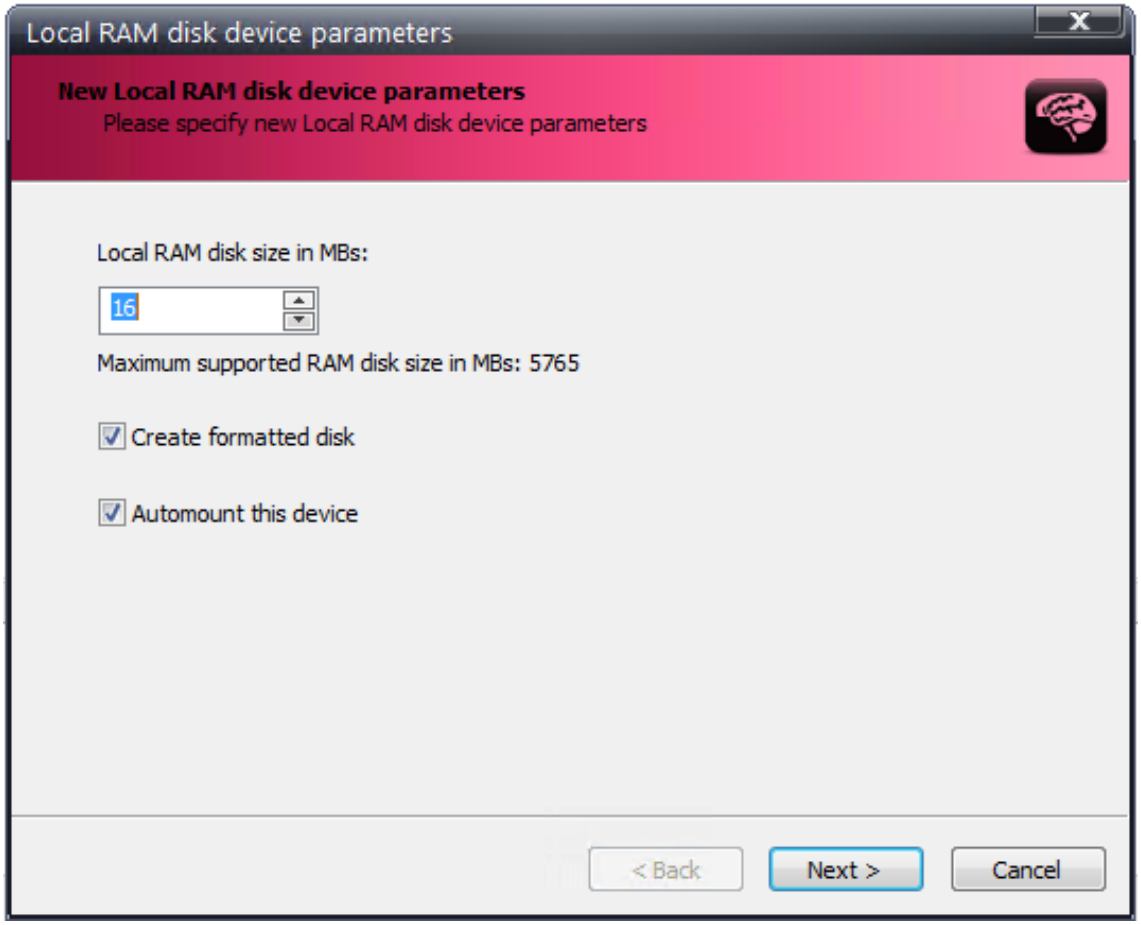


2. Select **Add Device** menu item from **Device** drop down menu or just press **Add Device** button on the application tray bar. New device installation wizard (see next page for the image) will appear.

3. On the first step of the **New Device Installation Wizard,** specify the parameters of the **Local RAM disk** device you have selected to add:
Local RAM disk size in MBs is the exact size of the disk that needs to be added (disk size should fit into the amount of free memory your PC has).

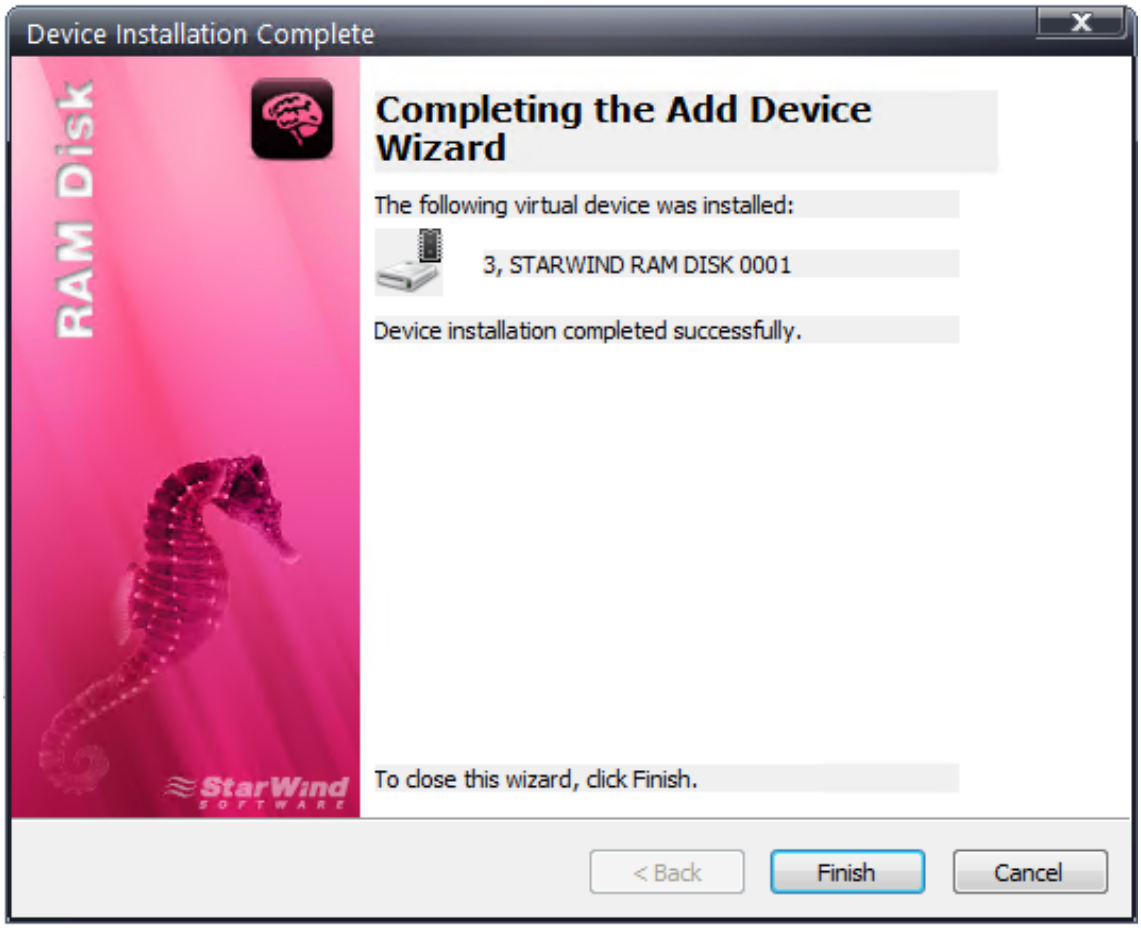
4. Select **Create formatted disk** if you want new disk to be initially formatted so you could use it immediately (FAT file system is used). Otherwise, you will have to format the created virtual disk drive manually.

5. Select **Automount this device** if you want new disk to be automatically recreated when you restart your PC. This will allow the Local RAM disk device to be available right after your PC boots and Windows starts.

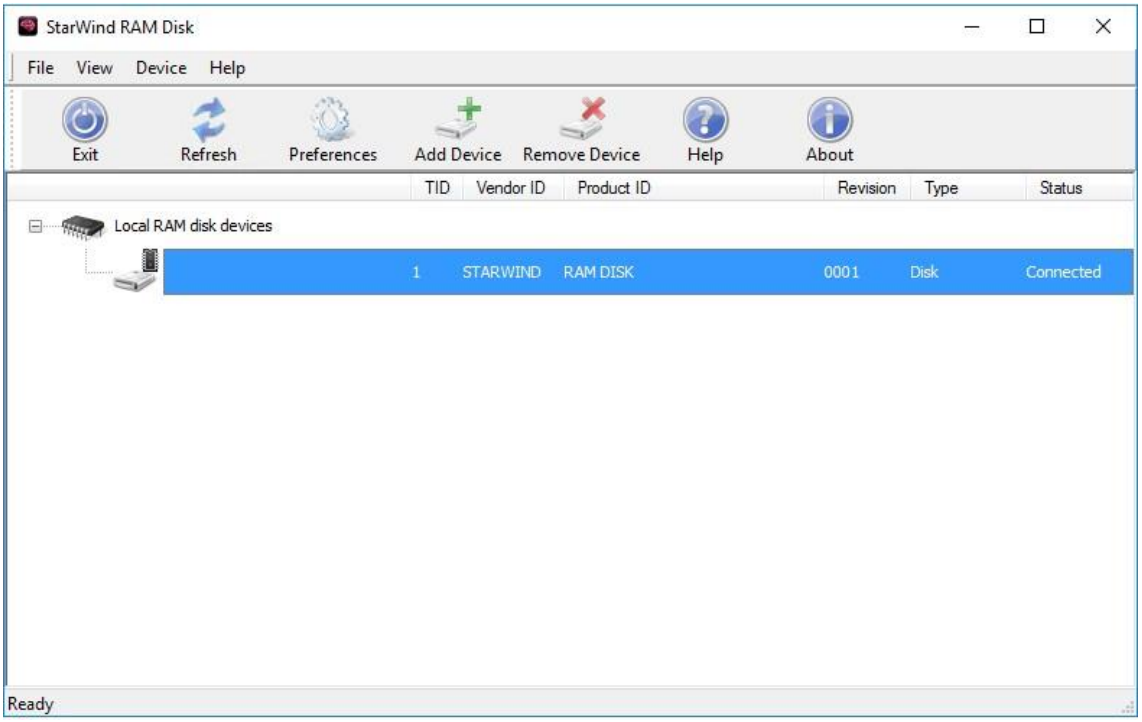


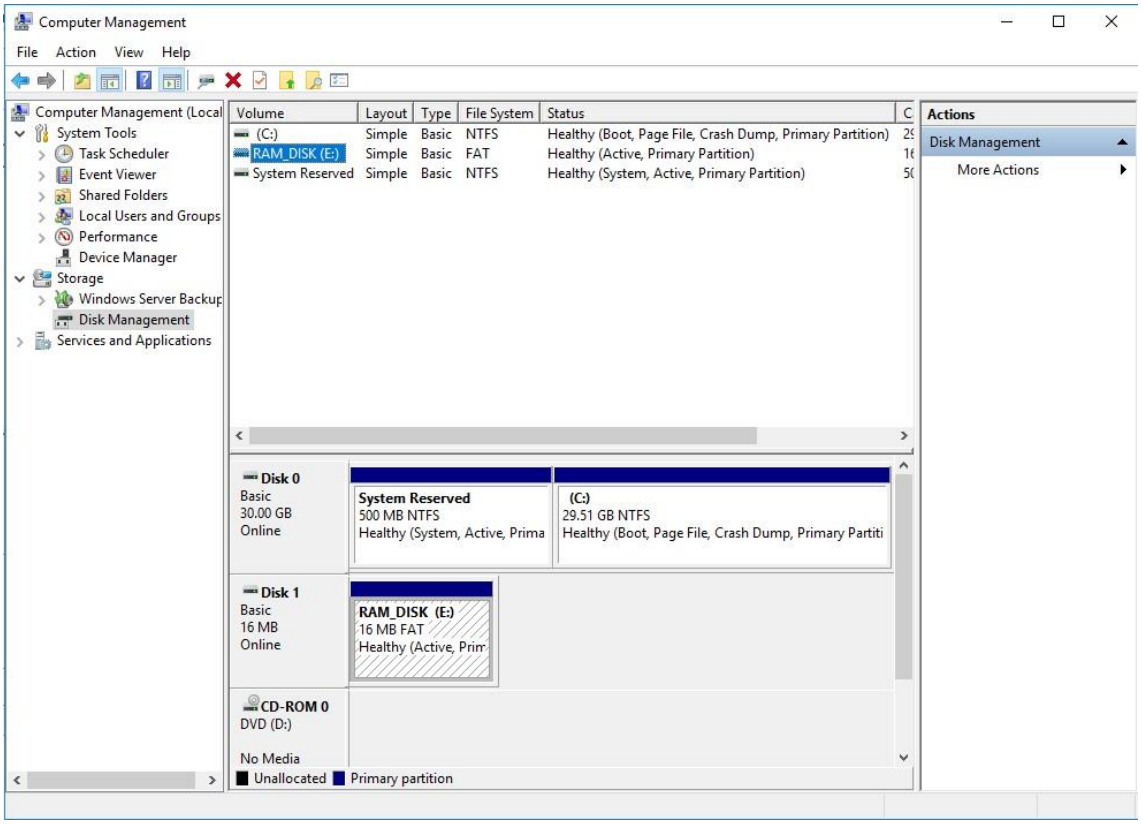
Press the **Next** button to continue.

6. On the last step of the **New Device Installation Wizard**, confirm the installation results. If the new **Local RAM disk** device has been installed correctly, it should appear as a new disk volume in your system.



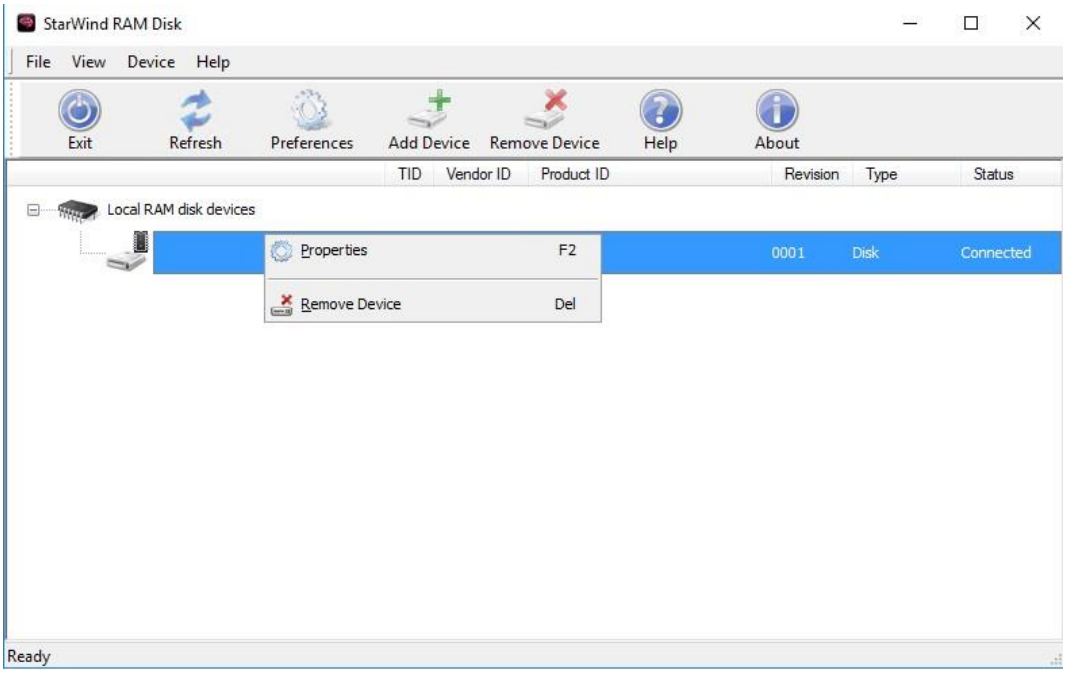
Press the **Finish** button.


StarWind RAM Disk
File View Device Help
Exit
Refresh
Preferences
Add Device
Remove Device
Help
About
TID Vendor ID Product ID Revision Type Status
Local RAM disk devices
1 STARWIND RAM DISK 0001 Disk Connected
Ready


Computer Management
File Action View Help
Computer Management (Local
System Tools
Task Scheduler
Event Viewer
Shared Folders
Local Users and Groups
Performance
Device Manager
Storage
Windows Server Backup
Disk Management
Services and Applications
Volume Layout Type File System Status
(C:) Simple Basic NTFS Healthy (Boot, Page File, Crash Dump, Primary Partition)
RAM_DISK (E:) Simple Basic FAT Healthy (Active, Primary Partition)
System Reserved Simple Basic NTFS Healthy (System, Active, Primary Partition)
Actions
Disk Management
More Actions
Disk 0
Basic
30.00 GB
Online
System Reserved
500 MB NTFS
Healthy (System, Active, Prima
(C:)
29.51 GB NTFS
Healthy (Boot, Page File, Crash Dump, Primary Partiti
Disk 1
Basic
16 MB
Online
RAM_DISK (E:)
16 MB FAT
Healthy (Active, Prim
CD-ROM 0
DVD (D:)
No Media
Unallocated
Primary partition

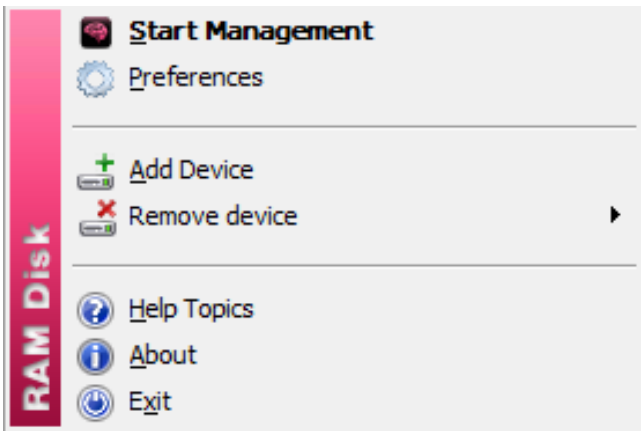
Removing existing device

7. In the **StarWind RAM Disk** control application, please select the device you wish to remove and click it with the right mouse button.



8. Select **Remove Device** menu item from the pop-up menu that appears.

Alternatively, you can remove the device using the following way: right-click the **StarWind RAM Disk** icon in the system tray and find the device you need to remove.



Conclusion

This guide describes how to easily create an extremely fast virtual disk out of available RAM using StarWind RAM Disk tool. **RAM disk** device completely resides in the random-access memory, providing a high-performing storage for testing purposes, troubleshooting cases, or storing temporary data.

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