

# iF1 Solutions reduces IT operational expenses by replacing its aging SANs and servers thanks to StarWind HCA



## About the Company

**iF1 Solutions** is a Canadian managed services provider (MSP) and IT consulting firm focused on the legal and accounting sector.

## Company Profile

Managed IT Services Provider (MSP)

## Contact Person

Director

## Problem

The company needed a hyperconverged platform to achieve scalability and reduce licensing costs.

## Solution

Thanks to StarWind HCA, the company replaced its out-of-date servers, allowing for scalability and HA, all at a very good price.

## Problem

Before introducing StarWind HyperConverged Appliance (HCA) into its IT infrastructure, **iF1 Solutions** had out-of-date HPE servers with VMware and Microsoft Hyper-V hypervisors on top. The company's legacy HPE environments did not scale, and upgrade paths were confusing and poorly communicated. So, iF1 Solutions wanted to achieve scalability and follow the road of hyperconvergence with an appropriate solution that would be reasonably priced and allow to cut licensing costs. A Scale Computing product was the one that the company considered to buy but it turned out to be cost-prohibitive.

## Solution

iF1 Solutions has chosen **StarWind HCA** to replace its obsolete HPE servers and move to hyperconvergence. A 2-node StarWind cluster newly created allowed to achieve scalability and high availability (HA). Also, the StarWind product helped to reduce licensing costs by converting VMware ESXi virtual machines (VMs) to Hyper-V. All in all, thanks to **StarWind**, the company saves \$10-20K per client vs HPE/Dell Solution. In the future, iF1 Solutions will keep replacing old HPE SANs and servers with StarWind.



We choose StarWind because it was recommended by another partner. Ease of deployment and cost were the key factors that brought us to StarWind HCA.

**Director**

## StarWind HyperConverged Appliance Configuration

| Appliance Model          | HCA V-Spec 7.6   |
|--------------------------|--|
| Cluster Size             | 2 nodes  |
| Cluster density          | 2U   |
| Servers                  | Dell PowerEdge R640  |
| CPU                      | 2 x Intel Xeon Silver 4208, 2.1 GHz, 8 cores, 16 threads per node  |
| Memory                   | 4 x 32 GB RAM (128 GB total) per node  |
| Cluster Storage Capacity | 7.6 TB of All-Flash storage  |
| Disk Configuration       | BOSS card with 2 x 240 GB m.2 SATA in RAID-1 (for boot)<br>5 x 1.92 TB Intel S4510 Read Intensive SSD connected via PercH740p w/ 8 GB of NVRAM cache |
| Networking               | 2 x 10 GbE SFP + & 2 x 1 GbE Base-T Intel X520 and i350 as network daughter card<br>Mellanox ConnectX-4 Lx 2 x 25 GbE for storage traffic            |
| Hypervisor               | Hyper-V on Windows Server 2019   |