

Do I need StarWind Hardware VSS provider?

2025

StarWind Documents



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If you have questions about installing or using this software, check this and other documents first - you will find answers to most of your questions on the [Technical Papers](#) webpage or in [StarWind Forum](#). If you need further assistance, please [contact us](#).

About StarWind

StarWind is a pioneer in virtualization and a company that participated in the development of this technology from its earliest days. Now the company is among the leading vendors of software and hardware hyper-converged solutions. The company's core product is the years-proven StarWind Virtual SAN, which allows SMB and ROBO to benefit from cost-efficient hyperconverged IT infrastructure. Having earned a reputation of reliability, StarWind created a hardware product line and is actively tapping into hyperconverged and storage appliances market. In 2016, Gartner named StarWind “Cool Vendor for Compute Platforms” following the success and popularity of StarWind HyperConverged Appliance. StarWind partners with world-known companies: Microsoft, VMware, Veeam, Intel, Dell, Mellanox, Citrix, Western Digital, etc.

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Explanation

StarWind Hardware VSS provider is proprietary software that was created for internal [Virtual SAN](#) usage and should not be used for any purposes externally. StarWind Hardware VSS provider was designed to serve snapshot supported devices i.e. [LSFS](#) or [Asynchronous Replication](#) , but not for Image file devices, which do not have such functionality. **IMPORTANT NOTE:** Starting from 14869 build, the LSFS device and Asynchronous replication features were excluded and deprecated. Please remove all Asynchronous replicas and LSFS devices before the update. See more information in the release notes: <https://www.starwindsoftware.com/release-notes-build> Nevertheless, the VSS provider can be used with 3rd party software as well ([Veeam](#), Backup Exec, etc) for backup purposes but only if storage is a snapshot supported device from [StarWind Software](#). The VSS provider won't work with devices that do not support snapshots. Using VSS provider with other devices is not supported and may cause storage outage.

Request A Product Feature

To request a new product feature or to provide feedback on a StarWind product, please email to our support at support@starwind.com and put "Request a Product Feature" as the subject.

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