

Advice on how to place a domain controller in case of StarWind Virtual SAN usage

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StarWind Documents



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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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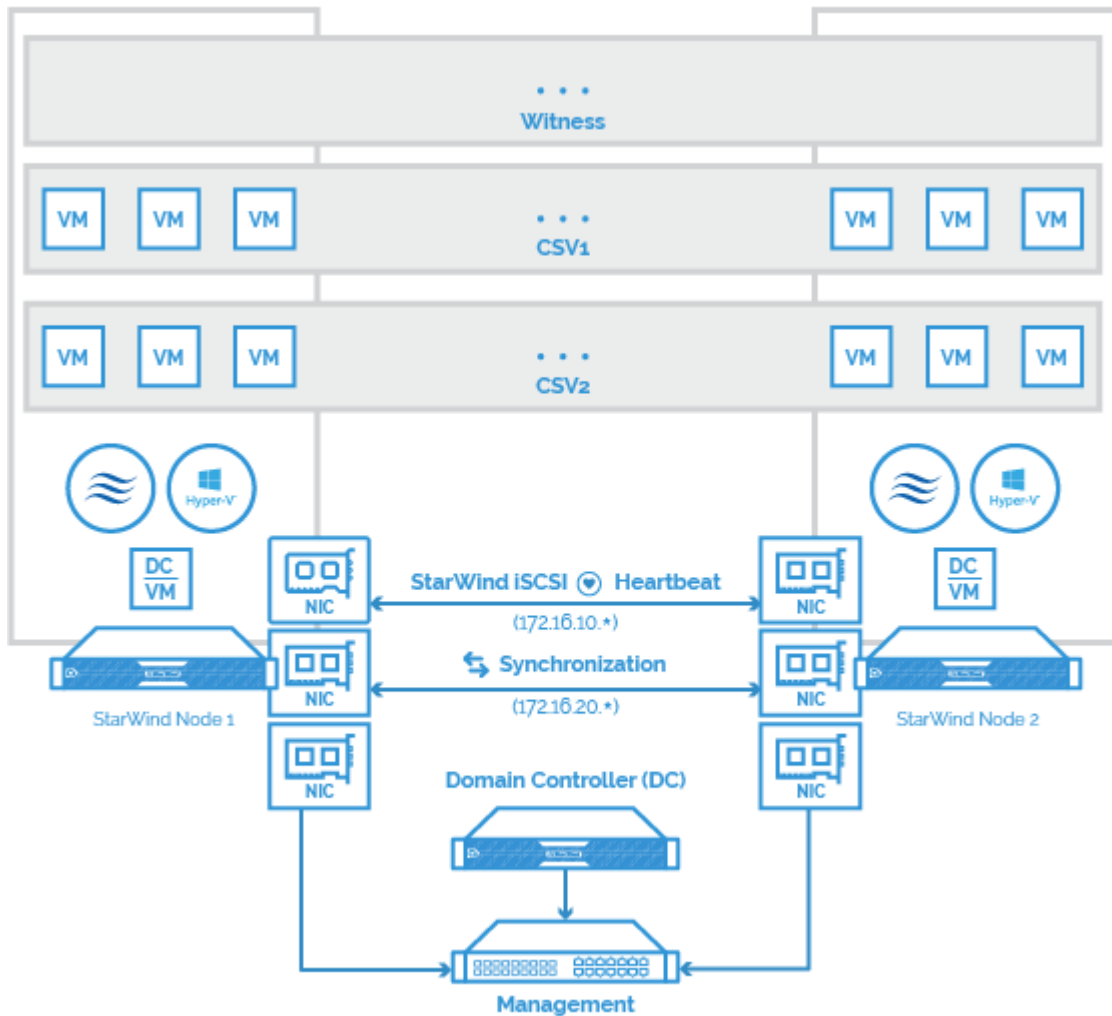
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Background

Starting from [Windows Server 2012 R2](#) it became possible to deploy a Domain Controller (DC) as a VM. Having a DC as a VM on StarWind device inside the cluster is not the best idea, since sometimes a cluster cannot be started if StarWind [High-Availability](#) device where DC VM is located is unavailable. Unavailability of the DC may cause connection or authorization issues, which makes impossible to get the cluster working. There is a vicious circle, which takes a lot of time to break it.

Resolution








The situation described above can be avoided if the DC is deployed as bare metal server or as a VM outside the StarWind High-Availability device. Or, at least, a replica of the DC should be outside the HA device to make possible the start of the [Microsoft Failover Cluster](#) if it depends on the DC. The diagram below provides an example for Domain Controller location in case of 2-node hyperconverged scenario with StarWind Virtual SAN.



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