

How to change disk shift on StarWind image files

2025

StarWind Documents



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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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Disk shift – shift from actual disk beginning where first byte of Partition Table is supposed to be. If this byte is missing, disk cannot be initialized/recognized and presented as RAW. The beginning should be specified if actual beginning is shifted.

Symptoms

Partition table / file system / datastore is missing on the ESX host. That is some times an issue, when mounting StarWind virtual disks from older versions.

Resolution

Initially header of the image file was presented as the separate file. That was changed starting from version 6. Below is the header file specifications depending on the StarWind version. • Header size for the image files from version 5 to 5.4 is 1024 B • Starting from 5.5 (September of 2010) we used 64 KB header size • From 5.8 we excluded the header from image files completely. Therefore, the size is 0. So, if you encountered one of the symptoms mentioned above or you inherited some pack of unrecognized image files, then try to set any of header sizes and check partition table / file system / datastore (ESX) availability (this implies the image file already connected from StarWind console):

1. Locate this file

```
C:\Program Files\StarWind Software\StarWind\StarWind.cfg
```

2. Locate same string

```
<device file="My Computer\D\tmp.swdsk" readonly="No"
name="imagefile1" /> and add header. Should look like this <device
file="My Computer\D\tmp.swdsk" readonly="No" name="imagefile1"
header="1024" />
```

3. Restart StarWind service and check availability of partition table / file system / datastore (ESX)








See Also

[Recreating a missing VMFS datastore partition in VMware vSphere](#)

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