



CASE STUDY

CHARLES RUSSELL SPEECHLYS

LOCATION: LONDON, UK | **INDUSTRY:** LEGAL

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Charles Russell Speechlys Simplifies Environment and Reduces Costs with StorMagic SvSAN



ABOUT CHARLES RUSSELL SPEECHLYS

Charles Russell Speechlys LLP is an international law firm which focuses on private capital, at the intersection of personal, family and business. It is headquartered in London with offices across the UK, Europe, Asia and the Middle East.

BUSINESS CHALLENGE

Charles Russell Speechlys previously used VMware vSAN to manage its business level applications, including domain controller, Microsoft Exchange databases, SCCM, and SQL for AppSense and document management, in nine of its 11 global office locations. vSAN was difficult to manage, costly and the features were overkill in their two-node solutions located at remote sites. Because their offices are located in multiple geographies, vSAN renewal meant the customer was

facing skyrocketing costs that included nine unique licenses and nine separate contracts.

Charles Russell Speechlys searched the market for an alternative solutions to lower costs while maintaining high availability in their environment and shortlisted three solutions - Starwind, Linux Ceph and StorMagic SvSAN.

Starwind was considered, but their sales and support teams were too slow to respond, which eliminated them from the shortlist. Linux Ceph, an open-source software-defined storage platform, was also tested and considered. StorMagic's VMware vCenter plugin had a very slick and professional feel compared to the other solutions, plus its support team was easy to work with and responsive.



After conducting a thorough market evaluation, we determined that StorMagic SvSAN is the most suitable option for our replacement HCI solution. The deployment and management process of this solution was found to be the most streamlined compared to other available options. Additionally, the cost of StorMagic SvSAN was significantly more affordable compared to its competitors. The level of support provided by StorMagic was also deemed to be superior in comparison to other market offerings.

Jack Jalali,
Enterprise Systems Manager,
Charles Russell Speechlys LLP

SOLUTION

With the help of Fortem Information Technology, Charles Russell Speechlys is now running StorMagic SvSAN on two HPE DL380 servers in a hyperconverged configuration, in nine of their offices. The customer loves the ability to manage everything from vCenter, VMware’s advanced server management software. Fortem Information Technology suggested this solution as StorMagic’s single remote witness was very easy to deploy on premises in all nine sites, with no special IT staff required.

Compared to the other tested solutions, StorMagic SvSAN was easy to deploy, improved disk latency and offered the easiest storage usage visualisation. The customer loves the ability to manage every SvSAN cluster from a single pane of glass with vCenter, VMware’s advanced server management software. Fortem Information Technology was able to deliver the StorMagic solution in a single, affordable contract for all 9 locations, and their solution is backed by StorMagic’s solid support team.

Charles Russell Speechlys approached us asking for an alternative to using VMware vSAN in different regions due to the VMware restriction of having to buy within the region for their global offices. StorMagic SvSAN was the ideal option due to its license model and the ability to manage all regional offices from one console at no additional cost, saving Charles Russell Speechlys time and money

Tunji Oyedele,
Director of Sales, Fortem
Information Technology



Server Configuration (Per Server)

SvSAN License	SvSAN 6TB License
Servers	HPE DL380
CPU	1 vCPU
Memory	1GB per server
Storage Capacity	6 TB
Disk Configuration	8 disks, 2 for OS (RAID-1), 6 for capacity (RAID-5), 2.18 TB useable disk capacity, hot spare disks
Networking	T1 5-8 ms, 3 network cards per server
Hypervisor	VMware vSphere Enterprise Plus Edition
Applications	Print and domain controllers, Veeam Proxy Servers, Microsoft Exchange in 3 sites, SCCM, SQL for appsense and document management
Guest VM Operating Systems	Linux CentOS, Microsoft 2016 and 2019
Data Protection	Veeam & Exagrid
Native Encryption	Nimble
VDI	Citrix



WHY STORMAGIC?



SIMPLE TO USE

The customer found that SvSAN is a true 'set and forget' solution for any environment using centralized deployment and management – and deployed it in nine remote office locations.



COST-EFFECTIVE

SvSAN dramatically lowers costs by eliminating physical SANs, converging compute and storage into a lightweight commodity server footprint. A complete two node cluster is available starting at \$8,000. SvSAN came in at the right price and includes all of the features they needed for their remote sites.



SUPERIOR SUPPORT

The customer found StorMagic's support team to be easier to work with and very responsive, and with no hoops to jump through, and less wait time.

To read more about StorMagic SvSAN, visit: stormagic.com/svsan



StorMagic
The Quadrant
2430/2440
Aztec West
Almondsbury
Bristol
BS32 4AQ
United Kingdom

+44 (0) 117 952 7396
sales@stormagic.com

www.stormagic.com