



Long-Distance Datacenter Replication

: BACKGROUND

Barkman Honey has been in the Kansas honey business since 1960. Providing processing and packaging, Barkman Honey has grown to require reliable systems that they depend on every-day. Given today's inventory and production demands, any downtime within their systems would have Barkman Honey in a bind.

They knew that their method of tape backups once per week would cause insufficient business continuity during a failure. After experiencing poor results using other software and hardware, Barkman Honey came to LINBIT.

: BUSINESS CHALLENGE

The challenge for Barkman Honey was to find software that could provide constant access to host their growing infrastructure. This included at least 25 virtual machines, a mail server messaging application, a firewall, and their internal SQL cluster.

Since the entire infrastructure relies on up-to-date data, Barkman's systems must be available at all times. The packaging and production lines run on such tight schedules, any system downtime means delayed customer shipments.

: SOLUTION

After an exhaustive search, J.R. Lillard chose DRBD® and DRBD Proxy®. As a system administrator, he knows that he needs block level replication in order to replicate all of Barkman Honey's applications in real-time.

Using DRBD® and DRBD Proxy®, Barkman has exceeded their High Availability and Disaster Recovery goals. On-site, they have a real-time replica of their core production system. Even if there is a critical server failure, DRBD® will perform its magic and Barkman's IT systems will stay up and running. Off-site, they have a mirror of the production system, ready to take over in a moments notice if there is an entire site failure. Thanks to LINBIT, Barkman Honey is achieving their IT system resiliency goals.

"DRBD® has been very flexible in how we configure and use it. This is important to me, as I don't like being boxed into a vendor's pre-packaged solution with arbitrary limitations."

J.R. LILLARD

» System Administrator at Barkman Honey «
www.barkmanhoney.com