“Because LINBIT has 24x7 support, and downtime is unacceptable, we purchased Enterprise level support and are happy to say Performance Matters absolutely got what they paid for. LINBIT is available to work in impossible time frames, which reaffirms our decision. [...] Downtime means lost money and loss of customers. It is good to know that we can prevent these costs and avoid such difficulties with DRBD® and LINBIT.”

CHUCK PAYNE
INFRASTRUCTURE ENGINEER AT PERFORMANCE MATTERS
WWW.PERFORMANCEMATTERS.COM

CASE STUDY

Data-driven Performance

BACKGROUND Performance Matters conducts business in the educational market sector. The organization works with school districts across the U.S. to provide a software application platform for professional development, teacher evaluations, student assessments, and student performance analytics. Through the Performance Matters platform, district decision makers are able to get a complete overview of how well teachers and students perform, helping teachers and students reach their maximum potential, as well as giving insight on where to best spend resources.

BUSINESS CHALLENGE For several years, Performance Matters had been searching for a software solution that would provide little to no database downtime. In the past, if they had an issue with a database, it took hours to recover and backups would only restore the previous day’s data. Performance Matters needed a solution that would be able to keep data up to date for each transaction to ensure data integrity.

For one particular application, High Availability (HA) was critical to allow teachers to administer online tests. These tests were written to a database that allowed the teacher to see student results within minutes. If the database crashed or transactions were lost, then hundreds of student results could also be lost.

SOLUTION After attempting to troubleshoot several Corosync/Pacemaker issues themselves with the open source version of DRBD®, Performance Matters found the level of complexity involved in the setup made it virtually impossible, without investing in expensive manpower resources.

Performance Matters then learned that the Enterprise edition of DRBD® came packaged with support. LINBIT offered repositories that contain the most updated version, and direct access to the DRBD® engineering team. Working closely with employees at Performance Matters, LINBIT’s technical support helped rewrite the Corosync/Pacemaker configuration and was able to implement DRBD®, for real-time replication, into their clusters.