

# RUNNING GLOBAL PRODUCTION ON STREAMLINED IT

Johnsonville creates a robust environment that leverages converged and hyper-converged infrastructure reducing costs and administrative tasks while boosting the business value of technology



Manufacturing

United States

## Business needs

Johnsonville facilitates production and business management at its U.S. headquarters and manufacturing plants in Singapore on the same network infrastructure, which comprises ERP and other software systems. Applications, computing resources and storage need to keep users everywhere productive around the clock.

## Solutions at a glance

- [Dell EMC VxBlock Systems](#)
- [Dell EMC VxRail Appliance](#)
- [Dell EMC Data Protection Software](#)
- [Dell EMC Data Domain](#)

## Business results

- Enables spin-up of new servers within minutes, not days
- Allows fast implementations and upgrades without any downtime
- Increases the reliability and performance of production software
- Reduces systems management time to up to 6 hours instead of 72 hours per week

Cuts costs for power, heating and cooling at remote sites by

# 20%



Enables full disaster recovery within

# 8hrs

instead of 2 to 3 days



Sausage maker Johnsonville decided to explore more efficient and dependable alternatives to a traditional architecture of software running on dedicated IBM servers and storage systems. Corey Aponte, server administrator at Johnsonville, explains, “We looked for something that was more robust and easier to maintain than our standard server-based network. We realized that virtualization on converged solutions could give us the application availability and management efficiency we wanted.”

Johnsonville chose Dell EMC VxBlock System 340 and Dell EMC VxRail Appliances to create an environment that integrates computing, storage, network and virtualization technologies. Virtualized desktops and systems for enterprise resource planning (ERP), time management and the production floor run on VxBlock, and VxRail facilitates systems at three remote facilities. Companywide, Dell EMC devices support some 700 virtualized desktops and just under 350 servers.

## Fast, smooth deployment of the new environment

From proof of concept to delivery and production use, deployment took about six months for the VxBlock and less than two months for the VxRail solutions. “We did not experience any downtime when we set up our VxBlock Systems,” says Aponte. “Unboxing, installing and cabling VxRail devices and migrating 15 virtual machines to them at each facility took less than a day.”

Summarizing the advantages of the Dell EMC technology, Aponte says, “Johnsonville now has an extremely robust and reliable production environment at all our locations. I absolutely would consider Dell EMC VxBlock and VxRail an IT transformation. The systems have far exceeded our expectations.”

## More valuable, efficient IT

Johnsonville’s virtualized infrastructure requires minimal management. Says Aponte, “Since implementing Dell EMC VxBlock and VxRail, we spend four to six hours per week managing systems, not up to three days. We can now focus more on how IT can provide value for the business, for example, helping engineers do more with operational technology or introducing automation.”

System administration is a snap compared to former practices. “In terms of IT management, Dell EMC VxRail and VxBlock have simplified our lives,” says Aponte. “Instead of going to three different management consoles, we can access one server to manage our converged infrastructure with VxBlock and one easy-to-use pane of glass for VxRail. I can perform system upgrades without causing any downtime.”

Meeting the needs of internal IT customers has also become easier. “Instead of taking days, we can spin up a server or add resources within minutes in our new infrastructure powered by Dell EMC VxBlock and VxRail,” notes Aponte. “This means our customers can meet their project management goals sooner.”

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Corey Aponte  
Server Administrator, Johnsonville

## Reduced cost of technology ownership

The virtualized infrastructure enabled Johnsonville to reduce costs as well as administrative time. Aponte says, “With Dell EMC VxRail appliances at our remote facilities, we reduced our equipment and are paying approximately 20 percent less for power, heating and cooling. It also helps that we need much less rack space.”

## Powerful data security and fast disaster recovery

Johnsonville safeguards the integrity of its infrastructure with Dell EMC Data Protection Software for VMware and Data Domain protection storage. “If a disaster strikes, we can be up and running with Dell EMC Data Protection Software in eight hours instead of two to three days,” says Aponte. “That is a huge improvement over our previous software.”

The usability of the Dell EMC solution also rates high. “Dell EMC Data Protection Software with Data Domain is very simple to use,” says Aponte. “We can add and protect virtual machines on the fly. We also save costs because we consume less bandwidth.”

## Support boosts technology value

After consulting Dell EMC support for the first VxRail deployment, Aponte feels strongly about it. “I would recommend Dell EMC because its products are superior and because of its strong customer support, which is a crucial aspect of its value. It gives you the confidence to accomplish what you need to do.”

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**Corey Aponte**  
Server Administrator, Johnsonville



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