



**davenport**group



January 2019

# Hyperconverged Infrastructure: A Look at Your Options (and Cookies!)

*An Interview with Rob Wilson  
Davenport Group Alliance Manager*

## **Corporate Headquarters**

4166 Lexington Ave. North  
St. Paul, MN 55126

**Phone:** 1(877)231-9114

**Fax:** (651)765-0774

**Email:** [solutions@davenportgroup.com](mailto:solutions@davenportgroup.com)

## Everyone Loves Cookies

I know it can be easy to get overwhelmed with all the offerings out there around hyperconverged infrastructure. Which option do I choose? Is it worth the investment? How do I know?

These questions about HCI are all valid. There are so many ways to accomplish your IT goals with vSAN alone. I'm here today to clear up some of this confusion using something everyone loves: cookies.

Cookies are simple, satisfying, and usually popular. Best of all, they come in a batch. Hyperconverged infrastructure has all these great cookie traits. Let's take an inside look at three HCI systems through three cookie options:

- **VxRail** is like going to a specialty bakery. From the moment you open the door, you know what you're getting, and you know it'll be awesome. VxRail and your favorite specialty bakery offer a consistent experience with a quick return on your investment.
- **vSAN ReadyNodes** are similar to the "slice and bake" cookies you can buy at the grocery store. There's a little more time investment than a bakery, but they still meet expectations and offer a consistent experience.
- **"Build Your Own" vSAN Environment** is like baking cookies from scratch. If you've never cracked a cookbook or you don't like following recipes, then this probably isn't the right choice for you. Build your own systems are typically the most time consuming, and they can be inconsistent. But if you know what you're doing and you're comfortable building your own IT ecosystem, this could be the best choice for you.



Dell EMC Stock Photos



Google Stock Photo

## Need More HCI Guidance?

When picking out your cookie, or the best hyperconverged infrastructure option for you, I always recommend consulting with those who have done this all before. Working with an HCI expert guarantees that you get:

1. **Time to Value** – The right professional will have extensive experience setting up HCI environments quickly. They've done it all before, and they'll get your IT ecosystem up and running quickly.
2. **Accuracy** – Learning as you go is great if you've got the time. Hiring the right expert to help you along the way prevents costly mistakes and guarantees your environment will run as promised.
3. **Keeping the Lights On** – Engaging with an experienced resource can help you keep your normal workload from backing up. They'll help you keep things running smoothly with no working through the weekend.

For more, check out Silverton Consulting's white paper:

[TCO Analysis: Dell EMC VxRail and Build Your Own HCI Configuration](#)

