

# Keeping production running around the clock.

How **The Wilkins Group** used Lenovo ThinkAgile HX hyperconverged infrastructure to achieve 100% uptime, ensuring that its manufacturing lines can run 24/7.

Lenovo Infrastructure Solutions  
for The Data-Centered

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## Background

The Wilkins Group specialises in supplying retail packaging worldwide to a wide range of markets, including chilled and frozen food, textiles, confectionery, toiletries, luxury, and household product manufacturers. Headquartered in Nottingham, UK, the group operates a state-of-the-art production facility that covers over 120,000 square feet and employs almost 300 people. The Wilkins Group also operates production sites in Romania, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and China.

### Meeting the demands of industry.

Working with some of the UK's leading retailers and consumer brands—including Sainsbury's, Tesco, Marks & Spencer, Cadbury, and Pizza Express to name just a few—means demand for packaging solutions is always high. As such, The Wilkin Group's manufacturing facilities run 24 hours a day.

To support round-the-clock operations, The Wilkins Group depends on a whole host of business applications running reliably, including its Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP), Computer Aided Design (CAD), logistics, and back-office systems. After five years of operations, the infrastructure supporting these mission-critical systems was nearing full capacity.

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## Challenge

Aron Wilkins recalls: “It felt like we were constantly having to put in more storage or add more memory to the servers to keep things ticking over, which was both costly and time-consuming.”

He continues: “The most pressing issue was availability, because we were worried that the infrastructure would overload and crash unexpectedly. Since our production lines run 24/7, it’s vital that our business systems are always online. Even an hour of unplanned downtime could result in lost production, which ultimately means loss of revenue.”

With end-of-support for its existing infrastructure fast approaching, The Wilkins Group weighed up whether to switch its traditional three-tier environment with a like-for-like replacement or instead adopt a hyperconverged infrastructure (HCI) solution.



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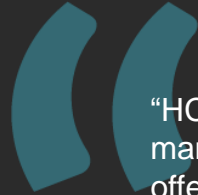
**Aron Wilkins**  
The Wilkins Group

## Wrapping up the partnership angle.

The Ken Wilkins Group engaged Bramatt Computing, a Lenovo Gold Partner, to find a solution.

Bramatt Computing proposed a three-node Lenovo ThinkAgile HX5521 cluster. Pre-integrated with Nutanix Cloud Platform software, the ThinkAgile HX solution pools compute and storage in a single, shared virtual structure for seamless scalability and simple management.





“HCI was the new kid on the block. We were impressed by the simplicity and ease of management HCI offered over traditional data center architectures. We looked at HCI offerings from several vendors before selecting the Lenovo ThinkAgile HX Series. Nutanix is a leader in the hyperconverged space, and Lenovo’s reputation for reliable hardware precedes it.”

**Aron Wilkins**  
The Wilkins Group

## Why Lenovo? Simplicity and scalability.

The Wilkins Group makes extensive use of Lenovo XClarity and Nutanix Prism to monitor and manage its physical and virtual infrastructure.

“Ease of management is one of the biggest advantages of HCI,” remarks Wilkins. “We can monitor everything via a single pane of glass and also benefit from one-click upgrades.”



“With Lenovo ThinkAgile HX and responsive support from Bramatt Computing, we can keep production lines rolling 24/7.”

**Aron Wilkins**  
The Wilkins Group

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## Results

With the ThinkAgile HX platform underpinning its operations, The Wilkins Group has peace of mind that its core business systems will run around the clock.

“Since moving to the Lenovo ThinkAgile HX platform, we’ve enjoyed 100% uptime,” says Wilkins. “We often had to scramble to add RAM or storage to keep our old infrastructure up and running. With ThinkAgile HX, we can allocate virtualised resources much more flexibly. We also have plenty of headroom for growth, and if we ever do need more capacity, scaling is as simple as adding another node.”



- ✓ Supports 24/7 production
- ✓ Provides 100% availability
- ✓ Easy, single-pane-of-glass management



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**Aron Wilkins**  
The Wilkins Group



## What will you do with Lenovo ThinkAgile HX solutions?

The Wilkins Group joins the ranks of the Data-Centered with Lenovo smarter infrastructure solutions, powered by Nutanix.

[Explore Lenovo ThinkAgile HX Solutions](#)



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