

# FIXING “STORAGE SPACES” IN WINDOWS 8 AND 8.1 FOR REAL-TIME MIRRORING OF TWO HARD DRIVES



Web location for this  
presentation:

<http://aztcs.org>

Click on

“Meeting Notes”

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

"Storage Spaces" is a new feature in "Windows 8.." and "Windows 8.1". When you use it to mirror two hard drives and it fails, you can usually use existing software tools inside "Windows.." to repair the mirrored "drive pool".

# FIXING STORAGE SPACES

# FIXING "STORAGE SPACES"

- Start by powering down your computer. Wait 2 minutes. Then power your computer back up. "Bouncing the power" sometimes repairs the problem.

# **FIXING "STORAGE SPACES" BASICS (continued)**

- Disconnect the USB cables of both of the mirrored hard drives.
- Attach one of the hard drives back to the USB port of the computer. Wait a few minutes and see if the files and folders in this hard drive are displayed in "File Explorer".

# **FIXING "STORAGE SPACES" BASICS**

## **(continued)**

- Make a note of whether this hard drive is able to display its files and folders in "File Explorer".
- Disconnect the USB cable of this hard drive.

# FIXING "STORAGE SPACES" BASICS (continued)

- Attach one of the second hard drive to the USB port of the computer. Wait a few minutes and see if the files and folders in this hard drive are displayed in "File Explorer".



# **FIXING "STORAGE SPACES" BASICS (continued)**

- Make a note of whether this second hard drive is able to display its files and folders in "File Explorer".
- Disconnect the USB cable of this hard drive.

# FIXING "STORAGE SPACES" BASICS (continued)

- If neither of the two hard drives shows its files and folders on it, your only data recovery option is probably a professional cleanroom restoration or some software from Russia.

# FIXING "STORAGE SPACES" BASICS (continued)

- If one of the two hard drives, shows its files and folders, label it with a sticker that says "Good" and put the hard drive aside.

# FIXING "STORAGE SPACES" BASICS (continued)

- You probably will have one hard drive that is good and one that has failed.
- For the hard drive that has failed, you can either repair it or replace it with another hard drive.

# FIXING "STORAGE SPACES" BASICS (continued)

- For the hard drive that has failed, re-attach it by itself to the computer. Go to the "Control Panel". Start "Storage Spaces". See if "Delete Pool" is available and if it is, use it to format the failed hard drive. If this succeeds, re-attach the failed hard drive to the "Storage Space".

# FIXING "STORAGE SPACES" BASICS (continued)

- If "Storage Spaces" fails to recognize the failed hard drive, press "Windows key" + x on the keyboard. Click on "Command Prompt (Admin)". A DOS-like "Command Prompt" windows will be displayed. Type in "diskpart". Enter key. Type in "list disk". Enter key. Type in "select disk <number>". Enter key. Type in "clean". Enter key.

# FIXING "STORAGE SPACES" BASICS (continued)

- Close the "Command Prompt" window. Use "Disk Management" to format the hard drive. Go to the "Control Panel". Start "Storage Spaces". Add the repaired hard drive back into the "Storage Space".