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Firefox Builds on Its Success

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Firefox, the popular open-source Web browser, is continuing to gain users even as its management structure evolves and it resets its plans for its next update.

The Mozilla Foundation's Firefox recently zoomed past the 75 million-download mark. At this rate, some expect the browser to hit the 100 million-download mark by early October.

According to the French research company XiTi Monitor, Firefox has an 11.78 percent share of the browser market in North America, while in Europe, according to XiTi's numbers, Firefox is being adopted at an even quicker pace, with a 14.83 percent market share.

Indeed, in some countries-Finland, Germany, the Czech Republic, Croatia and Poland-more than 20 percent of users have switched the browser they primarily use from Internet Explorer to Firefox.

This week, the Foundation announced that instead of releasing Firefox 1.1 this fall, it will be releasing Firefox 1.5. This news was first misinterpreted by some as meaning that Firefox 1.1 had been "scrapped."

The truth of the matter, according to Mozilla's Chris Beard, is that the "change has been made to better reflect the level of fixes and feature enhancements which will be included in these releases."

This new Firefox, code-named Deer Park, is due to begin being beta tested in August. The shipping version is to roll out the door in September.

Full Story [2].

Moz/FF

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