

Mozilla CEO John Lilly: World Domination Is Overrated

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John Lilly became chief executive of Mozilla in January, moving up from his role as chief operating officer. He's been with the company that created the open-source Firefox browser since 2005, the year Firefox 1.5 was released.

Before Firefox, Microsoft's Internet Explorer dominated the Web. Now Microsoft's share is down and Mozilla's is 20 percent.

The size of the organization makes Mozilla's tremendous success that much more remarkable. Headquartered in Mountain View, it has fewer than 200 employees.

Using an open-source model, its code is published, and users everywhere are encouraged to improve it. Mozilla, which Lilly directs, is a subsidiary of the non-profit Mozilla Foundation.

Mercury News reporter Pete Carey asked Lilly how an open-source company like Mozilla works and threw in a few questions about Chrome, Google's new open-source browser that was introduced earlier this month.

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