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Red Hat announced today an update of its leading enterprise Linux distribution that keeps pace with hardware, security, developer, interoperability and virtualization improvements.

The last upgrade in the 5 family, version 5.8, shipped last February. Version 5.9 demonstrates the company's commitment to a 10-year suport lifespan for each platform, the company notes.

The company will continue to add value to older Linux platforms to give customers maximum flexibility in how and when they upgrade. Red Hat Enterprise Linux 6.4, for instance, moved into beta testing last month.

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