

# Red Hat CEO: We don't need Microsoft to succeed

By *srlinuxx*

Created 07/05/2013 - 8:34pm

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Jim Whitehurst has been president and CEO of prominent Linux distributor Red Hat since December 2007. During that time, Red Hat has blazed a trail in becoming a profitable vendor in the open source software space, challenging Microsoft and Unix companies and adding such technologies as the JBoss application server. InfoWorld Editor at Large Paul Krill spoke with Whitehurst, asking him about the company's dealings with Microsoft, how Linux sizes up against rivals, and where Red Hat's technology is headed.

InfoWorld: Microsoft has a close business relationship with Suse Linux. That seems to be Microsoft's Linux of choice, and the company doesn't seem interested in having the same kind of partnership with Red Hat. Is that a problem for Red Hat?

Jim Whitehurst: We'd be happy to work on interoperability with Microsoft or anyone else.

[rest here](#) [3]

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