

Red Hat's CEO Sees Open Source Cloud Domination

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Red Hat CEO Jim Whitehurst sees the business opportunity of a generation in what he calls a computing paradigm shift from client server to cloud architectures. "In those paradigm shifts, generally new winners emerge," says Whitehurst and he intends to make sure Red Hat is one of those winners. His logic is sound and simple: disruptive technologies like the cloud that arise every couple decades level the playing field between large, established firms and smaller, innovative challengers since everyone, from corporate behemoth to a couple guys in a garage, starts from the same spot and must play by the same unfamiliar and changeable rules. With the cloud "there's less of an installed based and an opportunity for new winners to be chosen," Whitehurst adds. His mission is "to see that open source is the default choice for next generation architecture" and that Red Hat is the preferred choice, particularly for enterprise IT, of open source providers.

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