

# KDE and Business: AEI Interview

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Continuing in a series of interviews with businesses that benefit KDE and benefit from KDE, we investigate AEI (Analytical Engineering, Inc), a Midwestern engineering firm founded in 1994. In an interview originally conducted by Aaron Seigo, AEI's design engineer and author Caleb Tennis discusses AEI's IT needs and KDE's involvement.

## **How is KDE helping AEI meet its IT needs, and how long has AEI been using KDE?**

*CT:* Having a very easy to use GUI for the test cells is very important to us. Our test cell computers operate in what I call "pseudo-kiosk" mode. That is, most of the desktop features of KDE aren't used much, but they are available. Instead, all of the operation is done via a few custom written applications. The widgets that are available, and the ease of customizing new widgets, is a huge plus.

A polished look helps a lot too. Not only does it make life very simple for the operator, but eye candy is actually quite important from a business perspective. Potential clients on plant tours tend to remember catchy things they've seen, and almost every computer in our test facility that controls something uses KDE.

## **What were the key factors that led you to choose to deploy KDE at AEI?**

[Full Story](#) [2].

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