

WHY DOES RED HAT MATTER TO THE AIR FORCE?



“We believe in using and contributing back to open source software as a way of making it easier for the government to share data, improve tools and services, and return value to taxpayers.”

– whitehouse.gov/developers
Sept 2012

Ranked number four on Forbes 2012 *Most Innovative Companies* list, many view Red Hat as the most relevant software company for datacenter owners needing to reduce their IT spend while modernizing and building out customer premise capabilities for application hosting, system virtualization, web services, and cloud computing.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The United States Air Force is one of the world's largest consumers of IT. Real world requirements, whether they be legacy ERP and CRM systems or new cutting edge requirements for C2ISR and warfighter applications, are stretching the Air Force's limited IT budget and resources. Red Hat is in a unique position to help the Air Force and its industry partners modernize the Air Force IT architecture and capabilities to handle these real world challenges within the constraints of today's stretched resources.

HISTORY

From 2002 to present, Red Hat's flagship offering, Red Hat® Enterprise Linux®, helps modernize the world's IT landscape—most notably by greatly reducing ongoing requirements for legacy proprietary UNIX systems by migrating to commodity x86 systems running Red Hat Enterprise Linux. This dramatic shift from UNIX on proprietary systems to Red Hat Enterprise Linux on commodity Intel- and AMD-based x86 systems has greatly reduced the total cost of ownership (TCO) associated with running mission-critical workloads in the enterprise.

Several key factors led to this change from UNIX to Red Hat Enterprise Linux in the datacenter:

- Use of an open source development model greatly reduces the time and cost of research and development for operating system (OS, or software) related requirements while also reducing the vendor lock-in associated with proprietary solution development.
- Abstraction of the OS from the underlying proprietary hardware gives customers the opportunity to competitively analyze the hardware portion of their requirements and choose the hardware—and the vendor—that best meets their needs.
- Increased security capabilities are included in every copy of Red Hat Enterprise Linux. These capabilities include the use of Mandatory Access Control Policies associated with NSA-developed Security Enhanced Linux (SELinux).

RED HAT PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

Today, the fastest growing requirements in the datacenter include mission-critical use of virtualization, web services, and cloud computing. The same drivers that had such a dramatic effect on the proprietary UNIX markets now threaten the proprietary software vendors' hold on the industry and give customers the choice they desire.

Red Hat has expanded from its base as a leader in the operating system market to now provide 5 core competencies answering the challenges of the modern datacenter owner.

1. Red Hat Enterprise Linux
2. Red Hat Enterprise Virtualization
3. JBoss Enterprise Middleware
4. Red Hat Systems Management
5. Red Hat Storage
6. Red Hat Cloud
7. Red Hat CloudForms
8. OpenShift by Red Hat

RECOMMENDATIONS

More than 80% of Fortune 500 companies use Red Hat products and solutions. Read their stories at: redhat.com/resourcelibrary/case-studies

Sample of Air Force programs	Sample of Department of Defense customers
AFWA	Army FCB2
GPS/OCX (Air Force Space Command)	DISA NECCA GCSS-J
DCGS Air Force	DCGS - Army
Big Safari	Army WIN-T
JSTARS	Combat Information Transport System (CITS)
Combat Information Transport System (CITS)	GCSS Air Force and Joint
NASIC (WPAFB)	Army AVCATT
ESC (Hanscom Air Force Base)	AKO/DKO
OALC (Hill Air Force Base)	
GCSS - Air Force	
DCAPES	

Today Red Hat's technology subscriptions for OS, virtualization, web services, and cloud computing are already deployed or planned for deployment throughout the US government and DoD agencies.

As the Air Force develops its plans for IT modernization, it should understand that Red Hat and open source software can play a major role in reducing their TCO, while creating the opportunity for additional competitive advantage through reduction of vendor lock-in associated with proprietary software solutions.

ABOUT RED HAT

Red Hat is the world's leading provider of open source solutions, using a community-powered approach to provide reliable and high-performing cloud, virtualization, storage, Linux, and middleware technologies. Red Hat also offers award-winning support, training, and consulting services. Red Hat is an S&P company with more than 70 offices spanning the globe, empowering its customers' businesses.

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