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Editor-in-Chief

Data centers, they are a'changing

The last time we featured the enterprise Linux® operating system (OS) in *Dell Insight* magazine, we featured Oracle® CEO Larry Ellison on the cover. At that time, established companies, such as Oracle, were developing major strategies around Linux—evidence that the OS was finally coming of age.

Now, Linux is downright common in the enterprise, so we decided to feature the business behind the buzz: Red Hat, Inc., the leading Linux distributor. We talked to CEO Matthew Szulik about his company's successes and challenges, and how he hopes the next generation of IT leaders will use open-source software for the greater good.

You also can learn more about Red Hat and how it works with Dell to deliver cost-effective, open-source solutions to enterprise customers around the world in this issue's Partner Profile.

In the Cutting Edge section, we take a more in-depth look at the way enterprise Linux has evolved. It seems the "survival of the fittest" concept lives not only in nature, but also in the business world—and every alteration Linux undergoes makes it more stable and scalable.

There's a debate raging about how best to scale enterprise data centers: up or out. Scaling up means purchasing far more computing power than you need today so that you can gradually grow into it. Scaling out means purchasing only the resources

that your business needs today and in the near future, and adding building blocks as you grow. We'll tell you a number of reasons that scaling out is the best choice for most data center tasks.

Also in this issue, we look at the increasing trend toward managed IT services. Contracting out certain elements of your business not only can save you money, but also can streamline many business processes to help you become more responsive to change.

As always, we spotlight several customers who are using Dell™ hardware and services to help solve nagging business problems and create new business opportunities.

We also want to point out that this issue marks the one-year anniversary of *Dell Insight*. In the last 12 months, we have covered some of the hottest IT trends and featured conversations with the industry's most important players. *Dell Insight* also has racked up critical recognition in the last year, including the most recent: *Insight* is a finalist for an OZZIE Award, which honors excellence in design in the magazine industry. We hope you will send in the enclosed business-reply card and join us for another year of *Dell Insight*.

Until next time,

Eddie Ho