SAY YES TO INNOVATION: STANDARDIZE YOUR I.T. FOUNDATION

TECHNOLOGY BRIEF

AN I.T. SHIFT IS UNDERWAY

The world is changing at breakneck speed. IT organizations forced to exhaust their budgets to maintain complex, heterogeneous infrastructure will struggle to keep pace, and frequently find themselves in the position of having to say "no" to projects that could add real business value. This may slow innovation or compel business units to go around IT to publicly available resources such as cloud service providers. The move from siloed legacy assets to an open platform has consistently proven to simplify IT, improve performance, and drive down a variety of CAPEX and OPEX.

STANDARDIZE ON RED HAT SOLUTIONS

In the quest for agility and cost efficiency, it may be tempting to include a mix of free and paid infrastructure software. While companies may realize some upfront savings, the cost of troubleshooting and managing end-user reactions to an unsteady environment can easily offset the gains. Standardizing on Red Hat's comprehensive portfolio of open infrastructure solutions—starting with Red Hat® Enterprise Linux® and extending to virtualization and management tools—delivers real simplicity, performance, and savings while removing the risks associated with running a business on technologies that are not commercially supported.

START WITH RED HAT ENTERPRISE LINUX

If multiple types of Linux platforms burden your IT staff, you need more streamlined infrastructure. Standardizing your deployments on one version of Linux is the first step to simplifying your environment. Since Red Hat Enterprise Linux is the leading platform for mission-critical computing, and the number-one enterprise Linux distribution, it is the natural choice for forward-thinking organizations. Standardizing on Red Hat Enterprise Linux lets you converge on a Linux platform that delivers greater IT agility, performance, scalability, and efficiency.

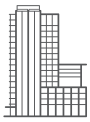
Just how efficient? According to IDC, IT organizations that standardize on Red Hat Enterprise Linux average 174 servers per administrator versus 115 for mixed and 97 servers per administrator for non-paid Linux environments. Also, they average 0.4 hours of downtime per year per user, nearly one-fifth the downtime of those using non-paid Linux distributions.[1]

VIRTUALIZE FOR GREATER PERFORMANCE AND AGILITY

One measure of infrastructure performance is how many workloads it can handle. If your datacenter is like most, it struggles to deliver the agility and performance your business needs to keep pace. Red Hat solutions enable your business to move past the barriers of bare-metal IT environments.

Red Hat® Enterprise Virtualization is a complete virtualization management solution for server and desktop virtualization and the first enterprise-ready, fully open source virtualization platform. It is built on Kernel-based Virtual Machine (KVM) hypervisor technology and the oVirt.org virtualization management project. Your IT staff can easily and confidently deploy, administer, and manage virtualized Linux and Microsoft Windows guests in an automatically secure environment.

1 *Lowering Total Cost of Ownership for Linux Deployments, IDC, April 2011. See http://www.redhat.com/f/pdf/IDC_Standardize_RHEL_1118_Exec_summary.pdf*



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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Deploying Red Hat Enterprise Virtualization delivers:

- **Greater virtualization density:** Having demonstrated the capability to support more than 550 virtual machines on a server[1], Red Hat Enterprise Virtualization enables your IT staff to converge more infrastructure without vendor lock-in and the high costs associated with proprietary vendor solutions. Your IT staff can consolidate more systems and applications without fear of compromised application performance.
- **Increased performance:** Virtualizing modern x86 servers with Red Hat Enterprise Virtualization can improve application performance by up to 95–140% for enterprise workloads, compared to bare-metal legacy installations.
- **Better investment protection:** In addition to virtualizing Red Hat Enterprise Linux, you can virtualize any Windows Server in your infrastructure as well as several UNIX variations for superior investment protection. You can run legacy workloads alongside new deployments and migrate to Red Hat Enterprise Linux at a pace that matches business needs.
- **Enhanced security:** Built on the SELinux foundation developed by the NSA, Red Hat Enterprise Virtualization delivers an automatically secure environment that is easy to use, administer, and manage. In the unlikely event a guest is compromised, kernel-level security ensures isolation from the rest of the system while fostering continuity.

CONTAINING VIRTUALIZATION COSTS

If you are virtualizing today, chances are you are doing it with an expensive, proprietary solution. Deploying Red Hat Enterprise Virtualization enables you to take advantage of all the same features—live migration, high availability, load balancing, and high density end-to-end virtualization—without the excessive cost and vendor lock-in.

When compared to expensive proprietary solutions, Red Hat offers a strategic virtualization alternative with better total cost of ownership (TCO), faster return on investment (ROI), and accelerated break-even. Your company can save over 50-75% today over proprietary virtualization alternatives while building a platform for tomorrow.

STREAMLINING MANAGEMENT

While converging infrastructure helps drives down cost, your IT staff must still size, manage, and deploy many physical servers and a vast number of virtual servers. With Red Hat Enterprise Virtualization Manager and Red Hat® Network Satellite, you can manage both your physical and virtual Linux infrastructure from the same console—from host, guest, and storage management to high availability configurations. Many servers can be managed as easily as one, even as your infrastructure expands.

SUMMARY

Savvy IT managers turn to Red Hat solutions to transform their datacenters from silos of mismatched legacy equipment into standardized open platforms. If your IT infrastructure needs optimization, Red Hat can help you streamline your physical and virtual deployments and realize measurable value today while laying the foundation for your next big thing.

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1 *See http://www.spec.org/virt_sc2010/results/specvirt_sc2010_perf.html.*

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