RVP Redmond Vendor Profile

# Now is the time to move from Windows to Linux

icrosoft will end support for Windows Server 2003 on July 14, 2015. After this time, it will issue no fixes or updates of any kind-and that could spell trouble for Windows users. More than 80% of enterprise and midmarket organizations still use Windows Server 2003 to some extent, according to a recent survey conducted by Enterprise Strategy Group (ESG). In another recent study, IT research firm IDC warns, "Failing to move off of Windows Server 2003 before the conclusion of extended support means taking on unwanted security risks," and "Failure to have a current, supported operating system raises significant concerns about an organization's ability to meet regulatory compliance requirements, as well as the needs of business units, partners, and customers."

### LINUX IS THE PLATFORM FOR INNOVATION

Today, with the availability of new applications and infrastructure platforms, organizations have more migration options than ever. Yet, one-fourth plan to continue running Windows Server 2003 without support and maintenance, according to the ESG study. That's a recipe for trouble. If you're running Windows Server 2003, you could stay with Windows and pay the sizable costs of an upgrade. Or you could move into the future with Linux<sup>®</sup>. Linux works seamlessly with the latest technology innovations, including big data, cloud, and containerization. That's because all these innovations are powered by Linux. And that's why Linux is driving the majority

### **BUSINESS VALUE HIGHLIGHTS**

Linux improves staff efficiency, offering savings across a broad range of IT maintenance and support operations:

- Setup
- Configuration
- Maintenance
- Backup management
- Training

of growth in new server operating environments.

#### LEARN WHAT LINUX CAN **DO FOR YOU**

The IDC report includes a cost and efficiency study of 21 companies around the world, focusing on three critical workloads: web, database, and business intelligence apps. The study compares these



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applications on a Microsoft Windows platform versus Linux. Linux beats Windows across the board, delivering significant advantages in performance, productivity, reliability, and cost:

- Better performance: Linux averages 118% more users per server than Windows, which means it requires less infrastructure, less software, and less maintenance to deliver the same performance.
- Higher productivity: Linux improves staff efficiency and cuts staffing costs. Annual IT staffing costs for Linux are 41% lower overall than Microsoft Windows costs.
- Enhanced reliability: Linux systems lost 35% fewer hours to help desk incidents. Productivity losses from system downtime were 64% lower for Linux. Annual downtime and help desk hours per user were 11.1 for Linux and 19.8 for Windows.
- Lower costs: Annual server infrastructure costs for Linux are 29% lower than on Windows. Across infrastructure, staffing, and productivity, deploying Linux reduces total cost of ownership by 34% annually compared to Microsoft Windows. Imagine you can save one-third of your IT budget every year just by moving to Linux.

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