

# British Airways chooses Red Hat Enterprise Virtualization to Improve IT Systems to Build Internal Cloud

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*British Airways increases scalability, reliability, flexibility and performance while building on its IT infrastructure using Red Hat Enterprise Virtualization*

RALEIGH, N.C.--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- Red Hat, Inc. (NYSE: RHT), the world's leading provider of open source solutions, today announced that British Airways, a global airline and market leader in the travel industry, has deployed Red Hat Enterprise Virtualization on its infrastructure. Through this Red Hat technology, British Airways is benefiting from a highly available and scalable IT architecture.

As the flag carrier airline of the United Kingdom (U.K.), British Airways has operated for more than 90 years, and today is the largest airline in the U.K. based on fleet size, international flights and international destinations, flying more than 40 million passengers to 177 destinations around the globe each year. In line with the company's growth and additional business requirements for its production environment - and, in particular, to support the production environment for its external website, [BA.com](http://BA.com) - British Airways needed to expand its IT infrastructure. As consumers have shifted their airline ticket buying patterns, British Airways supports on average in excess of 450,000 visitors to [BA.com](http://BA.com) per day.

Looking for a solution that would support their projected future growth and anticipated additional e-commerce traffic, British Airways identified Red Hat Enterprise Virtualization as the best solution for its Linux workloads - in terms of functionality, value, and avoidance of vendor lock-in - for the production environment that supports its website and other workloads such as internal applications, both pre-production and production.

British Airways found that, as an enterprise-ready open source virtualization solution, Red Hat Enterprise Virtualization offered a more cost-effective option than proprietary virtualization offerings, and it worked well with other elements of their open source IT infrastructure, including systems based on Red Hat Enterprise Linux and Red Hat Satellite. With Red Hat Enterprise Virtualization, British Airways has deployed 750 virtual machines on 130 physical hosts across two datacenters, replacing a previously virtualized estate.

British Airways' new IT infrastructure has reaped several important benefits in areas such as administration and ongoing efficiency for developers at the company. Richard Dawson, a UNIX and Linux infrastructure consultant at British Airways, explained:

"We use Red Hat Enterprise Virtualization to create our own cloud so that our developers can use it to build their own virtual machines and hence build and control environments as they wish. We have used Red Hat solutions in various parts of our business for ten years, and we are pleased to continue our long-standing relationship by deploying Red Hat Enterprise Virtualization. As developers need to create and delete environments quickly, a highly scalable solution is critical for us and this advantage then means that we don't need to over-commit on our IT plans.

"As an operation that functions 365 days a year with a plane always in the sky, high availability is key for the safety of our operation and ultimately our customers. Red Hat Enterprise Virtualization now enables us to have a single-pane view as to what is going on in the whole environment which we didn't have before.

"We have been using Red Hat in various parts of our business for ten years and so the relationship with Red Hat is already cemented hence we wanted to continue that. We used Red Hat Consulting for the migration, as it was a more efficient model to use trained experts than to employ and then train people of our own. The service was of a high level and delivered within time frame."

In particular, British Airways recognized the benefit of a dedicated [Red Hat Technical Account Manager](#) to build an in-depth technical knowledge of British Airways' technical environment, and as a result, prevent issues using proactive planning, technical reviews and on-site visits.

"Red Hat Enterprise Virtualization offers a no-compromise virtualization solution for Linux workloads - industry-leading performance coupled with a compelling ROI," said Radhesh Balakrishnan, general manager, Virtualization and OpenStack, Red Hat. "We're delighted about the successful deployment and value British Airways is deriving from Red Hat Enterprise Virtualization as well as the opportunity to offer our services across Consulting, Technical Account Management and Support for faster time to solution."

## Additional Resources

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## Forward-Looking Statements

Certain statements contained in this press release may constitute "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements provide current expectations of future events based on certain assumptions and include any statement that does not directly relate to any historical or current fact. Actual results may differ materially from those indicated by such forward-looking statements as a result of various important factors, including: risks related to delays or reductions in information technology spending; the effects of industry consolidation; the ability of the Company to compete effectively; the integration of acquisitions and the ability to market successfully acquired technologies and products; uncertainty and adverse results in litigation and related settlements; the inability to adequately protect Company intellectual property and the potential for infringement or breach of license claims of or relating to third party intellectual property; the ability to deliver and stimulate demand for new products and technological innovations on a timely basis; risks related to data and information security vulnerabilities; ineffective management of, and control over, the Company's growth and international operations; fluctuations in exchange rates; and changes in and a dependence on key personnel, as well as other factors contained in our most recent Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q (copies of which may be accessed through the Securities and Exchange Commission's website at <http://www.sec.gov>), including those found therein under the captions "Risk Factors" and "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations". In addition to these factors, actual future performance, outcomes, and results may differ materially because of more general factors including (without limitation) general industry and market conditions and growth rates, economic and political conditions, governmental and public policy changes and the impact of natural disasters such as earthquakes and floods. The forward-looking statements included in this press release represent the Company's views as of the date of this press release and these views could change. However, while the Company may elect to update these forward-looking statements at some point in the future, the Company specifically disclaims any obligation to do so. These forward-looking statements should not be relied upon as representing the Company's views as of any date subsequent to the date of this press release.

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