



# Future of Open Source & its Benefits to Emerging as well as Established Companies

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*Established in 2000, CIGNEX Datamatics is the global leader in Open Source Enterprise Solution. Headquartered in Santa Clara, USA CIGNEX uses industry-standard open platforms to improve client's profitability integrating with existing systems.*

## Open Source

The Open Source model has a lot to offer the business world. Open Source harnesses the power to create secure and high quality software at an accelerated pace, lower total cost of ownership (TCO) and has better adaptability to business changes integration with proprietary technology. Open Source has been on rise since last decade because of its maturity and importance. Enterprise customers are getting inclined towards Open Source technologies because they are confident that they can get more productivity from such solutions. We now see enterprises adopting Open Source for their own internal development culture and practices that have long benefitted successful open source projects such as Linux.

Open Source continues to grow strength to strength in terms of enterprise adoption. With subscription models gaining ground, consumers caring about business

functions and, not the technology that delivers it, the next wave of IT Sourcing predicts well for Open Source adoption. Healthcare and Government sector have led this adoption for a while, but others are catching up fast and exploring this as an avenue to innovate, faster rollout, reduce costs, re-train the IT workforce and also use OSS as the 'cool' factor to attract/retain IT talent.

Recent reports from renowned market analysis giant, Gartner, says that by 2016 Open Source Solutions will be included in mission-critical portfolios by a staggering 99 percent of Global 2000 Enterprises. Another survey by Black Duck Software & North Bridge 2015 says that, 78 percent of companies run part or all of its operations on OSS and 66 percent of companies create software for customers built on open source. The results demonstrate the amazing increase in Open Source adoption and reflect the growing number of companies that are taking part in the Open Source community and depicts that

Open Source is here to stay, and is now in fact the software architecture for many emerging and established enterprises.

### **Biggest Drivers for Commercial OSS Adoption**

OSS is the force behind some of the most popular enterprise software technologies in the enterprise segment today, that include Social, Mobility, Analytics and Cloud (SMAC) and the Internet of Things (IoT). Top six reasons to adopt Open Source among enterprises are:

1. Quality
2. Freedom from vendor lock-in
3. Ease in deployment
4. Access to code
5. Security
6. Customizability

Open Source also increases innovation. There are always more good developers who don't work for you and are using a product with potentially much larger developer base that enables greater innovation. Also, while contributing code to OS community, a product adds in unusual use cases, which is ignored by a proprietary vendor.

The ability to create applications speedily, reliably and economically is attracting big and small businesses to Open Source and encouraging them to use it for larger scale projects. For example, Linux is the best large-format software available and it also serves as the most reliable platform for a print server. Any size busi-



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ness can take advantage of the reliability, flexibility, and cost-effective nature of using Open Source for their printing needs. As we know, our government is in constant need for budget cuts and there is no better way to achieve them than through Open Source, which is the reason the government has made use of Open Source software mandatory in government offices as per new policy.

### **Predicted Trends on Future of Open Source**

It is no surprise that reducing operational IT expenditures, while simultaneously increasing the level of security and software capabilities, is a top priority for most enterprises. The Open Source model will continue to drive innovation across every aspect of technology as a growing number of enterprises from every industry are adopting SMAC to support their web, mobile and IoT applications.

Open Source has been leading the charge to manage and process data at an incredible scale. For example, in cloud, OpenStack is innovating in a way which is not being seen in closed source projects. The same thing is happening in Big Data with projects like Hadoop, which is attacking problems that were not addressed in proprietary software.

OSS solutions are increasingly being chosen to increase speed to deployment, solve challenging use cases, innovate and attract talent. This would in turn fulfill long-term enterprise objectives of adopting OSS solutions in their Systems of Engagement aiming to inform and engage employees, customers, partners and Systems of Insight which enable more accurate understanding of customer's wants & needs expressed across various digital platforms. We will be seeing more companies increasing their Open Source adoption to increase top and bottom line gains.

The change in the software industry has become an irresistible force. Understanding the paradigm shift in the software landscape and leveraging it to obtain software at a much lower costs is the first step. If you want to build a sustainable competitive advantage you need to ask yourself – How 'open' is your enterprise? What is your 'open quotient?' Are you willing to accept Open Source based-solutions for your organization? 