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The New Parts



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# OpenSource

THE COMPLETE MAGAZINE ON OPEN SOURCE **ForYou**

An **EFY**GROUP Publication



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**Case Study:**  
MERU Rides on Open Source

An Interview With  
**Andrew Aitken**, GM And Global Open  
Source Practice Leader, Wipro



# “Open source is mainstream for enterprises today”

**Andrew Aitken,**  
general manager and global  
open source practice leader at Wipro

Open source software has become a critical driver for innovation at leading companies and public sector organisations around the world. This was revealed in a new research report by Oxford Economics in partnership with Wipro Limited. The report, ‘The Open Source Era’ also shows that open source software is essential to the use of other cutting-edge technologies and that its methodologies have spread far beyond software development. Over 75 per cent of the respondents said that open source software will power their company’s cloud computing efforts in three years, and more than 60 per cent of the respondents believe that open source will power their Big Data initiatives in three years. Open source solutions are already firmly entrenched in a variety of business functions and technology initiatives—a majority of companies noted that open source software supports their mobile frameworks and a substantial number reported that it powers their middleware and content management systems too.

That is the power of open source technology today. It is no more the technology of the back-end. **Andrew Aitken, general manager and global open source practice leader at Wipro** opines that open source is mainstream, today. It is robust, scalable and is being used by organisations for their competitive advantage. With a model based on sharing as opposed to owning, open source has enabled better developer collaboration, faster time-to-market and lower TCO across geographies.

In an exclusive tête-à-tête with **Diksha P Gupta** from **Open Source For You**, Aitken shared how he feels open source technologies have changed the way the tech world is being shaped. Excerpts:

**Q.** Can you tell us why you think open source software is now the key driver for innovation?

There are some important business and technology aspects of open source that drive innovation.

Open source allows developers to drive innovation externally, beyond the organisations they work for. It gives you an ability to engage with a whole host of open

source developers. Today, the power of innovation of the community is far greater than what any single company can possibly have access to. If you look at Hadoop, it was created by a very small team at Yahoo, and as we know, from there the ecosystem around Hadoop has just exploded in the last few years, more specifically because it is open source.

