

F5WORLD

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F5 World is published by Network World, an IDG Company, 118 Turnpike Road, Southborough, MA 01772 (phone: 508 490-6579).

The information contained in this publication represents the current view of F5 Networks on the issues discussed as of the date of publication.

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PRINTED IN THE USA

Cover photograph by Paul Sutherland

Keep financial applications running in the black

WELCOME TO THE October issue of *F5 World*, providing you with the tools, news, and information you need to deliver business-critical applications quickly, securely, and reliably.

In this issue, we've focused on the importance of secure, fast, and available applications for financial institutions. A recent Forrester Research survey showed that many companies are hindered by security and performance issues when innovating and introducing new applications. With a wide variety of applications—like SAP, PeopleSoft, and Oracle—along with increasing browser-based access to enterprise and web applications, financial organizations need scalable, flexible architecture to address technology, people, and process requirements.

This quarter's issue of *F5 World* includes a case study on FNZ, the financial services industry's most complete third-party online account management service. FNZ was able to use the BIG-IP system and iRules to create a flexible solution that helped them expand into new markets, eliminate outages, and provide the security needed to ensure safe transmission of online financial data.

Take a look at our interview with **Zeus Kerravala**, an expert in network and application deployment. The interview probes the impact of special requirements on the financial sector. Then read what our chief finance officer, **Andy Reinland**, has to say about F5's financial strength, and how that affects our decisions and differentiates us from our competitors.

Also, learn how F5 products and technologies—such as F5's Application Ready Networks—can help any organization, including those

in the financial sector, ensure that applications remain secure, flexible, and scalable as their businesses change. Our Application Ready Networks for Microsoft, Oracle, and SAP give organizations a path to successful deployment of F5 products with these applications, through testing we do here in the F5 Technology Center. Along those lines, check out the article about our partnership with SAP and how we worked with them to create the Application Ready Network for SAP.

Once again, thank you for your interest in *F5 World*. Let us know what topics you would like us to cover in upcoming issues. And as always, please share with others your solution to a particularly challenging problem. *F5 World* is here for you.

Sincerely,
John McAdam

INSIDE: F5 teams with SAP to help customers design their network infrastructures, p. 6.



BY THE WAY, WE'D REALLY ENJOY HEARING FROM YOU. If you have story or article suggestions, or want to comment on something you have read, email us at f5world@f5.com.