

F5WORLD

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Looking forward to the New Year

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

We've had some very exciting developments this past quarter, including the acquisition of file virtualization leader Acopia, as well as our acceptance into the EMC Select program. We're building on our TMOS story with the integration of WANJet on the TMOS platform, and F5 has been named one of *Fortune's* "100 Fastest-Growing Companies for 2007." This quarter, we've grown in more than just size; F5 is making huge strides in our strategic vision of making applications and information readily available to all users.

Some of those users include companies like The First American Corporation, the largest online provider of business information in the U.S., which worked closely with F5 to deploy 30 BIG-IP LTMs for improved network performance, scalability, and security. Other users include IT managers who are benefiting from the integration of Symphoniq's TRUE technology with BIG-IP LTM, made possible thanks to the openness of the iControl web service API. This unique partnership helps IT managers track user transactions and then modify the application delivery and produce reports that show details about user response times. You can read more about both of these success stories in this quarter's *F5 World*.

Also in this issue, Dan Matte, senior vice president of marketing at F5, and Christopher Lynch, senior vice president of data solutions at F5 and former president and CEO of Acopia, shed some light on the acquisition of Acopia and what file virtualization means to an application-aware network. Then

read an interview with Rick Villars, vice president of storage systems at International Data Corp. Rick brings some clarity to how file virtualization fits into an Application Delivery Networking model.

Last quarter, we gave you an inside look at the testing we've done for our Application Ready Networks (ARNs) for Oracle, SAP, and Microsoft. This quarter, we've launched the ARN for Oracle; our DevCentral team has pulled together some great resources for Oracle users, including help with Oracle/F5 troubleshooting, access to Oracle-related material in our forums, and other great content. And if you still need convincing about the benefits of F5 ARNs, read Don and Lori MacVittie's new quarterly column in the "For Developers Only" section.

Once again, thank you for your interest in *F5 World*. We're excited about bringing you more customer stories, technology solutions, and innovative ideas in 2008. Please let us know what topics you would like us to cover in upcoming issues. *F5 World* is here for you.

Sincerely,
John McAdam



INSIDE: F5 partners with start-up Symphoniq to help measure end-user response to applications in real time, 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.