

# F5WORLD

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# Preparing for growth

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

Growth—of data, Internet traffic, infrastructure, Internet users, and more—is always a large concern. According to studies by the University of Minnesota, worldwide Internet traffic is growing 50 percent to 60 percent annually, which means more users accessing information, storing information, and taxing your existing infrastructure. Growth is always on our minds at F5, and this month's issue focuses on how you can prepare for growth, and how F5 can help.

In this issue, we have a story about just that—preparing your company's infrastructure for the future. Learn how infrastructure consolidation, bandwidth conservation, virtualization, and more can help your company stay ahead of the growth curve.

Growth can also include infrastructure growth, such as adding new, more complex applications to your current system. Microsoft SharePoint 2007 users can read about testing done by HP that details how to optimize WAN performance for remote users.

And if you're concerned about how your growing IT department is going to stay "green," both environmentally and financially, take a look at the column by Don and Lori MacVittie. It details how to conserve power consumption, as well as virtualize and consolidate existing resources to make your data center friendly to your budget and the environment. And for more information about virtualization, read the article by Alan Murphy, technical marketing manager at F5, where he defines eight virtualization types and maps them to F5 solutions.

This quarter, we released VIPRION, the industry's first on-demand

Application Delivery Controller (ADC). The VIPRION bladed chassis redefines performance and scalability, giving you complete control over management, power, space, and operating expenses. We've included an interview with Jon Oltsik, senior analyst with the Enterprise Strategy Group, who discusses how VIPRION can help enterprises struggling with growth realize key performance and scalability gains. You can read more about VIPRION in an interview with Paul Szabo, a product development architect who has been with the VIPRION team since the beginning. Or take a closer look at VIPRION with the "VIPRION: Unboxed" video on DevCentral.

We also announced the F5 Acopia FreedomFabric Network Manager software, and F5 Acopia FreedomFabric Network Operating System v3.0. Get more details inside, or read the blogs on DevCentral.

Thank you for your interest in *F5 World*. Let us know what topics you would like to see in the future. *F5 World* is here for you.

Sincerely,

*John McAdam*



**INSIDE:** Five proven techniques for staying a step ahead of escalating demands on your data center. Page 12.

**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](mailto:f5world@f5.com).