

# Interview with Monty Widenius

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This interview is part of our December 2005 coverage of the release of MySQL 5. The December 2005 issue of Linux Magazine is now on newsstands everywhere. The magazine presents an exclusive interview with MySQL AB CEO Marten Mickos and a hands-on introduction to many of the enterprise features of MySQL 5.

**LINUX MAGAZINE:** With the release of 5.x, does MySQL AB plans to compete more directly with products like Oracle and DB2, or do you see MySQL 5 as filling a different niche and being a complimentary database solution? How will those competitors view MySQL 5? Compliment or competition?

**MONTY WIDENIUS:** MySQL started originally with a limited feature set designed to solve practical problems within the datawarehousing and web space. The main requirements then were performance, stability and ease of use. This came from the fact that if MySQL didn't perform or if there were any problems I myself would have to wait longer for batches to complete or spend the rest of the night fixing things that broke.

Gradually, we increased functionality, as demanded by our customers and users, but without compromising the above values. (After all, it was still me who handled a major part of the support and the less problems there were, the more sleep I got.

It was our ambition from the very start to build a general purpose database, but to do this based on practical need based on active communication with our users.

[Full Article](#) [2].

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