

Protecting the foundations of Linux ? an interview with Jim Zemlin

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Jim Zemlin is the executive director of the Linux Foundation. In this capacity, he heads up the efforts of the Foundation by bringing important people and organisations together to fix problems. We spoke to Jim two years ago about printing, desktop disparity and the future of Linux on consumer devices. This past April, we caught up with him again while playing his role as Linux User's guest editor in this our centenary issue, and checked in on those topics.

Perhaps the single biggest change since our first interview with Jim has been the widespread popularity of Linux on handheld devices, mostly thanks to the Android platform. But that's not all that has changed. Linux has continued to grow in popularity around the world, and recently Zemlin jokingly referred to criticising Microsoft as similar to 'kicking a puppy'. Linux, he said, is the default choice for almost every new device-based project, and on the servers of startups, governments and other cash-strapped organisations.

Jim recently broke his leg while skiing, so he was easy to catch at the annual Linux Collaboration Summit in San Francisco. We chatted with him about the 20th anniversary of Linux, the future of embedded Linux devices, and the current state of the kernel?

[rest here](#) [3]

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