

# Should Oracle fear open source?

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Oracle continues to dominate the database software market but challenges lie ahead from open source, analysts say.

Research companies Gartner and IDC both predicted continued growth in worldwide sales of relational database management systems, or RDBMS, software, which enables data to be stored, manipulated and retrieved. They also said companies' need for data warehousing will remain a main source of increases in that market.

Gartner and IDC made their assessments in reports released this week on global sales of RDBMS software in 2005.

The biggest threat to Oracle's dominance of the market could be open source competitors such as MySQL, analysts said. Acceptance of open source software could change the way pricing and licensing is determined for RDBMS products, upsetting the status quo.

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[Open source shaping up as Oracle rival](#) [3].

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