

Firebird Mythbusters



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Firebird Myths

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1. Only for small (desktop) databases
 2. Not widely used
 3. Lack of multi-core/multi-CPU support
 4. No commitments
 5. Only for Delphi/C++ Builder

Myth 1: Only for small (desktop) databases

- Is 1Terabyte (1000+ Gb) small? See report <http://www.ib-aid.com/articles/item104>
- Several companies run real-world 450+ Gb databases, 100+Gb databases are common
- Modest hardware requirements are not equal to modest performance

Myth 2: Not widely used

- **495 570** Windows **installations** for last 12 months (logged using optional web-link notification, embedded in Windows-installer). Linux and embedded installations are not counted
- 7000 visitors/per day and 1.8M annual unique visitors at www.firebirdsql.org
- **6,583,438** downloads since 2000 from sourceforge.net only
- Included into the repositories of all main Linux distributives (Mandriva, Fedora, Debian, OpenSuse, etc)
- +10% YoY usage growth every year

Myth 3: Lack of multi-core/multi-CPU support

- Choice of **4 architectures**: embedded (dll), SuperServer, Classic, SuperClassic
- **Classic** is designed for heavy load – instance per connection, hundreds of users, terabytes of data
- **SuperServer** is for $\sim < 100$ users and modest hardware (it is full-blown SQL database for Atom-based energy-efficient servers and netbooks apps)
- **SuperClassic** combines advantages of both architectures – memory-efficient solution with multi-core/CPU support, supports > 1000 connections

Myth 4: No commitments?

- Firebird development is supported by Firebird Foundation and companies around it
- Development runs since 2000: **5 main releases** (1.0, 1.5, 2.0, 2.1, 2.5) and steady roadmap is in place (3.0 is in alpha stage)
- 12 active developers cover the core and main drivers development
- Huge and very loyal community

Myth 5. Only for Delphi/C++ Builder?



Delphi/C++Builder



- Firebird.NET
- JayBird (Java)
- UIB, FIBPlus*, IBOjects*
(Delphi/C++ Builder)
- FreePascal & Lazarus
- PHP for Firebird
- FireRuby
- and more!

*commercial software

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