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These days, most of the businesses seem to have too much data at their disposal; however, managing this data is nothing less than a nightmare, and can take a toll on the day-to-day operations of any business. In the wake of these events, businesses are often seen looking for solutions that can help them with data management; perhaps this explains why most of them opt for an enterprise data warehouse (EDW), and similar other options.

Lately, businesses have woken up to the fact that they no longer need to rely on an EDW; rather, they have begun to look for more feasible options, with Hadoop Distributed File System (HDFS) being one of them. However, there are many businesses that are yet to unleash the potential of HDFS. While some of these are not aware of the basics, there are others that seem to have qualms despite being familiar with the nuances. Perhaps the following points would clear the air once and for all:

- * **Scalability** -- Believe it or not but scalability plays a major role in managing the data; therefore, it should come as no surprise that HDFS is becoming increasingly popular as it offers enhanced scalability which can help a business in managing large chunks of data with utter ease. Furthermore, it is because of this scalability that the Hadoop applications use HDFS as their primary storage system.
- * **Processing** -- Processing the data can turn into a nightmare, especially if it is not carried out in the appropriate manner; HDFS makes it easier for a business to process the data. To begin with, it breaks down the data into sizeable blocks. Thereafter, these blocks are distributed all across the cluster, and replicated. It is distribution that makes HDFS one of the viable options for data management.
- * **Data loss** -- The efforts made by a business for managing the data can go in vain if it fails to safeguard the data against possible loss. In such a scenario, it is logical for a business to look for an option that can replicate the data blocks across multiple servers, thereby minimizing the possibility of data loss; this is when HDFS comes into picture, as it does exactly the same, and carries out the replication process in a streamlined manner.
- * **Comparison** -- The Hadoop Distributed File System (HDFS) might have caused a stir but there are some experts who have gone to the extent of claiming that it lacks the sophistication of a conventional EDW. Therefore, it is advisable for a business to explore the options, and draw a comparison before making a decision.

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