

Infor ERP XA

➔ Forward-thinking discrete manufacturers around the globe rely on Infor ERP XA to help them better organize their data and information to become more efficient.



Do business better.

To grow globally and compete more aggressively, manufacturing companies need a solid information foundation that helps them to not only exceed customer expectations, but also to streamline business processes across their organization. This requires an extended enterprise solution that enables manufacturing companies to better manage the complexities of their business processes, and that helps connect their departments, divisions, locations, customers, and partners worldwide.

Global opportunities are on the rise. But that doesn't mean it's getting any easier to manage multiple locations and break into new markets. With different currencies, regulations, processes, partners, time zones, languages, and other dissimilarities, expanding a business across borders can be problematic. However, by unifying their organization with the right information infrastructure, as well as enabling effortless communication and access to critical information, manufacturers can operate at peak efficiency, surpass customer expectations, gain global market share, and be more forward-thinking.

Leverage experience.

Infor™ has more than 30 years of experience in manufacturing. We have dedicated resources to support the special needs of the discrete industry—and a proven set of integrated solutions with industry experience built in to lower our customers' total cost of ownership. A core component of our concept-to-customer ERP offering, Infor ERP XA helps discrete manufacturing companies reap all

INFOR™

the advantages of fully integrated, interconnected manufacturing processes on the IBM® System i platform.

By leveraging the functionality of this far-reaching solution—from design and sales, through manufacturing and delivery—you can:

- Unify your enterprise around a single information platform
- Communicate more effectively across the enterprise
- Access important information more effortlessly
- Gain greater visibility into enterprise information
- Get to market faster and with greater impact

Get business specific.

A comprehensive global enterprise resource planning solution, ERP XA helps discrete manufacturers in the aerospace, automotive, electronics, fabricated metals, furniture and fixtures, industrial equipment, medical devices, and control instruments industries overcome communication and data-sharing limitations. It also meets their planning and replenishment requirements—and introduces the level of visibility needed to control complex outsourcing relationships.

By providing the right information infrastructure, ERP XA gives you the flexibility and scalability to grow globally. It aligns multiple manufacturing sites, each with its own methods and operational needs, without the usual costs and delays, enabling you and your entire extended

enterprise to respond instantly to customer-driven transactions from anywhere around the world.

ERP XA helps our discrete manufacturing customers meet their goals by offering the following core components:

Integrated customer interaction

ERP XA enables you to import databases of potential customers, then classify and categorize them any way you choose. You can also develop marketing campaigns and monitor their success, then track specific sales opportunities using a structured sales process. This gives you a realistic forecast you can pass to your planning systems. Plus, you can take the resulting orders many ways. Do you require a truly flexible method for your customer service department? Perhaps you'd like to let customers enter orders themselves over the web, even configure products or accept orders electronically, system to system. ERP XA offers all these choices. And they're all integrated, which means you can take an order over the internet or via EDI and maintain it just like any other order.

Integrated supplier interaction

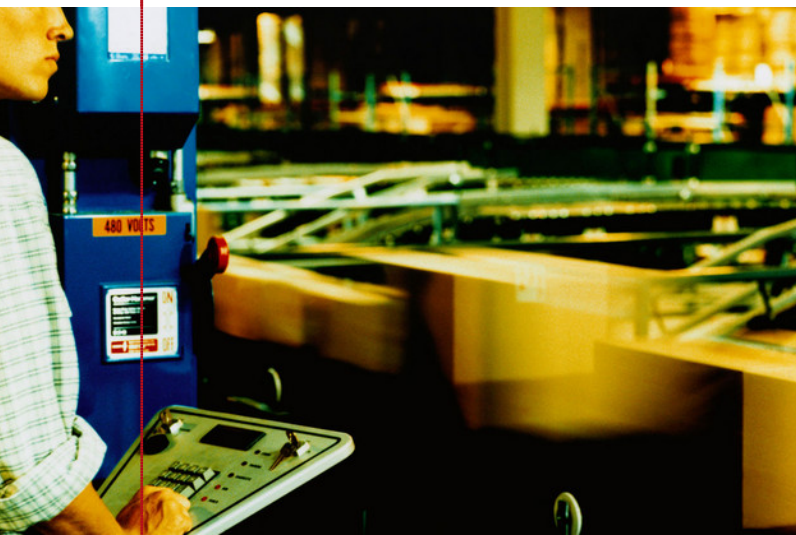
Our solution offers the same flexibility on both ends of the supply chain. You can create POs manually or automatically and send them via print, fax, EDI, or over the web. You can also provide your suppliers with a web interface for efficient negotiations, advance notice of shipments, and delivery confirmation. Moreover, your receiving dock can check off shipments using POs or shipment notices.

Planning

With ERP XA, you gain numerous options for planning. You can use the latest technologies for constraint-based planning if you're ready for that. If not, you could use fast MRP to manage your material plan. Classic MRP/CRP is also available and still provides value for many companies.

Execution

The rubber meets the road at the shop floor, and ERP XA provides some of the latest tools to maximize productivity for lean operations with rate boards and Kanban systems. Since few companies are fully lean, the solution lets you run your operations in mixed mode with both schedules and orders. Its data collection terminals have large buttons on touch screens for gloved hands. Plus, an integrated quality system lets you define tests and incorporate them into normal production and logistics operations.



Production control

ERP XA brings together a wide variety of functions to help get orders on and off the floor. You can release shop orders individually from customer orders or MRP recommendations. Since the majority of exceptions (releases, deferrals, and the like) are routine, simply highlight them, click, and you're done. For the rest, you can select one or more orders and check availability of components. You'll use the engineering system to select an alternate bill and routing, or you can select a different component to use.

Engineering

Using ERP XA, you gain the ability to track bills and routings by site, revision, and version with date effectivity throughout. You can also run cost simulations and set up costing sites for isolated modeling. For configured products, the solution calculates the configured bill and routing for production and costing.


Finance

To maximize financial efficiency, you can set up simple, complex, and even ever-changing organizational structures. You can also manage multi-currency business events and share trading partner information, like credit information, across your enterprise. Automated interdivisional accounting helps you handle interdivisional financial events, such as corporate payments to suppliers, customer payments to corporate, and cost allocations from one division to another.

ERP XA links directly to your General Ledger and imports from spreadsheet applications, enabling you to quickly format and deliver reports that are instantly ready for boardroom presentations. Multi-site or multi-country organizations can even combine information from multiple companies, environments, and System i servers into consolidated reports.

Personalization

This innovative solution enables end users to change the user interface to suit their personal preferences. You can eliminate data that's of little or no value, while bringing relevant data together in an organized way. Rules can be set to make certain data, including past due orders or customers over their credit limit, change color. With a single click, you can set up templates of stored data to be added, saving time and reducing errors. Using simple, non-technical wizards, you can also set up a pre-defined set of

 Infor ERP XA gives discrete manufacturers a solid information infrastructure for unifying their enterprise, improving communication, and effortlessly accessing critical information.

windows relating to a certain task and watch them populate with fresh data when a new line is selected in the task window. What's more, personalizing your interface won't affect other users' views or the underlying code.

Extensions

Your IT staff can customize the ERP XA applications to achieve the best fit for your organization. They can easily add data elements, actions, comments, reports, and whole new objects, all of which remain completely transparent to end users. New and changed objects look and work just like standard objects. Better yet, none of this affects the underlying code, so new releases can be applied as though no changes were made.

Integration

ERP XA tools allow you to integrate with other systems at both the client and server level. You can choose which functions to deploy as web services—such as the entire customer object or only the address—and select which actions to deploy, including add/change/delete; just change; or perhaps just inquiry. A public XML interface lets other programs interact with objects, no matter what the underlying database. Plus, to greatly simplify programming tasks normally associated with integration projects, the XML interface handles calculated fields, edits, and security using the same programs as an online user.

See results now.

Global organizations need the right information infrastructure to help boost market share. Discrete manufacturers using ERP XA gain a solid foundation for unifying their enterprise with a proven information infrastructure. This foundation also enables effortless

communication and access to critical information, and gives companies the tools they need to exceed customer expectations and streamline business processes throughout their global enterprise.

Ultimately, this extended enterprise solution provides manufacturers with the tools they need to better manage complex business processes, while connecting their departments, divisions, locations, customers, and partners worldwide. The end result: They're able to compete more aggressively. Beyond that, they can implement ERP XA quickly to minimize their time to value. Which means they'll begin to gain market share and more quickly meet their goals to grow globally. You, too, can gain rapid ROI by:

- Reducing lead times
- Cutting operational costs
- Accelerating time to market
- Maximizing customer service
- Better managing the global enterprise
- Streamlining outsourcing processes
- Improving business performance visibility

About Infor.

Infor acquires and develops functionally rich software backed by thousands of domain experts and then makes it better through continuous innovation, faster implementation options, global enablement, and flexible buying options. In a few short years, Infor has become one of the largest providers of business software in the world. For additional information, visit www.infor.com.

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