

Infor PLM

» manage product information in complex, multi-dimensional environments.

How can you maximize your investment in product expertise?

Tracking, managing, monitoring, and analyzing products throughout their entire lifecycle is a process that allows manufacturers to reduce costs, improve product innovation and quality, shorten cycle times and get products to market faster, respond quickly and flexibly to changing conditions, and increase sales. And in today's highly competitive global markets, where getting and keeping satisfied customers has become more and more challenging, it's essential to have a strategy that provides complete control over this process.

Product lifecycle management is such a strategy. It enables both engineers and non-engineers, across all levels of an organization's value chain, to navigate and manage product information at all stages in the product lifecycle. It covers the complete continuum from determining requirements, developing a concept, building a prototype, creating a design, and engineering — to procurement, manufacturing, assembling, packaging, distribution, maintenance, and obsolescence. It allows organizations to maximize their existing investment in assets, resources, and knowledge across that continuum.

The key to a successful product lifecycle management strategy is support from a proven software solution that gives you one version of the truth regarding your products, no matter where product information is gathered or stored.

As the ARC Advisory Group, a leading consultancy in manufacturing and supply chain issues, says, "In today's highly competitive market where companies are now fighting for a diminishing resource — the customer — a PLM strategy will be a prerequisite for a manufacturer's future success."

The Challenge

Infor PLM from Infor supports you in improving product information management within your organization and also with your outside network of suppliers, sub-contractors, developers, customers, and stakeholders.

Internally, Infor PLM helps users who experience execution problems such as managing changes and revisions. It helps managers who deal with operational issues such as high costs, delays, and obsolete and excess inventory. It helps executives who worry about the big picture, including low profits and margins and the constant need to introduce new products. Externally, it removes bottlenecks between internal stakeholders and outside partners.

Rather than islands of information, Infor PLM provides a unified, full lifecycle view of product design data and definitions. Infor PLM also provides better control over the execution of product related tasks that mandate review and approval across the internal and external supply chain.

In today's highly competitive market

where companies are now fighting for a diminishing resource — the customer — a PLM strategy will be a prerequisite for a manufacturer's future success.

John Moore
ARC Advisory Group



Add to that its “out-of-the box” interoperability with your manufacturing systems and robust real-time reporting and analysis capabilities, and you have a solution that delivers significant ROI within months of implementation.

The Solution

With many clients worldwide, in industries like automotive, electronics, industrial machinery and equipment, aerospace and defense, and more, Infor PLM has all the critical components you need to get timely, transparent access to critical product information. This information will help improve your decision-making ability, reduce cycle times for changes and approvals, lessen scrap and rework, boost productivity, and ultimately move you forward faster.

- Product Data Management
- PDM Integration for CAD
- Enterprise Content Management
- PartnerNet
- Lifecycle Analyzer
- Performance Management

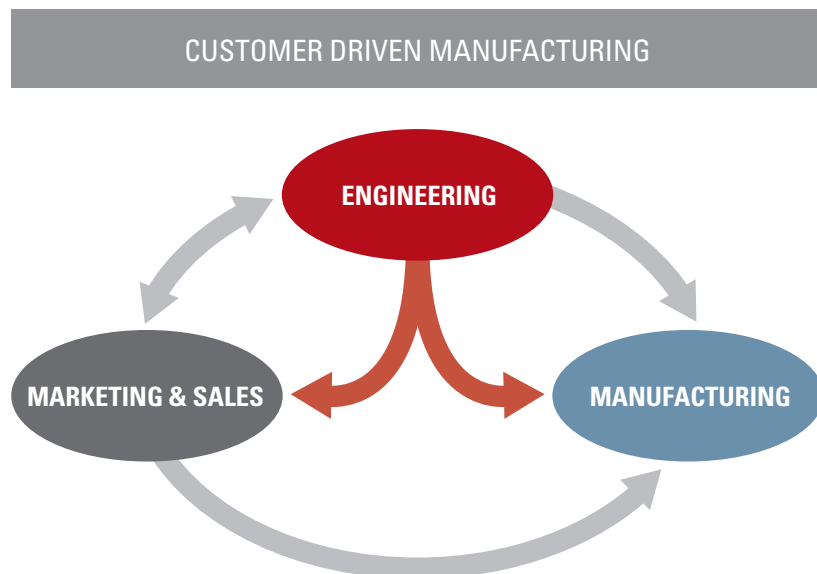
Take a closer look at how this Infor solution can make a critical difference in your organization.

Then pick the components that are right for you. All of them can be implemented and integrated with your core business processes in record time for immediate exchange of data and fast results.

Product Data Management

Linking sales, finance, project planning and other departments with manufacturing operations can help manufacturers thrive in the most competitive environments. Integration promotes consistency, productivity, rapid response, and a shorter time to market. However, while it may appear that profits are made or lost on the manufacturing shop floor, the story really begins much earlier – in the design and engineering phase of the product lifecycle.

That’s where Product Data Management (PDM) can help. Used by leading manufacturers around the world to streamline engineering-to-production processes (including engineer-, assemble-, and build-to-order manufacturing), this comprehensive solution provides the tools you need to organize, control, and distribute product-related data and product data definitions. In other words, it manages the hierarchy of parts that make up any manufactured product, from bill of materials to CAD designs.



The solution.

Product Data Management
PDM Integration for CAD
Enterprise Content Management
PartnerNet
Lifecycle Analyzer
Performance Management

Of course, this involves vast amounts of product data, all of which has to be detailed and passed on to manufacturing consistently and accurately with minimal errors and duplication of effort. If change control processes, such as engineering change orders and notices, aren't managed with the utmost attention to detail, entire projects can be compromised. As a manufacturer, you can't afford to take that risk. With PDM, you don't have to.

This flexible solution enables simultaneous, up-to-date sharing of identical product information so that concurrent engineering work teams throughout the enterprise can take control of the complex interrelationships that exist among all types of product design data.

Specific capabilities include:

- *Product structure and configuration management* — supports product structure definitions in different product lifecycle phases, allowing engineers to manage product structures and relationships between products and their changed documents. As a result, you get product definitions of the highest integrity.
- *Secured and distributed vaulting* — manages all documents in a secure "vault" environment, with security based on a combination of project, user profiles and roles, and lifecycle status of product data entities. Complex relationships between documents, items, and changes can be easily created and managed. Files can be accessed automatically throughout the enterprise. All file-related desktop applications are launched automatically, in a variety of display formats. And drawings can even be accessed on the plant floor.
- *Version control* — ensures that all documents, product structures, and folders are version-controlled, so users only have access to product information that is correct. Previous versions are also accessible making it easy to track product change histories, a critical capability for compliance with ISO, and MIL standards.
- *Collaborative change management* — uses workflow to distribute design changes to the engineering supply chain for co-design and evaluation. Changes are subject to an approval process before being released and published, and

“As Inalfa® is planning to grow in the coming years, we strive to navigate our product information throughout all the stages of the lifecycle ...Infor PLM has given us the foundation for achieving this by providing our departments with transparent access to all required product information and the related tasks.”

FRANK BOEKHOLTZ, IT DIRECTOR, INALFA ROOF SYSTEMS GROUP B.V.

change process templates can be defined to ensure that all changes are made in accordance with your requirements. This helps speed up the proposal evaluation process so that product versions go to production faster yet accurately, obsolete inventory is reduced, and costs are lowered.

PDM Integration for CAD

PDM Integrations for CAD applications allow leading CAD tools to exchange product information with PDM. This enables the enterprise to utilize CAD drawings and models as a central part of its managed product information.

Specific capabilities include:

- *Revision control*
- *Concurrent engineering*
- *Queries*
- *Advanced Viewer support for CAD and non-CAD users*

Engineers benefit from the integration's added functionality without having to leave the native CAD environment.

Enterprise Content Management

Improving business performance using existing resources is a challenge for every enterprise. By managing and leveraging intellectual data, and linking together people, processes and data, enterprises can achieve more efficient operations, differentiate themselves in the marketplace, and gain a competitive edge. But this is no simple task.

Pick the components that are right for you.

That's where Enterprise Content Management (ECM) comes into play. This proven, web-enabled solution captures, shares, manages tracks, and stores documents, tasks, and product information in a central data repository, helping organizations work faster and increase operational efficiency. It allows users, engineers and non-engineers, to access only the information they need for research purposes or to produce new content. It also facilitates role-driven retrieval and reuse of information and leverages standardization, allowing different teams working on a project to capture decisions for future reference, while adhering to regulatory and compliance requirements.

Specific capabilities include:

- *Document Management* — keeps track of documents and versions for any purpose. Unlocks information from ERP and PDM systems, allowing users to navigate through relevant data, capture documents from various applications, and attach them to ERP objects such as production and service orders or financial and project information.
- *Content management* — converges and manages all forms of information including items, documents (HTML®, XML®, PDF, email, images, and other formats), and ERP data over the intranet, thus providing search capabilities across various applications and sources.
- *Connectivity to engineering data* — closes the information gap between engineering and other departments by allowing enterprise users

controlled access to engineering data, such as product structures, drawings, and design files.

- *Review and approval of work processes* — uses workflow tools to route business documents, tasks, and ERP data such as purchase and sales quotations through the appropriate review and approval process, greatly improving quality and speed. Best practices and standards are also supported.
- *Collaboration* — improves product quality and shortens review and approval processes by enabling real-time shared access to documents and item data.
- *Change management* — institutes robust change management processes to ensure that new revisions are properly documented and controlled.
- *Lifecycle management* — captures, manages, and controls complete product lifecycle information across departments and different locations, for improved product accuracy and effective planning, strategizing, and decision-making.

PartnerNet

Products have become very intricate. Many companies can no longer cover all of the technology disciplines necessary for production, even design. Consequently, development, manufacturing, and customer service are often distributed among geographically dispersed partners, and the need for tight product data collaboration among them becomes essential.

Designed to ease bottlenecks, PartnerNet enables enterprises to collaborate over the Internet with external partners — efficiently and securely — throughout the product lifecycle. By extending PDM capabilities across your entire value chain, it provides a complete product lifecycle collaboration solution. Your product-centric information will be secure and available to those who “need to know,” thus enhancing product quality, reducing liability, and eliminating the need for rework.

Specific capabilities include:

- *Export/Import product packager* — provides one version of the truth regarding all product

Ease bottlenecks
with external partners.



information and allows you to transmit data securely on a “need-to-know” basis to anyone in the extended enterprise. Recipients can peruse data in the format that is most convenient for them, and they, in turn, can send you relevant feedback.

- *Sharing of product-centric data* — allows the creation of collaborative projects or groups, as well as the exchange, sharing, and archiving of documents in a neutral, open-standards format.
- *Controlled information access* — enables all collaboration via extranets, so internal data is never compromised.
- *Accuracy* — enhances accuracy and compliance with engineer-to-order specifications.
- *Tracking of business decisions* — records decision-making and information transactions for critical work processes and provides audit trails of content for accountability and regulatory requirements.
- *Secure virtual collaboration environment* — ensures full data security by maintaining the collaboration database separately from the PLM system database.
- *Document protection* — uses a vault server to protect documents, with access based on a combination of project and user profiles and roles.
- *Additional capabilities* — also offers project-oriented in and out boxes, integration with PDM functionality and Export Product Packager, publication tracing, authorized publication access, and an integrated discussion forum.

Lifecycle Analyzer

In manufacturing, understanding the impact of product changes is vital. Lifecycle Analyzer enables your organization to study in real-time product design data stored in a PDM database, and manufacturing data stored in an ERP system, to support product lifecycle decisions. Users can perform impact analysis to better understand the effect that a possible change may have on cost, inventory, production schedules, cycle time, and quality before they approve the change, and then

“The enhanced functionality Infor PLM is playing an instrumental role in helping us achieve new levels of product customization.”

TONY WILLIAMS
DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING
RODGERS INSTRUMENTS, LLC

store the analysis with the change as back-up. They can make a variety of comparisons including product structures and design quotations with final approved designs, and designs with the built product or previous revisions. They can also track changes between bills of materials, highlighting which items were added, deleted, or modified.

Performance Management

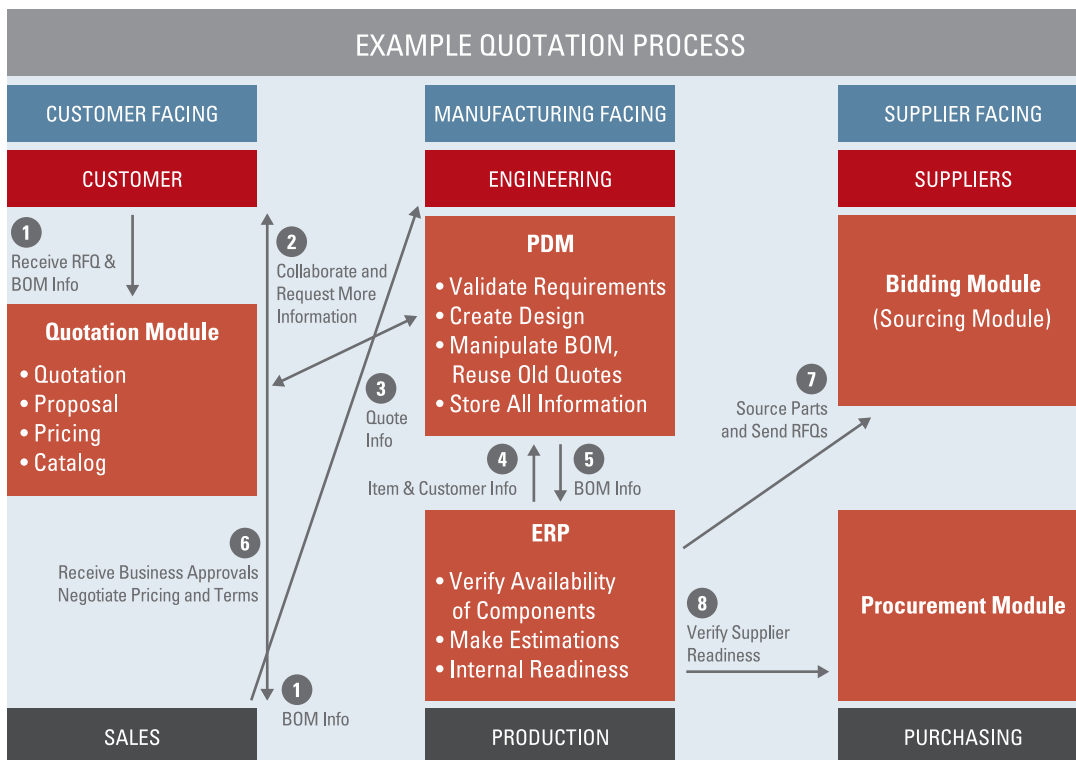
Getting a unified view of corporate performance is also vital in manufacturing. To that end, Infor provides Performance Management (PM). Infor PM is designed to help manufacturers plan, monitor, measure, and manage enterprise performance with analytical tools that support decision-making, encourage continuous improvement, and facilitate reporting and analysis.

Implement it fast.

With Infor PLM, robust functionality that provides control over the entire product lifecycle is a given. But that power is of little value if it takes months, or even years, to take effect — or if the costs of implementation are too high. That's why Infor focuses on faster starts and shorter implementations that deliver an immediate impact while keeping your expenses low.

We do this with solutions, like Infor PLM, that can be installed, customized, and integrated quickly — typically in weeks or months — thanks

Understand the impact of product changes.



to their plug-and-play modularity and proven integration architecture.

We do it by employing a highly skilled Professional Services team that knows your unique operational, geographical, regulatory, and competitive requirements, no matter where in the world you're located.

These experts have years of on-the-job business experience in manufacturing companies just like yours, and follow an implementation methodology based on decades of keeping projects on target, on track, and within budget.

And, to help you keep Infor PLM running at peak performance following implementation, we put you in the good hands of Infor Support — a single, powerful resource that integrates the answers to all your service and support needs.

Plus, we deliver timely upgrades to your PLM solutions that allow you to take advantage of new functionality and new technologies and evolve with one vendor and one infrastructure at the same time. It's the best way we know to protect your investment with Infor.

The Benefits

Infor PLM is ideal for manufacturers that are looking for a market-leading vendor to help them navigate the entire product lifecycle within complex, multi-dimensional environments spanning multiple departments, processes, systems, and applications and encompassing multiple roles, channels, and touch points. It also makes sense for organizations that require a deeply integrated, yet open solution, and want to get up and running quickly in order to maximize their investment in product expertise.

Benefits include:

- More innovative products and new product introductions
- Faster time to market with new products
- Better control over product quality and liability issues
- Reduced scrap and waste
- Better control over obsolete and redundant Inventory
- Closer enterprise-wide collaboration
- Increased productivity and customer focus
- Increased agility in the face of change
- Higher margins and increased profits
- Greater market share
- Competitive advantage

When your enterprise won't wait for more comprehensive product lifecycle management, move forward faster with Infor PLM.

About Infor

Infor delivers fully integrated enterprise solutions, as well as best-in-class standalone products that address the essential challenges its customers face in areas such as enterprise resource planning, supply chain planning and execution, customer and supplier relationship management, asset management, product lifecycle management, financial management, performance management and business intelligence. With more than 8,100 employees and offices in 100 countries, Infor provides enterprise solutions to more than 70,000 customers. For additional information, visit www.infor.com.

“Infor PLM provides existing customers with the ability to rapidly implement the solution and receive quite a bit of bang for the buck ... and non-customers could also benefit from this business process-centric PLM solution.”

JOHN MOORE, ARC ADVISORY GROUP

Get a quick payoff
on your investment.

**Infor Corporate
Headquarters**

13567 Morris Rd., Suite 4100
Alpharetta, Georgia 30004
Toll Free (866) 244-5479
Tel. 678.319.8000
Fax. 678.319.8370

Asia, Pacific & Japan

+65-6885-0789
+65-6333-1409

**Europe, Middle East &
Africa**

+44-1276-417-200
+44-1276-417-201

Latin America (Brazil)

+55-11-5508-8800
+55-11-5508-8801

Latin America (Mexico)

+52-55-52-01-55-00
+52-55-52-01-55-90

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