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# L3 Communications improves business processes by transitioning from Infor Baan to Infor LN

## About the company

L3 Communications, a top 10 global defense contractor, is a leading supplier of aerospace systems for the US government, its allies, and prominent multinational corporations. A provider of a broad range of communications and products used on military and commercial platforms, L3 works to meet its customers' needs in an agile and innovative way. With a focus on quality, service, and performance, L3 drives to develop new technologies, new ideas, and new ways of exceeding customers' expectations. To learn more, visit [www.l-3com.com](http://www.l-3com.com).

## Facts at-a-glance



COMPANY

**L3 Communications**

HEADQUARTERS

**New York City**

OPERATING REVENUE

**\$12 billion+**

INDUSTRY

**Aerospace & Defense**

EMPLOYEES

**40,000+**

WEB SITE

**[www.l-3com.com](http://www.l-3com.com)**

## Business goals

- Upgrade from Infor Baan® 4 and Infor Baan 5 to Infor LN 10.4 within the defined budget and schedule.
- Reduce the number of separate ERP systems, and lower the cost and maintenance associated with them.
- Minimize the impact to standard business operations and processes while incorporating process improvements.

“Moving forward with Infor LN was a perfect opportunity to show how the system could adhere to the business issues that each division needed to overcome and run its operations. Far less complex and costly than other alternatives, Infor LN helped with accurate financial analysis and revealing the true cost of projects. Being able to stay within one system allows us to be more effective as a company.”

**Mike Catapano**, Vice President of IT, L3 Communications



# Evolve into an efficient enterprise environment

## Drive efficiency

Looking for a flexible, robust, and comprehensive business solution, L3 chose to upgrade from Infor Baan 4 and Infor Baan 5 to Infor LN. L3 recognized that this upgrade would also reduce its number of separate ERP systems and help lower the costs and maintenance associated with them. With Infor LN's microvertical functionality within Infor Aerospace & Defense, L3 found that repeated customizations were unnecessary because better business practices were implemented by its three divisions, which would help reduce the time and costs associated with customizations.

## Shift the paradigm from silo to enterprise

Prior to implementing Infor LN, L3 did not have a centralized ERP system in place. L3 is made up of three major divisions—communication systems, electronic systems, and aerospace—which didn't share any internal resources. In fact, L3 had 70+ isolated aerospace and defense environments—each with its own ERP, email, and engineering systems—focused on single divisions. With the installation of Infor LN, there was a significant culture shift from an isolated to an enterprise environment. L3 was able to perform the implementation once, centralize internally (creating a single, consolidated, and virtual infrastructure), and take advantage of IT resources where they resided.

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The process of upgrading was so new to us, we ended up transforming into an enterprise environment. This created a concentrated data center, allowing universal access to the upgrade for all divisions.”

**Mike Catapano**, L3 Communications

# Pave the way for aerospace and defense







## Streamline the transition from Infor Baan to LN

With a company as large and versatile as L3, the transition from Infor Baan to Infor LN had to be meticulously planned and tracked. Having set a goal to go-live in three months, L3 tracked each division's progress and budget separately, tested everything, and ran performance tests on centralized "internal cloud" environments. These cautious actions, in combination with the expertise provided by Infor, allowed for an on-time and on-budget LN installation. With all L3 divisions on board, Infor LN integrated many subsystems within the core LN product, reduced the number of separate ERP systems, and lowered the costs associated with these systems.

## Lessons learned

L3 realized that having an Infor solution architect and strong program management both internally and at Infor were critical during the implementation stages. This way, a clear program plan could be followed from the onset, ultimately streamlining the process. Additionally, L3 frequently leveraged its executive sponsors and its steering committee, which essentially involved getting key stakeholders involved early and often to help catalyze buy-in opportunities—as opposed to waiting until formal meetings.

## Business outcomes

-  Successfully performed the upgrade from Infor Baan 4 and Infor Baan 5 to Infor LN 10.4 on-time and on-budget.
-  Reduced the number of separate ERP systems, and their associated costs and maintenance requirements.
-  Implemented process improvements while having a minimal impact on regular business operations.
-  Integrated multiple subsystems within the core LN product.
-  Implemented hard pegging and better master planning and capacity planning features.
-  Improved ERP functionality with enhanced navigation, data mining, and document attachment capabilities.

