

BROCHURE

Infor solutions for the beverage industry

Right drink. Right time. Right cost.

To keep quenching consumers' thirst for newness, the beverage industry is under constant pressure to innovate. Sugary drinks, like sodas, are under increasing consumer scrutiny. Meanwhile, from juices, energy drinks and carbonated beverages to beer, wine and spirits, companies are competing for the consumers' fleeting attention, which adds the pressure to provide a more diversified product range.

With Infor CloudSuite® Food & Beverage you get a foundation for greater agility in dealing with fluctuations in demand, ingredient supply, and production capacity. CloudSuite Food & Beverage provides the capabilities you need to manage all the challenges your beverage business faces as an industry cloud service.

“ We can stay ahead of our competitors through being more agile in responding to new trends, collaborating on a new idea and launching these on the shop floor quickly because our processes are being more efficient today.”

NINA HJALMARSSON

Supply Chain Director/CIO Kiviks Musteri

Expand your beverage offerings

There are tremendous business pressures for companies in the beverage industry, as they fight for market share in a fractionalized industry. US consumption of carbonated beverages continues to decline, as consumers increase purchases of bottled water, juices, and energy drinks. The beer market is shifting from a mass market to niche markets of craft beers. As contract brewing expands, pressure increases on resource utilization, reducing equipment slack time to recover lost production and making the process even more complex. To compete, beverage companies must provide a more diversified product range to increasingly demanding distributors and consumers.

Beverage companies like yours are dependent on volume-based assets such as tanks, silos, drums, and vats that can make the production scheduling process extremely complex. To effectively schedule volumes, you need solutions designed for the distinct challenges of volume scheduling, such as hold times, cleaning, line loss, and variability in capacity.

Making the challenge of scheduling even more complicated, you must contend with enormous logistical pressures such as:

- High-speed packing lines for bottle and cans
- Dozens of lines running 24/7, requiring a continuous flow of product and packaging
- A series of interconnected tanks linking everything in a complicated web of inflows and outflows

CloudSuite Food & Beverage is a purpose-built industry cloud solution for beverage companies, supporting your operations, financials, supply chain, and product lifecycle management. It is a modern digital platform with built-in analytics, artificial intelligence, workflow support, process intelligence, and capabilities to integrate the solution in your ecosystem. As a true cloud service, the Infor® platform provides the security and resilience which is so badly needed to deal with the risk of cyberattacks.

Engineered for agility and resilience, Infor can help by significantly decreasing your time to market, optimizing your production and operations planning, and simplifying and expediting your regulatory and customer compliance—while lowering overall costs.

CloudSuite Food & Beverage provides beverage companies—from apple juice to wine—the tools you need to speed up innovation, so you can introduce attractive, new products quickly to meet changing customer tastes and beat competitive pressures. At the same time, it can help you quickly update formulations, specifications, and labels to meet constantly changing regulations. You will be able to accelerate your supply chain so you can develop the agility necessary for dealing with fluctuations in raw materials, production, and shipping.

Prepare for tomorrow's challenges

For more than 30 years, Infor has served the needs of food and beverage producers worldwide with industry-specific solutions. Built on well-learned, industry best practices, CloudSuite Food & Beverage spans the entire supply chain—from development to delivery. Technologies such as enhanced collaboration functionality and built-in analytics help more than 1,100 food and beverage companies like yours succeed.

“ With Infor Supply Planning and Infor Production Scheduling, the user interface for changing our model settings can be done easily by an end-user, who doesn't have to be an IT specialist. This allows us to use Infor Supply Planning as an optimization engine for our weekly demand and supply plans and utilize Infor Production Scheduling for highly-effective periodic production plan scheduling in the factories.”

KENJI MAEDA

Senior Manager IT Planning Department, Kirin Company, Limited

Many well-established beverage brands are still running old legacy IT systems that are not up to today's challenges. Certain systems may have been able to handle the general complexities of the brewing, soft drink, fruit juice, or fluid milk industry in the past. However, with the ever-growing trends of consolidation and increased product diversity, new challenges around planning and forecasting, and increasing regulations, these legacy systems may not be able to handle everything an industry-leading company will need in the future.

CloudSuite Food & Beverage meets the challenges and complexities that the industry's beverage, brewing, and dairy companies are facing every day and proves how a modern industry cloud ERP solution can help streamline planning, increase forecasting accuracy, and help to account for regulations and recalls.

Measure results with real-time information

When you have the right information at the right time, you can measure real results, such as costing that factor in the Brix content and alcohol level of purchased ingredients and your own production batches. You can fine-tune recipes and processes based on data collected by measuring yield and variances of all cost elements. As a result, you will be able to manage the tight margins prevalent in the beverage industry even better than before.

With CloudSuite Food & Beverage, you can:

Respond faster to changes in customer demands—

Optimize your manufacturing and distribution by predicting demand with more certainty using daily and seasonal forecasting, replenishment planning, inventory optimization, and promotional planning. You can also bring pinpoint accuracy to your demand plans with advanced statistical capabilities and machine learning, combined with market knowledge gained from internal and external collaboration. Research shows that most companies can meet customer service level agreements with 10% less in finished goods inventory when using inventory optimization strategies. Better response not only helps avoid out-of-stock situations due to demand exceeding supply, but it also minimizes the likelihood of a product exceeding its shelf life. When you can accurately assess the impact of the varying and often very short shelf life on finished products (e.g., milk, fresh juice, etc.), you can ship just the right amount of product with the appropriate days of shelf life left to ensure customers always can find your product fresh and ready to consume.

Manage multiple channels—Learn more by including both internal and external elements such as consumer, customer, and distributor demands—as well as ingredient availability. You will be able to build an overall plan that not only optimizes your profitability but also increases your time to market and improves overall customer satisfaction.

Exceed food safety and recall management standards—With CloudSuite Food & Beverage, you can reduce the risk of ingredient contamination and meet quality and compliance mandates, including label production. Thanks to alerting and rapid escalation technologies for early and quick detection of problems you can perform lot and/or sub-lot track and trace throughout your supply chain for quick recall identification.

Increase factory throughput and reduce costs—Manage all your capacity and supply chain constraints, including shelf-life limitations, contamination risks, and managing multiple plants and distribution centers. See how this solution helps to maximize tank utilization by intelligently sequencing lines, taking into account elements such as tank capacity, clean-in-process, and flavor contamination. Companies like yours that use CloudSuite Food & Beverage commonly increase throughput by 10% to 40%, while reducing compliance risk.

Optimize recipes and formulas—The lifeblood of most beverage companies is new products. Introducing original products and novel flavors keeps customers coming back and attracts new customers to your brand. With Infor, you can develop and revise recipes quickly and collaboratively, reduce the costs for new product introductions, and decrease product time to market by 50% or more. This means you can develop a product to meet the latest nutritional and ingredient trends faster and with greater confidence.

However, formulas are not modified just to create new products. More often, formulas are modified simply to optimize existing products. Changes in raw material characteristics, costs, and availability create a need to reformulate. Using Excel spreadsheets and multiple test batches to create an ideal product is too slow. CloudSuite Food & Beverage empowers you to create new products quickly that reflect the latest raw material availability, so that you can optimize your products to meet specifications, at minimal cost.

Beverage industry capabilities from the tap

You cannot meet the unique needs of the beverage industry unless you have the best software tools on the market today—tools that are flexible and grow with you as your business grows. Our innovative technologies allow you to combine the most valuable capabilities for manufacturing operations, sales and operations planning, forecasting, asset management, sustainability, formula management, finance, analytics, and human capital management.

With CloudSuite Food & Beverage you get a true native industry cloud solution that is always current, so that you always have a cutting-edge solution without having to do major upgrade projects anymore.

When it comes time to deploy, Infor Industry Process Catalog can help you implement an ERP solution quickly, while still benefiting from its flexibility to support future growth. The Industry Process Catalog for Food & Beverage has industry standard business processes built in, to deliver faster implementations, reduced risk, predictable outcomes, and lower total cost of ownership.

CloudSuite Food & Beverage includes all the capabilities to manage the beverage lifecycle right out of the box. So you get faster deployments, and you'll be able to get up and running more quickly, with fewer disruptions to your business. As a result, you can quickly adapt business processes to the rapid changes of the current beverage industry.

Make better decisions—faster

With CloudSuite Food & Beverage you get a combination of collaboration, flexibility, and usability that helps you capture demand signals and develop more precise and accurate forecasts with less manual input. The system is designed to help companies like yours manage the complexities of your operation—from raw material harvesting and capacity planning to catch weight, formula management, regulatory compliance, delivery forecasting, and more, with full supply chain traceability.

Now you can make better decisions, faster, with relevant data and guidance of embedded artificial intelligence right when, where, and how you need it most—at any point in the process where you make those decisions. CloudSuite Food & Beverage is how the beverage industry can distill success from its challenges.

“Speed to market is very important to us. We’re in a highly competitive industry, we’re constantly looking to see what’s going to be the next big thing. And, we’re constantly having our timelines crunched. Infor PLM for Process has made it easier and faster for KDP to go to market with new products.”

BOB WIMPFHEIMER

R&D Knowledge Management, Keurig Dr Pepper

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