

The Infor logo, consisting of the word "infor" in white lowercase letters on a red square background.

infor

A photograph of a male worker in a white hard hat and safety glasses, wearing a grey work shirt with reflective stripes. He is looking down at a tablet computer he is holding. In the background, a white robotic arm is visible, and the setting appears to be a factory or industrial environment with overhead lights.

# Top 8 ways to modernize your IBM i product

Infor LX | Infor XA | Infor System 21

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## Committed and modernizing

In the fast-paced world of manufacturing, the need for innovative and efficient ERP solutions is ever-growing. By listening closely to user feedback and carefully analyzing market trends, strides have been made to maximize the return on investment for those utilizing Infor IBM® i products: Infor® LX, Infor XA, and Infor System21®.

The commitment to our products running on the IBM i platform remains steadfast, driven by the success stories of thousands of customers worldwide who rely on LX, XA, and System21. This dedication to success serves as an inspiration, motivating continual investment in product modernization and innovation.

Significant efforts have been made by dedicated development groups to adapt and modernize IBM i products, integrating modern features that enhance agility, foster open infrastructure, and promote seamless integration. This commitment to innovation is reflected in every update, offering a testament to the unwavering dedication to providing robust and future-ready solutions.

In the following sections, the top eight strategies for modernizing IBM i products will be explored, revealing ways to unlock their full potential and ensure they serve evolving business needs.

## FEATURE ONE

# Improve security

Does your CIO lose sleep at night worrying about cybersecurity? Security management is a major concern for manufacturing companies as they deal with valuable intellectual property, sensitive customer data, and critical operational information. Implementing strong security measures in their ERP manufacturing software is vital to protect against data breaches, unauthorized access, and potential disruptions to their operations. By prioritizing security, manufacturers can ensure the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of their data, safeguard their reputation, and maintain compliance with industry regulations.

## Our approach

Security management is never an afterthought, but a key driving force in our product development process. We enhance the inherent security of our IBM i products by integrating advanced security measures into the software's design, ensuring a robust defense against potential threats. Our utilization of cutting-edge security technology, such as single sign-on and multi-factor authentication, not only fortifies our system but also provides peace of mind to our users. As such, our clients can concentrate on their operations, secure in the knowledge that their data, as well as their customers' data, is safely protected.

## FEATURES

- ✓ Single sign on
- ✓ User provisioning – role based security
- ✓ Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA)

The screenshot displays the IBM i System i Home interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'System i Home' and 'Enterprise Item'. Below this, a breadcrumb trail shows 'Item : Z2006 NG Wireless Router 32 User Wireless Router'. A menu bar includes options like 'Continue', 'File', 'Display', 'Maintain', 'Customize', 'User', and 'Help'. The main content area is divided into several sections. On the left, there is a detailed view of the 'NG Wireless Router' item, including fields for 'User Language', 'Drawing', 'Revision level', 'Item type', 'Item class', 'Order policy', 'Item group', 'Supplier', 'Type', 'Gauge', 'Color', 'Insulated', 'Material', 'Purchase', 'Selling', 'Stocking', 'Lead time days', 'Container size', 'ABC', 'Lot size/Reorder point', 'Standard yield percent', 'Allocation required', 'On-hand', 'Allocated to COs', 'Allocated to SOs', and 'On order'. In the center, a modal window for 'infor' login is open, showing fields for 'USERNAME' (mike.na100-full@infor-demo.com) and 'PASSWORD', along with a 'Sign In' button and links for 'Forgot Password' and 'Contact Us'. On the right, there is a bar chart titled 'Inventory Dashboard' showing 'On hand', 'Allocated to orders', and 'Available' quantities for various items.

## FEATURE TWO

# Streamline routine tasks

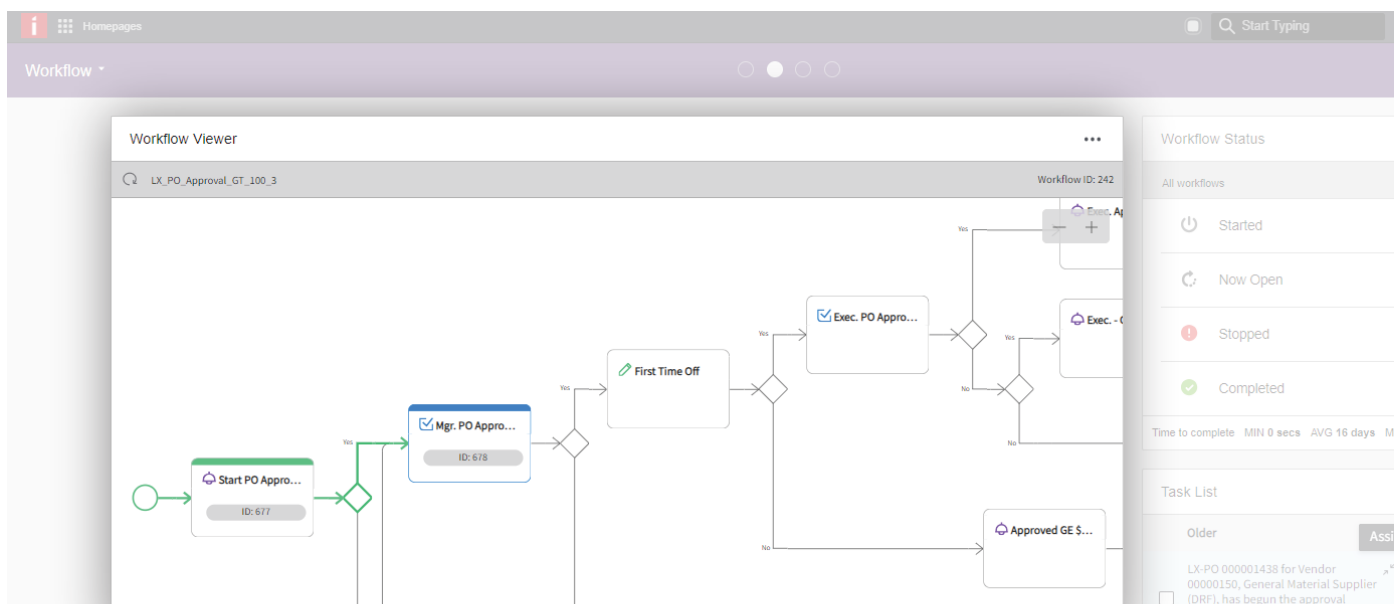
Routine tasks can often consume a significant amount of time and resources, impacting overall productivity and efficiency. Without modern software solutions that offer automation and streamlining capabilities, manufacturers face challenges in reducing manual efforts, minimizing errors, and optimizing workflows. Failing to address this can result in wasted time and resources, increased operational costs, reduced output, and a higher risk of errors and quality issues. This can ultimately hinder business growth, limit scalability, and prevent manufacturers from staying competitive in an increasingly fast-paced and demanding market.

## Our approach

We believe that automation is key to productivity, which is why our company emphasizes replacing manual tasks with streamlined workflows. Our software serves up work orders, exceptions, and late receipts as and when needed, eliminating the time-consuming hunt for these. Role-specific alerts and notifications enable immediate action, and personalized, user-based interfaces ensure employees have the information they need at their fingertips. This way, our cloud ERP solution enhances efficiency and empowers workers to perform at their best.

## FEATURES

- ✓ Process automation
- ✓ Workflow configuration
- ✓ Forms based workflows
- ✓ Contextual document retrieval
- ✓ Actionable alerts
- ✓ Personalized interfaces



## FEATURE THREE

### Extend

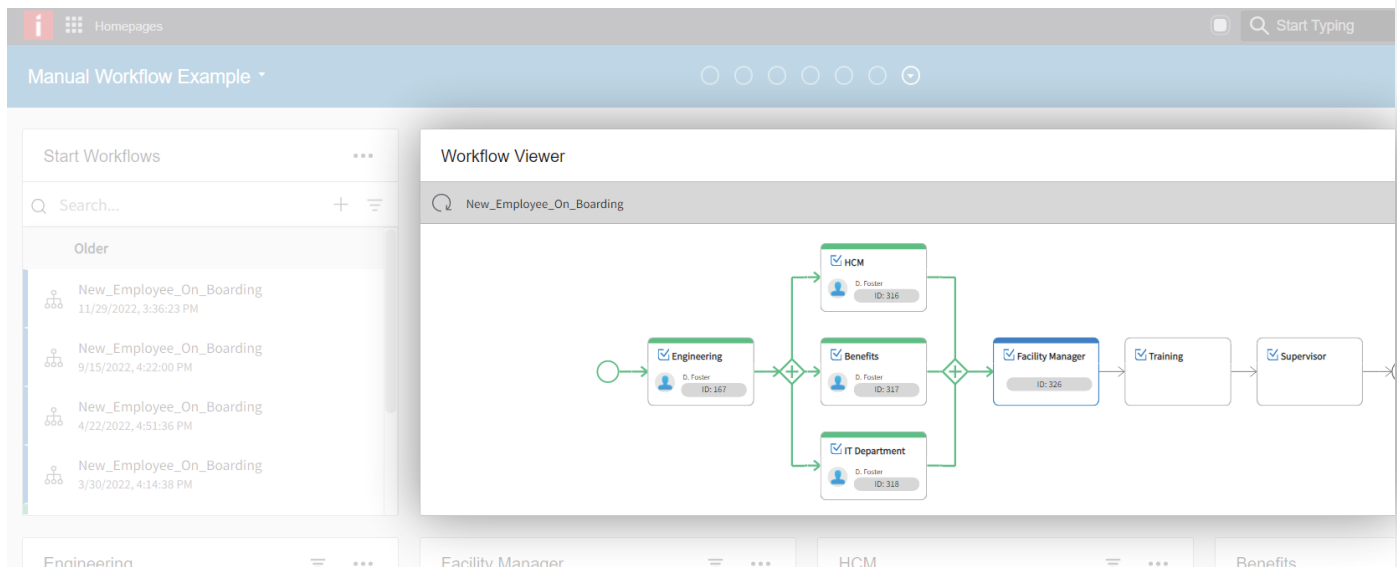
Extensibility is a critical concern in today's rapidly evolving business landscape, where organizations require flexible software solutions to adapt to their unique needs. Without addressing extensibility, businesses may find themselves restricted by rigid systems that cannot accommodate growth or efficiently integrate with new technologies. This lack of adaptability can result in increased operational inefficiencies, missed opportunities for innovation, and ultimately hindered business growth and competitiveness in a dynamic market.

### Our approach

In our pursuit to provide extensible solutions, our company focuses on tailoring applications to meet unique business needs and unlocking last-mile functionality. We encourage development that is transparent and user-friendly, significantly reducing IT burdens and associated risks. By leveraging low-code or no-code principles, users can independently build their own tools and extensions, further easing IT workload. With the Infor Development Framework (IDF), we provide a unified tool to extend application functionality and connections. This approach ensures a single source of truth for data, enhancing the reliability and coherence of business intelligence.

### FEATURES

- ✓ Low code no code
- ✓ Release transparency
- ✓ Cross-app communication channels
- ✓ Cross-product data points



## FEATURE FOUR

# Integrate

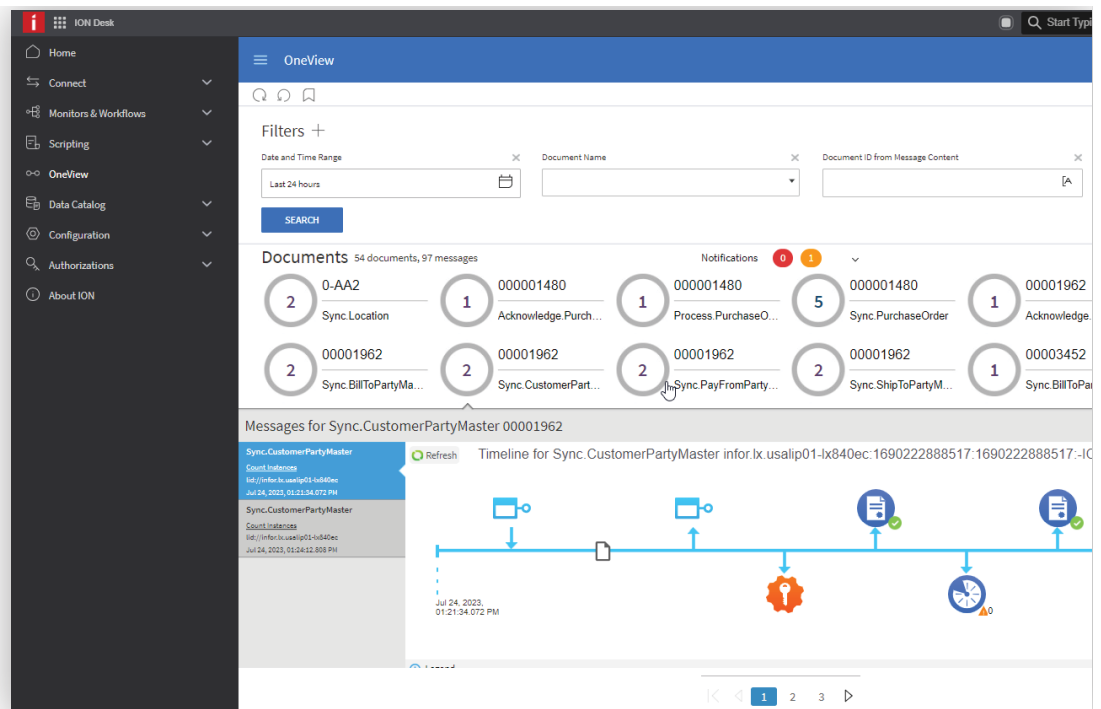
Integration is a critical challenge faced by businesses today, as they often rely on a multitude of disparate systems and applications that struggle to communicate effectively with one another. Failing to address this integration gap can lead to a lack of data synchronization, inefficient processes, and poor decision-making. Without a robust integration solution, companies may experience costly errors, delays in production, and an overall decrease in productivity, hindering their ability to compete in the modern manufacturing landscape. Our cloud ERP manufacturing software offers seamless integration capabilities, ensuring smooth data flow and enabling businesses to streamline operations, improve collaboration, and make data-driven decisions for enhanced efficiency and profitability.

## Our approach

Our approach to integration involves connecting your core application with best-in-class unique solutions, including both Infor and 3rd party applications within your ERP system. Our aim is to extend superior tech throughout the enterprise, improving the connection between systems such as System21, LX, XA and your larger ecosystem. The composable enterprise application we provide enables ERP integration with both Infor and Non-Infor Edge apps, while also offering the benefit of independent upgrades. This means individual components can be upgraded without impacting the whole, enabling you to adopt new capabilities faster and with minimal disruption.

## FEATURES

- ✓ Connect core ERP to 3rd party applications
- ✓ Release independent
- ✓ Pre-built integrations



## FEATURE FIVE

# Document management

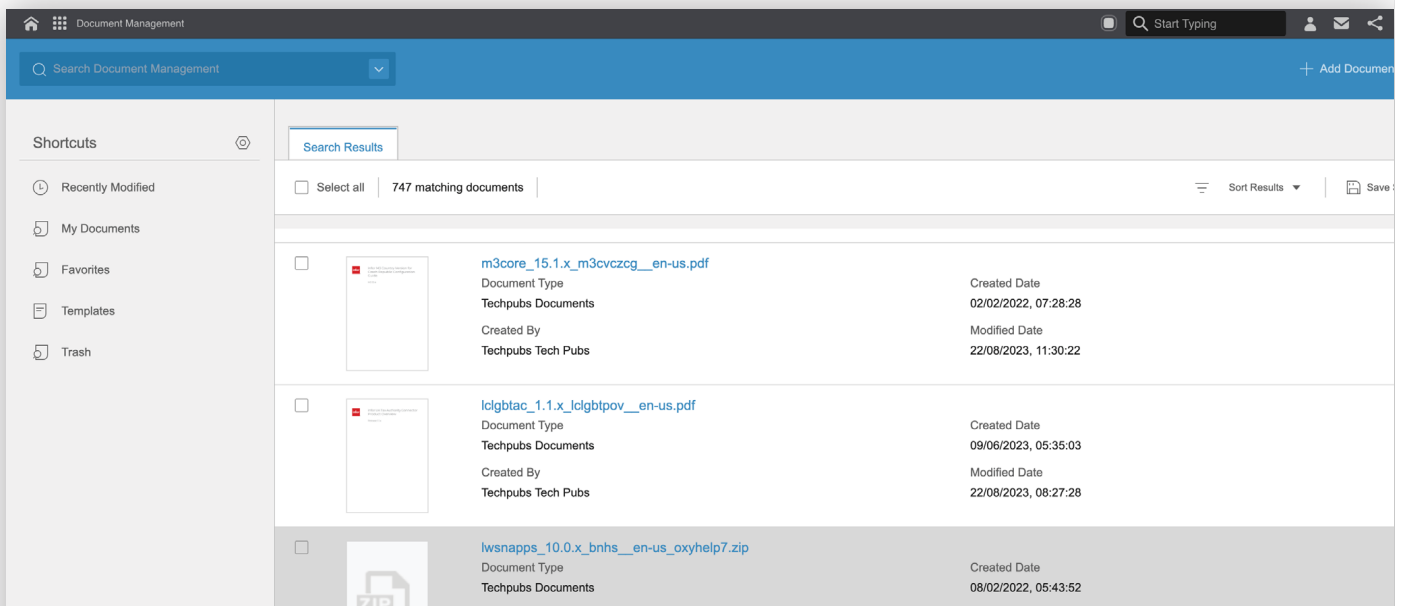
Document management remains a significant challenge for many businesses. Without the proper software tools to streamline and organize documentation, manufacturers often struggle with version control, document retrieval, and collaboration across teams. Failing to address this issue can lead to inefficient processes, delays in production, increased errors, compliance risks, and ultimately, a negative impact on overall business performance and customer satisfaction.

## Our approach

We understand the importance of smooth integration, especially in terms of documentation management within the ERP system. We allow documents to be attached directly to transactions or master data objects, enabling easy access and contextual viewing of these documents in the application, all stored efficiently within the IDM. This process not only provides a comprehensive overview of each transaction, but also significantly streamlines compliance and audit tasks, reducing the time and effort typically associated with these processes.

## FEATURES

- ✓ Document repository
- ✓ Version history
- ✓ Document search





## FEATURE SIX

### Modern user experience

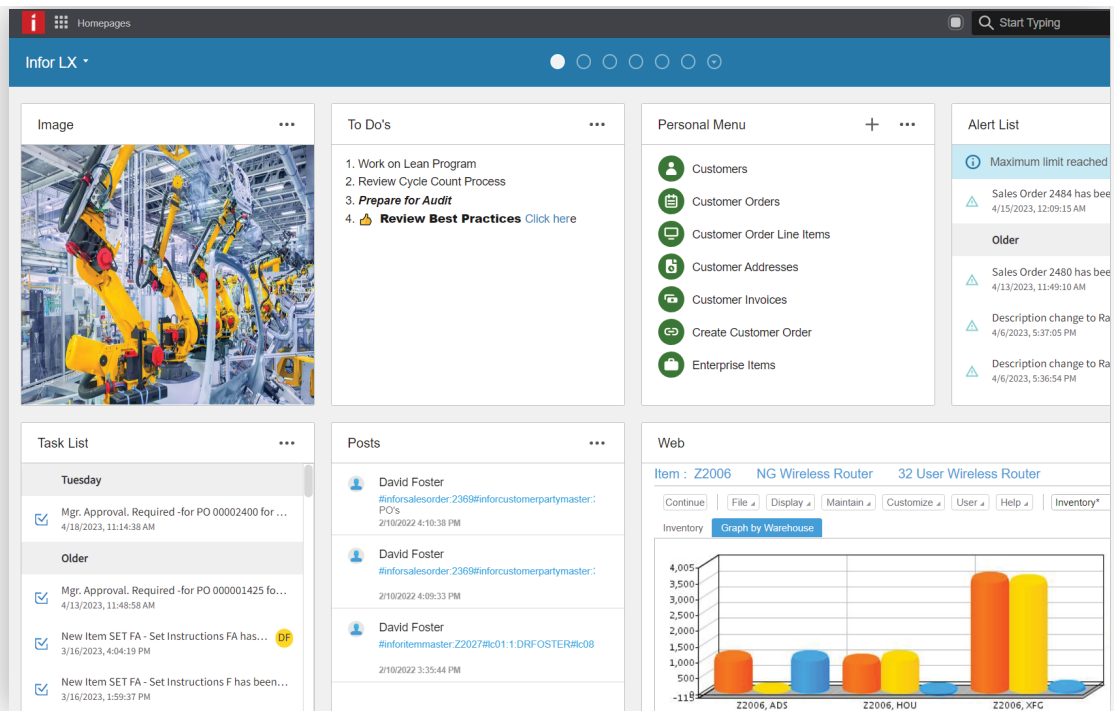
In today's manufacturing landscape, providing a modern and intuitive user experience has become increasingly important. Traditional, outdated software interfaces can be cumbersome and challenging to navigate, resulting in decreased user productivity, increased training requirements, and higher error rates. Failing to address user experience concerns can lead to frustration among employees, resistance to adopting new software, decreased efficiency, and overall dissatisfaction. This can have a detrimental effect on employee morale, productivity, and ultimately impact the business's bottom line by hampering operational efficiency and hindering the ability to leverage the full potential of the software solution.

### Our approach

Striving to simplify the complexity inherent in enterprise operations, we place great emphasis on intuitive and user-centric design. Our dedicated in-house team crafts and refines interfaces that users can easily build and customize, ensuring every staff member has an interface tailored to their needs. From personalizing fields, lists, and data analytics to configuring UI/UX elements such as columns, data displays, and in-display reports, we provide comprehensive customization options. We also offer deployment flexibility, allowing hybrid user experiences where users can opt between different interface versions. This approach not only enhances user experience but also significantly boosts productivity and efficiency.

### FEATURES

- ✓ Configurable user interface
- ✓ Dynamic and responsive design
- ✓ Role-Based Workspaces
- ✓ Personalization of fields, lists, and analytics
- ✓ Choose old or new version



## FEATURE SEVEN

# Mobility

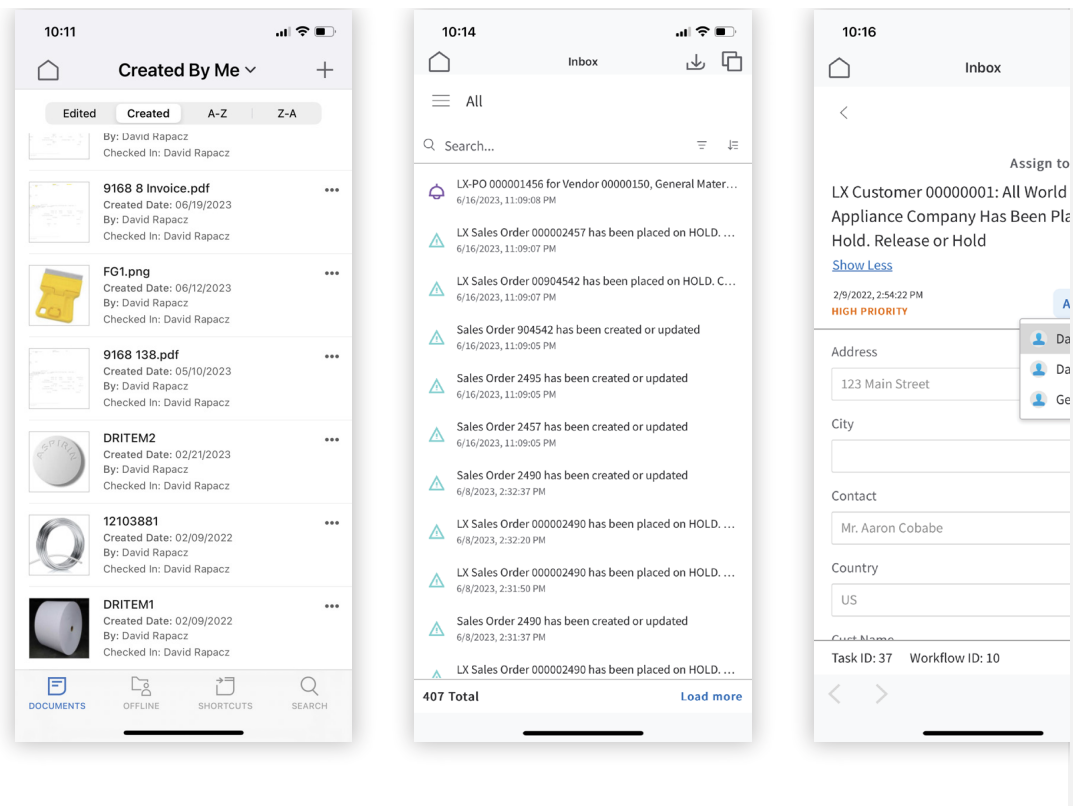
In today's manufacturing landscape, the importance of reporting and analytics cannot be overstated. Without modern software solutions that provide robust reporting and analytics capabilities, manufacturers face challenges in accessing accurate, real-time data, analyzing key performance indicators, and gaining actionable insights. Failing to address this can result in poor visibility into operations, missed opportunities for process optimization, difficulty in identifying trends or bottlenecks, and an overall lack of informed decision-making. This can lead to increased costs, inefficient resource allocation, missed production targets, and an inability to respond effectively to changing market demands, ultimately hindering business growth and competitiveness.

## Our approach

With a firm commitment to enhancing mobility, we've developed capabilities that keep businesses running smoothly even while on the move. Users can action approvals via our mobile app and receive timely notifications, ensuring no interruption to business processes. The mobile-friendly document management portal allows users to view critical documents anytime, anywhere. With our emphasis on mobility, approvals, including workflows, can be managed on the go, enhancing convenience and responsiveness for today's dynamic business environment.

### FEATURES

- ✓ Approve actions and workflows
- ✓ Notifications
- ✓ Document management access



## FEATURE EIGHT

# Reporting and analytics

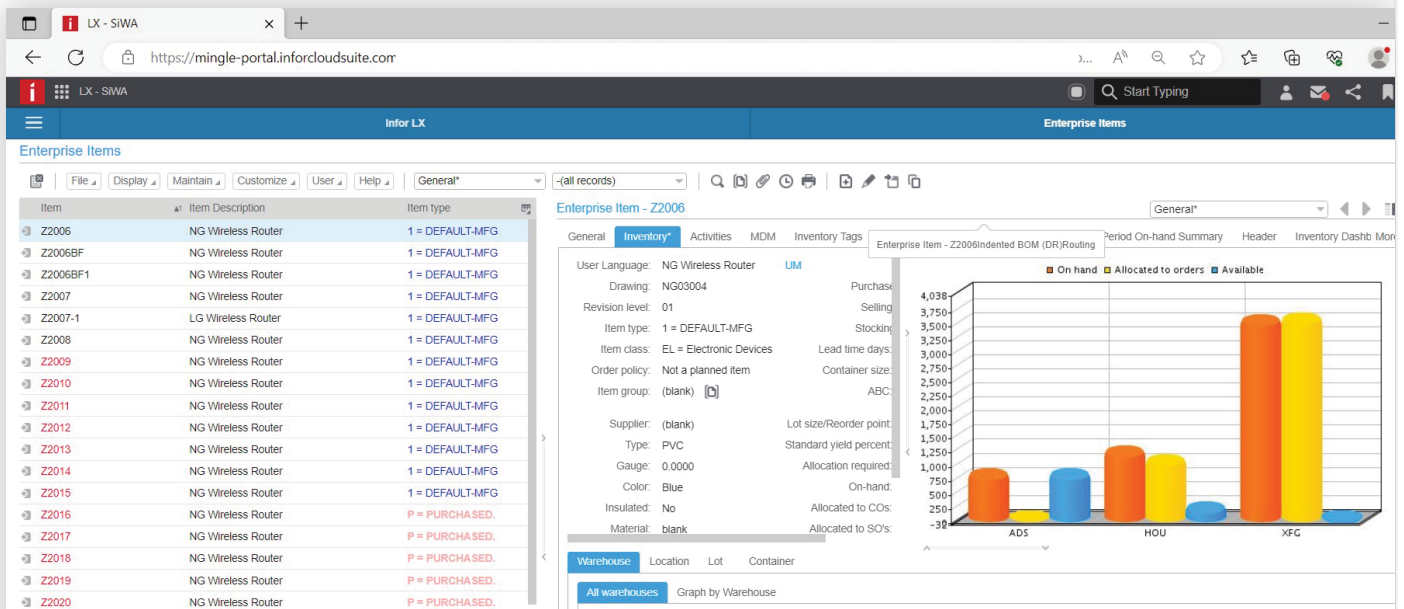
Effective reporting and analytics are essential for data-driven decision-making and business growth. Without modern software solutions that provide robust reporting and analytics capabilities, manufacturers face challenges in accessing accurate, real-time data, analyzing key performance indicators, and gaining actionable insights. Failing to address this can result in poor visibility into operations, missed opportunities for process optimization, difficulty in identifying trends or bottlenecks, and an overall lack of informed decision-making. This can impede operational efficiency, hinder strategic planning, and ultimately limit the business's ability to stay competitive and achieve sustainable growth in a rapidly evolving market.

## Our approach

Our cloud ERP manufacturing software redefines reporting and analytics by seamlessly integrating real-time data insights, advanced analytics capabilities, and customizable visualizations. This empowers manufacturers to make swift, informed decisions, optimize operations, and foster a culture of data-driven continuous improvement, ultimately propelling their success in the digital age of manufacturing.

## FEATURES

- ✓ Export to Excel and Google Sheets
- ✓ Embedded charts and reports
- ✓ Generate PDF reports



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