

Infor CloudSuite vs Dynamics 365 Business Central



A right-sized ERP option for simplified operations and subsidiaries

For organizations evaluating whether enterprise-grade industry depth is still required, or whether a simpler Microsoft ERP is the better fit.

At a glance

When enterprise ERP may be more than the operation needs

- ▶ A subsidiary, divested entity or smaller operation is over-served by enterprise manufacturing complexity.
- ▶ The business wants a faster, lower-complexity ERP deployment.
- ▶ Microsoft productivity, analytics and low-code integration are strategic priorities.
- ▶ Operations do not require deep APS, WMS, MES or micro-vertical functionality.

Where Business Central can be the right sized fit

- ▶ Broad ERP for finance, operations and light manufacturing in simpler entities.
- ▶ Built around Microsoft 365 - Excel, Outlook and Teams - plus Power BI and Power Platform.
- ▶ Azure-hosted SaaS with a consistent application model and lower operating complexity.
- ▶ Practical two-tier ERP option for subsidiaries, carve-outs and local operations.

Executive comparison

Decision area	Infor CloudSuite	Dynamics 365 Business Central
Best-fit purpose	Industry-specific suites for mid-to-large, complex manufacturers and distributors.	Broad SMB/lower-mid-market ERP for finance, operations and light manufacturing.
Manufacturing depth	Deep manufacturing, MRP, APS, quality and shop-floor capabilities across product families.	Native light manufacturing; advanced MES, APS and engineering depth are not standard.
Architecture	AWS-hosted CloudSuite family unified through Infor OS, with different underlying codebases.	Azure-hosted SaaS with one Business Central application and AL extension model.
Microsoft 365 / Office integration	Microsoft tools can integrate, but are not the natural center of the application experience.	Native alignment with Excel, Outlook and Teams, plus Power BI, Dataverse and Power Platform.
Implementation	Moderate to complex; selecting the right CloudSuite edition/codebase is critical.	Typically faster and more predictable for the target complexity band.
Operating fit	Enterprise capabilities and suite-specific licensing/implementation complexity.	Lower-complexity, per-user model for smaller operations and simplified environments.

Business capability comparison

Capability	Infor CloudSuite	Dynamics 365 Business Central
Finance	Solid finance for mid-market manufacturers, including multi-site consolidation.	Strong SMB finance with dimensions and modest multi-entity consolidation.
Supply chain	Integrated planning, procurement, order management, WMS and TMS; strong inventory and industrial distribution capabilities.	Solid purchasing, inventory, order management and basic-to-intermediate warehousing.
Manufacturing	Deep discrete, engineer-to-order, process and mixed-mode options across LN, SyteLine and M3.	Discrete and light mixed-mode manufacturing with BOMs, routings and production/assembly orders.
Planning	Embedded APS with finite/infinite capacity plus demand and supply planning.	Basic MRP and requisition planning; advanced multi-site planning requires another solution.
Warehouse & mobile	Mature warehouse/shop-floor capabilities and mobile data collection.	Directed put-away/pick and a native mobile app; advanced WMS/offline depth is lighter.
EDI/integration	ION integration layer and industry-specific accelerators.	ISV-led EDI plus REST, Dataverse and Microsoft platform integration.
Industry depth	Purpose-built vertical editions for industrial, automotive, aerospace, food, fashion, distribution and healthcare.	Broad horizontal capabilities, with vertical gaps addressed through AppSource.
Global scale	Scales to complex, multi-site global operations, especially LN-based editions.	Best suited to single/few-site and modest multi-entity operations.

Business outcomes with Business Central

- ▶ A simpler application footprint for operations that do not need Infor's enterprise depth.
- ▶ Faster implementation potential and lower operating complexity within BC's target segment.
- ▶ Native connection to Excel, Outlook, Teams, Power BI and Power Platform.
- ▶ Modern extension and low-code capabilities for local requirements.
- ▶ A practical two-tier option for subsidiaries or carved-out entities.