Infor Project Management Office

Infor Deployment Method

What it is

Infor® Deployment Method is a single, unified implementation methodology used for all cloud, hosted, and on-premises Infor implementation projects.

This methodology, which fully embraces all Infor solutions, represents the accumulated knowledge of more than 5,000 implementations and 10 years of ongoing research and development.

Infor Deployment Method has two major components:

The Project Management Process

The Project Management Process prescribes the processes, practices, and rigor for consistent execution of project management on all Infor projects.

This process includes three stages: Initiation and Planning, Execution Monitoring and Control, and Closure.
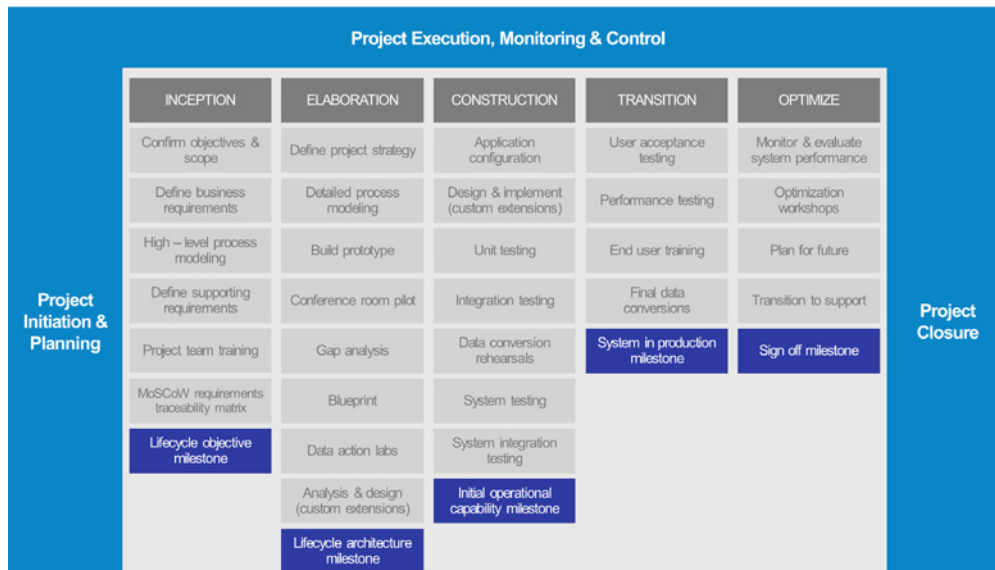
The Implementation Process

The Implementation Process has five phases— Inception, Elaboration, Construction, Transition, and Optimize. Implementation disciplines span the five phases and include guidance, activity, tasks, and work products to support the deployment. The final phase, Optimize, is finite, contractually agreed upon, post go-live work where the ownership and responsibility for the system is transitioned to the customer.

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Graphic 1: Infor Deployment Method Phases

	INCEPTION	ELABORATION	CONSTRUCTION	TRANSITION	OPTIMIZE	
Project Initiation & Planning	Confirm objectives & scope	Define project strategy	Application configuration	User acceptance testing	Monitor & evaluate system performance	**Project Closure**
	Define business requirements	Detailed process modeling	Design & implement (custom extensions)	Performance testing	Optimization workshops	
	High – level process modeling	Build prototype	Unit testing	End user training	Plan for future	
	Define supporting requirements	Conference room pilot	Integration testing	Final data conversions	Transition to support	
	Project team training	Gap analysis	Data conversion rehearsals	System in production milestone	Sign off milestone	
	MoSCoW requirements traceability matrix	Blueprint	System testing			
	Lifecycle objective milestone	Data action labs	System integration testing			
		Analysis & design (custom extensions)	Initial operational capability milestone			
		Lifecycle architecture milestone				

Project Execution, Monitoring & Control spans the middle phases.

Key benefits

Infor Deployment Method uses a solution-based approach to implementations, rather than a product-based approach. This delivers six key benefits:

1. World-class project management

Infor Deployment Method is tightly aligned with the Project Management Institute's Project Management Body of Knowledge. As a result, it follows globally recognized best practices for project management, reducing implementation risk and increasing the probability of success.

2. Milestone driven

Each project phase ends with a milestone; a project phase cannot end until very specific exit criteria are met. This provides clear visibility into the overall project and milestones for achievement.

3. Vertical-specific content

Infor Deployment Method is based on a vertical industry-specific principle, rather than a "one-size-fits-all" approach. Infor provides industry/vertical-specific solutions, along with vertical-specific methodology guidance referenced by Implementation Accelerator views, to deliver pre-configured industry solutions and industry-specific business requirements, business flows, and test scripts.

4. Process modeling and "Action Labs"

Infor has adopted the concept of "Action Labs," which allows us to de-couple the pure business process defining work from the more tactical tasks—for example, determining what data values with which to populate a system.

In reality, this means we will run a series of Business Process Modeling Workshops, i.e., Order to Cash, and then will separately conduct a highly focused Customer Master Action Lab to rapidly define the values for customer codes, status, reporting, etc. With this approach, a client's future state business processes can be defined quickly and efficiently.

5. Value realization

Infor Deployment Method delivers initial support for value realization, which means that specific value targets that are identified during the presales process are carried forward into the actual implementation. This results in implementation projects that deliver rapid, real, and quantifiable value to the customer.

6. Iterative and incremental prototyping

By breaking Phases up into more manageable four to six week iterations, or sprints, we can get working software in front of the customer faster than with traditional implementation approaches.

Key takeaways

In summary, Infor Deployment Method is:

- Scalable across all Infor's products and vertical markets—it's not one method for the masses.

- Effective for both waterfall (a highly disciplined, sequential approach) and agile (a fast, flexible approach) implementation models, as well as a combination of the two.

- Business process driven. It's about business process improvement, not just software.

- Built on industry open standards, such as the Project Management Body of Knowledge (PMBOK), the Software & Systems Process Engineering Metamodel (SPEM), and The Open Group Architecture Framework (TOGAF). This standards-based approach delivers predictable results and lower-cost implementations.

- Risk focused, especially during early iterations of the project lifecycle. Infor Deployment Method helps to assess risks as early as possible to avoid additional costs, time-frame overruns, and overall organizational instability.

About Infor

Infor is fundamentally changing the way information is published and consumed in the enterprise, helping 73,000 customers in more than 200 countries and territories improve operations, drive growth, and quickly adapt to changes in business demands. To learn more about Infor, please visit www.infor.com.

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INFDTP1444578-EN-US-1114-2