

THE 2027 TOP 10

ERP Systems Report

PANORAMA CONSULTING GROUP

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Introduction

What organizations evaluate during an ERP selection has expanded. While a selection still requires careful assessment of the functionality available today, it also requires evaluating the platform's architecture, extensibility, and the credibility of the vendor's product roadmap. Organizations are not only buying what a vendor has already built; they are also committing to a platform that must continue to support their operating model as requirements and technology evolve.

The expectations placed on a modern ERP platform have risen accordingly. In particular, more buyers are asking whether a system can execute autonomous processes and produce an "explainable" output.

The 2027 Top 10 ERP Systems Report is grounded in Panorama's hands-on advisory experience, from scripted software demonstrations through implementation oversight. The report provides an objective overview of leading solutions, with particular attention to three factors that separate platforms once the feature checklists begin to converge:

- How each handles AI embedded in core workflows
- How each behaves inside a multi-entity, multi-country operating model
- How far each can be extended before it falls outside the vendor's supported upgrade path

Every organization's requirements differ, and the right system is the one that fits the business model and the operating reality behind it.



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The Top 10 ERP Systems

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Acumatica

The Cloud ERP

Quick Facts:

Headquarters:
Bellevue, WA

Ownership:
Private

Founded:
2008

Acumatica Cloud ERP

Acumatica provides a cloud-based ERP with micro-vertical functionality designed for small and mid-sized businesses. It integrates various business functions, including Financial Management, Customer Management (CRM), Manufacturing, Distribution, and more.

- Prepayment invoices raised from a purchase order apply automatically to the final payables bill, with VAT recognized at payment and reversed when the bill is applied.
- Directed put-away recommends locations from rules defined per warehouse, and pickers can override the suggestion at the point of picking.
- The Shop Floor Kiosk captures clock-in, production reporting, scrap, and lot or serial data at the work center through a touch-optimized interface.
- Construction change orders can release the cost portion before the revenue portion receives owner approval, with dedicated owner-approval statuses on the change order.
- AI Studio lets users build LLM-powered automations without code, connecting to Azure OpenAI, AWS Bedrock, OpenAI, and Anthropic.
- Sensitive-field masking removes account numbers and pricing from the data sent to the model.



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EPICOR

Quick Facts:

Headquarters:
Austin, TX

Ownership:
Private

Founded:
1972

Epicor Kinetic

Epicor Kinetic is a modular, industry-focused ERP platform with deep vertical functionality for manufacturing, distribution, retail, automotive, and building supply.

- Kinetic runs entirely in the browser from release 2026.100, retiring the Kinetic Smart Client desktop interface.
- Release 2026.100 separates shop load data from the MRP scheduling run, letting teams sequence planning workloads independently and fit them into narrower operational windows.
- Epicor Prism Business Communications reads supplier email threads and maps lead time, cost, and part identifiers into Kinetic.
- The Grow Data Platform's Pipeline Canvas lets users build and modify the data feeds behind Epicor's BI and AI applications without code.
- Epicor Quick Ship quotes and books parcel and less-than-truckload shipments from inside Kinetic, adding the ten largest US LTL carriers and customers' own negotiated carrier accounts in the 2025.1 release.



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Quick Facts:

Headquarters:
London, UK (founded in Linköping, Sweden)

Ownership:
Private

Founded:
1983

IFS Cloud

IFS ERP is one part of a unified and complete solution (IFS Cloud). IFS Cloud's single centralized platform provides ERP capabilities as well as Enterprise Asset Management and Service Management capabilities.

- MRP Simulation tests demand, supply, lead-time, and capacity changes against live MRP logic without altering execution plans.
- First Article Inspection captures measurements, results, and approvals in a single record to support release to production.
- Permit-to-work links permits, safety requirements, and work tasks with conflict checks and controlled permit extensions, so work cannot start without the correct authorization.
- Service and Contractor Execution Portals apply one service execution process to internal technicians and external contractors.
- Maintenance Warehouse Efficiency releases picks in waves consolidated by warehouse zone, with two-stage picking for high-volume fulfillment windows.
- IFS Loops Digital Workers run inside everyday transactions, including a Customer Order Manager, a Supplier Order Manager, and an Inventory Replenisher that monitors and replenishes stock.



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Quick Facts:

Headquarters:
Atlanta, GA

Ownership:
Private

Founded:
2002

Infor CloudSuite

Infor CloudSuite ERPs are AI-powered and industry-specific. They are designed to streamline operations across manufacturing, distribution, healthcare, and government.

- Advanced Line Entry consolidates availability, substitutes, upsells, pricing, and sourcing data onto a single screen.
- Infor WMS Pick Path Optimization routes pickers using machine learning and real-time signals, delivered to customers subscribed to Infor Velocity Suite.
- Infor Industry AI Agents provide role- and process-specific agents across manufacturing, distribution, and service industries.
- Infor EPM automates financial consolidation across multiple entities, currencies, and charts of accounts, supporting local GAAP and IFRS reporting from the same close.
- Infor Mongoose lets CloudSuite Industrial customers add fields, personalize screens, and hide data by role without modifying source code or breaking multi-tenant upgrades.



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Microsoft

Quick Facts:

Headquarters:
Redmond, WA

Ownership:
Public

Founded:
1975

Microsoft Dynamics 365

Microsoft Dynamics 365 is a portfolio of intelligent business applications. Businesses can connect Dynamics 365 applications with the systems and tools they already use to add and extend capabilities.

Dynamics 365 Finance & Supply Chain Management

- Business performance analytics transforms finance and operations transactional data into dimensional models, connecting those models to an existing data warehouse through Microsoft Fabric shortcuts.
- Financial planning for Dynamics 365 Finance runs inside Power BI, writing budget figures back to the Finance budget register.
- Warehouse work classification evaluates Power Fx expressions dynamically.

Dynamics 365 Business Central

- The Payables Agent monitors a designated Microsoft 365 mailbox, extracts invoice data from vendor PDFs, and drafts purchase invoices for review.
- A Model Context Protocol server exposes Business Central data and actions to external AI tools.



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ORACLE

ORACLE NetSuite

Quick Facts:

Headquarters:
Austin, TX

Ownership:
Public

Founded:
1977

Oracle Fusion Cloud ERP and NetSuite

Oracle Fusion Cloud ERP is a complete cloud ERP suite of SaaS applications with embedded artificial intelligence for automating, standardizing, and integrating processes and data. NetSuite is Oracle's mid-market cloud suite.

Oracle Fusion Cloud ERP

- The Payables Agent reads uploaded business-policy documents and generates application policies that populate missing invoice attributes, screening each imported invoice against defined anomaly criteria.
- Country-specific statutory reporting ships as part of the quarterly release rather than as a separate localization project, with Poland's JPK accounting books extract and Brazilian local-currency fiscal documents added in 26C.
- Inventory Optimization Planning models service-level risk and safety stock requirements across the network and recommends where inventory should sit.

NetSuite

- NetSuite Intelligent Close Manager tracks close tasks, trends, and variances, shows the net income impact of each, and drills into the underlying transactions.
- NetSuite Exception Management flags changes to critical vendor data made close to a payment event, surfacing potential payment fraud before funds move.
- The NetSuite AI Connector Service connects external AI tools to NetSuite and ships with preconfigured roles for CFO, controller, AR/AP analyst, and treasury.

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Priority

Quick Facts:

Headquarters:
Rosh Ha'ayin, Israel

Ownership:
Private

Founded:
1986

Priority ERP

Priority is a cloud ERP for small and mid-sized organizations, covering financials, manufacturing, warehouse management, CRM, project management, and retail operations in a single platform.

- MRP calculates purchasing and production quantities from forecasts, orders, safety stock, lead time, and work in progress, with an available-to-promise check.
- Engineering change orders tie part and bill of materials revisions together and track which work orders each change affects.
- Priority's warehouse management system optimizes waves for picking, put-away, and replenishment across warehouses and bins.
- The Proof of Delivery mobile application captures delivery signatures and records undelivered goods and returns, operating offline.
- The Financial Management module's billing engine supports project-based, recurring, and delivery-based billing, alongside revenue recognition.
- The aiERP Companion and module-level AI agents run across finance, sales, and supply chain, covering journal entry creation, invoice processing, and purchase order generation.



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Quick Facts:

Headquarters:
Newcastle upon Tyne, England

Ownership:
Public

Founded:
1981

Sage X3

Sage X3 is an ERP system for mid-sized manufacturers and distributors, covering finance, supply chain, manufacturing, and quality, with multi-company and multi-legislation operation built into the core.

- Multi-company, multi-site, and multi-legislation operation runs from a single database, with arm's-length intercompany transactions and inter-site planning and transfers as standard architecture.
- Sage Copilot answers natural-language questions across finance, sales, and operations, with a Sales Intelligence Agent that flags overdue orders, delayed shipments, and declining demand.
- AI-driven accounts payable automation captures, classifies, and matches vendor invoices.
- Sage Business Reporting brings live Sage X3 data into Excel for self-service report building.
- Sage X3 Builder configures workflows and screens without code and exposes a native GraphQL API layer for integration.
- Quality control applies inspection and control-plan transactions at receipt, production, and status change, with a dedicated non-conformance function for logging incidents.

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Quick Facts:

Headquarters:
Walldorf, Germany

Ownership:
Public

Founded:
1972

SAP S/4HANA

SAP S/4HANA is an ERP system that combines core business processes with embedded analytics and automation. It supports finance, supply chain, and other operational areas with real-time data and AI-driven tools.

- SAP Document AI can extract payment amounts, references, and currencies from payment advices across formats and languages in SAP S/4HANA Cloud Public Edition.
- SAP Document AI can also propose a sales order request from a PDF or image purchase order in SAP S/4HANA Cloud Public Edition.
- SAP Document and Reporting Compliance generates, validates, and exchanges electronic documents and statutory reports from a single framework rather than country-by-country point solutions.
- The clean core model routes extensions either on-stack through ABAP Cloud against stability-contracted public APIs or side-by-side on SAP BTP, classifying each extension into compliance levels A through D.



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Quick Facts:

Headquarters:
Pleasanton, CA

Ownership:
Public

Founded:
2005

Workday

Natively built for cloud delivery, Workday provides enterprise management cloud applications that help organizations manage their finance, human resources, and planning processes in a single system.

- Accounting Center ingests high-volume operational and external data and transforms it into accounting entries in the Workday ledger.
- Workday Spend Management covers strategic sourcing, supplier management, procure-to-pay, expenses, and vendor management.
- Native payroll runs in the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom and Ireland, France, and Australia, with other countries covered by Workday Payroll provided by Strada and by certified partner integrations.
- Workday Adaptive Planning holds FedRAMP Moderate authorization, achieved in July 2026 and delivered through Workday Government, a wholly owned subsidiary.
- Workday Data Cloud gives external analytics platforms governed, zero-copy access to Workday human resources and finance data, built on Apache Iceberg with Snowflake and Google BigQuery as partners.
- The Sana Self-Service Agent answers employee questions on pay, time, and absence through Workday's conversational interface.



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ERP Considerations for Agentic AI Governance

Leading ERP vendors are beginning to introduce agentic AI capabilities into transactional workflows. Agentic AI does not stop at recommending an action but pursues an assigned goal across multiple steps.

This type of AI requires stronger governance than the copilots and predictive tools already embedded in most platforms. An agent's actions land in the system of record rather than in a recommendation a person is free to ignore.

For example, a forecasting tool that flags a likely stockout leaves the planner to decide what to do about it, while an agent handed the same signal releases the purchase order and commits cash against a record.

Before evaluating how a vendor handles agentic capability, it is worth thinking about the following considerations:

1. The Boundary Between Recommendation and Execution

The first governance decision is structural.

Every agentic capability in a platform sits somewhere on a line between surfacing a recommendation a person acts on and completing a transaction on its own. Vendors do not always describe that position plainly in a demonstration.

Ask where each capability sits today and where the roadmap intends to move it, because a feature shown as advisory may be designed to become autonomous in a later release.

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2. Identity and Authorization for Non-Human Actors

Traditional ERP security models assume a named user behind every posting. An agent operating under a shared service account collapses that assumption and makes it difficult to establish who authorized a given action.

Look for platforms that issue agents their own identities and scope their permissions the way a role would be scoped for an employee, so that an agent's authority can be narrowed or revoked without disturbing the people who share its function.

3. Audit Trails That Include the Agent's Reasoning

An audit trail that records what an agent did is necessary but not sufficient. When a controller is asked why a purchase order was released against a supplier that had already been flagged, the answer must include the inputs the agent weighed and the rule or model that produced the decision.

We recommend testing audit trails during the demonstration by asking the vendor to trace one completed agentic action back to its inputs in real time.

4. Escalation Paths and Exception Handling

Agentic value concentrates in routine, high-volume work, which often means that a person's view of a process is just the exceptions (the cases the agent could not resolve).

Deciding who handles exceptions is the organization's responsibility, but the platform determines whether that design can be implemented. A platform that logs a failure and stops requires someone to reconstruct what the agent was attempting, while a platform that escalates with the agent's inputs and its attempted resolution intact allows the work to resume efficiently.

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5. Where Agents Should Not Go First

The most common mistake we see is treating agentic deployment as a technology rollout sequenced by what is technically available rather than by what the organization can afford to get wrong.

Processes that are reversible and observable within a single cycle, such as internal requisition routing, tolerate early agentic automation. However, processes that touch statutory reporting or regulated product records may be better candidates for later automation because an error there may surface late and be expensive to unwind.

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Clean Core and the Return of the Customization Question

AI-assisted development has recently made writing an ERP extension far cheaper. However, it hasn't changed what it costs to keep an extension working through every release that follows.

The following considerations should determine where an organization draws the line between extending a platform and undermining it:

1. Why Vendors Hardened the Clean Core Position

Continuous delivery only works if the vendor can update the core without breaking what customers have built on top of it. Every modification made inside the core becomes something the vendor must either preserve or break at the next release, and across a large customer base that obligation becomes untenable.

Understanding this explains vendor behavior that can otherwise feel arbitrary during a selection, including a reluctance to commit to modifications that a sales team would have agreed to without hesitation under a perpetual license.

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2. What Actually Changed on the Buyer's Side

AI-assisted development has collapsed the time required to produce working code, so internal teams now deliver extensions in weeks. While the cost of producing the code fell sharply, the cost of owning it did not move at all.

An extension still has to be validated against every release and understood by whoever inherits it after its author changes roles. Organizations are therefore accumulating extension debt faster than they ever have, and they are doing it with less deliberation, because each individual decision now looks inexpensive.

3. Not All Extensibility Frameworks Are Equivalent

Every vendor in this report will describe its platform as extensible, but the word covers meaningfully different architectures. Some extensions run alongside the core against versioned, supported interfaces, while others reach into core objects in ways the vendor cannot guarantee from one release to the next.

Ask what the vendor commits to contractually regarding interface stability, and ask what has actually happened to customer extensions during the last two major releases.

4. The Cost That Arrives Later

Extension debt does not announce itself during implementation, when everything is new and the people who built it are still in their seats. It appears at the first significant upgrade, when a modification nobody documented fails validation and the organization discovers it has been depending on something it cannot explain.

For example, a mid-sized distributor that builds a set of pricing extensions during implementation may find at its first major release upgrade that validating and repairing them costs more than the original build did. This quietly converts a one-time project decision into a permanent operating expense.

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5. “We Can Build That” Should Be a Risk Flag During Selection

The failure pattern we see most often begins well before any code exists. A requirement the platform does not meet is closed out during evaluation with an assurance that it can be built, which resolves the scorecard without resolving the requirement. The gap resurfaces during implementation with less time available and a budget already committed.

We recommend recording every requirement closed this way as an open item with a named owner and an estimated cost of ownership. This ensures that the accumulated weight of those decisions is visible before a contract is signed rather than after.

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Conclusion

ERP selection now evaluates both what the product can demonstrably deliver today and whether the vendor's roadmap can support the organization's future operating model.

Once vendors with material functional gaps have been eliminated, finalists often converge on core functionality. At that stage, cost, implementation risk, usability, architecture, and the delivery team frequently become decisive.

Panorama's independent ERP consultants support organizations through exactly these decisions. We are technology agnostic and hold no vendor affiliations, which means our role is to pressure-test what vendors claim and to negotiate agreements that protect value across the full life of the system.

For guidance aligned with your business model and digital roadmap, connect with our team below.

Click the Button Below to Schedule Your **Free Consultation**
With an ERP Systems Expert Today!

FREE CONSULTATION

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About Panorama Consulting Group

Panorama Consulting Group is an independent, niche consulting firm specializing in business transformation and ERP system implementations for mid- to large-sized private- and public-sector organizations worldwide. One-hundred percent technology agnostic and independent of vendor affiliation, Panorama offers a phased, top-down strategic alignment approach and a bottom-up tactical approach, enabling each client to achieve its unique business transformation objectives by transforming its people, processes and technology.

Panorama's Services

(click to learn more)

- AI Readiness and Enablement
- ERP Selection
- ERP Implementation
- ERP Contract Negotiation
- Cloud Migration
- Digital Strategy
- Change Management
- Business Process Management
- M&A Integration
- ERP Audit & Recovery
- Software Expert Witness

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