

## Getting Bang for Your Infor Buck With Bridgelogix

by *Simon Jacobson*

**T**he current economy is changing the approach and timing of investments in next-generation business systems. A large percentage of CFOs and CIOs are working together to evaluate ways to stretch existing investments. One common way is to delay system upgrades or replacements; many IT projects are subsequently frozen at midsize companies. Until the market thaws, there's an opportunity for companies that can help extend the life and value of incumbent systems.

Remember when the last bubble burst? **Bridgelogix** was a friend to manufacturers then, helping many **Baan** customers extend lean beyond the production environment. While Baan's ownership has changed hands from **SSA Global** to **Infor**, Bridgelogix's focus has not. The company is still laser focused on streamlining the logistics, execution, and traceability processes that span receiving, manufacture, and shipping. The company also extends those processes out to suppliers and customers with ASN and kanban support.

Consider these accomplishments:

- **Juno Lighting's** Bridge2Barcode deployment in the warehouse at one site helped drive 40% productivity gains. Additionally, the company extended access to the product to one supplier to manage its inventory, resulting in \$50,000 in savings.
- One division within a large aircraft manufacturer was able to reallocate 75% of shipping and receiving head count back into the production environment.
- Automotive parts supplier **Inalfa** unearthed \$30,000 in cost savings by closing the chasm between physical and perpetual inventory levels. This accuracy not only supports the company's

build and ship to sequence capabilities, but has also helped it shift from quarterly to annual inventory audits. Inalfa is also using Bridgelogix to support MMOG/LE-specific label printing to meet the compliance requirements of one of its OEM customers.

In today's uncertain climate, Bridgelogix should continue to be a friend to manufacturers, but to Infor as well. If anything, the company's 250 customers and expanding global presence through an embryonic reseller channel put it in a position to assist once again and help companies adapt IT support for agile and dynamic business processes with a targeted blend of data collection and processing software and services.

Bridgelogix's exclusive focus on Infor ERP products (ERP Baan, Infor ERP LN, Infor BPCS, Infor ERP PRMS, and Infor ERP LX) should make the company an attractive partner for providing joint applications to streamline multiple ERP transactions into single steps that bring flexibility without customization or reimplementation. This will not only help buy some more years on Baan, but also save the CFO and CIO the headaches of dealing with a system upgrade or replacement, as well as bolster supply chain performance in a downturn.