



The Computerworld Honors Program

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Final Copy of Case Study

Status:

Laureate

Year:

2013

Organization Name:

Infor

Organization URL:

www.infor.com

Project Name:

Infor Partners with Habitat for Humanity to Help Build Affordable Housing

Please select the category in which you are submitting your entry:

Philanthropy

Please provide an overview of the nominated project. Describe the problem it was intended to solve, the technology or approach used, how it was innovative and any technical or other challenges that had to be overcome for successful implementation and adoption. (In 300 words or less.)

Infor partners with Habitat for Humanity by donating technology and services to help build homes for families throughout the United States and abroad. Habitat for Humanity utilizes numerous Infor products including Infor SunSystems for financials and Infor ION technology. ION enables seamless integration between Infor and third-party applications, creating an end-to-end business solution to help Habitat for Humanity effectively manage its global finance and accounting operations. The organization is currently in the process of implementing the Infor Office of the CFO suite, which includes Infor Corporate Performance Management for budgeting and forecasting and Infor Expense Management. These products are provided to Habitat for Humanity for free or at a significantly

reduced price, in combination with solution architectural and design support from Infor. Habitat for Humanity has standardized its global locations on Infor solutions, enabling company-wide visibility into costs and in-depth analysis and forecasting to facilitate improved, more informed business budgeting decisions. In addition to donating its products, Infor partners with Habitat through its Volunteer Build Program and Employee Giving Campaign, launched in February 2012. The Volunteer Build Program gives Infor employees the opportunity to work at a local build site to help provide affordable housing for families in their area. Infor has helped to complete ten builds thus far, with the next volunteer site scheduled to take place in Bangalore, India. Infor employees were also given the opportunity to participate in this year's Annual Global Village Build, a nine-day building project with Habitat for Humanity in La Gallina, Nicaragua. As part of the Employee Giving Campaign, Infor will match employee donations to Habitat for Humanity up to \$500,000 total for all contributions.

When was this project implemented or last updated? (Please specify month and year.) Has it incorporated new technologies and/or other innovations since its initial deployment? (In 300 words or less.)

Habitat for Humanity has utilized Infor technology for more than 10 years, but made the decision to expand its solution set to include the Office of the CFO suite in November 2011. Infor is working with Habitat for Humanity to develop a "solution in a box" that will operate as a lower cost, highly efficient Office of the CFO solution to enable global visibility from headquarters and easier sharing of information, and create a highly functioning, consistent infrastructure across 51 locations and 1,500 users in 28 different countries. Infor and Habitat for Humanity are currently in the process of developing and deploying this solution.

Is implementation of the project complete? If no, please describe the project's phases and which phase the project is now in. (In 300 words or less.)

The implementation of the Infor Office of the CFO suite is still in progress and scheduled for completion in November 2013. The phases of the project include: Upgrading Habitat for Humanity sites using Infor SunSystems to the latest released version. Deploying Infor SunSystems at additional offices to more users. Upgrading the financial solution set to the Infor Office of the CFO suite across all Habitat for Humanity locations, which includes Infor Corporate Performance Management for budgeting and forecasting, and Infor Expense Management. Migrating all historic Habitat for Humanity SunSystems installations, which were individually deployed in each country, to a centralized deployment based out of the headquarters location in Atlanta, Georgia. Thus far, 11 out of 13 target countries are now live on the latest version of Infor SunSystems. Additional functionality including accounts payable, fixed assets, and electronic funds



transfer applications have been implemented at these locations as well. The project's deployment of Infor SunSystems was accomplished through the use of a global model with localization options. This allows Habitat for Humanity to manage its global reporting from a consistent base, while still providing countries with necessary additional functionality on an individual basis. Habitat for Humanity is also utilizing the Infor Enterprise Performance Accelerator Kit (EPAK), a training tool that establishes an environment for employees to become familiar with the system prior to using it in day-to-day activities. Infor EPAK will allow Habitat to translate training courses into multiple languages to accommodate users at each of its locations. The next phase of the Office of the CFO suite implementation is scheduled to begin in March 2013.

Please provide at least one example of how the technology project has benefited a specific individual or organization. Feel free to include personal quotes from individuals who have directly benefited from the work. (In 300 words or less.)

Infor technology impacts the daily operations of Habitat for Humanity around the world. By enabling the organization to increase the efficiency of its financial processes, Infor technology allows Habitat for Humanity to reduce internal expenses and allocate more funding for building homes. "Corporate citizenship is a top priority for Infor, and through our partnership with Habitat for Humanity we are giving back to select communities around the world by lining up Infor resources – people, time and funding – to make a difference," said Charles Phillips, CEO of Infor. "We are both proud and excited to be working with and supporting our customer, Habitat for Humanity, in its noble cause to provide decent housing solutions and build communities that spread goodwill, dignity and hope." "Our corporate partners provide the invaluable support that makes it possible for us to provide housing in partnership with families in need," said Kymberly Wolff, senior vice president of development for Habitat for Humanity International. "We are pleased to partner with Infor, and look forward to working together as they join us in building simple, decent and affordable housing."

Would this project be considered an innovation, a best practice or other notable advancement that could be adopted by or tailored for other organizations and uses? If yes, please describe that here. (In 300 words or less.)

This project is a best practice that other large technology companies could emulate to provide solutions and services to non-profit organizations like Habitat for Humanity. By donating products that help to reduce operational costs and identify potential savings areas, companies like Infor can help to alleviate overhead, so that money is spent where it is needed, helping communities and families around the world.