

F9's New License Model is Built for the Cloud



Infor is a global enterprise leader in business cloud software and a strategic technology partner for more than 68,000+ Enterprise and SMB companies. From Manufacturing to Healthcare to Retail and Fashion, Infor covers all industries and provides end-to-end ERP solutions brought together by artificial intelligence technology.



CHALLENGE

- Modernize current licensing capabilities
- Add support for new SaaS monetization models
- Recapture lost revenue



SOLUTION

- Centralized end-to-end monetization platform
- SDK-based licensing solution
- Self-service customer portal



BENEFITS

- Better visibility into product usage
- Reduced time to resolve licensing issues
- Common licensing solution across products

“With Flexera, our development team could not have imagined working with a better partner; their support and resources exceeded expectations. The new F9 licensing solution was a real team effort and our success is mutual.”

JENNIFER HARRIS
—DEVELOPMENT MANAGER, INFOR F9

Business Challenge

F9, an independent business unit of Infor, provides comprehensive financial reporting and analytics. Their robust financial solution streamlines reporting, linking Microsoft Excel® with enterprise organizations. F9 provides speed, flexibility and ease of use to more than 35,000 customers and over 150 ERPs.

F9 was limited by a legacy licensing solution that was not evolving with their needs and didn't deliver the customer experience they desired. With an eye to the future they determined a new solution was needed, based on key business drivers:

NEW MONETIZATION AND DEPLOYMENT MODELS.

A growing number of F9's ERP solutions have moved to SaaS. Consistent with this, support for subscription licensing was a high priority.

CUSTOMER GROWTH. The ability to offer new pricing and functionality within their next major release was required, allowing F9 to strengthen their competitive position.

BETTER VISIBILITY. F9 needed a clear view of who was purchasing, activating and reactivating licenses, a capability that was difficult to implement in their legacy solution. Tracking users and the devices F9 was running on was challenging to support.

IMPROVED CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE. A reliable and user-friendly customer portal was required to allow self-activation and reduce license-related support issues. Providing a more transparent licensing interface would be beneficial to both our customers and ERP partners.

Solution

Engineering teams from F9 and Flexera collaborated closely to rapidly implement Flexera's Software Monetization Platform, including FlexNet Operations for back office entitlement management and FlexNet Embedded to support their licensing requirements.

F9's new monetization system helps their customers by giving them control over their license activities. Customers can easily move from trial to paid licenses, and even deactivate and reactivate as needed. F9 as well as their ERP Partners now have a more detailed view of these activities than was possible with their legacy solution.

Flexera's solution delivered on F9's technical requirements:



PROVEN. Flexera offered a robust SDK solution and testing portal with the flexibility to support new functionality requirements.



SECURE. F9's intellectual property is protected across multiple platforms.



MODERN. The new solution includes current licensing technologies, such as support for virtual machines, clones and load balanced servers.



R&D DRIVEN. Flexera had the technical expertise and resources to help F9 quickly develop a proof of concept and respond to R&D issues. Flexera was also able to help F9 integrate with Flexera's Electronic Software Delivery solution already used by Infor, F9's parent company.



FLEXIBLE. Flexera's configurable license portal provides a powerful set of online features, enabling F9 to design and setup access for different levels of staff as well as customers and ERP partners.



Business Outlook

With the Flexera solution, Infor F9 now has an automated end-to-end monetization platform that is centralized and has resulted in reduced complexity and costs for back office administration.

F9 has a quantified view of product usage and has seen reductions in the time needed to resolve licensing issues. F9 can look to recapture lost revenues that resulted from limitations of the older licensing and device usage accuracy.

Their Infor-branded customer and partner portals are delivering new self-service and license management capabilities.

ERP partners are very pleased with the new portal; they can login and view their customers' usage data and foresee significantly less licensing support issues. With the new SaaS licensing option, customers can opt to purchase F9 for a fixed term, which fits well for hosting.

F9 has successfully completed the new release rollout across its 17 core products with plans to retire its legacy license model and migrate the older version of products to the new licensing platform.

NEXT STEP

See how Flexera can help reinvent your licensing solution.

[Learn More](#)

BECOME A DIGITAL LEADER

Flexera's solutions help software and IoT companies build and deliver secure products while protecting their IP. We enable them to implement modern and flexible monetization models, drive recurring revenue and increase customer satisfaction.

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