

# Atrium Centralizes Global IT Systems Using Syntax Managed Services and Cloud Computing



## Challenge

Standardize and integrate IT systems across newly acquired companies while minimizing up-front infrastructure and staff investments.

## Syntax Solutions

- Syntax Enterprise Cloud for JD Edwards
- Remote Managed Services

## Benefits

- Unified data for a complete business picture
- Global enterprise resource planning (ERP) capabilities
- Regulatory compliance across company divisions
- Ability to focus on core business, not IT infrastructure

Atrium Innovations is at the forefront of science and innovation in the dietary supplement industry, with seven manufacturing facilities in North America and Europe and strong sales through healthcare practitioners and health food stores. As part of its growth plan, Atrium acquired several companies over a ten-year period and organized them as new divisions.

But growth came with IT and business challenges.

## Addressing Business Expansion and Regulatory Growth

Each of the new divisions had its own servers, business software and networks, and most of these unique IT environments could not easily communicate with one another or with headquarters. "The diverse systems made it difficult to compare sales, profitability or other metrics across the different divisions," says Don Luby, VP of information technology at Atrium.

**||** *We think of Syntax as a 24/7, integrated extension of our own IT department."*

Don Luby • VP of Information Technology • Atrium Innovations, Inc.

Additionally, growing regulatory requirements for supplements underscored the need to ensure consistent compliance across all divisions. "Proving compliance is much more difficult if you have multiple locations with different systems that are not integrated or talking to each other," says Luby. "You have to go through compliance processes multiple times, which consumes resources."

## Creating an Integrated, Global System

The IT group decided to integrate all of the environments without growing its infrastructure staff and building new data center capabilities. "It is difficult and expensive to find and retain staff with the right skill sets, and then you only need those skills for brief bursts of time," says Luby. "We realized that if we wanted an integrated system and global model, we needed world-class hosting and a managed infrastructure."



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**“Atrium no longer has to worry about backups, firmware updates or the stability and reliability of their environments. Whether it’s JD Edwards or their extended infrastructure, Syntax is staffed with industry experts focused on managing and supporting their IT environment, so Atrium can be totally focused on what matters most—running their business.”**

Kenny Etinson • Vice President • Syntax

### About Syntax

Since 1972, Syntax has been providing comprehensive technology solutions to businesses of all sizes throughout North America. At Syntax we partner with IBM, Oracle and other world-class technology leaders to deliver the best combination of hardware, software, cloud and hosting solutions and services for our customers.

### About Atrium

Atrium Innovations Inc. is a globally recognized leader in the development, manufacturing and commercialization of innovative, science-based dietary supplements endorsed by health professionals. The company distributes its extensive portfolio of products in North America and Europe. Atrium has over 1,100 employees and operates seven manufacturing facilities.

Atrium compared managed services vendors and chose Syntax for its successful track record and customer-centric approach. Once chosen, Syntax helped Atrium select a hosting facility and transfer workloads to the new location. **“Syntax’s pre-Go Live stress tests contributed greatly to a successful rollout,”** says Luby.

Syntax now provides Atrium with globally accessible cloud computing and managed services for more than 200 servers at the hosting site, including IBM Power i and blade environments. Applications managed by Syntax at the data center include Oracle JD Edwards EnterpriseOne as well as Oracle business intelligence and reporting solutions and soon budgeting.

### Eliminating Information Silos and Reducing Costs

In addition to providing in-depth ERP functions, JD Edwards and Syntax will eliminate information silos, leading to centralized data for a complete picture of the business. Automation built into the applications streamlines processes and can control the costs of an expanding footprint of applications and facilities.

Installing a Global Model and centralizing its systems using Syntax as a managed service provider also helps Atrium achieve and sustain regulatory compliance. **“Syntax worked closely with us to achieve FDA system validation,”** says Luby. **“Now, as an FDA system-validated and centralized system, we need only go through an incremental validation qualification at each additional site.”**

Atrium is well on its way to a fully integrated infrastructure, with Syntax currently helping the company to consolidate servers and implement a standardized communications network, says Luby. **“Syntax services and expertise have helped us manage all of our divisions based on unified information—and more importantly, produce a safe, effective product for the marketplace.”**

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