

**Aptean Food & Beverage ERP** 

# Now is the Time to Embrace ERP for Business Transformation

Software solutions push the produce industry forward





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For fresh produce businesses like yours, 2020 was particularly tough—what might have been a time to accelerate and grow was instead a difficult period of uncertainty and adaptation.

On our blog, we've <u>examined several trends going into 2021</u> and noted how important enterprise resource planning (ERP) solutions are for food producers. Now that the reality of the pandemic has set in, it's time to revisit ERP and how the right system can ensure the short- and long-term health of your company.

## The ERP Difference

Hindsight is 20/20, but it's worth asking the question: Would an ERP solution have reduced the burden of the pandemic on your business? Let's examine some of the obstacles that COVID-19 brought about, as well as the benefits of industry-specific ERP software that keeps companies like yours in the position to succeed, no matter the circumstances.

#### **Adapting to Changing Demand**

The first few months of the outbreak brought about a significant <u>shift in consumer demand</u> in the food industry and the produce sector was among those most affected. With restaurants closed, <u>shoppers flocked to retail</u>, and supermarkets reacted by <u>streamlining their product ranges</u> to favor abundance over choice. ERP software built for food businesses can drastically improve a produce grower's ability to react to changes like this in two ways:

- Consignment tracking features smooth transitions in demand, even when serving new markets
- Intelligent data interpretation provides actionable insights based on complete data, analyzed in real time

#### **Managing Warehouse and Packhouse Logistics**

With far more stringent hygiene and sanitation protocols and the aforementioned skewing of demand, fresh produce businesses had to react quickly to adapt operations and capitalize on the new focus on retail.

An ERP solution helps keep companies nimble with the following features:

- Forecasting tools that take advantage of comprehensive information can produce accurate sales forecasts, which lead to appropriate production forecasts and personalized daily profiles for staff
- Pallet management functions give you complete visibility over all the goods in your warehouse, allow for quality monitoring and eliminate paperwork in favor of a single digital platform
- *Mobile solutions* keep everyone connected to the system and able to complete their responsibilities, even if regulations prevent them from being at your facilities

#### **Cloud Technology**

Was your business caught in the unfortunate position of operating with only on-site systems during a period of lockdown? If so, we don't have to describe the logistical nightmares that can come from locally hosted platforms.

Cloud ERP solutions are the key, now and going forward. When all users need for access is an internet connection and a web browser, completing tasks and monitoring progress from home is possible. That keeps your business progressing with uncompromised agility no matter the circumstances.

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### The Time to Implement is Now

The world is far from "back to normal" in 2021. That being said, those companies that were able to weather the storm have likely now adapted to conducting business with new health and safety measures in place.

Whether this year sees businesses resuming normal operations remains to be seen, but produce growers that want to be ready for whatever may come next should act quickly to find the right industry-specific ERP solution if they haven't already done so.

Whether there's a crisis or relative calm, the benefits of these systems are clear. <u>Contact us</u> to learn why Aptean Food & Beverage ERP is the perfect fit for your produce business.





## Are You Ready to Learn More?

Interested to see how Aptean Food & Beverage ERP can help you better manage your food company?

Contact us at **info@aptean.com** or visit **www.aptean.com**.





#### **About Aptean**

Aptean is one of the world's leading providers of industry-specific software. Our enterprise resource planning and supply chain solutions are uniquely designed to meet the needs of specialized manufacturers and distributors, while our compliance solutions serve specific markets such as finance and life sciences. With both cloud and on-premise deployment options, Aptean's products, services and unmatched expertise help businesses of all sizes, across many industries, to scale and succeed.

For more information, visit www.aptean.com.