Monthly License Comparison

Manufacturing systems, priced by company size — November 2026

Max Business System (MBS) is a complete business platform built on Odoo — the open business platform with 28M users and 21,000 partners worldwide — and priced the way small and mid-size manufacturers actually buy: one flat monthly price per site, unlimited users. The systems it is compared against here license per user, so their cost climbs with every hire. Features and new capabilities are prewired and turned on by configuration rather than extensive IT projects.

Monthly license cost, by company size

Single site, US list prices. MBS is flat per site with unlimited users; the competitors license per user, so their columns grow with headcount.

System	10 users	20 users	30 users
Max Business System (MBS)	**$2,999**	**$2,999**	**$2,999**
Business Central — Premium	$1,100	$2,200	$3,300
NetSuite	~$2,500	~$4,000	~$5,500
Acumatica	~$2,100–3,500	~$2,100–3,500	~$2,100–3,500
Epicor Kinetic	~$3,000	~$4,500	~$6,000

Business Central Premium is $110 per user per month (Essentials is $80; Premium adds exactly Manufacturing and Service Management). At 30 users Business Central Premium passes MBS — before any add-on modules are counted.

What that price covers

- **Max Business System —** Full suite included — manufacturing, MES, PLM, Quality/VSM and CMMS surfaces are part of the $2,999. Odoo and Microsoft 365 subscriptions are not included. Data charges are not included.
- **MBS eCommerce —** Website and eCommerce support is a $999/mo add-on on top of the $2,999 (MBS fully loaded: $3,998/month).
- **Business Central Premium —** Manufacturing and Service Management are native. Quality is partial, MES is partial (production posting only), and PLM and CMMS are not native — they are filled by paid add-ons and third-party apps on top of the license line above.
- **NetSuite —** Core platform plus roughly $149 per user. Advanced Manufacturing, Quality, WMS and CMMS are all separate modules, each priced on top of the figures above.
- **Acumatica —** Unlimited users, which is why its column is flat. The Manufacturing Edition includes production, quality and engineering change control; CMMS is partial.

- **Epicor Kinetic —** The deepest native manufacturing of the group — and priced like it. MES, QMS and PLM are separate Epicor products on top of the Kinetic license.

Note: MBS surfaces included; Max MES and Max Quality & VSM Tools are also available as standalone deep editions.

Implementation

One-time implementation cost, as typically quoted for a small manufacturer:

System	Implementation
Max Business System	**$0**
Business Central	$40K–$100K+ (partner implementation)
NetSuite	$25K–$75K (manufacturing)
Acumatica	$40K–$70K (small manufacturer)
Epicor Kinetic	$75K–$300K

The crossover

- At 10 users MBS costs $300 per head; at 20 users, $150 per head; at 30 users, $100 per head. The flat price does not move — the per-head cost falls with every hire.
- Business Central Premium reaches the MBS price at roughly 27 Premium users ($110 × 27 ≈ $2,999). Past that point the per-user system costs more every month — and that is before the add-on modules needed to match the MBS suite are counted.
- Per-user licensing also taxes growth in smaller ways every day: light users, seasonal staff and shop-floor logins all carry a seat cost under a per-user model. Under MBS they do not.

Capability coverage — where the license price is only the floor

The competitor license prices above buy the core. Matching the capability MBS bundles means stacking add-on modules, separate products and third-party apps. Condensed from the surface-by-surface workbook (40 surfaces, 304 subsurfaces, checked November 2026):

Capability	MBS	Business Central	NetSuite	Acumatica	Epicor Kinetic
Manufacturing core (orders, BOMs, work centers)	**Included**	Native — Premium licence	Add-on — Work Orders & Assemblies; full routings/WIP need WIP & Routings / Advanced Manufacturing	Native — Manufacturing Edition	Native — Production Management
Shop floor / MES	**Included**	Partial — production order output/consumption posting only; no dedicated	Add-on — Advanced Manufacturing tablet/WIP data collection	Partial — production data collection & labor entry; full MES via partner apps	Add-on — Epicor MES / Advanced MES (separate product)

Capability	MBS	Business Central	NetSuite	Acumatica	Epicor Kinetic
		shop-floor terminal app (third-party MES apps common)			
PLM & engineering change	**Included**	Partial — BOM/version data only; no PLM product	Partial — basic ECO in manufacturing modules; full PLM via third-party SuiteApps (e.g. Arena PLM)	Native — Engineering Change Control: ECOs, BOM revisions	Add-on — Epicor PLM (separate product): ECO, CAD/PDM
Quality	**Included**	Partial — native Quality Management extension (GA 2026) covers inspection plans, triggered checks and quarantine; full QM — SPC, CAPA, corrective action — still third-party.	Add-on — Quality Management (inspections, tests, nonconformance)	Native — Quality Management (inspections & nonconformance)	Native — Quality Assurance in Kinetic; advanced suite is Epicor QMS (separate cloud product)
Value stream mapping (VSM)	**Included**	Not available — no value-stream mapping tool	Not available — no value-stream mapping tool	Not available — no value-stream mapping tool	Not available — no value-stream mapping tool (lean metrics in MES reporting only)
Maintenance / CMMS	**Included**	Not available — plant maintenance via third-party apps only	Not available — no native CMMS; third-party SuiteApps	Partial — equipment tracked in Field Service/asset records; no dedicated plant-maintenance CMMS module	Native — Maintenance Management (preventive & ad-hoc equipment work)
Repairs & service orders	**Included**	Native — Service Management (Premium)	Add-on — Field Service Management / RMA & case repairs	Native — Field Service / Service Management	Native — Service Management / Field Service

Epicor is the honest exception: the deepest native shop-floor of the group, priced accordingly, with its MES, QMS and PLM still sold as separate products.

Accounting and consolidation

Business Central consolidates natively in both tiers — that is not the difference. The MBS edge is same-record accounting: the close reads live operational data on the same records the business runs on, with no separate consolidation run. One set of records, always current, nothing to reconcile between systems.

Sources and method

US list prices, single site, November 2026. MBS is priced per site per month with unlimited users and a 12-month minimum; competitor figures are license prices per user per month, billed annually, at the tiers named. Competitor figures are license floors: the add-on modules, separate products and third-party apps identified in the capability table are priced on top of them and are typically quoted case by case. Capability verdicts are condensed from the Chiles and Company surface-by-surface comparison workbook (November 13, 2026), checked against vendor and licensing sources. Implementation ranges are typical partner-quoted ranges for small manufacturers.