The ERP II, HR, Supply Chain and Manufacturing Focus Area provides clients with research and advice to help them link and synchronize the internal operations of the enterprise with suppliers, trading partners and customers in order to improve the top and bottom line.

Scope of Coverage
The Focus Area helps our clients with strategic and tactical issues surrounding the use, selection, deployment and maintenance of business applications software and technology that supports administrative and buy-side e-commerce and collaborative-commerce business functions.

Core Topics
Supply Chain Management: Strategies, Applications and Technologies
Research in this core topic helps clients to leverage information technology in their Supply Chain Management (SCM) strategies to achieve business benefit. Specific areas of coverage include supply-chain strategy, supply-chain trends and processes, supply-chain applications and application vendors (including life-cycle and implementation issues).

Engineering and Manufacturing: Strategies, Applications and Technologies
The Engineering and Manufacturing core topic focuses on using IT to increase enterprise productivity and market agility in product design and production management. Strategies to maximize return on a product’s “intellectual capital” and integration of the engineering and production processes within the enterprise and beyond are covered. Collaborative product commerce (CPC), collaborative design, and plant operations including integrated plant systems (IPS) are included in the research.

ERP II: Strategies, Applications and Technologies
Research in this core topic helps clients to leverage information management technology in their enterprise resource planning (ERP) and ERP II strategies to achieve business benefit. Specific areas of coverage include ERP/ERP II strategic planning, trends and processes, best-practices, deployment strategies, process integration, globalization, applications and application vendors (including life-cycle and implementation issues).

Key Issues
- How will engineering applications support current and emerging business models and key business initiatives?
- How will plant operations and engineering technology and architectures evolve?
- How will plant operations and engineering vendors and markets evolve?
- How will successful enterprises select, deploy and manage plant operations and engineering solutions to minimize risk and achieve optimum return on investment (ROI)?
- How will ERP II support current and emerging business models and key business initiatives?
- How will ERP II technology and architecture evolve?
- How will ERP II vendors and markets evolve?
- How will financial business applications technology and architecture evolve?
- How will financial business applications vendors and markets evolve?
- How will financial business applications support current and emerging business models and key business initiatives?
- How will human resources applications support current and emerging business models and key business initiatives?
- How will human resources technology and architecture evolve?
Human Resources: Strategies, Applications and Technologies
Research in this core topic helps clients to leverage information technology in their human capital management (HCM) and human resources (HR) strategies to achieve business benefit. Specific areas of coverage include human resources management systems, human capital management planning, trends and processes, best-practices, deployment, process integration, globalization, applications and application vendors (including life-cycle and implementation issues).

Finance and Accounting Functions: Strategies, Applications and Technologies
Research in this core topic helps clients to leverage information technology in their financial and accounting strategies to achieve business benefit. Specific areas of coverage include core accounting, budgeting/forecasting/planning, finance within ERP and ERP II, finance function best-practices, financial applications and application vendors (including life-cycle and implementation issues).

Recent Spotlights
ERP II, HR, Supply Chain and Manufacturing

- How will human resources vendors and markets evolve?
- How will successful enterprises select, deploy and manage SCP and SCE solutions to minimize risk and achieve optimum ROI?

About Focus Areas
Gartner's breadth and depth of coverage is unsurpassed. Focus Areas are views into Gartner that represent shared interests among our clients. Focus Areas fall into several key categories including Business, Industry, Markets, Technology and Special Reports. Focus Areas evolve as the interests and needs of our clients change. Visit Gartner.com for a complete view of current Focus Areas.