# NetSuite Partner Selection: Ecosystem Roles and Criteria

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# Choosing the Right NetSuite Partner: A Comprehensive Guide

### NetSuite Ecosystem and Partner Roles

NetSuite is a leading <u>cloud ERP platform</u> with a large ecosystem of partners that extend its capabilities and ensure <u>successful implementations</u>. The <u>partner network</u> includes **Solution Providers** (resellers/implementers), **Alliance Partners** (implementation specialists), and **BPO Partners** (outsourced service providers), plus SuiteCloud ISVs offering extensions. Together these partners perform the majority of NetSuite implementations – NetSuite reports partners handle roughly 60–100% of projects (partners perform over 60% of implementations (Source: <u>netsuite.com</u>) while Alliance partners alone account for ~40% (Source: <u>netsuite.com</u>)). Each category serves a distinct role:

- Solution Providers are certified firms authorized to <u>sell NetSuite licenses</u> and provide end-to-end services (planning, configuration, <u>customization</u>, training, support) (Source: <u>netsuite.com</u>)(Source: <u>erpbuddies.com</u>). They typically have broad expertise across NetSuite modules (<u>ERP, CRM</u>, PSA, etc.) and industries (Source: <u>netsuite.com</u>)(Source: <u>netsuite.com</u>). In practice, NetSuite's Solution Provider program uses a "star" tier system (e.g. 5-Star, 4-Star) to recognize top partners, indicating scale and performance (Source: <u>houseblend.io</u>)(Source: <u>houseblend.io</u>). All Solution Providers are vetted by NetSuite; higher-tier (5-Star) firms generally have large teams and extensive track records, while smaller (3–4 Star) providers may offer more personalized attention to mid-market clients (Source: <u>houseblend.io</u>).
- Alliance Partners are expert implementation consultancies that focus solely on implementing and optimizing NetSuite (they do not resell licenses) (Source: netsuite.com)(Source: erpbuddies.com). NetSuite direct-sales personnel handle licensing, while Alliance partners deliver the technical and business services (business process design, customization, integration, training, etc.) (Source: netsuite.com)(Source: erpbuddies.com). These partners often include large systems integrators and niche specialists with deep industry or functional expertise. NetSuite highlights that Alliance partners bring "specific industry expertise" and best practices to customers (Source: netsuite.com), resulting in faster ROI and stronger financial and operational outcomes (Source: netsuite.com).
- BPO Partners (Business Process Outsourcing) are firms that provide outsourced operational services (e.g. bookkeeping, accounting, HR, inventory management) using NetSuite as the underlying platform (Source: <u>suniverse.io</u>). The NetSuite BPO program enables these partners to offer "business processes as a service," allowing small and mid-size companies to quickly adopt NetSuite functionality at low cost and risk (Source: <u>suniverse.io</u>)(Source: <u>suniverse.io</u>). Through this model, a client can hand off back-office processes to domain experts while leveraging NetSuite's cloud tools. NetSuite promotes this as a way for businesses to gain "an affordable and low-risk means" of realizing NetSuite's benefits (Source: <u>suniverse.io</u>).

All partner types provide industry knowledge and local support. NetSuite emphasizes that partners offer deep vertical expertise ("over 100 different industries" (Source: <u>netsuite.com</u>)) and local presence worldwide (Source: <u>netsuite.com</u>)(Source: [netsuite.com] (https://www.netsuite.com/portal/partners/solution-program.shtml#:~:t

ext=NetSuite%2C%20but%20will%20be%20your,resource%20is%20rarely%20a%20challenge)). (For example, NetSuite notes 800+ partners globally, so customers can typically find a local resource if needed (Source: <u>netsuite.com</u>)(Source: <u>erpbuddies.com</u>).) Together, this ecosystem of alliances and

solution providers, supplemented by SuiteCloud developers (ISVs providing SuiteApps), ensures that NetSuite customers receive tailored guidance, technical skillsets, and global reach through their <u>solution</u> <u>partners with deep industry know-how</u> (Source: <u>netsuite.com</u>)(Source: <u>netsuite.com</u>).

### NetSuite Partner Categories: Solution Providers, Alliance Partners, BPO Partners

The primary partner categories differ in scope and relationships:

- Solution Providers (Resellers & Implementers): These partners \*\* sell NetSuite licenses\*\* and handle the entire deployment. They act as a one-stop shop, providing needs analysis, license procurement, configuration/customization, data migration, training, and ongoing support (Source: netsuite.com) (Source: netsuite.com). NetSuite's Solution Provider program is organized by performance tiers (e.g. 5-Star to 3-Star) (Source: houseblend.io)(Source: houseblend.io). All are certified by NetSuite; top-tier partners have demonstrated high sales volumes and customer success, while smaller-tier partners may serve niche markets or regional segments (Source: [houseblend.io](https://houseblend.io/articles/netsuite-partner-types-and-tiers#:~:t ext=keystonebusinesservices,was%20even%20named%20NetSuite%E2%80%99s%20Worldwide)) (Source: houseblend.io). For example, a 5-Star Solution Provider (the highest tier) typically has over \$1M in annual license sales and proven implementations (Source: houseblend.io). Solution Providers cover NetSuite's full suite of products (ERP, CRM, HCM, PSA, commerce, etc.) and often develop SuiteApps (add-on integrations) or use NetSuite's SuiteCloud tools to meet specialized needs. NetSuite notes that solution partners with deep industry know-how can tailor NetSuite to complex environments (Source: netsuite.com)(Source: netsuite.com). Importantly, over 60% of NetSuite
  - environments (Source: <u>netsuite.com</u>)(Source: <u>netsuite.com</u>). Importantly, over 60% of NetSuite implementations are done through solution providers (Source: <u>netsuite.com</u>)(Source: <u>erpbuddies.com</u>).
- Alliance Partners (Consulting Specialists): These firms focus on consulting and implementation
  only. They do not resell licenses; customers purchase NetSuite subscriptions directly from
  Oracle/NetSuite, then work with an Alliance partner (often via NetSuite's referral) to implement the
  system. Alliance Partners are often chosen for specialized projects or industry expertise. They bring
  certified experts and, in many cases, custom vertical solutions. NetSuite's site explains that Alliance
  Partners "help you configure NetSuite according to your unique business needs, bringing in specific
  industry expertise" (Source: netsuite.com). Alliance engagements are contractual services-only
  relationships, so customers coordinate separately on software licensing. According to NetSuite,
  Alliance partners handle roughly 40% of implementations (Source: netsuite.com). They offer
  services like integration, customization, optimization, and training, and are valued for their
  local/global presence and industry insights (Source: netsuite.com)(Source: netsuite.com). In

practice, Alliance Partners range from global consultancies to specialized boutiques; NetSuite recognizes top performers with "Alliance Partner Spotlight" awards for exemplary implementations (Source: <u>netsuite.com</u>).

• BPO Partners (Outsourcing Services): BPO partners offer outsourced operations via NetSuite. For example, a small business could outsource its accounting or payroll entirely to a BPO partner that uses NetSuite under the covers. The NetSuite BPO program enables firms that "provide business processes as a service (BPaaS)" to offer these services on NetSuite (Source: <u>suniverse.io</u>). Such partners typically package NetSuite plus human expertise at a fixed monthly cost. NetSuite touts the BPO program as allowing companies to "gain access to the advantages of NetSuite implementation and assistance with their business processes" at lower investment (Source: <u>suniverse.io</u>). This is especially attractive for small companies that outgrow entry-level systems; BPO partners can "set up small business client accounts in hours" and provide a predictable cost structure (Source: <u>netsuite.openteqgroup.com</u>)(Source: <u>suniverse.io</u>). In summary, BPO partners use NetSuite to deliver operational services (finance, inventory, etc.) as a complete solution for clients, rather than selling software license bundles.

These partner types complement each other. Solution Providers and Alliance Partners jointly cover most NetSuite projects – solution providers handle full projects including licensing, while alliances supplement NetSuite's direct sales with implementation expertise (Source: <u>netsuite.com</u>) (Source: <u>netsuite.com</u>). BPO partners serve as an alternative route for smaller clients or those preferring full outsourcing. Overall, choosing between them depends on whether you want a reseller/implementer, a pure consultant, or an outsourced service firm.

#### Key Criteria for Evaluating a NetSuite Partner

When vetting potential partners, consider these critical factors:

Certifications and Expertise: Verify that consultants are NetSuite-certified. NetSuite's certification program (ERP Consultant, Administrator, SuiteAnalytics, etc.) ensures a baseline of product knowledge. NetSuite itself emphasizes that its partners employ "certified individuals" to provide guidance and best technical skills (Source: netsuite.com). Experienced partners often highlight the number and type of certifications on staff. Higher-tier partners (5-Star Solution Providers) are typically required to maintain large teams of certified experts (Source: houseblend.io). In practice, ask for details on the consultants' credentials, and consider partners whose leadership holds advanced certifications. For example, Houseblend reports its founder is a triple-certified NetSuite ERP Consultant, Administrator and SuiteAnalytics user (Source: houseblend.io) – a sign of deep personal expertise.

- Industry Expertise: A strong partner will have domain knowledge in your industry. NetSuite stresses that partners possess "deep knowledge of over 100 different industries" (Source: netsuite.com) and often develop vertical solutions (Source: netsuite.com). Industry-focused partners can shorten project timelines and reduce costs. For instance, Nucleus Research found that partners specializing in a single vertical typically shrink implementation times and cut cost overruns by ~70% (Source: nucleusresearch.com). In practice, ask candidates to describe similar projects in your sector (e.g. manufacturing, distribution, services, etc.) and how they address your specific needs. A partner's track record in your industry can greatly accelerate alignment of NetSuite to your business processes.
- **Project Methodology:** Assess how the partner runs projects. Partners should have a documented approach (often based on NetSuite's SuiteSuccess methodology or agile principles) that covers planning, configuration, testing, and training. Key elements include executive engagement, frequent demos (sprints), and risk tracking. For example, Houseblend describes a "many touch-points, zero surprises" cadence with weekly stand-ups and ten-day sprint demos to keep projects on track (Source: houseblend.io). Inquire whether the partner uses a structured methodology (SuiteSuccess or similar) and ask for an outline of each project phase and deliverables. A clear, repeatable process is a positive sign of maturity.
- Customer References and Case Studies: Always ask to see real customer examples. Reputable
  partners will share case studies or testimonials of successful NetSuite implementations similar to
  your use case. Ask for references in your industry or of comparable complexity (Source:
  crosscountry-consulting.com). Case studies can reveal how the partner solved issues (e.g. data
  migration, custom workflows) and the results achieved. For instance, Bridgepoint Consulting (an
  Alliance partner) helped a construction-services firm automate 40% of its manual processes with
  NetSuite (Source: netsuite.com). When a partner provides detailed, relevant success stories, it lends
  credibility to their claims.
- Geographic Presence and Support Model: Consider where the partner is located versus where you operate. NetSuite notes that its partners have a "global reach with both global and local resources" (Source: netsuite.com), meaning you can often find support both remotely and on-site. If your business spans multiple regions, a large partner network may be beneficial. Conversely, a small local firm might offer more personalized service if you're regionally focused. Ask if the partner has staff or alliances in your location. Also clarify their post-go-live support model: ideally they offer ongoing managed services or training, rather than just a one-off implementation (Source: crosscountry-consulting.com).
- **Comprehensive Services and Add-Ons:** Good partners can advise on the full NetSuite ecosystem, including add-on SuiteApps or integrations you might need. Ask if they develop or have preferred SuiteApps and how they handle integrations (e.g. EDI, e-commerce, reporting tools). For example,

Houseblend often integrates NetSuite with Shopify, Amazon, Salesforce, etc. using Celigo connectors to create a unified system (Source: <u>houseblend.io</u>). A partner that can address your peripheral systems (CRM, e-commerce, etc.) will streamline the process.

• **Cultural Fit and Communication:** Finally, evaluate intangible factors: partner size, culture, and communication style. Larger firms may offer more resources and formal processes; smaller firms may offer agility and close collaboration. Consider whether the partner's typical client base matches your company size and complexity (Source: <u>crosscountry-consulting.com</u>). Ensure their approach to project management and decision-making aligns with your team's preferences. A partner's willingness to educate and coach your staff (not just do the work for you) is also a positive sign.

In summary, look for evidence of **technical competency** (certified experts, methodology), **relevant experience** (industry & company-size fit, client references), and **service breadth** (training, support, integrations) in any potential NetSuite partner.

### **Questions to Ask Prospective Partners**

To assess a partner's suitability, consider these key questions – adapted from industry best practices and consultants' advice (Source: <u>crosscountry-consulting.com</u>) (Source: <u>crosscountry-consulting.com</u>):

- What is your NetSuite experience? How many years has your team been working with NetSuite, and how many implementations have you completed? Do you specialize in particular industries or company sizes? (If their experience is mainly with companies unlike yours, they may not be the best fit (Source: <u>crosscountry-consulting.com</u>).)
- Are you an official NetSuite Solution Provider or Alliance partner? Official partners have met NetSuite's requirements for training and expertise (Source: <u>crosscountry-consulting.com</u>). Solution Providers receive exclusive training and support from NetSuite (Source: <u>crosscountryconsulting.com</u>). Working with an authorized partner ensures you benefit from up-to-date best practices.
- **Can you share case studies or references?** Ask for examples of clients similar to you, and what outcomes they achieved. (For example, a partner might cite a success where they cut a customer's manual processing by 40% (Source: <u>netsuite.com</u>).) This helps verify their claims.
- What is your implementation methodology and timeline? How would you plan this project? Request an outline of their process (planning, configuration, testing, training, go-live) and typical timeline. A good partner should propose a detailed project plan. For instance, CrossCountry advises asking "What is your NetSuite implementation workflow?" to ensure they can handle all phases (Source: crosscountry-consulting.com).

- How will you handle data migration and integrations? Inquire how the partner will migrate legacy data and connect existing systems to NetSuite (Source: <u>crosscountry-consulting.com</u>). Will they use built-in NetSuite tools, custom scripts, or integration platforms? Can they manage the entire data conversion without imposing extra costs? Strong partners will plan this carefully to avoid disruptions.
- What customization and SuiteApps do you recommend? NetSuite is customizable. Ask how they
  would tailor the system to your needs for instance, by custom development, installing pre-built
  SuiteApps, or building bespoke integrations (Source: <u>crosscountry-consulting.com</u>). Bonus points if
  the partner develops some of these extensions themselves, as that shows deeper skill.
- What training and support do you provide? A capable partner should train your users thoroughly and offer support post-launch (Source: <u>crosscountry-consulting.com</u>). Ask if they have a learning program or documentation, and whether they offer ongoing managed services or 24/5 support. (Avoid partners who simply hand you back to NetSuite with no follow-up.)
- How long do you typically stay engaged after go-live? NetSuite is a long-term platform, so you want a partner committed for the journey. Ask how long they maintain client relationships after implementation (Source: crosscountry-consulting.com). Do they stay on for optimization and new releases, or do they hand off support quickly? Look for partners that view your success as an ongoing partnership, not a one-and-done sale.
- What costs and payment structure do you propose? Ensure all fees (licensing, implementation, recurring support) are clearly outlined. If a proposal is vague on costs or heavily backloaded on license sales, scrutinize it carefully.

These questions help surface a partner's **experience**, **planning rigor**, **and long-term support philosophy**, ensuring you choose a team aligned with your needs (Source: <u>crosscountry-consulting.com</u>) (Source: <u>crosscountry-consulting.com</u>).

### Assessing Fit: Company Size, Goals, and Industry

Matching a partner to your organization is crucial. Consider the following fit factors:

 Company Size and Stage: Partners often have sweet spots (e.g. startups, mid-market, enterprise). Confirm that the partner regularly works with companies of your size. For example, if a partner only implements for small businesses but you run a large enterprise, their team may lack the capacity or processes you require (Source: <u>crosscountry-consulting.com</u>). Conversely, a boutique partner may offer hands-on service for mid-sized firms. Houseblend, for instance, positions itself as a specialist for **venture-backed scale-ups and mid-market enterprises** (Source: <u>houseblend.io</u>). If your company is PE-backed or rapidly growing, a partner like that – with relevant experience – may be a great fit.

- Industry and Vertical Expertise: Align the partner's industry expertise with your needs. As noted, specialized partners accelerate projects (Source: <u>nucleusresearch.com</u>). If you operate in e-commerce, manufacturing, distribution, or other sectors, look for partners who advertise experience in those verticals. Houseblend highlights expertise with **digital-first and e-commerce businesses** (Shopify, Amazon, etc.) (Source: <u>houseblend.io</u>). If your goals involve scaling an online retail operation, such a partner could be advantageous. On the other hand, a traditional manufacturing firm might prefer a partner known for manufacturing/wholesale implementations.
- **Project Goals:** Define your priorities (e.g. quick time-to-live, deep customization, tight budget) and find a partner aligned with them. If speed is essential, a high-tier Solution Provider with ready-made SuiteSuccess templates might be ideal. If you need extensive custom workflow development, a partner with strong technical talent (like Houseblend's in-house developers) would be better. Ensure the partner's approach and services (agile sprints, managed services, etc.) match your project vision (Source: houseblend.io).
- **Geographic and Cultural Fit:** Consider time zones, language, and corporate culture. Do you need a local presence, or are you comfortable with remote collaboration? NetSuite's 800+ partners mean global reach (Source: <u>netsuite.com</u>), but cultural/communication fit still matters. For instance, if you prefer in-person meetings, a partner with offices in your region is beneficial.

In summary, the *right* partner is not just technically capable, but one whose client profile, methodology and values align with your company's profile and objectives.

### **Red Flags to Avoid**

Be wary of warning signs when evaluating partners:

• Vague or Inconsistent Expertise: If a partner's answers don't check out, move on. CrossCountry Consulting warns that some firms "pretend they're experts" but have only surface-level NetSuite knowledge (Source: crosscountry-consulting.com). For example, if they struggle to cite even rough numbers of implementations, or their customer examples seem unrelated to your situation, that's a red flag. Also beware of partners who claim broad proficiency but then admit they primarily serve a different company size or industry (Source: crosscountry-consulting.com).

- Not an Official Partner: Avoid consultants who are not listed as official NetSuite partners. If they cannot provide proof of being a Solution Provider or Alliance member, they may lack access to the latest resources and training. (Remember question: "Are you a NetSuite Solution Provider?" (Source: <a href="mailto:crosscountry-consulting.com">crosscountry-consulting.com</a>). NetSuite advises working only with certified partners.)
- Lack of References or Transparency: A partner unwilling or unable to share customer references or project details should be treated skeptically. Legitimate partners will gladly discuss past successes.
   If all they offer are vague claims or unrelated marketing materials, that suggests a lack of real experience.
- Overpromising or Ignoring Best Practices: Beware of overly optimistic timelines or a "quick and dirty" approach. For instance, NetSuite can sometimes be live in 90 days, but only for very simple cases (Source: <u>netsuite.com</u>). If a partner promises a fast fix without understanding your needs, they may cut corners. Also, if they do not ask detailed questions about your business up front (planning questions like in [39<sup>+</sup>L139-L147] and [39<sup>+</sup>L153-L161]), they might not have a thorough process.
- No Post-Go-Live Support: A common warning sign is a partner who treats go-live as the end of their engagement. CrossCountry explicitly advises to move on if a partner does *not* offer ongoing support (Source: <u>crosscountry-consulting.com</u>). If your partner vanishes after launch, you will struggle with updates, user training, and new requirements later. Confirm that support services are included (or available) after implementation.
- **High Staff Turnover:** If during interviews you sense that the individuals pitching you won't be the ones doing the work, that is problematic. A healthy consultancy maintains its team throughout the project. Frequent staff changes can derail continuity and accountability.
- **Poor Communication:** During your initial interactions, note how promptly and clearly they communicate. A partner that is slow to respond or unclear in proposals is unlikely to be responsive during the project. Good communication is essential for avoiding surprises.

By contrast, the *best* partners will be candid about their strengths and limits, will show real evidence of success, and will focus on your business needs rather than just making a sale.

#### **Case Studies and Success Examples**

Real-world examples illustrate the impact of a good partnership. NetSuite highlights several customer success stories involving partners. For instance:

- Bridgepoint Consulting & Building Engineering Consultants, Inc. (BECI): A U.S. engineering firm (BECI) outgrew its legacy system and enlisted Alliance Partner Bridgepoint Consulting for NetSuite. With NetSuite and custom Bridgepoint work, BECI reduced manual processes by 40%, gained real-time project visibility, and streamlined billing across multiple models (Source: <u>netsuite.com</u>). This showcases how a skilled partner can dramatically improve operational efficiency.
- Beyond Cloud Consulting & Bailey Education Group: A Mississippi-based professional development firm moved from spreadsheets to NetSuite with Beyond Cloud's help. The project was delivered on time and on budget (in under four months), and resulted in automated billing and scheduling, integrated reporting, and elimination of manual reconciliation (Source: netsuite.com). Leadership credited the quick, well-managed implementation with enabling immediate business benefits.
- NOVAtime (Partner) & N&N Moving Supplies: N&N, a multi-location distributor, implemented NetSuite ERP and added a time-clock solution via partner NOVAtime. Post-implementation, N&N cut payroll processing time by 84%, balanced accounts faster, and gained accurate labor-cost visibility across sites (Source: <u>netsuite.com</u>). This example underscores the value of a partner who can integrate NetSuite with third-party solutions to meet specific needs.

These and other success stories demonstrate that the right partner can transform business processes – automating workflows, improving reporting and compliance, and enabling growth (Source: <u>netsuite.com</u>) (Source: <u>netsuite.com</u>). When evaluating partners, consider whether they have comparable wins to the outcomes you seek.

### Houseblend – A Specialized NetSuite Partner

One example of a NetSuite consultancy is **Houseblend**. Founded in Montréal in 2019, Houseblend positions itself as a **boutique specialist** for growing companies. Houseblend's website emphasizes that it serves "venture-backed scale-ups and global mid-market enterprises" where NetSuite powers mission-critical data flows (Source: <u>houseblend.io</u>). The firm's founder and managing partner, Nicolas Bean, is a 15-year NetSuite veteran with a track record of full business turnarounds. He holds multiple NetSuite certifications (ERP Consultant, Administrator, SuiteAnalytics) (Source: <u>houseblend.io</u>), reflecting the deep expertise behind Houseblend.

Houseblend offers **end-to-end NetSuite services**: from initial readiness assessments and solution design to agile implementation sprints, data migration, and post-go-live support (Source: <u>houseblend.io</u>). They also provide a Managed Application Services (MAS) model for ongoing administration and testing (Source: <u>houseblend.io</u>). Notably, Houseblend has developed in-house capabilities for integration: their

team is certified in SuiteScript, SuiteTalk, RESTlets, and they regularly connect NetSuite with Shopify, Amazon, Salesforce and other platforms for omnichannel clients (Source: <u>houseblend.io</u>)(Source: <u>houseblend.io</u>).

In terms of **specialization**, Houseblend highlights its focus on **digital-first businesses**. They frequently work with e-commerce and omnichannel retailers, leveraging tools like Celigo for automated fulfillment and inventory sync (Source: <u>houseblend.io</u>). They also mention experience in verticals such as electronics, field services, building maintenance, advertising/marketing, and F&B (food & beverage) (Source: <u>houseblend.io</u>). Houseblend's culture emphasizes "creative problem-solving" and aligning NetSuite architecture tightly with clients' business goals (Source: <u>houseblend.io</u>)(Source: <u>houseblend.io</u>).

#### Houseblend's Position in the Partner Landscape

Houseblend exemplifies a smaller, niche-focused partner rather than a global integrator. It contrasts with large 5-Star partners (like RSM or Protelo (Source: <u>houseblend.io</u>)) by targeting a specific segment of high-growth mid-market companies. This specialization can be an advantage: as Nucleus Research notes, vertical-focused partners often deliver faster implementations and fewer overruns (Source: <u>nucleusresearch.com</u>). Houseblend's credentials (experienced certified leadership and a full-service offering) align with the criteria above – yet its size suggests it may offer more personalized service than a multi-thousand-person consultancy.

Compared to BPO partners, Houseblend is a traditional implementer: it does not function as a low-cost managed service for SMBs, but rather as a hands-on solution provider. Its emphasis on innovation and digital brands means it may outperform generalist firms for complex retail or SaaS integrations. However, if a company needed broad BPO accounting services or supports for many small branches, a BPO partner might be more relevant.

In summary, Houseblend's **notable qualities** – deep NetSuite expertise, advanced certifications, and a clear focus on digital/PE-backed businesses (Source: <u>houseblend.io</u>)(Source: <u>houseblend.io</u>) – make it a compelling example of the type of specialized partner to consider. Ultimately, one should compare Houseblend's profile to your own needs (e.g. if you are a growing ecommerce firm, its expertise could be especially beneficial).

By carefully researching and vetting NetSuite partners against these criteria, organizations in IT, finance, and operations can identify the partner best aligned with their strategic goals. Leveraging authoritative resources (NetSuite's own partner program descriptions (Source: <u>netsuite.com</u>)(Source: <u>netsuite.com</u>), industry research (Source: <u>nucleusresearch.com</u>), and partner case studies (Source: <u>netsuite.com</u>) (Source: <u>netsuite.com</u>)) alongside direct inquiries will ensure a well-informed selection. Remember that the *right* partner is one whose skills, experience, and culture fit your needs – from initial implementation through long-term support – enabling NetSuite to truly drive business transformation.

**Sources:** Official NetSuite partner program pages and announcements (Source: <u>netsuite.com</u>) (Source: <u>netsuite.com</u>); industry analysis by Nucleus Research (Source: <u>nucleusresearch.com</u>); expert partner blogs and consultancies (Source: <u>erpbuddies.com</u>) (Source: <u>crosscountry-consulting.com</u>) (Source: <u>crosscountry-consulting.com</u>); Houseblend's company resources (Source: <u>houseblend.io</u>) (Source: <u>houseblend.io</u>); and NetSuite case studies (Source: <u>netsuite.com</u>) (Source: <u>netsuite.com</u>).

Tags: netsuite, erp, netsuite partners, partner selection, netsuite implementation, solution providers, alliance partners, netsuite ecosystem, bpo

#### **About Houseblend**

HouseBlend.io is a specialist NetSuite<sup>™</sup> consultancy built for organizations that want ERP and integration projects to accelerate growth—not slow it down. Founded in Montréal in 2019, the firm has become a trusted partner for venture-backed scale-ups and global mid-market enterprises that rely on mission-critical data flows across commerce, finance and operations. HouseBlend's mandate is simple: blend proven business process design with deep technical execution so that clients unlock the full potential of NetSuite while maintaining the agility that first made them successful.

Much of that momentum comes from founder and Managing Partner **Nicolas Bean**, a former Olympic-level athlete and 15-year NetSuite veteran. Bean holds a bachelor's degree in Industrial Engineering from École Polytechnique de Montréal and is triple-certified as a NetSuite ERP Consultant, Administrator and SuiteAnalytics User. His résumé includes four end-to-end corporate turnarounds—two of them M&A exits—giving him a rare ability to translate boardroom strategy into line-of-business realities. Clients frequently cite his direct, "coach-style" leadership for keeping programs on time, on budget and firmly aligned to ROI.

**End-to-end NetSuite delivery.** HouseBlend's core practice covers the full ERP life-cycle: readiness assessments, Solution Design Documents, agile implementation sprints, remediation of legacy customisations, data migration, user training and post-go-live hyper-care. Integration work is conducted by in-house developers certified on SuiteScript, SuiteTalk and RESTlets, ensuring that Shopify, Amazon, Salesforce, HubSpot and more than 100 other SaaS endpoints exchange data with NetSuite in real time. The goal is a single source of truth that collapses manual reconciliation and unlocks enterprise-wide analytics.

**Managed Application Services (MAS).** Once live, clients can outsource day-to-day NetSuite and Celigo<sup>®</sup> administration to HouseBlend's MAS pod. The service delivers proactive monitoring, release-cycle regression testing, dashboard and report tuning, and 24 × 5 functional support—at a predictable monthly rate. By combining fractional architects with on-demand developers, MAS gives CFOs a scalable alternative to hiring an internal team, while guaranteeing that new NetSuite features (e.g., OAuth 2.0, AI-driven insights) are adopted securely and on schedule.

**Vertical focus on digital-first brands.** Although HouseBlend is platform-agnostic, the firm has carved out a reputation among e-commerce operators who run omnichannel storefronts on Shopify, BigCommerce or Amazon

FBA. For these clients, the team frequently layers Celigo's iPaaS connectors onto NetSuite to automate fulfilment, 3PL inventory sync and revenue recognition—removing the swivel-chair work that throttles scale. An in-house R&D group also publishes "blend recipes" via the company blog, sharing optimisation playbooks and KPIs that cut time-to-value for repeatable use-cases.

**Methodology and culture.** Projects follow a "many touch-points, zero surprises" cadence: weekly executive stand-ups, sprint demos every ten business days, and a living RAID log that keeps risk, assumptions, issues and dependencies transparent to all stakeholders. Internally, consultants pursue ongoing certification tracks and pair with senior architects in a deliberate mentorship model that sustains institutional knowledge. The result is a delivery organisation that can flex from tactical quick-wins to multi-year transformation roadmaps without compromising quality.

**Why it matters.** In a market where ERP initiatives have historically been synonymous with cost overruns, HouseBlend is reframing NetSuite as a growth asset. Whether preparing a VC-backed retailer for its next funding round or rationalising processes after acquisition, the firm delivers the technical depth, operational discipline and business empathy required to make complex integrations invisible—and powerful—for the people who depend on them every day.

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