



Image: Peter Lindbergh for L'Oréal

## SUCCESS STORY

# L'ORÉAL

“Thanks to SNP’s structured approach, it was possible to merge the SAP systems in just nine months. The productive changeover took place on a single weekend, ran smoothly, and was on schedule.”

Abder Dellys, IT Director, L'ORÉAL Deutschland GmbH

# Successful Merger of SAP Systems

## About L'Oréal

L'Oréal is a world leader in the cosmetics industry. The Group is divided into four divisions: Consumer Products (L'Oréal Paris, Garnier, Maybelline Jade), Professional Products (L'Oréal Professionnel, Kérastase, Redken, Matrix), L'Oréal Luxe (Lancôme, Biotherm, Helena Rubinstein, Armani perfumes, etc.), and Active Cosmetics (Vichy, La Roche-Posay, etc.).

Further information: [www.loreal.com](http://www.loreal.com)

## The Challenge

The Active Cosmetics division and the divisions Consumer Products and Professional Products historically had their own SAP® systems. The goal of the project was to merge these two systems into a single client and map the two business divisions under their own company codes.

In addition, the existing charts of accounts were to be standardized in one chart of accounts after merging the two systems, which were previously physically separated.

## The Solution

L'Oréal decided to implement this project with the SNP System Landscape Optimization Method. The consolidation expertise of SNP and the SNP System Landscape Optimization Workbench software tool were used.

In the first phase, the affected SAP systems and their landscape were analyzed and the target scenario was defined based on this. Then, the corresponding professional and technical rules were created for transcoding the data, such as account numbers, account categories, and company codes. These rules were stored in the software and tested accordingly.

The data conversion was done in the respective old SAP system. The datasets from the Oracle database were only merged in the new SAP system during data migration. The new SAP system went live after several test migrations and approval from the client. The data and applications were migrated on a single weekend.

The conversion and migration programs ran on schedule and without errors. As a result, the SAP users were able to start using the new SAP system on Monday morning with no interruptions.

This merge in 2006 was the first part of a multistep merger of SAP systems. After this was successfully implemented, the already merged systems for Active Cosmetics + Consumer Products + Professional Products were merged with the L'Oréal Luxe system in the so-called 'Grand Merge' in 2007. SNP also successfully implemented this technical migration.

## The Advantages

- Merge of two SAP systems into a new SAP system in just nine months
- Actual conversion and migration to one SAP system done over a weekend
- Thanks to a software-supported approach, the project was implemented on schedule and without errors