

biz4Biz

Sustainable Biz

FEBRUARY 2023

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PARTNERS TO
MAKE OFFSHORE
WIND MORE
SUSTAINABLE**

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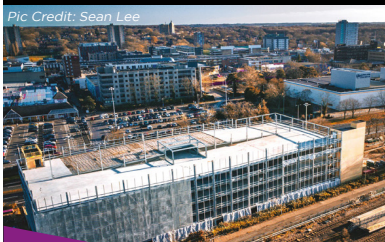


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OPENING SPRING 2023


The new multi-storey car park in Stevenage on the site of the former Railway North car park will open this Spring.

Follow us on social media for further updates.




622
PARKING SPACES


30
BLUE BADGE SPACES


30
EV SPACES WITH FUTURE CAPACITY TO INCREASE


80
BIKE SPACES IN A SECURE STORAGE FACILITY

STEVENAGE BETTER
a place for everyone



Welcome...

In the busy world of running a business there are many reasons why you should consider Energy-Saving devices and here are just a few reasons why you should consider this.

Environmental benefits

Energy-saving devices also help to reduce the carbon footprint of a business. By using less energy, businesses can reduce greenhouse gas emissions, which contribute to climate change. This can be an important consideration for businesses that want to demonstrate their commitment to sustainability and environmental responsibility.

Improved equipment lifespan

Energy-saving devices can help to

Benefits of Energy-Saving Devices

extend the lifespan of equipment by reducing the stress placed on it. For example, by using energy-efficient lighting, businesses can reduce the heat generated by light bulbs, which can cause damage to fixtures and fittings over time. By reducing the strain on equipment, businesses can also save money on maintenance and replacement costs.

Compliance with regulations

In many jurisdictions, businesses are required to meet certain energy efficiency standards. Energy-saving devices can help businesses to comply with these regulations, avoiding penalties and potential legal issues.

Improved productivity

Energy-saving devices can also contribute to improved productivity.

For example, by using natural daylight instead of artificial lighting, businesses can create a more comfortable and productive working environment. Similarly, by reducing heat generated by equipment, businesses can reduce the need for cooling, which can create a more comfortable workspace.

In conclusion, there are many compelling reasons why businesses should consider energy-saving devices. From cost savings to environmental benefits, improved equipment lifespan, compliance with regulations, and improved productivity, energy-saving devices can have a positive impact on a business's operations and bottom line. By investing in these devices, businesses can create a more sustainable future while also enjoying the benefits of reduced energy consumption.

In future issues of our Sustainable Biz Magazine, we will bring you various recommendations of the technology that you can use to reduce your operating costs and support our environment. Please let us have details of any areas your products may help?



We are delighted to introduce our Rosettes, our awards for the stars of the business world that feature in our magazine, organisations which have products and services ready and waiting for your connection. These companies are waiting to support your business now and, in the future, and have special arrangements with biz4Biz to support our readers with special pricing or free services. **Simply click the Winning Rosette to leave your contact details and we will do the rest in arranging for the company chosen to contact you.**



Shell and Eneco win bid to develop 760 MW offshore wind power in the Netherlands at Hollandse Kust (west) VI

The project will have an installed capacity of approximately 760 MW and will be located approximately 53 kilometres off the Dutch coast from the town of IJmuiden. The new wind farm will be delivered through a joint venture called Ecowende and is due to be operational in 2026. Shell and Eneco have already taken final investment decision for the wind farm.

Wael Sawan, Director of Integrated Gas, Renewables and Energy Solutions at Shell, said: "With Ecowende, we will take a huge step in growing our offshore wind portfolio while making a positive contribution to biodiversity. Through this project we can profitably accelerate the large-scale roll-out of offshore wind in the Netherlands and beyond. This fits well with Shell's Powering Progress strategy to deliver more and cleaner energy to our customers, at home, on the road and at work."

Kees-Jan Rameau, Chief Strategic Growth Officer at Eneco, said: "Together with Shell, we were at the forefront of the development of offshore wind in the Netherlands. We gained a lot of knowledge, also in the area of ecology, and reported on this. This has contributed to the further development of offshore wind in recent years. It is great that we are now moving into a new phase with Ecowende, with nature as the starting point. This is entirely in line with our ambition to live and act within the natural limits of the planet." Ecowende aims to set a new

ecological benchmark for the development and construction of wind farms in the North Sea and to enable offshore wind farms to have a net positive impact on nature in the future. The design of the wind farm takes account of the natural environment through measures such as: placing wind turbines a greater distance apart to create a corridor for birds to fly through; using innovative foundation techniques that keep the impact on marine mammals and marine life to a minimum; and placing natural reef structures on the seabed to boost biodiversity. More details on the investments, innovations and research programmes will be announced at a later stage.

"Together with Shell, we were at the forefront of the development of offshore wind in the Netherlands. We gained a lot of knowledge, also in the area of ecology, and reported on this"





World's first net zero transatlantic flight to fly from London in 2023, powered by the Rolls-Royce Trent 1000

The first ever net zero transatlantic flight will take off from the UK this year, with Virgin Atlantic receiving government funding to fly across the pond using solely sustainable aviation fuel (SAF).

In 2023, one of Virgin Atlantic's flagship Boeing 787s, powered by Rolls-Royce Trent 1000 engines, will take off from London Heathrow and make the journey to New York's John F Kennedy Airport – a journey made by thousands of people for business, family, and leisure every week. But this will be no ordinary journey. When fully replacing kerosene, SAF can slash lifecycle carbon emissions by more than 70% compared to

conventional fossil jet fuel. This flight is expected to be fuelled by SAF made primarily from waste oils and fats, such as used cooking oil. The use of 100% SAF on the flight, combined with carbon removal through biochar credits – a material which traps and stores carbon taken from the atmosphere – will make the flight net zero.

Not only will SAF be key in decarbonising aviation, but it could create a UK industry with an annual turnover of £2.4bn by 2040, and which supports up to 5,200 UK jobs by 2035.

Aviation is one of the hardest sectors to decarbonise and without urgent collaborative action it could be one of the highest emitting sectors for greenhouse gases by 2050. To tackle this, the government published the Jet Zero Strategy in July 2022 which sets out their approach for decarbonising the sector and champions SAF as one of the main tools for achieving Jet Zero.

Challenges remain, however, including the need to scale up SAF production and the existing limit on how much SAF is permitted in jet engines by current fuel specifications. Today, a maximum of 50% SAF blended with

kerosene can be used in commercial jet engines. By using 100% SAF, the consortium will demonstrate the potential to decarbonise long-haul routes and bring us a step closer to net zero aviation.

It comes hot off the heels of the world's first sustainable fuel military transporter flight using 100% SAF, completed by the RAF using the iconic Voyager aircraft.

Other challenges preventing a higher uptake of SAF include high fuel production costs, technology risk at commercial scale and feedstock availability. To address these, the government is working to set the UK up to be a global leader in the development, production and use of SAF, allowing us to progress towards net zero flying, and creating thousands of green jobs.

It is introducing a SAF mandate requiring at least 10% of jet fuel to be made from sustainable sources by 2030 to create secure and growing demand, continuing to invest in a domestic SAF industry through the £165m Advanced Fuels Fund, and working with the industry and investors to understand how to secure long-term investment into the sector.

"When fully replacing kerosene, SAF can slash lifecycle carbon emissions by more than 70% compared to conventional fossil jet fuel"



New research: consumer demand for 'clean' beauty is an opportunity to galvanise sector action on Net Zero

A report assessing the credibility of the Net Zero commitments of the ten highest revenue global beauty and personal care companies shows the sector has a window of opportunity to go further and faster on Net Zero. Despite growing demand for 'clean' beauty products, new research has found none of the world's ten leading beauty brands have independently

validated Net Zero targets. It also found three of these companies have failed to publicly commit to reaching Net Zero at all, and at least two reporting a rise in their greenhouse gas emissions in the last year. The report, *Greenhouse gloss: is the beauty industry's commitment to tackling climate change more than skin deep?* was released today by the Carbon Trust's Net Zero Intelligence

"Deforestation is responsible for around 15% of greenhouse gas emissions and also contributes to habitat and biodiversity loss"



reduce these problems.

This creates a risk of 'greenhouse gloss', or greenwashing in the beauty sector, which could see talk about sustainability fail to translate into meaningful action.

Alongside a lack of validated targets for Net Zero, the Net Zero Intelligence Unit's research found only three of the beauty giants have targets for eliminating deforestation from their supply chains.

Deforestation is responsible for around 15% of greenhouse gas emissions and also contributes to habitat and biodiversity loss.

Simon Retallack, Director of the Carbon Trust's Net Zero Intelligence Unit said, "a Net Zero Reality Check is vital for all sectors as the 2050 global target moves ever closer. While many beauty products are now marketed as 'clean' and 'green', our analysis found that at present, these claims are not translating into deeper climate action. "Beauty and personal care companies need to urgently reduce the greenhouse gas emissions associated with sourcing product ingredients. They also need to help consumers to reduce the impact they have when they use beauty products, especially their use of hot water.

"As consumer demand for sustainable

"The 'clean' sector of the beauty industry alone is forecast to be worth US\$22 billion globally by the end of next year, highlighting the consumer demand for such products"

beauty products booms, the sector has a window of opportunity to ensure their products and business models reflect the urgency of action needed to reach Net Zero."

The 'clean' sector of the beauty industry alone is forecast to be worth US\$22 billion globally by the end of next year, highlighting the consumer demand for such products.

However, this term is subjective and loosely refers to products with safe, natural, organic or eco-friendly credentials, despite there being no standards on products marketed in this way.

The full report from the Carbon Trust's Net Zero Intelligence Unit is available [here](#).

Unit. It reviewed the most recent sustainability reports of the world's top ten revenue generating beauty brands, L'Oréal, Unilever, P&G, Estée Lauder, Shiseido, Beiersdorf, LVMH, Kao, Coty and Johnson & Johnson. They were assessed using the global climate consultancy's new Net Zero Reality Check tool. The Reality Check tool was developed by the Carbon Trust to assess the credibility of climate action in different sectors by reviewing the most recent annual, sustainability and emissions reports of a sample of companies.

The research found overall the sector is failing to take action on its two main sources of greenhouse gases. These emissions come from raw materials and consumers using their products, mainly through hot water and energy. However, there was little action evidenced publicly by any of these companies to acknowledge, tackle or



New research will integrate biodiversity and finance

A total of 12 projects have been launched to explore the gaps and improve integration between the financial system and biodiversity. The new projects are part of the first phase of the 'integrating biodiversity into finance: building a nature-positive future' initiative and will start this year.

The longer-term aim is to build a multi-stakeholder community that can drive the development of knowledge, tools and a skilled community to incorporate reporting biodiversity for all business sectors.

Embedding biodiversity into finance
The purpose is to foster a holistic approach to develop the solutions needed to embed the values of biodiversity into finance.

The phase 1 awards will seed partnerships and co-design from the outset, bringing together researchers

and experts from the finance and business sectors.

Addressing knowledge gaps:

The finance system has a key role in shaping how the global economy responds to the intertwined challenges of biodiversity loss and climate change.

The recent Nature of Business UK survey found the majority of business leaders want to take steps to tackle biodiversity loss, but progress has been slow for a number of reasons.

The finance sector and businesses want better information and 'decision grade' data to help them incorporate biodiversity-related risks and opportunities into their strategic planning, risk management and investment decisions.

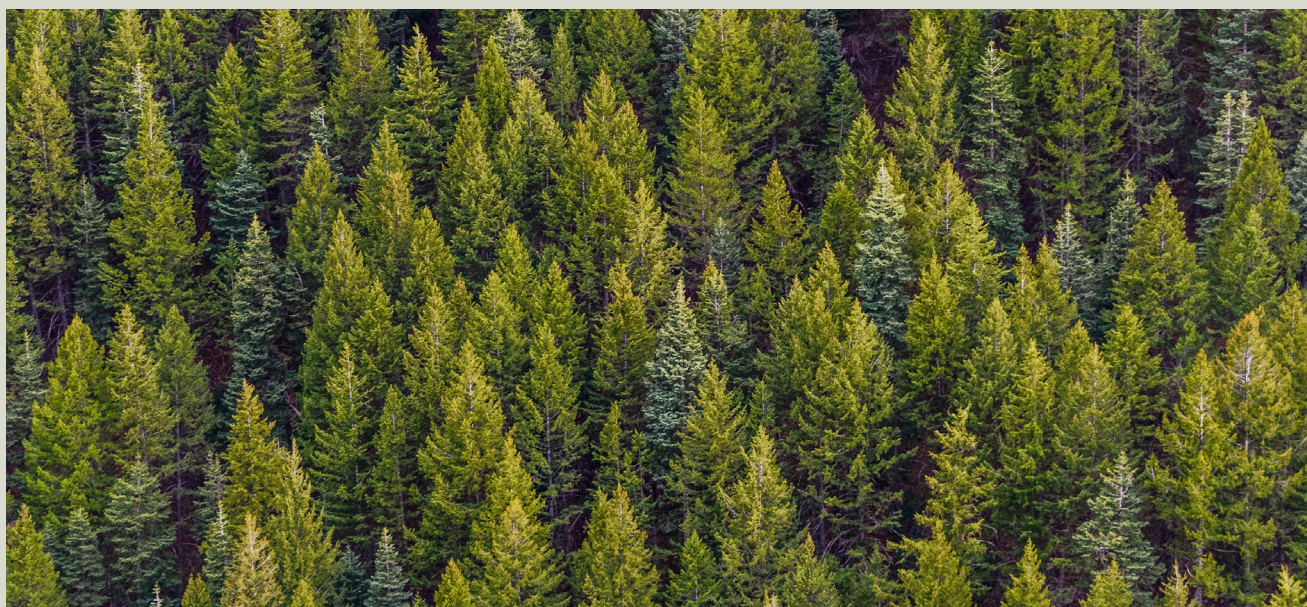
They also want to understand how biodiversity contributes to and is impacted by activities including along global supply chains.

“This new investment adds to NERC’s growing ‘Green Finance’ portfolio. It will bring together a community of researchers and experts from across disciplines to help the finance sector be part of the recovery and restoration of our natural environment”

Tackling biodiversity loss:

These phase 1 projects involve academic institutions working in partnership with a wide range of financial sector and business partners.





The projects:

Reducing commodity-driven forest and biodiversity loss by exploring and filling data gaps for due diligence

Project lead: Dr Antje Ahrends, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh and Dr Jonathan Green, University of York

Financial rewards for improved biodiversity outcomes

Project lead: Professor Paul Brereton, Queen's University of Belfast

Co-creating and applying a theory of change for biodiversity credits: towards a nature-positive future

Project lead: Professor Richard Field, University of Nottingham

Solent to Sussex Bay seascape restoration network

Project lead: Professor Stephen Fletcher, University of Portsmouth and Dr Claire Evans, National Oceanography Centre

Integrating finance and biodiversity for a nature positive future

Project lead: Professor Ben Groom, University of Exeter

Nature positive small and medium-sized enterprise finance

Project lead: Dr Robyn Owen, Middlesex University

Science-based markets for nature recovery

Project lead: Professor Richard Pywell, UK Centre for Ecology and Hydrology and Dr Steven Reece, University of Oxford

Integrating nature-climate scenarios and analytics for financial decision-making

Project lead: Dr Nicola Ranger, University of Oxford and Professor Paula Harrison, UK Centre for Ecology and Hydrology

Robust environmental, social and governance data for biodiversity: towards a spatially-sensitive approach to sustainable finance

Project lead: Dr Steven Reece, University of Oxford and Professor Richard Pywell, UK Centre for Ecology and Hydrology

Mediating the first transaction of biodiversity stewardship credits

Project lead: Dr Axel Rossberg, Queen Mary, University of London

Integrating finance and biodiversity for a nature positive future

Project lead: Dr Hannah Rudman, Scotland's Rural College, Dr

Christopher Ellis, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh and Professor Marc J Metzger, The University of Edinburgh

Nature-positive investment opportunities through solar parks

Project lead: Professor Piran White, University of York

Multidisciplinary research

Further details on phase 2 of the programme, in partnership with Innovate UK, will be announced in the new year.

Jacky Wood, Head of Business Partnerships at Natural Environment Research Council (NERC), said: "The current United Nations Biodiversity conference (COP15) negotiation is highlighting the importance of building biodiversity into financial systems.

"This new research will help address knowledge gaps, supporting the transition to a more nature-positive global financial system.

"This new investment adds to NERC's growing 'Green Finance' portfolio. It will bring together a community of researchers and experts from across disciplines to help the finance sector be part of the recovery and restoration of our natural environment."



Abu Dhabi Sustainability Week 2023 Successfully Concludes Setting UAE on Road to COP28

Abu Dhabi Sustainability Week (ADSW), successfully concluded its fifteenth edition, with a resounding show of commitment to climate action ahead of the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP28), to be held in the UAE later this year. Under the theme of 'United on Climate Action Towards COP28,' the six-day event was the first global sustainability gathering of a critical year, and it served as the first official platform for the recently announced COP28 leadership team, led by H.E. Dr. Sultan Ahmed Al Jaber, UAE Minister of Industry and Advanced Technology, COP28 President-Designate, and Chairman of Masdar. In his keynote at the Opening Ceremony, H.E. Dr. Al Jaber called for the world to come together around COP28 to cooperate and collaborate and turn rhetoric into tangible results. Global dignitaries, including 13 heads of state and a record number of attendees, convened to progress dialogue on the transition to a net-zero future. The event was held under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the UAE who attended the opening ceremony with Yoon Suk

Yeol, President of the Republic of Korea, and Ilham Aliyev, President of Azerbaijan delivering keynote speeches.

Championed by the UAE and its clean energy powerhouse, Masdar, ADSW 2023, also welcomed world leaders including: Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, President of the Republic

of the Republic of Mozambique; Aziz Akhannouch, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Morocco; Abiy Ahmed, Prime Minister of Ethiopia; and Tiemoko Meyliet, Vice President of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire.

During the opening ceremony, 10 winners of the Zayed Sustainability Prize from five continents were recognized for their achievements in driving innovative and scalable sustainability solutions.

Other major events that took place throughout the week included the 13th IRENA Assembly, the supreme decision-making body of the International Renewable Energy Agency. IRENA members confirmed their readiness to support the UAE's COP28 presidency and committed to leveraging international cooperation through the Agency's global platform. The Atlantic Council Global Energy Forum, which annually convenes the world's top energy and foreign policy decisionmakers hosted its seventh meeting at ADSW. Guests including H.E. Dr. Sultan Al Jaber, the Rt. Hon. Grant Shapps MP, Secretary of State for Business, Energy, and Industrial Strategy for the UK, John Kerry, U.S. Special Presidential Envoy for Climate, and Bernard Mensah, President of

**"The Climate Action
Towards COP28,' the
six-day event was the
first global sustainability
gathering of a critical
year"**

of Kazakhstan; Wavel Ramkalawan, President of the Republic of Seychelles; João Manuel Lourenço, President of the Republic of Angola; Hakainde Hichilema, President of the Republic of Zambia; Nana Akufo-Addo, President of Ghana; Yoweri Museveni, President of the Republic of Uganda; Surangel Whipps Jr., President of the Republic of Palau; Filipe Jacinto Nyusi, President of

International for Bank of America discussed the geopolitical and geo-economic implications of the energy transition.

The flagship ADSW Summit brought together global decision-makers and thought leaders in sustainability to discuss innovative pathways to net zero, practical solutions to finance climate action, and transformative tech for food and energy security. The event featured past and present leaders of COP, including H.E. Razan Al Mubarak, the UN Climate Change High-Level Champion for COP28, H.E. Laurent Fabius, President of France's Constitutional Council, H.E. Sameh Shoukry, Egypt's Minister of Foreign Affairs and COP27 President, and Simon Stiell, Executive Secretary of the UNFCCC. Collectively they highlighted the need to build on past successes and leverage the COP process to deliver on the Paris Agreement, ahead of the UAE's hosting of COP28 and the highly anticipated Global Stocktake. The inaugural Green Hydrogen Summit was also held during ADSW. Hosted by Masdar's green hydrogen business, the Summit convened more than 50 leading global hydrogen players, gathering key representatives across regulation, policy and the green hydrogen value chain. Masdar, the host of ADSW, announced

multiple global projects and agreements showing it is on track to meet the target of 100 GW of clean energy by 2030. These included up to 5GW of renewable energy projects with three African nations under the Etihad 7 UAE-backed funding umbrella.

Also announced were agreements with the Kyrgyz Republic's Ministry of Energy to develop renewable projects with a capacity of up to 1 GW, an agreement with the Kazakhstan Investment Development Fund to develop a wind power plant with up to 1 GW capacity, and an agreement with Azerbaijan state oil company SOCCAR to develop up to 4 GW of renewable energy projects.

A first wave of investment of US\$20 billion was also announced as part of the US-UAE Partnership to Accelerate Clean Energy (PACE), with Masdar and a consortium of US private investors leading the funding and development of 15 GW of clean energy projects in the US by 2035.

ADSW provided a platform for engaging and empowering young people and women in sustainability in the lead-up to COP28. The Youth 4 Sustainability (Y4S) Hub brought together more than 3,000 leaders, experts, entrepreneurs, and young delegates to discuss ways to

advance youth engagement across climate action. The annual Women in Sustainability, Environment and Renewable Energy (WiSER) Forum hosted influential figures from around the world for a roundtable discussion on 'Empowering Women to Lead Climate Adaptation'.

Returning to an in-person format this year, Abu Dhabi Global Market hosted the fifth edition of the Abu Dhabi Sustainable Finance Forum to conclude the week's events. It convened 50 global institutional investors, government leaders, regulators, and financial institutions. ADSW was supported by the Abu Dhabi Department of Energy, COP28 UAE, Abu Dhabi National Oil Company, TAQA, Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi, Mubadala Investment Company, Dubai Electricity and Water Authority, General Electric, The Climate Pledge, Investcorp, Expo City Dubai, TotalEnergies, Abu Dhabi Convention & Exhibition Bureau, Schneider Electric, 1PointFive, Fertigllobe, PepsiCo, Emirates Development Bank, HSBC, Baker Hughes, BEEAH, UAE Ministry of Climate Change and Environment, Ne'ma, Emirates Water and Electricity Company, McKinsey and Etihad Airways.





Mercedes-Benz AG and Hydro join forces to pioneer a sustainable aluminium supply chain

Mercedes-Benz has signed a letter of intent with Norwegian Aluminium maker Hydro for a low-carbon technology roadmap between 2023 to 2030, a key milestone on the way toward enabling a green aluminium supply chain.

Hydro and Mercedes-Benz have agreed on the gradual supply of very low CO2 emission aluminium for automotive applications on the road to decarbonisation. As an immediate result of the partnership, the CO2 footprint of the aluminium supplied by Hydro will be almost 70% lower than the European average.

"Aluminium is becoming increasingly important as a lightweight material in electric vehicles. We are intensively working with our partners on finding

levers to lower CO2 emissions in the aluminium supply chain. Therefore, I am very happy that we now join forces with Hydro as a long-standing expert in producing renewable

"Mercedes-Benz and Hydro will not only look into further reduction of emissions but also aim to reduce the use of primary resources through increased use of secondary materials from post-consumer scrap"

energies to tackle one of the biggest challenges in the automotive industry. This is an important signal to accelerate change in the aluminium industry and increase the availability of low carbon aluminium." Markus Schäfer, Member of the Board of Management of Mercedes-Benz Group AG.

Hydro currently supplies Mercedes-Benz with CO2 reduced aluminium for its foundry in Stuttgart Mettingen. The strategic partnership raises the cooperation to a new level to optimise decarbonisation processes for aluminium used in vehicle manufacturing. As a result, the first testing material made of further CO2 reduced aluminium from Norway with a CO2 footprint reduction of almost 70% is already expected this year. Moreover, Mercedes-Benz and

Hydro will not only look into further reduction of emissions but also aim to reduce the use of primary resources through increased use of secondary materials from post-consumer scrap. Together with steel, aluminium is proportionally the most widely used material in many vehicles. Therefore, this agreement marks a decisive step for the supply of low emission aluminium and thereby reducing the carbon footprint of Mercedes-Benz products.

As part of Mercedes-Benz's "Ambition2039", the focus is on the reduction of CO2 emissions as well as the responsible use of resources along the entire supply chain. In close cooperation with its suppliers the Stuttgart-based luxury carmaker with the three-pointed star is working on levers for the consistent reduction of CO2 as well as seeking to significantly reduce the input of primary materials. Mercedes-Benz is retooling its supply chain to focus on the prevention and reduction of CO2 emissions rather than through offsetting. The strategic partnership will help the Stuttgart-based carmaker towards achieving its

ambitious emission reduction goals. For realising the path towards near zero CO2 aluminium it is important to optimise both the primary aluminium production process, starting with a CO2-optimised aluminium oxide

“The ambition of making their entire fleet of new passenger cars CO2-neutral by 2039 matches Hydro’s ambition to deliver industrial-scale zero-carbon aluminium by 2030”

production, as well as reducing the CO2 emissions resulting from the electrolysis process. With many years of expertise in this field and ambitious research plans, Hydro is a competent partner supporting Mercedes-Benz on this path.

At the same time, next to technological improvements, increasing the use of recycling material plays a major role for realizing further CO2 reductions. Producing aluminium by using secondary material only requires five percent of the energy compared to aluminium production based on primary resources. As part of the collaboration Mercedes-Benz and Hydro even want to take it one step further by exploring solutions how to implement a closed-loop-recycling. “Mercedes-Benz is a forward-leaning company, and a perfect partner for Hydro. The ambition of making their entire fleet of new passenger cars CO2-neutral by 2039 matches Hydro’s ambition to deliver industrial-scale zero-carbon aluminium by 2030. Partnerships and collaboration in the value chains can accelerate technology developments needed to reduce emissions, and we are excited to have Mercedes joining us on our path to zero carbon aluminium.” Hilde Merete Aasheim, President and CEO in Hydro.



Jordan Sports Partnerships team up with Play It Green

Play It Green have announced a partnership with Jordan Sports Partnerships run by former Crystal Palace FC Managing Director Dominic Jordan. The award-winning sustainability company Play It Green which helps to lower the carbon footprints of people and businesses in an innovative way, has teamed up with the sports business solutions agency JSP to help deliver more of an impact in the sports and business sector.

Dominic Jordan, MD JSP said "I believe sport is uniquely positioned to lead the way, set good examples and make a real impact in this critically important area. What Chris, Richard and the team at Play it Green provide is clear support and guidance to sports organisations and businesses to enable them to

do this by seamlessly incorporating sustainability strategies and solutions into their operations which have a real impact and provide them with the tools and a template to confidently engage and promote sustainability not just within their own organisations but to their communities locally, nationally and globally.

"I am extremely excited to be partnering with Play it Green and look forward to introducing their award winning solutions to our clients".

Chris Thair, CEO Play It Green said "We're delighted to partner with JSP and Dominic Jordan who has a long and distinguished career in the commercial and sports world. This will open us up to a whole new audience and help more businesses to lower their carbon footprint and engage in

"We're delighted to partner with JSP and Dominic Jordan who has a long and distinguished career in the commercial and sports world. This will open us up to a whole new audience and help more businesses to lower their carbon footprint and engage in sustainable practices"





their subscription service, linked to a large number of events and engaged professional sports clubs with their environmentally themed matchday initiative.

In recent years markets have shifted and businesses now understand it is essential to their ongoing success that they engage in the environment to continue to be commercially appealing, win tenders and stay in supply chains. Play It Green is seen by many to be the ideal starting point for companies as they bring understanding and solutions in an affordable and non-judgemental service.

<https://playitgreen.com/>

sustainable practices.

“Dominic has a real passion for the subject, a tremendous drive and I’ve no doubt his work with Play It Green will leave a strong legacy for the planet, the business community and him personally. Play It Green are thrilled to partner with Jordan Sports Partnerships and excited to see what the future holds”.

credentials by ensuring they make an ongoing environmental and social impact whilst on that journey to net zero by planting trees and passing funds to good causes.

Since launching, Play It Green has amassed a large number of businesses, across nine countries, to

Dominic Jordan, set up JSP in 2011, having been the Managing Director at Crystal Palace Football Club for 10 years, to specialise in facilitating high-value mutually beneficial business-to-business partnerships within the sports sector. JSP has built an affiliated group of best-in-class solution providers within sports venues, arenas, hotels, theme parks and retail space worldwide.

Manchester-based Play It Green has a unique 3 step solution to climate change: reduce, repair, revive, which all their services deliver upon. Play It Green helps people and businesses to reduce their carbon footprint and enhance their sustainability



“The launch of our national service is a natural expansion which will make our future growth plans possible”

Siemens Energy Transition Readiness Index

Siemens energy and international management consultancy Roland Berger asked nearly 2,000 energy experts and decision makers from across the energy sector in Asia Pacific, Europe, Middle East, North America and Latin America to tell what priorities were being set for the energy transition in their particular region and how much progress had already been made.

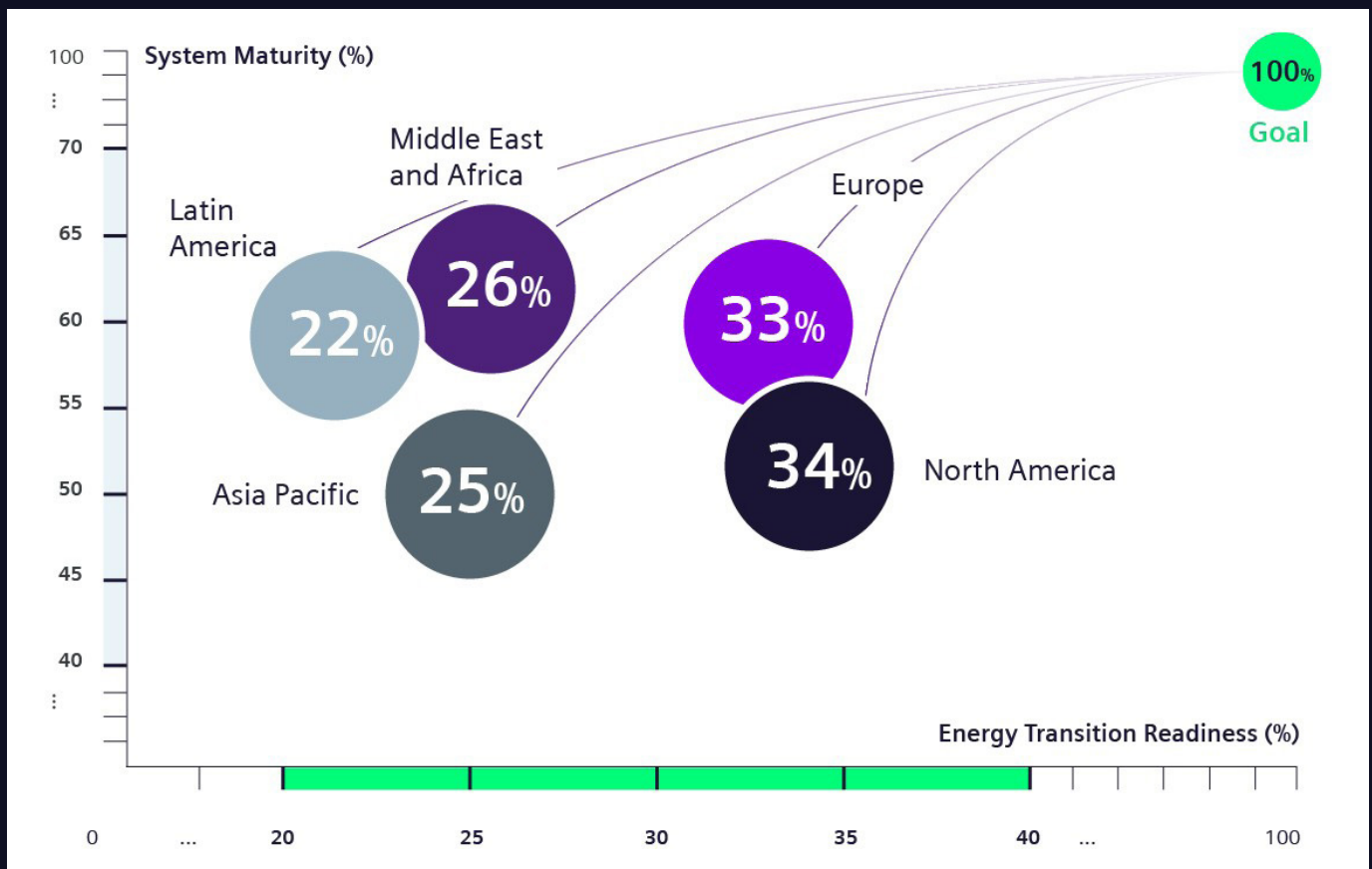
They then used this data to calculate the “Energy Transition Readiness Index” for each region. The index describes the perceived readiness, on a scale of 0 to 100%, of the energy

“The figures show the shocking reality of how little progress the world has made. But it also points to a more systematic approach toward the energy transition with five critical actions”

transition towards net zero in the different regions.

Download any of the regional index reports by clicking on the graphic below.

The index aggregates the answers of the experts by combining the progress of each priority (“readiness”) with the assessment of its respective importance (“system maturity”), allowing us to arrive at a percentage indicating the region’s perceived readiness for the transition to net zero. The figures show the shocking reality of how little progress the world has made. But it also points to a more systematic approach toward the energy transition with five critical actions. Successfully addressing these priorities globally will result in a significant leap toward net zero emissions.





It is time to act - no excuses

Christian Bruch, CEO of Siemens Energy, on 5 critical actions for the energy transition

[Read the article](#)



Haru Oni: Base camp of the future

Start of production at the world's first large-scale plant for CO2-neutral fuel

[Read the article](#)



Ireland's great grid stabilizer

How a radical new green vision for a coal-fired power plant will bring stability to the grid

[Read the article](#)



Modeling net zero

Welcome to the Zero Emissions Hydrogen Turbine Center

[Read the article](#)



Making the Most of Waste Heat

Siemens Energy and Vattenfall Wärme Berlin AG are testing a high-temperature heat pump in the cooling center at Potsdamer Platz

[Read the article](#)

T-Mobile

NET-ZERO

T-Mobile Announces 2040 Net-Zero Commitment

T-Mobile has announced the company's latest step forward in its sustainability efforts, including an industry-leading commitment to achieve net-zero emissions across its entire carbon footprint by 2040. To bolster this new goal, T-Mobile also signed onto The Climate Pledge, a cross-sector community of companies and organisations working together to solve the challenges of cutting global carbon emissions for a sustainable future.

"As we know sustainability is important to our customers and stakeholders, T-Mobile has made great progress in reducing our environmental footprint – and now we're taking even bigger steps to reduce our carbon emissions with a commitment to meeting SBTi's Net-Zero Standard," said Mike Sievert,

T-Mobile CEO. "We are proud that we are doing our part to create a sustainable future for all – including becoming the first in U.S. wireless to set this bold target. And we hope companies like ours — and the partners and suppliers we work alongside — will join us in setting their own aggressive longer-term goals like these."

With the company's new commitment, T-Mobile becomes the first in U.S. wireless to set a net-zero goal for all three emissions scopes that has been validated by the Science Based Targets Initiative (SBTi) using their Net-Zero Standard – the world's first framework for company targets that aligns with the latest climate science. This goal covers emission scopes 1 and 2, inclusive of direct emissions from T-Mobile's operations and facilities, as well as indirect emissions

"The Un-carrier's new goal also covers all remaining indirect scope 3 emissions (the company's entire footprint!) — including those produced by suppliers, customer device usage, materials and fuel required to ship products, employee travel, and more—which represents roughly two-thirds of the company's carbon footprint"

from purchased electricity. The Un-carrier's new goal also covers all remaining indirect scope 3 emissions (the company's entire footprint!) — including those produced by suppliers, customer device usage, materials and fuel required to ship products, employee travel, and more—which represents roughly two-thirds of the company's carbon footprint.

"While T-Mobile's net-zero goal is a decades-long endeavour, we know how important it is to take definitive actions now to reduce our environmental impact for future generations," said Janice Kapner, chief communications and corporate responsibility officer at T-Mobile.

"We're committed to measurable progress and holding ourselves accountable with strong governance practices, consistent and transparent reporting, and ongoing collaboration with leading sustainability experts."

The Climate Pledge, co-founded by Amazon and Global Optimism in 2019, is a collective commitment to achieve net-zero 10 years ahead of The Paris Agreement. T-Mobile joins nearly 400

organisations that have signed the Pledge, all of which agree to:

- * Measure and report greenhouse gas emissions on a regular basis;
- * Implement decarbonisation strategies in line with the Paris Agreement through real business changes and innovations, including efficiency improvements, renewable

"T-Mobile has a long track record of dedication to building a more sustainable future"

energy, materials reductions, and other carbon emission elimination strategies;

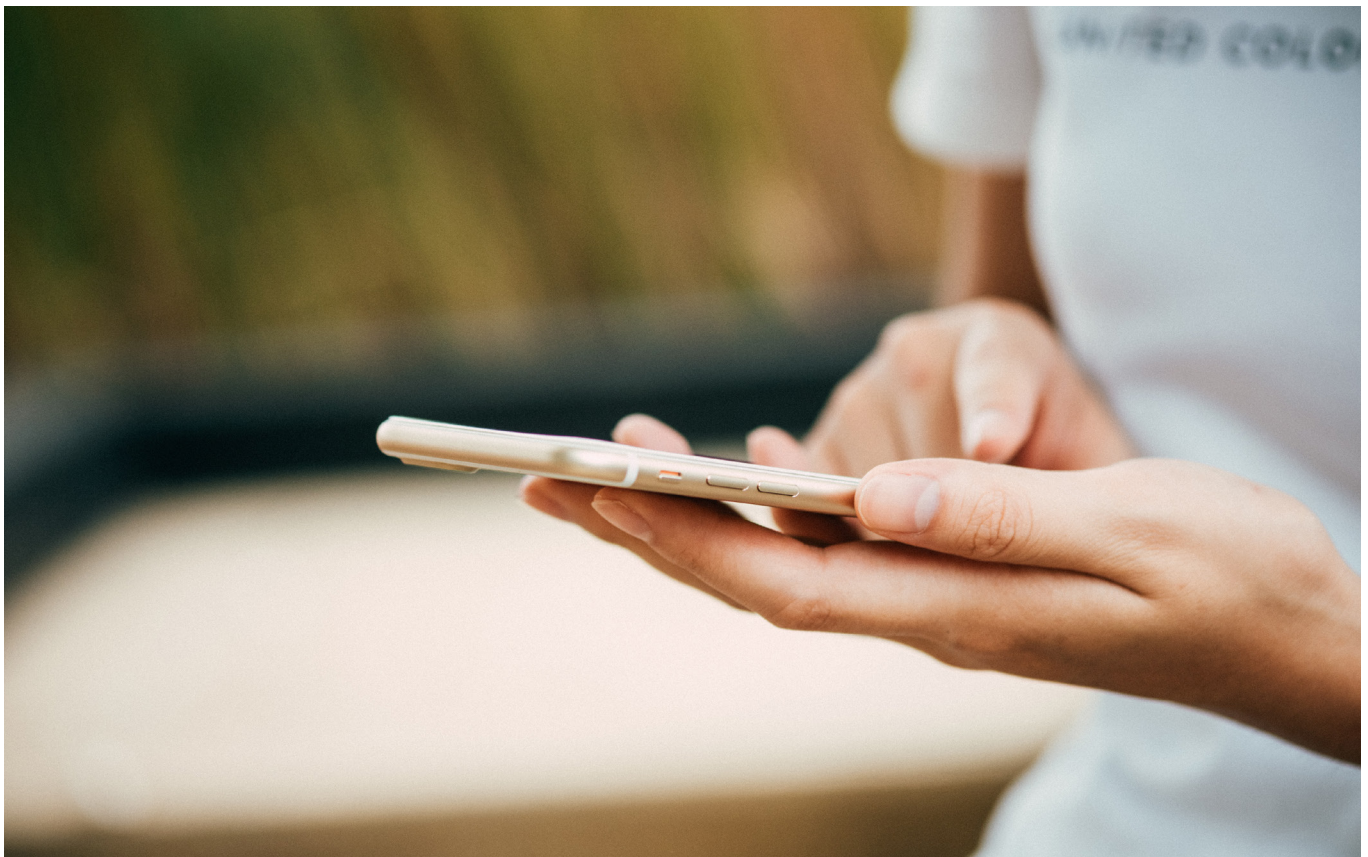
- * Neutralise any remaining emissions with additional, quantifiable, real, permanent, and socially beneficial offsets to achieve net zero annual carbon emissions by 2040.

"We're excited that T-Mobile is signing The Climate Pledge and committing to

reach the Paris Agreement 10 years early," said Sally Fouts, Global Lead of The Climate Pledge at Amazon. "T-Mobile has set and achieved aggressive renewable energy and carbon reduction goals across its operations, and we're thrilled to see the comprehensive and thoughtful pathway they have charted to achieve net-zero carbon by 2040."

T-Mobile has a long track record of dedication to building a more sustainable future. It was previously the first in U.S. wireless to achieve an ambitious 100% renewable electricity goal, as well as previous science-based carbon reduction goals. The Un-carrier earned an A- for its 2022 CDP Climate Change disclosure, and was recognised in the top 20 of JUST Capital's 2023 Rankings of America's Most Just Companies, including a number one ranking in the telecom industry for environmental impact. To learn more about T-Mobile's sustainability efforts, visit t-mobile.com/sustainability.

To learn more about the Science Based Targets initiative, visit sciencebasedtargets.org.





Time for a prosperous creative-driven future of fashion

Greener, more innovative, more creative – the members of the European Fashion Alliance established measures and actions for a sustainable and inclusive future of the European fashion industry. The members of the European Fashion Alliance (EFA), founded in Frankfurt in June 2022, gathered last year during the Gran Canaria Swim Week – the only European Swim Wear Week - for their first summit.

The aim of the summit of 59 representatives from 23 European

countries was to discuss and agree on a package of measures and actions that can support and promote the necessary transformation process in the fashion industry in Europe. The alliance, which consists of 29 member organisations, including numerous fashion councils, fashion weeks, research and educational institutions, represents more than 10,000 European companies in the fashion sector, ranging from micro-enterprises to large corporations.

One of the main topics during the meeting was the “Green Deal”

formulated by the European Union in 2019 by Commission President Ursula von der Leyen to reduce net emissions of greenhouse gases to zero by 2050, to which the fashion industry must also urgently contribute, according to the commitment of the EFA. Because the CO₂- and environmentally destructive footprint from textile production and fashion consumption is still huge. The European Fashion Alliance aims to contribute significantly to achieving a CO₂-neutral, environmentally sustainable, non-toxic and completely circular textile industry and to raise



"For 2023, EFA has launched a Europe-wide survey through its members to investigate the needs and challenges of micro, small, medium and large enterprises operating in the fashion and textile industry, as well as education and research-oriented and other industry-related stakeholders"

and sensitise the awareness of fashion producers, designers and consumers.

To this end, four pillars on which the targeted measures are to be based were defined during the meeting in Gran Canaria: sustainability, education, politics and innovation.

The European Fashion Alliance believes that sustainability and digital transformation, together with innovation, education and labor market measures, will be the drivers for the fashion industry to make textiles more durable, repairable, reusable and recyclable. To accelerate this transition process, EFA will therefore also focus on the cross-cultural exchanges and interactions between creatives and support young talents as drivers of change through actions, research and campaigning.

For the period from 2023 to 2027, the European Fashion Alliance translates this belief into four main objectives based on the four defined pillars:

Definition of an ethical, social and sustainable code of conduct for EFA members and by extension for the fashion industry

A new Green Deal for fashion at European level representing fashion culture and business, founded on a European-based circular and social fashion eco-system based on shared data and a shared measurement data system.

Creation and enforcing of sustainable and technological training and social & cultural responsibility practices for EFA key stakeholders.

Empowerment of Generation Z and the new generations as leading forces of value in digital, circular and social transition of the fashion industry.

The members agreed that the vision and objectives of the EFA must be translated into concrete action plans and policy frameworks within the next

two to three years to drive change. This can only be achieved with a solid understanding of the needs and challenges of the fashion industry, especially the creative and design-oriented stakeholders.

For 2023, EFA has launched a Europe-wide survey through its members to investigate the needs and challenges of micro, small, medium and large enterprises operating in the fashion and textile industry, as well as education and research-oriented and other industry-related stakeholders.

The knowledge gained from this should enable EFA to create a priority-driven policy framework in response to the current legislation resulting from, amongst others, the European Strategy for Sustainable and Circular Textiles and the creation of new EU policies and programs to support fashion and creative industries.

The aim is to give stakeholders a better understanding of European legislation – an area in which many creative entrepreneurs are still “lost in translation”.

Moreover, EFA will involve and empower young talents and voices by actively engaging them in leadership roles and activities within the organization alongside established brands and organisations.

Statements by members of the European Fashion Alliance:

CARLO CAPASA – CAMERA NAZIONALE DELLA MODA ITALIANA

“Our mission is to educate fashion consumers and brands about what it means to be sustainable and to give high value to creativity underlining our appreciation to all people behind the system. One of the main roles of the EFA is to involve our member brands in the storytelling of what is behind their products and to represent a new idea of the fashion of the future. By working together in the EFA, we can show other industries what can be achieved when everyone works together.”



PASCAL MORAND – FEDERATION DE LA HAUTE COUTURE ET DE LA MODE

“Fashion goes beyond the market, it’s about culture. We are in a market economy; it also concerns those who are not in the market to understand that creative fashion can play a sustainable engine role more globally”

DILYS WILLIAMS – CENTER FOR SUSTAINABLE FASHION

“We should not only change the content of fashion, but also change the rules and goals of fashion. Fashion is often evaluated in economic terms by growth and numbers. But it is important to create value in cultural terms. To communicate what fashion can contribute to people’s well-being and what impact – positive and negative – it has on our society.”

CHRISTIANE ARP – FASHION COUNCIL GERMANY

“Fashion has to evolve in the cultural and social context to stay relevant. One of the tasks of the Fashion Councils is to promote and support a new generation of designers. The young creative people have the ability to change the fashion system sustainably and innovatively.”

SCOTT LIPINSKI – FASHION COUNCIL GERMANY

“The European Fashion Alliance is an important and strong network which - like no other - can make its contribution to changing the European fashion industry. Change doesn’t happen alone. It’s an industry interaction and that’s what EFA is. We have created an instrument that will prove itself in the years to come.”

CECILIE THORSMARK – COPENHAGEN FASHION WEEK

“A fashion week can take advantage of its position to accelerate change and demand change – to move the industry forward. But fashion weeks must also take responsibility in sustainability, keeping in mind a reduced amount of resources in production, lower carbon – emissions, etc.

CAROLINE RUSH – BRITISH FASHION COUNCIL

“With common values and language and common understanding of measurement tools, it is important for our designers that when they go into France, Italy, Germany or Denmark or anywhere else, that they have a good and common understanding of the framework that is expected from them in terms of sustainability. In particular for small businesses that find it really challenging in terms of trading globally. The more we are asking them to look at the different measurements and standards, the more difficult it is for them to be able to trade. This is an opportunity to collaborate and break down those barriers.”

“Fashion goes beyond the market, it’s about culture. We are in a market economy; it also concerns those who are not in the market to understand that creative fashion can play a sustainable engine role more globally”



Workers in renewable energy sector are in high demand

Skilled workers are in big demand, that's the key takeaway from the latest Global Energy Talent Index. This year's GETI report maps the way that socioeconomic disruption is reshaping the energy landscape. The energy security crisis is creating sky-high profits, new projects and pay increases for fossil fuel workers, while accelerating the transition to clean energy and creating similar salary rises across renewables. Industry-wide salary increases and skills shortages are empowering energy workers to choose jobs based on wider criteria, particularly the desire to make a meaningful change and support employers that reflect their ESG values. Employers can harness this opportunity to promote the industry's role in eco innovations – from carbon capture and storage to high-performance plastics for electric vehicles – and give employees the chance to lead everything from diversity to net-zero initiatives. Higher pay and a post-pandemic attachment to home life is producing a more settled workforce that is reluctant to move jobs or countries, hampering cross-sector recruitment or relocation. Instead of over-fishing a dwindling stock of migrating energy

talent, hiring managers should cast the talent net further to outside industries and offer more support to make relocation successful for families. With growing skills synergies with outside industries such as technology, the industry can recruit fresh talent but will need to offer more flexible working and support for families and living costs to encourage relocation of existing employees. Supply chain costs and inflation are diverting crucial resources from recruitment, retention, employee salaries and benefits. Instead of exhausting resources on rising recruitment and labour costs, employers could upskill existing workers to create a more multi-functional and efficient workforce. Additionally, all sectors could cost-effectively increase the skills base by giving women more equal benefits and representation in decision-making, thus helping attract more women to a heavily male-dominated industry. This is an industry undergoing seismic shifts. Emerging from the disruption is a new generation of employees who want not only higher pay, but also meaningful work. They desire the ability to make an individual impact where they're employed and within

wider society. Giving workers a greater voice in company policies and the chance to spearhead social and environmental innovations will be well-received. The leaders in the future energy talent race will be those that offer not only the best pay, promotions, and perks, but also the most positive social and environmental impacts.

Download report
<https://www.getireport.com>

"This is an industry undergoing seismic shifts. Emerging from the disruption is a new generation of employees who want not only higher pay, but also meaningful work. They desire the ability to make an individual impact where they're employed and within wider society"



Global offshore wind industry joins forces with the Carbon Trust to decarbonise and scale up sustainably

Eleven offshore wind developers – bp, EnBW, Fred Olsen Seawind, Ørsted, Parkwind, RWE, Scottish Power Renewables, Shell, SSE Renewables, Total Energies and Vattenfall – are partnering with the Carbon Trust to make future offshore wind more sustainable.

The developers design, build and operate wind farms globally, including across Europe, North America and Asia, and collectively represent around a quarter of global installed capacity.

They will work in collaboration with the Carbon Trust as part of the new Offshore Wind Sustainability Joint Industry Programme to develop the

first industry-backed methodology and guidance to measure and address the carbon emissions associated with offshore wind farms throughout their lifecycle, including emissions from the manufacturing of materials and installation of wind farms.

The aim of this work is to help the global offshore wind industry scale as sustainably as possible and continue its important contribution towards meeting the world's Net Zero target by 2050 and limiting the most extreme impacts of climate change. A standardised methodology will ensure the scale of installation needed is delivered in a low carbon way and encourage comparability across developers and assets.

This programme is the fifth addition

“By the end of 2021, 55GW of offshore wind capacity was installed globally, with over a third of this being installed within 2021.1 However, according to the IEA, an additional 70-80GW will need to be installed every year from 2030 in order to achieve Net Zero by 2050”

to the Carbon Trust's renewable energy innovation platform which consists of a portfolio of R&D activities including the Offshore Wind Accelerator (OWA), the Floating Wind Joint Industry Programme, the Integrator and the Offshore Renewables Joint Industry Programme.

By the end of 2021, 55GW of offshore wind capacity was installed globally, with over a third of this being installed within 2021.¹ However, according to the IEA, an additional 70-80GW will need to be installed every year from 2030 in order to achieve Net Zero by 2050.²

As demand for renewable energy grows, the offshore wind industry needs to scale up rapidly to meet this level of ambition, and this must be done in a sustainable way. Building on the decarbonisation efforts at an individual wind farm level, a collaborative industry effort will be key to creating a consistent approach to account for carbon impacts, increase transparency of supply chain emissions and accelerate engagement across the value chain. This will support the delivery of the scale of installation needed, with the benefit of a strong understanding of lifecycle carbon emissions.

While offshore wind energy generation has a significantly lower carbon impact than fossil fuels, the sector must also work collaboratively to de-couple its own value chain from carbon and resource-intensive models of production, deployment and operation, addressing key hotspots such as steel, cement and fuels.

Jan Matthiesen, Director, Offshore Wind at the Carbon Trust said, "Global climate targets cannot be met without stepping up renewable energy generation, and offshore wind is particularly crucial to the world's transition away from fossil fuels. Our experience working with the industry through various joint industry projects is proof that collaboration is key. Over the last fourteen years, we have been focused on scaling up the offshore wind market through our Joint Industry Programmes, such

“While offshore wind energy generation has a significantly lower carbon impact than fossil fuels, the sector must also work collaboratively to de-couple its own value chain from carbon and resource-intensive models of production, deployment and operation, addressing key hotspots such as steel, cement and fuels”

as the Offshore Wind Accelerator and the Floating Wind Joint Industry Programme.”

“Now it's time to turn our attention to supporting innovation and scaling up sustainably in order to create a more resilient and competitive industry. We are delighted to be collaborating with such a global set of developers, whose collective voice has the potential to take the industry to the next level.” The first project delivered as part of the Offshore Wind Sustainability Joint Industry Programme will:-

1. Develop the first standardised methodology to enable developers to calculate the lifecycle emissions of their

offshore wind assets, including their upstream supply chain emissions, the construction phase and the operation phase.

2. Engage with the industry to improve data quality and availability and promote greater supply chain transparency.
3. Identify key carbon emission drivers and hotspots in the offshore wind value chain and wind farm life cycle.

The programme has already started with the methodology expected to be released for use across the industry by 2025.



Energy intensive industries given £12 million boost to cut emissions and costs

Businesses across the UK will benefit from a share of more than £12 million government funding to help energy-intensive industries cut their carbon emissions and energy costs.

The funding for the 22 winning projects will help businesses across England, Wales and Northern Ireland clean up their industrial processes and improve their energy efficiency – benefiting industries including pharmaceuticals, steel, paper, and food and drink.

This £12.4 million funding was awarded as part of the Industrial Energy Transformation Fund (IETF), which has awarded grants to British projects across the country to increase the energy efficiency of

“This £12.4 million funding was awarded as part of the Industrial Energy Transformation Fund (IETF), which has awarded grants to British projects across the country to increase the energy efficiency of their industrial processes, from car manufacturing to steel production and food processing”

their industrial processes, from car manufacturing to steel production and food processing.

The winning bids include sustainably harvesting food in Carmarthenshire, Wales, through a new air source heat pump system, capturing waste heat to dry, heat, crush and grind materials for roadmaking in South Yorkshire and using revolutionary high temperature heat pumps to reduce the energy needed to heat and cool cheese, reducing emissions in dairy farms across the Midlands.

It is estimated that industry is currently responsible for producing 16% of the UK's emissions and will need to cut emissions by two thirds by 2035 in order for the UK to achieve its net zero target.



The funding will play a crucial role in helping to clean up big-emitting industries as part of the UK's green industrial revolution - decarbonising their industrial processes and reducing their reliance on expensive fossil fuels, such as gas. This means businesses will not only reduce their environmental impact, but also save on their energy bills and safeguard thousands of British jobs.

Graham Stuart, Minister at the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero said: "Boosting the energy efficiency of industrial processes is a critical step not only in our transition to a lower-carbon economy, but also by helping businesses to cut their energy costs and protect valuable British jobs.

"That's why the government has stepped in once again to support energy intensive industries, with a fresh funding round to unleash the next generation of green innovators who are re-shaping the way technology can reduce carbon emissions."

So far, £34.8 million of funding has been awarded through the Industrial Energy Transformation Fund, which was first launched in June 2020.

Greener food

One of the biggest food companies in Europe, Dunbia, based in Carmarthenshire, Wales, has been awarded funds to upgrade its heating system from a gas oil fired steam boiler to an air source heat pump that is powered by renewably sourced electricity. This allows the company to harvest edible products and process the food with hot water washing, through a sustainable and energy efficient thermal supply system, reducing carbon emissions each year.

Sustainable roads

Harsco Environmental's SteelPhalt plant, based in Rotherham, South Yorkshire, has been developing and manufacturing high performance tarmac products for the UK roadmaking industry since the 1960s. This energy intensive process of drying, heating, crushing, grinding, conveying currently utilises large volumes of natural gas, gas oil and electricity from the grid, but thanks



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to government funding, the company is investigating ways to capture the waste heat in the exhaust gases and transform it into electrical power, reducing the fuel demand of the road burners and supporting manufacturing in the local area.

Lighter, safer vehicles

Autotech Engineering / Gestamp is a multinational based in Newton Aycliffe, County Durham, specialising in the design, development and manufacture of metals for lighter and safer vehicles. Whereby high-tonnage presses of flat metal sheets typically loses lots of energy through heat and noise, IETF has helped to fund the SERPENT project which is actively capturing and reusing this lost energy. With a reduction of almost 10% already seen in peak power usage

during tool changeover, this funding is helping to lower energy consumption and the environmental impact of critical car manufacturing.

Say cheese

The Long Clawson Dairy has been producing cheese for over a century, running over 31 farms in the Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire areas. The production of cheese is an energy intensive process involving both heating and cooling activities. Through IETF funding, the company has created a new thermal storage system, using revolutionary high temperature heat pumps to reduce overall energy by 27% and saving 34% carbon emissions, with the ambition of moving to a purely electrically powered in the long term.



Learning for a sustainable future



Sustainability is an important value that we encourage all North Hertfordshire College community members to consider in their work, from staff and students through to our local schools and the wider community. We're proud to work with a range of employer partners who share in our vision, and who can help us provide experiences and opportunities to our community members and inspire them to think about sustainability in different ways. This is something that has been incorporated across our provision and learning opportunities to enable our learners and staff to have a greater understanding of the importance of sustainability both in their current and future activities.

Employer Collaboration with Bambuubrush

In our Travel and Tourism department, our students worked

alongside the award-winning sustainability company Bambuubrush to design and create a reusable mug and bottle. Bambuubrush shared our students' passion for change and desire to mitigate the impact of litter on the environment, something they had witnessed first-hand. The students were inspired by Bambuubrush's insight and began their own recycling campaigns in the College and at home. This work culminated in their final project designs for the reusable bottle and cups.

The products served a dual purpose, having been sold to staff and students to help raise funds for our charity of the year whilst also helping to reduce plastic waste across our campuses. NHC Community Allotment Project



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In 2019, we created our student allotment at the Stevenage campus. This project, developed in collaboration with several employer partners including Stevenage Community Trust and Wickes (Stevenage branch), provides space for our learners to develop their knowledge of both sustainability and self-sufficiency. Learners across our curriculum areas can develop their knowledge of healthy eating and gardening, as well as having access and time to practice well-being by trying their hand at growing and caring for vegetables.

The NHC Community Allotment

Project has since expanded to involve local community groups and organisations, too. Learners on our Child Development Studies and Health & Social Care programmes have been working with Roebuck Academy in Stevenage, with pupils from the school visiting the College campus to learn more about healthy eating. The mutual benefits of the project mean that, as well as providing our own students with valuable work experience opportunities, we are also able to take the message of sustainability further and help inspire young minds. The skills our students have developed also allows the cycle of knowledge to continue, with NHC



students being invited to assist Roebuck in establishing their own allotment project.

Powering the future workforce

We are extremely proud to have developed our IMI-accredited electric vehicles delivery over at our Engineering and Construction campus (ECC) to reflect the sustainability and environmentally conscious changes

in the motor vehicle industry. As well as providing the next generation of employees with the skills and knowledge they need to future-proof their careers, we also cater to employees to already interact with electric vehicles in their roles, thanks to our specialised training for emergency response workers. Looking to the future, we're excited to be extending this offer further with an even larger portfolio. Support from our partners Electrassure will see our delivery at the ECC develop further, with opportunities for staff CPD, electric vehicle charging knowledge taught across our Electrical Installation courses, and greater equipment available for students and staff to benefit from. We are already beginning to see the next generation of mechanics learning the skills that will take them forward in their careers as a result of this input.

We are dedicated to enhancing our students' understanding of sustainability both now and in the future - could your business provide a key opportunity for developing our learners' skills? If you're keen to learn more about how we can work together, please get in touch.





At Tollers we embrace Sustainable Solutions



As well as advising clients on their legal obligations in relation to sustainability, we pride ourselves on promoting sustainable practices and policies in our own work place. As a matter of principle, we conduct a yearly review of our policies to see if there are ways in which we can further reduce our carbon footprint and cut waste and we actively encourage our staff to participate in this process.

As part of the day to day management of the Firm, we are always looking at how we can be more sustainable, what schemes and initiatives are

available to assist with this and how can we utilise these to the benefit of all.

Some of our current initiatives include:

A 'paperless' office

This is an ongoing project and although we are not quite there yet we encourage staff to reduce the use of paper in their daily work. This was one of the first policies we adopted and as a result we have seen a significant reduction in our paper usage. We now utilise emails as the main way of communicating with our clients. We have also implemented



“Sustainability is important in any business and at Tollers we are always looking at ways in which we can improve and enhance what we do to support this”

solutions to allow clients to electronically sign documents, so they do not need to print them out and we also store documents electronically in a data management system, which avoids the need to store hard copy documents.

Recycling

All our waste paper is carefully recycled to comply with our sustainability policy and also to ensure sensitive information is disposed of in a confidential manner. All Tollers offices have several recycling points around the buildings, so that staff can recycle any waste that they may have appropriately.

We also use e-recycling when it comes to responsibly disposing of our old IT and electronic equipment.

Automatic lights

Tollers offices have been fitted with sensor lighting. This ensures that lights are not on and energy is not wasted when areas of the office are not in use.

Schemes

As a firm we have also introduced certain government backed schemes to support our staff.

Cycle to work schemes:

The Cycle to Work scheme is a government initiative that was introduced to encourage employees to use a bike to commute to and from the workplace.

It is important to us as a firm to promote health and wellbeing in the workplace. By supporting The Cycle to Work scheme our employees benefit and are able to pay for the bike/equipment monthly over a year through a salary sacrifice arrangement. Not only do they save tax on the bike/equipment they are also reducing their own carbon footprint, and helping achieve a more sustainable world.

Electric car scheme

This is the most recent scheme we have introduced and has attracted a

lot of interest from our staff. Again this is a salary sacrifice scheme that our staff can utilise if they wish to lease an electric car and allows them to pay for the car directly from their salary before tax. This means that our participating staff are helping to reduce carbon emissions, improve air quality and reduce noise pollution.

Working from Home

Our general policy allows our solicitors to work from home for 40% of their working week, which in turn allows them to save on travel/petrol

costs. We also allow flexible working so that staff who are not able to work from home, can time their journey to work and hopefully miss out on sitting in gridlocked traffic. Therefore, reducing congestion on the road.

Sustainability is important in any business and at Tollers we are always looking at ways in which we can improve and enhance what we do to support this. As a Firm we want to ensure we are helping to make our working and living environments better now and for the future.



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Five predictions for the electric vehicle industry in 2023



As the electric vehicle (EV) market continues to grow, and the 2030 ban on the production of new combustion engine cars in the UK approaches, what can we expect to see happen in the EV market over the next year?

There are an estimated 620,000 pure electric, non-hybrid cars on the road in the UK, (224,919 new ones sold in 2022 alone), according to HeyCar. But what can we expect from this rising market in 2023?

Lloyd Davies, Service Development Director at ElectrAssure, outlines his five predictions for the electric vehicle industry in 2023.

1 MORE EVS, MORE CHARGERS, HAPPIER CUSTOMERS

EV adoption will continue to accelerate in 2023. It's expected that 1.8 million EVs will grace Britain's roads and 26.7% of new car registrations will be electric ones in 2023 (according to SMMT (Society of

"The advancement of EV technology will continue in 2023. Improvements in batteries and chargers will continue to make EVs more practical and affordable for the average consumer. Most importantly, we can expect to see chargers get faster, become cheaper and more common to install"

Motor Manufacturers and Traders)). EV usage and ownership will grow as both consumers and businesses begin to recognise that an EV can be a practical, sensible, and sustainable alternative to petrol or diesel. The UK government has already pledged £1.6bn of investment through its Electric Vehicle

Infrastructure Strategy, which promises 300,000 chargers on public roads by 2030 – over five times the current number of petrol and diesel pumps. With increasing numbers of charging hubs being opened by private networks such as GridServe, Osprey, BP Pulse and Shell, as EV ownership increases, so will the number of chargers available to them.

2 MORE PRIVATE INVESTMENT FROM LEGACY CAR MANUFACTURERS

For a while now, legacy car manufacturers have been building their own EVs, and now some of the most high-end electric cars available aren't Teslas, but Audis, Mercedes-Benz and Porsches. In a further move to rival Tesla, Mercedes-Benz has announced that it will build its own ultra-fast rapid charger network Mercedes Benz ultra-fast charging announcement. Other manufacturers are likely to follow. In terms of market share and profit

per car, Tesla is by far the EV market leader Tesla Profit per car - Reuters. However, the company's dominance is likely to be challenged in 2023 as several more cost-effective EV models from Chinese and other vehicle manufacturers enter the market.

3 REDUCED LEAD TIMES FOR NEW EVS

Over the last few years, the lead times for the delivery of a new EV to a consumer's door has increased considerably. According to The Daily Telegraph some models in the UK have a wait time of up to 18 months. These waiting times have been caused by various supply chain issues, including Covid-19 which impacted EV manufacturers and microchip production. However, a post-pandemic hangover, increasing levels of inflation and supply chain challenges will continue to disrupt many industries. So renting,

instead of buying, a new premium EV may be your best option for having an electric vehicle in 2023.

4 IMPROVED CHARGING AND BATTERY TECHNOLOGY

The advancement of EV technology will continue in 2023. Improvements in batteries and chargers will continue to make EVs more practical and affordable for the average consumer. Most importantly, we can expect to see chargers get faster, become cheaper and more common to install. Amongst the fastest chargers are Tesla's 250 kWh charger - which can take a Tesla from 10% to 80% in 25 minutes. For batteries, solid state looks likely to be the near future. Solid state batteries have two to ten times the energy density of standard EV batteries. This will mean reduced weight, greater range, and faster charging.

5 FLEETS ELECTRIFICATION

Business fleets are making a tentative transition to EVs, due to the infrastructure costs. This will accelerate in 2023 as businesses look to reduce carbon emissions from their operations as they approach various net zero pledges; (either self-declared, or government mandated). Management software will be able to optimise the charging schedule of each vehicle's battery, ensuring each battery has enough to charge to complete its required tasks, considering battery health, energy costs, the number of chargers in operation, and other factors, hence minimising downtime.

If you're considering taking your fleet electric, ElectrAssure can help. Visit our website www.electrassure.co.uk or give us a call on 01438 525264 to find out more.



Complete Life Cycle

ElectrAssure can deliver, support & manage your EV charging system, ensuring maximum availability at all times.

When you rely on your electric vehicles for your business, downtime simply isn't an option. Our clients value us because we refuse to let them down.

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Making Hertfordshire more energy efficient

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Partnership



In the first of a series of articles, Helen Pollock, Clean Growth Manager, Hertfordshire LEP, explains what retrofit means and how businesses and residents can benefit.

Our homes are one of the biggest offenders when it comes to energy consumption – using around 35% of all energy in the UK and emitting a fifth of carbon dioxide emissions. Taking measures now to fix our draughty homes would put the UK on track to meet its climate change targets, creating up to half a million

new jobs and improving the nation's energy security. So what would a green recovery look like and how could Hertfordshire residents and businesses benefit? Retrofit is a word that's being used more and more often, especially when people are talking about how to reduce energy usage and the carbon footprint of our homes and commercial premises. This term simply refers to the process of making changes to existing buildings so that energy consumption and emissions are reduced. These

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changes also provide the benefit of a more comfortable, healthier living environment with lower fuel bills, giving home-owners more disposable income.



We know only too well the impact that poor internal air quality has on health - often affecting the poorest in our communities and putting an additional burden on the NHS. Taking action now to help fix our homes, some of the leakiest in Europe, would help tackle health inequality and put more money in the public and individual homeowners' purse.

With retrofit comes wider socio-economic benefits and the opportunity to upskill and retrain. Thousands of new jobs will be needed if the retrofit industry is able to keep pace with demand to meet net-zero emissions targets by 2050. Currently a lack of necessary skills risks creating a bottleneck, significantly reducing delivery potential.

In order to redress this, the construction and training sectors are working together to create new technical education pathways for school leavers and adult learners and investing in new training programmes. Similarly, workers can be given the opportunity to upskill in new retrofit technologies and processes and more young people and adults can be encouraged to train or retrain in green retrofit technologies.

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General trades – such as gas engineers, electricians, window fitters, plasterer/renderers, carpenters, builders – have a major part to play in the green revolution.

Part of my role as Clean Growth Manager is to drive engagement between education and enterprise to encourage and expand green skills and retrofit development. By working closely with local authorities, housing associations, our four FE colleges, University of Hertfordshire and government retrofit delivery agents, Hertfordshire LEP is helping to ensure local domestic retrofit supply businesses are ready to meet demand while reducing barriers to retrofit uptake and delivery (such

as consumer trust and confidence, trader quality and governance). Over the next couple of months we will be running events for both training providers and supply chain businesses to raise awareness of both the scale of the retrofit challenge and the opportunities.

Businesses seeking further information and advice about retrofit should contact Hertfordshire Growth Hub (www.hertsgrowthhub.com) or please drop me a line.

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Co-Space is stepping up their efforts for improved sustainability across all of their sites



Having proudly partnered with My Square Metre; planting 250,000 wildflowers across 500 square metres of degraded land.

Their aim is to protect and preserve the natural environment while simultaneously offsetting 1500Kg of our CO2 emissions. You can read more about their efforts online at www.co-space.co.uk/esg/

"We recognise that we can always be doing more, which is why throughout 2023 we are focusing on broadening our local programmes and fundraising activities. In Q2 of 2023 we will publish our 5-year ESG strategy. Using Co-Space's core pillars supported by the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, we will be outlining the steps we are taking and planning to take, to achieve net zero by 2030 ahead of UK government targets" - Co-Space.

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Data centre used to heat public swimming pool



A data centre no bigger than a washing machine is heating a Devon public swimming pool.

The computers are surrounded by oil which enables them to capture the heat which can get the pool to around 30C approximately 60% of the time, saving Exmouth Leisure Centre thousands of pounds.

The data centre is provided to the council-run centre free of charge and the start-up Deep Green charges clients to use its computing power for artificial intelligence and machine learning.

Founder Mark Bjornsgaard said the company would also refund the leisure centre's electricity costs for running the "digital boiler" - and seven other England pools had signed up to the scheme.

"The partnership has really helped us reduce the costs of what has been astronomical over the last 12 months - our energy prices and gas prices have gone through the roof"

The concept, developed over five years sees the hot oil pumped into a heat exchanger to warm the water in the pool.

Sean Day, who runs the leisure centre, said: "The partnership has really helped us reduce the costs of what has been astronomical over the last 12 months - our energy prices and gas prices have gone through the roof."

"Looking at different ways of how we can save money as an organisation has been awesome."

It was revealed last summer that 65 swimming pools had closed since 2019, with rising energy costs cited as a significant reason.

But large ones can require billions of gallons of water and millions of pounds to keep cool. Some are even built under water - or in caves or very cold parts of the world.

Mr Bjornsgaard went on to say: "Data centres have got a huge problem with heat. A lot of the money that it costs to run a data centre is taken up in getting rid of the heat.

"And so what we've done is taken a very small bit of a data centre to where the heat is useful and required."



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