

### INTRODUCTION



This document represents the sustainability report of Trustteam and is the result of a joint effort between company management, Rivean Capital and Holtara. It presents the conclusions of the ESG assessment conducted in Q4 2023 and Q1 2024 by Holtara. Desk research, data provided by the company representatives, and strategic discussions between management, Rivean Capital, and Holtara provided input for this report.

#### WHY DO WE TALK ABOUT THIS?

Rivean Capital believes that ESG factors can have a considerable impact on the performance of a company and recognises the increasing importance of this topic. It demands for an explicit stance on the subject, by reducing and mitigating risks and by looking for opportunities to create value beyond financial return.

#### WHAT ARE ESG AND SUSTAINABILITY?

ESG stands for Environmental, Social and Governance, known as the three central factors in measuring the sustainability and ethical impact of an investment in a company. Sustainability, in itself, is the potential to produce and consume within the regenerative capacity of the earth.



### APPROACH USED FOR ESG ASSESSMENT & STRATEGY

**ESG EXPOSURE** 

**KEY THEMES** 

III PERFORMANCE

IV

ROADMAP

The ESG relevance in the company's industry is determined. relevant market developments are described, and a future-proof version of the industry is illustrated.

Using Holtara's ESG framework, based on a high-level double materiality approach, a company heat map is drafted.

The company's performance on the key material themes and on its overall ESG management is monitored and presented.

Finally, opportunities are identified during the strategic discussion where ESG and value creation coincide. Projects are prioritised, and action plans for the short- to mid-term are created.

### 2023 FOCUS ON CARBON MONITORING



### MARKET ADVANTAGE

Companies with carbon management, - reporting and reduction strategies in place are increasingly experiencing a competitive advantage in tenders and procurement decisions.



#### REGULATORY COMPLIANCE

Regulatory pressures concerning emissions reporting are intensifying, and compliance is swiftly becoming obligatory for the majority of companies and investors.



#### BUSINESS PERFORMANCE

Sustainable organisations have an edge over their peers and experience improved financing terms, talent attraction, employee loyalty and morale.

Note: All judgements are, where possible, based on or backed by analyses and data. In cases involving across-category comparisons or result classification, judgements are not always based on objective analyses or data. These judgements are intersubjective in the sense that they are agreed between Holtara and management, and in line with the thinking of industry experts and leading NGOs. 2 | Strictly Private & Confidential. All Rights Reserved. Not for Distribution. Copyright © 2024 Holtara.



### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

### Data protection remains paramount, with increased attention for social themes

#### **M** KEY THEMES 2023 ESG PERFORMANCE & KPIs<sup>2</sup> Carbon intensity: Scope 1 + 2 (tCO<sub>2</sub>e / €m revenue) Trustteam has done an initial assessment of its Scope 1, 2 Carbon Involved and 3 emissions, increasing data coverage. Improving data footprint Limited data<sup>4</sup> quality and coverage is the next step. management<sup>3</sup> 2021 2022 2023 **Employee turnover** (%) With an increasing number of training hours per employee Emplovee Involved each year, employee engagement & well-being is 22 engagement & considered an important topic for Trustteam. Trustteam is 15 well-being committed to measuring employee engagement on a structured basis. 2021 2022 2023 **Gender diversity** (% Female FTE) Basic-level initiatives (e.g. a diverse hiring team, a Diversity. Reactive harassment policy, and equal parental leave) are in place 22 equity & 18 to promote DE&I, with the topic becoming increasingly inclusion important to Trustteam. n/a 2021 2022 2023 Security incidents (#)Trustteam is committed to safeguarding data protection Committed protection & and customer privacy through continuous expansion of To be monitored from entities covered by ISO 27001 certification. 2024 onwards

### **™** 2024 PRIORITY PROJECTS

EII Carbon footprint management

Scope 2: Share of renewable energy consumed and/or produced Increase the % of renewable energy consumed and/or produced.

E2 Carbon footprint management

Scope 1 + 2: Share of electric vehicles
Continue with the electrification of the
company fleet.

Employee engagement & wellbeing

Number of training hours per employee

Expand the total hours of training per employee per year.

Data protection & customer privacy

ISO 27001 entity revenue

Increase the share of Trustteam revenues covered by ISO 27001.

2021

2022

2023

privacy

Benchmarking data retrieved, when relevant, from the Holtara company benchmarking database based on similar or adjacent industries and/or operations; <sup>2</sup> Recent acquisitions may have an impact on KPIs;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> First year this theme is assessed, previously energy use and vehicle emissions were assessed as separate themes; <sup>4</sup> 2021 and 2022 carbon footprint is based on a limited set of Scope 1 and 2 data. Source: Company data, Holtara analysis

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### **INDUSTRY ESG CONTEXT**

I ESG EXPOSURE

KEY THEMES

PERFOR

IV ROA

ROADMAI

## Strengthening digital security prompts IT firms to leverage compliance for a competitive edge

Key changes from last year

#### **SUMMARY**

As digital technology adoption accelerates, EU regulations are reinforcing digital security, benefiting consumers and businesses. Market demand is shifting towards hardware and software solutions that prioritise security, compliance, and risk management. Upcoming regulations aim to enhance product security throughout their lifecycle, holding manufacturers and retailers more accountable. IT companies can leverage heightened cybersecurity requirements by providing compliant solutions, enhancing their competitive edge. Relevant certifications, strong customer relationships, and value-added services such as audits and compliance consulting strengthen the credibility of IT firms in the market.

### **ESG INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS**

#### **Market Demand**

- Protecting data privacy and security is crucial for maintaining operational licenses. Rising cyber-attack rates have fueled the need for better breach mitigation solutions.
- Talent shortage is likely to increase further competition between employers (e.g. on fringe benefits and development opportunities).
- Tech providers are key in supporting an organisation's sustainability goals. A tech company's commitment to ESG is now a significant competitive advantage, emphasising the importance of a proven track record in driving such initiatives.

### Regulation & Certification

- The Internet services and infrastructure sector is subject to various regulations GDPR<sup>1</sup> and ISO 27001<sup>2</sup>.
- Other relevant certifications and standards include ISO 90003<sup>3</sup>, ISAE3402<sup>4</sup> and ISAE3000<sup>5</sup>.
- Several large data centre operators have signed the 'Climate Neutral Data Centre Pact'.
- Building on the EU Cybersecurity
  Strategy 2020, upcoming directives
  include the NIS2 Directive<sup>6</sup>, enhancing
  EU-wide cybersecurity, and the Cyber
  Resilience Act (CRA)<sup>7</sup>, proposing
  cybersecurity regulations for hardware
  and software products.

### Value Chain Initiatives

- VanRoey and Eurosys are ISO 27001 and Great Place To Work certified.
   Both elaborate on circularity initiatives, sustainable procurement, sustainable data centres, and social initiatives.
- Pushed by EU regulation, Recupel collaborates with manufacturers, retailers, and consumers to facilitate the collection and recycling of e-waste.
- Regional initiatives in Flanders like Voka<sup>8</sup> support the interests of entrepreneurs through in-house programs like VCDO<sup>9</sup>. It assists (IT) businesses in integrating sustainability into their organisations and throughout a product's lifecycle.

### **Future Proof Industry**

- Data centres' emissions are net-zero; other emissions are minimised or offset.
   Emission reductions are in line with the Paris Agreement and renewable energy is used where possible.
- The development and well-being of employees are prioritised; and workforces are diverse and inclusive.
- Projects at clients (i.e. operations) cause positive downstream impact.
- Ethical and ABC<sup>10</sup> risks are minimised through sound compliance programmes.
- Companies guarantee best-in-class data security and privacy through solid procedures that are aligned with regulations and certifications.

### **LICENCE TO GROW**

### Regulatory pressure

How regulations influence market dynamics in achieving a sustainable state

HIGH
MEDIUM
LOW

### **Transition potential**

The availability of market solutions for transitioning to a sustainable state

HIGH
MEDIUM
LOW

### **Commercial leverage**

How a competitive advantage is gained through sustainable positioning

LOW

HIGH MEDIUM

### Positive

Aligned with a sustainable future
Unchallenged
No significant challenges

### Conditional

Under certain conditions

### Challenged

Need to overcome obstacles

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR); <sup>2</sup> ISO certification for information security management; <sup>3</sup> Includes guidelines for applications of ISO9001 to computer software; <sup>4</sup> Standard that describes Service Organisation control engagement, specifically relevant for outsourcing services; <sup>5</sup> Standard for assurance over non-financial information; <sup>6</sup> <u>European Parliament</u>; <sup>7</sup> <u>European Commission</u>; <sup>8</sup> <u>Voka</u>; <sup>9</sup> <u>VDCO</u>; <sup>10</sup> Anti-bribery and corruption. Source: Company websites, Holtara analysis



### A heatmap showcases the identified material topics in the industry

INDUSTRY HEATMAP		Upstream	Operations	Downstream
E	Energy & climate  Material circularity  Ecosystems impact		(E1)	
S	Employee well-being Customer impact Corporate citizenship		\$1\$9	<b>63</b>
G	Corporate governance Supply chain management Business resilience & ESG		(3)(4) (6) (2)	

## POTENTIAL MATERIAL THEMES



#### **DETERMINING MATERIALITY**

- The industry that the company is operating in is classified according to the Sustainability Accounting Standards Board's (SASB) Sustainable Industry Classification System<sup>1</sup>.
- A longlist of potential material ESG themes is developed. SASB's Materiality Map is used to identify sustainability issues that are likely to affect the financial condition or operating performance of companies within a specific industry.
- The resulting ESG themes are deemed highly material to the company.



### **DOUBLE MATERIALITY ASSESSMENT**

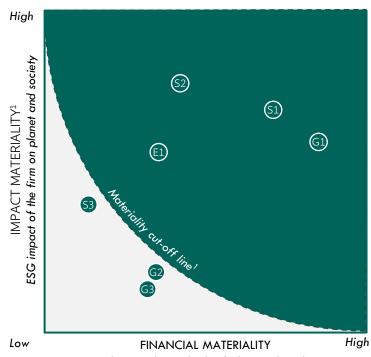
- The potential material themes are then scored for financial and impact materiality (details on next slide).
- Financial materiality relates to the potential ESG risks and opportunities to the firm's financial performance. It is also referred to as an outside-in look at ESG matters in a company.
- Impact materiality relates to potential ESG impacts on the planet and people from a company's business activities. This includes the extent to which companies aggravate or mitigate ESG challenges. It is also referred to as an inside-out look at ESG matters in a company.
- The materiality approach used here is not CSRD compliant.



Carbon taxation, consumer

### Material ESG themes are selected based on outward adverse impact and inward business risks

### **MATERIALITY MATRIX**



Impact of ESG risks on the firm's financial performance

#### **KEY THEMES IMPACT MATERIALITY** FINANCIAL MATERIALITY

management climate change demand, climate risk Employee eng. & Innovation, talent retention, Litigation, absenteeism and wellbeing decreased productivity social security

GHG emissions drive

- Diversity, Equity & Reputational risk, litigation, Consumer demand, **S2** Inclusion consumer demand disruption of supply
  - Data protection & Personal data leak, data GDPR compliance, reputational risk, breaches breaches, loss of client trust customer privacy

### **HIGH LEVEL MATERIALITY MATRIX**

- The high-level double materiality assessments consists of an analysis of actual and potential adverse impacts and the financial and operational risks is conducted.
- · Financial and impact risks are scored for each potential material theme and then plotted on a scale from "LOW" to "HIGH".
- This is based on the industry and company risk analysis along with input from company management where applicable.

### **MATERIAL KEY THEMES**

**Carbon footprint** 

The above list of key themes are considered material for Trustteam and are going to be assessed according to the Holtara methodology in the upcoming performance stage.

### **NEXT STEPS FOR CSRD COMPLIANCE**

- This analysis is not CSRD-compliant. Conducting a full analysis is advised for Q2 2024
- Further action includes mapping your value chain, identifying and engaging key stakeholders, and overlaying these insights with disclosure topics to motivate your reporting Scope.

<sup>1</sup> The materiality cut-off line depicts the level at which risks and opportunities are deemed material. Themes under the materiality cut-off line are not further assessed because of low to no adverse impact and/or



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### CARBON FOOTPRINT MANAGEMENT

## Trustteam has conducted an initial assessment of its Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions, increasing data coverage

### **MATURITY 2023**

### Involved



**LEGEND** Performance 2023

Benchmark

Basic monitoring of energy and carbon emissions for controlled emissions (Scope 1 + 2) and supply chain emissions (Scope 3).



Scope 1, 2, and 3 emission target for net-zero before 2045 set and officially committed to Science-Based Target Initiative (SBTi).

#### 2023 PERFORMANCE

Trustteam has taken steps for carbon footprint management by assessing its Scope 1,2, and 3 emissions.

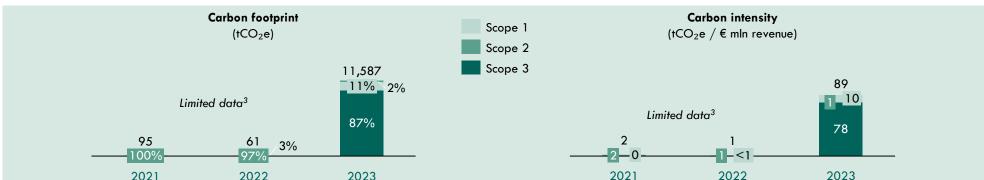
- Trustteam has assessed its Scope 1, 2 and Scope 3 emissions in 2023, resulting in an increase in the company's total emissions and in improved data coverage. There is still significant work required to ensure this calculation is accurate.
- In recent years, Trustteam has ramped up its procurement of renewable electricity. In 2023, the company achieved its internal target of 44% share of green electricity by installing rooftop solar panels in the 2 largest locations (Kortrijk and Maxeville offices) and procuring renewable electricity for offices.

#### **GAP ANALYSIS TO AMBITION LEVEL**

Improve data quality score of carbon calculations and collect data for unassessed material categories.

- Procured goods, collect on an activity basis
- Capital goods
  - End-of-life emissions
  - Scope 1 fugitive emissions
  - Use of sold products
- Trustteam should further increase the procurement of renewable electricity. A viable initiative could be the establishment of green energy purchase agreements.
- Once adequate data quality and data coverage<sup>2</sup> are achieved, Trustteam should investigate and set an SBTi Scope 3 reduction target for 2030 with a base year of 2024.

### **RELEVANT KPIs**



<sup>1</sup> Consisting of activity-based data for Scope 1 and Scope 2 and the majority of Scope 3; 2 Consisting of at least 95% data coverage for Scope 1 and Scope 2 and at least 67% data coverage for Scope 3; <sup>3</sup> 2021 and 2022 carbon footprint is based on a limited set of Scope 1 and 2 data.



Source: Company data, Holtara analysis. 8 | Strictly Private & Confidential, All Rights Reserved, Not for Distribution, Copyright © 2024 Holtara,

**LEGEND** 

### A Group-wide HR policy will support alignment across all locations

### **MATURITY 2023**

Involved



Performance 2023 Benchmark

Employee satisfaction is measured through interview and feedback rounds.



Employee well-being is monitored and reported to management annually. Surveys are conducted at the Group level. Turnover and absenteeism rates are below the industry benchmark for >3 years. L&D offerings in place tailored to employees' needs.

### 2023 PERFORMANCE

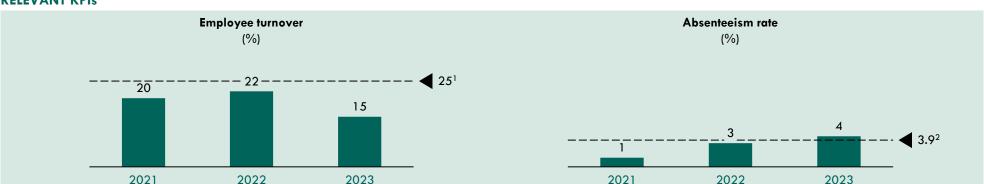
Training is provided and some initiatives are in place to stimulate work/life balance.

- Targeted employee engagement surveys are conducted as part of the integration process for any new entities. Moreover, annual feedback rounds are held.
- Trustteam provides onboarding training, vocational training, and training for enhancing soft skills, as well as regulatory-driven training. L&D needs are addressed on a team level, and specific training programs are defined yearly.
- There are several initiatives in place in order to improve work/life balance for employees like employee events, a work-from-home policy, and subsidised sports subscriptions.
- No talent attraction and retention strategy is in place.

### **GAP ANALYSIS TO AMBITION LEVEL**

- Conduct employee satisfaction survey annually or once per two years for all entities. Surveys offer deeper insights into specific training needs.
- Expand L&D offerings, tailored to employees' needs, and personal L&D budget available for everyone.
- Implement initiatives to monitor and ensure employee well-being (e.g. stress management, counselling, coaches).
- Implement a Group-wide talent attraction and retention strategy.

### RELEVANT KPIs<sup>1</sup>



Recent acquisitions may have an impact on KPIs; <sup>2</sup> Talent Monitor (2023), only available for NL; <sup>3</sup> Absenteeism benchmark of 2023 for the Dutch 'Information and Communication' sector (CBS, 2023). Source: Company data, Holtara analysis.



## Trustteam recognises the need to integrate DE&I more explicitly throughout the Group

#### **MATURITY 2023**

### Reactive



Performance 2023 Benchmark

**LEGEND** 

DE&I is not considered during all stages of the employee lifecycle (attraction; recruitment; onboarding; etc.). Ad hoc initiatives are in place to improve DE&I.





DE&I policy and strategy in place covering all relevant dimensions (e.g. gender, social background, neurological diversity).

#### 2023 PERFORMANCE

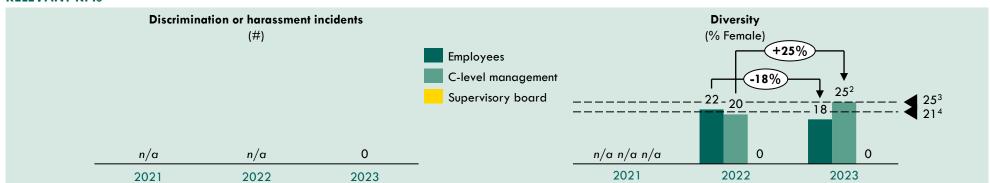
Despite DE&I not being a primary focus, internal discussions and the implementation of DE&I initiatives have sparked the discussion on the topic.

- In the broader IT services and infrastructure industry, attracting a diverse pool of talent is frequently recognised as a challenge. Increasing diversity figures in the workforce are driven by new acquisitions.
- Various initiatives in place to improve DE&I include a diverse hiring team, a harassment policy, and equal parental leave.
- While DE&I may not be a top priority for Trustteam, internal discussions have underscored the necessity for a DE&I policy.

#### **GAP ANALYSIS TO AMBITION LEVEL**

- Map the employee's perception of DE&I in the workplace, define what DE&I means for Trustteam.
- Implement a DE&I strategy and policy covering all relevant dimensions of diversity such as gender, social background and neurological diversity.
- Monitor performance (e.g. employee sentiment through training, workshops and surveys) and have defined KPIs in place.
- Ensure DE&I strategy and vision is actively communicated with employees and key stakeholders.

### RELEVANT KPIs<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> Recent acquisitions may have an impact on KPIs; 2 Based on one female C-level employee, out of four C-level employees; 6 Benchmark 2021 Belgium 'Information and Communication' industry sector (CBS, 2021);

<sup>7</sup> Benchmark 2021 France 'Information and Communication' industry sector (CBS, 2021). Source: Company data, Holtara analysis.



### G1 – DATA PROTECTION & CUSTOMER PRIVACY

**LEGEND** 

### Formalisation of data protection procedures will mitigate possible data risks

#### **MATURITY 2023**

Committed



Performance 2023

Benchmark

Data protection policies are in place. All employees receive training in data protection.



Supported by a company-wide action plan, thirdparty risk assessments are performed and data security/privacy training is delivered to all employees.

### **RELEVANT KPIs**

#### 2023 PERFORMANCE

Relevant data policies and certifications are in place. To bolster data protection, Trustteam provides regulatory compliance training, while ethical hackers assess the robustness of the IT systems.

- Over 70% of the revenue comes from operational entities covered by ISO 27001 certification. Moreover, HDS<sup>1</sup> audits are done periodically.
- Employees receive regulatory compliance training.
- The organisation's security and privacy compliance are managed by two external data officers and designated staff members. Moreover, ethical hackers regularly test the robustness of IT systems.
- Adequate controls are in place to avoid issues from infrastructure attacks. No legal notices related to data security and privacy have been received.
- A cybersecurity liability insurance for customers is in place. The internal infrastructure in France is covered by additional cybersecurity insurance.

### **GAP ANALYSIS TO AMBITION LEVEL**

- Continue ISO 27001 certification for newly acquired entities.
- A company-wide action plan, KPIs & targets for improvement of PDCA<sup>2</sup> cycle, and IT systems in place.

### Security incidents

(#)

To be monitored from 2024 onwards

2022 2023 2021

<sup>1</sup> HDS certification is a necessity for cloud service providers hosting personal medical information collected for the provision of preventive, diagnostic, and other health services; 2 Plan-Do-Check-Act (PDCA). Source: Company data, Holtara analysis.

### **GOVERNANCE OF ESG AT TRUSTTEAM**

Exposure II KEY THEMES PERFORMANCE

## ESG at Trustteam is governed from a C-level perspective on a part-time basis

### KEY RECOMMENDATIONS INDICATIVE

Currently, ESG initiatives are overseen by the CFO of the company. While ESG matters are regularly addressed at the board level, employees tend to engage in ESG activities on an ad hoc basis. There is an opportunity to formalise ESG practices across the organisation. One approach could involve appointing an ESG spokesperson from each entity to ensure ownership is taken of the ESG initiatives discussed at the Group level. Additionally, publicly disclosing an ESG policy strengthens a company's governance of ESG by providing clear guidance, enhancing transparency and accountability.

#### TYPICAL GOVERNANCE AND REPORTING STRUCTURE

### Supervisory board

The board should oversee ESG-related impacts, risks and opportunities by approving the strategy, targets and budget. They should receive specialist training to do this. The board needs to receive at least semi-annual updates on ESG.

Supervise, steer Report

### **Executive management and CEO**

The management team should identify ESG-related impacts, risks and opportunities and oversee the development of strategies to manage these. They should also ensure that suitably qualified resources are in place to execute these plans.

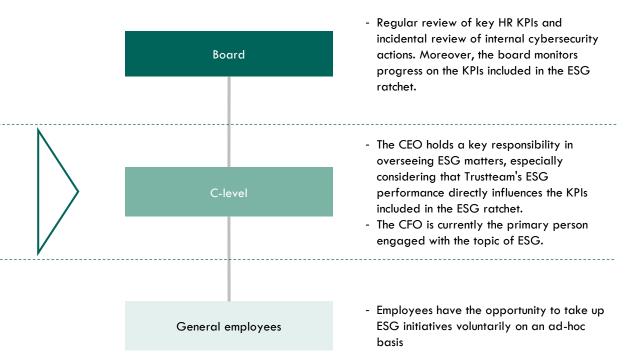
Supervise, advise

### Report, support

### General employees

Employees with ESG responsibilities are accountable for executing ESG workstreams. They should report regularly on progress to the executive management. The size of this team may depend on the impacts, risks and opportunities identified.

### SUSTAINABILITY AT TRUSTTEAM





**DUE DATE** 

## Trustteam is increasingly and actively sourcing renewable electricity for its operations

### **E1 - CARBON FOOTPRINT MANAGEMENT**

Project name	Share of renewable energy
Project owner & sponsor	Nathalie Ducret Pieter Spiesschaert
Project objective	<ul> <li>Increase the % of renewable energy consumed and/produced to align with the end target outlined in the sustainability-linked loan.<sup>1</sup></li> </ul>

### MILESTONES

0	Explore further ways to increase the share of	
	renewable electricity (e.g. solar PV at new locations,	
	energy purchase agreements).	
	Target: 50% share of renewable energy.	

Explore further ways to increase the share of renewable electricity (e.g. solar PV at new locations, energy purchase agreements).

Target: 55% share of renewable energy.

Explore further ways to increase the share of renewable electricity (e.g. solar PV at new locations, energy purchase agreements).

Target: 60% share of renewable energy.

2026

2025

% of renewable energy cons	umed and/or produced	
54% (consumed 46% of produced 8%) <sup>2</sup>	and	60% consumed and 10% own production
2023		2026

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Excluding entities acquired/merged with after baseline setting; new add-ons to be measured and added to baseline within 24 months after deal closing. While renewable energy data may not always be available for individual entities, KPI should cover material entities covering >95% of Group energy consumption; <sup>2</sup> All entities held by the Group as of Dec 31, 2023 are included in the assessment.

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KEY THEMES

PERFORMANO



ROADMAP

## Electrifying the company fleet supports Trustteam' overall carbon reduction efforts

### **E1 - CARBON FOOTPRINT MANAGEMENT**

Project name	Share of electric vehicles
Project owner & sponsor	Nathalie Ducret Pieter Spiesschaert
Project objective	Continue with the electrification of the company fleet to align with the end target outlined in the sustainability-linked loan.

### MILESTONES DUE DATE

	Monitor and evaluate the performance of the current	
	fleet, and increase the number of EV/PHEV.	2024
'	Target: Increase the % of electric vehicles (EV/PHEV)	2024
	in the fleet to 22%.	

Monitor and evaluate the performance of the current fleet, and increase the number of EV/PHEV.

Target: Increase the % of electric vehicles (EV/PHEV) in the fleet to 26%.

Monitor and evaluate the performance of the current fleet, and increase the number of EV/PHEV.

Target: Increase the % of electric vehicles (EV/PHEV) in the fleet to 30%.

2026

Green vehicles (EH/PHEV) in company fleet (%)				
18		30		
2023		2026		



ESG Exposure

KEY THEMES

PERFORMANC

V ROA

## Encouraging the importance of training for employees can result in improved employee engagement

### **S1 - EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT & WELL-BEING**

Project name	Number of training hours per employee
Project owner & sponsor	Nathalie Ducret Pieter Spiesschaert
Project objective	<ul> <li>Expand the total hours of training per employee per year as vocational training is an important employee benefit within the IT industry.</li> <li>Increase the number of training hours per employee yearly to align with the end target outlined in the sustainability-linked loan.</li> </ul>

Number of training hours per employee per year				
20 <sup>1</sup>	<b></b>	23		
2023		2026		

MIL	ESTONES	DUE DATE
0	Measure employee engagement and implement surveys related to training needs and a capacity-building program.	Q2 2024
2	Use input from surveys to improve training facilities and enhance personal development.	Q4 2024
3	Monitor progress regularly and adjust training strategy to ensure targets are being met.  Target: Increase the number of training hours per employee per year to 14.5.	2024
4	Make improvements based on feedback and performance data.  Target: Increase the number of training hours per employee per year to 18.8.	2025
€\$ <b>\</b> \$\$	Allocate sufficient resources to reach targets are achieved.  Target: Increase the number of training hours per employee per year to 23.	2026



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> All entities held by the Group as of Dec 31, 2023 are included in the assessment. 15 | Strictly Private & Confidential. All Rights Reserved. Not for Distribution. Copyright © 2024 Holtara.

### - INIONITTI NOJECT 150 27001 ENTITI NEVENOL

## Trustteam focuses on having operational activities covered by the ISO 27001 certification

### **G1- DATA PROTECTION & CUSTOMER PRIVACY**

Project name	Revenue from entities covered by ISO 27001 <sup>1</sup>
Project owner & sponsor	Nathalie Ducret Pieter Spiesschaert
Project objective	Obtain ISO 27001 certification for recent add-ons (related to IT security, cybersecurity and privacy protection) within two years to align with the end target outlined in the sustainability-linked loan.

### MILESTONES DUE DATE

_	Ensure that newly acquired add-ons align with ISO	
	27001 certification for their operational activities	2024
	within 2 years post-acquisition	

	improve add-on entities alignment process for 150	
2	27001 to ensure targets are met.	2025
	Target: 75% of revenues of current operational	2025
	entities are covered by ISO 27001 certification.	

<b>68%</b>	Further improve add-on entities' alignment process for ISO 27001 to ensure targets are met.	
49×49	Target: 90% of revenues of current operational	2026
	entities are covered by ISO 27001 certification.	

% of revenues of operational entities covered by ISO 27001			
70% <sup>1</sup>		90%	
2023		2026	



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> All entities held by the Group as of Dec 31, 2023 are included in the assessment; <sup>2</sup> Based on the following revenue figures: €93 mln / €130 mln. 16 | Strictly Private & Confidential. All Rights Reserved. Not for Distribution. Copyright © 2024 Holtara.

### **ESG PROJECTS 2024**

## Further DE&I efforts are highlighted in an additional ESG project for 2024

Project name	DE&I
Project owner / department	Nathalie Ducret & Pieter Spiesschaert
Status	Not started
Project objective	<ul> <li>Define what DE&amp;I means at the Group level and formalise this into a policy.</li> <li>Make DE&amp;I more explicit at the different entities.</li> </ul>

Project name	Carbon footprint
Project owner / department	Nathalie Ducret & Pieter Spiesschaert
Status	Not started
Project objective	Improve carbon data coverage and data quality.

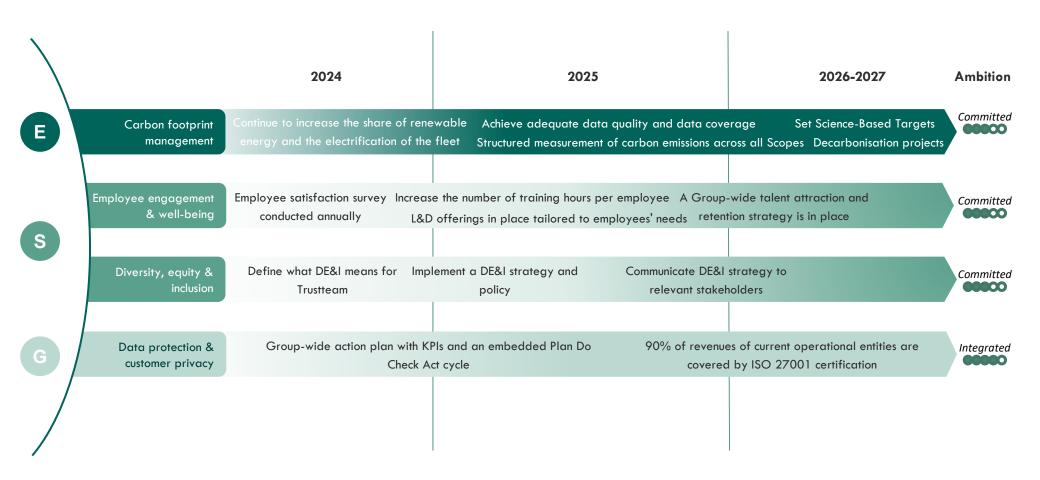
Project name	CSRD
Project owner / department	Nathalie Ducret & Pieter Spiesschaert
Status	Not started
Project objective	Prepare for upcoming CSRD regulation with the initial step of conducting a double materiality assessment.



### **ROADMAP OF ESG VALUE CREATION PROJECTS**

ESG Exposure | II KEY THEMES | III PERFORMANCE | IV ROADMAP

Trustteam should continue implementing initiatives on all themes to reach its SLL performance targets



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### **GHG PROTOCOL ALIGNMENT**

### Trustteam's carbon assessment is aligned with the Greenhouse Gas Protocol

### **SUMMARY**

This report follows the GHG protocol, the global standard for measuring greenhouse gas emissions, which separates emissions into the three categories shown below. A significant portion of corporate emissions is attributed to Scope 3 sources. Companies may not always exert direct control over these Scope 3 emissions; however, decarbonisation opportunities can be identified. The GHG accounting and reporting provided aims to present a faithful, accurate, and equitable representation of the company's emissions.

#### **GHG PROTOCOL CATEGORIES** TRUSTTEAM OVERVIEW Direct emissions from the **Company operations** Upstream Downstream Scope 1 organisation Indirect emissions from Scope 3 Scope 3 Scope 1 purchased energy Purchased goods and Downstream transportation Indirect emissions from the Stationary combustion & distribution services value chain Processing of sold products Capital goods Mobile combustion 11,587 Fugitive emissions from air-Fuel-and energy-related 11% Use of sold products activities (excl. D-2) conditioning Upstream transportation Other fugitive or process End-of-life treatment of and distribution emissions sold products Waste generated in Scope 2 Downstream leased assets operations 87% Purchased electricity Franchises Business travel (facility use) Employee commuting Purchased electricity Limited data<sup>1</sup> Investments (incl. work-from-home) (vehicle use) 95 61 ) Material Purchased heat and steam Upstream leased assets 100% ) Not material 2021 2022 2023

 $<sup>^{1}</sup>$  2021 and 2022 carbon footprint is based on a limited set of Scope 1 and 2 data. Source: GHG Protocol, Holtara analysis.

SUSTAINABILITY REPORT 2023 | TRUSTTEAM

### **SCOPE 1**

### Trustteam conducted its first accurate assessment of Scope 1 emissions, significantly increasing emissions

### **PERFORMANCE**

- Trustteam's 2023 Scope 1 footprint is 1,288 tCO<sub>2</sub>e, a significant increase over last year's emissions. This is the first year that Scope 1 emissions have been accurately documented.
- 99% of Scope 1 emissions derive from mobile combustion. The remaining 1% consists of stationary combustion.
- Mobile combustion consists of 613,136 litres of petrol combusted. Stationary combustion consists of 8 MWh of energy generated from the combustion of natural gas.

#### **MAIN ACTIONS**

- The incorporation of Scope 1 emissions has significantly enhanced the data coverage of Trustteam's direct emissions, thereby providing a far more accurate depiction of the company's operational emissions.
- Ensure that accurate data records are being kept for the purchase or reimbursement of fuel.

#### **OPPORTUNITIES**

- The company can reduce its mobile combustion emissions by electrifying its vehicle fleet and, thereby, reducing petrol consumption. This should be the priority as it forms the bulk of emissions in this Scope. The company is therefore actively purchasing electric vehicles upon the car-renewal date.
- Trustteam can reduce its natural gas emissions by electrifying the heating system.

#### **CARBON: SUB-CATEGORY BREAKDOWN**

This shows the breakdown of carbon by sub-scope. Mobile combustion typically relates to fuel use in vehicles, whereas stationary combustion is in buildings.

 $(tCO_2e, \%)$ 

### **CARBON: FUEL BREAKDOWN**

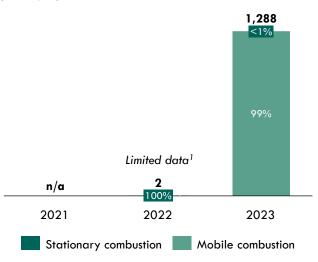
Not all fuels have similar carbon intensities and showing the breakdown by fuel type helps to show which fuels have the highest impact.

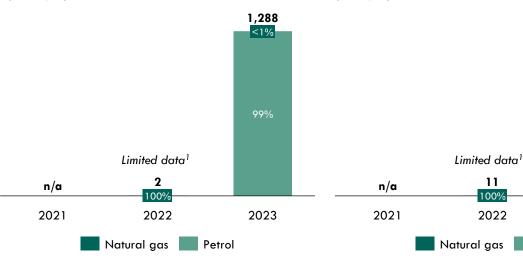
 $(tCO_2e, \%)$ 

### **ENERGY: FUEL BREAKDOWN**

The breakdown of the fuel use by energy can often provide further insight into reduction opportunities.

(MWh, %)





<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Mobile combustion data for 2022 Scope 1 emissions were not provided. The carbon footprint derives therefore only from stationary combustion data, which are a marginal fraction of Trustteam's fuel consumption.



5,946

99%

2023

### SCOPE 2

### Despite increasing the share of renewable electricity, Scope 2 emissions rose due to acquisitions

### **PERFORMANCE**

- Trustteam' 2023 Scope 2 footprint is 189 tCO<sub>2</sub>e, an increase of 220% compared to 2022.
- 94% of its Scope 2 emissions stem from procuring nonrenewable electricity for its facilities, totalling 810 MWh of procured non-renewable electricity.
- The remaining 6% comprises 50 MWh of nonrenewable electricity procured for Trustteam's electric vehicle fleet.

#### **MAIN ACTIONS**

- Scope 2 footprint of Trustteam has risen consistently over two years with the company's increased electricity consumption associated with add-on acquisitions.
- With increased electricity consumption, the company also increased its share of renewable electricity consumed. In 2023, the company procured 873 MWh of renewable electricity and produced 145 MWh from solar panels installed in Kortrijk and Maxeville offices, which are the two largest locations.

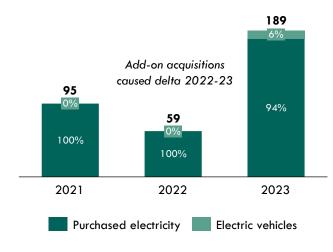
#### **OPPORTUNITIES**

- Trustteam can reduce its Scope 2 emissions through the implementation of energy efficiency measures aimed at reducing electricity consumption.
- The company installed solar panels at two sites. This enables Trustteam to generate renewable electricity onsite, thereby reducing Scope 2 emissions. Trustteam can also procure more renewable electricity for:
  - · Its remaining facilities.
  - Its EV fleet.

#### **CARBON: SUB-CATEGORY BREAKDOWN**

The calculation is based on market-based emissions factors, which can include renewable electricity certificates.

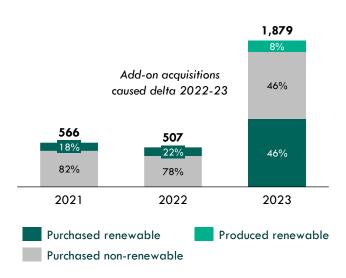
 $(tCO_2e, \%)$ 



#### **ENERGY: SOURCE BREAKDOWN**

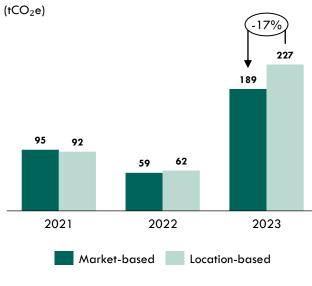
Showing where energy is sourced from helps to identify opportunities for the purchase of renewable energy.

(MWh, %)



#### **CARBON: REPORTING APPROACH**

GHG protocol requires reporting using both approaches. Location-based emissions use grid carbon factor and exclude renewable electricity certificates.





### SCOPE 3

### Purchased goods and services emissions contribute to 94% of Trustteam's Scope 3 emissions

#### **PERFORMANCE**

- Trustteam's 2023 Scope 3 footprint is 10,111 tCO<sub>2</sub>e.
- 94% of Scope 3 emissions derive from purchased goods and services.
- Purchased goods and services emissions were calculated using expense data of the top 14 suppliers categorised into hardware, service and software. Hardware emissions were proxied using total expense data per supplier alongside the most procured products. In total 60% of all procurement expenses were covered.

#### MAIN ACTIONS

- Improve data quality score of carbon calculations and collect data for all unassessed material categories.
  - Procured goods, collect on an activity basis
  - Capital goods
  - End-of-life emissions
  - Use of sold products

### **OPPORTUNITIES**

Trustteam could integrate carbon emissions into procurement practices to source low-carbon options for purchased goods & services. Low-carbon sourcing options like procurement of recycled or refurbished products could reduce its Scope 3 emissions significantly.

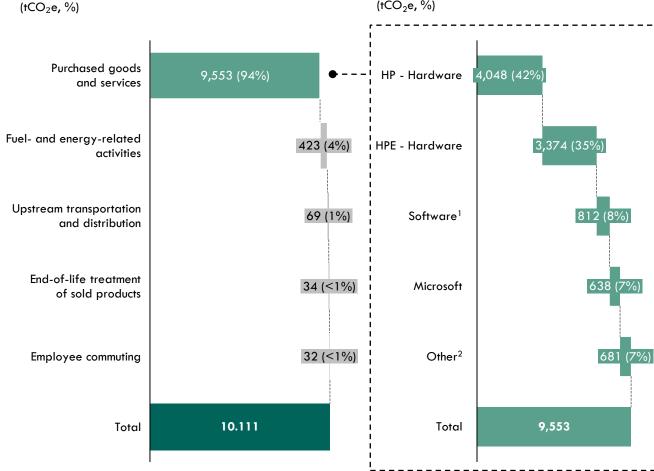
### SCOPE 3 SPLIT PER EMISSION CATEGORY

A breakdown of scope 3 emissions for all material categories for which data was provided.

### BREAKDOWN OF TOP EMISSIONS<sup>1</sup>

A more detailed investigation into the highest emissions category within scope 3

(tCO<sub>2</sub>e, %)



<sup>1</sup> Due to data quality limitations, purchased goods and services analysis was developed with proxy calculations of spend-based input. Therefore, the accuracy of the breakdown of top emissions might be affected; <sup>2</sup> Including, software from Veeam, VMWare, Citrix and Nutanix, Dell – hardware, external data centre emissions (2tCloud) and Lenovo – hardware. Source: Company data, Holtara analysis.



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### **CARBON FOOTPRINT DATA QUALITY**

G Exposure KEY THEMES PERFORMANCE

## Trustteam collects data for some material GHG categories and has an overall data quality score of 57%

### **KEY RECOMMENDATIONS**

- Materiality: Trustteam collects data for 9 of its 13 material GHG categories and should focus on obtaining data for the four categories it has not collected data for. Most notably, significant emissions could be associated with capital goods and the use of sold products.
- Granular data insight: To achieve comprehensive data coverage, it is imperative to incorporate the emissions of the remaining 40% of sold products and gain more granular insight into each product group and the associated products.
- Constructive insight: Following the data matrix categorisation, Trustteam should focus on moving its Scope 3 emissions from 'inaccurate' to 'sweet spot'. It should gain more insight into Scope 3 emission categories by increasing both data quality and data coverage.

### **DATA QUALITY HIERARCHY**

A GHG protocol-aligned data quality hierarchy is used to classify data quality. This identifies four data collection approaches which provide increasing levels of accuracy (from left to right) in measuring emissions.

Proxy-based
Proxy for a
particular activity

Spend-based
Euro/dollar
spent on a
product

**Activity-based** 

Quantity of product per activity

Supplier-specific

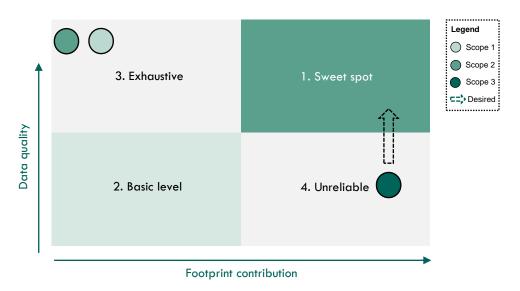
Quantity of product with GHG data

### **PERFORMANCE**

- In 2023, Trustteam conducted its initial comprehensive assessment of Scope 1
  emissions, markedly expanding the data coverage of its operational emissions.
  Additionally, the company gathered Scope 3 data for the first time, resulting in a
  substantial increase in the coverage of Trustteam's indirect emissions. Particularly
  noteworthy is the coverage within the Scope 3 purchased goods and services
  category, which now encompasses 60% of emissions.
- Scope 1 and 2 data quality has remained stable over the last two years, consisting
  of activity-based data for both Scopes.
- Scope 3 data quality is set at 51%<sup>1</sup> and consists of a mix of proxy-based, spend-based and activity-based data.
- The current emission output for purchased goods and services primarily relies on proxies. Therefore, a more in-depth analysis is warranted to gather activity-based data per supplier and product group.

### **DATA MATRIX**

The matrix categorises all carbon footprint emission Scopes into four groups based on two metrics, data quality and footprint contribution. Emission categories with significant carbon footprint contribution should have high-quality and granular data ('sweet spot' in the data matrix).

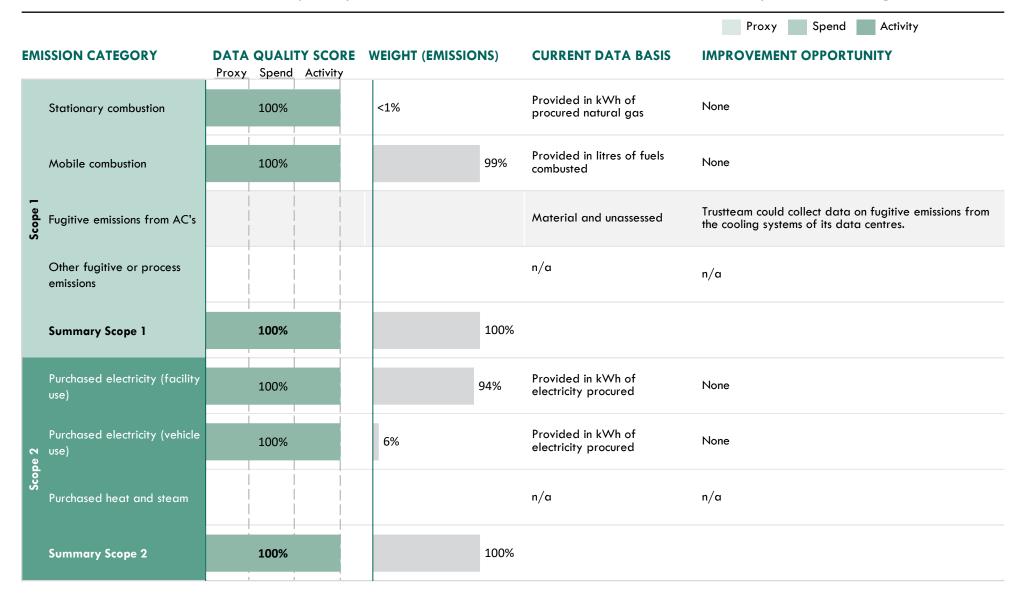


<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The data quality is a weighted average of the data quality score and the associated emissions per GHG category. Source: Company data, Holtara analysis.

Rivear Capita

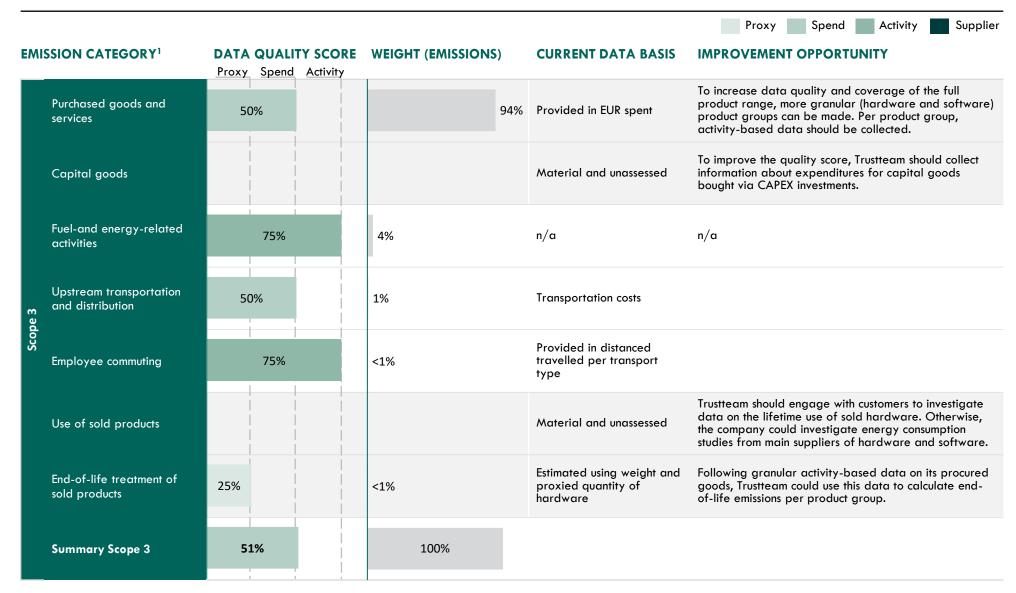
### DATA QUALITY | SCOPE 1 & 2

Trustteam maintained a data quality score of 100% for the assessed material Scope 1 & 2 categories



### **DATA QUALITY | SCOPE 3**

Trustteam could assess three material categories and improve quality for purchased goods and services



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Includes only material emissions categories. Source: Company data, Holtara analysis.



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### ADDITIONAL ESG METRICS<sup>1</sup>

### Recent acquisitions have had a strong impact on the number of FTE and revenue

#### **GENERAL GOVERNANCE** SOCIAL METRICS FTE<sup>2</sup> **Absenteeism Accidents Policies** Comments 2020-23 (#) 2020-23 (%) 2020-23 (LTIF4) **ESG** policy Not in place 552 Code of Conduct In place 241 239 1,2 Anti-Not in place corruption/Bribery 2022 2023 2022 2023 2022 2023 2021 2021 2021 Revenue Gender diversity **Employee turnover** Whistle-blowing In place 2020-23 (€ m revenue) 2020-23 (%) 2020-23 (%) 130 Purchasing policy Not in place -20.0 - 22.0Data protection & 60 14,6 54 ISO 27001 in place privacy n/a n/a Diversity, Equity & In progress 2021 2022 2023 2021 2022 2023 2022 2023 2021 Inclusion policy **Employees** A survey is conducted for recent Annual employee C-level management acquisitions survey Supervisory board

### Notes - General

- Recent acquisitions increased the number of FTEs by 131% compared to 2022.
- Revenue increased 117% from 2022.

#### Notes - Social

- Based on 1 female C-level employee, out of 4 C-level employees.
- Based on 3 work-related injuries and 0 work-related fatalities.
   and 68 total days lost due to work-related injury.
- Based on 311 total net new hires and 48 organic net new hires.

#### Notes - Governance

- Trustteam has the majority of the relevant ESG-related policies in place, next is the formalisation of a DE&I policy.
- There are no mentionable ESG-related certifications or memberships.

Recent acquisitions may have an impact on KPIs; FTE is defined as Fulltime-equivalent; Absenteeism benchmark of 2023 for the Dutch 'Information and Communication' sector (CBS, 2023); LTIF is defined as the number of non-fatal accidents per million hours worked with 3 days of absence from work; Benchmark of Belgium 'Information and Communication' industry sector (Eurostat, 2021); Benchmark of France 'Information and Communication' industry sector (Eurostat, 2021); Benchmark 2021 Belgium 'Information and Communication' industry sector (CBS, 2021); Talent Monitor (2023), Benchmark for the IT sector in the Netherlands. Source: Company data, Holtara analysis



### **PAI ALIGNMENT**

PAI INDICATORS PERFORMANCE 2023

Climate and Other Envi	ronment-related Indicators	Unit	Value	Comment
	1a. GHG emissions scope 1	tCO <sub>2</sub> e	1,288	
	1b. GHG emissions scope 2	tCO <sub>2</sub> e	189	
	1c. GHG emissions scope 3	tCO <sub>2</sub> e	10,111	
Greenhouse gas	2. Carbon footprint	tCO <sub>2</sub> e	11,587	
emissions	3. GHG intensity	tCO <sub>2</sub> e / € mln revenue	89.1	
	4. Operations in the fossil fuel sector	Yes/No	No	
	5. Share of non-renewable energy <sup>1</sup> consumption and production	%	87%	
	6. Energy consumption intensity per high impact climate sector	MWh/MEUR	13.3	
Biodiversity	7. Sites/operations in or near biodiversity sensitive areas, which has a negative effect on that area	Yes/No	No	
Water	8. Emissions to water	Tonnes	0	
Waste	9. Hazardous waste ratio	Tonnes	0	
Social and employee, re	espect for Human Rights, Anti-corruption and Anti-Bribery matters			
	10. Violations of UN Global Compact principles and Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises	Yes/No	No	
Social and employee	11. Lack of policies and compliance processes to monitor compliance with UN Global Compact principles and OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises	Yes/No	No	
matters	12. Unadjusted gender pay gap - Average unadjusted gender pay gap	%	-	No data available
	13. Board gender diversity - Average ratio of female to male board members and executive management	%	10%	At Board & C-level
	14. Exposure to controversial weapons (antipersonnel mines, cluster munitions, chemical weapons and biological weapons)	Yes/No	No	
Additional indicators				
Environmental				
Emissions	15. Absence of carbon emission reduction initiatives	Yes/No	No	
Social	Social			
Social and employee matters	16. Rate of accidents	#	2.7	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Total energy consumption is used to calculate this PAI indicator, including energy from fuel combustion (Scope 1) and electricity consumption (Scope 2). 29 | Strictly Private & Confidential. All Rights Reserved. Not for Distribution. Copyright © 2024 Holtara.



### **COMPANY TCFD SUMMARY**

### Trustteam does not oversee climate-related risks and no targets on climate-related KPIs have been set

### METHODOLOGY

# Thematic area

## Governance

### **Practical steps**

- a) Define and describe the board's oversight of climate-related risks and opportunities
- Define and describe management's role in assessing and managing climate-related risks and opportunities

### **Company performance**

- a) The company's board does not oversee direct climate-related risks (e.g. higher risk of flooding) and/or opportunities, nor has oversight in assessing and managing those risks and/or opportunities.
- Management is not involved in assessing and managing climate-related risks and/or opportunities.



- a) Describe climate-related risks and opportunities over the short, medium, and long term
- Describe their impacts on the organization's businesses, strategy and financial planning
- Describe the resilience of the organization's strategy, considering different climate scenarios

a,b,c) Risk and opportunities are assessed over a 5-year horizon.

The assessment considers the resilience of the strategy in place:

Low

Climate-relatea risks	
Physical	Low
Transitional	

Climate opportunities
Resource efficiency

Resource efficiency Low

Products and services Low



- a) Describe the organisation's process for identifying and assessing climaterelated risks
- b) Describe the organization's processes for managing climate-related risks
- Describe how the management of climate-related risks is integrated in overall risk management
- a) Trustteam does not identify and assess physical climate risks using hazard mapping tools and market analysis for transitional risks, also as it is not directly relevant for the business.
- Risks are not managed by tracking climate-related KPIs and developing action plans to minimise risk exposure.
- c) Climate-related risks are not considered as part of the risk management processes assessing ESG factors.



- a) Disclose metrics used to assess climate-related risks and opportunities
- Disclose Scope 1, Scope 2, and, if appropriate, Scope 3 GHG emissions, and the related risks
- Describe targets used to manage climate risks and opportunities and performance against targets

a,b,c) Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions are monitored:

Metric	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
GHG footprint ( $tCO_2e$ )	n/a	n/a	11,587
Carbon intensity $(tCO_2e / Em net rev.)$	n/a	n/a	89



### TCFD DEEP DIVE: STRATEGY

### Most climate-related risks are expected upstream; opportunities exist in resource efficiency

### **METHODOLOGY**

# Strategy: Initial high-level view on company's climate-related risks & opportunities

#### TRANSITIONAL RISKS

- Policy & Legal (e.g. carbon pricing and reporting, mandates/regulation of products, litigation exposure)
- Technology (e.g. substitution of existing products, unsuccessful investments in new technologies)
- Market (e.g. shifting customer demand, uncertainty in market signals, increased cost raw materials)
- Reputation (e.g. shifting customer demand, increased stakeholder concern, stigmatisation of sector)

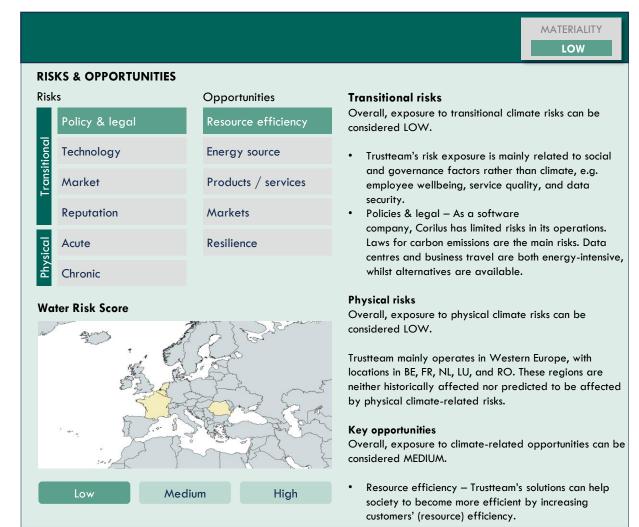
#### PHYSICAL RISKS

- Acute (e.g. event-driven risks such as hurricanes)
- Chronic (e.g. long-term switch in climate patterns such as chronic heat)

#### **OPPORTUNITIES**

- Resource efficiency (e.g. efficient production or transport, efficient building, reduced water use)
- Energy source (e.g. low-emission energy, new techno-logy, carbon market participation, energy generation)
- Products/ Services (e.g. low-carbon product, climate adaptation solutions, sustainable propositions)
- Markets (e.g. access to new markets, public-sector incentives, access to new assets/locations)
- Resilience (e.g. resource substitution/diversification)

#### ASSESSMENT





### **ESG RATCHET | PERFORMANCE SELECTED SUSTAINABILITY TARGETS**

## All agreed sustainability performance targets were achieved in 2023 for Trustteam

## **KEY ESG THEMES** ESG TARGET 2023<sup>1</sup> **DESCRIPTION Definition** 18% Electric cars (EV/PHEV) in Carbon footprint company fleet management Ε **Definition** 44% renewable energy consumed, Carbon footprint 0% renewable energy produced management **Definition** Employee 10.3 training hours per engagement & employee/year well-being Definition certification 42% of revenues covered by ISO Data protection & 27001 certification customer privacy

Percentage of electric and hybrid vehicles in the fleet

The company owns a fleet of 371 vehicles which drive GHG emissions. Through installation of loading docks at company sites and encouraging new lease contracts to be electric or hybrid, Trustteam is progressing with the electrification of the fleet and working towards its 2026 target of 30% of EV/PHEV.

Percentage of renewable energy consumed and/or produced<sup>2</sup>

To ensure the green energy target is met, there is a preference to source electricity from renewable energy suppliers (such as Luminus and Eneco) and solar panels are installed at the Kortrijk and Maxeville locations. In 2023, 145 MWh of solar energy was produced at these locations, which is included in the total share of renewable energy.

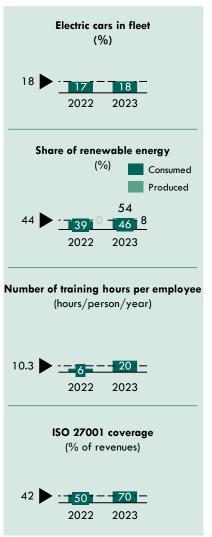
Number of training hours per employee per year

Given the constantly changing nature of the IT industry and to keep employees engaged, Trustteam aims to encourage its workforce to take part in vocational training. In order to achieve the 2026 target of 23 training hours, there is a focus on improving training framework, ensuring a L&D lead is appointed, and define clear training needs.

Revenues of current operational entities covered by ISO 27001 certification

The ISO 27001 certification covers IT security, cyber security, and privacy protection and protects companies from security threats. Focus for achieving this target is primarily on ensuring all entities, especially add-on acquisitions, obtain certification and widen the scope of total coverage.

### **SELECTED KPIs**



Definitions and targets as included in Sustainability Margin Adjustment Certificate; While renewable energy may not always be available for individual entities, KPI should cover material entities covering >95% of Group energy consumption, average of renewable energy consumed excludes company locations for which energy split is unknown. Source: Company data, Holtara analysis



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### METHODOLOGICAL BACKGROUND: PERFORMANCE SCALE

### Performance scoring helps identifying value creation potential and best practice on material themes

Holtara's proprietary five-point performance scale provides an indication of 5 stages that a company goes through as it transforms into a future-proof business. Per ESG theme it specifies what 'future-proof' performance looks like, and what the company could do to improve its performance. The assessment is based on the management and governance of a theme (e.g., data collection, strategic integration, reporting practices, targets in place) and on management effectiveness including tangible progress on KPIs. The performance and thus score is measured against a future-proof state and how ESG themes should be managed in that state. The guidelines of a future-proof state are based on various factors such as corporate responsible citizenship, research reports, and targets set in international and supranational regulations. Therefore, the guidelines of performance can change periodically as they are updated by Holtara based on latest developments. Scoring is regardless of current industry ESG performance and the company's performance within that industry.

Classifications in performance assessment

#### **FUTURE-PROOF INTEGRATED** COMMITTED Business proposition and ESG ESG theme is integrated in INVOLVED Performance level theme management are the broader Clear action plan & strategy **REACTIVE** fully aligned with company strategy; in place to improve on the Ad hoc initiatives to improve a sustainable future and first targets are reached and **Description of** ESG theme; KPIs and targets on the ESG theme; future-proof society Management of ESG theme is substantial progress is shown expected efforts defined to progress; strategy no comprehensive required reactive and driven by in data has led to strong performance strategy in place yet regulations **Expected time in** level since prior $\sim$ 1.5 years progress n/a Multiple years Multiple years n/a

### Regarding progress

Note that progressing on the performance ladder becomes increasingly challenging as companies move up the scale. Moving from Reactive to Committed can be quick with smaller projects, depending on company engagement with the topic. However, moving from Committed to Future-proof requires an ESG strategy that is effective and has led to measurable progress on KPIs (Integrated), and that is fully integrated in a company's business strategy, day-to-day operations, and company culture (Future-proof). The scale is revised periodically by Holtara and is subject to content updates in line with ESG-related (regulatory) developments.



## PERFORMANCE (1/2)

PERFORMANCE

## There is potential to improve on current performance on key material themes

2023 assessment Ambition 2027

### **KEY ESG THEMES**

### **REACTIVE** Reactive ESG management driven by regulations

#### INVOLVED

Ambition to improve ESG formulated, baseline identified and initial progress made

#### COMMITTED

Strategy for improved ESG risk and opportunity mgmt. has led to strong performance

### INTEGRATED

Company-wide integration ESG has brought a futureproof business within reach

#### **FUTURE-PROOF**

Business proposition and management is fully aligned with a future-proof society

## E1 Carbon footprint managem<u>ent</u>

• Management aims to adhere to (local) energy regulations (i.e. EED (EU), ESOS (UK), Wet Milieubeheer (NL))

- No insight into employee commuting & business travel
- Basic monitoring of energy and carbon emissions and targets set for net-zero before 2030 (Scope 1 + 2)
- Energy audit conducted and quick-wins addressed (e.g. procurement of green electricity)
- >70% of the electricity is sourced from renewable sources (not necessarily local) >90% of electricity is derived from local Onsite renewable energy generation Ad-hoc initiatives to improve business travel sustainability
- Comprehensive monitoring of Scope 1 +
- 2 emission sources according to recognised accounting standards
- Scope 1, 2 and 3 emission target for net- of Science-Based Targets set in line with zero before 2045 set and officially committed to Science-Based Target Initiative (SBTi)
  - renewable sources
  - Onsite renewable energy generation potential assessed
  - Monitoring emissions resulting from business travel and employee commuting Encouraging video conferencing, including monitoring of avoided emissions due to avoided flights

- $1.5^{\circ}$ C climate scenario (X  $\geq 4.2\%$  annual linear reduction)
- well-below 2°C climate scenario (X ≥ 2.5% annual linear reduction) on business • Total energy consumption reduced to
- deployed, if possible (e.g. full rooftop potential realised for solar panels)
- All distances reachable within 6 hours by Employees only commute by bike, public train are travelled by train

- Science-Based Targets set in line with the Net-zero emissions achieved for Scope 1
  - Year-on-year progress realised on Scope 3 emissions of at least 2.5% linear annual reduction rate (in line with SBTi)
  - absolute minimum Net-zero carbon footprint achieved
  - (business travel reduced to absolute
  - transport or electric vehicles

**S1 Employee** engagement & well-being

· No policies in place, employee engagement managed on an ad hoc basis available

- Employee well-being is not measured and Employee satisfaction and well-being there are no specific initiatives in place or benefits provided
- · Informal monitoring of turnover and absenteeism. No improvement plans in
- Obligatory learning opportunities in place absenteeism. Targets set in line with (e.g. compliance, GDPR)
- Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) not taken related issues are mitigated (e.g. into account, beyond regulatory requirements

- Informal HR and employee guidelines
- managed on an ad hoc basis and quickwins are implemented by HR. Employees have annual evaluation periods with their supervisor/manager
- Monitoring of new hires, turnover, and industry benchmarks. Risks on workmusculoskeletal disorders, stress)
- Market-conforming educational and vocational L&D in place
- Ad hoc initiatives in place to improve DEI (e.g. unconscious bias training)

- Company-wide HR policy and employee handbook in place
- Employee satisfaction survey conducted annually with scores above industry average and formal follow-up. Formal in place
- Employee well-being is monitored and discussed on management level annually • Employee well-being is monitored and and basic secondary benefits are in place reported to management monthly. (e.g. trust person, flexible working hours). Programme available, including extensive • Turnover and absenteeism rates are · Continuous monitoring of turnover and
- absenteeism. Figures are below industry Turnover and absenteeism rates are benchmark
- L&D offerings in place tailored to employees' needs, and personal L&D budget available for everyone
- dimensions

- Company-wide HR policy and employee Employee satisfaction results are in the engagement strategy reviewed regularly ■ with employees
- Evaluation system focused on personal development twice a year, 360 feedback evaluation system including 360 feedback including transparency on promotion and owell-being is a main agenda item in growth potential. Exit interviews are conducted
  - set of benefits
  - below industry benchmark for >3 years Extensive L&D opportunities provided, including budget which >70% of
- employees use annually ▶ DEI strategy in place covering all relevant ▶ Processes in place to eliminate institutional inequalities and biases across the employee lifecycle

- highest quartiles for >5 years. Employees have evaluation discussions twice a year based on their development needs and self-assessments
- board meetings and monitored continuously. A wide range of offerings are in place (e.g. coaching, healthy food, team events etc.)
- below industry average for >5 years
- L&D budget in place that >85% of employees use annually
- DEI performance is considered industry leading, with DEI integrated into every stage of the employee lifecycle and performance regularly reviewed



PERFORMANCE

## There is potential to improve on current performance on key material themes

2023 assessment Ambition 2027

#### **KEY ESG THEMES FUTURE-PROOF** INTEGRATED COMMITTED Business proposition and INVOLVED Company-wide integration **REACTIVE** Strategy for improved ESG risk management is fully aligned with ESG has brought a future proof Ambition to improve ESG a future-proof society Reactive ESG management and opportunity mgmt. has led to business within reach formulated, baseline identified driven by regulations strong performance and initial progress made · Compliance to local regulation (e.g., • DEI policy in place covering the most • DEI strategy in place covering all relevant • Consistently strong DEI performance • DEI performance is considered industry Equality Act in UK, 'Wet ingroeiguotum en material considerations leading, with DEI integrated into every dimensions (e.g., gender, social evidenced by positive employee • Ad hoc initiatives in place to improve DEI **I** background, neurological diversity) streefcijfers' in NL) sentiment and performing above industry stage of the employee lifecycle and **(S2)** • Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) not taken (e.g., unconscious bias training) Dedicated monitoring and reporting benchmarks on key DEI KPIs performance regularly reviewed into account during all stages of the Quick-wins captured across the employee infrastructure in place (e.g., employee) Processes in place to eliminate institutional • Workforce experiences equal employee lifecycle (Attraction; lifecycle sentiment, pay gaps) with subsequent inequalities and biases across the opportunities and the elimination of targets and action plans Recruitment; Onboarding; Development; employee lifecycle (e.g., gender-neutral institutional biases (including wage gap), Retention; Separation) ▶ DEI strategy and vision is actively parental leave, back-to-work programs, and can be considered diverse across communicated with employees and key blind CV screening) multiple characteristics at all levels (e.g., Diversity, equity stakeholders employees, management, board) & inclusion · Company actively positions itself as a DEI leader to external stakeholders and its talent pool (e.g., by signing up to industry initiatives, hosting DEI related events) • Regular self-assessment or Plan Do Check • Developed organisational structures with • Company-wide action plan, KPIs & • Little to no governance or risk & Industry-leading preventative approach Act (PDCA) cycle, Information Security Life specific data security & privacy roles compliance planning, actions taken if targets for improvement of PDCA cycle, to continuous data security & privacy Cycle or equivalent in place assigned (e.g., top-level mgmt. DPO, and IT systems in place G1 · Data security efforts are driven by local • Full privacy notice is publicly available security officer, project manager) PDCA executed to evaluate and update ■ Best practice is supported by the absence regulation (e.g., GDPR in EU) • Incident/breach management process is in All employees receive data privacy and processes on at least an annual basis of data privacy and security incidents in security training relevant to their role ■ A PDCA cycle is embedded into all levels ■ the last 3 years (cyber security breaches, Data security and privacy training •ISO 27001 in place and/or of the organisation with external auditing, GDPR incidents, data leaks) SOC2/ISO27701 certification in place. allowing for follow-up and resolution (at PDCA improvement and continuity provided to key employees Data protection · Data security management system in Third-party risk assessments performed least bi-annually) processes are embedded into companyplace including for physical data assets Data security and privacy training wide operations & customer delivered to all employees Continuous protocol and response testing privacy



### METHODOLOGICAL BACKGROUND: COMPANY PEER BENCHMARKING

### Peer benchmarking puts company performance in perspective with industry average

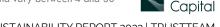
In order to compare company performance on ESG themes a peer benchmark is used. A Holtara proprietary database has been constructed based on ~30 client portfolio's containing close to 400 portfolio companies<sup>2</sup>. The database consists of the selected key ESG themes and company performance on these themes. The benchmarks are provided based on companies with the same theme and GICS sub-industry industry where a sufficient sample size is present. In the cases where GICS sub industry has an insufficient sample size then the GICS industry and then GICS industry group is used. This data can also be seen on the 'Overview of key material themes' tab of the company ESG Advantage dashboard.

For certain indicators – including absenteeism, unadjusted gender wage gap, and LTIF – external benchmarking tools are used on the country and industry level per company.

THEME	INDUSTRY BENCHMARK
Carbon footprint management	•••
Employee engagement & well-being	••••
Diversity, equity & inclusion	00000
Data protection & customer privacy	00000

INDUSTRY	TIER	NO. DATA POINTS	QUALITY
IT consulting & other services	Sub industry	26	
IT consulting & other services	Sub industry	13	
IT services	Industry	8	
IT consulting & other services	Sub industry	5	

Database consists of Holtara clients which results in a peer benchmark positively skewed towards ESG consciousness. 2 Industry peer sizes depend on GICS industry or sub industry and vary between 4 and 30



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