Carbon footprint for logistics

Transport is the second largest source of GHG emissions in the EU with the sector being responsible for about a quarter of all emissions. By 2050 an increase of traffic by 400% is expected. Regulations and laws are on the way for all modes of transportation:

- From October 2013, all transports emissions in France have to be assessed by law
- The UK’s Greenhouse Gas Emissions Regulations took effect in 2013
- Since 2012, air traffic is part of emissions’ trading
- Sea freight: Efficiency Design Index and sulfur restrictions become mandatory
- Since 2013, the European norm EN 16258 is official: Standardized emissions calculation rules for all transportation modes

Your challenges

Greenwashing was yesterday – carbon accounting is now: More and more of your clients will be asking for detailed emissions reports and for actions to reduce the emissions. This applies not only to your customers - analysts and ratings agencies will be asking too. For example, in the 2012 Dow Jones sustainability questionnaire, the emissions of the engaged logistics service providers were requested. Are you ready to take these challenges? Your competitor is already.

- Are you ready to answer more than ten emissions report requests per month?
- Can you report on shipment level and supply client specific, individual reports?
- Are you compliant with the EN 16258 and the French decree 2011-1336?
- Do you trust your carbon balance sheets?
- Does your auditor accept your carbon declaration?
- Do you have a green roadmap or strategy to reduce your emissions?
- Do you offer carbon neutral logistics services or products?

Our approach

Within our approach, the creation of transparency is the key as ”you cannot manage what you do not measure”. In this context, our leading edge Logistics Emissions Calculator (LogEC) is the starting point. LogEC differs from other carbon footprint tools in terms of accuracy and scope.
LogEC supports companies in defining sustainable processes by allowing them to calculate and analyze the effects of each transport (down to individual shipments or parcels, pallets etc.) and therefore to understand and identify the optimization potential. In addition the effect of the implemented actions can be tracked by LogEC. Due to the integration of the logistics network data from leading service providers, the tool also becomes useful in modeling subcontractors’ and shippers’ operations and emissions – an innovation on the market right now. LogEC supports both an exact carbon calculation for completed transport routes as well as the simulation of transport scenarios for answering tenders or confirming reduction targets. LogEC’s best result accuracy can be achieved with detailed information e.g. from track & trace or onboard data. Data gaps are closed by using standard values from official databases, for example from the Handbook on Emission Factors for Road Transport. Whether by train, ship, plane or truck, the greenhouse gases of all methods of transportation as well as global multimodal transportation chains can be evaluated. In addition LogEC easily interfaces to SAP for the import and export of relevant data.

Our experience – A representative customer’s voice

„More and more customers want us to tell them, how large the CO₂ emissions are when their parcels are transported”, explains Gerd Seber, Sustainable Development Manager at DPD GeoPost (Germany). „Here it is important to achieve the greatest possible transparency taking customer specific characteristics such as size, weight and distance of the specific parcels into consideration. A credible assessment of the emissions is the prerequisite for DPD’s carbon neutral service TotalZero”, asserts Seber. „Only if you know your emissions in detail you can reduce and off-set them efficiently. All of these factors finally led to the decision to use LogEC to calculate our CO₂ emissions."

About BearingPoint

BearingPoint consultants understand that the world of business changes constantly and that the resulting complexities demand intelligent and adaptive solutions. Our clients, whether in commercial or financial industries or in government, experience real results when they work with us. We combine industry, operational and technology skills with relevant proprietary and other assets in order to tailor solutions for each client’s individual challenges. This adaptive approach is at the heart of our culture and has led to long-standing relationships with many of the world’s leading companies and organizations. Our 3500 people, together with our global consulting network serve clients in more than 70 countries and engage with them for measurable results and long-lasting success.

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