

Press release

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Deloitte cuts CO2 emissions by 65% since 2017

Pandemic and homeworking accelerate Deloitte ambitions to become carbon neutral by 2030

Brussels, 28 October 2021 – Deloitte Belgium has succeeded in reducing its total CO2 emissions by 65% compared to 2017. In just four years, Deloitte succeeded in reducing its car mileage per employee by 63%, and its air miles per employee by 99.6%. The shift towards homeworking, due to the pandemic, further accelerated Deloitte's sustainability initiatives that aim for carbon neutrality in 2030. Since 2017, the organisation has taken decisive action to reduce the carbon output of its employees' mobility, their international travel engagements, and the organisation's buildings.

Deloitte launched its sustainability initiative in 2017 by identifying the most carbon-intensive areas of its organisation and by setting an ambitious target to become carbon neutral by 2030. Since then, Deloitte has already managed to reduce its CO2 emissions by 65%, thanks to a wide range of initiatives in mobility, international travel, and infrastructure. Deloitte's sustainability initiatives were accelerated by the pandemic and months of -mandatory- homeworking and travel restrictions, but the organisation was already well on track to reach carbon neutrality by 2030. In 2020, the firm had already managed to reduce its carbon footprint by 33% compared to 2017.

Notable sustainability initiatives and achievements by Deloitte include (all percentage changes compared to the 2017 baseline):

- A 63% drop in car mileage by employees;
- A reduction of 99.6% in air miles flown by Deloitte employees;
- A 40% residual waste reduction in Deloitte's buildings;
- A total share of electric and hybrid vehicles in Deloitte's fleet of 9.9%. Among young graduates at Deloitte 26% today chooses a fully electric car. Since June 2021, electric and hybrid cars together account for 85% of all other newly ordered company cars at Deloitte Belgium.

Deloitte was able to achieve this decrease in CO2 emissions despite a steady growth in its number of employees in Belgium between 2017 and 2021. As of September 2021, the organisation has more than 5,100 employees.

“Making advances in sustainability starts by looking at yourself. This is why we started in 2017 by defining those parts of our organisation where we could make the biggest sustainability gains. Over the past years I’ve been proud to see our people come together to launch a wide range of actions to reduce our carbon footprint, resulting in a 65% drop in CO2 emissions in the space of four years. While I’m proud of how far we’ve come, there is also still a lot of work ahead in order to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030. Together with our people, our clients, and our partners, I’m confident we will be able to achieve this ambitious goal and I look forward to the many initiatives our organisation will launch in the years to come,” says **Piet Vandendriessche, CEO of Deloitte Belgium**.

Hybrid cars and EVs account for 10% of fleet

Deloitte’s fleet of company cars accounted for 70% of the organisation’s carbon footprint in 2017. Since then, the firm has succeeded in reducing the CO2 emissions of its fleet by 54%. The average car mileage per Deloitte employee dropped by 63% in the same period, from 24,116 kilometres per employee in 2017 to 8,912 kilometres in 2021. Deloitte had originally planned to reduce its mobility emissions by 25% in 2021. The organisation was able to speed up this process thanks to investments in flexible, multimodal mobility packages and a shift towards home or hybrid working as a result of the pandemic.

In 2021, more than half (55%) of all of Deloitte’s employees opted for a non-traditional mobility package. These packages include a mix of company car and public transport, or even a mobility offering without a company car.

Deloitte is also continuing to invest in its fleet of electric and hybrid vehicles. Today, hybrid and EVs account for 9.9% of Deloitte’s car fleet. The organisation aims to have all new cars ordered either fully electric or hybrid as of 2023, and intends to have a 100% hybrid and EV car fleet by 2026. Hybrid cars and EVs today account for more than 6 out of 10 of all company cars Deloitte’s employees can choose from. The organisation also more than doubled its e-charging stations from 203 in 2020 to 540 in 2021, and recently placed [the largest order to date of Mini Electrics in Europe](#). Among young graduates at Deloitte 26% today chooses a fully electric car. Since June 2021, electric and hybrid cars together account for 85% of all other newly ordered company cars at Deloitte Belgium.

Drop in international travel by more than 99%

Due to the pandemic and strict travel restrictions, Deloitte’s international travel fell by 99.6% compared to the 2017 baseline. Initially, the organisation had planned to reduce its international travel by 25% in 2021 compared to 2017.

“We were already well on track to reduce our air miles even before the pandemic, but it goes without saying that the travel restrictions forced us to reduce our international travel substantially. Moving forward, we are committed to keeping our international travel below 2019 or pre-COVID levels, irrespective of employee or business growth. We have drastically cut our business travel budget with the ultimate goal being a 70% reduction in travel-related emissions per employee by 2030,” explains **Piet Vandendriessche**.

Building CO2 emissions down by 65%

Deloitte also managed to reduce the CO2 emissions produced by its buildings by 65% since 2017. The initial goal of the organisation was to reduce these emissions by 25% by 2021.

Deloitte reduced its residual waste by 40% compared to the 2017 baseline. Actions that contributed to this goal included replacing plastic water bottles with reusable ones and the introduction of DocuSign to replace printed contracts with digital versions. Deloitte also introduced a new waste collection program at its

Gateway office: employees can now sort their waste into 5 different bins. The organisation behind the waste system then uses the sorted waste to create new products.

Sustainability is also at the heart of Deloitte's procurement strategy. The organisation has acquired the EcoVadis Gold label with a score of 70/100 and aims to maintain the gold rating in the coming years and decades.

Deloitte in Belgium

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