

# Route To Net Zero



**plantforce**

# Introduction

**Plantforce's Managing Director outlines carbon reduction strategy and target to cut all emissions.**

"At Plantforce we are known as being a family orientated business, and we put the health, safety and welfare of employees and their families at the centre of our organisation. Not only does this mean in our day to day activities but also in the legacy we leave behind for future generations."

"The most significant environmental issue of our generation is climate change and the affect it is having at the moment and will have in the future. This is why Plantforce is making carbon emission reduction a primary focus, as it is one of the largest challenges the plant hire and construction industry faces today."

"Plantforce supports the Paris Agreement and is working towards significantly reducing our carbon footprint by 2030."

"In this document we will set out how Plantforce will reduce carbon emissions. Each year we will review and update this document and include our own statistics and progress with our objectives. This will ensure transparency on this key topic and aid in collaboration."

"We will also engage with our supply chain to help them start their route to net zero or aid in their current plans to achieve emission reduction targets."

"I believe that decarbonisation should be an industry priority for both plant hire and construction; the more we collaborate and work together the sooner we can all achieve our common goal of net zero."



Claire Trott - Managing Director

## Chief Operating Officer of Plantforce Sam Mercer profiles operational developments that will aid in emission reduction targets for Plantforce and those we work with.

"Its an exciting time in the plant hire and construction industry at the moment, with many emerging technologies and techniques being able to be utilised to not only reduce emissions but also to decrease costs and increase efficiency."

"Plantforce is at the cutting edge of these technologies and techniques and has already put them into practice across our network."

"The use of digital simulator training has been greatly beneficial in 2022 reducing the training time and costs for operator training and assessment, as well as eliminating 145 tonnes of CO2 emissions in 2022. A simulator won't give you a solution to all operator training needs but it is a great augmentation and tool to reduce emissions where it can be deployed."

"Machine control allows us to report in real time on the efficiency and emissions of individual items of plant and our fleet as a whole. This information can be fed back to our clients to reduce their own emissions and increase productivity."

"Hybrid machines also help to augment our fleet and further aid in the emission reduction options we have available for our clients, with 66.5t CO2 emissions reduced through hybrid operation in 2022."



Sam Mercer - Chief Operating Officer

# Our targets

Plantforce has committed to;

Net Zero carbon emissions by 2045



Reduce carbon emissions to 50% of 2021 levels by 2030



Reduce carbon intensity to 50% of 2021 levels by 2030



## Research & Development

Plantforce has partnered with an industry leading capital equipment dealer to work on alternative options to diesel. Our main focus for the coming year of 2023/2024 is to research & develop the latest releases on the hydrogen and dual fuel options. These can now be run with HVO bio fuel and not diesel reducing the carbon saving by more than 90%.

We are also looking at retro fit electric conversion systems that, in future, would give machines a second life cycle and can

reduce the amount of diesel combustion engines being used in construction. Our role as a proven innovator in the sector will continue as we accredit and bring these latest innovations to market.

Hybrid and electric technology will continue to be invested in over the coming years. Although it's not the end solution for us, it's important to do what we can now with available technology.



# Key topics

We have considered our undertakings and the activities of those we collaborate and work with and have identified four key topics to act on;

## Targets & Measurement

Ensuring that CO<sub>2</sub>/CO<sub>2</sub>e measurement and in turn target setting are continually improved upon and accurately reported; making sure that reduction in emissions also aids in the reduction of costs.

## Plant & Transport

Cutting the carbon emissions of our plant and transport as quickly as economically viable technology will allow.

## Collaboration

Collaborating with our clients and supply chain to procure and deliver lower carbon solutions; and engage with carbon reduction initiatives to aid both Plantforce and its collaborators in their emission reduction goals.

## Asset Management

Management of assets such as buildings and infrastructure to ensure reduction in carbon emissions.

These key topic areas will be guided by stages that will give further detail and guidance to our objectives and our journey to our the overall attainment of the targets that we have set.

**Stage 1** – Is the initial establishing stage, putting in place carbon reduction thinking in each key topic area (communication, aspiration for policy/procedure, information gathering, etc).

**Stage 2** – Progressing from stage 1, embedding carbon reduction in policy and procedure greater focus on measurement and reduction including within our supply chain and collaborators and improving minimum standards throughout our undertakings.

**Stage 3** – Full inclusion and governance for all carbon reduction strategies, policies and procedures and established low carbon leadership throughout all levels of the business for the identified key topic areas.

*Key topic areas and stages will likely evolve along our journey, this document shall be updated to reflect this.*



# Overview of stages

The below table represents an overview of milestones to guide our passage along the way to meet our emission reduction targets (items ticked have been achieved, items with a blue ○ have been initiated);

Key Topic	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3
<b>Targets &amp; Measurement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Direct carbon emissions are externally measured ✓</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Short and long term targets for direct carbon reduction are established and communicated <span style="color: blue;">○</span></li> <li>• Whole life carbon reporting study for key items of plant undertaken <span style="color: blue;">○</span></li> <li>• Supply chain emissions are estimated</li> <li>• Direct carbon emissions are externally reported and verified</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Short and long-term targets for the reduction of direct and supply chain carbon emissions are established and communicated</li> <li>• All suppliers report carbon emissions</li> </ul>
<b>Plant &amp; Transport</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policies communicate low or zero carbon emission aspirations for plant and transport</li> <li>• Procurement process for plant and transport requires consideration of low carbon alternatives</li> <li>• Introduction of a green travel policy <span style="color: blue;">○</span></li> <li>• Company car policy included carbon emission cap <span style="color: blue;">○</span></li> <li>• Plan in place for increasing virtual meetings <span style="color: blue;">○</span></li> <li>• Electric vehicle charging facilities provided in some workplaces ✓</li> <li>• Active plan in place to trial and take up low carbon vehicles <span style="color: blue;">○</span></li> <li>• Decision on transportation fleet transference to low / zero carbon solutions in place (% of fleet year on year for example)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Internal minimum emission standards for plant set and communicated <span style="color: blue;">○</span></li> <li>• All plant equipped with telematics to measure emissions</li> <li>• Policies in place for virtual meetings, home and hybrid working</li> <li>• Carbon reductions and cost savings relating to low emission vehicles and virtual working are estimated</li> <li>• Electric vehicle charging facilities are provided at all workplaces where feasible</li> <li>• Policy in place and followed regarding fleet replacement</li> <li>• Zero emission hire package researched</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investment in plant linked to whole life carbon cost with policy to support</li> <li>• All direct company cars and vehicles are low or zero carbon emissions</li> <li>• Supplier fleet emissions comprises part of supplier performance management</li> <li>• Plant emission reports are given to clients as standard</li> </ul>
<b>Collaboration</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ability to engage with clients &amp; collaborators regarding carbon reduction in place and supported by leadership ✓</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Active engagement with clients &amp; collaborators supported by policy and practice in place, events recorded and shared</li> <li>• Ability to engage with suppliers regarding carbon reduction in place and supported by leadership</li> <li>• Operator fuel efficiency training delivered to clients and or collaborators. <span style="color: blue;">○</span></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Active engagement with clients and suppliers supported by policy and practice in place, events recorded and shared</li> </ul>
<b>Asset Management</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Energy usage and costs are measured for all offices and asset locations ✓</li> <li>• Energy management plan in place ✓</li> <li>• Green tariff and renewable energy options are always considered for all locations <span style="color: blue;">○</span></li> <li>• Energy efficient retrofit opportunity study undertaken and considered by leadership</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All owned and leased offices purchase or produce renewable or green energy</li> <li>• All cost effective retrofit opportunities have been approved</li> <li>• Green tariff and renewable energy options are in place for all locations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All cost effective retrofit opportunities have been installed/ completed</li> <li>• Energy efficiency standards in place for all locations</li> <li>• All locations powered by renewable energy</li> <li>• All locations can demonstrate continual improvement for energy reduction</li> </ul>

# Emission history

The below statistics represent the history of emission recording at Plantforce, this includes Scope 1, 2 & 3 emissions.

2021		2022	
CO2 / CO2e	1608t	CO2 / CO2e	1533t
Carbon intensity	51	Carbon intensity	37

**CO2e** – Carbon dioxide equivalent; means the number of metric tons of CO2 emissions with the same global warming potential as one metric ton of another greenhouse gas.

**Carbon intensity** - Is the amount of emissions, in tonnes of CO2 equivalent gases, emitted for each £1 million of revenue.



# Our objectives

Having committed to our targets and in consideration of our key topics and stages; suitable, sufficient and SMART objectives have been set to aid us in our journey to Net Zero.

Key Topic	Description	Impact	Due by	Status
Targets & Measurement	Plantforce to gain ISO50001 certification	Assurance energy efficiency implementation and measurement are accurate and externally assessed	April 2022	<b>COMPLETE</b>
Targets & Measurement	Plantforce to baseline CO2e via external provider	Externally verified CO2e figure to enable accurate measurement of reductions	February 2022	<b>COMPLETE</b>
Asset Management	All locations to undergo energy efficiency audit	Identify areas for improvement in energy efficiency	April 2022	<b>COMPLETE</b>
Asset Management	From energy efficiency audits action plan of improvement to be put in place	Identify energy efficiency improvements that can be put in place for our locations (focus on workshop / office lighting identified)	May 2022	<b>COMPLETE</b>
Asset Management	Install energy efficient lighting in all workshops and offices	Reduction in cost, kWh consumption and CO2e	October 2022	<b>COMPLETE</b>
Asset Management	Install fast chargers for electric vehicles in WSM	Faster more efficient charging for electrical vehicles, reduction in CO2e and costs	September 2022	<b>COMPLETE</b>
Collaboration	Ability to engage with clients and collaborators regarding carbon reduction proved by leadership	Engagement with clients and collaborators will allow access to new ideas and innovations and promote continual improvement	October 2022	<b>COMPLETE</b>
Plant & Transport	Introduce Green Travel Policy	Reduction in fuel costs & CO2e	Sept 2023	<b>ON TARGET</b>
Plant & Transport	Company car policy to be updated with emission cap	Reduction in CO2e	June 2023	<b>ON TARGET</b>
Plant & Transport	Internal minimum emission standards for plant set and communicated	Reduction in CO2e produced by hire fleet	June 2023	<b>ON TARGET</b>
Collaboration	Fuel efficiency training delivered to operatives, including on site (via training trailer)	Reduction in CO2e produced by hire fleet	December 2023	<b>ON TARGET</b>
Plant & Transport	Plan in place for increasing virtual meetings	Reduction in CO2 / CO2e from meeting travel	September 2023	<b>ON TARGET</b>
Plant & Transport	Active plan in place to trial and take up low carbon vehicles	Reduction in CO2 / CO2e for fleet replacement	June 2023	<b>ON TARGET</b>
Asset Management	Green tariff and renewable energy options are always considered for all locations	Best savings in cost and reduction in CO2 / CO2e	Ongoing	<b>ON TARGET</b>
Targets & Measurement	Short and long term targets for direct carbon reduction are established and communicated	Setting of strategic goals, demonstration of commitment	June 2023	<b>ON TARGET</b>
Targets & Measurement	Whole life carbon reporting study for key items of plant undertaken	Establish accurate carbon outlook on "whole life" for key plant	June 2026	<b>ON TARGET</b>

Please note that full SMART criteria are recorded and monitored through the associated internal systems for Plantforce.

## Carbon eliminated through action to date

So far Plantforce has eliminated the following amount of carbon / CO2e through our actions and initiatives; 286.5t CO2 / CO2e



## Closing statement

A message from Claire and Sam

“Plantforce is fully committed to a low carbon future and we will endeavour to fulfil our commitments towards our targets. However we can’t do this alone and look forward to collaborating with our clients, supply chain and other collaborators to ensure a low carbon future for us and our families.”

Claire Trott

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Claire Trott".

Sam Mercer

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sam Mercer".