

4 Steps to a More Energy Efficient and Sustainable Business

For many businesses, sustainability is becoming a higher priority. With increased pressure from customers, investors and other stakeholders, businesses are working to improve their operations while reducing their environmental impact.

These four steps can help your business become more sustainable and energy efficient:

1 Understand your business's carbon footprint

Knowing where emissions come from across your operations, including both direct and indirect sources, can help you identify where emissions are highest and what changes would make the most significant impact. Start by looking at emissions across three key categories:

- ✓ **Calculate Scope 1** emissions from onsite generation and fleet fuel consumption
- ✓ **Consider Scope 2** emissions from power plants providing purchased electricity
- ✓ **Factor in Scope 3** emissions from indirect sources, such as company travel and supply chain management

Expert tip: Analytics tools that leverage in-house data collection, machine learning, robust reporting and internet of things (IoT) devices can simplify the process of gathering and understanding this data.

2 Explore renewable energy sources

Incorporating renewable energy can support your sustainability efforts by reducing emissions associated with traditional energy use. Start by exploring the following renewable energy sources:

- ✓ Geothermal energy generated from heat within the earth
- ✓ Hydroelectric power from natural sources or storage facilities
- ✓ Wind energy sourced from turbines in a wind farm
- ✓ Solar energy, whether sourced from onsite or offsite solar panels

3 Identify energy inefficiencies within your facilities

Analyzing energy consumption across your facilities can help you identify where improvements can be made. After identifying where improvements can be made, prioritize upgrades that align with your facilities' unique needs and operational goals, including:

- ✓ Replacing outdated equipment and upgrading lighting, such as LED fixtures designed to reduce energy usage
- ✓ Implementing building automation controls to minimize runtime and improve operational efficiency
- ✓ Upgrading HVAC systems to ensure optimal performance and efficiency

4 Implement energy efficiency upgrades

After identifying where improvements can be made, prioritize upgrades that align with your facilities' unique needs and operational goals, including:

- ✓ Replacing outdated equipment and upgrading lighting, such as LED fixtures designed to reduce energy usage
- ✓ Implementing building automation controls to minimize runtime and improve operational efficiency
- ✓ Upgrading HVAC systems to ensure optimal performance and efficiency

Building a Stronger Energy Strategy to Support Sustainability Goals

Businesses have different paths to sustainability based on their priorities and budget. Constellation offers a full suite of products and services, including energy efficiency solutions, on- and off-site clean energy and storage options, energy management tools, GHG monitoring and reporting and other services to help you meet your operational and sustainability goals.

Ready to connect with an experienced energy specialist and build a sustainable roadmap that leads to a cleaner, more efficient energy future? [Contact us today.](#)