

BOI GOES NET ZERO

BOI BETTER
ORGANIZED
INFORMATION



BOI GOES NET ZERO

Climate Protection Strategy and Actionplan

Dear readers,

we are all facing existential threats from climate change. Only by collectively changing how we live and conduct business, we can avert the climate catastrophe and ensure a livable environment for ourselves and future generations. We all share the responsibility to drastically reduce greenhouse gas emissions. We therefore call for a strong climate policy that enables a social transition to a climate-friendly economy and global net zero emissions. However, we are not only calling on governments worldwide to do their part, but also want to do ours.

Our family business BOI has stood for responsible management for over 45 years. Our economic activity in software development goes hand in hand with social commitment and ecological action. For over a decade, we have implemented measures to minimize the ecological impact of our business activities.

We see the challenges caused by climate change as crucial. In line with our philosophy of „better organized information“, we therefore want to become even better in our climate protection efforts and, as BOI, actively contribute to achieving the goals of the Paris Climate Agreement. For this reason, we are committed to drastically reducing our greenhouse gas emissions and achieving net zero¹ operations by 2026. We will offset the unavoidable residual amount of emissions with measures to eliminate and permanently store greenhouse gases so that no emissions from our business activities remain in the atmosphere. We want to achieve this goal only by working together - from the management to the individual employees.

Our vision is a world in which climate protection is part of every company. BOI wants to set an example and inspire others to take similar steps. With this climate protection strategy, we explain how BOI, as a small IT company, intends to achieve the goal of Net Zero by 2026.

Linz, July 2024

The Team of BOI Software Entwicklung und Vertrieb GmbH

¹ (see United Nations - For a livable climate: Net-zero commitments must be backed by credible action.
Available at: <https://www.un.org/en/climatechange/net-zero-coalition>, accessed on 4.7.2024 at 12:18)



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Results of our carbon footprint in the base year 2023

Ecological management has long been a priority for us. However, we had not quantified so far the greenhouse gas emissions caused by our business activities. The first step on our path towards net zero was therefore to measure our carbon footprint.

For the base year 2023, we have carried out a comprehensive accounting of our greenhouse gas emissions for our two locations in Linz and Graz. The accounting was prepared in accordance with the criteria of the Greenhouse Gas Protocol. We used the publicly available „Climate Portal for SMEs“ tool² from the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber and verified the results with the „ClimCalc“ tool³ from the Universität für Bodenkultur in Vienna.

In our carbon footprint calculations, we have taken Scope 1, Scope 2 and some categories from Scope 3 into account. Scope 1 comprises direct emissions from the company's facilities. Scope 2 comprises indirect emissions from purchased energy. Scope 3 includes our employees' commuter traffic, purchased goods, assets, business travel, waste and upstream energy-related emissions. However, we are still missing data on emissions from the categories of upstream transportation and distribution, purchased services, use of our sold software products and investments (in other companies). For us as an IT company, the lack of data for home office or external cloud storage in the tools we used is particularly unfavorable. We are striving to supplement the missing data for future calculations or to use other tools that take this data into account.

The result of 19 tons of CO₂e emissions is very pleasing! 7.1 tons of this came from Scope 1; mainly from our heating requirements, which were met by two gas boilers. The 0.2 tons from Scope 2 are negligible; they originate from our district heating requirements for the site in Graz. At 11.7 tons, most of our Scope 3 emissions come from mobility due to business trips and travel by our employees and the purchase of new hardware.

² This tool is available at: <https://wk.esg-portal.at/>

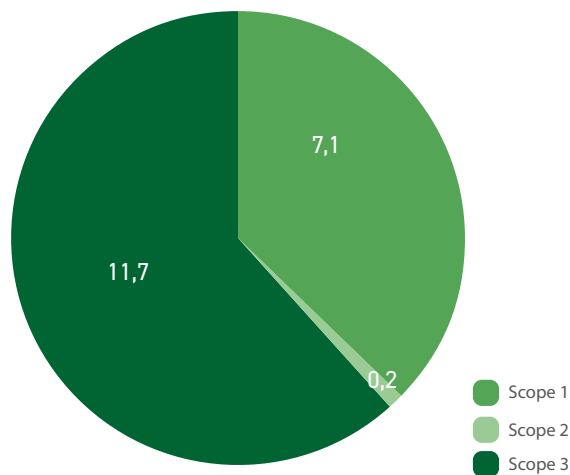
³ This tool is available at: <https://klimaneutralität.boku.ac.at/projects/climcalc/>



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Results of our Carbon Footprint in the Base Year 2023



Greenhouse gas emissions of BOI Software GmbH 2023

The result of 19 tons of CO₂e emissions is outcome of our long-standing focus on sustainable business practices. In the past, we have already taken significant measures to minimize our greenhouse gas emissions:

- 2015: Virtualization of our IBM mainframe: until then, it was operated on site. This measure alone has reduced our electricity consumption by 60 %.
- 2021: Commissioning of our first photovoltaic system at the site in Linz with 36 modules and 12 kWp output.
- 2022: Covering the costs of tickets for our employees to arrive with public transportation to the office.
- 2023: Customer visits by train only.
- 2023: Journey to our team training just under 30 km to Eferding by bike and back the next day.



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Our Goal

According to the German Federal Environment Agency (UBA), global per capita emissions of CO₂ equivalents (CO₂e) must be reduced by at least 50 percent by 2050 compared to the base year 1990 in order to limit global warming to well below 2 degrees Celsius in accordance with the UN resolutions of Paris. This requires a reduction in per capita emissions to less than 1 ton of CO₂e per year.⁴

Although we are aware that we can only collect our key figures in relation to the working environment, we take this approach as a reference for our goal. We therefore choose the level of greenhouse gas emissions per employee as the most important key figure for BOI in climate accounting, as this figure enables comparability from year to year despite the changing size of the company. In 2023, our greenhouse gas emissions were 1.34 tons of CO₂e per employee. We want to further improve this figure by significantly reducing our greenhouse gas emissions throughout the company in all categories, but especially for Scope 1 and 3.

„We have set ourselves an ambitious target – by 2026, we want to reduce per capita greenhouse gas emissions at BOI to less than 1 ton of CO₂e per year.““

– Mag. Daniele Haiböck-Sinner, Sustainability Manager BOI Software GmbH

It is unavoidable that our business activities will continue to cause emissions, e.g. through the electricity, which is required for our software development and office operations. This is why we have been investing 5% of our annual profit in national and international organizations for climate protection measures since 2023. It goes without saying that these offsets only serve as an addition to our reduction measures and are in no way intended to replace our efforts to further reduce our emissions.

From now on, we will continuously record, monitor and report our greenhouse gas emissions on an annual basis, based on the findings and progress made in previous years. Transparent reporting and regular reviews are crucial for us to ensure that we are demonstrably net zero.

⁴ (see Umweltbundesamt: Available at: <https://www.umweltbundesamt.de/service/uba-fragen/wie-hoch-sind-die-treibhausgasemissionen-pro-person>, accessed on 26.6.2024 at 13:09)



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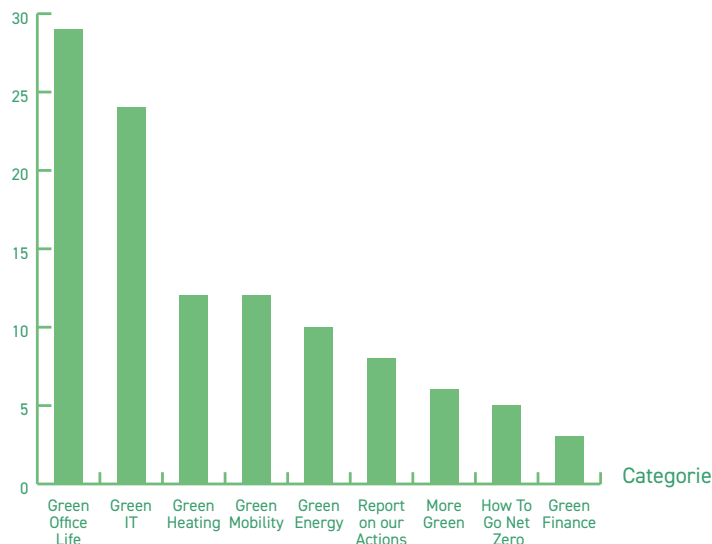
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Our Reduction Measures

We can only achieve our ambitious target of a maximum of 1 ton of CO₂e per employee and per year through the consistent implementation of suitable measures by everyone involved in the company - from management to employees in all areas.

Although we already achieved a very good result in 2023 compared to other companies, we want to "keep getting better" in line with our philosophy. We will therefore continue to implement measures in various categories. In workshops with all employees, a total of over 100 individual measures were developed in the first half of 2024 to achieve this goal. Our measures are summarized in a Net Zero Action Plan, which defines the reduction and implementation potential, the costs and the planned implementation period for each individual measure. We are pleased that every saving, no matter how small, contributes to reducing our carbon footprint.

Number of measures in the BOI Net Zero Actionplan



„I scientifically supported BOI in the development of the measures in spring 2024 during the workshops. I was impressed by the large number of measures that were defined and the commitment of all employees in the company.“

– Dr. Ingrid Kaltenegger, JOANNEUM RESEARCH Forschungsgesellschaft mbH



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Our Reduction Measures

The greatest potential for reduction lies in the areas of heating, electricity, the entire life cycle of our software, mobility and our everyday office life.



1. Green Heating

Our Linz office is located in two small houses from the inter-war period of the last century. Most of the greenhouse gases were produced by our old gas heating systems.

The greatest reduction potential was therefore offered by switching from gas heating to an air heat pump for both buildings. This measure was implemented in June 2024.



2. Green Energy

We develop innovative software products for various operating systems. Our IT systems must therefore be continuously available on these operating systems, both for the development itself and for customer support. This means a high demand for electricity and energy for cooling our servers.

The most important measures since the beginning of 2024 were:

- Construction and commissioning of the second photovoltaic system with 12 modules and 5 kWp output in March 2024.
- Procurement for our entire electricity requirements exclusively from certified green electricity since April 2024.

We are constantly integrating measures into our daily work to reduce our electricity consumption, such as consistently switching off electronic devices when we are absent or using the energy-saving mode.



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Our Reduction Measures



3. Green IT

We use our hardware as long as possible and donate discarded devices to NGOs for reuse. We examine the advantages of leasing hardware and prioritize the repair of devices over the purchase of new ones.

Currently, our main interest lies in the implementation of green coding: we are developing measures to optimize the need for storage space and electricity in the development and use phase of our software products.

We believe our software products also contribute to climate protection: The performance gains in table access achieved by BOI products TABEX4 and JTC reduce access times by up to 97% compared to direct access to relational databases, resulting in significant savings in cooling and power consumption for our customers.

„Green coding corresponds to the development principles that we at BOI have lived by for a long time. Optimum performance and efficiency of our software is very important to us. The fact that this also saves greenhouse gas emissions is a great incentive for us.“

– DI Dieter Müller-Wipperfürth, CTO BOI Software GmbH



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Our Reduction Measures



4. Green Mobility

The majority of our work is carried out in hybrid form in our offices in Linz and Graz and in home office. For many years, we have mainly used public transport for our business trips. If that is not possible, an electric car is available for company trips.

We support our employees' climate-friendly commutes by covering the cost of annual tickets, which can also be used privately. This also reduces the private CO2 footprint of our employees. In addition, bicycle tools are freely available in the office. We are delighted when our customers and suppliers travel by public transport and are happy to thank them with a small sweet treat.



5. Green Office Life

We switched to a paperless office in April 2024. We only use certified printed materials and avoid plastic film in our marketing materials. Proper recycling and strict waste separation are self-evident for us.

„We look for trustworthy labels on all purchases, from drinks, the weekly fruit basket to cleaning products and general office supplies. Switching to electronic invoices helped us move to a paperless office.“

– Mariam Nazemi, Front Office BOI Software GmbH



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Our Reduction Measures

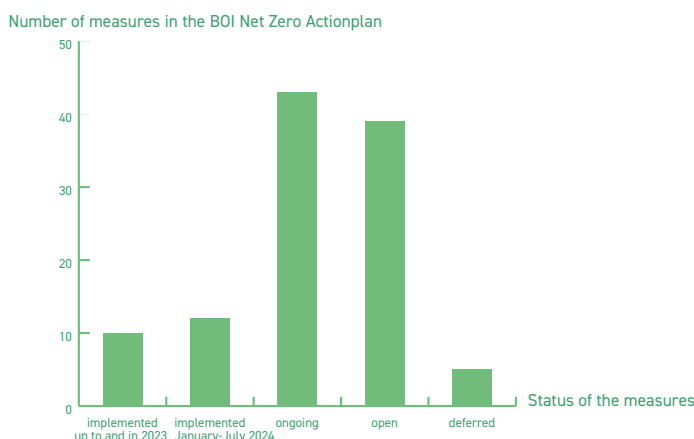
6. Further Measures

- We implement measures on site, such as planting a flower field in the office garden and installing an insect hotel to increase biodiversity.
- We support measures that have an impact on climate protection elsewhere: Every year, 5% of our annual profit is consistently donated to international environmental organizations.
- We have been acquiring sustainable financial investments for more than 10 years.

And last but not least: climate protection is teamwork!

Recognizing that we can only achieve our goals collectively, we promote climate-friendly behavior among our employees through:

- Events on the topic of climate protection once a quarter.
- Creation of an internal climate protection knowledge center, freely accessible to all employees in our central document management system.
- We are very proud that 55 measures have already been implemented or introduced for ongoing operations in the first half of 2024 by our team. Each individual measure helps us to constantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions from our everyday IT work.



„By implementing these measures, we are confident that our IT company will be able to achieve the ambitious target of maximum 1 ton of CO₂e per person and make our possible contribution to global climate protection.“

– Dr. Frank Sinner, CEO BOI Software GmbH



BOI – FOR YOUR BETTER ORGANIZED INFORMATION

Convincing Quality

Efficient and audit-proof.
High-performance and ultra-fast.
Company-wide use for all
databases and operating systems.

Efficient Service

Over 45 years of experience.
Excellent, dedicated team.
One-stop consulting, technology
and implementation.

BOI - We set an example.

Our vision is a society in which
economic management goes hand
in hand with social commitment and
ecological action.

Our mission is to make the best
possible contribution to ensuring
sustainable development on an
economic, social and ecological level.

We want to operate in a net zero
manner from 2026 and are already taking
numerous measures to reduce
our greenhouse gas emissions.

We pay attention to the well-being of our
employees and take measures to protect their
health. We consistently donate 10% of our annual
profit to social and environmental organizations.



BOI Software Entwicklung und Vertrieb GmbH
Over 45 years of success and innovation.
Your expert for data management.

BOI LINZ

Spazgasse 4
4040 Linz, Austria

Phone: +43 (0) 732 736423 - 0
E-Mail: office@boi.at

BOI GRAZ

Friedrichgasse 30/1
8010 Graz, Austria

Fax: +43 (0) 732 736423 - 2
www.boi.at