Exploring Sustainability Trends & The Role of IT Lifecycle Management

Digital and technological adoption continues to grow and so does its impact on our lives, business and the world around us. Organizations across all industries, along with governments, schools and non-profits, are making a greater effort to enhance their sustainability initiatives. But what is the real impact that businesses have on the environment and how can they make significant progress toward improvement?
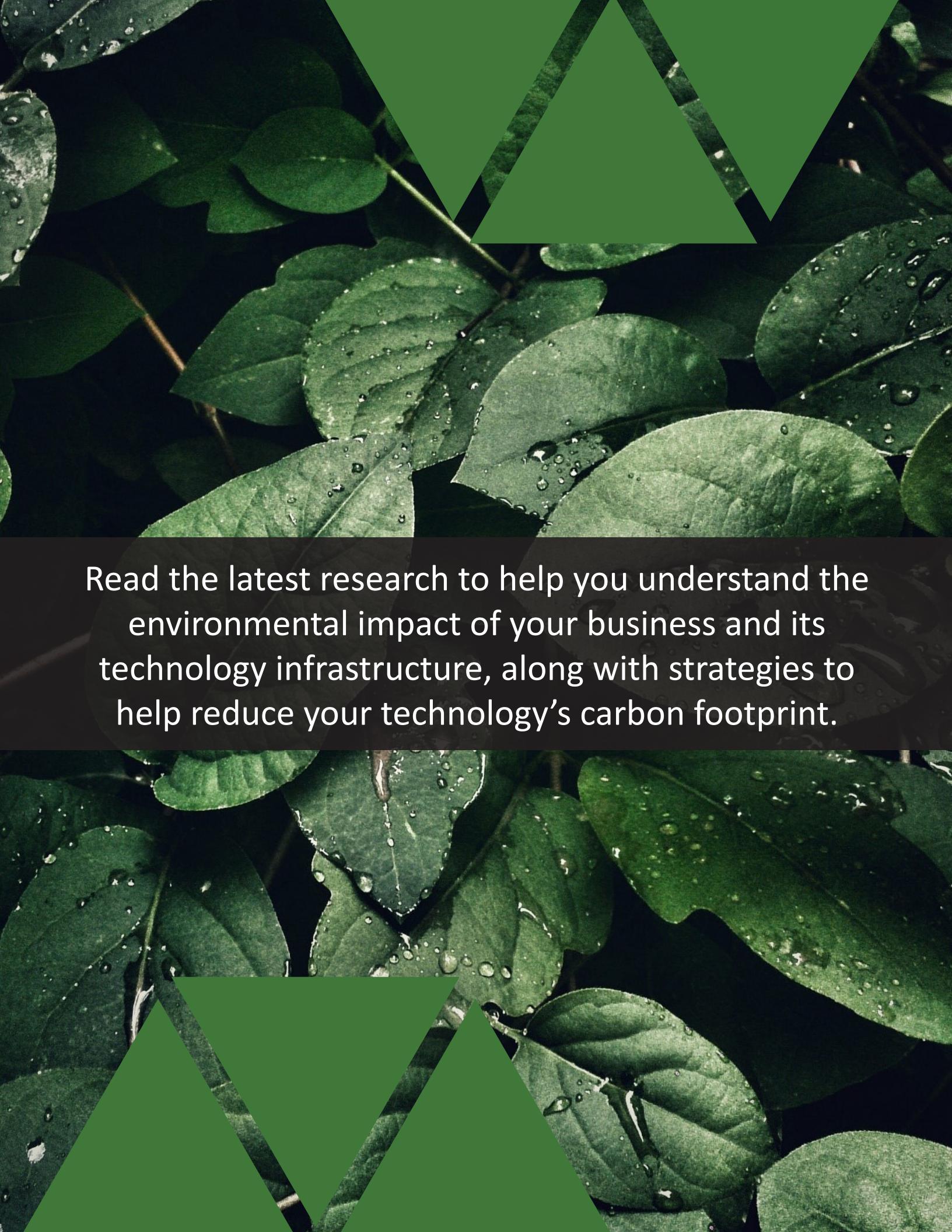
Read the latest research to help you understand the environmental impact of your business and its technology infrastructure, along with strategies to help reduce your technology's carbon footprint.

TRENDS & INSIGHTS

A look at surveyed IT leaders and their thoughts on building a sustainable future
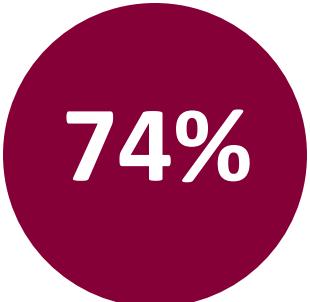
74% Consider environmental factors to be very important for the enterprise value of their organization.[1]

59% Are currently integrating or planning to integrate sustainability-related initiatives into the business.[1]

Top 10 Gartner's mid-2021 CEO survey shows that sustainability is now one of the top 10 business priorities for CEOs.[2]

18% Of organizations with a sustainability strategy have defined sustainable IT targets while over half report lacking the tools and expertise to be able to pursue their ambition.[2]

CORPORATE TECHNOLOGY &
THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

According to a report by theshiftproject.org, digital technologies account for 3.7% of total global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and this figure is expected to double by 2025. With the rise of hybrid work, this impact will likely increase.

Corporations are shortening their IT replacement cycles for many reasons. First and foremost, business requirements and security concerns are a big incentive to move to the latest technology. Additionally, according to IDC, most IT loses efficiency, while increasing energy consumption 60%, after three to three and a half years.[1]

Only **17.4%** of global e-waste was properly recycled in 2019

According to The Global E-waste Monitor 2020, in 2019, only 17.4% of e-waste was properly recycled. This means that the majority ofIT equipment that has been disposed of has ended up in landfills, which results in the release of harmful toxins into both the earth and the atmosphere. E-waste is expected to reach 74 million metric tons by 2030.

[1] – IDC Spain Sustainability Infographic – Sustainability as a top business priority, 2021

SUPPLIER MANAGEMENT
MATTERS

Technology can have a significant impact on all three types of GHG emissions. However, Scope 3 emissions are the most difficult to quantify as they rely on data from external channels. There are many activities that can really add up over time. With this in mind, supplier management can be a key component to many organizations' sustainability initiatives.

75%

of Global 2000 digital infrastructure RFPs will require vendors to prove progress on ESG/sustainability initiatives with data by 2024. [1]

[1] - IDC, "IDC FutureScape: Top 10 Predictions for the Future of Digital Infrastructure", November 05, 2021.

TYPES OF EMISSIONS

Scope 1

Direct emissions from owned or controlled sources.

Scope 2

Indirect emissions from the generation of purchased electricity, heating and cooling, etc.

Scope 3
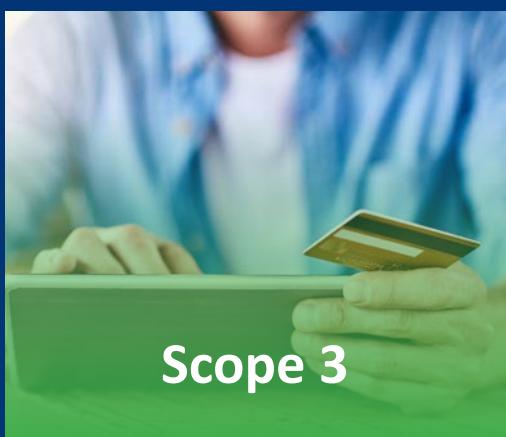
All other indirect emissions in a company's value chain such as business travel, purchased goods and services, waste disposal and employee commuting.

CIRCULAR ECONOMY
APPROACH

Considering these issues, it is important to evaluate how IT investments and disposal strategies can impact environmental goals. The key to investing in technology in a sustainable way is to replace the linear approach of acquire, use, and dispose with a circular approach to IT lifecycle management that maximizes the value of resources and reduces e-waste.

More companies are realizing that the main benefits of technology, such as agility, innovation and efficiency, come from access to assets, not ownership, especially in a rapidly evolving digital age. IT decision-makers are already considering alternative procurement models based on the principles of use and access.
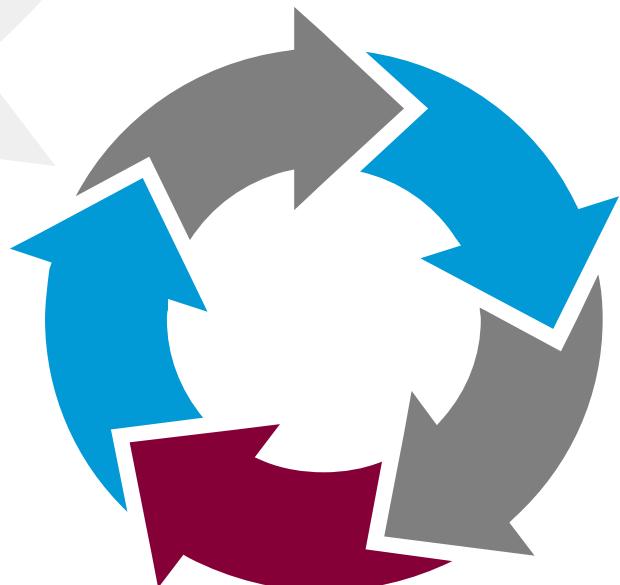
IDC's European Enterprise Infrastructure Survey 2021 has indicated that 64% of organizations are exploring IT procurement alternatives that allow them to dispose, renew and recycle existing infrastructure, thus entering circular economy principles.[1] Even though this study is focused on Europe, it's likely that trends are similar in other parts of the world.

THE ROLE OF
IT LIFECYLE MANAGEMENT

Proper technology leasing focuses on end-to-end asset lifecycle management, which is not only good for the environment but also makes economic sense from the business perspective (total cost of ownership, data security, etc.)

Leasing models allow companies to consider the useful life of the asset as part of their infrastructure planning. In contrast, cash purchase solutions tend to put depreciation ahead of efficiency, leaving the company with an aging infrastructure resulting in lower performance and increased energy consumption, which hinders achievement of environmental goals.

[1] – IDC Spain Sustainability Infographic – Sustainability as a top business priority, 2021

IT LEASING
ADVANTAGE

✓ Acquire: Free up capital for strategic business investments.

✓ Manage: Gain control of your IT infrastructure with robust online tools and integrate your systems for maximum efficiency.

✓ Retire: Upgrade your IT infrastructure to ensure the latest technology is in place so your organization is always running at maximum efficiency. Your solution should include secure and sustainable IT disposal.

PROPER IT DISPOSAL IS KEY TO
ACHIEVING SUSTAINABILITY GOALS

Responsible IT disposal helps us advance toward an efficient economic model that minimizes the impact of e-waste.

Sustainable disposal is a crucial element in IT lifecycle management. It's essential to understand and identify the specific accreditations associated with reputable IT Asset Disposal (ITAD) providers. Look for an ITAD provider that is an e-Steward, and is also ISO 14001, 9001 and 45001 certified. CSI Leasing's wholly-owned ITAD business, EPC Global Solutions, has obtained these certifications, is a Blancco Platinum Partner1, and has nearly 40 years of experience in the industry.

CSI Leasing's solution includes secure equipment disposal at the end of the lease and ensures technology will be sustainably reused or recycled. This not only helps meet environmental goals, but also promotes good corporate governance, as these services often include secure data destruction which protects organizations against data breaches and keeps them in compliance with applicable data protection guidelines in various jurisdictions.

1. Blancco is an international data security company that offers certified, secure data erasure software for a variety of devices. Learn more at www.blancco.com

BENEFITS OF EPC'S RESPONSIBLE
IT ASSET DISPOSAL PROGRAM

Control logistic costs

Secure data wiping
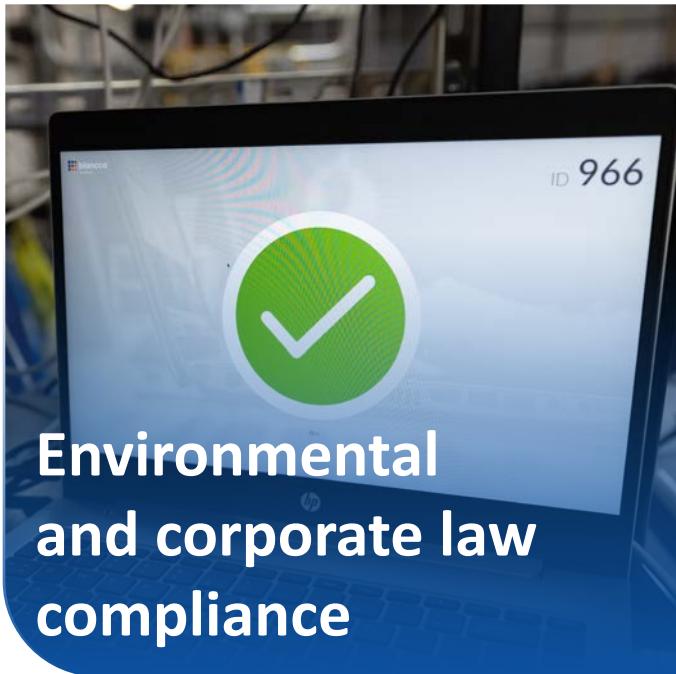
Environmental and corporate law compliance

Efficient recovery of asset value

MOVING YOU **FORWARD**

Choosing a supplier that meets the operational needs of the enterprise as well as defined sustainability goals is no easy task. **More than 2,300 organizations** worldwide choose to finance and acquire technology with CSI Leasing because we take a holistic approach to the entire technology lifecycle from beginning to end, helping to enable a circular economy.

When you return off-lease technology back to CSI, we extend its life as long as possible through our IT Asset Disposition (ITAD) subsidiary, EPC. Re-use is the most effective way to eliminate e-waste and the core of enhancing a circular economy. Once equipment arrives at EPC, data is securely wiped according to NIST 800-881 and then audited by certified technicians to determine remaining value. EPC will then resell the equipment in the secondary market, thereby providing an economic incentive for sustainability.

1. The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) developed guidelines for media sanitization. The NIST 800-88 is a document that provides methodical guidance for erasing data from electronic storage media.

A **COMPLETE** LIFECYCLE SOLUTION

CSI has 70+ offices around the world, allowing you to centralize your IT strategy making it easier to control.

CSI's ITAD team operates globally with locations all over the world, helping to limit transportation and easily distribute retired assets.

We resell approximately 90% of all used IT in the secondary market, enabling a circular economy. The remaining 10% is properly recycled.

MOVING CSI **FORWARD**

CSI Leasing has developed its own ESG Program. Led by our Chief Compliance Officer, our ESG committee is continuously looking for additional ways to reduce our impact on the environment and enhance our sustainability goals.

"When I started at CSI Leasing 23 years ago, we had recently acquired EPC, our remarketing and recycling subsidiary. Since then, I have watched our companies quietly prevent countless used electronics around the world from reaching a landfill, long before "circular economy" was part of our common vernacular. Now I'm happy to lead our ESG committee to find new ways to help our customers meet their ESG goals."

Tom Brown, Chief Compliance Officer

REDUCING OUR **IMPACT**
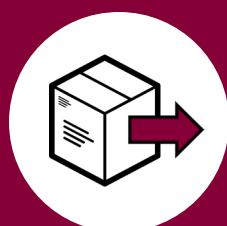
On average, 90% of lease returns are remarketed annually
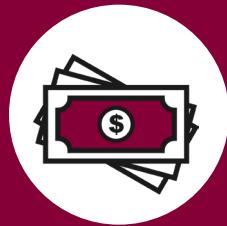
Committed to $100 million in green financing over the next 5 years

Tracking and reporting GHG with a commitment to reduce them where reasonably possible

More than 3 million pounds of e-waste is recycled annually

Moving all company-owned vehicles to EVs and installing charging stations at all locations

Implementing robust CSR initiatives that cover various aspects of ESG