



**We only have one Earth.
Let's not f*** it up!**

Why

Without knowing where we are, we can't know where we are going - or how to get there.

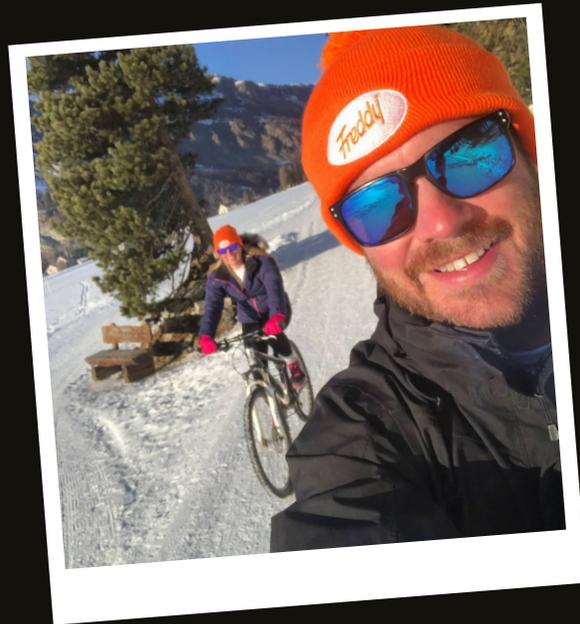
This impact report will act as a line in the sand, and give us the information we need to focus our attention on areas we can make the biggest impact.

We are purpose driven, and with the results of this impact report and future reports, we will be able to quantify our progress.

You might still be thinking, why we are bothering? It's simple really, because we care.

Matt Hill and Amy Taylor
- Co-Founders

Matt
& Amy



Who

Until 2020, Evolve operated as an engineering solutions provider, with customers across a variety of industries. The pandemic gave us time to reflect on the business we had created, and we found what we lacked was a reason why we were in business. We took the time to make informed decisions on where we wanted to take our business in the future as a purpose led organisation, and as a result Anode was created.

Unit 51 Ltd is the group level, to which Anode and Evolve belong. Our longterm strategy will move Anode to be the lead organisation, and Evolve will become the manufacturing partner. Pivoting our business operations is a risk, but it is a risk we are willing to take.

This report is conducted at the group level, for the period April 2021 - March 2022.



“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has”

Margaret Mead, Anthropologist, Planetary Citizen of the Year 1978

What are we talking about?

We have assessed our scope 1 and scope 2 emissions, which are included in this report. We have further selected 4 sources of scope 3 emissions where we feel we can have the biggest immediate impact.

The emissions calculated in this report total 23 tonnes using the market based accounting method, and 38 tonnes using the location based method.

Through Ecologi, we have chosen to offset 38 tonnes of carbon emissions through certified carbon credits, on top of what we have contributed as a business subscriber. We know offsetting is not the answer, but through collective action, we feel we can make a positive impact.



Unit 51 Ltd has used certified carbon credits to offset all emissions identified in this report.

Scope 1:

The carbon emissions a company makes directly

Scope 2:

The carbon emissions a company makes indirectly

Scope 3:

All emissions the company are indirectly responsible for, up and down the value chain, in order to conduct their business operations [1]

CO₂e:

There are more gases than just CO₂ that contribute to global warming. For comparison purposes, gases are converted to their equivalent amount of CO₂ based on their global warming potential (GWP) [2]

There are many more scope 3 emissions across our value chain, and we are working with our partners in order to improve transparency and accountability.

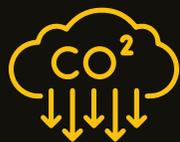
Our first supplier survey sent out in March 2022 had a response rate of around 30%. In this survey we asked suppliers about the processes and procedures relating to the social and environmental impact of their business operations.

We have included some of the highlights of the survey here.

Of the 17 businesses who responded:



All have a waste management system in place



Two have documented Net Zero Commitments

94.1%

are aware of their energy consumption



One has completed a carbon footprint assessment

Almost
53%

are still using mixed/non-recyclable materials

Supplier Charter

What are we going to do to help?

1

We will share

our impact report, as well as the responses from the survey to all who were invited to complete the survey.

2

We will engage

with businesses to identify opportunities to use recyclable or biodegradable materials

3

We will encourage

businesses to conduct their own carbon footprint assessment and to share it with their supply chain.

4

We will inspire

Our supply chain to make their own net zero commitments

We hope that by asking the right questions, in future years more suppliers and partners will engage with our survey, and that we will see a conscious shift to more ethical and sustainable business practices.

A landscape of rolling green hills with five wind turbines in the distance under a cloudy sky. The text is centered in the middle of the image.

**Our Scope 1 and Scope 2
emissions are zero!**

Our priorities for improvement

Our Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions are zero!

...and as a small business, we are currently focusing our efforts on where we can have the biggest impact in Scope 3.

We've used our financial data to analyse our scope 3 emissions and have identified 3 areas to prioritise improvements. Although electricity isn't part of our scope 3 emissions, it is still one of our highest priorities.

Electricity



Raw material



Waste processing



Transport of finished product



*Waste processing includes both outgoing (paying for transportation and processing) and incoming (earnings from 'scrap metal').

Electricity

We are proud to report the emissions associated with electricity generation for our business are zero, using the market based method.



This means our company purchases renewable electricity from a supplier with 100% renewable energy guarantees of origin (REGO) certificates.

But just buying green energy isn't enough, we are also making an effort to reduce consumption and our normalised electricity usage* has decreased year on year since moving into our new facilities in 2019.

Tax Year	Units (kWhr)	Average staff	Normalised Monthly Usage/ Average staff
2020	32965	4	686.77
2021	46986	6	652.59
2022	61726	8	642.98

*Due to experiencing business growth, our overall electricity usage has increased over the years. In order to be able to compare efficiency despite growth, we are using an employee based metric to talk about our electricity usage.

What are we doing?



Our facilities are heated and cooled using air source heat pumps



We benefit from natural light in our workspaces, and we use low energy LED bulbs to minimise electricity usage



We encourage our team to turn lights off in rooms when not in use, and turn electrical equipment off overnight

Even though we buy renewable energy, the exact electricity which powers our facilities isn't necessarily from renewable sources (due to the grid). For this reason, we also calculated our 2022 location based CO2 emissions from electricity generation: **14.4 tonnes CO2e**

Can we do more?



Yes! We could generate our own electricity.

In 3 years time we hope to generate at least 25% of our electricity usage. We have engaged with a local company on the installation of a solar solution on our business premises.

We are in a queue of keen energy champions (which is a good problem to have) and hope to better understand our requirements by the end of 2022.

Waste

General Business Waste

Our general business waste is separated on site, into dry mixed recycling and general waste. The recycling is sorted at material recovery facilities into waste streams for future use, and the general waste is transported to an energy from waste facility, ensuring zero to landfill.

Process Waste

Our process waste is recycled through a local metals recycler, situated less than 10 miles from our site.

Since April 2021, we have had 7 waste material pick ups, totalling 3.59 tonnes of metallic waste. The emissions associated to recycling our production waste into usable product are: **1.80 tonnes CO2e**

The process to recycle metals is much less energy and resource intensive than the process to create virgin metals.

Current statistics show for every

1 tonne

of steel made through recycling,

1.67

tonnes of CO2

is saved, compared with making it from raw materials.

For aluminium, the saving is up to

9 

tonnes of CO2!

How can we improve?

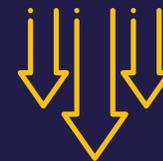


Reducing frequency of process waste pick ups - space is our limiting factor so we are looking into better methods of storing and managing swarf.



Reducing errors in our manufacturing processes to reduce parts being scrapped or having to be remade.

What else are we doing?



We separate coolant and metallic swarf from manufacturing processes using a filtration system from Freddy Products. This allows us to filter the coolant in order to reuse it, which drastically reduces the amount of coolant needed.



We re-use all packaging we receive in distribution of our products.



We recycle PPE waste and 3D printing waste through ReFactory.

**We find the best solution to minimise
process waste from manufacturing.**

EVOLVE

Anode

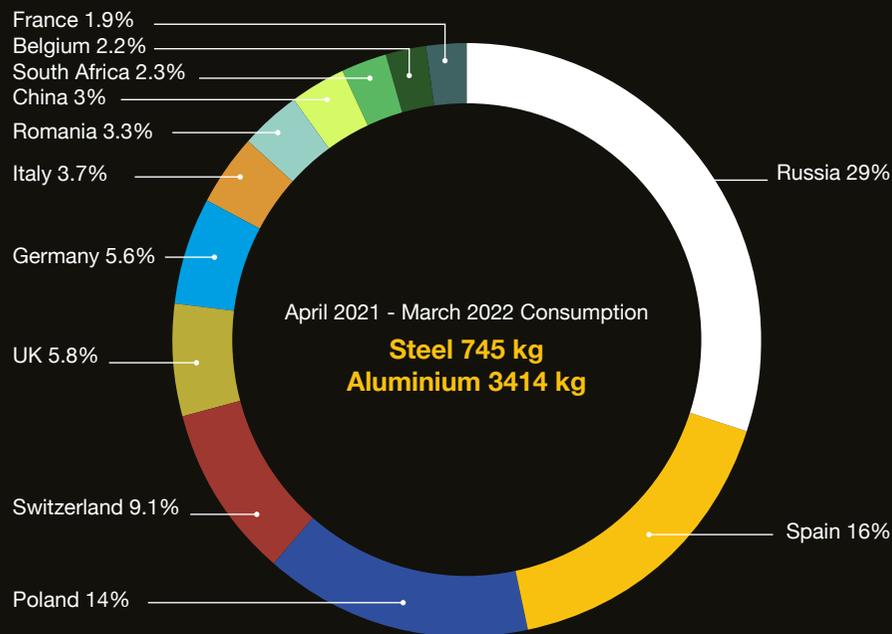
Raw materials

We consciously trade ethically. We receive metals from UK based material suppliers who source their material globally.

Due to the events which took place at the beginning of this year, we spoke with our materials suppliers to state that we will not be accepting metals whose origin country is one engaged in war activities. As this change was made at the end of the financial year, we will have raw materials whose origins are from these countries, but our reports for next year will hopefully show reduced volumes sourced from these countries.

For this report, we have considered only steel and aluminium production as they are the majority of materials we work with (98% of projects in the period April 2021 - March 2022).

We have calculated the carbon emissions associated with production of the raw metals we source, by using average energy consumption values for production of both aluminium (3) and steel (4), and using the carbon intensity of each country of origin (5). The estimated footprint for production of our raw materials is: **19.85 tonnes CO2e**



What steps are we taking to reduce consumption and associated emissions?



We buy material to size for each component to avoid unnecessary waste and take the closest available offcuts from materials suppliers to reduce their waste also.



We work with customers to find the best design solution to minimise process waste from manufacturing.



In the future, where possible we will source our material from European countries whose electricity supply is of low carbon intensity.

Transportation of finished product



We operate from premises in the Oxfordshire area and the majority of our customers are within 40 miles of our facilities.



Going forwards, we are additionally partnering with a local distribution company, Darcica, who operate an electric fleet and provide avoided emissions reports for deliveries completed utilising their Mission Zero vehicles.”



After liaising with our current logistics partner, switching to electric vehicles is not viable for them at this time. We will continue our partnership with DK Logistics and offset the associated emissions with deliveries carried out by them.



Our deliveries are generally completed using a large, long wheel base sprinter type van. Using the UK Gov conversion factors for 2021 (6) for a class 3 van, we have calculated our associated emissions for the reporting period to be: **1.56 tonnes CO2e.**

Collective action



This year we raised

£3707.33

for the charity Special Effect as part of the Twin Town 2020+2 Challenge!

Other causes we have contributed to this year:

- **Alzheimers Research UK**
- **Macmillan Cancer Support**
- **YoungMinds**
- **Hospice of St Francis**
- **Banbury and District Samaritans**
- **Cancer Research UK**
- **The Little Princess Trust**
- **Heathrow Community Trust**

Ecologi

At the end of February, Anode signed up to Ecologi as a business subscriber, which offsets the carbon footprint of every employee's life, as well as offsetting any business travel, and plants trees on their behalf.

We have also offset the emissions identified in this report through Ecologi. This means our contribution for the tax year ending March 2022 totals:



52 trees planted and 39.76 tonnes of certified carbon credits retired through verified carbon standard and gold standard offsetting.



In time, we hope to be in a position to offset all Evolve employees as well.

Employee initiatives



Exercise initiatives to improve mental and physical health and wellbeing.



Food waste conscience: Team scoreboard to discourage food waste



Organic fruit provided for employees



Milk in glass bottles sourced from local milkman provided for employees



Apprenticeships and further education support for employees



Team lunch Fridays - the company pays for lunch of employees choice

Future additions



Electric car scheme



Cycle to work scheme



Food waste compost bin

To encourage each other to improve our health and wellbeing, we began a challenge in the new year: to collectively cover the distance of the UK coastline through exercise in 2022!

As of 31st March 2022, we have collectively walked, ran, hiked, skied, snowboarded, surfed and cycled:

2842km

By the end of 2022 we hope to reach:

12,429km

With thanks

We appreciate you taking the time to read this Impact Report. Get in touch with us on the links below with any feedback or for opportunities to collaborate:

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A word from our
Director of Happiness,
Nevis

“Ruff”

References

1 - <https://www2.deloitte.com/uk/en/focus/climate-change/zero-in-on-scope-1-2-and-3-emissions.html>
2 - <https://www.coolerfuture.com/blog/co2e>
3 - <http://wordpress.mrreid.org/2011/07/15/electricity-consumption-in-the-production-of-aluminium/>

4 - <https://www.iea.org/reports/iron-and-steel>
5 - <https://ourworldindata.org/grapher/carbon-intensity-electricity>
6 - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/greenhouse-gas-reporting-conversion-factors-2021>