Travel Smart.

The Journey to Travel Smart

The Travel Smart campaign aims to reduce emissions from corporate air travel. It takes advantage of the innovation that took place during the pandemic. Almost overnight, we changed the ways we worked. Simply put, it's about flying less, while achieving more.

This case study series showcases businesses that are leading the way in cutting their travel emissions, while continuing to grow and thrive.

How is Arcadis cutting travel emissions

Arcadis has a target to reduce air travel emissions by 50% per full-time employee, by 2025 as compared to pre-covid 19 levels. Arcadis's ambitious air travel target and reporting put them in the 'A' category in the Travel Smart ranking, making it one of the top performing companies in the Netherlands and globally.

As a global engineering consulting company, travel is a big contributor to its climate emissions. Hence, Arcadis tackles business air travel specifically to meet its net zero target.

Arcadis has put in place policies to reach its goal of a 50% reduction in air travel emissions, notably a "virtual first" approach, promoting a Travel Smart mindset both internally and externally.

Internally, Arcadis has enhanced their air travel emission reporting. The company also aims at a healthy balance for employees that reflects the benefits of reduced travelling for all three pillars of sustainability - economic, social and environmental. To do so, Arcadis deploys tools and dashboards to incentivise behaviour change, inviting employees to combine meetings that result in longer stays and ensuring train is the default instead of plane for distances of up to 700 km.

Externally, this *purposeful travel* approach also prevails. Arcadis makes agreements with clients on the amount of travel that is necessary to do projects. In this way, they reduce their own travel and stimulate their partners to do so as well.

Arcadis has already achieved its -50% reduction target, influenced by COVID-related travel restrictions. The company plans to keep tracking its target, to ensure that emissions stay lower than pre-pandemic levels, and that they can keep the status "achieved" until 2025, all while developing their profitable business.

Emission Reduction Target

50%

Arcadis will reduce its air travel emissions by 50% per employee, by 2025
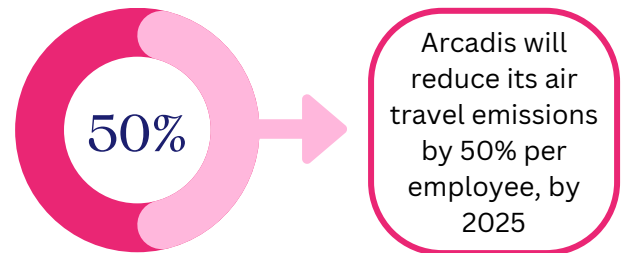
> To work towards a sustainable business future, we encourage a 'virtual first' approach and purposeful travel that considers both environmental and social impacts. By adopting this new mindset, we can prioritize sustainability and create a better future for our business and the world we live in.

Jill Smit
– Global Sustainability Manager – Travel & Workplace

How does the Travel Smart ranking work?

The ranking grades over 327 European, US and Indian companies according to ten indicators, relating to emissions reduction targets, reporting and air travel emissions. Each company is given a score for how it performs against each indicator. With a minimum score of -1 and a maximum score of 14,5, the companies are then categorised into A, B, C or D grades.

For more information about the ranking, please see our Travel Smart Briefing.

Arcadis - ranking breakdown*

Gold standard!

Indicator	Arcadis	Score
Commitment Do they have a reduction commitment including business travel? Is it a specific business or air travel target?	AT target	1.5
Target adoption Have they been committed to these targets for more than two years (as of January 2023)?	2	1
Type of target Is the target an absolute reduction or using an intensity metric (such as tCO2/employee)?	intensity	0.5
% Reduction commitment How high is their ambition in reducing their emissions?	-50%	2
Timeline to target When do they aim to achieve their target ?	2025	2
Reporting source Do they report to CDP ?	yes	0.5
Reporting specificity Do they report their air travel emissions specifically?	AT reporting	2
Air travel emissions 2019 Are they a major emitter?	28.220 tCO2e (incl. non-CO2*) – 14,853tCO2	0
Years of reporting How many of the last 3 years has the company reported emissions?	4	2
Non-CO2 reporting Do they report non-CO2 effects using a multiplier and mention it explicitly ?	yes	0.5
	total:	12/14
	category:	A

Setting an AT target shows a strong commitment to reduce the most climate-intensive form of business travel

Being at the top of the ranking means being ambitious
Top performing companies cut their corporate travel emissions by at least 50%

A complete reporting includes accounting for the full climate impacts of business flying

*As shown in the Travel Smart 2024 Ranking.