

Eco-Friendly Printing Solutions

Your Guide to Lower Energy Consumption and Reduced Waste



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Introduction

Sustainable office practices are no longer a competitive advantage—they are essential for your business's survival. In the wake of climate change, government regulations like the European Green Deal are putting pressure on EU companies to shrink their carbon footprints. In turn, customers are taking a stand, with a growing number of consumers taking sustainability into account when choosing which brands to support.

Companies are responding swiftly: 75% of CEOs in the EU implemented sustainability initiatives in 2024, and two in five say radical change is needed

to keep their businesses viable over the next ten years. Sustainability is also becoming <u>a key</u> <u>element of branding and reputation</u> for many companies that have begun offering greater

transparency in their green initiatives and reporting.

As a result, the EU has its lowest carbon profile yet, with 75% of electricity generated by CO₂ emissions-free sources like wind and solar in 2024. Still, many companies have a long way to go in meeting ever-increasing customer and regulatory demands to go green. Only a small percentage of organisations have completed implementation activities for 2025, with challenges like complex systems, poor visibility, and staffing capacity standing in the way.

Fortunately, there are simple ways for EU businesses to make great strides towards sustainability goals. An eco-friendly print environment is one of the best ways to get started, helping companies drastically reduce their carbon footprints with less infrastructure and waste.

If your company is seeking impactful, practical, and cost-efficient ways to become more sustainable, follow this three-step guide to sustainable office practices for 2025.





SECTION 1

Create Sustainable Print Practices with AWS

Print server production requires an enormous amount of energy, and running and maintaining these systems requires even more resources. For example, an on-premise server using nongreen electricity uses 975 kg CO_2e / year per server, while a cloud server using 100% green electricity uses just 160 kg CO_2e / year per server.

Number of Print Servers	Carbon per Year	Total Carbon Over 5 Years
5	4,875 CO₂e	24,375 CO₂e
10	9,750 CO₂e	48,750 CO₂e
25	24,375 CO₂e	121,875 CO ₂ e
50	48,750 CO₂e	243,750 CO ₂ e
100	97,500 CO₂e	487,500 CO₂e

The easy move to cloud-based printers allows businesses to play a key role in the sustainability movement. By eliminating draining and outdated infrastructure, your organisation can lower energy consumption, reduce waste, and promote environmentally friendly digital alternatives to wasteful paper-based processes.

The Benefits of Eliminating Print Servers with AWS

As the world's most comprehensive cloud platform, AWS offers streamlined print services that reduce your carbon footprint. AWS has utilized <u>90% renewable energy</u> since 2022 and is committed to reaching 100% renewable energy by 2025.

Lower Energy Consumption

AWS infrastructure is <u>4.1 times more energy efficient</u> than on-premise data centres and has the potential to reduce your carbon footprint by 99%.

Number of Print Servers	Carbon per Year	Total Carbon Over 5 Years	Carbon Reduction with Cloud-Native Print
5	4,875 CO₂e	24,375 CO₂e	20,250 CO ₂ e
10	9,750 CO₂e	48,750 CO₂e	40,500 CO₂e
25	24,375 CO₂e	121,875 CO₂e	101,250 CO₂e
50	48,750 CO₂e	243,750 CO₂e	202,500 CO₂e
100	97,500 CO₂e	487,500 CO ₂ e	405,000 CO₂e

Eliminate Unnecessary Printers

Print servers aren't the only culprits creating carbon emissions—your printers are, too. A single printer that is simply powered on around the clock emits 169 CO₂e of carbon per year.

Number of Printers	Annual Carbon Emissions	Total Carbon Over 5 Years
5	845 CO₂e	4,225 CO₂e
10	1,690 CO₂e	8,450 CO₂e
25	4,225 CO ₂ e	21,125 CO₂e
50	8,450 CO₂e	42,250 CO₂e
100	16,900 CO₂e	84,500 CO₂e
250	42,250 CO₂e	211,250 CO ₂ e
500	84,500 CO ₂ e	422,500 CO ₂ e
1,000	169,000 CO₂e	845,000 CO ₂ e

Gain clear insights into your print environment and monitor printing usage across your organisation using Vasion Print. See how often each printer is being used, if at all, and eliminate your underutilized printers.

Number of Printers	Annual Carbon Emissions	Total Carbon Over 5 Years	10% Reduction in Devices
5	845 CO₂e	4,225 CO₂e	422.5 CO₂e
10	1,690 CO₂e	8,450 CO₂e	845 CO ₂ e
25	4,225 CO₂e	21,125 CO₂e	2,112.5 CO₂e
50	8,450 CO₂e	42,250 CO₂e	4,225 CO₂e
100	16,900 CO₂e	84,500 CO ₂ e	8,450 CO₂e
250	42,250 CO₂e	211,250 CO₂e	21,125 CO₂e
500	84,500 CO ₂ e	422,500 CO₂e	42,250 CO₂e
1,000	169,000 CO₂e	845,000 CO ₂ e	84,500 CO ₂ e



Switching to a cloud-native solution, like Vasion Print, allows you to participate in the AWS movement for a greener future.

SECTION 2

Reduce Paper Waste at Your Organisation

The average employee prints <u>34 pages</u> per day, which emits **6 CO₂e of carbon emissions** per printed page. Yet **14% of those pages** never get picked up from the printer, resulting in the average company wasting <u>1,400 pages of paper</u> per employee annually.

Number of Employees	Annual Sheets of Print Waste	Annual Carbon Emissions From Print Waste
50	70,000	420,000 CO₂e
100	140,000	840,000 CO₂e
250	350,000	2,100,000 CO₂e
500	700,000	4,200,000 CO₂e
1000	1,400,000	8,400,000 CO ₂ e

How to Cut Back on Print Waste for Employees

Print waste quickly culminates into exceedingly high carbon emissions. Begin by encouraging each employee to contribute to your organisation's sustainability efforts with these simple ways to cut down on the unnecessary use and waste of paper while reducing costs, too:

- Opt for double-sided printing: When possible, select double-sided prints to use half as many sheets. Your company can even set double-sided printing to be the default printing mode.
- Avoid unnecessary printing: Don't print from unnecessary applications like Outlook, Gmail, or chat programs. You can often save information or send it electronically.
- Use print preview: Open print preview before you print so you don't print blank pages or sections of a document that you don't need.
- Remove large graphics: Before you print, edit the document to delete large, unnecessary graphics, running footers, or other elements that take up space but don't add to the message.
- **Reduce margins:** Before you print, make margins and font sizes smaller on a document. This will make the document shorter.
- **Document electronically:** Take notes electronically, using software such as Evernote or OneNote, rather than taking notes on sticky notes or notepad paper.

How to Cut Back on Paper Waste at the Enterprise Level

While every individual can take responsible steps to reduce paper waste, your company can also minimise paper waste at the enterprise level. Many solutions can help cut down on excess printing, which is good for the planet and for your company's bottom line.

Secure Release Printing

Secure Release Printing empowers users to send a document to the printer of their choice.
 The document doesn't print until the user is at the printer and provides their credentials, reducing forgotten printed papers and increasing flexibility and security.

Quota Management

Quota Management allows administrators to limit the amount of paper an individual or a
team can print. This encourages users to be more intentional in their printing and ensures the
company doesn't go over budget on paper or ink.

Compliance Montoring

Compliance Monitoring tracks and documents printing activities to ensure that only
authorized users have access to print certain types of information. This additional level of
security cuts down on unnecessary printing, increases data security, and helps companies stay
more compliant with data privacy laws like the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).



Utilizing Vasion Print helps you reduce your current environmental impact with less infrastructure and waste.

SECTION 3

Implement Digital Alternatives to Printing Processes

If you're daunted by the logistics of shifting away from printing entirely, don't stress. There's no need to completely eliminate printing just because you've eliminated your print servers.

According to a <u>QuoCirca report</u>, three-quarters of respondents say they expect to reduce paper consumption by 2025, but 30% still say paper will be important to their business. Rather than an all-or-nothing mindset, opting for a digital alternative to some paper-based processes will still reduce your carbon footprint without alienating yourself from paper altogether.



Three Areas to Start Digitizing First

Printing



Deliver handouts electronically

Identify print jobs (handouts, flyers, SOPs, onboarding documents, etc.) that can be delivered digitally rather than physically through email, chat, or document libraries.



Convert to digital forms

Create digital files for forms, contracts, and invoices rather than printing them.

Storage



Store files virtually

Digitize old physical documents and store them virtually.



Share digital files

Share digital files quickly and securely instead of sharing paper copies.



Edit files digitally

Edit files digitally to ensure a single source of truth without the confusion of creating multiple physical versions.

Workflows



Automate printing workflows

Automate workflows to reduce the amount of paper being printed and reprinted around the office.



Sign using eSignatures

Sign forms digitally to reduce paper and speed up approval processes.



Unify print management

Unify front- and back-end print management to get a holistic view of where paper is being printed and when to set print quotas.



Digitize and automate processes across your entire organisation seamlessly with the complete Vasion Automate platform.





Eliminate your print servers, reduce your carbon footprint, and make a positive impact.

Experience a more sustainable and affordable way to do business with Vasion Print. Get started by scheduling a conversation today.

Get Started