ACECOMPUTERS

CORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY REPORT

FY 20 24

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01 INTRODUCTION

Ace Computers' commitment to sustainability and compliance is based in our history and business model. It is also a key part of our dedication to excellence. When an environmental engineer establishes a company that seeks ways to provide top-tier computing needs to customers, the result is rooted in sustainability. Ace Computers aims to never lose sight of our impacts on the environment, society, and all our stakeholders. In 2024, we have added multiple certifications, achievements, and processes to support our sustainability initiatives. This report aims to outline our progress including EPEAT Gold status for many products, introduction of product carbon footprints, adherence to additional International Standards Organization (ISO) certifications, and expansion of Scope 3 reporting such as product transportation reporting. Ace Computers continues to build stakeholder value through these and other efforts, dedication to customer service, and rigorous quality standards. Ace Computers also strives to be an example for other small companies by demonstrating industry-leading performance and adherence to sustainable innovation.

02 MESSAGE FROM OUR LEADER

Dear Valued Stakeholders,

From our humble beginnings over 40 years ago, Ace Computers has always had a foundation in sustainability, quality, and service. In 2024, we are proud to have taken major steps toward better understanding of our impact. While we continue to make small changes that matter and make a difference, we have also advanced our reporting to help guide us in applying the most beneficial leverage within our systems to decrease emissions and improve our processes. Just as every year before, Ace Computers is always looking for solutions. With new reporting frameworks we intend to continue to advance our efforts in sustainability. We believe that technological advances tend to make the sustainable option the more fiscally responsible option as well.

The year in review

Ace Computers set four lofty goals last year and are proud to say that we accomplished three. We have added ISO 50001 energy management through QMS Global to our certifications, demonstrating our commitment to energy efficiency and reducing environmental impact. We have completed a corporate greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory which requires substantial data, research, and analysis with the intent of revealing where we can make emissions reductions. Finally, we added Product Carbon Footprint (PCF) reporting to better understand the emissions and lifecycle effects of individual products and to better inform our stakeholders.

Looking Forward
In the coming years, Ace Computers will continue to seek out ways to be a more responsible business delivering quality and service to all of our stakeholders while being thoughtful stewards of our global and local communities. With that in mind, we intend to quickly attain "early adopter" status for the new EPEAT Climate Plus elevated criteria. We also want to meet all of the required criteria and as many of the optional criteria as possible to retain our Gold status. While aiming to reduce all emissions and energy, we want to focus on a 10% reduction in our distribution emissions by 2030.

With our dedicated team, affiliate and channel partners, and all suppliers and distributors, we want to welcome opportunities for innovation, collaboration, and responsible efficiencies. Together all stakeholders can benefit without compromising on our promise of quality, value, and responsibility. Thank you for your partnership and trust in Ace Computers.

Warm Regards,

Marianne Samborski, President
Ace Computers

Ace Computers is proud to announce that it has already gained half the EPEAT® criteria to earn the Climate+ designation marking a significant milestone in the company's ongoing commitment to sustainability and climate-conscious innovation.
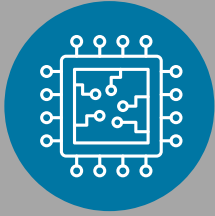
03 ORGANIZATIONAL PROFILE

Ace Computers is a technology solutions provider helping customers stay connected and achieve mission success with industry-leading computer products, supplies and services that are made in America.

Since 1983, we have been building high-quality technology products for federal, state and local governments, academic institutions and Fortune 500 companies using the same components as top manufacturers at a fraction of the price.

Ace Computers is a leading governmental computing solutions provider, with several thousand customers. Our corporate structure has been developed to foster innovation while embedding the priorities of sustainability into all of our activities, from the headquarters in Des Plaines, Illinois to our dedicated workers in remote locations.

01 — Key Offerings

- Forensic Computing: Secure workstations designed for the acquisition and examination of digital evidence,
- High-Performance Computing (HPC): Solutions that deliver much higher performance than regular desktops or workstations, and
- Workstations: Customizable systems to meet the specific needs of clients.
- Notebook Computers: For clients that need portability and performance.
- Servers: Various rack or blade servers for data storage and management.
- Gaming tools: High performance computers and peripherals for advanced gaming and simulation environments.

02 — Industries Served

- Federal & Military
- Tribal Nations
- Higher Education
- State & Local Governments
- Corporate Sector

03 — Case Studies

- Air Force Mission Planning: Providing technology solutions for mission-critical planning.
- National Institute of Standards and Technology: Supporting major U.S. research institutions with advanced computing solutions.
- Collaboration on Computational Physics Analysis: Reliability and attentiveness for leading corporate computational needs.
- Workstations for New Bedford Police Department: Need-specific customization and reliability.

04 BUSINESS HISTORY

Ace Computers, founded by John Samborski in 1983, has been a pioneer in providing high-quality technology solutions for various sectors, including government, education, and corporations. From the outset, Samborski emphasized sustainability, ensuring that products were not only high-performing but also environmentally friendly. This commitment to sustainability has been a core value, influencing the choice of components and manufacturing processes. Over the years, Ace Computers has garnered numerous awards and certifications, reflecting their dedication to quality and innovation. Today, they continue to lead the industry, offering custom solutions that meet the evolving needs of their clients while maintaining a strong focus on sustainability.

1980s Established in Madison, Wisconsin as an Apple® II peripheral manufacturer. Established ACE branded computer offerings, originally as an Apple® II compatible, and soon thereafter, Intel® compatible platforms. Moved to Prospect Heights, Illinois. Expanded business with tremendous growth.

1990s Started manufacturing Intel® Pentium® based PCs for the corporate market. Focused sales towards vertical markets - Education, Engineering, Government agencies. Became the world's 2nd Intel® Premier™ Provider (Now called Intel Partner-Titanium). Opened new and larger HQ office in Arlington Heights, Illinois.

2000s Became Microsoft® Gold™ System Builder. Established 5-year GSA Schedule Contract for sales to the US Government. Entered the VAR 500 of top 500 VARs/resellers in the US. Received award from Federal Office Systems Expo for "Best Government Desktop" Entered into Energy Star agreements with the US EPA for Green technologies. ACE establishes ISO9001:2008 quality system certification. ACE establishes 5-year contract with Western States Contracting Alliance (WSCA) and with EPEAT for environmental registration of our products.

2010s Established new 6-year contract with the US Air Force for "NETCENTS 2". Established new 10-year contract with NASA (SEWP V) to start in 2015 and run until 2025. Renewed for NASPO Contract (New identity for WSCA Contract) - 2015-2023. Established remote offices for sales - home offices exclusively in Denver, Irvine, Dallas, Minneapolis, Orlando, New York, and Virginia. Renewed new contracts with the US Air Force - Client Computing & Solutions 2 for 2017-2022. Renewed University of Wisconsin Blanket Contract for High Performance Computing. Added three home offices in Phoenix, Las Vegas, and Boise. Awarded Intel for "Data Center Project of the Year" March 2019.

2020s Established new contract with US Army for "Army Desktop & Mobile Computing 3" for 2020-2029. Added remote offices in Charleston, Austin and Orland. Continued growth during the COVID-19 Pandemic with limited staff at the office and almost no business travel. Moved into new HQ offices in Des Plaines, IL. Added largest facility to date. Added newest home offices in Houston, Huntsville, Ft. Wayne, and Tampa. Renewed five-year contract with USAF for Client Computing Solutions 3 – 2022-2027: Continue to expand sustainability/compliance department. Ace Computers celebrated 20 years in business since being founded in 1983 by John Samborski. Ace was proud to expand their Air Force CCS Contract. Achieved EPEAT Gold certification and added Scope 3 reporting. Achieved EPEAT Climate Plus designation and early adopter status.

05 VISION MISSION AND VALUES

Our mission is to build custom, high-quality technology solutions that fit our customers' unique needs. Ace Computers prides itself on being large enough to meet these high standards and access to top-tier products our customers demand while being small and agile enough to facilitate their highly specific and custom needs at scale. We also value relationships that our stakeholders can rely on with continuous customer support and collaboration on projects. We welcome the challenge and understand the complex needs of our customers and partners.

06 GOVERNANCE

Our governance structure is strong, with clear roles and responsibilities. While the sustainability and compliance department handles the regulatory nuance, directives are given and advocated by the management team and communication is supportive and open. The team consists of 2 committed team members and their director, with a new team member added this year demonstrating the dedication to sustainable initiatives. Regular updates and reporting to the management team help maintain bidirectional communication and support, transparency, and goal acquisition. We have an Integrated Management System and currently hold ISOs 9001, 14001, 27001, 28000, 45001 and 50001. Via these ISOs, Ace works toward continuous improvement in our processes.

You can view our certifications <u>here</u>.

07 STRATEGY AND ANALYSIS

Our strategy in sustainability is to continuously improve. We do this by analyzing where we are with internal and supplier data, EPA calculators and emissions factors, and comprehensive research. We track our performance using industry standards and look for opportunities for improvement. Our process has two parts. First, we refine our reporting for greater accuracy and broader scope. Second is to seek out and implement positive changes. This year's examples include product carbon footprint reporting and production process efficiencies, respectively. This comprehensive reporting is then analyzed for their cost reduction potential and operational efficiency, and when possible Ace Computers works to implement new strategies that align with our business and sustainability goals. We remain committed to adjusting our strategy as needed, especially considering the dynamically changing challenges and opportunities of sustainability.

08 MATERIALITY ASSESSMENT

Ace Computers performs annual materiality assessments with the management team to define where our actions can most impact our stakeholders and to help direct our targets for the following year. However, as a small company with a foundation in environmental, social, and governance responsibility, we prefer to act promptly to address opportunities for improvement or causes for concern. This agility helps us to be responsive to stakeholders and to refine our processes. We are continuously developing with every iteration of our reporting processes. This reflects greater understanding of our impacts and how we can more accurately and transparently report our understanding and progress.

09 METRICS AND TARGETS

We track our performance on sustainability by thorough, relevant, and increasingly stringent EPEAT Criterion and ESG metrics. These goals aim to be ambitious yet achievable, reflecting our commitment to deliver measurable progress. In the reporting period, we saw improvements in our reduction of our overall waste footprint. While we were disappointed to watch our CO2e emissions go up, the reason is related to expanded reporting, increased knowledge, and greater accuracy. Scope 3 reporting brings in many other lifecycle emissions that were not previously considered, yet each addition helps us see our true impact, to set reduction targets, and make adjustments to improve as a company and world steward.While a greater emissions number could suggest we are taking a step back, it actually means future growth forward as a more sustainable company, and our path is simply becoming clearer.

10 DATA SOURCES

The data that informs this sustainability report is carefully sourced from primary and secondary sources of information for accuracy and comprehensiveness. These include internal audits, supplier assessments, other fiscal year sustainability reports which now include product carbon footprint and transportation data, EPA calculator and data, EPEAT data and third-party verifications. These all combine to give an as accurate as possible assessment of our performance. Ace Computers remains committed to transparency by improving the ways in which we gather this data so that our reporting is valid, accurate, and useful.

11 STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

At Ace Computers, we understand that engaging with our stakeholders is fundamental to advancing our sustainability goals. As a small computer integrator, our key stakeholders include customers, employees, distributors, suppliers, and regulatory bodies. We maintain open lines of communication with our customers through building relationships, regular feedback mechanisms, and support interactions. Working with suppliers we foster continued efficiencies, such as energy-efficient builds, and we promote systems repairability and socially responsible practices throughout the supply chain. Internally, we foster a culture of sustainability by encouraging employees to contribute ideas for reducing waste and improving operational efficiency. Our relationships with suppliers are built on shared values, and we prioritize working with partners who demonstrate a commitment to responsible sourcing and environmental stewardship. Additionally, we ensure compliance with all relevant environmental and data protection regulations, striving not only to meet but to exceed these standards. We have also deepened our engagement with voluntary ecolabel EPEAT and participate in the conformity guidance process to help keep pace with emerging best practices, and to help shape the future of compliance. Looking ahead, we plan to deepen our stakeholder engagement by integrating internal teams with periodic meetings and dialogue about sustainability and compliance. We intend for this to spread outward enhancing stakeholder knowledge, participation, and investment in such practices.

12 INDEPENDENT ASSURANCE

Independent 3rd-party verification is important to Ace Computers for the integrity of this report. We engaged an independent 3rd party verifier to perform assurance on this sustainability report. Through this review process, we verify that our data is accurate, and our claims are valid. This independent assurance gives our stakeholders confidence in the information presented and illustrates our commitment to transparency, accountability, and continuous improvement.

13 MANAGEMENT APPROACH

Our management approach towards sustainability is proactive and strategic. At all levels of the organization, we integrate considerations of sustainability into the decision-making process. Our managers are empowered by tools and knowledge to make informed decisions that best consider our goals on sustainability. We foster a culture of innovation in which sustainable solutions are stimulated and rewarded.

14 ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

Ace Computers is committed to continually reducing the amount of pollution created in its manufacturing plant by offering recycling solutions for IT equipment and by properly reducing, reusing, and recycling its packaging material while considering the interests of our customers, partners, suppliers, and other interested parties. We provide the leadership to manage the policy and communicate it throughout our organization. The system is planned, implemented, and reviewed while considering the context of our organization. Ace Computers maintains an Environmental Management System that it is proud of and one that complies with all of its legal and other defined environmental requirements.

15 ETHICAL BUSINESS PRACTICE AND SUPPLY CHAIN RESPONSIBILITY

Ace Computers has implemented a comprehensive Code of Conduct and our requirements for suppliers extend back further into the supply chain to their first-tier suppliers as well. We also adhere to a strict policy regarding conflict minerals and restrict business with suppliers that do not adhere to these policies.

16 LABOR AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Annually we conduct assessments to determine occupational health and safety concerns, ethical labor practices, and risk factors for our organization and all of our suppliers. Ace has put forth a Code of Conduct that is required of all our suppliers that they must adhere to and extend to their suppliers as well.

17 PHILANTHROPY AND VOLUNTEERING

Ace Computers understands that we are not an island and takes pride in advocating for our communities by providing support and contributions of product or monetary donations.

In 2024, we also initiated a paid volunteer day for our employees to support the causes they care about most. This is an agreement that Ace will pay a regular salary to employees for a day of volunteering in their respective communities and we are eager to see what collective good we can achieve.

18 CARBON EMISSIONS

Ace Computers has taken great effort and implemented resources to expand from Scope 1 and 2 reporting to include Scope 3 considerations. This additional investigation and analysis helps us understand and then influence our full supply chain and lifecycle with efforts to decrease emissions. Our goal is to continuously improve our analysis and reporting. This year we proudly captured our Scope 3 emissions from Product Transportation and initiated product carbon footprints in an effort to understand the carbon emissions of our distribution and product lifecycle. These types of analyses are challenging for a small business, but they increase our understanding of how our processes affect emissions (CO2e). We can then strategize and implement future goals and targets for reduction.

19 WATER AND OZONE

All water used is for human purposes (sanitation, washing of floors and other areas, etc.), and the total usage is derived from invoices provided by the City of Des Plaines Water for the headquarters location at Howard. For the period of this study, January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024, the total usage was 85,428 gallons of water. Invoices were provided to the GHG third-party verifier to confirm this data is accurate.
Ace Computers certifies that no ozone-depleting substances are present on our premises. Our manufacturing and business processes do not involve the use of any ozone-depleting substances and therefore, we have no emissions of these substances.
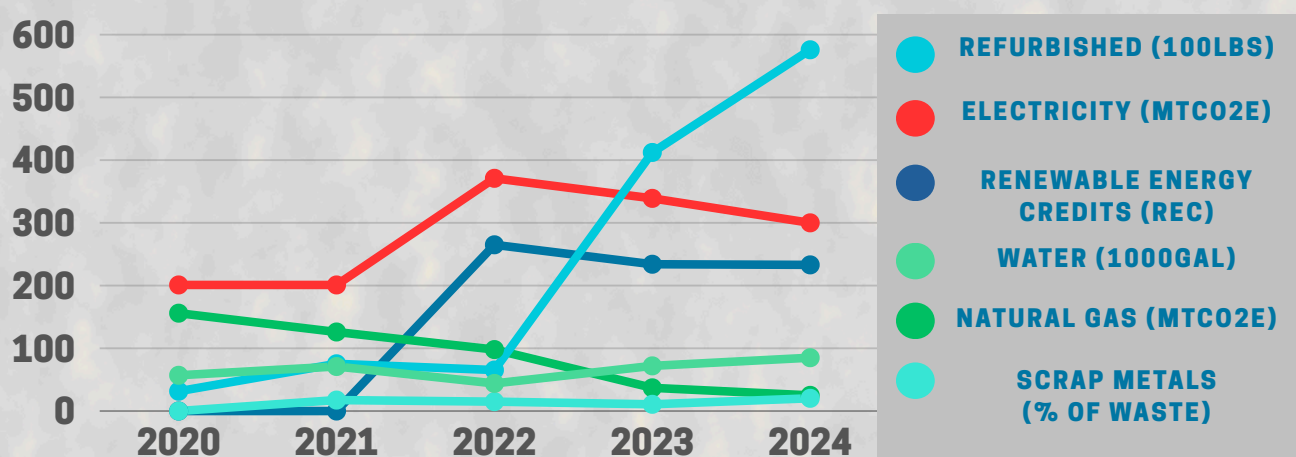
20 MEASURING PROGRESS

Ace Computers tracks sustainability progress through the Global Electronics Council's EPEAT certification. In 2024, many of our products achieved EPEAT Gold status, meeting 10 additional optional criteria—demonstrating our commitment to sustainable practices. We've also adopted the updated EPEAT Climate+ criteria, which raise the bar for environmental responsibility. Ace is actively aligning with these new standards while maintaining Gold status on existing models and expanding our product line. These certifications reflect our dedication to sustainability and help build trust with stakeholders by providing measurable proof of our efforts.

Key Indicator	Activity	Outcome
Product lines registered up to Gold	Obtained Required and Optional EPEAT Criteria to satisfy this requirement.	Earmarked Ace Computer Models achieved EPEAT Gold in 2024.
Continuous Progress to Climate Plus Status	Obtain all required and 50% of optional criteria of Climate Change Mitigation "Climate Plus" status under new EPEAT Standards	Work to meet all required and 50% optional of CCM by 2025
Continuous Progress to Climate Plus Early Adopter status.	Obtain all required and 50% of optional criteria of Climate Change Mitigation "Climate Plus" status under new EPEAT Standards	Work to meet all required and 50% optional of CCM by 2025
Migration of earmarked products to meet all modules of Climate Plus	Migrate 16 EPEAT Gold models from EPEAT Registry to EPEAT Climate Plus Registry for all four new modules.	Review and strategize to migrate 16 current EPEAT Gold models to meet new modules by 2026
Elevate earmarked products to Climate Plus Gold	Migrate 16 EPEAT Gold models from EPEAT Registry to EPEAT Gold on the Climate Plus Registry.	Review and strategize to migrate 16 current EPEAT Gold models to fully EPEAT Gold on the Climate Plus registry by 2027

21 PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Ace is guided by the GRI Framework to assess and report yearly sustainability progress. We also use the EPA calculator to assess CO2 equivalent emissions after compiling data that is assured by a third party. These efforts are monitored by a host of performance indicators that range from material consumption, resource efficiency, energy consumption, process efficiencies, reductions both inside and outside of the organization, and reduction of Scope 1, 2, & 3 emissions. Our focus is on waste, energy, and emissions.

Material Topics	GRI Standards	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Electricity for IT Usage Location-based (CO2e Metric Tons)	302: Energy	200.64	200.64	371	339	300
Electricity for IT Usage Market-based (CO2e Metric Tons)	302: Energy	NA	NA	185	174	154
Purchased RECs (MWh)	305 Emissions	NA	NA	265	234	233
Natural Gas/Electricity for Heating/Cooling (CO2e Metric Tons)	302: Energy	155.94	126.41	98.1	37	24.6
Traveling via Car/Airplane (CO2e Metric Tons)	305: Emissions	6.26	16.7	4	2	16.6
CO2e for Logistics (CO2e Metric Tons)	305: Emissions	NA	NA	NA	14799.5	22819.2
Water Usage (Gallons)	303: Water	56850	71310	43733	71625	85427.53
Electronics Scrap Recycled Waste (%)	306: Waste	NA	0.1748	0.1498	0.1075	0.203072
Refurbished/Recycled Waste (lbs)	306: Waste	3154.774989	7531.014	6536.047	41222.39	57586.78

Legend:
- REFURBISHED (100LBS)
- ELECTRICITY (MTCO2E)
- RENEWABLE ENERGY CREDITS (REC)
- WATER (1000GAL)
- NATURAL GAS (MTCO2E)
- SCRAP METALS (% OF WASTE)

IN REFERENCE TO **GRI** FRAMEWORK

22 GRI PRIORITIES

Each year, Ace Computers aims to continuously improve our reporting and focuses on measurable factors that can be assisted through active engagement and efforts then through comparison can reflect our progress. While not all highlighted in this report, further analysis is included in our GRI report, Code of Conduct, and Risk Assessments. Ace focuses on transparency and legal compliance in our reporting and extend our code of conduct through our supply chain.

GRI 301 — Materials Priority

Adhering to Global Electronics Councils EPEAT program helps Ace focus on selecting environmentally preferable materials for electronic products. This includes using recycled content, reducing the use of hazardous substances, and end of life recycling. We design our products for longevity, repairability, and upgradability to extend their useful lifespan. We insist on responsible sourcing and supply chain practices to minimize environmental impact. Overall, these criteria aim to reduce the environmental footprint of electronic products throughout their lifecycle.

GRI 302 — Energy Priority

Ace Computers places priority on reducing the energy impact of electronic products throughout their lifecycle. Most of our products adhere to compliance with ENERGY STAR standards. Additionally, we promote energy efficiency through our evolving sustainability program and are always seeking ways to be more efficient. While there are currently limited physical options at our headquarters, Ace Computers supports remote work and the use of renewable energy and energy-efficient manufacturing processes through the purchase of Renewable Energy Credits (RECs). Our goal to achieve EPEAT Gold and Climate+ status on our products informs stakeholders of our commitment to sustainability at Ace Computers.

GRI 305 — Emissions Priority

Our focus on emissions is to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions throughout the lifecycle of electronic products and to support sustainable initiatives. This year Ace Computers added product carbon footprints to our reporting and set GHG reduction targets aligned with climate science. We believe that reporting, management, and transparency can make companies accountable for their impact and allows Ace Computers to more accurately monitor progress.

OUR GRI DOCUMENTATION IS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST AT HTTPS://ACECOMPUTERS.COM/CONTACT/

23 EMISSIONS

Scope 1 Emissions

	CO$_2$-e (metric tons)		
	Gross	Offsets	Net
Stationary Combustion	25		
Mobile Sources	18		
Refrigeration / AC Equipment Use	0		
Fire Suppression	0		
Purchased Gases	0		
Scope 1 Summary	43	0	43

Scope 2 Emissions

Location-Based Scope 2 Emissions

	Gross	Offsets	Net
Purchased and Consumed Electricity	300		
Purchased and Consumed Steam	0		
Location-Based Scope 2 Summary	300	0	300

Market-Based Scope 2 Emissions

	Gross	Offsets	Net
Purchased and Consumed Electricity	154		
Purchased and Consumed Steam	0		
Market-Based Scope 2 Summary	154	0	154

Scope 1 & 2 Summary

	Gross	Offsets	
Total Scope 1 & Location-Based Scope 2	343	343	
Total Scope 1 & Market-Based Scope 2	197	197	

Scope 3 Emissions

	Gross	Offsets	Net
Business Travel	17	0	17
Employee Commuting	33	0	33
Upstream Transportation and Distribution	22,819	0	22,819
Waste	17	0	17

Required Supplemental Information

	Gross	Offsets	Net
Biomass CO$_2$ Emissions from Stationary Sources	0		
Biomass CO$_2$ Emissions from Mobile Sources	0		
Grand Total	-	-	23,383

(EPA CALCULATOR)

SCOPE 1 & 2

Scope 1 Emissions: Ace Computers reported Scope 1 Emissions of 43 metric tons of CO_2e. Breakdown: stationary combustion, 25 metric tons CO_2e; mobile sources, 18 metric tons CO_2e; no emissions related to refrigeration/AC equipment use, fire suppression, or purchased gases were reported. These are direct emissions from the sources controlled by the company and reflect a medium environmental impact from operational activities.

Location-Based Scope 2 Emissions: Scope 2 location-based emissions of the company were 300 metric tons of CO_2e. This would seem to capture most of Ace Computers' emissions coming from electricity use, representative of the energy intensity of our assembly and production, sales and support, and business office operations.

Market-Based Scope 2 Emissions: Under market-based Scope 2, Ace Computers reports a lower 154 metric tons of CO_2e. This reflects a lower emissions than location-based reporting because our company purchases renewable energy credits (RECs) to help offset our electricity impacts and promote more sustainable methods of electricity generation.

Total Organization Emissions: Aggregating both Scope 1 and location-based Scope 2 emissions, the total organizational emission would be 343 metric tons of CO_2e. If market-based Scope 2 is considered, it reduces to a total of 197 metric tons of CO_2e. This shows the impact of the market-based decisions on the company's overall carbon footprint reflecting a reduction of 57%.

SCOPE 3

Scope 3 Emissions: The indirect emissions not owned or controlled directly by Ace Computers yet related to their activities totaled 22,886 metric tons of CO2e. The major contribution came from transportation and distribution activities of 22,819 metric tons of CO2e, while employee commuting, business travel and waste handling were 17 metric tons CO2e, 33 metric tons CO2e and 17 metric tons CO2e, respectively. These figures indicate that supply chain-related activities are the biggest contributor to Ace's total emissions.

Additional Information: Ace Computers reported no biomass CO2 from either category, stationary or mobile sources, because Ace Computers does not use biomass for its operations.

These numbers reflect how substantial indirect Scope 3 emissions are compared to our direct business influence. For our team, these metrics help us determine where to leverage our efforts to have greater impact on our emissions and overall footprint.

24 GOALS AND PERFORMANCE

As usual, our goals were ambitious for a small company. However, we at Ace Computers truly believe that sustainability is not just window dressing, but an important piece of what we can do to improve our business, the environment, and society. This last year we made substantial progress in our reporting and analysis to better inform our sustainable strategy. In 2024, we added multiple ways to report our dedication and efforts:

ISO 50001

- ·Energy Management System. This demonstrates that we adhere to certain standards and make efforts to curtail energy use or to source from renewable sources. It also requires that we monitor and improve our energy management practices as possible.

PRODUCT TRANSPORT REPORTING

- Our first Product Transport Report reviewed the distribution methods for 2023, which was an entirely new reporting method for Ace. This was a substantial jump in our ability to more accurately assess Scope 3 emissions, a challenge for many companies.

PRODUCT CARBON FOOTPRINTS

- Also in 2024, Ace was able to compile and analyze data to better understand and report the emissions (CO_2 equivalent) of individual products to help inform our customers and to help us find ways to improve our supply chain.

CORPORATE GHG INVENTORY

- We conducted our first Corporate GHG inventory this year. This allows us to better understand our emissions and where to focus efforts to improve efficiency and reduce our impact.

SBTI GOAL SET

- In our efforts to improve and become more sustainable, we declared Scope 1 & 2 targets aligned with climate science as an absolute average annual linear reduction of at least 4.2% of Scope 1 and 2 emissions from the baseline year of 2022 to the target year of 2032.

AREAS THAT INCREASED OUR EMISSIONS

Mobile sources emissions increased. This is in part due to increased sales and business growth, and in part due to improved reporting ability allowing us to more accurately assess impacts.

Business travel emissions have increased due to normalizing patterns post-Covid and better reporting procedures.

We had a greater response from commuters this year, reflecting an increase in emissions. While emissions numbers did go up, this is difficult to assess actual changes in emissions because there were over 50% more participants in the voluntary survey which increased commuter miles compared to the previous year.

Our water use increased in 2024. Since our production is not water-based, this is likely only due to increased staffing due to business growth.
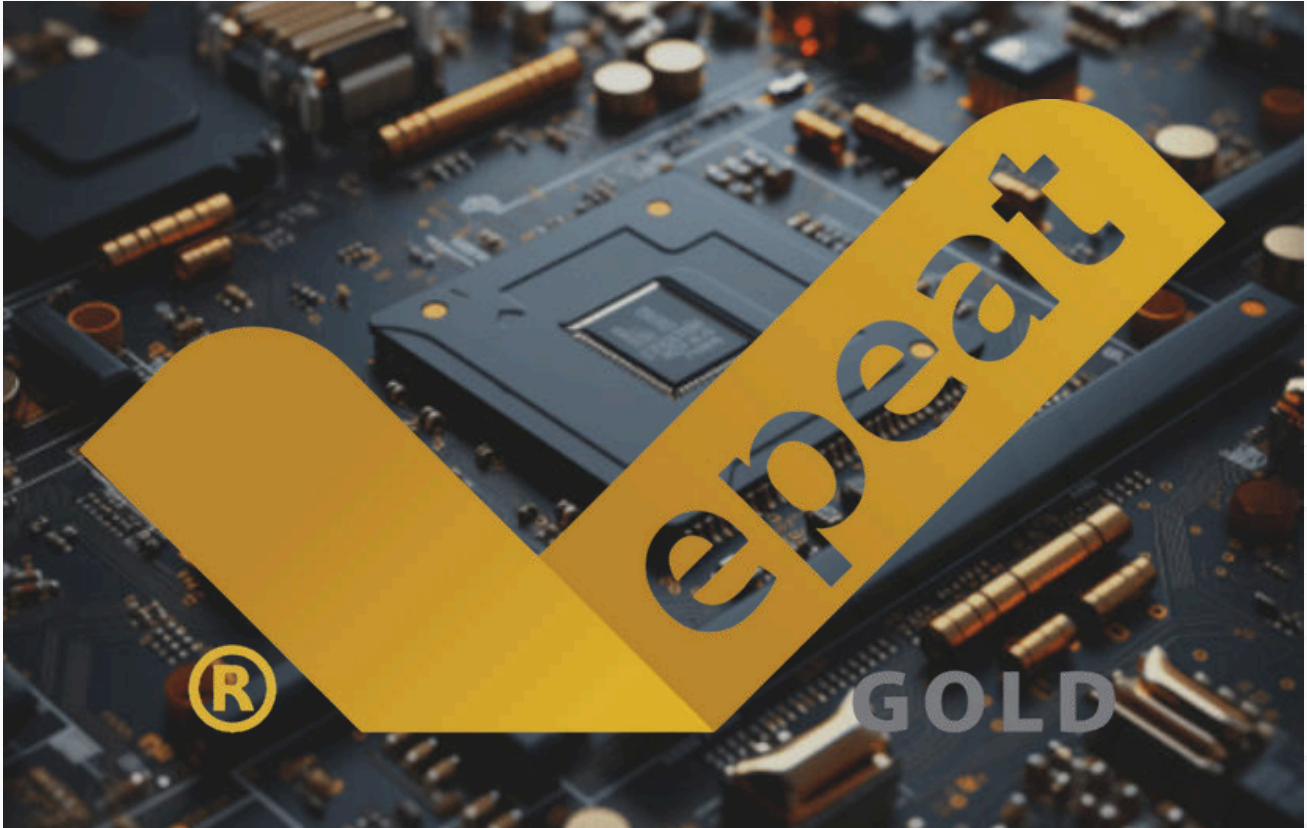
Regardless of company growth, we see these areas as improvement opportunities.

AREAS THAT REFLECT OUR PROGRESS

In 2024, Ace Computers achieved EPEAT Gold status on many of its products. For a small business like Ace Computers, achieving EPEAT Gold is particularly noteworthy. It underscores the company's dedication to sustainability and ability to compete with much larger corporations regarding environmental stewardship. This achievement enhances Ace Computers' reputation and provides a competitive edge in the market, appealing to environmentally conscious consumers and businesses needing custom technology solutions for their organizations. It emphasizes the company's willingness to participate in stringent and transparent sustainability reporting across many areas, including: climate, chemicals, supply chain and circularity.

AREAS THAT REFLECT OUR PROGRESS

Increases in refurbished goods. We send products for refurbishing which are not simply discarded and are either refreshed and reused or dismantled for parts to be used in other products.

Decreased electricity usage despite our increase in production. This is likely due to efficiencies in our production capabilities.

Stationary combustion decreased dramatically in 2024. This is an ongoing trend of decreasing energy usage. However, a new enclosure for the office team reduced the overall heating needs of the production warehouse.

25 NEXT STEPS

Ace Computers is proud to have achieved multiple goals we set for ourselves last year. We have been certified to ISO 50001; completed a corporate greenhouse gas inventory; and have added product carbon footprints to our reporting. These reports are not just about looking back, but also about looking forward. We consistently meet with our management team and EPEAT committee to plan new year-over-year goals, including work on the following:

EPEAT CLIMATE+ EARLY ADOPTER

- This means adherence to all required criteria plus half of the optional criteria in the Climate Change Mitigation module.

MEET ALL REQUIRED CLIMATE+ CRITERIA

- Adherence to all 42 new required criteria in EPEAT Climate + in all 4 modules and as many as possible of the additional 40 optional criteria.

PRODUCT TRANSPORT

- Ace has set a goal to reduce distribution emissions 10% by 2030. We are considering transportation methods, shipping efficiencies, and supplier or partner agreements.

SBTI TARGET

- Planning for physical plant adjustments to help capture our declared Scope 1 & 2 targets aligned with climate science as an absolute average annual linear reduction of at least 4.2% of Scope 1 and 2 emissions from the baseline year of 2022 to the target year of 2032.
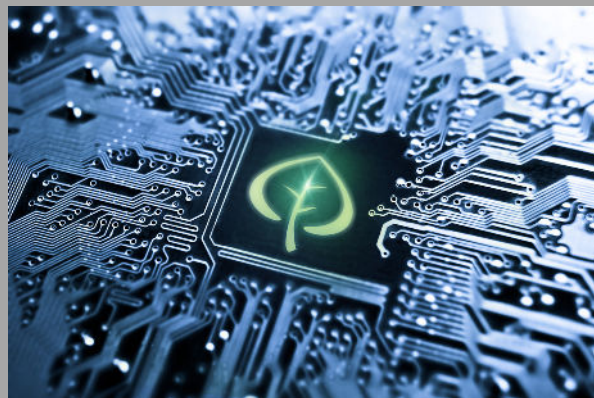
26 CONCLUSION

At Ace Computers, we are deeply committed to environmental responsibility. We continuously strive to minimize our ecological footprint by adopting sustainable practices and ensuring compliance with environmental regulations. Our dedication to actively participate in preserving the environment is reflected in our efforts to eliminate the use of harmful substances and promote a greener, healthier planet. We will continue to innovate and collaborate, driving positive environmental impact and setting new standards for corporate responsibility.

Our mission is to continue to achieve high standards in sustainability while delivering value and quality to our stakeholders. We also aim to foster a culture, and an industry, of environmental stewardship throughout our supply chain. We do this by meeting or exceeding corporate culture goals, through EPEAT eco-label compliance, and by understanding then addressing our emissions and environmental impacts. We believe each report, analysis, and interaction has the potential to push the electronics industry toward a more responsible model and sustainable future.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

27 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ACE COMPUTERS WOULD LIKE TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE PEOPLE WHO WORKED ON THE PROJECTS MENTIONED WITHIN.

Writing and design: Daniel Baugh & Nicole DeSalvo
Research Contributors: Amber Robert, Liz Hartranft, Nicole DeSalvo, Daniel Baugh, Leyda Golemo, Marianne Samborski, Danielle Kennefick, Debra Gill-Grummel, and Brian Graikowski.
Our Federal Contractors
Our vendors and suppliers
The conformity assurance body at GEC
All of our stakeholders for trusting in us

We thank you for your continued support in our efforts toward a more sustainable company and world.

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