SPONSORED CONTENT

Automation: The Hero of the Corporate Sustainability Program

Sustainability is a core value for many companies, with most already reporting an established environmental, social, and governance (ESG) program or one in the works. Although there are many reasons to implement an ESG program, compliance with regulations, such as concern about the potential new SEC rules and the German Supply Chain Due Diligence Act, is the No. 1 adoption driver.

Automation plays a critical role in ESG program adoption, implementation, and monitoring. Besides its logistical contributions to sustainability program implementation, automation brings several additional benefits, such as improved forecasting and resource optimization, to the business.[1]

Most companies have either implemented an ESG program or are in the process of doing so...

...or are implementing sustainability into integrated key processes:

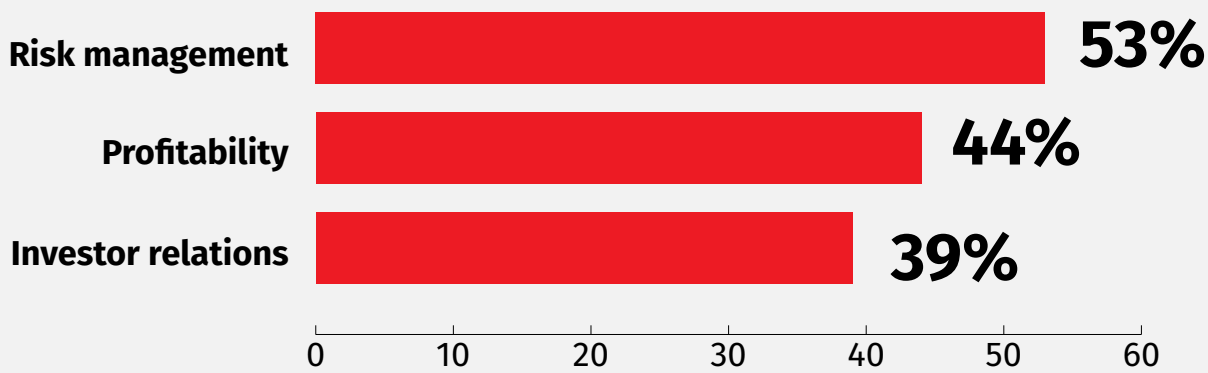
79%
Operations
By reviewing operational processes or steps across the supply chain that could be efficient and reduce usage

76%
Procurement
By looking at energy and water procurement plus materials

62%
Data and communications
Measuring the effectiveness of the earlier initiatives and strengthening any related efforts by communicating them to customers, supply chain partners, and other stakeholders

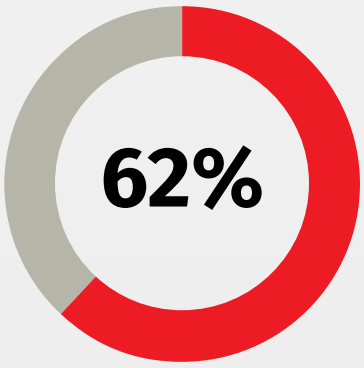
51%
Retirement
Avoiding excess waste and obsolete items by designing products for upcycling and reuse

Sustainability has direct business benefits, driving adoption...

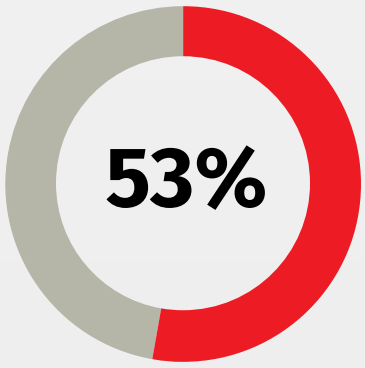


...but compliance with government regulations is the No. 1 driver (67%), with a potential new SEC rule being just one example of regulations driving change.

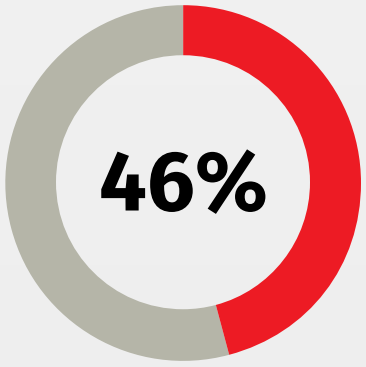
The effectiveness of a company's ESG program is measured in a variety of ways:



Carbon accounting



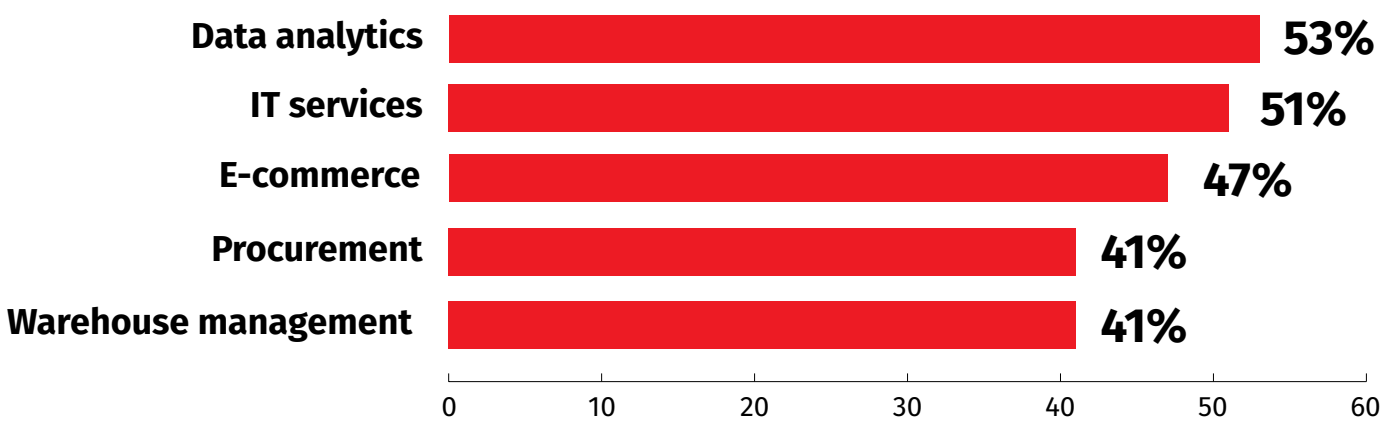
Cloud-based supply chain execution systems that provide detailed analytics



Data from equipment sensors and other internet of things (IoT) devices

Automation plays a critical role in the success of an ESG program and its monitoring.

Sustainability initiatives have helped drive **automation adoption (73%)**, with many companies adopting automation for at least some aspect of their business processes over the past two years:

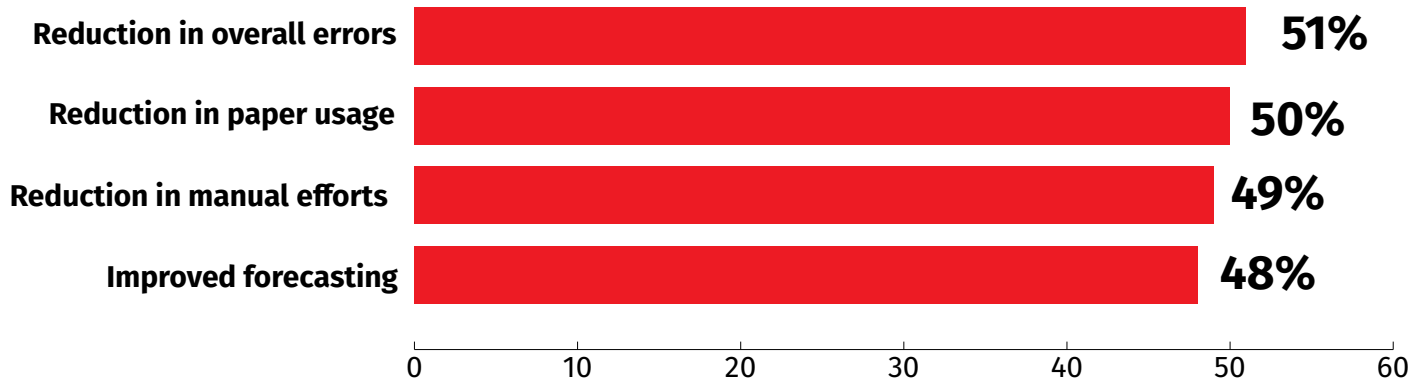


Among its many sustainability benefits, automation reduces the need for paper-based documents in the supply chain.

Companies have digitized about half of the documentation processes in their supply chain.

Digitalizing procurement and supply chain documents has resulted in major or transformational benefits in driving sustainability outcomes in over half (55%) of companies.

Digitization, in turn, is resulting in significant improvements:



Companies are committed to measuring the impact of their sustainability efforts — and that extends to the vendors they choose to do business with.

87%

81%

The majority of companies have already implemented or are planning to implement a sustainability tracking program to measure the impact of their efforts.

Companies consider it very important or crucial that their suppliers have a sustainability monitoring program even if they do not themselves.

To learn more about how you can positively impact the environment through your business and start achieving your corporate sustainability goals, visit OpenText or contact them here.

[1]Foundry "OpenText Sustainability Study," 2022