

SWG CASE STUDY

AN SME WITH A NET ZERO COMMITMENT



Acclaro was established in Wokingham in 2012 and has enjoyed steady growth. It offers consultancy services falling into two main categories: Responsible Business (covering the full range of environment, social and governance impacts) and Net Zero. It also runs the Sustainable Facilities Management Index (SFMI) which aims to raise sustainability standards across the FM sector.

As a small business operating from leased offices Acclaro's biggest challenge is energy efficiency, as it doesn't have control over HVAC plant or energy procurement. Nevertheless, Acclaro has signed the SME Climate Commitment which requires it to achieve Net Zero by 2050. It reports all relevant scopes of greenhouse gases and has set a carbon budget of 2 tonnes of CO₂e per FTE, which includes the emissions associated with working from home as well as in the office.

Those emissions it cannot directly control, it seeks to influence through its commercial relationships.

To celebrate its 10th anniversary Acclaro became carbon neutral for the life of the business by purchasing Gold Standard offset credits for its entire lifetime emissions. It also set an internal carbon price that more closely reflects the true cost of carbon, enabling investment in additional carbon reduction measures. This is in addition to the carbon reduction activities necessary to eliminate all possible emissions in pursuit of its Net Zero target, for example decommissioning the air conditioning.

Acclaro has more in-house expertise than most but maintains that any business can establish a Net Zero strategy. It recommends SME Climate Hub a good source of guidance, insight and support.

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