



Colas launches its own carbon counting tool



Photo from the Nantes, France tramway project which inspired the Colas Carbon Counter
Photo credit: Colas

As part of its low carbon and biodiversity strategy, Colas has developed the first automated tool in the construction sector to calculate the carbon footprint of jobsites, based on quantitative data from the Group's financial information systems, called the Colas Carbon Counter.

Colas Carbon Counter is designed to measure, track and analyze the CO₂ emissions of projects from construction to end of life, based on physical flows in invoices (liters of diesel fuel, tons of asphalt mix, etc.). The methodology is more accurate, allowing construction managers and supervisors to monitor carbon emissions as closely as possible, take action to reduce them, and share the results with their clients.

The carbon footprint calculation methodology is based on a global standard, the GHG¹ Protocol. Emission factors are derived from recognized international and national databases.

Colas Carbon Counter has been successfully tested on several pilot sites in France and is now available throughout the country. The tool is currently being rolled out in the UK, with Switzerland and Belgium to follow soon.

¹ GHG - Greenhouse Gas

Aimed primarily at site managers and supervisors, the Colas Carbon Counter is part of a global strategy to revise the Group's carbon accounting methodology based on real physical flows. Until now, Colas calculated its greenhouse gas emissions based on its sales for Scope 3a and its energy consumption for Scopes 1 and 2.

“ Today, only 10% of companies are able to calculate their carbon footprint² based on physical flows. Reducing the carbon footprint of construction projects and their supply chain is a real challenge for the construction sector. Understanding these emissions is very important in order to prioritize levers and take action, both on site and in purchasing, explains Anne-Laure Levent, Colas Group Environment Director. ”

Colas has set itself ambitious targets, in line with the Paris Agreement and validated by the Science Based Targets (SBTi) initiative: to reduce its direct greenhouse gas emissions by 30% and its indirect upstream emissions by 30% by 2030.

² Source: Boston Consulting Group

Colas (www.colas.com)

Colas, a subsidiary of the Bouygues Group, has one mission: to imagine, build and maintain sustainable transport infrastructure. Backed by a network of 900 construction business units and 3,000 material production units in more than 50 countries on five continents, the Group's 58,000 employees act locally to connect communities and foster exchanges for today and tomorrow. Colas' ambition is to be the world leader in innovative, sustainable mobility solutions.

In 2022, consolidated revenue at Colas totaled €15.5 billion (60% outside of France).

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