# FOR A FUTURE WORTH LIVING

SUSTAINABILITY REPORT





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### **FOREWORD**

Dear Readers,

We proudly present the first **sustainability report** of asphericon GmbH. As a technology leader in the field of aspheric optical systems, we are aware of our responsibility towards the environment, society and our employees. At a time when climate change and resource scarcity are becoming increasingly unavoidable challenges, it is our task to find sustainable solutions and promote a change in thinking.

Our sustainability strategy is based on three pillars: **Environment, social responsibility** and **economic efficiency**. We are convinced that these three aspects are inextricably linked and, together, contribute to a sustainable future. In line with this comprehensive approach, it is necessary to focus on all relevant areas of our business activities.

This report summarizes and describes all of asphericon's activities based on the **sustainability agenda** (Chapter 1). The most important step in the analysis was to determine the **carbon footprint** based on the Greenhouse Gas Protocol Corporate Standard (Chapter 2). We have also developed a strategy on how we as a company can reduce our environmental footprint (Chapter 3) and actively contribute to improving **environmental standards**.

We set ourselves ambitious targets to reduce our energy consumption, promote renewable energies and make production processes as efficient as possible. We have not used any oil or gas since 2011 and have been using only green electricity at our Jena site since 2018. Waste water from polishing machines is recycled and the waste heat from the machines is used to heat workspaces. Additionally, we built our new development and administration building as the first sustainable timber construction in the optics industry.

As a company, we attach great importance to **social responsibility**. We are committed to the health and safety of our employees, promote diversity and equal opportunities and support local communities through social initiatives and partnerships.

**Economic efficiency** is an important factor for us in ensuring long-term sustainability. We are committed to transparent business practices, responsible supply chain management and continuous **innovation** to promote sustainable growth and maximize added value for our customers and stakeholders.

We hope you enjoy reading this issue. Feel free to contact us and our team at any time if you have any questions or comments!

Sincerely,

Alexander W. Zschäbitz

CEO asphericon GmbH





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# SUSTAINABILITY AGENDA

The **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** are 17 global goals introduced by the United Nations (UN) in 2015. The SDGs are to be achieved by 2030 and serve as a comprehensive action plan to tackle economic, social and environmental challenges worldwide. They are divided into different dimensions of sustainability. Each sub-area is aimed at a specific challenge and should contribute to the promotion of peace, prosperity, equality, environmental protection and well-being for all people (see Figure 1).





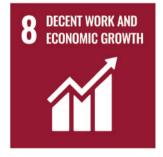




















The include include, among others, **combating poverty and hunger improving health and education reducing social inequality** and **promoting a sustainable economy**. At the same time, there is a particular focus on protecting the environment, for example, with regard to climate change and the preservation of forests and oceans.

In addition to the political relevance of the SDGs, the private sector must also face up to its responsibility and contribute to the protection of natural resources, as well as a



Figure 1: Overview of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals ©United Nations

social and fair coexistence. asphericon is committed to this task and sees the SDGs as a pioneering roadmap to ensure that future generations have a **planet worth living on**. Even though all seventeen sustainability goals are important, asphericon wants to focus on the areas in which the company can be particularly effective. These objectives are presented below.



# HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



The goal "Health and well-being" refers to ensuring that all people of all ages can lead a healthy life and that well-being is promoted. It aims to achieve universal health care.

#### Optical innovations in ophthalmology and medicine

In the field of examination, treatment, diagnostics, and post-operative monitoring of the eye (ophthalmology), optical systems from asphericon help to detect eye diseases quickly and ensure safe treatment. The use of aspheric components forms the basis for the creation of high-resolution images. At the same time, suitable filters in ophthalmic instruments ensure safe working with lasers. Optical systems enable gentle results in laser-based invasive procedures and help to speed up the recovery process.







Lasers have become an essential tool in modern medicine for characterizing and treating physical changes and diseases. Areas of application range from ophthalmology to dentistry. The use of medical lasers relies on the combination of precise focusing, optimum beam collimation and high-performance laser protection. asphericon supports with the

Other applications can be found in endoscopy and microscopy. The focus here is on the best possible image reproduction and image quality, which are determined by factors such as depth of field or resolution.

development and manufacturing of optical systems and services (e.g., optical coatings).

#### Health promotion and work-life balance

asphericon offers employees comprehensive healthcare benefits and a company pension scheme. Flexible working hours, up to 33 days of vacation and a 36-hour week allow for an individual work-life balance. We support healthy mobility with company bicycles and provide free drinks and valuable nutritional supplements. By participating in sporting events such as the team run, company run and company triathlon, we take on sporting challenges together and maintain an active lifestyle.







#### **CITY CYCLING Jena**

We have been a proud sponsor of CITY CYCLING in Jena since 2022 and have been competing with our own team since 2020. City cycling offers a good opportunity to swap your car for a bike, which not only promotes individual physical health, but also helps to reduce  $CO_2$  emissions. Through our sponsorship commitment, we pursue the goal of actively contributing to the promotion of a healthy lifestyle and a sustainable future (also see Goal 11).

As a company, we consider it our responsibility to promote the well-being and health of our employees in addition to delivering excellent products and services. By actively incorporating Goal 3 into our corporate culture, we make an important contribution and, at the same time, have a positive impact on a healthier and more sustainable society.







### **GENDER EQUALITY**





The goal of **gender equality** aims to eliminate gender discrimination and inequality, strengthen the rights of women and girls and ensure that people can participate equally in all areas of social life.

#### Creating an inclusive working environment

asphericon is committed to creating a working environment in which all employees feel safe and welcome, regardless of their gender, religion or other characteristics. Our international orientation with branches in the Czech Republic, the United States and representative offices on all continents not only promotes intercultural cooperation, but also diverse team results. We recognize the opportunities of diversity and encourage collaboration between employees from different backgrounds, which leads to a rich exchange of ideas and a creative working atmosphere.

#### Identical opportunities for all people

Our commitment to equality also extends to the areas of recruitment and the allocation of management positions. We consistently focus on equal treatment, regardless of age, gender or other characteristics. We also promote development opportunities for different generations within the company to ensure a rich diversity of perspectives and characters.

#### Compatibility of career and family

Promoting the compatibility of work and family life is of the utmost importance to us. We offer flexible working hours, parental leave arrangements and provide active support with subsidies for daycare places. Home office arrangements allow our employees to organize their working hours flexibly in order to manage overlapping schedules between work and family responsibilities. Our commitment to gender equality goes hand in hand with striving for a healthy work-life balance and supporting our employees at all stages of their lives.



# AFFORDABLE AND RENEWABLE ENERGY



Goal 7 of the SDG aims to ensure access to **affordable**, **reliable** and **sustainable energy** for all. It covers various aspects of energy supply, including renewable energies, energy efficiency and reducing environmental impact.

#### 100% green electricity

The main criterion for asphericon's energy supply has been the conscious decision not to use oil and gas since 2011. In addition, the switch to 100% ecologically certified energy sources is an important step towards achieving the zero-emissions target.

When we moved into our first self-managed business premises in Jena-Lobeda, we decided to take action and generate our own green energy. Our photovoltaic system currently has an installed capacity of 70 kWp and has produced over 700,000 kWh of electricity in the last 10 years (see Figure 2). At the same time, the system is the basis for our sustainable mobility solutions (see Goal 11).

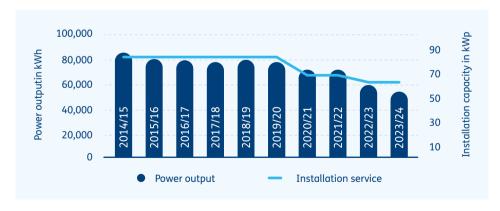


Figure 2: Photovoltaic system output at asphericon GmbH

# INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE





The objective of promoting industry, innovation and infrastructure as key drivers of economic development refers to the **strengthening of industrial production**, the **promotion of innovative technologies** and the **guarantee of access to sustainable infrastructure**. This objective is not just about economic progress, but also about creating opportunities to improve people's quality of life and reduce environmental pollution.

#### Digital process landscape

asphericon is the innovation leader in the field of optical systems and invests almost 10% of its annual turnover in research and development activities. Its main focus is on a fully digitalized process landscape. The entire project and production process is controlled digitally, from the initial inquiry to production and dispatch. In addition to flexible production control for prototypes, small and large series, big data analyses, for example, are set up to continuously optimize and increase the efficiency of customer projects.

#### **Automation and production planning**

Research efforts focus, among other things, on the automation of production lines. Semi-automated production planning was introduced in 2023, which also brought production management into the digital age. This measure increases production efficiency and also contributes to cost savings.

#### **Research projects**

Internal innovation projects are supplemented by collaborations with various partners from industry and research. In current research projects, we are working together on technologies that will increase the performance of our products and open up new application possibilities. These include:



- **UKPiño:** The interdisciplinary Thuringian project "UKPiño" focuses on the development of ultrashort pulse lasers (USP lasers) and optical components through to complex ultrashort processing systems. 14 companies specializing in optical and photonic technologies, along with nine additional partners, including Friedrich Schiller University Jena and Ernst Abbe University Jena, have been researching the application of USP lasers in areas such as medical technology, smart wearables, additive manufacturing, scientific laser systems and quantum technology since 2023. The focus of "UKPiño" is the USP technology, which stand for its contactless, high-precision, and low-maintenance material processing capabilities. This technology enables the production of high-quality and durable products. USP lasers work with pulses in the femtosecond range, allowing a wide variety of materials such as metals, glass, semiconductors, and fabrics to be processed. "UKPiño" focuses in particular on lasers in the near infrared spectrum, the 2-µm wavelength range. This enables the precise processing of high-tech materials such as silicon, ceramics, and high-performance plastics by penetrating through the front surface without causing damage. asphericon supports the project by developing high-precision and easy-to-use laser beam shaping systems, among other things.
- FIQUGS: The European project "FIQUGS" is developing advanced quantum gravity sensors (QGs) to detect the density structure of the subsurface by measuring minute changes in local gravitational acceleration. Despite the success of the first QG generation, transportability, robustness, user-friendliness and high operating costs remain a challenge. FIQUGS aims to overcome these hurdles and develop innovative technological solutions and new operational methods, including a new QG product line, as well as services for field measurements and data analysis. For example, FIQUGS contributes significantly to achieving social goals, in particular the European Green Deal, by reducing the ecological footprint in mining and more efficient building constructions. It also enables improved use of geothermal energy and CO<sub>2</sub> storage technologies to combat global warming. asphericon is developing a fiber-coupled, athermal beam shaping system as part of the project. The product is ideal for applications that place high demands on the thermal stability of the beam profile, including various setups in measurement technology, fluorescence microscopy and quantum optics.

**Miracle:** The production of solar cells is facing challenges due to material shortages and the development of new technologies. A new process enables significant savings in the use of materials (e.g., silver) and higher cell efficiency. As part of the research project, a new laser system design is being developed that promises significantly improved structuring efficiency and higher throughput, thus supporting the use of the new manufacturing process. asphericon is involved in the project with the development of cylindrical and freeform optics, among other things.





# SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



Goal 11 of the Sustainable Development Goals strives to make cities and settlements inclusive, safe, **resilient** and **sustainable** to improve people's quality of life and minimize environmental impacts. Within the target, companies can, for example, use environmentally friendly technologies, comprising renewable energies, intelligent energy management systems and low-emission means of transportation.

aspherican now powers no fewer than 35 electric or hybrid vehicles via its in-house photovoltaic system. In total, 60% of the vehicle fleet already runs on renewable energy.

Since 2019, two fast-charging stations have been installed at the company's site in Jena-Lobeda in collaboration with Jenaer Stadtwerke. An important step towards strengthening the regional electromobility infrastructure.





Figure 3: Opening of the fast-charging station in March 2019 together with Stadtwerke Jena, represented by Managing Director Thomas Zaremba (left)



Another cornerstone of sustainable mobility is the company bike program. So far, 47 employees (approx. 30% of the workforce) have opted for this offer, 25 of them for electric bicycles. This sustainable initiative not only enables our employees to commute in an environmentally friendly way, but also contributes to a healthier lifestyle while making a positive contribution to climate protection.

For business trips, employees are encouraged to avoid unnecessary journeys and to use the electric vehicles available. Alternatively, train travel is preferred, as it mainly relies on green energy. Employees can work during the journey and arrive at their destination in a relaxed state. On long and/or time-critical routes, there is currently still no alternative to using a combustion engine.

Finally, the possibility of using the home office should be mentioned. This also helps to reduce commuting and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

#### **CITY CYCLING**

In the nationwide CITY CYCLING competition, teams pedal for three weeks to promote cycling, climate protection and quality of life. asphericon is the main local sponsor of the CITY CYCLING competition in Jena. The aim of the event is to encourage people to make more use of the bicycle as an environmentally friendly alternative to the car.

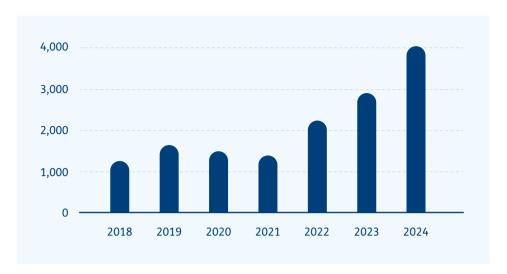


Figure 4: Development of participants in CITY CYCLING in Jena

Figure 4 shows the development of the number of participants in Jena since 2018. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, participation declined slightly in 2020 and 2021, but has risen sharply in recent years. Thanks to targeted marketing efforts within the city of Jena, we can look back on a record number of 4,046 active cyclists and 700,982 kilometers cycled 2024, which corresponds to an avoidance of 116 tons of CO<sub>2</sub>.

The asphericon team consists of an average of 30 people. In 2024, with a total of 8,144 kilometers cycled, we achieved 23<sup>rd</sup> place out of 161 teams.

But it's not just about changing individual transportation habits. The CITY CYCLING event has a broader vision: It actively supports the improvement of the cycling infrastructure in the region and makes it easier for people to switch to environmentally friendly mobility. Such initiatives are crucial as mobility is responsible for around a fifth of total carbon dioxide emissions.

Our commitment as a sponsor demonstrates our deep understanding of the urgency of taking action and actively contributing to sustainable change. Through CITY CYCLING, we are not only promoting a healthier lifestyle and a more sustainable city, but also helping to reduce the environmental impact of climate-damaging emissions.

We firmly believe that joint efforts and sustainable initiatives such as these make an effective contribution to a more environmentally conscious society. Only together can we overcome the challenges of climate change and preserve a world worth living in for us and future generations.

# SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION PATTERNS





oal 12 intends to promote **sustainable consumption** and **production patterns** in order to reduce resource consumption, environmental impacts and waste production.

#### Sustainable production methods

asphericon believes it has a responsibility to support sustainable production methods and responsible consumption. We consistently use resource-saving and environmentally friendly methods in all aspects of our business processes. By establishing sustainable practices, we help to minimize the impact of our activities on the environment and, at the same time, improve the quality of our products.

#### Wastewater recycling

In line with our commitment to responsible production, we focus on innovative solutions to minimize harmful environmental impacts. In particular, wastewater from the polishing process is treated and made reusable. In addition, about 1,400 liters of solvents for cleaning technology and 150 m³ of process wastewater are recycled each week instead of being disposed of. Furthermore, the use of solvents has been significantly reduced in recent years.

#### Sustainable infrastructure

Our vision of sustainability is also reflected in the new building completed at our Jena site in 2023. This pioneering project is the first sustainable timber construction in the photonics industry within the region. Through an intelligent timber-hybrid construction method, sustainability and a pleasant indoor climate are seamlessly combined across 1,200 m<sup>2</sup>.

The extensive energy concept results in the 'Efficiency Building 40 EE' standard being exceeded by 40%. The building is primarily heated using waste heat from production processes, including compressed air generation in combination with a heat pump. Additionally, surplus energy from the in-house photovoltaic system is fed into a buffer for heating. Room heating is provided by a highly efficient underfloor heating system. The staff showers are also supplied with fresh water via a fresh water station using waste heat from production. A ventilation system with heat and humidity recovery ensures the necessary hygienic air exchange for our employees. Room temperature control, blind control and lighting control are monitored and regulated via a building automation system (BAS).



### CLIMATE PROTECTION MEASURES





Goal 13 of the SDG, climate action, includes all activities to **combat climate change** and its impacts.

The scientific consensus is clear: The earth is becoming increasingly warmer as a result of human activity. The current global average temperature is already 1.1 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels. This alarming trend was confirmed in the latest Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report.

In response to the urgent need to counteract the most serious effects of climate change, all UN member states agreed in the 2016 Paris Climate Agreement to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius if possible. However, scientific projections are alarming: Warming of 1.5 degrees Celsius compared to pre-industrial times is expected by around 2030 – ten years earlier than assumed in 2018. To achieve the ambitious target of 1.5 degrees Celsius set by the Paris Agreement, global greenhouse gas emissions must be cut in half by 2030.

The consequences of climate change are already severe and devastating: Rising sea levels threaten coastal regions, while Arctic ice melt and snow loss have reached alarming levels. Natural disasters such as heatwaves, droughts, storms, heavy rainfall and floods are increasing worldwide. Desertification, land degradation and the alarming extinction of animal and plant species are becoming harsh realities. In many regions, people are already affected by the negative effects. Global warming will continue to increase if no effective measures are taken.



It is an urgent obligation to curb climate change and ensure the protection of our planet for future generations. In this context, companies in particular bear a significant responsibility, as their activities contribute significantly to greenhouse gas emissions and environmental pollution. To mitigate the worst effects of climate change, companies need to bring their business practices, production processes and supply chains in line with sustainable principles.







asphericon is aware of this responsibility and is committed to contribute to achieving the 1.5 degree target in accordance with the Paris Agreement. As a first step, we have decided to carry out a comprehensive analysis of our carbon footprint. Based on this analysis, we have developed a reduction plan targeting the main sources of emissions (see Chapter 2).

# **PARTNERSHIPS** TO **ACHIEVE THE GOALS**





This goal focuses on supporting the implementation of the SDGs through **increased international cooperation** and partnerships between governments, civil society and the private sector, as well as the exchange of knowledge and resources.

#### **NAThüringen**

Since joining the NAThüringen network in 2018, we have been committed to a common vision: to network sustainable companies and specifically address key issues, such as climate and environmental protection, resource conservation, energy efficiency and social sustainability.

NAThüringen acts as a valuable platform for exchange and cooperation between the partners. Here we find like-minded people who share the same values and have a passionate interest in strengthening sustainability in our business envi-



ronment. Close cooperation with other companies and organizations enables us to learn from the experience of others, motivate each other and develop innovative solutions.

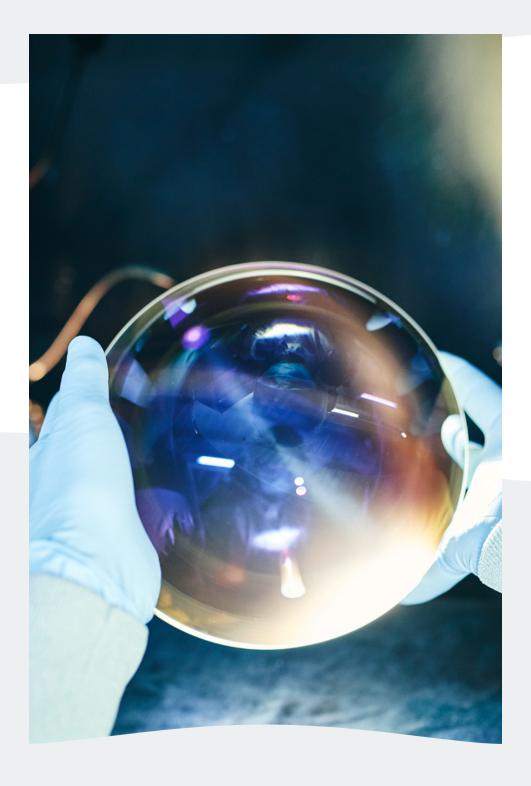
However, our partnership with NAThüringen is not only about our own progress, but also about taking a pioneering role and inspiring other companies to also engage in sustainable business practices. We are convinced that by working together and using resources wisely, we can create a sustainable future for our society.



2

# DETERMINATION OF THE CARBON FOOTPRINT

The development of a company's **carbon footprint** is a fundamental step in creating a climate protection strategy. Based on the carbon footprint, reduction potentials can be identified, climate protection targets defined and measures developed. The Greenhouse Gas Protocol (GHG) is the most widely used international standard for corporate carbon footprints.







### SCOPES AND CALCULATION

According to GHG, emissions are divided into three so-called "scopes":

- **Scope 1** includes all emissions generated directly by combustion in our own facilities (e.g., heat consumption, cooling, vehicle fleet).
- **Scope 2** includes emissions associated with purchased energy (e.g., electricity, district heating).
- Scope 3 includes emissions from services provided by third parties and purchased services, such as business travel, commuting, consumables, waste and IT hardware.

The main greenhouse gases covered under the Kyoto Protocol were taken into account for this report: carbon dioxide  $(CO_2)$ , methane  $(CH_4)$ , nitrous oxide  $(N_2O)$  and the fluorinated greenhouse gases (F-gases), hydrogen-containing hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), sulphur hexafluoride  $(SF_c)$  and nitrogen trifluoride  $(NF_2)$ .

To reduce complexity, the effects of the 7 gases are converted into  ${\rm CO_2}$  equivalents ( ${\rm CO_2}$ e), according to their harmful climate impact. The result of the carbon footprint is therefore the sum of the converted greenhouse gases, based on the main anthropogenic greenhouse gas, carbon dioxide.

The emission factors are taken from various emission factor databases, e.g., the emission inventories of DEFRA (Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs), the GEMIS database (Global Emission Model of Integrated Systems), the ecoinvent database, the database of the Federal Environment Agency (UBA) and the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change). The control approach was used to determine the accounting thresholds.

All data were collected and evaluated in collaboration with M&P Climate GmbH and apply to asphericon GmbH's Jena site.

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### **RESULTS**

The total emission intensity of asphericon GmbH is 257 tons of  $CO_2e$ . Scope 1 accounts for 101.1 tons (39%) and Scope 3 for 155.9 tons (61%) (see Figure 5). As we only use green electricity and do not use district heating, no Scope 2 emissions are generated.

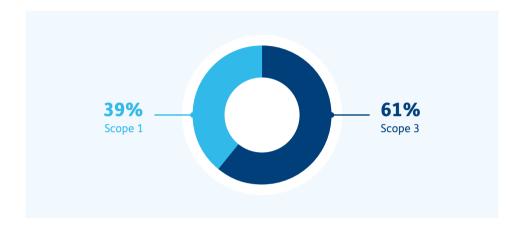


Abbildung 5: CO<sub>3</sub>-Footprint nach Scopes

The total of 257 tons of  $CO_2$ e is equivalent to:

- the annual CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of 32 people (EU),
- the annual CO<sub>2</sub> capacity of 20,564 beech trees and
- approx. 80% fewer emissions than those of an average climate-friendly company.

In Scope 1 the vehicle fleet can be identified as the main contributor of total emissions (257 t  $CO_2$ e) with a share of 38% (97,7 t  $CO_2$ e, see Figure 6). Cooling contributes a further 3.4 tons  $CO_2$ e (1%).

Scope 3 is mainly characterized by employee commuting with a total of 129.6 tons of  $CO_2e$ , which accounts for almost 50% of total emissions. The remaining sources are IT hardware with 22.4 tons of  $CO_2e$  (9%), water and waste with 1.9 tons of  $CO_2e$  (0.7%), office supplies with 0.8 tons of  $CO_2e$  (0.3%) and business trips with 1.2 tons of  $CO_2e$  (1%).

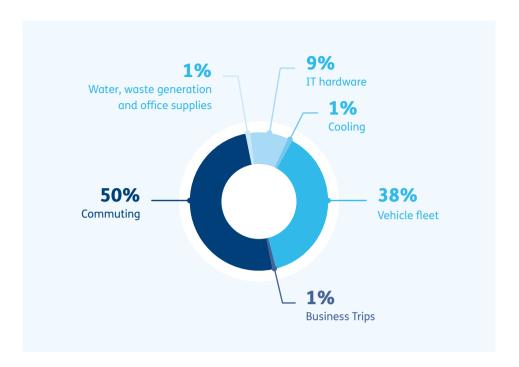


Figure 6: Carbon footprint by polluter



### **SUMMARY**

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#### In conclusion, the following observations can be made:



Our footprint of 257 tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e is 5 times smaller than that of comparable companies.



asphericon's mobility causes a total of almost 208 tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e through commuting, the vehicle fleet and business trips, accounting for 89% of annual emissions.



The biggest source of CO<sub>2</sub> is employee commuting, followed by the vehicle fleet.



The purchase of IT hardware (personal use) accounts for almost 9% of total emissions.



All other emission sources considered are in very low ranges of about 1%.

With regard to Scope 3, it should be noted that a comprehensive assessment of emissions along the value chain was not part of the analysis. Significant emissions must be expected, particularly in the area of purchased goods and the use of goods sold.



3

# CO<sub>2</sub> REDUCTION PLANNING

Our **emissions intensity** analysis shows clear priorities that we are targeting in order to reduce our carbon footprint. This reduction plan therefore focuses on the biggest CO<sub>2</sub> drivers. Here, almost 90% relates to mobility.

Although asphericon has no Scope 2 emissions due to the purchase of 100% certified green electricity, the aim is to optimize the scope of electricity procurement and consumption. We therefore also consider this area to be an important field of action.







### FIELD OF ACTION: MOBILITY

#### The following material measures promise particularly high CO, e savings:

- Expansion of e-mobility
- Purchase of low-rolling resistance tires.

#### und folgende organisatorische Maßnahmen:

- CO<sub>2</sub>e limit for new company car purchases
- Fuel-saving training programs
- Avoiding business trips (e.g., through video calls)
- Reducing travel through remote work policies
- Promoting carpooling, public transportation, and cycling
- Definition of mobility guidelines.

It should be noted that the biggest impact in mobility lies in expanding e-mobility. However, the high implementation costs must be carefully considered. In addition, this area cannot always be directly controlled and requires active participation of employees.



### FIELD OF ACTION: **ELECTRICITY**



Optical manufacturing accounts for the majority of electricity consumption.

#### The following measures offer potential savings:

- Optimization and modernization of pumps used in production
- Optimization of process heat by adapting to demand, improving insulation and using waste heat
- Optimization of cooling and chilled water systems
- Optimization of ventilation technology.

Efficiency improvements can also be achieved through professional and regular maintenance. More cost-intensive measures include the purchase of more efficient pumps.

#### The potential savings in terms of building-related energy demand are as follows:

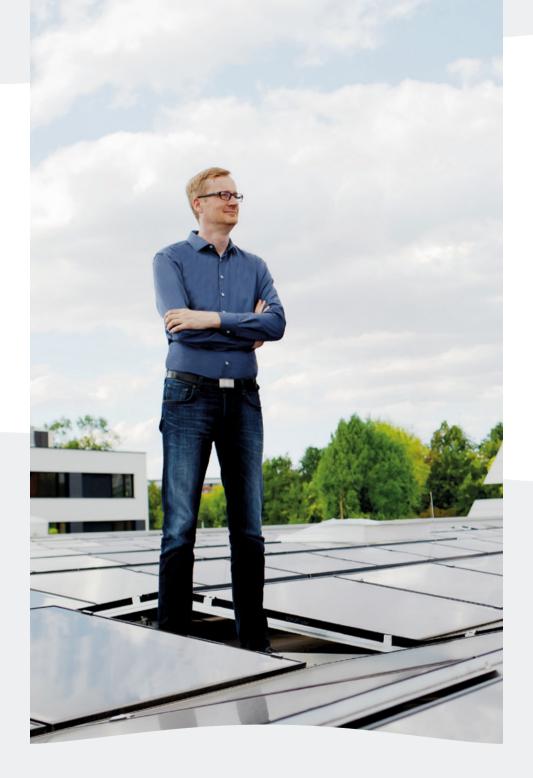
- Maintenance and modernization of heating systems
- Minimization of heat loss (e.g., roller shutters, insulation)
- Use of motion sensors for lighting.

asphericon also aims to increase its own contribution to renewable energy generation. Further expansion of the company's own photovoltaic system is already being planned in order to cover the increasing proportion of energy requirements from our own sustainable sources. With falling feed-in tariffs, PV operation is particularly profitable if most of the electricity is consumed by the customer. In most cases, the electricity produced in this way is significantly cheaper than commercial electricity purchases. To further increase own consumption, the use of an energy storage system is being considered. This would not only maximize the use of solar energy, but also help to bridge short-term power fluctuations.



# **CONCLUSION**

To conclude our sustainability report for asphericon, we would like to express our **deep commitment** to a **sustainable future**. Our commitment to climate protection, sustainable consumption and production as well as social responsibility is an integral part of our corporate philosophy.





We are proud of our achievements and the progress we have made so far. From using **100% sustainable energy** to promoting **green mobility** and the **reducing** our carbon footprint – each step is an important milestone on our journey towards a greener and more sustainable future.

But we also know that the challenges remain and that more work is needed to ensure a world worth living in for future generations. That is why we see our Sustainability Report not only as a record of past achievements, but also as a **guide for action in the future**.

Together with our dedicated employees, partners, and customers, we will continue to develop innovative solutions to further reduce our environmental footprint and fulfil our social responsibilities. We are committed to increasing the use of **renewable energy**, creating **sustainable jobs**, and putting our **employees** at the center of our efforts.

Our aim is to be a **role model for sustainable business**, inspiring other companies, and society as a whole. By taking responsibility and acting together, we can make a real difference and pave the way to a green and sustainable future.

We would like to thank all those who have accompanied and supported us on this journey. Together, we will continue to work for a sustainable world – for ourselves, for future generations and for our planet.



## asphericon

Committed to a sustainable future.



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#### asphericon GmbH

Stockholmer Str. 9 07747 Jena Germany

Phone +49 (0) 3641 3100 500 Fax +49 (0) 3641 3100 501