



WHITEPAPER

Unlocking data's 'green dividend'

Why Duco is the data automation
partner of choice for ESG-conscious firms

2025

SECTION 1

Innovation as a force for good

Innovation is at the heart of what we do at Duco – solving complex problems to make a difference.

Data automation is about more than just cost savings and efficiency gains. It's a way for you to harness the latest technology to lower emissions, improve employee experience and tighten controls.

Our ESG efforts follow the same relentless drive for continual improvement that governs our work for clients. This means real change and real transformation across every level and aspect of the organisation.

When ESG is the foundation of business

ESG is becoming increasingly important to firms across the globe. Some areas, such as the Nordics, are leading the way in embedding sustainable practices into their ways of working.

Duco is built to exceed these high regional standards, making us a valuable partner for firms who take their corporate responsibility seriously. Our credentials at a glance include:

Signatory of the UN Global Compact, a set of standards focussed on maintaining a transparent, principles-based approach to human rights, labour, and anti-corruption

A commitment to carbon neutrality by 2027

ISO 27001 and SOC 2 certified

Built on industry-leading AWS technology for maximum energy efficiency and minimal emissions

Our roadmap stays ahead of the evolving regulatory and ethical expectations of the most sustainability-minded markets in the world.

The positive impact of these goes beyond our own business. Reducing emissions, strengthening governance and enhancing our social impact all filter through to our clients in tangible ways. For instance, our work to optimise our energy efficiency directly reduces your Scope 3 emissions.

While Duco brings great efficiency in terms of data automation, our platform is built on sustainable principles that also help you reach your own sustainability targets.

SECTION 2

The efficiency gap: Legacy vs. **cloud-native**

Transitioning from legacy infrastructure to a cloud-native architecture can deliver significant emissions savings.

The Duco platform replaces the energy-heavy systems of the past with a lean, dynamic, and sustainable digital foundation.

The hidden cost of on-premise

Traditional on-premise data centres are inherently energy-intensive. These facilities frequently suffer from inefficient power usage and high electronic waste (e-waste).

Research estimates that typical on-premises enterprise data centres have a Power Usage Effectiveness (PUE) of approximately 1.63. By comparison, cloud data centres are much more efficient – for example, AWS data centres achieve 1.15.

One of the reasons for this is because legacy systems in private data centres must be overprovisioned in order to handle peak loads. This means they rely on ‘always-on’ hardware that consumes significant power even when idle.

As well as wasting electricity, legacy hardware wastes physical resources. It typically has a shorter lifecycle and is harder to recycle. This generates significant e-waste as organisations must physically replace aging servers every few years.

Public vs. private cloud: Agility and security

Moving from on-premise technology to a cloud environment is a positive change. But not all cloud environments are created equal. While private clouds offer isolation, they often lack the massive efficiency gains found in the public cloud.

Public cloud is an effective, efficient way to securely share computing resources for maximum performance and minimum environmental impact.

 **4.7x**

CARBON EFFICIENCY

Public cloud data centres are estimated to be 4.7 times more carbon-efficient than the median of private enterprise data centres.



THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS

Modern public cloud providers like AWS allow for logically isolated environments (such as Virtual Private Clouds). These provide the security and partitionable data guarantees required by financial institutions. All while benefiting from the agility and, in Amazon's case, 100% renewable energy commitments of the public cloud.

SHARED RESILIENCE

By using shared infrastructure, multiple organisations can run on fewer physical servers. This maximises resource utilisation and reduces the total carbon footprint of the digital economy.

Public cloud is an effective, efficient way to securely share computing resources for maximum performance and minimum environmental impact.

The cloud-native revolution: Scaling-to-zero

Being 'born in the cloud' allows Duco to operate with a level of precision that legacy vendors can't match. Our platform leverages cloud-native principles to ensure that energy is only consumed when it is adding value. We do this in several ways, including:

SCALING-TO-ZERO

Our architecture allows us to scale resources up and down instantly based on demand. This 'scaling-to-zero' capability ensures that no energy is wasted on idle processing during low-activity periods.

 **60%**



RIGHT-SIZED INFRASTRUCTURE

We continuously optimise our instance types to provide the highest 'compute per watt'. For example, we migrated to AWS Graviton processors, which use up to 60% less energy for the same performance as traditional x86 chips.

The environmental payoff of these changes isn't theoretical. In FY25, Duco achieved a massive 721 tCO2e reduction through targeted infrastructure changes. These included migrating all database servers to energy-efficient CPUs and rightsizing our compute usage – more on this in Section 3.

By closing the efficiency gap, Duco ensures that your data management is as sustainable as it is secure.

SECTION 3

AWS: Powering sustainability

As a cloud-native platform, Duco's environmental impact is inextricably linked to our choice of infrastructure.

The Duco platform replaces the energy-heavy systems of the past with a lean, dynamic, and sustainable digital foundation.

Infrastructure efficiency: More than just the cloud

Moving workloads to AWS is not just about changing location; it is a fundamental shift in energy efficiency. Research by 451 Research (a unit of S&P Global Market Intelligence) shows the efficiency of AWS infrastructure: up to 3.6 times more energy-efficient than the median US enterprise data centre and up to 5 times more efficient than typical facilities in Europe.

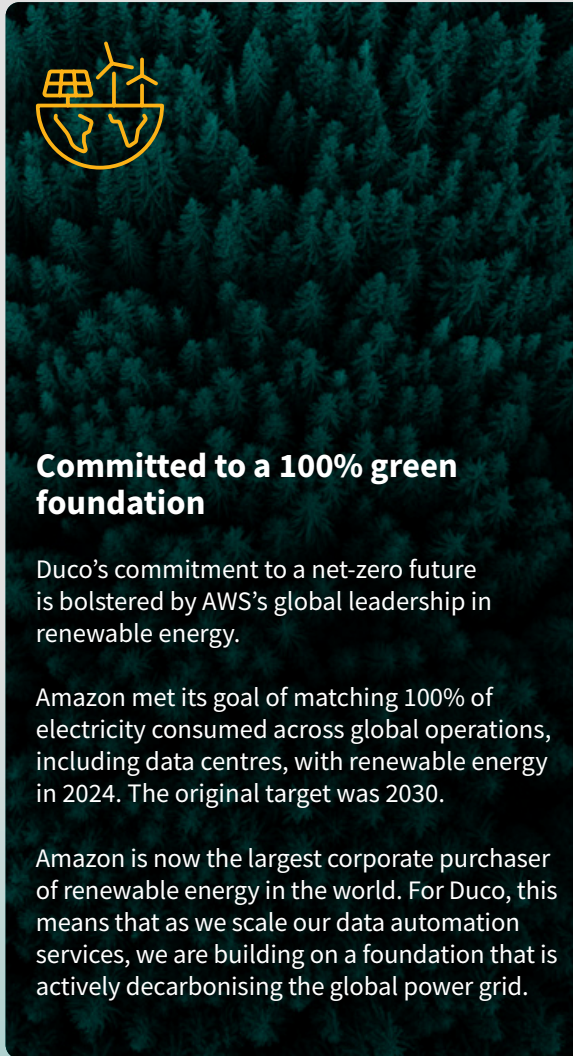
This efficiency is driven by two primary factors:

SUPERIOR UTILISATION

Typical on-premise servers often run at utilisation rates as low as 15%. AWS achieves far higher resource utilisation, ensuring that every watt of power consumed translates into productive compute cycles.

ADVANCED COOLING & DESIGN

AWS data centres utilise highly efficient power and cooling systems, including real-time sensor data to adapt to weather conditions. This can reduce mechanical energy consumption by up to 46% compared to traditional designs.



Committed to a 100% green foundation

Duco's commitment to a net-zero future is bolstered by AWS's global leadership in renewable energy.

Amazon met its goal of matching 100% of electricity consumed across global operations, including data centres, with renewable energy in 2024. The original target was 2030.

Amazon is now the largest corporate purchaser of renewable energy in the world. For Duco, this means that as we scale our data automation services, we are building on a foundation that is actively decarbonising the global power grid.

The Graviton advantage

Sustainability at Duco is not just an operational goal; it is an engineering discipline. A cornerstone of our recent ESG success has been the migration of our core infrastructure to AWS Graviton processors.

Unlike traditional x86 chips, AWS Graviton processors are custom-built using ARM architecture to provide the best 'compute per watt' in the cloud.

These processors played a key role in the 40% year-over-year decrease in total emissions we reported in our FY25 ESG report. The single architectural choice to migrate all processes to Graviton contributed to a dramatic reduction in our hosting emissions, which fell from over 1,000 tCO₂e to just 308 tCO₂e.

Duco provides clients with 'green' data automation, delivering high-performance reconciliations and data integrity while minimising the environmental cost of every transaction.

SECTION 4

Social & governance excellence

While environmental stewardship is critical to Duco's mission, our commitment to sustainability extends deeply into the other pillars of ESG.

We believe that a sustainable business is built on a foundation of ethical integrity, inclusive culture, and rigorous governance. This is achieved through aligning our operations with international standards and fostering a diverse, purpose-driven workforce. This way, we ensure our growth has a positive impact on our employees, our clients, and the global community.

The UN Global Compact: A principles-based approach

Duco is a proud signatory of the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC). This represents a formal commitment to aligning our internal operations and broader strategies with ten universally accepted principles in the areas of human rights, labour, environment, and anti-corruption.

By joining the UNGC, Duco participates in the world's largest corporate sustainability initiative. This means we actively work to:

- + **Support and respect** the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights.
- + **The elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation**, and of all forms of forced and compulsory labour.
- + **Maintain a precautionary approach** to environmental challenges and encourage development of environmentally-friendly technologies.
- + **Work against corruption** in all its forms, including extortion and bribery.

Empowering people and communities

Duco's greatest asset is its people. We are dedicated to building an inclusive environment where diverse perspectives drive innovation. Our social impact strategy focuses on two primary areas: internal equity and community engagement.

STRUCTURED HIRING AND INCLUSION

To mitigate bias and ensure a level playing field, we utilise advanced platforms like Lattice to manage performance and structured hiring processes. By standardising interview rubrics and performance reviews, we ensure that every candidate and employee is evaluated on merit, fostering a culture of true equity.

COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERING

We encourage our 'Duconians' to give back. Company-sponsored volunteering initiatives give our team members the chance to support local causes. This commitment to service strengthens our internal culture and ensures our impact is felt far beyond the walls of our offices.

Resilience through rigorous compliance

Trust is the currency in a world of data automation and financial technology. We maintain a 'zero-compromise' approach to governance, which ensures our clients can rely on us as a secure and ethical partner.

VENDOR SCREENING AND INTEGRITY

We recognise that our ESG footprint includes our supply chain. Duco performs 100% screening of all critical vendors against our strict Supplier Code of Conduct. This ensures that our partners meet the same high standards for human rights, labour practices, and ethical behaviour that we set for ourselves.

ROBUST CERTIFICATIONS

Our commitment to security and operational excellence is validated by industry-leading standards. Duco maintains SOC2 Type II and ISO 27001 certifications, providing independent assurance that our data management, privacy, and security controls are of the highest calibre.

TRANSPARENT OVERSIGHT

Governance at Duco is driven from the top down. Our ESG goals are integrated into our corporate KPIs, ensuring that ethical decision-making is woven into the fabric of our commercial strategy.

By upholding these high standards of Social and Governance excellence, Duco provides a stable, ethical, and inclusive platform that empowers our clients to transform their data with confidence.

SECTION 5

Key milestones in our ESG journey

Duco's journey toward a sustainable future is defined by tangible results and clear accountability.

2025 saw further progress that demonstrates how innovation in data technology directly translates into environmental progress. Optimising our own infrastructure and operations provides a more sustainable platform for our clients to manage their mission-critical data.

Our ESG impact in numbers

In 2024 our migration from private to public cloud saw emissions from reconciliation processes fall 60-80% for our largest clients. We built on this success again in 2025, when we achieved a further 40% year-over-year decrease in total greenhouse gas emissions.

These achievements were not the result of a single change, but a comprehensive re-architecting of our digital footprint.



↓ **721tCO₂e**

HOSTING EMISSIONS

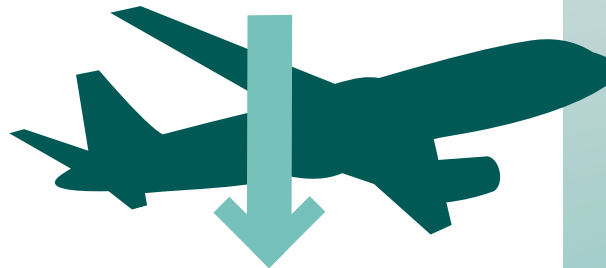
Our primary environmental impact comes from data hosting. We drove hosting emissions down from 1,029 tCO₂e to just 308 tCO₂e by migrating core databases to high-efficiency AWS Graviton processors and moving primary storage to S3.



↓ **225tCO₂e**

TRAVEL AND SUPPLY CHAIN

We saw a reduction in travel-related emissions by 225 tCO₂e and a decrease in purchased supply emissions by 220 tCO₂e.



OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY

Beyond infrastructure, we moved our London and Antwerp offices to facilities with advanced energy and waste management, further reducing our local impact.

These reductions are particularly significant because they directly lower the carbon footprint of the services we provide to our clients. This, in turn, is helping some of the world's largest financial institutions meet their own climate targets.

Our journey to carbon neutrality

Our recent success is a key step on a larger journey. Duco is committed to becoming carbon neutral by 2027. We are following three strategies to achieve this (see below).

Setting a firm 2027 target demonstrates to our partners that we are a long-term ally in the global transition to a sustainable economy.

Transparency: Empowering client disclosures

Transparency is critical in today's regulatory environment. Duco provides clear, annual ESG reporting published every September as part of our audited financial reporting.

This transparency is a vital asset for clients. We help financial firms fulfill their own Scope 3 emission disclosure requirements by providing granular data on our own operational and hosting emissions.

We believe that, by being open about our progress, we help foster a culture of trust and collective responsibility across the entire financial services ecosystem.

.01

PRIORITISE REDUCTION

Continuing to innovate our platform architecture to ensure we use the minimum amount of energy for every data process.

.02

RECAPTURE AND INNOVATE

Invest in technologies and processes that can recapture or remove carbon from the atmosphere.

.03

OFFSET THE REMAINDER

While we work toward absolute zero, we continue to offset 100% of our residual emissions to maintain our current carbon-neutral status.

SECTION 6

A long-term **ESG** **partner** for responsible, sustainable business

Choosing Duco means aligning with a partner that is actively building a resilient and sustainable future.

Our commitment to becoming carbon neutral by 2027 provides a clear roadmap for long-term collaboration. It ensures that, as global regulations and ESG standards evolve, your data automation provider is already ahead of the curve.

Our recent success – including achieving significant emissions reductions two years running – is proof that we turn ambition into tangible action.

By becoming a formal signatory of the UN Global Compact, we have anchored our business in universal principles of human rights, labour, environment, and anti-corruption.

This high level of governance and transparency ensures that Duco remains a trusted, ethical partner capable of supporting the most rigorous sustainability initiatives of our clients.

The ‘green dividend’

At Duco, we have proven that operational excellence and environmental stewardship are two sides of the same coin. This past year has been defined by harvesting the benefits of efficiency. Technical optimisations have directly resulted in environmental gains – a ‘green dividend’ that we pass on to our clients.

By re-architecting our platform we eliminated 721 tCO2e from our footprint. These changes demonstrate that green tech is not a compromise; it is simply better engineering.

In today's financial landscape, the most efficient choice is the most sustainable one. By partnering with Duco, you are choosing a high-performance platform that delivers on both fronts. You secure a cleaner, more efficient future for your data and the planet.



NU
CO

NEW YORK

LONDON

ANTWERP

WROCLAW

SINGAPORE

