

Environment

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CSR reporting based on the standards (2016) of the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI)

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Environment

As a digital company, we mainly exert impacts on the environment through energy consumption in the operation of our offices, in the computer centres and on business trips. In order to reduce these effects, we have started to systematically record our energy consumption and the CO₂ emissions that are caused as a result. This empowers us to determine and implement appropriate potential savings.

Environmental management and environmental data

As a non-manufacturing company, Scout24 is mainly able to make a contribution to environmental and climate protection by reducing energy consumption and the CO₂ emissions that are generated as a result. In the everyday routine of company life, we primarily consume electricity for the operation of our office buildings and computer centres. Outside Scout24, we mainly emit CO₂ when undertaking business trips.

GRI 103-1, -2, -3

The topic of energy at Scout24 is the responsibility of the Central Administration & Facility Management Department. Since 2016, this department has managed the energy audit carried out in accordance with DIN EN 16247 based on the provisions of the EDL-G (Act on Energy Services and other Energy Efficiency Measures). All the energy consumption data for the German Scout24 locations in 2015 were recorded within this framework. This audit provided us with the first survey of the total energy consumption for the company. At the same time, analyses were carried out for specific locations, and individual potentials for making energy savings were identified. We commissioned audits for the following companies including four computer centres operated by Scout24:

- Scout24 AG, Munich
- Scout24Holding GmbH, Munich
- ImmobilienScout GmbH, Berlin
- Flowfact GmbH, Cologne
- Stuffle GmbH, Hamburg
- Autoscout24 GmbH, Munich
- Scout24 Services GmbH, Munich
- easyautosale24 GmbH, Munich

The energy audit was an important first step towards more internal and group-wide data transparency. We need to improve this aspect of our work in future. All the following data for energy consumption within the company and for CO₂ emissions derived from this are based on the energy audit. There are no corresponding consumption data available for the year 2016. Systematic data recording on an annual basis is currently being established.

Energy consumption and CO₂ emissions

Overall, Scout24 in Germany consumes energy amounting to a total of 8,147,000 kilowatt hours. This is equivalent to 29,329,200 megajoules. In 2015, one Scout24 employee therefore consumed an average of 7,987 kilowatt hours. The lion's share of this – 52 percent – is down to the use of electricity. This is mainly required for the operation of our office workstations and computer centres. Four computer centres in Berlin, Munich and Nuremberg account for more than half of our electricity consumption. Apart from electricity, the purchase of heat and cooling capacity is a relevant factor at our Berlin and Munich locations. The energy consumption resulting from gas or fuel consumption by our pool vehicles is comparatively low.

GRI 302-1, 302-3

86 percent of the energy consumption can be attributed to Immobilien-Scout24 and Autoscout24. However, it is important to note that consumption by the computer centres is also integrated here.

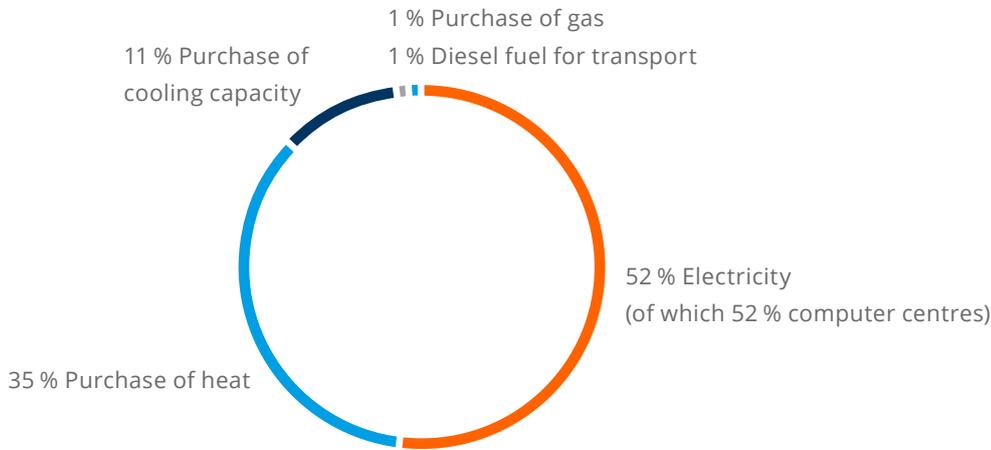
Energy consumption in kilowatt hours¹

Total	8,147,000
of which electricity	4,225,000
of which computer centres	2,191,000
of which purchase of heat	2,819,000
of which purchase of cooling capacity	926,000
of which purchase of gas	98,000
of which diesel fuel for transport	79,000
per employee ²	7,987

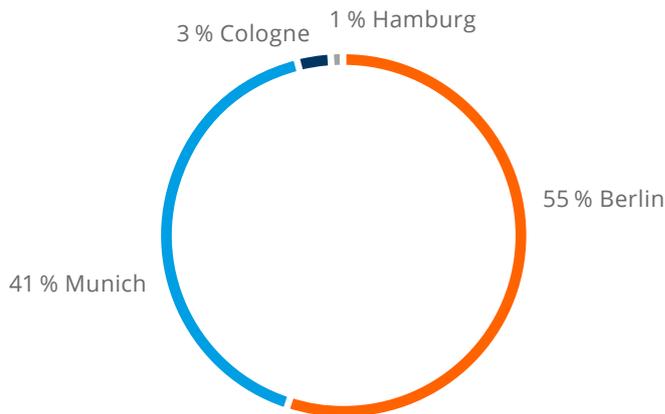
¹ The energy data relate to the year 2015. The consumption data could not be systematically recorded for the reporting year 2016. Details are not available on the proportion of energy coming from renewable sources.

² The energy intensity was calculated on the basis of the number of employees in 2015 from the companies integrated in the energy audit (1,020 employees).

Energy consumption by type of energy



Allocation of total energy consumption by location



We calculated CO₂ emissions for Scout24 for the first time on the basis of data for energy consumption recorded in the energy audit. Most of the conversion factors we used for the calculations originate from Green Responsibility – Network for sustainable communication (see table). Where possible, we now specify CO₂ emissions in CO₂ equivalents. Overall, we have caused around 3,024 metric tons of CO₂ – this amounts to an average of 2.96 metric tons for each employee. Most of the emissions are attributable to electricity consumption.

CO₂ emissions (in kilograms)¹

GRI 305-1, 305-2, 305-4

Total	3,024,515
of which electricity ²	2,492,750
of which purchase of heat ³	310,090
of which purchase of cooling capacity ⁴	175,940
of which gas	24,598
of which diesel fuel for transport	21,137
for each employee ⁵	2,965

¹ The CO₂ emissions relate to the year 2015.

² Source for conversion factors: www.green-responsibility.de/wp-content/uploads/CO2-Umrechnungsfaktoren.pdf

³ Conversion factor 0.19 kg/kWh, source: Ökotech Energiemanagement GmbH

⁴ Source for conversion factor: www.gov.uk/government/collections/government-conversion-factors-for-company-reporting

⁵ The intensity of the CO₂ emissions was calculated on the basis of the number of employees which were integrated in the companies in 2015 (1,020 employees).

Energy and CO₂ reduction

The analysis of the data for our energy consumption has given us various levers for instituting more environmentally and climate friendly operation of our offices and computing centres. There are potential reductions in the area of lighting for our offices and with our cooling technology. In 2016, we increased the usage of free cooling and the cold water temperature of the cooling technology. We carried out a positive change for the time switch governing temperature control.

GRI 302-5, 305-5

The increase in energy efficiency in the IT area is a particularly important topic. In 2015, we started to set up cold-aisle containments at the computer centre in Berlin. Strict separation of hot-air zones from the areas with cold air enables us to optimise the cooling in our computer centre.

We can reduce our CO₂ emissions through our electricity purchase. At the moment, we are therefore exploring conversion to green electricity generated from renewable energies at all locations when the next possible date comes for changing supplier.

Employee mobility

Outside our office areas and computer centres, business trips are the main causes of CO₂ emissions at Scout24. In 2016, our employees travelled around three million kilometres on business trips by car, by rail or by air. This travel emitted a total of 1,811 metric tons of the greenhouse gas – the majority of this is due to air travel.

We have set up an infrastructure for video and web conferences at our locations in order to counteract a high volume of business travel. Our Travel Guideline asks our employees to always consider whether the objective of a planned business trip can be achieved in a different way – for example by a video conference.

We want to support our employees by helping them to transfer to a bicycle for travelling short distances when they are out and about in the city – this protects the climate and keeps them fit at the same time. Loan bicycles are available to our employees at the Munich location. They can be rented on an hourly basis.

CO₂ emissions from business trips in 2016 (in metric tons)

GRI 305-3

Total	1,811.03
Hire cars and leased vehicles	241.65
Rail travel	77.51
Flights	1,491.87