

# Horizon Zero Is the Long-Awaited Key to Understanding Supply Chain Emissions

## The Problem: You Can't Reduce What You Can't Measure

Companies are being asked to halve global emissions by 2030 but are still dealing with basic challenges in measuring their greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Greenhouse gas accounting is especially challenging when dealing with supply chain emissions, which are typically the majority of a company's total footprint. Most emissions are reported at the organization level, making it difficult to understand the emissions impact of products that are bought and sold. Methodologies are numerous and incomparable, leaving companies with inaccurate and incomplete primary supply chain data.

## The Horizon Zero Solution

Horizon Zero is accelerating the decarbonization of supply chains by making it possible to understand the GHG emissions impact of what companies are purchasing and selling.



Horizon Zero's current work focuses on **product-level greenhouse gas accounting** and **standards for data exchange to allow the digital tracking of emissions**.

**Product-Level GHG Accounting**—By utilizing a harmonized GHG accounting framework — one that can be compared across supply chains and products — companies will be able to calculate the emissions impact of the products they purchase or sell. This is essential in creating climate-differentiated markets where actors can make informed decisions about their purchases and investments.

**Technology Enablement**—To promote the exchange of product-level GHG information, we are developing open-source technologies to improve product-level data exchange. By digitizing supply chain emissions reporting in this way, emissions information can follow products from raw materials sourcing to final products, allowing for total product-level emissions visibility across sectors and stages of a product's life cycle.

The product-level GHG data and the technical architecture to disseminate it will enable us to develop green product procurement practices. From there, we'll have the necessary elements to build climate-differentiated markets where companies are equipped to decarbonize their supply chains through informed purchases and investments.



## Our Work to Date

- Developed [GHG accounting principles](#) that will guide supply chain decarbonization and corporate purchasing decisions.
- Drafted [accounting guidance and detailed registry specifications](#) to guide implementation of sustainable aviation fuel certificates (SAFc) by fuel suppliers, airlines, and corporate buyers.
- Created [Methane Accounting Guidance](#) to support the rollout of the green commodity standard for low-leak methane through [MiQ](#).
- Drafted the [Renewable Energy Emissions Score](#), an approach to measure the material emissions impact of energy attribute certificates, which include renewable energy certificates and Guarantees of Origin.
- Detailed the [technology ecosystem](#) required for interoperable emissions data sharing and accounting systems, and made our first steel emissions carbon accounting format publicly available on [GitHub](#).
- Produced an [insight brief](#) outlining a new carbon accounting methodology that utilizes consequential accounting in addition to traditional attributional accounting methods in order for companies to get a complete picture of their climate pollution impacts.
- Developed product-level [Steel Emissions Reporting Guidance](#) to drive sectoral emissions accounting standardization and reduction.

## How Can You Work with Us?

To achieve the ambitious goals of the Horizon Zero project, we seek to collaborate with companies that share our commitment to unlocking supply chain emissions data, are willing to contribute time and resources to this groundbreaking work, and are enthusiastic about supporting the development of solutions to mitigate climate change.

**Getting GHG disclosures right will accelerate the transition to net zero, and early adopters will reap the benefits from an increasingly climate-conscious customer base.**

## There are several ways that companies can engage with RMI's Horizon Zero:

- 1. Provide technical input and feedback** on our proposed solutions.
- 2. Participate in one of our sectoral pilots** to test the proposed methodologies and become the early movers in increasingly climate-conscious markets.
- 3. Be an early adopter or promoter** of our solutions within the company's own business or among its networks and clients.

Working with RMI on Horizon Zero will enable companies to proactively prepare for improved reporting under forthcoming international climate regulations, shape what the next generation of supply chain traceability looks like, and differentiate their products from the competition in an increasingly climate-conscious marketplace.

**Please contact Nicole Labutong at [nlabutong@rmi.org](mailto:nlabutong@rmi.org) to help build a solution that accelerates industrial decarbonization in this decisive decade for our climate.**