Portakabin®

OUR NET ZERO ROADMAP

How we are responding to a changing climate

What's inside this document

Climate change is the biggest challenge of our generation.

In this document, you will find out what Portakabin is doing to reduce its impacts and achieve its Net Zero[1] targets whilst continuing to meet the changing needs of its customers.

We have a proud legacy of innovating in modular building and we are dedicated to using this creative approach to respond to the biggest challenge of our generation: the climate crisis.

In order to stop the global temperature rising beyond 1.5ºC and avoid the worst impacts of climate change, the world needs to reach Net Zero emissions before 2050.

Our Net Zero Roadmap defines the ways in which we will reduce the emissions associated with our business. At the same time this gives us the opportunity to provide our customers and communities with innovative products and services that help them meet their sustainability ambitions.

Our rental model – with efficiency and reuse at its heart – already has some inherently sustainable dimensions to it. We reuse, we refurbish, we recycle.

We operate within a closed-loop, circular model where efficient design and manufacture in factory-controlled conditions allow us to reduce waste by using standard pre-fabricated components.

Our buildings are reusable, reconfigurable and recyclable. We control the full lifecycle of our product, from materials sourcing to design, manufacture, transport, installation, use, reuse and then to refurbishment and eventual sale.

As well as supporting our Net Zero roadmap the changes we are making now will result in a better, more sustainable future for our business. Allowing us to grow in harmony with the changing needs of our customers – to create spaces that advance the world we serve.

We commit to achieving Net Zero before 2040.

Since 1961 Portakabin has been at the forefront of construction innovation, pioneering modular construction as a smarter way to build.

We've changed, we've adapted, and we've grown, but always with the aim of making a better future. Now as the world faces enormous climate challenges, we are ready to play our part in producing the sustainable circular economy that the planet needs. We will do this with integrity by making all possible reductions to our emissions across scope 1, 2 and 3[2].

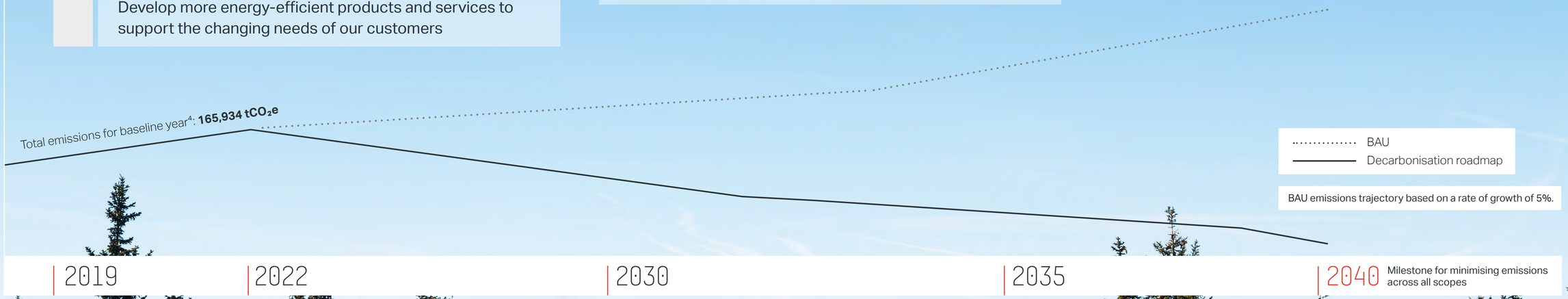
Our ambitious targets are science based, aligned with the Science Based Target Initiative (SBTi)[3] and with the goals of the Paris Agreement.

Over time, we plan to introduce new ways of working. Our roadmap presents our vision for delivering our Net Zero future before 2040.

tCO_2e[5]

INTERVENTIONS

PHASE 1 (2022-2030)	PHASE 2 (2030-2035)	PHASE 3 (2035-2040)
100% of our operations will be powered by renewable energy	Continue collaborating with customers to encourage the use of renewable energy	Neutralise residual emissions through a mix of removal options (nature and technology based)
Phase out the use of natural gas on our premises	Continue to develop more energy-efficient products and services to support the changing needs of our customers	
Transition our vehicles to an all-electric vehicle (EV) fleet	Switch to low-carbon transport and distribution logistics options	
Engage with customers to encourage use of renewable energy	Use more low carbon materials to produce our products and services	
Implement water efficiency measures for our operations and for customers		
Develop more energy-efficient products and services to support the changing needs of our customers		



Before 2040, Portakabin will be Net Zero across its Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions. Below are the targets divided by Scope.

	SCOPE 1	SCOPE 2	SCOPE 3
DEFINITIONS	Direct emissions from sources that are owned or controlled by the company	Emissions from the generation of purchased electricity consumed by the company	Emissions as a consequence of the activities of the company, upstream and downstream
TARGET	Reduce our absolute emissions by 96% by 2030[6]		Reduce our absolute emissions by 76.5% by 2035[7]
	Use offsetting techniques to remove anything that cannot be removed by reduction by 2030		Remove residuals through carbon offsets before 2040

We have estimated that Portakabin emitted 165,934 tonnes of greenhouse gas[8] emissions (tCO_2e) in 2019, which is roughly the same as around 47,400 homes'[9] energy use for one year.

The emissions from the indirect activities within our value chain (upstream and downstream), known as Scope 3, account for 97.4% of our total footprint.

This includes emissions from sources such as customer usage of our modular buildings, and the production of raw materials for the construction and maintenance of our products.

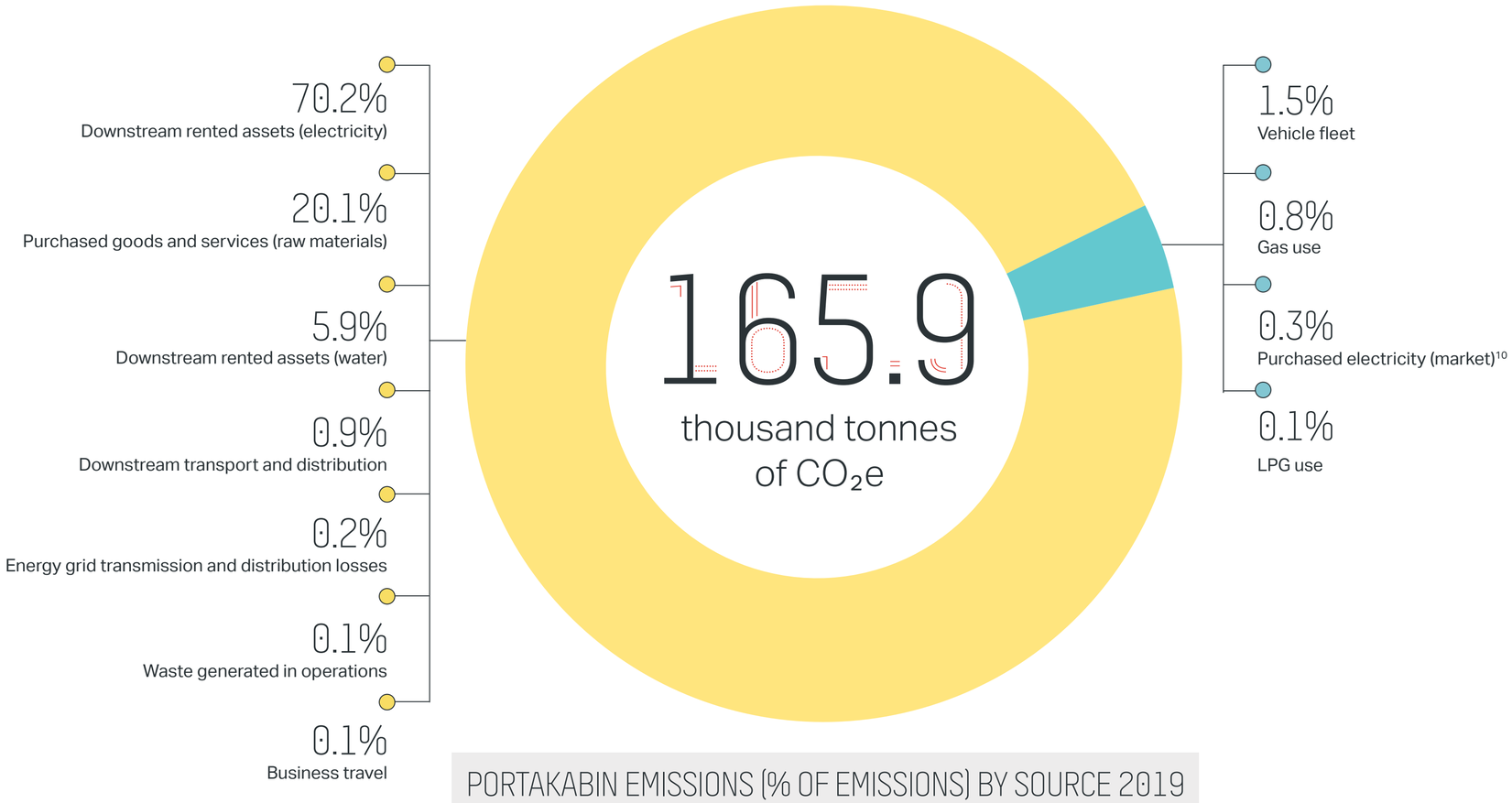
SUMMARY OF SCOPES

Portakabin total GHG emissions by scope

Thousand tonnes of CO_2e in 2019

SCOPE 1 AND 2		
Emitted directly and indirectly	4.3	2.6%
SCOPE 3		
All other indirect	161.6	97.4%

Figures have been rounded.



PORTAKABIN EMISSIONS (% OF EMISSIONS) BY SOURCE 2019
(UK, Ireland, France, Germany, Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg)

There are many things we can all do to reduce our collective environmental impact. However, the five priority areas below are the areas where we at Portakabin can make the biggest difference.

Renewable energy acceleration

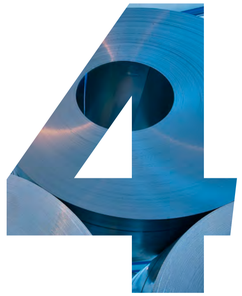
One of our biggest interventions to reduce our Scope 1 and 2 emissions will be switching to 100% renewable energy either through procurement or onsite generation. By using renewable electricity to power the global operations of Portakabin and replacing our natural gas consumption, we will remove our critical dependency on fossil fuels.

Driving towards a cleaner future

Transitioning to an all-electric vehicle (EV) fleet and working with our suppliers to incorporate more efficient vehicles and fuels to move our buildings, will reduce emissions from our transportation. By also exploring how our suppliers logistics vehicles are being deployed, we will further reduce our emissions through optimisation, such as maximising truck utilisation and improving route efficiency.

Engaging with key stakeholders across our value chain

Collaboration with our customers and suppliers will be key to tackling our biggest source of emissions - those arising from our customers' usage of our modular buildings. We will encourage stakeholders across our value chain to transition to renewable energy to power the modular buildings they hire from us, and we will produce more energy efficient units to support our customers changing needs.



Lower-carbon materials

We will work with our suppliers to source lower-carbon materials, such as low-carbon steel and glass, to cut our footprint from our second most material emissions source – the raw materials we purchase to build our products. This reduces our emissions from the start of the product lifecycle, without compromising the high quality we deliver to our customers.

Carbon removal

Once we have reduced our emissions from our value chain as much as we are able to, we will use leading practice carbon removal techniques to tackle any final residuals and meet our overall targets. In line with the SBTi, we have set our decarbonisation pathway in a scientifically robust way, to ensure our methods balance emissions sustainably.

Continued success of our business depends on protecting the people and planet around us.

We will start by tackling reduction of our direct emissions, and transitioning to use 100% renewable energy sources to power our operations globally.

By procuring or generating renewable electricity and replacing our natural gas consumption with alternative gas sources, we will remove our critical dependency on fossil fuels, and decarbonise the largest source of our Scope 1 and 2 emissions.

This will reduce our Scope 1 and 2 emissions by 39% by 2030, and enable us to lead by example as we inspire our value chain to use more efficient energy solutions.

These are a small proportion of our overall emissions, but change starts from within and simple steps such as using clean power to run our offices will move us forward in building a low-carbon world.

INTERVENTION DETAIL AND EMISSIONS IMPACT

EMISSIONS SOURCE	INTERVENTION	SCOPE AFFECTED	EMISSIONS SAVINGS (% of 2019 Scope 1&2)[6]
Purchased electricity	Renewable energy PPAs/RECs[11]	2	10%
Gas use	Procuring alternative gas sources	1	29%

Transport is responsible for around a fifth of the world's carbon pollution and therefore plays a crucial role in our Net Zero ambitions.

Portakabin will be transitioning to an all-electric vehicle (EV) fleet by 2030, so we can eliminate emissions from our largest source of Scope 1 and 2 emissions, our vehicle fleet.

However, considering what type of vehicles we use is not a complete solution to decarbonisation without exploring how we use them.

Our logistics teams are also working to assess how our logistics suppliers are deploying their fleets, so we can reduce our scope 3 emissions further through optimal use of resources.

INTERVENTION DETAIL AND EMISSIONS IMPACT

EMISSIONS SOURCE	INTERVENTION	SCOPE AFFECTED	EMISSIONS SAVINGS (% of 2019 Scope 1&2)[6]
Vehicle use	EV fleet	1	57%

EMISSIONS SOURCE	INTERVENTION	SCOPE AFFECTED	EMISSIONS SAVINGS (% of 2019 Scope 3)[7]
Downstream transport and distribution	Low carbon transport and distribution	3	0.5%

Responding to the climate crisis will require collaborative action across geographies, sectors and societies.

Inspiring people to think about their own climate goals, and embrace sustainable energy solutions to power the modular buildings they hire from us will influence the changes needed to meet the needs of our planet.

We will produce more energy efficient units to further reduce emissions, and support our customers in attaining their own climate goals, as well as the climate goals for Portakabin.

INTERVENTION DETAIL AND EMISSIONS IMPACT

EMISSIONS SOURCE	INTERVENTION	SCOPE AFFECTED	EMISSIONS SAVINGS (% of 2019 Scope 3)[7]
Downstream rented assets	Renewable energy usage by customers and more energy efficient products	3	65%
Purchased goods and services (water)	Reduce water usage by customers and Portakabin	3	3%

Cutting the carbon footprint of our products and services at all stages of the product lifecycle.

We will be working with our suppliers to source lower-carbon materials such as low-carbon steel and glass to reduce our emissions from the raw materials we use to build our products.

We live in a world of mass production and need to rethink the way we create so we can use natural resources responsibly. This means we'll be able to continue manufacturing products to meet our future needs, and the need of the environment, supported by our circular business model.

INTERVENTION DETAIL AND EMISSIONS IMPACT

EMISSIONS SOURCE	INTERVENTION	SCOPE AFFECTED	EMISSIONS SAVINGS (% of 2019 Scope 3)[7]
Purchased goods and services (raw materials)	Sustainable materials	3	8.2%

To deliver our commitments, removal offsets are our final response to the climate emergency.

Once we have reduced our emissions from our value chain as much as we are able to, we will use leading practice carbon removal techniques to tackle any final residuals and meet our overall targets.

In line with the Science Based Target initiative (SBTi), we have set our decarbonisation pathway in a scientifically robust way, to ensure our methods balance emissions sustainably.

INTERVENTION DETAIL AND EMISSIONS IMPACT

EMISSIONS SOURCE	INTERVENTION	SCOPE AFFECTED	EMISSIONS SAVINGS (% of 2019 Scope 1&2)[6]
Remaining emissions from BAU (LPG use)	Carbon removal offsets	1	4%

EMISSIONS SOURCE	INTERVENTION	SCOPE AFFECTED	EMISSIONS SAVINGS (% of 2019 Scope 3)[7]
Remaining emissions from BAU	Carbon removal offsets	3	23.5%

Glossary and references

1. The SBTi Net Zero Standard defines corporate Net Zero as:

   - Reducing scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions to zero or to a residual level that is consistent with reaching Net Zero emissions at the global or sector level in eligible 1.5°C-aligned pathway

   - Neutralizing any residual emissions at the Net Zero target year and any GHG emissions released into the atmosphere thereafter.

2. Scope 1 are direct emissions from owned or controlled sources such as on site combustion of gas or fuel for vehicle fleet. Scope 2 are indirect emissions from the generation of purchased energy such as electricity. Scope 3 includes all other indirect emissions that occur in a company's value chain such as the materials used to create our products, the transport of those products and the customer usage of the rented products.

3. Science-based targets provide a clearly-defined pathway for companies to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, helping prevent the worst impacts of climate change and future-proof business growth.

   Targets are considered 'science-based' if they are in line with what the latest climate science deems necessary to meet the goals of the Paris Agreement – limiting global warming to well-below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit warming to 1.5°C.

4. The reporting period for this baseline dataset is from 1 January 2019 to 31 December 2019. This was selected as a reasonable baseline year as more recent data (i.e. 2020 or 2021) is likely to have been impacted by the operational impacts associated with the Covid-19 pandemic.

5. Tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO_2e) is the number of metric tons of CO_2 emissions with the same global warming potential as one metric ton of another greenhouse gas. For example, Methane has a global warming potential of around 25 over 100 years, this makes 1 tonne of methane in the atmosphere equivalent to 25 tonnes of CO_2 in the same period.

6. Target to reduce 100% of emissions from the use of electricity, gas and fleet vehicles. Residual emission from the use of LPG; in 2019 this accounted for 4% of total Scope 1 and 2 emissions. Figure is based against 2019 baseline data.

7. Target applying to currently accounted Scope 3 emissions. Figure is based against 2019 baseline data.

8. A greenhouse gas (GHG) is any gas that has the property of absorbing infrared radiation (net heat energy) emitted from Earth's surface and reradiating it back to Earth's surface, thus contributing to the greenhouse effect.

9. Based on Energy Saving Trust, UK average household CO_2 emissions from electricity and heating in 2017 were 3,500kg per household per annum.

10. A location-based method reflects the average emissions intensity of grids on which energy consumption occurs (using mostly grid-average emission factor data). A market-based method reflects emissions from electricity that companies have purposefully chosen.

11. Renewable energy PPAs/RECs = Power purchase agreement, renewable energy certificates.