

Posts keep their sustainability promise

21-11-2022

â€¢ Posts participating in the IPC SMMS programme increased their Sustainability Management Proficiency score by 4% in 2021 â€¢ Posts have increased the share of renewable energy used to 34% and 24% of their vehicle fleet is now composed of alternative fuel vehicles â€¢ In 2021, posts reported a 34% reduction in Scope 1 and 2 carbon emissions compared to a 2008 baseline â€¢ Since 2008, the group's cumulative reduction in emissions now equals 25.7 million tonnes CO2

Brussels, 21 November – On 18 November, the IPC Board endorsed the 2021 results of the new IPC Sustainability Measurement and Management System (SMMS) compared to the 2019 baseline for the participating postal operators. The results show a 4% increase in the overall Sustainability Management Proficiency (SMP) score for all the posts participating in the programme. Posts further progressed towards their 2030 targets regarding renewable energy and alternative fuel vehicles. The SMMS results are published in IPC's annual Postal Sector Sustainability Results, available as an online-only report.

Holger Winklbauer, IPC Chief Executive Officer commented: "As the COP27 closes, posts worldwide show their willingness to pursue their efforts to further reduce their carbon footprint, despite the current economic challenges. Posts also continue to believe in the importance of working together at a sector level to share best practices, learn from each other and ultimately achieve greater results".

Posts continue improving their Sustainability Management Proficiency (SMP) score

Sustainability Management Proficiency (SMP) is one of the pillars of the IPC SMMS programme assessing four core management pillars (strategy and policy; embedding;

measurement and evaluation; disclosure and reporting) for seven Focus Areas: climate change; health and safety; learning and development; sustainable procurement; resource efficiency, circular economy, and air quality. Participating posts further increased their SMP increase by 4% compared to 2020. Since 2019, they improved their score by 13%.

Climate change is the highest scoring Focus Area out of the seven in the Sustainability Management Proficiency (SMP)

Climate change was the highest scoring Focus Area out of the seven in the Sustainability Management Proficiency (SMP) questionnaire, reflecting the group's continued dedication to this topic. Posts scored 75.2% collectively for Climate Change, ten percentage points ahead of the group's Overall SMP Score.

In 2021, posts reported a 34% reduction in Scope 1 and 2 carbon emissions compared to a 2008 baseline. Since 2008, the group's cumulative reduction in scope 1 and 2 emissions now equals 25.7 million tonnes CO2. [For full scope 1,2 and 3 reporting please refer to the online report.](#)

Posts pursue the road towards 2030 joint targets

As part of their collective 2030 targets, posts

participating in the SMMS programme strive to have 75% of energy used in their buildings originating from renewable sources and 50% of their vehicle fleet composed of alternative fuel vehicles, with at least 25% of the total fleet to be electric vehicles.

The group has successfully increased its use of renewable electricity from 14% of total electricity use in 2012 to 34% in 2021. The SMMS group has grown its collective alternative fuel vehicle fleet from 65,000 (12% of total vehicles) in 2012 to 149,000 (24%) in 2021. Electric vehicles (EVs) have increased in that time by 629%, from 17,000 to 107,000, and comprise 17% of total vehicles as of 2021.

The Sustainability Measurement and Management System (SMMS)

The IPC SMMS programme was launched in 2019 to address the sustainability objectives of the postal sector for the next ten years, aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It expands on the 2009-2019 Environmental Measurement and Monitoring System (EMMS) programme, which focused on reducing carbon emissions, and broadens the remit to the seven sustainability focus areas most relevant for the postal sector: Health and safety, Learning and development, Resource efficiency, Climate change, Air quality, Circular economy and Sustainable procurement. These focus areas are aligned with the following UN SDGs, identified by our stakeholders and SMMS participants as most relevant to the postal sector:

SDG 8 - Decent work and economic growth

SDG 9 - Industry, innovation and infrastructure

SDG 11 - Sustainable cities and communities

SDG 12 - Responsible consumption and production

SDG 13 - Climate action

As such, the SMMS programme is designed to

further the postal sector's contribution to global sustainable development, focusing on the areas in which it can have the most impact.

About International Post Corporation
International Post Corporation (IPC) is the leading service provider of the global postal industry that provides leadership by driving service quality, interoperability and business-critical intelligence to support posts in defending existing business and expanding into new growth areas. It is a cooperative association of 25 member postal operators in Asia Pacific, Europe and North America. IPC's solutions and services are used by over 190 posts worldwide. Since 1989 IPC has set standards for upgrading quality and service performance and developed technological solutions that help members enhance service for international letters, packets and parcels. IPC engages in industry research, creates business-critical intelligence, provides a range of platforms and programmes for member post CEOs and senior management to exchange best practices and discuss strategy. IPC also manages the system for incentive-based payments between postal operators. Throughout the COVID-19 crisis, IPC has positioned itself as a crucial coordination platform between posts worldwide and put in place operational solutions to ensure the continuity of cross-border mail flows.

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¹In 2021, participating posts were: An Post, Austrian Post, Australian Postal Corp, bpost,

Correos, Croatian Post, CTT Portugal Post,
Deutsche Post DHL Group, Le Groupe La
Poste, New Zealand Post Group, POST
Luxembourg, Poste Italiane, Posten Norge,

Posti, PostNL, PostNord Denmark, PostNord
Sweden, Royal Mail Group Plc, South African
Post Office, Swiss Post, United States Postal
Service.

