



ITI STATEMENT ON CLIMATE CHANGE

There is strong scientific evidence that climate change – accelerated by human activity – is occurring, and that the resulting environmental, economic and social challenges warrant coordinated and timely response from governments and the private sector.

The Information Technology Industry Council (ITI) and our member companies are participating in this response through three strategic commitments: (1) reducing the carbon footprint of our operations; (2) reducing the carbon footprint of our products over their lifecycle; and (3) delivering the ongoing innovations needed to transition the world to a vibrant, sustainable low-carbon global economy. ITI supports these efforts by sharing best practices and by supporting government policies that increase relevant public and private sector collaboration.

Accelerating the transition to a sustainable low-carbon economy will produce multiple benefits for economic growth, public health, resilience to natural disasters, and the health of the global environment.

I. Reducing the Carbon Footprint of Tech Sector Operations

The high-tech sector is actively reducing our Scope 1, 2 and 3 carbon footprint with corporate goals and policies that feature:

- Conserving energy (e.g., participating in the U.S. Department of Energy's Better Buildings Challenge and similar programs) and improving the efficiency of company logistics;
- Procuring, fostering, and generating renewable energy (e.g., participating in EPA's Green Power Partnership program and supporting the "Corporate Renewable Energy Buyers" Principles);
- Reducing ozone-forming emissions (when applicable);
- Participating in a voluntary perfluorocompounds (PFC) emissions reduction program;
- Supporting alternate employee commute and travel options, including alternatives to business travel;
- Reducing the carbon footprint of our supply chain; and,
- Participating in partnerships dedicated to relevant best practices such as The Green Grid and the Electronic Industry Citizenship Coalition.



II. Reducing the Carbon Footprint of Tech Sector Products

Our member companies are actively reducing the carbon footprint of our products over their lifecycle with corporate goals and policies that feature:

- Developing energy efficient products and networking systems, and innovating diverse solutions for resource efficient data centers;
- Reusing and refurbishing used products to extend their life spans, and recycling obsolete devices to recover valuable materials;
- Participating in ENERGY STAR and other government energy efficient product incentive programs;
- Participating in IEEE 1680.x and other relevant standards activities that include sections on energy efficiency and carbon footprinting;
- Participating in the iNEMI Roadmap effort, developing metrics and processes for optimizing device systems;
- Participating in relevant green labeling and green procurement programs and activities; and,
- Reducing the carbon footprint of product packaging and delivery.

III. Helping Enable Transformational Innovation via Intelligent Efficiency

Our member companies' technologies and the newly emerging Internet of Things (IoT) offer vast opportunities for transformational innovation and sustainable growth. Complementing industry efforts to reduce our direct emissions footprint, IoT and other ICT-driven technologies provide an opportunity for us to increase our "handprint" – the effect of these technologies to reduce the climate footprints of other sectors of society. A recent report, SMARTer 2030, has estimated the potential benefits to include "a 20 percent reduction of global carbon emissions by 2030, over \$11 trillion dollars in new economic benefits, the ability to extend e-healthcare to an additional 1.6 billion more people worldwide, and an estimated 30 percent increase in agricultural yields" versus a business-as-usual baseline. The Digital Energy & Sustainability Solutions Campaign (DESSC), which ITI has led and which is comprised of most major ICT brand-name companies and energy, climate and water efficiency NGOs, has promoted other relevant research and case studies. DESSC has been a consistent thought leader in promoting the ICT handprint concept and advocating for policies to support the solutions role of our technologies.

We are beginning to see glimpses of the transformational innovation that is possible, including:

- Smart grids, with sensors deployed in both traditional electric grids and distributed generation networks, that help increase transmission and distribution efficiencies and



promote greater visibility to improve system reliability through the use of big data techniques;

- Intelligent transportation systems and connected vehicles that are reducing vehicle emissions while making traveling easier and safer;
- Smart manufacturing processes and engines that are making factory floors far more efficient and productive;
- Building energy management systems (BEMs) that enable comprehensive, systems-based optimization of energy in large commercial or industrial buildings;
- Smart city projects that allow city leaders to provide more livable and more resilient cities at less cost, with many examples recently exhibited at the [Global Cities Team Challenge](#) and [Smart Cities Week](#); and,
- Electronic designs that will allow more affordable and accessible low carbon and renewable energy.

Many of these new innovations will use the power of data, automation, and simulation to optimize energy-using systems and increase resilience. In a recent report, the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy (ACEEE) estimated that such intelligent efficiency could enhance overall U.S. economic activity by as much as \$600 billion a year, to include a 1.1 billion barrel energy efficiency gain cutting the nation's annual energy bill by about \$79 billion. The ACEEE report, the SMARTer 2030 report, and other relevant research can be accessed at the Digital Energy & Sustainability Campaign's (DESSC) [Knowledge Center](#).

IV. ITI Public Policy Positions

To assist our member companies in these efforts, ITI supports government policies to achieve the following, all with the intent of both mitigating and adapting to climate change, and doing so with increased public/private partnership:

- Concluding, and then implementing, a climate change agreement at COP 21 that takes a strong step forward toward a vibrant, low-carbon, and sustainable future, as well as creating a transparent platform for countries to make and track national emissions reduction commitment;
- Establishing greenhouse gas emissions reduction strategies, via a transparent and participatory process, that create a stable regulatory and investment environment for low-carbon innovation and that emphasize cost effectiveness;
- Establishing national strategies to encourage innovative intelligent efficiency solutions, with such strategies to include:
 - ❖ fostering the development of markets for innovative ICT solutions through the use of smart government procurement and by providing incentives for private sector adoption;
 - ❖ expanding the availability of broadband throughout society;



- ❖ promoting the role of ICT applications in advancing the integration of renewables and other distributed electricity generation sources onto the grid;
 - ❖ increasing research and development funding in ICT-enabled resource efficiency and clean-energy innovation;
 - ❖ improving electric utility regulation by encouraging utilities to earn money from deploying intelligent efficiency, not just from the sale of electricity;
 - ❖ creating consensus protocols for measuring the positive energy-efficiency and carbon impacts of intelligent efficiency throughout society (in the U.S., this will be important in ensuring that such solutions are maximized in implementing the Clean Power Plan);
 - ❖ empowering customers to be more energy efficient by providing them access to their energy usage data and enabling the deployment of innovative tools, as has been done via the Green Button program; and
 - ❖ furnishing service providers and other stakeholders with greater access to relevant government data, as is being done via the U.S. Climate Data Initiative and U.S. Climate Resilience Toolkit.
-
- Promoting and protecting strong global intellectual property regimes, which are essential to incentivize high risk research and development and facilitate the dissemination of relevant transformative new technologies;
 - With regard to fluorinated gases, an essential component in manufacturing the semiconductors that are the fundamental building block of all ICT, focusing on reducing emissions of these gases rather than prohibiting their use per se;
 - Helping ensure that the Internet of Things is leveraged consistent with the ITI IoT Principles; and
 - Ensuring that ENERGY STAR and other relevant market recognition programs are based on partnership with industry and adherence to.