



Understanding Scope 3 Emissions in Transport

A practical introduction for
freight forwarders, logistics
providers and cargo owners



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What are Scope 3 Emissions?

Scope 3 emissions refer to indirect greenhouse gas emissions that occur in a company's value chain – outside its direct control. For logistics and transport, this includes outsourced freight activities performed by third parties.

Examples include emissions from:

- Third-party carriers transporting goods
- Subcontracted hauliers or logistics services
- Upstream fuel production for transport

Scope 3 is often the largest category of emissions for companies that rely on external logistics providers.

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Why Scope 3 Matters

Companies across sectors are under increasing pressure to report their full carbon footprint – including Scope 3. Regulations like CSRD (EU) and growing ESG expectations from investors and customers make it essential to include logistics emissions in reporting.

Freight forwarders and logistics service providers are now expected to provide emissions data as part of tenders, service delivery and sustainability documentation.

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Standards That Matter:
GLEC Framework & ISO 14083

The GLEC Framework, developed by Smart Freight Centre, is the global methodology for calculating logistics emissions. It aligns with ISO 14083, the international standard for carbon accounting in transport chains.

CarbonRoute360 is built around these standards
– ensuring that your reports are credible, comparable
and audit-ready.



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What Data Is Needed to Calculate Scope 3 Transport Emissions?

At a minimum, emissions calculations require:

- Shipment origin and destination
- Transport mode(s) used
- Weight or volume of goods
- Route or carrier information
(optional but improves accuracy)

CarbonRoute360 supports multiple input methods: manual, Excel upload or real-time API integration.

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How CarbonRoute360 Simplifies
Scope 3 Emissions Reporting

Our platform automates emissions calculation and reporting across all transport modes: Air, Ocean, Road and Rail.

Features include:

- Real-time dashboards and downloadable reports
- GLEC-compliant methodology built into the engine
- Full visibility into emissions by shipment, route, mode and carrier
- Exportable data for ESG reporting and client communications

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How does it work?

A Practical Example

A mid-sized logistics provider in Northern Europe used CarbonRoute360 to automate CO₂e reporting across 20,000 annual shipments. By connecting their TMS via API, they gained instant visibility into transport emissions – broken down by leg and mode. The data helped them win a new sustainability-focused tender and improve internal ESG tracking.



Get Started with
Certified Scope 3 Reporting
**Whether you're a freight forwarder,
logistics provider or cargo owner,
now is the time to take control of
your transport emissions.**

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[Book a Demo](#)

[Methodology Overview](#)



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 **Carbon
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