ASSESSING THE ESG CREDENTIALS OF IT SUPPLIERS



Check out the annual reports of most enterprises nowadays and the chances are that environmental, social and governance (ESG) related objectives and achievements will be highlighted alongside financal results. But with so many aspects of business operations now dependent on IT, how are organisations making sure that the IT vendors they buy from are supporting, rather than undermining, their ESG agenda? A recent survey of 50 CIOs conducted by Freeform Dynamics and the CIO WaterCooler sheds some light.





How much do you specifically consider the following when assessing the CSR/ESG/sustainability credentials of suppliers during the buying process?





Highly weighted

46%



Secondary but important

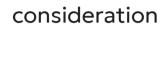
11%



Just an RFP tick-box



N/A



No real



credentials impact buying decisions

3 in 4 say ESG

ESG ASSESSMENT CRITERIA



Public statements,

PROMISES

goals and commitments 1% 57%

Big emphasis

Some emphasis

How much do you specifically consider the following?

VALIDATION

49%

Some emphasis

Third party assessments of

credentials and performance





STRATEGY

A credible sustainability & energy strategy

31% Big emphasis

35% Some emphasis

protection strategy 31%

A credible environmental

Big emphasis

38%

Some emphasis

40%

Inclusion and equality

Some emphasis Big emphasis

31% 42% Some emphasis

Ethical supply chain

57%

Recycling and reuse

OPERATIONS

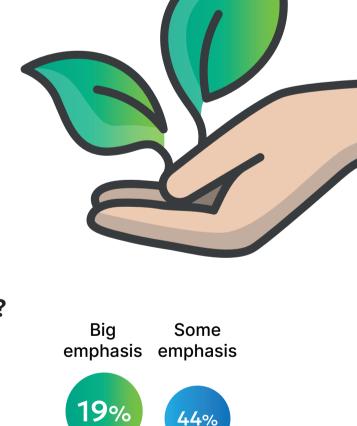
Big emphasis

Some emphasis

How much do you consider the following?

SPOTLIGHT ON

SUSTAINABILITY



Use of renewable energy to power data centres

Carbon accounting at an overall level

Carbon accounting at a product/service level

Carbon accounting at a customer level

CONCLUSION ESG considerations are now finding their way into the IT decision-making process, but still less than a third of CIOs view them as primary vendor assessment factors. The varying degress of focus on specific criteria

from suppliers in this area and why. With growing attention around ESG in general, though, we anticipate it won't be long before they get there.

implies that many IT leaders are still in the process of working out what they want



For further information please go to