



# Federal Climate Change Management Plan

**MettTel**<sup>®</sup>



# Climate Risk Management Plan

MetTel incorporates the processes as set forth in our Climate Change Risk Management Plan: “Operate its facilities, provide products and services to meet the MetTel’s policy and program objectives.”

For MetTel, “Sustainability” means strong finances, a clean environment, healthy employees and communities.

Our Plan also includes incorporating the policies and procedures not only in our own operations, but also by flowing down these guidelines to our subcontractors and suppliers, to the greatest extent possible.

## MetTel Mobile Recycle Plan

MetTel Mobile collaborates with leading e-Stewards, R2 and ISO 14001 certified e-cycling vendors to guarantee that unused devices undergo relentless military grade wipes, protecting our customers’ most vulnerable information.

*“Over 1 billion mobile units are put out of use globally by the end of the year, leaving materials such as plastics, glass, ceramics and precious metals unexploited.”*

Gartner, 2013\*

With an average annual turnaround of mobile devices, electronic waste is growing exponentially. By ensuring that all devices are properly reused or recycled, valuable materials are kept out of the waste stream reducing our customers’ ecological footprint. MetTel Mobile works with leading environmental, health and safety certified vendors to ensure that the right processes are in place to keep devices out of landfills and to get them into the hands of those in need.

## MetTel’s 5 R’s of Sustainability

### Reduce

Provide all customer bills electronically and reduce paper invoices

### Reuse

Stock reusable pens and use post-consumer fiber paper

### Recycle

MetTel Mobile Device Recycle Program

### Repair

Repair printers and computers instead of buying new ones

### Rethink

Instituted a teleworking policy



Additionally, in July of 2014 MetTel engaged EcoVadis to assess our sustainability policies. EcoVadis provides expertise on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) which consists of simple and reliable scorecards, covering 150 purchasing categories and 21 CSR indicators. A key element of a Responsible Purchasing Policy, it reduces risk and improve supplier performance. After reviewing MetTel's MetTel's scorecards, EcoVadis awarded MetTel a Silver Badge.

The EcoVadis rating relies upon CSR international standards and is based on its own methodology and sustainability rating platform for monitoring and evaluation of global companies' suppliers based in 90+ countries and 150+ different industry sectors.

## Compliance with Executive Orders

### **Executive Order 13693: Planning for Federal Sustainability in the Next Decade**

MetTel understands the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and it is therefore a priority for the Federal government. As a systems integrator of telecommunications products and services, MetTel does not conduct activities resulting in significant greenhouse gas emissions. However, we have made substantial impact in helping our customers meet their corporate responsibility goals by transitioning them from paper billing to an entirely electronic billing platform. Additionally, when necessary, MetTel ensures we use at least 30% postconsumer fiber paper. Additionally, when we do use paper in our normal business practice we use post-consumer fiber paper.

MetTel's greatest contribution to green initiatives stems from our electronic method of producing and delivering reports, payments, receipts, and other records. Whereas traditionally these records have been delivered via paper, MetTel provides all records in electronic formats. Our general principle is to hold paper copies to a minimum, in the interest of efficiency and effectiveness. The intended consequence of this principle is the significant reduction in waste of paper. Our customers often observe an immediate and significant reduction of use of paper after a few billing and reporting cycles.

### **Example: Civilian Agency Customer Moving to Electronic Billing**

*One federal customer reduced paper consumption by 4.4 million pages per year!*

Through its telephone service contract with MetTel, one particular civilian agency customer reduced the sheer quantity of paper consumed by an estimated 4,440,000 sheets per year. That is the equivalent savings, according to the Sierra Club, of 160-320 trees per year. The resultant reduction in carbon dioxide equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>e) emissions

can be estimated at **129,330 pounds** per year. This figure only accounts for the carbon footprint associated with paper production.

The transportation of paper bills, either via truck or plane, bears a significant added carbon cost that can be estimated based on some basic assumptions. Some paper invoices weigh 100 lbs., assuming a shipping distance of 1,500 miles by truck; the transport alone would result in the release of 20 lbs. of carbon. If the invoice had to travel by plane, the amount of carbon released would increase by an additional 80 lbs. for a total of 100 lbs. of carbon dioxide. Simply eliminating truck or airplane transportation costs constitutes an additional annual reduction of 6,000 pounds of carbon dioxide equivalent.

Prior to its contract with MetTel, the civilian agency routed its telephone services through 694 different vendors. Managing a high number of individual vendors presents real costs in terms of both economic and environmental efficiency. According to its own Strategic Plan, the agency spends nearly \$6 billion annually on the purchase of goods and services. The Plan cites the reduction of cell phone plans down to a small number of vendors as one strategy for cutting costs. Managing a large number of vendors also presents significant environmental costs when factoring contract paperwork, and the transportation of agency personnel to and from vendor offices.

It is worth noting that a typical short haul round trip flight releases some 280 pounds of CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions, while a medium haul round trip flight releases some 680 pounds. Fewer vendors likely means fewer transportation and other environmental costs related to vendor or contractor management.

#### **Executive Order 13653: Preparing the United States for the Impacts of Climate Change**

This EO includes a broad statement of the policy of the Government to recognize, and adopt changes on processes and procedures, the problem of climate change. The order could apply to our Government customers and therefore MetTel may have requirements flowed down to us by individual Government entities. We will fully support those requirements as applicable.

#### **Executive Order 13148: Greening the Government Through Leadership in Environmental Management**

This EO includes a broad statement of the policy of the Government to lead in efforts to achieve a higher level of greening as a part of agency operations. This EO is not applicable to MetTel. We have no current, or planned, operations that involve the use of toxic chemicals or other hazardous materials as described in this EO. However, this EO could apply to our Government customers and therefore we could have requirements flowed down to on us by individual Government entities. MetTel fully supports those requirements as applicable.

## **Executive Order 13154: Focused on Federal Leadership in Environmental, Energy, and Economic Performance**

This EO (2009) set sustainability goals for Federal agencies and focuses on making improvements in their environmental, energy and economic performance. It set specific goals and timetables for the achievement of, for example, reduction in vehicle fleet petroleum use; improvement in water efficiency; increased use of recycling and waste diversion. We fully support those requirements as applicable.

## **Compliance with Other Applicable Laws**

MetTel is fully prepared to acknowledge, and obey additional Executive Orders, applicable laws, regulations, and directives on climate risk. These additions could be manifested in public laws, executive orders, regulations, or customer directives. Such directives could well be within the individual Task Orders, or Service Orders, as issued by our customers. We will fully support those requirements as applicable.

## **Climate Change Adaptation**

As good corporate citizens, MetTel executes sustainable management practices to the greatest possible extent. Highlights of these practices are:

The MetTel website ([www.mettel.net](http://www.mettel.net)) features our approach to “Sustainability”.

In addition to the general sustainability requirements (such as life cycle costs, and environmental impacts), MetTel understands there may well be specific sustainability requirements. These are subject to negotiation, and compliance requirements.

In making sustainability disclosures, MetTel will use existing, widely recognized third-party sustainability reporting portals and services where applicable. These sustainability-related standards, include estimates of the lifecycle costs and environmental impacts of proposed solutions.

MetTel will incorporate climate change adaptation strategies into our risk-management programs to reduce property, infrastructure, and supply chain vulnerabilities. MetTel will include identifying mission critical facilities, products and services, evaluating business operations and supply chains that may be vulnerable and anticipate needs that may arise from climate change. Further, MetTel will comply with the climate change

adaptation conditions described in Executive Order 13693, – Planning for Federal Sustainability in the Next Decade, and other applicable laws, regulations, and directives.

In support of EO 13693, MetTel will change our Climate Risk Management Plan in response to these changes in best environmental practices and provide a yearly Report to the customer regarding the changes made and will update the Plan, as requested. MetTel will also notify the agency and relevant parties immediately if conditions arise that are thought to be out of compliance with the aforementioned Executive Orders, laws, regulations, and directives.

## **Sustainability and Green Initiatives**

MetTel will provide sustainable products and services whenever possible in support of Executive Order 13693. MetTel will comply with the climate change adaptation conditions described in the aforementioned Executive Orders, and other applicable laws, regulations, and directives.

MetTel will notify the agency immediately if conditions arise thought to be out of compliance with the aforementioned Executive Orders, laws, regulations, and directives. MetTel's Procurement (Purchasing) Department has the responsibility of acquiring equipment in support of our service deliveries. This department maintains open purchase orders for equipment with many different candidate suppliers. As the Operations Department identifies the need for equipment for a specific project, the Procurement Department solicits price and availability data from all our suppliers. Among the considerations for purchase are the energy efficiency of the products. Although energy efficiency is not the only criterion, it is important as energy-efficient products help to reduce the life cycle costs of the equipment we buy. MetTel, where applicable, will offer products covered by the Energy Star®, Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP), or Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT) programs. Where MetTel is offering Energy Star-certified, low standby power, or EPEAT-registered products, we will identify by model which product they are. MetTel will provide sustainable products and services whenever possible.

## **Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool**

MetTel provides the Climate Change Adaptation, Sustainability, and Green Initiatives Report to GSA annually. In addition, we provide initial reports with each order, as specified by the agency.

## Energy Efficient Products

An important aspect of our procurement principles considers the energy efficiency of candidate products. MetTel already has energy efficiency as an important component of its selection process for equipment suppliers and will continue with this contract. Specifically, we already have experience with selecting ENERGY STAR® products, for all our commercial and government customers.

## Data Centers and Cloud Services

There are two company data centers and cloud services we plan to use as a part of an agency contract. The first is QTS which has a Power Utilization Efficiencies rating of 1.56 in the Dulles, VA data center and 1.5 for their Phoenix, AZ center. The second is the Broadsoft UCS Equinix Data center which has adopted aggressive regional PUE based on an Average Annual PUE at full load (with redundancy) that meets the definition for PUE3. Their current targets range from 1.29-1.40 and represent an average incremental efficiency gain of 8-10%. MetTel will deliver the Power Utilization Efficiencies (PUE) Report annually.