

## SGBCCommunity Spotlight

The SGBCCommunity Spotlight series highlights what sustainability means to SGBC Members and how they are helping to build a greener and healthier built environment.



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### How is the company helping to build greener buildings?

Planon supports the development and operations of sustainable buildings through its comprehensive suite of agnostic innovative solutions and strategic initiatives:

- **Energy & Sustainability Management:** Planon's platform helps organisations collect, analyse, and act on building data to enhance sustainability. It aids real estate teams in managing ESG data, energy managers in improving efficiency, and facilities teams in driving sustainable maintenance.
- **ERP System Integration:** Seamless integration with ERP systems such as SAP provides a holistic view of key systems like heating, cooling, and lighting, supporting energy efficiency.
- **Strategic Partnerships:** Collaboration with Schneider Electric strengthens Planon's ability to deliver smart, sustainable building solutions through advanced energy management and automation accelerating the digital transformation of smart buildings.

### What drove the founders to set up the company?

Planon was founded in 1982 by Pierre Guelen, a structural engineering consultant. Early on, he recognised that many of the challenges his clients faced in maintenance planning could be addressed more effectively with purpose-built software. That insight led him to develop his own solution, named 'Planon'. The company soon evolved into a software company that helped some of the Netherlands' largest organisations—like Philips and Heineken—manage their building operations more efficiently.

Over the years, Planon expanded internationally and steadily grew into a global player in smart building and workplace management solutions, consistently recognised as a Leader by market analyst firms like IDC, Verdantix and Frost & Sullivan. Already in 2012, Planon took its first steps in sustainability, launching dedicated software to support organisations in reducing their environmental footprint—an area that remains a strategic priority to this day.

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### **What is the biggest challenge the company has faced? Are there any learning points for the rest of the industry?**

One of the biggest challenges is staying relevant in a rapidly changing world. We've learned that long-term success depends on a company's ability to continually reinvent itself. That means being willing to leave your comfort zone, question the status quo, and constantly look for better ways to solve real problems.

The key lesson for the industry? Don't fear change—build it into your culture. The companies that thrive are the ones that treat transformation as a constant, not a one-time event.

### **What do you think can be done to move the needle on built environment sustainability?**

Sustainability is a core priority for Planon, reflected in its strategic collaborations, technology innovations, and internal initiatives that collectively advance decarbonisation and environmental responsibility across the built environment.

Planon's partnership with Schneider Electric and collaboration with System Integrators such as KPMG are key drivers of its sustainability agenda, strengthening the company's smart building solutions and supporting organisations in reducing their carbon footprint and progressing toward net-zero emissions.

Planon's open, IoT-enabled platform integrates tools from a broad partner ecosystem to support decarbonisation and sustainable practices. This is exemplified by its partnership with SAP, which culminated in the Planon Real Estate Management for SAP S/4HANA® solution. Among many other benefits, this SAP Endorsed app enables organisations to realise smart sustainable buildings, easily connect assets, devices, and information sources for data capture and monitoring, reduce carbon footprint with data-driven insights and report in compliance with standards.

Planon is also committed to reducing its own environmental impact through initiatives focused on electricity, mobility, the built environment, sustainable product development, and procurement. With a goal to achieve net-zero emissions by 2030, Planon's efforts have earned it the EcoVadis Platinum Medal, placing it among the top 1% of companies worldwide for sustainability performance.

### **How does the future of our built environment look like to you?**

Planon envisions a future where data becomes the driving force behind intelligent, sustainable buildings. Together with Schneider Electric, which now holds an 80% controlling stake in Planon, the company aims to pioneer a future where data doesn't just exist but actively drives intelligent building management. This partnership seeks to transform building management by harnessing data to create more efficient, sustainable environments.

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### **What's next for the company?**

Planon is poised for significant developments that will shape its future trajectory.

The strategic partnership with Schneider Electric aims to enhance the integration of Planon's smart building management software with Schneider Electric's energy management solutions, driving the digital transformation of smart buildings.

The company emphasises integrating its software with smart building technologies and energy management systems to enhance efficiency and support ESG goals.

Planon's recognition as a Leader in the 2025 Verdantix Green Quadrant for Connected Portfolio Intelligence Platforms (CPIP) and Integrated Workplace Management Systems (IWMS) underscores its strong market position and commitment to innovation.

This consistent position as a Leader since 2017 highlights Planon's dedication to delivering comprehensive solutions that address evolving market needs. Strengths highlighted by market analysts include Planon's continued investment in AI, IoT and ESG initiatives, positioning the company to provide significant benefits to organisations - now and in the future. Planon's highest score in platform configurability among vendors offers unmatched customisation options, making it a trusted partner for smart and sustainable building management.

These strengths, combined with strategic partnerships, collaboration with industry leaders and specialised technology vendors, and a focus on sustainability, position Planon to continue leading the smart building management industry, driving innovation and delivering market-leading value to its clients.