



# Digital Realty

*Placing accurate, quality ESG data at the center of its award-winning sustainability program*

Digital Realty supports the data center, colocation and interconnection strategies of customers across the world. Headquartered in Austin, Texas, with a rapidly growing presence throughout North America, Europe, and Asia, Digital Realty focuses on sustainable design of its real assets to minimize environmental impact.

The company has committed to continually optimizing the use of energy and natural resources to deliver improved performance for its customers. Digital Realty is the first data center provider to be recognized with the ENERGY STAR Partner of the Year Award and owns the most ENERGY STAR certified data centers globally.



DIGITAL REALTY

79

overall GRESB score in  
2020

+16

points higher than  
peer average



Digitizing our ESG data has helped us improve our data quality and completeness, which underpins everything that we do as a team.


**Aaron Binkley**

Senior Director of Sustainability, Digital Realty

# Challenge

Digital Realty began in 2014 to take a more standardized and consistent approach to ESG (environmental, social, governance). While it continued to make concerted efforts in areas like energy efficiency and green building certifications, Digital Realty identified several gaps in its ESG data that would need to be filled before the company could truly scale its sustainability efforts.

Before Measurabl, Digital Realty did much of its environmental data collection and analysis manually in spreadsheets. The team needed a more sophisticated way to capture ESG data from disparate sources as well as assess and improve its data coverage and quality. Digital Realty was also looking to begin reporting to benchmarks like GRESB and CDP, so its sustainability team needed a system that could store and format the data for disclosure.



The reason why we came to Measurabl initially is because we were at the point where we needed to start reporting. We now have a compelling story to tell and we can defend it with data.

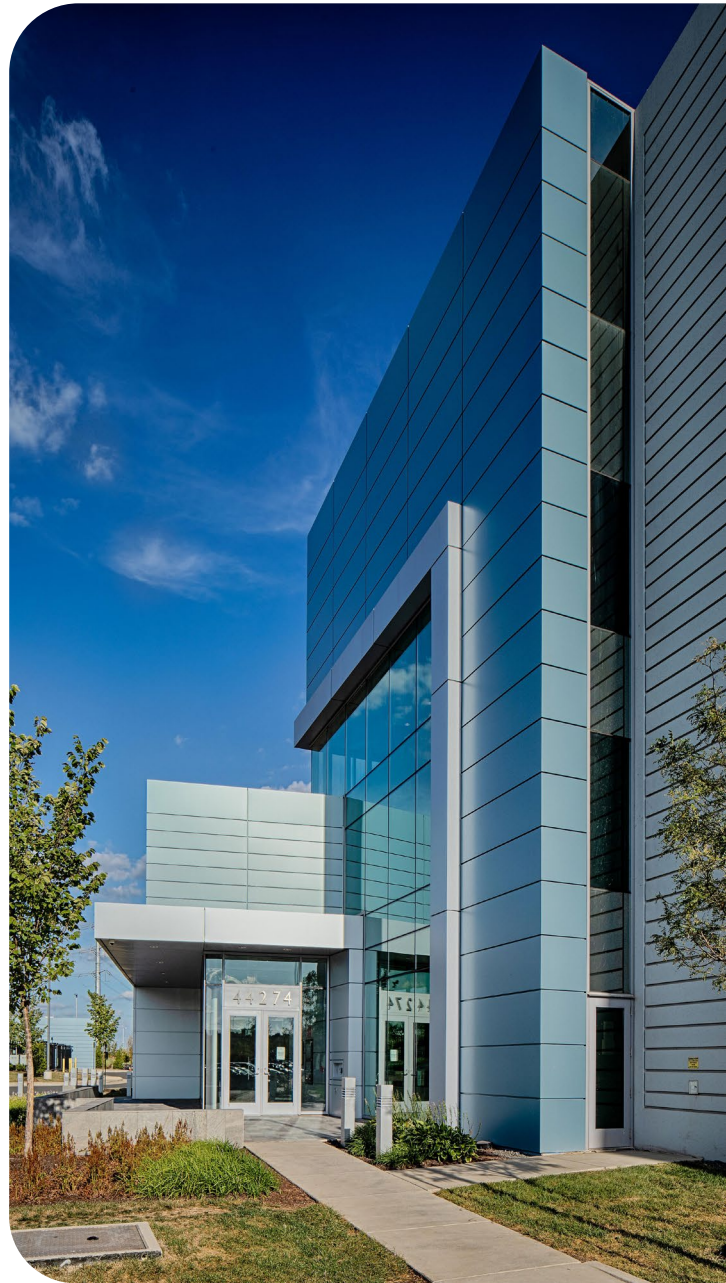
—Aaron Binkley

# Solution

When Digital Realty adopted Measurabl in 2016, it was primarily looking to streamline its ESG reporting and maintain ownership of its data without having to do it all manually. In addition to helping Digital Realty successfully report to GRESB, CDP, and other benchmarks, Measurabl's platform has also given the team a single place to reliably track projects, certifications, and KPIs alongside its ESG performance data.

Measurabl's search functionality has made it easy for the team to cross-check information about the energy performance, improvement projects underway, and other material data on its individual assets.

Viewing all of its available utility data in one central platform has also given Digital Realty the ability to understand its current data coverage so it can work continuously to fill the gaps, especially as stakeholder demands evolve.



Automating ESG data collection with Measurabl was like having a team of people working with us without actually having to bring in a team of people.

**Sormeh McCullough**  
Energy and Sustainability Associate, Digital Realty





# Results

Measurabl has helped Digital Realty improve its data coverage and quality and has streamlined its ESG reporting. It has also assisted the team in building a strong, data-driven narrative behind its substantial ESG efforts and achievements.

More than 30 of Digital Realty's US properties have earned ENERGY STAR certification. The company also received a 2020 ENERGY STAR Partner of the Year award and was honored for the fourth consecutive year with Nareit's Leader in Light Award for Data Centers.

Digital Realty has become the largest REIT issuer of green bonds, with a total of €4.6 billion issued since 2015. The company issued €2.1 billion in green bonds in 2020 and issued another €1 billion in January 2021.

Proceeds from its bonds have been fully allocated to a portfolio of green data centers, energy efficiency, and renewable projects.

Looking ahead, Digital Realty set a carbon reduction goal through the Science-Based Target Initiative [SBTi], taking a holistic approach to reducing emissions throughout its business activities. The company has set ambitious targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. By 2030, the company commits to reduce scope 1 and 2 GHG emissions 68% per square foot from a 2018 base year. It will also reduce scope 3 GHG emissions from purchased goods and services as well as fuel- and energy-related activities 24% per square foot. The team plans to track its progress toward those goals in part by using data acquired from Measurabl.



It's nice having a human being at Measurabl that's our main point of contact if we have an issue. The team is very responsive, and that allows us to get problems resolved quickly. Real estate is not one size fits all, so it warrants that personal touch.

—Aaron Binkley



## In Closing

By digitizing and centralizing environmental data across Digital Realty's global portfolio, Measurabl has helped the company track and expand its pioneering ESG efforts. The company has established ambitious goals that showcase its commitment to sustainability and combating climate change. [Learn more](#) about its progress and strategic objectives.

**Measurabl** is the world's most widely adopted ESG (environmental, social, governance) data management solution for commercial real estate. With more than 112,000 assets representing over 15 billion square feet across 92 countries, Measurabl helps innovative companies measure, manage and disclose their ESG performance, assess their portfolio's exposure to physical climate risk, and gain access to additional services such as ENERGY STAR certification and data assurance.

Learn more at [measurabl.com](https://measurabl.com)