# Accelerating sustainability:

transforming ESG data collection into effective monthly non-financial reports

Case Study\_

APLANET

## Introduction.

The THOM Group is a leading company in the European jewellery sector, owning prestigious brands such as Histoire d'Or, Marc Orian and Agatha, whilst operating in several major European markets as well as China. With its extensive activities, the company employs thousands of people and plays a significant role in the local economies where it operates.

The THOM Group is committed to integrating the principles of sustainable development and corporate social responsibility throughout its operations. The company has adopted a proactive and committed approach to sustainability, promoting initiatives that go beyond mere regulatory compliance to include community welfare, environmental management and social responsibility. Within this framework, improving the transparency and effectiveness of non-financial reporting has become a strategic priority for the THOM Group.

As Head of CSR projects and reporting at THOM Group, Andreas Doucet plays a key role in the implementation of the company's environmental, social and governance strategy. Andreas has been responsible for finding and implementing solutions to improve the management and consolidation of ESG data in order to effectively respond to stakeholder expectations and increasing regulatory requirements.

In a recent interview, Andreas shared his experience with the APLANET platform, explaining how it has enabled THOM Group to transform its ESG reporting processes, making the organisation more agile and better equipped to manage its sustainability.

## Challenge: Optimise ESG data management on an international scale

The THOM Group, with a large presence in Europe and recently in China, was faced with the challenge of effectively managing a considerable volume of ESG data dispersed across multiple entities and countries. Consolidating and managing this data, previously handled mainly through Excel spreadsheets, was a complex and error-prone task. Andreas Doucet, Head of CSR projects and reporting at THOM Group, describes these challenges as follows:

#### **Data management prior to APLANET:**

"We had serious problems with data consolidation and traceability. Everything was done manually via Excel spreadsheets, which was not only time-consuming, but also posed risks of typos and data entry errors." - Andreas Doucet, Head of CSR projects and reporting at THOM Group.

#### Regarding the complexity of ESG reports:

"With operations in multiple countries and a complex corporate structure, we needed a tool that could simplify and structure our ESG reporting to accurately reflect our financial reporting structure." - Andreas Doucet, Head of CSR projects and reporting, THOM Group

#### Specific challenges related to the company's size:

"The data collection for our annual report was extremely complex, involving many stakeholders in different countries, which added an extra layer of complexity and made it difficult to maintain data consistency and accuracy. - Andreas Doucet, Head of CSR Projects and Reporting, THOM Group

In short, THOM Group needed a solution that could not only manage the scale of its international operations, but also improve the efficiency of its reporting processes and provide greater visibility and control over its sustainable development data.

# Finding agility and optimisation with APLANET.

Faced with the complex challenges of managing and consolidating ESG data across multiple countries and entities, THOM Group set out to find innovative solutions capable of meeting their specific requirements. For Andreas Doucet and his team, it was essential to find a tool that was not only easy to use, but also robust enough to handle the scale of their international operations.

Andreas Doucet explains: "We explored several options and made extensive comparisons. APLANET stood out for its ability to integrate seamlessly into our existing structure and for the simplicity of its user interface".

What struck the THOM Group team most about APLANET was the ergonomics of the interface and the customisability of the platform:

"APLANET's user interface is very intuitive, which significantly reduces the learning curve and makes it easy for all users to adopt, regardless of their technical level," says Andreas.

When evaluating the platform, THOM Group identified the data integration process and onboarding as crucial to achieving its goals:

"The integration process was extremely straightforward. APLANET provided tailor-made training and ongoing support, which allowed us to implement the platform quickly and start reaping the operational benefits," adds Andreas.

#### Andreas concludes:

"The APLANET integration has allowed us to be more agile, have better control of our ESG data and optimise the management of this information. It has become an indispensable tool to help us address our ESG challenges and to improve our sustainable development reporting processes."

With APLANET, THOM Group has found a solution that perfectly meets its ESG data management needs, offering a functional platform that has transformed the way it works and strengthened its ability to meet regulatory requirements and stakeholder expectations.

# Results: transformation of reports and commitment from stakeholders

The implementation of APLANET in the THOM Group has meant a significant advance in the management of its ESG reporting processes. The platform has not only reduced data collection time, but also significantly improved traceability and control of information, increasing agility across the organisation.



In addition to improving efficiency, the APLANET platform has played a crucial role in engaging internal and external stakeholders. The ability to provide accurate and quickly accessible data has increased the confidence of investors and other stakeholders in THOM Group's ESG reporting:

"The increased transparency and accuracy of our reporting thanks to APLANET has helped us strengthen our credibility and reputation with investors and regulators," explains Andreas.

The system has also enabled better management of ESG indicators, which are now systematically tracked, providing unprecedented visibility of the Group's ESG performance:

"APLANET has enabled us to monitor numerous indicators in real time, improving our ability to react quickly and adjust our sustainability strategies accordingly."

APLANET's customer service was an added advantage, as Andreas Doucet emphasised:

"When we encountered difficulties or questions, APLANET's support was fast and efficient, which contributed greatly to our overall satisfaction with the solution."

In summary, the introduction of APLANET at THOM Group has transformed its approach to extra-financial reporting, increasing efficiency, agility and engagement, while improving data management. The platform has proven to be an indispensable tool for THOM Group on its journey towards robust and transparent ESG reporting.

### About APLANET

APLANET is the technology for decision-making. Our ESG management and analysis technology platform helps companies to:

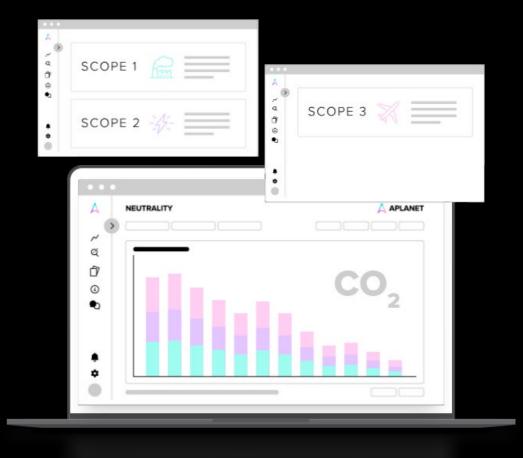
Organise, measure, analyse and communicate your ESG data in a customised, efficient and cost-effective way.

To have a reference source of information in the sustainable development ecosystem.

Extract insights that enable them to establish data-driven strategies to optimise their business decisions, accelerate and lead change and maximise their positive impact on stakeholders.

Our software connects the company's entire value chain to its ESG objectives and enables the company's entire architecture to be geared towards business and positive impact.

TALK TO OUR TEAM OF SPECIALISTS





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ESG TECHNOLOGY TO DRIVE BUSINESS GROWTH