Focusing on sustainability in ultrasound

Voluson™ SWIFT Ultrasound

GE HealthCare

Creating a more sustainable future requires us to care for the planet and its inhabitants

It is essential that we continue to drive progress toward early, precise, and accessible diagnosis and treatment of more patients. For the planet, it is critical that we do so with a reduced impact on precious and rare resources that are imperative to life. We believe that the advancement of precision medicine, greater digitization of healthcare, and increased access to quality care are fundamental to accomplishing this goal.

We support carbon policies that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and promote sustainable development. GE HealthCare has a goal to achieve net zero by 2050. An interim goal is to reduce our operational emissions (Scope 1 and 2) by 42%* and our Scope 3 emissions from purchased goods and services, upstream transportation and distribution, business travel, and use of sold products by 25%** by 2030 compared to a 2022 baseline. In 2024, we received validation on our updated goals from the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi), a group of visionary corporate leaders taking ambitious climate action. As a result of these efforts, we want to enable a more sustainable health system by addressing not only the environmental impacts of our products but also the challenges healthcare professionals and their patients face with resilient, digital solutions.

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* from a 2022 baseline year.
** includes purchased goods and services, upstream transportation and distribution, business travel, and use of sold products from a 2022 baseline year.

Leading a new era in sustainability for a more resilient tomorrow

We’re creating a world where healthcare has no limits, helping to improve access to care and enable better patient outcomes.

Environmental
Using fewer resources for a healthier planet.

Digital
Transforming healthcare through innovation.

Resilience
Building flexibility and dependability across healthcare systems.

Helping to create a more sustainable tomorrow

Voluson SWIFT ultrasound systems and their services, help ensure clinicians and the patients they serve have the technology necessary to create a more sustainable and resilient tomorrow.

Reducing environmental impact

- Voluson SWIFT ultrasound systems are designed to be refurbished, reused, or recycled at the end of product life to minimize unnecessary waste.

Improving care

- AI-based measurement tools reduce exam time and increase measurement accuracy.
- Uniquely intuitive and customizable, we've reimagined the user experience for a new level of ease and efficiency.
- Voluson Core Architecture delivers exceptional imaging effortlessly

Contributing to a healthier planet

More than half of the healthcare sector's climate footprint, approximately 53%, is attributable to energy use.[1] As a result, we have strengthened our commitment to environmentally conscious design and we are implementing more sustainable practices across our product manufacturing, sourcing, distribution, installation, and service operations. This includes improving energy efficiency, optimizing the use of limited or rare materials, providing digitally enabled service throughout the product lifespan, and offering refurbishment and recycling options at the end of product life.

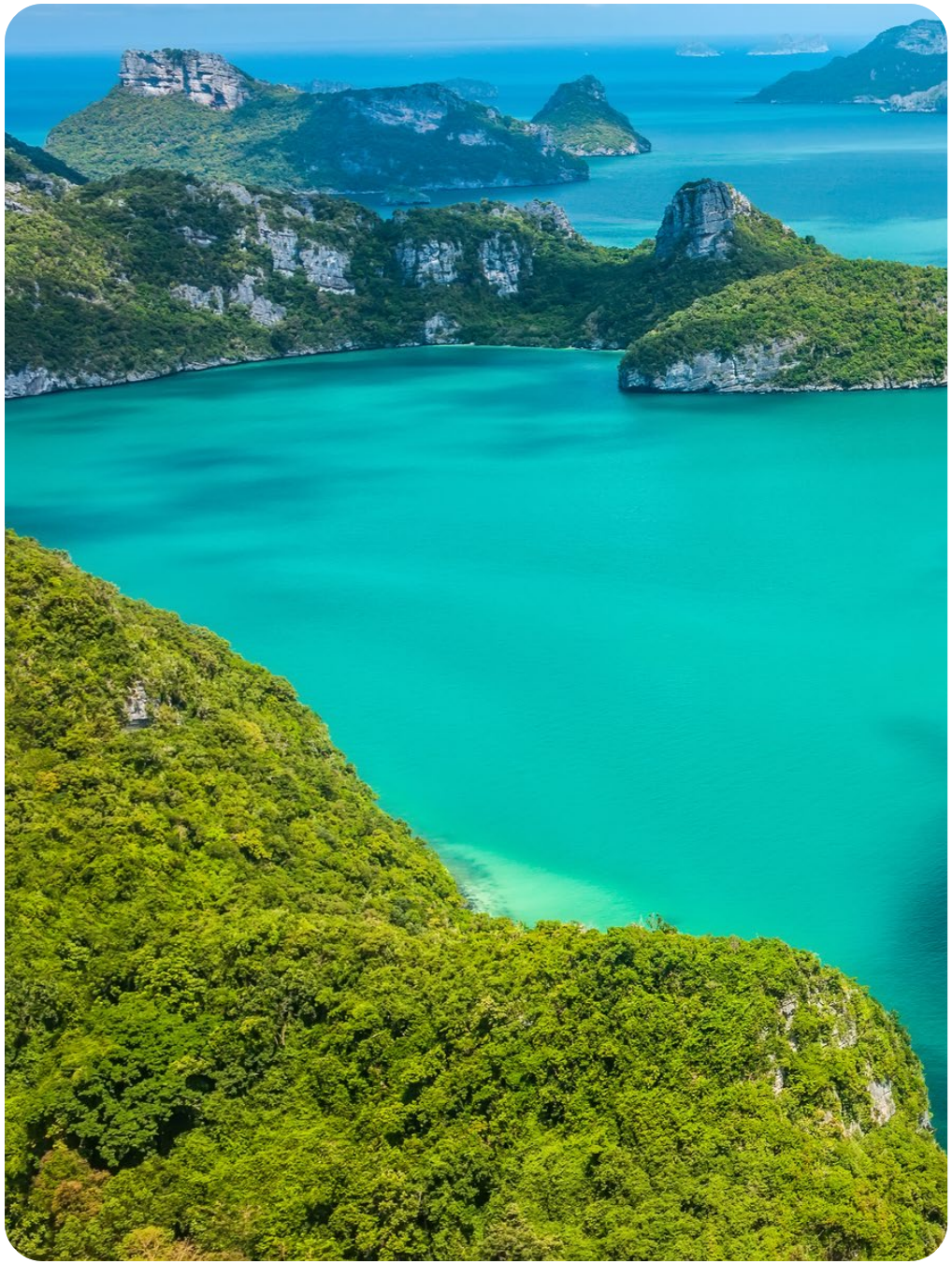
GE HealthCare environmental management system is ISO 14001 certified	Our production and service operations align to ISO 14001 standards.
We're committed to environmental product design	This product conforms with IEC60601-1-9-2007.

[1] Health care climate footprint report | Health Care Without Harm (noharm-uscanada.org), based on 2019 report

Materials

GE HealthCare reviews the environmental aspects of the material supply used within our products to increase recyclability and decrease the use of hazardous substances, when possible.

Recyclability	We're committed to high recyclability of our products and reuse when possible.
	Approximately 55% of the basic Voluson SWIFT consoles consist of recyclable raw materials: Steel: 17.97 kg / 32.1% Aluminum: 16.47 kg / 29.4% Others: 21.56 kg / 38.5%
	Packaging Voluson SWIFT: Packaging material is recyclable and certified for FSC Chain of Custody by Cheil, a Tier 2 supplier.
Reduce the use of hazardous substances	All Voluson consoles comply with the European RoHS Directive 2011/65/EU including Commission Delegated Directive (EU)2015/863.
	All Voluson consoles comply with the REACH Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006.



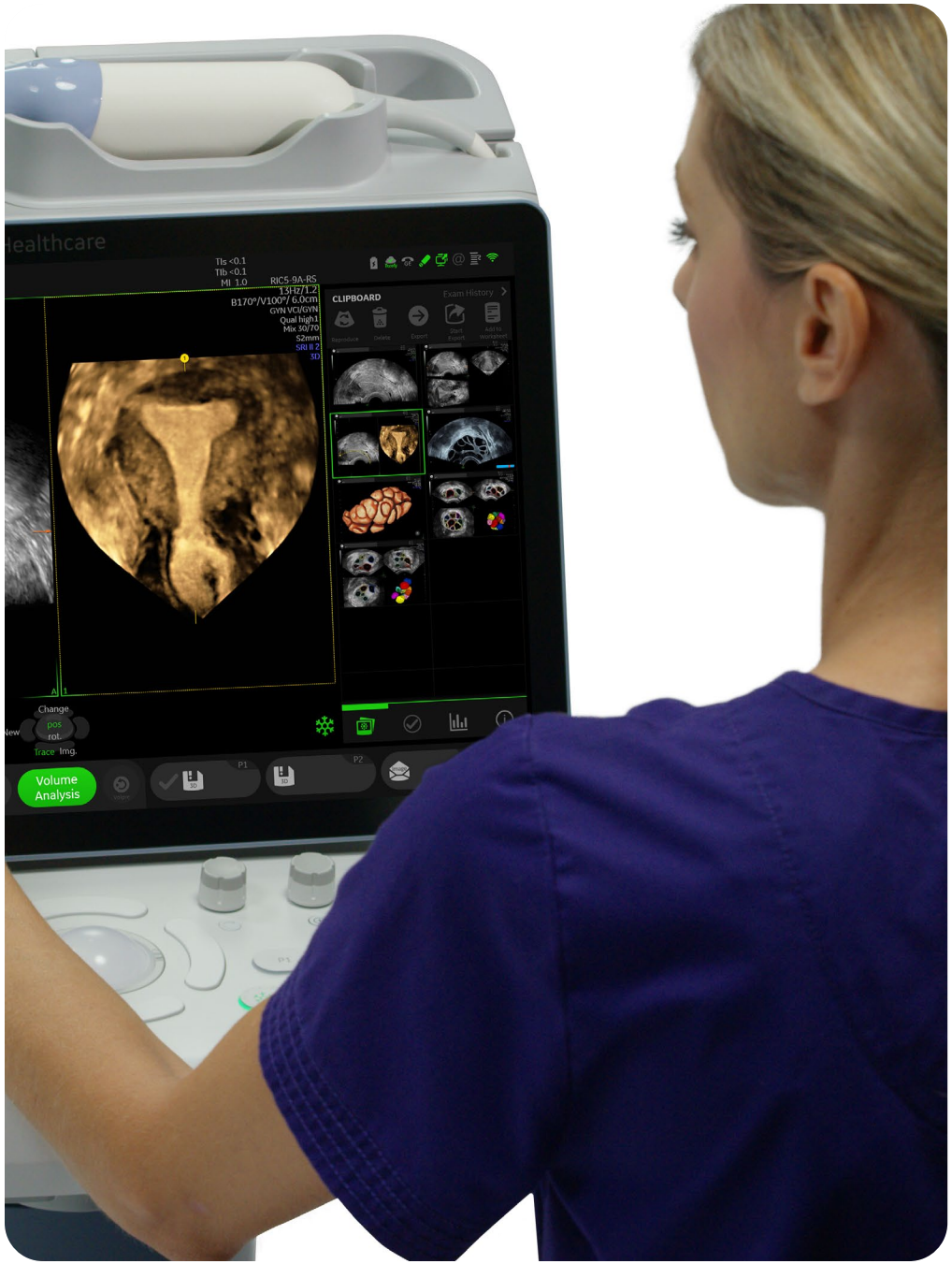
Packaging and distribution

GE HealthCare imaging equipment has a robust and multi-sourced supply chain for systems and spare parts across our product portfolios.

Product packaging	Reusable packaging is utilized for all Voluson consoles.
	GEUK achieved ISO14021 Type II self declarations. Specifically, packing material is the recycled content: Minimum 30% applied to all products produced by GEUK
Product transportation	Air Transport: 99% Ocean: 1%

Manufacturing

Through our environmental reviews, we also focus on implementing more renewable energy and reducing waste, when possible.



Product utilization

Our imaging products are designed to help enable energy efficiency through dedicated features and advanced applications to reduce the environmental impact. Ergonomic design can help to enhance health and potentially reduce environmental impacts, such as reducing waste and saving energy.

Ergonomically designed

Patient setup and positioning

Operators and clinicians can adjust Voluson SWIFT ultrasound systems for comfort and ease of use. The Voluson SWIFT ultrasound systems are adjustable:

Swivel left-right: +/- 70° from center
Lift up-down: 200 mm (7.9 inch)

Ultrasound probes have been ergonomically designed to do the following:

- Handle and manipulate with ease.
- Connect to the system with one hand.
- Be lightweight and balanced.
- Have rounded edges and smooth surfaces.

An optional foot switch is used for hands-free, comfortable system control.

Noise level

Typical acoustic noise: <38.7 dBA

Product utilization

Guidance for product utilization	Instructions are provided for use of the equipment to minimize the environmental impact during installation, use, and operation.
Reduce energy consumption during use	A screen saver can be set to appear after a definable period of inactivity.
	When in Auto Scan Stop, freeze mode is activated after five minutes of inactivity.
	After an hour of inactivity, the system automatically activates freeze mode, even when Auto Scan Stop is not enabled.
	Standby mode uses 96.5% less energy than ready-to-scan mode and more than 97% less energy than scan mode.
	Standby mode: 1.8 W Non-scan mode: 103 W Scan mode: 130 W

End of product life

We are increasingly putting our retired products' materials back into the supply chain to maximize efficient use and minimize unnecessary waste. This circularity model enables our imaging products to extend their clinical impact through longer lifespans while reducing the environmental footprint. Additionally, we offer our customers support for upgrades and services throughout a product's lifespan, when available, to maintain optimal performance and help drive better patient outcomes.

Our refurbishment programs involve an extensive inspection and testing process, designed to bring equipment back to its original certified manufacturing specifications. If the system is not suitable for refurbishment, eligible parts are harvested for reuse after quality and performance testing, while the remaining parts are returned to dedicated recycling facilities.

Product utilization

Guidance for end of lifecycle	Equipment instructions are provided to minimize the environmental impact for disposal or recycling.
Upgradeable hardware and software options are provided as a solution to extend the product lifespan.	Upgrades are available for Voluson SWIFT.
Parts harvesting and refurbishment options are provided to reduce waste and environmental impacts while extending imaging access to less advantaged regions.	Voluson SWIFT ultrasound system parts are eligible for assessment through the refurbishment program, in which they are assessed for refurbishment, harvesting, or recycling at the appropriate time in the lifespan.[2] 94–96% of most systems are reused, refurbished, or recycled, extending the lifetime of each product.[2] 100% of Voluson SWIFT ultrasound consoles are eligible for refurbishment.
Waste reduction	This system is in accordance with Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) regulations.

[2] Products within ultrasound are eligible for refurbishment, although whether a system is refurbished versus harvested for parts or otherwise recycled or reused is dependent on the state of the system when GE HealthCare takes possession of it. Data on file.

Digitizing healthcare through transformative innovations for a more resilient tomorrow

We are committed to investing in digital capabilities that help accelerate clinical decision making, optimize imaging operations, and drive efficiencies in exam workflows, all of which can improve patient outcomes. Enabling digital transformation will further enhance our predictive and maintenance service operations for the life of your products.

We are also dedicated to driving a more resilient and sustainable future in healthcare. Many factors, including the pandemic, climate-related weather disasters, and supply-chain issues amplified this need. Managing operations through these challenges requires resilience and perseverance.

Helping clinicians advance patient outcomes

Advanced applications and cutting-edge AI tools provide personalized data to drive actionable insights, helping healthcare professionals make fast, accurate clinical decisions for care pathways.

Gain actionable clinical insights for quicker decision making	Voluson SWIFT has several AI tools to help with the consistency and completeness of exams.
	Incorporating AI, SonoCNS, and SonoBiometry helps properly align and display recommended views plus measurements of the fetal brain.
	The SonoLyst AI feature automatically identifies fetal anatomy seen on standard views then selects all applicable annotations and measurements.
Keep your imaging equipment up to date with advanced clinical applications	Voluson SWIFT ultrasound system software updates and upgrades are available.

Optimizing imaging operations

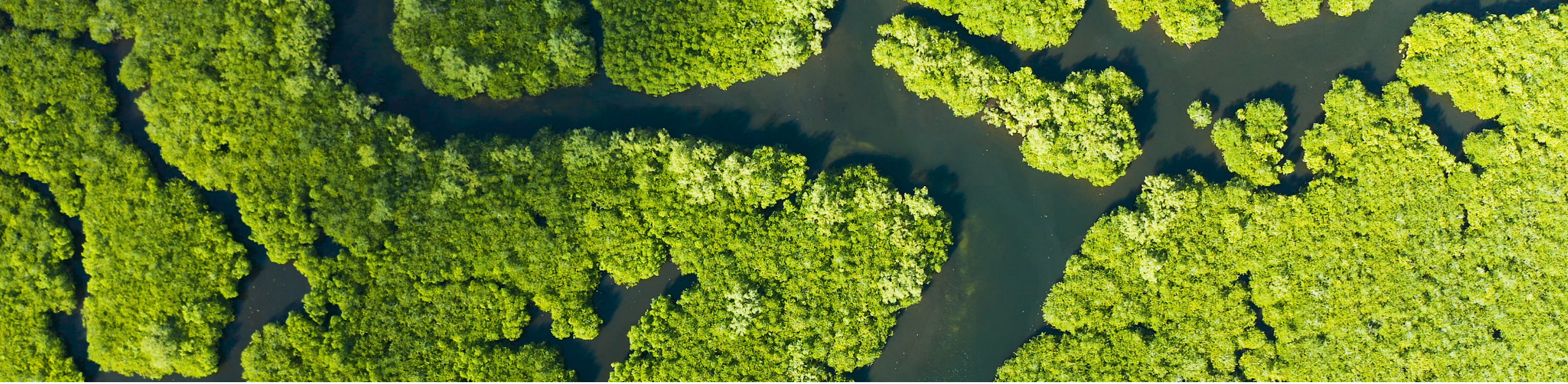
Our AI-based and advanced digital solutions are designed to increase efficiencies across the radiology spectrum without increasing the administrative and training burden on radiologists and technologists.

Increase productivity and consistency	iCenter™ analytics provide insights for hospital managers to improve operational performance, asset utilization, and asset performance.
Reduce downtime	GE HealthCare's predictive analytics tools reduce downtime, optimize workflow, and reduce service interventions.
	iCenter analytics track metrics and deliver data on equipment status, maintenance history, and performance to help reduce downtime.
	The remote service platform InSite™ connects you with a GE Online Service Engineer or Applications Support Engineer. It has remote diagnostics capability as well as the ability to request service. Available in some markets.
	Software updates are available for download via eDelivery.
Cybersecurity	GE HealthCare's Design Engineering Privacy and Security (DEPS) process follows GDPR, HIPAA, NIST 800-53, NIST 800-30, ISO 27001, and NIST CSF requirements.

Enabling intelligent exam workflows

Intelligent automation features help to drive consistency, enable fast, easy exams, and improve workflow with fewer resources.

Reduce setup time	Users can easily access patient information from an external Worklist Server. Voluson SWIFT has a customizable touch panel which allows the user to organize the display in the most efficient way for them.
Reduce exam time	A suite of applications is designed to improve workflow and can substantially reduce keystrokes and analysis time, leading to increased efficiency and shorter exams.
Ease of use	SonoFHR reduces keystrokes through automatic caliper placement up to 85.7% SonoCNS can help reduce unnecessary keystrokes by 82%. Flow Profiles offer a 64% keystroke reduction and 56% decrease in Doppler exam time when compared to manual workflows.
Cleanability	Our equipment is designed to be cleaned and disinfected easily. We continue to test and approve new cleaning and disinfecting agents. Visit *Cleaning.GEHealthCare.com* for updates.



Creating a healthy world to help enable better patient outcomes.

GEHealthCare.com/about/sustainability

Not all products or features are available in all geographies. Check with your local GE HealthCare representative for availability in your country. Commercial availability of GE HealthCare medical systems is subject to meeting local requirements in a given country or region. Not all features are included in the standard system configuration.Contact a GE HealthCare representative for more information. Intended for healthcare professionals only.

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