Sustainable handheld ultrasound solutions for a resilient tomorrow

Vscan Air™ Ultrasound

Creating a more sustainable future requires we 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 health, 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. We are committed to achieving net zero by 2050 and are part of the UN-backed "Race to Zero," with a goal of reducing emissions based on the Paris Agreement. We've also set a public goal to achieve a 50% reduction in our own operational emissions by 2030. 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 options.

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We deliver sustainable, intelligently efficient solutions for a resilient tomorrow.

Building a healthier world to help improve access to care and enable better patient outcomes.

Green
Using fewer resources for a healthier planet.

Digital
Transforming healthcare through innovation.

Resilience
Building flexibility and dependability across healthcare systems.

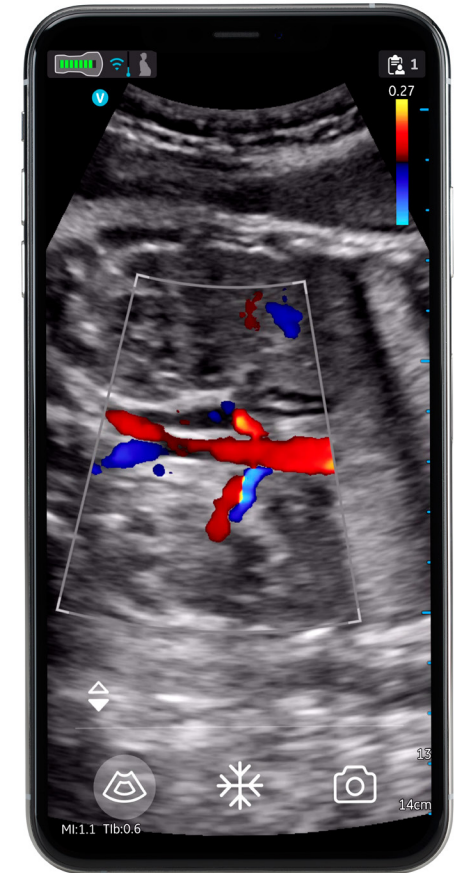# Vscan Air ultrasound helps create a resilient tomorrow

Our Vscan Air handheld ultrasound and its services help ensure that clinical professionals and the patients they serve have the technology necessary to create a sustainable and resilient tomorrow.

Reducing environmental impact

- Vscan Air systems are designed to be refurbished, reused, or recycled at the end of their product life to minimize unnecessary waste.

Improving outcomes

- Handheld size facilitates scanning at the point of care.
- SignalMax™ high-intensity signal processing delivers high-quality images.

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 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 and remote predictive and maintenance 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.

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

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.

Recyclable	We're committed to high recyclability of our products and reuse when possible.
Reduce the use of hazardous substances	EU RoHS directive 2011/65/EU
	REACH (EC) 1907–2006

Manufacturing

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

Renewable energy	Vscan Air probes are made in our Zipf, Austria, facility. This site uses 100% green electricity, which is environmentally friendly and renewable.
Reduced electricity	Site uses photovoltaic unit: 120 unit, annual production ~ 120,000 k·Wh 18% of energy demand met by solar energy Geenhouse Gas reduction approximately 50 tons per year
	Site implements heat pump heating, which reduces heating gas by approximately 50% annually.
	Energy usage at this facility in 2021: Electricity: 708,192 k·Wh Gas: 1,097,517 k·Wh

Product utilization

Our imaging products are designed to help enable energy efficiency through dedicated features and advanced applications to reduce the environmental impact.

Ergonomically designed

Patient setup and positioning	Vscan Air makes it easier to access scan hard-to-reach areas in patients due to wireless capability.
Reduce staff burden	The probes have been ergonomically designed to handle and manipulate with ease.
Reduce energy consumption	Instructions are provided for use of the equipment to minimize the environmental impact during installation, use, and operation.
Power consumption	Goes into standby after five minutes of inactivity.
Reduce consumable energy utilization	There are zero carbon emissions at place of use.

Packaging and distribution

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

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 partnered support for upgrades and services throughout a product's lifespan 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 rest are returned to dedicated recycling facilities.

Product utilization (Cont.)

Guidance	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.	Updates for Vscan Air software application are available via Google Play™ and Apple® App Store.
Parts harvesting and refurbishment options are provided to reduce waste and environmental impacts while extending imaging access to less advantaged regions.	Products within ultrasound are eligible for refurbishment, although whether a system is actually 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.
Waste reduction	This system is in accordance with Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) regulations.

Digitizing healthcare through transformative innovations for a 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.

Advancing clinical 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 quicker for earlier diagnosis	Pocket-sized product facilitates scanning where and when the clinician requires it.
	Vscan Air's built-in battery enables more than 50 minutes of scanning in or out of the hospital setting.
Keep your imaging equipment up to date with advanced clinical applications	Vscan Air supports over-the-air software updates, enabling the use of newer clinical applications with existing hardware.
Help improve patient outcomes with improved image quality	SignalMax, a proprietary high-intensity signal processing ecosystem, enables high-quality ultrasound images in the ultraportable Vscan Air.

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	Digital tools enhance the Vscan Air experience: • MyRemoteShare allows for live collaboration and support. • MyDeviceHub facilitates remote management of an enterprise fleet to ensure consistent protocols. • MyImageCloud provides cloud-based exam storage. Software updates are available via app stores. Guidance videos are available online.
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, all while achieving similar or improved outcomes.

Reduce exam time   Handheld device facilitates scanning right at the point of care.
- No need to relocate the patient to conduct a scan.

Ease of use   Vscan Air is designed to be extremely easy to use, with minimal adjustments needed to acquire images.

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. This includes validated cleaning and disinfection instructions for probes.

Building a healthy world to help enable better patient outcomes.

GE Healthcare is a member of COCIR, the European Trade Association representing the medical imaging, radiotherapy, health ICT, and electromedical industries.[2]

[2]https://www.cocir.org/about-cocir/members.html

Not all products or features are available in all geographies. Check with your local GE Healthcare representative for availability in your country.
Not all features are included in the standard system configuration. Check with your local GE Healthcare representative.

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