

GSA LAUNCHES ESG INDEX TO HELP BUYERS AND SERVICE PROVIDERS TACKLE CRITICAL BUT CHALLENGING AREA

Monday 5 February 2024: The Global Sourcing Association today launches its **Service Provider Sustainability Index (SPSI)**, standardising the way ESG performance will be reported and putting an end to the confusion and complexity which has hampered transparent sustainability reporting and progress for the IT and business services industry.

The Index will solve two distinct but interlinked industry challenges:

- 1. IT and Business Services providers** until now, have been at the mercy of every type of ESG Request for Information – responding to inconsistent questions, language, values and metrics and making every response unique, a huge undertaking and a resource drain. And without knowing how the business compares to its peers, understanding where and how to improve has been equally difficult.
- 2. IT and Business Services buyers**, without standardised reporting frameworks, can't easily compare providers and understand who is performing better, in which areas and across which geographies. This in turn, makes it difficult for them to understand and report on Scope 3 Emissions (those that relate to a company's third-party suppliers) as well as feel confident in the partner choices they make.

Serving both buyers and service providers equally, the GSA is uniquely placed to have created and now deliver this Service Provider Sustainability Index, simplifying the journey to transparent ESG reporting and helping businesses understand where they fit, who they can learn from and how they can improve their ESG credentials. The GSA has partnered with ESG consultancy, Needlerock, and technology platform MyConsole, to provide advisory services and a workflow solution to assist those organisations that need guidance on their ESG journeys and reporting.

Kerry Hallard, GSA CEO said: “The complexity of ESG reporting has only held back our sector from celebrating the great work being done in environmental, governance and social programmes, but also understanding clearly and transparently where a business needs to improve and how they can and should do that most effectively.”

She adds: “We sit between buyers and providers, helping both create long and mutually beneficial relationships. The Service Provider Sustainability Index will help both sides to partner to a more sustainable future for both organisations whilst showcasing the very

robust sustainable and social performance of the technology and business services industry on a global stage.”

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ABOUT THE GSA: The Global Sourcing Association is a social enterprise striving to make a difference and promote positive change across the technology and business services industry. Trusted by sourcing professionals for 35 years, the GSA is the consistent voice for the future of the industry and the professionals working within it; promoting sustainable and ethical sourcing to create a positive future for our businesses and our shared planet.

For more information or to speak to the GSA, please visit www.gsa-uk.com or email admin@gsa-uk.com