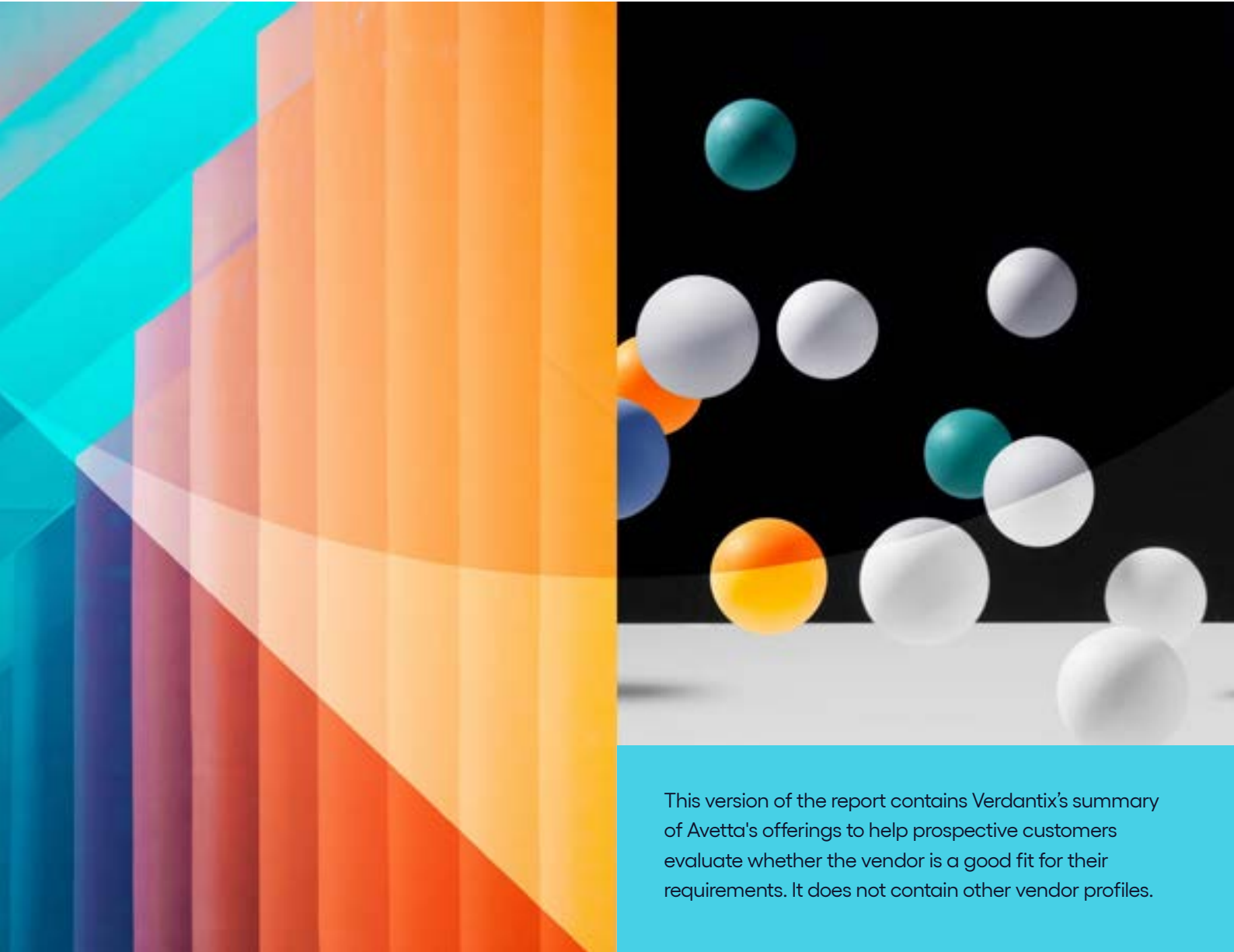


ESG & Sustainability

# Green Quadrant: Supply Chain Sustainability Software 2024

By Elisa Molero, Guy Lewis  
With Kim Knickle

November 2024



This version of the report contains Verdantix's summary of Avetta's offerings to help prospective customers evaluate whether the vendor is a good fit for their requirements. It does not contain other vendor profiles.



# Green Quadrant: Supply Chain Sustainability Software 2024

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This report provides a detailed, fact-based comparison of the 15 most prominent supply chain sustainability software vendors in the market. Based on the proprietary Verdantix Green Quadrant methodology, our analysis encompassed two-hour live briefings, desktop research and vendor responses to a 54-point questionnaire, covering nine categories of capabilities and 14 categories of market momentum. Although different components of supply chain sustainability software have been on the market for over 15 years, Verdantix analysis finds that the level of customer demand and the number of vendor solutions that serve firms' supply chain sustainability needs have both grown substantially over the last three years. This is largely due to heightened regulatory obligations and increased exposure to environmental, social and governance risks, resulting in new use cases and better functionality to improve the transparency of firms' ESG performance and impact in the supply chain. Among the software vendors featured in this Green Quadrant, 10 firms – Achilles, Avetta, Assent, Benchmark Gensuite, EcoVadis, EiQ by LRQA, IntegrityNext, QIMA, Sedex and Sphera – demonstrated the most advanced supply chain sustainability software capabilities.

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## Organizations mentioned

3E, Accenture, Achilles, ADM, aDolus Technology, Amazon, American Tile Distributors (ATD), Amphenol, Arcadis, Arc Infrastructure, Assent, Astorg, Avetta, Benchmark Gensuite, BeyondNetZero, Blackstone, BlueNode, Boeing, Bridgepoint, CaixaBank, Capgemini, Caterpillar, CDP, CDPQ (Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec), Celonis, CGE Partners, ChainPoint, Circular, Circularity Capital, Cloverly, Cognizant, Creandum, Cushman & Wakefield, Dometic, DuPont, E14 Fund, Eclipse, EcoVadis, EiQ, ELEVATE, E-Merge tech, Energize Ventures, Envizi, EQT Group, ERM, Ethical Trading Initiative (ETI), Ethixbase360, Everstream Analytics, Excitec, Fair Factories Clearinghouse (FFC), Farmer Connect, Financial Crime Compliance (Exiger), Foodsteps, Foresight Group, General Electric, Getinge, GRI (Global Reporting Initiative), GRO Capital, Halliburton, H&H Group, Hedsophia, Hitachi, Honda, IBM, Ideagen, IntegrityNext, International Living Future Institute (ILFI), International Organization for Standardization (ISO), iPoint-systems, Johnson & Johnson, Kavida, Keppel, Kohler, Klinkby Enge, KPMG, Kroger, LDC (Lloyds Development Capital), Lightsource bp, Logitech, L'Oréal, LRQA, LSEG, Maniv, Metro, Morgan Stanley, MSCI, Norton Rose Fulbright, Norvestor, Nuveen, Onepak, Oxygea, Pacific National, Partech, PEFC (Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification), Position Green, Prewave, PUMA, PwC, QIMA, Ramboll, RBA, Reckitt, Registrar Corp, Retraced, riskmethods, Saint-Gobain, SAP, Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi), Sedex, Shein, Siemens, Skanska, Source Intelligence, Sourcemap, Sphera, SupplyShift, SustainX, Swiss Re, Takeda Pharmaceuticals, TATA Consultancy Services, Tcompliance (formerly TRACE), Tele2, Tesco, thyssenkrupp, Tiffany & Co., Toxnot, TRILUX, TrusTrace, Ulula, Unilever, US Department of Energy, Vista Equity Partners, Walmart, Westcon-Comstor, Whirlpool, Woolworths Group, Workiva, Worldly.

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## Summary for decision-makers

- Ongoing scrutiny of firms' responsible performance across the supply chain has highlighted the need for organizations to enhance transparency and embed ESG considerations into supply chain decision-making. This report helps corporate decision-makers – such as heads of sustainability, procurement, supply chain, risk and operations – draw up supply chain sustainability software selection strategies and successfully deliver their ESG and sustainability commitments.
- The report also provides software vendors with competitive intelligence on the different players and product offerings dominating the market, highlighting the pace of innovation in the space.
- The report is based on the proprietary Verdantix Green Quadrant methodology, encompassing two-hour live briefings, desktop research, customer references and vendor responses to a 54-point questionnaire, covering nine capabilities and 14 market momentum categories.
- While its different components have been on the market for over 15 years, supply chain sustainability software is its own distinct category. Software vendors are leveraging their heritages to serve three key areas: sustainability reporting; risk management; and supplier engagement and collaboration – to advance ESG reporting and sustainability performance in the supply chain.
- Organizations cannot meet their ESG and sustainability goals without untangling the intricacies of their supply chains. Data complexities are driving the need for solutions that help firms improve visibility throughout their supplier networks, assess exposure to hidden risks and ensure collaboration with suppliers.

Figure 6  
Green Quadrant for supply chain sustainability software 2024



Source: Verdantix analysis



# State of the supply chain sustainability software market

The market landscape for supply chain sustainability software has evolved rapidly over the past three years, driven primarily by increased regulations and exposure to social and environmental global events. These events comprise both long-lasting situations – such as Russia’s invasion of Ukraine – and much shorter occurrences, such as [the October 2024 longshoremen’s strike in the US](#), which, despite being resolved within three days, threatened the timely shipment of critical goods such as machinery, pharmaceuticals and food.

Additional scrutiny of firms’ responsible performance across the supply chain has further highlighted the need for businesses to enhance transparency and embed ESG considerations into supply chain decision-making. These demands have pushed supply chain sustainability software vendors to meet a wide range of needs – including data collection and reporting, supply chain ESG risk management, and supplier engagement – to help firms address sustainability as a core factor of business innovation and resilience.

To provide some clarity within this evolving software market, this report provides a detailed assessment of the 15 most prominent solution providers and their product offerings. It is aimed at individuals responsible for understanding ESG impact across their supply chains, in order to meet regulatory requirements, create risk management strategies and hit corporate-wide sustainability targets. For these users, this report addresses the following questions:

- **What is the current state of the supply chain sustainability software market?**
- **How can providers support specific supply chain sustainability initiatives?**
- **Which supply chain sustainability software applications will best match the requirements of my firm?**
- **What factors indicate that a supply chain sustainability software provider is a reliable partner for the future?**

To answer these questions, Verdantix assessed 15 software vendors using a 54-point questionnaire, two-hour live demonstrations by vendors and interviews with 20 supply chain sustainability software customers across a variety of industries, spanning manufacturing, consumer goods, consulting services, and oil and gas. The resulting analysis is based on the proprietary Verdantix Green Quadrant methodology, which is designed to provide an evidence-based, objective assessment of vendors offering comparable products or services.

## Supply chain sustainability software is its own distinct category

Different components of supply chain sustainability software have been on the market for over 15 years – within supply chain management applications, as well as other categories, such as contractor management, EHS management, product compliance and third-party risk management. As a result, individuals across different teams have tended to access siloed data, hindering their firms’ abilities to fully understand their ESG performance across the supply chain.

Regulatory pressure and supply chain disruptions – raising corporate awareness of supply chain sustainability issues – have driven demand for comprehensive solutions that allow firms to untangle the intricacies of their supply chains. The unique features of supply chain sustainability software comprise:

- **Multiple approaches to supply chain sustainability needs.**  
Firms’ sustainability priorities may vary based on location, industry practices and corporate-wide ESG maturity. Verdantix data show that for over 60% of firms located in North America, increasing transparency and traceability in the supply chain is the top priority when investing in supply chain sustainability. In comparison, over 77% of firms located in Europe invest in supply chain sustainability software primarily to meet sustainability goals in the supply chain (see the upcoming Verdantix Global Corporate Survey: Supply Chain Sustainability 2024 (Global) report). Due to the wide range of ESG issues, complexities and supply chain challenges, software vendors leverage diverse backgrounds – such as EHS software, supply chain management and GRC, among others – to meet a variety of business sustainability priorities, such as a reduction of GHG emissions and the protection of human and labour rights along the supplier network.



- **Data collection and reporting tools for ESG and sustainability supply chain insights.**

While regulatory pressure for firms is increasing, many organizations are hampered by limited data collection across their supply chains. Additionally, there is a lack of standardized metrics across different regions and industries, which hinders access to verified and accurate information on suppliers' performance. Supply chain and sustainability data complexities require scalable solutions that collect vast amounts of data from third parties to support the collection, management and reporting of ESG and sustainability supply chain information.

- **Risk assessment and mitigation tools to manage exposure to ESG-related threats.**

Global supply chains are increasingly vulnerable to external environmental, geopolitical and economic disruptions. For example, in 2024 the Red Sea shipping crisis provoked by Houthi rebel attacks on cargo ships and tankers caused firms to reroute ships around Africa's Cape of Good Hope, increasing [transit times by roughly 30%](#). Additionally, firms are exposed to hidden threats in upstream value chains, such as operational, financial, legal and reputational risks. Supply chain sustainability software tools help firms map their supply chains to assess high-risk suppliers, improve supplier auditing and due diligence, and better understand the impact of extreme weather events and issues related to geopolitical exposure and public sentiment.

- **Supplier engagement tools to enhance sustainability best practices and collaboration.**

Firms rely on suppliers' commitment and bandwidth to collect ESG and sustainability information. However, buyers often employ diverse approaches to information requests – and suppliers must also meet additional assessment and verification requests from third parties. In addition, suppliers may be relying on different tools and processes to meet numerous buyer requirements, which intensifies supplier fatigue and limits firms' abilities to improve supply chain sustainability performance. Supply chain sustainability software allows customers to access scalable systems and supplier engagement programmes that ensure data assurance and accuracy, as well as foster supplier awareness of sustainability issues and ESG reporting obligations.

- **Performance monitoring systems to strengthen ESG commitment across different teams.**

ESG and sustainability commitments push firms to undergo a strategic, technological and structural transformation that involves their supply chains (see [Verdantix Strategic Focus: Organizations And The Rise Of ESG](#)). This requires firms to leverage the skills and resources of different teams, and ensure the commitment of individuals responsible for procurement, operations, products and operations to include ESG factors in daily decision-making. Supply chain sustainability software facilitates cross-functional collaboration, enabling access to real-time data to quantify the costs and benefits of supply chain ESG initiatives and to identify potential threats and business opportunities ahead of time.

## Supply chain risk and pressing regulations drive a competitive market

Verdantix research shows that demand for supply chain sustainability software is driven primarily by increasing scrutiny from regulators and stakeholders of ESG performance, as well as a greater consideration of ESG and sustainability issues as potential threats to supply chain resilience. Verdantix research finds that the supply chain sustainability software market was worth \$1.7 billion in 2023 and is expected to grow to \$6.8 billion in 2028, at a 32% CAGR (see [Verdantix Market Size And Forecast: Supply Chain Sustainability Software 2023-2029 \(Global\)](#)). Amongst the prominent trends in the supply chain sustainability software space, Verdantix finds that:

- **Political and regulatory events drive the need for supply chain sustainability software.**

Regulatory pressure, adverse climate events and geopolitical tensions exacerbate vulnerability across supply chains and are driving the uptake of software to improve transparency. This is vital for firms facing a combination of stringent regulatory developments and regional geopolitical events, which expose them to financial, operational, legal and reputational risks. For example, under the EU's Forced Labour Regulation, businesses must dig deeper into their supply chains to avoid products suspected of being made with forced labour. This is pushing firms to obtain better insights into the lower tiers of their supply chains located in the



Asia-Pacific (APAC) region, where there are over [15 million people](#) in forced labour. Firms operating in APAC are also facing operational uncertainty resulting from growing [trade tensions in the South China Sea](#), which are exposing them to sanctions, hold-ups, price hikes and shortages of goods.

- **Firms require digital strategies that match their internal ESG maturity level.**

Achieving ESG-aligned performance in the supply chain is the backbone of corporate sustainability strategy. Initiatives to improve sustainability in supply chains therefore provide an indication of how organizations perceive the business impact of ESG issues (see [Verdantix Strategic Focus: Organizations And The Rise Of ESG](#)). For example, if a firm perceives supply chain sustainability as a driver of business resilience, its buyers prioritize digital tools that allow for the integration of sustainability factors into operational transformation projects and business strategy decision-making (see [Verdantix Market Overview: Supply Chain Sustainability](#)).

- **M&As and organic investment broaden sustainability offerings.**

In 2023, due to a combination of high inflation, rising interest rates and lingering supply chain concerns, overall funding for technology firms slowed. However, investment and acquisitions in the supply chain sustainability software market continue, with software vendors often acquiring digital point solutions and services to help build a holistic sustainability offering (see **Figure 1**). For example, in 2022 Position Green merged with four boutique sustainability advisory firms, including ESG due diligence provider Klinkby Enge, to engage sustainability advisory services. In 2023 Vista Equity Partners invested in Benchmark Gensuite to accelerate growth and unify its product suite. In January 2024 Sphera acquired SupplyShift to expand its supply chain mapping, scoring and traceability capabilities, while in September, EcoVadis acquired Ulula, to enhance its on-the-ground worker engagement capabilities.

- **Partnerships with software and data providers and consultants expand capabilities and reach.**

Given the breadth of supply chain capabilities needed for sustainability matters, software providers are forming partnerships with other vendors to support implementation and third-party data acquisition, and strengthen their supply chain sustainability product ecosystems and delivery capabilities. Avetta, for example, partners with Workiva Carbon to support suppliers' management and reporting of carbon emissions. Software providers also partner with consulting services firms to support implementation, access to granular sustainability data and advanced analysis (see [Verdantix Green Quadrant: ESG And Sustainability Consulting 2024](#)). IBM, for instance, relies on Capgemini and Cognizant as implementation partners, while IntegrityNext partners with KPMG and TATA Consultancy Services to support the delivery of ESG-related supply chain decision-making.

- **Service delivery complements software offerings and digital strategy implementation.**

Supply chain complexities often require some level of services to support firms' understanding of their supply chain sustainability performance, requirements and business opportunities. Vendors such as EiQ by LRQA, QIMA and Sedex complement their audit, certification and assurance services with digital tools that support data collection and analysis, to help firms better understand their sustainability impacts across the supply chain. For uniformity in this Green Quadrant, Verdantix assessed vendors on the capabilities of their software offerings as standalone products. Some buyers may opt for a single provider for both software and services, while others will evaluate a software vendor's partnerships with service providers.

- **Risk management tools sustain supply chain sustainability software functionality.**

Risk considerations dominate the narrative for investing in supply chain sustainability software, often serving as the primary entry point for new tech buyers. Software vendors have therefore developed their capabilities to support firms' buy-in of ESG and sustainability as a core factor to proactively identify and mitigate vulnerabilities across the supply chain. Third-party risk software vendors such as Achilles and Ethixbase360, which support firms' mitigation of financial, legal and reputational risk, have entered the space, aiming to ease risk management through enhanced supplier due diligence and engagement capabilities. As the supply chain sustainability software market evolves, Verdantix expects more vendors to join them with risk management offerings.



Figure 1

## Example investments and M&amp;As in supply chain sustainability software 2022-2024

	TRANSACTION	TARGET	INVESTMENT	LEAD INVESTOR/ACQUIRER
<b>2024</b>				
January	ACQUISITION	SupplyShift	Not disclosed	Sphera
January	INVESTMENT	TrusTrace	\$24m	Circularity Capital
March	INVESTMENT	Circular	\$10.5m	Maniv, Oxygea and Eclipse
July	INVESTMENT	Prewave	€63m Series B	Hedosophia
August	ACQUISITION	Foodsteps	Not disclosed	Registrar Corp
August	ACQUISITION	aDolus Technology	Not disclosed	Exiger
August	INVESTMENT	Onepak	\$20m	Nuveen
September	ACQUISITION	Ulula	Not disclosed	EcoVadis
September	INVESTMENT	Retraced	€15m Series A	Partech
<b>2023</b>				
March	INVESTMENT	IntegrityNext	\$109m	EQT Group
April	INVESTMENT	Everstream Analytics	\$50m	Morgan Stanley
April	INVESTMENT	Benchmark Gensuite	Not disclosed	Vista Equity Partners
May	ACQUISITION	ChainPoint	Not disclosed	Source Intelligence
May	INVESTMENT	Prewave	\$20m	Creandum
May	ACQUISITION	BlueNode	Not disclosed	Everstream Analytics
June	INVESTMENT	Sourcemap	\$20m	Energize Ventures
August	ACQUISITION	Fair Factories Clearinghouse	Not disclosed	Worldly
August	INVESTMENT	Sedex	Not disclosed	LDC
September	ACQUISITION	Financial Crime Compliance (Exiger)	Not disclosed	Capgemini
<b>2022</b>				
January	ACQUISITION	Envizi	Not disclosed	IBM
January	ACQUISITION	ELEVATE	Not disclosed	LRQA
March	INVESTMENT	Sourcemap	\$10m	Energize Ventures and E14 Fund

Source: Verdantix analysis



- **Product-related capabilities strengthen supply chain sustainability offerings.**

Software providers are increasingly aligning product sustainability capabilities with their supply chain sustainability offerings, to improve transparency and traceability across both the supply chain and product life cycle (see [Verdantix Tech Roadmap: Circular Economy And Supply Chain Sustainability Technologies \(2024\)](#)). For example, vendors such as 3E leverage their software heritage in product and chemical compliance to support access to suppliers' product sustainability information. iPoint-systems draws on its lifecycle assessment (LCA) expertise to offer customers granular data on the sustainability impact of their products and materials. Assent benefits from its experience in sustainability compliance in delivering product sustainability information through digital product passports (DPPs).

## Green Quadrant for supply chain sustainability software 2024

Firms seek scalable, easy-to-use solutions that enhance the transparency of ESG and sustainability performance across supply chains. For this purposes of this report, Verdantix defines supply chain sustainability software as:

*“Software that offers supply chain ESG and sustainability data collection and management functionality, to inform reporting, risk management, and supplier development and engagement.”*

This definition does not include software designed to be deployed on a site-by-site basis, desktop software, applications used for regulatory content management or applications with a single industry or impact area, such as Scope 3 emissions management, supply chain risk management, and product and materials traceability.

This study focuses on the technology and usability of supply chain sustainability software and does not include any services or consulting capabilities offered by the featured vendors.

## Green Quadrant methodology

The Verdantix Green Quadrant methodology provides buyers of specific products or services with a structured assessment of comparable offerings at a certain point in time. The methodology supports investment decisions by identifying potential software vendors, structuring relevant purchase criteria through discussions with buyers and providing an evidence-based assessment of the products or services in the market. To ensure the study results are objective, the research process is defined by:

- **Transparent inclusion criteria.**

We work to analyse all providers that would qualify for inclusion in the research. For those providers that do not provide sufficient information or are unwilling to cooperate on the questionnaire or two-hour product demonstration, we work to include them based on publicly available information and previous Verdantix research that provides an impression of their market positioning, where we deem such information sufficiently complete and accurate to form a basis for benchmarking.

- **Analysis from a buyer's perspective.**

For our Green Quadrant studies, we interview individuals who have bought or are planning to buy the product or service analysed in the report. The purpose of these interviews is to define relevant buying criteria and inform the weightings of the evaluation criteria in the model that drives the Green Quadrant graphic.

- **Reliance on professional integrity.**

As it would be unfeasible to check all data and claims that providers make, we emphasize the need for professional integrity. Correspondingly, assertions made by software providers are put in the public domain via the Verdantix report and can be checked by competitors and existing customers.



- **Scores based on available evidence.**

To assess the expertise, resources, business results and strategies of individual providers, we collect evidence from public sources and conduct interviews with multiple representatives of the actively participating software firms, as well as industry experts. Where providers claim to be ‘best in class’, we challenge them to present related evidence.

- **Comparison based on relative capabilities.**

We construct measurement scales ranging from ‘worst in class’ to ‘best in class’ performance at a certain point in time. A provider’s position in the market can change over time, depending on how its offering and success evolves relative to its competitors. Hence, a vendor’s Quadrant positioning may not necessarily improve – even if it adds new capabilities, makes a strategic acquisition or receives investment – as the assessment is relative to what other vendors are offering. The Green Quadrant analysis is typically repeated every one-and-a-half to two years.

## Evaluated firms and selection criteria

Verdantix defines vendor inclusion criteria to ensure that the Green Quadrant analysis only compares firms providing similar services. We believe that all the vendors in this report offer significant value in the supply chain sustainability software market. The 15 providers included in this study were selected because they have:

- **Capabilities for supply chain ESG & sustainability data collection, risk management and supplier engagement.**

Meeting supply chain sustainability goals requires firms to use digital tools that ensure data accuracy, enable insights into risks and foster collaboration with suppliers. This Green Quadrant study therefore focuses on vendors with on-the-market capabilities that serve firms’ three supply chain sustainability priorities: supply chain sustainability data collection and reporting; supply chain sustainability risk management; and supplier development and engagement.

- **No fewer than 50 customers using their software for supply chain sustainability purposes.**

Verdantix established a customer-count threshold to rule out vendors or solutions that have not yet been deployed at scale, thus limiting this study to supply chain sustainability software solutions already on the market.

- **At least 150 employees.**

This Green Quadrant aims to assess the most prominent vendors of supply chain sustainability software. Hence, the study excludes small software providers and start-ups that have only recently entered the market. This benchmark prioritizes software vendors that can provide an enterprise-wide solution. For this reason, we set a threshold of no fewer than 150 employees for participating providers, as an indication of their financial and organizational resources.

- **A global presence.**

To qualify for this study, we required vendors to have a paying customer base of their supply chain sustainability software in a minimum of two of the following regions: Asia, Oceania, Europe, the Middle East and Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, and North America.

Based on the inclusion criteria above, this report evaluated solutions from 15 supply chain sustainability software vendors: 3E, Achilles, Assent, Avetta, Benchmark Gensuite, EcoVadis, EiQ by LRQA, Ethixbase360, IBM, IntegrityNext, iPoint-systems, Position Green, QIMA, Sedex and Sphera. All supply chain sustainability software providers in this study actively participated in an interview and 54-point questionnaire, and all but Ethixbase provided a software demonstration.



Verdantix also considered other emerging vendors in the supply chain sustainability software space, including all organizations featured in the upcoming Smart Innovators report on supply chain sustainability software (see Verdantix Smart Innovators: Supply Chain Sustainability Software), but found that these vendors did not meet our specific inclusion criteria. We excluded vendors offering point solutions focusing on specific supply chain sustainability matters, such as sustainable product and materials traceability – a market which we analyse in the upcoming Smart Innovators report on this subject (see Verdantix Smart Innovators: Sustainable Product And Materials Traceability Software).

## Evaluation criteria

Verdantix defined the evaluation criteria for this Green Quadrant through a combination of corporate survey data and interviews, desk research, discussions with multiple customers, and internal expertise. In full, this Green Quadrant analysis compares offerings from 15 software firms, using a 54-point questionnaire covering nine categories of capabilities and 14 categories of market momentum. Individual metrics are classified as:

- **Capabilities metrics.**

The capabilities dimension, plotted on the vertical axis of the Green Quadrant graphic, measures each software vendor on the breadth and depth of its service approach, differentiators against other software providers and proven experience in each area. Verdantix collected data on 25 capability criteria, representing nine distinct technical capabilities: data acquisition and architecture; data security, quality control and enhancement; supply chain sustainability performance; supply chain sustainability reporting; risk identification and mitigation; third-party risk management; sustainable risk insights; supplier sustainability performance assessments; and supplier engagement, training and management. The Verdantix Green Quadrant considers the evolution of the market and customer requirements to ensure that the weighting of all high-level categories mirrors the importance of the software components to users globally.

- **Momentum metrics.**

The momentum dimension of the analysis, captured on the horizontal axis of the Green Quadrant, measures each vendor on their vision, brand perception, customer base, supplier base, revenue size and partnerships. In total, we assessed 17 categories in 14 areas: vision and strategy; market focus; partnerships; customer size; supplier size; sector focus; customer success; supplier success; user adoption; organizational resources; financial resources; deal structure; distribution by supply chain sustainability software spend size; and geographic penetration.

All sub-criteria were scored between the values of zero ('no capability') and three ('best in class'). Each sub-criteria has a percentage weighting that dictates its contribution to the capability or momentum score. The combination of high-level criteria scores in the capabilities and momentum sections generated the Green Quadrant graphic and rankings. **Figure 2** and **Figure 3** provide details of the study criteria. **Figure 4** and **Figure 5** provide the scoring for all participants in each category. **Figure 6** shows the Green Quadrant graphic summarizing the positioning of all supply chain sustainability software vendors in this benchmark study.



Figure 2

Capabilities criteria for supply chain sustainability software

Capabilities	Questions
<p><b>Data acquisition and architecture (7%)</b></p>	<p>What functionality is available to facilitate data acquisition internally (e.g. data lake, data mining, surveys); externally (e.g. unstructured data, manually entered data, utility data, surveys); and through integration with applications or common sources of ESG supply chain data (e.g. carbon emissions, DEI)? Describe any integrations you have to facilitate the acquisition of ESG supply chain data. What functionality is available to facilitate data acquisition and aggregation for Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions (e.g. supplier questionnaires, data collection workflows)? Please also demonstrate what vertical industry-specific functionality there is. Please provide details on your platform/architecture. Is all of your supply chain sustainability software functionality in one product? On a single platform? Do customers need to upgrade to a new platform to access new functionality?</p>
<p><b>Data security, quality control and enhancement (8%)</b></p>	<p>What data privacy and security credentials and controls do you have? What capabilities does the software have to assess submitted data within reasonable thresholds? How does the software support data verification (document attachments)? Where data are missing, how does the software support the identification of missing entries? What tools does the software have to ensure the auditability of records for organizational users (e.g. timestamping, task monitoring)? How does the software enable external auditors to test data sources and calculations? How does the software enable estimation where primary data are not available? What functionality is available for manual data quality enhancement (i.e. where the data do not match the reporting period)? What AI capabilities support data quality enhancement? Please also demonstrate what vertical industry-specific functionality there is.</p>
<p><b>Supply chain sustainability performance (13%)</b></p>	<p>What functionality is available to set, manage and track sustainability improvement projects against targets within different levels of an organization? What functionality is there to forecast future sustainability performance? Please consider forecasting calculations for emissions/operations scenario planning, as well as the impacts of projects on different ESG metrics in the supply chain. What functionality is in place for customers to benchmark their ESG performance on specific metrics to industry averages and to their competitors?</p>
<p><b>Supply chain sustainability reporting (11%)</b></p>	<p>How does the software align reporting to key supply chain sustainability standards and reporting frameworks, such as the CSDDD and LkSG? Please list any formal accreditations/certifications your software has (e.g. CDP accredited partner, GRI certified partner, EUTR, PEFC, OLB, etc.). Do you have functionality for industry-specific standards? What functionality is in place for the generation of supply chain sustainability reports to communicate sustainability performance to stakeholders and customers based on prescriptive metrics? Do you have any capabilities to pre-populate a report or dashboard?</p>

Figure 2 (continued) ↓



Figure 2 (continued)

<p><b>Risk identification and mitigation (13%)</b></p>	<p>What functionality is in place to visualize relationships across the supply chain network? What functionality is available to manipulate and change organizational structures to reflect changes in supplier networks? What functionality is in place to identify and hotspot lower-tier, high-risk suppliers (including supplier emissions)? What capabilities do you have to support materiality assessments such as those required in the CSRD? What functionality is in place to predict potential risks and impacts and provide recommendations for risk mitigation strategies and what-if scenarios?</p>
<p><b>Third-party risk management (11%)</b></p>	<p>What functionality is in place to evaluate and classify suppliers against ESG metrics? What functionality is there to forecast future supplier sustainability performance in the supply chain? Please consider forecasting calculations for emissions/operations scenario planning, risk assessments, and the impacts of projects on different ESG metrics. What functionality is in place for supplier due diligence, for example, inclusion on sanction lists and watchlists?</p>
<p><b>Sustainable risk insights (13%)</b></p>	<p>What functionality is in place to monitor adverse media, exposure to environmental and climate-related risks, and political risks? What capabilities do you have for real-time data integration from third-party databases and media channels?</p>
<p><b>Supplier sustainability performance assessments (13%)</b></p>	<p>What functionality do you have to design suppliers' metrics against ESG goals and develop supplier scorecards to rate supplier performance against the metrics? What capabilities do you have for monitoring supplier sustainability performance and benchmarking against key ESG indicators? What functionality does the software offer to issue early warnings based on ESG performance to suppliers? What tools does the software have to ensure suppliers' auditability of records (e.g. timestamping, task monitoring)? Does the software facilitate auditing?</p>
<p><b>Supplier engagement, training and management (11%)</b></p>	<p>What tools does the software have to offer suppliers resources and training on sustainability best practices and compliance? What functionality do you offer to improve engagement with suppliers (e.g. shared platform access, chat exchanges)? What certifications do you offer and support for sustainability-aligned/ambitious suppliers? What functionality do you offer to allow customers to set corrective actions for suppliers? What functionality or tools do you provide for suppliers to engage in the reporting process (e.g. data entry, data collection, data/report viewing)? What capabilities do you provide to support supplier onboarding? In how many languages is the platform available for suppliers?</p>

Source: Verdantix analysis



Figure 3

Momentum criteria for supply chain sustainability software

Momentum	Questions
<b>Vision and strategy (10%)</b>	<p>What is your firm's vision for the target customers/addressable market opportunity you seek to target over the next 5 years (industries, geographies, revenue-size customers, functional budget-holders, functional solutions, etc.)? How do you intend to achieve the vision? What is your firm's strategy to meet the needs of your target customers over the next 5 years?</p> <p>How will you fund your strategy and ensure long-term viability? What do you perceive to be your main differentiators? What is your supply chain sustainability product strategy for the next 18-24 months? What is your firm's strategy for investing in R&amp;D for your supply chain sustainability product? What is your innovation and R&amp;D strategy to remain at the forefront of supply chain sustainability software?</p>
<b>Market focus (5%)</b>	<p>What percentage of your company's overall revenue is from services? What percentage is from supply chain sustainability software?</p>
<b>Partnerships (7%)</b>	<p>Please describe any supply chain sustainability software partners, and the nature of the partnerships, such as third-party content providers, implementation partners or other organizations that contribute to your firm's supply chain sustainability product ecosystem and delivery. How often do you bring partners into supply chain sustainability management deals? How often do partners bring you into supply chain sustainability management deals? What percentage of supply chain sustainability management deals involved a consulting partner either in terms of sales or implementation?</p>
<b>Customer size (8%)</b>	<p>How many supply chain sustainability software clients do you have? How many firms with revenues above \$10bn have deployed your supply chain sustainability software? How many firms with revenues above \$1bn but less than \$10bn have deployed your supply chain sustainability software? How many firms with revenues between \$250m and \$1bn have deployed your supply chain sustainability software? How many firms with revenues below \$250m have deployed your supply chain sustainability software?</p>
<b>Supplier size (7%)</b>	<p>What is the total number of suppliers included in the platform? How many suppliers are paying users of the platform? How many suppliers with revenues above \$5bn use your supply chain sustainability software? How many suppliers with revenues above \$1bn but less than \$5bn use your supply chain sustainability software? How many suppliers with revenues above \$250m but less than \$1bn use your supply chain sustainability software? How many suppliers with revenues less than \$250m use your supply chain sustainability software?</p>
<b>Sector focus (6%)</b>	<p>Please indicate what percentage of your customers are in the following industry sectors: manufacturing, retail, transport, extractives, pharma &amp; healthcare, construction, agriculture, finance &amp; insurance, utilities.</p>
<b>Customer success (12%)</b>	<p>How do you measure customer satisfaction? What is your Net Promoter Score or similar? Describe your available resources and strategy to manage customer relationships (e.g. dedicated account rep, sales, service, support relationships). What customer services do you offer to your customers (e.g. support, training, implementation)?</p>

Figure 3 (continued) ↓



Figure 3 (continued)

<b>Supplier success (11%)</b>	What is the response rate of suppliers requested to provide sustainability information? Describe your available resources and strategy to manage supplier relationships (platform training, support relationships).
<b>User adoption (5%)</b>	What is the total number of users of your supply chain sustainability software across all clients? Among enterprises that deployed your supply chain sustainability software, what is the average number of frequent users (i.e. users who frequently use the system) with each customer? Among suppliers that use your supply chain sustainability software, what is the average number of frequent users (i.e. users who frequently use the system) with each customer?
<b>Organizational resources (5%)</b>	How many employees does your firm have? How many employees are dedicated to your supply chain sustainability product? In which countries do you have an office? Consider all functions (e.g. sales, marketing, development).
<b>Financial resources (8%)</b>	How much external funding has your firm secured in the last 2 years? What were your firm's total revenues in the last financial year? By how much did your firm's total supply chain sustainability software revenues grow in the most recent reporting year compared with the year prior? What percentage of one-year supply chain sustainability software revenue growth was organic? What percentage of one-year supply chain sustainability software revenue growth was inorganic by acquisition?
<b>Deal structure (5%)</b>	What is the average contract length (in years) for subscription deals signed? Provide an overview of your pricing model (subscription – monthly fee, subscription – annual fee, licence-based, per user, per site, enterprise, etc.). What was your average deal size for your supply chain sustainability software? Of the total deal size, what percentage was for services? Please identify the types of services included in the deal.
<b>Distribution by supply chain sustainability software spend size (6%)</b>	Among your total paying supply chain sustainability software customer base, how many customers spend over \$100k annually? How many customers spend over \$50k and less than \$100k annually? How many customers spend less than \$50k annually? Please detail the average dollar increase and percentage increase in contract size among upsells.
<b>Geographic penetration (5%)</b>	Please provide a breakdown of your supply chain sustainability software paying customer base across the following geographic regions: Asia, Oceania, Europe, the Middle East and Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, North America.

Source: Verdantix analysis



Figure 4

Vendor category scores: capabilities

	3E	Achilles	Assent	Avetta	Benchmark Gensuite	EcoVadis	EQ by LRQA	Ethixbase360	IBM	IntegrityNext	iPoint-systems	Position Green	QIMA	Sedex	Sphera
Data acquisition and architecture	1.7	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.3	2.7	2.7	1.7	2.3	2.4	2.0	1.7	2.4	2.4	2.3
Data security, quality control and enhancement	2.6	2.5	2.0	2.4	2.3	2.2	1.7	2.0	2.8	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.2	1.8	2.0
Supply chain sustainability performance	0.7	2.0	1.6	2.0	3.0	2.3	1.3	1.3	2.4	2.6	1.4	1.6	0.9	0.5	2.6
Supply chain sustainability reporting	1.6	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.6	2.0	1.6	1.4	2.0	2.0	1.6	2.0	1.6	2.0	2.6
Risk identification and mitigation	1.3	2.0	2.0	2.7	1.7	2.3	2.0	1.0	2.7	2.7	1.7	1.4	2.0	2.0	2.7
Third-party risk management	1.0	3.0	2.0	3.0	2.4	3.0	2.3	2.0	1.4	2.7	0.7	1.3	1.4	2.0	2.0
Sustainable risk insights	1.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	0.0	1.0	3.0	2.0	3.0
Supplier sustainability performance assessments	1.0	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.0	2.0	2.3	2.0	1.7	2.7	1.3	1.3	2.3	2.0	2.3
Supplier engagement, training and management	1.7	3.0	2.4	3.0	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.0	1.3	2.0	1.4	1.0	2.0	2.0	2.0

Scoring framework	
Evidence of market-leading functionality or positioning	3
Evidence of strong, above-par functionality or positioning	2
Evidence of on-par functionality or positioning	1
Lack of evidence, or evidence of sub-par or a lack of functionality or positioning	0
<i>Verdantix research teams determine all scores at either sub-criteria level (for capabilities) or criteria level (for momentum), using the scoring framework above. These assessed scores are then weighted and compiled into derived scores at criteria or capability/momentum level.</i>	

Source: Verdantix analysis



Figure 5

Vendor category scores: momentum

	3E	Achilles	Assent	Avetta	Benchmark Gensuife	EcoVadis	EQ by LRQA	Ethixbase360	IBM	IntegrityNext	iPoint-systems	Position Green	QIMA	Sedex	Sphera
Vision and strategy	2.5	2.0	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.0	1.5	2.5	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.5	2.0	2.5
Market focus	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.0	2.0	1.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.0	2.0	2.0
Partnerships	2.0	1.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	3.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	3.0	1.0	3.0
Customer size	1.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.0	3.0	1.0	2.0	0.0	2.0	1.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	3.0
Supplier size	2.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	2.0	3.0	3.0	2.0	0.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	2.0	2.0	3.0
Sector focus	2.0	3.0	2.0	2.0	1.0	1.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	2.0	2.0	1.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
Customer success	2.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	1.0	1.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
Supplier success	2.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	2.0	1.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
User adoption	2.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	2.0	3.0	2.0	2.0	0.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	3.0
Organizational resources	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	3.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	3.0	1.0	2.0
Financial resources	1.0	1.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.0	1.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	1.0	2.0	1.0	2.0
Deal structure	1.0	1.6	2.0	2.0	1.0	1.6	1.4	1.4	1.0	1.6	2.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	2.0
Distribution by supply chain sustainability software spend size	1.4	0.9	1.9	1.3	1.4	1.8	1.5	1.4	1.6	1.5	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	2.2
Geographic penetration	1.0	1.0	1.0	2.0	1.0	1.0	3.0	2.0	2.0	1.0	2.0	1.0	2.0	2.0	2.0

Scoring framework	
Evidence of market-leading functionality or positioning	3
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Source: Verdantix analysis



Figure 6

### Green Quadrant for supply chain sustainability software 2024



## Capabilities

This dimension measures each provider on the breadth and depth of its supply chain sustainability software offering across nine technical capability areas, as outlined in **Figure 4**.

## Momentum

This dimension measures each software provider on 14 market momentum categories, as outlined in **Figure 5**.

Source: Verdantix analysis



# Avetta overview

## Information

Founded in 2003, Avetta is a provider of supply chain sustainability, health and safety, business risk and cyber security risk management solutions. Avetta offers Avetta One, a supply chain management platform with AI-enabled tools, embedded services and third-party verifications, to help firms manage ESG risk and performance across the supply chain. In 2024 EQT Private Equity acquired Avetta to develop its supply chain sustainability product and services offering for buyers and suppliers.

### Vendor info

<b>Firm name</b>	Avetta
<b>Headquarters</b>	Lehi, UT, US
<b>Employees</b>	800+
<b>Revenues</b>	Not disclosed
<b>No. of offices</b>	13
<b>Example customers</b>	Boeing, Cushman & Wakefield, Pacific National

### Customer regional presence

Asia	
Oceania	
Europe	
Middle East and Africa	
Latin America and the Caribbean	
North America	

#### % Customer base

○ 0%    ◐ <10%    ◑ 10%-25%    ◒ 25%-50%    ● above 50%

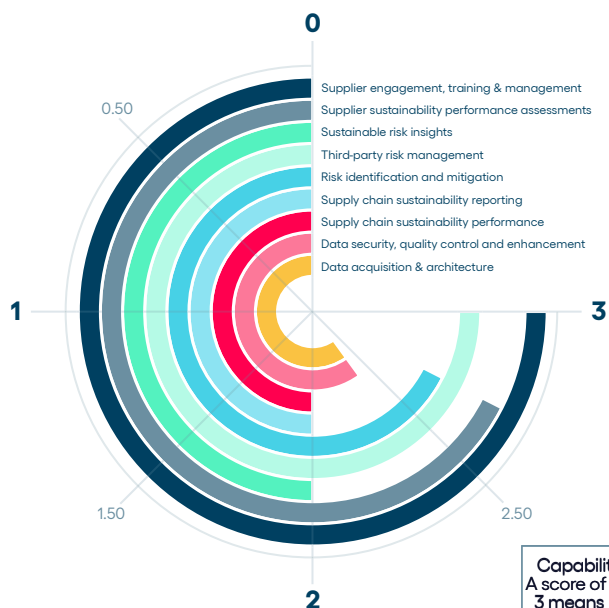
### Avetta's top three industry penetration

1. Real estate

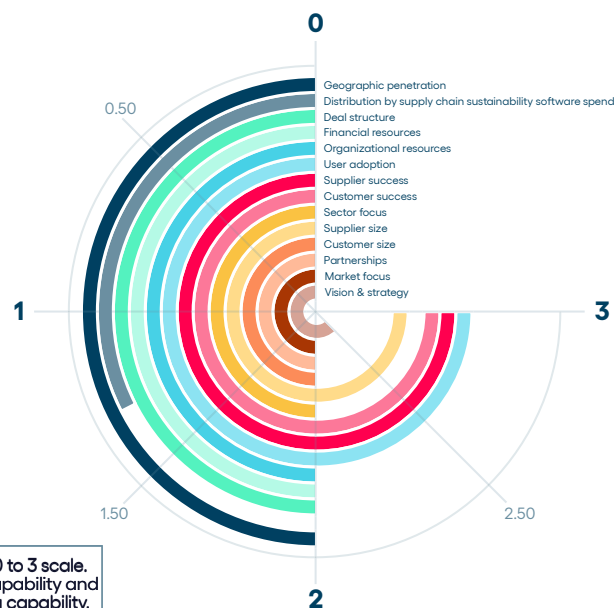
2. Utilities

3. Manufacturing

### Capability scores



### Momentum scores



Capability scores on a 0 to 3 scale. A score of 0 means no capability and 3 means market-leading capability.



## Analyst insight: Avetta offers configurable ESG performance assessment based on supplier attributes

The Green Quadrant analysis finds that Avetta offers:

- **Insights into suppliers' ESG performance and risk exposure.**

Avetta scored 3.0/3.0 for third-party risk management, thanks to its ability to offer customers granular insights into suppliers' ESG risk and validate performance using AI and sustainability audits. For example, Avetta's ESG mapping patent combines ML (machine learning) and human expertise to enhance visibility across the supply chain and adapt suppliers' assessments to fit their risk profiles. This reduces supplier fatigue and enables customers to prioritize relevant questions based on the buyer, and on the supplier's unique attributes relating to industry, location and ESG maturity.

- **Real-time monitoring of suppliers' inclusion on compliance and sanction lists.**

Avetta centres its supply chain sustainability solutions around ESG risk mitigation and supplier engagements. The firm scored 2.0/3.0 for sustainable risk insights, reflecting its ability to monitor over 200 compliance and sanction sources to identify supplier risk and track performance against human rights and environmental standards. However, Avetta could further enhance its offering by including real-time monitoring of external environmental, social and geopolitical events, offering customers climate risk and sentiment monitoring capabilities that support supply chain adaptability and resilience to adverse events.

- **Integrated EHS, ESG and business risk solutions to drive suppliers' ESG performance.**

The Avetta One platform integrates EHS and ESG factors into supply chain risk management, making it valuable for firms seeking support to incorporate sustainable practices in their supply chains. In addition, Avetta's platform creates a marketplace where suppliers can access maturity training and tools to improve their ESG performance. For example, the firm's partnership with Workiva Carbon helps suppliers manage and report carbon emissions, while its alliance with Cloverly supports suppliers in becoming carbon-neutral. Avetta will therefore prove valuable for firms seeking a solution to reduce ESG risk in the supply chain while ensuring their suppliers have the resources to report ESG performance accurately.



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