

# Streamlining sustainability reporting

How Thomas Foods International  
slashed the time taken to submit to the CDP

Emitwise<sup>©</sup>



# The challenge

## Making reporting manageable

Thomas Foods USA is a meat processing company that imports meat from around the world and prepares it for food retailers. Sustainability is important in this space for a number of reasons.

First, meat is a product with a high greenhouse gas intensity, but this intensity can vary wildly, especially as you adjust the upstream supply chain.

Secondly, there's a low-profit margin so any efficiencies you can find in production can have a sizeable impact on the company's bottom line.

Emitwise 

Thirdly, it's what customers are demanding. Large retailers like Walmart are under significant pressure to decarbonise and they're passing that on to their suppliers.

After being asked to submit to both the CDP and Walmart's Project Gigaton - an initiative to reduce scope 3 emissions in Walmart's value chain - Jonathan began looking for ways to drive efficiencies in these applications.



**I joined Thomas Foods at a time when we needed to report our sustainability in order to meet customer expectations. But I knew from experience that without a centralised system to manage this, reporting becomes a time and resource sink.**

Jonathan Reinbold, Sustainability Director,  
Thomas Foods USA

# The solution

## Carbon management powered by technology

Jonathan ultimately decided to work with Emitwise, a carbon management platform, to help centralise and streamline sustainability reporting.

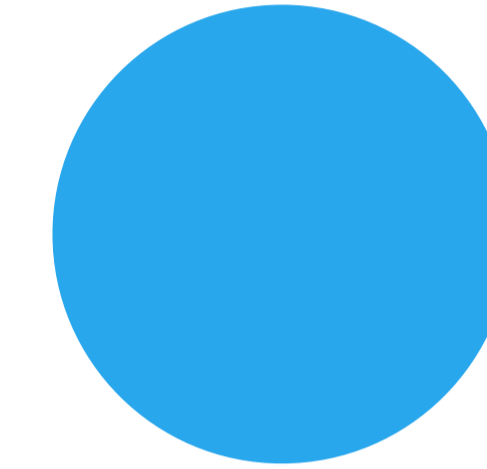
“The quantitative sections of the CDP application are particularly time-consuming,” says Jonathan. “Manual calculations take a long time and open you up to concerns over data accuracy. The automation functionality in Emitwise helps address both of these issues and gives me the time to focus on other work.”

When it comes to the application forms themselves, inputting data has been significantly streamlined.



For three or four of the CDP sections, I can just generate a CDP-optimised report in the Emitwise platform, open the CDP application, and directly drop it in there. It makes the process very straightforward.”

Jonathan Reinbold, Sustainability Director, Thomas Foods USA



## Faster reporting

It takes TFI 50% less time to report the CDP.

## Automated accuracy

Minimised reporting inaccuracies with automation.

## Centralised data

Centralised data for all reporting types.

## Bonus

Carbon reduction has become a performance metric.

# The results

## Carbon has become a performance metric

Jonathan estimates that the automation in Emitwise cuts the time it normally takes him to submit to the CDP by 50%.

“Compared to the last time I manually worked on Thomas Food’s application to the CDP, using Emitwise has helped me do it in half the time,” he says. “Obviously that’s significant ROI in terms of my labour and productivity.”

Jonathan is now using Emitwise to align with Walmart’s Project Gigaton, where they must set emission reduction targets and report on them over time: “Project Gigaton requires a lot of information internally from Thomas Foods, which has been fairly easy to gather, but also external information from our suppliers,

which is more challenging. Being able to centralise all this fragmented data in one platform has been really helpful for the company’s oversight.”

Now that Jonathan has aggregated this data and visualised it in the Emitwise platform, Thomas Foods is taking action to tackle carbon hotspots.

“We’re taking this emissions data and turning it into performance metrics that we can target,” he explains. “Whether it’s energy efficiency or waste reduction, the fact that we can see where those hotspots are allows us to develop strategies with the appropriate individuals to improve those metrics.”

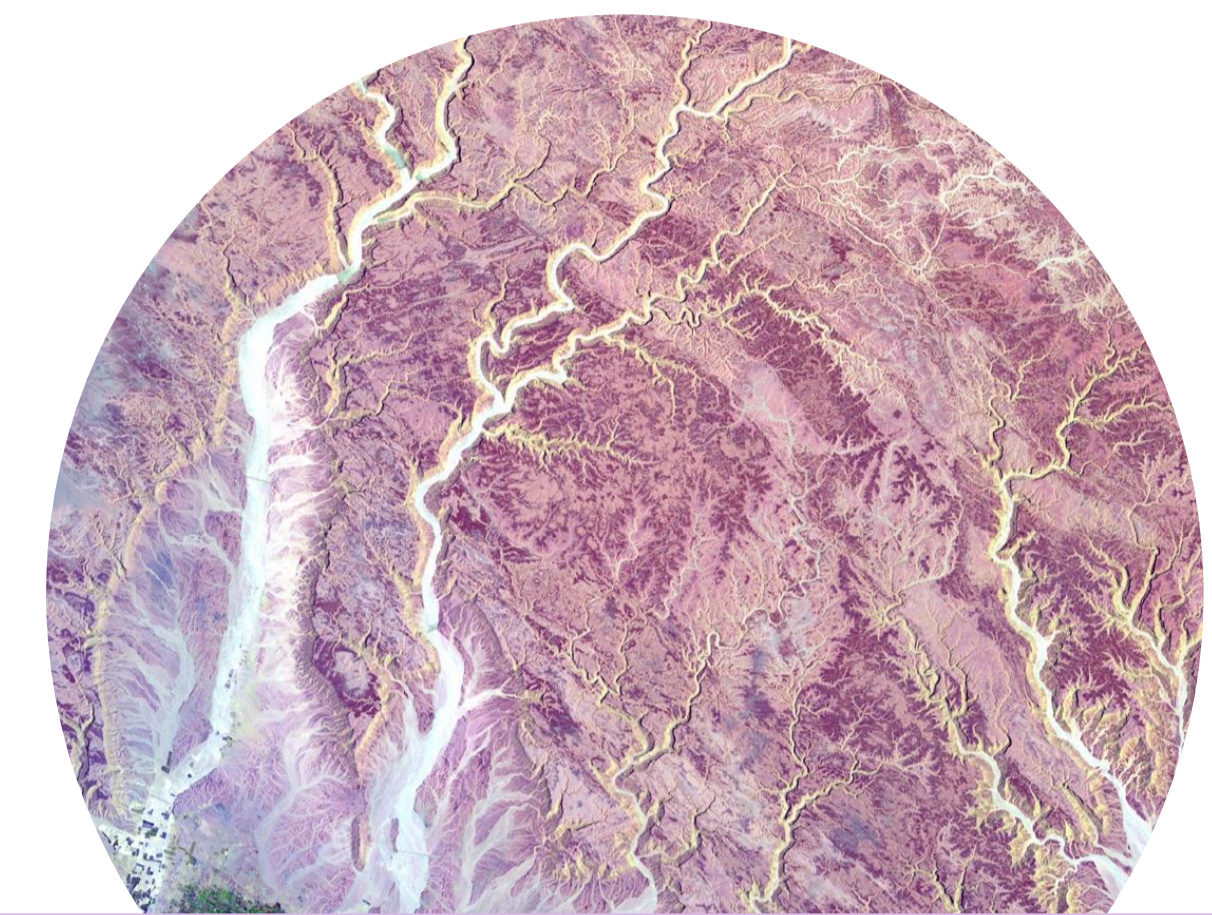
# What lies ahead for Thomas Foods and the meat industry?

Jonathan champions the idea that companies in the meat sector should be proactive and take the lead when it comes to sustainability, but too many are dragging their feet.



We're a comparatively small company in the space. Our size allows us to be agile and focus on the sustainability priorities of customers and consumers. Thomas Foods is a partner that helps customers meet their own sustainability goals by finding solutions to shared problems."

Jonathan Reinbold, Sustainability Director, Thomas Foods USA



**Thank you  
for reading**

Our carbon story

**Emitwise** 