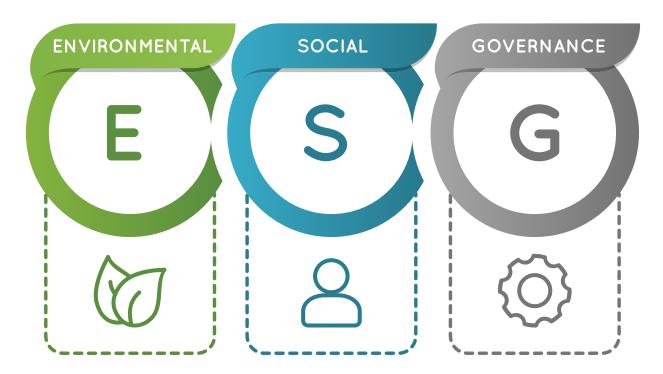


Sustainability and IT innovation: How Axians Italia transformed a technological refresh into an ESG opportunity

THE MARKET CONTEXT

In the banking and finance industry, reliability, security, and regulatory compliance of IT infrastructures are essential factors to ensure business continuity and protection of sensitive data. To maintain high standards of efficiency and respond to the continuous regulatory and technological evolutions, financial institutions must constantly update their infrastructure, with significant impacts on both costs and management of decommissioned IT assets. For this reason, more and more

companies in the sector are adopting models based on on a circular economy, implementing strategies that optimise the cycle of IT infrastructures and align with ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance). In this context, Axians Italia has been chosen by an important company in the financial sector as a trusted partner for the renewal of its Datacenter infrastructure. The aim was not only to improve resilience and performance of the infrastructure, but also to adopt a sustainable approach, reducing operating costs and environmental impact.



THE CHALLENGE: RENEWING THE INFRASTRUCTURE FROM AN ESG PERSPECTIVE

The customer needed to **renew their Cisco ACI Control infrastructure**, at the end of its life cycle, ensuring operational continuity and high performance. However in addition to technological updating, it was essential to:

- Reduce environmental impact by avoiding indiscriminate disposal of obsolete hardware
- Optimize operating costs, minimizing disposal costs and achieving Economic benefits
- Integrate ESG principles, adopting a more sustainable IT management model.
 The main challenge was therefore to combine innovation and sustainability, transforming the technological refresh process into an opportunity for strategic improvement.

THE SOLUTION: THE CISCO TAKEBACK AND REUSE PROGRAM

Axians Italia proposed to the customer to join the **Cisco Takeback and Reuse Program,** an initiative that allows you to return hardware to the end of its life without additional costs, obtaining **an extra discount on the purchase of new equipment.**

Thanks to this program, 99.9% of the equipment returned is reused or recycled, ensuring safe and sustainable disposal.

The main benefits obtained by the customer were:

- Reduced disposal costs and improved operating efficiency
- Access to economic incentives, thanks to the discounts offered by the program
- Alignment with ESG objectives, reducing the environmental impact of the cycle of hardware life.



THE ADVANTAGES AND BENEFITS OBTAINED

The adoption of the Cisco Takeback and Reuse Program has generated a positive impact on several levels:

- Economic benefits: reduction of operating costs and access to dedicated discounts
- **Environmental sustainability:** 99.9% of returned hardware is reused or recycled
- **Better ESG governance:** integration of circular economy strategies in IT processes.

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CUSTOMER FEEDBACK

"Thanks to the collaboration with Axians Italia, we have managed to renew our infrastructure network with a solution which has not only improved performance, but has also strengthened our commitment to sustainability. The program of Cisco has enabled us to reduce costs and to adopt a more responsible approach within the management of our IT hardware."



FUTURE PROSPECTS

Given the results obtained, the customer is considering extending this strategy to other areas of its infrastructure IT initiatives, exploring further initiatives to circular economy and optimization Resource. Axians Italy will continue to support the customer in identifying the most effective solutions for IT sustainable and high-performance.

With the right approach, companies and Organizations can optimize IT resources, reduce costs and actively contribute to a more sustainable future.

