

CARBMEE | ZF

# Carbon Border Tax: Turning Challenges into Strategic Wins

ZF's Journey with CBAM and carbon pricing through cross-functional collaboration, structural integration, and carbmee's cutting-edge carbon management software.

## THE CHALLENGE

The EU's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) prices CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for carbon-intensive goods entering the EU to discourage shifting production to less strict countries and level manufacturing competition. With CO<sub>2</sub>e costs at €80/ton and expected to rise to €200/ton by 2035 amid EU-ETS allowances phase-out, companies must now report detailed quarterly emission data or face penalties of €10-€50/ton. Global automotive tier-1 ZF, operating in over 50 countries. With more than 40 legal entities, ZF thus needed a solution to comply with the CBAM regulation in an efficient manner.

## THE SOLUTION

ZF, addressing CBAM's challenges and the rising costs of CO<sub>2</sub> pricing, sought a partner not just for compliance but for advancing decarbonization. They chose carbmee, a carbon management software provider, for its ability to integrate customs and procurement data seamlessly, facilitating CBAM-compliant supplier collaboration. Carbmee's solution offers comprehensive data management and processing, plus powerful analytics dashboards for deep supply chain analysis. This partnership transcends mere regulatory compliance, placing ZF and carbmee at the innovation forefront of industrial decarbonization, leveraging software technology for sustainable growth and strategic planning.

## THE OUTCOME

Despite the complexity of the regulations and the short deadlines for compliance, all CBAM deadlines were met by the first reporting deadline of January 31, 2024. Through a series of joint workshops and regular communication, all stakeholders from customs, purchasing, sustainability, etc. in ZF's various legal entities were involved and more than 40 CBAM reports were submitted to the respective EU register. The teams are currently setting up the process models to regulate CBAM and ensure quarterly reporting.

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## CARBMEE

WEBSITE  
[carbmee.com](https://carbmee.com)

FOUNDED  
2021

HEADQUARTERS  
Berlin, Germany

NO. OF EMPLOYEES  
50+



## Carbmee measures, reports, and reduces carbon emissions to achieve the net zero goals faster.

carbmee EIS™ carbon management platform is compliant with all international standards and provides an automated and holistic calculation of carbon footprints on a product, company, and supply chain level. This is achieved by combining Carbon Accounting, Product Carbon Footprints (LCA), and supply chain emissions (scope 3).

## ABOUT STARTUP AUTOBAHN

STARTUP AUTOBAHN powered by Plug and Play is an open innovation platform that provides an interface between innovative tech companies and industry-leading corporations. The basis of the program is the partnership that develops between startups and the corporate business units. The two entities hold an equal footing from the get-go: together they evaluate the potential for a joint venture, move forward to pilot the technology, and work to achieve the ultimate goal – a successful production-ready implementation. Designed with the intention to exceed startup acceleration, STARTUP AUTOBAHN powered by Plug and Play moderates a community for collaboration with a focus on implementable results. Over the years, the platform has successfully cultivated over 400 projects with more than 300 startups since its founding in 2016.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to express our sincere thanks to the ZF and carbmee teams.

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