

# SUSTAINABILITY THROUGH THE POWER OF RENTAL



## HOW THE SHARING ECONOMY REDUCES EMISSIONS AND COSTS FOR FACILITIES

Environmental legislation, corporate business, and social responsibility agendas are increasing their focus on reducing operational emissions. Facilities have found themselves continually facing mounting pressure to operate more sustainably while maintaining performance and controlling costs. With building energy use forecasted to double by 2035 and triple by 2050<sup>2</sup>, the need for emissions reduction is more urgent than ever.

The challenge is complex, but even LEED-certified facilities can improve their impact through the right equipment choices for daily tasks, planned maintenance, and unplanned emergencies. That's why some of the world's most sustainable businesses are turning to the rental model. By participating in the sharing economy for equipment, facilities can access the latest low-to-zero emissions technology without a capital investment and can right-size solutions to match actual demand rather than maximum capacity. This approach can deliver a reduction in emissions while simultaneously reducing operational costs.



**THE RENTAL MODEL CAN DELIVER 30% TO 50% CARBON REDUCTION COMPARED TO EQUIPMENT OWNERSHIP<sup>1</sup>.**



1. European Rental Association and Climate Neutral Group, 2019: Carbon Footprint of Construction Equipment

2. International Energy Agency (IEA), 2025: Energy Snapshot. <https://www.iea.org/newsletters/energy-snapshot/21-07-2025-2/how-much-energy-do-buildings-use>

# UNDERSTANDING YOUR IMPACT

## How renting can help you lower scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions

To effectively address your facility's operational emissions, it's essential to understand where they come from and where you have the most control. Choosing low-to-zero emissions rental equipment and participating in the sharing economy allows facilities to achieve measurable reductions in the emissions they control most directly: Scope 1 emissions.

## WHAT ARE SCOPE 1, 2, AND 3 EMISSIONS<sup>1</sup>?



### SCOPE 1: DIRECT EMISSIONS

These come from fuels directly consumed by your facility for operations: generators, forklifts, maintenance equipment, and other fuel-burning assets you control. This is where rental decisions have the greatest impact.



### SCOPE 2: INDIRECT EMISSIONS FROM ENERGY

These come from purchased electricity from utility companies. While important, facilities typically have less direct control over these emissions in the short term.



### SCOPE 3: INDIRECT SUPPLY CHAIN EMISSIONS

These come from fuel consumed indirectly through sources like product transport and the broader supply chain. These are the most challenging to measure and control.



## AN INVESTMENT IN INNOVATION

Approximately 20% of Sunbelt Rentals' fleet is already powered by alternatives to traditional diesel power, including battery, electric, and hybrid options. With one of the most modern fleets of rental equipment in the industry, many of the fleet's diesel-powered solutions also meet the most stringent emissions standards<sup>2</sup>.

1. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), 2025: Scopes 1, 2 and 3 Emissions Inventorying and Guidance. <https://www.epa.gov/climateleadership/scopes-1-2-and-3-emissions-inventorying-and-guidance>

2. Ashtead Group, 2025. Runway 4 Success: Annual Report & Accounts 2025.

# THE RENTAL ADVANTAGE

## How the sharing economy maximizes efficiency and minimizes emissions

The sharing economy for equipment operates on a simple principle: resources used efficiently by many create less environmental impact than resources owned individually and left idle. When facilities own equipment that sits unused 70-80% of the time, they bear the full environmental cost of manufacturing, maintenance, and disposal, but only capture a fraction of its productive potential.

Rental equipment serves four to five times as many users compared to owned equipment. Consider embodied carbon, which is the term the industry uses to describe the emissions from the manufacturing, transportation, installation, maintenance, and disposal of equipment<sup>1</sup>. Whether a forklift operates 200 hours per year or 2,000 hours, manufacturing emissions remain the same. But when divided across 2,000 hours instead of 200, the per-hour environmental impact drops by 90%.



## THREE WAYS RENTING CAN HELP REDUCE EMISSIONS

1

### ACCESS TO LATEST TECHNOLOGY

No capital investment required for the newest efficient equipment. Rental providers continuously invest in low-to-zero emissions technology, giving you access to innovations like battery-electric equipment and hybrid power solutions.

2

### RIGHT-SIZED EQUIPMENT

Oversized owned equipment wastes fuel even at partial load. Expert consultation ensures proper equipment sizing to match actual demand rather than maximum capacity.

3

### REDUCED EXPENSES

Beyond just the environmental benefits, renting eliminates the hidden costs of ownership: ongoing maintenance, storage space, insurance, depreciation, and disposal expenses. When equipment becomes obsolete due to technological advances, a new owned unit will require capital expenditure for replacement.

Renting turns these fixed costs into variable expenses, so you only pay during productive use.

1. Carbon Leadership Forum: Embodied Carbon 101. <https://carbonleadershipforum.org/embodied-carbon-101-v2/>

# LOW-TO-ZERO EMISSIONS EQUIPMENT

## Access advanced technology without the capital investment

The term “low-to-zero emissions” refers to equipment that produces zero operational emissions or zero in-use emissions, but not zero lifecycle emissions. All equipment has some embodied carbon from manufacturing and eventual disposal. However, these advanced solutions eliminate the direct emissions from your facility operations. With our team of problem solvers, Sunbelt Rentals can help you secure the right equipment for any job.



### BATTERY-POWERED MINI-EXCAVATORS

100% battery-powered excavators maneuver into any application without restriction. By removing the need for a combustion engine, noise levels are significantly reduced while delivering zero operational emissions.



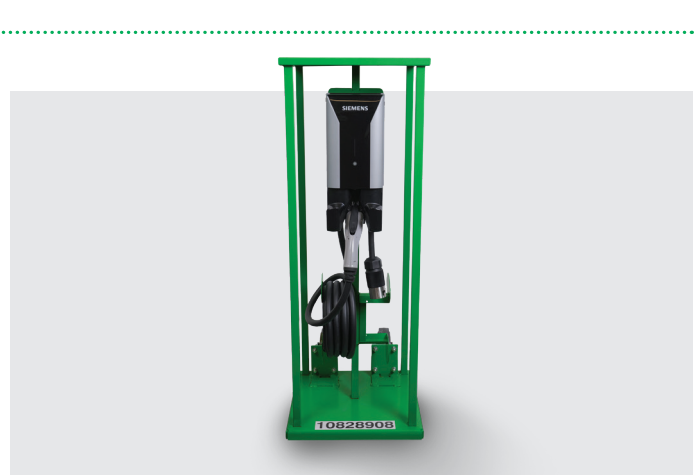
### ALL-ELECTRIC SKID STEERS

All-electric skid steers stand out as powerful machines driven solely by electricity. Offering quiet and emissions-free operation, these loaders are suitable for both indoor and outdoor use with no compromise on performance.



### ALL-ELECTRIC SCISSOR LIFTS

All-electric scissor lifts are ideal for environments where clean operation and productivity are essential. These units produce zero operational emissions, eliminate hydraulic fluid leaks, and operate quietly for occupied buildings with indoor/outdoor versatility.



### EV CHARGING

Whether charging electrified equipment or electric vehicles, EV chargers offer a fast-charging experience for the most commercially viable solution that meets your specific needs. These systems support the transition to electric fleets and equipment.

# LOW-TO-ZERO EMISSIONS EQUIPMENT

Access advanced technology without the capital investment



## BATTERY-POWERED TELEHANDLERS AND FORKLIFTS

Battery-powered telehandlers and forklifts open possibilities to operate wherever and whenever needed. These units produce zero in-use operational emissions with significantly reduced noise levels. 24kWh batteries power telehandlers through full-day operations on a single charge, with 110v or 220v on-board charging options.




## SOLAR AND HYBRID LIGHT TOWERS

Solar light towers feature long-lasting LED technology with low-to-zero emissions. Remote monitoring and efficient battery management help reduce fuel consumption, while automatic on/off programming eliminates daily management needs. Hybrid options ensure performance during extended cloudy periods.



## BATTERY-POWERED TOOLS

These small tools offer efficient solutions with zero operational emissions, reduced noise, and enhanced portability. They eliminate cords and hoses that create trip hazards while providing consistent power delivery across categories from concrete and masonry to cutting and demolition equipment.



**SPOT THE LEAF ICON**

While searching [our website for equipment](#), look for the leaf icon or set filters to view Low-to-Zero emissions products.



# INNOVATIVE POWER SOLUTIONS

## Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) and Energy Management as a Service (EMaaS™)

### BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS (BESS)

Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) offer versatile and efficient energy solutions for wide ranges of applications. These systems can function as standalone power sources or work in conjunction with generators to provide clean, on-demand, temporary power. Unlike generators, BESS units don't generate power; instead, they store energy in charged batteries to provide power when needed, making them silent, fuel-free, and emissions-free. Advanced monitoring systems track all performance metrics through built-in telemetry, enabling informed decisions about energy usage and optimization.

### ENERGY MANAGEMENT AS A SERVICE (EMaaS™)

Sunbelt Rentals provides temporary energy management services that combine anticipated load data with appropriately sized rental equipment for optimal, sustainable solutions. Our EMaaS™ approach offers:

- Optimized power utilization
- Reduced emissions and operational costs
- Enhanced reliability through increased redundancy
- Flexible solutions adapting to evolving site needs
- Seamless microgrid integration

#### POWER SOURCES



Grid



Portable



Solar



Wind

## BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM (BESS)



#### POWER CONSUMERS



Electric Vehicle and Electric Equipment Charging



Project Site Power



Electric Tools and Equipment



Entertainment



### NOT SURE HOW MUCH POWER YOU NEED?

Our experts work with you to plan optimal power for your exact specifications.

# REAL-WORLD IMPACT

## How BESS units helped cut data center construction fuel and emissions

### THE CHALLENGE

A large Midwestern contractor sought a more sustainable approach to building a mission-critical data center, aiming to reduce both fuel consumption and operational emissions.

### THE SOLUTION

Sunbelt Rentals provided a range of electric equipment for their pilot program, including skid-steer loaders, scissor lifts, manlifts, excavators, and solar-powered light towers. We also installed Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) coupled with generators for hybrid power solutions to power office spaces, cafeterias, rest rooms, guard shacks, and lighted parking areas for their 1,000+ person operation.

### THE RESULTS

During the six-month pilot period, the contractor reported substantial savings in generator runtime and preventive maintenance service as well as reduced fuel use and operational emissions. This meant that power management with BESS not only contributed to the project’s sustainability goals but also helped them realize significant time and cost savings.

[VIEW THE FULL CASE STUDY >](#)



### DATA CENTER PROJECT BY THE NUMBERS\*

#### Generator runtime reductions

- Hours saved: **39,825**
- Percentage saved: **82%**

#### Preventive maintenance reductions

- Gallons of oil saved: **400**
- PM services avoided: **130**
- Hours of service work saved: **400**
- PM service cost savings: **\$43,521**

#### Fuel use reductions

- Fuel saved: **34,026 gallons**
- Percentage saved: **82%**

#### CO<sub>2</sub> reductions

- Emissions saved: **231,305 kg**
- Percentage saved: **88%**

*\*Emissions and savings figures are estimates based on reported data and standard conversion factors; actual results may vary.*



# YOUR PARTNER IN SUSTAINABLE OPERATIONS

Sunbelt Rentals delivers innovative solutions and support 24/7



Sunbelt Rentals is dedicated to achieving Net Zero greenhouse gas emissions for our Scope 1 and 2 emissions by 2050, with an interim goal to reduce Scope 1 and 2 emissions on an intensity basis by 50% by 2034 from a 2024 baseline<sup>1</sup>.

This commitment drives continuous investment in our low-to-zero emissions fleet, ensuring you have access to the latest technology that helps you meet your sustainability goals. We partner with equipment manufacturers to accelerate innovation, making advanced solutions available through rental rather than requiring capital investment.

Whatever your facility type or business sector, our team has the expertise and equipment to help you achieve measurable emissions reductions while controlling costs.

*1. Ashtead Group, 2025. Runway 4 Success: Annual Report & Accounts 2025*

## ONE SOURCE FOR ALL YOUR NEEDS

Sunbelt Rentals is a single source for nearly everything you need to keep your facility running. By consolidating your sourcing contacts, you can spend less time on approving invoices and more time focusing on your facility.

### Working with us provides:

- Competitive rates
- Dedicated customer support
- 24/7 emergency response service
- Unmatched inventory across all rental solutions



## DEVELOP YOUR SUSTAINABLE FACILITY STRATEGY TODAY

Looking to reduce your facility's in-use emissions and operating costs? Our team has the expertise and equipment to help you achieve your sustainability goals.

**Contact a rental expert or visit [sunbeltrentals.com](https://www.sunbeltrentals.com) to find out what we can do for you.**