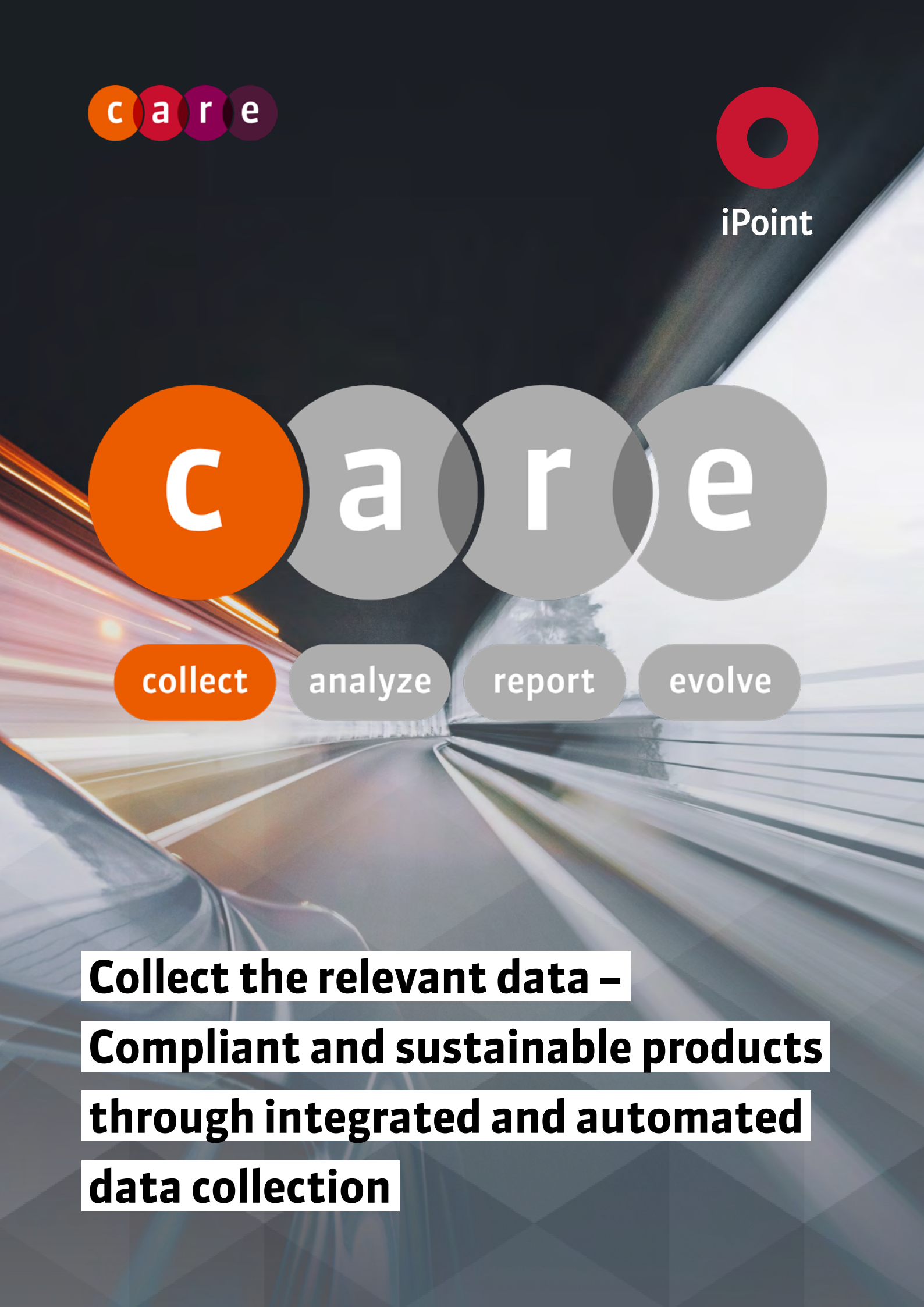

Collect the relevant data – Compliant and sustainable products through integrated and automated data collection

care

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To achieve your company's sustainability and compliance goals, you need to control the complex and dynamic factors that impact them. iPoint provides the transparency you need to simplify compliance, sustainability and risk management. This requires taking 4 steps: **collect** the relevant data and **analyze** the relations and impacts in order to **report** the right information to the relevant stakeholders and **evolve** the company towards your goals by minimizing risks and enabling collaboration and continuous improvement.

The CARE principle is the core of the iPoint Suite.

By applying CARE, companies can, among other things, identify substances of concern or their product's carbon footprint, qualify and approve suppliers, and thus take control of their environmental, social and economic impacts. iPoint supports you on the path to product compliance and decarbonization all the way.

Collect the relevant data

1. Why should compliance and sustainability data be collected in combination?

Data collection is the first step on the road to successful product compliance and sustainability in order to obtain type approval and bring a sustainable product to market. To manage product compliance and sustainability, information about products must be collected, summarized and kept up to date. Data quality and completeness are critical in this step. Once this requirement is met, the data can successfully be used for a variety of purposes.
“No data, no market”, the slogan of EU REACH, for example, places responsibility to manage risks and disclose information on the shoulders of industry. Even though declarations of compliance are sufficient in many cases, a drill down to material or even substance level is useful to make your business future-proof.

For example, it allows you to respond quickly to regulatory changes and helps assess the impact of changes before they are implemented.

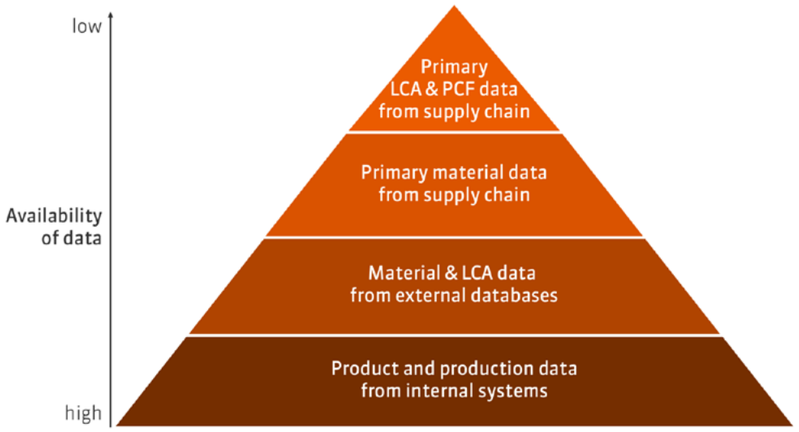
Since detailed product and material information needs to be collected for compliance purposes anyway it can be a good basis for calculating e.g. a carbon footprint for the product. However, the intention to use the data for compliance and sustainability purposes must be determined before data collection starts. Otherwise, the data must be collected, aggregated and analyzed multiple times. Considering both perspectives from the beginning saves a lot of time, effort and resources.

“An integrated and automated solution enables businesses to overcome the challenges of data collection, especially of primary data.”

2. Challenges of data collection

The constant changes in data, products, supplier parts, supply chain and regulations make data collection particularly challenging for companies. A precise understanding of the regulations is required in order to identify the data to be collected. Ever-changing regulations require specialized expertise and time-consuming monitoring to keep track and create transparency. However, companies are not only exposed to constant regulatory change, but also changes in their product, and thus in their supply chain and supplier parts, e.g., electrification of vehicle is in full progress, which means a change of vehicle design, different suppliers and supplier parts and materials.

Data collection in the supply chain requires communication with suppliers that is often inefficient including tracking manual request processes, rejected submissions, repeated requests, and inconsistent standardization of data formats. Managing this huge amount of supplier data, tracking responses and validating declarations is time-consuming and error prone. Thus, maintaining transparency on compliance and sustainability information and sharing it internally for a continuous improvement process is a major challenge.



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2. Challenges of data collection

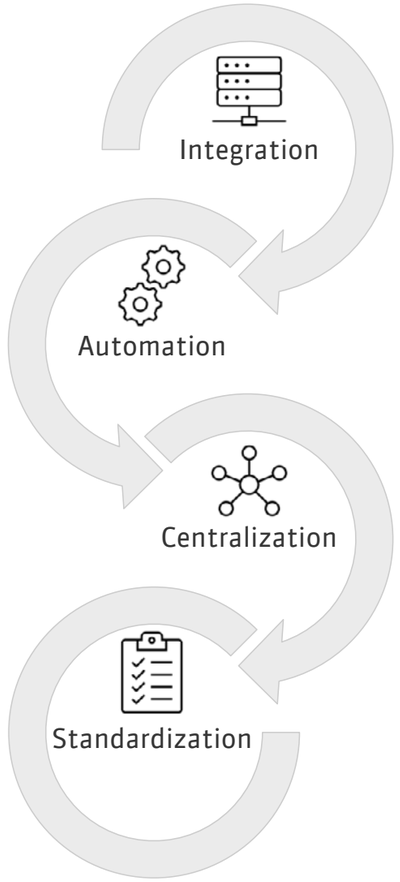
Customers and regulators are increasingly focused on the carbon emissions of products. That is why Product Carbon Footprints (PCF) and Life Cycle Assessments (LCA) are coming more and more into focus. This requires not only product and material data, but also information on, for example, energy, electricity mix and environmental data. These need to be sourced from both internal company data sources and external data sources. It is very challenging to obtain primary data on environmental issues from suppliers, as they are usually only available if the suppliers have already analyzed the PCF or performed a LCA.

As this problem is well known, there are several databases to provide secondary data on environmental impacts, e.g. CO2 data. However, these datasets are generic data that do not always cover a specific case. Therefore, it makes sense to start with a hot-spot analysis based on available company data and secondary data from databases in order to identify the largest environmental impacts. Hot spots indicating the highest environmental burden should be analyzed in detail and here a collection of primary data from the supply chain is recommended.

“Collecting relevant data is a pre-condition to reduce carbon emissions.”

The CARE Principle

3. Key Capabilities



To overcome these challenges, automatization, transparency and traceability are becoming key requirements. The ability of **integration** into various systems and different data sources enables an efficient use of already existing data without manual data imports and exports.

The **automation** of data collection and aggregation to product level is critical, in order to keep up with constant changes occurring within your supply chain, processes, materials, and in regulations. Data mapping and automated enrichment enable continuous reuse and extension of data for multiple different purposes.

This **centralization** is key so ensure that the respective data only needs to be collected once and hence can be used multiple times for different purposes. May it be for regulatory requirements or sustainability reports.

When using surveys to collect data from suppliers, **standardization** against all regulatory and/or environmental requirements is essential. This reduces the complexity of supplier engagement and the further processing of the data.

Having the data as granular as possible ensures a high **data quality** and is key for increasing the accuracy especially for calculating carbon footprints and environmental impacts.

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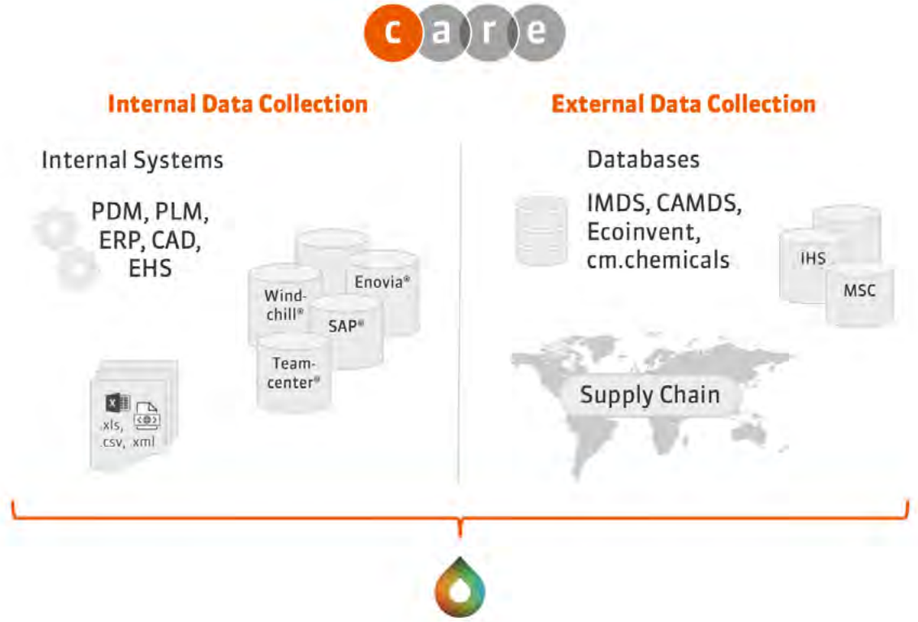
4. Possibilities of data access

The process of data collection includes data of a number of internal sources in different systems like ERP, PDM, PLM, e.g., to import BOM information. In addition, relevant data is retrieved from external data providers, e.g., IHS, and data bases like ecoinvent and IMDS, or directly collected from the supply chain by supplier communication.

Mapping sustainability data on existing systems like IMDS using artificial intelligence is the future of efficient data collection. Combining the data with parametrized models will ensure immediately updated results in case of product or material adjustments.



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The CARE Principle

5. The iPoint Suite

The iPoint Suite not only ensures faster global market access for your safe and compliant products but also enables better positioning though sustainable products since customers and investors increasingly consider environmental factors. By automating processes and creating transparency, the iPoint Suite enables procurement, engineering and design teams to make better decisions and to speed up innovation cycles. It provides long-term strategic support, for instance in tracking and achieving your decarbonization targets. The iPoint Suite reveals opportunities to save cost, energy, time and effort while minimizing ecological and social risks as well as economic risks by delayed market access, penalties, and recalls.

The iPoint Suite supports your **data collection** by combining the key capabilities. **Integrated** into systems and data sources, the iPoint Suite largely **automates** data collection from various sources, including suppliers and customers, in one **centralized** system. Regardless of the size of inventory and supplier lists, iPoint Suite provides a secure and highly automated way to improve supplier responsiveness, **data quality** and completeness. Collected data is processed and **standardized** – which turns it into usable information that can be in the next step **analyzed** and cross-referenced in order to create **reports** and **evolve** your products and business to become more sustainable.

iPoint Suite

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The CARE Principle