



# Leveraging Workiva for your ESG Report Design.

September 2023



## Introduction

Companies have traditionally used Workiva for SEC financial reporting and filing. Now they can use the collaborative Workiva platform for ESG reporting as well.

Coordinating the enterprise-wide data and information collection, substantiation, reviews and audit trails needed to publish accurate and detailed ESG reports is time consuming and complex. Then, merging final data and content into a brand-aligned and thoughtfully designed format adds another layer of complexity. This is where the unique partnership between Workiva and Labrador can lighten that load.

Workiva's ESG reporting platform is an end-to-end solution that enables cross-team collaboration and provides tools to use for ease of collecting data, managing audit trails, design, and publishing the report. Combined with Labrador's expertise in ESG advisory, writing and design, clients can more easily publish transparent and audit-ready ESG reports of which they can be proud.

As a long-standing partner of Workiva, Labrador has a strong track record of collaborating with our clients directly in their Workiva workspaces—from the first tracked change through to the final publication. We understand how to leverage the useful features of Workiva so that our clients never have to worry about their audit trail or the challenges of having a third-party make accurate text changes on their behalf. Our clients have appreciated the ability to edit on their own in designed documents, calling in our support along the way for tailored design elements, infographics, and formatting. In the end, our clients publish thoughtfully designed and transparent ESG reports with more confidence.

0	2	3	▶ 4	5
Advisory in Workiva	Copywriting in Workiva	Design in Workiva	Linking of data in Workiva	Self-publish directly from Workiva, from editing to audit trail to publication
4	4	4	w	

### Workiva's Content Management and Design Capabilities

The unique features of Workiva's ESG platform include:

#### **Data Collection and Audit Trails**

#### 1. Linking to data tables within the ESG report.

- a. Data collection is one of the most important aspects of ESG reporting. It is also one of the most challenging. The built-in and linked data tables in Workiva provide companies greater ease and transparency, allowing multiple parties to view and update their data. Companies can also link data tables directly to their ESG report so that when the data updates in the tables, it also automatically updates in the report.
- b. Using the data tables and linking them to their sections within an ESG report helps companies better manage and verify data coming from different parts of the company on different topics.
- c. Cross-functional and global teams are able to collaborate within the ESG platform, allowing for ease of use and scaling opportunities.
- d. This creates a single source of truth and transparency, which is critical for tracking, organizing, and future proofing.
- **2.** A collaborative work environment while maintaining version control. ESG reporting is a team sport. That is why many companies choose a reporting tool that can capture information spanning multiple departments across the globe, all while maintaining version control.
  - a. Setting up permissions. Creating teams or groups with specific permissions is a powerful feature of Workiva's ESG platform, a feature carried over from financial reporting. Users can set up report section access for only the subject matter experts (SMEs) needed to added and review information in that section, maintaining audit trail controls.
  - b. **Tagging and commenting.** One of the easiest-to-use features of Workiva is the ability to tag and leave comments for colleagues or consultants. As teams work inside the report, anyone with access can be tagged directly on the pages and sections where their input is needed. This becomes invaluable when working with an external writer and/or advisor to elevate content, a design team assisting with overall design and graphics, or with SMEs to discuss and/or note changes.

#### 3. Ease of reviews and approvals.

- a. **Reviewing inside of Workiva.** Document owners have the ability to grant permissions on a granular level to manage who can access which information and how they are able to interact with it, whether editing or commenting only. This is easy to adjust as you go through your review cycles to manage input from different stakeholder groups like leadership and subject matter experts (SMEs).
- b. **Trail of approvals and edits by name and date.** All approvals, comments and audit trails are tracked and contained within Workiva and can be referenced as needed.

#### Design

We understand how to make your design needs come to life in Workiva's ESG platform.

- Content informs design. One of our mantras at Labrador is that content should drive design choices, both in overall look-and-feel as well as in graphic representations of specific information. The partnership between Labrador and Workiva allows for the design to change as the content changes. Our strategists will provide insight into how to best apply information design principles across your report, while our expert operators will produce and implement the elements to meet your design goals.
- 2. **Design enhancements.** Labrador is one of the few design and communications firms that works with Workiva to beta-test design features. This leads to more comprehensively designed reports that have elements like layered text boxes and floating objects that elevate the look and consistency of the report design.



#### Workiva Design Enhancement



3. **Consistency creates trust.** Style sheets inside of Workiva make it easy to be consistent with font, colors and levels of title across a report. These elements of information design consistency not only help those writing and reviewing the report before publication, but also those stakeholders reading the final published report. Style sheets are a powerful "behind the scenes" tool companies can use to ensure their ESG commitments and progress are more easily understood.



#### **Publication and Preparation**

- 4. Ease of publication Users can download their own web-ready PDF's on-demand when ready, links and all, in both high and lower resolutions. Many of your images and infographics can also be pulled directly from the report as image files so that your web team can populate the website in advance of report publication.
- 5. **Preparing for the next year** In typical scenarios, preparing a report for the next year can create confusion and process-driven problems. With Workiva, companies are able to easily roll forward the previous report to the next year, design intact and factbooks linked, to make starting the next report easier.

### Examples of Reports Published in Workiva

#### 2022 Mastercard report



 Financial inclusion: Financial security and commercial per financial security and commercial per security of individuals
 \$3 million

 Import of the financial resultance and growth of micro and small businesses
 \$24 million

 Import data science Building the copacity of nonprofits and governments to use data science to drive equitable outcomes
 \$18 million

 Import data science Control of commercial per sector of the comparity of and governments to use data science to drive equitable outcomes
 \$23 million

 Import community needs as they are identified, including matching gifts
 \$23 million

#### 2022 Cognizant report



#### **2022 Diversified Energy report**



Headquartered in Birmingham, Alabama and listed on the London took Exchange (LS licker) ECE), Unweithed is a leading U.S. independent energy company engaged primarily in the production maketing and transportation of natural gas. As the largest with an expanding asset base in st. Central Region, our vertically integrated business alo includes a newly sequired and expanded asset retirement company, Natur IV. Energy, which now represent significant, point on the current will enterment capacity in

Our unique business model allows us to play avaluable role within our industry, supporting the value mergy needs of our communities and nation with abundant natural gas as the world transitions to a lower cathon economy. Our core streamthing model is focused on acquiring existing onthone wells and at times associated middream sets traffer than on actively engoging in expansive, capital-intensiv new drilling and development. As such, we avoid large, energyintensive development activities than you tobe further strain on the

Our stewardship emphasis includes a commitment to asset integrity and operational adapt while also optimizing production and increasing efficiencies. At the end of its useful life, we responsible appropriately addressed to the statistication of our landower appropriately addressed to the statistication of our landower apartners, local communities and the regulatory agencies to which we report. Our asset for finition operators in Appaldicits as well as to report any envirous to fullow operators in Appaldicits as well as to ophan wells.

ur acquistion model positions Diversified as the buyer of choice for thirth entry of a site of a site of the second site of a site of the present and a site of a site of the second site of a site of the site of

30





build on the significant MACE progress to date, and to develop a more in-depth platform for regularly track and report accurately on our concenter progress toward emission ductions, we are also working toward building and maintaining retime emissions intelligence shrough the sicn Ap platform. Cancel Ap inform. Cancel Applications and data better descino-maintain, and supporting our path in ent zon. In the future, the local Are platform manages. Information in the maintee information and upper descino-maintain applications, and abate calcion-maintain, by providing variants incremental data imputs over the next 10 years based on change, real-time parameters for inclusion in our MACE analysis.

### What's next?

Corporate ESG reporting is fast-changing, requiring more of companies year over year. Partnering with Labrador and using a collaborative tool like Workiva can help companies more easily create informative, comprehensive and understandable reports that meet stakeholder needs.

To learn more, visit workiva.com and labrador-company.com.



# About Labrador

Labrador exists to offer the science of transparency to corporations wishing to communicate effectively with their readers.

Our experienced and passionate team is composed of attorneys, designers, project managers, thinkers and web developers. We collaborate together around a process that encompasses drafting, editing, designing and publishing across all digital and print channels.

We are thrilled that communications prepared by Labrador have contributed to trustful relationships between our clients and their readers, whether investors, employees or other stakeholders.

In turn, our commitment to our clients has resulted in meaningful long-term relationships with some of the most respected public and private companies in the world.

contact-us@labrador-company.com

Labrador 530 Means Street Suite 410 Atlanta, GA 30318 (404) 688 3584

Copyright © 2023 by Labrador

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, distributed, or transmitted in any form or by any means, including photocopying, recording, or other electronic or mechanical methods, without the prior written permission of the publisher, except in the case of brief quotations embodied in critical reviews and certain other noncommercial uses permitted by copyright law. For permission requests, email the publisher at contact-us@labrador-company.com.