**Teil 1:**

Audio einleitend: Musik oder Soundeffekte

**Arvid:** Welcome to our podcast series on sustainability and innovation in business! Today, we dive deep into the world of 'Green IT … because Sustainability Matters.' I'm Arvid, your guide through this enlightening conversation. Joining us are two incredible guests, each representing a different perspective on sustainability initiatives.

Let's start by asking our guests what 'green' means to them. Is it more than just a color? Let's find out!

**Arvid (to Linus):** First up, we have Linus from Commerzbank AG. How do you perceive the concept of 'green' in your work?

**Linus:** Green? Not only the color of money but also of Green IT. At Commerzbank, it's about more than just finance; it's about forging a sustainable future.

**Arvid (to Tom):** Next, we have Tom from Akquinet GmbH. How about you? What does 'green' signify in your approach?

**Tom:** At Akquinet, 'green' embodies our commitment to environmental responsibility and social impact. It's about integrating sustainability into our very core.

**Arvid:** Thank you both for sharing your insights! Now, let's explore how these remarkable organizations are championing sustainability and making a difference in the world of business.

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**Teil 2:**

**Arvid**: Welcome back, everyone. We've gained fascinating insights into what 'green' means for our guests at Akquinet and Commerzbank. Now, let's dive deeper into the impactful sustainability initiatives driving these exceptional organizations.

Starting with Akquinet GmbH, Tom, could you provide us with an overview of your sustainability initiatives? Specifically, in terms of Corporate Social Responsibility, social and ecological responsibilities, as well as any noteworthy recognitions or awards?

**Tom**: At Akquinet, sustainability isn't just a checkbox; it's at the core of all our operations. Our Corporate Social Responsibility approach goes beyond compliance; it's about proactive engagement, advocating for integration, inclusivity, and equality. In terms of ecological responsibility, our pledge to transition to 100% green energy in our data centers by 2030 stands strong. We've also earned accolades such as the Blauer Engel and the Sustainable Data Center certificate from TÜV Rheinland, validating our dedicated efforts.

**Arvid**: That's truly impressive! Could you delve deeper into the specific measures or initiatives implemented by Akquinet to actively promote environmental sustainability and social responsibility?

**Tom**: Absolutely! We're committed to leveraging Green IT solutions and have set ambitious goals to solely use renewable energy in our data centers by 2030. Additionally, our focus on energy efficiency and responsible resource management is ingrained in our operations, minimizing our ecological footprint while maximizing our positive impact.

**Arvid**: Shifting gears, let's explore the sustainability strategy at Commerzbank AG. Linus, could you outline the key elements of Commerzbank's sustainability strategy? Specifically, how does the bank address Net-Zero CO₂ emissions and integrate sustainable practices into its core operations?

**Linus**: At Commerzbank, sustainability isn't just a buzzword; it's our guiding principle in every decision we make. Our commitment to achieving Net-Zero CO₂ emissions by 2050 directs our financing choices, ensuring our investments align with sustainability criteria. We aim to mobilize over 300 billion euros by 2025 for sustainable products, showcasing our dedication to environmentally conscious projects. Furthermore, our sustainable banking practices, deeply rooted in solid values and unwavering commitments, form the bedrock of our business operations.

**Arvid**: Both Akquinet and Commerzbank set the bar high in integrating sustainability into their core strategies. These initiatives truly highlight a steadfast commitment to a greener and more socially responsible future.

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**Teil 3:**

**Arvid**: Let's explore the broader implications of Green IT and sustainability in today's corporate landscape. How are these initiatives shaping modern business practices?

**Linus**: Sustainability isn't merely an option anymore; it's become a necessity. It significantly influences investment decisions, partnerships, and talent acquisition. Integrating sustainability into our core values assists businesses in navigating risks and seizing opportunities in a rapidly changing global landscape.

**Tom**: Green IT and sustainability have become integral to businesses today. They're ethical imperatives that wield substantial impacts on reputation, customer loyalty, and long-term viability. Stakeholders increasingly expect environmental consciousness and social responsibility.

**Arvid**: Certainly, the advantages of incorporating sustainability practices are crystal clear. However, implementing these measures in large corporations presents challenges. What are the primary hurdles in such environments?

**Linus**: Scalability and complexity stand as significant challenges. Rolling out sustainable practices across extensive networks demands meticulous planning, resources, and collaboration. Truly embedding these measures in the company's fabric goes beyond surface-level changes.

**Tom**: Transforming deeply ingrained traditional processes and mindsets poses another hurdle. Resistance to change, particularly in larger organizations, necessitates a cultural shift and comprehensive change management to effectively embed sustainability.

**Arvid**: Absolutely, the significance of Green IT and sustainability is undeniable. Yet, achieving full integration in large corporations requires innovative solutions and unwavering commitment.

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**Teil 4:**

**Arvid:** As we reflect on the importance of sustainability, it's time to peer into the future aspirations of Akquinet and Commerzbank. What milestones are these organizations setting for their sustainability journey?

**Linus:** At Commerzbank, our commitment to sustainability remains steadfast. Looking forward, our goal is to surpass our Net-Zero CO₂-Emissions target by leveraging cutting-edge technologies and fostering collaborations that drive sustainable finance. We're constantly evolving our strategies to align with global sustainability frameworks and strengthen our contributions towards a greener economy.

**Tom:** Our vision at Akquinet involves continuous progress. We aim to not only meet but exceed our current sustainability benchmarks. Looking ahead, we're dedicated to further reducing our carbon footprint, exploring innovative technologies to enhance energy efficiency, and expanding our social impact initiatives. We envision Akquinet as a leader in sustainable IT solutions, setting new standards for the industry.

**Arvid:** Exciting prospects indeed! Before we conclude, let's summarize the key takeaways from our conversation. Sustainability isn't just a trend; it's a fundamental aspect shaping the future of business. We've explored the comprehensive efforts of both Akquinet and Commerzbank, highlighting their unwavering commitments to environmental consciousness, social responsibility, and innovation.

From Commerzbank's ambitious Net-Zero CO₂-Emissions target and sustainable finance endeavors to Akquinet's initiatives in promoting Green IT and fostering social inclusion, it's evident that these organizations are driving change and setting benchmarks for a more sustainable future.

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**Teil 5:**

**Arvid:** Before we conclude this insightful discussion, I'd like to express our heartfelt gratitude to our esteemed guests from Akquinet and Commerzbank for their invaluable contributions and time spent sharing their expertise with us.

**Tom:** It's been a pleasure being part of this conversation. Thank you for the opportunity to discuss sustainability and its integral role in shaping our future. Until next time!

**Linus:** Indeed, a privilege to contribute to this discourse. Let's continue striving for a sustainable world. Thank you, and goodbye for now!

**Arvid:** As we bring this engaging discussion to a close, we've witnessed the dedication of these organizations towards a greener, more responsible future. Sustainability isn't just a goal; it's a journey that requires collective effort and commitment.

Thank you, dear listeners, for joining us on this exploration of sustainability in the corporate world. Stay tuned for more enlightening conversations. Until then, let's continue our journey towards a more sustainable tomorrow.

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