

PRESS RELEASE

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71% of Business Travellers worry about their carbon footprint

New survey reveals gender differences between business travellers but a broad concern for impact on the environment.

This survey conducted by COMATCH, one of the leading online marketplaces for independent management consultants and industry experts in Europe, showed that environmental awareness is very high on business travellers' concerns.

When it came to acting on this awareness however, there were significant differences in travel choices between genders. More than 81% of the women choose to go by train rather than airplane whenever possible – in consciousness of the environment. The figure for men is 52%.

60% of the female business travellers also prefer the train as means of transport in general, compared to only 43% of the men. Nevertheless, the female respondents said they have to fly twice as much as they would like to.

However, for both genders, the dream personality to end up next to on a long-haul flight for a business chat, is Barack Obama.

Katharina Schneider, Director Consultant Relations at COMATCH, explains: "The consultants within our network are traveling a lot and are "experts" in being on a business trip. The majority of them is concerned about their carbon footprint. They consider the sustainability during their trip, however this can be limited depending on distance, time and costs."

71% of the business travellers are more or equally concerned than five years ago. The younger age groups are more worried than the older age groups, and women are more concerned than men. 20% of the respondents do not worry at all.

Business travellers' awareness for environment increases



How much concerned are you about your carbon footprint compared to five years ago?



71% are much more, more or equally concerned about their carbon footprint
COMATCH Business Travel Survey 2018

Business women travel more conservation-minded



What are you willing to do to minimise your carbon footprint while traveling?



81%	Take the train instead of flying, where possible	52%
70%	Re-Use towels and sheets at the accommodation	58%
31%	Take a direct flight even it is more expensive	29%

COM/ATC Business Travel Survey 2018

Women more environmentally conscious than men

81% of the female business travellers say they choose the train instead of airplane in respect of the environment, compared to 52% of the men. 70% of the women are also willing to reuse hotel towels and sheets, compared to 58% of the men.

60% of the women prefer the train

Airplane is the most frequent mode of transport among business travellers, but train is the

most popular. 60% of the women prefer going by train compared to 43% of the men. 25% of the women prefer the airplane, compared to 39% of the men. Female business travellers say they fly twice as much as they would like to and go by train half as many times as they would like to.

Eco-friendly intentions in conflict with daily needs



"What is your preferred" versus "What is your most frequent mean of transport?"



MOST POPULAR



MOST FREQUENT

Train	60%	43%	49%	45%
Airplane	25%	39%	36%	28%
Car	14%	18%	15%	27%

COM/ATC Business Travel Survey 2018

Keeping up a healthy lifestyle a challenge when being on the road

The respondents mostly enjoy travel in business: 49% say they most of the times enjoy being on a business trip, especially within the ages 50-59. Men enjoy it more than women, which also corresponds to the overall length of travel, where most of women travel for a shorter period of time, compared to men. The major concerns among the women while on business, is to manage the family (31%) and being stressed/arriving unrested (45%), the figures among men are 21% and 38% respectively. 30% of women find it hard to keep up a healthy lifestyle while away – after waiting time, this is what they dislike the most.

Business women set more value on a healthy lifestyle



What do you find most frustrating about travelling?



33%	Waiting time	38%
30%	Keeping up a healthy lifestyle	22%
29%	Being away from the family	25%

COM/ATC Business Travel Survey 2018

Accommodation – hotels most popular because of service

Hotel is most popular, even if private options like Airbnb is in general on the rise, the service aspect in hotels seems to be very relevant for business travel, even it is more expensive. A central location is the most relevant, followed by high speed Internet, whereas business facilities are less relevant. Fitness is also an important aspect, especially among women.

This also corresponds with the findings that women find it more challenging to keep up a healthy lifestyle when travelling, compared to men. The relevance of fitness facilities decreases with age.

About the survey

The survey was conducted among the independent consultants registered at COMATCH with at least 2 years of experience in well reputed consultancies and of industry experts with at least 10 years of experience in a certain industry. The survey was sent to 4,046 recipients and ran from June 25th until July 23rd 2018. 381 people responded, 80 women and 301 men.

About COMATCH

COMATCH is the online marketplace for independent top management consultants and industry experts. Companies of all sizes use COMATCH, among them international corporates as well as start-ups and consultancies. Since March 2015 COMATCH has successfully placed consultants in 1,200 projects from over 300 international clients. In order to guarantee high quality consulting, all consultants who want to join the platform have to pass a two-step selection process, with nearly 50% of all applications declined. The founders and managing directors of the Berlin-based company are former McKinsey consultants Dr. Christoph Hardt and Dr. Jan Schächtele. CSO Dirk Schuran joined company management in 2017. COMATCH has around 100 employees at several locations; the company covers six European markets and has recently expanded the classic COMATCH range of offers to include COMATCHresearch and COMATCHperm services. Acton Capital Partners, Atlantic Labs and btov are the most important investors.

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