



# Engagement Case Study

**Prysmian S.p.A**

**RIZE**  
BY  ARK INVEST

## I. Introduction

*SFDR Principal Adverse Indicator (PAI) engagement: Decarbonisation strategy and value-chain emissions.*

At RIZE by ARK Invest, we hold Prysmian S.p.A. in the Rize Environmental Impact 100 UCITS ETF, where the company is classified in our “Renewable Energy Equipment Manufacturers” thematic sub-sector.

This engagement was triggered by our SFDR Principal Adverse Indicator (PAI) monitoring, where Prysmian screened in the bottom cohort of its peer group for Scope 1, 2 and 3 GHG emissions (based on our internal peer-relative PAI approach). The objective of the call was to:

- validate whether the company’s targets, governance and transition planning address the drivers behind the GHG PAI result;
- understand near-term operational levers (Scopes 1–2) and value-chain levers (Scope 3), including supplier engagement and product design/efficiency; and
- clarify how Prysmian considers use-phase emissions (given sector electricity-loss characteristics) and whether/when it expects to disclose avoided emissions (“Scope 4”) concepts.

## II. Key Discussion Themes And What Prysmian Shared

### A. Targets And Overall Climate Ambition (Scopes 1–3)

Prysmian described an accelerated climate strategy, highlighting a long-term objective to achieve net zero across its value chain by 2035, supported by interim targets for 2030. The company also referenced the role of external system factors (including power-grid decarbonisation) in enabling achievement of its long-term goal.<sup>1</sup>

### B. Why Scope 3 Matters Most For This Sector

Prysmian explained that its footprint is largely driven by Scope 3 emissions, particularly those associated with the use phase of sold products across long asset lifecycles. This is a structural feature of the cables sector, where improving product performance (e.g., reduced losses and improved efficiency) can be a meaningful lever over time. Prysmian’s published GHG statement confirms that Scope 3 represents more than 99% of the Group’s carbon footprint and that “use of products sold” represents more than 95% of the total footprint.<sup>2</sup>

The company also noted upstream contributions (e.g., copper and other raw materials) and discussed improving supplier data quality and supplier climate readiness through a more structured supplier engagement effort.

## C. Decarbonising Operations (Scopes 1–2): Energy Sourcing, Electrification, Efficiency

Prysmian described a multi-lever operational decarbonisation programme consistent with heavy industrial operations, including:

- renewable electricity procurement (including PPAs and certificates) and ongoing energy efficiency investments. Prysmian and Edison Energia announced a multi-year Corporate PPA expected to supply ~25% of Prysmian’s current annual electricity consumption in Italy from a newly built PV plant.
- electrification of heat where feasible (including heat pumps), alongside evaluation of alternatives where full electrification is more complex.

## D. Climate Risk Governance And Resilience

Prysmian described considering both **transition** and **physical** climate risks (including extreme weather impacts on production sites) and integrating resilience considerations into risk management. Its sustainability strategy reporting also reflects structured climate governance and progress tracking against targets.

## E. Avoided Emissions (“Scope 4”)

Prysmian indicated it is assessing potential benefits (e.g., efficiency and system-enabling effects) but has not yet committed to a formal, group-wide avoided-emissions disclosure approach. We did not identify a definitive Prysmian “Scope 4” methodology statement in the publicly available sources reviewed.

## III. Engagement Outcomes

What we learned:

- Prysmian frames its climate strategy around the reality that **use-phase Scope 3 dominates** its footprint; credible decarbonisation therefore requires **product/system-level efficiency gains** and **broader grid decarbonisation**, alongside operational decarbonisation.
- The company has a clearly stated **2030 and 2035 ambition** and reports progress versus baseline on its sustainability strategy pages (e.g., 2024 progress figures are disclosed, though updated methodologies/baselines matter).
- There is tangible activity on operational levers (renewables procurement via PPAs, efficiency, electrification), but the **“100% renewable electricity”** claim should be clarified given the published 2023 energy mix table.

## IV. Our View

This engagement increased our confidence that Prysmian is treating decarbonisation as a value-chain challenge, not only an operational one – an important point given that its disclosed footprint is overwhelmingly driven by Scope 3, particularly the use phase of sold products.

That said, our PAI-triggered concern remains relevant: peer-relative emissions screens can continue to flag Prysmian unless the company can (i) demonstrate a credible pathway to reducing use-phase and materials-related emissions, and (ii) translate product and transition initiatives into measurable, decision-useful metrics. We therefore view the highest-value next step as continued progress toward an investor-ready transition roadmap (including clear transparency on Scope 3 use-phase methodology and how renewable electricity claims are defined), alongside ongoing monitoring of delivery against the company’s 2030/2035 ambitions.

## V. References

1. Prysmian Group. 2025. “Climate change ambition.” Prysmian Group.
2. Prysmian Group. 2024. “GHG Statement 2023.” Prysmian Group.

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