

IPES CODE OF ETHICS

Protection of Life and Safeguarding People

Professionalism and Integrity

Society and Community Well-being

Sustainable Management and Care of the Environment

Promotion of Engineering Knowledge

The respect which society accords the engineering technology professions is earned and maintained by its members demonstrating a strong and consistent commitment to ethical values. These commitments are additional to the obligations, which every member of society is required to observe, such as obeying the law, and reflect the additional responsibility expected of all professionals.

It therefore follows that IPES must maintain an appropriate Code of Ethics, to publish it for the information of the public and to enforce it impartially. This Code must be responsive to the changing expectations of both society and the profession and the global standards to which the Institution subscribes.

The Code of Ethics is based on the five fundamental ethical values set out in the Rules of IPES. The Code is a set of principles to guide members in achieving the high ideals of professional life. To assist in the interpretation of the Code, guidelines are set out below for each Code clause.

These guidelines, which do not form part of the Code, are not exhaustive – they are offered as a guide to the understanding and intentions of the Code. They should be read with the Code as a whole and given a free and liberal meaning. They range from exhortations to excellence to prescriptive directions as to what constitutes ethical professional behaviour. Members will find in the Code and the Guidelines assistance in deciding the proper response to most of the situations they will meet in their professional life. In the final analysis the judgment of the member's peers as to what the 'reasonable professional' would have done faced with the same situation and applying the same Code will prevail. This is another reason why members should discuss any ethical problem that troubles them with senior members of the Institution. The President would be pleased to assist in arranging this.

It is paramount that the Registration Board uphold this Code of Ethics and ensure all guidelines given are complied with by all members of the Institution. Should there be any infringements of any ethic or a guideline to an ethic, the Registration Board will take necessary action to sought out any ethical problem.

Protection of Life and Safeguarding People

Members have a duty of care to protect life and safeguard people.

Guidelines

To satisfy this clause you need to:

- 1.1 Give priority to the safety and well-being of the community and have regard to this principle in assessing duty to clients and colleagues.
- 1.2 Be responsible for ensuring that reasonable steps are taken to minimise the risk of loss of life, injury or suffering which may result from the work or the effects of your work.
- 1.3 Draw the attention of those affected to the level and significance of risk associated with the work.
- 1.4 Assess and minimise potential dangers involved in the construction, manufacture and use of your products or projects.

Professionalism and Integrity

Members shall undertake their duties with professionalism and integrity and shall work with their levels of competence.

Guidelines

- 2.1 Exercise initiative, skill and judgment to the best of your ability for the benefit of your employer or client.
- 2.2 Give engineering decisions, recommendations or opinions that are honest, objective and factual. If these are ignored or rejected you should ensure that those affected are made aware of the possible consequences.

In particular, where vested with the power to make decisions binding on both parties under a contract between principle and contractor, act fairly and impartially as between the parties and (after any appropriate consultation with the parties) make such decisions independently of either party in accordance with your own professional judgement.

- 2.3 Accept personal responsibility for work done by you or under your supervision or direction and take reasonable steps to ensure that anyone working under your authority is both competent to carry out the assigned tasks and accepts a like personal responsibility.
- 2.4 Ensure that you do not misrepresent your areas or levels of experience or competence.
- 2.5 Take care not to disclose confidential information relating to your work or knowledge of your employer or client without the agreement of those parties.
- 2.6 Disclose any financial or other interest that may, or may be seen to, impair your professional judgment.

- 2.7 Ensure that you do not promise to, give to, or accept from any third party anything of substantial value by way of inducement.
- 2.8 First inform another member before reviewing their work and refrain from criticising the work of other professionals without due cause.
- 2.9 Uphold the reputation of IPES and its members, and support other members as they seek to comply with the Code of Ethics.
- 2.10 Follow a recognised professional practice (Model Conditions of Engagement are available) in communication with your client on commercial matters.

Society and Community Well-being

Members shall actively contribute to the well-being of society and, when involved in any engineering project or application of technology, shall, where appropriate, recognise the need to identify, inform and consult affected parties.

Guidelines

To satisfy this clause you need to:

- 3.1 Apply skill, judgment and initiative to contribute positively to the well-being of society
- 3.2 Recognize in all your work your obligation to anticipate possible conflicts and endeavour to resolve them responsibly, and where necessary utilise the experience of IPES and colleagues for guidance.
- 3.3 Treat people with dignity and have consideration for the values and cultural sensitivities of all groups within the community affected by your work.
- 3.4 Endeavour to be fully informed about relevant public policies, community needs, and perceptions, which affect your work.
- 3.5 As a citizen, use your knowledge and experience to contribute helpfully to public debate and to community affairs except where constrained by contractual or employment or obligations.

Sustainable Management and Care of the Environment

Members shall be committed to the need for sustainable management of the planet's resources and seek to minimise adverse environmental impacts of their engineering works or application of technology for both present and future generations.

Guidelines

To satisfy this clause you need to:

- 4.1 Be committed to the efficient use of resources.
- 4.2 Minimise the generation of waste and encourage environmentally sound reuse, recycling and disposal.

- 4.3 Recognise adverse impacts of your work on the environment and seek to avoid and mitigate them.
- 4.4 Recognise the long-term imperative of sustainable management throughout your work. (Sustainable Management is often defined as meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs).

Promotion of Engineering Knowledge

Members shall continue the development of their own and the profession's knowledge, skill and expertise in the art and science of engineering and technology, and shall share and exchange advances for the benefit of society.

Guidelines

To satisfy this clause you need to:

- 5.1 Seek and encourage excellence in your own and other's practice of the art and science of engineering and technology.
- 5.2 Contribute to the collective wisdom of the profession and art of engineering and technology in which you practice.
- 5.3 Improve and update your understanding of the science and art of engineering and technology and encourage the exchange of knowledge with your professional colleagues.
- 5.4 Wherever possible share information about your experiences and in particular about success and failures.