

International Engineering Ethics:

The privilege of practicing engineering is entrusted to those qualified and who have the responsibility for applying engineering skills, scientific knowledge and ingenuity for the advancement of human welfare and quality of life. Fundamental principles of conduct of engineers include truth, honesty and trustworthiness in their service to society, and honorable and ethical practice showing fairness, courtesy and good faith toward clients, colleagues and others. Engineers take societal, cultural, economic, environmental, and safety aspects into consideration, and strive for the efficient use of the world's resources to meet long term human needs. In the practice of engineering:

1. Engineers shall hold paramount the health, safety and welfare of the public in the practice of their profession.
2. Engineers shall practice only in their areas of competence, in a careful and diligent manner and in conformance with standards, laws, codes, and rules and regulations applicable to engineering practice.
3. Engineers shall examine the societal and environmental impact of their actions and projects, including the wise use and conservation of resources and energy, in order to make informed recommendations and decisions.
4. Engineers shall issue public statements only in an objective and truthful manner. If representing a particular interest, the engineer shall clearly identify that interest.
5. Engineers shall sign and take responsibility for all engineering work which they prepared or directly supervised. An engineer may sign work prepared by others, but only with their knowledge and after sufficient review and verification to justify taking responsibility for that work.
6. Engineers shall act as faithful agents for their employers or clients and maintain confidentiality; they shall avoid conflicts of interest whenever possible, disclosing unavoidable conflicts.
7. Engineers shall ensure that a client is aware of the engineer's professional concerns regarding particular actions or projects, and of the consequences of engineering decisions or judgments that are overruled or disregarded. An employee engineer shall initially express those concerns to the employer.
8. Engineers shall appropriately report any public works, engineering decisions or practice that endangers the health, safety and welfare of the public. When, in an engineer's judgment, a significant risk to the public remains unresolved, that engineer may ethically make the concerns known publicly.
9. Engineers shall commit to life-long learning, strive to advance the body of engineering knowledge and should encourage other engineers to do likewise.

10. Engineers shall promote responsibility, commitment, and ethics both in the education and practice phases of engineering; they should enhance society's awareness of engineers' responsibilities to the public and encourage the communication of these principles of ethical conduct among engineers.

Interim Enforcement Recommendations

1. When an engineer is required to have a license to perform engineering services in a specific jurisdiction, the engineer is obligated to conform to the Code of Ethics and Rules of Professional Practice in that jurisdiction.
2. If an engineer violates the Code of Ethics or Rules of Professional Practice in a specific jurisdiction where the services are being provided, the responsible Board, Association or College in that jurisdiction shall take appropriate disciplinary action.
3. The disciplinary action shall be promptly reported to all other jurisdictions in which the engineer is licensed to practice.
 - a. To make implementation of this provision effective, the application for temporary or reciprocal licensing must include a complete list of jurisdictions in which the engineer holds a license.
 - b. A statement will be included on the licensing application that, if a disciplinary action is taken against the applicant, the applicant gives permission for distribution of information regarding the disciplinary action to all jurisdictions where the engineer is licensed.

Reference Materials

1. Code of Ethics, Canadian Council of Professional Engineers Guideline, Canadian Engineering Qualifications Board, Ottawa, Ontario
2. Code of Ethics for Engineers, National Society of Professional Engineers, 1993
3. Code of Professional Engineering Ethics, World Federation of Engineering Organizations, October 1993
4. Code of Ethics, The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc., 1990
5. Code of Ethics, The American Society of Civil Engineers, October 1980.
- 6.Codigo de Etica Profesional, Colegio de Ingenieros Civiles de Mexico, A.C., , translated to English by Carlos O. Ruiz, P.E.
7. Codigo de etica Profssional del Ingeniero Civil, Federacion de Ingenieros Civiles de la Republica Mexicana
8. Colegio de Ingenieros Mecanicos & Electricistas, excerpt from manual on ethics