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AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES ETHICS GUIDELINES

Preamble

Consulting engineering is an important and learned profession. The members of the profession recognize that their work has a direct and vital impact on the quality of life for all people. Accordingly, the services provided by consulting engineers require honesty, impartiality, fairness and equity and must be dedicated to the protection of public health, safety and welfare. In the practice of their profession, consulting engineers must perform under a standard of professional behavior which requires adherence to the highest principles of ethical conduct on behalf of the public, clients, employees and the profession.

Fundamental Canons

Consulting engineers, in the fulfillment of their professional duties, shall:

1. Hold paramount the safety, health and welfare of the public in the performance of their professional duties.
2. Perform services only in areas of their competence.
3. Issue public statements only in an objective and truthful manner.
4. Act in professional matters for each client as faithful agents or trustees.
5. Avoid improper solicitation of professional assignments

CASE STUDIES

1. ABC Manufacturing Design advertises on the local radio. ABC Manufacturing Design will pay a ten per cent finders fee for any type of manufacturing engineering work referred to them.
2. CFG Manufacturing Group is owned by Carby Freque, PE. He has no other employees. He solicits other engineering companies for their job histories. Then he tells future clients that the other engineering company employees are employed by his CFG Manufacturing Group.
3. JJQ Manufacturing Partners gives the local mayor free consulting advice for his real estate projects in exchange for engineering work referrals.
4. RPX Manufacturing Associates has two large engineering projects involving different clients, LLQ Interests and CCQ Enterprises. When prospective clients of LLQ Interests call RPX Manufacturing Associates with questions regarding product design, RPX Manufacturing Associates refers the prospective clients to CCQ Enterprises.
5. XXY Manufacturing Experts employs only manufacturing engineers. Their board of registration requires a special examination for performing control systems design. The engineers at XXY Manufacturing Experts have never taken the control systems exam. XXY Manufacturing Experts periodically performs manufacturing design requiring control systems expertise.
6. QQY Manufacturing Engineers has designed several warehouses for the city where several accidents have occurred because of poor design.
7. RQF Manufacturing Consultants has designed several cardboard boxes which they know do not meet county specifications.

CASE STUDIES (continued)

8. The president of QPQ Manufacturing Design Group tells the county commissioners that an unknown source told him (the president) that another engineering company makes faulty designs.
9. RVQ Manufacturing Designers pays contractors for their recommendations to manufacturing clients.
10. AQQ Manufacturing Consulting accepts payments from contractors to make the latter sole bidders on certain projects.
11. YQX Manufacturing Associates uses the most expensive contractors for the construction projects that they have designed. One of their clients objects; YQX Manufacturing Associates then gives the work to a notoriously incompetent contractor.
12. YYF Manufacturing Design prepares bids for a client's project. The brother of the president of YYF Manufacturing Design owns a plumbing company and bids on the project. The brother bids \$47,000. The lowest bid is \$45,000. The president forges his brother's bid to \$42,000. The client approves the low bid of \$42,000. Later, the president issues several false change orders after the project starts.
13. ZXT Manufacturing Consultants offer to perform design for a public library project at reduced rates. Their design is faulty.
14. CQM Manufacturing Constructors make a report that knowingly contains false statements.

CASE STUDIES (continued)

15. An engineer for RQI Manufacturing Contractors accepts electrical design work for which he has no experience. RQI Manufacturing Contractors have no electrical engineers.
16. The city engineer has a professional engineering stamp which shows his registration number and says PE. The city engineer only studied general manufacturing engineering in the university. His practical experience only involved manufacturing engineering. The city engineer refuses to contract any structural, electrical, or chemical engineering work.
17. BBQ Manufacturing Engineering designs a public warehouse which later collapses. Independent investigation shows BBQ Manufacturing Engineering made a poor analysis of the soil tests.
18. AQQ Manufacturing Group pays a secretary at the office of the local association of construction contractors to prepare bids for the association construction projects that AQQ Manufacturing Group wants to do.
19. QXQ Manufacturing Consultants tells their city council that they have the best structural design engineers. QXQ Manufacturing Consultants has no structural engineers.
20. QXQ Manufacturing Consultants receive a structural design project from their city council. They perform the project. Their design has structural defects.