

SOCIETY POLICY

ETHICS

ASME requires ethical practice by each of its members and has adopted the following Code of Ethics of Engineers as referenced in the ASME By-Law B2.1.

CODE OF ETHICS OF ENGINEERS

The Fundamental Principles

Engineers uphold and advance the integrity, honor, and dignity of the engineering profession by:

- I. using their knowledge and skill for the enhancement of human welfare;
- II. being honest and impartial, and serving with fidelity their clients (including their employers) and the public; and
- III. striving to increase the competence and prestige of the engineering profession.

The Fundamental Canons

1. Engineers shall hold paramount the safety, health, and welfare of the public in the performance of their professional duties.
2. Engineers shall perform services only in the areas of their competence; they shall build their professional reputation on the merit of their services and shall not compete unfairly with others.
3. Engineers shall continue their professional development throughout their careers and shall provide opportunities for the professional and ethical development of those engineers under their supervision.
4. Engineers shall act in professional matters for each employer or client as faithful agents or trustees and shall avoid conflicts of interest or the appearance of conflicts of interest.
5. Engineers shall respect the proprietary information and intellectual property rights of others, including charitable organizations and professional societies in the engineering field.
6. Engineers shall associate only with reputable persons or organizations.

7. Engineers shall issue public statements only in an objective and truthful manner and shall avoid any conduct which brings discredit upon the profession.
8. Engineers shall consider environmental impact and sustainable development in the performance of their professional duties.
9. Engineers shall not seek ethical sanction against another engineer unless there is good reason to do so under the relevant codes, policies and procedures governing that engineer's ethical conduct.
10. Engineers shall, in all matters related to their profession, treat all persons equitably and encourage and support participation by all in accordance with Policy P-15.11 "Diversity, Equity and Inclusion" and shall not engage in discrimination or harassment in accordance with Policy P-15.9 "Policy Against Discrimination (Including Discriminatory Harassment)".
11. Engineers who are members of the Society shall abide by the Constitution, By-Laws, and Policies of the Society, and they shall disclose knowledge of any matter involving another member's alleged violation of the Policies of the Society in a prompt, complete and truthful manner to either the Executive Director/CEO or any member of the Executive Committee of the Board of Governors or ASME Human Resources who shall promptly notify the full Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall initially determine whether the alleged conduct shall be addressed through this Policy or Policy 15.4 "Ethical Conduct Violation Procedures" or Policy 15.8 "Conflicts of Interest" or Policy 15.9 "Policy Against Discrimination (Including Discriminatory Harassment) – Members" or Policy 15.14 "Code of Conduct." There may be situations where actions are taken pursuant to one or more Society Policies.

The Ethics Committee maintains an archive of interpretations to the ASME Code of Ethics (P-15.7). These interpretations shall serve as guidance to the user of the ASME Code of Ethics and are available on the Committee's website or upon request.

Responsibility: Committee of Past Presidents/Ethics Committee

Reassigned from Centers Board of Directors/Center for Career and Professional Advancement/Committee on Ethical Standards and Review

Reassigned from Centers Board of Directors/Center for Professional Development, Practice and Ethics/Committee on Ethical Standards and Review 4/23/09

Reassigned from Council and Member Affairs/Board on Professional Practice & Ethics 6/1/05

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September 12, 1991

September 11, 1994

June 10, 1998

September 21, 2002

September 13, 2003

(editorial changes 6/1/05)

November 5, 2006

(editorial changes to the responsible unit 4/09)

(Unit Realignment Due to Reorganization 2/12)

October 6, 2021

October 1, 2024