



## **CODE OF ETHICS**

### **1. CREDIBILITY**

**A Surveyor MUST above all, be a credible source. Credibility is demonstrated by presenting a secure foundation of education, coupled with experience and the personal ability to be unwavering in the face of external pressure.**

- a.** A Surveyor MUST have a sound technical knowledge of the Marine Surveying Profession, and must be able to demonstrate appropriate training, education and experience.
- b.** A Surveyor MUST be impartial and objective in all aspects of the Marine Survey undertaken, and;
  - Shall not be influenced by external pressure.
  - Shall not modify, disregard or neglect reporting survey findings for personal gain.
  - Shall not employ improper or questionable methods.
  - Shall not use false, incorrect or knowingly incomplete information when reporting.
- c.** A Surveyor MUST act with independence.
- d.** A Surveyor MUST not use any unethical means to secure work, obtain advancement or advantage in the field of providing services.

### **2. CONFIDENTIALITY**

**A Surveyor MUST protect the confidentiality of the client. A Survey report is used in commercial decision making and technical disputes and potential litigation. Confidentiality is maintained for the advantage of the party commissioning the survey.**

- a.** The Surveyor shall consider all submitted information and survey reports to be proprietary.
- b.** The contents of survey reports or copies shall not be made available to another party, except as defined in the AMS Quality Management System Documentation, or by the expressed permission of the client.
- c.** Reports and supporting documentation will only be released to statutory authorities when required by applicable legislation, court order, legal proceedings, adhering to flag state requests or by Owners' authorisation.

### **3. CONDUCT**

**A Surveyor MUST conduct themselves and the conduct the survey in such a way that the integrity of the survey is maintained.**

- a. The surveyor shall not act in a manner that compromises safety of life and property or damage to environment.
- b. Act in any manner which leads to the lowering of technical standards.
- c. The surveyor shall not have any conflict of interest which may affect strict impartiality in the performance of his / her work.
- d. The Surveyor must notify the client of any potential conflict of interest for the client to continue to accept further survey representation services from the surveyor.
- e. The Surveyor shall not act in a manner which is detrimental or leads to the lowering of the reputation of the Organisation.
- f. The Surveyor will obtain from a client, clear Terms of reference and confine the report to the agreed Terms
- g. The Surveyor shall only undertake to carry out assignments for which he/she is properly qualified for a particular assignment.
- h. The Surveyor accepts arbitration when all parties involved agree to this method of solving a dispute.
- i. The Surveyor is to recognise that his/her first duty is to his/her clients instructions and endeavour to sustain an open relationship with a client whilst, at all times, observing professional integrity.
- j. The Surveyor SHALL NOT discuss with other attending surveyors from other parties, any contradictory statements or differences of opinion before issuing a final report.
- k. The Surveyor will not practice during a period when his/her judgement is or might be impaired through any cause.

#### **4. STANDARDS**

- a.** Where recognised international, national or local authority standards exist for any type of survey, then these standards shall always be observed.
- b.** Any variance from these standards, together with the surveyor's reasons for such variance, is to be fully recorded in the survey and the principal's agreement obtained.

#### **5. COMPLIANCE**

**Non-compliance with this Code of Conduct will be investigated and the Surveyor will be given the opportunity to offer a defence or appeal. Depending on the extent of non-compliance the Surveyor may face internal disciplinary action. Minor failures may be dealt with by written warnings. However, repeated minor non-compliance can be considered grounds for termination.**