

5. The Mechanical Engineer's Code of Ethics

**Board of Mechanical Engineering
Resolution No. 06
Series of 2003**

**CODE OF ETHICAL AND PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS FOR THE PRACTICE OF MECHANICAL
ENGINEERING PROFESSION**

Pursuant to the provisions of Sections 9(a) of Republic Act No. 8495. Known as the "Philippine Mechanical Engineering Act of 1998" and section 50, Rule XIII of Board Resolution No. 16, Series of 1998, providing for the Rules and Regulations to carry out purposes of the Act, the Board of Mechanical hereby adopts, promulgates and issues this Code of Ethical and Professional Standards for the Practice of Mechanical Engineering profession.

PREAMBLE

Engineering is a profession as old civilization. It is not only an important profession. It is also a learned one.

The Members of the Mechanical Engineering profession recognize that their work has a direct and vital impact on the quality of life of the people.

The services that Mechanical Engineers provide is impressed with public interest for it affects the health, safety and welfare of the people, hence, they should be honest, fair impartial and just in dealing not only with their clients but also with their fellowmen.

As a professional, the Mechanical Engineer must practice his profession by observing a standard of professional behavior that requires strict adherence to the principles of ethic and professional conduct provided by the Code of Ethics of their profession.

FUNDAMENTAL CANONS

Mechanical 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. Make / issue public statements on issues only in the objective and truthful manner.
4. Act in a professional manner of each employer or client as faithful agents or trustees.
5. Avoid improper solicitation of clients or professional employment.

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

Rule 1. The mechanical engineer shall, in the practice of his profession, be guided by the Golden Rule, the ideals of service to man and his environment, and the need to secure unwavering public confidence, integrity and humanity.

Rule 2. The mechanical engineer shall maintain the proper professional fee for his profession, observe the standards of professional practice, safeguard the dignity, and reputation of his colleagues in the profession, and fulfill his duties and obligations as a citizen of the Republic of the Philippines.

Rule 3. The mechanical engineer shall update and enhance constantly his professional knowledge and skills through assiduous research and study, and participation in continuing professional development programs and seminars conducted or authorized by the Integrated Organization of Mechanical Engineers accredited by the Board of Mechanical Engineering and the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) or education institutions supervised by the State.

Rule 4. The ethical principles required to be observed by mechanical engineers shall equally apply to partnership, firms and entities organized and existing for the practice of mechanical engineering.

RELATIONS WITH THE STATE

Rule 5. The mechanical engineer shall honor and respect the supreme authority of the State Rule of Law, the primacy of the general welfare, the fundamentals rights of persons, and the obligations and privileges of citizens recognized and guaranteed by the Constitution of the Philippines.

Rule 6. He shall cooperative fully with the State in the pursuit of national development plans and programs, shall respect the inviolability of national security, shall assist in the promotion of peace and order and when circumstances arise shall assist in the prevention and/or prosecution of unjust, criminal or unlawful acts and omissions.

Rule 7. He shall be ready to render the services needed for the development of the resources of the country, and to offer his mechanical devices and inventions essential or necessary for national defense.

Rule 8. In case of national emergency, he shall be ready to offer his professional knowledge, skill and experience in the service of the State.

RELATIONS WITH THE COMPANY

Rule 9. The mechanical engineer shall be well-informed of the latest technological progress in his own line of work. He shall encourage or require whenever appropriate the use, or application of standard mechanical equipment, machinery, or process of safety, economy and efficiency.

Rule 10. Whenever he designs a mechanical equipment, machinery or process, or prepares the layout of a project, he must apply and adequate factor of safety, and provide for the necessary leeway to insure and maintain for proper operating and maintenance condition.

Rule 11. When he discovers faulty or unsafe devices, equipment or machinery in any place, work or plant, he shall without delay, give notice thereof to the proper authority, public or private, for immediate and effective correction, regardless of whether or not he is responsible for said place, work or plant.

RELATIONS WITH LABOR

Rule 12. The mechanical engineer shall recognize labor as one of the major resources of our country. He must acknowledge that a working man is not a mechanical robot but a human being.

Rule 13. He should be familiar with State policies on labor and social justice, as well as, the labor and social legislations and shall observe faithfully these policies and laws in dealing with labor in general, and with his workmen in particular.

Rule 14. He shall strive to improve the skills of his workmen, pay them a fair living wage, and instruct them on how to prevent accidents in their place of work.

RELATIONS WITH CLIENTS AND EMPLOYERS

Rule 15. The mechanical engineer shall observe punctuality in his appointments, perform honesty and in good faith, his contractual obligation and his duties and obligations to his clients or employer, and observe fair dealing in his relations with his clients and employers.

Rule 16. He shall treat with confidentiality any information obtained by him regarding the business affairs and technical methods or processes of a client, or employer.

Rule 17. He shall inform his client or employer of his business connections, interests, or affiliations which may influence his judgment, or impair the quality or character of his services.

Rule 18. The mechanical engineer is entitled to a just and fair compensation of his services. In the computation of such compensation, the period of time consumed, his professional knowledge, skill, experience, and reputation, and the depreciation of instruments and materials used, shall be considered and accorded such weight as is just and reasonable.

Rule 19. He shall accept compensation, financial or otherwise, for his services from his clients or employer only. He may agree to, or receive compensation from any other source only with the full knowledge and consent of all parties concerned.

Rule 20. The mechanical engineer shall be completely above suspicion or reproach in his relation with his clients or employees, avoiding the remotest reference or relations to any secret or questionable agreement on commissions or other financial consideration promised by or received from any person or entity other than his client or employer.

RELATIONS WITH COLLEAGUES AND ASSOCIATES

Rule 21. "To thine ownself be true and thou cannot be false to any men" expresses the duty which a mechanical engineer owes to himself and to others.

Rule 22. The mechanical engineer shall use only fair means to gain professional advancement. In the pursuit thereof, he shall not injure the work or employment opportunities of others, or use any improper or questionable method of soliciting employment or clients.

Rule 23. He shall refrain from associating with, or allowing the use of his name by, and any person or entity of questionable reputation.

Rule 24. He shall provide the opportunity and the means to improve and advance the knowledge, skills, and experience of his colleagues and associates.

Rule 25. He shall define clearly the line of authority and scope of responsibility of his associates and assistance Orders, or the recall thereof, shall be issued through proper channels.

Rule 26. He shall be receptive to new ideas and suggestions from others, and ready to recognize, encourage, and accredit the authors thereof. Suggestions for colleagues and associates shall be given more careful attention.

Rule 27. He shall use tact and discretion in dealing with his colleagues and associates, but not at the sacrifice of firmness. He shall work out difficult problems with courage and serenity.

Rule 28. Careful selection of understudies shall be a guiding principle, and preference shall be given to those with adequate engineering education.

Rule 29. He shall not expect others to face danger that he himself will not face. He shall observe at all times safety requirements for the protection of all concerned.

Rule 30. The mechanical engineer shall actively support the duly accredited association with the end in view of enhancing the practice of the profession and discharging his public responsibilities as a professional.

PROVISIONS ON DISCIPLINARY ACTION

Rule 31. Violation of any provision of this Code shall constitute a ground for the revocation or suspension of the certificate of registration and professional license / professional identification card or the cancelation of a temporary or special permit under the provisions of Sec. 26 and Sec. 27, Art III of R.A. No. 8495, known as the “Mechanical Engineering Act of 1998” and Sec. 41, Rule VII of the “Rule and Regulations Implementing RA. 8495.

EFFECTIVITY

Rule 32. This Code shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its publication in full in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation, whichever comes earlier.

Done in the City of Manila, this 10th day of March, 2003...

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