

EOTA Code of Conduct

November 04, 2014

Each member of EOTA owes a duty to the community, its business partners, employees, stakeholders and to its fellow members. The EOTA Executive Board requires all members to act professionally and to subscribe to this code of ethical behaviour in order to collectively promote integrity within the construction industry. All members shall use their best endeavour to observe and practise this code as follows:

1. Public Interest

In supporting safe and innovative building, EOTA and its members are providing services within the public interest, which are especially relevant for manufacturers, designers, authorities, contractors, owners and users.

2. Laws and Regulations

Since EOTA and its members are working with all due respect to statutory rules and regulations, they are able to promote improvements to such laws, regulations and other provisions.

3. Competition

Due to its position, EOTA is rarely involved in competition, but EOTA members may be. Members do not participate in agreements with competitors with the following purposes or effect: price-fixing, dividing a market, limiting the extent of their work or boycotting a customer.

4. Impartiality

EOTA and its members perform their work in an impartial and neutral manner. They always take into account the rights, obligations and the legitimate interests of all involved and interested parties. They avoid any form of discrimination based inter alia on the sex, supposed race, colour, descent, national or ethnic origin, sexual orientation, marital status, birth, fortune, age, religion or belief, the current or future state of health, disability or a physical property.

5. Integrity of service

All the services offered by EOTA and its members are provided for in a professional and independent manner, honestly and in accordance with procedures foreseen. Employees do not surrender to any pressure exerted in order to obtain preferential treatment.

All findings and results are accurately documented and not be improperly changed. Assessment texts and evaluation reports specify these results and findings. The results of discussions in commissions are taken into account in a balanced and correct way.

6. Conflicts of interest

Conflicts of interest indicates a situation where a person also serves other interests (personal or those of close relatives, or people with whom a close personal or business contact exists), leading to a definite influence on the activities of the person involved, such that the integrity, impartiality and/or objectivity is compromised. Conflicts of interest may affect the reputation and credibility of EOTA, its members and the ETAs issued. Relevant examples:

- Taking personal advantage of a business opportunity;
- Accepting, directly or indirectly, any personal benefit for the provision of the services provided, except for socially acceptable gifts and hospitality;
- Taking a financial interest in a customer or competitor;
- The Holding of an office or having any position with a competitor or a client.

Even if there is no evidence of actual effects, perception of conflicts of interest may exist among other interested parties. EOTA and its members avoid even the appearance of a conflict of interest because it may lead to the impression of a lack of impartiality.

7. Confidentiality

EOTA and its members owe a duty to their clients, employees and stakeholders to protect any confidential/privileged information entrusted upon them. They do not divulge or disclose any such information to a third party without prior consent.

8. Respect to Intellectual Property

EOTA and its members afford full respect to proprietary intellectual property and refrain from using any ideas, documents, tools and services without proper authorisation.

9. Competence and Best Ability

Members only undertake professional obligations commensurate with their abilities and competence level and discharge their professional obligations and responsibilities to the best of their abilities and diligence.

10. Relationships with Consultants, Sub-contractors and Suppliers

EOTA and its members deal with their consultants, sub-contractors and suppliers in a professional, fair and ethical manner.

11. Safety and Training

EOTA and its members should provide a safe and healthy workplace for their employees and workforce and should encourage continuous professional development and skill enhancement amongst their staff and the workforce.

12. Community and Environment

In the course of their business, EOTA and its members seek to protect public interest and safety. They also seek to minimize public nuisance, maximize general safety measures and be sensitive to protection of environment.

13. Delegation of Duties

EOTA and its members ensure their employees and those to whom they delegate work (such as sub-contractors/ suppliers) understand the above ethical requirements and encourage them to comply with these requirements.