



IRSE
Institution of Railway Signal Engineers
Indian Section

CODE OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

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Any enquiries concerning matters covered in this document should be directed, in the first instance, to the Secretary of the Trust by the name IRSE Indian Section



CODE OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

1. INTRODUCTION

This Code of Professional Conduct booklet has been prepared in order to provide information and guidance to members and is one which augments the general statements made in the Trust Deed as well as Bye laws governing working of Officers of the Trust as well as Committee Members of the Trust. These documents contain certain references to conduct which are, in the main, implicit rather than explicit. Rules of conduct have been prepared in order to identify specific areas of activity and conduct pertinent in general to the signal and telecommunications engineering profession. In certain cases, particularly where safety is concerned, there are references specific to the railway signal and telecommunications engineer. Words importing the singular number only include the plural number and vice versa. Words importing the masculine gender only shall include the feminine gender and vice versa.

2. RULES OF CONDUCT

The Association (Trust of IRSE Indian Section) decided that a code of professional conduct designed to cover all eventualities should be produced and published, and the following rules were approved in the AGM of 19th Feb 2009.

In making the rules, cognisance has been taken of the fact that rules shall necessarily be written in general terms expressing broad ethical principles. Furthermore, it has to be recognised that doubts as to the proper course of action required to conform to the code of professional conduct can arise from a conflict between a member's personal interest and his duty to others. Rules issued by the Association for the interpretation of the Code indicate the manner in which members are required to conduct themselves in a number of frequently encountered situations. In other situations, members are required to conduct themselves in accordance with the principle that in any conflict between a member's personal interest and fair and honest dealing with other members of the community, his duty to the community shall prevail.

Under these rules any reference to "member" shall mean a member of any class referred to in Trust Deed and reference to "Trustee" is extended to include Trust Writers.

2.1 A member shall at all times order his conduct so as to uphold the dignity and reputation of his profession and that of the Association. His conduct must also safeguard the public interest in manners of national policy, regulations, safety, health and otherwise. He shall exercise his professional skill and judgment to the best of his

ability and shall discharge his professional responsibilities with integrity and fairness for the interest of the Association in India as per Government of India's various policies and guidelines from time to time.

2.2 A member shall at all times take care to ensure that his work and the products of his work will not result in danger, death, injury or ill health to any person according to the railway engineering and safety practices at the time. In particular the safety requirements of railway signaling in India shall be his prevailing consideration. A member shall always recognise the need to ensure that the safety requirements of his work, the work of his associates and the work of those in his charge are correctly assessed and checked as per need of Railways in India.

2.3 A member shall take all reasonable steps to avoid waste of finances, natural resources, damage to the environment and wasteful damage or destruction of the products of human skill and Indian industry.

2.4 A member shall take all reasonable steps to maintain and develop his professional competence by attention to new developments in science and engineering relevant to his field of professional activity and shall encourage persons working under his supervision to do likewise.

2.5 A member shall not undertake responsibility as a railway signal or telecommunications engineer which he does not believe himself competent to discharge in India.

2.6 A member shall accept personal responsibility for all work undertaken by him, either under his supervision or by his direction. He shall take all reasonable steps to ensure that persons working under his authority are competent to carry out tasks assigned to them and that they accept personal responsibility for work carried out under the authority delegated to them preferably pursuing them to achieve competency license of desired category.

2.7 A member called upon in his professional capacity to give an opinion or mentoring shall, to the best of his ability, give an opinion or mentoring that is objective and reliable.

2.8 A member whose professional advice is not accepted, shall take all reasonable steps to ensure that the person overruling or neglecting his advice is made aware of any danger which the member believes may result from such overruling or neglect. He is advised to register such concern with the Institution and the Institution, at its discretion, may pursue the matter on his behalf

2.9 A member shall not make any public statement in India or outside in his capacity as a railway signal and/or telecommunications engineer, without ensuring that his

qualification to make such a statement, and any association he may have with any party which may benefit from his statement, is made known to the persons to whom it is directed.

2.10 A member, in self-laudatory language or in any manner derogatory to the dignity of the profession of railway signal and telecommunications engineers, shall not advertise or write articles for publication, nor shall he authorize any such advertisement or article to be written or published by any other person which is contrary to the working of IRSE Indian Section.

2.11 A member shall not recklessly or maliciously injure or attempt to injure, whether directly or indirectly, the professional reputation, prospects or business of another.

2.12 A member shall inform his employer in writing about his taking membership of the Association and also of any conflict between his personal interest and that of faithful service to his employer by taking up position of Officer of Association.

2.13 A member shall not improperly disclose any information concerning the business of either his current employer or of any previous employer.

2.14 A member shall not improperly solicit work as an independent adviser or consultant, either directly or by an agent, nor shall he improperly pay any person, by commission or otherwise, for the introduction of such work, if he is not competent to do it.

2.15 If a member shall be working in a country other than India where there are recognised standards of professional conduct, laid down in that country by a competent authority recognised by the Council, which are in conflict with previous provisions of this rule, he may declare this to Indian Section about this conflict of interest.

In addition to the foregoing general rules, further guidance is given as follows.

3. INDUSTRIAL ACTION

3.1 A member of the Association who is also a member of another Institution, he should honour the obligations which he has voluntarily assumed by his membership of the Association. If, at any time, his obligations to the other Institution should be in conflict with those deriving from the Trust Deed or Bye Laws of the Association, then his membership of the other Institution may be incompatible with his membership of the Association.

3.2 A member whose job requires him to take part in industrial action/ participation in another country for his company / employer, should not use the same to promote his company products using the name of the Association or IRSE, as it shall be regarded as

infringing the Institution/ Association byelaws or rules of conduct, provided his actions, are in accordance with the laws of that country.

4 ADVERTISING AND PUBLICITY

4.1 Publicity

The rules of professional conduct do not prevent a member from being named in the press, writing for the press, radio or television, or taking part in radio or television programmes, films or other appearances for the objective of the Association. A member may be featured in articles or programmes relating to his own work and is permitted to submit articles and scripts about his own work to the press, radio or television. A member may submit articles and scripts on engineering topics of general interest for the record of the Association/ Institution. He is restricted only in that, in any such article or programme, he shall not advertise or offer his professional services or solicit work, or suggest that he is more competent than other engineers, or use self-laudatory language.

4.2 Use of Title

The use of the words Institution of Railway Signal Engineer(s) and abbreviated titles descriptive of membership of the Institution/ Indian Association are governed by Institution Article which states:

"Honorary Fellows, Fellows, Members, Associate Members and Companions respectively shall be styled "Honorary Fellows, Fellows Members, Associate Members Companions of the Institution of Railway Signal Engineers (as the case may be) and shall be entitled to use the designation as given elsewhere.

Associates, Students and Technicians shall not be entitled to designations after their names."

Every member is entitled to use of the style or title designated in Article 7 for so long as he shall be a member. In using that description after his name he may associate with it the designation of the class in the Institution to which he belongs, stated in accordance with the following abbreviated forms Hon FIRSE, FIRSE, MIRSE, Comp IRSE or AMIRSE as the case may be.

No member shall adopt or describe himself by any other description or abbreviation to indicate the class of membership to which he belongs other than that provided in Article

5 DISCIPLINARY ACTION

In the event that a member fails to observe the Rules of Conduct of the Association, he may become subject to disciplinary action under the following provisions:

"The Trust shall have the sole right to deal with and decide all questions of conduct, to hold all enquiries into the conduct of members of the Association through one or more trustees as advised by Secretary of the Association (Trust) and make decisions in regard thereto and the sole power to call for and accept the resignation of or to expel any member of the Association on any ground or to take such other disciplinary action as they may consider appropriate.

In all such cases the Association shall give the member of the Association concerned the opportunity of being heard by serving at least seven days written notice of the meeting at which such member of the Association is to be heard. If such member of the Association fails to attend such meeting or fails to satisfy those members of the Trust present at such meeting that there is no case for expulsion, or no evidence of misconduct, or that there should be no compulsion to resign or to have other disciplinary action taken against the member, such meeting of the Association or any further meeting of the Association shall in their sole discretion have the right and power to expel such member of the Institution or call for or accept his resignation or refuse to continue to receive an annual subscription or to take such other disciplinary action as they consider appropriate.

The quorum for meetings of the Officers Association and Committee Members held to consider and decide the above-mentioned matters shall be five members present in person and entitled to vote and all decisions at such meetings on such matters shall require a two-thirds majority of those present and voting.

The Officer of Association or other Committee members of the Association shall be vacated if that Member or Officer-

- (a) Is subject to a receiving order or makes any arrangement or composition with creditors.
- (b) Is found lunatic or becomes of unsound mind.
- (c) Ceases to be a Member of the Institution/ Association.
- (d) By notice in writing to the Institution/ Association resigns from office.
- (e) Ceases to hold office by virtue of any provision of the Act or becomes prohibited by law from holding office.