

**GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS
GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION CENTER
PO BOX 5839
MC ALLEN, TEXAS 78502-5839**

1-800-522-0139

kh@acnet.net

Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers Code of Ethics

We, the members of the IEEE, in recognition of the importance of our technologies in affecting the quality of life throughout the world, and in accepting a personal obligation to our profession, its members and the communities we serve, do hereby commit ourselves to the highest ethical and professional conduct and agree:

1. to accept responsibility in making engineering decisions consistent with the safety, health and welfare of the public, and to disclose promptly factors that might endanger the public or the environment;
2. to avoid real or perceived conflicts of interest whenever possible, and to disclose them to affected parties when they do exist;
3. to be honest and realistic in stating claims or estimates based on available data;
4. to reject bribery in all its forms;
5. to improve the understanding of technology, its appropriate application, and potential consequences;
6. to maintain and improve our technical competence and to undertake technological tasks for others only if qualified by training or experience, or after full disclosure of pertinent limitations;
7. to seek, accept, and offer honest criticism of technical work, to acknowledge and correct errors, and to credit properly the contributions of others;
8. to treat fairly all persons regardless of such factors as race, religion, gender, disability, age, or national origin;
9. to avoid injuring others, their property, reputation, or employment by false or malicious action;
10. to assist colleagues and co-workers in their professional development and to support them in following this code of ethics.

Approved by the IEEE Board of Directors, August 1990

Case Studies

1. Butch has a patent for the special wiring of an electronic cable. SXXT Engineering incorporates that cable in the manufacture of a machine. SXXT Engineering pays Butch no royalties.
2. Samantha is competing for the design of a telephone. A former employee is also competing for the design of the same telephone. Samantha tells the potential client that her former employee is not qualified. The former employee has already participated in the design of four other telephones.
3. XXPT Engineering has a employee policy manual. The manual forbids any employee from using the IEEE Code of Ethics while bidding on a contract.
4. JQQM Engineering manufactures a transformer that is extremely hazardous. In various situations, customers have touched exposed areas and received severe shocks.
5. Charlie works for AYYY Engineering. He also works for AZZQ Electrical Supply. Neither employer has knowledge of the other employer. When AYYY Engineering asks AZZQ Electrical Supply for bids, Charlie raises the price by ten per cent.
6. Jill prepares an estimate for an open end contract. She makes the estimate about half of what she really thinks the contract will require. Her company completes the cost plus contract at twice her estimate.
6. Archie asks his boss about the ethics of a potential conflict of interest. His boss replies that ethics are only for religious people. If Archie is religious, only then should he adopt any code of ethics.
8. JJKQ Electric offers an MMQQ Engineers' employee a bribe if the employee uses JJKQ Electric as an exclusive bidder for a contract.
9. Alejandro makes an error in the design of an electrical regulator. A fire results after the regulator is installed. Alejandro blames the contractor for the error.