

IMPARTIALITY POLICY & PUBLIC STATEMENT

ACERTA Certification & Inspection Private Limited is the legal entity responsible for certification activities; reference to ACI in this Policy and Public Statement refers to these legal entities.

ACERTA Certification & Inspection Private Limited Top Management, Managers and Staff fully understand the importance of impartiality in undertaking its Certification Activities. ACI will therefore ensure that in all its dealings with clients or potential clients all employees or other personnel are and shall remain impartial and shall not allow commercial, financial or other pressures to compromise impartiality, this will also remain under their contracts and appointment letters. To ensure that impartiality is both maintained and can be demonstrated the following principals have been established.

- ACI top management always shows commitment to impartiality.
- All of the personnel of ACI (either internal or external) or committees who could influence the certification activities shall act impartially.
- ACI Certificates are only issued following a review by an independent authorized and impartial competent members committee to ensure that no interest shall predominate.
- ACI does not certify another certification body for its management system certification activities.
- ACI shall not offer (and has never offered) management system consultancy or any other form of consultancy to companies or individuals.
- ACI shall not offer (and has never offered) an internal audit service to companies or individuals.
- ACI does not own or have any interest (financial or otherwise) in any other company that offers certification, management system consultancy or internal audit services.
- ACI shall not outsource audits to a management system consultancy organization, as this poses an unacceptable threat to the impartiality of the certification body.
- ACI and or any part of the same legal entity under its organizational control shall not:
 - a) Be the designer, manufacturer, installer, distributor or maintainer of the certified product;
 - b) Be the designer, implementer, operator or maintainer of the certified process;
 - c) Be the designer, implementer, provider or maintainer of the certified service.
- ACI identifies all risks to its impartiality on an ongoing basis through past records of their personnel e.g. their experience letters etc. This includes those risks that arise from its certification activities, from its relationships to any company, or from the relationships of its personnel with the

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clients. Any proposed risks associated with ACI will undergo a risk assessment by the Committee for Impartiality prior to that relationship being formalized.

- ACI does not have (and shall not form) any relationships with companies who offer consultancy, internal audit services or other services that can be construed as having an impact on the certification services provided by ACI. Any proposed relationship between ACI and any other company will undergo a risk assessment by the Committee for Impartiality prior to that relationship being formalized.
- Any current relationships with companies, organizations and individuals will be risk assessed on a regular basis to ensure that the relationship does not impact upon the impartiality of the certification process. The risk assessment will be undertaken by the Committee for Impartiality.
- Individuals employed by or otherwise contracted to ACI are required to document and record their current and past relationships with all companies. Any situation past or present which may present a potential conflict of interest is required by ACI to be declared. ACI will use the information to identify any threats to impartiality and will not use that individual in any capacity unless they can demonstrate that there is no conflict of interest. The risk assessment will be undertaken by the Committee for Impartiality.
- ACI does not allocate a member of staff or sub-contractor to a management system audit, review and or certification decision where any past relationship has existed. Exceptionally and at the discretion of the Operations Manager or Top Management an individual or subcontractor may be allocated to a management system audit where a past relationship has existed but there has been no relationship for a minimum of 2 years. The risk assessment will be reviewed by the Committee for Impartiality.
- ACI ensures that activities of separate legal entities, with which the certification body or the legal entity of which it forms a part has relationships, do not compromise the impartiality of its certification activities.
- When a separate legal entity offers or produces the certified product (including products to be certified) or offers or provides consultancy, ACI's management personnel and personnel in the review and certification decision-making process do not involve in the activities of the separate legal entity. The personnel of the separate legal entity do not involve in the management of ACI, the review, or the certification decision.
- ACI does not market or offer its activities as linked with the activities of an organization that provides consultancy. ACI does not state or imply that certification would be simpler, easier, faster or less expensive if a specified consultancy organization were used and will take appropriate legal action should any such link be identified.

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- ACI takes appropriate legal action to respond to any risks to its impartiality, arising from the actions of other persons, bodies, or organizations, of which it becomes aware.



Approved by: _____

Dated: 07/01/2021

Mufti Zeeshan Abdul Aziz
CEO

ACERTA Certification & Inspection Private Limited