

WRc Certifying Body Impartiality and Non-Discrimination Conditions

In line with ISO:IEC 17065:2012 WRc requires that all certification activities be undertaken impartially. WRc recognises the fundamental importance of impartiality within all aspects of our Certification Body activities.

Impartiality Policy

WRc certification activities will be undertaken impartially and will not be compromised by commercial, financial or other pressures.

All Certification Body personnel, within WRc and external, or committees who could influence the certification activities will act impartially.

Risks to WRc's impartiality will be monitored on an ongoing basis. These include risks from our activities as a business, risks associated with our relationship with other organisations and risk associated with our personnel (both working directly on certification activities and working in other parts of the business). The following are all included within our monitoring:

- Ownership
- Governance
- Management
- Personnel
- Shared resources
- Finances
- Contracts
- Marketing (including branding)
- Sales commission and inducement for referrals of new clients

Any risk to impartiality will be identified, recorded, minimised/eliminated. This information will be available to the 'Expert Resin Lining Group' (ERLG), WRc Certifying Body's impartiality mechanism.

Management are committed to ensuring WRc acts impartiality within all our certification activities and this is built into WRc's documented information.

WRc, including any part of the same legal entity or entities under its organizational control, will not undertake any of the following at risk of impartiality re. our Certification Body activities:

- be the designer, manufacturer, installer, distributor, or maintainer of the certified product
- be the designer, implementer, operator or maintainer of the certified process or service
- offer or provide consultancy to its clients (*see Definitions*)
- offer or provide management system (ISO/IEC 17021:2011) consultancy or interim auditing where the certification scheme requires the evaluation of the client's management system

WRc will ensure that the activities of all separate legal entities do not compromise the impartiality of our certification activities. Specifically where a separate legal entity:

- offers or produces the certified product (including products to be certified), or
- offers or provides consultancy

THIS POLICY STATEMENT SUPERSEDES ALL PREVIOUS ISSUES

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Next review: May 2022

WRC will ensure there is clear separation between the personnel within the separate legal entity and the certification body. Specifically WRC's management personnel and personnel in the review and certification decision-making process will not be involved in the activities of the separate legal entity. Also the personnel of the separate legal entity will not be involved in the management of the certification body, the review, or the certification decision.

WRC will not market its certification body activities as linked with the activities of an organisation that provides consultancy. Therefore we will not state or imply that certification would be simpler, easier, faster or less expensive if a specified consultancy organisation were used.

Personal who have previously provided consultancy for a specific product will not be used for certification body activities for the associated product for a period of 2 years.

Non-Discrimination Conditions

WRC Certification Body shall ensure that its policies and procedures do not inhibit or impede prospective applicants from applying for an evaluation.

Policies and procedures shall be as open and inclusive to allow anyone who wishes to apply for evaluation, within the boundaries outlined in BS EN ISO 17065, to do so.

If an application falls within WRC's scope as a certification body, the company/group/entity applying shall not be inhibited from accessing WRC's services, subject to the impartiality policy outlined in this document.

WRC will not:

- consider the size of the company/group applying for certification when assessing whether to proceed with their application
- consider how many certifications have already been issued prior to an application being submitted when assessing whether to proceed with their application
- place any undue, unfair or exceptionally burdensome financial conditions on the applicant during the application process

During the evaluation, review, decision and surveillance processes, WRC will confine its certification requirements only to within the agreed scope of certification.

The successful implementation of the policy requires the full commitment of all employees at all levels of the Company.



Andy Blackhall

MD

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Definitions

Consultancy is defined within this this context as:

- the designing, manufacturing, installing, maintaining or distributing of a certified product or a product to be certified, or
- the designing, implementing, operating or maintaining of a certified process or a process to be certified, or
- the designing, implementing, providing or maintaining of a certified service or a service to be certified.