



**ep&t global**

ENVIRONMENT | PROPERTY | TECHNOLOGY

# Code of Conduct

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# Code of Conduct

## EP&T Global Limited ACN 645 144 314 (EP&T)

### Operative provisions

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#### 1. Introduction

##### 1.1 Background

EP&T is committed to maintaining ethical standards in the conduct of its business activities. EP&T's reputation as an ethical business organisation is important to its ongoing success. EP&T expects you to be familiar with and have a personal commitment to meeting these standards. Acting ethically and responsibly goes well beyond mere compliance with legal obligations and involves acting with honesty, integrity and in a manner that is consistent with the reasonable expectations of investors in the broader community. It includes being, and being seen to be, a 'good corporate citizen', for example by:

- (a) respecting the human rights of its employees;
- (b) creating a safe and non-discriminatory workplace;
- (c) dealing honestly and fairly with suppliers and customers;
- (d) acting responsibly towards the environment; and
- (e) only dealing with business partners who demonstrate similar ethical and responsible business practices.

It is the responsibility of the senior executive team to personally display these ethics and values and inculcate them across EP&T.

##### 1.2 Purpose

- (a) This Code of Conduct (**Code**) clearly states the standards of responsibility and ethical conduct expected of you as a director or employee of EP&T. It applies to all directors and employees of EP&T, and where relevant and to the extent possible, consultants, secondees and contractors of EP&T.
- (b) The Code requires you and, where relevant and to the extent possible, consultants, secondees and contractors of EP&T to adhere to the law and various policies of EP&T referred to in this Code. The standards set out in this Code cannot, and do not try to, anticipate every situation which may pose a legal, ethical or moral issue. Therefore, the Code is not a prescriptive set of rules for business behaviour, but rather a practical set of principles giving direction and reflecting EP&T's approach to business conduct.
- (c) You need to exercise sound judgment when evaluating an issue of business conduct. If you are in any doubt, you should seek advice before taking any action which may compromise yourself or EP&T.

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#### 2. EP&T's business ethics

##### 2.1 Openness, honesty, fairness, integrity and in the best interests of EP&T

You must conduct yourself with openness, honesty, fairness, integrity and in the best interests of EP&T in all business transactions and in all dealings with others including customers,

suppliers, securityholders, employees, joint venture partners, creditors, financiers, the financial markets, governments and the general public.

This means that you:

- (a) must not make promises or commitments which to your knowledge EP&T is unable to, or does not intend to, honour;
- (b) must ensure that all business decisions with customers and suppliers are made solely on sound commercial grounds having regard to the quality, price and service;
- (c) must not use EP&T's name or your position for personal gain or in competition with EP&T;
- (d) must act with due care and diligence in fulfilling the functions of your office or employment; and
- (e) should not engage in conduct which may bring discredit upon EP&T.

## **2.2 Giving and accepting business courtesies**

- (a) You must not give, seek or accept in connection with EP&T's operations any gifts, meals, refreshments and entertainment which goes beyond common courtesies associated with ordinary and proper course of business. You must avoid everything that could reasonably be construed as a bribe or improper inducement.
- (b) Any gift, entertainment or other personal favour or assistance given or received which has a value in excess of an amount determined and announced by the Board from time to time must be approved by the Managing Director (MD) / CEO (or in the absence of the MD / CEO, the CFO) and entered into the gifts register maintained by the Company Secretary. Any gift not declared may be viewed as a bribe.
- (c) The rationale for this restriction is that the offer or acceptance of a gift can create an obligation or be construed or used by others to allege favouritism, discrimination, collusion or similarly unacceptable practices by EP&T.

## **2.3 Financial and other inducements**

- (a) Offering a bribe to a government official and the receipt of a bribe by a government official is prohibited under Australian law (including the Criminal Code Act 1995, and the laws of most countries. Australia is a signatory to the OECD Convention Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions and has enacted legislation prohibiting the offering of anything of value to foreign public officials which enables it to prosecute its citizens and corporations for the bribery of public officials in other countries.
- (b) A contravention of anti-bribery legislation has serious consequences, such as imprisonment or fines.
- (c) You should not make any payments or payments in kind (gifts, favours, etc.) to influence individuals to award business opportunities to EP&T or make business decisions in EP&T's favour.

## **2.4 Mutual respect**

You are expected to treat with courtesy and respect your colleagues, joint venture partners, customers, suppliers, securityholders and anyone else with whom you interact in your work.

## **2.5 Ethical conduct**

- (a) You must act ethically in your approach to business decisions.
  - (b) In negotiating and administering contracts and other business relationships, you are expected to be fair and reasonable. You must not behave in any way that is, or might be construed as being harsh, oppressive, unconscionable, unethical, coercive or dishonest.
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## **3. Business and personal conduct**

### **3.1 Compliance with laws and regulations**

- (a) You must comply with all laws and regulations relating to your business conduct and EP&T's operations. This includes being familiar with the duties and responsibilities applying to you under the laws relevant to EP&T and in the context of your role in EP&T.
- (b) Any activities carried out by yourself or EP&T outside Australia must comply with the foreign laws which may apply to any activities or operations.
- (c) Each member of the leadership team is required to ensure that they are aware of the legal obligations and requirements that impact their areas of responsibility.
- (d) The laws that govern EP&T's business activities may be complex. You are encouraged to contact the Company Secretary if you are unclear about laws or regulations relating to your work. There can be no justification for knowingly breaking the law or for choosing to be uninformed about the law. Good motives are not an excuse for committing illegal acts.

### **3.2 Trading in securities**

- (a) The law prohibits dealing in the shares of a company or the units of a trust while in possession of "inside information". "Inside information" is information that is not generally available and if it was available, a reasonable person would expect it to have a material effect on the price or value of securities.
- (b) You must not (and must not cause another person to) trade in EP&T securities or the shares of any other company to which the information relates on the basis of inside information or pass inside information onto someone who might use inside information to trade in EP&T securities or any other company to which the information relates.
- (c) A breach of insider trading provisions may result in criminal prosecution.
- (d) Any trading or other dealing in EP&T securities must be done in accordance with the Securities Trading Policy. If you have any doubt, you should contact the Company Secretary.

### **3.3 Privacy and Intellectual property**

- (a) You may have access to records which contain information that may be of a personal nature, or that EP&T has obtained to assist in the management of the business. This information is private and confidential and may not be disclosed to any unauthorised third party.
- (b) All intellectual property that you generate in relation to EP&T and its activities is the property of EP&T. You are responsible for protecting EP&T's intellectual property rights.

### 3.4 Confidentiality and control of information

- (a) You must ensure that you do not disclose any Confidential Information or Proprietary Information to any third party or other employee who does not have a valid business reason for receiving that information.
- (b) “Confidential Information” in this context means information that EP&T considers private and that is not generally available outside EP&T.
- (c) “Proprietary Information” in this context means information that EP&T owns, develops, pays to have developed or to which it has an exclusive right.
- (d) If Confidential Information or Proprietary Information is required to be provided to third parties or other employees for valid business purposes, EP&T and its employees must:
  - (i) take adequate precautions to ensure that information is only used for those purposes for which it is provided and is not misused or disseminated to EP&T’s detriment; and
  - (ii) ensure that the information is returned or destroyed when the purpose is complete.
- (e) Such precautions include obtaining a confidentiality agreement or other undertaking. Advice about these measures can be obtained from the Company Secretary.
- (f) You must:
  - (i) return all EP&T property including any documents or Confidential Information or Proprietary Information, on termination or on the request of EP&T or its representative; and
  - (ii) if requested by EP&T or its representative, destroy or delete any Confidential Information or Proprietary Information stored in electronic, magnetic or optical form so that it cannot be retrieved or reconstructed.

### 3.5 Identification and notification of material price sensitive information

As soon as an employee or Director becomes aware of material price sensitive information which has not been previously released by EP&T, he or she should immediately notify the Company Secretary.

### 3.6 Corporate opportunities

You must not, without written approval of a member of the leadership team, pursue or take personal advantage of any business opportunities which arise as a result of your position within EP&T or the use of EP&T’s property or information.

### 3.7 Financial integrity

- (a) EP&T has stringent financial accounting procedures that are overseen by management, the Audit and Risk Management Committee and the external auditor. Therefore:
  - (i) the use of EP&T funds or assets for any unauthorised or unethical purpose, including for the advantage of others, or to cause loss to EP&T is prohibited. No undisclosed funds or assets of EP&T have, or will be, maintained or established for any purpose;

- (ii) no false or misleading entries may be made in the books or records of EP&T for any reason; and
  - (iii) no payment on behalf of EP&T may be made or approved on the understanding that it will or might be used for something other than the stated purpose.
- (b) You must ensure that:
- (i) EP&T's financial books, records, reports and statements properly document all assets, liabilities, and revenue; and
  - (ii) expenses accurately reflect all transactions of EP&T and are retained in accordance with EP&T's policies and all applicable laws and regulations.

### **3.8 Personal conduct**

You are expected to adhere to the following standards of personal conduct:

- (a) act honestly, in good faith and in the best interests of EP&T as a whole;
- (b) use due care and diligence in fulfilling the functions of your position and exercising the powers attached to your employment;
- (c) recognise that your primary responsibility is to EP&T and its securityholders as a whole;
- (d) attend and undertake your work without being under the influence of drugs, alcohol or other substances or being distracted by personal business or other interests; and
- (e) protect any EP&T assets under your control and not use them for personal purposes, without EP&T's prior approval.

### **3.9 Business agreements and contracts**

EP&T expects to compete fairly and ethically for all business opportunities. If you are involved in the negotiation of agreements on behalf of EP&T or an entity controlled by EP&T:

- (a) you must ensure that you act in accordance with the law;
- (b) all statements, communications and representations made to customers, suppliers, partners, competitors and others with whom you undertake business transactions, should be accurate and truthful and must not be misleading or deceptive;
- (c) all appropriate approvals must be obtained before any agreements are executed; and
- (d) you acknowledge that EP&T is committed to meeting all of its contractual obligations and accordingly you are expected to know, understand, and honour the terms of EP&T's contractual obligations that are relevant to your role.

### **3.10 Gathering information on the company's competitors**

While EP&T acknowledges that an understanding of the market, and therefore its competitors, is essential in undertaking business, gathering this information should be done legally and ethically. Information should not be gained through unlawful or deceitful means.

### **3.11 Avoiding or managing conflicts of interest**

- (a) A conflict of interest arises when a person is in a position which requires them to balance their own interests or the interests of others (such as friends or relatives)

against the interests of EP&T. You must fully and promptly disclose to EP&T any private or other business interests or other matters which may lead to potential or actual conflicts of interest.

- (b) If you have any doubt about conflicts of interest, you should contact the Company Secretary, in the case of directors and a member of the leadership team, or your manager in the case of any other employee.

### **3.12 The financial community**

EP&T is committed to delivering securityholder value within an appropriate framework which safeguards the rights and interests of EP&T's securityholders and the financial community generally. EP&T aims to comply with the systems of control and accountability in place as part of its corporate governance in accordance with the ethical standards referred to in this Code.

### **3.13 EP&T and its employees**

- (a) EP&T actively supports the principle of equal employment opportunity regardless of race, religion, national origin, sex, age, physical disability, marital status or sexual orientation and expects its senior management and employees to practise and support this principle.
- (b) EP&T's policy is to avoid discriminatory practices of any kind and to make employment and career decisions strictly on the basis of individual ability, performance, experience and EP&T requirements.
- (c) EP&T believes that every individual has the right to dignity and respect in the workplace. Therefore, EP&T regards any personal, physical or sexual harassment as totally unacceptable. That sort of behaviour is unacceptable regardless of whom the perpetrator is, and may lead to the termination of their employment. The use of any medium (including email or the Internet) to disseminate material which is sexually explicit, defamatory, vulgar, or racist is prohibited. The use of EP&T facilities to access material which is sexually explicit, defamatory, vulgar, or racist is also prohibited. These policies apply to you regardless of your position.
- (d) EP&T is committed to protecting the health and safety of its employees, visitors and the public. EP&T expects and requires you to comply with Occupational Health and Safety laws and EP&T policies, including your obligation to report any hazardous conditions in the workplace and any workplace incidents or accidents.

### **3.14 Other policies regulating employee behaviour**

- (a) EP&T has policies and procedures which govern conduct of its business and operations. All senior management and employees are expected to make themselves familiar with the EP&T's policies and procedures and to adhere to those policies in conducting business or operations on behalf of EP&T.
- (b) You are also expected to know, and always act within, the limits of your authority to speak on behalf of EP&T and to commit EP&T to business transactions or to make other commitments on behalf of EP&T.



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## **4. Other matters**

### **4.1 Reporting of suspected fraudulent or unethical behaviour**

- (a) It may be difficult to always ensure compliance with this Code and therefore the cooperation of every person is required. If you suspect that any fraudulent or unethical behaviour has occurred, or are concerned that any conduct by any director, officer or employee may be in breach of applicable law or this code, you should contact the Chair of the Audit and Risk Management Committee, the Company Secretary or EP&T's auditors. Details of any concerns and the identity of any persons making the report will be treated confidentially. Any matter reported will be handled promptly and in a manner that ensures the individual is not disadvantaged for reporting their concerns. For full details, please see EP&T's Whistleblowers Policy.
- (b) Employees may receive training on how to comply with the Code.
- (c) All material breaches of this Code are to be reported to the board for consideration and investigation.

### **4.2 Consequences for breaching the code**

- (a) All suspected breaches of the Code will be thoroughly investigated by EP&T. If these investigations reveal breaches of the Code, appropriate disciplinary and remedial action will be taken, depending on the nature of the breach. This will range from providing the director, senior manager or employee with training, coaching and counselling through to formal warnings and/or to termination.
- (b) EP&T reserves the right to inform the appropriate authorities where it is considered that there has been criminal activity or an apparent breach of the law.

### **4.3 More information**

If there are any questions regarding any aspect of this Code, please contact the Company Secretary.

### **4.4 Amendment of policy**

This Code of Conduct can only be amended with the approval of the Board.

### **4.5 Adoption of Policy and Board review**

- (a) This Code of Conduct was adopted by the Board on 18 March 2021, and takes effect from that date and replaces any previous policy in this regard.
- (b) The Board will review this Code of Conduct periodically. The Company Secretary will communicate any amendments to employees as appropriate.