Impartiality of PCI Certification Activities Policy

IMPARTIALITY OF PCI CERTIFICATION ACTIVITIES POLICY

PCI has a commitment to impartiality and understands the importance of this. In doing so, PCI manages conflict of interest and ensures the objectivity of its certification activities. Nor does PCI outsource audits to a management system consultancy organization, as this poses an unacceptable threat. Our activities are not marketed or offered as linked with the activities of an organization that provides management system consultancy and we take actions to correct all inappropriate claims by any consultancy organization. All PCI personnel who could influence the certification activities act impartially and do not allow commercial, financial or other pressures to compromise impartiality.

IMPARTIALITY COMMITMENT STATEMENT

The main activities of PCI, other than management systems certification, include standards formulation, personnel certification, standards promotion, international cooperation, and training services. All these activities, including Management Systems Certification activity, have an independent set up which consists of Head of departments responsible for these activities and officers and staff working under them. There is, therefore, no conflict of interest with other functions of PCI, which may affect the confidentiality, objectivity or impartiality of the management systems certification activity. No function of PCI involves consultancy for the development of management systems, services to design, implement or maintain management systems and/or those services that PCI certifies/registers.

Standards Formulation Departments of PCI or any other department including MSC may make available and publish on request information on the basis for interpretation of the requirements of the assessment and other related standards. This shall not be considered as consultancy or necessarily creating a conflict of interest.

PCI does not provide any kind of consultancy services for advising, preparing, development, implementation, on any matter relating to Management Systems for any organization. Therefore, neither the situation exists for marketing this activity of consultancy services nor PCI suggests or markets any specified consultancy or training services undertaken by other organization. Nor does PCI outsource audits to organizations that provide management system consultancy. In fact, any PCI personnel/subcontractors who have provided consultancy, internal audits, or had any relationship with a Client are not be used for a minimum of two (2) years for certification activities.

PCI management system certification activities are not marketed or offered as linked with the activities of management system consultancy organization. The training services provided by PCI are also not marketed or suggested by Management Systems Certification for any simpler, easier or less expensive certification process.

PCI does not certify any other certification body offering management system certification. It also does not offer internal audit services to its licensees.
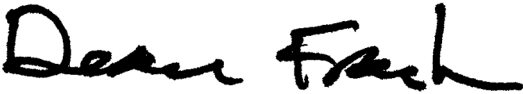
PCI Quality Activities Council (QAC) (Impartiality Committee according to ISO 17021 terminology) represents a balance of interests of various stakeholders such that no single interest predominates. It monitors the impartiality and functioning of the MSC activity.

PCI personnel including its senior executive and staff are free from any commercial, financial and other pressures for undertaking Management Systems Certification activity and other activities undertaken by it which might influence the results of the certification process.

PCI personnel/subcontractors will not be influenced by financial, commercial, or other pressures when conducting certification activities, and will take action to address any situation that would affect impartiality. PCI personnel/subcontractors are required to disclose any potential conflicts of interest as a condition of their employment. Potential conflicts of interest and threats to impartiality are reviewed and documented. PCI will not provide certification services if impartiality is threatened by activities of related bodies. PCI ensures that activities of related bodies do not affect the impartiality, objectivity, and confidentiality of its certification process.

Areas for potential conflict of interest will be documented and actions taken to eliminate or reduce the conflict will be documented and actions taken will be reviewed

In case that an organizational member of PCI applies for Management Systems Certification, PCI would ensure that certification process involving audits and decision is undertaken in such a manner that it ensures impartiality through the use of a team leader who is not related to applicant organization for the audits and decision on certification is taken ensuring that applicant organization does not have any influence on the decision of certification.

Dean A. Frank, P.E., LEED Green Assoc.

PCI Director of Quality & Sustainability Programs

IMPARTIALITY POLICY OBJECTIVES

To achieve the above Impartiality Policy, the following objectives will be implemented:

a. Constant Review and documentation for conflicts of interest and threats to impartiality;

b. Submit Agreements to PCI Auditors, Committee Members and all internal PCI personnel;

c. Regularly obtain feedback from the customers, analyze such feedback and take actions for improvements to maintain Impartiality Assurance;

d. Maintain completeness, accuracy and correctness of information related to services.