

## **Code of Ethics: ACCP Level III**

### **1. Preamble**

In order to safeguard the life, health, property, and welfare of the public, to maintain integrity and high standards of skills and practices in the profession of nondestructive testing, the following rules of professional conduct shall be binding upon every person issued a certificate by ASNT as a Level III.

1.1. The Level III who holds a certificate is charged with having knowledge of the existence of the reasonable rules and regulations hereinafter provided for his/her conduct as ASNT Level III, and also shall be familiar with their provisions and understand them. Such knowledge shall encompass the understanding that the practice of nondestructive testing under this certification is a privilege, as opposed to a right, and the Level III shall be forthright and candid in statements or written responses to the Ethics Committee of the Certification Management Board.

1.2. The "Level III" as referred to herein is that individual who has been issued a certificate by the American Society for Nondestructive Testing, Inc. pursuant to its heretofore published requirements, rules, and procedures for such certification. This Code of Ethics is binding upon all individuals so certified.

### **2. Integrity**

The Level III is obligated to act with complete integrity in professional matters for each client or employer as a faithful agent or trustee; shall be honest and impartial; and shall serve the public, clients, and employer with devotion.

### **3. Responsibility to the Public**

The Level III shall protect the safety, health, and welfare of the public in the performance of professional duties. Should the case arise where the Level III faces a situation where the safety, health, and welfare of the public are not protected, he/she shall:

3.1. Apprise the proper authority if it is evident that the safety, health, and welfare of the public are not being protected; and

3.2. Refuse to accept responsibility for the design, report, or statement involved; and

3.3. If necessary, sever relationship with the employer or client; and

3.4. Undertake to perform assignments only when qualified by training and experience in the specific technical fields involved. In the event a question arises as to the competence of an Level III to perform an assignment in a field of specific discipline which cannot be otherwise resolved to the Ethics Committee's satisfaction, the Ethics Committee, either upon request of the Level III, or by its own volition, may require him/her to submit to an appropriate inquiry by or on behalf of the Ethics Committee; and

3.5. Be completely objective in any professional report, statement, or testimony, avoiding any omission which would, or reasonably could, lead to fallacious inference, finding, or misrepresentation; and

3.6. Express an opinion as a technical witness before any court, commission, or other tribunal, only when such opinion is founded upon adequate knowledge of the facts in issue, upon a background of technical competence in the subject matter, and upon an honest conviction of the accuracy or propriety of the testimony.

#### 4. Public Statements

4.1. The Level III will issue no statements, criticisms, or arguments on nondestructive testing matters connected with public policy which are inspired or paid for by an interested party, or parties, unless he/she has prefaced the remark(s) by explicitly identifying himself/herself, by disclosing the identities of the party, on whose behalf he/she is speaking, and by revealing the existence of any pecuniary interest he/she may have in these matters.

4.2. The Level III will publicly express no opinion on a nondestructive testing matter unless it is founded upon

adequate knowledge of the facts in issue, upon a background of technical competence in the subject matter, and upon honest conviction of the accuracy and propriety of the testimony.

#### 5. Conflict of Interest

5.1. The Level III shall conscientiously avoid conflict of interest with the employer or client, but when unavoidable, shall forthwith disclose the circumstances to the employer or client.

5.2. The Level III shall promptly inform the client or employer of any business associations, interests, or circumstances which could influence his/her judgment or the quality of services to the client or employer.

5.3. The Level III shall not accept compensation, financial or otherwise, from more than one party for services on the same project, or for services pertaining to the same project, unless the circumstances are fully disclosed to, and agreed to, by all interested parties or their duly authorized agents.

5.4. The Level III shall not solicit or accept financial or other valuable consideration from material or equipment suppliers for specifying their products.

5.5. The Level III shall not solicit or accept gratuities, directly or indirectly, from contractors, their agents, or other parties dealing with the client or employer in connection with work for which he/she is responsible.

5.6. As an elected, retained, or employed public official, the Level III (in the capacity as a public official) shall not review or approve work that was performed by himself/herself, or under his/her direction, on behalf of another employer or client.

## 6. Solicitation of Employment

6.1. The Level III shall not pay, solicit, nor offer, directly or indirectly, any bribe or commission for professional employment with the exception of payment of the usual commission for securing salaried positions through licensed employment agencies.

6.2. The Level III shall seek professional employment on the basis of qualification and competence for proper accomplishment of work.

6.3. The Level III shall not falsify or permit misrepresentation of his/her, or his/her associates', academic or professional qualification. He/she shall not misrepresent or exaggerate the degree of responsibility in or for the subject matter of prior assignments.

6.4. Brochures or other presentations incident to the solicitation of employment shall not misrepresent pertinent facts concerning employers, employees, associates, joint ventures, or past accomplishments with the intent and purpose of enhancing qualifications and work.

## 7. Improper Conduct

7.1. The Level III shall not sign documents for work for which he/she does not have personal professional knowledge and direct technical supervisory control and responsibility.

7.2. The Level III shall not knowingly associate with, or permit the use of, his/her name or firm name in a business venture by any person or firm which he/she knows, or has reason to believe is engaging in business or professional practices of a fraudulent or dishonest nature.

## 8. Unauthorized Practice

Any violation of this code shall be deemed to be an unauthorized practice and upon proper complaint, investigation, due process hearing and ruling of the Ethics Committee of the ASNT Certification Management Council in accordance with procedures heretofore established and published, sanctions may be applied to the individual(s) in violation.

## 9. Rulings of Other Jurisdictions

Conviction of a felony while ASNT certification is valid or the revocation or suspension of a Professional Engineer's License by another jurisdiction or similar rulings by other professional associations may be grounds for a charge of violation of this Code.