

**ACDC METALS LTD**  
**ACN 654 049 699**  
**(Company)**

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## **CORPORATE CODE OF CONDUCT**

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(Approved by the Board on 4 July 2023)



## **1. Purpose**

The purpose of this Code of Conduct is to provide a framework for decisions and actions in relation to ethical conduct in employment. It underpins the Company's commitment to integrity and fair dealing in its business affairs and to a duty of care to all employees, clients and stakeholders.

The Code of Conduct has been approved by the Board and is periodically reviewed and updated as required. The document sets out the principles covering appropriate conduct in a variety of contexts and outlines the minimum standard of behaviour expected from employees. It is supplemented by policies approved by the Board and standards, processes and procedures developed by management that provide practical guidance on the principles, practices and standards employees are expected to follow.

## **2. Compliance**

### **2.1 Scope**

The Code of Conduct applies at work and to work related events and out-of-hours activities that are connected to employment or work with the company.

### **2.2 Personal responsibility**

Everyone who works for the Company, including directors, officers, executives, managers, supervisors, employees, contractors and service providers (where they are under a contractual obligation to do so), must comply with the Code of Conduct together with policies and any standards, processes and procedures which relate to their daily business activities.

### **2.3 Directors' responsibilities**

Directors are requested to certify compliance with the Code of Conduct each year.

### **2.4 Training**

Employees are required to complete annual Code of Conduct training.

## **3. Accountabilities**

### **3.1 Managers and Supervisors**

Managers and supervisors are responsible and accountable for:

- (a) undertaking their duties and behaving in a manner that is consistent with the provisions of the Code of Conduct;



- (b) the effective implementation, promotion and support of the Code of Conduct in their areas of responsibility; and
- (c) ensuring employees under their control understand and follow the provisions outlined in the Code of Conduct and receive appropriate training in respect of the Code of Conduct.

### **3.2 Employees**

All employees are responsible for:

- (a) understanding and complying with the Code of Conduct. To this end, regular and appropriate training on how to comply with this Code of Conduct will be provided to all employees;
- (b) undertaking their duties in a manner that is consistent with the provisions of the Code of Conduct;
- (c) reporting suspected corrupt conduct in accordance with the Company's Whistleblower Protection Policy and Anti-Bribery and Anti-Corruption Policy; and
- (d) reporting any departure from the Code of Conduct by themselves or others.

## **4. Personal and Professional Behaviour**

When carrying out your duties, you should:

- (a) behave honestly and with integrity and report other employees who are behaving dishonestly;
- (b) treat fellow employees with respect and not engage in bullying, harassment or discrimination;
- (c) disclose and deal appropriately with any conflicts between your personal interests and your duty as a director, senior executive or employee (as applicable);
- (d) not take advantage of the property or information of the Company or its customers for personal gain or to cause detriment to the Company or its customers;
- (e) not take advantage of your position for the opportunities arising there from for personal gain;
- (f) carry out your work with integrity and to a high standard and in particular, commit to the Company's policy of producing quality goods and services;
- (g) operate within the law at all times;
- (h) act in the best interests of the Company;



- (i) follow the policies of the Company and adhere to the Company's values; and
- (j) act in an appropriate business-like manner when representing the Company in public forums and deal with customers and suppliers fairly.

## 5. Conflict of Interest

Potential for conflict of interest arises when it is likely that you could be influenced, or it could be perceived that you are influenced, by a personal interest when carrying out your duties. Conflicts of interest that lead to biased decision making may constitute corrupt conduct.

- (a) Some situations that may give rise to a conflict of interest include situations where you have:
  - (i) financial interests in a matter the Company deals with or you are aware that your friends or relatives have a financial interest in the matter;
  - (ii) directorships/management of outside organisations;
  - (iii) membership of boards of outside organisations;
  - (iv) personal relationships with people the Company is dealing with which go beyond the level of a professional working relationship;
  - (v) secondary employment, business, commercial, or other activities outside of the workplace which impacts on your duty and obligations to the Company;
  - (vi) access to information that can be used for personal gain; and
  - (vii) offer of an inducement.
- (b) You may often be the only person aware of the potential for conflict. It is your responsibility to avoid any conflict from arising that could compromise your ability to perform your duties impartially. You must report any potential or actual conflicts of interest to your manager.
- (c) If you are uncertain whether a conflict exists, you should discuss that matter with your manager and attempt to resolve any conflicts that may exist.
- (d) You must comply with the Company's Anti-Bribery and Anti-Corruption Policy at all times. You must not submit or accept any bribe, or other improper inducement. Any such inducements are to be reported to your manager.



## **6. Information Systems, Devices and Social Media**

### **6.1 Information Systems**

Email, the internet, facsimile, telephones and other information systems must be used appropriately so as to maintain and not put at risk the integrity of the Company's information systems. The Company has policies in place to manage risks associated with information technology systems and their use. Employees must comply with the requirements of those policies at all times.

### **6.2 Bring Your Own Devices**

Employees linking personal devices to the Company's information systems must ensure they first obtain appropriate authorisation and use such devices in accordance with all relevant policies.

### **6.3 Social Media/Networking**

Employees must ensure that they use any social media and networking sites in accordance with the requirements of the Code of Conduct and relevant policies.

## **7. Public and Media Comment**

- (a) Individuals have a right to give their opinions on political and social issues in their private capacity as members of the community.
- (b) Employees must not make official comment on matters relating to the Company unless they are:
  - (i) authorised to do so by the Chief Executive Officer/Managing Director; or
  - (ii) giving evidence in court; or
  - (iii) otherwise authorised or required to by law.
- (c) Employees must not release unpublished or privileged information unless they have the authority to do so from the Chief Executive Officer/Managing Director.
- (d) The above restrictions apply except where prohibited by law, for example in relation to "whistleblowing". Employees should refer to the Company's Whistleblower Protection Policy for further information.

## **8. Use of Company Resources**

Requests to use Company resources outside core business time should be referred to management for approval.



If employees are authorised to use Company resources outside core business times, they must take responsibility for maintaining, replacing, and safeguarding the resources and following any special directions or conditions that apply.

Employees using Company resources without obtaining prior approval could face disciplinary and/or criminal action. Company resources are not to be used for any private commercial purposes.

## **9. Security of Information**

Employees are to make sure that confidential and sensitive information cannot be accessed by unauthorised persons. Sensitive material should be securely stored overnight or when unattended. Employees must ensure that confidential information is only disclosed or discussed with people who are authorised to have access to it. It is considered a serious act of misconduct to deliberately release confidential documents or information to unauthorised persons and may incur disciplinary action.

## **10. Intellectual Property/Copyright**

Intellectual property includes the rights relating to scientific discoveries, industrial designs, trademarks, service marks, commercial names and designations, and inventions and is valuable to the Company.

The Company is the owner of intellectual property created by employees in the course of their employment unless a specific prior agreement has been made. Employees must obtain written permission to use any such intellectual property from the Company Secretary/ Chair of the Board before making any use of that property for purposes other than as required in their role as employee.

## **11. Discrimination and Harassment**

Employees must not harass, discriminate, or support others who harass and discriminate against colleagues or members of the public on the grounds of gender, marital or family status, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, disabilities, ethnicity, religious beliefs, cultural background, socio-economic background, perspective or experience.

Bullying is viewed as a risk to workplace health and safety. Employees must avoid actions which harass or bully another team member.

Such harassment, discrimination or bullying may constitute an offence under legislation. The Company's executives should understand and apply the principles of equal employment opportunity.

Employees must also comply with the Company's Whistleblower Protection Policy.



## **12. Corrupt Conduct**

Employees must comply with the Company's Anti-Bribery & Anti-Corruption Policy at all times.

Corrupt conduct involves the dishonest or partial use of power or position which results in one person/group being advantaged over another. Corruption can take many forms including, but not limited to:

- (a) official misconduct;
- (b) bribery and blackmail;
- (c) unauthorised use of confidential information;
- (d) fraud; and
- (e) theft.

Corrupt conduct will not be tolerated by the Company. Disciplinary action up to and including dismissal will be taken in the event of any employee participating in corrupt conduct.

Employees should refer to the Company's Whistleblower Protection Policy in respect of reporting corrupt conduct, conduct in breach of any of the Company's policies or its Code of Conduct.

## **13. Occupational Health and Safety**

It is the responsibility of all employees to act in accordance with the occupational health and safety legislation, regulations and policies applicable to their respective organisations and to use security and safety equipment provided.

Specifically, all employees are responsible for safety in their work area by:

- (a) following the safety and security directives of management;
- (b) advising management of areas where there is a potential problem in safety and reporting suspicious occurrences; and
- (c) minimising risks in the workplace.

## **14. Legislation**

It is essential that all employees comply with the laws and regulations of the countries in which we operate. Violations of such laws may have serious consequences for the Company and any individuals concerned. Any known violation must be reported immediately to management.



**15. Fair Dealing**

The Company aims to succeed through fair and honest competition and not through unethical or illegal business practices. Each employee should endeavour to deal fairly with the Company's suppliers, customers and other employees.

**16. Insider Trading**

All employees must observe the Company's "Trading Policy". In conjunction with the legal prohibition on dealing in the Company's securities when in possession of unpublished price sensitive information, the Company has established specific time periods when Directors, management and employees are only permitted to buy and sell the Company's securities.

**17. Responsibilities to Investors**

The Company strives for full, fair and accurate disclosure of financial and other price sensitive information on a timely basis.

**18. Breaches of the Code of Conduct**

Material breaches of this Code of Conduct must be reported to the Board or a Committee of the Board.

Breaches of this Code of Conduct may lead to disciplinary action. The process for disciplinary action is outlined in Company policies and guidelines, relevant industrial awards and agreements.

Employees should note that breaches of certain sections of this Code of Conduct may also be punishable under legislation.

**19. Reporting Matters of Concern**

Employees are encouraged to raise any matters of concern in good faith with the Chief Executive Officer/Managing Director or with the Company Secretary, without fear of retribution and in compliance with the Company's Whistleblower Policy.

**20. Monitoring and Review**

- (a) The Board will monitor the content, effectiveness and implementation of this Code of Conduct on a regular basis. Any updates or improvements identified will be addressed as soon as possible.
- (b) Employees are invited to comment on the Code of Conduct and suggest ways in which it might be improved. Suggestions and queries should be addressed to the Board.