

## **CODE OF ETHICS FOR THE PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE OF OCCUPATIONAL HYGIENE**

### **PURPOSE**

This code provides standards of ethical conduct to be followed by Occupational Hygienists as they strive for the goals of protecting employees health, improving the work environment, and advancing the quality of the profession. Occupational Hygienists have the responsibility to practice their profession in an objective manner following recognized principles of industrial hygiene, realizing that the lives, health, and welfare of individuals may be dependent upon their professional judgment.

### **PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY**

1. Maintain the highest level of integrity and professional competence.
2. Be objective in the application of recognized scientific methods and in interpretation of findings.
3. Promote occupational hygiene as a professional discipline.
4. Disseminate scientific knowledge for the benefit of employees, society, and the profession.
5. Protect confidential information.
6. Avoid circumstances where compromise of professional judgement or conflict of interest may arise.

### **RESPONSIBILITY TO EMPLOYEES**

1. Recognize that the primary responsibility of the Occupational Hygienist is to protect the health of employees.
2. Maintain an objective attitude toward the recognition, evaluation, and control of health hazards regardless of external influences, realizing that the health and welfare of workers and others may depend upon the Occupational Hygienist's professional judgment.
3. Counsel employees regarding health hazards and the necessary precautions to avoid adverse health effects.

### **RESPONSIBILITY TO EMPLOYERS AND CLIENTS**

1. Act responsibly in the application of occupational hygiene principles toward the attainment of healthful working environments.
2. Respect confidences, advise honestly, and report findings and recommendations accurately.
3. Manage and administer professional services to ensure maintenance of accurate records to provide documentation and accountability in support of findings and conclusions.
4. Hold responsibilities to the employer or client subservient to the ultimate responsibility to protect the health of employees.

### **RESPONSIBILITY TO THE PUBLIC**

1. Report factually on occupational hygiene matters of public concern.
2. State professional opinions founded on adequate knowledge and clearly identified as such.