

# **SC&H Group Impartiality Policy**

**(Appendix B to the SC&H Group ISO Quality Management Policy Document –  
updated and reviewed October 2023)**

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This document serves as the policies and procedures supplement for Impartiality as required by the ANSI National Accreditation Board (ANAB). The policies and procedures which the Firm will adhere to in order to be in compliance with professional standards are presented on the following pages. Employees and members of the full service team are given access via the Firm's intranet and are responsible for understanding, implementing, and adhering to these policies and procedures.

SC&H Group, declares that it will comply with the requirements of and ensure impartiality within all its certification activities for all the personnel related to the activities. The confidentiality, objectivity and impartiality of the certification activities by and on behalf of SC&H Group, shall not be affected by the activities of the certified clients. To show effective implementation of policy SC&H will not provide and allow the following:

- Consultancy services for realization, continuity and sustenance of certification.
- Services for designing, implementing or maintaining a management system.
- Certification services against or on behalf of other certification bodies.
- SC&H shall not allow any consultancy organization to market or offer the activities of SC&H.
- SC&H shall not state or imply that certification would be simpler, easier, faster or less expensive if a specific consultancy organization were used.
- SC&H employees shall not participate in decision process of management system issues.
- SC&H & its employees shall not participate in preparation and procurement of manuals, guides and procedures of certified clients.
- SC&H shall not certify a client when the CB's relationship with a management systems consultancy for a minimum of two years.
- SC&H shall not perform internal audits of certified clients.
- SC&H shall not provide specific and detailed advice or training on design, implementation and maintenance of management systems subject to certification.
- SC&H shall not outsource audits to a management system consultancy organization.
- There shall be no pressure of any kind (financial, trade, administrative, moral or other) over SC&H and the personnel regarding the execution of their obligation QMS Certification Body according to ISO/IEC17021-1:2015.

SC&H identifies, analyzes and documents all possibilities for conflict of interests that emerge from certification processes including any conflicts that emerge from its relations. Presence of relations does not necessarily position the SC&H in a situation of conflict of interests. If some relations create impartiality threats, SC&H will formally document and eliminates or decrease such identified threats. Management is responsible for assessing and reviewing residual risks related to impartiality and documenting acceptable level of risk per engagement.

This information is presented to the Advisory Board members. It is necessary to cover all possible conflict of interests' sources that are identified regardless of their origin. SC&H requires from all employees, internal and external, to comply with impartiality rules as well as reveal any situation known to them that may present them or SC&H with a conflict of interests. SC&HT shall use this information as input in identifying threats to impartiality raised by the activities of such personnel or by the organization that employ them. Such personnel, internal or external shall not be used unless they demonstrate that there is no conflict of interest. SC&H shall not undertake any action that threatens the impartiality and/or are potential conflict of interests. When certain relations create unacceptable impartiality threat, then the certification shall not be conducted. SC&H shall not certify another certification body for its activities related to management system certification.