

# PRINCIPLES AND STANDARDS OF ETHICAL SUPPLY MANAGEMENT CONDUCT



**institute for  
supply management**

**INTEGRITY IN YOUR DECISIONS AND ACTIONS  
VALUE FOR YOUR EMPLOYER  
LOYALTY TO YOUR PROFESSION**

**From these principles are derived the ISM standards of supply management conduct:**

## **STANDARDS**

1. **IMPROPRIETY.** Prevent the intent and appearance of unethical or compromising conduct in relationships, actions and communications.
2. **CONFLICT OF INTEREST.** Ensure that any personal, business and other activities do not conflict with the lawful interests of your employer.
3. **INFLUENCE.** Avoid behaviors or actions that may negatively influence, or appear to influence, supply management decisions.
4. **RESPONSIBILITIES TO YOUR EMPLOYER.** Uphold fiduciary and other responsibilities using reasonable care and granted authority to deliver value to your employer.
5. **SUPPLIER AND CUSTOMER RELATIONSHIPS.** Promote positive supplier and customer relationships.
6. **SUSTAINABILITY AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY.** Champion social responsibility and sustainability practices in supply management.
7. **CONFIDENTIAL AND PROPRIETARY INFORMATION.** Protect confidential and proprietary information.
8. **RECIPROCITY.** Avoid improper reciprocal agreements.
9. **APPLICABLE LAWS, REGULATIONS AND TRADE AGREEMENTS.** Know and obey the letter and spirit of laws, regulations and trade agreements applicable to supply management.
10. **PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE.** Develop skills, expand knowledge and conduct business that demonstrates competence and promotes the supply management profession.

*Adopted 5/2012*



## **PRINCIPLES AND STANDARDS OF ETHICAL SUPPLY MANAGEMENT CONDUCT**

*ISM's Principles and Standards of Ethical Supply Management Conduct* is an ongoing initiative that provides vision and a framework for supply professionals. "Ethics and Business Conduct" is included in the *ISM Principles of Sustainability and Social Responsibility*:

Anti-Corruption

Diversity and Inclusiveness – Workforce and Supply Base

Environment

Ethics and Business Conduct

Financial Integrity and Transparency

Global Citizenship

Health and Safety

Human Rights

Labor Rights

Sustainability

Electronic versions of the *Principles and Standards of Ethical Supply Management Conduct* and *ISM Principles of Sustainability and Social Responsibility With a Guide to Adoption and Implementation* are available on ISM's Sustainability and Social Responsibility web pages at [www.ism.ws/sr](http://www.ism.ws/sr). We invite you to visit this dynamic website for articles, research, tools, links and other information that supports the *ISM Principles of Sustainability and Social Responsibility*.