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THE CODE OF ETHICS AND PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS FOR AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERS

PRC BOARD OF AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING RESOLUTION NO. 02, May 12, 2005

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Pursuant to Section 9 (h), Article III of Republic Act No. 8559, known as the "Philippine Agricultural Engineering Act of 1998", and Section 39, Article XI of Resolution No. 01, series of 1998, known as the "Rules and Regulations Implementing the Philippine Agricultural Engineering Act of 1998", the Board of Agricultural Engineering subject to approval by the Professional Regulation Commission hereby adopts and promulgates the hereunder Code of Ethics and Professional Standards prescribed and issued by the Philippine Society of Agricultural Engineers, Inc. (PSAE), the one and only Integrated and Accredited Association of Agricultural Engineers in the Philippines recognized by the Board and the Commission by virtue of Sec. 26, Art. V of R.A. No. 8559.

Article I
Terms, Duties and Professional Life

SECTION 1. Definition of terms - the following shall mean:

Code - is the Code of Ethics and Professional Standards for agricultural engineers which provides a system of rules and regulations for the maintenance of high standards of competence and integrity of agricultural engineers in the performance of their responsibilities in the practice of their profession.

Commission - refers to the Professional Regulation Commission created by R.A. No. 8981, the "PRC Modernization Act of year 2000."

Board - refers to the Board of Agricultural Engineering.

Client/Employer - is a person, natural or juridical, who engages the professional services of agricultural engineer/s who hold valid certificate of registration and professional identification card issued by the Board and the Commission pursuant to R.A. No. 8559.

Firm/Partnership/Association - is a group of two or more agricultural engineers registered with the Security and Exchange Commission (SEC) engaging in the practice of agricultural engineering.

SECTION 2. Duties and Responsibilities - Every registered agricultural engineer shall discharge their responsibilities with highest sense of integrity, nationalism, and spiritual values and, accordingly, shall:

a. act with fidelity, fairness, and impartiality to their employers and clients;

b. uphold the honor and dignity of the agricultural engineering profession and avoid connection with any enterprise or individual with questionable character;

c. be ready to apply their technical knowledge for the benefit of mankind and agro-industrial development of the country; and

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d. be fair and tolerant in his dealings with fellow agricultural engineers.

SECTION 3. Professional Life of Agricultural Engineers - All agricultural engineers shall endeavor to make the agricultural engineering profession effective, relevant, and dignified through their share of information and experiences with other agricultural engineers and agricultural engineering students, their active participation, their support, and their contribution to the programs, projects, and activities of agricultural engineering societies/associations, schools, and other related organizations. In the pursuit of this endeavor, they shall:

a. not advertise their work or merit in a self-laudatory manner and shall avoid such conduct or practice that would discredit and do injury to the dignity and honor of their profession;

b. Strive to continuously update and enhance their professional knowledge, skills, and competitiveness through their active and meaningful participation in the Continuing Professional Education (CPE) programs required by the CPE Council for Registered Agricultural Engineers.

Article II
Relations with the Public

SECTION 4. Relations with the Public - All Agricultural Engineers shall endeavor to establish and maintain good public relation and, accordingly, shall:

a. endeavor to disseminate public knowledge on agricultural engineering, and to discourage, if not curb, the spread of untrue, unfair, and exaggerated statements regarding agricultural engineering;

b. have direct responsibility for safeguarding the life and health of the public and employees who may be affected by their work for which they are responsible;

c. Express only such opinions that are founded on adequate knowledge and honest conviction when serving as a witness before a court, commission, or other tribunal;

d. Not make ex-parte statements, criticisms, or opinions on matters connected with public policy, which are inspired or paid for by private interest unless they indicate on whose behalf they are making the statement;

e. Refrain from publicly expressing opinions on any agricultural engineering subjects unless they are well-informed on the facts relating thereto.

Article III
Relations with Clients and Employers

SECTION 5. Relations with Clients and Employers - All agricultural engineers shall establish and maintain good relations with their clients and employers and, accordingly, shall:

a. act as faithful agents and trustees;

b. exercise fairness and justice in the execution of contracts;

c. make their position clear before undertaking an engagement, particularly when it requires the use of inventions, agricultural engineering apparatus, and equipment and/or other things which have financial interest;

d. guard against conditions that are dangerous or threatening to life, limb, or property on work for which they are responsible;

e. brings out clearly the consequences that might arise if deviations from their agricultural engineering works or opinion would be overruled by non-technical authority;

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f. assist or advise their clients or employers on matters pertaining to agricultural engineering and cooperate with other experts and specialist whenever their client's or employer's interest will best be served by such service;

g. Not disclose any information concerning the business affairs or technical processes of clients or employers without their consent unless in obedience to a lawful order or a court.

Article IV
Relations with Fellow Agricultural Engineers and Allied Professionals

SECTION 6. Relations with Fellow Agricultural Engineers and Allied Professionals - All agricultural engineers shall establish and maintain good relations with fellow agricultural engineers and other allied professionals and, accordingly, shall:

a. endeavor either individually or collectively to protect and uphold the dignity, honor, and prestige of the agricultural engineering profession;

b. see to it that credit for engineering work is given to those to whom credit is properly due;

c. maintain the standards of the profession and observe the principles of reasonable or adequate compensation for those engaged in agricultural engineering work, including those employed in subordinate capacity;

d. Endeavor to create opportunity for the professional development and advancement of agricultural engineers in his employ;

e. Refrain from committing acts that will injure or tend to injure the professional reputation, prospects, or practice of their fellow agricultural engineers. However, if there are sufficient grounds to believe that another agricultural engineer/s have committed unethical, illegal or unfair acts in the practice of the agricultural engineering profession, they shall bring the matter to the attention of the Board or to proper authorities for appropriate action;

f. Restrain from, if not avoid entirely, criticizing another's work in public, bearing in mind the fact that agricultural engineering societies and engineering press should provide the proper forum for technical discussions and criticisms;

g. Not take away from another agricultural engineer a prospective employment after becoming aware that the latter has taken definite steps toward its consummation;

h. Not resort to unfair competition by underbidding or reducing the usual fees after acquiring information as to the fees offered by the other agricultural engineers from similar services;

i. Not make advantage of his salaried position to compete unfairly with their fellow agricultural engineers;

j. Refrain from associating with agricultural engineers who engage in unethical or illegal practices, and who refuse to share responsibility for their work.

Article V
General Rules in the Practice of Agricultural Engineering

SECTION 7. General Rules in the Practice in Agricultural Engineering Profession - Persons as individuals, as members of a firm, as officers or employees of a government, corporation, partnership, cooperatives, and other concerned government and private agencies, who are engaged in the practice of agricultural engineering under Republic Act No. 8559 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations shall be guided by the following rules and principles;

a. They shall advertise themselves or in any other manner which conveys the impression to the public that they are

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skilled in the knowledge, science, and practice of agricultural engineering, and are qualified to render professional service as agricultural engineer/s for a fee or other reward or compensation paid to them or to another in their behalf or even without such fee, reward, or compensation.

b. They shall maintain a regular office for the transaction of business as registered agricultural engineers or render service as such in the office of clients.

c. They shall perform for or in behalf of their clients, with or without compensation, their professional services in the different areas of agricultural engineering, namely: agricultural machinery, equipment and power units; agricultural buildings and structures; agricultural (rural) electrification and energy; agricultural processing and food engineering; soil and water conservation; irrigation, drainage and water resources management; agricultural waste disposal, utilization and environmental management; agricultural information resources and technologies; agricultural instrumentation and control, fishery and aquaculture resources engineering; and forest product resources engineering.

d. They shall sign and seal agricultural plans, designs, specifications, reports, and other agricultural engineering documents prepared for their clients in accordance with the Rules and Regulations on the design of seal and the signing and sealing of plans, designs and other documents by registered agricultural engineers promulgated through Board Resolution No. 7, Series of 2003.

Article VI
Miscellaneous Provisions

SECTION 8. Administrative Penalties - Any registered and licensed agricultural engineer who violates any provision of this Code shall be administratively liable under Section 23, Article IV of R.A. No. 8559 and Res. No. 01, series of 1998: the "Rules and Regulations Implementing the Philippine Agricultural Engineering Act of 1998."

The violator shall be meted out by the Board with the disciplinary action of either the revocation of his/her certificate of registration or the suspension from the practice of his/her profession.

SECTION 9. Separability Clause - If any section, clause, provision or paragraph of herein Resolution shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid, such judgment shall not affect, invalidate or impair any other part thereof, but such judgment shall be merely confined to the section, clause, provision or paragraph thereof directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment has been rendered.

SECTION 10. Effectivity - The herein Resolution shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its full and complete publication in the Official Gazette or any newspaper of general circulation in the Philippines.

Adopted: 12 May 2005

(SGD.) GEORGE Q. CANAPI

Chairman

(SGD.) ARIODEAR C. RICO

(SGD.) DOMINGO F. TABBAL

Member

Member

Attested by:

(SGD.) CARLOS G. ALMELOR

Secretary, Professional Regulatory Boards

Approved:

(SGD.) LEONOR TRIPON-ROSERO

Chairperson

(SGD.) AVELINA A. DE LA REA

Commissioner

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