

SRI has adopted the principles of impartiality embodied within the ISO 17021 standard for certification bodies offering management system certification.

- 1. SRI retains authority and responsibility for its decisions. Decisions are based on objective evidence.
- 2. SRI's policies and procedures are nondiscriminatory and are administered in a nondiscriminatory way. It makes its services accessible in a non-discriminatory manner to all applicants.
- 3. SRI does not provide certification to organizations to which a related body has provided management system consultancy within two years. SRI does not perform management system consulting including hazard analysis consulting and FSMS Consulting.
- 4. SRI does not outsource audits to a management system consultancy organization.
- 5. All SRI personnel, either internal or external, or committees, which could influence the certification activities, act impartially and are free from any undue commercial, financial or other pressures that could compromise impartiality.
- 6. Personnel, who have provided consultancy (including internal audits) within two years to the organization seeking certification, are not employed to take part in any part of the certification process.
- 7. Contracted personnel must reveal any situation that may present a conflict of interest.
- 8. SRI shall use any information to identify threats to impartiality and do not use any personnel unless no conflict of interest can be demonstrated.
- 9. SRI considers it a threat to impartiality if an auditor's employer is known to have provided management system consultancy for the system under assessment within the last two years.
- 10. SRI shall ensure that person(s) or committee(s) that make decisions on certification are different from those who carried out the assessment.
- 11. SRI and its personnel do not offer or provide a service that may present SRI with a conflict of interest.
- 12. SRI does not assess or certify activities that it has itself performed. (E.g. participating in the operations of the management system or performing internal audit of the customer).
- 13. SRI ensures that activities of related bodies do not affect the confidentiality, objectivity and impartiality of its, certification. SRI avoids any situation that would create a conflict of interest for it arising from the activity of any related body, in particular such that the related body has a vested interest in the outcome of an assessment for certification, or a potential influence on the outcome of an assessment for certification.
- 14. SRI identifies analyses and document the possibilities for conflict of interest arising from provision of certification including any conflicts arising from the relationship with related bodies. It demonstrates how it eliminates conflict of interest and minimizes any risk to impartiality. The demonstration covers all potential sources of conflict of interests, whether they arise from within the certification body or from the activities of the related bodies.
- 15. If a conflict of interest exists, SRI does not provide certification to related bodies.
- 16. Nothing is said or implied that would suggest that certification would be simpler, easier faster or less expensive if any specified personnel or organization providing consultancy were used. SRI's activities are not presented as linked with the activities of an organization providing consultancy.
- 17. SRI has a documented policy regarding ethical behavior.
- 18. Records of consultancy are maintained.