Enquiry Draft: Deadline 26 September 2025

CARICOM REGIONAL STANDARD

Professional Engineering Services- Registration and Practice- code of practice

DCRCP 11:202X

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Committee representation

This CARICOM Regional Standard was developed by the Regional Project Team for Professional Engineering Services- Registration and Practice- Code of Practice which is hosted by the CARICOM Member State, Saint Lucia, which at the time comprised the following members:

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Foreword

This CARICOM Regional Code of Practice CRCP 11:202X, Professional Engineering Services- Registration and Practice- Code of Practice has been developed under the authority of the CARICOM Regional Organisation for Standards and Quality (CROSQ). It was approved as a CARICOM Regional Code of Practice by the CARICOM Council for Trade and Economic Development (COTED) at its XX Meeting in MM YYYY.

This code of practice is intended to provide guidelines for dealing with any issues related to any inappropriate and unethical practices by individuals in the sector. It also includes developing and maintaining a code of practice to ensure a harmonised approach to the engineering services field in the region.

This code of practice is prepared specifically for individuals in the field of engineering. The members of this learned field are expected to be highly ethical and stand for integrity and honesty in this profession as the outcomes of their work have an impact on the safety and quality of life for the society. An engineer of any field must perform his/her duties with the highest ethical conduct to ensure the maintenance or improvement of public health and environmental health while ensuring the welfare of key stakeholders.

It establishes the minimum requirements for this type of service provision. By complying with and improving these minimum requirements it is hoped that the service providers will consistently meet and at times exceed customer expectations in an efficient and cost-effective manner.

This specification will also allow for a regional benchmark for the manner and quality expected for all engineering professionals who implement this code of practice in their service provision. This can also be used by clients as a guide for the expectations of professional conduct when dealing with recognised individuals in this field.

In formulating this Code of Practice considerable assistance was derived from the following publications which were still current when this standard was being developed:

- National Society of Professional Engineers- Code of Ethics for Engineers (USA)
- Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS)
- UK Engineering Council Registration Code of Practice (Registration Code)

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1 Scope

This Professional Engineering Services - Registration and Practice - code of practice produced by CROSQ, guides the registration of qualified engineers and the implementation of best engineering practices across the member states of CARICOM.
This code of practice is applicable to any engineer who provides a service in the CARICOM regional space.

This regional Code of Practice for the Registration and Practice of Engineers within CARICOM member countries seeks to establish:

a) The minimum level of academic qualifications needed for such registration;
b) The minimum in service professional training/ internship requirements to be satisfied
c) The minimum annual levels of ongoing Continuing Professional Development to be satisfied by practising professionals in engineering
d) The regional professional Code of Ethics applicable to the practice of Engineering in CARICOM

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

3 Definitions

3.1
Engineer
a person who is trained in or follows as a profession a branch of engineering.

3.2
Engineering Technician
An engineering technician is a skilled professional who supports engineers in the design, development, and maintenance of technical systems and products. They apply their technical knowledge and practical skills to assist in various stages of engineering projects, ensuring that specifications and standards are met.

3.3
Sustainable engineering practices
Sustainable practices in engineering refer to designing, constructing, and managing systems, structures, and products that minimise environmental impact, promote resource efficiency, and consider the well-being of both current and future generations.

4 Specific requirements

4.1. Qualifications (Criteria for qualification)

4.1.1. Competence and commitment will be developed through a combination of:

Underpinning knowledge and understanding, generally acquired through educational programmes; professional development and experience. These elements, or parts of them, may be integrated or undertaken simultaneously.

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4.1.2. Professional Engineer:

Academic criteria

- An accredited Bachelor's degree in any branch of engineering or engineering technology;
- An appropriate accredited Master's degree (MEng) or Engineering Doctorate (PhD) accredited by a licensed professional engineering institution,

4.1.3. Experience:
Minimum two years accredited experience in the field of engineering with substantive documented experience as verified by registered professional engineer or as subject to national legislation.

Grandfather clause
May be accepted under the Grandfather clause as per national legislation. In the first instance, persons who were practising engineering in a responsible position, 10 years before the national legislation for engineers was established, may apply to be considered as an engineer.

4.2. Continuing Professional Development

Engineer should maintain and develop their knowledge and skills throughout their careers. Continuing professional development is essential for the maintenance and enhancement of the required competence and commitment. The responsibility for managing CPD rests with the registration/ licensing body. It should publish pre-approved courses/ technical sessions or workshops for Engineers wishing to renew their license to choose from. Engineers may also propose a course not on the list. It should be subject to approval.

5 Rules of Practice (Fundamental Principles)

5.1. Engineers should hold paramount the safety, health, and welfare of the public

5.1.1. Engineers should stay up to date and comply with relevant legislation, codes of practice and other professional and relevant technical standards.

5.1.2. If engineers' judgment is overruled under circumstances that endanger life or property, they should notify their employer or client and such other authority as may be appropriate.

5.1.3. Engineers should approve only those engineering documents that are in conformity with applicable standards.

5.1.4. Engineers should not reveal facts, data, or information without the prior consent of the client or employer except as authorised or required by law or this Code.

5.1.5. Engineers should not permit the use of their name or associate in business ventures with any person or firm that they believe is engaged in fraudulent or dishonest enterprise.

5.1.6. Engineers should not aid or abet the unlawful practice of engineering by a person or firm.

5.2. Engineers should perform services only in the areas of their competence.

5.2.1. Engineers should undertake work only when qualified by education or experience in the specific technical fields involved. only undertake work that they have the knowledge, skills and resources to carry out competently.

5.2.2. Engineers should not affix their signatures to any plans or documents dealing with subject matter in which they lack competence, nor to any plan or document not prepared under their direction

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and control.

5.2.3. Engineers may accept assignments and assume responsibility for the coordination of an entire project and sign and seal the engineering documents for the entire project, provided that each technical segment is signed and sealed only by the qualified engineers who prepared the segment.

5.3. Engineers should issue public statements only in an objective and truthful manner.

5.3.1. Engineers should be objective and truthful in professional reports, statements, or testimony. They should include all relevant and pertinent information in such reports, statements, or testimony, which should bear the date indicating when it was current.

5.3.2. Engineers may express publicly technical opinions that are founded upon knowledge of the facts and competence in the subject matter.

5.3.3. Engineers should issue no statements, criticisms, or arguments on technical matters that are inspired or paid for by interested parties, unless they have prefaced their comments by explicitly identifying the interested parties on whose behalf they are speaking, and by revealing the existence of any interest the engineers may have in the matters.

5.4. Engineers should act for each employer or client as faithful agents or trustees.

5.4.1. Engineers should disclose all known or potential conflicts of interest that could influence or appear to influence their judgment or the quality of their services.

5.4.2. Engineers should not accept compensation, financial or otherwise, from more than one party for services on the same project, or for services pertaining to the same project, unless the circumstances are fully disclosed and agreed to by all interested parties.

5.4.3. Engineers should not solicit or accept financial or other valuable consideration, directly or indirectly, from outside agents in connection with the work for which they are responsible.

5.4.4. Engineers in public service as members, advisors, or employees of a governmental or quasi-governmental body or department should not participate in decisions with respect to services solicited or provided by them or their organisations in private or public engineering practice.

5.4.5. Engineers should not solicit or accept a contract from a governmental body on which a principal or officer of their organisation serves as a member.

5.4.6. Engineers should understand clients' needs and objectives before accepting any professional work.

5.4.7. Engineers should inform clients promptly and seek their agreement if it is proposed that any of the terms of engagement or estimated fees or costs be changed.

5.4.8. Engineers should undertake their work in a timely manner; to the scope of the service with due care, skill and diligence.

5.4.9. Engineers should communicate to clients the material information on which their professional advice and opinion is based.

5.4.10. Engineers should communicate with clients and others clearly and in a way they can understand.

5.4.11. Engineers should ensure that any referral or introduction they make for a client is in the best interests of the client and inform clients about any financial or other benefits to the member or their firm from a referral or introduction.

5.4.12. Engineers should keep client money safe and have appropriate accounting controls.

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5.4.13. Engineers should advise client best sustainable approaches or practices in their relevant field or area.

5.5. Engineers should avoid deceptive acts.

5.5.1. Engineers should not falsify their qualifications or permit misrepresentation of their or their associates' qualifications. They should not misrepresent or exaggerate their responsibility in or for the subject matter of prior assignments. Brochures or other presentations incident to the solicitation of employment should not misrepresent pertinent facts concerning employers, employees, associates, joint venturers, or past accomplishments.

5.5.2. Engineers should not offer, give, solicit, or receive, either directly or indirectly, any contribution to influence the award of a contract by public authority, or which may be reasonably construed by the public as having the effect or intent of influencing the awarding of a contract. They should not offer any gift or other valuable consideration to secure work. They should not pay a commission, percentage, or brokerage fee in order to secure work, except to a bona fide employee or bona fide established commercial or marketing agencies retained by them.

5.5.3. Engineers should not misuse client money and comply with controls intended to keep it safe.

5.5.4. Engineers should not facilitate any financial crime including money laundering, tax evasion, bribery or corruption. Firms have effective processes to prevent directors, partners or employees from doing so.

5.6. Conduct themselves honourably, responsibly, ethically, and lawfully so as to enhance the honour, reputation, and usefulness of the professional.

5.6.1. Engineers should respect the rights of others and treat others with courtesy.

5.6.2. Engineers should treat everyone fairly and do not discriminate against anyone on any improper grounds, including age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation.

5.6.3. Engineers should not bully, victimise or harass anyone and support equal access and opportunity for all, and identify and address unconscious bias.

6 Professional Obligations

6.1 Engineers should be guided in all their relations by the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

6.1.1. Engineers should acknowledge their errors and should not distort or alter the facts.

6.1.2. Engineers should advise their clients or employers when they foresee a project failing to meet predetermined objectives including constraints of the deliverables.

6.1.3. Engineers should not accept outside employment to the detriment of their contracted work or interest. Before accepting any outside engineering employment, they will notify their employers.

6.1.4. Engineers should not attempt to attract an engineer from another employer by false or misleading pretences.

6.1.5. Engineers should not promote their own interests at the expense of the dignity and integrity of the profession.

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6.1.6. Engineers should treat all persons with dignity, respect, fairness, and without discrimination.

6.2. Engineers should at all times strive to serve the public interest.

6.2.1. Engineers are encouraged to participate in civic affairs; career guidance for youths; and work for the advancement of the safety, health, and well-being of their community.

6.2.2. Engineers should not complete, sign, or seal plans and/or specifications that are not in conformity with applicable engineering standards. If the client or employer insists on such unprofessional conduct, they should notify the proper authorities and withdraw from further service on the project.

6.2.3. Engineers are encouraged to extend public knowledge and appreciation of engineering and its achievements.

6.2.4. Engineers should continue their professional development throughout their careers and should keep current in their specialty fields by engaging in professional practice, participating in continuing education courses, reading in the technical literature, and attending professional meetings and seminars.

6.2.5. Engineers are encouraged to adhere to the principles of sustainable engineering practices.

6.3. Engineers should avoid all conduct or practice that deceives the public.

6.3.1. Engineers should avoid the use of statements containing a material misrepresentation of fact or omitting a material fact.

6.3.2. Consistent with the foregoing, engineers may advertise for the recruitment of personnel.

6.3.3. Consistent with the foregoing, engineers may prepare articles for the lay or technical press, but such articles should not imply credit to the author for work performed by others.

6.4. Engineers should not disclose, without consent, confidential information concerning the business affairs or technical processes of any present or former client or employer, or public body on which they serve.

6.4.1. Engineers should not, without the consent of all interested parties, promote or arrange for new employment or practice in connection with a specific project for which the engineer has gained particular and specialised knowledge.

6.4.2. Engineers should not, without the consent of all interested parties, participate in or represent an adversary interest in connection with a specific project or proceeding in which the engineer has gained particular specialised knowledge on behalf of a former client or employer.

6.4.3. Non-registered overseas engineers should apply for local temporary registration or partner with local engineer on projects.

6.5. Engineers should not be influenced in their professional duties by conflicting interests.

6.5.1. Engineers should not accept financial or other considerations, including free engineering designs, from material or equipment suppliers for specifying their product.

6.5.2. Engineers should not accept commissions or allowances, directly or indirectly, from contractors or other parties dealing with clients or employers of the engineer in connection with work for which the engineer is responsible.

6.6. Engineers should not attempt to obtain employment or advancement or professional engagements by untruthfully criticising other engineers, or by other improper or questionable methods.

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6.6.1. Engineers should not request, propose, or accept a commission on a contingent basis under circumstances in which their judgment may be compromised.

6.6.2. Engineers in salaried positions should accept part-time engineering work only to the extent consistent with policies of the employer and in accordance with ethical considerations.

6.6.3. Engineers should not, without consent, use equipment, supplies, laboratory, or office facilities of an employer to carry on outside private practice.

6.7. Engineers should not attempt to injure, maliciously or falsely, directly or indirectly, the professional reputation, prospects, practice, or employment of other engineers. Engineers who believe others are guilty of unethical or illegal practice should present such information to the proper authority for action.

6.7.1. Engineers in private practice should not review the work of another engineer for the same client, except with the knowledge of such engineer, or unless the connection of such engineer with the work has been terminated.

6.7.2. Engineers in governmental, industrial, or educational employ are entitled to review and evaluate the work of other engineers when so required by their employment duties.

6.7.3. Engineers in sales or industrial employ are entitled to make engineering comparisons of represented products with products of other suppliers.

6.8. Engineers should accept personal responsibility for their professional activities, provided, however, that engineers may seek indemnification for services arising out of their practice for other than gross negligence, where the engineer's interests cannot otherwise be protected.

6.8.1. Engineers should conform with state registration laws in the practice of engineering.

6.8.2. Engineers should not use association with a non-engineer, a corporation, or a partnership as a "cloak" for unethical acts.

6.9. Engineers should give credit for engineering work to those to whom credit is due, and will recognise the proprietary interests of others.

6.9.1. Engineers should, whenever possible, name the person or persons who may be individually responsible for designs, inventions, writings, or other accomplishments.

6.9.2. Engineers using designs supplied by a client recognise that the designs remain the property of the client and may not be duplicated by the engineer for others without express permission.

6.9.3. Engineers, before undertaking work for others in connection with which the engineer may make improvements, plans, designs, inventions, or other records that may justify copyrights or patents, should enter into a positive agreement regarding ownership.

6.9.4. Engineers' designs, data, records, and notes referring exclusively to an employer's work are the employer's property. The employer should indemnify the engineer for use of the information for any purpose other than the original purpose.

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Bibliography

1. https://educatingengineers.com/careers/engineering-technician/

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CARICOM REGIONAL ORGANISATION FOR STANDARDS AND QUALITY

The CARICOM Regional Organisation for Standards and Quality (CROSQ) was created as an Inter-Governmental Organisation by the signing of an agreement among fourteen Member States of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM). CROSQ is the regional centre for promoting efficiency and competitive production in goods and services, through the process of standardization and the verification of quality. It is the successor to the Caribbean Common Market Standards Council (CCMSC), and supports the CARICOM mandate in the expansion of intra-regional and extra-regional trade in goods and services.

CROSQ is mandated to represent the interest of the region in international and hemispheric standards work, to promote the harmonization of metrology systems and standards, and to increase the pace of development of regional standards for the sustainable production of goods and services in the CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME), and the enhancement of social and economic development.

CROSQ VISION:
Transforming and Empowering Lives Through Standards and Quality

CROSQ MISSION:
Working together to facilitate the growth, resilience and sustainable development of CARICOM through the advancement of an internationally recognised Regional Quality Infrastructure

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