

POLICY			
Title:	Impartiality Policy		
Document Number:	A1_POL 011	Version Number:	0.1
Effective Date:	31 JUL 2018	Document Owner:	Andrew Smith

Document Control

Document History

Date	Version #	Author	Description of Change
31 JUL 2018	0.1	Andrew Smith	Document Created

Approval History

Date	Version #	Approved By	Signature of Approver
18 SEP 2018	0.1	Lisa Shambro	<i>Lisa Shambro</i>

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1. PURPOSE / SCOPE

This policy applies to the execution of all independent audit, certification and associated services delivered via AuditOne.

2. DEFINITIONS

2.1. Conflicting Services

- Involvement in the design, build, operation or consulting services to support a Supplier’s management system that is to be subject to an AuditOne audit.

2.2. Relationships Posing a Threat to Impartiality

- Ownership, governance, shared management, shared personnel, shared resources, finances, family members, contracts, marketing and sales commissions or any other inducements.

3. IMPARTIALITY POLICY

- 3.1. AuditOne places the utmost importance on the integrity, impartiality and management of potential conflicts of interests in ensuring complete objectivity in the conduct of audit and certification activities.
- 3.2. AuditOne has identified and risk assessed all relationships which may result in a conflict of interest or pose a threat to impartiality. AuditOne conducts an annual risk assessment on impartiality and conflict of interest, which is reviewed and approved by the brand owners.
- 3.3. Conflict of interest and objectivity is addressed further through training sessions and contractually binding agreements with participating certification bodies and independent auditors to ensure that all activities undertaken throughout the audit and certification process are conducted in an independent and impartial manner.
- 3.4. In order to maintain its impartiality, no person directly employed by AuditOne shall deliver any kind of audit (first, second or third party), technical review (including certification decisions), gap analysis or training services.
- 3.5. AuditOne requires any auditor conducting an AuditOne audit, or making a subsequent certification decision through technical review, shall not have been employed by or conducted conflicting services for the site being audited for a minimum period of 2 years prior to the audit.
- 3.6. If a multi-site certification is being undertaken, the restriction noted in clause 3.5 will extend to all sites associated with the supplier organization.
- 3.7. Any participating certification body or independent auditor can at any time decline to quote for an audit based upon their belief that a conflict of interest exists.

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- 3.8. In the event of uncertainty as to whether a conflict of interest exists on receipt of an RFP, the certification body or independent auditor must raise this concern immediately directly with AuditOne by emailing support@auditoneglobal.com. AuditOne will then be responsible to determine if a conflict of interest exists and inform the certification body or independent auditor accordingly.
 - 3.9. Any potential conflict of interest arising on the part of any person directly employed by AuditOne shall be immediately raised with the CEO of AuditOne who will determine if any conflict of interest exists and, if so, what action needs to be taken to protect AuditOne's impartiality.
 - 3.10. Any threats to AuditOne's impartiality due to the actions of any person, bodies or organizations shall be immediately brought to the attention of brand owners who shall determine the necessary course of action.