



# SIG Committee Member Code of Conduct

1 A periodic review of SIG committee membership will be conducted by the Executive in conjunction with the chair(s) of the SIG to ensure:

- Membership composition is correctly recorded
- The contact details of members are up-to-date
- Members are still aware of their responsibility to abide by the code of conduct

2 SIG committee membership provides the opportunity for individual experts to contribute independent and objective technical advice to the work of the SIG.

3 Whilst members of SIGs are likely to draw on experience and expertise gained in their existing role and within their existing company, SIG committee membership is on an individual basis and members are not representatives of their companies or organisation. Any contributions to SIG activities must be relevant to the work of the SIG and any other IMarEST issues or complaints are to be raised privately with the Executive.

4 SIG committee members should at all times act to fulfil the IMarEST mission and vision.

- **MISSION:** *Our mission is to work with the global marine community to promote the scientific development of marine engineering, science and technology, providing opportunities for the exchange of ideas and practices and upholding the status, standards and expertise of marine professionals worldwide.*
- **VISION:** *Our vision is a world where marine resources and activities are sustained, managed and developed for the benefit of humanity.*

5 SIG committee members, independent of whether they are members of the Institute or not, should act in accordance with the IMarEST Code of Conduct (see Annex I).

6 Where SIGs are addressing an issue that is (or may be perceived as being) controversial, or matters arise where there are opposing views between individual members within SIGs, between different SIGs or other committees, the members involved will defer to the dedicated conflict resolution working group of the TLB. The IMarEST Executive reserve the right to also refer to the conflict resolution working group if required.



7 The relevant IGO protocol should be referred to when considering contributions to Intergovernmental Organisations.

8 SIG committee members commit to proactively promote a culture of equality, diversity and inclusion.

***There may be other instances where a conflict of interest cannot be avoided.***

Examples may include:

- When a member has responsibility for a project or technology that might be adversely impacted or alternatively gain a competitive advantage because of action taken by the SIG.
- When a member is directly involved in what might be considered a competitive activity such as developing an event, writing a book, or being involved in the execution of a technical project etc.
- When a member is involved with another organisation, trade association or trade union, for example, whose views may be in conflict with those of the SIG or the IMarEST vision and mission.

In instances such as these, the conflict of interest should be declared, for example at the beginning of the meeting or if asked to review documents. However, this declaration should not be seen as a means to restricting the discussion or limiting the involvement of the individual. It is simply to ensure that any positions or decisions reached by the groups are made cognizant of any diversity of opinion and that this diversity of opinion is adequately recorded and referred to, if required.