

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MEMBERS OF AWS TECHNICAL COMMITTEES

The AWS Technical Committees are at the core of AWS's mission to be the leading professional society in the area of welding and joining. Further, the dedication of members of AWS Technical Committees is vital to the continuing work and productivity of the committees and to the viability and relevance of AWS itself. It is therefore necessary that the AWS Technical Committees function in an atmosphere of openness, cooperation, and efficiency. It is with this in mind, that the following Code of Conduct is adopted.

Committee members shall:

1. Adhere to all applicable rules of the committee, as well as rules of the Technical Activities Committee, Standards Council, and the Board of Directors.
2. Adequately prepare for every meeting, including by reviewing thoroughly all materials distributed in advance.
3. Place the interests of the American Welding Society and the welding industry above the member's own personal or business interests. Avoid conflicts of interest pursuant to the AWS Conflict of Interest policy. Foster communities of interest, recognizing that committee members may be members of other technical societies which share interests with AWS and seek to gain mutual respect among societies for each other's policies and domains.
4. Treat other members of the committee with civility and respect.
5. Not criticize or seek to undermine the actions of the committee or of committee members outside of the committee or outside of regular AWS procedures for review of committee actions and documents.
6. Not attempt to influence the behavior of other committee members other than through debate and reason.
7. Not take actions or cast votes in an attempt to harm competition, competitors, or committee members.
8. Above all, at all times uphold the dignity of membership in the American Welding Society and the unblemished reputation of AWS.

Alleged violations of this Code of Conduct shall be referred, in writing, to the Chair of the involved technical committee, with copies to the Chairs of TAC and Standards Council, the AWS President, and the AWS Executive Director. Determinations regarding the existence of a violation as well as any sanction shall be made by the Executive Subcommittee of the involved technical committee, in consultation with TAC, the AWS President, and the AWS Executive Director. Proposed sanctions pursuant to the Code of Conduct must be approved by the AWS Executive Committee.

Technical Activities Committee Approval Date:
Standards Council/Board Approval Date:

January 29, 1998
April 26, 1998