

APEX ISO CERTIFICATION (PTY) LTD PUBLIC STATEMENT OF IMPARTIALITY

The Board of Directors of Apex ISO Certification (Pty) Ltd makes the following public statement on its commitment to impartiality in managing conflicts of interest and ensuring objectivity in all certification activities.

Impartiality is the actual and perceived presence of objectivity. Objectivity means that conflicts of interest do not exist or are identified and effectively managed so as not to adversely influence certification decisions.

Synonyms useful in conveying the concept of impartiality include:

- Objectivity, independence, freedom from conflicts of interest, neutrality, fairness, balance, open-mindedness, and lack of prejudice.

Being impartial—and being perceived as impartial—is essential for Apex ISO Certification (Pty) Ltd to maintain a credible certification process that instills confidence in our clients, the public, and all other stakeholders.

Commitment to Impartiality

Apex ISO Certification (Pty) Ltd acknowledges that:

1. The main source of revenue for the organization is derived from clients paying for certification services. However, this should not be a threat to impartiality, as our fee structure is based strictly on:
 - The degree of responsibility and skill involved,
 - The time required for certification activities,
 - Pre-agreed contract terms with clients to prevent undue influence on certification decisions.
2. All certification decisions will be based strictly on objective evidence and shall not be improperly influenced by financial, commercial, or external pressures.
3. Apex ISO Certification (Pty) Ltd shall identify, analyse, evaluate, and mitigate any risks to impartiality on an ongoing basis.

Threats to Impartiality

1. Apex ISO Certification (Pty) Ltd recognizes that threats to impartiality may arise from the following:
 - Self-Interest Threats – Where financial or personal interests could improperly influence certification decisions.

- Self-Review Threats – Where an individual or entity is responsible for both auditing and certifying the same client, leading to bias.
- Familiarity (Trust) Threats – Where a long-standing relationship with a client may compromise objectivity.
- Intimidation Threats – Where an individual feels pressured or coerced to alter certification decisions due to external influence.

Apex ISO Certification (Pty) Ltd has established robust procedures to prevent, manage, and mitigate these threats.

Transparency and Accountability

This Public Statement is made in the interest of transparency, so that all clients and stakeholders are fully aware of Apex ISO Certification (Pty) Ltd's commitment to impartiality.

Signed on behalf of the Board of Directors of Apex ISO Certification (Pty) Ltd and duly authorized thereto.

Director
Apex ISO Certification (Pty) Ltd