

Management of impartiality

PROD	SYST	PRÄQ	ETI
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The top management of the certification body/prequalification body undertakes to maintain impartiality in the context of the certification of management systems, products, processes, services and prequalification. It does not allow any commercial, financial or other pressure that could jeopardise impartiality. Possible conflicts of interest are identified, analysed and documented. If necessary, certifications are not carried out if conflicts of interest exist.

1. The PFI certification body shall not certify other certification bodies for their management system certification activities.
2. The certification body/prequalification body does not provide consultancy on management systems or pre-qualification.
3. The certification body does not offer or provide internal audits to its certified clients. The certification body/pre-qualification body does not provide internal audits to its certified clients.
4. The certification/pre-qualification body does not outsource audits to a consulting organisation for management systems, products, processes, services or pre-qualification.
5. The activities of the certification/pre-qualification body shall not be marketed or offered together with the activities of an organization providing consultancy on management systems, products, processes, services or pre-qualification. The certification/pre-qualification body does not indicate that certification/pre-qualification would be less complicated, easier, faster or cheaper if a particular consultancy organisation were used.
6. Personnel, who has provided consultancy services on management systems or prequalification, including those in a managerial position, shall not be engaged in an audit or other certification activity if they have been involved in consultancy services on the management system, products, processes, services or pre-qualification to the client concerned within the last two years.
7. All certification personnel, both internal and external, have a duty to act impartially and shall not allow commercial, financial or other pressures to compromise impartiality.

The certification/pre-qualification body shall require both internal and external personnel to disclose any situation of which they are aware that may present them or the body with a conflict of interest. The body uses this information as a default to identify threats to impartiality arising from the activities of the relevant personnel or the organisations that employed them.

This regulation applies to both the contracting authority and its competitor companies, and applies in particular to involvement in activities such as manufacturing, development, marketing and maintenance.

Such personnel, both internal and external, shall not be employed until they can demonstrate that there is no conflict of interest.