

Statement of Impartiality

The Canadian Urethane Foam Contractors Association (“CUFCA”) provides an objective and balanced Certification service and Field Inspection service. Impartiality is a key component of our business ethics. We adhere to transparent procedures based on ISO 17020 and ISO 17024, which contain built-in checks to manage and regulate the services we provide to all stakeholders.

We recognise the following as threats to our impartiality:

- Self-interest threats: threats that arise from an individual or organisation acting in their own interest. For example, one potential threat to certification impartiality is financial self-interest.
- Self-review threats: threats that arise from a person or body reviewing work done by themselves. Auditing the management systems of a client to whom the certification body provided management systems consultancy would be a self-review threat.
- Familiarity (or trust) threats: threats that arise from a person or body being too familiar with or trusting of another person instead of seeking audit evidence.
- Intimidation threats: threats that arise from a person or body having a perception of being coerced openly or secretly, such as a threat to be replaced or reported to a supervisor.
- Financial impropriety threats: in addition to the threat of financial impropriety identified in the first bullet (above), CUFCA also recognises that given at least part of the CUFCA’s revenue is received by contractors paying for certification, this is also a potential threat to impartiality at an organizational level.

CUFCA operates an independent Board of Directors and also a Certification Scheme Committee. The Committee oversees CUFCA’s activities with a specific focus on our maintenance of objectivity and impartiality. The Scheme Committee has clear operating Terms of Reference, which include the right to report infringements to CUFCA’s accreditation body. As a minimum, CUFCA conducts a yearly impartiality risk analysis (including a meeting of the Certification Scheme Committee).

Every CUFCA employee or agent has the responsibility to comply with the process and guidelines for impartiality. This obligation extends to CUFCA’s audit outsourcing partners and invigilation partners and is a clause included in the legal agreement put in place with such partners.

Any instance where an employee, outsourced partner or contractor feels there is a threat to impartiality, they are welcome to raise the concern directly to CUFCA’s Executive Director: Mr. Andrew Cole acole@cuca.ca.



Andrew Cole, Executive Director



Keith Bowie, Chairperson