

SUPPLY-CHAIN CODE

Supplier Code of Conduct

Minimum legal, ethical, quality, safety, security, environmental and labour standards for suppliers and subcontractors supporting RCDEN.

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OWNER	Managing Director
VERSION	1.0
APPROVED	24 July 2026
NEXT REVIEW	24 July 2027 or sooner following material change
CLASSIFICATION	PUBLIC

APPROVAL Authorised for issue by Anthony Deacon, Managing Director, on 24 July 2026. This controlled copy is reviewed at least annually.

1. Purpose and application

This Code defines the minimum conduct expected of organisations and individuals supplying goods or services to RCDEN. Acceptance of an order, contract or subcontract includes acceptance of this Code where it is referenced. Contract-specific terms and flowed-down customer requirements take precedence.

2. Legal and ethical business

- Comply with applicable laws, permits, sanctions, export controls, tax, competition and procurement obligations.
- Prohibit bribery, facilitation payments, fraud, money laundering, conflicts concealed from RCDEN and improper influence.
- Maintain accurate books, records, invoices, provenance and declarations.
- Protect confidential information, intellectual property and security-classified or contract-protected material.
- Raise material legal, ethical, security, safety, quality or delivery concerns promptly.

3. Labour standards and human rights

- Prohibit modern slavery, trafficking, forced, bonded and unlawful child labour.
- Provide lawful pay, working hours, rest, safe conditions and freely agreed terms.
- Treat people with dignity and prevent discrimination, harassment, abuse and retaliation.
- Respect lawful freedom of association and provide routes for workers to raise concerns.
- Apply equivalent expectations to relevant lower-tier suppliers.

4. Health, safety and environment

- Provide safe products, workplaces and systems of work, with competent people and suitable risk controls.
- Report incidents, defects and hazards that could affect RCDEN, its customers, users or the public.
- Comply with environmental and waste duties, prevent pollution and control hazardous materials.
- Reduce waste, energy and resource use, and support repair, reuse and responsible end-of-life treatment where practicable.

5. Quality, provenance and counterfeit avoidance

- Meet agreed specifications, acceptance criteria, delivery requirements and change-notification obligations.
- Use authorised sources and preserve serial, batch, software, certificate and material traceability where required.

- Prevent counterfeit, fraudulent and suspect materiel; quarantine and notify RCDEN immediately if concern arises.
- Do not substitute product, material, component, software, process or source without required approval.
- Retain required quality and inspection evidence and provide access for proportionate assurance activities.

6. Cyber, data and defence information

Suppliers must apply the security controls, personnel restrictions, need-to-know principles, incident notification, cyber requirements and information-handling conditions specified by law, contract or RCDEN. Access must be limited to authorised competent persons and withdrawn promptly when no longer needed.

7. Flow-down, evidence and remediation

Suppliers flow down applicable requirements to their own supply chains. RCDEN may request proportionate evidence, conduct or commission an audit, require corrective action, suspend work, reject material or terminate the relationship for serious or repeated non-compliance. Remediation considers the effect on workers and avoids action that would worsen harm.

8. Reporting concerns

Suspected violations may be reported confidentially to anthony@rcden.co.uk, through the relevant contract route or to a competent authority. Suppliers must not retaliate against genuine reporters or obstruct an authorised investigation.

9. Review

The Managing Director owns this policy and reviews it at least annually, and sooner after a material change in law, ownership, operations, workforce, supply chain, customer requirement or risk. Actions arising from reviews are assigned, dated and retained as controlled evidence.

Reference framework

The following sources inform this policy. Contract-specific legal, regulatory, security and customer requirements always take precedence.

- [Cabinet Office - Supplier Code of Conduct](#)
- [MOD - Cyber Security Model](#)
- [Home Office - Transparency in supply chains guidance](#)

Document control

VERSION	DATE	APPROVED BY	CHANGE
1.0	24 July 2026	Anthony Deacon, Managing Director	First controlled issue

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