

# **Registration Scheme for Tree Management Personnel**

## **Code of Conduct for Registered Chainsaw Operators and Tree Climbers**

### **Responsibilities**

Registered Chainsaw Operators and Tree Climbers shall:

- Represent accurately their areas of competence, qualifications, experience and registered personnel type;
- Limit practice to their registered personnel type and work under the supervision of registered Tree Work Supervisors;
- Act honestly and provide complete, accurate and correct information in all dealings with the Government, co-workers, employers, clients and the public;
- Ensure that all records, receipts, accounts or other documents they submit to the employers or clients give a true representation of the facts, events or transactions as shown in the documents;
- Must comply with the Prevention of Bribery Ordinance (Cap. 201) (POBO) in the course of carrying out duties<sup>1</sup>;
- Avoid any conflict of interest situation (i.e. situation where their private interest<sup>2</sup> conflicts with the interest of their employers or clients, as appropriate) or the perception of such conflicts. When a situation of conflict of interest cannot be avoided, they should, as soon as possible, declare in writing any actual or potential conflict of interest to the employers or clients and comply with any mitigating measures decided by the employers or clients, as appropriate;
- Strive to deliver safe and quality tree work within their capabilities to maintain healthy tree growth;
- Follow instructions on occupational safety and health procedures and measures to avoid causing harm to themselves, co-workers and the public at the workplace / on site and damage to wildlife and habitat, property and

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<sup>1</sup> Including:

(a) Not to solicit or accept any advantage as defined in POBO from other as a reward for or inducement to doing any act or showing favour in relation to the business or affairs of the principals (i.e. the employers for registered personnel working as employees, or clients for registered personnel working as proprietors) without the principals' approval, or offer any advantage to an agent of another as a reward for or inducement to doing any act or showing favour in relation to his principal's business or affairs;

(b) Not to offer any advantage as defined in POBO to any public servant (e.g. Government employee / employee of public body as defined in POBO) as a reward for or inducement to his performing any act in his official capacity or his showing any favour or providing any assistance in business dealing with the Government / a public body;

(c) Not to offer any advantage to any employee of Government or public body as defined in POBO while having business dealing with them.

<sup>2</sup> Private interests include their own financial and other interests, and those of his connections including family and other relations, personal friends, the clubs and societies to which he belongs, and any person to whom he owes a favour or to whom he may be obligated in any way.

- environment; and
- Comply with all legislations, policies and practice standards and guidelines regarding tree management in Hong Kong.

## **Recommendations**

Registered Chainsaw Operators and Tree Climbers should:

- Conduct themselves with integrity;
- Keep harmonious working relationship with co-workers, employers and clients;
- Strive to improve their knowledge, skills and techniques necessary for providing safe and quality tree work through education, vocational training and work experience;
- Maintain good in-service record (such as date, venue, tree reference number and details of tree work provided) if such record could not be provided by their employers;
- Bring with them the registration cards in the course of performing tree work;
- Pay attention to occupational safety and health hazards and consequences; and
- Stay up-to-date with all legislations, policies, practice standards and guidelines regarding tree management in Hong Kong.

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