

Code of Ethics

Overarching standard

To facilitate environmental stewardship by providing a resource to help Chicagoland electrical contractors meet Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) and United States Green Building Council (USGBC) standards.

The First Layer: The Law

Pressure

- Meet rules and regulations set forth by LEED and USGBC standards in green technology.
- Meet existing Chicago building codes while remaining environmentally friendly.

Risk

- Ignore Chicago building requirement that will cost the project extra time and money to make green.

Measure

- Follow LEED and Chicago building guidelines, while remaining conscientious of return on investment.

Canon

- Subscribe to the guidelines of Federal and State laws for green technology.

The Second Layer: Contracts and Agreements

Pressure

- Provide everything the customer demands, while keeping with the required budget.

Risk

- Sacrifice required green building technologies in order to save the customer money.
- Forgo the customer's budget in order to satisfy their every need.

Measure

- Focus on the demands of ECA while carrying each required component through LEED certification.

Canon

- Learn the requirements of ECA and find successful way to help electrical constructors meet LEED and USGBC requirements on their site.

The Third Layer: Professional Codes of Ethics

Pressure

- Follow the code of ethics set forth by a LEED and USGBC.

Risk

- Members of other disciplines are not required to follow the same code of ethics.
- It is difficult to ensure each professional is following their set code of ethics.

Measure

- Provide a LEED certified supervisor to ensure contractors are following their professional codes.

Canon

- Ensure that all stakeholders understand and adhere to a similar code of ethics

The Fourth Layer: Industry Standards

Pressure

- Following Chicago electrical code and underwriters laboratory (ULC) standards.
- Make a push towards more environmentally friendly standards that replace existing cheaper standards.

Risk

- Unproven standards increase the risk of an undesirable outcome

Measure

- Follow the electrical industry standard of ECA and develop their own methodology of ensuring new standards are as “tried and true” as the old ones.

Canon

- Establish new methods and standards as appealing as or more desirable than the old standards.

The Fifth Layer: Social Civic and Geographic Communities

Pressure

- Assume the responsibilities for the benefit for future generations.

Risk

- Community may disagree with guidelines set forth by LEED and USGBC.
- High price of environmentally friendly, trendy products may deter contractors.

Measure

- Consider the community's view points on LEED, and determine the true value of green products.

Canon

- Make changes where needed to satisfy the community as well as the Federal and State laws.

The Sixth Layer: Personal Relationships

Pressure

- Individuals may feel as if the workloads are imbalanced between each team member.
- Individual may also feel that their work is not being appreciated.

Risk

- Reduction of work as retaliation for perceived unjust treatment.

Measure

- Understand that everyone's input is required in making this project successful.

Canon

- Contractors must complete their tasks in order to satisfy the project.

The Seventh Layer: Moral and Spiritual Values

Pressure

- Individuals with no background in the project scope may feel overwhelmed by the requirements of said project.
- Individuals involved in the project may want to do minimal work for getting the project completed.

Risk

- Failure to complete the task if members do not fully contribute.

Measure

- Tasks must be allocated in order to take advantage of each team member's unique strengths, and support must be provided to team members who are struggling with individual tasks.

Canon

- Rely on teamwork and conscience to complete task successfully.