

# IPRO 353 – Spring 2008

## Code of Ethics

### Group Members

Sebastian Babel  
Casey Bennett  
Anusuya Dhewaju  
Kok Ann Gan  
Ah Reum Jeong  
Kee Heun Kim  
James Schweiger

### Overarching Standard

“Create a profitable business enterprise for selling the iGroups software while maintaining the reputation of the iGroups business through fair business practices, honesty, and compliance with the law and professional codes.”

### Law

**Canon:** We, the members of the iGroups business, will abide by all laws. All source code used in iGroups and other products shall be the sole work of the code writers, and shall not infringe upon any other company’s or individual’s intellectual property rights. All business estimates shall be reasonable, supported by fact and data, and shall not be intended to defraud or mislead any investors, employees, or customers.

**Pressure:** To make the business appear more profitable and thus inflate its chances to attract investors.

**Risk:** Using code that is not owned by the company in order to assist the development of iGroups. This would allow us to add additional features for free which would lower our software development costs and make the business appear to be more profitable.

**Risk:** Artificially inflating profit estimates and/or minimizing estimated expenditures in order to mislead potential investors to receive funding.

**Measure:** Compliance shall be indicated by a lack of legal action taken against the company.

### Contracts

**Canon:** We will abide by all terms of agreement, both formal and informal, made with clients and contractors.

**Pressure:** To increase revenue.

**Risk:** Neglect previous, smaller contracts in favor of more lucrative contracts.

**Risk:** Avoid paying contractors that do not have the resources to sue us.

**Measure:** Compliance shall be indicated by a lack of lawsuits brought against the company concerning contract violations.

## Professional Codes

- Canon:** Our software developers will know and respect the Association of Computing Machinery's Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct.
- Pressure:** To implement features as quickly as possible in order to please our customers.
- Risk:** Implement features without taking the time to evaluate the overall security and privacy impacts and risks that the features may introduce to the iGroups software.
- Pressure:** To focus on completing projects and writing code for iGroups.
- Risk:** Time constraints set by the company may not allow software developers enough time to update their technical competence.
- Measure:** Compliance shall be indicated by a lack of complaints from software developer employees concerning company policy preventing them from complying with the ACM Code.

## Industry Standards

- Canon:** The iGroups business will adhere to industry standards regarding the development and sale of software unless the standards conflict with the law or we decide upon a better standard that opens opportunities for the whole industry.
- Pressure:** To develop a software solution that runs at an optimal level of efficiency.
- Risk:** Software developers may not implement security measures set out in standards so that the software efficiency is higher.
- Pressure:** To keep current customers.
- Risk:** Stifling competition by purposely making information entered in iGroups difficult to export to other programs and deliberately making our product incompatible with competitor's products, thereby encouraging current customers to use our product only. This would be seen in our industry as an unfair practice since it is meant to prevent competition rather than create opportunities for the whole industry.
- Measure:** Compliance shall be indicated by attainment of applicable ISO certification which is an audit by an international body that compiles many industry standards. Compliance will also be indicated by a lack of negative press and criticism from other industry players.

## Community

- Canon:** We will be responsible members of the general community of iGroups users and potential users. We will encourage employee participation in the local community.
- Pressure:** To release new features quickly after customers request them.
- Risk:** Release new features without ensuring functionality for the disabled.

**Pressure:** To please the local community in which the company operates so as to generate goodwill towards the company by promising to attend community service events at the request of local organizations while still fulfilling company duties.

**Risk:** Having an extremely busy week and neglecting to attend previous community service commitments.

**Measure:** Compliance shall be indicated by a lack of negative rumors and publicity regarding our business practices.

## **Personal Relationships**

**Canon:** We shall form relationships with customers, investors, coworkers, and other stakeholders in the iGroups business based on trust, honesty, and respect.

**Pressure:** To ensure that the iGroups business has a good reputation among clients and business partners.

**Risk:** Telling a client that a period of iGroups downtime was due to technical failure on the part of our internet service provider when in actuality the problem occurred on our servers.

**Pressure:** For sales people to make sales and maintain current sales.

**Risk:** A sales person telling a client that the software developers overran their deadline to release a new feature when in fact the sales person estimated the feature delivery deadline without consulting the software developers. The sales person estimated an early deadline because he or she knew that the customer would pay more for iGroups with the added feature.

**Measure:** Compliance will be indicated by a lack of complaints from investors, customers, and coworkers pertaining to the conduct of iGroups business agents.

## **Moral Values**

**Canon:** The iGroups business will respect the personal code of morals, ethics, and religion of every employee or volunteer.

**Pressure:** To manage the employees and the team to accomplish the tasks on schedule and achieve high overall performance.

**Risk:** Consistently forcing employees to work overtime that was not part of their job description. Employees may be forced to repeatedly cancel religious or personal activities to work overtime.

**Pressure:** To avoid conflict with employees of a specific religious background.

**Risk:** Allowing employees of a specific religious background time off on their religious holidays while not providing the same time off for other employees.

**Measure:** Compliances will be indicated by a lack of reported conflicts between employees and management related to moral, ethical, and religious values.