

wenglor sensoric group

Code of Conduct



1 Preface

The wenglor group has been growing continuously for years as an owner-managed, mid-sized family business and, thanks to its innovative products, enjoys an excellent worldwide reputation amongst customers, business partners and the public, as well as its own employees. Maintaining this reputation is one of the company's central concerns. The brand name and its key statement, "wenglor – the innovative family", already embody important aspects with regard to thought and action. In addition to economic factors, this is also heavily characterized by socially and ethically justifiable and legally compliant maxims.

With this Code of Conduct, the wenglor sensoric group commits itself to the principles and rules described below, which permit economically and socially fair coexistence. In this regard, attention is focused on key issues within our modern society such as social responsibility, fairness, corruption, data protection and occupational safety. The Code of Conduct is a binding guideline for all wenglor employees. Violations of the code will not be tolerated and will be consistently investigated and punished within the scope of applicable legislation.

For reasons of easier readability, gender-neutral differentiation is dispensed with in the context of these rules (for example his/her/their). Corresponding expressions apply in the spirit of equal treatment of all genders.



2 Code of Conduct of the wenglor sensoric group

2.1 Responsibility of Employees

Responsible and lawful action is the basis of our long-term company success.

All employees of the wenglor sensoric group (hereinafter referred to simply as wenglor) are personally responsible for compliance with applicable law and this internationally applicable Code of Conduct. For this reason, all employees are expected to inform themselves about the content of the Code of Conduct. Compliance with these rules shapes the image of the company in the public eye and generates trust in our products and us as a business partner.

In particular, wenglor management personnel assures observance of legal requirements and the principles of this Code of Conduct within their respective spheres of responsibility. Consequently, they are responsible for informing and sensitizing their employees concerning the content and the significance of these rules, and for monitoring compliance with them.

Furthermore, when selecting customers and suppliers, it must be ensured that potential business partners also comply with these rules as a prerequisite. These regulations and requirements are set out specifically for our business partners in the form of the wenglor Code of Conduct. Statutory violations may result in serious disadvantages for the company. Conceivable examples include fines and claims for the compensation of damage. Additionally, wenglor could be significantly weakened as a result of damage to its reputation. The mere semblance of the violation of a law is often enough to influence the attitudes of customers and business partners.

For these reasons, wenglor does not tolerate any violations of its internal directives or any legal requirements, and shall take action against such violations regardless of the hierarchical status of the respective employee. Culpable violations of the law committed by employees can thus result in labor law sanctions, right on up to termination of the employment relationship. The respective employee might also be held personally liable for damages resulting from statutory violations. In addition, penalties or fines may be imposed by courts and authorities, wenglor is represented in more than 27 countries with its branches. Consequently, global activities are subject to various country-specific and international legal provisions. However, the rules specified in this Code of Conduct apply worldwide at all company locations and for all corporate divisions of the wenglor group.

In formulating the rules listed below, the fact that wenglor is an innovative, internationally aligned family company was always taken into consideration.

2.2 Fair Competition

wenglor acknowledges the fundamental principles of free and fair competition without restriction.

Corporate goals are pursued exclusively in accordance with the merit system and in consideration of applicable rules of competition. wenglor therefore always acts in accordance with antitrust law in dealing with competitors, business partners and customers. All employees are thus required to comply with the relevant provisions of antitrust and competition legislation. Violations of antitrust law can have serious consequences, for example in the form of fines and levies on profits, right on up to financial penalties or imprisonment. In particular, agreements targeted at restricting competition will not be tolerated, wenglor not only competes with other suppliers where the sale of products is concerned, but rather where R&D and the procurement of raw materials are involved as well. In any case, the most important basic rule with regard to antitrust law is: no market-relevant agreements with competitors. The mere semblance of any violation must be avoided in this respect. Special care is required in this regard at trade fairs and industry events, at which employees come into contact with competing companies.

2.3 Corruption Prevention

wenglor resolutely and actively opposes bribery and corruption.

Corruption jeopardizes fair competition and represents a worldwide problem, wenglor does not tolerate any form of bribery, or any other action which might arouse the impression of any exertion of unlawful influence, amongst its employees and business partners.

When conducting business, all employees are forbidden to demand, accept or grant advantages if this is intended to impermissibly influence business operations or if it might arouse the impression that this is the case. The same applies to gratuities bestowed upon persons in close relationships to employees, for example family members or close friends.

Corruption often results from conflicts of interest, i.e. where private interests interact with professional activities. Business decisions must not be influenced by private or personal interests. Decisions are made exclusively on the basis of objective criteria, for example quality, price and reliability, and in the interest of the company. Two fundamental factors targeted at preventing corruption are transparency and reliability. These factors must be taken into consideration for all business operations. Within this context, internal as well as external gathering of data must be truthful, correct and complete.

2.4 Prevention of Money Laundering

wenglor adheres strictly to legal requirements for the prevention of money laundering.

We comply with legal requirements for the prevention of money laundering and do not participate in any money laundering activities. In case of doubt, every employee is required to report unusual financial transactions which might substantiate any suspicion of money laundering to the CFO at corporate headquarters, in particular where cash is involved.

2.5 Dealing with Gifts

wenglor rejects the acceptance of gifts of inappropriately excessive value.

In general, during the course of routine daily business, it's not unusual to receive small presents or gifts from a business partner. It's permissible to accept an occasional gift of small nominal value during the course of routine daily business. If the gift or the benefit exceeds the usual value range, the employee must decline to accept it. Employees must not allow themselves to be tempted by gifts into making unobjective decisions where business matters are concerned.

2.6 Data Protection

wenglor adheres strictly to applicable data protection regulations.

wenglor assures that sensitive information and trade secrets are appropriately protected and not passed along without authorization. All employees are therefore required to treat such data confidentially. To the same extent, we respect the trade secrets of our business partners and competitors. The protection of personal rights in compliance with applicable legal requirements is assured in all business processes. Personal data are only collected, processed or used when legally permissible, and/or when the affected persons have consented to such collection, processing or use.

Beyond this, the availability and confidentiality of IT systems are essential. Consequently, all available means are made use of for the protection of personal data and business data in consideration of applicable national laws.

2.7 Reporting

wenglor places its faith in strong values: reliability and honesty, trustworthiness and integrity.

We attach importance to open and truthful reporting and communication concerning the company's business operations regarding employees, customers, suppliers, government institutions and the public in general. All employees must assure that internal as well as external reports, records and other documentation issued by the group of companies are prepared in compliance with applicable legal regulations, and thus always complete, truthful and up to date.

2.8 Taxes and Duties

Due to worldwide activities and when penetrating new markets, a great variety of foreign trade, tax and customs laws have to be complied with. Observance of tax and customs regulations generates trust amongst our customers and the tax authorities. Irregularities may result in considerable financial loss for wenglor and cause damage to the company's reputation. The employees responsible for such irregularities must also reckon with adverse consequences.

Compliance with tax and customs regulations is of high priority for wenglor, and the company is thus expressly committed to the observance of national and international legal regulations.

Internal processes must be organized such that taxes and duties incurred by the respective wenglor company are ascertained and paid to the responsible tax authority to their full extent, correctly and punctually. Any information concerning violations of tax and customs regulations must be reported to the appropriate contact person in the tax and customs department.

2.9 Protection of Company Values

Sensitive information and trade secrets must be protected.

Due to the fact that in particular innovation serves as a basis for the development and production of wenglor products, they must be protected as fully as possible from imitation. wenglor makes use of legal options to this end for the protection of its innovations by means of intellectual property rights such as patents and trademarks. The protection of confidential information, know-how and trade secrets is essential when working together with suppliers, development partners or other business partners. In particular, where information is exchanged via electronic networks, caution is imperative. Depending on the significance of the information, additional security measures such as confidentiality agreements must be implemented. On the other hand, wenglor only makes use of external knowledge insofar as the company has become aware of it legally or from generally accessible sources. Intellectual property rights held by third parties must be respected and may only be made use of after receiving consent from the intellectual property owner. Furthermore, employees are responsible for the protection of company property. Tools, materials and other objects owned by the company may only be used for business purposes. They must be protected against loss, theft, damage and misuse. Electronic data processing is a further factor which represents an important element of the company. All employees are required to adhere to protective regulations issued by IT and actively support compliance with them.

2.10 Social Responsibility

The diversity and uniqueness of the company's employees serve as an engine for innovative strength at wenglor. wenglor attaches value to work relations which are characterized by respect, trust, tolerance and fairness amongst employees and in contact with business partners. The dignity, the privacy and the personality of each individual are always respected.

All work conducted within wenglor must be performed of one's own free will. For this reason, all types of forced labor and child labor are rejected. The minimum employment age in accordance with state regulations is always observed. Furthermore, no one may be discriminated against, favored or harassed due to ethnic background, race, skin color, nationality, gender, religion or ideology, handicap, age, sexual orientation or any other legally protected characteristic.

This applies to the hiring of new employees, to employees with existing employment contracts and to the vocational and/or professional development of the employees. Performance, personality, capabilities and suitability are exclusively decisive in this regard.

Sexual harassment and all other forms of harassment are forbidden at the workplace - regardless of whether the offender considers their conduct acceptable or not, and regardless of whether or not the affected person is able to withdraw himself from such harassment.

2.11 Sustainable Responsibility

wenglor is aware of its responsibility for the environment and society.

Sustainability and environmental protection are central key factors in our daily decision-making, product developments and corporate governance. At wenglor, ecological, economic and social aspects are anchored in the company philosophy. We are committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions through the use of renewable energies and minimizing energy consumption through energy-efficient technologies. With these measures, we aim to make a positive contribution to air quality. We also take care to keep our water consumption to a minimum and maintain good water quality.

2.12 Occupational Safety

For us, top priority is assigned to safety at the workplace and the maintenance of good health.

wenglor complies with applicable legal regulations and standards for a safe and healthy working environment. In order to avoid health risks, employees are required to implement legal regulations and internal rules for work safety and health protection. In addition, wenglor pays attention to the ergonomic workplace design of all employees.

Management personnel sets an important example as role models in this regard. They also ensure that employees who work with operating equipment have been carefully selected and instructed.

wenglor aligns itself to the fundamental principles of, and is committed to, ecological product design, reducing environmental impact, continuous improvement of energy efficiency and environmental performance, and establishing itself as a role model. At all locations operated by the wenglor group with workstations outside of the normal office environment, for example production, a designated employee must be responsible for the assurance of work safety and compliance with health protection in these areas. All employees must be able to fulfill their vocational and/or professional tasks on the basis of their physical and psychological capabilities.

2.13 Remuneration

Each employee shall receive fair remuneration.

Remuneration is based on the work performance of the respective employee. Wages paid may never be less than the legal minimum wage and must be sufficient in order to satisfy basic necessities. Remuneration and other benefits correspond at least to the respective national and local levels and take the legal minimum wage regulations of the respective economic sector or region into consideration.

2.14 Working Hours

The working hours of all employees comply with legal requirements.

wenglor strictly adheres to the legal requirements with regard to maximum permissible working hours and ensures that these are complied with and are in line with the ILO Convention.

2.15 Freedom of Association & Collective Bargaining

All employees have the fundamental right to freedom of association.

wenglor honors and respects the fundamental right of all employees to freedom of association, freedom of assembly and the right to collective bargaining, insofar as this is legally permissible and possible in the respective country in which wenglor operates.

3 Reporting and Inferences

All employees are obliged to comply with the wenglor Code of Conduct. Misconduct and violations of the Code of Conduct and applicable legal requirements will not be tolerated. wenglor will investigate all indications and take corrective measures if necessary. The principle of appropriateness shall be observed with regard to the implementation of any required measures. Examination will thus be conducted in each individual case in order to determine which consequences are appropriate, suitable and required. Depending on the respective degree of misconduct, culpable violations of the law can thus result in labor law sanctions, right on up to termination of the employment relationship (see also section 2.1, "Responsibility of wenglor Employees").

In order to protect the company against harmful conduct, to prevent white-collar crime and to protect all company employees, each and every employee is also called upon to internally report criminal offenses, unacceptable conditions and risks.

wenglor places great importance on an honest and open communication culture. Employees can therefore report violations of wenglor's Code of Conduct, criminal offenses, grievances and risks to their supervisors confidentially and directly, or report them via the HR department.

In addition, employees and external whistleblowers have the option of using the wenglor Compliance Whistleblower System. This secure channel can be used to report violations of the Code of Conduct or reports of grievances without whistleblowers, acting to the best of their knowledge, having to fear negative consequences.

A report can be submitted by telephone or email using the following contact details. The contact details published here are regarded an "internal reporting channel" and are processed by an independent body. This ensures that the report remains confidential.

A report can be submitted using the following contact information: Email: whistleblowing.wenglor@ddsk.de | Phone: +49 (0) 7542 949 21 00 90

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