



# **Code of Conduct**

**EFFECTIVE DATE: 1 April 2023** 



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# 1. Message from the CEO



# **Because Results Are Created By People**

Being a good corporate citizen and acting responsibly is an integral part of our DNA and our license to operate, and it is a precondition for the long-term success of our company.

United by a common mission to create value in everything we do, we help our customers accomplish more. Through a powerful mix of strong values, technology, and a winning team spirit, we act as one, across different locations, cultures, and time zones.

Our Code of Conduct sets standards for how we, as a company, engage with our colleagues, customers, suppliers, communities, authorities, and other stakeholders. Regardless of our global location, we are all obliged to follow the Code of Conduct and let it guide our everyday actions

We have zero tolerance towards bribery, corruption, fraud, and other types of inappropriate business conduct. We believe in inclusion and in treating everyone with respect, fostering diversity, and we do not tolerate discrimination or harassment of any kind. By being open and trustworthy and upholding high integrity standards in accordance with our values, we are committed to responsible business practices throughout our organisation.

People are the cornerstone of our business, and we want to be recognised as a good employer and a trusted business partner. Our Code of Conduct is intended to guide us in our daily work, setting the standard for how we do business.

I ask all our employees to read, understand and follow the Code of Conduct.

Thank you for your continued support.

**Bo Lybæk**President and CEO



# 2. Values







We combine our capabilities to fulfil expectations and act in the market based on one shared approach: uniting cultural diversity and always operating as one company.

#### **Facts & Performance**

We set goals and direction based on facts and corporation; acknowledging commitment and performance to achieve success.



# **Proactivity**

We challenge ourselves to find the best solutions. We think ahead and take action, and we reach out in a timely manner to ensure proactivity.



# Responsibility

We care about people and the environment, acting sustainably and conscientiously to take personal responsibility for delivering on our promises.



# Winning spirit

Defined by a distinct winning spirit, we go the extra mile to provide solutions in smart and efficient ways.



#### 3. Scope

This Code of Conduct applies to all GPV units, their employees and stakeholders.

#### 4. Purpose

The purpose of the Code of Conduct is to define GPV's ethical approach to every activity the company is involved in. GPV expects its management, employees, and business partners to comply with the standards set forth in this Code. This Code deals with the most important situations that could give rise to legal or ethical issues, but it should not be seen as exhaustive. It is the responsibility of each GPV employee to follow and promote this Code. GPV takes an active, open and ethically sound approach to implementing this Code of Conduct. GPV aims to prevent violations against Company values and the ethical principles set forth in this Code of Conduct by providing policies and instructions to follow.

GPV conducts its business with the highest ethical standards and in compliance with all applicable national and international laws. GPV meets the requirements of good corporate citizenship in each of its countries of operation and conducts its business, including any and all business transactions, agreements, procedures, and other activities conducted by GPV in line with the respective jurisdictions.

This includes, but is not restricted to, laws relating to antitrust and unfair competition, corporate governance, bribery prevention, illicit payments and corruption, export control laws and applicable sanction regimes, labour laws and practices, the environment, human rights laws, and internationally recognised standards. It also includes the protection of intellectual property and company assets. GPV practices good corporate citizenship wherever it does business.

The Code will be revised and updated as needed, reflecting changes in GPV policies, business requirements and regulations.

## 5. Human Rights

GPV recognises cultural differences and supports internationally agreed conventions on human rights. Among the rights that GPV views as fundamental and universal are: freedom from any form of discrimination based on race, colour, nationality, ethnic origin, age, faith, gender, gender reassignment, sexual orientation, marital status, connections with a national minority, disability, or other status, freedom from arbitrary detention, execution or torture; freedom of peaceful assembly and association, freedom of thought, conscience and religion, and freedom of opinion and expression respecting the privacy and integrity of its stakeholders.

GPV does not use child labour or forced labour. GPV does not tolerate the use of modern slavery, human trafficking or working conditions or treatment conflicting with international laws and practices.

#### 6. Conflict of Interest

GPV expects from all of its employees full loyalty and avoidance of any conflict of interest. Consequently, all GPV employees must avoid situations in which their personal interests may conflict with those of GPV or its stakeholders.

GPV employees must not profit, nor assist others to profit, from opportunities that are discovered using corporate information or their position. GPV employees must not use corporate assets other than for legitimate business or other authorised purposes. GPV supports and adheres to local legislation and internationally recognised principles for combating corruption and bribery.



#### 7. Gifts

Gifts include physical objects, services, favours, or other items of value. Some business situations call for giving or receiving gifts. Gift-giving and –receiving practices vary among cultures. In all cases, gifts given or received must be legal and reasonable. Neither management nor employees may pay or receive a bribe or accept anything that could give the impression that their duty to act in the best interests of GPV may be compromised. However, it is permissible to give or accept gifts of moderate value that are consistent with ethical and accepted business practices. In borderline cases where the interpretation of the above could be questionable, the matter must be discussed with the employee's direct manager.

#### 8. Bribery

GPV, its employees and anyone acting on our behalf is prohibited from offering or paying bribes or illicit payments to customers, suppliers, or other parties in order to obtain or retain business. GPV and its employees do not solicit or accept bribes or illicit payment in exchange for business favours.

## 9. Environment and Workplace

GPV is committed to protecting the environment and operating its facilities in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations. A safe and clean environment is important for the well-being of all employees and for the surrounding society.

GPV will comply with applicable safety and health regulations and appropriate practices.

GPV is committed to equal opportunities in all its employment practices, policies, and procedures. Every GPV employee or potential employee receives equal and fair treatment, free from harassment or discrimination based on any grounds.

#### 10. A Drug and Alcohol-Free Workplace

GPV follows a zero-tolerance approach and requires employees to work free from the influence of any substance, including drugs and alcohol as we are committed to maintaining a safe and healthy work environment for all employees. Also, GPV employees commit to live our Values by showing up each day ready to focus on creating Innovative, quality solutions for our customers, while being able to effectively and respectfully communicate with their colleagues. Working under the influence of any substance jeopardises our commitment to our colleagues and could potentially have an adverse impact on our company, customers and even our communities.

When participating in business events, employees must observe an appropriate consumption of alcohol.

Employees are forbidden to drive or operate any company vehicle, such as a company car or a forklift, for example, while impaired by alcohol or any other drug, whether legal or illegal, prescribed or otherwise.

Medicines prescribed by a doctor do not fall under the category of drugs.

GPV encourages anyone who may have an alcohol or drug problem to seek assistance.

#### 11. Assets

Honesty and respect for the company's assets as well as the property of others is essential. GPV takes due care when dealing with the assets of GPV and protects them from loss, damage, misappropriation, and destruction.



GPV aims to protect and secure all kinds of IP (Intellectual Property) and PII (Personal Identifiable Information) against cyber threats by having an efficient security baseline with adequate security technologies. GPV employees must always safeguard and protect both GPVs IP and PII and respect the IP and PII of others.

## 12. IT security

Therefore, all GPV employees have a duty to consistently take responsibility for IT security in a proactive manner, to comply with the policies, standards, and procedures on information security, and all must be aware of and understand the importance thereof. GPV expects all users of IT assets to conduct themselves in a professional manner when interacting with any of the company's IT assets.

# 13. Confidentiality and Protection of Privacy

The innovative capacity of GPV represents a significant competitive advantage. Thus, protecting our intellectual property is extremely important. We take due care when dealing with sensitive information and do not make it accessible to unauthorised persons whether internally or externally.

All employees must treat as strictly confidential all confidential information concerning commercial or operational matters relating to GPV, business partners or private individuals that may come to their knowledge during the course of their employment. Such duty of confidentiality shall apply both during and after a person's employment with GPV.

The above does not apply to general and public information, including general market knowledge, competencies and education obtained before or in the course of employment with GPV.

GPV's books, records, financial statements and business records must be treated confidentially.

Personal data and company information must be handled with due care and in accordance with applicable data protection laws. Personal information about employees may be collected and stored only if necessary, for an efficient business organisation or if required by law and in such cases always in accordance with company policy.

#### 14. Communication

GPV communication is open and transparent and provides the basis for constructive cooperation and sharing of knowledge. It is our goal to build confidence and promote mutual understanding.

Employees are not permitted to make official statements of any kind on behalf of GPV without being authorised to do so by the CEO in each individual case.

Only the CEO may make statements to the press. If any member of management or an employee is contacted by the press, he/she must refer to the Head of Communications and Marketing, who will coordinate directly with the CEO.

It is important that GPV is accessible to the press. Any enquiries should be directed to the Head of Communications and Marketing. GPV will do everything in its power to respond quickly and appropriately to any enquiries.

#### 15. Working with Suppliers

Suppliers form an important and integral part of GPV's overall supply chain. They are expected to conduct their business in compliance with the same high legal, ethical, environmental, and employee-related standards that GPV itself adheres to. GPV promotes the application of these



standards among its suppliers and monitors their actions in this regard.

GPV makes best efforts to contract only with suppliers or service providers who themselves adhere to international human rights, environmental laws and related practices.

# 16. Working with Customers

Our long-term relationships with our customers are based on trust, honesty, integrity, and our values. All GPV communications with customers are accurate, timely and truthful.

GPV protects its customers' data as if it was its own and does not disclose any confidential customer information to third parties without the customer's consent.

GPV wins business legally and ethically. GPV does not offer bribes or kickbacks of any kind, nor does it engage in other illegal cooperation with customers or competitors.

# 17. Voicing your concern

Employees are encouraged and invited to report in full confidence any breach or concern regarding this Code, and they can be assured that they will not suffer any retaliation or other negative consequences of such reporting.

Employees are recommended to bring any issue, violation of or concern regarding this Code to the attention of a person of their trust in the organisation or to report in the whistle-blower system. Employees are free to decide on their preferred reporting methodology.

Ideally, employees will voice their concerns first to someone from their local organisation, such as their direct manager, site manager, managing director, HR or such. If no action is taken or if one or more of these individuals are disqualified because of the specific case, the employee should report to GPV's Executive Board. If no action is taken or if one or more of the board's members are disqualified because of the specific case, the individual may report the case either to the Chairman of the Board of Directors of GPV or through the whistle-blower system provided by the Company's owners. the Schouw & Co. whistle-blower system.

The whistle-blower system is available in all local languages and further information is available in the policy: https://schouw.whistleblowernetwork.net/frontpage.

#### 18. Sanctions

Any acts inconsistent with this Code must be promptly corrected and may be subject to disciplinary action, which could ultimately involve termination of employment and legal prosecution. GPV ensures that there will be no adverse work-related consequences as a result of any employee bringing up complaints of violations of this Code.

# 19. Ownership

The Code of Conduct is owned by the CEO and subject to change from time to time with the prior permission of the owner.

## 20. Entry into force

The Code of Conduct enters into force 1 April 2023 and replaces all previous version.