Code of Ethics

**Overarching standard**
To provide a resource in helping Chicagoland electrical contractors meet Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) and United States Green Building Council (USGBC) standards.

**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.
- Provide relevant and accessible incentives for contractors to uphold LEED and USGBC standards.

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

**Second Layer: Contracts and Agreements**

*Pressure*
- Provide everything the customer demands, while keeping within a required budget.

*Risk*
- Sacrifice required green building technologies and procedures in order to save the customer money.
- Forgo the customer’s budget in order to satisfy their every need.
Measure
- Focusing on the demands of ECA while carrying each required component through LEED certification.

Canon
- Responsible in learning 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
- Lack of knowledge of the codes of ethics amongst the workers.
- Difficulty to ensure uniform compliance to set code of ethics.

Measure
- Providing LEED certified supervisors and common contractors with the knowledge and tools to ensure uniform compliance and knowledge of code of ethics.

Canon
- Understanding and consistently applying the code of ethics set forth by a LEED and USGBC.

The Fourth Layer: Industry Standards

Pressure
- Following Chicago electrical code and underwriters laboratory (ULC) standards.
- Making an effort towards new “greener” standards that replace existing “tried, true, and cheaper” standards.

Risk
- New standards are not proven, and may increase the risk of danger to the customer.

Measure
- Following the electrical industry standards of ECA and developing their own
methodology of ensuring new standards are as “tried and true” as the old ones.

Canon
- New methods and standards as appealing as or more desirable than the old standards.

The Fifth Layer: Social Civic and Geographic Communities

Pressure
- Assuming the responsibility as “Stewards of the Planet,” 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 make contractors not use them due to their inflated costs.

Measure
- Consider the community’s view points on LEED and determine the true value of green products.
- Offering the community substantial knowledge of the advantages to using “green” technologies and procedures, for example long-term return cost as well as benefits for the future environment.

Canon
- Making changes to satisfy the community needs, provide valuable information as reference and motivation to choose a more sustainable products and practices.