

UNITED KINGDOM SECURITY SHREDDING ASSOCIATION

STANDARDS & CODES OF PRACTICE

CODE OF PRACTICE

This code of practice lays down the aims and objectives of the United Kingdom Security Shredding Association, the standards of service with which the association's members should comply. It provides members with clear guidelines for operation and members' customers with the assurance required to select security-shredding services with absolute confidence.

Any enquiries relating to this code of practice should be made to UKSSA members via their web site www.ukssa.org.

CONSTITUTION AND RULES

1. NAME

The name of the association is the:

'UNITED KINGDOM SECURITY SHREDDING ASSOCIATION'

2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. To collectively promote members' security shredding and destruction services at local and national levels.
2. Offer services for the secure destruction of all data including paper, tape, acetate and film.
3. Have a broad membership to cover all areas within the United Kingdom and Ireland.
4. A commitment to offer a service that is appropriate to customers' requirements.
5. Offer advice and assistance to external organisations requiring disposal and destruction of confidential documents.
6. To rigorously enforce the standards set by the association across all members.
7. Establish and maintain high standards of service and performance throughout the security shredding industry.

8. Liase with government and other legislative bodies to maintain, improve and enforce standards throughout the industry.

3. STANDARDS

3.1. BUILDING SECURITY

- i) The destruction process must be in secure isolation from any other processing.
- ii) Buildings must be of a secure nature and have high security locks with restricted access to unauthorised personnel at all times.
- iii) All unprocessed material must be stored in secure facilities.
- iv) Buildings should comply with all relevant fire and safety regulations.
- v) Buildings involved in the destruction or storage of confidential material must be alarmed.
- vi) Premises must have full time closed circuit television monitoring systems and must comply with the current Data Protection Act.

3.2. SECURE COLLECTION CONTAINERS

- i) All containers used must be lockable or sealable.
- ii) Numbered seals will be provided on customer request.

3.3 TRANSPORT

- i) Vehicles must be clean and presentable at all times.
- ii) Vehicles must have a rigid box body or secure container capable of accommodating all security sensitive materials.
- iii) All vehicle doors must be lockable and vehicle bodies sealable.
- iv) Vehicles must not be left open or unlocked whilst unattended, keys must never be left in the vehicle.
- v) Vehicles must be capable of communicating with base during operation.
- vi) Vehicles must be fitted with an alarm or immobilizer.

vii) Sub Contractors must comply with UKSSA standards at all times. It is the duty of the member to ensure conformity.

3.4 SECURITY & AUDIT TRAIL

Material collections and deliveries will be documented at all stages of the process, through to the issue of a

Certificate of Destruction after the material has been shredded, to provide an audit trail as clear proof of service completion.

A contract must exist between the data controller and the processor in line with the requirements of the Data Protection Act Regulations.

3.5 SHREDDING

All members must have availability of shredding equipment to meet the following shred size:

i) 22mm wide or less.

OR

Total destruction

ii) Members should ensure all material is destroyed within 24 working hours.

3.6 PERSONNEL

i) Members must ensure their integrity by vetting employees involved in any aspect of their operation to BS7858:1996.

ii) Personnel must have received the necessary training and hold appropriate qualifications to ensure they are competent in all aspects of their work.

iii) Identity passes must be issued and worn by all employees at all times. Passes should include a recent photograph of the employee, employee's name, position, company name and contact telephone number. Passes should bear an expiry date of no greater than 3 years.

iv) Drivers must be suitably attired with smart, safety clothing.

3.7 INSURANCE

i) All members must have a minimum £5,000,000 public & products liability and £10,000,000 employers liability insurance.

3.8 INSPECTIONS

- i) Members will subject themselves to vetting by an UKSSA appointed independent security consultant to ensure compliance with UKSSA standards. Upon successful completion a Certificate of Conformity will be issued.
- ii) Members must be compliant with the current Data Protection Act.
- iii) Members must be registered with the Environmental Agency under the Duty of Care Waste Regulations.
- iv) Any member holding national contracts has the right to inspect sub-contractor members at any time.
- v) Members must provide the facility for customers to inspect all security shredding facilities at mutually convenient times.

3.9 ENVIRONMENTAL CARE

- i) All shredded material should be disposed of in an environmentally responsible manner.
- ii) All processes should have as little detrimental impact on the environment as possible.

4. MANAGEMENT

The Management of affairs of the Association shall be vested in an Executive Council consisting of:

- i) Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary.
- ii) All full members and/or their representatives.
- iii) The Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary will be elected annually from among full members of the Association and the term of office shall be one year.

5. PROCEEDINGS

- i) The Association Executive Council shall meet monthly or at such intervals as may be convenient for the relevant business dealings, and meetings shall be held at places determined by the Executive Council.

- ii) The quorum for the Executive Council's business shall be not less than 50%.
- iii) At such meetings, each member shall have one vote and all resolutions and decisions of the Executive Council shall be made by a simple majority of votes cast. In the event of a tied vote, the Chairman shall hold the casting vote.

6. MEMBERSHIP

- i) To have qualification, members must be actively involved in the process of security shredding and have facilities available to meet the STANDARDS as set out by the UKSSA Council.
- ii) Members may only be elected or expelled with the full agreement of the Association Executive Council.
- iii) Members may resign from the Association at any time by giving 6 months written notice.
- iv) Any person or corporate body wishing to join the Association must hold the necessary qualifications and have two full members to propose and second any nomination in writing to the Chairman or Treasurer.
- v) The Association at its discretion may determine the maximum number of members of UKSSA and declare membership closed whenever it may think fit.

7. AMENDMENTS TO THE RULES

- i) These rules may be modified, varied or supplemented as necessary by the Executive Council in the Association meetings.

