

Case #1

- You are a manager in a company that is a leading manufacturer of mobile phones. You observe that workers employed in your testing department appear to be suffering abnormal levels of headaches, fatigue, etc.

Case #1

Should you?

- (a) Ignore the symptoms on the grounds that international studies have failed to uncover any harmful effects from mobile phone use?
- (b) Shut down the department and launch an investigation by the Health and Safety Office?
- (c) Issue a warning to the workers concerned of possible harm to their health?

Case #2

- Some close colleagues in the group that you manage apply to fill vacancies at another site in a more attractive area. You have learned by chance that the company has highly confidential plans to shut down the factory at that site within the next 12 months.

Case #2

Should you?

- (a) Warn your colleagues about the planned move?
- (b) Leak the news to the local media to alert your colleagues?
- (c) Keep quiet on the grounds that the information is company confidential?

Case #3

- You learn that some highly talented members of your Research & Development (R&D) team could be much better compensated if they took the initiative to change their job function within the company.

Case #3

Should you?

- (a) Inform them about the financial advantages of a career change?
- (b) Urge the company to make special provision to reward the best R&D staff?
- (c) Make keeping a successful team together your top priority?

Case #4

- Working as a consultant for a small company you are asked to take on a project outside your true domain of expertise.

Case #4

Should you?

- (a) Reveal your lack of expertise in the technical area involved?
- (b) Accept the work on condition that you would be allowed to get help from professional colleagues where necessary?
- (c) Conceal your lack of expertise and hope to “learn as you go”?

Case #5

- Your company is about to bid for a major overseas contract of huge commercial importance. You discover from a magazine article that the project would pose significant environmental risks to the local population.

Case #5

Should you?

- (a) Inform the company about your concerns?
- (b) Conclude that the ultimate responsibility lies with the government of the country involved?
- (c) Contact environmental groups to warn them of your company's plans?

Case #6

- Your company rewards its employees for success with patents. You learn from a casual conversation at a conference that the subject of your latest patent application was patented some years ago in a foreign country but was never translated into English.

Case #6

Should you?

- (a) Inform your company of the existence of the foreign patent?
- (b) Leave it to the Patent Office to discover the prior claim?
- (c) Abandon your claim?

Case #7

- You are informed through an anonymous letter that one of your colleagues being considered for promotion to a very senior post has falsified his employment history to conceal an offence he committed in his previous employment.

Case #7

Should you?

- (a) Inform your company about the letter?
- (b) Confront your colleague about the his alleged deception?
- (c) Do nothing?

Case #8

- Your company intends to submit one its products for a prestigious national design award under your name, but excluding any mention of key members of the team responsible for the work, on the grounds that they subsequently left to join a competitor.

Case #8

Should you?

- (a) Refuse to have your name listed unless your former colleagues receive proper credit?
- (b) Inform your former colleagues of your company's intentions?
- (c) Agree to submit the design, hoping to find some way of acknowledging the work of your former colleagues?

Case #9

- You read in a journal that a recent report implicates a chemical widely used in circuit board manufacture in the increased incidence of sickness among employees in the industry. There is no known substitute for this chemical, which is a key ingredient in the manufacturing process.

Case #9

Should you?

- (a) Urge your company to stop using the chemical immediately?
- (b) Do nothing until the relevant authorities issue guidance?
- (c) Inform you company's employees who use the chemical of your concerns?

Case #10

- One of your most talented colleagues insists on not working on any project with military applications and also repeatedly objects in very strong terms to the involvement of any members of his group.

Case #10

Should you?

- (a) Seek the approval of your colleagues to get him moved to another group?
- (b) Try to isolate his work from any military connections, even if the prospects for the group are harmed?
- (c) Confront him with the incompatibility of his principles with the well-being of the group?