

**FAIRFAX FINANCIAL HOLDINGS LIMITED**

**CODE OF BUSINESS CONDUCT AND ETHICS**

**Approved by the Board of Directors on February 17, 2005**

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Fairfax Financial Holdings Limited has from the outset stated and continuously repeated, as a primary value within its Guiding Principles (which are set out each year in the Annual Report of Fairfax), that “honesty and integrity are essential in all our relationships and will never be compromised”. The Board of Directors of Fairfax has adopted this Code of Business Conduct and Ethics to provide detailed elaboration on this principle.

This principle, and the express standards and procedures set forth in this Code, are designed to promote:

- honest and ethical conduct, integrity in all dealings and compliance with the law;
- full compliance with all regulatory disclosure requirements and similar standards for all other public disclosure;
- the avoidance of actual or perceived conflicts of interest or, in cases where avoidance is not possible, the appropriate disclosure and the ethical handling of that actual or perceived conflict;
- prompt reporting of any known or reasonably suspected violations of this Code; and
- accountability for adherence to this Code.

This Code applies to all directors, officers and employees of Fairfax and of every subsidiary of Fairfax. Fairfax and its subsidiaries are referred to collectively as Fairfax and each director, officer and employee of Fairfax is referred to as a Covered Person. Fairfax will attempt to ensure that this Code is brought to the attention of all Covered Persons.

**Each Covered Person is responsible for understanding and adhering to this Code and acting in a manner which will result in performance of this Code, including co-operating in any investigation of misconduct. Adherence to this Code and acting in a manner which will result in performance of this Code is a strict condition of continued employment or association with Fairfax.** It is not an excuse for non-adherence that the non-adherence was directed or requested by any other person.

This Code is absolute in principle, but it cannot cover every situation which may arise involving an ethical question or decision. Each Covered Person should constantly ensure that his or her conduct is compliant with the principles and the details of this Code. In any situation where there is doubt, the Covered Person should discuss the situation with colleagues, supervisors, senior personnel or even a director until he or she is satisfied that all the relevant facts are known and have been considered and that the conduct chosen to be followed in that situation is the conduct prescribed by this Code.

This Code is in addition to Fairfax's other policies or codes of business conduct, including its policy on Insiders' Confidentiality, Trading and Reporting Responsibilities and its Whistleblower Policy. Covered Persons should also become familiar with and scrupulously adhere to those policies and codes.

### **Honest and Ethical Conduct**

1. Each Covered Person owes a duty to Fairfax to act at all times ethically and with the highest degree of honesty and integrity. Competitive advantage or profit must not be sought through unlawful, dishonest or unethical business practices.

### **Financial Records and Periodic Reports**

2. (a) The disclosure in all reports, documents and communications that Fairfax is required to file must fully comply with all disclosure requirements and any other reports, documents and communications that Fairfax publicly issues must meet similar standards. To achieve this, Fairfax will maintain accurate and complete financial, accounting and documentary records, and the Covered Persons involved will maintain and provide full, complete and accurate data and documentation.  
  
(b) Each Covered Person will promptly bring to the attention of Fairfax's Audit Committee any information he or she may have concerning (i) significant deficiencies in the design or operation of internal controls over financial reporting which could cause Fairfax's disclosure to not fully comply with all disclosure requirements or similar standards, or (ii) any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a role in Fairfax's financial reporting, disclosures or internal controls over financial reporting.

### **Conflict of Interest**

3. Each Covered Person must be scrupulous in always seeking to avoid any actual, potential or perceived conflict of interest. A conflict of interest occurs or may occur in any situation where a Covered Person has, or may have, a financial or other personal interest (other than solely as a director, officer or employee of Fairfax) different from, additional to or beyond solely the interests of Fairfax. A conflict situation can arise when a director, officer or employee takes actions or has interests that may make it difficult to perform his or her Fairfax work objectively. Due to the variety of situations which could give rise to an actual, potential or perceived conflict of interest, every Covered Person should constantly consider whether any actual, potential or perceived conflict exists or may exist.
4. No gift, entertainment or personal benefit or opportunity should ever be offered, accepted or permitted by a Covered Person in a commercial context or by virtue of the Covered Person's position or office with Fairfax, unless it (i) is consistent with customary business practices, (ii) is not excessive in value, (iii) cannot be construed as a bribe or payoff, and (iv) does not violate any laws or regulations. In any event, and for greater certainty, the offer, acceptance or permitting of cash gifts by any Covered Person is prohibited.

5. Each Covered Person must immediately advise the Chair of Fairfax's Audit Committee in writing of any material transaction or relationship that reasonably could be expected to give rise to a conflict of interest, and will not take any action to proceed with that transaction or relationship unless and until that action has been approved by Fairfax's Audit Committee.

### **Protection and Proper Use of Corporate Assets**

6. (a) Each Covered Person must act in a manner which protects Fairfax's assets and resources and ensures their responsible and efficient use. All assets and resources of Fairfax must be used for legitimate business purposes (incidental non-material personal use is considered a legitimate business purpose).  
  
(b) The obligation to protect Fairfax's assets includes its proprietary information. Proprietary information includes, without limitation, intellectual property, such as trade secrets, patents, trademarks and copyrights, business marketing and service plans, manufacturing or service ideas, designs, databases, records, remuneration information, and any unpublished financial data and reports. Unauthorized use or distribution of this information is a violation of this Code. It may also be illegal and may result in civil or criminal penalties.

### **Confidentiality of Corporate Information**

7. (a) Each Covered Person must maintain the confidentiality of all non-public information relating to Fairfax, or provided by others to Fairfax (including by its customers), except when disclosure is properly authorized or legally required. Non-public information that is of no materiality and the disclosure of which would have no impact on Fairfax or anyone else need not be maintained in confidence, subject to applicable privacy laws. The obligation to preserve the confidentiality of non-public information continues even after employment ends.  
  
(b) Each Covered Person is prohibited from using or attempting to use non-public information for his or her own, or anyone else's, personal use, gain or advantage.

### **Fair Dealing**

8. Each Covered Person must deal honestly, ethically, fairly and in good faith with the securityholders, customers, suppliers, competitors, employees, advisors and regulators of Fairfax. Fairfax seeks competitive advantage through superior performance, but never through unlawful, dishonest or unethical business practices. No Covered Person will take unfair advantage of anyone through manipulation, concealment, abuse of privileged information, misrepresentation of material facts or any other unfair dealing practice.

### **Protection and Proper Use of Corporate Opportunities**

9. Each Covered Person is prohibited from taking for himself or herself personally, or directing to anyone else, opportunities that are discovered or available by virtue of the Covered Person's position with Fairfax or through the use of Fairfax's property or

information. No Covered Person will use Fairfax's property or information or the Covered Person's position with Fairfax for his or her own, or anyone else's, personal gain, or will compete directly or indirectly in any manner with Fairfax. Each Covered Person owes a duty to Fairfax to advance Fairfax's legitimate interests when the opportunity to do so arises.

### **Compliance with Laws, Rules and Regulations**

10. In conducting the business of Fairfax or otherwise acting as a director, officer or employee of Fairfax, every Covered Person will comply with all applicable laws, rules and regulations in every jurisdiction in which Fairfax conducts business. Each Covered Person will acquire sufficient knowledge of the legal requirements relating to his or her duties so as to be able to carry out those duties in a legally permissible manner and to recognize when to seek advice on the applicable legal requirements from others with greater expertise.

### **Reporting of Violations of the Code**

11. (a) Each Covered Person will promptly report any violation of this Code which is known to or reasonably suspected by that Covered Person, in accordance with Fairfax's Whistleblower Policy. Inappropriate delay in reporting a known or reasonably suspected violation is itself a violation of this Code.  
  
(b) Fairfax assures every Covered Person that it will not carry out or, to the fullest extent reasonably within its power, permit any retribution or retaliation of any kind for reports made in good faith regarding known or reasonably suspected violations of this Code. The ability of a Covered Person to make reports without fear of retribution or retaliation is vital to the successful implementation of this Code.

### **Accountability and Compliance**

12. The Board of Fairfax is responsible for monitoring compliance with this Code. Each Covered Person will be held accountable for adherence to this Code. Employees and officers who violate this Code will be subject to disciplinary action, including potential termination of employment, depending on the particular circumstances. Any violation of this Code by a director will be handled as appropriate in the circumstances.

### **Waivers**

13. Fairfax's Board or one of its Board committees may grant a specific, limited waiver of any provision of this Code if it determines, based on information that it deems credible and persuasive, that such a waiver is appropriate under the specific circumstances. Each fact situation will be treated as a separate case, so that a decision in one case will have no bearing on another case. In most circumstances it is unlikely that a waiver will be granted. Any waiver granted (or implicit waiver) will be disclosed to the extent required by applicable law or the rules of any applicable stock exchange.