



NSA Code of Conduct on Competition Law Compliance

Commitment

NSA is firmly committed to maintaining a fair, transparent, and competitive environment in the power generation systems industry. It is the policy of NSA to comply fully with all applicable EU and national competition rules. To support this commitment, NSA has adopted this Code of Conduct, which is binding on all members and participants in the Association's activities.

The purpose of this Code is to:

- Provide clear rules for conducting NSA business,
- Reduce the risk of breaching competition law, and
- Protect both NSA as an organization and its members as individual companies or representatives.

This Code of Conduct follows the general form and content of the competition compliance model recommended by ORGALIME.

Prohibited Topics

- Sale prices, pricing intentions, discounts, mark-ups, recommended prices, or any other price-related matters concerning members' products or services.
- Market division or allocation (e.g., dividing territories, customers, or customer groups).
- Planned or intended restrictions on production or sales.
- Pre-consultations or collusion regarding tenders (including adding surcharges to bids to compensate non-winning bidders).
- Incorporation of agreed cost levels into pricing strategies.
- Exchange of commercially sensitive information (e.g., production, turnover, sales, investments, R&D; expenses, or marketing strategies).
- Agreements on warranties or guarantees that could limit competitiveness.
- Assessment or declaration of average prices or price ranges within a sector.
- Collective boycotts of specific suppliers or customers.

- Exclusionary or discriminatory membership criteria.
- Any other discussion that may lead to coordination of market behaviour or restriction of competition.

Topics That May Present Risks

- General terms and conditions of sale and delivery (especially pricing, charges, indexation, or after-sales service).
- Restrictions on participation in trade fairs (each member should normally be free to participate).
- Membership or recognition schemes (only problematic if access is decisive for customer choice).
- Collection and sharing of market information by the Secretariat (allowed only if aggregated and anonymized).
- Benchmarking or codes of conduct (permitted only if they do not limit members' ability to compete freely).

Safe Topics

- General economic trends and business climate (macro-level, not individual company behaviour).
- Market research and industry-wide studies.
- Lobbying activities on legislation and public policy affecting the sector.
- Training, employment, safety, and health issues.
- Environmental matters related to products' manufacture, distribution, or use.
- Legal issues applying equally to all members.
- Standardization provided that: (i) the process is transparent and open, (ii) compliance is voluntary, (iii) access is on fair, reasonable, and non-discriminatory terms, and (iv) discussions are limited to technical aspects.

Core Procedures

- All meetings require a written agenda.
- Meetings must be attended by at least one Secretariat member or an independent adviser, responsible for monitoring compliance.
- Written minutes must be kept for all meetings and retained for at least 10 years.
- Discussions must follow the agenda; unrelated matters will be restricted by the Chair and recorded in the minutes.
- If competition concerns arise, discussions must be stopped immediately. The intervention and its reason must be recorded.
- If in doubt, the topic must be postponed until legal advice is obtained.

■ In summary: NSA fosters cooperation only in ways that respect competition law. All members and participants must act with caution, transparency, and responsibility to protect both the Association and themselves.