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# **INSIDER TRADING PROHIBITION CODE**

- ✤ Code of Conduct to Regulate, Monitor and Report Trading in Securities of the Company
- Code of Practices and Procedures for Fair / Corporate Disclosure of Unpublished Price Sensitive Information
- Policy for Determination of Legitimate Purpose
- ✤ Policy & Procedures of inquiry in case of leak of Unpublished Price Sensitive Information (UPSI)

#### (Updated and Effective from January 22, 2025)

[Pursuant to Securities Exchange Board of India (Prohibition of Insider Trading) Regulations, 2015]

Policy Reviewed and Approved by Board 22<sup>nd</sup> January, 2025

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# <u>CODE OF CONDUCT TO REGULATE, MONITOR AND REPORT TRADING IN</u> <u>SECURITIES OF THE COMPANY</u>

# 1. Background

Preventing insider trading is necessary to comply with securities law and to preserve the reputation and integrity of Quest Capital Markets Limited (the "**Company**") and all persons associated with it. "Insider Trading" may occur when any person subscribes, buys, sells, deals, or agrees to subscribe, buy, sell, deal in any securities and trades while in possession of Unpublished Price Sensitive Information ("**UPSI**") relating to the securities of the Company or securities that are listed or proposed to be listed.

In terms of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Prohibition of Insider Trading) Regulations, 2015, as amended from time to time ("**PIT Regulations**"), SEBI has broadly prohibited insider trading in the following terms:

- "a) no insider shall communicate, provide, or allow access to any unpublished price sensitive information, relating to a company or securities listed or proposed to be listed, to any person including other insiders except where such communication is in furtherance of legitimate purposes, performance of duties or discharge of legal obligations;
- b) no person shall procure from or cause the communication by any insider of unpublished price sensitive information, relating to a company or securities listed or proposed to be listed, except in furtherance of legitimate purposes, performance of duties or discharge of legal obligations; and
- c) no insider shall trade in securities that are listed or proposed to be listed on a stock exchange when in possession of unpublished price sensitive information."

The Insider Trading Prohibition Code of Quest Capital Markets Limited ("**Code**") aims to ensure confidentiality of UPSI and prevent misuse of such information. The Code encourages timely reporting and adequate disclosure of price sensitive information by all the Designated Persons and Immediate Relatives of Designated Persons. Further, the Code also endeavors to put in place an adequate and effective system of internal controls to ensure compliance with the requirements given in this Code and the applicable PIT Regulations to prevent insider trading. As explained later in the "*Code of Conduct to Regulate, Monitor and Report Trading in Securities of the Company*", UPSI is information relating to a company that is listed or proposed to be listed or its securities which is considered to be both "price sensitive" and "not generally available".

Insider Trading is an offence punishable under PIT Regulations in India. Quest Capital Markets Limited also prohibits insider trading and any trading on the basis of UPSI that could result in serious sanctions, including dismissal of the concerned persons from the employment of the Company.

Quest Capital Markets Limited is a public company limited by shares whose equity shares are listed on BSE Limited ("**BSE**") (collectively referred to as "Stock Exchange(s)") and is subject to the rules and regulations issued by the Securities and Exchange Board of India ("**SEBI**").

The Board of Directors (*as defined hereinbelow*) of the Company has adopted this Code to regulate, monitor and report trading by Insiders (*as defined hereinbelow*) including the Designated Persons (*as defined hereinbelow*) and Immediate Relatives (*as defined hereinbelow*) of Designated Persons to comply with the Insider Trading Regulations. The Insider Trading Regulations prohibits an Insider from Trading (*as defined hereinbelow*) in the Securities (*as defined hereinbelow*) of a company listed on any stock exchange when in possession of any UPSI.

#### 2. References

The Code should be referred to in conjunction, amongst others, with the following:

- a. SEBI (Prohibition of Insider Trading) Regulations 2015, as amended from time to time;
- b. Applicable provisions of the Companies Act, 2013, as amended from time to time;
- c. Code of Practices and Procedures for Fair/Corporate Disclosure of Unpublished Price Sensitive Information
- d. Policy on procedures to be adhered to while conducting an inquiry in the event of leak or suspected leak of Unpublished Price Sensitive Information

#### 3. Interpretation

- a. All references in this Code to statutory provisions shall be construed as meaning and including references to:
  - i. any statutory modification, consolidation or re-enactment for the time being in force or made any time thereafter;
  - ii. all statutory instruments or orders made pursuant to a statutory provision; and
  - iii. any statutory provisions of which these statutory provisions are a consolidation, reenactment or modification.
- b. Capitalised terms defined in this Code by inclusion in quotations and/or parenthesis shall have the meanings so ascribed.
- c. Words and expressions not defined in this Code shall have the same meaning assigned to them under relevant Applicable Laws.
- d. Words denoting the singular shall include the plural, and words denoting any gender shall include all genders.
- e. The words "include" and "including" are to be construed without limitation.
- *f.* Any reference to holding of Securities by any Persons shall also be deemed to include any joint holding of Securities by such Person.

# 4. Applicability

The Code shall be applicable to all Insiders of the Company including Designated Persons and Immediate Relatives of Designated Persons as defined in this Code. The Code prohibits an Insider from trading in the Securities of the Company when in possession of any UPSI.

The Company places utmost emphasis on achieving highest level of transparency and accountability in all its dealings with its stakeholders and has zero tolerance for any form of Insider Trading or similar unlawful security trading practices. Failure to comply with the provisions of this Code shall lead to disciplinary proceedings being initiated in relation to such violation, by the Company, and the Company may initiate appropriate proceedings as permissible either under the provisions of this Code or such other Applicable Laws, including but not limited to reporting such violation to SEBI or such other Regulatory Authorities, as applicable. Further, violation of the provisions of this Code may also be a violation of the applicable penal statutes in certain cases, including the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023.

#### 5. Consequences of non-compliance with the Code

Failure to comply with this Code is a disciplinary issue and may also constitute a criminal offence in certain cases. Any Employee including their Relatives/ Immediate Relatives who violates the provisions of this Code shall be liable for such penal/disciplinary/remedial action as may be considered appropriate. All breaches of this Code with actions shall be reported to the Audit Committee & Board of Directors of the Company on a quarterly basis. The above actions of the Company will be without prejudice to any civil or criminal action that the Regulatory Authorities may initiate against such an Employee. Applicable PIT Regulations may be referred to for detailed penal provisions for any contravention.

In addition to the above, if any Insider contravenes any of the provisions of the Code / applicable PIT Regulations, such Insider will be liable for appropriate penal actions in accordance with the provisions of the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992 ("**SEBI Act, 1992**") read with the PIT Regulations. The minimum penalty for insider trading as prescribed under the SEBI Act, 1992 is Rs. 10 lakhs, which can go up to Rs. 25 crores or 3 times the profit made from trading, whichever is higher.

Enquiries regarding this Code should be directed to the Company Secretary & Compliance Officer for Investor Redressal at email id <u>secretarial@qcml.in</u>

# 6. Definitions

- (a) "Act" means the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992, as amended from time to time.
- (b) "Applicable Laws" shall include (but is not limited to) all applicable:
  - i. Securities Laws;
  - statutes, enactments, acts of legislature or parliament, laws, codes, ordinances, rules, bye- laws, regulations, notifications, guidelines, circulars or policies of any applicable country and/or jurisdiction and shall include applicable general law rules (including common law and principles of equity);

- iii. writs, injunctions, directions, directives, judgments, awards (administrative or judicial) or other similar form of decision of, decrees, orders or governmental approvals of, or agreements with, any Governmental Authority in each case having jurisdiction over the matter in question; and
- iv. international treaties, conventions and protocols,

as may be in force from time to time.

- (c) "Audit Committee" shall mean Committee of the Board of Directors of the Company constituted pursuant to Section 177 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with Regulation 18 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015.
- (d) **"Board of Directors**" means Board of Directors of the Company.
- (e) "Code" means this Code of Conduct for Prevention of Insider Trading which includes:
  - i. Code of Conduct to Regulate, Monitor and Report Trading by Insiders;
  - ii. Code of Practices and Procedures for Fair/Corporate Disclosure of Unpublished Price Sensitive Information; and
  - iii. Policy & Procedures of Inquiry in Case of Leak of Unpublished Price Sensitive Information (UPSI).
- (f) **"Company**" means Quest Capital Markets Limited ("**QCML**").
- (g) "**Compliance Officer**" means any senior officer, designated so, and reporting to the Board of Directors/Committee of Board, who is financially literate and capable of appreciating requirements for legal and regulatory compliance under the PIT Regulations and who shall be responsible for compliance with policies and procedures, maintenance of records, monitoring adherence to the rules for the preservation of UPSI, monitoring of trades and the implementation of the codes specified in the PIT Regulations under the overall supervision of the Board of Directors of the Company, as the case may be.
- (h) "Connected Person" has the same meaning assigned to it in Regulation 2(1)(d) of the PIT Regulations and shall also include the following persons, as identified by the Company's Board of Directors in consultation with the Compliance Officer:
  - i. A Director or a Key Managerial Personnel or an Employee of any company/ entity/ LLP of the Group who has directly or indirectly access to UPSI or is reasonably expected to have such access;
  - ii. Any person, who is or has been in a contractual, fiduciary or in employment relationship or who is or has been in frequent communication, with an Employee of the Group at any time in the six-month period prior to the date of determining whether that person, as a result of such relationship or as a result of such frequent communication, as the case may be, was, directly

or indirectly, allowed access to UPSI or reasonably expected to be allowed access to UPSI;

- iii. Any person who has a professional or business relationship with the Group, whether temporary or permanent, and that relationship directly or indirectly, allows access to UPSI or is reasonably expected to allow access to UPSI; and
- iv. A Relative of any person mentioned above;
- (i) "Contra Trade" means if a Designated Person enters into an opposite trade in the Securities of the Company during the period of six months following the prior trade in the Securities of the Company, such opposite trade will be considered as a Contra Trade. Provided that any trade pursuant to exercise of stock options and sale of shares so acquired under stock options shall not be considered as a Contra Trade.
- (j) **"Designated Persons**" means persons identified by the Board of Directors as designated persons in consultation with the Compliance Officer to be covered by this Code on the basis of their role and function in the Company and the access that such role and function would provide to UPSI in addition to seniority and professional designation and shall include:
  - i. Promoters, Directors, and Key Managerial Personnel of the Company as defined under Section 2(51) of the Companies Act, 2013;
  - ii. Employees up to one level below Chief Executive Officer and its Material Subsidiaries, if any irrespective of their functional role or ability, who has directly or indirectly access to UPSI or is reasonably expected to have such access;
  - Such Employees of the Company, its Material Subsidiaries, if any and other Group companies in finance, secretarial, investor relations, corporate communication, strategy and acquisition, legal, information technology and any other department as may be determined by the Compliance Officer from time to time;
  - iv. Any other Connected Person designated by the Company on the basis of their functional role in the Group and such function would provide access to UPSI; and
  - v. Designated Persons shall also include their Immediate Relatives.
- (k) **"Employee**" means any individual who is in the employment (temporary, contractual or permanent) of the Company and who during employment may become privy to UPSI.
- (l) "Director" shall have the same meaning as defined in the Companies Act, 2013.
- (m) "Group" shall mean the RP-Sanjiv Goenka group of companies/entities/LLPs.
- (n) **"Generally Available Information**" means information that is accessible to the public on a nondiscriminatory basis and shall not include unverified events or information reported in print or

electronic media.

- (o) "**Insider**" shall mean any person who is:
  - i. a Connected Person; or
  - ii. in possession of, or, having access to UPSI.
- (p) "**Immediate Relative**" shall have the same meaning as defined under regulation 2(1)(f) of PIT Regulations.
- (q) **"Key Managerial Personnel**" shall have the meaning assigned to it under Section 2(51) of the Companies Act, 2013 read with Regulation 2 (bb) of the SEBI (Issue of Capital and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2018.
- (r) "Legitimate Purpose" shall mean sharing of UPSI in the ordinary course of business on a need-toknow basis. The Company may share UPSI if required in the interest of the Company. Legitimate Purpose shall inter alia include sharing of UPSI on a need to know basis by an insider with the promoter, holding company, subsidiaries, associates, joint ventures, any governmental and other statutory authority, Courts of law, Tribunals, intermediaries and fiduciaries engaged by the Company, partners, collaborators, lenders, customers, suppliers, merchant bankers, rating agencies, legal advisors, income tax advisors, auditors, insolvency professionals or other advisors or consultants, provided that such sharing has not been carried out to evade or circumvent the prohibitions of the Regulations. Policy for Determination of Legitimate Purpose, forming a part of this code provides an illustrative list of "Legitimate Purposes".
- (s) "**Material Financial Relationship**" means a relationship in which one person is a recipient of any kind of payment such as by way of a loan or gift during the immediately preceding twelve months, equivalent to at least 25% of such payer's annual income but shall exclude relationships in which the payment is based on arm's length transactions;
- (t) "**Material Subsidiary**" shall mean a subsidiary, whose income or net worth exceeds 10% of the consolidated income or net worth respectively, of the Company and its subsidiaries in the immediately preceding accounting year or such other company determined by the Company as 'material' per its policy on determining material subsidiaries.
- (u) **"Promoter**" shall have the meaning ascribed to it under the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Issue of Capital and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2018, as amended from time to time.
- (v) "Promoter Group" shall have the meaning ascribed to it under the Securities Exchange Board of India (Issue of Capital and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2018 as amended from time to time.
- (w) "**Regulatory Authorities**" means any authority created under any statutes, enactments, acts of legislature or the parliament.
- (x) "**Relative**" shall have the same meaning as defined under regulation 2 (1) (hc) of PIT Regulations.

(y) "Securities" include -

- i. shares, scripts, stocks, bonds, debentures, debenture stock or other marketable securities of a like nature in or of any incorporated company or other body corporate;
- ii. derivative;
- iii. units or any other instrument issued by any collective investment scheme to the investors in such schemes;
- iv. security receipt as defined in clause (zg) of section 2 of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002;
- v. units or any other such instrument issued to the investors under any mutual fund scheme;
- vi. Government securities;
- vii. such other instruments as may be declared by the Central Government to be securities; and

viii. rights or interest in securities.

- (z) "**Securities Laws**" shall have the same meaning ascribed to in Regulation 2 (1) (zf) of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015.
- (aa) "Trading" means and includes subscribing, redeeming, , buying, selling, dealing, or agreeing to subscribe, redeem, switch, buy, sell, deal in any securities, and 'trade' shall be construed accordingly. Further, pledging of Securities of the Company, while in possession of UPSI, shall be construed as 'Trading'.
- (bb) "Trading day" means a day on which any recognized stock exchange is open for trading.
- (cc) "**Trading Plan**" shall have the same meaning assigned in **Clause 15** of this Code.
- (dd) **"Unpublished Price Sensitive Information**" or **"UPSI**" shall have the same meaning assigned to it in Regulation 2(1)(n) of the PIT Regulations and shall also include any information, relating to the Company or its Securities, directly or indirectly, that is not generally available which upon becoming generally available, is likely to materially affect the price of the Securities of the Company and shall, ordinarily include but not be restricted to, information relating to the following:
  - i. financial results;
  - ii. dividends;
  - iii. change in capital structure
  - iv. mergers, de-mergers, acquisitions, de-listings, disposals and expansion of business and such other transactions;
  - v. changes in Key Managerial Personnel; and
  - vi. any other event as may be determined by the Compliance Officer which is likely to materially affect the price of the Securities of the Company.

# 7. Objective

The objective of this Code is to provide a basic understanding of the law relating to insider trading and to reiterate the Company's policy and Code for dealing in the Securities of the Company and its Group, associate or subsidiary companies, for the benefit of and compliance by all concerned. It also includes guidance to the Company's Directors and Employees on the policy, pre-clearance/notification procedures to be followed at the time of dealing in shares or other Securities of the Company and the option of formulation of Trading Plans pursuant to which trades may be carried out in the Securities of the Company. The restrictions in this Code, in certain cases, go beyond strict legal requirements and are intended to preserve the reputation of the Company and the individuals to which the Code applies.

# 8. What is Insider Trading

"**Insider Trading**" is principally the act of trading in Securities of the Company with the advantage of having asymmetrical access to UPSI, which when published, would impact the price of the Securities of the Company in the market.

The definition of 'trading' under the PIT Regulations, is a wide one, and includes, amongst other things, subscribing, buying, selling, dealing, or agreeing to do any of those things. Further, pledging of Securities of the Company, while in possession of UPSI, shall be construed as 'trading'.

When a person has traded in Securities of the Company while in possession of UPSI, his trades would have been presumed to have been motivated by the knowledge and awareness of such information in his possession.

# 9. Process and Procedures to prevent Insider Trading

# Prohibition on communication or procurement of UPSI

- a. No Insider shall communicate, provide, or allow access to any UPSI and no person shall procure from or cause the communication by any Insider of UPSI, to any person including other Insiders except where such communication is only on need-to-know basis and that no communication of UPSI takes place, except in furtherance of Legitimate Purposes, performance of duties or discharge of legal obligation pursuant to appropriate notice, confidentiality and non-disclosure agreements being executed.
- b. Any UPSI may be communicated, provided, allowed access to or procured in connection with a transaction that meets either of the stipulations laid down in Regulation 3(3) of the PIT Regulations, as amended from time to time. The Company shall enter the details of the person or entity with whom UPSI is shared in a digital database. The Company shall ensure that the structured digital database is preserved for a period of not less than eight years after completion of the relevant transactions.
- c. In the event of receipt of any information from SEBI regarding any investigation or enforcement proceedings, the relevant information in the structured digital database shall be preserved till the completion of such proceedings initiated by SEBI.
- d. Provided that nothing contained above shall be applicable when an UPSI is communicated,

provided, allowed access to or procured:

- i. in furtherance of Legitimate Purposes, performance of duties or discharge of legal obligations pursuant to appropriate notice, confidentiality and non-disclosure agreements being executed; or
- ii. in the event, the Board of Directors directs or causes the public disclosure of UPSI in the best interest of the Company; or
- iii. within a group of persons if such persons have been identified and secluded within a 'Chinese wall' or information barrier by the Compliance Officer from the rest of the Company for a particular purpose or for a specified period of time in furtherance of Legitimate Purposes, performance of duties or discharge of legal obligations, and are subjected to, among other conditions, additional confidentiality obligations, information barriers designed to prevent exchange of UPSI outside the 'Chinese wall', and the execution of an undertaking by such persons to abstain and / or forego Trading during such seclusion or till the UPSI no longer constitutes UPSI and has become Generally Available Information. The norms for appropriate 'Chinese wall' procedures, and processes for permitting any designated person to "cross the wall" shall be as determined by the Company from time to time.
- e. The term "Legitimate Purposes" shall be determined in accordance with the Code of Fair Disclosure and Conduct, as amended from time to time.

#### 10. Limitations on access to UPSI

Following procedures are designed to maintain the confidentiality of UPSI:

- a. Designated Persons should take all steps and precautions necessary to restrict access to, and secure, UPSI by, among other things:
  - i. maintaining the confidentiality of UPSI;
  - ii. conducting their business/ professions and personal/ social activities separately so as not to risk inadvertent disclosure of UPSI;
  - iii. reviewing confidential documents in public places should be restricted so as to prevent access to UPSI by unauthorized persons.
  - b. Restricting access to documents and files (including computer files) containing UPSI to persons on a need-to-know basis (including maintaining control over the distribution of documents and drafts of documents);

#### **11. Securities Transactions and Confidential Information**

An Employee of the Company and his / her immediate family shall not derive any benefit or counsel, or assist others to derive any benefit, from access to and possession of information about the Company or Group or its

clients or suppliers that is not in the public domain and, thus, constitutes unpublished, price sensitive insider information.

An Employee of the Company shall not use or proliferate information that is not available to the investing public and which therefore constitutes insider information for making or giving advice on investment decisions about the Securities of the Company, group, client or supplier on which such insider information has been obtained.

An Employee of the Company shall also respect and observe the confidentiality of information pertaining to other companies, their patents, intellectual property rights, trademarks and inventions; and strictly observe a practice of non-disclosure.

# 12. Internal Control System

There shall be adequate and effective system of internal controls to ensure compliance with the requirements given in this Code and PIT Regulations including Regulation 9A thereof to prevent insider trading.

# 13. Trading when in possession of UPSI

- a. No Insider shall directly or indirectly, trade in Securities of the Company that are listed or proposed to be listed on a stock exchange when in possession of UPSI.
- b. An Insider who has ceased to be associated with the Company shall not, directly or indirectly trade in the Securities of the Company while in possession of UPSI, for a period of 6 months from the period of such cessation.
- c. An Insider who has traded in the Securities of the Company while in possession of UPSI, will be presumed to be motivated by the knowledge of such UPSI in his possession.
- d. An Insider trading in Securities of the Company that are listed or proposed to be listed on a Stock Exchange when in possession of UPSI may prove his innocence by demonstrating the circumstances including the situations laid down in the proviso to Regulation 4 (1) of the PIT Regulations.
- e. An Insider may trade in Securities of the Company except when the Trading Window is open and the Insider is not in possession of UPSI subject to obtaining necessary pre-clearance as mentioned elsewhere in this Code;

- f. An Insider shall not provide any advice/ tips to any third party on trading in Company's Securities while in possession of UPSI
- g. In the case of Connected Persons, the onus of establishing that they were not in possession of UPSI shall be on such Connected Persons and, in other cases, the onus would be on the Securities and Exchange Board of India (**"SEBI"**).

#### 14. Trading in Securities of other companies

No Insider may, while in possession of Unpublished Price Sensitive Information about any other public company gained in the course of employment with the Company:

- *a.* trade in the Securities of the other public company;
- *b.* "tip" or disclose such material non-public information concerning that company to anyone;
- c. give trading advice of any kind to anyone concerning the other public company;
- d. no Insider may take positions in derivative transactions in the Securities of the Company at any time.
- *e.* The restriction above may not apply to:
  - i. a transaction that is an off-market inter-se transfer between Insiders who were in possession of the same UPSI without being in breach of this Code and both parties had made a conscious and informed trade decision;
  - ii. a transaction carried out through block deal window mechanism between persons who were in possession of UPSI without being in breach of this Code and both parties had made a conscious and informed trade decision;
  - iii. a transaction carried out pursuant to statutory or regulatory obligation;
  - iv. a transaction undertaken pursuant to the exercise of stock options with the exercise price being pre-determined under Applicable Laws;
  - v. trades pursuant to a Trading Plan (*as defined below*) set up in accordance with the Code and PIT Regulations.

#### **15. Trading Plan**

- a. An Insider shall be entitled to formulate a Trading Plan in compliance with the PIT Regulations for dealing in Securities of the Company and present it to the Compliance Officer for approval and public disclosure pursuant to which trades may be carried out by him, or, on his behalf in accordance with such plan. **(Annexure-I)**
- b. The Trading Plan shall:
  - i. not entail commencement of trading on behalf of the Insider earlier than one hundred twenty calendar days from the public disclosure of the plan.
  - ii. not entail overlap of any period for which another Trading Plan is already in existence.

- iii. set out following parameters for each trade to be executed:
  - a. either the value of trade to be effected or the number of securities to be traded;
  - b. nature of the trade;
  - c. either specific date or time period not exceeding five consecutive trading days;
  - d. price limit, that is an upper price limit for a buy trade and a lower price limit for a sell trade, subject to the range as specified below:
    - for a buy trade: the upper price limit shall be between the closing price on the day before submission of the Trading Plan and up to twenty percent higher than such closing price; and
    - for a sell trade: the lower price limit shall be between the closing price on the day before submission of the Trading Plan and upto twenty percent lower than such closing price

#### Explanation:

(i) While the parameters in sub-clauses a, b and c shall be mandatorily mentioned for each trade, the parameter in sub-clause d shall be optional.

(ii) The price limit in sub-clause d shall be rounded off to the nearest numeral.

(iii) Insider may make adjustments, with the approval of the compliance officer, in the number of securities and price limit in the event of corporate actions related to bonus issue and stock split occurring after the approval of trading plan and the same shall be notified on the stock exchanges on which securities are listed.

- iv. not entail trading in Securities of the Company for market abuse.
- v. Contra Trade restrictions do not apply to trade that are part of approved trading plan
- c. The Compliance Officer shall review the Trading Plan to assess whether the plan would have any potential for violation of the PIT Regulations within 2 trading days of receipt of the Trading Plan. However, he shall be entitled to seek such express undertakings as may be necessary to enable such assessment and to approve and monitor the implementation of the plan. Provided that preclearance of trades shall not be required for a trade executed as per an approved Trading Plan. Provided further that Trading Window norms shall not be applicable for trades carried out in accordance with an approved Trading Plan. Upon Completion of the tenure of the approved trading Plan, the contra trade restrictions would apply as per the code of conduct.
- d. The Trading Plan once approved shall be irrevocable and the Insider shall mandatorily have to implement the plan, without being entitled to either execute any trade in the Securities outside the scope of the Trading Plan or to deviate from it except due to permanent incapacity or bankruptcy or operation of law.
- e. If at the time of formulation of the plan, the Insider is in possession of any UPSI that has not become "Generally Available Information", the implementation of the Trading Plan shall not be commenced
- f. Upon approval of the Trading Plan, the Compliance Officer shall notify the Trading Plan to the stock exchanges on which the Securities of the Company are listed. If the insider has set a price

limit for a trade under sub-clause (d) of clause (iii) of clause b, the insider shall execute the trade only if the execution price of the security is within such limit. If price of the security is outside the price limit set by the insider, the trade shall not be executed.

Explanation: In case of non-implementation (full/partial) of trading plan due to either reasons enumerated in sub-regulation 4 or failure of execution of trade due to inadequate liquidity in the scrip, the following procedure shall be adopted:

- i. The insider shall intimate non-implementation (full/partial) of trading plan to the compliance officer within two trading days of end of tenure of the trading plan with reasons thereof and supporting documents, if any.
- ii. Upon receipt of information from the insider, the compliance officer, shall place such information along with his recommendation to accept or reject the submissions of the insider, before the Audit Committee in the immediate next meeting. The Audit Committee shall decide whether such non-implementation (full/partial) was bona fide or not.
- iii. The decision of the Audit Committee shall be notified by the compliance officer on the same day to the stock exchanges on which the securities are listed.
- iv. In case the Audit Committee does not accept the submissions made by the insider, then the compliance officer shall take action as per the Code of Conduct.

#### 16. Trading Window

- a. The Company from time to time shall specify the period(s) during which any Designated Person shall not trade in any Securities of the Company, i.e. period(s) of closure of "Trading Window";
- b. The Company shall specify closure of the Trading Window from the end of every quarter till 48 hours after the declaration of financial results for the said quarter. The Trading Window shall be opened not earlier than 48 hours after the UPSI is made public;
- c. Additionally, the Compliance Officer can specify a time for commencement of closing the Trading Window when he determines that a Designated Person or class of Designated Persons can reasonably be expected to have possession of UPSI, for such period as determined by the Compliance Officer. Accordingly, the Trading Window shall be, inter alia, closed at the time of:
  - a. Declaration of dividends (interim and final);
  - b. Declaration of financial results (quarterly, half-yearly and annual)
  - c. Issue of Securities by way of public/rights/bonus issue etc;
  - d. Any major expansion plans or execution of new projects;
  - e. Amalgamation, mergers, takeovers and buy back;
  - f. Disposal of whole or substantially whole of the undertaking;

- g. Any changes in policies, plans or operations of the Company;
- h. Happening of any event as a result of which the Compliance Officer thinks fit that an UPSI exists.
- d. Further any other period as may be notified from time to time by the Compliance Officer will also be considered as a closed period. The time for commencement of closing the Trading Window and re-opening thereof shall be determined by the Compliance Officer taking into account various factors including the UPSI in question becoming generally available and being capable of assimilation by the market, which in any event shall not be earlier than forty- eight hours after the UPSI is made public. The framework for freezing of PAN of DPs at security level shall apply to Trading Window closure due to declaration of financial results of the listed companies. Further, the restriction on trading shall be for on-market transactions, off-market transfers and creation of pledge in equity shares and equity derivatives contracts (i.e. Futures and Options) of such listed companies.
- e. During closure of Trading Window, Designated Persons (and their Immediate Relatives) shall not trade in the Securities of the Company.
- f. All Designated Persons (and their Immediate Relatives) shall conduct all their dealings in the Securities of the Company only in a valid Trading Window and shall not deal in any transaction involving the purchase or sale of the Securities of the Company during the periods when the Trading Window is closed, as referred above or during any other period as may be specified by the Compliance Officer from time to time.
- g. Sale of shares allotted on exercise of stock options shall not be allowed when Trading is closed.
- h. When the Trading Window is open, any Trading by Designated Persons shall be subject to preclearance by the Compliance Officer.

#### **17. Pre-clearance of Trades**

- a. All Designated Persons shall conduct their Trading in the Securities of the Company only after obtaining prior approval in a manner as mentioned hereinafter and when the Trading Window is open and shall not trade in the Securities of the Company during the periods when the Trading Window is closed, or during any other period as may be specified by the Company from time to time.
- b. When the Trading Window is open, trading by Designated Persons (either in their own name or in any Immediate Relatives' name) shall be subject to preclearance by making an application in the format set out in **Annexure II** to the Compliance Officer. If such Designated Person intends to deal in shares of the Company not exceeding for Rs. 5,00,000/- (including such shares already purchased by the Designated Person till date during the Current financial year) or such other limits as may be stipulated from time to time. Designated Person, dealing in the Company's shares under pre- clearance shall disclose such dealings in the format set out in **Annexure-III** to the Compliance Officer within 2 Trading days thereof.
- c. For compliance with the PIT Regulations, a notional Trading Window shall be used as an

instrument for monitoring Trading by the Designated Persons, who may execute trades subject to compliance with the PIT Regulations as stipulated for them.

- d. Prior to approving any trades, the Compliance Officer, for the purpose of preclearance, shall be entitled to seek declarations to the effect that the applicant is not in possession of any UPSI. He shall also have regard to whether any such declaration is reasonably capable of being rendered inaccurate. The Compliance office has to approve the pre- clearance request within a period of two trading days if the same is in order in all respects.
- e. Trades that have been pre-cleared have to be executed by a Designated Person within seven Trading days, failing which fresh pre-clearance would be needed for the trades to be executed.
- f. A Designated Person who is permitted to trade shall not execute a Contra Trade for six months following the prior transactions. However, the Compliance Officer may grant relaxation from strict applicability of such restriction for reasons to be recorded in writing, provided such restrictions do not violate the PIT Regulations. If a Contra Trade is executed, inadvertently or otherwise, in violation of such restriction, the profits from such trade will be liable to be disgorged for remittance to SEBI for credit to the Investor Education and Protection Fund (IEPF) set up under the Companies Act, 2013. Provided that this shall not be applicable for trades pursuant to exercise of stock options and trades carried out in accordance with an approved trading plan.
- g. In case the Compliance Officer or any of his / her Immediate Relatives (s) wish to deal in the Securities of the Company, he / she would have to make an application to the Managing Director of the Company. The remaining provisions of this clause, as applicable to Designated Person, would also apply to the Compliance Officer.
- h. In absence of the Compliance Officer, the Chief Financial Officer shall deal with the pre-clearance requests.
- i. Any violation of the PIT Regulations is liable to be reported to SEBI by the Compliance Officer.
- j. The Designated Person shall not take any position in derivative transactions in Securities of the Company at any time.

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# **CODE OF PRACTICES AND PROCEDURES FOR FAIR DISCLOSURES OF UPSI**

Quest Capital Markets Limited (the "**Company**") believes in fair disclosure of all Unpublished Price Sensitive Information on a non-discriminatory basis in order to enable fair price discovery in the Securities of the Company. This "Code of Practices and Procedure for Fair/Corporate Disclosure of Unpublished Price Sensitive Information ("UPSI") (the "Code") has been formulated in terms of Regulation 8 of SEBI (Prohibition of Insider Trading) Regulations, 2015 (the **"PIT Regulations"**). A copy of the Code of Practices and Procedures for Fair Disclosure of UPSI is published on the Company's official website i.e. <u>www.qcml.in</u>

The objective of this Code is to lay down the principles and practices to be followed by Quest Capital Markets Limited (the **"Company"**) pertaining to disclosure of UPSI. This Code shall apply in relation to disclosure of UPSI by the Company. The scope and exceptions as given in PIT Regulations shall be applicable for the purpose of this Code as well.

The Code adheres to each of the principles set out in the **Schedule A** to the PIT Regulations. The aforesaid code and every amendment thereto shall be promptly intimated to the Stock Exchanges where the Securities of the Company are listed.

#### 1. Basic provisions of the Code:

- a. The Company shall ensure prompt public disclosure of UPSI that would impact price discovery, as soon as it has credible and concrete information, in order to make such information 'generally available' i.e. to make the information accessible to the public on a non-discriminatory basis.
- b. The Company shall ensure uniform and universal dissemination of UPSI to avoid selective disclosures.
- c. If the Company has inadvertently or otherwise, disclosed any UPSI selectively, such information shall be disseminated promptly to make it generally available.
- d. The Company shall endeavour to ensure appropriate and fair responses to queries on news reports and requests for verification of market rumours by Regulatory Authorities..
- e. The Company shall handle all UPSI on a need-to- know basis.

- f. Sharing information with Company's partners, lenders, customers, suppliers, merchant bankers, legal advisors, auditors, insolvency professionals or other advisors or consultants shall be considered as "Legitimate Purposes" for the purposes of sharing UPSI in the ordinary course of business by an Insider, provided that such sharing has not been carried out to evade or circumvent the prohibitions under the PIT Regulations.
- g. It is clarified that in the event there exists multiple purposes for sharing UPSI, each purpose will be evaluated on its own merits, in line with the above-mentioned principles. Any person in receipt of UPSI pursuant to a Legitimate Purpose shall be considered an "Insider" and due notice shall be given to such person to maintain confidentiality of UPSI in compliance with the PIT Regulations. The Compliance Officer shall ensure that such third party is also bound by non- disclosure or confidentiality agreements which shall also mention the duties and responsibilities of such person with respect to such UPSI and the liabilities involved if such person misuses or uses such UPSI in breach of these PIT Regulations.
- h. The assessment of whether sharing of UPSI for a particular instance would tantamount to 'Legitimate Purpose' would entirely depend on the specific facts and circumstances of each case. Accordingly, this Policy only sets out the principles that should be considered while assessing if the purpose for which UPSI is proposed to be shared is 'legitimate'(please refer to Policy for Determination of Legitimate Purpose forming a part of this code)
- i. Primarily, the following factors should be considered:
  - i. whether sharing of such information is in the ordinary course of business of the Company;
  - ii. whether sharing the information is in the best interests of the Company or in furtherance of a genuine commercial purpose;
  - iii. whether the information is required to be shared for enabling the Company to discharge its legal obligations;
  - iv. whether the nature of information being shared is commensurate to the purpose for which access if sought to be provided to the recipient.
- j. The Company shall enter the details (name, address, email, Permanent Account Number (PAN) or other unique identifier authorized by law, in case PAN is not available and such other documents as may be necessary), of the person or entity with whom UPSI is shared in a structured digital database, in compliance with the PIT Regulations.

#### 2. Overseeing and co-ordinating disclosure of UPSI

a. The Compliance Officer shall take necessary measures for educating Employees on disclosure policies and procedures.

- b. To avoid selective disclosure, any Designated Person/Insider shall be responsible for overseeing and co-ordinating disclosure and dissemination of UPSI on a timely, adequate, uniform and universal manner with a prior intimation to the CFO/Compliance Officer.
- c. All disclosure and dissemination of UPSI (save and except disclosure required to be made under any law or under this Code on behalf of the Company) shall be first approved by the CFO/Compliance Officer before such UPSI is made public or published on behalf of the Company.
- d. The Company shall typically not respond to speculative media articles or enquiries regarding any activities of the Company and shall provide appropriate and fair response to queries from Regulatory Authorities on news reports or verification of market rumours.
- e. The Company shall disseminate all credible and concrete UPSI in a timely manner to stock exchanges where its Securities are listed in accordance with the requirements of applicable law and thereafter to the press.
- f. The Company shall put up on its website, all such information as may be required in accordance with the requirements of Applicable Laws.

# 3. Reporting Requirements for Transactions in Securities of the Company - Initial Disclosures of Holdings

- a. Every person on appointment as a Key Managerial Personnel or a Director of the Company or upon becoming a Promoter or member of the Promoter Group shall disclose (in the format set out in Annexure V) his holding of Securities of the Company as on the date of such appointment or becoming a Promoter or member of the Promoter Group, to the Company within seven (7) days of such appointment or on becoming a Promoter or member of the Promoter or member of the Promoter Group.
- b. All holdings in Securities of the Company must be disclosed by the Designated Persons upon being identified as a Designated Person within 7 days in SEBI prescribed format.

# 4. Continual Disclosure of Trades

- a. Designated Persons shall disclose to the Company (in the format set out in **Annexure- VI**) the number of such Securities of the Company acquired or disposed of within two (2) Trading Days of such transaction if the value of the Securities of the Company traded, whether in one transaction or a series of transactions over any calendar quarter, aggregates to a traded value in excess of Rs.10,00,000/- (Rupees Ten lakh) or such other value as may be specified;
- b. The Company shall within a period of two (2) working days from the date of receipt of such disclosures, inform the Stock Exchanges particulars of such trading.
- c. Every Promoter, member of the Promoter Group, Key Managerial Personnel, Director of the Company shall disclose annual statements of their holding, and the holding of their Immediate Relatives and of any other person for whom such person takes trading decisions, of Securities of the Company to the Compliance Officer as on 31st March every year in such form and manner set out in the format set out in **Annexure-VII** or as may be prescribed by the Compliance Officer from time-to-time. Such statement shall be submitted on or before 30th April, each year.

#### 5. Annual Disclosures

Every Designated Person shall disclose (in the format set out in **Annexure-VII**), the names and Permanent Account Number ("**PAN**") or any other identifier authorized by law of the following persons to the Company on an annual basis within 30 days from the closure of each financial year and as and when the information changes:

- a. Immediate Relatives;
- b. persons with whom such Designated Person(s) shares a Material Financial Relationship; and
- c. phone, mobile and cell numbers which are used by them.

#### 6. One Time Disclosure by Designated Persons

- a. One-time disclosures are required to be made of names of educational institutions from which Designated Persons have graduated and names of their past employers in the format set out in **Annexure-VII**.
- b. The Compliance Officer may from time to time review and modify the formats for submitting disclosures, as may be appropriate.

#### 7. Disclosures by other connected persons

Connected Persons or class of Connected Persons shall disclose to the Company (in the format set out in **Form D – Annexure-VIII**) the holding and trading in Securities of the Company at such frequency as may be determined by the Company.

### 8. Miscellaneous Provisions

- a. In respect of any non-compliance of this Code (or the Code referred to in Paragraph 10 hereof), the Compliance Officer shall report to the Board and in particular, shall provide reports to the Chairman of the Board at least once every year, or more frequently if so, stipulated by the Board, or if the Compliance Officer so considers it necessary.
- b. In addition to the above, the Audit Committee shall review compliance with the provisions of these PIT Regulations at least once in a financial year and shall verify that the systems for internal controls which are required to be maintained per these PIT Regulations are adequate and are operating effectively.
- c. All information shall be handled within the Company on a need-to-know basis and no UPSI shall be communicated to any person except in furtherance of Legitimate Purposes, performance of duties or discharge of legal obligations.
- d. In compliance with the Chinese Walls procedures, all files, papers and records including computer files shall be kept secure and Employees in possession of such files, papers and records shall be provided with necessary infrastructure to maintain confidentiality and they shall not communicate to or share with anyone other than communication required to be made in the ordinary course of business or under law.
- e. The Compliance Officer shall, *inter alia*, be responsible for:
  - i. maintaining an up-to-date list of the Designated Persons and records of all declarations submitted by them; and
  - ii. maintaining records of all the declarations received from the Designated Persons for a minimum period of eight years.
- f. The Company shall initiate appropriate inquiries on becoming aware of leak of UPSI or suspected leak of UPSI in accordance with the policy formulated by the Board and inform the Board promptly of such leaks, inquiries and results of such inquiries. (please refer to "Policy & Procedures of Inquiry in case of leak of UPSI" forming a part of this code)
- g. Any suspected violation of leak of UPSI or violation of this Code can be reported as mentioned hereunder.

**How to report?** You can write to the Compliance Officer at <u>bhawna.agarwal@rpsg.in</u>, if you have any concerns on reaching out to the Compliance Officer, you may report to the Audit Committee of the Company at <u>secretarial.qcml@rpsg.in</u>

#### 9. Non-compliance with this Code

- a. The Compliance Officer shall report to the Board of Directors and in particular, shall provide reports to the Chairman of the Board of Directors at least once every year, or more frequently if so, stipulated by the Board of Directors, or if the Compliance Officer so considers it necessary, of any non-compliance.
- b. The Audit Committee of the Company shall review compliance with the provisions of the PIT Regulations at least once in a financial year and shall verify that the systems for internal controls which are required to be maintained per the PIT Regulations are adequate and are operating

effectively.

#### **10.** Penalties

- a. Penalties by the Company
  - i. Any Employee who violates the provisions of this Code shall be liable for such penal/disciplinary / remedial action as may be considered appropriate by the Compliance Officer, in consultation with the Board of Directors.
  - ii. All breaches of this Code shall be reported to the Board of Directors. In case of any observed violations of the PIT Regulations, the Board of Directors shall inform the stock exchanges promptly of the same. The above actions of Company will be without prejudice to any civil or criminal action that the Regulatory Authorities may initiate against such an Employee.

- iii. Any amount collected by the Company under the Code shall be remitted to the Investor Protection and Education Fund administered by SEBI.
- b. Penalties by the statutory authorities
  - i. Under Section 15G of the Act, any Insider who indulges in insider trading is liable to a penalty of Rs. 25 crores or three times the amount of profits made out of insider trading, whichever is higher.
  - ii. Under Section 24 of the Act, anyone who contravenes the PIT Regulations is punishable with imprisonment which may extend to ten years, or with fine, which may extend to Rs. 25 crores or with both.

#### 11. Role of Compliance Officer

- a. The Compliance Officer shall assist all Employees in addressing any clarifications regarding the PIT Regulations and the Code.
- b. The Compliance Officer shall, apart from carrying out the duties enshrined hereinabove, report to the Board of Directors of the Company and in particular, provide reports to the Chairman of the Audit Committee, if any, or to the Chairman of the Board of Directors at such frequency as may be stipulated by the Board of Directors, but not less than once in a year.

#### 12. Review of the Policy

The Board of Directors are empowered to amend, modify, and interpret this Code, and such Code shall be effective from such date that the Board may notify on this behalf.

# 13. Amendments in Law

Any subsequent amendment/ modification in the PIT Regulations, Companies Act 2013, listing regulations and/ or other applicable laws in this regard shall automatically apply to this Code.

#### 14. Authority to make alterations

The Board reserves the right to amend or modify this Policy in whole or in part, as it may deem appropriate to ensure compliance with PIT Regulations.

# 15. Disclaimer

This Code is only an internal document of the Company which acts as one of the measures to avoid insider trading. Every Insider should familiarize himself with the PIT Regulations and all other Applicable Laws as it is the responsibility of the Insider and his Relatives/Immediate Relatives to ensure compliance with this Code, PIT Regulations and Applicable Laws. When in doubt, the Insiders may seek assistance of the Compliance Officer for any clarification on any provisions of the Code or other related applicable rules and regulations issued by SEBI.

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# **POLICY FOR DETERMINATION OF LEGITIMATE PURPOSE**

[Under Regulation 3(2A) of Securities and Exchange Board of India (Prohibition of Insider Trading) Regulations, 2015] [Annexure to Code of Practices and Procedure for Fair/Corporate Disclosure of Unpublished Price Sensitive Information ("UPSI")" (the "Code")]

This "QCML Policy for Determination of Legitimate Purpose" is framed by the Board of Directors of the Company pursuant to the amendment in the PIT Regulations, in 2018 and forms a part of the Code.

# 1. Applicability

This QCML Policy for Determination of Legitimate Purpose is applicable to all Insider(s).

# 2. Definitions

"Legitimate Purpose" shall mean sharing of UPSI in the ordinary course of business on a need-to-know basis. The Company may share UPSI if required in the interest of the Company. Legitimate Purpose shall inter alia include sharing of UPSI on a need to know basis by an insider with the promoter, holding company, subsidiaries, associates, joint ventures, any governmental and other statutory authority, Courts of law, Tribunals, intermediaries and fiduciaries engaged by the Company, partners, collaborators, lenders, customers, suppliers, merchant bankers, rating agencies, legal advisors, income tax advisors, auditors, insolvency professionals or other advisors or consultants, provided that such sharing has not been carried out to evade or circumvent the prohibitions of the Regulations..

The key terms used in the QCML Policy for Determination of Legitimate Purpose and the Capitalised terms not defined herein shall have the meaning assigned to them under the QCML Code of Conduct for Prevention of Insider Trading.

# 3. Sharing of UPSI for Legitimate Purposes

- a. In the following cases, which are illustrative in nature, sharing of UPSI would be considered a Legitimate Purpose:
  - i. For investigation, inquiry or request for information by statutory or governmental authorities or any other administrative body recognized by law;

Example: Any call for information or query received from Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Income Tax Authority, Securities and Exchange Board of India, Stock Exchanges, Reserve Bank of India, Sectoral Regulatory Body, etc.

ii. Under any proceedings or pursuant to any order of courts or tribunals;

Example: National Company Law Tribunal, National Company Law Appellate Tribunal, Quasi-judicial authorities, Other Appellate Tribunals, Arbitration Proceedings, etc.

iii. As part of compliance with Applicable Laws, regulations, rules and requirements;

Example: Company Law, Securities Law, Income Tax Law, Banking Law, etc.

iv. Arising out of any contractual obligations or arrangements entered by the Company set forth in any contract, agreement, arrangement, settlement, understanding or undertaking.

*Example: Due-diligence for any kind of restructuring, namely mergers and acquisitions, joint venture agreements, share purchase agreements, franchisee agreement, etc.* 

- v. Arising out of business requirement including requirement for the purposes of promoting business of the Company, strategies of business, statutory consolidation requirements or related customary disclosure obligations which may require sharing of UPSI with any outsider or Promoter of the Company, who in turn may share it with their Promoter(s) as well as with their advisors, consultants, intermediaries, fiduciaries, etc.
- vi. Sharing the relevant UPSI by Company or Promoters with intermediaries, fiduciaries, merchant bankers, advisors, lawyers, bankers, consultants, valuers, auditors, insolvency professionals, business support agents, transaction processing service providers, etc. in order to avail professional services from them.
- vii. Sharing the relevant UPSI by Company or Promoters with business partners essential to fulfill the terms and conditions of a business contract with a client, vendor, collaborator or lender.
- viii. Sharing the relevant UPSI by Company or Promoter for advice, consultation, transaction support, valuation, fund raising or other intermediation and approvals in relation to the subject matter of:
- ix. Sharing the relevant UPSI by Company or Promoters with intermediaries, fiduciaries, merchant bankers, advisors, lawyers, bankers, consultants, valuers, auditors, insolvency professionals, business support agents, transaction processing service providers, etc. in order to avail professional services from them.
- x. Sharing the relevant UPSI by Company or Promoters with business partners essential to fulfil the terms and conditions of a business contract with a client, vendor, collaborator or lender.
- xi. For the purpose of legal, financial or any other professional advice to be obtained or for accounting or audit or for defence to be prepared for litigation or dispute resolution.
- xii. For transactions that would entail an obligation to make an open offer under the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Substantial Acquisition of Shares and Takeovers) Regulations, 2011 ('Takeover Regulations') where the Board of Directors is of opinion that sharing of such information is in the best interests of the Company.
- xiii. For a transaction that does not attract the obligation to make an open offer under the Takeover Regulations but where the Board of Directors is of opinion that sharing of such information is in the best interests of the Company.
- xiv. Sharing financial information for preparation of consolidated financial statements of holding company, where applicable.

- xv. Sharing information with statutory auditors, secretarial auditors, internal auditors or cost auditors in the course of performance of their duties or otherwise while obtaining any certificate, comfort or confirmation required from them, including for placing any transaction for approval before the Board of Directors.
- xvi. For all those activities done by the Company in furtherance of its objects as listed in its memorandum of association.

#### 4. <u>Maintenance of Structural Digital Database</u>

The Compliance Officer shall maintain details of sharing of UPSI for legitimate purposes as mentioned aforesaid in the Structural digital Database in accordance with the Insider Trading Regulations

#### 5. Policy Review

- a. The Policy shall be reviewed periodically in accordance with changes or any regulatory requirements from time to time.
- b. The provisions of this QCML Policy for Determination of Legitimate Purpose have to be read along with the PIT Regulations, as amended from time to time and in case of any inconsistency/contradiction between the two, the provisions of the PIT Regulations shall prevail.

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# POLICY & PROCEDURES OF INQUIRY IN CASE OF LEAK OF UPSI

# 1. Background

This policy on procedures to be conducted while conducting an inquiry in the event of leak or suspected leak of UPSI, as may be amended from time to time (the "**Policy**"). The Policy has been formulated, with an objective to put in place a framework for inquiry in the event of leak or suspected leak of Unpublished Price Sensitive Information.

#### 2. Objective

- a. To strengthen the internal control system to prevent leak of UPSI.
- b. To have a uniform Policy to curb the un-ethical practices for preventing leak of UPSI.
- c. To initiate enquiry in case of leak of UPSI or suspected leak of UPSI and inform the same to SEBI immediately.
- d. To initiate disciplinary actions against people found guilty of violating the "Code of Conduct to Regulate, Monitor and Report Trading in Securities of the Company" and "Code of Practices and Procedures for Fair Disclosure of Unpublished Price Sensitive Information", apart from the action that SEBI may initiate against the concerned person.

#### 3. Inquiry Committee

The Chairman of the Board shall, when appropriate, constitute a committee namely "Inquiry Committee" with such members as he deems fit (the "**Inquiry Committee**"), who shall:

- a. deal with any leak of UPSI or suspected leak of UPSI, upon becoming aware of such leak;
- b. conduct preliminary inquiries as laid out in this Policy in case of such leaks or suspected leaks, to ascertain the truth
- c. authorize any person, if required, to collect necessary evidences and
- d. inform the Board promptly of such leaks, inquiries and result of such inquiries.

#### 4. Quorum of the Inquiry Committee proceedings

- a. While conducting an inquiry, a minimum of two members of the Inquiry Committee shall be present. The Inquiry Committee may designate additional persons or third parties to also attend and participate in an inquiry conducted by the Inquiry Committee.
- b. If a minimum of two members of the Inquiry Committee are not present or not available, or any member of the Inquiry Committee is under investigation, then the Board shall have the power to nominate alternate member(s) in place of the member who is not available or cannot be present to conduct the inquiry.

#### 5. Inquiry process

a. Upon receipt of information or upon becoming aware of a leak or suspected leak of UPSI the Inquiry Committee shall evaluate and determine if an inquiry is required.

It is clarified that market rumours, inferences-based media reports or observations made by analysts, etc. will not be the only determining factors for initiating a preliminary inquiry, and the Inquiry Committee shall have the discretion to decide if a preliminary inquiry is required to be undertaken, in each such case.

- b. If Inquiry Committee is of the opinion that an inquiry should be conducted, the Inquiry Committee shall initiate a preliminary inquiry by sending the details of the concerned case to be sought to the head of the relevant department viz., Finance, Company Secretarial Department etc., which had access to the UPSI or to which the UPSI is related ("Relevant Person"), to assess the veracity of such information pertaining to leak or suspected leak of UPSI.
- c. The inquiry shall be a neutral fact-finding process.
- d. The Inquiry Committee may appoint external advisors as consultants as may be necessary to assist them in this inquiry.
- e. The Inquiry Committee shall separately obtain from the IT department all electronically stored information and records of the Relevant Persons in the department where the leak could have originated.
- f. The Relevant Person may be interviewed by the person appointed by the Inquiry Committee, where deemed necessary and shall file its reply to the information sought by the Inquiry Committee, along with the list of documents, names and addresses of persons with whom the information was shared, and other evidences, as deemed necessary for the purpose of the inquiry, within the period stipulated by the Inquiry Committee.
- g. The Inquiry Committee shall make transcripts or records of proceedings of interview with Relevant Persons and ensure that requisite information and documentation is made available to the Board.
- h. Upon perusal of information provided by the Relevant Person and pursuant to the inquiry proceedings, the Inquiry Committee shall submit its report and recommendations to the Board. Such inquiry shall be completed by the Inquiry Committee in a timely manner.
- i. Such report shall include a detailed record of the inquiry which will include:
  - i. facts of the matter
  - ii. findings of the inquiry
  - iii. disciplinary action/ other action to be taken by any person

- iv. any corrective actions required to be taken to prevent such cases from happening in future
- j. Upon conclusion of the inquiry and based on the outcome, the Board shall take such action as prescribed under the "Code of Conduct to Regulate, Monitor and Report Trading in Securities of the Company" as well as the PIT Regulations. The decision of the Board shall be final and binding.
- k. During the pendency of the inquiry proceedings, the Inquiry Committee may restrain the Relevant Person from accessing the documents/emails, from which the Inquiry Committee believes, the leak or suspected leak originated.

# 6. Powers of the Inquiry Committee

The Inquiry Committee shall have the following powers:

- a. The Inquiry Committee shall have the powers to summon and enforce the attendance of any person and conduct an examination, request the discovery and production of documents and / or any other matter which may be prescribed and deemed necessary for the inquiry process.
- b. Any refusal by any Employee of the Company to attend the inquiry proceedings when summoned or to provide to the Inquiry Committee any documents and / or information within his / her power or possession shall constitute a misconduct, rendering such Employee for strict disciplinary action as the Inquiry Committee or Board deems fit.
- c. The Inquiry Committee itself may, *suo moto*, call for the details of any leak or suspected leak of UPSI or upon receipt of any such information, may investigate or deal with such matter per this Policy.
- d. The Inquiry Committee may seek information from the information technology department for details of the persons accessing personal email id from office computers, from where the USPI may have been leaked.
- e. The Inquiry Committee shall have the right to terminate the inquiry proceedings or to give an *exparte* decision on the Relevant Person, if the Relevant Person fails, without sufficient cause, to present themselves, for any meeting convened by the Inquiry Committee.

# 7. Disclosure of actual/ suspected leak of UPSI

SEBI shall promptly be informed immediately of such leaks, inquiries and results of such inquiries in the format set out in **Annexure-IX** 

The Company may also apply the following sanctions in case of breach of the Code/ Policy as it may deem fit:

- a. Verbal or Written Warning;
- b. Organizing training sessions for other Employees and Insiders;

- c. Internal Action, e.g. freeze on increment/promotion, change in role, job level etc.;
- d. Monetary Penalty as may be deemed appropriate by the Committee depending on the severity of each case;
- e. Suspension or Employment Termination

The sanctions stated above are not mutually exclusive and more than one can be applied in a particular case. This section severs as a guide for determining the appropriate sanction for the Code or Policy breach and the Inquiry Committee may decide any other actions not listed above as it may feel necessary based on the circumstances of the case.

#### 8. Authority to make alterations

The Board reserves the right to amend or modify this Policy in whole or in part, as it may deem appropriate.

#### 9. Amendments in law

Any subsequent amendment/ modification in the PIT Regulations, Companies Act 2013, listing regulations and/ or other applicable laws in this regard shall automatically apply to this Policy.

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# **ANNEXURE I**

# **APPLICATION FOR TRADING PLAN**

То,	Date:
The Compliance Officer <u>Quest Capital Markets Limited</u>	
1. Name of the Applicant:	PAN

2. No of securities held in the Company as on date:

- 3. Approval sought for Self Immediate Relatives (IR)
- 4. Trading plan belongs for a period of \_\_\_\_\_months i.e. for a period commencing from \_\_\_\_\_\_and ending on \_\_\_\_\_\_

5. Details of the proposed trade:

S. No.	Nature of transaction (Sale/Purchase)	Date of transaction/period/interva l for transaction	Value of trade/ No. of securities transacted	Conditions /Remarks

#### **Undertaking**:

- a) I will not commence trading earlier than 120 days from the public disclosure of the plan.
- b) I do not have overlapping Trading Plan for the same period.
- c) In the event that I am in possession/knowledge of any information that is construed as "Unpublished Price Sensitive Information" as defined in the Insider Trading Prohibition Code, at the time of formulation and approval of this plan but which is not made public at the time of Trading as per the approved time schedule in the said plan, I shall inform the Compliance Officer of the same and shall completely refrain from dealing in the securities of the Company until such information becomes public;
- d) I have not contravened the provisions of the "Insider Trading Prohibition Code" as notified by the Company from time to time;
- e) I have made full and true disclosure in the matter.

- f) I undertake to abide by this Trading Plan once approved and shall furnish such declarations/ disclosures as may be deemed necessary by Compliance Officer for the monitoring of this plan.
- g) I shall not use this trading plan as a tool for market abuse

#### Signature:

Date:

For use of Compliance Officer:

Application recd.	Approval Date	Approval	Compliance Officer's
date		No.	signature

Approval granted for Trading Plan for a period of \_\_\_\_\_\_months commencing

from\_\_\_\_\_up till\_\_\_\_\_

Notification to Stock Exchange \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Compliance Officer:

# **ANNEXURE II**

# **APPLICATION FOR PRE-CLEARANCE FOR TRADING IN SECURITIES OF THE COMPANY**

To:

The Compliance Officer Quest Capital Markets Limited

### Name, Employee No, Designation/Dept etc. of the Designated Person

I hereby seek your approval for <u>purchase</u> of the following equity shares of the Company:

Sr.	Name of the	Relation with	Total equ	uity shares	Total eq	uity shares of	Total equ	ity shares of	Total equ	ity shares	DP ID	&
	Designated Person	Designated	of the	Company	the Com	the Company already the		mpany for	of the Company		Client ID	No.
No	· / Immediate	/ Immediate Person held as on date		purchase	ed since the	which approval is		purchased	1/			
	Relatives proposing				beginnin	g of the current	sought for purchase		Proposed	to be		
	to				financial	year			purchased	ourchased during the		
	purchase the							(B)		financial year		
	Company's shares					(A)						
									(A) + (B)			
					N				N			
			No.	Value (Rs.)	No.	Estimated	No.	Estimated	No.	Estimated		
						Value (Rs.)		Value (Rs.)		Value (Rs.)		
			<u>OR</u>				•					
35   P	age											
•	0											

A. I hereby seek your approval for sale of the following equity shares of the Company:

Sr.	Name of the	<b>Relation</b> with	Tota	l equity	Tota	l equity s	hares	of	Tota	l equity shares	Tota	l equity share	s of	DP ID 8
	Designated Person /	Designated	shar	es of the	the	Company	alrea	ıdy	of tł	ne Company for	the	Company s	old/	Client
No.	Immediate Relatives	Person	Com	pany held	sold	since the b	<b>eginn</b> i	ing	whic	ch approval is	prop	osed to be	sold	ID No.
	proposing to deal in		as or	n date	of the current financial s			sought for sale		during the financial		ncial		
	Securities				year						year			
									(B)					
					(A)					(A) + (B)				
			No	Value (Da)	No	Estimate.	1 1	Zal-ra	No	Fatimata d Value	No	Fatimento d	Value	
			No.	Value (Rs.)	NO.	Estimate	d V	/alue	NO.	Estimate d Value	No.		Value	
						(Rs.)				(Rs.)		(Rs.)		

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I declare that the Equity shares in respect of which the approval is sought, will be held/have been held by the above named for a minimum period of 6 months.

#### I hereby undertake that:

- I neither have any access to nor have received any Unpublished Price Sensitive Information up to the time of giving this undertaking.
- In case I have access to or receive any Unpublished Price Sensitive Information after giving this undertaking, but before the execution of the trade, I shall inform the Compliance Officer of the change in my position and that I and/or the persons named above would completely refrain from trading in the Securities till the time such information becomes public.
- □ I have not contravened the "Insider Trading Prohibition Code"
- I have made a full and true disclosure in the matter.
- If approval is granted, I shall execute the trade within 7 Trading days of the receipt of approval failing which I shall seek fresh preclearance.
- I undertake to submit the necessary disclosure in Annexure 'A' within 7 days of the end of the calendar month in which trade is executed for which pre-clearance approval was taken.
- If the trade is not executed after securing pre-clearance, then I undertake to report the same along with the reasons for such non execution within 7 working days of the expiry of the period within which trade should have been executed.

Signature of Designated Person: \_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_

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For Office Use

With reference to the above application, I approve/ reject your application for pre-clearance for trading inEquity shares of<br/>the Company.

Further, the approval is valid only upto \_\_\_\_\_\_(date) (i.e. 7 trading days from the date hereof). In case you do not execute the approved trade on or before the aforesaid date you would have to seek fresh pre-clearance before executing any trading in the securities of the Company.

You are also required to disclose to the Company the number of securities acquired or disposed off within two working days of such transaction.

Signature of Compliance Officer:	Date:
Signature of Compliance Officer:	Date:

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#### ANNEXURE III

# **DISCLOSURE OF DEALINGS IN SECURITIES OF THE COMPANY UNDER PRE-CLEARANCE PROCEDURE**

From:	
	(Name of the Designated Person)
	(Employee No., in any)
	(Designation)
	(Department)

Details of the Equity shares of the Company traded by me and/or my Relative/Immediate Relatives are as under:

Name of the Designated Person/ Immediate Relatives	Relation with Designated Person	DP ID & Client ID No.	No. of shares held before Pre- clearance	No. of Shares for which pre- clearance approval has been obtained	receipt of approval	Shares purchased / sold	Date of Purchase/ Sale	No. of shares held as on the date of this disclosure
						{(+)/(-)}		
Total								

Signature of Designated Person:

Date:

Place:

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### ANNEXURE V

### FORM B

#### SEBI (Prohibition of Insider Trading) Regulations, 2015 [Regulation 7 (1) (b)

# read with Regulation 6 (2) –Disclosure on becoming a director/ KMP/ Promoter]

Name of the company: Quest Capital Markets Limited

ISIN of the company: .....

Details of Securities held on appointment of Key Managerial Personnel (KMP) or Director or upon becoming Promoter of listed company and other such persons as mentioned in Regulation 6(2).

Name, PAN No., CIN/DIN & address with contact nos.	Category of Person(Promoter s/ KMP / Directors/ Immediate Relatives / other s etc.)	Date of Appointment of Director/ KMP or date of becoming Promoter	time of becomin r/ appointment Director/KMP	ng Promote t of No.	% of shareholdin g
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)

**Note:** "Securities" shall have the meaning as defined under regulation 2(1) (i) of SEBI (Prohibition of Insider Trading) Regulations, 2015.

Details of Open Interest (OI) in derivatives of the company held on appointment of Key Managerial Personnel (KMP) or Director or upon becoming Promoter and other such

### persons as mentioned in Regulation 6(2)

Open Interest of at the time of becoming P Director/ KMP			Open Intere held at the time of appointmen	on Contracts Promoter/ KMP	
Contract Specifications	NumberofUnits(contracts* lot size)	Notional value in Rupe e terms	Contract Specificatio ns	Number of Units (contracts * lot size)	Notional value in Rupee terms
(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)

**Note:** In case of Options, notional value shall be calculated based on premium plus strike price of options.

#### *Name & Signature:*

**Designation:** 

Date:

Place:

#### **ANNEXURE VI**

# FORM C

SEBI (Prohibition of Insider Trading) Regulations, 2015 [Regulation 7 (2) read with Regulation 6(2) – Continual Disclosures]

Name of the company: Quest Capital Markets Limited

ISIN of the company: .....

Details of change in holding of Securities of Promoter, Employee or Director of a listed company and other such persons as mentioned in Regulation 6(2).

Name,	Category	Securities held	Securities	<b>Securities held</b>	Date of	Date of	Mode of
PAN No.,	of Person		acquired/Disposed	post	allotment	intimatio	acquisition
	(Promote	prior to		acquisition/	advice/	n to the	(market
CIN/DIN &	rs/ KMP /	acquisition/		disposal	acquisition		purchase/
address	Directors	disposal			of shares/	Company	public
with	/						rights/
contact	Immediat				sale of		preferential
nos.	e				shares		offer/off
	Relatives				specify		market/
	others						Inter-se
	etc.)						transfer etc.
	-						

(1) (2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9) (10) (11) (12) (13) (14)			Type of securit y(For e.g. Shares, Warra nt s, Conver ti ble Debent ur es etc.)	shareh olding	Type of security (For e.g. - Shares, Warran ts, Convert ib le Debent ure s etc.)		value		Warra nt s, Conver ti ble	and % of shareh o lding		То		
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)

Note: "Securities" shall have the meaning as defined under regulation 2(1) (i) of SEBI (Prohibition of Insider Trading) Regulations, 2015.

Details of trading in derivatives of the company by Promoter, Employee or Director of a listed company and other such persons as mentioned in Regulation 6(2)

		_	in derivative Futures or Opti		fy type of	Exchange the trac executed	
Type of	Contract specification	Buy		Sell			
Contract	S	Notional Value	Number of units (contracts * lot size)	Notional Value	Number of units (contracts * lot size)		
(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)	(21)	

Name &

Signature:

**Designation**:

Date:

Place:

# **ANNEXURE- VII**

# **INITIAL/ANNUAL DISCLOSURE BY DESIGNATED PERSONS**

То

**The Company Secretary & Compliance Officer** Quest Capital Markets Limited

From :

Details of Equity shares of Quest Capital Markets Limited held / traded by the following during the period 01.04.20\*\* to 31.03.20\*\* are as under:

Name of myself/my	Relati	Cell no	PAN	Folio No / DP ID	No. of QCML	No. of	No. of	Date of	No. of
	onship			& Client ID No.	Shares	Shares	Shares sold	Purchase	Shares
Immediate Relatives (Note 1) /person having	Details				held as on 1.4.20**	Purchased		/Sale	held as on 31.03.20* *
material financial relationship (Note 2)									

Further, please note the following particulars:

i) Name of the educational Institution from which I graduated \_\_\_\_\_\_

ii) Name(s) of my past employer(s)\_\_\_\_\_

Note: 1) "**Immediate Relatives**" shall mean and includes parent, sibling and child of such person or of the spouse, any of whom is either dependent financially on such person or consults such person in taking decisions relating to trading in securities.

2) The above disclosure will be required also to cover any **Material Financial Relationship** if one person has received any payment such as by way of a loan or gift during immediately preceding 12 months, equivalent to at least 25% of the payer's annual income except when based on arm's length transactions.

3) I shall intimate any change in the above details to Vice President (Secretarial) forthwith.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **ANNEXURE VIII**

## FORM D

Securities and Exchange Board of India (Prohibition of Insider Trading) Regulations, 2015 Regulation 7(3) – Transactions by Other connected persons as identified by the Company

Name of the company: Quest Capital Markets Limited

ISIN of the company: .....

Details of trading in securities by other connected person as identified by the Company.

Name,	PAN Connection	Securities held	Securities acquired/Disposed	Securities held	Date	of	Date	of	Mode of
No	., with the			post acquisition/			intima	tion	
	Company	prior to		disposal	allotme	ent	to	the	acquisition
CIN/I	DIN	acquisition/			advice	e/			(market
		disposal			acquisiti	on of	Comp	any	purchase/
& add	ress				shares	s/			public rights/
wit	h								preferential
contac	t nos.				sale of sh	ares			offer
					specif	fy			
									/ off
									market/
									Inter-se
									transfer etc.

		Type of security (For e.g. - Shares, Warrant s , Converti ble	and % f sharehol d ing	Convertib le		Value	Transac t ion Type (Buy/ Sale/ Pledge / Revoke/ Invoke)	security (For e.g. - Shares, Warrant s, Converti	% of shareho lding		То		
(1)	(2)	Debentur es etc.) (3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)

Note: "Securities" shall have the meaning as defined under regulation 2(1) (i) of SEBI (Prohibition of Insider Trading) Regulations, 2015.

Details of trading in derivatives of the company by other Connected Person as identified by the Company

	Trading in derivatives (Specify type of contract, Futures or Options etc)											
Type of Contract	Contract specificat ion s	-	Number of units (contracts * lot size)	Sell Notional Value	Number of units (contracts * lot size)							
(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)	(21)						

Name:

Signa

ture

Date:

Place

# **ANNEXURE-IX**

# Format for Reporting Actual or Suspected leak of UPSI to the SEBI

To,

#### Securities and Exchange Board of India

Plot No. C 4-A, G Block,

Near Bank of India, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra East, Mumbai – 400 051, Maharashtra

**Ref.: Scrip Code** BSE - 500069

Dear Sir / Madam,

**Sub:** Report of actual or suspected leak of UPSI pursuant to Regulation 9A (5) of SEBI (Prohibition of Insider Trading) Regulation, 2015.

Pursuant to Regulation 9A (5) of SEBI (Prohibition of Insider Trading) Regulation, 2015, we are reporting actual or suspected leak of Unpublished Price Sensitive Information (UPSI) of the Company, as follows;

Name of Offender, if known.	
Name of Organization.	
Designation	
(Employee, Insider, Designated Person or	
any other)	
Nature of Information	
Whether any action initiated by the	Yes/No
Company. If yes, narration of the same	
Any other information.	

Request you to take the aforementioned on your records. Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

For Quest Capital Markets Limited

**Company Secretary & Compliance Officer**