

## **WHISTLE BLOWING POLICY**

### **1.1 Purpose**

This policy is intended to address Perusahaan Sadur Timah Malaysia (Perstima) Berhad (“Perstima” or “the Company”) and all subsidiary companies within the Perstima Group, hereinafter refer to as the Group.

All employees of the Group play an important part in maintaining the highest level of corporate ethics within the Group, and have a professional responsibility to disclose any known malpractices or wrongdoings (hereon referred to as “Concerns”). The structure adopted by the Group establishes a clear line of communication and reporting of concerns for employees at all levels, and provides alternative lines of communication depending on the person(s) who is/are the subject of such concerns.

Whistle Blower Policy is implemented to:

- a) provide an avenue for all employees and member of the public to disclose any improper conduct or any action that is or could be harmful to the reputation of the Group and/or compromise the interest of stakeholders
- b) provide proper internal reporting channel to disclose any improper or unlawful conduct in accordance with the procedures as provided for under this policy
- c) address a disclosure in an appropriate and timely manner
- d) provide protection for the whistleblower from reprisal as a direct consequence of making a disclosure and to safeguard such person’s confidentiality
- e) treat both the whistleblower and the alleged wrongdoer fairly

Whistleblowing is an act of voluntary disclosure/reporting to the Management or Board of Directors of Perstima for further action of any improper conduct committed or about to be committed by an employee, officer or management or Directors of Perstima.

This policy shall also similarly apply to any vendors, partners, associates or any individuals, including the general public, in the performance of their assignment or conducting the business for or on behalf of the Group.

## **1.2 Whistleblower**

1. A person or entity making a protected disclosure is commonly referred to as a whistleblower. Whistleblowers provide initial information related to a reasonable belief that an improper governmental or governance activity has occurred. The motivation of a whistleblower is irrelevant to the consideration of the validity of the allegations.
2. The whistleblower's role is as a reporting party. They are not investigators or finders of fact, nor do they determine the appropriate corrective or remedial action that may be warranted. They do not have a right to participate in any investigative activities other than as requested by investigators.
3. However, the intentional filing of a false report, whether orally or in writing is itself considered an improper act which the Group has the right to act upon.

## **1.3 Safeguards**

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3. A whistleblower's right to protection from retaliation does not extend immunity for any complicity in the matters that are the subject of the allegations or an ensuing investigation.

#### **1.4 Harassment or Victimisation**

1. Harassment or victimisation for reporting concerns under this policy will not be tolerated.
2. Complete protection will be given to whistleblower against any unfair practice not limited to retaliation, threat or intimidation of termination/suspension of service, disciplinary action, transfer, demotion, refusal of promotion, or including any direct or indirect use of authority to obstruct the whistleblower's rights to continue to perform his/her duties including making further disclosure.

#### **1.5 Confidentiality**

1. Harassment or victimisation for reporting concerns under this policy will not be tolerated.
2. The Group gives the assurance that it will not reveal the identity of the whistleblower to any third party not involved in the investigation or prosecution of the matter. The whistleblower making the allegation will retain anonymity to all other employees and public unless he or she agrees otherwise. Where concerns cannot be resolved without revealing the identity of the employee raising the concern (i.e. if the evidence is required in court), a dialogue will be carried out with the employee concerned as to whether and how the matter can be proceeded.
3. The only exception to this assurance relates to an overriding legal obligation to breach confidentiality. The Group is obligated to reveal confidential information relating to a whistle-blowing report if ordered to do so by a court of law.

4. The Group's assurance of confidentiality can only be completely effective if the whistleblower likewise maintains confidentiality.

## 1.6 Anonymous allegations

1. This policy encourages employees to put their names to allegations because appropriate follow-up questions and investigation may not be possible unless the source of the information is identified. Concerns expressed anonymously will be explored appropriately, but consideration will be given to:
  - 1.1. The seriousness of the issue raised;
  - 1.2. The credibility of the concern; and
  - 1.3. The likelihood of confirming the allegation from attributable sources

## 1.7 Procedures

### 1.7.1 Process for Disclosure

#### I) Impropriety

1. It is important to note that in determining whether to report impropriety conduct, harm is not only measured in terms of monetary value lost, or damage to a particular business or project, but harm may also be done to the integrity and reputation of the Group itself.
2. This policy covers:-
  - a) Improprieties or irregularities in matters of financial reporting;
  - b) Auditing matters including disclosures or subversions of any internal or external audit process.
  - c) Suspected fraud or criminal offences;

- d) Unlawful activities such as corruption, bribery or blackmail;
- e) Misuse of the Group's funds or assets;
- f) Deliberately or accidentally steal, damage, or misuse the data stored within the Group's computer systems and throughout the organization;
- g) Failure to comply with legal or regulatory requirements;
- h) Breach of confidentiality;
- i) Miscarriage of justice;
- j) Breach of the Group's Code of Ethics or Conduct; or non-compliance with Group policies and procedures;
- k) Sexual assault, sexual harassment, including mild annoyances;
- l) Conduct of unfair competition internally or externally, by using of an individual's position or opportunity arising from/ available within the Group and that the gains/ advantages of the individual are conditional on the losses of others, where the gains/ advantages are made in ways which are illegitimate or unjust;
- m) Dangers to health and safety of employees or the public or the environment; and
- n) Concealment of any or a combination of the above

## **II) Reporting**

1. Managers, officers and employees in supervisory roles shall report to the reporting person stated below any allegations of suspected improper activities — whether received as a protected disclosure, reported by their subordinates in the ordinary course of performing their duties, or discovered in the course of performing their own duties — when any of the following conditions are met:
  - 1.1. The matter is the result of a significant internal control or policy deficiency that is likely to exist at other units within the Group or across the internal control system;
  - 1.2. The matter is likely to receive media or other public attention;
  - 1.3. The matter involves the misuse of the Company's resources or creates exposure to a liability in potentially significant amounts;
  - 1.4. The matter involves allegations or events that have a significant possibility of being the result of a criminal act (e.g., disappearance of cash or asset);
  - 1.5. The matter involves a significant threat to the health and safety of employees and/or the public; or
  - 1.6. The matter is judged to be significant or sensitive for other reasons.

2. Such disclosures, including those relating to financial reporting, unethical or illegal conduct, may be reported directly to:

2.1. Group Internal Audit Department

3. Disclosures can be done in writing, by telephone, fax or e-mail. The disclosure should be addressed to:

**Managing Director**

Suite 17.4B-17.5, Level 17,

Menara Weld,

No. 76, Jalan Raja Chulan,

50200 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Tel : 03-20702793

Fax : 03-20324552

Website: [perstima.com.my](http://perstima.com.my)

The disclosure may be made orally provided that the authorised officer, upon receiving the disclosure made orally shall as soon as it is practicable, reduce it into writing.

In the event there is a need to contact someone other than the Managing Director, whistleblower may report directly to the Company Secretary.

4. If the whistleblower is unsure of the type of evidence needed for the Group Internal Audit Department to begin an investigation, the whistleblower is encouraged to make use the “Report of Whistle Blowing” form provided in Appendix 1.

A copy of the form can also be downloaded from the Perstima Website under the Whistle Blowing Policy. The whistleblower may wish to send this form via local postal service if you wish to remain anonymous. This form will aid you in providing adequate information to the Group Internal Audit Department so that they can begin investigations.

5. If the whistleblower prefers to remain anonymous, the whistleblower may call the Managing Director at 03-20702793 approximately fourteen days after the initial report. This enables the Managing Director to ask any follow-up questions that have arisen since the beginning of the investigation.

### **III) Timing**

The earlier a concern is expressed, the easier it is to take action.

### **IV) Evidence**

The whistleblower is not expected to prove the truth of an allegation, however his/her written testimony will be required as evidence.

### **V) Handling of a reported allegation**

- a) The Managing Director will maintain a record of the complaints and will track their receipt, investigation and resolution.
- b) The Managing Director will seriously consider each disclosure and pursue it to the extent that the

information received allows, and based on the evidence that is available.

- c) Once your disclosure is received, the Managing Director will begin preliminary investigations to establish whether the disclosure has merit and can be substantiated.
- d) Following the internal auditing standard of professional practice, the Managing Director will review the disclosure and determine if there is enough evidence to confirm that disclosure.
- e) With this information, the Managing Director will do his best to draw an unbiased conclusion from facts given to him by the whistleblower, or any other information gathered during the course investigation.
- f) If the case necessitates further action on the part of the Human Resource (HR) department, a copy of a summary report will be provided to HR.
- g) The Managing Director shall prepare a summary report and present it to the Company's Audit Committee on a quarterly basis. The report will maintain confidentiality to protect the whistleblower's identity.

### **1.7.2 Investigator**

1. The Head of Internal Audit shall be the named Investigator unless otherwise assigned by the Audit Committee based on reasons stated below.
2. Investigators must be/ appear impartial and independent to all parties concerned, have a duty of fairness, objectivity, thoroughness, ethical behaviour, and observance of legal and professional standards.

3. Investigations should be launched only after preliminary consideration that establishes that:
  - 3.1. The allegation, if true, constitutes an improper act, and either:
  - 3.2. The allegation is accompanied by information specific enough to be investigated, or
  - 3.3. The allegation has or directly points to corroborating evidence that can be pursued. Such evidence may be testamentary or documentary.
4. The Investigator is required to report all concerns raised, the status of all pending and on-going investigations, and any action taken or to be taken as a result of the investigations to the Audit Committee.

### **1.7.3 Investigation Subjects**

1. A subject is a person who is the focus of investigative fact finding either by virtue of an allegation made or evidence gathered during the course of an investigation. The decision to conduct an investigation is not an accusation; it is to be treated as a neutral fact finding process. The outcome of the investigation may or may not support a conclusion that an improper act was committed and, if so, by whom.
2. The identity of a subject should be maintained in confidence to the extent possible given the legitimate needs of law and the investigation.
3. Subjects have a duty to cooperate with investigators to the extent that their cooperation will not compromise self-incrimination protections under state or federal law. Subjects have a right to consult with a person or persons of their choice. This may involve representation, including legal representation.

#### **1.7.4 Initial Inquiries**

Initial inquiries will be made to determine whether an investigation is appropriate, and the form that it should take. Some concerns may be resolved without the need for investigation.

#### **1.7.5 Further Inquiries**

1. The amount of contact between the whistleblower and the Investigator will depend on the nature of the issue and the clarity of information provided.
2. Further information may be sought from or provided to the person reporting the concern.
3. If an investigation leads the Investigator to conclude that a crime has probably been committed, the results of the investigation shall be reported to the Police or other appropriate law enforcement agency.
4. If an investigation leads the Investigator to conclude that the suspect has engaged in conduct that may be a violation of the Group's Code of Ethics or Conduct, the results of the investigation shall be reported to the Head of Human Resources or MD in accordance with the applicable procedures for company conduct and the administration of discipline. Any charges of misconduct brought as a result of an investigation under this policy shall comply with established disciplinary procedures.
5. Consultation with the Audit Committee and/or Legal Officer is required before negotiating or entering into any restitution agreement resulting from the findings of an investigation.

## **1.8 Duties and Responsibilities of Audit Committee**

1. The Audit Committee is committed to investigate and address all cases of reported misconduct. The Audit Committee shall:
  - 1.1. Receive and filter complaints;
  - 1.2. Determine actions to be taken;
  - 1.3. Assign investigations;
  - 1.4. Ensure closures and conclusion;
  - 1.5. Report to the Board of Directors for further action; and
  - 1.6. Report to the relevant authorities.
2. The Audit Committee Chairman shall determine the channel for investigation and follow-up action. In order to ensure independence to the inquiry, the Audit Committee shall assign the Head of Internal auditor as the investigator, unless for reasons of conflict of interest, inadequate competence, or enhancing corporate governance, may form an Investigation Committee or include the Compliance Officer if deemed necessary.
3. The Investigator shall determine the resources required to complete the investigation within a time set.
4. The Audit Committee shall delegate the authority to the Investigator on unrestricted access to the Group's records and premises, whether owned or rented, without prior knowledge or consent of any person who have custody of any such records when it is within the scope of the investigation.
5. The whistleblower may seek follow-up information about an investigation of a report or any consequent action taken. Subject to legal limitation, the whistleblower will be kept informed of the final outcome of the investigation.

## **1.9 Monitoring and Periodic Review of Policy**

1. The Audit Committee is responsible for the interpretation and supervision of the enforcement of this Policy.

2. The Group must diligently monitor these procedures to ensure that they meet the objectives of relevant legislations and remain effective for the Group, and, if necessary, implement changes subject to the approval of the Group's Board of Directors.
3. This policy shall be reviewed regularly by the Board.

This Whistle Blowing Policy is dated 5 July 2018



**APPENDIX 1**

**REPORT OF WHISTLE BLOWING**

Fill in and return this form to:

**Ms Perusahaan Sadur Timah Malaysia  
(Perstima) Berhad  
Plo 255, Jalan Timah Tiga  
81700 Pasir Gudang  
Johor**

Tel : 07-2541200  
Fax : 07-2514618  
Email : \_\_\_\_\_

1. Name of the person(s) you are reporting

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2. Name of the division/department in which that person works.

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3. Please provide a summary of the alleged improper conduct, wrongdoings, corruption, fraud, waste &/or abuse that you are reporting.

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4. Please attach a separate narrative of necessary, as well as documentation to support your claim.

5. Provide information on relevant witnesses, if any, including email, telephone and/or the best way to get in touch with them.

**Witness#1**

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

Email : \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No : \_\_\_\_\_

**Witness#2**

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

Email : \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No : \_\_\_\_\_

Any additional information concerning these witnesses:

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6. If possible, please provide dates (month, day, year) that the alleged activity occurred.

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7. Please explain why you believe the person you are reporting has committed these acts knowingly, willingly and intentionally.

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8. We would like to know how the alleged activities came to your attention (if you have not already done so in the summary); however, this is optional for you to report this.

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9. Please provide any other information you may find relevant.

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10. We will not document information concerning your name if you wish to remain anonymous, however, if you do not want to be anonymous please provide your name, phone number and email

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

Your Phone No : \_\_\_\_\_

Your Email : \_\_\_\_\_

- If you decide to remain anonymous, please contact us within two weeks of your report, because we may need additional information concerning the alleged activities reported by you.

Thank you.