

# U.S. Hemp Roundtable

## ETHICS CODE

The U.S. Hemp Roundtable (“Roundtable”) and its member companies and organizations share a commitment to advocate for science driven, equitable, and inclusive law and regulation for hemp industries – including agriculture, oilseed, fiber and extracts, such as CBD – to produce a reliable, sustainable supply chain of responsible commerce. In pursuit of this goal, the Roundtable’s members pledge to observe and uphold the highest ethical principles in their dealings with their customers, suppliers, competitors, regulators and consumers in order to foster confidence in their products and services. In particular, the Roundtable and its members commit themselves to the following ethical principles:

**1. The U.S. Hemp Roundtable and its members are committed to observing all applicable state and federal laws.**

The Roundtable and its members recognize the important role of laws, and the state and federal agencies that implement them, to assure that the best interests of the public are promoted and protected. Although the Roundtable may on occasion advocate for changes in those laws that are inconsistent with the best interests of the public and the hemp industry, and may disagree with state or federal agencies about the interpretation of certain laws, Roundtable members should adhere to all relevant laws while they are clear and legally binding.

The Board will review member practices potentially running afoul of federal cannabis law under the Ethics Code on a case-by-case and member-by-member basis. Clear violations of binding state hemp/cannabis statutes will be similarly reviewed by the Board to ensure compliance with its Ethics Code.

**2. The U.S. Hemp Roundtable and its members share a mission to create an equitable and impactful hemp industry.**

The Roundtable and its members are committed to embracing the full spectrum of humanity, regardless of what we look like, where we come from or whom we love. We will promote economic empowerment for communities of color and minority-owned enterprises by establishing and adopting metrics and timetables for our member firms, advancing policy and legislative reform, promoting mentorship, and generating new business opportunities.

**3. Roundtable members are committed to marketing products and services with truthful and non-misleading labeling and advertising.**

Roundtable members should make only those representations in labeling and advertising

that are supported by competent and reliable scientific evidence to substantiate those claims; that accurately represent the findings of scientific or consumer research; and that are supported by scientifically-valid methods to verify the labeled composition of the product.

**4. The Roundtable and its members are committed to taking appropriate action to support the safety of their products, and the environmental health of the planet.**

Roundtable members should market ingredients and products that have been demonstrated to be safe through appropriate scientific evidence and, where appropriate, evidence of safe use in previously marketed products, and should undertake additional evaluation or testing whenever new safety issues arise. Similarly, members should serve as stewards to the environment in the manufacturing, transportation and distribution of products and materials.

**5. The Roundtable and its members are committed to responsible self-regulation to foster consumer confidence in the quality of products and services and the truthfulness of advertising.**

The Roundtable and its members should work with its sister organization, the U.S. Hemp Authority, to foster and encourage the development and implementation of voluntary standards for responsible business behavior within the industry and in the wider community.

**6. Roundtable members are committed to observing fair business practices in their dealings with consumers, the general public, and other industry members.**

The Roundtable and its members should recognize that the credibility of individual companies and of the hemp industry as a whole depends upon fairness in the marketplace, with respect to individual consumers, the public at large, government agencies, state and federal legislatures, the professional and academic communities, and fellow members of the industry and its supporting suppliers.