

Policy Number	PTC/ HR/POL/ ISP01
Issue Date	01-Sep-2017
Effective Date	01-Sep-2017
Rev. Number	1.2
Rev. Date	25-Sep-2023
No of Pages	43

## INFORMATION SECURITY POLICIES

Date: 27 December 2021

Version: 1.2

Policy Number	PTC/ HR/POL/ ISP01
Issue Date	01-Sep-2017
Effective Date	01-Sep-2017
Rev. Number	1.2
Rev. Date	25-Sep-2023
No of Pages	43

## Contents

1	INFORMATION SECURITY POLICY .....	1
1.1	Policy Statement .....	1
1.2	Purpose .....	1
1.3	Scope of the information Security Policy .....	1
1.4	Structure of the Policy Documentation Set.....	2
1.5	Approval Process for the Policy .....	2
1.6	Responsibility for the Information Security Policy Documentation .....	2
1.7	Maintaining the Policy Document set .....	2
1.8	Implementing the Information Security Policy.....	2
1.9	Responsibilities for implementing the Information Security Policies .....	3
1.10	Other Related Policies.....	3
1.11	Information Security Sub-policy Status .....	4
1.12	Description of the Information Security sub-policies .....	5
2	OUTSOURCING AND THIRD PARTY ACCESS (PTC-ISP1.04).....	9
2.1	Purpose .....	9
2.2	Policy on Information Security around outsourcing and third party access .....	9
2.3	Controls and Processes .....	9
2.4	Management of access for partner organisations and external staff .....	10
3	PERSONNEL POLICY FOR INFORMATION SECURITY (PTC-ISP1.05) .....	11
3.1	Purpose .....	11
3.2	Policy on Employing Staff .....	11

Policy Number	PTC/ HR/POL/ ISP01
Issue Date	01-Sep-2017
Effective Date	01-Sep-2017
Rev. Number	1.2
Rev. Date	25-Sep-2023
No of Pages	43

3.3	Controls and Processes .....	11
3.3.2	Disciplinary Process.....	12
3.4	Policy on Training.....	12
3.5	Controls and Processes .....	12
3.6	Policy on Departing Staff.....	12
3.7	Controls and Processes .....	12
3.8	Policy on Disaffected Staff .....	13
3.9	Controls and Processes .....	13
4	INFORMATION HANDLING POLICY (PTC-ISP2.02).....	14
4.1	Purpose.....	14
4.2	Policy.....	14
4.3	Scope .....	14
5	INVENTORY AND CLASSIFICATION OF INFORMATION ASSETS POLICY (PTC-ISP 2.02.01) .....	15
5.1	Policy statements.....	15
5.2	Controls and Processes .....	15
6	INFORMATION PROTECTION (PTC-ISP2.02.02) .....	16
6.1	Policy Statements .....	16
6.2	Controls and Processes .....	17
7	BACKUP, USE OF REMOVABLE MEDIA AND INFORMATION DISPOSAL (PTC-ISP 2.02.03).....	18
7.1	Policy Statements .....	18
7.2	Controls and Processes .....	18
8	EXCHANGES OF INFORMATION (PTC-ISP 2.02.04) .....	19
8.1	Policy Statements .....	19
8.2	Controls and Processes .....	19

Policy Number	PTC/ HR/POL/ ISP01
Issue Date	01-Sep-2017
Effective Date	01-Sep-2017
Rev. Number	1.2
Rev. Date	25-Sep-2023
No of Pages	43

9	INFORMATION IN APPLICATION SYSTEMS (PTC-ISP 2.02.05) .....	19
9.1	Policy Statements .....	19
9.2	Controls and Processes .....	19
9.3	Information Custodians .....	20
10	Data Classifications .....	21
11	USER MANAGEMENT POLICY (PTC-ISP2.03).....	22
11.1	Purpose .....	22
11.2	User Password Management .....	22
11.2.1	Policy.....	22
11.2.2	Controls and processes .....	22
11.3	Access Control to Information Systems .....	23
11.3.1	Policy.....	23
11.3.2	Controls and Processes .....	23
11.4	Disciplinary Process.....	24
11.5	Management of System Privileges .....	24
11.5.1	Policy.....	24
11.5.2	Controls and Processes .....	24
11.6	Additional Controls and processes.....	24
11.6.1	Staff leaving the PTCIL 's employment .....	24
11.6.2	Contractors and Visitors.....	26
11.6.3	Connection to the Internet .....	26
12	USE OF COMPUTERS POLICY (PTC-ISP2.04).....	27
12.1	Purpose .....	27
12.2	User identification .....	27

Policy Number	PTC/ HR/POL/ ISP01
Issue Date	01-Sep-2017
Effective Date	01-Sep-2017
Rev. Number	1.2
Rev. Date	25-Sep-2023
No of Pages	43

12.2.1 Policy.....	27
12.2.2 Controls and Processes .....	27
12.3 Protection Against Malicious and Mobile Code .....	28
12.3.1 Policy.....	28
12.3.2 Controls and processes .....	28
12.4 Data Back-up Policy.....	29
12.4.1 Policy.....	29
12.4.2 Controls and processes .....	29
12.5 Exchange of Information.....	29
12.5.1 Policy.....	29
12.5.2 Controls and processes .....	29
13 MOBILE COMPUTING POLICY (PTC-ISP2.09) .....	31
13.1.1 Purpose .....	31
13.2 Mobile Computing .....	31
13.2.1 Policy.....	31
13.2.2 Controls and Processes .....	31
14 GUIDE TO INFORMATION SECURITY FOR MOBILE DEVICES (PTC-ISP2.09a) .....	33
14.1.1 Background .....	33
14.1.2 What are Mobile Devices? .....	33
14.1.3 Your Responsibility.....	33
14.2 Required Practices with Mobile Devices .....	34
14.3 Classification of data for security purposes –brief version.....	35
14.4 Explanation of Encryption .....	36
15 Dissemination and Access to the Policy .....	37

Policy Number	PTC/ HR/POL/ ISP01
Issue Date	01-Sep-2017
Effective Date	01-Sep-2017
Rev. Number	1.2
Rev. Date	25-Sep-2023
No of Pages	43

---

## **1 INFORMATION SECURITY POLICY**

### **1.1 Policy Statement**

*It is the policy of the PTC Industries Limited that all information it manages shall be appropriately secured to protect against the consequences of breaches of confidentiality, failures of integrity or interruptions to the availability of that information.*

### **1.2 Purpose**

1.2.1.1 The PTCIL collects, processes, stores and uses information as part of its academic and business processes. Information may be managed through computerized or manual systems. In all cases the PTCIL needs to ensure that adequate controls are in place to ensure information is appropriately available, accurate, secure, and complies with legislative requirements. This information security policy provides management direction and support for information security across the PTCIL.

1.2.1.2 The Information Security Policy documentation serves these purposes:

- To set out the PTCIL 's intentions in managing information security as part of effective governance
- To provide guidance to users, administrators and developers of information systems on appropriate behaviours and controls required in order to maintain the integrity of information
- To provide a comprehensive approach to information security across the PTCIL
- To set out the means by which information policies and are scrutinized, approved, revised, communicated and monitored.

### **1.3 Scope of the information Security Policy**

1.3.1.1 This Information Security Policy:

- Applies to all staff, consultants, contractors, partnership organisations and vendor staff of the PTC Industries Limited.
- Covers all information handled, stored, processed or shared by the PTCIL irrespective of whether that information originates with or is owned by the PTCIL .
- Applies to all computer and non-computer based information systems owned by the PTCIL or used for PTCIL business or connected to PTCIL managed networks.

---

## **1.4 Structure of the Policy Documentation Set**

- 1.4.1.1 The Information Security policy document set consists of a hierarchy of subsidiary information security policies that all have equal standing. Policies are grouped in to two sets:
  - 1. Policies about the Organization
  - 2. Policies for the use of information and information systems
- 1.4.1.2 A description of the policy documents is attached as Appendix A
- 1.4.1.3 The status of the policy documents is given in section 10 of this document.

## **1.5 Approval Process for the Policy**

- 1.5.1.1 This policy shall be ratified by the PTCIL through the PTCIL Executive Board to form part of its policies and procedures on expected standards on conduct and behaviour. It is applicable to and will be communicated to staff, contractor, vendor, partner organisations and other relevant parties.
- 1.5.1.2 The approval of all subsidiary information security policies will be the responsibility of the PTCIL Executive Board.

## **1.6 Responsibility for the Information Security Policy Documentation**

- 1.6.1.1 The Information Security Policy Documentation set shall be maintained by Head of Information Systems and Technology, and individual policies may be delegated to PTCIL officers.

## **1.7 Maintaining the Policy Document set**

- 1.7.1.1 This policy and subsidiary policies shall be reviewed and updated regularly to ensure that all remains appropriate in the light of any relevant changes to the law, organisational policies or contractual obligations.

## **1.8 Implementing the Information Security Policy**

- 1.8.1.1 The PTCIL will ensure that all individuals who use information systems or handle sensitive information are aware of and understand the relevant policies that apply and the consequences of non-compliance.
- 1.8.1.2 Where necessary, the PTCIL will implement appropriate physical and logical controls to restrict access to information systems and information to only authorised users.
- 1.8.1.3 Full account of the requirements of the Information Security Policy will be taken in planning, designing, implementing and using IT-based information systems.



- 
- 1.8.1.4 The PTCIL will use lawful means of monitoring the use of information systems and networks for the purposes of preventing, and detecting breaches of the information security policy.
  - 1.8.1.5 To determine the appropriate levels of security measures applied to information systems, a process of risk assessment shall be carried out for each system to identify the probability and impact of security failures.
  - 1.8.1.6 Specialist advice on information security shall be made available throughout the PTCIL and the PTCIL will ensure that it maintains and applies up-to-date knowledge of risks and mitigations within its information management practices.
  - 1.8.1.7 All users will be required to abide by PTCIL policies before being authorised for access to PTCIL information systems.
  - 1.8.1.8 The PTCIL will establish and maintain appropriate contacts with other organisations, law enforcement authorities, regulatory bodies, and network and telecommunications operators in respect of its information security policy.

## **1.9 Responsibilities for implementing the Information Security Policies**

- 1.9.1.1 An information security working group, made up of key system administrators, managers and representatives from all relevant parts of the organisation, shall devise and coordinate the implementation of information security controls.
- 1.9.1.2 The responsibility for ensuring the protection of IT-based information systems and ensuring that specific security processes are carried out shall lie with the Head of Information Systems and Technology.
- 1.9.1.3 The implementation and effectiveness of the information security policy shall be reviewed periodically by the PTCIL 's internal audit function as part of its regular audit programme.

## **1.10 Other Related Policies**

Other Related Policies include

- Acceptable Use Policy
- Data Protection Policy
- Harassment and Bullying Policy
- Financial regulations

## 1.11 Information Security Sub-policy Status

Sub Policy	Reference	Status
Information Security Policy	PTC-ISP01	
Business Continuity Planning	PTC-ISP1.02	
Compliance	PTC-ISP1.03	
Out-Sourcing and 3rd Party access	PTC-ISP1.04	
Personnel	PTC-ISP1.05	
Operations	PTC-ISP2.01	
Information handling	PTC-ISP2.02	
User management	PTC-IPS2.03	
Use of computers	PTC-IPS2.04	
System planning	PTC-ISP2.05	
System management	PTC-ISP2.06	
Network management	PTC-ISP2.07	
Software management	PTC-ISP2.08	
Mobile computing	PTC-ISP2.09	
Guidance Note on Use of Mobile Computing devices	PTC-ISP2.09a	
Cryptography	PTC-ISP2.10	
Acceptable Use Policy	PTC-ISP3	

This Policy to be Read by:	
Staff	✓
Vendors	✓
Consultants	✓
Partner staff of the PTC Industries Limited	✓
Contractors of the PTCIL	✓

---

## 1.12 Description of the Information Security sub-policies

### Policies about the organisation

Information security  PTC-ISP01	Top level document issued by senior management, stating the importance of information security to the organisation and the objectives and scope of the Policy. Defines responsibilities for information security and refers to more specific policy documents. Links to organisational contingency and disaster recovery plans. To be read by all users.
Business continuity planning  PTC-ISP1.02	Documents that set out the process for assessing and addressing risks to business continuity. Defines responsibilities for preparing and implementing business continuity plans. To be read by those involved in business continuity planning.
Compliance  PTC-ISP1.03	Document setting out how compliance with legal and other regulatory requirements is ensured. Likely to link to software management policy (for copyright/ licensing) as well as personnel and other policies. To be read by those responsible for compliance.
Outsourcing and third party access  PTC-ISP1.04	Document setting out how any outsourcing or other access to or development of systems by third parties should be designed and managed to ensure information security. Includes initial risk assessment (which may conclude that an activity cannot safely be outsourced), contract terms, responsibilities, controls and reporting requirements. To be read by all those involved in outsourcing.
Personnel  PTC-ISP1.05	Document setting out personnel procedures to ensure that the recruitment, management and departure of staff does not harm information security. Includes standard requirements and training for all posts plus identification of and appropriate resources for posts requiring additional checks and controls. Also includes responsibilities, terms and conditions, and disciplinary codes that all staff must agree to. To be read by all staff involved in personnel and management. Subsidiary documents will be read and agreed by all staff.

---

***Optional Policy about the organisation***

Teleworking	Document setting out additional policies that apply to teleworking. Teleworkers are likely to require greater access to data and systems even than mobile workers so represent a greater security risk. Also includes procedures for maintenance and backup of teleworking systems and compliance with applicable regulations. To be read by all teleworkers and their managers.
-------------	--

**Policies about the use of information and information systems**

Operations PTC-ISP2.01	Document setting out how information systems are operated to protect information security. Includes standard procedures for operation of key systems and responsibilities of operators in normal conditions as well as fault and incident reporting and review. Process for assignment of duties to staff should include consideration of whether segregation of duties is necessary. Also includes capacity management of information systems. To be read by all those involved in the design and operation of information systems.
Information handling PTC-ISP2.02	Document setting out the classes of information handled by the organisation and the requirements on the labelling, storage, transmission, processing and disposal of each. Requirements may include confidentiality (in handling, storage and transmission), integrity (e.g. validation processes) and availability (e.g. backups). System documentation should itself be classified as sensitive information. To be read by all staff dealing with information.
User management PTC-IPS2.03	Document setting out how user accounts and privileges are created, managed and deleted. Includes how new users are authorised and granted appropriate privileges as well as how these are reviewed and revoked when necessary, and appropriate controls to prevent users obtaining unauthorised privileges or access. Also includes recording of user activity on information systems and networks. To be read by all those responsible for authorising access to information systems or

---

managing them.

Use of computers

PTC-IPS2.04

Document setting out the responsibilities and required behaviour of users of information systems. Includes acceptable use, good practice in use of accounts and access credentials (e.g. passwords) and behaviour to protect against unknown or malicious code. To be read by all users.

System planning

PTC-ISP2.05

Document setting out how information systems are designed, installed and maintained. Includes process for identifying requirements and risks, designing appropriately configured systems to meet them and assigning responsibility for their security. To be read by all those responsible for the design and deployment of information systems.

System management

PTC-ISP2.06

Document setting out the responsibilities and required behaviour of those managing computer systems. Includes requirements on the maintenance and management of information systems and the software and services they run. Also required security software (e.g. antivirus) and configurations, as well as appropriate logging and monitoring of system activity, and expected behaviour when faults or incidents are detected. To be read by all those responsible for networked computers.

Network management

PTC-ISP2.07

Document setting out how networks are designed and systems are connected to them. Includes continuing risk assessment and appropriate technical and procedural controls to reduce risk and to meet the requirements of the information handling policy, as well as emergency measures to deal with faults and incidents. Networks should usually be partitioned to reflect different security requirements, with control points preventing unnecessary traffic flows between and within partitions. Particular attention should be paid to protecting these control points from unauthorised access. To be read by all those responsible for network management and connected systems.

Software management

Document setting out how software run on information systems is managed. Includes controls on the installation and

---

PTC-ISP2.08	use of software, the features provided and granting of access to software packages. Also includes maintenance of software with appropriate procedures for upgrades to minimise the risk to information. To be read by all those specifying or installing software.
Mobile computing	Documents setting out additional policies that apply to the use of portable computing devices and/or access from offsite locations. Includes process for authorizing such use and for determining additional measures necessary to combat the increased risk to information security that each represents. To be read by all those involved in designing, supporting or using mobile computing facilities.
PTC-ISP2.09	
Cryptography	Document setting out when and how encryption should (or should not) be used. Includes protection of sensitive information and communications, key management and procedures to ensure encrypted information can be recovered by the organisation if necessary. To be read by all users of encryption.
Acceptable Use Policy	Document is a subset of the IS policy and summarizes the key responsibilities and required behaviour of all users of the PTC Industries Limited computer and information systems.
PTC-ISP3	

## 2 OUTSOURCING AND THIRD PARTY ACCESS (PTC-ISP1.04)

### 2.1 Purpose

The PTC Industries Limited uses third parties (e.g. contractors, partner organisations, suppliers, outsourcing and development partners) to help create and maintain its information assets. It also allows connectivity to some of those information assets to external organisations (e.g. partner organisations, customers). This access needs to be controlled. This policy area is designed to ensure that external parties that attach to and utilise information in the PTC Industries Limited's information systems are aware of and comply with the PTCIL 's Information Security policies policy

### 2.2 Policy on Information Security around outsourcing and third party access

*All third parties who are given access to the PTC Industries Limited's information systems, whether as suppliers, customers or otherwise, must agree to follow the PTCIL 's Information Security policies.*

*Confidentiality agreements must be used in all situations where the confidentiality, sensitivity or value of the information being accessed is classified as Personal, sensitive or confidential/highly sensitive (see [Information Handling Policy PTC-ISP2.02](#) for explanation of classifications).*

*All contracts with external suppliers for the supply of services to the PTC Industries Limited must be monitored and reviewed to ensure that information security requirements are being satisfied.*

### 2.3 Controls and Processes

- 2.3.1.1 An appropriate summary of the information security policies and the third party's role in ensuring compliance must be formally delivered to any third party prior to their being granted access.
- 2.3.1.2 Contracts must include appropriate provisions to ensure the continued security of information and systems in the event that a contract is terminated or transferred to another supplier.
- 2.3.1.3 Persons responsible for agreeing maintenance and support contracts will ensure that the contracts being signed are in accord with the contents and spirit of the PTC Industries Limited's Information Security policies.
- 2.3.1.4 Persons responsible for commissioning outsourced development of computer based systems and services must use reputable companies that operate in accordance with recognised quality standards and which will follow the information security policies of the PTC Industries Limited, in particular those relating to application development.

## Outsourcing and Third-Party Access Policy

PTC Industries

PTC-ISP1.04

- 2.3.1.5 Any facilities management, outsourcing or similar company with which the PTC Industries Limited may do business must be able to demonstrate compliance with the PTCIL 's information security policies and enter into binding service level agreements that specify the performance to be delivered and the remedies available in case of non-compliance.

### 2.4 Management of access for partner organisations and external staff

- 2.4.1.1 Depending on the partnership arrangements, staff of partner organisations who are assisting the PTCIL or delivering programmes of study may need access to PTCIL information systems.
- 2.4.1.2 All external users who need to access the PTCIL 's systems or secured information assets must have a PTCIL sponsor. The sponsor should be a senior member of PTC Industries Limited staff who is responsible for maintaining the operational relationship between the PTCIL and the third party. The sponsor must confirm the appropriateness of access requests, and advise the PTCIL computing service of changes in relationships e.g. need to withdraw user access.
- 2.4.1.3 External user who require access to PTCIL information systems must formal acknowledgement and agree to comply with the PTCIL Information Security policy and procedures be completed the appropriate External Access Request Form.
- 2.4.1.4 In accepting the terms of access, the partner undertakes to take all necessary steps to protect the PTCIL 's information assets from unauthorised access, misuse or disclosure. This includes ensuring appropriate controls are in place on local workstations including: up to date anti-virus, anti-spyware and security patches; not sharing ID and passwords; login out when systems are not being used.
- 2.4.1.5 All external access arrangements will be reviewed at least annually to confirm that 3<sup>rd</sup> party users continue to have appropriate levels of access for their role.

This Policy to be Read by:	
Staff	✓
Consultants	✓
Partner staff of the PTC Industries Limited	✓
Contractors staff of the PTCIL	✓



---

### 3 PERSONNEL POLICY FOR INFORMATION SECURITY (PTC-ISP1.05)

#### 3.1 Purpose

This policy deals with the recruitment, management and departure of staff. It aligns with Human Resources policies. The term Staff in the policies below should be taken to include employees, temporary staff, contractors, consultants, external auditors, volunteers, work placements and partner organisations, wherever there is a contract between them and the PTC Industries Limited which requires or allows that party or that party's employees to access the PTC Industries Limited's information systems or data. These policies reflect

- the [employment of staff](#)
- [and training of all staff](#)
- [departing staff](#)
- the special cases of [disaffected staff](#).

#### 3.2 Policy on Employing Staff

*The Terms and Conditions of Employment and for external parties the Contractual Terms of the PTC Industries Limited must include the employer's and employee's requirements to comply with information security policies.*

#### 3.3 Controls and Processes

- 3.3.1.1 As part of the Terms and Conditions of Employment, and for external parties the Contractual Terms, all staff are required to sign a formal undertaking concerning the need to protect the confidentiality of information and to follow the PTC Industries Limited's information security policies, both during and after their employment with the PTC Industries Limited.
- 3.3.1.2 An appropriate summary of the information security policies must be formally delivered to and accepted by any temporary staff, contractor, consultant, external supplier or partner organisation, prior to the supply or use of services.
- 3.3.1.3 Non-disclosure agreements must be used in all situations where the confidentiality, sensitivity or value of the information being disclosed is important.
- 3.3.1.4 All staff are to be provided with information security awareness tools to enhance awareness and educate them regarding the range of threats, the appropriate safeguards and the need for reporting suspected problems.
- 3.3.1.5 Any information security incidents resulting from non-compliance should result in appropriate disciplinary action.

---

### 3.3.2 Disciplinary Process

- 3.3.2.1 If, after investigation, a user is found to have violated the PTC Industries Limited's information security policies and/ or processes, they will be disciplined in line with the PTC Industries Limited's disciplinary procedures.

### 3.4 Policy on Training

*The PTC Industries Limited is committed to providing training to all users of new system to ensure that their use is both efficient and does not compromise information security.*

### 3.5 Controls and Processes

- 3.5.1.1 Periodic training for the nominated Information Security Officer is to be prioritised to educate and train in the latest threats and information security techniques.
- 3.5.1.2 All new staff are to receive mandatory information security awareness training as part of induction.
- 3.5.1.3 Where IT or other staff change jobs or roles, their information security needs must be reassessed, and any new training needed should be provided as a priority.
- 3.5.1.4 Training in information security and threats and safeguards is mandatory for IT staff, with the extent of training to reflect the job holder's individual responsibility for configuring and maintaining information security safeguards.

### 3.6 Policy on Departing Staff

*On termination of employment the access privileges of departing staff for PTCIL information assets and systems will be revoked.*

### 3.7 Controls and Processes

- 3.7.1.1 Departing staff must return all information assets and equipment belonging to the PTC Industries Limited, unless agreed otherwise with the designated Information Owner responsible for that information asset.
- 3.7.1.2 Access privileges will normally be removed on the last contractual day. No further access will be allowed unless another relationship is established between the PTCIL and the departing member of staff e.g. emeritus status. Such arrangements must be sanctioned by the Directors.
- 3.7.1.3 Emails and file spaces of departing staff will be retained and archived.
- 3.7.1.4 The PTCIL maintains the right to reallocate access to the file store, workspaces and email of departing staff.

---

### 3.8 Policy on Disaffected Staff

*Management must respond quickly yet discreetly to indications of staff disaffection, liaising as necessary with Human Resources management and the Information Security Officer.*

### 3.9 Controls and Processes

- 3.9.1.1 Upon notification of staff resignations, dismissal or suspension, Human Resources management must consider with the appointed Information Security Officer whether the member of staff's continued access rights constitutes an unacceptable risk to the PTC Industries Limited and, if so, revoke all access rights.
- 3.9.1.2 Departing staff are to be treated sensitively, particularly with regard to the termination of their access privileges.

<b>This Policy to be Read by:</b>	
Staff	✓
Consultants	✓
Partner staff of the PTC Industries Limited	✓
Contractors of the PTCIL	✓

---

## 4 INFORMATION HANDLING POLICY (PTC-ISP2.02)

### 4.1 Purpose

4.1.1.1 This policy sets out the need to define classes of information handled by the PTCIL and the requirements on the labelling, storage, transmission, processing, and disposal of each. Requirements include confidentiality (in handling, storage and transmission), integrity (e.g., validation processes) and availability (e.g. backups). System documentation should itself be classified as sensitive information. This policy should be familiar to all staff dealing with information.

4.1.1.2 In addition to needing to meet legal compliance requirements, it is beneficial to the PTCIL to achieve and maintain good standards of information handling. This policy identifies the sub-policies, controls and processes required to catalogue, maintain and protect information held and used by the PTCIL. The PTCIL endorses a culture of proactive risk management relating to information handling, to help reduce risks including loss of data, unauthorised access, wasted resources, complaints, and damage to reputation. This policy and its sub-policies provide for:

- [inventory and classification of information assets](#)
- [information protection](#)
- [backup, use of removable media and information disposal](#)
- [exchange of information](#)
- [information in application systems](#)

### 4.2 Policy

*The PTC Industries Limited will collect, classify, store, process and distribute its information assets in accordance with the principles of confidentiality, integrity and availability, with custodianship and maintenance of [especially] confidential or highly sensitive, sensitive and personal information being documented and controlled.*

*Sensitive (or high classification of) information should only be stored, transferred or copied when the confidentiality and integrity of the data can be reasonably assured throughout the process, including those processes that involve partner organisations.*

### 4.3 Scope

4.3.1.1 This policy applies to all information assets and data collected, held, used and distributed by the PTCIL, in databases, data files, system documentation, user manuals, training materials, operational and support procedures, continuity plans and archived information.

4.3.1.2 This policy and the controls and processes contained within it applies to all of the PTCIL's employees and any of its partners who collect data on behalf of the PTCIL or receive data provided by the PTCIL.

---

## 5 INVENTORY AND CLASSIFICATION OF INFORMATION ASSETS POLICY (PTC-ISP 2.02.01)

### 5.1 Policy statements

*All information used for, or by the PTCIL , must be filed appropriately and according to its classification. An inventory will be maintained of all the PTCIL 's major information assets and the custodian of each asset will be clearly stated.*

*Within the information inventory, each information asset will be classified according to sensitivity using the PTCIL 's agreed information security classification scheme.*

*Classified information and outputs from systems handling classified data must be appropriately labelled according to the output medium.*

### 5.2 Controls and Processes

5.2.1.1 Information assets should be documented in a form that is easily maintainable e.g. a spreadsheet, containing useful information about each information asset identified including:

- Description or descriptive name.
- Location(s) of the information asset.
- Staff member with responsibility for handling the information or managing the information asset.
- The type(s) of information stored or processed.
- Origin or custodian of the information stored or processed.
- The importance of the information stored or processed.
- Any special or non-standard security measures required

5.2.1.2 This document should be reviewed regularly by the information custodian. as identified by their position. The PTCIL list of information custodians by job role is set out in the [Information Custodians](#) section.

5.2.1.3 Information assets include, but are not limited to, data in databases and data files, system documentation, user manuals, training materials, operational and support procedures, continuity plans and archived information

5.2.1.4 Information assets should be classified according to sensitivity of the data, criteria for which are set out in the [Data Classification](#) section :

- highly sensitive or confidential
- sensitive
- personal
- internal (to the PTCIL ) usage
- public domain or unclassified

- 
- 5.2.1.5 Labelling of output should reflect the most sensitive information held within it and carry an appropriate and prominent label within the output e.g., printed headers on paper output
- 5.2.1.6 Periodically reviewing and updating the list of important information assets is recommended. Performing at least a basic non-technical review of how the information involved is handled may help to identify one of these common problems that can lead to a security incident:
- Expectations differing between the information owner(s) and staff responsible for handling the information. Examples:
    - The information custodian incorrectly assumes their data is being regularly backed up.
    - The information custodian incorrectly thinks someone else is looking after the security configuration of the system where it is stored.
    - Staff handling documents do not realise they should be locked away out of sight when not in use.
  - No current member of staff is taking responsibility for the asset or information held. Examples:
    - The security of an operational computer system is no longer being adequately maintained as a result of a staff change.
    - Computer storage media or documents are abandoned.
  - The handling requirements appropriate for the information in question are unknown therefore suitability of the measures in place is in doubt. Example:
    - A file of sensitive personal information is found stored in an insecure area.
  - Scope of access to confidential data is not being controlled appropriately. Example:
    - Access to files or web pages has not been checked since being accidentally mis-configured.
  - The information is not in a location with adequately managed physical security. Example:
    - Access to the room is insufficiently well controlled or supervised.
  - Continuing to store the information has become an unnecessary risk.
    - Personal data stored unnecessarily.

## 6 INFORMATION PROTECTION (PTC-ISP2.02.02)

### 6.1 Policy Statements

*Destruction or disposal of digital storage devices must be in accordance with standards and guidance specified by the IT Security Coordinator.*

*For data held on the one drive the standard retention period will be:*

- *for staff - 4 years after the member of staff has left (7 years for key staff) with the account access and email facility being stopped the day the member of staff leaves (unless specifically authorised otherwise unto a maximum of 6 months)*

---

## 6.2 Controls and Processes

- 6.2.1.1 When permanently disposing of equipment containing storage media all sensitive data and licensed software will be irretrievably deleted before the equipment is moved off site using procedures authorised by the Information Security Officer.
- 6.2.1.2 Use of standard deletion software may be insufficient as it could be possible to use undelete software to restore the data. Destruction of data must be such that the data is totally irretrievable.
- 6.2.1.3 Damaged storage devices containing sensitive data will undergo appropriate risk assessment, to determine if the device should be destroyed, repaired or discarded. Such devices will remain the property of the organisation and only be removed from site with the permission of the information asset custodian.
- 6.2.1.4 In some circumstances, information can be recovered from damaged storage devices. In determining how a damaged storage device should be handled, the organisation must assess the risks of the security of the information being compromised. Maintenance contracts for storage equipment should include appropriate undertakings to protect the organisation's information held on devices that are replaced under the terms of such contracts. Specialist organisations can be engaged to undertake and certify the destruction of damaged devices.
- 6.2.1.5 The PTCIL advocates a clear desk and screen policy particularly when employees are absent from their normal desk and outside normal working hours. In addition, screens on which confidential or sensitive information is processed or viewed should be sited in such a way that they cannot be viewed by unauthorised persons.
- 6.2.1.6 Removal off site of the organisation's sensitive information assets, either printed or held on computer storage media, should be properly authorised by the information custodian. Prior to authorisation a risk assessment based on the criticality of the information asset should be carried out.

---

## **7 BACKUP, USE OF REMOVABLE MEDIA AND INFORMATION DISPOSAL** (PTC-ISP 2.02.03)

### **7.1 Policy Statements**

*All users of information systems must manage the creation, storage, amendment, copying and deletion or destruction of data files in a manner which safeguards and protects the confidentiality, integrity and availability of such files.*

*Day to day data storage must ensure that current information is readily available to authorised users and that archives are both created and accessible in case of need.*

*Information owners must ensure that appropriate backup and business continuity / system recovery procedures are in place. Backup of the PTCIL 's information assets and the ability to recover them is an important priority. Information custodians are responsible for ensuring that the frequency of such backup operations and the procedures for recovery meet the needs of their business.*

*Information custodians must ensure that safeguards are in place to protect the integrity of information during the recovery and restoration of data files; especially where such files may replace more recent files.*

*The archiving of information and documents must consider legal, regulatory and business issues, with liaison between technical and business staff, and in keeping with the PTCIL 's information retention policy.*

*Hard copies of sensitive or classified material must be protected and handled according to the distribution and authorisation levels specified for those documents.*

*All employees to be aware of the risk of breaching confidentiality associated with the photocopying (or other duplication) of sensitive documents. Authorisation from the document owner should be obtained where documents are classified as Confidential or above. (Copyright policy)*

### **7.2 Controls and Processes**

- 7.2.1.1 All signatures authorising access to systems or release of information must be properly authenticated.
- 7.2.1.2 All hard copy documents of a sensitive or confidential nature are to be shredded or similarly destroyed when no longer required. The information custodian must authorise or initiate this destruction.
- 7.2.1.3 Any third party used for external disposal of the PTCIL 's obsolete information-bearing equipment or hardcopy material must be able to demonstrate compliance with the PTCIL 's information security policies and also, where appropriate, provide a Service Level Agreement which documents the performance expected and the remedies available in case of non-compliance.



- 
- 7.2.1.4 Highly sensitive or critical documents should not rely upon the availability or integrity of (external) data files over which the author may have no control. Key documents and reports should normally be self contained and contain all the necessary information.

## 8 EXCHANGES OF INFORMATION (PTC-ISP 2.02.04)

### 8.1 Policy Statements

*Transmission of data through any channel should be conducted in accordance with the appropriate technical and procedural measures to ensure the security of the information at the same level throughout the transfer and for the life of the data or until it becomes unclassified.*

*Unsolicited mail should not receive serious attention until and unless the sender's identity and authenticity of the mail have been verified. (E-mail Acceptable use policy)*

*Web browsers are to be used in a secure manner by making use of built-in security features.*

### 8.2 Controls and Processes

- 8.2.1.1 Information custodians must ensure that staff are made aware of the appropriate settings for the software concerned.

## 9 INFORMATION IN APPLICATION SYSTEMS (PTC-ISP 2.02.05)

### 9.1 Policy Statements

*Email should only be used for business purposes in a way which is consistent with other forms of business communication and in accordance with the PTCIL 's email policy. The attachment of data files to an email should be done with reference to any classification of the information being sent.*

*Information received via email must be treated with care due to its inherent information security risks. File attachments from unknown sources should be scanned for possible viruses or other malicious code.*

### 9.2 Controls and Processes

- 9.2.1.1 Important transaction and processing reports should be regularly reviewed by properly trained and qualified staff.
- 9.2.1.2 Information custodians must ensure that staff are made aware of the appropriate settings for the software concerned.

## 9.3 Information Custodians

Personal Data	Information Asset Custodian
Staff records (full time and part time)	Head of HR Strategy and Personnel
Payroll records	Head of HR Strategy and Personnel
User Identity and User Directory records	Head of Information Systems, Technology
Partner Staff records	Head of Information Systems, Technology
CCTV recordings	Head of Information Systems, Technology

Non-personal data	Information Asset Custodian
Finance records (ledgers)	Head of F&A
Health & Safety statistics	Director
Asset registers	Head of F&A
Board Committee agendas and minutes	PTCIL Secretary
Supplier data	Executive Director – Resources
PTCIL Committee agendas and minutes	PTCIL Secretary
Institutional Risk Register	PTCIL Secretary

---

### 10 Data Classifications

Unclassified / Public domain	Information which is not confidential or personal and which may be disseminated within the organisation and without.
Internal	Data which is concerned with the running of the PTCIL prior to it becoming public domain.
Personal	Data which enables an individual to be identified; data which relates to or is about an identifiable individual. Such data may be processed lawfully by the PTCIL provided that staff comply with the PTCIL 's notification.
Sensitive	
Confidential / highly sensitive	

---

## 11 USER MANAGEMENT POLICY (PTC-ISP2.03)

### 11.1 Purpose

While it is imperative that users can access the systems and data they require to carry out their business it is necessary to minimise the risks of unauthorised access for both legal and business reasons. These policies enable information and system owners to establish proper access levels for systems users, and include guidelines in the event of termination of employment.

Policies with controls and processes are attached for:

- [User password management](#)
- [Access control](#), including eligibility for and review of access rights
- [Privilege management](#)

Additional controls and processes are recommended for

- [Staff leaving the PTCIL 's employment](#)
- [Contractors and visitors](#)
- [Connection to the internet](#)

### 11.2 User Password Management

#### 11.2.1 Policy

*All users shall have a unique identifier (User ID) for their personal and sole use for access to all computing services. Users will access information systems using this User ID and an associated personalised password.*

#### 11.2.2 Controls and processes

11.2.2.1 The user ID must not be used by anyone else and associated passwords shall not be shared with any other person for any reason. A user may have multiple User IDs to enable them to access separate information systems, each of which shall have separate passwords.

11.2.2.2 A password is “Confidential authentication information composed of a string of characters” used to access computer systems.

11.2.2.3 Passwords must be kept confidential. Passwords are the responsibility of individual users; they must not be used by anyone else even for a short period of time. **Giving an authorised password to someone unauthorised in order to gain access to an information system may be a disciplinary offence.**

11.2.2.4 Passwords must be at least 10 characters in length. They should be a mix of upper and lowercase, numeric and use other characters such as # @ \$ \* etc. It is good practice to lock the workstation passwords in multiple occupancy offices, and essential in public areas.

- 
- 11.2.2.5 If password confidentiality is compromised in any way, or is found to be weak or non-compliant, the password must be changed immediately.
  - 11.2.2.6 Password management procedures shall be put into place by the Information System Owner to ensure the implementation of the requirement of the Information Security Policy and to assist users in complying with best practice guidelines.
  - 11.2.2.7 All information system managers will ensure their systems enable password changes as needed. A history of six previous passwords should be used.
  - 11.2.2.8 No staff should be given access to a live business application system unless trained and made aware of their security responsibilities
  - 11.2.2.9 2 factor authentication must be enabled for all applications

### 11.3 Access Control to Information Systems

#### 11.3.1 Policy

*Procedures for the registration and deregistration of users and for managing access to all information systems shall be established by their information owners to ensure that all user's access rights match their authorisation. These procedures shall be implemented only by suitably trained and authorised staff.*

#### 11.3.2 Controls and Processes

- 11.3.2.1 Staff, contractors and partner organisations should only access systems for which they are authorised. Under the Computer Misuse Act (2001) it is a criminal offence to attempt to gain access to computer information and systems for which they have no authorisation. All contracts of employment, conditions of contract for contractors access agreements should have a non-disclosure clause, which means that in the event of accidental unauthorised access to information, the member of staff, contractor is prevented from disclosing information which they had no right to obtain.
  - 11.3.2.2 Access control standards (detailing who is allowed access to which system) must be established for all information systems at an appropriate level for each system, which minimises information security risks yet allows the PTCIL 's business activities to be carried out without undue hindrance. These details may be generic (e.g., staff, access to all of the department's systems) or explicit (e.g. Mr A Person with specific user id and email address has access to the [specific] system on Tuesdays between 11:00 and 12:30)
  - 11.3.2.3 A review period will be determined for each information system and access control standards will be reviewed regularly at those intervals by the information owner.
  - 11.3.2.4 The following are eligible to register as users:
-

- 
- any person holding a contract of employment with the PTCIL ;
  - any person employed by partner organisations where there is a contract between the partner and the PTC Industries Limited which includes access to PTC systems.
  - any person holding an honorary position recognised by the PTCIL ;
  - any person recommended by the Head of Department.

11.3.2.5 With the exception of access to material intended for the general public, use of information systems and networks shall be restricted to registered users.

### 11.4 Disciplinary Process

11.4.1.1 Where there is found to have been a deliberate attempt at unauthorised access, or to subvert the controls on access to PTCIL information systems and data, the PTCIL may initiate the appropriate disciplinary processes.

### 11.5 Management of System Privileges

#### 11.5.1 Policy

*Access to all systems must be authorised by the information system owner and a record maintained of all authorisations, including the appropriate access rights or privileges.*

#### 11.5.2 Controls and Processes

11.5.2.1 Procedures shall be established for all information systems to ensure that users' access rights are adjusted appropriately, and in a timely manner, whenever there is a change in business need, a user changes their role, or a user leaves the organisation.

11.5.2.2 Users' access rights will be reviewed at regular intervals.

### 11.6 Additional Controls and processes

#### 11.6.1 Staff leaving the PTCIL 's employment

11.6.1.1 When a member of staff leaves the employment of the PTC Industries Limited or its partner organisations, their email account record will be ended as part of the termination action.

---

11.6.1.2 Prior to an employee leaving, or to a change of duties, line managers should ensure that:

- the employee is informed in writing that he/she continues to be bound by their signed confidentiality agreement, for example during an exit interview.
- passwords are removed, disabled or changed to deny access.
- relevant departments are informed of the termination or change, and, where appropriate, the name is removed from authority and access lists.
- supervisors passwords allocated to the individual should be removed and consideration given to changing higher level passwords, to which they have access.
- reception staff and others responsible for controlling access to appropriate premises, are informed of the termination, and are instructed not to admit in future without a visitors pass.
- where appropriate, staff working out notice are assigned to non-sensitive tasks or are appropriately monitored.
- departmental and PTCIL property is returned.

11.6.1.3 Particular attention should be paid to the return of items which may allow future access. These include personal identification devices, access cards, keys, manuals and documents.

11.6.1.4 The timing of the above requirements will depend upon the reason for the termination, and the relationship with the employee. Where the termination is mutually amicable, the removal of such things as passwords and personal identification devices may be left to the last day of employment. Once an employee has left, it can be impossible to enforce security disciplines, even through legal process. Many cases of unauthorised access into systems and premises can be traced back to information given out by former employees. System managers will delete or disable all identification codes and passwords relating to members of staff who leave the employment of the PTCIL on their last working day. Prior to leaving, the employee's manager should ensure that all PC files of continuing interest to the business of the PTCIL or the PTCIL 's partners are transferred to another user before the member of staff leaves. It is good practice for an 'exit' interview to be held during which the manager notes all the systems to which the member of staff had access and informs the relevant system managers of the leaving date.

11.6.1.5 Managers must ensure that staff leaving the PTCIL 's employment do not inappropriately wipe or delete information from hard disks. If the circumstances of leaving make this likely then access rights should be restricted to avoid damage to PTCIL

---

information and equipment. In certain circumstances to be evaluated on a case by case.

### 11.6.2 Contractors and Visitors

11.6.2.1 All visitors to Departments should have official identification issued by the PTCIL and their arrival and departure times recorded. If temporary passwords need to be issued to allow access to confidential systems these need to be disabled when the visitor has left.

11.6.2.2 Visitors should not be afforded an opportunity to casually view computer screens or printed documents produced by any information system without authorisation.

11.6.2.3 There is a requirement for Information System owners to have a procedure in place for the secure control of contractors and partner organisations called upon to maintain and support computing equipment and software. The contractor may be on site or working remotely via a communications link.

### 11.6.3 Connection to the Internet

11.6.3.1 Staff (which shall include contractors and third party providers) who wish to connect their own equipment to the PTCIL 's wired network must have their 'connection' approved by PTC Industries Limited Computing Services.

<b>This Policy to be Read by:</b>	
Staff	✓
Consultants	✓
Partner staff of the PTC Industries Limited	✓
Contractors of the PTCIL	✓



---

## 12 USE OF COMPUTERS POLICY (PTC-ISP2.04)

### 12.1 Purpose

This sets out the responsibilities and required behaviour of users when accessing the PTC Industries Limited information systems or when using non-connected computers which will later be used to access PTC Industries Limited information systems. Policies, controls and processes include those for:

- [User identification](#) (see also "User Management Policy")
- [Protection against malicious and mobile code](#)
- [Back-up](#)
- [Exchange of Information](#)
- Operating system access control (see "User Management Policy")

### 12.2 User identification

#### 12.2.1 Policy

*All users shall have a unique identifier (User ID) for their personal and sole use for access to all PTC Industries Limited computing services. (See also "User Management Policy")*

*Users shall be required to follow good security practices in the selection and use of passwords*

#### 12.2.2 Controls and Processes

- 12.2.2.1 The user ID must not be used by anyone else and associated passwords shall not be shared with any other person for any reason.
- 12.2.2.2 Where possible IT systems should authenticate the User Id and password against the central directory service. In some cases it will be more secure for a system user ID to be limited to the host IT system. Arrangements for new IT systems must be agreed with the central IT service.
- 12.2.2.3 Effective password control is important to securing IT systems and data from compromise or misuse. Users are required to comply with rules published by the PTCIL computing service for construction, use and management of password.
- 12.2.2.4 A robust password policy must be in place for all IT systems. The password policy implemented must include password complexity, periodic change, account lock-out policy.

---

### 12.3 Protection Against Malicious and Mobile Code

#### 12.3.1 Policy

*Information system owners must ensure that both portable (e.g. laptops) and non-portable (e.g. desktops) equipment is suitable secured - especially when left unattended to avoid risk of interference or misuse.*

*Files downloaded from the internet that include mobile code and files attached to electronic mail must be treated with the utmost care to safeguard against malicious code and inappropriate material.*

*Employees are not permitted to load unlicensed software onto the PTC Industries Limited's PCs, laptops or workstations without expressed permission from the PTCIL IT service.*

#### 12.3.2 Controls and processes

- 12.3.2.1 Information system owners must ensure that equipment that will connect to their information systems and could be left unattended has appropriate security protection and that every reasonable precaution has been taken to ensure that unauthorised persons do not gain access to their information systems through unattended equipment.
- 12.3.2.2 All email and files downloaded from the internet to PTC Industries Limited equipment will be scanned before forwarding to users' mailboxes using a suitable, up to date antivirus product.
- 12.3.2.3 The PTCIL computing service will disconnect or block, pending investigation, any device or computer on the PTCIL network that is detected as having abnormal traffic activity. Abnormal traffic patterns can indicate the presence of a virus or malicious code.
- 12.3.2.4 All PTCIL desktop and laptops computers must have an up to date antivirus product. Any non-PTCIL computer being used to access PTCIL systems directly e.g. via VPN, must have an up-to date antivirus product.
- 12.3.2.5 A periodic review of executable software held on the PTC Industries Limited's equipment should be carried out.
- 12.3.2.6 Users who have a valid reason may request local administration rights for their PTCIL desktop or laptop. Such requests must be made using the appropriate request form available for the computing services, which should be counter signed by their supervisor or line manager. In accepting the responsibility for local administration rights, the user will also be required to accept a reduced support level (as set out on the request form).

---

### 12.4 Data Back-up Policy

#### 12.4.1 Policy

*The PTCIL data systems are backed-up regularly. Any essential information should not be stored on a laptop or on a PC's local disk.*

#### 12.4.2 Controls and processes

- 12.4.2.1 It is the responsibility of the user to ensure essential data is not solely stored on high risk media (e.g. pen drives, portable hard disks) and that back-up of essential data not on the PTCIL 's data systems takes place on a regular basis.

### 12.5 Exchange of Information

#### 12.5.1 Policy

*Electronic mail must not be used to communicate confidential or sensitive information unless appropriate measures have been taken to ensure authenticity and confidentiality is maintained , that it is correctly addressed and that the recipients are authorised to receive it.*

*Sensitive or confidential data should only be accessed from equipment in secure locations.*

*Sensitive or confidential data must never be printed on a network printer that does not have adequate protection or security.*

*Confidential and sensitive information must be secured and encrypted.*

*Utmost care must be used when transporting files on removable media (e.g. disks, CD-ROMs and USB flash drives, including devices that incorporate such facilities such as mobile phones and MP3 players) to ensure that valid files are not overwritten or incorrect or out of date information is not imported.*

#### 12.5.2 Controls and processes

- 12.5.2.1 All email and files downloaded from the internet to PTC Industries Limited equipment will be scanned before forwarding to users' mailboxes.
- 12.5.2.2 Before any data or file is imported from removable media the removable media must be scanned.
- 12.5.2.3 Confidential and sensitive data must be authorised for removal
- 12.5.2.4 Employee e-mail relating to the business of the PTCIL is subject to the Freedom of Information Act and the Data Protection Act.

## Information Security - Use of Computers Policy

PTC Industries Limited

PTC-ISP2.04

---

<b>This Policy to be Read by:</b>	
Staff	✓
Consultants	✓
Partner staff of the PTC Industries Limited	✓
Contractors of the PTCIL	✓

---

### 13 MOBILE COMPUTING POLICY (PTC-ISP2.09)

#### 13.1.1 Purpose

As modern mobile computing devices can carry information assets away from the PTCIL 's premises (and security precautions) those information assets may be subjected to increased risk e.g. loss or theft. Similarly, staff can utilise non-PTCIL equipment to access PTCIL information systems and the PTCIL cannot rely on that equipment to be properly protected. Also, the transfer of information assets from secure to non-secure equipment may compromise the PTCIL 's Information Security Policy and can have legal implications if those information assets are later disclosed from the non-PTCIL equipment.

#### 13.2 Mobile Computing

##### 13.2.1 Policy

*The Persons (employees, contractors and partner organisations staff) accessing PTC Industries Limited information systems remotely to support their business activities must be authorised to do so by the information owner*

##### 13.2.2 Controls and Processes

- 13.2.2.1 A risk assessment of the information asset being accessed must be carried out by the Head of IT together with the information asset owner especially if the information asset is being accessed using non-PTCIL equipment.
- 13.2.2.2 Sensitive or confidential data must not be copied, replicated or downloaded to mobile or remote devices without the permission of the information asset owner. Where permission is granted, adequate steps must be taken by the user to protect sensitive or confidential data whilst it exists on the mobile or remote device.
- 13.2.2.3 The PTC Industries Limited will publish guidelines for users of mobile computing equipment advising them on how these should be used to conform to the PTCIL 's Information Security policy and other good practices.
- 13.2.2.4 Loss of equipment (PTCIL or non-PTCIL ) that has been used to access the PTCIL 's information assets or that may have a copy of some or part of the PTCIL 's information assets must be reported to the Head of IT. For the avoidance of doubt, equipment in this case includes any device that can access data or hold data in a retainable form (e.g. hard disks, CD-ROMs and USB flash drives, including devices that incorporate such facilities such as mobile phones)
- 13.2.2.5 Loss of equipment must be reported to the PTCIL IT service desk where it will be recorded as a task for the Head of IT.

## Information security - Mobile Computing Policy

PTC Industries Limited

PTC-ISP2.09

---

13.2.2.6 The loss of sensitive or confidential data held on mobile or remote devices may be treated as a disciplinary issue by the PTCIL , especially where there is evidence of carelessness or failure to follow recommended procedures.

<b>This Policy to be Read by:</b>	
Staff	✓
Consultants	✓
Partner staff of the PTC Industries Limited	✓
Contractors of the PTCIL	✓

## 14 GUIDE TO INFORMATION SECURITY FOR MOBILE DEVICES

(PTC-ISP2.09a)

### 14.1.1 Background

There have been a number of stories in the press and media in recent years about personal and confidential data being lost whilst in transit, laptops left in cafes. Such losses cause public anxiety around identity theft, undermine the confidence and reputation of organisations involved and can potentially lead to litigation and severe penalties.

The problems of moving data about securely are not new but the technologies available are changing. For example, new mobile devices such as Smart phones have capabilities for information access and mass storage and present risks similar to laptop computers. The purpose of this leaflet is to give some guidance to staff and research students on recommended practice around using mobile devices to store documents, files or data.

The guidance should be read in conjunction with the PTCIL 's Information Security Policy and Data Protection Policy.

### 14.1.2 What are Mobile Devices?

For the purpose of this guidance, mobile devices are classified as any device holding data which is likely to be carried from place to place and includes:

- Laptop computers, tablets, handheld computers
- USB Pen drives
- Mobile phones (especially smart phones)
- CD/DVD ROMs
- portable hard drives

These portable devices are more prone to being lost due to the nature of their portability. Laptops, phones and hard drives are highly desirable and therefore attractive to thieves.

You must assume that in the case of loss or theft, the data stored on these devices is potentially then accessible to unauthorised people. For this reason it is essential that you are aware of the risks and take extra precautions.

### 14.1.3 Your Responsibility

Anyone who stores, or transports data and information concerned with the operation of the PTCIL , using mobile devices is deemed by the PTCIL to be responsible for the security of that data in transit and must take adequate and appropriate steps to safeguard it. If there is a loss or unauthorised disclosure of confidential, sensitive or personal data from

---

the PTCIL due to poor practice or negligence on your part, disciplinary action may be taken against you, where the ultimate sanction is dismissal from the PTCIL .

## 14.2 Required Practices with Mobile Devices

All users are required to abide by the following practices.

1. You must not store [confidential/sensitive or personal data](#) e.g. info relating to living individuals that has been provided the PTCIL , on a mobile device without prior authorisation from the data owner or custodian. You may not save copies or extracts of staff records, production related documents etc without expressed permission.
  - a. [confidential/sensitive or personal data](#) stored on a mobile device, must be [encrypted](#) using a minimum of AES 128 bit encryption with a strong key/password of at least 10 characters (see password guidelines).
  - b. Microsoft office provides a facility to encrypt word and excel files in AES 128 and provides an easy secure option for documents
  - c. AES 256 bit USB pen drives are available widely and are recommended. Some models will destroy the data after six failed attempts to crack the password. Other secure USB drives with combination locks etc have been shown to be easy to hack and should be avoided.
2. Any device that pulls e-mail from the PTCIL systems e.g. Smartphone, iPhone etc, whether owned by the PTCIL or by the individual, must be effectively protected with a system authenticated password.
3. Sensitive or confidential data should, ideally, not be passed by e-mail. Where this unavoidable, it must be encrypted.
4. Disable Wi-fi and Bluetooth when you don't need them. Not only does this make your mobile device more secure but saves on the battery use. Disabling/enabling these features varies from device to device - your lap-top and Smartphone manuals will contain the details.
5. Avoid accessing or transmitting sensitive/confidential data when connected to public and open wi-fi hot spots.
6. When using your laptop in public spaces e.g. on trains, airport lounges, you must take care over what can be seen on your screen.
7. Care should be taken to protect mobile devices from theft:
  - Lock laptops, and tablet computers in the boot when parked or travelling by car
  - Don't leave your phone in an unattended car - 50% of all mobile thefts are from vehicles



- 
- Take extra care and be vigilant in public spaces and on public transport
  - Make sure you lock the office door when leaving equipment unattended
8. All lost or stolen devices that contain confidential, sensitive or personal data belonging to the PTCIL must be reported immediately to the Head of Information Systems, Technology and Library and where appropriate (laptop, phone) to the police.
  9. Mobile phone apps represent a new risk from malware and viruses. Downloaded apps can incorporate undesirable code which open your phone up for hacking. Only buy from dedicated app stores and avoid downloading pirated apps. Be cautious and wary of software downloads and their origins.
  10. E-mail concerning PTCIL business is discoverable under freedom of information and data protection legislation. Therefore you must take care when writing e-mails, not to liable or be derogatory about individuals or organisations. Always assume that those mentioned in an e-mail are free to read the e-mail if they so wish.

### 14.3 Classification of data for security purposes –brief version

1.	Confidential/Highly sensitive	Data which may or may not be personal and which should not be disclosed except where authorised  e.g. application data, examination papers, disciplinary proceedings or investigations
2.	Sensitive	Personal data consisting of information relating to religious belief, political opinions, sexuality, physical or mental health, court action etc
3.	Personal	Data which enables individuals to be identified or relates to an identifiable individual. This can be processed lawfully by the PTCIL provided that staff comply with the PTCIL 's notification.
4.	Internal	Data which is concerned with the running of the PTCIL prior to it becoming public domain
5.	Unclassified /Public domain	Information which is not confidential or personal and which may be disseminated within the PTCIL and without.

---

## 14.4 Explanation of Encryption

Encryption is a process that converts a document, message or other computer files into an unreadable cipher that can only be decoded using a key code (often a password). The key code has to be shared with the person who needs access. AES-128 is recognised secure standard for encryption that is widely supported in office applications or for encrypting devices e.g. you can buy AES-128 pen drives. Encrypted documents could still be hacked using a computer programs that tries different passwords (a brute force attack), but the longer and more complicated the password, the longer it will take a computer to try different combinations. A brute force attack, on a complex and strong password of 10 characters (letters, numbers and symbols) will take many taking years of computing power to break. It is also critical to keep the key code confidential and restricted to only those that need to know.

<b>This Policy to be Read by:</b>	
Staff	✓
Consultants	✓
Partner staff of the PTC Industries Limited	✓
Contractors of the PTCIL	✓

## Information security – Mobile Computing

Guidance note on Mobile Devices

PTC-ISP2.09a

### 15 Dissemination and Access to the Policy

This Policy set will be available on the PTCIL website (staff: information security)

Information Security Policy set	
Policy Ref:	
Version Number	1.2
Version date	December 2021
Name of Developer/Reviewer	Azhar M Khan / Steven Wadsworth
Policy Owner (PTC -AMTC & MEHASANA PLANT)	Head of Information Systems, Technology
Person responsible for implementing (postholder)	Head of Information Systems, Technology All Staff, Consultants, Partners and Contractors to adopt.
Approving Committee/Board	Corporate Management Group
Date Approved	
Effective from	
Dissemination method (e.g. website)	Website
Reviewing Committee	IT Committee
Document History (e.g. rationale for and dates of previous amendments)	Compilation of IS policies into a single document January 2012. Amendments February 2012

POLICY OWNER		HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT	
SIGNATURES			
ASST. MANAGER, HR	HR HEAD	FINANCE HEAD	DIRECTOR, BUSINESS SERVICES
-SD-	-SD-	-SD-	-SD-
PREPARED BY	APPROVED BY	APPROVED BY	NOTIFIED BY