

**PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS BOARD FOR PATENT AND
TRADE MARKS ATTORNEYS
2000 EXAMINATIONS**

TOPIC GROUP B – PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

Duration: 1 hour. No reading time

Instructions for candidates

- **Write your candidate number on the front cover of each examination book**
- **Candidates may take into the examination room any written material or books**
- **Examination comprises one question only.**

"The guidance available to the intellectual property professions on the standards of ethics which they must meet is unclear and unsatisfactory. The Code of Ethics is old fashioned and too general. The meaning of the disciplinary provisions in the Regulations is unclear and the procedures unworkable. The decision of the Disciplinary Tribunal in the Nuttall case was wrong in finding that the circumstances gave rise to a conflict of interest and wrong again in finding that, despite a conflict, there was no unsatisfactory conduct. Finally, the recent decision of the Supreme Court of Victoria in the World Medical Manufacturing Corporation case makes it too easy for the professions to continue acting where there may be a conflict."

Discuss

END OF EXAMINATION