

Research Integrity Statement

TWI has a reputation as a leading, independent Research and Technology Organization in the field of materials manufacture and integrity, and appreciates the responsibilities this brings. We are committed to cultivating and enhancing our reputation for the benefit of our people, Industrial Members and partners. To achieve this, we aim to uphold the highest standards of rigour and integrity across all research activities, guided by ethical and legal frameworks, with supporting processes.

We have established a Research Integrity and Ethics (RIE) panel, involving staff from across disciplines, including TWI Technology Fellows and overseen by our Research Director, to actively review and update our research policies and procedures. This ensures alignment and compliance with our objective of fostering a research environment based on good governance, best practice and robust support for researcher development. At the core of this continuous improvement lies our Code of Conduct, introduced in 2023, which formalises the role of integrity in our corporate culture. This code emphasizes honesty, technical excellence, transparency, open communication, care, respect, and accountability. We have disciplinary processes in place in case of research misconduct, drawing insights from the Research Integrity and Ethics panel as needed.

This panel is responsible for our processes related to research proposals, reports, and publications. Furthermore, it mentors less experienced colleagues, providing essential support and guidance, focussing on robust processes and comprehensive training, to ensure a safe and equitable research environment for all. Our aspiration to the highest levels of integrity underpins our expectation that research is thoroughly planned, managed and reported, and begins with our commitment to acknowledgment of all research contributors—a non-negotiable principle. We are committed to disseminating research results for the benefit of all our stakeholders and the public.

Our ambition extends beyond internal boundaries and we engage with the wider research community, sharing best practices and staying abreast of the latest approaches that uphold the highest standards of integrity and ethics. As we continuously improve our corporate policies and procedures, we do so with a continual focus on stakeholder benefits. Our RIE panel have a clear ambition and plans to ensure we maintain an environment where high-impact research thrives on integrity.

Paul Woollin

Research Director, March 2024