

WHAT WE WILL NOT DO

What we will not do

Every supplier says they are ethical. It means nothing unless it costs them something. This document sets out what we refuse to do, why we refuse it, and what that refusal costs us.

Version 1.0 · Date 20 September 2026 · Status Approved for release — 12 October 2026 · For Clients and their advisers

Why this matters to you

If you engage us, some of your operations pass through our systems. You are entitled to know what those systems will decline to be part of — before you find out from a regulator, or a journalist.

The refusals

We will not	What that means in practice
Build or support military or targeting systems	No kinetic applications, no weapons, no autonomous targeting. Not for any price, and not as a subcontractor.
Build covert surveillance	No monitoring of people who have not been told they are being monitored.
Build deceptive interfaces	No dark patterns, no interfaces designed to trick someone into a decision against their interest.
Exploit the people our work touches	No system whose value depends on someone being misled, pressured or made miserable.
Help anyone evade scrutiny	No work whose purpose is to avoid a regulator, an auditor or a court.
Automate decisions about people's rights	We will not put an automated system in a position to decide someone's access to care, credit, employment or benefits.

What this costs us

This is not free, and we would rather say so than pretend otherwise.

We turn down work that other suppliers in this space would take.

We disqualify ourselves from some of the largest budgets available to AI suppliers — defence and public-sector surveillance among them.

We are a young company with no revenue. Refusing work is expensive at this stage, and we do it anyway.

If a refusal ever changes, it will not happen quietly. The governing charter is version-controlled, and changes to it are visible in the company's records.

How the refusals are enforced

A policy that exists only in a document is not a control. Ours is enforced at three levels:

In the governing charter — the refusals are a condition the software operates under, not a preference.

In the Two-Key protocol — the software cannot take on an engagement, sign anything or send anything outside our systems without the director's explicit confirmation. There is no path by which a request becomes work without a person agreeing to it.

In the audit record — what was considered and what was declined is recorded, in a tamper-evident log.

More on those mechanisms is in How our AI is governed.

What we will do

It is easy to read a list of refusals as a list of things we are frightened of. It is not. We will happily:

recover data from a system nobody else can read;

replace manual data entry with something that does not make mistakes;

tell you that a project is not worth doing, and why;

be audited, checked and asked difficult questions.

If you think we have got this wrong

Tell us. If you believe we have taken on, or declined, work in a way that conflicts with what is written here, we want to hear it: info@inferencesystems.co.uk.

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