

**CHARTERED SOCIETY of DESIGNERS  
THE TEXT OF THE ROYAL CHARTER GRANTED TO THE SOCIETY  
19 May 1976**

**ELIZABETH THE SECOND by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom  
of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of Our other Realms and  
Territories Queen, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith:**

**TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETING!**

WHEREAS the Society of Industrial Artists and Designers Limited (hereinafter referred to as "the existing Society") has by an humble Petition prayed that We would be graciously pleased to grant to it a Charter of Incorporation:

AND WHEREAS We having taken the said Petition into Our Royal Consideration are minded to accede thereto:

NOW, THEREFORE KNOW YE that We, by virtue of Our Prerogative Royal and of all other powers enabling Us so to do, have of Our especial grace, certain knowledge and mere motion, granted and declared and do hereby for Us, Our Heirs and Successors, grant and declare as follows:

1. The persons now members of the existing Society and all such persons as may hereafter become members of the Body Corporate hereby constituted shall for ever hereafter be one Body Corporate and Politic by name of "The Chartered Society Designers" (hereinafter referred to as "the Society") and by the same name shall have perpetual succession and a Common Seal with power to break, alter and make anew the said Seal from time to time at their will and pleasure and by the same name shall have power to do all other matters and things incidental or appertaining to a Body Corporate.
2. The objects for which the Society is hereby constituted are:
  - (i) For the benefit of the community to promote and advance a concern for sound principles of design in all those spheres to which design considerations may apply;
  - (ii) to further the practice of industrial design;
  - (iii) to secure for the benefit of industry, commerce and the public a defined and recognised profession of persons well qualified to be designers;
  - (iv) to regulate and control for the public benefit all matters of professional practice and conduct concerning the members of the Society; and
  - (v) to encourage and foster the study of design techniques.

3. For the purpose of attaining the said objects, but not further or otherwise, the Society may exercise the following powers:-
- (a) To improve and raise the technical and general knowledge of persons engaged in the said profession or any employment in connection therewith, and to further the education of persons intending to become members of the said profession, and for this purpose to provide for the delivery of lectures and the holding of classes and to test by examination or otherwise the competence of such persons and to award certificates and distinctions and to institute and establish scholarships, grants, rewards and other benefactions.
  - (b) To examine carefully the abilities and qualifications of candidates for entry to the Society and to elect as members of the Society those who are considered to have reached the requisite standards.
  - (c) To initiate, hold, direct, manage and take part in exhibitions, shows, displays, conferences, congresses, lectures, meetings and other gatherings for the purpose of advancing any of the objects of the Society and to raise special funds for these and any other purposes by voluntary contributions.
  - (d) To obtain, collect and receive money and funds by way of contributions, donations, subscriptions, legacies, grants or other lawful methods (including appeals to the public) and to accept and receive gifts of property of any description (whether subject to any special trusts or not) for or towards the objects and administrative expenses of the Society or any of them.
  - (e) To prepare, edit, print, publish, issue, acquire and circulate books, papers, periodicals, brochures, circulars and other literary undertakings treating of or bearing on industrial art or design or upon matters of interest to artists or designers and to establish, form and maintain collections, libraries and collections of literature, statistics, scientific data and other information relating thereto and to translate, compile, collect, publish, lend and sell and endeavour to secure or contribute to the translation, compilation, collection and publication by parliaments, governments, authorities and other bodies of persons of any such literature, statistics and information and to disseminate the same by any means.
  - (f) To subscribe to, affiliate or co-operate with any other body, whether incorporated or not, whose objects are similar to those of the Society and to procure from and communicate to such body any information in connection with any of the objects of the Society.
  - (g) To acquire and accept from the existing Society all the real and personal property, assets and liabilities of the said Society and such property as may be held in trust for the same.
  - (h) To acquire and hold any lands, tenements or hereditaments or any interest in any lands, tenements or hereditaments whatsoever within Our United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and may from time to time

(subject to such consents as are by law required) grant, demise, alienate or otherwise dispose of the same or any part thereof.

- (i) To undertake and execute any trusts which may be considered requisite for the attainment of the said objects.
- (j) To borrow or raise any money which may be considered requisite for the attainment of the said objects upon such terms as may be considered expedient and in particular by the issue of bonds, debentures, bills of exchange, promissory notes or other obligations or securities of the Society or by mortgage or charge of all or any property of the Society.
- (k) To establish and maintain superannuation schemes for the employees of the Society or any of them, to grant gratuities, pensions and or allowances and to make payments to any such employee or to the widow and family or any dependent of such employee and to enter into agreements with such employee and or with any insurance or other company or association for securing to any such employee, widow, family or dependent such gratuities, pensions, allowances and or payments.
- (l) To do all such charitable acts as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objects or powers or any of them.

4. The Society shall not carry on any trade or business or engage in any transactions with a view to the pecuniary gain or profit of the members thereof. No member shall as such have personal claim on any property of the Society and no part of the income or property of the Society shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividend or bonus or otherwise howsoever by way of profit to the members of the Society; Provided that nothing herein contained shall prevent the payment in good faith of remuneration to any Officers or servants of the Society or to any members thereof in return for services rendered to the Society or the payment in good faith of expenses incurred by any such persons or the payment of interest at a rate not exceeding one per centum above the Bank of England minimum lending rate upon money borrowed from any member of the Society or any payment becoming due under or by virtue of any indemnity given by the Society to any staff of the Society or to any member thereof in accordance with the Bye-laws.

5. Unless and until the Bye-Laws shall otherwise provide there shall be six classes of members of the Society termed respectively Honorary Fellows, Fellows, Members, Licentiates, Associates and Diploma Members (in this Our Charter collectively referred to as "members"). The Honorary Fellows, Fellows and Members shall be known as Corporate Members and the Licentiates, Associates and Diploma Members shall be known as Noncorporate Members. The present members of the existing Society who by virtue of this Our Charter become members of the Society shall be deemed to have entered the Society as members of the same class as that to which they belonged in the existing Society and their names shall be entered on the Register as such.

6. The Honorary Fellows attached to the existing Society shall be deemed hereafter to be attached similarly to the Society and their names shall be entered on the list of Honorary Fellows to be kept by the Secretary as provided by the Bye-Laws.
7. The Council shall alone have power to decide conclusively whether each person proposed for or seeking admission to any of the said classes for the time being of membership of the Society has or has not satisfied the conditions of election specified in the Bye-Laws.
8. The rights and privileges of every member shall be personal to himself and shall not be transferable or transmissible by his own act, by operation of law, or otherwise.
9. The privileges, advantages and obligations, the qualifications for membership, the method and terms of election or admission, resignation, suspension, compulsory resignation, expulsion and disqualification, and the entrance fees and subscriptions of members of the Society shall be such as the Bye-Laws shall prescribe.
10. The nature, form and conduct of and all formalities attendant upon examinations held by the Society shall be such as the Bye-Laws shall prescribe.
11. The meetings of the Society shall be of such classes and shall be held for such purposes as may from time to time be prescribed by the Bye-Laws, and the rights of the several classes of members of the Society of attending and voting at the said meetings shall be such or subject to such restrictions as may be so prescribed.
12. Notices required to be given by this Our Charter or by the Bye-Laws shall be given in the manner and form prescribed by the Bye-Laws.
13. Unless and until the Bye-Laws shall otherwise provide there shall be the following Officers of the Society, namely a President, a President Elect, an Immediate Past President, not more than nine Vice-Presidents, a Senior Honorary Treasurer, a Junior Honorary Treasurer and an Honorary Secretary.
14. The first President, President Elect, Immediate Past President, Vice-Presidents, Senior Honorary Treasurer, Junior Honorary Treasurer, and Honorary Secretary shall be the persons holding such offices in the existing Society at the date of this Our Charter.

15. The conditions governing the election and re-election and the functions, tenure and term of and qualifications for Office of the Officers of the Society shall be such as the Bye-Laws may prescribe.

16. The terms of appointment and removal and the powers and duties, remuneration and terms of service of the employees of the Society shall (subject to any express provision in this behalf in the Bye-Laws) be determined by the Council.

17. There shall be a Council of the Society (herein referred to as "the Council") consisting of such number of members with such qualifications and to be elected or constituted as such members of the Council in such manner and to hold Office for such period and on such terms as to re-election and otherwise as the Bye-Laws shall direct.

18. The membership of the Council shall consist of the Officers of the Society and such other members of the Society as shall be elected to the Council. The first members of the Council shall be the members of the Council of the existing Society at the date of this Our Charter.

19. The first President, President Elect, Immediate Past President, Vice-Presidents, Honorary Treasurers and Honorary Secretary and other members of the Council shall respectively hold Office as such until the due election and coming into Office of their successors in accordance with the Bye-Laws but shall be respectively eligible subject to such Bye-Laws for re-election if otherwise qualified.

20. The government, control and management of the affairs and business of the Society shall be vested in the Council, who, in addition to the powers and authorities by this Our Charter or otherwise expressly conferred on it may exercise all such powers and do all such acts and things as may be exercised or done by the Society as are not hereby or by the Bye-Laws expressly required to be exercised or done by the Society in General Meeting, but no new Bye-Law shall invalidate any prior act of the Council which would have been valid if the same had not been made, and the Council may, subject as provided in the Bye-Laws, make such regulations for the conduct of the affairs and business of the Society as the Council shall from time to time think fit.

21. The Bye-Laws shall regulate and prescribe all matters hereby left to be regulated and prescribed by the Bye-Laws and all other matters which consistently with this Our Charter may be made the subject of Bye-Laws. The first Bye-Laws shall be those contained in the Schedule hereto. The Society may alter, add to or revoke the Bye-Laws by resolution passed by not less than two-thirds of the Corporate Members of the Society and any Noncorporate Members of the Society entitled to attend and vote at General Meetings present in person or by proxy and voting at any General Meeting on the recommendation of the Council or on the motion of any

member; Provided that notice of such motion stating the alteration, addition, or revocation of the Bye-Laws proposed has been sent to the Secretary not less than six weeks preceding the date of such General Meeting and such recommendation or notice of motion shall be printed in the Agenda for the ensuing General Meeting but so that no such alteration, addition or revocation shall be repugnant to the provisions of this Our Charter or shall take effect until the same has been allowed by the Lords of Our Most Honourable Privy Council of which allowance a certificate under the hand of the Clerk of Our said Privy Council shall be conclusive evidence.

22. The Society may by resolution passed by not less than three-quarters of the Corporate Members of the Society and any Noncorporate Members of the Society entitled to attend and vote at General Meetings present in person or by proxy and voting at a General Meeting of the Society alter, amend or add to this Our Charter and such alterations, amendments or additions shall when allowed by Us, Our Heirs or Successors in Council become effectual so that this Our Charter shall thenceforth continue to operate as if it had originally been granted and made accordingly. This provision shall apply to this Our Charter as altered, amended or added to in the manner aforesaid.

23. The Council may with the sanction of the majority of the Corporate Members of the Society and any Noncorporate Members of the Society entitled to attend and vote at General Meetings present in person or by proxy and voting at a General Meeting of the Society called for the purpose and confirmed by a majority of the Corporate Members of the Society and any Noncorporate Members of the Society entitled to attend and vote at General Meetings present in person or by proxy and voting at a subsequent General Meeting held not less than one month nor more than four months after the first meeting surrender this Our Charter subject to the sanction of Us, Our Heirs or Successors in Council and upon such terms as We or They may consider fit and wind up or otherwise deal with the affairs of the Society in such manner as shall be directed by such General Meetings or in default of such direction as the Council shall think expedient having due regard to the liabilities of the Society for the time being. If on the winding up or dissolution of the Society there shall remain after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities any property whatsoever the same shall not be paid or distributed amongst the members of the Society or any of them but shall (subject to any special trusts affecting the same) be given and transferred to some association or associations having objects similar to the objects of the Society and which shall prohibit the distribution of its or their property among its or their members to an extent at least as great as is imposed on the Society under Article 4 hereof to be determined by the Corporate Members of the Society and any Noncorporate Members of the Society entitled to attend and vote at General Meetings present in person or by proxy and voting at a General Meeting at or before the time of dissolution.

And We do hereby for Us, Our Heirs and Successors, grant and declare that these Our Letters or the enrolment or exemplification thereof shall be in all things good, firm, valid and effectual according to the true intent and meaning of the same and shall be taken, construed, and adjudged in all Our Courts of Record or elsewhere in the most favourable and beneficial sense and for the best advantage of the Society, any misrecital, nonrecital, omission, defect, imperfection, matter or thing whatsoever notwithstanding.

IN WITNESS whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent.

WITNESS Ourselves at Westminster the .... day of .... in the .... year of Our Reign.

**BY WARRANT UNDER THE QUEEN'S SIGN MANUAL**



(The original Charter is signed 19 May 1976 and is held in the Society's offices)