Trade Finance Fraud and AML Compliance Strategies Training Course

Ref: #CC9376

:Course Introduction / Overview

In the intricate and fast-paced world of international trade, the lines between customs fraud and sophisticated financial crimes like money laundering are increasingly blurred. This convergence presents a significant threat to global economic stability and security. The Trade Finance Fraud and AML Compliance Strategies Training Course offered by BIG BEN Training Center is meticulously designed to address this critical challenge. This program provides a comprehensive framework for understanding, detecting, and mitigating the complex risks associated with Trade-Based Money Laundering (TBML) and customs violations. Drawing on insights from leading experts like Dr. Nikos Passas, a renowned authority on financial crime, the course delves into the practical realities of illicit trade activities. We will explore concepts discussed in seminal works such as "Trade-Based Money Laundering: The Next Frontier in International Money Laundering Enforcement" by John A. Cassara, translating theoretical knowledge into actionable strategies. Participants will gain a deep understanding of the typologies, red flags, and investigative techniques necessary to protect their organizations from financial and reputational damage. BIG BEN Training Center is committed to equipping professionals with the advanced skills needed to navigate the evolving regulatory landscape and build resilient compliance programs that can withstand the scrutiny of global .enforcement agencies

:Target Audience / This training course is suitable for

- .Customs Officers and Border Control Agents
- .Anti-Money Laundering (AML) and Compliance Officers
- .Trade Finance Professionals and Relationship Managers
- .Risk Management Specialists
- .Internal and External Auditors
- .Financial Crime Investigators
- .Logistics and Supply Chain Managers
- .Legal and Regulatory Affairs Professionals
- .Export and Import Managers
- .Corporate Security and Fraud Prevention Teams

:Target Sectors and Industries

- .Banking and Financial Services
- .Logistics, Shipping, and Freight Forwarding
- .Import and Export Companies
- .Manufacturing and Global Sourcing
- .Commodities Trading
- .Insurance and Underwriting
- .Legal and Consulting Firms

- Governmental bodies including Customs Authorities, Financial Intelligence Units (FIUs), and Law .Enforcement Agencies

:Target Organizations Departments

- .Compliance and Financial Crime Prevention
- .Trade Finance and Operations
- .Risk Management and Internal Control
- .Internal Audit
- .Legal and Corporate Governance
- .Logistics and Supply Chain Management
- .Procurement and Sourcing
- .Customs and Excise Liaison

:Course Offerings

:By the end of this course, the participants will have able to

- .Identify the primary typologies of customs fraud, including valuation, classification, and origin fraud
- Analyze the mechanisms of Trade-Based Money Laundering (TBML) such as over/under-invoicing and .phantom shipments
- .Recognize the critical red flags and risk indicators in trade documentation and transaction patterns
- .Conduct enhanced due diligence (EDD) on high-risk trade finance customers and transactions
- Understand the international regulatory framework, including FATF recommendations and Wolfsberg .Group Principles
- .Apply data analytics techniques to detect anomalies and potential illicit activities in trade data
- Develop and implement a robust, risk-based AML and anti-fraud compliance program for trade .operations
- .Effectively manage and report suspicious activities to the relevant authorities
- .Assess the impact of emerging technologies like AI and blockchain on trade finance security
- .Navigate the complexities of sanctions screening and dual-use goods controls in international trade

:Course Methodology

The training methodology for this course is designed to be highly interactive, practical, and engaging, ensuring that participants can immediately apply their learning in a professional context. At BIG BEN Training Center, we believe in a blended learning approach that moves beyond traditional lectures. The program is built around real-world case studies of customs fraud and TBML schemes, allowing participants to dissect complex scenarios and understand the practical application of detection techniques. Interactive group discussions and workshops will facilitate peer-to-peer learning and the sharing of diverse industry experiences. Participants will engage in hands-on exercises, including the analysis of trade documents like bills of lading, commercial invoices, and letters of credit to identify discrepancies and red flags. Expert-led sessions will provide deep insights into the latest regulatory trends and enforcement actions. Role-playing scenarios will simulate investigations and interviews, building confidence and practical skills. Continuous feedback from the instructor and a collaborative environment are central to our approach, ensuring a comprehensive and impactful learning experience that fosters critical thinking and problem-.solving abilities

:(Course Agenda (Course Units

Unit One Foundations of Customs Fraud and Financial Crime

- .Introduction to the Global Trade Environment
- .Defining Customs Fraud and its Economic Impact
- .Understanding Trade-Based Money Laundering (TBML) and its Link to Customs Violations
- .The International Regulatory Landscape: FATF, WTO, and WCO Roles
- .Key Principles of the Wolfsberg Group on Trade Finance
- .The Risk-Based Approach to Trade Finance Compliance
- .Distinguishing Between Tax Evasion, Fraud, and Money Laundering

Unit Two Common Schemes in Customs Fraud

- .Customs Valuation Fraud: Over and Under-Invoicing Techniques
- .Misclassification of Goods and Abuse of HS Codes
- .Country of Origin Fraud and Circumvention of Tariffs and Quotas
- .Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Infringement and Counterfeiting
- .Smuggling and Concealment Methods
- .Understanding Free Trade Zone (FTZ) Vulnerabilities
- .Diversion Schemes and Transit Fraud

Unit Three Advanced Trade-Based Money Laundering (TBML) Typologies

- .Complex Over and Under-Invoicing Schemes
- .Multiple Invoicing for the Same Shipment
- .Phantom Shipments and Fictitious Trade
- .Black Market Peso Exchange (BMPE) and its Trade Mechanisms
- .The Role of Shell Companies and Front Companies in TBML
- .Commingling of Licit and Illicit Goods
- .Abuse of Letters of Credit (LCs) and other Trade Finance Instruments

Unit Four Detection, Investigation, and Due Diligence

- .Identifying Red Flags in Trade Transactions and Documentation
- .Techniques for Analyzing Bills of Lading, Invoices, and Packing Lists
- .Conducting Customer Due Diligence (CDD) and Enhanced Due Diligence (EDD) in a Trade Context
- .Beneficial Ownership Identification in Complex Corporate Structures
- .Utilizing Data Analytics and Technology for Anomaly Detection
- .(Strategic Intelligence Gathering and Open-Source Intelligence (OSINT
- .Filing Effective Suspicious Activity Reports (SARs) for Trade-Related Activities

Unit Five Compliance Program Management and Future Trends

- .Building an Effective AML and Anti-Fraud Compliance Framework for Trade
- .The Role of Sanctions Screening and Export Controls

- .Managing Risks Associated with Dual-Use Goods and Proliferation Financing
- .International Cooperation and Information Sharing between Agencies
- .The Impact of Digitalization, Blockchain, and Machine Learning in Trade Compliance
- .Preparing for Regulatory Audits and Examinations
- Developing a Culture of Compliance and Ethical Conduct within the Organization

:FAQ

?Qualifications required for registering to this course

.There are no requirements

How long is each daily session, and what is the total number of training hours for ?the course

This training course spans five days, with daily sessions ranging between 4 to 5 hours, including breaks and .interactive activities, bringing the total duration to 20 - 25 training hours

:Something to think about

Considering the rapid digitization of trade finance, how might emerging technologies like AI and blockchain simultaneously create new vulnerabilities for customs fraud while also offering unprecedented tools for its ?detection

What unique qualities does this course offer compared to other ?courses

This course distinguishes itself through its unique, integrated approach that holistically addresses the convergence of customs fraud and trade-based money laundering, a nexus often treated separately in other training programs. Rather than providing a siloed view, we explore how customs violations are frequently a predicate offense or a direct mechanism for laundering illicit funds, providing participants with a more complete and realistic understanding of the risk landscape. The curriculum is deeply rooted in practical application, moving beyond theoretical frameworks to immerse participants in complex, real-world case studies drawn from recent enforcement actions and industry challenges. This hands-on methodology ensures that learning is not just academic but directly transferable to the participant's professional role. Furthermore, the course is distinctly forward-looking, dedicating significant attention to the impact of emerging technologies like AI and blockchain on both illicit schemes and compliance controls. We equip professionals not only with the skills to manage current threats but also with the strategic foresight to anticipate and adapt to the future evolution of financial crime in .global trade, fostering a proactive rather than a reactive compliance mindset