Advanced Airport Access Control and Perimeter Security Training Course



14 - 18 Dec 2026

Cape town

4600 € (Per Person)

Ref: #AIR2321_269808

Course Introduction / Overview:

In an era of evolving global threats, the security of aviation infrastructure is paramount to national and international stability. This course provides a comprehensive examination of the critical components of airport security: access control and perimeter defense. Moving beyond theoretical concepts, this program delves into the practical application of advanced security protocols and technologies essential for protecting airports from a wide range of modern threats. Drawing upon principles discussed by leading experts like Philip Baum, a renowned commentator on aviation security, the curriculum integrates international standards with real-world operational challenges. Participants will explore the intricate layers of airport security, from credentialing and biometric systems to sophisticated perimeter intrusion detection systems (PIDS). This training, offered by BIG BEN Training Center, is designed to equip security professionals with the strategic knowledge and tactical skills needed to design, implement, and manage a robust, multi-layered security framework. The course emphasizes a proactive approach, focusing on risk assessment, vulnerability analysis, and the integration of human factors with cutting-edge technology to create a resilient security posture for any aviation environment.

Target Audience / This training course is suitable for:

- Airport Security Managers and Directors.
- Aviation Security Officers and Supervisors.
- Airport Operations Managers.
- Law Enforcement and Border Control Personnel assigned to airports.
- Security Consultants specializing in aviation.
- Airline Security Staff.
- Civil Aviation Authority Officials.
- Security Systems Integrators and Designers.
- Corporate Security Professionals with aviation responsibilities.
- Emergency Response and Crisis Management Teams.

Target Sectors and Industries:

- Aviation and Airport Operations.
- National Security and Law Enforcement Agencies.
- Government and Regulatory Bodies.
- Private Security Service Providers.
- Transportation and Logistics.
- Critical Infrastructure Protection.
- Security Technology and Manufacturing.
- International Travel and Tourism.

Target Organizations Departments:

- Security and Asset Protection.
- Operations and Airside Management.
- Compliance and Regulatory Affairs.
- Risk Management and Auditing.
- Facilities and Infrastructure Management.
- Information Technology and Cybersecurity.
- Emergency Planning and Response.
- Human Resources and Vetting.

Course Offerings:

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

- Develop a comprehensive airport security plan based on risk assessment methodologies.
- Evaluate and select appropriate access control technologies, including biometrics and smart cards.
- Design and manage a multi-layered perimeter security system using modern detection technologies.
- Implement ICAO Annex 17 and relevant national regulatory standards for airport security.
- Conduct thorough security audits and vulnerability assessments of airport facilities.
- Formulate effective incident response protocols for security breaches and emergencies.
- Analyze and mitigate insider threats within the airport environment.
- Integrate physical security systems with cybersecurity measures for holistic protection.

Course Methodology:

The training methodology at BIG BEN Training Center is designed to be immersive, interactive, and directly applicable to the professional environment of the participants. This course moves beyond traditional lectures to foster a dynamic learning atmosphere where practical skills are built upon a strong theoretical foundation. Sessions will incorporate detailed case studies of significant international airport security incidents, allowing participants to analyze failures and successes in a structured setting. Group workshops and syndicate exercises will challenge teams to design security layouts, conduct mock vulnerability assessments, and develop incident response plans for realistic scenarios. Interactive discussions, facilitated by experienced instructors, will encourage the sharing of diverse perspectives and operational experiences. The program also includes demonstrations of security technologies and simulations that replicate high-pressure decision-making situations. Continuous feedback and collaborative problem-solving are core components, ensuring that participants leave not only with new knowledge but also with the confidence to apply it effectively in their own operational contexts.

Course Agenda (Course Units):

Unit One: Foundations of Airport Security and Regulatory Frameworks

- Introduction to international aviation security.
- Understanding ICAO Annex 17 and other key regulations.
- The modern threat landscape for airports.
- Principles of layered security and defense-in-depth.
- Conducting airport security risk and vulnerability assessments.
- The role of security culture in aviation.
- Distinguishing between landside, airside, and sterile areas.

Unit Two: Advanced Airport Access Control Systems

- Fundamentals of physical access control systems (PACS).
- Credentialing, badging, and identity management.
- Biometric technologies in airport environments.
- Securing access points: doors, gates, and portals.
- Vehicle access control and screening procedures.
- Managing access for employees, contractors, and visitors.
- Insider threat mitigation through access control policies.

Unit three: Perimeter Security Design and Technology

- Designing an effective airport perimeter defense.
- Physical barriers: fencing, walls, and bollards.
- Perimeter Intrusion Detection Systems (PIDS).
- Advanced video surveillance and analytics for large areas.
- The role of radar and thermal imaging in perimeter security.
- Counter-UAS (drone) detection and mitigation strategies.
- Integrating lighting with perimeter security systems.

Unit Four: Security Operations and Incident Management

- Establishing and managing an Airport Security Operations Center (SOC).
- Developing standard operating procedures (SOPs) for security personnel.
- Effective patrol and surveillance strategies.
- Alarm assessment and response protocols.
- Coordinating with law enforcement and emergency services.
- Crisis management and communication during security incidents.
- Post-incident investigation and reporting.

Unit Five: Auditing, Compliance, and the Future of Airport Security

- Techniques for conducting airport security audits and inspections.
- Quality control and continuous improvement in security operations.
- The convergence of physical and cybersecurity in airports.
- Emerging technologies: AI, machine learning, and big data in security.
- Future trends in airport access control and perimeter protection.
- Developing a forward-looking airport security strategy.
- Final project: Designing a comprehensive security plan for a model airport.

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:

As airports become more technologically integrated, how does the convergence of physical and cybersecurity create new, complex vulnerabilities in access control and perimeter defense?

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

This course distinguishes itself by adopting a holistic and forward-looking perspective on airport security, moving beyond mere compliance with regulations. While many programs focus on individual technologies or procedures, this curriculum emphasizes the strategic integration of all security components—people, processes, and technology—into a single, resilient ecosystem. Its unique strength lies in the deep dive into the convergence of physical and cybersecurity, a critical and often overlooked aspect of modern airport protection. Participants will not just learn about different PIDS or access control systems; they will learn how to analyze their vulnerabilities to cyber-attack and integrate them into a secure network. The course content is heavily informed by contemporary case studies, ensuring that the lessons are relevant and grounded in the realities of today's threat environment. Furthermore, the final unit on future trends and emerging technologies equips participants with the foresight needed to build security programs that are not only effective today but are also adaptable to the challenges of tomorrow, ensuring a lasting and strategic impact on their organizations.