Advanced Power System Stability and Reliability Training Course



14 - 18 Dec 2026

Cape town

4600 € (Per Person)

Ref: #ERE2244_274020

Course Introduction / Overview:

The modern electric power grid is undergoing an unprecedented transformation, driven by the integration of renewable energy sources, the decentralization of generation, and the increasing complexity of control systems. This evolution presents significant challenges to maintaining system stability and reliability, the cornerstones of a secure power supply. This intensive training course provides a comprehensive exploration of the principles and practices essential for managing these challenges effectively. Drawing upon foundational concepts detailed by leading experts like Prabha Kundur in his seminal work, "Power System Stability and Control," this program moves beyond theory to address real-world applications. Participants will delve into the dynamics of power systems, learning to analyze and mitigate various forms of instability, from transient rotor angle deviations to long-term voltage collapse. At BIG BEN Training Center, we have designed this course to equip engineers and operators with the advanced analytical skills and strategic foresight needed to ensure grid resilience, prevent widespread blackouts, and manage the intricate interplay of modern grid technologies. This course is your gateway to mastering the critical competencies required for navigating the future of power system operations.

Target Audience / This training course is suitable for:

- Electrical Engineers in the power sector.
- Power System Operators and Dispatchers.
- Grid Planning and Analysis Engineers.
- Substation and Protection Engineers.
- Renewable Energy Integration Specialists.
- Transmission and Distribution Engineers.
- Asset Management Professionals in utilities.
- Regulatory and Compliance Officers.
- Consultants in the energy industry.
- Researchers and Academics in power systems.

Target Sectors and Industries:

- Electric Utility Companies (Generation, Transmission, and Distribution).
- Independent System Operators (ISOs) and Regional Transmission Organizations (RTOs).
- Renewable Energy Development Companies (Wind, Solar, and Storage).
- Large-scale Industrial Consumers with critical power needs.
- Engineering, Procurement, and Construction (EPC) firms.
- Governmental bodies and energy regulatory agencies.
- Technology providers for grid control and monitoring systems.
- Financial institutions investing in energy infrastructure.

Target Organizations Departments:

- System Operations and Control Center.
- Grid Planning and Development.
- Engineering and Design.
- Protection and Control.
- Asset Management and Maintenance.
- Regulatory Affairs and Compliance.
- Research and Development.
- Substation Engineering.
- Market Operations.

Course Offerings:

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

- Analyze the fundamental principles of rotor angle, voltage, and frequency stability.
- Develop and interpret dynamic models of power system components for stability studies.
- Perform transient stability analysis using numerical integration and the equal-area criterion.
- Evaluate voltage stability margins and implement countermeasures like reactive power compensation.
- Assess the impact of renewable energy integration on system inertia and frequency control.
- Apply NERC reliability standards to system planning and operations.
- Conduct contingency analysis to ensure the grid's resilience against component failures.
- Develop strategies for blackout prevention and system restoration.
- Utilize modern tools like synchro phasor data for wide-area monitoring and control.
- Formulate comprehensive reliability management plans for modern power grids.

Course Methodology:

The training methodology at BIG BEN Training Center is designed to foster a deep, practical understanding of power system stability and reliability. We employ a blended learning approach that combines expert-led instruction with highly interactive and collaborative activities. The course moves beyond traditional lectures by integrating detailed case studies of major grid events and blackouts from around the world, allowing participants to analyze root causes and explore preventative strategies. A significant portion of the training is dedicated to hands-on simulation exercises where participants use industry-standard software concepts to model system behavior, test stability limits, and evaluate the effectiveness of various control actions. Group discussions and team-based problem-solving sessions are central to our approach, encouraging participants to share experiences and develop innovative solutions to complex grid challenges. Our instructors provide continuous feedback and facilitate a dynamic learning environment, ensuring that theoretical knowledge is immediately translated into practical skills that can be applied directly in the workplace. This immersive and engaging methodology ensures participants leave with both the competence and confidence to manage the complexities of modern power systems.

Course Agenda (Course Units):

Unit One: Fundamentals of Power System Stability and Reliability

- Introduction to power system structure and operation.
- Defining stability, reliability, and security in power systems.
- The phenomena of rotor angle, voltage, and frequency instability.
- Review of synchronous machine theory and modeling.
- Power flow analysis and its role in stability assessment.
- Introduction to reliability indices (SAIDI, SAIFI, CAIDI).
- The regulatory framework and NERC reliability standards.

Unit Two: Transient and Small-Signal Stability Analysis

- The swing equation and its derivation.
- The equal-area criterion for stability assessment.
- Numerical integration methods for transient stability simulation.
- Factors influencing transient stability.
- Small-signal stability and eigenvalue analysis.
- Analysis of local plant modes and inter-area oscillations.
- Role of Power System Stabilizers (PSS) in damping oscillations.

Unit Three: Voltage and Frequency Stability Control

- Mechanisms of voltage collapse and instability.
- Load modeling and its impact on voltage stability.
- Methods for voltage stability analysis (P-V and Q-V curves).
- Reactive power compensation and control (SVC, STATCOM).
- Fundamentals of frequency control and regulation.
- Primary (governor), secondary (AGC), and tertiary frequency control.
- Load shedding schemes for emergency frequency control.

Unit Four: Grid Reliability and Resilience Management

- Principles of contingency analysis (N-1, N-2 criteria).
- Probabilistic vs. deterministic reliability assessment.
- Cascading failures and blackout phenomena.
- In-depth case studies of historical blackouts.
- Strategies for blackout prevention and mitigation.
- System restoration and black start procedures.
- Building grid resilience against extreme weather and cyber threats.

Unit Five: Modern Grid Challenges and Advanced Solutions

- Impact of wind and solar power integration on system stability.
- Challenges of low-inertia power systems.
- Role of energy storage in enhancing stability and reliability.
- Introduction to Wide-Area Monitoring Systems (WAMS) and synchro phasors.
- Advanced control schemes using FACTS and HVDC systems.
- The role of microgrids and distributed energy resources (DERs).
- Cybersecurity considerations for power system protection and control.

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 system inertia decreases with the integration of inverter-based resources, what novel control strategies are required to maintain frequency stability beyond traditional governor response?

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

This training course distinguishes itself by moving beyond standard theoretical instruction to provide a deeply integrated and forward-looking perspective on power system management. While other courses may focus narrowly on classical stability analysis, our curriculum places a strong emphasis on the pressing challenges of the modern grid, including the profound impacts of renewable energy integration, the decline in system inertia, and the growing threat of cyber-physical attacks. We bridge the gap between planning and operations by analyzing real-world case studies of major blackouts, enabling participants to understand the complex chain of events that leads to system collapse and to develop robust, multi-layered prevention strategies. The methodology at BIG BEN Training Center emphasizes strategic thinking over rote memorization, using advanced simulations and interactive problem-solving sessions to build intuitive and analytical skills. Participants will not only learn how to perform stability studies but will also master the art of interpreting the results to make critical decisions that enhance grid resilience and reliability. This holistic approach ensures our graduates are prepared not just for today's challenges, but for the future evolution of the power industry.