Global Sourcing and Inventory Resilience Strategies Training Course

02 - 06 Nov 2026

Cape town

4600 € (Per Person)

Ref: #IM5834_288310

Course Introduction / Overview:

In today's interconnected and volatile global economy, the ability to manage supply chain disruptions is no longer a competitive advantage but a core business necessity. This course addresses the critical intersection of global sourcing risks and inventory resilience, providing a comprehensive framework for navigating uncertainty. As detailed by supply chain expert Dr. Yossi Sheffi in his seminal work, "The Resilient Enterprise," organizations must proactively design their supply chains to withstand and recover from unexpected shocks. This program moves beyond theoretical concepts to offer actionable strategies for identifying, assessing, and mitigating the multifaceted risks inherent in sourcing from international markets, including geopolitical instability, logistical bottlenecks, and supplier vulnerabilities. Participants will learn to build robust inventory systems that act as a buffer against disruptions without incurring excessive costs. BIG BEN Training Center has designed this course to empower professionals with the foresight and tools needed to create agile, resilient, and sustainable supply chains that can thrive in the face of modern challenges, ensuring business continuity and protecting the bottom line. This is an essential training for anyone involved in the strategic management of procurement and inventory in a global context.

Target Audience / This training course is suitable for:

- Supply Chain Managers.
- Procurement and Sourcing Professionals.
- Inventory Planners and Analysts.
- Logistics and Distribution Managers.
- Operations Managers.
- Risk Management Officers.
- Strategic Sourcing Leaders.
- Vendor and Supplier Relationship Managers.
- Compliance Officers.
- Finance Managers involved in supply chain costing.

Target Sectors and Industries:

- Manufacturing and Industrial Production.
- Retail and Consumer Goods.
- Pharmaceuticals and Healthcare.
- Automotive and Aerospace.
- Technology and Electronics.
- Food and Beverage.
- Energy and Utilities.
- Governmental agencies and public sector procurement bodies.
- Third-Party Logistics (3PL) and Freight Forwarding.

Target Organizations Departments:

- Procurement and Purchasing.
- Supply Chain Management.
- Logistics and Distribution.
- Operations Management.
- Inventory Control.
- Risk and Compliance.
- Strategic Planning.
- Finance and Accounting.
- Quality Assurance.

Course Offerings:

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

- Identify and categorize the full spectrum of risks in global sourcing.
- Conduct comprehensive supplier risk assessments and due diligence.
- Develop robust risk mitigation and contingency plans for the supply chain.
- Analyze the impact of geopolitical and economic shifts on sourcing strategies.
- Implement inventory optimization models that balance cost and resilience.
- Utilize data analytics for improved demand forecasting and inventory control.
- Design and manage a resilient supply chain framework.
- Enhance supplier collaboration to build a more transparent and secure supply network.
- Develop business continuity plans for critical supply chain functions.
- Evaluate the role of technology in enhancing supply chain visibility and resilience.

Course Methodology:

The training methodology at BIG BEN Training Center is designed to be highly interactive, engaging, and practical, ensuring that participants can directly apply their learning to real-world challenges. This course employs a blended learning approach that combines expert-led presentations with hands-on, experiential activities. We move beyond traditional lectures to foster a dynamic learning environment through the extensive use of relevant case studies from various industries, allowing participants to analyze actual supply chain disruptions and successful resilience strategies. Collaborative group workshops and brainstorming sessions encourage peer-to-peer learning and the exchange of diverse perspectives. Practical exercises, such as risk matrix development and inventory model simulations, provide tangible skills that can be immediately implemented in the workplace. Throughout the course, there will be ample opportunity for open discussions, Q&A sessions with the instructor, and personalized feedback. This participant-centered approach ensures a deep understanding of the concepts and equips attendees with the confidence and competence to build more resilient sourcing and inventory systems within their organizations.

Course Agenda (Course Units):

Unit One: Foundations of Global Sourcing and Supply Chain Risk

- Introduction to the modern global supply chain.
- The strategic importance of global sourcing.
- Defining supply chain resilience and its key pillars.
- Understanding the relationship between sourcing decisions and inventory levels.
- Mapping the end-to-end supply chain to identify vulnerabilities.
- Common sources of disruption: from natural disasters to economic shifts.
- Historical case studies of major supply chain failures and successes.

Unit Two: Risk Identification and Assessment Frameworks

- Categorizing supply chain risks: strategic, operational, financial, and compliance.
- Techniques for systematic risk identification.
- Qualitative and quantitative risk analysis methods.
- Developing a supply chain risk register.
- Supplier risk assessment and segmentation.
- Conducting geopolitical and country-level risk analysis.
- Utilizing tools like FMEA (Failure Mode and Effects Analysis) for procurement processes.

Unit three: Strategic Risk Mitigation in Global Sourcing

- Building a diversified supplier base to reduce dependency.
- The role of strategic partnerships and supplier relationship management (SRM).
- Negotiating resilient contracts with suppliers.
- Implementing ethical and sustainable sourcing practices to mitigate reputational risk.
- Strategies for managing logistics and transportation risks.
- Trade compliance and customs risk management.
- Developing a proactive supplier monitoring and auditing program.

Unit Four: Designing and Managing Resilient Inventory Systems

- The strategic role of inventory in risk mitigation.
- Moving from Just-in-Time (JIT) to Just-in-Case (JIC) strategies.
- Calculating and optimizing safety stock levels.
- Multi-echelon inventory optimization (MEIO).
- Improving demand forecasting accuracy to reduce uncertainty.
- The role of technology in achieving real-time inventory visibility.
- Strategies for managing obsolete and slow-moving inventory.

Unit Five: Business Continuity and Future-Proofing the Supply Chain

- Developing a comprehensive Supply Chain Continuity Plan (SCCP).
- Crisis management and communication protocols for disruptions.
- Integrating risk management into the corporate culture.
- Leveraging technology: AI, IoT, and blockchain for enhanced resilience.
- The growing importance of cybersecurity in the supply chain.
- Scenario planning and supply chain stress testing.
- Creating a continuous improvement cycle for supply chain resilience.

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:

In an era of increasing deglobalization and protectionism, how can organizations balance the cost benefits of global sourcing with the imperative for supply chain resilience?

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

This course distinguishes itself by offering a uniquely integrated perspective that directly links the complexities of global sourcing risk with the practicalities of inventory management. While many programs treat these as separate disciplines, this training is built on the premise that a resilient inventory strategy is the direct outcome of a proactive and intelligent sourcing risk framework. We move beyond generic theories to provide participants with specific, actionable models and assessment tools that can be immediately applied to their own supply chains. The curriculum is deeply rooted in contemporary challenges, addressing not just traditional logistical risks but also modern threats like geopolitical volatility, cyber-attacks, and sustainability pressures. Another key differentiator is the emphasis on a forward-looking approach; the course dedicates significant time to the role of emerging technologies like AI and blockchain in creating predictive and adaptive supply chains. The content is designed to foster strategic thinking, empowering participants to not only react to disruptions but to anticipate them, thereby building an organization that is not just robust, but truly resilient in its long-term operations.