Optimizing Warehouse Operations and Inventory Control Training Course



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LONDON

5900 € (Per Person)

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Course Introduction / Overview:

In today's fast-paced global economy, the efficiency of warehouse operations and the precision of inventory control are critical pillars of supply chain success. This course provides a comprehensive exploration of the principles and practices that define world-class warehousing. It moves beyond basic concepts to address the complex challenges of modern logistics, including demand variability, cost pressures, and the integration of new technologies. As discussed by leading expert Edward Frazelle in his seminal work, "World-Class Warehousing and Material Handling," excellence in this field requires a blend of strategic planning, process optimization, and effective leadership. This program, offered by BIG BEN Training Center, is meticulously designed to equip participants with the skills to transform their warehousing functions from a cost center into a strategic asset. We will delve into advanced inventory management techniques, warehouse layout optimization, performance metrics, and the latest in automation and data analytics, ensuring participants can implement tangible improvements and drive significant value for their organizations.

Target Audience / This training course is suitable for:

- Warehouse Managers and Supervisors.
- Supply Chain and Logistics Professionals.
- Inventory Control Planners and Analysts.
- Distribution Center Managers.
- Operations Managers.
- Procurement and Purchasing Specialists.
- Logistics Coordinators.
- Individuals aspiring to a career in logistics and warehouse management.

Target Sectors and Industries:

- Retail and E-commerce.
- Manufacturing and Industrial Production.
- Third-Party Logistics (3PL) and Freight Forwarding.
- Pharmaceuticals and Healthcare.
- Food and Beverage Distribution.
- Automotive and Aerospace.
- Government and Public Sector Operations.
- Consumer Goods and FMCG.

Target Organizations Departments:

- Supply Chain Management.
- Logistics and Distribution.
- Warehouse Operations.
- Inventory Management and Control.
- Procurement and Purchasing.
- Operations Management.
- Finance and Accounting.
- Manufacturing and Production Planning.

Course Offerings:

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

- Develop and implement advanced inventory control strategies like ABC analysis and cycle counting.
- Optimize warehouse layout, workflow, and space utilization for maximum efficiency.
- Analyze and improve core warehouse processes from receiving to shipping.
- Select and apply appropriate material handling equipment for various operational needs.
- Establish and monitor key performance indicators (KPIs) to measure warehouse performance.
- Integrate warehouse management systems (WMS) and other technologies to enhance accuracy and productivity.
- Implement robust health and safety protocols to ensure a secure working environment.
- Apply lean principles to eliminate waste and drive continuous improvement in warehouse operations.
- Manage warehouse budgets and control operational costs effectively.
- Lead and motivate warehouse teams to achieve strategic objectives.

Course Methodology:

The training methodology at BIG BEN Training Center is designed to be immersive, interactive, and highly practical. We believe that adult learning is most effective when it connects theory to real-world application. This course moves beyond traditional lectures to foster a dynamic learning environment where participants actively engage with the material. The program incorporates a blend of expert-led presentations, in-depth case studies of successful warehouse transformations, and interactive group discussions that allow participants to share experiences and solve common challenges. A significant portion of the training is dedicated to hands-on workshops and simulation exercises, where attendees will work in teams to design warehouse layouts, solve inventory dilemmas, and develop performance improvement plans. This approach ensures that participants not only understand the concepts but also gain the confidence to apply them directly in their own operational contexts. Continuous feedback from the instructor and peers is a core component, facilitating a deeper and more practical understanding of the subject matter.

Course Agenda (Course Units):

Unit One: Foundations of Modern Warehouse Management

- The strategic role of warehousing in the supply chain.
- Core warehouse processes: receiving, put-away, storage, picking, and shipping.
- Principles of effective warehouse layout and design.
- Introduction to key performance indicators (KPIs) for warehouse operations.
- Understanding material handling equipment and its applications.
- Health, safety, and security standards in the warehouse.
- The evolution of warehousing and its future trends.

Unit Two: Advanced Inventory Control Techniques

- Fundamentals of inventory management and its financial impact.
- Inventory classification using ABC analysis and other methods.
- Mastering cycle counting and physical inventory audits for accuracy.
- Calculating and managing safety stock and reorder points.
- Applying the Economic Order Quantity (EOQ) model.
- Strategies for managing slow-moving and obsolete stock (SLOB).
- Implementing Just-In-Time (JIT) and lean inventory principles.

Unit Three: Optimizing Warehouse Processes and Workflow

- Value stream mapping to identify and eliminate waste in operations.
- Advanced order picking strategies: batch, zone, and wave picking.
- Optimizing the receiving, checking, and put-away processes.
- Implementing cross-docking for enhanced throughput.
- Maximizing storage density and space utilization.
- Streamlining packing, staging, and shipping procedures.
- Continuous improvement tools (5S, Kaizen) for the warehouse.

Unit Four: Technology and Automation in Warehousing

- The role and functionality of a Warehouse Management System (WMS).

- Utilizing Auto-ID technologies: barcodes, RFID, and voice picking.
- Exploring warehouse automation from conveyors to robotics.
- Using data analytics for demand forecasting and operational planning.
- Integrating WMS with ERP and other business systems.
- The impact of the Internet of Things (IoT) and AI on logistics.
- Developing a technology adoption roadmap for your warehouse.

Unit Five: Leadership, Performance, and Risk Management

- Leading and motivating a high-performance warehouse team.
- Developing and tracking a balanced scorecard of warehouse KPIs.
- Warehouse cost control and budget management.
- Implementing a comprehensive and proactive safety culture.
- Risk assessment and contingency planning for supply chain disruptions.
- Managing third-party logistics (3PL) provider relationships.
- Final project: Creating a strategic plan for warehouse improvement.

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 automation and AI become more prevalent, what is the evolving role of human leadership and decision-making in managing a 'smart' warehouse?

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

This course distinguishes itself by offering a holistic and strategic perspective on warehouse and inventory management, moving beyond mere operational tactics. While many programs focus narrowly on specific processes, this curriculum integrates inventory control, process optimization, technology adoption, and leadership into a unified framework. The content is deeply rooted in practical application, emphasizing data-driven decision-making and the implementation of continuous improvement methodologies like Lean and Kaizen, which are often overlooked in standard courses. Participants will not just learn what to do; they will understand why they are doing it and how to measure the financial and operational impact. The course structure is designed to build knowledge progressively, starting with solid foundations and advancing to complex topics like warehouse automation and risk management. This ensures that professionals at all levels can develop a comprehensive skill set that enables them to transform their warehouse from a simple storage facility into a dynamic, responsive, and value-adding component of the supply chain.