Building an Effective PR Strategy for Startups and SMEs Training Course



09 - 13 Nov 2026

Paris

5800 € (Per Person)

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Course Introduction / Overview:

For startups and small to medium-sized enterprises, a smart public relations strategy can be a game-changer, leveling the playing field against larger competitors. This course, offered by BIG BEN Training Center, is designed to give you a strong understanding of how to get the most out of your public relations efforts with limited resources. We will explore core concepts from academics like Dr. Fraser P. Seitel, author of "The Practice of Public Relations," which provides a foundational framework for effective PR. We'll also use insights from books like "Traction: How Any Startup Can Achieve Explosive Customer Growth" by Gabriel Weinberg and Justin Mares, to show you how public relations fits into a broader growth plan. The program covers everything you need to know, from crafting your brand story and writing a compelling press release to using digital channels to reach your audience without a huge budget. We will focus on building relationships with journalists and influencers, creating content that stands out, and measuring the real-world impact of your efforts. You will leave with a clear roadmap for building a powerful reputation and drive business growth.

Target Audience / This training course is suitable for:

- Startup founders and entrepreneurs.
- Marketing and communications managers at SMEs.
- Public relations specialists working with limited budgets.
- Small business owners.
- Freelancers and consultants.
- Anyone responsible for managing a brand's public image and reputation.

Target Sectors and Industries:

- Startups and technology companies.
- Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).
- E-commerce and retail.
- Professional services and consulting.
- Non-profit organizations.
- Government agencies and public sector equivalents.
- Any organization with limited marketing resources.

Target Organizations Departments:

- Marketing and Communications.
- Public Relations.
- Brand Management.
- Business Development.
- Executive Office.
- Community Management.
- Product Management.

Course Offerings:

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

- Develop a strategic public relations plan that fits a small budget.
- Identify and craft a compelling brand story that resonates with the media and public.
- Write effective press releases and media pitches that get noticed.
- Use social media and digital channels to generate media attention.
- Build and maintain relationships with key journalists and influencers.
- Measure the impact of their PR efforts without expensive tools.
- Handle crisis communication with limited resources.
- Use PR to build credibility and trust with customers and investors.

Course Methodology:

Our training uses a practical and hands-on approach that is designed specifically for professionals with limited resources. We go beyond theoretical concepts, using a mix of case studies from real startups and SMEs that have achieved great results with small budgets. You will work on a series of practical exercises, including drafting a press release for a new product launch and creating a media outreach plan. This hands-on experience helps you apply what you've learned right away. BIG BEN Training Center's instructors, who have experience working with startups and SMEs, will provide personalized feedback and guidance. We will also include workshops on using free or low-cost tools for media monitoring, social media management, and content creation. Our goal is to make sure you leave with a complete toolkit and the confidence to get the most out of every dollar you spend on your PR efforts.

Course Agenda (Course Units):

Unit One: Foundations of Startup and SME PR

- Understanding the unique challenges and opportunities for small businesses.
- The importance of a strong, authentic brand story.
- Creating a strategic PR plan that aligns with business goals.
- Identifying your target audience and key media outlets.
- The value of a one-person PR team.
- The link between PR and business growth.
- Key trends in modern public relations.

Unit Two: Crafting Compelling Content

- How to write a newsworthy press release on a budget.
- The art of the media pitch that gets a journalist's attention.
- Creating a professional media kit with limited resources.
- Using your company blog and website for content creation.
- The importance of a consistent brand voice.
- Storytelling for your company, from your founders to your customers.
- The power of visuals and multimedia content.

Unit Three: Leveraging Digital and Social Media

- Building a strong presence on platforms like LinkedIn and Twitter.
- How to use social media to build community and engage with customers.
- The importance of social listening and monitoring.
- Using your personal brand to build your company's reputation.
- The power of online reviews and testimonials.
- Creating shareable content on a small budget.
- Running a simple social media campaign.

Unit Four: Building Relationships and Earning Media

- Identifying and building relationships with local and industry journalists.
- The importance of a targeted media list.
- The value of an authentic relationship with media.
- How to find and work with influencers who are good fit.
- The art of a follow-up without being pushy.
- The importance of attending networking events and building a community.
- Handling media inquiries and preparing for interviews.

Unit Five: Measuring Success and Crisis Communication

- Key metrics for tracking PR success on a small budget.
- Using free tools for media monitoring and analytics.
- Creating a simple report to share your results.
- The importance of a basic crisis communication plan.
- Handling negative online reviews and social media comments.
- The role of honesty and transparency in a crisis.
- The future of PR for startups and SMEs.

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:

Given that startups often lack a recognizable brand, how can they use storytelling and media relations to build credibility and trust from scratch, especially when competing against well-known industry leaders with large public relations budgets?

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

This training course is different because it is designed specifically for startups and small to medium-sized enterprises, focusing on how to get the most out of public relations with limited resources. We don't just teach you the basics of PR, we show you how to be scrappy, creative, and smart with your time and money. The program is highly practical, with case studies and hands-on exercises that mirror the real-world situations you will face. Our instructors are seasoned professionals who have experience working with startups and understand the challenges you face. This course is for anyone who wants to turn a great idea into a powerful brand and a thriving business, proving that you don’t need a huge budget to get great results.