Advanced Multi-Tier Supplier Management and Visibility Training Course

23 - 27 Nov 2026

Cape town

4600 € (Per Person)

Ref: #PSC4050_283487

Course Introduction / Overview:

In today's interconnected global economy, supply chain complexity has extended far beyond direct, tier-one suppliers. True competitive advantage and resilience now depend on understanding and managing the entire supply network, including the sub-tiers that are often hidden from view. This course provides a comprehensive framework for achieving strategic multi-tier supplier management and end-to-end visibility. As the renowned academic Martin Christopher highlights in his seminal work, "Logistics & Supply Chain Management," it is supply chains, not individual companies, that compete. This principle is more relevant than ever, demanding a shift from traditional procurement to a holistic network perspective. This program offered by BIG BEN Training Center is meticulously designed to equip professionals with the advanced skills needed to map their supply chains, identify and mitigate hidden risks, foster collaboration across tiers, and leverage technology for unparalleled transparency. Participants will move beyond theoretical concepts to master practical techniques for building a robust, agile, and sustainable supply chain that can withstand disruption and drive long-term value. This training is essential for any organization aiming to enhance its supply chain transparency and operational excellence in a volatile market.

Target Audience / This training course is suitable for:

- Supply Chain Managers and Directors.
- Procurement and Sourcing Professionals.
- Supplier Relationship Managers.
- Logistics and Operations Managers.
- Risk and Compliance Officers.
- Strategic Sourcing Specialists.
- Commodity Managers.
- Vendor Management Analysts.
- Production Planners.
- Quality Assurance Managers.

Target Sectors and Industries:

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

Target Organizations Departments:

- Procurement and Purchasing Department.
- Supply Chain Management Department.
- Logistics and Distribution Department.
- Operations Management.
- Strategic Sourcing.
- Risk Management and Compliance.
- Quality Assurance and Control.
- Sustainability and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR).
- Finance and Cost Control.
- Contract Management.

Course Offerings:

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

- Develop a strategic framework for managing multi-tier supplier networks.
- Implement effective techniques for mapping and visualizing the entire supply chain.
- Conduct comprehensive risk assessments for sub-tier suppliers.
- Build resilient supply chains capable of withstanding disruptions.
- Enhance supplier collaboration and communication beyond tier one.
- Establish key performance indicators (KPIs) for multi-tier supplier performance.
- Leverage digital technologies for real-time supply chain visibility.
- Integrate sustainability and ethical sourcing principles into procurement strategies.
- Improve supply chain transparency to meet regulatory and stakeholder demands.
- Formulate a business case for investing in multi-tier visibility initiatives.

Course Methodology:

The training methodology at BIG BEN Training Center is designed to be highly interactive, engaging, and application-focused, ensuring that participants can translate learned concepts into tangible workplace skills. We move beyond traditional lectures to create a dynamic learning environment where knowledge is co-created and reinforced through practical application. The course heavily utilizes real-world case studies of companies that have successfully implemented multi-tier supplier management strategies, allowing for in-depth analysis of their challenges and successes. Participants will engage in collaborative group exercises, workshops, and simulation activities that challenge them to map supply chains, identify potential risks, and develop mitigation plans. Interactive sessions, facilitated by our expert instructors, encourage open discussion and peer-to-peer learning, allowing attendees to share experiences and benchmark their practices. Continuous feedback is a cornerstone of our approach, with structured opportunities for participants to receive guidance on their work. This blended learning model ensures a deep and lasting understanding of strategic multi-tier supplier management, empowering attendees to drive meaningful change within their organizations.

Course Agenda (Course Units):

Unit One: Foundations of Multi-Tier Supply Chain Management

- Introduction to the modern supply chain ecosystem.
- Defining tier-one, tier-two, and tier-n suppliers.
- The strategic importance of visibility beyond direct suppliers.
- Key drivers for multi-tier management: risk, compliance, and sustainability.
- Understanding the bullwhip effect in multi-tier networks.
- Common challenges in gaining sub-tier transparency.
- The business case for investing in multi-tier supplier management.

Unit Two: Achieving End-to-End Supply Chain Visibility

- Techniques for supply chain mapping and network discovery.
- Data collection strategies for identifying sub-tier suppliers.
- Leveraging supplier surveys and direct engagement.
- Utilizing public data, trade information, and third-party intelligence.
- Building a comprehensive supplier information database.
- Validating and verifying sub-tier supplier data.
- Creating visual supply chain maps for strategic analysis.

Unit Three: Proactive Risk Management and Resilience Across Tiers

- Identifying and categorizing risks in the extended supply chain.
- Geopolitical, operational, financial, and reputational risk factors.
- Conducting a multi-tier supply chain risk assessment.
- Developing risk mitigation and contingency plans.
- Building supply chain resilience through diversification and redundancy.
- Monitoring sub-tier suppliers for early warning signs of disruption.
- Crisis management and recovery strategies for supply chain incidents.

Unit Four: Supplier Collaboration and Performance Enhancement

- Extending Supplier Relationship Management (SRM) principles to sub-tiers.
- Fostering communication and collaboration across the network.
- Developing performance metrics for sub-tier suppliers.
- Implementing supplier development programs for lower tiers.
- The role of tier-one suppliers in managing their own supply chains.
- Incentivizing transparency and data sharing throughout the network.
- Managing contracts and agreements with an eye on the entire value chain.

Unit Five: Advanced Technologies and Future-Proofing the Supply Chain

- The role of digital platforms in achieving multi-tier visibility.
- Exploring technologies like blockchain, IoT, and AI for supply chain management.
- Integrating sustainability and ethical sourcing into multi-tier strategies.
- Ensuring compliance with regulations like modern slavery acts and conflict minerals rules.
- The future of supply chain management and predictive analytics.
- Developing a long-term roadmap for continuous improvement.
- Final project: Creating a multi-tier management strategy for a case study organization.

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 supply chains become increasingly global and complex, how can organizations balance the drive for cost efficiency with the ethical imperative for transparency and sustainability in their sub-tier supplier networks?

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

This training course distinguishes itself by moving beyond a purely theoretical or tool-based approach to multi-tier supplier management. While many programs focus on software solutions, our curriculum emphasizes the development of strategic thinking and analytical skills that are technology-agnostic and universally applicable. We provide a holistic framework that integrates risk management, supplier collaboration, and sustainability into a single, cohesive strategy. The course's unique value lies in its deep dive into the practical "how-to" of supply chain mapping and sub-tier engagement, providing participants with actionable methodologies they can implement immediately. Rather than just discussing the importance of visibility, we equip attendees with the data collection, validation, and analysis techniques required to achieve it. Furthermore, the program is built on a foundation of academic rigor, drawing from established principles of supply chain management while addressing the most current, real-world challenges. The emphasis on interactive case studies and peer-to-peer learning ensures that participants not only learn from the instructor but also from the diverse experiences of their colleagues, creating a rich and dynamic educational environment focused on practical mastery and strategic foresight.