Financial Management and Cost Optimization in Supply Chains Training Course

23 - 27 Nov 2026

Vienna

5800 € (Per Person)

Ref: #PSC4986_143513

Course Introduction / Overview:

This course provides a comprehensive exploration of the critical intersection between financial management and supply chain operations. In today's competitive global market, the ability to manage costs and optimize financial performance across the entire supply chain is no longer a niche skill but a core business necessity. This program moves beyond traditional cost-cutting tactics to instill a strategic financial mindset, enabling participants to see the supply chain as a powerful driver of shareholder value and profitability. Drawing on foundational concepts from experts like Dr. Douglas M. Lambert, whose work in "Supply Chain Management: Processes, Partnerships, Performance" highlights the integration of business functions, this course delves into practical tools and frameworks. Participants will master techniques such as Total Cost of Ownership (TCO), activity-based costing, and working capital optimization. BIG BEN Training Center has designed this curriculum to empower professionals to analyze financial data, mitigate risks, and make informed decisions that enhance both efficiency and financial resilience. The course bridges the gap between the finance department and the operations floor, fostering a collaborative approach to achieving sustainable cost optimization and a robust bottom line.

Target Audience / This training course is suitable for:

- Supply Chain and Logistics Managers.
- Finance Managers, Controllers, and Financial Analysts.
- Procurement, Sourcing, and Purchasing Professionals.
- Operations and Manufacturing Managers.
- Corporate Planners and Strategists.
- Internal Auditors involved in operational reviews.
- Business Owners and Senior Executives seeking to improve profitability.

Target Sectors and Industries:

- Manufacturing and Industrial Production.
- Retail, Wholesale, and Consumer Goods.
- Logistics, Transportation, and Third-Party Logistics (3PL) Providers.
- Pharmaceuticals and Healthcare.
- Automotive and Aerospace Industries.
- Technology and Electronics Manufacturing.
- Governmental agencies and public sector procurement bodies.

Target Organizations Departments:

- Finance and Accounting Departments.
- Supply Chain Management Departments.
- Procurement and Purchasing Departments.
- Logistics and Warehouse Operations.
- Strategic Planning and Business Development.
- Internal Audit and Compliance Departments.
- Operations Management Departments.

Course Offerings:

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

- Master the financial principles integral to modern supply chain management.
- Implement effective cost optimization and reduction strategies across the supply chain.
- Analyze and improve the cash conversion cycle and working capital performance.
- Conduct comprehensive Total Cost of Ownership (TCO) analysis for strategic sourcing decisions.
- Develop robust financial models for supply chain forecasting, budgeting, and investment analysis.
- Evaluate and mitigate financial risks inherent in global supply chain networks.
- Utilize key performance indicators (KPIs) to accurately measure and report on supply chain financial performance.
- Apply activity-based costing to understand true product and customer profitability.

Course Methodology:

The training methodology at BIG BEN Training Center is designed to be highly interactive, practical, and participant-centered, ensuring that theoretical knowledge is immediately translated into applicable skills. This course utilizes a blended learning approach that combines expert-led presentations with intensive, hands-on exercises. Participants will engage in real-world case studies that challenge them to diagnose financial inefficiencies in complex supply chains and propose viable solutions. A significant portion of the training is dedicated to collaborative group work, where participants share experiences and solve problems together, simulating cross-functional team dynamics. Interactive sessions, facilitated discussions, and financial modeling workshops form the core of the learning experience. The instructor acts as a facilitator, guiding participants through complex topics and providing personalized feedback to foster deep understanding. This immersive approach ensures that participants leave not just with notes, but with the confidence and competence to apply advanced financial management and cost optimization techniques directly within their organizations, driving tangible improvements in performance and profitability.

Course Agenda (Course Units):

Unit One: Foundations of Supply Chain Finance

- The strategic intersection of finance and supply chain management.
- Understanding the financial impact of supply chain decisions on the income statement and balance sheet.
- Key financial statements and their relevance to logistics and operations.
- Introduction to the cash conversion cycle and its components.
- Mapping financial flows alongside physical product flows.
- The role of the supply chain in creating and protecting shareholder value.
- Identifying and analyzing core supply chain cost drivers.
- The link between supply chain performance and corporate financial health.

Unit Two: Strategic Cost Management and Optimization

- Techniques for strategic procurement and sourcing cost reduction.
- Analyzing and optimizing transportation, freight, and last-mile delivery costs.
- Advanced inventory cost control, valuation methods, and reduction strategies.
- Implementing Total Cost of Ownership (TCO) models for capital and operational expenditures.
- Applying Activity-Based Costing (ABC) to the supply chain for accurate cost allocation.
- Conducting cost-to-serve analysis for customer and product profitability insights.
- Leveraging lean principles and value stream mapping for waste and cost elimination.
- Developing a framework for continuous cost improvement.

Unit Three: Working Capital and Cash Flow Management

- A deep dive into managing and shortening the cash conversion cycle.
- Strategies for optimizing inventory, accounts payable, and accounts receivable.
- The direct impact of supply chain strategies on working capital requirements.
- An overview of supply chain finance solutions like reverse factoring and dynamic discounting.
- Techniques for accurate cash flow forecasting for supply chain operations.
- Balancing customer service levels with working capital investment.
- The financial benefits of Collaborative Planning, Forecasting, and Replenishment (CPFR).
- Managing liquidity within a global supply chain context.

Unit Four: Financial Analysis, Performance Measurement, and Risk

- Developing and implementing key financial performance indicators (KPIs) for the supply chain.
- Mastering budgeting and financial forecasting for logistics and procurement operations.
- Conducting a comprehensive supply chain financial audit.
- Identifying, quantifying, and prioritizing financial risks in the supply chain.
- Strategies for mitigating currency fluctuation, credit, and operational financial risks.
- Building a compelling business case for supply chain technology and infrastructure investments.
- Utilizing variance analysis and financial control mechanisms for performance management.
- Benchmarking supply chain financial performance against industry standards.

Unit Five: Advanced Topics and Future Trends in Supply Chain Finance

- The role of digital transformation and technology in supply chain finance (FinTech, Blockchain, AI).
- Integrating sustainability and Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) factors into financial decisions.
- Advanced financial modeling for complex, multi-echelon supply chain scenarios.
- Navigating global trade finance instruments and their impact on the supply chain.
- Understanding the tax and duty implications of global supply chain network design.
- Strategies for building a financially resilient and agile supply chain.
- The future of supply chain finance and the evolving role of the finance professional.
- Developing a strategic roadmap for long-term financial optimization in the supply chain.

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 supply chain volatility and digital transformation, how can a company's finance department evolve from a traditional cost controller to a strategic partner in creating a resilient and value-driven supply chain?

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

This course distinguishes itself through its holistic and strategic synthesis of two traditionally separate disciplines: finance and supply chain management. Unlike programs that focus narrowly on either cost-cutting tactics or high-level financial theory, this training provides an integrated framework for value creation. Its pedagogical approach emphasizes the "why" behind the numbers, empowering participants to move beyond simple cost reduction and toward strategic financial optimization that supports long-term business goals. The curriculum is built around practical application, prioritizing interactive case studies, financial modeling exercises, and collaborative problem-solving over passive lectures. This ensures participants develop tangible skills in areas like Total Cost of Ownership analysis and cost-to-serve modeling. Furthermore, the course is distinctly forward-looking, dedicating significant time to emerging trends such as sustainable finance, digital transformation, and financial resilience. It equips leaders not just for today's challenges but also for the future landscape of global commerce, fostering the strategic acumen required to build a supply chain that is not only lean and efficient but also agile, resilient, and profitable.