Modern Port Management and Global Shipping Logistics Training Course



21 - 25 Dec 2026

Cape town

4600 € (Per Person)

Ref: #PSC6719_282324

Course Introduction / Overview:

The global maritime industry stands as the backbone of international trade, with ports serving as critical nodes in the complex web of the global supply chain. This course provides a comprehensive exploration of modern port management and global shipping logistics, designed to equip professionals with the advanced knowledge and strategic skills required to excel in this dynamic field. Moving beyond basic operational procedures, the curriculum delves into the strategic, economic, and technological forces shaping the future of maritime trade. As discussed by leading academic Dr. Hercules Haralambides, the efficiency of a port is a direct contributor to a nation's economic competitiveness. This program, offered by BIG BEN Training Center, integrates theoretical principles with practical applications, drawing on insights from seminal works like "Maritime Logistics: A Complete Guide to Effective Shipping and Port Management". Participants will navigate topics from terminal operations and cargo handling to the implementation of green port initiatives and the integration of digital technologies. This training is structured to empower attendees to optimize port performance, enhance security, and lead sustainable shipping operations in an increasingly interconnected world.

Target Audience / This training course is suitable for:

- Port Managers and Supervisors.
- Terminal Operations Staff.
- Shipping Line Executives and Managers.
- Logistics and Supply Chain Professionals.
- Freight Forwarders and Customs Brokers.
- Maritime Security and Safety Officers.
- Port Authority and Government Officials.
- Import and Export Managers.
- Maritime Consultants and Analysts.

Target Sectors and Industries:

- Maritime and Shipping Industry.
- Logistics and Supply Chain Management.
- Port Authorities and Terminal Operators.
- Freight Forwarding and NVOCCs.
- International Trade and Commerce.
- Governmental Bodies, including Customs and Border Protection.
- Oil and Gas Sector for port-related operations.
- Manufacturing and Retail Industries with global distribution networks.

Target Organizations Departments:

- Operations and Terminal Management.
- Logistics and Distribution.
- Supply Chain Management.
- Port Security and Safety.
- Compliance and Regulatory Affairs.
- Commercial and Business Development.
- Strategic Planning and Port Development.
- Finance and Administration.
- Procurement and Asset Management.

Course Offerings:

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

- Analyze the integral role of ports within the global supply chain ecosystem.
- Master the principles of efficient container and bulk cargo terminal operations.
- Develop and implement robust port security plans compliant with the ISPS Code.
- Evaluate and apply sustainable practices for green port management.
- Navigate the complexities of shipping documentation, including Bills of Lading and Incoterms.
- Formulate strategies for port marketing and business development.
- Utilize key performance indicators (KPIs) to measure and improve port efficiency.
- Understand the financial and economic drivers of port investment and management.
- Assess the impact of digitalization and automation on future port operations.

Course Methodology:

The training methodology at BIG BEN Training Center is designed to foster an immersive and participatory learning environment that bridges theory with real-world application. This course moves beyond traditional lectures to embrace a dynamic, hands-on approach. Participants will engage in interactive sessions, collaborative group discussions, and problem-solving exercises that mirror the challenges faced in modern port environments. A significant component of the program involves the analysis of detailed case studies from leading global ports, allowing attendees to dissect successful strategies and learn from complex operational scenarios. Practical workshops will focus on critical areas such as terminal layout optimization, security risk assessment, and the development of sustainability roadmaps. Our expert instructors facilitate a dynamic learning process, encouraging participants to share their unique experiences and perspectives. Continuous feedback and guided activities ensure that the knowledge gained is not only retained but also immediately applicable to the participant's professional responsibilities, ensuring a tangible return on their training investment.

Course Agenda (Course Units):

Unit One: Foundations of Modern Port Management

- Introduction to the Global Maritime Industry and Trade Routes.
- Types of Ports and Their Specialized Functions.
- The Role of Port Authorities and Key Industry Stakeholders.
- International Maritime Regulations and Conventions (IMO, SOLAS).
- Understanding the Port as a Critical Link in the Supply Chain.
- Fundamentals of Port Economics and Governance Models.
- Introduction to Shipping Lines and Vessel Types.

Unit Two: Port and Terminal Operations Management

- Container Terminal Operations and Management.
- Bulk, Liquid, and Break-Bulk Cargo Handling Procedures.
- Port Equipment and Asset Management Strategies.
- Vessel Traffic Management Systems (VTMS) and Port Navigation.
- Yard Planning and Stowage Coordination.
- Optimizing Berth and Quay Crane Productivity.
- Intermodal Connectivity and Hinterland Logistics.

Unit Three: Global Shipping Logistics and Documentation

- The Complete Shipping Cycle from Booking to Delivery.
- Mastering International Commercial Terms (Incoterms).
- Key Shipping Documents: Bill of Lading, Sea Waybill, and Manifests.
- The Role of Freight Forwarders and NVOCCs.
- Customs Procedures, Tariffs, and Trade Compliance.
- Cargo Insurance and Liability in Maritime Transport.
- Managing Logistics for Perishable and Hazardous Goods.

Unit Four: Port Security, Safety, and Environmental Sustainability

- Implementing the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code.
- Port Security Risk Assessment and Mitigation Strategies.
- Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) in Port Environments.
- Handling of Dangerous Goods (IMDG Code).
- Green Port Initiatives and Sustainable Development Goals.
- Strategies for Reducing Port Emissions and Waste Management.
- Ballast Water Management and Environmental Compliance.

Unit Five: Strategic Management and Future Trends in Ports

- Port Performance Measurement using Key Performance Indicators (KPIs).
- Port Pricing, Tariff Structures, and Financial Management.
- Port Marketing, Competition, and Business Development.
- The Impact of Digitalization: Blockchain, IoT, and Big Data in Ports.
- Port Automation: Automated Guided Vehicles (AGVs) and Cranes.
- Developing Smart Port and Digital Twin Concepts.
- Future Challenges and Opportunities in the Maritime Sector.

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 ports become increasingly automated and data-driven, what are the primary ethical and workforce challenges that port authorities must proactively address to ensure a just transition?

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

This training course distinguishes itself through its holistic and forward-looking approach to port and shipping management. While many programs focus narrowly on operational mechanics, this curriculum integrates strategic management, financial acumen, and future-readiness into a single, cohesive learning experience. We place a significant emphasis on the emerging trends that are actively reshaping the industry, dedicating substantial content to digitalization, automation, and environmental sustainability. This ensures participants are not just learning current best practices but are also being prepared to lead through the next wave of industry transformation. The methodology is deeply rooted in practical application, utilizing complex, real-world case studies from globally recognized ports to move beyond theory. Participants will learn to analyze multifaceted problems and develop robust, strategic solutions. The course fosters a deep understanding of the port as a complete economic and logistical ecosystem, rather than a series of disconnected functions, empowering graduates to make more informed, impactful decisions in their professional roles.