Strategic Supply Chain and Logistics Management Training Course



23 - 27 Nov 2026

Cape town

4600 € (Per Person)

Ref: #PSC6751_282359

Course Introduction / Overview:

In today's hyper-competitive and volatile global market, the supply chain has evolved from a back-office function into the strategic core of business success. This course provides a comprehensive exploration of advanced supply chain operations and logistics excellence, designed to equip professionals with the strategic mindset and practical tools needed to navigate modern complexities. We move beyond traditional logistics to embrace a holistic view of the entire value chain, from sourcing and procurement to last-mile delivery and reverse logistics. As the renowned academic Martin Christopher argues in his seminal work, "Logistics & Supply Chain Management," modern competition is not between companies but between their supply chains. This principle is central to our curriculum. BIG BEN Training Center has developed this program to foster strategic thinking, enabling participants to design, implement, and manage supply chains that are not only efficient and cost-effective but also resilient, agile, and sustainable. This training delves into critical areas such as digital transformation, supply chain analytics, risk mitigation, and green logistics, ensuring that you are prepared to lead and innovate in a rapidly changing landscape. Participants will gain the expertise to optimize performance, enhance visibility, and drive significant competitive advantage for their organizations.

Target Audience / This training course is suitable for:

- Supply Chain Managers and Directors.
- Logistics and Distribution Managers.
- Procurement and Sourcing Professionals.
- Operations Managers and Supervisors.
- Inventory Planners and Analysts.
- Warehouse Managers.
- Freight and Transportation Coordinators.
- Professionals seeking to transition into a supply chain management role.
- Business owners and entrepreneurs looking to optimize their operations.

Target Sectors and Industries:

- Manufacturing and Industrial Production.
- Retail, Wholesale, and E-commerce.
- Pharmaceuticals and Healthcare.
- Fast-Moving Consumer Goods (FMCG).
- Automotive and Aerospace.
- Third-Party Logistics (3PL) and Freight Forwarding.
- Energy, Oil, and Gas.
- Government, Public Sector, and Non-Profit Organizations.
- Construction and Engineering.

Target Organizations Departments:

- Supply Chain Management.
- Logistics and Distribution.
- Procurement, Purchasing, and Sourcing.
- Operations Management.
- Warehousing and Inventory Control.
- Strategic Planning and Business Development.
- Finance and Cost Control.
- Customer Service and Order Fulfillment.

Course Offerings:

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

- Develop a comprehensive strategic framework for supply chain management aligned with business goals.
- Implement advanced inventory control models to reduce costs and improve service levels.
- Analyze and optimize transportation and distribution networks for global and domestic logistics.
- Master strategic sourcing and supplier relationship management techniques to build robust partnerships.
- Utilize data analytics and performance metrics to drive continuous improvement and visibility.
- Design and manage efficient warehouse operations using modern technologies and best practices.
- Identify, assess, and mitigate risks throughout the supply chain to enhance resilience.
- Integrate sustainability and green logistics principles into supply chain strategy and operations.
- Leverage emerging technologies like AI and blockchain to innovate supply chain processes.
- Lead digital transformation initiatives within their logistics and supply chain functions.

Course Methodology:

The training methodology at BIG BEN Training Center is designed to be highly interactive, engaging, and practical, ensuring that participants can immediately apply their learning in the workplace. We believe that adult learning is most effective when it combines expert knowledge with hands-on application. This course moves beyond traditional lectures to create a dynamic learning environment. Sessions will feature a blend of expert-led presentations, in-depth case studies of leading global companies, and interactive group discussions that encourage peer-to-peer learning and the sharing of diverse experiences. Participants will work in teams on practical exercises and simulations that mirror real-world supply chain challenges, such as network design problems, inventory optimization scenarios, and risk response planning. This problem-based learning approach hones critical thinking and decision-making skills. Ample time is allocated for Q&A sessions, and our expert instructors provide personalized feedback and guidance throughout the course. The focus is on providing actionable insights and tools that empower participants to drive tangible improvements in their organizations' supply chain performance.

Course Agenda (Course Units):

Unit One: Strategic Foundations of Modern Supply Chain Management

- The evolution of supply chain management from operational to strategic.
- Aligning supply chain strategy with corporate objectives.
- Key frameworks for supply chain analysis and design.
- Sales and Operations Planning (S&OP) for integrated business planning.
- Developing key performance indicators (KPIs) and metrics for success.
- Understanding the financial impact of supply chain decisions.
- Competitive strategy and the role of the supply chain.

Unit Two: Excellence in Procurement and Inventory Management

- Strategic sourcing and category management.
- Building and managing effective supplier relationships (SRM).
- Negotiation strategies and contract management in procurement.
- Advanced demand forecasting techniques and models.
- Inventory classification and control systems (ABC, VED analysis).
- Economic Order Quantity (EOQ) and Just-in-Time (JIT) principles.
- Managing inventory for seasonality, promotions, and uncertainty.

Unit Three: Optimizing Warehousing and Transportation Logistics

- Modern warehouse design, layout, and process flow.
- Implementing and utilizing Warehouse Management Systems (WMS).
- Value-adding activities in warehousing and distribution centers.
- Modes of transportation and multi-modal network design.
- Transportation Management Systems (TMS) and freight optimization.
- Challenges and strategies for last-mile delivery.
- Navigating international logistics, customs, and trade compliance.

Unit Four: Technology and Analytics in the Digital Supply Chain

- The role of digital transformation in supply chain excellence.
- Overview of ERP, SCM, and other enterprise systems.
- Leveraging Big Data and analytics for predictive insights.
- The application of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) in logistics.
- Blockchain technology for transparency and traceability.
- Internet of Things (IoT) for real-time asset tracking and monitoring.
- Creating effective supply chain visibility dashboards.

Unit Five: Advanced Topics in Supply Chain Resilience and Sustainability

- Identifying and mapping supply chain risks.
- Developing robust risk mitigation and business continuity plans.
- Building agile and resilient supply chain structures.
- Principles of green logistics and sustainable supply chain management.
- Implementing circular economy concepts in supply chain design.
- The future of supply chain management and emerging trends.
- Leadership skills for driving change and innovation 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 geopolitical instability and climate-related disruptions, can a supply chain ever be truly resilient, or is 'agile adaptation' a more realistic strategic goal?

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

This course distinguishes itself by adopting a deeply strategic and forward-looking perspective, moving beyond the purely operational aspects of logistics. While many programs focus on isolated functions, our curriculum emphasizes the holistic integration of all supply chain components, from procurement to customer delivery, and aligns them with overarching business strategy. A key differentiator is the seamless weaving of contemporary critical themes—such as digital transformation, risk management, and sustainability—into every module, treating them as core strategic pillars rather than peripheral topics. We delve into the 'why' behind the 'how,' equipping participants with the critical thinking skills needed to design and lead supply chains, not just manage them. The course content is enriched with advanced academic concepts, such as the frameworks proposed by Martin Christopher, yet remains intensely practical through the extensive use of complex, real-world case studies and simulations. This approach ensures that participants learn not only the best practices of today but also develop the foresight and leadership capabilities to navigate the supply chain challenges of tomorrow, making them invaluable assets to their organizations.