MERCURY

Trade Finance Operations and Back Office Processing

3 – 7 May 2027
Geneva (Switzerland)



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Trade Finance Operations and Back Office Processing

Ref: 16172_1009328 **Date:** 3 – 7 May 2027 **Location:** Geneva (Switzerland) **Fees:** 6500 Euro

Introduction:

The Trade Finance Operations and Back Office Processing training course provides an understanding of the processes, documentation, and compliance measures essential in trade finance. This training course explores both the front-end and back-office functions to equip professionals with a comprehensive grasp of end-to-end trade finance operations.

This Trade Finance Operations and Back Office Processing program covers key financial instruments, including letters of credit, bills for collection, guarantees, and various types of trade-related documentation. Participants will also learn how to mitigate risks, manage international trade transactions, and ensure operational efficiency.

The Trade Finance Operations and Back Office Processing course addresses modern digital trends and automation in trade finance, with a focus on process optimization and efficiency. Regulatory compliance, SWIFT messaging standards, and back-office reconciliations are also core components. Participants will have acquired practical skills to execute, manage, and support trade finance operations efficiently and in compliance with regulations.

Targeted Groups:

This Trade Finance Operations and Back Office Processing training course targets professionals seeking specialized knowledge and skills:

- Trade finance officers manage import/export transactions.
- Back-office professionals handle documentation and settlement processes.
- Banking operations staff involved in international finance.
- Compliance officers must understand the requirements of trade finance.
- Relationship managers handle trade finance clients.
- Treasury and cash management team members.
- Auditors oversee international banking operations.
- Risk analysts focused on trade-related exposure.
- Corporate finance teams manage cross-border trade.
- Professionals in logistics or shipping need financial insight.

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Course Objectives:

Participants will achieve the following objectives by completing the Trade Finance Operations and Back Office Processing course:

- Identify key instruments used in trade finance.
- Explain the workflow of trade finance transactions from initiation to settlement.
- Apply international trade rules such as UCP 600 and Incoterms.
- Analyze risks in trade finance and apply mitigation strategies.
- Prepare and verify documentation required for trade finance operations.
- Differentiate between various methods of trade settlement.
- Interpret SWIFT message types related to trade transactions.
- Monitor and reconcile trade finance accounts and instruments.
- Evaluate the impact of compliance regulations on trade finance processing.
- Apply knowledge to optimize trade finance and back-office workflows.
- Demonstrate accuracy in end-to-end document handling and settlement.
- Recommend improvements to enhance operational efficiency in trade support functions.

Targeted Competencies:

Participants will gain the following competencies during the Trade Finance Operations and Back Office Processing program:

- Understanding of trade finance instruments and workflows.
- Mastery of document verification and compliance checks.
- Skill in interpreting and generating SWIFT trade messages.
- Ability to reconcile trade finance-related transactions.
- Risk assessment and mitigation in international trade.
- Application of UCP 600 and other trade regulations.
- End-to-end management of trade finance documentation.
- Operational accuracy and efficiency in back-office processes.
- Effective communication with internal and external stakeholders.

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Course Content:

Unit 1: Foundations of Trade Finance:

- Define trade finance and its role in global commerce.
- Identify key stakeholders in trade finance transactions.
- Understand different types of international trade transactions.
- Explore the role of commercial banks in trade finance.
- Describe the main trade finance products: L/Cs, collections, guarantees.
- Compare open account, advance payment, and documentary credit.
- Introduce regulatory frameworks like UCP 600, ISP98, and URDG.
- Discuss the relevance of Incoterms in financial documentation.
- Outline the compliance landscape in trade operations.

Unit 2: Instruments of Trade Finance:

- Explain the structure and usage of letters of credit L/Cs.
- Understand the differences between revocable and irrevocable L/Cs.
- Detail the processes behind documentary collections.
- Introduce standby letters of credit and bank guarantees.
- Explain forfaiting, factoring, and trade loans.
- Analyze trade finance tools for risk mitigation.
- Review common discrepancies in trade finance documents.
- Evaluate case studies of real-life trade finance scenarios.
- Examine trends in digital and electronic documentation.

Unit 3: Trade Finance Processing and Workflow:

- Outline the end-to-end processing of trade finance transactions.
- Describe the roles of front-office and back-office teams.
- Map the lifecycle of a letter of credit transaction.
- Track documentation and verification checkpoints.
- Manage communication through SWIFT MT7xx series messages.
- Ensure regulatory compliance through AML and KYC processes.
- Introduce automated trade processing systems.
- Address common operational challenges and delays.
- Establish escalation procedures for transaction disputes.

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Unit 4: Back Office Documentation and Settlement:

- Identify documents required in trade finance B/L, invoice, CO, insurance.
- Match document terms with L/C and contract requirements.
- Conduct document scrutiny for discrepancies.
- Coordinate with clients, correspondents, and advising banks.
- Process and authorize trade settlements.
- Maintain audit trails and documentation logs.
- Understand back-office reporting requirements.
- Reconcile trade finance entries with core banking systems.
- Implement internal controls to reduce operational risks.

Unit 5: Trade Finance Risk, Compliance, and Innovation:

- Identify financial, operational, and compliance risks in trade.
- Apply sanctions screening and fraud detection methods.
- Interpret Basel and FATF requirements for trade finance.
- Evaluate risk-mitigation techniques in cross-border deals.
- Examine Know Your Customer KYC and Enhanced Due Diligence EDD.
- Explore the impact of ESG on trade finance policies.
- Analyze the use of blockchain and AI in trade finance.
- Understand digital trade documentation and smart contracts.
- Prepare for future trends and digitization in trade processing.

Final Insights & Key Takeaways:

Trade finance plays a critical role in facilitating secure and efficient global trade. This Trade Finance Operations and Back Office Processing course has provided participants with practical tools to navigate complex trade finance and back-office operations. It prepares professionals to apply best practices and remain compliant in an evolving trade environment. Mastery of these concepts enhances operational performance and institutional value.