

Distributed Control Systems (DCS) Training Course

Professional Development Training Course Outline

Category	General Training	Duration	5 Days
Base Fee	\$1,500 USD	Delivery Mode	Online / On-site Hybrid

Course Introduction

Distributed Control Systems (DCS) are the backbone of modern industrial automation, process control, and smart manufacturing ecosystems. They are widely deployed in oil & gas, power generation, chemical plants, pharmaceuticals, water treatment, and refineries to ensure safe, reliable, and real-time control of complex processes. A DCS integrates advanced control algorithms, field instrumentation, human machine interfaces (HMI), SCADA integration, and Industrial IoT (IIoT) to enable seamless plant-wide monitoring and optimization.

Distributed Control Systems (DCS) Training Course is designed to build strong competencies in process automation engineering, real-time control systems, industrial cybersecurity, PLC-DCS integration, and Industry 4.0 transformation strategies. Learners will gain hands-on expertise in configuring, operating, troubleshooting, and optimizing DCS platforms used in mission-critical industrial environments. The program also emphasizes predictive maintenance, digital twin integration, alarm management, and advanced process optimization techniques to meet global automation standards.

Programme Curriculum

Distributed Control Systems (DCS) Training Course

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Course Duration

5 days

Course Objectives

1. Master fundamentals of Distributed Control Systems
2. Understand industrial automation and process control systems design
3. Configure and operate HMI/SCADA integrated DCS platforms
4. Implement real-time process monitoring and control strategies
5. Develop skills in PLC and DCS integration techniques
6. Apply alarm management and event handling systems
7. Learn industrial cybersecurity for OT environments
8. Optimize processes using advanced control algorithms
9. Gain expertise in Industrial IoT (IIoT) connectivity in DCS
10. Perform fault detection and predictive maintenance
11. Understand redundancy, fail-safe, and system reliability engineering
12. Work with digital twin and simulation-based process control
13. Prepare for careers in Industry 4.0 smart manufacturing ecosystems

Target Audience

1. Instrumentation & Control Engineers
2. Electrical Engineers
3. Automation & PLC Engineers
4. Process Engineers
5. Maintenance & Reliability Engineers
6. SCADA/DCS Technicians
7. Industrial IT & OT Cybersecurity Professionals
8. Engineering Students

Course Modules

Module 1: DCS Fundamentals & Architecture

- DCS system overview and evolution
- Centralized vs distributed control concepts
- Hardware architecture
- Network topology in industrial automation
- Communication protocols
- **Case Study:** Power plant DCS architecture redesign for improved uptime

Module 2: HMI & SCADA Integration

- HMI design principles and operator interface
- SCADA system communication with DCS
- Real-time data visualization techniques

- Alarm dashboards and event logs
- User access control and interface optimization
- **Case Study:** Oil refinery SCADA-HMI integration for centralized monitoring

Module 3: Process Control & PID Tuning

- Fundamentals of process control loops
- PID controller tuning methods
- Feedforward and cascade control strategies
- Stability and response optimization
- Industrial control loop diagnostics
- **Case Study:** Chemical plant temperature control optimization using PID tuning

Module 4: PLC and DCS Integration

- PLC vs DCS functional differences
- Communication between PLC and DCS
- Data mapping and signal exchange
- Hybrid automation systems
- Troubleshooting integration issues
- **Case Study:** Manufacturing line PLC-DCS hybrid automation upgrade

Module 5: Industrial Communication & Networking

- Industrial Ethernet and fieldbus systems
- Network redundancy and reliability
- Data transmission protocols in automation
- Cybersecure network design principles
- Latency and bandwidth optimization
- **Case Study:** Smart factory network optimization for real-time production control

Module 6: Alarm Management & Fault Diagnosis

- Alarm hierarchy and prioritization
- Event logging and diagnostics
- Root cause analysis (RCA) techniques
- Reducing alarm floods in control rooms
- Operator decision support systems
- **Case Study:** Power grid control room alarm optimization project

Module 7: Industrial Cybersecurity (OT Security)

- Threats in industrial control systems
- Network segmentation and firewalls
- Secure communication protocols
- Access control and authentication systems
- Risk assessment in OT environments
- **Case Study:** Cyberattack prevention strategy in a petrochemical DCS network

Module 8: Advanced Automation & Industry 4.0

- IIoT integration with DCS platforms

- Digital twin simulation models
- Predictive maintenance systems
- AI-driven process optimization
- Smart manufacturing transformation
- **Case Study:** Smart refinery using AI-based predictive maintenance

Training Methodology

This course employs a participatory and hands-on approach to ensure practical learning, including:

- Interactive lectures and presentations.
- Group discussions and brainstorming sessions.
- Hands-on exercises using real-world datasets.
- Role-playing and scenario-based simulations.
- Analysis of case studies to bridge theory and practice.
- Peer-to-peer learning and networking.
- Expert-led Q&A sessions.
- Continuous feedback and personalized guidance.

Register as a group from 3 participants for a Discount

Send us an email: info@fineskilltrainingcenter.org or call +254769199797

Certification

Upon successful completion of this training, participants will be issued with a globally- recognized certificate.

Tailor-Made Course

We also offer tailor-made courses based on your needs.

Key Notes

- a. The participant must be conversant with English.
- b. Upon completion of training the participant will be issued with an Authorized Training Certificate
- c. Course duration is flexible and the contents can be modified to fit any number of days.
- d. The course fee includes facilitation training materials, 2 coffee breaks, buffet lunch and A Certificate upon successful completion of Training.
- e. One-year post-training support Consultation and Coaching provided after the course.
- f. Payment should be done at least a week before commence of the training, to Fineskill Training Center account, as indicated in the invoice so as to enable us prepare better for you.

Upcoming Scheduled Sessions

Start Date	End Date	Location	Price
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21 Sep 2026	25 Sep 2026	Online	\$1,000
21 Sep 2026	25 Sep 2026	Physical	\$1,500
21 Sep 2026	25 Sep 2026	Physical	\$0
21 Sep 2026	25 Sep 2026	Physical	\$0
21 Sep 2026	25 Sep 2026	Physical	\$0
21 Sep 2026	25 Sep 2026	Physical	\$0
21 Sep 2026	25 Sep 2026	Physical	\$0
21 Sep 2026	25 Sep 2026	Physical	\$0

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