OBSOLESCENCE ANALYSIS AND MANAGEMENT



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Introduction

Every asset eventually loses its supply line. A component goes out of production, a supplier exits the business, a software version stops being supported, and suddenly a working machine depends on parts nobody makes any more. Obsolescence analysis finds those cases early, before they become emergencies. This Obsolescence Analysis and Management Training Course gives asset, engineering, and supply chain professionals a complete working method for that discipline. Participants learn obsolescence identification, risk assessment, forecasting, mitigation strategy, last-time buy decisions, and lifecycle planning across equipment, spares, and software.

Obsolescence Analysis and Management Course Objectives

- Define obsolescence types: technical, functional, and supply obsolescence.
- Apply obsolescence screening to asset registers and bills of materials.
- Assess obsolescence risk by criticality, lead time, and remaining life.
- Forecast obsolescence dates using manufacturer and market data.
- Apply last-time buy and bridge buy decision methods.
- Evaluate mitigation options: redesign, substitute, refurbish, and re-engineer.
- Manage dimishing manufacturing sources and material shortages (DMSMS).
- Apply lifecycle extension and technology refresh planning.
- Apply configuration control and change management to obsolescence actions.
- Measure exposure with obsolescence risk index and mitigation coverage.

Course Methodology

- Facilitated sessions built on real asset registers, bills of materials, and obsolescence cases.

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- Case workshops on line stoppages, last-time buys, and counterfeit parts.
- Obsolescence risk scoring and forecasting exercises with live data.
- Mitigation option evaluation and business case practice sessions.
- Group exercise on an obsolescence management plan with a risk register.

Who Should Take This Course

- Reliability and asset management engineers.
- Maintenance and spare parts managers.
- Supply chain and procurement specialists.
- Configuration and data management officers.
- Defence, rail, energy, and industrial support staff.
- Quality, compliance, and audit officers.

Obsolescence Analysis and Management Course Outlines

Day 1: Obsolescence Concepts and Frameworks

- Definition and types of obsolescence across asset classes.
- Causes: technology change, regulation, market exit, and supplier closure.
- DMSMS concepts and their practical meaning.
- Obsolescence policy and governance structures.
- Roles and responsibilities across engineering, supply, and operations.
- Standards and guidance relevant to obsolescence management.
- Cost of unmanaged obsolescence and downtime exposure.

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Day 2: Identification and Screening

- Data sources: asset registers, bills of materials, and parts catalogues.
- Component and system level screening methods.
- Technology life cycle and product phase-out tracking.
- Supplier notification, PCN, and EOL alerts.
- Software and firmware obsolescence screening.
- Building an obsolescence risk register.
- Prioritisation by criticality and time to impact.

Day 3: Risk Assessment and Forecasting

- Probability of obsolescence and consequences of failure.
- Scoring models for obsolescence risk index.
- Remaining life and reliability projection.
- Forecasting obsolescence dates and market availability.
- Impact on availability, safety, and compliance.
- Counterfeit parts risk in secondary markets.
- Reporting exposure to management and customers.

Day 4: Mitigation Strategies

- Last-time buy sizing and storage considerations.
- Bridge buy, life-of-type buy, and stockpile decisions.
- Substitute and equivalent part qualification.
- Redesign, reverse engineering, and refurbishment options.
- Technology refresh and form-fit-function replacement.

- Supplier agreements and long-term support contracts.
- Obsolescence resolution business case construction.

Day 5: Lifecycle, Configuration, and Performance

- Lifecycle planning and refresh roadmap development.
- Configuration control of obsolescence changes.
- Documentation, training, and support updates.
- Budgeting and funding for obsolescence resolution.
- KPIs: obsolete item count, mitigation coverage, and downtime avoided.
- Auditing obsolescence management effectiveness.
- Building an obsolescence management improvement plan.

Conclusion

By successfully completing the Obsolescence Analysis and Management Training Course, participants will have acquired a thorough working knowledge of obsolescence types and causes, identification and screening methods, risk assessment and forecasting, mitigation strategies including last-time buy and re-engineering, lifecycle and configuration control, and performance measurement. They will leave able to detect obsolescence exposure early, choose mitigation options with evidence, and plan refresh investment before it becomes a forced decision. Gentex Training Center delivers this programme with reliability, supply chain, and lifecycle practitioners working on live assets.

FAQs for the Obsolescence Analysis and Management course

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Q1 What is the "Obsolescence Analysis and Management" course about?

It is a five-day programme on finding and managing the loss of supply and support for equipment and components. It covers obsolescence types and causes, identification and screening, risk assessment and forecasting, mitigation strategies, lifecycle planning, and performance measurement.

Q2 What are the key benefits of the "Obsolescence Analysis and Management" course?

Participants detect obsolete components before a line or fleet stops, size last-time buys with evidence instead of guesswork, and choose between substitution, re-engineering, and refresh on cost and risk. They also reduce exposure to counterfeit parts and unplanned capital spend.

Q3 What skills will I gain from the "Obsolescence Analysis and Management" course?

You will gain obsolescence identification and screening application, obsolescence risk assessment and forecasting, mitigation strategy selection including last-time buy and substitution, and lifecycle, configuration, and obsolescence performance management.

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Q4 What tools, methods, or standards are covered in the "Obsolescence Analysis and Management" course?

The course works with obsolescence types covering technical, functional and supply obsolescence, DMSMS concepts for diminishing manufacturing sources and material shortages, obsolescence policy and governance structures, asset registers and bills of materials screening, component and system level screening methods, technology life cycle and product phase-out tracking, supplier product change notifications and end-of-life alerts, software and firmware obsolescence screening, obsolescence risk registers, probability and consequence scoring models for an obsolescence risk index, remaining life and reliability projection, obsolescence date forecasting and market availability assessment, counterfeit parts risk assessment, last-time buy sizing and storage planning, bridge buy and life-of-type buy decisions, substitute and equivalent part qualification, redesign, reverse engineering and refurbishment evaluation, technology refresh and form-fit-function replacement, supplier long-term support agreements, obsolescence resolution business case construction, configuration control of obsolescence changes, refreshing documentation and training material, budgeting and funding for resolution, and KPIs covering obsolete item count, mitigation coverage and downtime avoided.

Q5 How is the "Obsolescence Analysis and Management" course applied in real-world practice?

Teams apply it when screening a bill of materials for end-of-life components, deciding a last-time buy quantity before a supplier closes a line, qualifying a substitute part for a control system, preparing a technology refresh business case for a fleet, and reviewing obsolete item count and mitigation coverage at a reliability review.