

ULD Build-Up Initial Course

Aligned with IATA ULDR, ICAO WBM and airworthiness standards

3 DAYS COURSE | MIN PARTICIPANTS | Available Languages: DE+EN

AIR CARGO HANDLING

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Description

Develop the essential knowledge and practical skills required for the safe and compliant build-up of Unit Load Devices (ULDs) in air cargo operations. The ULD Build-Up Initial Course provides a comprehensive introduction to the principles, regulations, and operational procedures governing ULD build-up in accordance with IATA ULDR Regulations (ULDR), the ICAO Weight and Balance Manual (WBM), and international airworthiness standards.

The course follows the typical operational processes involved in preparing and building Unit Load Devices for aircraft loading and enables participants to understand each step of the build-up process in a practical and hands-on way. Participants gain an overview of different ULD types, aircraft contours and limitations, load distribution principles, and serviceability requirements. Over four intensive training days, the program covers key topics such as ULD specifications, aircraft contour and weight limitations, correct shoring and lashing techniques, and build-up requirements for different cargo types. Particular attention is given to regulatory compliance, operational safety, and the correct handling of cargo during the build-up process. Hands-on exercises, practical examples, and operational scenarios provide additional insight into the daily challenges of air cargo handling. This knowledge enables participants to perform safe, efficient, and compliant ULD build-ups while supporting reliable aircraft loading operations in accordance with global airline and regulatory standards.

Target group

- Airline cargo operations and load control staff
- Ground handling agents and ramp service personnel
- Freight forwarders and logistics providers
- Warehouse and ULD build-up teams in regulated facilities
- Operational and supervisory staff responsible for ULD build-up in accordance with IATA ULDR and ICAO WBM standards

Class location: Classroom training in Europe, or worldwide in-company

Included: course material, certificate

Learning objectives

- Introduction to Unit Load Devices (ULDs), including ULD types, IATA type codes, and their role in safe aircraft loading operations.
- Understanding the regulatory framework for ULD operations, including IATA ULDR Regulations (ULDR), ICAO Weight and Balance requirements, and airline operational standards.
- Identification of different aircraft contours and ULD limitations for narrow-body and wide-body aircraft.
- Understanding Maximum Gross Weight (MGW), load distribution principles, and center of gravity considerations during ULD build-up.
- Inspection of ULD serviceability and recognition of common damage in accordance with Operational Damage Limits Notice (ODLN) criteria.
- Application of correct shoring and lashing techniques to secure various cargo types during the build-up process.
- Understanding build-up requirements for different cargo types, including general cargo and selected special cargo categories.
- Performing the ULD build-up process from cargo acceptance to Ready-for-Carriage (R4C), including correct marking and documentation.
- Coordination with airline load control, ground handling staff, and freight forwarders during ULD preparation and build-up.
- Recognition of irregular situations such as overweight cargo, contour deviations, or damaged equipment and applying appropriate operational procedures.

Course outcomes

- Understanding of the principles and regulatory requirements for safe ULD build-up, including IATA ULDR Regulations and operational air cargo standards.
- Knowledge of ULD types, aircraft contours, load limitations, and serviceability requirements relevant for compliant aircraft loading operations.
- Ability to perform safe and efficient ULD build-ups, applying correct shoring, lashing, load distribution, and operational procedures in daily air cargo handling.

