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COURSE BROCHURE

Ammonia Refrigeration System Operations Training Course

7 – 11 December 2026
Geneva

Ammonia Refrigeration System Operations Training Course

Ref: 1035_39114 **Date:** 7 – 11 December 2026 **Location:** Geneva **Fees:** 7500 GBP

Ammonia Refrigeration System Operations is a 1-week training course for ammonia plant operators and refrigeration technicians who run the loop that chills synthesis gas, condenses product and protects storage, and it ends with a refrigeration loop operating and troubleshooting checklist. Ammonia plants depend on stable refrigeration for product recovery, storage pressure and safe start-ups, so loop discipline now carries both throughput and safety weight. This course is delivered by Jupiter Prime Training.

Why Ammonia Refrigeration System Operations Matters Now

Three forces shape the subject today: older compressor trains running beyond their original duty, tighter expectations on fugitive emissions and leak response, and a workforce in which experienced loop operators are retiring. A plant that runs its refrigeration loop well holds product recovery, keeps storage pressure inside limits and starts up without flaring. One that runs it badly carries hidden energy losses, wet suction, oil logging and a higher chance of an ammonia release. The course rests on the refrigeration cycle, the pressure-enthalpy diagram and recognised process safety management practice for hazardous chemicals.

Who Gains Most from Ammonia Refrigeration System Operations

- Field operators responsible for compressor, condenser and receiver rounds on the refrigeration loop
- Control room operators who manage suction pressure, levels and loop alarms
- Refrigeration technicians who charge, drain oil and purge non-condensables
- Shift supervisors who authorise isolations and lead leak response
- Process technicians who track loop efficiency and energy use

The greatest gain comes when a full shift crew attends together, so field, panel and supervisory staff leave with one shared way of reading the loop.

Ammonia Refrigeration System Operations Capabilities

Participants move from reading single gauges to reading the whole vapour-compression loop as one connected system of pressures, temperatures and levels.

- Interpret suction, discharge and condensing pressures against saturation tables — shift handover decisions
- Apply safe charging, oil draining and purging steps — maintenance and permit holders
- Diagnose high head pressure, liquid carry-over and low capacity — troubleshooting calls with engineers
- Specify isolation and leak response actions for an ammonia release — emergency coordinators
- Calculate the energy penalty of non-condensables and fouled condensers — plant energy reviews

- Build a loop operating and troubleshooting checklist — shift supervisors and trainers

Key Ammonia Refrigeration System Operations Terms

- Saturation temperature — the temperature at which ammonia boils or condenses at a given pressure, used to read loop conditions from gauges.
- Non-condensables — air and other gases trapped in the condenser that raise head pressure and waste compressor power.
- Liquid carry-over — liquid ammonia reaching the compressor suction, risking hydraulic shock and mechanical damage.
- Superheat — the temperature of suction vapour above its saturation point, showing whether evaporators are fully used.
- High-pressure receiver — the vessel that stores condensed liquid ammonia and buffers changes in loop demand.
- Oil pot — a low point collector where lubricating oil separates from ammonia so it can be drained safely.

Ammonia Refrigeration System Operations Day by Day

Day 1: The Refrigeration Loop in an Ammonia Plant

- Vapour-Compression Cycle — Where Refrigeration Duty Sits in the Plant
- Pressure-Enthalpy Diagram — Reading Loop Conditions at a Glance
- Ammonia Properties and Hazards — Exposure Limits and Toxicity Awareness
- Saturation Tables — Linking Gauge Pressure to Temperature
- Loop Flow Diagram — Tracing Liquid and Vapour Paths

Day 2: Compressors and Condensers

- Reciprocating and Screw Compressor Operation — Load and Unload Decisions
- Centrifugal Refrigeration Compressors — Surge Margin and Capacity Control
- Evaporative and Shell-and-Tube Condensers — Head Pressure Control
- Condenser Fouling Checks — Cleaning Priority and Water Treatment
- Lubrication and Oil Separation — Oil Return and Drain Frequency

Day 3: Receivers, Evaporators and Purging

- Receiver and Accumulator Levels — Inventory and Carry-Over Protection
- Chillers and Evaporators — Superheat and Approach Temperature Targets
- Non-Condensable Purging — Manual and Automatic Purger Practice
- Safe Charging and Oil Draining — Permit, Isolation and PPE Steps
- Relief Valves and Safety Devices — Set Pressure and Test Intervals

Day 4: Leak Response and Troubleshooting

- Leak Detection and Gas Monitoring — Alarm Set Points and Response
- Emergency Isolation and Water Curtains — Release Containment Choices
- High Head Pressure Diagnosis — Purging, Fouling or Overcharge
- Low Suction and Capacity Loss — Expansion Valve and Level Faults
- Energy Efficiency Indicators — Power Per Tonne of Refrigeration

Day 5: Practising the Refrigeration Loop Operating and Troubleshooting Checklist

- Start-Up and Shutdown Sequence Drill — Applying Compressor Load Steps
- Fault Scenario Exercise — Applying Head Pressure and Suction Diagnosis
- Release Tabletop Exercise — Applying Isolation and Gas Monitoring
- Shift Handover Log Design — Pressures, Levels and Open Actions
- Refrigeration Loop Operating and Troubleshooting Checklist — Final Draft

Applying Ammonia Refrigeration System Operations After the Course

- Run a head pressure survey against saturation tables and log the purging and condenser cleaning actions it points to.
- Walk the loop with a crew to test the checklist against real valves, oil pots and relief devices, then revise it.

Ammonia Refrigeration System Operations Questions FAQ

What is Ammonia Refrigeration System Operations and why does it matter now?

It is the daily running of the compressors, condensers, receivers and evaporators that chill and store ammonia. It matters now because ageing equipment, leak expectations and staff turnover make loop discipline central to output and safety.

Which roles gain most from Ammonia Refrigeration System Operations training?

Field and panel operators, refrigeration technicians and shift supervisors gain most. Each handles part of the loop, and the course gives them a shared language for pressures, levels, purging and leak response.

How does Ammonia Refrigeration System Operations differ from a general process plant troubleshooting course?

It focuses on one closed loop and one hazardous refrigerant. General troubleshooting courses cover many units in broad terms, while this course works through compressor, condenser, receiver and purger faults specific to ammonia service.

What do you bring back from Ammonia Refrigeration System Operations?

You bring back a tested checklist for operating and troubleshooting the refrigeration loop, plus diagnosis steps for head pressure, suction and capacity faults that your crew can use from the next shift.

Ammonia Refrigeration System Operations: The Way Forward

The refrigeration loop operating and troubleshooting checklist first informs the shift handover, where operators confirm pressures, levels and open purging tasks. Supervisors and trainers use it to coach new operators and to frame leak drills. After its first use, revisit the energy indicators, because the same checklist can show where condenser cleaning and purging return the most compressor power.