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COURSE BROCHURE

Management Accounting for Operations Decisions Training Course

5 – 9 July 2027
Vienna

Management Accounting for Operations Decisions Training Course

Ref: 1058_39898 **Date:** 5 – 9 July 2027 **Location:** Vienna **Fees:** 6600 GBP

Management Accounting for Operations Decisions is a 1-week training course for operations managers and junior finance staff who build an Operations Cost and Margin Decision Pack for their unit. Rising input costs and automated production mean operational choices must rest on sound cost figures. Jupiter Prime Training offers this course for people who turn cost information into operating decisions.

Why Management Accounting for Operations Decisions Matters Now

Three forces shape this subject today: volatile material and energy prices that move unit costs month by month, automation that shifts spending from labour to fixed overhead, and boards asking operations leaders to defend every capacity and pricing choice in margin terms. A unit that reads its cost behaviour correctly knows which orders, shifts and product lines create profit; one that relies on averaged overhead rates can grow volume while losing money. The course rests on established techniques: absorption and marginal costing, activity-based costing ABC, cost-volume-profit CVP analysis and standard costing with variance analysis.

Who Gains Most from Management Accounting for Operations Decisions

- Staff responsible for running production lines, warehouses or service floors within a cost budget
- Junior finance staff who prepare cost reports and month-end variance commentary
- Planners who decide batch sizes, shift patterns and make-or-buy options
- Team leads who quote prices or approve discounts on operational orders
- Analysts who maintain standard costs and bills of materials

The strongest gains come when an operations manager and the finance partner supporting that unit attend together and agree one costing logic.

Management Accounting for Operations Decisions Capabilities

Participants move from reading cost reports to choosing operating options on contribution and variances.

- Classify fixed, variable and semi-variable costs using high-low and scatter methods — capacity planning
- Calculate unit costs under absorption, marginal and activity-based methods — product and service pricing
- Apply break-even and margin of safety analysis to volume changes — sales and production targets
- Weigh make-or-buy, special order and limiting factor choices on relevant cost — plant leadership
- Build flexed budgets and calculate material, labour and overhead variances — monthly performance meetings
- Design an operations cost report linking variances to accountable owners — finance and line managers

Key Management Accounting for Operations Decisions Terms

- Contribution — sales revenue minus variable costs, the amount available to cover fixed costs and then generate profit.
- Break-even point — the output level at which total contribution equals fixed costs, so the unit makes neither profit nor loss.
- Activity-based costing ABC — assigning overhead to products through the activities and cost drivers that actually consume resources.
- Standard cost — a predetermined cost per unit for material, labour and overhead, used as the benchmark for variances.
- Flexed budget — a budget restated to the actual output achieved, so variances compare like with like.
- Relevant cost — a future cash cost that differs between the options under review; sunk and committed costs are excluded.

Management Accounting for Operations Decisions Day by Day

Day 1: Cost Behaviour and the Operating Picture

- Fixed, Variable and Stepped Cost Patterns — Reading Capacity Choices
- High-Low and Scatter Cost Estimation — Forecasting Spend at New Volumes
- Cost Centres, Cost Objects and Cost Drivers — Assigning Accountability
- Automation and Energy Price Effects on Cost Structure — Strategic Exposure
- Cost Classification Exercise on a Plant Ledger — Clean Base Data

Day 2: Product and Service Costing Methods

- Absorption Costing and Overhead Absorption Rates — Inventory and Unit Cost
- Marginal Costing and Contribution Statements — Short-Term Profit View
- Activity-Based Costing With Driver Analysis — Fairer Overhead Allocation
- Job, Batch and Process Costing — Matching Method to Operation Type
- Service Costing for Logistics and Maintenance Units — Internal Charge Rates

Day 3: Cost-Volume-Profit and Pricing Decisions

- Break-Even Charts and Margin of Safety — Volume Target Setting
- Multi-Product CVP With Sales Mix — Product Line Priorities
- Relevant Costing for Make-or-Buy — Outsourcing a Component or Service
- Limiting Factor and Throughput Ranking — Scarce Machine Hours
- Cost-Plus and Target Pricing Methods — Quoting Special Orders

Day 4: Budgets, Standards and Variances

- Operational Budget Building From Production Plans — Resource Commitments
- Setting Standard Costs and Bills of Materials — Realistic Benchmarks
- Flexed Budget Comparison — Separating Volume From Efficiency Effects
- Material Price, Usage, Labour Rate and Efficiency Variances — Root Causes
- Overhead Spending and Volume Variances — Capacity Utilisation Questions

Day 5: Practising the Operations Cost and Margin Decision Pack

- Food Manufacturing Case on ABC and Contribution — Applying Costing Methods
- Warehouse Service Case on Break-Even and Pricing — Applying CVP
- Variance Commentary Drafting for a Month-End Pack — Applying Standards
- Operations KPI and Cost Report Layout — Linking Figures to Owners
- Operations Cost and Margin Decision Pack Completion — Unit Handover

Applying Management Accounting for Operations Decisions After the Course

- Reclassify the unit's main cost lines into fixed and variable and produce a contribution statement for the next monthly review.
- Run a flexed budget and variance analysis on the latest month and assign each material, labour and overhead variance to an owner.

Management Accounting for Operations Decisions Questions FAQ

What is management accounting for operations decisions and why does it matter now?

Management accounting for operations decisions is the use of costing, contribution and variance methods to choose between operating options. It matters now because volatile input prices and automation change cost structures faster than averaged overhead rates can show.

Which roles gain most from management accounting for operations decisions?

Operations managers, junior finance staff, production planners, team leads who quote prices and cost analysts gain most.

How does management accounting for operations decisions differ from a bookkeeping course?

Management accounting for operations decisions looks forward, using cost behaviour and relevant costs to choose actions. A bookkeeping course records past transactions, maintains ledgers and cost centre records.

What do you bring back from management accounting for operations decisions training?

You bring back an Operations Cost and Margin Decision Pack: a cost classification, a contribution and break-even model, standard costs with variance templates and a report layout for your unit.

Management Accounting for Operations Decisions: The Way Forward

The Operations Cost and Margin Decision Pack first informs which orders, products or services to prioritise at current capacity. Operations managers use its contribution and break-even model, finance staff use its variance templates, and leaders use its report layout. After the first quarter, revisit the cost drivers and standard costs against actual consumption.