

Instructor-Led Training

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Enhance your training program with SOS Intl instructor-led training.

With more than 100 continuing education hours available, SOS instructor-led training classes provide what your system operators need to prepare for and maintain their certification. SOS offers classroom training on a variety of topics all taught by experienced instructors.

SOS instructor-led training:

- Is developed and delivered by experienced Subject Matter Experts who have served as system operators and trainers
- Is based on a Systematic Approach to Training (SAT) using the ADDIE model (Analysis, Design, Development, Implementation, and Evaluation) for course development
- Conforms with the NERC requirements by fulfilling the need to base training on SAT
- Is built around adult learning theory; underpinned by academic research on learning, expertise, and related cognitive elements to improve retention and job performance

Our expert instructors have a wide background in instruction, presentation, and industry subjects including system operations.

Our instructor-led training enables students to:

- Apply instruction to real world experiences through exercises and simulation
- Learn in a small group setting which allows customized training for each individual
- Complement online training with more in-depth classroom experience
- Actively participate in training through an interactive high-energy format

We apply our learning methodology to both our classroom and online training courses, thereby increasing retention, knowledge, and skill. This consistent approach means that your students' experience will be the same wherever they do the training.

Our course list is designed to ensure the continued development of system operators and provide expertise in areas including Train-the-Trainer and Distribution Operations. SOS provides courses covering topics such as preparing for the NERC certification exam, emergency operations, voltage control, and more with many classes providing continuing education hours and simulation.

SOS is recognized as a NERC continuing education provider who adheres to the program criteria. These credentials are maintained and supported by the use of SOS University's Learning Management System (LMS). All credits are integrated and automatically reported to NERC SOCCED.

Classroom Options/Hosting

Public: Please check our class calendar at www.sosintl.com to find classes that are already scheduled at various host locations across the country.

Private: For your students only – a minimum of 10. You have the option to host a class and open it to other companies.

We provide classroom set up instructions and class materials and will make catering arrangements for the class. If you have fewer than 10 students, we can set up an open class on our public calendar.

Contact your Account Manager for Host specials.



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SOS Intl. and NERC ID SOS_INTL_001 is recognized by the North American Electric Reliability Corporation as a continuing education provider who adheres to NERC Continuing Education Program Criteria.



Rocky Sease – Chief Executive Officer – Senior Trainer

Rocky has more than 30 years experience in virtually every aspect of the electric utility operations including generation, transmission, distribution, and customer service. He is well respected for his selecting, hiring, and training of operational personnel. His insight into regulatory and compliance issues is well regarded across the nation.

He has held system operator certification and, through this experience, knows the preparation it takes to successfully understand and operate all aspects of a bulk power system.



Andy Burch – Manager of Training Services

Andy brings more than two decades of training experience to his role in developing online and instructor-led training. Andy directs classroom instructors as they design, facilitate, and deliver result-oriented training programs that are aligned with utility company objectives. He also assists in establishing compliance systems, monitors regulatory developments, and responds to daily client training questions.

Andy is a certified system operator.



Melissa Sease – Certified Master Trainer

Melissa is a Certified Master Trainer and is certified in Instructional Design, Instructional Development, and Facilitation. She is the lead instructor and subject matter expert for the SOS Train-the-Trainer curriculum which includes courses in the Systematic Approach to Training, Effective On-the-Job Training, and Presentation Skills. She provides training to electric utilities and organizations across the United States and Canada.



Bob Tomsky – Technical Training Specialist

Bob Tomsky brings more than 25 years of utility industry experience to his role as Technical Training Specialist for SOS. As part of the SOS team, Bob focuses on providing effective training to individuals either working toward their NERC certification or earning CEHs to maintain their certification. Bob works with the simulator to provide hands-on training experiences for our students.

Prior to SOS, Bob was with Peak Reliability where he was manager of the Reliability Coordinator System Operator (RCSO) training program, responsible for selecting, developing, and managing the training staff. In addition, he ensured the instructors were trained and provided opportunities for them to develop new knowledge, skills, and abilities.

Bob has been a certified NERC System Operator since 2011 and understands the challenges of preparing for and passing the NERC certification exam.



Steve Blume – Training Advisor

With more than 40 years' experience in the electric utility and telecom industries, Steve brings a unique perspective to SOS having developed training for transmission, distribution, generation, and renewables. As founder of APT Global, Steve has detailed experience in designing and developing high quality progressive technical training for electric power, renewable energy, and telecommunications industries for a variety of audiences. Prior to APT, Steve's experience at Sierra Pacific Power Company encompassed a variety of positions which enabled him to build a diverse SME resume. At SOS, Steve continues to design, develop, and deliver effective training.



Gary Jackson – Training Advisor

Gary is an energetic trainer, offering students an in-depth knowledge of NERC certification. His understanding and interpretation of system reliability, applications of standards and regulations and emergency operations and restoration offers students an opportunity to effectively prepare for the NERC exam.

His ability to analyze design, develop, and implement training material comes from a strong background in the utility industry. This experience allows him to effectively distinguish areas of training improvement for clients' success in the regulatory arena.

Gary has spent more than 39 years learning and implementing power system operations and regulations. His background and experience from the operator level gives insight to and in-depth knowledge of actual day-to-day functions meeting or exceeding regulatory requirements.



Chuck Johansen – Training Advisor

Chuck has more than 35 years of electric utility experience and has been the driving force of custom training in the areas of emergency preparedness, restoration, switching and tagging, and mitigation. He coordinated and delivered a custom strategic awareness and response seminar at the APDA Las Vegas conference for more than 100 operators.

Chuck participates in classroom instruction and the development of customer training. He instructs courses such as Principles for System Reliability and Analyzing and Mitigating Contingencies: Operational Situational Awareness. He has served as the head instructor for New York State Electric and Gas (NYSEG) delivering classes in voltage, thermal, contingencies, blackout and emergency preparedness and response, and he is a certified Langevin: Project Management for Trainers/Train the Trainer.