



The Austrian Security Industry Training Academy

Setting basic training standards and company certification: Due to the lack of legal regulations and training requirements in the security industry, the CoESS Austrian member and Austrian security industry association, the Verband der Sicherheitsunternehmen Österreichs (VSÖ), introduced in 2001 basic training standards to which all companies in the VSÖ committed themselves. Compliance with the corresponding training is regularly audited and companies are certified by the Austrian certification office for security, the Österreichische Zertifizierungsstelle Sicherheit (ÖZS). This ÖZS certification is recognised in the market and many customers use security providers who are certified and can hence provide demonstrably trained personnel.

The VSÖ Training Academy: To foster qualitative training in the industry, VSÖ created a Training academy ([Bildungszentrum Sicherheit](#)). Certification of workers takes place in cooperation with the ÖZS. Until today, it has trained over 73,000 (by October 2022) participants, through 40 different trainings, workshops, courses and seminars. Specialised trainings include:

- Professional skills: basic training (see above); security and safety engineering; compliance with law; tasks and practices; cybersecurity; alarm response services; emergency management; event security; security management; event security management.
- Interdisciplinary competencies: conflict management; communication skills; de-escalation; German and English language courses; occupational health and safety.

Special projects: De-escalation trainings play a particularly important role and respective projects are led by the Training Academy together with other stakeholders, such as public transport operators. In the AQUUS II project, the training academy and the Security Management University in Vienna are developing curricula and job profiles for security officers protecting Critical Infrastructure and mass events, specialised trainings and a 3-year VET program.

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