Course Description

The Certified Trainer EM 385 Competent Person Series is specifically designed for individuals seeking to deliver a Competent Person course in compliance with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Engineering Manual EM 385-1-1 Safety Program. This intensive, weeklong course starts with full participation in the EM 385 Competent Person program to ensure a deep understanding of fall protection principles, system components, and the specific safety requirements outlined in the EM 385 standard. The remainder of the week focuses on developing the skills needed to effectively teach the course to others. Led by a senior FallTech instructor, the program emphasizes practical delivery methods, regulatory alignment with both EM 385 and OSHA, and effective classroom delivery. Trainers will leave this course prepared to confidently deliver EM 385-compliant fall protection training, ranging from Authorized User to Competent Person courses.

Duration: 5 Days

Course Objectives

• Build solid knowledge of fall protection principles, equipment, systems, and regulatory requirements.
• Understand the structure and fall protection requirements outlined in the EM 385 Safety & Health Manual.
• Confidently use trainer guides, instructional materials, and course resources.
• Apply adult learning principles and student-centered instructional techniques.
• Prepare personal delivery notes and teaching cues based on the provided lesson plans.
• Gain experience leading course segments and facilitating hands-on practical activities.
• Apply practical classroom management skills to maintain a focused, safe, and well-structured learning space.
• Carry out student assessments to confirm learning and satisfy EM 385 training requirements.

Target Audience: This course is intended for safety professionals, supervisors, trainers, or anyone tasked with providing safety education to others. Participants should have a basic knowledge of workplace safety and fall protection, as this background, combined with the structured course materials, will help them build and deliver consistent, high-quality fall protection training. This program is specifically designed for individuals involved in projects governed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and requiring strict adherence to the EM 385-1-1 Safety and Health Program.

Course Format: This course offers a balanced mix of interactive classroom learning and hands-on practice focused on fall protection systems and procedures. Participants will work closely with the trainer materials they will later use when teaching others, gaining practical familiarity throughout the process. The program emphasizes real-time application, providing several opportunities to practice course delivery, lead discussions, and receive constructive feedback. By the end of the training, participants will be well-positioned to deliver the prescribed courses.

Course Materials: Each participant will receive a complete instructor kit with all the materials needed to deliver FallTech's fall protection courses. The kit includes trainer guides, course outlines, equipment lists, testing materials, answer keys, and access to FallTech's Trainer Presenter tool for slideshow management. Participants will also gain access to FallTech's Trainer Hub learning management system to streamline student tracking, recordkeeping, and certification distribution. An initial supply of student workbooks is provided to support the first course delivery.

Certification: Participants who successfully complete the course will earn a certificate qualifying them to deliver FallTech's Authorized Person, Competent Person, and EM 385 Competent Person training programs. This certification is valid for two years and requires renewal to stay active. Recertification can be completed through a convenient, instructor-led online session that updates both end-user and Certified Trainer credentials efficiently.