



SPG Tactical Training & Solutions Wing

Hostile Environment Close Protection
Operator (HECPO) Training Package

- Hostile Environment Close Protection Operator
- Hostile Environment Close Protection Operator – Team Leader



Approved Centre



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Special Projects Group Ltd.

Hostile Environment Lead Operator (HELO) Programme

What is HELO?

As the title states, HELO stands for the Hostile Environment Lead Operator, and this is a bespoke programme designed by SPG to enable and enhance the overall effectiveness, operational capabilities and readiness of Military, Law Enforcement and Private Security Sector personnel.

The Aim of HELO

The aim of HELO is to provide the individual operator within a team key skill sets that have until now, been overlooked as fundamental necessities. By raising the operational readiness and capability of your personnel, we mitigate risks associated with high-threat operations and ultimately increase their operational performance and chances of success.

How We Provide HELO

HELO consists of six key skill subject areas designed to be provided as (a) classroom-based training, (b) online training, or (c) blended training packages. These subject areas are listed to the right, and we can design and provide a bespoke package around these to adapt to any new, or existing training programme.

- 1 Non-Verbal Surveillance & Analysis Training (N-VSAT) Package
- 2 Hostile Environment Readiness Training (HERT) Package
- 3 Hostile Environment Close Protection Operator (HECPO) Package
- 4 Leadership Training (LEADER) Package
- 5 Combat Defence System (CDS) Package
- 6 Advanced Search Procedures (ASP) Package

“... We don't rise to the level of our expectations; we fall to the level of our training ...”

Archilochus (680 - c 645 BC)



Hostile Environment Close Protection Operator (HECPO) Training (8 Days)

Effective and operationally-proven, specialist training to fully prepare your Close Protection Teams to achieve a high degree of operational functionality for high-threat environments. The HECPO Course focuses on key subject areas that are vital to maintaining an effective protective effort, affording the Client a real sense of personal security and confidence.

When operating within the capacity of high-threat, close protection within hostile, or austere environments, the HECPO [Operator] is expected to function at the highest level of capability and professionalism.

These Operators often work in small teams, fully dependent on one another to ensure an effective protective effort is afforded the Client. Hostile Environment Close Protection Operator [HECPO] Courses are designed for qualified Close Protection Operators who are tasked with providing Close Protection Services where the use of firearms is highly likely.

Why Choose SPG for Your HECPO Course

Special Projects Group HECPO Courses are five days in duration [this can be extended], instructing on key subject matter such as the Tactical Use of Firearms, Security Escort Teams, Route Security, Residential Security Teams [RST], Counter-Attack Teams [CAT], and Security Advance Parties [SAP].

Courses are instructed by proven HECPO Operators / Instructors, with years of actual operational experience in various threat-level environments including Iraq, Afghanistan, SE Asia, and hail from Elite UK & US Military and Private Military backgrounds.



HECPO Course Subjects

Subjects covered within our HECPO Course include, but are not limited to the following:

- HECPO Team Escort Drills
- Secondary Weapon Systems
- Primary Weapon Systems
- Residential Security [High-Threat Environments]
- Site Security Surveys
- Threat & Risk Assessments
- Route Selection & Planning
- Security Escort Team (SET)
- Counter-Attack Team [CAT]
- Security Advance Party [SAP] Team
- Venue Security Team [VST]
- IED Awareness
- Surviving an Ambush
- Surveillance, Anti-Surveillance & Counter-Surveillance
- HECPO Communications
- Advanced Search & Restraint Training
- Managing the Protective Effort
- Operational Planning & Management

Who Is This Course Aimed At?

The HECPO Course is aimed at operators within the Military or Security Sector who will be providing Close Protection Services to personnel in austere or high-threat environments.

Those attending the HECPO Course should already be qualified as Close Protection Operatives, having attended and passed the SIA Close Protection Course, or have fulfilled similar duties within a Military environment.



Our HECPO Operator course consists of drills, tactics and operational necessities that have been perfected in real-life high-threat environments such as Iraq, Afghanistan, and parts of SE Asia. Our aim is to ensure that HECPO Team Members are fully prepared to face the dangers of operating.



Hostile Environment Close Protection Operator Team Leader (HECPO-TL) Training (3 Days)

Note: You must have attended the HECPO Course before you may attend this Team Leader Course.

Receiving HECPO Team Leader training is of paramount importance for bodyguards operating in high-threat environments.

Effective Leadership Skills

In such challenging and dynamic situations, effective leadership can make the crucial difference between success and failure in ensuring the safety of the Client.

Team Leaders are responsible for coordinating the efforts of HECPO team, making critical decisions under pressure, and maintaining a high level of organisation and communication within the group.

Assessing Threat & Risk

Their ability to assess threats, devise strategies, and adapt to rapidly changing circumstances is essential.

Furthermore, HECPO Team Leader training equips Operators with the skills to handle complex scenarios, manage resources efficiently, and delegate responsibilities effectively.

Discipline & Professionalism

It instils a sense of discipline, continued professionalism, and accountability among HECPO Team Members, fostering a cohesive, functional and well-coordinated unit.



HECPO TL Course Subjects

Subjects covered within our HECPO TL Course include, but are not limited to the following:

- Operational Planning & Management
- Managing the Protective Effort
- Team Leader Practical Role
- Client Liaison & Briefings
- Mission / Tasking Briefings
- Organising the HECPO Team
- Setting up an Operations Room
- Conducting Site Security Surveys
- Conducting Threat & Risk Assessments
- Route Selection & Planning
- Writing Emergency & Contingency Plans
- Writing Standard Operational Procedures

Who Is This Course Aimed At?

The HECPO Team Leader Course is aimed at operators within the Military or Security Sector who will be providing Close Protection Services in the role of Team Leader to personnel in austere or high-threat environments.

Those attending the HECPO Team Leader Course should already be (a) Team Operator qualified, and (b) certified as Close Protection Operatives, having attended and passed the SIA Close Protection Course, or have fulfilled similar duties within a Military environment.



Ultimately, Team Leader training is an indispensable investment in enhancing the overall effectiveness and safety of Close Protection Operations conducted in the most challenging of environments.



Contact Us Information

To contact us to discuss any of our training or services, please use the information provided below.

Please Note: All correspondence and communications are treated with the strictest of confidence, and no details are passed onto any third-party without your express, written consent.

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