

# Adventure Course Manufacturing

From the Concept to the Operation Steps by steps guide

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# Message from the Director

Thank you for considering Aire Libre to design and manufacture your Adventure Project. Since 1996 we work with Adventure Courses with great success and for a wide variety of clients.

This document provides a description of the steps necessary to manufacture an Adventure Course.

Manufacturing is composed of all stages from consulting and design to construction, training, and operation. Aire Libre has more than two decades of experience manufacturing these types of projects.

Our Team is composed of a network of professionals that includes Adventure Guides, group facilitators, installers, inspectors, designers, engineers, architects, managers, operators, specialized equipment sellers and



owners of Adventure Courses. All these professionals of the Adventure Courses, join through Aire Libre to offer the best, most complete, update and experienced service in the Adventure Courses Industry.

We are experts applying the industry standards established by Association For Challenge Course Technology (ACCT). Our experience and the quality of our Team make it easy for us to advise, manufacture and provide continuous services to our clients. Meet our services and let us be part of the creation of a unique structure and pure adventure.

Dr. Luis D. Acevedo Aire Libre Director ACCT Certified Inspector

## **Adventure Course Manufacturing**

### From the Concept to the Operation

Steps by steps guide

Aire Libre manufactures Adventure Courses in stages. Over the past experiences, we have confirmed that it is the

most efficient, coherent, and organized way to create innovative and intriguing adventure structures that operate efficiently with its participants. This document describes the steps to manufacture an Adventure Course. These steps are general, according to the Course, some could be combined, eliminated and even, it is possible to add other steps that are not mentioned, as the case may be.

#### **Manufacturing Stages**

Once ready to begin with the development of a new Adventure Project, Aire Libre offers the customer a stage-based process to facilitate its development. All stages entail a cost, each one is billed independently and will depend on the type of project to be manufactured. The steps for an Adventure Project are as follows:

Step I – Meeting the Client

Step II – Work on Site

Step III – Design of the Adventure Course

**Step IV – Challenge Course Manufacturing** 

Step V – Commission / Professional Inspection

Step VI – Training & Certifications

Step VII - Course Operation

Step VIII - Inspections, Maintenance & Continuous Training



#### **Step I - Meeting the Client**

In this first stage customers have many questions. For that reason, each project begins by meeting via videoconference with the client to listen and answer all the client's questions. This is the stage of consulting and advising the client regarding all aspects and components involved in the Adventure Projects. At this stage, aspects of the Course design are discussed, such as specific design, construction, materials, and time periods. In addition, issues related to Operation and Administration, Training, Equipment, and Insurance are discussed, among other issues. Aire Libre is in charge of advising the client to the point that they have no doubts and are clear about the type of Course they want, aspects and components involved. Some of the questions that also arise at this stage are:

- 1. What are the goals of the program?
- 2. Who will participate in the adventure project?
- 3. How many participants expect to attend and how often will it be used?
- 4. What components of adventure interest, climbing towers, zip line / canopy tour, rope courses, aerial bridges, pendulums, Tower jumps, etc.?
- 5. Where will the Circuit be located?
- 6. What artificial or natural structures exist in the place?
- 7. Who are the employees going to be and what requirements must they meet?
- 8. What equipment is necessary to operate the Course?
- 9. How should be the Course operation and what compose it?

#### Step II - Work on Site

In this stage we visit the place in question for the first time. We want to see and feel the natural environment, what kind of ecosystem it is, observe the plains, the mountains and the hills, the rivers, the flow of the wind, the flora and fauna. All these environmental factors are essential to know them, to know exactly how to prepare ourselves to make the design.

At this stage designers and builders explore the place where the Adventure Course is proposed to be manufactured. In the case of being in a natural environment, types of trees, elevations, rivers, rocks, and other natural components are evaluated and identified. It is of great importance for Aire Libre that each project adapts to the biotic, topography and geography components of each particular place. On the other hand, if the Course is manufactured in an urban environment or without natural resources, the place is explored and evaluated to know if it's in fact suitable for the type of structures that will be used in the Adventure Project.

This stage has different time periods, depending on the place and the type of project.

In addition, we would need to know the availability of materials on site, accesses, and other resources available in the area for the design and construction of the project. All this information and more is required for us to prepare and plan the next stage, The Design of the Adventure Course.

#### **Step III - Design of the Adventure Course**

Once knowing the place where the Adventure Project will be manufactured, having received the input of the client's interests and knowing the budget, we will be ready for the Design stage. Design is a mix of creativity related to the place, customer interests and industry standards, specifically, the Association for Challenge Course Technology (ACCT) Standards. No matter if the environment is natural or urban, Aire Libre will design a unique Adventure Course according to the dreams and desire of the client.

The service offered by ALI starts from the most basic and primitive concepts to the planning of the master plan. The Department Design of ALI is composed of experts, we use technologies and all our experiences in the design and operation of Adventure Parks. Our design team works collaboratively to create stunning designs and we aim to combine art and nature with the function, operation and architecture of the Adventure Park.

We propose to make world-class designs and constructions, which can be enjoyed by a numerous of visitors. For this we combine our experience, engineering and industry standards. Beyond our in-house capabilities, we work with a wide range of industry professionals such as; architects, engineers, surveyors, adventure guides, park managers, ACCT certified inspectors and PETZL certified instructors, to provide the best functional and operational design for our clients.

Once we collect all the information of the field (this is a second visit to the field) using computer programs, drone data, field measurements and interpreting the topography and natural environment offered by the place in question, we will design routes and experiences with precision. We create structural drawings for the manufacture of the Course and all its components. The ALI Design Department is ready to plan the construction of all the dreams and desires of our customers.

#### **Step IV - Challenge Course Manufacturing**

Manufacturing is the next step. At this stage all the components and elements of the Adventure Course are created and installed. Platforms, aerial obstacles, zip lines, bridges and brake systems are installed. This stage is done with the plans and other technical and operatic documents created in the previous Phase of Design.

Quality construction and variety of techniques and materials make our projects unique. Our installers have years of experience, they are experts manufacturing Adventure Courses. Aire Libre carries out the construction and we

take care that each project that we deliver to its owner, is duly evaluated, and tested by our ACCT certified Inspectors. The period of construction time depends on each particular project. It is important to note that all our structures comply with ACCT standards

The import of materials is part of this stage. In most cases, a period of 4 to 8 weeks is necessary to make preparations and acquire materials before construction begins. Therefore, the construction process begins when all the necessary materials are obtained. At the end of the construction, the Commissioning stage is carried out by ALI.

#### Step V - Commission / Professional Inspection

The Commission process consists of testing all the systems of the Adventure Course and certifying that in effect they work according as designed. The manufacturers of the Course, together with a certified inspector by ACCT, make sure that the manufacture and its components were installed and operate correctly according to their intention, as well as ensuring compliance according to the ACCT Standards. As a result of The Commission, the Client is given a folder containing all the documents that show that the Course complies with the design and with the purposes for which it was built.

Once the Commission process is completed, a Professional Inspector certified by ACCT will carry out a professional inspection process following the current ANSI / ACCT 03-2019 Standards. This type of inspection is applied in the structures of the Course and in the Equipment used for the operation. As a result of this inspection, the Inspector gives the client a report that contains all the findings of the inspection, and a certificate stating that the Adventure Course complies with the ACCT standards. This certification has a maximum duration of one (1) year, or according to the inspector's criteria and must be renovated by a certified Professional Inspector by ACCT.

#### **Step VI - Training & Certifications**

With the Adventure Course built it is possible to perform the next stage, train and certify the staff. The Park is only one, but the tasks within it may vary, they are different and with different levels of responsibility. The training is specialized and aimed at adventure guides, managers, equipment room staff, internal inspectors, internal trainers, reception staff, as well as maintenance staff. Each of them is essential for the proper functioning of the Adventure Course, so each of them has different obligations, responsibilities and tasks.

ALI offers the trainings and certifications for each of the different positions and tasks in the Park. The ALI Training Department has extensive experience using ACCT standards and offering them through a Curriculum. Which means that all our curriculum is based on and comply with the ACCT training standard.

#### Step VII - Course Operation

The Operation involves each and every one of the steps, processes and activities that are carried out to attend the participants from their first approach to the Course, until they say goodbye after passing a unique adventure experience. Aire Libre works hand in hand with the company to help them organize and establish the operational processes either at the beginning of the operation or during periods of time. At this stage Aire Libre offers several services such as:

- 1. Supervision & direct support to the Operator / Manager.
- 2. Supervision & direct support to administrative staff.
- 3. Supervision & direct support to facilitators or Adventure Guides.
- 4. Provide templates, plans, logbooks, reports, and all documentation related to Course Operation.
- 5. Creation of training and operation manuals.
- 6. Internal or Professional Course Inspections

#### Step VIII - Inspections, Maintenance & Continuous Training

Aire Libre continues to assist in the Operation of the Course throughout its existence if the client prefers. The services we offer include internal and professional inspections. We perform maintenance and improvements in the Courses, in addition, through our Training Program, we continue to train your staff to achieve an optimal level of knowledge and practices related to the certified Operation.

In addition, for the convenience of our clients and the operation of the Adventure Course, ALI offers other services such as:

- 1. Creation of the Local Operation Procedures
- 2. Operational Protocols against COVID-19
- 3. Operational Templates and Manuals
- 4. Maintenance Plans
- 5. Continuous Training Plans
- 6. Internal (in-house) Inspections Plans
- 7. Professional and certified Zip Line Inspections.
- 8. Personal training and Certifications, and more...

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