

**100** THAT  
years COUNTS  
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# Disaster Recovery Planning: Is Your Plan in Place?

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*Acumen. Agility. Answers.*

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# AGENDA

- What is a Disaster?
- Disaster Recovery vs. Business Continuity
- Drivers for Having a Disaster Recovery Plan
- How Do You Get Started?
- Disaster Recovery Plan Structure
- Key Considerations
- Testing the Disaster Recovery Plan
- Resources
- Questions?



# DISASTERS

Sudden, calamitous event that brings great damage, loss or destruction. *(Source: Merriam-Webster dictionary)*

## Natural

- Earthquake
- Flood
- Hurricane
- Drought
- Twister
- Tsunami
- Cold/Heat wave
- Thunderstorm
- Mudslide

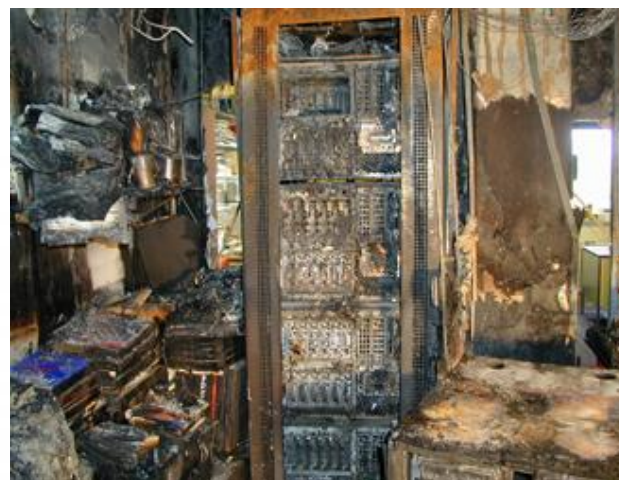
## Man-Made

- Riots
- War
- Terrorism
- Power outages
- Sprinkler system bursts
- Equipment sabotage
- Arson
- Epidemic
- Pollution
- Transportation accident
- Food poisoning

## Technological

- Database corruption
- Hacking
- Viruses
- Internet worms

# “DISASTERS” COME IN ALL SIZES



Small

Large

# OBJECTIVES OF DISASTER RECOVERY VS. BUSINESS CONTINUITY

- **Disaster Recovery** – Successfully recover IT systems in the shortest timeframe possible
- **Business Continuity** – Continue critical business functions in the absence of key resources (considering customers, suppliers, regulators, and others)

# DRIVERS FOR HAVING A DISASTER RECOVERY PLAN

- High availability of data is required by your industry
- Regulatory requirements
  - Federal Emergency Management
  - Government Contractor
- Contractual obligation with a business partner
- Makes good business sense!

## HOW DO YOU GET STARTED?

- Conduct a Risk Assessment
- Identify critical data
- Conduct a Business Impact Analysis (BIA)
- Create a data backup process
- Determine resources needed during a recovery effort





# CONDUCT A RISK ASSESSMENT

Consider the risks to your organization and the probability of each happening:

## Natural

- Earthquake
- Flood
- Hurricane
- Drought
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- Tsunami
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## Man-Made

- Riots
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## COMMON PLANNING PITFALL

- You do not need to develop individual contingencies for each type of risk/disaster.
- Focus on the absence of key resources, such as (but not limited to) data, regardless of the reason.

*(for this presentation, we will focus on data)*

# IDENTIFY CRITICAL DATA (RESOURCES)

Evaluate processes with owners, identifying how/where critical data is input from, processed, stored, and exported to:

- ✓ What type (s) of data is required?
- ✓ What type(s) are key / critical?
- ✓ When, how, and where is data input from?
- ✓ Who owns that data?
- ✓ What processing happens with that data?
- ✓ Where is the data stored (e.g., systems involved, storage area networks, other media)?
- ✓ When, where, and how is data exported?

# BUSINESS IMPACT ANALYSIS (BIA)

- Identifies business units, operations, and processes essential to the survival of the business.
- Considerations:
  - ✓ Life or death situation
  - ✓ Potential for significant loss of revenue
  - ✓ Obligations to external parties may be jeopardized
  - ✓ Quantify impacts where possible
- Determine:
  - ✓ RTO – Recovery time objective
  - ✓ RPO – Recovery point objective
  - ✓ Critical for determining the order and priority of system recovery

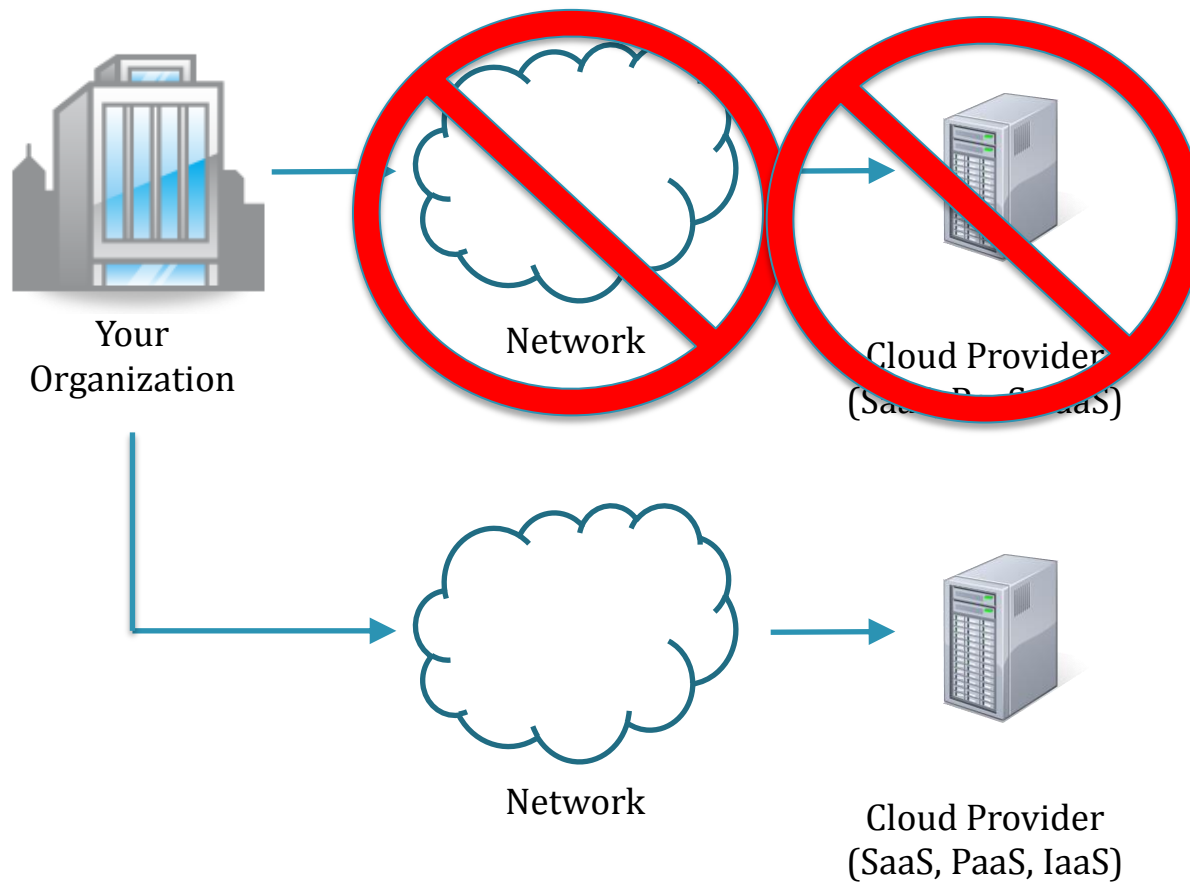
# DATA BACKUPS

- Questions to ask:
  - ✓ Is your data backed up?
  - ✓ How often?
  - ✓ Where? (network storage, tape media, offsite/onsite)
  - ✓ How is it stored and is it adequately secured?
  - ✓ Is the restoration process tested? Regularly? How often?
- Work with IT staff to identify the critical resources required to recreate the data (includes hardware, database software, operating system, application configuration data, backed-up data, etc.)

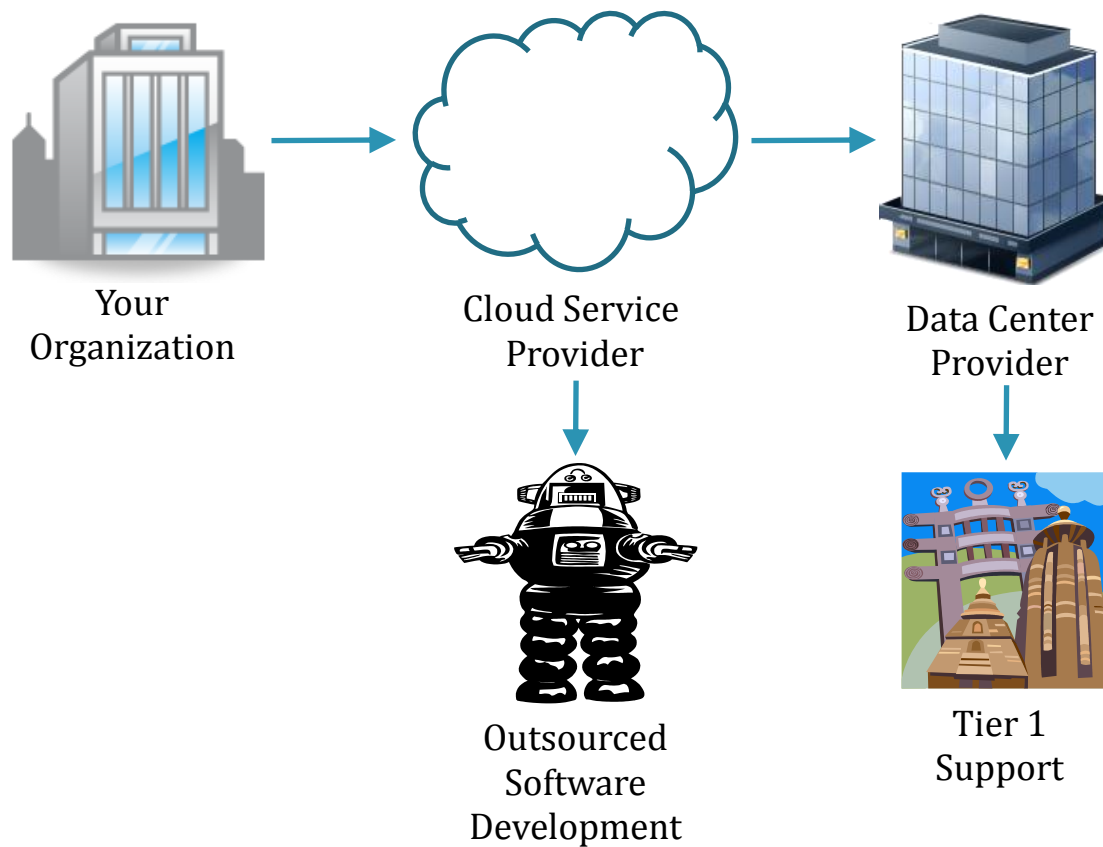
# IDENTIFY RESOURCES REQUIRED FOR RECOVERY EFFORT

- Alternate recovery site (co-location facilities, hotel meeting rooms, executive suites, etc.)
  - Hot / Warm / Cold?
- Server equipment (virtualized or physical, type/model, hardware configuration, storage equipment)
  - How quickly can equipment be purchased and acquired?
- Software including operating system type, database environment, application, and configuration settings.
- Backup management software
- Backup media equipment (backup equipment – LTOs, SDLT, DDS)
- Backup media
- Connectivity (Internet, VPNs/links to partners, extranets)
- Critical IT staff (System Administrators, Database Administrators)

# CLOUD CONSIDERATIONS



# CLOUD SERVICE CONSIDERATIONS





# CLOUD MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

- Understand the vendor's environment
- Understand the vendor's disaster recovery / business continuity plan
  - DR is often separate from service level agreements (e.g., 99.999% uptime) in many agreements, which often have disaster / force majeure ('acts of God') exceptions. Understand what guarantees they provide in DRP/BCP situations.
  - Obtain and review a Service Organization Controls (SOC) report
- Ensure there is an audit clause in your agreement

# DISASTER RECOVERY PLAN STRUCTURE

- Assumptions (communications infrastructure in place, primary location still available, primary IT staff available)
- Roles and Responsibilities
- Declaration of a Disaster
- Equipment Salvage (procurement)
- System Recovery Process (alternate site)
- Resumption at Primary Site
- Declare End of Disaster (debrief)

# CONSIDERATIONS

- Key staff (**and/or vendors**) may or may not be available during the recovery effort
  - Plan for Primary, Secondary, Tertiary, others
  - Ensure adequate decision-making and spending authority in advance
- Communications and infrastructure for the region may/may not be functioning
- Escalation plan and related timelines
- Recovery procedures should provide enough detailed so that alternate resources can follow if needed
- Recover all vs. subset of the required systems to meet critical (not all) business processes
- There will be performance degradation
- Functionality may be limited

# ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Disaster Recovery Team includes...

## Disaster Recovery Coordinator

- C-level individual or manager who directs the teams and serves as the leader of the recovery efforts

## Media/Communications Representative

- C-level manager, legal counsel or similar spokesperson who ensures a consistent message is communicated to the media

## Salvage Team

- IT and business unit staff who assess the equipment to determine if damage is minimal or extensive, and if new equipment needs to be procured

## Recovery Team

- IT team responsible for system rebuilding and data restoration

## Backup Support Staff

- The secondary individuals who can assume the role of the primary who may not be available

# DECLARATION OF A DISASTER

- Criteria for invoking the disaster recovery plan
  - ✓ Severe disruption to service
  - ✓ Potential for major data loss
  - ✓ Data security may have been compromised
- Initiating the call tree process
  - ✓ Disaster Recovery Coordinator starts the notification and activates the other teams involved in the recovery effort
  - ✓ Business unit managers responsible for notifying their teams

## GET THE WORD OUT!

- Key Stakeholders:
  - Customers
  - Employees
  - Suppliers
  - Insurance providers
  - Civic agencies (e.g., Police, Fire, National Guard)
  - Local media
- Communication Channels:
  - Intranet
  - Externally-hosted website (consider mobile)
  - Phone
  - Automated phone service (call-out, dial-in, or both)
  - Print media
  - Mail
  - Bulletin board

# DISASTER RECOVERY ACTIVITIES - EQUIPMENT SALVAGE

- Primary site may be available, but access is restricted due to danger
- Survey damage to assets for insurance purposes
- Determine if anything can be saved or serviced by the vendor immediately
- Device/Server support agreements need to be leveraged
- Test potentially damaged systems before relying on them for recovery operations
- Initiate emergency procurement process for immediate hardware, software, and appliance needs

## DISASTER RECOVERY ACTIVITIES - SYSTEM RECOVERY PROCESS (ALTERNATE SITE)

- IT team members are heavily involved with assistance from various operations teams depending on system being recovered
- Rebuild (makeshift) network, ensuring security from Internet-based threats
- Think about connections that need to be rerouted or pointed to recovery site
- Acquire or rebuild server hardware and install base operating system and patches
- Install and configure application and database software
- **Consider controls (IT and non-IT)**
- Configure accordingly and test
- Initiate data restoration process
- Test processing functions with business unit representatives
- Get satisfactory response before deeming system operable and live in the recovery environment



# DISASTER RECOVERY ACTIVITIES - RESUMPTION AT PRIMARY SITE

- Primary site has been declared safe by Fire Department, inspectors, other officials
- Connections to Internet and WAN have been re-established
- Replicate data back or move the recovery system for use as the primary system
- Re-establish connections or DNS pointers to primary site
- Test functionality with business process owners and get satisfactory response

# BUSINESS CONTINUITY

- Questions:
  - How will you continue delivering your process/service?
  - How will you manage employees (e.g., payroll)?
  - How will you manage vendors?
  - Others?
- Considerations:
  - Alternate manual/paper-based methods
  - Alternate controls (Financial, Operational, ITGCs, Security, etc.)

# DECLARING THE END OF THE DISASTER

- Communication to media, business partners, clients, other stakeholders
- Debrief with disaster recovery team members on what was good and where improvements need to be made
- Update the disaster recovery plan with new lessons learned



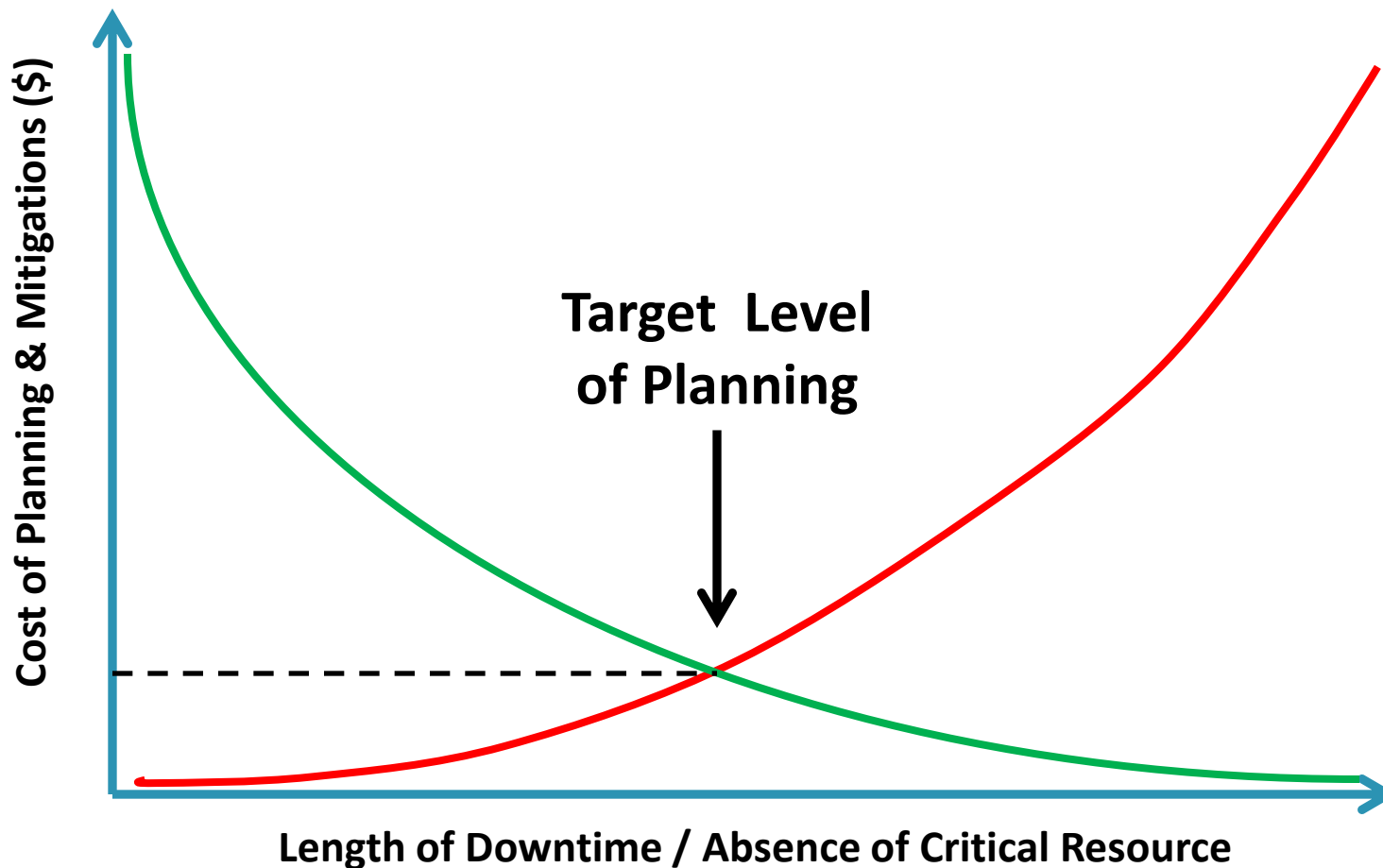
# KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- Human safety is #1
- Data security
- Remote work access
- Equipment acquisition
- Media storage
- DNS
- Sufficient insurance

# DISASTER RECOVERY PLAN – TESTING

1. Table top test
  2. Structured walk-through
  3. Parallel simulation
  4. Live production simulation
- 
- Test on an annual basis
  - Keep your plan current
  - Include all stakeholders (including vendors)

# HOW MUCH PLANNING AND MITIGATION IS ENOUGH?



# RESOURCES

- NIST Contingency Planning Guide for Federal Information Systems [http://csrc.nist.gov/publications/nistpubs/800-34-rev1/sp800-34-rev1\\_errata-Nov11-2010.pdf](http://csrc.nist.gov/publications/nistpubs/800-34-rev1/sp800-34-rev1_errata-Nov11-2010.pdf)
- Disaster Recovery Journal – [drj.com](http://drj.com)
- Business Recovery Manager’s Association – [brma.com](http://brma.com)
- DRII the Institute for Continuity Management – [drii.org](http://drii.org)
- Moss Adams IT Consulting Group – [www.mossadams.com](http://www.mossadams.com)

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