Business continuity is the term for the activity performed by any organization to ensure that its business functions will be available to its customers and users, in essence, IT resiliency.

There are three components to business continuity:

1. Continuity planning — preparatory planning of your business operations including inventories of applications, staffing needs, business cycles and mission critical applications
2. Disaster recovery — getting systems and infrastructure back online after a disaster
3. Business resumption — getting business functionality back online after the infrastructure is ready

What is IT Business Continuity?

IT Business Continuity Planning

- Know your application/business (the danger is not in what you know, but what you DON'T know!)
- Have an inventory of your critical resources (applications, hardware requirements, staffing needs, business functionality, etc.)
- Know where your applications are hosted, where (or if) your data is backed up and stored off-site
- For any incident involving your IT systems, the scale of the disaster will determine how an organization responds
- Large scale, long-term outage will require an organization to consider an alternate production site such as a fail-over hot-site
- Document your processes and procedures for application startup, for critical times during your business cycles,
- Know your RTO (Recovery Time Objective) i.e., the duration of time and a service level within which a business process must be restored after a disaster (or disruption) in order to avoid unacceptable consequences associated with a break in business continuity.
- Know your RPO (Recovery Point Objective, i.e., the maximum tolerable period in which data might be lost from an IT service due to a major incident.)
- Plan for a fail-over hot-site, with a large enough geographic separation from your main production data center
- Purchase your infrastructure and provision all blades, servers, racks, network, storage, security infrastructure in advance at your fail-over hot-site.
- Load, then test your applications annually with cooperation from the technical managers, the application owners and the end-users, using the documentation stored at your fail-over hot-site.

Why choose IST Business Continuity Services?

- UC Berkeley partners with the San Diego Supercomputer Center (SDSC) on the UC San Diego Campus.
- UC Berkeley pre-purchased racks at SDSC to rapidly provision your servers and blades
- UC Berkeley has a full network representation (including VPN, Load Balancer, 10gb network connectivity) at SDSC
- Redundant power with generator backup at SDSC
- System administration and DBA support from SDSC staff so you do not have to be there to manage your applications
- IST manages and coordinates full scale test restores of your applications at your convenience and request

You do NOT want to follow THIS plan:

But, an earthquake is not the only possible emergency or disaster scenario

DISASTER

NATURAL

Major Natural Disasters:
- Floods/cyclones/drought, earthquake

MANMADE

Major Manmade Disasters:
- Setting of fires, epidemics, deforestation, pollution, wars etc.

Minor Manmade Disasters:
- Road traffic accidents, food poisoning, industrial disaster/crises, environmental pollution etc.

IST Business Continuity webpage: http://ist.berkeley.edu/is/bc
IST Business Continuity Coordinator:
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