

Every Company Needs to Prepare a Business Continuity Plan



There's been a breach!

What do we do?



My Business Continuity Background

- Homegrocer.com and Webvan
 - First introduction to BCP and DR
- Washington Mutual (Wamu)
 - Business Continuity
 - Disaster Recovery
 - Vendor Risk Assessment
 - Emergency Management
 - Cyber Resilience
- Continuity Source Co-founder
 - Business Continuity SaaS
- Johanson Transportation Service (JTS)
 - Created a comprehensive Cyber Resilience, BCP/DR program
 - Continuous Improvement through Planning and Testing

Why do I Need a Business Continuity Plan?

- “Business continuity provides a framework for building organizational resilience and the capability for an effective response.” –DRI International, 2018, *DRI Professional Practices*
- Cyber Breach Legal Notification Requirements: Customer, Vendor, Data Privacy
- Cyber Insurance Requirements
- Cyber Resilience
 - Respond and Mitigate quickly
 - Everything we do daily to prevent attacks could be for nothing if we can't respond in a timely manner
- Business Survival

Who has the Time and Where do I Start?

- Get Support from Upper Management
- Schedule the Time in Small Chunks
- Understand Your Risks
 - Look around at your environment
 - Schedule regular Pen Tests
 - What has affected you or others in your industry in the past?
 - Talk to your department heads
- Identify Business Processes and Prioritize
- Set your Recovery Time Objectives (RTOs) based on Priority

What do Those Processes Depend on?

- Technology
 - Most People have Backups but may not have Progressed
 - Immutable, multi-media, multi-location
 - Data Center Continuity
 - Failover to another region while you recover failed region
 - Identify Applications, Data, Essential Equipment
 - Set Recovery Time Objectives (RTOs) and Recovery Point Objectives(RPOs) Based on when the Process is Needed
 - Key Technology Vendors
 - Look upstream and downstream
 - What happens if your rates provider or the cloud they use to host their service goes down?

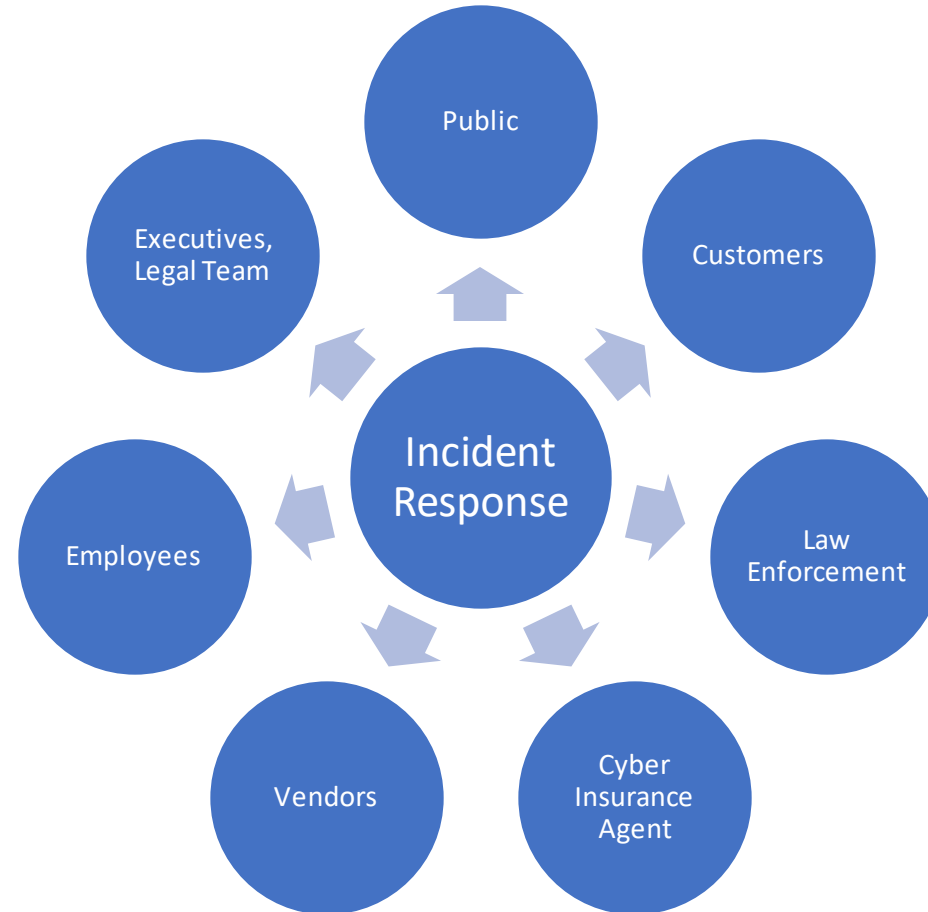
Other Process Dependencies

- Physical Locations
 - Earthquake, Fire, Water Damage, Technology Outage
 - Easier in the Digital Age
 - Covid forced us to figure this out
 - What about Long Term Loss of Location?
- People
 - Sudden Loss of Personnel
 - Long Term Loss of Key Personnel
 - Succession Plan
- Vendor
 - Are your Vendors Prepared?
 - What's their Plan?

Incident Response

- The Time it Takes for you to Respond can Greatly affect the Severity and Outcome of a Cyber Incident or other Disaster
- Define Clear Roles, Hierarchy, and Succession
 - Everyone should know who's in charge and what role they have
- Emergency Operations Center
- Communication Plan
 - Who gets contacted and in what order
 - Who is doing the communicating
 - Include internal and external parties
 - What media and channels to use?
 - Voice, Text, Hamm Radio, Satellite phone, What's App?

Notification Channels



Create Your Business Continuity Plan

- Put the Pieces Together and Document it
 - Include both Recovery (Restoring) and Continuity (Running while you restore)
- Don't Assume any Particular Person will be Following it
 - Include enough detail that anyone on the team can pick it up and run with it
- Large Type, Easy to Read, Quick Access to each Section
- Include Manual Workarounds and Templates
- Update the Plan as your Environment Changes
 - Make it a part of your everyday process

Educate, Test, Update Plan, Repeat

- Business Continuity is a Work in Progress.
 - It may take several tests to get it right
 - Finding issues with your plan is a good thing
 - Involve Everyone
- Larger Drills Coordinated with Local Government
- Smaller Tabletop Exercises Based on Scenarios
- Use Real Events to make your Plan Stronger
- Apply the same Cyber Resilience Policies
 - Encrypted, Immutable, MFA, Zero Trust
 - Look for higher levels of security if using new vendors

Meanwhile, back at the ranch...



Resources:

- <https://drii.org/resources/professionalpractices/EN>
- <https://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/specialpublications/nist.sp.800-61r2.pdf>
- <https://niccs.cisa.gov/education-training/catalog/cybrary/business-continuity-disaster-recovery-planning>

Questions?