





### Putting the Plug Back In

# Considerations for Auditing Your Disaster Recovery Plan

**Association of Contingency Planners** 

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- Basic overview of Disaster Recovery Planning
- Typical areas covered as part of "auditing" DR Plans
- Reasons for an audit of the DRP
- Value of 3rd party evaluation / audit



### Disaster Recovery Plan

- Also known as DRP (Disaster Recovery Plan)
- Plan to recover from a disaster
- Generally deals with IT system restoration
- Defines steps to be taken in the event of a disaster



### Disaster Recovery Plan

- Difference between DRP and Business Continuity Plan (BCP)
  - BCP focuses on steps needed to maintain a predefined level of service while restoration occurs
  - DRP focuses on "putting the plug back in" & getting running again
  - DRP is a component of a BCP
- Involves documentation, in advance



#### **DRP Audit Considerations**

- Have risks been considered?
- Is the plan documented?
- Have the necessary components been identified?
- Is the documentation current?
- Has the plan been tested / Is there a plan for regular testing?
- Have identified issues been fixed?



### **DRP Components**

- People Identify and <u>involve</u> appropriate people (both inside and outside IT)
- Processes Consider and <u>address</u> what needs to be done
  - Alternate locations, communication paths
- Technology Prepare and <u>utilize</u> technology
  - Data, Software, Hardware
  - Most basic component is data
    - Backup / Recovery



#### Reasons to Audit DRP

- Management Oversight
- Gap Identification
- Process & Organizational Improvement
- BPO Awareness and Accountability
- Regulatory Compliance



### Value of 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Audit

- At the base, it's the same value gained from having someone else "proofread" an important document.
- Provide visibility to management
- Assist in making the case for more robust DRP components
- Defining business functions, areas of control & concern as part of process
- Ensure independent analysis
- Potentially bring in "lessons learned"



## QUESTIONS





#### Thank You For Your Time

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