EXCERPT FROM THE FOREWORD TO THE 2ND EDITION

The events of 9/11 have cast a long shadow over the world and led to a vital reappraisal of Enterprise Risk Management and Business Continuity Management.

The Federal Reserve Bank of New York, Federal Reserve System, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, the New York State Banking Department, and the Securities and Exchange Commission sponsored the Financial Industry Summit, held on February 26, 2002. I can do no better than to repeat Roger Ferguson's summary of the key vulnerabilities that regulators and institutions have to face in the aftermath:

- First, contingency planning generally did not account for region-wide events. Some firms found they lost both primary and back-up sites. There were significant concerns about the loss of or inaccessibility of staff.
- Second, concentrations, both market-based and geographic, were really evident and became a source of vulnerability.
- Third, the critical interdependencies across the industry, although understood in the context of planning Year 2000, were never so readily apparent. This was evident in the impact of the problems at key infrastructure providers on wide range of financial institutions. Even institutions far removed from New York City were significantly affected by interdependencies.

These factors apply not only to financial institutions that were particularly hit by the tragedy, but also to many other industries that could be impacted by disasters having a similar impact.

Key lessons have been painfully learned:

- People issues are paramount: staff availability, risk awareness and training are critical.
- Operations distributed over a wide geographic area have a better chance of recovering and may recover quicker. Reliance on single points of failure should be avoided.
- Focus on the outcomes of disaster rather than the causes and on the deliverables rather than on the processes of delivery.
- It is not enough to pay lip service to business continuity: planning must be whole hearted, thorough and tested. Testing may need to extend across the industry, across industries and into the supply chain, including infrastructure providers.

It is our hope that effective risk management, emergency and continuity planning may help to prevent deliberate disasters and to mitigate the consequences of those that do occur.

Andrew Hiles
EXCERPT FROM THE PREFACE
Melvyn Musson, FBCI, CBCP, CISSP

I was very pleased to be asked to write a preface to this much-needed book. There are many books that have been written covering various aspects of hazard control, emergency response, disaster recovery and business continuity, but not one that pulls all areas together under the auspices of the individual sections of the BCI and DRII Professional Practices.

Why my interest? To quote from a letter I wrote to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) in 1991 when they were considering the establishment of a Technical Committee to develop a Standard on Disaster Management:

Disaster Management, or Business Continuation Planning as we prefer to call it, is a natural progression from Hazard/Loss Control through Emergency Response to the recovery process.

The best hazard/loss control programs cannot prevent emergency or catastrophic situations occurring. The emergency response procedures that most companies have developed or which may be required by law, deal with such aspects as initial fire fighting, evacuation, life safety, etc. - what one might term the stabilization of the situation. They cover the first hours of the emergency. They do not deal with the long-term recovery, which could take several months.

Disaster Management, or some other similarly named program, is needed to enable the company to institute procedures to return to normal operations as soon as possible.

That standard is now available as NFPA 1600: Standard on Disaster/Emergency Management and Business Continuity Programs. Within that standard are details of the BCI/DRII Professional Practices, albeit as part of the various sections of the standard and not as an individual, specific section.

In addition to NFPA 1600, other standards and guides such as BS7779 in Great Britain and the recent Australian Risk Management Standard are incorporating the Professional Practices either by specific reference or wording relating to the practices.

The advent of the Turnbull Report introduces a new consideration and need, which the Professional Practices can support.

This makes it all the more important to have a reference material that can clearly detail what should be considered in each of the ten subject areas, together with appropriate examples and details of not only the benefits but also the problems that can be expected with each of those subject areas. Andrew Hiles has been able to do so in the development of this book. In addition, since Andrew intends to issue periodic updates, this book becomes a living document, which will address both changes in the Professional Practices and developments within the industry.
TABLE OF CONTENTS

CONTENTS

DEDICATION

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

CONTENTS

FOREWORD TO THE 2ND EDITION

 PREFACE - MELVYN MUSSON, FBCI, CBCP, CISSP

FOREWORD BY THE BUSINESS CONTINUITY INSTITUTE (BCI) - JOHN SHARP

FOREWORD BY THE DISASTER RECOVERY INSTITUTE INTERNATIONAL (DRII) -
PAUL R. THOMAS, JR. AND BENNY D. TAYLOR

INTRODUCTION

BUSINESS CONTINUITY ROAD MAP: INTRODUCTION

1 PROJECT INITIATION AND MANAGEMENT

1.1 DRIII/BCI Unit 1 Project Initiation & Control
1.2 Business Continuity Project - Activities
1.3 Business Continuity - Project or Program?
Figure 1.1: Bc Maturity Pyramid
1.4 Defining the Need: Scope of Business Continuity
1.5 Defining the Need: What Is a Disaster?
1.6 Disaster Defined
1.7 Recovery Timescale
Figure 1.2: Time for Recovery
1.8 Communicating the Need - Awareness: the Dangers
1.9 Communicating the Need - Awareness: Benefits of Business Continuity Planning
1.10 Establish BC Policy
1.11 Establish a Planning / Steering Committee
Figure 1.3: Example of Steering Committee Structure
1.12 Project Planning
1.13 Develop Initial Budgetary Requirements
1.14 Report to Senior Management
1.15 Making it Stick - Other Motivators
1.16 Summary
Appendix a to Chapter One: Project Initiation Checklist
Appendix B to Chapter One: Examples of Briefing Information
Appendix C to Chapter One: Examples of Disaster Recovery Project
Appendix D to Chapter One: Examples of Project Terms of Reference & Scope, Business Continuity Project
Appendix E to Chapter One: Example of a Simple Business Continuity Project Plan
Appendix F: Indicative Project Deliverables and Investment -Phase 1 of Pilot Project

Business Continuity Road Map: Chapter 1

2 RISK EVALUATION & CONTROL

2.1 DRIII/ BCI Unit 2 Risk Evaluation & Control
2.2 Definitions: Hazards, Threats, Risks and Assets
2.3 Risk Assessment - the Need
2.4 Health & Safety - Risk Assessment
2.5 Control of Major Accident Hazards Regulations 1999 (COMAH)
2.6 System Safety Programs and HAZOP
2.7 Risk Management for Finance and the Finance Sector - Compliance Issues
2.8 Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Compliance
2.9 Risk Assessment in the Food Industry
2.10 Health Care
2.11 Risk Assessment in Other Industries
Table 2.1 Risk Guidance and Compliance
2.12 Risk Assessment: Statutory Requirement and Duty of Care
2.13 Example of Risk Assessment Guidelines: the Turnbull Report
2.13.1 the Turnbull Process
2.13.2 Making Progress
2.14 Risk Requirements in Germany
2.15 Risk Assessment - the Process
Figure 2.1 Schematic of Risk Assessment Process
2.16 Options for Risk Management
2.17 the Turnbull Approach to Risk Assessment
2.18 Critical Component Failure Analysis
2.19 Operational Risk Management
2.20 an Output Approach to Risk
2.21 Security and Siting - Risk Areas
2.22 Summary
2.23 Case Studies
Appendix A to Chapter Two: Possible Threats
Appendix B to Chapter Two: Example of a Simple Risk Analysis
Appendix C to Chapter Two: the E-bomb: the New Threat
Appendix D to Chapter Two: Fire Hazard from Computer Tapes
Appendix E to Chapter Two: Possible Threats: Smoke Tests
Appendix F to Chapter Two: Foot & Mouth: a Preventable Disaster
Appendix G: Site, Environmental & Health & Safety Risk Assessment Checklist
Business Continuity Road Map: Chapter 2

3 BUSINESS IMPACT ANALYSIS

3.1 DRBI/BCI Unit 3 Business Impact Analysis
3.2 What Is BIA?
3.3 The BIA Project
3.4 BIA Data Collection Methods
3.5 Critical Success Factors: Definitions
Figure 3.1: Critical Success Factor / Business Process Matrix
3.6 Key Performance Indicators
3.7 Process Flows
3.8 Outputs & Deliverables
3.9 Activity Categorization
3.10 Desk Review of Documentation
3.11 Questionnaires
3.12 Interviews
Figure 3.2: Summary of BIA Interview Data
3.13 Workshops
3.14 Business Impact Analysis - Financial Justification for BCM
3.15 Grounds for Justification
3.16 Life and Safety
3.17 Marketing
Figure 3.3 the World's Top Ten Brands
3.18 Financial
Figure 3.4 Average Normalized Share Price Variation % Following a Disaster
3.19 Compliance / Legal Requirements
3.20 Quality
3.21 Summary: Financial Loss
Table 3.5: Cost of Disaster - Causes
3.22 Designing an Impact Matrix
Table 3.6: Simplified Impact Analysis
3.23 Time Window for Recovery
Figure 3.7 Risks and Outage
Figure 3.8 Time Window for Recovery
3.24 A Tiered Approach to Business Continuity Planning: Relationship of Business Continuity and Service Level Agreements
Figure 3.9 Tiered Availability
3.25 Resource Requirements
Figure 3.10 Effect of Coincident Workload Peaks
Figure 3.11 The Backlog Build-up
3.26 Summary
Appendix A to Chapter Three: Resource & Timescale for Provisioning
Appendix B to Chapter Three: Example of Risk & Impact Analysis
Appendix C to Chapter Three: Example of a Service Level Agreement Using Tier Rating
Business Continuity Road Map: Chapter 3

4 DEVELOPING CONTINUITY STRATEGIES

4.1 DRII / BCI Unit 4: Developing Continuity Strategies
4.2 Vital Materials and Back-up
4.3 Business Continuity Strategy: Options
4.3.1 Bunker
4.3.2 Continuous Processing
4.3.3 Distributed Processing
4.3.4 Alternate Site
4.3.5 Quick Resupply
4.3.6 Off-Site Storage
4.3.7 Working from Home
4.3.8 Reciprocal Arrangements
4.3.9 Buying-in or Outsourcing
4.3.10 Buffer Stock
4.3.11 Other Recovery Services
4.4 Option Comparison
4.5 Contractual Arrangements for Recovery Services
Figure 4.1: Recovery Options and Recovery Timescale
4.6 Lateral and Creative Thinking
4.7 the Role of Insurance
Figure 4.2: Insurance Relationships
4.8 Using Consultants
4.9 Summary
Appendix A to Chapter Four: Example of a BC Project
Business Continuity Road Map: Chapter 4

5 EMERGENCY RESPONSE & OPERATIONS

5.1 DRII / BCI Unit 5: Emergency Response & Operations and Unit 10 Coordination with Public Authorities
5.2 Types of Emergencies
5.3 Coordination with Public Authorities (DRII /BCI Unit 10)
5.3.1 DRII/BCI Standards
5.4 International Coordination
5.5 US Department of Homeland Security
5.6 National Incident Management System
5.7 National Interagency Incident Management System
5.8 The US Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
5.8.1 About FEMA

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5.8.2 FEMA's Role in Anti-Terrorism
5.8.3 FEMA's Powers
5.8.4 US State Emergency Authorities
5.9 Office of Critical Infrastructure Protection and Emergency Preparedness Canada
5.10 Emergency Management Australia
5.11 Local Incident Control and Escalation
Table 5.3 UK "Blue Light" Services: Command Structure
5.12 UK National Arrangements for Responding to a Disaster
5.12.1 Overview
5.12.2 Roles
5.12.3 Combined Response
5.13 Public Relations & Crisis Communication (DRII/BCI UNIT 9)
5.13.1 DRII/BCI Competencies
5.13.2 Crisis Communication
5.13.3 Role of Media Management
5.13.4 Communication with Stakeholders
5.14 Salvage and Restoration
5.15 Summary
Appendix A to Chapter 5: Example Emergency Plans
Appendix B to Chapter Five: Emergency Response Acronyms
Business Continuity Road Map: Chapter 5

6 DEVELOPING & IMPLEMENTING THE BCP

6.1 DRII/BCI Unit 6 Developing and Implementing Business Continuity Plans
6.2 Introduction
Figure 6.1 the Anatomy of BC Plan Development
6.3 Plan Introduction
6.4 Identify Teams
Figure 6.2 Example BC Organization
6.5 Tasks, Actions and Functions
6.6 Roles and Responsibilities
6.7 Alternative Locations (Standby Locations)
6.8 Contact Details for Internal and External Contacts
6.9 Vital Documents and Materials
6.10 Resource Requirements
6.11 Reporting Processes and Requirements
6.12 Audit Trail
6.13 Confidentiality Status, Version Control and Document Configuration Management
6.14 Structure of the Plan
Figure 6.3 Example Organization and BC Plan Structure
6.15 Interim Plans
6.16 Software Tools for Plan Development
6.17 Summary
Appendix A to Chapter 6: Example Office Services Plan for a Professional Practice
Appendix B to Chapter 6: Example Contents of Generic Bc Plan Appendices
Appendix C to Chapter 6: Business Continuity Planning Software
Appendix D to Chapter Six: BC Software Checklist
Business Continuity Road Map: Chapter 6

7 AWARENESS & TRAINING PROGRAMS

7.1 DRII/BCI Unit 7: Awareness & Training Programs
7.2 Establishing Objectives and Components of the Program
7.3 Identifying Functional Awareness and Training Requirements
7.4 Developing the Training Methodology
7.5 Acquiring or Developing Training Aids

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7.6 Identifying External Training Opportunities
7.7 Identifying Vehicles for Corporate Awareness
7.8 The Macquarie University Report
7.9 Summary
Appendix A to Chapter Seven: Staff Skills Assessment Matrix
Appendix B to Chapter Seven: Disaster Management Internet Hot List
Emergency Services News Groups
Emergency Services Mailing Lists
Catalogues, Publication Lists, Computer Data Bases
Business Continuity Road Map: Chapter 7

8 MAINTAINING & EXERCISING THE BCP

8.1 DRII/BCI Unit 10: Maintaining & Exercising the BCP
8.2 BC Plan Audit & Review
Table 8.1 Bc Plan Audit Areas
8.3 the Need for Exercise
8.4 Exercise Strategy
8.5 Exercise Methods
8.5.1 Talk Through
8.5.2 Walk-through
8.5.3 Role Play Scenario
8.5.4 Disaster Drill: Pull the Plug
8.6 A Structured Approach to Plan Exercising
8.7 When to Exercise
Table 8.1 Exercise Checklist
8.8 Post Exercise Reporting
8.9 Summary
Appendix A to Chapter Eight: Example of Notes of an Exercise Planning Meeting
Appendix B to Chapter Eight: Scenario for a Plan Walk-through
Appendix C to Chapter Eight: Example Brief for Observers
Appendix D to Chapter Eight: Test Scenario - Initial Briefings and Situation Reports (Sitreps)
Business Continuity Road Map: Chapter 8

9 STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES

9.1 Introduction
9.2 USA: NFPA 1600, Standard on Disaster/Emergency Management and Business Continuity Programs
9.2.1 Introduction to NFPA 1600
9.2.2 NFPA 1600 Content
9.2.3 Compliance with the NFPA 1600 Standard
9.3 US Federal Emergency Agency (FEMA) Disaster Planning for Business and Industry
9.4 Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council (FFIEC) Guidelines
9.5 Canadian Standards Association CAN/CSA-7731-M95, Emergency Planning for Industry, a National Standard for Canada
9.6 South Africa Disaster Management
9.7 British Standard BS 7799 Standard in Information Security Management
Table 9.1: BS 7799 Controls
9.8 Australia AS4444 Standard in Information Security Management
Table 9.2 AS 4444 Sections and Objectives
9.9 Australia: Australian National Audit Office Better Practice Guide, Business Continuity Management, Keeping the Wheels in Motion
9.10 Standards Australia OB/7 Working Group Business Continuity Management Guideline Draft Version 2.1
9.11 UK Defence Council Instruction DCI GEN 170/98 Business Continuity
9.12 UK Office of Government Commerce Bc Planning Guide

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Business Continuity Has a Wider Scope. Business Continuity management refers to the processes and procedures that associates take to make sure that regular business operations continue during a disaster. It can mean the difference between survival and total shutdown. It is based on a relentless analysis and isolation of critical business processes. 


Environment: ShoreTel IP-PBX versions 9-13 Overview Business Continuity Best Practices: Resiliency, High Availability and Disaster Planning with a ShoreTel IP-PBX Every enterprise, whether large or small, places a heavy reliance on their communication infrastructure to conduct and grow their business. 

Like any advanced system, proper planning, deployment strategies and best practice configurations are necessary keys to installing and maintaining a fully survivable and highly-available ShoreTel UC system. This Application Note discusses the myriad Business Continuity-oriented features and functions of the ShoreTel UC system and describes when, and how, to properly deploy and configure these features.