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BACKUP RECOVERY

Backup and Disaster Recovery Planning 101

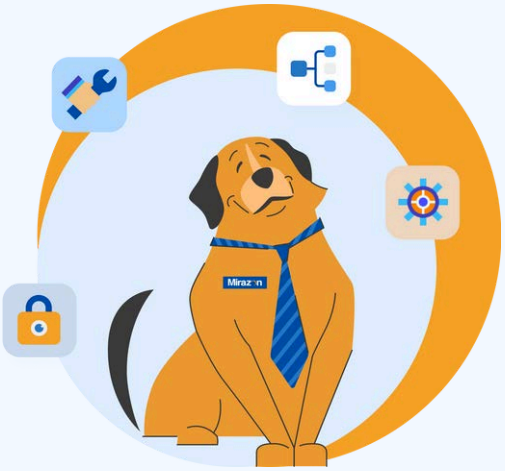
Introduction

Your small- to mid-size business is operating at full capacity. You're getting new customers every day, your suppliers are meeting their orders, and you're experiencing rapid growth. Everything is running smoothly. Then, disaster strikes.

"Disaster" can take many forms for a business: from natural disasters like floods, fires, or severe storms to more human threats like cyberattacks, data breaches,, or internal mistakes—and sometimes even hardware failure.

Many of these disasters are simply beyond your control. Between digital and physical threats, it's important to understand there is no such thing as perfect and complete protection for your company's network.

So, what are some of the actionable steps that businesses like yours can take to better prepare for surviving the unexpected? We are here to share our top backup and disaster recovery planning tips to prepare your operation to power through the unexpected.



Disaster Recovery In the Cloud

According to Gartner, over 90% of disaster recovery operations will run in the Cloud by 2020. Cloud-based backup and disaster recovery is a strategy that involves storing copies of your business-critical data in the cloud. This offers an easier and more flexible way to recover data in the event of a disaster.

A strong backup and disaster recovery plan allows for continuity of services and the ability to failover to a second location if there is a complete interruption of IT systems.

Cloud-Based DR Approaches Side-By-Side

	Managed Primary and DR Instances	Cloud-Based Backup and Restore	Replication in the Cloud
Instances	• Salesforce.com CRM • Email in the cloud	• On-premises into the cloud • Cloud to cloud	• On-premises into the cloud • Cloud to cloud
Merits	• Fully managed DR • 100% usage based • Least complex	• Only requires cloud storage; cloud virtual machines are optional • Usually less complex than replication	• Best RTO's and RPOs • More likely to support application-consistent recovery
Caution	• Service-level agreements define access to production and DR instances	• Less favorable RTOs and RPOs than replication	• Higher degree of complexity
Implemented via ...	• N/A	• Backup applications and appliances	• Replication software • Cloud gateways • Cloud storage software such as EMC ECS and Hitachi HCP

Proactive Planning for a Better Future

We've put together a guide for proactive backup and disaster recovery planning procedures to help your organization be better prepared to carry on in any situation.

A Documented Plan that Evolves with You

Discuss and prepare a formal, written disaster recovery plan that documents important processes, contact information, and assets in the event of an emergency. Define the things that keep your business running (data backup, computer equipment, email accessibility, etc.) and how quickly you need to resume business post-disaster. Provide clear instructions and guidance for your team to use, and be sure someone has responsibility for executing the plan.

> **"During a catastrophic event, getting access to data as quickly as possible is key."**

Test Your Disaster Recovery Plan

Your disaster recovery plan must be tested at least once annually to truly keep your business afloat. By simulating realistic circumstances that can apply to actual emergencies, the testing phase becomes crucial in helping you maintain business continuity after a disaster. During this process, it's also important to make sure the team responsible for regularly updating the plan accounts for significant changes to your systems, policies, and personnel.

Off-Site Backups and Storage

During any catastrophic event, getting access to data as quickly as possible is key. Every company should carry out regularly scheduled, frequent backups for continuous data protection and verify their data is secure and accessible immediately following a crisis. Having both an on-location and an off-site set of backups is key to ensuring that no matter what, you have access to a relatively recent instance of your business' IT systems.

Working with a Managed Service Provider

Often small- to mid-size businesses lack the technical personnel, budget, or time to internally design and implement complex disaster recovery plans. Partnering with a managed service provider (MSP) allows business owners to focus on running their business without leaving this critical safeguard incomplete. An MSP will be in charge of putting the right server, network, and storage infrastructure in place for a robust and comprehensive disaster recovery plan. And the entire process will be kept up-to-date and tested regularly to ensure it is reliable.

Mirazon

Our Partnership

We're dedicated to helping businesses of all sizes and industries protect against rising threats and potential disasters. Giving you the best chances for success matters to us, and we'll do everything in our power to ensure complete protection. When you are equipped with a foolproof and powerful business continuity plan, you'll never have to worry about losing face with customers should a disaster occur. Contact us today to learn more!

CONTACT US TODAY!

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