

BCI FORUM – ACT – 20 February 2008

ACT Representative Report

1. GLOBAL

- New logo in place.
- Major changes to member application – entry to Associate, Member and Specialist will be via exam and scored assessment. Refer to website. Exams will be held around the world four times annually.
- Comprehensive education/training program developed for the BCI. Five one-day modules. Will be offered by multiple providers including the Australian Chapter of the BCI in partnership with logistics providers. Preliminary discussions with CIT. Not a requirement for the exam, but will obviously provide a thorough understanding of BCM.
- BCI e-learning courses available. Not required to sit exam, but will be structured to provide thorough understanding of BCI Guidelines.
- New partnership programs implemented to broaden uptake of BCM better practice
- UK standard BSI 25999-2 has been released. This is the specification for the BSI BCM standard and it provides a basis for certification of an organisation's BCM program. BSI and others will offer audit and certification. This is a major international contribution to best practice. More on this later.

2. AUSTRALIA

- MOST IMPORTANT – Business Continuity Awareness Week will run in Australia from 28 April to 2 May. The second BCI Asia/Pacific conference and workshops will run from 20 April to 2 May in Sydney. BCI in conjunction with IIR. There will also be a function in Canberra on Tuesday 29 April organised by Continuity Forum with involvement from the BCI.
- Chapter is now fully operational with seed funding from the UK.
- The website will be the primary means of information dissemination.
- Examining options to acquire and present BCM training modules developed by BCI in the UK.
- Please refer to the website regularly.

BCM STANDARDS AND BCM PROGRAMS

1. Why is BS 25999 so important? BS 25999 was originally based upon the BCI Better Practice Guidelines supplemented by input from a variety of interested parties. Following the completion of Part 1 the BCI Guidelines were updated to reflect the published standard. Part 1 outlines what could be included in a BCM program. Part 2, released late last year, defines what should be included in a BCM program. A complete and consistent package is now available from “how to” through to an effective audit:

- BS 25999-1 Business Continuity Management – Part 1: Code of Practice
 - The scope, process, principles and terminology of BCM – what could you include
- BCI Better Practice Guidelines 2007
 - How to implement all aspects of a BCM program
- BS 25999-2 Business Continuity Management – Part 2: Specification
 - What a BCM program should contain – the basis for audit and certification

2. Organisations are already being certified to the standard in the UK and internationally. It is expected that there will be increasing pressure upon suppliers to demonstrate their BCM preparedness through certification (cf. ISO 9001).

3. Regardless of certification there is a growing focus on the BCM program – i.e. we have moved beyond the “do you have a BC plan?”, and “do you exercise your BC plan(s)?”. Without a comprehensive BCM program there is a strong risk that BC practices may not:

- be directed, overseen and authorised by the CEO and Executive Team
- maintain alignment with corporate objectives
- be adequately and/or appropriately staffed
- be adequately funded
- be periodically reviewed including, inter alia,
 - verify policy
 - verify organisational structure and implementation
 - verify key products and services

- verify Maximum Tolerable Period of Disruption (MTPD)
- revisit BIA and verify Critical Activities (CA)
- review BCPs
- review membership of BC Teams
- review training adequacy and delivery
- review BC culture development activities
- review exercise schedules and outcomes
- verify corrective actions arising from exercises
- verify supply chain capabilities
- verify stakeholder arrangements and capabilities
- verify validity of all contact lists
- review and assess adequacy of all documentation

4. Without this level of Executive involvement and review there is a real possibility that plans may be maintained and exercised whilst gradually moving further and further away from the overall goals and objectives of the organisation.

5. If you do not have a comprehensive BCM program in place begin, NOW, to retrofit in a top-down manner. It is certain that audits will increasingly focus on this as opposed to just examining plans and exercise outcomes.