

# **BUSINESS CONTINUITY INSTITUTE**

## **AUSTRALASIA**

### **BUSINESS CONTINUITY AWARENESS WEEK - 2009**

#### **ACTIVITY REPORT**

1. In 2009 the BCI and Continuity Forum combined to provide a range of activities including the annual BCI Summit. Although the two organisations have previously worked together for some meetings, BCAW really built upon the cooperation agreement which was enacted earlier this year.
2. A BCAW Working Group was formed and met fortnightly from January 2009 and produced the BCAW theme and material (logo, poster, calendar, online form, daily emails). It also contributed to organising the Week's start-off events and to advertising the initiative to other associations and groups. This year registration was not compulsory to download the poster and other materials so an actual count of accessors is not available. As few people requested hard copy materials in 2008, and to minimise costs, only electronic versions were offered for 2009. In addition to the electronic materials small packs of seeds were packaged with the BCAW 2009 logo and these were distributed at various BCAW events. Thanks to Phoenix Continuity Services for their sponsorship.
3. Various organisations registered details of activities that they conducted during BCAW including the following:
  - Testing of all globally positioned satellite phones;
  - Conducted Client Breakfast Seminars;
  - More awareness of the corporate program;
  - BC awareness survey of internal staff
  - Awareness message on the company Intranet including BC Team contact details, Staff Crisis Hotline reminder, Security Card access reminder (crisis contact details on the reverse of card), ICE (in case of emergency) - tip to put in your mobile phone;
  - Building up awareness with groups and intranet site;
  - Presentation at Melbourne BCAW Event and Attendance at Brisbane Summit;
  - Sponsorship and promotion of BCAW;
  - Awareness sessions and BCP deskcheck.
4. BCAW "kick off" events were organised by Continuity Forum and the BCI, sponsored by KPMG (Sydney, Brisbane, Melbourne), Booz & Co (Canberra) and the Ministry of Civil Defence and Emergency Management (Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch). These were well attended with significant increases upon the numbers achieved in 2008.
5. The joint Continuity Forum-BCI Benchmarking Survey was also launched during the Week. One month from the start of the BCAW we have 52 responses. The Survey will be open until the end of May 2009.
6. The Australasian Chapter AGM was held during BCAW and this included elections for the positions of BCI Australian Representative and BCI Australasian Chapter President.

Leslie Whittet FBCI was elected to the former role and Tim Janes MBCI to the latter role. Thanks were expressed to Bill Hannan for his great work over the past two years, wearing both hats! It is felt that separating the two roles will significantly assist with the increasing workload and developments in Australasia.

## **7. Third Annual Business Continuity Summit**

7.1 The flagship event for BCAW was, of course, the Third Annual Business Continuity Summit held in Brisbane on 25 and 26 March. This year it was run jointly by the Business Continuity Institute and Continuity Forum Pty Ltd. CF sourced an excellent venue - Chifley at Lennons Hotel, Brisbane – which comfortably accommodated both combined and streamed sessions.

7.2 The two-day conference was structured to cover BC Essentials on day 1 and BC Innovations on day 2. Parallel focus streams were offered in the late morning session on both days. There were 24 presentations plus 2 panel discussions.

7.3 The level of sponsorship was excellent and we are grateful to the following organisations for assisting to ensure the success of the summit:

- Mitigator (two-day exhibitor)
- Kroll Ontrack (one day exhibitor)
- Australian Organisation for Quality (Queensland)
- BSI Management System (panel discussion)
- Phoenix Continuity Management (lunch on both days)
- Fulcrum Risk Services (networking drinks)

7.4 Attendance was excellent and marked an increase over numbers achieved in 2008 – 59 people attended, which number includes special guests (hosts of multiple events in various states) and speakers' guests. All speakers and the day's chairs were entitled to a second complimentary registration for a guest. Delegates this year were able to access a significantly discounted registration fee compared to last year's Summit, but given the current economic situation these results are outstanding.

7.5 Delegate feedback indicates that day 2 was the more popular one and this reflects Continuity Forum experience that presentations pitched at a more basic level do not usually obtain as good a rating as the ones pitched at experienced professionals.

7.6 Three workshops were held the day before the Summit started, to provide delegates with the option of furthering their training in the field during the BC Awareness Week.

Leslie T Whittet FBCI  
Business Continuity Institute Representative for Australia

