

Business Continuity Awareness Week (BCAW) June 15th to 21st, 2008

Business Continuity Management is the process that guides each organization in preparing to address potential impacts that threaten their value-adding activities or reputation. This includes safeguarding the facilities and resources required to address threats when they arise. Resources include "people", an organization's most important asset. Without people all the planning, testing and preparation will be for naught.

Although company wide plans are in place, each individual needs to think about their own preparation. Putting in place plans to respond to any number of threats will better position individuals to take care of themselves and their family. This will also position them to be available to assist in protecting their livelihood should the threat affect their business. Every individual needs to be fully aware of their company's overall Business Continuity Management program as well as components of the program that impact them directly.

Every individual should understand their own ...

PERSONAL PREPAREDNESS

This year's Business Continuity Awareness Week (BCAW) runs from June 15th until June 21st, 2008 and the theme this year is Personal Preparedness. As Business Continuity professionals we spend so much of our energy defining requirements, designing solutions and putting plans into place to protect the assets of our individual organizations, but we also need to consider what we can do to protect ourselves, and our families in the event of a disaster. This could include responding to natural disasters, pandemics and man made disasters that could affect you and your family members directly. With this in mind, this year's BCAW is designed to provide you with practical information you can begin using immediately to provide for your own Personal Preparedness including:

- Useful links to checklists, handbooks and tools aimed to help you design, build and test-drive your own Personal Preparedness Plan.
- Related DRIE member articles outlining real examples of where Personal Preparedness has paid off.
- A forum to allow you to share you own Personal Preparedness ideas.

The following links will provide you with just a sample of best practices for Personal Preparedness. These are ready for immediate use.

- City of Toronto: http://www.toronto.ca/bia/pdf/oem_booklet.pdf
- Government of Canada: http://www.getprepared.gc.ca/fl/guide/national_e.pdf
http://www.getprepared.gc.ca/fl/be_prep_e.pdf
http://www.safecanada.ca/link_e.asp?category=4&topic=186
http://epweek.ca/index_e.asp
- US Government: <http://www.opm.gov/emergency/PDF/NationalFamilyGuide.pdf>
- Canadian Centre for Emergency Preparedness: <http://www.ccep.ca/cceppers.html>
- SunGard: http://www.availability.sungard.com/NR/rdoonlyres/EEE84A19-7A85-4E13-B299-420F17212DBB/0/PrecautionsNotPanic_MitigatingtheRiskofaPandemic.pdf