

Disaster Recovery Design Document

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Overview

Disaster recovery planning is very important in the digital age. One unplanned outage, a cyber attack, or a critical infrastructure disaster, like a flood or fire, could have devastating effects on any organization with direct results (Setyawan et al., 2020). The ability to recover quickly from an outage, attack, or disaster quickly and with minimal data loss will greatly reduce the harm to the organization and allow for the continued offering of products and services. A Disaster Recovery plan is a way an organization can plan for the worst and have set procedures in place to mitigate the problem, bring back services quickly and minimize data loss in the process (Chin, 2023).

Many different factors can cause unplanned outages, all of which result in downtime and hinder the organization's ability to perform its business operations. Long outages can hurt customer satisfaction and the overall business reputation. The idea of disaster recovery planning is to mitigate as many possible disastrous outcomes as possible and have a clear plan of action to get critical systems operational and back online (Chin, 2023).

The Information Technology Disaster Recovery (ITDR) plan when properly implemented can save the company from disaster. The whole organization must be on board with the plan because Information Technology supports so many processes inside most organizations. To start, the business must look at its own processes that are in place to achieve its strategic goals. Then to look at the services IT must support those process that allow the organization to meet or strive for those same goals.

There is also risk management and how much risk an organization is willing to take compared to what they want to guard against. Risk management is an important piece to think about when coming up with a disaster management plan, as it sets the goals that the plan must achieve when implemented.

The plan must be written to include all the steps that would be taken in the event of a disaster. This plan will include who will take the disaster recovery lead role and who will be part of the disaster recovery team (Raza, 2021). It will outline the communication methods that the team will use to communicate. It will be hard to get the team together during a disaster if lines of communication have compromised. The plan will include different steps for different situations. A database becoming compromised may have a different DR leader compared to a physical network disaster. These scenarios will have to be examined and decisions will have to be made during the plan creation process.

A well planned disaster recovery plan can be the difference between an organization failing altogether or it manages through a disaster and recovering with minimal service interruptions. When unexpected events happen, it is critical that a plan is ready and in place to guide any organization through some tough times, so the organization can continue to proceed to achieve its business goals.

Outline

The reusable learning object found in this document.

1. Introduction to Disaster Recovery

2. Create an Organization Policy
3. Select Teams and Determine the Responsibilities
4. Business Impact Analysis
5. Identify Supporting Functions for the Business
6. Implement Mitigation Strategies
7. Create Activation Plans
8. Exercise and Test the Plans
9. Maintenance of the Plans
10. Conclusion

Audience

The audience of this RLO is IT professionals, Business Leaders, and Students who are interested in learning about how to create a disaster recovery plan. This document will walk those interested through the stages of planning and information gathering to the ability to recover from a disaster. The audience will be challenged to participate in this process and get skills through demonstration. This will help readers gain a high level of understanding in how to write a disaster recovery plan.

Prerequisite Knowledge

The prerequisite for this RLO is an accurate business or organizational knowledge. It will require some business acumen to think about the business priorities and goals. Then to

take the organizations strategic goals and view risks that may affect them. The reader will also have to think about how IT systems support the processes an organization has and what process are essential to keep the business processes operational.

This RLO will help Business leaders and IT Professionals come together to formulate a plan for the overall health and wellbeing of the organisation.

References

- Chin, K. (2023, July 4). *What is a Disaster Recovery Plan? + Complete Checklist* / UpGuard. Www.upguard.com. <https://www.upguard.com/blog/disaster-recovery-plan>
- Raza, M. (2021, November 18). *IT Disaster Recovery Planning Explained* [Review of *IT Disaster Recovery Planning Explained*]. Security & Compliance Blog. <https://www.bmc.com/blogs/disaster-recovery-planning/>
- Setyawan, A., Giri Sucahyo, Y., & Gandhi, A. (2020, November 1). *Design of Disaster Recovery Plan: State University in Indonesia*. IEEE Xplore. <https://doi.org/10.1109/ICIC50835.2020.9288543>