

Risk Management Business Impact Analysis

We offer a management level analysis to identify the impact of losing company resources. The Business Impact Analysis (BIA) measures the effect of resource loss over time and provides senior management with reliable data to make decisions regarding risk mitigation and continuity planning. The Business Impact Analysis is provided by **xwave's** Security and Disaster Recovery (DR) Team, one of the largest security teams in Atlantic Canada.

DESCRIPTION

A Business Impact Analysis provides a report containing a detailed and summarized description of the business functions in your organization. Overall, it identifies the effects of disruptions on your organization and how to quantify and qualify the impact. A BIA highlights critical business functions and is used to set priorities for plan development. It determines the impact of loss for each function based on allowable downtime, the financial impacts on specific business functions and the priority for restoring these functions. The BIA also reviews any existing plan.

Our analysis includes an assessment of non-financial issues such as legal, management control, and public impact from an extended outage. It focuses on the business implications of an outage or failure, or unavailability of information systems. The conclusions from our analysis provide the basis for the development of a contingency plan to remedy the unplanned removal of systems and applications, should it ever occur. Whether you represent a startup company, an

institution, or a full enterprise, we can tailor a BIA to suit your needs.

BENEFITS

Identifying your mission-critical business processes will equip you with an accurate description of your key functions and vulnerabilities. In addition, you will understand the consequences in terms of financial loss, expenses and the organization's image. The BIA provides your organization with a report outlining findings and recommendations that will allow you to make sound decisions relating to recovery strategies and next steps in plan development.

METHODOLOGY

We will document profiles for each business function and the associated information systems. Business functions are the primary areas of operation that collectively fulfill the mandate of the organization. Once they have been identified, the following information is collected:

- critical information systems required to support departmental business functions
- impact description

- impact-versus-time relationship
- critical processing dates
- maximum possible delay
- effect of backlog work
- recovery priority
- recovery options

Based upon the results of the analysis, contingency planning scenarios can be implemented to support business resumption. These scenarios include:

1. An extended outage during which time an entirely new, duplicate platform is provisioned, and production applications and data are loaded onto the system.
2. An extended outage during which time a rented, equivalent technology platform is prepared for the loading of production applications and data.
3. A brief outage during which time production is switched to a synchronized, alternate backup system that exists in an alternate location.

These scenarios are listed in descending order based on recovery time in the event of an unplanned outage. They are also listed in ascending order of cost to implement the supporting plan, process, and technology infrastructure. In simple terms, the longer the tolerable outage, the lower the cost to provision and maintain a contingency plan.

The process is facilitative, requiring the involvement of business analysts and business function managers. We will conduct interviews to gather the necessary data, analyze the information, and make appropriate recommendations. After the report is presented, we can begin the process of developing the required contingency plan, including recommendations for the supporting technology infrastructure.

SUMMARY

We offer a business impact analysis service which provides a thorough assessment of your organization's business functions. We can customize the scope and activities included in a BIA in order to meet the needs of your organization, regardless of size.