

# *the* **Availability Digest**

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## **The Disaster Recovery Journal** February 2010

The Disaster Recovery Journal is a leading publication read by over 60,000 business continuity professionals. It focuses on the issues, procedures, and techniques for properly creating and implementing the business continuity plan so important to the restoration of a company's operations following a disaster.

Disaster recovery and business continuity are rapidly becoming fundamental priorities for today's IT-driven enterprises. The consequence of a disaster, whether it be financial, customer loss, regulatory noncompliance, or bad press, can be devastating to a company's bottom line and even to its ability to survive. This topic has become so important today that there are a range of recognized professional certifications requiring specific levels of education and experience in business continuity. It is to these professionals and to the corporate managers and executives responsible for business continuity that the Disaster Recovery Journal is directed.

### **The Disaster Recovery Journal**

Founded in 1987 by Richard Arnold and managed by Robert Arnold, the Disaster Recovery Journal (DRJ) is a quarterly publication containing in each issue about twenty articles on the topics of business continuity and disaster recovery. It is available free-of-charge in hard copy as a 100-page full-color magazine and as an online publication posted to its web site. Simply sign up for it at [www.drj.com](http://www.drj.com).

The articles are for the most part aimed at IT management and deal with business issues rather than technical solutions. Written by professionals in the field – end users, consultants, and vendors - the articles are quick and easy to read, each being about three pages in length. Thus, the Disaster Recovery Journal provides a wide range of coverage that is easily assimilated.

DRJ has archived all of its articles (as articles until 1998 and as the full magazine thereafter) on its web site. However, you must be a subscriber in order to access the archives.

Typical topics include:



- Business Impact Analysis
- Risk Analysis
- Regulations
- Certification
- DR Plan Awareness
- DR Planning
- DR Plan Testing
- Data-Processing Recovery
- Data Protection
- High Availability
- Human Factors
- Media Relations
- Communications
- Alternate Sites
- Cloud Computing
- Case Studies
- Disaster Stories
  - Earthquakes
  - Fires
  - Floods
  - Terrorism
  - Tornados
  - Storms

## Other Resources

There are several valuable resources on the DRJ web site in addition to the article archive. Among these are:

**Sample plans and planning guides**, including those from NIST (National Institute of Standards and Technology), FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency), and DRJ itself.

**Regulations**, an Excel list of over 120 international regulations related to business continuity. Regulating agency, country, and a summary description of each is given.

**Webinars** on disaster recovery and business continuity planning presented monthly by industry professionals. Past webinars are archived on the DRJ web site.

## Conferences

Since 1989, DRJ has hosted conferences on business continuity and disaster recovery. They are currently offering two conferences per year – Spring World in Orlando, Florida, and Fall World in San Diego, California. Recent conferences have attracted about 3,000 professionals between them.

In addition to general sessions, the five-day conferences include pre- and post-conference courses, three-hour hands-on work sessions, one-hour breakout sessions, and an exhibit floor. At its most recent conference, Fall World 2009, there were over 60 exhibitors, 18 of them conference sponsors.

## Disaster Recovery Institute

In 1989, two years after starting the Disaster Recovery Journal, Richard Arnold founded the Disaster Recovery Institute International (DRII). Though DRII and DRJ are separate entities, they work closely together.

DRII provides education and certification for business continuity professionals. Courses are offered in major cities throughout the United States. DRII's certification programs include:

- Associate Business Continuity Professional (ABCP)
- Certified Business Continuity Vendor (CBCV)
- Certified Functional Continuity Professional (CFCP)

- Certified Business Continuity Professional (CBCP)
- Master Business Continuity Professional (MBCP)
- Certified Business Continuity Auditor (CBCA)
- Certified Business Continuity Lead Auditor (CBCLA).

## **Summary**

For those IT managers and corporate executives who are responsible for the continuity of operations following a disaster, and for the business continuity professionals who guide them, the Disaster Recovery Journal is a very important resource. It reaches far beyond its quarterly articles to its monthly webinars, semiannual conferences, and many online tools to provide up-to-date and useful information on the state and practice of business continuity technology.