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IT & BCP Expresso - Keeps You UP to Date

December 2005

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Calendar of Events

**January / February
2006** Michael Herrera
speaks to government
agencies on the need for
BCP at the Tucson and
Phoenix EPAZ conferences.

March 2006 Disaster
Recovery Journal's Spring
World Conference Orlando
Florida Michael Herrera and

Greetings!

MHA Consulting is always looking for ways to improve its partnership with its clients. We hope that you find this newsletter insightful as well as a tool to improve your business.

• **Assessing the Current State of Your BCP Program by Michael Herrera**

Assessing the current state of your BCP program is essential to knowing where it stands in comparison to best practices in addition to identifying the next steps to improve enterprise preparedness. Knowing your BCP maturity level metric permits you to prioritize your actions for the future.



MHA uses its own Maturity Level Model to evaluate the current state of a BCP program. Our model assesses Enterprise Preparedness (how the organization is prepared at the global level), Business Preparedness (how the business areas are prepared) and Technology Preparedness (how the technology areas are prepared).

The results of the assessment produces scores that assign the level of BCP maturity in each area using six levels of maturity from Level 0 (lowest) to Level 5 (highest). Each level has corresponding characteristics. This metric is essential to identifying current preparedness as well as planning for the future.

[For a "free" copy of the MHA BCP Maturity Model,](#)

Barry Pruitt will be teaching BCP Fast Practices and Business Impact Analysis. See link below for conference details.

Next Month Data Center Recovery Strategy

This Month's BCP Reminders

Have you updated your critical contact lists? Are the contents of your offsite storage up to date? Is your alternate site contact information up to date? Are your methods of emergency communication (status line, email, etc.) fully operational?

If your answer is no, you can't remember or its been more than a year ago, contact MHA Consulting today to see how we can help.

[Disaster Recovery Journal Conference Information](#)

Quick Links...

- **[Our Website](#)**

:: herrera@mha-it.com

[email Michael Herrera at herrera@mha-it.com.](mailto:herrera@mha-it.com)

• **The Mock Disaster Exercise by Mark Murawski**



MHA believes holding regular mock disaster exercises is essential to preparing for the real thing. An MHA client in Florida recently commented that without the multiple exercises his team went through, he could not have responded to the hurricanes as effectively as his team did. Well designed exercises stress test your personnel, plans and infrastructure in a controlled environment.

A few tips to consider when planning a mock disaster exercise are:

- What are my objectives?
- What team training do I need to hold before the exercise?
- What parts of my plan do I want to exercise?
- What type of exercise (desktop, functional) do I want to hold?
- How much time do I have to hold this exercise?
- What scenario do I want to use to meet my objectives?
- Who will provide expert input to develop the scenario?
- How will I measure success and identify opportunities for improvement?

• **MHA In The News**

12/16/05 MHA's first annual Coats for Kids Christmas Drive a complete success

12/12/05 MHA retained by leading speciality pharmaceutical corporation to provide data center strategy consulting services.

11/15/05 MHA retained by Arizona's premier metropolitan public research university to bring its Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) into compliance with the National Incident Management System (NIMS).

• **Need Training? Need a Speaker? Have a Question?**

MHA regularly provides training classes and speaks to groups on the subject of BCP and Information Technology trends.

Contact Michael Herrera at herrera@mha-it.com or 602-708-1718 for immediate support and answers.

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