

What is Business Continuity Management?

Business Continuity Management is the preparedness of an organization, or group, to maintain or resume a predetermined level of operations during or after a disruptive event. This includes identifying all risks that may impact the business during or following an event.

If an event occurs, ranging from a power outage, cyber-attack, natural disaster, or any event that interrupts the normal operations of a business, a business continuity plan should be in place. A business continuity plan provides direction around back-up locations for offices, communication plans to employees and shareholders, as well as IT application recovery.

In this current pandemic many organizations are faced with questions such as:

1. Is there enough network bandwidth, VPN capacity, laptops, and IP addressing for your remote access solution to support the additional load?
2. If full remote services are unavailable, what partial services are available? Web mail? Communication channels? Timecard reporting? Sales automation? Video conferencing?
3. Who will handle communication with customers, third parties, business partners, vendors, and suppliers about the crisis? What should that communication look like?
4. Where are your employees? If they are traveling, will they be able to get back?
5. Have all outsourced critical functions been identified? Are they impacted by this event? How effective is the service provider / third party vendor resiliency planning?

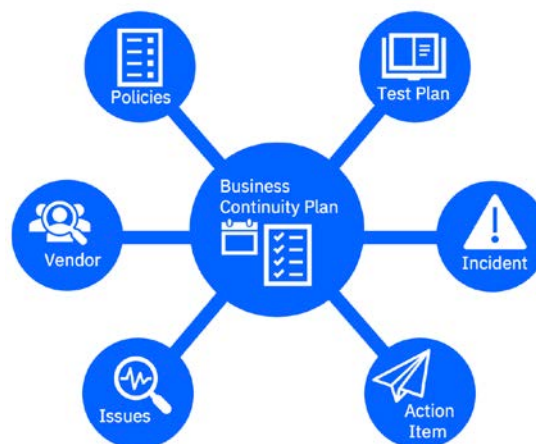
What is IBM OpenPages with Watson?

IBM OpenPages with Watson is a market leading Governance, Risk & Compliance platform designed to help organizations achieve their business objectives in a world of dynamic risk. OpenPages addresses risk domains such as Operational Risk, IT Risk Governance, Supplier Risk, Regulatory Compliance, Financial Controls Management, Internal Audit Management and Policy Management, and Business Continuity Management.

IBM OpenPages Business Continuity Management (BCM)*

** OpenPages BCM is currently available in Beta for expected release in Q2 2020.*

IBM OpenPages BCM is a new solution on the OpenPages platform. OpenPages BCM can act as a standalone solution but is pre-integrated with the OpenPages other risk domains for organizations to have visibility across their risks.



OpenPages BCM helps organizations to:

- Centralize Business Continuity Data
- Perform business impact analyses to determine criticality of people, processes, and assets
- Develop Business Continuity Plans – including, but not limited to, preparedness for disaster recovery, communication plans, equipment checklists, emergency readiness, employee logistics, vendor checklists and more.
- Trigger events to identify relevant plans and stakeholders
- Run workflows to automate critical processes
- Test the effectiveness of your business continuity plan, identify, and mitigate key risks
- Visualize key planning and management activities with a user-friendly dashboard

OpenPages BCM has built-in calculations to help clients determine criticality of a process to their business and generate impact tiers with acceptable thresholds. Pre-built workflows allow organizations to draft, review, approve, and publish plans with triggers for expiry and archival. These plans can be mapped to policies, procedures, processes, locations, events, issues, tests, and business impact analyses.

Functionality Highlights

Assessing Criticality

The Business Impact Analysis helps clients identify and evaluate critical people, processes, and assets to aid in the planning process.

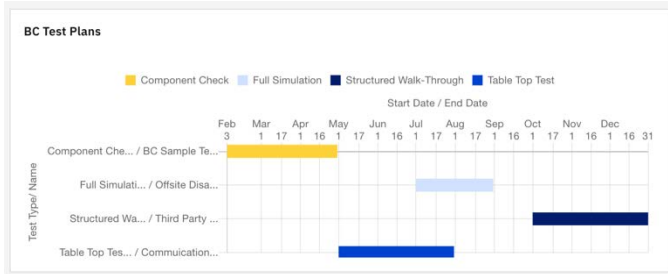
We have included built-in calculations that help clients determine the impact tier and Maximum Acceptable Outage of a process to help with ranking.



Planning & Management

Effective business continuity planning and management requires connecting and analyzing data from varying risk processes to provide informed decision making. We have created a comprehensive business continuity framework that clients can use to draft and modify plans and incorporate their other risk and control data.

An out-of-box dashboard allows clients to monitor their organization-wide business continuity activities such as: plan, review, process, and tracking of testing programs.



Accessibility

Hard copies of business continuity plans are available in a printable version for easy access.

BCM Search interface showing search results for "disaster":

- Offsite Disaster Recovery Site Simulation** ☆
Locate your disaster recovery site.
- 02-Business Continuity Management - Support** ☆
Disaster recovery
- 02-Business Continuity Management - Support** ☆
Disaster recovery

Employees can search for plans impacting their job location or role, while preparing for an event.

FAQs

Why do I need BCM?

BCM helps clients identify critical processes to their business as well as draft and review business continuity plans to support those processes in the event of further interruption to their business. Looking forward it can help their organization be more prepared for future disruptions to business. Whether they are starting from scratch or building upon existing plans, BCM can help provide a framework that can make the planning process simpler.

Is BCM for only large enterprises?

BCM is for any organization that wants to create a framework around their business continuity planning. Both small and large organizations have processes that need to be kept up during an event or disaster and may benefit from documented plans of how to recover and reinstate processes.

What does IBM offer for BCM?

IBM offers business continuity planning on a robust governance, risk and compliance platform that allows the business continuity data to sit next to other relevant programs such as policies and procedure management, issue and incident management, third party risk management and more. The platform also has a powerful workflow engine allowing clients to create very targeted workflows around their business continuity program and includes IBM Cognos Analytics, with prebuilt models for reporting and dashboards.