

November 2005

# NEWSWIRE

ASSOCIATION OF CONTINGENCY PLANNERS

SOUTH TEXAS CHAPTER

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[www.acp-international.com/southtx/](http://www.acp-international.com/southtx/)

### Quote of the Week:

*"To learn is to change. Education is a process that changes the learner."*

~ George B. Leonard~

## PreEmpt Survey: How Far Is Far Enough?

PreEmpt, Inc. (Eules, TX) recently published the latest version of its periodic survey, which simply asked how far the respondents thought an alternate site should be from the primary site, assuming that the primary location was vulnerable to certain threats. The average for organizations subject to hurricanes is 151 miles (the highest average of any category), while conducting operations near a civilian airport has the lowest result at 32 miles.

<http://www.contingencyplanning.com/news/3.aspx?ebid=504>

## Singapore Launches National Business Continuity Standard

Business Continuity Management. Several months ago it issued a similar standard for business continuity vendors. The new technical reference spells out what is needed for a company to become resilient so that it can recover and continue operations in the face of a major disruption. Singapore claims it is the first country in the world to come up with a national standard for business continuity.

<http://www.contingencyplanning.com/news/6.aspx?ebid=504>

## Katrina Teaches IT Lessons in Disaster Recovery

Companies who had good corporate resources and IT disaster recovery plans were more likely to salvage their IT operations after Katrina, but how well did other companies fare?

<http://pizzazzemail.com/t?ctl=EF97D6:22ED146>

### **Creating effective business continuity plans**

Barry Varley, CEO of independent testing consultancy Acutest, highlights the two main problems that lead to business continuity plans failing.

<http://www.continuitycentral.com/feature0258.htm>

### **Why Directors & C-Level Officers ARE Legally Liable if a Disaster or Disruption Occurs**

Directors & C's are liable when there is an Emergency or a Disaster occurs. They can defend themselves by exercising good Emergency Management & Business Continuity Planning.

<http://pizzazzemail.com/t?ctl=EF97D4:22ED146>

### **Katrina Reminds Us that Preparedness is Everyone's Responsibility**

The American Red Cross says that while 90 percent of us believe preparedness is important, only 10 percent are ready to handle a disaster. Why haven't we prepared ourselves?

<http://pizzazzemail.com/t?ctl=EF97D8:22ED146>

### **Disaster Once Again Highlights Need for Business Continuity**

While many government agencies and businesses are getting criticized in Katrina's wake for failing to respond adequately, a few companies did get it right. How did they do it?

<http://pizzazzemail.com/t?ctl=EF97DA:433D0CF>

### **The Art of Crisis Management**

It's ironic: the truly well-managed crises are the ones you rarely or never hear about in the media. SunGard Practice Area Manager Katie Baumann discusses the art of crisis management, common challenges, and the most popular methodologies—as well as how an organization can tell if its current crisis management program is effective.

[http://sungard.12hna.com/forethought\\_sept05/The\\_Art\\_of\\_Crisis\\_Management.pdf](http://sungard.12hna.com/forethought_sept05/The_Art_of_Crisis_Management.pdf)

### **Ensuring a Smooth Transition: Guidelines for Data Center Migrations**

From mergers to cost-driven consolidation, data center migrations are becoming a more common occurrence. Given the importance of systems and data, proper planning and execution are paramount. Based on more than 200 successful migrations, our experts outline a proven approach to mitigating the risks and share insight on "lessons learned."

[http://sungard.12hna.com/forethought\\_sept05/Ensuring\\_a\\_Smooth\\_Transition.pdf](http://sungard.12hna.com/forethought_sept05/Ensuring_a_Smooth_Transition.pdf)

## Seven Steps to a Business Case

Accurately predicting the costs and benefits of IT initiatives is a critical skill. Here's how

News Story by Mary K. Pratt

OCTOBER 10, 2005 ([COMPUTERWORLD](#)) - Jay Rollins wants to rein in unnecessary spending. He wants to leverage the size of his company to get better prices and services from vendors. And he wants to clearly articulate how technology projects help his company reach its strategic goals.

[http://www.computerworld.com/managementtopics/management/story/0,10801,105209,00.html?source=NLT\\_AM&nid=105209](http://www.computerworld.com/managementtopics/management/story/0,10801,105209,00.html?source=NLT_AM&nid=105209)

## Data security risks missing from disaster recovery plans

The scope of contingency programs needs to be expanded, execs say

News Story by [Jaikumar Vijayan](#)

OCTOBER 10, 2005 ([COMPUTERWORLD](#)) - Corporate officials need to consider disruptions from major information security failures when making business continuity and disaster recovery plans, security managers and analysts said last week.

Failure to do so, they added, could leave businesses dangerously underprepared to respond to infrastructure disruptions during a time of growing cyber-risks.

"Disaster recovery plans that take into account only the physical impact to the infrastructure are shortsighted and need to be remedied," said David Jordan, chief information security officer for Arlington County, Va.

[http://www.computerworld.com/securitytopics/security/story/0,10801,105272,00.html?source=NLT\\_PM&nid=105272](http://www.computerworld.com/securitytopics/security/story/0,10801,105272,00.html?source=NLT_PM&nid=105272)

## Companies look to reshape IT operations with ITIL

The Information Technology Infrastructure Library standard is winning praise

News Story by [Patrick Thibodeau](#)

OCTOBER 11, 2005 ([COMPUTERWORLD](#)) - CHICAGO -- The word on GuideStone Financial Resources' help desk could be summed up by what company employees called it: "the helpless desk." Not only was the moniker unflattering, it reflected lingering system problems that hurt employee productivity.

[http://www.computerworld.com/managementtopics/management/story/0,10801,105310,00.html?source=NLT\\_PM&nid=105310](http://www.computerworld.com/managementtopics/management/story/0,10801,105310,00.html?source=NLT_PM&nid=105310)

## Gartner predicts 5.5% increase in U.S. IT spending in '06

But IT workers will find the job market 'challenging,' the research firm says

News Story by [Eric Lai](#)

OCTOBER 12, 2005 ([COMPUTERWORLD](#)) - Led by small to medium-size businesses, IT spending in the U.S. will increase by 5.5% in 2006, although the job market for IT workers will remain "challenging," Gartner Inc. said today.

While spending related to security and storage, two IT stars of recent years, is expected to slow next year, outlays for mobile devices such as BlackBerry and Treo handhelds will likely grow, as will investment in software development tools and middleware, according to preliminary results from a summer survey of 1,500 U.S. IT managers by the Stamford, Conn.-based research firm.

[http://www.computerworld.com/managementtopics/management/itspending/story/0,10801,105360,00.html?source=NLT\\_PM&nid=105360](http://www.computerworld.com/managementtopics/management/itspending/story/0,10801,105360,00.html?source=NLT_PM&nid=105360)

## IT Governance: Business in the Driver's Seat

IT governance can be hard to define, but companies increasingly impose policies and use software tools to optimize projects, processes and assets and make sure they can audit them.

News Story by Sue Hildreth

OCTOBER 17, 2005 ([COMPUTERWORLD](#)) - It was the late 1990s, in the busy, boom years of high tech. At The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Co., IT employees were scrambling to tackle a backlog of IT projects that had accumulated during a merger that the railroad had recently completed. The joining of the Burlington Northern and Santa Fe railroads into BNSF had necessitated an all-out effort to merge the two companies' IT systems—a huge project that IT staffers had dubbed jokingly their "mission from God." Now, however, they were playing catch-up with all of the other IT demands of the two companies—an effort that was threatening, they say, to become their "mission from hell."

<http://www.computerworld.com/managementtopics/management/story/0,10801,105377,00.html>

## Why Directors & C-Level Officers ARE Legally Liable if a Disaster or Disruption Occurs

Directors & C's are liable when there is an Emergency or a Disaster occurs. They can defend themselves by exercising good Emergency Management & Business Continuity Planning.

<http://pizzazemail.com/t?ct=EF97D4:433D0CF>

## Treasurer's Report

As of 9/30/2005, the ending balance for the South Texas ACP Chapter checking account is \$4,196.47.

## Current Membership Numbers

As of October, 2005, we have 44 active ACP members. The South Texas Chapter thanks you for your participation, time, and commitment to continual growth.

Remember, every visitor is a potential member, so BRING a friend or two!!

## New / Renewed Members

Marie Michaels

## Next Meeting

When: Tuesday, November 8, 2005  
Subject: Defining the Business/Technology Relationship  
Speaker: Mark Keener  
Affiliation: President and Primary Consultant for Align Business Group  
Location: IBM Building, Room 1553, Two Riverway, Houston, TX  
Time: 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

### **Synopsis:**

The importance of understanding the Business/Technology relationship in delivering IT services, in particular, the Configuration Management Database (CMDB).

### **About the Speaker:**

Mark Keener is the founder of Align Business Group and is responsible for numerous processes and methodologies that reduce the cost of IT Service Management and increase the performance and availability of business systems. Mark has over 25 years of IT experience holding various consulting, management, and executive positions. His experience spans Oil & Gas, Banking & Finance, Insurance, Engineering, Architectural, Distribution, and Professional Services.

***The chapter meets regularly on the second Tuesday of each month at 11:30 a.m. at IBM Building, Room 1553, Two Riverway, Houston Texas. Please feel free to bring a guest. We would love the opportunity to make them members.***

Remember that attendance at ACP chapter meetings count toward your continuing education credits (CEUs).

## Upcoming Trainings & Events

### **Can your business continuity plan weather the storm?**

Catastrophic events in recent years have led businesses to reevaluate the resiliency of their enterprises and refine their continuity plans. From the 2001 terrorist attacks, the Northeast Power Outage in 2003, Florida's unprecedented four hurricanes in 2004 and hurricanes Katrina and Rita from this year, businesses can learn from these events and take action to better prepare their company for an outage.

Join IBM as we discuss the lessons learned from hurricanes Katrina and Rita. During this seminar we will discuss steps that should be taken before, during and after a major event takes place. From making sure you protect your most vital assets -- your people, to ensuring your critical data is available. During this session we will discuss possible gaps in most business continuity plans.

A complimentary continental breakfast will be provided. Seating is limited, so [register today](#). We look forward to seeing you there.

[https://www-1.ibm.com/services/continuity/recover2.nsf/forms/seminar\\_lessons-learned\\_registration](https://www-1.ibm.com/services/continuity/recover2.nsf/forms/seminar_lessons-learned_registration)

#### **Agenda**

- Breakfast / Registration
- Protecting your most vital assets -- your people
- Importance of communication
- Protecting your critical data
- Evaluating elements of your infrastructure

#### **Available sessions**

<b>Location</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>
<b>Houston, Texas</b>	Nov 14, 2005 (Mon)	8:30am - 12:00pm
<b>Austin, Texas</b>	Nov 15, 2005 (Tue)	8:30am - 12:00pm
<b>Dallas, Texas</b>	Nov 18, 2005 (Fri)	8:30am - 12:00pm

## Upcoming Conferences / Major Events

November 2-3, 2005

**Physical Security: Securing America One Building at a Time:**  
Including a Special Segment on the Convergence of  
Physical and IT Security

**Homeland Defense Journal and IT\*Security Magazine**

<http://www.homelanddefensejournal.com/>

NRECA Executive Conference  
Center  
Arlington, Virginia

November 2-4, 2005  
CPM 2005 East  
Contingency Planning Management  
<http://www.contingencyplanning.com/events/east/>

Gaylord Palms Hotel  
Orlando, FL

November 12-16, 2005  
IAEM 2005 Annual Conference & EMEX  
Emergency Management: Local, Regional and Global Successes  
<http://www.iaem.com/events/annual/intro.htm>

Phoenix Civic Center  
Hyatt Regency Phoenix @ Civic  
Plaza  
Phoenix, AZ

November 14-16, 2005  
The CSI 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Computer Security Conference & Exhibition  
<http://www.gocsi.com/annual/>

Marriott Wardman Park  
Washington, D.C.

November 17-18, 2005  
The 2005 Corporate Security, Business Continuity and Crisis  
Management Conference  
<http://www.conference-board.org/conferences/conference.cfm?id=980>

Westin New York at Time  
Square  
New York, NY

December 1-2, 2005  
CobiT User Convention  
Information Systems Audit and Control Association  
<http://www.isaca.org/cobituserconvention>

Gaylord Palms Resort &  
Convention Center  
Kissimmee, FL

February 8-10, 2006  
International Safety & Security Conference 2006  
Emergency Corps  
<http://www.emergencycorps.org/issc.php>

Hilton New York Hotel  
New York, NY

March 5-7, 2006  
Mastering the IT/Business Connection  
Premier 100  
<http://www.premier100.com/>

JW Marriott Desert Springs  
Resort Palm Desert, CA

March 26-29, 2006  
DRJ's Spring World 2006  
Disaster Recovery Journal  
<http://www.drj.com/conferences/orl2006/>

Disney's Coronado Springs  
Resort  
Orlando, FL

April 3-5, 2006  
7<sup>th</sup> Annual InfoSec World 2006  
MIS Training Institute  
<http://www.misti.com/>

Disney's Coronado Springs  
Resort  
Orlando, FL

May 8-10, 2006  
Continuity Insights Management Conference  
Continuity Insights Magazine  
<http://www.continuityinsights.com/conf.cfm>

Sheraton New Orleans  
New Orleans, LA

May 23-25, 2006  
CPM 2006 West  
Contingency Planning Magazine  
<http://www.contingencyplanning.com/events/west/index.aspx>

The Mirage  
Las Vegas, NV

**DRI International Course Schedule – December 2005 – December 2006**

<b>For Course Location Information, Click Below:</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>For Course /Exam Description Information, Click Below:</b>	<b>Sponsor</b>
<a href="#">King of Prussia, PA</a>	Dec. 2	<a href="#">Qualifying Exam</a>	Strohl Systems
<a href="#">Dallas, TX</a>	Dec. 5-9	<a href="#">BCLE 1000</a>	Protiviti
<a href="#">Dallas, TX</a>	Dec. 12-15	<a href="#">BCLE 1000</a>	Protiviti
<a href="#">Dallas, TX</a>	Dec. 16	<a href="#">Qualifying Exam</a>	Protiviti
<b>2006</b>			
<a href="#">Falls Church, VA</a>	Jan. 18-19	<a href="#">BCP 501</a>	DRII
<a href="#">Falls Church, VA</a>	Jan. 20	<a href="#">Qualifying Exam</a>	DRII
Los Angeles, CA	Jan. 23-26	<a href="#">BCLE 2000</a>	
Los Angeles, CA	Jan. 27	<a href="#">Qualifying Exam</a>	
<a href="#">New York, NY</a>	Feb. 1-2	<a href="#">BCP 501</a>	
<a href="#">New York, NY</a>	Feb. 3	<a href="#">Qualifying Exam</a>	
Chicago, IL	Feb. 8-9	<a href="#">BCP 501</a>	
Chicago, IL	Feb. 10	<a href="#">Qualifying Exam</a>	
Denver, CO	Feb. 20-24, Feb. 27-Mar. 2	<a href="#">BCLE 1000</a>	
Denver, CO	Mar. 3	<a href="#">Qualifying Exam</a>	
King of Prussia, PA	Feb. 27-Mar. 2	<a href="#">BCLE 2000</a>	Strohl Systems
King of Prussia, PA	Mar. 3	<a href="#">Qualifying Exam</a>	Strohl Systems
Phoenix, AZ	Mar. 8-9	<a href="#">BCP 501</a>	
Phoenix, AZ	Mar. 10	<a href="#">Qualifying Exam</a>	
Detroit, MI	Mar. 15-16	<a href="#">BCP 501</a>	
Detroit, MI	Mar. 17	<a href="#">Qualifying Exam</a>	
King of Prussia, PA	Mar. 20-21	<a href="#">BCP 501</a>	Strohl Systems
King of Prussia, PA	Mar. 22	<a href="#">Qualifying Exam</a>	Strohl Systems
Orlando, FL	Mar. 23-24	<a href="#">BCP 501</a>	DRJ
Orlando, FL	Mar. 25	<a href="#">Qualifying Exam</a>	DRJ
Orlando, FL	Mar. 29-31	<a href="#">BCP 501</a>	DRJ
Orlando, FL	Mar. 31	<a href="#">Qualifying Exam</a>	DRJ
Orlando, FL	Mar. 29-31	<a href="#">BCP-601</a>	DRJ
Orlando, FL	Mar. 31	<a href="#">Master Case Study Exam</a>	DRJ
Orlando, FL	Mar. 29-Apr. 2	<a href="#">BCLE 2000</a>	DRJ
Orlando, FL	Apr. 2	<a href="#">Qualifying Exam</a>	DRJ
Columbus, OH	Apr. 5-6	<a href="#">BCP 501</a>	
Columbus, OH	Apr. 7	<a href="#">Qualifying Exam</a>	
Orlando, FL	Apr. 14-15	<a href="#">BCP 501</a>	Strohl Systems
Orlando, FL	Apr. 16	<a href="#">Qualifying Exam</a>	Strohl Systems
Chicago, IL	Apr. 17-21, 24-27	<a href="#">BCLE 1000</a>	

Chicago, IL	Apr. 28	<a href="#">Qualifying Exam</a>	
King of Prussia, PA	Apr. 24-27	<a href="#">BCLE 2000</a>	Strohl Systems
King of Prussia, PA	Apr. 28	<a href="#">Qualifying Exam</a>	Strohl Systems
Boston, MA	May 3-4	<a href="#">BCP 501</a>	
Boston, MA	May 5	<a href="#">Qualifying Exam</a>	
New Orleans, LA	May 10-11	<a href="#">BCP 501</a>	Continuity Insights
New Orleans, LA	May 12	<a href="#">Qualifying Exam</a>	Continuity Insights
King of Prussia, PA	May 17-18	<a href="#">BCP 501</a>	Strohl Systems
King of Prussia, PA	May 19	<a href="#">Qualifying Exam</a>	Strohl Systems
Dallas, TX	May 15-18	<a href="#">BCLE 2000</a>	Protiviti
Dallas, TX	May 19	<a href="#">Qualifying Exam</a>	Protiviti
Las Vegas, NV	May 25-26	<a href="#">BCP 501</a>	CPM
Las Vegas, NV	May 27	<a href="#">Qualifying Exam</a>	CPM
Pittsburgh, PA	June 3-4	<a href="#">BCP 501</a>	Three Rivers CPA
Pittsburgh, PA	June 5	<a href="#">Qualifying Exam</a>	Three Rivers CPA
Richmond, VA	June 5-9, 12-15	<a href="#">BCLE 1000</a>	
Richmond, VA	June 16	<a href="#">Qualifying Exam</a>	
King of Prussia, PA	June 19-22	<a href="#">BCLE 2000</a>	Strohl Systems
King of Prussia, PA	June 23	<a href="#">Qualifying Exam</a>	Strohl Systems
Chicago, IL	June 21-22	<a href="#">BCP 501</a>	
Chicago, IL	June 23	<a href="#">Qualifying Exam</a>	
New York, NY	June 28-29	<a href="#">BCP 501</a>	
New York, NY	June 30	<a href="#">Qualifying Exam</a>	
Miami, FL	July 12-13	<a href="#">BCP 501 (In Spanish)</a>	
Miami, FL	July 14	<a href="#">Qualifying Exam (In Spanish)</a>	
Miami, FL	July 12-13	<a href="#">BCP 501 (In English)</a>	
Miami, FL	July 14	<a href="#">Qualifying Exam (In English)</a>	
Seattle, WA	July 17-20	<a href="#">BCLE 2000</a>	
Seattle, WA	July 21	<a href="#">Qualifying Exam</a>	
King of Prussia, PA	July 31-Aug. 3	<a href="#">BCLE 2000</a>	Strohl Systems
King of Prussia, PA	Aug. 4	<a href="#">Qualifying Exam</a>	Strohl Systems
Los Angeles, CA	July 24-28, July 31-Aug. 3	<a href="#">BCLE 1000</a>	
Los Angeles, CA	Aug. 4	<a href="#">Qualifying Exam</a>	
King of Prussia, PA	Sept. 18-21	<a href="#">BCLE 2000</a>	Strohl Systems
King of Prussia, PA	Sept. 22	<a href="#">Qualifying Exam</a>	Strohl Systems
King of Prussia, PA	Oct. 30-Nov. 2	<a href="#">BCLE 2000</a>	Strohl Systems
King of Prussia, PA	Nov. 3	<a href="#">Qualifying Exam</a>	Strohl Systems
King of Prussia, PA	Nov. 29-30	<a href="#">BCP 501</a>	Strohl Systems
King of Prussia, PA	Dec. 1	<a href="#">Qualifying Exam</a>	Strohl Systems

To register or for further class schedules, visit [www.drii.org](http://www.drii.org)

## “Silly, Bizarre and Unknown” Monthly, Weekly & Daily November Observances

Here are some of the crazy things you can celebrate during the month of November!!

### Monthly Observances

Family Stores Month  
I Am So Thankful Month  
Lung Cancer Awareness Month  
National Fund With Fondue Month  
National Healthy Skin Month  
National Peanut Butter Lovers Month

### Weekly Observances

World Communications Week: 1-7  
Dear Santa Letter Week: 5-9  
World Kindness Week: 7-13  
American Education Week: 13-19  
National Game & Puzzle Week: 20-26  
Better Conversation Week: 21-27

### Daily Observances

Election Day: 2  
National Men Make Dinner Day: 3  
Verterans Day: 11

Loosen Up, Listen Up Day: 14  
International Day for Tolerance: 16  
Great American Smoke-out Day: 18

Source: <http://www.brownielocks.com>