

NEWSWIRE

Issue: February 2010

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This is the time of year when everyone is conducting a survey or reporting what changes and trends we can expect to see in the business continuity profession during 2010. The results so far indicate that many business continuity managers are planning to make substantial changes to their business continuity programs this year. According to Continuity Central, about 40% of their respondents expect to see large changes in the way their organizations manage business continuity while 50% expect to see small changes. In some more good news, almost half expect BC spending will be higher in 2010 compared to 2009, while 24% each thought that spending would remain the same or would be lower this year. The survey is still open. If you have not yet taken part, take a few minutes to do so @ <http://www.continuitycentral.com/survey21.html>.

As corporations work to gain a foothold following the global financial crisis, businesses are also taking a closer look at risk management implementation and the role of the chief risk officer (CRO). According to a new survey from the Society of Actuaries (SOA), 90% of risk management experts have implemented or plan to implement an enterprise-wide risk management approach. Other top factors in the decision to implement ERMs are ratings agencies and risk events affecting the firm. In addition to an increased emphasis on risk management, it is evident that more clarity and communication on the topic is necessary for stakeholders. Nearly half of those surveyed by SOA either disagreed or were not sure their firm's external risk disclosures effectively convey an understanding of the key risks inherent in shareholders' investment.

In another important trend for our profession, the SOA survey found that the position of CRO is becoming more prominent, with 70% of organizations having or planning to have a CRO. Those CROs, as well as other executives and boards, will face a multitude of risk management issues in 2010. The prioritized risk list for this year includes:

1. Financial
2. Systemic (risk affecting an entire financial market or system)
3. Regulatory
4. Pandemic
5. Terrorism

Operational risk, which encompasses a wide range of events and actions including execution errors, violations of policy, law/regulation and excessive risk taking, was also mentioned frequently as an important issue for executives and boards. Companies have also shown an increased emphasis on risk modeling as a result of the financial crisis. What do you or your organization have planned regarding contingency planning in 2010?

Mike Thomson

Quote of the Month

"It's not whether you get knocked down; it's whether you get up."

Vince Lombardi."

Announcements and Discounts

ACP South Texas Program Survey

To deliver greater value to our chapter members, our Program Committee has created a brief survey to obtain your current interest in Training/Certification and monthly program content.

This survey will only take a few minutes of your time and your input will be of great value to our efforts to provide quality monthly programs and support to South TX chapter members.

Please participate in the survey at: http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Member_Trng_and_program_prefs

The results of your input will be reflected in future meetings and actions to leverage training opportunities.

DRII - Board Positions for Certified Professionals – Great Opportunity

DRI International announced the election of three (3) Certified Professionals to the Board of Directors.

The openings are for Certified Professionals in good standing (payments and CEAPs are current) to serve a two-year term on the board starting on March 21, 2010. Candidates with five years or greater as a certified professional should visit <https://www.drii.org> , select the “Board Elections” link and follow the instructions.

This is a great opportunity for qualified ACP members to have a greater role in the decisions and operations of one of our profession's largest credentialing organizations. As a result, I strongly solicit your support in actively encouraging and assisting interested personnel in applying, seeking and getting elected to DRII board membership. The time window is short so please give this your prompt attention.

SecureWorld Houston Feb 10-11, 2010 - \$100.00 discount for ACP members

Houston SecureWorld, February 10-11, 2010. ACP South Texas is a sponsor and the results of the Pandemic Flu survey will be presented at the conference.

Similar to last year, our February ACP meeting will be held on site at Reliant Center on Feb 10th to enable those who would like to attend the conference to attend. There are 3 ways to participate and ACP members receive a discount for attendance:

- 1. CONFERENCE PASS**
South Texas ACP Members are offered a **\$100 discount** off the \$245 two day conference pass which includes access to the Conference Sessions, Keynotes, Lunch, Exhibits, Open Sessions and 12 CPE Certificate of Attendance. Register at www.secureworldexpo.com using code – **HouACP**
- 2. SECUREWORLD+ TRAINING PASS**
South Texas ACP Members receive a special **\$200 discount** off the \$695 SecureWorld+ which includes access to the Conference Sessions, Keynotes, Lunch, Exhibits, Open Sessions and 16 CPE Certificate of Attendance. This also includes 4 ½ hours of extended training. Register at www.secureworldexpo.com using code - **HouACP**
- 3. EXHIBITS PASS**
South Texas ACP Members can also receive complimentary admission to Keynotes, Exhibits and Open Sessions. Register at www.secureworldexpo.com using code - **HouACP**

For more info, the agenda and a list of the guest speakers see the events sections at <http://www.acp-international.com/southtx/register.htm>

Job Opportunity – Disaster Recovery Manager San Bernadino CA or San Antonio Texas

Disaster Recovery Manager
Functional Area: Information Technology
Experience Level: 5-10 years, 10+ years
Location: Irvine, CA or San Antonio, TX (non-local candidates will be considered)
Status: Full Time Permanent
Salary: Depend on Experience

If you know of anyone who might be looking for a similar opportunity, please contact Alicia Stevens at astevens@bcmanagement.com.

ISSA South Texas Chapter Meetings

Reminder - The ISSA South Texas chapter meets the 2nd Thursday of each month. For more information, including the **topics and speakers click see the website at** http://issasouthtexas.sharepoint.com/Shared%20Documents/monthly_meetings.aspx

DISCOUNTS ON TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES for ACP Members

Business Continuity Trainings from ContinuityLink - 10% discount for ACP members

Register at <http://www.continuitylink.com/En/training.htm> (Discount code: ACP-SouthTexas)

Continuity Insights Management Conference - \$100 off registration fee for ACP members

Register at <http://www.continuityinsights.com/Conference/> (Discount code: ACP)

Texas Technology Summit – FREE for ACP members!

ACP South Texas Sponsored, register at <http://texas.technologysummit.net/> (Discount code: TTS10-ACP)

Business Continuity Courses in Houston

Locations set for the BCM-BIA and BCM-Audit courses in Houston next June. See <http://www.continuitylink.com/logistics/Houston.htm>. For more information see the training opportunities section further down in this newsletter.

Upcoming Meeting March 2010

Our March meeting will be held at the IBM facility at 2 Riverway. The topic will be:

Hurricanes, Pandemics and Natural Disasters: Is Your HR Department Prepared? Presented by David Barron

It is hard enough to follow the myriad of labor and employment laws under the best of circumstances. Under emergency situations, however, it is critical that each organization have a plan in place to deal with the unique labor and employment issues that can arise, so that ad hoc decision making does not unnecessarily create legal liability. This seminar will address the common HR issues that arise in emergency situations, including hurricanes, pandemics and workplace violence situations.

Previous Month Meeting Recap – January 2010

We had approximately 21 members and several guests at our January meeting. Mike opened the meeting with introductions around the room, which gives members and guests an opportunity to get to know each other,

The presentation was a very interesting presentation on CyberSecurity and was presented by a local FBI cyber-crimes squad member Samuel Sutton. He was not able to leave us a copy of the presentation, however is happy to discuss further if anyone is interested.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's report for month ending December 31, 2009: (January month-end pending)

Beginning balance	\$ 9,653.72
Receipts	\$ 320.00
Expenditures	\$ 1,273.08
Ending balance	\$ 8,700.64

Membership Numbers

As of January 2010 – 88 Active 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.

Welcome New Members!!!



Welcome to the following new members. Please reach out to them at meetings to say 'welcome' to our South Texas Chapter.

Dave Stacy

Upcoming Meeting

2010 – February Monthly Meeting

Date: **Wednesday, February 10th, 2010**

Subject: Pandemic Readiness Survey

Speaker: Chuck Monroe

Affiliation: Independent Consultant

Location: Secure World Reliant Center Room 208

Time: 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM

For driving directions and a map of Reliant Center:

<http://www.reliantpark.com/directionsandparking/>

MODERATOR BIO

Chuck Monroe, MLIR, CBCP

Chuck has been a business continuity professional since 1998.

Chuck's experience includes:

- Business continuity planning with a specialty in facility management pandemic response
- CBCO and CISO positions with the Van Kampen Investments unit of Morgan Stanley
- Functional leadership in re-engineering, market research, and human resources

Chuck's background includes:

- Bachelor's in General Studies from the University of Michigan
- Master's in Labor & Industrial Relations from Michigan State University
- Certified Business Continuity Planner from the Disaster Recovery Institute

PRESENTATION SYNOPSIS

"Pandemic Readiness Survey"

The presentation presents the results of the "Pandemic Readiness Survey" that was developed by the South Texas Association of Contingency Planners Chapter.

The survey questions and presentation are intended to provide insight into the influenza threat level perceptions and mitigation measures adopted by participating organizations.

The data collection period of December and reporting in February should provide an interesting insight into the preparations in place for the December and provide discussion room for future "Lessons Learned" sessions.

Meeting Schedule

Unless otherwise announced, the chapter meets regularly on the second Tuesday of each month at 11:30 a.m. at IBM, 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).

For directions to our meeting location, see the Chapter Meeting Section of the website or click here:

<http://www.acp-international.com/southtx/meet.htm>

Training and Seminar Opportunities

CONFERENCES

2/10 - 2/11	Houston, TX	Secure World Expo http://www.secureworldexpo.com/events/index.php?id=278 *ACP South Texas Sponsored
2/15 - 2/18	San Antonio, TX	2010 Texas Homeland Security Conference https://www.preparingtexas.org/index.aspx
3/3 - 3/5	Washington DC	National Emergency Management Summit

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

*Post-conference workshops available

3/9 – 3/11	Singapore	World Continuity Congress http://www.worldcontinuitycongress.com/
3/21 - 3/24	Orlando, FL	DRJ Spring World http://www.drj.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=2840&Itemid=941
4/7	Houston, TX	Texas Technology Summit http://texas.technologysummit.net/ * ACP South Texas Sponsored, FREE for ACP members! (code: tts10-acp)
4/19	New York, NY	2010 Business Continuity and Corporate Security Show and Conference http://www.flagmgmt.com/bc/
4/12 – 4/14	New Orleans, LA	The Continuity Insights Management Conference with Post-Conference Courses http://www.continuityinsights.com/Conference.html
5/10 – 5/13	Las Vegas, NV	Contingency Planning & Management Conference - CPM West http://www.cpm-west.com

TRAINING AND SEMINARS

2/4 - 4/29	Houston, TX	CISSP Study Group (Thursdays 6pm - 8:30pm) http://www.acteva.com/booking.cfm?bevalD=196066
2/22 – 2/26	Houston, TX	BCI BCM Principles + BIA Course http://thebcicertificate.pinnaclecart.com/index.php?p=product&id=51&parent=12
5/4 – 5/6	Houston, TX	BCP 501 Business Continuity Planning Review with Qualifying Exam https://www.drii.org/education/course_desc.php?courseeventid=252&courseid=3
5/17 - 5/21	Dallas, TX	BCLE 2000 Business Continuity Planning https://www.drii.org/education/course_desc.php?courseeventid=256&courseid=4
6/21 - 6/22	Houston, TX	Comprehensive BIA process – Methodology http://www.continuitylink.com/En/Description-BCM-BIA.htm
6/23 - 6/24	Houston, TX	Auditing a Business Continuity Program http://www.continuitylink.com/En/Description-BCM-AUD.htm

CERTIFICATIONS

CBCP MBCP	DRI	https://www.drii.org/certification/index.php
CBCI MBCI	BCI	http://www.thebcicertificate.org/bci_5daystraining.html
CBRM	BRCCI	http://www.sentryx.com/disaster-recovery-calendar.html
CEM	IAEM	http://www.iaem.com/certification/generalinfo/intro.htm
CHS	ABCHS	http://www.abchs.com/

DEGREE PROGRAMS

M.S. in BCM Norwich University

<http://businesscontinuity.norwich.edu/admissions.php>

Online degree, 15-18 months.

Special offers to ACP members (Wave application fee, max transfer of credits, etc).

Featured Articles

Hopefully everyone has had the opportunity to read the message in the ACP e-news from Mike Thomson, 2010 ACP Chairman regarding the vision, challenges and opportunities that ACP faces. We discussed these opportunities and challenges in the National Leadership Conference last month, which members of the South Texas Board were fortunate to attend (Mike Thomson, Ed Schlichtenmyer, Toby Sledge, Dianna Peterson, Darcy Riley attending).

It was a great opportunity to meet board members from other chapter, network and share ideas. At the meeting, 11 goals for ACP were identified for 2010 and these were featured in the 4Feb ACP e-news.

Current and past ACP e-news can be found on the ACP site and are usually posted by mid-month.

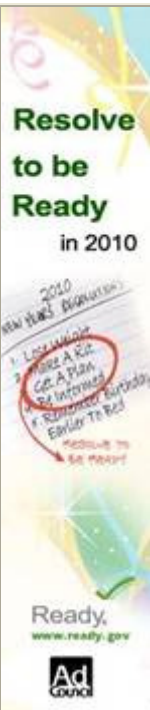
http://www.acp-international.com/cgi/library.cgi?library=ACP_eNews&file_index=30

See if you can pick out your South Texas board attendees in the group picture below ☺



Resources ACP Members Can Use

Resources ACP Members Can Use - Please note the monthly themes courtesy of ACP E-News:



2010 Themes & Events

Jan:

[National Blood Donor Month](#)

Mar:

[American Red Cross Month](#)

[Flood Safety Awareness Week](#)

May:

[National Hurricane Preparedness Week](#)

Jun:

[National Lightning Safety Awareness Week](#)

[National Safety Month](#)

Sep:

[National Preparedness Month](#)

Oct:

[National Cyber Security Awareness Month](#)

[National Fire Prevention Week](#)

[National Animal Safety and Protection Month](#)