SCOPE

In the aftermath of recent natural disasters, terrorism, and equipment breakdown, banks have recognized more than ever the need for an organization to be prepared. Banks are striving to meet the demand for continuous service. With the growth of e-commerce and other factors driving system availability expectations toward 24x365, the average organization’s requirement for recovery time from a major system outage now ranges between two and 24 hours. This requirement is pushed by the expectation an organization faces on all sides:

• Customers expect supplies and services to continue—or resume rapidly—in all situations.
• Shareholders expect management control to remain operational through any crisis.
• Employees expect both their lives and livelihoods to be protected.
• Suppliers expect their revenue streams to continue.
• Regulatory agencies expect their requirements to be met, regardless of circumstances.
• Insurance companies expect due care to be exercised.

Accordingly, in order for disaster recovery planning to be successful, the scope of the study will be:

1. Critical staff must understand the IT disaster recovery and business continuity planning process and its place within the overall Continuity of Operations Plan and Business Continuity Plan process.
2. Develop or re-examine disaster recovery policy and planning processes including preliminary planning, business impact analysis, alternate site selection, and recovery strategies.
3. Develop or re-examine IT disaster recovery planning policies and plans with emphasis on maintenance, training, and exercising the contingency plan.