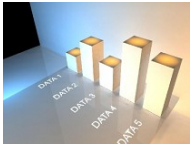


# management *insight*



⇒ Data analytics ..... 2

PROVIDING INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS TO COMPLEX BUSINESS CHALLENGES

## Does your company have a disaster recovery plan?

*“Testing is important in any plan...” -robert majdak*

It is pretty easy for your I.T Manager to come up with a disaster recovery plan, but before the chips are down, literally, how do you know the plan will work? And what about a disaster prevention plan? Oh, that is something different! Well, no, not really. How a server and disk storage is set up is very important to the recovery. After all, the disaster could be just a hard drive and the latest Windows Server Operating Systems have built-in recovery methods, if the technician installing the server and disk storage system sets the configuration up correctly.

So in reviewing a disaster recovery plan, it is very important to look at what disaster scenarios could occur and then see what corrective recovery measures are documented to bring systems back online. Apparent gaps should be revealed and procedures filled-in to solve those gaps.

So the big picture disaster recovery plan would include documentation of system configuration, various disaster scenarios, and their recovery plans to bring systems back online. I encourage I.T. departments, and require of those I managed, that disaster recovery plans be thoroughly tested. My reasoning is simple, you only get one shot at recovery, it better work: .”

Variables that come out in the testing are things like; technician competence, recovery systems capability to perform, the documented procedures are inline with upgraded recovery systems hardware and software, backup media control and reliability.

Testing is very important in any plan, be sure your I.T. team has taken the time to demonstrate their ability and the tools needed to perform if needed. You only get one shot at it, it better work!



## Be a Mentor

Seccession planning, preparing for promotion, increasing proficiency, developing esprit de corps, and other positive reasons are why it is important to become a mentor in your organization. The capacity of people to maintain a positive belief in our organizations, goals, or even in oneself and others is of paramount interest if we are to encourage a learning environment. My advice to all senior execs is to find that diamond in the rough and mentor him/her to the next level. Mentoring the future leaders behind you is a great way to leave a worthwhile legacy of your tenure after you have moved on.

# Data analytics is the transformation of data...

*...analytics can suggest a set of options...*



Data analytics is the transformation of data that has been selected from specific criteria and morphed into visual media. This transformation into visual media allows the reader to graphically interpret clearly and consistently the meaning in that data.

The challenge for many organizations today is that there is little true data analysis at the upper echelons where critical thinking at the organizational level occurs. What little there is has a lot to do with a singular idea as described from a senior manager to a support person who tries to visually represent the data to the liking of the manager.

Unfortunately, that is not data analytics, that is excel charting. Data analytics in its truest sense represents the data as it truly stands. The interpretation comes after the data has transformed to a graphic and so accurately represents the data. In this form, we can now see what the data is telling us and from here senior management can make decisions that will influence the next iteration of analytic review. In other words, analytics can suggest a set of options based on a current data model. After a suggested course of action has occurred another analysis re-measures to see if the desired effect has taken place.

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