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## Business Continuity, Disaster Recovery, and Navigating the Risks of Legacy Systems in the Cloud

In today's volatile business landscape, unforeseen disruptions loom large. While cyberattacks, global pandemics, natural disasters, and IT outages threaten to wreak havoc on organizations, they are unpredictable and can be costly to guard against. Yet, for many companies—especially small to medium-sized enterprises—allocating resources to preemptively guard against these uncertainties can seem like a luxury they cannot afford.

**Failure to consider business continuity and disaster recovery preparation can mean catastrophic results if a breach occurs.**

- 51% of businesses that experience a significant natural disaster close within two years.
- 90% of companies experience some downtime due to cyber attacks each year.
- Approximately 50% of businesses without a BCP never recover after a disaster.
- Only 35% of companies can maintain 100% of operations during an unplanned IT and telecom outage.
- Business continuity incidents caused 55% of organizations to experience major financial losses in the past year.
- 93% of businesses permanently close within a year following a data loss incident.
- 15% of businesses remain entirely non-compliant with GDPR due to lacking a Business Continuity Plan.

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- It takes an average of seven months for businesses to return to full operations following a disaster.

## Challenges With Legacy Systems

Many businesses today are still operating on mainframe or legacy systems, counting on an infrastructure that can hamper business continuity and disaster recovery plans. Some key issues these businesses face include:

### Monitoring Difficulties

Legacy systems pose significant challenges when it comes to monitoring business continuity issues. Identifying IT interruptions, service degradation, or latency problems within these systems is notoriously difficult. Often, companies only become aware of such issues when customers report problems, by which time damage to reputation and potential business loss may already be incurred.

### No Good Time for Batch Processing

In the past, batch processing during off-peak hours was a common practice for companies on legacy systems. However, in today's 24/7 business environment, the luxury of downtime for batch processing no longer exists. This shift presents a dilemma as batch processing tasks compete for IT resources with real-time consumer applications, potentially compromising overall system performance.

### Physical Precautions are Expensive

Disaster recovery preparedness necessitates the replication of data centers in geographically diverse locations to mitigate risks like fires or natural disasters. Yet maintaining redundant data centers can be prohibitively expensive, especially when disasters are infrequent. The absence of such precautions can spell doom for businesses in the event of a catastrophe.

## How Cloud-Native Solutions Address Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery

Embracing cloud-native solutions offers a pathway to overcoming these challenges and fortifying business continuity and disaster recovery efforts. The ease of the cloud offers:

### 1. Autoscaling and Elastic Computing

Cloud infrastructure allows for rapid autoscaling and load balancing, enabling companies to swiftly respond to spikes in demand without compromising system performance.

### 2. Geographic Diversity

Cloud services boast multiple data centers across global regions, ensuring seamless continuity even in the face of localized disruptions or disasters.

### 3. Prioritization Flexibility

Cloud-native systems empower companies to prioritize critical applications and components, ensuring that resources are allocated judiciously to safeguard essential business functions.

### 4. Regulatory Compliance

Cloud services aid in regulatory compliance by offering robust encryption and data protection measures, crucial for industries like finance that must adhere to stringent regulations.

### 5. Isolation Capabilities

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Cloud-native systems allow for the isolation of accounts, regions, and departments, minimizing the impact of disruptions by containing issues within specific areas.

**While it's tempting for startups and SMBs to prioritize growth over infrastructure resilience, the reality is that unforeseen disruptions can pose existential threats.**

Cloud-native services offer a seamless integration of the development and safeguarding of critical assets, providing a pragmatic solution for businesses looking to future-proof their operations. In today's volatile landscape, investing in robust business continuity measures is not just prudent—it's imperative for long-term success.

## About IO Connect

IO Connect Services is an AWS Advanced Tier Services Partner, a certified MuleSoft® System Integrator Partner, a Salesforce Commerce Cloud Consulting Partner, and a member of the Datadog Partner Network. Our professionals have over 20 years of experience delivering complex technical solutions worldwide. We offer solutions in migration, DevOps, cloud native development, cloud solution architecture, security and compliance, and managed services. The company has achieved AWS competencies in retail, migration, and DevOps. We work relentlessly on establishing and maintaining trust with our clients and all business partners for successful long-term relationships.

Focusing on companies "born in the cloud" or wishing to migrate to the cloud, IO Connect can leverage the advantages of having a cloud-native infrastructure.

[Reach out to us today.](#) Schedule a consultation to learn how your digitally native business can overcome its growth challenges.

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