DISASTER RECOVERY FACILITIES IN THE MAIN OFFICE?

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The main purposes of this article to come with discuss on internal disaster recovery strategy, where by a company have two facilities, the main data centre and their disaster recovery centre. What if we switch the two locations where your main office will house the DR facilities and your data centre is off-site. Most company applied off-site disaster recovery facilities strategy where the off-site location will function as a secondary data centre to replicate their most critical data to a secure and safe location and their main data centre will be at their main office building.

This article will cover for company's who applied certain of strategy for their DR plan, where they have an alternate site to house their DR facilities.

Why this strategy is being implemented because of few factors such:
● Renting small space for their DR facility to minimize cost.
● Only very critical application and data will be planning to have DR.
Most DR's application/s is idle and only does data replication from the main server. Where by all of these

are done by building or renting a facility to become their DR facility. But there are some down side of applying this strategy in term of preparing to pay the cost of:
● Purchase software for data replication through backup tapes and real-time data replication, such as using MIMIX by IBM
● If real-time replication, bandwidth cost is also a concern
By using backup tapes, cost for transportation those tape to your DR facility must also included

Other than building and preparing all the necessary equipment for DR, companies are also have the option of selecting third party DR services that are provided whether it is off-shore or otherwise. The services that are usually provided by the third party DR vendors are:

COOL SITE

A cold site is the most inexpensive type of backup/DR site for an organization to operate. It does not include backed up copies of data and information from the original location of the organization and does it include hardware already set up. The lack of hardware contributes to the minimal start-up costs of

the cold site, but requires additional time following the disaster to have the operation running at a capacity close to that prior to the disaster.

HOT SITE

A hot site is a duplicate of the original site of the organization, with full computer systems as well as near-complete backups of user data. Real time synchronization between the two sites may be used to completely mirror the data environment of the original site using wide area network links and specialized software. Following a disruption to the original site, the hot site exists so that the organization can relocate with minimal losses to normal operations. Ideally, a hot site will be up and running within a matter of hours or even less. Personnel may still have to be moved to the hot site so it is possible that the hot site may be operational from a data processing perspective before staffs have relocated.

The capacity of the hot site may or may not match the capacity of the original site depending on the organization's requirements. This type of backup site is the most expensive to operate. Hot sites are popular with organizations that operate real time processes such as financial institutions, government agencies and ecommerce providers.

WARM SITE

A warm site is a compromise between hot and cold. These sites will have hardware and connectivity already established, though on a smaller scale than the original production site or even a hot site. Warm sites will have backups on hand, but they may not be complete and may be between several days and a week old. An example would be backup tapes sent to the warm site by courier. Currently most company are using off-site disaster recovery centre is to minimize the cost