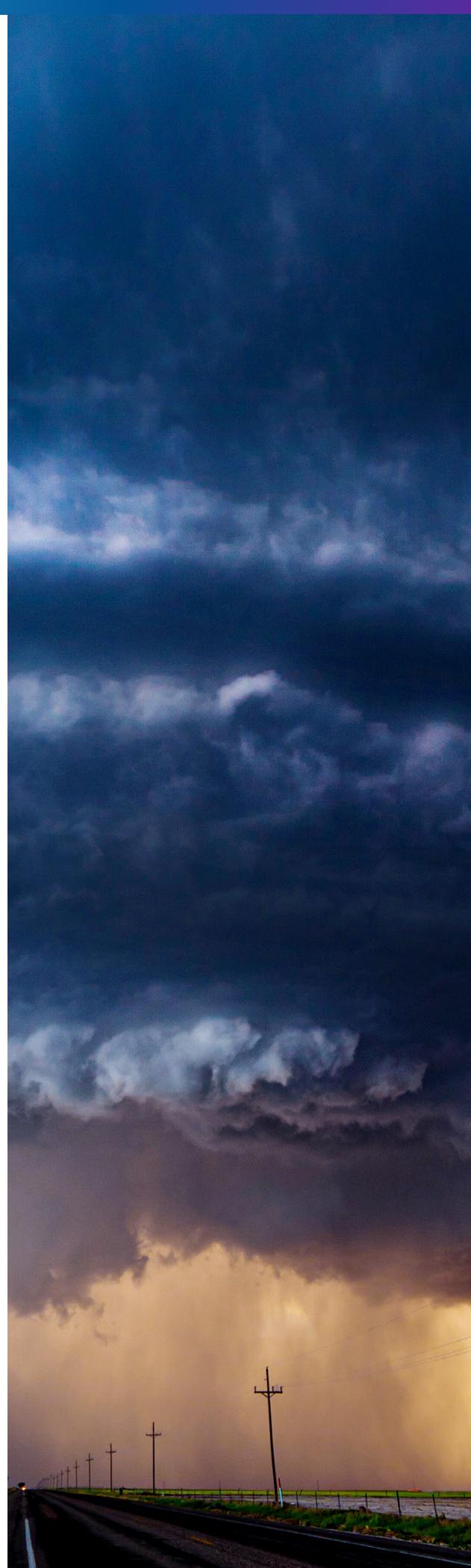


# QUICK GUIDE: 4 Ways to Make Sure Your Disaster Recovery Plan is Up to Task

BUSINESS CONTINUITY





*To succeed, organizations must anticipate, prepare and perform well.*

Whether it's wildfires in the West, hurricanes in the South or tornadoes in the Great Plains, natural disasters affect every corner of the U.S., and they're [\*growing in intensity each year\*](#). (And that was already the case *before* COVID-19.) Here are 4 action items to get you started.

## Action item #1

### Update your risk analysis.

Too many businesses are too little prepared to deal with these catastrophes. And as we enter a time of even great economic uncertainty, this is no longer a workable option. It's time to re-think and possibly rebuild your business recovery plan.

The foundation for any recovery plan is the initial risk analysis that lets you know the likeliest threats you face. This needs to be updated on an annual basis — at minimum — so take another look! And as you do, pay close attention to:

-  Updates to economic, social and other risk factors caused by the COVID-19 pandemic
-  Updates to economic, social and other risk factors Recent activity or forecasts in storms, earthquakes and other disasters
-  Likelihood of back-to-back events that could compound risk
-  Updates in cyber threats
-  Updates to your legal liability in case of a data breach (e.g., California's CCPA)

## Action Item #2

### Re-assess your facility preparedness.

Even during normal times, regular assessment of your facilities is essential. In the age of COVID-19, it's mission critical. From the front door to the network firewall, it's time for an exhaustive, inch-by-inch inspection of your infrastructure – and a firm plan to repeat the process every 6 months.



## Action Item #3

### Refine your data back-up and security strategy.

Whether you own and operate your own IT system or source it to a third party, it's imperative to make sure you have an updated strategy for backup and security – and even more so now that new laws like California's CCPA are [cracking down on companies](#) that fail to take consumer data protection seriously.

 Re-assess your backup power plan to ensure continuity during a crisis

 Ensure that you're complying with the most recent data backup best practices, including an off-site option

 Make sure all data and call centers are dispersed to spread out the risk of data loss and to maintain the inability to communicate with clients and customers during critical times

## Action Item #4

### Re-vet your vendors.

The use of third-party vendors is often a necessity. For larger businesses, managing them all is a task in and of itself – and it's essential to ensure that they're just as up to date on security and business recovery best practices as you are. After all, their failure could mean disruption for your business, too.

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