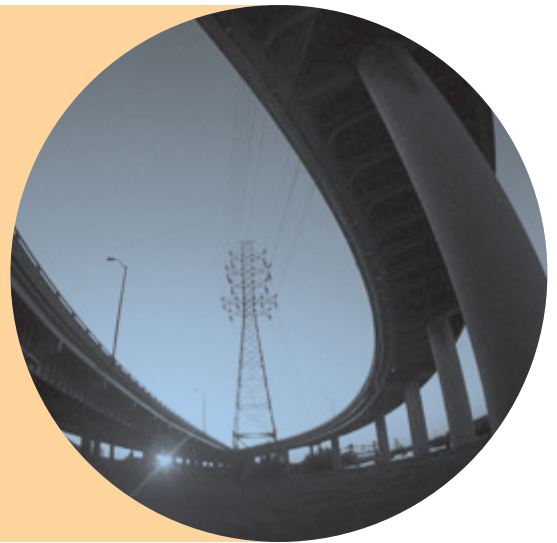


Business Continuity Management Audit

Zurich Risk Engineering's Business Continuity Management (BCM) audit enables companies to benchmark their business continuity management against the Publicly Available Specification 56 (PAS 56)*. This is an informal standard providing a consistent approach for businesses to follow, ensuring that their continuity plans are fit for purpose.



PAS 56 was first published in late 2003 by the British Standards Institution (BSI) in association with a team of experts in BCM as a precursor to a full British Standard BS25999. PAS 56 is closely linked to the Business Continuity Institute (BCI) recommended best practice process for managing business continuity and establishes the process, principles and terminology of BCM.

Our approach

Zurich Risk Engineering's BCM audit provides customers with a snapshot of their BCM capabilities based on a rigorous comparison of performance with best practice principles. It also provides the basis of plans to improve BCM capability, making it easier to achieve compliance with a raft of existing and future regulation.

Scope of service

The BCM audit incorporates sixteen specific areas of BCM performance as defined by PAS 56 and covering the following:

- BCM programme management.
- Understanding your business (mission critical activities and business impact analysis).
- BCM strategies.
- Developing and implementing BCM plans.
- Building and embedding a BCM culture.
- BCM exercising, maintenance and audit.

*From which a new British Standard will develop.

Features and benefits

Our BCM audit provides:

- A summary of the key performance gaps in an organisation's BCM process.
- The basis of a BCM improvement plan.
- An opportunity to demonstrate a company's competence and resilience to key stakeholders; increasingly this is a requirement for suppliers to be able to demonstrate to major customers.
- The ability for businesses to understand what they need to do to get back to normal in as short a time as possible, following an interruption event.
- A basis for benchmarking BCM practice both internally and externally.

Who will benefit?

Zurich Risk Engineering's BCM audit is applicable to all organisations, regardless of size or industry sector. In today's business environment many organisations are dependent on others to enable them to deliver their services, especially with non-core processes being out-sourced to specialist companies.

Many larger companies not only need to assure major customers that they are resilient to interruptions, but they are also demanding that suppliers can demonstrate that their premises and processes are resilient too. The BCM audit can help companies identify gaps and improve their BCM processes deep within the supply chain.

What's unique about Zurich's offering?

Zurich's expertise in business continuity management is based not only on our ability to manage our own risks, but also managing the risks our customers transfer to us, in particular through business interruption insurance.

Our BCM audit leverages our skills and knowledge of risk to help customers identify gaps and improve the ways they manage the risks they retain and those they transfer.

It was originally developed to enable underwriters to better understand the risks they take on and to provide companies with property and business interruption insurance. As such, it is a highly effective basis of communication between companies and insurers.

How much input is required?

The Zurich BCM audit approach is largely a desktop exercise, involving some site visits. We will interview key staff who are either accountable, or responsible for business continuity. Depending on the size and complexity of the organisation, we may also interview others who are either consulted, or informed in the BCM process. This is necessary to gain the greatest insight and most value from the BCM audit process.

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