

# The Planning Portal

## Business Continuity Management Software

Avalution has created a complete business continuity software solution based on the simplicity of Microsoft SharePoint, paired with deep business continuity expertise. The Planning Portal is designed to enable organizational compliance with key preparedness standards, including NFPA 1600 and BS 25999. Its familiar interface and distributed approach reduces administrative burden. Additionally, The Planning Portal is backed by the expertise and service provided by Avalution Consulting. Our technical support is staffed by personnel familiar with both business continuity and The Planning Portal.

### Key Features

Based on industry feedback and our knowledge of what's needed to build and maintain a successful, value-added business continuity and disaster recovery program, The Planning Portal provides your organization with the following functionality:

#### Business Impact Analysis (BIA)

- Supports a survey and/or interview-based analytic approach
- Identifies key process and application dependencies
- Enables visual mapping of business process and technology dependencies
- Utilizes information gathered during the BIA in all subsequent planning phases
- Enables the identification of key business continuity-related risks, threats, vulnerabilities and controls, for individual processes and the organization as a whole (consistent with enterprise risk management, or ERM, best practices)

#### Recovery Strategy Definition

- Identifies minimum staffing levels by process, across the period of disruption
- Identifies minimum resource requirements for items such as facilities, technologies and communications – by process, facility and across the enterprise
- Enables IT requirements planning – understanding what applications are needed and how individual elements of IT infrastructure support them
- Enables alternate space planning for facility-based outages

#### Planning

- Provides a web-based plan development process, with highly customized plan templates and content (unlimited plans, unlimited users)
- Enables the development of communications, response and recovery plans based on one or more scenarios, such as loss of facility, loss of personnel or loss of technology
- Supports the development of technology response and recovery plans, based on recovery objectives identified during the BIA

#### Exercising

- Supports the definition of exercise plans and objectives
- Tracks exercises across the enterprise
- Enables an evaluation of exercise results versus objectives

#### Crisis Management and Incident Response

- Online situation reporting and alerting specific to each disruptive event
- Resource and recovery issue tracking
- Department and application recovery status tracking
- Interactive geo-tagging and mapping of locations, assessments and other relevant information
- Online news and media reporting

#### Notification

- Includes an embedded notification service, with messaging sent via phone (text to speech), text message (SMS) or email
- Tracks notification delivery status and optional survey responses
- The only notification software with a truly 'built-in' notification capability that DOES NOT require an additional third-party contract

## General Management

- “At a glance” dashboard provides an overall summary of the organization’s preparedness efforts and capabilities
- Complete metrics package for business process / technology
- Provides extensive reporting features based on Microsoft Reporting Services
- Organizes, stores and versions files of any type using a flexible folder structure
- Protects plan content with granular, role-based security, auditing and versioning controls
- Manages internal and external contacts through the use of interfaces with other business applications, including human resource systems and ERP applications
- Assigns one-time or recurring business continuity planning tasks to The Planning Portal users via a sophisticated, yet easy-to-use, work flow engine

## Why Will The Planning Portal Add Value to Your Organization?

### Easy-To-Use

The intuitive web-based design takes full advantage of the SharePoint platform and makes learning The Planning Portal a breeze – many business users are already familiar with much of the functionality.

### Lowers Administrative Burden

The Planning Portal has a number of features that minimize the resources needed to ‘maintain’ the application, such as:

- The Planning Portal is preconfigured for most organizations and easily customized without coding
- Information gathered in one area of the application is easily used in others
- Reports are easily modified and created using Microsoft Reporting Services
- Many activities can be delegated to business or technology personnel
- Users can request and reset their own passwords, freeing administrators to focus on business continuity management

### Scalable

The Planning Portal can scale to thousands of users and facilities – it will support the most challenging, complex organizations. Our licensing is not based on users, freeing you to involve the right people in the preparedness effort without financial constraint.

### Responsive Service

Avalution Consulting has a long history of delivering professional services with the highest levels of customer satisfaction, and that approach will also apply to The Planning Portal. Our technical support will answer your business continuity questions and help you to fully utilize The Planning Portal.

### Hosted

We host The Planning Portal for your organization in our SAS 70 Type II data center and back-up your response and recovery information off-site – taking away the need to worry about recovering one of your most critical business applications following an interruption.

For additional information regarding our professionals, tools and solutions, or a demo of The Planning Portal, please contact us at 866.533.0575 or via email at [contactus@avalution.com](mailto:contactus@avalution.com).

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