Managing the infrastructure
Introduction

CSCI E 45a: The Cyber World – part A

Learning goals

- Understand what is involved in managing infrastructure
- Learn about ITIL, a popular model for IT service management
- Learn about SNMP and NETCONF, IETF standards for managing the network and connected devices
- Explore business continuity and disaster recovery

Topics

- What do we mean by management? - R
- Management frameworks - R
- ITIL - R
- Management tools and technologies – R
- SNMP - R
- NETCONF – R
- Business Continuity, and Disaster Recovery - R

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Slide#	credit
3	ITIL logo
3	CDC make a plan http://www.cdc.gov/images/campaigns/emergency/zombies1_300x250.jpg

Managing the infrastructure
What do we mean by management?

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Services

- From a user's stand-point - What users need/ask for/expect/experience
  - e.g. email, remote access, etc.
- From a service operator's stand-point - The things that are necessary to deliver the service
  - Servers, routers, networks, staff, help desk, etc.

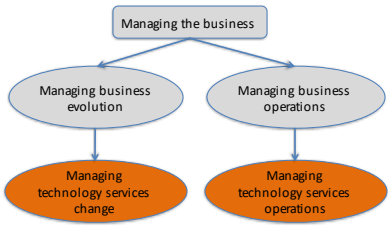
What users/customers care about

- They are primarily interested in the whole service experience
  - Getting the functionality they expect/need
  - In a way that meets their expectations, and is logical to them
- They don't want to need to know how things work behind the scene

What users/customers care about

- How do you know you are delivering good service?
  - Making, and delivering on commitments
    - e.g. levels of service, on time/on budget delivery of evolution projects, etc.
  - Making it a pleasant experience

Managing – High-level view



Managing – Some challenges

- Connecting
  - Decisions at the top to actions at the bottom tends to be difficult and very inefficient
  - Similarly, decisions and actions at the bottom don't necessarily rise up to the top
- Track record of meeting internal expectations is not good for most large enterprise

Managing – Activities

- Strategic management
  - Mid/long range planning
  - Assessment of high-level opportunities and risks
  - Deciding direction/technologies/products
- Managing evolution
  - Deciding direction/technologies/products
  - Design, Development/Configuration, Deployment, Decommissioning

Managing – Activities

- Managing operations
  - Operators - Who is doing what, to what/whom
  - Things - What's where, and how it is performing
  - User/customer experiences

Management of IP networks

- No "Minority Report" for systems and networks
- Driven by user detected failures
  - Logging? Who's watching the logs?
  - What if your monitoring tools are down?
- Rarely, if ever, pro-actively identify early signs of service degradation and pending failures

Management of IP networks

- Blind reliance on "fancy" tools and process over simple validation that things are working
  - There are lots of management frameworks you can "blindly" follow to solve your management problems
  - Network, systems, security technology vendors have lots of tools to solve your management problems
    - Tend to assume somebody is watching each of the screens

Management of IP networks

- In case of failure/degradation: who is affected?
  - Who gets notified?
  - What are they being told?
- Completely different philosophy for Telecommunications network operators
  - Active, in-band monitoring of service levels

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9	http://static.ddmcdn.com/gif/blogs/Minority-Report-Info-Main.jpg
10	Cartoon – ogliviedesign.co.uk

Managing the infrastructure
Management frameworks

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Management frameworks

- Collections of practices, templates, tools, etc. that together serve as the foundation for an entire area of management responsibilities

Some frameworks, standards

- TQM – Total Quality Management
- Six Sigma
- TOGAF - The Open Group Architecture Framework
- CMMI - Capability Maturity Model Integration
- ISO 9000 – Family of standards for managing quality

Some frameworks, standards

- ISO 27000 – Family of standards for managing security
- COBIT - Control Objectives for Information and Related Technology
- ITIL – IT Infrastructure Library

4

Issues with management frameworks

- There's a dizzying number of them
- There is always one or two that are the new favorites of the day
  - Management will capriciously change framework from time to time
- Much money spent on these, with what value?
- Each is regularly believed to fix all ills

5

But some positives too…

- Often used as an excuse not to think!
  - Blind reliance on the recipe
- They are all good in that they help you think about the problem they are trying to address
- Provide models and lists to structure your thinking
- They also allow people to use:
  - Shared models and concepts
  - A common language

6

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3	Open Group TOGAF, Certified Six Sigma black belt, ISO 9000, CMMI logos
4	ISO27000, COBIT, ITIL logos
5,6	Office Space consultants

http://i.ytimg.com/vi/nV7u1VBhWCE/hqdefault.jpg6

Managing the infrastructure
ITIL

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OSI Net. Management Model - FCAPS

- Purpose:
  Maximizing Mean Time To Fail (MTTF) and reducing Mean Time To Repair (MTTR)
- Operations focused, not user or business focused
- Early 80's - ISO 10040 N1719
- Evolved to be a joint ISO ITU-T standard
- Led to the creation of the Common Management Information Protocol (CMIP)

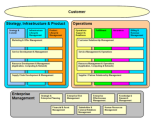
OSI Net. Management Model - FCAPS

- Fault management
  Identify, log, isolate, and correct network faults
- Configuration management
  Includes both the management of configuration information and the current systems state
- Accounting management
  Define how to track usage and track it for proper billing

OSI Net. Management Model - FCAPS

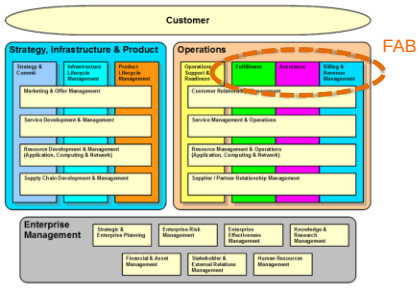
- Performance management
  Manage the performance of the network and plan for future needs
- Security management
  Ensure the proper securing of the network, and the collection & analysis of security information/logs

Evolved as part of eTOM's BPF



- Enhanced Telecom Operations Map (eTOM)
- Business Process Framework (BPF)
- Started in 2000
- Evolves FCAPS to FAB
  Fulfillment – Configuration, Security
  Assurance – Fault, Performance
  Billing - Accounting

enhanced Telecom Operations Map



IT Infrastructure Library (ITIL)

- A framework for IT service management
- Purpose – Framework to align IT and its services to the needs of the business and its customers
- Underpinning for ISO/IEC 20000, itself a standard for IT services management

Why is there a need for a standard, when there is a comprehensive framework?

7

IT Infrastructure Library (ITIL)

- Started in 1989
- Driven by the UK Government's Central Computer and Telecommunications Agency (CCTA)
  - Standardization of IT management practices
- Now a set of five books
  - Originally a set of 31 books!?
  - Distributed under Crown Copyright license
  - An expensive set of books

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ITIL's five books

- Each book focuses on a different subset of the service lifecycle
- Each book provides specific processes and activities to follow

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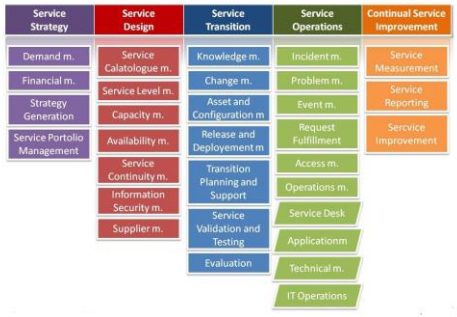
ITIL overview



Service Strategy (SS)

- Align services to the overall business strategy
- Key processes and activities
  - Strategy generation
  - Service portfolio management
  - Financial management for IT services
  - Demand management
  - Business relationship management

Service Design (SD)

- Identify the business requirements of services and how they can be met
  - Note: design not implementation
- Key processes and activities
  - Design coordination
  - Service Catalogue
  - Service level management
  - Availability management
  - Capacity Management
  - Service continuity management
  - Information security management system
  - Supplier management

Service Transition (ST)

- Manage the transition from service development to service operation
- Key processes and activities
  - Transition planning and support
  - Change management
  - Service asset and configuration management
  - Release and deployment management
  - Service validation and testing
  - Change evaluation
  - Knowledge management

Service Operation (SO)

- Ensure the optimal delivery of services
- Key processes and activities
  - Event management
  - Incident management
  - Request fulfillment
  - Problem management
  - Identity management

Continual Service Improvement (CSI)

- Implement metric based improvements
- Key processes and activities
  - Identify the strategy for improvement
  - Define what you will measure
  - Gather the data
  - Process the data
  - Analyze the information and data
  - Present and use the information
  - Implement service/process improvement

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2,3 ,4	FCAPS http://www.cisco.com/en/US/technologies/tk869/tk769/images/0900aecd806c5e42_null_null_null_09_07_07-1.jpg
5,6	eTOM https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:EtomLevel0.png
7,8	ITIL logo
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11, 12, 13, 14, 15	http://www.itsmacademy.com

Managing the infrastructure
Management tools and technologies

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What tools?

- Three useful categories:
  - Managing the processes
  - Managing the "applications"
  - Managing the network (the devices that comprise the network)
- There are some tools that are gaining momentum in the market to manage processes

Management tools - "silicon snake oil"

- Tools are either
  - Very narrowly focused
  - OR try to boil the ocean – CA Unicenter, IBM's Tivoli
- GUI tools getting better
  - Mostly useful to do simple things you do infrequently
  - Command line better for routine (complicated) tasks
- Still today, much of management tasks are done using basic command line tools, shell/Perl/Python scripts, and text logs

One of Ben's home PIX config (partial)

```
: Saved
: Written by enable_15 at 19:24:59.956 UTC Mon Apr 9 2012
PIX Version 6.3(5)
interface ethernet0 auto
interface ethernet1 100full
nameif ethernet0 outside security0
nameif ethernet1 inside security100
enable password ************ encrypted
passwd ************ encrypted
hostname pixy
domain-name gaucherin.org
fixup protocol dns maximum-length 512
names
access-list inside_outbound_nat0_acl permit ip any 10.0.0.16 255.255.255.240
pager lines 24
logging on
logging timestamp
logging trap notifications
logging host inside 10.0.0.3 format emblem
mtu outside 1500
mtu inside 1500
ip address outside 192.168.1.30 255.255.255.0
ip address inside 10.0.0.1 255.255.255.0
ip verify reverse-path interface outside
ip verify reverse-path interface inside
ip audit info action alarm
ip audit attack action alarm
ip local pool pixy_vpn_pool 10.0.0.20-10.0.0.30
```


Mindset mismatch, again

- People used to manage large Telco structures
  - Large complex set of expensive (multi million $) tools to manage all aspects of the "smart network"
  - Large headcount of people
    - Front-line people with limited training
    - People configuring the tools need to be well trained

Mindset mismatch, again

- People running IP based networks
  - Mostly use simple ping, traceroute, configs managed as text files, and answering phone calls
  - Lower headcount
    - Front-line people need more expertise

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3	Snake Oil http://www.kitsch-slapped.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/01/1950-snake-oil-is-wonderful-stuff.jpg
5	Phone hats http://www.united-academics.org/magazine/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/Phone-hat.jpg
6	IETF grey beards https://www.flickr.com/photos/83693452@N00/3044852964

Managing the infrastructure
Simple Network Management Protocol

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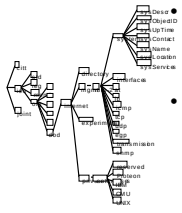
SNMP

- IETF standard for "network management"
  - Mostly used for monitoring
- Assumes
  - Several (typically many) managed nodes with agents
  - SNMP manager
    - e.g. network management system/station – NMS
  - Protocol between NMS & agents
    - SNMP protocol - currently v3
  - Management information
    - Management Information Base (MIB)

SNMP



- Mostly a query - response system
  - Little network traffic initiated by device (agent)
- Uses UDP - not reliable, no flow control
  - If your network is "messed up" you don't want to require reliable transport
  - Up to NMS to retry if no response
- Too often only a primitive security system
  - Current version (SNMPv3) has good security

SNMP

- Uses database defined in the Management Information Base (MIB)
  - Can have "enterprise" extensions to MIB
- Structure of Management Information (SMI) document defines structure of MIB
  - SMI defines data structure using ASN.1

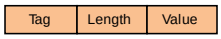
ASN.1

- Joint ISO, IEC, ITU standard
- Abstract Syntax Notation One (ASN.1)
  - Defines a language used to describe data types
- Basic Encoding Rules for Abstract Notation One
  - Defines a method for unambiguous transmission of data
  - Data is self identifying on the wire

ASN.1

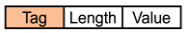
- Machine architecture independent
- Operating system independent
- Network protocol independent
- Native language independent

ASN.1 Data Encoding (TLV)



- Tag
  ASN.1 data type
- Length
  Length in bytes
- Value
  Value of data element
  Format dependent on type

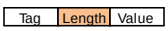
ASN.1 Data Encoding, Tag



- Tags

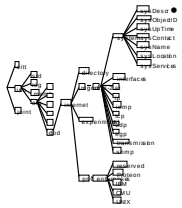
value	type
1	boolean
2	integer
3	bit string
4	octet string
5	null
6	object identifier
7	real

ASN.1 Data Encoding, Length



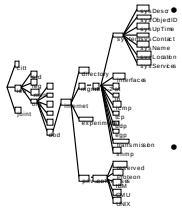
- Data element length field
- If element length <= 126 bytes
  Actual value is length in byte (high bit = 0)
  (value 127 is reserved)
- If element length > 127 bytes
  length made up of chunks of 7 bits per byte
  high bit in all but the last byte = 1
  high bit in the last byte = 0

ASN.1 Data Encoding, OID



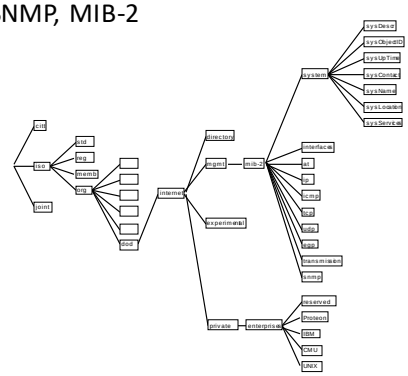
- OBJECT IDENTIFIER (OID)
  - Sequence of integers that describe a pathway taken in traversing a tree of options, must be unique
    - e.g. 1.3.6.1.2.1.1.1
    - or
    - iso.org.dod.internet.mgmt.mib-2.system.sysDescr
  - The base of the tree is defined by ISO
  - Layers (branches) are defined by other authorities

ASN.1 in retrospect



- Choice to use ASN.1 was (to some) political
  - To enable migration to CMIP
  - Because OSI was the future
  - But SNMP was ok for the short term
- Quite a few people in the IETF now think that using ASN.1 was a mistake
  - Too complex
  - ASN.1 standards people seen as too inflexible
  - Set expectations of interoperability that were not met

SNMP, MIB-2



SNMP, contd.

- Defines three query messages to get information from an agent
- Defines a set message to be used in managing an agent
- Defines a response message for an agent to use in responding to a query or set message

SNMP, contd.

- Defines a set of trap messages by which an agent can send notification of a status change to a management station
- Defines an inform message for reliable communications

SNMP: Query Messages

- GetRequest

  Request to an agent to return the current value of a specific MIB variable

  Can include more than one OID in a single request
- GetNextRequest

  Request to an agent to return the "next" MIB variable

  Used to walk the tree in an agent

SNMP: Query Messages

- GetBulkRequest

  Request to an agent to return large blocks of data

  Problem - no flow control, can congest network

  see SNMP over TCP, RFC 3430

SNMP: Response Message

- Response

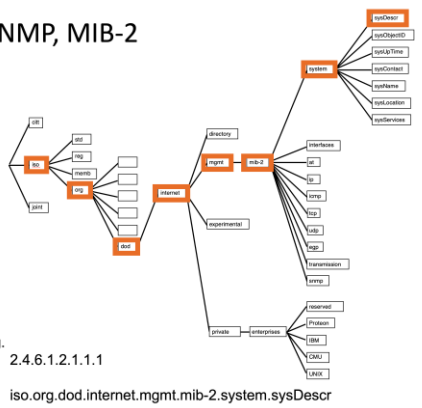
  Message from an agent to a NMS in response to an SNMP request message

  Used to return requested values or to indicate success or failure of set request

  Includes OID and value

  May include an error status and an error index

SNMP, MIB-2



e.g.
2.4.6.1.2.1.1.1
or
iso.org.dod.internet.mgmt.mib-2.system.sysDescr

SNMP: Set-Request Message

- SetRequest

  Request to an agent to change the values of one or more MIB variables to specific new values

  If there is an error in the SetRequest and one or more variables cannot be set, none will be set – so you know the state of the agent

SNMP: Set-Request Message

- Error conditions

  1/ One or more objects not available for set operation, given access controls

  2/ Contents of value field does not correspond to definition

  3/ Size of response message would be larger than local limitations

  4/ Some other reason a value cannot be altered

SNMP: Trap

- SNMPv2-Trap:

  Message from an agent to a NMS in response to a status change or event in the agent

- trap condition examples:

  coldStart

  warmStart

  linkDown

  linkUp

  authenticationFailure

  egpNeighborLoss

  enterpriseSpecific

SNMP: Inform

- InformRequest
  Like a "reliable trap"
  Resent until acknowledged

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2	Essential SNMP cover http://akamaicovers.oreilly.com/images/9780596000202/cat.gif
5	ISO logo

Managing the infrastructure
NETCONF

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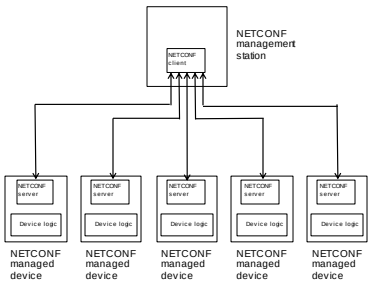
Problems with SNMP

- Few MIBs support the set command
- SNMP does not provide a holistic view of the configuration of a device, or network
- Thus, SNMP is not seen as a good tool to use for configuring networks of devices
- NETCONF was developed by the IETF to fill the gap

NETCONF

- Network Configuration Protocol
- Specification published by the IETF in December 2006
- Works on device & multi-device configurations
  - Retrieve current device configuration files
  - Modify configuration files
  - Install modified configuration files
  - On one or more devices

NETCONF environment



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NETCON configuration taxonomy

- Running configuration
  The configuration currently being used by the device
- Startup configuration
  The configuration that will be used the next time the device reboots
- Candidate configuration
  A configuration that can be installed as running by a NETCONF command

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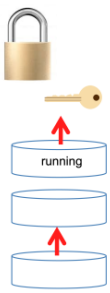
NETCONF commands



- Lock <config>
  Lock a configuration file so others can not change it
- Unlock <config>
  Unlock a configuration file
- Get-config <config>
  Retrieve a configuration file
- Edit-config <config>
  Modify a configuration file
- Copy-config <from> <to>
  Copy a configuration file

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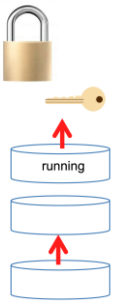
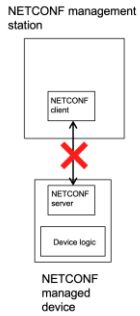
NETCONF commands, contd.



- Discard-changes <config>
  Discard the changes made to a configuration file
- Delete <config>
  Delete a configuration file
- Commit <candidate, ID>
  Move a candidate configuration file into the running configuration
- Cancel-commit <ID>
  Cancel a particular commit command

NETCONF commands & misc.



- Close-session
  Gracefully close current NETCONF client-server session
- Kill-session <ID>
  Force a NETCONF session to terminate
- Miscellaneous
  Runs over SSH or TSL
  Uses RPC
  Communication format is XML
  Uses YANG data models

YANG

- Stands for "Yet Another Next Generation"
- Data modeling language
- YANG module defines a hierarchy of data
  Most MIBs can be mapped into YANG modules
- Modeled as a tree of nodes
- Each node has a value or list of child nodes

YANG IETF Interfaces Module

```
+--rw interfaces
|  +--rw interface* [name]
|     +--rw name                        string
|     +--rw description?                string
|     +--rw type                        identityref
|     +--rw enabled?                    boolean
|     +--rw link-up-down-trap-enable?   enumeration
+--ro interfaces-state
   +--ro interface* [name]
      +--ro name                  string
      +--ro type                  identityref
      +--ro admin-status          enumeration
      +--ro oper-status           enumeration
      +--ro last-change?          yang:date-and-time
      +--ro if-index              int32
      +--ro phys-address?         yang:phys-address
      +--ro higher-layer-if*      interface-state-ref
      +--ro lower-layer-if*       interface-state-ref
      +--ro speed?                yang:gauge64
      +--ro statistics
         +--ro discontinuity-time    yang:date-and-time
         +--ro in-octets?            yang:counter64
         +--ro in-unicast-pkts?      yang:counter64
         +--ro in-broadcast-pkts?    yang:counter64
         +--ro in-multicast-pkts?    yang:counter64
         +--ro in-discards?          yang:counter32
         +--ro in-errors?            yang:counter32
         +--ro in-unknown-protos?    yang:counter32
```


YANG modules

- YANG can model a router
  e,g., previous slide
- Can also model network & service topologies

```
module: network-topology
   +--rw network-topology
      +--rw topology* [topology-id]
         +--rw topology-id              topology-id
         +--ro server-provided?         boolean
         +--rw topology-types
         +--rw supporting-topology* [topo-ref]
         |  +--rw topo-ref     leafref
         +--rw node* [node-id]
         |  +--rw node-id               node-id
         |  +--rw termination-point* [tp-id]
         |  |  +--rw tp-id                                  tp-id
         |  |  +--rw supporting-termin-point* [topo-ref node-ref tp-ref]
         |  |     +--rw topo-ref    leafref
         |  |     +--rw node-ref    leafref
         |  |     +--rw tp-ref      leafref
         |  +--rw supporting-node* [topo-ref node-ref]
         |     +--rw topo-ref    leafref
         |     +--rw node-ref    leafref
         +--rw link* [link-id]
```


NETCONF/YANG vs. SNMP

SNMP

V

NETCONF/ YANG

- SNMP does very well at monitoring individual devices
- SNMP does less well at configuring individual devices
- NETCONF is targeted at configuring sets of devices
- NETCONF does less well at monitoring individual devices

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2	https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:SNMP-Managementkonsole.PNG
6	lock http://www.backgroundsy.com/photos/padlock key https://pixabay.com/en/photos/security%20key/
9 & 11	https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc7223

Managing the infrastructure
Business Continuity & Disaster Recovery

CSCI E 45a: The Cyber World – part A

A continuum

Things you can't prepare for

Business Continuity & Disaster Recovery

Incidents, annoyances, inconveniences

- Incident Management (ITIL) allows for the management of incidents big and small
- Understanding the thresholds is important
  - When do you go from incident to crisis/disaster?
  - Tends to be industry, organization specific

Business Continuity (BC)

- Maintaining continuity of key business operations through suddenly changing conditions
- Not always physical destruction
  - e.g., H1N1 planning
- Broader risk management
  - e.g., changes in market conditions, competitive landscape, etc.

Business Continuity (BC)

- When are changing business conditions disasters?
- Is the rapid disappearance of your entire product market a disaster?
  - See Blackberry
- Some standards
  - e.g., BS 25999-2
- Some business continuity is mandated
  - e.g., FFIEC "guidance"
  - e.g., Payroll for State of Mass. employees

Disaster Recovery (DR)

- A disaster does not always affect technology
  - But technology can be critical to recovery efforts
- And sometime technology is the disaster

Widespread Campus Internet Outages Resolved

Many on Campus Were Without Internet Access for Several Hours Friday

By NOAH J. DELWICHE, CRIMSON STAFF WRITER December 6, 2014

Disaster Recovery (DR)

- For the technology
  - Synchronous resiliency is what you factor in to your system design
    - Resiliency in the design reduces the need for DR or at least changes the concept
  - So DR is Asynchronous resiliency
    - With varying time lag

Disaster Recovery (DR)

- May need to be able to operate even if you cannot get to the office
  - e.g., American Media Inc. (National Enquirer) anthrax letter received & building evacuated October 2001
    - Federal authorities OK'd building on 8 Feb 2007
  - e.g., 100s of companies in World Trade Center
    - Some went out of business because of data (not people) loss

Some important acronyms

- Business Impact Analysis – BIA
  - Analysis of risks, tolerance for loss/degradation of service, and recovery requirements
- Mean Time To Fail – MTTF
  - The mean time between outages
- Mean Time To Repair – MTTR
  - The mean time ot bring the service back up from an outage

Some important acronyms, contd.

- Recovery Time Objective – RTO
  - Target time to bring a service back to an acceptable state of performance
- Recovery Point Objective – RPO
  - Defines how much data you can afford to loose – i.e., the frequency of backups

DR planning

- Step 0: Figure out what outage is acceptable
  - Before the event!!
  - i.e., do a risk model for an outage
    - What is at risk if you cannot operate and over what timeframe?
  - e.g., payroll system: checks needed within 3 business days, updates can take months
  - e.g., employee Christmas party planning site: unused 11 months of the year
    - Understand seasonality
  - Assume that you cannot tolerate any data loss
    - i.e., good backup process (including off site storage

10

DR planning

- Step 1: Define key roles and responsibilities
  - Who will make decisions? Who will communicate? Etc.
  - And if that person is unreachable?
- Step 2: Decide how you will communicate with employees, the press, the public?
  - Who will speak for the organization?

11

DR planning

- Step 3: Think about the people
  - Who is needed when?
  - Where will people work if office is closed?
  - What if the people cannot travel to the office or to an alternate site?
    - 9/11 flight shutdown, blizzard of '78, bird flu, ...

12

DR planning

- Step 4: Think about the systems
  - What systems are needed when?
  - How are they going to be accessed?
- Step 5: Think about the data
  - What data will be needed when and where?
  - How is the data going to get to where it is needed?

13

DR planning

- Step 6: Plan the backup systems
  - Do you need your own redundant system?
  - Does the data need to be in sync in real time?
- Step 7: Plan the communications
  - Communicate the plan
  - to support decision makers
  - to support user and staff access
  - to support data transfers

14

Communications during a disaster

- Cannot assume phone system will work
  - Phone system gets clogged during most major emergencies
  - Both land-line and cellular
- Internet may work better

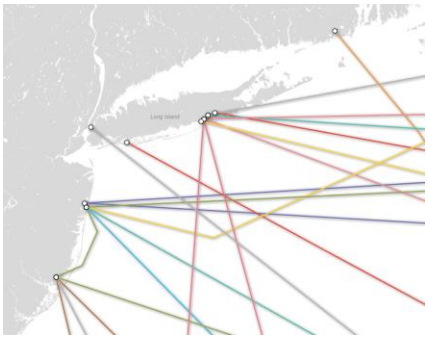
15

Communications during a disaster

- 11 metropolitan phone outages in 1991 in US
  - 15 min to 8 hours
  - Cell tower batteries ran out during 9/11 aftermath
  - Few, but large, switching centers
  - Major disruption if switching center taken off-line
- Few independent fiber paths - frequent cuts
  - Major disruption when cut

16

North-east fiber land fall



17

In the presence of human error

Hinsdale IL - Mother's Day 1988
- Fire destroyed 118K fiber lines, 35K local lines & 30K data lines, alarm ignored for an hour

Manhattan - Sept. 17, 1991:
- AT&T switching center failure
- Switch to diesel generator failed so center switched to battery backup & alarm ignored, batteries ran out

Never underestimate the power of human stupidity.

Robert A. Heinlein

18

The least you should do

- Transaction & access logs
  - Not stored on the production server
- Daily backups
  - Backups of key services moved off-site daily
  - Or real-time mirroring to remote site
  - Encryption would be good (often required for HRCI)

The least you should do

- Alternate hardware for key systems
  - As-needed rental, hot standby or load-sharing duplicate
- Decision & communications trees
  - Pocket cards for key personnel
- Do a tabletop once a year
- Communicate your plan
  - Make sure everyone knows what to expect

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8, 9	word cloud http://www.eci.com/blog/images/DR-wordcloud.JPG
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Managing the infrastructure
Conclusion

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In summary…

- Delivering technology services requires managing everything involved in delivering the service
- There is no shortage of management frameworks and tools
  - Some are useful
  - None are the answer to everything
- ITIL is a comprehensive framework for managing technology services

In summary…

- IETF standards include management technology standards such as SNMP, NETCONF
- Disasters happen, not planning for them is irresponsible

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