

Security and Stability

COPE™ : Crisis Operations Planning and Education

- Emergency Preparedness Planning
- Disaster Recovery Planning
- Continuity of Operations Planning

—these and many more initiatives associated with security of people, places, and information are on the minds of most business executives, worldwide. *And this includes planning associated with the growing “pandemic influenza” threat.*

Many companies have not yet fully developed such contingency plans, or they haven’t put these plans through sufficient testing to determine whether or not their companies are, in fact, prepared. **IRI** offers a programmed approach to facilitate **Security and Stability Planning—COPE™**, *Crisis Operations Planning and Education*—bolstering security functionality while laying the foundation for successful security, emergency, recovery, and continuity planning.

Security Planning

Effective security planning starts with a company security culture receptive to both planning as well as instituting fundamental protective measures, and continues evolving to add more comprehensive security practices. Many companies believe adapting suitable security policies and procedures may be burdensome; or management may be undecided how much is enough; or risk assessment has not been adequately addressed.

IRI consultants have expertise helping companies analyze the broad spectrum of *threats* to personnel, their work environment, and the company’s proprietary information including operating data, know-how, and trade secrets. Ongoing planning is crucial, and **IRI** can help assess needs, recommend actions, and refine policies and procedures aimed at reducing *vulnerabilities*. Awareness of threats and commensurate vulnerabilities helps management better understand consequences including those that otherwise might have been cloaked as “unforeseen.”

Emergency Preparedness Planning

Natural disasters, terrorist events, and pandemic diseases, as never before, have caused many companies to rethink approaches and steps necessary to maintain or regain business stability during and after events.

IRI has a consultative approach to help management evaluate, prioritize, and establish practices tailored to their specific profile given location, industry, and other parameters that shape the most appropriate courses of action. **IRI** helps its clients enhance awareness while providing appropriate levels of ongoing support, such as testing, table-top exercises, and training. **IRI** helps clients with “pre-event” or “preventative” measures to help minimize the potential for adverse consequences and minimize loss.

Disaster Recovery Planning

When disaster strikes, even the best attempts at preparedness may still yield very unwelcome after-shock consequences and prolonged or lingering problem sets for certain business. A key component to business survival is—time. It is crucial to resume business activities as quickly as possible. **IRI** helps management weigh alternatives and options associated with efficient business resumption while planning for contingencies associated with adverse impact to company personnel and assets.

Continuity of Operations Planning

Many kinds of events can disrupt a business; and disruption may involve loss of personnel, loss of the place of business, and loss of operating data. And there are losses associated with supplier and distributor arrangements as well as customer relationships. **IRI** helps management prepare for all the elements required to coordinate business activities as they were before business interruption occurred.