

IT DR Plans for Virtualised Environments



Scenario

Your organisation has recently completed an IT DR or data centre consolidation project, implemented IT infrastructure and made a substantial investment into virtual technologies such as VMware and Microsoft Hyper-V.

The products are living up to the promises made by the vendor sales staff and you have even extended your solution to include the VMware tools provided for Disaster Recovery, such as Site Recovery Manager, High Availability and Fault Tolerance.

Does this mean that your solution will fail over automatically without any intervention from your IT Department? A disaster event has occurred but things didn't go exactly as expected. In fact, you were told that since failover and recovery was supposed to be automated, no additional planning or documentation was necessary.

Would your organisation survive?

There is no doubt that VMware and similar products provide an organisation with best of breed solutions that have been implemented in thousands of companies internationally. Providing your organisation with the necessary technologies to mitigate disasters is one piece of the puzzle but these technologies do not provide the necessary plans and procedures relating to overall recovery strategy, plan of approach, essential staff roles, responsibilities and testing and handover activities required in the event of a disaster.

OpsCentre can assist you to develop and maintain VMware processes and procedures that align to business needs and provide confidence in your IT services and their recovery.

Services

Virtualisation Disaster Recovery Strategy. Documenting the 'as-built' virtualisation recovery strategy, recovery locations, roles and responsibilities, infrastructure and equipment required.

Virtualisation Disaster Recovery Plan. Documenting detailed virtualisation recovery/failover procedures to detail all activities necessary for the resumption of your IT environment and Business functions.

Virtualisation Disaster Recovery Test Planning. Defining and documenting virtualisation test plans and scripts and expected test outcomes.

These are fixed scope/fee services, providing known outcomes agreed prior to project engagement.

