

Continuity Central

Using Drones in Planning and Exercising

The benefits of drone deployment during disaster recovery are well-known. They have supported emergency response teams around the world many times to date - providing critical, real-time insight for faster damage assessments and faster recovery decisions. But drones can be deployed during planning and exercising phases to great effect.

For most businesses, the majority of incidents will be out of their control. But for many who hold responsibility to maintain structural assets - buildings, powerlines, turbines and physical infrastructure particularly - an incident is far more likely to impact badly when BC planning has not been effective or frequent enough. Collecting accurate data periodically (and aiming to reduce recovery times) can significantly improve the effectiveness of disaster recovery plans.

Proactive maintenance, good relationships with facilities management and comprehensive preventative maintenance programmes all contribute to the effectiveness of BC and disaster recovery planning - so the relationship between planning and maintenance is key. If your Facilities Manager isn't undergoing regular PPM (Planned Preventative Maintenance) and providing you with reports for your disaster recovery plans, it may be time to ask them. Where risk management, facilities management and business continuity work closely together, more accurate and effective disaster recovery plans can be developed.

The insurance sector is realising the benefits too. Following an incident, insurers in-the-know can link images of property damage (for example) with their risk modelling and underwriting information to make faster assessment decisions, and process claims faster and with more accuracy. So, if crisis teams, the insurance sector and facilities teams are wising up to new technologies, isn't it time for BC professionals to start leveraging their power too?

Drones can bring more up-to-date, high quality data at a fraction of the cost of traditional assessment methods, particularly where assets are sited in hard-to-reach locations or access presents additional risk. In addition, drones can be deployed quickly and easily and play a significant part in shrinking response timescales. Including them in live exercises to speed decision making could also pay dividends.



If we consider that live exercising helps organisations to understand how robust their plans are, drones could go a long way to helping provide critical incident assessment information, with more detail and in shorter time frames than has been achieved to date. Forming an accurate understanding of the likely recovery timescales is crucial to BC Managers, so the more accurate the exercise, the better the outcome.

As governance surrounding drone use matures, so the safe application of drones as data provider grows. Including drones in planning, assessment and validation processes therefore will make sense to those responsible for developing Business Impact Analyses and maintaining Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery Plans.

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Notes for Editors

Sky Revolutions Ltd.

Sky Revolutions is one of the UK's most authoritative voices in aerial imaging, surveying, and aerial surveying. The company offers exceptional quality multi-sector time lapse, aerial imaging, and surveying services to private and public sector institutions, Europe-wide.

Sky Revolutions is a dedicated team of professionals with more than 20 years' experience in construction surveying. Valued for their specialist surveying skills, Sky Revolutions offers effective advice and data interpretation as well as filming, mapping and CAD services.

Sky Revolutions is known for leading the way with aerial imaging and remains the only organisation using 100' masts to provide a free standing, at-height image solution for large construction sites. Highly qualified and accredited, its UAS (Unmanned Aircraft Systems) expertise helps customers access complex and often hazardous environments, see and record the condition of assets from a birds' eye view, and make informed assessments quickly, safely and cost-effectively. The company uses some of the most sophisticated drones in the market to capture ultra-high definition images at a fraction of the cost of traditional aircraft surveys and with fewer risks than platform or scaffold use.

Sky Revolutions was one of the first UK organisations to realise the benefits of drones in surveying. Drones or UAVs (Unmanned Aerial Vehicles) offer significant advantages in surveying and high-level inspection.

To find out more, or to request original files, film, or image samples, or to request an interview or comment, please contact:

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