Surviving after a business disruption is one thing. Thriving is another. A basic business-continuity plan may get you through, but it’ll take more than that to keep you going. This isn’t just about continuity in the immediate aftermath; it’s about resiliency in the long term.

To achieve resiliency, you must move away from dealing with a crisis only when it occurs toward processes and partnerships designed to keep the business going strong. A big part of is getting the business organization and IT on the same page, because it’s going to take a coordinated effort to take a disruption in stride.

Lots of things can knock an organization down—an earthquake, a labor strike, a data breach—but nothing can keep it down for good, if it’s truly resilient. With business and IT working together, your organization can achieve the resiliency to stay standing and keep moving forward, no matter what.

CAPABILITIES: WHAT IT TAKES TO MATURE BUSINESS RESILIENCY PROCESSES

Achieving business resiliency requires a collaborative, coordinated effort to:

• Represent the interests of a variety of operational groups
• Ensure the proper controls are in place and operating effectively
• Align resiliency-related processes to other business requirements
• Focus on building in resiliency when making business process improvements

RSA Archer’s Business Resiliency solution provides key capabilities to:

Establish a business context for resiliency by ensuring the business resiliency team understands business and IT assets and relationships.

Strengthen the IT infrastructure to better prepare for and recover from system outages.

Identify and prepare strategies including processes to manage operational incidents and test business continuity measures before a disruption.

Manage crisis events and communications with coordinated activation of business continuity and IT disaster recovery plans.

STAGE BY STAGE: MAPPING THE MATURITY JOURNEY

RSA Archer Maturity Models guide organizations through the journey from baseline risk management to optimized processes that balance opportunities and risks. There are five stages along the way:
THE SILOED STAGE: MASTERING THE BASICS
Organizations at this stage are preparing to evolve from business continuity to business resiliency.

- Business continuity is entirely separate from IT disaster recovery, and plans for each are based on unrelated business impact analyses and recovery objectives.
- A plan for declaring a crisis is in place, but with separate processes for reporting events and incidents.

THE TRANSITION STAGE: STABILIZING AND STRENGTHENING
To move from Siloed to Managed, business and IT teams take steps to strengthen the foundation for resiliency.

- Business continuity and IT disaster recovery teams begin testing their plans and tracking results.
- Incident management matures with categorization of incident types for better reporting.
- Crisis management processes are tested as part of the plan testing.

THE MANAGED STAGE: STANDING FIRM
The organization plans for a wider variety of disruptions based on a more comprehensive understanding of assets.

- Business continuity and disaster recovery plans become more extensive and well documented.
- Testing becomes more extensive with testing and tracking of results and remediation.
- A central crisis team is established, and roles and responsibilities are defined.
- Emergency notification methods are refined and implemented.

THE TRANSFORM STAGE: ASSERTING CONTROL
Coordinated business continuity and IT disaster recovery planning gets underway.

- A common business impact analysis process is established, enabling management to better identify dependencies and connections between plans.
- As a result, resiliency risks can be regularly identified, mitigated and correlated to prior and potential events.
THE ADVANTAGED STAGE: RIDING THE WAVE
The organization completes the transition from disaster recovery and business continuity to innovative resiliency.

- Business context has been infused into all business continuity and disaster recovery processes.
- Issues are reported with integrated business attributes and impact.
- Management conducts full joint testing and assesses risks regularly.
- Crisis management is fully integrated with all business continuity and disaster recovery efforts.

With the ability to operate fluidly and adapt quickly to threats, the organization can continue on its strategic path: getting to market first, launching new products with calculated efficiency, and avoiding major issues that could wreck reputations and ruin bottom lines.

For more detailed information about the RSA Archer Maturity Model for Business Resiliency, visit rsa.com/en-us/resources.

ABOUT THE RSA ARCHER MATURITY MODEL SERIES
RSA Archer’s vision is to help organizations transform compliance, manage risk and exploit opportunity with Risk Intelligence made possible via an integrated, coordinated GRC program. The RSA Archer Maturity Model series outlines the segments of risk management that organizations must address to transform GRC.

ABOUT RSA
RSA offers Business-Driven Security™ solutions that uniquely link business context with security incidents to help organizations manage risk and protect what matters most. RSA solutions are designed to effectively detect and respond to advanced attacks; manage user identities and access; and reduce business risk, fraud and cybercrime. RSA protects millions of users around the world and helps more than 90% of the Fortune 500 companies thrive in an uncertain, high risk world. For more information, visit rsa.com.