



Post-Disaster Recovery
Things You Must Consider After Failing Over To Your Recovery Environment

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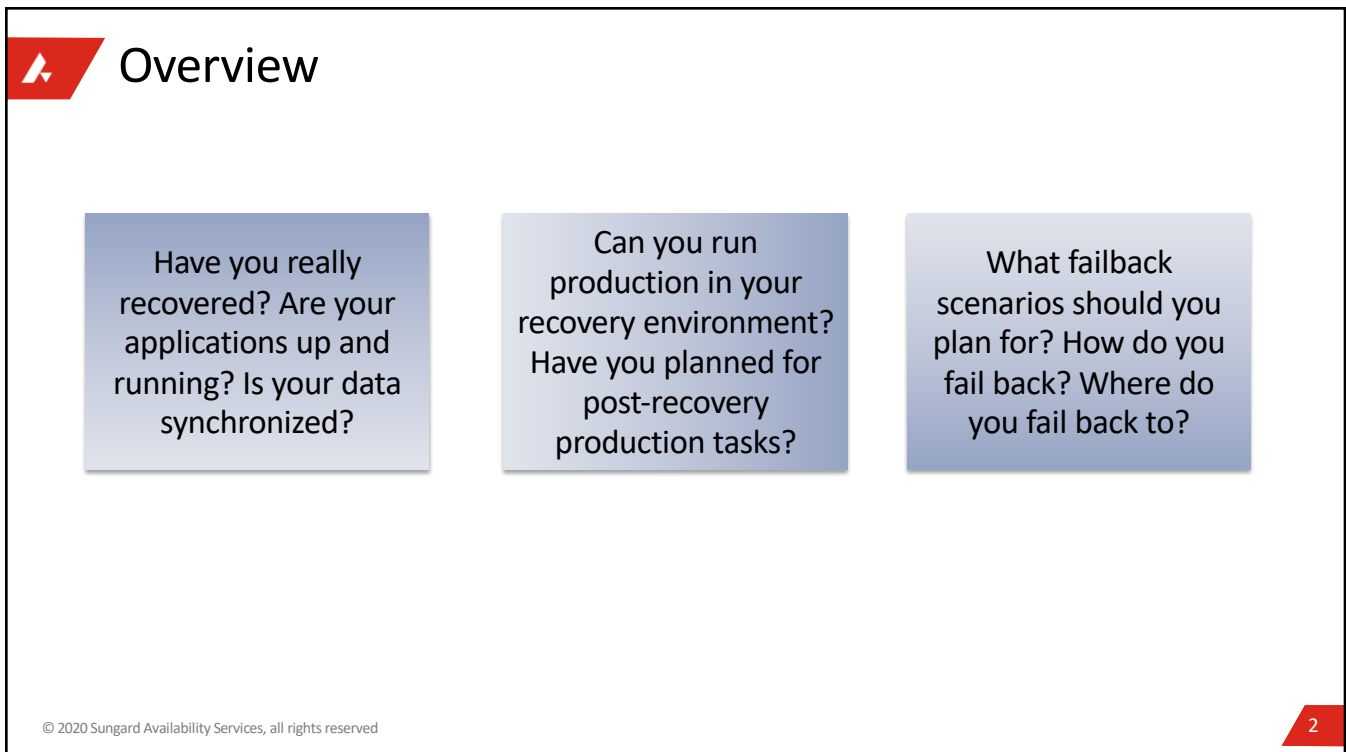
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 **Overview**

Have you really recovered? Are your applications up and running? Is your data synchronized?

Can you run production in your recovery environment? Have you planned for post-recovery production tasks?

What failback scenarios should you plan for? How do you fail back? Where do you fail back to?

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How important is to plan for disaster and post-recovery ?

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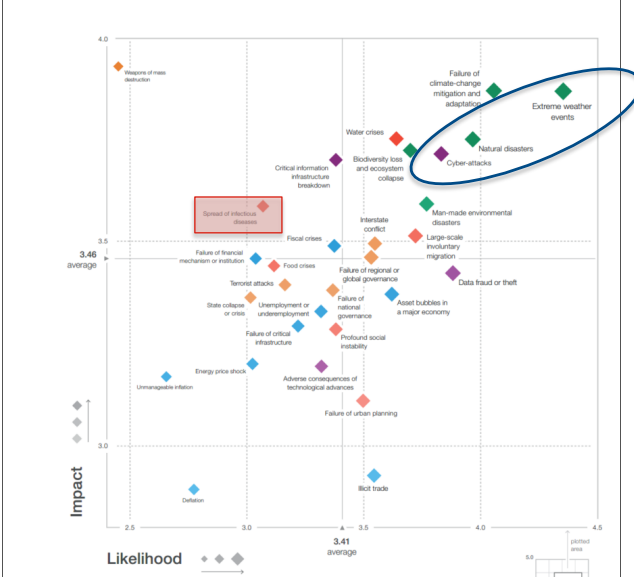
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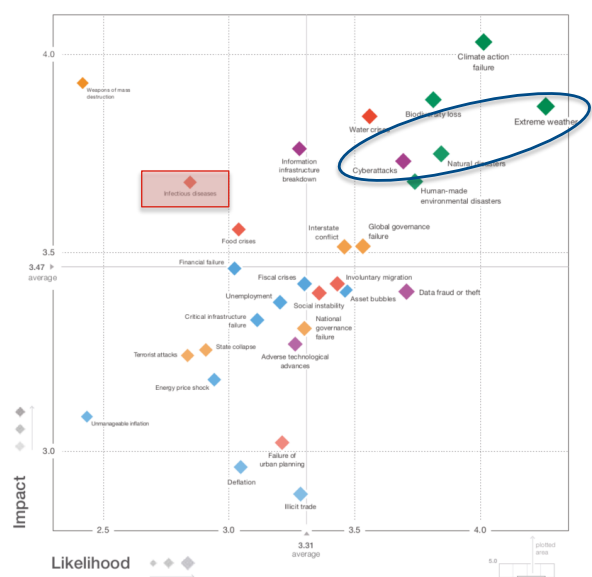
Global risks: World Economic Forum (2019 vs 2020)

Figure I: The Global Risks Landscape 2019



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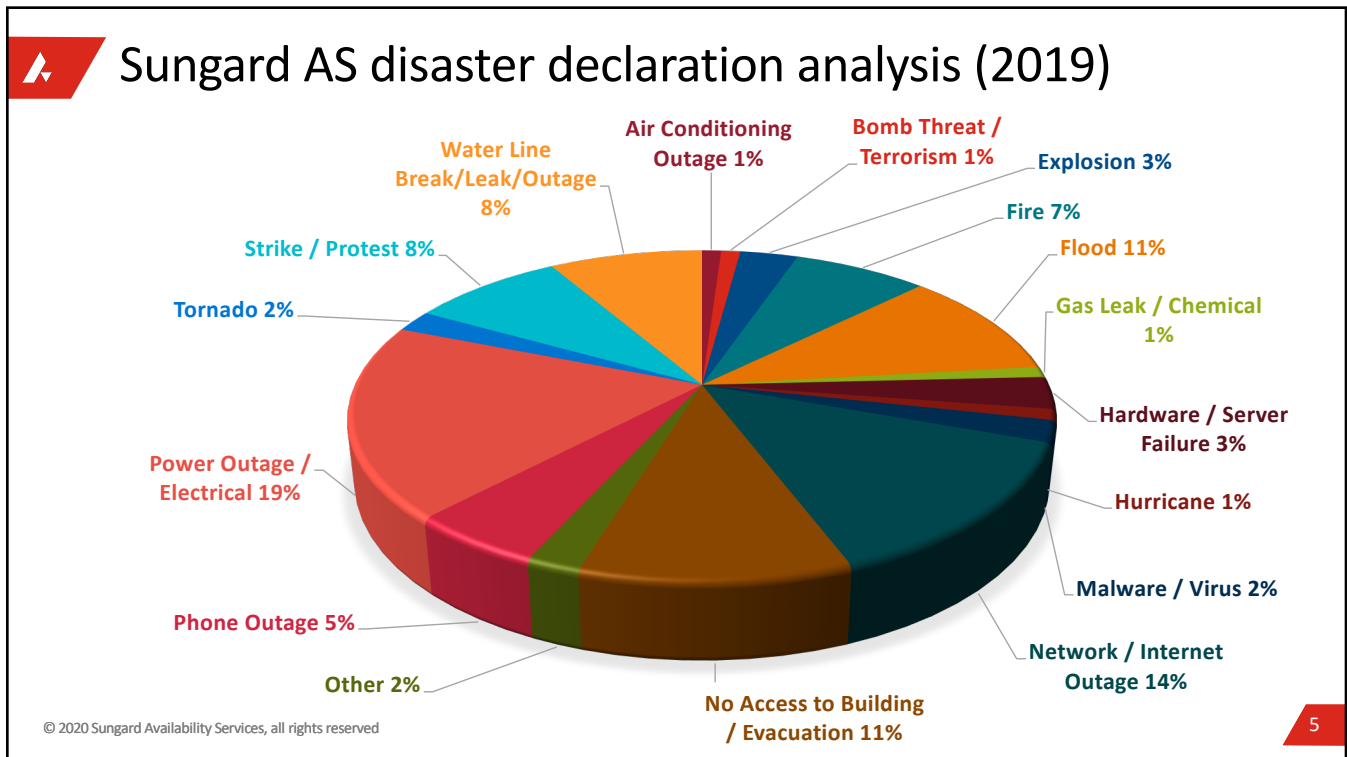
Figure II: The Global Risks Landscape 2020



<https://www.weforum.org/reports> - Global Risk Perceptions Survey

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Have you really recovered? Are your applications up and running? Is your data synchronized?

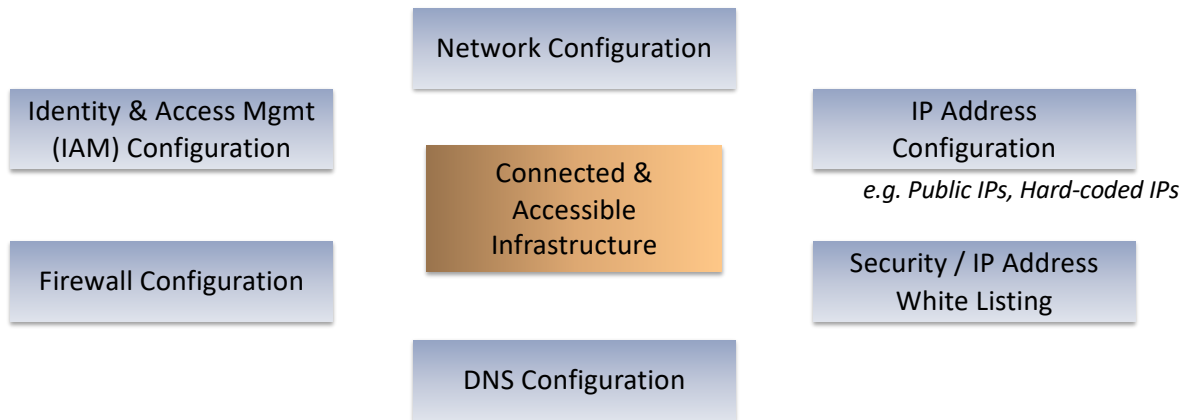
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Have you really recovered?

- Even if your servers have been recovered, is your infrastructure connected and accessible? Common areas of post-recovery activities:



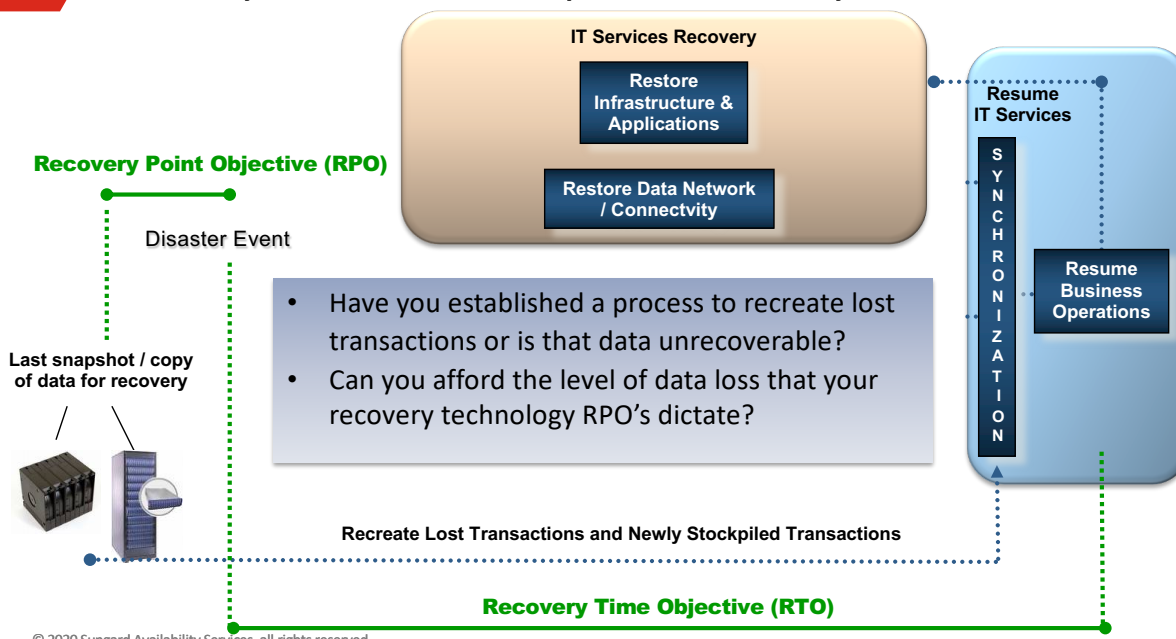
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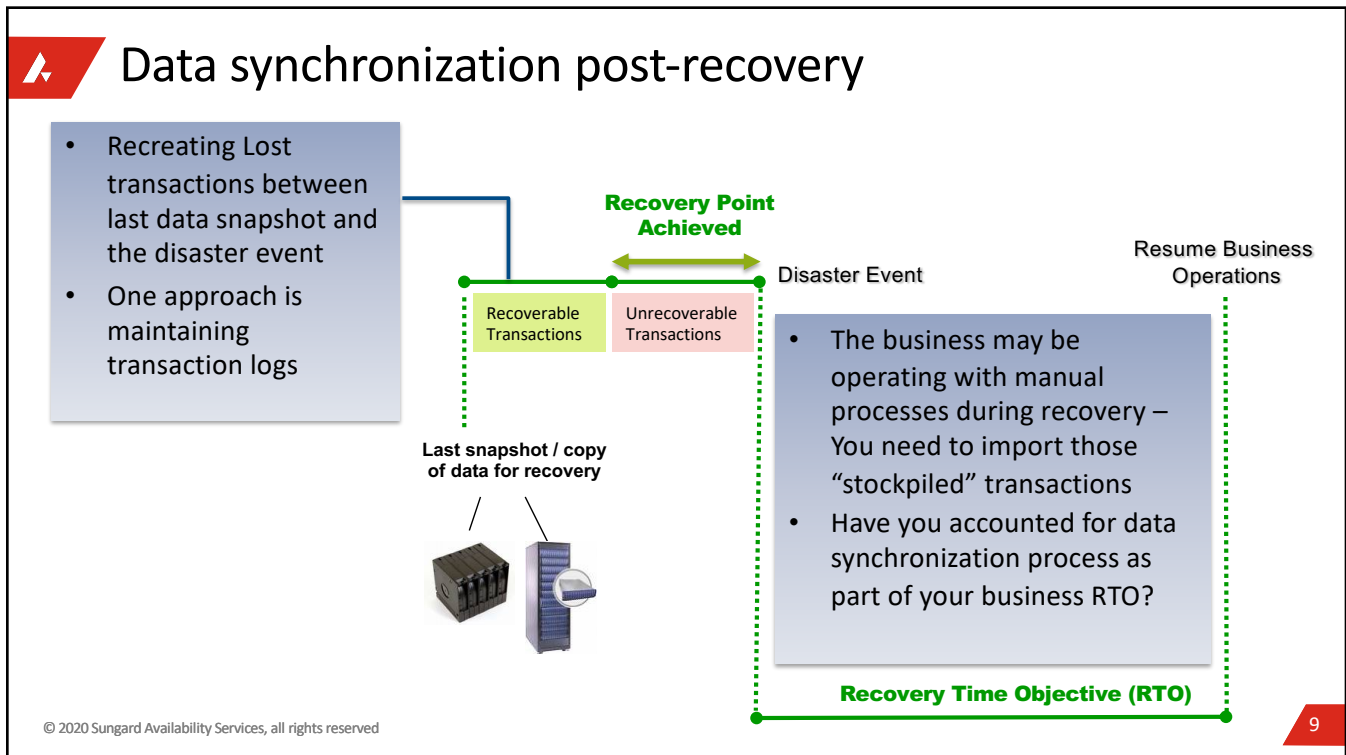
Data synchronization post-recovery



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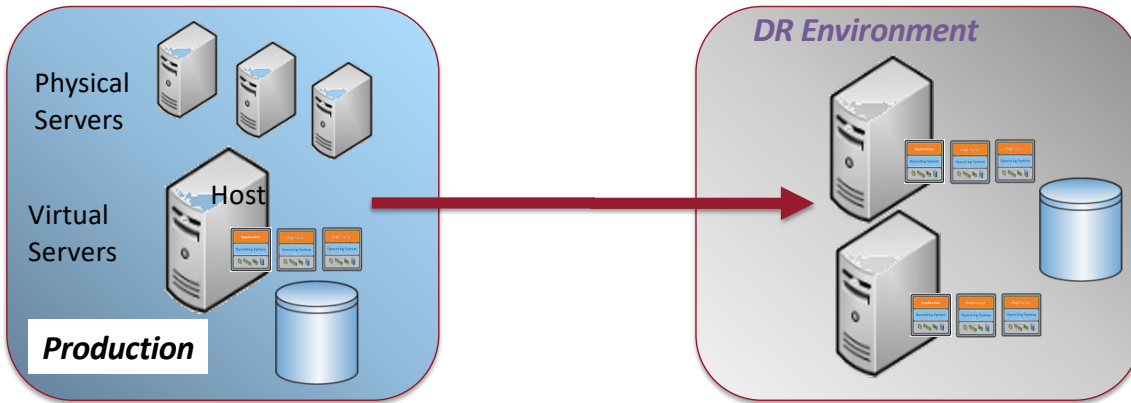
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Can you run production in your recovery environment?

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Running production in a DR environment



- What type of performance and scale is achievable in your DR environment? Will Minimal Acceptable Recovery Configuration (MARC) support full production?
 - E.g. Storage type: Magnetic storage (SATA or SAS) vs. high performance SSD
 - Physical production servers running on virtual servers in DR

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Post-recovery production tasks

- Are you ready to run post-recovery production tasks? Who is responsible for them? Have you identified applications that support these tasks in your recovery plan?

Monitoring

Is monitoring in place and configured correctly?

Backups / Data Protection

Are backups configured? Do you have backup peripherals / storage?

Security

"Recovery is about speed and production is about security"

Software Licensing

What are the licensing requirements on new servers?

Compliance

Can you meet your compliance requirements?

Support Agreements

What impact is there to your support agreements?

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How do you fail back? Where do you fail back to?

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Failback – Where do you start?

- Now that you've been running production for a while in your recovery environment, how do you get back home?
- Planning failback scenarios: Range of options from a temporary failure to building a DC from rubble?
 - Will you figure things out when you are impacted by a disaster - or do you have a high-level plan or at least an overall strategy in play?
 - A DC build out / procurement of new gear can be a very involved process
- Technically: Are you protecting your data (replication or backup) from your recovered environment so you can failback to production?
 - Will you have to rearchitect legacy applications before failback e.g. application that runs on the End of Support Windows 2003 server

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Other failback considerations

- Data synchronization – capturing transactions from your recovered environment
 - More complicated in the event of a partial failover
 - May involve manual processes such as offloading data to disk / encrypting and sending back
- Accessing backups that ran while in DR mode (Needed for compliance purposes)
 - Can you keep your daily backups there until your retention periods expire?

Plan ahead - ensure you are replicating / backing up data from your recovered environment so you can failback successfully

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In Conclusion ...

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Summary

Have you really recovered? Can business users access and use applications?
Plan for data synchronization

Ensure recovered environment can operate at production scale. Plan for tasks such as monitoring, security and backup.

Plan for multiple failback scenarios. Cloud recovery technologies provide automated failback capabilities.

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"Successful disaster recovery and post-recovery planning requires maintaining a healthy level of pessimism bias"



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