

Research Continuity

WashU*Continuity*

 Washington University in St. Louis
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT





Goals

- Focus your planning efforts
- Thinking inward rather than just externally about continuity
- Clarity to your roles and responsibilities in a continuity incident
- Build a culture of continuity

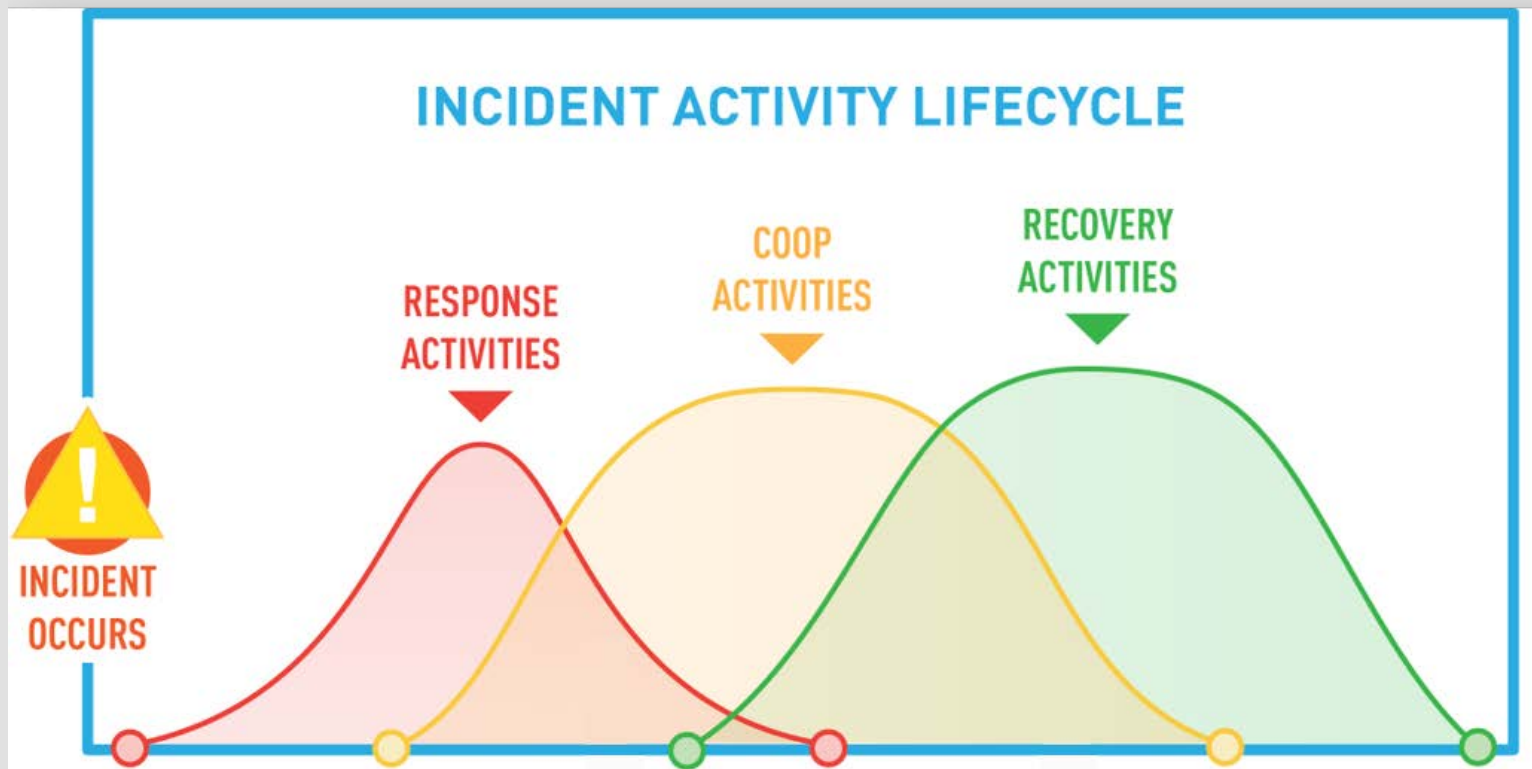
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Building Fire Scenario

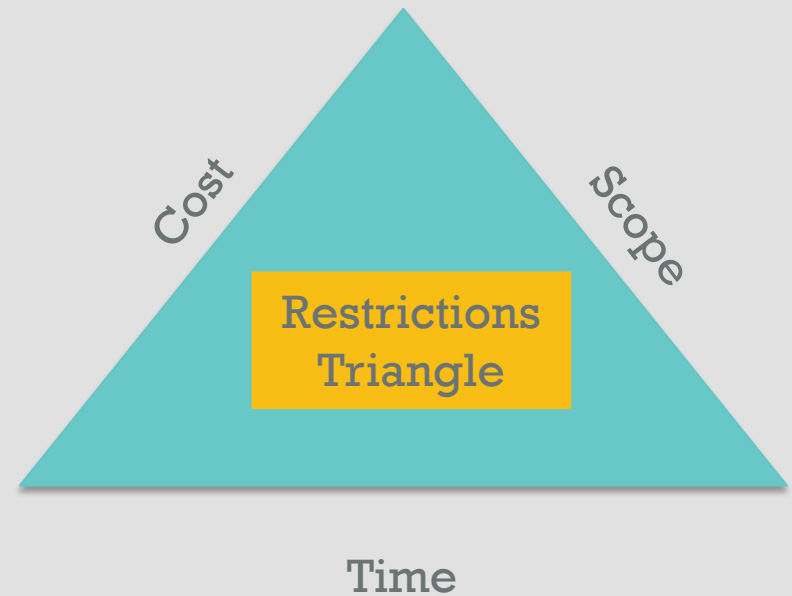
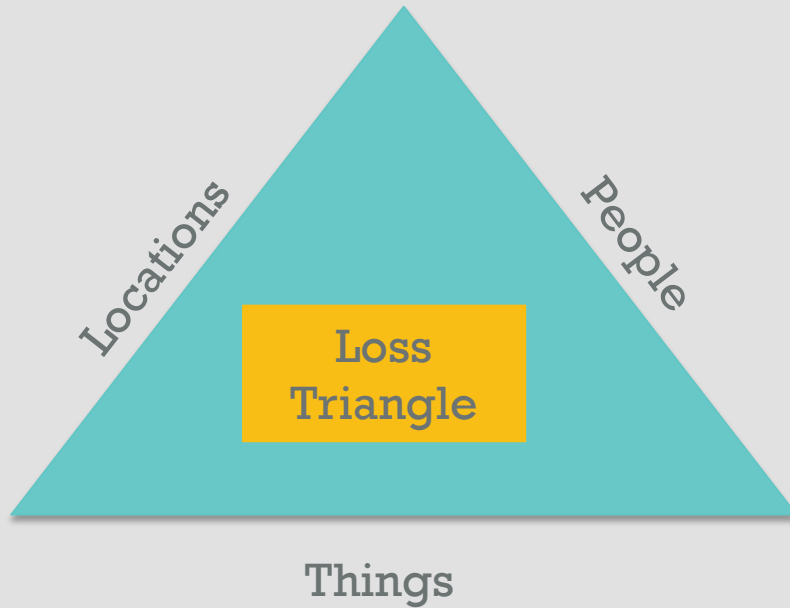
- An electrical short in the middle of your area of the building starts a fire.
- There is heavy smoke and fire damage on your floor and the floors above, and heavy water damage on the floors below.
- All workspace, PCs, supplies, documents, and equipment has been destroyed.
- About half of your employees remain near the building, the other half are unaccounted.
- The Fire Department cleared the building and has cordoned off the building and NO ONE will be allowed in or out for at least 7 days.



Phases of an Incident

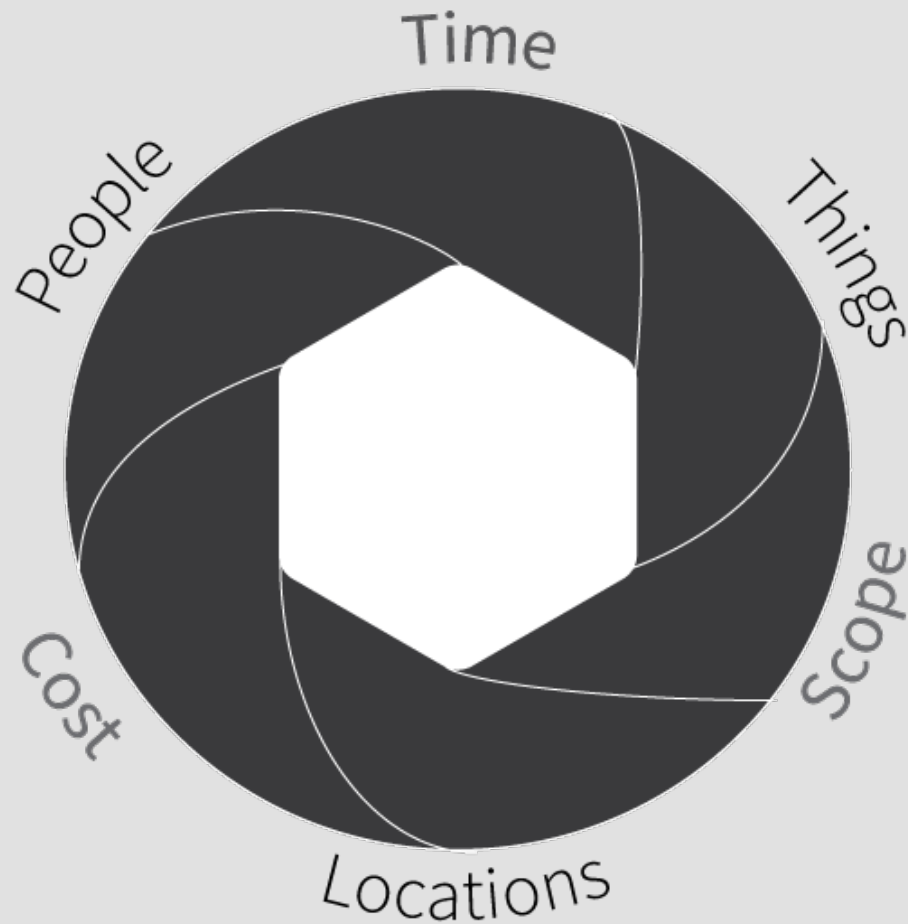


Loss & Restrictions Triangles



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Combination of Loss and Restriction Constraints

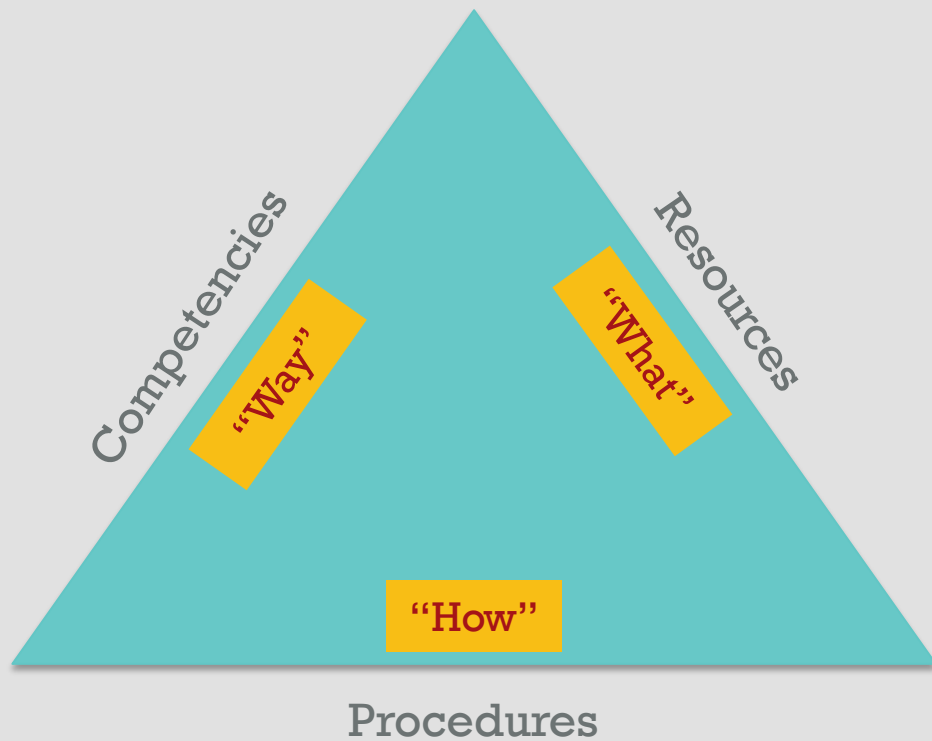


Planning Priorities



- Scope and Cost
 - Focus on essential functions and processes
- Time
 - Focus on those things that need to be continued immediately
- Things
 - Identify only critical things needed to support essential functions
- People
 - Identify essential personnel needed to support essential functions
- Locations
 - Identify only those locations needed to support essential functions

Capabilities Triangle



Increase Resource Capabilities



- Develop recovery strategies or workarounds
- Resources
 - IT applications
 - Staff
 - Locations
 - Vital documents
 - Equipment
 - Supplies



Laboratory Research Considerations



- How long the experiment can be left status quo before it can become dangerous?
- What equipment (if any) needs to be turned off or on?
- How long you can be out of the lab when it is left in mid--operations before the potential exist of losing critical equipment, experiments, animals etc.?
- Do any of the research materials or animals etc., have to be evacuated?
- Key information on grants--If you are unable to continue operating, how does this affect any grant or federal requirements?

Laboratory Research Considerations



- List of equipment and utility requirements
- Duplicate copies of drawings, diagrams, plans, or specifications of unique equipment
- Duplicate samples of novel compounds and specimens
- Irreplaceable specimens (animals, plants, cell lines, DNA etc.) copied/duplicated and distributed to sites outside of your lab
- Do you have procedures for data storage and management?



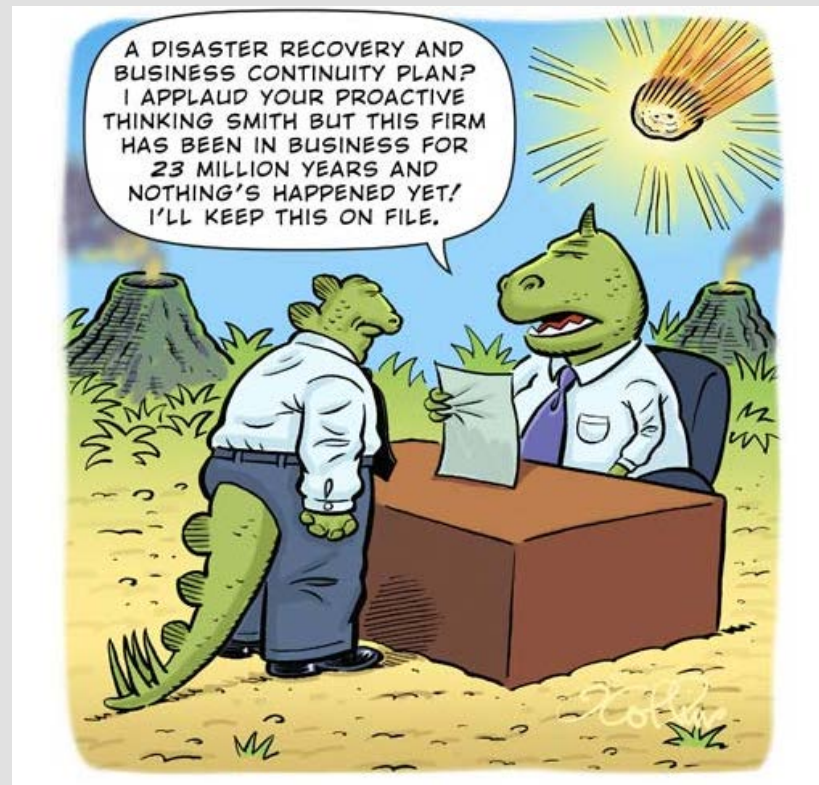
Increase Procedures Capabilities

- Communications
- Actions to implement recovery strategies
 - Loss of power
 - Loss of water
 - Loss of access to building
 - Loss of staff
 - Loss of vendors
 - Loss of critical resources
 - Loss of IT applications

Increase Competencies Capabilities



- Crisis fortitude
- Leadership
- Performance
- Shared Vision
- Teamwork



Building Fire Scenario (Revisited)



- What is your role in this scenario?
- What is your scope of operations?
- What do you think your internal staff will value most following this scenario?
- Who goes home?
- Who do you call for resources?



Family Continuity



- Transportation
- Communication
- Childcare



4 Key Takeaways



Focus our time and efforts on capabilities



Clarity to your roles and responsibilities within continuity



Think inward rather than just externally



Build a culture of continuity

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