Ensure Business Continuity with Connectria's IBM i Disaster Recovery Solutions

Connectria, making a true disaster recovery solution a reality.

Don't leave your business up to chance, let Connectria's expert IBM i engineers help achieve your disaster recovery goals. No matter the type of disaster you are preparing for or where your current data center is located, we can help choose the DR solution that best meets your RTO and RPO requirements.

iSERIES DISASTER RECOVERY OPTIONS

We come across this often. An organization has an iSeries box, but doesn't have a disaster recovery (DR) plan or a DR site for that matter. Whether natural, accidental or deliberate, disasters are bound to happen so it is extremely important to have a business continuity plan. Doing this internally is typically very costly. You may have to buy a dedicated box and either rent data center space somewhere or potentially even build a whole other disaster recovery site, not a simple undertaking to say the least. Finding skilled staff and maintaining 24/7 services can prove to be a challenge as well.

This is why customers turn to hosting providers such as Connectria to leverage their infrastructure and be geographically dispersed. Customers in California typically want to be "over the mountains" or east of Denver, companies on the East coast tend to look for locations West of the Mississippi. Connectria has 4 distinct solutions for iSeries disaster recovery, depending on what the customer's RTO and RPO would be (definitions below). Different solutions fit different RTO and RPO objectives, hardware and management service level vary based on these factors as well.

> **Recovery Time Objective (RTO)**: Amount of time it takes to recover data and get the application back up and running, similar to a customer's SLA, measured in amount of hours or days.
>
> **Recovery Point Objective (RPO)**: How much data loss a company is willing to take, essentially how often data gets backed up and how much data can potentially be lost in the event of a disaster.

MIMIX Replication: Constant Replication (quickest recovery)

For mission critical applications with a RTO and a RPO of only a couple of hours we recommend using a highly available (HA) replication process. At Connectria we use MIMIX replication software although there are other alternatives such as iTera. This option provides the quickest recovery times as data is being constantly replicated across the wire to our DR site. That being said, it is the costliest option of the three.

SAN-to-SAN Replication (quick to moderate recovery)

SAN-to-SAN replication offers a solution with similar RTO and RPO as logical replication, without the additional cost of logical replication software. Some of the advantages of S2S replication are: 1) no logical replication software licenses are required, 2) the DR LPAR does not need to be "live" to receive the replicated data, 3) Connectria has a price advantageous "DR Bundle" for our IBM i

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Cloud customers. It should be noted that the solution requires that both the production and the disaster recovery IBM I server be operating on the same type of external storage array. In addition, the process utilized to recover dirty blocks is inherent in the OS/DB2 recovery routines that are part of the "i" OS. This means that any blocks that need to be recovered or backed out are cleaned up via the DB2 recovery techniques/routines. This results in an IPL that is slightly longer than a standard IPL but certainly within scope of most DR plans.

Vault Archive: Periodic Daily Replication (moderate recovery)

Another option is a vault archive. In this scenario the production iSeries would be located at a customer's data center and send periodic daily changes to a vault in Connectria's data center. If a customer was ever to declare a disaster we would be able to take that vault and restore it to an iSeries at our DC. With this option the RPO is usually around 24 hours while the RTO would really depend on what data would be on the vault and the difference from the time it left the production site and when it was received at our vault.

Other Considerations: SSAE-16 Certification

Something else to consider when looking at 3rd party disaster recovery sites is whether or not the providers are SSAE-16 certified. SSAE-16 is an auditing standard developed by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and shows that a service organization has been through an in-depth audit of their control activities, which includes controls over information technology and related processes. All of Connectria's data centers are SSAE-16 SOC I and SOC II certified which enables our customers to host environments that require compliance with HIPAA, PCI, or SOX regulations.

ABOUT CONNECTRIA

Connectria provides award-winning cloud computing, managed hosting and custom hosting solutions for more than 1,000 customers in over 30 countries worldwide. We are experts in complex multi-vendor solutions, and we support the broadest range of technologies, managed services and security in the industry.

At the core of Connectria is our No Jerks Allowed® company philosophy. As The Jerk Free Company,® we've established a unique culture where every individual goes "the extra mile" to take care of our customers. Being The Jerk Free Company® extends beyond our people too. We make it easy to do business with us through flexible terms, scalable solutions and straight-forward pricing to serve the hosting needs of large and small organizations alike.

To learn more about Connectria and our Disaster Recovery Services, please visit:
http://www.connectria.com/solutions/disaster_recovery.php

To learn more about Connectria's Managed IBM i Services, please visit:
www.connectria.com/technologies/iseries.php

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