infotology
Carefree Computing

Carefree Computing is an initiative launched by Infotology Limited. It is a survival plan, which addresses the greatest worries businesses have about their IT infrastructure.

Carefree Computing is aimed at SMEs for whom the reliability of their IT system is critical to their business and offers the appropriate level of security to match their business needs.

Carefree Computing integrates the right mix of the following elements to ensure that a company is able to continue trading, even following a total systems failure:

1. Business Continuity Management: At the core of specifying the IT infrastructure requirements for a company; the principles of business continuity management should inform all decisions about hardware, software, backup routines and disaster recovery solutions. Essential to its survivability, a business must be able to successfully recover all their systems and data within a very short time period. It is estimated that around 90% of all companies who suffer a major data loss, without having an effective business continuity strategy in place, will go out of business within 2 years; many will not last 6 months. We will help you decide upon the appropriate level of system availability, redundancy, fault tolerance and backup services to suit your budget and the needs of your business.

2. Hardware: Infotology design and manufacture the Green Compass range of green, low energy, efficient desktop computers and servers. All Green Compass Business Systems come with a 3 Year RTB warranty as standard, with on-site same day 24/7 response options available for critical server installations. Robust and well built, all our systems are designed with quality components with MTBF (mean time before failure) ratings much longer than the expected life of the computer. Green Compass computer systems use at least 70% less electricity than standard computer systems, and therefore require smaller cooling systems, smaller backup generators and can be run on 12v battery power supplies. All auxiliary equipment which we specify is chosen for its quality and reliability.

3. Software: Infotology are Microsoft Partners. When deploying new installations, we recommend Microsoft Windows Vista with Microsoft Windows Server 2008, the most secure and most reliable operating systems which Microsoft have ever produced and quite possibly the most secure operating system anywhere when properly configured, although we are expert in all Microsoft Windows operating systems. We will audit your IT installation and design a package, covering your operating systems and all your key applications, to provide you with the level of support which you require, by telephone, by remote log-on or on-site, ensuring that critical faults are detected and corrected before they lead to system failure.

4. Backup Routine: A well planned out schedule of regular data back-ups ensure that when data-loss events do occur, they are no more than temporary annoyances and the system will be recovered within the shortest possible time. We can advise on the best combination of back-up devices to suit your needs, including tape devices, NAS devices and offsite data storage. Proper backups are vital elements of your Business Continuity planning.

5. Security: IT Security covers a range of precautions to ensure that your IT infrastructure cannot be compromised by viruses, hackers, data theft, either by internal compromise or by theft of identity or hardware. Virus protection will offer no protection if a thief can walk out with the server, so good physical security of your IT equipment is as essential as Anti-virus software, anti-spy-ware software, firewalls and data encryption. We will advise on appropriate measures to keep your IT systems secure.

6. Disaster Recovery Plan: Your business continuity plan will have evolved from considering a range of scenarios and answering the "what ifs" with a range of actions which are designed to prevent disaster occurring, but what if despite all your precautions, lightening strikes? That is when you bring out your Disaster Recovery Plan, which should allow you to go from bare metal to fully working system with all your data recovered and restored in the shortest possible time.

7. Digital Risk Insurance: Once you have taken all reasonable precautions against disaster happening and have prepared a Disaster Recovery Plan for surviving when the unexpected occurs, it would be prudent to check whether your insurance policy covers digital risks or whether you might need to take out an additional Digital Risk Insurance policy.