

BS25999, the British Standard for Business Continuity Management (BCM), is still quite new and few organisations have started on the track towards compliance. This information sheet is intended to provide a high-level view of some of the issues to be considered if you are considering achieving certification with the Standard. It is based upon our experiences in helping organisations develop and implement effective BCM programmes and the things we found on the road towards our own compliance.

Your Questions	Our Thoughts	BS25999 Reference
1) Why become compliant?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good business management</li> <li>• Protects the business</li> <li>• Satisfies moral and social responsibilities</li> <li>• Adds value to the organisation</li> </ul>	Part 1: Section 3.4
2) What are the benefits of an effective BCM programme?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Management of risks and impact</li> <li>• Effective resilience and response to minimise impacts of disruption</li> <li>• Enhanced reputation</li> <li>• Competitive advantage</li> </ul>	Part 1: Section 3.5
3) What is a Business Continuity Management System?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Requires policy and objectives for business continuity</li> <li>• Controls and measures for implementing and operating business continuity</li> <li>• Vehicle for continual improvement</li> </ul>	Part 2: Introduction & Section 2.9
4) What are the outcomes from an effective BCM Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protection of key products and services</li> <li>• Response capability</li> <li>• Delivery of stakeholder requirements</li> <li>• Protection of supply chain</li> </ul>	Part 1: Sections 3.6
5) Do I need to introduce new terminology?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Map your current terminology to the specification</li> </ul>	Part 2: Section 2
6) How do I work out whether I manage risks adequately?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct a BIA to determine critical activities and resources to support key products and services</li> <li>• Undertake risk assessment for critical activities</li> <li>• Determine choices and suitable risk treatments</li> </ul>	Part 2: Section 4.1
7) How do I know that I have all the documents needed?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Documentation must cover the required aspects of BCMS</li> <li>• Controls must be in place for BCMS records and documentation</li> </ul>	Part 2: Section 3.4