M E M O R A N D U M

To: *State & Local Government Disaster Recovery and Contingency Planning* Customers

From: Sheshunoff Information Services

Subject: Highlights

With all the attention going to the global economic crisis, it is important that organizations do not forget the importance of being prepared for other types of crises. Unpredictable and often unpreventable hazards must be planned for.

This new edition of *State & Local Government Disaster Recovery and Contingency Planning* includes updated material focusing on cost-effective recovery strategies for the critical resources in the organization. Chapter 4 includes new material regarding the following topics:

- *Colocation facilities*. Colocation services allow companies to house their voice, computing and networking equipment within a highly connected, redundant, and secure facility. Colocation enables small to medium-sized companies to leverage a large company infrastructure, to be cost-effective, and to build their IT services on a solid foundation of power and connectivity. Colocation services are also ideal for creating a centralized computing location for companies with distributed physical locations.
- *Network-load balancing*. Configuring the network to automatically load balance between two servers can be a challenging task with many alternatives. Load balancing between two different data centers is even more complicated, due to the fact that network traffic has a choice of two completely different networks that are attempting to respond to a single request.
- *Replication methods*. A new section in Chapter 4 discusses the two primary replication methods used for DR purposes: real-time replication and periodic snapshots.
- *RAID and disk mirroring technology*. Redundant array of independent disks (RAID) is an approach to preventing data loss. To improve reliability, RAID systems can write information to two or more disk drives so that at least one copy of the information will be available at all times. Even if a disk unit fails, the system will continue to run and provide data to the users. These methods use redundancy to reconstruct data should a data unit fail.