

Georges Cowan, MBCI, CBCP

Senior BCP-GRC Consultant

PROFILE

RÉSUMÉ

- Over 40 years in IT
- Over 20 years and 40 mandates in business continuity and disaster recovery planning

INDUSTRIES

- Financial institutions
- Aerospace
- Telephony
- Universities
- Utilities
- Municipalities
- Health Industries
- Governments of Canada and Québec

EXPERTISE

- Business Continuity
- Disaster Recovery and IT Continuity
- Information Security
- Strategic Consultancy
- Risk Management
- Compliance
- Electronic Document Management

CERTIFICATIONS

- Certified Business Continuity Professional (CBCP)
- Certified Lead Auditor for BS25999 Business Continuity Standard
- Member of Business Continuity Institute (MBCI)
- Certified ISO27001 Foundation
- Security Clearance (Secret – Level II) for Government of Canada
- IT Expert for SMB (AQIII)

LANGUAGES

- English
- French

CONTACT

- gcowan@bc-it.ca
(514) 714-9119

Georges Cowan has over 40 years of experience in management, strategic consultancy, business development, business continuity and information technology, information security, risk management, compliance, electronic document management and business process management. He is an independent senior consultant and coach.

He worked for CGI Group for ten years (including interim IT Management positions – CIO and CTO), Hypertec BCDR, Lambda Consulting and his own consultancy firm. He has worked in Canada, United States, Europe and Europe and remotely for Latin America for the public, para-public and private sectors.

Georges Cowan has a strong experience in Business Continuity (BC) and Information Technology (IT) management, professional and technical experience and strong communication talent to all resource levels in the corporation. This person has worked in multiple industries and proven capacity to rapidly assess, audit and align Business Continuity Management Plan with international standards, corporate objectives and operational environment. Candidate has extensive experience in building Business Continuity Management Programs for BC and IT (BC policy, BIA, Risk Management, plan preparation, exercises, pandemic response, crisis management, incident escalation, communications, training and education), implementations and reviews. He managed regional catastrophes: during the Ice Storm in 1998, he ran a community shelter in the Ice Triangle (St-Jean-Richelieu) and participated in the support communities for the 2010 Haiti Earth Quake in a group of international consultants that offered free consultancy at distance. He has created a Business Continuity Management Methodology and Disaster Recovery Framework.

This certified Business Continuity Management System (BCMS) Lead Auditor (BS 25999 business, BS25777 IT) consultant has over 20 years of Business Continuity, Disaster Recovery and Risk Management experience and 20+ years of Information Technology management and professional consultancy at local, regional, national and global levels. Georges Cowan is a strong leader, facilitator and team player with excellent communication and technical skills and is known to conduct projects on time and on budget. Mr. Cowan is fluently bilingual English/French.

Website: <http://www.bc-it.org>

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Business Continu-IT Partners
Senior BCP-GRC Consultant

November 2006 to date

Georges Cowan is the owner of Business Continu-IT Partners. As senior consultant, he audited and made recommendations for SMB: he also developed sites for SMB. He did management awareness for operation continuity for Ville de Gatineau. He was project manager for the Business Impact Analysis and risk Evaluation for Canada Public Safety. He was project manager and senior consultant at ArcelorMittal Mines Canada for the Business Continuity Plan for the Train Transportation business sector (400 kilometers in Port-Cartier, Northern Quebec): he was responsible for the preparation of the Disaster Recovery Plan for the Data Center. He prepared and presented the training program for BC Coordinators at Public Health Canada. For the Canadian Space Agency, he prepared a Threat and Risk Assessment (TRA) for the Electronic Management System with Livelink: he prepared the IT Recovery Operations (DRP) and backup recovery process. For 360 Security Experts, he prepared 3 day courses for BCP and DRP in English and in French. At Biron Groupe Santé, he served as strategic advisor to the CIO for the architecture review and completed the BC Plans and DR Plans. He did strategic development for business process management (BPM) modules: workflow, risk and audit.

LA SOCIÉTÉ CONSEIL LAMBDA INC. (LAMBDA Consulting)
October 2007 - May 2009

Vice-president consulting, Information security

Mr. Cowan prepared and gave a training session on business continuity planning for the BS25999 and BS25777 international standards. For MXI Securities, he assumed leadership for the development of the concept for a multi-vendor secured platform and regrouped firms in security (MXI Security, Hypertec BCDR and La Société conseil Lambda) to implement a solution permitting authentication and positive identification of participants. This positive identification is put into place using tools to confirm identity (tri-factor) with password, biometry and security certificates. At Société des Alcools du Québec, he was responsible for the business impact analysis and risk evaluation and Business Continuity Plans.

HYPERTEC BCDR
Senior Vice-president Business Development

November 2006 - October 2007

- He was responsible sales of hosting services for servers and recovery workspace, professional services for business continuity, disaster recovery and emergency management and training and education services in the Centre of Excellence.
- For the Prime Minister Office, he implemented a pilot project to test use of Stealth key with finger authentication from MXI Security (Montreal). Evaluated software supporting whistle blower capabilities for interaction with citizens. Determined an on demand solution to provide an alternate workspace for the Prime Minister's Office in case of an attack in the National Capital Region.

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CGI GROUP INC.

July 1997 - November 2006

Director Consulting Services

He was manager of the global professional practice for Business Continuity Planning, Disaster Recovery Planning and Risk Management for CGI Group. Furthermore, he has developed a business solution for Sarbanes-Oxley.

For the CGI Group, he was in charge for strategic outsourcing mandates and interim management mandates (CIO, CTO) with clients' upper management. He was part of the global enterprise pandemic workgroup for CGI Group.

Support to executives for information technology and project management for client's outsourcing needs:

- MIS Director for *Oerlikon Aerospace* with NT, VAX and Sun UNIX platforms and ERP.
- Outsourcing and Software Project Director for the support of dealers across the world for *Bombardier Recreational Products (Skidoo and Seadoo)* and *Bombardier Capital* in a client/server mode with HP Unix and Informix,
- Transition Project Manager for IT and Finance activity split from *Spar Aerospace* to *EMS Technologies, MacDonald, Dettwiler and Associates*.
- Business continuity plan and due diligence for the takeover of *DRT Systems* (1,000 employees) and *IMRGlobal* (3,000 employees) by *CGI Group (Corporate)*.
- Project Manager for a Brazilian Hydroelectric pilot project with *HydroSoft Énergie* (Hydro-Québec).
- Chief Technology Officer (CTO) for *Agropur*, milk/cheese processing plants (HP UNIX, Novell, NT, CITRIX, Intranet, Firewall, Proxy Notes, Oracle and WAN).
- Vice-President Information Technology (CIO) for *Héma-Québec* (blood bank) in charge of IT Applications and Operations (Compaq Alpha Unix, Novell, NT, CITRIX, Firewall, Proxy, GroupWise, SAP, Progress, Oracle, WAN, telephony and videoconference) and compliance: manages 54 persons, management committee member, business continuity plan and security officer.
- Enterprise Disaster Recovery Plans (DRP) for Intranet, Web, eMail, eDirectory, MIS (PSEA PeopleSoft) and telecommunications and SME for internal global pandemic flu plans for *CGI Group*.
- Strategic analysis for the use of the SAP Portal as an employee portal for *Bombardier Aerospace*.
- Outsourcing strategy for Oracle Finance as a management ERP for *Loto-Québec* and its subsidiaries and identification of strategic orientations of enterprise services for IT for *Technologies Nter*.
- Coordination of the Business Continuity Plan and preparation of the enterprise Business Impact Analysis for SAQ for its new ERP.
- Preparation of the move of the personal workstations of *La Caisse de Dépôts et Placements du Québec* to the new CDP Capital Centre.
- Business Impact Analysis and Risk Analysis for *Montrusco Bolton, NOVARTIS Pharma, McKesson Pharma, CDP Capital, Réno-Dépôt, CGI Group, Caisse de Dépôts et Placements du Québec Optimal Services Group, EchoStar* (Fortune 500), *Bell Express Vu, Man Financial* and *FireArms*.
- Business Continuity Program for *BDC, CGI Group, Desjardins, Optimal Services Group, Fire Arms* and *EchoStar*.
- Implementation of a business solution and consulting for Sarbanes-Oxley (SOX) and controls as operational auditor with *Bombardier, Alcan* and *CGI Group*.
- Audit and Gap Analysis of business continuity plan with *IDA ByLaw 17.19* and Pandemic Flu for *National Bank Financial Group* and *Man Financial*.
- Development of templates for Business Continuity and Pandemic Planning and Disaster Recovery Planning for *CGI Group* clients.

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ACADEMIC EDUCATION

- S.S.G.D. (first year of MBA) 1973
- HEC Montréal
- B.SC. MATHEMATICS (COMPUTATIONAL) 1967
- Université de Montréal
- B.A. 1963
- Séminaire de Sainte-Thérèse

OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE

- VIA SOFT INTERNATIONAL INC. 1994 - 1997
Senior Consultant and Associate
- ACRO-SKI DU QUÉBEC 1992 - 1994
President and CEO
- ASC BIBLIO-INFORMATION INC. 1982 - 1994
Owner and Senior Consultant
- MIPC Micro Inc. 1987 - 1988
Corporate Sales Manager
- RAYMOND CHABOT MARTIN PARÉ & CIE 1979 - 1982
Consulting Director
- UNIVERSITÉ DU QUÉBEC À MONTRÉAL 1972 - 1979
MIS Manager
- NORTHERN TELECOM INC. (NORTEL) 1967 - 1972
Programming and Systems Manager

PARA-PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Webinar on BCI-Québec Forum (part of BCI Canada) for
"Application of secured social network to crisis management"
(37 participants from Asia, Europe and the Americas) 2010
- Member of ISACA (Information Systems Audit and Control Association) 2010
- Member of the "Audit Management Systems - Risk, resilience, security and continuity –
guidance for application" Standards Technical Committee for ASIS International
(standard SPC.2) 2014
- Member of the Risk Assessment Standards Technical Committee for ASIS/RIMS 2015

OTHER CERTIFICATIONS

- Certified ISO/IEC27001 Foundation PECB - ISMF-100543
- Certified Lead Auditor for BS25999 Business Standard Institute License 71636-573989
- Business Continuity Maturity Model – licensed assessor
- Member of Ordre des administrateurs agréés du Québec (C.Adm.)
- CMC-Certified Management Consultant
- ITIL Foundation Certificate in IT Service Management License 006705
- CRISC certification for risk management (Certified in Risk and Information Systems Control) from ISACA License 1002511
- IT EXPERT certification for SMBs with AQIII (Association québécoise des informaticiennes et informaticiens indépendants)