

### Disaster Recovery for SAP Applications on AWS

It's been a while since AWS and SAP started their partnership. Their common objective was always to ensure high-quality services for the end-users, and secure environments regardless of the company size or the industry. Now we can build, run, and update SAP applications in the cloud, and support any business growth through them, without putting at risk the general operations.

#### The concerning reality

Still, there are some situations in which innovative solutions and technologies can't protect companies from disasters. Let's take as an example the natural disasters. There are plenty of innovations when it comes to predicting the storms and hurricanes, but we can never anticipate the impact that such events can have.

So how can companies ensure the functionalities of their SAP applications in the AWS cloud even when natural event happen? The answer is simple: they need a Disaster Recovery (DR) solution. A DR solution aims to ensure that a company's operations are active in case of any event, from equipment failure, cyber-attacks, and natural hazards. The DR system helps companies restore apps, data, and other hardware very quickly, with minimum business impact.

However, let's say that a company takes all the needed measured to protect their business data from a natural disaster. Is it safe? Not exactly. Let's see some interesting stats:

- 75% of small and businesses don't have a disaster recovery plan in place
- 93% of businesses without a DR solution who suffer a significant data failure are out of business within one year
- 96% of organizations with a trusted backup and DR plan were able to survive ransomware attacks

- More than 50% of businesses experienced at least one downtime event in the past five years that was longer than a full workday, causing significant damage
- On average, companies lose over [\\$100,000](#) per ransomware event due to downtime and recovery costs.

If natural disasters don't have the power to concern companies, then the above statistics about cyber attacks should. However, where to start with a DR solution? With an implementation plan! Read on to find out more.

### Creating a Disaster Recovery plan for SAP apps on AWS

SAP-based applications support, in many cases, critical business processes, and that's why a disaster recovery solution that minimizes the downtime and overall impact in case of failure and natural events is mandatory. So where should a business start with their project? Well, organizations are relying on AWS because it enables faster DR with flexible services around the world, and follow a straightforward methodology to start their projects. Here are the steps that businesses can follow:

1. **Business examination:** a DR solution needs to fit perfectly a company; therefore, an extensive analysis in terms of requirements is essential. In this process, companies also have to consider the costs and prioritize the budget.
2. **Determine the Recovery Time Objective (RTO):** this indicator is critical because it represents the maximum acceptable time that a company's applications can be offline. For SAP apps, it's even more important to know precisely this time, as they support critical business processes.
3. **Determine the Recovery Point Objective (RPO):** besides the RTO mentioned above, another important indicator is the RPO which represents the maximum time in which the company's data might be lost due to a

significant event. Therefore, the IT team needs to know the expectations so they can set up the DR solution to support the company.

- 4. Identify critical SAP applications and choose an AWS DR infrastructure:** in this specific phase, companies need to identify which applications are critical to their business and to examine the potential downtime. The importance of this examination is also visible when it comes to choosing a specific type of DR architecture.
- 5. Test your DR plan and start the implementation:** the final step to better security is to test the plan and then to start the actual implementation. The testing is extremely critical as it highlights the potential gaps and allows businesses to ensure low rates of failure in any scenario. Moreover, if the plan is not working as a company expects, the decision to contact a third-party provider is always a solution to solve the pain-points.

### Final Thoughts

SAP applications are now representing critical aspects for any companies. From simple systems built to support the customer experience to advanced programs for data analysis, SAP apps are worth the struggle. Moreover, since they are so important, keeping them safe regardless of the storage environment is mandatory. In this context, a Disaster Recovery solution comes in handy, as it can minimize the impact of a potential failure significantly and can ensure greater security.

Are you looking for a partner to start your DR project? [Get in touch](#) with the SE16N team and find out what it means for your business.