

Shearson Financial Services Business Continuity Planning Statement

Shearson Financial Services maintains important disaster recovery and business continuity plans that may be activated in the event of a significant business disruption. The firm realizes the critical nature of being able to continue material operations if an incident occurs that could affect mission-critical business units and systems. These plans are key components in maintaining emergency procedures, and are required by securities industry regulations.

In planning for potential significant business disruptions, Shearson Financial has studied a number of outcomes from varying scenarios, including, as examples only, a disruption to a single building, a city-wide business disruption, and a regional disruption. The firm's plans are intended to permit the continuation of key business operations during most types of disruptions by resuming mission-critical operations, usually within the same business day as the disruption. To assist this business continuity, the firm maintains back-up technology processing capabilities in alternate locations. In cases of an extreme disruption, where the continuation of business may not be practical or in the best interest of the firm or its clients Shearson Financial has implemented steps necessary to allow clients prompt access to their funds and securities.

However, clients should be aware that because the firm's plans contain details of a confidential and proprietary nature, they cannot be distributed to the public. Clients should also note that Shearson Financial continuity plan is subject to modification, and that updated plans will be promptly posted on the Shearson Financial Web site, as permitted by applicable law.