



Vol. 3, No. 4, September, 2011

## Flagship Solutions Group eNewsletter

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### Flagship Solutions Group Named to CRN Next-Gen 250 List

Flagship Solutions Group is proud to have been named by The Everything Channel to the inaugural CRN Next-Gen 250 List. The Everything Channel is the premier provider of IT channel-focused events, media, research, consulting, and sales and marketing services.

The CRN Next-Gen 250 is an annual listing of innovative and nimble business and technology integrators, solution providers, and resellers in North America offering solutions and services in cloud computing, mobility, unified communications, virtualization and other emerging technologies.

Flagship was selected because of the company's outstanding Integrated Service Management Solution. "We are very proud to be recognized for meeting the high standards that determine inclusion on such a prestigious list," said Mark Wyllie, CEO, Flagship Solutions Group. "This award inspires us to continue to provide cutting edge technology services that will make it easier and more cost efficient for our customers to manage and grow their business."

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### 6 Tips for Disaster Preparation

IBM announced six tips that individuals and businesses can use to help prepare their IT environments for natural disasters and a wide range of other threats.

According to some estimates, 2011 has become the year of billion-dollar disasters. This is apparent by the series of hurricanes and tornados in the United States, combined with earthquakes on the East Coast, Colorado, Japan and Peru. With all of this activity, it's a safe assumption that natural disasters should be a top risk concern.

In preparation, many people in high risk areas are rushing to buy emergency supplies like flashlights, water and wood to board up their houses, but it's important to also consider the preparedness of businesses and government agencies. Given these impending natural disasters, as well as other top causes of disasters like power outages and network failures that disrupt the flow of information, businesses and individuals should also assess their business and disaster recovery plans before it is too late.

In today's on-demand environment, it's important to rapidly adapt and respond to risks, as well as opportunities, to maintain continuous access to data for personal and business reasons.

Here are IBM's tips for disaster preparedness:

1. **Validate your data backup plan** – Verify that your data is out of harm's way and accessible to your recovery location. Consider using a cloud service to store key data and allow your organization more flexibility to respond to changing conditions with minimal interruption to the business.
2. **Consider employees and the personal impact of a disaster** – A company's most important asset is its people, but the most important asset for people are their families. Consider how you would move them and their families if required, think about providing financial support to your employees during a crisis event, and consider offering counseling to help them deal with the aftermath of the crisis.
3. **Develop various ways to communicate with employees and partners** – After people, the next most important element is communication. Communications efforts must be timely, clear and honest, as miscommunication can make a disaster even worse. Consider how you would communicate with your employees, partners, clients, media, industry, and vice versa, what training you have provided, what tools are you using and – very important – test the communications plan.
4. **Think about the "domino effect" when considering business risk** – Years of experience monitoring regional disasters has shown that these events often create other events. For example, a hurricane normally has high winds and heavy rains that can lead to flooding, structural damage, power outage, telecommunication and/or travel disruptions.
5. **Plan for catastrophic events that could last a while** – Businesses must consider the impact if the duration of the disruption to the facility, network, technology, or people is longer than anticipated. Over the past decade, we have seen more devastating disaster events with a longer duration and greater financial impact. Companies need to consider their options if their primary environment or key people are not available for more than two weeks.
6. **Think broadly** – Each company is part of a supply chain or network. While you may do everything right, if you have a critical partner, supplier, vendor or provider of service, your preparedness is only as good as those other businesses. As part of your disaster recovery plan, ensure everyone upstream and downstream from your business is also prepared.

For more information about this new tool, contact Flagship at **561.208.FYI1 (3941)** or visit [www.flagshipsg.com](http://www.flagshipsg.com).

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## Upcoming Events:



## **Miami Dolphins vs. New England Patriots Monday Night Football**

Flagship will be hosting South Florida Executives at the September 12th Monday Night Football game featuring the Miami Dolphins vs. the New England Patriots.

The game will be preceded by a short Flagship information session. By examining different implementation patterns for process improvement technologies – Business Process Management, Business Rules Management and Event Processing, along with analytics to drive continuous improvement – this session aims to support your solution discovery process. Discover the benefits of open source CRM. SugarCRM is an affordable web-based CRM solution for small and medium-sized businesses. Offered in the Cloud or on-site, it is easy to customize and adapt to the way you do business. Come and see the ongoing integration between SugarCRM and IBM.

### Agenda:

- 5:30 PM  Registration and Networking, Everglades Room inside the stadium
- 5:45 PM  Business Briefing: BPM, Flagship, SugarCRM and Intel
- 7:00 PM  Game Time

We will start with a private session in Sun Life Stadium, and follow with reserved Club Seating for the game. Due to the anticipated crowds, your arrival is requested by 5:15 PM. If you are interested in attending, [register here](#).



### **IBM Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Data Protection & Retention**

Don't gamble with your data!

Data protection and retention is a huge problem and IBM can help you leverage what you have and deploy new solutions. Join IBM for an afternoon of insights and fun. \$25 voucher provided.

Tuesday, September 20, 2011

3:00 PM to 5:15 PM

Hard Rock Hotel & Casino, Hollywood FL, Ballroom D

[Click here](#) to register.

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## Thirsty Thursday Networking Night

Thirsty Thursday is moving to Fort Lauderdale on October 13!

Flagship and InternetCoast are pleased to sponsor the next Thirsty Thursday IT and Engineering Professionals only networking event. Munch on free Hors d' oeuvres, have free drinks, and make new contacts.



Registration is free. And be sure to bring a business card as that will be your admission ticket, plus it will be entered into a drawing for a Blue Martini VIP card that will be given away that night.

Blue Martini  
2432 East Sunrise Boulevard  
Fort Lauderdale  
6:00 – 8:00 PM

We urge you to attend and bring your co-workers. [Register here.](#)



## Citrix Acquires RingCube

Citrix continues to gain momentum as the industry leader in desktop virtualization and again sets a strategic course via the acquisition of RingCube. This highly innovative technology, when combined with Citrix XenDesktop, will allow Citrix to transform traditional desktop management.

### What is the value of this acquisition?

- Gives end users all the personalization benefits of a “dedicated” VDI desktop
- Offers IT administrators all the cost benefits of a “pooled” VDI desktop
- Reduces VDI storage costs
- Makes it easier to move from physical to virtual desktops
- Increases deployment of virtual desktops to every user companywide

With the acquisition of RingCube, Citrix can further help enterprise customers transform traditional desktop management into a secure, flexible “private desktop cloud” service.

To find out more, contact us Flagship Solutions Group at **561.208.FYI1 (3941)** or visit [www.flagshipsg.com](http://www.flagshipsg.com).

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## IBM Blade Center RedBook

IBM Blade servers have captured industry focus because of their modular design, which can reduce cost with a more efficient use of valuable floor space, and simplified management, which can



help to speed up such tasks as deploying, reprovisioning, updating, and troubleshooting hundreds of blade servers. In addition, blade servers provide improved performance by doubling current rack density. By integrating resources and sharing key components, not only will costs be reduced but also availability will be increased.

This IBM Redbooks® publication describes IBM Blade Center and discusses the technology and features of the different chassis, blade server models, and connectivity options. The book goes into detail about every major component and provides guidance as to networking and storage connectivity.

This eighth edition includes new products that were announced in the second half of 2010 and the first quarter of 2011. This book is for customers, Business Partners, and IBM employees who want detailed information about IBM Blade Center chassis, servers, and options.

To purchase a copy, [click here](#).

For more information on Blade Centers, contact us Flagship Solutions Group at **561.208.FYI1 (3941)** or visit [www.flagshipsg.com](http://www.flagshipsg.com)

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To find out more about any of the items in the newsletter, be sure to contact:

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### Our Partners

