



DigitalJewels

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## A MERE DISRUPTION OR A GRINDING HALT?

March 2020

What started out as an epidemic in a single province in the most populous country in the world has brought the entire world to a startling and seemingly grinding halt. No one ever imagined that the COVID-19 virus which started in a country on a single continent would spread throughout the world leaving a rippling impact in its wake. There are rapidly changing statistics which are quite alarming causing a frenzy for world leaders, multi-nationals, institutions and citizens across the globe.

The question is, how many were prepared for the disruption to businesses, livelihoods, relationships, planned events/vacations etc.? As the impact of the COVID-19 would be felt for months unending, it would be foolhardy for individuals and organizations to return to business as usual without learning the lessons from the pandemic and preparing for yet another disruption using a nightmare of scenarios. Regardless of how Business Continuity is perceived, the capability of an organization to continually deliver its products or services at acceptable predefined levels following disruptive incidents or disaster is what makes it stand out. This simply implies that any organization, corporation or entity that seeks to ensure uninterrupted delivery of its products and services during and after a disaster or other unforeseen catastrophe, should take business continuity seriously.

Some organisations have made a big blunder trying to “guestimate” their critical business services, operations and functions without a proper Business Impact Analysis (BIA) because it is perceived as a “pure waste of time”.

A well-documented and up-to-date Business Continuity Plan is required but it does not guarantee that the business continuity management system is effective, several other factors have to be considered such as:

- **Training and Awareness:** To ensure that appropriate stakeholders have the right level of skill and competence to effectively manage the business continuity management system whilst ensuring that the people are adequately aware of the BCMS policies, practices and procedures.
- **Exercise and Testing :** To check the adequacy of the business continuity plans, exercise and testing allow the organization to detect/identify unforeseen issues that were not captured in the plan and also validate all assumptions.

The Ecosystems do not have to remain grounded as Education and training can continue through e-learning, businesses not requiring the major use of equipment can continue through a well-thought through WFH schedule.

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## 12th Year Anniversary Celebration

Digital Jewels marked her 12th year with a thanksgiving service held at the Head Office in Lagos, Nigeria on the 3rd of February 2020. Mr. Olaniyi Idris (DJL Director) was also at the service to felicitate and encourage members of staff through the ministry of the word. It was indeed a beautiful and refreshing gathering.



Here are a few tips to aid 'Working From Home' culled from the Harvard Business Review.

1. Establish Working Hours: set up clear boundaries and draw the line between personal and professional time. Clarify what is and isn't acceptable to do during the defined period. In doing this, you set up a dedicated work period leaving room for after hours of personal items guilt-free.
2. Structure your day for Success: Maximize the effectiveness of your time at home by structuring it differently than a typical workday whilst clearly identifying tasks or items you want to accomplish within the set period.
3. Set boundaries with Others: Explain clearly to friends, family and other acquaintances that your working from home is not an opportunity for non-work-related activities. Set expectations for how much time you have based on what your schedule is like in the office. As you consistently communicate and live by these expectations, other people will begin to expect them and you'll find yourself having more time for focused work.

Ultimately, the key to working from home is to maintain a sense of purpose and structure— Be disciplined and keep yourself accountable.

Anything contributing to organizational resilience is a worthwhile investment. Business continuity is not just an overhead, it is a good investment. Speak with one of our consultants today at Digital Jewels so we can enable you to reap the obvious benefits business continuity has in the likelihood of another disruption.

### VPAY Pcidss Certification Award

Virtual Pay, a fintech company representing a new breed of payment companies in Kenya, built from the ground up with a laser-focus of innovating and seamlessly integrating tomorrow's payment solutions engaged Digital Jewels East Africa to certify the company to the Payment Card Data Security Standard (PCIDSS) Standard. After a long and detailed process, guided by DJL every step of the way, the company received its PCIDSS certificate at a glamorous event held in February 2020 in Nairobi Kenya. We congratulate Virtual Pay for their commitment towards achieving this invaluable standard.



### 2020 International Women's day



DJL an organization proudly led by a leading woman also joined the rest of the world to propagate gender equality. We celebrated passionate, focused and determined women who have transformed Africa with their remarkable ideas and strength in a mini documentary ([https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EWkY\\_c43a10](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EWkY_c43a10)). We also had a small get-together demonstrating the theme for the year- #EachforEqual-

At Digital Jewels, we challenge Stereotypes, fight Prejudice and celebrate the achievement of other Women.

### Training Enquiries

Special requests for in-house or specific IT courses not on the calendar can also be made based on the number of interested participants for the class. For further enquiries, kindly contact:

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Also visit <https://www.digitaljewels.net/index.php/training> to download and view other available courses.