

Site Assessment











Site Assessment

Mission critical infrastructure such as data centers and critical communication are crucial for any business, and the cost or impact of downtime could be severe. Businesses need to run 24/7, and management teams need to have access to the right information anywhere – and at any time. So how will physical and logical IT risks be managed so they go hand in hand with business development initiatives, and will the focus on sustainability be reflected by those initiatives?

Site Assessment is a service performed by Coromatic to connect the present infrastructure to business strategy. The result maps how well the infrastructure can support the business. Is it adequate or does it need an update?

How should investments in infrastructure be planned to provide the best cost/benefit ratio? Are there additional strategies that need to be explored in an evolving landscape for IT?

To answer specific questions like these. Coromatic provides expertise in technical and procedural assessments and connects the findings with the customers planning through the delivery of in-depth reports and management decision material, complete with considerations and recommendations.

Customer benefits of site assessment

A Site Assessment will be performed against the business needs, requirements, policies and guidelines, or well-defined international and national standards as well as best practices or guidelines. The objective is to find out how well prepared the infrastructure is to support the present business model and chosen strategies or fulfill regulatory requirements. By performing a site assessment of one or several sites the status can be evaluated from several perspectives such as:

Whatever the industry and wherever the responsibility lies within a company; the first question to ask is if you have validated the robustness of your critical infrastructure?

Robustness – how well are critical infrastructure initiatives connected to the business?

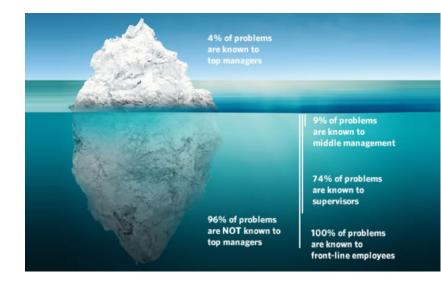
Resilience – are operational processes and contracts aligned with company strategy?

Sustainability – is sustainability considered as a valuable part of investment decisions?

Companies should take control and be aware of the fundamental and actual status of their critical facilities and critical communication to better support decision making, no matter if they stay as is, or before embarking the journey to digitalization or simply motivate the current state.

How much do you know about the impact to the business if critical infrastructure fails? What fallback solutions are in place? And what, ultimately, is the cost of a disruption? Be it measured in loss of efficiency, brand or bottom line.

Only 4% of problems are known to top managers which means that 96% are NOT known



The best way to get in control is to perform a Site Assessment (sometimes called: Site Audit, Site Review, GAP Analysis or Health Check), of existing mission critical sites and infrastructures.

The site assessment will form crucial input to the company's planning process in terms of strategies for ownership or development of present infrastructure, performance improvements and cost reductions and/or basis for risk management.

The report will clearly show gaps and suggest performance improvements, cost reductions and actions for mitigating risks in areas of technical robustness and resilient operations. This will give decision makers and site managers a full picture and a 360-view of proposed next steps.

A Site Assessment is truly the best professional way to verify existing status or obtain facts and experience to make performance improvement, cost reductions and to mitigate risks.

How is the site assessment performed?

Site Assessments often reveal that the site and critical infrastructure has several nonconformities either due to misinterpretation of requirements or occasionally due to design and construction or operational matters.

A Site Assessment is a thorough review to verify that the facilities are meeting conformity requirements and business needs. This has proven many times to be valuable for both new and existing data centers and critical infrastructure where business managers want to understand the potential risks.

Scope

The site assessment will review key critical areas such as:

- Site location
- Physical construction, protection and security
- Access- and entrance protection
- Fire protection (fire detection and fire suppression)
- Mechanical (cooling and environment)
- Power and network
- Fluid
- Interior in data rooms and supporting areas
- Technical monitoring and alarms
- Operational sustainability
 - Staffing and organization
 - Maintenance
 - Training
 - Panning, coordination and management
 - Operating conditions
- Backup and storage

The service includes:

- Review of detailed design document package
- On-site review of each physical facility area under scope
- Report indicating major non-conformities or gaps and recommendations
- Assessment of site operations, processes, organization and tools



During the past + 10 years, Coromatic has performed more than 500 Site Assessments, audits, reviews and reporting of critical facilities and critical infrastructures within the Nordics.

The methodology

For companies to address the issues identified, we suggest the following actions built on the Coromatic method of **Analyze**, **Act & Sustain:**

1. Analyze

Companies should create an informed management approach by prioritizing their critical infrastructure from a business criticality perspective. This is done by performing Business Impact Analyses where critical infrastructure dependencies are assessed.

One of the first questions to ask is what type of disruptions or failures each site can manage without adverse effect on the overall business. Paired with management expectations and maturity assessments it is possible to transform the findings into improvement plans to meet the stated service levels.

2. Act

The risks and expectations then serve as the basis for a continuous improvement plan for critical infrastructure management and a discussion on the cost vs the risk of not continuously improving operations. Cost reduction efforts and potential for performance improvement should be real-ized. This can for instance be achieved through consolidation of critical sites, , through energy optimization or through transition of services to or from external providers.

3. Sustain

Finally, companies should ensure that sustainable operation of the critical infrastructure is in place over time. Management approved governance frameworks and regulatory requirements should be in place. Putting Key Performance Indicators in place and monitoring these over time, is considered best practice for keeping track of site efficiency, cost reduction and compliance. All to be able to navigate the pitfalls on the bumpy road to our digital future.

Why Coromatic

Coromatic have technical specialists within power, mechanical and communication. Together with specialists from our Advisory team, the focus is on risks, business impact and security – this ensures a complete review with detailed reporting and supports the needs for both business and infrastructure management.

Over the past decade, Coromatic has performed more than 500 Site Assessments, audits, reviews and reporting of critical facilities, infrastructures and operations within the Nordics. This has ensured our clients ability to continue operating according to their business strategy.



Find more information on coromatic.com



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