



## Storm Prep Key to Recovery

### Expert: 'We've Never Seen Anything Like This'

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It's been compared to the 'perfect storm,' but Hurricane Sandy is unlike any storm we've seen, says Alan Berman of DRI. He believes organizations have planned well for recovery.

"We've never seen anything that looks like [**Hurricane Sandy**], and so it's very difficult to prepare for something that's 1,000 miles wide and with

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waves that we know are

going to be 10-20 feet high," says Berman, DRI's executive director, praising public and private sector preparation for Hurricane Sandy. "[But] as bad as this is and it's going to be, we've had a week of preparation where people understood what was going to happen."

Berman believes that planning will make a difference as the East Coast recovers from this historic disaster.

And, in part, he credits these efforts to organizations that learned lessons from **Hurricane Irene**, which struck much of the same region in August 2011.

"The lesson we learned from Irene is 'preparation does help,'" Berman says. "We're trying to lessen what the effects are going to be. We're worried about water; we're worried about the aftermath of water ... and we're worried about what the long-term effects are going to be and what the infrastructure effects are going to be."

In an interview about **disaster recovery** from Hurricane Sandy, Berman discusses:

Public and private sector preparation for the storm;



Alan Berman

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Key information security issues to be addressed;  
Critical post-disaster issues.

In addition to serving as leader of the Disaster Recovery Institute, Berman is co-chair for the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation committee to create the new standard for the US Private Sector Preparedness Act. He is a CBCP, a NFPA committee member, a member of the ASIS BCP technical committee, a member of the committee of experts for ANSI-ANAB and a former member of the NY City Partnership for Security and Risk Management, Over a career that has spanned 25 years, he has served as a president and CIO for a major financial institution, national practice leader for operational resiliency at PricewaterhouseCoopers and global business continuity practice leader for Marsh.

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