

Strengthening BCP Posture through AWS Backup Optimization & MSP-Led Governance for ABGT

Executive Summary

To improve the resiliency of its business-critical applications, ABGT partnered with **Zarhi**, its AWS Managed Services Partner (MSP).

Zarhi implemented a **comprehensive backup optimization program** that addressed stale references, eliminated backup job failures, and established a **Business Continuity Posture (BCP)** aligned with **AWS Well-Architected Best Practices**.

Key Impact:

- 100% backup job success rate post-remediation
- Audit-ready backup operations across global workloads
- 20% storage cost optimization through lifecycle policies
- Strengthened **BCP posture** via security hardening,

Timeline of Engagement

Real-time updates	Kickoff, audit review, requirement confirmation	8 th July 2025
	Environment assessment & workload mapping	9 st July 2025
	Backup plan redesign & validation	10 th July 2025
	Phase 1: orphaned references removed	11 th July 2025
	Phase 2: resource-level assignments created	12 th July 2025
	Testing, monitoring, & verification	13 th July 2025
	Final documentation & closure	14 th July 2025

Business Challenge

- **Frequent job failures** caused by stale references to terminated EC2 instances
- **Operational noise & audit inconsistencies**, creating compliance risk
- Misaligned backup coverage across **multi-account environments**
- Need to improve **BCP posture** without disrupting mission-critical financial workloads

Business Objectives

- Eliminate backup job failures & ensure operational reliability
- Align backup operations to critical workloads only
- Strengthen ABGT's **BCP posture** with compliant, secure backup strategy
- Reduce storage costs using tiered lifecycle management
- Establish **MSP-led proactive governance** for long-term resilience

Solution Approach – Architected for BCP, Reliability, and Governance

1. Comprehensive Audit & Discovery

- Mapped active workloads across multi-account environment
- Identified orphaned and deprecated backup references

2. Backup Plan Remediation & Optimization

- Removed stale references and re-aligned plans with live EC2 workloads
- Enforced **resource-level backup granularity** for better resilience
- Configured retention policies & backup vault encryption

3. Automation & Observability

- Implemented **AWS Systems Manager (SSM)** scripts for daily validation
- Integrated **CloudWatch alarms** for proactive detection of failures
- Enforced compliance with **AWS Config Rules**

4. Cost Optimization

- Enabled lifecycle policies to transition backups to **S3 Glacier**
- Rightsized retention and backup windows for efficient cost control
- Established MSP guardrails for continuous optimization

5. Security Hardening

- Enforced **least-privilege IAM & SCPs** for backup operations
- Enabled encryption at-rest & in-transit for all recovery points
- Integrated with centralized logging & audit pipelines

Our MSP Role: Strategic Ownership Beyond Remediation

Pre-Implementation – Risk Discovery & Strategy

- Conducted **Well-Architected Review** focused on Security, Reliability & Cost Optimization pillars
- Designed **backup tagging, subnetting & recovery strategy** aligned with ABGT's BCP needs
- Assessed operational risk with rollback simulations

During Implementation – Controlled Execution & Collaboration

- Removed stale references and re-architected backup plans
- Validated across **multi-account & multi-region workloads**
- Coordinated closely with ABGT IT & compliance teams to ensure zero disruption
- Enforced IAM & encryption policies for compliance alignment

- Established **cost guardrails** using SSM automation & AWS Cost Explorer
- Recommended **continuous improvements** for resilience & governance

Post-Implementation – Governance & Long-Term Resilience

- Delivered **runbooks, architecture docs & compliance artifacts**
- Enabled **24x7 MSP monitoring & incident response** for BCP operations
- Established **cost guardrails** using SSM automation & AWS Cost Explorer
- Recommended **continuous improvements** for resilience & governance

AWS Services Utilized

Service

- **AWS Backup:** Centralized backup orchestration & recovery points
- **Amazon EC2:** Aligned backup coverage with active workloads
- **AWS Systems Manager:** Automation, validation scripts, governance
- **Amazon S3 & Glacier:** Tiered storage & lifecycle cost optimization
- **AWS CloudWatch:** Monitoring, alarms, and dashboards
- **AWS Config:** Continuous compliance enforcement
- **IAM & SCPs:** Security hardening & least-privilege governance

Success Metrics

- 100% job success rate after optimization
- Zero false failure alerts across daily & scheduled jobs
- Multi-account compliance validated with **AWS Config + CloudWatch**
- ~20% storage cost savings via lifecycle policies & SSM automation
- Continuous MSP-led monitoring ensures sustainable operations

Final Thought – MSP-Led BCP Resilience for ABGT

Through this engagement, **Zarthi demonstrated how an AWS MSP partner can transform backup operations into a foundation for Business Continuity Planning (BCP).**

By aligning with **AWS Well-Architected Best Practices**, ABGT now benefits from:

- **Reliability:** Zero failures, 100% backup success
- **Compliance:** Audit-ready operations with continuous enforcement
- **Cost Efficiency:** Optimized lifecycle & automation for long-term savings

- **Security:** Hardened IAM, encryption & governance
- **MSP Governance:** Continuous monitoring & proactive improvement

ABGT’s applications now operate with stronger resiliency, backed by an MSP-led operational model that ensures sustained BCP posture.

Business Impact



Backup Reliability

100% success rate post-remediation



Compliance & Audit

Fully audit-ready, zero false failures



Operational Confidence

Proactive monitoring & MSP governance



Security Hardening

IAM, encryption & centralized logging enforced



Cost Optimization

20% savings via lifecycle & automation



BCP Posture

Strengthened resilience aligned to AWS Best Practices