



# Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 26 January 2007

Current  
Nationwide  
Threat Level is  
**ELEVATED**  
SIGNIFICANT RISK OF  
TERRORIST ATTACKS  
[For info click here](http://www.dhs.gov/)  
<http://www.dhs.gov/>

## Daily Highlights

- Business Week reports the Massachusetts Bankers Association says customer data stolen by computer hackers from TJX Cos. has been used to make fraudulent debit card and credit card purchases in the United States and overseas. (See item [9](#))
- The Associated Press reports a leading Olympic security expert believes it is 'just a matter of time' before terrorists target a major sports event, and that spectators should be screened before they get to the event location. (See item [34](#))

### DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report *Fast Jump*

**Production Industries:** [Energy](#); [Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#)

**Service Industries:** [Banking and Finance](#); [Transportation and Border Security](#); [Postal and Shipping](#)

**Sustenance and Health:** [Agriculture](#); [Food](#); [Water](#); [Public Health](#)

**Federal and State:** [Government](#); [Emergency Services](#)

**IT and Cyber:** [Information Technology and Telecommunications](#); [Internet Alert Dashboard](#)

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## Energy Sector

**Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: ELEVATED, Cyber: ELEVATED**

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *January 24, Sioux City Journal (IA)* — **MidAmerican will build transmission facilities in Texas.** MidAmerican Energy Holdings Company and American Electric Power are moving forward with formation of Electric Transmission Texas LLC (ETT) as a joint venture to build transmission facilities in Texas. ETT filed Monday, January 22, with the Public Utility Commission of Texas for approval to operate as an electric transmission utility in Texas. "There is a critical need to expand the Texas electric transmission grid to meet growing energy demands, reduce congestion and support development of the Competitive Renewable Energy Zones being established in Texas," said Calvin Crowder, ETT executive director.

Source: [http://www.siouxcityjournal.com/articles/2007/01/24/news\\_bus\\_iness/local/4fde5a3cf4ec28128625726d0014e4e5.txt](http://www.siouxcityjournal.com/articles/2007/01/24/news_bus_iness/local/4fde5a3cf4ec28128625726d0014e4e5.txt)

- 2. *January 24, State House News Service (ME)* — **Canada seen as likely power–grid partner.** Maine could join up with Canada in an electric–power sharing arrangement or create an independent in–state transmission company — options that give the state bargaining power as it tries to bring down the current costs of belonging to the New England Power Pool. A report released last week by the Maine Public Utilities Commission (PUC) found there is no legal problem with the state pulling out of its agreement with the rest of New England that has ratepayers here subsidizing Massachusetts and Connecticut, where demand is growing fastest. That subsidy was initially estimated at \$300 million for Maine ratepayers over four years to encourage new generators to come on line to serve southern New England. Now the Maine PUC is saying the state could be on the hook for more than \$600 million for all the costs associated with belonging to the New England grid over the next five years. Kurt Adams, chairman of Maine PUC, believes Canada might be a better partner because the Canadian Maritimes has similar projections for future needs. And, their seasonal energy needs are complementary — Maine’s peak in the summer when air conditioners are running and Canada’s peak in the winter with the cold.**

Source: <http://www.keepmecurrent.com/Government/story.cfm?storyID=31481>

- 3. *January 24, Platts Energy Bulletin* — **U.S. regulators look to harmonize processes on grid reliability.** The U.S. government's two primary energy regulatory agencies last week continued to discuss ways of ensuring that the anticipated next wave of nuclear generation assets has access to, and can freely flow power across, the transmission grid. Nuclear Regulatory Commissioner (NRC) Jeffrey Merrifield raised the idea of an industry workshop "to take a look at the integration between our process — which is more focused on the combined operating license application process — and the transmission issues that will be dealt with" by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). NRC Commissioner Gregory Jaczko noted that while the agency has been "putting a lot of effort and focus on new nuclear construction, and it seems that this piece, the transmission, is really missing." FERC Chairman Joseph Kelliher agreed the U.S. has "fallen behind in transmission investment," but said his agency is doing what it can to help ensure that adequate infrastructure gets built.**

Source: <http://www.platts.com/Nuclear/News/6341534.xml?sub=Nuclear&p=Nuclear/News>

- 4. *January 24, Business Wire* — **California ISO enters new era of transmission planning.** The California Independent System Operator Corporation (California ISO) has entered a new era of transmission planning with a comprehensive plan that examines what California’s power grid will need one to three years from now to ease bottlenecks and enhance reliability and what will be needed in five to 15 years to keep up with the expected growth in energy supply and demand. The Transmission Plan is a living document that will grow and evolve over time. It is a collaborative effort that includes the work products of the California ISO, its Participating Transmission Owners (PTO), the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), the California Energy Commission (CEC) and many other stakeholders. California ISO President and CEO Yakout Mansour said the Transmission Plan is akin to a general plan used to guide growth in a booming city or county. The Transmission Plan highlights 160 different transmission projects — 53 scheduled to go on line in 2007 — that are or may be needed to enhance reliability, access new generation, deliver renewable resources and reduce bottlenecks**

on the grid.

Transmission Plan: <http://www.caiso.com/1b6b/1b6bb4d51db0.pdf>

Source: [http://home.businesswire.com/portal/site/google/index.jsp?ndmViewId=news\\_view&newsId=20070124006160&newsLang=en](http://home.businesswire.com/portal/site/google/index.jsp?ndmViewId=news_view&newsId=20070124006160&newsLang=en)

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## **Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials Sector**

5. *January 25, News Times Live (CT)* — **Carbon monoxide leak forces evacuations.** Carbon monoxide from a malfunctioning forklift in Danbury, CT, forced the evacuation of a commercial building on Great Pasture Road and sent two people to the hospital Tuesday afternoon, January 23. The forklift was powered by propane, which is intended to limit emissions, but the engine was in such bad shape that it was giving off dangerous levels of the odorless, colorless gas. Danbury firefighters, ambulance crews, building officials and a fire marshal responded to 15 Great Pasture Road just after noon and evacuated 32 people who work at the site's 11 businesses. "There was carbon monoxide almost everywhere in the building," said Assistant Fire Chief Stephen Williams. Most of the readings were in the range of 18 to 20 parts per million, far above the four parts per million threshold that will trigger most home CO detectors.

Source: <http://www.newstimeslive.com/news/story.php?id=1029364>

6. *January 24, Daily Tribune News (GA)* — **Fire at chemical plant closes road.** A Wednesday afternoon, January 24, chemical fire at Innovative Chemical Technologies in Cartersville, GA, caused Walnut Grove Road to be shut down several hours. "We brought the Hazmat in primarily for a precautionary measure because this is a chemical manufacturer," said Scott Carter, assistant chief of the Cartersville Fire Department. Carter said the chemical was a type of soap called surfactant, which the company manufactures. No fatalities or injuries resulted from the fire, which was initially contained in about 30 minutes. No local businesses in the area were evacuated.

Source: [http://www.daily-tribune.com/NF/omf/daily\\_tribune/news\\_story.html?rkey=0041266+cr=](http://www.daily-tribune.com/NF/omf/daily_tribune/news_story.html?rkey=0041266+cr=)

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## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

7. *January 25, Aviation Week* — **Majority of increased Marine Corps equipment to be legacy.** The vast majority of required equipment purchases to outfit the Marine Corps in coming years will be additional, existing weapons systems, but the Corps will also buy so-called next-generation equipment to keep up with technological advances "when it makes sense," according to General James Conway, Marine commandant. Conway's Tuesday, January 23, testimony to the House Armed Services Committee seemingly contrasts with Army officials who look to reset spending as an avenue toward buying newer, more advanced equipment. Still, details remain to be seen, starting with the submission of the fiscal 2008 budget proposal, five-year spending plan and a record-setting supplemental "war budget" on February 5.

Source: [http://www.aviationweek.com/aw/generic/story\\_generic.jsp?channel=aerospacedaily&id=news/LEG01257.xml](http://www.aviationweek.com/aw/generic/story_generic.jsp?channel=aerospacedaily&id=news/LEG01257.xml)

8. *January 24, IDG News Service* — **Expert: U.S. military needs wikis, video-sharing.** The U.S. military should embrace user-driven Web services such as wikis, video-sharing sites, and social-networking sites as its focus grows to include providing more security and reconstruction help, a defense analyst recommended Wednesday, January 24. The U.S. military is increasingly moving toward a role where it will share responsibilities with organizations outside the U.S. government, including charitable organizations, international aid groups, and even private businesses, said Guy Ben-Ari, a fellow in the Defense-Industrial Initiatives Group at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, a Washington, DC, think tank. In those cases -- where the military is helping with reconstruction or security following a natural or human-made disaster -- U.S. forces need to find better ways to communicate with other groups, said Ben-Ari, speaking at the Network Centric Warfare conference in Washington. Too often, the U.S. military has been reluctant to share even unclassified information with other groups working for the same goals, he said.

Source: [http://www.infoworld.com/article/07/01/24/HNmilitarywiki\\_1.html](http://www.infoworld.com/article/07/01/24/HNmilitarywiki_1.html)

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## **Banking and Finance Sector**

9. *January 26, Business Week* — **Bankers detect fraud from TJX hack.** Customer data stolen by computer hackers from TJX Cos. has been used to make fraudulent debit card and credit card purchases in the United States and overseas, the Massachusetts Bankers Association (MBA) said Wednesday, January 24. The fraudulent purchases have been made in Florida, Georgia, and Louisiana, and overseas in Hong Kong and Sweden, the association said. Nearly 60 banks have reported they've been contacted by credit and debit card companies about compromised cards, the association said. The number is likely to grow because less than half of the association's 205 banks have reported to it on the issue. The association said banks are notifying customers about fraudulent purchases, and reissuing cards, in some cases. Last week, TJX said hackers had broken into a system that handles credit and debit card transactions, as well as checks and merchandise returns for customers in the U.S. and Puerto Rico and may involve customer accounts from the U.K. and Ireland.

Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D8MRSCTG0.htm>

10. *January 24, NBC 5 (OH)* — **E-mail scam using 'Crocodile Hunter' widow's name hits Tri-State inboxes.** Proving that e-mail scammers will try anything to get your money, a new scam hitting Tri-State inboxes claims to be from the widow of "Crocodile Hunter" Steve Irwin. Irwin was killed while filming a documentary film last year. In what may be one of the most bizarre versions of the Nigerian e-mail scam, "Terri Irwin" claims that a U.S. bank has \$11 million in family funds and "the bank is planning to use the money for nuclear weapons. "Irwin" also claims to be suffering from cancer, and if the recipient helps her recover the money, "Irwin" will give the person 40 percent of the \$11 million. Maj. Jack Prindle, with the Boone County Sheriff's Department, said he's not surprised that scammers would use a tragic incident like Irwin's death in their e-mails because the key for them is to make a connection with the possible victim. A high profile tragedy like Irwin's would fit the bill because it's well

known to everyone, Prindle said.

Source: [http://news.yahoo.com/s/wlwt/20070124/lo\\_wlwt/10833183](http://news.yahoo.com/s/wlwt/20070124/lo_wlwt/10833183)

**11. *January 24, Associated Press* — Japanese boosts anti–laundering controls.** Federal and state banking regulators have ordered Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corp. of Japan to bolster controls at its New York branch to detect money laundering. Sumitomo Mitsui, Japan's third–largest bank, agreed to make the improvements in an accord signed Monday, January 22, with the Federal Reserve Board and the New York State Banking Department. The agencies announced the agreement, targeting alleged deficiencies at the New York branch, on Wednesday. It was the latest in a series of moves against banks by regulators concerned about money laundering at financial institutions in the United States. Other banks receiving enforcement actions for inadequate controls include the Bank of Tokyo–Mitsubishi UFJ Ltd, Israel Discount Bank of New York and Arab Bank PLC, one of the biggest financial institutions in the Middle East.

Source: [http://seattlepi.nwsource.com/business/1310AP\\_US\\_Japanese\\_Bank.html](http://seattlepi.nwsource.com/business/1310AP_US_Japanese_Bank.html)

**12. *January 24, InformationWeek* — Analyst: Banks must make credit card accounts useless to data thieves.** The hack that chain retailer TJX disclosed last week demonstrates that banks must shoulder their share of responsibility and add protection to credit and debit cards, Avivah Litan, a Gartner analyst said Wednesday, January 24. "Banks must own up to this problem and change their payment systems so that, even if data is stolen, it is useless to thieves," she says. The TJX attack appears well–targeted. Says Litan: "It's time to shift strategy. It's clear we can't count on the retailers to secure customer data...Retail payment systems were not designed with security in mind. Hackers are finding the weakest links, especially among retailers that have the most sensitive data stored." It's unrealistic, says Litan, to expect the United States' five million retailers to all become experts in security and to change their back–end systems overnight to add security. Her solution? "Banks must own up to the problem and accept responsibility." To make account data useless to thieves, Litan advises banks to add one–time password capability to credit and debit cards. Unlike the "chip and pin" standard used in Europe, a one–time password would be much less expensive to add to cards.

Source: <http://www.informationweek.com/showArticle.jhtml;jsessionid=NJ5XI40D5LBHMQSNDLPCKH0CJUNN2JVN?articleID=197000263>

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## **Transportation and Border Security Sector**

**13. *January 26, Stuff.co (New Zealand)* — Passenger alarm over daggers on plane in New Zealand.** Passengers became concerned when they noticed the ceremonial kirpan daggers poking out from under their traditional robes at Auckland's domestic terminal while boarding a flight to Napier on Sunday, January 19. The Sikh priests willingly handed the daggers over to the pilot once passengers notified the cabin crew and the daggers were locked in the cockpit during the flight. Passenger David Anderson, who notified the cabin crew about the daggers, was concerned that security in a post–September 11 terrorist attack environment was so lax. "There was no security screening whatsoever," he told the New Zealand Herald. Ministry of Transport safety and security group manager Bruce Johnson said that planes with more than 90 seats were deemed most at risk of being held hostage and policy for screening passengers applied to these flights only. New Zealand First defense and security spokesperson Ron Mark

said this policy should be reassessed.

Source: <http://www.stuff.co.nz/stuff/3940989a10.html>

**14. *January 25, Associated Press* — British Airways cancels flights as cabin crew strikes.**

British Airways (BA) officials said Thursday, January 25, that BA is canceling all flights from London Heathrow airport for two days next week because of a strike by cabin crew. The airline said it still hoped to reach an agreement with the Transport and General Workers union to prevent a 48-hour walkout on Tuesday and Wednesday, January 30–31. "If we postponed the cancellation of flights until the eve of a strike, customers would have virtually no time to make alternative arrangements," said BA chief executive Willie Walsh. Talks broke off early Thursday, with each side blaming the other for the failure to reach agreement.

Source: [http://www.usatoday.com/travel/news/2007-01-25-british-airways-strike\\_x.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/travel/news/2007-01-25-british-airways-strike_x.htm)

**15. *January 25, Associated Press* — Los Angeles objects to Delta plan.** The city of Los Angeles said in a bankruptcy court filing Thursday, January 25, that Delta Air Lines Inc.'s reorganization plan can't be approved because of undue authority it gives the company to reject certain leases. The city made the comments in an objection to the disclosure statement to Delta's reorganization plan. Denver also filed a limited objection. If the disclosure statement, which details Delta's operations, is still approved after a hearing currently scheduled for February 7, the Atlanta-based company would be permitted to begin soliciting votes to approve its reorganization plan calling for it to emerge from bankruptcy as a standalone carrier. The city of Los Angeles said that Delta's disclosure statement is accompanied by a reorganization plan that is "not confirmable as a matter of law and, thus, should not be approved because proceeding with a solicitation of the plan in its present form would waste valuable judicial and estate resources." The city owns Los Angeles International Airport and Ontario (CA) International Airport, where Delta conducts operations and maintains leases.

Source: [http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/070125/delta\\_bankruptcy.html?.v=4](http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/070125/delta_bankruptcy.html?.v=4)

**16. *January 25, Associated Press* — Silverjet begins London–New York flights.** Business class-only airline Silverjet began operating between London and New York on Thursday, January 25, billing itself as the world's first carbon neutral airline in a bid to differentiate itself in an increasingly crowded market. Silverjet is starting operations with a one flight per day service between London's Luton airport and Newark in New York. The airline joins Maxjet and Eos, which both fly between London's Stansted and New York's JFK, in targeting business and high-end flyers. Silverjet offers passengers a check-in time of just 30 minutes and onboard services including wireless Internet and plasma TV screens. Each Silverjet aircraft has 100 business class flat beds, with individual food service and personal in-flight entertainment systems. However, analysts have warned that the new airlines face an uphill battle to take customers away from the big carriers because of their inflexible flight schedules, a lack of incentives such as frequent flyer miles and their reliance on the more marginal London airports.

Source: [http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/070125/britain\\_silverjet.html?.v=2](http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/070125/britain_silverjet.html?.v=2)

**17. *January 25, Bay City News (CA)* — Palo Alto bomb scare a hoax.** A Santa Clara County, CA, bomb squad determined two suspicious packages that closed part of the Palo Alto transit center on Thursday, January 25, were gift-wrapped bricks, Palo Alto police Sgt. Sandra Brown said. The two brick-sized packages were gift-wrapped like "birthday presents" and there was a "ticking sound coming from the area," Brown said. The packages were on top of an electrical

box that seemed to be responsible for the ticking, Brown said. The bus depot and transit center were closed and Valley Transit Authority and Samtrans buses were being rerouted along El Camino Real, Brown reported. Caltrain and Amtrak trains stopped about 200 yards down from the platform and passengers were escorted away, Brown said. At 10:06 a.m. PST, after the bomb squad took X-ray images of the packages, they determined them to be harmless bricks and re-opened the Palo Alto transit center, Brown reported.

Source: <http://abclocal.go.com/kgo/story?section=local&id=4970977>

**18. *January 25, Hudson Valley News (NY)* — Port Authority votes to buy Stewart Airport.** The Board of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey on Thursday, January 25, voted to purchase the remaining 93 years of the operating lease for Stewart Airport at Newburgh, NY, from National Express Group (NEG) of Great Britain. In the six years since NEG bought the lease with the New York State Department of Transportation for the first American airport to be privatized, it more than doubled its money, selling it to the Port Authority for \$78.5 million. It paid \$35 million. Port Director of Aviation William DeCota told the board during a presentation at their headquarters in Manhattan that Stewart is “poised” to help relieve the growing capacity problems at the big-three New York airports: Newark, LaGuardia, and Kennedy. The bi-state agency hopes to sign an agreement to buy the lease by September 13, close on it by September 30, and take over management of the facilities by October 1. DeCota said Stewart’s infrastructure is geared for growth with its two runways, a seven-gate terminal, two fixed base operators, corporate facilities, and a new hotel under construction. The airport could also accommodate some of the corporate business from Teterboro Airport in New Jersey, he said.

Source: [http://www.midhudsonnews.com/News/SWF\\_PA\\_buys-25Jan07.htm](http://www.midhudsonnews.com/News/SWF_PA_buys-25Jan07.htm)

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## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

Nothing to report.

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## **Agriculture Sector**

**19. *January 24, San Francisco Chronicle* — Citrus growers tally loss from freeze.** California citrus growers lost more than \$800 million as a result of prolonged freezing temperatures this month, the state's major citrus trade group said Tuesday, January 23, in the first detailed analysis of the disaster. California Citrus Mutual said the numbers could change, noting that damage to the Valencia orange crop won't be fully known until the early spring harvest. But the freeze stands as the most damaging blow to the industry in nearly a decade. Other crops suffered too, including avocados, strawberries, spring vegetables and artichokes. Total losses from the freeze were more than one billion dollars, state officials have estimated. The association arrived at its damage estimate by surveying citrus producers and packers in San Diego, Riverside, Imperial, Ventura, Kern, Tulare, Fresno and Madera counties. Losses include \$410 million to navel oranges, \$184 million to Valencia oranges, \$114 million to lemons, \$67 million to Mandarin varieties and \$28.5 million to grapefruit.

Source: <http://sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2007/01/24/BUG3 KNNOJ61.DTL>

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## **Food Sector**

20. *January 24, Orange County Register (CA)* — **Plan to monitor produce moves forward.** A proposal by an Irvine, CA, trade group to create mandatory handling procedures for green, leafy produce grown in California moved one step closer to reality Wednesday, January 24. The state Department of Food and Agriculture — which would enforce the strict guidelines — is asking about 130 companies that handle green, leafy handlers produce to "voluntarily" agree to the procedures by February 5, said Steve Lyle, an agency spokesperson. The rules — proposed by the Western Growers Association in Irvine — call for all types of lettuce, arugula, cabbage and spinach to be certified with an official seal of approval similar to a U.S. Department of Agriculture label on meat. Handlers — the middlemen who take the produce from the farm and prepare it for shipping — must agree to be inspected before the program can be launched by state agricultural officials.

Source: [http://www.contracostatimes.com/mld/cctimes/news/nation/1653\\_7834.htm](http://www.contracostatimes.com/mld/cctimes/news/nation/1653_7834.htm)

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## **Water Sector**

21. *January 23, Press & Sun–Bulletin (NY)* — **Endicott test well yields green foam.** Less than a week after engineers documented tests that showed pollution under the Grippen Ice Rink in Endicott, NY, had been washed away by the June flood, a mysterious green foam bubbled up from a test well, raising questions about what type of chemical brew might now be percolating in the ground near the village water supply. An initial inspection of the substance with an electron microscope showed the foam contained aluminum, silica, magnesium, calcium, iron, and phosphorous, said David Donoghue, an engineer for Broome County. Analysis of groundwater samples collected from under the rink are expected later this week, he said. That would give scientists a better idea about what degree the substance may have penetrated the water table. Scientists working at the site noticed the foam on January 8. One theory is vandals may have tampered with the wells. The area, once secured by a fence, has been accessible since a wall was damaged during the June flooding.

Source: [http://www.pressconnects.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/2007\\_0123/NEWS01/701230328/1006](http://www.pressconnects.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/2007_0123/NEWS01/701230328/1006)

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## **Public Health Sector**

22. *January 25, Times (United Kingdom)* — **Virus hits sixth of QE2 passengers.** Hundreds of QE2 passengers have contracted a highly contagious stomach bug just 17 days into a 108–day round–the–world voyage. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) reported 276 passengers came down with norovirus: an estimated 17 per cent of the ship's 1,652 passengers,

plus a further 28 crew members. The CDC boarded the QE2 in Acapulco, Mexico, and put measures in place to contain the infection, including disinfecting casino chips and halting self-service at the ship's buffet. According to the CDC all but four of the passengers are now recovered from the virus. The ship departed from New York on January 8, on the first leg of its 108-day cruise.

Source: <http://travel.timesonline.co.uk/article/0,,10295-2565273,00.html>

23. *January 25, Canadian Press* — **Toronto hospital tackles drug-resistant tuberculosis.** A Toronto, Canada, hospital is treating several cases of extensively drug resistant tuberculosis (XDR-TB), with one of the patients being held in isolation under court order, the doctor overseeing the treatment said Monday, January 22. Public health experts fear the dangerous strain of TB, which is susceptible to very few of the antibiotics normally used to treat TB, is a global health crisis in the making. Monica Avendano, the physician in charge of the tuberculosis service at West Park Healthcare Center, said since 2004 her unit has treated five or six patients with XDR-TB. All the patients were either infected abroad or infected by a family member who picked up the highly resistant strain elsewhere, she said. Multi-drug resistant TB and the more difficult extensively drug resistant XDR-TB can arise one of two ways. A person with TB can fail to take all their medication. This spotty treatment allows the bacterium to survive the assault of the drugs and develop resistance to them. Or a person can be infected by contact with a person sick with XDR-TB.

TB information: <http://www.cdc.gov/nchstp/tb/default.htm>

Source: <http://thechronicleherald.ca/Canada/554590.html>

24. *January 25, Agence France-Press* — **Indonesian girl dies of bird flu.** An eight-year-old Indonesian girl has died of bird flu, raising the country's death toll from the disease to 63, a health ministry official has said. The girl from Magelang in Central Java died on January 19, I Nyoman Kandun, the director general of communicable diseases, said Thursday, January 25. Laboratory tests had confirmed she died of the H5N1 strain of the virus. She was the sixth person to die this month of bird flu in Indonesia which has the world's highest death toll. The deaths of a 14-year-old boy and four young women earlier this month spurred authorities into action following a lull in outbreaks. Health workers have begun slaughtering thousands of birds in Jakarta ahead of a February 1 ban on backyard poultry, while poultry markets and slaughter houses are to be moved away from residential areas.

Source: [http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20070125/hl\\_afp/healthfluindonesia\\_070125141633](http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20070125/hl_afp/healthfluindonesia_070125141633)

25. *January 25, Associated Press* — **WHO warns forgotten flesh-eating disease making a comeback.** A virtually eradicated disease that eats through people's skin, cartilage and bones is reappearing in Africa, Asia and South America, the World Health Organization (WHO) warned Thursday, January 25. Yaws, which is triggered by bacterial infection and can cause debilitating deformations, particularly in children under 15, once affected 50 million people worldwide before a massive treatment program in the 1950s almost succeeded in wiping it out. When the disease's incidence went down by 95 percent, control programs were gradually dismantled. Yaws' resurgence stands as a cautionary tale for other disease eradication programs such as polio, which often falter in their final stages. At present, some 500,000 people mostly in poor, rural areas are affected by yaws, according to WHO. The global health body said it had assembled experts from countries where yaws is endemic this week to consider whether to revive the global program of 50 years ago so as to "eradicate this disease once and for all."

Yaws information: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/health/conditions/yaws1.shtml>  
Source: <http://www.iht.com/articles/ap/2007/01/25/news/UN-GEN-UN-WHO-Forgotten-Disease.php>

**26. *January 25, Agence France-Presse* — Rift Valley Fever death toll reaches 148 in Kenya.**

The death toll from an outbreak of Rift Valley Fever in Kenya has risen to at least 148 over the past five weeks, the government said, as the disease spread to densely populated regions. The virus has also so far infected around 380 people since it was first reported in mid-December in the north and new cases were being reported in the country's central province, it said Thursday, January 25. Health officials said authorities were working to halt the spread of the disease that is passed on by mosquitoes, affecting mainly livestock, but also hitting humans who consume tainted meat. Rift Valley Fever has been reported in 10 districts in five of the country's eight provinces.

Rift Valley fever information: <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvrd/spb/mnpages/dispages/rvf.htm>  
Source: [http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20070125/hl\\_afp/kenyahealthdisea se\\_070125153103](http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20070125/hl_afp/kenyahealthdisea se_070125153103)

**27. *January 24, Mainichi (Japan)* — First Japanese case of rare viral fever detected in Japan.**

A woman who returned to Japan from Sri Lanka after coming down with a fever has been confirmed as having contracted a rare form of viral fever called Chikungunya, health officials announced Wednesday, January 24. It is the first time in Japan that a Japanese person has been confirmed as having contracted the disease. The woman came down with a fever in Sri Lanka in mid-November last year, and was diagnosed by local doctors as having either Chikungunya or Dengue fever. When she temporarily returned to Japan in mid-December, she went for a medical checkup, and in mid-January, an antibody test conducted at the National Institute of Infectious Diseases confirmed that the disease was indeed Chikungunya.

Chikungunya information: <http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/msds-ftss/msds172e.html>  
Source: [http://mdn.mainichi-msn.co.jp/national/news/20070124p2a00m0n\\_a013000c.html](http://mdn.mainichi-msn.co.jp/national/news/20070124p2a00m0n_a013000c.html)

**28. *January 21, Philadelphia Inquirer* — Poised to assist the medical sector in connecting the data.** Imagine cradle-to-grave personalized health information, computerized and centralized. Tens of billions of dollars worth of technology — depending on who's estimating and how — would be needed to bridge existing islands of medical information now stored in files in doctors' offices, pharmacies, insurance companies, hospitals, laboratories and workplaces. An electronic medical record, linked to hospitals, doctors and pharmacies, would follow someone from her first day to her last. Under some scenarios, the individual would control the record; in others, control would remain with health-care providers.

Source: <http://www.philly.com/mld/inquirer/business/16507539.htm>

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## **Government Sector**

**29. *January 24, Government Accountability Office* — GAO-07-375: Homeland Security: Progress Has Been Made to Address the Vulnerabilities Exposed by 9/11, but Continued Federal Action Is Needed to Further Mitigate Security Risks (Report).** Five years after the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) is taking

stock of key efforts by the President, Congress, federal agencies, and the 9/11 Commission to strengthen or enhance critical layers of defense in aviation and border security that were directly exploited by the 19 terrorist hijackers. Specifically, the report discusses how: (1) commercial aviation security has been enhanced; (2) visa-related policies and programs have evolved to help screen out potential terrorists; (3) federal border security initiatives have evolved to reduce the likelihood of terrorists entering the country through legal checkpoints; and (4) the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and other agencies are addressing several major post-9/11 strategic challenges. The report reflects conclusions and recommendations from a body of work issued before and after 9/11 by GAO, the Inspectors General of DHS, State, and Justice, the 9/11 Commission, and others. It is not a comprehensive assessment of all federal initiatives taken or planned in response to 9/11. GAO is not making any new recommendations at this time since over 75 prior recommendations on aviation security, the Visa Waiver Program, and US-VISIT, among others, are in the process of being implemented. Continued monitoring by GAO will determine whether further recommendations are warranted. Highlights: <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d07375high.pdf>  
Source: <http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-07-375>

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## **Emergency Services Sector**

Nothing to report.

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## **Information Technology and Telecommunications Sector**

- 30. *January 24, U.S. Computer Emergency Readiness Team* — US-CERT Technical Cyber Security Alert TA07-024A: Cisco IOS is affected by multiple vulnerabilities.** Several vulnerabilities have been discovered in Cisco's Internet Operating System (IOS). A remote attacker may be able to execute arbitrary code on an affected device, cause an affected device to reload the operating system, or cause other types of denial-of-service. Systems Affected: Cisco network devices running IOS in various configurations. Cisco has published three advisories describing flaws in IOS with various security impacts, the most serious of which could allow a remote attacker to execute arbitrary code on an affected system. Although the resulting impacts of these three vulnerabilities is slightly different, in two of the vulnerabilities, a remote attacker could cause an affected device to reload the operating system.  
Solution: Cisco has updated versions of its IOS software to address these vulnerabilities. Please refer to the "Software Versions and Fixes" sections of the following Cisco Security Advisories for more information on upgrading:  
Crafted TCP Packet can cause denial-of-service:  
<http://www.cisco.com/warp/public/707/cisco-sa-20070124-craft-ed-tcp.shtml>  
Crafted IP option vulnerability:  
<http://www.cisco.com/warp/public/707/cisco-sa-20070124-craft-ed-ip-option.shtml>  
IPv6 routing header vulnerability:  
<http://www.cisco.com/warp/public/707/cisco-sa-20070124-IOS-IPv6.shtml>  
Cisco has also published practical workarounds for these vulnerabilities. Please refer to the "Workarounds" section of each Cisco Security Advisory for more information. Sites that are

unable to install an upgraded version of IOS are encouraged to implement these workarounds.  
Source: <http://www.uscert.gov/cas/techalerts/TA07-024A.html>

**31. *January 24, eWeek* — The zero-day dilemma.** The recent surge in malware attacks against zero-day flaws in some of the most widely used software packages is confirmation of an IT administrator's worst nightmare: Stand-alone, signature-based anti-virus software offers no protection from sophisticated online criminals. During 2006, there was a wave of zero-day attacks against Microsoft Office applications that bypassed all anti-virus protection at the network and desktop level. Because traditional anti-virus technology depends on the ability to quickly capture malware samples, reverse the code for the specific characteristics, and then write and release detection signatures, the zero-day attack presents a major dilemma. "Signatures have been dead for a long time now," said Roger Thompson, an anti-virus pioneer who now runs the Atlanta-based Exploit Prevention Labs. "[Attackers] use new packers or tweak their code so that it's different enough to bypass signatures for a short while. By the time you get a signature out, it's too late. They've already hit enough targets." The death of stand-alone, signature-driven anti-virus software has forced incumbent security software vendors to reshape their product lineups.

Source: <http://www.eweek.com/article2/0.1895.2087034.00.asp>

**32. *January 24, CNET News* — Competition planned for new crypto standards.** The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) is planning a public competition to develop one or more cryptographic "hash" algorithms, it said Tuesday, January 23. Such algorithms are widely used by the federal government and others in applications such as digital signatures and message authentication. However, the current cryptographic standards are under continued attack, weakening their security. "Because serious attacks have been reported in recent years against cryptographic hash algorithms, including SHA-1, NIST is preparing the groundwork for a more secure hash standard," the organization, a federal agency within the U.S. Commerce Department's Technology Administration, said on its Website. Any newly approved algorithm is meant for federal use or to revise the current Secure Hash Standard, NIST said on its site.

For more information: <http://www.csrc.nist.gov/pki/HashWorkshop/index.html>

Source: [http://news.com.com/Competition+planned+for+new+crypto+standards/2100-1029\\_3-6152936.html](http://news.com.com/Competition+planned+for+new+crypto+standards/2100-1029_3-6152936.html)

**33. *January 24, VNUNet* — Wikipedia shuts out link spammers.** Wikipedia has started to instruct search engines to ignore links on its pages which point to external Websites. The user-created encyclopedia has started to include "nofollow" tags in all external links. This prevents the links from being spidered by search engines, or used to determine a Website's popularity by mechanisms such as Google's PageRank. Wikipedia took the action in response to a search engine optimization contest in which Webmasters were challenged to gain the highest ranking with major search engines for the query "Global warming awareness 2007." One of the contestants created a spam entry on Wikipedia which included a link to his own Webpage. The "nofollow" tag was first introduced by companies providing blogging services in an effort to curb the flow of spam links in comments on blogs.

Source: <http://www.vnunet.com/vnunet/news/2173254/wikipedia-shuts-link-spammers>

<b>Current Port Attacks</b>	
<b>Top 10 Target Ports</b>	The top 10 Target Ports are temporarily unavailable. We apologize for the inconvenience. Source: <a href="http://isc.incidents.org/top10.html">http://isc.incidents.org/top10.html</a> ; Internet Storm Center
To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at <a href="mailto:soc@us-cert.gov">soc@us-cert.gov</a> or visit their Website: <a href="http://www.us-cert.gov">www.us-cert.gov</a> .	
Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <a href="https://www.it-isac.org/">https://www.it-isac.org/</a> .	

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## Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument & Icons Sector

**34. *January 25, Associated Press* — 'Just a matter of time' before terrorists attack sports event.** A leading Olympic security expert believes it is "just a matter of time" before terrorists target a major sports event. Peter Ryan, who was in charge of security at the 2000 Sydney Olympics, said the threat was not just to stadiums but also to public areas and electricity stations. "We have, in my view, been extremely lucky that the first division, as I call the top level of terrorist groups, have not targeted a large, major event for many years," Ryan said Thursday at a sports security conference. "It's probably just a matter of time." Ryan was also the principal security adviser for the 2004 Athens Olympics. He is a security consultant for the International Olympic Committee on the 2008 Beijing Games. Ryan said open-air venues where fans watch events on big screens were "extremely vulnerable" to attack. Critical infrastructure — such as electricity and water supplies — could also be a target. Ryan also said organizers of major events should consider screening spectators before they get on mass transportation. On Wednesday, January 24, the security chief for the 2012 London Olympics, Tarique Ghaffur, said the al Qaeda terrorist group is the top security threat to those games. Source: <http://www.theindychannel.com/sports/10843560/detail.html>

**35. *January 25, Metronews (Canada)* — Canada to provide security equipment for cricket's World Cup.** Canada will provide explosive detectors for use by Caribbean customs authorities during the cricket World Cup. The equipment, capable of sniffing out traces of explosives or other chemicals, will be provided to Guyana, Antigua, Grenada, St. Kitts, St. Lucia and St. Vincent, Canada's high commissioner to Guyana said Thursday, January 25. As many as 100,000 people are expected during the World Cup, which runs from March 13 to April 28 and features matches in nine Caribbean countries. Interpol has agreed to help host countries establish a visa database for the World Cup, and French and British law enforcement officials will help with security during the tournament. The United States will set up a database to identify visitors who could pose a security risk. Source: <http://www.metronews.ca/storyCP.aspx?pg=./4012505AU.xml>

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## General Sector

Nothing to report.

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### **Contact DHS**

To report physical infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact the National Infrastructure Coordinating Center at [nicc@dhs.gov](mailto:nicc@dhs.gov) or (202) 282–9201.

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US–CERT at [soc@us-cert.gov](mailto:soc@us-cert.gov) or visit their Web page at [www.us-cert.gov](http://www.us-cert.gov).

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