



Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 17 May 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

- Florida Governor Charlie Crist said Monday, May 14, that most gas stations along hurricane evacuation routes haven't yet complied with a new law requiring them to install generators so they can still supply fuel if a storm knocks out power. (See item [4](#))
- The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration and the State of Alaska on Tuesday, May 15, announced an agreement to provide stronger oversight over oil and natural gas production and transportation facilities located within the State's borders. (See item [17](#))

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](#)

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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. *May 16, Government Accountability Office* — **GAO-07-622: Mine Safety: Better Oversight and Coordination by MSHA and Other Federal Agencies Could Improve Safety for Underground Coal Miners (Report)**. The Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA), the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission, the Department of Labor's Office of the Solicitor, the states, and the mining industry share responsibility for ensuring mine safety. The Government Accountability Office (GAO) examined the challenges underground coal mines face in preparing for emergencies, how well MSHA oversees mine operators' training efforts, how

well MSHA and NIOSH coordinate to enhance the development and approval of mine safety technology, and how civil penalties are assessed. To address these issues, GAO surveyed a representative sample of active underground coal mines, analyzed agency data, conducted site visits, and talked with agency officials and other experts. The survey results are estimated at the 95 percent confidence level. GAO is making recommendations to strengthen the efforts of MSHA, Labor, NIOSH, and the Commission by improving mine operators' access to tools to train their workers, strengthening MSHA's oversight of training, improving the effectiveness of information sharing between MSHA and NIOSH, and ensuring that there is transparency in penalty appeal determinations. Each agency generally agreed with the recommendations in the report.

Abstract: <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d07622high.pdf>

Source: <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d07622.pdf>

2. *May 16, Government Accountability Office* — **GAO-07-704R: MSHA's Revised Hiring Process Has Improved the Agency's Recruiting Efforts, but Its Human Capital Strategic Plan Does Not Adequately Project or Address Its Future Workforce Needs (Report).** In 2003, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) recommended that the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) develop a plan for addressing anticipated shortages in the number of qualified inspectors due to upcoming retirements, including considering options such as streamlining the agency's hiring process and offering retention bonuses. As requested, GAO conducted follow-up work on the implementation of this recommendation. MSHA has taken significant steps to reform its process to recruit and hire new mine inspectors. However, the high attrition expected over the next 5 years, coupled with the amount of time needed to train new inspectors to become proficient at their duties, means the agency could jeopardize these successes without a clear and well-thought-out plan that addresses the expected turnover in its experienced workforce. While the agency has data on expected retirements and its recent attrition, it has not utilized this information in a strategic approach to prepare for the longer-term needs of the agency. Because MSHA does not utilize the data it already collects, and has not developed measurable goals, the agency's ability to monitor and evaluate its progress toward meeting its human capital goals is inhibited.
Abstract: <http://www.gao.gov/docsearch/abstract.php?rptno=GAO-07-704R>
Source: <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d07704r.pdf>

3. *May 15, Associated Press* — **NRC: Guards at Progress Energy nuke planted cheated on tests.** Cheating on security guard tests could result in enhanced sanctions or civil penalties against Progress Energy and the security firm it contracts with at a nuclear plant in Wake County, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) said. Inspectors said three supervisors with Securitas Security Services USA provided answers to guards taking annual recertification tests in 2005. That resulted in unqualified security guards at the Shearon Harris plant. Progress Energy and the security company are being allowed to respond in writing or meet privately to discuss the findings before the commission makes a final decision on penalties for what it deems willful violations. The three supervisors implicated in the case no longer work for Securitas.
Source: http://www.fayobserver.com/article_ap?id=105272

4. *May 15, NBC 6 (FL)* — **Gas stations on evacuation routes must install generators.** Florida Governor Charlie Crist (R) said Monday, May 14, most gas stations along hurricane evacuation

routes haven't complied with a new law requiring them to install generators so they can still supply fuel if a storm knocks out power. Crist asked his staff to send a letter to each of the 254 gas stations along hurricane routes to make them aware of the requirement, which the Legislature passed last year. Crist said only about 45 percent of the stations have complied with the law. Hurricane season begins June 1. Gas shortages and long lines at stations are a frequent site after hurricanes. In past years, some stations have had gas in their tanks, but no way to pump it out because of power outages.

Source: <http://www.nbc6.net/news/13321889/detail.html>

5. *May 15, Platts Energy Bulletin* — **Kentucky mine faces \$761,000 in fines for 'flagrant' violations.** Stillhouse Mining in Harlan County, KY, has been fined \$761,000 by the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) for alleged safety violations the agency found during an inspection late last year. Four citations were deemed "flagrant violations" under the Mine Improvement and New Emergency Response Act, said MSHA spokesperson Dirk Fillpot on Monday, May 14. The four alleged violations and their penalties were: Failure to comply with main mine fan stoppage requirements, \$212,700; failure to comply with requirements for intentional changes in the ventilation program, \$212,700; failure to comply with the approved roof control plan, \$177,600; and failure to perform a pre-shift examination of the workplace prior to the start of work, \$158,000. MSHA defines a flagrant violation as a "reckless or repeated failure to make reasonable efforts to eliminate a known violation of a mandatory safety and health standard" that may cause death or serious injury. Under the Miner Act, a civil penalty of up to \$220,000 may be assessed for each flagrant violation. The alleged violations came from an inspection that started December 3, 2006.

Source: <http://www.platts.com/Coal/News/6383822.xml?sub=Coal&p=Coal/News>

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Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials Sector

6. *May 16, Rutland Herald (VT)* — **Leaking propane empties center.** Clinton Street was closed for about three hours Tuesday morning after a woman leaving the Southern Vermont Regional Recreation Center drove into the side of the building, causing an underground propane tank to leak. "She hit an area near the door of the rec center and took off the top of the propane valving," said Springfield Fire Chief Russ Thompson. "It started leaking liquefied propane." About 40 people were in the building when the accident occurred. All were safely evacuated and no one, including the driver, needed medical attention. The propane did not spread far, although some of it got into the recreation center building. "Everybody was safely evacuated, the leak was contained, and the air in the building vented," said Thompson. The tank belonged to the Irving Oil Co.

Source: <http://www.rutlandherald.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/2007/0516/NEWS02/705160404/1003/NEWS02>

7. *May 15, Associated Press* — **Mill fire prompts voluntary evacuation.** Drifting smoke from a mill fire in Westerly, RI, prompted a voluntary evacuation in neighboring Hopkinton. The blaze at the massive Bradford Dyeing Association broke out around 5:30 p.m. EDT. A police dispatcher in Hopkinton said residents who live within a mile of the mill were asked to evacuate. Authorities called for the voluntary evacuation because they didn't know what toxins

were in the smoke. The century-old company produces camouflaged fabric for the U.S. military.

Source: http://www.boston.com/news/local/rhode_island/articles/2007/05/15/westerly_mill_fire_prompts_voluntary_evacuation_in_hopkinton/?rss_id=Boston+Globe+---+Globe+West

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

8. *May 16, CongressDaily* — Bill would bar contractors from running Defense programs.

Concerned the Department of Defense (DoD) is ceding too much program management to contractors, the House Armed Services Committee has included language in the fiscal 2008 defense authorization bill that would curb the military's growing reliance on major defense firms to execute large, complex acquisition programs. This unpublicized provision in the bill, scheduled for House floor action Wednesday, May 16, would prohibit the DoD from issuing any new contracts to private-sector "lead system integrators" to manage and supervise major weapons programs after Oct. 1, 2011. The defense industry has yet to react publicly, as officials at some major firms and defense trade groups were still reviewing the bill Tuesday while others said they were unaware of the provision.

Source: http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=36940&dcn=to_daysnews

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Banking and Finance Sector

9. *May 15, News & Observer (NC)* — Eight held in ATM heists. The growing probe into a rash of ATMs ripped from storefronts in Wake and Johnston counties in North Carolina has landed seven men and one woman in jail. Some of the robberies date back months, but the arrests began April 30, when Robert Blake Strother of Wilson's Mills was charged with stealing cash machines from Bojangles restaurants in Raleigh and Princeton. Since then, investigators have found a dozen ATMs and safes in Johnston County ponds, rivers, ditches and wooded areas. The suspects likely know one another, said Clayton Police Chief Glen Allen, who called the group "a noteworthy network of criminal burglary offenders." Cash machines can weigh 3,000 pounds or more and have safes inside, said Lorraine Russell, spokesperson for NCR, which bills itself as the largest provider of ATMs in the United States. Some newer ATMs have GPS trackers to show their location or are equipped to spray ink on the cash if the safe is broken. How much cash is in a machine depends on everything from the model to how recently it's been stocked. Some may hold \$10,000 or more, others less than \$1,000.

Source: <http://www.newsobserver.com/102/story/574194.html>

10. *May 15, Associated Press* — Federal Reserve details post-911 effort. Federal Reserve officials were uncertain about the long-term economic impact from the 2001 terrorist attacks but they were united in a belief that they had to act decisively to restore confidence, according to transcripts of their discussions released Tuesday, May 15. Those transcripts showed Fed officials confronting a multitude of issues following the attacks that forced the closing of major

stock exchanges for four days and disrupted financial operations at some of the country's largest banks. In response to those events, the Fed flooded the financial system with billions of dollars in extra cash to make sure that banks would have sufficient reserves to meet obligations. They also cut a key interest rate by a half-point, making that decision during an emergency telephone conference call at 7:30 a.m. EDT on Monday, September 17, 2001, the day the New York Stock Exchange reopened after being closed for four days because of the damage in New York's financial district. Greenspan recommended a half-point cut in the federal funds rate and proposed that the announcement of the rate reduction occur at 8:30 a.m. EDT, one hour before the stock exchange was to reopen, as a way of trying to boost investor confidence.

Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/05/15/AR2007051500987_pf.html

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Transportation and Border Security Sector

11. *May 16, Government Accountability Office* — **GAO-07-346: Aviation Security: Efforts to Strengthen International Passenger Prescreening are Under Way, but Planning and Implementation Issues Remain (Report)**. Passenger prescreening—a process that includes matching passengers' identifying information against records extracted from the U.S. government terrorist watch list—is one of several security measures in place to help ensure the safety of commercial flights traveling to or from the United States. DHS has several efforts underway to strengthen international aviation passenger prescreening. This report focuses on certain elements of the passenger prescreening process as well as some of the actions that DHS is taking or has planned to strengthen prescreening procedures. This report is a limited version of the original November 2006 report as various agencies that we reviewed deemed some of the information in the original report to be security sensitive. The Government Accountability Office's (GAO) work included interviewing officials and assessing relevant documentation from federal agencies, U.S. and foreign air carriers, industry groups, and several foreign countries. GAO recommended in November 2006 that the Department of Homeland Security (1) complete a strategic plan and develop an evaluation strategy for one of its prescreening programs, (2) take steps to ensure that international and domestic prescreening programs are aligned, and (3) ensure full compliance with applicable privacy laws. DHS generally concurred with these recommendations.

Highlights: <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d07346high.pdf>

Source: <http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-07-346>

12. *May 16, Associated Press* — **Airlines' fuel costs increase in March**. The average cost of jet fuel for U.S. air carriers rose to \$1.84 per gallon in March, up seven cents from the previous month but unchanged from March 2006, according to government statistics released Tuesday, May 15. According to data from the Department of Transportation's Bureau of Transportation Statistics, jet fuel costs have soared in the past few years, jumping from 71 cents per gallon in 2002 to a peak annual average of \$1.96 a gallon last year. The Air Transport Association, says jet fuel, which used to represent 10 to 15 percent of a carrier's expenses, now accounts for up to 30 percent of total expenses, overtaking labor as the top cost for many airlines.

Source: http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/070515/airlines_fuel.html?.v=1

13. *May 16, Department of Transportation* — FRA launches automated inspection vehicles to detect track flaws. Two new custom-built inspection vehicles equipped with state of the art technology to help identify track flaws that could lead to train derailments are now in service and will allow the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) to triple the amount of track it inspects each year by automated means to nearly 100,000 miles, announced FRA Administrator Joseph H. Boardman. Boardman explained that the new automated track inspection vehicles increase the FRA's fleet to five and are primarily used on high-volume rail lines that carry hazardous materials and passenger trains. The new vehicles, known as the T-19 and the T-20, use a variety of technology to measure track geometry flaws such as whether two rails are level, if the width between the rails is acceptable, and if the shape of each rail meets federal standards to avoid derailments. Boardman said that acquiring and deploying the T-19 and T-20 is a major component of the FRA National Rail Safety Action Plan, which focuses on the most frequent, highest-risk causes of train accidents; optimizes the use of data to target federal inspection and enforcement resources; and accelerates research initiatives that hold promise to mitigate the greatest potential safety risks.

Source: <http://www.dot.gov/affairs/fra1607.htm>

14. *May 16, Department of Transportation* — Detroit and Laredo were top 2006 ports for trade by truck. Detroit on the Canadian border and Laredo, TX, on the Mexican border were the top ports for the value of trade moved by truck in 2006, according to a new special report on North American freight transportation from the Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS). BTS, a part of the Department of Transportation's Research and Innovative Technology Administration, reported that Detroit was the gateway for \$64 billion in merchandise carried by truck to Canada and \$51 billion from Canada. The merchandise transported through Detroit in 2006 was almost double the value of the goods that passed through Buffalo-Niagara Falls, NY, the next-ranking port on the Canadian border. Port Huron, MI, was the third-ranking port. The special report on North American freight transportation provides analysis of recent activity and trends in U.S. merchandise trade with Canada and Mexico from a transportation perspective.

BTS Report: http://www.bts.gov/publications/bts_special_report/2007_05/

Press releases on monthly TransBorder data:

http://www.bts.gov/press_releases/north_american_surface_freight_data.html

Source: <http://www.dot.gov/affairs/bts2507.htm>

15. *May 16, Salem-News (OR)* — Feds seek answers into Empress of the North grounding. A team from the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) has begun an investigation into why the Ambassadors International Inc. cruise ship Empress of the North ran into trouble Monday morning, May 14, off the coast of Alaska, forcing passengers and crew to evacuate, has had troubles before. According to the NTSB the ship was equipped with state of the art navigation technology, including electronic display charts used in navigating the vessel. The 360-foot ship hit a rock and began taking on water about 50 miles off the coast of Juneau in three-foot seas. Forty workers and 208 passengers were shuttled back to Juneau with the help of a U.S. Coast Guard cutter and other vessels, including a state ferry. The sternwheeler-style cruise ship operates in the spring and fall on the Columbia and Snake Rivers, out of Portland, OR. Empress of the North also ran aground in March 2006 on the Columbia River, 20 miles east of Portland with 260 passengers and crew aboard.

Source: http://www.salem-news.com/articles/may162007/cruise_ship_follow_051607.php

16. *May 15, Reuters* — **Amsterdam airport deploys body-scanning machines.** Amsterdam's Schiphol airport began using new body-scanning machines at security checkpoints on Tuesday, May 15, the first major airport to use the technology to find metals and explosives hidden under clothing. The "security scan" system, which uses harmless radio waves to display head-to-toe images of people, is also being used by other airports on a trial basis, but Schiphol is the only one to deploy the technology for regular use at its checkpoints. Going through the scanner takes about three seconds, allowing users to avoid metal detectors or body searches. For privacy, the digital images are viewed by security personnel in another room and deleted after they are viewed. Schiphol handles about 160,000 passengers per day at peak times and is Europe's fourth-busiest hub. So far the security scan is voluntary but officials are hoping to expand it to include all passengers, crew and personnel. Schiphol is one of the world's most modern airports, with flat-panel screens, airport-wide Web access, and iris-scanners already on offer to those who want to bypass passport lines.

Source: <http://www.eweek.com/article2/0.1895.2130462.00.asp>

17. *May 15, Department of Transportation* — **DOT pipeline safety agency teams with Alaska to strengthen oil and gas oversight.** The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) and the State of Alaska on Tuesday, May 15, announced an agreement to provide stronger oversight over oil and natural gas production and transportation facilities located within the State's borders. In a letter of intent, the State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources agreed to partner with PHMSA to enhance the protection of public safety, the environment, and the reliability of energy supply through more effective coordination of oversight of oil and gas production and transportation. PHMSA has jurisdiction over oil and gas transmission pipelines in Alaska, including approximately 200 miles of pipelines on Alaska's North Slope and the 800-mile Trans-Alaska Pipeline System, which is jointly shared with the Alaska's Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Environmental Quality. Recent events in Alaska, including pipeline failures on the North Slope, have highlighted the need for the State's oversight agencies and PHMSA to implement more comprehensive and effective oversight, Barrett stated. There are over 4,600 miles of pipelines in Alaska, delivering about 10 percent of America's energy products to the lower 48 states.

Source: <http://www.dot.gov/affairs/phmsa0407.htm>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

18. *May 14, NewsZap (AZ)* — **Thieves pilfer Tramonto mail.** Tramonto, AZ, residents made extra trips to the post office the past few weeks to collect their mail after a string of cluster mailbox break-ins. Resident Laurie Passman experienced what could have been one of the first incidents the evening of April 21. Passman posted a message detailing her experience on a community Website to warn neighbors about the incident. Other community members quickly began sharing their own mail theft experiences. Community Manager Kevin Hearty stated in an e-mail that Associated Asset Management became aware of the mail theft April 30. Tramonto Homeowners Association President Michael Cipriano said the mailboxes' new security measures make it "virtually impossible to break them open." Mailbox modifications will continue until one of the devices has been installed on every mailbox in Tramonto, according to Hearty. He said a number of outgoing mailboxes will be removed or covered as a result the

modifications. United States Postal Service spokesperson Patricia Armstrong suggested residents not leave mail in mailboxes overnight and encouraged residents to take outgoing mail to a post office.

Source: http://www.newspaz.com/articles/2007/05/15/az/north_valley/a_dv01.txt

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Agriculture Sector

19. *May 15, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service* — USDA delays effective date for cut flower import requirements from countries where chrysanthemum white rust occurs. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is delaying until June 2, the implementation date for new requirements that must be met in order to import cut flowers that are hosts of chrysanthemum white rust from countries where the disease is known to occur. The delay will allow affected groups additional time needed to make necessary preparations in order to comply with the new inspection and certification procedures that will be instituted as a result of this final rule. During the delay, APHIS will continue to apply existing administrative restrictions on cut flowers from countries where chrysanthemum white rust is known to occur. As of June 2, flowers eligible for importation into the U.S., must be grown in a registered production site and accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate or equivalent documentation issued by the national plant protection organization of the country of origin or its designee. The certificate must also contain an additional declaration stating that the place of production as well as the shipment have been inspected and found free of chrysanthemum white rust. APHIS is also requiring box labels and other documents accompanying shipments of cut flowers be marked with the identity of the registered production site.

Source: <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/newsroom/content/2007/05/whtrust.s.html>

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Food Sector

20. *May 15, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service* — USDA clears swine for processing. Testing confirms that meat from swine fed rations supplemented with pet food scraps containing melamine and related compounds is safe for human consumption, prompting the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to allow swine held on farms to be released and approved for processing. Testing of meat from swine exposed to the feed in question confirms that melamine and melamine compounds does not accumulate in pork and is filtered out of the body by the action of the kidneys. The testing also bolsters the conclusions reached by a human health risk assessment that there is a very low risk of human illness from the consumption of meat from animals exposed to the feed in question. Swine known to have eaten this feed appear healthy, which will be confirmed as these animals undergo the rigorous inspection that FSIS provides for all meat and poultry prior to processing. There were approximately 56,000 swine that consumed the feed in question and were held on farms in California, North Carolina, South Carolina, New York, Kansas, Utah and Illinois. The process for testing meat from swine was validated by USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS).

Source: http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/!ut/p/ s.7_0_A/7_0_1OB?contentidonly=true&contentid=2007/05/0144.xml

21. *May 15, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service* — **USDA proposes voluntary trichinae certification program.** The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is proposing to establish a voluntary trichinae certification program for U.S. pork. Because farm management practices, biosecurity and farm hygiene have improved significantly over the last 50 years, *Trichinella spiralis* is rare in the U.S. and is not currently required as part of a testing program in the U.S. The European Union and other overseas markets, however, require testing for all imports of fresh pork and fresh pork products. The proposed voluntary certification program would ensure that American producers standardize their protocols and offer overseas markets a USDA certification as to the *Trichinella spiralis* protections in place at U.S. farms without having to test every animal and every product. *Trichinella spiralis* is a parasitic roundworm found in many warm-blooded carnivores and omnivores, including swine.

Source: <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/newsroom/content/2007/05/trichpro. shtml>

22. *May 14, U.S. Food and Drug Administration* — **Herring recalled.** IKEA wants customers who have purchased an IKEA FOOD labeled jar of marinated herring with a Best Before Date 13-02-2008 or earlier to return it to their local IKEA store for a full refund. IKEA has received two reports where customers have found a large piece of glass in IKEA FOOD labeled jars of marinated herring. There has been no report of injuries. IKEA FOOD labeled marinated herring is sold at the Swedish Food Markets at IKEA stores.

Source: http://www.fda.gov/oc/po/firmrecalls/ikea05_07.html

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Water Sector

Nothing to report.

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Public Health Sector

23. *May 15, Reuters* — **Mosquito bacteria identified in malaria battle.** Scientists in Italy say they have identified a potential weapon against malaria living inside the blood-sucking mosquitoes that spread the disease — their internal bacteria. Malaria, a mosquito-borne disease caused by a parasite, kills at least a million people annually. With attempts to completely eradicate mosquitoes or create a vaccine so far unsuccessful, the Italian scientists set out to find any bacteria that lived symbiotically inside the pests. Such bacteria could potentially be genetically altered later to attack the malaria parasite when it reaches the mosquito, said Daniele Daffonchio at the Università degli Studi di Milano, one of five Italian universities behind the research. The scientists said it identified one candidate — a bacteria called *Asaia*, which is found throughout the mosquito's body. That includes the mosquito's gut and saliva gland as well as its reproductive organs, meaning that the altered bacteria could spread to mosquito offspring.

Source: <http://africa.reuters.com/top/news/usnBAN524996.html>

24. *May 15, Associated Press* — **Smallpox vaccine gets good FDA reviews.** An experimental smallpox vaccine appears to work nearly as well as an older vaccine in protecting against the deadly virus, according to federal documents released Tuesday, May 15. The newer vaccine, ACAM2000, showed by separate measures that it would be nearly as effective as the older vaccine, Dryvax. ACAM2000 is derived from Dryvax, which is no longer made. Both vaccines pose similar risks of serious side effects, including itch, rash and pain as well as rare cases of inflammation of the heart and surrounding sac. The Federal Drug Administration (FDA) released its review of studies of the vaccine ahead of an advisory committee meeting Thursday, May 17. Even though ACAM2000 remains experimental, the U.S. already has stockpiled 192.5 million doses of the vaccine, according to its manufacturer.

FDA: <http://www.fda.gov>

Source: http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2007/05/15/ap/health/main2808_184.shtml

25. *May 15, CBC News (Canada)* — **East Coast mumps outbreak reaches Toronto.** The mumps outbreak on the East Coast of Canada appears to have spread to Toronto, with the city's public health authority confirming three cases of the infectious disease Tuesday, May 15. An outbreak of mumps began in February in Halifax and is believed to have spread to the two other Maritime provinces and even British Columbia. Most of the cases were in Nova Scotia, with 222 confirmed cases. Two of those infected in Toronto are students who returned to the city from university in Halifax and the third person is a close contact of one of the students. The Toronto public health unit said that the third person was at a restaurant for several hours while infectious with mumps and may have unknowingly spread the virus to others. Three other cases directly linked to the Nova Scotia outbreak have been confirmed in Ontario.

Source: <http://www.cbc.ca/canada/toronto/story/2007/05/15/mumps-toronto.html>

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Government Sector

26. *May 15, Detroit News* — **Michigan man accused of threatening to blow up White House.** A Monroe, MI, man whose talk allegedly alarmed his co-workers was charged on Tuesday, May 15, with threatening President George W. Bush by saying he would blow up the White House. Charles Alan Haines, 39, faces up to five years in prison if convicted. According to an affidavit filed by a Secret Service agent, Haines told co-workers at Global Engine Manufacturing Alliance in Dundee in March and April that he planned to blow up the White House. Haines, who has been under psychiatric care in the past, also told co-workers he had over \$1 million worth of equipment inside his mouth so the government can hear his conversations and that he controlled the price of gasoline, the affidavit said. Haines has come to the attention of the Secret Service by threatening U.S. presidents twice before, the affidavit said.

Source: <http://www.detnews.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070515/UPDATE/705150463/1003/METRO>

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Emergency Services Sector

27. *May 15, Bayou Buzz (LA)* — **New Orleans plans for hurricane season.** With hurricane season only weeks away, on Monday, May 14, the City of New Orleans Department of Homeland Security, Office of Emergency Preparedness, began a series of informational sessions to educate individuals in a variety of organizations and media outlets in New Orleans, LA, on the city's evacuation plan and the city assisted plan for special needs residents. The department will educate each organization about the need for partnerships to inform and assist in keeping the citizens of New Orleans safe in the event of an emergency. In addition to meeting with public school professionals, the Mayor's Office of Homeland Security plans to meet with senior citizens, city employees, tourism and communications professionals, and media editorial boards in the coming weeks. Last week, the city participated in Louisiana's Hurricane Dean drill to test the City Assisted Evacuation Plan, which included a series of table top exercises to test the communication between parish emergency operations centers at the pre-land fall, landfall, and post-land fall of a major hurricane. In the event of an emergency, the state's rapid communication system, which was stationed outside of City Hall during the drill, would be utilized to restore possible loss of communication.

Source: http://www.bayoubuzz.com/News/NewOrleans/New_Orleans_Plan_For_Hurricane_Season_3728.asp

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Information Technology and Telecommunications Sector

28. *May 16, IDG News Service* — **Millions disconnected by NTT broadband outage.** Millions of broadband Internet users across most of eastern Japan were unable to log on Tuesday evening, May 15, after a problem at the country's largest broadband provider. NTT East said 2.85 million customers lost Internet service at 6:44 p.m. (9:44 a.m. GMT) on Tuesday, the carrier said in a statement. The outage, the cause of which is still being investigated, lasted until 1:35 a.m. on Wednesday when the last of the affected customers was reconnected. The outage is one of the largest in years and took out both PC Internet connections and IP telephone service across 14 of the 17 prefectures in which NTT East provides service. Customers in Tokyo and the surrounding prefectures of Kanagawa, Chiba and Saitama were not affected.

Source: http://www.infoworld.com/article/07/05/16/ntt-broadband-outage_1.html

29. *May 16, Associated Press* — **Next gen of Wi-Fi is planned for summer.** The next generation of wireless Internet products certified by the Wi-Fi Alliance is expected to hit shelves this summer, even though a final standard for the technology isn't due for another year, the industry group says. The Wi-Fi Alliance was announcing Wednesday, May 16, that it will begin certifying wireless routers, networking cards, microchips and other so-called "Draft N" products in June. The products, which take their name from the upcoming 802.11n technical standard, are expected to reach retail stores shortly thereafter.

Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20070516/ap_on_hi_te/wi-fi-alliance;_ylt=AvIaUxryih5orNPkYrljm8QjtBAF

30.

May 16, Reuters — **Symantec sues eight companies over software piracy.** Symantec Corp., maker of the Norton Antivirus software, said on Wednesday, May 16, it has sued eight companies it accuses of illegally copying its computer security software, seeking more than \$55 million in damages. It is the latest company to resort to legal action to fight piracy, a crime the industry says costs software makers billions of dollars a year in lost revenue. Symantec is seeking jury trials in each case and \$4 million to \$10 million in damages from each company named in the lawsuits, filed in U.S. District Courts in California. Symantec alleges the companies engaged in trademark infringement, copyright infringement, fraud, unfair competition, trafficking in counterfeit labels and documentation, and false advertising. Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/nm/20070516/bs_nm/symantec_lawsuit_dc:_ylt=Ap2DfDD4Jzd6x3EbCW0VG8cjtBAF

31. *May 16, ComputerWorld* — Worm attacked voter database in notorious Florida district. Sarasota County, FL's, computer database infrastructure was attacked by a notorious Internet worm on the first day of early voting during the 2006 election featuring the now-contested U.S. House race in Florida's 13th Congressional district. In the early afternoon hours on Monday, October 23, 2006, an Internet worm slammed into the county's database system, breaching its firewall and overwriting the system's administrative password. The havoc brought the county's network, and the electronic voting system which relies on it, to its knees as Internet access was all but lost at voting locations for two hours that afternoon. Voters in one of the nation's most hotly contested Congressional elections were unable to cast ballots during the outage as officials were unable to verify registration data. An incident report filed by the county explains the intrusion and temporary havoc wrought by the virus. According to the two-page report, a server on Sarasota County's database system was attacked by "a variant of the SQL Slammer worm." Once infected, as the report details, the server "sent traffic to other database servers on the Internet, and the traffic generated by the infected server rendered the firewall unavailable." Incident report: http://www.bradblog.com/Docs/SarasotaCounty_SQLSlammerWorm_IncidentReport_102407.pdf
Source: http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&articleId=9019560&intsrc=hm_list

32. *May 16, News (Australia)* — Sydney, Australia, phone blackout to follow Bush at APEC summit. Mobile phone calls will be blocked in central Sydney, Australia, during the APEC summit in September to protect President George W. Bush from bomb attacks. A helicopter equipped with signal-jamming equipment will shadow Bush's presidential motorcade whenever he travels on the city's streets. It is expected the mobile phone network will be neutralized for about two minutes. Many of the remote-controlled bombs detonated in Iraq and those used in the second Bali bombing were set off by mobile phones.
Source: <http://www.news.com.au/story/0,23599,21738778-421,00.html>

33. *May 15, eWeek* — US-CERT: Critical Unicode flaw undercuts firewalls, scanners. The U.S. Computer Emergency Readiness Team (US-CERT) reports that 92 security products by different vendors, including Cisco, may have a serious security hole. Given these products' market share, most businesses could be affected. US-CERT is reporting a network evasion technique that uses full-width and half-width unicode characters to allow malware to evade detection by an IPS or firewall. The vulnerability affects virtually every major firewall and intrusion prevention system available, including products from Cisco Systems. Given Cisco's

major share of the market, at least for enterprise routers and VPN and firewall equipment, that means most businesses will be affected. The vulnerability concerns HTTP content-scanning systems that fail to properly scan full-width and half-width Unicode-encoded HTTP traffic. A remote attacker could exploit the vulnerability by sending specially crafted HTTP traffic to a vulnerable content scanning system. After sneaking malware past the firewall or IPS, the attacker can then wreak havoc on a system, scanning and attacking without being detected.

US-CERT Vulnerability Note: <http://www.kb.cert.org/vuls/id/739224>

Source: <http://www.eweek.com/article2/0.1895.2130397.00.asp>

- 34. *May 15, InfoWorld* — Oracle to buy premier PLM company Agile.** Oracle announced Tuesday, May 15, that it is buying Agile Software, one of the premier product lifecycle management (PLM) solution providers. The deal is being managed as a cash merger for \$8.10 per share or \$495 million and is expected to close in July. PLM software is designed to streamline the design, engineering, production, distribution, and support of a product. Agile will serve as the foundation of an Oracle PLM offering.

Source: http://www.infoworld.com/article/07/05/15/Oracle-buys-Agile_1.html

Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Website: www.us-cert.gov.

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <https://www.it-isac.org/>.

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Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument & Icons Sector

Nothing to report.

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General Sector

- 35. *May 16, New York Times* — Wildfires rage in New Jersey and elsewhere.** A wildfire sparked by a flare that an F-16 jet dropped over southern New Jersey on Tuesday afternoon, May 15, continued to burn through thousands of acres of brush and pine forest on Wednesday, fueled by strong gusts of wind that fire officials worried might pick up throughout the day. The fire ignited more than 20 square miles of brush along the border between Ocean and Burlington Counties, forcing authorities to shut down parts of major highways and evacuate about 2,500 homes. Firefighters erected containment lines around the fire and said that as of this afternoon about 30 percent of the blaze had been contained. Forecasts called for rain and thunderstorms, but there was also concern that strong winds might cause the flames to spread. In California, Georgia, Florida and other parts of the country experiencing wildfires, National Guard troops have been delivering water and providing logistics and communication support to fire officials. Smoke from fires that burned more than a quarter-million acres in southern Georgia this week created fog and haze over Atlanta and prompted authorities to warn people with asthma and

other lung conditions to stay indoors.

Source: http://www.nytimes.com/2007/05/16/nyregion/16end-fire.html?_r=1&hp&oref=slogin

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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 or (202) 282-9201.

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Web page at www.us-cert.gov.

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