



Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 21 September 2007

Current Nationwide Threat Level is

ELEVATED
SIGNIFICANT RISK OF TERRORIST ATTACKS

[For info click here](http://www.dhs.gov/)
<http://www.dhs.gov/>

- *The Star Telegram* reports that 3,000 National Guard troops are being pulled from the U.S.-Mexico border. The troops were sent there to protect the border as part of Operation Jump Start, which started in May 2006. The move was unpopular among border-state lawmakers, who sought to maintain the status quo. (See item [13](#))
- *Reuters India* reports that increased shipping controls on nuclear materials following the 9/11 attacks have led to greater difficulty in shipping radioactive material used in cancer treatments, manufacturing, and fueling nuclear power plants. According to the article, delays caused by the controls are a major deterrent to shipping companies that carry “normal, legal radioactive” cargo. (See item [20](#))

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report *Fast Jump*

Production Industries: [Energy](#); [Chemical](#); [Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#); [Dams](#)

Service Industries: [Banking and Finance](#); [Transportation and Border Security](#); [Postal and Shipping](#); [Information Technology](#); [Communications](#); [Commercial Facilities](#)

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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. *September 20, Bloomberg* – (National) **Oil rises on signs falling interest rates may spur fuel use.** Crude oil rose to a record \$82.55 a barrel in New York on signs that U.S. interest-rate cuts and a falling dollar will bolster demand. The dollar dropped to a record low against the Euro today on speculation U.S. interest rates will extend declines, making oil cheaper in the countries using other currencies. Oil rose after the Federal Reserve cut rates this week to

bolster the economy, which has been hit by subprime-mortgage losses. Crude oil for October delivery rose 34 cents to \$82.27 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange. In the Gulf of Mexico, BP Plc, Chevron Corp., ConocoPhillips and Royal Dutch Shell Plc moved some workers off platforms and rigs because of a disturbance in a low-pressure area near Florida that may turn into a tropical depression, according to the National Hurricane Center.

Source:

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601072&sid=ab5Hj9.pEUn&refer=energy>

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Chemical Industry

2. *September 20, Buffalo News* – (New York) **Toxic chemical leak closes road.** Twenty gallons of a potentially toxic household chemical leaked out of a truck in South Buffalo on Wednesday afternoon, injuring one person and forcing the closure of a section of South Park Avenue while the spill was cleaned up. Members of the Buffalo Fire Department’s hazardous-materials unit and employees from the company transporting the chemical sealed the leak and cleaned up the spill within hours. A bicyclist who was riding behind the Chemical Distributors truck was treated for exposure to the chemical, potassium hydroxide, which is used in drain cleaners and other household products, fire and company officials said. The chemical compound can be toxic if it comes in direct contact with the skin or eyes, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health says.

Source: <http://www.buffalonews.com/cityregion/buffaloerie/story/166825.html>

3. *September 19, Chemical Week* – (Virginia) **DuPont plans \$500-million Kevlar expansion.** DuPont says it plans to invest more than \$500 million in a multi-phase project to increase manufacturing capacity for its Kevlar para-aramid fiber by more than 25% by 2010, the largest Kevlar expansion since the product was introduced in 1965. The company will spend approximately \$50 million of the total investment to increase Kevlar polymer capacity at its Richmond, VA facility, scheduled for startup by the end of the year. DuPont says it will announce the locations for the other expansions at a later date. The company cites several trends which are driving demand for its Kevlar and other high-performance polymers. “Global demand for DuPont Kevlar has soared with the growing need for safety and security worldwide. In addition, high energy prices have increased demand for the lightweight strength of Kevlar in the aerospace, oil and gas, and automotive industries,” said the vice-president and general manager for advanced fiber systems business at DuPont.

Source: http://www.chemweek.com/home/top_of_the_news/feature.html

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste

4. *September 20, Victoria Advocate* – (Texas) **STP reports lowest production cost among U.S. nuclear power plants.** The South Texas Project (STP) has the lowest production cost reported by nuclear power plants nationwide, at 1.356 cents per kilowatt-hour in 2006. STP’s combined operating, maintenance and fuel expenses were the lowest among plants that report those costs to federal regulators. Of the 104 nuclear power plants nationwide, 58 reported their annual

operating costs in forms filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. Most of the non-reporting plants are in fleets operated by corporations. Trade publication *Nucleonics Week* compiled the cost data and published it in the magazine's current edition. In addition to having the best production cost nationwide, STP also led all 33 two-unit U.S. plants in output last year by generating 21.37 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity. That was the third consecutive year the plant was the national production leader.

Source: <http://www.thevictoriaadvocate.com/411/story/124637.html>

5. *September 20, Yahoo! News* – (California) **SMUD finalizes nuclear power plant cleanup.** The Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) is embarking on the last major project at Rancho Seco to decommission the former nuclear power plant by next year. Late next year, the building will be sealed up and never used again. The power plant is now a ghost town. Massive amounts of metal have been removed for recycling, and the old control room is just a shell. The spent fuel pool is gone, and the high level waste is a quarter mile away. All the nuclear fuel ever used at Rancho Seco during 15 years of operation is still present. It now resides inside a concrete and steel structure. It is safely encased in steel canisters and will remain here until the U.S. creates a national nuclear repository. Meanwhile, the 42-story twin cooling towers, the valley's tallest structures, will stay. By next summer, any remaining traces of radioactivity in, around or even under these buildings will be gone.
Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/kcra/20070920/lo_kcra/14154874
6. *September 20, Associated Press* – (New York) **Utility declares alert after gas leak at nuclear plant.** An alert was canceled Wednesday night at the Nine Mile Point 2 nuclear power plant, which had been called hours earlier following the discharge of carbon dioxide in a switchgear room, said the plant's owner, Constellation Energy. The alert is the second lowest classification after an unusual event declaration. The most serious classifications are site area emergency and general emergency. The discharge occurred at 3:04 p.m. The source of the carbon dioxide was under investigation. There was no fire detected and the plant continued to operate safely, the utility said. There was no release of radiation into the atmosphere or water due to the event, and there were no injuries reported, according to the same source.
Source: <http://www.poststar.com/articles/2007/09/20/ap-state-ny/d8rouj980.txt>
7. *September 19, Associated Press* – (Colorado) **Report: Drilling near nuclear site poses little danger.** Drilling for natural gas around a nuclear blast site near Battlement Mesa would pose little danger of releasing radiation, a federal study released Wednesday concluded. The long-awaited report comes as energy companies eye the area surrounding the site of Project Rulison, a 1969 experiment to explode a nuclear bomb deep underground in an effort make it easier to release the natural gas. A proposal by a company to drill near the blast site two years ago prompted a backlash from some nearby residents and Garfield County commissioners who feared drilling could allow radiation to escape. The report by the Department of Energy's Office of Legacy Management found no signs of elevated radiation reaching gas wells in 95 percent of the computer simulations. The radiation was extremely low in the other 5 percent. No radiation was found in 99 percent of the computer models based on drilling in the year 2037.
Source: http://www.aspendailynews.com/article_21822

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

8. *September 19, FCW.com* – (National) **Army awards WIN-T contract to General Dynamics, Lockheed.** The Army's battlefield communications will get some improvements with help from General Dynamics and its primary subcontractor, Lockheed Martin, under a \$921 million contract the service awarded September 18. The contract covers Increments Two and Three of the Army's Warfighter Information Network–Tactical program, including development of initial WIN-T capabilities, early fielding of the technologies in Increment Two, and continued development of WIN-T components to expand their capacity, security and mobility in Increment Three.

Source: <http://www.fcw.com/article103797-09-19-07-Web>

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Banking and Finance Sector

9. *September 19, Reuters* – (National) **HSBC Bank USA to settle SEC case for \$10.5 million.** The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) announced that HSBC bank agreed to pay a \$10.5 million settlement for charges claiming the bank “provided false assurances to Pension Fund of America L.C. investors,” a company involved in a financial scam. According to SEC, HSBC is guilty of allowing the fraudulent company to use its name and corporate logo while raising \$127 million from victims from Central and South America. Moreover, the bank is accused of giving permission to Pension Fund to trick its clients into believing their funds would be safe in trust accounts at HSBC. Although HSBC agreed to pay the settlement, its officials were reluctant to admit or to deny the charges.

Source:

http://investing.reuters.co.uk/news/articleinvesting.aspx?type=bankingFinancial&storyID=2007-09-19T220106Z_01_N19431118_RTRIDST_0_SP_PAGE_012-N19431118-OISBN.XML

10. *September 19, Reuters* – (National) **BBB warns against flood of restoration scammers.** The Better Business Bureau (BBB) released another warning for natural disaster victims, who are susceptible to be taken advantage of by scam artists offering home repair, appliance repair, moving and storage, flood-damaged autos, clean-up and restoration, door-to-door furniture peddlers, and pest control services. BBB issued a series of practical suggestions on what consumers should know when employing a cleaning or restoration firm. For instance, “the restoration contract should include a description of all the work to be performed, including the quality of materials to be used; victims should save all receipts, including those for food and temporary lodging that are covered under their insurance policy; and any promises made orally should be written into the contract, including any warranties on materials or labor.” Those wishing to know more about how to avoid being victimized by scam artists can call the bureau or visit their website at www.bbbsetexas.org or go to www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem.

Source: <http://www.midcountychronicle.com/news/2007/0919/Business/020.html>

11. *September 19, Breitbart.com* – (Colorado; Missouri) **Pipe bombs, threats aimed at boosting US stock prices.** A man was arrested and charged for threatening fund managers and executives in Colorado and Missouri with pipe bombs and kidnapping if they did not

manipulate the stocks of home entertainment company Navarre Corp. and networking company 3Com Corp. According to the Justice Department, none of the officials complied with the man's demands. During a period of two years, he sent 17 letters, one containing a photograph of the home of an executive's assistant, and two pipe bombs. In one case, one of the bombs would have exploded if one of its wires had not been detached from the battery, stated law enforcement officials. The suspect could face life in prison if convicted of the charges brought against him.

Source: http://www.breitbart.com/article.php?id=070919185442.jfzg9rid&show_article=1

12. *September 19, Consumer Affairs* – (Kentucky) **Kentucky targets bogus business opportunities.** Kentucky's attorney general announced his intentions to target businesses trying to take advantage of their clients. The official implemented a series of new regulations requiring firms asking for more than a \$500 investment to register with his office, post a bond and disclose documents. The new measures were prompted by an increase in the purchase of training materials and software for internet-based business and marketing. The Kentucky Office of the Attorney General and the Federal Trade Commission advise those venturing into business and work-at-home opportunities to avoid "the ad promising big money for little effort" as well as businesses which do not release important disclosure documents. Officials also urge investors to "visit other business sites in person and get professional advice if you need it."

Source: http://www.consumeraffairs.com/news04/2007/09/ky_biz.html

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Transportation and Border Security Sector

13. *September 20, Star Telegram* – (National) **3,000 Guard troops being cut from border.** Army Lt. Gen. H. Steven Blum announced the decision to withdraw 3,000 of the 6,000 National Guard troops deployed along the southern border with Mexico. The troops were sent to protect the border as part of Operation Jump Start, which started in May, 2006. The guards were successful in completing their mission, which included building roads, fences, and towers; providing reconnaissance with aircraft and unmanned aerial vehicles; and supplying logistics and intelligence analysis, according to the Army official. He also added that the remaining troops could be transferred to Arizona in areas where they are mostly needed, and warned the reduction in Guard forces will continue. The move was unpopular among border-state lawmakers, who sought to maintain the status quo, but were rebuffed by the U.S. Customs and Border Protection approval of the reduction in Guard personnel.

Source: http://www.star-telegram.com/national_news/story/241136.html

14. *September 20, SignOnSanDiego.com* – (International) **Second Mexican firm accepted into trucking program.** The second long-haul truck Mexican company won approval Wednesday to travel on U.S. roads as part of a pilot program initiated by the Bush administration. Transportes Rafa, a 40-truck, family-operated company, will start its trips to the U.S. next week, when it will first deliver fruit baskets to Watsonville, California. Although the program's funding was cut by a recently approved Senate legislation because of safety issues, its proponents argue that border trade will benefit from the new deal because "it will lower costs of sending cargo from one country to the other, doing away with the need to transfer

material at the border,” according to an administrator of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration.

Source: <http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/mexico/20070920-9999-1b20mextruck.html>

15. *September 20, CNNMoney* – (National) **IBM awarded TSA contract for Operational Application Support and Information Services.** IBM was awarded a \$98.5 million IT and software services contract for a project for Homeland Security's Transportation Security Administration (TSA).” The Operational Application Support and Information Services (OASIS) task order is an Indefinite-Delivery-Indefinite-Quantity (IDIQ) contract planned for 5 years and aimed at enhancing dissemination of critical information inside the agency via standard messaging services such as cell phones, pagers, and PDA’s. IBM will collaborate with other big names on the project including Deloitte Consulting and Lockheed Martin.
Source: <http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/marketwire/0304413.htm>
16. *September 19, WRAL* – (National) **Amtrak trains delayed after bridge closure.** Following inspectors’ orders, officials in Johnston County, North Carolina, closed a bridge causing rail chaos, which involved 40 trains carrying 1,400 passengers. The affected passengers were loaded on buses from nearby stations. One of the Amtrak trains rerouted to a nearby station was the Auto Train running from Lorton, Virginia to Sanford, Florida. The bridge closure also led to the cancellation of numerous trains, including those from New York to Miami and Miami to New York. This was the second time the Johnston county bridge was closed in the last several years. In April of last year, a defect in the span convinced officials to block access to the bridge, a decision that affected 50 trains, 10 of which were running on Amtrak routes.
Source: <http://www.wral.com/news/local/story/1836311/>
17. *September 19, Breitbart.com* – (Arizona) **Glitch renders 'virtual fence' unusable.** Boeing’s so-called ‘virtual fence’ on the southern border with Mexico is still awaiting approval to operate from the Department of Homeland Security. The pilot program, whose first stage covered 28 miles south of Tucson, Arizona, was initially planned to be implemented nationwide at various crossing points. Nevertheless, the Homeland Security Secretary announced that the department will withhold further payments until the company fixes the system’s radar problem and provides the results of its October tests. The ‘virtual fence’ is comprised of towers with radar, sensors and cameras, which will provide border agents with a “common operating picture” and will enhance their ability to intercept illegal border crossers. Currently, only three-fourths of the money has been paid for the pilot project, which carries a total price tag of \$20 million.
Source: http://www.breitbart.com/article.php?id=D8ROUSAG0&show_article=1&catnum=1
18. *September 19, CNNMoney* – (National) **SuperShuttle introduces 'kiosk' service at Baltimore-Washington International airport.** The inaugural SuperShuttle ‘kiosk’ service opened at Baltimore-Washington International airport (BWI) providing a more efficient system for travelers, who can book, confirm, and pay for their reservations at this self-service location. This service will be made available nationwide at various major airports across the country during the next year.
Source: <http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/prnewswire/LAW07619092007-1.htm>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

19. *September 19, Cincinnati Post* – (Kentucky; Ohio) **Home-made bomb is dismantled.** A postal carrier discovered a small, homemade bomb Tuesday morning inside of a mail box in Fort Wright, Kentucky. The evening before, firefighters received reports the mail box was smoking and hosed it down. On Tuesday morning, the postal carrier found the device and the remains of a burnt fuse. The Cincinnati Bomb Squad and Fort Wright police and fire departments shut down the surrounding areas, while they ascertained that the bomb was no longer active. The U.S. Postal Service crime lab in Virginia will analyze the bomb.
Source: <http://news.cincypost.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070919/NEWS01/709190353>

20. *September 19, Reuters India* – (International) **Nuclear shipping rules hit medical use - IAEA adviser.** Increased shipping controls following the September 11 attacks have led to greater difficulty in shipping radioactive material used in cancer treatments, manufacturing, and fueling nuclear power plants. Although it was not simple in the past, now it is close to impossible. A case in point is Turkey's attempt to import a new source of cobalt for radiation therapy. The shipment could not reach Turkey due to Italy's requirement of one year's notice of transit. The head of a committee dealing with denials of shipment permission at the International Atomic Energy Agency attributed the increase in denials of shipment to "a mixture of government and company policies." He cited the example of the U.S., where radioactive material detectors have been installed in order to detect illegal radioactive shipments. The problem is that these also detect normal, legal radioactive freight, "causing delays and prompting many carriers not to accept such cargoes." Ultimately, shipping radioactive freight is little different from that of explosives and corrosives and "all the member states (of the IAEA) should come together and solve the problem ... and carriers need to be pressured by the governments."
Source:
<http://in.reuters.com/article/worldNews/idINIndia-29626820070919?pageNumber=2&sp=true>

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Agriculture and Food Sector

21. *September 19, Wisconsin Radio Network* – (Wisconsin) **Health Department warns about tainted beef.** Fresh Brands Distributing is voluntarily recalling certain ground beef products from its Wisconsin-based Piggly Wiggly stores due to possible E. coli contamination after two Wisconsin women tested positive for E. coli. The packages are labeled "ground chuck" and "certified angus beef ground round 85-percent lean." While the meats have sell-by dates from July 15th through August 5th, there is concern that some people may have stored the meat in freezers.
Source:
<http://www.wrn.com/gestalt/go.cfm?objectid=20C75D40-9896-9A23-A20C608E883BDD53>

22. *September 19, Washington Post* – (National) **Food firms want FDA to oversee imports.** The country's largest food suppliers, such as Kraft Foods, H.J. Heinz and Dole Food, proposed yesterday to grant the government more oversight of the industry in light of congressional

food-safety proposals, including include import fees that could cost the companies millions per year. The plan, offered by the Grocery Manufacturers Association, covers imported food, the subject of increasing attention from Congress. It would require all importers to develop a plan for assuring the quality of imported foods and give the Food and Drug Administration the power to enforce it. Most companies already have such plans, but the FDA does not have authority over them, according to the group. The association's proposal would also create a voluntary program that would allow importers to submit testing records, information about their supply chain and other data to the FDA in return for expedited processing at the borders. That would allow the FDA to focus on the riskiest importers, the group said.

Source:

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/09/18/AR2007091801861.html?hpid=sec-business>

23. *September 19, Associated Press* – (National) **FDA exempts first Chinese farmed seafood producer from import restrictions.** Federal health officials are allowing a major Chinese shrimp producer to resume shipping to the United States. The company is the first to be exempted from restrictions put in place over the summer after repeated tests showed farmed seafood from China had been contaminated with non FDA-approved drugs. The FDA made the exemption after inspecting the company's processing plant. It also received third-party analyses of 5 consecutive shipments of shrimp that showed them to be free of any contamination. The FDA says the Chinese government intends to use the company as a model.

Source: <http://www.localnews8.com/Global/story.asp?S=7102094>

24. *September 19, Brownfield Network* – (National) **USDA grants disaster aid request for 14 Missouri counties.** The U.S. Department of Agriculture has approved a request for flood damage relief for Missouri farmers in six counties. Eight additional counties have been named as contiguous disaster areas. Farmers in all those counties may be eligible for disaster aid for damage caused by excessive rain and flooding in June and July.

Source:

<http://www.brownfieldnetwork.com/gestalt/go.cfm?objectid=1EDB151B-C185-23C9-4FB498865EBBA962>

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Water Sector

25. *September 20, Detroit Free Press* – (Michigan) **Counties pursue study of second water system.** Detroit's plan to expand their water system will not affect the surrounding counties' study of developing a competing water system. Supporters of the separate water system claim that it would "provide a backup system and serve as a check on rate increases." Earlier this month, the Detroit Water and Sewerage Director announced his intention to "create two routes for Lake Huron water to reach Genesee and northern Oakland and Macomb counties."

Source:

<http://www.freep.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070920/NEWS05/709200430/1008>

26. *September 20, Boston Globe* – (Massachusetts) **No signs tell of arsenic in Upper Mystic Lake.** Upper Mystic Lake in Massachusetts contains as much as ten tons of arsenic and

unknown quantities of lead and chromium, the majority of which are in sediment at the bottom of the lake. There are currently no warning signs to alert recreational users, as previous testing has shown that arsenic levels in the surface waters of the lake are within normal drinking water limits. Scientists disagree about the dangers the chemicals pose to recreational users, but the state Department of Conservation and Recreation states that the lake is safe.

Source:

http://www.boston.com/news/local/articles/2007/09/20/no_signs_tell_of_arsenic_in_upper_my_stic_lake/

27. *September 19, WRAL* – (North Carolina) **Raleigh water customers have 4-month supply left.** Without precipitation, Falls Lake, which supplies Raleigh's water, will run dry within four months, according to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The town has already implemented mandatory water restrictions, cutting usage up to 14 percent, and the Corps has reduced the amount of water released downstream. Town officials are investigating various long-term solutions, but in the event of Raleigh's water supply running dry, there is an emergency back-up system.

Source: <http://www.wral.com/news/local/story/1832275/>

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

28. *September 20, Los Angeles Times* – (National) **House acts to avert FDA layoff notices.** The House on Wednesday approved a bill to increase funding for the Food and Drug Administration and to revamp the nation's drug safety system. If the Senate does not approve the legislation by Friday, the agency will have to notify about 2,000 employees, many of them doctors and scientists, that they could be out of work. The bill would set up a computerized surveillance system to try to spot problems with recently released medications. It would also expand the current registry of clinical trials and create a publicly accessible database of clinical trial results that could be used by safety researchers, doctors and patients. Drug company advertisements would get closer FDA review, and the ads would have to include instructions on reporting side effects. The legislation would also require the FDA to reduce its reliance on outside advisors who have financial ties to the pharmaceutical industry.

Source:

<http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/politics/la-na-fda20sep20,1,3110338.story?coll=la-news-politics-national>

29. *September 20, WBAY* – (Wisconsin) **University stopped Ebola study after warning from NIH.** A virology professor in the University of Wisconsin, School of Veterinary Medicine in Madison, whose work was under scrutiny by the National Institutes of Health says he immediately stopped his study and moved the research to Canada after receiving a warning. He was working with materials that could have been used to produce the Ebola virus. The NIH told the university the material must be contained at labs with the highest level of security. UW's biological safety officer said the researcher, his colleagues and the public were never at risk because the actual virus was never present in the lab, adding that the violation was more a technical misstep than a safety hazard.

Source: <http://www.wbay.com/Global/story.asp?S=7100498>

30. *September 20, KOMU* – (Missouri) **First West Nile virus-related death.** The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) confirmed today Missouri's first West Nile virus-related death this year. As of Tuesday, September 18, DHSS had reported 30 human West Nile Virus cases. Eight of this year's cases are from the St. Louis area.

Source:

<http://www.komu.com/satellite/SatelliteRender/KOMU.com/ba8a4513-c0a8-2f11-0063-9bd94c70b769/1e4c07f6-c0a8-2f11-0177-58b202172498>

31. *September 20, Health Day* – (National) **FDA recalls defibrillators.** The FDA has issued a Class I recall for MRL/Welch Allyn AED 20 Automatic External Defibrillators. Class I recalls are issued in situations where there is a reasonable probability that the use of a product will cause serious injury or death. The AEDs in question were made between October 2003 and January 2005, with serial numbers 205787 through 207509.

Source:

<http://www.forbes.com/forbeslife/health/feeds/hscout/2007/09/19/hscout608379.html>

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Government Facilities Sector

32. *September 20, USA Today* – (National) **Universities rethink unarmed police.** In the wake of the April 16 shooting at Virginia Tech, a nationwide reassessment of campus security occurred. The Justice Department will release their latest report on campus police agencies in November, and it expects to see an increase in the number of campus police carrying weapons. In their 1996 report, the Justice Department found that 81 percent of public universities had armed police. Since the Virginia Tech shooting, universities and state legislatures have proposed changes in Iowa, Nevada, Alabama, and Oregon, that would enable more campus security and other faculty members to carry weapons.

Source: http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2007-09-19-campusops_N.htm?csp=1

33. *September 20, New York Times* – (New Jersey) **A bomb threat closes schools in Bergen County.** After the mayor of Emerson, New Jersey received an anonymous bomb threat, he decided to close schools in a dozen districts. The letter gave a specific time and listed five schools that would be “blown out.” The county police bomb squad searched all schools in Emerson and found nothing.

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2007/09/20/nyregion/20bomb.html?ref=nyregion>

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Emergency Services Sector

34. *September 20, Marshfield News-Herald* – (Wisconsin) **Mock bus crash tests emergency response.** The first emergency responders on a scene created to represent a school bus crash and downed electric wires did everything right. They did not touch the tipped bus -- which had an electric pole resting against it -- and utility workers told the student volunteers from Marshfield High School and Marshfield Alternative School to stay inside. Then the scenario

changed. Two utility workers, a police officer and the bus driver were told they had died because they were too close to the bus and were electrocuted by an underground wire supplying electricity to the pole and the bus, said Greg Geiger, electric operating supervisor with Marshfield Utilities, a member of the team that designed the disaster drill. Once the electricity was turned off to the pole, medical workers flocked to the students in the bus, using colored ribbons to identify the severity of injuries. Each student wore a card telling their character's story. The drill benefited organizations involved in responding, which included dispatch, hospital, police, fire, utilities and the street department.

Source:

<http://www.marshfieldnewsherald.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070920/MNH0101/709200366>

35. *September 19, GCN.com* – (National) **Getting smart IDs to first responders.** A newly-formed consortium of smart-card technology companies, called Tiers of Trust, will provide affordable smart identification cards to first responders at the state and local levels. The companies will provide hardware, software and services free or at steep discounts to cut the cost of deploying interoperable cards by as much as 75 percent. The cards will help provide access to crisis areas only to qualified first responders. They will also help track emergency personnel and make sure they are allocated efficiently. The program is open to first-responder organizations such as law enforcement, fire, hazmat, rescue and public health agencies in the United States and its territories, in addition to private-sector utilities, communications and transportation companies that operate critical infrastructure. Organizations should register for the program at www.TiersofTrust.com by December 31. Priority will be given to the first 500 organizations to register.

Source: http://www.gcn.com/print/26_24/45024-1.html

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Information Technology

36. *September 20, Computerworld* – (National) **Would-be hacker vandalizes Vietnam Memorial site.** A Vietnam War memorial Web site run by veterans was defaced in recent days by a “hacker” who left messages attacking the U.S., Israel, Armenia and the Kurds, the *Washington Post* reported in Thursday's issue. According to the Post, visitors to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial site who searched for casualties by date were redirected to a page that displayed the Turkish flag, a short video, and messages in both Turkish and English. One of the messages in Turkish read in translation: “Is there any equal or likeness to our martyrs at Gallipoli?” Someone identified as “Turk Defacer” took responsibility for the hack, which was reported to the site by several hundred visitors. The group that operates the site, the 4/9 Infantry Manchu (Vietnam) Association, removed the defacement and restored the site late Wednesday.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&articleId=903778&intsrc=hm_list

37. *September 20, Computerworld UK* – (International) **Caution urged as gadgets enter the workplace.** IT security professionals need to take steps to properly manage how employee-owned consumer devices are used in the workplace, analysts warned at Gartner's IT security

summit in London this week. With powerful consumer devices becoming increasingly ubiquitous in the enterprise, and home-working on the increase, Gartner said it was important that technology privileges reflect genuine need to avoid security problems. A survey by Gartner found that 15 percent of businesses will have at least some workers using their own devices by the year-end. A Gartner vice president said it was crucial that the management of user-owned technology reflect the needs of staff carrying out day-to-day tasks, rather than simply the person's rank within the organization. Individual requirements of users in completing their work, weighed against the security risks they posed, ought to be the judging factors. "It is amazing how most companies focus on the technology they own and not on other devices and who is using them." One key area of risk being largely ignored was the technology being used by outsourced workers, in spite of the fact they were often handling sensitive data for the company they were serving. It was vital this technology was properly managed, Gartner said.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&articleId=9037879&intsrc=hm_list

38. *September 20, InfoWorld* – (National) **Paypal claims it is stemming the tide of phishers.** Paypal's security chief is not ready to claim a victory in the fight against phishing schemes, but he said that his company is slowly turning the tide using a set of new partnerships and technology. Along with its parent company eBay, online payment processor Paypal has long held the inauspicious title of the Web's most frequently spoofed phishing target. However, speaking to the audience gathered at the IDC Security Forum in New York yesterday, he highlighted a number of areas where he claims that the company is making progress. Combined with more comprehensive end-user education programs -- including new how-to instructional videos posted to YouTube that offer tips on spotting common phishing e-mails-- the security chief said that by partnering with large Internet service providers (ISPs) and Web mail services, Paypal is seeing immediate results. Over half of all the e-mail traveling over the Internet funnels through a half dozen of the world's most popular ISPs and Webmail systems, including AOL, Gmail, Hotmail and Yahoo, the chief information security officer (CISO) said, all of whom Paypal has partnered with. By using electronic signatures that the companies can scan to differentiate legitimate communications sent out by Paypal and eBay from all the counterfeit messages bearing the companies' names, he said, the partners are eliminating millions of phishing attempts before they ever reach end-users' in-boxes.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=security&articleId=9037919&taxonomyId=17&intsrc=kc_top

39. *September 20, Computerworld* – (National) **SEC subpoenas Jobs in Apple backdating case, report says.** The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) has subpoenaed Apple Inc. CEO Steve Jobs to give a deposition in the agency's stock-backdating case against the company's former general counsel, Bloomberg reported today. Jobs himself is not under investigation, sources said, but his testimony is wanted by the SEC for the lawsuit it filed against the attorney who left the company in May 2006, shortly before the SEC announced it was looking into option backdating at Apple. The accused was sued by the SEC in April for allegedly granting illegal backdated stock options to Jobs and other executives, then altering

company records to cover the deals. She is the only Apple executive still pursued by the SEC. Jobs was issued a 7.5 million share grant in 2001. He agreed to pay the SEC \$3.5 million to close his case.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&articleId=9037923&intsrc=hm_list

40. *September 19, Computerworld* – (National) **Report: VA's IT security still needs work.** The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs has made some progress since a May 2006 data breach, but it has not completed 20 of 22 recommendations from an internal auditor, according to a report released Wednesday. As of May, the VA had not yet addressed several “critical success factors” for transforming its IT management, the U.S. Government Accountability Office said in its report. The VA had only completed two of 22 recommendations from its inspector general following the breach, in which a laptop and hard drive containing personal records of 26.5 million veterans and family members were stolen from a VA employee's home. The VA also needs to improve its IT asset control, the GAO said, referencing a July report showing about 2,400 missing IT devices at four VA locations in 2005 and 2006. While the VA has “many significant initiatives under way,” problems persist, even in the programs meant to fix past problems, the GAO report said. The VA has not completed a comprehensive security management program, recommended by the GAO, and it has not strengthened its critical infrastructure planning process, which was recommended by its inspector general, the GAO said. The VA has encrypted more than 18,000 laptops since the breach, and it is rolling out software that blocks unauthorized data storage devices such as thumb drives from connecting to the VA's network, he said. The agency has also installed software that blocks VA employees from sending e-mail containing Social Security numbers, he said.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=security&articleId=9037740&taxonomyId=17&intsrc=kc_top

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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Communications Sector

41. *September 19, RCR Wireless News* – (National) **MetroPCS goes live in LA.** MetroPCS Communications Inc. rolled out service in the Los Angeles market today, pitching its flat-rate, unlimited plans to Angelinos. MetroPCS chairman and CEO said that the company's initial network coverage includes 11 million potential customers. Metro said it has 400 L.A.-area authorized dealers and six company-owned retail stores, and plans to expand its distribution to 20 company-owned stores in the greater Los Angeles area in the next two years. The service is

already available in the northern California cities of San Francisco and Sacramento.

Source: <http://www.rcrnews.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070919/FREE/70919006/1002>

42. *September 19, Computerworld* – (National) **RFID heading to cell phones.**

Researchers are exploring ways in which standard wireless devices could become radio frequency identification (RFID) readers and provide easy access to wide range of data. On Wednesday, presenters at RFID World in Boston focused on using second-generation active and passive RFID tags to provide advanced security and authentication, as well as ways to broaden the reach of the technology. One highlight was how the average wireless device could soon become an RFID reader, or perhaps a related radio-capable device for Near Field Communication, a short-distance radio technology to give a mobile user easy access to all kinds of data. One attendee said he was just starting early investigation into ways that fleet truck drivers could equip their standard cell phones to act as a kind of “speed pass” to quickly pay for fuel at a truck stop, similar to the Speedpass used at Mobil gas stations. Other attendees said they were dazzled by an MIT presentation Tuesday night that showed emerging technologies similar to RFID that would allow someone with diabetes to read his or her blood sugar level easily several times a day with a cell phone receiving data from a patch on the arm. The senior manager of supply chain technology at Boeing's Integrated Defense Systems said in an address that all the emerging wireless technologies are exciting, but warned IT managers to plan ways to prevent RF interference, especially in large companies with many wireless applications.

Source: http://www.infoworld.com/article/07/09/19/RFID-heading-to-cell-phones_1.html

43. *September 19, IDG News Service* – (National) **Sprint sees enterprise IT role in WiMax.**

Sprint Nextel plans to cooperate with enterprises on the rollout of its WiMax mobile broadband network, letting the customers install and own short-range base stations in their buildings with automatic roaming onto the carrier's WiMax network outside. The service, planned for a national rollout next year under the Xohm brand name, is designed to deliver Internet access at megabits per second on a standards-based technology that has been heavily promoted by Intel. For enterprises, it will be similar to Wi-Fi, only more secure and with easy roaming onto a carrier network that spans whole metropolitan areas, said a Sprint official. Sprint has sent out an RFP (request for proposals) for WiMax femtocells, or miniature base stations meant to serve a home or other small area, he confirmed. He expects large enterprises to buy and deploy femtocells for consistent coverage across their offices and campuses, maintaining control over them as they do with current Wi-Fi networks. Sprint will work with enterprises and building owners to provide roaming onto the carrier network from WiMax femtocells or, in some cases, indoor Wi-Fi networks, he said.

Source:

http://www.infoworld.com/article/07/09/19/Sprint-sees-enterprise-IT-role-in-WiMax_1.html

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Commercial Facilities Sector

44. *September 19, Associated Press* – (Tennessee) **Plane crashes in shopping center parking lot.**

A Beechcraft King Air twin turboprop airplane was preparing to land at Chattanooga Metropolitan Airport when it crashed about 2,000 feet from the runway into the lot of the

Brainerd Village Shopping Center around 8 p.m., authorities said. The plane careened off at least three cars before hitting a telephone pole. Bystanders helped pull the passengers from the plane. They were in various conditions at a hospital Wednesday night, but rescuers said the pilot appeared to be the most seriously injured. At least one of the cars the plane hit before clipping the pole had people in it, but they were not injured, officials said.

Source: http://www.cnn.com/2007/US/09/20/tenn.crash.ap/index.html?eref=rss_us

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National Monuments & Icons Sector

45. *September 19, The Journal News* – (New York) **Second star stolen from Yonkers' Gold Star Mothers Monument.** For the second time this month the Gold Star Mothers Monument in Yonkers, New York was vandalized by thieves stealing a second gold star. The initial theft was not reported to the police. Replacement stars have been ordered.

Source:

<http://www.nynews.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070919/NEWS02/709190471>

46. *September 19, United Press International* – (Minnesota) **Six charged with terrorizing campers.** Five men and a teenager were charged with multiple offenses for allegedly terrorizing campers in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness in northern Minnesota. The charges include: “terroristic threats, aggravated harassment, criminal damage to property, reckless discharge of firearms, underage possession of firearms and underage alcohol consumption.” Federal investigators and Canadian authorities may still file charges.

Source:

http://www.upi.com/NewsTrack/Top_News/2007/09/19/six_charged_with_terrorizing_campers/7712/

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Dams Sector

47. *September 20, Journal Gazette* – (Indiana) **City rejects levee bids, looks for cheaper plan.** A project to protect southwest Fort Wayne from flooding will be delayed, as all bids were rejected by the Board of Public Works on Wednesday for being too high. The proposals called for “about 1,800 feet of earthen levees and 4,000 feet of flood walls to protect about 120 homes.” The project will be put up for re-bidding, with new proposals due at the end of October. The project itself should be completed next year.

Source:

<http://www.journalgazette.net/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070920/LOCAL/709200306/1002/LOCAL>

48. *September 20, The Argus* – (California) **Review calls delta levee assessment fatally flawed.** A panel of scientists announced that a recent assessment of levees in the Sacramento Delta by California’s Department of Water Resources (DWR) was “so flawed that its conclusions are essentially useless.” The Delta Risk Management Strategy was a two-part, \$10 million study meant to assess the vulnerabilities of the levees, the impact of flooding, and solutions to the

problems identified with the levees and flooding. Many think that the DWR is interested in constructing a canal around the delta, but officials deny the report was skewed in any direction. The report was to form part of a “Delta vision” plan ordered by the governor and due in November. Options under consideration, in addition to a canal, include: “reducing the state's reliance on the Delta for water and an innovative idea that couples continued delivery through the Delta with a smaller aqueduct around it.”

Source: http://www.insidebayarea.com/argus/localnews/ci_6946190

49. *September 19, Nola.com* – (Louisiana) **Weather brewing off Florida has N.O. region wary.** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the local governments are preparing for the possibility of the current weather off the Florida coast strengthening and moving towards the New Orleans area. In the areas protected by the levees, informal exercises were conducted, to ensure proper communication between the various agencies and departments. Many flood prevention projects remain only partially completed. For instance, “a contractor is only midway through an emergency project to build a storm gate south of the troubled floodwalls.” The 6,000 residents living in FEMA trailers have been told to prepare to move to more stable shelters. Officials continue to monitor the weather and final the decision to close the new floodgates will be made by president of the West Bank levee board. If measures are taken, it will be the first test of the interim system. Officials downplayed the likelihood of the weather developing further, but emphasized that preparation and caution are imperative.

Source:

http://www.nola.com/hurricane/index.ssf/2007/09/weather_brewing_off_florida_ha.html

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