



Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 9 May 2008

Current Nationwide Threat Level is

ELEVATED
SIGNIFICANT RISK OF TERRORIST ATTACKS

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- The New York Daily News reports the Queens Borough President warned that an Amtrak bridge over the busy intersection in Woodside, New York, has severe cracks in its concrete exterior, posing a significant danger to pedestrians and motorists. (See item [11](#))
- According to the St. Petersburg Times, on Wednesday, a man walked into a St. Petersburg, Florida, courthouse and opened fire on two bailiffs. When the shooting ended, one bailiff was injured, and the shooter was dead. (See item [33](#))

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; Postal and Shipping; Information Technology; Communications; Commercial Facilities](#)

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

Federal and State: [Government Facilities; Emergency Services; National Monuments and Icons](#)

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 8, KVUE 24 Austin* – (Texas) **Giant sinkhole near tiny Texas town growing.** A monster sinkhole continues to grow and is causing serious concern in the Liberty County town of Daisetta, Texas. What started as some big cracks in the road Wednesday morning grew to a huge hole by the afternoon. The long crater appeared to be about as wide as two football fields and ten stories deep. It is partially filled with a black liquid believed to be oil or oilfield sludge. The hole gobbled up an 18-wheeler, a drilling platform, and other oil field equipment. Crews worked feverishly to pump hundreds of barrels of oil out of storage tanks before they fell in. Utility crews had to cut a power line because the poles were falling into the sinkhole. Emergency crews from the Daisetta Fire Department were on the scene trying to figure out how to stop the sinkhole from growing. The Houston Fire Department sent its HazMat unit to help out. Experts from

the Texas Railroad Commission, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality were also on the scene. Experts believe the ground collapsed because of an old salt dome where oil brine and natural gas are stored underground.

Source: <http://www.kvue.com/news/top/stories/050808kvuelibertysinkhole-eh.ddae9194.html>

2. *May 8, Hess Corporation* – (International) **Exxon lifts force majeure.** ExxonMobil has lifted the force majeure that has been in place on production from Nigeria, officials have confirmed. According to Dow Jones Newswires, a senior petroleum official from the country confirmed that the force majeure has been lifted. He added that output from Nigeria should reach 2.2 million barrels within the next couple of weeks. Other firms working in Nigeria include Royal Dutch Shell and Chevron, among others. Production from the country for Shell remains lower than normal following attacks on the firm's facilities.

Source: <http://www.hessenergy.com/common/NewsItem.aspx?ArticleId=18584542>

3. *May 6, Business Week* – (National) **Overseas utilities look to the U.S.** From Britain to Germany to Portugal, big producers and distributors of gas and electricity are looking for growth by expanding out of their home markets. One of the greatest opportunities lies across the Atlantic, in the huge and fragmented U.S. utilities market, where there are still about 60 separate operators ranging in size from rural collectives to giants like Pacific Gas & Electric. "The U.S. is the most opportune place for European players to expand," says a partner in the U.S. Power and Transaction practice of PricewaterhouseCoopers. Portugal's Energias de Portugal, for example, paid \$2.3 billion in May 2007 for Houston-based Horizon Wind Energy, and Germany's E.ON forked out \$1.4 billion in October 2007 for the North American operations of Irish renewable company Airtricity. Britain's National Grid – the second-largest player in the U.S. by number of customers, and the largest company in the Northeast in both electricity and gas transmission – is on the lookout for further acquisitions. The company wants to increase its footprint in the U.S. by 25 percent over the next four years through organic growth.

Source:

http://www.businessweek.com/globalbiz/content/may2008/gb2008056_186032.htm

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Chemical Industry Sector

Nothing to Report

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector

4. *May 8, Boston Globe* – (Massachusetts) **State wants radiation tests at waste site in Weymouth.** State officials have decided that the 68-acre Weymouth Neck,

Massachusetts, hazardous waste site should be tested for radiation contamination. In an April 24 letter to ConocoPhillips, a state environmental official told the company to prepare a plan to screen the site for the presence of radionuclides, produced by the fertilizer factory that operated on the site for 100 years. A spokesman for ConocoPhillips said the company would comply with the state's request to test for elevated radiation levels. A site manager said workers would go over the grounds with radioactive detection devices to conduct a gamma ray survey and also measure inside buildings for elevated radon levels, beginning in early June.

Source:

http://www.boston.com/news/local/articles/2008/05/08/state_wants_radiation_tests_at_waste_site_in_weymouth/?page=1

5. *May 8, Rutland Herald* – (Vermont) **Vermont governor vetoes decommissioning fund.** The governor of Vermont rejected a bill Wednesday that would have required the owners of Vermont Yankee nuclear plant to put up money or guarantees to ensure there would be enough money to dismantle the plant when it stops operating. Under the bill, S.373, enough money or other financial guarantees would have to be put in a trust fund for decommissioning before the plant could be included in a corporate restructuring. Supporters of the bill worry that the proposed restructuring will mean the cost of decommissioning the plant will not be paid by Entergy, the company that now owns the Vernon facility. There is about \$425 million in the decommissioning fund, and it would cost nearly \$900 million to dismantle the plant, according to the administration. Entergy officials have said that if the fund does not grow fast enough to cover the cost by the time the site stops making power – perhaps as soon as 2012 when the current operating license expires – they will mothball the plant until the fund catches up to the cost. There is a federal 60-year limit on the “Safestor” procedure.

Source:

<http://www.rutlandherald.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080508/NEWS04/805080407>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

6. *May 8, Defense News* – (National) **Wargames to assess tac air needs, industry.** The U.S. Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics has asked defense companies to participate in a “wargame” in July to gauge the defense industry’s ability to respond to operational needs in 2010 to 2020 for tactical aircraft, according to a request for information sent to companies from the Pentagon. The wargame is set for late July, according to the document. That will follow an initial government-only wargame from June 10-13, in which government will assess tactical aircraft operational needs versus projected force structure and budgets.

Source: <http://www.defensenews.com/story.php?i=3517134&c=AME&s=AIR>

7. *May 8, Associated Press* – (National) **3 cockpits found on NJ property.** Navy officials are trying to determine how three jetfighter cockpits ended up in private hands in Middletown, New Jersey. Officials loaded the cockpits from two F-14s and an F-18 on a

truck and took them back to Weapons Station Earle on Monday. Investigators did not say who had them or know why they did not go through the normal demilitarization process in which they are converted to simulators or sold for scrap. A special agent of the Naval Criminal Investigative Service said the cockpits no longer contained weapons control systems or other sensitive material.

Source: http://www.navytimes.com/news/2008/05/ap_cockpits_050608/

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Banking and Finance Sector

8. *May 8, Elizabethton Star* – (Tennessee) **Two area financial institutions targets of phishing scam.** Authorities and bank officials estimate more than 100 Carter County, Tennessee residents were contacted last week by e-mail and telephone by persons claiming to be from both the Elizabethton Federal Savings Bank and the Happy Valley Credit Union. The e-mails were sent out last week with a bogus message from the Elizabethton Federal Savings Bank. The message tells recipients they have been selected to take a membership satisfaction survey and will have \$299.99 deposited to their accounts if they fill out the “quick and easy nine question survey.” Once the survey is completed, the Web site asks for a 16-digit debit card number and expiration date so the promised money can be deposited into their account. According to Elizabethton Federal, this offer is too good to be true, and is really a phishing scam to trick people into divulging personal banking information. The other scam involves a pre-recorded telephone message claiming to be from the Happy Valley Credit Union informing customers their accounts have been suspended. To reactivate their accounts, the message instructs them to enter their debit card number and their personal identification number.
Source: <http://www.starhq.com/html/news/articles/articles.asp?day=Wednesday&article=nwelizfedscam0502.html>
9. *May 8, vnunet.com* – (National) **Cyber-crooks bank on free phishing kits.** Security experts have discovered free phishing kits on the internet which allow cyber-crooks to send fraudulent emails. Panda Security’s PandaLabs said that the tools allow cyber-crooks to spoof bank pages, online pay platforms, Gmail and Yahoo Mail accounts, online games and blogs. After accessing a URL that contains the kits, the criminal can obtain two files to create a fraudulent mail. One file allows them to spoof emails from banks and pay platforms, and the other allows them to create a fraudulent page that resembles the original. The kit also includes a free PHP program to send emails from the spoofed page. The rest of the process is similar to other phishing attacks. The false email is sent to several mail addresses with a link to a malicious page at which users are requested to enter personal data such as email addresses and banking passwords.
Source: <http://www.vnunet.com/vnunet/news/2216180/cyber-crooks-free-phishing>
10. *May 8, Cnet.com* – (National) **Blog: IRS Web site opens door to phishers.** A new IRS Web site that allows taxpayers to check on the status of their refund checks could lead to users being phished. The new “Where’s my stimulus payment?” site asks taxpayers to enter in their Social Security number, and a few other trivial bits of information before

informing the user of the amount of their refund, and the date it will be sent out. While no doubt useful, the Web site could encourage dangerous behavior by users, according to one blogger. Furthermore, in the hands of someone who knows the last four digits of a taxpayer's Social Security number, it could be used as an oracle (by submitting multiple requests) to determine the full SSN of a taxpayer. The IRS is frequently mimicked by phishers. The agency even goes so far as to offer advice on its site, debunking many common phishing attacks. Furthermore, agency has shut down more than 1,600 phishing sites claiming to be the IRS in the past few years.

Source: http://www.cnet.com/8301-13739_1-9938919-46.html?part=rss&subj=news&tag=2547-1_3-0-5

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Transportation Sector

11. *May 8, New York Daily News* – (News York) **Queens official warns of dangerous bridge.** An Amtrak bridge over the busy intersection in Woodside, New York, has severe cracks in its concrete exterior -- posing a significant danger to pedestrians and motorists, a top elected official warned. The Queens Borough President, who has demanded an immediate response from Amtrak, said the bridge's exterior has deteriorated to the point where chunks of concrete have fallen off. "This is a very dangerous situation," he said, adding that Northern Blvd. and Broadway are two of the borough's most heavily trafficked roadways. The official wrote to Amtrak on Tuesday, imploring the agency to repair the deteriorating bridge before tragedy strikes. The concrete exterior -- which shields structural members from the elements -- was fraught with fissures from end to end, he said. There were numerous gaping holes, as well as exposed sections of steel. In at least two spots, entire sections of concrete were missing from semicircular braces known as spandrels.
Source: http://www.nydailynews.com/ny_local/queens/2008/05/08/2008-05-08_marshall_warns_of_dangerous_bridge.html

12. *May 8, Associated Press* – (Texas) **Huge sinkhole swallows up oil field equipment, vehicles in southeast Texas.** Regulators continued monitoring a massive sinkhole which has swallowed up oil field equipment, poles and some vehicles since surfacing just outside the southeast Texas community of Daisetta. Investigators with the Texas Railroad Commission were checking pipelines in the area and trying to determine if any regulations have been violated, said an agency spokeswoman. Sunoco, which manufactures petroleum and petrochemical products, secured two 6-inch crude oil pipelines near the sinkhole that had started to leak Wednesday, said a hazardous materials coordinator for Liberty County. Farm-to-Market Road 770 was closed to traffic and vehicles were being diverted to FM 834 over concerns the pit could spread to the roadway. Officials are trying to determine what prompted the sinkhole near the Liberty County community.
Source:
<http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/dws/news/texasouthwest/stories/050908dntexsinkhole.ddc30580.html>

13. *May 8, Star Tribune* – (North Dakota) **NWA flight makes emergency landing in Fargo.** A Northwest Airlines flight from Minneapolis-St. Paul to Regina, Saskatchewan, made an emergency landing in Fargo, North Dakota, early Thursday morning after a fire was reported in a bathroom, said a Northwest spokesman. None of the 69 passengers was injured when flight 2040 landed without incident at Hector Field, the official said. Source: <http://www.startribune.com/local/18760374.html>

14. *May 8, Star-Telegram* – (National) **Plane from DFW flew on to Paris after panel fell off.** American Airlines is investigating an incident last month in which a panel fell off the fuselage of a Boeing 767 airplane during a flight from Dallas/Fort Worth Airport to Paris, France. Airline officials said that passengers were never in danger during the April 20 incident, which occurred just a week after American grounded its fleet of MD-80 jets for inspections. And they said pilots made the right decision to continue flying to Paris after hearing loud noises and vibration when the panel dislodged. The first sign of trouble came when the crew heard a loud noise and felt vibrations after takeoff, when the aircraft was at about 10,000 feet, according to a memo the airline sent to pilots Wednesday. After finding no problems with the jet, the pilot concluded that it might have been cargo shifting in the belly of the plane. The airplane landed safely at Charles de Gaulle Airport in Paris, where mechanics discovered that a small access panel covering the air-conditioning system had fallen off the bottom side of the jet's fuselage. Source: <http://www.star-telegram.com/804/story/629997.html>

15. *May 8, Autopia* – (National) **The airplane air might be heavy on the ozone.** According to a University of California study, ozone levels inside the cabins of some commercial aircraft exceed federal limits, increasing the chance of health problems. Exposure to in-cabin ozone is linked to a variety of health symptoms including breathing discomfort, headache, and respiratory irritation. Chronic exposure and physical activity (flight attendants) can magnify the impact. The University of California study took place between 2006 and 2007, and involved 76 commercial jets flying both domestic and international routes. The FAA sponsored the project, but they are neither rejecting nor endorsing the research, saying that at this point it exists only for scientific review. Source: <http://blog.wired.com/cars/2008/05/study-finds-ill.html>

16. *May 7, Associated Press* – (Missouri) **Man breaches security at St. Louis Airport.** Authorities at Lambert Airport, St. Louis, are tightening safety procedures after a man breached security at the airport Tuesday night and fell asleep in an empty airplane. KSDK News reported that the man was discovered asleep in an empty jet around 6:40 a.m. Wednesday. The plane was not in service and security officers found the man during a routine security check. Investigators with the Lambert Police Department said the suspect got onto the airfield through a security checkpoint while guards were searching vehicles to enter the airfield. Source: <http://www.kmbc.com/news/16193854/detail.html>

17. *May 7, Willits News* – (California) **Possible bomb found north of Willits.** A California Transportation crew inspecting a bridge on Highway 101 north of Willits discovered a suspicious looking shoebox-sized package that did not belong there. Concerned it might

be an explosive device, they contacted authorities. A command post was established at the rest stop south of the Highway 162 exit where members of the California Highway Patrol (CHP), CalTrans and CalFire gathered to await the bomb unit. The CHP shut down the highway at 12:50 p.m. once the bomb squad had set up and deployed the robotic unit. The suspected explosive device had been cordoned off while awaiting the bomb squad. The highway was reopened about a half hour later. As of press time no details were available about the nature of the suspected device or what specifically the bomb disposal unit did to remove it.

Source: http://www.willitsnews.com/ci_9182418

18. *May 7, Media-NewsWire* – (National) **TSA launches employee screening pilot programs at seven airports.** The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) launched Wednesday 90-day employee screening pilots at seven airports as a requirement of the Omnibus Appropriations Act passed by Congress in January 2008. The legislation mandates examination of several types of employee screening in order to determine ways to enhance aviation security. For example, at Boston's Logan International Airport there are 100 percent physical employee and vehicle screening at key airport perimeter entrances and select employee entrances from the public area to the secured/SIDA area. These airports were selected from more than 100 that expressed interest in participating in the pilots because of their diverse flight operations, passengers and physical layouts.

Source: http://media-newsWire.com/release_1066064.html

19. *May 6, Agence France-Presse* – (International) **Visa policy changed ahead of Olympics.** China has admitted for the first time that it has introduced more stringent visa requirements to ensure a "safe environment", only months before Beijing is to host the 2008 Olympic Games. According to Hong Kong travel agents, China stopped issuing multiple-entry visas and now insists on both hotel and transport receipts before they will grant permission for business travelers or tourists to enter the country. The new regulations began at the start of April and were set to continue until October, after the summer Olympics close, they said. According to the travel agents, visitors from 33 countries - including India, the Philippines and Indonesia - are also no longer allowed to apply for China visas in Hong Kong and have to apply at their local Chinese embassies. The move has sparked concern among business leaders, who said it could damage investment in China. Several nations, including Britain and Australia, have urged Beijing to clarify the change in policy.

Source: <http://www.news.com.au/story/0,23599,23657593-23109,00.html>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

20. *May 7, WFMZ 69 Allentown* – (Pennsylvania) **Plant receives bomb threats from U.K., evacuated.** A number of bomb threats from overseas forced the evacuation of a manufacturing plant in Berks County, Pennsylvania, Wednesday morning. Police were called to the KIWI plant in Amity Township around 7:15. Police say there were several threatening notes found inside packages shipped from the United Kingdom. They say

some of the notes stated, “There is a bomb inside one of these packages” and quoted profanities toward Americans. The building’s workers were evacuated while a bomb-sniffing dog checked for any evidence of explosives. Nothing was found.

Source: <http://wfmz.com/view/?id=263507>

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Agriculture and Food Sector

21. *May 8, Associated Press* – (International) **South Korea may demand revision of US beef import pact.** South Korea said Thursday it may demand a revision of a beef import agreement with the U.S. as the government struggled to quell widespread perceptions that American beef is unsafe. The agreement, struck last month, has been widely criticized as making too many concessions to the U.S. because it scrapped nearly all the quarantine regulations Seoul imposed earlier to guard against mad cow disease. Seoul suspended imports of U.S. beef after the first U.S. case of mad cow disease appeared in December 2003. It resumed limited imports in April 2007, but put them on hold again in October when a shipment arrived containing banned animal parts.

Source:

http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5gliEd1Bi_qB68ysYSDK2b_vze2ygD90HBOS00

22. *May 7, Canadian Press* – (National) **Humane Society of U.S. releases new video of mistreated livestock.** The Humane Society of the United States released video footage Wednesday of sick and injured livestock the group says were mistreated at auction sites and stockyards where cattle are sold for slaughter. The group released videos shot during April and May showing downed cows abandoned for hours at facilities in Maryland, New Mexico, Pennsylvania, and Texas. A video was posted on the group’s website. Downed cattle may pose a higher risk of contamination from E. coli, salmonella, or mad cow disease. The Human Society’s president and chief executive said there is no indication the downed cows his group filmed entered the food supply. But he added that the videos point out that auction sites fall between regulatory cracks, raising concern that a downed cow could potentially leave a facility and enter the food supply.

Source:

http://canadianpress.google.com/article/ALeqM5ipif3_gXuaOd6nc91uQMUIy9yvJA

23. *May 7, Packer* – (Hawaii) **USDA ruling gives new life to Hawaii’s shippers.** The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Animal Plant and Health Inspection Service has amended Hawaiian fruit regulations to allow mangosteen, dragon fruit, melon, pods of cowpea, breadfruit, jackfruit, and fresh moringa pods to be shipped to the continental U.S. if they are irradiated. The final ruling went into effect when it was published May 6 in the Federal Register. The USDA approved irradiated mangoes from India in 2006, and the agency cleared irradiated mangosteens from Thailand last year. The USDA has said those countries were approved sooner than Hawaii because the state is using a lower dose of irradiation to mitigate pest and disease issues.

Source: <http://thepacker.com/icms/ dtaa2/content/wrapper.asp?alink=2008-13257-859.asp&stye=topnews&fb=>

Water Sector

24. *May 8, New York Times* – (National) **Oil giants to settle water suit.** Some of the nation’s largest oil companies have agreed to pay about \$423 million in cash to settle a lawsuit brought by more than a hundred public water providers, claiming water contamination from a popular gasoline additive. In the lawsuit, the plaintiffs – which include 153 public water systems in New York, California, and 15 other states – claimed that the additive, a chemical called methyl tertiary butyl ether (M.T.B.E.), was a defective product that led to widespread contamination of groundwater. The suit contended that the chemical was used by oil companies, even though they knew of the environmental and health risks that it posed. Low levels of M.T.B.E. can make drinking water supplies unpalatable because of its “offensive taste and odor,” according to the Environmental Protection Agency. The agency has also found that the compound caused cancer in laboratory rats that were exposed to high doses. Since the mid-1990s, hundreds of lawsuits have been brought against oil companies for their use of the chemical. This deal, if approved, would be the largest settlement to date.

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2008/05/08/business/08oil.html?ref=us>

25. *May 7, New Hampshire Union Leader* – (New Hampshire) **Firefighters contain unknown substance in Gilmanton pond.** Firefighters in Gilmanton, New Hampshire, were waiting for help from state environmental officials Tuesday night after containing an unknown substance that had been spilling from an abandoned tanker truck, authorities said. The truck was discovered about 8:30 p.m. and was threatening to contaminate Rocky Pond, according to emergency dispatchers. The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (DES) was called to the scene. The DES has the authority to order an environmental cleanup. As of 9 p.m., the crews had not been able to determine the substance. At that point, it did not appear to pose a danger to the emergency response workers. The material was flowing from the rear discharge valves of the tanker truck, he said. The truck appeared abandoned and had probably been at the side of the road since the later part of the afternoon.

Source:

<http://www.unionleader.com/article.aspx?headline=Firefighters+contain+unknown+substance+in+Gilmanton+pond&articleId=588b5f33-fe2b-413d-8b9f-f5ae86888808>

26. *May 7, Grand Rapids Press* – (Michigan) **Fluoride pioneer Grand Rapids rethinks safety of putting chemical in water.** Grand Rapids, Michigan, has been fluoridating its tap water since 1945, but now some city officials say they are studying the question because of increased concerns over the potential long-term effects of exposure to what some consider a toxic chemical. The city’s director of sustainability said officials are working with scientists at Grand Valley State University and other water quality specialists to determine whether to continue adding fluoride to the city’s water supply. The mayor, who cites fluoridation when he boasts of Grand Rapids’ progressive history, said he will need to be convinced. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention calls fluoridation safe and effective for preventing tooth decay and identified the process as

one of the ten great health advancements of the twentieth century. Opponents of fluoridation have said the chemical can be toxic, and some evidence shows it might cause weak bones, thyroid problems, bone cancer, and other problems. Malfunctioning fluoridation systems in some cities have poisoned residents, they contend. Grand Rapids became the first community in the world to utilize the process in an effort to improve dental health in 1945. Today, the city's system provides fluoridated water to the city and 11 other suburban communities.

Source:

http://www.mlive.com/environment/index.ssf/2008/05/fluoride_pioneer_grand_rapids.html

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

27. *May 8, WETM 18 Elmira* – (New York) **Local nursing shortage.** The Healthcare Association of New York State surveyed more than 125 hospitals state-wide and found that the vacancy rate is close to nine percent, up from around six percent in 2006. According to a study, local hospitals are having difficulties recruiting and retaining qualified nurses.
Source: http://www.wetmtv.com/news/local/story.aspx?content_id=c25953bd-267e-480c-9d88-6d612e92d316
28. *May 8, Agence France-Presse* – (International) **China virus death toll hits 30 as outbreak spreads.** The number of children confirmed to have died as a result of a highly contagious virus in China rose to 30 on Thursday as the outbreak spread to yet another province, state media said. Two children in the southern island province of Hainan died of hand, foot, and mouth disease, boosting the total, Xinhua news agency reported. Xinhua did not say when the deaths occurred, but it appeared to be the first report in Hainan of the intestinal ailment enterovirus 71, which can lead to hand, foot, and mouth disease. State media said Wednesday that the number of cases of hand, foot, and mouth had soared to nearly 17,000 nationwide. The latest Xinhua report did not give an updated national figure. Hand, foot, and mouth is a common ailment in China, but cases have expanded at such an alarming rate this season that the government has issued a national alert aimed at controlling its spread. State media on Wednesday warned of a “mass outbreak” of the disease, which has also spread to Beijing.
Source: <http://www.abs-cbnnews.com/storypage.aspx?StoryId=117623>
29. *May 7, Woburn Advocate* – (Massachusetts) **Kids' vitamins tampered with, officials charge.** A Woburn, Massachusetts, woman was charged Tuesday in federal court with one count of tampering with a consumer product with intent to cause serious injury to a business after she filled Flintstone vitamins containers with candy and returned them to a variety of stores where she purchased them. Officials at the U.S. District Attorney's office said they believe the incidents were isolated and that there is no evidence that any child was harmed as a result of the woman's actions.
Source: <http://www.wickedlocal.com/woburn/news/x299933214/Kids-vitamins-tampered-with-officials-charge>

30. *May 7, Dow Jones Newswire* – (National) **Medtronic recalls some heparin-coated surgical products.** Medtronic Inc. is voluntarily recalling disposable products used during heart surgery because of concerns about a coating of contaminated heparin, the company said Wednesday. Heparin is a blood thinner widely used during heart surgery to ward off blood clots, both as an injectable drug and as a coating on surgical tools. Heparin's maker Baxter International Inc. recalled the drug earlier this year due to cases of serious allergic reactions and some deaths. Medtronic said that "limited lots" of tools it makes, such as blood oxygenators, pumps, and tubing packs, were produced with a type of contaminated heparin. The recall is relatively small in scope, involving fewer than 400 units. The company said it has not received any reports of adverse events related to its products.

Source:

http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/djf500/200805071918DOWJONESDJONLINE001169_FORTUNE5.htm

31. *May 6, St Louis Business Journal* – (National) **Cardinal Health recalling mouthwash distributed to hospitals.** Cardinal Health Inc., a Dublin, the parent company of Medicine Shoppe International Inc., is recalling an alcohol-free mouthwash it marketed to hospitals and medical centers after the product tested positive for Burkholderia cepacia, a bacteria that poses little risk to healthy people, but can lead to respiratory infections, particularly for those with weakened immune systems or chronic lung diseases. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has confirmed the mouthwash has been associated with hospital illnesses.

Source: <http://www.bizjournals.com/stlouis/stories/2008/05/05/daily26.html>

Government Facilities Sector

32. *May 8, WHAM 13 Rochester* – (New York) **911 dispatcher arrested for accessing web sites with terrorist info.** A 911 dispatcher has been arrested for using computers at work to access secure government Web sites containing information about suspected terrorists. Now, the Federal Bureau of Investigation wants to know what she did with that sensitive information. Agents would not comment other than to say it is part of a larger investigation. Police allege the dispatcher accessed a terrorist watch list for personal reasons. Officials tracked her movements between January 2006 and December 2007 and say she visited that site at least 232 times.

Source: http://www.13wham.com/news/local/story.aspx?content_id=ee08b3c5-5835-4049-a7a6-861a34a16d43

33. *May 7, St. Petersburg Times* – (Florida) **Gunman's motive remains unclear.** On Wednesday afternoon, a man walked into the county courthouse in downtown St. Petersburg, Florida, pulled a gun out of his backpack, and opened fire on two bailiffs. When the shooting ended, one bailiff was injured, the shooter was dead, and the courthouse disintegrated into pandemonium and terror. When the shooter approached the security checkpoint, bailiffs asked him to take off his backpack, put it through the X-

ray scanner, and go through the metal detector. Instead, he pulled out a semiautomatic handgun and opened fire, the Sheriff's Office said. The courthouse was closed after the shooting but is expected to reopen this morning. A Sheriff's Office bomb dog team was called to the courthouse to check the shooter's backpack, as well as his white 1998 Dodge pickup. No explosives were found, but the Sheriff's Office says he carried at least one additional magazine of ammunition for his handgun. The Sheriff's Office continues to investigate.

Source: <http://www.tampabay.com/news/publicsafety/crime/article493095.ece>

34. *May 7, KPHO 5 Phoenix* – (Arizona) **Suspicious crate given all-clear.** The Pinal Airpark near Marana, Arizona, was evacuated Wednesday afternoon after a foul odor was detected coming from a military crate from overseas, officials said. The 30 foot by ten foot crate was supposed to just have military equipment inside. But when Arizona's Army National Guard opened it up, they smelled what they thought was a pesticide. It happened at the Army National Guard helibase where they keep their military helicopters. The helibase was evacuated, but other businesses at the air park remained open. When the crate was finally opened, nothing out of the ordinary was discovered.

Source: <http://www.kpho.com/news/16193702/detail.html>

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Emergency Services Sector

35. *May 8, Aiken Standard* – (South Carolina) **Hazmat acquires emergency tool.** Local hazmat crews in Aiken, South Carolina, have acquired an Ahura device, a handheld identification instrument that shoots a laser into a solid or liquid chemical and reads its components. Aiken is one of only four areas in the state with the tool. The hazmat teams' volunteer captain estimated that millions of gallons of chemicals pass through Aiken County each day. Knowing the type of chemical spilled can help hazmat crews neutralize it with the proper chemical.

Source: <http://www.aikenstandard.com/0508hazmat>

36. *May 8, Lakewood Ranch Herald* – (Florida) **MTI trains responders for the worst.** Over 30 emergency professionals were taking part in a two-day course on emergency response to terrorism taught by professors of the University of Miami's Gordon Center for Research in Medical Education at Manatee Technical Institute's east campus in Bradenton, Florida, on Wednesday. The team of instructors travels the state and southeastern U.S. training emergency personnel to deal with acts of terrorism.

Source: <http://www.bradenton.com/lwrherald/story/590517.html>

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Information Technology

37. *May 8, Computerworld Australia* – (International) **Parasitic botnet spams 60 billion a day.** The Srizbi botnet has stormed over its competition to become the Internet's biggest spammer. Researchers claim the botnet is responsible for 50 percent of all spam, and is

the biggest of its kind in history. Its 300,000 zombie computers are being worked hard. The much larger Storm Worm required about 500,000 nodes – with some figures even suggesting anywhere between 1 million to 50 million – to deliver 30 percent of global spam. The director at the U.S. consultancy Secure Works, said the Srizbi Trojan is the biggest botnet in history and the most powerful. He said Srizbi, aka “Cbeplay” and “Exchanger,” can blast out 60 billion messages a day. Storm is now in a tea cup after its spam output was cut down to a mere two percent, due to widespread media coverage which kicked off a race by security vendors to squash the threat. Trojan.Srizbi is one of the first full-kernel pieces of malware, according to Symantec. It hides itself as a rootkit and operates completely within the kernel, without any interaction in user mode. The Trojan is rumored to contain code capable of uninstalling competing rootkits. The Rustock botnet has taken the second spot as the most notorious spammer, Mega-D third, followed by Hacktool.Spammer, Pushdo, and Storm. One company estimates about 15 percent of spam is from other sources. Srizbi has been documented selling watches, pens, and of course Viagra.

Source: http://www.infoworld.com/article/08/05/08/Parasitic-botnet-spams-60-billion-a-day_1.html

38. *May 8, Techworld* – (International) **Belgium accuses China of cyberattacks.** It is not just the U.S. and U.K. who are crying foul over China’s behavior in cyberspace – now the government of tiny Belgium has accused hackers from the country of targeting its systems. Belgium’s justice minister is reported to have claimed that their federal government had been targeted by Chinese hackers, backing up a separate statement by Belgium’s foreign affairs minister that his ministry had been hit by espionage in recent weeks. In both cases, the Belgians appear certain that the culprits were Chinese and that Beijing authorities must know something about events, although no evidence has been offered to back up these allegations. The precise nature of the attacks has not been explained either. If the accusation is justified, it is starting to look as if Chinese-originated cyberattacks have spread well beyond the obvious Western targets. The Chinese have been implicated in acts of cyber espionage in the last couple of years, including various alleged assaults on U.S. military systems in 2006 and 2007. As recently as last September, a “leaked” report blamed the Chinese for a similar attack on the Pentagon.

Source: http://www.infoworld.com/article/08/05/08/Belgium-accuses-China-of-cyberattacks_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: <http://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

39. *May 7, Associated Press* – (National) **Comcast mulling Net usage cap to discourage 'excessive' use.** Comcast Corp., the nation's second-largest Internet service provider, is considering setting an official limit on the amount of data that subscribers can download per month and charging a fee for those who go over. As more consumers download movies and music online, Internet service providers have to grapple with how to manage their traffic so that bandwidth hogs do not slow down the network for the lighter users among the company's 14.1 million subscribers. For years, Comcast directly called customers who used up several times more bandwidth than the typical subscriber's 2 gigabytes per month. The big users were asked to reduce their use or have their accounts canceled. Some Comcast customers have griped that the company has not been more forthcoming about the bandwidth ceiling at which they would get a call. Comcast's shift aims to improve transparency. Comcast and other ISPs, however, may be acting too late to change consumer behavior, said the research vice president at Gartner Inc. "Once you're on an unlimited plan, it's hard to go back," he said. "On the wireline side, it's almost an inalienable right to use as much bandwidth as you want for a set price." A report that Comcast was considering limits on monthly use appeared in the online tech forum BroadbandReports.com and was confirmed Wednesday by the company.

Source:

http://news.wired.com/dynamic/stories/C/COMCAST_INTERNET_CAP?SITE=WIRE&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT&CTIME=2008-05-07-17-42-22

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Commercial Facilities Sector

40. *May 8, Miami Herald* – (National) **FDLE unveils terror-alert system for businesses.** Businesses will be able to get real-time domestic terrorism alerts through a new electronic messaging system announced Wednesday by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE). The system, named BusinessSafe, will allow participating businesses to get e-mail and text-message alerts about emergencies or suspicious activities reported to the state. A bomb threat or other security threat to a mall, for instance, would be sent to stores in that mall. Or, flight schools could be alerted about customers who are requesting curious pilot training. The FDLE Regional Director encouraged businesses to sign up for the new system at www.fdle.state.fl.us. Also at that website, businesses can send in tips and report suspicious activities via an e-mail link. The information will go to an FDLE analyst for review, he said. The FDLE is partnering with the state's regional domestic-security task forces, as well as the state's Department of Business and Professional Regulation and Department of State.

Source: http://www.miamiherald.com/news/miami_dade/story/525255.html

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National Monuments & Icons Sector

41. *May 8, Orlando Sentinel* – (Florida) **Bomb drop sparks fire in Ocala forest.** U.S. Forest Service firefighters on Wednesday battled a fire in the forest caused by a bomb dropped onto the Pinecastle Bombing Range. Firefighters said the fire may have spread to 1,200 acres by the time they finished conducting controlled burns to contain the blaze, according to a Forest Service spokesperson.
Source: http://www.orlandosentinel.com/services/newspaper/printedition/thursday/lake/orl-briefs08_108may08,0,4612776.story

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Dams Sector

42. *May 8, Times-Picayune* – (Louisiana) **Corps calls East Jeff levees safe.** In Louisiana, the levees that border Lake Pontchartrain in East Jefferson are not in danger of failing during a major storm, a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers spokesman told the Jefferson Parish Council on Wednesday. However, the Corps still is spending millions of dollars to make them strong enough to withstand a 100-year storm, the long-term goal of the Corps in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. “The existing levees and floodwalls may not meet all these criteria, but that does not mean they are in danger of a failure,” the Corps project manager said. “It simply means that we are continuing to improve the reliability of the system as we move forward to providing 100-year protection.”
Source: <http://www.nola.com/news/t-p/frontpage/index.ssf?/base/news-6/1210225124270110.xml&coll=1>
43. *May 7, WPSD 6 Paducah* – (Kentucky) **Bomb squad called to KY dam.** The Paducah Bomb Squad investigated a suspicious package near Kentucky Dam Wednesday night. Officers were called to the scene around 5 p.m., after an officer with the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) noticed a box in a parking lot. The officer said there had been a couple of unfamiliar cars there earlier in the day. A squad member used an x-ray machine, which revealed nothing. Then, they deployed a robot to shoot the box, which turned out to be harmless. The box was found in a parking lot next to the TVA building.
Source: http://www.wpsdtv.com/mostpopular/story.aspx?content_id=a9254821-124e-42d8-a317-14683919e721

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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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