



Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 15 May 2008

Current Nationwide



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- According to the Associated Press, Federal investigators have concluded that a lack of company safeguards such as alarms and automatic shutoffs led to a massive chemical plant explosion in Danvers, Massachusetts in November 2006. (See item [3](#))
- Autopia reports that an FAA airspace redesign project meant to reduce congestion and delays at airports in the Northeast corridor is creating pilot confusion that could result in safety problems. The plan creates additional jet routes by allowing planes to fly closer to one another and by routing departing flights on a set of parallel paths, rather than having them criss-cross. (See item [14](#))

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Energy Sector

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

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

1. *May 14, Reuters* – (International) **Gunmen hijack supply vessel in Nigeria, seek ransom.** Gunmen in Nigeria's Niger Delta hijacked a supply ship working for U.S. oil major Chevron and are demanding a ransom for the release of the vessel and its crew, the army said on Wednesday. A military spokesman said the unidentified hijackers were demanding about \$254,539 in ransom for the release of the vessel and its 11-person crew. The armed men seized the ship, the Lourdes Tide, late on Tuesday, in the latest in a series of recent militant attacks and sabotage in the world's eighth-largest oil exporter that have helped pushed world oil prices to new record highs. Oil companies and trading sources say the recent spate of attacks and sabotage have shut in about 559,000 barrels

per day of Nigerian production, about 19 percent of the installed output capacity of around three million bpd in the West African state.

Source:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/marketsNews/idUSL1414730720080514?pageNumber=1&virtualBrandChannel=0>

2. *May 13, Associated Press* – (National) **Feds waive waiting period for Patriot-Magnum coal deal.** Patriot Coal's \$709 million buyout of rival mine operator Magnum Coal has gotten an early green light from federal regulators. Patriot announced Tuesday the Federal Trade Commission has granted the company early termination of a waiting period for the proposed deal. The acquisition, which still needs approval from Patriot shareholders, could close this summer.

Source: <http://www.kentucky.com/471/story/403661.html>

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Chemical Industry Sector

3. *May 13, Associated Press* – (Massachusetts) **Report: Lack of safeguards led to Danvers plant explosion.** Federal investigators have concluded that a lack of company safeguards such as alarms and automatic shutoffs led to a massive chemical plant explosion in Danvers, Massachusetts. The U.S. Chemical Safety Board is expected to issue a report Tuesday that confirms solvent vapors accumulated and exploded when an ink-mixing tank was left heating overnight in November 2006. The board's draft report indicates steam heat to a mixing tank was inadvertently left on by an operator before he left for the day. The report also found that CAI did not follow regulations for the handling of flammable solvents, and called for changes in national fire safety codes. The blast at the facility, shared by ink manufacturer CAI and paint and adhesive maker Arnel, destroyed 19 buildings and damaged about 250 others. No one was killed.

Source:

<http://news.bostonherald.com/news/regional/general/view.bg?articleid=1093753&src=home&position=recent>

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector

4. *May 13, Palm Beach Post* – (Florida) **FPL told to boost nuke staff.** Staffing shortages at Florida Power & Light Co.'s (FPL) Turkey Point nuclear plant prompted the chairman of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to deliver a blunt message Tuesday at the plant: Get your worker levels up. In what he described as the most stern in-person warning of his two-year tenure, the chairman told FPL management he did not think the plant employed enough nuclear plant operators. FPL needs to hire about ten more operators who are licensed by the NRC and about 20 more non-licensed operators at Turkey Point, he said. The shortage of those employees has meant lots of overtime for the reactor operators on the job, and the NRC has fielded complaints about their excessive hours. Similar complaints about overtime and staffing have emerged at FPL's

St. Lucie Nuclear Plant, but he said he did not think the problem was as significant there. For both sites, FPL has been ratcheting up operator recruitment, said an FPL spokesman. Starting October 1, 2009, a new “fatigue rule” approved by the NRC in March will beef up requirements for days off and breaks between shifts for operators and other plant personnel, making the new hires even more essential.

Source:

http://www.palmbeachpost.com/business/content/business/epaper/2008/05/13/a6b_fplnuke_0514.html

5. *May 13, Associated Press* – (New York) **Nine Mile Point plant loses power, reduces output.** Power output from an upstate New York nuclear reactor was reduced when off-site electricity to the plant was lost. The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission says the incident Tuesday at the Nine Mile Point Unit 1 reactor is an unusual event, the lowest of its four emergency classifications. The plant has two incoming power lines, one of which was shut down for maintenance. Officials are trying to learn why the second stopped providing power just before 8:30 a.m. Diesel generators at the plant kicked in, providing emergency power while operators reduced output to 90 percent of normal. Full power was restored later in the morning and the unusual event was declared over at 10:22. a.m.

Source: <http://www.newsday.com/news/local/wire/newyork/ny-bc-ny--reactorshutdown0513may13,0,5314404.story>

6. *May 2008, National Defense* – (National) **Lightweight fabric blocks radiation.** Thanks to the acquisition of patents from Russia and Singapore for Demron, the U.S. now has its own source of a unique radiation blocking fabric that can be made into full body suits, gloves, boots, vests, and other apparel. Radiation Shield Technologies of Miami, Florida, will be producing the material that is composed of an advanced radiopaque nano-polymeric compound that is fused between layers of fabric. Demron “shields against X-ray and low energy Gamma emissions while providing full anti-chemical and biological protection,” says the company’s chief executive officer. He also notes that it is a “lead free, toxin free and PVC free nuclear blocking material that allows heat dissipation and resists chemical permeation and cracks.”

Source:

<http://www.nationaldefensemagazine.org/issues/2008/May/TechTalk.htm#Lightweight>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

7. *May 14, Aviation Week* – (National) **Chinook line temporarily ceases operations.** Boeing on May 13 announced a temporary halt of its Ridley Township, Pennsylvania, CH-47 Chinook helicopter line after discovering possible manufacturing irregularities in two aircraft. According to Boeing, the company notified its security organization and the site’s resident Defense Contract Management Agency representatives who oversee all U.S. government contracts at the facility. Boeing’s standard operating procedures require a thorough investigation of the incident to determine the extent of the irregularities, according to a company statement.

Source:

http://www.aviationweek.com/aw/generic/story_generic.jsp?channel=aerospacedaily&id=news/CH47051408.xml&headline=Chinook%20Line%20Temporarily%20Ceases%20Operations

8. *May 14, Strategy Page* – (National) **Invincible UAVs**. Two U.S. Gnat unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) recently set a record; each completed 10,000 hours in the air. General Atomics, the developer and manufacturer of the Gnat and Predator UAV, has upgraded the Gnat, and created the I-Gnat. Although it is 20 percent lighter than the Predator, the I-Gnat has a payload of 650 pounds (compared to 143 pounds for the Gnat 750 and 450 pounds for the Predator), and can stay in the air for up to 50 hours (20 percent more endurance than the Predator). The Predator and I-Gnat use the same engine and many mechanical and electronic components. The I-Gnat's long career may be due, in part, to operating at higher altitudes.

Source: <http://www.strategypage.com/htmw/htatrit/articles/20080514.aspx>

9. *May 13, Aviation Week* – (National) **EADS shifting work stateside for LUH**. The U.S. Army plans to roll out the first UH-72A for the Army National Guard, which will operate the majority of the new helicopters, on June 7. The first 40 UH-72As are being constructed in Germany, disassembled there, shipped stateside, and reassembled and delivered in Mississippi. The first of these helicopters will be delivered to the Army in September. The first of the helicopters to undergo the full production line process in Mississippi is to be delivered in September 2009. The Army is so far "pleased" with EADS North America's work on the program, says the program manager for the Army's utility helicopter program. The infusion of UH-72As into the fleet is beginning to allow the Army to transition some Black Hawks that were handling missions stateside forward for operations abroad. The LUH program was designed to field an FAA certified helicopter that could handle missions in the continental U.S., allowing more combat capable aircraft to deploy. So far, 13 Black Hawks have been released from U.S. missions for work abroad.

Source:

http://www.aviationweek.com/aw/generic/story_generic.jsp?channel=aerospacedaily&id=news/LUH051308.xml&headline=EADS%20Shifting%20Work%20Stateside%20For%20LUH

10. *May 13, Defense News* – (National) **U.S. Army tests prototype .50-cal. gun**. The U.S. Army Soldier Weapons Center at Picatinny Arsenal has ordered three prototypes of a first-of-its-kind lightweight (LW) .50-cal. machine gun that fires with less recoil force and can be carried more easily in rough terrain than the Army's current .50-caliber weapon, service officials said. Made by General Dynamics Armament and Technical Products (GD ATP), the 38-pound gun weighs less than half as much as the 82-pound M2 and incorporates a host of technologies designed to improve accuracy. The M2 will not be replaced, just added to, said a product manager for crew-served weapons at Picatinny. The LW .50-cal. is intended to be mounted quickly on light vehicles' Common Remote Weapons Station. The LW .50 has 250 pounds of recoil force, one-quarter that of the M2; has fixed head space and timing; and fires 200 to 300 rounds per

minute up to 2,000 meters. The gun was recently test-fired by Special Operations Forces. More prototype testing is slated for a GD ATP facility in coming months and Aberdeen Proving Ground by 2010. Low-rate initial production is scheduled for 2011. Source: <http://www.defensenews.com/story.php?i=3503600&c=AME&s=LAN>

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Banking and Finance Sector

11. *May 13, KIII 3 South Texas* – (National) **Consumer Smart - Beware of economic stimulus check scams.** There are recent scams brought to Internal Revenue Service (IRS) attention. Rebate phone call: In that scam, consumers receive a phone call from someone identifying himself as an IRS employee. The caller tells the targeted victim that he is eligible for a sizable rebate for filing his taxes early. The caller then states that he needs the target's bank account information for the direct deposit of the rebate. If the target refuses, he is told that he cannot receive the rebate. Another scam is the refund e-mail, which falsely claims to come from the IRS, tells the recipient that he or she is eligible for a tax refund for a specific amount, and instructs the recipient to click on a link in the e-mail to access a refund claim form. The audit email is a scam notifying the recipient that his or her tax return will be audited. This is the first scam of which the IRS is aware that uses this to get the victim to respond. Another type of email is addressed to businesses, accountants and "Treasury" managers. It instructs them to download information on tax law changes by clicking on a series of links to publications on businesses, estate taxes, excise taxes, exempt organizations and IRAs and other retirement plans. The last scam listed by IRS is the paper check phone call. In a current telephone scam, a caller claims to be an IRS employee who is calling because the IRS sent a check to the individual being called. The caller states that because the check has not been cashed, the IRS wants to verify the individual's bank account number. In addition to the rebate scams, officials also warned businesses, which receive e-mails that appear to be complaints forwarded to them by the Better Business Bureau. Businesses receiving such questionable e-mails should contact the local BBB. Source: <http://www.kiiitv.com/news/local/18888079.html>

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Transportation Sector

12. *May 14, Reuters* – (California) **Small fuel spill occurs north of San Francisco Bay.** A tugboat hit underwater pipes at a refinery located north of San Francisco Bay, spilling 1,500 gallons of fuel into the bay, a spokesman for Tesoro Corp's Golden Eagle Refinery said on Wednesday. The Coast Guard was handling cleanup in waters beneath the Benecia-Martinez Bridge after the tugboat Independence hit inactive Tesoro pipelines used to transfer fuel to ships after midnight, the spokesman said. No injuries were reported. Leftover gas inside the pipes spilled into the waters of Suisun Bay, which feeds into the San Francisco Bay to the south. "We don't suspect any pipes were ruptured," he said. "The spill was contained." Source:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/companyNewsAndPR/idUSN1449256620080514>

13. *May 14, USA Today* – (National) **Companies take on mammoth screening duty.**
Starting next year hundreds of companies are gearing up to screen tens of millions of boxes of merchandise before those boxes are loaded onto U.S. passenger airplanes to be carried each year to retailers and others around the world. Congress ordered the screening last year as a way to stop terrorists from using a cargo shipment to blow up a passenger plane. Working with airlines, manufacturers and transport companies, the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) is developing a system to do what was once thought impossible — screen more than 600,000 boxes of cargo a day for bombs. However, cargo will not be screened by the TSA at airports. That is because cargo often arrives at airports packed in aluminum crates the size of a small car, and there is not time to take apart the crates so each box can be screened individually. The TSA's solution: Have the screening done by people who pack the crates. An official from the TSA says screeners working for airforwarders will get similar training to TSA airport screeners and will be monitored by agency inspectors who will make regular unannounced visits. The TSA is developing seals for screened boxes that indicate tampering. He said he has signed up 20 airforwarders near major airports such as Chicago O'Hare to test a screening system in a few months. Airforwarders will not be required to screen cargo they take to passenger planes. They are free to do no screening. Airlines will have to screen cargo they receive that has not been checked.
Source: http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2008-05-13-cargo_N.htm

14. *May 13, Autopia* – (New York) **New York airspace redesign causing pilot confusion.**
A Federal Aviation Administration airspace redesign project meant to reduce delays and congestion at airports within the Northeast corridor is creating pilot confusion that could result in safety problems. The vice president of the National Air Traffic Controllers Association in Newark says there have been several incidents on the ground there that can be attributed to the new procedures. In one, a United Airlines jet turned the wrong way prior to departure, and in another, a JetBlue pilot communicating with a controller admitted to not knowing how the new procedures worked. Two minutes later, another pilot radioed the tower with questions about the new process. In both cases, the planes were only minutes from takeoff. The airspace redesign is an attempt to deal with delays at airports in Philadelphia and the New York area (Newark, La Guardia, JFK). It involves creating additional jet routes by allowing planes to fly closer to one another and easing congestion by routing departing flights on a set of parallel paths, rather than having them criss-cross. The FAA estimates that when the project is completed, it will save 12 million minutes a year at JFK, La Guardia, Newark, and Philly.
Source: <http://blog.wired.com/cars/2008/05/new-york-airspa.html>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

15. *May 13, WTVD 11 Raleigh* – (North Carolina) **Preliminary reports find nothing harmful in package.** Tuesday morning the Durham Fire Department was called to the scene of a HazMat situation in the eastern portion of the city. Police officials say a

woman became sick when she received some packages from her estranged husband who is a microbiologist. Preliminary test results on the suspicious package are negative, meaning nothing harmful was detected. A sample of the powdery substance was sent to the State Bureau of Investigation for further analysis.

Source: <http://abclocal.go.com/wtvd/story?section=news/local&id=6139414>

16. *May 13, Tri-City Herald* – (Washington) **Mailbox bomber sought.** Richland, Washington, police are searching for a suspect who apparently filled a plastic bottle with gunpowder and used it to blow up a mailbox. The homeowner reported hearing the explosion, and his daughter said she heard a car speeding away shortly after the blast, he said. Early reports from the bomb squad indicate the bomb was made from a plastic bottle filled with some type of gunpowder.

Source: <http://www.tri-cityherald.com/901/story/182824.html>

17. *May 13, Kansas City Star* – (Missouri) **Bomb squad investigates suspicious package.** The Kansas City Police Department's bomb squad responded to a report of a suspicious package Tuesday night. Officers were at the FedEx facility after the suspicious package was reported. After finding nothing dangerous, the bomb squad cleared the scene.

Source: http://www.kansascity.com/news/breaking_news/story/619104.html

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Agriculture and Food Sector

18. *May 14, USAgNet* – (National) **Bush calls for one year extension of farm bill.** The President called on Congress on Tuesday to extend the 2002 Farm Bill for at least one year so producers can make business and planting decisions. The president passed a short-term extension of the farm bill last Friday, but only four days remain until that extension runs out. In a statement, he said the farm bill proposal currently being discussed by conferees would fail several important tests that he had set forth including his call for reform and that it not raise taxes. Last week, Congress approved a compromise to the latest House and Senate version of the 2007 Farm Bill. But Bush said he would veto the measure because of its total price.

Source: <http://www.usagnet.com/story-national.php?Id=1147&yr=2008>

19. *May 14, USDA Pest Information Platform for Extension and Education* – (National) **United States soybean rust commentary.** Soybean rust was reported on kudzu in one county in Alabama; nine counties in Florida (two of these counties had reports on coral bean and snap bean); three counties in Louisiana; one county in Mississippi; and three counties in Texas. Some infected kudzu in these states has been destroyed. Rust was also reported in four states in Mexico on yam bean and soybean. Soybean sentinel plots have been established throughout the Gulf Coast region, and in many parts of the lower Midwest. Additional rains throughout most of soybean growing region should favor rust development especially in locations in the south near sources of infected plants.

Source: <http://www.sbrusa.net/cgi-bin/sbr/public.cgi>

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Water Sector

20. *May 13, Atlanta Journal-Constitution* – (Georgia) **Corps still considering request to keep more water in Lanier.** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are still reviewing an April 25 request from the state of Georgia to keep more water in Lake Lanier. The state Environmental Protection Division (EPD) has said the Chattahoochee River below the lake will not suffer if the Corps sends less water downstream. The city of Atlanta, DeKalb and Fulton Counties, and the Cobb County-Marietta Water Authority draw drinking water from the river below the dam. Those entities also discharge treated sewage in the river downstream from their withdrawals. EPD is asking the Corps to reduce the releases through May 31.
Source: http://www.ajc.com/metro/content/metro/stories/2008/05/13/lanier_0513.html

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

21. *May 14, CNN* – (International) **Child-killing virus hits Beijing.** The death toll in China's outbreak of hand-foot-mouth disease has risen to 42, with the capital Beijing reporting its first case Wednesday, state media said. So far, the virus has sickened 24,934 children on the Chinese mainland, authorities said. All 42 people who died have been children. The deaths are blamed on enterovirus 71, or EV-71, one of the most common causes of hand-foot-mouth disease. The official count of infections has increased dramatically in recent days since an order issued late last week by the Ministry of Health mandating that all cases be reported. Public health officials expect the number of cases to peak this summer, since the disease thrives in warm weather. There is no treatment for severe EV-71 infections nor does a vaccine exist. Adults with well-developed immune systems can usually fend off the virus, but children are especially vulnerable, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2008/HEALTH/05/14/china.virus/>
22. *May 14, Arirang News* – (International) **Bird flu confirmed in Songpa and Busan.** Less than a week since the first case of bird flu was confirmed in Seoul, the deadly H5N1 strain was found again, this time in Songpa, a district in the southeastern part of the capital. As a containment measure, Seoul has put down more than 15,000 birds, including more than 8,000 in the area of the latest outbreak. The metropolitan city government is now considering banning live chickens and ducks from entering Seoul and forbidding the breeding of them within the city limits. The deadly strain was also confirmed in the southeastern port city of Busan, where more than 17,000 fowl were culled as an emergency measure to contain the spread.
Source: <http://english.chosun.com/w21data/html/news/200805/200805140005.html>

May 13, KRIV 26 Houston – (Texas) **Montgomery County sees first West Nile virus case of '08.** Montgomery County Environmental Health Services Officials say one person there has contracted West Nile Fever. "August and September are historically our most active months for human infections," the Montgomery County Environmental

Health Service Director said. This is the first human infection for the county and the state this year, according to the Texas Department of State Health Services.

Source:

<http://www.myfoxboston.com/myfox/pages/News/Detail?contentId=6532326&version=2&locale=EN-US&layoutCode=TSTY&pageId=3.5.1>

Government Facilities Sector

23. *May 13, WSVN 7 Miami* – (Florida) **Bomb threat phoned in to immigration courthouse.** Police are investigating a threat to bomb a government building early Tuesday. Miami Police had to evacuate the immigration courthouse and temporarily shut down a metro station as a safety precaution after someone telephoned the building with a threat. The Miami Police Bomb Squad arrived on the scene with bomb-sniffing dogs to search the building's law facility and verify if an explosive device is even on site.

Source: <http://www1.wsvn.com/news/articles/local/MI85593/>

Emergency Services Sector

24. *May 14, Syracuse Online* – (New York) **Police arsenals add radiation detectors.** Two local police agencies, as well as state police, have obtained cell-phone sized radiation detection devices, as the Office of Homeland Security expands its radiological security program into Central New York. The devices detect artificial radiation, the kind that does not appear in nature, but rather is man-made, such as plutonium. The threat of a terrorist's nuclear device is the reason for distributing the detectors. The hope is if a terrorist is transporting radioactive material to make a dirty bomb, police will be alerted to the material in transit, at the assembly point of the device or at the plot's launch site, said the deputy director of the state Office of Homeland Security. The detectors are paid for by grants from the Office of Homeland Security.

Source: <http://www.syracuse.com/news/index.ssf?/base/news-4/121075565022210.xml&coll=1&thispage=1>

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Information Technology

25. *May 14, Associated Press* – (International) **NATO allies sign agreement on cyber defense center.** Seven NATO allies signed a deal Wednesday to fund a research center to boost the alliance's defenses against cyber attacks, seen as a growing threat to military and civilian computer networks. The center is based in the Baltic nation of Estonia, which was hit last year by an unprecedented wave of cyber attacks that crippled government and corporate computer networks. The attacks followed a dispute over the relocation of a Soviet war memorial in the Estonian capital, leading many to suspect the

Kremlin was behind the virtual strikes. Moscow denied involvement. Defense chiefs from Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Germany, Italy, Spain and Slovakia all signed the agreement to provide staff and funding for the center in Tallinn. “It is a cooperative effort to bring all the best minds together in cyber defense,” said a U.S. general and NATO’s top commander in charge of military modernization. “We cannot say that we are not going to defend the Web that everybody needs.” The United States will join the project as an observer, and other NATO nations may join later. The agreement was signed during a regular meeting of chiefs of defense staff from the 26 NATO allies. The defense center will be operational in August, although the formal opening is planned for 2009. A staff of 30 specialists will conduct research and training on cyber warfare.

Source: <http://www.iht.com/articles/ap/2008/05/14/europe/EU-GEN-NATO-Cyber-Defenses.php>

26. *May 13, InformationWeek* – (National) **Microsoft patch Tuesday: Six vulnerabilities fixed in four bulletins.** Microsoft issued its May security fix, addressing six vulnerabilities in four bulletins. Three of the bulletins describe critical vulnerabilities in Microsoft Word, Microsoft Publisher, and Microsoft Jet Database Engine. The fourth details a moderate vulnerability in Microsoft’s Malware Protection Engine, which powers products like Windows Live OneCare, Microsoft Antigen, Microsoft Windows Defender, and Microsoft Forefront Security. All the vulnerabilities addressed this month are client-side vulnerabilities. MS08-026 fixes two privately reported holes in Word that could have allowed an attacker to take control of a victim’s computer using a maliciously crafted Word file. MS08-027 fixes a privately reported vulnerability in Publisher that, similarly, could have allowed an attacker to subvert a victim’s computer using a maliciously crafted file. MS08-028 repairs a publicly reported flaw in the Microsoft Jet Database Engine (4.0) in Windows. If successfully exploited, the vulnerability could allow an attacker to execute arbitrary code, mitigated by the user’s administrative rights. MS08-029 resolves two privately reported issues affecting Microsoft Malware Protection Engine that could have allowed a remote attacker to craft a malicious file that, when scanned, could have led to a denial of service attack.

Source:

<http://www.informationweek.com/story/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=207603294>

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

27. *May 14, ComputerWeekly.com* – (International) **Lack of bandwidth and huge traffic threatens to engulf companies.** Around half of European IT managers expect their

bandwidth requirements to grow by over 50 percent in the next five years, but do not expect to see more than a 5 percent increase in their budgets according to research commissioned by Viatel. The pan-European business communications provider's survey warns that companies may stand to face serious WAN problems in the future with pressures such as storage, green technologies and compliance strongly competing for budget, and a significant proportion of companies (28 percent) believing that their bandwidth requirements would double within five years. Driving this growth was the sheer weight of email and web traffic with 39 percent of the survey seeing this as the biggest contributor to the need for more bandwidth. 30 percent believed that VoIP and converging technologies such as video on demand would also have a significant effect on traffic in the future, and 18 percent attributed the increase in bandwidth requirements to supporting ERP and CRM systems. Even though 91 percent believed their bandwidth needs would grow significantly over the next five years, three quarters of the sample stated that increasing network bandwidth was not their top IT concern. Preparing for the impact of the downturn in the economy, as well as dealing with the worsening security climate were the clear priorities with over half (56 percent) of the sample making, preparing and implementing business continuity plans the top concerns for the coming year. Protecting the business against emerging IT security threats, such as denial-of-service attacks, also accounted for a large slice of IT managers' budgets.

Source: <http://www.computerweekly.com/Articles/2008/05/14/230685/lack-of-bandwidth-and-huge-traffic-threatens-to-engulf.htm>

28. *May 14, Inquirer* – (National) **Doctors fear wireless internet killers.** Doctors are concerned that the proposed use of unoccupied TV airwaves for high-speed Internet services could kill critically ill patients. The American Society of Healthcare Engineering, an arm of the American Hospital Association, claims that signals which monitor critically ill patients could be lost because of interference. They say that using empty channels for unlicensed broadcasts could disrupt the monitoring of patients' heart rates, blood oxygen levels and other vital signs at hospitals. If the machines go down, even for a few seconds, doctors lose information on the patient's condition. Medical device maker GE Healthcare asked the FCC to 'proceed carefully' when it permitted use of the idle channels. Since the 1980s, hospitals have used channels 33 to 36 to operate unlicensed wireless patient-monitoring devices. Channel 37 has been set aside for exclusive use of medical equipment. However some hospitals still use other channels. Source: <http://www.theinquirer.net/gb/inquirer/news/2008/05/14/doctors-fear-wireless-internet>

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Commercial Facilities Sector

29. *May 13, North American Animal Liberation Office* – (California) **Communiqué from ALF activists. Institution targeted: HLS Supplier Staples Stores.** Animal Liberation Front (ALF) activists posted two messages on their website. The first message: "Action: Incendiary device left under Staples delivery truck. Action: Small explosive device inserted into exhaust system of additional Staples delivery truck. (If it hasn't been activated yet, it will as soon as it gets hot enough.) When: Two consecutive nights, The

last week of April. Where: San Diego area. Reason: Staples support of HLS in the UK is unacceptable. When you should be seeing animal torture and murder you are seeing profits instead. We hope to clear that up for you and to guide you towards the proper ethical choice. This will continue (so many of those trucks...) until the CEO of Staples USA and Staples UK publically and permanently cut ties with HLS.” The second message: “Wednesday night after business hours in Ventura County, California, 2 Staples office supply stores were told to “drop HLS.” At least 10 windows were etched in the front of one of the stores, locks were glued up, “Drop HLS” was spray painted on the front wall, and red paint was splashed all over the entrance and sidewalk of both of the stores. This was done to remind them of the blood of innocent animals on their hands from associating with Huntington Life Sciences. Until they cut their ties with HLS, they can expect to have many more of their stores redecorated. All we ask is that Staples cut their ties with HLS, and they will be able to continue business as usual.”

Sources:

http://www.animalliberationpressoffice.org/communiqués/2008-05-13_staples1.htm and http://www.animalliberationpressoffice.org/communiqués/2008-05-13_staples2.htm

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National Monuments & Icons Sector

Nothing to Report

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Dams Sector

30. *May 14, AccessNorthGa.com and WRWH Cleveland 1350AM* – (Georgia) **No major problems reported following breach in White Co. dam.** Around 9 p.m. Tuesday a large hole was reported in the dam at Wendy Lake. By 10 p.m., one-third of the water in the lake had drained, causing Jenny’s Creek to rise 1.5 feet and Town Creek to rise one-half of a foot. Officials monitored the situation all night, and people living within a six-mile area were notified that they should be prepared to evacuate if necessary. The White County Fire Chief said the dam is in jeopardy of complete failure.
Source: <http://www.accessnorthga.com/detail.php?n=209939>
31. *May 14, Reuters* – (International) **China quake weakens Sichuan dams and cuts off river.** A devastating earthquake that struck China this week has raised concerns over the stability of dams and infrastructure in the afflicted mountainous area, while landslides have blocked a river that flows to the region. Heavy rains could compound the damage by hindering rescue work, triggering mudslides, and adding to pressure on weakened dams, officials and state media said on Wednesday. Water has been released at 50 percent more than average levels to lower water levels in the Zipingpu reservoir and to relieve pressure on the cracked dam, the ministry of water resources said on its Web site. “If Zipingpu develops a serious safety problem, it could bring disaster to Dujiangyan city downstream,” where half a million people live, the ministry said. Cracks on the famous Yuzui or “Fish mouth” levee further downstream, the crux of the Dujiangyan

system, are not serious, the ministry said. The ministry has dispatched teams to Sichuan, Chongqing, Yunnan, Gansu, and Shaanxi regions to prevent dams that were damaged by the earthquake from bursting and endangering the lives of residents, it said. The massive Three Gorges Dam, hundreds of miles downriver from the epicenter, was not affected by the quake, officials said.

Source: <http://uk.reuters.com/article/oilRpt/idUKPEK3947520080514>

32. *May 14, Valley News Dispatch* – (Pennsylvania) **West Leechburg dam remains ‘high hazard.’** An off-limits reservoir that has been classified by the state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) as a “high hazard” will remain in the borough for at least one more year. Borough officials were denied state funding under their Growing Greener II grant application, leaving them with no way to fund the removal of the reservoir. “We have a high hazard dam with some type of obvious flaw in the structure,” a councilman said. Currently, the reservoir is about a quarter full and has ten feet of mud and silt. The councilman said the DEP told borough officials that if the dam fails, “someone will be killed.” He said that if the dam would breach it would take out railroad tracks and the Kiski Valley pump station.

Source: http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/pittsburghtrib/news/s_567387.html

33. *May 14, Ambler Gazette* – (Pennsylvania) **Loch Alsh dam deemed unsafe by DEP.** Loch Alsh is highlighted in the report of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection’s (DEP) dam and levee safety audit as one of 13 dams added to the high-hazard unsafe dams as of April 15, 2008. The audit showed most of the unsafe high-hazard dams had inadequate spillways, which permit the release of excess water to relieve pressure on dam walls and prevent them from being topped during heavy rainfalls. The vice president and senior engineer for Gilmore and Associates, the borough’s water engineer, said DEP determined the spillway at Loch Alsh can only handle seven percent of the probable maximum flood and is proposing a concrete block be built from the edge of the property up to the top of the reservoir’s stone wall, on both sides.

Source:

http://www.montgomerynews.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=19686938&BRD=1306&PA G=461&dept_id=187829&rfi=6

34. *May 13, El Dorado Hills Telegraph* – (California) **Nimbus Dam bomb conspirator sentenced.** A Placer County man who plotted to bomb the Nimbus Dam near Folsom, California, received a 19-year prison sentence May 8. The man led a ring of conspirators who also were targeting a federal forest-genetics research center in El Dorado County, announced a U.S. attorney. During 2005 and 2006, a woman informant infiltrated the band, which authorities say backed anarchist positions taken by the loose-knit Environmental Liberation Front activist group. According to the informant, the group tried to make a bomb at their cabin. The trio was arrested January 13, 2006, as they came out of a store with materials authorities said would have assisted a bomb-making effort.

Source: <http://www.edhtelegraph.com/detail/83944.html>

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