



# Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 20 June 2008

Current Nationwide Threat Level is

**ELEVATED**  
SIGNIFICANT RISK OF TERRORIST ATTACKS

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

- According to the Chicago Tribune, a veteran food-contamination scientist at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration said that discovering where the salmonella bug originated may be impossible because an individual tomato typically carries no information of its origin. (See item [18](#))
- The Harris News Service reports that, according to a legislative report, confidential information was left on outdated state computers being released for sale to the public. That includes thousands of Social Security numbers, names of Medicaid beneficiaries, and personnel information about state employees. (See item [30](#))

**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. *June 19, Reuters* – (International) **Nigeria attack stops Shell’s Bonga offshore oil.** Militants in speedboats attacked Royal Dutch Shell’s main offshore facility in Nigeria on Thursday, cutting the country’s oil output by a tenth and raising fears of a new campaign against deepwater installations. The strike on Shell’s Bonga field, which lies some 75 miles off the Nigerian coast and has a nameplate capacity of 220,000 barrels per day, forced the Anglo-Dutch giant to stop output from the \$3.6 billion facility. The rebel Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND) – which until now has mainly blown up oil pipelines and kidnapped expatriate workers in the shallow

creeks of southern Nigeria – warned the attack may not be its last in deep waters. Shell said it was too soon to say how long output would be shut down following the attack on Bonga, which it said had targeted a floating production storage and offloading vessel. After the Bonga attack, MEND gunmen came across a separate oil supply vessel and seized its U.S. captain in what security sources said appeared to have been an opportunistic strike. Shell’s Bonga field has helped offset losses from the delta, while Chevron’s Agbami and Total’s Akpo fields – both deep offshore – are due to come on stream this year.

Source:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssEnergyNews/idUSL1961289220080619?pageNumber=1&virtualBrandChannel=0>

2. *June 19, Las Cruces Sun-News* – (California) **Trying to beat the heat is straining electrical system.** Large power outages were reported this week in Las Cruces, El Paso, and Juarez, and officials are pointing to one likely culprit: extreme heat. Officials with El Paso Electric Co. said increased customer demand brought on by hotter-than-usual weather is straining power systems. They are encouraging the public to conserve as much energy as possible. “It’s not just the fact we hit 100 degrees; it’s that we’re consistently hitting 100 degrees,” said the vice president of transmission and distribution for El Paso Electric. He noted that temperatures are remaining high throughout the day, even after sunset. “All of that combined is really stressing out the different systems.” An outage Monday on the East Mesa left about 2,500 customers without power for about an hour in the early evening. A spokeswoman for El Paso Electric said it likely was the result of the system in that area being overwhelmed by demand. The same day, about 10,000 households were without power in El Paso for several hours, and another outage was reported in Juarez.

Source: <http://www.tradingmarkets.com/.site/news/Stock%20News/1697243/>

3. *June 18, Associated Press* – (Nevada) **Three hurt, one seriously in explosion near Carlin.** Three people have been injured, one seriously, in a small explosion at a commercial fuel distribution center near Carlin, Nevada. A Carlin police chief says the explosion occurred at Haycock Petroleum while the three employees were working with chemicals Tuesday afternoon. He says it triggered a small fire that was extinguished by a fire suppression device.

Source: <http://www.ksby.com/Global/story.asp?S=8521118>

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## **Chemical Industry Sector**

4. *June 18, Utica Observer-Dispatch* – (New York) **Workers decontaminated at Tect Utica plant.** Ambulances approached the grounds of Tect Utica, in Whitestown, New York, after a report of a chemical spill at the facility. Ten Tect Utica workers had to be decontaminated Wednesday night after a chemical leak at the plant. The fire chief said only those who were near the area of the leak in the building had to go through the process. Decontamination was completed by 8 p.m., and by 8:15 p.m. firefighters reported the leak was under control and clean-up efforts were under way. “The origin of

the leak is not known at this time,” the official said around 9:30 p.m., adding his reports were not complete.

Source: <http://www.uticaod.com/news/x1743976478/Hazardous-Materials-crew-heads-to-New-York-Mills>

5. *June 18, Associated Press* – (Florida) **OSHA cites Fla. chemical plant in fatal blast.** The owners of a chemical plant where a December explosion killed four workers were cited Wednesday, accused of violating federal safety standards. A report from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration found that T2 Laboratories Inc. lacked a blast-resistant control room, a backup water supply to cool a high-pressure reactor and emergency response plans. The company has 15 days to contest the violations or pay \$12,650 in fines. An attorney for the laboratory said he had not had an opportunity to review the report with his clients but that the company would dispute certain citations. He would not say which.

Source:

<http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5i867R6UgTdY5LhKqNrh07Cm3DrYgD91CQU800>

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## **Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector**

Nothing to report

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## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

6. *June 19, Time* – (International) **Are U.S. nukes in Europe secure?** European air force bases that store U.S. nuclear bombs are failing to meet basic security requirements to safeguard the weapons, according to a report obtained under the Freedom of Information Act. The U.S. keeps an estimated 350 thermonuclear bombs in six NATO countries. In Belgium, Germany, Italy, and the Netherlands the weapons are stored at the host nation’s air bases where they are guarded by specially trained U.S. military personnel. But according to an internal U.S. Air Force report, the sites are falling short of Department of Defense requirements, with fencing and security systems in need of repair, thin rotations that often lead to staffing shortages, and responsibilities taken by inadequately trained foreign security personnel. Locks on the B61 thermonuclear gravity bomb prevent it from being detonated if stolen, experts say. Its weapons-grade material could be removed and turned into a dirty bomb, or even a crude nuclear device. In Brussels, a NATO official said, “Security arrangements for U.S. nuclear weapons are made bilaterally between the U.S. and the host country. Any improvements that would be deemed necessary should be discussed between those two governments and not in a NATO context.”

Source: <http://www.time.com/time/world/article/0,8599,1816035,00.html>

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## **Banking and Finance Sector**

7. *June 19, Marco News* – (National) **Authorities warn of scam using Marco bank’s name.** The Collier County, Florida, sheriff’s office (CCSO) is warning the public about a scam involving a Collier County bank. In the scam, letters are sent in the mail asking a person to be a “secret shopper.” A check for a large amount of money is included with the letter. These checks carry the Marco Community Bank logo and routing number, and have apparently been circulated by mail across the United States. Deputies say these checks are counterfeit. Marco Community Bank officials alerted CCSO to the scam. The amount listed on the checks is generally \$4,820. The checks are green and the numbers vary. On the bottom of each check in the left-hand corner reads: Re: Consumers View Inc. Various phone numbers also appear on the check and in the letter. When called, a person on the other end of the line answers “Marco Community Bank” and verifies that the amount of money on the check is available.  
Source: <http://www.marconews.com/news/2008/jun/19/authorities-warn-scam-using-marco-banks-name>
  
8. *June 18, Wired Blog Network* – (National) **Citibank hack blamed for alleged ATM crime spree.** A computer intrusion into a Citibank server that processes ATM withdrawals led to two Brooklyn men making hundreds of fraudulent withdrawals from New York City cash machines in February, pocketing at least \$750,000 in cash, according to federal prosecutors. The ATM crime spree is apparently the first to be publicly linked to the breach of a major U.S. bank’s systems, experts say. Credit card and ATM PIN numbers show up often enough in underground trading, but they are invariably linked to social engineering tricks like phishing attacks, “shoulder surfing” and fake PIN pads affixed to gas station pay-at-the-pump terminals. But if federal prosecutors are correct, the Citibank intrusion is an indication that even savvy consumers who guard their ATM cards and PIN codes can fall prey to the growing global cyber-crime trade. Citibank denied that its systems were hacked to Wired.com’s Threat Level. But the bank’s representatives warned the FBI on February 1 that “a Citibank server that processes ATM withdrawals at 7-Eleven convenience stores had been breached,” according to a sworn affidavit by a FBI cyber-crime agent.  
Source: <http://blog.wired.com/27bstroke6/2008/06/citibank-atm-se.html>
  
9. *June 18, Atlanta Business Chronicle* – (Georgia) **Georgia Department of Revenue warns of check scams.** The Georgia Department of Revenue (DOR) said June 18 it has discovered two check scams that involve phony checks claiming to be from the Georgia DOR and checks that use incorrect banking information. In the first scam, people get a letter from a Canadian-based company that says “your grant in the amount of \$50,000.00 (Fifty Thousand Dollars) has been approved.” Attached to the letter is a check that appears to have been issued by the Georgia DOR. The letter asks the recipient to call a Canadian phone number “immediately to verify your file” and to “prevent any delay with the release of your grant.” The letter specifies a deadline for claiming the grant. But during the phone call, an agent will try to get the caller to divulge personal information including bank account information. Some recipients have deposited the check into their banking account. But the check is blocked when it attempts to clear

Georgia DOR's account. "The Georgia Department of Revenue does not mail checks to individuals through any third party," said a Georgia Revenue Commissioner. "Checks issued by the Georgia Department of Revenue are mailed directly to the check's payee." The second scam involves a company identified on the check as AIRSERV in Atlanta that issues checks with inaccurate banking information. Anyone who gets one of the letters or AIRSERV checks should take it to their nearest law enforcement office and fill out a victim of fraud complaint, Georgia DOR said.

Source: <http://www.bizjournals.com/atlanta/stories/2008/06/16/daily59.html>

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## **Transportation Sector**

10. *June 19, Associated Press* – (Minnesota) **I-35 lane in Duluth closed for weeks.** The left lane of northbound Interstate highway 35 near downtown Duluth, Minnesota, has been closed because of an accident, and officials say the closure could last six to eight weeks. An earth-scraping vehicle used for construction fell off the back of a truck crossing over the freeway on highway 53 Wednesday morning. The earth-scraper fell onto the freeway, hitting the left guard rail and left lane on I-35. Both the guard rail and the road surface need repairs. Officials say there is no concern about the overall integrity of the freeway.

Source:

[http://www.startribune.com/local/20506459.html?location\\_refer=Homepage:highlightModules:4](http://www.startribune.com/local/20506459.html?location_refer=Homepage:highlightModules:4)

11. *June 19, Iowa City Press- Citizen* – (Iowa) **Officials look at safety of bridges.** Iowa City officials are asking the University of Iowa and other major city employers to stagger employee shifts in the hopes of relieving traffic congestion caused by flooded roads and bridges. Traffic backups during peak hours have paralyzed some city routes at rush hour, stalling motorists trying to get on or off Interstate 80 (I-80). Iowa Department of Transportation records show that although the I-80 bridge is rated one of the best in the area, the sufficiency ratings assigned to Burlington Street are some of the worst. The ratings, determined by the state, take in more than structural integrity and are used to determine which bridges need repair/replacement, and which qualify for federal funding. The average rating for the 92 state bridges in Johnson County is 81.75 (ratings are from 0 to 100), according to Iowa Department of Transportation records. Other bridges due for inspection include the Highway 965 river bridge and the Butler Bridge, which have seen high-velocity flows.

Source: [http://www.press-](http://www.press-citizen.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080619/NEWS01/806190329/1079)

[citizen.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080619/NEWS01/806190329/1079](http://www.press-citizen.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080619/NEWS01/806190329/1079)

12. *June 18, USA Today* – (National) **Nuke detectors being tested on private jets.** In between two hangars, near planes used to transport heads of state and military cargo, agents from the Homeland Security Department (DHS) are looking for what security officials say could be the components of terrorists' deadliest weapon yet: radioactive and nuclear material that could be used to make bombs. The agents' work is part of a four-month, \$4 million test to see if the government's radiation-detection equipment can

pick up depleted uranium and other radioactive material hidden aboard passenger planes. The head of the department's Domestic Nuclear Detection Office, says agents began radiation screening of private planes at the start of the year amid concerns that terrorists could try to "bypass the traditional ports of entry," such as airports and border crossings where security systems are in place. Critics say the scans could be a waste of time. "Scanning in the United States doesn't help" because a terrorist with a nuke will just detonate it in midair over a big city, says a former National War College professor who now heads a security consulting firm. Based on a report about the threat from Oxford's office, the head of the DHS ordered that all "general aviation" planes from overseas be scanned when they land in the USA. General aviation planes are private jets and charter planes that are not put through the same security as commercial airlines before they take off. But making agreements with overseas airports and foreign leaders to allow U.S. agents to scan planes abroad could take years.

Source: [http://www.usatoday.com/news/washington/2008-06-18-nukes\\_N.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/news/washington/2008-06-18-nukes_N.htm)

13. *June 18, Rotornews* – (Massachusetts) **Legislation ahead to tighten airport security.**

On June 18, the U.S. House of Representatives will consider several bills that aim to tighten security in airports and in flight. If passed, the bills will be rolled into an authorization bill the House passed in May 2007. House resolution (H.R.) 4179 would require the Homeland Security Department (DHS) to create a streamlined appeals process for individuals who are wrongfully identified as terrorists at airports. DHS would have to create an Office of Appeals and Redress and disseminate a comprehensive list of people who have been cleared by the appeals process. H.R. 5909 would prohibit government employees from tipping off airport screeners about covert tests of transportation security. Over the last year, there have been numerous news reports over incidents of airport screeners having been made aware of impending security tests, which has raised questions in Congress about how much can be learned from the test results. The bill would require that every covert testing group be accompanied by a second team to monitor the secret test. H.R. 5982 would require DHS to conduct a study of how airports could implement biometric identification systems for airport employees who work beyond the security checkpoints. Biometric systems include fingerprint and retina scanners. The bill aims to guard against attacks by terrorists who have acquired jobs at airports.

Source: <http://www.rotor.com/Default.aspx?tabid=510&newsid905=59003>

14. *June 18, Agence France-Presse* – (National) **Three airlines allow cellphone check-in on U.S. flights.** Three U.S. airlines are permitting passengers to check in to domestic flights using cell phones or other web-enabled devices, the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) said Tuesday. Delta Air Lines domestic passengers departing out of New York's La Guardia airport may use a paperless check-in system that would have them download a boarding pass with a bar code to their phone or device that would be scanned by TSA at security checkpoints and upon boarding the plane. U.S. carrier Continental launched a similar system in November 2007 at four U.S. airports including Newark. Northwest debuted its paperless boarding system in May out of the Indianapolis airport in Indiana.

Source: [http://afp.google.com/article/ALeqM5j4yS4vN52X1Hk6Cgadix9O\\_SLkIg](http://afp.google.com/article/ALeqM5j4yS4vN52X1Hk6Cgadix9O_SLkIg)

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## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

15. *June 19, WTMJ 4 Milwaukee* – (Wisconsin) **Suspicious mail found at fed. courthouse.**

Hazmat crews were at the federal courthouse in downtown Milwaukee Wednesday morning investigating a piece of suspicious mail. Someone noticed the envelope smelled of ammonia, and the Milwaukee Fire Department's hazmat team was sent to investigate. Crews shut down the bankruptcy court office while the envelope was investigated, sealed, and removed from the courthouse. "We have determined that there are no chemicals that posed any dangers to the public that's emitting from this envelope," a Milwaukee Fire Department spokeswoman said. The federal courthouse not only houses federal courtrooms, but offices for several other agencies, including the secret service and the federal marshal.

Source: <http://www.todaystmj4.com/news/local/20400369.html>

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## **Agriculture and Food Sector**

16. *June 19, Jackson Hole Star-Tribune* – (National) **Ranchers: Brucellosis vaccine is failing.**

Many ranchers were aware of the threat of transmission of the disease brucellosis, and voluntarily vaccinated their cattle with the Strain 19 vaccine to provide protection to their herds. But Strain 19 was problematic because it could cause 'false positive' reactions in blood tests. Animals that tested positive for the disease would have to be slaughtered and their tissues cultured to determine if they actually harbored the disease. Just over a decade ago, federal animal health officials determined that a new cattle vaccine, RB51, was better than Strain 19, as it offered the same immunity level as Strain 19, but would not cause the false positives. The U.S. Department of Agriculture Animal Plant Health Inspection Service banned the use of Strain 19, so the nation's cattle industry began widespread use of RB51. RB51's protective effect appears to wear off in a few years – something researchers were unaware of. On Wednesday the governor of Wyoming called upon the federal government to provide funding to develop a reliable vaccine. "You're always going to have commingling between livestock and wildlife," the governor said. "The question is trying to use our scientific knowledge, our advance in scientific knowledge, so that you can address this issue."

Source:

<http://www.jacksonholestartrib.com/articles/2008/06/19/news/wyoming/e5ef851c68c044028725746d0001e4f3.txt>

17. *June 19, Reuters* – (International) **Biotech crops seen helping to feed hungry world.**

Biotechnology in agriculture will be key to feeding a growing world population and overcoming climate challenges like crop-killing droughts, according to a group of leading industry players. DuPont believes it can increase corn and soybean yields by 40 percent over the next decade. Corn seeds that now average about 150 bushels per acre could be at well over 200 bushels an acre, for example, DuPont officials said. Crop

shortages this year have sparked riots in some countries and steep price hikes in markets around the globe. However, biotech crop opponents rebuke the idea that biotechnology is the answer. “The facts on the ground clearly show that biotech companies have developed mainly chemical-dependent GM crops that have increased pesticide use, reduced yields, and have nothing to do with feeding the world,” a science policy analyst at the Washington- based Center for Food Safety said. “The world cannot wait for GM crops when so many existing solutions are being neglected.”

Source:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/environmentNews/idUSN1841870420080619?feedType=RSS&feedName=environmentNews&sp=true>

18. *June 18, Chicago Tribune* – (National) **Tracking the bug in tomatoes.** The “food safety czar” and a veteran food-contamination scientist at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) said that discovering where the bug originated may be impossible. An individual tomato typically carries no information of its origin. Even though growers of tomatoes and other produce often voluntarily identify boxes of their product, tracking a batch is very difficult, he reported. However, a Consumers Union’s representative notes that such tracking systems are not mandatory. “We need new laws that require full traceability,” she said. The FDA is trying to obtain legislative authority to issue new handling regulations for foods—like fresh produce—that have been repeatedly associated with outbreaks of serious illnesses. The FDA wants producers to be required to keep compliance records for any new rules. The agency also wants the authority to issue mandatory food recalls when voluntary recalls fail.

Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/business/chi-wed-fda-acheson-tomatoes-jun18,0,7995824.story>

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## Water Sector

19. *June 18, KMGH 7 Denver* – (Colorado) **Why did plutonium spill end up in sink?** A Colorado State representative wants a federal agency to explain how traces of radioactive plutonium ended up in a sink at a Boulder laboratory and says it may have gotten into the city’s sewer system. A glass vial cracked at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) last week and spilled a powder containing plutonium. Contamination was initially found on a desk, a notebook, and a chair used by a researcher. The institute said safety experts found plutonium in the sink when they re-entered the lab this week. The institute said the researcher who had been working with the plutonium had washed his hands during the incident. NIST officials said 22 workers were exposed and decontaminated with soap and water, while an additional two workers later said they were exposed. The official said the plutonium may have leaked into the city sewer system.

Source: <http://www.thedenverchannel.com/news/16643295/detail.html>

20. *June 19, Iowa City Press-Citizen* – (Iowa) **Just how bad water quality is not known.** The president of University of Iowa has warned of raw sewage in the Iowa River. On Friday, samples of the Cedar River just outside of Cedar Rapids returned high levels of

E. coli, an indicator of animal waste. Officials stress the results are preliminary and many more tests will follow. The concentrations could worsen as water levels recede off farm fields and city streets or stagnate in low-lying areas and containers. Or contaminants could become increasingly diluted. Initial tests looked for bacteria and pesticides. Further testing might look for metals, coal tar, and other things. All of the municipal water systems remain intact, but Johnson County's Public Health director said people on private wells should contact the Johnson County Department of Health for help assessing the situation, testing, and getting treatment. The county is offering free private well tests for people living in flood-affected areas.

Source: <http://www.press-citizen.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080619/NEWS01/806190327/1079>

21. *June 18, Knoxville News Sentinel* – (Kentucky) **Private wells suspected hepatitis A source.** Health officials investigating a hepatitis A outbreak in the Mooresburg area of Hawkins County, Kentucky, last month now have a likely source: private wells. The Northeast Regional Health Department announced Tuesday that tests conducted by the national Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found traces of hepatitis A in untreated water in two wells in that area near Cherokee Lake. Hepatitis A could be present in the groundwater for up to two months. On May 27, the health department had notified people living in or visiting the Mooresburg area that they may have been exposed to hepatitis A, a potentially serious virus that can damage the liver. More than 1,500 people were vaccinated.  
Source: <http://www.knoxnews.com/news/2008/jun/18/private-wells-suspected-hepatitis-a-source/>
22. *June 18, Associated Press* – (New York) **Bill to protect drinking water gets final approval.** A bill increasing penalties for contaminating public drinking water supplies has received final legislative approval. The bill was prompted by concerns over pollution of the Great Flats Aquifer in Schenectady County. A New York senator noted that the current penalties for polluters of drinking water have remained unchanged since 1885 and are seriously out of date. If signed into law, the legislation would set fines of up to \$200 per day for each violation. It also would allow courts to impose a thousand-dollar criminal penalty and up to a year in jail. The current penalty is a flat \$200 fine. It has failed to deter polluters, who treat it as a cost of doing business.  
Source: <http://www.wcax.com/Global/story.asp?S=8516509>
23. *June 18, Poughkeepsie Journal* – (New York) **Senate OKs bill backing testing of private wells.** A bill that would provide for the testing of private wells has passed the New York State Senate. A senator said the bill, which was approved 41-21, would help protect the public from dangerous contaminants by giving them incentives to test their wells. The Senate bill provides for a pilot program for Dutchess and Rockland counties that would allow any homeowner to test their well and be reimbursed from the state's Hazardous Waste Remediation Oversight and Assistance Account. State funds would also be used to reimburse for mandatory testing of all private wells within the vicinity of Superfund sites. The law would give prospective homeowners a tax credit for voluntarily testing their wells. Home buyers now get a \$500 credit off the home's price

if the seller does not complete the form.

Source:

<http://www.poughkeepsiejournal.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080618/NEWS01/806180329/1006>

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## **Public Health and Healthcare Sector**

24. *June 19, Bloomberg* – (National) **Few doctors use electronic records because of costs.**

Electronic health records, touted by the government as a way to reduce medical costs, are used by few doctors in the U.S. because they are too expensive for their practices, a Harvard University survey published in the New England Journal of Medicine found. The poll found that just four percent of doctors use software that includes electronic prescriptions and drug-interaction warnings. A larger group, 13 percent, opted for more basic software that only allowed them to enter notes and medical histories. Those who use the computer systems said they helped improve patient care. Using computer records to lower cost and eliminate inefficiency has been a recurring theme among both major U.S. presidential candidates and in Congress. On June 10, the federal government offered \$150 million in grants to promote use of electronic records among 1,200 doctors in 12 communities. A second report, released separately by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, found that large practices were more likely to work with electronic systems than smaller ones. The foundation released its findings in an executive summary of a fuller report to be released July 2.

Source:

[http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601103&sid=a4kjSAFOsi\\_o&refer=us](http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601103&sid=a4kjSAFOsi_o&refer=us)

25. *June 19, Agence France-Presse* – (International) **Bird flu situation around the world improving: UN coordinator.**

Although bird flu remains entrenched in Bangladesh, Egypt, India, Indonesia, and Vietnam, the situation is improving in the rest of the world due to measures taken by governments, the UN coordinator for the disease said Tuesday. ““If we look at the rest of the world, I can continue to report that the situation is really improving,” he told reporters.” Countries generally have invested massively in improving the functioning of their veterinary services and also the biosecurity around which poultry are reared has generally improved.” He warned, however, that the world community had to remain on high alert for the possible mutation of the virus into one communicable between humans.

Source: [http://www.tehrantimes.com/index\\_View.asp?code=171163](http://www.tehrantimes.com/index_View.asp?code=171163)

26. *June 19, Gannett News Service* – (New York) **TB cases in Chemung trigger tests.**

Two Chemung County residents who attended Corning Community College in the 2007-08 academic year have been diagnosed with active cases of tuberculosis. The diagnoses, made in April and May, have necessitated testing in both Chemung and Steuben counties of more than 100 people who may have had close contact with the infected patients. Although the testing is not finished, no new active cases of tuberculosis have been found, said Chemung County’s director of public health. He said investigators are exploring the contacts the infected students may have had with passengers on a bus that

runs from Elmira to Corning Community College.

Source:

<http://www.pressconnects.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080619/NEWS01/80619006>

27. *June 19, Idaho Press-Tribune* – (Idaho) **Idaho pools fighting disease.** Public pools in Canyon County are taking extra precautions this year to try to prevent another outbreak of cryptosporidium. Last year the diarrheal disease caused by a germ that swimmers can ingest when swimming in water contaminated with human or animal waste affected hundreds of people across the west.

Source: <http://www.magicvalley.com/articles/2008/06/19/ap-state-id/d91cjgcl.txt>

28. *June 18, KMGH 7 Denver* – (Colorado) **MCA camp sickened with norovirus.** At least 70 kids and 15 counselors at a Granby YMCA camp are sick with the norovirus, camp officials said. Everyone who has been infected or who has had contact with an infected person has been quarantined to a pavilion outside of the camp area, a YMCA of the Rockies spokesperson said. There were 60 cases reported Wednesday morning but a few hours later the outbreak spread to 72 kids, camp officials said. The Colorado Department of Health has been contacted and is working with camp to identify the source of the outbreak.

Source: <http://www.thedenverchannel.com/news/16647043/detail.html>

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## **Government Facilities Sector**

29. *June 19, Washington Post* – (District of Columbia) **Newer radios are sought to protect lawmakers.** Legislators expressed frustration Wednesday that the U.S. Capitol Police are still using an outdated radio system that suffers frequent breakdowns, even though Congress is considered a major terrorist target. The head of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Subcommittee recently blocked the Capitol Police from starting to spend money on the new radio system. She said she was upset that the police had submitted only a “vague outline of a proposal” with an estimated cost that had doubled to \$70 million. The official met Wednesday evening with top Capitol Police officials and said afterward that they had cleared the air. But she said the money would not be released immediately.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/06/18/AR2008061802396.html>

30. *June 19, Harris News Service* – (Kansas) **Sensitive information found on state surplus computers.** Lawmakers expressed alarm Wednesday over a legislative report showing that confidential information was left on outdated state computers being released for sale to the public. The Legislative Division of Post Audit found that several state agencies had failed to adequately remove sensitive data from some machines, including Social Security numbers and password files. The computers had been turned over to a government office that disposes of excess state property for Topeka-based agencies, but they had not been sold. Researchers found that seven of the 15 computers

they looked at still contained information that is considered confidential under state or federal law. That includes thousands of Social Security numbers, names of Medicaid beneficiaries, and personnel information about state employees. Password files and other network information that could be valuable to hackers were also on the machines. Another four computers contained sensitive agency files such as employee accident reports and architectural drawings of state office buildings. A spokesman for the Department of Administration said the state has not received any reports of identity theft resulting from state computers being sold. He said the agency is considering whether it should try to track down the machines. As a result of their findings, researchers recommended a stronger state policy on removing data from used computers and better education for state agencies about the issue.

Source: <http://www.saljournal.com/rdnews/story/HNS-computer-audit-6-18-08>

31. *June 18, CBS* – (National) **Internet ties link U.S. terror cells.** An ex-commando, working undercover for the Federal Bureau of Investigation, took photographs as aspiring terrorists plotted to carry out attacks against U.S. soldiers in Iraq. They trained with weapons and learned how to make suicide vests. This happened in Toledo, Ohio, and involved three Americans drawn to the call of Jihad, a CBS News justice and homeland security correspondent reports. CBS News has learned e-mails and phone calls connect the Toledo cell to terror suspects in at least three other North American cities – and to a notorious al Qaeda operative. None of the suspects’ plots came close to working – all were infiltrated and busted.

Source:

[http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2008/06/18/eveningnews/main4193179.shtml?source=mostpop\\_story](http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2008/06/18/eveningnews/main4193179.shtml?source=mostpop_story)

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## **Emergency Services Sector**

32. *June 19, Indianapolis Star* – (Indiana) **Officials propose 911 plan.** In the wake of the recent flood disasters in other areas of the state, the police and fire departments in Westfield, Indiana are working to release an emergency preparedness plan for Washington Township by year’s end.” The county’s plan could run the risk of being overwhelmed,” said Westfield’s fire chief. “Our systems will be exhausted in the event of a significant emergency.” Westfield has a community network called WeCAN that connects neighborhood associations with city officials for easy communication, and the new plan would build on that network. The departments have mapped out shelter locations, suppliers for cots and vaccines, transportation and community organization for both low severity emergencies such as snowstorms and high severity incidents such as a terrorist attack. They also have considered how to respond to emergencies in surrounding areas, as the Fire Department recently rescued a man caught on a bush in floodwaters in Vigo County. One of their strategies for local mass mobilization is what they call “reverse 911,” where a call center would broadcast messages through mass text messaging, radio, television, and print publications.

Source:

<http://www.indystar.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080619/LOCAL0103/80619033>

33. *June 18, San Diego Union-Tribune* – (California) **Plan’s in place, this time, in readiness for tsunami.** After a false tsunami warning three years ago, Imperial Beach found major weaknesses in its emergency response and now has a plan to evacuate residents safely. Imperial Beach spent \$47,000 in grant money to create a plan to notify the public, establish who’s in charge, and set up a command station in case of a tsunami. At a City Council meeting Thursday, the National Weather Service will declare Imperial Beach as TsunamiReady – the first of 10 coastal cities in the county and one of only 13 in the state to be so designated. California cities are not required to have a tsunami plan, but the weather service recommends one. Half Moon Bay, all Orange County coastal cities, and San Clemente are TsunamiReady. Encinitas and National City are working on such plans, according to the National Weather Service. There are 57 TsunamiReady sites in 10 states, Puerto Rico, and Guam.  
Source: <http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/metro/20080618-9999-1m18tsunami.html>
34. *June 18, Warrenton Journal* – (Missouri) **State, local officials converge over Innsbrook dam incident.** State and local officials and Innsbrook Resort representatives met June 11 to go over the May 27 incident at dam there. During the meeting, officials discussed using the incident as a springboard to develop emergency action plans for the area. Initially during the incident, officials were concerned about a possible dam failure after Innsbrook workers discovered a broken overflow pipe had caused two sinkholes to form on the dam. Warren County Presiding Commissioner said: “With all the different agencies involved, there was some miscommunication, but as a whole, the things that were done were done for public safety.” He noted the warning that went out was a voluntary evacuation, not a mandatory evacuation. The Warren County assessor noted the usefulness of newly installed geographic information system map technology, but noted room for improvement in its use. Innsbrook has committed to putting emergency action plans in place for its dams and other emergencies, such as earthquakes and fires, an Innsbrook spokesman said. The groups agreed that part of the emergency action plan would be to establish a unified command center removed from the scene where officials could share information, make decisions, and release statements to the media.  
Source: <http://warrentonjournal.stltoday.com/articles/2008/06/18/news/sj2tn20080618-0618war-dam0.ii1.txt>
35. *June 18, Columbia Missourian* – (Missouri) **Fire District gives up its bomb squad.** Boone County Fire Protection District has given up its bomb squad. In a split decision Wednesday night, the board voted not to attempt the process of ending the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s (FBI) suspension, which began April 9 because the bomb squad did not meet the FBI’s minimum requirements. The cause of the bomb squad’s suspension lay in the fact that to obtain FBI certification, firefighters have to be law enforcement certified and be full-time, salaried employees, not volunteers, a requirement that the Fire Protection District did not meet. Recertification would require hiring a full-time employee to act as bomb squad commander, a cost estimated at about \$55,000 for a yearly salary and an additional \$19,000 for benefits and other expenses.

This leaves the district with what Gordon estimated as several hundred thousand dollars worth of bomb-detecting and defusing equipment and no one certified to use it. The equipment was purchased with FBI and Homeland Security funds.

Source: <http://www.columbiamissourian.com/stories/2008/06/18/fire-district-gives-its-bomb-squad/>

36. *June 18, Associated Press* – (New York) **NY issues report on gas explosion involving ConEd.** A state investigation of a deadly explosion in Queens last year found that Consolidated Edison (ConEd) and the New York Fire Department need to better coordinate the way they investigate gas leaks. An 80-year-old gas main cracked in November, filling a nearby home with gas that exploded and killed a 69-year-old man. Firefighters arrived before the blast, called by neighborhood residents who reported smelling gas. But they left when ConEd mechanics told them they had the situation under control. Shortly afterward, the explosion ripped through the man's two-family house. The state Public Service Commission said Wednesday that ConEd followed proper safety practices but also recommended changes, including better coordination with the Fire Department at the scenes of gas leaks. ConEd said in a prepared statement it has made a series of changes in its responses to gas leaks.

Source: <http://www.forbes.com/feeds/ap/2008/06/18/ap5131152.html>

37. *June 17, Portland Press Herald* – (Maine) **Officials grappling with latest 911 lapses.** Penobscot County's emergency dispatch center experienced a series of malfunctions over the weekend, becoming the state's third system to break down in as many months. Cumberland County and the state Department of Public Safety had to contend with breakdowns earlier this spring. The failures, which involve a particular type of 911 answering system, have frustrated and puzzled public safety officials, technicians, and FairPoint Communications, which inherited the systems when it bought Verizon's telephone network in northern New England in March. The recurring problem also weakens faith in a system that often is the lifeline between people in emergencies and the rescue workers they need. Most systems in the state run on different technology and are not affected, but the problems are generating concern nevertheless. The latest problems appear unrelated to malfunctions that occurred at the Cumberland County center in Windham and the state police center in Gray, and state officials and FairPoint are at a loss to explain why so many problems are happening at the same time. Its 911 calls are being routed to the center's backup, the state Department of Public Safety barracks in Orono, while technicians and engineers work to fix the problem.

Source: [http://www.jems.com/news\\_and\\_articles/news/maine\\_911\\_lapses.html](http://www.jems.com/news_and_articles/news/maine_911_lapses.html)

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## **Information Technology**

38. *June 18, IDG News Service* – (National) **Digital rights groups hit ISP ad firm for spying on users.** A targeted advertising vendor being used by several U.S. broadband providers hijacks browsers, spies on users and employs man-in-the-middle attacks, according to a report released Thursday by two advocacy groups. NebuAd Inc., a behavioral advertising vendor being used by Charter Communications Inc.,

WideOpenWest Holdings LLC and other Internet service providers, also uses packet forgery, modifies the content of TCP/IP packets and loads subscribers' computers with unwanted cookies, according to the report by Public Knowledge and Free Press, two Washington-based organizations focused on digital rights. "NebuAd exploits several forms of 'attack' on users' and applications' security," the chief technology consultant for the two groups. "These practices – committed upon users with the paid-for cooperation of ISPs – violate several fundamental expectations of Internet privacy, security and standards-based interoperability." NebuAd violates Internet Engineering Task Force standards that "created today's Internet, where the network operators transmit packets between end users without inspecting or interfering with them," he said.

Source:

[http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=security&articleId=9100378&taxonomyId=17&intsrc=kc\\_top](http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=security&articleId=9100378&taxonomyId=17&intsrc=kc_top)

39. *June 18, IDG News Service* – (National) **Firefox 3 vulnerability found.** Five hours after Mozilla officially released Firefox 3.0, researchers found a vulnerability in the new browser. Tipping Point has verified the bug and reported it to Mozilla, Tipping Point said on Wednesday. Since Mozilla is still working on a fix, the researchers will not share details about the problem. Tipping Point ranked the severity of the vulnerability as high, but said that users would have to click on a link in an e-mail or visit a malicious Web page before being affected. The issue affects users of Firefox 3.0 as well as Firefox 2.0. Once the problem is fixed, Tipping Point will publish an advisory on its Web site, it said.

Source: <http://www.networkworld.com/news/2008/061808-firefox-3-vulnerability.html>

### Internet Alert Dashboard

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

Nothing to report

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## Commercial Facilities Sector

40. *June 18, KUSA 9 Denver* – (Colorado) **CBI says no substantial security threats have surfaced to DNC.** At the Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI) there have been monthly meetings about security for the Democratic National Convention

(DNC) since January of last year. The Secret Service, FBI, CBI, State Patrol, and the Denver Police Department are some of the agencies involved. Taking on a security plan for a national event such as this is very different than before the September 11th terrorist attacks. A representative with CBI said the security measures are “new for convention planning, but it is not new to Homeland Security.” The state’s water and food sources, power stations and major venues already have security in place because of the Homeland Security efforts. “You know, people make all kinds of crazy claims but nothing has surfaced at this point that falls into the category of actionable intelligence,” he said.

Source: <http://www.9news.com/news/article.aspx?storyid=93986&catid=188>

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## **National Monuments & Icons Sector**

41. *June 18, Birmingham Star* – (National) **Bush wants offshore and national park drilling.** The U.S president has called on Congress to lift a ban on drilling for oil off the coast of U.S. He claims the decades-old federal ban is threatening the U.S. economy and national security. The ban currently prevents new licenses being issued for offshore drilling except in the Gulf Coast states of Texas, Louisiana, Alabama, and parts of Alaska. The president has insisted supplies should be boosted to prevent the U.S. from becoming more dependent on imported oil from hostile foreign nations and to stop prices rising further. He also called for the building of new refineries in the U.S., as well as exploring for oil in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge of Alaska.

Source:

<http://story.birminghamstar.com/index.php/ct/9/cid/420d9e49bcaa69d0/id/372516/cs/1/>

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## **Dams Sector**

42. *June 19, Chicago Tribune* – (Illinois) **River muscles over levees.** At least 19 Illinois counties were declared disaster areas and some 1,100 National Guard troops were on the front lines furiously fighting the floods. Across the river in Missouri, at least seven levees broke Wednesday between St. Louis and the Iowa border, creating havoc in small towns and shutting down roads. With the river expected to crest here in the next few days at near-record levels, it could gobble up more farmland through levee gaps as much as 700 feet long. At the Meyer Lock and Dam, a nearly 400-foot section of levee had washed away shortly after midnight. A few miles south, an even larger chunk of the Indian Graves levee is gone. The water is flowing so fast on either end that whitecaps have formed, and a huge lake has emerged on the wrong side of the levee, extending for miles in both directions.

Source: [http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/nationworld/chi-midwest-floods\\_thursjun19,0,3294594.story](http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/nationworld/chi-midwest-floods_thursjun19,0,3294594.story)

43. *June 19, St. Louis Post-Dispatch and Associated Press* – (Missouri) **Alton sets up flood**

**command center; Winfield levee breaks.** Floodwaters punched a 150-foot hole in a Winfield, Missouri, levee Wednesday night, and firefighters spent hours in the dark going door-to-door to warn residents in one subdivision that water was coming faster than expected. Water was quickly flowing toward a second levee north of Foley, and the National Guard was fortifying that with sandbags.

Source:

<http://www.stltoday.com/stltoday/news/stories.nsf/news/stcharles/story/7d020ad5a1a4db458625746d0015102d?OpenDocument>

44. *June 18, Associated Press* – (Illinois) **Ill. levee breaches force small town's evacuation.** Floodwaters breached two levees in western Illinois on Wednesday, and the federal government warned that 20 to 30 more levees may overflow along the Mississippi River. Twenty levees have already overflowed this week, the Army Corps of Engineers said. The other levees could overflow if sandbagging efforts fail to raise the levees' levels. The levees in danger protect rural, industrial, and agricultural areas – not heavily populated towns. Levees protecting large towns are not as at risk of overflowing, officials said. Officials were also concerned about the integrity of a levee that protects a drainage area south of Oakville.

Source:

[http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5hw95ek5Sllmi4SoQ\\_N4HJvwHE0ZAD91CM6SG4](http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5hw95ek5Sllmi4SoQ_N4HJvwHE0ZAD91CM6SG4)

45. *June 18, Associated Press* – (North Dakota) **Nelson County dam being repaired.** Crews are plugging a leaky dam on the Tolna Coulee in Nelson County. The concrete-and-rock Tolna Dam has been leaking for years. A State Water Commission construction chief says the seepage has gotten worse the last five years, and this spring the dam repairs became a priority. The project will cost about \$60,000. The repairs are being made with Bentonite, a clay formed by the decomposition of volcanic ash that can absorb large quantities of water.

Source: <http://www.kxmc.com/getArticle.asp?ArticleId=249193>

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

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

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