



Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 25 July 2008

Current Nationwide
Threat Level is

ELEVATED
SIGNIFICANT RISK OF
TERRORIST ATTACKS

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

- The U.S. Coast Guard closed 98 miles of the Mississippi River from New Orleans, Louisiana, southward after a fuel barge and a tanker collided early Wednesday, spilling 419,000 gallons of fuel oil. (See item [12](#))
- IDS specialists are calling for a fundamental rethinking of HIV policy after a new report showed that infection with the virus was rising dramatically in the South even as it dropped everywhere else in the country. (See item [25](#))

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. *July 24, Reuters* – (National; Texas) **Offshore U.S. Gulf output returning, ports remain shut.** Offshore Gulf of Mexico oil and natural gas companies were restoring production on Thursday morning as Tropical Storm Dolly continued to close down shipping and affect refineries along the Texas coast. Dolly, which weakened from hurricane strength on Wednesday night, was moving well inland, but high winds at the Gulf entrances to the Houston and Corpus Christi, Texas, ship channels meant those waterways to two coastal refining centers were closed to traffic. Producers heaved sighs of relief that the storm packed none of the fury of hurricanes in 2005, which temporarily shut all Gulf of Mexico oil and gas production, pushing oil prices to then-record highs.

Source:

<http://uk.reuters.com/article/governmentFilingsNews/idUKN2441095120080724?pageNumber=1&virtualBrandChannel=0>

2. *July 24, Reuters* – (Texas) **AEP Texas outages exceed 200,000 after Dolly.** American Electric Power Co.'s (AEP) Texas unit reported more than 200,000 customers in south Texas without power on Thursday after Hurricane Dolly rolled through the Rio Grande Valley, just north of the U.S.-Mexico border. Dolly's wind strengthened to 100 mph before it made landfall on Wednesday, crossing South Padre Island. High wind and rain continue to affect a large part of AEP's south Texas service territory Thursday as Dolly moves inland as a tropical storm. Utility crews are evaluating damage to the distribution network and the high-voltage transmission grid, AEP said in a statement. The Texas grid operator issued an alert on Wednesday due to transmission damage in the Brownsville area. AEP's Texas utility reported 200,916 outages in ten counties from the tip of Texas north to the Corpus Christi area. The highest number of outages Thursday was reported in Hidalgo County at 115,799. Cameron County had 73,789 outages, according to a report at 9:34 a.m. Neighboring utilities will begin sending tree trimmers and line workers to the storm-damaged area on Thursday to bolster AEP's own crews, officials said.

Source:

<http://uk.reuters.com/article/rbssIndustryMaterialsUtilitiesNews/idUKN2427836720080724>

3. *July 23, Reuters* – (Northeast) **U.S. buys 19,250 bbls heating oil for N.E. reserve.** The U.S. Energy Department said on Wednesday it awarded a contract to Hess Corp. to deliver 19,250 barrels of heating oil to the Northeast emergency reserve. The department's \$3 million purchase will bring the reserve close to its two-million-barrel capacity. The heating oil will be delivered to the Hess First Reserve terminal in New York Harbor later this week. The reserve was created by Congress in 2000, and two million barrels was determined to be sufficient relief for ten days, the amount of time it would take to get new heating oil supplies from Gulf Coast refiners to the Northeast. Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssEnergyNews/idUSN2343474520080723>

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Chemical Industry Sector

Nothing to report

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector

4. *July 24, Daily Yomiuri* – (International) **6.8 quake rocks Tohoku.** A powerful earthquake with a preliminary magnitude of 6.8 struck the Tohoku region in Japan early Thursday, injuring at least 88 people and cutting power to more than 4,500 households. The government set up a task force at the prime minister's office at 12:34 a.m. to deal

with the effects of the quake. No damage was reported at nuclear facilities in the quake-hit areas, according to the Economy, Trade, and Industry Ministry. Tohoku Electric Power Co. said its Onagawa nuclear power plant in Miyagi Prefecture and Higashidori nuclear power plant were operating normally, while Tokyo Electric Power Co. said its No. 1 and No. 2 nuclear power plants in Fukushima Prefecture were operating normally. Japan Nuclear Fuel Ltd. said there were no problems reported at its spent nuclear fuel recycling facilities in Rokkashomura, Aomori Prefecture, and no radiation leaks were reported.

Source: <http://www.yomiuri.co.jp/dy/national/20080724dy01.htm>

5. *July 24, Rutland Herald* – (Vermont) **Entergy: Yankee component cracks from natural aging.** Vermont Yankee’s steam dryer has withstood the additional stress from a 20 percent jump in power production despite developing an increasing number of cracks, Entergy engineers told a panel from the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Wednesday. And if the steam dryer was going to show serious problems – as it has at other, similar nuclear power plants which have increased power production – it would have by now, an Entergy Nuclear engineer said. He said the steam dryer’s new cracks appeared in areas of the dryer that do not receive a lot of stress, supporting his theory that the cracks are a result of natural aging in earlier welded areas rather than metal fatigue. He said the cracks did not affect the structural integrity of the large steel dryer. The third day of hearings before the federal panel focused on the reactor’s steam dryer, which removes the moisture from the steam before it heads into the plant’s turbines. While strictly not a safety component, its disintegration could send pieces of steel back into the plant’s piping system, creating the potential for a serious set of safety problems. Such a problem occurred in 2003 at an Illinois plant similar to Vermont Yankee.

Source:

<http://www.rutlandherald.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080724/NEWS02/807240400/1003/NEWS02>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

6. *July 23, Star-Telegram* – (Texas) **Man arrested after car breeches Lockheed gates.** A man was arrested early Sunday after his vehicle breached several gates and barriers at Lockheed Martin’s Fort Worth campus, according to police. The man rammed and breached three security points at Lockheed Martin’s facility before being stopped at the north end of the plant, according to a police report. A Lockheed spokesman said while the vehicle traveled a “good distance” and struck several gates and barriers, no buildings were penetrated and the damage to the barriers was minor. The FBI briefly looked into the case said a special agent and media coordinator for the FBI’s Dallas Field Office. He said, however, that there was not any alleged criminal activity in the case that would warrant the involvement of the FBI.

Source: http://www.star-telegram.com/crime_courts/story/777623.html

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Banking and Finance Sector

7. *July 24, Los Angeles Times* – (California) **L.A. sues financial firms, alleging fraud in bond issues.** Bid-rigging and other alleged fraud by investment banks and insurance companies allegedly cost Los Angeles taxpayers tens of millions of dollars, according to a pair of lawsuits filed Wednesday by a Los Angeles City attorney. One of the suits alleges that such Wall Street heavyweights as Merrill Lynch & Co., Morgan Stanley and Bank of America Corp. conspired with more than three dozen other financial firms to defraud the city and other public entities in a long-running scheme that is also the focus of federal criminal investigations. Both complaints deal with the city's issuance of municipal bonds. Such securities are sold by cities, counties and states to finance public projects such as the construction of roads, mass transit systems, schools and power plants. The money raised from selling the bonds is often placed in investments known as municipal derivatives until it is spent on the projects. Investment firms seeking to sell those instruments to municipalities are supposed to place competitive bids so that public entities receive the best possible rate of return. But according to the city's lawsuit against the Wall Street firms, they and other defendants conspired to rig the process by deciding among themselves which firm would win each contract. The alleged conspiracy resulted in artificially low returns on the investments, costing the city "tens of millions of dollars it should have earned," the attorney said. A federal grand jury in New York is hearing evidence in the case, according to the lawsuit, which says subpoenas have been issued to more than 30 commercial and investment banks, insurance companies and brokers. The Internal Revenue Service and the Securities and Exchange Commission also are investigating, according to the lawsuit. The city of Oakland and other municipalities have filed similar lawsuits.

Source: <http://www.latimes.com/business/la-fi-bonds24-2008jul24,0,2312012.story>

8. *July 24, Post-Crescent* – (Wisconsin) **Telephone scam targets credit union members in Fox Valley.** Police are telling residents to ignore automated telephone messages that urge credit union customers to reveal their account information. Several Fox Cities, Wisconsin, police departments said they had numerous reports Wednesday from people who say they received the automated calls purporting to be from financial institutions. The automated calls tell recipients their accounts are suspended and give a phone number for account-holders to call to re-establish service. The calls were made to both home phone and cellular customers, said the chief of the Combined Locks Police Department. The callers said they represented Fox Communities Credit Union. The credit union later placed a fraud alert about the calls on its Web site. The president of the credit union said calls started Tuesday night, and by Wednesday morning, the calls switched to using the name of another financial institution. He said the phone number has been shut down. The number belonged to a legitimate business, and was somehow hijacked by the scammers.

Source:

<http://www.postcrescent.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080724/APC0101/807240515/1979/APC0404>

9. *July 24, Sino Cast* – (International) **China Anti-phishing Websites Alliance founded.**

The China Anti-phishing Websites Alliance was officially founded in Beijing on July 23 with an eye to cracking down on anti-phishing websites and protecting Internet users from phishing. Members of the alliance include a raft of banks, third-party payment companies, e-commerce websites, and domain name registration companies such as the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China, Agricultural Bank of China, Bank of China, Construction Bank of China, Huaxia Bank, China Everbright Bank, Minsheng Banking Corporation, Galaxy Securities, Tencent, Taobao, Alipay, Alibaba, HiChina, eName, and so on. These members will make concerted efforts to stop DNS service of phishing websites in time to put an end to their operation. First the alliance will look over and secure the IT system of securities, financial institutions, e-commerce companies, and online payment companies, which have been much more vulnerable to phishing.

Source: <http://www.tradingmarkets.com/.site/news/Stock%20News/1779217/>

10. *July 23, IDG News Service* – (National) **Romanian admits to phishing, could face five years.** A Romanian man pleaded guilty Tuesday to a federal fraud charge for his role in setting up fake Web sites in order to steal credit and debit card details. The suspect is one of 38 people of several nationalities charged in May with running a cybercrime ring centered around spam and phishing. In just one incident, the crew sent 1.3 million spam messages luring people to visit Web sites they had built to collect financial details. Using instant messaging programs, the hackers sent those details to “cashiers” in the U.S. Those cashiers would make fraudulent bank cards, encoding the bank information onto the magnetic stripe of dummy cards. The cards would then be used to withdraw money at cash machines with the highest withdrawal limits, the Department of Justice said. The hackers, some of who were located in Romania and elsewhere, would be sent a cut of the proceeds. Financial institutions affected included Citibank, Capital One, JP Morgan Chase and Wells Fargo. Also targeted was auction site eBay and its electronic payment branch, PayPal.

Source:

http://www.pcworld.com/businesscenter/article/148795/romanian_admits_to_phishing_could_face_five_years.html

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Transportation Sector

11. *July 24, Chicago Tribune* – (Illinois) **Another close call at O’Hare.** When a Peoria-bound American Eagle jetliner with 43 passengers barreled down a runway at O’Hare International Airport on Monday, it nearly collided with a smaller corporate jet about to land on an intersecting runway, authorities said Wednesday. As the two planes drew dangerously close—they passed within 325 feet of each other—air traffic controllers scrambled to direct the smaller Learjet to abort its landing by pulling up. The pilot of the American Eagle was ordered to stay low as it continued its takeoff. Federal officials blamed an air traffic controller for clearing the American Eagle for takeoff without noticing the Learjet as it approached. It was the 13th incident classified as a near collision at O’Hare since 1992, according to the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) incident database. No one was injured in Monday’s incident. The NTSB said Wednesday it had dispatched an investigator to Chicago.

Source: http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/chicago/chi-ntsb_thurjul24,0,6520627.story

12. *July 24, CNN* – (Louisiana) **Spill could close part of Mississippi River for days.** The U.S. Coast Guard closed 98 miles of the Mississippi River from New Orleans, Louisiana, southward after a fuel barge and a tanker collided early Wednesday, spilling 419,000 gallons of fuel oil. The closure – on what is a major shipping route between the Midwest and the Gulf of Mexico – could last days, and the cleanup could take weeks, said the Coast Guard chief in New Orleans. New Orleans is among the largest U.S. ports. More than 30 ships were queued early Wednesday afternoon, waiting to pass through the closed zone, a Coast Guard spokeswoman said. The Coast Guard said Wednesday evening that the tug had no properly licensed crew on board at the time of the collision. No injuries were reported, and the National Transportation Safety Board said it has dispatched investigators to look into the accident.

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2008/US/07/23/mississippi.spill/index.html>

13. *July 23, KELOLAND TV Sioux Falls* – (South Dakota) **United Flight makes emergency landing in SF.** Passengers onboard a United Airlines flight had to make an emergency landing in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, Wednesday evening. United says a flight from San Francisco to Chicago O’Hare was diverted to Sioux Falls when smoke was reported in the cabin. The 182 passengers and 8 crew members got off the plane after it landed safely. United brought in another plane to take the passengers onto Chicago; it is not sure what caused the smoke.

Source: <http://www.keloland.com/News/NewsDetail6371.cfm?Id=0,72167>

14. *July 23, Aviation News* – (National) **TSA begins retraining all personnel associated with passenger.** Beginning in September, the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) will begin a workforce-wide retraining of all personnel associated with a passenger checkpoint, the TSA Administrator said this week. Speaking July 22 to the Aero Club of Washington, District of Columbia, the official said the mandatory retraining is part of the Checkpoint Evolution initiative and will include all personnel from front-line screeners to officials in the administrator’s office. “The point is to give us the best shot at stopping an attack. We have a counterterrorism mission and this is a critical part of that security mission.” The Checkpoint Evolution training means getting away from the mentality of, “Did I complete the checklist? If I did, I’m done with my job,” he said.

Source: http://www.aviationnews.net/?do=headline&news_ID=157382

15. *July 23, Associated Press* – (National) **Voltage problems halt Northeast trains.** Tuesday, thousands of evening commuters and rail travelers in the Northeast headed to their destinations after train service shut down for more than an hour by a power problem. Train service was restored at about 5:45 p.m. Eastern time, New Jersey Transit and Amtrak officials said. Train service from Boston to Philadelphia, including New York City, suffered a power outage after severe thunderstorms passed through the region. The outage also extended west to Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, Amtrak officials said. The cause of the outage remained under investigation, Amtrak said.

Source: <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/25823094/>

16. *July 23, WPLG 10 Miami* – (Florida) **K-9s to sniff out explosives at MIA.** The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) introduced some new assets in the war on terrorism on Wednesday. Five bomb-sniffing dogs and their handlers are another added layer of security when it comes to detecting explosives in cargo, especially cargo on passenger-carrying airplanes. There are currently 20 Miami-Dade Police Department K-9s working at Miami International Airport. The program introduced on Tuesday is different because these TSA-trained dogs are handled by TSA employees trained alongside the dogs. Miami International Airport is only the second airport in the country to receive the new canine teams. The first was Dulles Airport in Washington. Miami was chosen because of the large volume of cargo going through the airport.
Source: <http://www.local10.com/news/16964036/detail.html>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to report

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Agriculture and Food Sector

17. *July 24, Daily Republic* – (South Dakota) **Anthrax cases tracked in Hutchinson County.** A State veterinarian said Wednesday that two cases of anthrax, one confirmed and a second presumed, are being tracked in Hutchinson County, South Dakota. He first said in a news release that one case of anthrax was confirmed Monday following the Saturday deaths of three cattle in a small unvaccinated herd. The infected Hutchinson County herd, he said, was scheduled to be immediately vaccinated and treated with antibiotics. Disposition of infected carcasses will be handled under the supervision of the Animal Industry Board. He said in a telephone interview Wednesday that another “presumptive” case of the deadly disease is currently being tested at South Dakota State University labs. About three animals were lost in the suspected case, he said. Lab results on the suspected case will be released today, said the state veterinarian, when test samples “come off culture.” He said presumptive cases of the disease are handled the same as positively identified cases.
Source: <http://www.mitchellrepublic.com/articles/index.cfm?id=28103§ion=News>

18. *July 24, FoodNavigator.com* – (International) **EFSA reaffirms safety view of cloned meat and dairy products.** Meat and dairy products from cloned pigs and cattle are probably safe for human consumption, the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) concluded in its scientific opinion on animal cloning released today. The EFSA assessment was commissioned by the European Commission in February 2007, and follows a public consultation on the draft opinion it published earlier this year. The risk assessor said that it looked into existing data on the safety of cloned pigs and cattle; however, it warned that the data available was ‘limited’. Most of the studies conducted

to date have been of small sample size and there is little information on animals remaining alive for considerable periods. The chair of EFSA's Biohaz Panel, one of ten scientific panels that make up the regulator's Scientific Committee, said the premise that healthy meat comes from healthy animals informed the work of the Committee. He said that based on the knowledge available there was no evidence to indicate that cloned meat and dairy goods were any different from conventional products. However, he told FoodProductionDaily.com that the panel strongly recommends that the health and welfare of clones should be monitored throughout both their production and natural life span to allow the current opinion to be updated in the light of future developments or new data.

Source: <http://www.foodnavigator.com/news/ng.asp?n=86706-efsa-cloning-welfare>

19. *July 23, KARE 11 Minneapolis* – (Minnesota) **Mysterious disease kills more than 700 Minnesota birds.** Biologists in Iowa and Wisconsin are trying to figure what disease has killed more than 700 birds on two Minnesota lakes. The deputy director of Fish and Wildlife for Minnesota's Department of Natural Resources (DNR) said 687 cormorants and 37 pelicans have been found dead on Pigeon Lake in Meeker County and Minnesota Lake in Faribault County. "Right now, we're not sure what's causing it, we do know we've got the avian influenza results back and they've all come back negative," a DNR veterinarian said early Tuesday evening. She said several dead birds have been sent to labs in Madison, Wisconsin, and Ames, Iowa, for testing. Biologists could return results later this week or early next week. "We don't anticipate that this is anything that could affect people, but obviously it could affect other wild birds and potentially poultry," the deputy director added. State Department of Agriculture workers have warned poultry farmers to closely monitor the birds on their farms. DNR wildlife experts are monitoring all 40 of the state's cormorant colonies. The only problems found so far have been on Pigeon and Minnesota Lake.

Source: http://www.kare11.com/news/news_article.aspx?storyid=519688&catid=2

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Water Sector

20. *July 24, Times-Picayune* – (Louisiana) **St. Bernard Parish re-opens water system intake on Mississippi River.** Thanks to conservation measures taken by residents, the east bank of Plaquemines Parish should have enough water in its reserves for another 24 hours, the Parish president said this morning. Reserves should also last through the day in St. Bernard Parish, especially if residents use it in moderation, the Parish president said this morning. Water drawn this morning from the intake in the Mississippi River is being tested. Depending on those results, the parish could resume drawing water from the river and treating it for use by residents. If that is not possible, the parish is making contingency plans to bring in outside water for residents. Cities and parishes that pull drinking water from the river shut their intakes after a massive oil spill polluted the Mississippi River Wednesday and began drawing on reserve supplies. By late Wednesday, Gretna and the west bank of Plaquemines Parish said they could tap into the Jefferson Parish supply, which is untainted because its intakes are upriver from the spill. Algiers resumed taking water from the river after testing found no contaminants, New

Orleans' mayor said. The spill did not affect the east bank of New Orleans' water system, which, like Jefferson Parish, has intakes upriver from the accident.

Source:

http://www.nola.com/news/index.ssf/2008/07/water_still_a_worry_for_parish.html

21. *July 24, Associated Press* – (South Carolina) **Cleaning old S.C. base to take 12 more years.** It will take an additional 12 years to clean cancer-causing pesticides and other contaminants from groundwater at the old Myrtle Beach Air Force Base, environmental officials and the military say. The military said it will cost about \$723,000 to clean up a shop where pesticides were stored for 15 years at the base, which closed in 1993. The Sun News of Myrtle Beach reported that the contamination also has moved to four acres of private land next to the base. The project would involve cleaning up pesticides and solvents, including trichloroethylene and vinyl chloride. Since the base closed 15 years ago, the military has spent \$53 million cleaning 258 contaminated sites there. The latest plan, announced Tuesday, proposes removing some of the contaminated groundwater and letting the rest of the underground chemicals break down over time.
Source: http://www.charleston.net/news/2008/jul/24/cleaning_old_s_c_base_take_more_years48524/
22. *July 24, Associated Press* – (South Carolina) **Health officials to test wells near nuclear plants.** The state's health agency will be testing water from wells near three nuclear reactor sites around South Carolina. The Department of Health and Environmental Control says its staffers will visit residents Thursday and take samples from wells near nuclear power plants in York, Oconee, and Fairfield Counties. The agency says it is looking for radioactive contaminants in the water and is retesting wells that were sampled earlier this year. Last year, testing at the Catawba plant in York County showed elevated levels of tritium in one of 30 monitoring wells on the site.
Source: <http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/575/story/531177.html>
23. *July 23, Associated Press* – (National) **States win court fight with EPA on ship discharges.** Environmental groups and several states say they have won a court battle over a federal rule that allowed some dumping of ballast contaminated with invasive species by large commercial ships in coastal ports and the Great Lakes. The New York attorney general says the decision prohibits large vessels from discharging polluted ballast water without a permit. A federal appeals court sided with New York, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Northwest Environmental Advocates, The Ocean Conservancy, and Waterkeepers of Northern California. Beginning September 30, the ships will need a federal permit to discharge the ballast. The contested Environmental Protection Agency rule had allowed biological discharges as an exemption to the federal Clean Water Act.
Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/chi-ap-ny-invasivespecies,0,7208040.story>

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

24. *July 24, Reno Gazette Journal* – (Nevada) **Hospital warns of possible data leak.** Saint Mary's Regional Medical Center sent warning letters this month to about 128,000 patients and clients after a possible intrusion into a proprietary database. The database, used for Saint Mary's health education classes and wellness programs, contained personal information such as names and addresses, limited health information and some Social Security numbers. The database did not contain medical records or credit card information, said the marketing manager for Saint Mary's. "What happened was that an unauthorized person may have accessed the database," he said. "We're currently working with Equifax, which is one of the three major credit agencies, to help handle this for us. The potential breach was discovered in April 28. Saint Mary's officials said they immediately shut down the database and launched an investigation. The delay in notifications occurred because the database had to be reconstructed. Investigators have found no evidence that identity theft or fraud has occurred, he said. But since they cannot be certain, letters were sent informing clients and patients who might be affected by a breach.

Source:

<http://www.rgj.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080724/NEWS10/807240352/1321/NEWS>

25. *July 24, MSNBC* – (South) **Report warns of AIDS 'crisis' across South.** AIDS specialists are calling for a fundamental rethinking of HIV policy after a new report showed that infection with the virus was rising dramatically in the South even as it dropped everywhere else in the country. The warning, issued this week by the Southern AIDS Coalition, a nonprofit partnership of government and private-sector programs based in Birmingham, Alabama, concluded that AIDS was creating a health disaster in the South. AIDS deaths fell or held steady in other parts of the country from 2001 to 2006, the last year for which complete figures were available, but they rose by more than 10 percent in the South, according to the report, titled "Southern States Manifesto 2008." The report, an update to a landmark 2002 report that identified the disproportionate impact of HIV and AIDS in the South, was based on data compiled by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, state health departments and academic researchers. It defined the region as Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia, and Washington, D.C.

Source: <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/25819585/>

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Government Facilities Sector

26. *July 24, San Francisco Chronicle* – (California) **Cop charged in probe of mishandling files.** A Hayward, California, police officer on military leave is one of two Marine Corps reservists charged with sharing classified files in a terrorist probe without authorization, authorities said Wednesday. A Marine Corps spokesman declined to elaborate on the

allegations, but according to media reports in San Diego, the two suspects allegedly shared classified files from Camp Pendleton with an anti-terrorism group of law-enforcement agencies in Los Angeles County. The San Diego Union-Tribune reported earlier this year that Marines at Camp Pendleton had stolen Federal Bureau of Investigation surveillance files on Muslim religious sites in Los Angeles and the Islamic Center of San Diego. It is unclear how the Marines would have had access to the files. Source: <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2008/07/24/BAME11UP08.DTL>

27. *July 22, Daily Bruin* – (California) **ALF claims responsibility for alleged missing vanpool.** An animal rights activist group, the Animal Liberation Front (ALF), has claimed responsibility for the removal of a University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) vanpool from Riverside. A full investigation was completed, and university officials dismissed the ALF's claims after no evidence of such incident was found. A spokesman for the university said in an e-mail that the official investigation has discovered no evidence to support the activist group's claims. "All the commuter vans originating in Riverside have been accounted for, and there have been no reports of vandalism or damage made to fleet services or risk management," he said in the e-mail. Earlier in the summer, a UCLA vanpool was set on fire. ALF also claimed responsibility for the fire. This incident is the latest in a string of property damages and attacks against University of California researchers who conduct testing with animal subjects. Source: <http://www.dailybruin.ucla.edu/news/2008/jul/22/ALF/>

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Emergency Services Sector

28. *July 23, Federal Emergency Management Agency* – (Texas) **USA: FEMA coordinates federal response to Hurricane Dolly.** According to a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) press release, the Department of Homeland Security's FEMA is coordinating operational and support activities by numerous federal agencies in response to the landfall of Hurricane Dolly in Texas. FEMA and its federal partners are working closely with state and local governments as well as with the private sector to support those areas impacted by wind, rain and floods caused by the storm. Source: <http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/rwb.nsf/db900SID/KLMT-7GU32K?OpenDocument>
29. *July 23, KFMB 8 San Diego* – (California) **Local emergency crews practicing terror drills.** Local, state, and federal agencies are teaming up to test hospitals' preparedness for a terrorist attack. The event is the first of its kind in San Diego and will get underway Wednesday morning. Two military helicopters will land on the helipad at Scripps La Jolla. Two dozen law enforcement officers will control traffic and crowds. They will also practice dealing with victims who may be contaminated with bio-terrorism materials. Source: <http://www.cbs8.com/stories/story.135298.html>
30. *July 23, Montgomery Advertiser* – (Alabama) **Lack of resources hinder security in**

rural areas. Emergency response in rural areas suffers from a lack of resources and manpower, according to officials in Fort McClellan, Alabama, this week. A subcommittee of the U.S. House Committee on Homeland Security met Tuesday with about 100 people, including staff, witnesses, and emergency response workers, at the site of a canine training program that Auburn University runs at Fort McClellan. The deputy administrator for national preparedness for the Federal Emergency Management Agency told the Subcommittee on Management, Investigations, and Oversight that training for police and firefighters in rural areas is very different from that in urban areas. Rural areas have fewer resources and emergency responders in rural communities are not being replaced as older members leave. That puts an increased reliance on volunteers, which make up nearly 90 percent of first responders in Alabama. Many of those responders work full time and don't have much time for training.

Source:

<http://www.montgomeryadvertiser.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080723/NEWS02/807230345/1009>

31. *July 23, Alton Telegraph* – (National) **President signs Shimkus' 911 bill into law.** On Wednesday, President Bush signed into law the New and Emerging Technologies 911 Improvement Act (HR 3403). In addition to mandating 911 for voice over Internet companies, the bill allows 911 fees to be collected from customers of these companies, authorizes customer information to be shared with other telecommunication carriers for emergency services, and allows grants to public service answering centers to be able to receive these 911 calls.

Source:

http://www.thetelegraph.com/news/shimkus_16451_article.html/bill_law.html

32. *July 23, Homeland Security Today* – (National) **Runge stresses threat of Anthrax attack.** Al Qaeda continues to plot terror attacks that would include biological agents, and the terror group has focused specifically on the use of anthrax as a weapon, the assistant secretary of Homeland Security for Health Affairs told a congressional panel during a field hearing in Rhode Island Tuesday. He said many legitimate research programs around the globe use anthrax, making it difficult for the United States to gain intelligence on where terror threats using the biological agent may emerge. Al Qaeda was known to have at least one biological weapons facility for the production of anthrax itself in Afghanistan, but U.S. armed forces eventually destroyed it, according to sources. In 2002, Al Qaeda announced it intended to kill up to 10 million Americans using weapons of mass destruction, such as biological agents. "A coordinated attack on multiple targets would come much closer in magnitude to our enemy's goal. Because of this, we see the threat of an aerosolized anthrax attack as our number one bioterrorism concern, and it is that threat which we vigorously plan, invest and intend to defeat," he stated. A biological attack also would be extremely difficult to detect initially, the chief medical officer remarked, noting it could be days before U.S. authorities recognize the full extent of an attack and ensuing infections.

Source: <http://hstoday.us/content/view/4375/128/>

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Information Technology

33. *July 24, VNUNet* – (International) **Networks riddled with vulnerabilities.** Security experts have warned of at least one vulnerability in the network layer of every corporate network. The research also found that almost all networks have at least one vulnerability in the application layer. Security firm Orthus this week published an analysis of 100 in-depth security tests conducted over the past five years. The firm claims that this provides an insight into how security weaknesses and attack vectors have evolved and how organizations’ defenses have changed in response. The analysis looked at the results from 100 baseline security testing engagements delivered since the beginning of 2004 across a range of industry sectors including banking, insurance, finance, retail, manufacturing, transport, utilities, health, and education. The study found that 100 percent of tests found at least one security vulnerability at the network level, and 97 per cent of tests found at least one vulnerability at the application level. Orthus said that network layer weaknesses have come down from an average of 14 per test in 2004 to an average of six in tests delivered during 2008, a reduction of 57 percent. But application layer weaknesses have increased from eight per test in 2004 to 12 per test in 2008, a 50 percent rise. SQL injection and other SQL weaknesses increased 25 per cent, cross-site scripting increased 23 percent, and input validation issues increased 15 percent. Source: <http://www.vnunet.com/vnunet/news/2222462/networks-riddled-flaws>

34. *July 23, PCPro* – (International) **Google Blogger “hosts 2% of world’s malware”.** Google’s Blogger service is responsible for two percent of the world’s malware hosted on the web, according to a new report from the security firm Sophos. The security firm claims hackers are setting up pages on the free blogging service to host malicious code, or simply posting links to infected websites in other bloggers’ comments. “Blogger accounts for around 2% of malware,” according to Sophos’s senior technology consultant. “It’s head and shoulders above the rest [of the blogging services].” He says Blogger is worse than other blogging services because of its close ties with the search behemoth. “The attraction for the bad guys in targeting Blogger is that things pretty much get “spidered” instantly into Google, because it [Blogger] is part of Google,” he says. Sophos says it doesn’t blame Google for the situation and that the company is proactive in weeding out malicious sites from its search results. Source:

<http://www.pcpro.co.uk/news/214371/google-blogger-hosts-2-of-worlds-malware.html>

Internet Alert Dashboard

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

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

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Communications Sector

35. *July 24, Great Falls Tribune* – (Montana) **Cut fiber-optic line hangs up Hi-Line phone service.** Telephone service was restored across Montana's Hi-line early Wednesday evening after a cut fiber optic phone line between Fort Benton and Carter was repaired, a Qwest spokeswoman said. An after-hours dispatcher at Triangle Communications in Havre said the co-op's line was cut around 3 p.m., causing the service interruption. He did not know how many customers were affected or how the line was cut.

Source:

<http://www.greatfallstribune.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080724/NEWS01/807240308/1002>

36. *July 23, Computerworld* – (National) **Researcher warns of unpatched iPhone bugs.** Security vulnerabilities in the iPhone's e-mail application and Safari Web browser can be used by phishers to dupe users into visiting malicious sites or by spammers to flood the phone's in-box with junk mail, a researcher warned today. The browser vulnerability researcher said he reported three separate bugs to Apple Inc. about two weeks ago: two in the iPhone Mail program and one in its Safari browser. Apple has acknowledged that the two vulnerabilities in Mail are security issues, he said, but the company is currently undecided on whether the Safari flaw meets its security bug criteria. At times, Apple has balked at labeling problems as security vulnerabilities, notably in May, when it initially said the so-called "carpet bomb" bug was not security-related. A month later, Apple did patch Safari to stymie the kind of attacks that Raff and other researchers had outlined.

Source:

http://computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=security&articleId=9110558&taxonomyId=17&intsrc=kc_top

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Commercial Facilities Sector

37. *July 24, Universal Detection Technology* – (International) **Universal Detection Technology receives additional contract to provide bioterrorism training equipment for the 2008 Beijing Olympics.** Universal Detection Technology (UDTT) reported today that it has received an additional contract to provide bioterrorism training equipment for the 2008 Beijing Olympics. The equipment is designed to mimic a real-time biological attack thus preparing first responders in the proper use and handling of Bio-terrorism detection equipment. UDTT's simulation/trainer equipment and threat simulation powders are designed to mimic a bio-threat event that illustrates all potential outcomes of the 5-agent test device. UDTT had previously received a contract to supply 5-agent test equipment for the Beijing Olympics. The 5-agent testing kit is designed to test for Anthrax, Ricin, Botulinum Toxin, Plague, and SEB's in as little as 3 minutes. There have been recent reports of terrorist activity in China. The Chinese Government has warned that terrorists pose the biggest risk to this summer's Olympics Games in Beijing. Officials say they foiled two plots, one to bring down an airliner, and another to

disrupt the summer games. The Chinese government has also stepped up efforts in bio-security to ward off possible bioterrorism during the coming Olympics.

Source: <http://www.foxbusiness.com/story/markets/industries/energy/universal-detection-technology-receives-additional-contract-provide/-1865384882>

38. *July 23, Associated Press* – (National) **Beijing Olympics broadcasting center evacuated.** Hundreds were evacuated Wednesday from the International Broadcast Center that will house broadcasting facilities for the Beijing Olympics after people smelled a strong odor and feared there was a gas leak. But authorities later said it was a false alarm and the smell came from paint fumes in the ventilation system. Authorities told workers it was safe to go back in and there were no reports of injuries. Firefighters went in along with at least one emergency worker dressed in a hazardous materials suit to investigate the odor. “We’ve cleared away the smell by flushing the drainage,” organizers said in a statement five hours after the evacuation. The 970,000-square-foot building opened a few weeks ago and is a short walk north of the two iconic venues for the August 8-24 Beijing Games. It will house thousands of broadcasters when the games start.

Source:

<http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5jTsJO7Y4bXOoWTzQynqkpfwJBklAD923OBSG0>

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National Monuments & Icons Sector

39. *July 24, San Francisco Chronicle* – (California) **Park Service skewed data on oyster farm.** National Park Service officials overstated scientific data and deleted a key e-mail in a bitter dispute over an oyster farm’s ecological impact on Drakes Bay in Marin County, according to a federal investigation. The Park Service claimed in a 2007 report that Drakes Bay Oyster Co. operations reduced the number of harbor seals and damaged eelgrass beds, which support a wide variety of marine and bird life. However, the report issued Wednesday by the U.S. Department of the Interior’s inspector general found no evidence Park Service officials aimed to shut the Drakes Bay Oyster Co. before 2012 – when the company’s permission to operate within Point Reyes National Seashore expires. The owner of the oyster company contacted federal authorities in April 2007 and contended park officials used intimidation and misinformation in a campaign to convert his farm to a wilderness area. The yearlong inspector general’s investigation found no indication that park officials had mistreated the owner or his family. The report, however, alleged several missteps by the Point Reyes National Seashore senior science adviser saying that she exaggerated the impact of oyster feces on sedimentation in Drakes Bay. She also failed to produce an important e-mail to U.S. Geological Survey scientist who questioned her findings. Investigators found the deleted e-mail on a Park Service computer. The issue through national discussions about business operations in parks. Some environmentalists argue that the owner is trying to turn people against the Park Service in an effort to continue harvesting oysters past the 2012 deadline. That, they say, could set a dangerous precedent for for-profit uses within protected areas.

Source: <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2008/07/24/MND011U5VN.DTL>

40. *July 23, Daily News* – (California) **Yolla Bolly fires grow.** The three Yolla Bolly fires in the Mendocino National and Shasta Trinity National forests grew 7,545 acres since Monday. Total acreage was at 52,454 acres Tuesday, which is up from 44,909 reported Monday. The Vinegar Fire grew 4,427 acres and was at 31,912 acres Tuesday, said a representative of the U.S. Forest Service fire information. It was 30 percent contained. The Yellow Fire was up 2,992 acres for a total of 19,102 acres. The Grouse Fire added 126 acres for a total of 1,440 acres. Both fires had no estimate for containment, he said. The Soda Complex, in the Upper Lake District of the Mendocino National Forest, was 90 percent contained. The Mill Fire was 85 percent contained at 3,009 acres. Containment is expected by Saturday, the U.S. Forest Service said. Crews were successful in holding the fire above Panther Creek Drainage, but it still had potential to cross into steep, rugged terrain to the southeast and northeast directions. The other three fires were 100 percent contained with the Monkey Rock Fire at 1,829 acres, the Big Fire at 2,193 acres, and the Back Fire at 1,567 acres.

Source: http://www.redbluffdailynews.com/news/ci_9970217

41. *July 23, KITV 4 Honolulu* – (Hawaii) **Report: Invasive species hurt volcanoes park.** An invasive plant and animal species are threatening to overwhelm native flora and fauna at Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, according to a new study. The National Parks Conservation Association study said the park's natural resources are in poor shape as a result and that the park needs more money to build fences and control weeds to protect habitat critical for native bird and plant populations. Installing fencing to keep out pigs, goats, and other hoofed animals has helped species recover in some parts of the park. The report said such steps need to be expanded to other park lands.

Source: <http://www.kitv.com/news/16970828/detail.html>

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Dams Sector

42. *July 24, Honolulu Star-Bulletin* – (Hawaii) **Grand jury probes dam breach.** The state attorney general convened a special investigative grand jury this week to uncover evidence into what caused the deadly Ka Loko Dam breach in 2006. The owner of the dam, who has been convicted of environmental violations on his other Kauai properties, has been accused of filling in an emergency spillway at the dam. He denies the allegation. The Ka Loko dam near Kilauea collapsed on March 14, 2006, unleashing millions of gallons of water that swept away two homes and killed seven people.

Source: <http://starbulletin.com/2008/07/24/news/story01.html>

43. *July 24, Lexington Herald-Leader* – (Kentucky) **Fix for Wolf Creek Dam to top \$400 million.** The federal agency that manages Lake Cumberland has awarded a \$341.4 million contract for a massive concrete wall to seal off leaks at Wolf Creek Dam. The contract calls for completing the work in four years. The wall is needed because water is seeping through voids in the rock underneath the dam, potentially undermining the mile-

long structure. In January 2007, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers decided to quickly lower the surface level of the lake to take pressure off the dam while beginning repairs. The leaks create a risk that the dam will fail; if it did, there could be billions of dollars in damage downstream and possibly dozens of deaths. However, federal officials have stressed that the dam is not at imminent risk of failure, and that monitoring systems are in place to provide ample warning of an impending breach so that people could get to safety. The work to drill holes into the rock beneath the dam and inject liquid has stemmed leaks and made the dam safer, Corps officials have said. The new wall – essentially a dam within a dam – is designed to be a longer-term solution. Contractors will build it inside the earthen section of the dam and join it to the existing concrete part of the structure, which houses the hydroelectric generators. The Corps installed a similar wall in the 1970s to cut off leaks, but it apparently was not built deep enough to get down to more solid rock. The new \$341 million wall will go 50 feet deeper than the old one.

Source: <http://www.kentucky.com/news/state/story/469868.html>

44. *July 24, Sacramento Bee* – (California) **EID lowers lake for work at dam.** In California, the El Dorado Irrigation District has begun drawing down Caples Lake as it prepares to replace outlet works at the lake's main dam. The El Dorado Irrigation District board declared an emergency July 1 after an underwater inspection at Caples Lake revealed problems with two slide gates in the dam used to regulate water releases. Of particular concern is the lower gate, which is about 64 feet underwater when the lake is full. Damage to outlet works at nearby Silver Lake also was revealed by an underwater inspection, leading the board to declare an emergency there as well. Repairs at Silver Lake, however, are not expected to begin until next year. Both lakes are part of hydroelectric Project 184, consisting of lakes, canals, and a hydroelectric plant. The district purchased the system from the Pacific Gas and Electric Co. in 1999.

Source: <http://www.sacbee.com/197/story/1101757.html>

45. *July 23, Associated Press* – (National) **Lawmakers push for levee survey funds.** Senators on Wednesday called for more federal money to study the safety of levees after dozens of breaches contributed to heavy flooding across the Midwest last month. At least 41 levees were topped in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, and Missouri during the near-record flooding that gripped the region, according to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Most levees that failed were not federal projects. The Corps' top man at the Pentagon told the Senate panel that he would support a more comprehensive federal program to inspect and assess the viability of every levee in the country. The Corps is two years away from completing an inventory of about 14,000 miles of levees across the country. But that number does not include an unknown number of locally built and maintained levees that are not part of the Corps' inspection program. After the inventory is completed, the Corps will begin to assess those levees that are at risk.

Source: http://www.usatoday.com/news/washington/2008-07-23-levee_N.htm

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