



# Department of Homeland Security IAIP Directorate Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 01 March 2005

Current  
Nationwide  
Threat Level is  
**ELEVATED**  
SIGNIFICANT RISK OF  
TERRORIST ATTACKS  
[For info click here](http://www.dhs.gov/)  
<http://www.dhs.gov/>

## Daily Highlights

- Reuters reports law enforcers say there is evidence that counterfeiters operating in New York City have sent money to Hamas and Hezbollah, groups designated as terrorist organizations by the United States. (See item [6](#))
- Government Computer News reports the Department of Commerce has approved the Federal Information Processing Standard for Personal Identity Verification; now government agencies must implement common smart card-based ID cards. (See item [21](#))
- Copley News Service reports academic researchers are studying threats to U.S. security, trying to get a better understanding of the root causes of terrorism and what motivates its practitioners. (See item [29](#))

### DHS/IAIP Update *Fast Jump*

Production Industries: [Energy](#); [Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#)

Service Industries: [Banking and Finance](#); [Transportation](#); [Postal and Shipping](#)

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

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IT and Cyber: [Information Technology and Telecommunications](#); [Internet Alert Dashboard](#)

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## Energy Sector

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

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

1. *February 28, Agence France-Press* — **Countries agree to pursue new nuclear energy technology.** Representatives of five industrialized countries agreed on a long-range research plan for a new generation of nuclear power generation technology, the so-called "Generation IV" nuclear systems. The United States, France, Great Britain, Japan and Canada signed the agreement, which aims to coordinate the development of new nuclear technologies that will be

used in power generation decades from now. The research will help address the rising global demand for energy and the need to diversify energy sources, said Secretary of Energy Samuel Bodman. The other six members of the forum, expected to sign the agreement in the coming months, are Argentina, Brazil, South Korea, South Africa, Switzerland, and Euratom, the European atomic energy agency.

Source: [http://news.yahoo.com/news?tmpl=story&u=/afp/20050228/sc\\_afp/usnuclearfrancegb\\_050228191804](http://news.yahoo.com/news?tmpl=story&u=/afp/20050228/sc_afp/usnuclearfrancegb_050228191804)

- 2. February 28, Post-Gazette (PA) — Europe embraces wind power as North Sea oil reserves dwindle.** With Europe's strongest winds, except for Scotland's, dozens of wind farms use hundreds of wind turbines to generate electricity. Another 1,000 are on the drawing boards. Wind farms have quietly taken root throughout Europe, which has moved far ahead of the United States in exploiting this clean, inexhaustible source of energy. "Wind power is in the vanguard of clean energy technologies," said Corin Millais, head of the European Wind Energy Association. "And Europe is leading the way... European companies dominate the global market," said Millais. "Thirty years ago, North Sea oil came to the rescue of a Europe facing an international oil crisis. We are now faced with a different crisis, and we need offshore wind to help solve it," said Millais. Oil and gas production in the North Sea peaked in 1999 and is declining, leaving Europe with few domestic sources of energy, aside from nuclear power. Europe now imports about half of its energy and expects to import 70 percent within two decades unless it can develop alternative sources.

Source: <http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/05059/463846.stm>

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## **Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials Sector**

- 3. February 28, Washington Post — The Department of Justice objects to ban on Hazmat cargo.** The Department of Justice has filed an objection to the District of Columbia's recently passed law on banning hazardous materials near the U.S. Capitol. In a brief released Saturday, February 26, the Department of Justice backed CSX Transportation, operator of a large eastern U.S. railroad, in urging a federal judge to strike down the District's new law. In an attempt to overturn the law, CSX filed suit against the District government. In its new filing, the Department of Justice has agreed that the law violates protections afforded interstate commerce under the U.S. Constitution.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A58888-2005Feb 27.html>

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## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

Nothing to report.

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## **Banking and Finance Sector**

4. *February 28, ChinaTechNews.com (China)* — **Chinese bank's Website cloned in North America.** Following last December's Bank of China fake Website episodes, the English-language Website of Bank of China has once again been copied and placed on a non-bank server. The false Website is registered in North America and is called <http://www.banochi.net>. It resembles the old Website version of Bank of China with a "Client Log In" section asking users to input their bank account number and password so the phishing thieves can steal the data. Bank of China has told local media it is working to eliminate possible loss to its clients. The bank says Hong Kong police have begun to investigate case.  
Source: [http://www.chinatechnews.com/index.php?action=show&type=news &id=2406](http://www.chinatechnews.com/index.php?action=show&type=news&id=2406)
5. *February 28, The Register (UK)* — **eBay provides a backdoor for phishers.** Phishers are exploiting a redirection script on eBay's site to make fraudulent e-mails look more convincing. Three Register readers noticed the trick in scam e-mails they received. MessageLabs confirmed that it has detected and blocked the same trick a number of times in the last two weeks. Despite notifying eBay of a potential problem on Wednesday, February 23, the exploit remains open to abuse. Register readers described how the trick could trap the unwary. "I can host my eBay-alike phishing page anywhere I like, and use the above script to get users to click on it. The link is very definitely pointing to eBay, it's just that eBay will redirect to my phishing net," writes one reader.  
Source: [http://www.theregister.co.uk/2005/02/28/ebay\\_phishing\\_backdo or/](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2005/02/28/ebay_phishing_backdoor/)
6. *February 28, Reuters* — **Counterfeit goods may be financing terror.** Law enforcers say the threat of money used to buy counterfeit goods funding terrorists is real and probably growing. There is evidence that counterfeiters operating in New York City have sent money to Hamas and Hezbollah, groups designated as terrorist organizations by the United States, New York City Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly said at a conference on counterfeiting. Kelly said the low cost of entry into the counterfeit business, low risk of penalties and the potentially big payoff made the making and selling of fake goods an ideal criminal enterprise, one that would appeal to terrorists in the same way it attracts organized crime. Juan Zarate, the U.S. Treasury Department's top terror funding cop, said terror groups have become more sophisticated in funding their activities as the United States and other countries crack down on money laundering through banks and other financial institutions. Counterfeiting is one of the methods used by terrorists to raise cash, he said. Zarate said the Treasury had "seen examples where traded goods have been used to support terrorist groups." However, he added that it was often quite difficult to draw clear lines between the counterfeit trade and terrorists.  
Source: <http://www.reuters.co.uk/newsArticle.jhtml?type=reutersEdgeNews&storyID=681154&section=finance&src=rss/uk/featuresNews>
7. *February 28, CNET News.com* — **Holiday sales boomed amid phishing threat.** Despite the threat of phishing attacks, online businesses saw an 88 percent rise in revenue over the holiday season, according to VeriSign. The online payment service, which handles 35 percent of North American e-commerce, processed \$12 billion in Web sales between November 1 and December 31. That compares with \$6.4 billion in sales in the same period in 2003. However, while e-commerce activity was dramatically up, online merchants reduced the number of transactions they deemed too risky to complete, said Fraser Smith, a product manager in VeriSign's payment services. Only six percent of online transactions were deemed too risky to complete — a fall of one percent over the previous year. While security has become a great

concern for consumers and merchants, fraudulent transactions still only account for two percent of all purchases, said Mark Griffith, VeriSign's vice president of security services. The company found that Romania, Vietnam and the United States generated the highest volume of e-commerce fraud over the holidays. The majority of phishing capture sites moved from the United States during the second half of last year to other countries overseas, according to the report. Report: <http://www.verisign.com/static/028571.pdf>  
Source: [http://news.com.com/Report+Holiday+sales+boomed+amid+phishing+threat/2100-1029\\_3-5590946.html](http://news.com.com/Report+Holiday+sales+boomed+amid+phishing+threat/2100-1029_3-5590946.html)

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## **Transportation Sector**

8. *February 28, Macleans (Canada)* — **New York buys ferry.** Ferry service between Toronto and Rochester, NY, is expected to resume by May after the upstate New York city bought the ferry for \$32US million. The city of Rochester purchased the Spirit of Ontario — also known as the Breeze — at an auction on Monday, February 28. The ferry ran across Lake Ontario last summer, but the service only lasted for about 80 days amid crippling debt. Lisa Raitt, president of the Toronto Port Authority, said May would be an ideal time to resume the ferry crossings. Each ferry trip can carry 774 passengers and 220 cars.  
Source: <http://www.macleans.ca/topstories/news/shownews.jsp?content= n022821A>
9. *February 28, Transportation Security Administration* — **Lighters added to list of prohibited items.** The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) on Monday, February 28, announced that all lighters will be prohibited from sterile areas of airports and onboard aircraft. This action is in response to a provision in the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004, which was signed into law by the President on December 17, 2004, and requires that “butane” lighters be added to TSA’s Prohibited Items List. After carefully evaluating the security threat, Congressional intent and operational considerations, TSA determined that passengers should be prohibited from carrying all lighters on their person or in carry-on luggage in the sterile areas of airports or onboard an airplane. The policy will be fully enforced beginning April 14, 2005. All lighters will be banned from sterile areas beyond security checkpoints at airports. This includes, for example, butane, absorbed-fuel (Zippo-type), electric/battery-powered and novelty lighters.  
Source: [http://www.tsa.gov/public/display?theme=44&content=090005198\\_0104b15](http://www.tsa.gov/public/display?theme=44&content=090005198_0104b15)
10. *February 28, Associated Press* — **Smoke in plane cabin forces emergency stop.** An American Airlines plane made an emergency landing Sunday, February 27, at Florida’s Orlando International Airport after smoke appeared in the cabin, officials said. "They declared the emergency as a normal precaution," said American Airlines spokesperson Sonja Whitemon. "Aside from the fact there was a haze in the cabin, it was a normal landing." The Boeing 757 was carrying 187 passengers and six crewmembers on a flight from Fort Lauderdale, FL, to Los Angeles. Passengers smelled smoke about 20 minutes into the flight.  
Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2005/US/02/28/emergency.landing.ap/index.html>
11. *February 27, Sunday Times (UK)* — **Concerns over New York flights.** Operational errors at

New York's airports have increased six fold since the beginning of the year, according to figures released last week. The U.S. National Air Traffic Controllers Association (NATCA), which represents the country's 14,700 air traffic control staff, says that since January 1, there have been 19 incidents where one plane has infringed another's airspace. In 2004, the same center reported only 24 such cases for the entire year. The union believes that a clampdown on overtime introduced by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) last month, coupled with a shortage of personnel, is the reason for the alarming rise. An error is reported if a plane strays within three miles or 1,000ft of another. The union adds that Los Angeles and Chicago are also experiencing problems. The FAA noted, "Safety is our overriding concern. Air Traffic Controllers staffing is not at the full capacity. New York has 227 controllers rather than 270, and there has been a slight drop in overtime, but every shift has the necessary staff. The 19 incidents are under investigation."

Source: <http://travel.timesonline.co.uk/article/0,,10295-1504794,00.html>

12. *February 23, SecurityInfoWatch* — **Duluth Airport to upgrade.** Minnesota's Duluth International Airport is looking for a makeover of its terminal building that's likely to cost between \$20 million and \$25 million. Brian Ryks, executive director of the Duluth Airport Authority, said the work is needed to improve the security, efficiency and appearance of a facility originally built in 1974. Ryks believes that a consolidated baggage screening system could make use of new, automated technology that would improve security and efficiency. In addition to improving safety and efficiency, Ryks said the proposed work would make the facility a more pleasant place for travelers. Airport Authority President Julie Larson-Williams said the improvements could help Duluth recruit another carrier and might also promote additional charter service activity. She contends the terminal improvements are vital to the airport's future.

Source: <http://www.securityinfowatch.com/article/article.jsp?id=3211 &siteSection=328>

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## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

13. *February 28, Federal Times* — **Postal service seeks undeliverable mail agreement.** The U.S. Postal Service wants to strike another deal to offer discounts in exchange for permission to destroy a company's undeliverable mail. The negotiated service agreement with financial services company HSBC North America Inc. would be the fourth such agreement proposed by the Postal Service. The first agreement, with credit card company Capital One Services Inc., generated \$21.7 million in savings and revenue in its first year for the Postal Service. An agreement with Discover Financial Services began January 1. Another agreement, with JP Morgan Chase, has been recommended by the Postal Rate Commission but has yet to be voted on by the Postal Service's Board of Governors. Under the agreements, the Postal Service saves money by destroying undeliverable mail solicitations rather than returning them to the sender. In exchange, the Postal Service offers the mailer discounts of a few cents per piece of mail. Discounts take effect after the mailer sends a certain number of pieces. HSBC is one of the 10 largest senders of first-class mail in the U.S.

Source: <http://federaltimes.com/index.php?S=689793>

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## Agriculture Sector

14. *February 28, St. Louis Business Journal (MO)* — **Maschhoffs completes purchase of Land O'Lakes assets.** A Clinton County, IL, pork production management company completed its acquisition of Land O'Lakes swine production assets. Maschhoffs Inc. purchased about 60,000 sows, related inventory, market hog production, swine production facilities in Oklahoma and contract production facilities in Missouri, Illinois, Iowa, and Oklahoma. The acquisition, expected to be completed by the end of the first quarter, would make Maschhoffs one of the largest independent, family owned, swine–production operations in the U.S.  
Source: <http://stlouis.bizjournals.com/stlouis/stories/2005/02/28/daily3.html>

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## Food Sector

15. *February 25, U.S. Department of Agriculture* — **USDA releases assessment on the implementation of the Canadian feed ban.** The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Friday, February 25, released its assessment of the Canadian ruminant–to–ruminant feed ban. USDA assembled a team of technical experts that arrived in Canada on January 24 to gather all relevant information to do an in–depth assessment on Canada's ruminant–to–ruminant feed ban and their feed ban inspection program. USDA took this additional step to ensure compliance with Canada's feed ban control measures. The feed ban has been determined to be an important bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) risk mitigation measure to protect animal health. The inspection team's report states that "Canada has a robust inspection program, that overall compliance with the feed ban is good and that the feed ban is reducing the risk of transmission of BSE in the Canadian cattle population." On January 4, USDA published a final rule that amends the regulations to provide for the importation of certain ruminants, ruminant products and byproducts from regions that pose a minimal risk of introducing BSE. Canada will be the first country recognized as a minimal–risk region and, as such, will be eligible to export to the U.S. live cattle, as well as certain other animals and products, from animals under 30 months of age.  
Source: <http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/!ut/p/s.7.0.A/7.0.1OB?contentonly=true&contentid=2005/02/0066.xml>

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## Water Sector

16. *February 28, Chesapeake Bay Journal (PA)* — **Limitations set for nitrogen discharges into Chesapeake Bay.** After two decades of reliance on non–regulatory efforts to control nitrogen discharges, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Chesapeake Bay states will now begin to enforce limitation as part of the permits for more than 350 of the largest wastewater dischargers in the bay's watershed. The EPA's new strategy will accelerate the requirement of large wastewater treatment plants and industries to cap nitrogen and phosphorus discharges specifically to benefit the bay. The permit limits would cut the amount of nitrogen

reaching the bay each year by at least 17.5 million pounds and phosphorus by about one million pounds. States affected by the regulations include New York, Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Delaware, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia. The limits will be incorporated as permits are issued for new facilities and as permits for existing plants come up for renewal, which is typically every five years. When permits are renewed, plants may be given an enforceable compliance schedule for achieving their discharge limit.

Source: <http://www.bayjournal.com/article.cfm?article=2470>

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## **Public Health Sector**

**17. February 28, Scotsman (United Kingdom) — Police and terror experts to discuss bioterror threat.** Anthrax, sarin, and threats of other bioterrorism attacks will be the focus of an Interpol conference starting in France Tuesday, March 1, with police chiefs, counterterrorism experts, and health officials from around the world. More than 400 officials from 120 countries will meet in Lyon, where Interpol is based, for what the global police agency calls its first conference devoted to bioterrorism. Police will examine past attacks, including the anthrax scare in the U.S. after the September 11 terror attacks and the 1995 sarin attacks in a Japanese subway.

Source: <http://news.scotsman.com/latest.cfm?id=4189339>

**18. February 28, Reuters — Botulism vaccine to be developed.** Researchers at a British biotechnology company will collaborate with a U.S. firm to develop a vaccine against botulism, a deadly nerve toxin which could be used as a biological weapon. The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) awarded a \$3.5 million grant to Cambridge Biostability to work with DynPort Vaccine Company of Frederick, MD. Developing a single vaccine against botulism has been difficult. "The problem is that botulism is caused by seven slightly different poisons produced by six different bugs. In the event of an attack, a person would need to be given multiple vaccine injections to cover all the bugs and three shots are required of each vaccine," said Bruce Roser, chief scientific adviser for Cambridge Biostability. To overcome the obstacle, the company will use technology it developed to encapsulate each poison in its own microsphere which can be mixed and kept at room temperature without harming the vaccine.

Source: [http://today.reuters.co.uk/news/newsArticle.aspx?type=topNews&storyID=2005-02-28T182145Z\\_01\\_DEN866014\\_RTRUKOC\\_0\\_HEALTH-BOTULISM.xml](http://today.reuters.co.uk/news/newsArticle.aspx?type=topNews&storyID=2005-02-28T182145Z_01_DEN866014_RTRUKOC_0_HEALTH-BOTULISM.xml)

**19. February 26, CTV (Canada) — New strain of flu making its way across Canada.** Health authorities are detecting a new strain of the flu making its way across Canada. In recent weeks, experts have identified a new influenza strain dubbed A/California H3N2. Similar to the harsh A/Fujian strain that has been blamed for particularly severe flu outbreaks in recent years, A/California has been making a growing number of Canadians sick. "We have identified it in different provinces," Health Canada's Theresa Tam told CTV, referring to Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec, and Newfoundland. "It appears to be moving across the country." Although there are reports this new strain is showing up in as many as 20 per cent of flu viruses isolated from U.S. patients in recent weeks, Tam says its apparent spread is not cause for alarm. "We do

expect some cross protection," Tam told CTV, noting its closeness to the A/Fujian virus, which is targeted in this year's shot. But there are some reports of vaccinated nursing staff in Ontario coming down with a flu-like illness at rates higher than should be expected.

Source: [http://www.ctv.ca/servlet/ArticleNews/story/CTVNews/1109372213078\\_28/?hub=Health](http://www.ctv.ca/servlet/ArticleNews/story/CTVNews/1109372213078_28/?hub=Health)

20. *February 25, Texas A&M University* — **Researchers develop nanotechnology to detect bacteria.** A group of Texas A&M University researchers have developed a nanotechnology to rapidly detect and identify bacteria. The researchers call their technique SENSing of Phage-Triggered Ion Cascade, or SEPTIC. Using a nanowell device with two antenna-like electrodes, the scientists can detect the electric-field fluctuations that result when a type of virus called a bacteriophage infects a specific bacterium, and then identify the bacterium present. The researchers tested their technology on strains of E. coli and experienced a 100 percent success rate in detecting and identifying the bacteria quickly and accurately. The scheme works because only a specific phage can infect a specific bacterium. When a bacteriophage infects a bacterium, the phage injects its DNA into the bacterium and "reprograms" it to produce multiple copies of the phage, called virions. During the infection process, about 100 million ions escape from the host cell. This ion leakage causes fluctuations in the electric field around the bacterium, and the nanowell detects these fluctuations. SEPTIC identifies bacteria within minutes, with no false alarms and very low probability of missed detection. The method is also relatively inexpensive. Other detection methods require hours or days of processing and more expensive instrumentation.

Source: [http://tees.tamu.edu/portal/page?\\_pageid=33,32247&\\_dad=portal1&\\_schema=PORTAL&p\\_news\\_id=1131](http://tees.tamu.edu/portal/page?_pageid=33,32247&_dad=portal1&_schema=PORTAL&p_news_id=1131)

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## **Government Sector**

21. *February 25, Government Computer News* — **New federal ID standard approved.** The Department of Commerce on Friday, February 25, approved the Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS) for Personal Identity Verification, starting the clock for agencies to implement common smart card-based ID cards. FIPS 201 lays out the technical and operational requirements for the PIV system and card. The Homeland Security Presidential Directive that mandated the card requires agencies to have the access systems in place, "to the maximum extent practicable," by October 25. Meeting that deadline is likely to be a challenge. "I don't think it's going to be possible for most agencies to continue doing business as usual and comply," said Jim Dray of the National Institutes of Standards and Technology (NIST) in Gaithersburg, MD. HSPD 12 was issued August 27, 2004, calling for NIST to produce a federal standard for secure and reliable forms of identification for federal employees and contractors within six months. The first phase of compliance, due by October 25, will include common ID and security requirements for the applications that will use the new cards. Within another year, second phase compliance will require agencies to begin issuing interoperable cards to employees and contractors. No deadline has been set for completing the issuing process.

Source: [http://www.gcn.com/vol1\\_no1/daily-updates/35171-1.html](http://www.gcn.com/vol1_no1/daily-updates/35171-1.html)

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## **Emergency Services Sector**

**22. February 28, *New York Times* — Crashes start debate on safety of sky ambulances.** Last year was a deadly one for flight crews and patients on medical helicopters, with 18 people killed in 11 accidents. Medical helicopters were once nearly all affiliated with hospitals. But more generous federal reimbursements and changes in payment methods have attracted more operators, including publicly traded corporations and smaller concerns that in some cases set up outposts and market their services to rural emergency units and even homeowners. Federal regulators and some doctors worry that the pool of skilled helicopter pilots has become drained and that some of those flying are making poor decisions. In addition, some companies are flying older helicopters that lack the instruments needed to help pilots navigate safely. Executives of medical helicopter companies and trade groups said they were greatly concerned by the rising accident numbers but added that the figures might simply reflect the fact that more helicopters were flying, rather than an increase in the accident rate. The Federal Aviation Administration, after a meeting with helicopter operators, in January proposed steps to improve flight safety including helping pilots assess risks and providing them with up-to-date electronic equipment.

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2005/02/28/national/28copter.html?hp&ex=1109653200&en=bdb069ae55b161f1&ei=5094&partner=homepage>

**23. February 26, *The Monitor (TX)* — Agencies, volunteers help airport test disaster readiness.** A full-scale mass-casualty drill was carried out on Friday, February 25, at McAllen-Miller International Airport in McAllen, TX. The drill involved three hospitals, the FBI, Transportation Security Administration, the McAllen police and fire departments, the American Red Cross, and the Salvation Army. Lessons learned from the exercise will be used to make changes to the Airport Emergency Plan. The Federal Aviation Administration will receive a report and videotape on the drill and must approve the plan. "This drill bring[s] all the agencies together that would be involved if this were an actual crash," Matt Lewis, airport operations and maintenance manager, said. "It also provides us an opportunity to test our airport emergency plan that gives us guidance on what everyone's responsibilities are." After the exercise, airport officials and emergency responders met for a debriefing to discuss "what we did right and what we did wrong," Lewis said. The drill was designed to test a variety of responses that would be required in a real mass-casualty incident, including crowd and traffic control, emergency fire and rescue operations, triage and on-site treatment of victims, medical evacuation of victims by ambulance, public and media relations, and inter-agency communication and coordination.

Source: <http://www.themonitor.com/SiteProcessor.cfm?Template=/Global/Templates/Details.cfm&StoryID=5897&Section=Local>

**24. February 25, *Herald Democrat (TX)* — Red Cross volunteers launch disaster drill.** The Texoma, OK, chapter of the American Red Cross ran a tabletop disaster drill Thursday, February 24. The focus of the drill was a mock collision involving a tanker truck filled with chlorine at the intersection of U.S. highways 75 and 82. Homes and businesses were evacuated in the area most likely to be affected by the chemical spill, but only on paper. Red Cross workers planned how to fill two roles. First, they supported government emergency services at a command center. The second role was to meet the shelter, food, medical and mental health needs of those evacuated. Bob Roberts, senior coordinator of planning and preparedness for the

Oklahoma Red Cross, and Harriet Halkyard, a disaster services volunteer from the Houston–area Red Cross, coached participants as they set about the complex task of pairing resources with needs and organizing the pairings over time. The drill also required they take into account alternate routes and resources being unavailable because they were in the "red" or unsafe zone.

Source: [http://www.heralddemocrat.com/articles/2005/02/25/local\\_news/iq\\_1757458.txt](http://www.heralddemocrat.com/articles/2005/02/25/local_news/iq_1757458.txt)

25. *February 24, Wiscasset Newspaper (ME)* — **Hazard mitigation plan approved.** The hazard mitigation plan for Lincoln County, ME, has been approved by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the state of Maine. This plan is a requirement for every community under the U.S. Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 in order to apply for grants. The plan outlines a process for risk assessment, identifies hazards, assesses vulnerability to hazards, outlines town goals and details an evacuation plan in the event of a disaster. Also included in the plan are strategies for implementing new plans through existing programs and ways to involve the public in the process. Bob Westrich, Chairman of the Local Emergency Planning Committee, said two classes in weapons of mass destruction, radiological and nuclear awareness will be offered April 19 and 20 in the Central Maine Commerce Center in Augusta. A drill to test the response time of local emergency personnel is tentatively set for April 9. In the test, fake nuclear material will be drilled into the water pipes between Great Salt Bay School and Miles Memorial Hospital in Damariscotta, ME.

Source: [http://wiscassetnewspaper.maine.com/2005-02-24/hazard\\_mitigation\\_plan.html](http://wiscassetnewspaper.maine.com/2005-02-24/hazard_mitigation_plan.html)

26. *February 24, Sun–Sentinel (FL)* — **Terrorist drill tests readiness at Port of Palm Beach.** A drill was conducted Wednesday, February 23, at the Port of Palm Beach in Riviera, FL, to test law enforcement agencies' readiness for a major terrorist attack. More than 150 local, state and federal officials from at least 18 agencies participated in the second day of the three day exercise, considered to be one of the largest and most complex anti–terrorist training exercises in Florida since the September 11 attacks, organizers said. The overall assessment of how well the responders performed won't be known for weeks, but organizers were initially pleased that scores of police and rescue teams showed up on time and took the exercise seriously. The drill brought together officials who usually don't work with each other, authorities said. Wednesday's exercise started at 3 a.m., and was based on the scenario that terrorists smuggled chemicals aboard a ship and then escaped to a nearby office. Dozens of fire and emergency officials decontaminated a barrel holding non–lethal chemicals and removed a dummy replicating a person killed by chemicals. Meanwhile, dozens of police officers stormed a dark office using bullets filled with paint to shoot other officers posing as terrorists.

Source: <http://www.sun-sentinel.com/news/local/palmbeach/sfl-pdrill24feb24.0.1442105.story?coll=sfla-news-palm>

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## **Information Technology and Telecommunications Sector**

27. *February 28, Federal Computer Week* — **Cyber warriors anticipate center.** Personnel in the military's new cyberdefense organization hope to operate a new command center by late spring. The facility will include new hardware and software to help workers of the Joint Task Force–Global Network Operations (JTF–GNO) operate, manage and defend the military's

computer networks. "It will be a state-of-the-art facility," said Army Brig. Gen. Dennis Via, deputy commander of the JTF-GNO. He spoke Wednesday, February 23 at the Department of Defense Global Information Grid Enterprise Services conference held by the Association for Enterprise Integration, an industry trade group. The opening of the new command center coincides with JTF-GNO becoming fully operational.

Source: <http://www.fcw.com/fcw/articles/2005/0221/web-jtfg-02-25-05.asp>

**28. February 28, Secunia — phpWebSite announcement image upload vulnerability.** A vulnerability exists in phpWebSite 0.10.0 and prior, which potentially can be exploited by malicious people to compromise a vulnerable system. The vulnerability is caused due to an error in the uploading of images when submitting an announcement. This can be exploited to upload arbitrary PHP scripts to a directory inside the web root. There is no vendor solution at this time.

Source: <http://secunia.com/advisories/14399/>

### Internet Alert Dashboard

<b>DHS/US-CERT Watch Synopsis</b>	
<b>Over the preceding 24 hours, there has been no cyber activity which constitutes an unusual and significant threat to Homeland Security, National Security, the Internet, or the Nation's critical infrastructures.</b>	
<p><b>US-CERT Operations Center Synopsis:</b> Microsoft released an out of cycle patch on Tuesday of this week for Windows XP Service Pack 2 and Windows Server 2003 systems to address an issue that can cause a computer to stop responding if certain firewall or anti-virus programs are installed on the machine. The following knowledgebase article discusses the patch: <a href="http://support.microsoft.com/kb/887742">http://support.microsoft.com/kb/887742</a></p> <p>To obtain the patch, please visit the following link: <a href="http://windowsupdate.microsoft.com">http://windowsupdate.microsoft.com</a></p> <p>The FBI is also reporting that emails claiming to be from its 'Internet Fraud Complaint Center' are actually virus-laden scams. The FBI never sends out unsolicited emails and asks that if you receive one of these bogus emails, please report it to the Internet Crime Complaint Center at <a href="http://www.ic3.gov">http://www.ic3.gov</a></p>	
<b>Current Port Attacks</b>	
<b>Top 10 Target Ports</b>	<p>445 (microsoft-ds), 135 (epmap), 1025 (---), 139 (netbios-ssn), 53 (domain), 80 (www), 1026 (---), 113 (auth), 1027 (icq), 6346 (gnutella-svc)</p> <p>Source: <a href="http://isc.incidents.org/top10.html">http://isc.incidents.org/top10.html</a>; Internet Storm Center</p>
<p>To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at <a href="mailto:soc@us-cert.gov">soc@us-cert.gov</a> or visit their Website: <a href="http://www.us-cert.gov">www.us-cert.gov</a>.</p>	
<p>Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <a href="https://www.it-isac.org/">https://www.it-isac.org/</a>.</p>	

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## **Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument & Icons Sector**

Nothing to report.

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## **General Sector**

### **29. *February 28, Copley News Service* — Academics researching threats to U.S. security.**

University of Maryland criminologist Gary LaFree is getting ready to profile a deadly type of criminal, the kind who is willing to strap on explosives and blow up himself and others. LaFree will be working with 60 other researchers, stretching from his campus to the University of California Los Angeles, trying to get a better understanding of the root causes of terrorism and what motivates its practitioners. Since the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, colleges and universities nationwide have added homeland security programs to their roster of academic concentrations. The efforts range from sophisticated research on biological weapons to nuts-and-bolts training for police officers and firefighters. Kay Howell, the Federation of American Scientists vice president, cited statistics that the FBI, CIA, Department of Homeland Security, and Department of Defense have 7,693 jobs to fill, most requiring technology and data analysis skills. Meanwhile, the number of Americans pursuing science and engineering degrees has been declining for decades, she said. "They have a huge need for a well-trained work force. Science and technology, people with good critical thinking skills," Howell said. "From a national security perspective, there's a huge need to make sure that we're graduating students who can fill these jobs."

Source: [http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/metro/20050228-9999-1n28h\\_omeland.html](http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/metro/20050228-9999-1n28h_omeland.html)

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### **DHS/IAIP Products & Contact Information**

The Department of Homeland Security's Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection (IAIP) serves as a national critical infrastructure threat assessment, warning, vulnerability entity. The IAIP provides a range of bulletins and advisories of interest to information system security and professionals and those involved in protecting public and private infrastructures:

[DHS/IAIP Daily Open Source Infrastructure Reports](#) – The DHS/IAIP Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is a daily [Monday through Friday] summary and assessment of open-source published information concerning significant critical infrastructure issues. The DHS/IAIP Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is available on the Department of Homeland Security Website: <http://www.dhs.gov/iaipdailyreport>

[Homeland Security Advisories and Information Bulletins](#) – DHS/IAIP produces two levels of infrastructure warnings. Collectively, these threat warning products will be based on material that is significant, credible, timely, and that addresses cyber and/or infrastructure dimensions with possibly significant impact. Homeland Security Advisories and Information Bulletins are available on the Department of Homeland Security Website: <http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/display?theme=70>

### **DHS/IAIP Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information**

Content and Suggestions:

Send mail to [dhsdailyadmin@mail.dhs.osis.gov](mailto:dhsdailyadmin@mail.dhs.osis.gov) or contact the DHS/IAIP Daily Report Team at (703) 883-3644.

Subscription and Distribution Information:

Send mail to [dhsdailyadmin@mail.dhs.osis.gov](mailto:dhsdailyadmin@mail.dhs.osis.gov) or contact the DHS/IAIP Daily Report Team at (703) 883-3644 for more information.

### **Contact DHS/IAIP**

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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