



Department of Homeland Security IAIP Directorate Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 04 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

- The Transportation Security Administration reports that in a survey, for the second year in a row, air travelers have given high marks to its security screeners, both for customer service and for keeping air travel secure. (See item [10](#))
- Post Newsweek Tech Media reports President Bush on Thursday welcomed Department of Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff to his new responsibilities during a swearing-in ceremony at the Ronald Reagan Building in Washington, DC. (See item [19](#))
- The Associated Press reports a government attorney says that a British computer specialist tried to set up a terrorist training camp in Arizona, where he met with Islamic radicals who claimed ties to Osama bin Laden. (See item [34](#))

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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Other: [Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument & Icons](#); [General](#); [DHS/IAIP Products & Contact Information](#)

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. *March 03, New York Times* — **Drilling for oil in urban areas.** Oil drilling has long been a more common sight on the arid plains of West Texas, but oil prices topping \$50 a barrel are now luring wildcatters to urban areas written off until recently as uneconomical by the energy industry. Traders are concerned that producers and refiners are not keeping up with demand. Small oil companies have stepped in and are relying on old geological maps from the 1930's

and new exploration methods in their attempts to find oil amid Houston's sprawl. The emergence of urban oil exploration in Houston illustrates the lengths to which some companies are going in their search for oil in areas long written off. New drilling technology, which allows companies to search for oil underground horizontally as well as vertically, and closer readings of well data stretching back to the 1930's, have enabled companies to home in on promising areas.

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2005/03/03/business/03houston.html>

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Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials Sector

2. *March 02, WESH (FL)* — **Toxic levels of ammonia leak at maintenance facility.** Hazmat teams responded to an ammonia leak in Marion County, FL, on Wednesday, March 2. The leak was from a valve on a refrigeration cooling system located in a maintenance area of a complex at a commercial distribution site for local groceries. The amount of ammonia released could have been deadly, according to the local fire department. About 20 people were evacuated, but no injuries were reported. The leak began when a worker attempted to turn on a valve, and as the ammonia started to leak, managers evacuated employees and called 911. The Hazmat team tested the air using air-monitoring devices, they found 900 parts per million of the gas. According to spokesperson for Marion County Fire-Rescue, 300 parts per million is considered life threatening. The gas was contained to the maintenance shop and the rest of the building was not impacted.

Source: <http://www.wesh.com/news/4246188/detail.html>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

3. *March 03, Government Accountability Office* — **GAO-05-390T: Tactical Aircraft: Status of the F/A-22 and JSF Acquisition Programs and Implications for Tactical Aircraft Modernization (Testimony).** The F/A-22 and Joint Strike Fighter (JSF) — two of the Department of Defense's (DoD) major tactical aircraft fighter programs — are intended to replace aging tactical fighter aircraft with highly advanced, stealthy aircraft. The two programs combined have a potential future investment of more than \$240 billion. Later this month, Government Accountability Office (GAO) plans to issue comprehensive reports on the numerous setbacks each of these programs has experienced since they were initiated and their effect on the F/A-22 and JSF business cases. This testimony highlights key concerns in the F/A-22 and JSF programs and discusses the implications of these concerns on DoD's overall investment strategy for modernizing its tactical fixed wing aircraft. GAO is making recommendations in its two tactical aircraft reports to be issued later this month. For the F/A-22 program, GAO is reiterating its 2004 recommendation for DoD to establish a new business case — one that justifies the continued expenditure of funds on the F/A-22. For the JSF program, GAO is recommending that DoD establish an executable business case that is consistent with best practices and DoD policy regarding knowledge-based, evolutionary acquisitions, before the program moves forward. Highlights:

<http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d05390thigh.pdf>

Source: <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d05390t.pdf>

4. **March 03, Reuters** — **Second trinitrotoluene exposure at weapons plant.** The plant that makes 2,000–pound "bunker buster" penetration bombs has stopped production for a second time after workers developed anemia because of trinitrotoluene (TNT) exposure, officials said Thursday, March 3. Manufacture of the weapons was stopped February 8 after resuming weeks before following a lengthy production halt, said Mark Hughes, spokesperson for the McAlester Army Ammunition Plant, located in McAlester, OK. Blood tests in February found that 17 employees who make the weapons at McAlester had low blood oxygen levels caused by exposure to TNT, he said. Production of the powerful bombs, designed to destroy underground structures, was stopped in August after 34 workers were found to be anemic. Production was restarted January 1 after a new ventilation system to filter TNT from the air was installed, Hughes said. Initially, practice bombs filled with concrete were made on the reopened line, but when production of bombs began, blood tests showed TNT exposure again and the plant was closed, Hughes said. Anemia is a condition in which the number of red blood cells falls below normal and the body gets less oxygen. The McAlester plant is the primary bomb maker for the U.S. military and employs 1,400 workers.

Source: <http://www.latimes.com/business/careers/work/la-na-bombs3mar03.1.1031650.story?coll=la-headlines-business-careers>

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Banking and Finance Sector

5. **March 02, Reuters** — **U.S. official says freezing funds has hit terrorist finances.** A senior Department of the Treasury official on Wednesday, March 2, defended the practice of publicly designating terrorist groups and freezing their funds, despite concern that the tactic could drive dirty cash flows underground. Robert Werner, the new head of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control, said the United States had limited terrorists' ability to move and store funds by freezing almost \$150 million and blocking the financial transactions of roughly 400 people since the September 11, 2001 attacks. "That's always been the counterpoint, that if you drive people out of the formal system, they are harder to find. However, it also shows that our actions can disrupt and impede corrupt financial flows in a very, very significant way," Werner said. He said the designations had also been an effective deterrent and means of shielding unwitting people from donating funds to terrorist groups.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A2597-2005Mar2.html>

6. **March 02, ITAR-TASS (Russia)** — **Russia cooperates with other countries on terror and money laundering according to official.** Russia is cooperating with 60 countries in the struggle against terrorism and money laundering, Viktor Zubkov, head of the Federal Service for Financial Monitoring (Rosfinmonitoring), told ITAR-TASS Wednesday, March 2. "The most active cooperation is with Belgium, the USA, the UK, Cyprus, Switzerland and Germany. In 2004 we carried out eight international investigations with regard to large sums of "dirty" money which had left Russia. In the 90s Russia was losing 20–25bn "criminal dollars" annually but now this figure has dropped to a fifth or a sixth of that," he said. The head of financial intelligence added that work on a national blueprint for countering terrorism and money

laundering had been completed. "The document has been submitted to the Russian presidential administration and, I think, it will be brought to the attention of the country's leadership. After this practical work to implement the blueprint will start," he said.

Source: http://www.gateway2russia.com/art/Unrubricated/Russia%20coop%20rates%20with%20other%20countries%20on%20terror%20and%20money%20laundering%20_270715.html

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Transportation Sector

7. *March 03, Reuters* — **U.S. airlines oppose higher security fee.** A White House proposal to collect another \$1.5 billion in aviation security fees has roiled cash-strapped U.S. airlines, that consider the move unfair taxation at a time they can least afford it. The industry, which lost about \$10 billion last year, has been battered by weak revenue and skyrocketing fuel prices, and carriers say higher fees will worsen their financial losses. The Bush administration in its fiscal 2006 budget proposed hiking the fee paid by travelers to supplement passenger and bag screening at 420 airports by \$3 to a maximum of \$8 for one-way travel. "There are various parties that have come out forcefully in opposition," said John Heimlich, chief economist at the Air Transport Association, a leading airline trade group. The Transportation Security Administration hopes to raise \$1.5 billion from the increase. The total borne by airlines and their passengers would increase to \$4.1 billion annually and nearly cover costs for 45,000 passenger and bag screeners. The passenger fee is in addition to the \$300 million that airlines already pay the government for security. But industry-watchers argue that aviation security expenses should be shared by the entire taxpaying population.

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2005/TRAVEL/03/03/airlines.taxes.reut/index.html>

8. *March 03, Times Ledger (NY)* — **Port Authority to step up airport security in Queens.** The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey plans to spend more than \$200 million improving security at Kennedy, LaGuardia, and Newark airports, including strengthening airport perimeter fences against intruders. The agency said it would spend \$80 million on a system to detect and deter anyone trying to get inside outer fences and barriers at the airports and \$14 million for closed circuit cameras at security checkpoints. Another \$6 million will pay for a biometrics system for employee identification. Biometrics systems use highly sophisticated technology for fingerprinting and eye iris scanning to verify the identity of people, the Port Authority said. "Since September 11, 2001, the Port Authority has worked closely with the federal Transportation Safety Authority, the airlines and our other airport partners to introduce many new safeguards," said Port Authority Vice Chairman Charles Gargano. "But we know that as strong as our record has been on security, this important work is never done and we must remain vigilant."

Source: http://www.timesledger.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=14073464&BRD=2676&PAG=461&dept_id=542415&rfti=6

9. *March 03, Times Ledger (NY)* — **Council approves resolution on subway train crew count.** A New York City Council committee has approved a resolution calling on the state Legislature to amend the public authorities law to specify that certain New York City subway trains have at least two crew members. The resolution says one conductor and one operator must be provided

for any subway train that travels through tunnels, under a body of water or over a bridge or during instances when trains in passenger service are composed of more than four cars or are greater than 360 feet in length or able to carry more than 750 persons.

Source: http://www.timesledger.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=14073472&BRD=2676&PAG=461&dept_id=542415&rfi=6

10. **March 03, *Transportation Security Administration* — Air travelers express confidence and satisfaction in security and customer service.** For the second year in a row, air travelers gave consistently high marks to security screeners of the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) both for customer service and for keeping air travel secure, according to a survey by McLean, VA–based BearingPoint, Inc. Between 80 and 95 percent of passengers gave positive responses when asked about seven aspects of the federal security screening process, which included thoroughness and courtesy of screeners as well as confidence in TSA keeping air travel secure. In addition, TSA is meeting or exceeding passenger expectations for security line wait times. The BearingPoint survey, commissioned by TSA’s Office of Strategic Management and Analysis, was conducted at 25 airports where screening is done by TSA screeners and at the five airports where TSA contracts private companies for screening. Overall customer satisfaction at the two groups of airports is about the same. To access the Customer Satisfaction Survey go to http://www.tsa.gov/public/interapp/editorial/editorial_1833.xml
Source: http://www.tsa.gov/public/display?theme=44&content=090005198_0106012

11. **March 03, *USA TODAY* — More flights disrupted over Christmas than in recent years.** US Airways failed to plan adequately for Christmas week staffing shortages in Philadelphia and elsewhere that disrupted holiday trips for 560,000 passengers, federal investigators said Wednesday, March 2. The Department of Transportation Inspector General's report also finds that more flights on all carriers were disrupted by delays and cancellations during the Christmas 2004 period than in any other recent year. Severe problems at Philadelphia, a US Airways hub, accounted for more than a third of the cancellations. At the end of January, 400 bags still were unclaimed because they lacked identification. As part of its bankruptcy restructuring, US Airways had increased Philadelphia flights 33% while reducing flights at Pittsburgh by 26%. Management had plans to offset the short staffing, but they "turned out to be insufficient," said Inspector General Kenneth Mead. The report also detailed reasons behind a computer shutdown at Cincinnati–based Comair that forced virtually all its flights to be canceled Christmas Day. Comair is a Delta Air Lines subsidiary. The report said an 18–year–old computer system that schedules flight crews shut down Christmas Eve when it reached an arbitrary transaction limit that the airline didn't know existed. For the text of Department of Transportation Secretary Mineta’s remarks concerning the report, see <http://www.dot.gov/affairs/dot3805.htm>
Source: http://www.usatoday.com/money/biztravel/2005-03-02-delays-us_at_x.htm

12. **March 02, *Daily Telegraph (Australia)* — Threat diverts Philippine plane.** A threat of a bomb hidden in a roast pig diverted a plane flying from the southern Philippines to Manila on Wednesday, March 2. No bomb was found on the Cebu Pacific Airlines plane. The domestic flight with 78 passengers was ordered to land in Cebu City in the central Philippines after taking off from Davao on the troubled island of Mindanao, which is home to several groups of Muslim rebels. The threat to the country's second–largest airline comes two weeks after blasts killed 13 people on February 14, in Manila, General Santos, and Davao. "Somebody sent a text message that there was a bomb hidden in a 'lechon' (roast pig) that was on the plane," said

Arturo Evangelista, head of airport security in Cebu. Cebu Pacific, the smaller rival of Philippine Airlines, is mainly a domestic airline but flies to South Korea, Singapore and Hong Kong. It also runs charter flights to China.

Source: http://dailytelegraph.news.com.au/story.jsp?sectionid=1274&s_toryid=2751980

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Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to report.

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Agriculture Sector

Nothing to report.

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Food Sector

13. *March 03, Agence France Presse* — **U.S. judge blocks resumption of Canadian beef imports.** A federal judge in Montana blocked the pending resumption of imports of Canadian beef after U.S. cattle farmers petitioned over fears about spreading mad cow disease. Imports of Canadian beef, due to resume Monday, March 7, have now been temporarily suspended while Judge Richard Cebull examines the complaint from the United Stockgrowers of America. The complaint claims that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has not taken enough precautions to reopen the U.S. border to Canadian cattle aged below 30 months. Imports were suspended in May 2003 after a first case of mad cow disease was discovered in Canada.

Source: <http://us-politics.news.designerz.com/us-federal-judge-block-s-resumption-of-canadian-beef-imports.html?d20050303>

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Water Sector

14. *March 03, Bozeman Daily Chronicle (MT)* — **Climate experts present findings on northwestern drought.** Drought shows no sign of easing in the Northwestern U.S. In fact, the dry times that have plagued the American Southwest appear to be moving north. Those are some of the findings being presented at MTNCLIM 2005, a gathering of climate experts from March 1–4 in Chico Hot Springs, MT, sponsored by the Consortium for Integrated Climate Research on Western Mountains. For the past six or seven years, "drought has migrated around the West," said opening speaker, Kelly Redmond, of the Desert Research Institute in Reno, NV. Drought in Montana often is related to the El Nino, which is a warm-water current in the Pacific Ocean that affects the weather for great distances. However, this year's El Nino is weak, but the reaction in the American West is similar to what happens when El Nino is strong. This has experts puzzled. Southwest Montana's drought is as bad as it's been since the dust bowl

years, he said. The Billings area has lost 1.5 years worth of precipitation over the past six years. It's likely to get worse, he said. The group is looking at the impacts of climate change, and various ways to chart those impacts.

Source: <http://www.bozemandailychronicle.com/articles/2005/03/03/news/chicoclimatechange.txt>

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Public Health Sector

15. *March 03, Reuters* — Morocco suspects first human mad cow death. Morocco said on Thursday, March 3, it believes a man died of the human form of mad cow disease, suspected to be the first case of its kind in the North African country. The 61-year-old was a regular visitor to Europe, the health ministry said in a statement, without saying which country. He died on Wednesday, March 2, in a Casablanca hospital. "We are not 100 percent sure as we are still carrying out checks through samples, but it's highly possible he died of Creutzfeldt–Jakob Disease (vCJD)," a senior ministry official told Reuters. A little more than 150 cases of vCJD have been reported in the world up to now, most of them in Britain.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/newsArticle.jhtml?type=healthNews&storyID=7796341>

16. *March 03, Associated Press* — WHO seeks increase in smallpox vaccines. The World Health Organization (WHO) is seeking to expand its 2.5 million dose supply of smallpox vaccine as part of precautions against a biological terrorism attack, a senior official said Wednesday, March 2. "We need stockpiles of vaccines. We need stockpiles of those essential medications," Brad Kay, coordinator of the WHO's division on preparedness for accidental and deliberate epidemics, said on the sidelines of an Interpol conference on bioterrorism. Smallpox is one of six highly lethal "Category A" diseases that public health experts believe could be used as biological weapons. Others include anthrax, tularemia, botulism, or viruses such as Ebola. Kay told reporters that the WHO is involved in "much discussion about greatly expanding" its access to smallpox vaccines through a virtual stockpile, which entails keeping tabs on stocks around the world that could be called on if the need arises. In the event of an emergency, Kay said: "The small amount that the WHO has is not going to go far." Smallpox plagued humans for centuries, and it's believed to have killed more people than all wars and epidemics combined. Death typically follows massive hemorrhaging.

Source: <http://abcnews.go.com/Health/wireStory?id=545193>

17. *March 02, Agence France Presse* — Europe updates contingency plans for flu pandemic. European health experts are holding a two-day meeting this week to update contingency plans in case of an influenza pandemic, after warnings linked to a bird flu virus in Asia, officials said. The European Union's (EU) executive arm said the bloc's leaders had to be prepared for a coordinated response if the worst came to the worst. "Having the means in place to rapidly identify and respond to the emergence of a pandemic strain of influenza could save many thousands of lives," said EU health commissioner Markos Kyprianou. The meeting on Wednesday, March 2, and Thursday, March 3, brings together specialists in epidemics from 52 European countries, including from the 25-member EU. The meeting will study how to improve the preparedness of public health systems to deal with a pandemic, and notably to help those countries that do not yet have them to draw up plans.

Source: <http://health.news.designerz.com/europe-updates-contingency-plans-for-flu-pandemic.html?d20050302>

18. *March 02, KGTV (CA)* — Man receiving radiation care sets off nuclear weapons detector.

A motorist who had received radiation treatment set off a nuclear weapons detector in Escondido, CA, prompting police to close a section of the city, authorities said. A Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District engine crew was inspecting a business in Rancho Santa Fe when its radiation monitor sounded around 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 1, Escondido police Sgt. Robert Healey said. The fire crew called Escondido police, who pulled the motorist over and searched his vehicle for nuclear weapons or materials. The man told police that he had just received radiation treatment, Healey said. Police called the man's physician, who told officers that the radiation dosage would be strong enough to set off the nuclear monitor, Healey said.

Source: <http://www.10news.com/news/4246038/detail.html>

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Government Sector

19. *March 03, Post Newsweek Tech Media* — Chertoff officially in at DHS. President Bush on Thursday, March 3, welcomed Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Michael Chertoff to his new responsibilities during a swearing-in ceremony at the Ronald Reagan Building in Washington, DC. One of Chertoff's first tasks will be gaining Congress' support for the administration's planned reorganization of the department's computerized screening and tracking systems. On Wednesday, he told Congress that he had launched a top-to-bottom review of the department. Bush cited the progress DHS has made and mentioned the \$14 billion of grants it has disbursed to state and local governments for security gear, including communications systems and command centers. He also noted that DHS has established secure communications to emergency operations centers and state governors, "to ensure that they get threat information on a real-time basis." For a text of the president's speech, see

<http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/display?content=4382>

Source: http://www.washingtontechnology.com/news/1_1/daily_news/25668-1.html

20. *March 02, National Journal's Technology Daily* — Department of Homeland Security awards research money for technology. Homeland Security officials said Wednesday, March 2, they are continuing to build technological capabilities to protect the country. Undersecretary for Science and Technology Charles McQueary told attendees at the 2005 Homeland and Global Security Summit that many systems have been procured -- including sensors -- but they still do not produce information in a timely manner. McQueary has about \$1 billion to grant to homeland defense research in fiscal 2005 through the Homeland Security Advanced Research Projects Agency. Nearly 40 percent of that money, about \$400 million, is being spent on biodefenses. So far, the agency has awarded 200 contracts out of 7,000 proposals.

Source: <http://www.govexec.com/dailyfed/0305/030205tdpm1.htm>

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Emergency Services Sector

21. *March 03, Appen Newspapers, Inc (GA)* — **Emergency service personnel receive hazardous materials training.** More than 100 firefighters and a few police officers from Alpharetta and Roswell, GA, are finishing training that leads to Hazmat technician status. The emergency service personnel will spend 64 hours in classroom and hands-on training to teach them how to contain hazardous materials. With massive chlorine tanks nearby at the Fulton County Water Treatment Plant and trucks shipping hazardous materials on local highways, that is good training to have. And natural gas leaks caused by contractors hitting gas lines in heavy construction areas create regular calls for the Hazmat technicians, said Cane Smith of the Alpharetta Fire Department. A Mass Casualties Tent is one of the pieces of equipment obtained by the Alpharetta Fire Department through the Georgia Emergency Management Administration. Hundreds of victims can be decontaminated through three lines, which allow victims to clean themselves when possible or with assistance of firefighters. These classes may be the first in the nation offered by a local agency rather than a state program, Smith said. Source: <http://www.northfulton.com/default.asp?W=ViewArticle&P=10671>
22. *March 03, Pine Bluff Commercial (AR)* — **U.S. Army arsenal holds emergency drill to test response.** The U.S. Army's Pine Bluff Arsenal in Pine Bluff, AR, conducted an emergency preparedness drill Wednesday, March 2, to test plans and response personnel at the emergency operations center. A \$500 million incineration plant at the Arsenal is scheduled to begin destroying the 3,850 tons of material stored there later this month. The Arsenal houses 12 percent of the nation's stockpile, including blister agent and mustard gas and the nerve agents VX and sarin. Carole Newton, public affairs officer for the Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program, said the Army requires the Arsenal to conduct at least four drills each year, but the Arsenal usually does more. Another drill will be held March 16. It will be a much larger, daylong exercise in conjunction with county, state and federal emergency officials, representatives of the state Health Department, Army and other agencies, as well as the surrounding community. Source: <http://www.pbcommercial.com/articles/2005/03/03/news/news2.t xt>
23. *March 03, Daily Pilot (CA)* — **Plane crash simulation exercise at John Wayne Airport.** Roughly 350 people from 50 agencies participated in a large-scale drill simulating a plane crash at John Wayne Airport in Orange County, CA, on Wednesday, March 2, spokesperson Justin McCusker said. In the drill, the pilot of a Boeing 737 detected a fire on board shortly after takeoff. While making an emergency landing, the plane skidded off the runway, striking other aircraft. Two Orange County Transportation Authority buses and one school bus stood in for large airplanes loaded with passengers. Two small airplanes and a car were also involved in the mock emergency. Normal air traffic continued with takeoffs and landings nearby as fire hoses sprayed the staged crash scene. The department, as well as every agency taking part, will now go over what worked, what didn't and what could be improved, he said. Source: <http://www.dailypilot.com/publicsafety/story/4808p-6817c.htm l>
24. *March 03, The Journal (MD)* — **Bethesda partners for homeland security.** The National Naval Medical Center (NNMC) mass casualty medical experts in Bethesda, MD, participated in a joint training scenario with members from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) during a "table-top" disaster drill hosted by Suburban Hospital Tuesday, March 1. The exercise was based on the principles of the Emergency Preparedness Partnership formed between the three

facilities in an effort to increase cooperation between medical and emergency response resources in the National Capital Area. This collaboration of both federal and private medical centers is one of the first of its kind, an achievement of which the Surgeon General of the Navy, VADM Donald Arthur, said he is proud to be a part. Nearly 30 staff members from NNMC attended the tabletop exercise, which included nearly 100 participants from across Montgomery County, including local fire and police personnel. The exercise provides an open forum to discuss methods of improving disaster response and readiness. Topics focused on crisis communication, patient transportation, resource management, and dissemination of internal information.

Source: http://www.dcmilitary.com/navy/journal/10_09/local_news/33612-1.html

25. *March 03, Hillsborough Beacon (NJ)* — **Disaster test needs volunteers.** How well New Jersey — and local officials — can respond to a biological or terrorist attack may be better known after April 7, when 500 "victims" will swamp local emergency responders in a mock disaster drill. The victims will actually be volunteers in "TopOff 3," part of a congressionally mandated, nationwide preparedness effort, testing how well county and local first responders react to a potential health emergency. The exercise is being conducted by the Somerset County Department of Health in conjunction with the Office of Emergency Management, and other county and local police and rescue agencies, with funding from a combination of federal and state agencies. Area residents interested in helping out can volunteer to be among the "victims" that day. "What we are looking for in Somerset County is for local residents throughout the county to walk through a mock large-scale clinic," said Candice Davenport, health educator/risk communicator at the Somerset County Department of Health. Volunteers will be asked to spend approximately 2.5 hours serving as recipients of mock medications or medical distributions, Davenport said.

Source: http://www.zwire.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=14074544&BRD=1091&PAG=461&dept_id=425742&rft=6

26. *March 03, Bedford Minuteman (MA)* — **Massachusetts SWAT units engage in practice drill.** Approximately 35 members of the Northeastern Massachusetts Law Enforcement Council (NEMLEC) practiced their knowledge of weapons and force to potentially save lives in a drill in Stoneham, MA, last week. NEMLEC is made up police officers from 44 cities and towns in the area. Two police units, the tactile search team and the slow and deliberate search team, combed the dark halls of the former medical center. One team used the fast and furious "dynamic clearing" techniques to search for a possible criminal. These efforts included the use of military-style machine guns such as MP5s and Air-15s, suppression devices and speed. Another team methodically scoured the area for possible clues. Each of the NEMLEC members was outfitted with an array of weapons, including infrared sights and mirrors to peer around corners. Officers also employ the use of "flash-bangs," or concussion grenades to confuse potential criminals. After each drill, members of the team and their team leaders critiqued their efforts.

Source: <http://www2.townonline.com/bedford/localRegional/view.bg?articleid=196121>

27. *March 01, The Daily Record (NC)* — **Public safety workers get drilled in disease outbreak.** Emergency workers and administrators from eight counties learned about what to do in case of an unexpected outbreak of an infectious disease in animal population in a federally-funded drill held in Dunn, NC, on February 24. About 150 representatives from law enforcement, rescue,

emergency management, health departments and agriculture agencies showed up at the Dunn Community Center to get facts on the avian flu and how to handle a possible outbreak in eastern North Carolina. The event was sponsored by Johnston County, which received a \$70,000 federal grant from the Department of Homeland Security for a three-phase bioterrorism/ disease outbreak drill. Participants came away with a better understanding of disease-associated threats or outbreaks and coordination with various public safety agencies. The drill was based on the premise of an imaginary outbreak of avian flu, the influenza strain in Southeast Asia that has jumped to humans resulting in several deaths. Thursday's drill was an orientation, educating participants about the avian flu, and was mainly a practice in procedural matters -- what to do and who to call in case of a widescale emergency. A second and third phase exercise will deal more with hands-on handling of a disease outbreak.

Source: <http://www.dunndailyrecord.com/main.asp?SectionID=1&SubSectionID=1&ArticleID=64433>

28. *February 02, Government Accountability Office* — **GAO-05-232: Homeland Security: Management of First Responder Grant Programs Has Improved, but Challenges Remain (Report)**. The Office for Domestic Preparedness (ODP) -- originally established in 1998 within the Department of Justice to help state and local first responders acquire specialized training and equipment needed to respond to terrorist incidents -- was transferred to the Department of Homeland Security upon its creation in March 2003. After September 11, 2001, the scope and size of ODP's grant programs expanded. For example, from fiscal year 2001 through fiscal year 2003, ODP grants awarded to states and some urban areas grew from about \$91 million to about \$2.7 billion. This growth raised questions about the ability of ODP and states to ensure that the domestic preparedness grant programs -- including statewide and urban area grants -- are managed effectively and efficiently. GAO addressed (1) how statewide and urban area grants were administered in fiscal years 2002 and 2003 so that ODP could ensure that grant funds were spent in accordance with grant guidance and state preparedness planning, and (2) what time frames Congress and ODP established for awarding and distributing grants, and how time frames affected the grant cycle. Highlights: <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d0580high.pdf>
Source: <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d05121.pdf>

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Information Technology and Telecommunications Sector

29. *March 03, Government Technology* — **Report says 2005 could be breakthrough year for broadband over powerline**. Broadband over powerline (BPL) technology may be "primed for real growth in 2005 and beyond" across the United States, according to a new white paper released recently by the New Millennium Research Council (NMRC). BPL is the transmission of high-speed communications services, including Internet access, over the existing electric infrastructure using adaptive technologies. Trials and actual commercial deployments of BPL systems are on the rise, with over 20 projects in operation in 2004 and more expected to come online in 2005. By one estimate, roughly a quarter million homes in the U.S. already had the opportunity to choose BPL services in 2004. Many industry watchers and representatives now believe BPL can dramatically change the landscape of the broadband market, offering new forms of competition and delivering high-quality service to remote areas. During the past two

years, the commercial and media perspectives on BPL in the U.S. have evolved from categorizing the technology as “almost ready” to “really here.” Though still in its early stages, BPL technology already is available in sections of New York, NY and Manassas, VA. Report: http://newmillenniumresearch.org/archive/bpl_report022405.pdf
Source: <http://www.govtech.net/news/news.php?id=93220>

30. *March 03, ZDNet (United Kingdom)* — Security firm deleted customers’ e-mails. An e-mail security scanning company has accidentally deleted thousands of its customers’ e-mails. GFI is now offering free upgrades to all its customers after it deleted their e-mails by sending out incorrect update information. According to GFI, the problem occurred because of a change in BitDefender's technology, one of the products that GFI uses for its e-mail scanning. When the GFI MailSecurity update mechanism tried to install BitDefender updates on customer networks, the service started to delete all e-mails by default. BitDefender and GFI then rolled back the updates. GFI has promised all customers a free upgrade to its MailSecurity 9 product, which is available in two months. The company has also released a tool that can tell customers which e-mails were deleted and when.

Source: <http://news.zdnet.co.uk/0,39020330,39189933,00.htm>

31. *March 02, K-Otik Security* — Trillian PNG image file processing buffer overflow vulnerability. A critical vulnerability was reported in Trillian, which may be exploited by attackers to execute arbitrary commands. The problem occurs when processing specially crafted PNG image files and could be exploited by a attackers to compromise a vulnerable system. There is no solution at this time.

Source: <http://www.k-otik.com/english/advisories/2005/0221>

32. *March 02, iDEFENSE* — Computer Associates License Client/Server multiple buffer overflow vulnerabilities. Remote exploitation of buffer overflow vulnerabilities in Computer Associates License Server and License Client can allow attackers to execute arbitrary code. The vulnerabilities exist due to insufficient bounds checking on user-supplied values in GETCONFIG and GCR requests. Updates available at:

http://supportconnectw.ca.com/public/ca_common_docs/security_notice.asp

Source: <http://www.idefense.com/application/poi/display?type=vulnerabilities>

33. *March 02, GovExec* — IT executives say cybersecurity is top concern. Leading federal information technology executives say that cybersecurity is their chief concern, according to an information technology vendor's survey. Forty-three percent of federal executives surveyed at a conference this week in Orlando, FL, said information technology security was their highest priority for 2005. More than two-thirds listed it is one of their top three concerns. The survey, released Wednesday, March 2, by CDW Government Inc., was conducted at the 2005 IPIC conference, and included 79 government technology executives attending the conference. The Federal IT Executive Survey results are similar to those in a recent survey by the Information Technology Association of America, which concluded that cybersecurity is the top priority of federal chief information officers. The IPIC conference is a forum for Government and Industry Information Technology (IT) executives to meet and share experiences of mutual interest.

Survey: <http://www.govexec.com/pdfs/IPIC.ppt>

Source: <http://www.govexec.com/dailyfed/0305/030205p1.htm>

Internet Alert Dashboard

DHS/US-CERT Watch Synopsis

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.

US-CERT Operations Center Synopsis: Multiple variants of the Beagle worm have emerged over the past few days and are becoming a rather sizeable threat in terms of infection rate. Many of these variants are being reported as a mass-mailing worms that uses its own SMTP engine to send out copies of the tooso trojan. The US-CERT suggests ensuring that updated anti-virus signatures have been deployed to machines on your network. For more information on the Beagle worm and the tooso trojan, please see the following link:

<http://securityresponse.symantec.com>

Current Port Attacks

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Top 10 Target Ports | 445 (microsoft-ds), 135 (epmap), 139 (netbios-ssn), 1025 (----), 1026 (----), 1027 (icq), 80 (www), 53 (domain), 137 (netbios-ns), 25 (smtp) |
|----------------------------|--|

Source: <http://isc.incidents.org/top10.html>; Internet Storm Center

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Website: 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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Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument & Icons Sector

Nothing to report.

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General Sector

34. *March 02, Associated Press* — British man tried to set up Arizona terror camp. A British computer specialist tried to set up a terrorist training camp in Arizona, where he met with Islamic radicals who claimed ties to Osama bin Laden, a government attorney alleged Wednesday, March 2. Babar Ahmad, who is being held in London, England, on charges he ran terrorist fund-raising Websites, met in Phoenix in 1998 with Yaser Al Jhani, a member of the Islamic mujahedeen militia, and others who claimed to have access to bin Laden, said John Hardy, a British lawyer representing the U.S. government. "He expressed an interest in developing a training system in Arizona," Hardy told the Associated Press. "That is, a training system, in effect for the mujahedeen to visit and train to fight abroad." Details of the Phoenix trip were outlined in a report by Assistant U.S. Attorney Robert Appleton, who would prosecute the case in Connecticut because one of the Websites Ahmad ran was hosted there. Ahmad was indicted in October 2004 on charges of supporting terrorism, conspiring to kill Americans and laundering money through the Websites he operated. He is accused of recruiting al Qaeda, Taliban, and Chechen fighters and outfitting them with gas masks, night-vision goggles, and

camouflage gear.

Source: http://seattlepi.nwsource.com/national/apus_story.asp?category=1110&slug=Terror%20Training

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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.gov or contact the DHS/IAIP Daily Report Team at (703) 883–3644.

Subscription and Distribution Information:

Send mail to dhsdailyadmin@mail.dhs.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 or (202) 282–9201.

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US–CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Web page at www.us-cert.gov.

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