Department of Homeland Security
IAIP Directorate
Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report
for 03 May 2005

Current
Nationwide
Threat Level is

ELEVATED
SIGNIFICANT RISK OF
TERRORIST ATTACKS

For info click here
http://www.dhs.gov/

Daily Highlights

- The Associated Press reports Mercury–laden clouds from gold mine smokestacks near Elko, Nevada, are floating east and could pose a health threat and damage the ecology of the Great Salt Lake in Utah. (See item 3)

- The Associated Press reports four New Jersey mayors are part of a national effort seeking stricter guidelines for cargo trains hauling hazardous materials. (See item 12)

- Knight Ridder Newspapers reports Kansas City, Missouri, will host the first international symposium on agroterrorism, a serious concern since diseases can be easily used as weapons against crops and livestock. (See item 17)

DHS/IAIP Update *Fast Jump*

Production Industries: **Energy**; **Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials**; **Defense Industrial Base**

Service Industries: **Banking and Finance**; **Transportation and Border Security**; **Postal and Shipping**

Sustenance and Health: **Agriculture**; **Food**; **Water**; **Public Health**

Federal and State: **Government**; **Emergency Services**

IT and Cyber: **Information Technology and Telecommunications**; **Internet Alert Dashboard**

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. *May 02, Reuters* — **OPEC boosts supplies to 25 year high.** Oil exporting cartel Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) has increased production by two million barrels per day (bpd) since mid–March –– a 25 year high, the group's president, Sheikh Ahmad al–Fahd al–Sabah, said on Monday, May 2. The majority of the extra crude is from top exporter Saudi Arabia along with fellow Gulf producers Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates. Sheikh Ahmad had said the cartel would add 500,000 bpd of fresh supplies to world oil markets

starting from May. However, he said "by numbers, we already have more than 500,000 of real production in the market." OPEC, which controls half the world's crude exports, meets again on June 15 in Vienna to chart production strategy for the second half of the year. Most of the 10 OPEC members with quotas −− Iraq is excluded −− are now producing at full tilt as the exporter group seeks to encourage stockbuilding in the coming months to create a buffer for strong demand later this year.
Source: http://www.nytimes.com/reuters/business/business−energy−kuwa it−opec.html

2. *May 02, Dow Jones Newswires* — **Dominion successfully joins power grid operator.** The PJM Interconnection power grid operator successfully took control of Dominion Resources Inc.'s high−voltage transmission system on Sunday, May 1, the companies said. Adding Richmond, VA−based Dominion and its 6,000 miles of transmission lines expands PJM to cover 13 states and the District of Columbia, an area that includes 51 million people and more than 56,000 miles of transmission. PJM is a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission−approved Regional Transmission Organization, or RTO. RTOs are intended to provide more efficient use of the high−voltage system by managing the grid to guard against utilities giving their power trading affiliates any unfair advantages. Also, decisions about when power plants are needed to meet demand are handled largely in the RTO control room. The utilities continue to physically run their systems, but they take direction from grid operators. With the addition of Dominion, PJM's projected peak demand tops 130,000 megawatts, and its territory includes nearly 1,100 power plants with a combined generating capacity of almost 164,000 MW, the grid operator said.
Source: http://money.iwon.com/jsp/nw/nwdt_rt.jsp?cat=USMARKET&src=70 4&feed=dji&section=news&news_id=dji−00023220050502&date=2005 0502&alias=/alias/money/cm/nw

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Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials Sector

3. *May 01, Associated Press* — **Mercury−laden clouds pose a threat to the Great Salt Lake.** Mercury−laden clouds from gold mine smokestacks near Elko, NV, are floating east and could pose a health threat and damage the ecology of the Great Salt Lake in Utah. The mines account for as much as 11 percent of total Mercury emissions in the United States. Mercury is a heavy metal that occurs naturally. Exposure to the element has been linked to neurological and kidney diseases, autism, loss of motor control and death. Young children and pregnant women are most at risk. Congress has ordered the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to make rules to cut mercury emissions, but the Elko−area mines are not under those regulations. Scientists know that mercury can travel great distances and the element's organic form, methylmercury, can get into humans through the consumption of fish and shellfish. A March report prepared for the EPA by Glenn Miller, a University of Nevada environmental science professor, uses 1998 emissions reports and extrapolates backward to 1985, estimated the 18 Nevada gold mines released between 70 and 200 tons of mercury.
Source: http://www.heraldonline.com/24hour/healthscience/story/23566 88p−10600173c.html

4. *April 30, Associated Press* — **Thirty workers taken to hospital after chemical spill.** A chemical spill at a Carlstadt, NJ, commercial building sent 30 people to the hospital Friday,

April 29, but none of the injuries were believed to be life−threatening, police said. Members of the Carlstadt Police Department went to the H.D. Smith Co., a wholesale drug distributor, around 9:45 p.m. and determined that a 500−milliliter container of phenol, a chemical compound used in resins, disinfectants, plastics and pharmaceuticals, had spilled, said Lt. Richard Berta, a department spokesperson. The building was evacuated and a hazardous materials unit responded to the scene, Berta said. The employees who were exposed were taken to Hackensack University Medical Center, where they were decontaminated and treated for exposure to and inhalation of the substance.
Source: http://www.nj.com/newsflash/jersey/index.ssf?/base/news−14/1 114835612313871.xml&storylist=jersey

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

Nothing to report.
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Banking and Finance Sector

5. *May 02, Reuters* — **Time Warner reports data on employees lost.** Time Warner Inc. on Monday, May 2, said data on 600,000 current and former employees stored on computer back−up tapes was lost by an outside storage company. Time Warner's data storage company, Boston−based Iron Mountain Inc., lost the tapes during transport, Time Warner said. The world's largest media company and owners of America Online, HBO and Warner Brothers studio said the missing tapes contained data from Time Warner, including personal information on the employees. The tapes did not include personal data on Time Warner customers, it said.
Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp−dyn/content/article/2005/05 /02/AR2005050200764.html

6. *May 01, Reuters* — **Federal agencies find help in hunting financial crooks.** Governments around the world have found a high−tech ally in their fight against tax cheats, money launderers, and corporate crooks. The technology, a computer language developed by accountants, turns financial information into the equivalent of a bar code, allowing software to scan and comprehend information that would otherwise be left for armies of analysts to re−type and sort out. Extensible business reporting language (XBRL), as it is called, is gaining a critical following inside the halls of government. Officials from Brussels to Washington have begun encouraging and requiring financial statements to be prepared in XBRL. The technology affixes digital "tags" to virtually every kind of financial information, making it possible for software to spot suspicious or erroneous information and flag reports for more thorough review. While all data can be stored electronically, XBRL provides a standard structure that can be run through many types of analytical software. In October, after a year's delay, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. will become the first federal agency to require XBRL reporting, a change that could cut weeks from the task of reviewing 9,000 quarterly bank reports and sharing them with the investing public.
Source: http://www.reuters.com/newsArticle.jhtml?type=technologyNews &storyID=8354102

7. *May 01, The Wall Street Journal* — **Software blamed in credit data theft.** There's a common thread to some of the recent security breaches at retailers that exposed sensitive financial details of hundreds of thousands of customers: software that retailers say improperly stored credit−card data. The computerized systems that manage much of U.S. commerce are supposed to purge most credit−card information after each transaction. However, merchants, banks and credit−card associations say many widely used retail−software packages often retain this information −− creating an alluring target for hackers. The sensitive information encoded in the magnetic stripe on credit cards "was out there more than we thought," says John Shaughnessy, senior vice president for risk management at Visa USA. These secret codes are "jewels" for thieves, Shaughnessy says. "The fact that it's stored anywhere is troublesome," said Shaughnessy. The spate of data lapses at retailers makes clear that software problems represent "a vulnerability that has to be closed," says Michael Petitti, senior vice president of marketing at Ambiron LLC in Chicago, a security firm that audits software for compliance with security standards. "But it has not been getting the attention it should receive," said Petitti.
Source: http://www.southcoasttoday.com/daily/05−05/05−01−05/d01bu455 .htm

8. *April 28, SecurityFocus* — **Backup tapes are a backdoor for identity thieves.** Large companies are reconsidering their security and backup policies after a handful of financial and information−technology companies have admitted that tapes holding unencrypted customer data have gone missing. "It is important to understand that unencrypted information stored on backup tapes is difficult to read, but it is not impossible," said Richard Reese, chairman and CEO of Iron Mountain, a data storage company. Iron Mountain recently acknowledged that it had lost track of four sets of customer backup tapes since the beginning of this year. Even without evidence of theft, the lack of encryption is disturbing, if entirely expected, said Jon Oltsik, senior research analyst for the Enterprise Strategy Group. The analyst firm polled almost 400 companies and found that, despite renewed focus on securing customer data, more than 60 percent of the companies do not encrypt any of their backup data, and only seven percent actually encrypt all their backup data. Because backups tend to be done by the least important members of the information technology staff, the tapes are at greater risk of insider attacks as well. Moreover, insiders have the access to know what data is on each tape, information that could help identity thieves target the right tapes.
Source: http://www.securityfocus.com/news/11048

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Transportation and Border Security Sector

9. *May 02, Department of Transportation* — **United States, Paraguay sign Open−Skies aviation agreement.** The United States and Paraguay on Monday, May 2, signed a full Open−Skies aviation agreement that will permit U.S. and Paraguayan carriers to operate between the two countries without restriction. The agreement was signed in Asunción, Paraguay. The two sides agreed to Open Skies without holding formal negotiations. Open−Skies agreements permit unrestricted air service by the airlines of both sides between and beyond the other's territory, without restrictions on how often the carriers can fly, the prices they charge and the kind of aircraft they use. The accord with Paraguay also will allow all−cargo carriers to fly between the other country and third countries without directly

connecting to their homeland. The United States now has full Open–Skies agreements with 14 countries in the Western Hemisphere and with 68 countries worldwide.
Source: http://www.dot.gov/affairs/dot6905.htm

10. *May 02, Department of Transportation* — **Loan for the Miami Intermodal Center.**
Department of Transportation Secretary Norman Y. Mineta on Monday, May 2, announced a $170 million loan for the Miami Intermodal Center (MIC), which will provide safe and efficient access to transit, rail, bus, taxi and other transportation services near Miami International Airport. The new loan is the second of two federal government loans to the Florida Department of Transportation for the MIC. This loan will be used to consolidate rental car facilities into one location, improving access for users and reducing congestion around the airport terminal. The loan was made under a financing program established by the Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA). The credit assistance program helps state and local governments deliver transportation projects using innovative funding sources, including private capital. By blending public and private funding sources, the loans advance large, capital–intensive transportation improvements that otherwise might be delayed or not built at all. The Bush Administration wants to expand the successful loan program so that more projects around the country are eligible for assistance similar to that provided to the MIC. The Administration,s surface transportation proposal, now under consideration by Congress, contains a number of measures that encourage private sector investment in transportation.
Source: http://www.dot.gov/affairs/dot6805.htm

11. *May 02, Government Accountability Office* — **GAO–05–457: Aviation Security: Screener Training and Performance Measurement Strengthened, but More Work Remains (Report).** The screening of airport passengers and their checked baggage is a critical component in securing our nation's commercial aviation system. Since May 2003, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) has issued six products related to screener training and performance. This report updates the information presented in the prior products and incorporates results from GAO's survey of 155 Federal Security Directors—the ranking Transportation Security Administration (TSA) authority responsible for the leadership and coordination of TSA security activities at the nation's commercial airports. Specifically, this report addresses (1) actions TSA has taken to enhance training for passenger and checked baggage screeners and screening supervisors, (2) how TSA ensures that screeners complete required training, and (3) actions TSA has taken to measure and enhance screener performance in detecting threat objects. GAO is recommending that the Secretary of Homeland Security direct TSA to develop a plan for completing the deployment of highspeed connectivity at airport training facilities, and establish and communicate appropriate internal controls for monitoring the completion of training. TSA reviewed a draft of this report and generally agreed with GAO's findings and recommendations.
Highlights: http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d05457high.pdf
Source: http://www.gao.gov/cgi–bin/getrpt?GAO–05–457

12. *May 02, Associated Press* — **New Jersey mayors concerned over hazardous freight cargo.**
Four New Jersey mayors, who say more people should be concerned if cargo trains are hauling hazardous materials, are part of a national effort seeking stricter guidelines for such shipments. The mayors –– East Orange Mayor Robert Bowser, Elizabeth Mayor Christian Bollwage, Irvington Mayor Wayne Smith and Piscataway Mayor Brian C. Wahler –– are closely watching

a case where a federal judge rejected an attempt by CSX Transportation Inc. to stop the District of Columbia's ban on hazardous rail shipments. District of Columbia Mayor Anthony A. Williams signed the law in February, but the ban has yet to take effect while an appeals court hears arguments. CSX says if officials in the nation's capital succeed, other municipalities could follow, which would effectively end interstate shipment of hazardous materials. Municipal officials say they aren't trying to disrupt the flow of business. They say they just want to make sure their residents will be safe.
Source: http://www.app.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20050502/NEWS03/505020396/1007/LIFE

13. *May 02, Canada.com* — **Report: Canada 'preferred destination' for immigrant smugglers.** Almost 12 per cent of people who arrived in Canada without proper documents during a six−year period were directly linked to a smuggler or escort, a federal intelligence study reveals. "Canada has emerged as a preferred destination in the human smuggling marketplace," says the internal assessment obtained by the Canadian Press. The 63−page study, Illegal Migrant Smuggling to Canada, is the result of the RCMP's Project Safehouse, an effort to get a better sense of the phenomenon and make recommendations to deal with it. A declassified copy of the study, a joint assessment by the Mounties and Citizenship and Immigration Canada, was made available under the Access to Information Act. It examined data from 1997 through 2002 to try to pin down how much illicit migration to Canada results from smuggling activity. The report paints a dark picture of smuggling that can pose grave hardships for migrants, including dangerous modes of travel, steep fees, threats, violence, health risks and malnutrition. It also cites numerous problems for Canada. "There is growing evidence in the literature of a connection between human smuggling and transnational organized crime groups, terrorist organizations and the movement of individuals who pose direct threats to the security of Canada and the safety of Canadians," the report says.
Source: http://www.canada.com/fortstjohn/story.html?id=b39e0117−d688−4948−a429−4918797fe744

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Postal and Shipping Sector

14. *May 02, Morning Journal (OH)* — **Suspicious package destroyed.** The Lorain, OH, bomb squad destroyed a suspicious package that was sent to an Avon Lake resident Saturday, April 30, after possible explosive components were found in an X−ray, according to the Avon Lake Police Department. Police are still unsure whether or not the package actually did contain explosives, and are awaiting lab results. The resident who received the package from the Avon Lake Post Office became suspicious of "its packaging and from whom it was sent," a report from the police department stated. According to the report, she felt uncomfortable opening it and brought it to police. The police X−rayed the package and found batteries, electronic circuitry, and other unidentified objects, which are items commonly used for improvised explosive devices, according to the report. Police said they then called the Lorain County Sheriff's Office Bomb Unit to handle the package. The squad used a robotic device to load the package into a safe container. It was then transported to a remote county facility and was destroyed. Some of the package's contents were collected for further investigation.
Source: http://www.morningjournal.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=14451922&

15. *April 29, WBBH (FL)* — **Detection system installed.** The U.S. Postal Service installed a new Biohazard Detection System in Fort Myers, FL, to detect anthrax in the mail. All the mail for Southwest Florida goes through the Fort Myers facility, an average of 500,000 pieces a day. Before, if postal workers found white powder in an envelope, they wouldn't be able to tell if it was anthrax or dust, but with the five new machines they will now know for certain.
Source: http://www.nbc−2.com/articles/readarticle.asp?articleid=3197 &z=3&p=

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Agriculture Sector

16. *May 02, Agricultural Research Service* — **Ohio team serves as front line for corn, soybean viruses.** If the soybean aphid becomes as bad a problem this season as expected, a viral rapid response team in Wooster, OH, is ready. The team of scientists is from the Agricultural Research Service (ARS) and Ohio State University (OSU). The soybean aphid −− which arrived in the U.S. five years ago and probably spreads viral diseases to plants −− is just one example of how the soybean threats from overseas are reuniting with it here. Soybean rust, a fungal disease that arrived last summer, is the newest threat. The ARS Corn and Soybean Research Unit, with OSU colleagues at the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center in Wooster, receives infected corn leaves from around the world and soybean leaves from throughout the region for viral identification. The team is checking to see if soybean aphids are transmitting any viruses. Besides identifying viral diseases and their insect carriers, the team helps breeders develop corn and soybean plants resistant to viruses. As part of this work, they supply breeders with viral detection kits and plant and viral genome maps. The team also uses safe versions of viruses to transfer plant genes into crops to investigate their functions.
Source: http://www.ars.usda.gov/News/docs.htm?docid=1261

17. *May 01, Knight Ridder Newspapers* — **U.S. crops, livestock vulnerable to terror attack.** Scientists and law enforcement officials will convene this week in Kansas City, MO, for the first international symposium on "agroterrorism." They will talk about how easily diseases can be used as weapons against crops or livestock and how best to prevent an outbreak. Representatives from Russia, Australia, Canada, Mexico, and Israel are expected to make presentations at the symposium. FBI Director Robert Mueller will also speak. Agroterrorism is a largely hypothetical problem, but it has happened. Jewish settlers in the West Bank and Palestinian militants have each poisoned the others' crops. Insurgents in Kenya have been known to poison cattle. The Department of Homeland Security has created a new level of coordinators to help states develop emergency−response plans to protect agriculture. Experts say an attack on plants is more problematic because it would depend on variable factors such as wind currents. More likely would be an attack on livestock. In the 2001 foot−and−mouth outbreak in the United Kingdom, four million animals were slaughtered and burned. A comparable event in the U.S. could have effects totaling more than $33 billion, according to a White House panel.
Source: http://www.bradenton.com/mld/bradenton/news/nation/11539333. htm

18. *May 01, Xinhuanet (China)* — **Beijing to establish animal disease prevention center.** Beijing, China, will establish an animal epidemic disease prevention and control center together with an animal disease information management and early−warning system, sources with the municipal agriculture bureau said on Sunday, May 1. The move is to strengthen the supervision over animal epidemics and improve emergency handling abilities for any exotic animal epidemic diseases. The city also plans to establish an animal quarantine farm and two isolation and disposal stations for sick animals or contaminated animal products, while promoting the experiments of chain distribution for pesticides, improving the archive management for the use of pesticides and animal remedies in plantations and fish breeding and poultry raising bases.
Source: http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2005−05/01/content_2904351_.htm

19. *April 29, Associated Press* — **Hatchery power loss kills 300,000 lake trout.** About half the 600,000 lake trout fingerlings that were about to be stocked in Lake Erie and Lake Ontario were killed recently during a power outage at the Allegheny National Fish Hatchery in Pennsylvania. Bill Archambault, a spokesperson with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, couldn't put a financial value on the fish, but said they help support a fishery worth "hundreds of millions" of dollars. Hatchery staff suspect that a power surge damaged the hatchery's emergency generator shortly after there was a scheduled power outage to repair local power company lines. The resulting loss of flowing water left the fish without enough oxygen.
Source: http://www.pennlive.com/newsflash/pa/index.ssf?/base/news−26 /1114808598175220.xml&storylist=penn

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Food Sector

Nothing to report.
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Water Sector

20. *April 30, Associated Press* — **Chemical spill kills fish in Edisto River.** Officials are blaming an accidental chemical spill at the Orangeburg, SC, water treatment plant for the large of amount of dead fish turning up in the Edisto River. Orangeburg Department of Public Utilities manager Fred Boatwright says sodium hydroxide got into the river. It is a chemical is used to adjust the pH levels of water. Boatwright says a full investigation is taking place. South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) officials tested the river after residents found a large number of dead fish washing up on the banks. DHEC district director Rick Caldwell says the chemical has already begun to dilute as it moves downstream. Caldwell says people and water suppliers downstream will be notified about the accidental release.
Source: http://www.wistv.com/Global/story.asp?S=3282555&nav=0RaP_ZIg7

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Public Health Sector

21. *May 02, Knight Ridder News* — **Whooping cough resurges.** Pertussis, also known as whooping cough, has begun a comeback in the U.S. A major cause of illness and death among infants and young children in the U.S. before vaccines were introduced in the 1940s, the bacterial affliction dropped to a record low of 1,010 cases in 1976. But nationwide, figures have risen in the past two decades, reaching 7,580 in 2001 and more than 18,000 in 2004. "It is not life−threatening to an adult who is otherwise healthy," said Marty Fenstersheib, health officer for Santa Clara, CA, which had 33 pertussis cases in 2003 and 59 in 2004. "The problem is, the adults then bring it home to a vulnerable infant." The vast majority of pertussis−linked deaths occur in babies under four months of age who are too young to be well−protected by immunizations. Highly contagious, pertussis often escapes diagnosis during the initial weeks when oral antibiotic treatment would be most effective. Clinical trials for two candidate combination shots that incorporate the pertussis vaccine into the existing tetanus/diphtheria booster were completed recently. The vaccines are under review by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, with licensing expected in the next month or two.
Source: http://www.billingsgazette.com/index.php?id=1&display=rednews/2005/05/02/build/nation/40−whooping−cough.inc

22. *May 02, Canadian Press* — **Ontario reports large rubella outbreak.** Public health officials in Ontario, Canada, reported a large outbreak of rubella, sometimes known as German measles, on Friday, April 29, and warned the 50 cases that have currently been confirmed could be the tip of the iceberg. Sheela Basrur, the province's chief medical officer of health, confirmed the cluster centers around a school in the Woodstock region in Oxford County, but has spilled into the neighboring counties of Brant and Norfolk. The known cases are mainly young children at this point. "The cases appear to be linked to the Dutch Reform Church which tends to avoid immunization for religious reasons," Basrur said. "Therefore we have a highly susceptible population that are unimmunized against common childhood diseases, including German measles." Basrur added there are other religious groups in that part of Ontario which also shun immunization, suggesting it may be fertile ground for continued transmission of the highly contagious virus. Basrur said it isn't currently known if the original infection was imported from outside Canada.
Rubella information: http://www.cdc.gov/nip/menus/diseases.htm#rubella
Source: http://www.canada.com/health/story.html?id=e4e0b995−d68b−4d11−9c45−7a67618755e4

23. *May 01, New York Times* — **Health screenings for 9/11 rescue workers to resume.** The organizers of a medical screening program that tracks the health of rescue workers who labored in the wreckage of the World Trade Center announced Saturday, April 30, that the program will start accepting new patients again, in the hopes of reaching thousands of people who could not be accommodated previously. The program, called the World Trade Center Worker and Volunteer Medical Screening program, has examined nearly 12,000 workers so far, according to Robin Herbert, a director of that program. She said that some 40,000 rescue workers inhaled soot, dust, and smoke after September 11, 2001. The program was set up at Mount Sinai Medical Center and other hospitals in 2002, and ended in April 2004. It was revived through a federal grant, which also will provide follow−up exams for the next five years. Health officials used computer slides to illustrate the scope of the ailments affecting the workers they have screened so far, including asthma, bronchitis, sinusitis, and what doctors call World Trade

Center cough.
Source: http://www.nytimes.com/2005/05/01/nyregion/01responders.html?adxnnl=1&adxnnlx=1115038868−7lt7/VtajKKHT8dcLJOTog

24. *May 01, Arkansas Democrat Gazette* — **Prisons combating Staphylococcus infections.** Recent outbreaks of Staphylococcus infections in Arkansas prisons have prompted prison officials to waive a new medical co−payment for prisoners to encourage them to seek treatment. The outbreaks reflect a national trend among correction populations, raising the possibility of persistent, sometimes drug−resistant staph infections spreading outside prison walls as infected inmates are released. Since early March, 37 of the 700 inmates at the women's McPherson Unit in Newport, AR, were treated for staph infections, according to prison officials. Six of the women had staph infections that resisted antibiotics. Other outbreaks occurred in the 1,632−bed East Arkansas Regional Unit near Forrest City, where exact numbers of infections were unavailable but had been "rampant" before fading away in recent weeks, said Dina Tyler, spokesperson for the Department of Correction. Most of the state's prisons have seen at least some staph cases in the past few years. In the past six months, more than 2,000 skin infections have been reported among the approximately 13,500 inmates in the Arkansas prison system, according to data from Correctional Medical Systems, a medical provider that contracts with the state to provide health care to its inmates. Correctional Medical Systems does not track whether those skin infections were staph−related, Tyler said.
Staphylococcus information: http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/hip/Aresist/mrsa.htm
Source: http://www.nwanews.com/story.php?paper=adg&section=News&stor_yid=115190

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Government Sector

25. *March 31, Government Accountability Office* — **GAO−05−300: Results−Oriented Government: Improvements to DHS's Planning Process Would Enhance Usefulness and Accountability (Report).** The creation of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) was the largest government reorganization in over 50 years, involving 170,000 employees and a $40 billion budget. Given the magnitude of this effort, strategic planning is critical for DHS to ensure that it meets the nation's homeland security challenges. GAO was asked to assess the extent to which DHS's planning process and documents (1) address required elements of the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993 (GPRA) and other good strategic planning practices and (2) reflect its homeland and non−homeland security mission responsibilities. To make DHS a more results−oriented agency and allow for public oversight and accountability, GAO recommends that the Secretary ensure that (1) DHS consult directly with external stakeholders, including Congress, federal agencies, state and local governments, and the private sector, in its next strategic planning process and (2) DHS's next strategic plan includes a description of the relationship between annual performance goals and long−term goals, as required by GPRA, and adopt a number of good strategic planning practices. In commenting on a draft of this report, DHS generally agreed with GAO's recommendations and provided additional information that was incorporated, as appropriate.
Highlights: http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d05300high.pdf
Source: http://www.gao.gov/cgi−bin/getrpt?GAO−05−300

Emergency Services Sector

26. *May 02, Associated Press* — **AOL treats Florida emergency e−mails as spam.** Emergency managers in Indian River County, FL, thought the best way to get their message out was by e−mail, but Internet service provider AOL is treating the emergency coordinator's address as a source of spam. The idea was to offer quick alerts about hurricanes, tornados and other weather emergencies, and about 4,200 subscribers signed up for the service. The problem started last year with the frequent alerts during the unusually busy hurricane season. "Because we send out mail in large numbers, it becomes a pattern for spam senders," said Basil Dancy, a county computer software engineer. The county is working with AOL to try to let the e−mails through. In the meantime, people who want the computerized weather bulletins are being told to put the county's e−mail account in their address book to let their computers accept the e−mail. County officials also are sending e−mails to AOL customers using a temporary e−mail account.
Indian River County: http://www.ircgov.com
Source: http://www.nytimes.com/aponline/technology/AP−Emergency−Spam .html?oref=login

27. *May 01, Washington Post* — **Time, terrorism inflate cost of Fairfax safety center.** In June 2001, Fairfax County, VA, gathered its police, fire and emergency agencies for a live, six−hour practice response to a flurry of mock crises: a spate of fires, a chlorine spill, and a hostage situation. The state Department of Emergency Management staged the drills and graded Fairfax's response. "They told us our decision−making was great," Deputy County Executive Robert A. Stalzer recalled of the drill. "But they said, 'Your facility stinks.'" That wasn't news to the county. Inside an old elementary school in the town of Annandale, the police and fire dispatchers worked out of the cafeteria, and the emergency operations center was contained in two former classrooms. So the most populous county in the region set out to build a state−of−the−art communications and emergency operations center. There was one problem: Fairfax had never built such a center and had no idea how much it would cost. Now, the latest estimate is in: $122 million, with more than $102 million coming out of the county's pocket. The other $20 million will come from the state to cover the expense of including the Virginia State Police and the state Department of Transportation, both of which decided to join the project last year.
Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp−dyn/content/article/2005/04 /30/AR2005043000911.html

Information Technology and Telecommunications Sector

28. *May 02, Reuters* — **Study shows hackers widening focus.** Online criminals turned their attention to antivirus software and media players in the first three months of 2005 as they sought new ways to take control of users' computers, according to a survey released on Monday, May 2. While hackers continued to poke new holes in Microsoft's Windows operating system, they increasingly exploited flaws in software made by other companies as well, the

nonprofit SANS Institute found. As more Windows users agreed to receive security upgrades automatically, hackers looked to take advantage of other software programs that might not be patched as frequently, the head of the cybersecurity training and research organization said. "Operating systems have gotten better at finding and fixing things and auto–updating, so it's less fertile territory for the hackers," said SANS Chief Executive Alan Paller. More than 600 new Internet security holes have surfaced in 2005 so far, SANS found.
Report: http://www.sans.org/top20/Q1–2005update
Source: http://www.reuters.com/newsArticle.jhtml?type=technologyNews &storyID=8359020

29. *April 29, FrSIRT* — **Golden FTP Server Pro "USER" buffer overflow vulnerability.** A buffer overflow vulnerability was identified in Golden FTP Server, which could be exploited by remote attackers to execute arbitrary commands. The flaw resides in the logging procedure and occurs when processing a specially crafted USER command. There is no solution at this time.
Source: http://www.frsirt.com/english/advisories/2005/0434

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: A remote exploitation of a buffer overflow vulnerability in Citrix Systems Inc.'s Program Neighborhood Agent allows attackers to execute arbitrary code under the privileges of the client user. The problem specifically exists in the client code responsible for handling the caching of information received from the server. The Program Neighborhood Agent caches information from published applications in the AppCache folder, located in the users profile directory.

Current Port Attacks

Top 10 Target Ports	445 (microsoft–ds), 20525 (–––), 135 (epmap), 1026 (–––), 6346 (gnutella–svc), 139 (netbios–ssn), 1027 (icq), 41170 (–––), 2234 (directplay), 53 (domain)

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

Nothing to report.

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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 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 or contact the DHS/IAIP Daily Report Team at (703) 883−3644.
Subscription and Distribution Information:	Send mail to 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 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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