



Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 03 October 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 Sun–Herald reports that one month after Hurricane Katrina struck Mississippi, the Environmental Protection Agency estimates that facilities that provide 2.3 million people with drinking water and that treat wastewater for 1.8 million people are still inoperable. (See item [21](#))
- The New York Times reports that three suicide bombers carried out coordinated terror attacks on crowded restaurants in Bali Saturday night. (See item [30](#))

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report *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 Daily Report 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://www.esisac.com>]

1. *September 29, USA TODAY* — **Storms make tangled mess of power grid.** Hurricane Rita devastated Louisiana with water. In Texas, it made its mark with wind. As many as 18,000 power poles were snapped, bent, twisted and uprooted across the southeastern corner of the state. Utility companies and co–operatives say it may take months to restore service to many of the more than 332,000 Texas customers still without power. New Orleans–based Entergy, the main supplier to the Louisiana and Texas areas hardest hit by Rita, says more than 260 transmission lines and about 260 substations are down. So are 12 of 14 power plants. The company says Rita knocked out 82 percent of transmission lines in southeastern Texas and 38 percent in southwestern Louisiana. As of Thursday, about 350,000 Entergy customers in Texas

and Louisiana were still cut off. An additional 156,300 in Louisiana no longer are counted in the tally. Their communities were so badly damaged by Hurricane Katrina that they can't reconnect without major repair or rebuilding. Entergy Louisiana President and CEO Renae Conley says Rita caused "catastrophic damage." Early this week, the company counted more than 115 transmission lines out and 125 substations down. "In the Lake Charles area, basically every customer's out," she says.

Source: http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2005-09-29-power-grids-mess_x.htm

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials Sector

2. *September 30, Newsday (NY)* — **Officials warning of chlorine leak affecting Jersey City air.**

A leaking chlorine tank in New Jersey sent a plume of potentially hazardous vapor into the air Friday morning, September 30. The Pulaski Skyway was shut down and people in the area with respiratory problems were warned to stay indoors. People in cars were told to roll up their windows and shut off their air conditioning. Jack Burns, coordinator for Hudson County, NJ, emergency management, said a 2,000-gallon tank of chlorine at a pool supply plant in Kearny, NJ, started leaking and the plume of vapor blew toward Jersey City. Businesses in the area, which mostly are trucking companies, were evacuated, as was Lincoln Park. Burns said it was not immediately clear whether the chlorine tank was damaged from a fire or from "accidental contact." Jersey City police Sgt. Edgar Martinez the cloud could cause burning of the eyes and problems for people with pre-existing breathing difficulties.

Source: <http://www.newsday.com/news/local/state/nyc-chlorine0930.0.5 378658.story>

3. *September 29, Gwinnett Daily Post (GA)* — **Accidental chemical mixture in Georgia sends one to the hospital, 10 homes evacuated.**

An accidental chemical mixture at the Gwinnett County, GA's, sewage treatment plant produced a vapor cloud, sending one person to the hospital and evacuating 10 homes. Gwinnett County Fire Department spokesperson Thomas Rutledge said someone accidentally mixed about 250 gallons of 15 percent bleach with about 3,400 gallons of ferrous sulfate. The driver of a 5,000-gallon tanker was off-loading the bleach he had in his truck when he hooked up to the wrong tank, Rutledge said, instead transferring the bleach into the tank containing the ferrous sulfate. The chemicals are used for sewage treatment. The incident took place about 7:15 p.m. EDT Wednesday, September 28, on McCord Livsey Road. Residents on James Way were evacuated as a precautionary measure and were allowed to return to their homes about 9:30 p.m. EDT. The driver of the tanker was taken to the hospital, Rutledge said, but no other injuries were reported.

Source: http://www.gwinnettdaily.com/index.php?s=&url_channel_id=32&url_article_id=6864&url_subchannel_id=&change_well_id=2

4. *September 29, The Milwaukee Channel (WI)* — **Residents evacuated following propane leak in Wisconsin county.**

A propane leak from Adell Cooperative forced dozens of Sheboygan County, WI, residents from their homes Thursday morning, September 29. Firefighters were called to the scene at about 9 a.m. CDT after an employee and state inspector found the leak. The employee suffered some minor burns. The fire department described the leak as minimal, but they didn't take any chances and evacuated everyone in a four- to five-mile radius. Residents were allowed to return to their homes Thursday night.

Source: <http://www.themilwaukeechannel.com/news/5038468/detail.html>

5. *September 29, The News–Messenger (OH)* — **Residents evacuated after gas line rupture in Ohio.** A gas line ruptured Wednesday morning, September 28, causing the evacuation of 10 residents and two businesses downwind of the break near Hayes Avenue and Stone Street in Fremont, OH. About 10 residents were also evacuated from their homes on Hayes Avenue between Taft and Wilson streets. Fremont Fire Captain Jim Zimmerman said firefighters received a call from ABC Academy Child Care Center shortly after 9:30 a.m. EDT. Columbia Gas spokesperson Ray Frank said the break occurred when a contractor accidentally ruptured a six–inch gas main at Taft and Hayes Streets. Crews sealed off the area and installed a bypass to close the break. Frank said service was not disrupted to any customers but was unsure how much natural gas was lost. He added the company will investigate the incident.

Source: <http://www.thenews–messenger.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20050929/NEWS01/509290301/1002>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Defense Industrial Base Sector

Nothing to report.

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Banking and Finance Sector

6. *October 03, Fine Extra* — **Japanese Credit Bureau aligns PIN Entry Device testing with MasterCard and Visa.** The Japanese Credit Bureau (JCB) has joined an initiative from Visa and MasterCard to align security requirements, testing methodologies and approval procedures for PIN Entry Devices (PED). MasterCard and Visa said last year they would standardize security requirements, and testing methodologies for approving PEDs. JCB says the move will provide PED manufacturers submitting devices for security testing with a single set of standards, and bring greater efficiencies to PED testing and development. Simon Pugh, group head, infrastructure and standards, MasterCard International, says the arrangement benefits all stakeholders in the payments value chain and is intended to improve the overall security for customer–entered data by removing conflicting requirements. "Having one approval method helps simplify the task of deploying PIN Entry Devices for acquirers and avoids duplicate testing, thereby reducing costs. It also simplifies procedures for vendors, as they will have only one set of security requirements," says Pugh.

Source: <http://www.finextra.com/fullstory.asp?id=14329>

7. *September 30, Fine Extra* — **Commerzbank rapped for anti–money laundering failures.** Germany's Commerzbank is urgently rectifying "severe" flaws in its procedures for detecting suspicious transactions following an investigation by regulator Bafin into alleged Russian money laundering. The watchdog says it will be taking no further action against Commerzbank or its directors, acknowledging the rapid steps taken by the bank to rectify deficiencies in compliance. These were uncovered following a six–month inquiry into an alleged money–laundering scam that centered on the privatization of the Russian telephone industry in

the 1990s. An audit report for the period 1996–2001 compiled on behalf of Bafin picked up on "shortcomings" in the bank's compliance with anti–money laundering legislation, in particular its Central and Eastern Europe division which was not "adequately supervised by those to whom it reported." Bafin also found that the compliance department was not adequately staffed or sufficiently involved in the bank's daily business. The investigation has already claimed a senior–level casualty, with the resignation of board member Andreas de Maizière in mid–July 2005. Klaus–Peter Müller, chairman of the board of managing directors at Commerzbank, says the bank is in the process of overhauling compliance systems and structures.

Source: <http://www.finextra.com/fullstory.asp?id=14332>

8. *September 29, eChannelLine Daily News (Canada)* — **Ontario Privacy Commissioner calls for wake–up call on identity theft.** On Tuesday, September 27, Ontario Information and Privacy Commissioner Dr. Ann Cavoukian called for businesses and organizations to develop a "Culture of Privacy" in a paper entitled, Identity Theft Revisited: Security is not enough. "Identity theft is one of the most serious threats to the public today," the Commissioner said. "When data begins leaking due to a company's negligence, it is consumers who suffer the most..." The paper released by the Commissioner makes the case that identity theft is largely a problem of business practices and that consumers alone cannot safeguard themselves against this epidemic in today's climate. It is the responsibility of businesses to protect their customers, and assist them if they have been affected by identity theft. Incidences of identity theft across North America have rapidly increased during 2005. The Commissioner's message is that privacy is good for business. Implementing responsible information practices builds consumer confidence, develops a leadership position, reduces the cost of crisis management, and ultimately protects the corporate brand. Failing to do so leaves companies wide open to identity theft and many other risks.

Dr. Ann Cavoukian's report: <http://www.ipc.on.ca/docs/idtheft-revisit.pdf>

Source: <http://www.integratedmar.com/ecl.cfm?item=DLY092905-4>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Transportation and Border Security Sector

9. *October 01, Department of Transportation* — **Reopening of I–10 Pascagoula Bridge is ahead of schedule.** Four lanes of traffic are moving again on the I–10 Pascagoula Bridge in Pascagoula, MS, only 20 days after a barge battered the eastbound span during Hurricane Katrina, Department of Transportation Secretary Norman Y. Mineta announced on Saturday, October 1. The bridge wasn't scheduled to open until mid–October, but Mineta said a flexible contract that contained an incentive clause helped keep the job moving. Immediately following the hurricane, the Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration helped Mississippi officials expedite the contract process to speed repairs to damaged roads and bridges. The effort allowed the state to quickly award the I–10 bridge repair contract that included a \$100,000 per–day incentive to complete the work ahead of schedule, Mineta added.

Source: <http://www.dot.gov/affairs/dot14405.htm>

10. *September 30, Seattle Times* — **Alaska Air CEO orders inspection of jackscrew mechanism on all MD–80s.** The chief executive of Alaska Airlines on Thursday, September 29, ordered a complete inspection of all 26 of the airline's MD–80 series planes to determine whether their

jackscrew assemblies were properly lubricated. In a written statement, Alaska CEO Bill Ayer said he was taking the action after The Seattle Times reported that three Alaska mechanics said they had found no grease on the jackscrew of an MD-83 they inspected during an overnight check January 10. The same problem led to the fatal crash of Flight 271 nearly six years ago. Alaska has disputed the mechanics' report, saying there was no evidence to support their allegations. The Federal Aviation Administration announced Wednesday, September 28, it was opening a full inquiry into the January 10 incident, as well as a second jackscrew incident last week that raised additional questions. The jackscrew is a key component in the tail section of MD-80 series jets, controlling the plane's angle of flight. Flight 261 crashed off the Southern California coast January 31, 2000, killing all 88 people aboard, after threads on the MD-83's jackscrew sheared off due to lack of grease and excessive wear, federal investigators found. Source: http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/business/technology/2002530267_alaskaair30.html

11. *September 30, USA TODAY* — TransMeridian Airlines abruptly halts flights, strands fliers.

TransMeridian Airlines, a leisure-oriented airline with scheduled service to more than a dozen cities, abruptly stopped flying Thursday, September 29, according to media reports. The entire airline stopped its flights at midnight, an Ohio airport official with the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority told ABC Channel 13 of Toledo — one of the cities served by TransMeridian. Brian Schwartz, public affairs director, told the station that he did not know why the airline stopped service, though he said high jet-fuel prices have been hitting small carriers especially hard. "They (TransMeridian) just announced their restructuring didn't work out. That's all we know," said Ron Owens, operations and maintenance chief at MidAmerica St. Louis Airport — another of TransMeridian's destinations. Customers arriving at Orlando's Sanford International Airport on Friday, September 30, were caught off-guard by the airline's shutdown, reports WFTV Channel 9 of Orlando.

Source: http://www.usatoday.com/travel/news/2005-09-30-transmeridian_x.htm

12. *September 30, Department of Transportation* — United States, Brazil sign maritime agreement.

U.S. ship operators will gain greater access to Brazil's government cargo business while Brazil's carriers seeking access to U.S. markets will be assured equal treatment, under an agreement signed Friday, September 30, by Department of Transportation Secretary Norman Y. Mineta and Brazilian Ambassador Roberto Abdenur in Washington, DC. The new agreement requires both sides to provide equal treatment for the other's carriers in maritime-related services and facilities, including shipping taxes. It also provides unlimited access for U.S.-flag carriers to government-controlled cargoes whose shipments are arranged by the Brazilian government, which historically has been a significant portion of that country's commercial cargo. The agreement was reached after more than three years of negotiations. Brazil's Congress must ratify the agreement before it can be brought into force. No U.S. ratification is needed.

Source: <http://www.dot.gov/affairs/dot14205.htm>

13. *September 30, Department of Transportation* — Over \$16 million given to hurricane damaged airports in Texas and Louisiana.

Four airports in Texas and Louisiana that were damaged by Hurricanes Rita and Katrina will receive over \$16 million as the first installment of federal funds to pay for repairs, Department of Transportation Secretary Norman Y. Mineta announced on Friday, September 30. The Secretary noted that the federal funds will help

restore general aviation flights that are important to the regional economy because they are needed to get engineers to oil rigs, connect business people to jobs and provide a base of operations for on-shore patrols of pipelines. Mineta added that restoring general aviation operations in the region is as important as restoring commercial flights to nearby major airports, noting that general aviation nationally contributes over \$40 billion annually to the economy and accounts for over 500,000 jobs. The airports are Lake Charles Regional Airport, Lakefront Airport, and Chennault International Airport in Louisiana, and Southeast Texas Regional Airport in Beaumont, TX.

Source: <http://www.dot.gov/affairs/dot14305.htm>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Postal and Shipping Sector

14. *October 01, Houston Chronicle* — Postal Service tries to restore mail to Rita-affected areas. Mail delivery for residents along the Gulf Coast will return to normal once power outages are restored. As of Thursday, September 29, mail service was still suspended for Deweyville, TX, and partial mail service was available for a majority of East Texas cities, including Beaumont. The Postal Service agency is asking that customers who cannot receive mail at their current address file for a change-of-address by calling 800-275-8777 or by going to the Website <http://www.usps.com>.

Source: <http://www.chron.com/cs/CDA/ssistory.mpl/metropolitan/3376944>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Agriculture Sector

15. *September 30, Rocky Mountain News (CO)* — Moose tests positive for chronic wasting disease. A moose killed in north-central Colorado has tested positive for chronic wasting disease (CWD), the first known case of a wild moose contracting the neurological illness. CWD is typically a disease of deer and elk. But wildlife officials have long wondered whether a moose would contract CWD because all three creatures are in the deer family. Since 2002, hunters submitted 288 moose for CWD testing in Colorado, and none was found to be carrying the disease. The only other instance of a moose contracting the disease came in captivity. The Wyoming Game and Fish Department intentionally infected a moose with CWD to determine whether it would become ill, said Tyler Baskfield, a division spokesperson. Moose, numbering fewer than 1,300 in Colorado, are far less prevalent than deer and elk, which each number in the hundreds of thousands in the state. Unlike deer and elk, moose don't form herds or social groups, and are more likely spared transmission of the disease through saliva or contact between live animals. The infected moose was taken by an archer in Jackson County. It was killed in a game management unit with just two known cases of CWD-infected animals since 2002.

Chronic Wasting Disease Alliance: <http://www.cwd-info.org/>

Source: http://rockymountainnews.com/drmn/state/article/0,1299,DRMN_21_4120419,00.html

16.

September 30, Minnesota Ag Connection — **Cattle being slaughtered as Veterinarians battle bovine tuberculosis outbreak.** The slaughter of a cattle herd this week in northwestern Minnesota is part of an ongoing effort to contain an outbreak of bovine tuberculosis (TB), officials said. Eighteen Minnesota herds are under quarantine and will be tested for possible TB infection. Terry Bolding, veterinarian for the Minnesota Board of Animal Health, said it's still not clear where the TB originated. It may have come from cattle in another state, or it may have been spread to cattle by whitetail deer. The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources plans to test about 500 deer killed by hunters this fall. Bolding said if the disease is in deer, it will be much harder to control. If bovine TB is not contained, Minnesota could lose its federal status as a bovine TB free state. That could make it more difficult for Minnesota farmers and ranchers to sell cattle in other states. There is no treatment for cattle with bovine TB, so the only way to stop the spread of the disease is to kill herds with infected animals.

Source: <http://www.minnesotaagconnection.com/story-state.cfm?Id=861&yr=2005>

17. *September 30, Frontiersman (AK)* — **Potato blight taking toll on farmers.** A highly destructive micro-organism continues to plague Mat-Su, AK, potato fields, raising fears among pest management officials and farmers that the disease, which caused the notorious Irish potato famine, could decimate the bulk of Mat-Su potato crops during winter storage. Spread by wind and water, the highly virulent and still unknown strain of late blight disease has contaminated crops of at least five out of seven of the Valley's commercial potato growers. Caused by a water-mold micro-organism, the blight first showed up in Mat-Su fields in early August. It can travel as far as 80 miles through microscopic wind-blown spores. When they land on wet potato leaves, they initiate a takeover of the plant, rotting the leaves, stems, and ultimately the underground potatoes. Cool, rainy weather in August and September only exacerbated the problem, said Bill Campbell, disease control specialist for the Alaska Department of Natural Resources. "The spores can also swim through the water and into the soil," he explained. Farmers who harvest their fields before the blight works its way into the potatoes can avoid the contamination, but Campbell said the disease could spread through an entire warehouse from one infected potato.

Source: <http://www.frontiersman.com/articles/2005/09/30/news/news1.t.txt>

18. *September 29, Mississippi State University* — **Soybean research works to control plant diseases.** Soybeans began to receive more attention in the late 1980s when average yields finally rose above the low 20 bushels an acre mark. Mississippi State University (MSU) research and support of the industry was largely responsible. Gabe Sciumbato, plant pathologist with the Mississippi Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station, researches soybean diseases at the Delta Research and Extension Center. "I test varieties for several diseases that are of importance to soybeans to see if the varieties are susceptible," Sciumbato said. "Among the diseases we test are stem canker, frogeye leafspot, purple leaf stain, and charcoal rot." There were more than 300 entries in the MSU soybean variety trials in 2005. Producers who know their fields are prone to getting a particular disease can select a variety that expresses resistance to that disease. Sciumbato said he and others are working on the control of late-season foliar diseases that cause yield losses. Sciumbato said charcoal rot regularly is the number one soybean disease, and a lot of attention has been focused on its control. Researchers have isolated the toxin the fungus produces, and all varieties have been screened for resistance to this toxin.

Source: <http://msucare.com/news/print/agnews/an05/050929.html>

19. *September 29, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service* — **Proposal to allow citrus imports from Peru.** The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is proposing to amend its fruit and vegetable regulations to allow, under certain conditions, the importation of fresh commercial fruit such as grapefruit, limes, mandarin oranges or tangerines, sweet oranges and tangelos from approved areas of Peru. Based on the scientific evidence in a recent pest risk analysis, these articles can be safely imported into the U.S. from Peru. To ensure that plant pests do not enter this country through the importation of these commodities, APHIS is proposing to require that a written permit be issued and that the fruit originate in an approved citrus-producing zone and be cold treated to ensure it is free of pests.
Source: http://www.aphis.usda.gov/lpa/news/2005/09/perucit_ppq.html

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Food Sector

20. *September 19, University of Manchester* — **Bacteria beam cuts factory-borne food poisoning.** Scientists at The University of Manchester have developed a new technology which can spot contaminated meat in seconds. Bacteria, which goes undetected in factory processed meats is one of the main causes of food poisoning. A team of researchers within the School of Chemistry, have developed the technique using infrared light which successfully spots chicken and beef contaminated with dangerous bacteria, leading to the hope that it will increase the safety of processed foods across the industry. "Modern food processing is highly automated and efficient, but the way safety inspectors sample the products has hardly changed in half a century," said David Ellis of the School of Chemistry. "At present, more than 40 different methods are available to detect and measure bacteria growing in meats. However, even the most rapid of these takes several hours, so results are always retrospective, which means that infected meat could get into the food chain." The scientists have already shown that the technique works in both chicken and beef. The new technique uses infrared spectroscopy on light reflected from the surface of the food to produce biochemical 'fingerprints' of any contaminating micro-organisms, such as bacteria, and rapidly estimate their numbers.
Source: <http://www.manchester.ac.uk/press/title.42919.en.htm>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Water Sector

21. *September 30, Sun-Herald (MS)* — **Environmental Protection Agency says millions still without water.** One month after Hurricane Katrina struck Mississippi, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates that facilities that provide 2.3 million people with drinking water and that treat wastewater for 1.8 million people are still inoperable, a top EPA official said Thursday, September 29. Marcus Peacock told a House subcommittee investigating the environmental impacts of the hurricane that about 20 percent of drinking water systems and 10 percent of wastewater facilities remain out of commission. He said the EPA has placed mobile labs in Mississippi and Louisiana to provide water testing.

Hurricane Katrina: Assessing the Present Environmental Status:

http://energycommerce.house.gov/108/Hearings/09292005hearing_1646/hearing.htm

Source: <http://www.sunherald.com/mld/sunherald/12780922.htm>

22. *September 30, Asbury Park Press (NJ)* — **No new water connections.** The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has prohibited United Water Toms River from taking on new customers, effectively halting new construction in Dover Township, South Toms River, and part of Berkeley. DEP imposed the ban because United exceeded its water-allocation permit in three of the past five years. It has been in effect since September 1, when the DEP denied United's request for a master permit for water main extensions, which allows the company to connect new customers to its system. Dover Mayor Paul Brush said the township's Building Department has been instructed not to issue any building permits because no service is available from the water company. Michele Tutnam, director of the DEP's Division of Water Supply, said that in 2004, the state permitted United to use 4.282 billion gallons of water. United exceeded that amount, using 4.461 billion gallons. She said the water company has other alternatives in seeking more sources of supply, including entering into contracts with neighboring water companies, or drilling new wells. Tutnam said the DEP is seeing increased instances of water suppliers approaching or exceeding their allocations. "It's happening more and more as water gets more limited," she said.

Source: <http://www.app.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20050930/NEWS/509300405/1070/NEWS02>

23. *September 29, WYFF (SC)* — **Wastewater treatment plant leak forces evacuation.** A leak at an Iva, SC, wastewater treatment plant forced people to stay in their homes or evacuate within a one-mile radius. Officials said a leak in a large sulfur dioxide tank at the plant spurred the evacuation alert as a precaution. One person at the plant was treated for exposure to the chemical. Officials believe a mechanical failure caused the leak, which was described as "medium". Sulfur dioxide is used in the purification process at the plant. The tank held about 150 pounds of the chemical.

Source: <http://www.wyff4.com/news/5036500/detail.html>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Public Health Sector

24. *September 30, New York Times* — **Two teams identify Chinese bat as Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome virus hiding place.** The Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) virus has long been known to come from an animal. Now two scientific teams have independently identified the Chinese horseshoe bat as that animal and as a hiding place for the virus in nature. The finding is important in preventing outbreaks of SARS and similar viruses carried by bats because it provides an opportunity for scientists to break the transmission chain. One team from China, Australia and the U.S. reported its findings in the online version of Science. The other team, from the University of Hong Kong, reported its findings The Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. After collecting hundreds of bats from the wild and from Chinese markets, each team reported identifying different viruses from the coronavirus family that are very closely related to the SARS virus. SARS now appears to join a number of other infectious agents that bats can transmit. Over the last decade, bats have been

found as the source of two newly discovered human infections caused by the Nipah and Hendra viruses that can produce encephalitis and respiratory disease. Laboratory analysis of the coronaviruses' makeup provided strong genetic evidence of the close relationship between those found in the bats and the SARS virus.

Science abstract: <http://www.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/abstract/1118391v1>

Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences abstract:

<http://www.pnas.org/cgi/content/abstract/102/39/14040>

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2005/09/30/health/30sars.html?hp&ex=1128052800&en=3753b72a2969e104&ei=5094&partner=homepage>

25. *September 29, Reuters* — **PDA's expected to change healthcare in future.** Personal digital assistants (PDAs) could change the way healthcare is delivered in the future by providing doctors with easy access to patient data and the latest information on treatment. Palm pilots are becoming increasingly popular with doctors, medical students, and even patients to improve the quality of care and safety. "The most commonly used clinical application is drug reference, so far. But it has gone beyond just looking up drugs and dosages and running interaction checks," Daniel Baumgart, of the Charite Medical School of the Humboldt University in Berlin, Germany, said in an interview. PDAs with bar code scanners already exist which allow doctors to scan a patient's barcode bracelet to access their record, current medications, and medication history, according to Baumgart. The devices could also allow doctors to access medical information from virtually anywhere due to the extended bandwidth of cellular telephone networks or high speed wireless institutional networks in hospitals. This would eliminate the need to find a patient's chart, X-ray, or a computer to get to electronic information. They could also allow doctors to collect data or to take photographs of patient injuries or ailments for documentation, teaching purposes and to improve care.

Source: http://olympics.reuters.com/news/newsArticle.aspx?type=healthNews&storyID=2005-09-29T230844Z_01_KRA983280_RTRUKOC_0_US-TECHNOLOGY.xml

26. *September 29, Reuters* — **Senate approves funds to fight bird flu.** The U.S. Senate passed legislation on Thursday, September 29, to add four billion dollars to the U.S. fight against avian flu by stocking up on anti-viral drugs and increasing global surveillance of the disease. The provision, which was attached to an unrelated fiscal 2006 spending bill for the military, faces an uncertain future in the House of Representatives. The Senate vote came as international organizations urged the U.S. and other countries to be more aggressive against the avian flu outbreak. Avian flu among flocks in Asia has been growing for several years and outbreaks have been spotted in parts of Russia. So far, 65 people in Asia who are thought to have had close contact with infected birds have died since 2003. Scientists fear a mutation of the H5N1 virus could make it transmissible among humans, sparking a pandemic. Under the Senate plan, other funds would be used to increase global surveillance of the disease, increase spending on a vaccine, and help states and cities prepare for a large outbreak.

Source: http://today.reuters.com/news/newsArticle.aspx?type=healthNews&storyID=2005-09-29T232043Z_01_DIT975826_RTRUKOC_0_US-BIRD-FLU-CONGRESS-FUNDING.xml

[[Return to top](#)]

Government Sector

Nothing to report.

[[Return to top](#)]

Emergency Services Sector

27. *September 29, Associated Press* — **New York Mayor proposes inter-agency command structure overhaul in the event of an emergency.** New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg said Thursday, September 29, that New York City's multi-agency command structure for protecting bridges, tunnels and airports is "backward," and proposed allowing the New York Police Department (NYPD) to take over during disasters. He was joined by Thomas Kean, the former chairman of the September 11 commission, to announce the plan. The airports, bridges, tunnels, ports and railways leading into the city are now managed by a web of different transit and law enforcement agencies, including the Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA) and the Port Authority Police Department. Commenting on his plan, he said, "This would allow for a singular and accountable response to disasters and avoid any confusion that may result from multiple commands responding to the same event." The Port Authority and the MTA are run by boards with members nominated from various directions, including the New York and New Jersey governors. The city is already plagued by a longstanding battle of the badges between the police and fire departments over who should manage emergency response. Kean said Bloomberg's ideas address the September 11 commission's chief complaints about the response to the attacks four years ago: breakdown of command and communication.

Source: http://www.nydailynews.com/front/breaking_news/story/350924p-299310c.html

28. *September 29, The Business Journal (AZ)* — **Arizona state, city emergency plans face evacuee accommodation revisions.** The troubled aftermath of Hurricane Katrina has prompted Arizona Governor Janet Napolitano and Phoenix Mayor Phil Gordon to launch overhauls of regional emergency preparedness plans. A main focus of those new emergency plans is how Arizona and Phoenix metropolitan area would accommodate a mass exodus from California after a major earthquake. That focus may be misguided because, unlike hurricanes, earthquakes have never prompted mass evacuations. A major earthquake in Los Angeles or San Francisco would also likely cripple transportation and energy infrastructure, making evacuations extremely difficult. However, the governor and mayor contend they need to adjust and analyze existing emergency management plans after relief problems in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina and evacuation snafus in Houston before Hurricane Rita. Another possible major emergency in California that Napolitano and Gordon have been examining that might prompt mass evacuations is a possible terrorist attack, including a biological assault.

Source: <http://phoenix.bizjournals.com/phoenix/stories/2005/09/26/day48.html>

[[Return to top](#)]

Information Technology and Telecommunications Sector

29. *September 28, FrSIRT* — **IBM AIX "getconf" command local buffer overflow vulnerability.** A vulnerability has been identified in IBM AIX. This can be exploited by local

attackers to obtain elevated privileges. This issue is due to an unspecified error in the "getconf" command that does not properly handle specially crafted parameters,. This vulnerability could be exploited by malicious users to execute arbitrary commands with "root" privileges.
 Source: <http://www.frsirt.com/english/advisories/2005/1877>

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: US-CERT is aware of public exploit code for a buffer overflow vulnerability in Mozilla products, including the Mozilla Suite, and Mozilla Firefox. The vulnerability exists in the way Mozilla products handle URIs containing certain IDN encoded hostnames. A remote attacker who is able to convince a user to view a specially crafted HTML document may be able to execute arbitrary code with the privileges of the user running the vulnerable application.

More information about this vulnerability can be found in the following US-CERT Vulnerability Note:

* VU#573857 – Mozilla-based browsers contain a buffer overflow in handling URIs containing a malformed IDN hostname

US-CERT encourages Mozilla users to upgrade to version 1.0.7 and Mozilla Suite users to upgrade to version 1.7.12 as soon as possible.

US-CERT warns users to expect an increase in targeted phishing emails due to recent events such as Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita. For more information please refer to: <http://www.us-cert.gov/current/#kat>

US-CERT strongly recommends that all users reference the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) web site for a list of legitimate charities to donate to their charity of choice: <http://www.fema.gov/>

Current Port Attacks

Top 10 Target Ports	6881 (bittorrent), 445 (microsoft-ds), 1026 (win-rpc), 40000 (----), 139 (netbios-ssn), 135 (epmap), 6346 (gnutella-svc), 10629 (----), 55321 (----), 80 (www) 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/>.

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument & Icons Sector

Nothing to report.

[\[Return to top\]](#)

General Sector

30. *October 02, New York Times* — Three suicide bombers carried out Bali attacks. Three suicide bombers carried out the coordinated terror attacks on crowded restaurants in Bali Saturday night, Indonesian officials said on Sunday, October 2. Besides the suicide bombers, 19 people were killed in the attacks, the Bali police chief Made Pastika said. Fourteen were Indonesians, five were foreigners, Pastika said. More than 90 were injured, nearly all of them Indonesian. The only Americans known to have been injured was a family of 7, from San Francisco. They were being treated in the hospital and were expected to be released Monday. Pastika said that the investigators had not concluded who was responsible for the attacks. But he said it was very similar to suicide attacks on nightclubs in Bali in 2002, which killed 202. That bombing was the work of Jemaah Islamiyah, the Southeast Asia surrogate for al Qaeda, Indonesian and American officials have said.

The New York Times has compiled a recent history of major explosions in Indonesia:

http://www.nytimes.com/2005/10/02/international/asia/02balib_x.html

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2005/10/02/international/asia/02cnd-b>

[ali.html?hp&ex=1128312000&en=f007ebed73e03198&ei=5094&partne r=homepage](http://www.nytimes.com/2005/10/02/international/asia/02cnd-b.ali.html?hp&ex=1128312000&en=f007ebed73e03198&ei=5094&partne r=homepage)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information

[DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Reports](#) – The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is a daily [Monday through Friday] summary of open–source published information concerning significant critical infrastructure issues. The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is archived for ten days on the Department of Homeland Security Website:

<http://www.dhs.gov/iaipdailyreport>

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information

Content and Suggestions:

Send mail to dhsdailyadmin@mail.dhs.osis.gov or contact the DHS Daily Report Team at (703) 983–3644.

Subscription and Distribution Information:

Send mail to dhsdailyadmin@mail.dhs.osis.gov or contact the DHS Daily Report Team at (703) 983–3644 for more information.

Contact DHS

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.

Department of Homeland Security Disclaimer

The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is a non-commercial publication intended to educate and inform personnel engaged in infrastructure protection. Further reproduction or redistribution is subject to original copyright restrictions. DHS provides no warranty of ownership of the copyright, or accuracy with respect to the original source material.