Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report
for 27 October 2005

Daily Highlights

- The Miami Herald reports Hurricane Wilma did massive damage to utility Florida Power & Light's electricity supply system, knocking out 240 substations and destroying the major transmission lines that deliver electricity to customers. (See item 2)

- The News Journal reports toxic pollution has put public drinking water supplies off–limits in Millsboro and Dagsboro, Delaware, and touched off a multiagency state search for the cause and responsible parties. (See item 18)

- The Insurance Journal reports seven Mid–Atlantic states and the District of Columbia are forming the All Hazards Consortium to increase preparedness by enabling emergency management participants to share strategies and integrate planning. (See item 25)

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. *October 26, Portland Press Herald (ME)* — **Power shortage possible in Maine.** Mainers will be asked to cut back on electricity use during the coldest evenings this winter to help preserve New England's power system, the state's top utility regulator said Tuesday, October 25. Tight supplies of natural gas, which fuels as much as 40 percent of the region's generating capacity,

could make some power plants unavailable during periods of peak demand, said Kurt Adams, chairman of the Maine Public Utilities Commission. In the worst case, that could force regional grid operators to shut off power for as long as an hour to customers in various areas, a strategy known as a rolling blackout. "It's a remote possibility, but we need to have a contingency plan," Adams said. The threat to the region's electricity supply is linked to the Gulf Coast hurricanes, which damaged several natural gas drilling rigs and processing plants. In the deregulated electricity market, New England has become increasingly dependent on power plants that operate on natural gas. The region's plants now get a quarter of their supply from the Gulf of Mexico. With supplies tight and prices high, generators may have a harder time finding the fuel.

Source: http://pressherald.mainetoday.com/news/state/051026power.sht ml

2. *October 25, Miami Herald* — **Wilma does massive damage to utility's power supply.**
Hurricane Wilma did massive damage to utility Florida Power & Light's (FPL) electricity supply system, knocking out 240 substations and destroying the major transmission lines that deliver electricity to customers, which makes Wilma a far more destructive hurricane than Katrina. In that storm, FPL blamed trees falling on residential power lines for most of the damage and promised power back to 90 percent of South Florida homes within five days. This time, because of the damage to its substations and transmission lines, FPL executives said it may take up to two weeks for more than half of its three million powerless customers to get electricity back. For reasons that are still unclear, Wilma knocked out 240 substations, each of which serves 10,000 to 30,000 customers, as well as high−power transmission lines and poles. Flying debris appeared to be the reason for knocking out many of the substations, but FPL President Armando Olivera said that didn't explain all the damage to the substations, which are combinations of lines and equipment. "Frankly, it's not 100 percent clear to us why those facilities took a lot of damage. That's going to take weeks, months to figure out why " Olivera said.

Source: http://www.miami.com/mld/miamiherald/news/local/states/flori da/counties/broward_county/12997375.htm?source=rss&channel=m iamiherald_broward_county

3. *October 25, Bloomberg* — **Liquefied natural gas demand may double by end of decade.**
Demand for liquefied natural gas (LNG) may double by 2010, and rise a further 62 percent by 2015, because of increased consumption in the U.S. and sales to new markets such as Mexico, Chile and Singapore, Citigroup Inc. said. About 38 percent of the forecast growth to 582 billion pounds a year by 2010 is expected to occur in the U.S., Citigroup said in an October 24 report. "The outlook for LNG looks to be stronger than it was a year ago," Australia−based energy analyst Di Brookman wrote in the report. "The U.S. energy situation has become tighter, LNG consumption in Europe is surging, China is consolidating, India is switching up a gear and new markets like Mexico, Chile, Singapore, Pakistan and perhaps New Zealand are looking increasingly like they will join the consumers club," wrote Brookman. About 43.8 billion pounds of LNG production capacity is scheduled to start up next year, which will help ease tightness in the LNG market exacerbated by production disruptions in Australia, Trinidad, Nigeria, Egypt and Qatar, Citigroup said. The market will tighten again in 2007 and 2008, creating a supply gap, it said.

Source: http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=10000086&sid=aHgKJWLF f9Y0

Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials Sector

4. *October 25, Associated Press* — **One killed when tankers collide, closing roadway.** A truck driver was killed in Hidalgo County, TX, early Tuesday, October 25, when she drove through a stop sign, collided with a propane tanker and her vehicle burst into flames. The driver, Martha Villarreal, died at the scene, Department of Public Safety Lt. Mario Lopez said. Lopez said Villarreal was driving west along a roadway in Hidalgo County northwest of Mission, TX, at about 4 a.m. CDT when she hit the propane tanker heading north. The driver of the propane truck had minor injuries. The roadway remained closed Tuesday afternoon as workers cleared the scene.
   Source: http://thefacts.com/texasstory.lasso?ewcd=f10f350545677422

Defense Industrial Base Sector

Nothing to report.

Banking and Finance Sector

5. *October 26, Agence France−Presse* — **Security fears on Internet cause decrease in U.S. Web usage, according to survey.** Nearly one−third of U.S. Internet users are cutting back on Web usage and 25 percent say they have stopped buying online due to fears of identity theft and other threats, a survey showed. The survey by Consumer Reports WebWatch, a joint effort of the consumer magazine Consumer Reports and other organizations, found Internet users are less trustful of Websites and have been adjusting their behavior due to what they see as threats online. Eighty percent said they were at least "somewhat concerned" someone could steal their identity from personal information on the Internet, and 86 percent have made at least one change in their online behavior. The survey found 30 percent say they have reduced their overall use of the Internet. Some 53 percent said they have stopped giving out personal information on the Internet, and 25 percent say they have stopped buying things online. The report supported other survey results that showed eroding confidence in the Internet for commerce due to concerns about identity theft, credit card fraud and security breaches that leaked personal information.
   Report: http://www.consumerwebwatch.org/dynamic/web−credibility−repo rts−princeton.cfm
   Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20051026/tc_afp/usinternetfraud_051026170646

6. *October 26, Voice of America News* — **U.S. official says Asian money laundering finances terrorism.** A senior U.S. Department of Treasury says Macau has pledged to combat money laundering, after the United States charged a bank was working on behalf of North Korea. Last month, Treasury put Macau's Banco Delta Asia on an international money laundering blacklist. Officials in Washington said the bank has been providing irregular financial services for North Korea for the past 20 years. Treasury Undersecretary Stuart Levey, who is charged with

uncovering financial crimes and other acts related to terrorism, says authorities in Macau are taking the matter seriously. Speaking in Hong Kong Wednesday, October 26, Levey declined to say what would persuade the U.S. to lift its sanction against Banco Delta Asia, but he said Macau's move to enact an anti−money laundering law is an encouraging development. Levey is on a weeklong trip through Asia, surveying the region's moves to curb money laundering and terrorists' financial networks. At his next stop, Beijing, Levey says he will relay the United States' concern that North Korea uses illicit financial procedures to support its efforts to assemble weapons of mass destruction. Levey says finding and disrupting the financial networks that support weapons proliferation is a top priority.
Source: http://www.voanews.com/english/2005−10−26−voa30.cfm

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Transportation and Border Security Sector

7. *October 26, Orlando Sentinel (FL)* — **Airports busy with repairs in the aftermath of Hurricane Wilma.** Airports in South Florida began to get back to normal operations Tuesday, October 25, a day after Hurricane Wilma shut down air travel at 11 airports statewide. Miami International Airport reopened after almost 48 hours at 5 p.m. EDT Tuesday but most commercial traffic was not expected to take off until Wednesday, October 26. The airport will have limited commercial and cargo service from a single concourse as repairs are made to damaged roofs, fences and loading bridges, a spokesperson said. Fort Lauderdale−Hollywood International Airport and Palm Beach International Airport likely won't open until later in the week. Both airports reported problems ranging from no power to roof and equipment damage. The airline disruptions in South Florida, which included several small airports from West Palm Beach to the Florida Keys, caused a minor ripple effect of flight delays and cancellations elsewhere in the state and other parts of the country, but industry officials said the impact was limited because carriers had several days to prepare before Wilma made landfall.
Source: http://www.orlandosentinel.com/business/orl−caneair2605oct26 ,0,6583457.story?coll=orl−business−headlines

8. *October 26, Associated Press* — **Amtrak train delayed by bomb threat.** An Amtrak train from Boston to Washington, DC, was delayed for more than two hours Tuesday evening, October 25, as law enforcement investigated a bomb threat, authorities said. A man called Amtrak in Boston and said there was an explosive device "set to go off" on Train 177, which left Boston at 5:35 p.m. EDT carrying 115 passengers. The train was stopped in Westerly, MA, the next available stop, at about 7:30 p.m. EDT. Passengers got off the eight−car train and a thorough search was done, Westerly police Capt. Lauren Matarese said. Passengers' hand−held luggage also was searched before they were allowed to get back on the train, she said. No explosives were found. There had been no arrests as of Tuesday night, authorities said.
Source: http://www.miami.com/mld/miamiherald/news/12998702.htm

9. *October 26, Express−Times (PA)* — **Airport getting high tech boost.** Allentown, PA's, Queen City Airport is one of four facilities in the state that will host a new technology designed to make air travel safer and more efficient, Lehigh−Northampton Airport Authority officials announced Tuesday, October 25. An Automatic Dependent Surveillance−Broadcast (ADS−B) ground station will be up and running at the airport by the end of this year, Deputy Executive

Director Larry Krauter said at the authority's board of governors meeting. Ground stations at Wilkes−Barre/Scranton International, Lancaster and University Park airports in Pennsylvania are also planned this year, he said. Federal Aviation Administration, Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency, and Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) funds totaling $600,000 will cover the cost of building all four ground stations, PennDOT officials said. Aircraft equipped with ADS−B technology transmit their position and other information, such as airspeed, altitude, and direction, to the ground stations, Krauter explained. The ground stations relay that information, as well as weather and airspace status updates, to aircrafts, he said. And unlike traditional radar, ADS−B works on the ground and at low altitudes, so it can be used to monitor traffic on runways and taxiways, too, Krauter said. Officials hope to take the system statewide by 2009.
Source: http://www.nj.com/news/expresstimes/pa/index.ssf?/base/news−2/113031750961990.xml&coll=2

10. *October 26, Miami Herald (FL)* — **Damage to shipping limited if ports open soon.** In the aftermath of Hurricane Wilma, the Port of Miami−Dade is set for a full opening Thursday, October 27 −− a relief to shippers with perishable cargo of fruits and vegetables sitting on the dock. A three−day closure should have minimal impact for Miami−bound shippers, one terminal operator said, but what's less clear is the status of Port Everglades in Broward, FL, where Hurricane Wilma hit with more fury. At Port Everglades, the most critical issue was getting fuel in and out, since it normally handles 13 million gallons daily and supplies one−fifth of the entire state's fuel needs. Broward County has not set a time for reopening the port, interim port director Phil Allen said. Cargo operations could resume in a day or so, though the lack of power is the biggest hurdle. Other problems at Port Everglades: Broken fencing, some damage to buildings and missing channel markers. Fortunately, there wasn't a backlog of ships waiting to berth in South Florida, since cargo operators had diverted their vessels to Charleston, SC, or ports in Panama.
Source: http://www.miami.com/mld/miamiherald/12995780.htm

11. *October 26, Department of Homeland Security* — **Majority of Visa Waiver Program countries to meet digital photo deadline.** The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced Wednesday, October 26, the majority of the Visa Waiver Program (VWP) countries will meet the requirement to produce passports with digital photographs by October 26, 2005. Twenty−five of the 27 VWP countries have achieved full compliance with the October 26, 2005 requirements. Most of the VWP countries have done so by producing passports with digital photos integrated into the data page of the passport. Austria will issue passports to self−identified travelers to the U.S. with a visa "foil" integrated in a visa page of the passport. This visa foil alternative is an acceptable alternative means of compliance with the digital photo requirement, and DHS certified earlier on Wednesday that Austria is now compliant with the October 26 requirement. Beginning October 26, 2005, transportation carriers will be fined up to $3,300, per violation, for transporting any visitor traveling under the Visa Waiver Program to the U.S. who does not meet these requirements. The 27 countries participating in the VWP include: Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brunei, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Monaco, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, San Marino, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom.
Passport guidelines for compliance:

http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/interapp/content_multi_image/co ntent_multi_image_0021.xml
Source: http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/display?content=4907

12. *October 25, GovExec* — **Department of Homeland Security to expand biometric visitor tracking system.** The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) expects to unveil a plan for upgrading the nation's biometric visitor tracking system early next year, the official in charge of the effort said Tuesday, October 25. Officials are drafting what they termed a "comprehensive plan" under which visitors entering the country would be required to submit 10 fingerprints into the U.S. Visitor and Immigrant Status Indicator Technology (US VISIT) biometric system, program director James Williams said. Foreigners are currently required to give only two fingerprints and a facial photograph to US VISIT, which checks their biometric information against government watch lists of known or suspected terrorists. The system is being used at all sea and air ports of entry as well as more than 50 land ports. The government must begin using US VISIT at all land ports by January 1, 2006. The 10–fingerprint standard was announced by DHS Secretary Michael Chertoff in July, and is expected to improve the accuracy of US VISIT. So far, US VISIT has not deployed a system for verifying whether visitors have left the country.
Source: http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=32658&dcn=to daysnews

13. *September 28, Government Accountability Office* — **GAO–05–726: Aviation Safety: System Safety Approach Needs Further Integration into the Federal Aviation Administration's Oversight of Airlines (Report).** The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) uses the Air Transportation Oversight System (ATOS), which was developed around the principles of system safety, to oversee seven "legacy" airlines" and nine other airlines. In this report, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) refers to airlines that are not in ATOS as non–legacy airlines. Two other processes are used to oversee 99 non–legacy passenger airlines, which represent a fast–growing segment of the commercial aviation passenger industry and carried about 200 million passengers in 2004. The National Work Program Guidelines (NPG) establishes a set of inspection activities for non–legacy airlines. The Surveillance and Evaluation Program (SEP) uses principles of system safety to identify additional risk–based inspections for those airlines. GAO's objective was to assess the processes used by FAA to ensure the safety of non–legacy passenger airlines. GAO reviewed the strengths of FAA's inspection oversight for non–legacy passenger airlines and the issues that hinder its effectiveness. GAO recommends that FAA develop an evaluative process for SEP and improve communications and training for inspectors in system safety and risk management. FAA agreed with the recommendations on training and communications and will consider developing an evaluative process.
Highlights: http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d05726high.pdf
Source: http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d05726.pdf

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Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to report.
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Agriculture Sector

14. *October 26, Naples Daily News (FL)* — **Wilma's damage to agriculture industry estimated at more than a billion dollars.** After a helicopter tour Tuesday, October 25, Florida Agriculture Commissioner Charles Bronson said he estimated more than a billion dollars in damage to the state's agriculture industry. Crop damage alone is expected to be in the hundreds of millions. He said some growers might see no profits this year because of the damage. Much of the destruction is in Southwest Florida, where citrus and tomatoes are big business. Hurricane Wilma tore up vegetable plants and flooded fields. It blew off citrus fruit and uprooted trees. It knocked sugar cane to the ground and it beat up barns and equipment. "It will undoubtedly be a matter of days before the full assessments can be worked up," said Terry McElroy, a spokesperson for the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. "We know the damage is extensive and fairly comprehensive in those areas from Southwest Florida through Palm Beach and Homestead as well." As the storm approached, there were more than 15,000 acres of vegetable plants in the ground in Southwest Florida, worth hundreds of millions of dollars. Hurricane Wilma also hit Hendry and Collier citrus growers hard. Preliminary reports shows that as much as 15 percent of the citrus crop has blown off trees.
Source: http://stormedition.naplesnews.com/news/2005/oct/26/wilmas_d amage_agriculture_industry_estimated_more_/

15. *October 26, Sauk Prairie Eagle (WI)* — **All livestock to be registered with state.** The Wisconsin Premises Registration Act, which is effective November 1, requires all those who keep, house, or co−mingle livestock to register their premises. Premises registration is the first of three major steps to implement the National Animal Identification System (NAIS) in Wisconsin. The NAIS will help protect animal agriculture by providing livestock owners and animal health officials the infrastructure to reduce the financial and social impacts of a potential animal disease outbreak.
Source: http://www.wiscnews.com/spe/news/index.php?ntid=59289&ntpid= 2

16. *October 19, Cornell University* — **Plant tumors are found to be result of soil bacterium.** How does a wound in certain plants like roses and grapevines develop into a tumor? The answer appears to lie in a common soil bacterium that is able to "smell" the wound and speed up the infection process. Cornell University microbiologist Steve Winans says that the pathogen Agrobacterium tumefaciens enters the wound where it copies the genes required for infection, which can slip into the plant's cells and their nuclear DNA, causing a cancer−like disease called crown gall. The cells of the crown gall tumor synthesize compounds called opines, which serve as food for the bacterial invaders. The discovery may lead to a cure for crown gall disease, which takes a large economic toll on fruit and wine−grape crops each year. Crown gall tumors mostly strike the trunks or stems of dicot plants, trees or vines, near the ground where freezing occurs during winter and a wound forms in spring. Such fruit trees as cherries and peaches, raspberries, and high−quality vine grapes like chardonnay and cabernet sauvignon tend to be susceptible to the disease, which can stunt or kill a plant. Grafting can also lead to infections.
Source: http://www.news.cornell.edu/stories/Oct05/Winans.kr.html

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Food Sector

17. *October 24, Michigan Department of Agriculture* — **Food and Drug Administration provides funding for cooperative agreements to enhance animal feed safety.** The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has awarded funding to eight states, including for cooperative agreements to enhance their animal feed safety and Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy prevention programs. Under these cooperative agreements totaling two million dollars, states will enhance their feed safety programs to increase their ability to locate and visit firms involved in the manufacture, distribution, and transportation of animal feed and operations feeding ruminant animals. These funds will be used for supplies, training, and laboratory equipment for feed sample testing. The goal is to increase state inspections of renderers, protein blenders, and mills that manufacture animal feeds and feed ingredients. The eight states to receive these funding awards are Michigan, Texas, Minnesota, Illinois, Florida, Wisconsin, Kansas, and Nebraska.
Source: http://www.michigan.gov/mda/0,1607,7−125−−128913−−,00.html

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Water Sector

18. *October 26, News Journal (DE)* — **Toxin taints water in Millsboro, Dagsboro.** Toxic pollution put public drinking water supplies off−limits in Millsboro and Dagsboro, DE, on Tuesday, October 25, and touched off a multiagency state search for the cause and responsible parties. Millsboro Mayor Joseph Brady said community water supplies averaged 70 to 90 parts per billion of trichlorethylene in Division of Public Health tests, about 14 times higher than the federal limit for the pollutant. Other state officials said samples from individual wells used by the town were as high as 200 parts per billion. The Division of Public Health advised Millsboro and Dagsboro residents connected to the public water system to use bottled water or alternate water supplies and to limit time spent bathing and showering until further notice. Officials also advised residents living near the communities and drawing their water from private wells to have their water tested. James Werner, director of air and waste management for Delaware's Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, said that agency investigators were attempting to find the origin of the chemical, used often as a degreasing solvent for metal and as an ingredient in paint and spot removers.
Source: http://www.delawareonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/200 51026/NEWS/510260348/−1/NEWS01

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Public Health Sector

19. *October 26, Rochester Democrat and Chronicle (NY)* — **Drive−through vaccine clinic opens.** One after another, Lyons, NY, drivers pulled up, rolled down their windows Saturday, October 22, and hiked up their sleeves. Each came for a free flu shot, delivered by public health nurses. The first−in−the−region drive−through clinic immunized 160 people in two hours. It doubled as a bioterrorism drill should the need arise for mass immunizations. The process is meant to be

more efficient, and easier for such target populations as the elderly and small children. Linda Michielson, Wayne County's public health director, said the typical time from the first station to the last was 10 to 17 minutes. Drivers and their passengers remained in their vehicles throughout, stopping at five or six roadside stations along a winding drive behind the Wayne County Sheriff's Department. About 20 workers assisted patients along the way. Those receiving shots had to fill out basic medical forms. An extra station was set up for anyone with a unique question or need. While a steady stream of patients, some coming by the vanload, kept staff busy, "it's less congestion than an actual flu clinic," said public health nurse Diane Devlin.
Source: http://www.democratandchronicle.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20051023/NEWS01/510230350/1002/NEWS

20. *October 26, Reuters* — **Fresh bird flu outbreak in China.** China said a fresh outbreak of bird flu was free of any human infections, but three people on a French island off Africa were being tested on Wednesday, October 26, in what were thought to be the first suspected human cases outside Asia. "These three people who all traveled to Thailand have visited a bird zoo where they had come into contact with birds," French Health Minister Xavier Bertrand said of the tourists who were now back home on the Indian Ocean island of Reunion. "Initial tests have been done there and these came out positive," he said, but fuller results would only be ready on Thursday, October 27. In China's new outbreak of the H5N1 strain of avian flu, its third case since last week, hundreds of chickens and ducks died in a village in central Hunan province. In Europe, where the first cases of the disease surfaced in recent weeks as birds migrate for winter, Croatia confirmed H5N1 killed some dead swans found by a pond there last week. Germany and Greece were also testing dead birds. Britain said a parrot that died of H5N1 might not have been the only bird in quarantine to have had the virus, and others were being tested.
Source: http://in.today.reuters.com/news/newsArticle.aspx?type=worldNews&storyID=2005−10−26T230929Z_01_NOOTR_RTRJONC_0_India−221012−7.xml

21. *October 26, U.S. Department of Agriculture* — **U.S. Department of Agriculture efforts and response to avian influenza in the United States.** U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Deputy Secretary Chuck Conner Wednesday, October 26, outlined USDA efforts to protect the U.S. against highly transmissible forms of avian influenza, a disease that commonly affects birds and has been transmitted to humans in Asia. "For more than two decades, USDA has worked to prepare for and prevent an outbreak of dangerous strains of avian influenza in our country," said Conner. "Attacking the disease at its source overseas is a main focus for USDA. We also have strict importation restrictions to prevent the spread of the virus in our country and an elaborate surveillance system in place to monitor our bird populations." USDA works closely with the industry to randomly test commercial flocks as well as testing birds that show signs of illness. USDA scientists have also been testing wild migratory birds since 1998 in the Alaska flyway. The USDA Animal and Plant Health and Inspection Service maintains a vaccine supply for poultry that can be used to create a buffer around an identified area to contain the disease while it is in the process of being eradicated. The agency has formed a network of more than 40,000 private veterinarians who report any suspected disease outbreak to federal or state officials.
Source: http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/!ut/p/_s.7_0_A/7_0_1OB?contentidonly=true&contentid=2005/10/0459.xml

22.

October 21, LiveScience — **Avian flu will reach U.S., says bird migration expert.** An expert in bird migration patterns said it is only a matter of time before the H5N1 strain of avian flu reaches North America. "By knowing the migratory patterns of birds and areas where species overlap while traveling between their breeding sites and winter grounds, one can predict precisely where problems will occur," said Thomas Van't Hof, an ornithologist at Wright State University in Ohio. "The disease will probably end up in Africa this year," Van't Hof told LiveScience. It is harder to say when it will hop the Atlantic, he said, but that could happen next year, based on known migration patterns. Birds migrating south from China likely made contact with species in Bangladesh and Burma that were migrating west through southern India to Turkey, Van't Hof explains. This is how the virus reached Russia and Eastern Europe. Birds from Europe are now flying south through Turkey. Soon, Africa will be exposed. Next spring, when infected birds migrate to the Arctic to nest, they will mix with birds from North America, Van't Hof explained. How quickly it reaches North America will depend on how many infected birds mix with other fowl in nesting areas, and how close the nests are to each other. But eventually, it will spread.
Source: http://www.livescience.com/humanbiology/051021_flu_birds.htm l

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Government Sector

Nothing to report.
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Emergency Services Sector

23. *October 26, WTKR (VA)* — **Chemical leak drill tests first responders.** Clouds of "chemicals" swirled above Virginia Beach, VA, on Tuesday morning, October 25. It was just a drill, and it was a simulated material that was released into the air. The chemicals were not real or harmful. But emergency workers from Hampton Roads responded as if it were truly a disaster. Emergency crews tested their skills, as "ammonia" leaked from a rail car, and fumes billowed over Virginia Beach. To make matters worse, school buses loaded with students drove through the chemical clouds. It was just an exercise, but one day, the training could save lives. "(Training is) invaluable for hurricane issues, rail car issues, for anything that brings a mass casualty and people who get hurt," said Capt. Michael Barakey, with the Virginia Beach Fire Department. Fire, EMS and police from Virginia Beach, Chesapeake, Portsmouth and Norfolk joined forces to prepare for a potential disaster and potential victims. The goal of this full–scale exercise was designed to test the capabilities of emergency planning.
Source: http://www.wtkr.com/Global/story.asp?S=4026906&nav=ZolHbyvj

24. *October 26, Chico Enterprise Record (CA)* — **California county preparing for the unthinkable.** John Gulserian, Butte County's emergency services officer, on Tuesday, October 25, gave the Board of Supervisors a snapshot look at some of the training and planning projects his office is involved in. Plans and training have covered such things as situations what to do if large numbers of people are hurt or injured all at once, how to respond to a sudden "catastrophic" collapse or Oroville Dam, or how to respond to the release of hazardous

materials. Gulserian said the county is one meeting short of having "our mass care and shelter plan" completed. "We've taken some of the lessons learned from the Super Dome (in New Orleans) and incorporated them into the plan. In other words we want more security at our shelters," Gulserian told the board. Gulserian also reported the county has a whole range of volunteer groups who have been or are being trained to assist in a disaster. Having said all that, Gulserian said greatest need is for "citizen preparedness." "What is the greatest thing we can do to prepare for an emergency or disaster? That's citizen preparedness…. Citizens are the key."
Source: http://chicoer.com/local_news/ci_3151687

25. *October 25, Insurance Journal* — **Mid−Atlantic states form regional hazard response consortium.** A number of Mid−Atlantic states are forming what they are calling the All Hazards Consortium (AHC) to increase preparedness by enabling emergency management participants to share strategies and integrate planning. The AHC, a not−for−profit organization, emerged from last year's All Hazards Forum, a regional conference bringing together industry, universities and the state homeland security and emergency management and citizen leadership from the region. Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, North Carolina, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia have agreed to participate. Emergency management stakeholders have already reviewed regional public safety communications, including the ability to share voice and data information during emergencies. Future AHC issues for review are critical infrastructure protection and evacuation planning. The All Hazards Forum is scheduled for October 25−27 at the Baltimore Convention Center. All Hazards Forum topics include Homeland Security Presidential Directives, port security, evacuation planning, and biohazard response and recovery.
All Hazards Consortium Website: http://www.allhazardsforum.com
Source: http://www.wtopnews.com/?sid=603133&nid=25

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Information Technology and Telecommunications Sector

26. *October 26, Secunia* — **Skype multiple buffer overflow vulnerabilities.** Two vulnerabilities have been reported in Skype, which can be exploited to cause a DoS or to compromise a user's system. One boundary error exists when handling Skype−specific URI types e.g. "callto://" and "skype://". This can be exploited to cause a buffer overflow and allows arbitrary code execution when the user clicks on a specially−crafted Skype−specific URL. Another boundary error exists in the handling of certain unspecified Skype client network traffic. This can be exploited to cause a heap−based buffer overflow. Successful exploitation crashes the Skype client. It has been reported that the vulnerability is also exploitable via TCP and allows arbitrary code execution via overwritten function pointers on the heap. Secunia reports that the vulnerability can be remedied by updating the fixed version.
Skype Patch: http://www.skype.com/download.
Source: http://secunia.com/advisories/17305/

27. *October 26, FrSIRT* — **HP Oracle for Openview (OfO) multiple remote and local vulnerabilities.** Multiple vulnerabilities have been identified in Oracle for Openview (OfO), which could be exploited by remote or local attackers to execute arbitrary commands or conduct SQL injection attacks. These flaws are due to unspecified errors in Oracle Database

Server, Application Server, Collaboration Suite, E−Business Suite, Applications, Enterprise Manager, PeopleSoft Enterprise, and JD Edwards EnterpriseOne. FrSIRT reports that the vulnerability can be remedied by applying a patch.
Critical Patch (October 2005): http://www.oracle.com/technology/deploy/security/pdf/cpuoct2005.html
Source: http://www.frsirt.com/english/advisories/2005/2196

28. *October 26, Security Tracker* — **Network appliance data ONTAP iSCSI security controls bypass vulnerability.** A remote iSCSI client can bypass iSCSI authentication on the target NetApp filer to access disk blocks. A remote user (iSCSI client) can manipulate the iSCSI authentication protocol to gain access to the target NetApp filer without authenticating. As a result, the remote user can read and modify iSCSI−mapped logical unit numbers (LUNs) on the target system. Security Tracker reports that vendor has issued a fixed version (Data ONTAP 7.0.2).
Fixed version: http://now.netapp.com/NOW/cgi−bin/software
NetApp's advisory: http://now.netapp.com/NOW/cgi−bin/bol?Type=Detail&Display=16 9359
Source: http://securitytracker.com/alerts/2005/Oct/1015103.html

29. *October 26, FrSIRT* — **PHP−Nuke multiple parameters and modules SQL injection vulnerability.** A vulnerability has been identified in PHP−Nuke, which may be exploited by remote attackers to execute arbitrary SQL commands. This flaw is due to input validation errors in the "Downloads", "Weblinks", and "authentication" modules that do not properly filter a specially crafted "url", "description" or "username" parameters, which may be exploited to conduct SQL injection attacks. FrSIRT is not aware of any official supplied patch for this issue.
Source: http://www.frsirt.com/english/advisories/2005/2191

30. *October 26, FrSIRT* — **ar−blog cross site scripting and authentication bypass vulnerabilities.** Two vulnerabilities were identified in ar−blog, which could be exploited to perform cross site scripting attacks or to gain unauthorized access. The first issue is due to an input validation error when adding comments, which may be exploited to cause arbitrary scripting code to be executed by the user's browser. The second vulnerability is due to an error when handling specially crafted cookies, which could be exploited to bypass the authentication procedure and gain unauthorized access to a vulnerable application. FrSIRT is not aware of a patch for these issues.
Source: http://www.frsirt.com/english/advisories/2005/2190

31. *October 26, Security Tracker* — **PHP iCalendar input validation holes permit remote code execution and cross−site scripting attacks.** A vulnerability was reported in PHP iCalendar in which a remote user can conduct cross−site scripting attacks, and can also execute arbitrary PHP code and operating system commands on the target system with the privileges of the target web service. The user can access the target user's cookies (including authentication cookies), if any associated with the site running the PHP iCalendar software access data recently submitted by the target user via Web form to the site, or take actions on the site acting as the target user. Security Tracker reports that the vendor has issued a fix, which is available via CVS.
CVS: http://sourceforge.net/cvs/?group_id=62270
Source: http://securitytracker.com/alerts/2005/Oct/1015102.html

32. *October 25, Washington Technology* — **IG report: Secret Service experiencing network security weaknesses.** According to three reports from the Department of Homeland Security's Inspector General (IG) Richard L. Skinner, the Secret Service is falling short in its efforts to protect sensitive online data and in securing its IT networks. The first report found inadequacies in the security controls for sensitive data about protective operations contained in the Secret Service Web System (SSWeb). Vulnerabilities were discovered in access controls, configuration management procedures, and continuity of operations safeguards. The report stated: "… there is an increased risk that unauthorized individuals could gain access to critical Secret Service database resources and compromise the confidentiality, integrity and availability of sensitive SSWeb data…Further, the Secret Service may not be able to recover SSWeb following a disaster." Recommendations include reviewing systems to facilitate the detection of inappropriate access and developing an IT contingency plan. The second report found that the Secret Service's security controls for wired−based, sensitive but unclassified networks were ineffective. A third report found that Customs and Border Protection agency network security procedures are inadequate with respect to security testing, monitoring network activities with audit trails, and patch management.
IG's Report on SSWeb: http://www.dhs.gov/interweb/assetlibrary/OIGr_05−37_Sep05.pd f
Source: http://www.washingtontechnology.com/news/1_1/security/27276−1.html

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