



Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 08 November 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 Associated Press reports several states are interested in a University of Nebraska Medical Center initiative database that officials say can speed responses to a variety of needs, from the flu to a terrorist attack. (See item [19](#))
- The National Wildlife Health Center is recruiting hundreds of ornithologists, veterinarians, amateur bird-watchers, park rangers, and others to join a surveillance effort along the major American migratory flyways to help spot early signs of the avian flu. (See item [20](#))

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](#)

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Federal and State: [Government](#); [Emergency Services](#)

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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. *November 07, Government Accountability Office* — **GAO-06-93: Nuclear Nonproliferation: IAEA Has Strengthened Its Safeguards and Nuclear Security Programs, but Weaknesses Need to Be Addressed (Report)**. The International Atomic Energy Agency's (IAEA) safeguards system has been a cornerstone of U.S. efforts to prevent nuclear weapons proliferation since the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) was adopted in 1970. IAEA has strengthened its safeguards system and increased efforts to combat nuclear terrorism by helping countries secure nuclear and radioactive material and facilities. This report (1) identifies the steps IAEA has taken to strengthen safeguards, (2) assesses the challenges in

implementing strengthened safeguards, (3) identifies U.S. financial support for safeguards, and (4) describes IAEA's efforts to help secure nuclear material and facilities. The Government Accountability Office recommends, among other things, that the Department of State work with IAEA to consider (1) eliminating or reducing the number of agreements that limit IAEA's authority to implement strengthened safeguards in countries with small quantities of nuclear material, (2) establishing better measures to evaluate the effectiveness of safeguards and nuclear security activities, and (3) rectifying human capital practices that negatively impact IAEA's ability to recruit and retain critical safeguards staff. The Department of State generally agreed with the recommendations. IAEA provided technical comments, which were incorporated into the report.

Highlights: <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d0693high.pdf>

Source: <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d0693.pdf>

- 2. *November 07, Department of Energy* — **Highly enriched uranium from U.S. nuclear weapons stockpile to be removed.**** Secretary of Energy Samuel W. Bodman on Monday, November 7, announced that the Department of Energy's (DOE) National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) will remove over 440,000 pounds of Highly Enriched Uranium (HEU), in the coming decades, from further use as fissile material in U.S. nuclear weapons and prepare this material for other uses. The decision addresses future use of HEU that becomes available from nuclear weapons dismantlements and from significant reductions in the nuclear weapons stockpile as directed by President Bush in May 2004. The project represents the largest amount of special nuclear material to be removed from the stockpile in the history of the nuclear weapons program. "The President's decision to reduce the nuclear weapons stockpile by nearly half—to the smallest size since the Eisenhower administration—enables us to dispose of a significant amount of weapons-grade uranium. This is material that will never again be a part of a nuclear weapon," Secretary Bodman said.

Source: http://www.energy.gov/engine/content.do?PUBLIC_ID=19140&BT_C ODE=PR_PRESSRELEASES&TT_CODE=PRESSRELEASE

- 3. *November 07, Associated Press* — **Agency sees world demand for oil climbing.**** Global energy needs will surge 50 percent by 2030 and prices will rise if capacity is not significantly increased, the International Energy Agency (IEA) said Monday, November 7, in its 2005 World Energy Outlook. There are sufficient oil and natural gas reserves to meet those needs, particularly in North Africa and the Middle East, but about \$20 trillion in new investments is urgently needed to bring those supplies to the consumer market, the agency said. New energy sources will increasingly be needed to meet demand in growing economies like China and India, according to IEA. "These projected trends have important implications and lead to a future that is not sustainable from an energy-security or environmental perspective," said Claude Mandil, the agency's executive director. "We must change these outcomes and get the planet onto a sustainable energy path," said Mandil.

IEA World Energy Outlook: <http://www.worldenergyoutlook.org/>

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2005/11/07/AR2005110700392.html>

- 4. *November 07, RenewableEnergyAccess.com* — **Trends emerge for U.S. wind power markets.**** Recently, representatives from major debt, equity, and private equity investors came together with wind energy project developers to hear the latest information about the state of

the industry and best practices for financing projects. The American Wind Energy Association reported key issues and trends emerged from the workshop. Project financing is still a considerable hurdle, the turbine market is constrained, merchant wind plants — those built without a long-term supply contracts — are generating interest, high natural gas prices are not always a good thing for wind power, and more sophisticated investment strategies and larger partners are all part of the changing financial landscape for wind power. Presenters generally agreed that the main roadblock facing wind power development is not getting financing, as it was a few years ago, but the turbine supply situation, and the effect of high natural gas prices on the wind power market.

Source: <http://www.renewableenergyaccess.com/rea/news/story;jsessionid=aCUPwvhZcSDe?id=38947>

5. *November 06, Associated Press* — **Two workers die at refinery.** Two workers at the Valero oil refinery in Delaware City, DE, died Sunday, November 6, while working on a unit at the facility. Cpl. Jeff Oldham, a state police spokesperson, said the men appear to have succumbed to nitrogen fumes inside a silo just after midnight. "A witness said that when he saw them up there it looked like they were trying to retrieve something from inside the silo," Oldham said. When the witness left and came back about five minutes later, he saw the men were unconscious, Oldham said. The witness used a radio to make an emergency call. A man wearing an oxygen mask retrieved the men, Oldham said. Mary Rose Brown, a spokesperson for Valero, said the men were contract workers with Matrix Services Inc. They were scheduled to perform work in the area, but they were not authorized to go inside the silo, which was under a nitrogen atmosphere. "The investigation is focused on why these contractors entered this vessel without authorization," said Brown.

Source: <http://www.newsday.com/news/local/wire/newjersey/ny-bc-nj--refinerydeaths1106nov06.0.2996464.story?coll=ny-region-apnewjersey>

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Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials Sector

Nothing to report.

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

Nothing to report.

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Banking and Finance Sector

6. *November 07, Europol* — **U.S. Secret Service and Europol partner in fighting organized crime.** The United States Secret Service (USSS) and the European Police Office Europol signed a co-operation agreement on Monday, November 7, that included the exchange of personal data and is based on the overall co-operation agreement signed by Europol and the U.S. Department of Justice in December 2002. In order to improve the exchange of

intelligence, the USSS has recently placed a liaison officer in Europol's headquarters. In addition, Europol has two liaison officers posted in Washington D.C. "For several years now, both of our organizations have worked closely together to combat emerging financial crimes. I am confident that this formal creation of a Secret Service liaison position at Europol will improve and expedite our joint efforts to combat transnational crime even further," said Barbara Riggs, Deputy Director of the United States Secret Service. The signed contract will assist fighting financial crime, like non-cash payment fraud and the use of information technology (computers, Internet) in connection with these kinds of crimes.

Source: <http://www.europol.eu.int/index.asp?page=news&news=pr051107.htm>

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Transportation and Border Security Sector

7. *November 07, Associated Press* — **Flyi files for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection.** Flyi Inc., which launched low-fare airline Independence Air just one year ago from its hub at Washington's Dulles Airport, filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection Monday, November 7. The airline said it hopes to enter into a court-supervised auction process to attract a new investor or purchaser in the next 60 days. Airline spokesperson Rick DeLisi said flights would operate on their regular schedule Monday and that customers should not expect any immediate disruptions. Dulles-based Flyi, formerly known as Atlantic Coast Airlines, had operated until July 2004 as a contract carrier for United and Delta airlines. But when bankrupt United sought to renegotiate its contract with Atlantic Coast at lower rates, Atlantic Coast executives decided they had a better future as an independent carrier. When the airline announced plans to transform into a low-cost, low-fare carrier, some were skeptical immediately because the airline's fleet of small, regional jets generally has higher per-person costs than larger jets. Source: http://www.usatoday.com/travel/news/2005-11-07-flyi-bankrupt_cy_x.htm

8. *November 07, KABC-TV (CA)* — **Reducing crowds at LAX.** The Los Angeles Airport Commission is taking action on Monday, November 7, to reduce crowds at Los Angeles International Airport, LAX, more than a year after a study concluded people waiting on sidewalks and in lobbies at the facility are at risk from terror strikes. Commissioners are considering offering a \$900,000 contract to the Rand Corp., the firm that drafted the study. Rand would work with the airport, airlines and the federal Transportation Security Administration to speed travelers through terminals into more secure gate areas. The move would be an about-face for Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA), which operates LAX and other city-owned airports and is overseen by the Airport Commission. LAWA concluded earlier this year that it could not significantly shorten lines in the near term because it would require a third more ticket agents and security screeners. Source: <http://abclocal.go.com/kabc/story?section=local&id=3612881>

9. *November 07, Sacramento State Bulletin (CA)* — **New ways to speed up bridge construction.** Faster bridge construction projects may be in store for California through the efforts of a Sacramento State University civil engineering professor. Eric Matsumoto, in conjunction with researchers from University of California-San Diego, and state departments of transportation including CalTrans, is exploring the feasibility of constructing bridges in the seismic regions using precast concrete. The research focuses on a precast bridge element call the bent cap,

which connects the bridge girders to columns. It's an approach to rapid bridge construction already used in some parts of the country but which especially challenges earthquake-prone areas like California. The research is being funded by a \$550,000 contract from the National Cooperative Highway research program, which develops practical solutions to problems facing transportation agencies. Matsumoto's goal is to develop new design and construction guidelines for precast bent cap systems that provide cost-effective seismic resistance while accelerating construction. If this works, Matsumoto says, it will affect the way business is done today because California and other states need to replace bridges in congested urban environments by the thousands.

Source: <http://www.csus.edu/bulletin/bulletin110705/bulletin110705Matsumoto.htm>

10. *November 04, Government Accountability Office* — **GAO-06-199R: Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures: Airport and Airway Trust Fund Excise Taxes (Correspondence).**

The Government Accountability Office (GAO) has performed the procedures contained in the enclosure to this report, which GAO agreed to perform and with which you concurred, solely to assist your office in ascertaining whether the net excise tax revenue distributed to the Airport and Airway Trust Fund (AATF) for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2005, is supported by the underlying records. As agreed with your office, GAO evaluated fiscal year 2005 activity affecting distributions to the AATF. In performing the agreed-upon procedures, GAO conducted the work in accordance with U.S. generally accepted government auditing standards, which incorporate financial audit and attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. These standards also provide guidance for performing and reporting the results of agreed-upon procedures. This report is intended solely for the use of the Office of Inspector General of the Department of Transportation and should not be used by those who have not agreed to the procedures and have not taken responsibility for the sufficiency of the procedures for their purpose. However, this report is a matter of public record, and

Source: <http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-06-199R>

11. *November 02, Department of Transportation* — **Proposal would make it easier for airlines to raise money.**

U.S. airlines would have more opportunities to obtain financing from investors under a new rule announced on Wednesday, November 2, by Department of Transportation Secretary Norman Y. Mineta. The proposed rule would allow international investors more say in some aspects of airline operations, but retain current domestic ownership and labor protections in U.S. airlines, Mineta said. The notice of proposed rulemaking would allow global investors more input in marketing, routing and fleet structures. However, the proposal would ensure current protections guaranteeing that U.S. citizens own at least 75 percent of a domestic airline's voting stock, maintain actual control over safety and security decisions, and have oversight of U.S. Department of Defense contracts. The proposal would only apply to international investors from countries that have Open-Skies aviation agreements with the United States and allow similar investments by American citizens in their domestic airlines. The proposal would not change the current requirement that the president and two-thirds of the directors and officers of a domestic airline be U.S. citizens. In addition, under the proposal, U.S. citizens would continue to be required to retain control over a domestic airline's organizational documents, including corporate charter, articles of incorporation, and all stock agreements.

The notice is available on the Internet at <http://dms.dot.gov>, docket OST-03-15759.

Source: <http://www.dot.gov/affairs/dot15805.htm>

12. *October 06, Government Accountability Office* — GAO-06-115: **Border Security: More Emphasis on State's Consular Safeguards Could Mitigate Visa Malfeasance Risks (Report).**

Issuing a U.S. visa to a foreign citizen in exchange for money or something of value is a crime that can facilitate entry into the United States of unqualified persons, including those who may wish to do our country harm. Internal controls make it difficult for an employee to commit visa malfeasance without being detected, but, despite these safeguards, visa malfeasance does occur. The Government Accountability Office (GAO) examined (1) the Department of State's (State) internal controls to prevent nonimmigrant visa malfeasance and if they are being implemented and (2) visa malfeasance cases from 2001–2004 and factors cited by State and the Department of Justice (Justice) that contributed to visa malfeasance and affected investigations and prosecutions. To improve the safeguards over the visa process GAO recommends that the Secretary of State develop strategies to achieve strict compliance with internal controls and improve existing mechanisms to combat visa malfeasance. GAO also recommend that the Secretary of State and the Attorney General determine whether seeking additional overseas search authorities is warranted to facilitate investigations of visa malfeasance. State agreed with the conclusions in the report and is taking steps to implement the recommendations.

Highlights: <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d06115high.pdf>

Source: <http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-06-115>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to report.

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Agriculture Sector

13. *November 07, Agricultural Research Service* — Soy set to withstand exotic aphid. A key genetic discovery by Agricultural Research Service (ARS) and university scientists opens the door to breeding soybeans that can resist Chinese soybean aphids. Since first being detected in Wisconsin in 2000, the soybean aphid has spread across the Midwest and into the South, causing millions of dollars of crop losses. Growers have fought back with insecticide spraying, a practice that adds \$12 to \$25 per acre to their production costs. In 2004, ARS plant pathologist Glen Hartman and University of Illinois collaborators discovery of Rag1, a single gene conferring resistance to the exotic aphid in two southern cultivars. Normally, the pest causes harm in the form of stunted growth, disfigured leaves, poor pod formation, and the plant's eventual death. But in tests, neither wingless female aphids nor their nymph offspring survived for long when confined to the resistant beans' leaves. Typically, 94 to 100 percent of female aphids died within 10 days — compared to 17 percent on a nonresistant variety — reports Hartman. The researchers have identified marker regions and devised technology to detect them so that soybean breeders can rapidly identify resistant plants. New, high-yielding cultivars bred to express Rag1 could be available by 2008.

Source: <http://www.ars.usda.gov/News/docs.htm?docid=1261>

14. *November 06, Associated Press* — **Viral livestock disease in decline.** A highly contagious livestock disease that infected more than 150 horses and other animals in Montana this year appears to be on the decline. Four properties in Big Horn, MT, are currently under quarantine because of vesicular stomatitis (VS), Assistant State Veterinarian Jeanne Rankin said. At its peak, the viral disease, which causes painful blister-like lesions, closed dozens of ranches and barns in five Montana counties. The U.S. Department of Agriculture reported 152 VS cases in the state this summer and fall. Of the four properties still under quarantine in Montana, one has started the 21-day countdown to being released from quarantine. After the last symptoms of VS have disappeared, livestock must go three weeks without further signs of VS before the state will lift the quarantine. The other three properties are still waiting for lesions to heal. "We're hoping that Montana will be VS-free around the first of December," Rankin said. VS mainly affects cattle, horses, and swine, although most of Montana's cases this year involved horses. Because VS is highly contagious, other states and Canadian officials impose restrictions on livestock from VS-infected areas. When Montana is declared VS-free, those restrictions will be lifted, Rankin said.

Source: <http://www.grandforks.com/mld/grandforks/news/state/13098526 .htm>

15. *November 05, Stop Soybean Rust News* — **Georgia finds first soybean rust on Florida beggar weed in U.S.** A sample of Florida beggar weed found growing in a field of rust-infected soybeans in Decatur, GA, was confirmed positive for Asian soybean rust Friday, November 4. Until now, soybean rust in the field had been detected only on soybean and kudzu plants in the U.S. Bob Kemeraite, Extension specialist with the University of Georgia, said pustules, but not spores, were found on the oldest foliage of the single Florida beggar weed plant that showed symptoms. Testing confirmed they were indeed Asian soybean rust pustules. Soybean rust pustules are the structure in which spores are produced before they burst out of the pustule's raised "crater" and ride the wind. Soybean rust was first confirmed in that Decatur on July 21, 2005, when officials reported "numerous pustules and copious spores" on one leaf in a kudzu patch only two miles south of a Georgia sentinel plot.

Source: <http://www.stopsoybeanrust.com/viewStory.asp?StoryID=619>

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Food Sector

Nothing to report.

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Water Sector

16. *November 07, Daily News (CA)* — **Water storage under way.** Millions of gallons of California Aqueduct water are being pumped down wells in an effort to store water for drought years and to replenish the Antelope Valley's declining underground aquifer. Los Angeles County Waterworks officials began October 28 pulling water from its distribution pipeline system and sending it down three Lancaster wells, with a fourth well to be added this month,

officials said. "This is water that would otherwise have just run to waste," said Adam Ariki, assistant division engineer. By May or June — depending on when Antelope Valley residents' water use rises with the arrival of warm weather — officials hope to pump underground 300 million to 500 million gallons: 1,000 to 1,500 acre–feet or more, enough to supply 1,000 to 1,500 homes for a year. California's wet 2004–05 weather — the wettest winter in Los Angeles in more than 120 years — means that the State Water Project can supply millions of gallons more than customers want to use.

Source: http://www.dailynews.com/antelopevalley/ci_3189826

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Public Health Sector

17. *November 07, Associated Press* — **Pharmacist shortage worsens nationwide.** The shortage of pharmacists has been fueled by several factors, especially changes in insurance policies and federal regulations of pharmaceuticals, which made drugs available to more people. Add to that an aging population and more drugs being manufactured and advertised to the public, and the number of prescriptions has increased from two billion to 3.2 billion in the last decade. That problem is expected to worsen after the new Medicare prescription drug program begins January 1, pharmacy officials said. Independent and chain pharmacies, hospitals, and nursing homes are scrambling to find people to fill orders. The National Association of Chain Drug Stores reported about 5,950 full- and part-time openings in July in its 37,000 member stores. The American Hospital Association reported a 7.4 percent vacancy rate for pharmacists as of December 2004, with 38 percent of its members saying it was harder to recruit pharmacists last year than in 2003. A consortium of pharmacy groups called the Pharmacy Manpower Project issued a report in 2002 predicting 157,000 unfilled pharmacy openings by 2020. Around the country, universities are opening new pharmacy schools or expanding existing programs, but it likely will take years for supply to meet demand.

Source: http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2005/11/07/ap/health/mainD8DN_H6582.shtml

18. *November 07, Agence France–Presse* — **New case of H5N1 confirmed in Russia.** A dead bird was found to be carrying the H5N1 strain of bird flu in a village in the Urals. The virus was identified in the body of a dead bird in the village of Ozero–Sosnovka near Cheliabinsk, where several earlier outbreaks have been reported, the local office of the Russian emergency situations ministry told Agence France Presse. "Last Thursday, 12 birds died in this village. The virus was found in one of them," spokesperson Viacheslav Ladonkin said Monday, November 7.

Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20051107/hl_afp/healthflurussia_051107122139;_ylt=AnG58Wz8BQ_FFT_yltG11mQSJOrgF;_ylu=X3oDMTBiMW04NW9mBHNIYwMIJVRPUCUI

19. *November 06, Associated Press* — **States look to Nebraska tracking program.** Rural health care worries in Nebraska have sparked a unique program officials say can speed responses to a variety of needs, from the flu to a terrorist attack. Other states are looking closely at the University of Nebraska Medical Center initiative, as is the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). They are drawn by the information compiled by the school's Health Professions Tracking Center. The database tracks about 35,000 health care professionals in

Nebraska and is updated almost constantly. Information includes where the medical professionals live, work and what they specialize in, where they went to school and even what languages they speak. Kolene Kohll is the architect and director of the Nebraska center. While the database is still used to examine work force issues, the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks changed some of the center's focus, Kohll said. In the months following the attacks, information about medical workers' readiness to handle bioterrorism threats became particularly valuable. The database was also linked with a broadcast system operated by the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services that can contact the state's medical workers quickly in an emergency. About 30 states have shown interest in having the Nebraska center establish databases, Kohll said.

Health Professions Tracking Center: <http://app1.unmc.edu/healthprof/>

Source: <http://www.heraldnewsdaily.com/stories/news-0096176.html>

20. *November 06, New York Times* — Sentries in U.S. seek early signs of the avian flu. With the country waiting nervously for avian flu to arrive, catching wild birds has become part of a national early detection effort. Hundreds of ornithologists, veterinarians, amateur bird-watchers, park rangers, and others are being recruited by the National Wildlife Health Center to join a surveillance effort along the major American migratory flyways. They will test wild birds caught in nets; birds shot by hunters on public lands, who must check in with game wardens; and corpses from large bird die-offs in public parks or on beaches. The plan also calls for sampling bodies of water for the influenza virus, which is shed in bird feces. And it is designating some ducks and geese — like those in backyard flocks or living year-round in park ponds — as "sentinels" to be captured, tested, released and periodically retested. Surveillance of poultry is already in place. Long-standing federal and state laws require farmers to report deaths of birds from any flu strain. The surveillance system was worked out this summer by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the wildlife health center in Madison, WI, part of the U.S. Department of Interior.

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2005/11/06/national/06bird.html?hp&ex=1131339600&en=a0eff064c91e2a69&ei=5094&partner=homepage&oref=login>

21. *November 05, Food and Agriculture Organization* — Avian Influenza bulletin. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations has released an update on the Avian Influenza situation. H5N1 Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) has moved westwards; outbreaks have been confirmed in Turkey, Romania, and Croatia. Sporadic outbreaks have been reported in Russia, resulting in some deaths/culling of domestic poultry. Resurgence of the disease in China's main farming areas is also a concern. Human fatalities have been confirmed or suspected in Indonesia, Thailand, and Viet Nam. Countries in Europe, the Near East, and Africa have started implementing various preventive measures. Please click on the link below to view worldwide updates by country.

Source: <http://www.fao.org/ag/againfo/subjects/documents/ai/AVIbull035.pdf>

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Government Sector

22. *November 07, Foster's Online (NH)* — Panel calls for better courthouse safety. A New Hampshire state Supreme Court study on security has suggested a number of measures courts

can take to make the halls of justice in the state safer. The study came following an eight-month review by a 22-member committee following the courthouse shooting in Atlanta earlier this year. Many of the items recommended by the committee are already in place or steps are being taken to implement them, according to court and county officials. The committee announced immediate steps the court should take to improve security, including installing "duress alarms" for court security, improving camera surveillance and increasing use of video arraignments to cut down on security risks and costs in transporting prisoners. Strafford County Sheriff Wayne Estes said Strafford County Superior Court already has a duress alarm and measures to install video cameras and television in the superior court and the three district courts in Rochester, Dover and Durham are moving forward. The committee also recommended system-wide standardization of criteria for weapons training and physical abilities for security officers. The committee suggested that the state Police Standards and Training Council develop and administer such a program for all court security personnel, with the approval of the Supreme Court.

Source: http://www.fosters.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20051107/N_EWS01/111070097

23. *November 07, Government Computer News* — DHS releases critical asset protection plan.

The Department of Homeland Security has released its draft National Infrastructure Protection Plan that establishes a framework for working with the private sector to protect the nation's critical assets and key resources such as energy, water and food supplies, health care, transportation and IT systems. The 175-page document was authorized under Homeland Security Presidential Directive 7, and is available for review and public comment until December 5. The plan states that DHS will operate the Sector Coordinating Councils and Government Coordinating Councils within 30 days under the Sector Partnership Model. The agency also will implement protocols for vetting and delivering information to owners and operators of critical infrastructure within 30 days. DHS will develop an NIPP National Awareness Plan within 180 days and implement it within a year.

Federal Register Announcement:

<http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/01jan20051800/edocke.t.access.gpo.gov/2005/05-21984.htm>

Source: http://www.gcn.com/vol1_no1/daily-updates/37520-1.html

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Emergency Services Sector

24. *November 08, WPRI 12 (RI)* — First responder counterterrorism training held in Rhode Island. On Monday, November 7, the National Counterterrorism Center, in collaboration with Department of Homeland Security's Office of Information Analysis and the FBI's Weapons of Mass Destruction Operations Unit, conducted a seminar for 70 first responders in Rhode Island. The training program was designed to help first responders prepare for terrorism. The agencies disseminated unclassified reference materials and threat information regarding chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear terrorism.

Source: <http://www.wpri.com/Global/story.asp?S=4080270&nav=F2DO>

25. *November 06, Canadian Press* — Canadian Defense study aims to gauge people's reactions to terrorist crises. Defense Research and Development Canada is launching a study to help

them understand how people will respond to a biological or radiological attack so emergency workers can better plan how to manage such situations. Researchers hope to determine whether people are likely to panic and overreact; ignore or undermine authorities' efforts; abandon jobs and evacuate cities or stay home; and whether they will exploit the situation and break the law or try to help. David Mandel, the project's lead scientist, says that while there have been many academic laboratory studies on the effects of emotion on behavior, there is little research involving realistic crisis situations. To identify psychosocial effects, the study will look at the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks and New Orleans' response to Hurricane Katrina. The study will assess how people will respond to a threat, but also how they perceive the responders and comply with policies that direct them. According to Mandel: "When people come in as first-responders and members of the public are suspicious of their intentions, that's a problem that goes beyond the initial crisis itself."

Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/cpress/20051106/ca_pr_on_na/disaster_study_1&printer=1

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Information Technology and Telecommunications Sector

26. *November 07, Government Computer News* — Telecom infrastructure is weak link in disasters. During Hurricane Katrina, getting enough power was a major issue for the Gulf Coast telecom providers, as was keeping the basic infrastructure running and providing physical security for workers and equipment. A recent Federal Communications Commission meeting with two telecommunication providers revealed that outages in physical infrastructure remains a problem for networks in disaster situations. Anthony Melone, vice president of network operations support for Verizon Wireless stated that Katrina "was probably the most severely impacted situation that we've experienced...There were a lot of unique learning experiences." Verizon Wireless' cellular phone coverage for Alabama, Louisiana, and Mississippi dipped to less than 50 percent of its full coverage, and about six percent of BellSouth's customer base — about 1.2 million users — lost landline telephone usage.

Source: http://www.gcn.com/vol1_no1/daily-updates/37515-1.html

27. *November 05, Secunia* — Macromedia Flash Player SWF file handling arbitrary code execution vulnerability. A vulnerability has been reported in Macromedia Flash Player which could be exploited to compromise a user's system. The vulnerability is caused due to missing validation of the frame-type identifier that is read from a SWF file. This value is used as an index in Flash.ocx to reference an array of function pointers. This can be exploited via a specially crafted SWF file to cause the index to reference memory that is under the attacker's control, which causes Flash Player to use attacker-supplied values as function pointers. Secunia recommends updating to Flash Player 8 (8.0.22.0) or apply Flash Player 7 update (7.0.61.0 or 7.0.60.0).

Source: <http://secunia.com/advisories/17430/>

28. *November 05, Zone h* — DSA 881-1: Openssl096 cryptographic weakness. A vulnerability has been found in the Open Secure Socket Layer (OpenSSL) library that can allow an attacker to perform active protocol-version rollback attacks which could lead to the use of the weaker SSL 2.0 protocol even though both ends support SSL 3.0 or TLS 1.0. Zone-h recommends the user to upgrade the libssl packages.

Source: <http://www.zone-h.org/advisories/read/id=8377>

29. November 04, Secunia — CuteNews "template" local file inclusion vulnerability. A vulnerability has been found in CuteNews which could be exploited by attackers to disclose sensitive information and compromise a vulnerable system. The vulnerability is caused when input passed to the "template" parameter in "show_archives.php" and "show_news.php" is not properly verified before it is used to include files. This can be exploited to include arbitrary files from local resources. This can further be exploited to execute arbitrary PHP code by including the "inc/ipban.mdu" script where PHP code can be injected via the "add_ip" parameter. Successful exploitation requires disabling of "magic_quotes_gpc." The vulnerability has been fixed in an updated 1.4.1 version (build 178).

Source: <http://secunia.com/advisories/17435/>

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 publicly available proof of concept code for an Oracle worm. Currently, US-CERT cannot confirm if this code works. We are working with Oracle to determine the threat posed by this code.

Although there is limited information concerning this potential threat, US-CERT strongly encourages Oracle system administrators to implement the following workarounds:

- * Change default user credentials for Oracle installations
- * Change the default port for the TNS listener
- * Restrict Oracle network access to trusted hosts only
- * Revoke CREATE DATABASE LINK privileges from the CONNECT role

US-CERT will continue to investigate the issue and provide updates as they become available. For more information, please review:

http://www.us-cert.gov/current/current_activity.htmloraclewm

Phishing Alert / Malicious Code: PayPal Traffic Redirection: US-CERT has received reports of a new attack that targets users of PayPal. The attack begins with a spoofed email phishing message that provides a link to download the executable PayPal security tool file. The executable, named PayPal-2.5.200-MSWin32-x86-2005.exe, is a Trojan Horse which modifies the DNS server of the local workstation and then deletes itself. All future requests for paypal.com will be transparently redirected to a phishing website. This same DNS server could also be used to redirect requests for additional websites, but it currently

appears to only redirect paypal.com. For more information please see:

<http://www.websensesecuritylabs.com/alerts/alert.php?AlertID=329>

XML-RPC for PHP Vulnerability Attack: SANS is reporting, " We have received a few reports on an attack exploiting xml-rpc for php vulnerability." xml-rpc for php is used in a large number of popular web applications such as PostNuke, Drupal, b2evolution, Xoops, WordPress, PHPGroupWare and TikiWiki. When exploited, this could compromise a vulnerable system. From the submitted logs, it attempts to wget a remote access Trojan from one system and using the Trojan to try to connect to another site via port 8080. SANS has posted new information and analysis on this attack. For more information, please see <http://isc.sans.org//diary.php?storyid=823>

Current Port Attacks

Top 10 Target Ports	35885 (---), 1026 (win-rpc), 445 (microsoft-ds), 6881 (bittorrent), 80 (www), 6346 (gnutella-svc), 25 (smtp), 135 (epmap), 1025 (win-rpc), 139 (netbios-ssn) Source: http://isc.incidents.org/top10.html ; Internet Storm Center
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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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Send mail to dhsdailyadmin@mail.dhs.osis.gov or contact the DHS Daily Report Team at (703) 983-3644.

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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.

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