



Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 18 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 the National Transportation Safety Board is investigating an incident where two jets came perilously close to colliding at Fort Lauderdale–Hollywood International Airport on November 9. (See item [8](#))
- Forbes reports the New York City Department of Health is expanding a computerized bioterrorism database of 600 possible diseases with symptoms and drug reactions, making it available to medical practitioners throughout the city. (See item [21](#))

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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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 17, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission* — **Commission temporarily eases natural gas construction rules to speed recovery from hurricanes.** The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) on Thursday, November 17, temporarily waived certain requirements to expedite the construction of natural gas infrastructure and mitigate supply disruptions caused by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. FERC Chairman Joseph T. Kelliher said: “Hurricanes Katrina and Rita did severe damage to our energy infrastructure. Twenty percent of the U.S. natural gas supply comes from the offshore Gulf, and much of that production remains shut in because of infrastructure damage. That is contributing to high natural gas prices. Our

action today will speed recovery from the hurricanes, and help bring additional gas supplies to market just when consumers need them the most.”

Source: <http://www.ferc.gov/press-room/pr-current/11-17-05-C-1.asp>

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Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials Sector

- 2. *November 16, Omaha Channel (NE)* — Five hospitalized after carbon monoxide leak in Nebraska.** A carbon monoxide leak sent several Millard meatpacking plant workers to a hospital in Omaha, NE. Omaha fire crews were called to Rabe's Quality Meats Wednesday, November 16. Battalion Chief John Kolbek said one of the building's large water heater units was malfunctioning and releasing large volumes of carbon monoxide. After the building was evacuated of about 120 employees, several employees complained of headaches and nausea. Three of them were taken to Clarkson Hospital for treatment. Two others were put in a hyperbaric chamber. "Carbon monoxide is always a life-threatening possibility, but fortunately, it was detected fast enough and we got the people out. We don't think anybody got hurt seriously," Kolbek said.

Source: <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/10071832/>

- 3. *November 16, KTSM-TV (TX)* — Gas line fire results in three injuries and nine homes left without gas or electricity.** A gas line caught fire just before 3 p.m. CST Wednesday, November 16, in Wheeling, TX. Texas Gas crews were on a routine job replacing a service line. They were welding near an area where a gas line plug was lost, which caused gas to be released and catch on fire. Texas Gas officials aren't sure exactly what sparked the flames. At one point flames were so high they ignited and burst through power lines. Nine homes were temporarily left without gas or electricity. One fire-fighter was injured. He fell into a hole that crews had dug to access the gas line. Two Texas gas workers also suffered minor injuries.

Source: http://www.ktsm.com/story_news.sstg?c=1356

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

- 4. *November 17, New York Times* — Shipbuilder seeks billions to repair hurricane damage.** The Navy is asking for \$2 billion in Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funds, saying in a memo that it wants to restore Northrop Grumman's three Gulf Coast shipyards, where most of the Navy's surface ships are built, to their pre-Katrina "capacity and profit opportunities." Most of this \$2 billion would be used to rewrite Northrop's usual contracts with the Navy to shift the full burden of hurricane-related cost overruns and shipbuilding delays from Northrop to the government. Shipyard delays, the Navy argues, only increase the cost of the ships, which already carry billion-dollar price tags.

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2005/11/17/business/17ship.html>

- 5. *November 16, Federal Computer Week* — Defense to hold security stand-down.** The Department of Defense (DoD) will hold a "security stand-down" November 29 to focus on

information assurance and network security. Military and civilian employees at the major commands, services and agencies will focus on better protecting DoD data and systems. One step will involve changing passwords, said Air Force Lt. Gen. Charlie Croom, director of the Defense Information Systems Agency and commander of the Joint Task Force for Global Network Operations. Croom said that some DoD officials are concerned about the amount of hardware and software manufactured overseas and whether they might incorporate malicious code. He said one way to fight the problem is to require companies to assure DoD that their products are safe and for the military to monitor them closely.

Source: <http://www.fcw.com/article91462-11-16-05-Web>

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Banking and Finance Sector

6. *November 17, Associated Press* — **Hackers access personal data of more than 5,000 students.** Personal information about nearly 5,300 Indiana University students might have been accessed by a computer hacker, school officials said. Technicians discovered during a routine scan that three malicious software programs had been installed on a Kelley School of Business instructor's computer in mid-August, said James Anderson, the school's director of information technology. The programs were accessed in early October, but it could not be determined whether any personal information was removed, the school said. A letter was sent Friday, November 11, to 5,278 students notifying them of the security breach. All of the students had been enrolled in an introduction to business course between 2001 and 2005. Indiana University is located in Bloomington, IN.

Source: <http://www.theindychannel.com/technology/5346888/detail.html?rss=ind&psp=news>

7. *November 16, Computing* — **UK government, banks and law enforcement share information to combat fraud.** Banks in the United Kingdom are working on a pilot project for sharing fraud data via a secure online site. The portal will pool data about fraud cases and the beneficiaries of fraudulent payments across the industry, rather than each bank looking at fraud in isolation. “The project is now in a pilot phase, with just a handful of banks involved,” said a spokesperson for financial services trade body Apacs. The scheme is the latest in series of initiatives involving the UK government, the financial services industry and law enforcement agencies to combat fraud and other financial crimes via closer collaboration and data sharing. A number of projects aimed at linking information from different organizations to provide more intelligence data are being worked on. The UK Insurance Fraud Bureau, set to be operational early next year, will use shared insurance data and new analytical techniques to detect organized fraud. Apacs and Cifas, the UK’s fraud prevention service, are looking at ways to share data about staff dismissed for dishonesty and fraud.

Source: <http://www.computing.co.uk/computing/news/2146195/banks-pool-fraud>

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Transportation and Border Security Sector

- 8.

November 17, Associated Press — **NTSB investigating jets in near collision at Florida airport.** Two airplanes came perilously close to colliding at Fort Lauderdale–Hollywood International Airport last week, sparking an investigation by the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) and raising questions about the safety of the runways and how incidents are reported. At 6:42 p.m. EST November 9, Broward air traffic controllers cleared for landing US Airways Flight 1251, a Boeing 737. On the runway, directly in US Airways' path, sat Comair Flight 5026, a CRJ–200 regional aircraft heading for Tallahassee. As the US Airways flight from Pittsburgh descended, its crewmembers became alarmed when they noticed Comair. The US Airways crew immediately communicated with the control tower, but got a second clearance to land, a safety official said. Seconds later, traffic controllers realized a disaster was about to happen. The two planes were as close as 100 feet. Traffic control alerted US Airways to “go around,” meaning back up, climb [back into the air], do not land. "From our viewpoint, this is an incident, this is a serious incident," said Lauren Peduzzi, spokesperson for the safety board.

Source: <http://www.airportbusiness.com/article/article.jsp?id=4282&siteSection=3>

9. *November 17, Associated Press* — **FAA: NWA met safety standards, but some concerns were valid.** The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has concluded that Northwest Airlines (NWA) met safety standards at the time an FAA inspector raised safety allegations back in August. "While the airline continued to meet its statutory responsibility, the inspector raised some allegations that were valid and enforcement investigations were initiated," the FAA said in a report released late Wednesday, November 16. On August 22, FAA inspector Mark Lund raised the safety concerns two days into a strike by the airline's mechanics. Lund claimed that NWA's actions in response to the strike were having an impact on safety. In its report, the FAA said it sent an investigative team to check out Lund's allegations. NWA spokesperson Kurt Ebenhoch said, "We believe the report both states and shows that Northwest is operating safely and that Northwest meets safety standards. It has always been our practice to meet with the FAA whenever an issue arises and resolve it, and that continues to be our practice." The FAA also said it was forming a new investigative team to look at additional allegations of NWA violations raised last month by the Department of Transportation inspector general's office.

Source: http://www.usatoday.com/travel/news/2005-11-17-nwa-safety_x.htm

10. *November 17, Associated Press* — **Mexican “port” set for mid–U.S.** Shipping American cars and electronics to Mexico may become much cheaper and faster early next year when the first Mexican customs facility in the United States is expected to open in the heart of the Midwest. Kansas City, MO, will soon start building an inland port that will send thousands of trucks through export inspections and then back out onto the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) corridor, where they can roll through the border without delays. The \$3 million facility, which would be the first foreign customs office inside the United States, will likely be approved by the U.S. and Mexican governments by year's end and is scheduled to open May 2006, said Chris Gutierrez, president of Kansas City SmartPort Inc., a nonprofit organization promoting the project. Planners say manufacturing industries in the upper Midwest and Canada would be the first to benefit from the new customs operation, which they believe could expand to handle cargo from across the country. Because so much trade between NAFTA partners is carried by truck, midwestern cities with good transportation infrastructure stand to capture some of that trade flow.

Source: <http://www.buffalonews.com/editorial/20051117/1041531.asp>

11. *November 16, Government Computer News* — **Lawmakers offer legislation to bolster port security.** Senators Susan Collins (R–ME) and Patty Murray (D–WA) are co–sponsoring bipartisan legislation to significantly improve security at more than 600 ports around the country. Their legislation, the GreenLane Maritime Cargo Security Act, would direct the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to prepare a strategic plan for supply chain security, addressing all modes of transportation by which cargo containers move through seaports in the United States. It also would require DHS to develop protocols for resuming trade activities at ports in the event of a terrorist attack. While DHS had planned to combine the port security grant program, which has awarded hundreds of millions of dollars to ports around the country for security efforts, with other security grant programs, the bill would create a dedicated competitive grants program for port security applications.

Source: http://www.gcn.com/vol1_no1/daily-updates/37575-1.html

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Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to report.

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Agriculture Sector

12. *November 16, Nebraska Department of Agriculture* — **Quarantine orders due to vesicular stomatitis released.** Nebraska State Veterinarian Dennis Hughes announced Wednesday, November 16, that the ranches in Scotts Bluff County that were placed under quarantine for vesicular stomatitis (VS) were released from those quarantine orders. The ranches were placed under quarantine in October as a precautionary measure to help protect the Nebraska herd's health and safety. "The animals on the ranches that were quarantined have been inspected and have met the appropriate waiting period to be released from quarantine," said Hughes.

VS information: <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/ceah/ncahs/nsu/surveillance/vsv/vsv.htm>

Source: <http://www.agr.ne.gov/newsrel/bai/11quarantine.htm>

13. *November 16, AScribe Newswire* — **Iowa State University takes steps to preserve world's oldest chicken lines.** The Iowa State University Poultry Research Center is home to the world's oldest inbred research lines of chickens. With the potential that something could happen to wipe them out, germplasm was recently submitted to a U.S. Department of Agriculture center so the lines are protected. "The chicken lines at Iowa State came from multiple origins, with the oldest dating back to 1925," said agriculture professor Susan Lamont. "Others began in the mid–1950s with the importation of lines originating in Egypt and Spain." This fall, more than 300 poultry semen samples from individual roosters at Iowa State's poultry research center were collected and transferred to the National Center for Genetic Resources Preservation. The center, in Fort Collins, CO, conserves genetic resources of animals and crops that are deemed important to U.S. agriculture and landscapes. The center doesn't routinely share the germplasm with researchers because of the limited collection, but ensures it will be available if other sources are somehow lost or destroyed.

Source: <http://newswire.ascribe.org/cgi-bin/ behold.pl?ascribeid=20051116.145251&time=15%2017%20PST&year=2005&public=0>

14. *November 16, Associated Press* — Mexico hopes to rid country of bird flu by end of 2006.

Mexico hopes to be able to declare all 31 states and the capital free from bird flu before the end of 2006, and will soon approve rules to deal with low-pathogenicity strains and other, more dangerous forms, officials said Wednesday, November 16. Currently, 15 Mexican states have been declared free of bird flu and work is being done in another 16 — most in the country's central region. The country has made "great progress" in combating the lower-risk form of bird flu and will be working with farmers to achieve disease-free certification, said Jose Antonio del Valle, director of animal health for Mexico's Agriculture Department.

Source: <http://www.billingsgazette.com/index.php?tl=1&display=rednews/2005/11/16/build/world/92-mexico.inc>

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Food Sector

15. *November 17, Canadian Press* — U.S. officials to seek lifting all mad cow restrictions.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture will propose by next year lifting all mad cow-related restrictions on imports of Canadian cattle, U.S. officials said Wednesday, November 16. The restrictions, in place since Canada's first case of mad cow disease was disclosed in 2003, were eased earlier this year to allow younger cattle to enter the U.S. A prohibition has remained on Canadian animals older than 30 months. Levels of infection from the disease are thought to increase with age. There has also been a ban on the shipment of Canadian beef and dairy breeding cattle to the U.S. Ron DeHaven, administrator of the department's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, said the rule will be proposed in six to eight months. Canada's push for the second rule is based on the same premise that supported the current rule that allowed the trade in young cattle to resume, namely that risk factors for bovine spongiform encephalopathy in Canada are no different than in the U.S.

Source: <http://canadaeast.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20051117/TPMONEY09/511170312/-1/MONEY>

16. *November 16, Food and Drug Administration* — Horse feed mix recalled.

Tennessee Farmers Cooperative (TFC) is voluntarily recalling four specific lots of a custom horse feed manufactured at TFC's feed mill in Rockford, TN, with the lot numbers 4276593638, 4283593638, 4287593638, or 4290593638. This feed was distributed between October 10 and 25, 2005, to five Co-op feed outlets in East Tennessee and one store in northeastern South Carolina. Laboratory testing has found a potentially harmful level of monensin sodium (Rumensin) in a bag from lot 4287593638, which has been implicated in equine deaths. Monensin sodium, a drug compound approved for use in some livestock species, can be fatal if fed to horses. If equine owners have fed these particular feeds to their horses, they should refrain from exercising their horses and immediately seek the services of a veterinarian. At this time, the limited recall only involves products with these specific lot numbers.

Source: http://www.fda.gov/oc/po/firmrecalls/tfc11_05.html

17. *November 01, California Agriculture* — **Research compares two cattle feed tests that detect bovine byproduct contaminants.** Preventing the spread of mad cow disease through contaminated cattle feed is a major concern of beef and dairy producers, regulators and consumers around the world. Routine testing of cattle feeds for the presence of banned substances is a critical control point in assuring animal health and food safety. Researchers compared the results of two test procedures — a real-time polymerase chain reaction (PCR) assay and a commercially available ruminant antibody detection kit — on five cattle rations spiked with bovine meat-and-bone meal, or with bovine dried blood. The real-time PCR consistently detected these contaminants at lower levels in each of these diverse cattle rations. Source: http://californiaagriculture.ucop.edu/0504OND/pdfs/BSEtest_Feed.pdf

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Water Sector

18. *November 16, Dayton Business Journal (OH)* — **Contract to support safe drinking water.** Three Ohio research centers were awarded a contract to safeguard drinking water. The University of Dayton Research Institute (UDRI) and YSI Inc. of Yellow Springs, along with the University of Cincinnati will develop a system to ensure drinking water is safe from a bioterrorist attack. The U.S. Army's Edgewood Chemical and Biological Center awarded the \$915,000 contract to the research centers for one year. The system will be small and portable so that U.S. troops overseas can implement it in the local water systems they use, which could be easily contaminated by harmful chemicals. The system will filter water through a membrane cartridge that has pores small enough to catch bioagents. The technology has been used in the past by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to catch parasites in surface water. This is the first time it has been used to detect bioagents from a terrorist threat, said Jay Johnson, leader of UDRI's chemicals and biological sensors group. Source: <http://dayton.bizjournals.com/dayton/stories/2005/11/14/daily16.html>

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Public Health Sector

19. *November 17, ANSA* — **Scientists working on "vegetable vaccination" project.** Common garden vegetables such as potatoes and carrots could help fend off a bioterrorist threat, Italian researchers said on Thursday, November 17. Speaking at a United States-Italian scientific conference, they explained that the combined efforts of experts from both countries had produced a "vegetable vaccination" project. Although still in the early stages, the scheme could eventually see the DNA of the smallpox virus introduced into that of carrots, potatoes, and other vegetable plants. Once eaten, the vegetables would stimulate the production of antibodies, helping the body's natural defenses fight off the disease. Researchers developed the idea as a way of avoiding the costly, often unpleasant process of giving injections. It would also cut out the risk of accidental contagion from the vaccination currently used, and make it far easier and safer to transport. The project is still "a long way" from becoming reality, said Giuseppe Ippolito, one of the project's directors, but if it comes to fruition, the vaccination process would be simpler, safer, and much easier to administer. The research, which is also looking at other

bioterrorist threats such as anthrax, is part of a much broader bilateral initiative launched more than two years ago.

Source: http://ansa.it/main/notizie/awnplus/english/news/2005-11-17_1863970.html

20. *November 17, Associated Press* — **Indonesia confirms new flu deaths.** Indonesia on Thursday, November 17, confirmed bird flu has killed two more people, raising that country's total deaths to seven. The World Health Organization (WHO) said tests sent to a Hong Kong laboratory came back positive for the H5N1 bird flu virus for a 20-year-old woman and a 16-year-old girl who both died last week, said WHO spokesperson Sari Setiogi.
Source: http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2005/11/17/health/main1052412_shtml

21. *November 16, Forbes* — **New York City expands use of bioterrorism database.** The New York Department of Health (NYDOH) has invested \$200,000 in a computerized database of photographs of smallpox and other diseases in various stages and on different skin types. The system allows clinicians to enter a list of symptoms, medical history, and exposure that returns nearly 600 possible diseases, drug reactions or infections with more than 10,000 pictures. The system was introduced as a pilot program in 2004, and on Wednesday, November 16, the NYDOH announced it is expanding the program into 25 emergency rooms and clinics throughout the city's five boroughs. More than 14,000 health care providers also have access to the database through the city's Internet-based Health Alert Network. Says Dr. Joel Ackelsberg, medical director of NYDOH's department of emergency readiness and response unit, "New York is a major point of interest [for bioterrorism]...So that's why we take preparedness very seriously." Ackelsberg says the NYDOH is "very keen on using IT-related resources" to combat bioterrorism, but cautions that though the system is clearly useful, he is not convinced that physicians are taking advantage of the technology. "Doctors are a difficult breed," he says. "It's hard to get them to change their ways."
Source: http://www.forbes.com/infoimaging/2005/11/16/smallpox-anthrax-diagnosis_cx_dal_1116bioterror.html

22. *November 16, Associated Press* — **Whooping Cough outbreaks plague Kansas.** Whooping cough cases have soared more than tenfold in Kansas so far this year compared to 2003, killing one young child and infecting people in 54 Kansas counties, health officials said Wednesday, November 16. The state's outbreak of whooping cough began at the end of last year and has continued through all of this year, said state epidemiologist Gail Hansen. Kansas had 44 whooping cough cases in 2003, according to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Last year the number of cases reached 250, and so far this year 465 cases have been reported, including a young child who died this summer. The numbers reflect confirmed and probable cases reported as of Tuesday, November 15. Hansen said, "There isn't any commonality we have found with people...Kansas is the only commonality we have found so far." Dr. William Schaffner, Vanderbilt University Medical Center chairman and a vaccine specialist for the National Foundation for Infectious Diseases says "That is a big spike." According to Schaffner, whooping cough outbreaks are spotty and do not affect all parts of the country simultaneously. "Whooping cough is always a cyclical disease...There would be more cases some years than others in great big cycles," he said.
Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2005/11/16/AR2005111602136.html>

23. *November 16, University of California at Berkeley* — Small groups of superspreaders lead to most infections, new study says. A detailed analysis of eight deadly diseases shows that a small subset of particularly infectious people can exert a powerful influence over how outbreaks progress. A research team led by the University of California, Berkeley, found that diseases such as Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) and measles are prone to "superspreading events" in which a few people, given the right conditions, can ignite explosive epidemics. However, the researchers say that such volatility also means that outbreaks are more likely to fizzle out relatively quickly. The findings were published Thursday, November 17, in the journal *Nature*. As for what characterizes a superspreader, the researchers say it depends upon the disease and other factors, including if a person has a job that brings him or her into frequent, close contact with a large number of people. In addition, people with compromised immune systems or who have concurrent infections — particularly ones that make a person cough or sneeze — may help transmit diseases more readily. Another common theme involves patients who are misdiagnosed or who do not seek treatment, so they go on infecting others for a longer time.

Source: http://www.berkeley.edu/news/media/releases/2005/11/16_super.shtml

24. *November 15, UK Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs* — UK: Query into quarantined bird deaths implicates Taiwan. Investigation of an avian influenza outbreak points to a shipment of finches from Taiwan as the carriers of the H5N1 virus found in a quarantine facility in Sussex, England. An epidemiology report published on November 15 by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) found that within the species documented as coming from Taiwan only the Mesias were infected with H5N1 and 53 out of 101 birds had died. In addition, infection with H5N1 was transmitted between the Mesias, but there is no evidence of transmission to other species in the facility including the sentinel birds. Chief Veterinary Officer Debby Reynolds said, "This report contains significant epidemiological findings and helps to further our understanding of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza. In particular the apparent lack of transmission of H5N1 between species in the facility will be of interest to the international community. The available evidence points to the Mesias, which were documented as imported from Taiwan, as the most likely source of the virus." On September 16, 148 parrots arrived from Surinam. On September 28, 186 birds documented as coming from Taiwan entered the facility. A number of birds died within the quarantine period.

DEFRA's full report: <http://www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/diseases/notifiable/disease/ai/index.htm>.

Source: <http://www.defra.gov.uk/news/2005/051115b.htm>

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Government Sector

Nothing to report.

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Emergency Services Sector

25. *November 17, Pioneer Press (MN)* — Minnesota disaster planners assess state's readiness.

In determining whether Minnesota is prepared for a large-scale, Hurricane Katrina-type disaster, the conclusion from a host of experts involved in disaster planning Wednesday, November 16, was, essentially, "sort of." For years, and particularly since 9/11, the state has been trying to plan for large disasters. But state, local and nonprofit officials told state senators Wednesday that Minnesota still has some serious gaps in planning, resources and staffing to deal with potential problems that might hit the state. Minnesota is well prepared to evacuate, shelter and help the victims of a disaster that might affect a few hundred or even a few thousand people, Tim Turnbull, of Hennepin County, MN, Metro Emergency Management, told the meeting of several Senate committees. But it is far less ready to deal with a disaster that might hit tens or hundreds of thousands of people. Minnesota officials have taken steps to deal with some of the problems that appeared in post-hurricane Louisiana. The Transportation Department is currently working on a metropolitan evacuation traffic plan. That plan largely relies on people walking and taking mass transit out of the state's large cities.

Source: <http://www.twincities.com/mld/twincities/news/politics/capitol/13186514.htm>

26. *November 17, Phoenixville News (PA)* — Pennsylvania tests disaster response at generating station.

Under the watchful eye of the federal government, the East Pikeland, PA, Emergency Management Agency (EMA) participated in and passed a Federal Disaster Preparedness exercise Tuesday evening, November 15. According to Christopher Brignola, East Pikeland's emergency management coordinator, the scope of the full-scale exercise was a response to a simulated incident at the Limerick Generating Station (LGS). According to Brignola, East Pikeland, an estimated 14 Chester County municipalities, the Counties of Chester, Berks and Montgomery, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Exelon, and the LGS power plant itself all coordinated a simultaneous response effort. "There is a 10-mile radius around the Limerick Power Plant called the Emergency Planning Zone. Each county and municipality located within this zone must maintain a Radiological Emergency Response Plan (RERP)." For Tuesday night's exercise, EMA fully activated the township's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) inside the Kimberton Fire House, and implemented the RERP for the simulated incidents at the LGS. "We had two representatives from the Federal Government evaluate our township's response," said Brignola. "The township properly implemented the emergency plan and fully satisfied all of the exercise objectives."

Source: http://www.phoenixvillenews.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=15590351&BRD=1673&PAG=461&dept_id=17915&rft=6

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Information Technology and Telecommunications Sector

Nothing to report.

[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 several vulnerabilities regarding the XCP Digital Rights Management (DRM) software by First 4 Internet, which is distributed by some Sony BMG audio CDs. The XCP copy protection software uses "rootkit" technology to hide certain files from the user. This technique can pose a security threat, as malware can take advantage of the ability to hide files. We are aware of malware that is currently using this technique to hide.

One of the un-installation options provided by Sony also introduces vulnerabilities to a system. Upon submitting a request to uninstall the DRM software, the user will receive via email a link to a Sony BMG web page. This page will attempt to install an ActiveX control when it is displayed in Internet Explorer. This ActiveX control is marked "Safe for scripting," which means that any web page can utilize the control and its methods. Some of the methods provided by this control are dangerous, as they may allow an attacker to download and execute arbitrary code.

For more information please review VU#312073 note: First 4 Internet XCP "Software Updater Control" ActiveX control incorrectly marked "safe for scripting."
<http://www.kb.cert.org/vuls/id/312073>

US-CERT recommends the following ways to help prevent the installation of this type of rootkit:

- * Do not run your system with administrative privileges. Without administrative privileges, the XCP DRM software will not install.
- * Use caution when installing software. Do not install software from sources that you do not expect to contain software, such as an audio CD.
- * Read the EULA (End User License Agreement) if you do decide to install software. This document can contain information about what the software may do.

Current Port Attacks

Top 10 Target Ports	6346 (gnutella-svc), 1026 (win-rpc), 445 (microsoft-ds), 6881 (bittorrent), 27015 (halflife), 80 (www), 6888 (muse), 25 (smtp), 135 (epmap), 32789 (---) 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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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.

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