Department of Homeland Security
Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report
for 03 May 2006

Daily Highlights

- A Bank of America report indicates that Africa provided more oil to the U.S. market in 2005 than did the Middle East; thus raising U.S. concerns about African political instability and the reliability of supplies. (See item 4)

- Reuters reports a bird flu vaccine currently being developed protects mice and ferrets against the H5N1 avian influenza virus, and offers potential value as a "universal" flu vaccine because it targets parts of the virus that all flu strains have. (See item 26)

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]

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1. *May 02, Associated Press* — **Bolivia nationalizes natural gas sector.** Bolivian President Evo Morales ordered the natural gas sector nationalized, threatening to evict foreign companies unless they cede control over production within six months. The bold stroke solidifies Morales' role along with Venezuela's Hugo Chavez and Cuba's Fidel Castro in Latin America's new axis of populist leaders opposed to U.S. and corporate influence in the region. About 100 soldiers peacefully took control of the Palmasola refinery owned by Brazil's Petroleo Brasileiro SA, or Petrobras, in Santa Cruz. The government said soldiers and engineers were sent to 56 locations around the country –– including gas fields tapped by foreign companies –– including Britain's

BG Group PLC and BP PLC, Petrobras, Spanish−Argentine Repsol YPF SA, France's Total SA, and Texas−based Exxon Mobil Corp. "The looting by the foreign companies has ended," Morales said. Morales added that the nationalization of the hydrocarbons sector "was just the beginning, because tomorrow it will be the mines, the forest resources and the land." Foreign companies extracting and exporting Bolivia's gas have invested about $3.5 billion over the last decade. But new investments have been largely frozen since last year over concerns about what Morales' nationalization plans would mean for producers.
Source: http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2006/05/02/ap/world/mainD8HBG BN05.shtml

2. *May 02, Courier (AR)* — **Exercise in emergency response at Arkansas Nuclear One plant.** On Tuesday, April 25 and Wednesday, April 26, officials at Arkansas Nuclear One (ANO) held a drill designed to show the plant's efficiency in dealing with a crisis situation. As part of the exercise, plant employees experienced a possible terrorist attack and a radiation leak that caused the facility to be shut down and evacuated. At 8:00 a.m., a call came in of a suspected "terrorist attack" in the Technical Support building. The participants in the drill immediately began to implement emergency operations procedures to get the proper actions in place to control the proposed incident. Personnel were notified to evacuate; the ANO fire brigade was sent in; ANO, county and state officials were briefed of the incident via page or fax; and the London Fire Department was seemingly dispatched. While that "blaze" was a false alarm, participants soon had to deal with a simulated earthquake and aftershocks which caused a mock release of radiation to spew out of the plant and into the air. Evaluators watched as news releases were sent out notifying the public of what had happened and as protocols were seemingly put into place regarding school evacuations and emergency care center staffing.
Source: http://www.couriernews.com/story.php?ID=11500

3. *May 01, Associated Press* — **Hurricanes destroyed 113 petroleum platforms.** Hurricanes Katrina and Rita destroyed 113 petroleum production platforms in the Gulf of Mexico, a federal agency overseeing offshore drilling said Monday, May 1. The storms also damaged 457 pipelines connecting production facilities in the Gulf and bringing oil and natural gas to shore −− a sharp rise from the 183 damaged pipelines identified in January, the Minerals Management Service (MMS) said. Officials have said that it is likely that as much as a fifth of the Gulf's normal daily oil production of 140,000 barrels will still be off market when the next hurricane season begins on June 1. The MMS warned that additional damage likely would be discovered as more underwater inspections are conducted. Of the 113 destroyed platforms, four replacements have been approved by the MMS. The agency said those will take the place of eight destroyed platforms with a pre−storm daily production of 16,700 barrels. MMS said six hurricane−related oil spills of at least 1,000 barrels were identified, the largest being 3,625 barrels.
Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp−dyn/content/article/2006/05 /01/AR2006050101205.html

4. *April 30, USA TODAY* — **Oil from Africa comes with political instability.** A new Bank of America report shows Africa provided more oil to the U.S. market in 2005 than the Middle East. The report warns that Africa suffers from political instability that also has raised U.S. concerns about the reliability of supplies from the Middle East. The report says the growing reliance on African producers is not making the U.S. supply network more secure. "America has become increasingly exposed to an unexpected or sudden drop in African oil production

due to its greater reliance on African oil," Joseph Quinlan of Bank of America writes in the report. The report put Nigeria at number five –– after Canada, Mexico, Saudi Arabia, and Venezuela –– on the list of top oil suppliers to the U.S. Imports of African oil reached 921 million barrels, or 18.7 percent of the U.S. total, in 2005. That surpassed imports from the Middle East, which were 839 million barrels, or 17 percent. Imports from Africa have increased by 51 percent since 2000 at the same time supplies from the Middle East fell from 900 million barrels to 839 million, or from 22 percent to 17 percent of total U.S. imports. That trend is likely to continue, Quinlan said.
Source: http://www.usatoday.com/money/world/2006–04–30–africa–oil–us at_x.htm?csp=34

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Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials Sector

5. *April 29, NBC 4i (OH)* — **Hazmat situation causes heavy delays in Ohio.** Traffic was backed up for hours on Friday, evening, April 28, on I–70 to the west of Columbus, OH, after a truck hauling 7,000 gallons of a degreasing chemical went off the road near the Madison–Clark county line. The highway reopened late Friday night.
Source: http://www.nbc4i.com/traffic/9084909/detail.html

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

6. *May 01, Associated Press* — **Boeing to acquire Aviall for $1.7 billion.** Boeing Co. announced its biggest acquisition Monday, May 1, in nearly a decade, agreeing to acquire aviation parts and services company Aviall Inc. for $1.7 billion in cash in a deal aimed at increasing its already large stakes in commercial and military aviation markets. The transaction was the first under Chairman and CEO Jim McNerney and was announced shortly before the company's annual shareholders meeting. If the deal is approved by regulators, Aviall will become a wholly owned subsidiary reporting to Boeing's commercial aviation services unit. Aviall is based in Dallas, TX, and has about 1,000 employees.
Source: http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/060501/boeing_aviall.html?.v=8

7. *May 01, Government Accountability Office* — **GAO–06–349: Defense Acquisitions: The Expeditionary Fighting Vehicle Encountered Difficulties in Design Demonstration and Faces Future Risks (Report).** The Marine Corps' Expeditionary Fighting Vehicle (EFV) is the Corps' number–one priority ground system acquisition program and accounts for 25.5 percent of the Corps' total acquisition budget for fiscal years 2006 through 2011. It will replace the current amphibious assault craft and is intended to provide significant increases in mobility, lethality, and reliability. The Government Accountability Office (GAO) reviewed the program under the Comptroller General's authority to examine (1) the cost, schedule, and performance of the EFV program during system development and demonstration; (2) factors that have contributed to this performance; and (3) future risks the program faces as it approaches production. GAO is making recommendations in this report to the Secretary of Defense that (1) the EFV program delay Milestone C until design maturity and other conditions are achieved,

and (2) draw lessons from the EFV experience that can be applied to other acquisition programs. The Department of Defense agreed with GAO's recommendations.
Highlights: http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d06349high.pdf
Source: http://www.gao.gov/cgi−bin/getrpt?GAO−06−349

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Banking and Finance Sector

8. *May 02, Canton Repository (OH)* — **Ohio University alumni at risk for identity theft.** Ohio University President Roderick McDavis announced Monday, May 1, that more than 300,000 alumni and friends of Ohio University −− not current students −− whose personal information may have been compromised when unauthorized access was gained to a computer system supporting alumni relations. Ohio University Associate Provost for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer Bill Sams said, "At this point, we have no evidence of illegal use of the breached information." The breached computer system contained biographical information on more than 300,000 individuals and organizations, including the Social Security numbers of more than 137,000 people. The files did not contain credit−card or bank information. The security violation was discovered on Monday, April 24. The FBI is investigating the incident, and university officials said the college will hire an outside consultant to assess its computer information systems. A separate security breach occurred at the college on Friday, April 21, when office files were compromised at its Technology Transfer Department. The files included e−mails, patent, and intellectual property files.
Source: http://www.cantonrep.com/index.php?ID=283728&Category=13

9. *May 01, SC Magazine (UK)* — **Symantec unveils Phish Report Network.** On Monday, May 1, Symantec unveiled its Phish Report Network, a community−based service that provides paying members with updated lists of fraudulent Web addresses. Companies whose names frequently are used in phishing schemes and security vendors voluntarily contribute URLs they have identified as bogus to the reporting network, said Dave Cole of Symantec Security Response. Symantec collects the data, vets the URLs to determine if they are fraudulent and then distributes the information to paying members, who typically include Internet service and e−mail providers, Cole said.
Source: http://www.scmagazine.com/uk/news/article/556591/symantec+unveils+phish+report+network/

10. *May 01, WTHR TV (IN)* — **Chase warns customers of e−mail scam.** Thousands of Chase bank customers have received a fake alert asking for personal information. The e−mail looks authentic and uses the bank's logo. Chase, formerly known as Bank One, is one of the largest banks hit locally by Internet phishing. Chase counts nearly a quarter of the Indianapolis market as its customers, giving scam artists a big pool. It's not just phishing but a phony police officer now elevating Chase concerns. Four elderly residents were conned out of their money by a man claiming he was a police investigator. Two of the victims, who were Chase customers, were driven to their banks to withdraw money. Chase would not say how many of its customers have fallen prey to the e−mails.
Source: http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/12582070/

11. *April 30, Websense Security Labs* — **Phishing Alert: Middlesex Savings Bank.** Websense Security Labs has received reports of a new phishing attack that targets customers of Middlesex Savings Bank, which is based in Massachusetts. Users receive a spoofed e−mail message, which claims that they must confirm their account or risk deactivation. This message provides a link to a phishing Website that prompts users to enter account information.
Source: http://www.websensesecuritylabs.com/alerts/alert.php?AlertID =477

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Transportation and Border Security Sector

12. *May 02, Morning Call (PA)* — **Rail restoration project gains momentum.** Pennsylvania and New Jersey officials gathered Monday, May 1, in a show of support for plans to restore passenger rail service from northeastern Pennsylvania through the Poconos to New York City. The gathering at Steamtown National Historic Site was arranged by U.S. Senator Arlen Specter, R−PA, who said 2,800 people a day −− or more than one million a year −− would ride the rail line. The planned line would provide service to Hoboken, NJ, with connecting trains transferring passengers to New York City. Officials also announced that plans to create a single rail authority for Monroe and Lackawanna counties are progressing. Frank Reilly, chairman of the Bistate Technical Evaluation Committee, which includes representatives from Lackawanna and Monroe counties in Pennsylvania and Sussex, Warren, and Morris counties in New Jersey, said Interstate 80 regularly clogs with traffic.
Source: http://www.mcall.com/news/local/all−b1−1rail−3rmay02,0,34963 48.story?coll=all−news−hed

13. *May 02, Associated Press* — **Airport gives town money to hire police.** Police in Londonderry, NH, soon may be patrolling Manchester−Boston Regional Airport. The airport has given the town $45,000 to begin a hiring search for more than 20 new officers. Town Manager Dave Caron said the agreement was the first official step toward allowing the town to take over airport security from the Rockingham County Sheriff's Department. The money probably will be used to run background checks on the applicants.
Source: http://www.boston.com/news/local/new_hampshire/articles/2006 /05/02/airport_gives_londonderry_money_to_begin_police_searc h/

14. *May 02, Department of Transportation* — **Secretary Mineta outlines president's plan to confront high gas prices.** Department of Transportation Secretary Norman Y. Mineta was in Charlotte, NC, on Tuesday, May 2, to promote the President Bush's four−part plan to address rising gas prices and encourage greater transit use as an alternative for commuters. Mineta said the President's plan will help ensure that all consumers are treated fairly by investigating whether the price of gasoline has been unfairly manipulated since last year's hurricanes and extending tax credits to consumers who buy hybrid and clean diesel vehicles this year. The plan also would boost supplies of gasoline over the short term by putting a temporary freeze on deposits to the nation's strategic petroleum reserve, and encouraging additional future oil exploration and new refinery capacity, Mineta said. Mineta noted that transit systems in many cities, including Ft. Lauderdale, Dallas, and Kansas City were seeing dramatic increases in ridership this year. He added that the Department was investing in transit systems to continue to make commuting a viable, gas saving option.

Source: http://www.dot.gov/affairs/dot5306.htm

15. *May 01, Reuters* — **JetBlue, Verizon qualify for wireless auction.** Units of JetBlue Airways Corp. and Verizon Communications Inc. qualified on Monday, May 1 to bid in a May 10 sale of U.S. wireless airwaves to be used for high−speed communications services aboard passenger airplanes. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) said it has approved the applications of Verizon Airfone Inc. and JetBlue's LiveTV LCC to participate in the auction, almost a month after their initial applications were deemed incomplete by the agency. The airwaves to be sold include those licensed to Verizon's Airfone service, which offers service through phones embedded in airline passenger seats, but which are not used regularly because of the high cost. The financially strapped airline industry could generate a new stream of revenue by partnering with companies wanting to offer high−speed Internet, known as broadband, or a cheaper on−board telephone service. The FCC is also weighing whether to allow consumers to use their own cell phones on planes, but that would need agreement from aviation regulators.
Source: http://biz.yahoo.com/rb/060501/telecoms_wireless_airplanes.h tml?.v=3

16. *April 30, South Florida Sun−Sentinel* — **As cruise ships get bigger, evacuation in an emergency becomes tougher.** When the new Freedom of the Seas sails next month, it will make history as the largest cruise ship, a behemoth built to carry more than 5,000 people. Unlike the airline industry, however, cruise lines don't have to prove they can get every passenger off their ships within a set time. Routine lifeboat drills are done without passengers because of the risk of injury. "It's just too dangerous," said Jack Westwood−Booth, head of marine technology at the International Maritime Organization, which sets safety rules at sea. It's so dangerous that beginning July, the organization will drop a requirement that crews board lifeboats during drills because too many seamen have been killed or injured in accidents. While some lines plan no changes, the new rule could leave sailors even less prepared in emergencies, such as the fire on a Princess Cruises ship last month that killed one passenger and injured 13. Cruise lines do simulate emergencies for internal readiness. And shipyards are starting to use computer generations of emergencies to design ships. But as ships grow, so does the potential for catastrophe, critics say.
Source: http://www.sun−sentinel.com/news/local/southflorida/sfl−sbev acuation30apr30,0,7270340.story?coll=sns−newsnation−headline s&track=mostemailedlink

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Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to report.
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Agriculture Sector

17. *May 02, Kentucky Ag Connection* — **Communications enable Kentucky Department of Agriculture to respond to emergency.** The Kentucky Department of Agriculture (KDA) is prepared to respond quickly to an emergency, thanks to a new $101,800 mobile command

center. The mobile command center is a 44–foot trailer outfitted with radios and other equipment, allowing it to communicate with other state, federal and local authorities. The unit will be staffed by KDA officials and towed to the scene of an agricultural emergency such as a foreign animal disease outbreak. Generators allow it to operate in areas without electricity.
KDA Website: http://www.kyagr.com/
Source: http://www.kentuckyagconnection.com/story–state.cfm?Id=236&y r=2006

18. *May 02, Ohio Ag Connection* — **Ohio Department of Agriculture expands Emerald Ash Borer quarantine.** The Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) Monday, May 1, announced an expansion in its Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) quarantine to control the ash tree–killing insect. It is now illegal for citizens to take ash tree material and firewood out of Orange Township, Delaware County. The department's quarantine prohibits the movement of potentially infested material to halt the artificial spread of EAB. Businesses or woodlot owners within the quarantined area interested in marketing and transporting ash trees out of the quarantined area can do so only with an ODA–approved compliance agreement.
ODA Website: http://www.ohioagriculture.gov/
Source: http://www.ohioagconnection.com/story–state.cfm?Id=252&yr=20 06

19. *May 01, AgProfessional* — **Veterinary network should help spur vaccine development.** According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Healthy Animals newsletter, scientists with the Agricultural Research Service Henry A. Wallace Beltsville Agricultural Research Center will join scientists from around the U.S. and the world in a new project that will ultimately accelerate the characterization and treatment of a range of animal diseases. The U.S. Veterinary Immune Reagent Network project will help researchers develop tools needed to create improved vaccines and tests for animal diseases that threaten agriculture and the food supply. It is designed to coordinate efforts of the veterinary immunology research community.
For more information: http://www.ars.usda.gov/is/np/ha/han25.htm
Source: http://www.agprofessional.com/show_story.php?id=40105

20. *May 01, Bloomberg* — **China discovers outbreak of foot–and–mouth disease.** China discovered the second outbreak in two months of foot–and–mouth disease among livestock in the western province of Qinghai. Symptoms of the Asian I strain of foot–and–mouth were discovered in four dairy cows on a farm in Haiyan County on Wednesday, April 26, the Ministry Of Agriculture said in a statement on its Website Sunday, April 30. The national foot–and–mouth disease reference laboratory confirmed the outbreak, it said.
Source: http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=10000080&sid=ay1lvc.B TBNI&refer=asia

21. *April 20, University of California–Berkeley* — **Sudden Oak Death introduced into U.S., study finds.** A genetic analysis of 151 isolates of the Sudden Oak Death pathogen provides new evidence that the commercial plant trade possibly helped introduce the microbe to the United States, according to plant pathologists at the University of California, Berkeley. The study, in the May issue of the journal Molecular Ecology and published online on Thursday, April 13, has potentially shed light on how Phytophthora ramorum –– the pathogen responsible for Sudden Oak Death –– may have been unwittingly introduced into the United States. In the study, a single lineage was found in isolates taken from U.S. forests, and a second distinct lineage was found in samples from European nurseries. It was determined that the isolates from

U.S. forests could be traced back to a single individual strain. While both lineages had been identified previously, the discovery of a new, third lineage in U.S. nurseries was a surprise to the researchers. The third lineage of P. ramorum was present, along with the other two known lineages, in nurseries from Washington state. The authors indicate that because native pathogens are characterized by great genetic diversity, the lack of such diversity in U.S. forests shows that the disease was introduced.
Abstract: http://www.blackwell−synergy.com/doi/abs/10.1111/j.1365−294X .2006.02864.x
Full text article available for purchase.
Source: http://www.berkeley.edu/news/media/releases/2006/04/20_oakde ath.shtml

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Food Sector

22. *May 02, USAgNet* — **U.S. beef industry will experience higher costs, lower prices.** In a near "perfect storm" of market forces this summer, the U.S. beef industry will experience higher costs, and lower prices along with oversupplies of competing proteins, including pork and poultry. Normal seasonal increases in beef supply will soon be compounded by heavy feedlot placements, due in part to drought in the southern plains, as well as higher carcass weights. Additionally, poultry supply has increased, due in part to international avian flu fears, which has quickly cost the domestic poultry industry as much as two−thirds of its export market.
Source: http://www.usagnet.com/story−national.cfm?Id=792&yr=2006

23. *May 02, Food Production Daily (Europe)* — **'Mild' form of bird flu spreads in UK, worker infected.** Two more farms in the Norfolk area of the UK are now under quarantine as the country battles a milder form of the avian influenza virus. The spread of the virus in domestic poultry is bound to heighten public fears about the safety of poultry in the UK. Over the weekend, the country's chief veterinary officer confirmed that tests have provided positive results for avian influenza in chickens on two poultry farms near Dereham, Norfolk. The preliminary results indicate it is H7N3, a milder form of the highly pathogenic H5N1 virus. The poultry flocks were kept outdoors. About 15,000 birds were being culled starting Sunday, April 30, as the battle to stop the virus spreading intensified in the area. Earlier last week about 35,000 chickens were culled at a nearby farm after H7N3 was found in dead poultry. Authorities say the virus was probably transmitted to the other two farms through a breakdown in the quarantine restrictions. The Health Protection Agency also confirmed that a poultry worker at the first farm is suffering from conjunctivitis caused by H7N3 avian influenza.
Source: http://www.foodproductiondaily.com/news/ng.asp?n=67427−bird− flu−h−n−poultry

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Water Sector

24. *May 01, San Francisco Examiner* — **San Francisco plans for water emergency.** The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) is preparing to drill more wells between Daly City and San Bruno to provide additional water during a drought or emergency. The SFPUC plans to drill 10 new wells into what is known as the Westside Basin aquifer to get access to the

water, a $39 million project budgeted as part of the SFPUC's Water System Improvement Program. The commission will issue a call for bids at the end of this month for a consultant to plan where the wells should be located, SFPUC project manager Greg Bartow said. "We want to develop seven million gallons a day of new dry−year supply from this project," Bartow said. "This is a regional benefit."
Source: http://www.examiner.com/a−94511~SFPUC_plans_for_water_emerge ncy.html

25. *March 31, Government Accountability Office* — **GAO−06−390: Securing Wastewater Facilities: Utilities Have Made Important Upgrades but Further Improvements to Key System Components May Be Limited by Costs and Other Constraints (Report).** Wastewater facilities provide essential services to residential, commercial, and industrial users, yet they may possess certain characteristics that terrorists could exploit to impair the wastewater treatment process or to damage surrounding infrastructure. For example, large underground collector sewers could be accessed by terrorists for purposes of placing destructive devices beneath buildings or city streets. The Government Accountability Office (GAO) was asked to determine (1) what federal statutory authorities and directives govern the protection of wastewater treatment facilities from terrorist attack, (2) what steps critical wastewater facilities have taken since the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, (9/11) to ensure that potential vulnerabilities are addressed, and (3) what steps the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) have taken to help these facilities in their efforts to address such vulnerabilities. GAO is recommending that EPA work with DHS to identify areas where the Water ISAC and HSIN could be better coordinated, focusing on (1) how duplications and overlap could be addressed, and (2) how water systems' access to critical information could be improved. GAO also recommends that EPA help identify time frames to complete these tasks. EPA and DHS generally agreed with the report.
Highlights: http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d06390high.pdf
Source: http://www.gao.gov/cgi−bin/getrpt?GAO−06−390

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Public Health Sector

26. *May 02, Reuters* — **Bird flu vaccine stops H5N1, maybe others.** A bird flu vaccine being developed protects mice and ferrets against the feared H5N1 avian influenza virus, Vical Incorporated said on Tuesday, May 2. It may also offer potential as a "universal" flu vaccine because it targets parts of the virus that all flu strains have, Vical and researchers testing the shot said. This so−called cross−protection would mean that new vaccines would not have to be formulated every flu season and could provide a chance to stockpile vaccine ahead of a pandemic. "A vaccine that provides cross−protection against more than one strain of flu is important for addressing a pandemic flu threat because it is likely that the H5N1 virus could mutate before it becomes transmissible from human to human," Dr. Richard Webby of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, TN, said. Current vaccines activate an immune response against the most mutation−prone regions of the virus, which is why they must be changed every year. For this reason, experimental H5N1 vaccines being worked on now are unlikely to provide very good protection against a future pandemic strain.
Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp−dyn/content/article/2006/05 /02/AR2006050200385.html

27. *May 01, Reuters* — **Travel restrictions useless against bird flu: study.** Restricting air travel is unlikely to stop a flu pandemic, and even the fastest action will merely delay it by a few months, British researchers said on Monday, May 1. Their study highlights what most flu experts have been saying: until a vaccine can be developed, society is virtually helpless to stop a mutant form of avian influenza. Ben Cooper and colleagues at the Center for Infections at Britain's Health Protection Agency used mathematical modeling to first calculate the spread of a historic pandemic –– the relatively mild 1968–1969 influenza. Then they modeled several different scenarios for the spread of H5N1 avian influenza into people. "We show that under most scenarios restrictions on air travel are likely to be of surprisingly little value in delaying epidemics, unless almost all travel ceases very soon after epidemics are detected," they wrote in the online journal, Public Library of Science Medicine. "Even if 99.9 percent of all travel could be stopped, epidemics in most cities would be delayed by no more than four months." The researchers used data from the International Air Transport Association for 2002 that gave the number of seats on flights between 105 cities.
Study: http://dx.doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.0030212
Source: http://today.reuters.com/news/articlenews.aspx?type=scienceN ews&storyid=2006−05−02T005222Z_01_N01190923_RTRUKOC_0_US−BIR DFLU−RESTRICTIONS.xml

28. *May 01, Reuters* — **Vaccine plus antibiotics protects against anthrax.** Combining an anthrax vaccine with a short course of antibiotics completely protected monkeys who inhaled spores of the often−deadly bacteria, offering perhaps a more realistic way to protect people in case of a biological attack, researchers said on Monday, May 1. The finding suggests it may be possible to vaccinate people who have been exposed to anthrax spores, and give them a short, two−week course of antibiotics to provide extra protection while their immune system gears up, the researchers report in this week's issue of the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. This could be a more useful way to treat people who are exposed to inhaled anthrax than the current regime of taking antibiotics every day for two months, the team at the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases and the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases said. "This provides direct evidence that the combination of anthrax vaccine with a short course of antibiotics given post exposure can completely protect nonhuman primates from inhalational anthrax," said Dr. Arthur Friedlander.
Source: http://today.reuters.com/news/articlenews.aspx?type=healthNe ws&storyid=2006−05−01T215328Z_01_N01185814_RTRUKOC_0_US−ANTH RAX.xml

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Government Sector

29. *May 02, KTHV (AR)* — **Hostage crisis: More courthouse security may be needed.** Pulaski County, AR, Judge Buddy Villines says he still believes the courthouse is safe after a security incident Friday, April 28, but he says the county does need to take a second look at security procedures. Sheriff's Deputy Joyce May was held hostage by an inmate for an hour after he apparently got away from law enforcers. An inmate brought to the Pulaski County Courthouse is handled by two separate law enforcement groups. Sheriff's deputies handle security to the courthouse and bailiffs handle the movement of inmates though the building. Their policies

don't always match−up. In fact, each of the more than a dozen judges in the courthouse can have their own security polices. County Judge Buddy Villines says he would support a policy where bailiffs follow a single set of rules −− keeping inmates handcuffed as they move though the courthouse. The entire incident is a concern for courthouse employees.
Source: http://www.todaysthv.com/news/news.aspx?storyid=27746

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Emergency Services Sector

30. *May 02, WIFR−TV (IL)* — **Local Illinois departments participate in ethanol emergency drill.** On the morning of Saturday, April 29, ambulances and fire trucks descended on the Adkins Ethanol Plant near Lena, IL, as part of a simulated ethanol accident. The exercise was designed to teach firefighters and Hazmat crews how to act in the event of a real ethanol emergency. Unlike oil spills, ethanol spills are not an environmental hazard. Firefighters are able to control the spill by dousing it with water.
Source: http://www.wifr.com/home/headlines/2718236.html

31. *May 01, Hibbing Daily Tribune (MN)* — **Fire departments, first responders practice hands−on in deep water.** The Buck Lake First Responders and Nashwauk and Keewatin Fire Departments of Minnesota moved their rescue equipment and trucks to the O'Brien Reservoir on Saturday, April 29, from 8:00 a.m. to noon to practice cold−water rescue. The teams used rescue ropes, rubber rafts, and more complex devices such as a small−pontoon boat called "Rescue Alive" where an individual paddles out to a drowning victim, wraps him in a harness, and then pulls him aboard using special bars built into the boat. Not only is the equipment important, but the people using it. The teams played out various scenarios of the drowning with nine key players in the rescue team and a victim. While spotters play a crucial role on the shoreline using various techniques to pinpoint the victim, others, like an incident commander, were responsible for giving instructions directly to the rescuer. Another very important role was a safety officer who observes the security of the overall operation and is accountable for all those involved. While the practice was a great refresher for many, Keewatin Fire Chief Jeff Graves said one of the most important skills they practiced was making good use of voices over radio and hand signals.
Source: http://www.hibbingmn.com/dailytribune/index.php?sect_rank=1&story_id=208743

32. *May 01, Government Accountability Office* — **GAO−06−454: Hurricane Katrina: Army Corps of Engineers Contract for Mississippi Classrooms (Report).** In the wake of Hurricane Katrina, the Federal Emergency Management Agency tasked the Army Corps of Engineers to purchase temporary classrooms for Mississippi schools. To accomplish its task, the Corps placed a $39.5 million order with Akima Site Operations for the purchase and delivery of 450 such classrooms. The Government Accountability Office (GAO) received an allegation on its Fraud Hotline that the Corps paid inflated prices for the classrooms, and in response, GAO reviewed the facts and circumstances related to the Corps' issuance of the order. GAO is making no recommendations in this report. In written comments, the Department of Army recognized that under trying conditions mistakes are possible and plans to include the temporary classroom procurement in its remedial action program review. In its comments, Akima believes that the report does not provide a complete picture of the circumstances related

to the contract to obtain, transport, and set up the classrooms. GAO's findings are based on information relevant to the review objective.

Highlights: http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d06454high.pdf

Source: http://www.gao.gov/cgi−bin/getrpt?GAO−06−454

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Information Technology and Telecommunications Sector

33. *May 02, Security Focus* — **Oracle 10g DBMS_EXPORT_EXTENSION SQL injection vulnerability.** Oracle 10g is prone to an SQL injection vulnerability. An attacker could exploit this to gain DBA privileges. Analysis: This vulnerability was initially thought to have been fixed as part of the Oracle April 2006 Security Update (BID 17590), but this issue reportedly wasn't patched. A list of vulnerable products is available at:
http://www.securityfocus.com/bid/17699/info
Solution: Currently, Security Focus is not aware of any vendor−supplied patches for this issue.
Source: http://www.securityfocus.com/bid/17699/references

34. *May 02, Reuters* — **Microsoft may delay Windows Vista again: Gartner.** Microsoft Corp.'s long−awaited release of the upgrade to its flagship Windows operating system will likely be delayed again by at least three months, research group Gartner Inc. said on Tuesday, May 2. The research note, released to clients on Monday, May 1, said the new Windows Vista operating system is too complex to be able to meet Microsoft's targeted November release for volume license customers and January launch for retail consumers.
Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/nm/20060502/tc_nm/microsoft_vista_dc
;_ylt=Ao2Kj1kJXmuHA72MBGpKn88jtBAF;_ylu=X3oDMTA5aHJvMDdwBHNl
YwN5bmNhdA−−

35. *May 01, Security Focus* — **Apple Mac OS X ImageIO OpenEXR image file remote denial−of−service vulnerability.** ImageIO is susceptible to a remote denial−of−service vulnerability. This issue is due to a failure to properly process malicious OpenEXR image files. Analysis: This issue allows remote users to crash applications that use the ImageIO API, denying further service to users. For a complete list of vulnerable products:
http://www.securityfocus.com/bid/17768/info
Solution: Currently, Security Focus is not aware of any vendor−supplied patches for this issue.
Source: http://www.securityfocus.com/bid/17768/references

36. *May 01, Websense Security Labs* — **Malicious code alert: "Nugache" worm/bot using P2P control channel.** Websense Security Labs has received several reports of a new worm, "Nugache", which is spreading on AOL/MSN Instant Messenger networks and as an e−mail attachment by exploiting several workstation vulnerabilities. The worm opens a back door on TCP port 8, and installs a bot to wait for commands from the attacker. The command and control channel that is used is unique, as the bot appears to connect to infected peers instead of a static list.
Source: http://www.websensesecuritylabs.com/alerts/alert.php?AlertID =478

37. *May 01, Tech Web* — **Smarter spam could mimic friends' mail.** The next generation of spam and phishing e−mails could fool both software filters and the most cautious people, Canadian researchers said Sunday, April 30, by mimicking the way friends and real companies write messages. John Aycock, an assistant professor of computer science at the University of Calgary, and his student, Nathan Friess, explained that tomorrow's criminals could plant malicious programs on compromised computers. Those programs would scan the e−mail in the zombie's inbox, mine it for information and writing patterns, then crank out realistic−looking replies to real messages.
Source: http://www.techweb.com/headlines_week/showArticle.jhtml?arti cleId=187002202

38. *April 30, SecuriTeam* — **Firefox code execution.** Improper handling of Javascript content allows attackers to execute arbitrary code and crash Mozilla Firefox. Analysis: By using the Javascript bellow, Firefox will have a buffer overflow when it will attempt to use the new iframe that was written. Vulnerable systems: Firefox 1.5.0.2. Proof of concept available in source advisory.
Source: http://www.securiteam.com/securitynews/5AP040AIKO.html

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 exploit code and materials explaining how to exploit a race condition vulnerability in Sendmail. Sendmail improperly handles asynchronous signals causing a race condition vulnerability. Successful exploitation may allow a remote, unauthenticated attacker to execute arbitrary commands with the privileges of the user. For more information please review the following:

TA06−081A − Sendmail Race Condition Vulnerability
http://www.us−cert.gov/cas/techalerts/TA06−081A.html

VU#834865 − Sendmail contains a race condition
http://www.kb.cert.org/vuls/id/834865

Sendmail MTA Security Vulnerability Advisory
http://www.sendmail.com/company/advisory/

US−CERT recommends the following actions to mitigate the security risks:

Upgrade to the latest version: Sendmail 8.13.6.
http://www.sendmail.org/releases/8.13.6.html

Review the Sendmail MTA Security Vulnerability Advisory for steps to reduce the

impact of this vulnerability. http://www.sendmail.com/company/advisory/#mitigation

US−CERT is not aware of any working exploit code at this time.

Phishing Scams
US−CERT continues to receive reports of phishing scams that target online users and Federal government web sites. US−CERT encourages users to report phishing incidents based on the following guidelines:

Federal Agencies should report phishing incidents to US−CERT.
http://www.us−cert.gov/nav/report_phishing.html

Non−federal agencies and other users should report phishing incidents to Federal Trade Commissions OnGuard Online. http://onguardonline.gov/phishing.html

Current Port Attacks

Top 10 Target Ports	38566 (−−−), 1026 (win−rpc), 6881 (bittorrent), 445 (microsoft−ds), 25 (smtp), 50497 (−−−), 6348 (−−−), 135 (epmap), 55620 (−−−), 32459 (−−−)

Source: http://isc.incidents.org/top10.html; Internet Storm Center

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US−CERT at soc@us−cert.gov or visit their Website: www.us−cert.gov.

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: https://www.it−isac.org/.

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Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument &Icons Sector

39. *May 01, Government Accountability Office* — **GAO−06−671R: Wildland Fire Management: Update on Federal Agency Efforts to Develop a Cohesive Strategy to Address Wildland Fire Threats (Correspondence).** The wildland fire problems facing the U.S. continue to grow. The number of acres burned by wildland fires annually from 2000 to 2005 was 70 percent greater than the average burned annually during the 1990s, while appropriations for the federal government's wildland fire management activities tripled from about $1 billion in fiscal year 1999 to nearly $3 billion in fiscal year 2005. Experts believe that catastrophic damage from wildland fire probably will continue to increase until an adequate long−term federal response, coordinated with others, is implemented and has had time to take effect. In the past seven years, the federal government has made important progress in putting into place basic components of a framework for managing and responding to the nation's wildland fire problems. The Government Accountability Office (GAO) was asked to provide information on (1) the progress that the Departments of Agriculture and the Interior have made over the past year in developing a tactical plan outlining the steps and time frames needed to complete a cohesive strategy for addressing wildland fire threats; and (2) the agencies' efforts to address the challenges GAO believes they are likely to face as they develop this cohesive strategy.
Source: http://www.gao.gov/cgi−bin/getrpt?GAO−06−671R

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<u>General Sector</u>

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

<u>DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information</u>

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.

<u>Contact DHS</u>

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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