



# Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 19 May 2006

Current  
Nationwide  
Threat Level is

**ELEVATED**  
SIGNIFICANT RISK OF  
TERRORIST ATTACKS

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## Daily Highlights

- The Times of Trenton reports that for the fourth time in less than three years, Wells Fargo mortgage holders have been notified that a computer storing their Social Security numbers and other private information has been stolen. (See item [6](#))
- The Associated Press reports a United Airlines flight to Denver was forced to make an emergency landing in Portland, Oregon, after an indicator light showed an inflatable emergency slide had deployed. (See item [13](#))
- The Transportation Security Administration has announced requirements designed to protect the more than 50,000 tons of cargo that is transported aboard passenger and cargo aircraft each day, marking the first substantial changes to air cargo regulations since 1999. (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](#)

Sustenance and Health: [Agriculture](#); [Food](#); [Water](#); [Public Health](#)

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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. *May 17, New York Times* — **Natural gas offices raided.** European Commission antitrust officials have raided the offices of some of the Continent's largest natural gas companies as part of an investigation of the energy sector, regulators said Wednesday, May 17. Gaz de France, E.ON Ruhrgas and RWE of Germany, Distrigas and Fluxys of Belgium, and OMV of Austria

all received surprise visits Tuesday, the companies confirmed. Companies in Italy and Hungary were also subjected to raids, the commission said. Describing the raids as "a preliminary step," the commission said in a statement that the companies targeted might have abused their dominant positions on their local markets. The inquiry started last year because the commission suspected some countries' efforts to open national energy markets to competition had failed. Source: <http://www.iht.com/articles/2006/05/17/business/raid.php>

2. *May 17, Associated Press* — **Ameren shuts down nuclear plant for second time in one week.** For the second time in less than a week, Ameren Corp. has shut down its Callaway nuclear plant near St. Louis, MO, for repairs. The company said the plant was shut down Wednesday, May 17, to fix a steam valve in a part of the plant separate from the nuclear reactor. The repair is not an emergency and poses no threat to the public. Ameren shut the plant Friday, May 12, after detecting high vibrations in a power turbine. The plant reopened without incident. Ameren says it hasn't found a connection between the two shutdowns. Source: <http://www.dfw.com/mld/dfw/business/14603487.htm>

3. *May 17, Canadian Press* — **Husky Energy reports gas discovery in central Mackenzie Valley, Canada.** Husky Energy Inc. announced a natural gas discovery in the central Mackenzie Valley of the Northwest Territories and said it has acquired more land in the area in a recent government sale. Calgary-based Husky said Wednesday, May 17, its discovery at its Stewart D-57 location had tested at five million cubic feet per day. Husky and its partners plan to acquire approximately 124 miles of 2-D seismic data in the Summit Creek area to help determine sites for potential future winter exploration drilling programs. Any gas discoveries in the Mackenzie Valley will remain stranded until a major pipeline has been built to take the fuel to markets across North America. Imperial Oil and its partners have proposed a \$7.5 billion line running south from the Mackenzie Delta to the Alberta boundary where it will tap into existing infrastructure. Source: <http://www.canada.com/topics/finance/story.html?id=b4533d2e-ce2c-4b84-aa6b-02dc17ae4948&k=1451>

4. *May 17, News & Observer (NC)* — **GE expanding nuclear site.** GE Energy began construction Tuesday, May 16, on a 40,000-square-foot nuclear facility in Wilmington, NC, dedicated to accelerating the development of a new breed of nuclear reactors for the international market. GE is one of three nuclear powerhouses, along with Areva and Westinghouse, vying for the international market. Progress Energy in Raleigh and Duke Power in Charlotte have said they plan to license a combined total of six new reactors in the Carolinas and Florida to meet rising energy demand in their service areas. GE predicts at least six nuclear plants will be built in the U.S. in the coming decade. The advanced reactors are all fully digitized and highly automated, compared with the mechanical operating systems in plants built in the 1970s and 1980s. Additionally, the GE and Westinghouse models have "passive" emergency cooling systems that don't require pumps to flush water into the reactor during a critical accident. The systems circulate water for 72 hours until reinforcements can be brought in. The GE model is designed to recirculate water within the reactor vessel itself without pumps, relying on pressure and gravity instead, a feature not found in the Westinghouse model. Source: <http://powermarketers.net/content/inc.net/newsreader.asp?ppa=8knpp%5E%5BhhoogluZTli%216C%29bfel%5Dv>

5. *May 17, Nuclear Regulatory Commission* — **New reactor construction inspection center to be established in NRC's Atlanta regional office.** The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) plans to establish a dedicated organization in its Region II office in Atlanta to be the center of all inspection activity for expected new nuclear power plants. The Construction Inspection Program will be responsible for day-to-day onsite inspections and specialized inspection resources supporting the agency's oversight of any new nuclear power plant construction for the entire country. NRC Chairperson Nils J. Diaz said: "This approach will make sure inspection methods are consistent across the country, and allow us to quickly incorporate lessons learned into the entire program...Thorough inspections will help ensure any new nuclear power plants are built to meet our requirements for protecting the public's health and safety." The NRC is expecting several applications for new nuclear power plants in late 2007 and early 2008, with construction activities possible after significant agency review.  
Source: <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/news/2006/06-067.html>

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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. *May 18, Times of Trenton (NJ)* — **Wells Fargo customers' personal data at risk.** For the fourth time in less than three years, Wells Fargo mortgage holders have been notified that a computer storing their Social Security numbers and other private information has been stolen. In a letter mailed on Friday, May 5 to customers of the company's mortgage lending department, the bank said a computer being shipped by a global express shipping company between Wells Fargo facilities was stolen. The computer contained information including client names, addresses, Social Security numbers, and Wells Fargo Home Mortgage account numbers. Company spokesperson Debora K. Blume said that the data were protected by two layers of security and the company has no indication it was misused. The number of clients affected by the theft is unknown and Blume said it was a "relatively small percentage" of Wells Fargo's customers. New Jersey State Police spokesperson Sgt. Stephen Jones said the cyber crimes division was notified of the theft, which occurred in Oklahoma City, and that the Secret Service is investigating the computer theft. Wells Fargo has offered clients free enrollment in an identity theft monitoring service.  
Source: <http://www.nj.com/news/ledger/jersey/index.ssf?/base/news-3/114792800099310.xml&coll=1>

7.

*May 17, Chicago Tribune* — **U.S. adds watchdog pressure on banks.** Hundreds of thousands of transactions involving customers of banks, financial-services firms, and casinos are reported annually to the U.S. Treasury Department. Information about any activity deemed "suspicious" must be forwarded to the government. In 2004, institutions filed a record 689,414 Suspicious Activity Report (SAR) forms, according to a February 2006 update by the department's Financial Crimes Enforcement Network. And 2005 is shaping up to shatter that record. Through the first six months of 2005, 435,167 SAR forms were filed. One reason for the uptick in SAR reports is a widening net of who must report questionable transactions.

Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/business/chi-0605170146may17.1.6883279.story?ctrack=1&cset=true>

8. *May 17, United Press International* — **Anthrax hoax letters sent to Ontario banks.** Letters containing baking soda, purported to be anthrax, were sent to nine of 11 Bank of Montreal branches in Hamilton, Ontario, Canadian police said. The letters might have been sent by an unhappy former employee or a dissatisfied customer, police Superintendent Ken Bond said. Additional letters addressed to other Bank of Montreal branches were intercepted at postal sorting stations.

Source: [http://news.monstersandcritics.com/southamerica/article\\_1164583.php/Anthrax\\_hoax\\_letters\\_sent\\_to\\_Ontario\\_banks](http://news.monstersandcritics.com/southamerica/article_1164583.php/Anthrax_hoax_letters_sent_to_Ontario_banks)

9. *May 17, Associated Press* — **Spokane Valley police bust large identity theft ring.** Eastern Washington police say they have busted a big identity theft ring that may have extended into northern Idaho. Spokane Valley police Sergeant Dave Martin says the number of ID theft victims is at least 750 and probably is closer to a thousand. Martin says investigators believe the ringleader is Vicki Nance, who remains at large. She is wanted on nine counts of forgery, theft, and identity theft. Nance was arrested near Spokane last summer, and police said her car contained methamphetamine, stolen credit cards, and bags of unopened mail that had been stolen from Cheney eastward to Post Falls in northern Idaho.

Source: <http://www.kbcitv.com/x51828.xml?URL=http://10.56.1.26/APWIR EFEED/d8hlk5a01.xml&NewsSection=StateHeadlines>

10. *May 17, Arizona Republic* — **Scam uses frantic messages to gain banking information.** Phishing schemes that moved from the telephone to the Internet a couple of years ago are moving back to the phones with a new twist. Residents in Arizona have reported returning home to urgent messages from their banks about account irregularities. But, when they call back the number left on the message, they get a phishing boiler room, instead of the bank. Callers are then asked to verify their account numbers and to provide other personal information to clear up the fictitious "problem." Sometimes the callers know the name of the victim's bank, which adds legitimacy to the call. Other times they use the name of a large institution such as Wells Fargo and bet that the victim has some type of account there. Arizona Attorney General Terry Goddard said his office is getting reports about the scheme which can work because it makes people panic about their money, and then takes advantage of their agitated state when they return the call. "It's like the one where they say you never showed up for jury duty and they are issuing a subpoena," Goddard said. "You're worried right off and you're guard is down."

Source: <http://www.azcentral.com/business/articles/0517phish17-ON.ht ml>

11. *May 17, U.S. Department of Justice* — **Money laundering indictment unsealed against major Internet gambling site operators.** The U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia unsealed an indictment Tuesday, May 16, against William Scott, Jessica Davis, Soulbury Ltd. and WorldWide Telesports, Inc., (WWTS) for offenses related to the laundering of an estimated \$250 million worth of Internet gambling wagers. The 12-count indictment alleges that from April 1998 through the date of the indictment, Scott and Davis operated WWTS, one of several entities through which they illegally enticed gamblers to send funds from the U.S. to Antigua with the intent that these funds would be used for wagers on Internet casino games and sporting events, such as the National Football League's Super Bowl and the National Collegiate Athletic Association's men's basketball championship tournament, as well as baseball, hockey, and other sporting events. The indictment alleges that wagers were placed by toll-free telephone numbers and through [www.BetWWTS.com](http://www.BetWWTS.com) and other Internet websites controlled by the defendants. The indictment also alleges that by causing funds to be sent from places within the U.S. to places abroad, Scott and Davis engaged in a money laundering conspiracy. Source: [http://www.usdoj.gov/opa/pr/2006/May/06\\_crm\\_298.html](http://www.usdoj.gov/opa/pr/2006/May/06_crm_298.html)

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## **Transportation and Border Security Sector**

12. *May 18, Associated Press* — **Biggest passenger plane lands at Heathrow.** The world's biggest passenger airliner landed at Europe's busiest airport Thursday, May 18, to test whether London's Heathrow was ready for the Airbus A380. The A380 will stay at Heathrow for airport-compatibility tests before returning to Berlin Friday, May 19. BAA Heathrow managing director Tony Douglas said BAA and Airbus staff also would conduct a series of tests, including crowd handling, during the aircraft's brief stay. Heathrow operator BAA is spending some \$850 million to upgrade the airport to accommodate the A380 and other anticipated ultra-large aircraft of the future. Other work has included runway resurfacing, upgrading runway lighting, and the construction of new taxiways. Douglas said the airport has widened and strengthened a runway to accommodate the A380. New, larger baggage carousels also have been installed at Terminal 3 to accommodate the 555 passengers that can travel on the aircraft. Singapore Airlines Ltd. will be the first carrier to put the plane into passenger service by the end of the year. Earlier this year, however, a wing ruptured during ground tests. Airbus officials said the wings might need refinements at certain points as a result of the fracture, but any changes would not delay the delivery time. Source: <http://www.kentucky.com/mld/kentucky/business/14609844.htm>

13. *May 18, Associated Press* — **Light shows emergency slide out; plane aborts flight.** A United Airlines flight to Denver was forced to make an emergency landing in Portland, OR, Wednesday, May 17, after an indicator light showed an inflatable emergency slide had deployed. United spokesperson Megan McCarthy said the slide did deploy but couldn't say if it occurred in the air or after landing. An investigation is underway. About 30 minutes into the flight the crew told passengers they'd be returning to Portland. A passenger told reporters in Portland that the inflatable slide actually rolled out while the jet was in the air. There are eight slides on the 757, McCarthy said. The one that deployed was located over one of the jet's wings at an emergency exit, McCarthy said. The exit door did not open. The flight was carrying 189 people, including 182 passengers, airport spokesperson Steve Johnson said.



Source: [http://www.usatoday.com/travel/flights/2006-05-18-emergency-slide\\_x.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/travel/flights/2006-05-18-emergency-slide_x.htm)

**14. *May 18, Agence France-Presse* — Japan to fingerprint and photograph foreign visitors.**

Japan's parliament narrowly approved on Wednesday, May 17, a bill to follow the United States in fingerprinting and photographing foreign visitors. Under the bill, which will go into effect by November 2007, all foreigners aged 16 or older will be photographed and electronically fingerprinted when they enter Japan. Permanent residents, including ethnic Koreans born in Japan, will be exempt from the law, along with state guests and diplomats. The information will be stored in a database for potential criminal investigations. Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi's government says the law will help prevent terrorism and other crime in Japan, one of the United States' closest allies.

Source: [http://www.usatoday.com/travel/news/2006-05-17-japan-fingerprint\\_x.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/travel/news/2006-05-17-japan-fingerprint_x.htm)

**15. *May 18, Associated Press* — Senate to extend deadline for border IDs.** The Senate voted Wednesday, May 17, to delay for 17 months a requirement that Americans re-entering the United States after cruises or short visits to Canada and Mexico show passports or high-tech identification cards. The Senate would push back a January 1, 2008, deadline for the requirement that Americans show the documents. A driver's license usually satisfies customs and border inspectors now. The new deadline for having to show a passport or ID card would move to June 1, 2009, if the bill becomes law. Canadians also will have to show a passport or high-tech ID to enter the United States, even for short visits. Short-term Mexican visitors already must have tamperproof cards, known as laser visas, to enter the U.S. New concerns have risen since then about the cost of the documents to the government and individuals, and how tourism and business travel might be affected.

Source: [http://www.usatoday.com/travel/news/2006-05-18-passport-rules\\_x.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/travel/news/2006-05-18-passport-rules_x.htm)

**16. *May 18, Reuters* — U.S. to monitor behavior at more airports.** The U.S. Transportation Security Administration (TSA) will soon use more behavioral profiling at American airports to detect suspicious activity, a top official said on Thursday, May 18. TSA Director Kip Hawley said the agency would expand a pilot program that has trained officers to observe passengers' behavior currently at about a dozen airports. He said it will be expanded after the summer travel rush. The program began at Boston's Logan International Airport. It is also being implemented in Miami among other airports. George Naccara, the federal security director at Logan, said the TSA program is modeled on behavior detection systems used in Israel and some other countries. "It's been very effective overseas," Naccara said, where the effort "is much more confrontational and much more aggressive." Officers are taught to look for abnormal behavior in passengers, such as people wearing coats when it's warm in order to disguise bombs, or people acting fidgety or nervous. Naccara said they look for signs of "stress, fear and deception."

Source: <http://abcnews.go.com/US/wireStory?id=1977556>

**17. *May 17, Government Accountability Office* — GAO-06-778R: Responses to Questions for the Record; Hearing on The Future of Air Traffic Control: The R&D Agenda (Correspondence).** This letter and enclosure responds to the Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics, Committee on Science, of the House of Representatives, April 26, 2006, request that the Government Accountability Office (GAO) address questions submitted for the record by Members of the Subcommittee related to the March 29, 2006, hearing entitled The Future of

Air Traffic Control: The R&D Agenda. GAO's answers to the questions are attached. GAO's responses are based on previous and ongoing work and knowledge of the areas addressed by the questions. GAO prepared its responses during May 2006 in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards. GAO is sending copies of this report to the Administrator, Federal Aviation Administration, and the Director, Joint Planning and Development Office. GAO will make copies available to others on request.

Source: <http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-06-778R>

18. *May 17, Concord Monitor (MA)* — **Dam causes worries in Bristol.** Though much of Massachusetts has begun to dry out, allowing officials to assess the damage after five days of record-breaking rains and flooding, a shaky dam on the surging Newfound River prompted the evacuation of hundreds of Bristol, MA, residents. Tuesday evening, May 16, 200 to 400 households were evacuated from a one-mile strip in the heart of Bristol with assistance from state troopers and the National Guard. The evacuations came after town officials and the dam's owner, Freudenberg-NOK, called state officials to tell them that the bolts on the dam's steel beams had come loose.

Source: <http://www.concordmonitor.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20060517/REPOSITORY/605170347>

19. *May 17, Swiss Info* — **Runaway Swiss train kills three maintenance workers in collision.** Three railway workers were killed in a train collision near Thun in the Bernese Oberland. The three men were on board a runaway maintenance train that crashed into another train after a brake failure. The runaway train was at a site near Blausee on Wednesday morning, May 17, when it began moving and heading towards Spiez, according to Mathias Tromp, head of the BLS Railways. After being warned by the train's occupants, company management decided to divert it toward another maintenance site on a straight section of the line on the outskirts of Thun after passing through Spiez, and let it collide with another train. Tromp said that this decision constituted the solution presenting the least risks. The chief investigator said that while he could not say what happened, it was obvious it was something unusual. This was the second accident for BLS in little over three weeks. One of the company's trains collided with a German ICE express at Thun station after the driver failed to heed a stop signal, injuring eight people slightly.

Source: [http://www.swissinfo.org/eng/front/detail/Runaway\\_train\\_kill\\_s\\_three\\_people.html?siteSect=105&sid=6726387&cKey=1147860566.000](http://www.swissinfo.org/eng/front/detail/Runaway_train_kill_s_three_people.html?siteSect=105&sid=6726387&cKey=1147860566.000)

20. *May 17, Transportation Security Administration* — **TSA issues new regulations to strengthen air cargo security.** The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) on Wednesday, May 17, continued comprehensive efforts to strengthen air cargo security by announcing requirements designed to protect the more than 50,000 tons of cargo that is transported aboard passenger and all-cargo aircraft each day. The security requirements mark the first substantial changes to air cargo regulations since 1999, and represent a joint government-industry vision of an enhanced security baseline. "Working with the industry we have set a solid foundation for a major segment of the transportation network," said TSA Assistant Secretary Kip Hawley. The policy changes implemented by the final rule complement ongoing TSA operational and technological initiatives that aim to strengthen air cargo security through a risk-based approach that balances the twin goals of enhancing security without unduly disrupting the flow of commerce. The details of how to implement the new regulatory changes are spelled out in the security programs

that air carriers and freight consolidators must maintain. Full details of the Air Cargo Final Rule will be published in the Federal Register in the coming days.

Source: [http://www.tsa.gov/public/display?theme=44&content=090005198\\_01dfb43](http://www.tsa.gov/public/display?theme=44&content=090005198_01dfb43)

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## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

Nothing to report.

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## **Agriculture Sector**

### **21. *May 17, Stop Soybean Rust News* — Soybean rust active again on kudzu in northern**

**Florida.** Florida officials Wednesday, May 17, reported that they once again have positive finds of soybean rust on kudzu in the northern part of the state. Several dry weeks since the middle of February had caused the rust, known to have been present in 11 Florida counties this year, to go dormant. Officials reported they had not been able to find soybean rust in north Florida in recent weeks. Soybean rust was confirmed on kudzu in Alachua, Duval, Gadsden, Hernando, Hillsborough, Lee, Leon, Marion, Miami–Dade, Pasco and Polk counties in Florida in 2006, with seven of the 10 finds reported on January 17; one on January 20 (Marion) and the most recent on Feb. 13 in Miami–Dade, a full three months ago.

Source: <http://www.stopsoybeanrust.com/viewStory.asp?StoryID=815>

### **22. *May 17, Agence France–Presse* — Half of Vietnam hit by foot–and–mouth disease.**

Foot–and–mouth disease (FMD) has spread across nearly half of Vietnam, affecting farmers already hit hard by the bird flu outbreaks of recent years, local and international veterinary officials said. The virus has spread to 30 of Vietnam's 64 provinces and cities in recent weeks, the agriculture ministry said in an online report. Almost 27,000 pigs, buffalos and cows have been infected across the country, and more than 10,000 have been culled so far this year, the ministry said. The Asia–1 strain is also present in China and Mongolia, affecting draft animals such as buffalo and reducing meat and milk yields of cattle, said Food and Agriculture Organization livestock specialist Jeffrey Gilbert. "This strain hasn't been around for a while, so there is no herd immunity," he said. "Therefore it'll spread faster and hit harder."

Source: [http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20060517/hl\\_afp/vietnamhealthfarm\\_060517175236;\\_ylt=AsrlsYglEu\\_X9FJeFstQ0vWJOrgF:\\_ylu=X3oDMTA5aHJvMDdwBHNIYwN5bmNhdA--](http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20060517/hl_afp/vietnamhealthfarm_060517175236;_ylt=AsrlsYglEu_X9FJeFstQ0vWJOrgF:_ylu=X3oDMTA5aHJvMDdwBHNIYwN5bmNhdA--)

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## **Food Sector**

### **23. *May 18, USAgNet* — Hong Kong finds bones in U.S. beef.** Hong Kong meat inspectors have found bones in a shipment of U.S. beef. Hong Kong reopened its market to U.S. beef last year, following a nearly two–year ban on U.S. beef imports. Hong Kong closed its markets to imported U.S. beef in December 2003 after the U.S. reported its first case of bovine spongiform



encephalopathy (BSE). According to the Hong Kong government, the bones were reportedly found in beef products recently imported from Harris Ranch Beef Co., Selma, CA. Earlier this year, Hong Kong banned beef imports from two U.S. beef companies — Cargill Meat Solutions and Swift and Co. — after bones were found in their products. Hong Kong requires that imported U.S. beef not contain specified risk material, primarily brain and spinal cord tissue, or bones. Some medical experts believe that these tissues contain the causative agent of BSE.

Source: <http://www.usagnet.com/story-national.cfm?Id=931&yr=2006>

24. *May 17, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service* — **Electronic system to streamline export process launched.** The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Wednesday, May 17, launched a new electronic system to streamline its export process. The Phytosanitary Certificate Issuance and Tracking system (PCIT), currently in the second phase of a multi-phase effort, is an interactive, Web-based system that allows U.S. exporters to apply for phytosanitary certificates online, schedule commodity inspections and printout copies of their certificates. This new system will improve the tracking and trace-back of federal phytosanitary certificates, improve reporting capabilities and reduce the incidence of error or fraud. PCIT also enables APHIS to better manage authorized certification officials' workloads as well as enhance security and accountability for phytosanitary certificates.

PCIT: <https://pcit.aphis.usda.gov/pcit/>

Source: <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/newsroom/content/2006/05/egovxpri.shtml>

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## **Water Sector**

25. *May 17, Los Angeles Times* — **Los Angeles water workers arrested.** Federal immigration authorities Tuesday, May 16, announced the arrests of eight employees of the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (DWP), the nation's largest public utility, for allegedly lacking authorization to work in the U.S. Agents from U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement made five arrests at DWP headquarters. The arrests capped a year-long joint review of the utility's hiring records that previously had resulted in the arrest of three other alleged illegal workers. The workers were from Ethiopia, Nigeria, El Salvador, the Philippines and Mexico. They held a variety of positions at the DWP, which supplies Los Angeles with its water and electrical power.

Source: <http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-raid17may17.1.2735183.story?ctrack=1&cset=true>

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## **Public Health Sector**

26. *May 18, Washington Post* — **World Health Organization investigating human bird flu cases in Indonesia.** An international team of health investigators arrived on Indonesia's Sumatra island Thursday, May 18, to determine whether an unusually large cluster of human

bird flu cases indicates that the highly lethal virus has mutated into a form easily spread among people. Laboratory tests conducted for the World Health Organization confirmed this week that five members of one extended family in Kubuh Sembilang village had died of bird flu during the first two weeks of this month and a sixth had been infected but is recovering. Yet another family member, a 37-year-old woman who fell sick first, is also suspected of succumbing to the disease but was buried before samples could be taken. The Sumatran cluster is the world's largest since the disease emerged in East Asia in 2003, though several dozen others have been reported. Any cluster raises the prospect that the virus has undergone genetic changes that allow it to spread more readily among people.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/05/18/AR2006051800437.html>

27. *May 18, Agence France–Presse* — **Sixth bird flu death in Egypt.** An elderly woman died of the H5N1 strain of bird flu in Egypt, marking the country's sixth fatal case of the virus in humans, a World Health Organization (WHO) official said. "We have some basic information that she was a 75-year-old woman from Al–Minya" in southern Egypt, WHO regional health regulation officer John Jabbour said. Out of the 14 human cases of avian influenza that have been reported among Egyptians since mid–March, six turned out to be fatal and eight people recovered after being treated with Tamiflu. According to Egypt's supreme committee to combat bird flu, 20 out of the country's 26 governorates have been affected by the bird flu epidemic.

Source: [http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20060518/wl\\_mideast\\_afp/healthfluegypt\\_060518114240:ylt=Al.eyYnpUJxpwymj6VXRhh6JOrgF:ylu=X3oDMTA5aHJvMDdwBHNIYwN5bmNhdA--](http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20060518/wl_mideast_afp/healthfluegypt_060518114240:ylt=Al.eyYnpUJxpwymj6VXRhh6JOrgF:ylu=X3oDMTA5aHJvMDdwBHNIYwN5bmNhdA--)

28. *May 18, Reuters* — **Germany warns of rise in measles infections.** German health officials warned on Thursday, May 18, of an alarming increase in measles infections, a childhood disease that can occasionally be deadly, and urged citizens to make sure children are vaccinated against the virus. The Robert Koch Institute, a state agency specializing in infectious diseases and public health, said the number of German cases of measles has jumped by tenfold to over 1,200 cases so far this year up from a total of 121 in 2004 and 778 in 2005. In 2003, 530,000 people died worldwide from measles. The principle reason for the increase in measles cases is that the percentage of the German population that is getting both measles–mumps–rubella (MMR) vaccine injections is below the 95 percent ratio needed to eradicate the disease. Currently 93.3 percent of Germans are getting the first injection and 65.7 percent the second jab, the institute said.

Source: [http://today.reuters.co.uk/news/newsArticle.aspx?type=healthNews&storyID=2006-05-18T170810Z\\_01\\_L18359582\\_RTRIDST\\_0\\_HEALTH-GERMANY-MEASLES-DC.XML&archived=False](http://today.reuters.co.uk/news/newsArticle.aspx?type=healthNews&storyID=2006-05-18T170810Z_01_L18359582_RTRIDST_0_HEALTH-GERMANY-MEASLES-DC.XML&archived=False)

29. *May 18, Associated Press* — **Testing for bird flu begins in Alaska.** Federal scientists have started testing migratory birds for signs of a dangerous bird flu that could show up on this continent this spring. The testing of shorebirds began Wednesday, May 17, on an Anchorage, AK, coastal wildlife refuge, said Bruce Woods, spokesperson with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. It's the first sampling of a summer-long project to swab birds for bird flu throughout the state. Nationwide, the goal is to sample 75,000 to 100,000 wild birds.

Source: [http://www.forbes.com/business/energy/feeds/ap/2006/05/18/ap\\_2756895.html](http://www.forbes.com/business/energy/feeds/ap/2006/05/18/ap_2756895.html)

30. *May 17, Associated Press* — **Panel votes to strengthen mumps protection.** A government vaccine panel is urging mumps shots for everyone in the region of an outbreak unless they are immune to the virus from childhood exposure or from being vaccinated. And health-care workers under age 50 should get two doses unless they still have immunity from childhood, the immunization advisory committee said. Wednesday's, May 17, more aggressive policy by the panel, which advises the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, is an effort to thwart future outbreaks like the one that is plaguing Iowa and some other Midwestern states. Health officials in Iowa say there are still more than 1,700 cases statewide, but the number is on the decline.

Mumps information: <http://www.cdc.gov/nip/diseases/mumps/default.htm>

Source: <http://abcnews.go.com/Health/wireStory?id=1974103>

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## **Government Sector**

Nothing to report.

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## **Emergency Services Sector**

31. *May 18, Government Accountability Office* — **GAO-06-790T: Disaster Preparedness: Preliminary Observations on the Evacuation of Vulnerable Populations due to Hurricanes and Other Disasters (Testimony).** Hurricane Katrina struck near the Louisiana-Mississippi border and became one of the worst natural disasters in U.S. history, affecting a large geographic area and necessitating the evacuation of people from parts of the area, including vulnerable populations, such as hospital patients, nursing home residents and transportation-disadvantaged populations who were not in such facilities. The disaster highlighted the challenges involved in evacuating vulnerable populations due to hurricanes. The Government Accountability Office (GAO) was asked to discuss efforts to plan and prepare for the needs of seniors in the event of a national emergency. GAO describes its ongoing work on evacuation in the event of emergencies, such as hurricanes, and provides preliminary observations on (1) challenges faced by hospital and nursing home administrators that are related to hurricane evacuations; (2) the federal program that supports the evacuation of patients needing hospital care and nursing home residents; and (3) challenges states and localities face in preparing for and carrying out the evacuation of transportation-disadvantaged populations and efforts to address evacuation needs.

Highlights: <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d06790thigh.pdf>

Source: <http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-06-790T>

32. *May 17, American Forces Press Service* — **Pentagon tests bio-attack response.** A full-scale bio-exercise in the Pentagon parking lot Wednesday, May 17 tested how the Pentagon police, in partnership with local emergency services, would respond to a biological attack at the military headquarters. The Pentagon Force Protection Agency, Arlington County Fire Department, Red Cross, and other local and federal agencies participated in the exercise, dubbed "Gallant Fox 06," based on a scenario involving a suspected anthrax attack inside the

Pentagon that triggered a sensor. In the scenario, testing was done and the presence of anthrax was confirmed. All the people who would be involved in a biological attack response did a functional exercise April 12, during which they participated from their respective command posts and worked out details and logistics, said Jim Aiken, with the Pentagon Force Protection Agency. Wednesday's exercise was to demonstrate how affected people would be evacuated from the building, decontaminated, treated and transported, he said.

Source: [http://www.defenselink.mil/news/May2006/20060517\\_5153.html](http://www.defenselink.mil/news/May2006/20060517_5153.html)

33. *May 17, Associated Press* — **Pacific Rim nations conduct mass tsunami drill.** A mock tsunami warning Wednesday, May 17 set off alarms from Guam to Singapore and sent Philippine villagers scurrying to high ground as Pacific nations held an unprecedented drill organized after Asia's monster tsunami of 2004. The massive exercise involving more than two dozen Pacific and Asian nations was conducted over two days that saw several real earthquakes hit the region, including one north of New Zealand that triggered a real, though minor, tsunami affecting only unpopulated islands. At the start of Wednesday's test, e-mails and faxes were sent and alarms sounded in monitoring stations in the participating nations to signal a mock magnitude 8.8 earthquake off the coast of the main northern island of Luzon in the Philippines. The exercise followed a similar test on Tuesday, May 16, when officials simulated a 9.2-magnitude quake near Chile that would have affected much of the Pacific Ocean region. On Tuesday, major participants included Chile, Peru, Ecuador, Colombia, Panama, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Honduras, the United States, Canada and several Pacific islands. Participants on Wednesday included the Philippines, Indonesia, Vietnam, Cambodia, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Taiwan, South Korea, Japan, Russia, China and several Pacific islands.

Source: [http://www.sunstar.com.ph/static/net/2006/05/17/2.dozen.pacific.rim.nations.conduct.mass.tsunami.drill.\(12.40.p.m.\).html](http://www.sunstar.com.ph/static/net/2006/05/17/2.dozen.pacific.rim.nations.conduct.mass.tsunami.drill.(12.40.p.m.).html)

34. *May 17, Sun-Herald (FL)* — **Terrorism drill in Florida tests officials.** About 40 volunteer victims participated in a terrorism exercise Tuesday, May 16 at the Charlotte County Fire and Emergency Management Services headquarters in Punta Gorda, FL. The exercise involved an explosion at the headquarters while school children were touring the facility. The two armed intruders then took hostages before barricading themselves in the now-abandoned YMCA facility nearby. The drill gave agencies across Charlotte County and Punta Gorda experience in handling contaminated victims, dozens of injuries and a hostage scenario. All three area hospitals participated, along with multiple agencies.

Source: <http://www.sun-herald.com/NewsArchive2/051706/np9.htm?date=051706&story=np9.htm>

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## **Information Technology and Telecommunications Sector**

35. *May 17, Security Focus* — **Sun Java system directory server authentication bypass vulnerability.** Sun Java system directory server is susceptible to an authentication bypass vulnerability. The issue allows local and remote attackers to gain administrative access to the affected service by logging into the directory server console. This may aid them in further attacks. Once attackers have administrative access to the directory server, they may alter data

stored there; this data is used by other network services that depend on the directory server for authentication.

For a complete list of vulnerable products: <http://www.securityfocus.com/bid/18018/info>

Solution: <http://www.securityfocus.com/bid/18018/solution>

Source: <http://www.securityfocus.com/bid/18018/discuss>

36. *May 17, Federal Computer Week* — **The National Institute of Standards and Technology releases standards for securing domain names.** The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) released new guidelines for securing the Domain Name System (DNS) on Tuesday, May 16. The publication details threats and how best to approach them as well as specific recommendations on secure configurations for domain names and their associated mechanisms.

NIST guidelines: <http://csrc.nist.gov/publications/nistpubs/800-81/SP800-81.pdf>

Source: <http://fcw.com/article94546-05-17-06-Web>

37. *May 17, Associated Press* — **Blue Security shuts down anti-spam service.** The company behind an anti-spam initiative is shutting down the service after spammers began threatening users and rendering the company's site inaccessible. Blue Security has been criticized by some anti-spam advocates because its Blue Frog service revolves around getting thousands of users to collectively disable the Websites that spammers use to sell their wares.

Source: [http://www.nytimes.com/aponline/technology/AP-Spam-Closing.html?\\_r=1&oref=slogin](http://www.nytimes.com/aponline/technology/AP-Spam-Closing.html?_r=1&oref=slogin)

38. *May 16, TechWeb News* — **Cyber-crooks target online gamers.** Online criminals are targeting gamers with viruses written to steal virtual assets that can be sold to other players, security firm Panda Software said Tuesday, May 16. Cyber-crooks are going after login details needed to install and access online games. Trojans sent through e-mail and chat rooms are the most common forms of malware used in the thefts. Online gaming is a growing multi-billion-dollar business worldwide that offers lots of opportunities for cyber-crooks. Gamers are willing to pay for virtual assets, such as weapons and powers, in order to reach high levels in a game and increase their reputations.

Source: <http://www.techweb.com/wire/187203724>

39. *May 15, Register (UK)* — **Botnet implicated in click fraud scam.** Botnets are being used for Google Adword click fraud, according to security watchers. The SANS Institute has uncovered evidence that networks of compromised PCs are being used to click on banner ads, generating revenue for unscrupulous publishers. Pay-per-click schemes such as Google AdSense have programs to detect fraudulent clicks and suspend publishers implicated in click fraud. In an effort to disguise bogus visits, these publishers have begun hiring botnets to slip under the radar of fraud detection programs.

The SANS Institute findings: <http://isc.sans.org/diary.php?storyid=1334>

Source: [http://www.theregister.co.uk/2006/05/15/google\\_adword\\_scam/](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2006/05/15/google_adword_scam/)



**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 reports that Apple has released Apple QuickTime 7.1 to correct several vulnerabilities. Apple QuickTime 7.1 resolves multiple vulnerabilities in the way different types of image and media files are handled. An error in the AppKit framework allows an application to read characters entered into secure text field in the same window session. An attacker could exploit these vulnerabilities by convincing a user to access a specially crafted image or media file with a vulnerable version of QuickTime. Since QuickTime configures most web browsers to handle QuickTime media files, an attacker could exploit these vulnerabilities using a web page.

US-CERT recommends that Apple QuickTime users:

Upgrade there software to Apple QuickTime 7.1:

<http://www.apple.com/support/downloads/quicktime71.html>

Disable QuickTime in your web browser to prevent attackers from exploiting this vulnerability by persuading a user to access a specially crafted file with a web browser.

Note: Disabling QuickTime in your web browser will defend against this attack vector.

For more information please review:

Securing Your Web Browser document:

[http://www.us-cert.gov/reading\\_room/securing\\_browser/](http://www.us-cert.gov/reading_room/securing_browser/)

Standalone Apple QuickTime Player:

<http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/standalone.html>

Mac OS X: Updating your software:

<http://docs.info.apple.com/article.html?artnum=106704>

**VU#570689** Apple QuickTime FlashPix integer overflow:

<http://www.kb.cert.org/vuls/id/570689>

**VU#289705** Apple Quicktime JPEG integer overflow:

<http://www.kb.cert.org/vuls/id/289705>

We will continue to update current activity as more information becomes available.

**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](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

<b>Top 10 Target Ports</b>	1026 (win-rpc), 6881 (bittorrent), 25 (smtp), 41170 (---), 38566 (---), 445 (microsoft-ds), 5817 (---), 7200 (fodms), 12106 (---), 2234 (directplay)
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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](mailto:soc@us-cert.gov) or visit their Website: [www.us-cert.gov](http://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**

**40. *May 18, Reuters* — Some schools cancel Friday classes due to fuel costs.** Next fall, Fridays will mark the beginning of a three-day break for over 1,000 public school students in Salmon, ID. In parts of the American West, sharply higher fuel prices have prompted a growing number of school districts to save money by shortening the school week to four days. School systems in such remote, sparsely populated areas, where school bus routes can stretch across many miles and take hours to complete, say far higher transport and other energy-related expenses are squeezing already shrinking budgets. The number of states sanctioning districts with four-day school weeks has at least doubled since a survey by the National School Boards Association in 2003 showed nine states and roughly a hundred districts adopting the measure. To meet state guidelines for the minimum number of class hours, districts on a reduced weekly schedule have extended the school day by more than an hour. Districts that have opted for shorter weeks say the total number of instruction hours remains basically the same despite what appears to be a total weekly reduction in school time of at least an hour. Generally, schools switching to four-day weeks have reported support from teachers, parents, and students.

Source: [http://www.boston.com/news/nation/articles/2006/05/18/some\\_us\\_schools\\_cancel\\_fridays\\_due\\_to\\_fuel\\_costs/](http://www.boston.com/news/nation/articles/2006/05/18/some_us_schools_cancel_fridays_due_to_fuel_costs/)

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## **General Sector**

**41. *May 18, Associated Press* — Trespasser shot dead on air base.** A man with a history of

mental illness was shot and killed after driving through a checkpoint at an Air National Guard Base and leading security on a high-speed chase, officials said Thursday, May 18. Timothy James Whisman, 37, of Fraser, MI, was taken to Mount Clemens General Hospital, where he was pronounced dead, said Michigan State Police Sgt. Craig Nyeholt. It was the second break-in in two months at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, 30 miles northeast of Detroit. Another man was arrested on the base in April and faces charges. On Wednesday evening, May 17, the unauthorized vehicle forced its way onto the base, evaded security officers at high speeds and struck a privately owned vehicle, according to a statement from the 127th Wing of the Michigan Air National Guard. Officers fired shots when the driver tried to run over security personnel, but he continued driving around the base until being forced off the road.

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2006/US/05/18/airbase.mankilled.ap/index.html>

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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**

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Subscription and Distribution Information:	Send mail to <a href="mailto:dhsdailyadmin@mail.dhs.osis.gov">dhsdailyadmin@mail.dhs.osis.gov</a> 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](mailto: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](mailto:soc@us-cert.gov) or visit their Web page at [www.us-cert.gov](http://www.us-cert.gov).

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