



Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 02 October 2006

Current
Nationwide
Threat Level is

ELEVATED
SIGNIFICANT RISK OF
TERRORIST ATTACKS

[For info click here](http://www.dhs.gov/)

<http://www.dhs.gov/>

Daily Highlights

- The Chemical Sector Cyber Security Program on Wednesday, September 27, unveiled the 2006 edition of the Chemical Sector Cyber Security Strategy; the updated document outlines the sector's plans to continue driving improvements to information technology and manufacturing system security through a sector-wide program. (See item [4](#))
- The Courier-Journal reports that about 146,000 Kentucky state employees and retirees are at risk of identity theft because a recent state mailing shows their names, addresses, and Social Security numbers on the envelopes (See item [8](#))

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report *Fast Jump*

Production Industries: [Energy](#); [Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#)

Service Industries: [Banking and Finance](#); [Transportation and Border Security](#); [Postal and Shipping](#)

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Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: ELEVATED, Cyber: ELEVATED

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *September 28, U.S. Department of Energy* — **DOE makes available \$8 million for pre-conceptual design of Next Generation Nuclear Plants.** The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Thursday, September 28, announced that DOE's Idaho National Laboratory will make awards valued at about \$8 million to three companies to perform engineering studies and develop a pre-conceptual design to guide research on the Next Generation Nuclear Plant (NGNP). The studies will use DOE funds for pre-conceptual design activities, scheduled to be completed in fiscal year 2007. NGNP is a very high temperature reactor concept capable of

producing high temperature process heat suitable for the economical production of hydrogen, electricity, and other energy sources. The NGNP research and development program is part of DOE's Generation IV nuclear energy systems initiative.

DOE nuclear energy program information: <http://www.nuclear.gov/>

Source: <http://www.energy.gov/news/4187.htm>

2. *September 26, Energy Information Administration* — **Major additions to U.S. natural gas proved reserves in 2005; oil reserves also up.** Reserves additions replaced 164 percent of 2005 dry natural gas production as U.S. natural gas proved reserves increased for the seventh year in a row according to estimates released Tuesday, September 26, by the Energy Information Administration. The six percent increase in 2005 was the largest annual increase in natural gas proved reserves since 1970. Reserves additions of crude oil replaced 122 percent of the 2005 production. Crude oil proved reserves went up in 2005 for the first time in 3 years, increasing by 2 percent. Two of the four largest U.S. oil-producing areas, Texas and California, reported increases in proved crude oil reserves in 2005 while the Gulf of Mexico Federal Offshore and Alaska reported declines. Several significant deepwater discoveries that have been made in recent years in the Gulf are not yet booked as proved reserves. Texas reported the largest increase in crude oil reserves, a majority of which occurred in the Permian Basin of west Texas. Wyoming and Montana had the second and third largest increases. U.S. Crude Oil, Natural Gas, and Natural Gas Liquids Reserves 2005 Annual Report: http://www.eia.doe.gov/oil_gas/fwd/adsum.html
Source: <http://www.eia.doe.gov/neic/press/press273.html>

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Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials Sector

3. *September 29, Tampa Bay's 10* — **Strong anhydrous ammonia odor prompts lock-down of three Florida schools.** Sessums Elementary, Leroy Collins Elementary, and Riverview Middle School in Hillsborough County, FL, returned back to normal Friday, September 29, after fire rescue indicated that anhydrous ammonia leak was cleared. A strong smell of ammonia was reported earlier from Big Bend Road north to McMullen, East to Bell Shoals and West to I-75. The schools were put on lock-down as a precaution.
Source: <http://www.tampabay10.com/news/local/article.aspx?storyid=40671>
4. *September 27, Chemical Sector Cyber Security Program* — **Chemical sector releases updated Cyber Security Strategy.** The Chemical Sector Cyber Security Program on Wednesday, September 27, unveiled the 2006 edition of the Chemical Sector Cyber Security Strategy at the 2nd Chemical Information Technology Council Annual Meeting in Washington, DC. The updated document outlines the sector's plans to continue driving improvements to information technology and manufacturing system security through a sector-wide program. It builds on the chemical sector's many achievements in enhancing cyber security since the original strategy published in 2002. The updated strategy organizes the path forward for the chemical sector into five key elements: information sharing, guidance enhancement and relevance, sector-wide adoption, enhanced security in technology solutions and government relations. Within each of these elements, proposed strategic plans as well as the desired state of cyber security are described.

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

5. *September 29, Government Accountability Office* — **GAO-06-995: DoD Contracting: Efforts Needed to Address Air Force Commercial Acquisition Risk (Report)**. The Department of Defense (DoD) has been urged by commissions, legislation, and a panel to make increased use of commercial acquisition to achieve certain benefits. To help ensure the increased use of commercial acquisition, the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) established and the Air Force implemented two commercial acquisition goals to be achieved by the end of fiscal year 2005. In setting these goals, OSD expected that the increased use of commercial acquisition would provide DoD with greater access to commercial markets (products and service types) with increased competition, better prices, and new market entrants and/or technologies. The committee asked the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to identify (1) the extent to which the Air Force has increased its use of commercial acquisition to obtain expected benefits and (2) the risks that are associated with this use. GAO recommends that the Air Force collect information to be able to measure the benefits expected from commercial acquisition and, to reduce the potential for risk, limit sole-source acquisition of commercial products and services in concert with DoD guidance. In written comments, DoD agreed with the recommendations, in principle, and identified actions to address them. Highlights: <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d06995high.pdf>
Source: <http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-06-995>
6. *September 28, U.S. Air Force* — **Air Force will get new bomber, upgrades to fighters**. The Air Force is looking to get a "next generation" long-range bomber by 2018, according to the commander of Air Combat Command (ACC). During the Air Force Association's 2006 Air and Space Conference and Technology Exposition Wednesday, September 27, General Ronald E. Keys, the ACC commander, told reporters the command is funded for a bomber, and it likely would be put together using some of the same advanced technology currently in the B-2 Spirit, the F-22 Raptor and the F-35 Lightning II. The general said the Air Force would not see the next "great leap" in bomber technology until around the 2030 to 2040 timeframe. Then, he said, the Air Force may see "hypersonic" capability — aircraft capable of flying at a speed of about Mach 5. For other weapons systems that use hypersonic technology, the general said the command would have to consider cost versus benefit before making a commitment to buy. Source: <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?storyID=123028140>
7. *September 28, Government Accountability Office* — **GAO-06-1130T: Rebuilding Iraq: Continued Progress Requires Overcoming Contract Management Challenges (Testimony)**. The United States, along with its coalition partners and various international organizations, has undertaken a challenging, complex, and costly effort to stabilize and rebuild Iraq. The Department of Defense (DoD) has responsibility for a significant portion of the reconstruction effort. Amid signs of progress, the coalition faces numerous political, security, and economic challenges in rebuilding Iraq. Within this environment, many reconstruction projects have fallen short of expectations, resulting in increased costs, schedule delays, reduced scopes of work, and in some cases project cancellations. This testimony (1) discusses the

overall progress that has been made in rebuilding Iraq and (2) describes challenges faced by DoD in achieving successful outcomes on individual projects. This testimony reflects the Government Accountability Office's (GAO) reviews of reconstruction and DoD contract management issues, as well as work of the Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction. In our previous reports, we have made several recommendations to improve outcomes in Iraq. DoD generally agreed with our recommendations.

Highlights: <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d061130thigh.pdf>

Source: <http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-06-1130T>

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Banking and Finance Sector

8. *September 30, Courier-Journal (KY)* — **Social Security data disclosed; state mailing error affects 146,000.** About 146,000 Kentucky state employees and retirees are at risk of identity theft because a recent state mailing shows their names, addresses, and Social Security numbers on the envelopes, officials said Friday, September 29. The Personnel Cabinet sent the letters this week to notify workers and retirees about state health insurance enrollment. The Social Security number appears as part of a string of 14 numbers above the individual's name and address in the field visible through the envelope window. Attorney General Greg Stumbo warned that state workers and retirees should be on guard against identity theft. Personnel Secretary Brian Crall said the state employees' Social Security numbers got into the mailing through a combination of events involving his office and the vendor used to send the letter. The letter originally was supposed to contain only a five-digit code that identified which agency the employee works for as part of the address. But when addresses were compiled from a state database, the Social Security number was merged with the five-digit agency code into a 14-digit number, Crall said.

Source: <http://www.courier-journal.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20060930/NEWS0104/609300407>

9. *September 29, VNUNet* — **UK firms face credit card security deadline.** UK companies handling credit card data must be compliant with the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard (PCI DSS) by June 30, 2007 or face being dumped by credit card companies. The deadline had originally been pushed back from June 30, 2006 because of the introduction of chip-and-pin. The PCI standard is made up of 12 or 13 different criteria, 10 of which are technologies that a lot of companies already have in place. Erich Baumgartner of Ingrian said, "They can show the auditor that they are using their intrusion detection systems this way, they are using their firewalls that way and they have virtual private networks so that information is encrypted in transit," he said. "But the big gap is that nobody has been deploying encryption to secure that sensitive data when it is at rest."

Source: <http://www.vnunet.com/articles/print/2165333>

10. *September 29, Websense Security Labs* — **Phishing Attack: Arkansas Federal Credit Union.** Websense Security Labs has received reports of a phishing attack that targets customers of Arkansas Federal Credit Union. Users receive a spoofed e-mail message, which claims that an error has been detected in their billing information and details must be confirmed. The e-mail provides a link to a phishing site that attempts to collect user account information.

Screenshot: <http://www.websensesecuritylabs.com/alerts/alert.php?AlertID=643>

Source: <http://www.websensesecuritylabs.com/>

11. *September 28, U.S. Department of the Treasury* — **Treasury designation targets nine leaders and key figures of the FARC.** The U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control Thursday, September 28, designated nine leaders and key figures of the Colombian narco-terrorist organization, the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia or FARC). The nine individuals include eight FARC leaders and a key international representative of the FARC. These persons are subject to the economic sanctions imposed against foreign drug cartels under the Kingpin Act, including the blocking of transactions between U.S. persons and the designees, as well as the freezing of any designees' assets found within U.S. jurisdiction. The Kingpin Act applies financial measures against foreign narcotics trafficking kingpins worldwide. A total of 284 organizations, individuals and businesses in 16 foreign countries have been designated under the Kingpin Act.

List of individuals and entities designated:

<http://www.treasury.gov/offices/enforcement/ofac/actions/ind ex.shtml>

Source: <http://www.treas.gov/press/releases/hp119.htm>

12. *September 27, Associated Press* — **Pataki signs three bills to combat identity theft.** New York Governor George Pataki (R) has signed into law three bills to combat identity theft. The Consumer Communication Records Privacy Act prohibits the sale, fraudulent transfer, or solicitation of a person's telephone records without his consent. The second bill puts new limits on the use of Social Security numbers, restricting businesses from printing the numbers on mailings and prohibiting companies from requiring an individual to transmit his encrypted Social Security number over the Internet. It also requires businesses to institute safeguards to protect customers' identities. A third measure strengthens existing laws to prosecute those who intentionally steal personal information or plant programs such as spyware on personal computers without authorization.

Source: <http://www.buffalonews.com/editorial/20060927/4027571.asp>

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Transportation and Border Security Sector

13. *September 30, Associated Press* — **Air passenger data deal fails.** The U.S. and the European Union (EU) failed to reach a new deal on sharing air passenger data by the Saturday, September 30, deadline. Department of Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff said the failure to agree wouldn't disrupt trans-Atlantic air travel. Chertoff said that he was sending EU representatives "an initial proposed agreement, which I think embodies what their fundamental requirements for data protection are so we can do what we need to protect our borders." European Commission spokesperson Jonathan Todd said there would be a "legal vacuum" as of midnight. "We have to discuss on Commission level what to do next," said Todd. Reaching a new deal before a court-imposed deadline was an EU priority to ensure airlines could continue to legally submit 34 pieces of data about passengers flying from Europe to U.S. destinations. The EU's top court in May ruled that the deal put in place after the 9/11 attacks was illegal because it was not using the right legal basis under EU law. An EU court allowed the data to keep flowing until September 30 to give officials time to negotiate a new deal.

Statement by Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff on Passenger Name Record Agreement with European Union: <http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/display?content=5954>
Source: <http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory?id=2512292>

14. *September 30, Boston Globe* — **U.S. Senate passes bill to build Mexican border fence.** The Senate on Friday, September 29, passed a bill to create a 700-mile fence along the Mexican border, a plan lawmakers said will prevent illegal immigrants—and potential terrorists—from crossing undetected into the United States. Congress also headed toward final approval of a \$34 billion homeland security funding measure meant to secure the nation's ports and strengthen border patrols. The funding bill includes \$1.2 billion as a down payment on the new fence, which is planned to extend along about a third of the 2,000-mile Mexican border. The fence will be a reinforced physical barrier in some areas, while other areas will be secured solely by powerful lighting, sensors, and cameras. When completed, the border fence would include a 20-mile patch around Tecate, CA, segments of the Mexico-California border, nearly all of Arizona's southern border, the area between Columbus, NM, and El Paso, and two other stretches of southern Texas. The homeland security spending measure includes \$21.3 billion for border security, including money set aside to hire and train 1,500 new border patrol agents. Statement by Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff on the Passage of FY2007 Homeland Security Appropriations Bill by the U.S. House of Representatives: <http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/display?content=5953>
Source: http://www.boston.com/news/nation/washington/articles/2006/09/30/us_senate_passes_bill_to_build_mexican_border_fence/
15. *September 28, Associated Press* — **Officials detain passenger whose bag had message deriding airport security chief.** A businessman was detained when he tried to go through airport security with a message scrawled on his plastic bag of toiletries. "Kip Hawley is an Idiot" said the Baggie carried by Ryan Bird. His ire was aimed at the director of the Transportation Security Administration (TSA), the agency in charge of security at the nation's airports. Bird was detained by sheriff's deputies at the airport in Milwaukee, WI, for 25 minutes on Tuesday, September 26. Bird, a senior executive for a manufacturing company who travels weekly, said he is frustrated by the TSA's rules and by overbearing security personnel. Byrd first described the incident on an Internet forum called Flyertalk.com, saying that a TSA supervisor told him he had no free speech rights inside the airport's security checkpoint. TSA spokesperson Yolanda Clark said Bird was free to express his opinion, and there is no prohibition on writing on bags. "The passenger was never detained by TSA. Local law enforcement briefly interviewed him and determined he had not broken any laws, and he was allowed to fly," Clark said.
Source: http://www.iht.com/articles/ap/2006/09/28/america/NA_GEN_US_Air_Security.php
16. *September 28, Associated Press* — **Man forced off plane by fellow passengers.** A Spanish university professor with a long beard and dark complexion said Thursday, September 28, he was briefly forced off an airliner during a layover on the Spanish island of Mallorca by passengers who feared he was an Islamic terrorist. Pablo Gutierrez Vega told The Associated Press that three German passengers on an Air Berlin flight approached him during a layover in Palma de Mallorca on August 30 en route from Seville, Spain, to Dortmund, Germany, and asked to search his carry-on luggage. The men told him that other passengers were frightened by his appearance, said Gutierrez Vega, a 35-year-old law professor at the University of

Seville. The airline confirmed the incident. After realizing the men were not undercover police officers, Gutierrez Vega refused to hand over his luggage. The pilot then approached the group and led the professor to the runway so they could speak in private. On the runway, the pilot said he was willing to expel the passengers who confronted Vega. The pilot also said he could take Gutierrez Vega's luggage into the cockpit to pacify the other passengers.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/09/28/AR2006092801213.html>

17. *September 27, U.S. Department of Homeland Security* — **Funds for radiation detection systems in the Southeast transportation corridor awarded.** The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Domestic Nuclear Detection Office (DNDO) announced Wednesday, September 27, \$3.2 million in grant awards for the deployment of radiation detection systems at interstate weigh stations throughout the southeast. The awards represent the first phase of DNDO's Southeast Transportation Corridor Pilot (SETCP) program, a two-year initiative involving federal, state and local governments in nine states and the District of Columbia in the development of nuclear and radiological detection and interdiction capabilities on our nation's highways. Initial grant awards will be provided to the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, South Carolina Department of Public Safety, South Carolina State Transport Police, Tennessee Emergency Management Agency, Virginia Department of Emergency Management, and Georgia Emergency Management Agency. Funds provided will support the deployment of fixed, hand-held and mobile radiation detection equipment at interstate weigh stations. The SETCP program will integrate existing and new systems and develop a regional threat detection and interdiction architecture. DNDO will also provide training for state and local partners on equipment operations, alarm resolution protocols, information sharing, and the shipment of radioactive materials from nearby nuclear production and waste treatment facilities.
- Source: <http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/display?content=5950>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

18. *September 29, Quad-Cities Online (IL)* — **USPS in Illinois prepares for disaster during annual drill.** An annual U.S. Postal Service (USPS) training exercise that pits postal employees and local emergency agencies against a simulated biohazard — in this case anthrax — was conducted in Milan, IL, Thursday, September 28. Postal facilities must drill yearly because some of the equipment they have would be the first place a hazardous agent like anthrax could be released. "We feel the more information they have, the more confident they are going to be if they ever have to go through it," said Lori Groen, a postal inspector. A report on how the drill went won't be available for several days, said Steven R. Courtright, the postal service emergency preparedness manager in the area. But he gave a positive impression of the exercise. "It went better than I expected," he said. "The cooperation of the local first responders was excellent."
- Source: <http://qconline.com/archives/qco/sections.cgi?prcss=display&id=308022>

19. *September 27, Denver Post* — **Letter with granular substance mailed to Colorado History Museum.** A letter with a granular substance was sent to the Colorado History Museum on Wednesday morning, September 27, mimicking four other letters sent to state offices last week,

Denver Fire Lt. Phil Champagne said. The substance found inside the envelope was probably sugar or an artificial sweetener, he said. About 100 employees at the museum left the building on their own before firefighters arrived to examine the substance. The letter also contained threats, as did the four letters sent to three downtown offices and the Colorado Department of Agriculture building in Lakewood. The U.S. postal inspector is investigating who sent the letters. The letters were sent from locations in the Denver metro area.

Source: http://origin.denverpost.com/news/ci_4407566

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Agriculture Sector

20. *September 28, Associated Press* — **Virus strikes Oregon deer.** A virus outbreak is being blamed for an unusually large number of deer found dead in south La Grande, OR. Ten white-tailed deer and three mule deer have been found dead in the past month. Blue tongue, a virus that periodically hits deer populations is the likely culprit, said Jim Cadwell, an Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) biologist. The ODFW was finding about two dead deer a day in south La Grande until the weather cooled a week ago. Then another dead deer was spotted Monday, September 25. Samples taken from the deer were sent to Oregon State University to be tested. Samples from other deer were not submitted because they were found well after their deaths.

Bluetongue information: <http://www.fao.org/AG/AGAINFO/subjects/en/health/diseases-cards/bluetongue.html>

Source: http://www.kgw.com/sharedcontent/APStories/stories/D8KDIN6G1_.html

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Food Sector

21. *September 29, Associated Press* — **Produce company starts stricter testing.** A produce processing company at the center of the E. coli outbreak that has sickened at least 183 people, killing one, is starting to test a sample from each lot of greens it packages, hoping to stop future outbreaks, the company's CEO said Thursday, September 28. The ultimate source of the bacteria is still unknown. But government officials have found nine bags of Dole brand baby spinach that tested positive for the bacteria were packed by privately held Natural Selection Foods LLC, and that the tainted greens were grown in either Monterey, San Benito or Santa Clara, CA. Recent testing of Natural Selection Foods' facilities by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and the California Department of Health Services showed the company's processing plants are clean, said Natural Selection Foods CEO Charles Sweat. Still, he announced the company already is implementing more stringent testing procedures, adopting a sampling system much like the one that helped reduce the number of human E. coli infections caused by beef.

Source: <http://159.54.227.3/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20060929/NEWS/609290321>

22. *September 29, Seattle Times* — **E. coli sickens children who drank raw milk.** Two children have been sickened by E. coli from drinking raw milk from a Whatcom, WA, dairy. A

five-year-old boy from Issaquah was still hospitalized with the illness Thursday, September 28, while an eight-year-old girl from Snohomish County was recovering at home, said state health officials and a spokesperson for a store that sold the milk. The unpasteurized milk came from Grace Harbor Farms, a small dairy in Custer, WA. It is sold by PCC Natural Markets and Whole Food Markets. All of the milk had been pulled from store shelves Thursday.

Source: http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/localnews/2003280686_spinach29m.html

23. *September 29, U.S. Food and Drug Administration* — **Findings from investigation of E. coli outbreak in spinach.** The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced Friday, September 29, that all spinach implicated in the current outbreak has traced back to Natural Selection Foods LLC of San Juan Bautista, CA. This determination is based on epidemiological and laboratory evidence obtained by multiple states and coordinated by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Natural Selection Foods issued a recall of all implicated products on September 15, 2006. Four other companies have issued secondary recalls because they received the recalled product from Natural Selections. FDA continues to investigate the cause of the outbreak. This includes continued inspections and sample collection in facilities, the environment and water, as well as studies of animal management, water use and the environment.

Source: <http://www.fda.gov/bbs/topics/NEWS/2006/NEW01474.html>

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Water Sector

24. *September 29, Agence France-Presse* — **Yangtze pollution puts drinking water at risk for millions of Chinese.** Worsening pollution in China's longest river, the Yangtze, is putting at risk the drinking water supply to millions of people, according to a new report. Pollution is so severe in some stretches of the 3,906-mile river that new legislation is urgently needed to turn around the situation, the Yangtze River Water Resources Commission said in its report Friday, September 29. The report, which has yet to be published, said the amount of industrial waste pumped into the Yangtze annually stood at 30 billion tons in 2005, up from 15 billion tons a year in the 1980s. Dozens of major cities including Shanghai, Nanjing and Chongqing, rely on the Yangtze for drinking water. China is in the grip of an acute water shortage with around 300 million people lacking access to drinking water. More than 70 percent of rivers and lakes are polluted, while underground water supplies in 90 percent of Chinese cities are contaminated.

Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20060929/hl_afp/chinaenvironmentpollutionriver_060929090833;_ylt=AIBh6G83ryUUvNYCfrMRAIaJOrgF;_ylu=X3oDMTA5aHJvMDdwBHNIYwN5bmNhdA--

25. *September 29, Associated Press* — **Two employees convicted in wastewater case.** The former director of Mount Pleasant, TN's Department of Public Works and his son have been found guilty of falsifying documents sent to the state in connection with the town's sewage treatment plant. A federal jury Thursday, September 28, convicted Larry Holden and Michael Holden of submitting reports to the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation that falsely showed water-quality testing required by the Federal Clean Water Act was being done at the plant when it actually wasn't. Larry Holden was the director of the Public Works Department and his son, Michael, operated the sewage plant. Co-defendant Marty Roddy, a former plant

employee, has pleaded guilty to a similar charge.

Source: <http://www.newschannel5.com/Global/story.asp?S=5467765>

26. *September 29, New York Times* — In India, water crisis means dry pipes and foul sludge.

Every day, Ritu Prasher, a homemaker in a middle-class neighborhood of New Delhi, India, rises and begins fretting about water. It is a rare morning when water trickles through the pipes. So Prasher will have to call a private water tanker, wait for it to show up, call again, wait some more and worry about whether enough buckets are filled in the bathroom in case no water arrives. In the richest city in India, middle-class people like Prasher are reduced to foraging for water. The crisis, decades in the making, has grown as fast as India in recent years. A soaring population, the warp-speed sprawl of cities, and a vast and thirsty farm belt have all put new strains on a feeble, ill-kept public water and sanitation network. The combination has left water all too scarce in some places, contaminated in others and in cursed surfeit for millions who are flooded each year. Today the problems threaten India's ability to fortify its sagging farms, sustain its economic growth and make its cities healthy and habitable. "If we become rich or poor as a nation, it's because of water," said Sunita Narain, director of the Center for Science and Environment.

Source: http://www.nytimes.com/2006/09/29/world/asia/29water.html?_r=1&ref=world&oref=slogin

27. *September 28, Associated Press* — Vandals wreak havoc on water system. Officials in York, NE, said the city lost about one million gallons of water due to vandalism. An automatic warning system in the Public Works Department was activated Tuesday, September 26, after 10 hydrants were turned on in various parts of the city. Public Works Director Orville Davidson said to compensate, the city's emergency water system kicked on, drawing water from all working wells. Police and Public Works crews worked for about five hours to find which hydrants had been turned on. The amount of water lost is the equivalent of a full water tower.

Source: http://www.ketv.com/news/9957022/detail.html?rss=oma&psp=new_s

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Public Health Sector

28. *September 30, Associated Press* — China reports new bird flu outbreak. A new outbreak of the H5N1 strain of bird flu killed 985 chickens in China's northern region of Inner Mongolia. The discovery in a village near the city of Baotou prompted authorities to destroy 8,990 other chickens to prevent the virus from spreading. A laboratory confirmed Friday, September 29, that the dead birds had the H5N1 strain of the virus. China has reported dozens of H5N1 outbreaks in its vast poultry flocks and has destroyed millions of birds in an attempt to stop the spread of the virus. China has suffered 13 human deaths from bird flu. Eight earlier poultry outbreaks were recorded this year in central China and areas of the north, east and southwest.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/09/30/AR2006093000349.html>

29. *September 30, Associated Press* — Whooping cough breaks out at hospital. Whooping cough has been diagnosed in more than two dozen medical workers at the same hospital in the past

three weeks, and 55 others who have shown symptoms are being tested, a spokesperson said Saturday, September 30. Since September 7, 28 cases of whooping cough have been confirmed at St. Vincent Hospital, in Worcester, MA. The outbreak appears to be confined to the hospital staff, with all victims part of the surgical department except one records worker, said Anthony Esposito, the hospital's chief of medicine.

Whooping cough information: <http://www.cdc.gov/doc.do/id/0900f3ec80228696>

Source: <http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2006/09/30/ap/health/mainD8KF DFOO0.shtml>

30. *September 29, Government Accountability Office* — GAO-06-1003: Hurricane Katrina: Status of Hospital Inpatient and Emergency Departments in the Greater New Orleans Area.

In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, questions remain concerning the availability of hospital inpatient care and emergency department services in the greater New Orleans area — which consists of Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, and St. Bernard parishes. Because of broad-based congressional interest, the Government Accountability Office (GAO), under the Comptroller General's statutory authority to conduct evaluations, assessed efforts to restore the area's hospitals by the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency; the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS); and the Louisiana State University public hospital system, which operated Charity and University hospitals in New Orleans. GAO examined (1) the availability of hospital inpatient care and the demand for emergency department services, (2) steps taken to reopen Charity and University hospitals, and (3) the activities that HHS has undertaken to help hospitals recover. To fulfill these objectives, GAO reviewed documents and interviewed federal officials and hospital, state, and local officials in the greater New Orleans area. GAO also obtained information on the number of inpatient beds for April 2006, which was the most recent data available when GAO did its work.

Highlights: <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d061003high.pdf>

Source: <http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-06-1003>

31. *September 28, U.S. Food and Drug Administration* — FDA issues guidance to industry for development of cell-based viral vaccines.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Thursday, September 28, issued new guidance to aid manufacturers in developing safe and effective cell-based viral vaccines. FDA's goal is to facilitate the development and availability of safe and effective vaccines, including those to address emerging and pandemic threats. Cell-based vaccine manufacturing holds the promise of a reliable and flexible alternate method of producing influenza vaccines, which are currently produced in chicken eggs by a technique developed more than 50 years ago. With increasing demand for seasonal influenza vaccine and with the potential threat of a pandemic, as well as other emerging infectious diseases (for example, SARS), more flexible approaches that allow surge capacity in an emergency are critical. With cell-based manufacturing, cells can be frozen and stored and thawed as needed to produce more vaccine.

Guidance: www.fda.gov/cber/gdlns/vaccsubstrates.pdf

Source: <http://www.fda.gov/bbs/topics/NEWS/2006/NEW01470.html>

32. *September 28, Reuters* — Travelers to Africa, Asia returning with Chikungunya fever.

Travelers to parts of Africa and Asia are returning with a new mosquito-borne virus and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention warned on Thursday, September 28, it could become entrenched in new areas. Some people returning to Europe, the U.S., Canada,

Martinique, and French Guyana reported cases of Chikungunya fever (CHIKV) in 2006 and large outbreaks have been reported in Indian Ocean islands and in India, according to the report. The virus first emerged in Tanzania in 1953 and, though no deaths have been recorded, it can cause a debilitating illness whose symptoms include fever, headache, fatigue, nausea, vomiting, muscle and joint pain and rash. No specific drug therapy or vaccine exists to treat it. It singled out tropical or subtropical areas of the U.S. including the Gulf Coast, Hawaii and the Virgin Islands as particularly at risk.

Report: <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5538a2.htm>

Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/nm/20060928/hl_nm/chikungunya_dc:ylt=AqP.lgMkdZR.QyzElTmiHmsQ.3QA;_ylu=X3oDMTA5aHJvMDdwBHNIYwN5bmNhdA--

33. *September 26, Durango Herald (CO)* — **Plague case makes four for Colorado county.** A 49-year-old woman has been diagnosed with plague, the fourth case in La Plata County, CO, this year, health officials announced Monday, September 25. The four cases — all caused by fleas brought in by family pets, health officials suspect — equal an annual record for the entire state. Nationally, 10 to 15 cases of plague occur in humans every year. New Mexico has already seen seven this year, resulting in two deaths. Bubonic plague is the most common form of the disease in humans. It begins two to six days after the bite of an infected flea or contact with an infected rodent or cat. Symptoms include swollen lymph nodes, fever, chills, severe headaches, extreme exhaustion, vomiting, and malaise.

Source: http://durangoherald.com/asp-bin/article_generation.asp?article_type=news&article_path=/news/06/news060926_3.htm

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Government Sector

Nothing to report.

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Emergency Services Sector

34. *September 29, Montgomery Advertiser (AL)* — **Alabama's response system: A model for other states.** Alabama's Homeland Security response system is so good that other states are sending representatives to see how they can improve their operations, a state official said Thursday, September 28. Joe Davis, assistant director of the Alabama Office of Homeland Security, said a communications system that links hundreds of state agencies and local departments to speed response to crisis situations is a big factor. Davis said in the past, only 350 of the state's 850 departments had access to each other because of equipment disparities. He said a \$12 million communications upgrade has "greatly improved" the system. "We've developed a world-class communications system that puts law enforcement and emergency response teams in touch with each other immediately," Davis said.

Source: <http://www.accessmontgomery.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20060929/NEWS02/609290328/1009>

35. *September 29, La Crosse Tribune (WI)* — **Study identifies gaps in Wisconsin's emergency preparedness.** A study of emergency preparedness in the La Crosse, WI, area shows agencies need better communication, networking and decontamination training. The study by the La Crosse Medical Health Science Consortium centered on an evaluation of Operation Heartland Defense, a training exercise in West Salem in August 2004. Gary Gilmore, one of the study's lead investigators and a University of Wisconsin–La Crosse health education professor, said participants indicated they needed more training, communication and experience with emergency protocols. Gilmore said he found the military and civilian agencies had different communications equipment and computer hardware. According to Bill Schwan, another study investigator, participants wanted more knowledge and training in decontamination. John Katrana, interim executive director of the La Crosse Medical Health Science Consortium, said the study shows the need for cooperation and communication among organizations.
Source: http://www.lacrossetribune.com/articles/2006/09/29/news/z04e_merGENCY0929.txt
36. *September 28, Des Moines Register* — **Iowa tests pandemic response.** No one knows whether a flu pandemic will strike Iowa this winter, but state and local government officials were drilling Wednesday, September 27, in case the worst happens. About 300 people participated in the statewide disaster exercise, including representatives of state agencies and 10 counties. The Iowa Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management hosted the drill, along with the state health agency. The exercise tested the distribution of a strategic national stockpile of medical supplies that would be used in response to a flu pandemic in Iowa. The drill also involved communicating with the public, the use of Iowa's emergency communications system, and the possibility of a demand on Iowa's hospitals and other health care facilities. David Miller, administrator of the Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management agency, said part of the drill assumed that some state or local officials would become ill and unable to respond to the pandemic. Iowa has developed continuity of government plans in recent years to help ensure that essential functions continue during an emergency.
Source: <http://desmoinesregister.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/2006/09/28/NEWS10/609280393/1001/NEWS>
37. *September 28, Radio Iowa* — **Regional FUSION centers in Iowa enhance interagency communication.** The search for a missing Grinnell College student last week drew many volunteers but also professionals from Iowa public–safety agencies. One of them is known as FUSION, and spokesperson Jim Saunders says the joint program is a way for Homeland Security and state Emergency Management to pitch in together. Saunders says it's intended to provide a mechanism for law–enforcement agencies to communicate and share information with private entities like insurance companies and others that might help ensure the safety of Iowans. It was designed to deal with terrorism issues, but it's often used as a "force multiplier" — just an additional resource to let law enforcement be in touch with other law agencies and entities about public–safety issues. Saunders says there are half–a–dozen regional FUSIONS centers in the state. The FUSION program establishes communication protocols and other ground rules that help them all work together efficiently when they swing into action.
Source: <http://www.radioiowa.com/gestalt/go.cfm?objectid=899137B5-05EF-4325-943D092BE9269C45&dbtranslator=local.cfm>

Information Technology and Telecommunications Sector

38. *September 29, VNUNet* — **Personalized spam set to flood inboxes.** Spammers are less than a year away from mass-mailing messages with personalized subject lines, greatly increasing the chances of users opening the message, a security expert warned Friday, September 29. Technical staff, for example, are currently receiving messages with subject lines such as "DNS change request." Matt Sergeant, senior anti-spam technologist at MessageLabs, believes this is a trial run for more widespread spam using the same social engineering principles. "The end game is for spammers to pull together information from the site where they harvested your address and generate highly specific subject lines using text automatically extracted from the source," he said. Such an e-mail stands a greater chance of slipping through a single-technology filter.
Source: <http://www.vnunet.com/vnunet/news/2165311/coming-inbox-soon-personalised>
39. *September 28, Security Focus* — **Microsoft Internet Explorer Daxctl.OCX KeyFrame method heap buffer overflow vulnerability.** Microsoft Internet Explorer is prone to a heap buffer overflow vulnerability. The vulnerability arises because of the way Internet Explorer tries to instantiate certain COM objects as ActiveX controls. An attacker can exploit this issue to execute arbitrary code within the context of the affected application. Failed exploit attempts will result in a denial-of-service condition. Microsoft has released new information stating this issue is being exploited publicly in limited attacks.
For a complete list of vulnerable products: <http://www.securityfocus.com/bid/20047/info>
Solution: Currently, Security Focus is not aware of any vendor-supplied patches for this issue.
Source: <http://www.securityfocus.com/bid/20047/references>
40. *September 28, IDG News Service* — **Computer crime laws worry security professionals.** Moves by several European countries to tighten laws against computer hacking worry security professionals, who often use the same tools as hackers but for legitimate purposes. The UK and Germany are among the countries that are considering revisions to their computer crime laws in line with the European 2001 Convention on Cybercrime and a similar European Union measure passed in early 2005. But security professionals are scrutinizing those revisions out of concern for how prosecutors and judges could apply the laws. Security professionals are especially concerned about cases where the revisions apply to programs that could be used for bad or good. Companies often use hacking programs to test the mettle of their own systems.
Source: http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=government&articleId=9003712&taxonomyId=13&intsrc=kc_feat
41. *September 28, Federal Computer Week* — **Lenovo, IBM laptops hit with battery recalls.** The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) announced Thursday, September 28, a voluntary recall of more than 500,000 rechargeable, lithium-ion batteries used in Lenovo ThinkPad notebook computers. CPSC said consumers should stop using the affected laptop computer batteries, made by Sony, immediately. The recall affects laptop computers distributed by Lenovo and IBM from February 2005 to September as an accessory costing \$150 to \$180 or as part of a ThinkPad notebook computer costing \$750 to \$3,500. According to the advisory from the CPSC, these lithium-ion batteries can cause overheating, posing a fire hazard to consumers. Lenovo said it has received one confirmed report of a battery overheating and

causing a fire that damaged the computer.

Source: <http://www.few.com/article96271-09-28-06-Web>

42. *September 28, Associated Press* — **Toshiba, Dell recall Sony-made batteries.** The Japanese electronics maker Toshiba Corp. said Friday, September 29, that it is recalling 830,000 batteries made by Sony for its laptop computers while personal computer maker Dell Inc. expanded its recall of Sony battery packs by 100,000. The batteries can short-circuit and have been blamed for causing some computers to catch fire. The latest announcements bring the tally of recalled Sony batteries to about 7 million worldwide.

Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20060929/ap_on_bi_ge/japan_battery_recall;_ylt=AhwAY2Ln7QARc7aEkN.pj8wjtBAF;_ylu=X3oDMTA2Z2szazkxBHNIYwN0bQ--

Internet Alert Dashboard

Current Port Attacks	
Top 10 Target Ports	1026 (win-rpc), 4662 (eDonkey2000), 4672 (eMule), 65530 (WindowsMite), 445 (microsoft-ds), 24843 (---), 113 (auth), 22512 (---), 135 (epmap), 80 (www)
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

43. *September 29, Associated Press* — **Report: Better hurricane research needed.** The government has not invested enough money in understanding hurricanes, according to a National Science Board report released Friday, September 29, that calls for more coordinated research. The draft report, "Hurricane Warning: The Critical Need for a National Hurricane Research Initiative," recommends a streamlined, multiagency effort to improve hurricane science and engineering research, along with about \$300 million a year in additional funds. Hurricane-related losses in the U.S. totaled \$168 billion in the last two hurricane seasons. The science board's analysis determined that most hurricane-related funding is focused on short-term forecasting efforts, with less than two percent aimed at improving structural design and engineering for buildings. Along with the report, Senator Mel Martinez (R-FL) was introducing legislation to enact its recommendations. The proposed legislation would put NOAA and the National Science Foundation in charge of coordinating the research initiative. It would be predict hurricane size and intensification, landfall, and the severity of storm surge and flooding. The initiative would would establish a National Infrastructure Database to develop engineering standards and quantify structural losses.

Source: http://www.fortwayne.com/mld/newssentinel/news/local/1563966_0.htm

44.

September 28, Mercury News (CA) — **Livermore police warn that more bombs could be found.** The discovery of four pipe bombs in five days have police asking residents to be on the lookout for more explosive devices. The first bomb was found in a light industrial area near the Livermore, CA, airport on Friday, September 22, while three more were found Wednesday night in a public park. Authorities said a public works employee found the first bomb at 8:30 a.m. PDT September 22 on the 1400 block of Rutan Road. The device was made of basic PVC pipe and contained liquid acid and aluminum foil. If the acid had made contact with the foil, the chemical reaction would have caused an explosion, Capt. Mark Weiss said. The second discovery was made Wednesday at 6:37 p.m. at Livermore's Robertson Park. All three used PVC pipe and were six to eight inches long and about an inch in diameter. A small hole was drilled into each one but the fuse that normally goes into the holes was not found, so they could not be ignited. The bombs were large "enough to cause some significant injury," Weiss said. Police do not know if the two discoveries are connected.

Source: http://www.mercurynews.com/mld/mercurynews/news/breaking_news/15632992.htm

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General Sector

Nothing to report.

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