



Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 06 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 Nuclear Regulatory Commission said it wants to complete "a realistic evaluation of offsite consequences" in the event of a nuclear meltdown, using techniques and resources unavailable when the last study was conducted in 1982. (See item [2](#))
- The Hawaii state Department of Transportation said it will check other parts of the H-1 Freeway overpass after pieces of concrete fell onto Nimitz Highway on Wednesday afternoon, October 4. (See item [12](#))
- The Time-Herald reports the new Arkansas Wireless Information Network radios — all on one frequency — have been installed at police, fire, and emergency agencies in all 75 counties. (See item [30](#))

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. *October 05, KBTX-TV 10 (TX)* — **Power outage affected thousands in Brazos Valley.** The source of the widespread power outage that left thousands of Brazos Valley, TX, residents in the dark Tuesday, October 3, has been traced to the Texas Municipal Power Agency (TMPA) Gibbons Creek Generation Station in Carlos, which is connected to the Electric Reliability

Council of Texas grid. According to BTU Group Manager Tom Hancock there was a fault on an autotransformer owned by TMPA. The mechanical failure took out transmission lines that feed the Brazos County area, as well as a few surrounding counties. Several local electrical companies that lie within the ERCOT grid were directly affected by failure at TMPA. An estimated 62,000 customers were affected by the blackout.

Source: <http://www.kwtx.com/breakingnews/4311252.html>

2. *October 04, News-Journal (DE)* — **Government to update nuclear plant risk.** For the first time since a 1982 study labeled the Salem, NJ, nuclear plant the country's deadliest in the event of a meltdown, the federal regulators plan to re-evaluate how many people would die after worst-case accidents at the nation's big reactors. The 1982 report found that a worst-case meltdown at Salem would kill more people within one year — 100,000 — than any other reactor built or under construction at that time. Since that study, nearby populations have steadily grown. Six plants were chosen for the first wave of the three-year study: Salem, Duane Arnold in Iowa, Diablo Canyon in California, Peach Bottom in Pennsylvania, Fermi in Michigan, and Seabrook in New Hampshire. Nuclear officials said the planned three-year "State of the Art Reactor Consequence Analysis" findings could be used for emergency planning, research, or to assist in reviews of licensing and new power plants. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission said it wants to complete "a realistic evaluation of offsite consequences" using techniques and resources unavailable in 1982. Skip Sindoni, a spokesperson for PSEG Nuclear, said that all nuclear plants eventually would complete the same evaluations.

Source: <http://www.delawareonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20061004/NEWS/610040344/1006/NEWS>

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Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials Sector

3. *October 05, Mercury News (CA)* — **Elementary school in California evacuated due to chemical smell.** The Horace Mann Elementary school in downtown San Jose, CA, was evacuated after reporting a chemical smell inside the school's building Thursday, October 5. The source of the smell is being investigated.

Source: <http://www.mercurynews.com/mld/mercurynews/15686935.htm>

4. *October 04, Associated Press* — **Two university students burned in lab explosion.** Two Northwestern University graduate students in Evanston, IL, were injured Wednesday, October 4, in a chemical explosion at a campus laboratory. A reaction sparked by two unknown chemicals ignited the explosion and small fire inside the school's Technological Institute. The building was evacuated and a hazardous materials response team was called.

Source: <http://www.belleville.com/mld/belleville/news/state/15680282.htm>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

5. *October 05, Aviation Now* — **Pentagon striving to find fuel alternatives, conserve energy.**

The Pentagon is looking far and wide for ways to conserve energy or use alternative fuel, and is looking at a synthetic fuel apparently developed for commercial South African jets, said John Young, department director of defense research and engineering. Developing synthetic fuel programs is only part of the Pentagon's efforts to cut back on its petrochemical fuel consumption, driven in part by the rise in oil prices and decreasing oil reserves. Such an impact will continue to drive changes like reduced engine size for the Navy's proposed DDX ship fleet, new fuel-saving U.S. Marine Corps trucks or auxiliary power units for Army tanks, Young said.

Source: http://www.aviationnow.com/avnow/news/channel_aerospacedaily_story.jsp?id=news/ENER10056.xml

6. *October 04, Aviation Now* — **Affordability will be concern with fleet size, Navy Vice Admiral says.**

The U.S. Navy is tacking for a 313-ship fleet, but there are cost concerns, said Vice Adm. John Morgan, the deputy naval operations chief for information, plans and strategy. The affordability of the Navy's plan has been a question mark in reports by the Congressional Research Service (CRS) and Congressional Budget Office. CRS Naval expert Ronald O'Rourke says for the Navy's shipbuilding plans to be affordable and executable, the service requires the following: a) Navy Operation and Maintenance spending needs to remain flat in real terms; b) Navy Military Personnel spending needs to remain flat in real terms; c) Navy research and development spending needs to decrease from current levels and remain at the decreased level over the long run; and d) Navy ships need to be built at the Navy's currently estimated prices. The Navy says the first three things are needed for the service to be able to increase the shipbuilding budget from an average in recent years of about \$10.5 billion per year in constant fiscal 2007 dollars to a long-term average of about \$14.4 billion per year in constant fiscal 2007 dollars.

Source: http://www.aviationnow.com/avnow/news/channel_aerospacedaily_story.jsp?id=news/SHIP10046.xml

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Banking and Finance Sector

7. *October 05, Websense Security Labs* — **Multiple Phishing Alert: Boulder Valley Credit Union, San Bernardino School Employees Federal Credit Union, Honolulu City & County Employees Federal Credit Union, Cahoot Bank, Heritage Oaks Bank.** Websense Security Labs has received reports of several phishing attacks. All phishing e-mails contain a link that attempts to collect user account information.

Boulder Valley Credit Union: Users receive a spoofed e-mail message, which claims that their account has been disabled. Users are asked to verify and update their online details to reactivate their account.

San Bernardino School Employees Federal Credit Union: Users receive a spoofed e-mail message, which claims that their account has been suspended. To reactivate their account, users are asked to verify and update their account details.

Honolulu City & County Employees Federal Credit Union: Users receive a spoofed e-mail message, which claims that their account has been suspended because it was compromised by outside parties. In order to reactivate access to the account, users are asked to confirm their

identities.

Cahoot Bank: Users receive a spoofed email message, which claims that the Bank SSL servers have been upgraded so users will have to update their account.

Heritage Oaks Bank: Users receive a spoofed e-mail message, which claims that their account has been suspended. In order to reactivate their account, users will have to verify and update their account details.

Screenshots: <http://www.websensesecuritylabs.com/alerts/alert.php?AlertID=653>

<http://www.websensesecuritylabs.com/alerts/alert.php?AlertID=651>

<http://www.websensesecuritylabs.com/alerts/alert.php?AlertID=650>

<http://www.websensesecuritylabs.com/alerts/alert.php?AlertID=649>

<http://www.websensesecuritylabs.com/alerts/alert.php?AlertID=648>

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

8. *October 04, Register (UK)* — **Social networkers risk losing their identities.** Many adult users of social network sites such as MySpace and Facebook expose themselves to risk from identity thieves and hackers, according to a new U.S. study. A new study by the US National Cyber Security Alliance (NCSA) and enterprise software firm CA looks at online behavior and the possibility of cyber-crime threats such as fraud, identity theft, computer spyware, and viruses tied in with the use of social networking sites. Although 57 percent of people who use social networking sites expressed concern about becoming victims of cyber-crime, they are still divulging information that may put them at risk. For example, 74 percent of the 2,163 adults quizzed in the survey said they had given out personal information, such as their email address, name, and birthday. Nearly a third (31 percent) of adults who use social networking sites have responded to "phishy" (ie potential fraudulent) unsolicited email or instant messages, the survey found. Contrary to the popular view that social networking sites are exclusively used by teenagers, the survey found 48 percent of adults 18 years or over use sites such as MySpace.

Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2006/10/04/social_networking_security_survey/

9. *October 04, ComputerWorld* — **Geek speak driving new wave of spam.** A MessageLabs September intelligence report has highlighted "geek speak" as the new wave of social engineering techniques being used to send spam. According to MessageLabs, hidden keywords such as .Net, cpan, xss and Java, hidden within the body of text can trick Bayesian filters into thinking the message is anything other than spam. MessageLabs chief technology officer Mark Sunner said spam-based on geek speak is just another way the bad guys are evolving. Sunner said he expects to see an increase in other targeted spam, for example, accountants could be targeted by using financial terminology. Adam Biviano of Trend Micro said using "geek speak" within the body of e-mails is yet another example of spammers adapting techniques to combat spam engines. Biviano said if the spam engines failed to look deeply into the body of those e-mails then it is possible they may not look like spam. "You can adapt engines to make sure they analyze "technical" looking e-mails to a greater extent, like putting the language used in context to the block of text around it so you are not looking just for content but context," Biviano said.

Source: <http://www.macworld.com/news/2006/10/04/geekspeak/index.php>

10. *October 04, Computing (UK)* — **Banks wary of two-factor model.** More UK banks have expressed concerns over industry plans for a standard card reader to be used for authenticating

online banking transactions. Apacs is leading the development of a standard model that could help to tackle identity theft by using a second means of proving customers are who they say they are. George Hazell, information security manager at Alliance & Leicester, says the bank is not entirely happy with the Apacs two-factor model. "It is intrusive, it is easily lost, and there is an issue around when we are going to get the chip-and-PIN card in a position to adopt it." Pete Marsden, chief information officer at online bank Egg, says the bank is also wary of the card readers. "...two-factor is not a complete defense against phishing...Citibank has already had its two-factor authentication model broken by a phishing attack," he said. Brendan Pickering, group head of fraud technology at HSBC, told the Gartner IT security summit two weeks ago the system was "unlikely to resolve fraud and security problems". Barclays is the only bank to have announced a full rollout of card readers for all their online banking customers.

Source: <http://www.vnunet.com/computing/news/2165684/banks-wary-two-factor-model>

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Transportation and Border Security Sector

11. *October 05, USA TODAY* — **Mishandled luggage hits record in August.** Air travelers had a record number of luggage problems in August when new security rules forced millions of passengers to check bags, according to a federal report released Wednesday. Passengers reported 437,000 pieces of checked bags were lost, delayed, damaged or stolen — an average of nearly 14,100 a day, the Department of Transportation (DOT) reported. That's up 33 percent from August 2005. Most of the 20 airlines that report data to the DOT saw their mishandled-baggage rate jump from August 2005 to August 2006. The exceptions were JetBlue, Southwest, and Hawaiian airlines. Baggage problems spiked largely because the amount of checked luggage jumped 20 percent after the government barred passengers from carrying liquids on planes. The restriction took effect August 10 after British authorities said they foiled a plot to bomb U.S.-bound planes with liquid explosives. Some of the increase resulted from a simple growth in the number of passengers, said David Castelveter, spokesperson for the Air Transport Association, an airline trade group. The 54.1 million passengers the DOT report counted in August is the third-most ever.

Source: http://www.usatoday.com/travel/flights/2006-10-05-mishandled-bags_x.htm

12. *October 05, Hawaii Channel* — **Concrete chunks fall from freeway overpass.** The Hawaii state Department of Transportation (DOT) said it will check other parts of the H-1 Freeway overpass after pieces of concrete fell onto Nimitz Highway on Wednesday afternoon, October 4. There is no safety hazard, according to DOT officials. A piece of concrete, about a square foot in size, landed in the middle lane of Nimitz Highway in front of moving traffic. Officials closed two lanes as DOT highway crews took a close up look at the source. They determined that the crumbling concrete was not a structural problem with the freeway. "It's concrete patchwork that we put on the outside when we built the freeway. Over time when you have the vibrations from the traffic it does tend to loosen up and crack," Ishikawa said. Crews spent several hours chiseling out other pieces in the same areas that appeared to be loose. DOT officials assured drivers that the roadways above and below are safe.

Source: <http://www.thehawaiichannel.com/news/10008830/detail.html>

13.

October 05, eTrucker — **Southeast weigh stations to get radiation detectors.** The Department of Homeland Security has allocated \$3.2 million toward deploying radiation detectors at interstate weigh stations in the Southeast. The awards represent the first phase of a Southeastern pilot program from the department's Domestic Nuclear Detection Office. This two-year effort involves federal, state, and local governments in nine states and the District of Columbia. The pilot program will develop a regional interdiction system to prevent radiological or nuclear attack, said Vayl Oxford, director of the Domestic Nuclear Detection Office. Initial grants will go to the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, the South Carolina Department of Public Safety, the South Carolina State Transport Police, the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency, the Virginia Department of Emergency Management, and the Georgia Emergency Management Agency.

Source: <http://www.etrucker.com/apps/news/article.asp?id=55794>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

14. *October 05, Small Business Times* — Postal Service renews contract with Midwest Airlines.

Midwest Airlines has been awarded a new five-year contract to transport express, first-class and priority mail for the U.S. Postal Service. The new agreement includes stringent on-time delivery requirements and performance standards, originally implemented by the Postal Service three years ago. Tracking provisions ensure that mail is accounted for while in the air transportation system. Each piece of mail is scanned a minimum of two times throughout the process, resulting in consistently high levels of service to both the Postal Service and its customers.

Source: <http://www.biztimes.com/daily/2006/10/5/postal-service-renew-s-contract-with-midwest-airlines>

15. *October 05, KitsapSun (WA)* — Suspect arrested in anthrax scare. A 28-year-old Bremerton, WA, man was arrested early Monday, October 2, for allegedly calling in phony anthrax threats about the Bremerton Post Office last week, as well as making other fake 911 calls, according to local police. The call to 911 suggested someone was "going to commit suicide," but when officers arrived at the market, they found only the pay phone with its receiver dangling by its cord. Police are also investigating possible bomb threats the man may have made to Harrison Medical Center this past week, according to reports. The man was taken to Kitsap County jail on suspicion of making bomb threats, and was being held on \$7,500 bail as of Monday night. Police are concerned about the man's state of mind.

Source: http://www.kitsapsun.com/bsun/local/article/0,2403,BSUN_1908_8_5038502,00.html

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Agriculture Sector

16. *October 05, Associated Press* — Massachusetts pumpkin yield down. Massachusetts farmers and agriculture experts said as much as half of the state's pumpkin crop may have been washed away by heavy rains in May and June. "Some fields were so wet that the seeds didn't

germinate," said Ruth Hazzard, a vegetable specialist at the University of Massachusetts Extension Agriculture and Landscape program. "Some farmers couldn't plant at all because it was too wet." Gerald Tillman, a deputy director for the service, based in Concord, NH, said Massachusetts farmers seem to have been the worst hit in New England. Other crops, like corn and potatoes, were hurt by the rain, but nowhere near as badly as pumpkins, Tillman said.
Source: http://www.boston.com/business/ticker/2006/10/mass_pumpkin_y_i_1.html

17. *October 04, Capital Times (WI)* — **Ash trees to be cut down in Wisconsin.** Seventeen Wisconsin counties will have some ash trees cut down to be tested for infestation by the emerald ash borer (EAB). The destructive wood-boring beetle has left behind millions of dead and dying ash trees in the Midwest, but has not yet been found in Wisconsin. State officials hope to find the beetle early if it does enter the state, so steps can be taken to stop it from spreading. The EAB, native to Asia, has been responsible for the loss of an estimated 20 million ash trees in Michigan, Ohio and Indiana since its detection in the U.S. in 2002. The beetle also was found in northeastern Illinois this summer. Wisconsin has about 717 million ash trees in the forested areas of the state. Additionally, as many as 30 percent of the city-planted trees in many municipalities are ash.

EAB information: <http://www.emeraldashborer.info/>

Source: http://www.madison.com/tct/mad/topstories/index.php?ntid=101_659&ntpid=1

18. *October 04, U.S. Department of Agriculture* — **Mexico opens markets to U.S. dairy heifers.** U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Secretary Mike Johanns Wednesday, October 4, announced that Mexico will resume trade in U.S. dairy heifers under 24 months of age. Under the agreement, U.S. producers will be able to export dairy heifers to Mexico that are under 24 months of age and registered with a purebred dairy breed association or the Dairy Herd Improvement Association, a national dairy producer cooperative. Shipments to Mexico can begin on October 4. The dairy heifers will be individually identified as they depart the U.S. Their identification information will be entered into the Mexican animal identification system for purposes of maintaining these animals under bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) surveillance. Mexico closed its market to U.S. dairy heifers following the December 2003 find of BSE in Washington state. In 2003, the U.S. exported \$103 million worth of dairy heifers to Mexico.

Source: http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/!ut/p/s.7_0_A/7_0_1OB?contentidonly=true&contentid=2006/10/0397.xml

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Food Sector

19. *October 05, All Headline News* — **FBI searches two companies in E. coli case.** In the wake of the ongoing probe into the source of a nationwide E. coli outbreak linked to tainted spinach, the FBI raided two Salinas Valley, CA, produce companies. On Wednesday, October 4, the FBI and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's criminal investigations office issued search warrants for the Natural Selection Foods LLC plant in San Juan Bautista and Growers Express in Salinas to investigate if they violated food safety and environmental laws. U.S. Attorney Kevin Ryan said: "We are investigating allegations that certain spinach growers and distributors may not have taken all necessary or appropriate steps to ensure that their spinach was safe

before they were placed into interstate commerce." The E. coli outbreak led to the death of one and sickened more than 190 others in 26 states.

Source: <http://www.allheadlinenews.com/articles/7005079948>

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Water Sector

20. *October 05, Water & Waste Digest* — **Oil spill shuts down sewer plant.** Fifty gallons of fuel oil were dumped into a sewer system in Angola, IN, leading to a temporary shutdown of the city's wastewater treatment plant. Officials were alerted to the spill when employees at the Angola Wastewater Treatment Plant in northeastern Indiana noticed a petroleum smell. The Indiana Department of Environmental Management investigators found oil and grease inside of a catch basin and an open fuel tank in a home close to the plant. A resident has admitted to pouring two gallons of fuel into the sewer, but at least 50 gallons had been released into the sewer system.

Source: <http://www.wwdmag.com/wwd/index.cfm/powergrid/rfah=|cfap=/CFID/996836/CFTOKEN/95262001/fuseaction/showNewsItem/newsItemID/12312>

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Public Health Sector

21. *October 05, Bloomberg* — **Indonesia's bird flu variant shows no major changes.** The bird flu virus that's killed one person a week in Indonesia this year hasn't mutated to become more contagious to people, the country's agriculture ministry said, citing an analysis of virus samples. Tests on 49 samples taken from birds on the islands of Sumatra, Java, and Bali showed the H5N1 avian influenza virus has undergone no major changes, the ministry said in a statement today. The analysis was undertaken by a World Organization for Animal Health reference laboratory in Geelong, Australia. Flu viruses make minor genetic changes when they reproduce, though most of the time they don't become more infectious in the process. Disease trackers are monitoring H5N1 to check whether it has mutated to become easily transmissible between people.

Source: <http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601080&sid=ahDuD4y1bQxU&refer=asia>

22. *October 04, Agence France Presse* — **China reports second bird flu outbreak in a week.** A new outbreak of bird flu has killed about 1,000 poultry in northern China in the second such case in a week, state media reported. Some 72,930 domestic poultry have been slaughtered and the outbreak is now under control, Xinhua news agency said. Laboratory tests had confirmed the H5N1 strain of the virus. The outbreak, in Henan New Village in Yinchuan, regional capital of the desert-like Ningxia Hui region, follows a similar occurrence in neighboring Inner Mongolia.

Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20061004/hl_afp/healthchinaflu_0_61004185842

23.

October 04, University of Wisconsin — **New drug blocks influenza virus.** Opening a new front in the war against flu, researchers at the University of Wisconsin–Madison have reported the discovery of a novel compound that confers broad protection against influenza viruses, including deadly avian influenza. The new work describes the discovery of a peptide — a small protein molecule — that effectively blocks the influenza virus from attaching to and entering the cells of its host, thwarting its ability to replicate and infect more cells. The new finding is important because it could make available a class of new antiviral drugs to prevent and treat influenza at a time when fear of a global pandemic is heightened and available antiviral drugs are losing their potency. Although the peptide's precise mechanism for thwarting flu remains to be deciphered, it seems to work by blocking the virus' ability to latch onto a key cell surface molecule that the virus uses to get inside cells. To survive and reproduce, viruses must gain access to cells where they make new infectious particles to infect yet more cells in a cascade of infection.

Abstract: <http://jvi.asm.org/cgi/gca?sendit=Get+All+Checked+Abstract%28s%29&SEARCHID=1&AUTHOR1=Brandt%252C%2BC&FULLTEXT=entry+bloc ker+peptide+influenza&FIRSTINDEX=0&hits=10&RESULTFORMAT=&gca=jvi%3BJVI.01678-06v1>

Source: <http://www.news.wisc.edu/12983.html>

24. *October 04, Reuters* — **Tuberculosis outbreak kills 74 in South Africa.** The death toll from a highly drug-resistant strain of tuberculosis has risen to 74 in South Africa and a health official on Wednesday, October 4, predicted more casualties from the deadly disease. The death toll since January 2005 from extremely drug resistant tuberculosis (XDR-TB) jumped from a previous tally of 62 as new cases were reported, health officials said. Another concern has been the fast deterioration in patients, who usually die between 16 and 25 days of being diagnosed. An outbreak of the highly virulent TB strain in South Africa is particularly vexing given the country's high HIV/AIDS infection rate — among the highest in the world. XDR-TB poses a serious risk to HIV-positive people as it thrives in weakened immune systems. One in nine South Africans is infected with HIV.

TB information: <http://www.cdc.gov/nchstp/tb/default.htm>

Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/nm/20061004/hl_nm/south_africa_tb_dc :_ylt=AjUjtJQYxAgXGR2.xHvyVz8Q.3QA: _ylu=X3oDMTA5aHJvMDdwBHNI YwN5bmNhdA--

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Government Sector

25. *October 05, Daily Progress (VA)* — **Bomb threat closes schools in Culpeper County, Virginia.** All Culpeper County, VA, schools — public and private — were closed on Thursday, October 5, after a 911 caller on Wednesday night “said he was going to blow up schools,” according to Culpeper County Sheriff H. Lee Hart. About 75 officers from several jurisdictions adjourned from a debriefing at the county’s Emergency Operations Center building around 8 a.m. EDT. Hart said agents from the ATF, FBI, Virginia State Police, and Stafford County Police are joining Culpeper County sheriff’s deputies and town police officers in the investigation. Culpeper County Public Schools has an enrollment of 7,260 children and employs about 1,200 workers. It’s homecoming week at the high school, according to school

spokesperson Marla McKenna.

Source: http://www.dailyprogress.com/servlet/Satellite?pagename=CDP%2FMSGArticle%2FCDP_BasicArticle&c=MGArticle&cid=1149190989297 &path=!news

26. *October 05, NWAnews (AR)* — **Teacher injured by suspicious package at Arkansas high school.** A teacher at Siloam Springs High School was treated and released for injuries from powder in a suspicious package. According to the Siloam Springs Police Department, the teacher opened a package from a known school-supply company, and an unidentified white substance came out. The teacher immediately had a reaction to the substance, including a flushed face, a burning sensation and skin that was broken-out. Initial tests with pH paper indicate the substance is a cleaning chemical that probably got in the package via cross contamination in the mail. The substance is being sent to the Department of Health and Human Services Lab in Little Rock for further testing.
Source: <http://nwanews.com/bcdr/News/40522/>
27. *October 04, Baltimore Sun* — **Man with camera stopped at capitol.** A 41-year-old naturalized American citizen from Indiana — who has photographed the interiors of state capitols around the country — was detained by police at the State House in Annapolis, MD, for four hours on Tuesday, October 3, after an officer recognized him from information shared by other law agencies. The man, who is originally from Iran and became a U.S. citizen in 1988, was released after authorities determined his name was not on any warrants or anti-terrorism watch lists, said James M. Pettit, a spokesperson for the Maryland branch of the Department of Homeland Security. Pettit said the man, whose name was not released, had raised suspicions among police at other statehouses that he visited. "Apparently he's involved in some sort of project, something about a book," Pettit said. "He ultimately cooperated. He didn't break any laws. If he wants to come back down and take pictures, he can."
Source: <http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/local/bal-md.iranian04oct04.0.4089737.story>

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Emergency Services Sector

28. *October 05, Press-Register (AL)* — **Alabama police using cell phones to obtain information.** Alabama law officers researching criminal suspects will now be able to obtain information using cell phones, personal digital assistants or laptop computers with the same ease that anyone else might download pop songs or ring tones. The Alabama Criminal Justice Information Center used its annual conference this week in Gulf Shores to roll out the new technology and begin training law enforcement personnel to use it. While individual agencies in other states use the program, Alabama is the first state in the nation to offer it statewide to each of its 15,000-plus officers. Besides being able to access background data on criminal suspects, the system is also capable of providing instant information on hazardous materials using the codes that are stamped onto transport tankers to aid in disaster management.
Source: <http://www.al.com/news/mobileregister/index.ssf?/base/news/116004000419490.xml&coll=3>

29. *October 04, American Radio Relay League* — **Measure makes amateur radio part of**

emergency communications community. A section of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) 2007 Appropriations Act, HR 5441, formally includes Amateur Radio operators as a part of the emergency communications community. Congress approved the measure before adjourning for its pre-election break. President George W. Bush signed the bill into law Wednesday, October 4. Amateur Radio is included within the legislation's Subtitle D, Section 671, known as the "21st Century Emergency Communications Act." Radio amateurs are among the entities with which a Regional Emergency Communications Coordination Working Group (RECC) must coordinate its activities. Included within the DHS's Office of Emergency Communications — which the measure also creates — RECC Working Groups attached to each regional DHS office will advise federal and state homeland security officials.

Source: <http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2006/10/04/100/?nc=1>

30. *October 04, Time-Herald (AR)* — **Wireless first responder network operational in Arkansas.** A new tool is now working to provide communications between emergency agencies across the Arkansas. The new Arkansas Wireless Information Network (AWIN) radios have been installed at all police, fire and emergency agencies in St. Francis County. Each of Arkansas' 75 counties are now on the network. The system provides communications between all of the counties on one frequency. Another advantage of the system is that the network is not connected to the frequencies that the individual agencies use. "It is separate and self-sufficient," stated St. Francis County Office of Emergency Services' Samuel Pettus. "It has its own set of repeaters throughout the state, so if you can't reach a city because a repeater is down, it can be re-routed around that repeater."

Source: <http://www.thnews.com/article.php?id=534>

31. *October 04, Homeland Response* — **Software coordinates response to biological threats.** Scientists at the Argonne National Laboratory in Argonne, IL, have developed a decision-making software system — Biological Warning and Incident Characterization (BWIC) — for state and local emergency managers. Funded by the Department of Homeland Security, BWIC is being tested in two major U.S. cities, and serves as a support system for timely warning attack assessment, communications and effective response in the event of a biological attack. It is part of DHS's BioWatch program. Scientists at Argonne integrated a diverse group of computer modeling programs that were written in a variety of computer languages by research teams at a number of national laboratories. They also developed the main BWIC Situational Awareness Tool that keeps the emergency manager apprised of the latest estimates determined by analysts using modeling components. The BWIC package provides a common view of the event as it evolves to all agencies involved.

Source: <http://www.homelandresponse.org/500/News/Article/False/32134/News>

32. *October 04, American Red Cross in Greater New York* — **New York City's small and medium size companies are poorly prepared for emergencies.** A new survey released Wednesday, October 4, by the American Red Cross in Greater New York and New York University's Center for Catastrophe Preparedness and Response has found that small and mid-size businesses in New York City are poorly prepared for emergencies. The major obstacles cited by businesses include the lack of compelling incentives and the lack of information and training necessary to prepare. The survey finds that less than one quarter of surveyed businesses have a formal preparedness plan and only four in 10 businesses report providing any preparedness information or training to their employees. Among the key

findings: a) Only 23 percent of businesses have a formal written program for emergencies; b) Only 24 percent are “very prepared” for a disease pandemic; c) For hurricanes and other severe weather, just 38 percent consider themselves “very prepared”; d) More than half, 54 percent, said they are not prepared for terrorism; e) Preparedness information or training for employees is provided by only 40 percent of businesses. See source to view the survey.

Source: http://www.nyredcross.org/media/190_P_NRRedCross-NYUBizPreparednessSurvey10-04-06.pdf

- 33. *October 03, State of Iowa* — Iowa invests \$4.3 million into emergency response training centers.** Governor Tom Vilsack and Lt. Governor Sally Pederson announced Tuesday, October 3, that the State of Iowa has awarded \$4.3 million for the planning, design, and construction of 11 Regional Emergency Response Training Centers, which will provide a broad range of training to Iowa’s emergency responders. In the final days of the 2006 legislative session, the Iowa General Assembly overwhelmingly approved HF 2782, the infrastructure appropriations bill, which included an appropriation of \$4.3 million to create an integrated network of 11 Regional Emergency Response Training Centers. Under the terms of the bill, certain community colleges are designated as “lead public agencies,” and the bill also designates “partner agencies” that will participate with lead agencies to construct and operate training centers. As a condition of receiving state funding, the training centers must agree to certain terms and conditions, including a requirement to teach courses approved by the Department of Public Safety’s Fire Service Training Bureau.

Source: http://www.governor.state.ia.us/news/2006/october/october0306_2.html

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Information Technology and Telecommunications Sector

- 34. *October 05, IDG News Service* — Google helps programmers find code online.** Google has created a specialized search engine designed to find software source code publicly available on the Web. The code search engine, which debuted on Thursday, October 5, is intended to help professional programmers, hobbyist developers, and code enthusiasts with the difficult task of finding source code online.

Google's code search engine: <http://www.google.com/codesearch>

Source: http://www.infoworld.com/article/06/10/05/HNgooglecodeonline_1.html

- 35. *October 05, VNUNet* — FTP worm tops threat list for September.** The Sdbot.ftp worm has again topped Panda Software's monthly chart of top 10 viruses. Sdbot.ftp is the script that the Sdbot family of worms uses to download themselves onto computers via FTP. Its highest infection rates are currently being recorded in Chile, Poland and Mexico.

Panda's report: <http://www.pandasoftware.com/about/press/viewNews.htm?notice=7835&ver=21&pagina=&numprod=&entorno=&sitepanda=particular es>

Source: <http://www.vnunet.com/vnunet/news/2165714/ftp-worm-september-winner-panda>

- 36. *October 03, CNET News* — Spammers plead guilty after EarthLink probe.** Jared Cosgrave and Mohammed Haque pleaded guilty last week in a U.S. District Court in Southern Florida to charges of fraud and violation of the Can-Spam Act. Sentencing is scheduled for November 16,

and the two could get up to three years in jail and be given a fine of up to \$250,000. The two were identified in an investigation last year by EarthLink's fraud and abuse team into activity at its PeoplePC subsidiary. The team discovered more than 25,000 junk e-mails had been sent through 10 PeoplePC accounts that originated from Miami.

Source: http://news.com.com/Spammers+plead+guilty+after+EarthLink+probe/2100-7350_3-6122249.html

37. *October 03, CNET News* — **Apple exploit potentially authored months prior to patch release.** Computer code that exploits a flaw in Apple Computer's Mac OS X was released publicly last weekend. The code takes advantage of a weakness in core parts of Mac OS X and could let a person with limited privileges gain full access to a system. Apple provided a fix for the error-handling mechanism of the kernel last week, but the exploit appears to have been authored before then. "It appears to have been written well before the vulnerability was fixed," said Dino Dai Zovi, a researcher at Matasano Security, who was credited by Apple with discovering the flaw. "It appears to be a zero-day exploit." He added that it may even "have been distributed before the patch was released." Indeed, a Dutch student named Matthijs van Duin claims he found the bug and crafted the exploit in November last year. He did not call attention to the exploit, but did store it in a public directory online to share it with a few people, according to Van Duin.

Source: http://news.com.com/Exploit+released+for+Mac+OS+X+flaw/2100-1002_3-6122015.html?tag=nefd.top

38. *August 01, Department of Homeland Security* — **Report: DHS OIG laptop computers are susceptible to compromise.** The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office of Inspector General (OIG) has recently released to the public one in a series of audit, inspection, and special reports prepared as part of their DHS oversight responsibilities. This report assess the strengths and weaknesses of OIG laptop computer security controls. See source for the full text report.

Source: http://www.dhs.gov/interweb/assetlibrary/OIGr_06-58_Aug06.pdf

Internet Alert Dashboard

Current Port Attacks	
Top 10 Target Ports	61307 (---), 1026 (win-rpc), 4672 (eMule), 4662 (eDonkey2000), 4645 (---), 113 (auth), 32806 (---), 139 (netbios-ssn), 4742 (---), 445 (microsoft-ds)
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

Nothing to report.

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General Sector

Nothing to report.

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