



Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 18 October 2006

Current
Nationwide
Threat Level is

ELEVATED
SIGNIFICANT RISK OF
TERRORIST ATTACKS

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Daily Highlights

- The North American Electric Reliability Council says companies are not building power plants and power lines fast enough to meet growing demand, and the amount of power that could be generated or transmitted might drop below the reliability levels in several areas during the next two to three years. (See item [2](#))
- The Washington Post reports that in-flight fires have been a leading cause of commercial aviation fatalities worldwide in recent decades and remain an unresolved safety threat. (See item [12](#))
- The U.S. Customs and Border Protection launched its third northern border air branch on Monday, October 16, at Great Falls International Airport in Montana; it will consist of 52 federal law enforcement officers, pilots, aircrew, and mission support personnel from the Office of Air and Marine. (See item [16](#))

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. *October 17, Times-Picayune (AL)* — **Flood residue crippling city's gas lines.** As water burst through the levees and flooded New Orleans, it not only covered the ground but flowed

underground through cracks and breaks in gas lines, filling the miles of gas pipes that crisscross the city. When the floodwater receded above ground, it stayed in the pipes below. The water posed a temporary problem for Entergy New Orleans in providing gas service to the city. Its salty corrosive residue, however, left a lasting effect on the cast-iron and steel pipes. While gas service is currently available to most of the city, rapidly corroding cast-iron and steel pipes throughout the city have put the future of the system in jeopardy. If nothing is done, 60 percent of the gas system, 844 miles of pipeline, could be inoperable in a matter of years. Entergy plans to begin rebuilding the entire system this January. Although Entergy needs money now to cover costs related to electricity restoration, the company has about 10 years to repair the gas system, said Ron Nichols of Navigant Consulting. Nichols said, "When electric systems get damaged, they are either on or they are off...A gas system can incur damage and still operate for a while."

Source: <http://www.nola.com/news/t-p/capital/index.ssf?/base/news-4/116106481219130.xml&coll=1>

2. *October 16, New York Times* — **Power-grid report suggests some dark days ahead.**

Companies are not building power plants and power lines fast enough to meet growing demand, according to the North American Electric Reliability Council. Its annual report, released Monday, October 16, said the amount of power that could be generated or transmitted would drop below the target levels meant to ensure reliability on peak days in Texas, New England, the Mid-Atlantic area, and the Midwest during the next two to three years. The report predicts that demand will increase by about 19 percent over the next 10 years in the United States, and slightly less in Canada, and that the construction of power plants and transmission lines to carry that load will fall far short of what is needed. In this country, utilities have contracts with new power plants for only about a third of the capacity that will be needed; in Canada, the number is about two-thirds. The number of miles of transmission lines, which can help redistribute supplies, will increase by only about seven percent, the report said.

Report: ftp://www.nerc.com/pub/sys/all_updl/docs/pubs/LTRA2006.pdf

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2006/10/16/washington/16power.html?em&ex=1161144000&en=cbbae8cfabd17059&ei=5087%0A>

3. *October 16, Indianapolis Star* — **Blaze fought in Indianapolis' Southside power plant.**

Indianapolis firefighters were dispatched Monday afternoon, October 16, to a two-alarm fire at the Indianapolis Power & Light plant. The blaze began near a boiler on the plant's fourth floor and was contained in that area. Asbestos was being removed in that section of the plant before the fire, the station reported.

Source: <http://www.indystar.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20061016/LOCAL/61016071>

4. *October 15, KUTV 2 (UT)* — **Bomb threat at Utah power plant forces evacuations.** A bomb threat forced the evacuation of the Huntington Canyon Power Plant on Highway 31 in Emery County, UT, for several hours over the weekend. Someone phoned the construction office late Saturday night, October 14, saying there was a bomb on the premises. The plant was evacuated for several hours while officials searched the area. No bomb was found and operations returned to normal Sunday morning.

Source: http://kutv.com/local/local_story_289135247.html

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Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials Sector

5. *October 17, Courier–Journal (KY)* — **Propane truck overturns, shuts down Indiana highway.** A propane–gas tanker veered off Indiana 60 Monday afternoon, October 16, and flipped, forcing Clark County police to shut down the highway west of St. Joe Road as a precaution. There were no injuries and no evacuations as a result of a propane leak. Traffic was routed around the area for about three hours.
Source: <http://www.courier-journal.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20061017/NEWS02/610170394/1025/NEWS02>
6. *October 17, WLNS (MI)* — **Gas line break causes evacuation.** A gas line break in downtown Lansing, MI, forced road closures Monday, October 16, and the evacuation of the Lansing Center. Traffic on Michigan Avenue between Cedar and Grand was re–routed while Consumers Energy crews worked to repair the line.
Source: <http://www.wlns.com/global/story.asp?s=5548583>
7. *October 17, Associated Press* — **Chemical spill in Oklahoma closes turnpike, prompts evacuations.** A chemical spill Tuesday morning, October 17, at the Port of Muskogee in Tulsa, OK, forced the evacuation of about 250 workers and residents and shut down part of the Muskogee Turnpike. No injuries were reported. A plume was caused by sodium chloride mixing with floride, but it wasn't immediately clear how it had occurred. The port, about 50 miles southeast of Tulsa on the McClelland–Kerr Navigational system, provides access to rail, road, and river transportation.
Source: http://www.nytimes.com/aponline/us/AP–Chemical–Spill.html?_r=1&oref=slogin
8. *October 17, KDKA (PA)* — **Calcium carbonate spill prompts traffic diversion in Pennsylvania.** A tractor–trailer overturned in South Strabane, PA, Tuesday, October 17, spilling its load onto the roadway at the intersection of Interstates 79 and 70. The truck was hauling barrels of calcium carbonate. Crews diverted traffic around the accident.
Source: http://kdk.com/local/local_story_290084413.html

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

Nothing to report.

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Banking and Finance Sector

9. *October 16, Times Herald (MI)* — **National scam uses local businesses.** Port Huron, MI, police have asked the FBI and Canadian authorities to help solve a nationwide check–fraud scam involving Port Huron Hospital. Hospital officials discovered the scam September 29 when someone tried to cash a bogus check supposedly written by the hospital. Since then, more than a dozen checks — some for \$1,500 or \$2,500 — have been reported in several states. The

checks were accompanied by a letter claiming the recipient had won the British Lottery. Port Huron police Sgt. Jeff Baker said the operation is a classic scam, where people are asked to cash the check and return part of the proceeds for a bigger prize. The hospital scam is believed to have started in Manitoba. The checks were postmarked in Georgia, Indiana, Florida, California, North Carolina, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, and Ohio. All recipients had names beginning with "M", "N", or "L." The checks appear authentic. Printed on check paper, they have the hospital's address but an incorrect phone number.

Source: <http://www.thetimesherald.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20061016/NEWS01/610160303/1002>

10. *October 15, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel (WI)* — **Nineteen charged with Social Security check fraud.** In one of the largest prosecutions of its kind in the country, 19 people have been charged in federal court in Milwaukee, WI, with scamming the Social Security Administration (SSA) out of some \$270,000 — in increments of about \$500. The investigation began after officials determined that the Social Security Administration's Milwaukee North office on W. Fond du Lac Ave. was among the worst in the nation in fraudulent incidents. The defendants are accused of claiming checks were lost, then getting replacements and cashing both the replacement and original checks. Social Security officials say this kind of crime is difficult to prevent because federal regulations require them to issue new checks to those who claim a check was lost or stolen, with no questions asked and no forms to complete. The fear is that if a check is really missing, denying a replacement could leave a vulnerable person homeless or worse, said Bill Cotter of SSA's office of inspector general in Chicago. But that leaves the system open to fraud.

Source: <http://www.jsonline.com/story/index.aspx?id=519280>

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Transportation and Border Security Sector

11. *October 17, Detroit Free Press* — **Mesaba may cut benefits, wages.** Mesaba Airlines won a bankruptcy judge's permission Monday, October 16, to cut wages and benefits for 1,140 pilots, mechanics, and flight attendants as early as Wednesday morning, October 18. Union leaders say they plan to strike if the airline imposes 17.5 percent wage and benefit cuts, including pay cuts of six percent for flight attendants and pilots and 10.8 percent for mechanics. But on Tuesday, October 17, Mesaba, a commuter carrier for Northwest Airlines, plans to ask U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Gregory Kishel in Minneapolis to block a strike. If a similar situation at Northwest is any indication, blocking a strike would send the talks with all three unions to federal mediators. None of the unions would be able to strike at least until an impasse is declared and a month-long cooling-off period expires. Mesaba operates more than 70 flights a day at Detroit's Metro Airport, and employs about 400 pilots, flight attendants and mechanics based there. Mesaba filed for Chapter 11 protection a year ago, a month after Northwest filed its own Chapter 11 case.

Source: <http://www.freep.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20061017/BUSINESS05/610170357>

12. *October 17, Washington Post* — **In-flight fires an unresolved safety threat.** In recent years, major plane crashes and deaths have declined sharply as authorities and manufacturers have

worked to reduce many aviation risks by making changes in airline safety. But a flurry of recent diversions have renewed concern over a major safety issue: in-flight smoke and fire. Worldwide, in-flight fires have been the fourth leading cause of commercial aviation fatalities in recent decades, experts say. The Federal Aviation Administration is concerned that planes are getting older and are loaded with more wiring — the source of the majority of the smoke and fires — as aircraft offer expanded on-board high-tech equipment and in-flight entertainment systems. Last year, the agency proposed new rules to stiffen requirements on the maintenance, installation and care of wiring. It has also worked to reduce the amount of flammable materials on board. Still, in a two-day period late last month, a Delta Airlines flight was evacuated at Boston's Logan International Airport when the pilot smelled smoke after landing. Another Delta flight from Paris to Atlanta was diverted to Knoxville, TN, after passengers reported smelling smoke. And a Chicago-bound American Airlines flight was diverted to a New Hampshire airport after passengers reported a burning smell.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/10/16/AR2006101601412.html>

13. *October 17, Associated Press* — **Ships collide near New Orleans.** A cargo ship heading down the Mississippi River struck another vessel anchored west of New Orleans on Monday, October 16, knocking a huge gash in the anchored vessel, the Coast Guard said. The anchored ship was listing, but the hole was above the water line, and the vessel was not believed to be taking on water, said Chief Petty Officer Veronica Bandrowsky. No injuries were reported. The vessels were the 712-foot Panamanian-flagged Zagora, which was heading down river at the Kenner Bend area west of New Orleans, and the 737-foot Greek-flagged Torm Anholt, which was at anchor at the time of the collision.

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2006/US/10/16/ships.collide.ap/index.html>

14. *October 17, CNN* — **Subway crash in Italy kills one, 60 hurt.** Two subway trains collided at the end of morning rush hour in Piazza Vittorio station in the center of Rome on Tuesday, October 17, killing one person and injuring at least 60 others, authorities said. Police said the conductor of one of the trains was found alive, and the rescue operation was complete. The accident took place at 9 a.m. (0700 GMT) when one train pulling into the station crashed at high speed into another one that was discharging passengers. A witness said the roof of the station then collapsed. "About one quarter of the first carriage of the train I was on was totally crushed," a man whose name was given only as Fabiano told Sky Italia TV. Prime Minister Romano Prodi told Reuters officials were "still looking into whether it was a human mistake or if something went wrong with the signaling." Transportation spokesperson Massimo Bianchini ruled out terrorism as a cause. Some passengers said the driver of the second train jumped a red light, according to the Associated Press.

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2006/WORLD/europe/10/17/italy.subway/index.html>

15. *October 16, USA TODAY* — **States considering privatizing highways can study Indiana toll road experience.** Indiana's experience with privatizing its East-West Toll Road shows that states considering the same move might expect quick financial benefits along with higher tolls and other policies that could rankle some drivers. A number of states have looked at privatizing major highways to fill budget holes and cover the expense of fixing other crumbling roads. For example, Governor Jon Corzine of New Jersey is considering leasing the New Jersey Turnpike and other toll roads, while road privatization has emerged as an election topic in Illinois and

Ohio. The 50-year-old Indiana East-West Toll Road is in its fourth month of private operation. In July, a private Australian-Spanish consortium took over the 157-mile highway, which runs east from Chicago to the Ohio border. The consortium will operate, maintain and collect tolls on the road for 75 years. In return, it gave Indiana a one-time, lump-sum payment of \$3.8 billion. Since the hand-over, the private operator, the Indiana Toll Road Concession, has readied the installation of pay-without-stopping tolling technology and announced a \$250 million expansion of the road's western end. Rates for commercial trucks have gone up to \$18 from \$14.55. More increases are scheduled for passenger vehicles as well.

Source: http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2006-10-16-indiana-roads_x.htm

- 16. *October 16, U.S. Customs and Border Protection* — CBP launches third northern border air branch.** U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) launched the Great Falls Air Branch on Monday, October 16, at Great Falls International Airport in Montana. As part of a northern border security strategy, this is the third of five planned facilities to augment CBP's northern border security capabilities with air and marine law enforcement, surveillance and airspace security authorities. At full capacity, the Great Falls Air Branch will consist of 52 federal law enforcement officers, pilots, aircrew, and mission support personnel from the Office of Air and Marine, a division of CBP. The Great Falls Air Branch will conduct regular mission patrols and is equipped for rapid incident response. CBP opened the first two branches at Bellingham, Washington and Plattsburg, New York in 2004. The fourth and fifth will be located in Grand Forks, North Dakota, and Detroit, Michigan.

Source: http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/newsroom/news_releases/10162006.x ml

- 17. *October 16, Transportation Security Administration* — TSA: Canine program graduates seven teams.** The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) announced on Monday, October 16, the graduation of seven members of its National Explosives Detection Canine Team Program. The teams are assigned to airports in West Palm Beach, FL, San Jose, CA, Houston, and Indianapolis, as well as mass transit systems in Washington DC, and Los Angeles. During training, officers were provided instruction on handler skills and explosives safety. Teams spent much of their time searching for explosives training aids in specialized indoor and outdoor training labs that included an aircraft fuselage, a terminal area, cargo warehouse, and a newly-created mass transit terminal. The teams also practiced searching luggage and a parking lot filled with vehicles.

For more information on the National Explosives Detection Canine Team Program:

http://www.tsa.gov/lawenforcement/programs/editorial_1886.sh tm

Source: http://www.tsa.gov/press/releases/2006/press_release_10162006.shtm

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Postal and Shipping Sector

- 18. *October 17, Fond du Lac Reporter (WI)* — Powdery substance in letter triggers evacuation.** Employees in the Dodge County Clerk of Courts office in Juneau, WI, were evacuated after an employee opened an envelope containing a white substance Monday afternoon, October 16. The evacuation was part of the county's standard policy following the 2001 anthrax scares, said Dodge County Sheriff Todd Nehls. Working in concert with the U.S. Postal Service, investigators were able to determine that the powdery white substance was flour. The envelope

also contained a threatening letter that may lead investigators to the perpetrator, Nehls said.

Source: <http://www.fdlreporter.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20061016/FON0101/61016092/1985>

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Agriculture Sector

19. *October 17, Xinhua (China)* — **Foot-and-mouth disease confirmed in Qinghai.** China's Ministry of Agriculture has confirmed a foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) outbreak involving 53 head of cattle, in the northwestern Qinghai Province. The affected cattle in Datong County were diagnosed with Asia Type One FMD by the National Foot-and-Mouth Disease Reference Laboratory 13 days after they showed signs of illness on September 30.

Source: http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2006-10/17/content_5214152.htm

20. *October 17, Stop Soybean Rust News* — **Missouri finds first rust of 2006.** Asian soybean rust was found for the first time this year in Missouri on commercial soybeans in the Bootheel county of New Madrid. Missouri is the 11th state with rust in the U.S. this year. The find brings the national count to 128 counties and parishes with soybean rust in 2006 in 11 states, 105 of those on soybeans. In 2004, soybean rust was found in New Madrid and neighboring Pemiscott County on soybeans, confirmed on November 30, 2004. No rust was found in Missouri in 2005. The counties in the 11 states with rust this year, including on kudzu, total 24 in Louisiana, 18 in Florida and South Carolina, 17 in North Carolina, 15 in Georgia, 13 in Alabama, 12 in Kentucky, four in Texas, three in Illinois and Mississippi, and one in Missouri. At this point, last year there were only 72 counties positive for rust.

Source: <http://www.stopsoybeanrust.com/viewStory.asp?StoryID=982>

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Food Sector

21. *October 17, Associated Press* — **Egg salad recalled.** A company has recalled egg salad because of possible contamination. The egg salad was made by Ballard's Farm Sausage and was sold in 12-ounce containers as Ballard's Farm Egg Salad at Wal-Mart and other food retailers. North Carolina health officials ordered the recall after a sample in North Carolina tested positive for Listeria. Ballard's is based in Wayne, WV. The egg salad was also sold in Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, Tennessee, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia.

Source: <http://www.wavy.com/Global/story.asp?S=5548860&nav=23ii>

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Water Sector

22. *October 17, BBC News* — **Curfew after India's water clashes.** The authorities in the Indian state of Rajasthan imposed a curfew Tuesday, October 17, in two towns of Sriganganagar

district after clashes between farmers and police. The farmers are demanding more water to irrigate their crops. A senior official in Sriganaganagar district said that the curfew had been in place in Ghadsana and Rawla towns since Tuesday morning. The official said the situation is tense but under control, with army patrols to prevent more violence. Police officials said more than 60 farmers were detained on Monday, October 16, for breaching the peace. Farmers' protests are becoming increasingly commonplace in India. They say the farmers threw stones at them and attempted to surround a government office in Ghadsana. More than 24 farmers and six policemen were injured in the clashes. It is the second time in a week that the town of Ghadsana town has been placed under curfew.

Source: http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/south_asia/6058056.stm

23. *October 16, People's Daily Online (China)* — **Over 400 Chinese cities threatened by water shortage.** More than 400 cities in China are suffering from acute water shortages and 110 of those have reached a crisis point. Industrial water use increased from 45.7 billion cubic meters in 1980 to 122.9 billion cubic meters in 2004. Water use by private citizens has increased from 6.7 billion cubic meters to 36.1 billion cubic meters.

Source: http://english.people.com.cn/200610/16/eng20061016_312266.html

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Public Health Sector

24. *October 17, New Scientist* — **Two vaccines show promise against prion disease.** Vaccines have treated infectious prions in mice, raising hopes of a cure for the human version of mad cow disease. Scientists say that two new vaccine therapies have finally produced protective immune responses against prions in mice, and that such therapies could be further developed to work in humans or livestock. The vaccines rely on training the immune system to make defensive antibody molecules. Scientists engineered a harmless virus to carry genetic code for antibodies that bind to prion proteins. Researchers injected the modified virus into the brains of mice and waited for four weeks — giving cells inside the rodents' brains time to produce antibodies from the introduced code. These experimental mice, and their control counterparts, then received injections of infectious mouse prion proteins into their bellies. The prions traveled to the animals' brains where they caused other proteins to misfold and form deadly, toxic clumps in the nervous system. As expected, the control mice died from these toxic effects within about 200 days. However, mice given the vaccine injections survived, on average, about 30 percent longer, dying after approximately 260 days. This is the first time that a virus-based vaccine has successfully slowed the progression of prion disease.

Source: <http://www.newscientist.com/article/dn10314-two-vaccines-show-promise-against-prion-disease.html>

25. *October 17, Agence France-Presse* — **Kenya reports first polio case in two decades.** Kenya reported its first case of polio in more than two decades in a young Somali child at a refugee camp near its northeast border with Somalia, amid concerns it may be indigenous. "Investigations have confirmed this to be a case of poliomyelitis," it said, adding that it was the first case reported in Kenya since 1984 and that a probe was underway to determine whether it was contracted in the country or imported. The ministry said the child's mother told health officials her daughter had been born at one of the three camps that make up the sprawling

Dadaab refugee complex. The child's mother claimed her daughter had been vaccinated for polio at the camp as part of a routine vaccination drive and had never visited Somalia, where at least 31 cases of the disease have been confirmed this year. The discovery comes as thousands of Somalis continue to surge across the border into Kenya fearing unrest as tensions rise between the country's powerful Islamist movement and weak government. The ministry said tests found the girl to be infected with a polio strain matched to one isolated to Somalia's Lower Juba region.

Global Polio Eradication Initiative: <http://www.polioeradication.org/>

Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20061017/hl_afp/healthpoliokenya_somaliaunrest_061017070306

26. *October 16, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center* — **Study finds mass vaccination unnecessary in the event of a bioterrorist smallpox attack.** The current U.S. government policy of post-release surveillance, prompt containment of victims and vaccination of hospital workers and close contacts would be sufficient to thwart an epidemic in the event of a large-scale smallpox bioterrorist attack in the U.S. Researchers "found that a well-prepared response of surveillance and containment, if done quickly, within a day or two of detecting the first smallpox case, would contain a large attack if up to 500 people were infected," said Ira Longini, a professor of biostatistics at the University of Washington School of Public Health and Community Medicine. However, Longini emphasizes, failure to quickly isolate known smallpox cases and vaccinate their close contacts could thwart the containment of an epidemic. These findings emerge from a committee of smallpox experts — including infectious-disease modelers, epidemiologists, statisticians and clinicians. Specifically, the researchers were charged with determining whether surveillance and containment — isolation of detected smallpox cases and vaccination of their close contacts — would be sufficient to contain a large attack. They also wanted to find out whether other interventions, such as mass pre-vaccination of the general public, pre-vaccination of hospital personnel, vaccination of the target community and closure of schools after a smallpox release would help contain the disease. Source: <http://www.fhcrc.org/about/ne/news/2006/10/16/smallpox.html>

27. *October 16, Reuters* — **Children's flu shots delayed.** Flu shots specially formulated for young children will be delayed in the U.S. and might not be available until November, the American Academy of Pediatrics said on Monday, October 16. Sanofi Pasteur said plenty of its FluZone vaccine will be available but there was a delay in shipping it. Pediatricians can expect supplies in November and December — well before the usual influenza peak in February. The special formulation is meant for children aged three and under. Source: http://today.reuters.com/news/articlenews.aspx?type=domesticNews&storyID=2006-10-17T032425Z_01_N16425809_RTRUKOC_0_US-FLU.xml&WTmodLoc=USNewsHome_C2_domesticNews-2

28. *October 16, Agence France-Presse* — **Indonesia confirms 55th bird flu death.** The death toll in Indonesia from bird flu rose to 55 after officials confirmed that a 27-year-old woman who died last week was infected with the virus. The death is the third to be confirmed in two days in Indonesia, which is grappling with the world's highest number of deaths from avian influenza. The woman from Central Java province developed symptoms on October 8 and was hospitalized on October 12. She died a day later. Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20061017/hl_afp/healthfluindones

29. *October 15, Anderson Independent-Mail (SC)* — **Researchers develop weapon against anthrax attacks.** Clemson University chemist Ya-Ping Sun and his research team have developed an agent that binds anthrax spores and makes them too large to be readily inhaled, the most dangerous method by which anthrax can enter the human body. "For anthrax to be effective, it has to be made into a fine powder that can easily enter the lungs when inhaled. That is what makes it lethal," Sun said. "What we have done is come up with an agent that clings to the anthrax spores to make their inhalation into the lungs difficult." Anthrax is a serious disease caused by *Bacillus anthracis*, a bacterium that forms spores. The spores are covered with carbohydrates, or simple sugars, that are used to communicate with or attract other biological species. The Clemson team used carbon nanotubes as a platform or scaffolding for displaying sugar molecules that would attract the anthrax spores. Carbon nanotubes are hollow tubes made of carbon atoms. Typically one-hundred-thousandth the thickness of a single human hair, nanotubes are formed from intensely heated carbon. When sugar coated, the carbon nanotubes bind with the anthrax spores, creating clusters that are too large to be inhaled -- stopping their infection and destruction.

Source: http://www.independentmail.com/and/home/article/0,1886,AND_8195_5069363,00.html

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Government Sector

Nothing to report.

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Emergency Services Sector

30. *October 17, San Francisco Chronicle* — **Seismic survey: New maps zero in on California locations at high risk for landslides, liquefaction.** Three new maps -- which will be released officially by the California Geological Survey on Wednesday, October 18 -- are the latest in a series designed to pinpoint locations across California that are at high risk for damage if struck by an earthquake of 5.5 magnitude or greater. Earthquake researchers began identifying the seismically hazardous areas, which are susceptible to liquefying soils or landslides, after the Loma Prieta earthquake struck on October 17, 1989. To date, scientists involved in the ambitious mapping project have issued detailed maps for 120 high-priority areas, most of which are in Southern California. Twenty of the maps cover the Bay Area's trouble spots, and researchers say they still have 40 more maps to make for the region. The latest maps cover Palo Alto, Mountain View and the Mount Sizer area above Morgan Hill in Santa Clara County. The new maps will be available on the California Geological Survey Website:

<http://www.consrv.ca.gov/cgs/>

Also Wednesday, the U.S. Geological Survey will release 162 research papers online about the Loma Prieta earthquake that rocked the Bay Area in 1989. The documents can be downloaded at: <http://earthquake.usgs.gov/regional/nca/1989/>

Source: <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?file=/c/a/2006/10/17/MNG9ULQPLE1.DTL>

31. *October 16, Associated Press* — **Auditor, senator say California disaster planning is confusing.** The preponderance of state agencies overseeing California's emergency preparedness demonstrates the need to clarify which one should take the lead when disaster strikes, the state's auditor and a state senator said Monday, October 16. Auditor Elaine Howle told a Senate committee that her office had to draw its own organizational chart to sort out the interconnecting and often overlapping responsibilities of the various agencies. They include the Governor's Office of Emergency Services, Governor's Office of Homeland Security, California Department of Health Services and more than a dozen other departments, boards, committees and councils. State Sen. Dean Florez, the committee's chairman, plans legislation next year to streamline the emergency response bureaucracy, which he said resembles "a Halloween maze." The nonpartisan Legislative Analyst's Office and the Little Hoover Commission also have recommended changes. The state audit said the awarding of homeland security grants is "hampered by inefficiencies."
- Audit: <http://www.bsa.ca.gov/pdfs/reports/2005-118.pdf>
Source: http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/C/CA_HOMELAND_SECURITY_CAOL-?SITE=CADIU&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT
32. *October 16, Federal Emergency Management Agency* — **President declares major disaster for Alaska.** The head of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency announced Monday, October 16, that federal disaster aid has been made available for Alaska to supplement state and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms, flooding, landslides, and mudslides during the period of August 15–25, 2006.
For more information: <http://www.fema.gov/news/event.fema?id=7185>
Source: <http://www.fema.gov/news/newsrelease.fema?id=30798>
33. *October 16, Federal Emergency Management Agency* — **FEMA sends emergency response team to Hawaii.** The Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) sent an Emergency Response Team Advance (ERT–A) consisting of 75 personnel to Hawaii Monday, October 16, in response to the earthquake that hit the state Sunday morning. The ERT–A team includes FEMA operations personnel charged with the coordination of federal resources to support impacted communities. Other agencies on the team include, the U.S. Small Business Administration, U.S. Forest Service, Department of Transportation, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Department of Energy, and Department of Health and Human Services. Power, transportation and other infrastructure specialists are also part of the team. FEMA's Pacific Area Office has already been working with the Hawaii State Civil Defense to do rapid needs and preliminary damage assessments.
Source: <http://www.fema.gov/news/newsrelease.fema?id=30781>
34. *October 16, Washington Technology* — **Computer-based training helps first responders strengthen decision-making.** Whether it's a natural disaster or a terrorist attack, first responders need to react and make decisions quickly. For the Indiana Army National Guard, getting the kind of training needed for those situations was not easy. Then Col. Barry Richmond learned about the computer-based training that the Army is using for officers at Fort Knox, KY. Think Like a Commander takes officers through decision-making exercises to prepare

Source: http://www.washingtontechnology.com/news/21_20/emerging-tech_/29508-1.html

Information Technology and Telecommunications Sector

Source: http://www.infoworld.com/article/06/10/17/HNsonyrecall_1.htm

Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/nm/20061017/tc_nm/security_chertoff
dc: ylt=AjzxWRVBm98JDI.bUFEONeJtBAF; ylu=X3oDMTA2Z2szazkxBH NIYwN0bO---

Source: <http://www.securityfocus.com/bid/20538/discuss>

38. *October 16, eWeek* — Survey: Hacker attacks scariest threat of all. In a survey of IT security professionals attending the RSA Conference, one-third of respondents cited uncovering identity management as their biggest organizational concern. While 29 percent of respondents ranked e-mail viruses as their most significant threat, 68 percent listed Web viruses, suggesting that Web viruses pose more of a threat than e-mail-borne ones. Paul Davis, a Boston-based IT security strategist, agrees that Web viruses should be considered a more pressing IT concern, noting the while most companies have good virus protection, they don't have adequate controls on the user's Web surfing habits. With 64 percent of respondents ranking mobile phone viruses as their least significant threat and 50 percent placing instant messaging-borne viruses right above that, these viruses registered little concern in the minds of IT security pros, something Davis sees as potentially risky.

Source: <http://www.eweek.com/article2/0.1895.2032016.00.asp>

39. *October 16, IDG News Service* — Japanese fast-food promotion gives away virus-laden prize. Winners of 10,000 MP3 players given away in a Japanese fast-food promotion got more than they bargained for, as their prizes contained a worm. If they connect the music players to their computers to fill them with songs then the worm, WORM_QQPASS.ADH, can infect the computers and steal personal data. McDonald's Holdings Co. (Japan) Ltd., the Japanese subsidiary of the U.S. fast-food chain, warned prize winners about the infected players Friday, October 13.

Source: http://www.infoworld.com/article/06/10/16/HNmcDonaldsmp3worm_1.html

Internet Alert Dashboard

Current Port Attacks	
Top 10 Target Ports	1026 (win-rpc), 4662 (eDonkey2000), 61127 (---), 113 (auth), 50001 (---), 139 (netbios-ssn), 2234 (directplay), 6881 (bittorrent), 53 (domain), 37566 (---)
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

40. *October 12, Morning News (AR)* — Suspicious letter evacuates TV station. White powder in an envelope caused Fayetteville, AR, television station KHOG to evacuate its studio Thursday afternoon, October 12. A mail clerk noticed the powder after opening an envelope addressed to the station, prompting managers to call in emergency responders, said Jim Prestwood, president and general manager of the station. Hazardous material specialists isolated the letter, analyzed the powder and found it harmless, said John Luther, director of emergency management for Washington County. The substance has not been identified, but did not match anthrax or other known threats, Luther said. The envelope was sent for further tests, Prestwood said. Responders

checked the rest of the station's mail and found no threats, Luther said.

Source: http://www.nwaonline.net/articles/2006/10/12/news/101306fz40_29.txt

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General Sector

Nothing to report.

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