



Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 09 May 2007

Current
Nationwide
Threat Level is
ELEVATED
SIGNIFICANT RISK OF
TERRORIST ATTACKS
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Daily Highlights

- The Associated Press reports airport directors from a half dozen U.S. cities are meeting with top Israeli security officials at Ben Gurion International Airport near Tel Aviv to learn about one of the world's most rigorous and effective airline screening processes. (See item [17](#))
- WUSA reports students and staff at Rachel Carson Middle School in Herndon, Virginia, have discovered straight pins in food three times since April 24; food tampering is a felony that carries a penalty of five to 20 years in prison. (See item [23](#))
- CNN reports the federal government on Monday, May 7, charged six alleged Islamic radicals with plotting to kill U.S. soldiers at Fort Dix in New Jersey, which is used to train members of the Army Reserve and National Guard for missions in Iraq, Afghanistan, and around the world. (See item [41](#))

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. *May 09, Fresno Bee (CA)* — **Metal thieves dismantle Valley infrastructure.** Metal thieves in San Joaquin Valley, CA, are eager to feed a world market hungry for copper and aluminum. Motivated by sky-high prices for scrap metal and often fueled by methamphetamine, they are

taking an increasing toll on the Valley infrastructure. Metal thefts doubled from 2004 to 2005 and there was a fivefold increase from 2005 to 2006, said Bill Yoshimoto of the California Agricultural Crime Technology Information and Operations Network. The network tracked metal thefts in the San Joaquin Valley and on the Central Coast. Yoshimoto said, "They scout locations in the day, then come back at night... Your typical metals thief is a white male in his mid-30s, with a meth habit." The thieves aren't selective. Metal theft is a crime of opportunity, according to Fresno County sheriff's Lt. Mark Padilla, whose ag crimes unit recently got the go-ahead from county supervisors to add four deputies. Another large problem is electrical transformer theft, a high-risk undertaking for a thief that can cause power outages in rural areas. Utilities have to call in crews to repair the damage and, adding in the new parts, repairs can cost \$40,000 to repair the theft of \$500 in copper, Yoshimoto said.

Source: http://www.shns.com/shns/g_index2.cfm?action=detail&pk=METAL THIEVES-05-07-07

2. *May 07, Platts Energy Bulletin* — **Energy secretary says global crude oil supply is adequate.** Global crude oil supplies are "adequate," U.S. Energy Secretary Samuel Bodman said Monday, May 7. "I wouldn't say the world is awash in oil," Bodman said, but crude oil is "not the bottleneck" in the current oil market. Instead, Bodman, during a news conference with Qatari Energy Minister Abdullah al-Attiyah, pointed to a lack of global refining capacity. Bodman said there were "plenty of reasons for refiners" to want to produce full out in coming weeks, including strong gasoline and diesel prices in the U.S. and Europe. He said refinery utilization capacity, which hit a low of 83 percent earlier this year due to planned and unplanned refinery outages, was currently at 89 percent and should be in the low 90 percent during the high-demand summer months.
Source: <http://www.platts.com/Oil/News/6380960.xml?sub=Oil&p=Oil/News>
3. *May 07, Indianapolis Star (IN)* — **Safety crews to simulate nuke crisis.** Some 700 police and fire officials from Marion County, IN, will be part of the 4,000-strong contingent that will respond to a simulated nuclear disaster later this week at a cost of \$700,000, Public Safety Director Earl Morgan said Monday, May 7. Military and public safety officials often practice their craft in simulated circumstances, but this will be the nation's first-ever scenario depicting a situation in which a nuclear device is detonated in an American city by terrorists. The training exercise takes place Thursday through Sunday at the Muscatatuck Urban Training Center in Jennings County on the grounds of a complex of buildings constructed in the early 1900s.
Source: <http://www.indystar.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070507/LOCAL/70507032>
4. *May 07, Tech Insider* — **Energy lab expert warns of growing cyberthreat.** The cybersecurity community has warned for years that the nation's critical infrastructure is vulnerable to hackers or nation states looking to crash the computer networks that support that infrastructure. It's just a matter of time, warns Aaron Turner, a cybersecurity specialist with the Department of Energy's Idaho National Laboratory. The Idaho lab where Turner works has conducted 12 control system reviews and "found that all of the evaluated systems suffer from high-impact security vulnerabilities that could be exploited by a low-skill-level attacker, using techniques that do not require physical access to systems." Turner writes that owners of the critical infrastructure cannot secure the systems without introducing errors that would affect the networks' stability and performance. Turner cites a recent paper published by IBM that reports hackers are just now organizing into a mature industry and will eventually seek to extort money

from the owners and operators of the nation's critical infrastructure. The attacks will start small and focus on economic gains, followed by the dissemination of tools to discover the vulnerability in the networks, and followed by "large-scale incidents designed to reduce confidence in the infrastructure systems," Turner writes.

Source: http://blogs.govexec.com/techinsider/2007/05/energy_lab_security_expert_war.html

5. *May 07, Associated Press* — **Security contractor at nuclear weapons plant increases equipment.** Security units at the government's nuclear weapons and research facilities in Oak Ridge, TN, have new gear and weapons designed to protect the facility from terrorist threats. Security provider Wackenhut Services won new contracts Friday, May 4, to continue providing paramilitary protective force and guard services at the government installation. Jean "John" Burleson, general manager for Wackenhut, said Oak Ridge guards are well equipped for a possible attack, but additional training is still needed. Last week, the contractor displayed the upgraded equipment, which includes grenade launchers, machine guns and armored vehicles. "We'll be at least as equipped, but we'll far outnumber them, too," Burleson said. "They won't bring in 1,000 people." The new weaponry far surpasses the current cache of .357-caliber Magnum handguns and M-16 rifles. Still, some of the technology is so new --such as the Dillon Aero Gatling gun -- that security personnel haven't been trained to use it yet.
Source: <http://www.wkrn.com/nashville/news/ap-security-contractor-at-nuclear-weapons-plant-beefs-up-equipment/93707.htm>

6. *May 07, Associated Press* — **Company says wind farms safe despite Pennsylvania mishap.** A company that wants to build a electricity-generating windmill farm near Harrisburg, PA, has improved its quality control since large pieces broke off seven turbine blades, a spokesperson said. No one was injured in the mid-March incident, but nearby residents said pieces of the blades flew more than 500 feet. The blades are 140 feet long, about 14 feet wide and weigh about seven tons, according to Spanish wind-energy company Gamesa. Company spokesperson Michael Peck said workers at Gamesa's factory in Ebensburg misapplied glue to the blades. Since then, the company has brought in experts from around the world to investigate and has decided that blades must get a 100 percent passing grade or they will not be shipped. Peck said the workers at the plant were well trained with help from the United Steelworkers of America. John Vanden Bosche of Chinook Wind said he was concerned. "This problem most often crops up when there's a new factory or new personnel in a factory and they don't really have their techniques down...It usually happens on the graveyard shift when there are no managers or (quality control) inspectors around to make sure the bond is done properly."
Source: <http://www.delmarvanow.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070507/DW01/70507021/-1/DW>

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Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials Sector

7. *May 08, KNBC-TV Los Angeles* — **Dozens evacuated, nine hospitalized after ammonia leak.** Nine people were hospitalized Tuesday, May 8, after being exposed to ammonia leaking from a soda distribution center in Anaheim, CA, and some 50 people who live near the facility awaited clearance to return to their homes, authorities said. Hazmat crews were working Tuesday morning to plug the leak in the 1200 block of North Olive Street at a building housing

a North Cal Beverage soda distribution center, said Anaheim Fire Department spokesperson Maria Sabol. The leak was reported Monday night. A total of 17 people — including eight treated at the scene — experienced symptoms as a result of the accident, and 17 nearby homes were evacuated.

Source: <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/18552594/>

8. *May 08, Sun–Sentinel (FL)* — **Cut natural–gas line sets off explosion.** A cable company drilled into a natural gas line Tuesday morning, May 8, igniting a small explosion and a fire in the area of Southwest 18th Street and Blue Waters Circle, Palm Beach County, FL, Fire–Rescue said. No one was injured in the 10 a.m. EDT fire that sent flames a dozen or so feet into the air. Sheriff's deputies shut down Southwest 18th Street to motorists between Powerline Road and Military Trail.

Source: <http://www.sun-sentinel.com/news/local/palmbeach/sfl-58gasleak.0.7720904.story?coll=sfla-news-palm>

9. *May 07, WMC–TV Memphis* — **Fire at business prompts road closure.** A two–alarm fire sent plumes of smoke into the sky Monday morning, May 7, at the Lawrence Tile and Marble Company at Millbranch and Lochearn in Memphis, TN. Just before 11:00 a.m. CDT, a tanker truck full of resin stopped to make its monthly delivery. Reports indicated some fluid leaked from a delivery hose and caught fire, apparently from the building's heating and air system. Police had to close down streets near the scene. A strong chemical odor was present near the fire.

Source: <http://www.wmcstations.com/Global/story.asp?S=6479452&nav=4X zR>

10. *May 07, Associated Press* — **Parts of Greensburg, Kansas, evacuated after ammonia leak.** Authorities in Greensburg, KS, evacuated the northeast part of the tornado–ravaged town due to a railroad tanker leaking anhydrous ammonia Monday, May 7. A crack on a two–inch valve on the 30,000–gallon nurse tank caused by Friday night's tornado finally broke through spewing gas into the air. There was an estimated 14,000 gallons in the tank at the time it started spewing.

Source: <http://www.wibw.com/home/headlines/7375091.html>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

11. *May 08, Government Accountability Office* — **GAO–07–675R: Defense Transportation: DoD Has Taken Actions to Incorporate Lessons Learned in Transforming Its Freight Distribution System (Correspondence).** In response to Senate Report No. 109–254 accompanying the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2007, this letter provides information on the Department of Defense's (DoD) plans for implementing the Defense Transportation Coordination Initiative (DTCI). The Government Accountability Office's (GAO) specific objectives were to (1) identify the actions DoD took to incorporate lessons learned from the earlier prototype program in its planning for DTCI and (2) evaluate the steps DoD has taken to achieve the organizational transformation envisioned under DTCI. The Senate Report also asked GAO to assess the business case analysis DoD developed, including the assumptions regarding cost savings that could be generated by DTCI. The business case

analysis was addressed in a Comptroller General decision on a protest that was filed regarding the terms of the DTCI request for proposals.

Source: <http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-07-675R>

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Banking and Finance Sector

12. *May 07, click2houston.com* — Thieves use forklift to steal ATM. Thieves used a forklift to steal an automatic teller machine from a northwest Harris County, TX, bank early Monday, May 7. Harris County sheriff's deputies said the machine was taken from Regions Bank on North Eldridge Parkway near Spencer Road at about 3 a.m. CDT. The thieves used the forklift to rip the machine out of the ground. The machine was double-bolted to the ground after someone tried to steal it three months ago. Detectives said the only surveillance camera that caught the burglary was the one inside the machine. The thieves likely loaded the machine into a box truck. The forklift was found in a field behind the bank. Detectives are working to determine where the forklift, which was found running, was taken from.

Source: <http://www.click2houston.com/news/13268414/detail.html>

13. *May 07, WYFF 4 (SC)* — Truck loses parts, tag in attempted ATM theft. Deputies said that someone used a stolen truck to drag away an ATM, but instead they ended up leaving behind the ATM — along with pieces of the truck and the vehicle's license tag. Just before 3 a.m. EDT, deputies were flagged down at the BI-LO supermarket on Farris Bridge Road in Greenville County, SC, by someone who told them that the ATM had been crashed into and pushed across the parking lot. The Sun Trust bank machine was still lying in the parking lot unopened when deputies arrived. The front grill assembly of the truck was lying on the ground with the license tag still attached to it. Deputies said the tag came from a dump truck registered to the Appalachian Grading Company in Pickens County. The South Carolina Highway Patrol said that they found the truck later after it was involved in an accident at 405 Lily St. Investigators said that the truck's ignition was pulled out and it had been hot-wired. The driver took off from the scene of the wreck, leaving the damaged truck behind.

Source: <http://www.wyff4.com/news/13269190/detail.html>

14. *May 05, Finance Tech* — Fraud techniques evolve in parallel with bank products and defenses. While the crimes remain a constant for financial institutions, the methods for perpetrating them have become just as diverse as the products and services offered by banks. Today's financial institutions have to be on their toes more than ever to keep that one important step ahead of fraudsters. "The overall mix of fraud is changing — it's becoming more diverse," observes Jerry Cranney of KeyBank. "[Scammers] are utilizing more tools and systems to commit fraud. We're in a world where fraud is perpetrated by check but the criminal uses ACH or wire transfer to actually move the funds more quickly. So it's more of a challenge for banks to recover the funds." Phillip Upton of PricewaterhouseCoopers says there are multiple layers to a fraud prevention strategy, including transaction monitoring, risk scoring and item investigation. Upton says that not many banks are at a point where they can obtain a single view of fraud activity across the enterprise because it requires the ability to draw data from different systems into one dashboard. The idea of pooling data throughout the bank to gain a single enterprisewide view of fraud is where many in the industry believe fraud prevention

needs to go.

Source: http://www.financetech.com/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=19920_3702

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Transportation and Border Security Sector

15. *May 08, Associated Press* — US Airways had a tardy March. In a bad March for the industry generally, US Airways registered the worst performance for the month among large airlines, Department of Transportation numbers out Monday, May 7, show. Tempe, AZ–based US Airways ran just 56 percent of flights on time in March, vs. 73 percent for the industry as a whole. Among the major carriers, US Airways also had the worst baggage mishandling rate and the highest rate of complaints from passengers. US Airways' operations broke down at key airports on March 4, the day it switched to a new computer reservations system. The product of a September 2005 merger between America West and the old Virginia–based US Airways, the breakdown occurred as the airline implemented a long–planned shift to a single reservation system. The switch caused many US Airways airport check–in kiosks to crash, causing long lines of passengers waiting to check in for flights or to check bags. Overall, it was the worst March on–time rate for carriers since reporting began in 1995. On–time performance for the January–March quarter also ranks as the worst since 1996.

Source: http://www.usatoday.com/travel/flights/2007-05-07-air-perfor mance-usat_N.htm

16. *May 08, Associated Press* — American recalls 200 flight attendants. American Airlines said Monday, May 7, it was recalling 200 flight attendants to offset expected attrition during the rest of the year. About half the recalled flight attendants are former employees of Trans World Airlines, said American spokesperson Sue Gordon. American's parent, AMR Corp., bought TWA out of bankruptcy in early 2001. TWA flight attendants were angered at being put at the bottom of American's seniority list, making them the first to be laid off when the airline industry slumped in 2001, and the last to be rehired.

Source: http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/070507/american_airlines_jobs.html?.v=1

17. *May 08, Associated Press* — Israeli airport security methods studied. Airport directors from a half dozen U.S. cities are meeting with top Israeli security officials this week to learn about one of the world's most rigorous and effective, airline screening processes. The visitors noted the main difference between the two countries: Israeli security openly employs profiling, singling out passengers for stricter screening based on their appearance or ethnic group, a practice that is banned in the U.S. The directors, representing airports from California to Florida, inspected at the security arrangements at Ben Gurion International Airport near Tel Aviv, where safety concerns affect the design of everything from windows to trash bins. No successful hijacking has occurred on a plane leaving the airport, and no attack has taken place inside the terminal since the 1970s, although Israel and planes entering and leaving the country are prime targets for Islamic extremists. Israeli experts say bolstering security efforts requires an extensive, and at times intrusive, interrogation process. Upon reaching the departure terminal, all passengers undergo individual questioning by security officers, who probe everything from their religious beliefs to travel companions inside the country. Foreigners almost automatically receive closer scrutiny, and racial or other types of profiling can trigger extensive questioning and searching.

Source: <http://www.sanluisobispo.com/349/story/36206.html>

18. *May 06, WBZ (MA)* — **Shooting spree on Massachusetts highway has police on alert.** A dangerous shooting spree on a Massachusetts highway caused a number of close calls, and police want the public's help to crack the case. Four cars on Route 24 in Raynham were shot with bb pellets during Friday afternoon, May 4's rush hour. The cars that were targeted were on the southbound side and were shot on the driver's side — leading police to believe the shooter was on the northbound side of the highway. A couple cars had their windows shattered, but fortunately nobody was hurt. A State Police K-9 and a police helicopter were brought in to try and hunt down the shooter, but the search turned up empty. Now Massachusetts State Police are appealing to the public, for any new information that might lead them to the shooter.

Source: http://wbztv.com/topstories/local_story_125163741.html

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Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to report.

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Agriculture Sector

19. *May 07, Star-Tribune (WY)* — **University plans brucellosis lab.** The University of Wyoming has teamed up with state government agencies in requesting funds for a highly secure laboratory for wildlife and livestock disease diagnostics and vaccine development and testing. Frank Galey, chairman of the Wyoming Brucellosis Cooperation Committee, said a current facility — slightly bigger than a broom closet — is a bottleneck. “They call it a Biosafety Level III facility,” said Galey — a federal designation for a laboratory designed to be highly secure. Galey said such a facility would enable the university, the Wyoming Game and Fish Department, and public health to more quickly respond to new cases of disease outbreak — even if only to confirm that it may be a false alarm. Galey said the lab wouldn't be working with highly exotic and dangerous diseases, but would focus on diseases that are already in the state — brucellosis, plague and Q-fever.

Source: <http://www.casperstartribune.net/articles/2007/05/07/news/wyoming/14368cec5be87d71872572d30020fa68.txt>

20. *May 06, Reuters* — **Mystery disease kills pigs in Southern China.** A mysterious disease has killed thousands of pigs in China's southern Guangdong province and authorities have disinfected affected farms and markets, several Hong Kong newspapers reported on Monday, May 7. The outbreak began around early April in Silao town, where the animals stopped eating, developed high fevers and started hemorrhaging under their skin. The disease has since spread to nearby towns, they reported. Its cause is unknown. Beijing-backed Ta Kung Pao quoted officials in nearby Yunfu city confirming that more than 300 pigs had died in Silao town. Some of the carcasses were hurled into rivers and that may have been responsible for the spread of the disease to surrounding areas, other newspapers reported, with some estimating total losses at more than 3,000 animals. Experts ruled out the possibility of people contracting the disease.

Source: http://health.yahoo.com/news/174855:_ylt=AjZKwztcsgNekitqOi5_qw8CmxbAB

21. *April 23, Journal of Comparative Pathology* — **Foot-and-mouth disease virus crosses the placenta and causes death in fetal lambs.** A new study is the first to demonstrate that foot-and-mouth disease virus (FMDV) may cause transplacental infection and fetal death. Eighteen pregnant sheep, six at 45 days gestation and twelve at 75 days gestation, were infected with FMDV type O UKG 34/2001. Two sheep from each gestational group were killed at two, four, and seven days post-inoculation (dpi). Viral RNA and virus were detected in the amniotic fluid associated with infected fetuses.

Source: http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?cmd=Retrieve&d b=pubmed&dopt=Abstract&list_uids=17459409

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Food Sector

22. *May 08, Reuters* — **U.S. sees no need to quarantine chickens.** Farmers will be allowed to sell 20 million chickens being held on farms that may have received feed contaminated with the chemical melamine, suspected in a rash of pet deaths, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) said Monday, May 7. The department said there was no need to quarantine livestock on farms where melamine or related compounds could not be detected in animal feed, perhaps because it made up only a small share of the feed. A USDA spokesperson said 20 million chickens were in that category. Animals will be held on other hog and poultry farms, the USDA said, where feed tests have found melamine or where feed samples have not been submitted for tests or are unavailable. Animal risk assessments will determine whether they will be culled or used for food, the USDA said. In the same announcement, scientists from five federal agencies, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, said people faced very low risk from meat from livestock whose feed was supplemented with pet food scraps that contained melamine. The scientists will now assess the health risk to livestock.

Source: <http://www.latimes.com/business/la-fi-petfood8may08.1.502561 1.story?coll=la-headlines-business&ctrack=1&cset=true>

23. *May 08, WUSA 9 (DC)* — **Pins found in school lunches.** Students and staff at Rachel Carson Middle School in Herndon, VA, are keeping a closer watch on lunches served in the cafeteria. The school's staff has discovered straight pins on food three times since April 24. Investigators are trying to identify the person responsible for the incidents. Straight pins used for sewing were found last month on a serving of applesauce and in the top of a yogurt container. Last Friday, May 4, another pin was discovered on a serving of cranberry sauce. No one ingested the pins. A spokesperson for Fairfax County schools says steps have been taken to provide additional security in the cafeteria. Officials believe the straight pins were taken from a practical arts class at the school. Police say the incidents should not be considered as pranks. Food tampering is a felony that carries a penalty of five to 20 years in prison.

Source: http://www.wusa9.com/news/news_article.aspx?storyid=58362

24. *May 08, International Herald Tribune* — **Second chemical eyed in Chinese pet food scandal.** A second industrial chemical that regulators have found in contaminated pet food in the United

States may also have been intentionally added to animal feed by producers seeking larger profits, according to interviews with chemical industry officials in Shanghai. Three Chinese chemical makers said that animal feed producers often purchase, or seek to purchase, the chemical, cyanuric acid, from their factories to blend into animal feed. The chemical producers said it was common knowledge that for years cyanuric acid had been used in animal and fish feed. In the United States, cyanuric acid is often used as a disinfectant for swimming pools. Two of the chemical makers said feed producers used it because it was high in nitrogen, enabling feed producers to lift the protein reading of the feed artificially. The disclosure is noteworthy not just because it is another indication that Chinese animal feed producers were intentionally doctoring the ingredients they sold, but because the practice of using cyanuric acid may provide clues as to why the pet food in the United States became so poisonous.

Source: http://www.iht.com/articles/2007/05/08/business/petfood.1-48_203.php

25. *May 07, U.S. Food and Drug Administration* — **Melamine and analogues safety/risk assessment.** There is very low risk to humans from eating pork, chicken and eggs from animals fed animal feed supplemented with pet food scraps that contained melamine and related compounds, according to an assessment by scientists from the Food and Drug Administration, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention of the Department of Health and Human Services, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Homeland Security, and the Food Safety and Inspection Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. This conclusion was drawn as part of a "Melamine and Analogues Safety–/Risk Assessment". The scientists estimated the human exposure to melamine and related compounds from the consumption of contaminated pork, poultry, and eggs as well as from foods containing pork and poultry as ingredients, and compared this exposure to levels calculated to be safe to consume. Scientists conclude that for individuals who consume large amounts of the specified foods, the level of consumption is 18,000 – 30,000 times lower than the level considered safe. The assessment notes that melamine is not metabolized, and is rapidly excreted in the urine. Thus, it is not believed to accumulate in the body of animals.

Source: http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/!ut/p/s.7_0_A/7_0_1OB/.cmd/a.d/.ar/sa.retrievecontent/c/6_2_1UH/.ce/7_2_5JM/.p/5_2_4TQ/.d/0/th/J_2_9D/s.7_0_A/7_0_1OB?PC_7_2_5JM_contentid=2007%2F05%2F0129.xml&PC_7_2_5JM_parentnav=LATEST_RELEASES&PC_7_2_5JM_navid=NEWS_RELEASE#7_2_5JM

26. *May 07, Reuters* — **Taiwan bans Chilean apples after moth larva found.** Taiwan has halted imports of apples from Chile, the island's second-largest supplier of fresh apples, after quarantine officials discovered codling moth larva in a recent shipment, the government said on Monday, May 7. Quarantine officials found the larva among a shipment of four containers of gala apples during a routine inspection at the northern Taiwan port of Keelung on Friday, the department of quarantine said. Chile exports fruit worldwide and its production is a key part of the domestic economy. Last year Chile trailed only the U.S. in terms of apples shipped to Taiwan, delivering 40,300 tons of the fresh fruit, up almost 20 percent from 2005, according to customs data. The U.S. shipped 42,355 tons, a decrease of over 22 percent from the previous year. The codling moth lays its larva within the fruit, causing it to rot from the inside.

Source: <http://health.yahoo.com/news/174869; ylt=AttDippue.gRy1u4nfJ nlpqmxAB>

27.

May 06, Associated Press — **Nearly 2,300 shots given to stem hepatitis outbreak.** Nearly 2,300 people received immune globulin shots for hepatitis A over two days after two workers and one patron at the Pizza Ranch restaurant in Slayton, MN, became ill with the disease, a health official said Sunday, May 6. The restaurant has been closed by public health officials. Source: <http://www.startribune.com/462/story/1166729.html>

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Water Sector

Nothing to report.

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Public Health Sector

28. *May 08, Reuters* — Novartis says EU approves pandemic flu vaccine. Swiss drugmaker Novartis AG said on Tuesday, May 8, the European Union (EU) had approved its Focetria pandemic influenza vaccine. Focetria will be manufactured to contain the particular influenza strain declared by the World Health Organization (WHO) at the time of a pandemic, Novartis said in a statement. If the WHO declared an influenza pandemic Novartis would submit a revised approval application to incorporate the identified viral strain. The vaccine will include Novartis's proprietary adjuvant MF59, which could extend the vaccine supply by allowing smaller amounts of viral antigens to be used in each dose. Novartis said it had separately submitted a pre-pandemic influenza vaccine for the H5N1 strain for EU approval, which incorporates the MF59 adjuvant and is based on the same technology as Focetria. That vaccine is intended for use prior to the declaration of a pandemic to help bolster immune systems and improve defense against infections from an H5N1 virus.

Source: http://www.reuters.com/article/health-SP/idUSL08402200200705_08

29. *May 08, Reuters* — Bangladesh culls more chickens as bird flu spreads. Bangladesh has culled about 25,000 more chickens over the past four days as bird flu spread to eight additional farms, officials said on Tuesday, May 8. One of the newly infected farms is in the Mirpur area of the capital Dhaka, while six were in Dhaka district, which surrounds the capital more than 10 million people. The eighth affected farm is in Magura district, 125 miles southwest of the capital. "So far, nearly 132,000 chickens have been culled in 52 farms in 10 districts," a statement from the fisheries and livestock ministry said. More than 200,000 eggs have also been destroyed in the past four days and more than 1.3 million since March 22. The H5N1 virus was first detected at six farms at Savar near Dhaka on March 22 and the virus has continued to spread across the country.

Source: <http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/DHA219057.htm>

30. *May 07, Congressional Quarterly* — Wildlife monitoring could provide clues on pandemics. Lawmakers are looking for new programs that would improve surveillance of wildlife in order to gather clues about the onset of avian influenza and other diseases. Animal experts say monitoring changes in disease patterns for wild animals can flag potential threats to livestock and humans as well. Diseases in wildlife populations can mutate to effect humans or can be

transmitted to livestock with disastrous economic consequences. Wildlife Center of Virginia President Ed Clark said the goal would be to create a surveillance network like that of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, first in the United States and eventually around the world. Experts say the federal government is spending too much money tracking livestock and birds but not investing in wildlife. New legislation is being considered that would create a federal wildlife information network. A bill (HR 1405) approved by the House Foreign Affairs Committee in March would start the Wildlife Global Animal Information Network for Surveillance. Through the Agency for International Development, it would provide \$50 million over five years to detect infectious diseases in wildlife and delineate threats to domestic animals, livestock and humans. A similar bill (S 1246) was introduced in the Senate on April 26.

Source: <http://public.cq.com/docs/hs/hsnews110-000002506439.html>

31. *May 07, Boston Globe* — **Spread of disease tied to U.S. combat deployments.** A parasitic disease rarely seen in U.S. but common in the Middle East has infected an estimated 2,500 U.S. troops in the last four years because of massive deployments to remote combat zones in Iraq and Afghanistan. Leishmaniasis, which is transmitted through the bite of the tiny sand fly. In some U.S. hospitals in Iraq, the disease has become so commonplace that troops call it the "Baghdad boil." But in the United States, the appearance of it among civilian contractors who went to Iraq or among tourists who were infected in other parts of the world has caused great fear because family doctors have had difficulty figuring out the cause. The spread of leishmaniasis is part of a trend of emerging infectious diseases in the U.S. in recent years as a result of military deployments, as well as the pursuit of adventure travel and far-flung business opportunities in the developing world. Among those diseases appearing more frequently in the United States are three transmitted by mosquitoes: malaria, dengue fever, and chikungunya fever.

Source: http://www.boston.com/news/nation/articles/2007/05/07/spread_of_disease_tied_to_us_combat_deployments/

32. *April 25, Government Accountability Office* — **GAO-07-320: Hospital Quality Data: HHS Should Specify Steps and Time Frame for Using Information Technology to Collect and Submit Data (Report).** Hospitals submit data in electronic form on a series of quality measures to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and receive scores on their performance. Increasingly, the clinical information from which hospitals derive the quality data for CMS is stored in IT systems. The Government Accountability Office (GAO) was asked to examine (1) hospital processes to collect and submit quality data, (2) the extent to which IT facilitates hospitals' collection and submission of quality data, and (3) whether CMS has taken steps to promote the use of IT systems to facilitate the collection and submission of hospital quality data. GAO addressed these issues by conducting case studies of eight hospitals with varying levels of IT development and interviewing relevant officials at CMS and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). GAO recommends that the Secretary of HHS identify the specific steps the department plans to take to promote the use of health IT for the collection and submission of data for CMS's hospital quality measures and inform interested parties about those steps, the expected time frame, and associated milestones. On behalf of HHS, CMS concurred with these recommendations.

Highlights: <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d07320high.pdf>

Source: <http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-07-320>

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Government Sector

33. *May 08, WALB (GA)* — Preparations for a college emergency in Albany, Georgia. Dozens of lawmen and first responders met at Georgia's Albany State University Tuesday, May 8, to build plans of action should a disaster hit one of the three Albany college campuses. Albany State University Police Chief Roberson Brown said the tragedy on April 16th in Blacksburg, VA, when a Virginia Tech student gunned down 32 people before killing himself, led him to call together law enforcement heads and first responders, with one question: "What if that happens here?" For an answer lawmen, fire department, EMS, hospital, and other first responders met with Security Heads from Albany State University, Darton College, and Albany Technical College, to come together and build plans of action in case of disaster, from shootings to tornadoes. The lawmen talked about using the resources of each department, and developing more complete plans of action working together.

Source: <http://www.walb.com/Global/story.asp?S=6486421&nav=5kZO>

34. *May 07, InformationWeek* — Prison pays \$6,000 to change locks after keys sold on eBay. Iowa's Anamosa State Penitentiary officials just paid \$6,000 to have the outer locks changed in the Iowa maximum security men's prison that houses 1,289 inmates. Fred Scaletta, a spokesperson for the Iowa Department of Corrections told InformationWeek that changing the locks was a precautionary measure because they're not sure if the keys sold on the popular online auction site, eBay, were actually for the prison. But they certainly could be, so prison officials weren't going to take any chances. Scaletta explained that a man who used to work as a locksmith for the prison was allowed to work from his home. He retired in 1974 and has since died. When the man's wife died, their estate, including some keys that are thought to be for the prison, went on sale. No one at the corrections department knew there was anything amiss until an employee pointed the sale out to them and said some keys might be involved. Scaletta also noted that the prison updates its locks periodically but he wasn't sure if the locks that these keys might have opened had been changed since the '70s or not.

Source: <http://www.informationweek.com/security/showArticle.jhtml;jsessionid=M2PZBDAJFO4MMQSNLRSKH0CJUNN2JVN?articleID=199300072&articleID=199300072>

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Emergency Services Sector

35. *May 08, New York Times* — Study links rescuers' lung ailment to Trade Center collapse. In the first clinical study to clearly link World Trade Center dust to serious and sometimes fatal diseases, doctors have found that the number of New York City rescue and recovery workers with a rare type of lung-scarring condition soared in the year after the trade center collapsed. Doctors from the Fire Department and at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine found that 13 firefighters and emergency medical service workers with the department developed sarcoidosis, a debilitating illness in which the lungs and other organs develop inflammation that produces

lumps of cells, called granulomas. The illness can be controlled with drugs, but in some cases it gets progressively worse and can be fatal. The nine authors of the study calculated an incidence rate in the first year after the collapse of 86 cases per 100,000 workers. That is more than five times higher than the 15 per 100,000 rate for Firefighter Department workers in the 15 years before the trade center collapsed.

Report: http://www.chestjournal.org/cgi/content/abstract/chest.06-21_14v1

Source: http://www.nytimes.com/2007/05/08/nyregion/08lung.html?_r=2&ref=health&oref=slogin&oref=slogin

- 36. *May 07, Federal Computer Week* — GSA names emergency response chief.** The General Services Administration (GSA) named a nationally recognized emergency management expert its chief emergency response and recovery officer, the agency announced Monday, May 7. Effective April 29, Richard Reed is leading GSA's Office of Emergency Response and Recovery, which coordinates GSA's resources to support first responders, emergency workers, and recovery teams across the government. Previously, Reed was director of continuity of policy for the Homeland Security Council at the White House. Earlier in his career, Reed was director of the operations division in the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Office of National Security Coordination, where he was responsible for continuity-of-government programs for the federal government. He also headed the interagency advisory group.
Source: <http://fcw.com/article102651-05-07-07-Web>
- 37. *May 07, WTNH-TV (CT)* — New radio system for first responders in Connecticut.** First responders all across the state of Connecticut will soon be in synch through their radios. It will be the first state in the nation to arm emergency personnel with radios linking each town and city. It's called STOCS, the State Tactical On-Scene Channel System. The cross-band radio devices will allow local police and fire officials to talk even if they have different radio frequencies and systems. The new equipment plugs into existing radios, which means towns do not have to buy new radio systems.
Source: <http://www.wtnh.com/Global/story.asp?S=6477332&nav=3YeX>
- 38. *May 07, NBC 6 (FL)* — Emergency operations officials practice for hurricane season.** Florida emergency preparedness and response officials started a four-day practice exercise Monday, May 7, to go through possible scenarios they may face this hurricane season. Officials were working at the emergency operations center in Tallahassee as if they were dealing with a real hurricane, making decisions on how to respond to various scenarios. For example, one of the problems that will arise in the mock disaster is a "massive" dike failure at Lake Okeechobee. The state has been working on a plan with counties around the lake for how to deal with such a breach, and that plan is being tested during the exercise, said Craig Fugate, Florida's emergency operations director. State emergency officials were also monitoring a real world situation, dry conditions that have led to wildfires in parts of the state. Fugate said state and local governments were largely prepared for a potentially dangerous storm. But he also warned that success in dealing with a hurricane depends to a certain degree on individual residents being prepared themselves, with supplies and a hurricane plan.
Source: <http://www.nbc6.net/news/13271303/detail.html>

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Information Technology and Telecommunications Sector

39. *May 08, US-CERT* — **Technical Cyber Security Alert TA07-128A: Microsoft Updates for Multiple Vulnerabilities.** Microsoft has released updates to address vulnerabilities that affect Microsoft Windows, Internet Explorer, Office, Exchange, CAPICOM, and BizTalk as part of the Microsoft Security Bulletin Summary for May 2007. The most severe vulnerabilities could allow a remote, unauthenticated attacker to execute arbitrary code or cause a denial of service on a vulnerable system. In addition a previously disclosed vulnerability in Microsoft DNS RPC is addressed in this update. Microsoft has provided updates for these vulnerabilities in the May 2007 Security Bulletins. The Security Bulletins describe any known issues related to the updates. Note any known issues described in the Bulletins and test for any potentially adverse effects in your environment.

May 2007 Security Bulletins: <http://www.microsoft.com/technet/security/bulletin/ms07-may.msp>

Source: http://www.us-cert.gov/current/index.html#microsoft_releases_may_security_bulletin

Internet Alert Dashboard

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

40. *May 08, Associated Press* — **ATF agent: Five planned to attack Mexicans in Alabama.** Five members of a self-styled group that calls itself the Alabama Free Militia were denied bail Tuesday, May 8, after a federal agent testified that they planned a machine gun attack on Mexicans. U.S. Magistrate Judge Robert Armstrong said he could not grant bail to the five because of the agent's testimony and the amount of weapons — including about 200 homemade hand grenades — seized in raids Friday in northeast Alabama. Adam Nesmith, an agent with the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, testified that the five planned a machine-gun attack on Mexicans in Remlap, just north of Birmingham, AL, and went there on a reconnaissance mission April 20. The five are Raymond Kirk Dillard, 46; Adam Lynn Cunningham, 41; Bonnell Hughes, 57; Randall Garrett Cole, 22; and James Ray McElroy, 20. During the raids last week, agents recovered 130 homemade hand grenades, a grenade launcher, about 70 hand grenades rigged to be fired from a rifle, a machine gun, a short-barrel shotgun and 2,500 rounds of ammunition, authorities said.

Source: <http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/dws/news/world/mexic>

[o/stories/050207dnnatmilitia.365cf12.html](http://www.cnn.com/2007/US/05/08/fortdix.plot/index.html)

41. May 08, CNN — Islamic radicals charged with plot to kill Fort Dix soldiers. The federal government on Monday, May 7, charged six alleged "Islamic radicals" with plotting to kill U.S. soldiers at Fort Dix in New Jersey. The six were arrested Monday night, the U.S. attorney's office in New Jersey said in a written statement. "Their alleged intention was to conduct an armed assault on the army base and to kill as many soldiers as possible," the office said. One of the suspects was born in Jordan, another in Turkey, the attorney's office said. The rest are believed to be from the former Yugoslavia, "either U.S. citizens or living illegally in the United States." Three of the six are in the U.S. illegally, according to an FBI affidavit filed with the criminal complaints. According to the affidavit, the case began to take shape in January 2006, when an employee of a store told the FBI someone had brought a "disturbing" video to be duplicated. The video "depicted 10 young men who appeared to be in their early twenties shooting assault weapons at a firing range in a militia-like style while calling for jihad, Fort Dix is used to train members of the Army Reserve and National Guard for missions in Iraq, Afghanistan, and around the world.

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2007/US/05/08/fortdix.plot/index.html>

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