Daily Highlights

- The Associated Press reports a massive computer failure, causing a two–hour outage at United Airlines, halted all flights systemwide for the carrier on Wednesday, June 20. (See item 14)

- The Department of Homeland Security and the Department of State announced on Wednesday, June 20, the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for the land and sea portion of the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative, a core 9/11 Commission recommendation. (See item 17)

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
Federal and State: Government; Emergency Services
IT and Cyber: Information Technology and Telecommunications; Internet Alert Dashboard
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Energy Sector

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

1. June 20, Platts Energy Bulletin — General strike starts in Nigeria; oil exports unaffected so far. Business and commercial activities in Nigeria came to a halt Wednesday, June 20, as workers began a general strike that could disrupt crude oil exports from Africa's top producer. Last–ditch efforts by the Nigerian government to avert the industrial action proved futile as labor unions late Tuesday rejected the government's concession to take back half of a recent increase in gasoline prices, and directed workers to embark on the indefinite strike. Oil workers stayed away from their offices Wednesday in line with the directive by unions, although it was not immediately clear if any oil production had been halted. "At this stage, there is no
instruction yet to our members at the export terminals to shut down," said Raymond Akpan of Department of Petroleum Resources. Nigeria exports more than two million b/d of oil, and the country is one of the top five suppliers to the U.S.
Source: http://www.platts.com/Oil/News/8115108.xml?sub=Oil&p=Oil/News

2. **June 20, Associated Press** — **South African cable theft reaches epidemic proportions.** South African copper exports to China are booming, but there is little rejoicing. The trade is being fueled by theft of the copper cables that carry electricity, regularly plunging whole suburbs into darkness, stranding thousands of train passengers and wreaking havoc with the national economy. At a crisis meeting Tuesday, June 19, with scrap metal dealers, Cape Town, South Africa's mayor, Helen Zille, said the wholesale plundering of insulation cables, wires and even manhole covers threatened to bring the tourist hub "to its knees" — a fear shared by business leaders throughout the country. "Nobody will invest in a city if you can't rely on something as basic as an electricity supply," she said. "The entire infrastructure, from sewerage substations to electricity generating points, are being vandalized for the sake of a few bucks." The cable crisis is not unique to South Africa. Record prices for copper and other metals have led to an upsurge in theft and associated disruption in many other countries, including the U.S., Britain and Vietnam, said Rens Bindeman, a consultant advising South African authorities. There are growing signs that the finished product ends up in China, which has an insatiable appetite for raw materials.

3. **June 19, Associated Press** — **DOE releases design requirements for nuclear transport canisters.** The Department of Energy (DOE) announced design requirements Tuesday, June 19, for canisters to transport radioactive waste to Nevada and store it in the planned Yucca Mountain national nuclear dump. The agency envisions vendors competing to produce canisters dubbed "TAD"s — short for transportation, aging and disposal — between 15 1/2 feet and 17 1/2 feet long and weighing a maximum of 54.25 tons each. Some 7,500 of the TAD canisters would be needed to fill the dump to its proposed 77,000-ton capacity. They would be shipped by rail from commercial reactor sites in some 39 states. It's the latest announcement by DOE in planning for the troubled Yucca Mountain repository, 90 miles northwest of Las Vegas. The project has been delayed by scientific controversies, money shortages, and opposition from Nevada officials. Originally targeted to open in 1998, the best-case opening date for Yucca Mountain is now 2017. It would be the nation's first federal nuclear waste dump and would receive some 50,000 tons of radioactive waste already piled up at power plants around the country.

4. **June 20, WAFB (LA)** — **Nitric acid fire on campus sends two women to hospital.** Two women were briefly overcome after a nitric acid fire on the Louisiana State University campus. It happened in Sturgis Hall, the agronomy building, across from the old Parker Coliseum. Fire officials say six different canisters of nitric acid caught fire and began turning to a dangerous gas. Altogether nearly four gallons of nitric acid was involved, a sprinkler system suppressed
the gas and fire.


5. **June 20, Associated Press** — **Classes resume after mercury spill.** Minnesota State University at Moorhead resumed classes as scheduled on Wednesday, June 20, after a mercury spill prompted the university to close three buildings the day before. Nearly 150 people were quarantined Tuesday while emergency responders determined if they were contaminated. The clothing of a school custodian tested positive for mercury after a small amount of the chemical spilled. The shoes of two construction workers who were on campus also tested positive for mercury. But university spokesperson Doug Hamilton said all others who came in contact with the affected buildings tested negative. The spill happened when a general maintenance worker was moving a box to a cart in a psychology lab on the third floor of Bridges Hall. Three drops of mercury — each about the size of a quarter — spilled to the floor.


Defense Industrial Base Sector

6. **June 19, GovExec** — **Air Force helicopter contract faces another holdup.** The Air Force's much-delayed search and rescue helicopter contract has hit a snag — again. On Monday, June 18, Sikorsky Aircraft Corp. announced that it had filed a protest of the Air Force's amended request for proposals (RFP), arguing that the service failed to address serious flaws in its evaluation of the aircraft's operating and support costs. Lockheed Martin Corp. filed a similar protest with the Government Accountability Office (GAO) last week, suggesting that the Air Force would be better served with a broader re-evaluation of the contract proposals. Last November, the Air Force chose Boeing Co.'s HH-47 helicopter, a modified Army Chinook, for the $15 billion contract to replace its aging fleet of 141 search and rescue helicopters. Shortly thereafter, Sikorsky and Lockheed filed protests. GAO upheld one objection, recommending that the Air Force issue a new RFP clarifying the overall life-cycle requirements.

Source: http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=37247&dcn=to_daysnews

7. **June 19, Government Accountability Office** — **GAO-07-559: Defense Contracting: Use of Undefinitized Contract Actions Understated and Definitization Time Frames Often Not Met (Report).** To meet urgent needs, the Department of Defense (DoD) can issue undefinitized contract actions (UCA), which authorize contractors to begin work before reaching a final agreement on contract terms. The contractor has little incentive to control costs during this period, creating a potential for wasted taxpayer dollars. Pursuant to the House of Representatives report on the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2007, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) assessed (1) the level of insight DoD has into its use of UCAs, (2) how and when DoD is using UCAs, (3) whether DoD is definitizing UCAs in a timely fashion, and (4) whether contracting officers are documenting the basis for negotiated profit or fee. GAO reviewed 77 randomly-selected contracts at seven locations and interviewed DoD officials. GAO recommends that the Secretary of Defense take actions to help ensure UCAs are definitized on time and to mitigate associated risks. GAO also recommends that the Administrator of the Office of Federal Procurement Policy, which sets government contracting requirements, improve the level of information needed to oversee UCAs. In written and oral
Banking and Finance Sector

8. June 20, Register (UK) — Phishers, not zombies, causing biggest security woes. Data-swiping phishing sites are causing a greater security headache than expected while botnet numbers have taken an unexpected dip over recent months, according to revised security predictions by McAfee. McAfee Avert Labs recorded a 784 percent increase in phishing Websites in the first quarter of 2007 compared to the same period last year, with no slowdown in sight. Jeff Green of McAfee Avert Labs says: "As we predicted, professional and organized criminals continue to drive a lot of the malicious activity on the net. However, we were surprised that mobile malware and image spam tapered off."
Source: http://www.channelregister.co.uk/2007/06/20/mcafee_security_trends/

9. June 20, Associated Press — Wal−Mart to offer prepaid cards. Wal−Mart will start selling prepaid Visa debit cards that don't require a credit check or bank account, the company said Wednesday, June 20. The world's largest retailer has sought to expand into financial services at its U.S. stores to serve the millions of people who don't have bank accounts or credit cards. Wal−Mart will also add hundreds of in−store centers bundling the financial services it already offers, such as payroll check cashing and money transfers. The number of so−called MoneyCenters will rise from about 225 now to 1,000 by the end of 2008. The announcement comes three months after Wal−Mart withdrew a bank license application that had been strongly opposed by banks, unions and other critics, who argued before federal regulators that a Wal−Mart bank would have too much economic power. The reloadable prepaid Visa card, dubbed the Wal−Mart MoneyCard, will be rolled out nationally. It can be used anywhere that accepts Visa debit cards. The Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. estimates that ten million American households are "unbanked" or "underbanked", meaning they do not have accounts at financial institutions and often pay excessive fees for basic financial services.

10. June 20, VNUNet — New browsers fail to curb phishing. Anti-phishing features inside popular browsers are failing to curb the onslaught of e-mails that attempt to steal confidential information. Microsoft's Internet Explorer 7 and Mozilla's Firefox 2.0 incorporate blacklists that warn users when they attempt to visit known phishing Websites. David Jevans of the Anti−Phishing Working Group (APWG) said that this has not led to a decrease in the number of phishing e−mails. Criminals have wised−up to blacklists by registering a new domain for each phishing run. The result, according to Jevans, is an explosion in the number of unique phishing domains. APWG records suggest that unique phishing domains rose from 11,976 a year ago to 37,438 last month. Registering a new domain for each phishing attack offers the criminal several hours to steal information between sending out the messages and the site being added to the blacklist. In order to combat the practice in the short term, Jevans said that browser
vendors should add heuristics systems that analyze the behavior of a Website and flag suspicious pages to the user. But such systems can also mistakenly label many legitimate sites as phishing operations.


11. **June 19, KABC 7 – TV (CA) — Synthetic ID theft uses Social Security numbers.** Thieves are taking identity theft to a whole new level with Synthetic ID theft. People steal a Social Security number and then use it under a different name. Unlike traditional ID theft, in synthetic identity theft, crooks steal your Social Security number, but tie it to a different name creating a new, fictional person. That makes it harder to detect. The thieves open bank accounts and credit cards, even get jobs. Yet it can take years to uncover. Why? It's difficult for the authorities and creditors to unravel all the mismatched information. Five years ago, this crime was hardly seen. Stephen Coggeshell of ID Analytics says, "Eighty-five to 90 percent of identity fraud is really this synthetic ID fraud, as opposed to the true name identity theft." Since the fraud isn't committed in your name, it typically doesn't show up on your credit report because not enough of the ID information matches you. But your stolen Social Security number could end up in all kinds of different databases.


12. **June 19, FINextra — Off-site ATMs outnumber branch installations for first time, says report.** Cash machines installed at off-site locations now outnumber those deployed in bank branches, according to an annual study of the ATM market in Western Europe. The study by Retail Banking Research (RBR), which covers 18 countries, found that for the first time ever, off-site ATMs outnumber lobby installations. Overall the research shows that growth rate of the western European ATM market recovered slightly from an all time low of four percent in 2005 to 4.4 percent in 2006. Around 14,295 new machines were installed during 2006, bringing the total number of ATMs in the region to 342,495. Although Turkey was found to be the fastest growing market, the UK remains the largest with 60,642 ATMs. Just three countries — the UK, Italy and Spain — account for more than half of the growth in ATM installations, says RBR.


13. **June 19, Computerworld — Banks blame merchants for data breaches.** A discussion of the ongoing tug of war between banks, credit card companies and retailers regarding the Payment Card Industry (PCI) Data Security Standard drew ire, frustration and organizational tips from a panel of users at the Symantec Vision user conference in Las Vegas, NV last week. Executives from JP Morgan Chase & Co., First Horizon Bank Holding Co., and AT&T Inc.'s compliance division offered details about their PCI deployment experiences, discussed the confusion surrounding evolving rules, and offered advice on how to deal with the auditing and IT overhaul pressures PCI can bring. As some retail executives openly criticize the PCI standard, for levying unfair costs and IT burdens upon their organizations, the financial services executives fired back by noting that high-profile data breaches at retailers like The TJX Companies Inc. are not originating from their side of the fence. The PCI standards mandate an array of basic security controls, including encryption, authentication, logging and monitoring, for transactions processed using credit and debit cards. Vanessa Pegueros of AT&T said that companies should consider centralizing credit card data as much as possible by cutting the number of applications holding credit card information. That move would minimize PCI
Transportation and Border Security Sector

14. June 20, Associated Press — Computer failure grounds United flights. A massive computer failure at United Airlines halted all departing flights systemwide for the carrier on Wednesday, June 20. The cause of the two-hour outage wasn't immediately clear. At Chicago's O'Hare International Airport, some flights sat on the tarmac for several hours while arriving airplanes were unable to connect to gates because departing planes were unable to leave. The Federal Aviation Administration said that the problem affected only United Airlines, and that it was eventually solved. It lasted from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. CDT, when departures were able to resume, said United spokesperson Robin Urbanski. "We were experiencing a computer outage and now our computers are back up," she said. "Right now we're working hard to resume our operations." Source: http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2007/06/20/travel/main2955199.shtml

15. June 20, Daily Herald (IL) — United to hire 100 new pilots. United Airlines took another step Tuesday, June 19, to help shake off those dark days after September 11, 2001. The Chicago-based airline said it would hire as many as 100 new pilots later this year to accommodate a growing schedule, including more international flights. The airline will start accepting online applications later this summer on its Website. New hires will be trained at United’s training center in Denver and could start flying as early as December. But much of this depends on whether the federal rule for mandatory retirement of pilots changes from age 60 to 65, said United spokesperson Megan McCarthy. “If the mandatory retirement age for pilots changes to 65, then some of our pilots may stay on longer and we’ll need to hire fewer new pilots,” said McCarthy.
United Website: http://www.united.com

16. June 20, TheBostonChannel — Airplane aborts landing, touches down safely. Authorities at Boston’s Logan International Airport said the pilot of an American Eagle regional jet was worried his landing gear may have been damaged and aborted a landing attempt Wednesday morning, June 20, circling the airport with 40 people on board until he was able to safely land about 9:30 a.m. EDT. The American Eagle plane first attempted to land before 8:20 a.m., officials said. The attempted landing was aborted after the pilot determined there might be a landing gear problem. The pilot continued circling until he could attempt a second landing.
"They tried to make the first landing. They took right off, circled around, did a few flybys to check the under carriage," passenger Bob Bowen said. "When he landed, he apparently felt that something was wrong and took off again," Logan spokesperson Phil Orlandella said. The plane was identified as flight No. 4539 coming from Toronto, Canada. It was said to have 37 passengers and three crew members on board.
17. **June 20, Department of Homeland Security** — **DHS advances initiative to Strengthen Border Security and Facilitate Entry into the United States.** The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the Department of State (DOS) announced on Wednesday, June 20, the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) for the land and sea portion of the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative (WHTI), a core 9/11 Commission recommendation. Proposed rules require a passport or other secure document denoting citizenship and identity for all land and sea travel into the United States. "Secure documents are a national imperative that will prevent dangerous people from entering our country using fraudulent identification," said DHS Secretary Michael Chertoff. "This initiative fixes a vulnerability first identified by the 9/11 Commission and later addressed by Congress. It will enhance our ability to assess threats and confirm identity at ports of entry, while continuing to facilitate lawful travel and commerce." As the first rational step towards full WHTI implementation, DHS intends to end the routine practice of accepting oral declarations alone at land and sea ports of entry. On January 31, 2008, U.S. and Canadian citizens will need to present either a WHTI−compliant document or a government−issued photo ID, such as a driver’s license, plus proof of citizenship, such as a birth certificate. DHS also proposes to begin alternative procedures for U.S. and Canadian children at that time. 


For more information, visit http://www.dhs.gov/ or http://www.travel.state.gov/

Source: http://www.dhs.gov/xnews/releases/pr_1182350422171.shtm

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**Postal and Shipping Sector**

18. **June 20, Star Beacon (OH)** — **Suspicious powder causes quarantine.** Geneva–On–The–Lake Village, OH, police and fire personnel spent Tuesday afternoon, June 19, in quarantine after coming in contact with a suspicious powder, Police Chief Tim Bruckman said. Police were called to 5190 Old Lake Road after a woman opened her mail and found a letter containing a strong−smelling powder, according to Bruckman. Ashtabula County Health Department officials took possession of the letter and, with the help of the U.S. Postal Service, determined the substance was incense, Bruckman said. "We are now working with those officials to determine the origin of the letter. The postal and health department(s) were a great help," he said. Everyone who came in contact with the letter was immediately decontaminated and quarantined, Bruckman said. The letter, which was written with cut−out letters from magazines and newspapers, is now in evidence as officials work to find the sender, Bruckman said. "The victim said she has been having some trouble with a former neighbor. (The victim) supplied us with a few leads and gave us someplace to start looking," he said. If caught, the sender faces federal charges of obstructing postal business, threatening and using the mail to send threats.

Source: http://www.starbeacon.com/local/local_story_171072332

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**Agriculture Sector**
19. **June 20, USAgNet — Bayer CropScience completes acquisition of Stoneville Seeds.** Bayer CropScience has completed the acquisition of Stoneville Pedigreed Seed Company from Monsanto Company after U.S. authorities approved the transaction. On May 31, 2007 the two companies announced they had reached an agreement regarding the intended purchase by Bayer CropScience of Stoneville Pedigreed Seed Company, a leading U.S. provider of cotton seeds, for a total purchase price of $310 million. The acquisition is expected to enhance the fast-growing U.S. cotton seed business of Bayer CropScience, currently the second largest cotton seed supplier in North America.


20. **June 20, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service — USDA allows import of six fruits from Thailand.** U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Wednesday, June 20, announced conditions to allow the importation of six fruits: litchi, longan, mango, mangosteen, pineapple and rambutan from Thailand. To provide protection against the introduction of quarantined pests into the U.S., the fruit must be grown in production areas registered and monitored by the national plant protection organization of Thailand, irradiated at specified doses and inspected. The fruit also must be accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate with an additional declaration stating that the fruit was irradiated in Thailand. In the case of litchi, the declaration must also state that the fruit was inspected and found to be free of Peronophythora litchi, a fungal pest. Additionally, litchi and longan are prohibited from entry and distribution to Florida due to the risk of introducing the litchi rust mite, Aceria litchi, from Thailand.


21. **June 19, Charlotte Observer (NC) — Goat was killed at eatery tied to E. coli.** Health officials closed a China Grove restaurant linked to a deadly E. coli outbreak Monday, June 18, after learning some employees slaughtered a goat there last month. At a news conference, Rowan County, NC, Health Director Leonard Wood said that on Friday, June 15, a former employee of Captain’s Galley Seafood Restaurant on Main Street in China Grove told health officials a goat had been slaughtered in the kitchen. Wood said the restaurant’s owners confirmed the goat slaughter over the weekend. He ordered the restaurant closed on Monday. On Thursday, June 14, 86-year-old Salisbury resident Faye Sides died at Rowan Regional Medical Center of complications related to an infection of a dangerous strain of the bacteria E. coli. She was one of 21 people who got sick after eating at the restaurant, Wood said. Health officials said they interviewed 26 employees and heard conflicting stories. The goat was slaughtered sometime between May 11 and May 20, Wood said. Restaurant patrons got sick between May 26 and June 3. Health officials cannot prove the outbreak of the intestinal disease was caused by the goat slaughter, Wood said. It will be hard to establish a link without finding part of the goat carcass.

Water Sector

22. June 18, Marine Corps Times — Twenty-three military bases have tainted water. Congressional lawmakers who were examining extensive drinking water contamination from the 1960s through the 1980s at Camp Lejeune, NC, now say that the problem extends to 22 other bases throughout the country, to varying degrees. In 1980, military officials at Lejeune discovered the presence of trichloroethylene (TCE), an organic compound used by the military and by civilian businesses, such as dry cleaners, said Rep. Bart Stupak, D-MI, chairman of the House Energy and Commerce’s subcommittee on oversights and investigations. As a result, 10 wells at the base were shut down by 1987 after their TCE contamination was found to be 1,400 parts per billion, well above the government’s maximum level of five ppb. Bases with reported TCE water contamination:

Public Health Sector

23. June 20, Guardian (United Kingdom) — New tests on bird flu drug. The reputation of flu drug Tamiflu suffered a fresh blow Tuesday, June 19, when the Swiss pharmaceutical company Roche and its Japanese partner announced new clinical trials to establish whether there is a possible link between the antiviral and dozens of deaths and injuries among Japanese teenagers. The new research on Tamiflu, which is being stockpiled as the best available treatment in a bird flu epidemic, was recommended by a Japanese health ministry drug safety panel investigating fears that it may have a link to several teenagers who killed or harmed themselves during episodes of extreme mental disorder. In February a boy and a girl, both 14, fell to their deaths. The ministry said there was no evidence of a causal link between Tamiflu and the symptoms but ordered doctors not to prescribe it to teenagers, except those suffering extreme flu symptoms. It advised Roche and Chugai Pharmaceutical, which sells the drug in Japan, to begin pre-clinical and human clinical trials to establish whether it could be behind side-effects such as delirium and delusion.
Source: http://www.guardian.co.uk/birdflu/story/0,,2107018,00.html

24. June 19, Reuters — New flu drugs possible, but years away: experts. Influenza viruses are quickly evolving resistance to the few drugs on the market that fight them, but there are weaknesses that could be exploited, experts told a conference on Tuesday, June 19. Flu specialists say the need for better flu-fighting drugs has always been clear. Ordinary, seasonal influenza kills 250,000 to 500,000 people globally every year. But the threat of a pandemic of H5N1 avian influenza, or any other kind of new virus, makes the need even more urgent. Four drugs are on the market to treat flu but the older two are already so useless that they are no longer recommended. Countries have been stocking up on the antiviral drugs Tamiflu and Relenza. A new test can tell doctors quickly if a virus has developed the ability to easily infect people — offering a way to monitor the H5N1 virus for the changes it would need to spark a pandemic, the researchers said. James Paulson of The Scripps Research Institute in La Jolla, California, said a test his team developed in 2004 was used earlier this year to show that it took
only two small mutations to turn the 1918 influenza virus, which killed 50 million people or more, into its killer form.
Source: http://www.reuters.com/article/healthNews/idUSN1949239920070619

Government Sector

Nothing to report.

Emergency Services Sector

25. June 20, Xinghua (China) — Beijing to hold first nuclear terror drill next month. Beijing, China, will conduct its first-ever drill to test its responses to a potential terrorist nuclear attack next month, the municipal government announced on Tuesday, June 19. Organized by the municipal health bureau, the drill will involve several government bureaus, including environmental protection, the center for disease control, and fire brigade, said Shan Qingsheng, an official with the government's emergency response office. The drill will focus on a scenario in which a "dirty bomb" loaded with explosives and radioactive substances will be set off outside an Olympic stadium, said Shan. The bureaus involved will have to immediately react to the bomb. Using radiation detectors, the fire brigade will first find a safe route into the scene of the "bombing" before rescuers can enter to give first aid. Medical teams will then give a radiation rating and define the type of radiation so that the injured can receive appropriate treatment. Beijing will hold more drills on various subjects in the lead-up of the Olympics, Shan said.
Source: http://english.people.com.cn/200706/20/eng20070620_385870.html

26. June 19, Island Packet (SC) — South Carolina to conduct hurricane-evacuation test. The South Carolina Department of Public Safety, in conjunction with a number of other state agencies, will be conducting hurricane evacuation exercises to test lane-reversal plans on Thursday, June 21. The one-day hurricane simulation exercise will be conducted by the South Carolina Department of Public Safety in cooperation with the South Carolina Department of Transportation (DOT). Law enforcement personnel and traffic control devices will be deployed on I-26, U.S. 501 and U.S. 21 as if the roads were reversed for a hurricane evacuation. Lanes will not actually be reversed as part of the exercise. The exercise should not interfere with the flow of traffic. Intersections will not be blocked, and motorists will be allowed to move freely. Law enforcement officers will be deployed to cover a number of highway interchanges between these points. DOT will supply barricades, cones and other traffic control devices needed to reconfigure the interstate into a one-way operation. Aircraft will be deployed along selected evacuation routes as part of the exercise.
Source: http://www.islandpacket.com/front/story/6556081p--5835120c.html

Information Technology and Telecommunications Sector
27. June 20, eWeek — Gateway recalls faulty battery packs. Gateway announced Tuesday, June 19, that it is voluntarily recalling about 14,000 laptop battery packs that were sold during a three-month period in 2003. The PC vendor is working with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission and the company will replace the faulty battery packs for free. The lithium-ion battery packs can overheat and possibly cause a fire, although the internal battery cell is not defective, says Gateway. 
Source: http://www.eweek.com/article2/0,1895,2148484,00.asp

French government members and their advisors have been told not to use BlackBerry smartphones, for national security reasons. The ban on BlackBerry devices is just one of the IT challenges facing new National Assembly members as they take their seats following Sunday's elections. The smartphones, developed by Canadian company Research in Motion, send and receive e-mail through just a handful of servers in the United Kingdom and in North America—a reality brought home when a failed software upgrade to the North American servers in April abruptly halted service to BlackBerry users there. This concentration of data poses a threat to national security, according to Alain Juillet, senior economic intelligence advisor to the French Prime Minister, because of the risk of data interception. 
Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/infoworld/20070620/tc_infoworld/89501;_ylt=AgNkMr2txzndp3JSobywbG4jtBAF

29. June 20, Information Week — Trojans lurking in fake video postings on YouTube. Malware authors have a new trick up their sleeves that targets the YouTube nation. Within the past week, cybercriminals have hidden Trojan horses in fake video postings on the wildly popular YouTube site, according to Paul Henry, vice president of technologies with Secure Computing. While YouTube techies were quick to pull down both postings, Henry said in an interview Wednesday, June 20, that the two incidents could sound the bell for a new means of attack. Henry said that when users tried to view the fake video posting, they were infected with the zlob Trojan, which then begin spitting out pop-ups ads for pornographic sites onto the infected computer. As bad as that may be for users, Henry said his concern is that it's simply a prelude to the Trojans downloading other pieces of malware, like keyloggers. It also would be an easy way to turn infected computers into bots and then have them join the growing wave of botnets that are plaguing the Internet with spam and denial-of-service attacks. Another concern is that users don't expect to fend off malware attacks when they're cruising around YouTube. And that's part of the cybercriminals' plan, noted Henry. 
Source: http://www.informationweek.com/security/showArticle.jhtml;jsessionid=1DGM0QGIM5EG2QSNDLRCKHSCJUNN2JVN?articleID=199905685

30. June 20, Government Accountability Office — GAO–07–1003T: Information Security: Homeland Security Needs to Enhance Effectiveness of Its Program (Testimony). To protect and mitigate threats and attacks against the United States, 22 federal agencies and organizations were merged to form the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) in 2002. One of the department’s components, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), is responsible for securing the nation’s borders. DHS and CBP rely on a variety of computerized information systems to support their operations and assets. The Government Accountability Office (GAO) has reported for many years that poor information security is a widespread problem with
potentially devastating consequences. In reports to Congress since 1997, GAO has identified information security as a governmentwide high-risk issue. In this testimony, GAO discusses DHS’ information security program and computer security controls for key information systems. GAO based its testimony on agency, inspector general, and GAO issued and draft reports on DHS information security. To enhance departmental security, GAO has previously made recommendations to DHS in implementing its information security program and is making additional recommendations in two draft reports currently being reviewed by the department. 


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**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](http://www.us−cert.gov).

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: [https://www.it−isac.org/](https://www.it−isac.org/).

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**Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument &Icons Sector**

31. **June 20, Washington Post** — Walter Reed security officer arrested for firing gun. An armed security guard at Walter Reed Army Medical Center unholstered his gun and began firing at another guard during an argument on Wednesday, June 20, District of Columbia police said, shocking employees who were driving through the busy main entrance on Georgia Avenue NW. No one appeared to have been injured during the dispute, which happened shortly after 8:30 a.m. EDT. The guard who did the shooting was taken into custody, said Cmdr. Hilton Burton of the Metropolitan Police Department's 4th District police station. The two guards are employed by a private security firm, which is under contract to Walter Reed, an Army hospital in Northwest Washington that treats both veterans and active-duty military, many recently returned from the Iraq war.

Source: [http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp−dyn/content/article/2007/06/20/AR2007062000738.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp−dyn/content/article/2007/06/20/AR2007062000738.html)

32. **June 20, Cove Herald (TX)** — Wal−Mart sees fifth evacuation on Wednesday morning. The Copperas Cove Wal−Mart was again evacuated, Wednesday morning, June 20, for the fifth time in the past month. Details as to why are still unavailable, but activity had returned to normal by 10:30 a.m. CDT. Police responded Tuesday to the fourth bomb threat reported at the Wal−Mart Supercenter. The Police Department confirmed that Wal−Mart received a phone call at about 11 a.m. stating that there was an explosive in the building. Customers and employees were evacuated beyond the parking lot perimeter and were not allowed back in until about 2:30 p.m. The police followed normal procedures in conducting a sweep of the building. “In the interest of public safety, we do go through the motions every time to keep everyone safe. We evacuate and search the building before giving the all−clear,” said Lt. Daniel Austin of the Copperas Cove Police Department. Wal−Mart has had four reported threats within the past two
weeks, but no bombs were found in any of the cases. Austin said once a suspect is found, police plan to submit a restitution package to the court for time lost by the police and fire departments and Wal-Mart employees.

33. June 20, Daily Breeze (CA) — Police puzzled by pipe bomb in Harbor Gateway. The man stepped out of his car just after the explosion, a cloud of smoke rising above. He staggered a bit as he examined his blown−out rear window, got back inside and slowly drove away. What he was doing with an apparent pipe bomb inside his car — and whether he planned to target someone with it — wasn't known Tuesday, June 19. And why it suddenly exploded in the middle of the night on a quiet Harbor Gateway street is a mystery. The midnight blast rocked the neighborhood, triggering car alarms and scaring residents, many of whom spent the day finding bits of plastic shrapnel in their grass and shrubs. Los Angeles police Detective Michael Kriha said he needs help to try to identify the man, last seen heading west on 214th Street in his red Honda hatchback with the shattered rear window.

34. June 20, Associated Press — Ninety homes evacuated near Colorado wildfire. White and yellow smoke billowed into the western Colorado sky Tuesday, June 19, as firefighters battled three wildfires likely sparked by lightning that have burned at least 2,000 acres and forced evacuations of 90 homes. One fire was burning in steep terrain dotted with rural subdivisions between New Castle and Glenwood Springs, about 160 miles west of Denver. The blaze had grown to 1,000 acres, or about 1.5 square miles. Residents of 110 more houses were advised to leave. A second fire in a remote and rugged area near the town of Cameo, 180 miles west of Denver, had reached 1,000 acres by Tuesday morning but had not grown further by mid−afternoon.
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