



Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 23 August 2007

Current
Nationwide
Threat Level is
ELEVATED
SIGNIFICANT RISK OF
TERRORIST ATTACKS
[For info click here](http://www.dhs.gov/)
<http://www.dhs.gov/>

Daily Highlights

- The U.S. House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure will hold a hearing on deficient bridges nationwide starting on September 5; there are 73,784 bridges in the United States rated "structurally deficient" by the Department of Transportation. (See item [11](#))
- The St. Louis Post–Dispatch reports a 29–member task force on campus security has presented a report on emergency instructions for college classes to Missouri Governor Matt Blunt. (See item [25](#))

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. *August 22, Associated Press* — **Vermont Yankee forced to reduce power.** The Vermont Yankee nuclear plant near Vernon, VT, was forced to reduce its power output by at least half on Tuesday, August 21, after staff at the reactor detected problems with one of its two cooling towers. Neil Sheehan, a spokesperson for the federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission's regional office for the Northeast, said the problems did not raise a safety concern at the plant. But he said if allowed to fester, they likely would cause the plant to violate its state water discharge permit by spilling more heated water back into the Connecticut River. The problem "does not affect the safe operation of the plant," Sheehan said Tuesday. Both wooden

components and piping had failed in one of the towers, said Sheehan and Robert Williams, spokesperson for plant owner Entergy Nuclear. Sheehan said the plant had reduced power by 60 percent of its usual, 610-megawatt output, and that repairs "will take several days, at least." The summer power reduction comes during a time of year when demand is relatively heavy on the New England power grid. The cooling towers became embroiled in controversy two years ago, as Vermont Yankee was seeking approval — eventually received — to increase its power output by 20 percent.

Source: http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/070822/vt_nuke_towers.html?.v=1

2. *August 22, Kuwait News Agency* — **Riyadh to host third OPEC summit in November.** The Saudi capital, Riyadh, will host the third summit of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) in November, presided by King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud. The announcement was made by OPEC Fund Public Relation Officer Abdulrahman Al-OPEC Fund Public Relation Officer Abdulrahman Al-Khrejji said OPEC's oil and financial ministers would hold a preparation meeting on November 16. The summit will tackle issues regarding OPEC's efforts in oil market stability, including the role of OPEC Fund as a humanitarian front to the organization. OPEC is sending formal invitations to the 12 leaders of member states who will be participating in the summit, Al-Khrejji added.

Source: http://www.menafn.com/qn_news_story_s.asp?StoryId=1093163895

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Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials Sector

3. *August 22, San Diego Union-Tribune* — **Rupture of gas line forces evacuations, road closures.** About 100 people were evacuated from buildings south of Broadway in San Diego Tuesday, August 21, after a construction crew working in the street accidentally severed a 3-inch gas line on Sixth Avenue north of E Street. The 2 p.m. PDT incident forced Broadway to be closed from Seventh Avenue to Fourth Avenue. Sixth Avenue also was closed. Police told pedestrians to clear the area or go into buildings that were not in the immediate path of fumes. San Diego Gas & Electric Co. crews were able to plug the break within 40 minutes.

Source: http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/metro/20070822-0723-pubsa_fe2.html

4. *August 21, 10 News (CA)* — **Tanker overturns, prompts freeway ramp closures.** A gasoline tanker truck crashed and overturned on a freeway on-ramp near Qualcomm Stadium in San Diego Tuesday, August 21, causing a fuel spill and shutting down a stretch of Friars Road, authorities said. The non-injury accident occurred about 5:40 p.m. PDT, as the driver of the rig was trying to enter northbound Interstate 15, according to the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department and California Highway Patrol. Emergency crews shut down the connector road along with a stretch of Friars Road and other ramps leading to and from the freeway.

Source: <http://www.10news.com/news/13945003/detail.html?rss=sand&psp=news>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

5. *August 22, AviationWeek* — **Small businesses entering DoD limelight, pressure.** Small businesses seeking Department of Defense (DoD) work could enjoy unprecedented attention and access in the post-9/11 acquisition environment but also confront affordability concerns and pressure to adhere to acquisition "roadmaps," several DoD acquisition officials and business executives said Tuesday, August 21. Speaking on the opening day of a major DoD Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) conference in Arlington, VA, officials and representatives of large prime contractors said the government is spearheading a new "alignment" benefiting small businesses. The move comes as the federal government and its large contractors realize the so-called global war on terror requires lots of innovation as quickly and cheaply as possible. "Affordability is becoming the No. 1 objective," said Kathleen Harger, assistant deputy under secretary of defense for innovation and technology transition. Likewise, several defense officials stressed that SBIR pitches must follow capabilities or improvements sought in existing roadmaps and that they eye technology insertion within about five years.

Source: http://www.aviationweek.com/aw/generic/story.jsp?id=news/SMA_LL082207.xml&headline=Small%20Businesses%20Entering%20DOD%20Limelight.%20Pressure&channel=defense

6. *August 22, Government Computer News* — **LandWarNet gaining momentum.** U.S. Army Secretary Peter Geren urged Army information technology managers and industry executives to stay focused on technology efforts that deliver the right information to the right people in real time, noting, "We cannot afford a modernization holiday." Speaking at the LandWarNet conference, Geren stressed the importance of equipping soldiers with information about their situation without overwhelming them. He also noted that Army leadership was committing greater attention to LandWarNet and the use of technology with the creation of a new LandWarNet directorate at G3 "to help synchronize the efforts across the force," he said. Balancing the need for security and proper classification and the urgent needs on the battlefield remain important issues and "will not be easy," he said. One way industry can accelerate that effort, he told the audience, is to "help us build cheaper secure radios" with Global Positioning System access.

Source: http://www.gcn.com/online/vol1_no1/44904-1.html

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Banking and Finance Sector

7. *August 22, InformationWeek* — **Arrested Ukrainian accused of being 'largest seller' of stolen T.J. Maxx data.** A Ukrainian man, who was arrested in a Turkish nightclub, allegedly was selling credit card information stolen during the massive security breach at TJX, the parent company of retailer T.J. Maxx. Doug Bem, an inspector with the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, told InformationWeek that Maksym Yastremskiy, who is believed to be in his mid-20s, has been taken into custody in Turkey. And "discussions" are under way about extraditing him to the United States. "He's an individual who a number of federal agencies have had on their radar screen for some time," said Bem. "It appears he is the largest individual seller of card data that traces back to the TJX breach...This is a significant opportunity." Bem added that the authorities don't have any information that leads them to believe Yastremskiy actually broke into the TJX network and stole the information himself. Yastremskiy allegedly was a

major reseller.

Source: http://www.informationweek.com/security/showArticle.jhtml;jsessionid=3WHCNBP4JIVN4QSNDLRCKH0CJUNN2JVN?articleID=20180159_3

8. *August 22, Sophos* — **Chinese joss-stick worm stole usernames and passwords.** IT security and control firm Sophos has warned hackers of the consequences of their criminal activities, following reports that four men have been charged for allegedly creating and spreading an Internet worm in China. Li Jun, Wang Lei, Zhang Shun and Lei Lei are facing charges in a people's court in Hubei Province in connection with the creation and distribution of the Fujacks worm. The worm (also known as Worm.Whboy) made headlines earlier this year because it converts icons of infected programs into a picture of a panda burning joss-sticks as it steals usernames and passwords from online games players. Li Jun is said to have confessed to having written the worm, and selling it to 12 clients for more than \$12,500. According to prosecutors, the gang sold the personal information they stole online with Fujacks for thousands of dollars. Source: <http://www.sophos.com/pressoffice/news/articles/2007/08/fujacks-court.html>

9. *August 21, IDG News Service* — **Phishers looking to cash in on Wells Fargo crash.** Wells Fargo may have a new problem following its widespread computer crash earlier this week: online scammers. There has been a growing amount of chatter in the underground criminal community about ways to take advantage of the outage, according to Joel Helgeson, an independent computer security consultant based in St. Paul, MN. Many Wells Fargo banking operations including online and ATM services were knocked offline Sunday in an outage that continued to affect users Tuesday, August 21. The anticipated spike in Wells Fargo phishing had not occurred as of Tuesday afternoon. The Anti-Phishing Working Group had counted 43 live Wells Fargo phishing sites, said Dave Jevans, the group's chairman. That's a tiny fraction of the 36,000 sites tracked by the group. "I would call that a usual background noise level," he said of the Wells Fargo activity. However, online criminals are quick to tailor their scams to any newsworthy event, and Jevans expects the Wells Fargo scams to pop up soon. According to Helgeson, criminals are planning to send out e-mails that acknowledge the computer problems and ask victims to log on to phony Wells Fargo sites in order to validate their user information. Source: http://www.infoworld.com/article/07/08/21/Phishers-looking-to-cash-in-on-Wells-Fargo-computer-crash_1.html

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Transportation and Border Security Sector

10. *August 22, Associated Press* — **Five hundred leaks await repair in Boston tunnels.** Boston's Big Dig highway tunnels have about 500 leaks awaiting repair, and that number doesn't include leaks being handled by the project's contractors, according to state officials who warn that future leaks are inevitable. Leaks have vexed the \$14.8 billion Big Dig, the most expensive public works construction in U.S. history, ever since it buried Boston's Central Artery under the city. One large leak into the Interstate 93 Thomas P. "Tip" O'Neill Jr. tunnel in 2004 backed up traffic for miles. Project manager Michael Lewis on Tuesday, August 21, successfully lobbied the Massachusetts Turnpike Authority board to add another \$2.3 million to an existing \$5 million contract for repair crews. Inspectors found 2,000 to 3,000 leaks in roof-wall joints after the September 2004 incident, he said. The board did not address an independent engineering

firm's analysis that water continues to leak steadily into the O'Neill tunnel, beneath downtown Boston. The analysis contradicted Lewis' report to the board last month that said water discharge from the O'Neill tunnel had decreased.

Source: http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/B/BIG_DIG?SITE=WUSA&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT

11. *August 21, Occupational Health & Safety Magazine* — **Deficient bridges hearing starts House transportation committee's fall agenda.** Deficient bridges nationwide will be discussed in a full committee hearing starting at 11 a.m. EDT on September 5 by members of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. The committee's chairman, James Oberstar, a Minnesota Democrat, introduced a legislative plan to fund bridge repairs August 8 — one week after the highway bridge fell in Minneapolis, his home state, igniting a national debate on dangerous infrastructure. Oberstar said there are 73,784 bridges in the United States rated "structurally deficient" by the Department of Transportation, with 6,175 of these on the National Highway System; of those 6,175, there are 2,830 on interstate highways, he said. List of Congressional District maps depicting the structurally deficient bridges in each district: <http://transportation.house.gov/bridgemaps.shtml>
Source: <http://www.ohsonline.com/articles/49862/>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

12. *August 22, DM News* — **USPS to improve Mexican mail.** The US Postal Service (USPS) and the Servicio Postal Mexicano (SEPOMEX) have signed an agreement to improve mail services between the United States and Mexico. The USPS has agreed to help SEPOMEX in an effort to improve its management structure and processes, and re-engineer its operations. SEPOMEX has agreed to work with the USPS in exploring and developing joint business opportunities and improving cross-border services. SEPOMEX has struggled with inefficiency and security. Mexican citizens have reportedly lost confidence in the mail delivery provided by the government. The Mexican postal system handles about 700 million letters a year, which is roughly seven pieces per citizen. The USPS handles 200 billion pieces a year for an estimated population of 280 million.
Source: <http://www.dmnews.com/cms/dm-news/direct-mail/42179.html>

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Agriculture Sector

13. *August 22, Agricultural Research Service* — **New online help for managing whiteflies.** Whiteflies — and the diseases they often spread — cause some of the world's worst crop problems and are responsible for enormous losses every year. Now an online resource has been developed to help growers afflicted by the pests. Agricultural Research Service (ARS) scientists in the agency's Subtropical Insects Research Unit (SIRU) in collaboration with the University of Florida, the University of California, the University of Georgia, Texas A & M University and Cornell University have developed a Website with extensive information about whitefly

management. Whiteflies are found throughout the tropics and subtropics, but can be troublesome in greenhouses and other growing environments as well. Both immature and adult stages ingest plant sap and cause damage directly, by feeding and transmitting plant viruses, or indirectly, by excreting a sticky substance called honeydew onto leaves and fruit. Sooty mold fungi colonize the contaminated surfaces, further interfering with photosynthesis and ultimately resulting in reduced quality of fruit and fiber. In addition to ornamentals, whiteflies attack cassava, cotton, sweet potato, legumes and many other vegetables grown in mixed or annual cropping systems.

Management Program for Whiteflies on Propagated Ornamentals:

<http://www.mrec.ifas.ufl.edu/LSO/bemisia/bemisia.htm>

Source: <http://www.ars.usda.gov/News/docs.htm?docid=1261>

14. *August 22, Civil Georgia* — Georgian, Abkhaz, Russian officials to meet over pig disease.

Veterinary officials from the Georgian Ministry of Agriculture will meet with their Abkhaz and Russian colleagues on August 23 to discuss the outbreak of a devastating pig disease, African Swine Fever (ASF), in the breakaway region. The outbreak of ASF was first reported in Georgia in early June; more than 30,000 pigs died and a total of 22,000 pigs were culled by mid-June, according to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). Abkhaz officials have accused Georgia of not properly handling the crisis. Some Abkhaz officials have even accused the Georgian side of deliberately throwing dead, diseased pigs into the Kodori River running from the Tbilisi-controlled upper Kodori Gorge down to Abkhaz-controlled territories. The Georgian Ministry of Agriculture has, however, dismissed the allegation as “absurd.”

Source: <http://www.civil.ge/eng/article.php?id=15643>

15. *August 22, Horse.com* — Michigan reports first case of Eastern equine encephalitis.

Michigan Department of Agriculture officials have identified the state's first case of Eastern equine encephalitis (EEE) for the 2007 season. A two-year-old mare from Lapeer County tested positive for EEE at the Michigan State University Diagnostic Center for Population and Animal Health on August 17.

Source: <http://www.thehorse.com/ViewArticle.aspx?ID=10229>

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Food Sector

16. *August 22, Pittsburgh Tribune-Review* — Salmonella concerns cause recall of dog food.

Mars Petcare Inc. is recalling bags of Krasdale Gravy Dry Dog Food because of potential salmonella contamination. The dog food was sold in Pennsylvania, Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Jersey and New York.

Source: http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/pittsburghtrib/news/cityregion/s_523430.html

17. *August 22, Agence France-Presse* — China says U.S. soybeans unsafe. China said

Wednesday, August 22, it had discovered many safety problems with soybeans imported from the U.S. "Inspection and quarantine units in various areas have discovered a large number of quality and safety problems with imports of U.S. soybeans," the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine said. "We have reported this to the U.S. side,

demanding that it look into the causes and adopt effective measures to ensure that a situation like this does not repeat itself," it said. It detailed a series of safety problems, including the discovery of sorghum halepense and other harmful weeds among the soybeans.

Source: http://www.breitbart.com/article.php?id=070822064416.17or1za z&show_article=1

- 18. August 21, U.S. Department of Agriculture — USDA awards funds for risk and prevention research of E. Coli O157:H7 in produce.** U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Secretary Mike Johanns announced Tuesday, August 21, that USDA is furthering its research on the safety of fresh produce. Nearly \$5.5 million will support collaborative research to identify risk factors and preventive measures for E. coli O157:H7 contamination in fresh produce. USDA's Agricultural Research Service (ARS) and Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSRES) are providing the funding to ARS researcher Rob Mandrell and his collaborators at the University of California to continue their research in the Central Valley of California. Over the next three years ARS will contribute five million dollars and CSREES will contribute \$470,999. Mandrell will address where E. coli O157:H7 originates, how it survives on the plant, and what factors lead to an increase in produce-related outbreaks. Potential risk factors include animals, land practices, packing and processing processes and wildlife. Additionally, the project will feature workshops and publications to educate the animal operators, natural resource managers and the public about animal diseases that can be transferred to humans, how animal waste can contaminate water sources, and beneficial management practices for maintaining and improving water runoff quality.

Source: http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/!ut/p/ s.7_0_A/7_0_1OB?contentonly=true&contentid=2007/08/0224.xml

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Water Sector

- 19. August 22, San Diego Union-Tribune — Merchants told water is tainted.** Shop owners in a Chula Vista, CA, business park knew something was wrong with their water. It tasted bad, smelled funny and had a yellowish tint. The Otay Water District assured the merchants that the water was fine, but the merchants weren't convinced. The park's property manager sent a water sample to a private lab and got some shocking news. For two years, occupants of the 17 businesses in Eastlake's Fenton Business Center have been drinking and washing their hands in treated sewage water. Somehow, the park was hooked up to a pipe carrying recycled water — treated wastewater intended solely for irrigation — instead of drinking water. Two food-related businesses were closed by the county Department of Environmental Health. Recycled water is not tested as rigorously as drinking water because it is not meant to be consumed. Otay officials say they are still trying to figure out how the mistake occurred. When the three buildings of the business park were constructed in 2002, they apparently were connected to a purple pipe, the color that usually designates a recycled-water line, instead of a pipe with drinking water.

Source: <http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/metro/20070822-9999-1n22o tay.html>

- 20. August 22, San Jose Mercury News (CA) — Judge to set water rules.** The federal judge presiding over hearings this week that could have dramatic implications for California's water supply said Tuesday, August 21, he has no intention of taking over the state's water system. But

the conditions he imposes could have a major impact during the next 12 months: By one estimate, a proposal under consideration could cost state and federal water customers half their delta water. U.S. District Judge Oliver Wanger called the hearing after ruling in May that a key federal permit is illegal under the Endangered Species Act. He expects this week's hearing to help him craft rules allowing the water projects to operate legally until a new permit is issued next year. Environmentalists are pushing for new fish-protection measures they say would cut water deliveries by about one-fourth. State water officials say the environmentalists' proposal would be far more drastic, cutting water supplies by about half. The state water agency and federal regulators have proposed restrictions that could result in water delivery cuts as high as one-quarter to one-third. How those kinds of restrictions might trickle down to individual communities is impossible to say, but with reservoirs running low because of dry conditions they could be significant.

Source: http://www.mercurynews.com/news/ci_6686157

21. *August 22, University of Pittsburgh* — **Environmental monitoring helps to predict risk of hospital-acquired Legionnaires' disease.** A new study spearheaded by the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine has determined that environmental monitoring of institutional water systems can help to predict the risk of hospital-acquired Legionella pneumonia, better known as Legionnaires' disease. The 20-hospital study also calls for reconsideration of the current national infection-control policy to include routine testing of hospital water systems for Legionella, the bacterial group associated with Legionnaires'. "Only those hospitals that had high levels of Legionella bacteria in their water systems had patients who contracted Legionnaires' disease," senior author Victor L. Yu, professor of medicine at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, said of the study, which involved hospitals in 14 states. "Proactive monitoring of the hospital water supply alerted physicians to the hidden risk of Legionnaires' disease for their patients."

Source: <http://www.upmc.com/Communications/MediaRelations/NewsReleasesArchives/2007/August/YuLegionnaires.htm>

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Public Health Sector

22. *August 21, Reuters* — **Pakistan culls chickens after bird flu found.** Pakistani authorities have detected an outbreak of the H5N1 strain of bird flu at a poultry farm in a northwestern town and have culled more than 35,000 birds, a government official said on Tuesday, August 21. Several outbreaks of H5N1 strain of avian influenza have been found in birds this year in Pakistan, where the virus first appeared in early 2006. The new outbreak was found in late July at a farm in Mansehra town, 50 miles north of the capital, Islamabad.

Source: <http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/ISL76664.htm>

23. *August 21, PLoS ONE* — **Marburg virus infection detected in African bat.** Marburg and Ebola viruses can cause large hemorrhagic fever (HF) outbreaks with high case fatality (80–90 percent) in human and great apes. Identification of the natural reservoir of these viruses is one of the most important topics in this field and a fundamental key to understanding their natural history. Despite the discovery of this virus family almost 40 years ago, the search for the natural reservoir of these lethal pathogens remains an enigma despite numerous ecological

studies. Researchers report the discovery of Marburg virus in a common species of fruit bat (*Rousettus aegyptiacus*) in Gabon as shown by finding virus-specific RNA and IgG antibody in individual bats. These Marburg virus positive bats represent the first naturally infected non-primate animals identified. Furthermore, this is the first report of Marburg virus being present in this area of Africa, thus extending the known range of the virus. These data imply that more areas are at risk for MHF outbreaks than previously realized and correspond well with a recently published report in which three species of fruit bats were demonstrated to be likely reservoirs for Ebola virus.

Source: <http://www.plosone.org/article/fetchArticle.action?articleURL=info:doi/10.1371/journal.pone.0000764>

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Government Sector

24. *August 22, Bluefield Daily Telegraph (WV)* — **Students going back to more secure schools in Tazewell County, Virginia.** Students will be returning to the classroom Thursday, August 23, across Tazewell County, VA, in schools with newly enhanced security measures. “We are in the process of installing security and surveillance cameras at our schools, and several of our high schools are already up and running,” School Superintendent Dr. Brenda Lawson said. “We will be working throughout the year to have those in place at all of our schools. We will give priority to our high schools and middle schools. Once we complete the installation there we will be proceeding to our elementary schools. We’ve installed cameras so we can monitor the comings and goings of people in our buildings, as well as students as much as possible to make sure they are safe. We will have cameras in the hallways and in the common areas, such as your auditorium, cafeteria and library.” Lawson said all of the school buses in the division also are equipped with cameras and new radio systems and tracking systems.
- Source: http://www.bdtonline.com/local/local_story_233210313.html

25. *August 22, St. Louis Post-Dispatch* — **Task force report urges colleges to follow campus safety precautions.** The syllabus for every college class should have building-specific instructions for what to do in an emergency -- and professors should discuss those plans on the first day. Also, students should have access to on-campus, licensed mental health providers 24 hours a day, including weekends. And colleges should install surveillance cameras, locks on the inside of doors, and "fail-safe" emergency notification systems that use text messaging or public address systems. These are some of the dozens of recommendations that a 29-member task force on campus security presented Tuesday, August 21, to Missouri Governor Matt Blunt. Blunt commissioned the task force, made up mostly of higher education and law enforcement officials, soon after the shootings in April at Virginia Tech. Blunt said he would ask a higher education official to sit on the Missouri Homeland Security Advisory Council to help follow through.
- Report: <http://www.dps.mo.gov/CampusSafety/index.htm>
Source: <http://www.stltoday.com/stltoday/news/stories.nsf/stcharles/story/0BCB8C8F53627EB48625733F00163528?OpenDocument>

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Emergency Services Sector

26. August 22, San Jose Mercury News (CA) — Virtual practice for emergency workers.

Scientists at Sandia National Laboratories in California have designed a video game to help first responders practice handling various emergency situations. "They'll be more experienced than they otherwise would have been because they've played it, albeit virtually, but it's better than nothing," said computer scientist Donna Djordjevich, leader of the project at Sandia's Livermore campus. The game, called "Ground Truth," starts with a mock newscast describing an emergency. Djordjevich's team has been working on a simulated collision between a speeding car and a tanker truck that results in a cloud of chlorine being released in the middle of a city. Currently, first responders prepare for different scenarios with seminars, drills and exercises, and by getting together with other agencies around a table and role playing with scripts. "It's expensive, time-consuming and just sort of cumbersome," Djordjevich said. Sandia, along with the University of Southern California's GamePipe Laboratory, is a year into a three-year project to develop "Ground Truth." The chlorine release is the only scenario now, but other virtual emergencies and twists will be added in the coming years.

Source: http://www.mercurynews.com/healthandscience/ci_6686167

27. August 21, Federal Emergency Management Agency — President declares emergency

federal aid for Minnesota. The head of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) announced Tuesday, August 21, that federal aid has been made available to supplement state and local response efforts in the area impacted by the bridge collapse in Minneapolis, MN, on August 1, 2007. FEMA Director David Paulison said federal funding is available to coordinate all disaster relief efforts that have the purpose of alleviating the hardship and suffering caused by the emergency on the local population, and to provide appropriate assistance for required emergency measures, authorized under Title V of the Stafford Act, to save lives, protect property and public health and safety, and to lessen or avert the threat of a catastrophe in Hennepin County.

Source: <http://www.fema.gov/news/newsrelease.fema?id=38969>

28. August 21, Federal Emergency Management Agency — Accommodating people with disabilities in disasters: FEMA releases a reference guide to federal law.

The Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has released a new reference guide that outlines existing legal requirements and standards relating to access for people with disabilities. The publication is the first of a series of disability-related guidelines to be produced by FEMA for disaster preparedness and response planners and service providers at all levels. "Federal law is very clear about accommodating people with disabilities in emergencies and disasters. Everyone involved in emergency management needs to understand and know what their responsibilities are in preparedness, response and recovery operations," FEMA Administrator R. David Paulison said. "This reference guide is an important tool for emergency planners, responders and government agencies as they work toward meeting the needs of people affected by emergencies and disasters. FEMA is committed to ensuring that its programs and emergency operations meet the needs of people with disabilities."

Reference guide: <http://www.fema.gov/oer/reference/index.shtm>

Source: <http://www.fema.gov/news/newsrelease.fema?id=38990>

29.

August 20, Government Technology — **Maryland Governor O'Malley outlines law enforcement information integration.** Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley delivered the keynote address at the Maryland Association of Counties Annual Summer Conference in Ocean City, MD, on Saturday, August 18. O'Malley said security integration "means protecting our people and communities through seamless coordination and consistent information-sharing. It means that the criminal justice system must work as a system, not a collection of parallel lines — and parallel cultures and parallel datasets and parallel intelligence systems — that never meet. The state has created a users group of local law enforcement information technology representatives, who advise state agencies as to what state databases they need to access to do their jobs. "We're also building a statewide criminal justice information system that will enable criminal justice professionals to track offenders from arrest on, without having to use 25 different passwords for 25 different state computer systems. Interoperability is a fundamental requirement for security integration, and we will make it a reality," said O'Malley.
Source: <http://www.govtech.com/gt/articles/131774>

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Information Technology and Telecommunications Sector

30. *August 22, Register (UK)* — **Two security flaws uncovered in Cisco IP phones.** Cisco has advised users to update the firmware on some of its IP phones following the discovery of two security flaws. A brace of Session Initiation Protocol (SIP) vulnerabilities in Cisco 7940/7960 IP Phones create the potential for hackers to crash — but not to run exploit code — on vulnerable handsets. Cisco IP Phone 7940/7960 SIP firmware versions prior to 8.7(0) are vulnerable to the denial-of-service attacks, Cisco warns. Users are advised to update their firmware to version 8.7(0).
Cisco Advisory: <http://www.cisco.com/warp/public/707/cisco-sr-20070821-sip.s.html>
Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2007/08/22/cisco_ip_phone_vuln/
31. *August 21, eWeek* — **Report: Mobile users often lax about security.** When it comes to securing a wireless workforce, enterprises may have their hands full, according to a study performed by the research firm InsightExpress. Their research found that 73 percent of mobile users admitted they are not always cognizant of security threats and best practices. More than 25 percent also conceded they either hardly ever or never consider security risks and proper behavior, offering reasons such as "I'm busy and need to get work done" and "It's IT's job, not mine" as justifications. The online survey included responses from 700 mobile workers in seven countries, including China, Germany, India and the United States. In the United States, 36 percent of those surveyed said they were unconcerned or hardly concerned with threats when using wireless devices. Employees in the U.S. were the third most likely to have received IT training on security risks and controls, with 46 percent reporting they had. China was first with 58 percent, while India was second with 55. Forty-four percent of all mobile users surveyed admitted to opening e-mails and or attachments from unknown or suspect sources.
Source: <http://www.eweek.com/article2/0.1895.2173823.00.asp>
32. *August 21, VNUNet* — **Security flaw hits Symantec Enterprise Firewall.** Symantec's Enterprise Firewall can be compromised by hackers via a username enumeration vulnerability, security experts warned Tuesday, August 21. NTA Monitor said that the flaw can occur when

the devices are configured for remote access (client-to-gateway) VPNs using pre-shared key authentication. The devices respond differently to valid and invalid usernames, allowing an attacker to exploit this difference to determine whether a given user exists. It is also possible to use the vulnerability to enumerate valid users on the system, either by brute force or by trying likely usernames, the security firm warned.

Symantec Advisory: <http://securityresponse.symantec.com/avcenter/security/Content/2007.08.16.html>

Source: <http://www.vnunet.com/vnunet/news/2197071/symantec-enterprise-firewall>

33. *August 21, SecurityFocus* — **Storm Worm pursues more 'members'**. The group responsible for propagating the malicious program commonly known as the Storm Worm changed tactics this week, using e-mail messages masquerading as verification announcements from online Websites and clubs to lure victims. The e-mail messages use a fairly regular format, including a brief greeting, a supposed temporary login name and password, and a link to a malicious Website, according to antivirus firms. The destination site will tell the user that, to log on, they need to download a secure login applet. Victims that do install the software will become infected with the Storm Worm bot software. The names of the online Websites used in the e-mail messages appear to be constructed from two randomly chosen words and include names "Fun World," "Internet Dating," and "MP3 World." In addition, there is some evidence that the Storm Worm is using the MPack infection tool kit to compromise systems.
- Source: <http://www.securityfocus.com/brief/573>

34. *August 21, Websense Security Labs* — **Malicious Code / Malicious Website: EDB Business Partner site compromise**. Websense Security Labs has discovered that the Website of EDB Business Partner (www.edbbusinesspartner.com) has been compromised and infects visitors with malicious code that attempts to drop two files. Both files dropped are of malicious intent. The first file is a World of Warcraft trojan. The second file is designed to detect anti-virus protection. The malicious code drops the malware through an old vulnerability in Internet Explorer (Microsoft Data Access Components Remote Code Execution, MS06-14). The compromised site contains a link to an external .js file that is hosted on a Website that Websense Security Labs had previously categorized as malicious.
- Source: <http://www.websense.com/securitylabs/alerts/alert.php?AlertID=798>

35. *August 21, IDG News Service* — **State says e-voting machines weren't certified**. Election Systems & Software (ES&S) sold nearly 1,000 electronic-voting machines that were not certified to five California counties in 2006, Secretary of State Debra Bowen said Tuesday, August 21. "Given that each machine costs about \$5,000, it appears ES&S has taken \$5 million out of the pockets of several California counties," Bowen said in a statement. ES&S sold 972 of its AutoMark Phase 2 Model A200, even though the company never submitted that version of the AutoMark machine to Bowen's office for certification in California, she said. ES&S delivered hundreds of the Model A200 to the California counties before it was certified by federal election officials in August 2006, she said. A public hearing on the matter is scheduled for September 20. Earlier this month, Bowen mandated new security standards for the state's e-voting systems, following an independent review that slammed the security of the technology. ES&S machines were decertified because ES&S was late in providing access to their products.
- Source: <http://www.infoworld.com/article/07/08/21/State-says-evoting>

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

- 36. August 21, CBS Channel 5 (TN) — Wolf Creek Dam is in trouble.** There are more than 80,000 dams protecting communities across the nation from floods. Many were built more than 50 years ago using outdated technology. About 3,500 are deemed unsafe. Wolf Creek Dam, one of the country's largest dams, in Kentucky is in danger and so are the people who live within the region. Stretching a mile from end to end, the gigantic Wolf Creek Dam is vital to southern Kentucky and northern Tennessee, preventing the periodic flooding that once plagued the cities and towns along the 700-mile Cumberland River. The Corps of Engineers recently designated the dam at "high risk" for failure, requiring "emergency measures" to reduce an "imminent risk of human life". Wolf Creek Dam was built on porous limestone. Over time, water has seeped into cracks in the rock, eroding a Swiss cheese of holes and caves. A sinkhole could cause this entire earthen embankment to collapse. The first town downstream is Burkesville, KY. The state has handed out warning radios to all 1,700 residents. In recent years, fears about dams giving way have forced evacuations in Maryland, Massachusetts, and Missouri.
Source: <http://www.newschannel5.com/Global/story.asp?S=6959102>

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General Sector

- 37. August 22, CNN — Twenty-two dead as storm systems collide in Midwest, Plains.** Two storm systems colliding along the nation's midsection set off a spate of weather warnings from Colorado to Ohio as the deadly weather moved toward the Great Lakes region Wednesday, August 22. Twenty-two people have been killed, roads have been closed or washed out, governors have declared states of emergency and thousands of homes have been damaged or destroyed, according to media reports. Compounding problems in Wisconsin are the myriad closed and washed-out roads in the state, which are impeding rescue efforts and thwarting attempts to deliver water and other supplies to the hardest-hit areas, Wisconsin Emergency Management spokesperson Lori Getter said. Governor Jim Doyle has declared several counties disaster areas, and the Wisconsin National Guard is working to clear some of the roads left blocked or underwater after 16 inches of rain fell in some parts of the state earlier this week. The flooding caused mudslides, derailed a train, wrecked homes and forced some residents to seek shelter or higher ground, WISC-TV reported.
Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2007/US/08/22/midwest.flooding/index.html>

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