



Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 30 August 2007

Current Nationwide
Threat Level is



[For info click here](http://www.dhs.gov/)
<http://www.dhs.gov/>

Daily Highlights

- According to the Detroit Free Press, a spill at a chemical plant in Michigan forced evacuations. Nearly 7,000 gallons of nitric acid spilled at the chemical plant and created a potentially toxic cloud that forced evacuations in an industrial area. (See item [3](#))
- Arbiter online reports a video game that simulates terrorist attacks and other major disasters could become pertinent to homeland security. The game simulates virtual reality training for emergency personnel. (See item [35](#))

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report *Fast Jump*

Production Industries: [Energy; Chemical; Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste; Defense Industrial Base; Dams](#)

Service Industries: [Banking and Finance; Transportation and Border Security; Postal and Shipping; Information Technology; Communications; Commercial Facilities](#)

Sustenance and Health: [Agriculture and Food; Water; Public Health and Healthcare](#)

Federal and State: [Government Facilities; Emergency Services; National Monuments and Icons](#)

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 29, Bloomberg* – **Crude oil rises on larger-than-expected U.S. inventory decline.** Crude oil rose after an Energy Department report showed U.S. oil and gasoline inventories declined more than expected. Crude oil reserves decreased by almost 3.5 million barrels last week, far exceeding analysts' expectations. Additionally, gasoline inventories shrunk by approximately 3.7 million barrels to 192.6 million domestically. Power cuts, maintenance repairs, and a recent fire have handicapped some refineries across the nation.
Source:
<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601072&sid=avZdDcraMlx4&refer=energy>

2. *August 28, Department of Energy* – **Department of Energy official recognizes Bush Administration’s work to advance America’s electric grid.** The U.S. Department of Energy’s (DOE) Assistant Secretary for the Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability Kevin M. Kolevar today acknowledged the Bush Administration’s efforts to increase the use of advanced technologies in the Nation’s power delivery system equipment, as well as the department’s recent announcement to invest nearly \$52 million to modernize and secure our nation’s electric grid. “As demand for electricity continues to grow, so too must our commitment to identify solutions and deploy new technologies that will help us realize President Bush’s goal of a modern, reliable and affordable electricity system,” Mr. Kolevar said. Mr. Kolevar addressed several projects that will improve next generation power delivery equipment and contribute to the development of a more efficient electricity grid system nationwide. The selected projects will help advance the future generation of power delivery equipment and aid the development of a highly efficient electricity grid system for the Nation. DOE’s National Energy Technology Laboratory will manage these projects, which are expected to last two to five years.
Source: <http://www.energy.gov/news/5342.htm>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Chemical Industry

3. *August 29, Detroit Free Press* – **Spill at chemical plant in Michigan forces evacuations.** Crews are still cleaning up nearly 7,000 gallons of nitric acid that spilled at a chemical plant and created a potentially toxic cloud that forced evacuations in an industrial area, police say. The spill occurred following a malfunction at Tronex Chemical Corp. Two workers were taken to a hospital for evaluation as a precaution. Dozens of businesses were evacuated, but no homes were affected because the area is mostly industrial. Hazardous materials crews, along with the Environmental Protection Agency, were still working night to clean up the spill.
Source:
<http://www.freep.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070829/NEWS02/70829027>

4. *August 28, Daily Guide* – **Chemical facility worth the price tag.** Using rail cars and buses that had been slated for the Army’s scrap heap saved about \$1 million while building the Lt. Joseph Terry Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear Responder Facility, but that doesn’t mean Fort Leonard Wood’s newest training location was cheap. The Lt. Terry facility cost \$14 million for the building and about \$2 million for equipment, Army officials say. But they also say the facility is well worth the expense. “We had to make an up-front investment, but that’s going to pay off in the end,” said the Commandant of the Army Chemical School, as he showed the computerized whiteboards in high-tech classrooms to U.S. Rep. Ike Skelton during a recent tour of the Lt. Terry facility. That’s a tremendous upgrade from the previous classrooms, which were located in World War II-era buildings.

Military personnel and some other emergency personnel will train at the Lt. Terry facility to respond to a variety of critical incidents ranging from terrorist attacks to chemical spills. That involves both classroom education and hands-on training.

Source:

<http://www.waynesvilledailyguide.com/articles/2007/08/28/news/news05.txt>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste

5. *August 29, Bloomberg AP* – **American Electric Power not interested in nuclear plants.** American Electric Power Co. isn't planning to build any new nuclear power plants because delays will push operational starts to 2020. A potential lengthy legal process and high costs are the reasons the company is proposing to build advanced coal-fired plants instead of nuclear reactors. The company's proposed coal-gasification plants will cost about \$3,500 a kilowatt to build compared to the higher price of \$4,000 per kilowatt for nuclear plants.

Source:

http://www.tulsaworld.com/business/article.aspx?articleID=070829_5_E1_spanc05761&subjectID=49

6. *August 29, Gloucester County Times* – **Nuclear alert designed specifically for boaters.** The Delaware Emergency Management Agency (DEMA) Radiological Program prepared to conduct a test of the Delaware River alerting system. The alerting system was developed to signal boaters in the event of an emergency at PSG Salem and Hope Creek nuclear facilities. The hour-long test was supported by Delaware State Police and the National Guard, and it included a recorded message advising locals of the drill. In addition to this river-specific test, DEMA and the New Jersey Office of Emergency Management regularly conducts emergency siren tests on land four times each year for system quality assurance.

Source:<http://www.nj.com/news/gloucester/local/index.ssf?/base/news-7/1188370622113340.xml&coll=8>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Defense Industrial Base Sector

7. *August 29, LJWorld.com* – **Biodefense lab draws high level of support.** More than 250 people gathered Tuesday at a public hearing on a proposed \$450 million Homeland Security biodefense laboratory that could be built at Kansas State University. Most expressed support for the project, while some opposed it and others sought more information. Some in attendance wondered about the safety of transporting viruses and the potential for the area to become a terrorist target, but many spoke of the lab as a necessary measure for national security. Officials on hand said the lab would not raise the threat of terrorism. The lab will be a top-security facility where scientists will conduct research on plant and animal diseases,

including those that could affect humans.
Source: http://www2.ljworld.com/news/2007/aug/29/biodefense_lab_draws_high_level_support/

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Banking and Finance Sector

8. *August 28, Byte and Switch* – **Financial services consortium selects new emergency notification system.** Financial Services Information Sharing and Analysis Center (FS-ISAC) announced today that MessageOne will provide the AlertFind emergency notification service to a membership of more than 4,000 financial institutions. FS-ISAC has numerous large financial institutions among its customers as well as the U.S. Treasury. Therefore, the center takes pride in its “timely, accurate physical and cyber security information.” MessageOne’s AlertFind will help protect the U.S. infrastructure from threats or emergency, including natural disasters, coordinated cyber attacks, disease outbreaks or specific acts of terrorism. The system will allow customers to “to instantly contact thousands of employees or members to deliver important messages using individual's preferred method of communication.”
Source: http://www.byteandswitch.com/document.asp?doc_id=132546

9. *August 28, CNN Money* – **Foreclosure fallout: Rescue scams.** The scams involving foreclosure companies have been increasing during the past year, according to the Council of Better Business Bureaus. Numerous cases nationwide point to the same type of scam when a foreclosure company claiming to solve the client’s problems, cashes the check without providing any type of results. The victims, who are mostly elderly, immigrants, or low-income families are promised to save the home by taking title, said an investigator for the Deerfield Beach, Florida law firm, who was convicted and served time for mortgage fraud. This type of foreclosure rescue scam, called “equity stripping” is the most common. According to the investigator, "the scammer promises to save the home by taking title, renting it to the owner and selling it back sometime later. Instead, he strips the equity by charging excessive fees, doing phony renovations and not making the mortgage payments."
Investigators urge people not to trust firms or individuals offering their unsolicited services.
Source:
http://money.cnn.com/2007/08/22/real_estate/foreclosure_rescue_scams/index.htm?postversion=2007082415

10. *August 28, CBS/AP* – **Bomb threat scam strikes banks, stores.** Businesses around the country are targeted by bomb threat scams, according to police. This type of scam took place on Tuesday at a Wal-Mart in Rhode Island, when a man called the store claiming to have a bomb and requesting \$10,000 to be transferred to his account. The store authorities complied with the demand and transferred the

requested sum to the caller's account. Although Wal-Mart said this was an isolated event, FBI spokesman stated that "the incident appears related to a plot over the last two days targeting banks and stores near Phoenix, Detroit, Salt Lake City and Philadelphia." Virginia police also mentioned similar threats made at Wal-Mart stores on Tuesday where authorities refused to wire the money and no bombs were found. Because this type of cases appears to occur more often, FBI released a warning to financial institutions and businesses not to transfer any money if there is no visible threat.

Source:

<http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2007/08/29/national/printable3215631.shtml>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Transportation and Border Security Sector

11. *August 29, Dredging News Online* – **Corps of Engineers will dredge Missouri ports.** Missouri Senator and the state representative announced the US Army Corps of Engineers will dredge three ports along the Missouri River. The three ports, Caruthersville Harbor, New Madrid Harbor, and Southeast Missouri Port are vital for the local community because they provide transportation for agricultural products, especially during harvest season. Both the Senator and the House Representative have vehemently lobbied for the funds necessary to keep these ports operational, which will be awarded in the near future.

Source: <http://www.sandandgravel.com/news/article.asp?v1=10312>

12. *August 29, Santa Fe New Mexican* – **Residents, DOT battle over bridges.** Locals from Galisteo, New Mexico, are trying to convince the state's Department of Transportation (DOT) to impose a weight limit for two of the bridges in their area. The two 70 year old bridges, Galisteo Creek bridge and the San Cristobal Arroyo, were recently labeled among "the six most deficient bridges in District 5, which covers Santa Fe, Taos, Rio Arriba and San Juan counties." However, DOT officials refuse to comply with the residents' request saying that the bridge will soon be repaired and the speed limit was already reduced, leaving no reasonable motivation for a weight limit. For now, DOT is solely deciding if the two controversial bridges should be completely replaced or just fixed. The fund allocated for the Galisteo bridges sum up to \$3.3 million, which will be available in October 2008.

Source: <http://www.santafenewmexican.com/news/67542.html#>

13. *August 29, El Paso Times* – **New ID-check policy increases bridge wait times.** A new security policy, according to which border officers have to enter manually information from U.S. driver licenses on a computer, has caused major delays in traffic. The Border Trade Alliance has formally addressed this issue in a letter sent to Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff, but the reply they received was unexpected. According to the BTA president, "Department of Homeland Security officials acknowledged receiving the letter but denied there was such a policy." When investigated, 60 to 100 percent of the ID inspections were performed at

	<p>various border check points according to a directive from Washington, DC. The Department of Homeland Security did not comment on this statement and Customs and Border Control officials in El Paso “cleared with their headquarters a statement that neither confirms nor denies the practice.” While the mystery surrounding the ID regulation continues, the waiting period at the El Paso bridge has increased from minutes to sometimes hours because of construction work coupled with the driver license check. Some consider this waiting period as a preparatory measure for the new legislation enforced on January 30, 2008, when all U.S. citizens will have to provide a passport or another form of ID to show proof of their citizenship. Source: http://www.elpasotimes.com/business/ci_6744600</p>
<p>14.</p>	<p><i>August 29, El Paso Times</i> – Programs aim to expedite cargo crossings. A 2005 report performed by San Diego Association of Governments showed that “wait times at the borders are costing the area economy \$4 billion annually.” In order to obliterate the wait problem, two programs, FAST (Free and Secure Trade) and SENTRI (Secure Electronic Network for Travelers Rapid Inspection), were created to “pre-screen importers, carriers, drivers and commuters so that low-risk cargo shipments and passenger vehicles could move across the border more quickly.” The Otay Mesa port of entry, which sees more than 1.4 million trucks a year, was the first on the California-Mexico border to open a dedicated FAST lane. For this program, shipping companies must provide data in advance for all cargo containers prior to reaching the port. Some of the high-risk cargos are still picked to be visually inspected if X-ray technology detects any suspicious objects. According to border agents, drug and human smuggling has decreased during the last 6 years since the implementation of the X-ray equipment. Source: http://www.cfbf.com/agalert/AgAlertStory.cfm?ID=885&ck=0EFE32849D230D7F53049DDC4A4B0C60</p>
<p>15.</p>	<p><i>August 29, Houston Chronicle</i> – Red light cameras installed at intersections. According to police, new red light cameras will be installed and start working Friday at 20 intersections in Houston. The purpose of the cameras is to capture drivers traveling in the opposite direction. Motorists will have a month grace period during which time police will only issue warnings. The installment of the cameras, which had been kept secret until now, seems to be in violation of a contract with American Traffic Solutions Inc., which limited the number of cameras operating in the city to 50. The executive assistant chief denied the limitation imposed by the contract and said the new cameras are not to be new means to generate more revenue. In spite of speculations surrounding the motives behind the cameras’ installment, the mayor’s spokesman said the new devices are meant to increase safety and simply to replace officers. From a different perspective, the new law gives cited motorists more appeal powers, and requires the city to send half of its net profits to the regional trauma center fund. Source: http://chron.com/disp/story.mpl/front/5091190.html</p>

16. *August 28, NBC6* – **Miami International Airport set to open \$1.1 billion expansion.** On Wednesday, MIA officials announced the opening of a new terminal, which will host 19 airlines, 150 ticket counters, 31 gates and 61 food and retail outlets. The terminal which took 10 years to be completed and carries a \$1.1 million tag. The terminal will be able to process up to 2000 international passengers an hour. U.S. Customs and Border Protection officials confirmed the increased efficiency brought by the new airport addition because passport and baggage processing will be conducted now on the same floor. The size of the terminal is estimated to be larger than many mid-size airports across the country. Source: <http://www.nbc6.net/news/13997062/detail.html>

17. *August 28, BusinessWire* – **Experts try to ease traffic in New York City.** Specialists designed a plan to reduce traffic congestion in New York, which will be funded by the U.S. Department of Transportation. The plan headed by the city’s mayor, is presently awaiting approval from state legislators. According to the new project, which will receive \$354 million from DOT, includes collecting tolls from travelers coming into the city on the weekdays. Source: http://home.businesswire.com/portal/site/google/index.jsp?ndmViewId=news_view&newsId=20070828006177&newsLang=en

18. *August 28, U.S. Customs and Border Protection* – **More than a ton of marijuana seized at Arizona port.** Border agents arrested 9 individuals trying to smuggle 2,750 pounds of marijuana into the U.S at the Lukeville, Arizona, port of entry. On Sunday, CBP officers noticed a woman’s suspicious behavior and searched her car where they found 98 packages of marijuana weighing almost 884 pounds. The woman and the 3 passengers found in her car were immediately arrested. Shortly after, another woman driving a 1995 Ford F-150 towing a trailer was arrested when officers found 87 packages of marijuana, weighing 833 pounds, in a compartment built into the front of this trailer. During the third incident, another woman from California driving a 2001 Ford F-250 pickup hauling another trailer was selected for inspection and arrested after the officers found 79 packages of marijuana, weighing more than 1,036 pounds hidden in a compartment built into the front of the trailer. All 9 suspects were arrested and turned over to Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Source: http://cbp.gov/xp/cgov/newsroom/news_releases/08282007_3.xml

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Postal and Shipping Sector

19. *August 29, The Wichita Eagle* – **Shipping center doesn't add up for city.** Wichita businesses are moving far too few international shipping crates out to port cities to justify building a trade processing center. The report, presented to the City Council on Tuesday, seems to bring an end to a debate over whether Wichita needs a central

	<p>trade center where businesses could consolidate their shipping with other companies and save on their transportation expenses. Source: http://www.kansas.com/news/local/story/160443.html</p>
	<p>[Return to top]</p> <p><u>Agriculture and Food Sector</u></p>
20.	<p><i>August 29, USDA</i> – Scientists seek new ways to control potato pests. New and more virulent forms of two scourges that rampaged through potato fields in the past, the golden nematode (<i>Globodera rostochiensis</i>) and potato virus Y (PVY), are making a comeback. More than 30 varieties of potatoes that were previously nematode-resistant are now vulnerable to attack from a new race of the golden nematode, dubbed "Ro2". Plant pathologists are coordinating a survey of all U.S. potato seed-production areas to determine PVY's genetic diversity and distribution in the United States. This is one part of a plan developed by an international team of scientists, regulatory personnel and industry representatives to manage potato viruses that result in tuber necrosis. Source: http://www.agprofessional.com/show_story.php?id=48449</p>
21.	<p><i>August 29, USAgNet</i> – GPS technology used in study to track cattle in U.K. A herd of cows in the U.K. will have their every move monitored by satellite during a unique conservation experiment. Cows in the Yorkshire Dales are being fitted with electronic collars containing a Global Positioning System in a pilot scheme to help preserve rare vegetation. The equipment, which is more commonly used to study wild animals, will be able to pinpoint the exact position of the cattle at any one time. Source: http://www.usagnet.com/story-national.php?Id=2026&yr=2007</p>
22.	<p><i>August 28, Meredith Corporation</i> – Sudden death syndrome widespread in eastern Nebraska soybeans. Sudden Death Syndrome (SDS) has been found in many Nebraska soybean fields over the last two weeks. SDS was first confirmed in Nebraska in 2004. Sudden death syndrome of soybean is caused by the fungus <i>Fusarium solani f. sp. glycines</i>. At this time SDS appears to be widespread in Nebraska, but it can be effectively managed. Source: http://www.agriculture.com/ag/story.jhtml?storyid=/templatedata/ag/story/data/1188314811467.xml</p>
23.	<p><i>August 28, Xinhua</i> – Bird flu in German farm more serious than thought. The bird flu found on a southern German farm last week has infected more poultry than previously thought. Tests show that birds in three enclosures, instead of only one, in the farm near the southern German city of Erlangen have been infected with bird flu. It is unclear whether all these birds were infected with the deadly H5N1 virus, which experts believe could transfer to humans. Source: http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2007-08/28/content_6621550.htm</p>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Water Sector

24. *August 29, Reuters* – **Arsenic in water a risk to 140 million people.** Naturally-occurring arsenic in drinking water poses a growing global health risk as large numbers of people unknowingly consume unsafe levels of the chemical element. The problem is bigger than scientists had thought and affects nearly 140 million people in more than 70 countries. Arsenic can cause lung disease and cancers, even long after people stop drinking contaminated water. World Health Organization (WHO) guidelines set a safe limit of 10 parts per billion of arsenic in water supplies but tens of millions of people in the world drink unsafe water above that level. Arsenic has also been found in the water in developed countries and industrial activities such as mining can also lead to contamination.
Source: <http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/L29757483.htm>

25. *August 28, Naples Daily News* – **Department of Environment releases chemical analysis results of H2S.** Chemical analysis of the water pumped out of the ground during construction activities is back from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), though interpretation from the DEP will not be available for another day or two. Marco Island called in experts to examine the claim that some residents are suffering various ailments because of the hydrogen sulfide released by underground construction.
Source:
http://www.naplesnews.com/news/2007/aug/28/dep_releases_chemical_analysis_results_h2s/

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Public Health and Healthcare Sector

26. *August 29, USAgNet* – **Nebraska reports first West Nile Virus death this year.** Nebraska health officials say the first West Nile virus death of the year is an 80 year old Panhandle man. The total number of Nebraska cases this year also increased from 38 to 46 since the last update from the state Department of Health and Human Services. The new cases were reported in Antelope, Dawson, Madison, Rock, Scotts Bluff and Thomas counties.
Source: <http://www.usagnet.com/story-national.php?Id=2035&yr=2007>

27. *August 29, AFX News* – **FDA approves new Roche West Nile Virus blood screening test.** Roche Holdings AG said the US Food and Drug Administration has approved its biologics license application for the company's test for detection of West Nile Virus in donated human blood and plasma. The newly approved test enables detection of the virus earlier in the infection cycle in donors who may show symptoms of the disease.

Source: <http://www.forbes.com/markets/feeds/afx/2007/08/29/afx4063049.html>

- 28.** *August 28, Reuters* – **Study confirms 2006 human-human spread of bird flu.** A mathematical analysis has confirmed that H5N1 avian influenza spread from person to person in Indonesia in April. Health officials around the world agree that a pandemic of influenza is overdue, and they are most worried by the H5N1 strain of avian influenza that has been spreading through flocks from Asia to Africa. It rarely passes to humans, but since 2003 it has infected 322 people and killed 195 of them. Most have been infected directly by birds. But a few clusters of cases have been seen and officials worry most about the possibility that the virus has acquired the ability to pass easily and directly from one person to another. That would spark a pandemic. Experts were almost certain the Sumatra case was human-to-human transmission.

Source: <http://abcnews.go.com/Health/AvianFlu/wireStory?id=3534613>

- 29.** *August 28, KPHO* – **Emergency declared in potential sewage flooding.** Acting Arizona Gov. and Secretary of State Jan Brewer has signed a state of emergency declaration authorizing emergency response plans including use of the National Guard if needed to address potential sewage flooding in the Nogales Wash. Work crews are scrambling to prevent a pipe carrying millions of gallons of sewage from Mexico into the U.S. from bursting. More than 116 feet of the concrete tunnel floor was ripped off. The concrete flooring protects a 30-inch pipe carrying millions of gallons of raw sewage a day from Mexico to a treatment plant in Rico. Rico is about 8.5 miles north of the border. Nearly 100 people have been working to reinforce the washed-out floor, but officials are worried that more rains could wipe out their work.

Source: <http://www.kpho.com/news/13999351/detail.html>

- 30.** *August 28, AP* – **Puerto Rican officials warn of dengue epidemic.** Mosquito-borne disease, dengue, suspected of sickening 3,200, killing 7 this year. Most of the confirmed cases of the mosquito-borne illness have occurred in Puerto Rico's urban areas, where health officials have launched a public education campaign to encourage people to eliminate pools of stagnant water, potential breeding grounds for mosquitoes. There is no vaccination or cure for dengue, which is also known as break-bone fever because of the severe joint pains it causes.

Source: <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/20484675/>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Government Facilities Sector

- 31.** *August 29, Breitbart.com-Associated Press* – **Gulf Coast schools in urgent need.** Thousands of Gulf Coast students are still displaced two years after Hurricane Katrina devastated the region, and millions of dollars worth of school reconstruction projects remain unfunded, according to a report released Wednesday. A recent report produced by the Southern Education Foundation,

encourages the government to take new measures to restore educational facilities and institutions along the gulf. The report cited a lack of funding for education recovery and the high number of displaced students as primary reasons for the delays in reconstruction.

Source:

http://www.breitbart.com/article.php?id=D8RAO08O0&show_article=1&catnum=1

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Emergency Services Sector

32. *August 29, CBS/AP* – **New York authorities place telephones on bridges to help prevent suicides.** Over the past decade, more than 25 people have committed suicide by jumping from the Tappan Zee Bridge into the Hudson River according to the Thruway Authority. To help prevent future suicide attempts, phones have been placed on both sides of the bridge, in the hopes that a last-minute call to a suicide prevention hot line can save a life. Suicide prevention phones are popular throughout the U.S., and the New York state Bridge Authority has installed phones on four bridges this year.
Source: http://wcbstv.com/local/local_story_240173331.html

33. *August 28, East Bay Business Times* – **Sandia testing next-generation emergency alerts.** Scientists at Sandia National Laboratories in Livermore have helped design the foundations of a new public emergency alert system they have started testing in the midst of the 2007 hurricane season, the lab said Tuesday. The system is built to transform national emergency alerts from audio-only messages to voice, text, and video alerts that can be delivered to both emergency responders and citizens on pagers, cell phones, e-mail and other communication channels. Sandia scientists in the lab's Livermore and Albuquerque, N.M., facilities have collaborated with the Federal Emergency Management Agency to design a secure architecture and special standards and protocols for the new Integrated Public Alert and Warning System. Sandia is also developing the certification program for companies to qualify for access to the IPAWS communications framework. The pilot program will test the new alert technologies through December 2007. Meanwhile, FEMA is seeking additional funding for further tests in 2008.
Source: http://www.bizjournals.com/eastbay/stories/2007/08/27/daily14.html?ana=from_rss

34. *August 28, AP* – **Chertoff acknowledges Coast Guard heroism and changes, and addresses new FEMA initiatives.** Praising the Coast Guard's daring rescues of Katrina flood victims, Homeland Security Chief Michael Chertoff said Tuesday that new initiatives, including text-messaged warnings, will make responders even more effective in a future major disaster. Chertoff also said a realignment of the Coast Guard will make other homeland security efforts stronger. Chertoff said crews from the Mobile station were credited with rescuing more than 12,000 people

in the aftermath of Katrina, and the Coast Guard as a whole was widely praised for its rapid response. Chertoff, who was accompanied by Gov. Bob Riley, Sen. Jeff Sessions, R-Ala. and Rep. Jo Bonner, R-Ala., said the agency's response has provided a model for others to follow. Chertoff and Riley also touted a new FEMA public warning initiative. Called IPAWS - Public Alert and Warning System - the program adds text message and e-mail alerts to the standard radio and television emergency alert system. The system, which individuals can sign up to put on cell phones, is debuting this hurricane season in Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi. Source: <http://www.dailycomet.com/article/20070828/APN/708280905>

35. *August 27, arbiteronline.com* – **Virtual reality training for emergency personnel.** A video game that simulates terrorist attacks and other major disasters could become key to homeland security. Scientists at Sandia National Laboratories have designed a game to help first responders practice handling emergency situations. Donna Djordjevich and her team at Sandia's Livermore, California campus have designed the training program to test first responders in a real-life scenario. The controller is responsible for directing the response of emergency service personnel, and coordinating the transfer of rescue equipment in the most efficient, live-saving manner. This is a high-tech alternative to the present day scenario training that requires extensive coordination, planning, and resources, of the many agencies charged with safeguarding U.S. infrastructure. Djordjevich thinks the video game could be a real asset to members of the first responder community.
Source:
<http://media.www.arbiteronline.com/media/storage/paper890/news/2007/08/27/News/Virtual.Training.For.RealLife.Heroes-2937329.shtml>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Information Technology Sector

36. *August 29, Electronic News* – **Flextronics-Solectron merger gets EC green light.** The European Commission (EC) today announced that it has approved, under the European Union merger regulation, the proposed acquisition of Milpitas, Calif.-based electronics manufacturing services (EMS) provider Solectron Corp. by Singapore-based EMS provider Flextronics International Ltd. The rivaling companies announced in June their entrance into a definitive acquisition agreement that had been unanimously approved by the boards of both Solectron and Flextronics
Source: <http://www.edn.com/article/CA6472924.html?industryid=47037>

37. *August 28, IDG News* – **Japan military homes, destroyer raided over data leak.** The homes of several serving members of Japan's Maritime Self Defense Force (JMSDF) and a destroyer were raided as part of an investigation into a leak of sensitive military data from a computer, Japan's Kyodo News reported Tuesday. Officers from the Kanagawa police force and the JMSDF's own criminal

investigations unit are investigating the leak of information related to the Aegis missile defense system, the sea-based Standard Missile-3 interceptor system and the reconnaissance satellite data exchange Link 16 system. The Aegis leak first came to light in March this year when police were conducting an immigration-related investigation into the Chinese wife of a JMSDF officer. During the search they came across the data, which included the radar and transmission frequencies of the Aegis system. The issue of data security has been a sensitive one between Japan and the U.S. Japan's Defense Minister apologized to his U.S. counterpart during a visit to Washington, D.C., earlier this year and in June during a speech in Tokyo Lieutenant General Bruce Wright, commander of U.S. Forces Japan, called the leak "a very serious security problem." Data security at Japanese military and government institutions has been in the spotlight in the last year. The rapid spread of viruses on file sharing networks has served to highlight that many employees and service personnel run file sharing software on official computers. The viruses have caused sensitive documents to be published and shared with data inevitably ending up on the Web.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=security&articleId=9033179&taxonomyId=17&intsrc=kc_top

- 38.** *August 28, ComputerWorld* – **New attacks leave online transactions vulnerable even after sign-on authentication.** Companies are trying to demonstrate that they're getting better at securing online transactions by adding multiple forms of authentication at sign-on, such as site keys. But experts say they could do 10 types of authentication at the start of the session and users would still be subject to attacks. "Once that user is authenticated, they think they're OK, but instead companies have given them a false sense of security to merrily transact business." says the CEO of 2factor Inc. in Maumee, Ohio. An expert, who is currently leading one of several start-ups that are trying to tackle this problem, says the real threat for online transactions these days comes from intrasession attacks, where a secure session is hijacked without the user's knowledge. These usually occur in two ways, during a piggyback attack or a spoof server attack.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&articleId=9000174&intsrc=hm_list

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.uscert.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/>.

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Communications Sector

39. *August 29, CNet* – **Wi-Fi to supersede wired Ethernet.** Wi-Fi will start replacing wired Ethernet within the next two to three years, as users and applications go mobile. In a report comparing gigabit Ethernet with the latest version of Wi-Fi, 802.11n, Burton Group suggests that companies should begin making plans for switching their local-area networks (LANs) from wired to wireless. A Burton analyst listed several reasons for the switch, including growing numbers of laptop users, increased use of mobile applications and the deployment of voice over Internet Protocol, or VoIP. In addition, while recent advances in radio design, security and wireless management would soon make 802.11n the preferred LAN access technology, wired Ethernet would continue to be necessary in switch trunks and data center networks for many years to come. The new version of 802.11n promises higher throughput, and better range and bandwidth, than its predecessors. However, the standard's ratification has been a controversial affair, with final approval by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) poised to come as late as 2009.
Source: http://news.com.com/Report+Wi-Fi+to+supersede+wired+Ethernet/2100-7351_3-6205010.html?tag=cd.top

40. *August 28, Associated Press* – **Chicago scraps plans for wi-fi network.** The plan to cover Chicago's 228 miles with wireless internet access will be shelved because it is too costly and too few residents would use it. After much consideration city authorities decided they needed to reevaluate their approach to provide universal and affordable access to high speed Internet as part of the city's broader digital inclusion efforts. The city said that negotiations with private-sector partners have stalled because any citywide wi-fi would require massive public financing. The city had hoped to provide only infrastructure for the network. Tuesday's announcement makes Chicago the latest in a string of municipalities to encounter troubles with their municipal broadband initiatives. About 175 U.S. cities or regions have citywide or partial systems.
Source: <http://www.topix.net/content/ap/2007/08/chicago-scraps-plans-for-wi-fi-network>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Commercial Facilities Sector

41. *August 29, Asbury Park Press* – **Fire ignites job site smoking debate.** The deadly fire at an abandoned ground zero skyscraper has raised questions over whether there is strict enough enforcement of rules banning smoking at certain construction sites. City officials this week said that they believe careless smoking by demolition workers started the blaze. Smoking was forbidden in the building, but authorities said the rules were widely ignored. New York City's public health laws bar smoking in all indoor workplaces, including buildings still under construction. The

Occupational Safety and Health Administration also bans smoking in any areas where workers are exposed to asbestos because of their jobs. Source: http://www.app.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070829/NEWS03/708290340

[\[Return to top\]](#)

National Monuments and Icons

- | | |
|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 42. | <p><i>August 29, Realty Times</i> – List aims to save national landmarks. There are 11 sites listed recently in the National Trust for Historic Preservation's 2007 list of America's Most Endangered Historic Spaces. The sites on this year's list embody the diversity and complexity of America's story, and the variety of threats that endanger it. While a listing does not ensure the protection of a site or guarantee funding, the designation has been a powerful tool for raising awareness and rallying resources to save endangered sites from every region of the country.
Source: http://realtytimes.com/rtcpages/20070829_savelandmarks.htm</p> |
|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Dams Sector

- | | |
|-----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 43. | <p><i>August 28, Environment News Service</i> – NOAA helps small towns remove obsolete dams. An excavator breached a dam on Oregon's Calapooia River Monday at Brownsville, a small town about 20 miles north of Eugene. This historic dam removal is the first project to be completed under the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's new Open Rivers Initiative, which provides funding and technical expertise for community-driven, small dam and river barrier removals. The Brownsville dam was the last upstream barrier on the Calapooia River. The remaining downstream barrier is slated to be removed as well.
Source: http://www.ens-newswire.com/ens/aug2007/2007-08-28-095.asp</p> |
|-----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

[\[Return to top\]](#)

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information

[DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Reports](#) - The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is a daily [Monday through Friday] summary of open-source published information concerning significant critical infrastructure issues. The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is archived for ten days on the Department of Homeland Security Website: <http://www.dhs.gov/iaipdailyreport>

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information

Content and Suggestions: Send mail to dhsdailyadmin@mail.dhs.osis.gov or contact the DHS Daily Report Team at (703) 983-3644.

Subscription and Distribution Information: Send mail to dhsdailyadmin@mail.dhs.osis.gov or contact the DHS Daily Report Team at (703) 983-3644 for more information.

Contact DHS

To report physical infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact the National Infrastructure Coordinating Center at nicc@dhs.gov or (202) 282-9201.

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Web page at www.us-cert.gov.

Department of Homeland Security Disclaimer

The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is a non-commercial publication intended to educate and inform personnel engaged in infrastructure protection. Further reproduction or redistribution is subject to original copyright restrictions. DHS provides no warranty of ownership of the copyright, or accuracy with respect to the original source material.