



Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 17 April 2008

Current Nationwide
Threat Level is



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

- According to the Daily Planet, the more than 6,500-acre fire that raged through Crowley County, Colorado, on Tuesday downed live power poles throughout the area. About 25 power poles burned, and the town of Ordway and surrounding communities were without electricity. (See item [2](#))
- IDG News Service reports many executives from major technology companies have expressed concern about the exhaustion of available IP addresses using IP version 4. Executives say the solution is to switch to IP version 6. (See item [39](#))

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](#); [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. *April 16, Press Association* – (International) **Oil prices hit 114 dollars a barrel.** Crude oil prices rose to a new record above 114 U.S. dollars a barrel on dollar concerns. Light, sweet crude for May delivery reached 114.53 dollars on the New York Mercantile Exchange. In London, Brent crude futures also reached a new record of 112.27 dollars. Source: <http://ukpress.google.com/article/ALeqM5hMCJZJNn7ygGRSGhH3L1SJhz1dHA>
2. *April 16, Daily Planet* – (Colorado) **Ordway fire.** At least two people were reported dead after the more than 6,500-acre fire that raged through Crowley County, Colorado,

on Tuesday and forced officials to evacuate the town of Ordway. The governor issued a state of emergency for Ordway. There were downed live power poles throughout the area. About 25 power poles burned and Ordway and surrounding communities were without electricity.

Source: http://www.telluridenews.com/state_news/x1838782358

3. *April 16, Associated Press* – (Colorado) **Colo.: Firms accused of failing to curb runoff.** The Colorado attorney general on Tuesday accused four companies of failing to prevent sediment at a pipeline construction site from spilling into Parachute Creek in western Colorado, potentially endangering wildlife. He is seeking a temporary restraining order and injunction that would halt work related to construction of an oil and gas pipeline on the Roan Plateau until controls are built in to prevent further sediment runoff. His complaint named Berry Petroleum Co., Marathon Oil Co. and two of its contractors, Enterprise Products Co. and Enterprise Transportation Co. “Large areas of loose soil and banks of unconsolidated soil at the construction site lack the necessary control structures to minimize sediment runoff caused by rainfall and snowmelt,” the attorney general said.

Source:

<http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/apwire/bafef8914c135a4afe5333b7c87aa36.htm>

4. *April 15, Popular Science* – (National) **Biofuel diversity at the University of North Dakota.** Biofuels are driving up food prices around the world. “We’re going to have to move away from using food to produce energy,” said the director of the Energy and Environmental Research Center (EERC) at the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks. Last December, working under a Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) contract, the EERC successfully tested military grade jet fuel, called JP-8, made from 100 percent pure vegetable oil. The DARPA project’s program manager said it is chemically identical to the petroleum variety and can be used unmodified in jet engines. The next step is to optimize the conversion process for large-scale production. Vegetable oil does not have to come from corn, soy, or other food crops. It can just as easily come from switchgrass or algae. Another EERC project is an electric generator that runs on any organic matter available in a sufficient quantity. The slow burn of the fuel inside the processor produces gas, and the gas runs the generator. A prototype running at a North Dakota truss plant powers the whole facility on scrap wood.

Source: <http://www.popsci.com/environment/article/2008-04/biofuel-diversity-university-north-dakota>

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Chemical Industry Sector

5. *April 16, Associated Press* – (National) **Apex chemical fire report released.** In a case study released Wednesday on the October 2006 hazardous waste fire at the Environmental Quality Company, the U.S. Chemical Safety Board (CSB) called for a new national fire code for hazardous waste facilities and for improving the information provided to community emergency planners about the chemicals those facilities store

and handle. The investigation noted that under the federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) regulations developed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) require facilities to have “fire control equipment” but do not specify what equipment and systems should be in place. In addition, there is no national fire code to define fire protection practices for hazardous waste facilities. The CSB investigation identified 22 other hazardous waste fires, explosions, and releases that have occurred at U.S. hazardous waste facilities in past five years. More than a third had adverse community impacts, such as evacuations, orders to shelter, and transportation disruptions. Federal RCRA regulations require operators to “familiarize” local responders in advance concerning facility hazards, but do not describe what information must be shared about stored chemicals, or define the frequency of communications. The CSB report recommended the EPA require that permitted hazardous waste facilities periodically provide specific, written information to state and local response officials on the type, approximate quantities, and location of hazardous materials. The Board called on the Environmental Technology Council to develop standardized guidance on waste handling and storage to prevent releases and fires. The CSB also recommended that the Council petition the National Fire Protection Association to develop a specific fire protection standard for the hazardous waste industry.

Source: <http://abclocal.go.com/wtvd/story?section=news/local&id=6084225>

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector

6. *April 16, Times Herald-Record* – (New York) **Orange sirens fail during drill at Indian Point.** Five of 164 new warning sirens failed yesterday in the latest Indian Point emergency drill; four of them are located in Orange County. Malfunctions ranged from failing to sound at all, to issues with an amp and computerized messaging glitches, said a spokeswoman for Entergy Nuclear, the company that owns Indian Point. Testing continues today and tomorrow between 10:30 and 11 a.m. The sirens will sound simultaneously at full volume for four minutes stretches in Orange, Westchester, Rockland, and Putnam counties. The goal of this round of drills is to ensure a minimum decibel level throughout the ten-mile-radius surrounding the plant. Audio samples of Indian Point’s new siren system are available on the company’s [Web site](#).

Source:

<http://www.recordonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080416/NEWS/804160348/-1/NEWS>

7. *April 16, New London Day* – (Connecticut) **Ex-Millstone whistleblower fails in his bid to reopen case.** State utility regulators on Tuesday denied a former whistleblower’s request for a new investigation into his firing at Millstone Power Station. The state Department of Public Utility Control found, according to a written decision, that a former Millstone nuclear engineer did not provide materially new evidence that he was discriminated against by reactor owner Dominion or fired for raising concerns about an alleged high incidence of cancer in Building 475 at the power station.

Source: <http://www.theday.com/re.aspx?re=6cbbfe28-c553-4b59-a15b-9ce9e61b3f65>

8. *April 15, Platts* – (International) **Spot uranium weakens again; Deutsche Bank may form uranium fund.** The uranium spot price has continued to weaken and is now below \$70 a pound U3O8. TradeTech late Friday published a spot price of \$69 per pound, while Ux Consulting late Tuesday said the price had fallen to \$68. “I see the price continuing to decline,” said one analyst. He said demand is still relatively thin and there are a number of active sellers. One analyst said several sellers are anticipating that the U.S. Department of Energy will sell several million pounds of uranium later this year and that that sale is likely to drive prices lower, perhaps well below \$60. But another analyst noted that \$60 is near or even below the breakeven price for a number of fledgling uranium projects. If the price drops below \$60 those projects would likely be delayed or even canceled. There are, however, some indications of potential increased demand. Platts has learned that Deutsche Bank AG through a subsidiary called DB Commodity Services is working to create a fund that will buy physical uranium through New York Nuclear Corp (Nynco) and hold it storage accounts that Nynco has at uranium conversion facilities in North America and Europe. And utility demand may be more than some have anticipated later this year, an analyst said, given that utility long-term uranium contracts no longer contain the delivery flexibilities they once had.
- Source:
<http://www.platts.com/Nuclear/News/6860362.xml?sub=Nuclear&p=Nuclear/News&?undefined&undefined>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

9. *April 16, Strategy Page* – (National) **Oldest Hog still deadly.** The oldest A-10 “Warthog” aircraft in service is now flying combat missions in Afghanistan. Aircraft V281 was manufactured in 1982, and has been flying training and combat missions ever since. The aircraft has over 7,000 hours in the air. The designed life of the A-10 was 8,000 hours. Upgrading A-10s to A-10Cs extends this to 16,000 hours. The A-10 was designed for ease of maintenance, and the airmen that take care of A-10s find it to be the easiest combat aircraft to deal with.
- Source: <http://www.strategypage.com/htm/htairfo/articles/20080416.aspx>
10. *April 16, Strategy Page* – (National) **Decoys that cast confusion.** Now that the U.S. Air Force has a new powered decoy that works, they are adding radar jamming capability. The new miniature air-launched decoy (MALD) is about ten feet long, and its pop-out wings give it a five foot wingspan. The 285-pound MALD is powered by a small turbojet engine that gives it a speed of up to about 620 miles an hour, for 45 minutes at 35,000 feet, or 20 minutes at 3,000 feet. It can be programmed to fly a specific course to try and get enemy air defenses to open up, so the enemy weapons can be spotted and destroyed. MALDs are also designed to be used in swarms to overwhelm enemy air defenses. The new MALDs cost about \$250,000 each. The radar jamming capability of MALD-J will be the first of many electronic warfare capabilities added to the higher (up to half a million dollars, or more, each) priced version of MALD.
- Source: <http://www.strategypage.com/htm/htairw/articles/20080416.aspx>

11. *April 15, Defense News* – (National) **Yard says problems will delay U.S. Navy amphib.** Northrop Grumman is delaying delivery of a new U.S. Navy amphibious assault ship, the Makin Island, after the company uncovered problems with the ship's electrical wiring and other systems. The Makin Island, under construction in Pascagoula, Mississippi, is to be the Navy's first gas-turbine-powered big-deck gator, now scheduled for delivery sometime in the second quarter of 2009 – a six-month delay, the Navy said. Northrop Grumman said "a lack of progress" before at-sea testing prompted engineers to conduct major reviews of the ship's systems, which led to the discovery of the problems. They will require "substantial rework," according to a company announcement. Source: <http://www.defensenews.com/story.php?i=3481331&c=AME&s=SEA>
12. *April 15, Strategy Page* – (National) **Army UAV replacing Predator.** The U.S. Air Force is planning on replacing its MQ-1B Predators with the new U.S. Army MQ-1C Sky Warrior. The latter is developed from the former and both are built by the same manufacturer. General Atomics is developing the new Sky Warrior unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV), which enters service next year. The Army wants 45 squadrons (each with 12 UAVs), at a cost of about \$8 million per aircraft, including ground equipment. The Army's initial order will be for 132 UAVs. The Sky Warrior weighs 1.5 tons, carries 300 pounds of sensors internally, and up to 500 pounds of sensors or weapons externally. It has an endurance of up to 36 hours and a top speed of about 168 miles an hour. Sky Warrior has a wingspan 56 feet and is 28 feet long. The Sky Warrior is heavier than the one ton Predator, and a bit larger and more capable in general. Basically, it is "Predator Plus," with the added ability to land and take off automatically, and carry four Hellfire missiles (compared to two on the Predator). The Air Force and Army have already agreed to cooperate on supporting Predator and Sky Warrior UAVs, which will save money for both. But the Air Force is alarmed at some of the Army ideas for operating Sky Warrior. For example, the Army wants to rely more on the software, than trained pilots. In fact, the Army will not use pilots at all as operators. For larger UAVs, the Air Force is concerned about collisions with other UAVs or manned aircraft. Source: <http://www.strategypage.com/htm/htairfo/articles/20080415.aspx>

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Banking and Finance Sector

13. *April 16, Times-Herald* – (California) **Foreclosure scam targets mostly Hispanic families.** The latest version of the foreclosure scam has hit several California counties, including Napa, officials said. The perpetrators contact property owners who have gotten a notice of default - the first step in the foreclosure process - which is public record, a Solano County District Attorney's Office investigator said. The scheme is supposed to work by having the owner grant a small interest in the property to a sham business entity and pay a monthly fee. The fractional interest owner then files bankruptcy for the sham business to stop the foreclosure. But the bankruptcy is found to be fraudulent, the foreclosure continues, and the owner loses the property and the fees they paid the scammer, he said. The Alameda County District Attorney has reportedly brought charges against two people who have targeted property owners in Alameda, Fresno and other counties, including Napa. The U.S. Attorney in Sacramento has

indicted 19 people on similar charges. The United States Trustee office and the state Attorney General are also investigating this scheme, authorities said. “Most of the victims we find are Hispanics with limited English.” The criminals are also primarily Hispanic, the Solano County District Attorney’s Office investigator said. “It’s the trust issue, and the language.” They are vulnerable because of the same things that contributed to their getting into bad loans in the first place, he added. He said those facing foreclosure should contact their lender, not its collection department, to negotiate to save their homes. And there may be agencies that can help, but telling the difference between the legitimate and the criminal ones is very difficult, he said.

Source: http://www.timesheraldonline.com/ci_8943809

14. *April 15, KTVZ 21 Central Oregon* – (Oregon) **Bend man gets 20-year prison term in huge fraud scheme.** The former president and CEO of Pac Equities Inc. in Bend, Oregon, was sentenced to a 20-year prison term Tuesday for an investment scheme that bilked more than 300 victims out of \$19 million. The man and Pac Equities were found guilty by a jury last December of securities fraud, wire fraud, and mail fraud. The jury also found the CEO guilty of bank fraud, attempted bank fraud, money laundering, obstruction of justice and tax fraud. During the course of the offenses, Pac Equities had an office in Bend, and purported to manage profitable real estate development projects, including a subdivision in Phoenix, Arizona, a high-density townhouse development in Salem, Oregon, a dairy in Culver, Oregon, a resort complex in Ocean Shores, Washington, commercial buildings in Redmond, Oregon, and an industrial park in LaPine, Oregon. The case was the result of an investigation by the Internal Revenue Service, Criminal Investigation Division, the FBI, and the State of Oregon, Department of Consumer and Business Services, Division of Finance and Corporate Securities.
- Source: http://www.ktvz.com/Global/story.asp?S=8171123&nav=menu578_1

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Transportation Sector

15. *April 16, CBS* – (New York) **NYPD to take Pope security battle underground.** With Pope Benedict XVI’s landing Tuesday at Maryland’s Andrews Air Force Base, the NYPD has already begun beefing up its police presence underground. “Mind if we check the train?” That is the question NYPD officers will be asking hundreds of train conductors when the pope arrives in New York City on Friday morning. Over the course of the Pope’s three-day visit, the NYPD will have round-the-clock coverage of high-profile Metropolitan Transportation Authority stops starting as soon as the pope arrives in the city. Officers will take a peek inside every train that comes through the station. With hundreds of thousands of people expected to flock to the pope’s motorcade route through Manhattan on Friday and pack Yankee Stadium for his mass on Sunday, police expect the subway to be extremely busy. Police are hoping commuters will stay vigilant. The delays, if any, will be minimal. Officers expect to be in the trains for just a few seconds at a time. The NYPD will be watching closely what’s happening on the streets. Police will be using hand-held sensors to check for radiation and chemical presence under trucks and vehicles, and random spot checks will be executed at many busy city intersections. Needless to say, the NYPD counterterrorism unit is ramping up. The

mobile radiation detection unit has 360-degree capability, and will be located all over the city, watching cars as they go past “choke points.”

Source: <http://wcbstv.com/papalvisit/pope.benedict.xvi.2.700572.html>

16. *April 16, News-Press* – (Florida) **Jet’s malfunction closes runway at SW Fla.**

International. Officials will be assessing the damage and trying to determine what caused the nose gear to fail on a small private jet from Canada that landed at Southwest Florida International Airport on Tuesday morning. The pilots called for emergency trucks to be deployed and then landed, an airport spokeswoman said. The malfunction affected 27 flights while crews spent two hours clearing and reopening the airport’s only runway. The two pilots and seven passengers aboard the twin-engine Learjet 60 originating in Toronto were not injured. As the aircraft approached the airport, “the crew called in and said they thought they were having problems,” said the official. “They reported an indicator light showed that the nose gear might not be deployed.” When the aircraft touched down at 11:10 a.m., the nose gear collapsed, she said. Among the things to be determined are whether there is a recurring landing gear problem with this particular aircraft and the amount of damage caused to the Learjet, a National Transportation Safety Board senior air safety investigator in Miami said.

Source: <http://www.news-press.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080416/NEWS01/804160399/1075>

17. *April 16, Yale Daily News* – (Connecticut) **Brief: YPD officers help investigate bomb found on train tracks.**

A bomb was discovered on and removed from New Haven, Connecticut, train tracks Tuesday evening. Two children stumbled upon a “greenish brown” object with “an orange piece” and a string attached to it, WTNH reported late Tuesday evening. Bomb technicians from the Yale Police Department were called in to help AMTRAK Police and New Haven firefighters investigate the explosive device and secure the area. “When the AMTRAK officers investigated, they found that there was what appeared to be a grenade lodged in the fence underneath the overpass,” a Chief Administrative Officer told WTNH. Following a sweep of the area immediately surrounding the bomb, officials did not find any other explosive devices. After a brief interruption, when the area was secured to remove the bomb, train services resumed their normal schedules. Metro-North, Acela and Shoreline East use the tracks on which the bomb was found. Train services are back on schedule.

Source: <http://www.yaledailynews.com/articles/view/24488>

18. *April 15, CNN* – (National) **More airports to use ‘whole body imaging’ machines.**

Some travelers at key airports in New York and Los Angeles may be put through machines that see through clothing and provide a detailed image of a person’s body beginning later this week. The TSA says the screener who reviews the images is in a booth, unable to see the travelers. It’s the first expansion of the program since the machines were first put to the test in Phoenix, Arizona. However, the “whole body imaging” machines have sparked complaints from privacy advocates. But the Transportation Security Administration says that it has taken steps to protect individuals’ privacy and that 90 percent of the travelers in Phoenix preferred the imaging machine to a pat-down. The TSA will use two different methods at JFK and

LAX as they study the most effective way to use the machines. At JFK, passengers sent to secondary screening will be given the option of a pat-down or a trip through the body imager. At LAX, the millimeter wave machine will be located just beyond the checkpoint magnetometers. Travelers will continuously and randomly be selected. While signs will inform them of the pat-down option, screeners will not announce that choice. A TSA spokesman said the agency is still exploring backscatter, another imaging technology in use at Phoenix's Sky Harbor International Airport.

Source:

http://www.cnn.com/2008/TRAVEL/04/15/airport.security/index.html?eref=rss_tech

19. *April 15, WFIE 14 Tri-State* – (Indiana) **Update: Investigators say rail yard fire looks suspicious.** Investigators in Vanderburgh County, Indiana, called a fire that broke out in a rail yard, suspicious. The fire, which destroyed the rail company's regional office, happened around midnight Monday night. The trailer was the regional office for Indiana Southwestern Railway, a connecting railroad for CSX and Norfolk Southern Railroads. It kept important documents crucial for everyday operations of the railroad. This is the second incident targeting this office in just a week. The general manager said it was robbed last Friday. The Vanderburgh County Sheriff's Office is still investigating that incident. Now, it's up to fire investigators to find what caused Monday night's blaze. Sheriff's deputies do not know if these two incidents are related.

Source: http://www.14wfie.com/Global/story.asp?S=8171432&nav=menu54_1

20. *April 15, CW56 10 New England* – (Massachusetts) **Plane makes emergency landing at Logan.** An American Airlines jet made an emergency landing at Logan Airport Tuesday morning. The plane was on its way from Dallas to Boston when it encountered problems with its main hydraulic system. The plane landed safely just before 11:30 a.m. 71 passengers and 5 crew members were on board and all are fine. Inspectors found a small hydraulic leak. The plane was towed to the gate for repairs.

Source: <http://www1.cw56.com/news/articles/local/BO76637/>

21. *April 15, Associated Press* – (Massachusetts) **Engineer recommends more Big Dig tunnel repairs.** The engineering firm about to complete the Boston, Massachusetts, Big Dig's stem-to-stern review has recommended more safety fixes to ensure all the tunnels are safe. An expert says the fire suppression system in the Sumner Tunnel should be upgraded to better remove hot and toxic gases. Also, some 180 undercut anchor bolts should be added in the Ted Williams Tunnel to shore up suspect ceiling attachments. In addition, the expert says 13 rows of strapping and about 900 anchor bolts should be added within about 250 feet of each end of that tunnel to guarantee epoxy bolts in those locations can't slip free. That work does not have to be done for up to five years, though. The review followed a deadly tunnel collapse in July 2006.

Source: <http://www3.cw56.com/news/articles/local/BO76618/>

22. *April 15, Information Week* – (California) **L.A. port to use Unisys' biometric access control.** The Port Authority of Los Angeles will use a biometric system for access control. Unisys Corporation on Tuesday said it will design and manage the system, which includes smart cards and biometrics to control employee access to restricted areas

in the Port of Los Angeles. The three-year contract falls under the federal Transportation Worker Identification Credentials (TWIC) program, overseen by the U.S. Transportation Security Administration (TSA) and the U.S. Coast Guard. In addition to planning, designing, and developing the system, Unisys will field test and provide terminal operators with support for integrating the TWIC-enabled access control systems with tamper-resistant smart cards. The cards will contain fingerprint templates and digital photographs. Workers enrolled in the program will present cards at all pedestrian and vehicular entry points and readers will determine whether the cardholder should be granted access. An alert will notify security officers of attempts at unauthorized access.

Source:

<http://www.informationweek.com/news/security/government/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=207200850>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to Report

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Agriculture and Food Sector

23. *April 15, Canadian Press* – (National) **Pricey fertilizer could impact cost of fruits and vegetables.** Farmers across the country are seeing fertilizer price increases caused by several factors, including the booming demand for fertilizer to produce animal feed for rapidly developing nations like India and China, where people are adopting diets richer in meat. In the U.S., high gasoline prices are prompting growers to plant fertilizer-dependent corn for the manufacture of ethanol fuel. High energy prices also have affected the availability of natural gas, a key ingredient of nitrogen-based fertilizers that can now be sold more profitably as fuel. Midwestern growers of commodities such as corn and grain have been able to absorb the cost hikes as their crops fetched higher prices. But growers in California, the nation's leading agriculture state, have yet to see retail prices increase for the fruits and vegetables that dominate their farms. In fact, farmers saw the average price of broccoli fall to about 23 cents a pound in February, down from 26 cents a year earlier, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Lettuce prices also dropped about three cents to 13 cents a pound during the same period. Along with soaring labor, water, and fuel costs, increasing fertilizer costs have been draining farmers' savings and will likely lead to higher prices for fruits and vegetables to go with separate increases in meat, poultry, and dairy products.

Source:

<http://canadianpress.google.com/article/ALeqM5homnXGpKBOg0NI dg0yZksBncACOA>

24. *April 15, Associated Press* – (Hawaii) **Food safety program targets state's tomatoes.** A technology used to track everything from cattle and bottles of Viagra to U.S. military weapons will soon be tested on an unlikely candidate for surveillance: tomatoes. The

Hawaii Department of Agriculture will begin a three-year pilot project this month to track and trace tomatoes and other produce using radio frequency identification (RFID) technology. The system uses microchips with paper-thin antennae stuck onto produce boxes that emit radio waves when scanned. While the technology is already being used by a few supermarkets and farms across the nation, Hawaii would be the first state to test RFID from farm to market in hopes of improving food safety. The chairwoman of the Hawaii Board of Agriculture said the ability to determine where food comes from and where it has been distributed will become even more important as the food supply continues to be globalized. In the event of a recall, the state wants to be able to trace a product to the farm of origin and identify where inventories were sent, all within a few minutes.

Source: http://www.presstelegram.com/business/ci_8936937

25. *April 15, U.S. Department of Agriculture* – (National) **USDA implements key strategy from National Animal Identification System business plan.** The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service today announced that it has implemented a key strategy from its Business Plan to Advance Animal Disease Traceability by providing National Animal Identification System (NAIS) compliant "840" radio frequency ear tags to animal health officials for use in the bovine tuberculosis (TB) control program. NAIS-compliant "840" tags provide for individual identification of livestock through a 15-digit number beginning with the U.S. country code. Through the use of radio frequency identification (RFID) technology, the "840" tags allow animal health officials to electronically identify an animal. This increases the efficiency of animal disease investigations that involve the tracing of exposed and potentially infected animals. RFID technology also increases the accuracy of recording the animal's 15-digit animal identification number. USDA has purchased a total of 1.5 million "840" RF animal identification tags to support animal disease control programs, including the bovine TB and brucellosis programs. Recently, USDA shipped 28,000 tags to California to support bovine TB testing as part of an ongoing investigation. So far, a total of 6,600 cattle in two California herds have been tagged with "840" devices. The goal is to link the cattle to their premises of origin, so that if there is an outbreak in the future, the movements of the infected animals can be quickly traced. Bovine tuberculosis investigations are currently occurring in several states. Since 2002, bovine TB detections in six states have required the destruction of more than 25,000 cattle. USDA has tested over 787,000 animals in response to TB outbreaks since 2004.

Source:

http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/!ut/p/s.7_0_A/7_0_1OB?contentidonly=true&contentid=2008/04/0102.xml

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Water Sector

26. *April 16, Atlanta Journal-Constitution* – (Georgia) **Too much Lanier water was released, Corps says.** The federal government on Tuesday proposed changing operations at Lake Lanier and four other reservoirs on the Chattahoochee River. The modified plan by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers would decrease the amount of

water released from Lanier under most conditions. But Georgia water experts say the plan does not go nearly far enough to protect Lanier during droughts. In a letter to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Corps' Mobile District planning and environmental division chief said the Corps learned two lessons during the ongoing, record-breaking drought: First, the Corps needs a drought contingency plan for operating its Chattahoochee dams; second, more water should be held in the reservoirs when they are low. Fish and Wildlife has until June 1 to review the proposal to make sure it protects federally endangered and threatened fish and freshwater mussels in Florida. Any changes will take effect then.

Source: http://www.ajc.com/news/content/metro/stories/2008/04/15/water_0416.html

27. *April 16, Gannett News Service* – (National) **Senator: EPA must regulate chemicals in drinking water.** The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) must write regulations to monitor the increasing levels of pharmaceuticals getting into the nation's drinking water supply, a U.S. senator said at a hearing Tuesday. The New Jersey senator, who chaired the environmental subcommittee hearing, said the EPA has "allowed far too many unregulated contaminants in our water" for too long. Beyond drugs, there are 140 chemicals in the water the EPA does not regulate, he said, citing an analysis by the Environmental Working Group. "Even the EPA says that some of these chemicals can cause cancer. And for some of these chemicals, there is no health information on record in government materials," he said. "Yet all of these chemicals are unregulated." The EPA's assistant administrator for water responded that "tiny trace amounts" of pharmaceutical drugs have been found so far, making it unlikely that humans or the environment would be harmed.

Source:

<http://www.app.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080416/NEWS03/804160429/1007/NEWS03>

28. *April 15, Associated Press* – (Alabama; Florida; Georgia) **Army Corps proposes new water plan for southeastern states.** The Corps of Engineers on Tuesday proposed a new southeastern water-sharing plan that would allow greater storage in upstream lakes and lower river flows into Florida's Apalachicola Bay – a move that the Corps acknowledged is likely to harm threatened species. The new plan comes after settlement negotiations among the governors of Florida, Georgia, and Alabama broke down in February, prompting the secretary of the Interior to say that the federal government would impose its own solution. In times of extreme drought, the plan would continue a temporary provision announced last fall allowing river flows to dip below the current minimum of 5,000 cubic feet per second at the Jim Woodruff Dam, near the Florida border. Under particularly wet conditions, it also allows for reservoirs such as Lake Lanier, north of Atlanta, to keep up to 50 percent of their inflow instead of the current maximum of 30 percent. While those provisions seem designed to please Georgia, a spokesman for the governor there said the state was still reviewing the impact of the full proposal. Florida and Alabama officials also withheld comment.

Source: <http://www.gulflive.com/newsflash/regional/index.ssf?/base/news-35/1208298542182850.xml&storylist=alabamaneews>

Public Health and Healthcare Sector

29. *April 16, Washington Post* – (National) **Maker of Vioxx is accused of deception.** Two teams of researchers with access to thousands of documents gathered for lawsuits over the painkiller Vioxx allege that Merck waged a campaign of deception to promote its drug, moving slowly to warn of possible hazards, while at the same time dressing up in-house studies as the work of independent academic researchers. The reports in today's Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA) in effect accuse one of the world's biggest pharmaceutical makers of various forms of scientific fraud. One study alleges that Merck gave the Food and Drug Administration an incomplete accounting of deaths in a clinical trial of Vioxx in people with mild dementia. Federal regulators eventually received the data, which added to growing evidence that Vioxx increased the risk of heart attacks and strokes. Simultaneously, Merck was using what the JAMA authors call "guest authorship and ghostwriting" to make it appear that research done by its employees or contractors was the work of scientists at medical schools and universities. That presumably gave the findings more credibility when they were published in medical journals, boosting Vioxx's profile in the crowded painkiller market. Merck has been named in 26,500 lawsuits by people who say the drug harmed them. Last fall, the company created a \$4.85 billion fund to settle the claims, while not admitting that Vioxx caused heart attacks, strokes, or deaths.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/04/15/AR2008041502086.html?hpid=sec-health>

30. *April 16, MedHeadlines* – (National) **Baby formula bottles often toxic.** The chemical Bisphenol A (BPA), widely used to make plastic packaging products, has now been declared toxic enough to be linked to a host of severe developmental and reproductive disorders common all across the U.S. Breast and prostate cancers and premature puberty are some of the disorders associated with exposure to BPA. On April 15, the National Toxicology Program reversed the opinion reached by an earlier panel that declared BPA a safe element for plastic packaging, even when it is used in packaging foods and beverages. At the time of that ruling, the Environmental Working Group (EWG) and other like-minded organizations charged deliberate misrepresentation by industry contractors trying to hijack BPA's evaluation process. The EWG research revealed the likelihood that one of every 16 infants is fed enough liquid formula to expose the baby to toxic levels of BPA, levels that exceed those found to be toxic using the most precise laboratory standards. The most vulnerable babies, the smallest and the hungriest, risk exposure to BPA at levels that are likely to harm the child.

Source: <http://medheadlines.com/2008/04/16/baby-formula-bottles-often-toxic/>

31. *April 16, Reuters* – (International) **S.Korea upgrades alert as bird flu nears Seoul.** South Korea upgraded its bird flu alert to the second highest on Wednesday and sent in soldiers to help cull and bury birds amid the worst poultry influenza outbreak in four years. In less than two weeks, South Korea has confirmed 11 cases of the deadly H5N1 strain, which had been contained in the southwest of the country, some 200 miles south of Seoul. And the Farm Ministry said on Wednesday an outbreak at a chicken farm in Pyeongtaek, south of Seoul, had also been confirmed as H5N1, bringing the scare closer

to the capital. It also confirmed another case of the positive H5 strain in a farm in Sunchang county in North Jeolla province, raising fears that the virus is spreading fast and the country may see a repeat of late 2003 when it had to kill 5.3 million birds. Korea is investigating possible causes of the spread such as migrating birds and transport workers who have been moving around the affected sites and other parts of the country. The Farm Ministry also said it would beef up quarantine work and extend its regular tests on poultry – normally carried out during the most susceptible November and February period – to all year round. South Korea had seven outbreaks of H5N1 between November 2006 and March 2007.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/europeCrisis/idUSPEK257569>

32. *April 16, eFluxMedia* – (National) **FDA finds high levels of selenium in Total Body supplements.** On March 27, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) warned consumers not to purchase or consume Total Body Formula in the flavors of tropical and peach nectar or Total Body Mega Formula in the orange/tangerine flavor because they might cause severe adverse reactions. Now, the FDA – after an analysis conducted with the help of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the American Association of Poison Control Centers – says the three flavors, manufactured and distributed nationally by Total Body Essential Nutrition in Atlanta, contain dangerously high amounts of the mineral selenium. The quantity the FDA warns on is 200 times higher the amount listed on the products' labels. There have been 91 adverse reactions reported as of April 11, 2008, coming from states including Pennsylvania, Kentucky, Georgia, Florida, Tennessee, as well as Virginia. The recalled products have also been distributed in Alabama, California, Louisiana, Michigan, Missouri, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, and Texas.

Source:

http://www.efluxmedia.com/news_FDA_Finds_High_Levels_of_Selenium_in_Total_Body_Supplements_16434.html

33. *April 16, dBTechno* – (National) **FDA says tainted heparin was result of economic fraud.** Baxter International's blood-thinner heparin was confirmed a month ago to be tainted with oversulfated chondroitin sulfate. The Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) commissioner has now said his agency believes that the heparin was tampered with intentionally for profit motive. The oversulfated chondroitin sulfate found in the tainted blood-thinner heparin was an altered version of chondroitin sulfate, used as a dietary supplement usually. The FDA stated the oversulfated chondroitin was cheaper to make and is very similar to heparin's active ingredient. The FDA's commissioner stated that the altered chemical would not have made it into the heparin by accident, as there is no way that could have been done through normal manufacturing. Baxter's ingredient supplier, Scientific Protein Laboratories, has argued that the contamination took place before they ever had access to any of the heparin. Scientific Protein Laboratories stated that if there was an economic motive to contaminate the heparin, it took place before they received any of the ingredients. In February, Baxter had to recall the majority of its heparin products made in China, after adverse reactions and deaths took place.

Source: <http://www.dbtechno.com/health/2008/04/16/fda-says-tainted-heparin-was-result-of-economic-fraud/>

Government Facilities Sector

34. *April 16, Washington Times* – (District of Columbia) **Nuclear attack on D.C. a hypothetical disaster.** A nuclear device detonated near the White House would kill roughly 100,000 people and flatten downtown federal buildings, while the radioactive plume from the explosion would likely spread toward the Capitol and into southeast D.C., contaminating thousands more. The blast from the ten-kiloton bomb – similar to the bomb dropped over Hiroshima during World War II – would kill up to one in ten tourists visiting the Washington Monument and send shards of glass flying the length of the National Mall, in a scenario that has become increasingly likely to occur in a major U.S. city in recent years, panel members told a Senate committee yesterday. “It’s inevitable,” said the director of the Institute for Health Management and Mass Destruction Defense at the University of Georgia, who has charted the potential explosion’s effect in the District and testified before a hearing of the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. “I think it’s wistful to think that it won’t happen by 20 years.” The Senate committee has convened a series of hearings to examine the threat and effects of a terrorist nuclear attack on a U.S. city, as well as the needed response. Yesterday’s panel stressed the importance of state and local cooperation with federal authorities in the wake of an attack, assistance from the private business sector to aid recovery, and the dire need to boost the capabilities of area hospitals. They recommended expanding emergency personnel by training physicians like pharmacists and dentists to aid in all-hazards care, monitoring the exposure of first responders to radiation, and clearly disseminating information to the public.

Source:

<http://washingtontimes.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080416/METRO/556828862/1001>

Emergency Services Sector

35. *April 15, TBO.com* – (Florida) **MacDill, Tampa Airport plan emergency readiness drills.** The 6th Air Mobility Wing and the Tampa fire and police departments are conducting an Emergency Management Exercise at MacDill Air Force Base and Tampa International Airport on Wednesday to help prepare emergency responders from both on and off the base for the rigors of dealing with an incident during the annual base air show should one occur. At Tampa International Airport, a drill known as the Triennial Full Scale Emergency Response Exercise will be conducted Thursday. The scenario involves an airplane crash at the north end of the runway, including a “live fire,” according to a news release from the airport.

Source: <http://www2.tbo.com/content/2008/apr/15/macdill-tampa-airport-plan-emergency-readiness-dri/>

36. *April 15, Computer World* – (National) **Va. Tech tragedy led other schools to embrace emergency communications.** The deadly shootings of 32 people by a lone

gunman at Virginia Tech one year ago on Wednesday galvanized college campuses nationwide, leading to a surge in new mass emergency communications purchases – especially wireless text messaging technologies. University police and IT and communications professionals from around the nation said in recent interviews that the killings of Virginia Tech students and faculty on the Blacksburg, Virginia, campus led to a buying spree of new communications technologies and services. The goal was to bolster the capabilities of existing e-mail and voice-mail systems, as well as outdoor sirens. The Virginia Tech shootings “heightened our awareness” of additional ways to disseminate crucial information – including the use of text messaging because of its popularity with college students, said the president-elect of the Association for Communications Technology Professionals in Higher Education and an IT professional at Columbia University in New York. “A flurry of activity has ensued” in the past year, she added, with both large and small colleges evaluating their emergency communications needs.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&articleId=9077878&intsrc=hm_list

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Information Technology

37. *April 16, IDG News Service* – (National) **Malicious microprocessor opens new doors for attack.** For years, hackers have focused on finding bugs in computer software that give them unauthorized access to computer systems, but now there is another way to break in: Hack the microprocessor. On Tuesday, researchers at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign demonstrated how they altered a computer chip to grant attackers back-door access to a computer. It would take a lot of work to make this attack succeed in the real world, but it would be virtually undetectable. To launch its attack, the team used a special programmable processor running the Linux operating system. The chip was programmed to inject malicious firmware into the chip’s memory, which then allows an attacker to log into the machine as if he were a legitimate user. To reprogram the chip, researchers needed to alter only a tiny fraction of the processor circuits. They changed 1,341 logic gates on a chip that has more than one million of these gates in total, said an assistant professor in the university’s computer science department. “This is like the ultimate back door,” he said. “There were no software bugs exploited.” The professor demonstrated the attack on Tuesday at the Usenix Workshop on Large-Scale Exploits and Emergent Threats, a conference for security researchers held in San Francisco.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=security&articleId=9078058&taxonomyId=17&intsrc=kc_top

38. *April 15, Network World* – (National) **Oracle patches 41 security flaws in database and other products.** Oracle released 41 security fixes for its flagship database and several other products Tuesday, including 15 patches for vulnerabilities that can be exploited remotely without a username or password. The presence of vulnerabilities that

can be exploited without authentication “means that your database is a sitting duck unless you deploy this patch,” says the chief technical officer of database security vendor Sentrigo. Oracle database products account for 17 security patches, two of which could be exploited remotely over a network without authentication. The rest of the fixes are spread across Oracle’s Application Server, Collaboration Suite, and E-Business Suite products, as well as Oracle’s PeopleSoft and Siebel software. SQL injections might be among the attacks customers risk if they do not install the patches, he says. The Advanced Queuing technology in Oracle’s database has been linked to SQL injections in which malicious users gain elevated privileges and steal data such as credit card information, he says. Two vulnerabilities related to the Advanced Queuing database component were listed in Tuesday’s quarterly critical patch update.

Source: <http://www.networkworld.com/news/2008/041508-oracle-patches.html>

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: <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/>.

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Communications Sector

39. *April 16, IDG News Service* – (International) **Sound the alarm, IPv6 execs say.** The sky is falling on the number of global IP (Internet Protocol) addresses, and IPv6 (Internet Protocol version 6) is the solution, executives from major technology companies said Wednesday. The exhaustion of available IP addresses using IPv4 (IP version 4) brought out the alarmist side of many industry executives. “It’s a crisis – not a market-oriented event,” said the chairman of the Asia Pacific Network Information Centre, speaking at the Global IPv6 Summit in Beijing. “We have just three years until IPv4 addresses are depleted. These changes will come suddenly,” he said. The telecommunications industry is going through “a period of grief” over the end of IPv4, said the IPv6 technical leader for Cisco Systems. “Most people in the world are still in a state of denial” about upgrading to IPv6. “No one will ask for IPv6 until they run out of IPv4 addresses,” he said. IP addresses allow individual devices, including computers, laptops, and mobile handsets to connect to the Internet. Using the current IPv4 system, which offers a total of about 4.7 billion possible IP addresses, some countries, including China, will begin to run out of addresses they can allocate around 2010, according to estimates by the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority and the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers. By switching to IPv6, the number of possible addresses increases by billions more. This would also allow a far greater number of devices to connect, allowing features like the Internet-based remote control of security cameras, and even turning on home appliances from one’s desktop at work.

Source:

http://www.infoworld.com/archives/emailPrint.jsp?R=printThis&A=/article/08/04/16/IPv6-execs-say-sound-the-alarm_1.html

40. *April 15, Web Pro News* – (National) **Broadband penetration up 300% since 2002.**

Broadband penetration has increased more than 300 percent since 2002, according to a new analysis from Scarborough Research. In 2002, 12 percent of U.S. adults had a broadband connection in their household. Now, close to half (49 percent) have broadband. DSL connections have grown more than cable modems, but both have seen significant growth. Since 2002, cable modem penetration increased 188 percent and DSL connections increased 575 percent. San Francisco is the top local U.S. market for broadband penetration with 62 percent of adults living in a household that has a broadband Internet connection. Other cities with high levels of broadband penetration include Boston and San Diego, both with 61 percent penetration. Cities with high levels of broadband penetration are also in high Internet usage markets. Adults in San Francisco, Boston, and San Diego are more likely than the average person to have gone online in the past month, and they are also more likely to have spent ten or more hours online in the past week.

Source: <http://www.webpronews.com/topnews/2008/04/15/broadband-penetration-up-300-since-2002>

41. *April 15, RCR Wireless News* – (National) **Regulators pressured on text message rights.**

Public-interest groups reiterated their call for federal regulators to protect text messaging rights, framing the issue with far-reaching implication for free speech, disability access, and competition in the wireless industry. Public Knowledge and other organizations want the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to rule that mobile-phone carriers cannot interfere with text messages, including those provided via short codes, based on content or source so long as such transmissions are legal. “The problem is real and current; carriers are discriminating against competitors and claiming the right to exert broad editorial control over text messages, especially those addressed to or from short codes,” said a Public Knowledge attorney. “As has been demonstrated with new communications media in the past, empowering consumers and ensuring the inability of the carriers to discriminate based on content is the best way to protect users both from unwanted communications and from the control of a small set of corporate interests.” The FCC has begun to receive a new round of public comments on the issue.

Source:

<http://www.rcrnews.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080415/FREE/500856120/1005/rss01>

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Commercial Facilities Sector

42. *April 16, Star-Tribune* – (Minnesota) **Bomb threats made against 3 Target stores.**

Shoppers and employees at three Minnesota Target stores were evacuated for a short time Tuesday night due to bomb threats made against the stores. A Target spokesman did not elaborate on the nature of the threats that were made around 7 p.m. against stores in Roseville, West St. Paul and the store on University Avenue in St. Paul. All three stores were closed for about an hour, then reopened after authorities gave the all clear.

Source: <http://www.startribune.com/local/17807469.html>

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National Monuments & Icons Sector

Nothing to Report

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Dams Sector

43. *April 16, Benton County Daily Record* – (Arkansas) **Lake Bella Vista dam remains closed.** The dam at Lake Bella Vista in Bentonville, Arkansas, is still off limits, and pedestrians are being told to keep off the bridge until repairs can be made. Soil from the dam is currently undergoing testing by the geotechnical firm of Grubbs, Hoskins, Barton, and Wyatt to determine what material was used to construct the dam. The city is still determining whether a new dam should be constructed or if repairs can be made to the dam. “We haven’t made that determination yet,” a city transportation engineer said. The area around the dam was blocked off March 20 after parks employees discovered the back side of the dam was washed out, leaving the dam unstable, the Parks and Recreation director said.

Source: <http://nwanews.com/bcdr/News/60848/>

44. *April 16, Reno Gazette-Journal* – (National) **Reid introduces Canal and Levee Safety bill.** A Nevada senator late last week introduced the Aging Water Infrastructure and Maintenance Act, a bill designed to protect Nevadans from future disasters like January’s floods in Fernley. The bill would provide \$11 million over the next five years, including \$5 million in 2009, for required inspections of aging federal water infrastructure like the Truckee Canal. It also directs the Department of the Interior to perform maintenance and urgent repairs to ensure the safety of homes and businesses in nearby communities. The Bureau of Reclamation faces serious challenges in maintaining aging water infrastructure. The average age of Reclamation-owned projects is around 50 years, and the Truckee Canal is one of the oldest facilities, built in 1903.

Source:

<http://news.rgj.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080416/FERNLEY01/804160338/1306>

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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.

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