



## Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 5 June 2008

Current Nationwide Threat Level is

**ELEVATED**  
SIGNIFICANT RISK OF TERRORIST ATTACKS

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

- According to the Associated Press, an outbreak of salmonella has been reported in nine states. CDC investigators are looking into whether uncooked tomatoes were culprits in all of the nine states. (See item [29](#))
- The Associated Press reports that most dangerous domains to navigate to are “.hk” (Hong Kong), “.cn” (China) and “.info” (information)., according to a McAfee Inc report based on results from 9.9 million Web sites. (See item [41](#))

### **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. *June 4, Bloomberg* – (International) **Norwegian oil workers reach wage deal, avert strike.** The Norwegian Oil Industry Association said an agreement was reached on a wage package with offshore managers and workers, averting a potential strike that threatened 220,000 barrels a day in production. The association made the agreement with the Industry Energy, the Federation of Oil Workers’ Trade Unions, and the Norwegian Organization for Managers and Supervisors, the group said Wednesday. The wage agreement is valid until 2010. The managers’ union had called for strikes starting June 7 at StatoilHydro ASA’s Snorre A and Vigdis platforms and at Royal Dutch Shell Plc’s Draugen A rig, threatening nine percent of the country’s oil output.

Source:

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601072&sid=axpMHstfyJrc&refer=energy>

2. *June 4, Bloomberg* – (National) **Natural gas falls as Independence Hub restarts, supplies build.** Natural gas in New York declined as shipments resumed on the Independence Hub in the Gulf of Mexico following a 55-day shutdown to repair a leak. Analysts forecast an above-average addition to stockpiles. The Hub, owned by Enterprise Products Partners LP, indicated it planned to ship 240 million cubic feet of gas, according to a posting on a Tennessee Gas Pipeline Web site. At full daily production of one billion cubic feet, the Hub accounts for two percent of U.S. gas supplies and ten percent of deliveries from the Gulf, according to Enterprise. Resolution of the pipeline's status removes a factor that was helping push gas prices higher, said an energy analyst at Risk Management Inc. Natural gas for July delivery fell 6.1 cents, or 0.5 percent, to \$12.16 per million British thermal units (Btu) at 9:28 a.m. on the New York Mercantile Exchange. Gas settled at \$9.697 per million Btu in New York on April 8 when the Hub was shut and gained 26 percent to \$12.221 per million Btu through yesterday while it was not operating.

Source:

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601072&sid=aDe61O3Vg.MA&refer=energy>

3. *June 4, Bloomberg* – (Midwest) **Magellan shuts Kansas City pipeline system after fire.** Magellan Midstream Partners L.P., a U.S. oil products distributor, shut its main pipeline system in Kansas City, Kansas, after a fire erupted in a gasoline storage tank, cutting supplies to consumers in Iowa and Nebraska. The fire, which started after a lightning strike at 7:30 p.m. local time Tuesday, "has almost burned itself out," said an assistant fire chief for the Kansas City fire department. The pipeline system moves gasoline and diesel from regional refineries to Midwest consumers. "We have, for safety reasons, discontinued operations of our main pipeline system into and out of our Kansas City terminal," a company spokesman said. The storage tank held 1.2 million gallons of gasoline at the time of the fire, Duke said. The entire site will be closed until an assessment can be completed, Magellan's area supervisor said. Magellan is exploring alternatives for supplying sites north of the Kansas City terminal, said the company spokesman. Sinclair Oil Corp. said the fire and pipeline shutdown had not reduced its refinery's output in Tulsa. "We have enough storage; we could go four or five days without any impact to our production," said the plant manager.

ConocoPhillips does not expect the fire to reduce production at its Ponca City,

Oklahoma, refinery, or its Wood River, Illinois, plant, said a company spokesman.

Source:

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601072&sid=aIt7IkW0AMUU&refer=energy>

4. *June 3, Canadian Press* – (International) **Terror suspects sought covert base in northern Ontario, court hears.** A group of men alleged to have been part of a terrorist plot to attack Canadian targets discussed turning a secluded northern Ontario property

into a “covert” training base, complete with tunnels for moving supplies and snowmobiles to practice with “AKs,” wiretap evidence suggests. The intercepted phone calls and audio recordings, played in court Tuesday during the trial of the remaining youth suspect, also contained ambiguous references to “the guys” needing “wives” that prosecutors alleged was code for the need to supply the group with guns. Several conversations were captured in February 2006 during what the Crown maintains was a trip to scout out properties in the remote community of Opatatika, Ontario. Eighteen men and youth were arrested later that same year in the Toronto area in Canada’s largest anti-terrorism operation since 9-11. The youth’s case is the first to go to trial after he was charged two years ago along with 17 others in connection with an alleged plot to attack power grids, Canada’s spy agency, the CBC, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, and a nuclear power plant in Pickering, Ontario.

Source:

<http://canadianpress.google.com/article/ALeqM5iaX0A7Qj9uNwrtr2842sUOTfbRaA>

5. *June 3, Union Leader* – (Maine; New Hampshire) **U.S., Canada team up for maritime terrorist exercise.** About 3,000 people from Canadian and U.S. Military forces and government civilian agencies will take part in a training exercise testing responses to a terrorist mine explosion off the Seacoast. A full-scale training exercise, called Frontier Sentinel, will take place from June 9-13 focusing on maritime homeland security. The scenario will play out along the seacoast from the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard in Maine to the U.S. Coast Guard Station in New Castle, New Hampshire. Next week’s exercises will be a full scale test involving naval vessels and the use of Dorado, an unmanned underwater vessel that detects mines. The Seacoast was chosen for the exercise because of its unique challenges. The port is home to the shipyard and a host of key industrial facilities, many vital to the New England energy infrastructure. The fast currents, limited underwater visibility, and water depths also make the exercise complex.

Source: <http://www.unionleader.com/article.aspx?articleId=b87eb9a3-439d-4703-bbd6-2b81b5feb2ce&headline=US%2c+Canada+team+up+for+maritime+terrorist+exercise>

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

## **Chemical Industry Sector**

6. *June 3, Associated Press* – (Iowa) **4 injured in explosion at SW Iowa farm chemical company.** Four people were injured Tuesday when a gas grill propane bottle being filled exploded at the Pelgrow farm chemical supply company in Griswold, Iowa, officials said. “They were filling a 20-gallon tank for a gas grill from a 1,000 tank,” a Griswold City clerk said. There was a spark and the smaller tank exploded, causing a fire, she added. The explosion happened outside on the north end of the building. Officials said electricity to the company had been turned off. Authorities were emptying the 1,000-gallon tank before continuing with the investigation.

Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/chi-ap-ap-ia-gasexplosion.0,7459776.story>

## **Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector**

7. *June 4, Reuters* – (New York) **Entergy to reduce N.Y. Indian Pt 2 reactor to 15 pct.** Entergy Corp. planned to reduce Unit 2 at the Indian Point nuclear power station in New York to about 15 percent power to work on the exciter, a spokesman for the plant said Wednesday. He said the company did not plan to shut the reactor but keep it at low power. Operators estimated it would take a few days to fix the exciter. The spokesman could not say if the unit would remain attached to the grid since that depends on what the workers find in the exciter. Some of the system can be fixed with the unit still attached to the grid.  
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/marketsNews/idUSN0446051120080604?pageNumber=1&virtualBrandChannel=0>
8. *June 4, Reuters* – (California) **SCE Calif. San Onofre 2 reactor up to 53 pct power.** Southern California Edison's Unit 2 at San Onofre nuclear power station in California ramped up to 53 percent power by early Wednesday, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission said in a report. On Tuesday, the unit was operating at 24 percent of capacity after exiting an outage. The unit shut by June 2 for a brief maintenance outage. Unit 3 ramped up to full power from 99 percent early Tuesday.  
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/marketsNews/idUSN0446397520080604>
9. *June 4, Knoxville News Sentinel* – (Tennessee) **Uranium site to get upgrade.** The general manager at the Y-12 nuclear weapons plant describes the plant's production hub as "old and tired." But, he said, there are plans to spend about \$190 million in years ahead to rehab the uranium operations until a replacement facility comes online. He said the Oak Ridge plant has started a Facility Risk Reduction Program to keep 9212 and other key facilities operating reliably and to "bridge the gap" until the arrival of the Uranium Processing Facility – a proposed multi-billion-dollar project tentatively set for operation around 2020. The enhanced maintenance program, however, will not bring old facilities into compliance with today's seismic standards and other safety-related codes.  
Source: <http://www.knoxnews.com/news/2008/jun/04/uranium-site-to-get-upgrade/>
10. *June 4, Associated Press* – (Idaho; Tennessee) **Energy report says Oak Ridge stockpiled uranium could have medical use.** Oak Ridge National Laboratory's stockpile of uranium could be used for research and medicine instead of being discarded, according to a report from the U.S. Department of Energy's inspector general. The majority of the department's uranium-233, left over from U.S. nuclear test programs that began six decades ago, is stored at Oak Ridge National Laboratory in east Tennessee and Idaho National Laboratory in Idaho. The report released Monday calls the stockpile a national resource and urges the department to reconsider its current plan to dispose of the material. The report says radioisotopes actinium-225 and bismuth-213, produced from the uranium, are widely used for cancer treatment.  
Source: <http://www.tennessean.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080604/NEWS01/806040443>

11. *June 3, Platts* – (International) **Uranium output met only 60% of world requirements: OECD agency.** World uranium production at the end of 2006 was 39,603 tons, meeting only 60 percent of world nuclear reactor requirements, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development's Nuclear Energy Agency said in a biannual report released Tuesday. World reactor requirements were 66,500 tons of uranium for the 435 commercial nuclear reactors in operation. The gap between uranium production and reactor requirements was made up through secondary sources, such as government and commercial inventories, dismantled nuclear weapons, and the re-enrichment of uranium waste products, the agency said in its study, "Uranium 2007: Resources, Production and Demand."  
Source:  
<http://www.platts.com/Nuclear/News/6896811.xml?sub=Nuclear&p=Nuclear/News&?undefined&undefined>

12. *June 3, Associated Press* – (Colorado) **\$925 million for people near ex-nuke plant.** Two companies that worked as contractors with the now-defunct Rocky Flats nuclear weapons plant have been ordered to pay \$925 million to residents who claimed that contamination blown from the facility endangered people's health and devalued their property. A federal judge on Monday ordered Dow Chemical Co. to pay \$653 million and the former Rockwell International Corp. \$508 million in compensatory damages, but capped the amount to be collected at \$725 million. Dow and Rockwell were also ordered to pay exemplary damages of \$111 million and \$89 million, respectively. The lawsuit, filed by a group of homeowners, affects up to 13,000 people who owned land near the former plant when it shut down in 1989 because of safety violations. The lawsuit claimed the companies intentionally mishandled radioactive waste and then tried to cover it up. Violations documented by state and federal officials included the outdoor storing of barrels of waste oil and solvents contaminated with plutonium. State health officials have said some of those barrels leaked and contaminated the surrounding soil, which later blew downwind.  
Source: <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/24955301/>

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

## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

13. *June 3, Air Force Link* – (Georgia) **Air Force officials look at hydrogen as potential fuel source.** Robins Air Force Base officials received the HyHauler Plus through a partnership with the Army National Automotive Center and the Air Force's Advanced Power Technology Office (APTO), which is based here. The HyHauler is a trailer-mounted hydrogen fuel dispensing system. It uses only 0.2 gallons of tap water per hour and converts that water into hydrogen using electrolysis, where it is stored in 20 two-kilogram, carbon-wrapped hydrogen storage tanks. The HyHauler Plus is used to create and dispense the hydrogen. The trailer will house the hydrogen producing equipment until a permanent station can be constructed, said the APTO office chief. Not only will the station help provide hydrogen energy to different base agencies; but also it will be

powered using another renewable energy – solar power. Officials already have applied the technology to a standard, battery-powered forklift. Air Force officials will compare the productivity of a traditional battery-powered forklift with the one converted to hydrogen power.

Source: <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123101189>

14. *June 3, Agence France-Presse* – (National) **Pentagon weapons procurement broken, auditor warns.** The Defense Department’s procurement system is failing to deliver U.S. troops the weapons they need while running up nearly \$300 billion in cost overruns, a government auditor warned June 3. The Government Accountability Office (GAO) reported that cost overruns of major U.S. weapons programs grew to \$295 billion last year, 26 percent over initial cost estimates for 72 major weapons programs. The Defense Department expects to invest about \$900 billion over the next five years on development and procurement, the report said. “First, it has failed the war-fighter because it is delivering capability late and in fewer quantities than planned, or both,” the government auditor told the Senate Armed Services Committee. “And many times when equipment is delivered to the field it is not what’s needed for the current operations,” she said.

Source: <http://www.defensenews.com/story.php?i=3560506&c=AME&s=TOP>

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

## **Banking and Finance Sector**

15. *June 4, Quad-City Times* – (Illinois) **Telephone scam targets IH Mississippi Valley customers.** IH Mississippi Valley Credit Union warned Tuesday that a telephone scam in the Quad-City area is attempting to solicit financial information from its credit union members as well as non-customers. The credit union’s vice president of marketing said people began receiving automated telephone messages late afternoon and early evening Monday indicating there had been suspected fraudulent activity on their IH Mississippi Valley account. The recorded message instructed recipients to call a telephone number where credit/debit card information was requested. The union official said IH Mississippi Valley Credit Union does not initiate any e-mail, telephone call or direct mail messages that request confidential information such as credit card or personal identification numbers. Early Tuesday, authorities shut down the 800 number connected to the scam, she said. IH Mississippi serves 85,000 members across the Quad-City area.

Source:

<http://www.qctimes.com/articles/2008/06/04/news/business/doc4845c9e501f14468560877.txt>

16. *June 4, Associated Press* – (District of Columbia) **2 charged in another scam against DC tax office.** A District of Columbia government worker and her boyfriend have been charged with stealing more than \$180,000 in another alleged refund scam against the city’s tax office. Prosecutors say an employee of the tax office used a government computer system to create fake refund checks that were given to her boyfriend. The city is already dealing with the case of another former employee, who worked in the city’s tax office and allegedly embezzled millions through phony tax refund checks.

Prosecutors have said at least \$20 million was stolen from the city in that scheme. Authorities say the cases are not related.

Source: [http://www.examiner.com/a-1423629~2\\_charged\\_in\\_another\\_scam\\_against\\_DC\\_tax\\_office.html](http://www.examiner.com/a-1423629~2_charged_in_another_scam_against_DC_tax_office.html)

17. *June 3, Digital Transactions News* – (Indiana, Michigan) **Indiana bank's debit card breach underscores issuer vulnerability.** South Bend, Indiana-based 1st Source Bank is reissuing its entire portfolio of debit cards after a hacker or hackers broke into a bank server containing debit card data. No fraud has been discovered as a result of the intrusion, a bank executive tells Digital Transactions News. The \$4.5-billion-asset bank with 79 branches in northern Indiana and southern Michigan began alerting customers last month after an outside monitoring service it uses noticed on May 12 an unusual flow of data from a bank server containing debit card data, says the senior vice president of consumer and electronic banking. The bank notified law-enforcement authorities and hired outside forensic firms to analyze the breach. Exactly how the hackers tapped the server is not publicly known. They did, however, get Track 2 data contained on magnetic stripes, including account numbers, according to the official, as well as PINs in at least some cases. He would not disclose the size of the debit card file, but says the bank is reissuing all cards, which are MasterCard-branded, as a precaution. Source: <http://www.digitaltransactions.net/newsstory.cfm?newsid=1804>
18. *June 3, WAFB 9 Baton Rouge* – (Louisiana) **11 people arrested in alleged identity theft ring.** In total, eleven people are charged with obtaining and using financial information of more than 55 people and businesses throughout Louisiana. The case involves conspiracy, bribery, money laundering, and identity theft. The alleged ring leader managed to do all of this from prison and he has a long list of charges. An attorney says the ring leader bribed a prison guard to get his hands on cell phones. He would rally people to help him on the outside. Aside from a J.B Evans correctional officer, ten others were arrested for allegedly helping him. In one case, the group reportedly tried to steal \$20 million from one victim's bank accounts. Source: <http://www.wafb.com/global/story.asp?s=8420642&ClientType=Printable>
19. *June 3, SC Magazine US* – (National) **Spammers use hosted services to send unwanted mail.** Spammers are increasingly turning to hosted services to ship out their junk mail, the latest threat report from MessageLabs revealed. The MessageLabs report also highlighted a new phishing trend in which criminals are promising environmental benefits for bank customers -- such as eliminating paper statements -- in exchange for providing their credentials. Source: <http://www.scmagazineus.com/Spammers-use-hosted-services-to-send-unwanted-mail/article/110862/>

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

## **Transportation Sector**

20. *June 4, Associated Press* – (Minnesota) **Minnesota closes bridge over Mississippi River.** The Minnesota Department of Transportation abruptly closed a bridge over the

Mississippi River indefinitely Tuesday, after inspectors discovered rust and corrosion at several locations. The bridge at Winona could remain closed for several weeks, said a transportation department spokeswoman. The Highway 43 bridge, which was built in 1941, is the only Mississippi River crossing at Winona, and its closure is expected to cause significant disruptions. The Winona bridge is 2,289 feet long and carries two lanes of traffic and around 11,600 vehicles per day. The roadway becomes Wisconsin Highway 54 on the east side of the river. Officials began an inspection of the gusset plates on the steel truss bridge Monday as part of its statewide look at all bridges with gusset plates. Gussets hold together a bridge's beams and a design flaw with them is suspected in the deadly collapse of the Interstate 35W bridge in Minneapolis last year. In addition to rust and corrosion, officials said there appears to be some buckling of a gusset plate in one location on the deck truss portion of the Winona bridge. Inspections have not yet been completed on the main span. Inspections of the gussets will continue through Friday.

Source:

<http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5isHZt9MFU8hZ5wW2A02UavVUzWeQD9132C MOO>

21. *June 4, Associated Press* – (Illinois) **Another Chicago derailment raises safety concerns.** Less than a week after a commuter train derailed in Chicago, another jumped its tracks. While nobody was seriously injured Tuesday and service was quickly restored, each accident raises questions about what will happen next to the century-old transit system. “I think it’s a classic problem that we have in the United States — the premier transit systems like New York and Chicago and Boston (have) serious deficiencies,” said a researcher at the Washington-based Urban Land Institute. Unfortunately, he said, “it does seem to take a catastrophe to get people to focus on it.” In Chicago, officials make no secret that fixing the nation’s second-largest transportation system will be tremendously expensive. Ten billion dollars over the next five years on bus and commuter train services was needed to “bring the system up to better repair, not necessarily good repair,” the director of the Regional Transportation Authority, which oversees the city’s mass transit network, said in January. Since then, even more trains have derailed, including one in April as it pulled into a station. A week earlier, an electrical problem caused a train to stall underground, forcing the evacuation of as many as 100 passengers. After last week’s derailment, the official said he would “seriously consider” an audit, stated a Regional Transportation Authority spokeswoman. “And here we have another one (derailment) this morning,” she said Tuesday, suggesting that an audit may be closer to happening.

Source:

[http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20080604/ap\\_on\\_re\\_us/chicago\\_derailment;\\_ylt=At.AJIE5N9QDKIxM2xUKkOs0NUE](http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20080604/ap_on_re_us/chicago_derailment;_ylt=At.AJIE5N9QDKIxM2xUKkOs0NUE)

22. *June 3, Associated Press* – (New York) **Plane makes emergency landing at JFK.** A Delta Air Lines plane carrying 139 passengers made an emergency landing Monday at John F. Kennedy International Airport and officials say no one was hurt. A Delta Air Lines spokesman says the crew received an indicator light warning of possible problems with the airplane’s hydraulics, which power its wings and landing gear. The MD-88



plane was headed from Orlando, Florida to LaGuardia Airport. The spokesman says the five-member crew decided to land at JFK as a precaution because JFK has a longer runway. Officials say they are checking the plane's systems.

Source:

[http://www.redorbit.com/news/business/1413676/plane\\_makes\\_emergency\\_landing\\_at\\_jfk/](http://www.redorbit.com/news/business/1413676/plane_makes_emergency_landing_at_jfk/)

23. *June 3, Associated Press* – (National) **Travelers without visas to be required to register.** Travelers who do not need visas to enter the United States will be required to register online with the U.S. government at least three days before they visit, according to a security regulation set to begin next year. The Homeland Security Secretary will announce the rule Tuesday, according to a government official. Required online registration will begin in January and will be valid for a two-year period. Those needing to register will be travelers from the 27 countries whose citizens are not required to obtain visas for U.S. entry. The countries include those in most of western Europe as well as Andorra, Australia, Brunei, Japan, New Zealand and Singapore. Eight other countries — the Czech Republic, Hungary and South Korea among them — are expected to be admitted to the visa waiver program.

Source:

[http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap\\_travel/20080603/ap\\_tr\\_ge/travel\\_brief\\_travel\\_registration;\\_ylt=AhdpwQF0GxSVzLlfutrlP\\_Ss0NUE](http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap_travel/20080603/ap_tr_ge/travel_brief_travel_registration;_ylt=AhdpwQF0GxSVzLlfutrlP_Ss0NUE)

24. *June 3, Associated Press* – (Illinois) **31 freight cars derail in Illinois, hold up train traffic.** Freight train traffic on a main Midwest throughway is on hold after 31 cars of a Norfolk Southern train derailed in western Illinois. Coal spilled from several cars, which also carried corn oil. There were no toxic chemicals aboard. The Pike County sheriff says no one was injured in Tuesday's derailment and local crews are removing the cars to clear the track. He says several freights are waiting to get through. A Norfolk Southern spokesman says the cause of the derailment is under investigation and some trains are being rerouted.

Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/chi-ap-il-freightderailment,0,3791024.story>

25. *June 3, Insurance Journal and Associated Press* – (National) **La. train derailment highlights need for safety measures.** More than 3,000 residents of Lafayette, Louisiana were evacuated May 17, 2008, when a train derailed, spilling 10,000 gallons of hydrochloric acid. Hydrochloric acid can cause heart and respiratory ailments. Such accidents are what the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) has hoped to avoid with the implementation in 2005 of a comprehensive safety plan for the nation's railroad system. From 2004 through 2007 there was a decline in every cause category of train accidents including the two largest causes -- human factors and track flaws. Railroads had 406 fewer train accidents nationwide, or a 13.7 percent reduction, in 2007 compared with 2006. California (down 46), Texas (down 45) and New York (down 30) led the way among the 34 states that experienced reductions, said the U.S. Secretary of Transportation. An FRA administrator said the agency "will now turn to developing a risk reduction strategy to further drive down the number of train accidents." He said the

new safety approach supplements existing methods of federal safety oversight and compliance enforcement. The official announced in early April that the FRA, in an effort to increase public awareness of train accidents, is making available online reports of its investigation into major train accidents and other incidents. The FRA believes access to this information will benefit railroads, railroad employees, state and local officials, communities, shippers, insurers and others directly or indirectly impacted by these events.

Source: <http://www.insurancejournal.com/news/southcentral/2008/06/03/90584.htm>

26. *June 3, Occupational Health and Safety Magazine Online* – (National) **NACD submits comments, raises concerns on rail tank car proposal.** The National Association of Chemical Distributors (NACD) Monday filed comments with the Federal Railroad Administration on an April 1, 2008, notice of proposed rulemaking to improve the safety of rail tank cars transporting poison inhalation (PIH) materials. In the comments, NACD expresses support for the goal of enhancing the safety and security of hazardous materials transportation, but raises concerns about the increased costs, disruptions of commerce, and increased exposure to security risks that would result from some of the proposals. On the proposal to require a maximum speed limit of 30 mph for PIH tank cars that do not yet meet new performance standards and are operating in non-signaled territory, NACD stated, “There is no guaranty that this proposal would increase safety, but it would certainly increase security risks...It would be much easier for a terrorist to track and target a train moving at 30 mph than to track one moving at 50 or 60 mph. At a time when stringent new regulations to increase security at fixed chemical facilities are being implemented, it would be particularly risky to increase the security exposure of PIH materials on the rails.” The other major concern NACD raises in the comments is the limited eight-year time frame for the mandatory replacement of all PIH tank cars to meet the new standards.

Source: <http://www.ohsonline.com/articles/63634/>

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

## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

27. *June 4, Irish Independent* – (International) **Hoax bomb delivered to U.S. embassy in Dublin.** Gardai say no explosive material was found in a suspicious package that caused a security alert at the U.S. Embassy in Dublin, Ireland, Wednesday morning. The hoax package was delivered to the main entrance of the compound just before 10:30 a.m. The embassy was evacuated, and army bomb disposal experts were called in to examine the device. However, they later gave the all-clear after concluding that the package contained no explosive material. It is now being examined by garda forensic experts.

Source: <http://www.independent.ie/breaking-news/national-news/hoax-bomb-delivered-to-us-embassy-in-dublin-1398117.html>

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

## **Agriculture and Food Sector**

28. *June 4, MSNBC* – (National) **Tainted cheese fuels TB rise in California.** A rare form of tuberculosis (TB) caused by illegal, unpasteurized dairy products, including the popular queso fresco cheese, is rising among Hispanic immigrants in Southern California and raising fears about a resurgence of a strain all but eradicated in the U.S. Cases of the *Mycobacterium bovis* (*M. bovis*) strain of TB have increased in San Diego county, particularly among children who drink or eat dairy foods made from the milk of infected cattle, a study in the journal *Emerging Infectious Diseases* shows. But the germ can infect anyone who eats contaminated fresh cheeses sold by street vendors, smuggled across the Mexican border or produced by families who try to make a living selling so-called “bathtub cheese” made in home tubs and backyard troughs. The spread of the disease that now accounts for about ten percent of all new cases of TB in that border region — and, perhaps, others. However, *M. bovis* is resistant to front-line drug therapy and adults who contract it are more than twice as likely as those with traditional TB to die before treatment is complete.  
Source: <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/24954041>
29. *June 3, Associated Press* – (National) **CDC: Tomatoes eyed in salmonella cases in 9 states.** An outbreak of salmonella food poisoning first linked to uncooked tomatoes has now been reported in nine states, U.S. health officials said Tuesday. Lab tests have confirmed 40 illnesses in Texas and New Mexico as the same type of salmonella, right down to the genetic fingerprint. An investigation by Texas and New Mexico health authorities and the Indian Health Service tied those cases to uncooked, raw, large tomatoes. No farm, distributor, or grocery chain has been identified as the main source, said a U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention epidemiologist working on the investigation. At least 17 people in Texas and New Mexico have been hospitalized. None have died, according to the CDC. Another 30 people have become sick with the same *Salmonella Saintpaul* infection in Arizona, Utah, Colorado, Kansas, Idaho, Illinois, and Indiana. Another 17 cases are under investigation in New Mexico, CDC officials said. CDC investigators are looking into whether tomatoes were culprits there, too.  
Source:  
[http://www.cnn.com/2008/US/06/03/salmonella.tomatoes.ap/index.html?eref=rss\\_us](http://www.cnn.com/2008/US/06/03/salmonella.tomatoes.ap/index.html?eref=rss_us)
30. *June 3, Morning News* – (Arkansas) **Tyson breeder farm exposed to avian flu.** A 65-week-old breeder flock on a West Fork poultry farm under contact by Tyson Foods Inc. tested positive Friday for exposure to a low-strain bird flu virus known as H7N3. It is not the highly pathogenic H5N1 virus that previously affected birds in Asia, Europe, and Africa and resulted in human death, health experts said. The director for the Arkansas Livestock and Poultry Commission in Little Rock said the U.S. Department of Agriculture protocol in place to eradicate H5 and H7 strains of bird flu was tested and passed with flying colors in recent days, as the affected flock was identified and destroyed. Tyson Foods said that local testing and further testing at the USDA lab in Iowa found no indication the birds had the virus. Furthermore, the breeder hens displayed no signs of illness prior to testing. A poultry expert with the University of Arkansas said the state usually sees up to 10 such occurrences each year, particularly in the spring and fall as migratory geese and ducks frequent ponds located on farms like the West Fork site. Once detected, the farm was put on quarantine and all farms within a

10-mile radius are being tested as precaution in compliance with the protocol. Tyson Foods said as a preventative measure, it is also testing all breeder farms that serve the local poultry complex. The breeder flock has been depopulated and the remains are being buried. Since the virus does not spread through eggs, chicks born from these breeders are not at risk for infection, experts said.

Source: <http://www.nwaonline.net/articles/2008/06/03/business/060408avianflu.txt>

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

## **Water Sector**

31. *June 4, Bay City Times* – (Michigan) **Bay City to study drinking water quality.** Bay City, Michigan, commissioners on Monday voted to allow the city's Water Treatment Plant to pay \$10,171 to have Michigan State University perform monthly Cryptosporidium and Giardia analysis for the period of April 2008 through March 2010. The testing is being done as part of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) push to improve drinking water quality and provide additional protection from disease-causing micro-organisms. The EPA is requiring all water treatment plants that use surface water as their source to begin two years worth of monthly water sampling.  
Source:  
[http://www.mlive.com/environment/index.ssf/2008/06/bay\\_city\\_to\\_study\\_drinking\\_wat.html](http://www.mlive.com/environment/index.ssf/2008/06/bay_city_to_study_drinking_wat.html)
32. *June 3, Vermont Press Bureau* – (Vermont) **EPA threatens to regulate Vermont wastewater.** The federal government may require Vermont wastewater treatment plants be beefed up unless the state takes action, according to a letter from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), because the state's work so far to control pollution flowing into Lake Champlain "has not reduced enough phosphorous to meet the load reduction requirements." During a debate in the Legislature this year, state environmental officials asked lawmakers to put off imposing tougher standards for wastewater plants whose outflows go into Lake Champlain. Instead, the Agency of Natural Resources wanted to continue concentrating on the tougher-to-measure but larger problem of farm, stormwater, and "non-point" source pollution, officials said then. However, the April 30 letter from EPA made it clear that policy would have to show better results if the feds were to let it continue on course. A 2002 agreement with EPA allowed Vermont to delay plant upgrades, provided phosphorous from other places was addressed. That has not happened satisfactorily, according to the EPA letter.  
Source:  
<http://www.timesargus.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080603/NEWS02/806030349>
33. *June 3, Seattle Post-Intelligencer* – (Washington) **Pollution outflows to Sound routinely allowed.** Dozens of sewage-treatment plants and industrial facilities are discharging pollutants into Puget Sound at levels that could harm marine life or human health, but environmental regulators allow the practice because the waste is supposedly diluted. That is the gist of a report issued Monday by People for Puget Sound, a Seattle-based environmental group, based on a review of the records of 103 sewage-treatment plants and 15 major industrial facilities dumping waste into Puget Sound or its

tributaries. “The bottom line is, we don’t know what harm is being caused, and we know a lot of toxic chemicals are coming out in large amounts,” said the author of the study. She said mixing zones amount to a huge loophole in the Clean Water Act because polluters in danger of violating the looser standard of mixing zones can get an even larger zone approved merely by moving the end of the discharge pipe to deeper water farther from shore. The environmental group’s report quantified only six pollutants that are most consistently checked: arsenic, cadmium, lead, copper, zinc, and a widely used industrial chemical known as Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate. Some of the results are based on a little guesswork, but officials at the state Ecology Department and at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency did not take issue with the way the study was done. In fact, Ecology’s own hired technical expert, a consulting firm named Tetra Tech, said in 2007 that the agency needed to improve its methods for figuring out whether marine life is being harmed by mixing zones. Ecology officials are focused on doing something more effective than eliminating mixing zones by trying to stop pollution at its source, before it ever gets into sewage. The mixing zones are allowed only after a sewage-treatment plant or a business has taken “all known and reasonable” measures to reduce pollution. Officials are reconsidering how to treat the mixing zones, as the state and others gear up to reinvigorate flagging efforts to restore the health of Puget Sound. Source: [http://seattlepi.nwsourc.com/local/365545\\_pugetsound03.html](http://seattlepi.nwsourc.com/local/365545_pugetsound03.html)

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

## **Public Health and Healthcare Sector**

34. *June 4, KTAR.com* – (Arizona) **Pinal County facing West Nile outbreak from tainted pools.** Like Maricopa County, Pinal County health officials are concerned that abandoned homes with neglected swimming pools will become a breeding ground for mosquitoes carrying West Nile virus. A Pinal County environmental health specialist says green swimming pools at foreclosed homes have become a huge problem when it comes to controlling disease carrying mosquitoes. As of late May, the number of problem pools in Pinal County had surpassed all the complaints in 2007. So far this year, health officials have logged 117 complaints compared to 115 last year. Source: <http://news.ktar.com/?nid=6&sid=856414>
  
35. *June 3, Reuters* – (National) **Antibacterial wipes can spread superbugs: study.** Disinfectant wipes routinely used in hospitals may actually spread drug-resistant bacteria rather than kill the dangerous infections, British researchers said on Tuesday. While the wipes killed some bacteria, a study of two hospitals showed they did not get them all and could transfer the so-called superbugs to other surfaces, a microbiologist at Cardiff University said. The findings presented at the American Society of Microbiology’s General Meeting in Boston focused on bacteria that included methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA). MRSA infections can range from boils to more severe infections of the bloodstream, lungs and surgical sites. Most cases are associated with hospitals, nursing homes or other health care facilities. The superbug can cause life-threatening and disfiguring infections and can often only be treated with expensive, intravenous antibiotics. Source:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/wtMostRead/idUSL0383329520080603?sp=true>

36. *June 3, IDG News* – (California) **UnitedHealthcare data breach leads to ID theft at UC Irvine.** A data breach at United Healthcare Services Inc. has led to a rash of identity-theft crimes at the University of California, Irvine. To date, 155 graduate and medical students at the school have been hit by the scam, in which criminals file false tax returns in the victim's name and then collect their tax refunds. The breach affects 1,132 graduate students who were enrolled with the university's graduate student health insurance program in the 2006-07 school year, said the university's media relations director. UC Irvine police and IT staff have been investigating the crime for several months, she said.

Source:

<http://computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=privacy&articleId=9092978&taxonomyId=84>

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

## **Government Facilities Sector**

37. *June 4, Associated Press* – (Indiana) **Documents: Boy aimed to set massacre 'record.'** A teenager accused of plotting a school attack wrote that he wanted "instant recognition" for shooting a record number of victims and that he would not feel sorry about it, according to documents unsealed Tuesday. The teenager has been charged with a juvenile count of conspiracy to commit murder, and a denial plea has been entered on his behalf. A hearing is scheduled on June 11 to determine whether he will stay in juvenile custody. He is accused of plotting with an older adult of suburban Cleveland. Authorities said the adult and the teenager exchanged e-mails in April, discussing simultaneous mass murders at the teen's high school and at another location that police have not identified.

Source: <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/24961094/>

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

## **Emergency Services Sector**

38. *June 4, Jersey Journal* – (New Jersey) **Disaster drill set tomorrow.** Bayonne Medical Center (BMC) will hold a disaster training drill from 10 to 11 a.m Thursday. McCabe Ambulance Service and Carroll Security, an arm of BMC, will also be participating, along with the city Police and Fire departments. A BMC spokeswoman said the hospital is running the drill to help improve emergency response times, practice communicating with first responders and quick, safe patient evacuation techniques, and to meet requirements related to getting a \$77,808 state Health Care Facility Emergency Preparedness grant to buy new equipment.

Source: <http://www.nj.com/news/jjournal/index.ssf?/base/news-4/121256078183650.xml&coll=3>

39. *June 4, Associated Press* – (Massachusetts) **Authorities practice disaster response at**

**Hanscom.** Federal, state and local authorities conducted an emergency drill on Wednesday at Hanscom Field in Bedford, Massachusetts, involving a crashed aircraft. Wednesday's scenario is of a corporate jet with 19 passengers and two crew members, which is forced to make an emergency landing short of the runway. In the scenario, a fire results, resulting in passenger deaths and injuries. The full-scale drill involves the Massachusetts Port Authority as well as about 20 other agencies. It is designed to improve interagency cooperation, communications, access to the airfield in Bedford and the familiarity of the airport's emergency plan.

Source:

<http://wbztv.com/massachusettswire/22.0.html?type=local&state=MA&category=n&filename=MA--EmergencyDrill.xml>

40. *June 3, Environmental Protection Agency* – (Massachusetts) **Emergency response training and drill underway in south Boston.** Responders from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), suited up in protective gear and using decontamination equipment, response vehicles and even a small sampling robot, are simulating a hazardous materials incident at the Necco Building, Gillette Park in South Boston on Tuesday. A team of more than 50 EPA New England responders and contractors will work for the next two days to simulate a real-life emergency. The purpose of the exercise is to improve EPA's regional capabilities to safely enter a building that contains leaking chemicals of unknown origin, identify and remove the contaminants, secure the site, and provide the public with timely information about the incident.

Source:

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/0/d8ca0a288b4ef4238525745d005f6700?OpenDocument>

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

## **Information Technology**

41. *June 4, Associated Press* – (International) **New report identifies dangerous Web domains.** Companies that assign addresses for Web sites appear to be cutting corners on security more when they assign names in certain domains than in others, according to a report to be released Wednesday by antivirus software vendor McAfee Inc. McAfee found the most dangerous domains to navigate to are “.hk” (Hong Kong), “.cn” (China) and “.info” (information). Of all “.hk” sites McAfee tested, it flagged 19.2 percent as dangerous or potentially dangerous to visitors; it flagged 11.8 percent of “.cn” sites and 11.7 percent of “.info” sites that way. A little more than 5 percent of the sites under the “.com” domain – the world's most popular – were identified as dangerous. More spammers, malicious code writers and other cybercriminals can establish an online presence when domain name registry businesses cut requirements for registering a site in order to boost their profit and profile. The report does not identify domain name registration companies McAfee believes are responsible for those lapses. Hundreds, perhaps thousands, of companies register domain names; some are large and well known, while others are small and less reputable, offering their services cheaply and with flimsy or no background checks to lure in more customers.

The McAfee report is based on results from 9.9 million Web sites that were tested in 265 domains for serving malicious code, excessive pop-up ads or forms to fill out that actually are tools for harvesting e-mail addresses for sending spam.

Source:

[http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20080604/ap\\_on\\_hi\\_te/tec\\_dangerous\\_domains;\\_ylt=AuPMkJJI4GKE0X.lg22G2LSs0NUE](http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20080604/ap_on_hi_te/tec_dangerous_domains;_ylt=AuPMkJJI4GKE0X.lg22G2LSs0NUE)

42. *June 3, Associated Press* – (International) **EU sees security threats lurking in printers.** Printers and copiers could be the weak link in many corporate cyber defenses, the European Union’s information security agency warned Tuesday. The EU said companies are often unaware of the dangers posed by printers that are connected to the Internet, which can serve as conduits to penetrate networks or a window to stored documents. The European Network and Information Security Agency also advised companies to take physical security precautions for their printers and copiers to prevent unauthorized access to documents or data cartridges. “Business in Europe must realize that printing and copying is not as safe as when Gutenberg started printing 540 years ago,” said the executive director of the agency. “Crucial company assets and confidential data” are at stake as even printers can get “hijacked,” he said. The agency surveyed 350 companies in France, Germany and Britain.

Source:

<http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5hk5gzuGwQhqMoZVUusCv3LIHumrgD912MH5O0>

### Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at [soc@us-cert.gov](mailto: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/>.

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

## Communications Sector

43. *June 2, RCR Wireless News* – (National) **FEMA to oversee mobile-phone alert system.** The Federal Emergency Management Agency said it will be the national coordinator for the mobile-phone alert system, after the agency earlier this year hesitated about taking on the role because of legal uncertainty. In doing so, FEMA touched off a minor controversy with the Federal Communications Commission. “FEMA supports the framework developed by the Federal Communications Commission for delivering cellular alerts and we have determined that we have both the necessary authorities and technical solutions to assume the responsibility as the federal cellular alert aggregator,” said FEMA’s assistant director of the National Continuity Programs Directorate. “We will work with DHS science and technology scientists to finalize the technical solutions and with the Federal Communications Commission as we make the alert aggregator operational.” She said FEMA, a unit of the Department of Homeland Security, will



announce a common alerting protocol in the next 30 to 60 days and added that all the pieces should be in place to make the mobile-phone warning system operational 12 to 18 months from now. She told reporters a closer review — based in part on the technical solutions under development — indicated FEMA indeed has the statutory powers to be the federal aggregator/gateway for a mobile-phone alert system that would supplement and improve a Cold War-era public warning regime that is still largely broadcast-based. President Bush signed an executive order two years ago putting DHS in charge of modernizing the emergency alert system in the United States.

Source:

<http://www.rcrnews.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080602/FREE/130109502/1001/FREE&template=printart>

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

## **Commercial Facilities Sector**

44. *June 3, Chicago Tribune* – (Illinois) **Bomb threat against WTTW reported.** Chicago’s Commission on Human Relations condemned a recent bomb threat made to WTTW-Channel 11. Officials say this bomb threat may be linked to the public television station’s upcoming program “Out & Proud in Chicago.” This program examines the history of the city’s lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community. A police spokeswoman said the threat may have been made in a letter. Officials are investigating the incident, she added.

Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/chi-wttw-threat-web-jun04,0,778642.story>

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

## **National Monuments & Icons Sector**

45. *June 3, Associated Press* – (National) **Off-roaders, environmentalists to square off in Congress.** Environmental groups and off-road vehicle (ORV) advocates plan to square off Thursday in the U.S. Senate on the three-year-old U.S. Forest Service effort to restrict where motorcycles, four-wheelers and other backcountry vehicles can drive on public land. The Wilderness Society says the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee hearing in Washington, D.C., will help underscore how an increasing number of powerful machines encroach ever farther into unsuitable territory. National forests across America have been updating travel plans on 193 million acres of public lands since 2005, when the Forest Service changed its policy requiring all forests be closed unless posted open to ORVs. A Wilderness Society advocate in Boise said conflicts in states including Idaho, Oregon, Montana, Arizona, and Nevada point out the need to rein in off-road vehicle riders who stray from trails for the challenge of riding up steep slopes, exposing those slopes to erosion, weeds, and other problems. The hearing will also include discussion of travel planning on the Bureau of Land Management’s 264 million acres.

Source: [http://seattlepi.nwsourc.com/local/6420ap\\_wst\\_off\\_roadng\\_congress.html](http://seattlepi.nwsourc.com/local/6420ap_wst_off_roadng_congress.html)

## **Dams Sector**

46. *June 4, Belleville News-Democrat* – (Midwest) **Conference addresses levee risks in Midwest; upgrades could cost \$80 million.** More than 300 people who have a stake in the Midwest’s river levees have gathered in St. Louis for a conference on flood-protection. The Midwest Levee Conference, sponsored by the Society of American Military Engineers and the American Society of Civil Engineers, kicked off Tuesday and continues through Thursday. The commander of the Mississippi Valley division of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers told the gathering that the purpose of the conference is to exchange ideas on managing flood risks. The conference participants include architects, engineers, representatives from levee districts, and members of government agencies on the local, state, and national levels.  
Source: <http://www.bnd.com/news/local/story/359004.html>
47. *June 3, WOOD 8 Grand Rapids* – (Michigan) **Newaygo County holds dam disaster drills.** As dams across Michigan continue to age, Newaygo County officials say it is best to be prepared. County officials say the city of Newaygo could go under water, destroying 1,500 homes and 160 businesses, if the Hardy and Croton dams fail, giving way to the rushing waters of the Muskegon River. In September 1986, torrential rains led to a Class A flood, the most severe in recent history. The dams held but Newaygo County was declared a federal disaster area. Newaygo County officials staged a flood disaster scenario Tuesday, giving police, fire, and emergency personnel a chance to practice for the real thing.  
Source: <http://www.woodtv.com/Global/story.asp?S=8419206&nav=0RcdWDXo>
48. *June 3, Forest Grove News-Times* – (Oregon) **Feds to study effect of big quake on Hagg Lake dam.** Federal officials want to take a closer look at how Scoggins Dam at Henry Hagg Lake in Oregon would hold up in the event of an earthquake. The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation announced Tuesday that a technical review of the dam, located just west of Gaston, concluded that it poses no immediate hazards. But, agency officials said, the results indicate further investigation is warranted to evaluate the dam’s ability to withstand the forces of a major earthquake. “Scoggins Dam is safe under normal operating conditions,” said the manager of the agency’s dam safety program. “But our first priority is public safety,” he continued in a prepared statement, “and our risk assessment report indicates that the potential seismic hazards at Scoggins Dam are serious enough to require us to take a detailed look at the structure, its foundation, and the geological makeup of the area.”  
Source:  
[http://www.forestgrovenewstimes.com/news/story.php?story\\_id=121253852546421200](http://www.forestgrovenewstimes.com/news/story.php?story_id=121253852546421200)

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To report physical infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact the National Infrastructure Coordinating Center at [nicc@dhs.gov](mailto: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](mailto:soc@us-cert.gov) or visit their Web page at [www.us-cert.gov](http://www.us-cert.gov).

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