



## Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 24 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/>

- The Associated Press reports that 150 U.S. embassies fall short of security standards, such as setting buildings significantly back from major roads and reinforcing walls and windows. U.S. embassies around the globe are among the most high-profile overseas targets for terrorists and protesters. (See item [31](#))
- According to the New York Times, Testwell Laboratories in some instances failed to do preliminary tests and later falsified the results of some tests on concrete poured over the last two years at the new Yankee Stadium in the Bronx and the foundation of the Freedom Tower in Lower Manhattan. (See item [45](#))

### 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 23, Bloomberg* – (International) **Nigerian oil union starts strike against Chevron.** Nigeria’s senior white-collar oil union began a strike against Chevron Corp.’s local unit after talks collapsed, company and union officials said. Chevron Nigeria Ltd. confirms “that the employees belonging to the Petroleum and Natural Gas Senior Staff Association of Nigeria have declared a work stoppage,” a Chevron spokeswoman said Monday. She said it is too early to comment on the impact of the strike on operations. Source:

[http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601072&sid=a9L\\_Ra5ZiOXA&refer=en](http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601072&sid=a9L_Ra5ZiOXA&refer=en)

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2. *June 23, Platts* – (National) **Industry officials seek more federal control of power line siting.** Several electricity industry executives are working on a plan to give the federal government more control over the transmission grid, which could strip from states some of their authority to site high-voltage interstate power lines. The vice president of federal affairs for ITC Transmission – who is also the president of the Working Group for Investment in Reliable and Economic Electric Systems, a coalition of transmission owners and operators – said last week that he is working on the plan with officials at the American Wind Energy Association and other industry executives. The objective of the plan is to circumvent some of the obstacles that are hindering an efficient and much-needed expansion of the power grid, he said. The group plans to meet Wednesday to develop a plan that would help carry out a national strategy of connecting more wind energy projects, solar energy facilities, and other types of renewable energy resources with the grid, he said. Currently, siting delays and cost-allocation issues at the state level are slowing the effort to build more transmission lines for renewable resources, he said.

Source:

<http://www.platts.com/Electric%20Power/News/8824977.xml?sub=Electric%20Power&p=Electric%20Power/News&?undefined&undefined>

3. *June 21, Reuters* – (International) **Nigerian youths blow up oil pipeline, output cut.** Armed youths blew up a Nigerian crude oil pipeline operated by U.S. major Chevron, a militant group said on Saturday, cutting more output from the world's eighth largest oil exporter. The Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND) said it was contacted by youths claiming responsibility for Thursday's attack on Chevron's Abiteye-Olero crude pipeline and commended their action. The military said about 120,000 barrels per day of crude oil production were shut by the sabotage. A Chevron spokeswoman confirmed that one of its pipelines was damaged, but declined to say how much output was affected. Thursday's incident came hours after a bold night-time militant attack on Royal Dutch Shell's main offshore oil facility that cut Nigeria's oil output by ten percent. The rise in violence prompted the Nigerian president to order the country's armed forces to tighten security in the Niger Delta.

Source:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssEnergyNews/idUSL2132483020080621?pageNumber=1&virtualBrandChannel=0>

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## **Chemical Industry Sector**

4. *June 20, Associated Press* – (National) **7,000 businesses deemed chemical terror risk.** The federal government will tell 7,000 businesses this week that they are considered high risk-terrorist targets because they house large amounts of chemicals. The sites — which range from major chemical plants to universities, food processing centers and hospitals — will need to complete a vulnerability assessment so the government can decide how to regulate their security measures in the future. U.S. intelligence officials say terrorist organizations, including al-Qaida, favor chemical attack methods because

of the severe consequences they can inflict. Earlier this year, 32,000 businesses with large amounts of chemicals had to complete an online survey that the Homeland Security Department used to determine which facilities' security measures should be regulated. The list was pared down to 7,000. These businesses will go through another vulnerability assessment, and the department will place them into four categories, based on the risk they face. Homeland security inspectors will eventually visit the highest risk facilities each year to make sure they are complying with enhanced security measures. If these sites do not comply, they could face hefty fines and could ultimately be shut down until they meet federal security standards. As the department considers these 7,000 sites, it also will look at physical security; cyber security; insider threat potential; how hazardous a chemical release could be to the nearby communities; how dangerous the chemicals are if they are mixed with water; and whether the chemicals could be easily stolen from the sites and used to kill.

Source: <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/25287780/>

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

5. *June 23, Bloomberg* – (International) **Uranium to fetch \$90 as Indian reactors drive demand.** The uranium industry's worst year is about to collide with a nuclear construction program in India and China that rivals the ones undertaken during the oil crisis of the 1970s. The result is likely to be a 58 percent rebound in uranium to \$90 a pound from \$57 now, according to Goldman Sachs JBWere Pty and Rio Tinto Group, the third-biggest mining company. Uranium plunged 57 percent in the past year as an earthquake damaged a Japanese nuclear plant that is the world's largest and faults shut down reactors in the U.K. and Germany. Plans for India and China to end electricity shortages will ripple from northwest Canada to the Australian outback and the flatlands of Kazakhstan, the primary sources of uranium. Uranium demand worldwide will rise as fast as oil this year, or 0.8 percent, Deutsche Bank AG forecasts. "People are starting to look at coal, at gas, at oil and seeing the energy prices go up, they wonder about uranium," said a fund manager with CQS UK LLP.  
Source:  
<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601072&sid=axHfOcR8T81Y&refer=energy>
6. *June 23, Financial Times* – (International) **French watchdog fears for reactor project skills.** France's nuclear safety watchdog intends to "make an example" of the country's first reactor project in 20 years, amid concerns that many of the skills for building nuclear power stations may have been lost. The Nuclear Safety Authority (NSA) has already taken a tough approach, stopping some construction work at the new generation European pressurized reactor (EPR) power station being built in Flamanville, northern France. It only gave the green light for construction to restart last week. The watchdog had ordered EDF, operator of France's 58 nuclear power stations, to halt work three weeks ago after it discovered problems with quality controls and with the iron frame of the concrete structure being put in place by French construction group Bouygues. Although there was no question over the safety of the reactor, the problems did indicate

“a lack of quality and rigor,” the NSA chairman said. “This is the first reactor in 20 years and they have lost the habit. We wanted to show an example... Delays are not our problem. EDF needs to take time to reflect on how it manages its construction works.” He said an acceptable action plan to resolve the problems had been prepared. The construction of the new generation, heavy-duty nuclear reactor is being followed closely by countries around the world as they consider launching their own nuclear power stations.

Source: [http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/6681af9c-40bb-11dd-bd48-0000779fd2ac.dwp\\_uuid=70662e7c-3027-11da-ba9f-00000e2511c8.html?nclick\\_check=1](http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/6681af9c-40bb-11dd-bd48-0000779fd2ac.dwp_uuid=70662e7c-3027-11da-ba9f-00000e2511c8.html?nclick_check=1)

7. *June 22, Topeka Capital-Journal* – (Kansas) **Tornado left K-State reactor relatively unscathed.** This past week, bits of leaves still littered a few surfaces inside the Nuclear Reactor Building in Ward Hall at Kansas State University after the June 11 tornado tore a path through Manhattan and the campus, tagging the reactor building. The storm sucked siding off the southwest side of the eight-sided building, punched holes in it, and the drop in pressure inside blew out some more panels, said the head of the department of mechanical and nuclear engineering. “But the reactor was safe,” the professor said. The reactor, used for research, is about the size of an industrial shop-sized trash can, but is built into a very stout construction of concrete surrounded by a building laced in a network of steel girders. The reactor is cooled by thousands of gallons of water. After the tornado, it took two days to clean leaves and small pieces of wood out of the pool. The reactor building has closed-circuit security cameras. Those images are monitored inside the building and by campus police officers. The doors leading into the reactor building are locked. The reactor manager said a weapon could not be made using the uranium in the reactor. It would have to be greater than 20 percent highly enriched uranium, and the reactor’s uranium is lower than that, he said.

Source: [http://cjonline.com/stories/062208/kan\\_293660022.shtml](http://cjonline.com/stories/062208/kan_293660022.shtml)

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## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

8. *June 22, Military and Aerospace Electronics* – (National) **U.S. authorities must lean to collaborate in defenses against information warfare attacks.** American civil and military authorities must find a better way to work together and with international allies to counter this threat of cyber warfare, says a top U.S. military leader. “We need a common awareness of what’s happening in the United States in order to understand the threats that we’re going to face,” according to the vice chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff. The Department of Defense is responsible for information warfare overseas and at military bases inside the U.S., the Department of Homeland Security takes charge of cyber warfare within the U.S., and the Department of Justice has some cyber warfare authority inside the U.S. and overseas. These organizations have to work together because information warfare attacks happen quickly. The general also indicated that different countries have different policies on responding to a cyber attack. He said the problem is based upon a “Napoleonic command and control” structure that makes the cyber organizations fight over who is in charge. “The technology is not what paces us; it

is the culture,” he said. The military has to figure out the appropriate skills, schools, and rank structure to build an effective cyber warfare force, he said.

Source: [http://mae.pennnet.com/display\\_article/332425/32/NEWS/none/none/1/US-authorities-must-lean-to-collaborate-in-defenses-against-information-warfare-attacks/](http://mae.pennnet.com/display_article/332425/32/NEWS/none/none/1/US-authorities-must-lean-to-collaborate-in-defenses-against-information-warfare-attacks/)

9. *June 20, Aviation Week* – (National) **F-35 offers multirole surprises.** The F-35 Joint Strike Fighter (JSF) will “redefine the concept of multirole strike” aircraft, Lockheed Martin officials say. The F-35 aircraft is being designed to deliver electronic attack (EA), including jamming, spoofing, and pulses of energy, with the same ease that it can deliver explosive weapons. As far as is known, JSF has only its advanced active, electronically-scanned array (AESA) radar antenna in the nose to pump out its electronic firepower. It would then have the weakness of any AESA array in that it is flat with a field of view of less than 180 degrees, perhaps an effective field of regard for effective attack of 60-90 degrees. Lockheed officials report that the F-35’s sensor capabilities include advanced electronic surveillance allowing development of an instantaneous electronic order of battle. Along with EA, the JSF will take on the mission of intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance.

Source:

[http://www.aviationweek.com/aw/generic/story\\_channel.jsp?channel=defense&id=news/F35EA062008.xml](http://www.aviationweek.com/aw/generic/story_channel.jsp?channel=defense&id=news/F35EA062008.xml)

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## **Banking and Finance Sector**

10. *June 22, United Feature Syndicate* – (National) **Con artists are stealing homeowners’ identities, properties.** The sagging housing market has presented swindlers with endless opportunities to prey on troubled homeowners. But even people who are making their payments on time are susceptible to being cheated out of their homes. In house stealing, the con artist picks out a home and assumes the owner’s identity to create fake IDs, Social Security cards, etc. Then the con artist obtains forms to transfer the property, forges the owner’s signature and files the papers with the proper authorities. Often, targets are empty houses, for example a vacation home in a seasonal resort. In other cases, swindlers steal an occupied house and sell it to someone who is so enamored of the great price that he or she buys based on a few online photos. Or the perpetrators pose as the rightful owners and take out home-equity lines of credit against the property.

Source: <http://www.latimes.com/business/la-re-lew22-2008jun22,0,5218514.story>

11. *June 20, Reuters* – (National) **SEC nominees support more i-bank regs if needed.** Democratic nominees to the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) said they support adding regulations and staff to oversee investment banks if needed, according to testimony received by Reuters on Friday. Two representatives, who are being considered to fill the Democratic SEC commissioner spots, said they would support additional rules for firms like Goldman Sachs and Lehman Brothers, if needed, to protect investors and promote market stability. Investment banking supervision has been scrutinized and criticized since Bear Stearns nearly collapsed when its liquidity dried up in March. The Federal Reserve (Fed) opened its discount window to investment banks out of concern

that the Bear crisis could lead to a systemic financial failure. Now the Fed is working with the SEC to ensure that investment banks remain safe and sound. Under the SEC's voluntary supervisory program, the agency oversees the country's four largest investment banks -- Goldman Sachs, Lehman Brothers, Merrill Lynch, and Morgan Stanley -- for liquidity and capital levels. The SEC's chairman has urged Congress to decide which regulator should have primary oversight over the investment firms and to make it mandatory.

Source:

<http://uk.reuters.com/article/governmentFilingsNews/idUKN2027572020080620>

12. *June 20, Associated Press* – (National) **U.S. bomb threat suspect held in Portugal.**

Portuguese police have arrested a U.S. fugitive who allegedly phoned bomb threats to extort money from American banks and stole from multinational companies by hacking into their internal computer networks, authorities said Friday. Police suspect most of the scammer's victims were companies in the U.S., but he also targeted companies in Canada, Britain, and Switzerland, a Portuguese detective said. The man's alleged fraud schemes are believed to have netted "large quantities" of money, but the exact amount is not known. Police seized 15 laptop computers and 53 cellular phones during the arrest. In January, a U.S. District Court in Manhattan indicted the man on charges he made threats by telephone to Deutsche Bank, the Bank of New York, Bank of America, and Societe Generale. In November, federal authorities in Miami said they had asked that the suspect be arrested on charges that he made international phone calls earlier that year threatening to blow up a Miami Beach bank unless workers there gave an alleged accomplice money. In the U.S., the suspect faces a possible life prison sentence if convicted of a charge of threatening to use weapons of mass destruction by making bomb threats. Three other counts charging him with threatening acts of terrorism across national boundaries each carry 10-year prison sentences.

Source: <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/25285190/>

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## **Transportation Sector**

13. *June 23, Washington Times* – (National) **Foreign students labeled 'threats.'** A group of foreign oceanography graduate students got a scare when they recently applied to the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) for access to U.S. ports where their research ships would be moored. The TSA denied their request and labeled them "security threats." A TSA spokesman said the agency will allow the students to access the ships and secure dock areas with an escort and is reworking how it words its denial-of-access letters. The TSA has only two designations for such requests: "approved" and "security threat." A North Carolina democrat and chairman of the House Science and Technology subcommittee on investigations and oversight asked the Homeland Security Secretary to rescind such TSA designations. The foreign oceanography students, enrolled in a program run by Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, applied for Transportation Worker Identification Credentials (TWIC) while holding student visas. Beginning next year, TWIC cards will be required to enter secure areas of U.S. ports. One student received a letter from a TSA



official that seemed to go beyond simply denying the request because the student visas are not on the list of eligible candidates for the TWIC program. The chairman of the U.S. Port Security Council said TSA has the prerogative to determine who can and cannot gain access to sensitive areas, whether it is the docks, cargo areas, or administration buildings. The priority is not just protecting ports from land, but also guarding what happens under water.

Source: <http://washingtontimes.com/news/2008/jun/23/foreign-students-labeled-threats/>

14. *June 22, Times-Picayune* – (Louisiana) **All I-10 lanes open.** All lanes of Interstate 10 (I-10) were open as of early Sunday morning, the Louisiana State Police reported. About nine miles of I-10, between the Irish Bayou exit in New Orleans and the Old Spanish Trail exit in Slidell, Louisiana, and including the twin spans over Lake Pontchartrain, were closed early Saturday after a tanker truck crashed at the foot of the north shore, spilling 4,700 gallons of hydrochloric acid. The eastbound truck carrying the acid overturned around 4:30 a.m. after hitting a barricade near the St. Tammany Parish side of the bridge, a State Police sergeant said. Barricades were erected months ago at the location as part of a temporary shift in driving lanes to accommodate construction of new bridges. While the long closure of the highway created major traffic problems, state environmental authorities said the chemical spill was well contained.

Source: [http://www.nola.com/news/index.ssf/2008/06/all\\_i10\\_lanes\\_open\\_now.html](http://www.nola.com/news/index.ssf/2008/06/all_i10_lanes_open_now.html)

15. *June 21, Associated Press* – (California) **Feds to investigate air traffic controllers at LAX.** Federal officials plan to investigate the number and experience level of air traffic controllers working at Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) and the effect of both on flight safety. The move announced Friday comes at the request of a California senator, who has said the country's air control towers could be short-handed. The Inspector General's Office of the U.S. Department of Transportation will examine traffic controllers at LAX and at the Terminal Radar Approach Control centers (TRACONS) in San Diego and Sacramento, which direct traffic between airports. Federal Aviation Administration officials have acknowledged that control towers have suffered from a recent surge in retirements by able and experienced workers. The agency projects that more than half of its roughly 14,800 air traffic controllers are expected to retire by 2017. The agency's guidelines call for LAX to have between 39 and 47 controllers on its staff. The airport currently has 43, though four are trainees with no previous FAA experience.

Source: [http://www.examiner.com/a-1452438~Feds\\_to\\_investigate\\_air\\_traffic\\_controllers\\_at\\_LAX.html](http://www.examiner.com/a-1452438~Feds_to_investigate_air_traffic_controllers_at_LAX.html)

16. *June 20, Aviation News* – (New Jersey) **FAA traffic flow system operational.** The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) said that its new Traffic Flow Management System (TFMS) network at the William J. Hughes Technical Center in Atlantic City, New Jersey, became operational recently. The system tracks, anticipates, and manages the flow of air traffic throughout U.S. airspace, integrating real-time weather and flight data from multiple sources. The agency said that the new system provides the architecture needed to advance the Next Generation Air Transportation System. The modernized TFMS uses a state-of-the-art, open-architecture platform that increases development bandwidth, facilitates integration with other domains, and improves TFM

performance and capacity, the FAA said. The third and final phase of the TFMS modernization is expected by August 2009 when the remaining legacy hardware and software components are upgraded, FAA said.

Source: [http://www.aviationnews.net/?do=headline&news\\_ID=156216](http://www.aviationnews.net/?do=headline&news_ID=156216)

17. *June 20, Associated Press* – (Iowa) **Iowa bridge inspectors look for damage as waters fall.** The floodwaters that have surged across much of Iowa this month have inspectors looking for damage to the state’s already troubled bridge network. The flooding concerns come after a study earlier this year ranked Iowa bridges fourth worst in the nation. The study showed that 21 percent of the state’s bridges, or more than 5,100 bridges, were structurally deficient with major deterioration to decks or other major components. Now, inspectors are busy making sure bridges have not suffered damage in the record floods that swamped much of Iowa’s eastern half. Engineers and transportation officials said motorists should feel safe that if a bridge is open, it has been deemed safe for travel. But they acknowledged that little money is available if serious problems are found. One exception was the Iowa Highway 24 bridge over the Turkey River in Fort Atkinson in Winneshiek County. Part of that bridge collapsed early in the floods, causing it to divert water to the approach, which was washed away, said a spokeswoman for the Iowa Department of Transportation. She said if any problems are found, a bridge would not reopen.

Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/chi-ap-ia-iowaflooding-brid,0,7736914.story>

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## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

18. *June 20, Sacramento Business Journal* – (California) **Elk Grove man sentenced for toxic threats.** A former nuclear engineer and attorney who sent threatening letters containing fake poisons to local political officials and businesses was sentenced Friday to 51 months in federal prison. The Elk Grove man was sentenced and ordered to pay a \$10,000 fine and \$43,715 in reimbursement for law enforcement and hazardous material cleanup efforts. He sent letters that contained threats and a white powder, which he asserted was “poison” and a “death powder” and recipients feared might contain anthrax or some other weapon of mass destruction. Laboratory analysis showed it to be baking soda. He pleaded guilty to four counts on April 11. Over the years, he sent about 58 letters, including to the Hyatt Regency Sacramento and Double Tree Hotel in Sacramento when the president or vice president of the U.S. attended fund-raising events for local politicians. Over the years, he sent letter-bomb threat letters to the president of the United States, the vice president, and the secretary of defense, prosecutors said, sending them from the Sacramento area and from San Diego and Utah.

Source: <http://www.bizjournals.com/sacramento/stories/2008/06/16/daily71.html>

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## Agriculture and Food Sector

19. *June 21, CNN* – (Iowa) **Iowa faces potential \$3 billion in crop loss.** The flood damage to Iowa crops could reach \$3 billion, according to the state’s agriculture secretary. In Iowa, where several rivers jumped their banks about a week ago, water poured over acres of farmland. This week, residents are returning to homes and officials are assessing damage as the floodwater moves downstream to add to the Mississippi River’s flow. “Right now, we have about 10 percent of our corn that has either been flooded out or not planted and about 20 percent of our [soy]beans,” the secretary said Friday on “Iowa Press.” Flooding of some of the food processing facilities in Iowa also has a “very significant” impact on Iowa’s agriculture, he said.  
Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2008/US/weather/06/21/iowa.flood/index.html>
  
20. *June 21, Southtown Star* – (Illinois) **Feds seize contaminated food at Petco warehouse.** Feral animals snacked and defecated on pet food at a rodent-infested Petco warehouse in Joliet, Illinois, according to a complaint filed by federal prosecutors. U.S. marshals on Thursday quarantined more than a ton of cat and bird food from the contaminated depot after it failed a second inspection in May 2008, authorities said. Food and Drug Administration inspectors found 26 live and seven dead rodents, rodent nests with newborn mice, and 1,300 rodent droppings at the warehouse, according to the seizure complaint. Lab tests showed rodents had urinated and defecated on and gnawed at pet food bags, it said. As many as 30 live birds and one dead bird also were found “on or around” the pet food, with substantial amounts of bird feces also found, the complaint said. Wildlife found its way in via a network of holes in the warehouse’s walls and gaps under doors, investigators said. Pet food is distributed to 16 states from the warehouse, authorities said.  
Source: <http://www.southtownstar.com/news/1017529,062108petco.article>
  
21. *June 21, Associated Press* – (National) **Report compares costs of animal disease outbreak.** The government acknowledged that an outbreak of one of the most contagious animal diseases from any of five locations being considered for a new high-security laboratory — an event it considered highly unlikely — would be more devastating to the U.S. economy than an outbreak from the isolated island lab where such research is now conducted. The 1,005-page Homeland Security Department study, released Friday, calculated that economic losses in an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease could surpass \$4 billion if the lab were built near livestock herds in Kansas or Texas, two options the administration is considering. That would be roughly \$1 billion higher than the government’s estimate of losses blamed on a hypothetical outbreak from its existing laboratory on Plum Island, New York. The five locations the U.S. is considering are Athens, Georgia; Manhattan, Kansas; Butner, North Carolina; San Antonio, Texas; and Flora, Mississippi. A sixth alternative would be construction of a new research lab on Plum Island. Economic losses in an outbreak would exceed \$3.3 billion if the new lab were built in Georgia, North Carolina or Mississippi, the report said. It calculated losses of \$2.8 billion in an outbreak from Plum Island. A final choice

is expected by late fall.

Source:

[http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5gDdJ3UTsqcN2JyaG8SKq\\_yCh8cpwD91EE4C80](http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5gDdJ3UTsqcN2JyaG8SKq_yCh8cpwD91EE4C80)

22. *June 20, Associated Press* – (National) **FDA inspectors to Fla., Mexico in salmonella probe.** Food and Drug Administration (FDA) inspectors headed for farms in Florida and Mexico on Friday, as new clues emerge to the possible source of salmonella-tainted tomatoes that have now sickened 552 people. The FDA would not say where in Florida and Mexico the hunt is centering, but officials stressed that the clues do not necessarily mean that a particular farm will turn out to be the culprit. Investigators will pay special attention to big packing houses or distribution warehouses that handle tomatoes from many farms and where contamination could be spread, leading to what may be the nation's largest-ever salmonella outbreak from tomatoes. "It does not mean definitively the contamination occurred on a farm in Mexico or on a farm in Florida," said FDA's food safety chief. "This is not just the farms that we're inspecting, it's the whole distribution chain."

Source:

[http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20080620/ap\\_on\\_he\\_me/tomatoes\\_salmonella;\\_ylt=AtLp4OhLAtfpTSZ651VLmSCs0NUE](http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20080620/ap_on_he_me/tomatoes_salmonella;_ylt=AtLp4OhLAtfpTSZ651VLmSCs0NUE)

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## **Water Sector**

23. *June 23, WLWT 5 Cincinnati* – (Ohio) **HAZMAT situation forces Middletown residents inside.** One man is dead and two firefighters were hospitalized after a chemical leak at the United Waste Water Services plant in Middletown, Ohio, Saturday morning. Investigators found the man deceased on a catwalk when they arrived at the scene. United Waste Water Services is a non-hazardous waste pre-treatment and recycling plant, according to its Web site. People living in the vicinity were advised to stay in their house with the windows closed. Sodium hydrosulfite – a hazardous chemical that can produce fire, burn eyes and throat, and cause injury or death if inhaled – is thought to have come from a 10,000 gallon tank at the plant, according to a Butler County Emergency Management spokesman. The Environmental Protection Agency and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration joined the Middletown Fire Department and company officials in conducting an investigation.

Source: <http://www.wlwt.com/news/16673346/detail.html>

24. *June 21, East Valley Tribune* – (Arizona) **Sewage spills spur Q.C. drinking water worry.** Queen Creek residents and officials downstream from recent sewage spills in Pinal County are concerned about impacts on the town's drinking water. The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and the Arizona Corporation Commission are investigating two May spills that discharged more than 10,000 gallons of raw sewage into Queen Creek Wash from Johnson Utilities' Pecan Water Reclamation Plant. State records show a history of spills at the same facility. A DEQ notice of violation issued to the utility this month shows that employees did not notify the state agency within 24 hours of the spill, notes high levels of E. coli and fecal coliform in the wash

water, and requires the company to upgrade two pumps because the plant was not built to state-approved capacity. The company's vice president said smaller pumps have been replaced with larger ones and E.coli levels are subsiding a month after the spills. The Queen Creek town manager said they are doing all they can to ensure the town's water supply is safe.

Source: <http://www.eastvalleytribune.com/story/119077>

25. *June 20, Reuters* – (Illinois; Iowa) **Iowa, Illinois drinking water intact despite floods.**

Water treatment plants in flood-stricken communities in Iowa and Illinois, a few of which were knocked out by overflowing rivers and streams this month, are back to normal, officials said on Friday. One community in northwestern Illinois, Galesburg, was under an advisory until Friday to boil tap water as a precautionary measure against contaminated wells. That advisory was lifted after tests were completed on Friday. A representative of Iowa Emergency Management said access to clean water in the state has not been much of an issue so far. Earlier this week in Mason City, Iowa, flooding temporarily cut off tap water from the local utility. Cedar Rapids residents were told to conserve water during the flood because several of its wells had to be shut down.

Source:

<http://uk.reuters.com/article/governmentFilingsNews/idUKN2033247620080620>

26. *June 20, Spectrum* – (Arizona) **Resolution filed to stop uranium mining near Grand Canyon.**

The chairman of the House Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands announced Thursday that the House Committee on Natural Resources introduced an emergency resolution to prevent uranium mining near Grand Canyon National Park. The emergency resolution is in response to concerns about more than 3,000 uranium mining claims filed in Grand Canyon watersheds in less than three years. The principal purpose of H.R. 5583 is to protect the park from the disruption of uranium drilling and mining near the rim and potential further contamination of groundwater. Supporters say it is needed to protect the Grand Canyon's seeps, springs, streams, river, and the people, plants, and wildlife that survive on those waters.

Source:

<http://www.thespectrum.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080620/NEWS01/80620011>

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## **Public Health and Healthcare Sector**

27. *June 23, Agence France-Presse* – (International) **Pakistan reports new bird flu outbreak.** Pakistani authorities reported a new outbreak of avian flu at a commercial poultry farm in the country's northwest, killing thousands of birds, officials said. Tests conducted at a government-run laboratory in Islamabad confirmed the presence of the H5N1 strain of bird flu at a farm in Swabi district, the local livestock department chief told AFP. "The virus was detected after the owner of the farm informed us on Friday that some 4,000 birds had died within the past few days," he said. All workers on the affected farm were examined by the ministry of health but none was found to have been affected by the virus, he added. Local health officials are monitoring surrounding farms and advised them to take precautionary measures including vaccination of birds, he said.

Source: [http://afp.google.com/article/ALeqM5jXryZL\\_xkAY5N3-PEYq7Jgs\\_pRgw](http://afp.google.com/article/ALeqM5jXryZL_xkAY5N3-PEYq7Jgs_pRgw)

28. *June 23, AAccess News* – (National) **West Nile Virus season begins.** The Center for Disease Control (CDC) reports that the 2008 West Nile Virus season has begun with cases of mosquito-borne animal or human infection reported in nine states. West Nile Virus infections have been reported to CDC ArboNET from the following states in 2008: Alabama, California, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, South Carolina, Texas, and Utah. Human cases of West Nile Virus have been reported in Arizona, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Tennessee, and Texas. So far, eight people have been confirmed to have been infected by mosquito bites. Last year, a total of 2630 West Nile Virus cases were reported. The actual number of people infected with West Nile Virus last year may have been much higher as only 20 percent of those cases reported actually feel flu-like symptoms, the rest of those infected do not even realize they have been bitten by a mosquito that carried the virus.

Source: <http://www.axcessnews.com/index.php/articles/show/id/16224>

29. *June 22, Atlanta Journal-Constitution* – (Georgia) **CDC action at germ lab questioned.** At the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's new \$214 million infectious disease laboratory in Atlanta, scientists are conducting experiments on bioterror bacteria in a room with a containment door sealed with duct tape. The tape was applied around the edges of the door a year ago after the building's ventilation system malfunctioned and pulled potentially contaminated air out of the lab and into a "clean" hallway. Nine CDC workers were tested in May 2007 for potential exposure to the Q fever bacteria being studied in the lab, CDC officials said last week in response to questions from the Atlanta Journal-Constitution. The air-flow incident occurred very early in the morning, before the workday began. The blood tests showed that none of the workers who arrived after the incident were infected. Q fever, which causes high fevers and sometimes fatal heart problems, is most commonly spread when humans inhale bacteria-laden dust from contaminated animal waste. Human-to-human transmission is rare. It is classified as a potential bioterror agent because it is moderately easy to disseminate. The CDC Q fever lab's air containment systems have since worked properly, agency officials said; the lab is safe and poses no risk to workers. The public was never at any risk because numerous security layers were in place between the lab and the outdoors, they said. The CDC's explanations drew skepticism from some biosafety watchdogs – especially since this is the same lab building that came under scrutiny by Congress and the Government Accountability Office last summer after the AJC revealed the building experienced an hour-long power outage and backup generators failed to come on. The GAO, the investigative arm of Congress, has warned of the importance of door seals in two recent reports on the safety of the nation's high-containment laboratories.

Source: <http://www.ajc.com/metro/content/printedition/2008/06/22/cdclab.html?imw=Y>

30. *June 22, Fox News* – (New York) **Report: Hundreds mistakenly test positive for HIV in New York.** Hundreds of people who took an HIV test at New York City clinics between November 2007 and April of this year were incorrectly told they tested positive for the virus, the New York Post reported Sunday. In total, 213 people reportedly tested

positive for the virus after taking a rapid mouth-swab HIV test manufactured by OraSure technologies. The reason for the incorrect results is being investigated by the Department of Health (DOH), the Post reported. In the meantime, the DOH has stopped using the swab test, which was first introduced to New York City clinics in 2005. The assistant DOH commissioner and director of the bureau of STD control, told the Post that all individuals who were found to be positive after taking the swab test were immediately given another test — one that required a blood sample.

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,369946,00.html>

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## **Government Facilities Sector**

31. *June 22, Associated Press* – (International) **Billions more needed to secure US embassies.** Despite an intensive \$4 billion drive to protect U.S. embassies, at least 150 fall short of security standards put in place after deadly bombings. It will cost twice that amount to replace or renovate just the most vulnerable ones. The State Department says it will need about \$7.5 billion to construct buildings at around 50 posts and \$850 million for “major rehabilitation” at 40 others through 2013. The figures are in the department’s Long-Range Overseas Buildings Plan that was sent to Congress last week. In addition, about 60 other embassies and consulates will need to be replaced or will require substantial work by 2018, according to documents accompanying the 450-page plan, according to officials familiar with its contents. U.S. embassies around the globe are among the most high-profile overseas targets for terrorists and protesters. This year alone, embassies in Bolivia, Chad, and Serbia have been attacked or overrun. Nearly all the facilities identified fail to meet at least some of the strict security requirements put in place after the East Africa bombings, officials said. Those include setting buildings significantly back from major roads and reinforcing walls and windows.

Source:

<http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5igTXsTJgZ0G59N4DUF9bcvIJVZAD91F86KG3>

32. *June 21, Newsday* – (New York) **4 Island Trees students charged in school bomb plot case.** Four Island Trees School District students who were at a Levittown elementary school and talked of “blowing it up” had concocted a mild explosive liquid mixture they poured into bottles and placed outside the building, but a school official caught them in the act, police said Friday. The explosive, a mixture of several liquids, is to be tested by the police forensic evidence lab. Shortly after the incident, detectives made four arrests on charges of first-degree criminal possession of a weapon.

Source: <http://www.newsday.com/news/local/nassau/ny-liskul215736093jun21,0,2071954.story>

33. *June 20, Statesman Journal* – (Oregon) **Man charged after tampering with jail.** A Salem, Oregon, man was charged in connection with tampering with the Marion County jail’s water system, officials said Thursday. County employees noticed significantly low water pressure and went to a jail facilities building to find out what was wrong. When they arrived, they found a man inside pulling out wires and screaming he had “defused

the bomb,” the sheriff’s spokesman said. Two sergeants and a detective from the central office found the man, who by then climbed on top of the structure. The three persuaded the man to come down. The man was arrested on charges of first-degree criminal trespass, first-degree criminal mischief, second-degree burglary, and disorderly conduct. Source:

<http://www.statesmanjournal.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080620/NEWS/806200341/1001>

34. *June 20, World Tribune* – (International) **U.S. intel: Chinese hackers planted ‘trap doors’ in government computers.** By going public last week about hack attacks by China on computers in his congressional office, a Virginia congressman put the spotlight on a growing trend of cyber attacks on U.S. and foreign government officials. U.S. defense officials confirmed that Chinese military hackers had broken into computers at the Pentagon used for email within the office of the secretary of Defense. Germany’s chancellor complained directly to the Chinese president about Chinese attacks on German government computers, and European and Asian governments from France and Britain to Japan and South Korea have identified widespread Chinese hacking. U.S. intelligence officials disclosed that one objective of the Chinese hacking is to plant “trap doors” into government computer systems that would permit shutting down or disrupting the systems in war time. Some government agencies were forced to spend tens of thousands of dollars replacing compromised computers because they could not be certain that Chinese hackers had not left hidden access points in them.

Source:

[http://www.worldtribune.com/worldtribune/WTARC/2008/ea\\_china0259\\_06\\_20.asp](http://www.worldtribune.com/worldtribune/WTARC/2008/ea_china0259_06_20.asp)

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## **Emergency Services Sector**

35. *June 22, Salem News* – (Ohio) **Prepping for a nuclear incident.** Columbiana County emergency personnel who practiced their moves in case of a nuclear power plant incident recently, will take part in a graded drill beginning Sunday night. Every 18 to 24 months, emergency responders have to test their procedures related to a possible incident at the Beaver Valley Power Station, a nuclear power plant which is located in Pennsylvania, within 10 miles of the county. Due to the plant’s close proximity, plant owner First Energy Nuclear Operation Company foots most of the bills for the county’s EMA operation, which oversees the drill. Personnel from the Federal Emergency Management Agency throw out a scenario for a plant emergency and then grade what happens in response.

Source: <http://www.salemnews.net/page/content.detail/id/503022.html?nav=5007>

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## **Information Technology**

36. *June 23, TechWorld.nl* – (National) **Microsoft security fix clobbers 2 million password stealers.** Microsoft’s June security updates were bad news for online



criminals who make their living stealing password information from online gamers. The company's Malicious Software Removal Tool -- a program that detects and removes viruses and other bad programs from Windows machines -- removed game password-stealing software from more than 2 million PCs in the first week after it was updated to detect these programs on June 10. One password stealer, called Taterf, was detected on 700,000 computers in the first day after the update. That is twice as many infections as were spotted during the entire month after Microsoft began detecting the notorious Storm Worm malware last September. Between June 10 and June 17, Microsoft removed Taterf from about 1.3 million machines, a spokesman with Microsoft's Malware Response Center said. Microsoft's September detections seriously hobbled the Storm Worm botnet, once considered a top Internet threat. Password stealers such as Taterf are among the most common types of malicious software on the Internet. That is because there is big money to be made selling the virtual currencies used in online games for real-world cash.

Source: <http://techworld.nl/idgns/5073/microsoft-security-fix-clobbers-2-million-password-stealers.html>

37. *June 23, Register* – (International) **Rare Mac Trojan exploits Apple vulnerability.** A rare Mac OS X Trojan has been spotted on the internet. The AppleScript-THT Trojan horse exploits a vulnerability within the Apple Remote Desktop Agent to load itself with root privileges onto compromised Mac machines. The malware, which is capable of infecting Mac OS X 10.4 and 10.5 boxes, surrenders control of compromised systems to hackers. Keystroke logging on compromised systems, taking pictures (using the built-in Apple iSight camera) or capturing screenshots are among the hacker exploits enabled by the malware, Mac security outfit SecureMac reports. The malware weaves its malicious spell while attempting to remain undetected by opening ports in the firewall and turning off system logging. SecureMac, which specialises in making anti-spyware software for Mac PCs, reports that miscreants have published multiple variants of the Trojan on a hacker-controlled website. Hackers on the site are discussing the possible distribution of the Trojan through the iChat instant messaging client and Limewire file sharing software. The Trojan comes packaged either as a compiled AppleScript, called AShtv05, or as an application bundle, weighing in at around 3.1 MB. Despite the use by the Trojan of a recently-discovered Apple Mac vulnerability, users need to download and open the Trojan horse before they become infected.

Source: [http://www.theregister.co.uk/2008/06/23/mac\\_trojan/](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2008/06/23/mac_trojan/)

38. *June 20, Red Orbit* – (International) **Why global hackers are nearly impossible to catch.** Two U.S. Congressmen recently accused Beijing of sending hackers to ferret out secret documents stored on Congressional computers. The Chinese deny any involvement, but if they were lying, would we be able to prove it? The answer, according to computer and security experts, is probably not. At least, not conclusively enough for a court of law. "It's very difficult to track hacker attacks and, even if you can track it, you don't always know with 100 percent certainty if you're right," said the director and senior fellow of the Technology and Public Policy Program at the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington, D.C. It is possible to track such attackers, to a point. When you use the Internet, you leave the equivalent of digital

footprints, he explained. Every message your computer sends to a different computer travels in a series of hops from one router or server to another. Even after the message is received, the record of its path remains. He said authorities can sometimes follow that path back to a hacker's computer. But not always. For one thing, not all servers and routers save records. Another big problem is that hackers will often conceal their location by creating a fake trail, essentially leading authorities to a computer user who had nothing to do with the attack. More frustrating, he said, is the fact that even when you can successfully trace a hacker, the information you get doesn't tell you who signed his paycheck. While the attacks on the congressmen were apparently traced to a computer in China, knowing that does not necessarily implicate the Chinese government.

Source:

[http://www.redorbit.com/news/science/1444273/why\\_global\\_hackers\\_are\\_nearly\\_impossible\\_to\\_catch/index.html](http://www.redorbit.com/news/science/1444273/why_global_hackers_are_nearly_impossible_to_catch/index.html)

### 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/>.

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## Communications Sector

39. *June 23, Network World* – (National) **Are smartphone viruses really a threat to your network?** All evidence points to the fact that smartphone viruses will be a significant threat to networks even though they are not at this moment. The latest mobile devices contain more and more applications and corporate data, are enabled for real Web browsing and online collaboration, and can access corporate servers. Additionally, they operate outside firewalled environments and often make use of three wireless networks (Bluetooth, Wi-Fi and cellular). A 2007 survey of 450 IT managers found that eighty percent had antivirus products installed. Yet about 40 percent had been hit by a worm or virus in the past 12 months. Of those that were hit, 30 percent said that being unable to reach mobile users who were disconnected from the network contributed to the intrusion or failure that allowed a virus onto their network. To date, however, major malware outbreaks on smartphones, on the scale of PC infections of past years, are almost unheard of. Early mobile phone viruses, such as Cabir, Skulls and Fontal, targeted a specific operating system, usually Symbian, and required users to accept a download and then actually install files. Infections were limited to a few score of devices typically. Source: <http://www.networkworld.com/news/2008/062308-wireless-questions-1.html?hpg1=bn>
40. *June 23, ZDNet Asia* – (International) **3.5G laptops to overwhelm mobile networks?** While, laptops packing 3.5G+ for mobile broadband provide mobile phone companies

with a higher ARPU (average revenue per user), they could also prove a network nightmare, warns industry analyst Berg Insight. Berg predicts laptops with HSPA/LTE (high speed packet access/long term evolution) mobile broadband connectivity will grow from 8.4 million in 2007 to 49 million in 2013--a compound annual growth rate of just over a third. Embedded HSPA/LTE chipsets will gradually become a standard feature of laptops over the coming three to five years, it added. Networks are likely to suffer under the strain of the increased usage and urgently need significant investment to cope with looming demand, one of the firm's senior analysts warned. Meanwhile, a survey of more than 350 telecom industry professionals, conducted by Tellabs and research company IDC, has found just over half of telecoms workers believe increasing bandwidth demands will eventually 'break' the Internet, with many pointing to online video as a key drain on bandwidth. Eighty percent of respondents said European operators will face greater demand for mobile broadband services over the next two years than operators in North America. And half of those polled said video puts the biggest bandwidth demands on mobile networks today, with the vast majority (81 percent) believing that will still be true in five years.

Source: <http://www.zdnetasia.com/news/communications/0,39044192,62042973,00.htm>

41. *June 23, Associated Press* – (National) **New computer network linking Indiana campuses.** A new ultra high-speed Internet connection that already links many Indiana colleges and universities could be available at nearly 40 public and private campuses across the state by the end of the year. Indiana University (IU) officials say the "I-Light" network gives campus users Internet speeds more than 20 times faster than what they would have at home. IU and Ivy Tech Community College officials joined Indiana House Speaker on Friday in announcing the completion of 1,178 miles of fiber-optic cable that forms the backbone of the network. The network also will vastly improve distance learning programs by enabling high-quality video streaming and high-definition learning tools like telepresence, a videoconferencing technology that gives users the impression of being in the classroom. There are 26 campuses across the state already online with the network, with 13 more expected to join by December, IU officials said. I-Light is jointly managed by IU and Purdue University personnel, who provide the network engineering support for the project. The initial project, a \$5.3 million effort which linked IU-Bloomington, IUPUI and Purdue, was expanded in 2005 with \$7 million in state money to link up other campuses across Indiana.

Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/chi-ap-in-collegenetwork,0,6189303.story>

42. *June 20, IDG News Service* – (National) **House approves surveillance bill, protects telecoms.** The U.S. House of Representatives has approved legislation that would continue a controversial surveillance program at the U.S. National Security Agency with limited court oversight, while likely ending lawsuits against telecommunications carriers that participated in the program. The House on Friday voted to approve a bill that would extend the NSA surveillance of phone calls and e-mail messages going in and out of the U.S., while giving the U.S. Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) Court an opportunity to review Bush administration requests for wide-ranging surveillance powers. The bill, called the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act Amendments Act, allows the NSA to receive blanket surveillance orders covering multiple suspects of

terrorism and other crime. The compromise also sends the dozens of outstanding lawsuits against telecom carriers for their alleged participation in the NSA program to a district court, which will review whether they should be dismissed. The lawsuits will be thrown out if telecom companies can show that the U.S. government issued them orders for the surveillance that were presented as lawful.

Source:

[http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=security&articleId=9101538&taxonomyId=17&intsrc=kc\\_top](http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=security&articleId=9101538&taxonomyId=17&intsrc=kc_top)

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## **Commercial Facilities Sector**

43. *June 23, Los Angeles Times* – (International) **Businesses in China take a pre-Olympics hit.** China's recently tightened visa restrictions, imposed ostensibly for public security reasons ahead of the Olympic Games. The government is now requiring business-visa applicants to submit papers bearing official stamps from local governments and the hotels where they will be staying. Foreigners can no longer use Hong Kong as an easy gateway to enter mainland China, as many have done for years. Customers are canceling hotel reservations every day. Government security in hotels has been tightened too, with police making random visits to guest rooms to check visitors' passports, he says.

Source: <http://www.latimes.com/business/la-fi-chinavisa23-2008jun23,0,3521700.story>

44. *June 23, Telegraph* – (International) **Crack squad on terror in training for Games.** China has created a special 100,000-strong anti-terrorist force for the Olympics, reinforcing the impression that the Beijing Games will be dominated by tough security measures. Restrictions on Chinese and foreigners in Beijing are mounting as the Olympic torch begins the second half of its trip around China to Beijing. Authorities gave few details of the "anti-terror squad," but have said their prime concern for the Games is terrorism. They said an elite commando unit known as "Snow Wolf" had been practicing anti-terrorist drills. The authorities' use of the word "terrorism" is open to interpretation. The secretary-general of Interpol said there was a theoretical risk of an al-Qaeda attack during the Beijing Olympics in August, but crime analysts said the main concern of the authorities seemed to be "internal." As expected, cars will be told to drive on alternate days, depending on their license plates, but the period the regulation will be in force is longer than expected – from July 20 to September 20. Most vehicles from outside Beijing will be banned. The Washington Times, citing U.S. presidential administration officials familiar with the security efforts, reported that the Nuclear Emergency Support Team had been sent on the basis of Chinese intelligence indicating that any attack would most likely involve a radiological device.

Source: <http://www.smh.com.au/news/beijing2008/crack-squad-on-terror-in-training-for-games/2008/06/22/1214073053826.html>

45. *June 21, New York Times* – (New York) **Company hired to test concrete faces scrutiny.** Testwell Laboratories was responsible for measuring and analyzing the strength of the concrete poured at some of the biggest construction projects in the city, including the Freedom Tower, now under construction at ground zero. The investigation

has uncovered problems with tests the company conducted on concrete poured over the last two years at the new Yankee Stadium in the Bronx and the foundation of the Freedom Tower in Lower Manhattan. The investigation centers on allegations that the company in some instances failed to do preliminary tests, including some known as slump tests, and later falsified the results of more sophisticated compression tests, officials said. Testwell also examines steel and tests for the presence of asbestos. Prosecutors were looking into at least one incident in each of those areas, an investigator said. In one, a worker died last year when he fell through the floor of a landmark building in the West Village, where officials believe Testwell failed to ensure that the proper shoring work had been done, the investigator said. In another, the company tested for asbestos at La Guardia Community College in 2000 and certified that a building there was clean, but later tests found that asbestos was present, the investigator said.

Source:

[http://www.nytimes.com/2008/06/21/nyregion/21concrete.html?\\_r=2&oref=slogin&pagewanted=all&oref=slogin](http://www.nytimes.com/2008/06/21/nyregion/21concrete.html?_r=2&oref=slogin&pagewanted=all&oref=slogin)

46. *June 21, Xinhua* – (International) **Beijing renews war against ‘Four Harms’ for Olympics.** In front of Bird’s Nest, the National Stadium, fully-armed workers launched a new war on Friday against the capital’s rats, flies, mosquitoes, and cockroaches. Such pests were dubbed the “Four Harms” in 1950s by the late chairman and later turned into a long-term national campaign to enhance public awareness of disease prevention. “The spray uses water as a solvent which does no harm to plants. The killing effects can last three days to a week.” On Friday, the country launched a new drive aiming to eradicate the larva of vermin pests prior to their appearance en masse. A Beijing Center for Disease Control and Prevention official said mosquitoes would get no closer than two kilometers to the areas adjacent to the Olympic venues and fields after the mass killing. Workers also put an Anbei, foreign-brand pesticide recommended by the World Health Organization, in pools and waterways surrounding stadiums. It could immediately kill mosquito larva bred in water and was safe to both fish and humans. An official in charge of the environment and landscape of the Olympic Park, said the water area of 180,000 square meters and greenbelt of 500,000 square meters and sewers within the Olympic Park, adjacent to the Bird’s Nest and the Water Cube, the National Swimming Center, would receive a large scale pests extermination.

Source: [http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/olympics/2008-06/21/content\\_6783306.htm](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/olympics/2008-06/21/content_6783306.htm)

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## **National Monuments & Icons Sector**

47. *June 22, Associated Press* – (California) **California firefighters battle hundreds of blazes.** Hundreds of wildfires sparked by lightning flared Sunday across the heart of wine country and remote forests in Northern California, the latest batch of destructive blazes in the bone-dry state. Thunderstorms were responsible for as many as 75 fires in Shasta-Trinity National Forest, about 160 miles north of Sacramento. They ranged in size from less than an acre to more than a square mile. Along the coast in the Los Padres National Forest, a wildfire burning since Saturday forced 75 homes and businesses to be

evacuated.

Source: <http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5gwSSrT7-LciDlr1tYmyE9e19oX9QD91FG5N80>

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## **Dams Sector**

48. *June 23, New York Times* – (Illinois) **As sand bubbles up along an Illinois levee, so do new questions.** As the floodwaters along the Mississippi River fell well short of what had been predicted, residents and the authorities in Cahokia, Illinois, discovered a sand boil on the aged levee that protects the town, a sign that the swollen river had begun eroding the structure from beneath. As the river leveled out, investigators had identified and contained several more boils on the levee. Last year, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), after consulting with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, found that the five-levee system that protects the metropolitan area of East St. Louis, Illinois, did not meet its standards for flood protection. The assessment of the five-levee system is part of a nationwide effort to update FEMA's flood maps. The levees' failure to meet the agency's standards means that when the updated maps are published in 2009, they will no longer show the levees as providing protection from a 100-year flood, according to the agency's director of mitigation for the region. "The underlying theme to everything that's going on," a professor who specializes in flood hydrology at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, said, "is that the current estimates for flood frequency and intensity appear to be grossly underestimated." The professor maintains that while climate change and levee construction have contributed to increased flooding in the St. Louis area, the real culprits are river modifications made to ease navigation, which put further stress on the levee systems.

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2008/06/23/us/23flood.html>

49. *June 23, Des Moines Register* – (Iowa) **Many levees rarely inspected.** Many Iowa levees are makeshift creations not built to federal specifications and are rarely inspected, state and federal officials acknowledged last week. In fact, Iowa has no comprehensive levee-inspection program for an unknown number of levees that have not been certified by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, said the director of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. Instead, a single state staffer responds to complaints about levees overseen by 140 local agencies – but does not check them. In some of the levees that broke, the levee was known to be weak, did not meet Corps standards, and sat 15 years after record flooding in 1993 without needed improvements. Officials in Minnesota and Missouri said their resources departments do not inspect levees, either, leaving that work to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and local levee districts, as Iowa does. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers inspects only levees that it designed and built, or that it has certified as meeting standards.

Source:

<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080623/NEWS/806230318/1001>

50. *June 21, WISN 12 Milwaukee* – (Wisconsin) **Workers begin construction on**



**temporary Lake Delton Dam.** Workers have started construction on a temporary dam on Lake Delton. The dam should prevent any more erosion from the floodwaters. Workers said the dam should be finished by Wednesday. When the lake burst from its banks, emptying into the Wisconsin River, it took several homes along with it. The temporary dam being built will allow workers to fix that breach later on. The lake itself probably will not be refilled until next year.

Source: <http://www.wisn.com/news/16674164/detail.html>

51. *June 20, WEAU 13 Eau Claire* – (Wisconsin) **Runge Hollow Dam to be repaired.**

Crews in Vernon County are beginning emergency repairs on the Runge Hollow Dam. A Department of Natural Resources dam safety and floodplain engineer says the repairs are temporary, until a permanent plan is in place. Workers will install a wall to help keep water from seeping under the dam.

Source: <http://www.weau.com/news/headlines/20611649.html>

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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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