



## Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 26 June 2008

Current Nationwide



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

- The LA Times reports that bacterial, viral, and parasitic infections are plaguing the U.S.'s poor. The Public Library of Science journal PLoS Neglected Tropical Diseases lists 24 "neglected infections of poverty." (See item [23](#))
- The associate technical director of the Defense Intelligence Agency's Missile & Space Intelligence Center warned in a recent presentation that terror groups could use lasers, radio frequency jammers, and even nuclear weapons to knock out U.S. satellites by the year 2020. (See item [38](#))

### **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 25, Reuters* – (International) **Chevron declares force majeure on Nigeria oil exports.** U.S. oil major Chevron declared a force majeure on its Nigerian Escravos crude oil exports after armed youths blew up a supply pipeline last week, a company official said on Wednesday. "There has been no impact on Chevron's offshore production and Escravos terminal is still operating," said a spokeswoman. "However, we have declared force majeure because production losses will result in delayed loadings of a few cargoes at the terminal." Armed youths on Thursday sabotaged Chevron's Abiteye-Olero crude pipeline in the Niger Delta, cutting about 120,000

barrels per day of crude output, according to the military. Chevron has declined to say how much production was affected by the incident.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssEnergyNews/idUSL257697020080625>

2. *June 25, Sydney Morning Herald* – (International) **Oil steady at \$US136 on Nigerian calm.** Royal Dutch Shell said that it resumed production at its Nigerian Bonga field that was attacked last week. Shell shut Bonga output June 19 after militants attacked a production vessel at the field 75 miles off the coast of Nigeria. Nigeria was overtaken by Angola in April as Africa's biggest oil producer because attacks cut the country's output. "Any return of Nigerian production is going to be met with relief, especially since most Nigerian grades are among the Cadillacs of crude oil," said the president of energy consultant Cameron Hanover Inc. in Connecticut. Nigeria produces low-sulfur, or sweet, crude oil, prized by U.S. refiners because of the proportion of high-value gasoline and diesel it yields. Damage to the platform was "very limited," but force majeure remains in place for the time being, a company spokesman said. Following the attack, Shell declared so-called force majeure on Bonga exports. Bonga crude-oil shipments were scheduled to average 190,000 barrels a day in June and about 184,000 barrels a day in July, according to loading schedules.

Source: <http://business.smh.com.au/oil-steady-at-us136-on-nigerian-calm-20080625-2wcg.html>

3. *June 24, Reuters* – (National) **US oil production/reserves flat in 07-Ernst & Young.** U.S. oil production and reserves were flat in 2007 as oil companies faced challenges in finding investment and production opportunities, according to an Ernst & Young report to be released later this week. U.S. oil production of the companies analyzed for the report was 1.2 billion barrels for the fourth straight year. Proved oil reserves ended the year at 16.1 billion barrels, flat with 2006. Ernst & Young said the results for the report were gleaned from publicly available information from the U.S. operations of 40 exploration and production companies that hold about 74 percent of U.S. oil reserves and 68 percent of total U.S. gas reserves. The companies' natural gas reserves and production for the year increased seven percent to 138.6 trillion cubic feet and 10.2 trillion cubic feet, respectively. Oil companies have struggled to replace new production in recent years due to restricted access to new fields, project delays, and other factors. The lack of reserves growth has left some analysts worried about the companies' long-term growth prospects even as oil prices have doubled over the last year.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssEnergyNews/idUSN2437477820080624>

4. *June 24, Chicago Tribune* – (Illinois) **ComEd denies underground explosion.** Chicago firefighters responded to reports of an underground explosion Tuesday morning near a Commonwealth Edison substation, but there were no injuries, officials said. The incident temporarily knocked out electricity to about 200 customers, according to a ComEd spokesman. At least one witness reported seeing a "flash fire" accompanied by an explosion from a manhole about 8 a.m., said a Fire Department spokesman. But the ComEd spokesman said there was no explosion. He described the problem as an underground "cable fault" that may have caused smoke to rise from the manhole. The Fire Department instituted a hazardous materials response for the incident. "There's no

danger. It has been secured. Whatever it is, they're investigating," the Fire Department spokesman said. The Fire Department, ComEd, and the city's Department of Streets and Sanitation were looking into the incident.

Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/chi-comed-explosion-web-jun25,0,430373.story>

5. *June 24, Cleveland Advocate* – (Texas) **Fire at electrical station knocks out power.** Around 9:45 on Monday evening, the lights in the northern part of Tarkington went out. Shortly thereafter, calls began coming into Liberty County Sheriff's Office dispatch reporting an explosion and fire at the Sam Houston Electric Co-Op (SHECO) transformer station. After receiving the "all-clear" from the SHECO, Tarkington Engine 51 entered the station and firefighters began to extinguish the blaze. Electric crews worked to repair the damage done by the fire and to restore power. Power was out for several hours following the blaze.

Source:

[http://www.hcnonline.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=19797561&BRD=1574&PAG=461&dept\\_id=635561&rfi=6](http://www.hcnonline.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=19797561&BRD=1574&PAG=461&dept_id=635561&rfi=6)

6. *June 23, Edmond Sun* – (Oklahoma) **Power box explodes.** An underground electric transformer exploded Sunday night, leaving about 1,000 people without power for more than two hours. The distribution superintendent for Edmond Electric said the City of Edmond is shipping the piece of equipment off to a contracted transformer repair company to investigate what happened. He said it is unusual for a transformer box to explode and shoot flames. The transformer box was in the front yard of a home. These particular transformers have 7,200-volt wires inside them, he said. The failure of this box also caused a breaker to open at the Ketch Acres substation on Danforth, which extended the power outage, he said. By 7:30 p.m. most homes had power restored.

Source: [http://www.edmondsun.com/local/local\\_story\\_175205836.html](http://www.edmondsun.com/local/local_story_175205836.html)

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

## Chemical Industry Sector

7. *June 24, Palm Beach Post* – (Florida) **Hazards found at chemical facility.** Water so contaminated it could corrode a metal barrel, and hazardous wastes illegally dumped on the ground have been found at Allied Universal Corp.'s chemical plant west of Port St. Lucie, Florida, according to a report by state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) investigators. Allied has been "routinely and systematically discharging corrosive and hazardous materials to the land via spills and releases," the report states. Hazardous wastes found there are "extremely corrosive," a department spokeswoman said. State investigators increased their scrutiny of the plant after an October 8 complaint alleged chlorine gas was released in the air, bleach was being poured on the soil, and muriatic acid was released to the air and ground. The most alkaline and corrosive water was found in a swale and ditches that connect to a pond that eventually discharges water into a canal. The DEP sent a May 20 letter to Allied advising the company of 11 potential violations of the rules and suggested ways to correct the situation. The report lists a series of chemical spills and other problems at the plant dating as far back as 1992, when

3,000 gallons of muriatic acid spilled on the ground.

Source:

[http://www.palmbeachpost.com/treasurecoast/content/tcoast/epaper/2008/06/24/m1b\\_sla\\_lled\\_0625.html](http://www.palmbeachpost.com/treasurecoast/content/tcoast/epaper/2008/06/24/m1b_sla_lled_0625.html)

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

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

8. *June 25, St. Louis Today* – (Missouri) **Radioactive landfill cover is criticized.** About a dozen residents opposed to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) plan to cover a radioactive landfill near Earth City asked the St. Louis County Council on Tuesday to formally protest the plan. The group says the material at West Lake Landfill should instead be removed because of potential flooding and water contamination. A researcher at Washington University Medical School likened the EPA’s decision to cover the waste without including a bottom liner to placing a bowl over water. A member of the Sierra Club of Missouri said that the half-life of the waste, left over from local work on the Manhattan Project to build the first atom bombs during World War II, was 4.5 billion years. The EPA contends that the landfill’s contents can be safely contained.

Source:

<http://www.stltoday.com/stltoday/news/stories.nsf/stlouiscitycounty/story/308F1FF157ACB5CD8625747300131DA6?OpenDocument>

9. *June 24, International Atomic Energy Agency* – (International) **Lessons of earthquake effects on NPPs ripple through international community.** In the wake of a significant earthquake that last year struck the Kashiwazaki-Kariwa nuclear power plant (NPP), the world’s largest, there has been renewed international focus on the structural strength of nuclear facilities. The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) organized a workshop with the goal of sharing recent technical knowledge and approaches on designing and maintaining the ruggedness of NPPs to safely withstand such severe external hazards. The meeting convened over 300 attendees from various fields of expertise, and concluded this past weekend in Japan. “We organized the workshop with the objective of sharing recent findings and information obtained from the occurrence of strong earthquakes that impact nuclear power plants, as well as good practices and lessons learned,” explained the Acting Head of the IAEA’s Engineering Safety Section and leader of the workshop.

Source: <http://www.iaea.or.at/NewsCenter/News/2008/lessonsquake.html>

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

## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

10. *June 24, Aviation Week* – (National) **MDA test problems, radars next.** Testing problems have led the U.S. Missile Defense Agency (MDA) to shift the focus of next month’s ground-based mid-course ballistic missile defense system (GBMDS) test to radar integration rather than an intercept, according to the MDA chief. The MDA chief

indicated that the GBMDS program would be back “on track” with intercept tests late this year when the second of two system tests planned for 2008 occurs. A faulty telemetry card, used for system testing purposes, in the GBMDS kill vehicle is to blame, he said, and needs to be repaired across the system. Nevertheless, MDA needed to test integrating several radars “in line,” including the Sea Based X-Band Radar, an upgraded early warning radar at Beale Air Force Base, California, and Aegis Ballistic Missile Defense Long Range Surveillance and Track capability. The July target test will focus on system-wide tracking. GBMDS testing has come under greater Washington scrutiny this year. The last intercept occurred in late September 2007. Boeing and MDA representatives have declared in recent months that the upcoming tests are expected to include more elaborate decoy and countermeasure scenarios. MDA runs all its tests at the Pacific Missile Test Range in Hawaii.

Source:

[http://www.aviationweek.com/aw/generic/story\\_channel.jsp?channel=defense&id=news/MDA062408.xml](http://www.aviationweek.com/aw/generic/story_channel.jsp?channel=defense&id=news/MDA062408.xml)

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

## **Banking and Finance Sector**

11. *June 23, Government Computer News* – (International) **Cybercrooks going after the euros.** A supposed hacker is attempting to extort 10,000 euros from European Union banks in exchange for stolen credit card information on 48,000 accounts. According to the online security company SecureWorks, e-mails with the subject line “We can have a deal!” have been sent to banks in France, the Netherlands, Denmark, Belgium, and Norway, and an apparent copycat has targeted banks in the United Kingdom, Spain, and Germany. “And now I have two ways to do,” the blackmailer writes. One, he can post the information on the Web to the embarrassment of the bank. “However, I have the second way. We can have a deal if you transfer 10,000 EUR on my account.” In this case, he promises – no doubt sincerely – to destroy the data. The information described by the blackmailer is worth only about 1,000 euros on the underground market, and news of a successful extortion is likely to be more damaging to a bank than a breach would be. “We will almost certainly see this one jump the pond and target banks in the United States shortly,” the director of threat intelligence at SecureWorks said.

Source: [http://www.gcn.com/print/27\\_15/46493-1.html#](http://www.gcn.com/print/27_15/46493-1.html#)

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

## **Transportation Sector**

12. *June 25, Associated Press* – (Iowa) **Railroad bridge collapses over water in SE Iowa.** Authorities say a railroad bridge has collapsed near Columbus Junction in southeast Iowa, dropping a locomotive into water and sending its engineer to a hospital. The Louisa County sheriff’s office says it was notified about the bridge collapse late Tuesday by the Iowa, Chicago and Eastern Railroad. A dispatcher said Wednesday that the Iowa River is out of its banks in the area, but he did not know if flooding was a factor in the bridge collapse. It was not immediately clear whether the bridge spanned

the Iowa River or some other body of water. The official did not know if it was pulling any rail cars.

Source: [http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5ihxwvVzuDwDJY\\_uV4pP-08ZbBoNAD91H40AG0](http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5ihxwvVzuDwDJY_uV4pP-08ZbBoNAD91H40AG0)

13. *June 24, KMGH 7 Denver* – (Colorado) **FBI arrests woman for alleged aircraft bomb threat.** A Denver woman was arrested Tuesday morning, accused of phoning in a bomb threat to Southwest Airlines several months ago. The suspect made her initial appearance Tuesday, where she was advised of the charges pending against her. She was indicted by a federal grand jury in Denver on June 16 and the indictment was sealed pending her arrest. According to the indictment, on April 17, the woman allegedly placed a telephone call to Southwest Airlines. She said that her husband, a passenger booked on a flight from Denver to Las Vegas, had a bomb and was planning to blow up the airplane, according to the indictment. The airline and the Federal Bureau of Investigation were able to investigate her threat without interfering with flight operations.

Source: <http://www.thedenverchannel.com/news/16699372/detail.html>

14. *June 24, USA Today* – (National) **Report: TSA screeners' low morale may hurt airport security.** Low morale among the nation's 48,000 airport screeners may be compromising security and forcing screeners to quit their jobs, a 29-page controversial government report said Tuesday. The workforce has some of the highest turnover and injury rates in the federal government. Unlike past workplace reports, this one says security could suffer as a result. "Given their frustration, employees may be distracted and less focused on their security and screening responsibilities," the report says. The report says screeners have complained about discrimination, selective hiring, nepotism, and "management misconduct," but gives no details. The Transportation Security Administration chief did not agree with the results of the report.

Source: [http://www.usatoday.com/travel/flights/2008-06-24-screeners\\_N.htm?csp=34](http://www.usatoday.com/travel/flights/2008-06-24-screeners_N.htm?csp=34)

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

## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

Nothing to report

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

## **Agriculture and Food Sector**

15. *June 25, Science Daily* – (National) **New invention effectively kills foodborne pathogens in minutes.** University of Georgia (UGA) researchers have developed an effective technology for reducing contamination of dangerous bacteria on food. The new antimicrobial wash rapidly kills Salmonella and E. coli O157:H7 on foods ranging from lettuce to tomatoes, fruits, poultry products, and meats. It is made from inexpensive and readily available ingredients that are recognized as safe by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. Currently, a chlorine wash is frequently used to reduce harmful bacteria

levels on vegetables, fruits, and poultry. However, because of chlorine's sensitivity to food components and extraneous materials released in chlorinated water treatments, many bacteria survive. In addition, chlorine is toxic at high concentrations and may be harmful to the environment. The new antimicrobial technology uses a combination of ingredients that kills bacteria within one to five minutes from application. One of the new technology's inventors and director of UGA's Center for Food Safety said, "This new technology is effective, safe for consumers and food processing plant workers, and does not affect the appearance or quality of the product. It may actually extend the shelf-life of some types of produce."

Source: <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2008/06/080624174841.htm>

16. *June 24, Deseret News* – (National) **Corn, soybean prices to rise since floods swallowed crops.** In the latest bout of food inflation, beef, pork, poultry, and even eggs, cheese, and milk are expected to get more expensive as livestock owners go out of business or are forced to slaughter more cattle, hogs, turkeys, and chickens to cope with skyrocketing costs for corn-based animal feed. The floods engulfed an estimated 2 million or more acres of corn and soybean fields in Iowa, Indiana, Illinois, and other key growing states, sending world grain prices skyward on fears of a substantially smaller corn crop. Floodwaters also tossed farm equipment, sprayed cornfields with debris and silt and sucked away large chunks of topsoil. U.S. beef producers are now spending 60 to 70 percent of their production costs on animal feed and are seeing that number rise daily. In Indiana, another nine percent of corn and soybean crops were flooded, potentially costing farmers up to \$840 million in lost earnings, the Indiana agriculture director said.

Source:

[http://www.redorbit.com/news/general/1446159/corn\\_soybean\\_prices\\_to\\_rise\\_since\\_floods\\_swallowed\\_crops/index.html?source=r\\_general](http://www.redorbit.com/news/general/1446159/corn_soybean_prices_to_rise_since_floods_swallowed_crops/index.html?source=r_general)

17. *June 24, Reuters* – (Michigan; Ohio) **Michigan, Ohio E. coli outbreaks linked.** The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) said on Tuesday outbreaks of E. coli bacteria in Michigan and Ohio are linked, and health officials in both states suspect the outbreak was caused by ground beef. Health officials in Michigan said late Tuesday more than half of the 15 people in the state with confirmed E. coli cases reported purchasing ground beef from Kroger Food Stores. A Kroger spokeswoman said the illnesses were reported between May 31 and June 8. "Any ground beef sold during that period is no longer available in our stores," she said. The spokeswoman said Ohio and Michigan health authorities have not identified the supplier or the specific type of ground beef that caused the illnesses. "We purchase our ground beef from major suppliers in the industry and we are working with federal, state, and local agencies to identify the supplier," she said. A spokesman for the Ohio health department said there are now 17 cases in Ohio and the state is investigating two additional probable cases. Michigan health officials said there are 15 confirmed cases that are genetically linked and 10 of those people have been hospitalized. Fourteen people have been hospitalized, and one has developed a type of kidney failure called hemolytic-uremic syndrome, the CDC said. No deaths have been reported.

Source:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/healthNews/idUSN2438601920080625?feedType=RSS&feedName=healthNews&sp=true>

18. *June 24, Associated Press* – (Kansas) **Some Kansas wheat embargoed for pesticide testing.** Regulators embargoed some winter wheat fields in some south-central Kansas counties and grain in three elevators after a spot check showed farmers had applied a toxic fungicide too close to harvest, the Kansas Department of Agriculture said Tuesday. At least 7,500 acres of winter wheat in 15 counties in the state were improperly sprayed with the fungicide Quilt, which requires a 45-day waiting period between application and harvest, the agency said. The state agency – after consulting with the Environmental Protection Agency and the Food and Drug Administration – decided to embargo the south-central Kansas fields even before the test results were back. Their intent was to prevent potentially toxic wheat from those fields from reaching elevators where it could contaminate the rest of the state’s winter wheat crop. Testing results on samples are expected Wednesday to determine whether residue levels are safe for human consumption, said the Kansas agriculture secretary.

Source: <http://www.hdnews.net/wirestories/k1067-BC-KS-AGR-WheatEmbargo-3rdLd-Writethru-06-24-0898>

19. *June 24, Public Radio Capitol News* – (Pennsylvania) **Feeding antibiotics to food animals.** A Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, lawmaker is trying to draw attention to the debate over the drugs farmers feed to their food animals. A state representative says giving antibiotics to healthy livestock contributes to the country’s “superbug” problem. He wants to limit the use of antibiotics to sick animals to preserve the effectiveness of the drugs. A Johns Hopkins professor says health officials are worried about the increase in stubborn bacterial infections that affect people and are hard to treat with the arsenal of drugs that doctors have available. “The major driver of the emergence of drug resistance pathogens in this country and worldwide is the indiscriminate and non-functional use in animal feeds. We’ve direct evidence of this.” A representative of the PennAg Industries Association says farmers need antibiotics to prevent disease in food animals. She says the bill will force farmers to find other ways to keep animals healthy – and those costs would be passed on to consumers.

Source: <http://pubradionews.blogspot.com/2008/06/feeding-antibiotics-to-food-animals.html>

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

## **Water Sector**

20. *June 24, Columbus Dispatch* – (Ohio) **Ohio State team creates method using sound waves, algae to pull mercury from streams, rivers and lakes.** Ohio State University researchers say combining sound waves and bioengineered algae could remove mercury from Ohio’s streams and lakes. An OSU environmental engineer and a plant, cellular and molecular biologist at the university say a system they are developing could remove the toxin. The process they are testing in the lab uses ultrasound to break mercury free from lake and stream sediment, and then uses bioengineered algae to absorb the neurotoxin. The algae then could be removed from the water and disposed of safely.



Current mercury-removal methods use phosphates, chemicals that react with metals and break their bonds with microscopic dirt particles that make up stream and lake sediment. The problem is that phosphates pull out all metals, even naturally occurring ones such as iron, calcium, and magnesium creating a large amount of waste. But the high-frequency sound waves created by the OSU scientists create super-hot microscopic bubbles that collapse with enough force to break apart the bond between dirt particles and metals in a few microseconds, without a chemical reaction. It is then absorbed by algae specially designed for the task.

Source:

[http://www.columbusdispatch.com/live/content/science/stories/2008/06/24/sci\\_mercury\\_ART\\_ART\\_06-24-08\\_B4\\_1OAHFGN.html?sid=101](http://www.columbusdispatch.com/live/content/science/stories/2008/06/24/sci_mercury_ART_ART_06-24-08_B4_1OAHFGN.html?sid=101)

21. *June 24, Reporter-Herald* – (Colorado) **Sewage flows into Lake Estes.** An electricity disruption to an Upper Thompson Sanitation District lift station Sunday morning caused a 30,000-gallon sewage spill into Lake Estes. Somehow, according to the district manager, the Fish Creek station's backup generator did not turn on. Fortunately, the accident happened when the flow to the lift station is low. The sanitation district is testing the water at Lake Estes and in the creek and other water sources to be sure the levels of fecal matter are not too high. While Lake Estes is a source of water for communities on the Front Range, it passes through treatment plants before ever entering the water supply. The water does run into Big Thompson and eventually into Loveland's water supply.

Source: [http://www.reporterherald.com/news\\_story.asp?ID=17538](http://www.reporterherald.com/news_story.asp?ID=17538)

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

## **Public Health and Healthcare Sector**

22. *June 25, eFluxMedia* – (National) **CDC: Diabetes rates rising with 3 million more cases in the US.** As the number of overweight and obese people is on the rise in the U.S., it is no surprise that nearly 24 million people have diabetes, an increase of more than 3 million in two years, the latest statistics from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) show, based on data from 2007. A quarter of people ages 60 and older had diabetes in 2007, the CDC found. There are also almost six million who are unaware they are diabetic. The good news is that the percentage of people in this situation fell from 30 percent to 25 percent, according to the report. And there are at least 57 million people having pre-diabetes, a condition that puts people at greater risk of the disease. These figures mean that nearly eight percent of the U.S. population has diabetes, mostly type-2 diabetes.

Source:

[http://www.efluxmedia.com/news\\_CDC\\_Diabetes\\_Rates\\_Raising\\_With\\_3\\_Million\\_More\\_Cases\\_in\\_the\\_US\\_19459.html](http://www.efluxmedia.com/news_CDC_Diabetes_Rates_Raising_With_3_Million_More_Cases_in_the_US_19459.html)

23. *June 25, Los Angeles Times* – (National) **Exotic illnesses afflict American poor.** Despite plummeting mortality rates for most infectious diseases over the last century, a group of largely overlooked bacterial, viral, and parasitic infections is still plaguing the nation's poor, according to a report released this week. Many of the diseases are

typically associated with tropical developing countries but are surprisingly common in poor regions of the U.S., according to the analysis, published in the Public Library of Science journal PLoS Neglected Tropical Diseases. On its list of 24 “neglected infections of poverty” are: schistosomiasis, a parasitic infection common in Africa; brucellosis, a bacterial infection from unsanitary dairy products; and dengue fever, a viral infection common in tropical Asia and South America. Many of the diseases have become significant public health problems in the U.S. In the Los Angeles area, a pork tapeworm infection called cysticercosis which spreads in crowded, unsanitary conditions, accounts for 10 percent of seizures resulting in emergency room visits, according to the report. Worm cysts in the brain cause the seizures and can lead to permanent epilepsy. The diseases are largely concentrated in poverty-stricken regions, including Appalachia, inner cities, the Mississippi Delta, and the border with Mexico. Often the result of poor sanitation or inadequate healthcare, they can hinder child development and worker productivity, exacerbating poverty, the study says.

Source: <http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/nation/la-sci-tropical25-2008jun25,0,7992144.story>

24. *June 24, Associated Press* – (Illinois) **1st West Nile virus positive recorded in southern Illinois.** Southern Illinois has recorded its first positive West Nile virus test of the year. The Illinois Department of Public Health said Tuesday that the test was collected Monday in Murphysboro in Jackson County, Illinois. Positive tests for the virus in northern Illinois’ DuPage County and central Illinois’ Tazewell County were reported this May. Another mosquito pool in Adams County in southwestern Illinois also has tested positive. Last year 101 cases of West Nile in humans were reported in Illinois. These reported cases included four deaths.

Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/chi-ap-il-westnilevirus,0,5743270.story>

25. *June 23, Memphis Business Journal* – (National) **AT&T expanding Tennessee’s health information exchange.** AT&T Inc.’s first statewide health information exchange, established in Tennessee, will be expanded to the entire country, AT&T said Monday. The electronic health network has been in development since the beginning of the year, in partnership with Memphis-based MidSouth eHealth Alliance and the governor’s eHealth Council. The purpose was to deploy broadband connectivity for the state’s health care professionals. AT&T has created an online collaboration center called AT&T Healthcare Community Online -- a Virtual Private Network-based portal. The nationwide information exchange initiative is a partnership among AT&T, Covisint, which is a subsidiary of Compuware Corp. and Microsoft Corp. Users of Microsoft’s HealthVault software, which stores personal health information, can now share information with authorized physicians and health care providers connected to AT&T Healthcare Community Online.

Source: <http://www.bizjournals.com/memphis/stories/2008/06/23/daily6.html>

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

## **Government Facilities Sector**

26. *June 25, KARE 11 Minneapolis* – (Minnesota) **Sheriff, two others shoot hostage taker**

**in Morrison County.** Authorities shot and killed a man who took 10 hostages inside the Morrison County Government Center Tuesday morning. The hostage taker had a long history of disputes with the county board. The man reportedly walked into the government center around 10:20 Tuesday morning, with a handgun hidden in a bandana, and went into the Morrison County board meeting, which is typically held in a small room. It is believed two county commissioners were among the 10 hostages. No hostages were hurt.

Source: [http://www.kare11.com/news/news\\_article.aspx?storyid=516001&catid=2](http://www.kare11.com/news/news_article.aspx?storyid=516001&catid=2)

27. *June 24, United Press International* – (District of Columbia) **U.S. Capitol security called unprepared.** Members of an elite U.S. Capitol Police bomb squad say morale is low because of inadequate equipment and training to cope with future terrorist attacks. With the likelihood that the U.S. Capitol could be a prime target for a future suicide or car bomb attack, documents show members of its specialized police force have been complaining for three years about a lack of proper vehicles and inadequate experience levels of its bomb technicians, the Hill reported Tuesday. Such unresolved issues are undermining morale, with nearly half of the elite bomb squad unit's 14 members seeking jobs elsewhere, Capitol Police sources told the Hill.

Source:

[http://www.upi.com/Top\\_News/2008/06/24/US\\_Capitol\\_security\\_called\\_unprepared/UPI-41571214324637/](http://www.upi.com/Top_News/2008/06/24/US_Capitol_security_called_unprepared/UPI-41571214324637/)

28. *June 23, Capitol Weekly* – (California) **Security breach compromises 5,000 social security numbers at Consumer Affairs.** The state Department of Consumer Affairs has sent letters to 5,000 employees, contractors, and board members warning them of a security breach that has compromised their names and social security numbers. The breach occurred on June 5 or 6 when a Microsoft Word document was improperly transmitted electronically outside of the department, said a DCA spokesman. The document also contained the salaries and titles of everyone on the list, but the spokesman noted that this was public information. "The thing that is troubling to us is that information was coupled with their social security numbers," he said. The incident is still being investigated, and the spokesman could not disclose who had received the document. He said that so far there is no evidence that any information has been used. It was not even clear the recipient had opened the document.

Source:

[http://www.capitolweekly.net/article.php?\\_adctlid=v|jq2q43wvsl855o|x7pfb3bawuo18v&issueId=x79xdv8us2oeyp&xid=x7csom3a3og08k](http://www.capitolweekly.net/article.php?_adctlid=v|jq2q43wvsl855o|x7pfb3bawuo18v&issueId=x79xdv8us2oeyp&xid=x7csom3a3og08k)

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

## **Emergency Services Sector**

29. *June 24, KNSD 7 San Diego* – (California) **Coast Guard conducts tsunami disaster drill.** Members of the U.S. Coast Guard conducted a simulated disaster drill Sunday, from San Diego to Santa Barbara. Crews went into alert status, following a fictitious earthquake-triggered tsunami off the west coast of California. According to officials, the purpose of the exercise was to test the communications capabilities of the Coast Guard

Auxiliary in the event of a real emergency such as an earthquake or tsunami. The Coast Guard Auxiliary District 11-South covers all of southern California, parts of Arizona, and parts of Nevada. According to the Coast Guard, more than a dozen tsunamis with waves three feet high or more have struck California since 1812. Six have caused damage, including the tsunami generated by the 1964 Alaska earthquake that killed a dozen Crescent City residents and caused more than \$34 million in damage. A tsunami resulting from a Chilean earthquake damaged a pier in San Diego Harbor in 1960, the Coast Guard said.

Source: <http://www.nbcsandiego.com/news/16696616/detail.html>

30. *June 24, Red Orbit* – (National) **Groups urge first responders to test satellite phones.** Iridium Satellite recently partnered with ProtectingAmerica.org and American Red Cross to promote the second annual “Test Your Satellite Phone” week. The goal was to increase satellite phone user knowledge and help users confirm their access to the critical communication services satellite phones provide before they are needed in an emergency. ProtectingAmerica.org is a nonprofit organization consisting of emergency management officials, first responders, disaster relief experts, and insurers. American Red Cross helps people prevent, prepare for, and respond to emergencies. Similar to the popular biannual testing of smoke alarms, the initiative, which was launched this past year as a public service campaign, is intended to ensure that first responders know how to use their satellite phones and that they are, in fact, ready for use.

Source:

[http://www.redorbit.com/news/business/1447038/groups\\_urge\\_first\\_responders\\_to\\_test\\_satellite\\_phones/](http://www.redorbit.com/news/business/1447038/groups_urge_first_responders_to_test_satellite_phones/)

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

## **Information Technology**

31. *June 25, TechTree News* – (National) **Windows XP support extended until 2014.** Microsoft has decided to offer technical support for Windows XP with updates and security patches until April 2014. However, it will not go back on its decision to discontinue Windows XP sales after June 30. This means that after June 30, Microsoft will stop distributing Windows XP as a stand-alone product, as well as stop licensing it to PC manufacturers like Dell, HP, Lenovo, and others. However, it doesn't mean that XP will disappear overnight. Consumers may still find copies of the software or computers pre-loaded with it for months, as stores and PC makers typically work through their inventories. Microsoft's move to extend the deadline for technical support is primarily influenced by large business customers, who haven't yet upgraded their systems to Windows Vista. The companies have been reluctant to switch to Vista due to the costs and heavy system requirements involved. So, large business customers might just skip Vista and continue with XP until the release of Windows 7, which is scheduled for release in 2010.

Source:

[http://www.techtree.com/India/News/Windows\\_XP\\_Support\\_Extended\\_until\\_2014/551-90615-580.html](http://www.techtree.com/India/News/Windows_XP_Support_Extended_until_2014/551-90615-580.html)

32. *June 24, Wired Blogs* – (National) **Net neutrality advocates call for fast, universal access to the Net.** The United States’ anemic broadband penetration rate has led to the formation of a new lobbying group whose goal is to build the political will to bring a more determined, coherent approach to the problem. Many members of the group, including its chief non-profit organizing entity Free Press, have been allies in the fight to shape public opinion and build wide-spread support for the concept of net neutrality. “We’re going to create one of the largest coalitions ever assembled, which is going to demonstrate to policymakers that the will of the people is to create an internet system that has competition, access, and that fosters innovation,” said the Free Press’ executive director at a Tuesday press conference unveiling the initiative at The Personal Democracy Forum in New York City. The group wants better leadership from the White House on this issue, but is not advocating for any specific piece of legislation. Google’s involvement in the deal is significant. The company has expanded its Washington, D.C. lobbying group significantly in the past few years.  
Source: <http://blog.wired.com/27bstroke6/2008/06/net-neutrality.html>
33. *June 24, CNET News* – (National) **Trojans exploit Mac OS X ARDAgent flaw.** Building on the Trojan released last week, a group of hackers appear to be targeting the Mac OS X platform with more variations. Last Thursday, Mac antivirus vendors Intego and SecureMac reported a serious vulnerability within the Apple Remote Desktop Agent (ARDAgent). It is part of the remote-management component of Mac OS X 10.4 and 10.5, and is owned by root. Thus, the ARDAgent executable runs this malicious code as root without requiring a password. The Washington Post on Monday reported the presence of a hacker forum devoted to the development of Trojans around this vulnerability. The particular user forum at MacShadows.com has since been removed. The Post was nonetheless able to obtain screenshots from the forum before it was erased, and also a copy of the Mac Trojan template. Buried within the template was an e-mail from one of the Trojan’s authors, “Andrew.” Despite their existence, there is no evidence these Trojans are circulating widely on the Internet.  
Source: [http://news.cnet.com/8301-10789\\_3-9976122-57.html](http://news.cnet.com/8301-10789_3-9976122-57.html)
34. *June 24, IDG News Service* – (International) **\$1B market for meddling with DNS poses security problem.** The interception of Internet traffic to snoop on phone calls or track surfers’ behavior is a hot topic, but members of Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)’s Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC) are concerned about the interception of traffic to and from sites that don’t even exist. There are still a few possible domain names out there that have not been registered, and if you accidentally type one of them into your browser’s address bar, you ought to receive an error message from the DNS signaling that the domain does not exist. What happens to those error messages is of concern to SSAC’s members, who advise on the security and integrity of the domain name systems that ICANN coordinates. Some internet service providers and domain name registrars see the error messages as a missed opportunity to “help” their customers find the site they are looking for and to make a little money on the side. They do this by intercepting the error messages and modifying them to point to a web site that they control, typically carrying advertisements related to the domain name typed. “There’s a perceived \$1 billion market for domain error

resolution,” said ICANN’s senior security technologist. At the top of his list of reasons why ISPs and registrars should not be allowed to profit from people’s typing errors in this way is that they may open up security holes in users’ computers. For example, a security researcher demonstrated in April that he could exploit the error message redirection system used by ISP EarthLink to execute his own JavaScript.

Source:

[http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=security&articleId=9102778&taxonomyId=17&intsrc=kc\\_top](http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=security&articleId=9102778&taxonomyId=17&intsrc=kc_top)

35. *June 24, ComputerWorld* – (International) **Researcher slams Adobe for ‘epidemic’ of JavaScript bugs.** Adobe Systems Inc. patched its free Reader and commercial Acrobat software late Monday to plug the latest in what one researcher called an “epidemic” of JavaScript vulnerabilities in the popular programs this year. Both the Windows and Mac editions of the Adobe software require patches. Adobe last patched JavaScript bugs in Reader and Acrobat in February, although other fixes were issued in early 2007. In February, Adobe updated both programs to Version 8.1.2 by patching nearly 30 problems. At the time, the company was criticized for not providing more information about exactly what was fixed. Days later, reports surfaced that some of the JavaScript bugs patched this year had been exploited by hackers for several weeks and had infected thousands of users. According to Adobe, Versions 8.0 through 8.1.2 of both Reader and Acrobat should be patched; Reader and Acrobat 7.1.0, which were released in February, do not contain the bug and therefore do not need to be updated. Users still relying on Version 7.0.9 or earlier, however, should update to 7.1.0, urged Adobe. Reader 9 and Acrobat 9, which are expected to launch next month, are not vulnerable.

Source:

[http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=security&articleId=9102878&taxonomyId=17&intsrc=kc\\_top](http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=security&articleId=9102878&taxonomyId=17&intsrc=kc_top)

36. *June 24, ComputerWorld* – (International) **Microsoft, HP ship free tools to protect Web sites from hackers.** Microsoft Corp. and Hewlett-Packard Co. on Tuesday unveiled free tools to help Web developers and site administrators defend against the rapidly growing number of SQL injection attacks that aim to hijack legitimate sites. The move is in response to a major upswing during the first six months of 2008 in the number of attacks targeting legitimate sites. Most of the hacks have used SQL injection attacks, and have compromised significant sites including ones operated by government agencies, the United Nations, and major corporations. In a report issued the same day, Finnish security company, F-Secure, estimated the number of pages hacked by SQL injection attacks so far this year at between two and three million. Previously, Microsoft denied that its software was vulnerable to attack or otherwise responsible for the flood of hacked sites. Instead, the company told developers and administrators to follow the company’s guidelines to protect their sites from attack.

Source:

[http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=security&articleId=9103138&taxonomyId=17&intsrc=kc\\_top](http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=security&articleId=9103138&taxonomyId=17&intsrc=kc_top)

## 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

37. *June 25, Forbes* – (National) **Calling during disasters.** Corporations and some government agencies have used wireless technologies to make their labor more mobile for years. But when a disaster can make the infrastructure supporting wireless literally vanish, disaster relief specialists need more than a just a conventional cell phone or BlackBerry. Now commercial technology that can set up a global communications network in under an hour is emerging. These technologies can support devices like personal digital assistants (PDAs) and cell phones in places where infrastructure breaks down. With a little help from satellites, wireless is saving lives. Recent disasters have offered a unique testing ground for burgeoning wireless technology. Events from Hurricane Katrina to California wildfires have illustrated the need for a diverse communications infrastructure with various technologies playing key roles. When using wireless networks to communicate through a disaster, the scope of communications infrastructure is especially important, says the president of Kingsbridge Systems, a disaster-planning consulting company. Communications networks are fairly robust and can withstand some pretty remarkable devastation. When the Twin Towers collapsed, they knocked out cables and cell towers attached to the buildings, disrupting Internet and cell service all over New York City. But that disruption turned out to be only temporary; fail-safes, or backup networks, quickly jumped into place, allowing people to keep in contact with relatives and loved ones. In past years, the military has turned to costly satellite-and-radio combinations to keep up communications in remote places. Now some of the companies that catered to the military in the past are making low-cost versions of the technology available to the private sector.

Source: [http://www.forbes.com/home/2008/06/24/wireless-disaster-relief-tech-wireless08-cx\\_ae\\_0625disaster.html](http://www.forbes.com/home/2008/06/24/wireless-disaster-relief-tech-wireless08-cx_ae_0625disaster.html)

38. *June 25, Wired Blogs* – (National) **Pentagon spy: Terrorists ready to launch satellite strikes by 2020.** The associate technical director of the Defense Intelligence Agency's Missile & Space Intelligence Center warned in a recent presentation that terror groups could use lasers, radio frequency jammers, and even nuclear weapons to knock out U.S. satellites by the year 2020. Countries like China might launch anti-satellite [ASAT] ballistic missiles – or position weapons in orbit. These states might be “hesitant,” at first, to start blasting American orbiters, he observes, “but [would] probably be willing under appropriate conditions” to attack. His presentation, “Threats to Space Capabilities,” was delivered earlier this month to the Space Security & Defense Conference. In it, he observes that advanced countries already “have the technical basis

to develop” an ASAT arsenal. He also notes that “rogue nation/terrorist[s]” can use jammers to interfere with satellite transmission.

Source: <http://blog.wired.com/defense/2008/06/the-defense-int.html>

39. *June 24, CNet News* – (National) **T-Mobile’s home phone service goes nationwide.** T-Mobile USA plans to announce Wednesday that its new @Home voice service will be available nationwide starting July 2. The cell phone operator has been testing the new Internet telephony service since February in Dallas and Seattle. And now the new service, which is meant to replace traditional home phones, will be offered to any T-Mobile cell phone customer. Subscribers will be able to connect any regular home telephone to a T-Mobile router that will send calls over the Internet much the same way as services like Vonage operate. The service costs \$10 a month plus taxes and fees for unlimited domestic local and long-distance calls.

Source: [http://news.cnet.com/8301-10784\\_3-9976679-7.html](http://news.cnet.com/8301-10784_3-9976679-7.html)

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

## **Commercial Facilities Sector**

40. *June 24, KPIX 5 San Francisco and Bay City News* – (California) **Underground explosion shakes SF financial district.** An underground vault explosion shook the San Francisco financial district late Tuesday afternoon, but caused no injuries, according to the fire department. A Pacific Gas and Electric Co. (PG&E) spokeswoman said they have determined the incident was caused by cable failure, but could not confirm it was a vault explosion. She also said that PG&E is working to determine what caused the cable failure and added that 11 customers had been “de-energized” while the company pinpointed and fixed the problem. The incident has disrupted San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency cable car service on the California line and the agency is providing bus shuttles.

Source: <http://cbs5.com/local/underground.vault.explosion.2.756320.html>

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

## **National Monuments & Icons Sector**

Nothing to report

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

## **Dams Sector**

41. *June 25, Associated Press* – (Massachusetts) **Dike holding back Connecticut River in need of repair.** Officials say it could cost hundreds of thousands of dollars to repair a dike that is holding back the Connecticut River in Hadley, Massachusetts. A special Town Meeting will be called for later in the summer to appropriate money for the repairs. The state is also seeking funding assistance from the state and federal governments. Under a worst-case scenario, the 77-year-old dike could fail, causing



significant erosion and possible flooding.

Source:

[http://news.bostonherald.com/news/regional/general/view/2008\\_06\\_25\\_Dike\\_holding\\_back\\_Connecticut\\_River\\_in\\_need\\_of\\_repair/srvc=home&position=recent](http://news.bostonherald.com/news/regional/general/view/2008_06_25_Dike_holding_back_Connecticut_River_in_need_of_repair/srvc=home&position=recent)

42. *June 25, Associated Press* – (Missouri) **Waterlogged levee under pressure from Mississippi.** Pin Oak levee in Missouri is the only earthen berm in Lincoln County that has not failed. Yet, the barrier is so tenuous that soil slides down its slope. But the earthen levee is all that is protecting 100 houses, a city park, several businesses, and 3,000 acres of agricultural land in east Winfield, one of the last towns where the upper Mississippi was expected to crest. Overnight and into Tuesday morning, the porous and heavy soil inside the levee created what is called a slide, or a run of soil sinking down the slope of the levee's dry side. At first light Tuesday, workers used heavy sheet plastic and about 5,000 sandbags to create a 15-by-160 foot "mattress" to add weight and pressure to the weak spot. Several miles down the river, the Elm Point levee in St. Charles succumbed early Tuesday. A total of 35 levees have overtopped during the Midwest flooding, and seven of them had been federally designed and constructed, said the chief of the office of homeland security for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. He said the nation's levee system was not designed to hold back such extraordinarily high flood waters, particularly in rural communities such as Lincoln County.

Source:

[http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5hw95ek5Sllmi4SoQ\\_N4HJvwHE0ZAD91H3CMO1](http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5hw95ek5Sllmi4SoQ_N4HJvwHE0ZAD91H3CMO1)

43. *June 24, Des Moines Register* – (Iowa) **Officials divided on dam at Cedar River.** The flood devastation in Cedar Rapids and other parts of eastern Iowa should be the signal to begin deciding whether a reservoir on the Cedar River could prevent the catastrophe from recurring. The project is not on the radar of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and an Iowa senator thinks other practices could help. Aides to Iowa's members of Congress said they had heard no talk of building another reservoir in eastern Iowa and knew of no studies on the feasibility. It was unclear whether public works officials or municipal engineers, who are typically the local sponsors of such efforts, have been pursuing preliminary plans. Those officials in Cedar Rapids could not be reached last week.

Source:

<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080624/NEWS09/806240376/-1/LIFE04>

44. *June 24, Missourinet* – (Missouri) **As Mississippi River begins to fall, concern about levees remains high.** The Mississippi River is falling along most parts of northeast Missouri, but another levee has failed and others are causing concern. The Elm Point Levee was overtopped early Tuesday morning. The Mississippi poured over the levee and finally broke through. The Mississippi has crested along many communities in northeast Missouri, but not all. That might not come until tomorrow or even later this week. The secondary levee protecting Winfield remains a concern. It has held after floodwaters topped and broke through the main levee. The St. Louis District of the Army Corps of Engineers, reports that 12 levees have failed. Many of them are

agricultural levees and some are private. The Rock Island District of the Corps reports 13 levees in its district have failed, including six federal levees. The flooding has been the worst in the Rock Island district.

Source: <http://www.missourinet.com/gestalt/go.cfm?objectid=BCB0A29C-FB75-7593-CA22E3072EFFF0BC>

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

## **DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information**

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

## **DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information**

Content and Suggestions:	Send mail to <a href="mailto:NICCReports@dhs.gov">NICCReports@dhs.gov</a> or contact the DHS Daily Report Team at (202) 312-3421
Removal from Distribution List:	Send mail to <a href="mailto:NICCReports@dhs.gov">NICCReports@dhs.gov</a> or contact the DHS Daily Report Team at (202) 312-3421 for more information.

## **Contact DHS**

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

## **Department of Homeland Security Disclaimer**

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