The Transportation Security Administration announced a set of security recommendations, which will help to ensure the secure transportation across the nation’s highways of potentially dangerous materials that could cause a significant impact if used in an act of terrorism. (See item 19)

According to the San Francisco Gate, Finjan reported that the San Francisco city’s website was one of over 1,000 sites treating visitors to malicious code. Vulnerable users got a Trojan loaded onto their machines that tries to join them to a smaller botnet that began expanding in May. (See item 35)

Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: ELEVATED, Cyber: ELEVATED

1. July 16, International Atomic Energy Agency – (International) What lies beneath: Carbon capture and nuclear waste study begins. Economists and energy planners at the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) have embarked upon a multi-year project that will make a comparative analysis of the storage of nuclear waste and carbon dioxide. The project will examine the advantages and drawbacks of both approaches to dealing with power generation by-products, and is expected to be of interest to many countries investigating nuclear power while weighing mounting anxiety over climate change. “Even with a phenomenal increase in renewable and other energy sources, the
main energy sources will still be fossil-based for the foreseeable future,” said a senior
energy economist in the IAEA’s Planning and Economic Studies Section. “Our study
will seek to provide information and experience about the possible advantages and
disadvantages of going to fossil-based or nuclear-based power generation.” The study
will examine various aspects of the geological storage of both nuclear waste and CO2,
including characteristics, requirements, transport, and their physical storage. The project
will look at the environmental impact of storing the two waste products underground,
opine about the transport options available for both, and study the potential hazards to
human health. The research will also delve into what lessons and learning the two
storage options can garner from one another.
Source: http://www.iaea.or.at/NewsCenter/News/2008/carboncapture.html

2. July 16, Scientific American – (Vermont) Lights out?: How the grid copes when a
nuclear power plant goes down. Last Friday at 11 a.m., the operators of the Vermont
Yankee nuclear power plant detected a leak. Water was escaping from the eastern
cooling tower of the 620-megawatt power plant that provides nearly three quarters of the
state’s electricity needs. By noon, the owners had shut down both the damaged and
undamaged cooling towers and had cut the plant’s electricity output in half to avoid any
harm to the reactor. By Monday, the plant was operating at 23 percent capacity. But
Vermont electric consumers barely noticed because the company that operates the
state’s power grid has a contingency plan in case of emergency shutdowns, says a
spokesperson for Green Mountain Power, one of two local utilities that purchase and
resell much of the power from Vermont Yankee. ISO New England, Inc., the
independent system operator that ensures juice is flowing in Vermont and the rest of
New England, always has spare power sources – courtesy of fossil fuel-fired, so-called
“peakers” (units that provide power to the grid only during peak demand) – to
compensate if power plants or transmission lines go on the fritz, according to an ISO
spokeswoman.
Source: http://www.sciam.com/article.cfm?id=how-the-grid-copes-when-nuclear-power-
plant-goes-down

3. July 15, Rocky Mountain News – (Colorado) Critics of oil, gas industry seize on water
contamination cases. A rash of environmental mishaps has come at a bad time for
Colorado’s oil and gas industry. Regulators have cited five drillers for links to recent
contamination on the Western Slope, just as the industry gears up for the last round of
hearings on rules that would toughen state oversight of energy companies’ impacts on
water, wildlife, and health. In the most serious case, benzene, a carcinogenic chemical,
was discovered in a man’s drinking water well northwest of Parachute, state records
show. Activists and environmental groups argue that the booming industry is
outgrowing existing regulations and that updated rules crafted by the Colorado Oil and
Gas Conservation Commission are needed. The hearings are expected to continue
through Thursday or Friday. The Commission will deliberate in public beginning
August 12 before deciding what new regulations, if any, to impose on the industry.
water_contamination_cases/
Chemical Industry Sector

Nothing to report

Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector

4. **July 17, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission** – (Wisconsin) **Potential fire propagation between rooms could affect Appendix R safe shutdown.** A potential exists for a fire in the South Area of the Auxiliary Feedwater (AFW) room to propagate to the Vital Switchgear (VSG) room at the Point Beach nuclear plant. A fire in the South Area of the AFW room could cause a short circuit in a cable that traverses the AFW room and the VSG room, causing ignition of the cable. The Point Beach Safe Shutdown Analysis assumes a fire in a single fire area. A fire in both the South Area of the AFW room and VSG room could potentially cause three of the four AFW pumps to be unavailable, which does not meet the requirements for Appendix R safe shutdown. The potential for a fire affecting two fire areas is being reported as an unanalyzed condition. Compensatory measures have been implemented. Licensee investigations are continuing.


5. **July 16, Reuters** – (Vermont) **Entergy Vermont Yankee reactor ramps up.** Entergy Corp. fixed one of the two cooling towers at the Vermont Yankee nuclear power station and ramped the unit up to about 40 percent power, a spokesman for the company said Wednesday. The spokesman noted the unit would likely rise and fall in power output until the second cooling tower returns to service since the plant is relying on river water, which rises and falls in volume, for cooling. He could not estimate when the second cooling tower would return to service.


6. **July 16, Reuters** – (New York) **Entergy NY Fitzpatrick reactor ramps up to 71 pct.** Entergy Corp. fixed a problem with a feedwater pump seal at the Fitzpatrick nuclear power station, and the unit ramped up to about 71 percent power, a company spokesman said Wednesday.

Defense Industrial Base Sector

7. **July 17, Navy Times** – (National) **CG commandant: Icebreaking fleet stressed.** The Coast Guard commandant told lawmakers he is concerned about the future of the polar ice-breaking fleet, saying it will take millions of dollars to keep the aging ships operational. He told the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee on Wednesday that the continued melting of the Arctic ice caps, an increase in oil exploration, and additional shipping and cruise routes in the polar region are taxing the fleet. “The Coast Guard ice-breaking fleet provides significant service to Americans… It’s imperative to obtain the current validating capabilities so our polar operations can be met,” he said. “I’m concerned we are watching our nation’s ice-breaking capabilities decline.” The Coast Guard’s medium- and Polar-class ice breaking fleet consists of the cutters Healy, Polar Sea, and Polar Star. Healy – commissioned in 2000 – is the newest of the ships. The Polar Star and Polar Sea, both commissioned in the 1970s, are well past their prime and need millions of dollars in maintenance and repairs to remain operational into the future. The Polar Sea’s life expectancy was extended to 2014 thanks to a major overhaul in 2006, but the Polar Star has been laid up for at least two years and requires 12 to 18 months’ lead time, as well as an estimated $60 million for a “significant overhaul,” to return to full operational status. In the meantime, it costs about $3 million a year just to keep the vessel in caretaker status, and because it has not moved from the dock for several years, the commandant said he was worried about corrosion.


8. **July 16, Defense News** – (National) **GAO: DOD rush to field MRAPs could be costly.** The Pentagon’s rush to field thousands of Mine Resistant Ambush Protective (MRAP) vehicles in Iraq may result in lower performance and higher costs in the long-run, according to a Government Accountability Office (GAO) report. The U.S. Defense Department (DOD) launched its high-priority MRAP program in early 2007 to counter enemy homemade bombs responsible for roughly 75 percent of the casualties in Iraq and Afghanistan. The $22 billion effort was designed to purchase and field up to 15,000 MRAPs as quickly as possible. Since then, DOD’s “tailored acquisition approach” has fielded more than 6,600 MRAP vehicles, but “it has also increased performance, sustainability, and cost risks,” the GAO’s July 15 report states. Safety and performance testing is not yet complete, and any shortcomings revealed may require design changes or post manufacturing fixes, the report states. The three phases of developmental tests, which began in March 2007, are not scheduled to be completed until August.


9. **July 15, Aviation Week** – (National) **DOD must clarify ORS: GAO.** The U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) is asking the Defense Department (DOD) to flesh out its Operationally Responsive Space (ORS) concept more fully to meet requirements from the battlefield. According to a new report, GAO found that both the intelligence and military communities are unclear about the ORS concept and “concerned about DOD’s lack of consultation and communication with them.” ORS is
broadly defined as the ability to launch small, flexible military satellite payloads on short notice, tailored to pressing operational needs. But without a fully defined and commonly understood concept, GAO says, DOD’s ability to use ORS to meet warfighter needs is hampered. DOD has acknowledged the importance of integrating ORS into existing DOD and intelligence community processes and architecture, “but it has not fully addressed how it will achieve this integration,” GAO says. ORS is designed to provide intelligence and information during ongoing operations. DOD plans to begin integrating new ORS processes sometime between 2010 and 2015. But members of the national security space community have expressed concerns about the concept’s “immaturity.” GAO is recommending that DOD define key ORS terms and what Joint Force Commander needs the concept is trying to satisfy. The agency also recommends DOD “begin to adequately plan integration of the ORS concept now” to ensure success down the road.


Banking and Finance Sector

10. July 16, KCCI 8 Des Moines – (Iowa) **Officials warn of new phone scam.** Iowa State Attorney General said Wednesday that Iowans are being targeted by a round of phone scammers claiming to be utility companies. He said the caller tells Iowans that their utilities will be disconnected soon if they do not make a credit card payment immediately. Both MidAmerican and Alliant Energy have reported to state officials that their customers have been tricked by the scam, most paying anywhere from $20 to more than $200. The official said some Iowans recognized the scam by checking their caller ID and noticing the call was coming from outside of Iowa. He recommends never giving out personal or financial information during any call that people did not initiate.

Source: http://www.kcci.com/money/16902525/detail.html

11. July 16, WKYT 27 Lexington – (Kentucky) **New scam targets text messages.** There is a scam alert involving a text message. The scam is designed to trick people into giving out personal information. Kentucky’s Better Business Bureau says it has been flooded with phone calls about the text message. The text claims to be from Commonwealth Credit Union and tells customers their on-line account access is limited for security purposes and they need to call a certain number. The con artists are trying to get people to call the number and reveal their bank account numbers.


Transportation Sector

12. July 17, Reuters – (International) **Beijing to close airport during Games opening ceremony.** Beijing will restrict aircraft landing and taking off during the Olympic
Games opening ceremony on August 8, airline officials said on Thursday, forcing the rescheduling of dozens of flights due to security concerns. Domestic media reports quoted unnamed aviation sources as saying that Beijing Capital Airport would be closed to all “non-Olympic” traffic between 8 p.m. (1200 GMT) and midnight on the evening of the opening ceremony. A spokesperson from Cathay Pacific Airways Ltd confirmed the reports, and said the airline had rescheduled a Beijing-bound flight from Hong Kong to allow for the shut-down. Officials contacted at Beijing Capital Airport and China’s aviation regulator, the Civil Aviation Administration of China, said they unaware of the order or unable to comment. Aircraft are already banned from overflying Beijing, though authorities are taking no chances and have placed anti-aircraft missiles near the main Olympic stadium, the “Bird’s Nest.”

Source:
http://uk.reuters.com/article/businessCompany/idUKPEK2290952008080717?pageNumber=1&virtualBrandChannel=0

13. *July 17, ABC News* – (National) **TSA ramps up virtual ‘strip searches.’** The Transportation Security Administration announced this week that security checkpoints at 21 of the nation’s busiest airports will be getting scanners that take near-naked photos of passengers. Within just a few seconds of stepping inside, the portal uses millimeter wave technology to generate a graphic 3-D image that outlines the nude contours of passengers’ bodies. In doing so, it also detects any explosives, metallic or non-metallic weapons, and other objects carried anywhere on the body. Multiple procedures, including the blurring of the face and automatic deletion of images, protect passengers’ privacy, a TSA spokeswoman said. The new portals are also expected to cut down on wait time in security lines, by trimming the time officers spend on manual pat-downs. Source: http://abcnews.go.com/Travel/BusinessTravel/Story?id=5380042&page=1

14. *July 16, Associated Press* – (New York) **Cockpit smoke forces Rochester emergency landing.** A Rhode Island-bound flight with about 70 people on board made an emergency landing in Rochester, New York, because of smoke in the cockpit. Emergency dispatchers said that the plane landed just after 10 a.m. Wednesday at the Rochester airport and no one on board was hurt. Emergency crews were called to the airport to assist. Details about the plane’s operator and the flight’s origin were not immediately available. Source: http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5gdFehzqv5i-WJ6iFr6DrB6C9UWwD91V2VN00

15. *July 16, Seattle Times* – (Washington) **Diesel spilled from tug at Terminal 5 in Seattle.** The Coast Guard and state Ecology Department are investigating a 100- to 400-gallon diesel oil spill in the west Duwamish Waterway in Seattle. An Ecology spokesman says a boom was deployed quickly enough to contain practically the entire spill. She says the diesel leaked Tuesday evening while being moved from one tank to another on the tugboat James T. Quigg, owned by Olympic Tug and Barge. Cause of the spill remains under investigation. The official says it will take some days to determine the amount of the spill, but at most it is about 400 gallons.
16. **July 16, WKTV 2 Utica** – (New York) **New York’s new “Enhanced License” doubles as passport.** Starting this September, New Yorkers will have a second option when it comes to purchasing a drivers license. The new enhanced license will also act as a passport going in and out of some U.S. borders. The idea is to make ground travel in and out of Canada easier. However, according to an official from the Utica, New York, area AAA, “This is a very good thing for people who live in Canada that have to go back and forth a lot. But for the average citizen, that goes there on vacation once in a while it’s a waste of money and you’re better off with your passport.”


17. **July 16, USA Today** – (National) **TSA begins testing pilots-only security lines.** The Transportation Security Administration Wednesday began testing a new program that lets pilots go to a separate checkpoint where a screener checks ID cards but does no physical search. The TSA started 60-day tests of the pilots-only checkpoints at Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport, Pittsburgh International Airport, and Columbia Metropolitan Airport in South Carolina. The program could expand to other airports if the test shows that pilots can get through checkpoints quickly, a TSA assistant administrator said. The concept of letting the nation’s 75,000 pilots avoid being screened for weapons has drawn criticism from the Association of Flight Attendants, which says it is safer to screen everyone boarding an airplane. The president of the Air Line Pilots Association said the system will improve security by checking pilot IDs to verify that the ID-holder is a pilot and not someone using a stolen or forged airline ID. A TSA screener will check each ID card against a database of all pilots and match the photo on the card with the database photo, the TSA assistant administrator said. The system was mandated by Congress, which passed a broad anti-terror law last summer requiring the TSA to give flight crews “expedited access through screening.”


18. **July 16, KTUU 2 Anchorage** – (Alaska) **Security concern temporarily closes Anchorage airport.** Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport was shut down Wednesday night after baggage screeners thought they detected an explosive device inside a passenger’s bag. The airport was shut down for about an hour. The commotion began around 6:00 while a checked bag was being screened. Transportation Safety Administration officials immediately called the Anchorage Police Department Bomb Squad. Hundreds of people were moved outside. Others were forced to stay put and the area around the screening area evacuated. The passenger was located and was able to tell security what the object was, an electronic cash register. “We saw an electronic type device that appeared to mimic something that looked like an explosive type device,” the airport Federal Security Director said. “It had all right indicators and the people made the right call.”

19. **July 16, Transportation Security Administration** – (National) **TSA announces security recommendations for motor carriers.** The Transportation Security Administration announced a set of security recommendations for the transportation of certain quantities of hazardous materials across the nation’s highways. The recommendations will help to ensure the secure transportation of potentially dangerous materials that could cause a significant impact if used in an act of terrorism. TSA developed security action items for general security; personnel security; unauthorized access; and en-route security. General security measures include conducting security threat assessments, security planning, protecting critical information and enhancing awareness of industry-security practices. TSA will build on these recommendations by analyzing the effectiveness of the security action items and feedback the Highway and Motor Carrier Division receives from industry.


20. **July 16, Aviation Week** – (National) **TSA targets 50% cargo screening goal.** The Transportation Security Administration is directing its inspector, canine, and technology resources to the 18 highest-volume cargo airports and by February 2009, “expects that all cargo will be screened on aircraft carrying 80%” of U.S. air passengers, the TSA Assistant Administrator told a House Homeland Security subcommittee hearing Tuesday. The cargo-screening requirement was among those recommended by the presidential commission that investigated the causes and U.S. government response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks. TSA plans to use a wide array of screening methods, including explosives detector dogs, X-ray and explosives detection technologies, and is developing a program allowing screening of air cargo at various points throughout the air cargo supply chain. But the Government Accountability Office notes in its testimony before the House subcommittee that there will still be loopholes in the TSA plan. In particular, TSA has no plans to screen air cargo inbound to the U.S. from overseas on foreign carriers. GAO adds that TSA also plans to continue to exempt some types of domestic and outbound cargo from screening. TSA has not completed its air cargo vulnerability assessments and does not have a timetable yet for doing so, GAO says.


21. **July 16, CNN** – (National) **Passenger plane flies with laser system that repels missiles.** The first passenger plane equipped with a system to repel shoulder-fired missiles successfully completed its flight, a British defense and aerospace company announced Wednesday. The system aims to protect against fire from missile launchers like these, which were used to fire at an Israeli plane. The JetEye infrared missile-defense system was tested on an American Airlines flight that took off July 11 from New York’s John F. Kennedy International Airport to Los Angeles International Airport in California, the company said. The JetEye system works by detecting the heat-seeking missiles and then firing a laser, which diverts the missile. American Airlines refused to
make the system mandatory on all trips, but agreed to cooperate with the tests. The flight represents the final phase of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security’s Counter-Man-Portable Air Defense System program, designed to test the suitability of missile-protection equipment for commercial aircraft. The missile-protection equipment will be installed on two more American Airlines 767-200 aircraft for daily cross-country flights through March. Engineers will evaluate the system’s maintainability and reliability, as well as its suitability for the airline industry. No missiles will be fired at these flights.


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Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to report

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Agriculture and Food Sector

22. July 16, Associated Press – (National) Georgia joins list of outbreak states, CDC says. A Midwest E. coli outbreak traced to recalled beef has spawned at least one case in Georgia, health officials said Wednesday. Georgia has one lab-confirmed case of a bacterial infection that is a molecular match to 44 previously reported cases in Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky and New York, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Georgia health officials are investigating at least seven more cases of E. coli, all of them in Colquitt County, said a spokeswoman for the Georgia Department of Human Resources. All 45 illnesses in the outbreak are attributed to the same type of E. coli, one that causes a potentially deadly bacterial infection. The great majority were in Ohio and Michigan. The illnesses began between May 27 and June 24. CDC officials say 23 of the victims have been hospitalized and one developed kidney failure, but no one has died.


23. July 16, Associated Press – (National) Growers want FDA to clear Fla.’s whole tomato crop. Florida tomato growers have asked the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to declare there is no salmonella in the state’s tomato crops. The salmonella outbreak began in April, sickening more than 1,000 people in the U.S., but the FDA has yet to prove a tomato link. The agency has since expanded its investigation to fresh cilantro, jalapenos and Serrano peppers. The state Tomato Growers Exchange sent the FDA a letter Wednesday requesting that all Florida tomatoes be listed on the FDA’s cleared list. Regulators have approved tomatoes from 19 Florida counties, but that excludes a third of the major growing areas for the nation’s largest producer. Growers in Florida, which produces nearly half the country’s fresh tomato supply, now face a tough decision over whether to replant next season’s crops, the head of the Florida Tomato Growers Exchange said. Even worse, he said, is a lasting image problem caused by the fruit’s rapid expulsion from menus and grocery store shelves.
24. **July 17, Boston Globe** – (Massachusetts) **Officials move on cleanup.** The city of Peabody, Massachusetts, is preparing to clean up its Lower Spring Pond reservoir and upgrade the nearby water treatment plant. The $960,000 project will enable the city to comply with a 2006 consent agreement it reached with the state concerning the flow of residuals from the water plant treatment process into the south Peabody pond. The work will involve dredging the pond and adding features to the plant to reduce the amount of residuals that reach the pond, according to the public services director. City officials maintain that the residual buildup resulted from factors beyond their control and it is mainly dirt and aluminum sulfate, a chemical commonly used in water treatment as a settling agent, which poses no danger to public health. As part of the planned plant upgrade, the city will install a type of underwater vacuum cleaner system designed to remove solid materials settling on the bottom of the holding tank in the plant, and to discharge them into the sewer. Another new device will skim the relatively clean water at the top of the tank and pump it directly into the lagoons.


25. **July 16, KATU 2 Portland** – (Oregon) **Reservoir breach at Cascade Locks prompts security review.** Cascade Locks is investigating possible security changes after a recent security breach at a water reservoir. It was the second breach at an Oregon water reservoir in recent weeks. Police said someone got past the locks and kicked the door open to the reservoir, possibly in a search for copper or other materials of value to sell. But the city says the suspect left without taking anything. Monitoring of the water quality is currently in effect. The city of Cascade Locks said all of their water supply tests showed no contamination from the security breach and the water is safe for normal consumption. Officials say they are looking at possible changes, including adding an alarm system, and have asked for federal help, to see if any additional security measures are needed.


26. **July 15, Columbia Missourian** – (Missouri) **High chloride levels found in two city wells.** High chloride levels in samples taken throughout the city of Columbia, Missouri, wells field indicate that effluent being used to flood Eagle Bluffs Conservation Area may be seeping into the well field, according to a 2002 study by a researcher with the U.S. Geological Survey in Columbia. The sewage is treated at Columbia’s wastewater plant and piped to the Missouri River bottoms near McBaine for additional treatment in municipal wetland cells. Chloride is not known to be harmful to people, but its presence in the wells is an indicator of change in the water in the alluvial plane that the city’s 15 wells tap into. The former Columbia Water Plant superintendent voiced the possibility
that organic matter could be carried along with chloride in the slow groundwater flow from the Eagle Bluffs wetlands to the well field. If organic matter is carried into the wells, it could contribute to elevated levels of trihalomethane, a carcinogen, in the city’s drinking water. He suggested that shutting off wells 5 and 6 and continuing to monitor trihalomethane levels is a feasible step the city could take to find out if water from these wells is affecting trihalomethane levels in drinking water. However, additional testing information is needed before considering taking them out of service.


27. **July 15, Marin Independent Journal** – (California) **Toxic mercury cleanup ordered in West Marin.** Areas of West Marin laden with toxic mercury, including Soulajule Reservoir and Walker Creek, need to be cleaned up under a plan approved Tuesday by a state agency. On Tuesday, the state’s Water Resources Control Board adopted a plan to curb mercury contamination by having the Marin Municipal Water District assess the problem in Soulajule and have landowners make sure areas along the banks of the lower end of Walker Creek that contain mercury are not disturbed. Marin Municipal Water District’s top official said he is ready to do the assessment. A senior engineering geologist with the state Regional Water Quality Control Board stressed residents have no reason to be concerned about drinking water, noting that tests show water is well within strict quality guidelines. But the reservoir and Walker Creek are listed under the Clean Water Act as violating water quality standards because of elevated levels of mercury. “The good news is mercury counts are coming down quite a lot at the Gambonini mine,” the official said.


**Public Health and Healthcare Sector**

28. **July 17, Chicago Tribune** – (National) **Cost virus hitting hospitals.** Prices of medical supplies used by hospitals and sold in drugstores are adjusting upward. Consumers can see the results at retail outlets such as Medical manufacturers, distributors and hospitals all are coping with rising prices, and they are making crucial decisions about whether to raise customer prices or eat the higher costs to protect relationships or fend off competitors. In some cases, suppliers like Mundelein-based Medline Industries Inc. are seeing costs double or triple for products. Suppliers say they are experiencing price hikes for disposable protective apparel such as gowns and drapes thanks to price hikes in polypropylene. Meanwhile, foam used to make stretchers or beds and oil-based resins used to make syringes and other medical products are triggering price hikes. “The price of oil is going to work its way into many, many things in the health-care system,” said a worldwide partner with the Chicago office of Mercer, an employee benefits consulting firm that advises large companies on their workers’ health-care issues.

Source: [http://www.chicagotribune.com/business/chi-thu-inflation-pricesjul17,0,3580746.story](http://www.chicagotribune.com/business/chi-thu-inflation-pricesjul17,0,3580746.story)

29. **July 17, New York Times** – (National) **Problems persist with Red Cross blood**
For 15 years, the American Red Cross has been under a federal court order to improve the way it collects and processes blood. Yet, despite $21 million in fines since 2003 and repeated promises to follow procedures intended to ensure the safety of the nation’s blood supply, it continues to fall short. In 2004, auditors found that the Red Cross’s operation in Philadelphia failed to recall some 600 units of blood collected using improper methods. The situation has proved so frustrating that in January the commissioner of food and drugs attended a Red Cross board meeting and warned members that they could face criminal charges for their continued failure to bring about compliance, according to three Red Cross officials who attended the meeting. Some critics, including former Red Cross executives, have even suggested breaking off the blood services operations from the rest of the organization, as the Canadian Red Cross did a decade ago. The problems, described in more than a dozen publicly available FDA reports — some of which cite hundreds of lapses — include shortcomings in screening donors for possible exposure to diseases; failures to spend enough time swabbing arms before inserting needles; failures to test for syphilis; and failures to discard deficient blood.


30. *July 17, Associated Press* – (National) **Indonesia’s unofficial death toll from bird flu climbs to 111.** An Indonesian cargo worker died of bird flu, relatives confirmed Thursday, raising the unofficial toll in the world’s hardest hit nation to 111. The government recently started delaying announcements about bird flu fatalities, sometimes by several weeks. But health workers speaking on condition of anonymity confirmed the tests came back positive. The H5N1 strain of bird flu has killed at least 243 people worldwide since it began ravaging Asian poultry stocks in late 2003, according to the World Health Organization, which only updates country tolls after governments make official announcements. Indonesia, seen as a potential hotspot for that to happen, used to announce bird flu deaths immediately by e-mail or on its Web site. But as part of a widely criticized campaign to shift focus to successes in battling the disease, it recently altered its policy, saying updates would only be made once a month.


**Government Facilities Sector**

31. *July 16, Daily Leader* – (Mississippi) **New measures installed to boost courthouse security.** In Mississippi, work is nearing completion on a round of minor upgrades to a year-old security system in the Lincoln County-Brookhaven Government Complex that keeps a watchful eye on county and city employees. A county administrator said the second installment of a $24,789 Homeland Security Grant has been applied to the installation of five extra security cameras to complement the existing 22, and keycard locks are being integrated on several courthouse entrances. Other new features installed to accompany the year-old security system include an upgraded metal detector at the entrance to the second floor circuit courtroom.
Emergency Services Sector

32. **July 16, WFAA 8 Dallas** – (Texas) **Dallas considers fees for emergency services.** A new charge may have some non-Dallas residents facing fees if they become involved in an emergency within the city limits. Dallas is considering charging for its tax-funded city services, which would mean a bill for non-residents when Dallas-Fire Rescue or the Dallas Police Departments respond to a crash. That may also mean a fee for a Dallas police report as well. The fees would be similar to the charges everyone faces when transported by an ambulance. The city Dallas is facing an almost $20 million budget shortfall and is looking at ways to generate money. The city estimates the plan could raise $1.5 to $2 million a year.


33. **July 15, WTAM 1100 Cleveland** – (Ohio) **Cleveland leaders believe test for paramedics was compromised.** The Cleveland Department of Public Safety believes the city’s Paramedic Functioning Test has been compromised by an employee who took the test at the Fire Training Academy in October 2007 and who has been distributing the test on CD. This test is required for all functioning Paramedics in the Divisions of Fire and Emergency Medical Services (EMS), and is administered, in part, to Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) in the Division of EMS. The Functioning Test does not affect their status as licensed Paramedics and EMTs, but the City of Cleveland requires these employees to pass the exam every three years to ensure they understand and utilize the most current medical protocols and procedures. The Functioning Test is specific to the City of Cleveland and is in addition to the National Registry Exam required for a Paramedic or EMT license. The current Functioning Test has been suspended until an investigation by the Division of Police is complete and a new test is developed.


Information Technology

34. **July 17, IDG News Service** – (National) **Facebook bug leaks members’ birthday data.** A glitch in a test version of Facebook’s Web site inadvertently exposed the birthdays of Facebook’s 80 million members this week. Facebook allows users to control who sees private information such as their birth date, which can be a valuable nugget of data for identity thieves. But a researcher discovered that the new site was making this information public to other members. “For a brief period of time, a small number of
users were able to access a private beta of Facebook’s new site design meant only for developers. During that time, some of those users had their birthdays revealed due to a bug,” Facebook said Wednesday in a statement. The company could not say exactly how long this data was exposed or how many people viewed the beta site, but the bug was patched within hours of the discovery. Facebook may intend for the beta site to be private, but it has been open to the general public for several days. It features a new profile design that should be rolled out as an option to Facebook users some time this week.

Source: http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=security&articleId=9110241&taxonomyId=17&intsrc=kc_top

35. July 16, San Francisco Gate – (California) San Francisco’s web site found serving malware. A security vendor, Finjan, reported Wednesday that the city of San Francisco Web site was one of over 1,000 sites treating visitors to malicious code. Other sites caught up in this latest round of Web attacks include uci.edu (the University of California at Irvine’s site); Snapple.com; a site registered to the Marysville, California’s police department; an ad network--atdmt.com--acquired by Microsoft; and several international sites. Vulnerable users got a Trojan loaded onto their machines that tries to join them to the Asprox botnet, a smaller botnet that began expanding in May, according to several security researchers. Asprox operators had confined themselves to phishing attacks but are now scanning the Web for flaws that let them perform SQL injection attacks on Web pages. The SFGov site is apparently fixed, but Finjan detected malicious code at many other sites as late as Tuesday. Unfortunately, less than half of the anti-virus vendors Finjan surveyed over the weekend detected this Trojan, even though it is exploiting older security flaws. That list is here: Symantec and McAfee are not on it, but Trend Micro and Sophos are. The deputy director of San Francisco’s department of telecommunications and information services said the city detected and fixed the problem. He said SFGov was vulnerable over the last weekend in June. He does not know how many people visited the site, but said no city employees’ machines were affected.

Source: http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/blogs/sfgate/detail?blogid=19&entry_id=28215

36. July 16, IDG News Service – (National) Data can leak from partially encrypted disks. Researchers at the University of Washington and BT Group PLC have discovered that popular programs such as Microsoft Corp.’s Word and Google Desktop store data on unencrypted sections of a computer’s hard drive, even when the programs are working with encrypted files. “Information is spilling out from the encrypted region into the unencrypted region,” said an assistant professor at the Seattle-based university and a co-author the study. He said there are probably many other applications and operating system components that leak information in a similar way. The researchers say that people who are using full-disk encryption, where every piece of data on their hard drives is encrypted, do not have to worry. However, the issue pops up when users create an encrypted partition or virtual disk on their hard drives, leaving part of the drives unencrypted, or when they store data on encrypted USB devices.

Source: http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=security&articleId=9110241&taxonomyId=17&intsrc=kc_top
37. **July 16, ZDNet Blogs** – (National) **US spam levels up, state of Illinois is the worst offender.** Spam levels for the U.S. in June have reached 86 percent compared to spam levels at 81.5 percent in the rest of the world. Breaking this information down further, MessageLabs reports that some U.S. states are more affected than others. Varying socioeconomic factors are thought to affect the spam rates in certain states and the higher levels of spam can be attributed to the fact that consumers, employees and businesses do not place as high a priority on IT security as other states do. In addition, citizens of these states may be more willing to share personal information via the internet, increasing their likelihood of being spammed.


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### Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Website: [http://www.us-cert.gov](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/](https://www.it-isac.org/).

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### Communications Sector

38. **July 16, HD-Report** – (New York) **Verizon breaks into New York City.** The New York State Public Service Commission (PSC) confirmed an agreement between the City of New York and Verizon to provide television service to all of New York City. The PSC confirmation is the final step in government regulations. Verizon will soon offer its FiOS TV service to the five boroughs of New York City which include Manhattan, Brooklyn, Queens, the Bronx and Staten Island. FiOS TV offers digital and high definition channels via the company’s fiber-optic network. New Yorkers had previously been locked into one provider, according to a Verizon spokesperson.


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### Commercial Facilities Sector

39. **July 17, Fond du Lac Reporter** – (Wisconsin) **Bomb threat received at FdL YMCA.** The Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, YMCA building was evacuated for almost an hour Wednesday afternoon following a bomb threat. The Fond du Lac Police Department is continuing to investigate the threat, said a police official. In a 2:10 p.m. phone call, someone within the YMCA building claimed there was a bomb inside, said the Battalion Chief of the Fond du Lac Fire Department. Immediately after the threat was received, the YMCA was evacuated, said the YMCA chief executive officer. Authorities searched the building and did not find anything suspicious.
National Monuments & Icons Sector

40. July 16, Bakersfield Californian – (California) Nearly 70,000 marijuana plants found in national forest. Federal, state, and local law enforcement seized almost 70,000 marijuana plants this week from two areas of Los Padres National Forest in Kern and Ventura counties in California. On Monday, an estimated 54,000 marijuana plants were removed from several plots along Santiago Creek in Kern County, Forest Service spokesmen said. About 40 officers from the Forest Service, Kern County Sheriff’s Department, and other agencies participated in seizing the plants. The officers found several campsites, extensive irrigation systems, fertilizer, trash, propane tanks, and other items in the area, spokesmen said. Large areas of native shrubs and trees had been cut down to make room for the marijuana plants. On Tuesday, officers removed more than 14,000 marijuana plants from plots in the Gold Hill area of the forest in Ventura County. Again, campsites and irrigation systems were found, and the marijuana was removed so it can be destroyed.

Source: http://www.bakersfield.com/102/story/498701.html

Dams Sector

41. July 15, Comox Valley Echo – (International) Dam vandalized, village on stage three water restrictions. A “serious criminal act” that appears to have been a deliberate act of sabotage has forced Cumberland, Canada, on to stage three water restrictions several weeks earlier than anticipated. Sometime between June 24, the last time the dam was inspected, and earlier this week, when the depleted reservoir was discovered, somebody removed several planks from the Number Four Dam on Stevens Lake, allowing about 53 million liters of water to escape. “They would have required tools,” said a Comox Valley Royal Canadian Mounted Police constable. “It was done deliberately using some sort of tool, maybe a wrench or a hacksaw.” Each plank was bolted into the steel rails it sits between to keep it solidly in place. The water flowed downhill to Hamilton Lake, through the decommissioned Hamilton Lake Dam, and into a third village reservoir. As that reservoir was near capacity, it overflowed and continued its downward path, eventually winding up in Comox Lake. Security procedures for the village’s water reservoirs have already been tightened. Reservoirs had been inspected once every two weeks, but those inspections will now occur three times every week. Electronic monitors, such as video cameras or sensors that detect the water level, are also being considered. With the restrictions, the village should have enough drinking water to last through the summer.

Source: http://www.canada.com/victoriatimescolonist/news/story.html?id=fd7096c2-a84b-45b4-ad2f-c5e9038f1406
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To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US–CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Web page at www.us–cert.gov.

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