



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 1 June 2009

Current Nationwide Threat Level

ELEVATED



Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks

For information, click here:
<http://www.dhs.gov>

Top Stories

- The Associated Press reports that a coal explosion at the Weston Power Plant in Rothschild, Wisconsin left one person injured on May 28. Wisconsin Public Service Corporation says one of three coal mills in Unit 2 of the plant exploded after becoming over-pressurized. (See item [1](#))
- According to Defense News, more than 10,000 welded joints on at least eight U.S. submarines and a new aircraft carrier might need to be re-inspected after the discovery by Northrop Grumman Shipbuilding that one of its inspectors at the company's Newport News, Virginia shipyard had falsified inspection reports. (See item [7](#))

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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. *May 29, Associated Press* – (Wisconsin) **Power plant blast injures one.** A coal explosion at the Weston Power Plant in Rothschild has left one person injured. Wisconsin Public Service Corporation says one of three coal mills in Unit 2 of the plant

exploded after becoming over-pressurized. The cause is under investigation. The mill crushes coal and burns it as part of the process of producing electricity. The utility says one person was treated for minor injuries and released from an area hospital. A spokesperson for the Marathon County Sheriff's department says emergency personnel were called the morning of May 28 at 7:25 a.m. with a report of someone injured in a coal explosion. Three other units at the plant were not affected.

Source:

http://www.fox11online.com/dpp/mobile/news_wluk_rothschild_power_plant_blast_injures_one_2009052909_rev1

2. *May 28, Virginian-Pilot* – (Virginia) **Roof fire leaves a hole at SPSA power plant in Portsmouth.** The roof atop Southeastern Public Service Authority's (SPSA) power plant in Portsmouth caught fire over the Memorial Day weekend, leaving a 4-foot hole in the asphalt ceiling and shutting down a boiler for several hours on May 24. No one was injured. Seven companies from the Portsmouth Fire Department were dispatched to the small industrial blaze, which began near a rooftop steam vent about 3:30 a.m., a department spokesman said on May 27. By the time firefighters arrived, SPSA staffers and crews had contained the fire. It continued to smolder and sparked again that morning, before being put out for good about 6:30 a.m. Hundreds of tons of garbage is burned each year at the plant and converted to electricity and steam energy. SPSA said the fire was probably related to the age of its roof, which has never been replaced. The plant opened in 1988. The 4-foot hole has been covered temporarily and will be permanently fixed soon, said the SPSA spokesman. The boiler leading to the vent was shut down the morning of May 24 as a precautionary move, but was back on line that afternoon, he said.

Source: <http://hamptonroads.com/node/510746>

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Chemical Industry Sector

3. *May 28, York Daily Record* – (Pennsylvania) **Hazmat train rules fuel concerns among officials.** The Federal Government is requiring railroad companies to reassess how they transport hazardous materials across the country — fueling concerns that such materials could roll through parts of York and Adams counties in Pennsylvania to avoid such populated areas as Baltimore and Washington, D.C. But, despite indications that something new is coming down the tracks, local officials say they can not get straight answers to vital questions of public safety. “We’re getting everything second, third or fourth hand,” the director of the York County Office of Emergency Management said Thursday. “No one’s talked to us.” She said she has contacted several federal and state agencies, as well as similar agencies in Maryland. She has also called CSX Transportation, the primary rail carrier through this area. After months of local officials and others seeking details on the potential for an increase in hazardous materials coming through the area, a CSX spokesman said Thursday it is just a rumor. The fear among local officials is what might be on those rail cars, regardless of the safety precautions. Officials from the FRA, TSA, and Homeland Security all say it is up to area rail companies — in this case, CSX — to tell local communities what those hazardous

materials are. The director of the York County Office of Emergency Management said the York County commissioners have been informed of the concerns and rumors. Those concerned about what might be happening — local municipalities, county officials, and the state — should present a unified front to ask CSX what might be happening, she said.

Source: http://ydr.inyork.com/ci_12472938

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector

4. *May 29, Lower Hudson Journal News* – (New York) **Indian Point 3 shuts down again after valve malfunction.** The Indian Point 3 nuclear reactor automatically shut down the morning of May 28 after a malfunction in a steamwater valve, the second unplanned stoppage in two weeks. Entergy Nuclear Northeast, which owns Indian Point and its two reactors, was working to determine what caused the malfunction and the 6:40 a.m. shutdown. Entergy officials said no radiation was released and that the event posed no danger to the public or to plant workers. “People certainly shouldn’t be worried,” said an Entergy spokesman. “It’s not a safety-related issue. During the shutdown the equipment reacted the way you would expect and operators in the control room reacted the way they’re trained.” The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) said its inspectors were on hand and monitoring both the plant’s actions and follow-up investigation into the incident. The reactor is now on “hot standby,” which means it is essentially idling but not powered up.

Source: <http://lohud.com/article/20090529/NEWS02/905290365/-1/newsfront>

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

5. *May 28, Madison Record* – (Illinois) **Truck driver claims injuries in explosion.** An Illinois man has filed suit against four corporations and a plant manager, alleging he was severely burned after a dust collection system he was standing near exploded. The man claims he was working as a truck driver for Industrial Roller Company and was standing on the north parking lot of an Illinois manufacturing facility when the system, which was manufactured by AGET Manufacturing Company, exploded on August 19. According to the complaint, the system exploded because of the accumulation of explosive rubber dust in the dust collection system. Before the August 19 explosion, the dust collection system exploded, burned and required the response of four fire departments on January 19, 2005, the complaint says.

Source: <http://www.madisonrecord.com/news/219278-truck-driver-claims-injuries-in-explosion>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

6. *May 29, Aviation Week* – (National) **Northrop to test-fly Army fire scout soon.** Northrop Grumman may be hoping to convince the U.S. Army to field its Fire Scout vertical takeoff unmanned aerial vehicle earlier than scheduled by test-flying the unmanned helicopter in Yuma, Arizona, in June. The Fire Scout, called an XM157 Class IV UAV by the Army, is part of the land service's embattled Future Combat Systems (FCS) program. The Army does not plan to test fly the XM157 until 2011 under the official FCS timeline. But Northrop Grumman, whose Fire Scout is already being test-flown for the Navy, is taking its company-owned aircraft, called the White Tail, to Yuma next month for tests of its own. Meanwhile, the Navy is now focusing its MQ-8B Fire Scout program on preparing for ship-based deployment this fall to support counternarcotics efforts, likely in the Caribbean area, after conducting a series of successful landing tests with the unmanned rotorcraft this spring on the USS McInerney (FFG-8). The tests took place off the coast of Jacksonville, Florida. A series of flight-tests in the Chesapeake Bay in February allowed the 3,150-pound gross-takeoff-weight aircraft to hover close to the ship and execute approaches. Winds and bad weather exceeded the allowance for landing at that time. The McInerney tests are taking place in advance of more trials slated for the Fire Scout's future host platform, the Littoral Combat Ship (LCS). Fire Scout is expected to begin shipboard tests on the LCS-1, the Freedom, made by Lockheed Martin/Marinette Marine, by the second quarter of 2010. Source: <http://www.aviationweek.com/aw/generic/story.jsp?id=news/SCOUT052909.xml&headline=Northrop%20To%20Test-fly%20Army%20Fire%20Scout%20Soon&channel=defense>
7. *May 28, Defense News* – (Virginia) **Northrop Grumman inspector's lies raise alarms.** More than 10,000 welded joints on at least eight U.S. submarines and a new aircraft carrier might need to be re-inspected after the discovery by Northrop Grumman Shipbuilding that one of its inspectors had falsified inspection reports. According to an internal report obtained by Defense News, the issue came to light May 14 when a welding inspector at the company's Newport News, Virginia, shipyard told a supervisor that a fellow inspector was initialing welds as OK without actually performing the inspections. Confronted by the supervisor, the offending inspector admitted to falsifying three weld inspections, all that same day. Company officials rapidly began an internal investigation and notified the U.S. Navy's supervisor of shipbuilding of the situation, according to the report. On May 20, the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) began its own investigation. According to the report, a quick company review of the inspector's work showed that 12 other joints inspected by the employee that evening were satisfactory. But the ramifications of the falsified inspections rapidly grew beyond a single night's work. The employee had been certified to perform inspections in June 2005 and, according to the report, a review of the shipyard's welding database showed that in the following four years he inspected and signed off on more than 10,000 structural welding joints on at least nine ships. Source: <http://www.defensenews.com/story.php?i=4113502&c=AME&s=SEA>

For another story, see item [20](#)

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Banking and Finance Sector

8. *May 29, Poughkeepsie Journal* – (New York) **Ulster Consumer Fraud Bureau warns of phone scam.** The Ulster County Consumer Fraud Bureau is warning of a phone scam in which local residents receive calls stating that there has been suspicious activity on their Mid-Hudson Valley Federal Credit Union account. The “phishers” ask for sensitive information including account and PIN numbers, according to the deputy director of consumer affairs for the bureau. The consumer affairs official said the credit union will never ask for confidential information over the phone.
Source:
<http://www.poughkeepsiejournal.com/article/20090528/NEWS01/90528009/1006>
9. *May 28, Newsday* – (New York) **Feds charge 13 with \$10 million mortgage fraud.** Federal agents raided Bridgewater Funding, an Islip mortgage broker Thursday, after the indictment of 13 Long Islanders accused of fraudulently obtaining more than \$10 million in loans by inflating creditworthiness and purchase prices to boost profits. The office manager, three loan officers and a loan processor coordinated a scheme that targeted distressed homeowners willing to sell as a way to “save” their homes and also focused on properties they believed could be flipped quickly, according to a 15-count indictment detailing bank and wire fraud and conspiracy. The sales, all on Long Island and New York City, started in 2005, when the real estate market was hot, and went through 2007, just before the market collapsed that August. All but one defendant, who is still being sought, were arraigned in Brooklyn federal court Thursday after an investigation by the FBI, US Postal Inspection Service, the Secret Service, the state banking department and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. The 12 pleaded not guilty and were released.
Source: <http://www.newsday.com/news/local/crime/ny-bzraid2912817853may28,0,7968984.story>
10. *May 28, Tyler Morning Telegraph* – (Texas) **2 bomb threats made at same Tyler bank.** Two bomb threats in less than four hours sent firefighters, police and others to the same location Thursday to check the building. Investigators are following leads in hopes of catching the person making the terror threats. The Tyler Fire Department captain said a person, believed to be a male, made two calls to the Tyler Police Department’s police dispatchers Thursday and claimed a bomb had been placed at a Bank of America. The fire captain said again no devices were located. He said fire investigators and police are following leads and working with the phone company, because the Caller ID had been blocked. The fire captain added the caller faces state charges and could face federal charges since the bank is a federally insured institution.
Source:
<http://www.tylerpaper.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20090528/NEWS08/905290350>
11. *May 27, R News* – (New York) **Lyons police warn about phone scam.** The Lyons Police Department is investigating a possible phone “phishing” in the area. It is a computer generated recorded telephone message telling customers their Lyons National Bank credit card may have been compromised. The recording asks consumers to give

out their card number, expiration date and pin numbers. Police say the Lyons National Bank has not experienced a security breach. Police say the calls are from a 946 or a 331 phone exchange in the 315 area code.

Source: http://www.rnews.com/content/top_stories/473079/lyons-police-warn-about-phone-scam/

12. *May 26, U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission* – (Texas) **SEC halts foreign exchange offering fraud by college professor and Houston-based lawyer.** The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) has obtained an emergency court order to freeze the assets of a Texas A&M finance professor who resigned from that position last month, as well as Houston lawyer and certified public accountant and two firms. They are charged with defrauding U.S. investors by using forged bank records to make it appear they were earning spectacular returns in foreign exchange trading. The SEC's complaint, filed in federal court in Houston, alleges that the two suspects raised more than \$19 million from investors and claimed they would earn profits through "Alpha One," a foreign-currency trading software program purportedly owned by their firm PrivateFX Global One Ltd. They claimed they would employ the services of 36 Holdings Ltd., a so-called "deal clearing company" owned and controlled by Watson. The SEC alleges that the two suspects misrepresented to investors that it had millions of dollars in bank accounts in the U.S. and Switzerland and that their foreign exchange trading business had achieved an annual return of more than 23 percent since its inception and has never had a losing month.

Source: <http://sec.gov/news/press/2009/2009-122.htm>

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Transportation Sector

13. *May 28, Peoria Journal Star* – (Illinois) **Bridge no worse for high water.** The Pottstown Bridge, closed May 16 after Kickapoo Creek floodwaters rose to within inches of the deck, reopened the afternoon of May 27. A consulting structural engineer determined the bridge suffered no additional damage from the heavy rains and flooded conditions and that it was safe for crossing. "The bridge was not in good shape to begin with and our concerns were that the flood had caused further damage and deterioration," said a County engineer. The 200-foot bridge connects Kickapoo Creek Road with Illinois Route 8 in Pottstown, just west of Peoria. It is a common commuter shortcut from Route 8 for people who work in the Pioneer Parkway and Grand Prairie areas. It usually sits about 30 feet above Kickapoo Creek. More than 3,100 cars and trucks cross it every day. There is no posted weight limit. As the lowest rated bridge in the county (technically "structurally deficient," in engineering terms, but not unsafe) the Pottstown Bridge has been a longtime concern for the county's lone bridge inspector. But because of its obvious deterioration the bridge inspector inspects it after every heavy rain.
- Source: <http://www.pjstar.com/news/x157151274/Bridge-no-worse-for-high-water>

14. *May 28, WAGT 30 Augusta* – (Georgia) **Emergency agencies drill for plane crash, earthquake.** Several local agencies spent Thursday at Augusta Regional Airport participating in an emergency drill that simulated responding to a plane crash. Thursday

the military also ran its own emergency drill at the airport. Theirs was a simulated response to an earthquake. The drills included the Augusta fire department, local hospitals and the Salvation Army. This was the first year the military and the airport ran their drill at the same time. The Augusta Regional Airport has a debriefing session with all of the participating agencies afterward to evaluate the drill and see how they can improve.

Source: <http://www.nbcaugusta.com/news/local/46404907.html>

15. *May 26, CharterX* – (Florida) **FAA proposes \$1.3 million civil penalty for Gulfstream.** The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has proposed a \$1.3 million civil penalty from Florida-based Gulfstream International Airlines, Inc. for violations of the Federal Aviation Regulations. The alleged violations include improper scheduling of flight crew duty time, and the installation of unapproved air conditioner compressors and improperly maintained vent blowers on the airline's fleet of 27 BE-1900-D aircraft. An FAA review of the airline's electronic record-keeping system for tracking crew duty and rest time revealed that Gulfstream International did not accurately input the proper data from its manually generated hard-copy aircraft logbook records into the electronic system. The discrepancies resulted in scheduling crew members in excess of daily and weekly flight time limitations.

Source: <http://www.charterx.com/resources/article.aspx?id=4238>

16. *May 26, Minneapolis Star Tribune* – (Minnesota) **Red Wing lock and dam to get \$70 million upgrade.** The lock and dam on the Mississippi River near Red Wing, Minnesota, the site of more than 100 barge accidents because of the hazardous current, will undergo \$70 million in safety improvements over the next two years under the nation's economic stimulus program, according to the Army Corps of Engineers. The Corps says the lock has the second-highest risk of failure of any U.S. navigation project, and part of the \$70 million in renovations aims to reduce that risk. The problem is that the lock was built on a marshy bend in the river. The current pushes southbound barges away from the lock on the Minnesota bank, and toward the concrete dam. To get the project underway quickly, construction will begin before the design is completed, a process known as design-build, Corps officials said. This method was successfully used to replace the collapsed Interstate 35W bridge, but this is the first time the Corps' St. Paul district has tried it.

Source:

http://www.startribune.com/46022472.html?elr=KArksDyyicyUtyyicyUiD3aPc:_Yyc:aUU

For another story, see item [3](#)

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Postal and Shipping Sector

17. *May 29, Northwest Herald* – (Illinois) **Police seek suspects in mailbox explosions.** Police are asking residents for help in finding out who is behind a string of mailbox explosions in the Cambria subdivision in Cary, Illinois. Crude homemade explosive

devices have been used to destroy two mailboxes in the subdivision on the far western side of the village. In all, six such bombs have been found in mailboxes on Mulberry Lane and New Haven Drive. Two explosives did not cause any damage, and two others failed to detonate. “The police department has been investigating this matter in an attempt to arrest the creators of these home-made explosive devices and bring these incidents to an end,” the Cary acting police chief said. He described the explosives as being dangerous at close range. The devices explode within five minutes of being put together. “The rudimentary homemade explosive devices are constructed from household materials, including plastic bottles,” the acting police chief said.

Source:

http://www.nwherald.com/articles/2009/05/28/r_jcbobeyvtla2tgo_lw2bka/index.xml

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Agriculture and Food Sector

18. *May 28, Santa Cruz Sentinel* – (California) **Still no viable alternatives for methyl bromide.** Four years have passed since methyl bromide was phased out nationally, but farmers say there still is no economically viable alternative for use on California strawberries. Methyl bromide is a highly effective, but toxic, pest and herbicide applied to California strawberry fields. In 2005, it was nationally phased out by the Montreal Protocol, an international treaty for eliminating ozone-depleting chemicals. Research and government agencies have poured millions of dollars into finding alternatives, but nothing works quite as well for mass-produced strawberries, according to many farmers. Thus, year after year, California berry growers receive exemptions to the protocol and continue using methyl bromide. While berry growers cover the fields with plastic to contain the chemicals, 50-95 percent of the substance eventually dissipates into the atmosphere and depletes the ozone, according to the Environmental Protection Agency. Those living and working in close proximity with methyl bromide may suffer nerve and respiratory damage because the highly regulated chemical is also a potential occupational carcinogen, according to the U.S. Department of Labor.

Source: http://www.santacruzsentinel.com/localnews/ci_12466039

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Water Sector

19. *May 28, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency* – (North Dakota) **EPA orders restoration of Little Knife River in Dunn County, North Dakota.** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has issued a compliance order to Dunn County, North Dakota for violations of the Clean Water Act. Dunn County allegedly violated the Act by discharging material into the Little Knife River without a permit during road construction. “Dunn County’s actions disturbed approximately 1,300 linear feet of the Little Knife River, which is an important wildlife and aquatic habitat and helps to reduce the force of flood waters,” said the director of EPA Region 8’s Water Enforcement Program. Between July and September of 2008, Dunn County completely filled and re-routed approximately 1,300 feet of the Little Knife River to facilitate straightening and

realignment of two roads. The realignment resulted in a channel loss of about 200 feet. Dunn County did this without first obtaining a permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which is required by the Clean Water Act. The EPA order requires Dunn County to mitigate for the impacts to the river by adding meanders to the existing rechannelized segment in order to achieve a similar length, sinuosity, and grade as the channel segment that was filled, and provide for a vegetated buffer on both sides of the rechannelized segment. Prior to doing the work, Dunn County must submit for EPA's approval a plan that details how the mitigation will be accomplished. Failure to respond to an EPA order may lead to additional enforcement.

Source:

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/0/0875742B60613646852575C40054901B>

20. *May 28, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency* – (Washington) **Puget Sound Naval Shipyard takes action to reduce copper discharges and comply with Clean Water Act.** Under an agreement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard (PSNS) is required to take action to reduce the amount of copper in its wastewater and comply with its Federal Clean Water Act permit requirements. According to the Navy's own discharge reports, from May 2003 to July 2008, PSNS frequently violated its federal wastewater permit by discharging copper in excess of allowable levels. The shipyard's wastewater is discharged into Sinclair Inlet. PSNS is the largest naval shipyard on the west coast. The copper in its wastewater comes from sandblasting and painting of vessels in dry dock at the shipyard. The shipyard is allowed to discharge its wastewater into Sinclair Inlet, but only if it complies with its National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit issued by EPA. The Navy has already begun taking action to lessen the copper in the wastewater from PSNS. As a result of this work, the Navy reports it has been in compliance with its current discharge permit for the past several months. In addition, over the past few years, PSNS has been working with other federal, state and local agencies to better understand and reduce sources of fecal coliform in Puget Sound. As a result of this work, the agencies have been able to reopen several shellfish beds in the area. EPA is in the process of updating the shipyard's NPDES permit. A draft permit is expected to be available this summer and a final permit issued by the end of the year.

Source:

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/0/89192ee02af2104e852575c4007884bb?OpenDocument>

21. *May 27, American Chemical Society* – (National) **New data suggest PBDE byproducts are ubiquitous in U.S. waters.** Research published in Environmental Science Technology shows for the first time that compounds produced when PBDE flame retardants are exposed to wastewater treatment can generate dioxins. University of Minnesota researchers say they believe that the photochemically created brominated and mixed halogenated dibenzo-p-dioxins they discovered are likely to be "ubiquitous in aquatic environments." Experts agree that both the dioxins and the compounds that produce them, hydroxylated PBDEs (OH-PBDEs), could be impacting aquatic wildlife, and humans as well. Buttressing the finding's significance is a report by the U.S. National Atmospheric and Oceanic Administration (NOAA) released on April 1, which

documents “that PBDEs are clearly ubiquitous” in U.S. coastal waters. When the report was issued, the assistant administrator of NOAA’s National Ocean Service, said: “Scientific evidence strongly documents that these contaminants impact the food web and action is needed to reduce the threats posed to aquatic resources and human health.” The report points out that laboratory toxicity studies have connected PBDEs to liver, thyroid, and neurobehavioral development impairments. It also says PBDEs “show the potential for adverse human health effects.” The NOAA report is the most comprehensive assessment of the presence of PBDEs in the U.S. coastal environment, says the director of the Marine Environmental Research Institute, a nonprofit organization.

Source: <http://pubs.acs.org/doi/full/10.1021/es901200v?cookieSet=1>

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

Nothing to report

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Government Facilities Sector

22. *May 28, Associated Press* – (Texas) **Stubborn Texas tire fire is finally out, arson.** A stubborn fire at an abandoned tire dump in the small East Texas town of Hawkins is finally out. An Environmental Protection Agency spokesman said on May 28 the fire was extinguished late May 27. It involved about 150,000 of the millions of tires that state officials had ordered removed from the site years ago. The fire that started late May 25 at Foster & Son’s Scrap Tire Service was being investigated as arson. At one point, toxic smoke from the flames forced the evacuation of most residents of the town of about 1,500 and closed its schools. Classes resumed on May 28.

Source: <http://www3.signonsandiego.com/stories/2009/may/28/us-tire-fire-052809/?nation>

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Emergency Services Sector

23. *May 29, Boston Globe* – (Massachusetts) **Police getting more firepower.** The Boston Police Department is preparing a plan to arm as many as 200 patrol officers with semiautomatic assault rifles, a significant boost in firepower that department leaders believe is necessary to counter terrorist threats, according to law enforcement officials briefed on the plan. The initiative calls for equipping specialized units, such as the bomb squad and harbor patrol, with the high-powered long-range M16 rifles first, the officials said. The department would then distribute the weapons to patrol officers in neighborhood precincts over the next several months, according to the two law enforcement officials, who spoke on the condition of anonymity because they did not have permission to speak publicly. The officials did not know exactly when the

department planned to start handing out the rifles but said police officials already have acquired the guns.

Source:

http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2009/05/29/boston_police_getting_more_firepower_semiautomatic_assault_rifles/

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Information Technology

24. *May 29, Computerworld* – (International) **Hackers exploit unpatched Windows bug.**

For the third time in the last 90 days, Microsoft Corp. has warned that hackers are exploiting an unpatched critical vulnerability in its software. Recently, Microsoft issued a security advisory that said malicious hackers were already using attack code that leveraged a bug in DirectX, a Windows subsystem crucial to games and used when streaming video from Web sites. Hackers are using malicious QuickTime files — QuickTime is rival Apple Inc.'s default video format — to hijack PCs, Microsoft said. "The vulnerability could allow remote code execution if [the] user opened a specially crafted QuickTime media file," the company said in the advisory. "Microsoft is aware of limited, active attacks that use this exploit code."

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=security&articleId=9133648&taxonomyId=17&intsrc=kc_top

25. *May 28, SC Magazine* – (International) **McAfee documents riskiest search terms.** A McAfee study into 2,600 of the most popular keyword searches on the web has concluded that hunts for "screensavers" present the most risk. The report released the week of May 25 shows that users who search for "screensavers" have a 59.1 percent chance that they will be infected by malware on a given page of results. By category, the most dangerous searches involved keywords containing the word "lyrics" (26.3 percent risk) and "free" (21.3 percent). The safest category searches, meanwhile, related to "health" (four percent) and the "economic crisis" (3.5 percent). The report also warned of the risk generated by searching for information on "work from home." Variations of this search term — considered more popular than ever, given the state of the economy — ranged from a 6.3 percent-risk to a 40 percent-risk of infection.

Source: <http://www.scmagazineus.com/McAfee-documents-riskiest-search-terms/article/137632/>

26. *May 27, DarkReading* – (International) **More than 80% of phishing attacks use hijacked, legitimate Websites.** New research from the Anti-Phishing Working Group (APWG) has found that most phishers are setting up shop on legitimate Websites to be inconspicuous when they steal valuable information from victims. In the second half of 2008, roughly 57,000 phishing attacks worldwide targeted a specific brand or organization, up from around 47,300 in the first half of 2008, according to a newly released [report](#) from the APWG. The attacks were waged on 30,454 different domain names, only 5,591 of which were domains the phishers set up themselves. The rest were from legitimate Websites they had hijacked to carry out their exploits. The average

amount of time a phishing site was up: 52 hours, according to the report. Phishers used their own malicious domains in 13 percent of attacks, according to the report, while 11 percent used subdomain registration services, some of which offer free hosting as well as DNS services that let a user redirect the user's domain name at any time. These services are notorious for making the taking down of malicious sites difficult, according to the report. Around 6,340 subdomain accounts were used for phishing purposes in the second half of last year, up from 4,512 in the first half of the year. Phishers also are paying close attention to what users fall and do not fall for. Interestingly, phishers are using fewer unique IP address-based attacks — only 2,809 in the second half of the year versus 3,389 in the first half of the year. That has been a gradual downward trend since early 2007.

Source:

<http://www.darkreading.com/security/attacks/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=217700470>

Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Website: <http://www.us-cert.gov>.

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <https://www.it-isac.org/>.

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Communications Sector

27. *May 27, Associated Press* – (Ohio) **Copper thieves blamed for Cleveland telecom outage.** AT&T says it has restored phone, cable, and alarm service to 2,000 Cleveland customers knocked out the week of May 18 when 750 feet of copper wire was stolen from beneath a bridge. The telecommunications company says it was the second major theft of copper cable since April from a bridge that carries state Route 10 traffic over the Cuyahoga River just south of downtown. The theft on May 21 disrupted AT&T service in Cleveland's Tremont neighborhood until May 25. The company gave police a damage estimate of \$25,000. The copper cables stolen from the same location on April 1 were valued at \$100,000. Police are investigating both thefts. An AT&T spokesman speculates that the thieves are taking the copper to sell for scrap.

Source: http://www.wytv.com/content/news/ohstate/story/Copper-thieves-blamed-for-Cleveland-telecom-outage/Ur7Wtjgp5EqDnNDPTYmM_A.csp

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Commercial Facilities Sector

28. *May 29, Arizona Daily Star* – (Arizona) **Blaze forces evacuation of 50 people, up to 90 dogs.** A fire broke out at Tucson Greyhound Park late on May 28, prompting the evacuation of about 50 people and up to 90 dogs from the historic landmark. Tucson firefighters received a call for assistance from their South Tucson counterparts about 7:48 p.m., according to a Tucson fire department spokeswoman. She said the fire

appears to have started in an enclosed tower on the southwest side of the building. Firefighters were focusing their efforts on the tower but were hampered because they could not get into the structure to determine where the fire began and extinguish the blaze. The structure partially collapsed and firefighters were able to find the origin of the blaze, which was confined to the top portion of the tower. Firefighters evacuated 50 people— 30 employees and 20 patrons —from the park, stated the spokeswoman. Between 80 and 90 greyhounds were also evacuated to a safe location where they were examined by a veterinarian. No injuries were reported. The spokeswoman said about 35 firefighters from both the Tucson and South Tucson fire departments were involved in fighting the fire. There was a race under way when the fire broke out.

Source: <http://www.azstarnet.com/dailystar/294913>

29. *May 28, Indianapolis Star* – (Indiana) **Fire damages Noblesville IMAX theater.** Fire investigators say that someone who set items on fire in a men's room stall at Goodrich Quality IMAX Theatre the night of May 27 caused \$25,000 in damage, and that damage would have been more extensive if not for the sprinkler system. About 400 people were in the 16-screen theater in the Hamilton Town Center mall when the fire started, according to a Noblesville fire department press release. That department and the Fishers fire department were called to the business at 8:20 p.m. Moviegoers and staff were evacuating the theater when firefighters arrived, according to the Noblesville fire division chief, in the release. The 70,000-square-foot, 3,200-seat building that opened April 4, 2008, was filled with smoke but the fire crews found that the sprinkler system had contained and extinguished the majority of the fire. "If not for the activation of the automatic fire suppression system, the damage would have been extensive," the release said. No one was hurt in the fire. The Noblesville fire and police departments are investigating the incident.

Source: <http://jconline.com/article/20090528/NEWS09/90528007>

30. *May 27, Associated Press* – (Washington) **Navy: package on Port Townsend beach not explosive.** The Navy says a brick-shaped package marked as military C-4 plastic explosive and found on a beach near Port Townsend, Washington is not an explosive of any kind. A Navy spokeswoman said on May 27 the markings on the package were not authentic and the Navy's explosive disposal unit determined it was not an explosive. She told the Peninsula Daily News she did not know what the substance was. A State Patrol trooper says the State Patrol gave the package to the Navy on May 25. She says the package appeared to be from the military when the State Patrol bomb squad examined it briefly. The patrol got involved after someone spotted the package on the shore and called Port Townsend police, who evacuated the beach and asked for assistance.

Source: http://www.seattlepi.com/local/6420ap_wa_beach_explosive.html

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National Monuments & Icons Sector

Nothing to report

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Dams Sector

31. *May 28, East Volusia News-Journal* – (Florida) **Port Orange officials assess storms' effects.** After the flooding from as much as 30 inches of rainfall recently receded, city crews determined at least 165 structures were damaged. Two are businesses and the rest are residences. City Council members voted unanimously on May 26 to declare a state of emergency that started May 17 and will run to May 31. Damage estimates include \$1 million to the seawall at the Cambridge Basin Lake, which separated from the bank. The city manager said city crews were frustrated in efforts to prevent flooding in some areas. "We just didn't have any place to put the water," he said. "The canal they were depending on to drain the city was also flooding Dunlawton [Avenue]." Source: <http://www.news-journalonline.com/NewsJournalOnline/News/Neighbors/South/evINS02052809.htm>
32. *May 28, Los Angeles Times* – (Arizona) **Judge orders new plan for dam releases into Grand Canyon.** Federal officials must reconsider how they release water from Glen Canyon Dam into the Grand Canyon in order to protect an endangered fish, the humpback chub, a federal judge ruled May 27. Environmental groups have long argued that the irregular releases from the dam just above the canyon damage the fish's native environment, erode beaches and wash away ancient ruins in the canyon. For much of its existence, Glen Canyon released water on timetables designed to benefit Southwestern power companies, whose demand for hydroelectric power peaks during the day. Last year the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, reversing an old agency opinion, found that the fluctuating dam releases did not violate the Endangered Species Act. On May 27, a U.S. District judge ruled that that revision was improper and ordered the agency to reconsider how the dam flows may harm the endangered fish. He gave the government until November to file a new plan and ordered that, should it find the releases threaten the chub, it must propose a new schedule. Source: <http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/nation/la-na-glen-canyon28-2009may28,0,4778552.story>
33. *May 28, Republican* – (Massachusetts) **Levees facing inspection.** A team from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers next week will inspect work done on Chicopee's seven-mile dike system to see if it now meets stricter rules for dikes mandated after the levee failures in New Orleans. The wastewater treatment plant chief operator said the inspections are scheduled to be done on June 3, 4, 5 on upgrades completed at both the Chicopee and Connecticut Rivers. "They usually check the dikes and flood control stations twice a year and when they did it 18 months ago, they found that our system did not meet their standards," he said. Work also included checking for animal burrowing and holes and filling them in as needed. "We have not seen anything in the inspection so far that would threaten the integrity of the dike system," he said. Source: <http://www.masslive.com/hampfrank/republican/index.ssf?/base/news-20/124349496553790.xml&coll=1>
34. *May 28, Twin Cities Pioneer Press* – (Minnesota) **Ford Dam to undergo safety review looking for seepage.** Faced with a disturbing safety classification for the Ford Dam, the

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers said May 28 that it will examine the 92-year-old structure this summer to determine whether seepage is undermining its foundation. “There’s no reason for us to think there’s a problem,” said the dam safety program manager for the corps’ St. Paul district. “[But] we want to show there isn’t a problem.” As part of a nationwide corps review of more than 600 dams, he said, an engineering team classified Lock and Dam No. 1, commonly called the Ford Dam, as “unsafe or potentially unsafe” after not finding an analysis that would show seepage is not a problem. “If it comes out like we think it will, we’ll go back and get a different rating,” he said, and expects the process to be completed by late summer. He said an outside team of district inspectors spent a day poring over reports and inspections of the dam. On a five-point scale, the corps has placed the dam in Category 2, the second-riskiest level. If it were to fail, navigation on the upper river would be affected, and areas immediately below it, such as Hidden Falls Park in St. Paul and Minnehaha Park in Minneapolis, could be flooded. No houses are at risk. Two other dams in Minnesota, Lock and Dam 3 near Red Wing and Orwell Dam near Fergus Falls, are in the same “urgent” category of risk. Minnesota does not have any dams in the riskiest category. Source: http://www.twincities.com/news/ci_12473017?source=rss

35. *May 28, CNN* – (International) **Dam bursts after more rain in northern Brazil.** A dam burst in the northeastern village of Cocal, Brazil left a 12-year-old girl dead and three people missing, fire department officials said May 28, according to Brazil’s state news agency. The break occurred late May 27 and was blamed on heavy rains in the state of Ceara, the state-run Agencia Brasil reported. Concern over the dam’s integrity led officials to order residents to evacuate Cocal for 15 days. But they were allowed to return this week after the dam was deemed safe, it said. Fire officials said 800 to 2,000 homes located near the dam were inundated, but civil defense officials estimated 500 families — some 2,500 people — were affected. Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2009/WORLD/americas/05/28/brazil.flooding/index.html>

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