



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 10 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 two people are missing and 20 have been hospitalized after an explosion Tuesday at a ConAgra meat products plant in Garner, North Carolina. Officials said at a news conference that firefighters were trying to contain a small fire and an ammonia leak. (See item [18](#))
- According to The Register, U.K.-based Internet service provider Vaserv.com said data for as many as 100,000 Web sites was destroyed by attackers who targeted a zero-day vulnerability in a widely-used virtualization application. (See item [34](#))

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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. *June 9, Billings Gazette* – (Montana) **Gas line break forces road closures and evacuations in Laurel.** It might take weeks to determine how to fix a natural gas pipeline that ruptured beneath the Yellowstone River near Laurel Sunday, an official said on June 8. The 8-inch-diameter line, servicing Montana Dakota Utilities customers

north of the Yellowstone River including those in Billings, burst the afternoon of June 7 around 1:40 p.m., shooting a geyser of natural gas upward from the river's surface. Emergency workers evacuated Riverside Park and other areas along the river to be safe. Highway 212 from Thiel Road to Interstate 90 was closed temporarily. The line belongs to the Williston Basin Interstate Pipeline Company, an MDU Resources Group subsidiary. A spokesman said the company does not know what caused the pipe to burst. The company is not sure if the pipe beneath the river will need to be completely replaced or can be repaired. The 8-inch pipeline was actually a backup for a 16-inch natural gas line, the spokesman said. But because of increasing demand in the Billings area, the smaller line was doing more than part-time work. The Williston Basin Interstate Pipeline system is a vast array of more than 3,200 miles of high pressure pipe servicing Montana, Wyoming and the Dakotas.

Source: <http://www.billingsgazette.net/articles/2009/06/08/news/local/20-gas.txt>

2. *June 9, Platts* – (International) **Nigeria warns militants against attack on oil workers, facilities.** Nigeria's Joint Task Force (JTF) warned militants on June 8 that any attack on oil workers or installations following the passing of a deadline to get out of the Niger Delta would be seen as a declaration of war on the country. A massive offensive against militants since May 14 has seen Nigeria regain control of the Delta, the JTF said on June 3. On June 6, the Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND) warned oil workers in the oil-rich Niger Delta to leave within 72 hours to avoid an "imminent attack." MEND said its "Hurricane Piper Alpha" attack would not discriminate on tribe, nationality, or race when it is launched across the region. Officials of most western oil companies said they were taking necessary measures to ensure security of personnel and equipment.

Source:

<http://www.platts.com/Oil/News/8619233.xml?sub=Oil&p=Oil/News&?undefined&undefined>

3. *June 8, KGO 7 San Francisco* – (California) **Still no cause for Tenderloin explosion, fire.** Streets shut down on Friday because of a massive underground fire in San Francisco's Tenderloin District were still closed Monday. A one block radius around Polk and O'Farrell remains shut down. Investigators still do not know what caused the explosion. PG&E crews worked mainly underground Monday to sort out the damage caused by a major fire. "We are working to remove cabling from underneath the ground, that's the majority of the equipment that's been damaged," said a PG&E spokesperson. Once the cleanup is complete, crews will begin to replace the underground cable. PG&E investigators still do not know what caused the explosion, which last Friday sent 20-foot flames shooting into the air and plumes of thick black smoke wafting through the Tenderloin. Monday it was confirmed the fumes were not toxic. Another team worked Monday to remove drums of water presumably from underground runoff. That water will now be analyzed as well. On Friday, close to 9,000 customers were affected by the fire. Service was rerouted and as of Monday evening, only a handful of customers were still being served by an on-site generator.

Source:

http://abclocal.go.com/kgo/story?section=news/local/san_francisco&id=6855040

Chemical Industry Sector

4. *June 8, KAIT 8 Jonesboro* – (Missouri) **Chemical spill in downtown Kennett.** A tanker truck flipped onto its side on June 8, spilling chemicals and forcing the evacuation of several downtown businesses. The truck overturned just after 9 a.m. spilling an unknown amount of liquid fertilizer. Hazmat teams sealed off the area and evacuated multiple buildings in the area. No injuries have been reported. A spokesman for the Kennett, Missouri police says the driver is believed to be ok. Kennett police say the 18-wheeler broke a rear axle and flipped on its side. It was carrying 3,500 gallons of liquid fertilizer. Kennett police, Missouri State police, hazmat crews, and the Missouri Department of Natural Resources all responded to the incident.

Source: http://www.kait8.com/Global/story.asp?S=10495252&nav=menu67_3

5. *June 8, Associated Press* – (Missouri) **Large Mo. fertilizer facility to open.** One of the largest fertilizer storage sites along the Mississippi River will soon be in operation in southeast Missouri. The \$15 million Crop Production Services (CPS) site in New Madrid County will have storage capacity for 69,000 tons of liquid and dry fertilizer combined. Construction began in February, and the project is expected to be completed by September 15. CPS will be able to bring in fertilizer by barge or rail to the plant. Truckers will have 24-hours access for loading liquid fertilizer, and developers say automated systems will load up to 24 tons of fertilizer in four minutes.

Source: <http://www.kfvs12.com/global/story.asp?s=10496003>

For another story, see item [9](#)

Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector

6. *June 8, Reuters* – (Vermont) **Entergy planning to limit Vt Yankee reactor output.** Entergy Corp said it would reduce output at the 620-megawatt Vermont Yankee nuclear power station in the coming weeks to repair a leak that is allowing river water into the plant's condenser system, the company said in an email. The company did not specify the timing or severity of the power reduction, but said it could take several weeks of planning to locate the leak precisely and determine how it will be repaired. Plant operators said an increase in the chloride concentration in the reactor water indicated that river water is finding its way into the main condenser used to cool steam from the turbine for reuse in the reactor. The system is designed so that any potential leak path in the condenser would leak river water into the plant. There is no water leakage from reactor water to the environment, Entergy said.

Source:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssIndustryMaterialsUtilitiesNews/idUSN0827018920090608>

7. *June 7, KWES 9 Midland* – (Texas) **Radioactive waste storage to begin this week at**

new dump site in Andrews County. Waste Control Specialists will start ushering in low-level radioactive waste for storage at its new dump site outside of Andrews County this week. They will begin storing shipments of waste from Studsvik, Incorporated out of Tennessee. According to Waste Control Specialists (WCS), Studsvik processes low-level radioactive waste into a safer form for interim storage. WCS has handled radioactive waste since 1997 but received a low-level radioactive waste disposal license from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) this year. The TCEQ must okay any permanent storage of the waste. The WCS president says once all the conditions of the license are met, they will begin to ask for that permission.

Source: http://www.newswest9.com/Global/story.asp?S=10492931&nav=menu505_2

8. *June 7, Patriot News* – (Pennsylvania) **Group says satellite images of Three Mile Island pose security risk.** Visitors at Three Mile Island, Pennsylvania are asked not to photograph guard towers, vehicle barriers and other security measures. Yet these items are easily seen on the Internet through such sites as Microsoft's maps.live.com, now bing.com/maps. A consultant for the watchdog group Three Mile Island Alert thinks this is a security issue. He has been monitoring sites like Google Earth, which bring satellite images to home computers, for several years. But he noticed that recently the level of detail has increased. The amount of detail on Microsoft's site "could show terrorists the quickest and best route to buildings," the consultant said. A spokesman for Three Mile Island said the nuclear power plant's security forces are aware of the images and are constantly revising security measures. The security program "is designed and tested to guard against threats that use insider information," which is much more detailed than anything found on the Internet, he said. The spokesman for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission said the agency takes the concerns seriously and is reviewing the latest information, but "it's premature to say what action if any we'll take." In the past, the images were not of high enough resolution to be of concern, he said, but "we'll take another look at it."

Source:

http://www.pennlive.com/midstate/index.ssf/2009/06/group_says_satellite_images_of.ht ml

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

9. *June 9, Press and Sun-Bulletin* – (New York) **Investigators: Someone started fire.** The abandoned industrial complex that was the site of a massive fire on June 7 has been a neighborhood nuisance for years, subjected to repeated break-ins, vandalism and a \$500,000 emergency cleanup since it closed four years ago. Because of the recent history of the former E.H. Titchener & Co. site as a neighborhood trouble spot with no working electrical service, fire officials believe someone, either by accident or intent started the blaze. An 84,000-square-foot warehouse, which formerly housed Titchener's welding and metal-plating operations, was destroyed by a multiple-alarm blaze. Several other buildings were left undamaged and no injuries were reported. The owners last paid taxes in 2003, racking up more than \$750,000 in back taxes between 2003 and 2007, according to Broome County records. The site was the subject of an emergency cleanup

by the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in 2006. Back then, the EPA removed hundreds of barrels, vats and drums of hazardous materials, including drums filled with arsenic and sodium silicate, according to an EPA spokeswoman. Intense flames and billowing smoke were visible for miles as firefighters fought the inferno from a safe distance away, fearful of chemicals that may have been housed at the former metal-working plant.

Source: <http://www.pressconnects.com/article/20090609/NEWS01/906090367>

10. *June 9, Reliable Plant Magazine* – (Michigan) **GM opens advanced automotive battery lab in Michigan.** General Motors expanded its significant battery research and development capabilities on June 8 by opening the largest and the most technologically advanced battery lab in the United States on its Technical Center campus in Warren, Michigan. The new Global Battery Systems Lab will lead GM's global advanced battery engineering resources and expedite the introduction of electrically driven vehicles, including the Chevrolet Volt, as well as plug-in hybrid and hybrid-electric vehicles and fuel cell vehicles. Planning began in December 2007 and construction started in August 2008. Operations began in January, nine months ahead of schedule. The lab became fully functional in May, equipped with 160 test channels and 42 thermal chambers duplicating extreme real-world driving patterns, hot and cold temperatures, and calendar life. The lab's maximum power capacity is six megawatts, or enough electricity to provide power to approximately 1,400 homes.

Source:

<http://www.reliableplant.com/article.aspx?articleid=18081&pagetitle=GM+opens+advanced+automotive+battery+lab+in+Michigan>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

11. *June 9, Associated Press* – (Oklahoma) **Enid base officials mulling strike's impact.** Vance Air Force Base officials in Enid, Oklahoma are trying to determine what impact a strike by civilian employees will have on its military mission. The walkout by members of International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers Local Lodge 898 has caused a temporary suspension of normal flying operations at the base. The acting commander of the 71st Flying Training Wing said officials are assessing the situation. Employees of CSC Applied Technologies LLC and three subcontractors began walking a picket line at 12:01 a.m. Monday after their three-year contract expired. Union members voted Friday to reject an offer by CSC, PRI/DJI, DenMar Services, and M1 Support Services and to strike if a pact could not be reached in time. Vance contract workers perform a number of services vital to the flying training mission, such as aircraft maintenance and crew life support. The wing's response to the strike is driven by several factors, the commander said. "One is the concern for the well-being of our personnel and the families who live here on base," he said. "Since the Vance fire department is staffed by CSC employees, Air Force personnel from Columbus Air Force Base, Miss., Altus Air Force Base and Luke Air Force Base, Ariz., have been brought in to ensure that we have a fire department staffed to respond to emergencies on base." "We also have Security Forces augmentees from this base activated to ensure the safety

of base personnel and property,” he said.

Source:

http://www.tulsaworld.com/news/article.aspx?subjectid=12&articleid=20090609_12_0_ENIDVa178435

12. *June 8, Virginian-Pilot* – (Virginia) **More welding woes uncovered for Newport News shipyard.** For the second time in less than two years, the Northrop Grumman Newport News shipyard is coping with an embarrassing problem related to its welding. On May 29, the Navy announced that an investigation was under way after a shipyard inspector admitted falsifying three weld inspections, saying he had done them when he had not. The Navy now is re-examining welds on as many as 13 vessels — nine submarines and four aircraft carriers. In December 2007, the Navy announced it had found “weaknesses” in some non-nuclear piping welds inside Virginia-class attack submarines that could result in leaky pipe joints. Such piping is used in water and wastewater systems, among other things. Both the Navy and Northrop Grumman insist the two issues are essentially unrelated. The issue “primarily involves the inspection of welds as opposed to the welds and weld processes themselves, though all of these matters are under review,” the shipyard’s statement said.

Source: <http://hamptonroads.com/2009/06/more-welding-woes-uncovered-newport-news-shipyard>

For another story, see item [10](#)

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Banking and Finance Sector

13. *June 9, Reuters* – (National) **U.S. commercial property bank loan defaults soar.** The default rate of U.S. commercial real estate bank loans reached its highest level in 15 years and is not expected to peak until 2011, according to a report by Real Estate Econometrics. During the first quarter 2009, the national default rate for commercial real estate mortgages held by regulated depository institutions rose to 2.25 percent from 1.62 in the fourth quarter of 2008, according to the real estate research firm’s report released on June 9. The 0.63 percentage-point jump is the largest quarterly increase since at least 1992, and pushed the default rate to its highest level since 1994, the New York-based firm said. The default rate does not include loans on apartments, which increased by 0.68 percentage points between the fourth quarter and first quarter 2009 to 2.45 percent. The analysis of the data from the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) includes non-farm, non-residential property where the primary source of repayment during the term of the mortgage is derived from the property’s rental income. The multifamily results include buildings with five or more units.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/mergersNews/idUSN0833072220090609>

14. *June 8, Lincolnwood Review* – (Illinois) **Bank of Lincolnwood shut by FDIC, bought by Republic Bank.** The Bank of Lincolnwood, a financial institution for 55 years, was shut down at the close of business hours on June 5 by state and federal regulators, but will open on June 6 as part of the Oak Brook-based Republic Bank of Chicago. The

two-branch bank became the third Chicago-area bank failure of 2009, the sixth in Illinois, and was, FDIC officials said, the 37th FDIC-insured institution nationally to fail this year. The Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation's banking division closed the bank and appointed the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation as receiver. FDIC officials announced in a subsequent press release that Republic Bank of Chicago would assume the Lincolnwood bank's deposits. FDIC records show the bank had total assets of about \$214 million, and total deposits of \$202 million. Republic was set to purchase \$162 million in assets, with the FDIC shouldering the rest to sell later. Source: <http://www.pioneerlocal.com/lincolnwood/news/1612317,lincolnwood-bankfails-061109-s1.article>

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Transportation Sector

15. *June 9, Associated Press* – (Florida) **Commercial fisherman hooks live missile in Gulf off Florida, keeps on board for 10 days.** Florida authorities say a commercial fisherman reeled in a live missile in the Gulf of Mexico and kept it on his boat for 10 days. The sheriff's office in Pinellas County says the boat's captain hooked the air-to-air guided missile 50 miles off the Panhandle town of Panama City. The Air Force and Navy use Gulf waters off the Panhandle for weapons training. The captain had the missile aboard his boat for 10 days before returning Monday to port in Madeira Beach, near St. Petersburg. A bomb squad was called in from MacDill Air Force Base and dismantled the missile in an empty parking lot. The bomb squad said the missile was corroded from floating in saltwater for a long time. They said it was live and in a very unstable state.

Source: <http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/nation/wire/sns-ap-us-missile-hooked,1,2080336.story>

16. *June 8, Associated Press* – (Georgia) **Small plane lands on suburban Atlanta highway.** A small plane with two people on board has made an emergency landing on a highway in the northern Atlanta suburbs. The Federal Aviation Administration says the Italian-made Sky Arrow 600 Sport was headed for the Cobb County Airport-McCollum Field Monday when the pilot reported smoke in the cockpit and engine failure. A Cobb County police sergeant said the pilot landed on U.S. Highway 41 and taxied the plane into a nearby subdivision. Authorities say the pilot was a 44-year-old from Canton and the passenger was a 29-year-old from Jonesboro. No injuries were reported. The names of the pilot and passenger were not released. The aircraft is registered to Kennesaw-based Hansen Air Group, according to an FAA database. Company officials did not immediately return a call for comment.

Source: http://www.usatoday.com/travel/flights/2009-06-08-small-plane-atlanta_N.htm

For more stories, see items [1](#) and [4](#)

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Postal and Shipping Sector

17. *June 9, Associated Press* – (Pennsylvania) **FBI: Envelope that closed fed bldg tests negative.** The FBI says a suspicious package that forced the evacuation of a federal building in central Pennsylvania for more than an hour tested negative for a harmful substance. Authorities say an envelope containing white powder was received Monday at the U.S. Attorney's office at the federal building in Williamsport. The building was evacuated while field testing was done. Results turned out negative and employees returned to work. Officials say no one in contact with the letter showed signs of illness. More tests on the envelope were scheduled at a lab. A Special Agent in Philadelphia says the envelope with an out-of-state return address contained a letter, but he declined to give more details.

Source:

http://www.philly.com/philly/wires/ap/news/state/pennsylvania/20090609_ap_fbienvelo_pethatclosedfedbldgtestsnegative.html

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Agriculture and Food Sector

18. *June 9, Associated Press* – (North Carolina) **2 missing, 20 injured in NC Slim Jim plant collapse.** Officials say two people are missing and 20 have been hospitalized after an explosion at a meat products plant in North Carolina. The district chief with Wake County Emergency Medical Services said five injured people were tagged as priority patients with serious conditions. He said officials were searching for two people missing from the site in Garner, a Raleigh suburb, but it was not clear whether they were inside during the explosion. The mayor of Garner said injuries ranged from burns to smoke inhalation. Emergency crews were keeping people away because of concerns about the smell of ammonia. "There is a toxic cloud on and about the plant," the mayor said. Officials said at a news conference that firefighters were still trying to contain a small fire and an ammonia leak. The site produces Slim Jim products. The mayor said several people reported hearing an explosion before the building partially collapsed. "We're still working evacuating anybody else that was still in the building and treating people that were injured," said a spokesman for the Garner Police Department. About 900 people work at the 50,000-square foot plant, which is considered one of ConAgra's largest, said a spokesman for the Omaha-based company. He said he did not yet know how many people were in the plant at the time of the collapse and the company was not sure about the cause yet. ConAgra is sending a team of experts to the facility and is helping local authorities.

Source: http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2009-06-09-NC_plant_collapse_N.htm?csp=34

19. *June 8, U.S. Food Safety and Inspection Service* – (North Carolina; South Carolina) **South Carolina firm recalls fresh beef trim products due to possible E. coli O157:H7 contamination: class I recall.** Snow Creek Meat Processing, a Seneca, South Carolina, establishment is recalling approximately 75 pounds of fresh beef trim products

that may be contaminated with E. coli O157:H7, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) announced on June 8. These fresh beef trim products were produced on June 2, 2009, and were distributed to retail establishments for further processing in North Carolina and South Carolina. The problem was discovered through FSIS microbiological sampling. FSIS has received no reports of illnesses associated with consumption of these products.

Source: http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News_&_Events/Recall_030_2009_Release/index.asp

20. *June 8, USAgNet* – (National) **Bee-killing parasite's genome sequenced.** Agricultural Research Service (ARS) scientists have sequenced the genome of an invasive parasite called *Nosema ceranae* that can kill honey bees and is one of the many suspects in the mysterious ailment known as colony collapse disorder (CCD). The scientists are using genetic tools and microscopic analysis at the ARS Bee Research Laboratory (BRL) in Beltsville, Maryland, to examine the two parasites suspected as a partial cause of CCD. The researchers are from the University of Maryland, Columbia University, and 454 Life Sciences of Branford, Connecticut. In 2006, CCD began devastating commercial beekeeping operations, with some beekeepers reporting losses of up to 90 percent. Researchers believe CCD may be the result of a combination of pathogens, parasites and stress factors, but the cause remains elusive. At stake are honey bees that add up to \$15 billion in value to crops in the United States. *Nosema apis* was the leading cause of microsporidia infections among domestic bee colonies until recently, when *N. ceranae* jumped from Asian honey bees to the European honey bees used commercially in the United States.

Source: <http://usagnet.com/story-national.php?Id=1231&yr=2009>

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Water Sector

21. *June 9, Martinsburg Journal* – (West Virginia) **Four helped after spill.** Four Shepherdstown Public Works Department employees were treated for exposure to chlorine on June 8 following a reported chemical spill at the town's wastewater treatment plant. Several emergency response teams from Berkeley and Jefferson Counties and Washington County, Maryland, responded along with a West Virginia Regional Response Team from the Department of Military Affairs and Public Safety. "What happened is some employees of the Corporation of Shepherdstown went into the sewer water treatment facility for a suspected chlorine leak," said the Shepherdstown Fire Department's public information officer. They did not find anything leaking but there was a great amount of chlorine in the air. They called 911 and the Shepherdstown Fire Department's Rescue Engine 3 and two medic units were the first to arrive at the scene. After a first sweep the responders did not find anything. "We knew something was wrong because we were definitely getting readings of chlorine in the air, so we called for the regional hazmat team out of Berkeley County and also a hazmat team out of Washington County, Maryland, who both responded," he said. During their search they found a portable cylinder that was leaking chlorine, according to the information officer. "It had a malfunction in the valve and one of the valves was leaking," he said. "They did take care of the leak, stopped it and removed the portable container to the

point where it can be disposed of properly.

Source: <http://www.journal-news.net/page/content.detail/id/520711.html>

22. *June 8, Star-Ledger* – (New Jersey) **Montgomery plans to upgrade 2 water treatment plants.** Montgomery is ready to begin upgrades on two of the township's biggest waste water treatment plants this fall, officials said. The township committee voted last week to upgrade the Skillman Village and Pike Brook facilities to meet the state Department of Environmental Protection's sewage regulations that go into effect next year. Representatives from Omni Environmental, contracted to design and oversee the upgrades, said the improvements were necessary. Without upgrades, the facilities, which treat about 50 percent of the township's water, could result in fines up to \$50,000 a day under the new rules. Pike Brook is about 20 years old and has reached its capacity of processing 450,000 gallons per day. Skillman Village is more than 20 years old and processes 500,000 gallons per day. Currently, Montgomery operates eight water treatment plants. After the upgrades, which will increase the capacity of both facilities, the township plans to shut down two smaller plants.

Source:

http://www.nj.com/news/local/index.ssf/2009/06/montgomery_plans_to_upgrade_2.html

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

23. *June 9, News-Medical* – (International) **WHO to incorporate disease severity into pandemic alert scale.** A meeting of the World Health Organization's emergency committee held Friday to discuss the H1N1 ended without a pandemic declaration, but experts concluded that declarations would now be based upon the severity and transmission pattern of a virus. "There was a broad consensus on the importance of including information on severity in future announcements," explained the WHO in a statement released after Friday's meeting. According to Reuters, "The experts...made recommendations on a number of factors to be taken into account to assess the severity of an epidemic," it said, without giving details. The WHO on Monday confirmed that 73 countries have officially reported 25,288 cases of influenza A(H1N1) infection, including 139 deaths.

Source: <http://www.news-medical.net/news/20090609/WHO-to-incorporate-disease-severity-into-pandemic-alert-scale.aspx>

24. *June 9, Wall Street Journal* – (National) **Hospitals put the squeeze on infection-prevention efforts.** Deadly hospital infections cause almost 10,000 deaths a year and add more than \$20 billion to the nation's health-care tab. That seems like a good reason for hospitals to beef up infection-control departments and invest in technology to detect and prevent infections. But infection-control professionals say their ranks are being thinned and they are losing the resources they need to fight infections as part of cutbacks linked to the economic downturn. In a survey released Tuesday, the Association for Professionals in Infection Control says that 41 percent of nearly 2,000 respondents reported cuts in their budgets, including money for technology, staff, education,

products and equipment. Of those, nearly 40 percent had layoffs or reduced hours, and a third experienced hiring freezes. Nurses who staff many of the departments say they are being asked to take on extra duties that distract them from infection control. Moreover, the federal Medicare program will no longer pay for the additional costs of certain hospital-acquired infections. “A patient with a bloodstream infection is going to be in that bed for another week, which has huge impact on the ability to empty those beds, unclog emergency departments, and move new patients in,” says the vice president for Quality, at Main Line Health System in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania. As a general rule of thumb, she says, hospitals need at least one full-time infection control professional for every 100 occupied beds.

Source: <http://blogs.wsj.com/health/2009/06/09/hospitals-put-the-squeeze-on-infection-prevention-efforts/>

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Government Facilities Sector

25. *June 8, Los Angeles Times* – (California) **Marine reservist at Camp Pendleton to plead guilty to leaking secrets.** A Marine reservist at Camp Pendleton will plead guilty Thursday to charges linked to the unauthorized release of classified information, the Marine Corps announced. The suspect, a gunnery sergeant, was charged in an investigation into the alleged leaking of information about suspected terrorist groups to civilian law enforcement agencies. The information had been gathered by federal law enforcement and shared with Marine Corps intelligence units. The suspect and a master sergeant were charged in May in connection with the case. A third reservist, another gunnery sergeant, has already pleaded guilty. The lead suspect has reached a plea agreement with Marine prosecutors. The terms of the agreement are set to be revealed at a hearing Tuesday morning. One charge against the suspect was that he allegedly slipped information to a reserves colonel who is a detective with the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department, and who was not authorized to receive it. Source: <http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/lanow/2009/06/marine-reservists-at-camp-pendleton-to-plead-guilty-to-leaking-secrets.html>

26. *June 8, Associated Press* – (District of Columbia) **Capitol Visitor Center evacuated for package.** Police evacuated the Capitol Visitor Center in Washington, D.C., after finding a suspicious package at its entrance. Capitol Police said they were investigating whether the package is dangerous. Shortly after six o’clock on the evening of June 8, about an hour after the evacuation began, fire trucks, ambulances and others responding to the evacuation began leaving the area. The underground visitor center opened in December. Nearly three million people visit the 580,000 square foot complex each year. It is not uncommon for tourists to accidentally leave belongings behind, but security at the Capitol is tight. Source: http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5j4fB3-YvQi719_thNRwrsHMshIuwD98MOUMG2

27. *June 7, Associated Press* – (Texas) **DPS trying to catch up after virus, new design.** Five days worth of driver’s license production was lost as a result of a “worm” that

infected computers at the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS). The computer virus in April happened at the same time DPS switched to a new driver's license design. The result is a backlog of applications and at least a month delay for citizens to receive a renewed driver's license, the Dallas Morning News reported. A DPS spokeswoman said more workers had been added to the driver's license machines and the state should be caught up in a couple of weeks.

Source: <http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/APStories/stories/D98LU8D02.html>

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Emergency Services Sector

28. *June 9, Schenectady Daily Gazette* – (New York) **High tech 911 system gets OK.** The Fulton County, New York, Board of Supervisors on Monday unanimously endorsed purchasing a new “geodiverse” 911 dispatch system in partnership with Montgomery County. County officials said the new system would be Internet-based, capable of receiving “next generation 911 calls,” and give both counties identical and redundant technology, allowing either dispatch center to serve as the emergency backup for the other. A Fulton County sheriff's deputy lieutenant said his department's equipment lease with Frontier Communications for its current 911 system expires July 1, 2010, and Montgomery County's equipment lease expires in April. He said preliminary estimates indicate the new system would cost about \$250,000, but those costs could be split evenly with Montgomery County.

Source: http://www.dailygazette.com/news/2009/jun/09/0609_newsystem/

29. *June 8, KHON 2 Honolulu* – (Hawaii) **Police nab suspect in stolen weapons case.** The search for a man suspected of stealing two weapons from an off-duty police officer's car ended Monday. Police tracked the suspect to the lower Punchbowl area after he was spotted by a patrol officer driving a stolen white Dodge Neon in the Punahou area. Investigators believe the unidentified man stole a handgun, an automatic rifle, ammunition, a holster and police identification from an off-duty officer's subsidized vehicle Friday afternoon. HPD was able to track the vehicle as the suspect drove through three HPD districts, including downtown Honolulu, Kalihi, and Pearl City. Police arrested the suspect, and a female riding in the front passenger seat of the Dodge was also taken into custody.

Source: <http://www.khon2.com/news/local/story/Police-Nab-Suspect-In-Stolen-Weapons-Case/vrYUE1Zbokukm7jYSPLUQw.csp>

30. *June 8, Contra Costa Times* – (California) **Contra Costa sheriff recovers stolen weapons.** A trunkload of firearms stolen in the winter from Contra Costa County police agencies turned up last week in diverse corners of California, investigators reported Monday. The recoveries in Stockton and San Andreas account for all weapons that went missing after a series of patrol-car burglaries in Martinez, Richmond, and Clayton from December to February, Contra Costa sheriff's captain said. County prosecutors charged a 20-year-old Montalvin Manor resident with the crimes in April, saying he fed an

unhealthy fixation with guns and other martial accouterments by stealing automatic rifles, shotguns, ballistic vests and other gear and hoarding them in his dilapidated house. The man is accused of using pry bars and other burglary tools to open patrol cars parked in fenced lots at the CHP's Martinez station and sheriff's stations in Martinez and Richmond, as well as lockers at a sheriff's training facility in Clayton. Search warrants at his home and other nearby locations yielded some of the gear in April, including helmets, night-vision goggles and an AR-15 rifle stolen from one of the sheriff's vehicles, a shotgun and a .22 caliber rifle.

Source: http://www.mercurynews.com/breakingnews/ci_12548630

31. *June 8, FOX News* – (New Jersey) **Ohio 'hitman' arrested in plot to kill New Jersey cops before trial.** An Ohio man allegedly hired to kill two police officers in southern New Jersey was captured before he could carry out the killings. The man, who was charged with attempted murder, was being held Sunday on \$1 million bail. Cape May County, New Jersey prosecutors said the 41-year-old Toledo, Ohio man, a commercial fisherman who formerly lived in New Jersey and has a criminal record there, was hired to kill the Middle Township officers so they could not testify at an upcoming trial. The man was arrested in Middle Township on Thursday afternoon, but a weapon was not recovered.

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,525394,00.html>

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Information Technology

32. *June 9, ZDNet UK* – (International) **Virtual-machine exploit lets attackers take over host.** Penetration-testing company Immunity has exploited a flaw in VMware software that allows malicious code running in a virtual machine to take over the host operating system. Immunity included the attack code in an update to its commercial penetration-testing tool, Canvas 6.47, released on June 2. The attack code is in a module of the tool called Cloudburst. Cloudburst uses a vulnerability in the virtual-machine display functions of VMware Workstation that can be exploited by a specially crafted video file. The malicious file, when executed within a virtual machine, could allow an intruder to take over the host operating system, according to security researchers. The bug itself affects VMware Workstation 6.5.1 and earlier, or the associated Player versions. The software can be running on any host system, including Linux, according to VMware. However, the Cloudburst exploit currently has certain limitations: it will only succeed on Workstation 6.5.0 or 6.5.1 or the associated Player versions. In addition, the guest and host must be Windows-based, among other requirements, Immunity said in its release notes.

Source: <http://news.zdnet.co.uk/security/0,1000000189,39661637,00.htm>

For another story, see item [34](#)

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

33. *June 9, IDG News Service* – (International) **T-Mobile confirms stolen data is genuine.**

T-Mobile confirmed on June 9 that internal information posted on the Internet by hackers was stolen from its systems, but said it does not appear customer data is in jeopardy. Hackers posted a message on June 6 on the Full Disclosure vulnerability message board claiming they had pilfered confidential documents as well as financial and database information from T-Mobile's servers. After trying to sell the data to T-Mobile's competitors, they wrote they were offering the information to the highest bidder. However, T-Mobile disputes the value of the data. "Regarding the recent claim on a Web site, we have identified the document from which information was copied and believe possession of this alone is not enough to cause harm to our customers," the company said. T-Mobile said further information could not be released due to the ongoing investigation. The company will contact customers if it becomes evident personal information was compromised, it said.

Source:

http://www.pcworld.com/businesscenter/article/166348/tmobile_confirms_stolen_data_is_genuine.html

34. *June 8, The Register* – (International) **Webhost hack wipes out data for 100,000 sites.**

A large Internet service provider said data for as many as 100,000 Web sites was destroyed by attackers who targeted a zero-day vulnerability in a widely-used virtualization application. Technicians at U.K.-based Vaserv.com were still scrambling to recover data on June 8 evening U.K. time, more than 24 hours after unknown hackers were able to gain root access to the company's system, the company's director told the Register. He said the attackers were able to penetrate his servers by exploiting a critical vulnerability in HyperVM, a virtualization application made by a company called LXLabs. "We were hit by a zero-day exploit" in version 2.0.7992 of the application, he said. "I have heard from other people they have been hit by the same thing." According to the director, data for about half of the websites hosted on Vaserv was destroyed all at once sometime on June 7, shortly after administrators noticed "strangeness" on the system. The attackers had the ability to execute sensitive Unix commands on the system, including "rm -rf," which forces a recursive delete of all files.

Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2009/06/08/webhost_attack/

35. *June 8, Homeland Security Newswire* – (National) **Motorola: Cellphones could offer a unified disaster alerts broadcast.**

A recent patent application by Motorola offers an interesting idea in which first responders would be interested: Cellphones could sound the alarm in the event of a disaster and pass on the alert from phone to phone — even if most of a cellphone network is down. In an emergency, such as a hurricane or terrorist attack, the U.S. government can operate the Emergency Alert System (EAS), which

harnesses all TV and radio frequencies, to broadcast warning messages to people in their homes. “Unfortunately, a large portion of the intended recipients will not have their TV and radio systems turned on when a disaster occurs,” said a Motorola engineer of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in the U.S. patent application filed on 21 May. His answer is a new generation of cellphones that can rapidly form a peer-to-peer network when an emergency alert is broadcast. A phone on the edge of a disaster area, where a cellphone service still operates, receives the alert. It contacts the nearest phone using Wi-Fi, establishes a P2P network with it, and sends it the alert. That cellphone then does likewise until as many mobiles as possible have received the alert. This way, the warning message gets out with “minimal use of infrastructure,” the engineer said. Source: <http://homelandsecuritynewswire.com/single.php?id=8102>

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Commercial Facilities Sector

36. *June 9, Associated Press* – (International) **Hong Kong police investigate acid attacks.** Hong Kongers ventured out unafraid June 9, as police searched for suspects behind a third acid attack that injured 24 people in one of the city’s most densely populated shopping districts. Nearly 100 people have been injured in the assaults so far. The latest attack on the night of June 8 dominated headlines in Hong Kong, with several newspapers showing photos of victims washing off the acid on the roadside. Police said a bottle filled with a corrosive liquid was hurled onto a crowd in the busy Mong Kok district, injuring 24 people. None of the victims, aged 4 to 49, were seriously burned. It is the third such attack in six months in the neighborhood. On the same street last month, 30 people suffered burns when two plastic bottles filled with acid were thrown down into a crowd. Another 46 were injured in a similar attack in the same neighborhood in December 2008. There were no signs the attacks had sparked widespread panic in the city of 7 million, as locals mostly went about their business. But in Mong Kok — which means “busy corner” in Chinese and is a shopping hot spot that attracts thousands of people daily — some shoppers were staying away. A police superintendent said in a radio interview June 9 that officers were reviewing surveillance footage taken by cameras recently installed to monitor the area of the attacks. But he said it was not immediately clear whether the assailant would be identified because some of the images are too dark. Investigators have also posted a 900,000 Hong Kong dollar (\$116,097) reward for information leading to an arrest. If convicted, the assailant would be charged with intent to cause grievous bodily harm, which has a maximum penalty of life imprisonment, the superintendent said earlier. Source: <http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5jL5fvD-wgtpNxaGiu509DaJcaJKgD98N29180>
37. *June 8, Associated Press* – (South Carolina) **Myrtle Beach residents question fire warning system.** Residents who lost everything in an April 2009 wildfire are asking why officials gave them just minutes to evacuate when flames had been raging for most of the previous day. The Sun News of Myrtle Beach reports that police videos, 911 calls and emergency radio traffic show a chaotic attempt to get people out of Barefoot Resort, one of the city’s largest residential developments. Homes were burning and people did

not know what to do. No one was hurt or killed, but residents say the failure to react could have cost lives. The fire destroyed 76 homes and damaged 78 others at a total estimated cost of \$19 million. Police car videos from that night show North Myrtle Beach officials feared the wildfire would hit Barefoot Resort more than 30 minutes before the first house caught fire. They had been monitoring the fire for hours before that. But they did not call for an evacuation until it was too late to save the homes. They say the fire flared too quickly and was unpredictable. City officials also say Horry County Fire Rescue officials assured them earlier that night the fire was contained. The county's fire chief denies that assertion. The wildfire started when a trash fire set four days before rekindled.

Source: http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2009-06-07-sc-fire_N.htm

For another story, see item [1](#)

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National Monuments & Icons Sector

Nothing to report

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Dams Sector

38. *June 7, South Florida Sun-Sentinel* – (Florida) **Flood fears in South Florida: Huge levee needs repairs; insurance costs may rise.** A 105-mile-long mound of dirt and rock helps stop the Everglades from flooding South Florida communities sitting on former swampland. Now, after 60 years of holding back the water, the East Coast Protection Levee needs repairs. Tropical Storm Fay last year exposed vulnerable sections of the levee in Broward and Miami-Dade counties. During weeks of draining away the leftovers of the storm's historic drenching, increased amounts of water seeped through parts of the levee near the Sawgrass Expressway. More seeping could lead to erosion that might threaten the structure. Also, a federal safety inspection of a 28-mile stretch in Palm Beach County determined that section to be "minimally acceptable." Improvements are needed within two years to avoid a failing ranking. Entering another hurricane season, South Florida water managers contend their 60-year-old earthen levee will hold. But they also plan costly refurbishing to keep in line with federal standards toughened since Hurricane Katrina left New Orleans under water. In addition to safety concerns, failing to meet tougher federal levee standards could require more people to buy federal flood insurance and make it more expensive for others who want to add flood coverage, increasing already pricey home-insurance costs in South Florida. The South Florida Water Management District proposes to spend about \$60 million over the next five years to strengthen the East Coast Protection Levee.

Source: <http://www.sun-sentinel.com/sfl-levees-repairs-a060709sbjun07,0,6178849.story>

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