



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 15 July 2009

Current Nationwide Threat Level

ELEVATED



Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks

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

Top Stories

- CNN reports that a Southwest Airlines jet made an emergency landing in Charleston, West Virginia on Monday after a football-sized hole in its fuselage caused the cabin to depressurize. All 181 of Southwest's 737-300s — about a third of the airline's fleet — are being inspected after the emergency landing. (See item [13](#))
- According to Softpedia, the malware responsible for the recent denial of service attacks against many U.S. and South Korean government and commercial Web sites has received an update to damage the computers it infected. Experts concluded that a botnet of over 60,000 computers, infected with an updated Mydoom variant, had been used to launch the attacks. (See item [28](#))

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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. *July 13, Anchorage Daily News* – (Alaska) **Drift River terminal may resume shipping; platforms start up.** With Redoubt volcano signaling that it is slipping back

into sleep, oil company officials on July 13 announced tentative plans to resume crude shipping and production from the west side of Cook Inlet. A spokesman for Cook Inlet Pipe Line Co. said. Officials hope that by mid-August the first tanker load of oil in more than four months will be able to leave the volcano-threatened Drift River Oil Terminal. That would free up storage capacity for 10 idled platforms in Cook Inlet, allowing them to resume oil pumping. The shutdown of Drift River set off a chain reaction upstream. Some 40 miles north, the onshore storage tanks at Trading Bay and Granite Point reached capacity, about 3.8 million gallons. With no place for the oil to be put, crude production shut down at the 10 platforms. A Chevron spokeswoman said none of the 185 Chevron and Union oil field workers lost their jobs, though some contractors were sent home. Some workers were needed for natural gas production, which was not affected by the shutdown, and others were assigned maintenance tasks. The spokeswoman said engineers do not yet know whether the four-month shutdown will result in a permanent loss of production. That sometimes happens when the flow at a well is temporarily stopped and geologic structures plug up.

Source: <http://www.adn.com/volcano/story/863432.html>

2. *July 13, KTVX 4 Salt Lake City* – (Utah) **Power knocked out in Weber County.** An official with Rocky Mountain Power says the greater Ogden area has about 23,000 customers without power the afternoon of July 13. Rocky Mountain Power (RMP) was conducting emergency repairs in a substation west of Ogden when technical problems caused protective devices to activate and interrupt service to multiple substations in the Ogden area. RMP was having “transmission issues” and crews did not know exactly where the problem was. Workers repaired a line near a substation and brought some customers back up, but at the same time additional customers lost power. RMP is not sure when they would be able to restore power. At least one Ogden hospital was on generator power.
Source: <http://www.abc4.com/content/news/top%20stories/story/Power-knocked-out-in-Weber-County/DdifFL5qlEi-tKHGx8hJ9w.csp>
3. *July 13, Reuters* – (International) **Nigerian gunmen attack Lagos dock, top rebel freed.** Nigeria’s main militant group widened its offensive against Africa’s biggest oil sector on Monday despite the release of its suspected leader, raising concern there might be further attacks. The Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND) sabotaged an oil offloading dock in Lagos state, killing five people in the group’s first attack outside the Niger Delta since it began its latest campaign of violence. The expansion of MEND’s range has heightened security concerns beyond the oil industry and dashed hopes that the release of its suspected leader would halt the militant offensive, analysts said.
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/latestCrisis/idUSLD48147>

For another story, see item [37](#)

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Chemical Industry Sector

4. *July 13, Palm Springs Desert Sun* – (California) **Chemical spill reported on I-10.** In Palm Springs, a chemical spill has been reported on July 13 on Interstate 10 in an area east of the Coachella Valley. The spill was reported about 8:45 p.m. in the eastbound lanes, just west of Red Cloud Road, according to the California Highway Patrol. About 30 gallons of an unspecified chemical has spilled onto the road. There have not been any reports of injuries or lane closures.
Source: <http://www.mydesert.com/article/20090713/NEWS0804/90713038/Chemical+spill+reported+on+I-10>
5. *July 13, Salt Lake Tribune* – (Utah) **Storage shed explodes at oxygen plant.** A storage shed at Hicken Oxygen Co. caught fire and exploded on July 13, forcing the evacuation of a several-block radius in Heber City. No one was injured. Fire crews quickly responded and put out the fire. The cause of the fire is still under investigation. The explosion took out the main power line going into Heber, knocking out power to all of Main Street, U.S. Highway 40 and the residential areas for several blocks surrounding it, said the general manager for Heber Light and Power. He estimated between 500 and 1,000 customers were without power for at least 90 minutes.
Source: http://www.sltrib.com/ci_12828691
6. *July 12, Gainesville Sun* – (Florida) **Train derails, spills wheat; no one hurt.** A mishap with a wheel on the last car of a CSX train rolling through southern Alachua County on July 11 caused a derailment that spilled a load of wheat and may have damaged some automobiles, reported the Alachua County sheriff's office. No one was injured and the situation could have been worse, said a sheriff lieutenant. Cars on the train were carrying sulfuric acid, but did not derail or rupture. "A huge spill of sulfuric acid would have been a big deal," he said. The incident occurred about 11:07 a.m. in the 8000 block of U.S. 301 between Hawthorne and Lochloosa. CSX reported to the sheriff's office that a wheel on the last car either locked up or fell off, causing the car to derail. A section of track was damaged from the derailment, and motorists who were crossing a damaged section of the track reported that it caused damage to their cars.
Source: <http://www.gainesville.com/article/20090712/ARTICLES/907121011/1002?Title=Around-the-Region>

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector

7. *July 13, Rutland Herald* – (Vermont) **Yankee fence line move in question.** Entergy Nuclear's plan to build a new boundary fence should not even be considered until residents know how much radiation the plant is currently emitting, several people told the Public Service Board on July 13. The Department of Health has not yet released radiation information about 2008 or the first six months of 2009, and to consider establishing a new site boundary is premature, said a member of Nuclear Free Vermont by 2012. Many condemned the idea as a way of letting the plant release more radiation into the surrounding community, by moving the location where radiation is monitored

farther away from the plant itself. The radiological health chief for the Department of Health did not attend the hearing, but he said recently he did not know when the annual radiation dose report would come out. The department is currently rewriting its radiation release regulations at the request of the Legislature's Administrative Rules Committee, which found last year that the health department had changed its regulations without any public comment. At least one Massachusetts resident, who lives within the emergency evacuation zone surrounding the plant, said the Public Service Board had not even put Entergy Nuclear's formal request to move the fence on its Web site, so the public did not know exactly what Entergy was proposing.

Source:

<http://www.rutlandherald.com/article/20090714/NEWS02/907140367/1003/NEWS02>

8. *July 13, Asbury Park Press* – (New Jersey) **Oyster Creek has unplanned shutdown; likely because of electrical storms.** Severe weather conditions led to an unplanned shutdown of Oyster Creek Generating Station, which operators of the nuclear power plant called an “unusual event” the morning of July 12. The shutdown occurred at 1:48 a.m. and followed an interruption of off-site power to the station owned by Exelon Nuclear. It was likely due to electrical storms that swept through the region overnight. The Exelon Mid-Atlantic communications manager said in a prepared statement on July 12 that the “unusual event” ended at 4:05 a.m. following the restoration of off-site power. “The plant is still off-line today for equipment testing,” she said on July 13. “Because of the competitive electricity market, we can not characterize the length of outages as it is proprietary information.” “The unit automatically shut down safely when the plant lost off-site power at 1:35 a.m. As per plant procedures, operators declared the unusual event when off-site power was interrupted for more than 15 minutes. Several other power outages in the area related to the severe weather were reported prior to the plant shutdown,” the release stated.

Source:

<http://www.app.com/article/20090713/NEWS/907130339/1070/NEWS02/Oyster+Creek+has+unplanned+shutdown>

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

9. *July 13, U.S. Air Force* – (California) **Air Force officials release Reaper accident report.** Air Force officials announced an MQ-9 Reaper that crashed March 20 at Fort Irwin, California, was due to an improperly assembled oil system temperature control valve, according to an Air Combat Command Accident Investigation Board report released July 13. The Reaper, assigned to the 42nd Attack Squadron at Creech Air Force Base, Nevada, was damaged upon landing and has an estimated repair cost of \$3.9

million. According to the report, during a training mission the pilot received an engine malfunction warning and shortly thereafter lost power and torque. During an emergency landing to a simulated airfield on a field comprised of loose earth graded to look like a runway, the Reaper overshot the intended field and landed on unimproved, uneven desert terrain with scrub bushes. The findings of the accident investigation board indicate that even if the Reaper had landed on the emergency airstrip, it would have sustained a similar degree of damage. The cause of the mishap was an improperly assembled oil system temperature control valve. The incorrect assembly caused the valve to fail in such a way that there was a severe oil flow imbalance that resulted in engine failure.

Source: <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123158471>

See also:

http://www.airforcetimes.com/news/2009/07/airforce_crash_reports_uas_071309w/

10. *July 13, Defense News* – (National) **U.S. Navy inspecting older F/A-18 hornets.** A bulletin was issued July 10 to inspect all older-model U.S. Navy and Marine Corps F/A-18 Hornet strike fighters for possible cracks in an internal support fitting, a U.S. Navy official said July 13. “No mishaps have occurred,” a Navy Spokesman said. “We issued the inspection bulletin as a precautionary, risk-reduction measure to ensure our aircraft are structurally sound and safe for operational flight.” Stabilators are the smaller, horizontal fins at the back of the aircraft that help control the aircraft’s direction, pitch and attitude. The entire stabilator moves, as compared with horizontal stabilizers, which are fixed in place and have elevator flaps that move up or down. The aircraft affected by the inspection bulletin are the 622 Hornet F/A-18-A, B, C and D models in service with the Navy and Marine Corps. Ten early model aircraft do not have the straps and are not being inspected. All the Hornets were built by McDonnell Douglas, now a subsidiary of Boeing. The aircraft vary widely in age and accumulated flying hours. As of July 13, 40 deployed Hornets have been inspected with no failures. Overall, inspection of 93 aircraft has been completed; of those, three were discovered with missing fasteners, and two of those had cracked bootstraps requiring replacement. The issue is not related to another inspection issued last October for A-D Hornets. In that instance, aircraft were inspected for possible cracks in a wing flap hinge.

Source: <http://www.defensenews.com/story.php?i=4185219&c=AME&s=SEA>

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Banking and Finance Sector

11. *July 14, Washington Post* – (National) **U.S. considers rescue of major small-business lender.** The deteriorating health of CIT Group, a major small-business lender, is shaping up as a gut check for the U.S. Presidential Administration, which may be forced to choose between allowing a painful failure and conducting a rescue that would underscore just how fragile the economy remains. While CIT has about \$75 billion in assets, it was not included in the government’s stress tests of major financial firms, and most analysts agree that its failure would have relatively modest consequences for the financial system. But it has grabbed the Administration’s attention because of its focus on small-business lending, an area of outsize political importance. The New York

company is mounting an increasingly public case that its failure would crumple thousands of fragile firms. Administration officials met on July 13 to review CIT's problems and to consider possible responses, according to a person familiar with the matter. Some officials would like to leave CIT alone, to show that the economy is strong and that the government will not rescue every faltering firm. But at a time when the Administration already is working on ways to increase lending to small businesses, other officials see rescuing CIT as a necessary and obvious step.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/07/13/AR2009071302957.html>

12. *July 13, Bloomberg* – (International) **Stanford investors sue Antigua, claiming complicity.** A group of R. Allen Stanford-run business investors sued the government of Antigua and Barbuda, claiming the Caribbean nation helped the financier engineer an alleged \$7 billion fraud scheme. In a lawsuit filed in a U.S. Court in Houston, seven investors say the island government received money in exchange for helping the financier conceal the financial condition of the Antigua-based Stanford International Bank Ltd. "Antigua is sovereign but not above the law," the investors said in their complaint. "It became a full partner in Stanford's fraud, and reaped enormous financial benefits from the scheme." The named investors, three of whom live in the U.S., three from Latin America and the last the trustee for a retirement plan, seek class action or group status on behalf of all who were Stanford bank customers as February 16, 2009. "We're seeking to represent victims worldwide to recover losses from the government of Antigua, which has benefited tremendously from the accused ponzi artist showering the island with money," the plaintiffs' lawyer said in a phone interview. The investors are seeking at least \$8 billion in damages, which can be tripled under U.S. civil racketeering laws, and claiming the class could include tens of thousands of people. Source: <http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601087&sid=a2WcTIUwkgdc>

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Transportation Sector

13. *July 14, CNN* – (West Virginia) **Jet makes landing with football-sized hole.** A Southwest Airlines jet made an emergency landing in Charleston, West Virginia, on July 13 after a football-sized hole in its fuselage caused the cabin to depressurize, an airline spokeswoman said. There were no injuries aboard the Boeing 737, which was traveling at about 34,000 feet when the problem occurred, a Southwest spokeswoman told CNN. The sudden drop in cabin pressure caused the jet's oxygen masks to deploy. Southwest Flight 2294 was en route from Nashville, Tennessee, to Baltimore, Maryland, with 126 passengers and a crew of five aboard, the spokeswoman said. It landed at 5:10 p.m. after the crew reported a football-sized hole in the middle of the cabin near the top of the aircraft, she said. What caused the damage to the jet had not been determined, she said. Both the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the National Transportation Safety Board are investigating the incident, an FAA spokeswoman said. "We have safety procedures in place, and they were followed in this instance to get all passengers and crew safely on the ground," the airline said. "Reports we have are that our passengers were calm and that our pilots and flight attendants did a great job getting the aircraft on

the ground safely.” In addition, all 181 of Southwest’s 737-300s — about a third of the airline’s fleet — will be inspected overnight after the emergency landing.

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2009/US/07/13/us.jetliner.damaged/index.html>

14. *July 14, Associated Press* – (California) **Small earthquake rattles LA airport.** A small earthquake has rattled Los Angeles International Airport, but there are no immediate reports of damage or injuries. The U.S. Geological Survey said in a preliminary report that the magnitude-3.2 temblor struck July 13 at 9:14 p.m. It was centered under the airport runways. A city fire spokesman said no damage has been reported and there has been no increase in emergency calls. The airport supervisor said a routine runway check found no evidence of damage and no flights were delayed.

Source:

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5gMWTul5y4kZBAtnhzxRpSZMHhicQD99E18P00>

15. *July 13, Aviation Herald* – (International) **Delta Airlines B763 over Atlantic on Jul 13th 2009, electrics problems.** A Delta Airlines Boeing 767-300, performing flight DL-791 from Amsterdam, Netherlands to Newark, New Jersey was enroute overhead the Atlantic at FL360, position approx N56 W31 degrees NAT track B, when the crew reported an electrical problem and requested to descend to FL300. Air Traffic Control could not clear the airplane down due to conflicting traffic. Fifteen minutes later the crew declared emergency, performed oceanic contingency procedures and descended to FL285. Another 11 minutes later the crew reported that they had been successful starting the auxiliary power unit, and requested to return to FL360. ATC cleared them to FL310. Another 10 minutes later the crew reported to be back on track at FL310, cancelled the emergency and continued to Newark, where the airplane arrived slightly ahead of schedule.

Source: <http://avherald.com/h?article=41c9f5b9&opt=4865>

For more stories, see items [6](#) and [10](#)

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Postal and Shipping Sector

16. *July 13, WMAR 2 Baltimore* – (Maryland) **2 downtown buildings evacuated for CO leak.** Two downtown Baltimore, Maryland, buildings were evacuated the morning of July 13 after a faulty battery in a forklift began leaking carbon monoxide, fire officials say. At around 9 a.m., several employees at the old courthouse and post office building downtown began complaining of feeling ill and smelling a strange odor in the air. The fire department responded and began working to figure out where the odor was coming from. The odor was traced to a faulty battery in a forklift in the print shop that was leaking sulfuric acid. Carbon monoxide readings were as high as 1000 parts per million near the forklift. The buildings were immediately evacuated. Several people were evaluated on the scene but no one was taken to the hospital.

Source: http://www.abc2news.com/news/local/story/2-Buildings-Evacuated-for-CO/ucykIW1010yvCE-qeHO_rg.csp

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Agriculture and Food Sector

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Water Sector

17. *July 13, WHIO 7 Dayton* – (Ohio) **Clark Co. officials fear drinking water is polluted.** Officials at the Clark County Combined Health District tell NewsCenter 7 that a local company could be polluting the sole source of drinking water for more than 60,000 people. Convey It, Inc. houses a massive pile of road salt off Tremont City Road in Moorefield Township for use by private contractors during the winter months. The company has recently been cited by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for failing to properly cover and contain the runoff water from the salt pile, which officials fear is leaking into the Mad River aquifer underneath the area. Health officials say if the aquifer is breached, taxpayers could have to shell out millions of dollars to install special filters at the Springfield water plant to remove the salt and make it safe to drink.
Source: <http://www.whiotv.com/news/20039472/detail.html>
18. *July 13, Water Technology Online* – (New York) **Truck crashes, chlorine spill kills fish.** A sewer system in Nanuet, New York was flushed after a truck carrying hundreds of gallons of chlorine bound for a swimming pool crashed into an apartment building. The Journal News reported on July 4. Chlorine from the July 3 incident seeped into nearby Nauraushaun Brook, killing fish. A spokesman for the state Department of Environmental Conservation estimated the spill at 400 gallons to 500 gallons. He said the department's inland fisheries program is assessing the possibility of any long-term damage, and water samples were being reviewed. The brook flows into Lake Tappan, a reservoir owned by United Water New York that supplies the utility's customers in New Jersey. A spokesman for the utility said the chemical would be diluted by the time it reaches Lake Tappan and ensured the safety of the water source.
Source: http://watertechonline.com/news.asp?N_ID=72219

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

19. *July 13, U.S. Food and Drug Administration* – (National) **FDA issues draft guidance for industry on drug anticounterfeiting.** The U.S. Food and Drug Administration today issued a [draft guidance](#) on the use of inks, pigments, flavors, and other physical-chemical identifiers (PCIDs) by manufacturers to make drug products more difficult to duplicate by counterfeiters, and to make it easier to identify the genuine version of the drug. The draft guidance is an important step in working with manufacturers to make drug products more difficult to duplicate by counterfeiters. The agency invites

comments on the draft guidance, titled “Draft Guidance for Industry: Incorporation of Physical-Chemical Identifiers into Solid Oral Dosage Form Drug Products for Anticounterfeiting.” The document is intended to provide guidance to industry regarding the use of PCIDs in solid oral dosage forms, which include pills and capsules, for anticounterfeiting purposes.

Source:

<http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm171632.htm>

20. *July 13, HealthDay News* – (International) **Swine flu vaccine taking longer than expected.** A fully tested swine flu vaccine may not be available until the end of the year, a vaccine expert at the World Health Organization (WHO) said on July 13. Countries could use emergency measures to get the vaccines out faster if they decide they are needed, the director of WHO’s Initiative for Vaccine Research said during a news conference in London, the Associated Press reported. The problem: The swine flu viruses being used to develop a vaccine are only producing about half as much “yield” to make vaccines as regular flu viruses. So the WHO has asked its network of laboratories to produce a new set of viruses as soon as possible. Before countries can start any large-scale swine flu vaccination campaigns, the vaccines need to be vetted by regulatory authorities for safety issues, the AP reported.

Source: <http://www.healthday.com/Article.asp?AID=628989>

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Government Facilities Sector

21. *July 14, Boston Globe* – (Massachusetts) **Cement trim falls from NU dorm roof.** Around 8:30 a.m., a 200-foot-long cement cornice piece tumbled five stories from the roof of a Northeastern University dormitory in Boston, Massachusetts on July 13, crashing onto a Huntington Avenue sidewalk and prompting the building’s evacuation and the closing of a major city thoroughfare. “Certainly, at that hour in the morning, it’s amazing no one was hurt,” the Boston fire chief said. Construction crews had been working to replace the roof of the residence hall as part of ongoing summer maintenance, said a spokesman for Northeastern. An investigation began yesterday into whether any safety protocols were violated or if the roofing work contributed to the accident, said a spokesman for the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration. About 60 students were living in the building, which can house as many as 140 students in apartment-style units, the university’s spokesman said. City officials closed Huntington Avenue between Massachusetts Avenue and Ruggles Street, reopening the street by 2 p.m., officials said. The Green Line’s E branch was also shut down for about three hours so passing trains would not shake the building.

Source:

http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2009/07/14/cement_trim_falls_from_nu_dorm_roof/

22. *July 13, City News Service* – (California) **Plumbing tool prompts city hall evacuation.** A suspicious item was found in a planter near the visitors’ entrance of Los Angeles City Hall on July 13, prompting the evacuation of the first three floors of the historic building

for about 45 minutes before police determined the item was a harmless plumbing tool. A Los Angeles police department lieutenant said a green plastic box with red and green LED lights was found in a planter near the Main Street entrance of the building around 1:15 p.m. Main Street was closed between First and Temple streets, and police cleared a roughly 350-foot area around the device. A city councilmen and another individual were among those evacuated. At about 2 p.m., police determined that the device was an electronic pipe-finder used in plumbing work, and the evacuation order was lifted.

Source: <http://www.nbclosangeles.com/news/local/Plumbing-Tool-Prompts-City-Hall-Evacuation.html>

23. *July 13, The Register* – (International) **U.S. State Dept. workers beg Clinton for Firefox.** U.S. State Department workers have begged the U.S. Secretary of State to let them use Firefox. “Can you please let the staff use an alternative web browser called Firefox?” a worker asked the U.S. Secretary of State during the July 10 State Department town hall meeting. “I just moved to the State Department from the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency and was surprised that State doesn’t use this browser. It was approved for the entire intelligence community, so I don’t understand why State can’t use it. It’s a much safer program.” Presumably, the State Department is using Microsoft’s Internet Explorer. The State Department has yet to respond to the questions about its Firefox-less browsing mandate.

Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2009/07/13/firefox_and_us_state_department/

For another story, see item [16](#)

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Emergency Services Sector

24. *July 14, Atlanta Journal-Constitution* – (Georgia) **Joint 911 service coming to North Fulton cities.** Emergency response is about to go local in Sandy Springs and Johns Creek, Georgia. The cities are building a joint \$3.5 million 911 center that will come online September 1, 2009. The assistant city manager in Sandy Springs, who oversaw the project, said “We expect crews dispatched within 60 seconds of a call, arriving in minutes.” That had not been happening for years when the north Fulton County cities began talking about starting their own 911 network about two years ago. Residents in both communities complained of delays in getting emergency services to a scene and of delays in getting dispatchers to the phone. The new 911 center will help dispatchers map the best routes, calculate response times and track emergency crews. Just as important, there will be 54 full-time dispatchers. By comparison, Fulton’s 911 call center authorizes 109 but typically has about 75 to 80 people on staff, according to a 2008 report.

Source:

http://www.ajc.com/metro/content/metro/northfulton/stories/2009/07/14/joint_911_center.html

25. *July 14, Kansas City Star* – (Kansas) **DUI suspect steals ambulance while awaiting blood test at hospital.** A man suspected of drunken driving stole an ambulance the

night of July 13 after he was taken to a hospital for a blood test. The man stole the ambulance from Research Medical Center in Kansas City, Kansas. Police pursued the ambulance and eventually used stop sticks, which caused the suspect to crash into a light pole. The man was taken into custody.

Source: http://www.kansascity.com/news/breaking_news/story/1323253.html

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Information Technology

26. *July 14, IDG News Services* – (International) **HTC smartphones left vulnerable to Bluetooth attack.** If a user has an HTC smartphone running Windows Mobile 6 or Windows Mobile 6.1, the user may want to think twice before connecting to an untrusted device using Bluetooth. A vulnerability in an HTC driver installed on these phones can allow an attacker to access any file on the phone or upload malicious code using Bluetooth, a Spanish security researcher warned on July 14. “HTC devices running Windows Mobile 6 and Windows Mobile 6.1 are prone to a directory traversal vulnerability in the Bluetooth OBEX FTP Service,” a security researcher said in an e-mail exchange. HTC handsets running Windows Mobile 5 are not affected. For the attack to work, the targeted device must have Bluetooth enabled and file sharing over Bluetooth activated. “This connection can be done either by standard Bluetooth pairing or taking advantage of the Bluetooth MAC spoofing attack,” the researcher said, referring to a process where the attacking device attempts to convince the target that it is another device on its list of paired devices. The directory traversal vulnerability allows an attacker to move from a phone’s Bluetooth shared folder into other folders, giving them access to contact details, e-mails, pictures or other data stored on the phone. They can use this access to read files or upload software, including malicious code. Because the driver, obexfile.dll, is an HTC driver, only handsets from the company are affected. However, HTC is the world’s largest manufacturer of Windows Mobile handsets, selling phones under its own brand as well as making phones under contract for other companies. That means millions of users are potentially vulnerable.

Source:

http://www.pcworld.com/businesscenter/article/168358/htc_smartphones_left_vulnerable_to_bluetooth_attack.html

27. *July 13, Enterprise Security Today* – (International) **New York official: Tagged site stole identities.** New York’s attorney general charged on July 9 that Tagged.com stole the identities of more than 60 million Internet users worldwide, by sending e-mails that raided their private accounts. The attorney general said he plans to sue the social networking Web site for deceptive marketing and invasion of privacy. “This company stole the address books and identities of millions of people,” the attorney general said in a statement. “Consumers had their privacy invaded and were forced into the embarrassing position of having to apologize to all their e-mail contacts for Tagged’s unethical, and illegal, behavior.” Started in 2004 by Harvard math students, Tagged calls itself a “premier social-networking destination.” The California-based company claims to be the third-largest social networking site after Facebook and MySpace, with 80 million registered users. The attorney general said Tagged acquired most of them

fraudulently, sending unsuspecting recipients e-mails that urged them to view private photos posted by friends. When recipients tried to access the photos, the attorney general said they would in effect become new members of the site, without ever seeing any photos. Recipients' e-mail address books would then be lifted, the attorney general said.

Source: http://www.enterprise-security-today.com/story.xhtml?story_id=67676&full_skip=1

28. *July 13, Softpedia* – (International) **DDoS worm starts damaging infected systems.**

The malware responsible for the recent denial of service attacks against many U.S. and South Korean government and commercial websites has received an update to damage the computers it infected. Starting with July 10, the worm began to rewrite HDD Master Boot Records (MBR), leaving the zombie computers unbootable. Recently, it was reported that serious distributed denial of service (DDoS) attacks had affected the stability of many websites operated by large organizations or the governments of United States and South Korea. Experts later concluded that a botnet of over 60,000 computers, infected with an updated Mydoom variant, had been used to launch the attacks. Security researchers from FireEye warn that, even though the DDoS has stopped, the impact of this malware might prove to be a lot bigger. Everything started with a DDoS component being shipped to computers infected with a particular strain of Mydoom, a worm dating back to the beginning of 2004. The attackers planned for the DDoS to start on July 4 (Independence Day) and to end on July 10. The worm drops a file called mstimer.dll and loads it as a windows service named "MS Timer Service." The purpose of this component is to check the date and if it matches July 10 to execute yet another file, called wversion.exe. Originally, wversion.exe contained instructions to uninstall the timer service, suggesting that its authors intended for it to self-destroy. However, a malware researcher at FireEye explains that another, much more destructive version of wversion.exe was deployed shortly before July 10. The new version features a three-step plan to destroy data on the infected computers. First, it rewrites 512 bytes of every hard disk in the system, not only the one used to boot from. The first 512 bytes of a hard disk are used to store the Master Boot Record and Volume Boot Record, which are employed to store information about the file system and partitions. The new data written over the MBR and VBR includes a string reading "Memory of the Independence Day." The second destructive step targets the personal files and documents stored on the hard disks. The component searches for files with one of 37 extensions, including .pdf, .doc, .ppt, and proceeds to compressing and password-protecting every one of them.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/DDoS-Worm-Starts-Damaging-Infected-Systems-116551.shtml>

29. *July 13, DarkReading* – (International) **Researchers to release tool that silently hijacks EV SSL sessions.**

If a user thinks they are safe from man-in-the-middle (MITM) attacks as long as they are visiting an Extended Validation SSL (EV SSL) site, then think again: Researchers will release a new tool at Black Hat USA later this month that lets an attacker hack into a user's session on an EV SSL-secured site. Two researchers, who in March first demonstrated possible MITM attacks on EV SSL at CanSecWest, will release for the first time their proxy tool at the Las Vegas conference, as well as demonstrate variations on the attacks they have discovered. The Python-based

tool can launch an attack even with the secure green badge displaying on the screen: “It doesn’t alert the user that anything fishy is going on,” says the principal consultant at Intrepidus and one of the researchers. All it takes is an attacker having a non-EV SSL certificate for a Website, and he or she can hijack any SSL session that connects to it. That is because the Web browser treats the EV SSL certificate with the same level of trust as an SSL domain-level certificate. “There’s no differentiation between the two certs beyond the green badge,” the consultant says. If an attacker has a valid domain-level certificate, he can spoof EV SSL connections and execute an MITM attack, with access and view of all sensitive data in the session, all while the unsuspecting victim still sees that reassuring green badge displayed by his browser.

Source: <http://www.darkreading.com/security/app-security/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=218500176>

Internet Alert Dashboard

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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

30. *July 14, ComputerWeekly* – (International) **Mobile phone directory crashes as users rush to take numbers off.** A controversial mobile phone directory has been suspended after being inundated with requests from people who want their details removed. 118800.co.uk said it is not taking requests either via the website or over the phone for people’s mobile numbers. The company said on its website that it is making “major improvements” to its beta service. It said all ex-directory requests made by people in the directory to date are being processed, and further requests will be taken once the service is back up and running. “We will take further ex-directory requests when the service resumes. We will not be taking ex-directory requests by phone or text whilst the service is not operational.” The directory holds about 15 million phone numbers, with the owners reported to be hoping to increase this to 42 million numbers. Earlier this week the website appeared to crash under a traffic surge after mobile phone users decided they wanted their numbers taken off the directory.

Source: <http://www.computerweekly.com/Articles/2009/07/14/236883/mobile-phone-directory-crashes-as-users-rush-to-take-numbers.htm>

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Commercial Facilities Sector

31. *July 14, Associated Press* – (Florida) **Explosion sends debris at Boys & Girls Club.** Officials say an underground explosion outside the Lauderhill Boys & Girls Club in Lauderhill, Florida hurled a small rock at a child’s head. Lauderhill fire-rescue reports

that a boy was treated at the scene the morning of July 13 but was not seriously injured. Florida Power & Light workers at the scene said an underground electrical feeder line exploded in the facility's parking lot, dislodging a 3-foot slab of concrete. They planned to spend the day making repairs.

Source: <http://www.miamiherald.com/news/florida/AP/story/1140532.html>

32. *July 13, Jewish Telegraphic Agency* – (National) **Senate increases security funding for religious groups.** The U.S. Senate passed a bill that increases funding for the protection of civil, religious and community institutions against terrorist attacks. The Homeland Security Appropriations Bill allocated an additional \$5 million in federal resources for a total of \$20 million to safeguard high-risk nonprofit organizations. The increase in funding is in part a response to recent plots targeting religious institutions, including a foiled plan to bomb several synagogues in New York and the shooting attack at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington.

Source: <http://jta.org/news/article/2009/07/13/1006500/senate-allocates-20-million-for-the-protection-of-non-profit-and-religious-organizations>

33. *July 13, Federal Bureau of Investigation* – (Missouri) **FBI working extra innings at MLB All-Star Game.** Dozens of Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) agents and specialists are among the thousands converging on St. Louis, Missouri for the Major League Baseball All-Star game and the events leading up to the annual baseball extravaganza. The FBI is teaming up with other law enforcement agencies to support the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department, which is responsible for the overall security and emergency management of the event. The FBI's role is to gather, analyze, and share intelligence related to potential threats. "This command center gives the FBI the ability to communicate with anyone, anytime using secure lines, said the special agent in charge of the FBI's St. Louis office. "Our pre-event planning has prepared us for any curveballs that are thrown our way. It is all a part of what the FBI does to protect you from terrorist attacks and other security threats so the fans can sit back and enjoy the game." FBI agents, intelligence analysts, bomb technicians, hazardous material experts, SWAT, and evidence response teams come from around the country to help staff the command center for the event. Local, state, and federal agencies securing the event include the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department, St. Louis County Police, Missouri State Highway Patrol, Sikeston Police, St. Louis Airport Police, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, U.S. Secret Service, U.S. Coast Guard, Transportation Security Administration, U.S. Postal Inspection Service, the Department of Energy, the Department of Interior, and many others.

Source: <http://stlouis.fbi.gov/pressrel/pressrel09/sl071309a.htm>

34. *July 13, KPRC 2 Houston* – (Texas) **Several injured after 2 trains collide at Downtown Aquarium.** The Downtown Aquarium "Shark Voyage" train in Houston was up and running the next day after an accident the night of July 11 that sent 27 people to local hospitals. Officials say no one appeared to be seriously injured. One of the miniature trains — which make a 10-minute loop around the aquarium and through an acrylic tunnel under a 200,000-gallon shark tank — rear-ended a second train just before the aquarium closed at 11 p.m. on July 11. The trains never travel faster than 7

mph, and neither train left the track. Passengers were not thrown from the trains — just jolted in their seats, said the aquarium’s chief operating officer. “They all walked off the train to sit down and wait for medical attention,” he added. “None of them appeared to be serious injuries, but even in the smallest incidents, we recommend our patrons go get medical attention.” The next day, aquarium officials were investigating the cause of the accident, but found nothing wrong with the trains themselves.

Source: <http://www.click2houston.com/news/20031810/detail.html>

35. *July 8, Attleboro Sun Chronicle* – (Massachusetts) **Bomb suspect jailed.** A 37-year-old man has been charged with possession of what police say was a dangerous, homemade bomb in Norton. Police say they removed chemicals from his apartment used to make explosives, in addition to a homemade bomb police found in the trunk of his car July 6. Residents of the apartment house were evacuated for about an hour as police removed boxes from the suspect’s apartment. He was arrested July 6 on South Worcester Street after police received a tip from a confidential informant that he was going to explode a homemade bomb at Lyons Field at Harvey and Dean streets, the assistant district attorney said. Before they stopped his car, police went to Lyons Field, where there were about 40 children and adults at a Little League game, the assistant district attorney said. The field is about 75 yards from the suspect’s home. After an officer pulled over his car and discovered the suspected bomb in the truck, police and fire officials shut down the area and evacuated nearby homes for about three hours. The device was exploded in an isolated area by the state police bomb squad. “This was a very dangerous, explosive device that was in a very volatile state,” said a police prosecutor detective lieutenant. Police seized a 3-foot cardboard tube, a plastic bag with wires, and a 3-inch plastic “mortar” shell made from gunpowder and other chemicals which the suspect told police he bought on the Internet from a company in Virginia.

Source: <http://www.thesunchronicle.com/articles/2009/07/08/news/5266691.txt>

For another story, see item [21](#)

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National Monuments & Icons Sector

36. *July 13, Rapid City Journal* – (South Dakota) **Rushmore security called failure.** The security system at Mount Rushmore National Memorial failed an important test on July 8 when Greenpeace protestors succeeded in unfurling a massive banner next to the granite faces, said a law enforcement official who helped prevent a similar demonstration at Mount Rushmore 22 years ago. A retired highway patrol captain repudiated claims made this week by the Mount Rushmore superintendent that all security measures at the monument “functioned exactly as designed.” The superintendent made the statement July 9, one day after five rock climbers from Greenpeace reached the top of the monument and rappelled down its face to unfurl the political banner. The retired highway patrol captain was on a task force that put together a plan for almost \$3 million in security improvements at Mount Rushmore after an attempted Greenpeace demonstration in 1987. And those improvements should have worked this week, unless something went wrong, he said. “The system as designed was

not properly monitored or administered or for some reason was ignored or not properly carried out,” he said. “I was very troubled by that and by (Rushmore officials’) own assessment up there that the system had worked. It didn’t.” Security at the memorial has been a concern for decades, with demonstrations and threats interspersed with security system upgrades of the park.

Source:

<http://www.rapidcityjournal.com/articles/2009/07/13/news/local/doc4a5983bec0be9385072144.txt>

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Dams Sector

37. *July 14, Associated Press* – (National; Tennessee) **Tenn. ash spill site fails to make EPA hazard list.** The Tennessee site of one of the nation’s worst coal ash spills failed to make a [federal list](#) of ash storage ponds posing the highest potential threat to nearby residents — a list that was compiled in response to the massive Tennessee disaster. Critics say the Kingston Fossil Plant’s absence from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s “high hazard” list underscores the need for greater federal oversight of coal ash and the weakness of a system that allows the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) and other ash site operators to rate their own facilities. TVA compiled its ratings before the Kingston disaster, according to TVA’s March 25 response to EPA, recently obtained by the Associated Press. In a footnote, the TVA conceded that “based on hindsight at Kingston Fossil Plant, the ranking did not adequately represent the actual risk experienced on December 22, 2008.” The TVA letter to EPA also noted a gypsum pond spill January 9 and a small release of fly ash in 2004 at the Widows Creek plant, and a fly ash release in 2004 at the Johnsonville plant. TVA determined the risk of harm was “low” for those living near all 11 of its operating coal-fired power plants and one retired plant in Tennessee, Kentucky, and Alabama, including Kingston. This was on a scale of “high, significant, low or less-than-low.” The TVA’s document also suggested the utility is tightening its standards to ensure professional engineers supervise all design, construction and monitoring of its ash storage sites. EPA would not say if Kingston should have made the high hazard list. “The states give the sites their ratings. EPA does not rate the sites,” an EPA spokeswoman said. In Tennessee, the self-regulating TVA assumes this authority. A TVA spokesman said the “low” hazard rankings “were assigned by TVA personnel” some time ago, but will be updated by engineering consultants Stantec Inc., who were hired after the Kingston spill to make recommendations for all TVA’s coal ash sites.

Source: <http://www.forbes.com/feeds/ap/2009/07/14/ap6651230.html>

38. *July 13, KING 5 Auburn* – (Washington) **Plan for Green River dam won’t help much this season.** The Army Corps of Engineers has a plan to temporarily fix the Howard Hanson Dam, but there is no guarantee it will fully protect communities like Kent, Auburn, Renton and Tukwila from flooding this fall. The Army Corps announced on July 13 it plans to erect a grout curtain. It is a wall of concrete to slow down water leaking around the dam. But even with that, the dam’s ability to hold back water will be seriously limited. The ultimate solution for the dam may be years off and cost hundreds

of millions of dollars. First, the Army Corps has to perform another study of the dam to try and figure out where the problem is coming from in the first place. Officials are promising more information on flooding and training programs in sandbagging for residents.

Source: http://www.king5.com/topstories/stories/NW_071309WAB-howard-hanson-dam-grout-wall-TP.394d1d09.html

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