



# Homeland Security

## Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 31 July 2009

Current Nationwide Threat Level

ELEVATED



Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks

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

### Top Stories

- According to the Associated Press, one person was killed and several injured in an explosion on Wednesday at Mueller Industries, a copper tubing plant, in Fulton, Mississippi. (See item [9](#))
- WFAA 8 Dallas reports that the Federal Aviation Administration confirmed that it will require 1,400 airplane mechanics certified at Tobias Aerospace Services in San Antonio, Texas to retest or have their licenses revoked. FAA officials said they became concerned last fall that mechanics were being improperly licensed at the airplane mechanic testing facility. (See item [17](#))

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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 30, Associated Press* – (New Jersey) **Severe weather pummels northern New Jersey.** Severe thunderstorms have flooded highways, downed trees, and knocked out power across a broad swath of northern New Jersey. Flooded underpasses forced the

closure of stretches of the Garden State Parkway at midafternoon Wednesday in Irvington and Newark. Portions of Route 287 in Edison and Route 280 in West Orange were flooded as well. The storms also knocked out power to more than 25,000 customers and caused airport and commuter rail delays. The National Weather Service is investigating reports that a tornado touched down in Sussex County.

Source: [http://www.usatoday.com/weather/storms/2009-07-30-nj\\_storms\\_N.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/weather/storms/2009-07-30-nj_storms_N.htm)

See item [36](#)

2. *July 28, WLWT 5 Cincinnati* – (Ohio) **Duke Energy accidentally shuts down A/C at 18,000 homes.** About 18,000 Duke Energy customers in Cincinnati participating in an energy-saving program saved more energy than expected on Monday evening. The customers are part of the Power Manager program that installs a box on air conditioning units that cycles the cooling system off for a few minutes during peak usage times. But Monday night, an incorrect signal was sent to the boxes, a Duke Energy spokeswoman said. Instead of cycling, the boxes shut down the units for three hours. The utility said it had never had a problem like it before and said human error was to blame. All units were back in operation by 8:30 p.m.

Source: <http://www.wlwt.com/money/20200998/detail.html>

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## **Chemical Industry Sector**

3. *July 29, WLEX 18 Lexington* – (Kentucky) **Chemical spill after traffic accident causes evacuations.** Police and emergency crews evacuated nearby areas after hazardous chemicals were spilled from a truck following an accident on US 460 near the Scott/Bourbon County line. The accident happened just before 8 a.m. on July 28 on the road, which is located near the Georgetown Airport. Police say a tractor trailer traveling from Georgetown to Paris and a Jeep were involved in the accident. The driver of the tractor trailer was not seriously injured, but the driver of the Jeep had to be cut from the vehicle and was taken to the hospital in Georgetown. So far, there is no word on that person's condition. Officials at the scene said there were barrels of chemicals leaking at the scene, which is right next to a KU substation. They said at least some of the chemicals were flammable. Police originally evacuated three nearby homes, but expanded the evacuation area at about 9:30 a.m.

Source: <http://www.lex18.com/Global/story.asp?S=10801939&nav=EQLpeEOM>

4. *July 29, Kingsport Times News* – (Tennessee) **Eastman chemical spill kills fish in Holston River.** An accidental discharge at Eastman Chemical Co. on July 28 resulted in an undetermined number of fish being killed in the Holston River. An Eastman spokesman said the discharge occurred at about 6 p.m. when a reactor disc failed and ruptured at the plant. About 7,100 pounds of diethyl ether escaped into the river before Eastman employees could stop the release. Diethyl ether is a chemical intermediate used in the manufacture of Eastman products. Diethyl ether dissolves in water, and except for the fish kill, the company does not expect any additional environmental impact from the discharge. Eastman has notified government agencies about the incident.

Source: <http://www.timesnews.net/article.php?id=9015636>

5. *July 28, Charleston Gazette* – (West Virginia) **DuPont reports chemical leak — two days later.** Management at DuPont Co.'s chemical plant in Belle waited more than two days before reporting a toxic material leak to state and local authorities last week, government and company officials confirmed on July 28. The leak of sulfur trioxide started at 11 a.m. on July 22, but was not reported to the state until 4:36 p.m. on July 24, according to state Environmental Protection and Homeland Security officials. No injuries were reported, and DuPont officials described the leak as a minor incident. The leak occurred in a sulfuric acid production unit that was the subject of a major federal enforcement action. In April, DuPont agreed to pay \$2 million in fines for not upgrading pollution-control technology when the company added equipment to increase production. The Kanawha County Commission president said he was shocked that DuPont did not report the incident, especially given the public furor over Bayer CropScience's withholding of information about the fatal explosion and fire at its Institute plant in August 2008. Initially, DuPont officials estimated the leak at 300 to 400 pounds of sulfur trioxide. Federal law requires companies to immediately notify federal, state and local officials of leaks of 100 pounds or more of sulfur trioxide. Last week's incident occurred in the Belle plant's "SAR" unit, where sulfuric acid is produced by burning spent sulfuric acid to form sulfur dioxide. The sulfur dioxide is then converted to sulfur trioxide, and then to sulfuric acid.  
Source: <http://www.tradingmarkets.com/.site/news/Stock%20News/2446775/>

6. *July 28, News Journal* – (Delaware) **Metachem toxins to linger for 100 years at least.** Cleanup managers will have to monitor the former Standard Chlorine cleanup site near Delaware City for a century or more before spilled toxic chemicals naturally break down to safe levels, a federal official said during a public briefing on July 28. The project manager for the Environmental Protection Agency's work at the abandoned chemical plant offered the summary while outlining the agency's plan to spend \$12 million to \$19 million installing a waterproof cap for 22.8 of the plant's 64 acres. Other passed-over options — including installation of thousands of 50-to-70-foot deep heat treatment wells — would cost as much as \$100 million, but would leave behind intact toxic chemicals that still would need a pave-over, long-term monitoring and access limits. "It could easily be 100 years or more," the project manager said of monitoring needs. "It could be 200 years. We do have evidence of breakdown of these products, but what's present at this site are very high concentrations and that makes it very difficult for natural breakdown to occur." Soils as deep as 75 feet are so contaminated that they would be ineligible for disposal in some hazardous waste landfills. State and federal taxpayers already have spent about \$100 million since 2002 stabilizing the abandoned chemical plant and recycling or destroying chemicals left behind.

Source:

<http://www.delawareonline.com/article/20090728/NEWS/90728072/Metachem+toxins+to+linger+for+100+years+at+least>

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

7. *July 27, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission* – (Idaho) **NRC to brief public on Westinghouse request to dispose of radioactive waste in Idaho.** The Nuclear Regulatory Commission held a public meeting July 28 in Bruneau, Idaho, to brief members of the public on a proposal by Westinghouse Electric Co. to dispose of low-activity radioactive materials at the U.S. Ecology Disposal Facility in Grand View, Idaho. Westinghouse is currently decommissioning its Hematite nuclear fuel fabrication facility in Jefferson County, Missouri. Westinghouse has requested a license amendment and authorization from the NRC to dispose of some low-activity radioactive waste — including small amounts of “special nuclear material” (enriched uranium and plutonium) — at the U.S. Ecology facility. Westinghouse has also asked the NRC to exempt U.S. Ecology from the agency’s licensing requirements for radioactive byproduct material and special nuclear material. At the July 28 meeting, NRC staff explained the Westinghouse proposal and the NRC’s process for reviewing the proposal, including development of an Environmental Assessment. The staff will also explain further opportunities for public involvement, including the opportunity to request an adjudicatory hearing.
- Source: <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/news/2009/09-129.html>

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## **Critical Manufacturing Sector**

8. *July 30, Reliable Plant* – (California) **Calif. company fined for improper hazmat management.** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has fined Frontier Aluminum, an aluminum extrusions manufacturer, \$36,500 for failing to comply with federal hazardous waste management regulations at two of its facilities located in Corona, California. The EPA inspected the Frontier Aluminum facilities on May 21, 2008, and found that the company violated the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act by engaging in multiple hazardous waste management violations. “This agency will see that Frontier Aluminum, as well as any other business that generates hazardous wastes, will comply with all hazardous waste regulations or risk facing costly fines and legal action,” said the director of the Waste Management Division for the EPA’s Pacific Southwest region. “Strict enforcement of hazardous waste regulations not only protects the health and environment of a local community, it also helps ensuring a level playing field for all businesses, regardless of their size.” Firms that handle hazardous waste must properly handle and store waste to prevent spills and safeguard worker health. The EPA administers programs under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, which provides for safe management of solid and hazardous waste.
- Source: <http://www.reliableplant.com/article.aspx?articleid=19154&pagetitle=Calif.+company+fined+for+improper+hazmat+management>
9. *July 29, Associated Press* – (Mississippi) **1 dead, several hurt in Miss. copper tubing plant explosion.** One person was killed and others injured in an explosion on July 29 at a copper tubing plant in northeast Mississippi, emergency officials said. An official with Mueller Industries said the company in Fulton is still assessing the damage. Authorities were unsure how the explosion happened. The plant was evacuated after the blast and

the fire extinguished about an hour later. Officials said a hazmat team decontaminated people who had chemicals on them. Memphis, Tennessee-based Mueller Industries makes copper tube and fittings, among other products.

Source: <http://www.suntimes.com/news/nation/1692377,w-mississippi-copper-tubing-plant-explosion-072909.article>

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## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

10. *July 30, Army Times* – (New Mexico) **Air Force tests anti-ground C-130 laser.** An Air Force C-130 incinerated a dummy ground target by firing a megawatt-class chemical oxygen iodine laser at White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico during a June 13 test of the service's Advanced Tactical Laser (ATL), Boeing officials said. The test flight originated from nearby Kirtland Air Force Base, New Mexico. The ATL, configured to deploy on a C-130, is designed to destroy ground targets while moving with little or no collateral damage. The roughly \$200 million ATL program began in late 2002. Several more flight tests are planned for this summer.

Source: [http://www.armytimes.com/news/2009/07/defense\\_atl\\_test\\_072909/](http://www.armytimes.com/news/2009/07/defense_atl_test_072909/)

11. *July 29, Defense News* – (National) **U.S. suspends delivery on GPS-guided 155mm shells.** The U.S. Army has temporarily suspended delivery of Raytheon's GPS-guided, 155mm Excalibur artillery rounds due to problems with its Inertial Measurement Unit (IMU), service officials said. "The XM982 [Excalibur] round is required to operate in an environment that exceeds 15,000 times the force of gravity. There was an inherent lack of design robustness in the qualified IMU configuration which resulted in a failure rate of approximately five percent. We have not been able to conclusively trace the exact cause to a design or process issue," an Army spokesman said in a written statement. The spokesman said the IMUs, which were made by Minneapolis, Minnesota-based Honeywell, "experienced high bias accelerometer shifts during gun launch," meaning that the accelerometer did not correctly measure the movement of the shells after firing. The Army, which has taken delivery of tens of thousands of XM982s, first fired the rounds in combat in 2006 in Iraq. The spokesman said the munitions have exceeded expectations. None of the rounds in theater have had a problem, the spokesman said. "Problems were identified before shipment to theater and have been held at the production facility," the spokesmen said.

Source: <http://www.defensenews.com/story.php?i=4210961&c=AME&s=LAN>

12. *July 28, Knoxville News Sentinel* – (Tennessee) **Radioactive security barriers gone at Y-12.** The big boxes of low-level radioactive waste that were used as a security barrier at the Y-12 nuclear weapons plant in the post-9/11 era have been removed and replaced with concrete barriers and a new round of razor wire. The security project gained a lot of notoriety in recent years. In a statement, Y-12's project manager said, "The new barrier system enhances security and allows us to remove and dispose of 112 B24 boxes containing legacy low-level radiological waste." According to info released by Y-12, the 112 B24 boxes were inspected and moved to an interim staging area for characterization before being processed for offsite disposal. "There is currently enough funding to

characterize and dispose of 50 boxes,” an employee of Y-12 said. “The remaining boxes will be staged on site until additional funds are available.”

Source: [http://blogs.knoxnews.com/munger/2009/07/radioactive\\_security\\_barriers.html](http://blogs.knoxnews.com/munger/2009/07/radioactive_security_barriers.html)

13. *July 20, WATE 6 Knoxville* – (Tennessee) **Despite Y-12 violations, security company’s evaluations good.** Several Wackenhut security guards at the Y-12 complex have been suspended without pay or fired for two recent events. Still, the company’s contracts appear solid. Information about the first incident was released to the public recently. Four security guards had been fired after testing positive for steroids. In June, three more security guards were suspended for bringing portable video games into an area of the nuclear weapons plant where all electronic devices are banned. According to performance evaluations conducted by the Department of Energy, Wackenhut is doing well. In fact, the company received a 94 percent out of 100 for its work between October 2008 and March 2009. Wackenhut earned \$1,078,857.39, which is a performance-based salary. The next report is not due to be complete for another two months, but a Wackenhut spokesman released a statement to 6 News on July 20. “The recent incidents involving WSI security police officers are isolated incidents. We have over 800 employees who work hard to carry out our mission at Y-12 every day,” the statement says.

Source: <http://www.wate.com/Global/story.asp?S=10757151>

For another story, see item [17](#)

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## **Banking and Finance Sector**

14. *July 30, Wall Street Journal* – (National) **Senate probes banks for meltdown fraud.** A Senate panel has subpoenaed financial institutions, including Goldman Sachs Group Inc. and Deutsche Bank AG, seeking evidence of fraud in last year’s mortgage-market meltdown, according to people familiar with the situation. The congressional investigation appears to focus on whether internal communications, such as email, show bankers had private doubts about whether mortgage-related securities they were putting together were as financially sound as their public pronouncements suggested. Collapsing values for many of those securities played a big role in precipitating last year’s financial crisis. According to people familiar with the matter, the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations also has issued a subpoena to Washington Mutual Inc., a Seattle thrift that was seized by regulators in last year’s financial crisis and is now largely owned by J.P. Morgan Chase & Co. It appears likely that several other financial institutions also have received subpoenas. Subcommittee investigators declined to comment. A Goldman Sachs spokesman declined to comment on the subpoena. Deutsche Bank didn’t immediately respond to a request for comment. The subpoenas are the latest in a series of moves by Congress to trace the roots of the financial crisis.
- Source: <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB124890898142691729.html>

15. *July 30, Wall Street Journal* – (National) **FDIC poised to split banks to lure buyers.** The Federal Deposit Insurance Corp., grappling with the worst banking crisis since the



1990s, is poised to start breaking failed financial institutions into good and bad pieces in an effort to drum up more interest from prospective buyers. The strategy, which is likely to begin soon, is aimed at selling the most distressed hunks of failed banks to private-equity firms and other types of investors who may be more willing than traditional banks to take a flier on bad assets. The traditional banks could then bid on the deposits, branches and other bits of the failed institution that are appealing. “We want banks to participate in the resolution process, but we know it’s a tough time for banks to participate in the resolution process,” said a senior adviser to the FDIC Chairman. He made the comments on July 29 during a presentation to a community-banking conference in New York sponsored by Keefe, Bruyette & Woods Inc., a boutique investment firm that specializes in financial services. Regulators have seized 64 banks this year as the credit crisis continues to wreak havoc on small institutions that have been hit hard by the collapse in housing prices and deteriorating commercial real estate. Although the banks are technically seized by other regulators, it is the FDIC’s job to dispose of the assets in a cost-effective manner. The FDIC has found buyers for most of the failed institutions, but many prospective bidders are leery of taking on bad loans from a shuttered bank. That remains the case despite the FDIC’s efforts to encourage bidders by providing loss-sharing agreements in about 40 of this year’s bank failures. Source: <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB124891131732891921.html>

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## **Transportation Sector**

16. *July 30, Associated Press* – (National) **GAO: Unsafe truck, bus companies still on highways.** Hundreds of tractor-trailer and bus companies ordered to shut down because of federal safety violations ranging from suspended licenses to possible drug use have stayed on the road by using different names, investigators say. The study by the Government Accountability Office (GAO), obtained July 29 by the Associated Press, comes a year after an unlicensed charter bus carrying a Vietnamese-American Catholic group blew a retreaded tire installed on a steering axle and skidded off a Texas highway, killing 17 people in one of the nation’s deadliest bus crashes. The GAO report found that at least 20 of the roughly 220 commercial bus companies that had been fined and ordered out of service in 2007 and 2008 by federal regulators evaded compliance by setting up shop under a new name, the same tactic used by the bus operator in the Texas crash. The investigation found offenders in at least nine states — Arizona, Arkansas, California, Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina, Texas, New York and Washington. The violators owed tens of thousands of dollars in delinquent fines and had scores of violations, from operating without the proper license to failing to test drivers for illegal drugs and alcohol. Another 1,073 commercial trucking firms are also believed to be possible “reincarnations” after incurring fines and violations, often using the same address, owner name, employees and contact numbers. “These companies pose a safety threat to the motoring public,” wrote GAO’s managing director for special investigations, noting that there were about 300 fatalities from bus crashes last year. He warned that the number of violators is likely higher, since the GAO reviews only identified companies based on exact matches of information.

Source: <http://www.newsday.com/gao-unsafe-truck-bus-companies-still-on-highways->

17. *July 30, WFAA 8 Dallas* – (Texas) **FAA to order retesting of 1,400 airplane mechanics.** The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) confirmed that it will require 1,400 airplane mechanics certified at a San Antonio facility to retest or have their licenses revoked. FAA officials said they became concerned last fall that mechanics were being improperly licensed at Tobias Aerospace Services, an airplane mechanic testing facility. Their concerns were triggered by the unusually high success rate and volume of mechanics tested and certified by an individual who is an FAA-designated mechanical examiner. Tobias has certified mechanics for eight years. Possible conflicting test dates and paperwork irregularities submitted by Tobias and mechanic applicants spurred further FAA questions. “In the course of reviewing the airmen’s applications and the certificates that were issued, the inspectors began to have a number of questions about the qualifications of those applications,” said an FAA flight standards regional manager in Dallas. Records show mechanics traveled to Tobias Aerospace from all over the United States, Asia, Latin America and South America to undergo oral and practical examinations. Tobias certified 150 to 250 mechanics each year; one year about 300 were certified. The controversy surrounding the retesting spreads far beyond Texas to Boeing in Seattle. Several Boeing mechanics told News 8 that they came to Tobias Aerospace to gain certification in order to command higher wages once they passed the test. Now they will have to be recertified. Boeing and FAA officials said the mechanics in question should not raise safety concerns because they assemble planes with multiple levels of supervision and quality assurances. Records show Tobias is no longer an examiner. The FAA shut down Tobias Aerospace when it began investigating last fall.  
Source:  
[http://www.wfaa.com/sharedcontent/dws/wfaa/latestnews/stories/wfaa090729\\_mo\\_faa.8d867fd6.html](http://www.wfaa.com/sharedcontent/dws/wfaa/latestnews/stories/wfaa090729_mo_faa.8d867fd6.html)
18. *July 29, Associated Press* – (Missouri) **Bird strike forces emergency landing in St. Louis.** An American Airlines flight made an emergency landing in St. Louis after a bird was pulled into an engine. No injuries were reported among the 140 passengers and five crew members aboard the MD-80 jetliner bound from Lambert-St. Louis International Airport to Los Angeles on July 29. An American spokeswoman says the pilot noticed a bird, believed to be a red-tailed hawk, flying into the right engine as the plane took off. The plane landed a few minutes later. The passengers and crew later flew to Los Angeles on another plane.  
Source:  
[http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5hg0TRYI\\_haxFXEMuugFgGPMeyiLwD99OEM5O0](http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5hg0TRYI_haxFXEMuugFgGPMeyiLwD99OEM5O0)
19. *July 29, Aviation Herald* – (New York) **Eva Airways B744 at New York on Jul 25th 2009, go-around because of lost pilot.** An Eva Airways Boeing 747-400 freighter, performing flight BR-638 from Atlanta, Georgia to New York, New York was on final approach cleared to land on John F. Kennedy Airport’s runway 22L, when a private plane intruded the final approach path. The tower ordered the Boeing to remain at 2,000 feet and continue on runway heading then the Boeing was vectored for a second



approach and safe landing 15 minutes later. The private experimental plane flown by a retired Navy pilot was headed for Farmingdale on Long Island, however the pilot had failed to establish communication with air traffic control as required and then lost positional awareness, spotted Kennedy Airport and made a couple of 360s (full turns) east of the airport to identify his position, then turned north and maneuvered as if he wanted to land on runway 22L. A police helicopter was dispatched to guide the lost pilot to his destination. The Federal Aviation Administration is investigating; no charges have been filed against the pilot of the private plane.

Source: <http://avherald.com/h?article=41d706b3&opt=0>

20. *July 29, Associated Press* – (National) **Congress takes steps to improve airline safety.** Congress is taking steps to toughen regulations on pilot training, qualifications, and hours in response to accidents involving regional airlines, including a February crash in upstate New York that killed 50 people. Lawmakers want to raise the minimum number of flight hours required to become an airline pilot from the current 250 to 1,500 and give air carriers greater access to the past training records of pilots they are considering hiring. Revising the rules governing how many hours pilots can be required to work before they are given rest also is being considered. The bipartisan proposals are contained in a House bill introduced Wednesday by key members of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. The committee is expected to vote July 30 to send the bill to the full House for action. “Our bill is a comprehensive effort to consolidate what we know industry wide about aviation safety to improve safety performance going forward,” said a chairman of the aviation subcommittee.

Source:

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5j6kIhmra3u23RdLDY8P5HV03qgxgD99OBVT80>

For more stories, see items [1](#) and [3](#)

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## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

Nothing to report

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## **Agriculture and Food Sector**

21. *July 30, Associated Press* – (Alabama) **Economy driving rise in cattle theft in Alabama.** Officials say the bad economy is driving an increase in cattle theft in rural southwest Alabama. A spokeswoman for the state Department of Agriculture says so far this year there have been 29 cases of theft reported for a total of 210 cattle. She says that is more than all the cases handled last year. In 2008, there were 27 cases reported involving 309 cattle. The year before that, there were 46 cases with 447 cattle. The spokeswoman says this year’s numbers could be even higher because local police do not always report it to the state. The Alabama Cattlemen’s Association says that cattle-

raising is a \$3 billion business in the state.

Source: [http://www.cattlenetwork.com/top40\\_Content.asp?ContentID=334569](http://www.cattlenetwork.com/top40_Content.asp?ContentID=334569)

22. *July 29, U.S. Food Safety and Inspection Service* – (California) **California firm recalls ready-to-eat pork skin products produced without inspection – Class I recall.**

Camacho's Food Processing, a Salinas, California establishment is recalling approximately 1,450 pounds of ready-to-eat pork skin products because they were prepared without the benefit of federal inspection, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) announced on July 29. The ready-to-eat pork skin products were produced from June 16, 2009, through July 29, 2009, and were repackaged for sale to consumers and distributed to retail stores in California. FSIS' Office of Program, Evaluation & Review discovered the problem. FSIS has received no reports of illness due to consumption of these products.

Source: [http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News\\_&\\_Events/Recall\\_040\\_2009\\_Release/index.asp](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News_&_Events/Recall_040_2009_Release/index.asp)

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## **Water Sector**

23. *July 30, Watertown Daily Times* – (New York) **Lowe's gets tower a tad too short.**

Construction at the new Lowe's Home Improvement Center has hit another snag, this time because a 300,000-gallon water tower at the site is two feet too short, according to the village administrator. He said the water tower needs to be the same elevation as the village's other operating water tower on Clarkson University's hill campus, which is approximately 577 feet above sea level. The new tower at Lowe's is just over 575 feet above sea level — a shortfall of 1.7 feet. The water tower at Lowe's and the tank at Clarkson need to have the same overflow elevations so the village system functions properly, he said. "The design drawings called for the two tanks to have the same overflow elevation so both tanks fill to the same point without overflowing and to maximize the amount of water that can be stored in the tanks," he said. "The water pumps at the water plant are controlled by the height of water in the tanks." The village administrator blamed the error on a mistake made when the Lowe's site was being surveyed and suggested the contractors who built the tower were not at fault. Lowe's paid the \$800,000 cost of building and plans to lease it back to the village over the next 10 years, turning it over to the municipality after the lease expires. In June, the village increased customer water rates to help begin paying Lowe's an estimated \$10,000 a month to lease the water tower.

Source: <http://www.watertowndailytimes.com/article/20090730/NEWS05/307309953>

24. *July 28, Jersey Journal* – (New Jersey) **Seven Jersey City Heights water mains break due to computer glitch.** Seven water mains broke in the Jersey City Heights today — the result of a computer glitch that caused a false low pressure reading and kicked on pumps at a United Water facility, officials said. Due to low water pressure in the Heights following the ruptures, fire officials posted four water tanker trucks at two locations in the area for use in the event of a fire, the Fire director said. Firefighters on the scene at Congress Street, the site one of seven water main breaks this afternoon. Officials blamed a computer malfunction at the Troy Street pumping station. Firefighters responding on

an alarm at a senior citizens building at Hague Street near Central Avenue around noon noticed water in the street and called United Water, he said. It turned out there were additional water main breaks at Hutton Street and Cambridge Avenue, Bleecker Street and Pierce Avenue, Congress Street and Sherman Avenue, Thorne Street and Kennedy Boulevard, Congress Street and Odgen Avenue, and Ravine Avenue just west of the Palisades, he said. A United Water spokeswoman said there was no need to boil drinking water. Four crews were making repairs to pipes last night and they were expected to be finished around midnight, she said. The Hague Street senior citizens building was left without water as were some residents in the area of the individual water main breaks, officials said.

Source:

[http://www.nj.com/news/index.ssf/2009/07/seven\\_water\\_mains\\_break\\_in\\_jer.html](http://www.nj.com/news/index.ssf/2009/07/seven_water_mains_break_in_jer.html)

For another story, see item [4](#)

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## **Public Health and Healthcare Sector**

25. *July 30, Wall Street Journal* – (National) **Pregnant women, kids to get vaccine first.** Pregnant women, children and health-care workers are among those who should be first in line to receive a vaccine for protection against H1N1 swine flu, a U.S. vaccine-advisory panel recommended Wednesday. The recommendation from the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, a body that counsels the federal government on vaccine matters, includes as many as 159 million people, or more than half the U.S. population. Those who should be offered shots first should the government give the final go-ahead to an H1N1 swine flu vaccination campaign are at highest risk of complications from the new flu virus, which had caused 5,011 hospitalizations and 302 deaths as of July 24, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Source: <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB124887563173290207.html>
26. *July 29, Occupational Health and Safety Online* – (National) **FDA authorizes emergency use of H1N1 influenza virus test.** The Food and Drug Administration today announced it has issued an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for a another diagnostic test for the 2009 H1N1 influenza virus, whose spread has caused the virus to be characterized as a pandemic by the World Health Organization. The EUA for the Focus Diagnostics Influenza H1N1 (2009) Real-Time Reverse Transcription Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) diagnostic test is the third diagnostic test authorized under an EUA by the FDA since the public health emergency involving the 2009 H1N1 influenza virus was declared on April 26, 2009. EUA allows Focus Diagnostics to distribute the test to laboratories certified under the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments to perform high complexity tests. This test is not typically utilized in a doctor's office — it is a complex laboratory test performed in an environment that has the necessary equipment. These tests are intended for use in the detection of the 2009 H1N1 influenza virus in patients with symptoms of respiratory infection. Source: <http://ohsonline.com/Articles/2009/07/29/FDA-Authorizes-Emergency-Use-of-H1N1-Influenza-Virus-Test.aspx>

27. *July 29, U.S. Department of Justice* – (National) **Medicare fraud strike force operations lead to charges against 32 doctors and health care executives.** Thirty-two people have been indicted for schemes to submit more than \$16 million in false Medicare claims in the continuing operation of the Medicare Fraud Strike Force in Houston, the deputy attorney general and deputy secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced Wednesday. The Strike Force in Houston is the fourth phase of a targeted criminal, civil and administrative effort against individuals and health care companies that fraudulently bill the Medicare program. While the indictments were returned by a grand jury in Houston, individuals were arrested today in Houston, New York, Boston and Louisiana. In addition, Strike Force agents executed 12 search warrants at health care businesses and homes across the Houston area. According to the indictments, the defendants participated in schemes to submit claims to Medicare for products that were in fact medically unnecessary and oftentimes, never provided. In some cases, indictments allege that beneficiaries were deceased at the time they allegedly received the items. Collectively, the physicians, company owners and executives charged in the indictments are accused of conspiring to submit more than \$16 million in false claims to the Medicare program.

Source: <http://www.usdoj.gov/opa/pr/2009/July/09-odag-734.html>

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## **Government Facilities Sector**

28. *July 30, Groton Dolphin* – (Connecticut) **Drill sharpens Subase's response to possible threats.** Practicing procedures to effectively respond to threats is an active part of Naval Submarine Base (SUBASE) New London, Connecticut's, force protection plan. On July 15, SUBASE's Installation Training Team (ITT) simulated three events to evaluate the base's ability to handle threats. In one, Lower Base handled a simulated attempt by a boat to enter the restricted waters around the submarine piers. In another, a mock car accident by the galley allowed base dispatch to practice an emergency medical response to a sailor being hit by a vehicle. Finally, Upper Base simulated a telephoned bomb threat and suspicious package discover. This element required cooperation from Naval Station Newport's Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) team. This team, Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit Two Detachment Newport, is actually a small part of a larger force based out of Norfolk, Virginia. The faked bomb threat involved Fulton Hall, one of the old, uninhabited barracks. Equipped with full body armor and accompanied by a robot, HD1, the EOD team followed a procedure that would normally be used to safely detonate an explosive devise. The exercise concluded with a mock media event and the simulated establishment of a Family Assistance Center (FAC). The SUBASE Executive Officer took questions to practice for press conferences which usually follow major incidents. Members of the Fleet and Family Service Center and other SUBASE family support communities practiced addressing concerned family members and Sailors after an incident.

Source:

[http://www.zwire.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=20351305&BRD=1659&PAG=461&dept\\_id=8103&rfti=6](http://www.zwire.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=20351305&BRD=1659&PAG=461&dept_id=8103&rfti=6)

29. *July 29, Washington Post* – (District of Columbia) **House office building evacuated because of suspicious package.** The Longworth House Office Building was evacuated the afternoon of July 29 after tests on a suspicious package found on the building's seventh floor proved inconclusive. A spokeswoman for the U.S. Capitol Police said authorities were alerted to the presence of the package about 12:20 p.m. She would not say which office the package was found in or elaborate on whether it was mailed to the building or dropped off. She said those who work in the office where the package was found were being interviewed. None appear to show any signs of illness, she added. As a precaution, the spokeswoman said, the U.S. Capitol Police, with the assistance of the Virginia State Police, would transport the package to Quantico for further investigation. Traffic along eastbound Independence Avenue was shut down, causing a minor traffic snarl, while staffers wandered the area around the office building in the late afternoon heat, waiting for the package to be removed by authorities.  
Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/07/29/AR2009072902774.html>
30. *July 29, WWL 870 New Orleans* – (Louisiana) **Lafourche first responders drill for Columbine-style school shooting.** Law enforcement officials from Lafourche Parish, Louisiana, staged a mock school-shooting incident Wednesday morning at a local school to train police on the latest procedures to deal with someone opening fire at an educational facility. "Local first-responders will respond to the incident and use the training they've received over the past few years...to respond and be critiqued," the sheriff said. Standard protocol for such situations has changed in the aftermath of the Colorado massacre at Columbine High School, the sheriff said, adding that protocol now calls for first-responding officers to actively seek and engage the shooter(s). Prior to Columbine, it was standard procedure for responding officers to secure the perimeter, then await the arrival of S.W.A.T. members. Officials said the drill is a cooperative effort between the Sheriff's office, the Lafourche Parish School Board, Central Lafourche High School, the Louisiana State Police and their SWAT team, Acadian Ambulance, St. Anne Hospital, and the Lafourche Parish Office of Emergency Preparedness.  
Source: <http://www.wvl.com/Lafourche-first-responders-drill-for-Columbine-sty/4896729>

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## **Emergency Services Sector**

31. *July 30, Glen Falls Post Star* – (New York) **Police investigate after police vehicles' tires slashed.** Glen Falls, New York, police are looking for two men who were seen in the Ridge Street parking lot moments before officers found tires slashed on four vehicles — including three police vehicles — Tuesday morning. At about 4 a.m., police received a call from a neighbor who heard hissing and saw two men in the parking lot, which is located next to City Hall and the police station. The men were gone when police arrived. Officers found tires slashed on three police vehicles and one civilian vehicle.  
Source: <http://www.poststar.com/articles/2009/07/30/news/local/doc4a70811350da1810057861>.

[txt](#)

32. *July 28, Federal Bureau of Investigation* – (Pennsylvania) **Williamsport man charged with shining laser at police helicopter.** The Federal Bureau of Investigation, Tuesday, arrested a Williamsport, Pennsylvania, man on a federal complaint and warrant charging that he interfered with, and attempted to interfere with, the authorized operation of an aircraft with reckless disregard for the safety of human life, in connection with the use of a high powered laser light directed at a Philadelphia police helicopter. The incident occurred on April 30, 2008, near the Northeast Philadelphia Airport. Philadelphia police located and apprehended the man a short time after the incident. He was originally charged by the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office but now faces federal charges pending formal indictment.  
Source: <http://philadelphia.fbi.gov/dojpressrel/pressrel09/ph072809.htm>

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## **Information Technology**

33. *July 29, Spamfighter News* – (International) **Computer virus Hidrag.a rapidly spreading across networks.** Security researchers have found Hidrag.a, a computer virus, which spreads through browser exploits, network shares and IRC (Internet Relay Chat), as reported by Pc1news on July 10, 2009. Researchers state that once the virus is executed, it stays inside the system's memory and attempts to infect .scr and .exe files running on the infected PC. In addition, Hidrag.a might establish a backdoor that allows an intruder to make an unhindered entry to the infected computer, putting possible banking and financial data at risk. After execution, Hidrag.a makes its own duplicate copy of approximately 36K in size and plants it on the Windows directory by naming it svchost.exe, according to the researchers. Following this, the virus registers the '.exe' file within the auto-run key of the PC's registry. The researchers also state that Hidrag.a has a connection with various other files like setup.exe, malware.exe and NoDNS.exe. In fact, other security companies also analyzed this virus. While Symantec and McAfee refer Hidrag.a as W32.Jeefo, Microsoft refers it as Jeefo.A. Other names given to Hidrag.a are Jeefo-3, Virus.Parite.B, TROJ\_FLOOD.AF, and so on. Meanwhile, the security researchers said, the malicious Hidrag.a virus has caused the maximum number of infections in the United States where an aggregate of 43,601 strains of malevolent web traffic has been reported. China, which follows the United States, has as many as 42,597 strains of malevolent traffic owing to Hidrag.a. Along with these nations, Brazil, Japan and India are other countries that are infected with the malicious Hidrag, while the United Kingdom, Germany, France, Italy and Russia have also been infected.  
Source: <http://www.spamfighter.com/News-12803-Computer-Virus-Hidraga-Rapidly-Spreading-Across-Networks.htm>
34. *July 29, CNET News* – (International) **Report finds fake antivirus on the rise.** Malware posing as antivirus software is spreading fast with tens of millions of computers infected each month, according to a report to be released on July 29 from PandaLabs. PandaLabs found 1,000 samples of fake antivirus software in the first quarter of 2008. In a year, that number had grown to 111,000. And in the second quarter



of 2009, it reached 374,000, the technical director of PandaLabs said in a recent interview. “We’ve created a specific team to deal with this,” he said, of the rogue antivirus software that issues false warnings of infections in order to get people to pay for software they don’t need. The programs also typically download a Trojan or other malware. PandaLabs found that 3 percent to 5 percent of all the people who scanned their PCs with Panda antivirus software were infected. Using that and worldwide computer stats from Forrester, PandaLabs estimates there could be as many as 35 million computers infected per month with rogue antivirus programs. About 3 percent of the people who see the fake warnings fall for it, forking over \$50 for an annual license or \$80 for a lifetime license, according to the technical director. Last September, a hacker was able to infiltrate rogue antivirus maker Baka Software and discovered that in one period an affiliate made more than \$80,000 in about a week, said a PandaLabs threat researcher. A Finjan report from March estimated that fake antivirus distributors can make more than \$10,000 a day.

Source: [http://news.cnet.com/8301-27080\\_3-10298253-245.html](http://news.cnet.com/8301-27080_3-10298253-245.html)

35. *July 28, Windows IT Pro* – (International) **User feedback leads to network resiliency in SQL Server backup tool.** British developer Red Gate Software has released the latest version of its SQL Backup tool with new network resilience functions, self-healing log shipping and improved compression capabilities. The Cambridge-based firm encourages interaction with its customers and the wider database admin and developer community with initiatives like its popular SQLServerCentral.com website. It says that the software’s new version 6 features are a response to feedback from users who complain about continued reliance on flaky networks. If there is a hiccup on the line when they are writing backups across networks then it is nearly always a case of having to start all over again. RedGate’s SQL Backup Pro 6 product manager explains: “Let’s say you’ve transferred half the file across the network and then there’s a temporary outage in the network, SQL Backup will pause for a configured length of time, maybe thirty seconds, and then try again and it will do that ten times. Those are both configuration settings that you can adjust. And when it tries again, if it makes a connection, if it was just a short-term outage, it then picks up from where it’s already transferred, so if you’d already transferred half the file it then tries to transfer the remaining half.” Many DBAs use log shipping as a way of keeping a standby copy of a SQL Server instance on a separate machine, often at a disaster recovery site. Again, connection can be low-bandwidth and suffer from outages that can disrupt this process, meaning manual fixes often have to be made after the fact.

Source: <http://windowsitpro.com/article/articleid/102547/user-feedback-leads-to-network-resiliency-in-sql-server-backup-tool.html>

### Internet Alert Dashboard

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

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

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## **Communications Sector**

Nothing to report

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## **Commercial Facilities Sector**

36. *July 30, Pocono Record* – (Pennsylvania) **Tornado does damage in Pocono region.** In just minutes on July 29, a tornado ripped through the Cherry Valley and Godfrey Ridge areas in Hamilton and Stroud townships in Pennsylvania, toppling power lines and hundreds of trees, damaging homes and outbuildings, and leaving more than 7,000 residents without power. Crews worked throughout the night and likely will continue working to clear downed power lines and trees from roads and restore power, said the Monroe County Office of Emergency Services deputy director. Met-Ed is the power company serving most of the customers in that area. Following an overcast, humid morning, the tornado touched down shortly before 1:30 p.m. Directly in the path was the Stroudsmoor Inn property, where “a lot of tree damage and very little structural damage to buildings” occurred, said the Stroudsmoor Inn events manager. Stroudsmoor Inn’s 20 guests were evacuated after the storm as a result of damage and power outages in the area, according to the events manager.

Source:

<http://www.recordonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20090730/NEWS/907309980/-1/SITEMAP>

See item [1](#)

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## **National Monuments & Icons Sector**

37. *July 30, KPIC 4 Roseburg* – (Oregon) **Fire up to over 1,600 acres, Highway 138 still closed.** The Williams Creek Fire just east of Glide, Oregon continues to spread on Umpqua National Forest land. Since the night on July 28, the fire has more than tripled and has burned over 1,600 acres. It has been upgraded to a ‘medium’ sized fire. It is still considered zero percent contained, but crews are using everything at their disposal to try and gain control. Smoke from the fire was so thick on July 29 that all air drops had to be called off for several hours. Crews were working to try and control it but the weather has been the biggest cause of concern. Officials do not yet know what caused the fire and it is currently under investigation. No lightning strikes have been reported and the fire restriction level is now up to a level three on the national forest.

Source: <http://www.kpic.com/news/52073262.html>

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## **Dams Sector**

38. *July 30, Tri-City Herald* – (Washington) **2nd leak will keep Kennewick Irrigation**

**District water off for 2 weeks.** Kennewick Irrigation District's (KID) major leak in Badger Canyon is fixed, but the water will not be on for about two weeks because the main source for water to the main canal has sprung another leak closer to Prosser. KID's public information officer said U.S. Bureau of Reclamation officials ordered a full shutdown to drain the entire system on the afternoon of July 29 after discovering a hole in the diversion canal that delivers water to the Chandler Pump. KID officials had hoped to ramp up water flows in the main canal on the afternoon of July 29 following a round-the-clock repair that began the morning of July 28 at the Badger Canyon leak site. A massive leak there threatened to trigger a complete failure of the canal, which required evacuation of seven homes located about 50 to 80 feet below the canal.

Source: <http://www.thenewstribune.com/news/northwest/story/828017.html>

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