



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 6 May 2009

Current Nationwide Threat Level

ELEVATED



Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks

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

Top Stories

- The Dayton Daily News reports that the explosion that triggered a raging fire at the Veolia Environmental Services plant on Monday has been ruled accidental, according to a release from the State of Ohio Fire Marshal’s office and the city of West Carrollton. (See item [3](#))
- Military.com reports that the Army has issued a recall of more than 30,000 helmets because it found that four screws that attach the chinstrap and related parts did not meet Army specifications. The Army said helmet-maker Gentex Corp. is alleging the subcontractor falsified certificates of compliance for the steel screws it furnished for the helmets. (See item [7](#))

Fast Jump Menu

PRODUCTION INDUSTRIES

- [Energy](#)
- [Chemical](#)
- [Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste](#)
- [Critical Manufacturing](#)
- [Defense Industrial Base](#)
- [Dams Sector](#)

SUSTENANCE AND HEALTH

- [Agriculture and Food](#)
- [Water Sector](#)
- [Public Health and Healthcare](#)

SERVICE INDUSTRIES

- [Banking and Finance](#)
- [Transportation](#)
- [Postal and Shipping](#)
- [Information Technology](#)
- [Communications](#)
- [Commercial Facilities](#)

FEDERAL AND STATE

- [Government Facilities](#)
- [Emergency Services](#)
- [National Monuments and Icons](#)

Energy Sector

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

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *May 4, Associated Press* – (Tennessee) **TVA ash spill estimate rises to \$975 million.** The nation’s largest public utility on May 1 raised its top estimate for cleaning up a massive ash spill at a Tennessee coal-fired power plant to nearly \$1 billion and

acknowledged the recovery could take several years. The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) made those disclosures in a second-quarter financial report showing earnings were flat at \$133 million for the three months ending March 31, while electricity sales fell 9.4 percent due to the economic downturn, the TVA chief financial said in a statement. The new estimates for the cleanup of the Kingston Fossil Plant coal ash disaster are \$150 million higher than previous forecasts. They lift TVA's predicted range to \$675 million to \$975 million. TVA says its Kingston cleanup estimates do not include costs for tighter regulation of coal ash prompted by the spill, regulatory fines, lawsuits, and settlements.

Source:

<http://www.starhq.com/news/html/news/AP/articles.asp?day=Sunday&article=e2498bc-tn-coalashspill1st.html>

2. *May 3, Washington Post* – (National) **EPA seeks rules for utilities' runoff.** Faced with new evidence that utilities across the country are dumping toxic sludge into waterways, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is moving to impose new restrictions on the level of contaminants power plants can discharge. Plants in Florida, Pennsylvania and several other states have flushed wastewater with levels of selenium and other toxins that far exceed the EPA's freshwater and saltwater standards aimed at protecting aquatic life, according to data the agency has collected over the past few years. While selenium can be beneficial in tiny amounts, elevated levels damage not only fish but also birds and people who consume contaminated fish. But the reason more selenium and metals such as arsenic are now entering U.S. waterways is because the federal government has pressed utilities to install pollution-control "scrubbing" technology that captures contaminants headed for smokestacks and stores them as coal ash or sludge. The EPA estimates that these two types of coal combustion residue — often kept in outdoor pools or flushed into nearby rivers and streams — amount to roughly 130,000 tons per year and will climb to an estimated 175,000 tons by 2015.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/05/02/AR2009050200703.html>

For more articles, see items [3](#) and [17](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Chemical Industry Sector

3. *May 5, Dayton Daily News* – (Ohio) **Explosion ruled accidental, result of ignitable liquid.** The explosion that triggered a raging fire at the Veolia Environmental Services plant on May 4 has been ruled accidental, according to a release from the State Fire Marshal's office and the city of West Carrollton. The release said investigators for the city, the fire marshal's office and other state and federal authorities "found no evidence of criminal intent during their investigation." The release said a leak of ignitable liquid, possibly acetone or tetrahydrofuran, came in contact with gas-fired boilers in or around a laboratory building on the site in West Carrollton. According to the West Carrollton Fire Chief, six employees were transferring solvents from one tank to another when they noticed a leak. Somehow, the leaking fumes ignited and exploded about midnight in an

area of storage tanks behind a laboratory building at the plant. An environmental specialist on hazardous materials for the Ohio EPA's Dayton office said Monday that he will investigate the cause of the explosion, the "full nature and extent" of any chemical releases, and whether there were any violations or negligence involved.

Source: <http://www.daytondailynews.com/news/dayton-news/explosion-ruled-accidental-result-of-ignitable-liquid-106975.html>

4. *May 4, Reuters* – (California) **Shell Oil, railroads win U.S. ruling on cleanup costs.** The U.S. Supreme Court ruled on May 4 for Shell Oil Co and units of Burlington Northern Santa Fe Corp and Union Pacific Corp in a dispute over environmental cleanup costs at a contaminated industrial site in Arvin, California. Shell, an affiliate of Royal Dutch Shell Plc, and the two railroads argued they should not be held liable for the majority of the more than \$8 million spent by the government on cleanup costs at the abandoned farm chemical storage facility. Voting 8-1, the justices overturned a ruling by a U.S. appeals court that Shell and the railroads could be held liable for almost the full cost of the cleanup even though their roles in the soil and groundwater contamination had been relatively minor. The railroads said the owners of the chemical storage company at the site had leased only a small parcel of their land while Shell said it merely shipped chemicals to the facility. The Supreme Court ruled that Shell is not liable as an arranger for the contamination at the facility and said Shell took numerous steps to encourage its distributors to reduce the likelihood of spills.

Source: <http://uk.reuters.com/article/oilRpt/idUKN0439506820090504>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector

5. *May 4, Deseret News* – (Utah) **Finally — radioactive waste leaving Moab.** The official start of the tailings removal in Moab — rail cars hauling the waste to Crescent Junction 30 miles to the north — actually began operations two weeks ago, with the event held on May 4 to celebrate ramping up to full operations. EnergySolutions was awarded \$98.7 million to remove the waste in its first phase, with another \$108 million being directed to the project through federal stimulus funding. It is anticipated the stimulus money will accelerate the removal of the waste. The Pile stalks the ecological health of the Colorado River, contaminating it with its residue and threatening the drinking supply of 25 million downstream users. "This has been leaching into the Colorado River since the late 1950s and has created a real dead zone along the river," said the executive director of the Grand Canyon Trust, a conservation organization promoting the health and viability of the Colorado River drainage area.

Source: <http://www.deseretnews.com/article/705301377/Finally-2-radioactive-waste-leaving-Moab.html?pg=1>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Critical Manufacturing Sector

6. *May 4, Knoxville News Sentinel* – (Tennessee) **Five teens charged in vacant foundry**

fire. More than \$30,000 in fire damage to a former stove foundry manufacturing company in Athens has been blamed on five boys under the age of 15. According to a report by an Athens Police Officer who responded to a 911 call at the former Athens Stove building, a fire broke out in a chemical storage portion of the building. According to the report, the boys had gone into the building and tipped over a chemical drum. One of the boys set a stick on fire and threw it into the chemical. The building is currently vacant. All five boys — each between the ages of 13 and 15 — are charged with arson. Source: <http://www.knoxnews.com/news/2009/may/04/five-teens-charged-vacant-foundry-fire/>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Defense Industrial Base Sector

7. *May 5, Military.com* – (National) **Army recalls some combat helmets.** The Army has issued a recall of more than 30,000 helmets — not because the helmet shells are flawed, but because it found that four screws that attach the chinstrap and related parts did not meet Army specs. The screws were supplied by a subcontractor to helmet-maker Gentex Corp., according to the Army. In a press release issued May 4, the Army said Gentex is alleging the subcontractor falsified certificates of compliance for the steel screws it furnished for the helmets. In all, 34,218 Advanced Combat Helmets are being recalled for failing ballistic tests. The number includes 15,380 Army helmets, 12,000 Air Force helmets and another 6,838 helmets which were never issued by Defense Logistics Agency. Gentex is one of four companies that makes the helmets, and has delivered 297,000 of the 1.2 million that the Army has received, officials said. Source: <http://www.military.com/news/article/army-recalls-some-combat-helmets.html>

8. *May 5, Washington Post* – (Virginia) **Explosion forces evacuation of day-care center.** More than 70 children were evacuated from an Alexandria day-care center May 4 after a cannon explosion shook the walls, an incident caused by a next-door tenant that works on defense equipment, city officials said. No one was injured, but the explosion caused the walls to shift and ceiling tiles to fall at the Happy Home Child Learning Center in the 1400 block of Duke Street, said an Alexandria Fire Department spokesman. Seventy-one children were taken to neighboring Shiloh Baptist Church, where they waited for their parents to pick them up. Fifteen adults were also evacuated from the center. Both the day-care center and the company, BAE Systems, will be closed until the city completes an inspection of the building's electrical system. Alexandria officials are investigating whether BAE Systems was complying with city codes and why a day-care center was allowed to operate next to a company that tests defense equipment. A manager for the company said the explosion was caused by pressurized air during a test and added that the device was a smaller caliber than a cannon. He called it an “accelerator” but declined to explain its use. According to the manager, BAE Systems began leasing the space in 1999, before Happy Home moved in. A message left at the day-care center May 4 was not returned. BAE Systems is between the day-care center and the church and shares a wall with each, the manager said. Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/05/04/AR2009050402030.html>

Banking and Finance Sector

9. *May 5, Wall Street Journal* – (National) **More banks will need capital.** The U.S. is expected to direct about 10 of the 19 banks undergoing government stress tests to boost their capital, according to several people familiar with the matter, a move that officials hope will quell fears about the solvency of the financial sector. The exact number of banks affected remains under discussion. It could include Wells Fargo & Co., Bank of America, Citigroup Inc. and several regional banks. At one point, officials believed as many as 14 banks would need to raise more funds to create a stronger buffer against future losses, these people said, but that number has fallen in recent days. Representatives from Wells, Bank of America and Citi declined to comment. The U.S. Presidential Administration announced the stress tests, a process of examining banks' ability to withstand future losses, back in February. At the time, the news sparked concern among investors and depositors that the results would be used to shut down or nationalize some of the country's weaker institutions. But the Federal Reserve Chairman and the Treasury Secretary assured investors that none of the banks undergoing stress tests would be allowed to fail and that all would have access to government funds if needed.
Source: <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB124148189109785317.html>
10. *May 5, Dow Jones Newswire* – (National) **U.S. government watchdogs strained by rising bank failures.** The rising number of failed U.S. banks is putting a strain on government watchdogs, forcing them to drop investigations into issues such as money laundering and preventing effective oversight over the trillions of dollars in new government programs put in place in recent months. Inspectors general (IGs) from the Treasury Department, Federal Reserve and Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. will tell a U.S. House subcommittee on May 5 that laws requiring mandatory reviews of bank failures of a certain size are eating away at scarce resources for auditors. Currently, IGs are required to investigate any bank failure where the estimated loss is considered material, exceeding the greater of \$25 million or 2 percent of the bank's assets. Regulators have shut down 31 banks already this year, and the Federal Inspector General said the low threshold leads to mandatory investigations that prevent broader oversight. "We are concerned that an increase in the number of (reviews) would not only require us to shift resources from the important ongoing work related to the financial crisis, but would also significantly reduce our ability to initiate work in other emerging areas," she said in prepared remarks for the May 5 hearing.
Source: <http://www.nasdaq.com/asp/stock-market-news-story.aspx?storyid=200905041856dowjonesdjonline000485&title=us-government-watchdogs-strained-by-rising-bank-failures>
11. *May 4, KPIX 5 San Francisco* – (California) **Former bank mailroom supervisor accused in id theft scam.** A former San Francisco bank mailroom supervisor accused in an identity theft scam faces up to seven years in prison if convicted, prosecutors said on May 4. The defendant has been charged with six felonies including identity theft and

embezzlement for his alleged role in what the District Attorney called one of the fastest-growing and “insidious” crimes. San Francisco prosecutors say that over a six-month period beginning in April 2007, the defendant allegedly opened customer mail at a First Republic Bank branch containing both commercial and personal identifying information. He then allegedly made copies of checks, and sold those copies as part of a larger identity theft scheme. The checks were later used by someone else to replicate the bank account and issue checks from that account. Prosecutors have charged the case based on three alleged victims, but said there could be more, and an investigation continues. They did not reveal how much money was lost.

Source: <http://cbs5.com/localwire/22.0.html?type=bcn&item=SF-BANK-SCAM-baglm>

For more stories, see items [35](#) and [39](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Transportation Sector

12. *May 5, East Bay Newspapers* – (Rhode Island) **Escape Bridge limit lowered to four tons.** After telling Portsmouth that money is not available to schedule repairs to Cove Bridge (aka the Escape Bridge), the state Department of Transportation (DOT) has lowered the bridge’s weight limit from 10 tons to 4 tons. Signs announcing the change went up May 5. The announcement came after inspectors, working from a barge recently discovered that deterioration has continued to the point that the bridge’s superstructure (horizontal elements) must be replaced and its substructure (vertical support pilings) repaired. The new limit allows passenger cars, SUVs and lightly loaded pickup trucks but prohibits everything larger. All trucks and buses will need to seek alternate routes. Source: <http://www.eastbayri.com/detail/128280.html>
13. *May 5, Aviation Herald* – (Maine) **Delta Airlines B763 near Bangor on May 4th 2009, air data computer failure, lost most instruments.** A Delta Airlines Boeing, flight DL-148 from New York, New York to Rome, Italy, was enroute at FL330 about 120 nm south of Bangor, Maine in night time conditions, when the crew declared emergency reporting, that they had lost all air data computers and had lost most of the flight instruments. They requested to return to New York’s John F. Kennedy Airport and asked for a block altitude clearance due to unreliable altimeter readings. In the end the crew diverted to Bangor, Maine where the airplane landed safely on the runway about 23 minutes after declaring emergency. Source: <http://avherald.com/h?article=41924056&opt=4865>
14. *May 4, Hannibal Courier-Post* – (Illinois) **Illinois River Bridge at Florence closed indefinitely.** The Illinois Highway 106 Bridge in the Pike County community of Florence has been closed indefinitely. A barge struck the bridge about 7:20 a.m. May 3 and damaged some of the steel supports. There were no injuries. The southbound grain barge being pushed by the “Sam Litrico” towboat struck a concrete pier adjacent to the north side of the bridge. Authorities are determining the extent of the damage, but the Illinois Department of Transportation said it could be some time before the 79-year-old structure re-opens. River traffic can still get through the area, but some traffic is

restricted for safety due to Florence bridge damage.

Source: http://www.hannibal.net/news_local/x342379827/Illinois-River-bridge-at-Florence-closed-indefinitely

15. *May 4, WashMo.com* – (Missouri) **First responders practice disaster preparedness May 6.** From 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 May 6, the Washington Fire, Police and EMS companies along with St. John’s Mercy Hospital will host a “live” disaster preparedness exercise. The exercise places a simulated train derailment in Washington, Missouri at the old Sand Plant near James W. Rennick Riverfront Park at Elbert Drive and Lafayette Street. The train is carrying toxic materials. During the exercise, St. John’s Mercy Hospital and first responders will test, coordinate and update their disaster plans. During the exercise, victims will be rescued at the scene by the Fire Department, triaged by EMS and transported by ambulance to the hospital, where they will be treated for various injuries. Police will control bystander activity.
Source: <http://washmo.com/news/16-around-washington-mo/323-first-responders-practice-disaster-preparedness-may-6->
16. *May 4, Associated Press* – (Louisiana) **Northwest plane makes emergency landing in La.** Officials say a Northwest Airlines plane was forced to turn around and land back at the Baton Rouge, Louisiana airport after a small maintenance door on the bottom of the aircraft opened. Officials say Northwest Airlines Flight 2271 with 49 people aboard circled near the Baton Rouge Metro Airport May 4 to burn off fuel so it could make an emergency landing. An airport spokesman said the door was ajar and a light came on, so the plane did an about-face and landed without a problem. The door on the belly of the plane is used by maintenance people to get to the navigation and other equipment.
Source:
http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5i8_ioOULaO86HkebF4dQvm72_HAawD97VN6CO1
17. *May 4, Central Florida News 13* – (Florida) **Gas line rupture snarls I-95, turnpike.** A gas line ruptured sparking an explosion that closed part of Florida’s Turnpike and I-95 for hours on May 4. Fire crews say the explosion knocked debris into the road causing a car to crash. The driver was not seriously hurt. Once the fire was out, a gaping crater was left. The explosion shut down both directions of Florida’s Turnpike, and parts of I-95. I-95 has since reopened. One northbound lane was open while crews repaired the gas line. Southbound lanes of turnpike were open.
Source:
http://www.cfnews13.com/News/Local/2009/5/4/gas_line_rupture_snarls_i95_turnpike.html

For another story, item [30](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Postal and Shipping Sector

18. *May 5, Rio Grande Valley Monitor* – (Texas) **Donna PD shut down after suspicious**

package received. Emergency officials restricted access to the Donna Police Department for more than two hours after a secretary opened an envelope with what turned out to be McCormick onion salt. The envelope did not have a return address and was accompanied by six pages of scribbling. Firefighters from Weslaco and McAllen responded to the scene and set up a perimeter around the building, said the Weslaco emergency management coordinator. Equipment from the McAllen Fire Department eventually determined what the substance was. Authorities restricted access to the Donna police building while they determined what the white granules were. Hazmat teams from McAllen and Weslaco and fire departments from Pharr and Donna responded to the perceived threat.

Source: <http://www.themonitor.com/articles/donna-26112-suspicious-down.html>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Agriculture and Food Sector

19. *May 4, Packer* – (Wisconsin) **Spinach repacker given OK to ship after salmonella find.** On May 4, the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection told Milwaukee-based Kleen-Pak Foods that tests of the company's spinach processing equipment found no traces of salmonella, said Kleen-Pak's vice president. Earlier tests of spinach in the company's coolers also found no salmonella. As a result, Kleen-Pak can begin repacking spinach. On April 29, the company announced a recall of about 8,000 retail packs and 1,200 pounds of wholesale and foodservice curly leaf spinach, following a routine test by the Wisconsin agriculture department that turned up a positive sample for salmonella. No illnesses traced to the contamination have been reported. It was distributed in Wisconsin, Minnesota and the Chicago area.

Source: <http://thepacker.com/Spinach-repacker-given-OK-to-ship-after-salmonella-find/Article.aspx?articleid=365575&authorid=680&categoryid=205&feedid=215>

20. *May 4, Enid News* – (Oklahoma) **Crops in Oklahoma are suffering.** Wheat crop assessment continues across the state, with various experts looking at damage from drought, freeze, hail and heavy rains. According to U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service, the condition of the state wheat crop continues to suffer. Seventy percent of the crop statewide is rated in poor to very poor shape. Another 22 percent is rated fair, with just the remaining 8 percent rated good. In southwestern Oklahoma, the wheat crop was almost completely destroyed. "People have just abandoned fields at this point," the executive director of Oklahoma Wheat Commission said. "There is 80 to 90 percent damage in some fields. It is a field-by-field study." The southwest was hit hard by drought, then the April freeze caused more damage, he said. "In the northern part of the state, crops have been looking good, but they have been hit by hail," he said. "Okeene and west of Alva have had a lot of hail. Places that had been looking good, some got hit by hail." The damage can be difficult to assess in the beginning, he said, because the damage may not show for weeks. Estimates on damage from around the state will be compiled Wednesday.

Source: http://www.enidnews.com/localnews/local_story_124232950.html

21. *May 4, North County Gazette* – (New York) **E. coli concerns cause ground beef recall.**

Alex & George Wholesale, Inc., a Rochester, New York firm, is recalling approximately 4,663 pounds of ground beef products because they may be contaminated with E. Coli, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS). These ground beef products were produced on April 29 and distributed to restaurants in western New York. The problem was discovered through a routine FSIS sampling procedure. FSIS has received no reports of illnesses associated with consumption of these products.

Source: http://www.northcountrygazette.org/2009/05/04/beef_e_coli/

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Water Sector

22. *May 4, Water Technology Online* – (Kentucky) **City losing three-quarters of water it treats.** Jenkins in Letcher County, Kentucky is the recipient of a \$750,000 grant that will be used to upgrade its aging water system, which includes some century-old wooden lines and others made of cast iron, WYMT News reported April 30. The mayor said only about one-quarter of the water treated at the city's plant makes it way to taps due to the aging water lines. "Through the years, we've lost more and more water. Last month we lost 72 percent of what we produced," he is quoted as saying. Once the new system is in place, the city may sell the water it has been losing to potential customers outside the city limits, "which would be a big profit for the city," he said. The water infrastructure improvement project is expected to get under way later this summer, according to the report.

Source: http://watertechonline.com/news.asp?N_ID=71843

See also: <http://www.wkyt.com/wymtnews/headlines/44033157.html>

For another story, see item [2](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Public Health and Healthcare Sector

23. *May 5, Boston Herald* – (Massachusetts) **Swine flu cases spike in Mass.** Swine flu cases in Massachusetts jumped dramatically Monday from six to 34, as new tests confirmed the disease is spreading in the state. The majority of the newly confirmed cases were in Middlesex County, where concerns caused more than 100 Ashland high school students to miss class Monday. Three individuals have been hospitalized and released; all are expected to recover. The governor, at a rare evening State House press conference, pleaded for calm, saying that "the number of cases is a fraction of what we deal with in a normal flu season."

Source:

http://www.bostonherald.com/news/regional/view/2009_05_05_Swine_flu_cases_spike_in_Mass_/srcv=home&position=5

24. *May 4, NBC Dallas-Fort Worth* – (International) **AA crew, passengers detained over flu concerns.** Two American Airlines flight attendants and 37 passengers were released

Monday afternoon after they were detained for about 10 hours in Japan over concerns about swine flu. It is not yet known if any of the detained passengers actually have H1N1 influenza A, or swine flu. Japanese health officials allowed the crew and passengers to go after testing one passenger with flu-like symptoms, an airline spokesman said. The passenger, a Japanese woman returning from Las Vegas, tested negative for the H1N1 virus. American Airlines Flight 169 originated in Los Angeles and landed at Narita Airport outside Tokyo. When the flight arrived, government health inspectors quarantined one passenger and took the passenger to a Tokyo hospital for tests.

Source: <http://www.nbcdfw.com/news/local/Crew-Passengers-Detained-Over-Flu-Concerns.html>

25. *May 4, HealthDay News* – (National) **Ranbaxy announces U.S. recall of antibiotic.** A U.S.-wide recall of an antibiotic used to treat urinary tract infections has been announced by India-based drug maker Ranbaxy. The recall of 100-milligram capsules of nitrofurantoin was prompted by manufacturing problems. “Certain lots of the products were determined to not be in conformity with the approved laboratory specifications,” said a statement released by Ranbaxy, which gave no details about the problems, Agence France Presse reported. “To the best of Ranbaxy’s knowledge, the recalled product is unlikely to produce any serious adverse health effects,” the company said, but added that there was “a remote possibility that the non-conforming product may increase the incidence” of nausea and vomiting. Last fall, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration banned imports of more than 30 generic drugs produced by Ranbaxy because of manufacturing problems, AFP reported. Earlier this year, the FDA accused Ranbaxy of falsifying data and test results in approved and pending drug applications.

Source: <http://www.healthday.com/Article.asp?AID=626752>

26. *May 4, Camp Verde Bugle* – (Arizona) **Fire races up walls of hospital.** A fire at Cottonwood’s Verde Valley Medical Center caused the evacuation of the hospital Friday. The fire was actually not inside the building but outside. The fire rose from a large dumpster placed in the parking lot beneath an open window on the fourth floor. That floor is still under construction as a mother-and-child facility. The third floor remains a shell. The first two floors are occupied. Witnesses say the flames from the fire had actually exploded the double-pane windows with a popping sound. The Fire Chief reported that fire penetrated into the second and fourth floors by a couple feet, but not significantly, and not enough to trip the fire sprinklers. Inside the hospital, a “Code-D” was ordered, mobilizing all hospital resources and triggering a disaster command center. Patients were move from the Yavapai Unit to Intensive Care, Telemetry and the Mingus Nursing units. A patient behind the second floor window had been evacuated before the window exploded. The fire was contained by just after 3 p.m. Friday.

Source:

<http://campverdebugleonline.com/main.asp?SectionID=1&subsectionID=1&articleID=22997>

27. *May 4, KARK 4 Little Rock* – (Arkansas) **Evacuation at UAMS in Little Rock.** Workers at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences in Little Rock were

evacuated Monday morning evacuation from their offices in the Barton Research Building on the east side of campus. The evacuation of less than 100 people from inside the building lasted about 45 minutes. Researchers there routinely dispose of chemicals and one of them needed to get rid of acid. When the compound was thought to be crystallizing, which could be explosive, the emergency was declared.

Source: <http://arkansasmatters.com/content/fulltext/news?cid=217912>

28. *May 4, Asbury Park Press* – (New Jersey) **Emergency drill in Manalapan helps residents prepare for deadly virus.** 60 members of the Manalapan Township Office of Emergency Management and the Manalapan Medical Rescue Corps-Community Emergency Response Team participated in an emergency drill early Sunday morning at the Monmouth County Library headquarters. The task during Sunday's simulated crisis was medicating an estimated 40,000 Manalapan residents who were in danger of being exposed to anthrax over the following 48 hours. In response, Manalapan's MRC-CERT set up a point of distribution, or POD, to dispense pills to every resident. "This is to ensure that in the event of an outbreak of a deadly disease, that the town would be ready to respond," said the community coordinator for the Manalapan Medical Reserve Corps and Community Emergency Response Team. The drills objective was to test how quickly volunteers can be called to the site, how quickly volunteers and equipment can be organized, and how well they can receive, store and distribute medications. Officials noted the timeliness of the exercise given the recent emergence of the H1N1 virus.

Source: <http://www.app.com/article/20090504/NEWS01/905040314/1004/NEWS01>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Government Facilities Sector

29. *May 5, Honolulu Advertiser* – (Hawaii) **Financial aid data may be at risk.** The financial aid records of more than 15,000 Kapi'olani Community College students may have been compromised by a computer virus, university officials said, but no one has reported any identity theft. The virus affected a computer with access to financial aid records of students from January 1, 2004, to April 15, 2009, the KCC Chancellor said on May 4. The affected computer — the anti-virus software for which had not been updated — did not have the financial information on it, but was connected to a network where the sensitive data was stored. Data that could have been accessed included information used on financial aid applications, such as names, addresses, phone numbers, birth dates and Social Security numbers. The police and FBI have forensic experts examining the computer's hard drive to determine if information has been shared on the Internet, the Chancellor said. In light of the possible breach, the university tightened its electronic security, said a University of Hawai'i system spokeswoman. The changes include: updating all UH computers with current anti-virus software, evaluating storage practices at the financial aid offices and instituting changes as needed and adding additional layers of security to computers on the 10 campuses to prevent future attacks.

Source:

<http://www.honoluluadvertiser.com/article/20090505/NEWS07/905050330/1001>

30. *May 4, KFYP 5 Bismarck* – (North Dakota) **Grand Forks air base starts new complex.**

The Grand Forks Air Force Base has started work on a \$12.6 million air traffic control complex. A statement from the base says the complex includes a two-story radar approach control building connected to an 11-story control tower. Construction is to be finished late next year. Base officials say the new complex is energy efficient and environmentally friendly, and will replace a tower built during the Vietnam era that can no longer be upgraded. The base says the current complex provides air traffic control for more than 113,000 civilian and military operations in the region and the new tower can expand those numbers.

Source: http://www.kfyrtv.com/News_Stories.asp?news=29851

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Emergency Services Sector

31. *May 5, Valejo Times Herald* – (California) **Benicia tests backup emergency response communications.** If Benicia, California lost all its phone lines like Santa Clara County recently did, there is at least a 94 percent chance that emergency communications could rely on a small army of Ham Radio enthusiasts to maintain continuity. The group tested an alternative communication network Sunday with nearly perfect results. The city's Ham Radio volunteer emergency response team members spread out to 13 different points throughout Benicia in a drill simulating loss of all phone communication. After running 52 tests under various scenarios, only three tests failed, Benicia Amateur Radio Club's treasurer and emergency response coordinator said. Those failed tests relied on the tiny walkie-talkie antennas, which hams would not necessarily be reduced to in an emergency. The Benicia testing was the first in which the emergency team worked side by side with the city's emergency dispatch center, which fields call for both police and fire department officials. The test also gave emergency responders a chance to test out a new portable radio station on wheels, dubbed a "Go-Kit." The kit contains items like headphones, cables, a large antenna, and enough energy to power a 50-watt radio for five to seven days.
Source: http://www.timesheraldonline.com/news/ci_12297373
32. *May 5, Associated Press* – (Pennsylvania) **PEMA to review Erie County 911 dispatch center.** A state agency will take about three weeks to review Erie County's 911 dispatch center after police were sent to a shooting without being told the alleged shooter was still in the area and armed. The Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency audit will include interviews with employees, and state officials will also review the center's training, procedures and technology. County officials asked for the review after questions arose about information police were given after a shooting in Erie April 25.
Source:
http://www.philly.com/philly/wires/ap/news/state/pennsylvania/20090505_ap_pematorevieweriercounty911dispatchcenter.html
33. *May 4, WMTW 8 Portland* – (Maine) **South Portland votes to combine SWAT forces.** The South Portland, Maine, City Council voted unanimously Monday night to combine police forces with Scarborough and Cape Elizabeth, and create a joint SWAT team, in an effort to increase manpower and save money. Only two other joint SWAT team

forces exist in Maine with the city of Westbrook and the Cumberland County Sheriffs Department combined and the Old Orchard, Saco and Biddeford departments that have joined forces. South Portland officials said they believe this new resolution will formalize something that has taken place for several years. Twenty members will combine to form the Southern Maine Regional SWAT Team, which will consist of 10 members from South Portland, two from Cape Elizabeth and eight from Scarborough. Source: <http://www.wmtw.com/news/19368660/detail.html>

For another story, see item [18](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Information Technology

34. *May 5, Associated Press* – (National) **Pentagon cyber command to create force for future.** The U.S. military must reorganize its offensive and defensive cyber operations and will use a new command at a Maryland Army facility to create a digital warfare force for the future, the director of the National Security Agency says. The Pentagon’s leading cyber warfare commander said the U.S. is determined to lead the global effort to use computer technology to deter or defeat enemies, while still protecting the public’s constitutional rights. In testimony prepared for delivery on May 5 to a House Armed Services subcommittee, the Lieutenant General and other military leaders in cyber matters outlined the challenges to keeping up with rapidly changing technologies and the need for more resources and training. In blunt comments, the Lieutenant General acknowledged that cyber training for the Pentagon’s work force is inadequate and must be improved. The testimony comes as the U. S. Presidential Administration prepares to release its review of the nation’s cybersecurity, and on the heels of a critical report by the National Research Council. The independent group’s report concluded that the government’s policies on how and when to wage cyber warfare are ill-formed, lack adequate oversight and require a broad public debate.

Source:

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5iWMvfGEwJGo9x8rcQDyGjdkc0W4wD97VUD3G0>

35. *May 4, DarkReading* – (International) **Researchers take over dangerous botnet.** A group of researchers at the University of California-Santa Barbara boldly hijacked a notorious botnet known for stealing financial information and discovered that the botnet is even more dangerous than had been thought. Researchers at the University of California at Santa Barbara have published a report that exposes details about how the infamous Torpig/Sinowal/Anserin botnet operates, its makeup, who it typically victimizes, and just what type of financial data it is stealing. The researchers seized control of the botnet for 10 days in late January, after which Torpig’s operators reclaimed it. “Torpig provided a unique opportunity to understand a live botnet. Most of the time, researchers only gain access to offline data, [such as] through a dropzone server that may be years old, while the data that we received was in real-time,” says one of the UCSB researchers. While big-name botnets, like the former Storm, are best-known for their widespread spam runs and often dismissed as more of annoyance, it is

the smaller, more stealthy botnets like Torpig that can pose real dangers. Torpig is a specialized mini-botnet, a smaller and less conspicuous army that targets organizations and users to steal bank account information or other valuable personal information. Torpig has been a hot subject for researchers for some time: RSA revealed in October 2008 that the so-called Sinowal Trojan, a.k.a. Torpig and Mebroot, had been stealing data for about three years, and had successfully swiped 300,000 online bank accounts, credit and debit card accounts, and an unknown number of email and FTP accounts. The botnet's malware "may be one of the most pervasive and advanced pieces of crimeware ever created by fraudsters," researchers say.

Source:

<http://www.darkreading.com/security/client/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=217201422>

36. *May 4, SC Magazine* – (International) **Adobe PDF vulnerability fix slated for May 12.** Adobe said it plans to release an update by May 12 for the recently disclosed Reader and Acrobat vulnerability. In doing so, Adobe will push out Windows updates for Reader and Acrobat versions 7, 8 and 9 and Macintosh and Unix updates for versions 8 and 9, Adobe's security program manager said on May 1 in a blog post. The company also has confirmed a second vulnerability in its Reader for Unix software, which also is slated to be fixed in next week's update. That bug does not affect Windows or Mac versions, but Adobe is investigating whether it can "reproduce an exploitable scenario." Proof-of-concept code for both vulnerabilities has been published on the web; however, Adobe is not aware of any live attacks.

Source: <http://www.scmagazineus.com/Adobe-PDF-vulnerability-fix-slated-for-May-12/article/136108/>

37. *May 4, CSO Online* – (International) **USA (and IE) number 1 for botnet mayhem.** Research from security vendor Finjan Inc. suggests enterprise IT shops are losing the war against those who would hijack company computers for botnets. Almost half the victims appear to be in the U.S., most using Microsoft's Internet Explorer (IE) browser. Finjan's Malicious Code Research Center (MCRC) uncovered a network of 1.9 million Trojan horses running on corporate, government and consumer computers around the world during an investigation of command-and-control servers run by botnet herders from the Ukraine and elsewhere. One server, launched in February but later shut down, was hosted in the Ukraine and controlled by an online gang of six people who managed to establish a vast Trojan distribution network. "Hackers keep looking for improved ways to distribute malware and Trojans are winning the race. The sophistication of the crimeware and the staggering amount of infected computers proves these people are raising the bar," the Finjan CTO said. "Corporate and governmental data remain prime targets, especially computers in the U.S. and the U.K. which are under attack, and need to protect themselves." Based on posts found on various hacking forums, researchers believe 1,000 hijacked computers are being rented out for \$100-\$200 a day. The bad guys can make \$190,000 a day for renting a botnet of 1.9 million infected computers. Computers in 77 government-owned domains (.gov) from the U.S., U.K., Brazil, Turkey and India have been compromised and are running the Trojan horse. The malware is remotely controlled by hackers who use them to deliver almost any command on the end-user computer as they see fit, including reading e-mails, copying files, recording

keystrokes, sending spam, and making screenshots.

Source:

http://www.csoonline.com/article/491615/USA_and_IE_Number_for_Botnet_Mayhem

38. *May 4, Computerworld* – (International) **Leaked copies of Windows 7 RC contain Trojan.** Pirated copies of Windows 7 Release Candidate (RC) on file-sharing sites contain malware, according to users who have downloaded the upgrade. Windows 7 RC, which Microsoft Corp. will officially launch on May 5, leaked two weeks ago, with copies first appearing on BitTorrent tracking sites on April 24. Some of the pirated builds include a Trojan horse, numerous users said in message forums and in comments on BitTorrent sites such as Mininova.org. “Just a warning for anyone downloading the new RC builds of windows 7. Quiet [sic] a lot of the downloads have a trojan inbedded [sic] in the setup EXE,” said a user on a Neowin.net discussion thread. “The Setup EXE is actually a container, it appears to be a self-extracting EXE. There are 2 files inside, Setup.exe and codec.exe.” “Suspicious codec.exe!” reported a user on Mininova, commenting on one of the 32-bit builds. Another Mininova commenter identified the malware as the “Falder” Trojan, which downloads fake security software, dubbed “scareware,” to PCs and installs a rootkit to hide from legitimate antivirus products. Microsoft, which has cited potential infection as a reason to steer clear of unauthorized downloads, jumped on the news. “This unfortunately shows that there are those out there who see the significant interest in something such as Windows 7 as an opportunity to try to take advantage of others,” said the director of Microsoft’s Genuine Windows anti-piracy technology group, in a post to a company blog on May 1.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&articleId=9132522&intsrc=news_ts_head

Internet Alert Dashboard

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

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

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Communications Sector

39. *May 5, Network World* – (International) **NYSE to implement 100Gbps network.** NYSE Euronext, the company that operates the New York Stock Exchange, will soon implement a 100Gbps data network with help from network equipment vendor Ciena. Ciena says the 100G network will serve as the cornerstone of NYSE Euronext’s new data centers in the New York and London metropolitan areas, which are due to come online in 2010. According to Ciena, the data centers will need the bandwidth capacity to support “more than one billion daily transactions comprising petabytes of data.” The network will utilize Ciena’s CN 4200 RS FlexSelect Advanced Services Platform, a wavelength-division multiplexing transport platform that the company says

is “designed for telco and cable service providers, large enterprises, research and education institutions, and government organizations to deploy in locations that require massive service aggregation and wavelength routing.” The company says that its own technology is able to generate 100Gbps over a single wavelength, unlike other 100G tests in the past that have combined two 40Gbps wavelengths or have inversely multiplexed ten 10Gbps wavelengths.

Source: <http://www.networkworld.com/news/2009/050509-nyse-100gbps.html>

40. *May 4, Fierce Telecom* – (Colorado) **Colorado town fights Qwest for fiber.** Silverton is the only county seat in Colorado that is not connected to the rest of the state by fiber optics. Qwest has a \$37 million contract with the state of Colorado to link every county seat with reliable high-speed Internet access, but the carrier admits it has no plans to run fiber 16 miles to the town by the time the contract runs out next year. Residents have been protesting for more than five years that they do not have fiber, but Qwest has installed a microwave system that it says is fast, has plenty of capacity, and can be upgraded. State officials apparently decided that microwave was good enough, but businesses in Silverton run into capacity problems during the summer when tourists come into town; too many credit card purchases jam up the system. It also does not help that an avalanche took out a relay tower back in 2005, interrupting all phone and Internet service for about 24 hours.

Source: <http://www.fiercetelecom.com/story/colorado-town-fights-qwest-fiber/2009-05-04>

41. *May 4, Fierce Telecom* – (New Hampshire) **In NH, FairPoint transition blame spread to PUC, contractors.** Local citizens and newspapers in New Hampshire are starting to look beyond FairPoint’s transition problems to state regulators and contractors that supervised its purchase of Verizon’s landline business in northern New England. FairPoint has run a gauntlet of criticism for its problems after taking over from Verizon, including e-mail and Internet outages, poor customer service, billing issues and other transition-related problems. Among the parties now getting more scrutiny are Capgemini, the company that designed FairPoint’s computer system; Liberty Consulting Group, the company hired by New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to monitor FairPoint’s progress in taking over Verizon’s network and operations; and, the PUC itself. In January 2009, Liberty Consulting had assured public utilities officials that FairPoint was ready to switch over from Verizon’s computer systems onto the Capgemini systems, but tens of thousands of customers have encountered problems with billing systems, service requests, and an e-mail glitch/oversight that left thousands of customers with no access for days to weeks.

Source: <http://www.fiercetelecom.com/story/nh-fairpoint-transition-blame-spread-puc-contractors/2009-05-04>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Commercial Facilities Sector

For a story, see item [8](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

National Monuments & Icons Sector

Nothing to report

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Dams Sector

42. *May 4, WWL 4 New Orleans* – (Louisiana) **Hurricane killer? Engineer says plan would reduce strength of hurricanes.** When Hurricane Katrina rolled through the Gulf of Mexico, the warm water fueled the storm’s intensity, and Katrina grew even bigger. But what if instead of hitting warm water, Katrina’s eye passed over slightly cooler water? “We think we might have reduced Katrina by maybe a half a category, maybe slightly more, and so there would have been lower wind, less rain, and also very importantly, less storm surge,” said an engineer in New Mexico. He has devised a system he says can reduce a hurricane’s strength. The idea is to bring cool water from the bottom of the gulf to the top. He believes the science, called upwelling, can reduce the water temperature one to two degrees. That might not sound like much, but he said he believes one or two degrees can translate into a reduction in wind speeds of 5 to 20 miles an hour, and a 40 percent decrease in hurricane damages. He said the secret is in long tubes deployed 300 to 500 feet deep into the water with a barrel buoy at the top. He believes they would need 100,000 pumps to be in place 24 hours before an approaching storm, as it takes time to cool off the water.

Source: <http://www.wvltv.com/local/stories/wwl050409cbhurricane.1dba17bb.html>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information

About the reports – The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is a daily [Monday through Friday] summary of open–source published information concerning significant critical infrastructure issues. The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is archived for ten days on the Department of Homeland Security Website: <http://www.dhs.gov/iaipdailyreport>

Contact Information

Content and Suggestions:

Send mail to NICCCReports@dhs.gov or contact the DHS Daily Report Team at (202) 312-3421

Subscribe to the Distribution List:

Visit the [DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report](#) and follow instructions to [Get e-mail updates when this information changes](#).

Removal from Distribution List:

Send mail to support@govdelivery.com.

Contact DHS

To report physical infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact the National Infrastructure Coordinating Center at nicc@dhs.gov or (202) 282–9201.

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US–CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Web page at www.us-cert.gov.

Department of Homeland Security Disclaimer

The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is a non–commercial publication intended to educate and inform personnel engaged in infrastructure protection. Further reproduction or redistribution is subject to original copyright restrictions. DHS provides no warranty of ownership of the copyright, or accuracy with respect to the original source material.