



Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 25 June 2007

Current
Nationwide
Threat Level is

ELEVATED
SIGNIFICANT RISK OF
TERRORIST ATTACKS

[For info click here](http://www.dhs.gov/)
<http://www.dhs.gov/>

Daily Highlights

- The Associated Press reports an off-duty sheriff's deputy stopped an out-of-control passenger who tried to open an emergency exit during a flight from Phoenix to Seattle. (See item [12](#))
- Information Week reports the third annual Government Forum of Incident Response and Security Teams Conference will be held June 25-29, at the Buena Vista Palace Hotel in Orlando, Florida. (See item [30](#))

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report *Fast Jump*

Production Industries: [Energy](#); [Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#)

Service Industries: [Banking and Finance](#); [Transportation and Border Security](#); [Postal and Shipping](#)

Sustenance and Health: [Agriculture](#); [Food](#); [Water](#); [Public Health](#)

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Energy Sector

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

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

1. *June 22, Chillicothe Gazette (OH)* — **Possible explosive situation found at Piketon.** A building on the Department of Energy reservation in Pike County, OH, was evacuated last Friday, June 15, after workers found a chemical compound that had the potential to cause an explosive reaction. A putty-like piping compound was discovered near the valve of a three-foot-by-five-foot tank containing oxygen. "There was a potential that ... there could be a chemical reaction, so until they could look and say, 'What do we have here?' they evacuated the building to be on the safe side," said Laura Schachter, a spokesperson with the Energy Department. The building, part of the depleted uranium hexafluoride waste processing project,

is still under construction. While Schachter maintained there was a "low, minor chance" of an ignition, the incident was reported to the Pike County Sheriff's Office. "Had the valve been open, there could have been a reaction," she said. Authorities looked into the possibility that someone purposely put the compound there, but they might not ever know, she said.

Wednesday, the site conducted a security drill during which the training scenario was one of an explosive device placed on a chlorine cylinder.

Source: <http://www.chillicothegazette.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070622/NEWS01/706220302/1002>

2. *June 22, Associated Press* — **BP sells Russian assets to Gazprom.** BP PLC said Friday, June 22, it has agreed to sell its stake in a giant Siberian gas field project to state-controlled gas monopoly OAO Gazprom -- a widely expected move that comes as the Kremlin tightens its hold on the world's biggest oil and gas industry. The agreement effectively marks the end of an era when foreign oil companies could control Russia's largest and most strategic hydrocarbon deposits without a strong state-controlled partner. The Kremlin has ratcheted up pressure on foreign oil companies in recent years as part of its effort to consolidate control over the country's largest and most important hydrocarbon deposits. Gazprom elbowed Royal Dutch Shell PLC into a minority position in December at a liquefied natural gas project on Sakhalin Island after months of regulatory of pressure.

Source: http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/070622/russia_bp.html?.v=5

3. *June 22, Star-Telegram (TX)* — **Grid operator has enough electricity.** Texans will have enough electricity to comfortably air-condition and power their way through the summer heat, according to the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT), which operates the electrical transmission and distribution grid that serves most of the state. But the reserve margin is still expected to decline in coming years. ERCOT predicted a peak demand of 63,794 megawatts, up 2.3 percent from last year, which it said reflected "the continuing strong economy and population growth in Texas." At the same time, ERCOT expects available capacity to rise by 1,252 megawatts, or 1.8 percent, to 71,970 megawatts, with more than half that amount coming from the reactivation of natural gas-fired generators that had been mothballed. Wind energy factored into the estimate in two ways. More wind turbines were added to the state's capacity, and ERCOT changed the way it calculates how much wind capacity is likely to be available at a time of peak demand, when wind often diminishes.

Source: <http://www.star-telegram.com/business/story/145380.html>

4. *June 22, Washington Post* — **The ripple effect of refinery fires.** The rash of fires and other breakdowns at refineries, known euphemistically in the industry as "unplanned outages," helps explain why motor-fuel prices have soared 36 percent this year. With the U.S. oil refinery industry already stretched thin, breakdowns and maintenance shutdowns have drained gasoline inventories just when the nation's refiners would usually be ramping up for the summer driving season. "When these facilities have one of these catastrophic events, it can have a disproportionate effect on the gasoline market," said Carolyn W. Merritt of the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board. Lynn Westfall of Tesoro, an independent refiner, said that because "we're operating on such a razor-thin margin, we're always one refinery incident away from a spike in prices." The amount that consumers paid to refine a gallon of gas more than tripled between January and May, according to the Energy Information Administration. In the past couple of weeks, a wave of gasoline imports has boosted inventories and eased prices

slightly, putting the national average at about \$3 a gallon. Yet gasoline inventories are still 10.6 million barrels, or five percent, below comparable levels a year ago, said Eitan Bernstein of Friedman, Billings, Ramsey Group.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/06/21/AR2007062102122.html?hpid=topnews>

5. *June 21, St. Louis Post–Dispatch* — **Report: More federal R&D for coal is needed.** The federal government should quadruple annual funding for coal research to \$190 million to make better use of the nation's resources and minimize the impact on the environment, the National Research Council (NRC) says. More than half of the nation's electricity comes from coal, a fuel that will help satisfy the country's energy appetite for decades. But the extent to which it will be relied upon in the future is less certain, and will depend on the shaping of regulations to control carbon emissions, the council said in a report released Wednesday, June 20. Coal use by 2020 could increase as much as 25 percent above 2004 levels or drop as much as 15 percent, according to the council. Coal's longer–term future is even cloudier. Of the \$144 million in recommended new spending, about half would be aimed at limiting the environmental impact of coal and mining. The rest of the funding would go toward improving safety for the nation's 300,000 miners and mining productivity, as well as to update a decades–old assessment of the location and quality of the nation's coal reserves within the next decade.

Source: <http://www.stltoday.com/stltoday/business/stories.nsf/story/CE67FA5D12ED48E386257301000822F4?OpenDocument>

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Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials Sector

6. *June 23, Tucson Citizen (AZ)* — **Overtaken tanker of sulfuric acid prompts road closure.** A tanker truck carrying sulfuric acid overturned on the Interstate 10 frontage road in Marana, AZ, on Friday, June 22, causing the closure of the road for part of the morning and most of the afternoon. The tanker did not leak. The acid had to be pumped from the tanker to another truck before the wreck could be removed. The truck was the only vehicle involved and the driver, its sole occupant, was not injured.

Source: <http://www.tucsoncitizen.com/ss/breakingnews/55464.php>

7. *June 23, Associated Press* — **Carbon monoxide forces evacuation of Wisconsin day care center.** High levels of carbon monoxide forced the evacuation of a day care center Friday, June 22, and sent at least 11 adults to hospitals. Milwaukee Fire Department spokesperson Lt. Larry Jenkins said six firefighters and two civilians were taken to St. Luke's Medical Center. He didn't know their conditions but said none of the injuries were life–threatening. Three other people, all adults, sought medical help on their own, he said. No children were at the day care center at the time, Jenkins said. Heavenly Day Care was evacuated after someone inside called 911 to report a person had passed out in the kitchen. The potentially deadly gases came from a swimming pool heater with a blocked ventilation system, which sent fumes into the building.

Source: <http://www.morningjournalnews.com/oniWire/oniWireDetails.asp?articleID=24132&state=&category=NationalNews>

8. *June 23, KTBS (LA)* — **Ammonia leak causes Interstate shutdown.** Part of Interstate 20 was shut down and approximately 40 people were evacuated from businesses in east Bossier City, LA, early Saturday, June 23, after a gas leak at Pilgrims Pride, a chicken processing company. Police said a valve leak caused the ammonia to escape into the air. The tank leak was on the east side of the plant. Police shut down I-20 from Old Minden Road to Interstate 220. Some of the businesses that were evacuated were Halliburton, State Police Troop G headquarters and Louisiana Machinery. One person was taken to the hospital with what were described as non-life threatening injuries.

Source: http://www.ktbs.com/viewnews.cfm?news_id=2571&zone_id=12&title=Ammonia%20leak%20causes%20Bossier%20City%20businesses%20to%20evacuate%20

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

Nothing to report.

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Banking and Finance Sector

9. *June 22, Security Focus* — **Elcomsoft cracks Quicken backdoor.** Russian security software firm Elcomsoft announced on Friday, June 22, that the company's researchers had cracked the master password that secures encrypted Quicken files and which allows the software's developer, Intuit, to retrieve lost passwords. Calling the existence of a 512-bit encryption key a "backdoor," Elcomsoft said the master key could be used by the federal government to access taxpayer records. Starting with Quicken 2003, Intuit beefed up the encryption of Quicken's password protection. While the better protection made it infeasible for a cracker to brute force the password to a particular Quicken file, Intuit offers a service to recover the files for people who had lost their passwords.

Source: <http://www.securityfocus.com/brief/533>

10. *June 21, News Tribune (WA)* — **FDIC issues counterfeit alert for Timberland Bank checks.**

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. (FDIC) issued a special alert Wednesday, June 20, concerning counterfeit cashier's checks drawn on Timberland Bank of Hoquiam, Grays Harbor County, WA. The bank contacted the FDIC recently to report that bogus checks bearing the institution's name are in circulation. The counterfeit items display the routing number 325170754, which is assigned to Timberland Bank, but are dissimilar to authentic cashier's checks. The counterfeit items display a security feature statement embedded within the top border, which has rounded corners. A "NOTICE TO PURCHASER" regarding an indemnity bond is located in the top-center area. bank's name and its address in the upper-left corner.

Source: <http://www.thenewstribune.com/business/story/92493.html>

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Transportation and Border Security Sector

11. *June 24, Fresno Bee (CA)* — **Sprinklers douse hundreds at Los Angeles airport, prompt evacuations.** Hundreds of people awaiting flights were doused with water at Los Angeles International Airport's Terminal One Sunday, June 24, from fire sprinklers that came on after a water pipe broke, an airport official said. The terminal was temporarily evacuated and the baggage claim and screening areas experienced minor flooding, said airport spokesperson Marshall Lowe. Long lines extended in front of the terminal, as passengers had to go through security checkpoints to be readmitted.
Source: <http://www.fresnobee.com/384/story/68209.html>
12. *June 22, Associated Press* — **Off-duty sheriff's deputy stops unruly passenger on US Airways flight.** An off-duty sheriff's deputy stopped an out-of-control passenger who tried to open an emergency exit during a flight from Phoenix to Seattle. Doug Stanley was returning June 12 from a vacation in Missouri. Stanley said he was aboard US Airways Flight 78 when a passenger in the seat in front of him began acting erratically and attempted to open the emergency exit door. Flight attendants attempted to calm the man, whose name has not been released by authorities. When the captain announced the plane's final descent into Seattle-Tacoma International Airport about 11 p.m. PDT, the man refused to put his seat belt on and was dismantling his seat, said Stanley, an Army Airborne veteran. When he "reached up to pop open the door," the deputy intervened. Stanley showed the man his police identification and told him to sit down, but when that didn't work he wrestled him away from the door. Stanley took the man to the back of the plane, where he was handcuffed with plastic zip ties. He said the man screamed for a bit but eventually settled down and asked Stanley what had happened.
Source: http://www.usatoday.com/travel/flights/2007-06-22-usairways-unruly-flier_N.htm
13. *June 22, Reuters* — **Delta, American raise domestic fares \$5 each way.** Delta Air Lines Inc and AMR Corp's American Airlines raised fares by \$5 each way in most domestic markets, the No. 3 and No. 1 U.S. airlines said on Friday, June 22, in the latest test of airline pricing power. U.S. airlines have struggled recently to raise fares to offset rising fuel costs, as competitors have failed to match the increases amid softening demand for air travel. But this time could be different. "Given the continued rise in jet kero prices, we ascribe a greater-than-usual probability of competitive matching," JPMorgan analyst Jamie Baker said in a research note. Yet he expects the increase to be rolled back in markets in which Delta and other traditional carriers face low-cost competition such as Southwest Airlines Co. and AirTran Holdings Inc. Low-cost carriers typically don't match price increases initiated by traditional airlines.
Source: http://biz.yahoo.com/rb/070622/airlines_fares.html?v=4
14. *June 22, Associated Press* — **Tokyo commuters walk after power outage.** Tens of thousands of Tokyo-area commuters had to walk along train tracks in the rain after a power outage disrupted service on several lines during Friday morning, June 22, rush hour, the train operator said. Power went out on a train line connecting Tokyo and the northern suburb of Saitama at 7:55 a.m. local time on Friday, June 22, train operator JR East said on its Website. The outage also paralyzed several other lines in the area. About five hours later, power was restored after officials fixed a problem with an overhead wire, said JR East spokesperson Koichi Suzuki. The outage prompted the company to also halt three other lines running from Tokyo to points north and northeast, it said. A total of 185,000 passengers were affected by the disruptions, and about 16,000 had to abandon their immobilized trains and walk along the tracks to nearby stations,

Suzuki said.

Source: http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/070622/japan_stopped_trains.html?.v=1

15. June 22, HULIQ (NY) — Holland Tunnel closed due to a suspicious package. The traffic into the Holland Tunnel was diverted Friday morning, June 22, as Hazmat crews and a significant police presence monitored the New York City side. Officials report that there was a suspicious package inside the Holland Tunnel following an accident. The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey gave the following information: Commercial vehicles are prohibited from entering New York City via the Holland Tunnel. Commercial vehicles are encouraged to use the Lincoln Tunnel and George Washington Bridge as alternatives.

Source: <http://www.huliq.com/25419/holland-tunnel-closed-due-to-a-suspicious-package>

16. June 21, Associated Press — United says outage due to employee error. United Airlines said Thursday, June 21, that human error caused the computer outage a day earlier that halted all of its departures for two hours and wreaked havoc with its schedule systemwide. United said there were a handful of flight delays Thursday morning but operations were virtually back to normal after what Chief Executive Glenn Tilton acknowledged in a message to employees was "a difficult day for our customers and for you." Close to 300 flights were delayed or canceled Wednesday after United's flight operations computer system Unimatic, which supplies information to pilots, shut down from approximately 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. CDT. Chief Operating Officer Pete McDonald said the error occurred during routine system testing. "Yesterday, an employee made a mistake and caused the failure of both Unimatic and our backup system," he said in the recorded call to employees. He did not elaborate on the error.

Source: http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/070621/united_flights.html?.v=2

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Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to report.

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Agriculture Sector

17. June 21, Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center — Forgotten wheat pest back in Ohio. A wheat pest that has been off the radar screen for the past three decades in Ohio may be making a comeback. Cereal leaf beetle has been causing serious damage to some Ohio wheat fields over the past two years to such an extent that Ohio State University entomologists are revisiting research that hasn't been conducted on the insect since the 1970s. "Cereal leaf beetle was a serious problem back in the 1960s and early 1970s, but through research, parasitoids (parasitic wasps, for example) were introduced that controlled the insects," said Ron Hammond, an Extension entomologist with the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center. "But for the past two years, something has happened and suddenly either the beetle is doing very well or the parasitoids have disappeared or are no longer being effective." The larva of the cereal leaf beetle causes the most damage to the wheat crop, attacking the plant's flag leaf soon after emerging in the spring. Just two larvae per flag leaf stem can be devastating, since the flag

leaf is the center of grain fill and ultimately controls yield.

Source: <http://www.oardc.ohio-state.edu/story.php?id=4155>

- 18. June 21, U.S. Department of Agriculture — USDA proposes revised regulations for movement of citrus fruit from Florida.** The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant and Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is amending its current citrus canker regulations to eliminate the pre-harvest grove inspection for all Florida citrus moving interstate and instead focus on sampling each lot of citrus at the packinghouse to ensure the fruit is disease free. Under the current interim rule, citrus fruit destined for noncitrus-producing states must originate in groves inspected and found free of citrus canker no more than 30 days before the beginning of harvest. APHIS officials then conduct packinghouse inspections as an additional safeguard to ensure that fruit shipments leaving Florida are canker-free. Under the proposed rule, only fresh citrus fruit that has been inspected at the packinghouse, treated, found free of symptoms of citrus canker and properly packaged would be eligible for interstate movement to noncitrus-producing states. To further protect citrus-producing states from any potential risk of disease, the proposed rule would continue to prohibit Florida citrus from being shipped to citrus-producing states and territories.

Source: <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/newsroom/content/2007/06/ccanfla.s.html>

- 19. June 21, Stop Soybean Rust News — Soybean rust hits two soybean sentinel plots in Louisiana.** Louisiana has confirmed Asian soybean rust in soybean sentinel plots in Avoyelles and Rapides parishes in central Louisiana, about 80 miles north of the kudzu patches with rust on the coast. Officials found the rust Wednesday, June 20. It is the first report of soybean rust on soybeans in the state this year. Growers of early-planted soybeans in the southern parishes are making fungicide applications to combat Asian soybean rust and late-season diseases, according to the state commentary. There are now 26 U.S. counties and parishes to have had soybean rust this year. These finds are the farthest north rust is known to be active at this time.

Source: <http://www.stopsoybeanrust.com/viewStory.asp?StoryID=1052>

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Food Sector

- 20. June 22, Reuters — China food safety issue not hurting sales.** Controversy over the safety of Chinese food products is grabbing headlines around the world, but multinational companies which sell food from China said the issue was not threatening their business. Executives attending an international food industry conference in Shanghai this week urged China to allay public fears by strengthening its regulation of the sector. But they noted food safety issues were faced by producers around the world, and said the situation in China was not serious enough to damage the country's growing role as a food exporter. China shipped \$26.7 billion worth of food overseas last year, up 16 percent from 2005, according to commerce ministry data.

Source: <http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/SHA284805.htm>

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Water Sector

21. *June 21, WSLs (VA)* — Governor sends National Guard to town without water. Virginia Governor Tim Kaine asked the National Guard to help in the relief efforts in the small town of Goshen in Rockbridge County. The town has been without water since June 13th. The soldiers will bring another water tanker and relieve some town volunteers who have been delivering bottled water door-to-door. Workers fixed the eleventh leak they found in the town's water system since a storm knocked out power to its pumps. After they fix each leak, workers turn the system back on to check for more leaks. An expert on the scene believes additional leaks may be preventing the town's water tanker from filling to capacity.

Source: http://www.wsls.com/servlet/Satellite?pagename=WSLs%2FMGArticle%2FSLs_BasicArticle&c=MGArticle&cid=1173351738174&path=!news!localnews

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Public Health Sector

22. *June 22, World Health Organization* — New plan to contain drug-resistant TB. Hundreds of thousands of cases of drug-resistant tuberculosis (TB) can be prevented and as many as 134 000 lives saved through the implementation of a two-year response plan, launched Friday, June 22, by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Stop TB Partnership. The Global MDR-TB and XDR-TB Response Plan 2007-2008 sets out measures needed now to prevent, treat and control extensively drug-resistant TB (XDR-TB) and multidrug-resistant TB (MDR-TB). The plan also sets in motion actions to reach a 2015 goal of providing access to drugs and diagnostic tests to all MDR-TB and XDR-TB patients. The plan emphasizes the urgent need to boost basic TB control and target investment in key areas, including: strengthening programs to treat drug-resistant TB; building capacity in diagnostic laboratories; expanding infection control and surveillance; and funding research into new and improved diagnostics, drugs and vaccines. The plan lays out a strategy for sufficiently increasing the number of fully equipped TB laboratories in countries with high levels of TB to achieve a ten-fold increase in detection of MDR-TB cases. If fully implemented, the plan will also increase by ten-fold the number of MDR-TB and XDR-TB patients being treated and cured under WHO guidelines.

Source: <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/news/releases/2007/pr32/en/index.html>

23. *June 22, Reuters* — Stretch-limited vaccines to fight pandemic, experts. Public health experts in Hong Kong are urging governments to stretch limited stockpiles of bird flu vaccines and lower the dosage used, arguing that such a strategy would reduce overall infection rates. Many pharmaceutical companies are designing "pre-pandemic" vaccines to fight what experts fear would be the next pandemic caused by the H5N1 bird flu virus, which could kill millions if it mutates into a strain that can pass easily between people. But there is currently only capacity to make 350-400 million doses of flu vaccine, covering a fraction of the world's population of 6.6 billion. Using data on human immune responses to three experimental H5N1 vaccines and infection data from previous pandemics, scientists developed a mathematical model. "What our findings show is actually you should be giving less to more people given a certain stockpile," Gabriel Leung, an associate professor with the School of Public Health at the University of Hong Kong, said in a telephone interview. "Yes, you are trading off a little bit of individual immunity. But overall, because more people are protected, the effect is that everybody ends up

better off because of the indirect or 'herd immunity effect'."

Source: <http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/HKG232451.htm>

- 24. June 20, Government Accountability Office — GAO-07-604: Influenza Pandemic: Efforts to Forestall Onset Are Under Way; Identifying Countries at Greatest Risk Entails Challenges.** The U.S. and its international partners have begun implementing a strategy to forestall an influenza pandemic and prepare to cope should one occur. Disease experts generally agree that the risk of a pandemic strain emerging from avian influenza in a given country varies with (1) environmental factors, such as disease presence and certain high-risk farming practices, and (2) preparedness factors, such as a country's capacity to control outbreaks. Assessments by U.S. agencies and international organizations have identified widespread risks of the emergence of pandemic influenza and the U.S. has identified priority countries for assistance, but information gaps limit the capacity for comprehensive comparisons of risk levels by country. The U.S. has played a prominent role in global efforts to improve avian and pandemic influenza preparedness, committing the greatest share of funds and creating a framework for managing its efforts. Through 2006, the U.S. had committed about \$377 million, 27 percent of the \$1.4 billion committed by all donors. The funds are for a range of efforts, including stockpiles of protective equipment and training foreign health professionals in outbreak response. More than a third of U.S. and overall donor commitments have gone to individual countries, with more than 70 percent of those going to U.S. priority countries. Highlights: <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d07604high.pdf>
Source: <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d07604.pdf>

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Government Sector

- 25. June 23, KOB (NM) — Thieves keep cool with hot APS parts.** Thieves are stealing APS Energy Services equipment this summer, especially targeting school air conditioners. Thieves have hit 30 schools in Albuquerque, NM, since school ended. Some are taking whole air conditioners, while others are scavenging parts. The district is out about a dozen units, 2,000 feet of copper tubing, and a ton of pumps and motors. "Instead of going to Home Depot," says John Dufay, the APS director of operations and maintenance, "they go to APS." Thefts have jumped along with temperatures: John Adams and Painted Sky are two of six schools targeted this week alone. Painted Sky was hit three times. Costs to replace and repair the air conditioners have hit the \$25,000 mark. Police have upped patrols at schools and are using surveillance cameras.
Source: <http://kob.com/article/stories/S121306.shtml?cat=520>
- 26. June 22, Information Week — Hack attack forces Pentagon to take computers offline.** The Department of Defense (DoD) was hit by a security breach Wednesday, June 20, that forced the military agency to take an estimated 1,500 computers offline. Secretary of Defense Robert M. Gates said at a press conference on Thursday that the e-mail system in the Office of the Secretary of Defense was penetrated by hackers, and "elements" of the unclassified e-mail system were shut down in response. Gates said the computers weren't expected to be offline for long. "The reality is that the Defense Department is constantly under attack," he said in the press conference. "We obviously have redundant systems in place, and there is no anticipated

adverse impact on ongoing operations...But, as I say, we get perhaps hundreds of attacks a day. " He added that the DoD is investigating the security breach.

Source: http://www.informationweek.com/security/showArticle.jhtml;jsessionid=YLRFVL13MI2GIOSNDLPSKH0CJUNN2JVN?articleID=20000007_3

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Emergency Services Sector

27. *June 22, Federal Emergency Management Agency* — **DHS awards over \$2 million to prevent fire death and injury.** The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) announced Friday, June 22, the sixth round of Fiscal Year (FY) 2006 Fire Prevention and Safety (FP&S) grants, awarding 12 grants totaling over \$2 million to fire departments and fire prevention organizations throughout the United States. Under the FY 2006 program, FP&S will award approximately 300 awards totaling \$27 million to fire departments and other eligible organizations to reduce losses from fire and fire-related hazards. FP&S projects focus on preventing fire-related injuries to children, seniors, firefighters, and other high-risk groups. FP&S also supports innovative fire prevention solutions and research on improving firefighter health and safety. "Every year, fire kills more Americans than all natural disasters combined," said FEMA Administrator David Paulison. "These grants support critical efforts to protect the public and firefighters from death or injury due to fires that could be prevented."

Source: <http://www.fema.gov/news/newsrelease.fema?id=37237>

28. *June 22, Indianapolis Star* — **Wireless communication system may boost public safety in Indiana.** Near Indianapolis, IN, construction of Beech Grove's wireless Internet initiative — dubbed Digital City by Mayor Joe Wright — could begin within 60 days, with the system up and running by the end of the year. Officials envision the system, which will have a public safety network and a public access network, to help with information sharing among emergency responders. "We're one of the few out there actually building a completely wireless system and making the public safety aspect so prominent," Wright said. "I believe that it is a great thing for our citizens." The system would allow first responders to share information from the scene, communicating with dispatchers and other safety personnel. "It allows us to access the Internet while we're moving down the road," said Fire Chief Dennis Buckley, adding that all of the city's emergency vehicles will have access to the wireless network. "It will allow us to do better planning." A glimpse into the future has the city adding wireless Webcams which would allow first responders to transmit the scene back to the battalion chiefs.

Source: <http://www.indystar.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070622/LOCAL1801/706220337/1195/LOCAL18>

29. *June 20, U.S. Department of Defense* — **State, local responders handle Texas flood relief.** State and local emergency first responders have ably assisted flood-stricken citizens in northern Texas, a state official said Wednesday, June 20, in Austin, TX. The Texas towns of Gainesville and Sherman, along with some other localities in the northern part of the state, were hit with torrential rains June 18 that caused water to rapidly crest creek and river beds and carry away mobile homes and automobiles. Governor Rick Perry had directed that the Texas National Guard be prepared to move in with land and airborne assets to assist in emergency relief efforts,

if requested. However, local and other–state organizations were able to handle the flood–relief situation over the past few days, Gilsela Ryan–Bunger, manager of the state’s emergency operations center in Austin, said Wednesday. At least six people were killed as a result of the flooding in northern Texas, according to news reports.

Source: <http://www.defenselink.mil/news/newsarticle.aspx?id=46483>

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Information Technology and Telecommunications Sector

30. *June 22, Information Week* — Cybercrime fighters to gather this week. Dealing with cybercrime requires companies, law enforcement, and prosecutors to communicate frequently and adjust their tactics accordingly in order to catch the criminals and put them away. Thus the need for this week's third annual Government Forum of Incident Response and Security Teams Conference, held June 25–29, at the Buena Vista Palace Hotel in Orlando, FL, where law enforcement officials at all levels will meet with more than 200 attorneys and prosecutors, including all 92 assistant U.S. attorneys. "Back when we started the conference, our focus was on information sharing at the technical level," Rob Pate, deputy director of outreach and awareness for the Department of Homeland Security's National Cyber Security Division, told Information Week. "Now we're bringing in law enforcement and prosecutors to share our information." Communication among private–sector businesses, government, and law enforcement is especially important as zero–day vulnerabilities — those for which there is no patch — proliferate and attackers adopt new tactics for breaking into systems. "We have to rapidly share information about what we're seeing because cybertime moves in seconds," Jerry Dixon, director of the National Cyber Security Division, told InformationWeek.

Source: http://www.informationweek.com/management/showArticle.jhtml;jsessionid=YLRFVL13MI2GIQSNDLPSKH0CJUNN2JVN?articleID=200000_120

31. *June 22, Computer World* — Apple patches Safari beta browser a second time. Apple Inc. Friday, June 22, issued security updates to patch four vulnerabilities in Mac OS X and the Safari beta, marking the second time in eight days that the company has had to fix its newest browser, which runs on both Mac and Windows XP and Vista machines. The 2007–006 update for Mac OS X 10.3, "Panther" and 10.4 "Tiger," fixes a pair of problems in Safari — the production–quality versions bundled with the operating system — including a memory corruption vulnerability that could end with an attacker in control of the Mac. "Visiting a maliciously crafted Webpage may lead to an unexpected application termination or arbitrary code execution," Apple said in its alert. The second bug, and to Apple, the less serious of the two, is a cross–site scripting flaw (XSS) in Safari that could be used by phishing sites to steal usernames and passwords. Apple Friday also updated the Safari beta, first released June 11, to version 3.0.2 for both Mac and Windows. Mac Safari 3.0.2 patches another XSS bug, while the Windows edition fixes that, plus a separate vulnerability that could let an attacker disguise the browser's address bar.

Apple Security Update 2007–006: <http://docs.info.apple.com/article.html?artnum=305759>

Source: http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&articleId=9025638&intsrc=hm_list

32.

June 22, Computer World — **Porn sites serve up Mpack attacks.** Several hundred pornography sites are surprising unwitting users with a smorgasbord of exploits via Mpack, the already notorious hacker tool kit that launched massive attacks earlier last week from a network of more than 10,000 compromised domains. Trend Micro Inc. has spotted nearly 200 porn domains — most dealing in incestuous content — that have either been hacked or are purposefully redirecting users to servers hosting Mpack, a professional, Russian-made collection of exploits that comes complete with a management console. Even though there are far fewer porn sites in this newly discovered infection chain than in last Monday's "Italian Job" attack — called that because most of the 10,000+ hijacked sites were legitimate Italian domains — they've managed to infect twice as many end users' PCs, said Trend Micro, in a posting to its malware blog. "Right now, we are not sure whether the porn sites are compromised to host the IFRAMES, are created to do so or are being paid to host the IFRAMES," acknowledged Trend Micro. The attack probably began June 17, the company said.

Trend Micro Malware Blog: <http://blog.trendmicro.com/pornography-is-bad-for-you21/>
Source: http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&articleId=9025578&intsrc=hm_list

33. *June 21, Information Week* — iPhone frenzy will tempt hackers to break Apple's security.

With so many people anxiously holding their breath while simultaneously counting their pennies till Apple's iPhone ships this week, some researchers — and probably many IT managers — are wondering how secure this latest smart phone is going to be. Well, according to IBM's security division, Internet Security Systems, the iPhone will have one thing going for it, at the same time it has one thing going against it, making for what should be an interesting product to track. The plus side is that it should take a pretty sophisticated hacker to break into the phone's system, but the negative is that all the frenzy that has been building up around the iPhone's release means many hackers will be inspired to try.

Source: http://www.informationweek.com/security/showArticle.jhtml;jsessionid=YLRFVL13MI2GIOSNDLPSKH0CJUNN2JVN?articleID=19990610_8

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: 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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