

**Department of Homeland Security  
Information Analysis and Infrastructure  
Protection**  
**Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report  
for 23 April 2003**

Current Nationwide  
Threat Level is



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[www.whitehouse.gov/homeland](http://www.whitehouse.gov/homeland)

**Daily Overview**

- USA Today reports in response to an epidemic of identity theft, Visa USA, the giant credit card network, is announcing Tuesday that it will provide its member banks with ID theft insurance as an optional free benefit for card holders. (See item [6](#))
- NBC5.com News reports the captain of an American Eagle Flight headed to Dallas–Fort Worth International Airport from Grand Rapids, Michigan was pulled from the plane early Tuesday morning because several passengers said they smelled alcohol on his breath and notified authorities. (See item [9](#))
- The Associated Press reports a federal immigration worker has been indicted in connection with schemes to get immigrants, including 130 people from Yemen and Lebanon, into the United States illegally with improperly issued documents and immigration stamps. (See item [18](#))

**DHS/IAIP Update *Fast Jump***

**Production Industries:** [Energy](#); [Chemical](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#)

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

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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://esisac.com>]

1. *April 22, New York Times* — **With spring comes a debate on Cross–Sound Cable for Long Island.** As warm weather reawakens the region's air–conditioners and heated swimming pools, Long Island officials are starting to fret publicly about whether there will be enough electricity to power such devices this summer. **In recent years, discussion about electricity on Long Island, which is isolated from regional power grids because of its geography but hungry for electricity because of its growing population, has involved plans for a 330–megawatt**

**cable beneath Long Island Sound.** Last year, the Cross–Sound Cable Company, a partnership between TransÉnergie US and UIL Holdings, received final approval and completed the cable, which stretches from New Haven to Shoreham in Suffolk County. But even with the cable in place, the Cross–Sound company and the Long Island Power Authority, which has a 20–year lease on the cable, have found themselves in a bind. **In seven spots in New Haven Harbor, bedrock and other obstacles prevented the cable from being laid as deeply as its permit required.** But when the cable company asked the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection to change its permit and allow for a different type of dredging, which would break through the bedrock and clear the way for a deeper cable, the agency refused, citing a moratorium on new cable projects that the Connecticut legislature passed last year.

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2003/04/22/nyregion/22CABL.html>

2. *April 22, Platts Global Power News* — **South Texas gets help on first–of–its–kind leakage at Unit 1. The STP Nuclear Operating Co. (STP) is turning to outside help as it investigates first–of–its–kind leakage found this month at the bottom of the reactor pressure vessel head at South Texas–1.** STP officials told NRC Region IV staff late last week the company had talked with officials at the Electric Power Research Institute, INPO, and five other operators, Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) spokesman Victor Dricks said April 21. **Deposits resulting from bottom head leaks have not been seen at any LWR in the U.S. or abroad before, Dricks said. Residue at the bottom vessel head at Davis–Besse resulted from leaks at the upper head that dribbled down, he noted.** STP assured NRC it would not restart the 1,315–MW Westinghouse PWR until the cause of the leak was determined and the repairs were made, he said. STP spokesman Alan Mikus declined to say how long that might take.

Source: <http://www.platts.com/stories/nuclear1.html>

3. *April 21, PRNewswire* — **PPL's Susquehanna Unit 2 nuclear reactor completes planned outage. The Unit 2 reactor at PPL's Susquehanna nuclear power plant in Luzerne County, Pa. returned to service on Monday (4/21), completing the plant's most successful refueling and inspection outage.** "Besides replenishing the reactor's fuel and performing systematic preventive maintenance, crews made a number of significant upgrades that will help ensure that Susquehanna safely generates the maximum amount of electricity," said Herbert D. Woodeshick, special assistant to the president for Susquehanna. "The excellent performance of our work teams, combined with the long–term benefits that will result from the work, clearly make this the most successful outage in the 20–year history of Susquehanna," he said. Undertaking the largest improvement project in the facility's history, crews moved more than 4 million pounds of material to replace all four of the unit's steam turbines, which spin the generator to produce electricity. **This investment provides an additional 50 megawatts of generation capacity, increasing Unit 2's output to 1,150 megawatts,** Woodeshick said.

Source: [http://www.energycentral.com/sections/news/nw\\_article.cfm?id=3786038](http://www.energycentral.com/sections/news/nw_article.cfm?id=3786038)

4. *April 21, Electrical Construction & Maintenance* — **Top California power regulator pushes grid master plan. California, for the first time, is forging a single plan to guard against the blackouts and price spikes that battered it during the 2000–2001 energy crisis.** California has aimed before to upgrade the power system, but this is the first time that state agencies have committed to work together on a single plan, Michael Peevey said, the new president of the California Public Utilities Commission. **He also said that California plans to cut consumer**

**demand through aggressive conservation programs, build up to 2,000 megawatts of new plant capacity a year, and add renewable energy to strengthen supplies power for two million homes.** California's energy future, outlined in the plan drafted by the CPUC and two other power agencies, also will feature small generating plants in neighborhoods where the energy is used, a revamped power grid, and new pipelines to import natural gas.

Source: [http://www.energycentral.com/sections/news/nw\\_article.cfm?id=3786179](http://www.energycentral.com/sections/news/nw_article.cfm?id=3786179)

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## **Chemical Sector**

Nothing to report.

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## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

5. *April 18, Government Executive* — **Technology, better management help Defense Logistics Agency supply troops.** New technology, more advanced planning, and direct communications with battlefield commanders have made it easier to get supplies to troops in the Persian Gulf region, Vice Adm. Keith Lippert, director of the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA), said Friday. **Lippert told GovExec.com that the war has validated a new business model that the agency is working under that moves away from "stuffing items in warehouses" to relying on technology and contractors to provide inventory as needed.** Lippert says DLA has supplied about \$3 billion in food, clothing, pharmaceuticals, fuel and spare parts to troops in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. The agency is responsible for supplying all items shared across the services. **One of the key technological enhancements has been the use of radio frequency tags, small bar codes placed on all parts and gear before they leave warehouses so they can be tracked along the supply line. Lippert says the tags allow troops to track goods as they are delivered and has dramatically cut down on too many orders of the same item.**

Source: <http://www.govexec.com/dailyfed/0403/041803g1.htm>

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## **Banking and Finance Sector**

6. *April 22, USA Today* — **Visa acts to calm fears of ID theft.** In response to an epidemic of identity theft, Visa USA, the giant credit card network, is announcing Tuesday that it will provide its member banks with ID theft insurance as an optional free benefit for card holders. **The coverage would provide eligible card holders with up to \$15,000 in reimbursement for lost wages, legal fees and other costs associated with recovering from identity theft. Banks that issue Visa cards may extend the coverage to all their credit and debit card holders, or they may offer it as an incentive to sign up for a particular card or as a reward for premium card holders.** Visa's announcement is the latest salvo in the battle against identity theft, which occurs when someone illegally uses your personal identifying information to drain your accounts or purchase merchandise. Property and casualty insurers already have

begun to offer ID fraud coverage. MasterCard and Visa have begun to reduce the amount of account information on merchant receipts. And card issuers have launched consumer education campaigns.

Source: [http://www.usatoday.com/money/perfi/credit/2003-04-22-visa-i-d-theft\\_x.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/money/perfi/credit/2003-04-22-visa-i-d-theft_x.htm)

7. *April 22, Seattle Times* — **Car insurers won't cover damage caused by terrorism or war.** Drivers may be seeking added security with big new SUVs or even Detroit's latest line of bulletproof extras – but don't expect car insurers to be there after a major terrorist attack or civil war. **This month, Progressive, the country's fourth-largest car insurer, began sending renewal notices to Washington residents with an amendment stating that cars no longer will be covered for "insurrection, rebellion, revolution, usurped power ... or release of radioactive, nuclear, pathogenic or poisonous biological material." Civil war, "warlike action" and chemical weapons also void payouts.** Homeland security has arisen as a major concern, explains Progressive spokeswoman Mary Beth McDade. Insurers generally have excluded war from home-insurance coverage since WWII, and many companies added nuclear exceptions during the Cold War. But car-policy exclusions and specific wording for chemical and biological attacks have appeared only recently. **Progressive, which has been introducing the changes across the continental United States since February, is not the only company re-writing policies. State Farm, the nation's largest car and home insurer, is explaining to customers that vehicles no longer will be covered in the event of a nuclear attack.**
- Source: [http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/localnews/134680460\\_ca\\_rwars22e.html](http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/localnews/134680460_ca_rwars22e.html)

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## Transportation Sector

8. *April 22, New York Times* — **Four pilots did not finish gun training. Four of the 48 veteran airline pilots who began the government's first training course for pilots wishing to carry guns in the cockpit were rejected after they failed at least one of the battery of required background checks, psychological exams and firearms tests, transportation officials said today.** The officials refused to offer additional details of why the four pilots were removed from the course in southern Georgia last week, citing concerns about their privacy, among other reasons. **But the officials said the four rejections showed that the government was serious about providing guns only to pilots who were psychologically and physically fit to carry firearms in flight and defend their planes against attackers.** The bill permitting airline pilots to carry guns was passed by Congress last year, a legacy of the hijackings on Sept. 11, 2001, over the serious objections of senior members of the Bush administration and some members of Congress. "We're absolutely pleased with the results of this first class," said Robert Johnson, the spokesman for the Transportation Security Administration, which organized the training. "We graduated more than 90 percent."
- Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2003/04/22/international/worldspecial/22PILO.html>
9. *April 22, NBC5.com News* — **Alleged drunken pilot forced off American Eagle plane. The captain of American Eagle Flight 3796 headed to Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport from Grand Rapids, MI, was pulled from the plane early Tuesday morning because several passengers said they smelled alcohol on his breath and notified authorities at Gerald Ford International Airport, according to Grand Rapids TV station, WOOD-TV.**

The Transportation Security Administration called local law enforcement personnel who approached the pilot while he was at the aircraft, American Eagle's Lisa Bailey said. Local law enforcement administered a preliminary Breathalyzer test, which indicated a positive reading and came up .12 percent, three times the legal limit allowed by the Federal Aviation Administration, according to one report. American Eagle said it will administer its own Breathalyzer test and an investigation has been opened. Bailey said, in the past, the tests administered by local law enforcement and the company have delivered different results. **The captain is now in the custody of the local American Eagle station manager. Another American Eagle captain who was on the flight took over as captain and took the flight to Dallas.** There were 36 passengers on board the plane that was scheduled to leave Grand Rapids at 6 a.m.

Source: <http://www.nbc5.com/news/2150027/detail.html>

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## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

10. *April 22, MSNBC* — **Biotoxin reported at mail center. A mail distribution facility, in Washington state, was evacuated early Tuesday after some powder was found at the building.** A preliminary test indicated the powder might be a biotoxin, a fire department spokeswoman said. The material found in Tacoma, WA was found on a table where mail is processed, Fire Captain Jolene Davis said. Four people who were close to it were decontaminated as a precaution, she said, but no injuries were reported and no one showed any signs of being ill. **In Washington, Department of Homeland Security spokesman Brian Roehrkasse said local authorities reported the field tests showed the possible presence in the powder of plague or botulinum toxin, which causes botulism.** Roehrkasse, Davis, and Postal Inspector Jeff Scobba all cautioned that the preliminary test might give a false result and further testing was needed.

Source: <http://www.msnbc.com/news/903607.asp#BODY>

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## **Agriculture Sector**

11. *April 22, ABC News Australia* — **Deadly virus caught in act of mutation.** Australian researchers have discovered how a mild strain of the virus that causes the world's most feared poultry infection, Exotic Newcastle Disease, can switch to a highly contagious and deadly form. The virus preys on weak birds with a compromised immune system. The infection switches to its deadly form when taking hold in birds with poor health. **"This is the first time that this transformation in Newcastle Disease virus has been replicated in an experiment," said Dr Allan Gould, who led the research. The implication for chicken producers is that anything they can do to improve the general health of their birds will help to lower the risk of further outbreaks of the disease.**

Source: <http://www.abc.net.au/science/news/stories/s837220.htm>

12. *April 22, USA Today* — **Health experts fear bird flu spread.** "Major alarm bells are ringing," says flu researcher Richard Webby of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, TN.

Officials of the World Health Organization have called a meeting today to discuss the threat. **What has scientists worried is the possibility that a bird flu virus and a human flu virus could meet within the body of a human or other mammal, exchange genetic information and create a new virus that humans would have no immunity against.** That's how previous influenza pandemics, including the Asian flu of 1957 and the Hong Kong flu of 1968, emerged. Doctors in the Netherlands report 82 confirmed cases of human infection with the bird virus. Most people suffered only conjunctivitis, an eye inflammation, but six also had flu-like illness. In three cases, the doctors report "strong evidence" that the virus passed from poultry workers to family members, an ominous signal that the virus could be contagious among humans. **Also of concern, Webby says, is that the virus has been detected in pigs, an animal in which both bird and human viruses grow easily. "The pig is the mixing vessel for pandemic influenza," he says.**

Source: [http://www.usatoday.com/news/health/2003-04-22-bird-flu\\_x.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/news/health/2003-04-22-bird-flu_x.htm)

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## **Food Sector**

Nothing to report.

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## **Water Sector**

Nothing to report.

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## **Public Health Sector**

13. *April 22, BBC News* — **Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome virus mutating rapidly. The virus thought to cause Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) is constantly changing form, say scientists, which will make developing a vaccine difficult.** The Beijing Genomics Institute reported that the virus is "expected to mutate very fast and very easily". Other experts have warned that, once established, it could be particularly hard to stop the SARS virus causing problems. SARS appears to be caused by a new strain of a corona virus which may have "jumped" from animals to humans in the southern Chinese province of Guangdong. Although the virus contains a large amount of genetic information, every time it is replicated inside a cell, tiny genetic mistakes are made. Dr Adrian Mockett, who has helped develop corona virus vaccines for use in veterinary medicine, says the virus had particular characteristics that could prove a problem in humans. **He said that because it was likely the new strain of corona virus had only just "jumped" to humans, newer versions better suited to living in humans were possible. He said that other corona viruses in animals had mutated so that the infection could be spread not only through coughs and sneezes, but also through feces, raising the possibility that a future outbreak could be transmitted through tainted water supplies or contaminated food.**

Source: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/health/2966117.stm>

14. *April 22, Guardian* — **Breakthrough for scientists in fight against malaria parasite.**

Scientists in Thailand and Scotland have worked out why some drugs work against the malaria parasite, and some do not. **In October geneticists completed the entire DNA sequence of both the malaria parasite, and one species of mosquito that carries the infection.** The research confirmed what doctors in the field already knew: that malaria is a fiendishly cunning enemy. **The parasite Plasmodium falciparum seems to be able to hide from vaccines, and to outwit each new generation of drugs.** But somewhere in the mass of data within two genetic sequences, researchers felt, was the key to a new set of weapons. One scientist said at the time: "We have presented them with a haystack, and now they have to go and find the needle." The search for the needle goes on. But the institute for cell and molecular biology at the University of Edinburgh, in Scotland, and the national centre for genetic engineering and biotechnology in Bangkok, Thailand may have found out precisely where to stick it when they find it. **They now know what happens to make strains of malaria become resistant to one group of the most effective drugs.**

Source: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/international/story/0,3604,940991,00.html>

15. *April 22, Globe and Mail* — **Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome virus can live 24 hours outside host.** Doctors struggling to contain the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) outbreak have labored for more than a month under the notion that the virus can live no more than a few hours outside a human host. But disturbing new research has discovered otherwise. **Studies by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention suggest that, unlike most respiratory viruses medicine knows, the microbe behind SARS can survive up to 24 hours on inanimate objects, turning any surface into a possible point of transmission.** "The trouble is we haven't had a chance to stand back and look at all of these issues, with hundreds of other things going on," said Donald Low, Mount Sinai's chief microbiologist, who called the CDC findings about the longevity of the SARS virus "very bothersome news." **"This might possibly explain why we're seeing so much of this in health workers who have been using infection-control practices."**

Source: <http://www.globeandmail.com/servlet/ArticleNews/TPStory/LAC/20030422/USCIEN/TPHealth/>

16. *April 22, CNN* — **Officials fighting to stop SARS in North America. Top North American infectious disease specialists said Monday that they face an uphill battle to stem the spread of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) in their countries, and said they were considering tightening travel restrictions to countries where it has become entrenched.** The United States is in a better position than many other countries to stem the spread of SARS, but it is still not possible to predict how broadly the illness will extend, the director of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said. "One of the advantages we have is that of time," Dr. Julie Gerberding said. "We have been able to see what's going on in Canada, and, more importantly, see what's going on in Asia and pre-emptively take the steps here to really do everything possible to contain this." **"We also have a public health system that's been gearing up for terrorism and other threats, and really stood pointed and ready to engage in this effort."**

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2003/HEALTH/04/21/sars.us/index.html>

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## Government Sector

**17. *April 22, Government Executive* — Homeland tech chief to specify areas for more research.**

The official in charge of science and technology at the Homeland Security Department has joined the State and Defense departments in an effort that will lead to an upcoming announcement on as many as 40 homeland security "areas of interest," such as radiation and biological detectors. Industry, universities and others typically respond to these announcements with proposed solutions, and an evaluation team chooses which proposal to fund. **The announcement is dependent upon congressional approval of a reprogramming request, expected when Congress returns from recess, Charles McQueary said. The requested reprogramming would move more than \$200 million from a fiscal 2003 Defense Department appropriation of \$420 million for biological countermeasures and put it in the radiological and chemical areas as well as some systems engineering areas.** McQueary, Homeland Security undersecretary for science and technology, also said his office is looking for new technologies, but he wants researchers and companies to explain how it fits with the larger system of security for the nation.

Source: <http://www.govexec.com/dailyfed/0403/042203td1.htm>

**18. *April 21, Associated Press* — Immigration worker, two others charged in smuggling effort.**

A federal immigration worker with six years on the job has been indicted along with two other people in connection with schemes to get immigrants into the United States illegally with improperly issued documents and immigration stamps. **U.S. Attorney Jeffrey Collins said Monday about 130 people from Yemen and Lebanon are believed to have benefited from the efforts, which took place between 1999 and last year. Following a yearlong investigation, federal agents have been working to track those people down. Indictments earlier this month by grand juries in Detroit and Flint were unsealed Monday by a judge. Janice Halstead, a 59-year-old immigration worker from Detroit, is accused of being at the center of the effort.** Halstead worked for the Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services, formerly known as the Immigration and Naturalization Service, and told a judge at a court appearance Monday that she was arrested at her job.

Source: <http://www.newsday.com/news/local/wire/ny-bc-ny--immigrantsmugglin0421apr21.0.5122424.story?coll=ny-ap-regional-wire>

**19. *April 21, Government Executive* — State, local officials begin to question homeland security price tag.**

When the nation raised its terrorism alert level to Code Orange last February, a jittery St. Louis blew through \$500,000 in the first week. **Then, in the post-orange calm of early March, Samuel Simon, the director of public safety in St. Louis, took a look at his budget and gasped. To avoid drowning a second time in red ink, he bolstered his connections with his local intelligence sources so that he would be better able to assess whether the city was in real danger.** When Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge raised the threat level back to orange on the eve of war with Iraq, Simon responded by simply checking his local sources more frequently, not by loading up on police overtime. Simon is ahead of the curve in attempting to infuse cost-benefit realities into homeland-security policy. With the war in Iraq drawing to a close, the climbing-and perhaps limitless-price tag for homeland security has begun to prompt varying levels of cost-benefit soul-searching among local, state, and federal officials. **Yet most policy makers aren't yet ready to acknowledge that there's any limit on what the nation could rationally spend on trying to secure the**

home front. Cities that would make attractive targets complain that they're starving for federal help, and their leaders tend to be among those least inclined toward making cost-benefit analyses to determine what sort of "protective" efforts are worthwhile.

Source: <http://www.govexec.com/dailyfed/0403/042103nj1.htm>

20. *April 21, U.S. Department of State* — **Worldwide Caution – April 21, 2003.** This supersedes the Worldwide Caution dated March 19, 2003. It is being issued to remind U.S. citizens of the continuing threat of terrorist actions that may target civilians and of the need to remain vigilant. Tensions remaining from the recent events in Iraq may increase the potential threat to U.S. citizens and interests abroad, including by terrorist groups. Terrorist actions may include, but are not limited to, suicide operations, bombings or kidnappings. Possible threats include conventional weapons such as explosive devices or non-conventional weapons, including chemical or biological agents. Terrorists do not distinguish between official and civilian targets. These may include facilities where American citizens and other foreigners congregate or visit, such as residential areas, clubs, restaurants, places of worship, schools, hotels, outdoor recreation events or resorts and beaches. **U.S. Government facilities worldwide remain at a heightened state of alert. These facilities may temporarily close or suspend public services from time to time for security reasons.** Americans are urged to monitor the local news and maintain contact with the nearest American embassy or consulate. Source: <http://travel.state.gov/wwc1.html>

21. *April 21, Federal Computer Week* — **DHS adding cameras to borders.** The Homeland Security Department is planning to add remote video surveillance camera systems at the border between Canada and the United States and has a procurement strategy in mind to do it swiftly, officials said on April 21. **Homeland Security plans to add 90 systems along the northern border as part of the Integrated Surveillance Intelligence System, according to Mario Villarreal, spokesman for the department's Bureau of Customs and Border Protection. There already are 235 surveillance systems scattered along the U.S. borders with Mexico and Canada to help detect illegal movements of people, goods and weapons.** The camera technology is a "great tool," Villarreal said, and is used in combination with about 14,000 sensors buried in the ground to keep track of movement across the northern and southern borders. The surveillance systems can help detect smuggling day or night. When a sensor goes off, a camera can be remotely pointed in its direction, allowing border patrol workers to see what is happening. Source: <http://www.fcw.com/fcw/articles/2003/0421/web-dhs-04-21-03.a.sp>

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## **Emergency Services Sector**

22. *April 22, Federal Emergency Management Agency* — **Open meeting, advisory committee for the National Urban Search and Rescue Response System.** Date of Meeting: April 30–May 1, 2003. Place: Holiday Inn Capital, 550 C Street, Apollo Room, Washington, DC 20024. Time: 8 a.m.–4 p.m. **The Committee will receive a program update that will address the status of ongoing program activities, including recent training and exercises. The committee will consider current and future program requirements and will make recommendations for budget allocations and requests for Fiscal Years 2004 and 2005. The Committee will also**

discuss urban search and rescue task force operational status and transportation issues. The Committee will review the current status of proposed urban search and rescue regulations and system documentation revisions. Finally, the committee will review priorities for its subordinate working groups for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2003. The meeting will be open to the public, with approximately 20 seats available on a first-come, first-served basis. All members of the public interested in attending should contact Michael Tamillow at 202-646-3498.

Source: <http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/14mar20010800/edocke.t.access.gpo.gov/2003/03-9868.htm>

23. *April 22, Federal Emergency Management Agency* — **FEMA applicant assistance center closing May 1, 2003.** The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) announced that the Applicant Assistance Center (AAC) in lower Manhattan will cease operations May 1, 2003. Located at 141 Worth St., the facility has provided face-to-face assistance for New Yorkers affected by the September 11, 2001 attack on the World Trade Center. **A full range of services will continue to be available by phone through the FEMA Helpline for those who are already receiving disaster aid, such as Mortgage and Rental Assistance. We are now at a point in the recovery process where the bulk of the casework has been completed, and very little in-person assistance is required,"** said Federal Recovery Officer Brad Gair. Applicants can call the FEMA Helpline at 1-800-525-0321 (TTY: 1-800-462-7585) to check on the status of their applications. Regular hours for the Helpline are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. All Helpline operators have access to interpreter services, accommodating the diverse language needs of the New York metropolitan area.
- Source: <http://www.fema.gov/diz01/d1391n206.shtm>

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## **Information and Telecommunications Sector**

24. *April 22, The Australian* — **Australian business called on to fight cyber risks. Australian companies are being asked to share information freely in order to defeat threats ranging from cyber-sabotage to e-crime. "If just one part of the economy is attacked, the repercussions are likely to be felt by all sectors and all businesses,"** Attorney-General Daryl Williams told business representatives at the launch of the Trusted Information Sharing Network (TISN) in Melbourne this month. Businesses often view infrastructure protection as a government problem, according to Tom Patterson of Deloitte & Touche Security. **"If you look at what runs the economy, it's not your government, it's your companies. Every company has an obligation to protect its business not only for its stakeholders and its shareholders but also for the economy as a whole,"** he says. The government hopes TISN will become a forum for open exchange of information about system attacks and vulnerabilities, as well as protection of key sites from cyber-sabotage. **A Critical Infrastructure Advisory Council will be set up to oversee efforts in various industry sectors as well as developing strategies for business continuity and consequence management.**
- Source: <http://www.ds-osac.org/view.cfm?KEY=7E445143445C1E0A3A0F162820>

25. *April 18, Government Computer News* — **SEI partners add muscle to Army info assurance.** In a \$1.5 million alliance announced Friday, Carnegie Mellon University's Software

**Engineering Institute and the Army Reserve Information Operations Command will jointly train teams of reservists to conduct information assurance operations and respond to cybersecurity threats.** The Pittsburgh institute's information assurance work could extend beyond the Army to other service branches, said Stephen E. Cross, chief executive officer and director of the institute. Cross said the work is being sponsored by the undersecretary of Defense for acquisition, technology and logistics. **"We must guard against nontraditional threats and address our cyber vulnerabilities,"** said Sen. Rick Santorum (R-PA), who helped secure the fiscal 2003 funding.

Source: [http://gcn.com/vol1\\_no1/daily-updates/21807-1.html](http://gcn.com/vol1_no1/daily-updates/21807-1.html)

**26. April 18, Monterey Herald — Cyberspace games teach real world lessons.** On Thursday, 39 students at the Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) ended four days of mock Internet warfare that pitted a team made up of NPS, the Air Force Institute of Technology, and the U.S. Military, Naval, Air Force, Coast Guard and Merchant Marine academies against a team made up of the Army's Land Information Warfare unit and the Air Force's 92nd Aggressor Squadron. **The object of the exercise is for each side to try to penetrate the other's computer systems, aiming to infect them with viruses, shut them down or take them over. The mock war in cyberspace draws students "who are interested in what a real-world situation is,"** said Marine Corps Capt. Eric Walters who led the Navy school team this year. **Some of the team members are military officers enrolled in various information technology classes, others are civilians enrolled in the National Science Foundation's federal Cyber Service Corps scholarship program, which began in 2001.** That program offers a two-year, full-ride scholarship in a computer science master's degree program aimed at safeguarding computer systems. **Graduates are expected to serve two years with a U.S. government agency as specialists in safeguarding computer systems.**

Source: <http://www.montereyherald.com/mld/montereyherald/news/local/5664095.htm>

### Internet Alert Dashboard

Current Alert Levels	
 AlertCon: 1 out of 4 <a href="https://gtoc.iss.net">https://gtoc.iss.net</a>	 Security Focus ThreatCon: 1 out of 4 <a href="http://analyzer.securityfocus.com/">http://analyzer.securityfocus.com/</a>
Current Virus and Port Attacks	
<b>Virus:</b>	#1 Virus in the United States: <b>WORM_LOVGATE.F</b> Source: <a href="http://wtc.trendmicro.com/wtc/wmap.html">http://wtc.trendmicro.com/wtc/wmap.html</a> , Trend World Micro Virus Tracking Center [Infected Computers, North America, Past 24 hours, #1 in United States]
<b>Top 10 Target Ports</b>	137 (netbios-ns), 80 (www), 1434 (ms-sql-m), 6346 (gnutella-svc), 25 (smtp), 445 (microsoft-ds), 113 (ident), 139 (netbios-ssn), 53 (domain), 0 (---) Source: <a href="http://isc.incidents.org/top10.html">http://isc.incidents.org/top10.html</a> ; Internet Storm Center

## **General Sector**

**27. *April 22, Associated Press* — Woman sought for al Qaeda ties arrested in Pakistan.** A former Boston woman sought by the FBI for questioning about possible ties to the al Qaeda terror network is in custody in Pakistan, U.S. law enforcement officials said Tuesday. **Two officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Aafia Siddiqui, 31, was detained by Pakistani authorities in the past few days and was being interrogated at an undisclosed location. She originally is from Pakistan.** The FBI in March put out a global alert for Siddiqui, who has a biology degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and wrote a doctoral thesis on neurological sciences at Brandeis University in 2001. She also visited the Maryland suburbs near Washington in December or January, officials say. **Authorities have not charged that Siddiqui is a member of al Qaeda but believe she could be a "fixer," someone with knowledge of the United States who can support and help get things done for other operatives. She is not charged with any crime in the United States.** The FBI also is seeking to question Siddiqui's estranged husband, Dr. Mohammed Khan. His whereabouts are unknown.

Source: [http://www.usatoday.com/news/world/2003-04-22-alqaeda-woman-arrest\\_x.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/news/world/2003-04-22-alqaeda-woman-arrest_x.htm)

**28. *April 22, Associated Press* — U.S. probes fortune in cash found in Iraq.** Piles of U.S. currency, hundreds of millions of dollars so far, are being found in Iraq, even though the country has been under economic sanctions for nearly 13 years. **Investigators – on the ground in Iraq and in the United States – are trying to track the money back to where it came from, a Herculean task, both officials and outside experts say. The experts say there are plenty of possibilities, including oil and cash smuggling schemes, illegal trade deals, sham businesses and a web of middlemen located outside the country to conceal the true destination of the funds.** "Identifying a money trail can be very difficult to do. That's why it is so essential that some documentation of financial records is discovered. Then investigators can go backward and trace the movements of the funds," said Jimmy Gurule, a law professor at the University of Notre Dame. Gurule recently served as the Treasury Department's undersecretary for enforcement in charge of the government's efforts to catch terrorists' financiers. He left the job in early February. **Investigators also are looking into whether any of the cash found in Iraq was counterfeited.**

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A15269-2003Apr 22.html>

**29. *April 22, United Press International* — U.S. stopped al Qaeda plots against troops.** U.S. intelligence agencies and their allies disrupted a number of terrorist threats — including some from al Qaeda against U.S. troops in the Gulf — during the war against Iraq, U.S. officials have told United Press International. **"There were a number of disruptions to terrorist efforts around the world over the last month or so," a U.S. intelligence official told UPI, adding that some of the efforts were by al Qaeda operatives.** Another government official, who also asked not to be named, confirmed the account, saying, "al Qaeda plots against U.S. troops in the Gulf were disrupted during the war."

Source: <http://www.upi.com/view.cfm?StoryID=20030422-123342-5262r>

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