



# Department of Homeland Security Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 06 October 2003

Current Nationwide Threat Level is

**ELEVATED**  
SIGNIFICANT RISK OF TERRORIST ATTACKS

[For info click here](#)  
[www.whitehouse.gov/homeland](http://www.whitehouse.gov/homeland)

## Daily Overview

- Reuters reports Britain's National Criminal Intelligence Service has said it is investigating a new technique by swindlers who send e-mails under the name of a top executive of a major company from an authentic-looking e-mail address. (See item [5](#))
- The Department of Agriculture announced that M.D. Chavez/Old Santa Fe Trail is voluntarily recalling approximately 22,000 pounds of beef jerky that may be contaminated with Salmonella. (See item [12](#))
- The Associated Press reports the Food and Drug Administration is considering major changes to fight the growing problem of counterfeit drugs. (See item [15](#))
- Microsoft has released "Security Bulletin MS03-040: Cumulative Patch for Internet Explorer (Critical)," and a patch is available on the Microsoft Website. (See item [23](#))

### 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. *October 04, WBIR-TV (TN)* — **Nuclear material to be recycled.** The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has given the approval to recycle nuclear weapons material into power plant fuel at the Nuclear Fuel Services plant in Erwin, TN. The commission approved the environmental

assessment, saying it would have no significant impact on workers or nearby residents. The plant is located about 80 miles north of Knoxville, TN, and employs 800 people. **The Nuclear Fuel Services plans will take 33 metric tons of surplus weapons-grade uranium from the Department of Energy's Savannah River Site in Aiken, SC. It will convert the material into reactor fuel for the Tennessee Valley Authority, the country's largest public utility.** Source: <http://www.wbir.com/News/news.asp?ID=14863>

2. *October 04, Associated Press* — **Commercial reactor to produce both electricity and bomb material.** The Watts Bar Nuclear Plant, located between Knoxville and Chattanooga, TN, is days away from becoming the only commercial nuclear station in the United States to produce both electricity for homes and isotopes for bombs. **The single-reactor station, owned by the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), will become the government's new source of tritium, a hydrogen isotope that enhances the explosive force of thermonuclear weapons.** Since early September, TVA workers have been installing tritium-producing rods in the Watts Bar reactor during refueling. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) studied the possibility of accidental releases of radiation into the air or water from Watts Bar as part of amending the plant's license to allow tritium production. Tritium production "will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment," the NRC wrote. **As the only one of 104 commercial reactors in the country making bomb material, some worry Watts Bar could be a terrorist target. TVA officials say the plant has the same heightened security as other nuclear plants.**

Source: <http://www.tuscaloosaneews.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20031004/APN/310040674&cachetime=5>

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## **Chemical Sector**

3. *October 03, Portland Tribune* — **Critics: 'Worst case' releases unlikely. At the root of concerns about chemical terrorism are some mind-boggling numbers -- the worst-case scenarios, about chemical releases that companies describe in documents that they are required to file with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. But those scenarios are not without controversy.** Chemical industry officials and many emergency managers, however, say the scenarios can unduly scare people -- because they are unlikely to ever happen, or to affect as many people, as the scenarios assume. Those who remain concerned about possible chemical releases -- including the U.S. Army's surgeon general's office, which has ranked a terrorist attack on a chemical plant second only to a widespread biological attack in terms of numbers potentially affected -- acknowledge the variables in the worst-case scenarios are unlikely to occur. **But they also say that alternative release scenarios, that companies are required to describe are more likely and could still, in some places, affect tens of thousands of people.** And they say both scenarios assume accidental releases, and that a terrorist attack might be planned to cause much more damage than in an accident, and might damage more than one tank of chemicals. **A well-planned terrorist attack on many chemical facilities could, without question, endanger thousands of people, they say.**

Source: <http://www.portlandtribune.com/archview.cgi?id=20510>

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## Defense Industrial Base Sector

4. *October 03, Associated Press* — **Gaming for military training.** Increasingly, the Pentagon is joining forces with the video-game industry to train and recruit soldiers. The Army considers such simulators vital for recruits who've been weaned on shoot-'em-up games. "We know that most of our soldiers know how to use a game pad," said Michael Macedonia, chief scientist at the Army's Program Executive Office for Simulation, Training and Instrumentation in Orlando, FL. "Every kid figures out the controls pretty fast." **For years, the U.S. armed forces have used big, sophisticated simulators with hydraulics, wall-size video screens and realistic cockpits. But such gear costs millions of dollars to be widely available, which is why video games make sense.** Full Spectrum Warrior was created by a private company for \$45 million — an endeavor formed by the Army five years ago to connect academics with local entertainment and video-game industries. Training aside, video games are increasingly viewed by top brass as a way to get teenagers interested in enlisting. Games such as America's Army, developed and published by the Army, can be downloaded or picked up at recruitment offices. America's Army has been a hit online since its July 2002 release, attaining some 1.5 million registered users who endure a basic training regiment complete with barbed-wire obstacle courses and target practice.

Source: <http://www.wired.com/news/games/0,2101,60688,00.html>

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## Banking and Finance Sector

5. *October 03, Reuters* — **Fraudsters pose as UK bankers in new e-mail scam.** Britain's National Criminal Intelligence Service said on Friday, October 3, it was investigating a new technique by swindlers who send e-mails under the name of a top executive of a major company from an authentic-looking e-mail address. **A bogus e-mail was recently sent out across the UK and abroad, purportedly from a top executive of Barclays Plc, one of Britain's biggest banks, from an e-mail address that appeared to belong to the bank. The e-mail requested permission for the bank to park \$30 million temporarily in the recipient's bank account in return for a large share of the money.** Once victims are hooked, they are then asked to put up hefty sums for air fares or other pretenses. "We know of banks having been hit in the U.S. and banks having been hit in Australia. Now the problem is coming here," said a law enforcement official, who asked not to be named. **The intelligence service said banks had become a target because of their high profile and the trust they evoke.** "That's important to the fraudsters. Banks are among the UK's most trusted institutions and trust is a big commodity you can trade off for fraud," a spokesperson for the intelligence service said. "They (banks) are the most worrying target."

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/newsArticle.jhtml?type=internetNews&storyID=3554828>

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## Transportation Sector

6. *October 05, Associated Press* — **Eleven percent of state-maintained bridges deemed deficient. About 11 percent of South Dakota's state-maintained bridges are structurally deficient meaning they contain significant deterioration of the deck, supports or other major components according to the Road Information Program.** About six percent are considered functionally obsolete, meaning they no longer meet current highway design standards. If a structurally deficient bridge was to be found unsafe, it may be posted with a lower weight limit or closed, he said. **Congress is preparing to renew transportation legislation that provides funding for bridge repairs. The current six-year bill expired September 30.** The Bush administration has proposed increasing highway and transit funding by 13 percent, to \$247 billion over the next six years.  
Source: <http://www.aberdeennews.com/mld/aberdeennews/news/6939694.htm>
  
7. *October 05, Daily Yomiuri On-Line* — **Shinkansen seen as California's rail solution.** In a plan that has taken a decade of deliberation, California has finally decided to push for its very own bullet train. **While several countries are battling it out for the final contract, Japan's Shinkansen could very well prove the best fit for California's high-speed railway system needs.** The California High Speed Rail Authority, the organization that will make the final decision on California's bullet train, was created six years ago in an effort to determine the feasibility and budgetary processes necessary to connect California from north to south. **The premier high-speed rail systems of Japan, France and Germany, followed by Italy and Spain, have several common features, most notably their high speed and excellent safety records. Japan's Shinkansen was the pioneer bullet train, founded in 1964, and has the largest bullet train ridership in the world -- about 280 million.** California's adoption of a Shinkansen-style system also could make a compelling match. **Highway traffic has reached bursting point, and Los Angeles and the Bay Area have the worst traffic problems in the nation. According to the 2000 census, out of the 14.5 million Californians who commute to work, 10.4 million, or 71 percent, drive cars alone, and a little over 700,000, about 5 percent, use public transport.**  
Source: <http://www.yomiuri.co.jp/newse/20031006wo42.htm>
  
8. *October 03, Associated Press* — **FAA weighs putting video cameras in planes. The federal government is evaluating technology that would put video cameras on commercial flights so people on the ground could monitor pilots and passengers and get an early warning of hijackings or other trouble on board.** The Boeing Co. demonstrated a satellite system to Federal Aviation Administration officials in two test flights early this year, showing how images could be sent from a plane to the ground, said John Loynes, an FAA program manager in Washington. A Boeing 737, equipped with seven cameras, transmitted images of the cockpit and cabin. **Pilots have fiercely opposed efforts to put cameras in cockpits as an infringement of their authority. Passenger advocates have supported cameras as a way to prevent terrorist acts. FAA officials stressed that the tests, conducted in January and February, were preliminary and said the agency's focus is purely on whether the technology would affect air safety.** There will be further tests and other agencies could decide whether or how to use the technology, said Greg Martin, FAA chief spokesman.  
Source: <http://www.sunspot.net/news/nationworld/bal-cameras1003.0.7743680.story?coll=bal-nationworld-headlines>

9.

*October 03, Star Telegram (Dallas–Ft. Worth)* — **Cameras to boost security at D/FW. All activity around the fire exits at Dallas/Fort Worth Airport (D/FW) soon will be recorded and archived by a digital camera system to guard against security breaches.** The D/FW Airport Board unanimously agreed Thursday to spend \$5.7 million on the system, which should be installed within months, officials said. It will replace cameras that don't record until someone walks through one of D/FW's approximately 50 fire exits and triggers an alarm, said Alvy Dodson, D/FW Airport's vice president for public safety. The inability to capture images of the moments before the alarm sounds makes it difficult for security officials to determine whether someone went through the door accidentally or intentionally to bypass checkpoints. Several times since 9–11, the airport has had to evacuate terminals after a fire exit was opened. Thousands of travelers missed flights. **About 150 cameras will monitor the fire exits in all four existing terminals and in Terminal D, which is under construction. Images can be saved, allowing officers to review fire exit footage for several days or longer, Dodson said.** The cameras will be monitored from each terminal's security office. Eventually, D/FW's officers will be able to download images from the security cameras onto personal digital assistants while they are on patrol in and around the terminals, Dodson said.  
Source: <http://www.dfw.com/mld/dfw/news/6923515.htm>

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## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

10. *October 03, Associated Press* — **Yellow Corp. expects to close Roadway acquisition by December. In July, Yellow said it would buy Roadway for \$966 million in cash, shares and debt assumption. Yellow CEO Bill Zollars aims to build a transportation services company that offers as broad an array of products as FedEx Corp. or United Parcel Service Inc. He said YellowRoadway will rank just behind those companies but will offer its services for freight, rather than personal shipping.** Zollars has long said he doesn't aim to combine the Yellow and Roadway brands but to reposition the brands as executives come to understand why customers choose one over the other. Zollars said only around 15 percent of the companies' customers overlap. **Instead, Zollars said, the companies will combine some infrastructure and exchange best practices.** Currently, Yellow is more optimistic about its near-term outlook than Roadway. Yellow's Zollars, whose customers are largely manufacturers, said he's seen "a definite trajectory" in the business in the past three months as the economy slowly recovers.  
Source: <http://www.kansas.com/mld/kansas/business/6926935.htm>

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## **Agriculture Sector**

11. *October 03, Food Production Daily* — **EU tentative on GMO crops. The European Union (EU) has given its first indication that it may lift its five year block on genetically modified (GMO) products** before the end of the year. Health and consumer protection commissioner David Byrne said Thursday, October 2, that member states would be given the chance to vote on allowing a new type of genetically modified maize for use in food, BT11 sweet corn which

is currently produced by Swiss firm Syngenta. **If the vote is approved by a majority it could open the flood gates to a host of patented GMO crops, particularly from biotech firms in the U.S., where the technology and planting of such crops is far more advanced.** Both the U.S. government and U.S. biotechnology companies have been pressuring EU legislators to relax its rulings on GMO crops. Indeed, **U.S. farmers are claiming that the ban is currently costing them as much as \$300 million a year in lost trade.** However there is fierce opposition to GMOs amongst several of the 15 member states. **Countries such as Belgium and Austria have committed themselves to opposing GMO until further research work is available to determine their impact on the environment.**

Source: <http://www.foodproductiondaily.com/news/news.asp?id=3555>

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## **Food Sector**

**12. *October 02, U.S. Department of Agriculture* — New Mexico firm recalls beef jerky for possible salmonella contamination. M.D. Chavez/Old Santa Fe Trail, an Albuquerque, NM, firm, is voluntarily recalling approximately 22,000 pounds of beef jerky that may be contaminated with Salmonella, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service announced Thursday, October 2. The recall was initiated because epidemiological case studies suggest that the recalled product may be linked to several Salmonella illnesses in New Mexico. The beef jerky was distributed to retail stores and through mail orders nationwide. In addition, consumers may have purchased these products from a vendor at the New Mexico State Fair.** Consumption of food contaminated with Salmonella can cause salmonellosis, one of the most common bacterial foodborne illnesses. Salmonella infections can be life threatening, especially for infants, the frail or elderly and persons with chronic disease, with HIV infection, or taking chemotherapy.

Source: <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/OA/recalls/prelease/pr051-2003.htm>

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## **Water Sector**

**13. *October 03, Associated Press* — California water district approves deal. California's biggest user of the Colorado River approved a pact that will curtail the state's overuse of the water supply, clearing the way for the landmark deal that water agencies have been bickering over for years. The 75-year deal calls for water from desert farms to be shipped to fast-growing San Diego County.** The deal was approved 3-2 late Thursday by the Imperial Irrigation District, the last of four Southern California water boards that have been negotiating for years. The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, the San Diego County Water Authority and the Coachella Valley Water District agreed last month to sign the accord. **The deal's purpose is twofold: to reduce California's long-standing overreliance on the river so other Western states can claim their fair share, and to ease fears that Southern California would have to look north to meet its future water needs.** Approval of the long-awaited deal restores California's privileges to draw additional Colorado water for 18 million people. Many in the heavily agricultural valley view the Colorado River as the region's

lifeblood. **That belief has created opposition to a cornerstone of the deal: agreement that Imperial will transfer up to 200,000 acre–feet a year to urban San Diego and possibly other 1.6 million acre–feet to the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.**

Source: <http://www.newsday.com/news/nationworld/nation/wire/sns-ap-california-water.0.5534286.story?coll=sns-ap-nation-headlines>

14. *October 03, Associated Press* — **Vegas may remove grass to save water. Lawmakers in southern Nevada are talking about ripping up grass in county parks and on roadway medians to save water during an ongoing western drought.** Three of Clark County's seven commissioners went to a park Wednesday to praise a \$15 million, five–year proposal to install drought–tolerant landscaping to cut public water use 25 percent. **They said the plan would remove at least 3.1 million square feet of turf from more than 70 county parks and median strips on county roads.** County officials said they were testing synthetic turf to replace natural grass on playing fields.

Source: <http://www.djc.com/news/en/11149593.html>

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## **Public Health Sector**

15. *October 03, Associated Press* — **U.S. considers measures to stop counterfeit drugs. The government is considering major changes to fight the growing problem of counterfeit drugs, including making manufacturers ship pills in single–serve sizes rather than bulk and add hidden transmitters or chemical tags to assure pharmacists the medications are genuine,** according to the first report of the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) task force on counterfeiting. The report outlines options the FDA wants the public as well as drug makers and sellers to comment on before final recommendations are issued in January, such as (1) requiring tamper–evident packaging for all drugs and (2) requiring the drugs most prone to counterfeiting to be closely tracked by limiting the number of times they are sold in the supply chain. Report: [http://www.fda.gov/oc/initiatives/counterfeit/report/interim\\_report.html](http://www.fda.gov/oc/initiatives/counterfeit/report/interim_report.html)  
Source: [http://www.boston.com/business/globe/articles/2003/10/03/us\\_considers\\_measures\\_to\\_stop\\_counterfeit\\_drugs/](http://www.boston.com/business/globe/articles/2003/10/03/us_considers_measures_to_stop_counterfeit_drugs/)

16. *October 03, University of Michigan* — **SARS virus can change quickly. The severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) virus is capable of changing rapidly and unpredictably, which could present serious challenges for managing the disease and developing drugs and vaccines to combat it,** research at the University of Michigan (U–M) suggests. Ever since the SARS virus suddenly appeared in humans, scientists have been speculating about its origins and relationships to other, similar viruses. Using evolutionary analysis of protein sequences, the U–M researchers concluded that the SARS virus represents a different and previously little known lineage that has undergone some recombination, a process that can shuffle genes or gene regions among different viral lineages. This shuffling process provides genetic variation, which can help viruses survive and adapt in new hosts.

Source: <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2003/10/031003060535.htm>

17. *October 03, Associated Press* — **Flu season could get ugly this year.** The past two flu seasons

have been mild and short, but health officials warn this year may be much worse. **Disease trackers say a more virulent strain of the flu hit during the now–ending flu season in Australia and New Zealand, which could mean a similar season here.** In the worst–case scenario, deaths from flu and its complications, already at 36,000 a year in the United States, could rise to 70,000, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. As a result, health officials are urging everyone to get a flu shot this year.

Source: <http://www.azcentral.com/news/articles/1003FluSeason03–ON.ht ml>

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## **Government Sector**

18. *October 03, Federal Computer Week* — **Coast Guard wants long–range ship tracking.** The U.S. Coast Guard hopes to develop a long–range system to track sea vessels headed toward the United States. **As mandated by Congress in the Maritime Transportation Security Act of 2002, the Coast Guard is looking for a few good technologies and systems that could identify and track ships before they enter U.S. waters.** In a request for information, the Coast Guard said it seeks ideas from vendors about ways to track ships 96 hours in advance of their arrival at a U.S. port, and get those vessels' data, cargo and destinations. The deadline for vendors to respond to the Coast Guard's request for tracking systems is November 1.

Source: <http://www.fcw.com/fcw/articles/2003/0929/web–coast–10–02–03 .asp>

19. *October 03, Associated Press* — **Canadians exempt from new border plan.** Canadian citizens are exempt from a U.S. plan to tighten border security through increased screening of foreign visitors, Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge said Friday. Ridge and Canadian Deputy Prime Minister John Manley emphasized the U.S. policy to exempt Canadian citizens from the Visitor Immigrant Status Indication Technology, or the VISIT system, approved by Congress could change as implementation plans solidify. The plan is intended to increase security along what is known as the world's longest undefended border without obstructing commerce and traffic that fuels a trade relationship worth more than \$1 billion a day, according to U.S. and Canadian trade figures. The VISIT system is scheduled to take effect at airports and seaports starting next year, and at land border crossings at the start of 2005. Most of those who drive across the border are Canadian and U.S. citizens, and a joint statement issued by Manley and Ridge said citizens of both countries "would not be subject to the U.S. VISIT program under current U.S. policy." **Ridge stressed that U.S. policy regarding the border with Canada must be practical, taking into account the important economic and social ties they share.**

Source: <http://www.pennlive.com/newsflash/lateststories/index.ssf?/base/international–0/106522524610610.xml>

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## **Emergency Services Sector**

20. *October 03, Government Technology* — **More Homeland Security grants awarded.** The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) awarded a \$3 million grant to Rhode Island to

**develop a standardized communication system for first–responders in Washington County. Washington County will be used as a model for radio interoperability for the rest of the country.** "I am pleased to announce that Rhode Island is one of 17 communities across the nation to receive a grant from the United States Department of Homeland Security to develop a standardized communication system for first–responders in Washington County," said Gov. Donald L. Carcieri. "This \$3 million grant will create a seamless connection among all police and fire departments, emergency medical services and hospitals from North Kingstown to Westerly." **Virginia Gov. Mark R. Warner announced yesterday that Virginia has received grants of around \$90,000 from the 2003 Assistance to Firefighter Grant program to include two Virginia communities: Powhatan and Singers Glen.** A list of all current award recipients is posted on the USFA Web site:

<http://www.usfa.fema.gov/grants>.

Source: <http://www.govtech.net/news/news.php?id=2003.10.03–71230>

21. *October 03, TheNewMexicoChannel.com* — **City's 911 line fails, county takes calls. Albuquerque's emergency call system shut down for a few hours Thursday, October 2, but the backup plan to route 911 calls to Bernalillo County's operators worked well, officials said. A power surge shortly after 9 a.m. was believed to be the cause of the failure at the city's 911 call center. But thanks to the backup system, city and county leaders said no calls were missed.** Albuquerque Fire Chief Robert Ortega said the city's 911 system was back in working order just before noon, so it was out for about three hours. **Ortega said he thinks the backup batteries failed when the power surged and now, they'll have to look at the system to make sure it doesn't happen again.** Just last month, Mayor Martin Chavez announced the city added dispatchers to improve 911 response times. That followed an incident where callers complained about having to wait up to 30 minutes for someone to answer a 911 phone call. In that case, officials said there were only four operators on duty when there should have been eight. **The city is also considering adding a 311 non–emergency number to ease the demand on the 911 operators.**

Source: <http://www.thenewmexicochannel.com/news/2528932/detail.html>

22. *October 03, Government Technology* — **New Hampshire receives \$2.1 million to develop interoperability projects.** New Hampshire Gov. Craig Benson accepted a \$2.1 million grant from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) for Grafton County. **This money will go toward the development of interoperable communications systems within the county. The grant funds are part of a program to develop demonstration projects that will use equipment and technology to increase interoperability among the fire service, law enforcement, and emergency medical service communities.** Grafton County will receive grant funding for voice and data shared radio networks that will serve both NH and Vermont. This project will include both a radio portion and a mobile data portion. The radio project will consist of the replacement of analog base stations, elimination of analog telephone and radio links, establishing a system interface between fire and police radio systems and establishing additional transmitter sites to improve terrain coverage. **The mobile data portion will build a new regional data transmission system for use by all area police, fire and EMS units.**

Source: <http://www.govtech.net/news/news.php?id=2003.10.03–71229>

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## Information and Telecommunications Sector

23. *October 03, Microsoft* — **Microsoft Security Bulletin MS03–040: Cumulative Patch for Internet Explorer.** This cumulative patch for Internet Explorer (IE) eliminates the following vulnerabilities: **IE does not properly determine an object type returned from a Web server in a popup window, and IE does not properly determine an object type returned from a Web server during XML data binding.** A change has been made to the method by which Internet Explorer handles Dynamic HTML (DHTML) Behaviors in the IE Restricted Zone. This cumulative patch will cause window.showHelp( ) to cease to function if you have not applied the HTML Help update. In addition to applying this patch **it is recommended that users also install the Windows Media Player update referenced in Knowledge Base Article 828026.** This update contains a change to the behavior of Windows Media Player's ability to launch URLs to help protect against DHTML behavior based attacks. Microsoft has assigned a risk rating of "Critical" to this issue and recommends that system administrators install the patch immediately.  
Source: <http://www.microsoft.com/technet/treeview/default.asp?url=/technet/security/bulletin/MS03–040.asp>
24. *October 02, CNET News* — **Microsoft patches Exchange glitch. Microsoft released a patch Thursday, October 2, for a newly discovered incompatibility between the new version of the company's Outlook e-mail client and an older version of the Exchange mail server program.** Brian Holdsworth of Microsoft said the company had received four reports of problems among customers running version 5.5 of Exchange in combination with a beta version of Outlook 2003. In each case, the Exchange server had to execute a complex set of message-handling rules that eventually caused the server to choke, affecting message processing and server availability. Outlook 2003 will be part of Office 2003, the update of the productivity software set for release later this month. Hundreds of thousands of beta versions of the software were distributed earlier this year. Holdsworth said the issue appears to be rare, but **customers experiencing problems with a combination of Exchange 5.5 and Outlook 2003 should contact Microsoft customer support to receive the patch.**  
Source: [http://news.com.com/2100–1012\\_3–5085967.html?tag=nefd\\_top](http://news.com.com/2100–1012_3–5085967.html?tag=nefd_top)
25. *October 02, Washington Post* — **Hackers to face tougher sentences.** Convicted hackers and virus writers soon will face significantly harsher penalties under new guidelines developed by the U.S. Sentencing Commission that dictate how the government punishes computer crimes. **Congress ordered the changes last year, saying that sentences for convicted computer criminals should reflect the seriousness of their crimes.** Hackers whose exploits result in injury or death — if they disable emergency response networks or destroy electronic medical records, for example — face 20 years to life in prison. Hackers will face up to a 25 percent increase in their sentences if they hijack e-mail accounts or steal personal data. Convicted virus and worm authors face a 50 percent increase. Sentences also will increase by 50 percent for hackers who share stolen personal data with anyone and the sentences will double if the information is posted on the Internet. **Jail time will double for hackers who break into government and military computers or networks tied to the power grid or telecommunications network. Hackers who electronically break into bank accounts can be sentenced based on how much money is in the account, even if they don't take any of it.**

## Internet Alert Dashboard

Current Alert Levels	
 <p style="text-align: center;">AlertCon: 1 out of 4  <a href="https://gtoc.iss.net">https://gtoc.iss.net</a></p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">Security Focus ThreatCon: 1 out of 4  <a href="http://analyzer.securityfocus.com/">http://analyzer.securityfocus.com/</a></p>
Current Virus and Port Attacks	
<b>Virus:</b>	#1 Virus in the United States: <b>WORM_LOVGATE.G</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>	135 (epmap), 1434 (ms-sql-m), 139 (netbios-ssn), 137 (netbios-ns), 445 (microsoft-ds), 80 (www), 1433 (ms-sql-s), 17300 (Kuang2TheVirus), 53 (domain), 1024 (Jade) Source: <a href="http://isc.incidents.org/top10.html">http://isc.incidents.org/top10.html</a> ; Internet Storm Center

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## General Sector

### 26. *October 05, Associated Press* — **Israel's strike on Syria threatens to widen**

**Israel-Palestinian conflict.** Israel's surprising strike at an alleged Islamic Jihad base in Syria — in response to a suicide bombing by the group — threatens to widen the conflict with the Palestinians and draw in an old enemy, whose frontier with Israel has been quiet for 30 years. **The strike early Sunday underscores Israel's frustration with its inability to end three years of unrelenting Palestinian militant attacks despite a massive and continuing military effort in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.** If Syria does not respond militarily to the strike — as it appears it won't — Israel will have succeeded in serving notice that it is prepared to strike at nations supporting militant groups as part of its campaign to halt violence against the Jewish state. **Syria has been accused by the United States of harboring terror groups, allowing militants to cross its border into Iraq to kill U.S. soldiers and seeking to acquire non-conventional weapons.** The United States itself has deeply strained ties with Syria, accusing it of supporting Hezbollah, Hamas and Islamic Jihad — groups the United States considers terrorists. The United States also accuses Syria of letting foreign fighters into Iraq to attack American troops, and the recent arrest of two U.S. servicemen with links to Syria have led to U.S. suspicions that Damascus is spying on Washington.

Source: <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/news/archive/2003/10/05/international1507EDT0515.DTL>

### 27. *October 02, U.S. Department of State* — **Travel Warning: Iraq.** There have been a number of explosions in Baghdad, including at hotels, the UN headquarters, and the Jordanian Embassy.

In addition, there have been planned and random killings, as well as extortions and kidnappings. **The Department of State continues to strongly warn U.S. citizens against travel to Iraq.** Although the restrictions on the use of U.S. passport travel to, in or through Iraq has been lifted, travel to Iraq remains extremely dangerous. **Remnants of the former Baath regime, transnational terrorists, and criminal elements remain active. Hotels, restaurants and locations with expatriate staff are being targeted. All vehicular travel in Iraq is extremely dangerous, and there have been attacks on civilian as well as military convoys.** Travel in or through Ramadi and Faluja is particularly dangerous. There has been an increase in the use of Improvised Explosive Devices (IED) and/or mines on roads, particularly in plastic bags, soda cans, and dead animals. **Grenades and explosives have been thrown into vehicles from overpasses, particularly in crowded areas.**

Source: [http://travel.state.gov/iraq\\_warning.html](http://travel.state.gov/iraq_warning.html)

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### **DHS/IAIP Products & Contact Information**

The Department of Homeland Security's Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection (IAIP) serves as a national critical infrastructure threat assessment, warning, vulnerability entity. The IAIP provides a range of bulletins and advisories of interest to information system security and professionals and those involved in protecting public and private infrastructures. By visiting the IAIP web-site (<http://www.nipc.gov>), one can quickly access any of the following DHS/IAIP products:

[DHS/IAIP Warnings](#) – DHS/IAIP Assessments, Advisories, and Alerts: DHS/IAIP produces three levels of infrastructure warnings. Collectively, these threat warning products will be based on material that is significant, credible, timely, and that address cyber and/or infrastructure dimensions with possibly significant impact.

[DHS/IAIP Publications](#) – DHS/IAIP Daily Reports, CyberNotes, Information Bulletins, and other publications

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#### **Contact DHS/IAIP**

To report any incidents or to request information from DHS/IAIP, contact the DHS/IAIP Watch at [nipc.watch@fbi.gov](mailto:nipc.watch@fbi.gov) or call 202-323-3204.

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