Department of Homeland Security Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 15 April 2004

Current Nationwide Threat Level is
ELEVATED
Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks
For info click here
www.whitehouse.gov/homeland

Daily Overview

- Boston.com reports Boston traffic has been seriously disrupted due to a railroad tank car carrying 20,000 gallons of hydochloric acid that sprung a leak on a railroad spur track near the Sullivan Square T station in Charlestown. (See item 5)
- vnunet.com reports hackers have compromised a number of Linux and Solaris machines used in supercomputer networks at Stanford University and other academic institutions in the U.S. (See item 22)
- Agence−France−Presse reports King Abdullah of Jordan announced that the arrest of members of a suspected terrorist group in Jordan has thwarted an attack that could have killed thousands of civilians. (See item 27)

DHS/IAIP Update *Fast Jump*

Production Industries: Energy; Chemical; Defense Industrial Base
Service Industries: Banking and Finance; Transportation; Postal and Shipping
Sustenance and Health: Agriculture; Food; Water; Public Health
Federal and State: Government; Emergency Services
IT and Cyber: Information and Telecommunications; Internet Alert Dashboard
Other: General; DHS/IAIP Web Information

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 14, Reuters* — **Global energy demand to rise fifty−four percent by 2025.** World demand for all forms of energy is expected to grow by 54 percent over the next two decades, with oil consumption alone jumping by 40 million barrels a day, the U.S. government said on Wednesday, April 14. The U.S. Energy Information Administration's (EIA) long−term forecast to the year 2025 projects the strongest growth in energy use from developing countries,

especially China and India, where buoyant economies will boost demand. **Energy use in developing countries is forecast to soar by 91 percent over the next two decades, while rising 33 percent in industrialized nations. World oil demand is forecast to rise from 81 million barrels per day (bpd) this year to 121 million bpd in 2025, with the United States, China and the rest of developing Asia soaking up almost 60 percent of those extra barrels,** EIA said. "Over the past several decades, oil has been the world's foremost source of primary energy consumption, and it is expected to remain in that position," the agency said. To meet that demand, global oil production capacity would have to rise by 44 million bpd over current levels, it said.
Source: http://hsweb01.screamingmedia.com/PMA/pma_newsarticle1_reuters.htm?SMDOCID=reuters_pma_2004_04_14_eng−reuters_pma_GLOBAL−ENERGY−DEMAND−TO−RISE−PCT−BY−US−EIA&SMContentSet=0

2. *April 14, Associated Press* — **Cabinet approves two pipeline projects.** Two pipeline projects to carry natural gas from the Bahamas to South Florida received approval Tuesday, April 13, from Governor Jeb Bush and the state Cabinet. Under the agreement with the state, AES Ocean Express LLC and Tractebel Calypso Pipeline LLC have five years to construct their pipelines. The projects still need approval from the Bahamian government to build processing plants and the Army Corps of Engineers. **AES wants to lay 54 miles of 24−inch pipe from Ocean Cay in the southern Biminis to Dania Beach in Broward County. Tractebel's 24−inch pipeline is to extend 90 miles from near Freeport, Bahamas, to Fort Lauderdale.** Under both proposals, liquid natural gas would be shipped to the Bahamas where it would be converted back to gas form and carried through the pipelines to Florida. Smaller pipes then would take it to power plants to meet regional electricity demands.
Source: http://www.theledger.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20040414/NEWS/404140349/1004

3. *April 14, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission* — **FERC takes prompt action in response to blackout task force recommendations.** The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) on Wednesday, April 14, took prompt action in response to recommendations issued last week by the U.S.−Canada Power System Outage Task Force with an order clarifying the Commission's power grid reliability policies and objectives. **The Commission's policy statement on power system reliability addresses the need to expeditiously modify the North American Electric Reliability Council's (NERC) reliability standards in order to make these standards clear and enforceable.** The Commission emphasizes public utility compliance with reliability standards, stating that Good Utility Practice includes compliance with these standards. **The policy states that the Commission, consistent with its authority, will consider taking utility−specific action on a case−by−case basis to address significant reliability problems or compliance with Good Utility Practice.** The policy statement also addresses recovery of prudent reliability costs, and the need for communication and cooperation between the Commission and the states, as well as with Canada and Mexico.
Source: http://www.ferc.gov/press−room/pr−current/04−14−04−reliabili ty.asp

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Chemical Sector

4. *April 14, Associated Press* — **Fertilizer bomb a popular terror weapon. The explosive of choice in several of the most spectacular terrorist bombings around the world — from Istanbul to Bali to Oklahoma City — is cheap farm fertilizer that's tightly restricted in Europe, but easily available in the United States and elsewhere, despite U.S. warnings after the Madrid train bombings that terrorists might use ammonium nitrate explosives to strike public transportation.** On Thursday, April 15, Turkey becomes the latest country to join the European Union in regulating sales of ammonium nitrate that, when mixed with diesel fuel, forms an explosive with more than half the force of dynamite. "We've notified the people that handle this stuff that it's used to make bombs," said Terry Jensen, chief of the Iowa Department of Agriculture's fertilizer bureau. But he added that there has been no talk of further regulating sales or production in America. **But concern remains. U.S. authorities earlier this month warned that terrorists might strike public transportation, and said they feared that ammonium nitrate explosives could be used.** Officials from the Fertilizer Institute, a private lobbying group, and the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms met this month in Washington to exchange security information.
Source: http://www.mlive.com/newsflash/lateststories/index.ssf?/base/international−13/1081964661122840.xml

5. *April 14, Boston.com* — **Chemical leak causes havoc with traffic.** For hundreds of people who normally go home via the Massachusetts Bay Transit Authority (MBTA) Orange line or on the T's two north−of−Boston commuter rail lines, tonight's (April 14) journey was a slow and crazy one. **The reason for the strange ride home on this stormy night was the fact a railroad tank car carrying 20,000 gallons of hydochloric acid sprung a leak this morning on a railroad spur track near the Sullivan Square T station in Charlestown.** The leak that created the troubles galore was discovered just before 9:30 a.m. The first thing fire department crews had to do was to seal off the area and then start working on ways to halt the chemical leak. From there came the task of determining just what to do versus off−loading remaining chemicals, which began late in the afternoon, and the moving of the rail car to a safer location. **All during this time officials also had to make sure a mass evacuation of homes and businesses would not be needed. So far only several families have had to find temporary shelter and there have been no report of any injuries.**
Source: http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2004/04/14/chemical_leak_evacuates_sullivan_t_stop_affects_mbta__and_i_93_traffic/

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

6. *April 13, CongressDaily* — **Report downplays danger of Department of Defense use of foreign suppliers. A Pentagon report has concluded that the military's reliance on foreign suppliers of weapons systems does not put the U.S. defense industrial base at risk.** Delivered to lawmakers last month, the study found that use of foreign sources does not harm long−term readiness or national security, as the vast majority of foreign sources come from NATO countries with whom the United States has an enduring military and commercial relationship. House Armed Services Chairman Duncan Hunter and other authorizing committee members sought in the fiscal 2004 defense authorization bill to strengthen laws intended to protect the U.S. industrial base. A Hunter spokesperson noted that the report ignores the refusal

by a Swiss company to provide critical parts for the Pentagon's Joint Direct Attack Munition during the Iraq war. In last year's defense authorization bill, Duncan inserted a provision that calls on the Defense secretary to establish a program that assesses the department's reliance on foreign sources and the ability of the U.S. industry to meet national security objectives. **The report includes data collected by the military services that indicates the U.S. industrial base capacity for some critical technologies is wearing thin.**
Source: http://www.govexec.com/dailyfed/0404/041304cdpm1.htm

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Banking and Finance Sector

7. *April 14, Pittsburgh Post−Gazette* — **'Redemption theorist' sentenced to prison for bank fraud.** On Tuesday, April 13, Lutfee Abdul Waalee was convicted of trying to pass a fake U.S. Treasury check for $25 million and other bad checks, and sentenced to three years in federal prison and ordered to pay a little more than $9,000 in restitution to PNC Bank. **He is a member of a black separatist group called the Moors who believe in the "redemption theory." He called the checks "certified tenders" that he claimed had been issued either by the Treasury or the Federal Reserve Bank in Philadelphia, PA.** As a redemption theorist, he subscribes to a belief that when the United States went off the gold standard in 1933, the government went bankrupt. Government leaders, in order to secure credit from foreign powers, secretly pledged the "lifetime worth" of American citizens as collateral.
Source: http://www.post−gazette.com/pg/04105/300496.stm

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Transportation Sector

8. *April 14, WTOP News (Washington, DC)* — **Amtrak's President: Riding the rails comes with risks.** "I don't think there's any point in pretending there isn't some risk," Amtrak President David Gunn said on WTOP's Sprawl and Crawl program Wednesday, April 14. Gunn says commuters who take Amtrak are "as safe as the rest of the country." He admits, though, an explosion like the one in Madrid could occur in the U.S., but says Amtrak has not received any specific threats. **He says with hundreds of thousands of passengers taking Amtrak from suburban stations into New York and other cities, Amtrak doesn't have the ability to seal its system as airports do.** At the same time, he says Amtrak does have its own police force and bomb−sniffing dogs at New York's Penn Station and is in close communication with the federal Transportation Security Administration. Amtrak is seeking $110 million to improve security. **Specifically, Amtrak wants to improve tunnel security. Amtrak wants funding so that its central command center can communicate directly with train operators around the country. It also wants to centralize its police and train communications operations.** Screening passengers and luggage along the commuter rail lines, including Virginia Railway Express, would add hours to the commute and would destroy the rail service, Gunn says.
Source: http://www.wtopnews.com/index.php?sid=189547&nid=30

9.

April 14, Associated Press — **U.S. threatens sanctions on EU airlines. The U.S. government revived the threat of hefty fines and the loss of landing rights for airlines flying across the Atlantic if the European Union (EU) blocks them from supplying data on passengers as required under a U.S. security law.** "We of course will do what we need to do to ensure that flights coming in are properly secured," C. Stewart Verdery, Jr., an assistant secretary in the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, said in a videoconference call from Washington. Senior lawmakers at the European Parliament are scheduled to decide Thursday whether to challenge in court an E.U. agreement to share data with Washington on passengers flying to the U.S. European airlines are currently complying with the U.S. law −− passed after the September 11, 2001 attacks − under an interim arrangement intended to shield them from lawsuits while talks were underway for a permanent agreement. But since most travelers from Europe do not need a visa, "this passenger information review is essentially the first time that we've had a chance to vet them in any meaningful way," Verdery said. Washington has demanded airlines headed for the U.S. provide extensive passenger data −− from credit card numbers to meal preferences −− within 15 minutes of departure. Noncompliance can be punished with fines of up to $6,000 a passenger and the loss of landing rights.
Source: http://www.cnn.com/2004/TRAVEL/04/14/bt.us.eu.air.sanctions. ap/index.html

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Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to report.
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Agriculture Sector

10. *April 14, Boston Globe* — **Feed regulations not yet enforced. As fears of mad cow disease rippled across the country three months ago, the nation's top health official announced stringent rules that would prohibit farmers from giving cows potentially high−risk feed. Despite the urgent tone of that January announcement, the proposed rules have yet to go into effect, and farmers can use the risky feed with impunity.** Instead, a series of bureaucratic complications and scientific questions arose within the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Review committees were formed and continue work to this day on issues such as how to dispose of the prohibited feed. To become enforceable, the rules must be published in the Federal Register. In January, federal health officials said it would be only a matter of days. But, to date, they have not appeared. "We're getting closer and closer all the time, but I can't tell you exactly when it will be ready," said Stephen Sundlof, the FDA's veterinary medicine director.
Source: http://www.boston.com/news/nation/articles/2004/04/14/feed_regulations_not_yet_enforced/

11. *April 14, Reuters* — **EU enlargement no bonanza for U.S. farm exports. The merger of 10 mostly central and eastern European countries into the European Union (EU) presents more trade pitfalls than opportunities for U.S. agriculture, according to government and industry specialists.** On May 1 "there may be certain markets ... where we don't have as much

access because the EU has more stringent restrictions," U.S. Agriculture Secretary Ann Veneman said last month. She was referring mainly to EU sanitary restrictions on foods, she said. **The most visible example is the American poultry industry. It stands to lose about $50 million a year in sales, according to industry estimates, as the new countries embrace more restrictive policies of the existing 15 EU members.** The U.S. and EU enjoy a broad agriculture trade relationship, with about $20 billion worth of farm, fish, and forestry goods traded each year. But that relationship has been marred over the years by fights over what each side sees as unfair trade practices. So when Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, the Slovak Republic, and Slovenia join the EU, they will also sign onto some controversial trade policies.
Source: http://www.reuters.com/newsArticle.jhtml?type=ourWorldNews&storyID=4824544&section=news

12. *April 14, U.S. Department of Agriculture* — **USDA awards $8.8 Million for disease research. Agriculture Secretary Ann M. Veneman Wednesday, April 14, announced that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will contribute $8.8 million to two international research collaboratives seeking to control and eliminate Johne's disease in cattle, sheep, and goats and porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome (PRRS) in swine.** "These grants will support critical research, education, and extension activities to develop practical applications against these diseases," said Veneman. **These diseases cause more than $800 million a year in losses to the industry and the consuming public.** "Project collaborators include more than 100 scientists and education experts from two dozen institutions in 20 states as well as experts in Canada, Mexico, Spain, Germany, the United Kingdom, and Australia," said Joseph J. Jen, USDA undersecretary.
Source: http://www.usda.gov/Newsroom/0145.04.html

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Food Sector

13. *April 14, Agriculture Online* — **New tests detect livestock growth promoter. A feed additive given to cows and pigs so they'll produce leaner cuts of meat can now be detected by two new methods, according to Agricultural Research Service (ARS) scientists.** The first method is an enzyme−linked immunoabsorbent assay (ELISA). The second is based on an optical biosensor. Weilin Shelver and David Smith developed the methods as a faster alternative to high−pressure liquid chromatography (HPLC). This procedure is the chief means by which federal inspectors now determine residue concentrations of the additive, called ractopamine hydrochloride, in live animals or carcasses of butchered animals. **Such testing is deemed crucial to national food safety programs aimed at protecting consumers from misuse of ractopamine and other animal drugs.** In trials the ELISA and biosensor performed as well as HPLC in detecting the drug at concentrations of five to 19 parts per billion. The ELISA method yields the quickest results, since it can analyze many samples simultaneously, 100 in five hours, for example. The biosensor worked best with low numbers of samples that require sequential analysis, such as on a production line at the rate of one every 10 minutes.
Source: http://www.agriculture.com/default.sph/AgNews.class?FNC=goDetail__ANewsindex_html___51593___1

14. *April 13, Ohio Ag Connection* — **Food safety alert for Chinese honey. Ohio State Agriculture Director Fred L. Dailey has advised consumers to avoid eating certain Chinese honey because the product contains a prohibited antibiotic.** The specific Chinese honeys consumers are cautioned to avoid are Bee Brand Honey and Miel Pur Naturel Honey. "The Ohio Department of Agriculture's food safety lab tested samples of Chinese honey and found they contained Chloramphenicol, an antibiotic that is prohibited in foods," Dailey said. The preliminary findings by the department's Consumer Analytical Laboratory have been confirmed by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.
Source: http://www.ohioagconnection.com/story−state.cfm?Id=201&yr=20 04

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Water Sector

15. *April 13, Reuters* — **World lags on clean water goals. The world is falling behind on UN goals for access to clean water and sanitation even though the benefits in better health and faster growth would dwarf the huge costs, the head of a UN commission said.** "The case should be obvious, the gains will be huge," said Boerge Brende, who will chair April 14−30 UN talks in New York to review progress towards meeting targets for improved water and sanitation set at a 2002 Johannesburg Earth Summit. **Only about 50 percent of developing nations are on track to meet the goal of halving the proportion of people with no access to fresh water by 2015, currently 1.2 billion people or a fifth of humanity.** And only about 30 percent are in line to meet the related goal of providing sanitation, such as sewage and waste water disposal systems, to 2.4 billion people by 2015. Total investments in water and sanitation in developing countries are about $15 billion annually, a fraction of the health and economic costs linked to polluted water and sewage. Contaminated water was responsible for about seven percent of deaths and disease worldwide, Brende said.
Source: http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/L13402431.htm

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Public Health Sector

16. *April 14, Associated Press* — **CDC to stockpile flu shots.** Caught off−guard last year by a flu vaccine shortage, the government will begin stockpiling flu shots for the first time ever and target them toward children. **The government plans to spend $80 million over the next two years to pay for the 4 million−dose stockpile, which will be set aside for children up to 18 years old,** said the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Stephen Cochi. Congress could allow adults to tap into the supply during a crisis, Lance Rodewald, head of immunization services with the CDC, said. This past winter's flu season got off to an alarming start with emergency rooms filling up and parents lining up at doctors' offices seeking the shots for their children. Flu was blamed for dozens of children's deaths by Christmas. Most state health departments and doctors told the CDC they had run out of flu shots, or had few doses left. The sudden demand in late November also surprised the nation's vaccine manufacturers, which already had ended production of last season's vaccine. **But there are potential problems. The flu vaccine only is good for the year that it is made and flu shot makers**

have to find a way to be able to provide the reserve without affecting the regular supply.
Source: http://apnews.myway.com/article/20040413/D81U4N7G0.html

17. *April 14, Irish Examiner* — **Trinity Biotech acquires Adaltis. Trinity Biotech, a Wicklow, Ireland based maker of medical test kits, has bought the assets of Adaltis US for $3.5 million in cash. Adaltis US, a subsidiary of Adaltis, distributes diagnostic instruments for the infectious disease market in the United States.** As part of the deal, Trinity has won exclusive distribution rights to Adaltis's open−end microplate analytical instrumentation in the U.S. Trinity Biotech was formed in 1992 and has manufacturing facilities in New York and California.
Source: http://breaking.examiner.ie/2004/04/14/story142740.html

18. *April 13, Reuters* — **West Nile case reported. The first likely case of human West Nile infection in 2004 was reported in Ohio on Tuesday, April 13, health officials said.** The Ohio Department of Health said a 79−year−old man was believed to be infected with the virus, which first appeared in the United States in 1999 and which has spread coast to coast and to Canada and Mexico. Last year the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported 9,858 West Nile cases, with 262 deaths in 45 states and the District of Columbia. Experts say it is in North America to stay, although as mosquitoes go dormant in winter the virus disappears for a while before coming back. Each year it has re−appeared earlier than before in many places.
Source: http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/N13485520.htm

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Government Sector

Nothing to report.
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Emergency Services Sector

19. *April 14, Government Computer News* — **DHS wants system to help identify suspicious activity.** The Homeland Security Department (DHS) has invited proposals for new software that would take a Candid Camera−like approach to identifying criminal or terrorist activity. The department's Homeland Security Advanced Research Projects Agency (HSARPA) plans to spend $5 million on two projects for automated scene understanding. **Scene understanding technology detects telltale signs of crime or terrorism, thereby reducing the burden on personnel assigned to monitor closed−circuit television cameras and other sensors in such places as airports, seaports, transportation hubs and border crossing points.** HSARPA's Broad Agency Announcement for Automated Scene Understanding Technology is posted online: http://216.35.173.248/EPSData/DHS−DR/Synopses/37711/HSSCHQ−04−R−0063/BAA04−05−4−09−2004−PBM.pdf According to the information pamphlet, HSARPA seeks to exploit advances in scene understanding that the Department of Defense has funded as part of its drive for battlespace awareness.
Source: http://www.gcn.com/vol1_no1/homeland−security/25556−1.html

20. *April 14, La Crosse Tribune (WI)* — **County set to stage major anti−terrorism training exercise.** President Bush has been invited to visit La Crosse County (Wisconsin) during a major homeland security training session in West Salem on August 8, officials said Tuesday, April 13. **La Crosse County is one of two or three locations nationwide chosen for a large anti−terrorism exercise, said Jeannette Lenser, the county's emergency services administrator.** Between 350 and 400 people will be involved in the training, including 250 military service people who will bring a mobile hospital to the area from Afghanistan, said Keith Butler, emergency management coordinator. The hospital could be set up at the La Crosse Municipal Airport or the La Crosse County Fairgrounds in West Salem, Butler said. The exercise also will take place at the West Salem Co−op, and will involve the Canadian Pacific Railroad. Sue Lynch of West Salem, an officer of the National Federation of Republican Women, said she and local Republican Party officials have been involved in inviting President Bush and Department of Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge to visit during the exercise.
Source: http://www.lacrossetribune.com/articles/2004/04/14/news/01tr aining.txt

21. *April 14, Times Recorder (Zanesville, OH)* — **Area counties say homeland security grants being used well.** In Zanesville, OH, a large portion of homeland security grant money has been used to better equip the local fire department. Fire Chief David Lacy said, "We've gotten a lot of extrication type equipment for collapsed buildings and cave−ins," Lacy said. "We've been able to purchase an extensive amount of additional Hazmat (hazardous) materials, including air monitoring equipment, protection suits and self−contained breathing apparatus." The fire department plans to buy new turnout gear −− coats, pants and boots −− with the FEMA grant money, as well as new communications equipment. Portable radios and voice amplifiers are high on the list. **The department is also looking into purchasing radio equipment which would allow fire fighters, hospitals, utility companies and others to talk on the same radio frequency, allowing greater communication between those who might be involved in an emergency.**
Source: http://www.zanesvilletimesrecorder.com/news/stories/20040414 /localnews/229404.html

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Information and Telecommunications Sector

22. *April 14, vnunet.com (UK)* — **Hackers hit university supercomputers.** Hackers have compromised a number of Linux and Solaris machines used in supercomputer networks at Stanford University and other academic institutions in the U.S. **An unknown individual, or group, is believed to have compromised multi−user Solaris and Linux computers by cracking or sniffing passwords. The attacker then escalated local user accounts to root privileges by triggering a variety of local exploits.** According to a warning posted by Stanford University, the machines may have been compromised as early as April 3. Stanford recommends users to install all patches, choose hard to crack passwords and limit remote access to unpatched multi−user systems. The full advisory can be found here: http://securecomputing.stanford.edu/alerts/multiple−unix−6ap r2004.html
Source: http://www.vnunet.com/News/1154379

23. *April 14, TechWeb News* — **Almost half of spam bugged.** Nearly half of all spam is bugged with so−called "spam beacons" for tracking users who open junk mail, said e−mail filtering firm MX Logic on Tuesday, April 13. **Up to 50 percent of all spam sent in the last year came with hidden HTML code that spammers embedded in their messages in an effort to fine−tune their distribution lists and send out even more junk e−mail.** When a user opens or even previews an message containing a spam beacon, it signals the spammer, validating the address as live and helping spammers separate the "good" addresses from the "bad." "Millions of users are unaware that spammers have the ability to track when they view and open their e−mail," said Scott Chasin, the chief technology officer of MX Logic, in a statement. "This reinforces the fact that spammers are using increasingly deceptive tools to invade end users' privacy and harvest valid email addresses."
Source: http://www.techweb.com/wire/story/TWB20040414S0006

24. *April 13, National Journal* — **Homeland Security official urges prudent cyber approach.** The private sector is making progress in securing computer vulnerabilities against attacks and disruptions, and while there are significant areas of concern, it is important not to overreact, the Department of Homeland Security's chief cyber−security adviser said Tuesday, April 13. In comments to the President's Information Technology Advisory Committee, Amit Yoran called for a prudent approach to addressing cyber vulnerabilities. The committee met to hear testimony on the status of ongoing government cyber−security research, and on remaining long−term security needs. **Yoran highlighted the problem of known software flaws being written into commercial software and said even the benefits of more secure software will take years to be realized.** However, even if the tools and techniques available today for secure software were implemented, it would be a "number of year cycles" before these improvements reached businesses and consumers, he said. **There is no "silver bullet" to guarantee cyber security, Yoran said, but a combination of techniques and practices are available. "We need to think outside the box in terms of how our reliance on information technology can be used against us," he said, but any action should be a well thought out and cautious approach.**
Source: http://www.govexec.com/dailyfed/0404/041304tdpm1.htm

25. *April 13, Government Executive* — **Federal advisory group will grade network vulnerability. A senior governmental advisory group is planning to unveil a system this summer that will grade public and private information networks on their vulnerability to a terrorist attack**, a member of the group said Tuesday, April 13. A National Infrastructure Advisory Council (NIAC) working group is "75 percent complete" with the development of the new grading scale, according to John Thompson of Symantec Corp. and one of the leaders of the effort. NIAC officials expect to complete work on the project by July. The council was created to study the security of information systems and networks for the nation's key national security and economic infrastructures. With the new system, Thompson said, cybersecurity officials will be able to prioritize their efforts and understand the risks they face. **The vulnerability scale will merge 14 different measurements, including the expected risk of an attack and the potential loss of life or property if the information infrastructure is compromised**. The grading will be broken down into three classes: base metrics, which are calculated once and never adjusted; temporal metrics, which can change over time as new countermeasures or threats become apparent; and environmental metrics, which are adjusted based on factors that are directly relevant to specific networks. The score from those three

classes will be combined to produce a final vulnerability rating.
Source: http://www.govexec.com/dailyfed/0404/041304d1.htm

Internet Alert Dashboard

Current Alert Levels

AlertCon: 2 out of 4 https://gtoc.iss.net	Security Focus ThreatCon: 2 out of 4 http://analyzer.securityfocus.com/

Current Virus and Port Attacks

Virus:	#1 Virus in the United States: **WORM_NETSKY.P** Source: http://wtc.trendmicro.com/wtc/wmap.html, Trend World Micro Virus Tracking Center [Infected Computers, North America, Past 24 hours, #1 in United States]
Top 10 Target Ports	80 (www), 135 (epmap), 21 (ftp), 53 (domain), 25 (smtp), 111 (sunrpc), 57 (priv−term), 113 (ident), 23 (telnet), 81 (hosts2−ns) Source: http://isc.incidents.org/top10.html; Internet Storm Center

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General Sector

26. *April 14, Associated Press* — **Bombing suspects left threat on video.** Suspected terrorists who blew themselves up in a police raid this month left behind a videotape threatening more attacks against Spain because of its plans to send more troops to Afghanistan, the Interior Ministry said Tuesday, April 13. News of the threats came as officials said investigators arrested three more suspects in the March 11 Madrid train bombings, bringing the total in custody to 24. **The videotape was found in the rubble of a Madrid apartment where seven suspects in the train bombings blew themselves up April 3 as police were moving in to arrest them. In two previously unintelligible sentences on the tape, three men claim responsibility for the train bombings in the name of al Qaeda and threaten more bloodshed unless Spain withdraws its troops from Iraq and Afghanistan.** "We will treat you brutally. We will kill you. We will bring war to your homes, and you will not be able to sleep at night," one of the men says in Arabic. Spain has focused its investigations into the train bombings on the Moroccan Islamic Combatant Group, which is linked to al Qaeda.
Source: http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/nationworld/chi−0404140229apr14,1,3166372.story?coll=chi−newsnationworld−hed

27. *April 14, Agence−France−Presse* — **Jordan says it thwarted terrorist threat.** The arrest of members of a suspected terrorist group in Jordan thwarted an attack that could have killed thousands of civilians, King Abdullah II of Jordan said Tuesday, April 13. The king said the country had "lived through an extremely delicate situation in recent days, but divine protection

has thwarted the plans of these criminals and saved the lives of thousands of civilians in what would have been a crime never before seen in the kingdom." His account came in a letter to the head of Jordan's intelligence services, Lt. Gen. Saad Khair. The Jordanian authorities have carried out a series of arrests of suspected terrorists in the past two weeks. **The king said his assessment of the magnitude of the threat was based on the "quantity of explosives found" in cars that had been seized, as well as the "manner in which the terror operation was to be carried out and the choice of civilian targets."**
Source: http://www.nytimes.com/2004/04/14/international/middleeast/1 4jord.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 Assessements, 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

DHS/IAIP Daily Reports Archive − Access past DHS/IAIP Daily Open Source Infrastructure Reports

DHS/IAIP Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information

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