



Department of Homeland Security IAIP Directorate Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 13 July 2004

Current Nationwide
Threat Level is



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

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Daily Overview

- CBS reports a transformer between Terminals Two and Three at O'Hare Airport exploded at 12:08 p.m. on Monday knocking out power to numerous security checkpoints and baggage areas. (See item [13](#))
- CanWest News Service reports the Canadian military has warned that bioterrorists using commercially available technology and materials could make a synthesized version of the polio virus. (See item [24](#))
- SearchSecurity.com reports a vulnerability researcher has said there is a remote, critical security bypass flaw affecting Microsoft Word 2002 and MSN Messenger 6.x. (See item [33](#))

DHS/IAIP Update *Fast Jump*

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

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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. *July 12, Voice of America* — **Russia to stage nuclear security exercise. Russia has announced a major test of security at its nuclear facilities. The Russian defense minister, on a visit to London, says the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) will be invited to send observers.** The issue of security at Russia's nuclear facilities came up at a joint news conference by Russian Defense Minister Sergei Ivanov and his British counterpart, Geoff Hoon. Ivanov said Russia will test its nuclear safety systems next month. "This August, we are going to host, on Russian territory, a large-scale exercise for ensuring safety and security of

nuclear facilities, including military nuclear facilities, and we have already extended some invitations for observers and monitors to attend this particular exercise, NATO included, and Great Britain among others," he said. **Ivanov said the exercise should silence critics who question whether the Russian military's nuclear installations are safe from terrorists. "We give our closest and most immediate attention to the issues of counter-terrorist defenses and protection for nuclear facilities.** We are ready to show graphically that the widely circulated myths to the fact that Russia has problems in this sphere are just mythical," he said.

Source: <http://www.voanews.com/article.cfm?objectID=4607B3FE-7B10-44D9-A177717D5A44F3DE>

2. *July 12, Bloomberg* — **U.S. gasoline demand soars. Crude oil rose to a five-week high in New York amid record U.S. fuel demand that's forcing oil companies to run refineries at close to maximum capacity to keep gas stations supplied in the world's largest gasoline market. U.S. refiners pushed their production units to a 13-month high as of Friday, July 2, to satisfy motorist demand and replenish storage tanks drained during six months of unprecedented demand,** Department of Energy (DOE) figures showed. Oil prices also rose on concern violence, labor strife and political disputes may disrupt crude shipments from Africa, the Middle East, and Asia. The futures have surged 25 percent this year as economic growth boosts demand in North America and Asia and political and labor strife interferes with Middle Eastern and African production. U.S. refineries operated at 96.7 percent of capacity in the week ended July 2, up 0.6 percentage point from the previous week and the highest since May 30, 2003, DOE data showed. Oil inventories held in East Coast storage tanks and terminals fell by 2.2 million barrels as of July 2 to 14.1 million, the lowest since the end of January, according to the DOE.

Source: <http://quote.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=10000103&sid=azhNg2O9CDDQ&refer=us>

3. *July 12, Associated Press* — **Crews cleanup after refinery fire. The Marathon Ashland refinery in Minnesota is hiring cleaning services to scrub away the oily soot that settled on homes and vehicles surrounding its St. Paul Park refinery after a fire at the facility Sunday, July 11.** Lightning struck a tank at the refinery about 6:00 a.m. As much as 630,000 gallons of slurry oil — a thick fuel used in industry — either spilled or burned. A dike around the tank contained the leaked fuel. Firefighters contained the fire by 10 a.m. Authorities say the soot did not cause environmental damage, but the heavy smoke left a layer of oily soot over much of the area.

Source: http://www.kare11.com/news/news-article.asp?NEWS_ID=66447

4. *July 12, United Press International* — **Probe begins into Norway refinery fire. Police and government agencies began investigating a refinery fire Monday, July 12, near Bergen, Norway, that injured two people,** the Norwegian newspaper Aftenposten reported. Firefighters took two hours to contain the blaze at the Mongstad refinery as investigators from the country's Petroleumstilsynet, an oil regulatory agency, were dispatched from Oslo. Even before the fire was out, police were meeting with officials at the country's largest crude oil refinery. **Production capacity at the plant was cut to 90,000 barrels a day, from the normal 180,000.** Refinery spokesperson Kare Ness said he didn't know how long Mongstad would be forced to operate at half its ordinary level, and said it was too early to assess damages.

Source: http://washingtontimes.com/upi-breaking/20040712-010800-5290_r.htm

5. *July 12, Boston Globe* — **Lessons learned from 2003 blackout, industry says. From the control room of New York state's electrical grid, dispatchers sitting in front of computer screens can for the first time monitor the flow of current as far away as Florida and the Midwest.** In New England, which was barely affected by the massive outage that left 50 million people without electricity, power dispatchers have begun collecting more-detailed information about what is happening with the grid beyond the region's borders, rather than depending on other operators for alerts. As the summer heats up and power operators prepare for the season's peak demand, efforts are intensifying across the country to prevent another widespread blackout. Electricity grid managers and utilities have been retraining control room operators and overhauling computer monitoring systems. **Poor communication among regions, which left the Northeast in the dark about the impending blackout, has been rectified.** Officials in New York and New England said they are sharing more information about the condition of the power system with other grid operators through regular conference calls and e-mails.

Source: http://www.boston.com/news/nation/articles/2004/07/12/lessons_learned_on_03_blackout_industry_says/

6. *July 11, Associated Press* — **Fire burns for hours at oil refinery. A five-alarm fire at the Sunoco Eagle Point oil refinery in New Jersey burned for several hours Saturday, July 10, before being brought under control, a company spokesperson said. The fire was contained to the cumene unit of the facility, which produces raw material for the production of products such as paint thinner and some types of solvents.** The blaze started at about 3:30 p.m. and was isolated at its source by 6 p.m., according to Carol A. Sloan, a public affairs and communications representative for Sunoco. Fire crews told the Gloucester County Times of Woodbury, NJ, that the fire had not been fully extinguished by 9 p.m. The blaze produced a large plume of black smoke that could be seen from across Interstate 295 and obscured the Philadelphia, PA, skyline. Sloan said monitoring for toxins in the air turned up negative and area residents were not evacuated.

Source: http://kyw.com/Local%20News/local_story_193092834.html

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Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials Sector

7. *July 12, Associated Press* — **Hazardous materials: plastics plant fire sends chemicals into sewers.** Chemicals entered the sewer system around a Luzerne County, PA, plastics manufacturer as firefighters battled a fire at the facility, officials said. **Residue from the chemical styrene, used in glue and plastic cement, flowed into the sewer system with water being used to extinguish a chemical tank fire Saturday, July 10, at Kama Corp.,** said Mark Carmon, regional spokesperson of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. Several workers at Kama suffered minor injuries, said Al Bardar, director of Luzerne County Emergency Management Agency. No residents were evacuated but they were told to stay inside their homes. After the fire was extinguished there were reports of an unidentified odor in some homes near the plant, and sewer lines were being flushed out late Saturday as a precaution, Carmon said. Officials had not determined what sparked the blaze. A Kama worker reported

that shortly before the fire broke out, the lights went dim and then there was a flash, Bardar said.

Source: <http://cms.firehouse.com/content/article/article.jsp?sectionId=18&id=32734>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

Nothing to report.

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Banking and Finance Sector

8. *July 12, Chicago Sun–Times* — **First Midwest Bancorp boosts money laundering precautions. First Midwest Bancorp, the Itasca, IL–based bank, agreed with state and federal banking regulators to strengthen its anti–money–laundering policies. First Midwest, which is the ninth–largest Chicago area bank based on deposits, said in a statement Friday, July 9, that it would fix all "deficiencies," write new policies, and do a "review of certain customer transactions" since the beginning of 2003** at the request of regulators to make sure there was nothing suspicious that would suggest bank customers were violating federal money laundering laws. "Since first learning of the deficiencies in this area, we have worked diligently and cooperatively with the Federal Reserve and the state of Illinois to aggressively and comprehensively correct these problems," said John O'Meara, the company's chief executive officer. First Midwest has experienced no instances of money laundering, said Michael Scudder, First Midwest executive vice president and chief financial officer. Scudder said every institution faces this scrutiny, and it might stem from the government's antiterrorism efforts.

Source: <http://www.suntimes.com/output/business/cst–fin–bank12.html>

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Transportation Sector

9. *July 12, Transport Topic News* — **Judge orders truckers in Miami to return to work. A federal judge has issued a temporary restraining order commanding independent truckers to end their two–week strike at the Port of Miami–Dade, FL, news services reported.** U.S. District Judge Patricia Seitz issued the order, saying there was a need to protect business at the port, the Miami Herald reported. Truck drivers planned, however, to continue the work stoppage on Monday, July 12, the Fort Lauderdale Sun–Sentinel reported. The truckers are protesting low wages and delays at the port that prevent them from making more than one or two deliveries per day. An estimated 700 drivers went on strike on Monday, June 28. It has brought cargo traffic at the port to a standstill and cost the port and its customers million of dollars. Seitz set a court date for Thursday, July 15, to hear the motion for a preliminary injunction against the truck drivers, but in the meantime barred drivers from continuing the stoppage. In its call for an injunction, Dade County, the port and Universal Maritime Services, a private terminal operator, argued that as independent contractors and

nonunion members, the truck drivers were violating antitrust law by conspiring to obstruct trade.

Source: <http://www.tnews.com/members/topNews/0011657.html>

10. *July 12, Chicago Tribune (IL)* — **Homeland security duties strain geriatric vessels.** For years, the U.S. Coast Guard's oceangoing ships and helicopters have been showing their age. Some were built in the 1940s, some in the 1960s, and most have been deteriorating, in part, because of the often-harsh maritime environment in which they operate. The new needs of homeland security -- with requirements for additional patrols -- have accelerated the breakdown of obsolete vessels. And those needs increased at the start of July when Coast Guard crews began boarding each foreign-flagged vessel arriving at U.S. ports to make sure they meet new security standards. **A recent study by the General Accounting Office (GAO), now the Government Accountability Office, the investigative agency for Congress, found that the maritime service uses its cutters and aircraft 40 percent more than before the terror attacks of September 11, 2001. The problems are so plentiful that officials of the Coast Guard, now part of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), openly worry about heightened risks to their sailors and aviators.** The deteriorating fleet "ultimately increases the risks to the lives of those who depend on us to help defeat terrorism, keep drugs out of our country, protect our ocean resources or save those in peril," Vice Admiral Thomas Barrett, the Coast Guard's vice commandant, told Congress in April.

Source: http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/chi-0407120146jul12_1.6311879.story?coll=chi-news-hed

11. *July 12, Birmingham News (AL)* — **Truck drivers looking for trouble, reporting it.** Over 200 drivers and members of the Alabama Trucking Association are being trained by state troopers to spot terrorist activity. The truck drivers report suspicious activity such as people hanging around bridges who don't look homeless; people with suspicious-looking baggage and strange vehicles on the road. The drivers have a contact number to call if they spot something suspicious. They give the contact person their identification number and make their report. **The American Trucking Association is negotiating a \$19.2 million contract with the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) to train more truck drivers across the nation.** However, first the association must get all state trucking associations to sign on to the program. Alabama is among 35 state trucking associations that have the program. Under the contract, 7,300 more drivers in Alabama will be trained using \$220,000 from the TSA.

Source: <http://www.al.com/news/birminghamnews/index.ssf?/base/news/108962373068821.xml>

12. *July 12, Associated Press* — **Strike averted at Los Angeles ports. Shipping line operators and clerical workers have reached a tentative agreement on a new contract, averting a strike that could have shut down the nation's largest port complex.** Negotiators for 14 shipping lines and the 750-member office clerical unit of Local 63 of the International Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU) reached the agreement Friday, July 10, officials said. The deal gives clerical workers at the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach in California a no-layoff clause and a pay raise that increases starting wages from \$33 to \$37.50 an hour over three years. It also improves their retirement plans. In exchange, the shipping lines can update their systems with new technology so customers have more efficient access to information needed to move products. New positions created by the technology would be unionized. The

union's members will vote on the proposal Thursday, July 15.

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/aponline/business/AP-Port-Labor.html>

13. *July 12, CBS 2 (IL)* — **Explosion cuts power at O'Hare. A transformer between Terminals 2 and 3 at O'Hare Airport in Chicago, IL, exploded at 12:08 p.m. on Monday, July 12, knocking out power to numerous security checkpoints and baggage areas.** The explosion cut off power to some lighting, checkpoints, baggage handling areas, escalators and elevators, said John Robertson, commissioner for the Chicago Department of Aviation. Security screening areas lost power and some passengers were being manually screened with hand-held wands. K-9 dogs were also used to check baggage, Robertson said. The explosion did not affect the control tower O'Hare or aircraft operations, however there were some flight delays, Robertson said. U.S. Airways and American Airlines were affected in their baggage areas as flights arrived.

Source: http://cbs2chicago.com/topstories/local_story_194140636.html

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Postal and Shipping Sector

14. *July 12, WJZ (MD)* — **Postal facility gets detecting equipment.** There's a new way to protect Marylanders from the threat of bioterrorism. The Capital Heights mail facility in Prince George's County is now adding a biohazard detection system to its sorting machines. **The equipment can detect anthrax by capturing and sampling the air.** The U.S. Postal Service says there's no specific threat, and that they just want to maintain the safety of workers and the mail.

Source: http://wjz.com/localstories/local_story_194072619.html

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Agriculture Sector

15. *July 12, Iowa Ag Connection* — **Iowa clear of hog disease for a year.** Iowa has been declared free of the hog disease pseudorabies for a year, Iowa Secretary of Agriculture Patty Judge said Friday, July 9. **Pseudorabies had been present in Iowa for decades. At one time, Iowa had more than 4,000 cases of the disease — more than all other hog states combined.** Iowa is the leading hog-producing state in the nation, accounting for about 25 percent of all U.S. hogs. There were 15.9 million hogs on Iowa farms on June 1. **Judge said it has cost about \$10 million to eradicate pseudorabies — a highly-contagious swine disease that causes reproductive problems.** During a 2000 pseudorabies outbreak, U.S. Senator Tom Harkin estimated that the disease costs U.S. hog farmers \$40 million a year. The pseudorabies outbreak in 2000 ruined a national goal to eradicate the disease by January 1, 2001. In response to the 2000 outbreak, the Iowa Legislature toughened state laws by restricting movement of infected herds, increasing testing, and requiring vaccinations. The U.S. Department of Agriculture also spent \$56 million to pay hog farmers for their pseudorabies-infected swine that were sent to slaughter, to vaccinate and test hog herds located near infected animals, and to enforce vaccination requirements and swine transportation restrictions.

Source: <http://www.iowaagconnection.com/story-state.cfm?Id=582&yr=2004>

16. July 11, Boston Globe — Atlantic salmon may be screened for disease. The discovery that Atlantic salmon in two New England rivers have been exposed to a deadly salmon virus is prompting federal officials to take precautionary steps to prevent further infection.

Scientists at a federal research laboratory recently reported finding antibodies for the infectious salmon anemia (ISA) virus. It was in blood serum taken between 1995 and 2002 from 10 salmon caught in the Merrimack River and four salmon from Maine's Penobscot River. The tests were done on salmon brought to federal fish hatcheries as part of the program to return salmon to the Merrimack, Penobscot, and Connecticut rivers. ISA primarily affects Atlantic salmon, according to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The infection can be fatal to the fish, said Dan Kuzmeskus, chief of the Division of Hatcheries for the Fish and Wildlife Service's northeast region. Kuzmeskus said the recent test measured only whether the fish had been exposed to the virus. **The Wildlife Service is looking to expand the disease screening of salmon that are brought to the hatcheries, according to Kuzmeskus. He said it also is planning to continue the policy of isolating incoming fish until they are determined to be disease-free.** More than a million salmon at fish farming pens in Scotland, Canada, and Maine have been destroyed in an effort to contain the spread of the virus, according to the Wildlife Service.

Source: http://www.boston.com/news/local/articles/2004/07/11/atlantic_salmon_may_be_screened_for_disease/

17. July 11, Bend Bulletin (OR) — White rot threatens garlic crop. In an Oregon garlic field, the tiny patch of yellow that plant pathologist Fred Crowe stood over one recent June day seemed innocent enough. Beneath the dry leaves, hidden by soil, garlic bulbs rotted. Nearly 700 plants in all were likely felled in a strike of white rot that shocked its farmer, Crowe said. It was deep beneath the field, however, where the true measure of damage lay. There, among the root system, crept a white fungus that has hibernated in Central Oregon soil for decades. **Spread by tiny masses of thread that look like poppy seeds, the innocent-looking sclerotia, as they're called, may spell the end for the local garlic industry.** Garlic seed is one of Central Oregon's most profitable crops. Sold for about \$.14 per pound, the specialty crop, which supplies seed for the California garlic industry, netted almost \$4 million in 2003. The disease has already taken the Agency Plains above Madras out of garlic production, pushing growers into Culver and Prineville. A survey of fields early this summer found 21 new strikes of the fungus — far greater than any one year's ever seen, said state inspector Martin Zimmerman. **At least 15 percent to 20 percent of garlic fields have been hit with the pathogen, Crowe estimates.**

Source: http://www.bendbulletin.com/news/story.cfm?story_no=13903

18. July 11, Tallahassee Democrat (FL) — Preventing tomato disease. A team of researchers, at the North Florida Research and Education Center's Quincy site, has developed an integrated approach that can reduce tomato spotted wilt virus in a crop as much as 80 percent. "The problem with this virus is it's known to replicate in over 1,000 species of plants," attacking crops as far away as South America and Australia, Joe Funderburk, University of Florida entomology professor, said. It's become more common over the past two decades, showing up in crops other than tomato, including peanut, tobacco, and pepper. The virus replicates and reproduces in the cells of thrips and plants. Plants get the disease when infected thrips feed on them. It only takes minutes for a plant to become infected, a shorter time than it

takes for insecticides to stop the infected insect. What the researchers came up with is a multi-prong approach: using an ultraviolet-reflective mulch; boosting the plant's defenses with a plant activator; and using reduced-risk pesticides.

Source: <http://www.tallahassee.com/mld/tallahassee/news/local/912746.8.htm>

19. July 10, WCYB (TN) — Blue mold strikes region. Tobacco farmers across the region are on the lookout for one of the most dangerous crop killers — blue mold. In Washington County, VA, the first cases of blue mold are now being found. Blue mold is a disease that is caused by wet conditions. It allows the plant's spores to carry the disease from one patch to another. **Blue mold has now been spotted in six southwest Virginia counties.** In nearby Kentucky, the state is seeing the worst epidemic in 25 years.

Source: <http://www.wcyb.tv/newsread.asp?newsid=4607>

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Food Sector

20. July 12, Boston Globe — Boston food worker diagnosed with hepatitis A. An employee who prepares food at a restaurant serving cab drivers at Logan Airport, in Boston, MA, was diagnosed last week with hepatitis A, making the restaurant at least the fifth eatery in the area to report the virus in recent weeks, public health officials said Sunday, July 11. The disease, which infected an unidentified worker at Logan's Taxi Pool Cafe, presents a risk only to those who ate prepared food from the restaurant between June 30 and July 4, health officials said. They estimate that between 1,500 and 3,000 people, mostly taxi drivers, ate there those days. The infection is the second confirmed case of a Boston food worker contracting hepatitis A in 10 days. Health officials recommended Sunday that anyone who may have eaten at the restaurant get an immune globulin shot before July 15.

Source: http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2004/07/12/food_worker_at_taxi_caf233_is_found_to_have_hepatitis/

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Water Sector

21. July 10, San Francisco Chronicle — House passes water projects bill. The House approved legislation Friday, July 9, that would provide hundreds of millions of dollars to bolster California's water supplies. **The bill authorizes \$389 million for projects to store and transport water, repair levees, and expand wastewater recycling facilities.** The House vote marked significant progress toward reviving the long stalled federal-state program known as CalFed — the California Federal Bay-Delta Program — which was created in 1995 to protect the Northern California environment while still supplying water to Central Valley growers and the booming populations of Southern California.

Source: <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?file=/c/a/2004/07/10/MNG0G7JFUS1.DTL>

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Public Health Sector

22. *July 12, Hartford Courant (CT)* — **U.S. health officials fear spread of avian flu.** U.S. public health officials are worried that the deadly flu killing poultry in Asia could become a greater threat to humans, and possibly trigger a worldwide flu pandemic. **Public health officials have said for years that the world is overdue for a flu pandemic. Researchers estimate that the next pandemic could cause 89,000 to 207,000 deaths in the U.S. and result in 314,000 to 734,000 hospitalizations.** The flu pandemic of 1918–19 killed more than 20 million people worldwide, including about a half–million Americans. Of particular concern is the form of avian or bird flu identified as influenza A(H5N1). Only rarely does this strain jump from birds to people, but since December, two–thirds of the humans reported to be infected with it have died. The first known case of direct bird–to–human infection occurred in Hong Kong in 1997. In that outbreak, 18 people were sickened, and six died. Between December 2003 and March 2004, 34 humans got sick in Thailand and Vietnam, and 23 of them died. In the past two weeks, China, Thailand and Vietnam reported additional cases of A(H5N1) flu in poultry.
Source: <http://www.centredaily.com/mld/centredaily/news/9134321.htm>

23. *July 12, Pak Tribune (Pakistan)* — **Disease kills dozens in Pakistan. The danger of Foot and Mouth disease in hoofed animals has started to cause difficulties in Balochistan, Pakistan, where dozens of people have died of the mysterious disease, that is spreading through goats.** According to reports, a large number of people, mostly shepherds, have been affected by the deadly disease. Many shepherds and their family members have been admitted to local hospitals. **The health experts have related this to Foot and Mouth disease since the victims have germs of a similar type of disease.** The disease is spreading in Balochistan — and in trying to control the situation, the Federal Ministry of Food Agriculture and Livestock has imposed a ban on the intra–provincial movement of goats from Balochistan.
Source: <http://paktribune.com/news/index.php?id=70457>

24. *July 11, CanWest News Service (Canada)* — **Canada fears bioterror. Bioterrorists using commercially available technology and materials could, with relative ease, make a synthesized version of the polio virus, the Canadian military has warned.** "There are concerns that terrorists can now create viruses," says a military intelligence assessment obtained by Ottawa researcher Ken Rubin through the Access to Information Act. **It followed on the heels of an announcement by researchers at the University of New York that they had assembled a man–made version of the polio virus from scratch, using DNA and a genetic blueprint for the pathogen available on the Internet.** The genetic material used to build the virus came from supply houses that make the chemicals to order. Though the technology has been available for years, the experiment marked the first time an artificial infectious virus has been created — at least, publicly. The researchers said they carried out the experiment to show how easy it would be for terrorists to create deadly germs for biological weapons. **Pathogens to which people have little or no immunity, such as smallpox, Ebola, or a novel and virulent influenza virus, could also be created the same way, the U.S. scientists warned.** "There appears to be no practical method of limiting the flow of this type of technology, equipment and related materials."
Source: <http://www.canada.com/montreal/montrealgazette/soundoff/story.html?id=bb57b7fb-0548-4917-9f4a-91b601be814c>

25. *July 11, National Institutes of Health* — **New method enables researchers to make SARS antibodies, quickly.** Human antibodies that thwart the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) virus in mice can be mass-produced quickly using a new laboratory technique developed by an international research team collaborating with the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID). **The new technique could become an important tool for developing a cocktail of SARS-specific antibodies that might help protect people recently exposed to the SARS virus or at high risk of exposure. The technique could also make possible the development of a similar approach to prevent or treat other illnesses.** "While much has been accomplished in our quest for a vaccine against SARS, a vaccine may provide little benefit to someone already infected," says Anthony S. Fauci, director of NIAID. "Human SARS antibodies could offer a double benefit: they could be used as a potent frontline defense for health care workers and others at high risk of exposure and as an effective treatment for those individuals newly exposed to the virus." Currently, there is no specific effective treatment for SARS. The report describing these findings appears in the July 11, 2004 issue of *Nature Medicine*.

Source: <http://www.nih.gov/news/pr/jul2004/niaid-11.htm>

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Government Sector

Nothing to report.

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Emergency Services Sector

26. *July 12, Marion Daily Republican Online (IL)* — **EMA says it has plan for disasters.** The recent train derailment in Franklin County, IL, on Friday, July 9, that closed Interstate 57 to traffic, shows how rapidly a disaster can affect the area. The Williamson County, IL, Emergency Management Agency (EMA) was prepared to give any assistance that Franklin County might have needed. Williamson County EMA Assistant Director Steve Land said that the county has a master plan that could be put into effect should a similar situation arise in Williamson County. "We have established a plan that with minor adjustments could be used for any type of emergency," Land said. "The response would depend on whether it was a hazardous materials situation or not." Land pointed out that in the case of hazardous material, the first priority would be to evacuate the area and protect human life. **"The first thing we would do is activate our phone tree," Land said. A phone tree is a call list that involves each volunteer calling the next individual on an established list to tell them that the EMA has been activated and where to report.** In Williamson County, the EMA has what is called a Resource File that lists private companies and individuals who have indicated their ability to help in the case of an emergency.

Source: http://www.mariondaily.com/articles/2004/07/11/local_news/news02.txt

27. *July 12, White Lake Beacon (MI)* — **An error in communications. With more than \$800,000 coming into Muskegon County, MI, through a Homeland Security grant, Chief Bob Phillips of the White Lake Fire Authority, wants to make certain each of the 11 disciplines**

involved with emergency services can talk to one another. "The county Emergency Services director, deputy Dan Stout, asked all of us to compile a priority list of what we would like to have, based on the criteria set by the federal Homeland Security program," said Phillips. **"At the top of the list for every department and agency is communication. We cannot communicate directly with one another."** Phillips said many hand held radios owned by the White Lake Fire Authority only have two channels, making it impossible for them to communicate, for instance, with Muskegon Township Police. **"Every department has a different radio frequency,"** said Phillips. Phillips said that the county fire chiefs have applied to the Federal Communications Commission for four new channels. "If they get those four tactical channels, White Lake Ambulance and White Lake Fire will have them in their radios," said the chief. Phillips said he believes continuing discussions will help solve additional problems, like the lack of communication abilities many disciplines experience while responding to incidents near the Lake Michigan shoreline.

Source: http://www.zwire.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=12308183&BRD=2052&PAG=461&dept_id=381172&rfti=6

28. July 12, *lamonitor (NM)* — Public input sought in FEMA process. Los Alamos County, NM, is seeking public input regarding the draft of a Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan to maintain eligibility for pre-disaster mitigation funding available from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). In the plan, natural hazards in the area are identified, their impacts are determined, goals are set and strategies are put in place. Local governments are required to have a hazard mitigation plan in place by November 1 of this year, which must be approved by FEMA. The county can be assured that it is eligible for certain funding programs by keeping in compliance with the requirements as set by FEMA. The plan addresses natural hazards ranging from earthquake and volcanic eruption to severe summer and winter storms to illnesses such as West Nile Virus and the plague, according to the planning project's draft. More specifically, the natural hazards identified and investigated for the county include wildfires, monsoons, hail and wind, winter storms, floods, rockfall, earthquakes and diseases such as West Nile Virus, Hantavirus and Human Plague. The Hazard Mitigation Plan is available at the Los Alamos and White Rock public libraries as review-only copies. There also are drafts available at the KanDu Center in the Municipal Building located at 2300 Trinity Drive in Los Alamos and at the county's Website at <http://www.lac-nm.us> by clicking on the "projects" link.

Source: http://www.lamonitor.com/articles/2004/07/12/headline_news/news08.txt

29. July 12, *Kansas City InfoZine (MO)* — State hazard mitigation plan approved. Missouri was the first of the fifty states to receive the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) approval of a "Standard" State Hazard Mitigation Plan. Governor Bob Holden has announced that the State of Missouri's "Standard" State Hazard Mitigation Plan which was approved on May 21, 2004, has now been determined to meet the requirements of an "Enhanced" State Hazard Mitigation Plan by FEMA. **"This means that the amount of non-emergency federal assistance that the State of Missouri is eligible to receive under the Stafford Act has just improved dramatically,"** said Holden. This latest formal watershed announcement came from FEMA Region VII Director Dick Hainje, who indicated that Missouri's "Enhanced" State Hazard Mitigation Plan also had undergone FEMA's crucial examination and had earned approval effective Friday, July 2, 2004. The "Enhanced" Plan approval significantly increases the amount of federal mitigation funding that will be available for future disasters.

Source: <http://www.infozine.com/news/stories/op/storiesView/sid/2715/>

30. *July 09, Federal Computer Week* — **First responders see scarcity of experts. Local and national homeland security exercises have shown that people will be one of the most critical and scarcest resources for first responders, particularly in the technical and command areas, during an actual incident,** officials have told the House Select Committee on Homeland Security. Almost a year after the TopOff 2 exercise in Washington state and Illinois, and less than a year before the next national-level exercise kicks off in New Jersey and Connecticut, state, local and federal officials are still working on implementing new systems and policies that were lacking in the multi-hazard exercise. TopOff is short for Top Officials, and although nearly 400 smaller, more focused exercises have been conducted nationwide, the TopOff exercises are designed to address a far larger scale, said Corey Gruber, associate director of the Department of Homeland Security's newly-renamed Office of State and Local Coordination and Preparedness, who oversees the TopOff exercises.

Source: <http://www.fcw.com/fcw/articles/2004/0705/web-topoff-07-09-04.asp>

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Information Technology and Telecommunications Sector

31. *July 12, US-CERT* — **Vulnerability Note VU#184030: MySQL fails to properly evaluate zero-length strings in the check_scramble_323() function.** MySQL is an open-source database system available for Microsoft Windows, Linux, and other UNIX-based operating systems. **There is a vulnerability in the check_scramble_323() function that could allow an attacker to bypass authentication by supplying a "passwd_len" value of NULL.** It has been reported that versions 4.1 prior to 4.1.3 and version 5.0 are affected. In order to exploit this vulnerability, an attacker would have to use a modified MySQL client library. A remote, unauthenticated attacker with network access to the MySQL server could successfully authenticate without knowledge of the user's password. According to the NGSSoftware Security Advisory, this vulnerability has been fixed in version 4.1.3 (Beta) and version 5.0 (Alpha): <http://www.nextgenss.com/advisories/mysql-authbypass.txt>
Source: <http://www.kb.cert.org/vuls/id/184030>

32. *July 12, eWEEK* — **Yahoo buys e-mail startup.** Yahoo Inc. has acquired a Web-based e-mail startup company as it moves closer to rolling out further changes to its e-mail service. In a message to subscribers posted late Friday, July 9, **Oddpost Inc. said it had been bought by Yahoo and that its development team was focusing its energy on building new additions to Yahoo Mail.** "Oddpost.com will continue to operate with no interruption in service," the company announced. A Yahoo spokesperson on Monday, July 12, confirmed the purchase.
Source: <http://www.eweek.com/article2/0.1759.1622407.00.asp>

33. *July 12, SearchSecurity.com* — **'Shell' access flaw hits Microsoft products.** A remote, critical security bypass flaw affecting Microsoft Word 2002 and MSN Messenger 6.x was reported Monday, July 12. Vulnerability researcher Jesse Ruderman reported a flaw that could allow an attacker to access the Windows "shell:" functionality. In this case, **the programs fail to restrict access to the "shell:" URI handler, which could enable an attacker to invoke**

various programs associated with specific extensions. It's not possible to pass parameters to these programs, only filenames, thus limiting the impact of launching applications, security research company Secunia said. The Windows "shell:" URI handler is inherently insecure and should only be accessed from a few trusted sources, according to the advisory. It may even pose a threat through Word documents, Secunia reported. Multiple exploits in Internet Explorer also utilize "shell:" functionality. **Users are advised not to follow links in MSN Messenger or those from Word documents originating from untrusted sources.**

Source: http://searchsecurity.techtarget.com/originalContent/0,28914,2,sid14_gci992349,00.html

- 34. July 12, Secunia — Microsoft Outlook / Word object tag vulnerability.** A vulnerability in Microsoft Word and Outlook could potentially allow malicious people to gain system access. **The problem arises when Word is used to edit mails in Outlook. This can possibly be exploited to execute arbitrary code on a user's system** if the user is tricked into forwarding a malicious e-mail with an unclosed "OBJECT" tag. Reportedly, this can only be exploited when mails are forwarded. This may also be possible to exploit through malicious HTML documents if edited in Word. Secunia recommends that users do not use Word as the default mail editor. Source: <http://secunia.com/advisories/12041/>

Internet Alert Dashboard

DHS/US-CERT Watch Synopsis	
<p>Over the preceding 24 hours, there has been no cyber activity which constitutes an unusual and significant threat to Homeland Security, National Security, the Internet, or the Nation's critical infrastructures.</p>	
<p>US-CERT Operations Center Synopsis: Keylogger trojans such as Download.JECT, Scob and Berbew have garnered national attention by both the media and incident response teams. Microsoft has released an out-of-band fix for Internet Explorer to prevent future exploits of client machines using the ADODB vulnerability. See Microsoft's security bulletin here: http://www.microsoft.com/security/incident/download_ject.msp_x</p>	
Current Port Attacks	
<p>Top 10 Target Ports</p>	<p>445 (microsoft-ds), 135 (epmap), 1434 (ms-sql-m), 1433 (ms-sql-s), 9898 (dabber), 137 (netbios-ns), 5554 (sasser-ftp), 21 (ftp), 3127 (mydoom), 139 (netbios-ssn)</p>
<p>Source: http://isc.incidents.org/top10.html; Internet Storm Center</p>	
<p>To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Website: www.us-cert.gov.</p>	
<p>Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: https://www.it-isac.org/.</p>	

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Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument & Icons Sector

35. *July 11, USA Today* — **Doormen out front in the war on terrorism. Doormen, superintendents and other workers in residential buildings are learning about weapons of mass destruction and the goals of terrorist organizations in a program sponsored by New York Police Department (NYPD), the building workers' union and real estate management companies.** In a four-hour session, the building workers learn that an exterminator's canister, for instance, can be used to spread chemical weapons against humans, not just cockroaches. They find out what to do if a suspicious package arrives, and what to ask someone who phones in a bomb threat. The classes are paid for by a one million dollar training fund created by the current contract between the union and real estate management companies, who represent apartment owners and renters. Off-duty police teach the classes, and each building worker is paid \$100 for attending.
Source: http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2004-07-11-doormen-usat_x.htm

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General Sector

36. *July 12, Associated Press* — **Blackout hits Athens a month before games. The worst blackout in more than a decade hit Athens and southern Greece on Monday, July 12, leaving millions sweltering in a heat wave of 104 degrees, and raising concerns about whether the lights will go out at next month's Olympics.** The government blamed the outage on "mismanagement" of the electricity grid. Still, officials promised the network was ready to handle the August 13–29 Olympics. But it was yet another hurdle in Athens' attempt to convince the world it is ready to host well-run and safe games. Olympics preparations have come under criticism because of construction delays and concerns over security arrangements to stop terror attacks. **Greece's Public Power Corp. did not explain what caused the blackout, saying only that it knocked out four major plants. The company -- an Olympic sponsor -- blamed the state-owned grid operator for the outage.** Others members of the Greek government flooded the media with pledges that the Olympics are in no danger of going dark. The Athens Olympic Organizing Committee, meanwhile, gave assurances that generators would allow the games to proceed even if there's another big outage. Athens is home to nearly five million people, and an estimated two million more are expected in Greece this August.
Source: <http://apnews.myway.com/article/20040712/D83PDMR00.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 page (<http://www.nipc.gov>), one can quickly access any of the following DHS/IAIP products:

DHS/IAIP Alerts – Advisories and Information Bulletins: DHS/IAIP produces two levels of infrastructure warnings. Collectively, these threat warning products will be based on material that is significant, credible, timely, and that addresses cyber and/or infrastructure dimensions with possibly

significant impact.

[DHS/IAIP Daily Open Source Infrastructure Reports](#) – The DHS/IAIP Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is a daily [Monday through Friday] summary and assessment of open–source published information concerning significant critical infrastructure issues.

[DHS/IAIP Daily Reports Archive](#) – Access past DHS/IAIP Daily Open Source Infrastructure Reports.

DHS/IAIP Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information

Content and Suggestions:	Send mail to dhsdailyadmin@mail.dhs.osis.gov or contact the DHS/IAIP Daily Report Team at (703) 883–3644.
Subscription and Distribution Information:	Send mail to dhsdailyadmin@mail.dhs.osis.gov or contact the DHS/IAIP Daily Report Team at (703) 883–3644 for more information.

Contact DHS/IAIP

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

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

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