



Department of Homeland Security IAIP Directorate Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 15 September 2004

Current Nationwide
Threat Level is



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www.whitehouse.gov/homeland

Daily Overview

- The Department of Homeland Security has announced grants to key ports that will provide money for dockside and perimeter security, surveillance equipment, access controls to restricted areas, communications equipment, and the construction of new command and control facilities. (See item [10](#))
- The Associated Press reports letters bound for governors' offices and rigged to ignite when opened were intercepted in Virginia and West Virginia, bringing to 18 the number of governors who have received similar letters in the past week. (See item [13](#))
- Microsoft has released "Security Bulletin MS04-028: Buffer Overrun in JPEG Processing (GDI+) Could Allow Code Execution (Critical)" and a patch is available on the Microsoft Website. (See item [29](#))
- Microsoft has released "Security Bulletin MS04-027: Vulnerability in WordPerfect Converter Could Allow Code Execution (Important)" and a patch is available on the Microsoft Website. (See item [30](#))

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](#)

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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.

September 14, The Boston Globe — **Two gas plants needed for New England. At least two of the roughly dozen liquefied natural gas (LNG) plants proposed for New England and eastern Canada must get built by 2010 to ensure New England has adequate supplies of gas for heating and power generation,** President Bush's top energy regulator said on Monday, September 13. However, Patrick H. Wood III, chairman of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, said it may be possible for LNG plants proposed in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Quebec to meet much of the demand. That could reduce or obviate the need for proposed developments along the Massachusetts coast that have generated opposition because of fears tankers laden with super-chilled natural gas could become targets of terrorist attacks. **Wood said upgrades of existing pipelines or efforts to conserve gas will not be able to prevent the region from facing a gas-demand crunch.** Projections cited by Wood show annual gas demand for electric generation increasing from 246 billion cubic feet last year to 324 billion cubic feet by 2008, even as residential and commercial heating and industrial demand continue to gradually rise.

Source: http://www.boston.com/business/articles/2004/09/14/2_gas_plants_needed_for_ne/

- September 14, Bloomberg* — **Hurricane Ivan slashes Gulf of Mexico output. U.S. oil production was reduced by the equivalent of 1.04 million barrels a day, or 61 percent of daily Gulf output, according to the Minerals Management Service, due to Hurricane Ivan.** Ivan is forecast to come ashore between Louisiana and Florida by Thursday, September 16. “With a storm at this intensity you have to worry about damage,” said Kyle Cooper, an analyst with Citigroup Inc. in Houston, TX. “Platforms are designed to withstand hurricanes but something is going to break.” Offshore platforms in the Gulf produce 1.7 million barrels a day, according to the Minerals Management Service. The service on Monday, September 13, reported that 99,529 barrels were halted. The Louisiana Offshore Oil Port, the biggest U.S. oil import terminal, stopped offloading tankers Monday. **States along the Gulf receive more than half of U.S. oil imports and are home to 50 percent of the nation's refining capacity.** “We are staring to get refinery shut-ins,” said Marshall Steeves, an energy analyst with Refco Group Inc. in New York. “Flooding will probably be the main problem for the refiners. Once people return they will need to check all systems before they are able to run at the level they were at before the storm.”

Source: http://quote.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=10000103&sid=abHa4J_VkLiNI&refer=us

- September 14, Government Accountability Office* — **GAO-04-1064T: Nuclear Regulatory Commission: Preliminary Observations on Efforts to Improve Security at Nuclear Power Plants (Testimony).** The events of September 11, 2001, and the subsequent discovery of commercial nuclear power plants on a list of possible terrorist targets have focused considerable attention on the plants' capabilities to defend against a terrorist attack. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), an independent agency established by the Energy Reorganization Act of 1974 to regulate the civilian use of nuclear materials, is responsible for regulating and overseeing security at commercial nuclear power plants. **The Government Accountability Office (GAO) was asked to review (1) NRC's efforts since September 11, 2001, to improve security at nuclear power plants, including actions NRC has taken to implement some of GAO's September 2003 recommendations to improve security oversight and (2) the extent to which NRC is in a position to assure itself and the public that the plants are protected against terrorist attacks.** This testimony reflects the preliminary results of GAO's review. GAO will issue a more comprehensive report in early 2005. Highlights:

<http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d041064thigh.pdf>
Source: <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d041064t.pdf>

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Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials Sector

Nothing to report.

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

4. *September 14, Washington Post* — **Test of missile defense system delayed. The Pentagon announced Monday, September 13, that it has postponed flight-testing critical new elements of an antimissile system until late this year, following activation of the system this autumn.** The Air Force general in charge of the program said the setback will not affect plans to begin operating the system in the next month or two. But the delay leaves the Pentagon pressing ahead with a system that will not have been flight-tested in nearly two years — and never with the actual interceptor that will be deployed. Lt. Gen. Henry A. "Trey" Obering III, director of the Missile Defense Administration (MDA), attributed the delay solely to technical considerations. Obering said he decided to delay it until the end of November after learning last week of a number of modifications to the test interceptor that were not checked out fully in ground tests. Another factor contributing to the delay, Obering said, was the inability so far to find the root cause of a software glitch in the flight computer of the interceptor's booster rocket. That glitch led to an earlier flight test delay.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A18975-2004Sep 13.html>

5. *September 13, Government Computer News* — **Army picks "Air Warrior" contractor.** The Army has selected a contractor to develop and integrate the Air Warrior Block 3 system, a "soldier-as-a-system" solution that includes an integrated aviator helmet system, enhanced voice/data communication capability and an upgraded microclimate cooling unit. **The Air Warrior program is a development and production program for Army aircrew equipment that standardizes and integrates aviation life support equipment designed to sustain aircrews throughout the flight environment by increasing mission effectiveness and providing means of safe and reliable escape, survival and recovery in emergency or combat situations.** The Block 3 system will be compatible with several types of helicopter, including the CH-47 Chinook, OH-58D Kiowa Warrior, AH-64 Apache and US-60 Blackhawk, and will be designed for future interoperability with the Army's Land Warrior and Future Combat Systems programs.

Source: http://www.gcn.com/vol1_no1/daily-updates/27276-1.html

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Banking and Finance Sector

- 6.

September 14, TechNewsWorld — **Phishing e-mail fraud becoming epidemic.** The Anti-Phishing Working Group (APWG), a vendor consortium trying to address the problem of phishing e-mails, received reports of more than 1,100 unique phishing campaigns in April, a 178 percent increase from the previous month and a 4,000 percent increase from November 2003. **The ploy is gaining momentum because phishing is technologically simple and illicit e-mail lists have been available for years online.** Mimicking a vendor's correspondence is as easy as downloading a few logos and then inserting bogus information into a message. In fact, software kits that help criminals do this are now readily available on the Internet. **The various schemes do not need a large percentage of individuals to fall for the ploy for it to be successful.** Gartner Group analyst Avivah Litan estimates that **3 to 5 percent of users are duped by phishing schemes, and that number translates to 1.7 million to 2.7 million users in the United States. As a result, interest has spread from hackers to organized crime.** "Vendors report that about half of the phishing attacks take place overseas, in areas like Eastern European countries, and there is growing feeling that some of the attacks are being orchestrated by organized crime rings," said Litan.

Source: <http://www.technewsworld.com/story/Phishing-E-Mail-Fraud-Becoming-Epidemic-36573.html>

- September 14, Associated Press* — **Man pleads guilty in identity theft case.** A computer technician who prosecutors said made possible the largest identity theft in U.S. history, surpassing \$50 million, pleaded guilty Tuesday, September 14, to conspiracy in a scheme that poached personal information from tens of thousands of people. **Philip A. Cummings worked from mid-1999 through August 2000 as a help-desk worker at Teledata Communications Inc., a Long Island, NY, computer software company that provides banks with computerized access to credit information databases. The government said Cummings agreed to sell to an unidentified co-conspirator the passwords and codes for downloading consumer credit reports.** Tens of thousands of credit reports were stolen, prosecutors said. Under a plea agreement, Cummings may be sentenced to at least 14 years in prison for conspiracy, fraud and wire fraud. According to court documents, Cummings was paid roughly \$30 for each stolen report. The information was passed on to at least 20 individuals who then set out to make money from the information, feeding a network of criminals nationwide. The scheme involved tens of thousands of victims and caused losses of between \$50 million and \$100 million, the government said.

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/aponline/technology/AP-Identity-Theft.html>

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Transportation Sector

- September 13, Department of Homeland Security* — **DHS announces grant in partnership with American Trucking Associations.** The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) on Monday, September 13, announced an additional \$21 million grant, available for use beginning March 2005, for the American Trucking Associations' (ATA) Highway Watch Program®. This cooperative agreement with the ATA will help to expand the Highway Watch® program, which trains highway professionals to identify and report safety and security concerns on our nation's roads. The program will provide training and communications infrastructure to prepare hundreds of thousands of transportation professionals to respond in the event they or their cargo

are the target of a terrorist attack and to share valuable intelligence with Homeland Security if they detect potential threats. **Commercial truck and bus drivers, school bus drivers, highway maintenance crews, bridge and tunnel toll collectors and others will receive instruction under the Highway Watch® program.** The program's primary goal is to prevent attacks by teaching highway professionals to avoid becoming a target for terrorists who would use large vehicles or hazardous cargo as a weapon. A secondary goal is to train highway professionals to recognize and report suspicious activity.

Source: <http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/display?content=3998>

- 9. *September 13, Department of Homeland Security* — DHS announces grants to secure bus travel.** Security for millions of Americans who travel long distance by bus will be improved with \$9.9 million in federal funds provided by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), announced Secretary Tom Ridge on Monday, September 13. The grants will provide for vehicle and facility security enhancements, as well as security equipment for over-the-road buses. The announcement consists of 55 grants totaling approximately \$9.9 million that will improve security for operators and passengers by providing operator training and physical enhancements to bus company and industry association facilities and assets. **Grant funding will be used to augment the investments of system owners and operators in a number of areas including driver protection, tracking and communication systems, security assessments and/or development of security plans, and training for transportation personnel to recognize and respond to criminal attacks and terrorist threats.** Grants also will pay for physical security enhancements such as fencing, lighting, and surveillance equipment at terminals and maintenance facilities. "These grants will help protect the millions of Americans who travel our nation's highways each year by intercity bus," said C. Suzanne Mencer, Executive Director of the Department of Homeland Security's Office for Domestic Preparedness.

Source: <http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/display?content=3997>

- 10. *September 13, Department of Homeland Security* — DHS announces grants to secure America's ports.** As part of the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) commitment to enhance security at our nation's key ports and facilities, Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge announced \$49,429,867 in the fourth round of port security grants. **The Port Security Grant Program provides resources for projects to improve dockside and perimeter security that is vital to securing our critical national seaports. These awards will contribute to important security upgrades such as surveillance equipment, access controls to restricted areas, communications equipment, and the construction of new command and control facilities.** This grant program represents one layer of the DHS's system of defenses for our nation's ports that includes monitoring the people, cargo and vessels entering our ports from the time they leave a foreign port to the time they arrive in the United States. "The Department of Homeland Security is committed to further securing our nation's maritime system, which is vital to our nation's economic well-being as the avenue for international trade and commerce," said DHS Secretary Ridge. "These projects are critical to the mission of securing our ports."

Source: <http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/display?content=3996>

- 11. *September 13, Government Computer News* — FAA's FTI has hurricane backup plan.** If Hurricane Ivan should make an unexpected turn toward Florida in the next few days, employees at the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) Telecommunications Infrastructure (FTI)

Primary Network Operations and Control Center (PNOCC) will be prepared to switch at a few hours' notice to a backup location. When Hurricane Frances appeared ready to take aim at the PNOCC last week, officials moved the center to a previously prepared backup location in Chantilly, VA. The PNOCC, in Melbourne, FL, is the main operations center from which the FAA's nationwide FTI network is monitored and managed by Harris Corp. personnel. **"The PNOCC is essential to managing and monitoring FAA air traffic control operations nationwide,"** said Steve Dash, FAA telecommunications manager. "We are extremely pleased that the switchover to the backup site, which is part of the normal emergency response plan, went so smoothly. ... There was no impact whatsoever on the National Airspace System."

Source: http://www.gcn.com/vol1_no1/daily-updates/27278-1.html

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Postal and Shipping Sector

12. *September 14, Associated Press* — **Postmaster renews pledge of no rate hike. Postmaster General John E. Potter renewed his promise Tuesday, September 14, that the price of mailing a letter won't go up until 2006.** Potter said the agency has saved \$8.3 billion in spending over the last three years and expects another \$1 billion in cost cuts in 2005. Chief Financial Officer Richard J. Strasser told the postal board of governors meeting that the result is expected to be a balanced \$68 billion budget for the agency in 2005, despite declines in the volume of first-class mail and continuing high fuel costs. **Strasser said that for the first time, first-class mail is expected to be surpassed by advertising mail as the post office feels the effects of electronic communications both for personal messages and bill paying.** Forecasts of mail volume point to a 2.1 billion piece decline in first-class mail in the coming fiscal year, which starts October 1, while standard mail is expected to grow by nearly 3.8 billion pieces. The post office delivered 99 million pieces of first class mail last year, down from 102 million the year before. At the same time standard mail totaled 90 million items, up from 87 million. Source: <http://www.ledger-enquirer.com/mld/ledgerenquirer/news/natio n/9661126.htm>

13. *September 14, Associated Press* — **More states intercept booby-trapped letters. Letters bound for governors' offices and rigged to ignite when opened were intercepted in Virginia and West Virginia, bringing to 18 the number of governors who have received similar letters in the past week.** The latest letters never explicitly threatened Governor Mark R. Warner of Virginia or Governor Bob Wise of West Virginia, and neither letter ignited Monday, September 13. Both bore a return address from Nevada's maximum-security Ely State Prison. Authorities said they were interviewing inmates at the prison. The letters — which have targeted 12 Republican governors and six Democrats — listed one or the other of two Ely inmates as the sender, but authorities are not sure if either prisoner was involved, Glen Whorton, assistant director for the Nevada Corrections Department, said last week. It does not appear that any of the letters contained any writings, only a blank sheet with a match or match head rigged to ignite when the paper was opened. At least three of the letters opened last week caught fire, but no one has been injured. Source: <http://www.dailypress.com/news/dp-riggedletters0914sep14.0.2739845.story?coll=dp-headlines-topnews>

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Agriculture Sector

14. *September 14, Agence France Presse* — **Malaysian bird flu jumps quarantine zone.**

Malaysia has detected three new outbreaks of bird flu in northeast Kelantan state, one of which is outside a quarantine zone around the first village hit by the virus, officials said Tuesday, September 14. The discovery of the disease outside the 6.2 mile quarantine area is a worrying new development for veterinary department officials, who had given assurances that the outbreak was contained within the zone. The eruption of bird flu outside the quarantine area was confirmed Tuesday morning, said the director-general of the Veterinary Department, Hawari Hussein. Officials announced Monday, September 13, that the entire state of Kelantan was under intensive monitoring after three new outbreaks were announced over the weekend, with more than 200 officers conducting clinical checks at wet markets, bird sanctuaries, and pet shops. **Officials say the disease was first brought into Malaysia by fighting cocks that had been exposed to the virus in Thailand and that the new outbreaks were caused by the continued smuggling of chicken meat.** Malaysia is seeking an urgent meeting with Thai authorities to discuss measures to combat the spread of the virus.

Source: http://www.channelnewsasia.com/stories/afp_asiapacific/view/106541/1/.html

15. *September 14, Agriculture Online* — **SDS levels in Kansas beans unprecedented. Kansas is expected to produce a record-large soybean crop this year, but a Kansas State University scientist said the state's soybeans have been hit by the highest levels on record of sudden death syndrome (SDS), a soil-borne fungal disease.** "So far, the known cases have been in the eastern two-thirds of the state," said Doug Jardine, state leader in plant pathology with Kansas State Research and Extension. In Kansas, SDS is nearly always found in irrigated soybeans and is slightly worse in flooded fields than in pivot-irrigated fields, Jardine explained. It seems to appear in the best-managed fields, hence its association in Kansas with irrigation. Infection actually takes place much earlier in the year, when soils are cool and wet. Symptoms do not develop, however, until the stress of pod filling begins — typically in late summer. Infected leaves develop small cream-colored spots. Over several days, the spots begin to coalesce and turn brown. After a week or so, the entire leaf is brown, except for its veins. The leaf blades eventually drop, but the petiole remains attached to the stem, he said. In Kansas, SDS is highly associated with infestations of soybean cyst nematode (SCN), however. Most fields that have SDS test positive for SCN, the plant pathologist said. Those that do not are probably infested, but have yet to reach the level of detection.

Source: http://www.agriculture.com/default.sph/AgNews.class?FNC=goDetail_ANewsindex.html_52505_1

16. *September 14, Agri News* — **White mold problem.** Cool, wet weather has created a perfect breeding ground for soybean diseases, especially white mold. "This year is about the worst white mold has ever been," said Brian Lang, Iowa State University Extension field specialist for crops. **The worst areas are south and east of Waterloo, but it's showing up in fields all over northeast Iowa. White mold can cause more than 50 percent yield reduction in severe cases.** It is caused by a soilborne fungus that overwinters in soil and debris as sclerotia. Sclerotia can survive in soil for seven years in the absence of host plants, Lang said. When conditions are right, the sclerotia germinate and produce mushroom-like structures called apothecia that produce the spores that infect soybean plants. Infection occurs during soybean

flowering.

Source: <http://webstar.postbulletin.com/agrinews/366956874693838.bsp>

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Food Sector

17. *September 14, Associated Press* — **State warns on wild game. Michigan officials are warning against eating wild game downstream from Midland's Dow Chemical Co. complex, saying dioxin levels have become dangerous.** The Michigan Department of Community Health was to issue an advisory Tuesday, September 14, against eating wild turkey meat or deer liver and urge consumers to limit consumption of venison and squirrel harvested in or near at least 22 miles of the floodplain along the Tittabawassee River. Although numerous advisories exist for fish tainted with toxic chemicals, it is only the second time the state has issued such a warning for land animals, officials said. "These toxins are accumulating in land animals that are fairly low on the food chain," reads a state Department of Environmental Quality analysis of the Dow study. "As these animals are eaten by their predators, further biomagnification is expected." Biomagnification refers to increased contamination of animals higher in the food chain.

Source: http://www.mlive.com/news/sanews/index.ssf?/base/news-12/109_5171792159920.xml

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Water Sector

18. *September 14, Booth Newspapers* — **Invasive species biggest threat to lakes. The flow of invasive species into the Great Lakes tops the list of environmental problems that could plague the lakes for years if not decades, according to a new report.** On Monday, September 13, the International Joint Commission (IJC), a U.S.–Canadian organization charged with handling boundary waters issues, urged the two nations to adopt strict regulations to halt invasive species. "**Alien species continue to be introduced into the lakes at about one every eight months,**" said Herb Gray, the IJC's Canadian chairman. "When invasives get in, they tend to stay there for an awfully long time," said Dennis Schornack, the IJC's U.S. chairman. "We've not been able to eradicate any new species that have gotten into the lakes. We've just been able to control them." **Scientists estimate that there are 170 non-native fish, invertebrates, plants, algae, and parasites in the lakes. A 2001 estimate pegged the number at 162.** The IJC report also highlighted dangers from microbial pollution, noting that pet waste dumping, leaking septic tanks, and city sewage overflows have resulted in an increasing number of incidents of pathogens showing up in the lakes. For example, Schornack cited a 1993 incident when *Cryptosporidium parvum*, a parasite that lives in human and animal intestines, was found in Milwaukee's water treatment facility and was blamed for 400,000 cases of diarrheal disease and about 100 deaths.

Source: http://www.mlive.com/news/statewide/index.ssf?/base/news-4/1_09515665788720.xml

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Public Health Sector

19. *September 14, Korea Times* — **WHO prepares bioterrorism measures.** Lee Jong-wook, director general of the World Health Organization (WHO), on Tuesday, September 14, called on the world to prepare for bioterrorism and other types of new disasters that could harm public health. The WHO is currently taking part in an anti-bioterrorism campaign, Lee told reporters during a media briefing. **"As we have a worldwide network collecting information on outbreaks of diseases, we can determine whether an outbreak is caused naturally or artificially, that is, for the purpose of terror," Lee said.** The WHO has produced guidelines for information designed to prepare for measures against the deliberate use of biological and chemical agents to affect people's health. "We'll conduct drills for tackling hypothetical biowarfare by next spring," Lee said.
Source: http://times.hankooki.com/lpage/nation/200409/kt200409142057_5511960.htm
20. *September 14, Reuters* — **Asia faces bird flu crisis.** Asia faces an outbreak of unprecedented proportions as it grapples with avian influenza. Health officials from across the region raised alarm bells Tuesday, September 14. They argued that increased collaboration between countries and more study was needed to combat the virus, which resurfaced in July in Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, Vietnam, and China. **"This outbreak is historically unprecedented. Its infectious agents don't respect international boundaries,"** Shigeru Omi, regional director for the World Health Organization's (WHO) Western Pacific Region, told member-state delegates. A huge flow of people, goods and foods around Asia and lax animal husbandry practices have been cited as prime concerns. The region "still had a long way to go in terms of preparedness," said WHO official Hitoshi Oshitani, the regional adviser for surveillance and response. Although avian flu is very infectious in birds, it does not spread easily among humans. There is a danger, however, that an avian virus mixes with a human one and forms a new disease. Malaysia said it had strengthened infectious disease surveillance and drawn up a rapid response plan. It suggested countries around the region adopt a common framework to prepare for a potential national pandemic, a representative said. Singapore suggested wider use of vaccinations, an option Thailand is considering.
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/newsArticle.jhtml?type=healthNews&storyID=6229606>
21. *September 14, Reuters* — **TB plan not working. Global efforts to control rising levels of tuberculosis (TB) are not working and more needs to be done to reduce infections from the deadly airborne disease, public health experts said Tuesday, September 14.** The World Health Organization (WHO) introduced a strategy in 1993 aimed at halving deaths over the next decade from the contagious illness that kills about two million people each year. But researchers at Harvard University said a decade after the Directly Observed Treatment, Short-course (DOTS) plan was introduced, the global burden of TB continues to rise. "Despite almost 10 years of DOTS, much of the world remains no closer to achieving control of TB," Tim Brewer and Jody Heymann said in a report in the *Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health*. "Improving TB control worldwide requires approaches that go beyond the current WHO program." DOTS is a multi-level approach that involves patient treatment and surveillance. DOTS Plus was introduced later to deal with multiple drug resistant strains of TB. **Brewer and Heymann, who used computer models and recent epidemiological data on the disease, concluded that the current strategy is likely to have only a modest impact in controlling the illness.**

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/newsArticle.jhtml?type=healthNews&storyID=6224751>

22. *September 14, Associated Press* — **Experts probe rash mystery. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has dispatched staffers to southeast Kansas, in an attempt to locate the source of apparent bug bites that have plagued hundreds of people and sent a Colorado woman to a hospital emergency room.** The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) announced Monday, September 13, that the CDC has sent staffers to the area to deal with the large number of rashes believed to be caused by insect bites. KDHE also sent epidemiologists to help with the investigation, and medical entomologists from Kansas State University are continuing efforts this week to trap insects for testing. The problem was first reported in Crawford County in late August, when a large number of people who attended Pittsburg State University's game with Western State College of Colorado found themselves covered in itchy bites. **KDHE said several cases also have been reported in Labette, Cherokee, and Bourbon counties and in the southwest Missouri counties of Jasper, Barton, and Vernon.** The agency said it did not know of anyone who has been hospitalized because of the rash.

Source: <http://www.nola.com/newsflash/sports/index.ssf?base/sports-0/109517035617200.xml&storylist=>

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Government Sector

23. *September 13, Federal Computer Week* — **DHS to push counterterror info.** When Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Tom Ridge testified before the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee on Monday, September 13, he said the proposed National Counterterrorism Center (NCTC) will use a push system to get threat assessment information to intelligence analysts. **The NCTC would allow intelligence analysts to operate from a consolidated database and create a centralized threat assessment for the country "as opposed to integrating perhaps individual assessments from multiple departments," Ridge said.** During the hearing which focused on intelligence reform, Sen. Norm Coleman (R-MN) asked Ridge what the NCTC would provide that TTIC (Terrorist Threat Integration Center, which is a multiagency entity created last year) cannot. "I think you'll see much more robust and comprehensive approach," Ridge said, adding it'll help give analysts a far more complete and comprehensive domestic picture. "And I think [NCTC is] much more of a push system to push threat assessment." Ridge also said the NCTC would take over a lot of threat assessment from DHS' Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection directorate.

Source: [http://www.fcw.com/fcw/articles/2004/0913/web-ridge-09-13-04 .asp](http://www.fcw.com/fcw/articles/2004/0913/web-ridge-09-13-04.asp)

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Emergency Services Sector

24. *September 14, Associated Press* — **Homeland security grant will boost communications.** Most of Kentucky's \$35 million for homeland security this year will be spent on communications for emergency first responders, Gov. Ernie Fletcher's office announced on

Monday, September 13. The goal is to have a statewide voice and data network in which local and state emergency agencies operate together, an administration statement said. The money is from the federal government. Details of individual grants would be forthcoming in the weeks ahead, the statement said. Eighty percent of the money goes to cities and counties, **and about 65 percent is earmarked for two types of communications work: expanding existing coverage areas and building a data system, the statement said. Other money is reserved for planning, assessments and training, hazardous materials response teams, and equipment for Kentucky State Police and the state Office of Homeland Security, the statement said.**

Source: <http://www.kentucky.com/mld/kentucky/news/state/9660088.htm>

25. *September 13, Inside Indiana Business (IN)* — **Statewide emergency radio system receives funds.** U.S. Senator Evan Bayh on Monday, September 13, announced that Indiana's Project Hoosier SAFE-T (Safety Acting for Everyone – Together) will receive \$643,188 to further implement its integrated statewide emergency radio system. The updated radio system will allow first responders from across Indiana to communicate on the same wavelengths to coordinate efforts during a large-scale emergency. **The funds for Hoosier SAFE-T will be used to continue the distribution of 800-megahertz radios to emergency personnel across the state.** In addition, the grant will fund the continued construction of radio towers that will allow for greater information sharing and communication between law enforcement, emergency medical officials and fire officials. **Hoosier SAFE-T is a statewide radio program aimed at improving communications between the Indiana State Police and law enforcement agencies throughout Indiana.** The state initiated the effort to purchase a radio system capable of statewide communication and a more coordinated response effort among emergency personnel.

Source: <http://www.insideindianabusiness.com/newsitem.asp?id=11801>

26. *September 13, Bristol Herald Courier (VA)* — **Mass casualty training in Southwest Virginia.** Terrorist bombings, chemical explosions, car crashes and natural disasters can overwhelm emergency crews with mass casualties and Southwest Virginia is planning for the worst — how to deal with large numbers of dead, if they ever have to. Hospitals constantly have mock disaster drills to deal with large numbers of injured people, but how would they react if it were dead bodies instead of patients? **A room full of emergency personnel from 15 different Virginia agencies are learning at Abingdon's Johnston Memorial Hospital what resources are available to them if tragedy strikes.** The Virginia Office of the Chief Medical Examiner is giving these lectures to let police, fire and emergency crews know their roles in a disaster and who to call if they need help.

Source: http://www.wjhl.com/servlet/Satellite?pagename=TRI/MGArticle/TRI_BasicArticle&c=MGArticle&cid=1031777916712&path=Variables.path

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Information Technology and Telecommunications Sector

27. *September 14, Secunia* — **BEA WebLogic multiple vulnerabilities.** Multiple vulnerabilities have been reported in WebLogic 6.x, 7.x and 8.x, where the most critical can be exploited by malicious people to access sensitive information. Reports indicate that the following risks

impact BEA WebLogic Server: security bypass, manipulation of data, exposure of system information, exposure of sensitive information, and Denial of Service (DoS). Original advisory and patches available from vendor: <http://dev2dev.bea.com/resourcelibrary/advisoriesnotifications/index.jsp>

Source: <http://secunia.com/advisories/12524/>

28. *September 14, Associated Press* — **Linux companies to back standard base.** Supporters of the Linux operating system have agreed on a standard version that seeks to ensure programs written for one Linux distribution will work with the others. **The agreement organized by the non-profit Free Standards Group is meant to prevent Linux from splitting into several conflicting distributions.** That happened years ago with the Unix operating system. The so-called Linux Standard Base 2.0 is expected to be officially announced Tuesday, September 14 by the San Francisco-based Free Standards Group. The standard is supported by most major Linux vendors, chipmakers, and hardware vendors.

Source: http://www.usatoday.com/tech/products/software/2004-09-14-linux-amity_x.htm

29. *September 14, Microsoft* — **Microsoft Security Bulletin MS04-028: Buffer Overrun in JPEG Processing (GDI+) Could Allow Code Execution.** A buffer overrun vulnerability exists in the processing of JPEG image formats that could allow remote code execution on an affected system. An attacker who successfully exploited this vulnerability could take complete control of an affected system, including installing programs; viewing, changing, or deleting data; or creating new accounts with full privileges. **Microsoft has rated this vulnerability as "Critical" and users are encouraged to download patches pertaining to this vulnerability.**

Source: <http://www.microsoft.com/technet/security/bulletin/ms04-028.mspx>

30. *September 14, Microsoft* — **Microsoft Security Bulletin MS04-027: Vulnerability in WordPerfect Converter Could Allow Code Execution.** A vulnerability has been reported in various Microsoft Office products, which can be exploited by malicious people to compromise a user's system. The vulnerability is caused due to a boundary error within the WordPerfect Converter and can be exploited to cause a buffer overflow if a user opens a malicious document. Successful exploitation may allow execution of arbitrary code with the users privileges. **Microsoft has rated this vulnerability as "Important" and recommends that users install the update at the earliest opportunity.**

Source: <http://www.microsoft.com/technet/security/bulletin/MS04-027.mspx>

31. *September 13, National Journal's Technology Daily* — **Justice Department plans more labs focused on cyber crime.** Attorney General John Ashcroft said on Monday, September 13, that the Justice Department soon will expand its capabilities for pursuing cyber crimes by broadening its forensic analysis capabilities. **The department has five regional centers for such analysis in the prosecution of cyber crimes and will increase the number to 13, he said.** Ashcroft delivered a speech that outlined the growing importance and role of the prosecution of cyber crimes within Justice. **In particular, he noted a greater emphasis on prosecuting computer hacking and crimes related to intellectual property.**

Source: http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=29451&dcn=to_daysnews

32. *September 13, US-CERT* — **US-CERT Vulnerability Note VU#914870: Apple QuickTime Streaming Server vulnerable to DoS.** There is a vulnerability in the Apple QuickTime

Streaming Server that could allow a remote attacker to cause a Denial of Service (DoS) condition. This vulnerability affects Server versions only. For further details, please see the Apple Security Advisory (Security Update 2004-09-07):

<http://docs.info.apple.com/article.html?artnum=61798>

Source: <http://www.kb.cert.org/vuls/id/914870>

Internet Alert Dashboard

| DHS/US-CERT Watch Synopsis | |
|--|--|
| 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. | |
| US-CERT Operations Center Synopsis: Microsoft released a new security bulletin detailing critical vulnerabilities in the way it handles JPEG graphics. More information can be found here: http://www.microsoft.com/technet/security/bulletin/ms04-028.msp . | |
| Current Port Attacks | |
| Top 10 Target Ports | 135 (epmap), 445 (microsoft-ds), 1434 (ms-sql-m), 137 (netbios-ns), 1433 (ms-sql-s), 9898 (dabber), 2745 (Bagle.C), 5554 (sasser-ftp), 3127 (mydoom), 139 (netbios-ssn) Source: http://isc.incidents.org/top10.html ; Internet Storm Center |
| To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Website: www.us-cert.gov . | |
| Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: https://www.it-isac.org/ . | |

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Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument & Icons Sector

33. *September 14, WIVB-TV (NY)* — **Security scare shuts down shopping mall.** Customers were evacuated from a Prime Outlets shopping mall in Niagara County, NY, on Monday, September 13, around 9:00 p.m., after someone called Town of Niagara Police, saying three suspicious people left a suspicious looking package at the mall's front entrance. The caller described all the woman and two men as being of Middle Eastern descent. **The State Police Bomb Disposal Unit carefully went in to check out the object, and remove what turned out to be a harmless suitcase from the mall entrance. Police say now more than ever, they cannot take chances when they see things like this appear.**

Source: <http://www.wivb.com/Global/story.asp?S=2297054&nav=0RapQsOO>

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General Sector

Nothing to report.

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.

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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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