



# Department of Homeland Security IAIP Directorate Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 16 September 2004

Current Nationwide  
Threat Level is



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

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## Daily Overview

- The Los Angeles Daily News reports a radio communication failure at the regional air traffic control center in Palmdale, CA, on Tuesday grounded airliners in Southern California and disrupted travel across the United States, stranding tens of thousands of travelers and forcing hundreds of planes to be rerouted (See item [11](#))
- The Federal Emergency Management Agency announced that along with its federal and state partners, it is preparing for Hurricane Ivan's landfall, which could affect multiple states, including Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana and Mississippi. (See item [25](#))
- According to a study released Tuesday by the New York Academy of Medicine, many Americans would not be safeguarded in a crisis situation because existing terrorism response plans do not account for how people would actually behave. (See item [36](#))

### 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. *September 15, Associated Press* — **OPEC to increase production.** The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) will increase its production of oil by one million barrels a day starting in November in an effort to head off rising oil prices. Kuwaiti Oil Minister Sheik Ahmad Fahad al-Ahmad al-Sabah said **the cartel agreed to the decision to raise output by nearly four percent, adding it would take effect November 1. The decision**

**will increase OPEC's self-imposed output limit for all its members, except Iraq, from 26 million barrels a day to 28 million barrels**, bringing the cartel in line with actual output, which stands at more than 27.4 million barrels now. Also, a proposal by the cartel's board of governors to increase the price band will be made at a meeting on December 6 in Cairo, Egypt. Saudi Oil Minister Ali Naimi reiterated that prices for oil remained too high in the wake of voracious demand by China and the United States.

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/aponline/business/AP-OPEC-Meeting.html>

2. *September 15, Associated Press* — **Gasoline problems affect Florida.** Gasoline supplies remain tight in Florida, since Hurricane Ivan is forcing some suppliers to take a wait-and-see attitude before resuming full distribution. Although the Port of Tampa is open, barges hauling gasoline can't move until sea lanes are safe. **Many of the state's 11,000 retail outlets are still short on fuel, particularly in central Florida. Retailers say their suppliers are vague about when the next truckloads might be rolling.** Crude-oil prices rose for a second day after the threat to offshore oil production increased because of Hurricane Ivan out in the Gulf. Oil rigs have been evacuated. Industry analysts say it's too soon to estimate the impact on pump prices.

Source: <http://www.local6.com/news/3731420/detail.html>

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## Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials Sector

Nothing to report.

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## Defense Industrial Base Sector

3. *September 15, Government Accountability Office* — **GAO-04-1005: Military Personnel: DoD Needs More Data Before It Can Determine if Costly Changes to the Reserve Retirement System Are Warranted (Report).** Since September 11, 2001, National Guard and Reserve personnel have served, and will continue to serve, a critical role in the Global War on Terrorism. As a consequence, **Congress has focused attention on the fair treatment of reservists and directed the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to review, among other things, the Department of Defense's (DoD) reserve retirement system.** Currently, five legislative proposals exist that would lower the age when eligible reservists can receive their annuities. GAO assessed (1) DoD's reserve retirement system as compared to certain aspects of the active duty retirement system, (2) the extent to which DoD data suggest that changes to the reserve retirement system may be warranted, and (3) the potential costs and effects of the five legislative proposals. GAO recommends that DoD specify desired metrics for measuring the retention or attrition of senior officer and enlisted reservists most likely to be affected by changes to the reserve retirement system; determine if any gaps exist; identify changes, if any, to the current reserve retirement system that would address these gaps, to the extent that they exist; and evaluate any changes to the reserve retirement system in the context of the total force.

In commenting on a draft of this report, DoD concurred with each of GAO's four recommendations. Highlights: <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d041005high.pdf>

Source: <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d041005.pdf>

4. *September 15, Government Accountability Office* — **GAO-04-1031: Military Personnel: DoD Needs to Address Long-term Reserve Force Availability and Related Mobilization and Demobilization Issues (Report)**. Over 335,000 reserve members have been involuntarily called to active duty since September 11, 2001, and the Department of Defense (DoD) expects future reserve usage to remain high. This report is the second in response to a request for the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to review DoD's mobilization and demobilization process. **This review specifically examined the extent to which (1) DoD's implementation of a key mobilization authority and personnel policies affect reserve force availability, (2) the Army was able to execute its mobilization and demobilization plans efficiently, and (3) DoD can manage the health of its mobilized reserve forces.** GAO recommends that DoD develop a strategic framework with personnel policies linked to human capital goals, update planning assumptions, determine the most efficient mobilization support options, update health guidance, set a timeline for submitting health assessments electronically, and improve medical oversight. Of eight recommendations, DoD agreed with five and partially agreed with three. DoD cited four documents that it says, along with associated personnel policies, constitute its strategic framework. GAO notes that DoD's policies were issued prior to these framework documents. DoD said oversight of Marine Corps health data would be difficult. GAO believes this oversight is needed to determine the medical readiness of reservists. Highlights: <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d041031high.pdf>  
Source: <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d041031.pdf>

5. *September 14, Aviation Week* — **USAF to buy STOVL Joint Strike Fighters. The U.S. Air Force plans to buy "hundreds" of F-35 Joint Strike Fighters (JSF) in the short takeoff and vertical landing (STOVL) configuration, Gen. John Jumper, Air Force chief of staff said September 13, though the specific figure remains under review.** Current budget plans call for the Air Force to buy all 1,763 of its JSFs in the conventional takeoff and landing (CTOL) configuration, but Jumper and Air Force Secretary James Roche announced in February that the service would like to buy the STOVL variant as well to provide close air support, particularly for Army ground troops. The Air Force has said since then that the number of STOVL JSFs it buys could result in a corresponding reduction in the number of CTOL F-35s it acquires. Roche said in May that the Air Force's revised acquisition strategy for the Lockheed Martin JSF could be finalized by the end of the year. Also during the press briefing, Jumper and Roche said they are becoming increasingly convinced of the need to acquire an interim long-range strike system to serve as a bridge between the current bomber force and a next-generation platform, which may not enter service for more than two decades.  
Source: [http://www.aviationnow.com/avnow/news/channel\\_aerospacedaily\\_story.jsp?id=news/jsf09144.xml](http://www.aviationnow.com/avnow/news/channel_aerospacedaily_story.jsp?id=news/jsf09144.xml)

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## **Banking and Finance Sector**

6. *September 15, Computer Times (Singapore)* — **Phishers branding locally.** Singapore banks are beginning to feel the heat of Internet scams called phishing. While Citibank is the most popular target this year, with more than 400 new phishing scams against it to date worldwide, the number of attacks on Singapore banks has increased too. The Information Systems Security

Association— Singapore (ISSA) spokesperson Wong Onn Chee said that tricksters could be targeting “local brand names to improve their chance of getting a response from Singaporeans.” ISSA is a non-profit organization for information security professionals. MessageLabs' chief technology officer Mark Sunner agreed. “This isn't the type of scam where you need many people to fall for it to be successful,” he said. His firm, which tracks malicious e-mail content, notes that **70 per cent of phishing scams are targeted at “localized bank operations and other boutique services.”** For example, MessageLabs tracked a number of phishing scams to a single source that sends out different e-mail messages targeted at a different bank in each country. “So we know that these scammers are definitely doing their homework and researching local brand names,” said Sunner.

Source: <http://computertimes.asia1.com.sg/news/story/0.5104.2808.00.html>

7. *September 15, Khaleej Times (United Arab Emirates)* — **Anti-money laundering training offered in the Mideast. The Association of Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialists (ACAMS) will be the first U.S. organization to offer training and certification in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) to help Middle Eastern professionals develop their controls against money laundering and terrorist financing.** ACAMS is coming to Dubai on October 13 to offer in-person guidance to its Middle Eastern students to help them prepare for the certification examination in Dubai. Those who pass the exam will join the ranks of the profession that are ACAMS certified. The Miami, FL-based ACAMS trains professionals in the anti-money laundering arena. Participants who work diligently can earn certification. Dubai was chosen because it is considered by many to be the banking center of the region.

Source: [http://www.menafn.com/qn\\_news\\_story\\_s.asp?StoryId=63251](http://www.menafn.com/qn_news_story_s.asp?StoryId=63251)

8. *September 15, Department of State* — **Terrorist finance fight promising, Treasury official says. The campaign to keep money out of the hands of terrorists has become a centerpiece of the overall war against terrorism, according to Juan Carlos Zarate, U.S. assistant secretary of the Treasury. Using a targeted approach, the United States and its partners worldwide have pooled their law enforcement, intelligence and economic powers to isolate and disrupt the financial infrastructure of terrorist networks.** The benefits are multi-pronged. The sharing of financial information helps unearth terrorist cells and networks while the freezing of assets and other economic sanctions incapacitate terrorists' ability to carry out attacks, maintain their alliances, create infrastructures around the world and develop deadly weapons. The results to date are encouraging and, over the long term, promise to strengthen the ability of countries to protect the international financial system against abuse by terrorist groups and their supporters. Zarate wrote an article on the fight against terrorism that was published in the September 2004 issue of the State Department electronic journal Economic Perspectives entitled "The Global War on Terrorist Finance." Article:

<http://usinfo.state.gov/xarchives/display.html?p=washfile-en&lish&y=2004&m=September&x=20040915132946ebyessedo0.9813043&t=livefeeds/wf-latest.html>

Source: <http://usinfo.state.gov/xarchives/display.html?p=washfile-en&lish&y=2004&m=September&x=20040915132946ebyessedo0.9813043&t=livefeeds/wf-latest.html>

9. *September 15, Department of State* — **U.S. aid bolsters terrorist finance fight, official says.** Terrorists move money through channels as diverse as major banks, charities and alternative

remittance systems, according to E. Anthony Wayne, assistant secretary of state. **United Nations member states are obligated to apply sanctions against designated terrorists and their financial supporters, including freezing assets, banning travel and enforcing arms embargos. However, gaps in enforcing sanctions exist, and the United States and its international partners are working to address how to deal with informal financial systems and non-governmental organizations through which terrorists collect and move their funds.** The United States is providing substantial assistance to other governments to help them attain the technical ability and skills to clamp down on terrorist financing activity. Wayne wrote an article that examines how the U.S. government is organized to fight terrorist financing, what the international community is doing, and what challenges lie ahead as terrorist organizations find new ways to raise and transfer money. This article was republished from the September 2004 issue of the State Department electronic journal Economic Perspectives entitled "The Global War on Terrorist Finance." Article:

<http://usinfo.state.gov/xarchives/display.html?p=washfile-english&y=2004&m=September&x=20040915133113ebyessedo0.4354059&t=livefeeds/wf-latest.html>

Source: <http://usinfo.state.gov/xarchives/display.html?p=washfile-english&y=2004&m=September&x=20040915133113ebyessedo0.4354059&t=livefeeds/wf-latest.html>

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## **Transportation Sector**

10. *September 15, Associated Press* — **Explosives found in contractor's bags at JFK.** A government contractor was carrying highly explosive Soviet munitions from Afghanistan that were not detected until he arrived at New York's John F. Kennedy airport, federal officials said. **Shaun Marshall, a medic for defense contractor DynCorp, arrived at Kennedy on August 19 from the United Arab Emirates. He was trying to board a United Airlines flight home to California when he was pulled aside for a routine security check. A search of his bags by federal screeners found what police bomb technicians described in an FBI complaint as a Soviet "projectile point detonating fuse" and a "surface-to-air and air-to-air cartridge."** Marshall also had five .50-caliber bullets and four small arms cartridges, which he did not declare to United as required by law, according to the complaint made public Tuesday, September 14. **"The fact that Transportation Security Administration officers located these explosives indicated the system is working,"** Assistant U.S. Attorney Lawrence **Ferazani said.** Marshall, 26, told officers he was importing the munitions, which he believed to be inert, for use in DynCorp training exercises, and Port Authority police released him, federal officials said. The FBI sent agents to arrest Marshall at his Riverside, CA, home after the bomb squad analyzed the munitions and DynCorp officials said Marshall had no involvement in its training operations.

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2004/US/09/15/explosives.onboard.ap/index.html>

11. *September 15, Los Angeles Daily News* — **Air travel nightmare: radio glitch strands thousands in Southland.** A radio communication failure Tuesday, September 14, at the regional air traffic control center in Palmdale, CA, grounded airliners in Southern California and disrupted travel across the United States, stranding tens of thousands of travelers and

forcing hundreds of planes to be rerouted. **The massive breakdown in the air traffic system occurred at 4:40 p.m. when the control center lost its primary communications system, cutting off radio contact with about 800 planes in flight. By the time radio communications were restored about 8 p.m., the disruption had caused havoc across much of the country.** The problem hit all major Southern California airports serviced by the FAA's Los Angeles Air Route Traffic Control Center in Palmdale, which covers a 200-mile radius and includes airports in Los Angeles, Burbank, Ontario, Orange County, San Diego, CA, and Las Vegas, NV. More than 800 flights were headed to Southern California at the time, and many were initially allowed to land as the FAA relied on other regional centers, including one in Albuquerque, NM, to guide planes. **"The back-up system didn't work," said the FAA's Laura Brown. "And that's unusual, because most of our systems have back-up systems that kick into place usually."**

Source: <http://www.dailynews.com/Stories/0,1413,200~20954~2402175,00.html>

**12. *September 14, InformationWeek* — Port security may be aided by electronic container seals.**

The security of America's ports and other avenues of commerce depends on a collaborative effort between government and private industry to develop new technology and apply consistent security standards, Asa Hutchinson the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) undersecretary for border and transportation security said on Tuesday, September 14, at the Maritime Security Expo in New York. U.S. port operators inspect only about five percent of the nearly seven million containers that come ashore annually, Hutchinson said. Since only a certain number of containers can be physically inspected, technology is required to improve maritime security. **DHS has channeled about \$58 million into Operation Safe Commerce, he said. Safe Commerce is a program initiated in November 2002 by the Department of Transportation and the U.S. Customs Service to fund business initiatives designed to improve security for container cargo moving throughout the international transportation system.** To further improve security along the supply chain, DHS is working with the Treasury Advisory Committee on Commercial Operations to develop container seals that provide shipping companies and law enforcement with information about the integrity of a container's contents.

Source: <http://www.informationweek.com/story/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=47205231>

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## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

- 13. *September 15, Independent (South Africa)* — Nine in hospital after anthrax scare. Nine people were admitted to hospital for observation after coming into contact with a substance feared to be anthrax at South Africa's department of water affairs and forestry's Pretoria offices on Wednesday, September 15.** The nine were decontaminated in a special shower erected at the department's Schoeman Street offices, dressed in overalls and ferried to the Unitas Hospital, said emergency services spokesperson Johan Pieterse. **Emergency services personnel collected a package from an office on the sixth floor of the building at around 9 a.m. It contained a white powdery substance in a plastic bag, which was handed over to the police for testing. Pieterse said it appeared as if the package may have arrived by courier.** The building was declared safe and reopened at around 11 a.m. Police spokesperson Inspector Percy Morokane said material collected by emergency services

had been sent for laboratory testing.

Source: [http://www.iol.co.za/index.php?sf=2813&click\\_id=13&art\\_id=qw1095241502205B262&set\\_id=](http://www.iol.co.za/index.php?sf=2813&click_id=13&art_id=qw1095241502205B262&set_id=)

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## **Agriculture Sector**

14. *September 15, Associated Press* — **Thailand decides against bird flu vaccine. Thailand, faced with a second outbreak of bird flu, said Wednesday, September 15, its poultry would not be inoculated against the disease because vaccines offer no guarantee of safety.** A panel from the ministries of health, agriculture and commerce met for more than three hours before arriving at the decision. The issue has triggered heated debate in the country among those who favor mass culls and others who advocate vaccinating poultry. Thailand, among the top four poultry exporters in the world, has been badly hit by two outbreaks of avian influenza this year. Tens of millions of chickens have died or been culled. **The Thai poultry industry depends on sales to Europe and other countries where importers are loath to buy vaccinated chickens because vaccines have not been universally certified.** Vaccines will not even be allowed for fighting cocks, as suggested by Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra earlier this month.

Source: <http://www.sunherald.com/mld/sunherald/9669518.htm>

15. *September 15, Agriculture Online* — **Gulf Coast farmers brace for Ivan.** Farmers in the Gulf Coast are finding good corn and soybean yields this harvest season, as they brace for yet another hurricane. **Mississippi, Alabama, and Louisiana growers are moving closer to harvest completion with all eyes on hurricane Ivan.** In Mississippi corn and soybean harvest are making progress and growers are hoping the weather remains favorable. "Everyone has an eye on Ivan," says Mark Young, county agent in Quitman county Mississippi. In his county, 95 percent of the early beans have been harvested. Elsewhere in the state, Oktibbeha county agent Ed Williams says corn harvest advanced during the week. In Louisiana, 41 percent of soybeans and 98 percent of corn are harvested and soybean producers have started irrigating fields. This week's state crop and weather report says 98 percent of Alabama's corn crop is now mature and 46 percent has been harvested. Normally 59 percent of the crop would be harvested by this date.

Source: [http://www.agriculture.com/default.sph/AgNews.class?FNC=topStoryDetail\\_ANewsindex\\_html\\_52504\\_1](http://www.agriculture.com/default.sph/AgNews.class?FNC=topStoryDetail_ANewsindex_html_52504_1)

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## **Food Sector**

16. *September 15, Reuters* — **EU extends Asia poultry ban. The European Union (EU) has extended its ban on Asian poultry imports for three more months due to uncertainty that deadly bird flu disease is under control in the region, the European Commission said.** "The suspension of imports into the EU of chicken products and pet birds from several Asian countries where avian influenza has been confirmed since the beginning of this year ... has been

extended until March 31, 2005," the Commission said on Wednesday, September 15. In February, the EU suspended imports of chicken products and pet birds from 10 Asian countries for six months, later extending the ban until December 15. **The countries affected are Thailand, Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Malaysia, Pakistan, China, South Korea, and Vietnam.**

Source: <http://www.reuters.co.uk/newsPackageArticle.jhtml?type=worldNews&storyID=583978&section=news>

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## **Water Sector**

17. *September 15, Medical News Today* — **Byproduct of water disinfection process found to be toxic. A recently discovered disinfection byproduct (DBP) found in U.S. drinking water treated with chloramines is the most toxic ever found, says a scientist at the University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign who tested samples on mammalian cells.** The discovery raises health–related questions regarding an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) plan to encourage all U.S. water–treatment facilities to adopt chlorine alternatives, said Michael J. Plewa, a genetic toxicologist in the department of crop sciences. "This research says that when you go to alternatives, you may be opening a Pandora's box of new DBPs, and these unregulated DBPs may be much more toxic, by orders of magnitude, than the regulated ones we are trying to avoid." Plewa and colleagues, three of them with the EPA, report on the structure and toxicity of five iodoacids found in chloramines–treated water in Corpus Christi, TX, in the journal *Environmental Science & Technology*.

Source: <http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/medicalnews.php?newsid=13413>

18. *September 14, CBS News* — **Las Vegas drying up. Las Vegas is suffering a six–year–long drought that shows no signs of ending.** Supplies are so tight the Nevada Water Authority is paying homeowners one dollar per square foot to rip up their water guzzling lawns. It's a conservation drive that's removing the equivalent of a football field a day and keeping desert landscapers busy. Landscaper Wayne Shock, who's been in business for more than 30 years, says his business has almost tripled since the conservation drive began. The drought is so threatening that labor unions are saying that it's time to put the brakes on housing construction in the fastest growing state in the nation. With no surplus water available from the Colorado River, the reservoir, with its growing natural bathtub ring, is near 40–year–low levels. **Water officials say a drought emergency declaration is the next step if conditions worsen. For now, there are limits on new grass lawns, restrictions on sprinkler use, and 24 hour surveillance with computers tracking offenders who face hundreds of dollars in fines.**

Source: [http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2004/09/14/eveningnews/main64\\_3425.shtml](http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2004/09/14/eveningnews/main64_3425.shtml)

19. *September 13, United Press International* — **Protecting water supplies. Scientists have discovered that streamside forests can play a critical role in protecting the world's fresh water.** The scientists, at the Stroud Water Research Center in Avondale, PA, said the findings about streamside, or riparian, forests have large implications for the world's growing freshwater crisis. Currently, 20 percent of the planet's population lacks clean drinking water. For some time, scientists and environmental policymakers have recognized the role that riparian forests play in filtering pollutants before they enter the stream. **The new research shows, however,**

**that such forests also protect the health of the stream itself by enhancing the ecosystem's ability to process organic matter and pollutants such as nitrogen.** The study was conducted on small streams, which comprise more than 90 percent of all streams in the U.S., so there could be enormous implications for improving water quality by planting trees along stream banks, they said.

Source: [http://washingtontimes.com/upi-breaking/20040913-032406-4099\\_r.htm](http://washingtontimes.com/upi-breaking/20040913-032406-4099_r.htm)

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## **Public Health Sector**

20. *September 15, Agence France Presse* — **Bird flu in Thailand. Thailand has put nine more people under surveillance for suspected bird flu, officials said. Eighty people have now been put under observation since the reappearance of the virus in July, according to the public health ministry, with all but 12 of them cleared of having the H5N1 virus.** One person died last week and a further 11 were awaiting test results, according to a statement. The new cases included two boys aged 11 and 13, living in different provinces. Bird flu has killed 28 people in Vietnam and Thailand this year and led to the slaughter of millions of birds. The United Nations has warned that the virus is now endemic in Asia and that more human deaths were likely.

Source: [http://story.news.yahoo.com/news?tmpl=story&cid=1507&ncid=1507&e=4&u=/afp/20040915/hl\\_afp/health\\_flu\\_thailand\\_0409151142\\_43](http://story.news.yahoo.com/news?tmpl=story&cid=1507&ncid=1507&e=4&u=/afp/20040915/hl_afp/health_flu_thailand_0409151142_43)

21. *September 15, Telegraph (United Kingdom)* — **Rapid test may change the face of medicine. The first DNA-based test that can diagnose a range of diseases within 30 minutes is to go on trial in British hospitals.** The test could change the face of general practice and veterinary medicine. Rapid diagnosis could help GPs to prescribe antibiotics only when necessary by revealing if a sore throat is caused by a virus or bacterium, and cut the inappropriate use of antibiotics, which drives the rise of superbugs. The DNA test can quickly pin down the cause of food poisoning, help farmers detect foot and mouth, and show if a woman is a carrier of the bacterium that causes chlamydia, a "silent disease" that can cause fertility problems. **The portable mini-lab is a spin-off from biological warfare research and works by hunting for the DNA of target organisms,** said David Squirrel, one of the developers at the Defence Science and Technology Laboratory, Porton Down. The team bases the test on the polymerase chain reaction (PCR) process, which amplifies target DNA. The first trials, at hospitals in Portsmouth and Liverpool, will be in using urine samples to diagnose infections within 40 minutes. There will also be quick-testing at GP surgeries and clinics to give correct and effective prescription of medicines.

Source: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/main.jhtml?xml=/news/2004/09/15/ndna15.xml&sSheet=/news/2004/09/15/ixhome.html>

22. *September 14, USA Today* — **Flu is sending more people to hospital. More than 200,000 people are hospitalized each year because of flu-related illnesses, far more than the 114,000 annual hospitalizations previously estimated, said researchers at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).** The increase is because of the aging of the population and a broader classification of flu-related diagnoses, CDC epidemiologist William Thompson says. Earlier estimates were based on the number of hospitalizations for pneumonia

and influenza alone. The new figures, based on data from the 1979–80 through 2000–01 flu seasons, reflect "the full effect of influenza," Thompson says, by counting hospitalizations for circulatory or respiratory illnesses in addition to influenza or pneumonia diagnoses. Some cases might not be directly caused by flu but might include conditions that are worsened by the flu virus that is circulating, resulting in hospitalization. The findings, reported in today's Journal of the American Medical Association, emphasize the importance of receiving the flu vaccine, experts in infectious disease say. Last year, CDC researchers reported that flu causes an average of 36,000 deaths each year, a jump from the previous estimate of 20,000.

Source: [http://www.usatoday.com/news/health/2004-09-14-flu\\_x.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/news/health/2004-09-14-flu_x.htm)

23. *September 14, Associated Press* — **State Health Department receives funding. The Virginia Department of Health received a federal grant of nearly \$20 million Tuesday, September 14, to improve the public health infrastructure and the system's ability to response to bioterrorism, infectious disease, and other emergencies.** The grant was given by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The Health Department also will receive \$584,000 from state general funds in fiscal 2004 to pay for six of 35 epidemiologists hired throughout the state. State Health Commissioner Robert B. Stroube said Virginia has already hired and trained more than 130 public health and laboratory professionals, and expanded disease surveillance, detection and testing capabilities, communication technology and partnerships within the health-care field. **Future goals include ensuring the safety of Virginia's food and water, building a system for managing trained public health volunteers, and increasing the capacity to rapidly provide vaccinations or preventive medicines in health emergencies.**

Source: <http://www.dailypress.com/news/local/virginia/dp-va--healthgrant0914sep14.0.5162637.story?coll=dp-headlines-virginia>

24. *September 14, Jane* — **Genetically modified bioweapons.** Advances in nanotechnology, genetics and nuclear isomers are permitting the production of a new generation of unconventional weapons. As one of the most rapidly moving areas of scientific research, biotechnology presents the most immediate emerging threat for weapons development. **The revolution in genetic modification (GM) techniques could create even deadlier strains of disease and provide cheaper methods of development, as well as blurring the dividing line between curing disease and causing it. Terrorists and nation-states with adequate biological expertise could capitalize on the GM revolution using minimal resources and equipment.** Unscrupulous scientists lending or selling their services to terrorist groups could also exploit many advances taking place at medical and biological institutes as civilian research and development. With the application of GM techniques, up to 100 times more pathogens or toxins could be produced per cell than by naturally occurring strains. It would be possible to insert genes into infectious micro-organisms to increase their antibiotic resistance, virulence, and environmental stability. One of the problems of creating and delivering a biological weapon is maintaining its survival once it has been dispersed. **Bioagents could be genetically modified to have enhanced hardiness to facilitate delivery and dissemination and to increase infectivity.**

Source: [http://www.janes.com/security/international\\_security/news/jc/bw/jcbw040914\\_1\\_n.shtml](http://www.janes.com/security/international_security/news/jc/bw/jcbw040914_1_n.shtml)

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## Government Sector

Nothing to report.

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## Emergency Services Sector

25. *September 15, Federal Emergency Management Agency* — **FEMA: Hurricane Ivan preparations underway in multiple threatened states.** The Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), along with its federal and state partners, is preparing for Hurricane Ivan's landfall, which could affect multiple states, including Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana and Mississippi. "Hurricane Ivan appears to be among the most dangerous hurricanes in U.S. history," said Michael D. Brown, Under Secretary of Homeland Security for Emergency Preparedness and Response. Brown urged citizens to heed all warnings and follow instructions of local authorities, especially regarding evacuations. He reiterated the advice of state officials for residents in the hurricane's potential path to have food and water to survive for a minimum of 72 hours, a battery operated radio, flashlights and batteries. **Once Hurricane Ivan clears impacted states, supplies and equipment will be moved into the hardest hit areas as quickly as possible, especially water, ice, meals, medical supplies, tents and tarps. Due to expected flooding, federal and state officials caution that it may be several days before supplies and emergency workers can reach all the victims of this hurricane.** FEMA and its partner agencies are working closely with the states to track Hurricane Ivan's path and anticipate needs once the hurricane has passed. Source: <http://www.fema.gov/news/newsrelease.fema?id=13950>

26. *September 15, Government Technology* — **Chicago Mayor announces plans for unified camera network.** Mayor Richard M. Daley and city department heads on Wednesday, September 15, announced plans to expand the city's camera network and surveillance capacity with 250 additional specialized cameras. "The overall objective of this program is to make the city a safer place for its citizens, communities and assets by continuing to find ways to protect our critical infrastructure while providing a managed environment," Daley said at a news conference at the city's Office of Emergency Management Communications Center (OEMC). **Chicago, IL, is continuing to pioneer the field of 911 emergency communications by being the first 911 center to fully integrate a large surveillance capacity into its call taking and dispatch operations.** For example, once the camera network is operational, if a call is received reporting a robbery within the camera matrix, the OEMC call taker will instantly be able to view and control the images, directing first responders to the scene with a more visual and accurate description. Source: <http://www.govtech.net/news/news.php?id=91472>

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## Information Technology and Telecommunications Sector

27. *September 15, Swissinfo (Switzerland)* — **International conference examines cybercrime.** World wide action against cybercrime is the aim of a Council of Europe conference, being held

in Strasbourg, Switzerland, September 15–17. **More than 180 politicians and experts from government, the private sector and the police are attending the meeting to discuss the issues from every angle, including cyber terrorism, fraud, child pornography sites, data protection and copyright.** The conference aims to promote the Council of Europe's Cybercrime Convention – the first international treaty to tackle this new form of crime. **“The treaty's main objective is to pursue a common policy aimed at protecting society against cybercrime,”** said Eva Bollmann, an analyst at the Swiss Coordination Unit for Cybercrime Control. The organizers hope to encourage European and non-European states to sign and ratify the treaty. At present eight countries have ratified and 30 have signed: the convention came into force in July 2004. It is the product of four years of work by Council of Europe members, in cooperation with countries including the U.S., Canada and Japan. The U.S. has signed but has yet to ratify the treaty.

Source: <http://www.swissinfo.org/sen/swissinfo.html?siteSect=105&sid=5214173>

28. *September 15, Associated Press* — **Super-secure network warns of data danger.** Work by researchers at Harvard University, Boston University and BBN Technologies is the closest scientists have come to a real-world quantum encryption system that uses light particles called photons to lock and unlock information instead of random-number "keys." **This system could provide a computer network so secure that even the simplest attempts to eavesdrop will interrupt the flow of data and alert administrators to the snooping.** Researchers are still exploring its practical applications, but some say it could one day replace the encryption now used for most secure Internet traffic, and shield financial or government communications. "It is really a futuristic technology," said Harvard project scientist John M. Myers. The project, funded with about \$4 million from the Pentagon's Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA), is far from alone in developing quantum cryptography. A U.S. company has begun selling units for commercial use while a group in Europe recently made the first quantum encrypted bank transaction. But the Boston network is believed to be first Internet-integrated system that runs continuously between multiple distant locations.

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/aponline/technology/AP-Quantum-Network.html>

29. *September 15, Associated Press* — **Study: 400K fewer tech jobs since 2001.** Researchers at the University of Illinois in Chicago report that the nation's information technology industry lost 403,300 jobs between March 2001 and April 2004. **The job market for high-tech workers shrank by 18.8 percent, to 1,743,500 during the same period.** Nik Theodore, a professor and director of the university's Center for Urban Economic Development, attributes the losses to businesses being wary to hire because of uncertainty over how much the economy is improving and to corporations farming high-tech jobs out to overseas companies. But Sung Won Sohn, chief economist at Wells Fargo Bank, said he has seen some evidence that the high-tech job market began improving in the months after this study was completed. Still, he said, those in the software industry have fared better than those in the computer hardware industry. "I view the setbacks in tech as temporary," he said, "whereas if you're talking about old-style manufacturing, those jobs are gone forever."

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A20833-2004Sep 14.html>

30. *September 15, SC Magazine* — **Software flaws will triple downtime by 2008.** Organizations that do not include security as a criterion when building or buying software will see system downtime caused by security vulnerabilities triple from five percent to 15 percent

**of downtime in 2008, according to the latest research from Gartner.** Increasing business internet activity, along with growing use of web services, wireless connections and other new technologies, will lead to more software vulnerabilities and a corresponding dramatic increase in downtime. **Gartner's report advises organizations to pressure vendors to build more-secure software while driving their in-house development teams to reduce security vulnerabilities in their own software.** More information on the report is available at:

[http://www4.gartner.com/research/spr/asset\\_66649\\_19.jsp](http://www4.gartner.com/research/spr/asset_66649_19.jsp)

Source: <http://www.scmagazine.com/news/index.cfm?fuseaction=newsDetails&newsUID=7fc97c73-b0a7-41df-8eab-e354169b6084&newsType=Latest%20News>

- 31. *September 15, Government Accountability Office* — **GAO-04-1085T: Telecommunications: GSA Has Made Progress in Planning Government-wide Program but Challenges Remain (Testimony).**** The General Services Administration (GSA) has begun planning for a governmentwide telecommunications program known as Networx which will provide a full range of national and international network services across the United States, and will provide agencies with leading-edge services with less extensive geographic coverage. In February 2004, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) testified on GSA's initial plans and identified four key challenges: structure and scheduling, transition planning, service inventories, and performance measures. At the request of the House Committee on Government, GAO assessed GSA's progress towards these challenges. GAO found that GSA has addressed several of the significant challenges facing the Networx program. Work is either planned or underway on other challenges, but additional efforts will be necessary to fully address them. **GAO recommends that GSA finalize and implement processes for managing transition efforts, measuring program performance, and resolving agency concerns over the usability of billing data.** Highlights: <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d041085thigh.pdf>  
Source: <http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-04-1085T>
- 32. *September 15, NewScientist.com* — **Computer worm 'sniffs' out passwords. The first computer worm to eavesdrop on network traffic after it infects a computer has been discovered by security experts.**** The SDBot.UJ scans passing traffic on a network-linked machine for passwords and financial data. The worm tries to exploit one of a number of bugs in the Windows operating system. It then attempts to infect other computers on the same local network by using a dictionary of obvious passwords, for example, "administrator" or "1234." Once installed, the worm also activates a customised network "sniffer" program – which allows it to steal vital data. It then connects to an internet relay chat (IRC) network, enabling an outsider to take control of the infected system or collect information harvested from it. **Because the worm relies on old software bugs, some anti-virus experts believe it will not spread far.** Raimund Genes, European director of anti-virus company Trend Micro, says users will be safe providing they have installed recent software patches, have up-to-date anti-virus software and use secure passwords.  
Source: <http://www.newscientist.com/news/news.jsp?id=ns99996398>
- 33. *September 14, Secunia* — **Mozilla multiple vulnerabilities.**** Multiple vulnerabilities have been reported in Mozilla, Mozilla Firefox, and Thunderbird. These vulnerabilities can potentially be exploited by malicious people to conduct cross-site scripting attacks, access and modify sensitive information, and compromise a user's system. The vulnerabilities have reportedly been fixed in Mozilla 1.7.3, Firefox 1.0PR, Thunderbird 0.8. Updates available at:

<http://www.mozilla.org/>

Source: <http://secunia.com/advisories/12526/>

34. *September 14, Secunia* — **Netscape multiple vulnerabilities.** Multiple vulnerabilities have been reported in Netscape 7.2 that can be exploited by malicious people to conduct cross-site scripting attacks, access and modify sensitive information, and compromise a user's system. No vendor solution is available.

Source: <http://secunia.com/advisories/12535/>

35. *September 14, Federal Computer Week* — **Bill would magnify cybersecurity in DHS.** House lawmakers introduced two homeland security bills on Monday, September 13 — one that would create an assistant secretary position within the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to oversee cybersecurity and another that would enhance science and technology. **The DHS Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2004 would elevate the position of cybersecurity director to assistant secretary within the Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection directorate.** The assistant secretary would be in a better position to coordinate and influence cybersecurity across different agencies and functions. Under the bill, the assistant secretary's responsibilities would essentially remain the same except for the addition of primary authority of the National Communications System (NCS), an interagency group that coordinates and plans for national security and emergency communications for the federal government during crises. The second bill would outline a number of proposals, such as directing the secretary to assess development of science and technology capabilities to address basic scientific research needs. The bill also proposes to expand an existing National Science Foundation program to encourage higher education institutions to develop cybersecurity professional development programs.

Source: <http://www.fcw.com/fcw/articles/2004/0913/web-secre-09-14-04 .asp>

## 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

<b>Top 10 Target Ports</b>	445 (microsoft-ds), 135 (epmap), 137 (netbios-ns), 1434 (ms-sql-m), 9898 (dabber), 2745 (Bagle.C), 5554 (sasser-ftp), 3127 (mydoom), 139 (netbios-ssn), 1025 (blackjack) Source: <a href="http://isc.incidents.org/top10.html">http://isc.incidents.org/top10.html</a> ; Internet Storm Center
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To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at [soc@us-cert.gov](mailto:soc@us-cert.gov) or visit their Website: [www.us-cert.gov](http://www.us-cert.gov).

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## **Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument & Icons Sector**

Nothing to report.

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## **General Sector**

36. *September 14, New York Academy of Medicine* — **Terrorism response plans will not protect many Americans, new Academy study finds. In a crisis situation, many Americans would not be safeguarded because existing terrorism response plans don't account for how people would behave, according to a study released on Tuesday, September 14, by the Center for the Advancement of Collaborative Strategies in Health at The New York Academy of Medicine.** Current plans have been created in a 'top-down' style, telling people what to do in the event of an attack without considering all of the risks and concerns that drive people's actions, the investigators found. Though current plans will put many people unnecessarily at risk, immediate actions can be taken to dramatically increase their effectiveness, said lead investigator Roz Lasker, M.D., Director of the Center and of the Academy's Division of Public Health. Called Redefining Readiness: Terrorism Planning Through the Eyes of the Public, this year-long study gave the American people their first opportunity to describe how they would react to two kinds of terrorist attacks: a smallpox outbreak and a dirty bomb explosion. The study involved in-depth conversations with government and private-sector planners, 14 group discussions with diverse community residents around the country, and a telephone survey of 2,545 randomly selected adults in the continental United States. Report: <http://www.cacsh.org/eptpp.html>  
Source: <http://www.nyam.org/news/2100.html>
37. *September 14, Associated Press* — **Russia announces more funding for security. Russia announced Tuesday, September 14, it was pouring \$5.4 billion in additional funding into its security agencies, indicating it was trying to mobilize resources quickly for a battle on terrorism that President Vladimir Putin has called the country's No. 1 priority.** "The fight against terrorism requires a long-range perspective," Finance Minister Alexei Kudrin said in announcing the funding, the ITAR-Tass news agency reported a day after Putin proposed a major extension of Kremlin control over political and security structures. Russia's main security agencies — the Federal Security Service, Interior Ministry, border guards service and Foreign Intelligence Service — will split an additional \$1.71 billion in funding. The Defense Ministry will receive an additional \$3.66 billion, Kudrin said. Some \$18.1 billion already had been earmarked for defense in 2005, a 28 percent increase over this year, and \$13.6 billion for national security and law enforcement, a 20 percent increase.  
Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/aponline/international/AP-Russia-Security.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 <a href="mailto:dhsdailyadmin@mail.dhs.osis.gov">dhsdailyadmin@mail.dhs.osis.gov</a> or contact the DHS/IAIP Daily Report Team at (703) 883–3644.
Subscription and Distribution Information:	Send mail to <a href="mailto:dhsdailyadmin@mail.dhs.osis.gov">dhsdailyadmin@mail.dhs.osis.gov</a> 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](mailto: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](mailto:soc@us-cert.gov) or visit their Web page at [www.us-cert.gov](http://www.us-cert.gov).

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