

Spotlight – September 2009

Security & Defense

Recommend Security Controls for Federal Information Systems and Organizations. *National Institute of Standards and Technology.* August 2009.

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) released its final version of a publication which represents a major step toward building a unified information security framework for the entire federal government. [ARTICLE 746](#)

Public Health Preparedness and Response to Chemical and Radiological Incidents: Functions, Practices, and Areas for Future Work by Tom LaTourrette et al. *RAND Corporation.* August 5, 2009.

The paper discusses the role of public health agencies in emergency preparedness for and response to chemical and radiological incidents. [ARTICLE 747](#)

Understanding Why Terrorist Operations Succeed or Fail by Brian A. Jackson and David A. Frelinger. *RAND Corporation.* August 10, 2009.

The paper argues that the success or failure of terrorist operations can be best understood by thinking about the match or mismatch between key sets of characteristics of the group, its plans, and the security measures facing them. [ARTICLE 748](#)

Taking up the Security of Climate Change by Rynn J. Parsons. *Strategic Studies Institute, U.S. Department of Defense.* August 2009.

Climate change, in which man-made global warming is a major factor, will likely have dramatic and long lasting consequences with profound security implications, making it a challenge the United States must urgently take up. The security implications will be most pronounced in places where the effects of climate change are greatest, particularly affecting weak states already especially vulnerable to environmental destabilization. [ARTICLE 749](#)

[Nation at Risk: Policy Makers Need Better Information to Protect the Country.](#) The Markle Foundation Task Force on National Security in the Information Age. March 2009.