Unisys Security Index

Additional Research: Australian places and things most vulnerable to malicious or terrorist attack – May 2011

As part of the Unisys Security Index, we regularly survey Australians on a range of additional security issues. As part of the latest survey we asked people to rate how vulnerable to terrorist attack they considered certain Australian places and things to be.

Nearly half (48%) of all adults surveyed considered airports and aeroplanes to be extremely or very vulnerable while 45% of people considered the Internet to be extremely or very vulnerable to a malicious attack.

Of all the items included, freight sent by air, sea or land was considered to be extremely or very vulnerable by the smallest proportion of people (34%).

Airports & aeroplanes	48%
The Internet	45%
Large gatherings of people such as sporting events or office buildings	43%
Vital infrastructure such as bridges, tunnels, railways, power/water plants & pipelines	42%
Public transport such as rail or bus	40%
Freight sent by air, sea or land	34%

Chart: Percentage of people who think Australian places and things are extremely or very vulnerable to a malicious or terrorist attack

Background

These results represent findings of one of two additional questions asked alongside the May 2011 Unisys Security Index. The Unisys Security Index is a bi-annual global study that provides insights into the attitudes of consumers on a wide range of security related issues.

Conducted in Australia by market research firm Newspoll the Unisys Security Index provides a regular, statistically robust measure gauging levels of concern about various aspects of security. The survey, on which the latest Australian Unisys Security Index is based, was conducted nationally 25 – 27 February 2011 by Newspoll using a nationally representative sample of 1,200 respondents aged 18 years and over.

All results have been post-weighted to Australian Bureau of Statistics data. The study measures consumer perceptions on a scale of zero to 300, with 300 representing the highest level of perceived concern. For more information on the Unisys Security Index including additional resource material visit: www.unisyssecurityindex.com.au.

Respondents were asked:
Tell me whether you think the following places or things here in Australia are extremely vulnerable, very vulnerable, somewhat vulnerable or not vulnerable at all to a malicious or terrorist attack?

1. Freight sent by air, sea or land
2. Large gatherings of people such as sporting events or office buildings
3. Public transport such as rail and bus
4. The Internet
5. Vital infrastructure such as bridges, tunnels, railways, power and water plants and pipelines
6. Airports and aeroplanes

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