



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 5 April 2011

Current Nationwide Threat Level

ELEVATED

Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks

For information, click here:
<http://www.dhs.gov>

Top Stories

- Associated Press reports April 4 inspectors found small, subsurface cracks in three Southwest Airlines planes that are similar to those suspected of causing a jetliner to lose pressure and make an emergency landing in Arizona. (See item [20](#))
- KPHO 5 Phoenix reports a city of Mesa Water Resources employee was charged with terrorism and making terrorist threats after he turned off numerous waste water treatment operating systems April 1 at a facility in Gilbert, Arizona. (See item [30](#))

Fast Jump Menu

PRODUCTION INDUSTRIES

- [Energy](#)
- [Chemical](#)
- [Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste](#)
- [Critical Manufacturing](#)
- [Defense Industrial Base](#)
- [Dams](#)

SUSTENANCE and HEALTH

- [Agriculture and Food](#)
- [Water](#)
- [Public Health and Healthcare](#)

SERVICE INDUSTRIES

- [Banking and Finance](#)
- [Transportation](#)
- [Postal and Shipping](#)
- [Information Technology](#)
- [Communications](#)
- [Commercial Facilities](#)

FEDERAL and STATE

- [Government Facilities](#)
- [Emergency Services](#)
- [National Monuments and Icons](#)

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://www.esisac.com>]

1. *April 4, NewsCore* – (Louisiana) **‘No permit’ issued to BP to resume Gulf drilling.** The U.S. agency responsible for issuing permits to drill for oil in the Gulf of Mexico said “there was no deal” for BP after reports suggested the British oil giant was months away from resuming drilling in the region. The New York Times reported April 3 that BP company officials hoped to restart drilling at ten existing development and production wells in the Gulf in July, adding that no new drilling would be undertaken

in the region. However the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement, the government agency that oversees U.S. energy and mineral resources in the Gulf, told Fox News that no new permit was issued to BP. The week of March 27, U.S. federal investigators, according to a report by Bloomberg, were said to be considering pursuing manslaughter charges against some of the BP managers who made specific decisions in the run up to the explosion.

Source: <http://www.myfoxboston.com/dpp/news/national/no-permit-issued-to-bp-to-resume-gulf-drilling-25-ncx-20110404>

2. *April 4, WTOV 9 Steubenville* – (Ohio) **Crash causes leak at Ohio gas regulator station.** A garbage truck in Ohio lost its brakes going downhill, crashing into a gas regulator station and causing a massive gas leak April 1. Two men were inside the garbage truck and suffered minor injuries when it crashed into the Columbia Gas regulator station near Avondale Street and Bradshaw Avenue. “There are fire poles here that it could have stuck and caused ignition to the gas after the leak,” said an East Liverpool Police patrolman. Columbia Gas crews had the gas regulator station shut down within 20 minutes and were working April 1 to secure the area and restore service to customers.
Source: <http://www.firehouse.com/topic/strategy-and-tactics/crash-causes-leak-ohio-gas-regulator-station>
3. *April 4, WBTW 13 Florence* – (South Carolina) **Fire, explosions at SC fuel company.** Firefighters were able to extinguish a fire that triggered several explosions and destroyed a North Myrtle Beach fuel company April 3 in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. The fire began around 9:25 p.m. and was extinguished around 10:30 p.m. The force of the explosion also damaged an adjacent rental center, a spokesperson said. Investigators have not determined the cause of the fire or if anyone was injured. A portion of a nearby subdivision, Sunset Harbor, was evacuated voluntarily due to heavy smoke in the area. Public Safety personnel advised some residents in the path of the smoke to leave their homes temporarily, if they so desired, the spokesperson said. As a result of the fire, Old Highway 17 would remain closed until further notice.
Source: <http://www.wltx.com/news/article/131370/2/Fire-Explosions-at-SC-Fuel-Company->
4. *April 1, KUSA 9 Denver* – (Colorado) **Crews still cleaning up after tanker spills 6,000 gallons of fuel.** Clean-up crews still have more work ahead of them as they work to haul away hundreds of yards of dirt contaminated after a big fuel spill on March 31 in Park County, Colorado. A loader and backhoe spent April 1 dirt soaked in fuel after a tanker truck overturned March 31. The tanker truck that did not navigate a turn on County Road 77 went off the road in Park County. It was on the county road instead of Highway 285 because 285 was closed due to a different accident. The tanker spilled 6,000 gallons of fuel, but it did not get into a nearby stream. “[There is] some minor threat to the fish that are living in the water, that spawn in this river, but we haven’t seen anything show up in the river yet so we’re not really that worried about it,” a spokesman with the EPA said. Clean-up costs are being paid for by Western, the company that owns the tanker.

Source: <http://www.9news.com/news/local/article/191017/346/Crews-still-cleaning-up-after-tanker-spills-6000-gallons-of-fuel?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|t>

5. *April 1, Oroville Mercury Register* – (California) **Propane tank tumbles off railroad spur track in Richvale.** A 33,000-gallon propane tank being delivered by rail to a warehouse in Richvale, California, fell off a rail spur track and rolled onto a field March 31 but was not damaged and did not leak. The 12:45 p.m. accident prompted an extensive hazardous materials call at the most serious level. Most crews were called off once the danger abated. The propane tank was one of three Union Pacific Railroad cars on a track leading to warehouses and silos owned by Butte County Rice Growers Association. The Cal Fire-Butte County battalion chief said the tank was being backed down the track into a warehouse bay, which is located at Richvale Highway and Midway. He said the propane is thought to be used for drying rice. The tank landed about 300 yards south of the highway. The chief said they were told the tank had separated from its wheels and rolled off the track.

Source:

http://www.fireengineering.com/index/articles/Wire_News_Display.1390773893.html

6. *April 1, Associated Press* – (Louisiana) **Feds: Transocean stonewalling in rig-explosion probe.** The head of the U.S. agency that regulates offshore drilling is questioning Transocean's willingness to cooperate with a key federal investigation of last year's Gulf of Mexico rig explosion and oil spill. The director of the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management Regulation and Enforcement said in a March 31 letter to Transocean that the company has stonewalled on whether it would produce three employees who have been subpoenaed to testify at hearings next week near New Orleans. A lawyer for Transocean, which owned the rig that exploded and which was leasing it to BP, said in a response letter that the company cannot control whether the people that investigators want to question show up or not, but it is willing to produce a different expert who is not on the witness list. The focus of the seventh set of hearings by the U.S. Coast Guard-BOEMRE panel is the blowout preventer that failed to stop the disaster. A report released last week by a firm that tested the device blamed the failure on a faulty design and a bent piece of pipe, appearing to shift some blame for the disaster away from BP and toward Cameron International, which built the blowout preventer, and Transocean, which was responsible for maintaining it.

Source: <http://www.houmatoday.com/article/20110401/WIRE/110409996/-1/living?Title=Feds-Transocean-stonewalling-in-rig-explosion-probe>

7. *March 31, Hattiesburg American* – (Mississippi) **9 fire departments work blaze at crude oil tank farm.** Officials are investigating the cause of a fire that heavily damaged a crude oil tank farm early March 31 in Jones County, Mississippi. Firefighters from nine departments battled the blaze at the tank farm owned by Tellus Operating Group. "A preliminary investigation did not reveal any deficiencies in any of the equipment leading to the site, although we will continue to work to determine what may have led to the fire," said the chairman of the Mississippi Oil and Gas Board, who responded to the fire. Upon arrival, firefighters found two oil and salt water storage tanks on fire with five others in the same complex threatened. Firefighters established a

water shuttle to the site using fire department vacuum tankers that were filling from nearby ponds along with conventional fire tankers. Firefighters worked to cool the five exposed tanks, which had flames showing from the tops of their venting mechanisms, and to keep flames from spreading from the two tanks that were a blaze. Tellus personnel arrived on the scene almost immediately and successfully shut off the entire facility, preventing additional crude oil from being pumped to the tanks from production wells. No injuries were reported to any emergency responders or company personnel at the site.

Source:

<http://www.hattiesburgamerican.com/article/20110401/NEWS01/104010329/1002/9-fire-departments-work-blaze-crude-oil-tank-farm>

For another story, see item [54](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Chemical Industry Sector

8. *April 4, Associated Press* – (West Virginia) **Leaking CSX railcar repaired.** A CSX spokesman says a railway car that leaked a diluted hydrochloric acid solution at a Parkersburg, West Virginia, rail yard has been repaired. The spokesman said the leak was discovered the night of April 2. The railway car was repaired by 3:10 a.m. April 3. The Parkersburg fire captain says the train's crew discovered the leak as they were rearranging rail cars. He says the acid solution's strength was equivalent to battery acid. No injuries were reported.

Source:

http://www.whsv.com/nationalap/headlines/Leaking_CSX_Railcar_Repaired_119185364.html

For another story, see item [33](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

9. *April 2, San Luis Obispo Tribune* – (California) **Diablo Canyon restores its Unit 2 reactor to full power.** After being shut down for a week, Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant in California returned one of its reactors to full power April 2, Pacific Gas and Electric Co. (PG&E) announced. The plant's Unit 2 reactor was shut down March 26 to repair a pump that supplies water to the plant's steam generator, according to PG&E. Unit 2 was shut down when monitoring equipment indicated there was a problem with the pump. The pump is located in the plant's non-nuclear, turbine side of the plant. The plant's other unit continued operating at full power.

Source: <http://www.sanluisobispo.com/2011/04/02/1546196/diablo-canyon-restores-its-unit.html>

10. *April 1, Platts* – (National) **US NRC names task force reviewing US reactors in wake of Japan disaster.** The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) April 1 named six senior managers and staff to a task force that will examine the agency’s regulatory programs and how they are implemented in the wake of the disaster at Japan’s Fukushima I nuclear plant. The task force will be led by the director of the NRC’s Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs. “The task force will talk to agency technical experts and gather information to conduct a comprehensive review of the information from the events at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear complex and make recommendations for any improvements needed to our regulatory system,” he said in a statement. According to the charter, the task force will conduct a near-term review and identify topics for assessment for a longer term review. The group initially will identify potential near-term actions that affect U.S. power reactors, including their spent fuel pools. Areas to be reviewed include station blackout, defined as the loss of all external power for a reactor, external events that could lead to a prolonged loss of cooling, plant capabilities for preventing or dealing with such circumstances, and emergency preparedness, the agency said. The task force will brief the commission May 12 and June 16 on the status of the review. Recommendations will be reported July 19.

Source:

<http://www.platts.com/RSSFeedDetailedNews/RSSFeed/ElectricPower/6963570>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Critical Manufacturing Sector

11. *April 1, Plymouth Patch* – (Michigan) **Auto workers evacuate automotive components after plant fire.** No was hurt in a fire April 1 at Automotive Components, a Plymouth, Michigan factory that produces heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning units for Ford vehicles. According to Plymouth Township Police, the call for the fire came in around 4:30 p.m., a half-hour into the afternoon shift. The Plymouth Community Fire Department was the first to respond, with fire trucks from Canton Township and Livonia joining later. The fire was contained, and there was no smoke evident on the scene by 5:15 p.m. An assembly line worker said she heard that the fire had started in the “regrind” room, which is where plastic parts are ground up and melted.

Source: <http://plymouth-mi.patch.com/articles/auto-workers-evacuate-automotive-components-after-plant-fire>

12. *April 1, Reuters* – (International) **Ford to idle plants, Nissan adjusts output schedule.** Ford Motor Co will idle its Kentucky pick-up truck plant the week of April 3 and Nissan Motor Co Ltd will adjust its production schedule due to parts shortages caused by the earthquake in Japan 3 weeks ago. The Louisville, Kentucky, plant is the first U.S. plant that Ford is shutting because of supply chain issues related to plant closings in Japan. Ford declined to say which parts or suppliers were involved when it announced the move April 1. Ford also said it would idle two other plants the week of April 3 in Michigan and Mexico, but the automaker said it was not for issues related to

the Japan crisis. Ford builds its “Super Duty” heavy trucks at the plant in Louisville, as well as the Ford Expedition and the Lincoln Navigator. Additionally, Nissan said it would adjust the output schedule at auto plants in the United States and Mexico by shifting non-production days planned for later in the second and third quarters to April. All three of Nissan’s plants in the United States will be idled April 8 and April 11 as well as April 18 through April 21. Nissan will also shut down its plant in Cuernavaca, Mexico, the week of April 3 and another plant in Aguascalientes the week of April 10. Nissan said the changes were made to avoid major supply disruptions and because some parts shipments are still in transit from Japan.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/04/01/japan-usa-autoplants-idUSN0128180020110401>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Defense Industrial Base Sector

Nothing to report

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Banking and Finance Sector

13. *April 2, Associated Press* – (National) **Montana man convicted in investment fraud scheme by Nevada jury.** A Montana man accused of duping over 1,700 people to give him millions of dollars to invest and trade in the high-risk foreign currency exchange market but instead pocketing the money himself has been convicted by a federal jury in Reno, Nevada. The man was convicted March 30 of one count of conspiracy to commit mail and wire fraud, two counts of wire fraud, three counts of money laundering and one count of securities fraud. In a separate trial March 31, the jury found the 51-year-old man must forfeit a bank account containing about \$500,000, a towing company, and four houses in Lewistown. His co-defendant pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit wire fraud in February, and is scheduled to be sentenced June 6 in Reno.

Source:

<http://www.greenfieldreporter.com/view/story/f5a3434b710942d8887203dff860a0ab/NV--Investment-Fraud-Conviction/>

14. *April 1, Marketwire* – (National) **Identity theft criminals may target U.S. children more than adults, new report suggests.** AllClear ID announced April 1 the release of the first large child identity theft report ever published; based on identity protection scans of more than 42,000 U.S. children, it suggests a previously unrecognized demographic for what the FBI has named the fastest growing crime in the United States. Authored by a distinguished fellow at Carnegie Mellon CyLab, the report revealed that 10.2 percent of the child identities scanned (4,311 victims) had someone else using their Social Security number — 51 times more frequently than the 0.2 percent rate for adults in the same population. The report shows stolen Social Security numbers for children as young as 5 months old are being used to secure employment,

open credit card and bank accounts, purchase homes and automobiles, and obtain driver's licenses. As a result of this new cyber epidemic, children are discovering their credit and credibility are destroyed just as they enter adulthood. As a consequence, they are being denied internships, student loans, and apartments due to attacks on their identity that occurred years earlier. Experts predict the damage to children will get even worse with health-care identity theft on the rise. The report offers an analysis of over 42,000 identity protection scans performed on U.S. children (age 18 and under) during 2009-2010. The research was conducted using a patented technology called AllClear ID.

Source: <http://uspolitics.einnews.com/pr-news/368686-identity-theft-criminals-may-target-u-s-children-more-than-adults-new-report-suggests->

15. *April 1, Sacramento Business Journal* – (California) **Elk Grove man convicted in \$8M mortgage fraud scam.** A federal jury convicted an Elk Grove, California man of bank fraud in an \$8 million mortgage fraud scheme, which also involved three other local men who all pleaded guilty, Sacramento Business Journal reported April 1. The man engaged in a mortgage fraud scheme that involved at least 19 homes, according to a U.S. attorney. Three co-defendants from Sacramento already had pleaded guilty to related charges in the investigation. The case was investigated by the Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation unit, agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the California Department of Real Estate.

Source: <http://www.bizjournals.com/sacramento/news/2011/04/01/elk-grove-man-convicted-mortgage-scam.html>

16. *April 1, U.S. Department of Justice* – (Texas) **Federal grand jury indicts five defendants in mortgage fraud scheme.** A 29-count indictment, returned the week of March 20 by a federal grand jury in Dallas, Texas, and unsealed the week of March 27, charged five individuals with various felony offenses related to a mortgage fraud scheme they ran for nearly 3 years in the Dallas-Fort Worth area, a U.S. attorney of the Northern District of Texas said. The indictment alleges that the defendants operated a mortgage fraud conspiracy from December 2004 until at least October 2007 to defraud and obtain money from lending institutions by, among other things, using straw buyers to purchase homes by submitting false and fraudulent documents and statements to lenders. In total, the indictment alleges that the defendants obtained nearly \$22 million in fraudulently obtained loan proceeds. In addition, all of the defendants are charged with multiple substantive counts of wire fraud. The indictment alleges that the defendants profited from loans to purchase residences in the Dallas area; fraudulently obtained mortgages in others' names; fraudulently obtained mortgages for more than the sales price; fraudulently found individuals with sufficient credit to qualify for the loans; fraudulently made each borrower appear to be a qualified, bona fide purchaser who intended to reside in the property, when the borrower had no intention of doing so; fraudulently created surplus loan proceeds by creating bogus invoices for repairs/upgrades which were never done; fraudulently allowed the residences to go into foreclosure after no, or just a few, payments were made on the loan; and fraudulently shared in the surplus loan proceeds.

Source: http://www.ntxe-news.com/artman/publish/article_68741.shtml

17. *April 1, Tampa Tribune* – (Florida) **Ex-partner in Pasco investment firm faces fraud charges.** Federal authorities have charged a second man associated with Botfly, a Bayonet Point, Florida-based company that investigators have called a high-dollar Ponzi scheme. The man was arrested March 31 on three counts of bankruptcy fraud. Each count carries up to 20 years in federal prison. The man is accused of lying under oath during his 2009 Chapter 7 bankruptcy proceeding. Authorities said he failed to disclose his involvement in Botfly and the income he received from the company. Authorities said the man lied when he said his work with his self-named shell company ended in 2006. In fact, he and his corporation received \$1.5 million from Botfly between 2008 and 2010, with the money coming from foreign exchange investments Hammill made and from clerical work he did for Botfly, investigators said. Investigators said Botfly took in more than \$30 million in investments between 2006 and 2010 but invested only a small portion in foreign currency trading. Most of the money went to pay existing investors.

Source: <http://www2.tbo.com/content/2011/mar/31/011052/ex-partner-in-pasco-investment-firm-faces-fraud-ch/news-breaking/>

18. *April 1, WCVB 5 Boston* – (Massachusetts) **Police: bank robber arrested breaking into house.** A man suspected in an April 1 bank heist in Watertown, Massachusetts, was arrested trying to break into a house in Boston, police said. The bank robbery happened at the Belmont Savings Bank at 53 Mount Auburn St. A man entered the bank, demanded cash and told employees he had a bomb inside a box, which he left at the bank, police said. The Massachusetts State Police Bomb Squad later determined that the box was empty and harmless, police said. Six to 10 nearby businesses were evacuated after the robbery, and trolley service along Mount Auburn Street was suspended for a time. The man fled on foot with an undetermined amount of money, police said. A short time later, police arrested a man trying to break into a home on Parker Street. After his arrest, police said they found a large amount of cash and a deposit slip from Belmont Savings Bank in Watertown. No injuries were reported in either incident.

Source: <http://www.thebostonchannel.com/r/27397870/detail.html>

For more stories, see items [39](#) and [41](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Transportation Sector

19. *April 4, Associated Press* – (Louisiana) **Flight ends in minutes, returns to La. airport.** A United Airlines flight from New Orleans to San Francisco returned to the New Orleans airport within minutes of taking off April 4 after rocking back and forth. An Associated Press reporter aboard Flight 497 that he landed on backup systems, with minimal steering and braking ability, after the plane lost all electronics. He said the plane, heavy with fuel, ran off the runway and blew a tire. As soon as the flight was on the ground, flight attendants shouted “Leave everything. Get out!” Passengers slid down the front and back slides. A few passengers walked to an ambulance after a call

for anyone with injuries. The injuries appeared to be minor, such as abrasions from the slide.

Source: http://theworldlink.com/news/national/article_432d8f74-d718-577e-88ad-1fba04602d2c.html

20. *April 4, Associated Press* – (National) **NTSB: Cracks similar to those found in damaged Southwest Airlines jet found in 3 other planes.** Inspectors have found small, subsurface cracks in three more Southwest Airlines planes that are similar to those suspected of causing a jetliner to lose pressure and make a harrowing emergency landing in Arizona, a federal investigator said April 3. Southwest said in statement that two of its Boeing 737-300s had cracks and will be evaluated and repaired before they are returned to service. A National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) member said April 3 that a third plane had been found with cracks developing. Checks on nearly 60 other jets are expected to be completed by April 5, the airline said. That means flight cancellations will likely continue until the planes are back in the air. About 600 flights in all were canceled over the weekend after Southwest grounded 79 of its planes. Nineteen other Boeing 737-300 planes inspected using a special test developed by the manufacturer showed no problems and will be returned to service. April 1's flight carrying 118 people rapidly lost cabin pressure after the plane's fuselage ruptured causing a 5-foot-long tear — just after takeoff from Phoenix. Oxygen masks were deployed and the pilots made a controlled descent from 34,400 feet into a southwestern Arizona military base. No one was seriously injured. The tear along a riveted "lap joint" near the roof of the Boeing 737 above the midsection shows evidence of extensive cracking that had not been discovered during routine maintenance before the flight and probably would not have been unless mechanics specifically looked for it — officials said. An examination showed extensive pre-existing damage along the entire tear. The NTSB has not determined that the cracks caused the rupture, but it is focused on that area. Further inspection found more cracks in areas that had not torn open.
Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/business/ntsb-cracks-similar-to-those-found-in-damaged-southwest-airlines-jet-found-in-3-other-planes/2011/04/03/AFTBMRTC_story.html?hpid=z3
21. *April 4, KSNW 3 Wichita* – (Kansas) **Satanta residents allowed to return home after fire evacuation.** Fire crews and emergency management are assessing the damage in southwest Kansas April 4, after grass fires forced the evacuation of the entire town of Satanta April 3. Officials are worried that strong winds could start some hot spots burning again as they evaluate just how much damage was done. The flames also shut down several highways for a period of time. The town was evacuated April 3 due to a large grass fire burning near the city limits. The fire, which started around noon, was 80 percent contained when winds rekindled the flames around 6:30 p.m. The fire burned more than 15 square miles. Officials closed U.S. 56 and U.S. 83 from Sublette to K-190, and K-190 south of Satanta to K-160 in Grant County. Highway 56 at County Road FF was closed to westbound traffic due to flare-ups. Southwest Kansas remains under a red flag warning issued by the National Weather Service.
Source: http://www.ksn.com/news/local/story/Satanta-residents-allowed-to-return-home-after/9phd2CrH_E2GlgZ2y3370g.csp

22. *April 1, WDTN 2 Dayton* – (Ohio; District of Columbia; Illinois) **Plane makes emergency landing in Dayton.** An American Airlines flight made an emergency landing Dayton International Airport April 1. According to airport officials, American Airlines flight 547 from Washington’s Reagan National Airport for Chicago diverted to Dayton at about 8:30 after crew and passengers became ill. American Airlines spokesman said that initially two flight attendants reported being dizzy and oxygen masks were dropped. Then two or three passengers apparently fainted in their seats. Dayton medics met the plane when it landed and two passengers were taken to a Dayton area hospital. The plane was carrying 126 passengers and a crew of 6 when the incident occurred at about 28,000 feet. The cause of the illnesses is unknown, but officials speculate the problem may have something to do with the plane’s air circulation system. The airline was working to get another aircraft to Dayton to fly the passengers on to Chicago.
Source: <http://www.wdtn.com/dpp/news/local/plane-makes-emergency-landing-in-dayton>

For more stories, see items [3](#), [4](#), [5](#), [8](#), and [23](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Postal and Shipping Sector

23. *April 3, Associated Press* – (International) **Report: Lithium batteries on crashed UPS plane.** The cargo of a United Parcel Service (UPS) plane that caught fire and crashed in September 2010 included lithium batteries that should have been declared as hazardous cargo, but were not, according to an accident report released April 3 by the Dubai government’s civil aviation authority. The report also describes the struggle of two pilots trying to land their plane while running low on emergency oxygen and fighting smoke so thick they could not see their flight instruments or change radio frequencies. The Boeing 747-400 crashed near the Dubai airport on September 3, 2010 as the flight’s first officer attempted an emergency landing. Both pilots were killed. The report, which does not identify the cause of the fire, is expected to raise questions about shipments of the batteries. The batteries can short-circuit and cause fires that burn hot enough to melt an airplane. A UPS spokesman said the company is evaluating about 40 different safety technologies in response to the accident, including some that would help protect pilots’ ability to see in smoke. He said the company is also re-evaluating cockpit emergency oxygen systems on their planes.
Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D9MCFLEG0.htm>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Agriculture and Food Sector

24. *April 4, Associated Press* – (Minnesota; National) **Recall: Turkey burgers test positive for Salmonella.** Jennie-O Turkey Store of Willmar, Minnesota, recalled nearly 55,000 pounds of frozen, raw turkey burgers because the meat may have been

contaminated with Salmonella, federal officials said. Jennie-O said the product was distributed nationwide but sold only at Sam's Club Stores. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service announced the recall April 2. The USDA could expand the recall as it continues to investigate illnesses connected to products from the Willmar-based turkey processing company, the West Central Tribune reported April 3. So far, 12 people in Arizona, California, Colorado, Georgia, Illinois, Mississippi, Missouri, Ohio, Washington, and Wisconsin have become ill in the last four months. The recall includes 4-pound boxes of Jennie-O's "All Natural Turkey Burgers with seasonings Lean White Meat."

Source: <http://www.foodmanufacturing.com/scripts/ShowPR~RID~20051.asp>

25. *April 3, Fort Lauderdale Sun Sentinel* – (Florida) **Mislabeling of fish at restaurants may be widespread, studies suggest.** A Nova Southeastern University genetics class tested fish advertised as white tuna from 10 sushi restaurants in Broward, Miami Dade, and Palm Beach counties in Florida. The results, confirmed March 28, showed eight were improperly labeled, according to the professor. A similar study last fall involving 10 restaurants in South Florida and Orlando, showed all 10 served escolar sold as white tuna. In 2010, 186 restaurants in the state were cited by the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation for mislabeling their fish, including 24 that involved tuna substitutions in sushi or sashimi. In most instances, the "tuna" was escolar, an oily fish also known as snake mackerel and sometimes called the "Ex-Lax fish" or "castor oil fish" because it can cause diarrhea. The problem most frequently cited by the state was labeling imitation crab meat, usually pollock, as real crab, while other common substitutions include less costly tilapia in place of red snapper and panga for grouper. Such mislabeling may be widespread, recent studies and lab reports suggest.

Source: <http://www.miamiherald.com/2011/04/03/2148582/mislabeling-of-fish-at-restaurants.html>

26. *April 2, WPVI 6 Philadelphia* – (Pennsylvania) **Hazmat scare investigated in Philadelphia.** Two people were rushed to the hospital April 2 after an Ammonia leak in Lawncrest, Pennsylvania. Firefighters, medics, and hazmat crews responded to Mrs Ressler's meat packing plant. Investigators said someone noticed ammonia leaking from a 30-gallon drum. The leak formed a vapor cloud inside part of the building, injuring two workers. Those workers were transported to Temple University Hospital, where they were reported to be in stable condition. The city's Fire Marshals Office and L and I inspectors are investigating the incident.

Source: <http://abclocal.go.com/wpvi/story?section=news/local&id=8049034>

27. *April 2, Associated Press* – (International) **Government: Nearly half of all dairy producers in China lose licenses in cleanup campaign.** Nearly half of all dairies in China are being shut down after having their licenses revoked, the government's quality inspection agency said April 2, in the latest attempt to clean up the scandal-plagued dairy industry. The agency said 533 of the country's 1,176 dairy producers have been ordered to cease operations. Only 107 of those failing producers will be allowed to apply anew for licenses once they improve quality controls, the agency said

in a statement on its Web site. The government ordered a full-scale review of dairy licenses late in 2010 after yet more contaminants appeared in milk supplies despite periodic cleanup campaigns. The government efforts and public outrage date to 2008 when milk products sickened children and at least 6 died. An investigation discovered that milk suppliers were adding the industrial chemical melamine, which is used to make plastic. Hydrolyzed leather protein, which is made from leather scraps, turned up in milk in 2011. Both additives allow watered-down milk to appear to have normal levels of protein.

Source:

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/6f2754ec8c5c4de4abb057a146288b23/AS--China-Tainted-Milk/>

28. *April 2, Food Safety News* – (Rhode Island) **Zeppole-linked Salmonella count climbs.** Nine new cases of Salmonella infection were reported April 1 in Rhode Island in an outbreak linked to Italian pastry. The illness total is now 56. Almost all of those sickened, including a man who died, were said to have eaten zeppole or other pastries from DeFusco’s Bakery in mid-March. As of April 1, 9 people remained hospitalized; 26 people have required hospitalization. Salmonella was detected in cardboard cartons the bakery used to store pastry shells, according to the Providence Journal. The boxes had previously held raw eggs, leading to speculation about possible cross-contamination, The Providence Journal reported. Improper storage of the pastry shells, as well as the cream filling, were among the violations of food-safety code cited by the public health officials who inspected the bakery. Rhode Island’s state lab is further analyzing samples to see if the strain of Salmonella found inside the bakery matches the outbreak strain.

Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/04/defuscos-zeppole-linked-salmonella-count-climbs/>

29. *April 2, Associated Press* – (Illinois) **Man alive, recovering after being impaled at Illinois popcorn plant.** A 25-year-old male employee of the Weaver Popcorn plant in Forest City, Illinois, is in fair condition after being impaled on a reinforcing bar. A spokesman with the Forman Fire Protection District said the man “fell from a height” and was impaled at about 9 a.m. April 1. He told the Pekin Daily Times that it took crews about 15-20 minutes to remove the reinforcing bar using a hand-held saw. Indiana-based Weaver makes microwavable popcorn. The company’s Web site said it produces 30 percent of the world’s popcorn.

Source: <http://stlouis.cbslocal.com/2011/04/02/man-alive-recovering-after-being-impaled-at-illinois-popcorn-plant/>

For more stories, see items [5](#) and [30](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Water Sector

30. *April 4, KPHO 5 Phoenix* – (Arizona) **Waste water worker charged with terrorism.** A city of Mesa Water Resources employee was charged with terrorism and making terrorist threats after he turned off numerous waste water treatment operating systems at a facility in Gilbert, Arizona, in the early hours of April 1, police said. The Greenfield Water Reclamation Plant near Greenfield and Queen Creek Roads is a massive facility. Fourteen buildings on the campus transform sewage from Gilbert, Mesa, and Queen Creek into water suitable for irrigation. Authorities said the 43-year-old employee was the sole treatment plant operator working the midnight shift. Armed with a handgun, he walked through the facility alone, methodically turning off major operating systems at the plant. He is certified through the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality as a waste water treatment operator. Left untreated, the sewage in the system would cause a buildup of methane gas, which could cause a huge explosion. City workers were emphatic that the public not be alarmed. They said nobody was harmed, and the safety mechanisms in the plant worked as expected. For an unknown reason, the suspect called 911 about 2:40 a.m. almost 3 hours after they say he had begun to sabotage the utility. SWAT officers negotiated with him for 2 hours before arrested him. Police said he had a gun on him when they took him into custody. During the 2-hour standoff, SWAT officers escorted waste water employees through the campus, restarting the major systems. The suspect had worked for Mesa's water resources department since 2007. Police have not released a possible motive. Source: <http://www.kpho.com/valleynews/27403898/detail.html>
31. *April 4, Associated Press* – (Georgia) **Wastewater plant worker shot to death near Augusta.** A Columbia County, Georgia, employee was shot to death behind the wastewater treatment facility where he worked near Augusta, authorities said. The employee died April 1 at a hospital. The employee was shot at least once in the chest with a handgun around 1:45 p.m. April 1, the Augusta Chronicle reported. A suspect was taken into custody and was being held at the Columbia County Detention Center, WAGT-TV reported. The suspect was a contractor who was working at the plant and hauling waste around the time of the shooting, authorities said. He allegedly got into an altercation with the employee before the shooting. The suspect went to his truck to get a gun, and the two men struggled, she said. Witnesses said the suspect pushed the plant employee and shot him. Source: <http://www.westport-news.com/news/article/Wastewater-plant-worker-shot-to-death-near-Augusta-1318691.php>
32. *April 4, Associated Press* – (Arkansas) **Ark water plant taken offline due to low levels.** Hot Springs, Arkansas, city officials have taken a water treatment plant offline, citing low levels in Lake Ricks. The lake supplies raw water to the Lakeside Water Treatment plant. The deputy city manager for public works and utilities tells the Hot Springs Sentinel-Record the lake is 19 feet below its normal pool elevation. He says if the lake level drops any more, it would compromise the city's ability to treat water at the Lakeside plant. That led city officials to take the plant offline. He says officials are trying to fill Lake Ricks with water from two nearby lakes, Dillon and Sanderson. Hot Springs also uses water treated at the Ouachita Water Treatment Plant in Mountain Pine. The city also takes water from Lake Hamilton, near Blakely Mountain Dam.

Source: <http://www.newstimes.com/default/article/Ark-water-plant-taken-offline-due-to-low-levels-1320767.php>

33. *April 3, Associated Press* – (Iowa) **Iowa man gets probation for chemicals in creek.** A Monticello, Iowa, man has been given 5 years' probation for allowing hazardous chemicals to seep into Kitty Creek. Federal prosecutors say the 75-year-old man pleaded guilty to violating the Clean Water Act. As part of a plea agreement, he'll need to pay \$273,000 to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Authorities say he stored chemicals used at his manufacturing business, Riddle Inc., at a deteriorating building a few hundred feet from Kitty Creek. During floods in 1993, 2002 and 2009, the creek poured into the building and disturbed drums of chemicals.

Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/chi-ap-ia-chemicalwaste,0,2559527.story>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Public Health and Healthcare Sector

34. *April 1, KHON 2 Honolulu* – (Hawaii) **Four confirmed dengue fever cases, 12 more suspected.** State health officials say two suspected cases of dengue fever have been confirmed, bringing the total to four in the Pearl City, Hawaii area. But there are 12 more suspected cases in different parts of Oahu. The State Department of Health received 20 reports of possible dengue fever from physicians since issuing its medical alert the week of March 28. Eight were quickly ruled out but 12 cases are pending. Results of those blood tests are expected the week of April 4. A doctor with the CDC's dengue branch said the carrier of dengue in Hawaii is the Asian Tiger mosquito. "The only way these Asian Tiger mosquitoes get it or these Aedes Albopitius for the scientific name mosquitoes get it is that they have to bite somebody with dengue, so humans are actually the source of their infection," he said. He added most infected people show no symptoms and nearly 80 percent are not even aware of the infection. Source: <http://www.khon2.com/news/local/story/Four-confirmed-dengue-fever-cases-12-more/JCiNdCQ360i-g75C55M7tg.cspX>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Government Facilities Sector

35. *April 4, NewsCore* – (International) **Bomb squad called to US air base in eastern England.** Bomb squad officers were called to a U.S. airbase in eastern England on April 4 after concerns were raised about a vehicle at the site, Suffolk Police said. A British army bomb disposal unit was called to the RAF Lakenheath site after reports of a suspicious vehicle shortly after 8 a.m. A one-mile safety cordon was put up around the base. A number of men inside the vehicle were being questioned by police and base staff after being stopped at the entrance to the base.

Source:

<http://www.poconorecord.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20110404/NEWS90/110409911/-1/NEWS>

36. *April 3, Rochester Democrat and Chronicle* – (New York) **Email threat sent to state lawmakers.** New York State Police are investigating a threatening email sent to all New York state legislators early April 1. The 458-word message from someone claiming to be a state employee was titled “Time to Kill.” “News reporters, politicians, and the wealthy are all going to be targets,” the message said. “I personally am going to use my position and contacts in state government to gather information about the vulnerabilities of public and private targets in New York,” the writer said in the e-mail. “Understand with whom you are dealing. I am not crazy. I am a terrorist. I stand for all of the people who don’t have a voice,” the sender wrote. The writer claimed he or she talked to a state legislator about three years ago. “Both the Speaker and the Senate Majority Leader, and the Governor are taking it seriously,” a state Senator said.
Source:
<http://www.democratandchronicle.com/article/20110403/NEWS01/104030361/0/NEWS0201/Email-threat-sent-state-lawmakers?odyssey=nav|head>
37. *April 3, Associated Press* – (Oklahoma) **Mayes County school building sustains wind damage.** Spavinaw Public School officials in Oklahoma canceled class April 4 for at least one day after high winds blew off part of the roof of a school building. The district superintendent said a 40-foot-by-120-foot section of the roof blew off April 3 about 11 a.m. The affected building has offices, a computer lab, the cafeteria, and some classrooms. Parts of the roof were scattered on top of other sections of the school. No one was injured. The school was closed April 4 and could be closed longer. The National Weather Service had issued a wind advisory for the area, and an Oklahoma Mesonet station in nearby Jay recorded a wind gust of 36 mph.
Source: <http://www.kswo.com/Global/story.asp?S=14374604>
38. *April 1, Middletown Times Herald-Record* – (New York) **West Point searching for old explosives.** A high-tech hunt for old munitions and explosives will begin its next phase in April at West Point in New York. Contractors armed with soil-testing kits and metal detectors will scour 673.5 acres of the military base on a search for artillery dating back to 1802. Their work will mostly concentrate around academic buildings, housing units, and athletic complexes at West Point. That main portion of the base, known as the cantonment, used to be several firing ranges. Through the 1930s, cadets training for the Army fired artillery from these old ranges toward various targets, including Crows Nest, a mountain adjacent to Storm King State Park. Some old munitions exploded on Crows Nest when a multi-day fire engulfed it in 1999. The ongoing investigation at West Point is meant to prevent similar hazards. Investigation work began at West Point nearly a decade ago. Workers started with archival research, dipping into library files and old newspaper clippings to figure out where cadets stood when they aimed those huge weapons. On-the-ground work begins this month. About four contract workers from Weston Solutions Inc., a Pennsylvania company, will use metal detectors guided by global positioning systems to look for old, buried artillery shells. They will also take soil samples from areas of expected contamination to look for hints of explosive residue. West Point is one of 38 bases nationwide under investigation through the Military Munitions Response Program.
Source:

<http://www.recordonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20110401/NEWS/104010351/-1/NEWS>

39. *March 31, Ypsilanti Eastern Echo* – (Michigan) **University releases update regarding security breach.** In an update sent out to the campus community, Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti, Michigan, said there is reason to believe former student employees used data obtained in a March 9 security breach of student records to file fraudulent tax returns, Eastern Echo reported March 31. The university said the former students may have taken personal information such as names, dates of birth, and Social Security numbers from the records of other students that were housed in the offices where they worked. “If the legitimate tax filer submits his/her return after his/her social security number has been used fraudulently, the tax return will be rejected by the IRS because another filer has already used the social security number,” the vice president for communications said in a release. The student employees no longer work for or attend the university. The initial investigation indicated the records of about 58 individuals were improperly taken. Since then, an additional six individuals may have also had their information taken and used. This number includes parents of students who contacted the university after being notified by the IRS their 2010 tax returns were rejected because their Social Security numbers were used on another filing.

Source:

http://www.easternecho.com/index.php/blog/news_blog/2011/03/university_releases_update_regarding_security_breach

40. *March 31, National Defense Industrial Association* – (International) **FBI to conduct joint cyber investigations with China.** Chinese hackers are suspected of perpetrating a number of cyber attacks on U.S. networks. The FBI is hoping that by working alongside cybersecurity experts in China, it can begin to gather useful intelligence about network intruders in that nation and elsewhere. The bureau recently dispatched a cybersecurity expert to China, in an effort to work more cooperatively with Chinese authorities who oversee information networks, the assistant director and head of the FBI’s cyber division said March 31 at the Air Force Association’s “CyberFutures” conference. China has been under political fire over the past couple of years for being suspected of initiating attacks on networks of U.S. government agencies, defense contractors, and corporate giants like Google. Unlike other U.S. agencies tasked with cyber-related missions, the FBI does not defend a network. The bureau focuses on determining the source of the attacks.

Source: <http://www.nationaldefensemagazine.org/blog/Lists/Posts/Post.aspx?ID=358>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Emergency Services Sector

Nothing to report

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Information Technology Sector

41. *April 4, Reuters* – (International) **More customers exposed as big data breach grows.** The names and e-mails of customers of Citigroup Inc and other large U.S. companies, as well as College Board students, were exposed in a massive and growing data breach after a computer hacker penetrated online marketer Epsilon. In what could be one of the biggest such breaches in U.S. history, a diverse number of companies that did business with Epsilon stepped forward over the weekend of April 3 to warn customers some of their electronic information could have been exposed. Drugstore Walgreen, Video recorder TiVo Inc, credit card lender Capital One Financial Corp, and teleshopping company HSN Inc all added their names to a list of targets that also includes some of the nation's largest banks. The names and electronic contacts of some students affiliated with the U.S.-based College Board — which represents some 5,900 colleges, universities and schools — were also potentially compromised. No personal financial information such as credit cards or social security numbers appeared to be exposed, according to the company statements and e-mails to customers. Epsilon, an online marketing unit of Alliance Data Systems Corp, said April 1 that a person outside the company hacked into some of its clients' customer files. The vendor sends more than 40 billion e-mail ads and offers annually, usually to people who register for a company's Web site or who give their e-mail addresses while shopping. Law enforcement authorities are investigating the breach, though it was unclear April 3 how many customers or students had been exposed. Epsilon is also looking into what went wrong.
Source: <http://www.foxbusiness.com/technology/2011/04/04/customers-exposed-big-data-breach-grows/?test=latestnews>
42. *April 4, The Register* – (International) **Photoshopped image scam used in rogue Facebook app trap.** Facebook users were put under fire April 4 by a brace of new threats, one of which spreads through a link disseminated through the Facebook Chat application. An estimated 600,000 people have already clicked onto the link, which falsely promises to show them a funny Photoshopped image of themselves. In reality, users install a rogue application which sends messages to their contacts via the social network's instant messaging feature, thus continuing the infection cycle. Users are taken to a fixed gallery of 45 photoshopped images, none of which feature the person who followed the link. M86 Security reports that the scam, whose purpose is unknown, is spreading quickly, attracting new victims at the rate of around 90,000 clicks per hour. Presently, no malware is being spread through the ruse.
Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/04/04/photoshop_image_facebook_scam/
43. *April 3, Computerworld* – (International) **RSA hackers exploited Flash zero-day bug.** March's hack of RSA Security began with an exploit of a then-unpatched vulnerability in Adobe Flash Player, the company confirmed April 1. Attackers gained access to the RSA network by sending two small groups of RSA employees e-mails with attached Excel spreadsheets, according to RSA, which is the security division of EMC. One of those employees opened the attachment, which was titled "2011 Recruitment plan.xls." The spreadsheet contained an embedded Flash file that exploited

a zero-day vulnerability — a bug then unknown to Adobe, and thus unpatched — that allowed hackers to commandeer the employee’s PC. From there, the attackers installed a customized variant of the Poison Ivy remote administration tool (RAT) on the compromised computer. Using the RAT, hackers harvested users’ credentials to access other machines within the RSA network, searched for and copied sensitive information, and then transferred the data to external servers they controlled. Although RSA has not detailed what was stolen, it has admitted that information related to the company’s SecurID two-factor authentication products was part of the hacker’s haul. The description of the Flash attack vector helps explain the reaction of Adobe and others to the flaw, and it shows that RSA was hacked at least several days before the company reported the incident publicly. RSA first reported the attack and the data theft March 17. Three days before that, however, Adobe issued a security advisory acknowledging that attackers were exploiting an unpatched bug in Flash Player using tricked-out Excel documents.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9215444/RSA_hackers_exploited_Flash_zero_day_bug

44. *April 2, Softpedia* – (International) **ZeuS source code availability worries researchers.** Security researchers worry that ZeuS source code, which is already available for sale on the underground market, could become widely available for anyone to use. In 2010, Slavik, the author of ZeuS left the trojan’s code base to the creator of the competing SpyEye crimeware, Gribodemon. His intention was for his rival to offer support to existent ZeuS customers and combine the two threats into one super trojan that had the best features of both. However, sometime afterwards someone put the ZeuS source code up for sale, making it clear that there is more than one copy of it. According to researchers from antivirus vendor Trend Micro, Gribodemon posted a message claiming that Slavik also sold the source code to someone else for \$15,000. It is possible the person is now trying to resell it to others for a profit. “We are predicting that soon the source code will be in the hands of anyone that wants it,” the Trend experts say. “This could be potentially dangerous, but only if it gets into the hands of people who really know how to use it,” they add. Apparently the ZeuS code is filled with macros that link different parts together. Pulling out individual components for reuse in another malware is not something that just any programmer can accomplish.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/ZeuS-Source-Code-Availability-Worries-Researchers-192775.shtml>

45. *April 1, Softpedia* – (International) **Localized Facebook scams on the rise.** Security researchers warned that localized Facebook scams are becoming increasingly common as spammers attempt to reach as many users as possible. A researcher from Kaspersky Labs described a recent German scam that lured users with a video of a roller coaster accident at one of Germany’s largest amusement parks. The link takes users to a page claiming to have more than 425,000 fans. The page has a button to access the video, which when clicked, prompts users to give a rogue app access to their profile. Users who do so will begin relaying spam messages from their profiles without their

knowledge. They will then be asked to take a survey. These surveys earn scammers money through affiliate marketing programs. Many companies who pay commission for this traffic are scammed too, because they do not know it is being generated artificially. There are several reasons why spammers are moving towards localized scams. One of them is an unexploited market segment. Another reason might be that since they have not been targeted so much, non-English speakers are unaware of these scams and are easy prey. Finally, it might also be that scam detection algorithms used by Facebook's automated systems do not work as well for foreign languages as they do for English.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Localized-Facebook-Scams-on-the-Rise-192533.shtml>

46. *April 1, Softpedia* – (International) **DNSSEC deployed on .com TLD.** The security of the overall Internet infrastructure has passed a major milestone March 31, when the root zone for the .com top-level domain (TLD) was signed for Domain Name Systems Security Extensions (DNSSEC), a more secure version of the Domain Name System (DNS). The race to implement DNSSEC began in 2008 after a security researcher disclosed a wide-impact attack method known as DNS cache poisoning. The DNS is a critical part of the Internet and is responsible for converting host names into IP addresses and vice versa. The researcher's attack was able to trick DNS servers into believing that particular hosts corresponded to IP addresses under the attacker's control, therefore potentially directing large numbers of users to rogue Web sites. DNS vendors responded to the attack with various patches, but DNSSEC is seen as a long term solution to the problem, because it uses public-key cryptography to sign records and validate responses. DNSSEC deployment is not easy and must be done in stages. First, the Internet's DNS root zone, which is kept in sync over 13 servers around the world needed to be signed. Then the root zone for each TLD had to be signed individually. As of now, more than 50 TLDs are ready for DNSSEC, including .gov, .org, .net and .edu. However, the signing of the most popular general-purpose TLD, the .com, by VeriSign is probably the most important milestone in DNSSEC deployment.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/DNSSEC-Deployed-on-com-TLD-192773.shtml>

Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at sos@us-cert.gov or visit their Web site: <http://www.us-cert.gov>

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Web site: <https://www.it-isac.org>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Communications Sector

47. *April 4, Nextgov* – (National) **Rep. Giffords inspires mobile communications legislation.** ABC News reports that a U.S. Representative from Texas introduced

legislation March 31 to improve cellular service near the U.S.-Mexico border at the request of an Arizona Representative. The Arizona Representative was preparing to introduce the legislation at the start of the 112th Congress before she was shot January 8 in Tucson, Arizona. The legislation, called the “Southern Borderlands Public Safety Communications Act,” would authorize grant funding through the Department of Homeland Security for public-private partnerships to better develop mobile communications near the border. The Texas Representative told ABC News that the senator was inspired to introduce the legislation after one of her constituents was murdered by Mexican drug smugglers who came onto his property after he was unable to get cell phone service and call 911. The President has also sought to improve mobile communications by calling for a National Wireless Initiative that aims to provide 98 percent of Americans with access to high-speed internet.

Source: http://www.nextgov.com/nextgov/ng_20110401_2411.php?oref=topnews

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Commercial Facilities Sector

48. *April 4, Associated Press* – (Ohio) **Part of Ohio mall evacuated after fire in theater popcorn maker sets off sprinklers.** A fire in a movie theater popcorn machine set off sprinklers and led to an evacuation at the Easton Town Center shopping mall in Columbus, Ohio, April 3. A moviegoer told WCMH he was waiting for his popcorn at AMC Theatres when he suddenly saw flames shoot up. No injuries were reported. An Easton mall spokeswoman tells the television station an indoor area that includes the theater was evacuated for about 90 minutes as a precaution. The theater closed for the day to clean up the water from the sprinklers. Easton is a combined indoor and outdoor shopping center in northeast Columbus.

Source:

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/f3b9581c66f34dd4b11e5da015e73f8b/OH--Mall-Theater-Fire/>

49. *April 4, Associated Press* – (Pennsylvania) **NY man charged with setting fire that damaged central Pennsylvania church.** Police say a 25-year-old New York man may have set a fire that destroyed part of the Shells Evangelical Lutheran Church in East Hanover, Pennsylvania, April 3. Authorities say a truck driver called 911 after spotting the suspect bleeding and acting erratically at a truck stop. He was taken into custody while wandering in traffic about 5 miles from the scene of the blaze. His car was found crashed into another nearby church. Officials say the suspect told officers that someone had told him to set the fire at the 186-year-old church. He is being held on \$500,000 bail.

Source:

<http://www.greenfieldreporter.com/view/story/52b1b4f6cbc74fe1b96069ee8a87cf79/P A--Church-Fire-Arson/>

50. *April 3, Associated Press* – (Illinois) **Boy dies after fall from roller coaster at Go Bananas in Norridge.** A 3-year-old boy died at an indoor family amusement park in

suburban Chicago, Illinois, after falling out of a roller coaster, authorities said April 3. The boy was sitting near the front of the Python Pit roller coaster at the Go Bananas amusement park April 2 when he got underneath the ride's safety bar, the Norridge Police chief said. He suffered head injuries in what was described as "a tragic accident." The Cook County medical examiner identified the boy and ruled his death an accident. The cause of death was listed as multiple injuries after the boy was struck and fell from a roller coaster cart. The boy was on the ride with his twin brother when he fell out of the coaster while it was moving, the police chief said. Police said a state inspector was at the scene. Go Bananas is an indoor amusement park for children's birthday parties and family outings, according to the facility's Web site. Authorities said they believe the boy met all the requirements for the ride. The park's owner said the park is fully cooperating with investigators.

Source: http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2011/04/03/boy-dies-after-fall-from-n_844082.html

51. *April 3, Associated Press* – (Georgia) **Parts of north Georgia flea market destroyed in blaze.** A wing of the Pendergrass Flea Market in Jefferson, Georgia, went up in flames in a blaze that burned from April 2 into April 3, according to the Jackson County emergency director. No one was injured. The fire department was alerted to the blaze when someone driving by the site around 11:30 p.m. April 2 saw flames coming from the top of the building. Jefferson police officers and Jackson County volunteer firefighters responded and remained on the scene to fight off hot spots. The Jackson County emergency director said fire doors inside the building kept the blaze from spreading throughout more parts of the 250,000-square-foot building. He said between 25,000 to 50,000 square feet were completely destroyed. The blaze decimated the wing that housed dry goods vendors. The flea market's owners closed the building April 3 but plan to reopen the undamaged portion the weekend of April 9.

Source:

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/d3483b519f414f848d9695ebd02b0fcd/GA-Flea-Market-Fire/>

52. *April 1, WRAL 5 Raleigh* – (North Carolina) **Fireworks explode during theft in Wake Forest.** Agents from the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) are investigating after a fireworks container exploded near Wake Forest, North Carolina, April 1. Firefighters said the fireworks were stored in a container on a tractor-trailer parked in a wooded area off of Wait Avenue. They said someone broke into the truck and was stealing fireworks when one of the boxes exploded around 10:15 a.m. The explosion happened outside of the truck. No one was injured. Fire officials said the person broke into the truck by making a hole in the roof of the trailer. ATF agents said the thief might have taken some fireworks, which are for commercial use and more dangerous than regular fireworks. They believe juveniles might be involved in the theft. Authorities are going door-to-door in nearby areas asking for residents to contact police if they see anything suspicious. The fireworks were stored in a container also known as a fireworks magazine, town officials said. A fireworks magazine is an ATF-approved container for storing display fireworks, such as those used in shows, generally under

the supervision of a trained pyrotechnician, town officials said.

Source: <http://www.wral.com/news/local/story/9369690/>

53. *April 1, Willits News* – (California) **Two arrested in Covelo Hotel fire.** Sheriff's deputies arrested two Covelo, California men for allegedly torching the Covelo Hotel early March 28. A CalFire arson investigator concluded the blaze, which fully consumed the Covelo Hotel, was arson. This confirmed the early suspicions of firefighters who battled the fire. Early accounts of eyewitnesses placed two men going into and out of the hotel just prior to the fire breaking out. Deputies subsequently arrested two men on suspicion of unlawfully causing a fire. Eyewitnesses told deputies they saw both men outside the hotel before the fire started. Videos from the Buckhorn Bar corroborated the eyewitness accounts.

Source: http://www.willitsnews.com/ci_17752371

For more stories, see items [3](#) and [54](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

National Monuments and Icons Sector

54. *April 4, Associated Press* – (New Mexico) **5 homes, several barns damaged in fast grass fire that forced evacuation of NM race track.** Firefighters battled a wind-driven wildfire April 4 in Albuquerque, New Mexico, that destroyed five homes, forced evacuations and knocked out power to about 1,000 homes and businesses, officials said. More than 100 people at Ruidoso Downs Racetrack and Casino were ordered evacuated April 3 as were several neighborhoods in the community of Ruidoso Downs. A New Mexico Forestry Division spokesman confirmed that the buildings were damaged by the wind-driven blaze, which had not been contained. He said it has scorched more than 2,000 acres, or over 3 square miles, on private, state, and federal land in southern New Mexico. The spokesman said he did not know the locations of the homes but that several barns were destroyed that were east of the Ruidoso Downs Racetrack and Casino, which is home to the All-American Futurity. The blaze was near the Alto power substation, which serves about 1,000 homes and businesses, said a member services manager for Otero County Electric. He said the extent of damage to the power lines was not immediately known. The cause of the blaze was not immediately known. In the central part of the state, firefighters made progress on another wind-driven wildfire that prompted the evacuation of 50 people from the New Mexico Boys Ranch for underprivileged children, the spokesman said. That fire grew to about 2,000 acres and was believed to be human caused, he said.

Source: <http://www.newser.com/article/d9mckll00/5-homes-several-barns-damaged-in-fast-grass-fire-that-forced-evacuation-of-nm-race-track.html>

55. *April 3, Associated Press* – (Delaware) **Decades-old explosive device found at Del. park.** State police say a person using a metal detector found explosive material dating to the World War II era at Cape Henlopen State Park in Lewes, Delaware. Bomb disposal units from state police and Dover Air Force Base responded to the park after

the device was found April 3. It was identified as a 3.5-inch practice rocket with the rocket motor still attached. Bomb squads took the device to a secure location where a detonator was used to disable it.

Source: <http://www.newstimes.com/default/article/Decades-old-explosive-device-found-at-Del-park-1320664.php>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Dams Sector

56. *April 1, Yakima Herald-Republic* – (Washington) **Yakima levee being reinforced today.** Due to erosion and flooding concerns, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers worked April 1 to reinforce a levee just south of the Terrace Heights Bridge in Yakima, Washington. “They [county officials] didn’t want the levee to have some big problems,” the director of Yakima County’s Office of Emergency Management said. “They like to be proactive and fix things before there is a problem.” The Yakima and Naches rivers — which were pushed to flood stage April 1 because of warm temperatures and mountain rainfall — have crested and appear to be receding, he said. In the meantime, a section of Longmire Lane and Fink Road north of South Wenas Road remain closed. There is water over the roadway of Cowiche Mill Road, and the county removed debris from Clover Springs Road off Highway 12 and across from Ackley Road the morning of April 1.
Source: <http://www.yakima-herald.com/stories/2011/4/1/yakima-levee-being-reinforced-today>
57. *April 1, KREM 2 Spokane* – (Idaho) **Army Corps of Engineers rescue the town of Calder from flooding.** Shoshone County, Idaho, commissioners declared a flood emergency April 1. Officials asked the Army Corps of Engineers for help. The constant rain and warmer temperatures has sped up the melt-off in the mountains. Bear Creek near Calder, Idaho, reached flood stage March 31. What concerned emergency management officials and people living in the area was the amount of debris in the creek. They had fears wooden debris would get stuck under the bridge at Alder Road, causing the creek to dam up. Officials said the scenario would flood the town. Commissioners requested the help from the Army Corps of Engineers to remove the debris and bed load sediments. The Army Corps worked all night March 31 and into April 1 to clear out debris. Water in the creek had started to recede.
Source:
<http://www.nwcn.com/home/?fId=119099019&fPath=/news/local&fDomain=10222>
58. *April 1, KTXL 40 Sacramento* – (California) **Army Corps of Engineers will repair West Sac levee.** The Army Corps of Engineers will shut down South River Road in West Sacramento, California, while it makes a \$3.8 million upgrade to a levee protecting thousands of home. The levee which supports the road is plenty high, but is showing its age. “We have erosion problems and we have under seepage problems at this location,” said the Flood Protection Manager for the City of West Sacramento. The plan is to build a brand new levee, as much as 250-feet behind the current one, then tear

down the existing levee. Moving the river bed back will give the water more elbow room and take pressure off levees up- and downstream. A slurry wall will go down 75-feet along the new section to take care of seepage problems. An added benefit will be more space for a wildlife area on the river side of the new levee. Homeowners near the project site have seen the river rise over the past few weeks.

Source: <http://www.fox40.com/news/headlines/ktxl-army-corps-of-engineers-will-repair-west-sac-levee-20110401,0,6187384.story>

[[Return to top](#)]

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information

About the reports - The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is a daily [Monday through Friday] summary of open-source published information concerning significant critical infrastructure issues. The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is archived for ten days on the Department of Homeland Security Web site: <http://www.dhs.gov/iaipdailyreport>

Contact Information

Content and Suggestions:

Send mail to cikr.productfeedback@hq.dhs.gov or contact the DHS Daily Report Team at (703)387-2267

Subscribe to the Distribution List:

Visit the [DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report](#) and follow instructions to [Get e-mail updates when this information changes](#).

Removal from Distribution List:

Send mail to support@govdelivery.com.

Contact DHS

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.

Department of Homeland Security Disclaimer

The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is a non-commercial publication intended to educate and inform personnel engaged in infrastructure protection. Further reproduction or redistribution is subject to original copyright restrictions. DHS provides no warranty of ownership of the copyright, or accuracy with respect to the original source material.