



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 12 April 2011

Current Nationwide Threat Level

ELEVATED

Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks

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

Top Stories

- According to the Associated Press, the U.S. government has prevented more than 350 people suspected of ties to al-Qaida and other terrorist groups from boarding U.S.-bound commercial flights since the end of 2009. (See item [18](#))
- HealthcareInfoSecurity.com reports two medical office assistants and a school board employee stole personal patient and teacher data, which were then used to commit \$1.2 million in fraud. (See item [38](#))

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 11, Modesto Bee* – (California) **Serene Lakes blast area evacuated; more propane leaks confirmed.** Emergency services officials April 10 ordered an indefinite evacuation of a Tahoe area community in California after a propane gas explosion leveled a 3-story house April 8, and officials confirmed nearly two dozen more propane leaks in the area. The order affects Serene Lakes, a community of 850 homes near Donner Summit in Placer County. Only about 20 of those houses are occupied by

permanent residents. People are being asked to stay out of the area as emergency crews and public safety officials track down gas leaks. Because a spark could set off an explosion, officials said snowplows and snow throwers could not be used. That has made it more difficult to safely reach leaking tanks, most of which are buried under 20 to 30 feet of snow, a county spokesman said. On April 8, a propane gas leak caused by a heavy snow load on the tank was blamed for an explosion at a 3-story house, leveling it and leaving it as “a total loss,” the program manager for Placer County’s Office of Emergency Services said. First responders and emergency services officials met April 10 to determine how best to proceed. The program manager said immense snowfall had contributed to the problem by overloading outside propane tanks.

Source: <http://www.modbee.com/2011/04/11/1639381/serene-lakes-blast-area-evacuated.html>

2. *April 9, Associated Press* – (Pennsylvania) **Pa. orders gas wells plugged.** Pennsylvania environmental regulators are ordering a resident near the site of a February 28 house explosion in Bradford, Pennsylvania to plug three abandoned natural gas wells. The state department of environmental protection said April 8 it learned of the wells while investigating the cause of the blast. The wells are not related to Marcellus Shale drilling. State officials said one of the wells, about 300 feet from the destroyed home, must be plugged first. It was drilled in 1881, while the other two date back nearly a century. The well owner is required to close all three wells within 45 days.
Source: <http://www.observer-reporter.com/OR/StoryAP/04-09-2011-PA-HouseExplosion-GasWells>
3. *April 9, KWTV 9 Oklahoma City* – (Oklahoma) **Downburst leaves Ponca City with damage, power outages.** A storm April 9 in Kay County, Oklahoma, provided much-needed rain, but it also brought damaging hail and winds that were clocked at up to 94 mph — before the power went out. About 80 percent of residents in Ponca City were out of power at the worst of the storm, according to the emergency management director. Most residential areas on the northwest side of town sustained roof damage, broken windows, and downed trees. The damage was most severe to buildings and power lines in the industrial area and airport. The Mid-America Door company lost its 80,000 square foot facility. No one was inside at the time. Water poured for several hours from the site because crews could not reach the valve buried underneath the mangled metal.
Source: <http://www.news9.com/story/14415391/ponca>
4. *April 8, Associated Press* – (National) **MSHA: high-tech gear incomplete at 64 pct of mines.** U.S. coal mine operators fall well short of meeting a 5-year-old congressional mandate to equip underground mines by June with high-tech communication and tracking systems for miners, a federal official said April 8. The figures show 64 percent of more than 500 underground coal mines have not yet fully installed the required equipment, a Mine Safety and Health Administration (MMSHA) official said at an industry conference in West Virginia. The required upgrade is supposed to keep near-constant track of miners from the moment they head underground, and enable them to

communicate with the surface even after an explosion. The official noted the looming deadline, set by federal law, for mines to install these systems. All 529 underground coal mines across the country have submitted plans for these systems that MSHA has approved, the official said. About half these plans involve the latest wireless and wired technologies. The others rely on older, so-called leaky feeder technology. It links hand-held radios through cables stretched through strategic areas of mines, boosted with antennas. The official noted that the federal law spurred by a deadly 2006 mine incident requires mine operators to review their system plans at least every 6 months, and check for technological advances.

Source: http://www.ydr.com/business/ci_17800467

For another story, see item [57](#)

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

Chemical Industry Sector

5. *April 10, Los Angeles Fire Department* – (California) **LAFD hazmat team stems gas leak in Northridge.** On April 10, 4 Companies of Los Angeles, California, Fire Department (LAFD) firefighters, 3 LAFD rescue ambulances, and a haz-mat team responded to a haz-mat Investigation at 8840 Vanalden Avenue in Northridge. Firefighters arrived in response to an “alarm ringing” notification from a security company to declare liquefied natural gas vapor leaking from atop a 12,000 gallon vessel at a municipal fleet refueling and parking facility. The findings escalated the incident to a hazardous materials Investigation, bringing additional LAFD personnel, including the closest haz-mat task force. First-arriving firefighters determined the vapor to be dissipating vertically. The leaking container, one of three similarly sized upright and adjacent cylinders within the City of Los Angeles facility in an industrial neighborhood, had reportedly been in use after having been filled within the previous 2 days. Working closely with the plant manager, haz-mat experts manipulated one or more valves adjacent to the tank to stem the vapor flow within 2 hours. No injuries were reported.

Source: <http://lafd.blogspot.com/2011/04/lafd-hazmat-team-stems-gas-leak-in.html>

6. *April 9, KITV 4 Honolulu* – (Hawaii) **5 workers killed in Waikele blast identified.** A bomb disposal company lost five of its employees in an explosion while working to destroy seized fireworks stored in an old military bunker in Honolulu, Hawaii April 8. Fire officials said six workers from Donaldson Enterprises, an unexploded ordnance company, were at the Kipapa gulch bunker when the explosion took place. On April 9, Honolulu police and firefighters secured the scene and began removing the two remaining bodies from the wreckage. The Honolulu Police Department’s Special Services Division was called in to assist. A fifth person was critically injured and was rushed to Straub’s burn center, where he died about 6 p.m. April 8. A sixth worker who suffered only minor injuries refused treatment. The company recently acquired a contract to dispose of seized fireworks. Family and friends of the victims gathered at the Waikele entrance to the storage facility the evening of April 8 wanting to find out

more. Fire officials helped to console them and tried to explain the area was off limits because the fireworks were still unstable. “They are decomposing with the heat and periodically still detonating. It is an unsafe situation because of the instability of the materials. The heat is causing it to decompose, and poses a danger to the responders going into the bunker, so we will have to wait until it cools down,” a Honolulu Fire captain said.

Source: <http://www.kitv.com/news/27487741/detail.html>

7. *April 9, Worcester Telegram and Gazette* – (Massachusetts) **Mistake clouds situation.** A worker at a trucking company accidentally emptied nitric acid into a drum containing water caused a vapor cloud to erupt, which led to the evacuation of nearby homes and businesses and North Grafton Elementary School in Grafton, Massachusetts, April 8. The fire chief said when authorities received a call from Dana Transport at 88 Westboro Road at 11:06 a.m., they thought there had been a spill of the hazardous chemical. But it was later determined a worker accidentally emptied acid into a wastewater drum sitting beside the one he should have used. “Nitric acid is very dangerous. It reacts with water, and it can actually kill you. We were very lucky there were no injuries,” the chief said during a press conference a few hundred yards from the facility. The company, which has been at the site for 60 years, specializes in short- and long-haul chemical and petroleum transportation. He said wind conditions were perfect, sending the large mustard-yellow cloud straight up and into a nearby unoccupied wooded area. The company’s Northeast regional manager said the employee, who is assigned to washing tractor-trailer tanks, immediately recognized what he had done wrong and called for help. He said about 4 or 5 gallons of nitric acid were involved. Homes and businesses within a tenth of a mile radius were evacuated. North Grafton Elementary School, at 46 Waterville Street, is not within the evacuation area, but students were bused 3 miles to Grafton Elementary School, as a precautionary measure. A hazmat team cleaned up the area and representatives from the state department of environmental protection were called in to monitor the situation. Westboro Road reopened at 2:30 p.m.

Source: <http://www.telegram.com/article/20110409/NEWS/104099959/-1/NEWS04>

For more stories, see items [12](#) and [27](#)

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

Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

8. *April 10, Associated Press* – (South Carolina) **Duke Energy says no health threat from tritium released by Oconee reactors into SC waterways.** Duke Energy officials said tritium releases from its Oconee nuclear power plants into South Carolina waterways pose no health threat. The Greenville News reported April 10 that the Oconee Nuclear Station near Seneca routinely discharges water contaminated with radioactive tritium into the Keowee River that flows into Lake Hartwell. A Duke Energy spokeswoman said the releases are safe, well below federally mandated limits, and are reported to nuclear regulators. Duke monitors and tests waterways around its

nuclear plants as well as groundwater.

Source:

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/f7d8985df4a84c5ca9f8f9f8d9291dcb/SC--Tritium-Releases/>

9. *April 9, Associated Press* – (Washington) **Energy NW: ‘Unusual event’ report unnecessary.** The agency that operates the nuclear energy plant in southwestern Washington said that upon further review, it did not need to make an “unusual event” declaration when a puff of hydrogen gas ignited April 7. Energy Northwest said the decision to report the incident to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission was made in an abundance of caution. A small amount of hydrogen gas ignited when workers cut into a pipe in a non-nuclear area of the Columbia Generating Station near Richland. The 6-inch flame extinguished itself in less than a second, but Energy Northwest declared an unusual event and evacuated two dozen workers until a safety inspection could be completed.

Source: <http://www.seattlepi.com/default/article/Energy-NW-Unusual-event-report-unnecessary-1330122.php>

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

Critical Manufacturing Sector

10. *April 8, KTEN 10 Ada* – (Oklahoma) **Workers rushed from fire at Madill business.** A small section of the Oklahoma Steel and Wire Plant in Madill, Oklahoma, caught fire April 8. Firefighters from three departments helped put out the fire. Officials believe it started in an electrical socket inside the plant. “It just started smoking and they told us to get out,” said a worker, who was inside the plant at the time. No one was hurt, but the fire did an estimated \$5,000 to \$10,000 worth of damage to the plant.
Source: <http://www.kten.com/Global/story.asp?S=14413358>

11. *April 8, Associated Press* – (International) **Toyota will begin suspending North American production next week.** Toyota Motor Corp. said April 8 it will suspend production at its North American plants in a series of 1-day shutdowns in April as a result of parts shortages caused by the March 11 earthquake and tsunami that hit Japan. The temporary shutdowns will affect 25,000 workers, but there will be no layoffs, the world’s number one automaker said. All 13 of its North American plants will have down time, though the duration may vary at a few plants, a spokesman said. For most plants, the 1-day shutdowns will begin April 15 and end April 25, Toyota said. It said future production plans will be determined later. The North American plants have been using parts in their inventory or relying on those shipped before the earthquake. “We are slowing down to conserve parts yet maintain production as much as possible,” the executive vice president of Toyota Motor Engineering and Manufacturing North America said. Toyota gets only about 15 percent of its parts from Japan for cars and trucks built in North America. Those parts include electronic and rubber components, and a paint additive, a spokesman said. The production shutdowns will total 5 days –

April 15, 18, 21, 22, and 25 – at its North American vehicle plants, except in Georgetown, Kentucky, where production will be halted 4 days. Most of the company’s North American engine and component plants will follow the same schedule, the company said. Shortages of parts from Japan are also affecting manufacturers outside the country. Ford Motor Co. and Nissan Motor Co. recently said several North American plants would be closed for part of April. Chrysler Group LLC is cutting overtime at plants in Canada and Mexico to conserve parts from Japan.

Source: http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2011/04/09/toyota-shutdown-japan-parts_n_847010.html

12. *April 8, WFMZ 69 Allentown* – (Pennsylvania) **Chemical vapor sickens 2 workers, prompts evacuation of building.** A chemical vapor sickened two people and prompted the evacuation of their coworkers April 8 at Ametek in Nesquehoning, Pennsylvania. Police told WFMZ an ambulance was dispatched around 9:40 a.m. for the report of a sick man at the company, located on Route 54 in Carbon County. Police said the ambulance crew arrived to find two men, both Ametek employees, having trouble breathing. Police said the workers had just unloaded a container of maleic anhydride from a trailer backed up to the warehouse portion of the company’s building. Police said the compound came in contact with water in the trailer and released a vapor that sickened the workers. Both men were taken to the hospital for treatment, but they were released a short time later. Police said the building was evacuated for about 4 hours while firefighters and a hazardous materials team took care of the incident. According to its Web site, the Ametek plant in Nesquehoning makes electric motors and electronic instruments.

Source: <http://www.wfmz.com/poconosnews/27477897/detail.html>

13. *April 7, Steel Market Update* – (Indiana) **Steel mill accident shuts down steel making at NLMK-Indiana.** The electric arc furnace (EAF) in the NLMK-Indiana steel mill in Portage, Indiana, blew a transformer April 7. There were no injuries, no fire, and no damage to their steelmaking equipment. Other than the EAF, all other flat rolled steel making equipment is functioning as normal. The incident occurred as the EAF was being brought back online after routine maintenance and there was a “flash on the transformer,” the executive vice president commercial said. “We have a spare transformer on property and we will change it out,” he said. The EAF will be down for 10 days, and the mill is adjusting their orders to accommodate a potential outage of up to 14 days. The potential melt loss will be “approximately 30,000 tons” the executive vice president said. “We have enough slabs on the ground [at NLMK-IN] to last about 5 days.” He said they are evaluating the slabs both at Portage as well as at their sister mill Duferco-Farrell to see what order can be accommodated with existing inventory. “Some customers will not experience any inconvenience,” although he was not yet sure how much business would be able to be covered with the existing slabs. The mill was booking orders out to the third week of May when the accident occurred. The executive vice president felt the mill would be able to get back to their normal on-time delivery schedule — which he pegged at 92 percent — by the end of May.

Source: <http://www.steelmarketupdate.com/pub/blog/posts/2011/4/7/steel-mill-accident-shuts-down-steel-making-at-nlmc-indiana/>

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

Defense Industrial Base Sector

Nothing to report

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

Banking and Finance Sector

14. *April 11, UK Register* – (International) **Corrupt bank worker jailed over Trojan-powered tax scam.** A former business manager at a London, England bank who participated in a 3.2 million pound self assessment tax fraud was jailed for 3 years and 3 months April 8. The business manager and a conspirator worked together to register over 1,050 fictitious taxpayers on Britain's income tax self assessment system. The pair claimed fraudulent tax refunds under assumed names before laundering the proceeds of the scam via 200 fraudulent bank accounts. Personal details needed to pull off the racket were extracted from the computers of consumers using an unspecified computer virus. The scam netted 3.2 million pounds between January 2008 and September 2010 when the racket was uncovered following a lengthy investigation by HM Revenue & Customs. The court said that the manager "had abused his position with the bank" as part of a "sophisticated and orchestrated fraud".

Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/04/11/virus_powered_tax_scam/

15. *April 11, IDG News Service* – (International) **UK police arrest three men over 'SpyEye' malware.** British police arrested three men April 8 in connection with using the SpyEye malware program to steal online banking details. Two of the men were charged on April 8 and appeared in Westminster Magistrates Court in London April 9. Police said the three were arrested by the police central e-Crime unit "in connection with an international investigation into a group suspected of utilizing malware to infect personal computers and retrieve private banking details." The investigation began in January and revolved around the group's use of a uniquely modified variation of the SpyEye malware, which harvests personal banking details and sends the credentials to a remote server controlled by hackers, police said. As part of their investigation, police also seized computer equipment and data. Security analysts have kept watch on the SpyEye malware for some time. Some said it shares code with Zeus, widely considered the reference in banking malware. Zeus is designed to evade security software, grab online banking credentials, and execute transactions as people log into their accounts.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9215682/UK_police_arrest_three_men_over_SpyEye_malware

16. *April 9, Stamford Connecticut Patch* – (Connecticut) **Another suspect admits to ATM skimming scam in Stamford, Cos Cob.** Another Romanian citizen has pleaded guilty April 8 in connection with an ATM skimming scheme that involved ATMs in Cos Cob, Connecticut. A U.S. Attorney announced the suspect pleaded guilty April 9 before a

U.S. district judge in Hartford to one count of conspiracy to commit bank fraud. The charge stems from the suspect's participation in an ATM "skimming" scheme. According to court documents and statements made in court, the suspect and others conspired to install "skimming" devices on ATMs and on card swipe access devices used by banks to control access to ATM lobby doors, at People's United Bank locations in Connecticut. The devices were able to capture the information encoded on the magnetic strips of bank cards used by ATM customers. The co-conspirators also are accused of placing devices on the ATMs that contained hidden pinhole cameras, positioned in such a way as to be able to record the personal identification numbers that bank customers keyed into the ATMs to gain access to their accounts. The co-conspirators then used this stolen data to create counterfeit bank cards that allowed them to withdraw funds from the customers' accounts. The suspect is to be sentenced June 24, and faces a maximum term of imprisonment of 30 years, and a \$1 million fine. Source: <http://stamford.patch.com/articles/another-suspect-admits-to-atm-skimming-scam-in-stamford-cos-cob>

17. *April 8, Edina Patch* – (Minnesota) **Edina woman linked to \$3.65 billion ponzi scheme pleads guilty.** A 43-year-old Edina, Minnesota woman pleaded guilty April 8, in federal court to playing a role in a \$3.65 billion Ponzi scheme. The woman admitted she aided and abetted criminal activity by concealing information from investors regarding the purchase and sale of securities from September 2007 through September 2008. She entered a guilty plea to one count of securities fraud and one count of providing false statements to a government agent before a U.S. district court judge. The woman served as vice president of special operations and later as managing director of finance with Arrowhead Management, which operated three hedge funds that almost exclusively invested in Petters Company, Inc. (PCI) promissory notes. The man who owned and operated PCI was sentenced to 50 years in federal prison in April 2010 for heading up the scheme. The woman admitted in court she and others hid information from investors that millions of dollars in PCI notes held by Arrowhead were on the verge of going into default. During the life of the hedge fund, investors reportedly contributed more than \$387 million, with Arrowhead obtaining about \$35 million in fees from the fund. She faces a potential maximum penalty of 5 years in prison for each charge. Source: <http://edina.patch.com/articles/edina-woman-linked-to-365-billion-ponzi-scheme-pleads-guilty>

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

Transportation Sector

18. *April 11, Associated Press* – (International) **US blocks 350 suspected terrorists from planes.** The U.S. government has prevented more than 350 people suspected of ties to al-Qaida and other terrorist groups from boarding U.S.-bound commercial flights since the end of 2009, the Associated Press (AP) has learned. The tighter security rules — imposed after the attempted bombing of an airliner Christmas 2009 — reveal a security threat that persisted for more than 7 years after the September 11th attacks. Until then,

even as commercial passengers were forced to remove their shoes, limit the amount of shampoo in their carry-on luggage and endure pat downs, hundreds of foreigners with known or suspected ties to terrorism passed through security and successfully flew to the United States each year, U.S. officials told AP. The government said these foreigners typically told customs officers they were flying to the U.S. for legitimate reasons such as vacations or business. Security practices changed after an admitted al-Qaida operative from Nigeria was accused of trying to blow himself up on a flight to Detroit, Michigan. Until then, airlines only kept passengers off U.S.-bound planes if they were on the no-fly list, a list of people considered a threat to aviation. Now before an international flight leaves for the United States, the government checks passengers against a larger watch list that includes al-Qaida financiers and people who attended training camps but are not considered threats to planes. The government was checking this list before, but only after the flight was en route. If someone on the flight was on the watch list, the person would be questioned and likely refused entry to the country after the plane landed. The new policy has not turned the 450,000-person terror watch list into the no-fly list. Simply being on the terror watch list does not mean a person won't be allowed to enter the United States.

Source: http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/42529687/ns/us_news-security/

19. *April 10, New York Post* – (California) **Police: California man tried to take bus at knife point.** Police in the city of Redding, California said a man threatened an Amtrak bus driver with a knife and tried to take over the vehicle April 8. It is not clear whether any passengers were on board at the time. Police said a 43-year-old man from San Francisco, California threatened the 58-year-old driver at the Redding bus terminal around 7 p.m. A Redding police spokesman said the driver was able to escape and activate a kill switch that disabled the engine. Police said the suspect ran and was arrested nearby. He was being held April 10 on \$100,000 bail on suspicion of assault with a deadly weapon, terrorist threats, carjacking, and displaying a weapon in a threatening manner.
Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/us/2011/04/10/police-california-man-tried-bus-knifepoint/>

20. *April 8, WCSC 5 Charleston* – (South Carolina) **3 planes evacuated at Charleston Airport after receiving a threat.** Three flights at Charleston International Airport in Charleston, South Carolina were evacuated April 8 after an unidentified threat, an airport spokeswoman said. She said a local law enforcement agency received a bomb-threat against an aircraft. Airport authorities then pulled passengers off Delta and United Express airplanes. Authorities said about 263 passengers in concourse A were re-screened and had their bags rechecked as a safety precaution. The spokeswoman said all three flights were delayed for a few hours. The South Carolina Law Enforcement Division, Transportation Security Administration, Customs and Border Protection, and Charleston County Bomb Squad were called out to help in the investigation. A K-9 unit was also called in to sniff the tarmac. No one was hurt.
Source: <http://www.wect.com/Global/story.asp?S=14417977>

For more stories, see items [7](#), [55](#), and [58](#)

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

Postal and Shipping Sector

21. *April 9, San Francisco Chronicle* – (California) **Postal worker charged with passing fake money.** An employee at the Alamo, California post office appeared in federal court April 8 on charges he exchanged fake money made in Nigeria for real currency at his cash register, court records show. The 50-year-old did not enter a plea in U.S. District Court in Oakland to a charge of passing counterfeit currency with the intent to defraud. He could be responsible for passing up to \$25,900 in counterfeit currency throughout the Bay Area, authorities said. He is believed to have bought money orders with counterfeit currency that he placed in his cash register and cashed the money orders to pay utility bills, investigators said in court records. Postal inspectors began investigating him in October 2010, when a supervisor at the Alamo post office at 160 Alamo Plaza found \$100 bills in his cash register that “did not feel like that of a genuine bill,” a Secret Service Special Agent wrote in an affidavit.
Source: <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2011/04/08/BAGS1ISU3B.DTL>

22. *April 9, WSVN 7 Miami* – (Florida) **Police searching for explosive suspects.** Police in North Miami Beach, Florida, April 8, were searching for the people responsible for going door-to-door late at night and placing explosive devices into garbage containers and mail boxes. “We can release that we feel that these devices are strong enough to do some serious injuries, potentially death,” said a North Miami police detective. According to police, during the first week of April, there were three incidents: One at Northeast 173rd Street, another on 176th Street, and the third on 190th street. Police are urging the public to look out for any suspicious acts. At this time, police do not know what type of explosive devices are being used.
Source: <http://www.wsvn.com/news/articles/local/21004000356429/>

23. *April 8, WPLG 10 Miami* – (Florida) **Investigators: White powder at West’s office not anthrax.** Investigators have determined that white powder found in an envelope at a U.S. Representative’s office in Boca Raton, Florida April 8 was not anthrax, according to Florida Fire Rescue. The Representative’s chief of staff released a statement April 8 stating a staffer of the campaign office opened the letter, which had been picked up from a post office box in Deerfield Beach. Officials said the envelope contained white powder as well as a letter that made derogatory statements against the Representative and mentioned anthrax. Boca Raton firefighters and the FBI responded to the office after the letter was reported. Only one employee was in the office at the time, and she opened the letter just after 1 p.m. Firefighters determined the letter was a hoax.
Source: <http://www.local10.com/news/27481862/detail.html>

24. *April 8, Cuyahoga Falls News-Press* – (Ohio) **Judge receives letter from inmate containing powder.** Officials from the Summit County, Ohio Sheriff’s Department, the

U.S. Postal Inspection Service, and the Lorain County Correctional Center are investigating a letter received by a local judge containing what was later identified as talcum powder. A bailiff for the Summit County Common Pleas Court judge opened a letter April 6 addressed to the judge that contained “white powder,” according to a Summit County Sheriff’s Department inspector. The letter was allegedly sent from the correctional center from an inmate who the judge had previously sentenced. Charges are possible after the investigation is complete, police said.

Source: <http://www.fallsnewspress.com/news/article/5014056>

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

Agriculture and Food Sector

25. *April 11, Reuters* – (International) **Tainted milk case in China deemed intentional poisoning.** Intentional poisoning was behind the tainted milk that killed 3 children and caused 36 others to become ill in China’s northwestern Gansu province the week of April 4, state media reported April 10, adding to the woes of the country’s maligned dairy industry. Local investigators in Pingliang city said they had arrested suspects in connection with the nitrate-laden milk that caused 39 people to seek hospital care April 7, Xinhua news agency said. It did not give details on the suspects’ identities or motives. Nitrate, which is used to cure meat, has no use as a milk additive, the official China Daily newspaper cited a health bureau official as saying. The three children who died after consuming the tainted milk were all under 2-years-old. As of April 10, 17 of the victims were hospitalized in stable condition.

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/health/2011/04/11/tainted-milk-case-china-deemed-intentional-poisoning/>

26. *April 11, KCRG 9 Cedar Rapids* – (Iowa) **Cedar Rapids bar rocked by explosion, fire.** An explosion April 10 blew out the back half of Sixth Street Bar and Grill in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. According to Cedar Rapids Fire Department reports, two workers at the nearby Cedar Rapids Tank Wash heard an explosion at the bar and drove down the street to find the back half of the bar engulfed in flames. The explosion also shook the ground and woke residents of Kirkwood Estates, a nearby manufactured home community. Upon their arrival, firefighters saw extensive damage to the back half of the building with insulation and debris thrown as far as 200 feet from the building. Fire crews found a significant amount of fire above the kitchen area, plus several spot fires. The fires were extinguished within 20 minutes. The back half of the business contained the kitchen, coolers, a mechanical room, and an office. The business was closed April 10. The owner of the building and one-half of the business said he emptied trash at the bar around 9 a.m. April 10, otherwise the building was unoccupied since that time. No one was hurt. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

Source: <http://www.kcrg.com/news/local/Explosion-Fire-Reported-at-Bar-in-Cedar-Rapids-119580204.html>

27. *April 10, Fargo Forum* – (North Dakota) **Ammonia leak reported at elevator in Horace.** Residents in Horace, North Dakota, received a scare April 9 when they were

forced to take shelter in their homes after an anhydrous ammonia leak was reported south of town. The leak occurred at the Harvest States Elevator just before 10 a.m. and was contained around 10:40 a.m. Emergency responders had to transfer 30,000 gallons of anhydrous ammonia from the leaking tank to a good tank to get it under control, a Cass County administrator said. A small ammonia cloud was visible but dissipated after a short while, officials said. A 1-mile perimeter was set up around the city. The public was asked to stay away from Horace, and residents were asked to stay inside their homes for several hours. Residents were notified of the danger with a CodeRED call. Officials did not evacuate the area because that would have put people in contact with the chemical, the administrator said.

Source: <http://www.inforum.com/event/article/id/315548/group/News/>

28. *April 10, WINK 9 Fort Meyers* – (Florida) **Bomb explodes in Port Charlotte restaurant parking lot.** Charlotte County sheriff's detectives continue their investigation into one of two bombs exploding in a Port Charlotte, Florida restaurant parking lot April 8. One person was injured by chemical fumes. The Charlotte County Sheriff's Office received the call at 5:56 p.m. and dispatched deputies to Joe Crackers. Witnesses said they heard a loud bang and observed smoke coming from a plastic soda bottle they found in the parking lot. A 27-year-old North Port woman said she saw the explosion and inhaled some of the smoke. EMS was called and deputies said the woman was treated at the scene. While deputies checked the bottle that exploded, they located an unexploded one in the bushes nearby. Charlotte County fire cleared both containers and turned them over to deputies. Witnesses said they saw a newer model gold Toyota Corolla driving around the parking lot three times before backing into the parking spot where the explosion came from shortly after the car left the area.
Source: <http://www.winknews.com/Local-Florida/2011-04-10/Bomb-explodes-in-Port-Charlotte-restaurant-parking-lot>

29. *April 9, Pittsburgh Tribune-Review* – (Pennsylvania) **Murrysville restaurant emptied as chemicals react.** Sixty-five people were evacuated April 8 from Atria's Restaurant & Tavern in Murrysville, Pennsylvania, after cleaning chemicals were improperly mixed, causing a reaction. Westmoreland County 911 said the restaurant on Route 22 was evacuated about 9:30 p.m. after someone mixed bleach and sulphuric acid. As of 10:30 p.m., four people had been taken to a hospital, and several more were evaluated at the scene. Numerous area fire companies and emergency medical personnel responded.
Source:
http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/pittsburghtrib/news/westmoreland/s_731514.html

30. *April 9, Food Safety News* – (Rhode Island) **Second death in Rhode Island salmonella outbreak.** The Rhode Island outbreak of Salmonella linked to contaminated pastries has claimed a second victim. A man in his 90s, who had been hospitalized and had tested positive for the outbreak strain of Salmonella, died April 7, according to a report in the Providence Journal. The Rhode Island Department of Health said the man had eaten pastry prepared by DeFusco's Bakery in Johnston, which closed its doors March 25 after recalling zeppole, an Italian pastry, and other baked

goods. As of April 8, the health department said there have been 66 illnesses associated with the outbreak. Twenty-eight of those sickened were so ill they required hospitalization; four remain in the hospital. A man in his 80s died March 23. Health inspectors found multiple food-safety violations at the bakery, including pastry filling stored on the floor at room temperature and cardboard cartons, which previously held eggs, used to hold baked pastry shells. Lab tests later detected Salmonella in the boxes, leading to speculation that egg residue from tainted eggs may have contaminated the pastries.

Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/04/second-death-in-rhode-island-salmonella-outbreak/>

31. *April 8, Daily Herd Network* – (National) **U.S. corn reserves expected to shrink to tightest level ever.** U.S. corn supplies by late in the summer of 2011 are expected to shrink to the tightest levels on record amid robust demand from ethanol distillers, livestock feeders, and overseas buyers, analysts said. At the end of the 2010-11 marketing year August 31, corn stocks are expected to fall to 595 million bushels, based on the average analyst estimate in a Dow Jones Newswires survey of analysts before the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) monthly Supply and Demand report April 8. Previously, the USDA estimated 2010-11 ending corn stocks at 675 million bushels, which already would be the lowest in 15 years and less than half the supplies on hand at the close of 2009-10. "Clearly, corn demand needs to be rationed," an analyst with CattleHedging.com wrote in a report the week of April 4. "While a setback is possible at any time, the corn market seems poised to set a historic high." If the USDA cuts projected corn reserves below 600 million bushels as expected, it would leave stocks as a percentage of use -- a key indicator of the country's supply cushion -- at around 4 percent, a record low. The current low, 5 percent, was set in 1995-96.

Source: <http://www.dairyherd.com/dairy-news/latest/US-corn-supply-expected-to-shrink-to-tightest-level-ever-119424719.html?ref=719>

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

Water Sector

32. *April 11, Huntington News.net* – (West Virginia) **Valve failed; pump drying out; work continues at Huntington pump station.** Workers continue repairs on equipment at the 13th Street West pump station in Huntington, West Virginia. An overflow was running out of the station April 7, which has caused millions of gallons daily of raw sewage to flow into the Ohio River. On April 8, a wastewater supervisor for the department of environmental protection said at that time, she did not want to venture a projection on repair completion. "My understanding is that it was an air release valve that failed. They are working on getting [the pump] dried out," she said. "They are supposed to have the pump back April 11, to get it re-installed and get the station back on-line." As for the discharge, she explained the U.S. Coast Guard said that with the "river high right now", the flow will dissipate the sewage quickly enough so no

community receiving water down river will have any concern with contamination.
Source: <http://www.huntingtonnews.net/3149>

33. *April 7, Associated Press* – (North Carolina) **Officials: Signs of groundwater contamination show up at site of former Carrboro dry cleaners.** North Carolina environmental officials are investigating possible contamination of groundwater in Carrboro near the site of a former dry cleaning business. The News and Observer reports April 7 that the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources has identified elevated levels of tetrachloroethene, a toxic dry cleaning solvent and possible cancer-causing agent. Officials said the substance can also vaporize, potentially affecting air quality and contaminating nearby structures such as sidewalk slabs and building foundations. State officials are evaluating air quality near the site and plan to hold public meetings for residents of the area. The agency also is offering free air-quality tests for neighboring property owners.
Source: <http://www.myfox8.com/news/sns-ap-nc--groundwatercontamination,0,112017.story>

For more stories, see items [8](#) and [58](#)

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

Public Health and Healthcare Sector

34. *April 11, Fayetteville Observer* – (North Carolina) **Parkton Family Medical Center damaged by fire.** A fire heavily damaged the Parkton Family Medical Center in Parkton, North Carolina, authorities said April 11. The fire was reported about 4:30 a.m., according to Parkton residents who took photos of the raging fire. The Robeson County fire marshal confirmed the medical center had burned. He was headed to the scene to meet with Parkton fire officials and a state bureau of investigation arson investigator. The roof is reported to have collapsed because of the flames. The fire was under control by 5 a.m., they reported.
Source: <http://www.fayobserver.com/articles/2011/04/11/1085714?sac=Home>
35. *April 9, Associated Press* – (Utah) **First measles case in 6 years reported in Utah.** The first measles case in Utah in 6 years was reported in Salt Lake County, Utah. The Salt Lake Valley Health Department said there is no sign of an outbreak but officials are wary because the disease is very contagious. The medical director said measles can be prevented by vaccines, but fewer children are receiving the vaccinations. Measles causes fever, runny nose, coughing, and a rash. The virus is spread through the air and by contact with bodily fluids. The virus annually kills nearly 200,000 people worldwide, but was considered eliminated in the United States more than 10 years ago.
Source: <http://www.wfaa.com/news/politics/119440999.html>
36. *April 8, Augusta Chronicle* – (South Carolina) **Veterans' data might have been exposed.** The personal information of thousands of veterans might have been exposed

after an employee at the outpatient clinic of Charlie Norwood Veterans Affairs (VA) Medical Center in Aiken, South Carolina, dumped appointment lists into the wrong trash can in February, the agency said in an April 8 news release. The VA is offering free credit monitoring for a year to 2,667 veterans who used the clinic between January 2010 and January 31, 2011. The facility does not think the data has been misused or fallen into the wrong hands, the deputy chief of staff for the facility said. An employee threw appointment lists for January into a regular trash can instead of a bin for items to be shredded, the facility said in a news release. The lists contained Social Security numbers and dates of birth. The mix-up was discovered a day or two later when another employee went out to a trash bin “and found a single document that had patient information,” he said. The VA could not verify how many veterans were affected, so it is notifying everyone who used the clinic in the previous year, he said. The VA’s waste hauler told the agency it could not retrieve the lists because the trash would have gone into a compacting machine that shreds the material before it was then buried in a landfill.

Source: <http://chronicle.augusta.com/news/health/2011-04-08/veterans-data-might-have-been-exposed>

37. *April 8, Philadelphia Inquirer* – (Pennsylvania) **Patient data stolen from Philadelphia’s Family Planning Council.** The Family Planning Council in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, made public April 8 that a computer storage device containing the personal and medical records of about 70,000 patients was stolen in December 2010 and remains missing. The theft was blamed on a former worker whose employment ended December 28, the day the theft was discovered and reported to police. The former employee has an extensive criminal record, and has been in and out of prison for the last 2 decades on multiple convictions of theft and other offenses, court records show. He was arrested February 9 and was charged with burglary, theft, criminal trespass, and receiving stolen property, the U.S. district attorney’s office said. The council’s executive director said the man served as a peer counselor in the council’s HIV program. The data included patients’ names, addresses, phone numbers, Social Security numbers, dates of birth, and insurance and medical information. The data were contained on a flash drive kept in another employee’s desk. Other items also were stolen from the office between December 23 and 27. The health-care providers affected by the data breach include Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, Planned Parenthood Southeastern Pennsylvania, Planned Parenthood Association of Bucks County, Spectrum Health Services Inc., and Public Health Management Corp.
Source: http://articles.philly.com/2011-04-08/news/29397064_1_patient-data-data-breach-flash-drive
38. *April 8, HealthcareInfoSecurity.com* – (Florida) **ID theft ring leads to HIPAA charges.** Two of 12 people indicted April 5 in a Florida identity theft and bank fraud scheme were charged with criminal violations of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) privacy rule. The two defendants worked as office assistants at two medical offices in Coral Springs and Fort Lauderdale, according to the U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Florida. They allegedly stole patient identification information, including Social Security numbers, and sold it to three other

defendants in the case. If convicted of the HIPAA violations, the two defendants face a maximum term of 10 years in prison. The Florida case also involves an employee of the Broward County School Board who allegedly stole teachers' personal data and sold it to other defendants. The defendant was the organizer of the identity theft ring and allegedly used all the stolen information to add himself and others as authorized users of victims' credit card and bank accounts, according to the indictment. Defendants then depleted the bank accounts and incurred credit charges, committing a total of more than \$1.2 million worth of fraud, authorities said. All the defendants were charged with conspiracy to commit bank fraud and could face a maximum prison sentence of 30 years on that charge. They also were charged with conspiracy to commit access device and identity theft. Four defendants could receive additional prison sentences if convicted of substantive counts of access device fraud.

Source: http://www.healthcareinfosecurity.com/articles.php?art_id=3521

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

Government Facilities Sector

39. *April 10, Ludington Daily News* – (Michigan) **Man arrested for fire at courthouse.** Police believe a fire early April 8 outside the Mason County courthouse in Michigan may have been intentionally set, and one man is in custody for the incident. Warrants for arson of real property and habitual offender, fourth offense, have been issued against a 57-year-old Ludington-area man for the fire, the Ludington police chief said. The arson charge is a felony, punishable by up to 10 years in prison.
Source: <http://www.ludingtondailynews.com/news/56926-man-arrested-for-fire-at-courthouse>
40. *April 9, Nashville Tennessean* – (Tennessee) **11 students hurt, teen charged in firework explosion at Cane Ridge.** Cane Ridge High School in Antioch, Tennessee, was evacuated for almost 3 hours April 8 after an elaborately crafted firework device exploded in a crowded commons area causing minor injuries, skin or eye irritation to 11 students. A 15-year-old ninth-grader was charged with reckless endangerment and carrying a weapon on campus. Four students were injured enough to be sent to area hospitals, although none of the injuries were considered serious. The rest of the student body was sent to stand on the football field or in parking lots as Metro police and agents from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and FBI investigated, and a trained dog checked lockers for more fireworks. A Metro police spokesman said the firework, while of consumer grade that could be purchased at any retail fireworks store, was more powerful than a firecracker or sparkler-type device. It included a fuse that ignited a large flame. Damage to the school building was minimal.
Source: <http://www.tennessean.com/article/20110409/NEWS01/104090348/11-students-hurt-teen-charged-firework-explosion-Cane-Ridge>
41. *April 8, WWLP 22 Springfield* – (Massachusetts) **Explosive device found at HCC.** The discovery of an explosive device April 8 prompted the evacuation of a building at Holyoke Community College in Holyoke, Massachusetts. A Holyoke fire lieutenant

said a custodian found an explosive device in a in a classroom in the Frost Building around 6 p.m. The state police bomb squad went in and determined it was a real explosive device that had been rendered inert some time ago. The incident is under investigation. They allowed people back into the Frost building at around 8:30 p.m.
Source: <http://www.wvlp.com/dpp/news/local/Explosive-device-found-at-HCC>

42. *April 8, KMOV 4 St. Louis* – (Illinois) **Illinois man charged for making false threats to O’Fallon Police, City Hall.** An Illinois man was charged April 8 for making false threats to the O’Fallon, Illinois, Police Department and O’Fallon City Hall. The 28-year-old suspect, who used to live in O’Fallon, was indicted March 25 by a grand jury for mailing a letter in November 2006 to the police department and city hall, threatening potential crimes. If convicted, the suspect could face a maximum of 10 years in prison, and a fine of \$250,000. He would also serve up to 3 years of supervised release.
Source: <http://www.kmov.com/news/crime/Illinois-man-charged-for-making-false-threats-to-OFallon-Police-City-Hall-119514264.html>

For more stories, see items [7](#), [24](#), and [38](#)

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

Emergency Services Sector

43. *April 11, Columbus Dispatch* – (Ohio) **Ohio Townships discuss centralized 911 center.** In the quest to cut costs, two Ohio townships are considering a proposal to have Columbus, Ohio dispatchers handle their emergency calls. Hamilton and Norwich townships are considering deals with the Columbus Division of Fire that would route callers reporting fires and medical emergencies to the city’s alarm office. There, fire dispatchers would figure out which department has units nearby and deploy them to the townships. It would cost about \$5 each time dispatchers sent firefighters, medics or rescue crews to the townships. Norwich is considering that option as it talks with other area communities about joining their fire and police dispatchers under one roof. Either a joint venture such as the Metropolitan Emergency Communications Center or a deal with Columbus would be better options than running an independent dispatching center, the Mifflin Township deputy fire chief said. For Mifflin Township, going it alone would cost about twice the \$400,000 its fire department pays annually for dispatching, he said. Hamilton Township has a contract with the Franklin County sheriff’s office for fire dispatching, but is seeking alternatives after the sheriff’s office announced its rate will go up this year.
Source: <http://www.emsworld.com/article/article.jsp?id=16707&siteSection=1>
44. *April 9, Sedalia Democrat and McClatchy-Tribune Information Services* – (Missouri) **Police seek to curb non-emergency 911 calls.** While the 911 service is an invaluable tool in emergency situations, a rising number of unintentional 911 calls can drain police resources. In the first three months of this year, the Sedalia, Missouri, Police Department received more than 570 hang-up calls to 911, which is an average of more

than 6 calls each day. A Sedalia patrolman said on April 9 alone, the department received more than 25 non-emergency 911 calls. While laws are in place to address intentional misuse of the 911 service in non-emergency situations, the majority of hang-up calls are accidental. The most common sources of unintentional 911 calls are misdials — when people either accidentally enter or “pocket dial” the emergency line — and children playing with old phones, which can still ring through to 911 even when their service has been deactivated. In the event of a 911 hang-up or open-line call, dispatchers must call the number back, and, even if they are able to reach the caller, send two patrol officers to verify there is no emergency. With between four and seven officers on the road at a given time, the Sedalia patrolman said responding to unintentional 911 calls can take tie up a significant portion of the patrol officers on duty. While landline calls provide an address the phone is listed under, calls from cellphones typically only give police a general area to check on based on the coverage region of the nearest cell tower.

Source: <http://www.tmcnet.com/submit/2011/04/09/5434979.htm>

For another story, see item [53](#)

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

Information Technology Sector

45. *April 11, Softpedia* – (International) **Notorious Facebook worm has gone silent.** The Koobface social networking worm seems to have stopped spreading on Facebook. According to experts from FireEye, which noticed the unusual change in behavior, the last time Koobface was seen spreading on the world’s largest social network was February 13. “All of a sudden, we saw bot herders are no longer instructing zombies to post fake messages to compromised Facebook accounts. Our first impression was it’s just a temporarily move, but a continued silence for about two months is not something that can be ignored,” a FireEye security research engineer said. Koobface is one of the oldest and most successful social networking worms. It was originally created for MySpace, but later evolved to target many sites, including Facebook, Twitter, hi5, Bebo, and Friendster. The worm uses social engineering to lure users onto fake YouTube pages that distribute a copy of the malware as a video codec or Flash player update. Koobface has usually been used for spamming and installing additional threats on infected computers, possibly as part of a pay-per-install scheme. According to FireEye’s security research engineer, the activity is continuing at the moment, so the worm is not dead. It just stopped spreading on Facebook. “Koobface C&Cs [command and control servers] are very much alive. We observed around 153 live C&Cs during the last 7 days,” the researcher said. FireEye believes the worm might have stopped spreading on Facebook because it drew too much attention to itself.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Notorious-Facebook-Worm-Has-Gone-Silent-194162.shtml>

46. *April 11, Softpedia* – (International) **Scareware adopts SMS payments.** According to security researchers, some scareware programs have begun featuring SMS payments, a

method more commonly seen in ransomware scams. Traditionally, payment is done via credit card. However, with people's increasing reluctance to use credit cards on unknown sites and the diminishing number of payment processors friendly to cyber crime, scareware pushers are looking into other methods. According to antivirus vendor CyberDefender, cyber criminals are experimenting with SMS payments, along with WebMoney, paid calls, or RUR Vkontakte. One scareware variant that poses as antivirus solutions from Avast, Norton, McAfee, BitDefender, or RootKitBuster, allows users to select their country and asks them to send an SMS with a special activation code to a short number. CyberDefender's threat research director told CNET this variant is being distributed from malicious links inserted in search results for trending topics, in what is known as black hat SEO.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Scareware-Adopts-SMS-Payments-194163.shtml>

47. *April 11, H Security* – (International) **A new security flaw hits VLC.** Following on a S3M vulnerability in the VLC media player the week of April 3, a new advisory warns of a buffer overflow when playing MP4/MPEG-4 files. The bug requires that a user open a specially crafted MP4 file. According to Secunia, the vulnerability is found in the MP4_ReadBox_skcr() function in the demultiplexer and is rated as "highly critical". All versions from 1.0.0 to 1.1.8 are affected by the problem. Corrections have been applied to the source code tree and the issue will be resolved in VLC media player 1.1.9 when it is released.

Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/A-new-security-flaw-hits-VLC-1225820.html>

48. *April 8, Help Net Security* – (International) **Uptick in rogue Facebook applications.** GFI Software announced the top 10 most prevalent malware threats for the month of March 2011. GFI researchers found the Japanese tsunami, earthquake, and subsequent nuclear disasters led to a high volume of cyber attacks. "In March, we saw an apparently endless collection of scams related to the earthquake and tsunami in Japan, including fake donation Web sites, Facebook clickjacking and 419 spam e-mails (otherwise known as advance-fee frauds, where the target is fraudulently persuaded to advance sums of money). In addition, we also observed search engine poisoning involving radiation levels that sent people to malware sites," a senior threat researcher at GFI Software said. March also saw many other forms of attack, including numerous rogue Facebook applications, ransomware, and fake antivirus programs and system defragmenters. Scammers also started with SEO poisoning related to printable Easter cards and Skype calls from individuals who attempt to have their victim visit a URL that promotes a fake antivirus program. GFI statistics showed Trojans made up 7 of the top 10 malware threats of the month. Trojans detected as Trojan(dot)Win32(dot)Generic!BT (a generic detection that encompasses a broad array of trojans) continue to be the number one threat, accounting for about 20 percent of total malware found.

Source: http://www.net-security.org/malware_news.php?id=1687

49. *April 7, Help Net Security* – (International) **Privacy violations by popular mobile apps under investigation.** An ongoing grand-jury investigation has revealed that many mobile applications could be sending user information to advertising networks without the users’ knowledge and permission. The investigation was prompted by a report published by the Wall Street Journal last December, which presented the result of an analysis of 101 applications for the iPhone and Android-powered mobile phones: 56 transmitted the devices’ unique identifiers, 47 relayed the phone’s location, 5 sent out the users’ age, gender, and other personal details, and 45 did not even offer a privacy policy. According to the Wall Street Journal, Pandora Media — the owner of the popular online music service — has admitted to having been served a subpoena related to the investigation. The Journal’s own testing found the iPhone and Android versions of Pandora’s app send out all of the data mentioned in the preceding list. The company claims they have been told the subpoena has been issued “on an industry-wide basis to the publishers of numerous other smartphone applications” and that Pandora was not “a specific target.” The Journal contacted other creators and/or owners of popular apps and asked them if they had received the same subpoena. Some confirmed, others denied, and others declined to comment. Threatpost reported research by security firm Veracode confirmed Pandora’s app sent personal data, and the researchers found libraries for five different ad networks embedded in it. “The data included both the owner’s GPS location, and gender, birthday, and postal code information,” Threatpost said. “There was evidence that the app attempted to provide continuous location monitoring — which would tell advertisers not just where the user accessed the application from, but also allow them to track that user’s movement over time.”
Source: <http://www.net-security.org/secworld.php?id=10868>

For more stories, see items [14](#) and [15](#)

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

50. *April 11, CyberMedia India Online Limited* – (International) **7,000 mobile phones hacked in Britain.** Nearly 7,000 mobile phones, including those of a British actress and former British culture secretary, were hacked by a British tabloid, a lawyer has claimed. The lawyer, who is representing several of the celebrities involved said 7,000 people may have had their mobile phone voicemail messages intercepted by The News of the World. The daily has now apologized to the victims, saying, “We publicly and unreservedly apologize to all such individuals. What happened to them should not have happened. It was and remains unacceptable.” The hacking took place between 2004 and

2006, the Daily Express reported. The lawyer said her clients will not accept a settlement from the newspaper until they have received full disclosure. “What we have at the moment is an apology and an admission. We haven’t even got near the truth yet,” she said. “If you hack into one person’s phone, you have access to everyone who has left a message for them. And then if you go into the person who has left a message, you get all of theirs. A cabinet minister described the phone hacking as “outrageous”, while London’s mayor called on all newspaper editors to declare any hacking carried out by their staff.

Source: <http://www.ciol.com/Global-News/Global-News/News-Reports/7000-mobile-phones-hacked-in-Britain/148638/0/>

51. *April 9, International Business Times* – (International) **DDoS attacks grow in sophistication.** In the wake of the attacks by the hacker collective Anonymous on Sony and on Livejournal, more attention has been focused on just what such attacks mean and how to defend against them. Most attacks on the Web come as distributed denial of service attacks, or (DDoS). The most common form is making too many requests of a server for it to handle at once. By flooding a server with data packets, one can essentially shut it down, making it inaccessible to other users. To set one up requires a large number of computers, and a simple way to do it is to send out a piece of software — usually a virus or Trojan to unsuspecting users whose computers mount the attack without them knowing. Such a network is called a botnet. Another method is to enlist the help of others voluntarily. The Low Orbit Ion Cannon (LOIC) is a piece of software that can target a Web site but it has to be run by a user helping mount a DDoS. LOIC was originally a stress-testing tool for system administrators. Such attacks are not too difficult to defend against, a director of security products at Radware said. That is because any attack that depends on simply sending lots of data can be stopped if certain Internet addresses are blacklisted, or if the target can remove some of the packets from the stream of data. By having in place a piece of hardware or software that takes some packets out, the server is convinced there is a congestion problem, and it reduces the amount of data sent in and out. That can defeat the DDoS.

Source: <http://www.ibtimes.com/articles/132456/20110409/ddos-attacks-the-arms-race.htm>

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

Commercial Facilities Sector

52. *April 11, Associated Press* – (International) **Dutch mall shooter fired more than 100 times.** Dutch prosecutors said the man who went on a shooting rampage in a Netherlands mall April 9 fired more than 100 rounds in a few minutes as he killed 6 shoppers before turning one of his weapons on himself. Prosecutors said the 24-year-old used three different guns during the shooting spree April 9 at the busy Ridderhof mall in the central city of Alphen aan den Rijn. Prosecutors released details of the shooting April 11 after studying video images from mall security cameras. The gunman shot one man before entering the mall, and then walked back and forth shooting from three guns. He had permits for all three. Detectives are still investigating whether one

of the guns, a semiautomatic, had been illegally modified to turn it into a fully automatic weapon.

Source: http://www.forbes.com/feeds/ap/2011/04/11/general-eu-netherlands-mall-shooting_8401501.html

53. *April 11, Torrance Daily Breeze* – (California) **Officer injured by dry-ice bomb.** A Long Beach, California police officer was slightly injured April 10 after a crude dry-ice bomb exploded next to him in an alley near the Artesia (91) Freeway. The unidentified officer was one of several who responded to reports of what neighbors thought were fireworks shortly after noon, the Long Beach police said. As they searched an alley near Bort Street and Butler Avenue, a dry-ice bomb hidden inside a plastic bag exploded, sending the officer reeling. A third, similar explosive was discovered at the other end of the alley, which runs behind homes and apartments in a neighborhood just south of the 91 Freeway, police said. The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Bomb Squad was called in to detonate the third device, and residents were temporarily evacuated to avoid further injuries. Officers are investigating who planted the bombs and why.

Source: http://www.dailybreeze.com/news/ci_17816692

54. *April 9, Associated Press* – (California) **Police: explosion outside California synagogue was intentional.** Police are hunting a suspect in an April 7 blast outside a Los Angeles, California synagogue and community center that was initially believed to be an industrial accident. Area Jewish organizations were urged to be extra vigilant. The suspect, a transient, was linked to items found in and around a hunk of concrete and large pipe that flew 25 feet into the air after the explosion at Chabad House Lubavitch of Santa Monica, a Santa Monica police sergeant said in an April 8 statement. "The device appeared to have been deliberately constructed," he said. The suspect, who is known to spend time at synagogues and Jewish community centers seeking charity, is wanted on state charges of possession of a destructive device and unrelated local charges, he said. Authorities said they knew of no motive behind the explosion, and Jewish groups said they did not believe anti-Semitism was necessarily behind it. Authorities initially believed a worker was trying to remove the pipe from concrete when a chemical mixture created pressure and launched the 4-foot-long pipe and plug of concrete into the air. The explosion shattered windows, punched a hole in the synagogue, and sent the pipe ricocheting into a neighboring house where a young boy was sleeping. There were no injuries. About 20 people had been attending a Passover service in the synagogue, and they and about 80 others from surrounding houses were evacuated for more than 5 hours.

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/us/2011/04/09/police-explosion-outside-california-synagogue-intentional/?test=latestnews>

55. *April 9, Lansing State Journal* – (Michigan) **3 Delta Township stores evacuated after gas leak discovered.** A gas leak closed three businesses and Creyts Road from just east of Interstate 496 to Michigan Avenue for more than 2 hours April 8. The Delta Township fire chief said a Speedway gas station, a Quality Dairy store and Ron's Barbershop at the corner of Creyts and St. Joseph roads were all evacuated at about

2:30 p.m. April 8 after workers for the company Arialink struck a gas line while installing fiber-optic cable. Consumer's Energy crews repaired the leak, and roads were reopened at about 5:30 p.m. No injuries were reported.

Source: <http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/article/20110409/NEWS01/304090003/3-Delta-Township-stores-evacuated-after-gas-leak-discovered?odyssey=tab|mostpopular|text|FRONTPAGE>

56. *April 9, NY1 News* – (New York) **Explosion in nail salon sparks fire in Queens.** An explosion in a nail salon sparked a fast-moving fire in Queens, New York April 9. Flames broke out shortly after 10 a.m. in a 3-story building at 424 Beach 129th Street in Belle Harbor. Sources said it started with an explosion at a nail salon on the first floor. One of the firefighters battling the blaze was injured and rushed to the hospital in serious condition, and 11 firefighters suffered minor injuries. According to investigators, several firefighters safely escaped after noticing the floor starting to give way beneath them. Red Cross representatives responded to help residents displaced by the fire.

Source: http://www.ny1.com/content/top_stories/137114/explosion-in-nail-salon-sparks-fire-in-queens

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

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

National Monuments and Icons Sector

57. *April 10, CNN* – (Texas; National) **New Texas fires quickly contained, but big blazes still out of control.** Texas firefighters got the upper hand April 10 on several blazes across the state, though others remained out of control. The six new wildfires reported April 10, all in different counties, were relatively small and quickly brought under control, the Texas Forest Service (TFS) said in a statement. The most damage — to an unoccupied mobile home, horse trailer and another building — occurred over 1 acre in Newton County, but that fire is controlled. Eleven structures were threatened and one camper was lost over 129 acres in Angelina County, the state agency added. And one oil field structure was destroyed, and several others were threatened in Crosby County, TFS said. But authorities are fighting to manage other, appreciably bigger blazes. This challenge, as well as the weather outlook, had prompted TFS to state that “conditions on Sunday could shape up to be among the worst in Texas history.” The biggest fire not under control continued April 10 on 71,000 acres in parts of Stonewall, Knox, and King counties. Air resources, bulldozers, fire engines, and other tools and personnel were being used in that fight, TFS said. Another of the hardest slogs may be in Presidio County, where none of the 60,000 imperiled acres was considered to be contained April 10. TFS has deployed 3 air tankers, 60 firefighters, bulldozers, and other equipment and personnel, in addition to a host of other state and local resources. The National Weather Service issued red flag warnings through the evening of April 10 — indicative of what it calls “critical fire weather conditions” — in New Mexico, Colorado, Kansas,

Missouri, Oklahoma, and Texas.

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2011/US/04/10/texas.wildfires/index.html?hpt=T2>

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

Dams Sector

58. *April 10, Associated Press* – (North Dakota; Minnesota) **Red River Valley flood fight shifts north of Fargo.** The Red River Valley flood fight shifted April 10 from the cities of Fargo, North Dakota, and Moorhead, Minnesota, to rural areas north of the north-flowing river, which crested April 9 in Fargo at its fourth highest level in recorded history. Fargo officials said the metropolitan area appears to be in good shape, but urged residents not to travel outside the city. About 60 miles of roads were closed in Cass County, where Fargo is located, and another 10 miles of roads were washed over, officials said. Interstate 29 north of Fargo was closed for about 25 miles. Some tributaries of the Red River were at record levels. “In the southern part of the valley, it’s quiet,” the Fargo mayor said April 10. “In the northern part of the valley, especially in Cass County, they’re having extreme problems.” About 425 National Guard members were on duty in Cass County and were ready to help with evacuations if needed, the North Dakota governor said April 10. One man was rescued by a Cass County Sheriff’s Department airboat when he became stuck in his tractor near Argusville after the flooded road gave out beneath him, National Guard officials said. Five other people and a dog near Argusville were evacuated by airboat when a dike reportedly gave way. Residents in Harwood, north of Fargo, and Casselton, west of Fargo, were told to stop using water because their sanitary sewer systems were starting to back up. Several other communities asked citizens to restrict use of water. The National Weather Service reported April 10 that the river crested in Fargo about 6:15 p.m. April 9 at a level of 38.75 feet. The only higher floods were 40.84 feet in 2009, 39.72 feet in 1997, and 39.10 feet in 1897. Flood stage for the river is 18 feet. Source: <http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=135300570>
59. *April 9, KATU 2 Portland* – (Oregon) **Floodwaters threaten Oregon town.** Floodwaters were threatening homes and businesses in and around Burns, Oregon, April 9, after a levee failed to hold back water from melting snowpack. A Harney County judge said the county declared a state of emergency. Floodwaters have already damaged or surrounded eight homes, and the threat is not over with warm rain forecast in the mountains near the town. The problems started when a levee that protects Burns from the Silvies River started to fail several days ago. State workers, National Guard troops, and volunteers have since put 10,000 sandbags in place to shore up the faulty levee. They expect to put up to 9,000 more in place through the weekend ending April 10. Highway 20 was closed and there was damage to roads, state highways, and the levee. Burns sits in a basin that floods naturally when snow melts. The levee is designed to protect the town when agricultural lands flood. Over the years the levee has eroded and settled down. That has allowed the river to spill over the banks and move towards town. The water was receding the afternoon of April 9, but the

forecast called for warm rain in the mountains in the coming days.
Source: <http://www.kval.com/news/119536294.html>

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

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