



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 14 April 2011

Current Nationwide Threat Level

ELEVATED

Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks

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

Top Stories

- The Wall Street Journal reports U.S. mine safety officials placed coal mines in Kentucky and West Virginia on notice they could be shut down for any future violation, using for the first time an enforcement tool on the books for more than 30 years. (See item [4](#))
- According to Talking Points Memo, a Chinese national was arrested April 12 in California on charges he created a fake army special forces unit complete with fake uniforms and ID cards, and convinced more than 100 other Chinese nationals to join up. (See item [29](#))

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Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: ELEVATED, Cyber: ELEVATED
 Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) - <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *April 13, Agence France-Presse* – (International) **713 Mexico oil workers evacuate collapsing platform.** A total of 713 oil platform workers were evacuated April 12 when a semi-submersible residence began to collapse into the Gulf of Mexico, said Mexico-owned oil company Petroleos Mexicanos (Pemex). No oil was leaked in the incident and no injuries reported at the Flotel Jupiter platform, which housed workers

about 80 kilometers off the coast of Campeche state. Initially, 638 workers were evacuated earlier on April 12 after water entered part of the facility and it began to lean to one side, but Pemex said by the afternoon, all 713 workers on board the platform had been evacuated. After several attempts to rescue the facility, the platform April 12 “turned over and partially sank,” Pemex said.

Source: <http://gulftoday.ae/portal/4537c4ed-ec5b-4f7d-bd91-0082c7a612e4.aspx>

2. *April 13, Bangor Daily News* – (Maine) **Pan-Am train derailed in Old Town.** A handful of train cars in a line of 33 derailed late April 12, shutting down traffic to and from the French Island part of Old Town, Maine. The Pan-Am Railways train went off the tracks around 11 a.m., according to an Old Town fire lieutenant. Public safety officials closed three roads — Front, Bosworth, and Howard streets — that provide access to French Island from U.S. Route 2. None of the cars tipped over, no hazardous materials were spilled, and no injuries were reported as a result of the derailment. The lieutenant said most of the boxcars were carrying paper goods, but some were hauling LP gas. It was not clear what caused the derailment, but the fire lieutenant said officials from Pan-Am Railways responded immediately.
Source: <http://new.bangordailynews.com/2011/04/12/news/bangor/train-derails-on-french-island-in-old-town/?ref=mostReadBox>
3. *April 12, Biloxi-Gulfport Sun Herald* – (Mississippi) **Former employee accused of embezzling diesel fuel.** A former employee of C&C Pumping Services in Biloxi, Mississippi, is accused of taking more than 3,000 gallons of diesel fuel from the company over a one-year period, a police lieutenant said. The suspect turned himself in April 9. The loss is valued at more than \$10,000, the lieutenant said. The business on Old Highway 67 reported the loss in 2008. The company is a concrete-pumping business with fleets of booms and hydraulic trailer pumps. The man was booked at the Harrison County jail and released on \$10,000 bond. The maximum penalty for conviction of embezzling is 10 years in prison and a \$25,000 fine.
Source: <http://www.sunherald.com/2011/04/12/3022984/former-employee-accused-of-embezzling.html>
4. *April 12, Wall Street Journal* – (Kentucky; West Virginia) **Two mines get official safety warnings for explosive dangers.** U.S. mine safety officials placed two coal mines in Kentucky and West Virginia on notice April 12 that they could be shut down for any future safety violations, using for the first time an enforcement tool that has been on the books for more than 30 years. The Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) said Bledsoe Coal’s Abner Branch Rider Mine in Leslie County, Kentucky, and New West Virginia Mining’s Apache Mine in McDowell County, West Virginia, failed to correct safety problems after being targeted for stricter oversight late in 2010. Instead of lowering the rate of violations over the past few months, a spokesman said the two mines actually had a higher rate of violations for problems like accumulations of explosive coal dust. The mines were technically placed on “pattern of violation” status, meaning they had a history of persistent safety violations that the companies did not fix over the past several months. MSHA has not used the enforcement option since the Mine Act was enacted in 1977.

Source: http://www.myfoxmemphis.com/dpps/news/two-mines-get-official-safety-warnings-for-explosive-dangers-dpgonc-20110412-bb_12739699

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Chemical Industry Sector

5. *April 12, Parker Pioneer* – (Arizona) **Riverside Drive closed due to explosives.** Riverside Drive in Parker, Arizona, was closed for much of the afternoon and evening April 12 following the discovery of explosives in an abandoned structure near the intersection with Eagle Avenue. While some of the explosives were taken to a nearby vacant area and detonated, the others had to be disposed of by burning them at the scene. Workers cleaning the property discovered the explosives at about 2:30 p.m. The Parker police chief said they found more than 20 sticks of dynamite, as well as blasting caps and detonation cords. Labels on the dynamite indicated it dated from 1990 and it showed signs of deterioration. Riverside Drive was closed from Fiesta Avenue to Chemehuevi Drive. An area bounded by 11th Street, Fiesta Avenue, Ninth Street, and Chemehuevi Avenue was evacuated. The Explosives Ordnance Unit of the Lake Havasu City Police Department was called in. Other agencies that responded included the Parker Fire Department, Parker Public Works Department, the Colorado River Indian Tribes Police and Fire Departments, the La Paz County Sheriff's Office, Buckskin Fire Department, and River Medical. The Lake Havasu explosives unit assessed the scene and decided the dynamite was too deteriorated to move. The evacuation area was expanded to Eighth and 12th Streets and Riverside Drive was closed to California Avenue. Then, the dynamite was doused with diesel fuel to neutralize its active ingredient, nitroglycerine, and then set on fire at 8 p.m. There were no explosions, and firefighters were able to keep the fire from spreading. The fire began to die down soon after 9 p.m. By 9:25 p.m., area residents were allowed to return to their homes. The blasting caps and detonation cords were taken to a vacant area at the end of Chemehuevi Avenue and detonated. There were no injuries.

Source:

http://www.parkerpioneer.net/articles/2011/04/13/breaking_news/doc4da5458c5c75d590413315.txt

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

6. *April 12, Global Security Newswire* – (International) **Nations seen on course to meet nuclear security pledges.** Nations that participated in the April 2010 Global Nuclear Security Summit in Washington, D.C. are on course to meet the security pledges made one year ago, according to an expert assessment released April 11. At the summit, 47

nations unanimously pledged to secure worldwide caches of vulnerable nuclear material within 4 years. Published by the Arms Control Association and the Partnership for Global Security, the expert report finds that “states’ progress in meeting their commitments shows the great potential of the summit process to move the nuclear security agenda forward and reduce the risk of nuclear terrorism,” a co-author said. Roughly 60 percent of the individual state pledges made at the 2010 summit have been met, and significant advancements were made on an additional 30 percent, according to the report. A follow-on summit is to take place next spring in South Korea. Individual state security pledges that have been fulfilled include Chile’s handing over to the United States of its entire stockpile of weapon-grade uranium, which amounted to 40 pounds of nuclear material; the completion of a long-term effort in Kazakhstan to safeguard enough highly enriched uranium (HEU) and plutonium to fuel more than 770 warheads; and the cessation in Russia of plutonium generation and the renewal of a plutonium disposal agreement with Washington. Other states’ progress toward meeting their security commitments includes a January memorandum on U.S.-Chinese collaboration on the establishment of a nuclear security training facility in China, along with the withdrawal of more than half of Ukraine’s stock of HEU material to a more secure location.

Source: http://gsn.nti.org/gsn/nw_20110412_5331.php

For another story, see item [25](#)

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

7. *April 13, Associated Press* – (Indiana) **Ind. Subaru plant plans 4-day production halt on 1 line due to parts shortage caused by quake.** Subaru of America is halting production on one of its plant’s production lines in Lafayette, Indiana, for 4 days due to a parts shortage caused by Japan’s earthquake and tsunami. A Subaru spokeswoman told the Kokomo Tribune the automaker will halt production on the plant’s Toyota Camry line April 15, 18, 21, and 25. She said Subaru has not determined whether the plant’s three other production lines — all of which make Subaru vehicles — will experience any changes. The Lafayette plant employs a total of 3,550 permanent and temporary workers.
Source:
<http://www.greenfieldreporter.com/view/story/36dbcbb574cd4cad8ee97e3be3092bbc/IN--Subaru-Production-Lafayette/>
8. *April 12, Louisville Courier-Journal* – (Kentucky) **Louisville plant importing calcium carbide to meet demand.** Carbide Industries has begun to import calcium carbide from Mexico and several other countries to meet its customers’ needs, while investigators continue to look into what caused a fatal explosion that killed two workers at its plant in Louisville, Kentucky, in March, the Courier-Journal reported April 12. The plant manager said the calcium carbide is coming to Louisville in drums, where it is being processed and shipped either to customers, or to a sister plant in Calvert City where it is

converted to acetylene gas, or to another related facility in Oklahoma. “It’s a lot more expensive, for us and our customers,” he said. “We can’t do it long term.” Production at the Rubbertown plant stopped March 21, when its furnace exploded. Calcium carbide was produced by mixing quicklime and coke and heating it to 3,800 degrees. Calcium carbide is used to make acetylene gas, in chemical and steel manufacturing, and in metal cutting. The plant manager and local fire investigators said they still do not know what caused the blast.

Source: <http://www.courier-journal.com/article/20110412/NEWS01/304120067/-1/videonetwork/Louisville-plant-importing-calcium-carbide-meet-demand?odyssey=nav|head>

9. *April 12, WDRB 41 Louisville* – (Kentucky) **Carbide Industries operates differently following fatal explosion.** Carbide Industries employees returned to work the week of April 11, operating the Louisville, Kentucky plant in a much different way following a fatal plant explosion that killed two workers March 21. The plant manager said 130 employees returned to work focused on transitioning the plant from carbide production to carbide shipping. The company’s bringing in the product from countries such as Mexico, China, and Sweden to fill its orders. “In June, we’ll have 100 percent of our customers’ requirements coming in drums, and it takes a lot of work to open them up, empty them, put them in the proper containers for our customers and ship them,” according to the plant manager. He said it is not a profitable solution — just a way to get by. “Our target is April 2012 to start it up.” Yet nothing moves forward until they find a cause to the explosion. The Chemical Safety Board, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, and arson investigators have all combed the scene but have not released a report yet.

Source: <http://www.fox41.com/story/14432197/carbide-industries-operates-differently-following-fatal-explosion>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

Nothing to report

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Banking and Finance Sector

10. *April 13, Beaver County Times* – (Pennsylvania) **Cory man indicted in bank fraud.** A Coraopolis, Pennsylvania man was indicted April 12 by a federal grand jury on charges of defrauding a former Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania savings and loan of \$1 million, bringing the number of people charged in the multimillion-dollar scheme to four. The 24-year-old man faces 10 counts of bank fraud and one count of money laundering for supposedly making fraudulent electronic payments from his account with Dwelling House Savings and Loan in the city’s Hill District to a PayPal account in 2008, according to the office of the U.S. Attorney in charge of the case. The indictment could

yield a maximum sentence of 310 years in prison and a \$10.25 million fine, or both. Also indicted April 12 was a 55-year-old Pittsburgh resident, who faces bank fraud and conspiracy to commit money laundering charges. Prosecutors claim she stole at least \$213,000. In January, a 42-year-old Coraopolis woman was charged with 21 counts for bilking Dwelling House out of \$907,000. She faces up to 500 years in prison, a fine of \$14.75 million or both. On April 6, another woman pleaded guilty to bank fraud and money laundering after she was charged in the scheme. Prosecutors allege the defendants made electronic transactions that exceeded their Dwelling House account balances to PayPal. In charging documents for the 24-year-old man indicted April 12, prosecutors said Dwelling House did not properly report electronic withdrawals and payments. The suspect made 53 transactions between January 9 and December 16, 2008, prosecutors allege. They also claimed he had unnamed “other persons” make similar transactions. The thefts led the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. to close Dwelling House in August 2009.

Source: http://www.timesonline.com/news/business/cory-man-indicted-in-bank-fraud/article_6e981612-655c-11e0-9dfc-001a4bcf6878.html

11. *April 13, Associated Press* – (New Jersey) **Sparta man admits he ran \$135M Ponzi scheme with his medical equipment company.** A New Jersey man pleaded guilty April 13 to running a \$135 million Ponzi scheme with his medical equipment company. The man faces a minimum of 16 years in prison when he is sentenced in July. The man was arrested last fall, and appeared in U.S. district court in Newark. In the 1970s, he founded and ran Allied Health Care Services, based in Orange, to provide medical equipment, such as ventilators, to patients. The company provided legitimate services but gradually turned toward fraud, a U.S. attorney said April 13. In court, the man admitted obtaining about \$135 million in loans from about 50 banks between 2002 and 2010 that was to be used to buy medical equipment that would be leased to patients. Instead, he set up a separate corporation with a co-conspirator, who would write fake invoices to make it look as though medical equipment was being purchased and then leased, prosecutors said. When some of the banks wanted to check on the transactions, the man and the co-conspirator would block them by citing medical confidentiality laws, according to the U.S. attorney and the special agent in charge of the FBI’s Newark office. The co-conspirator has not yet been charged.

Source:

http://www.nj.com/news/index.ssf/2011/04/sparta_man_admits_he_ran_a_135.html

12. *April 12, Federal Bureau of Investigation* – (Maryland) **Pawn shop owner sentenced to prison in scheme to launder \$20 million in proceeds of stolen merchandise.** A U.S. district judge sentenced a 62-year-old Baltimore, Maryland man April 12 to 33 months in prison followed by 3 years of supervised release for conspiring to commit money laundering and attempting to evade taxes. According to his plea agreement, from 2007 to 2010, the man conspired with others to launder the proceeds of the sale of mass quantities of stolen over-the-counter medications, health and beauty aid products, gift cards, DVDs, tools, and other merchandise. Shoplifters, also known as “boosters,” stole products from Target, Safeway, Wal-Mart, Kohl’s and other retailers in Maryland and other states. Pawn shops bought large amounts of the stolen items. The man and

others were owners of E-Z Money Pawn Shop and 2Brothers Liquidators, Inc., where they received stolen products. The stolen items were “cleaned,” meaning the security labels and retail tags were removed. Sometimes a heat gun and lighter fluid would be used to peel away the plastic security labels. In addition, the convict worked with co-defendants to purchase and transport stolen material. Some of the defendants also used on-line auctions sites, such as eBay and Amazon.com, to sell the stolen products far below normal retail value. The swiped items were then delivered to unsuspecting customers via U.S. mail. The defendants received payment by interstate wire transfers using PayPal accounts and through various financial institutions in Maryland. Although the entire conspiracy involved about \$20 million in stolen merchandise, \$2.5 million in stolen goods was reasonably foreseeable to the man, authorities said. Thirteen defendants have pleaded guilty to the money laundering conspiracy to date. Source: <http://www.fbi.gov/baltimore/press-releases/2011/pawn-shop-owner-sentenced-to-prison-in-scheme-to-laundry-20-million-in-proceeds-in-stolen-merchandise>

13. *April 12, New Jersey Attorney General Office* – (National) **Six men indicted in multi-million dollar mortgage fraud scheme.** The New Jersey Attorney General and criminal justice director announced six men were indicted April 12 on charges they stole more than \$2.6 million from lenders by filing fraudulent mortgage loan applications. All of the defendants are charged with conspiracy (2nd degree). Three of the men and the two companies listed in the indictment are each charged with seven counts of theft by deception (2nd degree) in connection with seven mortgage loans totaling \$2,671,400 that were allegedly obtained by fraud. Another of the defendants is charged with two counts of theft by deception (2nd degree) related to two of the loans, and two others are each charged with one count of theft by deception (2nd degree). “We charge that these defendants stole more than \$2.6 million from mortgage lenders by falsifying loan applications for unqualified home buyers,” the attorney general said. “The defendants collected exorbitant fees from the loan proceeds, while the home buyers were left to face foreclosure and ruined credit.” It is alleged the defendants falsified information about employment, earnings and bank account balances on loan applications so home buyers could obtain loans for which they were not qualified. They also allegedly falsified U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) settlement forms. Source: <http://www.loansafe.org/6-men-indicted-in-multi-million-dollar-mortgage-fraud-scheme>

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Transportation Sector

14. *April 13, Salem Statesman Journal* – (Oregon) **Passengers evacuated after boat runs aground.** Passengers were evacuated from the Willamette Queen Sternwheeler after it ran aground April 12 in Salem, Oregon. The sternwheeler hit a gravel bar in the river between Salem and Independence, a passenger, whose husband, captains the vessel said. It is something that can happen when the river is not dredged, she said. Polk

County marine patrol and the Salem Fire Department were called to help remove passengers to lighten the vessel's load and get it moving again. No injuries were reported.

Source:

<http://www.statesmanjournal.com/article/20110413/NEWS/104130452/Passengers-evacuated-after-boat-runs-aground?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|News|s>

15. *April 13, Associated Press* – (South Carolina) **US 701 bridge remains closed after truck wreck.** Transportation officials said emergency repairs continue on the bridge on U.S. 701, which runs from Georgetown to Conway in South Carolina. The bridge over the Great Pee Dee River has been closed since April 11 when a truck driver was killed after his vehicle ran off the span into the marsh below. Officials said the wreck damaged part of the bridge's railing, which will have to be fixed before it can be reopened. The state department of transportation expected the work would be finished by April 13. U.S. 701 is the only direct route between Conway and Georgetown. Transportation officials said about 3,700 vehicles use the bridge every day. Traffic is now being rerouted more than a dozen miles away through Hemingway.

Source: <http://www.greenwichtime.com/news/article/US-701-bridge-remains-closed-after-truck-wreck-1334677.php>

16. *April 12, Alexandria Daily Town Talk* – (Louisiana) **Rapides Parish Police Jury seeks funds to replace burned bridge over Rigolette Bayou.** The Rapides Parish, Louisiana, Police Jury April 11 declared a state of emergency because of the recent fire at the Rigolette Road Bridge. The 300-foot bridge that spans Rigolette Bayou in the Tioga area was badly damaged by a fire early March 26. Inspectors with the state fire marshal's office were investigating the cause and whether it was arson. The fire burned the timber supports and left the bridge too dangerous to travel across. Residents of the dozen or so homes on the west side of the bayou have had to detour miles out of the way along the Red River levee road to get to Pineville since the incident. The police jury president put the cost at repairing the bridge at about \$250,000, if the parish is allowed to use its own workers and equipment. Should a condition of receiving federal or state aid be that the work has to be contracted, he said, the cost could climb to \$750,000 or more. Parish workers and the Louisiana National Guard rebuilt the bridge after a fire destroyed it in 1999.

Source:

<http://www.thetowntalk.com/article/20110412/NEWS01/104120330/0/HSSPORTS02/Rapides-Parish-Police-Jury-seeks-funds-replace-burned-bridge-over-Rigolette-Bayou?odyssey=nav|head>

For more stories, see items [2](#), [5](#), [24](#), [53](#), [55](#), and [57](#)

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Postal and Shipping Sector

17. *April 13, Lexington Herald-Leader* – (Kentucky) **Inmate accused of telling officials packages contained anthrax.** An inmate of the Big Sandy Penitentiary in Inez, Kentucky, has been indicted on charges he falsely communicated to numerous Kentucky officials, including the governor, that packages mailed to them contained anthrax, smallpox, or explosives, Herald-Leader reported April 13. The 48-year-old man was charged with 21 counts of falsely telling federal judges and several Kentucky congressmen that whoever opened a letter would be exposed to anthrax or smallpox. He was indicted April 7. According to the indictment, he conveyed “false and misleading information” that would have led someone to believe a package delivered by the U.S. Postal Service contained explosives. He has been incarcerated since 2009 for killing his stepfather with a pipe bomb in 1984 in Texas.
Source: <http://www.kentucky.com/2011/04/13/1706011/inmate-charged-with-telling-officials.html>
18. *April 13, White Plains Journal News* – (New York) **State Sen. Greg Ball targeted with package ‘full of hate’.** New York State Police responded to Albany’s Legislative Office Building at 1:05 p.m. April 12, where they said they found a suspicious package mailed to a New York state senator. The package contained a stuffed Curious George monkey pinned with Stars of David and an anti-Semitic and racially charged screed. The package also contained a vial with an unknown substance. The Albany Fire Department Hazardous Materials team transported the contents to a department of health laboratory for analysis, police said. An investigation is ongoing.
Source: <http://www.lohud.com/article/20110413/NEWS01/104130341/State-Sen-Greg-Ball-targeted-package-full-hate-?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|News|s>
19. *April 12, WVUE 8 New Orleans* – (Louisiana) **Federal and local authorities investigate powdery substance found at hotel.** Federal and local authorities investigated a mysterious white, powdery chemical that showed up in an employee’s mail at a Holiday Inn Express in New Orleans, Louisiana April 12. New Orleans police and firefighters were called at 9:28 a.m. to the hotel in the 7000 block of Bullard Avenue. A hazardous materials crew was also on the scene. Investigators said an employee opened a piece of mail in her car and white mist came out. The woman did not think anything of it until she got to work and her skin started itching where the chemical came in contact with it, a New Orleans Fire Department spokesman said. Because the mysterious substance came in the mail, the FBI, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, postal inspectors, and Immigration and Customs Enforcement were called to the hotel. At least 17 people were quarantined at the hotel. The woman was put in isolation in an EMS response unit. Parts of the hotel were sanitized. The contents of the envelope and the woman’s car were sent to a state police laboratory for further testing.
Source: <http://www.fox8live.com/news/local/story/Federal-and-local-authorities-investigate-powdery/Ue7kVZoPqE25ZeZWzc0ROA.csp>
20. *April 12, Birmingham News* – (Alabama) **Birmingham Fire and Rescue Service: Substance in courthouse letter harmless.** A white substance in a letter found April 12 at the Mel Bailey Criminal Justice Center in Birmingham, Alabama, is harmless,

according to the Birmingham Fire and Rescue Service. Firefighters were called to the ninth floor of the building about 6 p.m., a fire official said. The bomb squad of the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office also responded. Birmingham police closed an intersection while the hazardous materials unit of the Birmingham fire department and the bomb squad worked from a command center. A chief deputy with the sheriff's office said patrol deputies responded with the bomb squad when the court clerk's office reported receiving a letter with the substance and "threatening language" directed at a federal judge. The chief deputy said there was no safety of health threat. The investigation was turned over to the U.S. Postal Inspector's Office and FBI because the threat involved a federal judge.

Source: http://blog.al.com/spotnews/2011/04/birmingham_fire_and_rescue_ser.html

21. *April 12, KSNT 27 Topeka* – (Kansas) **Kansas Highway Patrol evacuates headquarters building.** A suspicious letter prompted the evacuation of the Kansas Highway Patrol (KHP) headquarters in Topeka April 12. KHP evacuated the building after staff became concerned when something fell out of a certified letter they had received. Topeka Fire Department hazmat crews were sent in to examine the letter, but initial tests found no hazardous materials. One person was sent to the hospital as a precaution and was later released. Workers were allowed back in the building around 4 p.m.

Source: http://www.ksnt.com/news/local/story/Kansas-Highway-Patrol-evacuates-headquarters/vSH_3BTZ8kGKwSqSkkWyIA.csp

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Agriculture and Food Sector

22. *April 13, Martinsburg Journal* – (West Virginia) **Man tosses explosive at McDonald's.** An 18-year-old Martinsburg, West Virginia man was arrested after allegedly throwing a glass bottle containing a flammable substance with a lit rag in it at a McDonald's restaurant April 12 in Martinsburg, the Berkeley County sheriff said. The suspect was arrested on multiple charges. The Molotov cocktail was thrown against the restaurant's exterior wall. Some of the wall's paint was damaged, and the small fire resulting from the attack was out when firefighters arrived. After allegedly throwing the bomb, the suspect took off running down the nearby railroad tracks and was pursued by an off-duty deputy. The attack was reported shortly after 4 p.m., and Martinsburg Police Department officers apprehended the suspect around 4:30 p.m. Responding units included Berkeley County, the Baker Heights Volunteer Fire Department, the West Virginia Regional Response Team, and the Berkeley County Sheriff's Department. The suspect was arrested on charges of second-degree arson, possession of a destructive device, criminal use of a destructive device, and wanton endangerment involving a destructive device.

Source: <http://www.journal-news.net/page/content.detail/id/559544/Man-tosses-explosive-at-McDonald-s.html?nav=5006>

23. *April 12, Biloxi Sun Herald* – (National) **NOAA: Gulf seafood safe to eat.** A National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fisheries chief told reporters April 12 that “not one piece of tainted seafood has entered the market” related to the 2010 BP oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico, starting within days of the well blow out. The April 20 explosion killed 11 men working on an oil platform, and resulted in the largest accidental marine oil spill in the history of the petroleum industry. The assistant administrator lead a tour of the testing labs in Pascagoula, Mississippi, to show national and regional media the rigorous methods used to insure Gulf seafood is safe — smell tests and chemical analysis. With the BP oil spill anniversary near, he said the unequivocal results are that any traces of oil in more than 40 species of marine life is 100 to 1,000 times below the level of concern, the level being set by a team of scientist from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, NOAA, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and all five Gulf states.
Source: <http://www.sacbee.com/2011/04/12/3547776/noaa-gulf-seafood-safe-to-eat.html>

24. *April 12, Beaver Dam Daily Citizen* – (Wisconsin) **Train derails on Beaver Dam spur.** Two engines and one freight car of a Wisconsin & Southern Railroad (WSOR) train derailed April 11 behind the Animart building in Beaver Dam, Wisconsin. According to WSOR’s manager of community development, the derailment was caused by a wide gauge in the rail and what he termed as “very poor tie conditions” on the portion of the track owned by the city of Beaver Dam. The freight car was carrying frozen vegetables. WSOR crews brought in a crane April 12 to put the cars back on the tracks. The derailment occurred on the industrial lead of track, and that portion of the track will be taken out of service until the city can repair it. The engines were pulling three freight cars at the time of the derailment. A spokesman for the city’s engineering department said the estimated cost of repairing the city-owned spur is \$50,000.
Source: http://www.wiscnews.com/bdc/news/local/article_43445850-656f-11e0-a16b-001cc4c03286.html

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Water Sector

25. *April 12, Philadelphia Inquirer* – (Pennsylvania) **Radioactive iodine in city water spurs enhanced testing.** The Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Water Department announced April 11 it is enhancing its testing procedures and reviewing treatment technology after federal environmental officials found radioactive iodine in the city’s drinking water. The level of Iodine-131 found at the Queen Lane treatment plant is the highest of 23 sites in 13 states where the particles have appeared following the massive radiation leaks from the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant in Japan. Lower levels were found at the city’s two other plants. But the Iodine-131 in Philadelphia may have no connection to Japan, officials said. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) said April 11 that Philadelphia water samples from last August contained nearly twice as much radioactive iodine as the recent samples collected after the Fukushima disaster. Nobody knows exactly how the Iodine-131 is getting into Philly’s drinking

water. A health physicist at Oregon State University said the most likely source is a nearby or upstream medical facility that treats cancer patients with Iodine-131, which can enter the water supply when patients go to the bathroom. She said the iodine levels found in Philadelphia and other U.S. cities did not pose a health threat. But environmental officials at the city, state, and federal level are trying to identify the source, and carbon has been added at the Queen Lane plant as a “cautionary measure” to help purify the water.

Source: http://articles.philly.com/2011-04-12/news/29410076_1_drinking-water-iodine-levels-radioactive-iodine

26. *April 12, Yakima Herald-Republic* – (Washington) **Thieves keep targeting Harrah treatment plant.** Harrah, Washington, officials are frustrated with break-ins at the wastewater treatment plant. Someone had cut the fence to the facility at the north end of town April 8, but nothing was stolen, thanks to a recently installed \$2,719 storage building. But the city was not as fortunate during a break-in at the plant 2 weeks ago, when a \$2,220, 3-inch water pump and an \$811 weed sprayer were taken. That prompted the new storage building. Last October, the town had to replace a dead-bolt and door after a break-in. A new dead-bolt cost \$200. Nothing was taken. But in another break-in at the plant earlier last year, a dog trap and dog cage were taken. Source: <http://www.yakima-herald.com/stories/2011/04/12/thieves-keep-targeting-harrah-treatment-plant>

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

27. *April 12, Associated Press* – (New York) **Chemical spill at U of R causes evacuation of research labs.** A hazardous material situation caused evacuations of research labs at the University of Rochester Medical Center in Rochester, New York, April 11. Emergency crews responded to the medical research building around 4:30 p.m. for a report of a chemical spill on the 3rd floor. An evacuation of the building began around 5 p.m. Everyone was allowed to return around 5:45 p.m. There was no word on any injuries, and the cleanup was underway. Source: <http://www.whec.com/news/stories/S2062988.shtml?cat=565>
28. *April 12, Portland Press Herald* – (Oregon) **Police investigating pharmacy robberies in Portland and South Portland.** Police in two Oregon cities were searching April 12 for a suspect or suspects, who were involved in two late night pharmacy robberies. A Portland police officer said a white male entered the CVS Pharmacy at 449 Forest Avenue around 9:45 p.m. and made off with an undetermined amount of prescription drugs. No weapon was displayed. At 8:34 p.m., a white male entered the CVS Pharmacy at 50 Market Street in South Portland, demanded drugs and fled. The robber did not display a weapon. Authorities are not sure the robberies were committed by the same person. Source: <http://www.pressherald.com/news/Police-investigating-pharmacy-robberies-in-Portland-and-South-Portland.html>

For another story, see item [11](#)

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Government Facilities Sector

29. *April 13, Talking Points Memo* – (California; International) **Chinese national charged with running scam U.S. Army unit.** A Chinese national was arrested April 12 in California on charges he created a fake Army special forces unit and convinced more than 100 other Chinese nationals to join and pay him fees to participate, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's (DA) office said. The 51-year-old suspect of El Monte, California, allegedly called himself the "Supreme Commander" of a phony military unit called the "U.S. Army/Military Special Forces Reserve." According to the DA, he formed the unit in October 2008, and recruited other Chinese nationals by telling them joining was a path to U.S. citizenship. Members allegedly paid the man initiation fees ranging from \$300 to \$450, along with yearly \$120 renewal fees. In return, the man provided recruits with fake U.S. Army uniforms, fake documents, and fake military ID cards. He also allegedly decorated his Temple City, California office to look like a U.S. military recruiting center, and ordered his recruits to report for military training and indoctrination. The DA's office press release said the fake unit even marched in a parade in Monterey Park, and went in uniform for a tour of the USS Midway museum in San Diego. According to the Los Angeles Times, the suspect's recruits were "typically" low-wage workers at Chinese restaurants, and while most were from the Los Angeles area, some lived as far away as Georgia. An FBI spokeswoman said investigations began 3 years ago, when police began to notice some people pulling out fake military identification during traffic stops.

Source:

http://tpmmuckraker.talkingpointsmemo.com/2011/04/chinese_national_charged_with_running_scam_us_army.php

30. *April 13, Philadelphia Inquirer* – (Pennsylvania) **Phila.'s Henry School evacuated after pepper spray incidents.** The Henry School in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, was temporarily evacuated April 12, and 15 students and 5 adults were treated for exposure to pepper spray, a school district spokeswoman said. Philadelphia police are investigating how the spray was released in the school just outside the cafeteria about 12:50 p.m., as students were leaving lunch. It was the second time that day pepper spray was released at the school. The first occurred in a hallway about 9:30 a.m., and five students were affected. Paramedics provided treatment at the school after the second incident, and school later resumed.

Source: <http://www.philly.com/philly/education/119749404.html>

31. *April 13, msnbc.com and Associated Press* – (Connecticut) **Yale student dies in chemistry lab accident.** A Yale University student has died in an apparent accident in a chemistry lab machine shop in New Haven, Connecticut, an official said. Yale said a senior died April 12 "in what appears to have been a terrible accident involving a piece of equipment." The university did not say what the equipment was. Yale's vice

president wrote in a message to students and faculty that the student “was an exceptional young woman, an outstanding student and young scientist, a dear friend and a vibrant member of this community.” According to the chemistry department’s Web site, access to the room where people “construct or modify research instrumentation” is “strictly limited to those who have completed the shop course,” the Yale Daily News reported.

Source: http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/42569811/ns/us_news-life

32. *April 12, Orange County Register* – (California) **Bomb scare evacuates parochial school.** A suspicious device in the Covenant Presbyterian Church parking lot April 12 in Orange, California, brought out the Orange County Sheriff’s Department’s bomb squad and caused a brief evacuation at the adjoining school. Officials at the school called police at 10:45 a.m. when the object was discovered near the youth hall, said the ministry coordinator at the church and school. The coordinator described the object as four metal pipes — two long pipes and two shorter ones — taped together. A sergeant from the Orange Police Department said the object appeared suspicious enough to contact the bomb squad. The school’s 175 students were evacuated while the bomb squad cordoned off the area and used robotic equipment to determine whether or not the object was a bomb. By 1 p.m., the object was determined not to be a bomb and was collected and taken away by the police.

Source: <http://www.ocregister.com/news/bomb-296014-object-squad.html>

33. *April 12, Ars Technica* – (Texas) **Texas exposes addresses, SSNs of 3.5 million residents.** The state of Texas revealed April 11 that personal information for 3.5 million citizens has been exposed to the public, including names, addresses, Social Security numbers, and more. According to the Texas State Comptroller, the data was not exposed by a hacker or a group of vigilantes — it ended up on a state-controlled public server after having been passed around between various state agencies. The data came from the Teacher Retirement System of Texas, the Texas Workforce Commission, and the Employees Retirement System of Texas, all of whom transferred the unencrypted data (against state policy) between January and May of 2010. The information was discovered on the public server March 31, meaning it had been available for almost a year. So far, the state said there is no indication the data was misused, but that does not mean it has not or will not be sometime in the future. In addition to the aforementioned personal information, the comptroller said other data, such as date of birth and driver’s license numbers had been exposed “to varying degrees.” Additionally, “all the numbers were embedded in a chain of numbers and not in separate fields.”

Source: <http://arstechnica.com/security/news/2011/04/texas-exposes-addresses-ssns-of-35-million-residents.ars>

For more stories, see items [17](#), [18](#), [20](#), and [52](#)

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Emergency Services Sector

34. *April 13, Officer.com and Associated Press* – (South Dakota) **S.D. corrections officer killed during escape attempt.** Two convicted kidnappers killed a 63-year-old prison guard April 12 during a failed attempt to escape from a Sioux Falls, South Dakota prison where they were serving lengthy sentences, authorities said. The two convicts were apprehended on the grounds of the South Dakota Penitentiary, and a sweep of the facility showed all staff and inmates were accounted for, the state department of corrections said. The duo tried to escape shortly before 11 a.m., assaulting the guard in the process, the department of corrections said. The corrections officer who had worked at the penitentiary for more than 23 years was pronounced dead at a hospital, and a second guard suffered minor injuries. The department did not release further details about the escape attempt or attack. The prison, which has both maximum and minimum security wings, was locked down pending an investigation. The two convicts were taken to the county jail in Sioux Falls, authorities said.
Source: <http://www.officer.com/news/10254036/sd-corrections-officer-killed-during-escape-attempt>
35. *April 12, KMOV 4 St. Louis* – (Illinois) **St. Clair County officials blame delayed emergency responses on staff shortages.** An abnormally long emergency response time to a call in which a man was stabbed has raised eyebrows in St. Clair County, Illinois. It reportedly took St. Clair County deputies 20 minutes to respond to the call that came out in a neighborhood east of Belleville April 9. The sheriff's department said the response time was so long because 12 officers were laid off in 2010, it only has three patrol deputies on duty, and because they were busy with other calls. The sheriff said he is trying to solve his short staffing problem, and has been in negotiations with the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) about the laid off officers. The sheriff said talks stalled when the FOP's chief negotiator was hurt in an accident, but noted he hopes they will eventually work out a deal.
Source: <http://www.kmov.com/news/local/St-Clair-County-officials-blame-delayed-emergency-responses-on-staff-shortages-119739514.html>
36. *April 12, WSYX 6 Columbus* – (Ohio) **Man fatally shoots himself outside Hilliard PD.** A man suspected of an offense that led Hilliard, Ohio officers to searching his home about 7 a.m. April 12 took his own life in the police department's parking lot hours later, ABC6/FOX28 News has learned. The man shot himself about 10 a.m. while inside a van. The parking lot is located in the 5100 block of Northwest Parkway in Hilliard. The man was declared dead at Riverside Hospital in north Columbus. Police did not confirm a motive for the shooting as of shortly before 2 p.m. April 12. The man was a suspect of an ongoing investigation being conducted by the Immigration and Customs Enforcement/Homeland Security Agency. About 7 a.m., members of the latter, accompanied by Hilliard police officers, conducted a search of the man's home. Police did not comment on why they specifically obtained the search warrant or if they confiscated any items from the man's home.
Source:
http://www.abc6onyourside.com/shared/newsroom/top_stories/videos/wsyx_vid_10317.shtml

37. *April 11, Washington Times* – (California) **L.A. police use intel networks against terror.** Police are using a combination of aggressive spy operations and community outreach to counter what the Los Angeles, California deputy police chief called the growing threat of Mumbai, India-style terrorist attacks — car bombings and small-arms-equipped suicide teams. For the Los Angeles Police Department, the top priority is countering violent, ideological extremism from several Muslim communities in the region made up of diaspora from Yemen, Libya, Egypt, Somalia, Pakistan, Afghanistan, India, and elsewhere. Los Angeles has one of the few big-city police departments with a dedicated counterterrorism intelligence program. Until several years ago, only 30 members of the police department engaged in counterterrorism intelligence work. That number grew to 750 in November after the special operations branch was added to the 300-member unit of officers working the intelligence operations against terrorists. The department’s intelligence branch uses a “hunt-and-pursue” strategy employing analysts who study data collected by police and networks of recruited informants and other surveillance to identify groups or people planning attacks. Police then act to disrupt the operations.
Source: <http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2011/apr/11/la-police-use-intel-networks-against-terror//?page=all#pagebreak>

For another story, see item [21](#)

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Information Technology Sector

38. *April 13, Softpedia* – (International) **Microsoft employee accused of stealing funds.** A former Microsoft director of business development was charged with wire fraud after allegedly abusing his position to steal over \$515,000 from the software giant. The man was arrested April 12 and had criminal charges filed against him in Seattle, Washington. Microsoft sued its former employee for damages back in January. According to the lawsuit, the man worked as a director of business development for Microsoft’s Strategic Partnerships Team in the Online Audience Business Group. His job description involved negotiating contracts and approving payments to distribution partners, responsibilities which he exploited to defraud his employer.
Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Microsoft-Employee-Accused-of-Stealing-Funds-194729.shtml>
39. *April 13, Softpedia* – (International) **Yahoo! allows users to monitor account login activity.** Yahoo! has introduced a new feature that allows users to review their account’s log-in history for strange activity and signs of possible compromise. E-mail accounts are valuable for cyber criminals and can be compromised in a variety of ways, including via keyloggers or phishing. Since storage space is no longer a major issue, a lot of people fail to delete old e-mails. This is a security risk because those messages can contain passwords and sensitive information about other accounts. Besides the more traditional illegal activities such as spamming, compromised accounts can be used to send scam e-mails to the user’s own contacts, increasing the chances of finding

someone willing to pay. The new feature is not limited to e-mail and covers all services provided under the same Yahoo! ID. The “Recent Login Activity” page lists logins by date, location, access client (browser, Y! Messenger), and the place of origin (Front Page, Mail, etc.). This information is used to establish a pattern, and if one login does not fit into it the entry is marked with an alert icon. The feature helps users take corrective action, such as changing their passwords, as quickly as possible in case of compromise.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Yahoo-Allows-Users-to-Monitor-Account-Login-Activity-194784.shtml>

40. *April 12, Computerworld* – (International) **Microsoft delivers monster security update for Windows, IE.** Microsoft April 12 patched a record 64 vulnerabilities in Windows, Office, Internet Explorer (IE), and other software, including 30 bugs in the Windows kernel device driver and 1 in IE that was exploited at the Pwn2Own hacking contest in March. The company also delivered a long-discussed “backport” to Office 2003 and Office 2007 that brings one of the newer security features in Office 2010 to the older editions. The 17 updates tied a record set late in 2011, but beat the October 2010 mark for the total number of flaws they fixed. Altogether, updates released April 12 patched 64 vulnerabilities, 15 more than in October and 24 more than in the former second-place collection of December 2010. Nine of the 17 bulletins were pegged “critical,” Microsoft’s highest threat ranking, while the remainder were marked “important,” the next-most-serious label. Microsoft and virtually every security expert pegged several updates that users should download and install immediately. “There are three we think are top priorities,” said the group manager with the Microsoft Security Response Center. He selected MS11-018, MS11-019, and MS11-020 as the most important updates.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9215751/Microsoft_delivers_monster_security_update_for_Windows_IE

41. *April 12, CNET News* – (International) **Avast update blocks legitimate Web sites.** An update released April 11 to Avast’s antivirus product contained a bug that flags legitimate Web sites as malware infected. In a blog post late April 11, Avast acknowledged the false positive glitch in an update known as 110411-1, which was automatically released to Avast AV users earlier that day. The error has specifically affected versions 4.x, 5.x, and 6.x of Avast’s antivirus software. In an e-mail to CNET, an Avast spokesman said April 12 the update was downloaded by around 5 million users, mostly in the Western Hemisphere due to the time it was launched. Avast sensors discovered the problem just a few minutes after the buggy update was released, and Avast workers managed to create and release a fix (110411-2) within 45 minutes, according to the company. The Avast spokesman said the problem was caused by a bug in the company’s URL normalizer library, which is used to modify a Web site’s address into a standard format. He said that for most users, the faulty update solely blocked access to certain sites. But if someone ran the software’s on-demand scan of the hard drive, then any HTML files stored locally could have been quarantined.

Source: http://news.cnet.com/8301-1009_3-20053085-83.html

42. *April 11, Softpedia* – (International) **Security vulnerability allegedly discovered in Dropbox client.** A security researcher claims Dropbox is vulnerable to a design flaw that makes it easy for attackers to copy data from people’s accounts if they obtain access to a particular file. According to the security expert, after adding a computer to the sync chain, the Windows Dropbox client generates a unique host_id token and stores it in the %APPDATA%\Dropbox\config.db file. This host_id is used to authenticate the computer with the service and, apparently, it can be easily transferred to another system and used to download a copy of the data on it. The problem is Dropbox does not perform any additional checks to determine if the host_id is actually located on the computer it was generated on. The security expert explained a Trojan can be configured to extract the host_id from config.db and send it to hackers for accessing the victim’s data. The only way to revoke a host_id is to unlink the corresponding computer from the Dropbox.com account.
Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Design-Security-Flaw-Allegedly-Discovered-in-Dropbox-Client-194427.shtml>

43. *April 11, CNET News* – (International) **Facebook fixes bug affecting Hotmail users.** Facebook has fixed a bug in the site’s password reset feature that could have been exploited to expose passwords of a small number of users who also use Hotmail. “We can access password of any facebook user who uses hotmail email address as their facebook account,” a Turkish security researcher wrote in an e-mail to CNET the weekend of April 9 and 10. “If you have any hotmail account and if it is used as facebook account, we can change and send you your new password:).” A Facebook spokesman released a statement April 11 confirming the bug and saying it had been fixed. “We were notified of this vulnerability by a Turkish security researcher via our white hat queue, and we worked to quickly resolve the problem,” the statement said.
Source: http://news.cnet.com/8301-27080_3-20052926-245.html

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

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>

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Communications Sector

44. *April 13, Visalia Times-Delta* – (California) **Radio station KZPO returns to airwaves after storms knock out signal.** A Tulare County, California radio station returned to the airwaves the week of April 11 after mountain snowstorms 3 weeks ago knocked out the signal. KZPO, known as Kings Radio at 103.3 FM, was knocked off the air when snowstorms damaged equipment at the station’s Blue Ridge mountain transmitter site

above Springville, a sales representative said. The site is at a 6,000-foot elevation. “Our engineers have repaired enough of the ice-damaged antenna and the studio-to-transmitter link to provide three-fourths of the usual operating volume,” the representative said. Full volume will be restored in the days ahead, he said. The signal was lost March 20 and was restored April 10.

Source: <http://www.visaliatimesdelta.com/article/20110413/NEWS01/104130311>

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Commercial Facilities Sector

45. *April 13, Associated Press* – (Georgia) **2 teens charged after bomb goes off at Ga. store.** Glynn County police said April 12 they have charged two juveniles with setting off a homemade chemical bomb at a department store at Glynn Place Mall in Brunswick, Georgia. The Brunswick police chief said no one was injured April 10 when a plastic bottle bomb exploded in the store’s children’s clothing section, but it is not known how close any customers were when it went off. He said materials in the bomb included drain cleaner. The chief also said one of the teens was wearing a backpack, and had been told to leave because backpacks are banned there. He said the two were seen running from the area and leaving on bicycles. A police report stated both teens were taken to a youth detention center in Savannah with each charged with felony criminal damage to property.
Source: <http://www.beaumontenterprise.com/news/article/2-teens-charged-after-bomb-goes-off-at-Ga-store-1334881.php>

46. *April 13, Associated Press* – (Illinois) **Teen admits setting Wal-Mart fire in Wood River.** A southwestern Illinois teenager faces up to four years in prison and the prospect of paying nearly \$1 million in restitution for damage resulting from a Wal-Mart fire he admits setting last fall. The Telegraph of Alton reported a 17-year-old pleaded guilty April 11 on a reduced arson charge. He originally was charged with aggravated arson. Surveillance video footage from the Wood River Wal-Mart shows the suspect setting a fire last September in a shelving unit that held shampoo and hairspray. Two or three aerosol cans exploded. Wal-Mart said the blaze caused about \$983,000 in damage to merchandise and various repairs. A sentencing date has not been set.
Source: <http://www.bnd.com/2011/04/13/1669194/teen-admits-setting-wal-mart-fire.html>

47. *April 13, KCRG 9 Cedar Rapids* – (Iowa) **Hazmat evacuates North Liberty hotel.** Guests at the Sleep Inn in North Liberty, Iowa had an early morning wake-up call by members of the hazmat team April 13. The hotel had to be evacuated just before 7 a.m. April 13 after the pool’s chlorine tank sprung a leak. Police officers on scene said it was a potentially dangerous situation, so they needed to evacuate the guests for safety reasons. Crews remained on the scene past 10 a.m. trying to figure out how to rid the hotel of the chemical smell. Police said they will likely blow the smell out onto Interstate 80 where it will safely dissipate.

Source: <http://www.kcrg.com/news/local/Hazmat-Evacuates-North-Liberty-Hotel-119772594.html>

48. *April 12, Deseret News* – (Utah) **Powdery substance sends five Fashion Square employees to the hospital.** A hazardous materials scene played out at Fashion Square Mall in Murray, Utah April 12 after a powdery substance sent five people to the hospital. Two employees of a Payless ShoeSource were unpacking a shipment when they noticed a loose orange powder in one of the packages, according to the Murray deputy fire marshal. The store manager said she could smell the powder and almost immediately began to itch. She took herself to a clinic for treatment, but when staff there learned what had happened they sent her to a hospital. Another employee went directly to the hospital. Hazmat crews were sent to the store where four other employees were suspected to have come in contact with the substance, which was later determined to be harmless. Three of the employees were checked out at the scene. Of those, two were sent to the hospital. The third exhibited strong symptoms, including a bad cough, and was taken by ambulance to Alta View Hospital. The substance is believed to be a powder placed in many packages to prevent moisture, police said.
Source: <http://www.deseretnews.com/article/705370520/Powdery-substance-sends-five-Fashion-Square-employees-to-the-hospital.html>
49. *April 12, Associated Press* – (National) **Felony charges filed in CA against blast suspect.** Los Angeles, California prosecutors charged a man suspected of causing an explosion at a synagogue with four felony counts April 12, after an FBI affidavit was filed in federal court saying a receipt for a large amount of chemicals had linked him to the crime. The state felony counts against the man include possession of a destructive device near a public place and private residence, explosion with intent to murder, and use of a destructive device and explosive to injure or destroy. He faces up to life in prison without the possibility of parole if convicted, the Los Angeles District Attorney's office said. The man was also charged with fleeing to avoid prosecution after the blast the week of April 4 that shattered windows and punched a hole in the Santa Monica synagogue. The explosion also knocked a hole in the roof of a nearby house. Authorities have not released a motive for the explosion although Jewish groups have said they did not believe anti-Semitism was necessarily behind it. Police arrested the man April 11 at a Hebrew school in Cleveland Heights, Ohio after a rabbi recognized him from news reports about the explosion. The man ended up in the Cleveland suburb after he boarded a Greyhound bus hours after the blast. He was scheduled to appear in federal court April 13.
Source: <http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/ap/top/all/7519138.html>
50. *April 12, WJW 8 Cleveland* – (Ohio) **Police: man electrocuted at Rolling Acres mall.** Authorities said a man was electrocuted while trying to steal cable from the Rolling Acres Mall April 12 in Akron, Ohio. According to Akron police, officers were initially called to the mall after receiving reports of a man on the roof, trying to cut cables. Police said the man was attempting to scrap the cable from a transformer using bolt cutters, when he accidentally cut through a live wire and electrocuted himself instantly. Electrical crews responded and blocked off the transformer, which was

reportedly damaged and charred. The Summit County Medical Examiner's Office was also called to the scene. Police said scrapping has been a significant problem recently in and around the vacant mall.

Source: <http://www.fox8.com/news/wjw-man-electrocuted-rolling-acres-mall-txt,0,3992416.story>

For more stories, see items [5](#) and [19](#)

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

51. *April 13, Associated Press* – (Texas) **Wildfires still burning in dry West Texas.** Summer-like weather contributed to spring wildfires still raging in parts of dry West Texas. A Texas Forest Service spokesman said a fire that's blackened 120,000 acres in Presidio and Jeff Davis counties was not contained April 13. Aircraft and ground personnel were fighting the fire, which started April 9 and has burned as many as 50 homes.
Source: <http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/ap/tx/7519542.html>

52. *April 13, Associated Press* – (Oklahoma) **Firefighters contain blaze at Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge, training school evacuated.** A fire that burned an estimated 1,500 to 2,000 acres at the Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge in southwestern Oklahoma was extinguished April 13. The Comanche County Emergency Services manager said firefighters extinguished the blaze about 1 a.m. but remained on the scene to make sure it did not reignite. No injuries were reported, however the Treasure Lake Job Corps campus was evacuated.
Source: <http://www.kfor.com/news/sns-ap-ok--refugefire,0,6676539.story>

53. *April 13, Associated Press* – (District of Columbia) **Lights back on at Lincoln Memorial, Korean War Veterans Memorial following power outage.** Officials said power was restored April 13 to the Lincoln Memorial and nearby areas in Washington D.C. after an overnight outage, A Pepco spokesman said. The National Park Service said the lights went out at the memorials late April 12 after an underground electrical cable was apparently damaged. The outage also affected the plaza area in front of the Lincoln Memorial, the Korean War Veterans Memorial, and traffic lights at Independence Avenue and 23rd Street in southwest.
Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/lights-back-on-at-lincoln-memorial-korean-war-veterans-memorial-following-power-outage/2011/04/13/AFWbBqUD_story.html

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Dams Sector

54. *April 14, Sydney Morning Herald* – (International) **Lowering dam level ‘no safeguard’**. Brisbane, Australia, would not be saved from major floods if the region’s biggest dam was pre-emptively lowered to safeguard against “extraordinary wet seasons”, an inquiry heard April 13. A SunWater engineer who oversaw Wivenhoe Dam releases during the January floods said he would not support seasonal reductions in the dam level because weather forecasts were unreliable and drinking water would be sacrificed. The inquiry has already been told the Queensland government shelved plans to lower the Wivenhoe dam storage level late last year because the proposed 5 percent reduction would be “pointless” in avoiding major floods. But in February, a month after the floods, the government announced a temporary reduction in the full supply level to 75 percent as a precautionary measure for the rest of the wet season. The inquiry continues.
Source: <http://www.smh.com.au/environment/water-issues/lowering-dam-level-no-safeguard-20110413-1de7s.html>
55. *April 13, Associated Press* – (North Dakota) **River dam near ND city of 1,200 at risk of failure**. About 200 people who live near the Des Lacs River in North Dakota have been advised to evacuate their homes because a dam might fail, though it did not appear any had heeded the warning early April 13. The National Weather Service issued a flash flood watch for the area on the west edge of Burlington, a city of about 1,200 people, saying a dam failure could lead to a 2-3 foot rise in the river. The assistant police chief said he was not aware of anyone leaving their home yet, and that officials in a boat already have rescued one person whose home was surrounded by floodwaters. It was a marked shift west for the North Dakota flood fight, after authorities in the Fargo area reported floodwaters were slowly dropping in rural areas hit with unprecedented overland flooding. Officials were quickly building up dikes in Valley City, about 50 miles west of Fargo, where the Sheyenne River was coming in higher and faster than expected. The governor and other state officials were traveling to Burlington April 13. The dirt-and-rock structure known locally as the Cogdill Horse Shoe Dam helps control the river’s flow as it meets the Souris River and flows around Burlington. Authorities have been trying to plug holes in the dam with sandbags. “We do expect a moderate to high risk that the dam will fail within the next 24 hours,” a weather service meteorologist told KCJB radio early April 13. “The problem is there’s no remote sensing or direct eyes on the dam to provide any forewarning.” He told the Associated Press that Federal Emergency Management Agency officials were bringing equipment to monitor the dam. An evacuation could become mandatory if the dam were to fail or if officials became certain it was about to fail. He said it was difficult to predict what sort of damage might result from a failure or how much time people would have to prepare for high water. There were fewer problems reported in the Fargo area, where flooding from the Red River and its tributaries has left several rural residents isolated north and west of the city. Many roads in Cass County remained closed, including a large stretch of Interstate 29. Fargo officials said five homes sustained damage from the flood, most from pump failures.
Source:
http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/nationworld/2014757628_apusmidwestflooding.html

56. *April 12, Associated Press* – (Idaho) **Irrigation canal in Caldwell breaks, causing streets and yards to flood.** A breach in the Phillips Canal has caused some flooding in Caldwell, Idaho’s southwest side. The Canyon County Sheriff’s Department said the break occurred April 12, sending irrigation water into a residential neighborhood. Police said late in the afternoon April 12 that they had not yet had any reports of homes being flooded, though a significant amount of water is running down streets and pooling in yards. Officials have not yet determined the cause of the break.
Source: <http://www.greenfieldreporter.com/view/story/51532828d7f4499b8a8d870d6662d7c4/ID--Caldwell-Canal-Break/>
57. *April 12, Associated Press* – (Wyoming) **Wyoming dam at risk of failing, washing out highway.** An earthen dam in south-central Wyoming is in danger of failing and potentially washing out a highway, though authorities have downgraded the failure risk from “imminent” to “possible.” Authorities said an outlet pipe halfway down the 55-foot-high Little Robber Dam has become separated. The Carbon County Emergency Management coordinator said April 12 water was eroding the dam. Wyoming Highway 789 is about a mile downstream. The dam is on federal land 15 miles north of the Colorado line. It holds back a 28-acre reservoir with 200 million gallons of water. No homes are downstream — just some oil and gas wells. Highway 789 remains open and a contractor was headed to the dam to make repairs.
Source: http://billingsgazette.com/news/state-and-regional/wyoming/article_518aceda-652e-11e0-a674-001cc4c03286.html
58. *April 11, Stillwater Gazette* – (Minnesota; Wisconsin) **Police report: Man’s stroll on Lift Bridge leads to arrest.** An apparent intoxicated man was arrested April 10 after he allegedly threatened a Minnesota state employee, walked over the flood dike, and climbed a ladder to the closed Lift Bridge deck, a Stillwater Police Department spokesman said. Workers with the Stillwater Public Works Department and Minnesota Department of Transportation confronted the man after he walked on to the bridge deck. The suspect threatened both workers, then pushed one and tried to walk across the bridge towards Wisconsin. He was arrested for trespassing, fifth-degree assault, and an open container violation.
Source: http://www.stillwatergazette.com/articles/2011/04/11/police_-_fire/police_reports/996st041111_policereport.txt

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