



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 15 April 2011

Current Nationwide Threat Level

ELEVATED

Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks

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

Top Stories

- ABC news reports the FBI and the Justice Department said April 13 they disabled a “botnet” of more than 2 million computers infected with malicious code that Eastern European cyber criminals may have used to drain millions of dollars from bank accounts around the world. (See item [20](#))
- According to Homeland Security Newswire, the first in-depth study of security personnel at European airports found they do not report threats more than 40 percent of the time. (See item [21](#))

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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 14, Associated Press* – (Pennsylvania) **Pa. accused of rushing gas permits.** Pennsylvania environmental regulators said they spend as little as 35 minutes reviewing each of the thousands of applications for natural gas well permits they get each year from drillers intent on tapping the state’s Marcellus Shale reserves. And the

regulators said they do not give any additional scrutiny to requests to drill near high-quality streams and rivers, even though the waterways are protected by state and federal law. Staffers in the state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) testified behind closed doors in March as part of a lawsuit filed by residents and environmental groups over a permit DEP issued for an exploratory gas well in northeastern Pennsylvania, less than a half-mile from the Delaware River, and about 300 feet from a pristine stream. Reporting by the Associated Press suggests applications are rubber-stamped, rushed through with little scrutiny, and rarely rejected. The staffers' statements indicated DEP regulators are overburdened — and possibly ignoring environmental laws — as they struggle to deal with an unprecedented drilling boom that has turned Pennsylvania into a major natural gas player, and raised fears about polluted aquifers and air. The agency has denied few requests to drill in the Marcellus Shale formation, the world's second-largest gas field. Of the 7,019 applications DEP has processed since 2005, only 31 have been rejected — less than half of 1 percent.

Source: <http://www.philly.com/philly/news/pennsylvania/119825964.html>

2. *April 13, Fresno Bee* – (California) **Spill ruptured gas line, 2 fires keep fire crews busy.** A diesel fuel spill, a natural gas line rupture, and two fires kept Fresno, California fire crews busy April 13. Crews responded about 1:35 p.m. to 40 gallons of diesel leaking from a fuel tank on a 1-ton pick-up truck in a parking lot at Manchester Center, a Fresno fire spokesman said. About 40 minutes later, workers ruptured a natural gas line near North Avenue between Cedar and Maple avenues, the spokesman said. Three businesses were evacuated, and North Avenue remained shut down for hours as Pacidif Gas and Electric Company and fire crews worked to contain the leak. Meanwhile, firefighters extinguished two blazes about 1:30 p.m. Combustible materials stored near a heating element for a baptismal pool ignited at a church at Tulare and Waterman avenues in southwest Fresno, the spokesman said. The fire caused an estimated \$5,000 in damages.
Source: <http://www.fresnobee.com/2011/04/13/2349065/fires-fuel-spill-gas-leak-keep.html>

3. *April 12, Associated Press* – (Texas) **Thousands still no electricity after Texas storms.** Crews worked to restore electricity to thousands of Texas homes and businesses in Dallas April 12, a day after storms swept through parts of the state. The utility Oncor reported more than 23,000 customers were still without power April 12, down from a high of about 90,000 outages. Most of the power outages were reported in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. A line of thunderstorms spawned at least four tornadoes and caused scattered destruction April 11 around North Texas. The American Red Cross said the storms destroyed or heavily damaged 15 homes. Nearly 200 other residences suffered minor damage.
Source: <http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/ap/tx/7517781.html>

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Chemical Industry Sector

4. *April 14, St. Louis Post-Dispatch* – (Missouri) **Hazmat crews trying to contain chemical spill in Berkeley.** The St. Louis County, Missouri, hazardous materials team is trying to contain a chemical spill April 14 in Berkeley. The chemical, identified by fire officials as ammonium hydrate, is owned by Univar USA in Berkeley. The chemical apparently spilled as workers were trying to move it from a tanker truck into drums. No injuries were reported, police said. Fire dispatchers in the North County area said the spill was apparently near a creek along Seeger Industrial Drive.
Source: http://www.stltoday.com/news/local/crime-and-courts/article_3474e51a-66b4-11e0-917e-001a4bcf6878.html

5. *April 13, United Press International* – (National) **EPA concerned with two consumer chemicals.** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) said it will take action on potential health risks of two chemicals consumers may encounter in construction products. Methylene diphenyl diisocyanate, toluene diisocyanate, and related compounds are used in certain applications such as spray foam insulation, sealing concrete, or finishing floors, an EPA release said April 13. “There has been an increase in recent years in promoting the use of foams and sealants by do-it-yourself energy-conscious homeowners, and many people may now be unknowingly exposed to risks from these chemicals,” said the assistant administrator for EPA’s Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention. Diisocyanates are known to cause severe skin and breathing responses in workers who have been repeatedly exposed to them, EPA said, and have been documented as a leading cause of work-related asthma. In severe cases, fatal reactions have occurred, the agency said. Actions contemplated by EPA include requiring exposure monitoring studies for consumer products, improved labeling and product safety information, and if necessary possibly banning or restricting consumer products containing uncured MDI or TD.
Source: http://www.upi.com/Science_News/2011/04/13/EPA-concerned-with-two-consumer-chemicals/UPI-47831302733493/

6. *April 13, Marin Independent Journal* – (California) **San Rafael truck fire causes ‘pool of acid,’ traffic delays.** A truck carrying cargo vehicle batteries caught fire April 13 in San Rafael, California, forcing police and firefighters to close freeway lanes for a hazardous materials cleanup, a fire official said. Traffic was disrupted for more than 2 hours. The incident occurred around 3:20 p.m. on southbound Highway 101 just north of San Rafael, according to the California Highway Patrol (CHP). A hazardous materials crew was called out because the fire caused the back of the truck to become “a pool of acid solution,” a firefighter said. He said no toxic gas was released. No injuries were reported. CHP was investigating the incident.
Source: http://www.marinij.com/marinnews/ci_17839187

7. *April 13, Fire Engineering* – (Hawaii) **CSB deploys to deadly HI fireworks storage facility explosion.** The U.S. Chemical Safety Board (CSB) has deployed a four-person team to the site of an explosion in a fireworks storage facility near Honolulu, Hawaii. According to media reports, the incident occurred in a bunker used to store confiscated fireworks at Donaldson Enterprises, Inc. April 8. Five workers were fatally injured as a result of the incident. A CSB investigator arrived in Honolulu April 10 to begin

gathering information.

Source: <http://www.fireengineering.com/index/articles/display.articles.fire-engineering.government-2.2011.04.csb-hi-fireworks.html>

For another story, see item [15](#)

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

8. *April 14, Boston Globe* – (Massachusetts) **Pilgrim will store its waste in casks.** Officials at Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station in Plymouth, Massachusetts, recently announced they plan to begin storing the power plant’s nuclear waste in hardened dry containers. The decision by Entergy, Pilgrim’s owner, to move to dry-cask storage for used fuel accords with the views of the Massachusetts attorney general and many experts that such storage of nuclear waste outside the plant is a safer alternative than water storage. Although the spent fuel pool “was designed to hold approximately 880 used and highly radioactive fuel assemblies,” the president of watchdog group Pilgrim Watch said, it now holds more than 3,000 fuel rods and is likely to hold 3,859 assemblies by the time Pilgrim’s current license expires in June 2012. Pilgrim has applied for a 20-year license extension. A Pilgrim spokeswoman said April 11 she could only provide details on initial dry-cask storage plans. “We will begin moving to dry-cask storage in 2014, with the first three casks,” she said. “Sixty-eight used fuel bundles per cask, for a total of 204 fuel bundles,” will be moved then. “It requires a very long lead time.” The nuclear power industry has repeatedly complained it has been forced to store nuclear waste on site because of the failure of the federal government to deliver on its promise to provide a single national waste site. “We have no desire to store spent fuel in our plants,” she said.

Source:

http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2011/04/14/pilgrim_says_it_will_begin_storing_nuclear_waste_in_hardened_casks/?page=full

9. *April 14, Bloomberg* – (International) **Tsunami risk prompts Tepco to move Fukushima backup power to higher ground.** Tokyo Electric Power Co. (Tepco) will move backup generators at its crippled nuclear plant to higher ground away from the sea to ensure cooling systems are not disrupted by future tsunamis, as aftershocks rattle Japan. “Emergency diesel-powered generators will be moved to higher ground, and work for connecting them into the power distribution unit will be carried out around April 19,” a Tepco spokesman said April 14. They will be placed 66 feet above sea level, double the current height, according to the company. Tepco also will install silt fences near the sea water intakes of reactors No. 1 and 2 to prevent the flow of contaminants to the ocean, Japan’s nuclear safety agency said at a separate briefing. The utility said it was placing the fabric curtains at the No. 3 and 4 units. The power station has six reactors.

Source: <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-04-14/tsunami-risk-prompts-tepco-to-move-fukushima-backup-power-to-higher-ground.html>

10. *April 13, Associated Press* – (California) **SLO County against Diablo nuke plant relicensing.** Leaders in San Luis Obispo County, California, want a halt to the relicensing process for the Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant along the central California coast. The board of supervisors voted unanimously April 12 to send a letter to Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) asking the operator of the south county twin-reactor plant to withdraw its relicensing application. PG&E has applied to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to extend the power plant's current operating licenses an additional 20 years. Diablo's licenses expire in 2024 and 2025. Diablo Canyon sits on a bluff 85 feet above the Pacific Ocean near Avila Beach. Two earthquake faults are near the plant and PG&E is currently conducting seismic studies. The Santa Maria Times said supervisors want PG&E to focus on the seismic studies for the next few years.
Source:
<http://www.thecalifornian.com/article/20110413/NEWS06/110413007/1050/SLO-County-against-Diablo-nuke-plant-relicensing->

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

11. *April 14, Associated Press* – (National) **Ford recalling 1.2 million F-150 pickups.** Under pressure from government regulators, Ford Motor Co. is expanding a recall of the popular F-150 pickup truck to include nearly 1.2 million vehicles that may have defective air bags. The additional recall, announced April 14 by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), covers trucks from the 2004 through 2006 model years. An electrical short can cause the air bags to deploy unexpectedly, in some cases injuring drivers. In February, Ford agreed to fix 150,000 of the trucks but resisted the government's wishes to recall all 1.2 million trucks that may have the problem. Ford's F-Series pickup truck is the top-selling vehicle in America, and the F-150 makes up about 60 percent of F-Series sales. The Dearborn, Michigan company said in a statement that it will notify all owners in May that they should take their trucks to a dealer who will replace an air bag wire in the steering wheel. The wire can become chafed, causing a short circuit that can lead to the airbag inflating unexpectedly. Ford said it knows of no crashes caused by the problem. But NHTSA said in a January letter to Ford the agency knew of 269 cases where the air bags deployed inadvertently, resulting in 98 injuries, some serious.
Source: <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/42587899/ns/business-autos/>
12. *April 13, WSAZ 3 Huntington/Charleston* – (Ohio) **Multiple fire departments fight plant fire in Portsmouth.** Despite the intensity and size of a fire at OSCO Industries in Portsmouth, Ohio, no one was hurt according to Portsmouth fire chief. He said the fire at the plant located along U.S. 52 was reported at 7:20 p.m. April 13. Firefighters arrived to find heavy fire and smoke. Other fire departments were then dispatched as backups. The fire was confined to the northwest corner of the building, and it took about an hour to bring it under control. The cause was unknown as of April 13. Plant workers were able to keep the east side of the building running just long enough to empty the furnace and shut down production throughout the whole building. According

to its Web site, OSCO Industries is a “Gray Iron Foundry specializing in green sand and shell molding.”

Source:

http://www.wsaz.com/news/headlines/BREAKING_NEWS_Multiple_Fire_Departments_Fighting_Industrial_Fire_in_Portsmouth_Ohio_119808419.html

13. *April 12, U.S. Department of Labor* – (West Virginia) **US Department of Labor’s OSHA cites C & C Marine Maintenance for exposing workers to serious safety hazards.** The U.S. Department of Labor’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has cited C & C Marine Maintenance Co., based in Houston, Pennsylvania, with 13 serious safety violations at its facility in Wellsburg, West Virginia. Proposed penalties total \$45,900. OSHA’s inspection, which began October 4, 2010, found serious violations, including the company’s failure to: dike a fuel tank; ensure the bi-directional alarm on a powered industrial truck was not defective; examine industrial trucks before they were put in service; place a fire extinguisher in the crane cab; label electrical disconnect switches; complete material safety data sheets for hazardous materials on-site; label containers of hazardous materials; properly cover open hatchways to prevent fall and tripping hazards; inspect and certify cranes; provide inspection dates on chain slings; use fire extinguishing equipment during welding operations; provide fire extinguisher training; and keep the work area uncluttered and free from obstructions. C & C Marine provides marine transportation of bulk cargoes, and performs ship and vessel repairs. The company operates facilities in West Virginia and Pennsylvania.

Source:

http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=NEWS_RELEASES&p_id=19596

14. *April 11, Metal Bulletin* – (National) **Steel-related deaths add up in 1st qtr.** Nine people have died while working at steel mills, service centers, coke plants, and scrapyards so far in 2011, American Metals Magazine (AMM) reported April 11. Spokesmen for a steel industry association and the United Steelworkers union said the inherent dangers in the environment cannot be overemphasized, so they keep working to analyze accidents and promote safety. The Steel Manufacturers Association (SMA), Washington, which represents mini-mill operators in the United States, constantly updates its data gathering and analysis; shares the information throughout its membership and affiliates; promotes worker safety through meetings, twice-monthly surveys and online reports, presentations and videos; and bestows awards on companies that make substantial contributions to the improvement of industry safety. Safety at steel facilities has improved over the past decade, SMA’s president told AMM, but “the industry recognizes we still have a lot of work to do.” The trade group works closely with the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

Source: <http://www.metalbulletin.com/Article/2805561/Ferrous/AMM-Steel-related-deaths-add-up-in-1st-qtr.html>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

15. *April 13, WREG 3 Memphis* – (Tennessee) **Accident at Kilgore plant sends three to hospital.** Three Kilgore Flares workers were sent to Bolivar General Hospital after an accident at their workplace in Toone, Tennessee, WREG reported April 13. According to family members, the workers were mixing chemicals when the accident happened. Two workers were burned, and another was knocked unconscious. Kilgore Flares is the same facility where an explosion hurt six workers in September. The plant was cited for 14 safety violations and fined \$348,000. A previous complaint had warned of too many flammable materials in individual work stations. Over the last 25 years, 5 workers have died on the job. The company manufactures infra-red decoy flares for the government. Source: <http://www.wreg.com/news/wreg-kilgore-accident-april.0,2548007.story>

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Banking and Finance Sector

16. *April 13, Boston Herald* – (Massachusetts; National) **Framingham man pleads guilty to multimillion-dollar Ponzi scheme.** A Framingham, Massachusetts man was convicted April 13 in federal court of mail fraud in connection with a large-scale investment fraud scheme with more than 100 victims and losses of at least \$15 million. The 77-year-old man pleaded guilty before a U.S. District Judge to 18 counts of mail fraud. The man had claimed to be a broker working on behalf of a Japanese clothing manufacturer selling uniforms to state government entities, according to prosecutors, and told his victims that he needed their money to finance the manufacture of those contracted-for uniforms. To induce people to invest, the man offered them returns ranging from 9 percent to 15 percent, which was supposed to be paid from the proceeds of the uniform sales. When victims asked to see documents relating to the uniform business, the man showed them what appeared to be purchase orders from state entities for uniforms, which were fabricated documents. By the time the scheme fell apart in 2009, he had outstanding promissory notes to his victims totaling nearly \$30 million. The scheme started to unravel in late 2008, when some of his investors started seeking more information and documents from him about the uniform business. The man put them off temporarily, but then he started defaulting on some scheduled payments. He then tried to delay by claiming he was in the process of selling the business and would pay everyone off with the proceeds. Instead, in mid-December 2009, he fled to Las Vegas, Nevada. He was eventually tracked down and arrested at a casino in Mississippi. Sentencing is scheduled for July 21 when the man faces up to 20 years in prison, to be followed by 3 years of supervised release and a \$250,000 fine. Source: <http://www.bostonherald.com/business/general/view.bg?articleid=1330567&srvc=business&position=recent>

17. *April 13, Bloomberg* – (International) **Federal Reserve computer hacker suspect pleads guilty to account fraud.** A Malaysian man charged with hacking the Federal Reserve's computers and conducting a credit card scheme pleaded guilty April 13 to

illegally possessing card account numbers with intent to defraud. The 32-year-old man entered his plea April 13 before a U.S. district judge in Brooklyn, New York. The man originally pleaded not guilty November 22. The computer network of the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland was hacked in June 2010, resulting in thousands of dollars of damage from the effects on 10 or more computers, according to court papers filed November 18, the day the man was charged in a four-count indictment. No Federal Reserve data or information was accessed or compromised, a spokeswoman for the central bank said in November. The credit card numbers the man sold did not come from the Federal Reserve, his lawyer said in court. When he was arrested October 21 shortly after arriving in the U.S., the man possessed more than 400,000 stolen credit and debit card numbers, according to prosecutors in the office of the U.S. attorney in Brooklyn. He was able to gain access to data of several federal credit unions, according to prosecutors.

Source: <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-04-13/federal-reserve-computer-hacker-suspect-pleads-guilty-to-account-fraud.html>

18. *April 13, Bloomberg* – (National) **FrontPoint portfolio manager charged with securities fraud.** A FrontPoint Partners portfolio manager was charged April 13 with conspiracy and securities fraud as part of a U.S. crackdown on so-called expert networks. The man surrendered April 13 to FBI agents at their New York office, said an FBI spokesman. He also was charged with insider trading by the Securities Exchange Commission (SEC), according to a news release from the commission. Information the man obtained from an insider about hepatitis C drug trials enabled him to avoid more than \$30 million in losses in the six now-closed FrontPoint Healthcare Funds he once managed, prosecutors said. He was named in a three-count felony complaint unsealed April 13 in U.S. District Court in New York, charged with conspiracy to commit securities fraud, and conspiracy to obstruct justice. The insider who passed data on to the man pleaded guilty April 11 before a U.S. district court judge in New York to conspiracy, securities fraud, conspiracy to obstruct justice and making false statements to the FBI, said a spokeswoman for the U.S. attorney's office. As part of an amended complaint filed by the SEC April 13 in U.S. District Court in New York, FrontPoint agreed to pay more than \$33 million in disgorgement and interest, without admitting or denying wrongdoing, the SEC said in its news release.

Source: <http://www.pionline.com/article/20110413/DAILYREG/110419966>

19. *April 13, Associated Press* – (Wisconsin) **Wis. man accused of robbing bank with a bomb threat pleads guilty to federal charges.** A man pleaded guilty April 13 in federal court to robbing a Fitchburg bank in Wisconsin. Federal prosecutors said the 56-year-old man of Pewaukee walked into the Park Bank in January 2011 and presented a note that demanded money and said he had planted bombs around the bank's lobby and entrances. He made off with about \$5,625. Police did not find any bombs, but they did locate the suspect driving on Interstate 94. A high-speed chase ensued that ended when the suspect ran over spike strips. The U.S. attorney said as part of the plea deal, the man acknowledged he robbed three other banks around eastern Wisconsin near the end of 2010 using similar bomb threats. The man is set to be sentenced June 21.

Source:

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/b436dc5c34964520a60198f201c1f9fc/WI--Bank-Robber/>

20. *April 13, ABC News* – (International) **Feds take ‘Coreflood Botnet’: ‘Zombie’ army may have infected 2 Million computers, stolen hundreds of millions of dollars.** The FBI and the U.S. Justice Department (DOJ) said April 13 they have disabled a “botnet” of more than 2 million computers infected with malicious code that Eastern European cyber criminals may have used to drain millions of dollars from bank accounts around the world. U.S. authorities continue to combat the network of remotely controlled computers called the “Coreflood” botnet, which has secretly recorded computer users’ keystrokes to compromise vast amounts of banking and financial data. Coreflood is believed to have been operating since 2002 and has resulted in an unknown number of U.S. bank accounts being broken into with losses that could be in the hundreds of millions of dollars, according to FBI officials. DOJ and the FBI filed a civil complaint against 13 “John Doe” defendants, charging them with wire fraud, bank fraud, and illegal interception of electronic communications. The FBI and DOJ also have executed search warrants to seize Internet domain names believed tied to the control servers for the Coreflood program. Investigators received a temporary restraining order allowing them to seize control of the infected servers to try to further dismantle and disable the botnet.

Source: <http://abcnews.go.com/Technology/feds-crush-coreflood-botnet-infected-million-computers-stole/story?id=13369529>

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Transportation Sector

21. *April 14, Homeland Security Newswire* – (International) **Airports personnel don’t report suspicions, mistrust technology.** The first in-depth study of European airports, conducted by the EU-funded Behavioral Modeling for Security in Airports (BEMOSA) Consortium, found airport personnel do not rely primarily on procedures or rules in emergency cases. The report contains the first results of an extensive study aimed at obtaining data on how emergencies and security threats are actually handled in airports. The results will be presented at a special workshop on applying human factors to airport security. The workshop will be hosted by BEMOSA in Belgium May 25. BEMOSA’s experts concluded there appeared to be a definite need to improve security decision-making procedures. The need arises out of the observed problems of recognizing a threat and acting upon it. The report said there appears to be a gap between procedures and actual behavior when a threat is recognized — and especially when it is acted upon. Some of the key findings of the report stated the following: only 53.1 percent of airport employees and 63 percent of security workers said they put complete trust in security technologies; only 23.6 percent of airport employees and 58 percent of security workers said they alerted others when they saw something suspicious; and 54.3 percent of the workers and 40 percent of security personal never raised the alarm or called a security code. The study aims to describe real behavior

patterns in order to develop airport staff training programs for improving crisis handling and hazard reduction.

Source: <http://homelandsecuritynewswire.com/airports-personnel-dont-report-suspicious-mistrust-technology>

22. *April 13, New York Times* – (National) **Air traffic controllers added at night to counter fatigue.** Twenty-seven airport towers will be staffed with a second employee on the overnight shift as the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) struggles to deal with a recurring problem of controllers sleeping on the job. The staffing move, which will begin immediately, comes after a lone controller at Reno-Tahoe International Airport in Reno, Nevada failed to respond to a pilot of a medical flight who was trying to land early April 13. The controller did not respond to radio calls for 16 minutes, and another control facility handled the arrival of the flight. The employee has been suspended while the incident is under investigation, the FAA said. It was the fifth time in the past 3 weeks in which controllers were found to be sleeping at work. In the first, at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport March 23, and in the most recent in Reno, the controllers were working the overnight shift alone. In the three other cases, however, other controllers were in the tower at the time. The decision to add a second person on the late shift means that no airport with a tower that operates overnight will be attended by a single controller. Members of the National Air Traffic Controllers Association have been working with the FAA office of fatigue risk management to make recommendations on how to fix conditions that make fatigue among controllers a widespread problem. Nearly a quarter of all controllers work overnight at least some of the time, and most have shifts that can change as often as every 2 days.

Source: http://www.nytimes.com/2011/04/14/us/14tower.html?_r=2&ref=us

23. *April 13, Homeland Security Today* – (National) **Democrats press for biometric screening of flight crews.** Democratic leaders of the U.S. House Homeland Security Committee pressed the administrator of the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) April 12 to ensure a biometric solution for airplane crewmember screening. The lawmakers noted such a system is authorized by the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act (Public Law 110-53), which contains a provision enabling TSA to establish an “expedited security screening system for sterile area access control within commercial service airports.” TSA has been working on a crewmember identity verification system the past 3 years. The Democratic Representatives said not only does it make sense to apply the system to all crewmembers, but doing so would reduce congestion at air passenger security checkpoints and enable TSA screeners to focus more effectively and efficiently on possible threats.

Source: <http://www.hstoday.us/briefings/today-s-news-analysis/single-article/democrats-press-for-biometric-screening-of-flight-crews/4722a697b3ac2f6aabb7639f48e4df06.html>

24. *April 13, Lexington Herald-Leader* – (Kentucky) **High winds, heavy rain cause havoc in Central Ky.** Rain and wind pounded central Kentucky April 12, flooding roadways and toppling trees. Several counties were under a flood warnings much of the day, and a watch was extended into eastern Kentucky. The National Weather Service said a

“potent” system of thunderstorms is likely April 15. That might lead to more flooding. Lexington received 2.34 inches of rain from midnight through 5 p.m. April 12, a meteorologist said. That was in addition to April 11’s 1.36 inches. The Kentucky Division of Emergency Management received reports some parts of the state had received 6 to 8 inches of rain. High water prompted officials to close several roads, including Todds Road, Military Pike, and Russell Cave Road in Fayette County; Ky. 3377 in Madison County; and U.S. 68 in Mercer County.

Source: <http://www.kentucky.com/2011/04/13/1705352/rain-hitting-lexington-hard.html>

For more stories, see items [2](#), [13](#), [43](#), and [62](#)

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Postal and Shipping Sector

25. *April 14, Seattle Post-Intelligencer* – (Washington: District of Columbia) **Kent woman charged in White House anthrax hoax.** A Kent, Washington woman has been charged with sending fake “anthrax letters” to the White House in Washington D.C. and the King County, Washington State government. Filing charges April 13, federal prosecutors in Seattle contended the woman mailed an envelope addressed to the President containing white powder resembling the deadly bacteria. She was arrested April 12 and remains in federal custody pending a detention hearing. According to a criminal complaint, a letter carrier received the suspicious envelope April 11 at an address in the 3600 block of South 262nd Street in Kent. A postal inspector examining the black envelope found it contained a white powder similar in appearance to dried anthrax. A U.S. Secret Service agent said in court that searching the envelope, investigators found a letter wrapped in plastic and filled with white powder. The woman is also suspected of mailing two similar letters to the King County Sheriff’s Office, the agent continued. The powder in the envelopes is believed to have been flour and baby powder.

Source: <http://www.seattlepi.com/local/article/Kent-woman-charged-in-White-House-anthrax-hoax-1336110.php>

26. *April 13, WXXA 23 Albany* – (New York) **Police say liquid in suspicious package only perfume.** New details on the suspicious package that was delivered to the Albany office of a New York state senator April 12 indicate the liquid that arrived with a stuffed monkey appears to be perfume, according to state police. A police captain said that it does not seem as though anything in the package was dangerous. However, state police, postal inspectors, and the FBI are investigating. The Georgia woman who claims she sent the package told WXXA that she did not mean any harm.

Source: <http://www.fox23news.com/news/local/story/Police-say-liquid-in-suspicious-package-only-perfu/ppG5Pi4HNEeYXVSHVONNWA.csp>

27. *April 13, WTTG 5 Washington, D.C.* – (Arizona) **Arizona senator receives death threat.** A death threat made against an Arizona state senator is being investigated by

the Department of Public Safety (DPS) in Phoenix. The senator received the letter and said he is concerned but prepared. The senator said after the shooting of an Arizona U.S. Representative in January, he carries a concealed weapon all the time, and the letter he just received is another reason why. The letter warned the senator to: “Be very ready.” The letter originated from Flagstaff, but it did not have a return name or a return address. DPS is investigating this death threat. The department said it tells lawmakers to keep a log of all threatening letters or calls.

Source: http://www.myfoxdc.com/dpps/news/arizona-senator-receives-death-threat-4-13-2011_12754986

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Agriculture and Food Sector

28. *April 14, Food Safety News* – (National) **The other E. coli: Studying non-O157 strains.** While the most serious and widely publicized E. coli outbreaks are usually linked to one particular strain of the bacteria — O157:H7 — other pathogenic species are becoming more widely recognized by food scientists as a threat to human health, particularly E. coli O26, O45, O103, O111, O121, and O145. These six serogroups are the focus of new research being conducted by scientists at the Agricultural Research Service (ARS), the research arm of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The Big Six have been identified as responsible for 70 percent of non-O157:H7 E. coli-related illnesses in the United States, but little is known about the genetic differences between them, or what makes some types within each group particularly more virulent than others. “For many years, we knew about E. coli O157:H7,” said a microbiologist at ARS and lead researcher of the project. So far the team has developed a method to test for the presence of each of the six leading non-O157 groups in a sample of meat. The challenge that remains, she said, is figuring out what genetic characteristics make some strains within a group dangerous, and others harmless. Ultimately, the group’s research will provide inspectors from USDA’s Food Safety Inspection Service (FSIS) with a method for testing meat for non-O157 E. coli. One guidance paper has already been published.

Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/04/the-other-e-coli-studying-non-o157-strains-1/>

29. *April 14, Waterloo-Cedar Falls Courier* – (Iowa) **Fire kills 4,800 pigs in Buchanan County fire.** A fire at a confinement hog operation April 13 killed more than 4,500 pigs south of Aurora, Iowa. The fire started about 8:30 p.m. About as many hogs survived. The fire started in one building and spread to a second. Firefighters representing several communities stopped the flames before they advanced to nearby structures. The nature of the confinement buildings, which had steel roofs, posed a problem for firefighters. “We can’t get water in there. They actually called in an excavator to tear the buildings a part a little bit,” the Aurora fire chief said. According to records available online, the property is owned by Eagle Ridge of Iowa, a limited liability corporation, and two other people. The operation features five hog confinement buildings. The Iowa State Fire Marshal’s Office is investigating the cause.

Source: http://wfcourier.com/news/local/article_945a167e-6689-11e0-b087-001cc4c002e0.html

30. *April 13, Hagerstown Herald-Mail* – (Maryland) **Pa. man killed in accident at Purina Mills plant near Halfway.** An industrial accident at the Purina Mills plant in Hagerstown, Maryland, claimed the life of a 25-year-old Pennsylvania man April 13, Washington County authorities said. The man died when he fell into a “feeder line” while cleaning a machine, a Washington County Sheriff’s Office investigator said in a news release. The incident at the plant at 11671 Hopewell Road was reported about 4:38 p.m. It is being investigated by the Washington County Sheriff’s Office and Maryland Occupational Safety and Health. As of 9 p.m. April 13, the sheriff’s office and Maryland officials were still investigating the scene for possible safety violations, the sheriff’s office said.

Source: http://articles.herald-mail.com/2011-04-13/breakingnews/29415632_1_industrial-accident-purina-mills-plant

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Water Sector

31. *April 13, Killeen Daily Herald* – (Texas) **Killeen sewer spill contaminates creek.** The city of Killeen, Texas, is advising residents to avoid contact with Long Branch Tributary from Brookbend Drive to Lake Road through April 15. A break in a city sewer line April 13 resulted in the release of an estimated 20,000 gallons of domestic sewage into the tributary, according to a city news release. The spill was discovered about 10:30 a.m., and crews were still on-site performing cleanup that evening after the line was repaired. The city is working with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and Texas Parks and Wildlife to remediate the situation, which remains under investigation.

Source: <http://www.kdhnews.com/news/story.aspx?s=54185>

32. *April 13, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency* – (Oklahoma) **Lady Bug Oil Company fined for violating the Clean Water Act.** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has fined the Lady Bug Oil Company of Blackwell, Oklahoma, \$2,900 for violating the Clean Water Act’s Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure (SPCC) regulations. A recent inspection of four of the company’s oil production facilities in Kay County, Oklahoma, revealed a variety of SPCC violations. These included training records not available for review and not maintained for 3 years as required by federal regulations and unavailable for review. EPA also found periodic inspections were not conducted to determine general condition and deterioration and maintenance needs of containers, foundations, and supports or above ground valves and pipelines.

Source:

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/0/60C07A66152431F985257871005ED91D>

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

33. *April 14, Los Angeles Times* – (California) **Napa State Hospital fined in slaying of worker.** The California Division of Occupational Safety and Health (Cal/OSHA) issued \$100,000 in fines against Napa State Hospital in Napa April 12 in connection with the October slaying of a psychiatric technician, contending the facility neglected to restrict the movements of violent patients. The gravest citation said the hospital violated its own policies by not restricting patients' grounds passes based on their previous behavior. The hospital knew the patient charged in the killing had a "recent history of aggressive behavior, illegal drug usage, and stalking," the citation states, but allowed him to wander "with no supervision, in a totally unstructured environment." In its citations, Cal/OSHA also noted faulty alarm systems, inadequate employee training to deal with the increasingly violent patient population, and assault investigations that "lacked analysis of the cause and thus were ineffective in preventing future occurrences." The state department of mental health will appeal the citations, the acting director said April 13. He said the department would continue working on safety improvements, but cited "significant steps" already taken at the facility.
Source: <http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-0414-napa-state-hospital-fine-20110414,0,7497532.story>
34. *April 14, CNN* – (National) **Johnson & Johnson recalls Topamax for odor.** Johnson & Johnson (J&J) April 14 announced a recall of 57,000 bottles of the prescription anti-seizure medication Topamax following consumer complaints of an "uncharacteristic odor." J&J said the recall represents two lots of the Topamax 100 mg tablets made by its Ortho-McNeil Neurologics division. The affected drugs were shipped and distributed between October 19 and December 28, 2010 in the United States and Puerto Rico. The company said it believes fewer than 6,000 bottles of the medicine remain in the marketplace to be recalled. However, Ortho-McNeil Neurologics said it does not anticipate a product shortage resulting from the recall. J&J said it initiated the recall after receiving four consumer reports of an uncharacteristic odor thought to be caused by trace amounts of TBA (2,4,6 tribromoanisole). McNeil recalled more than 50 million bottles of Tylenol, Motrin, and Benadryl products in 2010 after receiving similar complaints of an unusual moldy, musty odor. The company said at the time the smell was caused by trace amounts of the same chemical, TBA, which is applied to wooden pallets used to transport and store packaging materials. While not considered to be toxic, J&J said TBA can generate an offensive odor, and a very small number of patients have reported temporary gastrointestinal symptoms.
Source:
http://money.cnn.com/2011/04/14/news/companies/topamax_recall_johnson/?section=money_latest
35. *April 13, Minneapolis Star Tribune* – (Minnesota) **Fairview can't find box of 1,200 patient records.** In February, staffers at Fairview Health Services in Minneapolis, Minnesota, packed up about 1,200 patient records for shipping to a new office across town. The week of April 11, officials began notifying patients that their health and billing records — including names, birth dates, and medical diagnoses — may have

been lost. Officials said there is no evidence of any misuse of the records, which involved patients admitted to Fairview Southdale Hospital in Edina between April 2010 and February 2011. Fairview officials have been searching for the box since it was reported missing February 21. The records — printouts of reports used to process insurance claims — had been boxed up at Fairview's Financial Securing Center, which was scheduled to be moved February 19, to a new office a few miles away. A staff member reported it missing February 21.

Source: <http://www.startribune.com/lifestyle/wellness/119788889.html>

36. *April 13, Associated Press* – (Maryland) **Army starts clinical trials on ricin vaccine.** The U.S. Army said it is starting clinical trials at Fort Detrick in Maryland on a potential ricin vaccine. The U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases said April 13 there currently are no federally approved countermeasures to ricin. The deadly toxin derived from castor beans is considered a significant biological warfare or terrorism threat. Two civilian scientists at the Army laboratory in Frederick first reported in 2004 on a vaccine candidate they developed through molecular modeling and protein engineering. It has been proven effective in lab animals and is now being tested on 30 human volunteers. Ricin can cause respiratory failure within 72 hours when inhaled. It is also deadly when swallowed.

Source:

http://www.foxbaltimore.com/template/news_wire/wires.regional.md/2877c681-www.foxbaltimore.com.shtml

37. *April 13, iHealthBeat* – (Oklahoma) **Okla. Health Department warns nearly 133,000 people of data breach.** The Oklahoma State Department of Health recently notified nearly 133,000 individuals that their personal health information might have been compromised following the theft of a department laptop and 50 paper files, the Oklahoman reports. The laptop and files, which contained condensed medical information, were stolen from an employee's car April 6. The computer contained access to a database related to the Oklahoma Birth Defects Registry, which tracks birth defects statewide. The laptop also was used to record data from hospital medical records. Health department officials said the information was password-protected. The data included addresses, birth defect information, limited medical diagnoses, names, Social Security numbers, and test result information.

Source: <http://www.ihealthbeat.org/articles/2011/4/13/okla-health-department-warns-nearly-133000-people-of-data-breach.aspx>

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Government Facilities Sector

38. *April 14, Central Florida News 13 Orlando* – (Florida) **Shooting outside Sheeler Charter High School in Apopka injures 1.** One man was injured in a shooting April 13 at the parking lot at Sheeler Charter High School in Apopka, Florida. The shooting happened about 11:30 a.m. Three people were involved, including a student. Officers are trying to figure out in what capacity the student was involved. The victim was taken

to Orlando Regional Medical Center with non-life threatening injuries. An Apopka police officer said the weapon has been recovered. The school is located in a strip mall with other businesses. Students were in the middle of taking an exam when gunfire rang out near the main entrance of the school. School officials said they will work with students who were distracted by the incident and may need more time to finish the test. Source: <http://www.cfnews13.com/article/news/2011/april/232224/Shooting-outside-Sheeler-Charter-High-School-in-Apopka-injures-1>

39. *April 13, Saginaw News* – (Michigan) **Pickup truck smashes into wall at Hemlock’s Rauchholz Memorial Library, no one hurt.** A pickup truck April 13 smashed into Rauchholz Memorial Library near the building entrance about 5:50 p.m. in Richland Township, Michigan. An assistant librarian said none of the 10 people inside the library were injured, and neither was the truck’s driver or her passenger after the vehicle struck the wall of the library staff room, knocking down exterior bricks, pushing over a file cabinet, and destroying a computer, and new computer server. The library closed following the incident though staff members declined to estimate the value of the damage, and it is unclear whether the building would be open April 14. No one was in the staff room at the time the truck hit the wall. Staff members said the driver and passenger were on their way to the library at the time.

Source:

http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2011/04/pickup_truck_smashes_into_wall.html

40. *April 13, KRTV 3 Great Falls* – (Montana) **Security breach reported at Cascade County Detention Center.** The Cascade County Sheriff’s Office in Montana released information April 13 about a security breach at the Cascade County Detention Center. Officials said the breach did not compromise external security of the facility, and no citizens or staff were ever in danger. “In the early morning hours of April 13, Cascade County Detention Staff received an internal alarm in the programs area of the regional prison. Detention Staff promptly responded to the area and discovered several ceiling tiles had been removed, which prompted the alarm to sound. After further investigation, detention officers found a state inmate worker sitting in a hallway in the programs area. Detention staff made contact with deputies to investigate the incident. This incident is under investigation and no charges have been filed at this point. At no time was there a breach to the outside of the facility, and no citizens or staff were in danger,” the sheriff’s office said.

Source: <http://www.krtv.com/news/security-breach-reported-at-cascade-county-detention-center/>

41. *April 13, CNN* – (Connecticut) **Yale senior dies in machine shop accident.** A Yale University senior was killed in a chemistry laboratory’s machine shop late April 12 or early April 13, officials at the New Haven, Connecticut school said. The student from Massachusetts was working on a project in the Sterling Chemistry Laboratory’s machine shop when her hair got caught in a lathe, a machine that shapes material by rotating it against a tool, Yale’s president said in an e-mailed statement. Her body was found by other students who were working in the building. The cause of death was

asphyxia due to neck compression, and the manner was accidental, an investigator with Connecticut's Office of the Chief Medical Examiner said. The machine shop at the Yale lab is a place where students can construct or modify research instrumentation, according to the chemistry department's Web site. "The university has programs to train students before they use power equipment. Nonetheless, I have initiated a thorough review of the safety policies and practices of laboratories, machine shops and other facilities with power equipment that is accessed and operated by undergraduates," the president said. The laboratory was closed April 14 because of the incident, and the day's classes at the lab were canceled.

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2011/US/04/13/yale.student.death/index.html>

42. *April 13, Birmingham Samford Crimson* – (Alabama) **Homemade explosive found in bathroom in Smith Hall.** Around midnight March 30, the residents of the fourth floor of Smith Hall at Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama were startled by a loud bang. Four resident assistants entered the bathroom and found a mangled, melted Samford water bottle which had exploded in one of the shower stalls. One resident happened to be in one of the other showers at the time of detonation. The student said he did not, however, see or hear anyone else in the bathroom before or after the bombing. Advisories about the event were plastered on every Smith room door April 13. The director of public safety and emergency management reported that no bomber has confessed. "We now have initiated a criminal investigation and are working with residence life and other University and outside agencies on the investigation," the director said. Resident assistants are trained to deal with a bomb threat, said the director of residence life and university services, and this preparation was evident in the quick response of the Smith RAs.

Source:

<http://media.www.samfordcrimson.com/media/storage/paper1166/news/2011/04/13/News/Homemade.Explosive.Found.In.Bathroom.In.Smith.Hall-3992786.shtml>

For more stories, see items [25](#), [26](#), [27](#), and [36](#)

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Emergency Services Sector

43. *April 14, CNN* – (New York) **New York lawmaker to urge Obama to help fix police radio woes.** Some New York police officers still cannot communicate with each other with police radios, even though the issue plagued the rescue effort after the September 11th attacks nearly 10 years ago, a New York state senator said. He said he plans to send a letter April 14 to the U.S. President urging him to remedy the situation. "Despite nearly a decade passing since the September 11, 2001 attacks ... our first responders, the brave men and women who will be standing on the front lines of our next attack and running into buildings as most are running out, still, in far too many instances, do not have proper interoperability they need, and in some cases still cannot communicate at all," the letter written by the state senator said. The radios are so bad in some cases, that officers have used their cell phones to communicate with each other, the state senator

claimed. Officers with the Metropolitan Transit Authority have also been severely plagued with the faulty radios.

Source: <http://edition.cnn.com/2011/POLITICS/04/14/new.york.security.letter/>

44. *April 12, Reuters* – (Arizona) **Border Patrol agent indicted for marijuana trafficking.** A U.S. Border Patrol agent who was arrested the week of April 4 with hundreds of pounds of marijuana in his truck has been charged with drug trafficking offenses, authorities said April 12. The U.S. Attorney's office for the District of Arizona said a federal grand jury returned a four-count indictment against the agent for importing and possessing marijuana with intent to distribute. The agent was arrested April 4 after Border Patrol agents found him in a remote area on the Mexico border near San Luis, Arizona, with 44 bundles of marijuana in his vehicle, the office said in a news release. He faces charges of conspiracy to import marijuana, importation of marijuana, conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute marijuana, and possession with intent to distribute marijuana. A conviction on each count carries a sentence of up to 40 years in prison, and a fine of up to \$2 million.

Source:

<http://www.publicbroadcasting.net/wxxi/news.newsmain/article/0/0/1788402/US/Border.Patrol.agent.indicted.for.marijuana.trafficking>

45. *April 12, Associated Press* – (Indiana) **Officials working to reduce tornado alerts in Indianapolis.** Weather forecasters are working with public safety officials in the heavily populated Indianapolis, Indiana area on a proposal to cut the number of times tornado sirens sound during severe weather — alerts that often amount to false alarms. The goal is to make alerts from the county's 168 sirens more meaningful to residents while providing more options for warnings, a spokeswoman for the Marion County Division of Homeland Security said. The officials are exploring whether there are better ways to alert people to bad weather than frequent blasts from sirens. A new plan that could go into effect this summer would mean fewer tornado sirens in bad weather, but would offer Marion County residents alerts via text messages, e-mail, and phone calls. The proposed changes would eliminate the dozens of siren alarms that go off whenever a tornado watch is issued in conjunction with a severe thunderstorm warning. In 2008, there were 126 such alarms in Marion County. The proposal also would eliminate weekly tornado siren tests. Those tests would take place the first Friday of the month rather than every Friday.

Source:

<http://www.dnj.com/article/B2/20110412/NEWS02/304120104/0/SPORTS/Officials-working-reduce-tornado-alerts-Indianapolis?odyssey=nav|head>

46. *April 12, KVOA 4 Tucson* – (Arizona) **Nogales border fence to be replaced.** Nearly 3 miles of border fence near Nogales, Arizona will be replaced with an 18-foot tall "bollard"-style fence, making it more difficult to breach. U.S. Customs and Border Protection said they will begin replacing the "landing mat" panel fencing with an 18-foot tall bollard fence design, increasing the height and strengthening the below-ground foundation of 2.8 miles of outdated pedestrian fence along the U.S.-Mexico Border. This project is part of DHS's efforts to strengthen border security in Arizona. The

replacement process was slated to begin April 13.

Source: <http://www.kvoa.com/news/nogales-border-fence-to-be-replaced/>

For more stories, see items [21](#) and [25](#)

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Information Technology Sector

47. *April 14, IDG News Service* – (International) **Hackers gain root access to WordPress servers.** Hackers have compromised several servers that support WordPress and may have obtained source code, according to the founding developer of Automattic, the company behind the popular blogging platform. He wrote on the WordPress blog that Automattic has been reviewing log records to determine how much information was exposed and re-evaluating “avenues to gain access.” “We presume our source code was exposed and copied,” he wrote. “While much of our code is open source, there are sensitive bits of our and our partners’ code. Beyond that, however, it appears information disclosed was limited.” He wrote the company had no specific advice for WordPress users besides using strong passwords, and not using the same password for multiple sites. In the comment section of the blog post, a user asked if WordPress stores passwords in plain text or stores hashes of passwords. The founding developer wrote WordPress uses the Portable PHP password hashing framework.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9215809/Hackers_gain_root_access_to_WordPress_servers

48. *April 14, Softpedia* – (International) **ZeuS bot herder taunts security researchers through fake digital certificate.** A recently identified ZeuS trojan sample is digitally signed with a fake certificate whose purpose is to make the piece of malware harder to detect. According to security experts from Avira who discovered the sample, the digital certificate is signed by an entity called “DetectMe :)” and dates since the end of February. Although the ability to digitally sign code has been around since Windows NT, the practice has only seen more adoption starting with Vista where the difference between signed and unsigned executables is clearly noticeable in User Access Control alerts. Digitally signed malware, as in malicious programs that actually use a valid certificate signed by a trusted CA, are rare because the benefits of doing it are hardly worth the trouble. Nevertheless, some malware authors sign their creations with forged certificates occasionally in an attempt to trick less sophisticated file scanners or the users themselves. ZeuS bot runners in particular seem to be more inclined to do this than others.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/ZeuS-Botnet-Master-Taunts-Researchers-Through-Fake-Digital-Certificate-194924.shtml>

49. *April 13, Softpedia* – (International) **VLC 1.1.9 fixes critical security flaws.** The VideoLAN Organization has released a version 1.1.9 of VLC media player to address two critical vulnerabilities that could be exploited by potential attackers to execute

arbitrary code remotely. One of the flaws fixed in VLC 1.1.9 was disclosed April 9 and is located in the MP4 demultiplexer, the plug-in responsible for parsing MP4 (MPEG-4 Part 14) files. The vulnerability stems from an error in the “MP4_ReadBox_skcr()” function and can result in a heap-based buffer overflow. The bug is rated as highly critical by Secunia and can be exploited over the Web, due to the VLC ActiveX control and Firefox plug-in. The second vulnerability addressed in the new version of the popular open source media player is actually located in the libmodplug third-party library. Libmodplug is used to render music module files in multiple formats including .669, .amf, .ams, .dbm, .dmf, .dsm, .far, .it, .j2b, .mdl, .med, .mod, .mt2, .mtm, .okt, .psm, .ptm, .s3m, .stm, .ult, .umx, and .xmSound. The arbitrary code execution vulnerability in the plug-in can be exploited by tricking users to open specially crafted S3M files. This flaw can be exploited over the Web and network shares. The vulnerability was resolved by updating the libmodplug plug-in included in VLC to version 0.8.8.2, which was released at the beginning of April.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/VLC-1-1-9-Fixes-Critical-Security-Flaws-194885.shtml>

50. *April 13, Help Net Security* – (International) **‘Request rejected’ spam campaign leads to fake AV.** A spam e-mail campaign carrying a malicious attachment designed to download and run a fake AV solution on the recipient’s computer is hitting inboxes around the world. The subject of the e-mail is “Request rejected.” The message does not contain any clue as to what the rejected request might be, and since the purported sender and its e-mail address do not offer any additional information, many users might be tricked into downloading the attached zip file to find out more information. According to CA researchers, the zipped attachment contains a file by the name of EX-38463(dot)pdf(dot)exe, which is a downloader trojan that connects the computer to hdjfskh(dot)net, from where it downloads and executes a fake AV variant. The fake AV has the ability to change its name based on which version of Windows OS the computer runs: XP, Vista, or Win7. It also has a variety of fake alert windows that it uses to great effect to scare the victims into believing their computer is affected by malware. Source: http://www.net-security.org/malware_news.php?id=1693

51. *April 13, IDG News Service* – (International) **Conflicts, disasters could hurt PC shipments in Q2.** The natural disasters in Japan and political tension in the Middle East could hurt PC shipments during the second quarter of 2011, an IDC analyst said April 13. Japan is a major manufacturer of components such as batteries, and any disruption in the supply chain could impact the price of and demand for PCs, IDC’s research director said. The earthquake and tsunami that hit Japan March 11 caused extensive damage to buildings and factories. Ensuing blackouts and closure of transportation links hurt Japan’s supply chain. Also, rising oil prices, driven by the recent conflicts in the Middle East and Libya, could increase the cost of making and supplying computers and components, the IDC analyst said. Such events could trigger a rise in PC prices. PC shipments worldwide are already on shaky ground. PC shipments totaled 80.56 million during the first quarter of 2011, declining by 3.2 percent compared to the first quarter of 2010, IDC said in a report released April 13. Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9215816/Conflicts_disasters_could_hurt_PC_shipments_in_Q2

For more stories, see items [20](#)

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

52. *April 13, WLFI 18 Lafayette* – (Indiana) **Accident at WXXB radio tower kills two.** Two workers are dead after an accident near Buck Creek, Indiana April 13, according to the Tippecanoe County Deputy Coroner. A crew of five workers was installing a radio tower when the accident happened. According to a police press release, two workers were working at a height of 340 feet when they fell, along with a piece of equipment being used to add another segment to the tower. Both workers were fatally injured in the fall, according to the Tippecanoe County Sheriff's Office. Sheriff's deputies, Buck Creek Fire and Rescue, and TEAS Paramedics responded to the scene just before 9 a.m. The Occupational Safety & Health Administration was on the scene of the accident. The tower is still unstable, and a road near the tower was closed.

Source: <http://www.wlfi.com/dpp/news/local/road-closed-after-tower-accident>

53. *April 13, Hannibal Courier-Post* – (Missouri) **Sliced cable cuts Internet, phone service to many.** For approximately 7 hours April 9, many people in Northeast Missouri were without Internet access. The loss of Internet service, and for some phone and video service, was the result of an accidental slice of a fiber-optics line in Renick. According to a general manager with U.S. Cable for the state of Missouri, an unidentified power company accidentally cut the cable. "That fiber line is actually a backbone to not only us as an Internet provider, but other Internet providers in this area of Missouri also use that same fiber backbone," he said, noting other companies were also impacted to a degree.

Source: <http://www.hannibal.net/features/x90881926/Sliced-cable-cuts-Internet-phone-service-to-many>

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Commercial Facilities Sector

54. *April 14, KIRO 7 Seattle* – (Washington) **Two fires at Spanaway shopping center.** Investigators in Pierce County, Washington believe a serial arsonist may have set two fires at popular Spanaway stores April 13. When KIRO crews arrived at the KMart store on Pacific Avenue, things appeared to be under control. The store had been evacuated, due to smoke inside the store. The assistant fire chief of Central Pierce Fire and Rescue told KIRO, “initial reports are that there were some small explosions — we’re figuring aerosol canisters-type of explosion.” Fire crews said it started in the Garden Shop of the store. Crews managed to get the fire out quickly, but not the smoke. About 10 minutes after that fire was put out, another fire broke out right across the street, across a vacant lot at the Dollar Tree Store. Investigators then confirmed: they are looking for a fire bug. “We’re working to get some of the surveillance cameras to verify witness reports,” the assistant fire chief said. A manager at the Dollar Tree said she noticed there was a bottle of fuel injector, an accelerant, missing from the store shelves right before their fire started. And someone saw a man running from the store. Investigators have a suspect in custody. No one was injured at either fire.

Source: <http://www.kirotv.com/news/27540489/detail.html>

55. *April 13, WEWS 5 Cleveland* – (Ohio) **Massive fire burns on Euclid Avenue.** A 4-story apartment building was fully engulfed in flames on Cleveland, Ohio’s east side April 13. Fire officials said the structure was safely evacuated and nobody was injured. Property owners said about 60 people lived in the building’s 45 units. During a news conference April 13, the property owners said the blaze was started because of a grease fire. They added the resident in the apartment where the fire started admitted he could not get the pin out when he was trying to use the fire extinguisher and that he was drunk at the time. Representatives from the Red Cross were on the scene to help the residents who have now been displaced. The property owners are also working to find housing for the roughly 60 people who lived in the 44 units of a neighboring apartment building. It suffered severe damage and is uninhabitable. Flames were seen shooting from the roof the entire length of the 125-foot building, and the structure burned for more than 3 hours. Approximately 50 to 75 firefighters were on scene.

Source: http://www.newsnet5.com/dpp/news/local_news/cleveland_metro/massive-fire-burning-on-euclid-avenue

For more stories, see items [2](#) and [3](#)

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

56. *April 14, Associated Press* – (Texas) **More explosive wildfire weather expected in Texas.** Forecasters expect the wildfire potential across the western half of Texas to expand and become more explosive April 14. The area of significant fire potential, which had been confined mostly to West Texas and the Texas Panhandle the week of April 11, will expand to include North, Central, and South Texas April 14, according to a Texas Forest Service (TFS) statement. The expanded high-risk area will be generally west of a line extended from just west of Dallas-Fort Worth to Fredericksburg and Del

Rio, according to the agency. In the past week, TFS responded to 81 fires that charred almost 700 square miles. More than 900 firefighters from across the state and 33 other states have been called in to battle the blazes.

Source: <http://www.woai.com/news/local/story/More-explosive-wildfire-weather-expected-in-Texas/PIEc0J4X2Em795WzPUxpaQ.cspX>

57. *April 13, KSPR 33 Springfield* – (Missouri) **Health department warns large prescribed burns in Mark Twain National Forest could affect air quality.** The Springfield-Greene County Health Department in Missouri said two large prescribed burns in the Mark Twain National Forest could affect nearby Taney and Ozark counties' air quality indexes. Crews are burning about 6,000 acres at Big Creek and Three Sisters near Ava. With no control of incoming breezes, health department warned the winds are unhealthy for anyone with heart or lung disease. The agency's air quality control division expected smoke to drift in April 13 or 14. According to the health department, particulate matter may contain fine particles with microscopic solids or liquid droplets that can become embedded in the lungs and cause serious health problems. If particulate matter continues to travel into the Springfield area, air quality levels could be elevated to the "Slightly Unhealthy" or orange level. Such levels of air quality could be potentially harmful for people with heart or lung disease, older adults, and children. People who fall into these categories should avoid prolonged exposure or heavy exertion when air quality levels are elevated to "Slightly Unhealthy" or orange levels.

Source: <http://www.kspr.com/news/local/kspr-health-department-warns-large-prescribed-burns-in-mark-twain-national-forest-affecting-air-quality-20110413,0,3217294.story>

For another story, see item [60](#)

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Dams Sector

58. *April 14, Visalia Times-Delta* – (California) **Test on Success Dam scrapped; plan would have raised lake's water level.** Plans to raise the maximum water level at Lake Success near Porterville, California, by 10 feet have been scrapped by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The decision has hampered hopes for increased recreation at the Porterville-area lake this season. Since 2004, the maximum water level at Success Dam has been capped, first at 620 feet above sea level and now at 630 feet — 22 feet below the designed capacity. The water limit was imposed because of concerns sand under the base of the dam could give way to an earthquake and bring down enough of the earth-and-clay dam that large torrents of water would flood Porterville and other parts of the Valley below. Corps members in Sacramento had proposed a plan to raise the lake level by 10 feet over about a 2-month period, starting in April or May. The point of the test fill was to find the highest safe point, an engineer said. "Our headquarters felt the risk was too high to do something like that, and we didn't get approval," he said. The engineer estimated that the extra 10 feet of water would have added more than 20 tons

to the weight of the water in the lake.

Source:

<http://www.visaliatimesdelta.com/article/20110414/NEWS01/104140322/1002/Test-Success-Dam-scrapped-plan-would-raised-lake-s-water-level>

59. *April 14, Idaho Press-Tribune* – (Idaho) **Officials: Gophers ‘major culprit’ in canal breach.** Pioneer Irrigation District officials said gophers most likely caused the breach at Phyllis Canal that flooded a Caldwell, Idaho subdivision April 12. In a press release posted on the district’s Web site April 13, the district said workers had found evidence of gopher holes in the area of the breach. “While our investigation does continue, at this point it appears that gophers are the major culprit,” the release said. District officials said crews continued to work to fix the problem and ensure the stability of the canal bank.

Source: http://www.idahopress.com/news/article_704492de-665a-11e0-b215-001cc4c03286.html

60. *April 14, Associated Press* – (Vermont) **Guilford Selectboard wants state to rebuild dam.** The Guilford Selectboard wants the state of Vermont to rebuild a failing dam that helps create the body of water for which Sweet Pond State Park is named. Town officials plan to ask the Vermont Department of Forest, Parks and Recreation to replace the dam after the 18-acre pond is drained because of concerns the dam could fail, threatening people and property downstream. State officials said the dam must be removed right away to ensure public safety, and no considerations have been made to replace it. In addition to being a popular recreation area, the pond is also a water source for the Guilford Volunteer Fire Department. While many want to restore the dam, some residents want to see the stream returned to its natural course. The pond and its dam on Keets Brook are integral components of Sweet Pond State Park. The dam was built in 1922 on the site of a 19th century sawmill. State dam safety engineers determined recently the dam was deteriorating and in danger of failing.

Source:

<http://www.burlingtonfreepress.com/article/20110414/NEWS02/104140307/0/COLUMNISTS05/Guilford-Selectboard-wants-state-rebuild-dam?odyssey=nav|head>

61. *April 13, Associated Press* – (Louisiana) **Corps levee rebuilding subcontractor killed in accident at pumping station.** An employee of a subcontractor hired to help rebuild levees was killed in an accident at a pumping station at the Bayou Sauvage National Wildlife Refuge in Louisiana. The Orleans Parish Coroner’s Office told the New Orleans Times-Picayune the man died April 12 at the Interim LSU Public Hospital from injuries that included a crushed chest. The accident happened about 5 miles east of where workers with Great Southern Dredging Co. are raising the levee that runs along the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway. A U.S. Army Corps of Engineers spokeswoman said they are investigating the accident that occurred as the Corps tries to meet a June 1 deadline to raise New Orleans’ levee system to protect against storm surges caused by what is often called a 100-year storm.

Source:

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/c02ad395acab4db9ab2aeda39cd90ec4/LA--Levee-Death/>

62. *April 13, Reuters* – (North Dakota; Minnesota; International) **Minnesota town accessible only by boat after flooding.** Residents of Oslo, Minnesota April 13 walked levees and waited out massive flooding that has turned their community into a tiny temporary island in the Red River for a third year in a row, the mayor said. The last road to Oslo closed the night of April 12, leaving a boat ride of at least 2 miles the only option for residents to reach the banks of the Red River in North Dakota or Minnesota for at least the next week. Flood fighting efforts have turned to smaller communities along the Red River and its tributaries in North Dakota and Minnesota as the National Weather Service (NWS) April 13 trimmed a foot off the river's projected peak in Grand Forks. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers also moved quickly April 13 to add to levees on a Red River tributary in the Valley City and Lisbon area west of Fargo for the second time in a week where flows were building beyond prior expectations. And in northwest North Dakota near Minot, NWS issued a flash flood watch for residents near a small dam on the Des Lacs River in danger of failing and sending up to an additional 3 feet of water flowing downstream toward Burlington. NWS lowered the forecast for the crest at Grand Forks by 1 foot to 51 feet April 13. It is expected to crest there April 14 or 15. Once past Grand Forks, the Red River widens and flattens to swamp miles of farms and roads in North Dakota and Minnesota during floods. Forecasters expect it to reach up to 8 miles across at Oslo within days. Flooding has closed numerous county and state roads near the Red River and its tributaries in North Dakota and Minnesota over the past 2 weeks, including parts of Interstate 29 that runs parallel to the Red River in North Dakota. The river eventually flows through Manitoba, Canada, into Lake Winnipeg. Canadian towns April 13 were building ring dikes to prepare for flooding and the provincial government prepared to close Highway 75, the main link to North Dakota. Winnipeg expects the second-highest crest on record as early as late April. Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/04/13/us-weather-flooding-idUSTRE73C7JA20110413>

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