



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 21 April 2011

Current Nationwide Threat Level
ELEVATED

Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks
 For information, click here:
<http://www.dhs.gov>

Top Stories

- Residents of 255 homes were evacuated, and schools were closed April 20 in Monument, Colorado, after a train tanker overturned and leaked hydrochloric acid, Associated Press reports. (See item [5](#))
- CNNMoney reports the IRS identified 335,341 tax returns claiming \$1.9 billion in fraudulent refunds as of March 4, 2011, according to the findings of an audit conducted by the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration, which is a 181 percent increase from the same period in 2010. (See item [22](#))

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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 20, Evansville Courier and Press* – (Kentucky; Indiana; Illinois) **Thousands without power following severe weather outbreak.** Daybreak brought the first clear view of damage from a powerful springtime storm system that raced through Kentucky, Indiana, and Illinois April 19. Wind gusts that in some instances reached hurricane-level power uprooted trees, tore down utility poles, and left thousands of Tri-State

residents without electricity. There were no immediate reports of injuries. Vectren Energy estimated up to 17,000 customers were without power, including 10,000 customers in Vanderburgh County and around 3,000 customers in the Mount Vernon, Indiana, area. At the peak of the outage, Vectren spokeswoman said there were approximately 6,000 customers without power in and around Mount Vernon. She said crews, including emergency contract workers, were on the job throughout the night to restore electricity to about half of those customers. Boonville reported approximately 1,000 customers without power, while Rockport had fewer than 1,000 outages. A spokesman said the biggest issues will be making repairs to the 80-foot-tall high-voltage transmission lines that feed power to the electrical substations. Duke Energy said nearly 32,000 customers had no power April 20, including nearly 7,000 in Clark County and more than 4,000 in the Bedford area. Other utilities reported smaller outages.

Source: <http://www.courierpress.com/news/2011/apr/20/severe-storms-race-across-region/>

2. *April 19, Dow Jones* – (Texas) **Worker found dead at Motiva Port Arthur refinery.** A contract worker was found dead from unknown causes at Motiva Enterprise LLC's refinery in Port Arthur, Texas, April 18, according to KFD. A judge ordered an autopsy of the body, which was found dead atop scaffolding at the refinery. Motiva is a joint enterprise of Shell Oil Company, a subsidiary of Royal Dutch Shell and Saudi Aramco.
Source: <http://www.nasdaq.com/aspx/stock-market-news-story.aspx?storyid=201104190920dowjonesdjonline000213&title=worker-found-dead-at-motiva-port-arthur-refineryreport>

3. *April 19, Austin American Statesman* – (Texas) **Evacuees allowed back home after Sun City fuel tanker spill.** About 40 Sun City homes in Georgetown, Texas, were evacuated April 19 after a fuel tanker overturned on Del Webb Boulevard, spilling about 4,000 gallons of fuel, according to a city spokesman. Crews were at the scene of a flipped tanker trailer and attempted to turn it upright so they could remove the rest of the fuel inside and haul it away, a police lieutenant said. The driver sustained minor injuries and was taken to a hospital. No other injuries had been reported. The truck overturned about 8 a.m. on Del Webb near Whispering Wind Drive after the driver looked away from the road and over-corrected when he looked back up. Berms were put in place by the fire department to keep fuel from going into homes or nearby Berry Creek, officials said. Officials said evacuated residents were allowed back into their homes shortly before 6 p.m. and that Del Webb Boulevard was expected to re-open to two-way traffic by 7:30 p.m.
Source: <http://www.statesman.com/blogs/content/shared-gen/blogs/austin/blotter/entries/2011/04/19/fuel-tanker-spill-in-sun-city.html>

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Chemical Industry Sector

4. *April 20, iSurf News* – (Kentucky) **Tractor trailer overturns resulting in chemical spill.** The Kentucky State Police (KSP) responded to a report of a tractor trailer truck overturned on Pennyriple Parkway in the Christian County area at 4:30 a.m. April 20. According to KSP officials a driver was traveling southbound on the Pennyriple Parkway in a 2007 International Tractor Trailer. He had merged into the left hand lane to allow a slower moving vehicle to exit the parkway at exit 8. As he merged left his trailer, for unknown reasons, swerved into the median. The trailer then struck a guardrail causing his vehicle to overturn onto the driver's side. The rear of the trailer then struck a concrete sign support causing the rear of the trailer to rupture spilling approximately 7,700 gallons of Ethanol onto the roadway and into a ditch line on the shoulder of the roadway. The semi then continued southbound on the driver's side coming to final rest blocking both southbound lanes and the exit lane. There were no injuries in the accident.
Source: <http://www.isurfmuhlenberg.com/news/local-news/8723--tractor-trailer-overturns-resulting-in-chemical-spill-.html>

5. *April 20, Associated Press* – (Colorado) **Monument, Colo., acid spill from train is plugged.** Authorities in Monument, Colorado, say they have stopped a train tanker from leaking hydrochloric acid by placing a magnetic patch on it, Associated Press reported April 20. Residents of 255 homes were evacuated and schools were closed April 20 because of the leak. More evacuations had been planned but are no longer expected because winds have been calm, minimizing the danger of fumes spreading. Crews plan to transfer the acid to another tanker in the afternoon. Evacuees were told to take supplies for 48 hours, in case that takes longer than expected. The tanker can hold about 25,000 gallons but it is not known how much acid leaked since the problem was spotted around 1 a.m. Burlington Northern Santa Fe said it had been leaking about a cup of acid per minute.
Source:
http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/us_colorado_acid_leak;_ylt=AIGINxtQTLZtBjuOR4osD9Ks0NUE;_ylu=X3oDMTNwMnFuYjJ0BGFzc2V0A2FwLzIwMTEwNDIwL3VzX2NybG9yYWRvX2FjaWRfbGVhawRjY29kZQNtb3N0cG9wdWxhcGRjcG9zAzcEcG9zAzoQEcHQDaG9tZV9jb2tlBHNIYwN5bl9oZWFKbGluZV9saXN0BHNSawNhY2l

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

6. *April 19, United Press International* – (International) **Plant workers cope with heat stroke.** Workers responsible for containing radioactive contamination from Japan's Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear power plant also must contend with heat stroke, United Press International reported April 19. Some of the workers, who must wear heavy protective suits and full-face masks, already have been overcome by heat while working in dangerous areas of the quake-hit Fukushima nuclear plant where there is no air-conditioning, Yomiuri Shimbun reported. The report said Tokyo Electric Power may set up prefabricated buildings with air-conditioning as rest stations for the workers, who cannot take off their masks even to drink water while working.

Temperatures inside the protective suits shoot up within minutes. The newspaper reported only one quake-resistant building at the plant is air-conditioned where about 250 workers stay at night.

Source: http://www.upi.com/Top_News/World-News/2011/04/19/Plant-workers-cope-with-heat-stroke/UPI-20661303213398/

7. *April 19, Williamsburg Yorktown Daily* – (Virginia) **NRC concludes emergency monitoring at Surry nuclear plant.** The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) discontinued its monitoring mode status April 19 that arose after an apparent tornado touched down nearby the Surry Power Station in Virginia during an April 16 storm. Dominion, which operates the two-unit facility, exited its unusual event, which was the lowest of four NRC emergency classifications. The NRC’s resident inspectors continue to review the events and the agency is evaluating whether additional followup will be needed. The plant lost offsite power when an apparent tornado touched down in the adjacent switchyard. The facility’s emergency diesel generators immediately started up, providing emergency power until offsite power was restored.

Source: <http://wydaily.com/local-news/6317-nrc-concludes-emergency-monitoring-at-surry-nuclear-plant.html>

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

8. *April 20, Florence Times Daily* – (Alabama) **Employee accused of taking aluminum from business.** A longtime employee at Imperial Casting in Florence, Alabama, is accused of taking more than 2,000 pounds of aluminum from the company during an 18-month period, Times Daily reported April 20. The man, from Florence, is charged with first-degree theft of property, Florence police said. He was arrested April 18 when he turned himself in to authorities. A Florence police detective said the employee is accused of taking 2,500 pounds of cast aluminum molds from the company located on Chisholm Road in the Florence-Lauderdale Industrial Park. “We were able to trace records back to September 2009 that showed that this had been going on at least that long,” the detective said. “Company officials noticed some large pieces of aluminum missing and then they watched security cameras and found they had been tampered with,” he said. He said police were contacted in February by company officials after they performed an inventory review and discovered the aluminum missing. He said after an investigation and finding some of the stolen aluminum at local scrap metal yards, a warrant was issued for the employee. The detective said the man is accused of taking the aluminum while he was working the night shift at the plant. Authorities said the man is accused of selling the aluminum for \$6,000.

Source:

<http://www.timesdaily.com/article/20110420/NEWS/110419762/1011/NEWS?Title=E-employee-accused-of-taking-aluminum-from-business>

9. *April 19, Avon Lake Patch* – (Ohio) **Man seriously injured at Ford plant.** A man seriously injured April 19 at Ford’s Ohio Assembly Plant on Miller Road in Avon Lake

was taken to MetroHealth Medical Center by ambulance after stormy weather prevented the Life Flight helicopter from transporting the victim. A captain from the Sheffield Village Fire Department said they received a call about the injury at 3:40 p.m. “He had gotten caught between two pallets of product,” the captain said. “He was squeezed in between them and suffered multiple fractures and traumatic injuries.” He said an extrication was not required and the 61-year-old man was conscious when paramedics arrived. “Ford has their own EMS so he was packaged up on a backboard when we arrived,” he said. The injured man was taken by ambulance to the Avon Emergency Care Center where he was met by a MetroHealth ground transportation unit equipped with a medical team. “The helicopters were not flying due to weather,” the captain said. “He was transferred to the Avon ER to stabilize,” he said. The captain said it was unclear if he was a Ford employee or an outside worker, such as a delivery person.

Source: <http://avonlake.patch.com/articles/man-seriously-injured-at-ford-transported-to-metro>

10. *April 19, Reuters* – (International) **Toyota cuts US output, may lower 2011 sales target.** Japanese automaker Toyota Motor Co said April 19 it would cut U.S. vehicle production and may have to lower its 2011 U.S. sales target despite some improvement in the flow of parts from Japan. Toyota also said that from April 26 to June 3 it would cut production by 70 percent at its North American assembly plants. Workers will have 4-hour shifts 3 days a week instead of 8-hour shifts 3 days a week. Starting April 15, Toyota put its plants on a 3-day work week instead of its usual 8-hour shifts 5 days week. About 30,000 Toyota plant employees in North America will remain on the job during the slowdown, a spokesman said. Automakers have been plagued by parts shortages, especially specialized electronics, since the March 11 earthquake and tsunami in Japan. The group vice president of Toyota’s U.S. sales unit said Toyota had found that most of its parts shortages stemmed from problems at smaller, lower-tier companies that supply lower-cost components. He conceded that Toyota may have to lower its 2011 U.S. sales target if supply disruptions extend into the summer. But he said Toyota was making progress in narrowing the list of parts in short supply. Toyota’s plants in Japan are making half the normal number of vehicles because of supply disruptions. The senior vice president of sales for Nissan in North America, said Nissan’s Japanese factories were at close to 50 percent of their production capacity.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/04/19/toyota-sales-idUSN1928927620110419>

11. *April 14, U.S. Department of Labor* – (Arkansas) **US Labor Department’s OSHA cites Pocahontas Aluminum in Arkansas for safety and health violations.** The U.S. Department of Labor’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) April 14 has cited Pocahontas Aluminum Co. Inc. with 19 alleged serious and 5 alleged repeat safety and health violations at the company’s facility in Pocahontas, Arkansas. Proposed penalties total \$154,770. OSHA’s Little Rock office opened a planned safety inspection October 29, 2010, at the company’s facility on Industrial Drive under the agency’s National Emphasis Program on Fabricated Metal Products. The safety inspection found 10 serious and 5 repeat safety violations. A health investigation

yielding nine serious violations was opened November 15, 2010, based on a referral from the safety inspection. The serious safety violations include failing to provide proper machine lockout/tagout procedures, repair damaged work platforms and adequately store ladders. Health violations include failing to provide employees with proper personal protective equipment, adequately assess the facility under the hearing conservation program and include emergency response personnel under the bloodborne pathogens program.

Source:

http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=NEWS_RELEASES&p_id=19620

12. *April 13, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission* – (National) **Cub Cadet recalls riding lawn mowers due to fire hazard.** MTD Consumer Group Inc, of Cleveland, Ohio, issued a recall April 13 for about 4,300 Cub Cadet riding lawn mowers. A fuel leak can occur near the rear mounting screws on the bottom of the fuel tank, posing a fire hazard. No incidents or injuries have been reported. The riding mowers were sold by Cub Cadet dealers nationwide from February 2011 through March 2011.

Source: <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml11/11733.html>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

13. *April 19, Reuters* – (New Jersey) **NJ defense contractor admits fraud over parts made outside U.S.** A New Jersey defense contractor pleaded guilty to fraud after helicopter parts and other items he claimed were made in the United States turned out to be foreign-manufactured and reportedly failed during use, authorities said April 19. The former company president and his business, Staff Manufacturing Corporation, also known as Staff Gasket, admitted to the scheme in U.S. District Court in Newark, New Jersey, April 18. The company, based in Alpine, was contracted by the Department of Defense between August 2004 and March 2006 to provide replacement parts for U.S. military operations. Defense Department regulations mandate that many mission-critical items be manufactured domestically to precise specifications. The spokeswoman for the U.S. Attorney's Office in Newark, told Reuters April 19 that \$791,091 is the total value of the contracts that were fraudulently obtained. Many of the foreign-made items — specifically lock pins for helicopters — were later reported to have failed while on operations. The company president faces up to 5 years in prison when he is sentenced August 2. Staff Gasket may also be fined up to \$1.4 million.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/04/19/us-crime-contractor-idUSTRE73I65R20110419?feedType=RSS&feedName=domesticNews>

14. *April 19, Nextgov* – (California) **Auditor finds security gaps in nuclear lab's information systems.** The Lawrence Livermore National Nuclear Laboratory in Livermore, California, is not adequately protecting some vital national security data and federal managers are improperly allowing contractors to make some decisions about sensitive information, according to an auditor's report released April 19. In some

cases, contractors have made “security-significant” changes to the computer systems that store information about the nation’s nuclear weapons stockpile without the approval of the federal official in charge of those systems, according to the report from the Energy Department’s inspector general. In other cases, lab officials have not rewritten their security protocols to reflect new minimum standards to prevent cyberattacks mandated by the Committee on National Security Systems, the report said. The report blamed the failures on shoddy security planning and poor oversight from off-site officials at the National Nuclear Security Administration. “Three of four system security plans we reviewed were incomplete and did not always sufficiently describe security controls and how they were implemented on the systems,” the report said. It also indicated that Livermore security plans fell short on more than 25 metrics. The auditor’s report was prompted by a series of security failings at Energy Department agencies in recent years.

Source: http://www.nextgov.com/nextgov/ng_20110419_2658.php?oref=topnews

15. *April 18, Associated Press* – (Georgia; Rhode Island) **Navy contractor to plead guilty in kickback scheme.** A Navy contractor April 18 agreed to plead guilty in federal court in Rhode Island to his part in a multimillion-dollar kickback and bribery scheme. The U.S. attorney’s office in Rhode Island said the 58-year-old man agreed to admit to paying \$8 million in bribes to a civilian Navy employee and his family members in exchange for increased funding to \$120 million worth in Navy contracts held by the company. Prosecutors said the contractor funneled \$1.2 million through subcontractors to another company he owned. The company, Advanced Solutions for Tomorrow, was based in Georgia, and had offices in Middletown, Rhode Island. The civilian Navy employee has also been charged and has not pleaded guilty.

Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D9MM64A80.htm>

16. *April 15, Hartford Courant* – (International) **Cost, reliability issues with fighter aircraft program plague Pratt.** Even after 4 years of building Joint Strike Fighter prototypes, Pratt & Whitney is having problems managing the suppliers who provide 80 percent of the engine’s parts, Government Accountability Office (GAO) auditors said, creating a need for “substantial improvements in the global supply network.” Because Canada, Australia, Turkey, and five European countries have agreed to both buy fighter planes and fund the technology’s development, each country has companies contributing to both the engines and the planes, built by Lockheed Martin. GAO noted that the planes are failing more frequently than expected in testing — managing just 1 hour, 50 minutes between failures in the Air Force version, and 25 minutes in the Marine Corps version, known as STOVL, for short take off and vertical landing.

Source: <http://www.courant.com/business/hc-jsf-engine-costs-20110414,0,2680111.story>

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Banking and Finance Sector

17. *April 20, CNN* – (National) **Businessman found guilty in \$2.9 billion fraud.** A businessman described as “one of the faces of the financial crisis” was found guilty April 19 on all 14 felony counts against him by a jury in Alexandria, Virginia. The Assistant Attorney General (AG) called the verdict against the former the former chairman of Taylor, Bean, and Whitaker (TBW) who was accused in a nearly \$3 billion fraud, “a major victory.” The former CEO “masterminded one of the largest bank fraud schemes in history,” said the Assistant AG. The jury found the man guilty of multiple counts of bank, wire, and securities fraud. He will be sentenced July 1, and the Assistant AG predicted he will serve “decades” in prison. Witnesses at the trial described to the jury how TBW and Colonial executives perpetrated the massive fraud that brought down the once powerful Colonial BancGroup. The scheme began in 2002, according to a Justice Department statement, “when [the former CEO] and his co-conspirators ran overdrafts in TBW bank accounts at Colonial Bank in order to cover TBW’s cash shortfalls.” Six other people have already pleaded guilty for their roles in the fraud scheme, the Justice Department said.
Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2011/CRIME/04/19/virginia.fraud.scheme/>
18. *April 19, Denver Post* – (National) **‘Ho-Hum bandit’ suspect arrested in Denver.** The FBI in Denver, Colorado, apprehended a California man April 18, who is suspected of being the laid-back serial bank robber known as the Ho-Hum Bandit. Details of his arrest were not available, but an FBI spokesman confirmed that a 34-year-old man from Corte Madera in Marin County, California, was picked up April 18 in Denver. Public records show no permanent address or previous arrests for the man in Colorado. The Ho Hum Bandit turned up in Colorado earlier in 2011, after hitting an Edgewater bank in March. Authorities said he asked for money from a teller at the Chase Bank branch at 1705 Sheridan Blvd. March 17. The robber with the calm demeanor has also robbed more than a dozen banks in San Diego and Los Angeles, California; Cheyenne, Wyoming; and Seattle, Washington, before moving on to Colorado. Banks in Southern California pooled together a \$15,000 reward in 2010.
Source: http://www.denverpost.com/breakingnews/ci_17885635
19. *April 19, Federal Bureau of Investigation* – (Michigan) **Investment adviser pleads guilty to bank and wire fraud charges.** A 43-year-old Michigan man pleaded guilty April 19 to five counts of bank and wire fraud, a U.S. Attorney announced. According to court documents, the man was an investment adviser to various municipalities, credit unions, school districts, and trade unions through his Southfield-based companies MuniVest Financial Group and MuniVest Services LLC. From August 2007 to September 2010, he used the MuniVest entities to operate a bank and wire fraud Ponzi scheme. He falsely promised investor clients that he would invest their funds in various certificates of deposit. He did not invest their funds as promised, but instead, used their funds to purchase personal items and real property, to gamble, to make payments to other investors in the same scheme, and to make loans to several individuals and a local jewelry store. He stipulated that the loss caused by his fraud exceeds \$7 million, and that he abused a position of trust in his fiduciary capacity as an investment adviser.
Source: <http://detroit.fbi.gov/dojpressrel/pressrel11/de041911.htm>

20. *April 19, DNainfo* – (New York) **Suspected bank robber caught after cops spot mustache, report says.** A bank robber who failed to rip off the same Chelsea, New York, location on two occasions was nabbed in Greenwich Village in New York City April 16 after cops noticed his infamous facial hair, according to the New York Post. Police first circulated the mustachioed mug shot of the suspect April 6, after he allegedly demanded cash from a teller at the Chase Bank on Eighth Avenue and West 15th Street, and then fled on foot empty-handed. Less than a week later, police reported that the man had struck twice more, once again failing to rob the Eighth Avenue branch before finally managing to pocket some cash at a Chase location on Third Avenue, between East 19th and East 20th streets, in Gramercy. The suspect was spotted at Washington Square Park near Thompson Street by police who had been monitoring a nearby surveillance camera April 16, the Post reported. A police source told the paper that the cops made the find after noticing the man's "Hitler-like mustache." The suspect's alleged robbery spree is believed to have included two more banks, with the once struggling bank robber managing to capture nearly \$10,000, according to the Post. Source: <http://www.dnainfo.com/20110419/greenwich-village-soho/suspected-bank-robber-caught-after-cops-spot-mustache-report-says>
21. *April 19, South Florida Business Journal* – (Florida) **Real estate agent pleads guilty in mortgage fraud.** A Miami-Dade County, Florida, real estate agent has pleaded guilty to a count of conspiracy to commit money laundering in connection to a fraudulent mortgage scheme, the U.S. Attorney's Office said, South Florida Business Journal reported April 19. According to court records, between July 9, 2004, and August 7, 2007, the man and his co-conspirators were involved in a scheme to obtain fraudulent mortgage loans for the purchase of at least five residential properties in Miami Beach. The man and his co-conspirators recruited and paid straw buyers, including some who were family members, to pose as purchasers of the properties. Court records also show that the man and his co-conspirators prepared fraudulent mortgage applications on behalf of the straw buyers. The man and his co-conspirators would arrange for fraudulent mortgage loan proceeds to be disbursed to one of his bank accounts. Eventually, the man and his co-conspirators defaulted on the loan payments, causing the properties to go into foreclosure. The man acknowledged that the loss resulting from his actions is more than \$2.5 million, but less than \$7 million. The man, faces up to 30 years in prison, followed by up to 5 years of supervised release. Source: <http://www.bizjournals.com/southflorida/news/2011/04/19/real-estate-agent-guilty-mortgage-fraud.html>
22. *April 19, CNNMoney* – (National) **Fraudulent tax returns surge 181%.** The number of taxpayers trying to cheat the IRS and collect bigger refunds has shot up for the 2011 filing season. The IRS identified 335,341 tax returns claiming \$1.9 billion in fraudulent refunds as of March 4, 2011, according to the findings of an audit conducted by the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA). That is a 181 percent increase from the same period in 2010. While the IRS has become more effective in its screening process, a weak economy has also driven more people to cut corners, said an assistant academic specialist of Accounting at Northeastern University. Many taxpayers tried to boost their refunds or reduce their tax liability by claiming deductions and

credits they did not qualify for, TIGTA found. Another reason for the huge increase is ramped up enforcement efforts on the part of the IRS. The IRS is also getting more efficient at reviewing tax returns and identifying errors or false information, due to the increase in electronic filing. The number of e-filed returns surged to a record high in 2011, topping 100 million for the first time in history — a nearly 9 percent increase from 2010, according to the IRS. When taxpayers file their taxes electronically, it is much easier for the IRS to analyze them, said the Northeastern University assistant academic specialist. Not all of the so-called “fraudulent” returns are a result of taxpayers trying to scam the system, he said. Many taxpayers were in such a pinch financially in 2010 that they were less likely to hire a professional to prepare their taxes — often resulting in more incorrect claims, outdated deductions, and other common errors.

Source:

http://money.cnn.com/2011/04/19/pf/taxes/fraudulent_tax_returns/?section=money_latest

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Transportation Sector

23. *April 20, CNN* – (District of Columbia) **Officials: Plane carrying first lady got too close to military C-17.** A plane carrying the first lady had to abort its landing in Washington, D.C., April 18 after it came too close to a military C-17 cargo plane ahead of it, according to a senior administration official and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). The planes, which were both trying to land, were 3 miles apart. They were supposed to be 5 miles apart, the official told CNN. The FAA is investigating what happened, as it is believed to be an air traffic controller mistake, the official said. The White House does not believe the first lady’s life was ever in danger, the senior official said. The FAA said in a statement controllers at Andrews Air Force Base instructed an incoming Boeing 737 to perform a “go around” “because the plane did not have the required amount of separation” behind the military plane.
Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2011/US/04/19/michelle.obama.plane/index.html>

24. *April 18, Redmond Patch* – (Washington) **Electronic highway signs aim to ease commuting pain.** The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) activated electronic signs in Bellevue and Woodinville, Washington, the week of April 11, with another one planned in Kirkland, that tells drivers the travel times to Seattle via two different routes. “These electronic travel-information signs are the latest addition to our arsenal of innovative tools that help drivers reach their destination more quickly and safely,” said the WSDOT Toll Division Director. The electronic signs are among several federally funded projects under way aimed at helping reduce congestion and improve safety on SR 520 and I-90 in the Puget Sound area. The projects are a cooperative effort between WSDOT, Puget Sound Regional Council, King County, and the U.S. Department of Transportation.
Source: <http://redmond.patch.com/articles/electronic-highway-signs-aim-to-ease-commuting-pain-2>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

25. *April 20, Salisbury Daily Times* – (Virginia) **3 arrested in burglary at post office.** According to a major with the Accomack County Sheriff's Office in Virginia, police received a report regarding a breaking and entering at the Keller Post Office around 7:30 a.m. April 6 and currently arrests have been made in the case. Taken from the post office was an undisclosed amount of property and damage was also reported as a result of the burglary. The sheriff's office investigation led to the identification and arrest of several suspects. A 50-year-old man was arrested April 7 and is charged with receiving stolen property. He is out of jail on a \$2,500 bond. A 23-year-old man was arrested April 11 on charges of breaking and entering and grand larceny. He is incarcerated in the Accomack County Jail with bond denied. A 21-year-old man was arrested April 13 on charges of breaking & entering and grand larceny. He was released on a \$1,500 bond. U.S. Postal Inspectors and the Onley Police Department assisted in the investigation.

Source: <http://www.delmarvanow.com/article/20110420/ESN01/104200358>

26. *April 20, KEYT 3 Santa Barbara* – (California) **Reward offered after post office is burglarized.** The Summerland Post Office in California was burglarized over the weekend of April 16, and at least 40 post office boxes were broken into. A sign on the door in the morning April 18 alerted residences that boxes had been broken into. Colored tape marked off the area as off limits. Crews worked April 19 to fix the broken boxes and replace locks. Both residents and businesses have their mail at the post office, because Summerland does not have home mail delivery. It is unclear how much mail was taken but the crime is under investigation. The U.S. Postal Inspectors' Office is offering a \$10,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of whoever vandalized and burglarized the post office.

Source: <http://www.keyt.com/news/local/Summerland-Post-Office-boxes-broken-open-120215144.html>

27. *April 19, WKRG 5 Mobile* – (Alabama) **Suspicious package leads to lockdown at Foley Police Department.** Foley, Alabama police responded to a 911 call about a suspicious letter with a powdery substance that was dropped off at a home in the afternoon April 19. The officer sealed the letter in a plastic bag and brought it to police headquarters. Worried the plastic bag may not be sufficient enough to contain the substance, supervisors called in the HAZMAT team and placed the building on lockdown. Tests determined the suspicious powder was cornstarch. Police believe whoever sent the letter had bad intentions. The case is still under investigation.

Source: http://www.wkrg.com/alabama/article/suspicious-packagae-found-at-foley-police-department/1206303/Apr-19-2011_6-09-pm/

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Agriculture and Food Sector

28. *April 20, Twin Falls Times-News* – (Idaho) **Jerome Cheese faces fines over safety violations.** Jerome Cheese Company, a division of Davigco Foods International, in Jerome, Idaho, faces \$111,000 in penalties for numerous safety violations, Times-News reported April 20. Jerome Cheese has about 300 employees and processes about 520,000 pounds of American cheddar daily. The U.S. Department of Labor’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) announced April 19 it handed down “12 serious and one repeat violation after an inspection of the company’s facility identified 2 incidents of anhydrous ammonia release, an absence of fall protection, the employer’s failure to implement an emergency response plan and other workplace hazards.” The OSHA Idaho area director told Times-News that the organization conducted an unannounced inspection of Jerome Cheese over several days, beginning November 29, 2010. OSHA’s Boise office began an investigation in 2010 as part of a national emphasis program on chemical facilities, the director said. Most of the violations are “serious,” meaning “there is substantial probability that death or serious physical harm could result from a hazard about which the employer knew or should have known.” Davigco Foods International, based in Le Sueur, Minnesota, also has cheese manufacturing facilities in Minnesota and North Dakota, and sales offices in several countries.

Source: http://www.magicvalley.com/business/local/article_cb41a654-7f4e-5ac2-97dd-aaaf17a170a.html

29. *April 19, Iowa Independent* – (Iowa; Mississippi; Oklahoma) **Iowa-based fertilizer producer fined for Clean Air Act violations at nine plants.** One of the nation’s largest producers of nitric acid and nitrogen fertilizers has agreed to pay more than \$500,000 in civil penalties to settle alleged violations of pollution laws at nine of its plants in Iowa, Mississippi, and Oklahoma, Iowa Independent reported April 19. The company will spend an estimated \$17 million to install and implement safeguards to reduce harmful emissions by at least 1,200 tons per year. Terra Industries Inc., headquartered in Sioux City prior to a 2010 buyout, was a major U.S. producer of nitrogen fertilizers, including anhydrous ammonia, urea, ammonia nitrate, and urea-ammonium nitrate. The company also produces nitric acid, a key intermediate in the manufacture of ammonium nitrate and urea-ammonium nitrate. The production of nitric acid, according to government officials, results in the emission of nitrogen oxides, which can cause lung damage, worsen respiratory diseases, contribute to acid rain, and lead to the formation of smog. In order to settle alleged violations of the federal Clean Air Act, Terra has agreed to pay \$325,000 to federal officials and \$100,000 each to the state of Iowa, state of Mississippi, and the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality co-plaintiffs in the action filed April 19 in U.S. District Court in Sioux City.

Source: <http://iowaindependent.com/55007/iowa-based-fertilizer-producer-fined-for-clean-air-act-violations-at-nine-plants>

30. *April 19, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration* – (National) **NOAA: All Federal waters of the Gulf once closed to fishing due to spill now open.** The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) April 19 reopened to commercial and recreational fishing 1,041 square miles of Gulf waters immediately surrounding the Deepwater Horizon wellhead, just east of Louisiana. It was the twelfth

and final reopening in federal waters since July 22, 2010, and it opened all of the areas in Federal waters formerly closed to fishing due to the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. The reopening was announced after consultation with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and under a reopening protocol agreed to by NOAA, the FDA, and the Gulf states. NOAA sampled this area between November 11 and November 14, 2010, March 12 and March 16, 2011, and March 28 and April 1, 2011, for potentially affected finfish, including tuna, swordfish, and escolar. Sensory analyses of 86 finfish samples and chemical analyses of 112 finfish samples in 8 composites followed the methodology and procedures in the reopening protocol, with sensory analysis finding no detectable oil or dispersant odors or flavors, and results of chemical analysis for oil-related compounds and dispersants well below the levels of concern. All test results are publicly available.

Source: http://www.noaanews.noaa.gov/stories2011/20110419_gulfreopening.html

31. *April 18, Contra Costa Times* – (California) **Rig crash spills 4,000 gallons of milk onto Brentwood street.** A tanker truck crashed and overturned April 18 in Brentwood, California, dumping 4,000 gallons of milk onto the roadway, police said. The rig and its load both suffered a spill about 4:30 a.m. in the northbound lanes at Spruce Street on a stretch of the boulevard that doubles as Highway 4, a Brentwood Police sergeant said. The rig's driver was not seriously injured. Nearby streets were closed and crews worked to mop up the milk and keep it out of storm drains.

Source: http://www.mercurynews.com/breaking-news/ci_17871891?nclick_check=1

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Water Sector

32. *April 20, Sacramento Bee* – (California) **PG&E canal break forces call to conserve water.** Placer County Water Agency officials in California are asking customers to conserve water following a major break April 19 on the Pacific Gas and Electric Co.'s (PG&E) Bear River Canal. The break, reported about 5 a.m. at a remote location below Rollins Reservoir near Colfax, cut flow to the Placer County Water Agency. The water agency's general manager said the canal break affects both treated water and raw water supplies. He said the district immediately took steps to open interties with the Nevada Irrigation District and the city of Roseville, and began pumping water from the American River to make up for some of the water shortages. Irrigation customers will be the most affected. To deal with water shortages, rolling 24-hour outages are planned until PG&E supplies to raw water customers are fully restored. He said agency staff members are calling and talking to customers or leaving messages urging conservation. The Placer County Water Agency serves about 150,000 people on the county's western slope. In a written statement released late April 19 through the Placer County Water Agency, PG&E said that a slide occurred below a portion of the Bear River Canal, causing part of the canal sidewall to break and divert water from the canal down the steep hill into the Bear River. The canal was inspected by foot patrol April 1 and no

potential problems were identified at the time. Officials said it is not known whether recent heavy rains or another cause may have contributed to the slide.

Source: <http://www.sacbee.com/2011/04/20/3565207/pge-canal-break-forces-call-to.html>

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

33. *April 20, Alexandria Town Talk* – (Louisiana) **Suspect powder found at VA center in Pineville not toxic, but not identified.** Things returned to normal April 19 at the Alexandria Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Pineville, Virginia, after state officials received word that a white powdery substance in an envelope received at the facility was not toxic. Officials had speculated the substance may have caused an employee’s illness. State Police sent a sample of the substance to a state Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH) lab April 18. The following day, state officials received word from DHH that the substance on an envelope sent to the VA Medical Center was not anthrax or any other toxic substance that would be used in an act of bioterrorism. The employee, who handled the envelope April 15, visited her personal physician over the weekend and was diagnosed with upper respiratory problems, the Alexandria VA director said.

Source: <http://www.thetowntalk.com/article/20110420/NEWS01/104200334>

34. *April 18, Wall Street Journal* – (International) **Glaxo warns consumers’ email addresses, names were compromised.** A data breach that has already hit a range of companies in financial services and retailing has also affected drug giant GlaxoSmithKline PLC, which warned consumers in a letter over the weekend that their e-mail addresses and names “were accessed by an unauthorized third party,” Wall Street Journal reported April 18. Glaxo said the breach affected consumers who have registered with Glaxo Web sites for some prescription and nonprescription drugs and products. A Glaxo spokeswoman declined to name the product sites affected. Glaxo said the stolen information “may have identified the product website on which you registered.” Glaxo is one of many companies that has used Epsilon Data Management LLC to handle its e-mail marketing campaigns. Earlier in April, Epsilon said an “unauthorized third party” had hacked into its system and accessed customer information. The breach has affected companies including Citigroup Inc., J.P. Morgan Chase & Co, Walgreen Co., and Kroger Co. Glaxo said one of the “primary concerns” arising from the breach is that consumers may be targeted with illegal “phishing” e-mails, which pretend to be from an official source and seek to get people to divulge personal information such as Social Security numbers.

Source: <http://www.marketwatch.com/story/glaxo-warns-consumers-email-addresses-names-were-compromised-2011-04-18>

35. *April 17, Rochester Democrat and Chronicle* – (New York) **Batavia hospital dealing with a potentially fatal bacteria.** United Memorial Medical Center in Batavia, New York, was dealing with an unusually high number of a potentially lethal form of

bacterial infection, Democrat and Chronicle reported April 17. A hospital spokesperson said six patients at the hospital had clostridium difficile, more commonly referred to as C diff. The bacteria can be fatal in some cases, particularly if the patient has a weakened immune system, she said. There may be more cases than usual because there are more patients than usual in the medical-surgical units of the hospital, she added. Typically, the hospital has about 40 people in those units. Currently, there are about 65 patients at the hospital. “It’s a very, very common bacteria. Most people carry it around in their digestive tract,” she said. She said hospital officials were keeping the state Health Department informed about the C diff cases and were following all the proper procedures to control it. Each year in the United States, more than 480,000 people contract C diff and 28,000 people die from it, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Source:

<http://www.democratandchronicle.com/article/20110417/NEWS01/110417008/1010/S-PORTS01/Batavia-hospital-dealing-potentially-fatal-bacteria?odyssey=nav|head>

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Government Facilities Sector

36. *April 20, CNN* – (Texas) **Crews protect Texas observatory with fire of their own.** A regional disaster team set a controlled fire on a peak in West Texas’ Davis Mountains April 16, which was near a wildfire that crept up a canyon approximately 1 mile from the McDonald Observatory. The objective was to consume the brush that otherwise could have led the wildfire to the observatory, a staff member said. The controlled burn seems to have worked, and the wildfire — though not contained — is burning elsewhere, he said April 19. The wildfire and its thick smoke prompted the center to close a couple times since April 9, most recently April 17 through April 19. The observatory is home to one of the world’s largest optical telescopes and the StarDate radio program. It is also a residence for about 80 staff and family members, some of whom remained as fire crews defended the property from one of the wildfires that have devastated the state in April. The center, which receives about 60,000 visitors per year, is slated to reopen April 20 as long as the fire stays away, an observatory spokeswoman said.

Source: <http://news.blogs.cnn.com/2011/04/20/crews-protect-texas-observatory-with-fire-of-their-own/?hpt=T1>

37. *April 19, The New New Internet* – (International) **Hackers breach another school district’s system.** The personal information of thousands of students and teachers has potentially been compromised after officials at Lancaster County School District in South Carolina say a hacker broke into their system, The New New Internet reported April 19. The break-in happened after the hackers monitored district computers and captured keystrokes to obtain passwords. The intruders were then able to access the records on the state system of more than 25,000 students and more than 2,500 school district employees, Wistv.com reported. It is unclear what information the hackers were able to access, but the breached database contains information on current and former

students and employees including names, birth dates, Social Security numbers, addresses, and phone numbers. No credit card or bank account information seem to have been compromised, school officials said. The hacking took place in March and was discovered by the U.S. Computer Emergency Readiness Team, according to school officials.

Source: <http://www.thenewnewinternet.com/2011/04/19/hackers-breach-another-school-districts-system/>

38. *April 19, WLEX 18 Lexington* – (Kentucky) **Firefighters battle mulch fire at Bluegrass Army Depot.** Firefighters April 19 continued to battle a deep-seated mulch fire on the grounds of the Bluegrass Army Depot (BGAD) located in east central Kentucky. The BGAD Fire Department received a report of smoke from security around 7:30 a.m. When firefighters arrived on the scene, they found fire deep in a mulch pile. Crews immediately began digging through the mulch seeking the source of the fire. As firefighters dug deeper, flames began to flare. The BGAD Fire Department called for assistance from Madison County firefighters. Crews brought in four bulldozers and two front-end loaders to level the pile and extinguish the flames. BGAD officials say the facility commonly produces dunnage, or scrap wood, from building wood crates, shipping pallets, and various items from the depot. This dunnage is recycled to produce wood mulch.
Source: <http://www.lex18.com/news/firefighters-battle-mulch-fire-at-bluegrass-army-depot>
39. *April 19, Associated Press* – (Texas) **Kindergarten student brings gun to Texas school, 3 injured by fragments when gun accidentally fires.** A kindergarten student who brought a loaded gun April 19 to Ross Elementary School in Houston, Texas, was among three students injured by fragments when it fired after falling from his pocket as he sat down for lunch, officials said. One bullet was fired about 11 a.m. in the school cafeteria, spraying fragments at the students, the Houston Independent School District assistant police chief said. Two 6-year-old boys, including the one who had the gun, and a 5-year-old girl were wounded in the foot, a district spokesman said. All three children were put on stretchers and taken to ambulances, to be checked out at a hospital. The students were sitting up and appeared to be talking with emergency personnel as they were wheeled away. Parents rushed to the school, where yellow crime scene tape was strung and more than a dozen Houston police and district patrol cars were parked outside, as officers investigated where the boy got the gun.
Source: <http://www.thespec.com/news/world/article/519449--kindergarten-student-brings-gun-to-texas-school-3-injured-by-fragments-when-gun-accidentally-fires>
40. *April 19, WPMT 43 York* – (Pennsylvania) **Bottle bomb explodes at Messiah College campus.** The Upper Allen Township Police Department in Pennsylvania received a report about 2 a.m. April 19 that a bottle bomb exploded at Messiah College. Police said several bottle bombs were left in an outdoor courtyard at the college. One had exploded. No one was hurt and no damage was done to the property. Authorities detonated the remaining devices safely. Messiah College released a statement saying, “While typically misconstrued as harmless fun, this is actually a dangerous weapon and

has the potential to cause serious injury to anyone in its vicinity. The fumes can be noxious, the chemicals can cause damage to the skin and eyes, and the propellants also have the ability to injure bystanders. In addition to being prohibited at Messiah College, these devices are also considered illegal in the state of Pennsylvania.”

Source: <http://www.fox43.com/news/cumberland/wpmt-bottle-bombs-bottle-bombs-found-at-messiah-college-campus-20110419,0,7334423.story>

41. *April 19, WTHR 13 Indianapolis* – (Indiana) **Fire damages Hancock County library.** About 40 patrons and 25 employees at the Hancock County Public Library in Greenfield, Indiana, evacuated April 19 when lightning set the building on fire. Lightning apparently struck the roof and sparked a fire. At the time, library administrators were gathering to discuss earthquake drills at Indiana’s public schools as part of the Great Central U.S. ShakeOut. The library director said the library closed down for the day. Firefighters had to cut a hole in the roof to put out the fire. Staff covered the books with tarps to protect them from water damage.

Source: <http://www.wthr.com/story/14474558/fire-reported-at-hancock-county-library>

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Emergency Services Sector

42. *April 20, San Francisco Chronicle* – (California) **SF emergency unit’s computer crashed during fire.** A big-brass review of San Francisco California’s response to a New Year’s Eve apartment blaze that left 48 people homeless revealed new information the week of April 18. The Division of Emergency Services’ main computer lost its Internet connection in the middle of the crisis, and workers could not get the backup system running because no one knew the password. Word of the situation surfaced, when the Mayor’s Disaster Council sat down to review the city’s response to the North Beach fire. The mayor and other city officials at the meeting listened as an emergency services representative mentioned that the computer had crashed as the fire burned. The division’s chief said the connection failed, and the agency had to bring in a tech to reconnect the computer. “The Internet makes things easier, but it’s not like we can’t operate without it,” he said. “We still had radios and cell phones. And it’s not like we are going to have Internet connection if we get hit with the Big One.”

Source: <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2011/04/19/BANM1J3LL1.DTL>

43. *April 20, WTXF 29 Philadelphia* – (Pennsylvania) **1 dead, 3 firefighters hurt in NoLibs.** Authorities said one firefighter is in critical condition, two others are hurt, and one civilian is dead after a fire April 19 in the Northern Liberties area of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The fire broke out around 11:30 p.m. When firefighters got to the home, they heard reports people were trapped inside. They said they battled heavy heat and smoke conditions. “Well, we had a report of a person trapped. In addition to the three firefighters that were transported to the hospital, we also had two civilians that self-transported to the hospital. They went to Hahnemann,” a fire department official at the scene said. Those people suffered minor injuries. At last check, the one firefighter was

in critical condition while the other two were reported to be in stable condition. The fire marshal is investigating, but officials say there were no signs of any smoke detectors in the home.

Source:

[http://www.myfoxphilly.com/dpp/news/local_news/Northern Liberties Fatal Fire 042011](http://www.myfoxphilly.com/dpp/news/local_news/Northern_Liberties_Fatal_Fire_042011)

44. *April 19, Winston-Salem Journal* – (North Carolina) **Truckload of chickens crashes into fire station.** A tractor-trailer hauling 3,600 chickens collided with a van in the morning April 18, flipped on its side, and skidded into the front bays of Mountain Park Volunteer Fire Department in North Carolina. The wreck occurred about 8:15 a.m. The truck was carrying thousands of chickens to the Wayne Farms processing plant in Dobson. More than 2,000 chickens were killed in the crash or died shortly afterward, company officials said. Two of the fire station’s four bay doors were damaged, as were the doors’ guide tracks, and a support column between the bays. A fire truck parked in one of the bays was scratched and had other minor damage. A volunteer was in the station but was not injured, and the people in the vehicles refused medical treatment, said the fire chief. “It’s going to be a big deal to get everything back like it was,” he said. Workers were taking down the damaged doors and securing the openings in the afternoon April 18. The fire trucks in those two bays can still go out the back doors, and service is expected to continue without interruption.

Source: <http://www2.journalnow.com/news/2011/apr/19/WSMAIN02-truckload-of-chickens-crashes-into-fire-s-ar-959341/>

45. *April 18, Louisville Courier-Journal* – (Indiana) **New Albany man charged in ambulance theft.** A New Albany, Indiana man is due in court April 20 on charges stemming from the theft of a New Albany Fire Department ambulance early April 16. The man had been treated in the emergency room at Floyd Memorial Hospital and when he was released, found an unattended ambulance with its motor running in the ambulance bay, said the New Albany Police Chief. “He jumped in and he took it about two blocks behind the hospital and jumped out of it” around 1 a.m., he said. A police captain, who happened to be at the hospital on an unrelated matter, went after the ambulance. He spotted the man passing on foot and arrested him without incident, according to police. He is charged with auto theft, unlawful entry to an automobile, and intimidation. The latter charge stems from alleged threats to the police captain. The man is being held in the Floyd County Jail on \$10,000 bond.

Source: <http://www.courier-journal.com/article/20110418/NEWS0203/304180093/1001/New-Albany-man-charged-ambulance-theft?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|Home|p>

For another story, see item [27](#)

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Information Technology Sector

46. *April 20, Softpedia* – (International) **Ashampoo hit by data breach.** German software developer Ashampoo has notified its customers about a data breach incident that resulted in the exposure of their names and e-mail addresses. According to an announcement posted on the company's Web site, unidentified hackers broke through its security systems and gained unauthorized access to a server. "We discovered the break-in and interrupted it instantly. The security gap through which the hackers gained access was closed immediately," said Ashampoo's CEO. "At the same time we reported this incident to the police. Further investigations are underway. Unfortunately, the traces of the well-concealed hackers currently disperse abroad," he added. The hackers did not obtain access to billing information as this data is not stored on the company's servers. In addition to its software development business, which includes anti-malware, firewall, and data encryption products, the Ashampoo Group offers a diverse range of services through subsidiaries. Ashampoo did not disclose how many individuals were affected by the breach, but since the company claims to have has over 13.8 million customers, the number may be very large. The company warned customers about targeted attacks that might result from this incident.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Ashampoo-Hit-by-Data-Breach-195966.shtml>

47. *April 19, Softpedia* – (International) **Facebook begins rolling out two-factor authentication.** Facebook has announced a series of safety and security changes which include a new two-factor authentication system and improvements to its HTTPS support. Multi-factor authentication systems combine traditional passwords with additional identification methods, such as one-time-use codes or digital keys. "If you turn this new feature on, we'll ask you to enter a code anytime you try to log into Facebook from a new device. This additional security helps confirm that it's really you trying to log in," announced a director of engineering at Facebook. Facebook also improved its HTTPS implementation, which due to the large amount of external content loaded into the Web site, was impractical for users. The improvement is that users browsing Facebook over HTTPS will now be offered the option to only temporarily switch back to HTTP when attempting to use applications that do not support such secure connections.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Facebook-Begins-Rolling-Out-Two-Factor-Authentication-195929.shtml>

48. *April 19, Computerworld* – (International) **Microsoft kicks off third-party bug warnings with two for Chrome.** Microsoft released a pair of security advisories for Google's Chrome browser April 19. One of the advisories also identified a vulnerability in Opera. The change is part of an expansion of the vulnerability disclosure policy Microsoft launched last summer, said the director of the Microsoft Security Response Center (MSRC). The bugs were discovered by Microsoft researchers, and reported to the security teams responsible for Chrome and Opera. Google patched the two Chrome vulnerabilities last September and December; Opera fixed its browser flaw in October. The advisories were the first ever from Microsoft for bugs in third-party products. According to the MSRC director, they will be followed by others, as necessary. "If we're in a situation where we find a vulnerability in some other vendor's product, we will release an advisory ourselves," he said. At times, those

advisories will appear before the affected vendor has a patch ready for users, he acknowledged. “If there’s an attack [ongoing], we’ll release an advisory, most of the time with workarounds and mitigations, but we will continue to coordinate when we do so,” he said.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9215956/Microsoft_kicks_off_third_party_bug_warnings_with_two_for_Chrome

49. *April 15, V3.co.uk* – (International) **Microsoft’s Autorun shutdown fails to halt USB-borne malware.** USB devices are still the second biggest vector for malware, despite Microsoft’s best efforts to close down this avenue for hackers by disabling the Autorun feature in Windows, according to security firm Avast. “We have seen no decline and I don’t know why except there are probably a lot of pirated systems out there that didn’t have automatic updates from Microsoft,” the firm’s senior virus analyst said. He explained that the prevalence of the ‘remove Windows Genuine Advantage’ program on the Web indicates that there are still a substantial number of piracy issues for Microsoft. Microsoft announced the update in February, limiting how Autorun behaves after realizing how often it was used to propagate malware. The update applies to all Windows releases with the exception of Windows 7 and Windows Server 2008 R2. The Avast analyst also explained the frustrations that Avast’s security team has had in trying to co-operate with ad networks in order to stamp out so-called ‘malvertising’. “We don’t really know how they work. We’ve had many discussions with the ad companies but they’ve not been able to explain why they allow such content,” he said. Source: <http://www.v3.co.uk/v3-uk/security-watchdog-blog/2044029/microsofts-autorun-shutdown-fails-halt-usb-borne-malware>

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

50. *April 19, KPHO 5 Phoenix* – (Arizona; Colorado; New Mexico) **Phone company suffers, restores severe outage.** Telephone customers in Arizona, Colorado, and New Mexico were the victims of a mysterious service disruption when they found themselves without land lines April 19. The spokesman for telephone giant Century Link, which recently merged with Qwest Communications, told KPHO he could not say how many people were affected in the outage. He said the outage did not affect 911 calls. He said some, but not all residential customers in the three states were experiencing the problem, and that the company had no idea what caused it. He said the outage was discovered between 8:30 p.m. and 8:45 p.m. local time. Shortly after 11:00

p.m., the spokesman called KPHO to report that all services had been restored. “It was a database failure,” he said, although he could not specify the nature of that failure. He said technicians will investigate the outage April 20.

Source: <http://www.kpho.com/news/27606978/detail.html>

51. *April 19, Honolulu Star Advertiser* – (Hawaii) **Oceanic restores service to 5,000 homes in Kailua and Kaneohe.** Oceanic Time Warner Cable restored cable TV, Internet, and landline telephone service to 5,000 homes and businesses in Kailua and Kaneohe, Hawaii, April 19. Service had been disrupted since April 19 after the company’s cables were severed during the removal of a telephone pole following a vehicle accident April 18. The vice president of marketing for Oceanic said April 19 that a full crew from Oceanic was sent out to repair the cables once the company was notified they were damaged during the removal of the telephone pole.
- Source: <http://www.staradvertiser.com/news/breaking/120242124.html>

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Commercial Facilities Sector

52. *April 20, KRIV 26 Houston* – (Texas) **Seabrook 4-alarm fire displaces apartment complex residents.** Firefighters needed more than 2 hours to stop a 4-alarm fire at a Seabrook, Texas, apartment complex April 19 that forced at least 30 people to stay at a temporary shelter. Seabrook police received several 911 calls about the fire at the La Maison at Lake Cove apartment complex on Lakeside Drive. Five different fire departments led by Seabrook volunteer firefighters arrived around 9 p.m. April 19 to battle the fire. One of the apartment buildings was destroyed causing several families to be displaced from their homes. In all, 13 agencies assisted in responding to the fire. A temporary shelter has been provided for residents displaced as a result of the fire. The American Red Cross is providing aid to the affected families. Arson investigators are trying to determine what caused the apartment building fire. No one was injured in the fire.
- Source: <http://www.myfoxboston.com/dpp/news/local/110420-seabrook-apartment-complex-fire>
53. *April 20, Woodland Daily Democrat* – (California) **Explosive diffused by Yolo bomb squad.** An explosive package police deemed capable of causing “severe devastation” was defused April 19 in West Sacramento, California. A West Sacramento Police lieutenant said at about 11:20 a.m., the department responded to the 700 block of Walnut Avenue for a report of a suspicious package. He said the person that reported finding the device stated he found it in a trash container of a nearby business and took it to Walnut Avenue on his bicycle before calling the police. Officers arrived and confirmed that there was what appeared to be an explosive device. Police said a perimeter was established and residences were evacuated. The Yolo County Bomb Squad, along with the assistance of Sacramento County and California Highway Patrol Bomb Squads, responded and rendered the device safe. Police said the device appeared to be homemade and placed in a canister capable of causing severe devastation. The

criminal investigation is ongoing to see if there is any evidence to determine who was responsible for leaving this device.

Source: http://www.dailydemocrat.com/news/ci_17889745

54. *April 20, KSAX 42 Alexandria* – (Minnesota) **Atwater fire ruled arson: \$5,000 reward for information leading to arrest.** The fire that destroyed three business buildings in downtown Atwater, Minnesota, was ruled arson April 18, and authorities are offering a \$5,000 reward for information. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) carried out a fire scene examination and concluded the fire was deliberately set according to a news release from the ATF. Investigators are looking to the community for any information regarding the fire and are hopeful the reward will help bring new information to solve the crime. Phat Pheasant Pasta & Brew, Holm Brothers Plumbing and Heating, Stickerboy Signs, and Peterson Hardware burned down February 28. Firefighters said it started in the Phat Pheasant restaurant. The total cost of damage to all four businesses is approximately \$2 million. Police said it may be difficult to find the right evidence to pin down a suspect. “We have some people of interest, that were seen in town that night around the time of the fire. That’s about the extent of it at this time. Very difficult to clear because much of the evidence is destroyed. But the assistance from the community and the fire is drawing the community closer together,” a police spokesman said.

Source: <http://ksax.com/article/stories/S2072591.shtml?cat=10230>

55. *April 20, WPXI 11 Pittsburgh* – (Pennsylvania) **13 evacuated after building partially collapses.** Thirteen people were displaced April 19 because of fears the McKeesport, Pennsylvania, complex they were living in might collapse. Pieces fell off the Shaw Avenue building April 19, according to emergency officials. The landlord said renovations were being done to the building and part of a wall shifted. Once that happened, he said he took action. He said he warned his tenants 4 hours before notifying the Red Cross that the fire department may deem the building unsafe. The Red Cross is assisting the six adults and five children with food and shelter. The residents are staying in a hotel until the building can be assessed and fixed. The landlord said he has since called some bricklayers to fix the building.

Source: <http://www.wpxi.com/news/27605606/detail.html>

56. *April 19, Associated Press* – (Texas) **149 homes, 1 church razed by Possum Kingdom fire.** Officials say 149 homes have been destroyed and the Palo Pinto County seat ordered evacuations April 19 as firefighters continue their struggle against a complex of wildfires around Possum Kingdom Reservoir west of the Dallas-Fort Worth, Texas area. The 400 residents of Palo Pinto were ordered to leave their homes and head east to Mineral Wells April 19 afternoon as a wildfire began to circle around to the north and northeast of town with a prevailing northeasterly breeze. A County judge said two C-130 air transports loaded with fire retardant and other aircraft helped with the fight until wind gusts eased after sunset. He left the evacuation order in place until the morning of April 20. Most of the homes and the church destroyed by the Possum Kingdom Complex were near the lake.

Source: <http://www.newschannel10.com/Global/story.asp?S=14478419>

57. *April 19, Time* – (International) **Officials: Terrorist threat possible at royal wedding.** British security officials announced April 19 they are concerned that a well-known group of Irish terrorists may target Britons at the Royal Wedding in the United Kingdom April 29. While there have been no signs of concrete plans or threats, senior-level officials told ABC News that they have knowledge that a group by the name of the “Real Irish Republican Army (IRA)” has been trying to move their operations from Northern Ireland into London for years. The Royal Wedding provides a perfect target for the group that is responsible for over 40 significant terrorist attacks in the past year. Wanting to avoid a potentially disastrous attack, the British police force plans to prepare accordingly. The Guardian reports that the event will involve one of the biggest security operations in police history with nearly 5,000 police officers on duty. And it is not only the IRA that they are worried about. The police force has refused permission to two groups who wanted to protest, Muslims Against Crusades and the English Defence League and they have been collecting intelligence information regarding individuals who are obsessed with members of the royal family, politicians, or celebrities.

Source:

http://news.yahoo.com/s/time/20110419/wl_time/httpnewsfeedtimecom20110419officialterroristthreatpossibleatroyalweddingxidrssfllworldyahoo

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

58. *April 20, CNN* – (Texas) **Texas burning ‘from border to border’.** Texas firefighters continued to battle fires April 20 that have scorched a million acres and have been burning for more than a week, according to the Texas Forest Service. “We’re actually seeing Texas burn from border to border. We’ve got it in West Texas, in East Texas, in North Texas, in South Texas - it’s all over the state,” a Texas Forest Service spokeswoman said. “We’ve got one in the Dallas area that’s four fires that have actually merged together.” Firefighters from 34 states are in Texas battling blazes that, over the past 2 weeks, have destroyed 170 homes and scorched 1 million acres. Much of Texas is expected to get a break April 20 from the dry weather and high winds blamed for the spreading wildfires, according to the National Weather Service. The fire danger is likely to return April 21 for various parts of the state. Firefighters in Texas had to contend with 11 new fires April 19 in addition to carryover blazes. Massive flames forced the evacuation of at least three towns and brought widespread damage to several parched counties west of the Dallas-Fort Worth metropolitan area April 19, authorities said. Helicopters and other aircraft aided the firefighting.

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2011/US/04/20/texas.fires/index.html?hpt=T1>

59. *April 19, Associated Press* – (Minnesota) **Sparks probably caused Minn. mine fire.** A report said sparks produced during maintenance probably caused the fire in March at Soudan Underground Mine State Park near Tower, Minnesota, Associated Press reported April 19. The state fire marshal said the fire began in the shaft where the work was happening and did not spread beyond it. It is considered accidental. Damage to the

mine was limited to charred timbers and melted PVC pipes and electrical wiring. The University of Minnesota physics laboratory was unharmed. Park staff was replacing degraded steel sheeting in the lowest 600 feet of the mine shaft. The fire started after grinding tools caused pieces of wood to smolder. Experts will visit the mine in coming weeks to determine costs of repair and cleanup. The park's above-ground facilities have reopened, but public tours of the underground mine likely will not be offered this season.

Source: <http://www.startribune.com/local/120237844.html>

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Dams Sector

60. *April 20, Deseret News* – (Utah) **Levee breaches along Weber River as flooding problems persist in several Utah locations.** Multiple levee breaches along the Weber River in western Weber County, Utah, ramped up flood prevention efforts April 19 in several communities, where more than a dozen homes are at risk at being swamped with water and backyards are sporting canoes. Several farm fields were flooded from what has turned the main breach into a 100-foot wide gap, where “an awful lot of water is coming unimpeded,” said the Weber County commissioner. Sandbagging efforts were proving successful, however, in keeping the water at bay and from damaging the homes. The effort has been assisted by the dozens of people spontaneously showing up to help, offering the use of trucks, trailers, backhoes, and other heavy equipment to stem the tide. While multiple outbuildings such as sheds and corrals have suffered significant damage, the commissioner said no homes had been severely compromised by the flood. His own neighboring dairy farm has acreage that is underwater, but he said his attention is focused on the fate of residential structures. Many of the impacted areas are off west 21st Street past 1900 West, where the Weber River hit flood stage and crested its banks the night of April 18. By the next morning, its levels had receded and emergency officials thought the worst of the danger was over. However, the levee did not hold and the water began to spill. Soon, other, smaller breaches began to follow. Water managers at the Weber Basin Water Conservancy District — who control reservoir flows into the Weber and Ogden rivers — have been reducing water releases from Pineview and Echo over the last several days.

Source: <http://www.deseretnews.com/article/700128621/Levee-breaches-along-Weber-River-as-flooding-problems-persist-in-several-Utah-locations.html?pg=1>

61. *April 19, Associated Press* – (North Dakota) **Floodwaters batter small North Dakota dams; state unsure how many need post-flooding fixes.** The near-failure of a small and aging dam in northwestern North Dakota this spring has put the focus on similar structures elsewhere, with state officials saying that many will likely need repair after a third straight soggy spring, Associated Press reported April 19. Burlington Dam No. 1 ultimately held its ground the week of April 10 against the worst floodwaters from the bloated Des Lacs River, but not before about 200 people were advised to evacuate a threatened part of town as a precaution. Officials do not have a clear picture of how many dams like Burlington's need attention. “It's difficult to put a number on it until

we get out there,” said North Dakota’s state engineer. “I would say more than 10.” He and a state dam safety engineer downplayed the danger from such dams, saying that most are low-risk, a definition that means they are in rural or agricultural areas with little possibility of future development. North Dakota has about 3,000 dams, according to state Water Commission records. Some are as small as a couple of feet tall. The commission classifies each dam according to risk, with more stringent construction and maintenance standards applied to the higher-hazard structures.

Source:

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/45f09557f06e4249b56f35437bd5d108/ND--Dam-Damage/>

62. *April 19, Associated Press* – (Missouri) **Rising Mississippi River flooding some Missouri towns.** Flood watchers in several Missouri towns are checking levees, gathering sandbags, and keeping close tabs on weather forecasts as the already high Mississippi River verges on potentially significant flooding, Associated Press reported April 19. The river has been above technical flood stage for weeks in northern Missouri. Flooding has been worse to the north, and that water is making its way downstream. A National Weather Service hydrologist said April 19 that moderate flooding is predicted in towns like Canton, LaGrange, Hannibal, Louisiana, Clarksville, and Winfield. The situation could worsen, however. Heavy rain is predicted April 21 through April 24 in Missouri, and also in states to the north. Increased rain creates the potential for additional runoff that could cause the river to rise even higher, perhaps to what the Weather Service considers major levels.

Source: <http://www.kmov.com/news/local/Rising-Mississippi-River-flooding-some-Missouri-towns-120210684.html>

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