



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 16 May 2011

Top Stories

- ABC News reports Missouri police captured a gunman who allegedly engaged in a shootout with law enforcement officers and spurred a nearly 5-hour manhunt after entering a U.S. Army post and nearby university campus. (See item [37](#))
- According to msnbc.com, officials told hundreds of people to evacuate Vicksburg, Mississippi, ahead of an expected decision to flood their farms and town to protect major Louisiana cities, and shipping of gasoline and other products. (See item [55](#))

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Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: LOW, Cyber: LOW

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

1. *May 13, Occupational Health and Safety Magazine* – (New Jersey) **PHMSA fines Kinder Morgan \$425,000 for New Jersey pipeline leak.** The U.S. Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) recently announced a proposed \$425,000 fine against Kinder Morgan Products Pipelines for alleged pipeline safety violations, Occupational Health and Safety Magazine reported May 13. The proposed fine follows a PHMSA investigation into Kinder Morgan's October 2009 accident in Perth Amboy, New Jersey. As a result of

PHMSA's investigation, the agency found a total of seven probable violations related to the accident. These violations include allegations that the company failed to have and follow written start-up and shutdown procedures, and failed to have and use other measures to detect abnormal operating conditions. The accident caused about 8,600 gallons of hazardous liquid to be released into the dike containment area around the company's Perth Amboy Terminal.

Source: <http://ohsonline.com/articles/2011/05/13/phmsa-fines-kinder-morgan-425000-for-new-jersey-pipeline-leak.aspx?admgarea=news>

2. *May 12, Reuters* – (Pennsylvania) **U.S. asks 6 natural gas drillers to disclose waste water info.** Environmental regulators May 12 directed six natural gas drillers to disclose how they dispose of or recycle wastewater in Pennsylvania after a recent Chesapeake Energy Corp accident. A regional office of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency asked Chesapeake, Chevron-owned Atlas Resources, Talisman Energy USA, Range Resources, Cabot Gas and Oil Corp, and SWEPI, LP for the information. The request also follows recent reports that said wastewater resulting from hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, can contain radioactive particles. "We want to make sure that the drillers are handling their wastewater in an environmentally responsible manner," an EPA regional administrator said in a release. The federal EPA's action follows a request by state regulators asking drillers to voluntarily stop taking wastewater to Pennsylvania wastewater treatment plants by May 19. The EPA wants to know where drillers are now going to dispose of their wastewater, and will work with the state to ensure it has access to this data. The EPA asked the companies to provide the information by May 25. Chesapeake halted fracking in Pennsylvania April 21 after drilling fluid used in the process spewed into local waterways when workers lost control of a well.

Source: <http://www.mnn.com/earth-matters/wilderness-resources/stories/us-asks-6-natural-gas-drillers-to-disclose-waste-water-in>

3. *May 12, Newark Star-Ledger* – (New Jersey) **Two injured in Carteret explosion; one listed in critical condition.** Two people were injured, one of them critically, in a industrial explosion in Carteret, New Jersey, May 12. The blast at the Graybar Electric Company, located at 8001 Industrial Avenue, was reported at 10:17 a.m., a borough police chief said. He said one person was taken by helicopter to the burn unit at Saint Barnabas Medical Center in Livingston, and a second worker was taken to Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in Rahway. Representatives of the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration were at the scene May 12, investigating the cause of the explosion.

Source:

http://www.nj.com/news/index.ssf/2011/05/two_are_injured_in_carteret_ex.html

For more stories, see items [11](#), [50](#), and [55](#)

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Chemical Industry Sector

4. *May 13, Pottstown Mercury* – (Pennsylvania) **Fumes from metal finisher bring Hazmat reponse.** A manufacturing process became hazardous for a short time May 12 when fumes overwhelmed an air scrubber and were released into the atmosphere above Pottsgrove Metal Finishers in Pottsgrove, Pennsylvania. According to the assistant fire chief of the West End Fire Company, emergency officials were alerted to the situation around 8:08 a.m. When they arrived, they closed down the roads around the business for about an hour as a precaution while waiting for the Montgomery County haz-mat unit to arrive. They also asked some residents around the business to close their windows. Sections of the streets bordering the business — West High Street, Grosstown Road, Fairview Street, and West Vine Street — were shut down, and morning, rush-hour traffic was redirected until the all-clear was given. The owner of the business said they were combining hydrochloric acid and ammonium hydroxide as part of the metal finishing process, and too much vapor from the chemical process was released into the scrubber. The scrubber, which is designed to remove chemicals from the vented air, was “overwhelmed,” and could not handle the volume of vapor and released it, unfiltered, into the air outside the business.
Source: <http://pottsmmerc.com/articles/2011/05/13/news/srv0000011724280.txt?viewmode=fullstory>

5. *May 12, Associated Press* – (Indiana) **Semi crash closes I-65 lanes near Lafayette.** Indiana State Police said a semitrailer hauling bleach and ammonia crashed into a construction barrier on Interstate 65 near Lafayette, forcing the highway’s northbound lanes to be closed for more than 5 hours. Hazardous materials crews had to clean up the scene after the crash happened about 3 a.m. May 12 near Dayton. Police told the Lafayette Journal & Courier that some bleach and ammonia containers spilled inside the semi’s twin trailers, but did not immediately leak onto the highway. Northbound I-65 traffic was diverted during the closure onto Indiana 28 near Frankfort and then north on U.S. 52 toward Lafayette.
Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/chi-ap-in-i-65semicrash,0,5170502.story>

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

6. *May 12, Associated Press* – (National) **NRC task force: U.S. nuclear plants still safe.** A federal task force May 12 vouched anew for the safety of U.S. nuclear power plants in the aftermath of the Japanese crisis. The group established by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) said it has not identified any issues that undermine confidence in the continued safety and emergency planning at the 104 U.S. nuclear reactors. The task force said it is likely to recommend changes in rules governing plants to enhance safety and preparedness and lower the level of risk. The group comprised of senior NRC staffers said it will address a range of issues at plants, including their ability to cope with prolonged power outages caused by earthquakes, floods, fires, or

other catastrophic events. The NRC has mandated that U.S. plants need only cope without power for 4 to 8 hours. The task force did not make a recommendation on so-called “station blackouts,” but the group’s chairman said it likely will be addressed in a 90-day report due in July. The task force also will review ways to prevent long-term damage to core reactors and spent fuel pools in the event of a long-term blackout, a senior NRC staffer who chairs the task force said. The progress report came as a U.S. Representative from Massachusetts released a report highlighting what he called inadequacies at the NRC that could impair effective oversight of nuclear plants. He said emergency diesel generators have repeatedly failed at dozens of plants in recent years. At least 69 incidents of generator failures were reported at 33 plants in the past 8 years, he said. NRC rules do not require emergency generators to be operational when there is no fuel in a nuclear reactor core, even though that could leave spent fuel pools without any back-up cooling system in case power is lost, the report said.

Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D9N5VT000.htm>

7. *May 12, Associated Press* – (South Carolina) **Almost half of Duke Energy’s Catawba nuclear warning sirens lost power during storm.** Storms that knocked out power to thousands of residents in North and South Carolina the week of May 9 also cut off electricity to almost half of Duke Energy’s sirens around its Catawba Nuclear Station in South Carolina. A company spokeswoman said May 12 that power to all but four of the plant’s 89 sirens had been restored. The company was required to notify the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) because more than 25 percent were temporarily inoperable. An NRC spokesman said loss of power to the warning sirens because of storms is not uncommon. Companies have backup plans for getting the word out about emergencies, such as reverse 911 calls. The sirens alert residents around a nuclear power plant to check their televisions and radios for information about an emergency.

Source:

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/be32001e2dcb48109627e8d22a327e84/SC--Duke-Nuclear-Sirens/>

8. *May 12, Bloomberg* – (International) **Japan reactor-core damage worse than thought.** Tokyo Electric Power Co. (Tepco) said the No. 1 reactor core at the Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear plant is more seriously damaged than previously thought. Fuel rods in the core are fully exposed, with the water level 3.3 feet below the base of the fuel assembly, a general manager at Tepco said. Melted fuel has dropped to the bottom of the pressure vessel and is still being cooled, he said. While authorities have previously suspected a partial meltdown at the No. 1 reactor, high radiation levels had prevented workers from entering the building to check the damage until the week of May 2. “What this means is this is probably going to be a much more difficult cleanup than they originally planned for,” a particle physicist at Rice University in Houston said. There is no danger of another explosion like the one that blew the roof off the reactor in March, the spokesman said. The lack of water means there is nothing for the zirconium-alloy cladding encasing the uranium to react with to create high-pressure clouds of hydrogen, a principal nuclear engineer at the U.S. Energy Department’s Argonne National Laboratory said. Holes were found in the base of the pressure vessel,

and most of the fuel has likely melted, Kyodo News reported May 11, citing Tepco. It is possible the fuel has leaked into the containment vessel, which was damaged in the explosion, the report said. Flooding the chamber was a step Tepco outlined in April to bring the crisis under control. “The plan needs to be revised,” the spokesman said. “We can’t deny the possibility that a hole in the pressure vessel caused water to leak.” The company does not know how long the rods have been exposed, it said.

Source: <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-05-12/japan-suffers-setback-at-fukushima-after-no-1-reactor-s-fuel-rods-exposed.html>

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

9. *May 13, American Metal Market* – (Alabama) **Nucor Decatur melt shop still idle after tornado.** The melt shop at Nucor Corp.’s Decatur, Alabama sheet production mill will be idled until at least May 23 because of damage that resulted from an April 27 tornado, according to company chairman and chief executive officer.

Source: <http://www.metalbulletin.com/Article/2824258/AMM-Nucor-Decatur-melt-shop-still-idle-after-tornado.html>

10. *May 12, Bloomberg* – (International) **Chrysler to idle plants in June to conserve auto parts from Japan.** Chrysler Group LLC, the automaker run by Fiat SpA, is pulling ahead summer shutdowns at some factories and canceling overtime at a plant in Mexico to conserve parts from suppliers affected by the March earthquake in Japan, Bloomberg reported May 12. The Auburn Hills automaker will idle some factories in Ohio and Michigan in June, instead of July, a Chrysler spokeswoman said May 12. The factories make pickups and sport-utility vehicles. U.S. automakers typically stop production for a week or two to change tooling before beginning the next model year’s production. Chrysler’s Toledo North Assembly Plant that builds Jeep Liberty and Dodge Nitro SUVs in Ohio will shut down during the weeks of June 20 and June 27 instead of during the week of July 11 and July 18, the spokeswoman said. The Toledo Supplier Park that produces Jeep Wranglers will shut down for the week of June 20 instead of the week of July 11, she said. A factory that makes Ram 1500 and Dakota pickups in Warren will be closed during the weeks of June 20 and June 27 instead of July 11 and July 18. The assembly plant in Saltillo, Mexico, that makes Ram trucks will eliminate overtime scheduled for May 20, May 27, June 10 and June 24, instead of taking down time during the week of July 11.

Source:

<http://www.detnews.com/article/20110512/AUTO01/105120475/1361/Chrysler-to-idle-plants-in-June-to-conserve-auto-parts-from-Japan>

11. *May 12, Bay City News* – (California) **Santa Rosa firefighters free man trapped by machinery.** Firefighters in Santa Rosa, California, rescued a man whose hand was trapped in machinery in an industrial accident May 11. Emergency crews responded to the manufacturing company ITT BIW Connectors System, at 500 Tesconi Circle, around 6 p.m. and found a 29-year-old employee with his left hand trapped in a large

industrial hydraulic press used to manufacture components for the oil industry, fire officials said. Responders used rescue tools to release pressure from the hydraulic press and free the man's hand. The man suffered significant injuries from being crushed as well as third-degree burns to his hand and forearms caused by the heat the machine generates under pressure, fire officials said. He was taken to Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital for initial treatment and transferred to the burn center at St. Francis Memorial Hospital in San Francisco. A co-worker was taken to Sutter Hospital for minor burns he sustained when he attempted to help the trapped man before the arrival of emergency crews. It was not immediately known whether the incident was caused by mechanical failure or employee error, firefighters said. The California Division of Occupational Safety and Health was notified of the accident.

Source: http://www.mercurynews.com/breaking-news/ci_18048773?nclick_check=1

12. *May 12, KPTV 12 Portland* – (Oregon) **Firefighters work to clear toxic gas in Milwaukie.** Hazardous materials crews spent May 12 trying to dilute the danger from a toxic gas leak at the Precision Castparts plant in Milwaukie, Oregon. Firefighters in heavy protective gear repeatedly re-entered a building to test if the air inside was safe for repair crews. A Precision Castparts spokesman said the problem began May 11 when a power outage enabled a chemical reaction to reach dangerous levels. The toxic gas forced evacuation of the building and released gas into the neighborhood. Workers had immersed a several-hundred-pound piece of titanium into a several-thousand-gallon acid bath when a power outage prevented them from taking it out. Hazmat experts said the resulting cloud of nitrous dioxide and trioxide spread and some escaped into the air. The compounds act like nerve gas, authorities said. “They’re very toxic. Very deadly. But there’s no acid on the ground. No environmental issue. It’s mostly gases outside. We let it sit there because of the danger. We couldn’t go in because of the power, and we had to basically let it dissipate,” said the Portland Fire Bureau hazmat coordinator. The gas that escaped may have reached homes within a half-mile radius, firefighters said May 11, but the amount that leaked was diluted by rain. The incident commander recommended nearby residents remain inside. Two firefighters and two workers were checked for respiratory problems but did not require treatment. Back at the plant May 12, firefighters had to wear their thickest suits to keep checking the air inside the titanium building. “The plant personnel cannot go back to restart all of the power and to pull this piece of metal out of the bath because the chemical reaction is still going to proceed, albeit at a slow rate, until we pull it out with a crane outside of the bath,” the hazmat coordinator said.

Source: <http://www.kptv.com/news/27876188/detail.html>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

13. *May 12, Rochester Democrat and Chronicle* – (New York) **Man pleads guilty to fraud in helmet case.** A Spencerport, New York businessman was sentenced May 11

to 1 year in prison for perpetrating a fraud that caused the U.S. Army to recall 44,000 helmets, some of which were in use by service members on the front lines in Iraq and Afghanistan. The helmets were used by some members of all U.S. military services, not just the Army. The man admitted in December to lying about the quality of screws his company, A.J. Hughes Co., produced for the manufacturing of the helmets between 2006 and 2009. He pleaded guilty to filing a false claim with the federal government and filing a false document for knowingly changing the type of steel and finish used on the screws from what was required by the military. As a result of the switch, the federal government overpaid his company \$134,271. While no military casualties have been tied to the inferior screws, prosecutors claimed the helmets were less safe, and that their recall undermined troops' confidence in their equipment.

Source: <http://www.militarytimes.com/news/2011/05/gannett-military-helmets-fraud-plea-051211/>

14. *May 12, Defense News* – (National) **F-35's range falls short of predictions.** The U.S. Air Force's F-35A Lightning II appears to be unable to fly as far as once predicted, according to a Pentagon document, Defense News reported May 12. The aircraft is currently estimated to have a combat mission radius of 584 nautical miles, just short of the required 590 nautical miles, according to a Selected Acquisition Report dated December 31. Program officials previously estimated that the aircraft, unrefueled, would be able to strike targets 690 nautical miles away. The report said the shortfall is caused by increased use of engine bleed air and fuel capacity issues "that are not yet fully known."

Source: <http://www.defensenews.com/story.php?i=6491165&c=AME&s=AIR>

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Banking and Finance Sector

15. *May 13, KCBY 11 Coos Bay* – (Oregon) **Former banker admits stealing from customers.** A former assistant branch manager at Wells Fargo Bank in Coos Bay, Oregon, pleaded guilty May 12 to bank fraud and admitted stealing over a half million dollars from customers. The 38-year-old woman is scheduled to be sentenced July 14 by a U. S. district judge. She is in federal custody pending sentencing. In August 2010, customers at the Wells Fargo Bank on North Broadway in Coos Bay reported funds missing from their accounts. An internal investigation determined the suspect was responsible for the theft of funds. Meanwhile, she vanished and lived as a fugitive under false pretense by pretending to be a victim of domestic abuse, prosecutors said. A reward was offered for her arrest in November 2010. She turned herself in to the FBI in December. The woman admitted that between January 17, 2008 and August 30, 2010, she stole \$626,553.17 from multiple customer accounts. In pleading guilty, she also consented to the forfeiture of personal property seized during the execution of a search warrant on her residence in October 2010. The maximum statutory penalty for bank fraud is a 30-year term of imprisonment, and a \$1million fine, followed by a 5-year term of supervised release.

Source: <http://www.kpic.com/news/local/121738574.html>

16. *May 13, Reuters* – (International) **China bank bomb wounds 49, suspect caught.** A petrol bomb set off May 13 by a disgruntled former employee at a rural bank in a Tibetan region of northwestern China’s Gansu province wounded 49 people, Xinhua news agency and the local government said. Nineteen people were seriously hurt in the blast at the Tianzhu County Rural Credit United Cooperative, in the city of Wuwei in Tianzhu county, caused by what a witness called a “gasoline bomb”, Xinhua said in an English-language report. The Tianzhu government said a Han Chinese man fired from his job at the bank last month after being accused of embezzlement had thrown a bottle filled with petrol into a meeting room, setting it ablaze. The man fled the scene, but police caught him hours later, a second Xinhua report said. Bomb attacks are rare in China, although disgruntled residents have set off explosions in buses and buildings in the past to complain about local grievances.
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/05/13/china-bank-blast-idUSL3E7GD0BQ20110513>
17. *May 11, Charleston Post and Courier* – (South Carolina) **Dangerfield indicted for bank fraud.** Federal prosecutors have indicted five people in an auto dealer bank-fraud case in South Carolina, including the man behind a popular Suzuki empire that went bust 2 years ago, the U.S. attorney’s office said May 11. The indictment announced by the U.S. attorney alleges that between July 2004 and February 2009, the man and his co-defendants conspired to defraud Fifth Third Bank by making misrepresentations to auditors about the status of vehicles being sold. Several dealerships were involved including those in Moncks Corner, Myrtle Beach, and Easley. As a result, the indictment alleges, the group obtained approximately \$3.8 million from Fifth Third.
Source: <http://www.postandcourier.com/news/2011/may/11/dangerfield-indicted-bank-fraud/>

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Transportation Sector

18. *May 13, Louisville Courier Dispatch* – (Kentucky) **Commuter plane slides off Louisville airport runway in emergency landing.** A Vision Airlines commuter plane slid off the runway May 11 while making an emergency landing at Louisville International Airport in Louisville, Kentucky. An airport spokeswoman said the plane had 21 passengers and crew members on board. There were no reports of serious injuries and there was one person who refused treatment, said a MetroSafe Communications supervisor. The plane, Flight 304 from Atlanta, Georgia, to Louisville, had reported a hydraulic problem to the Louisville tower prior to the landing about 7:55 p.m., she said. It came down on the west runway but slid off after touching down, she said. The plane is a Dornier D328, which is a dual turbo prop aircraft, a spokesman for the Federal Aviation Administration said. There were reports of minimal damage to the plane, he said. The chief operating officer of Vision said the plane’s crew, while en route to Louisville, realized the aircraft had a hydraulic problem

and declared an emergency landing. The hydraulics control the landing gear and steering of the aircraft, he said. According to him, the plane passed over the runway once so ground crews could confirm the landing gear was down and locked. After that, the plane touched down. He said the plane likely went off the runway because of the steering problem.

Source: <http://www.courier-journal.com/article/20110511/NEWS01/305110112/Commuter-plane-slides-off-Louisville-airport-runway-emergency-landing?odyssey=mod|mostview>

19. *May 13, New England Cable News* – (Massachusetts) **Boston considers banning hazmat trucks from streets.** The city of Boston, Massachusetts is considering a plan to ban all hazardous materials trucks from city streets, according to the Boston Globe. It is the latest twist in a battle that began in 2006, when the city tried to ban those hazmat trucks from the North End during the daytime hours. However, federal officials reversed that ban last year. Now, a new study from the transportation security company Batelle is leading to discussion of an even wider ban. It would mainly affect trucks carrying hazardous materials to a fuel depot in Everett, Massachusetts. Instead of allowing trucks to cut through Boston streets, drivers would instead be diverted around the city on Route 128 and I-93. Boston’s mayor is promising to implement the study’s recommendations.

Source: http://www.necn.com/05/13/11/Boston-considers-banning-hazmat-trucks-f/landing_newengland.html?blockID=521934&feedID=4206

20. *May 13, WTVD 11 Durham* – (California) **Suspicious container at Port of Long Beach had barbecue equipment.** Officials said a suspicious shipping container that arrived in the Port of Long Beach, California May 12 was filled with barbecue equipment. The container had a handwritten message that said, “There is a bomb in here,” according to Long Beach police. The container arrived at Terminal 94, which is between the 710 Freeway and Henry Ford Avenue, around 11 p.m. May 12. The immediate area was evacuated while the bomb squad investigated. Officials said the container came from a ship that originated in China.

Source:

http://abclocal.go.com/kabc/story?section=news/local/los_angeles&id=8128925

21. *May 13, Chicago Sun-Times* – (Illinois) **Trucker killed in Illinois train crash.** A 59-year-old man who reportedly drove around downed crossing gates was killed and at least 26 people were hospitalized after a dump truck collided with a Metra train in Des Plaines, Illinois, May 13. The man was pronounced dead at 9:45 a.m. At about 8:40 a.m., a dump truck carrying a load of concrete on Northwest Highway attempted to turn left to go south onto Mount Prospect Road and was struck by Metra Union Pacific Northwest Train No. 636, which left the Mount Prospect station at 8:37 a.m., according to a release from the village of Mount Prospect. According to witnesses, the train crossing gates were down, the warning lights operational, and the no left turn sign illuminated, the release said. The impact of the train hitting the truck caused the first two cars of the train to derail. According to a Metra spokesman, the cars did not tip over. He said a small fire erupted under the lead car. it was extinguished, but the car

suffered serious damage, the spokesman noted. The train engineer has been transported to an area hospital in critical condition, the release said. In all, 28 passengers from the train were transported to hospitals, the release said. The Des Plaines fire chief put that number at 26 people, most with minor, non life-threatening injuries. “We are amazed that the injuries weren’t more serious,” he said. The chief said the victims were taken to seven, different area hospitals. He said 10 people were checked on the scene and didn’t need hospitalization. Several others left before firefighters arrived. The train would normally hold about 800 passengers, though it still had nine stops to make before getting to its destination. Train No. 636 originated at Harvard and was due at Ogilvie Station at 9:23 a.m. The village release said that as of mid-afternoon May 13, there were no trains running on the Metra Union Pacific Northwest Line, and it is unknown at this time when service will resume. Metra commuters who typically travel on the line were encouraged to make alternate travel plans. The rail crossing at Northwest Highway and Mount Prospect Road is expected to be closed well past rush hour, according to the release. Several roads in the area also were expected to remain closed, including parts of Northwest Highway and Mount Prospect Road.

Source: <http://wtaq.com/news/articles/2011/may/13/chicago-bound-commuter-train-hits-truck-markets-ne/>

22. *May 12, Associated Press* – (North Carolina) **Charlotte plane cleared after knife found in bin.** Authorities said passengers were removed from a US Airways plane in Charlotte, North Carolina and had to go through security screening again after a passenger found a knife in an overhead bin during boarding. Transportation Security Administration (TSA) officials said all the passengers passed the second screening and nothing suspicious was found on the plane, which was then allowed to take off for O’Hare International Airport in Chicago, Illinois, shortly after 10 a.m. May 12. Less than an hour earlier, a plane landing in Charlotte from the Northwest Arkansas Regional Airport was met by law enforcement after a suspicious note was found in the bathroom of the airport near Fayetteville, Arkansas. TSA said a sweep of the passengers, carry-on luggage, and checked bags did not find anything suspicious. Source: <http://www.wrex.com/Global/story.asp?S=14637628>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

23. *May 12, Bangor Daily News* – (Maine) **No hazardous material found in Ellsworth bank substance.** About 30 people were evacuated from the Bar Harbor Bank and Trust operations center in Ellsworth, Maine, May 12 after an employee found a powdery substance in an envelope she opened. Several tests conducted at the scene by members of the Maine National Guard Civil Support Team out of Waterville determined there were no hazardous materials in the white powder. The employee opened the envelope just before 11 a.m. Crews responded quickly and evacuated the building. The employee said she felt a burning sensation on her hand and as a precaution was taken to Maine

Coast Memorial Hospital for treatment, the Ellsworth deputy fire chief said. A fire spokesman said the woman “had no symptoms and appeared to be fine,” and was released from the hospital late May 12. Firefighters evacuated the building and as a precaution separated employees into two groups, with one containing five workers who were nearby when the envelope was opened. Once the substance had been tested, officers entered the building to retrieve evidence. An Ellsworth police officer said the suspicious legal-size envelope did have a return address on it and the residents at that address have been contacted. Since the substance was mailed to the bank, he said, this could be considered a federal case. An FBI representative was on the scene May 12. Source: <http://new.bangordailynews.com/2011/05/12/news/hancock/breaking-ellsworth-firefighters-responding-to-hazardous-material-incident-at-bank/>

24. *May 12, KXTV 10 Sacramento* – (California) **Former mail carrier indicted for 30-counts of mail theft.** A federal grand jury returned a 30-count indictment charging a postal service employee for stealing prescription drugs. The 62-year-old man is suspected of stealing Vicodin from the mail between March 2010 and April 2011, a spokeswoman for the U.S. District Attorney’s Office, Eastern District of California, said. According to the criminal complaint, the man worked at the Parkway branch post office in south Sacramento, where dozens of parcels containing the pain reliever were mailed by the Veterans Administration. He was released on bond and is scheduled for an arraignment May 29 at 2 p.m. He faces a maximum penalty of 5 years in prison with a fine up to \$250,000.

Source: <http://www.sacandco.net/news/local/story.aspx?storyid=137504&catid=2>

25. *May 12, WRC 4 Washington D.C.* – (District of Columbia; Texas) **40th D.C. school receives suspicious letter.** Another suspicious letter was found at a school in Washington D.C. May 12. That raises the total number of letters discovered since the week of May 2 to 40. The letter arrived at Fletcher-Johnson Education Center in Southeast Washington, D.C. District of Columbia police said it was similar to the other letters found at schools and post offices the previous week. All those letters were postmarked from Dallas, Texas. Investigators said they contained a harmless white powder and a note referencing al-Qaida. Police said the FBI has possession of the suspicious letter. It was sent to Dallas as part of the continuing investigation.

Source: <http://www.nbcwashington.com/news/local/New-Suspicious-Letter-121736149.html>

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Agriculture and Food Sector

26. *May 13, WCTV 46 Thomasville* – (Florida) **Suspicious fire destroys Quincy feed mill.** A feed mill was completely destroyed in Gadsden County, Florida, May 12, after fire officials worked for hours to douse the blaze. Rubble was all that was left May 13 of the Quincy feed mill. Heat and smoke were still coming off the site at noon May 13. Quincy fire and police officials said they got the call about the fire at the Feed Mill on South Jackson Street around 8:40 p.m. May 12. As fire officials worked to put out the

blaze, police evacuated nearby homes. Power was down for a few hours but has been restored. No injuries were reported. Investigators on the scene believe the fire to be “suspicious.”

Source:

http://www.wctv.tv/home/headlines/Flames_Destroy_Quincy_Feed_Mill_121767239.html

27. *May 12, United Press International* – (Michigan) **Study: MRSA found in U.S. retail meat.** Some beef, chicken, and turkey sold in Michigan grocery stores contained the human type of methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*, Wayne State University researchers said. The researchers collected 289 raw meat samples — 156 beef, 76 chicken, and 57 turkey — from 30 grocery stores in Detroit from August 2009 to January 2010. Up to three presumptive *Staphylococcus aureus* colonies — the most common cause of staph infections frequently found in the nose and on skin on humans — per sample were identified by testing. The study, scheduled to be published in the June issue of *Emerging Infectious Diseases*, found 22.5 percent of the samples yielded *S. aureus*: 20.5 percent in beef, 25 percent in chicken, and 24.6 percent in turkey. Six samples — two in beef, three in chicken, and one in turkey — were positive for MRSA, the study said. The retail beef, chicken, and turkey examined in Michigan contained the human type of MRSA — not the animal type more commonly found in Europe — indicating U.S. meat contamination may come from human meat handlers, not the animals themselves, the study said. “Cooking kills MRSA,” an assistant professor at Wayne State stated.

Source: http://www.upi.com/Health_News/2011/05/12/Study-MRSA-found-in-US-retail-meat/UPI-41411305233405/

28. *May 12, Associated Press* – (Louisiana) **Mississippi River tops levee, floods Louisiana farmland.** The Mississippi River topped a levee north of Lake Providence in northeast Louisiana, flooding croplands as an effort by farmers to shore up the 100-year-old structure was thwarted by the rising river. About 12,000 acres, mostly planted in corn and soybeans, behind the 18-mile-long levee were flooded May 12. Maintenance on the levee was abandoned years ago after another, higher levee was built farther back off the river. Area farmers had pooled together and about 40 worked in recent days to stack about 1,800, 1-ton sandbags along the levee’s weakest points. But the river crested higher than originally forecast and it topped the levee overnight. Officials were confident the new, higher levee, which runs much farther south along the Mississippi, will contain the overflow. Farther south along the river, other communities were keeping a close watch on their levees and taking action to shore up potential trouble spots. The Port of New Orleans said it is preparing for the possible closing of the river to ship traffic as early as May 16. The ultimate decision would come from the Coast Guard, a port spokesman said. If the river is closed, one of the world’s busiest commercial waterways would come to a halt.

Source: <http://beta.clarionledger.com/article/20110512/NEWS/110512017/1002>

29. *May 12, Pasadena Star-News* – (California) **Fire destroys popular Alhambra restaurant.** A three-alarm fire destroyed a popular Chinese restaurant May 12 in

Alhambra, California. The fire at Blue Ocean Seafood Restaurant started just before 7:40 a.m. in the restaurant's kitchen, fire department officials said. Though firefighters responded within 4 minutes, the flames spread quickly and ultimately much of the restaurant was damaged, the Alhambra Fire Department's (AFD) assistant fire chief said. Crews knocked down the fire by 9:30 a.m. Three people were in the restaurant's kitchen when the fire started, the assistant fire chief stated. When firefighters arrived, they attempted to isolate the flames but quickly realized the fire had spread to the attic. They evacuated the building and, ultimately, the roof collapsed inside. Investigators have not determined the cause of the fire. The AFD had the help of several neighboring fire departments, including Arcadia, Pasadena, and San Gabriel. In total, 4 trucks, 10 engine companies, 6 battalion chiefs, and 1 light air unit responded. The fire caused traffic delays all morning, as the normal busy intersection of Valley Boulevard and Garfield Avenue was shut down for hours.

Source: http://www.pasadenastarnews.com/news/ci_18053017

30. *May 12, Associated Press* – (New York; National) **FDA: Chives distributed by NY company in 9 states recalled for possible Listeria contamination.** The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) said chives distributed in nine states by Goodness Gardens Inc. of New Hampton, New York were recalled because of possible Listeria contamination. The FDA said the chives were sold primarily through retailers in New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Alabama, Illinois, and Virginia. They were packaged in plastic clamshell containers, 1-pound bags, and twist tie bunches. The recalled lot is number 0201111, dated May 6. No illnesses associated with the recalled chives have been reported.

Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/business/fda-chives-distributed-by-ny-company-in-9-states-recalled-for-possible-listeria-contamination/2011/05/12/AFW0l6zG_story.html

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Water Sector

31. *May 12, Redding Record Searchlight* – (California) **Redding fined \$72,000 for spill of chlorine-rich water into Sacramento River.** California water officials are fining the city of Redding \$72,000 for a January 2011 spill of chlorine-rich water into the Sacramento River from its Stillwater Wastewater Treatment Plant. Treated wastewater in the 67,250-gallon spill had almost 70 times the amount of chlorine allowed in the city's permit with the state, said the assistant executive officer of the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board. The board announced the fine May 12. A faulty pump caused the spill. The city must be more careful with its wastewater, the assistant executive officer said. The Redding public works director said the city was reviewing the fine and would likely request a settlement conference with water control officials. "We just want to better understand why the \$72,000," he said. The city could possibly face another fine for the release of unfiltered wastewater into the Sacramento River

from the Clear Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant earlier this spring. During heavy rains between March 23 and April 2, the city bypassed part of the treatment process at the plant and released a mix of filtered and unfiltered water into the river.

Source: <http://www.redding.com/news/2011/may/12/city-fined-72000-for-spill-into-river/>

For another story, see item [2](#)

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

32. *May 13, Everett Herald* – (Washington) **Gas line break forces evacuation in Everett.** As many as 40 people were evacuated from an office and supply building in Everett, Washington, May 12 after a natural gas line break, officials said. Workers at the building owned by Providence Regional Medical Center Everett noticed an odd smell. They left the building and called 911. About 25 Everett firefighters responded to the call in the 900 block of Broadway, a city of Everett spokeswoman said. That is when they discovered the line break. The employees were kept out of the building for more than an hour, returning to their jobs after 9 a.m.
Source: <http://heraldnet.com/article/20110513/NEWS01/705139879>

33. *May 12, Nashville Tennessean* – (Tennessee) **Hazmat investigation determines Freon gas leak occurred at VU Medical Center building on Thursday.** An hazardous situation that officials first investigated as a fire at a Vanderbilt University Medical Center building in Nashville, Tennessee May 12 has been ruled a Freon gas leak. The eighth floor of the 12-story Medical Research Building Four building had to be cleared as a haz-mat unit initially investigated the scene as a small closet fire, a Nashville Fire Department spokeswoman said. The haz-mat unit was involved because the building has chemicals inside, though none were believed to be on the eighth floor, she said. Building Four is a research building and no patients were involved in the evacuation. The initial call was at 6:41 a.m., and a Vanderbilt Medical Center spokesman said personnel were allowed back in just before 8:30 a.m.
Source: <http://www.tennessean.com/article/20110512/NEWS01/110512006/Small-fire-Vanderbilt-Medical-Center-building-under-investigation>

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Government Facilities Sector

34. *May 13, CNN* – (International) **Police arrest man suspected of making death threats against Obama.** Irish police arrested a man on suspicion of making threats to kill the U.S. President when he visits Ireland later in May, a police spokesman said May 13. A converted Muslim man, who subscribes to the al Qaeda ideology, is being held at Dublin's Store Street Garda (police) station under the Offenses Against the State Act, police said. He can be held up to 3 days for questioning under Irish law. Special

detective unit officers arrested the man after a search of his Dublin home May 12, according to a police spokesman who said detectives are investigating threats to kill or cause harm. The U.S. President is scheduled to visit Ireland during a May 23 to May 28 trip to Europe.

Source:

<http://www.cnn.com/2011/WORLD/europe/05/13/ireland.obama.threat/index.html?hpt=T2>

35. *May 13, Associated Press* – (Florida) **Woman charged in Broward Schools lockdown case to plead guilty.** A 48-year-old woman will plead guilty to making e-mail and telephone threats involving guns and schools to a radio talk show host that forced hundreds of thousands of Broward County, Florida students into lockdown for hours, according to a court filing by the woman's attorneys. The court document, filed May 12, said the woman will plead guilty to transmitting a threat in interstate commerce, which is punishable by a maximum 5-year prison sentence. A judge set a hearing on the plea change for May 16. According to the FBI, an e-mail from an address traced to the suspect was sent November 10 to a conservative radio host, who broadcasts from Broward County. It discussed gun rights and added the writer was "planning something big around a government building here in Broward County, maybe a post office, maybe a school. ... I'm going to teach all the government hacks working there what the 2nd amendment is all about," the e-mail said, according to the FBI. Later that morning, the FBI said a woman calling from the suspect's cell phone contacted radio station WFTL, and said her husband, a fictional person, was going to a school to start shooting. That led Broward school officials to order a lockdown for all 300 schools, affecting some 275,000 students in the nation's sixth-largest public school system.

Source: <http://www.orlandosentinel.com/news/local/fl-lockdown-lady-to-plea-20110513,0,5801675.story>

36. *May 12, Boston Globe* – (Massachusetts) **33 treated, hundreds evacuated after pepper spray release at Brighton high school.** Thirty-three students were transported to the hospital, and hundreds of students, faculty, and staff were evacuated May 12 after someone released pepper spray in the hallway at a Brighton school building in Boston, Massachusetts, authorities said. Six of the students from the Another Course to College pilot high school on Warren Street were transported to St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Brighton, while the rest were taken to Children's Hospital in Boston, the Boston EMS chief said. The students' symptoms included coughing and sneezing, he said. The acting district fire chief said the students were suffering from "upper respiratory irritation," but none were seriously injured. St. Elizabeth's officials said all the students there had been released by late afternoon. Children's Hospital said in a statement that all 27 patients it received were in "good condition and are expected to be released." Boston police took custody of the canister and will investigate, a police spokesman said. Boston school officials said that, despite an all-clear from the fire department, Another Course to College and another pilot high school, the Boston Community Leadership Academy, which shares the building with it, were closed at 1 p.m. May 12 so custodians could further air out the building. The schools were expected to reopen at

the normal time May 13.

Source:

http://www.boston.com/news/local/breaking_news/2011/05/20_students_eva.html

37. *May 12, ABC News and Associated Press* – (Missouri) **Missouri gunman captured after entering Army post, university campus.** Missouri police captured a gunman who allegedly engaged in a shootout with law enforcement officers and spurred a nearly 5-hour manhunt after entering a Missouri U.S. Army post and nearby university campus early May 12. The suspect is in custody and suffering from a wound to his arm, police said. The 31-year-old man faces four felony charges of assault on law enforcement and will be held on \$1 million dollar bond, the Rolla police chief said. The suspect allegedly attempted to enter Fort Leonard Wood near Waynesville, Missouri, around 8:30 a.m., a spokesperson for the post said. When security asked the man to stop at the gate and submit to further inspection, authorities said he refused to do so. After exiting, the suspect continued to evade authorities, driving down I-44 and allegedly firing on police with an AK-47 assault rifle. Police set up spike strips on the highway, prompting the suspect to exit the highway and enter the college town of Rolla, the home of the Missouri University of Science and Technology. “The suspect then began shooting at the Rolla Police Officers and members of the County Sheriff’s department as they pursued him,” the police chief said at an earlier press conference. Police said the suspect then jumped out of the car and stole a 2003 Ford Taurus. A scant blood trail was left from where the man jumped out of the car and into the grey Taurus, police said. At least one car was riddled with bullet holes, and police later found drugs that appeared to be crystal meth in the car the suspect was initially driving. University officials said the man fired shots near the campus, but not on the campus, and the campus remained on lockdown throughout the morning.

Source: <http://abcnews.go.com/US/missouri-gunman-captured-entering-fort-leonard-wood-missouri/story?id=13589605>

38. *May 12, Glen Falls Post-Star* – (New York) **Police: Warrensburg man jailed after threat toward Warren County judge.** A 57-year-old Warrensburg, New York man was jailed late May 11 after he allegedly called an Albany-area television station and made a death threat toward a local judge. The suspect was charged with making a terroristic threat, a felony, for telling a representative of WTEN-TV, “The judge is as good as dead,” when contacting the station to complain about a Warren County family court judge. The suspect had gone to family court earlier May 11 to request a hearing to modify custody or visitation for a child of his because a man living with the child’s mother had been charged with endangering the child’s welfare. The case was scheduled before the judge, and the suspect was upset at the delay, the suspect’s lawyer, a Warren County assistant public defender, said in court May 12. The suspect had been drinking in the hours before he called the station and did not recall speaking to anyone there, the lawyer told the Lake George town justice.

Source: http://poststar.com/news/local/article_ecdde3ce-7c97-11e0-a36a-001cc4c002e0.html

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Emergency Services Sector

39. *May 13, Associated Press* – (Arizona; International) **Official says agents killed at train crossing were helping to catch smugglers.** The U.S. Border Patrol has confirmed two of its agents who died in the line of duty were trying to help other agents head off a group of marijuana smugglers in southern Arizona when their SUV was struck by a fast-moving train. A Border Patrol spokesman said the SUV collided with the train early May 12 as another group of agents less than 1 mile south of the train tracks was pursuing six illegal immigrants carrying marijuana bales on their backs. The two agents died as they tried to cross the tracks near Interstate 8 and the town of Gila Bend in an attempt to cut off the smugglers as they moved north. The six illegal immigrants were arrested.
Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/2-border-patrol-agents-en-route-to-help-colleagues-killed-when-train-hits-suv-in-arizona/2011/05/13/AFDgD41G_story.html

40. *May 13, Denver Post* – (Colorado) **Woman charged with throwing explosive device at Denver police.** A 20-year-old woman accused of hurling a Molotov cocktail at police in Denver, Colorado, was charged with multiple felonies, including attempted murder. She also faces additional felony charges of use of explosives, possession of explosives, second-degree arson, criminal mischief, and inciting a riot, the Denver district attorney's (DA) office announced May 12. The charges carry a possible maximum penalty of 90 years in prison. The DA's office said that about 9:15 p.m. May 6, the suspect threw an incendiary or explosive device at Denver police officers in a marked patrol car. The device exploded and burned. She fled but was taken into custody a short time later, spitting on officers as she resisted arrest, prosecutors said. The suspect is being held at the Denver County Jail in lieu of \$50,000 bail.
Source: http://www.denverpost.com/news/ci_18053986

41. *May 12, San Francisco Examiner* – (California) **911 emergency dispatch system fails for San Francisco fire, police.** A technology failure May 12 caused the computer system for San Francisco, California fire and police dispatch to shut down, forcing emergency personnel to resort to pen and paper. According to a San Francisco police sergeant, the system in which information from a 911 call is entered and transmitted to officers or firemen in the field, failed around 9:30 a.m. "They switched immediately to cards and pen," he said. "They would write down any information and hand it off to another dispatcher who would then transmit the information by radio to field officers." A backup system was restored by 1 p.m., he said. There was no estimate for when the entire system would be restored. Though the computers failed, there was no interruption of 911 services, an office of emergency services spokeswoman said. The cause of the failure is not yet known, she said, noting that information technology personnel were working on completely restoring the computer system as soon as possible.

Source: <http://www.sfexaminer.com/local/2011/05/emergency-dispatch-system-san-francisco-fire-police-fails>

42. *May 12, Northwest Cable News* – (Oregon) **Official: Reverse 9-1-1 failed in SE Portland acid cloud leak.** A reverse 9-1-1 call May 11 to warn residents within a half-mile of Precision Castparts in Portland, Oregon of an acidic cloud never actually happened, according to a Clackamas Fire District spokesman. The breakdown in communication between fire departments and dispatchers was still being analyzed May 12, he said. The hazardous materials cloud from Precision Castparts on Johnson Creek Boulevard May 11 sent four people to the hospital and prompted what was supposed to be an order for residents within a half-mile to stay in their homes. Emergency officials declared an “all clear” May 12 at 5 a.m., and workers were returning to the plant that makes precious metals, though the affected building remained closed. Two firefighters and two employees were treated for injuries.

Source: <http://www.nwcn.com/home/121751054.html>

43. *May 11, CNN* – (International) **Border arrests of undocumented immigrants down 58% in 5 years.** By at least one measure, illegal immigration is not the problem that it used to be for the United States — the number of arrests of people trying to cross the U.S.-Mexico border illegally has decreased sharply in the past 5 years, according to federal statistics. In fiscal year 2006 there were 1,071,972 arrests of undocumented immigrants in the multi-state border area, according to the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP). The number had fallen to 705,005 in 2008, and last year’s figure was 447,731, CBP data shows. Those figures represent a 58 percent decrease from 2006 to 2010. Several factors have contributed to the decrease in the number of arrests of would-be immigrants. The number of U.S. Border Patrol agents along the U.S.-Mexico border has doubled in roughly the same period in which arrests have decreased. In 2004, there were 11,000 agents patrolling the border, according to CBP. Now the number is close to 22,000.

Source: http://articles.cnn.com/2011-05-11/us/immigration.arrests.decline_1_border-arrests-illegal-immigration-arrests-of-undocumented-immigrants?_s=PM:US

For another story, see item [37](#)

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Information Technology Sector

44. *May 13, The Register* – (International) **One thumb up for Facebook security improvements.** Security changes designed to curtail the spam and scams that have become endemic on Facebook over recent months have received a cautious welcome from security watchers. Facebook has introduced a series of new features including: a known-bad-site blacklist (via a partnership with crowd-sourced blacklist outfit Web of Trust); protection against clickjacking; and limited support for two-factor authentication. As an opt-in service, Facebook will send users an SMS every time

someone logs in from “a new or unrecognized device.”

Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/05/13/facebook_security_criticism/

45. *May 13, Computerworld* – (International) **Windows 7’s malware infection rate climbs, XP’s falls.** Data released May 12 by Microsoft showed that Windows 7’s malware infection rate climbed by more than 30 percent during the second half of 2010, even as the infection rate of the 10-year-old Windows XP fell by more than 20 percent. “Infection rates have jumped [for Windows 7],” admitted the principal group program manager with the Microsoft Malware Protection Center. “We attribute that to the increased presence of malicious software attacks out there.” For the second half of 2010, 32-bit Windows 7 machines were infected at an average rate of more than 4 PCs per 1,000, a 33 percent increase over the approximately 3-per-1,000 infection rate during the first half of the year. PCs running the 64-bit version of Windows 7 fared slightly better, with an infection rate of 2.5 per 1,000 during all of 2010. The infection rates were tabulated from scans conducted by the Malicious Software Removal Tool, a free utility updated monthly and pushed to Windows users via Microsoft’s update services. The tool detects and deletes selected malware, including fake antivirus programs, worms, viruses, and bot trojans.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9216654/Windows_7_s_malware_infection_rate_climbs_XP_s_falls

46. *May 13, Softpedia* – (International) **Chrome updated with security patches and new Flash.** Google has updated Chrome to version 11.0.696.68 in order to address two high-risk vulnerabilities and include the new Flash Player 10.3 plug-in. Both vulnerabilities were discovered internally by members of the Google Chrome Security Team. One of the flaws, CVE-2011-1799, consists of bad casts in code linking Chromium and WebKit, while the other, CVE-2011-1800, concerns integer overflows in SVG filters. Adobe Flash Player 10.3 addresses a number of 11 vulnerabilities, 10 of which are rated as critical and allow for arbitrary code execution. Another important change is that it integrates with browser privacy controls and allows Chrome users to clear Flash local storage objects (Flash cookies) directly from the browser’s interface. Under normal circumstances, updating Flash Player is very important because outdated plug-ins are regularly targeted in Web-based attacks, however, its impact is lower in Chrome. Google’s browser comes bundled with a Flash Player plug-in created in collaboration with Adobe which runs under its native sandbox. This kind of isolation makes it very hard for hackers to execute code on the underlying system if a Flash Player vulnerability is exploited.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Chrome-Updated-with-Security-Patches-and-New-Flash-200362.shtml>

Internet Alert Dashboard

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

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

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Communications Sector

47. *May 12, Broadcast Engineering* – (National) **FCC gets aggressive on broadcast tower safety.** The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Enforcement Bureau is getting aggressive in fining broadcasters for safety issues involving their antenna towers. In several recent fines, the commission is taking the position that any violation — if it occurs on more than one day — is willful and a repeated violation. The Broadcast Law Blog cited three recent FCC cases that it said demonstrates how seriously the FCC views tower site safety issues. A broadcast station was fined a total of \$14,000 when it was found the fence surrounding its transmitter was falling down and it did not enclose areas of high RF radiation. The station also had a main studio that was unattended on 2 successive days, and had no one answering the phone on those days when the FCC tried to call. In another case, the FCC fined a station \$10,000 for areas of high RF radiation that were not fenced or marked by signs when the FCC conducted its inspection and \$4000 for operating overpower. In another case, the FCC fined a station because the flashing beacon on the top of a tower was out on 2 successive days, even though the required steady-lit obstruction lights on the side of the tower were operational. While the licensee notified the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) of the outage 3 days later (with no noted prompting from the FCC), and had the situation corrected 2 days after notifying the FAA, the FCC determined the violation was repeated and willful, leading to a \$10,000 fine.

Source:

http://broadcastengineering.com/news/fcc_gets_aggressive_on_broadcast_tower_safety_051211/

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Commercial Facilities Sector

48. *May 13, Voice of America* – (New York) **NY authorities arrest 2 terrorist suspects.** New York City officials May 12 announced the arrest of two men who allegedly plotted to bomb synagogues in the city. The suspects will be charged with conspiracy to commit terrorism and hate crime offenses under New York State anti-terrorism laws and could face life in prison if convicted. New York police arrested a

26-year-old man of Algerian descent and a 20-year-old man who was born in Morocco. The authorities acted after the Algerian man agreed to put down an initial payment on three guns, several boxes of ammunition, and one inactive grenade that he was buying from an undercover officer. Officials said the man explained his motivation by saying he hates Jews, and that Muslims are “treated like dogs” around the world. He also allegedly expressed interest in blowing up the Empire State Building. According to the criminal complaint, the investigation began in October 2010 when the Algerian man proposed a plan to bomb synagogues and kill Jews to an undercover officer. Authorities said he spoke of his desire to participate in a “Jihad,” and introduced a collaborator, the 20-year-old Moroccan man. Later, the Algerian man allegedly discussed dressing as a Hasidic Jew to gain entrance to a synagogue and leave behind a bomb. Officials said the charges carry a maximum potential sentence of life in prison.

Source: <http://www.voanews.com/english/news/usa/NY-Authorities-Arrest-2-Terrorist-Suspects-121767999.html>

49. *May 13, Homeland Security Today* – (National) **Report: Major U.S. metro areas vulnerable to hurricane storm surges.** Ten major U.S. coastal metropolitan areas are vulnerable to a total of hundreds of billions of dollars in property loss from hurricane related storm surges and flooding, according to a new report from CoreLogic, a Santa Ana, California-based provider of consumer, financial and property information, analytics, and services to business and government. The report titled 2011 Storm Surge Report, examines the potential financial impact of storm surges on single-family residential structures (homes) in major urban areas along the Gulf and Atlantic coasts in the United States. The findings show that of the 10 areas studied, Long Island, New York, has the most residential property at risk with \$99 billion of exposure. Although a Category 5 storm would not be sustainable off the coast of New York due to the cooler waters of the Atlantic, the report explained, “a Category 4 storm, however rare, is possible and would generate significant damage to the Long Island area, if it were to make landfall.” Even if the hurricane were only a Category 1 storm, the report added, it could cause Long Islanders total property damage of over \$32.1B impacting nearly 74,000 residential properties. The report said the second most vulnerable area was the Miami-Palm Beach, Florida, region with \$44.9 billion of exposure, followed by Virginia Beach, Virginia, with \$44.6 billion of exposure. The metro areas identified as having the lowest economic risk were Mobile, Alabama, with \$3 billion and Corpus Christi, Texas, with \$4.7 billion.

Source: <http://www.hstoday.us/industry-news/general/single-article/report-major-us-metro-areas-vulnerable-to-hurricane-storm-surges/7ed6c3e72e8c627ddef68995fd00a611.html>

50. *May 12, Associated Press* – (Michigan) **Warren fire commissioner: Arson caused laundry gas explosion that heavily damaged neighborhood.** Warren, Michigan’s fire commissioner said May 12 someone deliberately triggered a natural gas explosion that demolished a commercial laundry and damaged 49 homes and business structures in the northern Detroit suburb. He told reporters that the May 4 blast was “an intentional act of arson.” Investigators said someone opened a 2-inch gas line inside Best Textile Services. The Detroit Free Press and the Detroit News said Warren police executed a

search warrant at the owner's home. Authorities have not named any suspects. The fire commissioner said the explosion damaged 21 homes and 28 commercial structures, and said authorities have condemned 10 buildings. The blast was felt for miles around, slightly injuring several passers-by.

Source:

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/80a2589dfeff4909b021886cd7747374/MI--Building-Explodes-Michigan/>

51. *May 12, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* – (Wisconsin) **Apartment fire that injured 6 was arson, police say.** The four-alarm fire May 10 that injured 6 people and displaced at least 75 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, was arson, a police spokeswoman said May 12. The Milwaukee deputy fire chief said May 11 the blaze appears to have started on the second floor of the 24-unit apartment complex on the northwest side. Damages from the fire were estimated at \$1.2 million. Residents trapped in the blaze were desperate to escape and jumped from third-floor windows into the arms of rescuers below. Neighbors later brought ladders to help people escape. Others loaded residents into cars and took people to the hospital, a resident said. The fire at 5333 N. 91st Street was reported at 9:17 p.m., and was under control shortly after 11 p.m.

Source: <http://www.jsonline.com/news/crime/121721059.html>

52. *May 12, CNET News* – (National) **Exclusive: eBay removes page that exposed data.** eBay removed a page from its Web site that was leaking customer data after CNET inquired about the security issue. Acting on a reader tip May 11, CNET verified that an eBay Web page for sellers to order co-branded U.S. Postal Service (USPS) boxes was exposing customers' names, addresses, e-mail addresses, and phone numbers. The site was automatically filling in a stranger's information when the page was accessed by a logged-in user. eBay took down the leaky Web page either late May 11 or early May 12. After a call and e-mail from CNET May 12, an eBay spokeswoman e-mailed this statement: "We are currently experiencing a technical issue that is impacting the functionality of the eBay-USPS box-ordering Web site. We have temporarily taken the eBay-USPS site down as we identify and resolve the issue. It is possible that fewer than 5,700 mailing addresses were inadvertently viewed by users coming to the site to purchase shipping boxes. We plan to contact the impacted users." It remains unclear how long the Web page was leaking the information.

Source: http://news.cnet.com/8301-27080_3-20062272-245.html

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

53. *May 13, Silver City Sun-News* – (New Mexico) **New fire erupts north of Silver City.** A fire that broke out May 12 on the Gila National Forest 15 miles north of Silver City, New Mexico, has been mapped at 11.5 acres, and a fire line has been constructed around the fire, said a spokeswoman with the Gila National Forest. The fire, called the

Sheep Fire, broke out about 9 a.m. in the Pinos Altos Mountains. Sixty-fire personnel were on the fire May 12, including two engines, one Hotshot crew, eight smokejumpers, one Type II initial attack crew, two heli-tankers, and three air tankers. By late in the day May 12, the two heli-tankers had been released back to the Miller Fire, which is still burning in the Gila Wilderness, and the three air tankers released back to their destination. The cause of that fire is unknown at this time. The Miller Fire, which has been burning in the Gila Wilderness for the past 2 weeks, has now grown to 62,370 acres, and more than 300 fire personnel are battling that fire. Two heavy helicopters and one medium helicopter conducted water drops to help slow the fire's spread north of the Gila River. Mop-up operations resumed along the Highway 15 corridor between the Monument and Gila Hot Springs.

Source: http://www.scsun-news.com/ci_18055696

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Dams Sector

54. *May 13, Associated Press* – (Oregon) **Suspicious intruder took photos of Oregon dam.** Federal authorities are continuing their investigation into a man who climbed a razor-wire fence in the middle of the night to walk to the middle of the Lookout Point Dam in Lane County, Oregon to take pictures. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has surveillance video of the March 2 intruder of the dam, which is located on the middle fork of the Willamette River in Lowell. The Eugene Register Guard reports the Corps is offering a \$1,000 reward for information that leads to his arrest. Officials fear the intrusion could lead to a future threat to the dam.

Source:

<http://www.statesmanjournal.com/article/20110513/UPDATE/110513002/Suspicious-intruder-took-photos-Oregon-dam?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|News>

55. *May 12, msnbc.com; Associated Press; Reuters* – (Louisiana) **'Sacrificial' towns prepare for deliberate flooding.** About 400 more people in Vicksburg, Mississippi, were told to evacuate the town May 12, while downriver thousands hurriedly packed ahead of an expected decision to flood their farms and towns in order to protect Baton Rouge and New Orleans, Louisiana. County officials ordered evacuations May 12 in Vicksburg after determining that U.S. 61 would soon be cut off by rising waters. The downtown area of the town sits on a protected bluff, but dozens of homes at river level have already been swamped by the Mississippi or the Yazoo River, a tributary. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers also placed high-density plastic sheeting along a 4-mile section of the Yazoo Backwater levee to keep it from eroding if the levee is overrun, said a spokesman for the agency responsible for flood control. The Yazoo Backwater levee is designed to hold the Yazoo River and the Mississippi from flowing into the south Delta. If there were no levee, up to 2 million acres of land would be flooded, he said. The Corps could open the Morganza floodway north of Baton Rouge as early as the weekend of May 14, a move that would relieve pressure on the city's levee system.

Opening the spillway gates for the first time in 38 years will unleash the Mississippi on a ride south to the Gulf of Mexico through the Atchafalaya River and divert floodwater from the river into the basin's swamplands, backwater lakes, and bayous. Several thousand homes would be at risk of flooding. Even if engineers decide against opening the spillway, no one seems to doubt a major flood is bound for Butte LaRose, Krotz Springs, the oil-and-seafood hub of Morgan City, and other swampland communities in the Atchafalaya Basin. The Morganza and the nearby Old River Control Structure were built in the 1950s to keep the Mississippi on its current course through New Orleans, one of the world's busiest ports. If the river rises much higher at New Orleans, the U.S. Coast Guard said May 12 it would consider restrictions on shipping, including potentially closing the channel to the largest, heaviest ships. A shutdown would temporarily cut off gasoline supplies shipped from several major U.S. refineries upriver.

Source: <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/43004322/ns/weather/t/tiger-dams-join-sandbags-mississippi-fight/>

56. *May 11, WVUE 8 New Orleans* – (Louisiana) **Levee officials monitor small cracks as river rises.** A series of surface cracks has been discovered on West Bank river levees in Gretna, Louisiana, WVUE 8 New Orleans reported May 11. The cracks are up to 18 inches deep and run about a quarter of a mile long. Jefferson Parish levee officials said it was caused by the drought, and currently, the main concern is barges. Levee officials instructed the public to call police if they see a barge within a 180-foot safety zone of a levee. The flood authority west set up a system of pipes and string to monitor any shifts that might show signs of danger. "If the levee is shifting, the stake will go away from the string," a spokesman said. Officials said they are patrolling every hour, paying close attention to the dry spots, and to spots in Marrero where water seeping below the levee is pooling in drainage ditches.

Source: <http://www.fox8live.com/news/local/story/Levee-officials-monitor-small-cracks-as-river/8otnvH98iUajfvMEppOp0g.csp>

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