



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 17 May 2011

Top Stories

- Firefighters worked more than 12 hours over 2 days to extinguish a fire at a biodiesel plant that caused explosions and millions in damage, and injured three firefighters. (See item [2](#))
- The opening of spillway floodgates forced thousands of residents of towns along the Mississippi River in Louisiana to evacuate their homes, which along with 3 million acres of farmland, were in the path of hundreds of millions of gallons of water. (See item [62](#))

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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 16, Associated Press* – (Nevada) **Transformer explosion starts small fire near Las Vegas Strip.** An electrical transformer exploded early May 15 behind a row of Las Vegas Strip casinos in Nevada, knocking out power to parts of some resorts and touching off a smoky blaze that snarled freeway traffic and sent flames 80 to 90 feet in the air. A transformer on a street behind the Monte Carlo resort blew up about 12:30 a.m., police spokesman said. There were no reports of any injuries and no one at the resort was affected, but power was temporarily cut to parts of the building. Fire crews

established a perimeter and let the fire, fueled by oil from the transformer, burn for about 30 minutes to help alleviate a large oil spill in the area, a Clark County fire spokeswoman said. More than 1 hour after the explosion, a reporter positioned about 500 yards away said there were no visible flames and firefighters were dousing an area where smoke was emanating. The northbound lanes of nearby Interstate 15 were shut down for a time because of debris from the explosion and poor visibility caused by the smoke, but it was later reopened.

Source:

<http://www.mohavedailynews.com/articles/2011/05/16/news/state/doc4dd0db1d789e0254396540.txt>

2. *May 16, Erie Times-News* – (Pennsylvania) **Firefighters return for rekindle of Harborcreek biodiesel plant blaze.** Firefighters returned to a burning biodiesel plant in Harborcreek Township, Pennsylvania May 15 after flames rekindled in several areas of the facility. Light, hazy smoke rose off the building, the home to American Biodiesel Energy Inc. and North American Powder Coatings. Firefighters from at least five companies were called to the property, at 4680 Iroquois Avenue, at 7:30 p.m. Flames shot at least 100 feet and thick, black smoke billowed from the business. Nearby residents reported hearing multiple explosions. One sent a large piece of sheet metal flying about 200 feet. Firefighters were still there 2 hours later. Much of the building had burned May 14. About 100 firefighters from multiple volunteer departments had spent more than 6 hours controlling the blaze then. Three were injured. Investigators have not yet determined what caused the fire. The south wall of the building was intact May 15. Firefighters entered through a side door. A first assistant chief of Fairfield Hose Co. said all of the building except for the warehouse, was destroyed. Fire and rescue crews responded to the blaze May 14 at 8:18 p.m. The first assistant chief said it took 6 to 7 hours to get the fire under control, and 4 to 5 more hours before it was out. He headed back May 15 with Pennsylvania State Police to get their first look inside the remains of the building and try to determine how the fire began. Rescue crews were at first uncertain whether anyone was trapped in the structure May 14. “There was nobody inside the building that we know of,” the assistant chief said May 15. The plant’s heavily damaged front half contained equipment worth several million dollars, the building’s owner said. American Biodiesel Energy converts used cooking oil into biodiesel.

Source: <http://www.goerie.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2011305159890>

3. *May 15, Chicago Sun-Times* – (Illinois) **Romeoville butane leak evacuates area, closes roads.** Hazmat crews remained at the scene of a large butane leak in Romeoville, Illinois until the early morning hours May 15. Crews had to flush out sewers in the area where liquid butane collected and was posing a risk of explosion, the police chief said. Until that work is completed, an 800-foot area will remain evacuated and stretches of Weber Road and Romeo Road will remain closed. An 8-inch pipeline owned by ONEOK Inc. began leaking butane May 14. Police do not know what caused the leak, but a spokesman said butane was coming from two locations: the northeast and southeast corners of Weber Road and 135th Street. Butane is a colorless, highly flammable gas. Distant ignition sources can cause butane vapors or gases to ignite and

flash back. A spokeswoman for ONEOK said late May 14 there were no injuries and the cause of the leak was being investigated. “The leak has been isolated. There is no potential danger at this time,” he said. “From what we understand, there are no potential environmental impacts either.”

Source: <http://heraldnews.suntimes.com/news/5384048-418/butane-leaking-from-romeoville-pipeline.html>

4. *May 13, Hattiesburg American* – (Mississippi) **Oil tank truck rolls over near Lumberton.** Late in the afternoon May 13, first responders remained at the scene of an accident involving an oil tank truck that blocked the southbound lane of U.S. 11 near Lumberton, Mississippi. The Lamar County emergency management director said an 18-wheeler hauling crude oil had tried to maneuver around a construction vehicle about 1:40 p.m. where work was being done on the highway north of Lumberton. “He tried to go around, hit some soft dirt on the edge of the road and rolled it over,” the spokesman said. The area where the accident occurred was already closed to through traffic because of the construction. The spokesman said no oil had leaked from the tanker, and that another 18-wheeler was en route to offload the crude. The spokesman said crews expected to have the scene cleared by 6 p.m.

Source:

<http://www.hattiesburgamerican.com/article/20110513/NEWS01/110513014/Oil-tank-truck-rolls-over-near-Lumberton?odyssey=nav|head>

5. *May 11, Associated Press* – (Kentucky) **2 guilty in oil drilling scam worth \$33 million.** A federal jury found two Kentucky men guilty May 11 on most charges in an oil- and gas-drilling scam that saw investors lose \$33 million. A third defendant was found not guilty. The U.S. district court jury deliberated about 7 hours over 2 days before convicting a Lexington attorney and a Campbellsville businessman on multiple charges of mail, wire, and securities fraud. The attorney was also convicted of money laundering and money laundering conspiracy. During the trial that lasted nearly a month, an assistant U.S. attorney characterized the investments as operating like a pyramid scheme with payments from new investors being given in small amounts to longer-term investors with some people receiving no money at all. Both men are free on bond pending sentencing August 24. They face maximum sentences of 20 years in prison.

Source: <http://www.lakewyliepilot.com/2011/05/11/1121431/2-guilty-in-oil-drilling-scam.html>

For another story, see item [13](#)

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Chemical Industry Sector

6. *May 16, Associated Press* – (Washington) **Hydrochloric acid spills in switchyard derailment.** Several freight cars derailed in a Pasco, Washington, railroad yard, May 15, spilling thousands of gallons of a toxic chemical, an official said. The train was

moving at less than 5 mph during a switching operation when seven cars went off the tracks about 5 p.m., a Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad spokesman said. By 9:30 p.m. about 12,500 gallons of hydrochloric acid had spilled onto the ground, he said. There were no reports of any injuries. “Experts have determined there’s no public or environmental threat,” the spokesman said. The chemical can cause respiratory problems and skin and eye irritation. The spokesman said the spill was in a remote area of the yard, far away from any homes or businesses. The leak was caused when a valve on a tanker car carrying about 25,000 gallons of the chemical was damaged in the derailment. A hazardous material crew was expected to seal the leak May 15. The spokesman said the derailed cars would be placed on the track May 16. The cause of the derailment had not been determined. The spokesman said the incident has not affected operations on the mainline, which handles about 30 trains daily.

Source:

http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/localnews/2015065271_apwaswitchyardderailment.html

7. *May 14, Associated Press* – (Mississippi) **EPA orders tests at Hattiesburg plant.** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has ordered a Kentucky company to conduct on- and off-site testing as soon as possible after several harmful contaminants were uncovered at the now closed Hercules facility in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. Ashland Inc., of Covington, Kentucky, purchased Hercules in 2008 and shut it permanently in 2009. Local residents have complained about ongoing pollution from the plant that was creating health problems. Hercules’ 200-acre plant, which once employed thousands of people, once manufactured resin and pine oil, which was used to make everything from ink to chewing gum. The Hattiesburg American reports EPA testing earlier this year found large amounts of benzene and several other hazardous materials in groundwater, soil samples, and sediment.

Source: <http://www2.wsls.com/lifestyles/2011/may/14/epa-orders-tests-at-hattiesburg-plant-ar-1039378/>

8. *May 14, Jamestown Sun* – (North Dakota) **Trailer spills load of fertilizer near 281 bypass.** An agricultural trailer tipped and spilled 16,000 pounds of fertilizer near Jamestown, North Dakota, May 13, according to the North Dakota Highway Patrol. A sergeant of the patrol said the driver was driving a straight truck with a pup trailer eastbound on Stutsman County Road 40 at 3:50 p.m. May 13. He was taking a load of fertilizer to Streeter, North Dakota, for Allied Agronomy. The driver turned to go south on the bypass and the trailer rolled over when it went over an incline in the road. The trailer spilled dry fertilizer across both lanes of traffic. The sergeant said the fertilizer was a nitrogen-phosphorus mix in granular form that did not pose a health risk. The fertilizer was scooped into a different trailer using front-end and skid-steer loaders, and the scene was cleared. The driver was cited for care required, the sergeant said. He said the first trailer sustained minor damage and was towed from the scene.

Source: <http://www.jamestownsun.com/event/article/id/135911/>

9. *May 13, KVOA 4 Tucson* – (Arizona) **Man arrested for alleged 2009 chemical attack.** Federal agents raided a house on Tucson, Arizona’s northwest side May 13. It

is the house of a man indicted and arrested for allegedly producing and using chemical weapons almost 2 years ago. A federal grand jury returned a two-count indictment against the suspect for allegedly producing a chemical weapon that created a football-field sized cloud of chlorine gas in a northwest-side neighborhood August 2, 2009. “This defendant developed and executed a chlorine gas attack that impacted an entire neighborhood and had the potential to cause tremendous harm and fear,” a U.S. attorney said. Court documents allege the suspect placed chemical devices in the front and back yard of a couple in Tucson, and when ignited, the devices produced a cloud of chlorine gas that forced the evacuation of multiple families. This happened at a neighborhood near the Tucson National Golf Club. On the day of the event, the bomb squad also found several small dead animals on the doorstep of the house where the devices were left, as well as spray painted profanity on the walls, written in Spanish. The suspect could face up to a \$250,000 fine, prison time, or both, if convicted. Source: <http://www.kvoa.com/news/man-arrested-for-alleged-2009-chemical-attack/>

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

10. *May 16, United Press International* – (International) **No radioactive waste plans for Great Lakes.** Canadian energy company Bruce Power has withdrawn a request to ship nuclear waste materials to Sweden from the U.S. Great Lakes, a Michigan lawmaker said. A U.S. Representative from Michigan whose district lies near the eastern coast of Michigan said her office was informed that Bruce had walked away from plans to ship 16 decommissioned steam generators containing radioactive material through the Great Lakes region. She said she received the information from the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA). “PHMSA is the agency within the U.S. which Bruce Power would have to receive approval of if they transport their shipment through U.S. territory and must comply with PHMSA’s entire review to ensure that all safety and environmental concerns are addressed before making a decision regarding this shipment,” she said in a statement. She added she would stay in contact with PHMSA officials to make sure there is a “factual investigation” into the application should Bruce reapply. The Port Huron Times Tribune reports Bruce put its generator plans on hold in March following months of public debate over the safety of shipping radioactive waste through the Great Lakes. Source: http://www.upi.com/Business_News/Energy-Resources/2011/05/16/No-radioactive-waste-plans-for-Great-Lakes/UPI-87531305549532/
11. *May 16, Reuters* – (Pennsylvania) **PPL shuts Pa. Susquehanna 1 reactor for inspection.** PPL Corp shut its 1,149-megawatt Unit 1 reactor at the Susquehanna Steam Electric Station in Salem Township, Pennsylvania May 16 to inspect blades on the main turbine after it found defects on similar blades in Unit 2. The 1,140-MW Unit 2 has been shut for refueling since April 5. “As a precaution, we have decided to inspect the blades on the Unit 1 turbine after finding defects on similar blades in the Unit 2

turbine during a routine inspection,” PPL’s chief nuclear officer said in a statement. “Unit 1 will be returned to service when the inspection and any needed turbine blade replacements are completed,” he said. The unit was operating at 33 percent power early May 16, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission said in a report.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/05/16/utilities-operations-ppl-susquehanna-idUSSGE74F01B20110516>

12. *May 16, Associated Press* – (Massachusetts) **NRC sends inspection team to Pilgrim nuclear plant.** The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has sent a three-member inspection team to the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station in Plymouth, Massachusetts to try and figure out what led to an automatic shutdown May 10. The shutdown at the Plymouth plant occurred as the reactor was being returned to service from a refueling and maintenance outage. The three-member NRC team starting May 16 will review plant operator performance and decision-making, the effectiveness of owner Entergy Nuclear’s response to the event, and any actions taken by the company to prevent a similar event. There was no danger from the shutdown that happened when the reactor was generating at 4 percent capacity. A report on the inspection is expected to be issued within 45 days after the review’s completion. Pilgrim is conducting its own review.

Source: <http://www.westport-news.com/news/article/NRC-sends-inspection-team-to-Pilgrim-nuclear-plant-1381453.php>

13. *May 14, Chattanooga Times Free Press* – (Alabama) **Browns Ferry loses cooling.** One of the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant’s shut-down reactors in Alabama lost cooling for about 40 minutes May 12, triggering another mandatory notification of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). A Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) spokesman said the new problem was akin to an electrical short that occurred as maintenance employees were working on electrical relays. The problem caused a Unit 3 cooling pump to lose power. When the problem was discovered, the system was reset, he said. The reactor cooling water temperature rose about 10 degrees during that 40 minutes — from 112.5 degrees to 122 degrees, according to the report TVA filed with the NRC. The April 27 tornadoes took out all of the TVA’s power grid in Alabama, and much of the grid in Mississippi. All three reactors at Browns Ferry in Athens, Alabama, were forced into automatic shutdown. An NRC spokesman confirmed May 13 that an electrical issue “unexpectedly affected additional equipment” at the nearly 40-year-old nuclear plant. “Our inspectors believe the operators and maintenance staff dealt with the issue effectively, and it has been entered into the plant’s corrective action program for further evaluation. Our resident inspectors will follow that evaluation,” he said.

Source: <http://www.timesfreepress.com/news/2011/may/14/browns-ferry-loses-cooling/>

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

Nothing to report

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

Nothing to report

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Banking and Finance Sector

14. *May 16, Times of Trenton* – (New Jersey) **Cops: Pair had 180 fake credit cards, \$13,000 in cash.** Two California residents were apprehended by township police in Cinnaminson, New Jersey, May 14 after a traffic stop and pursuant warrant search yielded 180 counterfeit credit cards and more than \$13,000 in cash, officials said. The two suspects were charged with possession of more than 50 counterfeit credit cards, two counts of credit card fraud, and one count of attempted credit card fraud. The duo was remanded to the Burlington County Jail, and their bail was set at \$135,000 cash each, police said. Detectives later learned the suspects were staying at a Mount Laurel inn, and police there, along with officials from the U.S. Secret Service, executed a signed warrant on their rooms. The search yielded more evidence, and the investigation is ongoing.

Source: <http://www.nj.com/news/times/regional/index.ssf?/base/news-23/1305524716170150.xml&coll=5>

15. *May 15, Seattle Times* – (Washington) **Tacoma police, Army investigate fraud scam.** The U.S. Army and Tacoma, Washington, police are investigating a fraud ring that last year allegedly bilked Army and Air Force Exchange Service stores out of about \$500,000 in merchandise, and also hit other businesses that extend credit. Promoters of the scheme promised to reduce debt, persuading some 1,800 people, including dozens of soldiers, to participate. Those people allowed the promoters electronic access to their credit accounts to pay down bills. More than \$3 million used to pay those debts was illegally diverted from a bank in Ohio, according to investigative documents and interviews with law-enforcement and bank officials. Now some of the soldiers who accepted the deal risk being charged as co-conspirators in crimes of wire fraud and larceny, according to investigative documents. At Joint Base Lewis-McChord in Washington State, 78 soldiers have come under scrutiny, according to the Army. At least 46 of those soldiers are facing disciplinary actions, including more than a dozen who were charged through the military judicial system. Pierce County prosecutors have yet to file any charges in the case.

Source:

http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/localnews/2015057423_debtfraud15m.html

16. *May 14, Federal Bureau of Investigation* – (Utah) **Utah man indicted in fraudulent lien scheme.** An indictment unsealed May 12 in federal court in Salt Lake City, Utah, charges a 53-year-old man from Ogden, Utah, with violations of federal law in connection with alleged schemes to obstruct justice, impede Internal Revenue Service (IRS) laws, pass fictitious documents purporting to be actual financial instruments, assert diplomatic immunity, and defraud others through the use of a fraudulent lien

scheme. Ten counts of the indictment, which allege attempted mail fraud or mailings in furtherance of a scheme and artifice to defraud, relate to conduct that started with traffic stops in Ogden and continued through subsequent court proceedings in Weber County. The indictment alleges that in November 2010, the man mailed documents to the attention of various employees or entities of the State of Utah, Weber County, Ogden City, and the Ogden Police Department, which claimed the agencies contracted to pay more than \$53 trillion in damages to the man. In an apparent effort to create an appearance of indebtedness, the man followed up by filing a lien against the various employees and entities falsely asserting they owed him more than \$53 trillion. The lien was filed on 77 parcels located within Weber County, including municipal property and private residences associated with the employees and entities. The indictment also charges the man with obstructing justice in an effort to impede a matter in U.S. Tax Court by repeatedly filing false and frivolous documents involving the judge in an IRS case, and impeding internal revenue laws. Two counts of the indictment also allege he passed fictitious documents to the U.S. Department of Treasury.

Source:

http://7thspace.com/headlines/382428/utah_man_indicted_in_fraudulent_lien_scheme.html

17. *May 13, Associated Press* – (North Carolina) **Greensboro man pleads guilty in \$9 million scheme.** Federal prosecutors said a Greensboro, North Carolina, man has pleaded May 13 to wire fraud and money laundering in a \$9 million investment scheme. From 2006 to 2009, prosecutors said the man told investors their money would be invested in different businesses and that they would get their returns when his contracts expired, handing out promissory notes detailing due dates and interest rates. But prosecutors said the man instead used the cash to pay other investors, bought himself cars and trips and paid off a \$1 million loan on his Bald Head Island, North Carolina, home. In all, prosecutors said he took more than \$9 million from investors. He faces up to 30 years in prison when he is sentenced in August.

Source: <http://www.wral.com/news/state/story/9594547/>

18. *May 13, Washington Post* – (District of Columbia) **D.C. man guilty in bank robbery spree.** A 64-year-old Washington, D.C. man pleaded guilty May 14 to robbing 11 banks in the city in a 16-month spree that ended with his arrest in March. The man, who typically claimed to have a gun or a pipe bomb but never showed a weapon, also admitted trying to rob a twelfth bank. Each of the dozen counts against him carries a possible sentence of 20 years in prison, authorities said. Beginning November 23, 2009, the convict robbed a half-dozen Chevy Chase Bank branches, three branches of PNC Bank, and one branch each of Capital One and SunTrust banks, the U.S. attorney's office said. He also attempted to rob a fourth PNC branch. "In nearly a dozen bank robberies, this prolific bank robber netted just \$22,000," the U.S. attorney said.

Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/crime-scene/post/dc-man-guilty-in-bank-robbery-sprees/2011/05/13/AFTDFt2G_blog.html

For more stories, see items [5](#) and [56](#)

Transportation Sector

19. *May 16, Associated Press* – (Texas) **Amtrak train delayed after 1 car derails in Dallas.** An Amtrak train was delayed several hours in Dallas, Texas after one set of wheels went off the tracks has resumed its journey. An Amtrak spokesman said May 16 that no one was injured in the incident involving the Texas Eagle, which runs from San Antonio to Chicago, Illinois. He said one car had a mechanical problem while nearing Union Station May 15. The spokesman said passengers were moved out of that car to other ones, so the damaged car could be removed from the train. The train entered the Dallas station about 6:35 p.m. May 15 and departed by 9 p.m. The Texas Eagle carried 174 passengers and crew members.
Source: <http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/ap/tx/7566601.html>

20. *May 16, Associated Press* – (Illinois) **American Airlines jet makes emergency landing in Arkansas.** A report of an engine fire forced an American Airlines flight to make an emergency landing May 15, though no fire was found when the plane safely landed in Arkansas, authorities said. Little Rock National Airport officials said Flight 1720 landed at 4:08 p.m., about 15 minutes after the pilot declared an emergency. The twin-engine MD 80 jet was traveling from Dallas, Texas to Washington, D.C. The plane was carrying 136 passengers and 5 crew members. No injuries were reported, an Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) spokeswoman said. She said no fire was found on the flight. Airport officials said the plane taxied to a ramp under its own power and was tugged to a gate. Mechanics were being called in to troubleshoot, and the airport was working to make sure passengers arrived to their final destination.
Source: <http://www.news-gazette.com/news/courts-police-and-fire/2011-05-16/american-airlines-jet-makes-emergency-landing-arkansas.html>

21. *May 16, WTMJ 4 Milwaukee; Milwaukee-Journal Sentinel* – (Wisconsin) **AirTran pilot arrested, removed from flight.** An AirTran pilot suspected of drinking was arrested and removed from a flight at Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport in Minneapolis, Minnesota May 14. AirTran said the captain was removed from the airplane and replaced with another pilot before the flight to Milwaukee, Wisconsin. An airport spokesman said a Transportation Security Administration manager smelled alcohol on the captain and called airport police. They gave the pilot a Breathalyzer test and found the captain's blood alcohol level at .05 percent — above the limit of .04 percent for commercial pilots. AirTran said the captain will not be flying while the incident is investigated. The flight to Milwaukee was delayed by about 35 minutes.
Source: <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/43045673/ns/travel-news/>

22. *May 16, KIFI 8 Idaho Falls* – (Wyoming) **US 26/89 closed between Hoback, Alpine jcts.** The National Weather Service (NWS) in Wyoming issued a Flash Flood Warning for debris flows due to melting snow in, extreme northwestern Lincoln County and southwestern Teton County. Emergency management reported flash flooding across the warned area. A snow melt debris flow closed Highway 89. Other areas in the Snake

River Canyon are experiencing mud and debris flows along US 89, as well as Hoback Canyon along highway 189. As a result, Highway 89/26 through Snake River Canyon between Alpine and Habock Junction will remain closed indefinitely.

Source: <http://www.localnews8.com/news/27903961/detail.html>

23. *May 13, WXYZ 7 Southfield* – (Michigan) **Police evacuate downtown Ann Arbor bus terminal due to suspicious package.** Police in Ann Arbor, Michigan, evacuated the AATA bus terminal on Fourth Ave. May 13 due to a suspicious package that was found across the street. The terminal was closed for just over an hour May 13. Shortly after 2 p.m., they began removing caution tape but were still blocking Fourth, between Liberty and Williams. The Michigan State Police bomb squad was sent to the scene. The package turned out to be an item promoting the film “Thor.” Earlier, pedestrian detour signs were put up around the bus terminal and Ann Arbor police diverted traffic around the area.

Source: http://www.wxyz.com/dpp/news/region/washtenaw_county/police-evacuate-downtown-ann-arbor-bus-terminal-due-to-suspicious-package,-bomb-squad-responding

For more stories, see items [1](#), [3](#), [6](#), [8](#), [10](#), [29](#), [33](#), and [55](#)

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Postal and Shipping Sector

24. *May 14, Napa Valley Register* – (California) **Homemade device explodes in Napa mailbox.** A homemade device exploded May 14 inside a residential mailbox in northwest Napa, California, a Napa fire official said. A resident called at 1:21 a.m. to report a loud explosion, a Napa fire captain said. The resident saw smoke coming from the mailbox, which was moderately damaged, he said. There were no injuries, he said. Fire crews cleared the scene at 2 a.m. A Napa fire hazardous material technician was called out to investigate the chemical used in the incident, he said. It appeared the explosive device in the mailbox was a large water bottle filled with pieces of aluminum foil and a Drano-type liquid, he said. “We are aware that this is becoming a problem,” he said.

Source: http://napavalleyregister.com/news/local/article_edb36dde-7e84-11e0-b7cb-001cc4c002e0.html

25. *May 13, Associated Press* – (Montana) **Former Billings postal worker sentenced for stealing prescription drugs from the mail.** A former U.S. Postal Service (USPS) worker in Billings, Montana has been placed on federal probation for five years for stealing mail in an effort to find cash and prescription drugs. The U.S. attorney’s office said the 36-year-old was sentenced May 13 in U.S. district court for theft of mail by a postal employee. Restitution was set at \$325. Prosecutors said the USPS began investigating last fall after receiving reports of missing parcels of prescription medication sent by the Department of Veterans Affairs. The packages arrived at the Billings Processing and Distribution Center but were not scanned after that point. On October 24, law enforcement officers spotted the man putting letters and a small

package in his pocket and socks. He told investigators he began stealing mail to find pills or cash to buy drugs.

Source:

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/0ca9c0adf2014de183855f29fc2fe247/MT--Mail-Theft-Sentence/>

26. *May 13, KONP 1450 Port Angeles* – (Washington) **Suspicious package sent to Clallam courthouse.** A bomb squad was called in for a suspicious package at the Clallam County, Washington courthouse May 12. Employees at the courthouse received the item in the mail. The package was sent from an individual known to law enforcement and addressed to a supervisor in the sheriff's office. Sheriff's officials said that person was also contacted 3 years ago for placing a backpack on the trunk of patrol vehicle and running away. The Washington State Patrol Bomb Squad was called in. Troopers x-rayed the package and blew it apart with a high-pressure jet of water. No explosives were found in the package. Sheriff's officials said after contacting the individual who sent the package, it was determined that there was no intent to commit a criminal act. The investigation was turned over to Peninsula Community Mental Health.

Source: <http://www.konp.com/local/6877>

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Agriculture and Food Sector

27. *May 16, Associated Press* – (International) **U.S. cattle inspectors leave Mexico amid drug war.** For years, U.S. officials have conducted inspections on cattle from Mexico crossing the border into the United States, but the war raging among drug cartels in Mexico has prompted the United States to move some of its operations north. The change, instituted over the past year at 3 of the 11 ports along the U.S.-Mexico border, is drawing concern from some cattle raisers, who fear infections long eradicated in the United States but still showing up in Mexico will spread before inspection. Federal authorities said the cartel violence necessitated the change, and they have implemented safeguards to ensure rejected cattle reaching the U.S. will not prompt any outbreaks. "I think it's fair to say that the facilities located in Mexico presented a wide variety of risks and threats, and our employees did not feel safe going to those facilities every day," a U.S. Department of Agriculture spokeswoman said. The drug war has killed more than 34,600 people in Mexico since the country's president announced a major offensive against traffickers when he took office in December 2006. Some American civilians and U.S. authorities have been victims. Fearing this violence could reach some of their inspection sites farther inside Mexico, U.S. authorities chose to move inspections to the Texas ports at Pharr, Laredo and Eagle Pass. The sites' Mexican inspection counterparts — outside Reynosa, Nuevo Laredo and Piedras Negras — were about 20 miles away from the border, while the other eight inspection sites are near or at border crossings.

Source: <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/n/a/2011/05/16/national/a001840D11.DTL>

28. *May 16, DNainfo.com* – (New York) **Frites ‘N’ Meats driver arrested after explosion that left him burned.** The man who was driving the Frites ‘N’ Meats food truck when it exploded in the Tribeca section of Manhattan, New York, in April 2011 was charged with reckless endangerment, officials said the week of May 16. The driver was given a desk appearance ticket April 29 after New York City Fire Department (FDNY) investigators found the burger truck was carrying twice the legal amount of propane when it crashed into another car on the West Side Highway April 11, a FDNY spokesman said. The driver, who owns Frites ‘N’ Meats with his two brothers, had also left the stove on while he was driving, a source said. The man is due in court June 6, the Manhattan District Attorney’s office said. Prosecutors said they could not release the details of the charges until then. A FDNY spokesman said the truck was carrying four tanks of propane although it was only allowed to have two. The fiery crash sent the driver to the hospital with severe burns, especially on his arms.
Source: <http://www.dnainfo.com/20110516/downtown/frites-n-meats-driver-arrested-after-explosion-that-left-him-burned>
29. *May 15, KABC 7 Los Angeles* – (California) **Fire crews battle tractor trailer blaze in Oxnard.** Firefighters battled a blaze May 15 in Oxnard, California, that first engulfed a tractor trailer and then spread to propane tanks and fertilizer, officials said. The Ventura County and Oxnard fire departments responded to the fire about 1:15 p.m. Officials said they believe the fire started on or near an 18-wheel tractor trailer parked at an agricultural storage facility. Haz-mat crews responded to the swelling fire to assess the toxicity of the smoke. Officials said nearby residents were not in danger and evacuations were not expected to take place, but were told to stay away as chemicals went up in smoke. Fire crews planned to be at the scene for several more hours because of environmental health concerns. The fire was battled well into the night May 15. They were expected to continue fighting the fire through the early hours of May 16. Officials with the Camarillo Airport, which is just east of the blaze, said its tower ceased operations for a short time to assess the situation and ensure the smoke was not toxic. They said everything resumed back to normal at 3:10 p.m.
Source:
http://abclocal.go.com/kabc/story?section=news/local/ventura_county&id=8132449
30. *May 14, Manteca Bulletin* – (California) **McBomb evacuates McDonald’s.** A blast in the restroom of a McDonald’s Restaurant in Manteca, California, shortly before 4 p.m. May 14 forced the evacuation of patrons and staff members. McDonald’s employees captured a 15-year-old Manteca student who police said had ignited one of at least two devices he had made from Internet directions. A police sergeant said the walls of the bathroom had been charred by the blast that came from a mixture of chemicals placed in water bottles and thrown causing an explosive reaction. The teen was charged with three felonies: possession of a destructive device, detonating a destructive device, and possession of a destructive device with intent to detonate it, officers said. The youth was taken to the San Joaquin County Juvenile Hall and incarcerated on the charges. His mother was standing outside McDonald’s as her son was driven away in the police car. The restaurant was closed for part of the evening to air it out and repair damage.
Source: <http://www.mantecabulletin.com/news/article/23427/>

31. *May 14, Food Safety News* – (California; National) **Nearly 8 tons of deli meat recalled.** Rose & Shore Meat Co. of Vernon, California, recalled approximately 15,900 pounds of ready-to-eat deli pastrami and roast beef that may be contaminated with *Listeria monocytogenes*, the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) announced May 14. The problem was discovered after the company tested product at the request of a commercial customer who had received a consumer complaint. FSIS said it has not received any confirmed reports of illnesses associated with these meats. The deli meats were produced April 5, 2011, and shipped to distribution centers in California for further distribution to food service establishments in Arizona, California, Nevada, Oregon, and Washington. There were no retail sales.
Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/05/15900-lbs-of-deli-meats-with-listeria-risk-recalled/>
32. *May 12, Associated Press* – (Kansas) **OSHA fines Cargill for hazards at Dodge City plant.** Federal regulators cited Cargill Meat Solutions in Dodge City, Kansas, after inspectors reported finding workplace health and safety violations at the packing plant. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) said May 11 it was proposing about \$176,000 in fines against Cargill. The agency said it found 2 repeat and 23 serious violations that allegedly exposed workers to hazards. OSHA inspected the plant in November under a program that focuses on employers with higher-than-average injury and illness rates. A regional administrator said in a news release that many hazards at the facility existed for a long period of time. A Cargill spokesman said in an e-mail that the company takes the allegations seriously and will address OSHA’s concerns quickly.
Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D9N5TU902.htm>

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Water Sector

33. *May 16, Pensacola News Journal* – (Florida) **Gulf Breeze water main break jams beach-bound traffic.** A ruptured water main shut down U.S. 98 eastbound in Gulf Breeze, Florida, May 15, causing a day-long traffic snarl that stretched as far as downtown Pensacola. About 6 a.m. May 15, the 24-inch main that supplies water to Pensacola Beach ruptured, washing out the eastbound lanes of U.S. 98 near Shoreline Drive, an Emerald Coast Utilities Authority (ECUA) spokeswoman said. “It is a very large water main. Twenty-four inches is about the biggest we have,” she stated. Crews shut down the gushing main May 15, but heavy equipment worked into the afternoon repairing the road, which did not reopen until about 5 p.m. The spokeswoman said ECUA emergency contractors completed repairs to the underground water main about 9 p.m. May 15.
Source: <http://www.pnj.com/article/20110516/NEWS01/105160316/Gulf-Breeze-water-main-break-jams-beach-bound-traffic?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE>

34. *May 13, Associated Press* – (Maine) **Busted Maine sewer pipe discharges wastewater.** Environmental officials are urging people to avoid contact with water in and around a northern Maine stream after more than 1 million gallons of untreated wastewater discharged from a busted sewer pipe. The Maine Department of Environmental Protection (MDEP) said May 12 a break in a 15-inch sewer line from the Loring Commerce Center to the Greater Limestone Utility District led to a discharge into Greenlaw Stream and surrounding wetlands. Officials said the break likely occurred several weeks ago, but that the line is in a remote area and was only discovered May 9. The MDEP said levels of E. coli in the stream were nearly as high as those typically found in raw wastewater. The stream is popular this time of year for fishing and fiddlehead-picking.
Source: <http://www.greenwichtime.com/default/article/Busted-Maine-sewer-pipe-discharges-wastewater-1378096.php>

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

35. *May 16, Jackson Citizen Patriot* – (Michigan) **Police cleaning up meth lab brought inside Jackson doctor's office.** Police officers in Jackson, Michigan, May 16, were cleaning up a methamphetamine lab brought inside a doctor's office on Greenwood Avenue. Around 8 p.m. May 15, an employee at Jackson Physicians Alliance, 1310 Greenwood Ave., found suspected meth lab components and a padlocked backpack in the office's outside dumpster, a sergeant said. The employee brought the backpack inside the office, cut it open and found more meth lab supplies. The worker did not open any containers in the backpack, and was not exposed to any toxic substances, he said. The office, however, will have to be professionally cleaned by a company that specializes in handling meth labs. Officers were still on scene at 11 p.m. May 15. Police do not suspect the office's employees are involved with the lab, he said. Someone used the dumpster to dispose of the lab. Discarded meth labs and materials can be dangerous. Law enforcement agencies urge people not to touch anything that could have been used to make meth.
Source:
http://www.mlive.com/news/jackson/index.ssf/2011/05/police_cleaning_up_meth_lab_br.html

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Government Facilities Sector

36. *May 14, Associated Press* – (Missouri) **Suspect in shootout wasn't targeting Army base, authorities say.** The gunman who barged onto a Missouri U.S. Army post May 12 and later fired on police during an interstate highway shootout was not targeting the military installation, officials said May 13. A Fort Leonard Wood commander said the

31-year-old suspect got lost amid Interstate 44 highway construction before turning into the post May 12. A St. Robert police chief — one of at least four officers whom the suspect reportedly tried to shoot during a 40-mile chase that exceeded speeds of 120 mph — offered a similar account. The ex-convict from southwest Missouri faces multiple felony charges in two counties of assaulting an officer, resisting arrest, and armed criminal action. More charges are likely, the Phelps County prosecutor said, including methamphetamine possession. The suspect remained in jail May 13 in lieu of \$1 million cash-only bail. He suffered minor cuts, likely from broken glass when he shot out his car windows, but was not wounded.

Source: http://www.stltoday.com/news/local/crime-and-courts/article_132f0c4e-18cb-5bce-ad0f-ff23292ecbf5.html

37. *May 14, Associated Press* – (Utah) **Student accused of threatening Utah professor.** A 32-year-old Utah Valley University (UVU) student was arrested May 12 on suspicion of threatening to kill a University of Utah professor over his stance on immigration. FBI agents arrested the Orem man as he walked out of a painting class, the Daily Herald of Provo and Deseret News of Salt Lake reported. He is accused of sending an email to the professor containing racist rants, profanity, and graphic details of how he would be killed with a bowie knife and noose. The professor sent the e-mail to police May 3. The professor told police he feared for his and his family’s lives. According to court records, the suspect said “he was just expressing himself through his poems about his anger toward people who are against America, and those who try to kill democracy and support illegal immigrants.” Authorities traced the IP address from the e-mail to a student lab at UVU’s Sorenson Student Center and found the suspect was logged on during times the e-mail was sent, according to the complaint. The e-mail address contained the words “seigheil” and “neocon.” Agents found concealed weapons permits from Utah and Florida in the suspect’s apartment, according to the complaint. The suspect also is suspected of sending similar e-mails to another University of Utah professor, and the Inclusion Center for Community and Justice at Westminster College.

Source: <http://washingtonexaminer.com/news/2011/05/email-threatens-utah-professor-over-immigration>

38. *May 14, Naples Daily News* – (Florida) **3 arrested in Fort Myers counterfeit ID sting.** Lee County deputies in Florida arrested three men in a counterfeit ID operation they said was ongoing for 5 years at a pair of Fort Myers homes. A 34-year-old suspect, a 28-year-old suspect, and a 57-year-old suspect, all of Fort Myers, were arrested on a fraud charge. Deputies said the operation crafted fake Social Security number cards, driver licenses, passports, and resident alien cards out of a home in Fort Myers. Another home was used to take orders for the documents. Officers who executed a search warrant May 12 discovered counterfeit documents, as well as the means to create them — computers, printers, ink pads, cutting boards, and blank Social Security Number cards, according to a sheriff’s office press release. Detectives called the operation one of the largest counterfeiting busts in Lee County. The search warrant followed a 6-month investigation by the sheriff’s office economic crimes unit, with assistance by the U.S. Secret Service, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and

Cape Coral Police Department.

Source: <http://www.naplesnews.com/news/2011/may/13/3-arrested-counterfeit-id-sting/>

39. *May 13, WWMT 3 Kalamazoo* – (Michigan) **Police say they've identified a suspect in the threats that locked down Watervliet schools.** The doors of the elementary, middle, and high schools in Watervliet, Michigan were locked for the second day in a row May 13. The superintendent said the lock-down was sparked by threats on Facebook. The FBI is now involved. The Watervliet chief of police said May 13 they have identified a suspect. Berrien County Computer Forensics were able to track that suspect down after crews got a warrant through Facebook. Charges were pending.
Source: <http://www.wwmt.com/articles/watervliet-1390914-threats-newschannel.html>
40. *May 12, FoxNews.com* – (New Mexico) **U.S. conducts mock bombing to test building safety measures.** A building at Kirtland Air Force base in New Mexico recently was the site of a bombing drill to help the government test precautions against real attacks on embassies overseas. The Bureau of Diplomatic Security is charged with protecting U.S. embassies overseas. It has taken years of research and development to get to the point where they will place their work in the line of an improvised explosive device (IED) designed to mimic a car bomb. In the event of a bombing, history has shown the number one cause of injury is shards of glass, and the number one cause of death is the pancaking of the building on top of people — statistics the bureau wants to change. When the smoke cleared, the building was still standing. The deputy assistant secretary for countermeasures said of the results, “We’ll go back, we’ll look at what worked, what didn’t work ... that’s what testing does, it lets us know what things we’re moving in the right direction on and what things we need to make adjustments.”
Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/us/2011/05/12/conducts-mock-bombing-test-building-safety-measures/?test=latestnews>

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Emergency Services Sector

41. *May 16, WYFF 4 Greenville* – (North Carolina) **Police: Woman throws flaming cotton balls at officers.** Just after 5 p.m. May 14, police in Brevard, North Carolina, responded to complaints about a 32-year-old male resident at Mountain Glen Apartments. They learned there was an outstanding misdemeanor warrant for the man and went to the apartment where he lives with his 55-year-old aunt. The police chief said when the aunt opened the door, the officers could see the man they were looking for inside. He said the aunt tried to block an officer from entering, but he gently pushed her aside and continued inside. That led to a struggle between the man and officers. As police attempted to bring the man under control with handcuffs, the chief said a 25-year-old woman came in. She retreated to a bedroom and came out a few seconds later with some type of liquid. “She threw it on the officers,” he said. The woman then took out a lighter, lit a cotton ball, and threw it toward the officers, who were on the floor

trying to handcuff the man. The flaming cotton ball fell short of the officers, but ignited the apparently flammable liquid that had landed on the carpet. The officers then used their feet and a fire extinguisher to put out the flames. Police then saw smoke coming from the bedroom. They ran outside, broke out the bedroom window, and pulled the man and woman out of the burning room, the chief said. While inside the patrol car, he said the woman managed to slip out of the handcuffs and damage equipment in the vehicle. The man and woman were taken to jail after being examined at the hospital. The hazardous materials team spent several hours at the site, the chief said. Investigators determined the liquid was a type of oil-based fuel.

Source: <http://www.wyff4.com/r/27900410/detail.html>

42. *May 14, Chillicothe Gazette* – (Ohio) **Ross County 911 system fails for 2nd time in a year.** The 911 system in Ross County, Ohio, went down for the second time in less than a year May 13. Ross County’s sheriff said officials think the law enforcement complex on Paint Street, where the joint county/city 911 system is located, might have been struck by lightning in the storm that hit just after midnight May 13. Employees on duty at the time reported feeling the building shake when the electricity went out. The generator activated within 5 minutes of the outage and slowly brought everything, except for the 911 system, back online. Employees reported smelling something burning within the system’s equipment, the sheriff said. Since August, a secondary backup system has been put in place that automatically re-routes 911 calls to the non-emergency numbers at the Chillicothe Police Department and the sheriff’s office. However, that backup did not get up and running until about 9 a.m., after the appropriate system card was identified and replaced, he said. Residents should have numbers handy for the police department and sheriff’s office in case a call to 911 rings busy.

Source:

<http://www.chillicothe Gazette.com/article/20110514/NEWS01/105140302/Ross-County-911-system-fails-2nd-time-year>

43. *May 14, Associated Press* – (Indiana; National) **8-state disaster exercise unfolds Monday through Friday at Muscatatuck Training Center.** More than 1,200 emergency responders from across Indiana are participating in what is believed to be the largest disaster exercise ever held in the state. The exercise May 16 through May 20 at southern Indiana’s Muscatatuck Urban Training Center will include local emergency responders, emergency management officials, and private agencies from more than 60 Indiana counties, plus officials participating at sites elsewhere. An Indiana Department of Homeland Security spokeswoman said the participants will respond as if a major earthquake has occurred. She said it is the first ever national-level exercise designed around a natural disaster. The White House will direct the event. The other states participating are Alabama, Arkansas, Illinois, Kentucky, Mississippi, Missouri, and Tennessee. Teams from Ohio and Wisconsin also are participating at Muscatatuck, about 60 miles south of Indianapolis.

Source:

<http://www.greenfieldreporter.com/view/story/091b1b1aa9f64b9fa39c8d81d993e5f6/I N--Disaster-Exercise/>

44. *May 14, WGCL 46 Atlanta* – (Georgia) **Phony smoke detectors given out by Atlanta FD.** The Atlanta Fire Rescue Department in Georgia announced May 12 it was recalling 18,500 smoke detectors it distributed after a WGCL 46 Atlanta investigation uncovered the smoke detectors were counterfeit. The news report triggered an investigation by the FBI and Underwriters Laboratories (UL), a company that puts smoke detectors through tests and decides if they meet national safety standards before they reach homes or businesses. It was discovered that counterfeit UL stickers on the smoke detectors were placed there as part of a scheme by a couple who had previously been incarcerated for selling smoke detectors with counterfeit labels to the federal government.
Source: <http://www.firehouse.com/topics/fire-prevention-and-investigation/atlanta-gave-out-counterfeit-ul-smoke-detectors>
45. *May 13, KTVU 2 Oakland* – (California) **Server issue behind SF emergency dispatch problems.** Technology specialists determined May 13 that a server issue was causing the ongoing problems with the computer-assisted system used by San Francisco, California police and fire dispatchers, but the glitch still had not been fixed as of the early evening May 13. The problem first arose about 9:40 a.m. May 12, when San Francisco police and fire dispatchers were forced to field information manually for more than 2 hours after the computer-aided dispatch system (CAD) system failed, according to a spokeswoman for the city's department of emergency management. A few hours later, the backup CAD system was put into place, and dispatchers switched from manual mode to the backup system at about 1 p.m. Officials at the dispatch office said work was continuing to bring the servers back online to reconnect the main system.
Source: <http://www.ktvu.com/news/27882060/detail.html>

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Information Technology Sector

46. *May 16, IDG News Service* – (International) **PlayStation Network, Qriocity back for most users.** Basic services on the PlayStation Network and Qriocity services were switched on for users in North America, Europe, the Middle East, Australia, and New Zealand for the first time in more than 3 weeks, but users in Asia face a longer wait for service to resume. Sony pulled the plug on the two online services after discovering April 19 that its data center in San Diego, California, was attacked. A subsequent computer forensics investigation into the hack revealed the massive theft of personal information including user names, e-mail addresses, login IDs, and passwords. The PlayStation Network is a platform for online gaming, and a channel through which Sony sells games and other content to console and handheld owners. Qriocity is an online service for Sony's networked consumer electronics products that offers music and video content. Service was resumed in North America late May 14 and in other markets May 15. PlayStation users were being asked to download a firmware update

for the console before they can reconnect to the network. Then, upon login, users must change their password. The only issue in the resumption of services came in the password reset process, which was slowed because of the large number of e-mail messages generated by the system. Some e-mail and Internet service providers temporarily throttled messages from Sony due to the high volume resulting in short delays. Sony also halted the password reset process for 30 minutes to clear a backlog of messages.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9216749/PlayStation_Network_Qriocity_back_for_most_users

47. *May 16, Softpedia* – (International) **Geek.com infects visitors with malware.** Security researchers from cloud security provider Zscaler warn that technology Web site geek.com was compromised and many of its pages were executing drive-by download attacks against visitors. Geek.com is one of the oldest technology news Web sites. Attackers managed to inject rogue IFrames into different portions of the site, both within articles and the site's main pages such as home, about us, etc. According to a senior security research engineer at Zscaler, there are multiple infections and the iframes take visitors to different malicious Web sites. One example is the rogue code injected into an article, which redirects visitors to an exploit kit. These kits perform various checks to determine what versions of certain program users have installed on their computers and then serve exploits for vulnerabilities in those products. The most commonly used applications such as Java Runtime Environment, Flash Player, Adobe Reader, or the browser itself are usually targeted.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Geek-com-Infects-Visitors-with-Malware-200476.shtml>

48. *May 13, Softpedia* – (International) **Google's doodles exploited to distribute scareware.** Scareware distributors are exploiting the search traffic generated by Google's anniversary doodles to infect users with fake antivirus programs. Google habitually honors different individuals or celebrates various holidays by changing their logo with graphics drawn specifically for that occasion which are dubbed "doodles." If the celebration has an international significance, Google changes the logo on all of its localized Web sites. When clicked, these doodles lead users to a Google search page for a set of keywords related to the event. For example, the week of May 9, Google replaced its logo with a doodle to honor an internationally recognized American modern dance legend. Clicking on the doodle took users to Google search results for the dancer, with the third entry on the page being a slide of image results from Google Images. According to security researchers from German antivirus vendor Avira, several of the images displayed in those search results were linking to malicious scareware pages. Clicking on them took users to Web sites displaying fake antivirus scans and distributing a rogue security application to help them clean fictitious infections found on their computers.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Google-s-Doodles-Exploited-to-Distribute-Scareware-200389.shtml>

49. *May 13, H Security* – (International) **Backwards Unicode names hides malware and viruses.** AV vendor Norman discovered malware that camouflages its file name via special Unicode characters. For instance, they may show up as `exe.importantdocument.doc` in the e-mail client or in Windows Explorer. However, an executable file that will still be treated as such by the system, and launched when double-clicked, is hidden behind this file name. Norman’s virus analyst said this effect is caused by such Unicode characters as 0x202E (right-to-left override) and 0x202B (right-to-left embedding). When located in the right place, a file name such as `cod.stnemucodtnatropmi.exe` suddenly turns into some “important documents.” The telltale “exe” at the beginning can be hidden further. For instance `[RTLO]cod.yrammusevituc[LTRO]n1c[LTRO].exe` turns into the seemingly harmless `n1c.executivesummary.doc` when displayed in Explorer, which is unlikely to raise suspicion. However, the system will still recognise the “.exe” file extension and treat the file accordingly.

Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/Backwards-Unicode-names-hides-malware-and-viruses-1242114.html>

For another story, see item [51](#)

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. *May 16, Twinsburg Bulletin* – (Ohio) **Dix websites’ ad server attacked by malware.** The Web banner server on Dix Communications newspaper Web sites, including the `www(dot)xxxx-xxxx.com`, was attacked by a computer spyware virus earlier in May. The malware virus can download itself onto Windows-based computers, attempting to steal data. Users may have received a warning page generated by their browser software for a limited period on the afternoon of May 6. “Unfortunately, malicious attacks like this are too common on the Internet,” the president of the Internet Division of Dix said. “The virus was identified and removed promptly, but illustrates the risks prevalent on the Internet. Most people running PCs these days run updated anti-virus software on their personal computers, and their anti-virus software should have stopped this type of attack.” The FBI was contacted about the attack, and steps have been taken to further protect Dix Web sites and their users from future attacks. Dix said no data was breached on its servers during the attack.

Source: <http://www.twinsburgbulletin.com/news/article/5035287>

51. *May 13, IDG News Service* – (International) **Microsoft explains recent hosted e-mail outages.** Microsoft offered some details about outages that recently plagued its hosted e-mail customers in the Americas. In a blog post May 12, Microsoft described four separate issues that occurred the week of May 9 that prevented or delayed e-mail delivery. The first started at 9:30 a.m. May 10 on the West Coast when “malformed e-mail traffic” stopped the e-mail service from working, despite a capability in the service designed to handle such traffic, the corporate vice president of Microsoft Online Service wrote. Microsoft isolated the problem traffic at noon, but customers faced total delays of 6 to 9 hours for e-mail delivery. A similar issue with malformed traffic hit at 9:10 a.m. and again at 11:35 a.m. May 12. The second issue resulted in the backup of 1.5 million messages waiting to be delivered. That meant some customers may have experienced e-mail delivery delays of as long as 3 hours, he said. The final incident happened the afternoon of May 12 with a Domain Name Service failure on the site that hosts Web access to Outlook in the Americas. The issue prevented users from accessing Outlook Web Access, and impacted some functions of Microsoft Outlook and Microsoft Exchange ActiveSync devices. That problem took about 4 hours to fix. Source: http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9216697/Microsoft_explains_recent_hosted_email_outages

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Commercial Facilities Sector

52. *May 16, KTRK 13 Houston* – (Texas) **Arson suspected at Muslim mosque in Houston.** A fire was set at a mosque May 14 in Houston, Texas, and the suspected arsonists were caught on surveillance video. An automatic alarm went off May 14 at the Madrasae Islamiah off Bintliff. When firefighters arrived, they saw smoke and quickly worked to put the flames out. The surveillance footage is brief, but it is one of few clues investigators have to go on. An elder at the mosque said the video shows what appears to be two young men going to the back of the building, carrying what may be a can of accelerant. The suspects are seen in the video running to a getaway car. The alarm sounded when glass was broken, but there was also someone staying inside the mosque who called 9-1-1. A member of the mosque said firefighters were able to stop the fire before much structural damage was done. Source: <http://abclocal.go.com/ktrk/story?section=news/local&id=8132482>
53. *May 16, KOKI 23 Tulsa* – (Oklahoma) **Teen arrested for explosive at Promenade Mall.** A teen is in the Tulsa County Jail in Tulsa, Oklahoma May 14 after being accused of setting off an improvised explosive device at Promenade Mall May 11. The 19-year-old is being held on \$100,000 bond and faces two complaints of manufacturing explosives. The arrest report shows on May 11 around 8:30 p.m., a device exploded in the north parking lot of the mall. The report states on May 14 when Tulsa Police knocked on the door of the man’s South Tulsa apartment, they saw a second device and components used to make explosive devices. A search warrant was issued and the FBI also got involved where they safely disposed of the device found in the apartment. The

report also shows they found fireworks wrappers and other debris.

Source: <http://www.fox23.com/mostpopular/story/Teen-Arrested-For-Explosive-At-Promenade-Mall/jD1Fiu4nZE2dAe1sQWgSTQ.csp>

54. *May 15, Chicago Sun-Times* – (Illinois) **Cause still unclear in Aurora fire that killed six.** Six people, including three young boys, were killed and 12 others injured in an apartment fire May 15 in Aurora, Illinois. The fire started around 4:06 a.m. at 760 Claim Street, a 3-story, stucco building separated into 10 units, the deputy fire chief said. He said the fire started on the first floor of the building, and that 8 to 10 people occupied the apartment where the fire began. He said the residents attempted to control the fire with a garden hose, and then alerted people in other units to evacuate. Investigators have not determined a fire cause, but it does not appear to be suspicious, city officials said. About 25 to 30 people lived in the building, he said. Ten of the residents were rescued from the burning building by firefighters, while the rest got out by escaping through windows and a back staircase. Three of the victims — a 9-year-old boy and two women between 30 and 40 years old — were pronounced dead at the scene. A boy about 5 to 7 years old, a 20-year-old man and an 8-month-old boy were pronounced dead on arrival at Rush-Copley Medical Center. No one in the apartment where the fire started was killed, a spokesperson said. When firefighters arrived, the door to that first-floor apartment was open. The common stairwells in the front and rear of the structure combined to create a chimney effect that intensified the fire and trapped the occupants of the second and third floors, city officials said. The fatalities occurred in two apartments where residents opened their front doors, causing fire to rush in, the deputy fire chief said.

Source: <http://heraldnews.suntimes.com/news/5391111-418/6-people-killed-12-injured-in-aurora-apartment-fire.html>

55. *May 15, Associated Press* – (Colorado) **Greeley hotel evacuated over suspicious package scare.** A hotel was evacuated and several streets blocked off in Greeley, Colorado, May 14 after a suspicious package was found. Police said an employee at the Clarion Hotel on Eighth Street found the package on the north side of the hotel near the trash bins. The Denver Post reports he called police and said the package had attachments that made it look like a bomb. The bomb squad responded and used a special robot to inspect the package. Police determined it was harmless and had probably been placed there as a hoax.

Source: <http://www.kdvr.com/news/kdvr-bomb-scare-greeley-txt,0,4017385.story>

56. *May 13, Chicago Tribune* – (National) **About 100 debit cards used in security breach.** Michaels Stores said May 13 that while its debit card terminals were compromised in 20 states, fewer than 100 customer debit cards were reported as used in fraudulent transactions. It also identified the time frame that customer information was exposed. Customers who made PIN-based debit card purchases at Michaels from February 8 through May 6 might have been victims. The company is in the process of replacing store PIN pads with the “most current, tamper-proof equipment available today,” starting with those in the Chicago, Illinois area, which was hit the hardest. Michaels said May 13 it did not have details on how exactly the tampering occurred in

the stores. “We have quarantined the devices and have turned several over to the Secret Service so they can examine them,” Michael’s vice president of loss prevention and safety said. “[We] have a forensics team examining the other affected devices as well.” Michaels identified 90 key pads that were tampered with in the states of Illinois, Colorado, Delaware, Georgia, Iowa, Massachusetts, Maryland, North Carolina, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, Nevada, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Utah, Virginia, and Washington. As a result, Michaels customers reported that money was stolen from their bank accounts, often in the amount of \$503, and often at cash machines in California. Michaels also said May 13 law enforcement officials have not received reports related to credit card fraud.

Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/business/breaking/chibrkbus-michaels-about-100-debit-cards-used-in-security-breach-20110513,0,6112838.story>

For more stories, see items [1](#), [9](#), [44](#), [61](#), and [62](#)

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

57. *May 16, Arizona Daily Star* – (Arizona) **Portal fire advances; research site at risk.** Firefighters May 15 ordered evacuation of the Southwestern Research Station and private homes near Cave Creek Canyon in Arizona as the Horseshoe 2 Fire, driven by wind and fueled by tinder-dry pine needles and brush, advanced on a canyon known as the crown jewel of the Chiricahua Mountains. Firefighting crews wrapped the historic Cima Cabin, built as a fire camp by the Civilian Conservation Corps in 1934, in flame-resistant material and prepared to set back burns to slow the advance of the fire. As of late May 15, the human-caused fire, which began May 8, had burned 26,542 acres in the Chiricahuas, about 100 miles southeast of Tucson. It is 20 percent contained. Fire May 15 entered the South Fork drainage of Cave Creek Canyon, home to a diverse population of flora and fauna, including the densest population of nesting raptors in North America. Nine helicopters dropped water to slow the fire’s advance. Firefighters also set fires on some ridge tops, allowing a slow downhill burn. A similar strategy will be used around the structures being defended, a spokeswoman for the 600-member interagency team fighting the fire said.

Source: http://azstarnet.com/news/local/article_d10bad4c-0c9d-5328-a83f-e2dff89d47af.html

58. *May 15, Silver City Sun-News* – (New Mexico) **Crews continue to battle Miller Fire; new blaze reported.** The Gallinas Fire was reported at about 10:30 a.m. May 15 in the Black Range, about 2 miles southwest of Iron Creek Campground off Highway 152, and 26 air miles northeast of Silver City, New Mexico. The fire was listed as being 5 acres and uncontained at 1:30 p.m. May 15. Winds were 15 to 20 miles per hour from the south and southwest. The cause is unknown. The fire was burning on U.S. Forest Service and Gila National Forest land, in heavy timber on the north slopes and canyon bottoms. About 60 personnel were assigned to the fire, including one Type II Initial Attack crew, six engines, eight smokejumpers, one helitanker, with two heavy

airtankers en route May 15 and a lead plane. The Miller Fire, which continued to burn in the Gila Wilderness, had more than 500 personnel assigned to it May 15. Firefighters continued to use helicopters and bucket drops, dipping water from Lake Roberts and delivering it to the fire. The helicopters have been critical to the success of crews on the line, providing water drops and quick insertion of crews to remote areas.

Source: http://www.scsun-news.com/ci_18070974

59. *May 14, Banning-Beaumont Patch* – (California) **Mountain Fire 80% contained: USFS.** A mountain fire that was smoldering in drought-stricken, bug-killed timber above Forest Falls in the San Gorgonio Wilderness in California was considered 80 percent contained as of early May 14. The Momyer Fire, named for a nearby creek and trail, started May 8 and remained active May 14 between 7,000 and 9,000 feet elevation. It was “creeping and smoldering in heavy down and dead materials” about 3 miles above the town of Forest Falls, according to a U.S. Forest Service (USFS) update. Burned acreage estimates remained around 150 acres. Fire commanders said full containment was expected by May 17. There were 110 personnel assigned to the fire. Three firefighters had sustained injuries, fire commanders said. Factors firefighters have dealt with since May 8 include extremely steep, rocky terrain, and heavy timber fuels in an “extreme bug kill/drought kill area,” the USFS said. The Momyer Fire was reported about 10:30 a.m. May 8, burning in a north by northeast direction, west of Alger Creek and north of the Momyer Creek Trail. The fire perimeter was believed to border a recognized spotted owl nesting area, according to the Forest Service. The Momyer Creek Trail and Vivian Creek Trail remained closed until further notice. The cause of the fire was said to be under investigation. Scientists warned before devastating mountain fires in 2003 that drought and bark beetles had killed millions of trees in the San Bernardino National Forest, which straddles San Bernardino and Riverside counties.

Source: <http://banning-beaumont.patch.com/articles/mountain-fire-80-contained-usfs>

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Dams Sector

60. *May 16, Associated Press* – (Oklahoma; Arkansas) **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers classifies SE Oklahoma dam as high risk.** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers classifies a dam in far southeast Oklahoma as extremely high risk, but officials said there is no immediate danger the dam might fail and negatively affect those downstream along the Little River in southwest Arkansas. The Texarkana Gazette reported the Corps’ Tulsa District revised its assessment of the Pine Creek Dam from “very high risk” to “extremely high risk” earlier in May. The 124-foot-high earthen dam holds back about 1.4 million gallons of water just north of Valliant, Oklahoma. It has been seeping ever since being filled in 1969, despite efforts to fix the problem. Inspectors recently discovered a void in material surrounding the dam’s conduit. The Tulsa district commander said the dam’s new rating will speed up the process to find a solution.

Source:

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/bff05cac7dfc4fd5bb6f4ce2bbea36e8/AR--Little-River-Dam/>

61. *May 16, Salt Lake Tribune* – (Utah) **Flooding forces Logan subdivision to evacuate.** A 10-year-old in Logan, Utah, said she woke up about 10:10 a.m. May 15, looked outside and saw her street and neighborhood filled with water. A police officer waded to the family's home in the Country Manor subdivision along the Blacksmith Fork River in Logan and told them an evacuation order had been issued. A sandbag barrier had been compromised by the river, and water was thigh-deep in the subdivision. By noon, the barrier was fixed, water pumped, and the evacuation order lifted. All 65 homes in the subdivision were evacuated, although many residents stayed in the neighborhood to help with sandbag efforts. The greatest danger was an underground electrical system powering the neighborhood, according to the Logan assistant fire chief. Because of the flood waters, officials turned off power temporarily to the subdivision May 15. A Logan Fire marshal said water had been coming up into the subdivision through storm drains. The city used gas-powered pumps in an effort to remove the water, and volunteers worked to replace the sandbag barrier that was compromised, he said. At least six homes flooded, and dozens of basements had standing water while the power was off.
Source: <http://www.sltrib.com/sltrib/news/51817481-78/logan-river-fork-blacksmith.html.csp>

62. *May 15, CNN* – (Louisiana) **Louisiana residents rush to protect homes, escape from looming floods.** Residents of towns along the swollen Mississippi River May 15 packed up their valuables and made last-ditch efforts to place sandbags and makeshift levees outside their homes, trying to protect themselves and their homes from rising waters. These efforts occurred as the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers opened two additional gates on the Morganza spillway, located about 115 miles northwest of New Orleans, Louisiana. This is after opening the first two bays the previous day. The plan is to let out water from as many as one-fourth of the spillway's 125 bays to spare the Louisiana cities of Baton Rouge and New Orleans from severe flooding, a Corps spokesman has said. But it may still affect nearly 4,000 people who live along the river, as it sends water toward homes and farmland in the Atchafalaya Basin, according to Louisiana's governor. Some of the spillway's gates will likely be open for weeks, and it will be at least that long before the river falls safely below flood stage and those who have evacuated can safely return, said the Corps' New Orleans district commander. While the spillways will divert water away from Louisiana cities, low-lying central parts of the state will be flooded. Across the South and lower Midwest, floodwaters have already covered about 3 million acres of farmland, eroding for many farmers what could have been a profitable year for corn, wheat, rice and cotton, officials said.
Source: http://articles.cnn.com/2011-05-15/us/flooding_1_flood-stage-corps-new-orleans-trailer-home?_s=PM:US

63. *May 14, Associated Press* – (International) **Manitoba deliberately floods area.** The provincial government May 14 opened a dike holding back the swollen Assiniboine River in Canada to deliberately flood a swath of land in southern Manitoba in order to

save a larger area downstream. The controlled release southeast of Portage la Prairie, Manitoba, is expected to flood 90 square miles and could affect at least 150 houses. People in the area have been frantically sandbagging around the clock as officials postponed the release a number of times the week of May 2 in the hope it would not be necessary. Homes that will be hit first from rising water levels were evacuated days ago. The provincial government said in a statement that redirecting the water will prevent 193 square miles and 850 properties further downstream from being swamped. The release is taking place at a rate of 500 cubic feet per second — about enough water to fill an Olympic-size swimming pool every three minutes. So far this year, 100 homes across the province have been flooded, although only 10 suffered anything more than basement flooding.

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/world/2011/05/14/manitoba-deliberately-floods-area/>

64. *May 13, KEZI 9 Eugene* – (Oregon) **Man caught on camera breaking into dam.** On May 13, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers said they might know the identity of a person seen in a video of an intruder at Lookout Point Dam in Lowell, Oregon . The Corps released a video May 12 of an incident that happened March 2nd around 1 a.m. It shows a person trespassing on the Lookout Point Dam. The man scaled the fence into a restricted area and took pictures of the facility. One of the project managers said he received a credible tip the morning of May 13 as to who that person is and why they were taking pictures. He passed that information along to the FBI. “Anytime we have someone on top of our facilities, we’re concerned,” the project manager said. “These facilities are absolutely critical to people who live downstream. We want them to work well,” he noted. “We want to understand what threats we have. We want to mitigate and manage those threats.”

Source: <http://kezi.com/news/local/212352>

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