



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 24 May 2011

Top Stories

- According to msnbc.com, a massive tornado tore through Joplin, Missouri, May 22, killing at least 90 people and injuring more than 1,150, destroying more than 2,000 structures, and sparking numerous gas fires. (See items [50](#), [33](#))
- CNN reports heavy rain caused a 200-foot slide, saturating the underpinnings of a levee holding back the Mississippi River in Natchez, Mississippi, and threatening thousands of homes and 1 million acres of land. (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 23, Associated Press* – (Minnesota) **Xcel expects to restore power to the majority of 10,000 still without service by Monday night.** Xcel Energy expected to restore power to most of the thousands of customers who lost service in the May 22 deadly storm in Minnesota by May 23. Xcel said 22,000 customers in the Twin Cities lost power at the height of the storm, with north Minneapolis, Golden Valley, Brooklyn Center, and Fridley hardest hit. A Xcel spokeswoman said May 23 about 10,000 customers were still without power. One person was killed, 30 others hurt, and at least

100 homes were damaged when a tornado ripped through northern Minneapolis, tearing roofs off houses, toppling huge trees and power lines, and knocking over rail cars.

Source:

<http://www.dailyjournal.net/view/story/f5960981b2584b30bb44e6c1915dc050/MN--Minnesota-Tornadoes-Utilities/>

2. *May 23, Bloomberg* – (Oklahoma) **Oil leak reported on Enterprise Products pipeline, NRC says.** An oil leak was reported on a crude pipeline operated by Enterprise Products Partners LP, in a filing with the National Response Center May 22. The incident location was given as Seminole, Oklahoma. “A seal failure on a pump resulted in a leak of oil,” according to the filing. “It is unknown when the leak began.” U.S. companies must notify the response center if they release hazardous substances in excess of reportable quantities, under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, commonly known as Superfund.
Source: <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-05-23/oil-leak-reported-on-enterprise-products-pipeline-nrc-says.html>
3. *May 21, KSAZ 10 Phoenix* – (Arizona) **Truck leaks fuel after crash, shuts down SR347.** A semi-tanker truck hauling fuel ruptured in a 3-vehicle collision May 21 on northbound State Route 347 at Rancho El Dorado, in Maricopa, Arizona.. Because of the large amount of diesel fuel that leaked onto the roadway, the scene became a hazardous materials situation. SR 347 was predicted to be closed for as long as 8 hours. By 7:30 p.m. May 21, the northbound lanes of SR347 had reopened, but a southbound right lane remained blocked. Five people were transported to local hospitals with injuries from the crash. Maricopa Fire Department officials said initial reports were that the collision occurred at 1:41 p.m. when a driver tried to make a U-turn on SR 347.
Source: <http://www.myfoxphoenix.com/dpp/traffic/truck-leaks-fuel-after-3-vehicle-crash-on-sr347-05212011>
4. *May 20, Associated Press* – (International) **Capeco to pay \$8.2M for PRico oil depot explosion.** Caribbean Petroleum Corp., former owner of a fuel depot in Puerto Rico that exploded nearly 2 years ago, has agreed to pay more than \$8.2 million to help with cleanup costs, the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) said May 20. The money will be used to reimburse the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Coast Guard as well as cover penalties for federal violations, the DOJ said in a statement. Capeco filed for bankruptcy protection in August 2010 after its operations were nearly paralyzed by the October 2009 explosion at its fuel depot in Bayamon. The blast destroyed 15 of the site’s 40 oil storage tanks and sent tremors across the capital of San Juan. It also damaged 17 additional tanks, causing the release of 30 million gallons of petroleum, the agency said. Hundreds of people had to evacuate. Puma Energy Caribe LLC bought Capeco’s facility along with 147 service stations earlier this month through a court-ordered bankruptcy sale, according to the statement.
Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D9NBF0P03.htm>
5. *May 20, Associated Press* – (Michigan) **Mid-Mich. gas leak larger than previously reported.** A gasoline leak in White Oak Township, Michigan, is anywhere from two to

four times as large as first reported, according to new estimates provided by Marathon Pipe Line LLC. The company originally estimated that 126,000 gallons had leaked into the soil before it was detected April 13 by a man whose 16-acre farm backs up to four fuel storage tanks. Officials confirmed the larger leak after a memo explaining it to county officials was obtained by the Lansing State Journal May 19. “As a result of this ongoing investigation and recent deployment of new technology, we have revised our initial estimate. We now estimate the released product to be between 7,000 barrels and 11,000 barrels,” the company memo reads. The new estimate puts the size of the leak at between 294,000 gallons and 462,000 gallons. The company has not said how long the pipe was leaking before it was discovered, or why its safety mechanisms failed to notice it was losing gasoline. Marathon is set to hold a public meeting at the township hall some time the week of May 23 to discuss the revised estimate.

Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D9NBC0881.htm>

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Chemical Industry Sector

6. *May 23, KFDM 6 Beaumont* – (Texas) **All lanes of I-10 reopen following chemical spill.** All lanes of I-10 have now reopened in Rose City, Texas, following an accident and chemical spill late May 22. The driver of a passenger vehicle ran into the back of a semi-trailer carrying acrylic acid at about 11 p.m. on Interstate 10 East in Rose City, according to a trooper. The collision punctured the cargo tank and caused a small amount of the acid to leak onto the highway. Acrylic acid is toxic if inhaled. As a precautionary measure, Interstate 10 was closed in both directions. Traffic was routed around the crash site. The westbound lanes reopened early May 23, and the eastbound lanes reopened by 4 a.m. after the tractor trailer had been moved to a secure location and workers cleaned up the spill. There were no evacuations.

Source: <http://www.kfdm.com/news/chemical-42972-city-rose.html>

7. *May 23, WAFB 9 Baton Rouge* – (Louisiana) **2 workers die at plant after being overcome by chemical.** Two people died inside a chemical plant vessel south of Plaquemine, Louisiana May 22. The Louisiana State Police (LSP) said its hazardous materials hotline received a call around 1 p.m. about two people unconscious at the Shintech Plant. A LSP lieutenant said a contractor went inside the vessel to get tools he forgot and was overcome by an unknown chemical. When another Shintech employee went in behind him, that person was also overcome by the chemical and died. “We believe it was an oxygen-deficit environment,” a spokesman explained. Shintech has been under construction since 2005 and will make chlorine, caustic soda, and other chemicals.

Source: <http://www.wafb.com/story/14694428/2-workers-chemical-plant-in-plaquemine-killed>

For more stories, see items [28](#) and [31](#)

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

8. *May 22, Japan Today* – (International) **Total 250 tons of radioactive water leaked into sea early May: TEPCO.** Highly contaminated radioactive water that leaked into the sea earlier in May from a pit near a seawater intake of the No. 3 reactor at Japan's Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant totaled 250 tons and contained an estimated 20 terabecquerels of radioactive substances, Tokyo Electric Power Co (TEPCO) said May 21. The estimated amount of radioactive substances from the plant, crippled by the March 11 earthquake and ensuing tsunami, is about 100 times the annual allowable limit for release outside the plant, the company said. The leak is estimated to have lasted for 41 hours from 2 a.m. May 10 through 7 p.m. the following day, TEPCO said based on its analysis of data showing changes in water levels in the pit. The leak from near the No. 3 reactor compares with about 500 tons of radioactive water with 4,700 terabecquerels of radioactive substances that leaked from near the No. 2 reactor from April 1 to 6.

Source: <http://www.japantoday.com/category/national/view/total-250-tons-of-radioactive-water-leaked-into-sea-early-may-tepc>

9. *May 22, New York Daily News* – (New York) **Indian Point nuke plant lacking firefighting equipment, officials say public doesn't understand.** The vice president of operations for the Indian Point nuclear plant in Buchanan, New York, acknowledged May 21 the absence of fire detection and automatic suppression equipment in dozens of the reactor's fire zones. Huge areas of the plant lack essential firefighting equipment such as sprinklers and fire extinguishers, the New York Daily News reported. The plant, 24 miles from New York City, is missing basic smoke-eating tools, even as it sits on an earthquake fault and has suffered two fires since 2007. Indian Point's two active reactors are divided into 275 fire zones, of which 198 lack automatic fire suppression systems, according to records plant owner Entergy gave the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) in 2009. The data is contained in a March 28 petition from New York's attorney general to the NRC alleging that most of the plant's 275 fire zones violate minimum federal fire safety regulations.

Source: <http://www.nydailynews.com/news/national/2011/05/22/2011-05-22-local-uke-skips-fire-regs-indian-pt-sez-it-doesnt-need-all-that-safety-stuff.html?print=1&page=all>

10. *May 21, Huntsville Times* – (Alabama) **TVA resuming power generation at Browns Ferry nuclear plant.** The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) started powering up its Unit 1 nuclear reactor May 20 at the Browns Ferry plant near Athens, Alabama, for the first time since tornadoes shut down all three reactors more than three weeks ago. The April 27 tornadoes severely damaged transmission towers and lines that carry electricity throughout the TVA system. Browns Ferry was not damaged, but it has had no way to distribute its power. The reactors shut down automatically when the plant lost power, but diesel generators provided backup power to run critical cooling and

other systems. A TVA spokesman said May 20 that 4 of 9 major transmission lines to the plant have been restored. Each reactor generates about 1,150 megawatts, and if the Unit 1 effort is successful, TVA would bring Unit 2 online in the next several days. TVA also used the downtime to complete additional inspections and repairs on all three reactors.

Source: http://blog.al.com/breaking/2011/05/tva_to_resume_power_generation.html

11. *May 20, Reuters* – (National) **U.S. needs more training for nuclear inspectors: NRC.** U.S. citizens may be at risk from radioactive waste stored near nuclear plants as better training for federal safety inspectors and more on-site checks are needed, an internal government report showed May 20. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) inspector general said in an audit the NRC needs a formal, agency-wide training program to ensure its inspectors can do the best job when checking spent fuel storage sites. The inspector general looked at the NRC's oversight of spent fuel storage installations, which generally consist of a concrete pad that holds used fuel inside steel cylinders surrounded by additional steel or concrete. The audit said the NRC does not require classroom training in concrete technology, the use of cranes for heavy loads, and welding inspection techniques. The report said some NRC inspectors believe it is acceptable to walk around the perimeter of a dry cask storage pad. Other inspectors insist on walking onto the pad to assess the condition of the casks and make sure the cooling vents on the containers are not blocked, it said. The inspector general also said the NRC must define how far apart inspections should be. Inspections varied from 1 to almost 6 years, with many occurring every 2 years.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/05/20/us-usa-nuclear-inspectors-idUSTRE74J6UH20110520>

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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

12. *May 21, Federal Bureau of Investigation* – (Idaho) **Idaho man charged in \$20 million investment fraud scheme.** The U.S. attorney's office May 18 charged a 42-year-old Idaho Falls, Idaho man with one count of wire fraud, and one count of money laundering. The 2-count information alleges that from 2002 through December 2008,

the man owned and operated Trigon Group LLC in Idaho Falls, and that he solicited clients to invest money in Trigon. The information alleges the man used investor funds for his own use and caused investors to lose in excess of \$20 million. He is also alleged to have committed money laundering by using investor money to make a personal purchase of \$110,550 from a jewelry store.

Source:

http://7thspace.com/headlines/383388/idaho_man_charged_in_20_million_investment_fraud_scheme_.html

13. *May 21, CNN* – (International) **Small blast rattles Northern Ireland's Londonderry.** Masked men, allegedly shouting they were members of the Irish Republican Army, abandoned a small bomb and fled a commercial area in Londonderry, Northern Ireland, the mayor said May 21. The mayor said the bomb was carried into the office of the Santander bank on Shipquay Street May 21 by the men who immediately fled the scene. The bomb, which exploded an hour later, did not cause injuries or substantial damage, he said. Northern Ireland, historically plagued by sectarian violence between Catholics and Unionist Protestants, has seen a resurgence of violence recently.

Source: http://articles.cnn.com/2011-05-21/world/n.ireland.bomb_1_ira-splinter-group-irish-republican-army-ireland-republicans?_s=PM:WORLD

14. *May 20, FBI* – (California) **Ezri Namvar: Los Angeles businessman convicted on federal fraud charges for stealing \$21 million.** A prominent Los Angeles, California businessman and real estate developer, was found guilty May 19 of four wire fraud charges for stealing about \$21 million from four clients who allowed his company to hold their money in safekeeping before it was reinvested in real estate. The jury also convicted a second defendant on the four wire fraud charges. The evidence presented at trial showed that four victims entered into agreements to have about \$25 million deposited with the businessman's company, Namco Financial Exchange Corp., which held itself out as a qualified intermediary for real estate transactions. However, instead of holding the money as promised, the men used the victims' money for a variety of unauthorized and undisclosed purposes, including paying off creditors and investors of the businessman's investment company, Namco Capital Group, Inc. During the course of the fraudulent scheme, only about \$4 million was returned to or used on behalf of the victims.

Source: <http://www.loansafe.org/ezri-namvar-fraud>

15. *May 20, KETV 7 Omaha* – (Nebraska; International) **Hackers steal local credit card info.** Sheriff's deputies in Sarpy County, Nebraska, are investigating an identity theft case involving hackers who went after personal data using customers credit and debit cards. Investigators said May 19 they are dealing with more than 50 victims from across the Omaha metro area, all targeted in the last few days or weeks. Investigators blame a breach of security through a credit card processor. Sarpy County sheriff's deputies said they and bank officials tracked suspicious purchases, using Omaha credit and debit cards, to several different states including California, Texas, Indiana, New York, and Michigan. The card numbers were stolen through several Omaha businesses,

one of which was LaMar's Donuts near 168th and Harrison streets. The customers of at least three local banks have been affected including the Bank of the West. Deputies said they believe the hackers responsible live in Eastern Europe.

Source: <http://www.ketv.com/r/27959394/detail.html>

16. *May 20, Melrose Free Press* – (Massachusetts) **Melrose bank heist is serial robber's fifth, says FBI.** Eastern Bank in Melrose, Massachusetts, was the target of a bank robbery May 19 by a man suspected of robbing four other banks across the North Shore, making this the robber's fifth bank heist since April, according to an FBI spokesman. The suspect reportedly got away with an undisclosed amount of money from the Melrose bank. The suspect, described as a white man between 25-30 years old, walked into the bank at 441 Main Street and handed a note to the teller, which threatened harm if the teller did not comply with the man's demands to hand over money, the Boston FBI said. The robber then exited the bank on foot, heading in an unknown direction. He was described by witnesses as between 5 feet, 7 inches and 5 feet 10 inches tall, and weighing between 150-170 pounds. The man's hair is brown, and he was observed to be unshaven during the Melrose robbery. An FBI spokesman said the suspect has worn a goatee during past robberies, and has a distinctive tattoo on the right side of his neck with cursive lettering. An FBI spokesman said the robber did not show a weapon during any of the five robberies, and in each case, passed a note to the teller demanding money.
Source: <http://www.wickedlocal.com/melrose/breaking/x1495154184/FBI-Serial-robber-hits-Eastern-Bank-in-Melrose#axzz1NC8paD34>
17. *May 19, WBTV 3 Charlotte* – (North Carolina) **Bank robber threatens teller with bomb.** A man was arrested May 19 after authorities said he robbed a bank in Alexander County, North Carolina, and officials said he also confessed to robbing a credit union in Lenoir earlier the week of May 15. The Alexander County sheriff said the Taylorsville Savings Bank in Bethlehem was robbed around 9 a.m. The 42-year-old Hickory man passed a note to the teller indicating he had a bomb and that she should hand over cash in a bag, the sheriff said. The teller then gave the suspect an undisclosed amount of cash. No one inside the bank was hurt. The Alexander County Sheriff's Office immediately dispatched a description of the man and the car he was driving to other law enforcement agencies. Within minutes, a police officer in Hickory spotted the vehicle on Highway 127 and followed the car before pulling it over. The Lenoir Police Department released a statement May 19 that said the man also confessed to robbing the State Employees Credit Union in Lenoir May 17. In that robbery, he told the teller there was a pipe bomb in the bathroom. Officials later checked the building and were unable to find a bomb.
Source: <http://hickory.wbtv.com/news/crime/bank-robber-threatens-teller-bomb/62819>
18. *May 18, Joplin Globe* – (Oklahoma) **Miami bank employee charged with embezzling.** A Miami, Oklahoma bank employee, who reported she was robbed at gunpoint while servicing an automated teller machine earlier in 2011, was charged in federal court with embezzling bank funds. The 51-year-old woman was charged May 19 in U.S. district court in Tulsa, Oklahoma, with willfully misapplying \$119,855

belonging to First National Bank & Trust Co. between January 1, 2010, and February 25, 2011. The woman, a longtime employee of the bank, claimed to have been robbed by two men who put a gun to her head while she was restocking one of the bank's ATMs on Steve Owens Boulevard in Miami. The U.S. attorney's office for the Northern District of Oklahoma said the week of May 15 that report proved to be false. The FBI had said in March that the employee who reported the theft was under investigation for allegedly having stolen more than \$50,000. The U.S. attorney's office said that investigation led to the charge against the former employee.

Source: <http://www.joplinglobe.com/local/x377184536/Miami-bank-employee-charged-with-embezzling>

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Transportation Sector

19. *May 23, Associated Press* – (Louisiana) **Coast Guard may partially reopen portion of Mississippi River to barge traffic Monday.** The U.S. Coast Guard may partially reopen a 9-mile segment of the Mississippi River to barge traffic as it reviews a plan to remove three barges that sank in the waterway in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, the week of May 16. A petty officer said the Coast Guard expects to allow northbound traffic on the river to resume sometime May 23. Southbound barges would be allowed to travel down the river once the northbound backup is cleared. Archer Daniels Midland Co., which owns the barges involved in the May 20 accident, has submitted a plan for salvaging the wreckage. They were part of a 20-barge tow that was being pushed downriver amid high water and fast currents that have made navigation difficult. One of the barges struck a dock while two others struck a bridge.

Source:

<http://www.greenfieldreporter.com/view/story/be213aced87047fa81426e7c982002c7/LA--River-Flooding-Louisiana/>

20. *May 22, Associated Press* – (Wisconsin) **Delta jet makes emergency landing.** A Delta Air Lines jet landed safely in Green Bay, Wisconsin after the crew smelled something unusual en route from Detroit, Michigan to Minneapolis, Minnesota. Passengers said Delta Flight 1476 was about half way through its flight May 22, when the captain told them the crew smelled a strange smell in the forward galley area. The airport manager said the plane landed shortly before 2:30 p.m., about 9 minutes after the captain declared an emergency, enough time to get all emergency equipment in place at the airport before the plane touched down. Eighty-one passengers and five crewmembers were aboard. There were no injuries, and passengers were put on another plane to Minneapolis. The cause of the odor was under investigation.

Source: <http://www.wvmt.com/articles/emergency-1391226-delta-passengers.html>

21. *May 19, WCBS 880 AM New York* – (New York) **NYPD investigates shooting on MTA bus in Brooklyn.** The New York City Police Department (NYPD) was asking

for the public's help as they investigate a shooting on a Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA) bus in Brooklyn. Police responding to a 911 call May 18 found an 18-year-old African-American man shot once in the torso on a B60 bus at Stanhope Street and Central Avenue in Bushwick. They arrived on the scene around 4:40 p.m. Emergency services personnel brought the victim to Elmhurst Hospital, where he was listed in stable condition. The suspect was caught on surveillance tape. Police described him as an 18-year-old African-American man wearing a light blue Holister sweatshirt.

Source: <http://newyork.cbslocal.com/2011/05/19/nypd-investigates-shooting-on-mta-bus-in-brooklyn/>

22. *May 19, Associated Press* – (Nevada) **Vegas woman faces federal aircraft threat charge.** A 25-year-old Las Vegas, Nevada, woman is facing a federal charge alleging she called a bomb hoax into U.S. Airways about a September 11, 2010, flight out of McCarran International Airport. The U.S. Attorney in Las Vegas in a May 19 statement said flight 399 to Phoenix, Arizona returned to the Las Vegas airport and passengers and baggage were re-screened after the pilot was informed of the threat. No explosive was found. The woman is accused of telling the airline her boyfriend, a passenger, would blow up the plane. She surrendered to the FBI in Las Vegas pending a May 19 appearance before a federal magistrate. The suspect was indicted on a conveying false information charge. The U.S. attorney said the woman could face 5 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine.

Source: <http://www.ktvn.com/Global/story.asp?S=14680213>

For more stories, see items [1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [6](#), [28](#), and [50](#)

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Postal and Shipping Sector

23. *May 21, Anchorage Daily News* – (Alaska) **Customs officers nab \$1.2 million in heroin.** U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officers intercepted more than 6 pounds of heroin in three separate shipments during the past month at a FedEx cargo hub at Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport in Anchorage, Alaska, an agency spokesman said. The total amount of heroin seized has a street value of more than \$1.2 million, the chief CBP officer in Anchorage said. Customs workers found the drugs hidden in picture frames, sewn in the lining of women's purses, and tucked in packages of baby wipes. There was no indication the shipments are related, the officer said, though it appears the drug-filled packages had similarities. All three were express shipments intended for a speedy delivery, the CBP's assistant area port director in Alaska said. There were no tips that led to the seizures. Almost all of the heroin in the shipments was in powder form and flattened between sheets of plastic. Some appeared to be packaged in smaller, plastic pods. The string of seizures began when officers noticed an April 22 shipment of purses arriving from Malaysia that appeared heavier than usual. Inside, they found 432 grams of heroin sewn into the lining of the clutches. Four days later, officers seized another 1.7 kilograms of heroin in a shipment of baby wipes from Thailand. And officers discovered another package May 10, with 830

grams of heroin hidden in picture frames.

Source: <http://www.adn.com/2011/05/20/1873309/customs-officers-nab-12-million.html>

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Agriculture and Food Sector

24. *May 23, WKYC 3 Cleveland* – (Ohio) **Cleveland: Two bounty hunters shot, suspect on the loose.** Two local bounty hunters were shot and wounded outside a liquor store in Cleveland, Ohio, while trying to arrest a fugitive in a drug trafficking case May 21. The suspected gunman is on the run. Cleveland police believe the man shot a bail bond agent and her partner as they struggled to handcuff him at the Collinwood Village Food Mart on St. Clair Avenue around 9:30 p.m. May 21. One of the agents was shot in the chest and the other suffered a gunshot wound to his rib cage. The frantic struggle began inside the crowded liquor store before closing time. The owner said one of his workers and a customer told him how the shooting unfolded. “I think they were shouting, ‘Close the door, close the door,’ “ he said. “We didn’t know who they are. Didn’t know if they were the police or an FBI agent,” the owner added. “I’m questioning their actions,” he said of the bounty hunters. “This guy could have pulled out the gun and started shooting at 20 customers and four employees.” The owner said surveillance footage of the incident from the store’s 16 cameras was turned over to police. The reward for the suspect was set at \$50,000. The suspect was out of jail on bail following his arrest last August in a drug case. When he failed to show up for a court hearing in November 2010, a warrant was issued for his arrest. Police recovered the gun they believe was used in the shooting, as well as the suspect’s cell phone. He was last seen running on Wayside Avenue, the street right behind the liquor store.

Source: <http://www.wkyc.com/news/article/190865/3/Cleveland-Two-bounty-hunters-shot-suspect-on-the-loose>

25. *May 22, The Horse* – (National) **EHV-1 outbreak: Veterinarians still on alert.** The outbreak of neurologic equine herpesvirus (EHV-1) continued as new cases were confirmed over the weekend of May 21 and 22. The source of the outbreak is believed to be the April 29-May 8 National Cutting Horse Association’s (NCHA) Western National Championships in Ogden, Utah. Horse owners and veterinarians remain on the lookout for clinical signs in exposed horses. At press time May 22, the case counts by state were as follows: Arizona (one positive case as of May 18); California (17 confirmed cases); Colorado (9 cases reported as of May 20); Idaho (1 positive case as of May 21); New Mexico (1 positive case as of May 19); Oregon (2 positive cases); Texas (1 positive case and 1 suspected case as of May 20); Utah (A horse being treated for EHV-1 was euthanized May 21. Seven total positive cases).

Source: <http://www.thehorse.com/ViewArticle.aspx?ID=18275>

26. *May 22, Los Angeles Times* – (Texas; Kansas) **Texas drought has farmers on the ropes.** While much of the nation focuses on the flooding Mississippi River, the Oklahoma panhandle is enduring its longest drought on record. Some communities

have not had rain in eight months. This May, 39 Kansas counties were declared federal disaster areas by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Texas is especially hard-hit. More than 82 percent of Texas is experiencing extreme or exceptional drought. Three-quarters of Texas' wheat crop has been rated as poor or very poor. Unprecedented wildfires — about 9,000 — have scorched more than 2 million acres. The fires have destroyed 313,000 acres of grassland, virtually all of it grazing pastures. Texas ranchers, the nation's top cattle producers, have no natural grass to feed their animals. Some are down to a few weeks' supply of water in stock ponds.

Source: <http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/nation/la-na-drought-texas-20110522,0,675045.story>

27. *May 20, Modesto Bee* – (California) **Gas line ignites, causes small explosion at Modesto eatery.** A Modesto, California restaurant employee escaped serious injury May 20 after a small but loud explosion touched off by an ignited gas line blew an employee back a few feet. Two men inside Firkin & Fox at the corner of I and 11th streets were preparing to open for the day when they turned on the gas and one of the lines became detached, somehow igniting, according to the general manager. He said the explosion was so loud, people outside the restaurant and in the area “thought it was a bomb.” The Modesto Fire Department responded to the emergency call. The battalion chief said the fire occurred near the fryer. “The fire was quickly contained,” he said. “The hood system fired off like it was supposed to and extinguished the bulk of the fire. The restaurant’s bar was open in the late afternoon of May 20.

Source: <http://www.modbee.com/2011/05/20/1696753/gas-leak-small-explosion-at-restaurant.html>

28. *May 20, WTVF 5 Nashville* – (Tennessee) **Downtown businesses evacuated after ammonia leak.** Several businesses were evacuated and nearby roads were shut down May 20 after an ammonia leak on the west side of Nashville, Tennessee. Haz-mat crews were called to the scene just after noon May 20. A 2-block area surrounding the building was evacuated. The leak occurred near an area where the Polar Ice Building was being demolished. Officials said the work caused the leak from a tank holding anhydrous ammonia. One demolition worker was taken to Vanderbilt Medical Center after inhaling the fumes from the ammonia, but he was expected to be OK. According to the fire department, demolition workers had been working to tear the building down when apparently the tank holding the ammonia was hit. Investigators were told that any dangerous chemicals should have already been removed from the building. It is unclear at this point why the tank had not been removed. Charlotte Avenue was shut down from about George L. Davis Boulevard nearly to the capitol. 11th Avenue was also shut down to traffic and nearby businesses were evacuated. Customers from the Greyhound bus station were taken a few blocks away to 10th avenue. The building being demolished on 11th was a former cold storage facility.

Source: <http://www.newschannel5.com/story/14685871/downtown-businesses-evacuated-after-ammonia-leak?redirected=true>

29. *May 20, Baltimore Sun* – (Maryland) **Whirling disease found in Maryland stocked trout.** A shipment of 8,000 rainbow trout from a private vendor to Maryland contained

some fish with whirling disease, the state department of natural resources said. The trout were used to stock several streams in Western Maryland that do not contain native trout. Biologists noticed May 11 that some fish were acting oddly, and they stopped stocking operations and began testing. The fish were placed in the North Branch Delayed Harvest Area, Evitts Creek, Jennings Run, and Sidling Hill Creek. Whirling disease, found in 24 states, is harmless to humans but fatal to trout, especially rainbow trout. Four years ago, the parasite was found at the Bear Creek hatchery in Western Maryland, forcing the state to close it and two other facilities and destroy all the trout. Biologists said the outbreak can only be problematic if anglers move trout from one stream to another. The discovery of whirling disease in privately raised trout is likely to increase the state's efforts to ramp up its own hatchery production. Maryland typically stocks more than 320,000 trout each year.

Source:

http://weblogs.baltimoresun.com/sports/outdoors/blog/2011/05/whirling_disease_found_in_mary.html

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Water Sector

30. *May 23, Parsippany Daily Record* – (New Jersey) **Sewage floods Boonton homes.** Three families were displaced as cleaning crews mopped up a mess at their Monroe Street homes in Boonton, New Jersey, after massive pumps draining raw sewage failed May 18, filling the yards and basements with several feet of waste early May 19. The waters began flowing into the yards and basements of 111 and 113 Monroe St. after three bypass pumps pushing raw sewage from a temporary sewer into temporary above-ground pipes failed, sending a backlog of sewage down a hill and into the yards, the executive director of the Rockaway Valley Regional Sewerage Authority (RVRSA) said. The authority has contracted with Missouri-based InSituform Technologies to reline a 48-inch sewage pipe that starts across from the Boonton municipal building at Washington Street. The pumps force sewage above ground into temporary pipelines while the underground pipes are relined. The executive director of RVRSA estimated that 1 million gallons of sewage spewed into those yards. One million gallons of water could fill a 10-foot-deep swimming pool measuring nearly the length of a football field.
Source: <http://www.dailyrecord.com/article/20110520/NJNEWS/305200024/Sewage-spill-flushed-into-Boonton-homes-like-tsunami->
31. *May 20, KUAR 89.1 FM Little Rock* – (Arkansas) **Fracking fluid drums found in Arkansas creek.** Hazardous materials crews have removed more than 20 barrels labeled as containing chemicals used for natural gas drilling from a creek in the north Arkansas town of Clinton. Authorities are trying to determine if they contained the chemicals identified on the labels and whether Clinton's water has been contaminated. "What is on the barrels or what the labels that we are seeing indicate are surfactants and

lubricants and those are commonly used in the drilling operation,” said a spokeswoman for the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ). The mayor alleged that there has long been misconduct by companies involved in natural gas drilling in the area. He said the barrel labels contain lot numbers and other data that can be used to trace where they came from. The ADEQ spokeswoman said the barrels might not have been intentionally dumped. The Arkansas Department of Health will determine whether Clinton’s drinking water has been compromised.

Source: <http://www.kuar.org/kuarnews/23773-fracking-fluid-drums-found-in-ark-creek.html>

32. *May 20, Associated Press* – (Michigan) **20,000 gallons of sewage flows into Kalamazoo River after power outage at treatment plant.** Authorities said about 20,000 gallons of raw sewage flowed into the Kalamazoo River following a power outage at a Battle Creek, Michigan wastewater plant. The Battle Creek Enquirer and the Kalamazoo Gazette report that officials May 20 issued a public health advisory following the overflow. The Battle Creek Utilities director said an electrical short caused a power outage that lasted for a few hours. The advisory warns people to avoid the water. The results of water testing were expected May 23.

Source:

<http://www.greenfieldreporter.com/view/story/13391d29775d4591b5a68207044ca66a/MI--Kalamazoo-River-Sewage/>

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

33. *May 23, Springfield News-Leader* – (Missouri) **St. John’s Medical Center takes a direct hit in Joplin.** St. John’s Regional Medical Center in Joplin, Missouri started a full evacuation after the hospital was directly hit by a tornado May 22, said a spokeswoman for St. John’s Health System. “We are not sure of the safety of the building,” she said. St. John’s officials also asked people stay away from the area. Damage to the building is extensive, as hundreds of windows were blown out and its roof was taken off, the spokeswoman said. About 100 patients from Joplin will be accommodated in St. John’s facilities in Springfield and surrounding areas. A doctor at St. John’s said at least 4 people at the hospital were killed. Some St. John’s patients were taken to Freeman Health System in Joplin, while others will be flown to Springfield, and a hospital in Arkansas. The Joplin Globe reported late May 22 that emergency personnel were evacuating people near the medical center because of dangers posed by a broken gas main. The St. John’s spokeswoman said St. John’s hospital in Springfield was deploying ambulances and helicopters to Joplin late May 22. CoxHealth dispatched five EMS crews to Joplin. Other agencies, big and small, also responded. A Nixa fire lieutenant said the state activated the Missouri Fire Mutual Aid System, which allows fire crews to assist in disaster areas.

Source: <http://www.emsworld.com/article/article.jsp?id=17137&siteSection=1>

34. *May 23, Charleston Gazette* – (West Virginia) **Thomas hospital wing reopens after gas rupture.** Part of Thomas Memorial Hospital in South Charleston, West Virginia, was evacuated May 23 because of a gas line rupture. A Kanawha County Metro 911 dispatcher said a gas line burst on the pavilion side of the hospital. Offices on the Poplar Street side of the hospital were evacuated. The rupture was reported about 9:15 a.m. Firefighters at the scene said construction workers hit a gas line on the western side of the hospital complex while digging with a backhoe. Repairs were expected to take about 4 hours. The hospital marketing director said the only building evacuated was at 500 Poplar Street, which houses several doctors' offices and the hospital's physical therapy department. Other parts of the hospital remained open, though there was an odor of gas in some parts of the facility. Emergency crews cleared employees and patients to return to the Poplar Street building about 10:45 a.m.
Source: <http://wvgazette.com/News/201105230439>
35. *May 19, Cedar Rapids Gazette* – (Iowa) **Despite efforts, policy rules on medical records violated.** University of Iowa (UI) Hospitals and Clinics has disciplined 78 employees for privacy law violations in the past 5 years, with 50 investigations resulting in discipline during that time. At 13 employees disciplined this year through the middle of May, 2011 already outpaces 3 of the last 5 years for the number of employees punished. Violations of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) most often result in suspension or written reprimands for staff at UI Hospitals and Clinics, reveal the numbers from January 1, 2006, to May 18, 2011. But a serious infraction can get an employee fired. Of the 13 UI Hospitals and Clinics employees disciplined in 2011 for HIPAA violations, 8 were fired. In 2010, seven employees were fired out of the eight disciplined. Some of the most common violations, both locally and nationally, include improper access to records and impermissible uses and disclosures, officials said. UI Hospitals and Clinics released the HIPAA violation information to the media because it is a public hospital. Officials with several private hospitals declined to release data and said hospitals do not have to publicly disclose HIPAA violations unless the incident involves the breach of information of more than 500 patients.
Source: <http://thegazette.com/2011/05/19/despite-efforts-policy-rules-on-medical-records-violated-2/>

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Government Facilities Sector

36. *May 23, Associated Press* – (New Jersey) **5 men convicted of plotting attack at Fort Dix military base use Patriot Act to appeal convictions.** Attorneys for five immigrants convicted of plotting a deadly strike at a New Jersey military base will challenge the Patriot Act as they appeal the convictions. The lawyers argue FBI informants entrapped their clients. They said the discussions amounted to little more than a religious debate about jihad. They will also challenge the constitutionality of a

Patriot Act provision used to seize video the defendants left at a store for reformatting. The footage shows the defendants firing assault weapons and screaming about jihad. Federal prosecutors acknowledge the men did not necessarily have a specific plan to attack Fort Dix in Burlington County. Four of the young men are serving life terms. They lived in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and suburban New Jersey. The arguments were scheduled for May 23 in U.S. appeals court in Philadelphia.

Source:

http://www.nj.com/news/index.ssf/2011/05/5_men_convicted_of_plotting_at.html

37. *May 23, Washington Post* – (Maryland) **Molotov cocktails found in Md. dorm.** University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) campus police reported May 22 finding two Molotov cocktails May 21 in a dormitory stairwell. The two homemade incendiary devices, filled with a flammable liquid with a wick inserted into the mouth of the container, were discovered about 10:20 a.m. by a UMBC employee in an exterior stairwell of Gunpowder-Terrace Apartments, a student dormitory on the Catonsville campus of the university, the deputy chief of the UMBC Police Department said. “They were not ignited, and we’re trying to determine how long they were there,” he said May 22. “They were picked up by the state fire marshal’s office and removed from our campus.”
Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/crime-scene/post/molotov-cocktails-found-in-md-dorm/2011/05/23/AFk4cf9G_blog.html
38. *May 22, McClatchy Newspapers* – (International) **Envoys rescued from embassy in Yemen.** An armed mob loyal to Yemen’s embattled president surrounded an embassy May 22, trapping the American and other ambassadors inside for hours until they apparently were flown out in a Yemeni military helicopter. The president May 22 balked at signing the agreement drawn up by the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), as armed mobs took to the streets of the capital, Sanaa, and surrounded an embassy where at least five U.S., European, and Arab envoys were meeting about the crisis, according to witnesses and news reports. The president’s supporters massed outside the United Arab Emirates Embassy, blocking two entrances and at one point attacking a convoy bringing the GCC’s top mediator to the compound, news agencies reported. Mobs surrounded other foreign embassies; the Chinese ambassador’s convoy also came under attack, according to news reports.
Source:
http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/nationworld/2015123366_yemen23.html
39. *May 21, Associated Press* – (California) **Investigators: School fire intentionally set.** Investigators said a fire May 21 that damaged offices at a San Bernardino County High School in An Bernadino, California was intentionally set. A County Fire spokesperson said the fire was reported inside the administrative building at Bloomington High School. Crews from Rialto and Colton assisted county fire in knocking down the flames in about 40 minutes. Early estimates placed the damage at more than \$250,000. School officials worked to secure and clean up the area before students expected return to school May 23. Arson investigators were called in try to

determine the cause of the fire.

Source: http://www.mercurynews.com/breaking-news/ci_18112290?nlick_check=1

40. *May 20, Minneapolis Star Tribune* – (Minnesota) **Boy charged in small explosion at Champlin Park High School.** A 16-year-old boy was charged in juvenile court with possession of an incendiary device in connection with what police called “a small explosion” May 19 in the cafeteria at Champlin Park High School in Champlin, Minnesota, authorities said. An 18-year-old man who was arrested along with the juvenile was released without charges, a Brooklyn Park police lieutenant said. According to police and the Anoka-Hennepin School District, “A 20-ounce plastic soda bottle was filled with a chemical and left in the dish tray area of the cafeteria during the lunch hour (May 19). The cap exploded off the bottle, making a loud noise and splashing one nearby student with the chemical. The student was not injured.” A district spokesman said the incident did not cause any damage, but to be on the safe side, the school used Styrofoam plates May 20 and double-washed utensils. The spokesman said those involved in the incident would face discipline. Police have not yet identified what chemical was used in the pop bottle.

Source: <http://www.startribune.com/local/north/122368519.html>

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Emergency Services Sector

41. *May 23, Associated Press* – (California) **4 hospitalized with stab wounds in rioting at California’s San Quentin prison.** Authorities said at least four men were hospitalized after a riot May 22 at San Quentin, California State Prison that involved nearly 200 inmates. A prison spokesman said in a statement the four inmates had stab or slash wounds after the fight broke out among 184 men in the prison’s dining hall. Guards stopped the brawl using non-lethal bullets and pepper spray, and found at least 10 weapons made by inmates in the aftermath. There was no word on what sparked the rioting or further information on the condition of the injured. The spokesman said many others had minor injuries, but did not give a number. No guards were hurt. San Quentin, in Marin County north of San Francisco, is the state’s oldest prison and houses nearly 5,000 men, including those on death row.

Source: <http://www.570news.com/news/world/article/230167--4-hospitalized-with-stab-wounds-in-rioting-at-california-s-san-quentin-prison>

42. *May 20, Central Florida News 13 Orlando* – (Florida) **Brevard 911 dispatch center reopens after evacuation due to carbon monoxide.** The Brevard County, Florida dispatch center in Titusville was back open by mid-afternoon May 20 after the facility had been evacuated due to carbon monoxide earlier in the day. At least 22 people were injured in the poisoning. Preliminary reports showed no serious exposure to carbon monoxide. All patients were treated and released. According to officials, contractors were on top of the building using a generator when fumes leaked into the building. The

building, also houses the Brevard County Sheriff's office administration center. The victims complained of nausea and dizziness. In terms of parts per million, officials described the leak as dangerously high.

Source: <http://www.cfnews13.com/article/news/2011/may/248447/Brevard-911-center-evacuated-due-to-carbon-monoxide>.

43. *May 19, NBC News* – (International) **Cartels using Ariz. mountaintops to spy on cops.** Federal drug agents say Mexican cartel surveillance teams have set up observation posts on most of the mountain-tops in the Arizona west desert area, from the Mexican border to Phoenix more than 100 miles north. Most of that land sits inside the Tohono O'odham Indian reservation, which is the size of Connecticut, but is sparsely populated by 20,000 residents. Officials said in recent years they have seen a dramatic rise in drug smuggling cases on Tohono O'odham land, attributing it to law enforcement crackdowns in other areas of the border, which have forced Mexican smugglers to increase activities in the remote tribal lands that border Mexico. In the last few years, officials have seized hundreds of tons of marijuana there, along with a smattering of other illicit drugs, and have seen a rise in related crimes. Supporting the smugglers who cross the barren desert on foot or in vehicles, Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) agents said, is a small army of Mexican spotters hired by the cartels to climb the mountains, watch out for police and help coordinate illegal drug shipments. In a large indictment announced in Tucson May 19, law enforcement officials accused 46 defendants, nearly half of them Tohono O'odham members, of helping the Mexican traffickers smuggle drugs through the reservation and then into Tucson and Phoenix.

Source: http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/43096521/ns/nightly_news/t/cartels-using-ariz-mountaintops-spy-cops/

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Information Technology Sector

44. *May 23, H Security* – (International) **Another DoS fix for Apache HTTP server.** The update of the Apache HTTP Server (httpd) to version 2.2.18 earlier in May to close a denial of service (DoS) problem appears to have exposed a related DoS vulnerability. The developers released httpd 2.2.19 to fix this new problem that has been rated as moderately critical; however, as with the previous DoS vulnerability, it requires that mod_autoindex is enabled in the Web server. It appears the updated Apache Portable Runtime (APR) 1.4.4 -- undled with the server to correct the denial of service vulnerability -- could cause httpd workers to enter a 100 percent CPU utilizing hung state when calling apr_fnmatch. An update to APR, version 1.4.5, which resolves the issue has been released by the APR developers and is bundled with Apache HTTP Server 2.2.19. Users can upgrade to httpd 2.2.19 or, if running httpd 2.2.17 or earlier, work around the denial of service problem by using the "IgnoreClient" option of the "IndexOptions". The problem was first noted and tracked on Debian mailing lists.

Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/Another-DoS-fix-for-Apache-HTTP-server-1247712.html>

45. *May 23, Help Net Security* – (International) **phpMyAdmin redirection weakness and script insertion vulnerability.** A weakness and a vulnerability have been reported in phpMyAdmin that can be exploited by malicious users to conduct script insertion attacks, and by malicious people to conduct spoofing attacks, according to Secunia. Input passed via the “url” parameter to url.php is not properly verified before being used to redirect users. This can be exploited to redirect a user to an arbitrary Web site, for example, when a user clicks a specially crafted link to the affected script hosted on a trusted domain. This vulnerability is reported in version 3.4.0. 2. Also, input passed to the application when creating a database table name is not properly sanitized before being used on the “Tracking” page. This can be exploited to insert arbitrary HTML and script code that will be executed in a user’s browser session in context of an affected site when the malicious data is being viewed. This vulnerability is reported in version 3.4.0 and versions prior to 3.3.10.1.

Source: <http://www.net-security.org/secworld.php?id=11064>

46. *May 23, Softpedia* – (International) **Sony security breaches keep on popping up.** A new Sony security breach has been reported, involving user information being leaked from the Web site of Sony BMG Greece. The incident was revealed the weekend of May 21 and 22 when someone publicly disclosed the stolen information of 8,385 users. However, the actual compromise occurred earlier in May. The database dump was publicly posted on pastebin.com and it contained usernames, e-mail addresses, passwords, and in some cases telephone numbers. “It appears someone used an automated SQL injection tool to find this flaw. It’s not something that requires a particularly skillful attacker, but simply the diligence to comb through Sony Web site after Web site until a security flaw is found,” a security advisor at Sophos said. SQL injection vulnerabilities are very common, and Sony is not the only large company caught with such holes in its Web properties. Two other Sony compromises revealed the week of May 16 include the stealing of gift points worth \$1,225 from 128 So-net Entertainment accounts, and the discovery of a phishing page hosted on Sony’s Thailand portal.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Sony-Security-Breaches-Keep-on-Popping-Up-201675.shtml>

47. *May 20, threatpost* – (International) **New 64-bit rootkit being used to steal banking credentials.** Security researchers have come across a new rootkit designed specifically to infect 64-bit Windows systems and steal users’ online banking credentials. It is believed to be the first piece of malware of its kind that is capable of compromising x64 systems. The new rootkit is being used by attackers in Brazil as part of drive-by download attacks and is then used to steal banking credentials after the infection. The malware has the ability to change some of the boot configurations of infected machines and then aims to redirect users to phishing sites. The new rootkit can infect machines running either 32-bit or 64-bit versions of Windows. The drive-by download is accomplished by using a malicious Java applet targeted at older versions of the Java

Runtime Environment. The applet includes a number of files that each have different jobs to do once they are on an infected PC, including one that disables the Windows User Account Control mechanism.

Source: http://threatpost.com/en_us/blogs/new-64-bit-rootkit-being-used-steal-banking-credentials-052011

48. *May 19, Computerworld* – (International) **Mac App Store’s slow updates expose users to security risks.** Apple’s Mac App Store puts users at risk because it is slow to update vulnerable software, a security researcher said May 18. The researcher noted the Opera browser had not been updated on the Mac App Store since March 1. Since May 18, however, Opera has released two updates to add features, fix crash bugs, and patch vulnerabilities. Opera updated to version 11.11 May 18, which closed a critical hole that could be exploited by attackers to infect a Mac with malicious code. “Users who rely on the App Store to tell them whether their software is up-to-date may not be aware of the security risks and may continue to use an unsafe version of the Opera browser,” the researcher said. When Apple launched the Mac App Store in January 2010, one of the online mart’s selling points was it would automatically notify customers when updates were available. The researcher’s argument is Apple failed to make good on the promise. “Mac users who have downloaded Opera through the App Store may find themselves using a copy of Opera that is now two versions old,” he said.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9216860/Mac_App_Store_s_slow_updates_expose_users_to_security_risks

49. *May 19, The Register* – (International) **Eureka! Google breakthrough makes SSL less painful.** Google researchers said they have devised a way to significantly reduce the time it takes Web sites to establish encrypted connections with end-user browsers, a breakthrough that could make it less painful for many services to offer the security feature. Also, the technique known as False Start requires that only simple changes be made to a user’s browser, and appears to work with 99 percent of active sites that offer secure sockets layer (SSL) protection. “SSL False Start reduces the latency of a SSL handshake by 30%. That is a big number,” a Google software engineer wrote in a blog post published May 18. With the notable exceptions of Twitter, Facebook, and a handful of Google services, many Web sites send most traffic over unencrypted channels, making it easy for governments, administrators, and Wi-Fi hotspot providers to spy or even modify potentially sensitive communications while in transit.

Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/05/19/google_ssl_breakthrough/

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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

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Commercial Facilities Sector

50. *May 23, msnbc.com and Associated Press* – (Missouri) **‘Cut the city in half’: Death toll rises to 90 in Missouri tornado.** A massive tornado — the deadliest single U.S. tornado since 1953 — tore through Joplin, Missouri, May 22, killing at least 90 people. The 6-mile path included a hospital and high school destroyed, cars crushed, and a forest of splintered tree trunks where neighborhoods once stood. Authorities warned the death toll could climb as search and rescue workers continued their efforts. Their task was made more miserable as a new thunderstorm with strong winds and heavy rain pelted part of the city with quarter-sized hail May 23. The fire chief said 25 to 30 percent of the city was damaged. More than 1,150 people were treated at local hospitals, the Joplin Globe reported. About 20,000 homes and businesses were without power the morning of May 23. Many bodies were found along “restaurant row,” on the main commercial street, the Newton County coroner said. Residents were given about 20 minutes notice when 25 warning sirens sounded around 6 p.m. local time, the Jasper County emergency management director said. However, Missouri’s governor said many people likely were unable to get to shelter in time. “The bottom line was the storm was so loud you probably couldn’t hear the sirens going off.” Staff at St. John’s Regional Medical Center moved patients into hallways before the storm struck the 9-story building, blowing out hundreds of windows and leaving the facility useless. At least four people at the hospital were killed, a doctor said. A series of gas leaks caused fires around the city overnight, and the governor said some were still burning early May 23. Officers from Joplin and neighboring towns and counties manned virtually every major intersection May 23. Details about fatalities and injuries were difficult to obtain even for emergency management officials, because the tornado knocked out power, landline phones, and some cellphone towers, according to the assistant emergency management director in Newton County.

Source: <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/43132174/ns/weather/?GT1=43001>

51. *May 23, WTOC 11 Savannah* – (Georgia) **Savannah man charged with making bomb threats.** A 42-year-old Savannah, Georgia man has been charged with transmitting a false public alarm after calling in a second bomb threat to a daycare center in 3 days, according to Savannah-Chatham Metro Police. The suspect was arrested May 20 after police identified him as the persons who made the threatening calls May 18 and May 20, according to police. The daycare center in the 300 block of West 32nd Street was evacuated and the premises was searched both times. Police said

the calls stemmed from a domestic dispute with an employee of the center. No bomb was found.

Source: <http://www.wtoc.com/Global/story.asp?S=14686858>

52. *May 23, Associated Press* – (California) **Parole agent’s tip led to suspect arrest.** A tip from a parole officer led to the May 22 arrest of the key suspect in the attack on a San Francisco Giants fan outside Dodger Stadium in Los Angeles, California, after the rival teams’ season opener. The suspect was detained in an early morning raid on an East Hollywood apartment building, and was believed to be the “primary aggressor” in the March 31 beating that left the victim with brain damage, the Los Angeles police chief said. The suspect was later booked for assault with a deadly weapon and was being held on \$1 million bail, police said. He was among several people detained for questioning after police served two search warrants, a police detective said. Police said he was one of two suspects sought in the beating, along with a woman who drove them from the scene. Following the attack, police beefed up security at Dodger Stadium to deal with fights that had been breaking out at games in recent years. Baseball fans have complained that anyone who dares to wear a rival team’s jersey on Dodger turf has too often been subjected to profane verbal abuse and threats of violence. The police chief said May 22 the new security is working. “Even though the crowds have been small, this is the safest stadium in this country here in these past series, and it will continue to be so,” he said.

Source: <http://msn.foxsports.com/mlb/story/LA-police-ID-suspect-Giovanni-Ramirez-arrested-in-Giants-fan-Bryan-Stow-beating-052211?GT1=39002>

53. *May 23, Associated Press* – (International) **Man held in car bomb probe deported to Pakistan.** A Pakistani man arrested in Massachusetts during the investigation of the failed New York Times Square car bombing in Manhattan, New York, was deported to Pakistan May 22, federal authorities said. The 28-year-old was accompanied by Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers on a flight from Logan International Airport in Boston to Islamabad, Pakistan, the agency said in a statement. The man pleaded guilty in April to immigration and illegal money-transfer charges and was sentenced to time served. He did not face terrorism-related charges. Prosecutors alleged the suspect gave \$4,900 to the man who was later convicted in the bombing attempt.

Source: <http://www1.whdh.com/news/articles/local/12004379413620/man-held-in-car-bomb-probe-deported-to-pakistan/>

54. *May 23, Associated Press* – (North Dakota) **Problems continue along flooded Souris River in ND; campground evacuated, kayaker rescued.** High water continued May 23 to cause problems in the flooded Souris River basin in north central North Dakota. Water flooded some streets and basements in Minot, North Dakota May 23. A police spokeswoman told KCJB radio that water backed up from storm sewers that couldn’t handle any more. The Minot Daily News reports that about 150 people were evacuated from a campground 2 miles west of Minot May 21. The owner of the Rough Rider Campground said a flooded access road thwarted efforts to bring in more clay to shore up dikes. He said he hoped the campground could reopen in about a week.

Source:

<http://www.dailyjournal.net/view/story/4ea04ffbdb5f49d5b102ae1571526132/ND--ND-Flooding-Souris-River/>

55. *May 21, WRC 4 Washington D.C.* – (Virginia) **Arlington gas explosion sends one to hospital.** Arlington County, Virginia police and fire officials are investigating a May 21 natural gas explosion at an apartment building for seniors. The explosion occurred just before 12 p.m. in the 4300 block of N. Carlin Springs Road, near the Ballston Commons shopping mall. One person was seriously hurt and was flown to a local burn center. No one else was hurt. The explosion happened inside an apartment home. The home and two others near it were heavily damaged. Dozens of others received minor damage. About 100 seniors have been displaced. It's not clear when they will be able to return.

Source: <http://www.nbcwashington.com/news/local/Natural-Gas-Explosion-Sends-One-to-Hospital-in-Arlington-122386359.html>

56. *May 19, KVEW 42 Yakima* – (Washington) **Police investigating church arson in Richland.** The Richland Police Department is still looking for the person that threw an apparent Molotov cocktail at the Apostolic Christian Church in Richland, Washington, May 18. A church neighbor said his roommate saw the fire start on the side of the church and called 911, before the two of them went to stomp the fire out. The church suffered minimal damage, but it could have completely destroyed the building if the man and his roommate did not take action. A captain with the Richland Police Department said he does not believe this incident is tied into a serial issue, although two other churches in the area have been subject to arson or vandalism in the last year. The Word of Faith Center in Kennewick has been struck by arson twice in the last year, while the Mormon Temple in Richland has been hit by vandals seven times since January.

Source: <http://www.kvewtv.com/article/2011/may/19/police-investigating-church-arson-richland/>

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

57. *May 23, Associated Press* – (Arizona; New Mexico) **Wildfire along southern AZ/NM border grows to 40,000 acres, still 25 percent contained.** A human-caused wildfire along the Arizona-New Mexico border has grown to more than 40,000 acres. The U.S. Forest Service said the Horseshoe Two wildfire was 25 percent contained as of May 23. Burnout operations continued May 22 in an attempt to rob the wildfire of dead grass and trees. Fire crews were in place at a research station, and the community of Paradise west of Portal in southeast Arizona. A precautionary evacuation order for the community of Paradise was in place as crews conducted nearby burnout operations.

Source:

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/1443fdb5a7054558998493b44a6af043/AZ--Arizona-Wildfire/>

58. *May 22, Silver City Sun-News* – (New Mexico) **Miller Fire nearly 50% contained.** The Miller Fire in New Mexico was 47 percent contained but had burned 80,064 acres as of May 22, officials said. The fire remained active May 21, but crews made significant progress on the north and west flanks of the fire. The area of containment is on the fire's eastern flank. Crews worked May 21 along the south side of the West Fork of the Gila River building line and suppressing fire that had moved down to the river. Other crews entered the canyon from the west, prepping and removing brush on the south side in an attempt to hold the fire south of the river. On the west flank, crews built more direct firelines to the south from White Pinnacle. Gila National Forest Wilderness crews with horses and mules assisted the Type II Interagency team by packing in supplies and equipment. The stock may assist with evacuation should an injury occur.
Source: http://www.scsun-news.com/ci_18119169
59. *May 22, Lake City Journal* – (Florida; Georgia) **Honey Prairie Fire in Okefenokee 70 percent contained.** The Florida Division of Forestry Incident Management Team reported that the Honey Prairie fire in the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge Area in Florida and Georgia was 70 percent contained. The fire has covered 147,046 acres. Active fire behavior was observed in the northwest portion of the fire near Stephen C. Foster State Park. Pockets of unburned fuels continued to burn out and continued to threaten the canal on the north. A firing operation was completed to burn out a large pocket of unburned swamp fuels. As the fire lines are strengthened around the perimeter, firefighters, and equipment were gradually being released from the fire. But as of late May 22, Foster state park remained closed. All canoe camping, day use boating, and boat tours from the Suwannee Canal Recreation Area at the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge East Entrance were temporarily suspended.
Source:
<http://www.lakecityjournal.com/main.asp?SectionID=14&SubSectionID=74&ArticleID=7443>

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Dams Sector

60. *May 23, KOLR 10 Springfield* – (Missouri) **Army Corps of Engineers releasing more water at Table Rock Dam.** Storms are forcing the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to release more water from Table Rock Dam in Taney County, Missouri, KOLR 10 Springfield reported May 23. A Corps spokesman said the agency has opened five gates to 1 foot. That will release about 5,000 cubic feet per second (cfs). It is also letting the maximum amount of water, 15,000 cfs, through the hydro-electric generators. The Corps said at those levels, it does not expect additional flooding problems. However, with more rain in the forecast the Corps could increase the amount of water flowing through the dam to 30,000 cfs by the evening of May 23. At that level,

water could flow back into homes and over roads. The current lake level is 929.87 feet above sea level. The top flood pool is 931 feet above sea level. The Corps says the current water release is not drawing the lake down.

Source: http://ozarksfirst.com/fulltext?nxd_id=459917

61. *May 22, Vancouver Columbian* – (Washington) **Columbia River levels remain near flood stage.** The Columbia River in Washington will continue to hover around flood levels at Vancouver into the week of May 23, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers said May 20, causing flooding in some areas near the river’s banks. The Corps measures the harbor’s flood stage at 16 feet above sea level. The afternoon of May 20, the river reached 15.7 feet above sea level, the National Weather Service reported. “At this point in time, we do not have an indication the river will exceed flood stage in Vancouver,” the chief of the Corps’ Reservoir Control Center in Portland, Oregon said. Levels are expected to remain around 16 feet above sea level into midweek, he added. The Columbia River is experiencing its highest water runoff levels since 1997 because of high precipitation levels this year and late-melting snow, he said. Storage dams such as the John Day Dam, east of The Dalles, Oregon, the Grand Coulee Dam and Dworshak Dam, in Idaho, are capturing the majority of the excess water.

Source: <http://www.bellinghamherald.com/2011/05/22/2025526/columbia-river-levels-remain-near.html>

62. *May 21, CNN* – (Mississippi) **Floodwaters threaten to breach levee.** People along the Mississippi Delta are still watching and waiting on water levels, which got another boost by rain, causing flood waters to crest at more than 60 feet in Natchez, Mississippi, CNN reported May 21. The waters have engulfed a lake and are threatening a crucial levee. They have caused what officials said is a 200-foot “slide,” where the sheer pressure from the weight of the water has saturated the underpinnings of the levee and shifted the earth underneath. The erosion has caused water to seep out, and has made the levee dangerous. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers frantically tried to fill gaps with gravel in backhoes, tractors, and shovels. It is not technically a breach, but a breach could happen because of the erosion. Crews are working around the clock to shore up the levee. A member of the Mississippi Levee Board said the stakes are enormous. “Well if this levee would fails you know, we would have all this water on the riverside that would inundate the land side, the protected side of the levee. It would be well over a million acres flooded,” he said. “You’d have multiple towns underwater. You’d have thousands of homes underwater. You’d have people displaced from their homes for a long period of time.”

Source: <http://www.wdam.com/story/14691782/floodwaters-threaten-to-breach-levee>

63. *May 21, Canadian Broadcasting Corporation* – (International) **Manitoba dike resealed but rain a worry.** The cut in a protective dike at the Hoop and Holler Bend on the Assiniboine River in Manitoba, Canada, is sealed, but with rain in the forecast, officials said the release of water could yet happen again, Canadian Broadcasting Corporation reported May 21. The dike was breached May 14 as part of a plan to ease pressure on other flood-protection systems on the swollen river. The breach created a flood of its own, but not as severe as might have occurred with an uncontrolled break

somewhere else on the river. The Assiniboine River is at record high levels from spring run-off. In the latest flood bulletin, issued by the province May 21, officials said the breach was sealed around noon May 20. “There is a remote possibility that the release point could be reopened if there are issues on the Portage Diversion channel or along the Assiniboine River dikes,” the province reported. Residents in the controlled release area were being told to maintain their flood protection structures for at least another week.

Source: <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/manitoba/story/2011/05/21/mb-flood-update-110521.html>

64. *May 20, Associated Press* – (Michigan) **Water leaks delay dam upgrade near Soo Locks.** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has temporarily halted a dam repair project near the shipping locks complex in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, because of excessive water leaks. The Corps said May 20 it hired a Cheboygan company to upgrade a 60-year-old timber crib dam beside a hydroelectric plant on Corps property in the St. Marys River. The plan is to replace deteriorated timbers with reinforced concrete and stone. Corps officials said after the contractor began working, water leaked through the structure more heavily than usual. They said the project has been delayed while engineers try to fix the problem. They said there is no danger of dam failure, although the power plant may be shut down at times. A Corps spokeswoman said the shutdowns will not affect operations at the Soo Locks.

Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/chi-ap-mi-soolocks-dam,0,1494900.story>

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