



# Homeland Security

## Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 25 May 2011

### Top Stories

- The FDA has advised parents, caregivers, and health care providers not to feed SimplyThick, a thickening product, to premature infants after use of the product was possibly linked to 2 deaths and 13 serious illnesses. (See item [38](#))
- The Register reports LinkedIn will reduce the persistence of cookies it uses to identify users following the discovery of security issues with the site that create a possible means for fraudsters to hijack profiles. (See item [53](#))

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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 24, Associated Press* – (Ohio) **Storms knock out power to 100,000 Ohio customers.** Power companies throughout Ohio were working May 24 to restore service to about 100,000 customers left in the dark by thunderstorms and strong winds that pummeled the state May 23. Duke Energy reported about three-fourths of those outages in Cincinnati and parts of southwestern Ohio May 23. Thousands of homes and businesses in the Cleveland, Dayton and Springfield areas also were without power. The National Weather Service said residents in dozens of counties reported damage

from winds that snapped tree limbs and downed power lines. It was investigating several unconfirmed reports of funnel clouds. No serious injuries were immediately reported.

Source: <http://www.mariettatimes.com/page/content.detail/id/138295/Storms-knock-out-power-to-100-000-Ohio-customers-.html?isap=1&nav=5018>

2. *May 23, Canton Repository* – (Missouri) **18,000 remain without electricity in southwest Missouri.** The Empire District Electric Company (EDEC), a utility company based in Joplin, Missouri, reported as of 11 a.m. May 23, approximately 18,000 customers remained without service in the southwest Missouri area because of the tornado that hit Joplin May 22. Assessments of Empire’s transmission system show the loss of 130 transmission poles. Empire crews plus contract crews with 32 additional linemen were working to repair the damage May 23. Because of the severe weather May 23, work continues on assessing damage to the distribution system. Empire has called in additional contract crews with 42 linemen to assist in the distribution restoration efforts. This outage situation is anticipated to continue for days, according to the EDEC.  
Source: <http://www.cantonrep.com/joplin-tornado/x157797892/18-000-remain-without-electricity-in-southwest-Missouri>
3. *May 23, KION 46 Salinas* – (California) **CHP: fuel tanker spills 280 gallons near Soledad.** A fuel tanker spilled fuel on Northbound Highway 101 near the Arroyo Seca exit in Soledad, California, May 23, the California Highway Patrol (CHP) reported. CHP said the big rig ran over some sheet metal in the middle of the highway. Apparently, the sheet metal fell off of a pick-up truck that was in front of the big rig. The CHP reported that as much as 280 gallons could have spilled. According to the CHP, the number 2 lane of Northbound Highway 101 will be shutdown while emergency crews clean the spill.  
Source: <http://www.kionrightnow.com/story/14700945/chp-website-tanker-spills-250>
4. *May 23, Forsyth News* – (North Carolina) **Sawnee Drive reopens after gas spill.** Sawnee Drive in Cumming, Georgia, has reopened to traffic after being closed for a few hours May 23 following a spill at a gas station. A Forsyth County fire captain said about 50 gallons of gasoline spilled from one of the fuel pumps at the Citgo on Highway 9 and Sawnee Drive. Some of the caustic liquid evaporated quickly, but the rest flowed into a state stormwater runoff line, he said. The captain said firefighters alerted the Georgia Department of Transportation (DOT), as well as the environmental protection division, to the spill. A DOT official, and a private hazardous materials mitigation crew handled the cleanup. The captain said officials do not think the gas made it into any state waters. He said the spill occurred about 12:30 p.m. after a store employee forgot to shut off a fuel pump before attempting to change the filter.  
Source: <http://www.forsythnews.com/section/1/article/8773/>

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## Chemical Industry Sector

5. *May 23, WLS 7 Chicago* – (Illinois) **Worker injured in acid leak at Morris plant.** One worker is hospitalized following a chemical spill at a manufacturing company in Morris, Illinois. Officials said about 100 gallons of hydrochloric acid leaked from a 200-gallon tote inside Thornton Industries. The acid covered a 30-square foot concrete area within the plant. The injured worker was being treated for skin contact after he was exposed to the acid. Hazardous materials teams removed all other workers out of the plant safely, and made sure the acid did not get into drains or sewers. Source: <http://abclocal.go.com/wls/story?section=news/local&id=8147715>
  
6. *May 23, myCentralJersey.com* – (New Jersey) **Gas explosion brings firefighters to Branchburg chemical plant.** A small explosion and fire, caused by a gas that burns when exposed to air, brought volunteer firefighters to a chemical plant at 197 Meister Avenue in Branchburg, New Jersey, May 22. The chief of the North Branch volunteer fire department, said the fire was caused by diborane, a chemical compound of boron and hydrogen. It occurred in a workspace at the Voltaix plant that was equipped with a ventilation hood, he said. No workers at the plant were injured. “They were transferring the product from one cylinder to another, so somewhere during this process it leaked, exploded and caught on fire,” he said. Firefighters could not use water or dry chemical extinguishers because the fire was being fed by contact with air, the chief said. So Voltaix employees, under the direction of the fire company and the Somerset County Hazardous Materials Unit, donned haz-mat suits and went into the building to turn off the gas. The fire caused minimal structural damage to the work area and hood, he said. The building itself was not damaged. Source: <http://www.mycentraljersey.com/article/20110523/NJNEWS/305230035/Gas-explosion-brings-firefighters-to-Branchburg-chemical-plant>

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## Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

7. *May 23, Reuters* – (International) **Japan's Tepco confirms meltdowns of 2 more Fukushima reactors.** Tokyo Electric Power Co (Tepco), the operator of the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant disabled by the earthquake and tsunami that struck Japan March 11, confirmed May 24 that there were meltdowns of fuel rods at three of the plant's reactors early in the crisis. It had said earlier in May that fuel rods in the No.1 reactor had melted, but officials of the utility confirmed at a news conference that there were also meltdowns of fuel rods at the plant's No.2 and No.3 reactors early in the crisis. Tepco officials said damage to the No.2 reactor fuel rods began 3 days after the quake, with much of the fuel rods eventually melting and collecting at the bottom of the pressure vessel containing them. Fuel rods in the No.3 reactor were damaged by March 13, they said.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/05/24/japan-tepco-reactors-idUSL3E7GO03B20110524>

8. *May 23, Escondido North County Times* – (California) **San Onofre: NRC faults Edison for letting worker oversee refueling.** A senior reactor operator with high blood pressure should not have overseen refueling operations at the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station near San Clemente, California in October 2010, according to an inspection report issued May 20 by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. A spokesman for the commission said May 23 that the operator, whose license was on temporary hold because of his blood pressure, oversaw other workers who were loading new uranium fuel assemblies into the plant's Unit 2 reactor core October 21 and October 27. The report also said that Southern California Edison, the utility that operates the plant, should have used better scheduling software to make sure the operator was not assigned to work in an unapproved capacity. The report states that Edison may be subject to "escalated enforcement action" because of the incident. Source: [http://www.nctimes.com/news/science/article\\_240fdd93-5ab2-5d4c-88ed-20e4cd5dc6d6.html](http://www.nctimes.com/news/science/article_240fdd93-5ab2-5d4c-88ed-20e4cd5dc6d6.html)
  
9. *May 23, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission* – (North Carolina) **Alert declared due to Halon discharge in emergency diesel generator building.** At 3:35 p.m. May 23, Units 1 and 2 at the Brunswick nuclear plant near Southport, North Carolina declared an Alert condition due to a discharge of Halon gas into the basement of the emergency diesel generator building. Initial inspection indicated there was no fire. No off-site assistance was required and no personnel injuries occurred a result of the discharge. Both reactors continue to operate at 100 percent power. A later report confirmed one individual was inside the diesel generator building at the time of the Halon discharge. The individual evacuated the building but complained of chest pains about an hour after the incident. An ambulance was dispatched to transport the individual to the hospital. The licensee terminated the Alert at 7:43 p.m. based on restoring normal atmosphere conditions in the emergency diesel generator building. The initiating cause of this event is still being investigated. Source: <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/en.html#en46873>
  
10. *May 20, New York Times* – (International) **Regulators find design flaws in new reactors.** In a setback for the only model of nuclear reactor for which ground has been broken in the United States, government regulators have found additional problems with the design of its shield building, a crucial component, the chairman of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission said May 20. He said computations submitted by Westinghouse, the manufacturer of the new AP1000 reactor, about the building's design appeared to be wrong and "had led to more questions." He said the company had not used a range of possible temperatures for calculating potential seismic stresses on the shield building in the event of an earthquake, for example. Earlier in 2011, the commission staff said it needed additional calculations from Westinghouse to confirm the strength of the AP1000's shield building. The Southern Company has already dug the foundations and done other preliminary work for two of the AP1000 reactors

adjacent to its existing reactors at Plant Vogtle near Augusta, Georgia. South Carolina Electric and Gas has broken ground for another two, 20 miles northwest of Columbia. In addition to the plants in Georgia and South Carolina, ground has also been broken on four AP1000 reactors in China, two at Sanmen, and two at Haiyang.

Source: [http://www.nytimes.com/2011/05/21/business/energy-environment/21nuke.html?\\_r=2&bl=&pagewanted=all](http://www.nytimes.com/2011/05/21/business/energy-environment/21nuke.html?_r=2&bl=&pagewanted=all)

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## **Critical Manufacturing Sector**

11. *May 24, York Dispatch* – (Pennsylvania) **Fire at Wrightsville company causes \$150,000 in damage.** A fire at Donsco Inc. in Wrightsville, Pennsylvania, May 23 caused an estimated \$150,000 in damages, a fire official said. The Wrightsville fire chief said molten iron burned out the bottom of a smelting furnace, causing 10 tons of iron to leak onto the foundry floor. The iron then burned through hydraulic lines, setting leaking oil alight, he said. Flames reached the ceiling at one point, he said. Firefighters had to use a chemical fire suppressant on the blaze because of the reaction water has with molten metal. When water comes into contact with super-heated metals, it causes an explosion from the water turning to steam at a fast rate. The explosion sprays steam, boiling water and metals. No one was injured in the blaze, which was reported about 10:50 p.m. Firefighters had the fire under control about 11:20 p.m. Crews from 10 fire companies responded.  
Source: [http://www.inyork.com/local/ci\\_18124714](http://www.inyork.com/local/ci_18124714)
12. *May 24, American Metal Market* – (Maryland) **Worker injury delays Sparrows Point BF restart.** According to a union source, the restart of the "L" blast furnace at RG Steel LLC's integrated steel mill in Sparrows Point, Maryland, will be delayed by a few days following a furnace slip that resulted in three contractors suffering burn injuries, American Metal Market reported May 24.  
Source: <http://www.metalbulletin.com/Article/2835303/Flat-products/AMM-Worker-injury-delays-Sparrows-Point-BF-restart.html>
13. *May 24, American Metal Market* – (Alabama) **Nucor's Decatur mill has limited power TVA.** Nucor Corp. has "limited" power at its Decatur, Alabama sheet mill, a spokesman for the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) told American Metal Market May 23, and full power may not be restored until the utility's grid is more fully repaired, a process that could stretch into the summer months. "They do have power. They're not at the full load, but they do have power," the TVA spokesman said. He said he did not know whether Nucor had enough power to operate its melt shop. Power was initially lost when a tornadoes hit Alabama April 27.  
Source: <http://www.metalbulletin.com/Article/2835260/Flat-products/AMM-Nucors-Decatur-mill-has-limited-power-TVA.html>
14. *May 23, WISN 12 Milwaukee* – (Wisconsin) **Fire breaks out at south side factory.** Thick smoke spilled from the roof of the Milwaukee Malleable Co. May 23,

located at 29th Street and Montana Street in Milwaukee, Wisconsin; the building also houses the Milwaukee Tool and Equipment Co. Firefighters said the blaze started around 5 p.m. An employee said it appeared the fire started from a spark during the casting process. Firefighters said everyone was out of the building when they got on the scene. Crews at first tried to battle the blaze from inside, but as the fire quickly spread, they moved back and attacked it from outside and above. The building sits on a dead end and it is cut off by train tracks, which made it difficult for firefighters to get to. Source: <http://www.wisn.com/r/27997371/detail.html>

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## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

15. *May 23, Wired* – (International) **The Pentagon confronts new enemy: rust.** The U.S. Navy's Mega Rust 2011 conference is set to be held in June, *Wired* reported May 23. This annual get-together of military personnel, government officials, researchers, manufacturers, and suppliers seeks to share knowledge and advance understanding of how to deal with the corrosion of military hardware. Currently, rust costs the Defense Department \$23 billion a year, and affects everything from old jets, tankers, and bombers to Naval ships and planes. Even dealing with rust on the Air Force's F-22 is expected to cost millions. Combined with better maintenance, new technologies could cut costs by 30 percent over 20 years, an official with the Defense Department's Corrosion Office said. Named CorrDefense, the office was established in 2003 to eliminate rust from military hardware. Source: <http://www.wired.com/dangerroom/2011/05/the-pentagon-declares-war-on-rust/>
16. *May 23, KSWT 13 Yuma* – (California) **Military equipment stolen in Holtville.** The Imperial County Sheriff's office is looking into the theft of more than \$10,000 worth of equipment belonging to the military in Holtville, California. The sheriff's office received a report of the theft the night of May 22, but said the equipment could have been taken any time within the last month. The equipment was taken from a location on Slayton Road near North Underwood. Among the items stolen are 10 sets of front-end parts from military Jeeps, parts for a generator, and more than a dozen radio mounting plates. Source: <http://www.kswt.com/story/14699538/military-equipment-stolen-in-holtville>
17. *May 23, Navy Times* – (Virginia) **Norfolk Naval Shipyard CO fired.** According to U.S. Navy officials, the commanding officer of Norfolk Naval Shipyard in Portsmouth, Virginia has been temporarily removed from command while a formal investigation into the command environment at the yard is completed, *Navy Times* reported May 23. The stated reason for the firing was a loss of confidence in the officer's ability to command, a Navy spokeswoman said. The loss of confidence was related to "failure to ensure critical maintenance work was being performed according to procedure, and loss of situational awareness with respect to the status of ongoing submarine projects."



Source: <http://www.navytimes.com/news/2011/05/navy-norfolk-shipyard-commander-fired-052311w/>

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## **Banking and Finance Sector**

18. *May 24, Arlington Heights Daily Herald* – (Illinois) **4 indicted in Naperville 'skim' scam.** Four men were accused in a federal indictment of conspiring to “skim” credit card information from unsuspecting customers at a Naperville, Illinois restaurant, authorities said May 23. The men each face felony charges of conspiracy to commit credit card fraud. Two also face charges of substantive credit card fraud, possession of access-device making equipment, and aggravated identity theft. A special grand jury indictment filed in May accuses the men of using a handheld “skimming device” to obtain encoded information from the magnetic strips of credit cards. Authorities said the defendants then created counterfeit cards and used them to go shopping at retail stores in Lombard, Northlake, and Streamwood. In all, the alleged scheme resulted in losses of more than \$213,000, authorities said.  
Source: <http://www.dailyherald.com/article/20110524/news/705259985/>
  
19. *May 24, Lexington Herald-Leader* – (National) **Former Lexington employee pleads guilty in Big Brothers Big Sisters fraud.** The former office manager for Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Bluegrass in Kentucky pleaded guilty May 23 to bank fraud for cashing \$435,837 in checks on the organization's account, according to the U.S. attorney's office. The woman admitted she issued 142 fraudulent checks to other people from 2008 through October 2009. She would keep much of the cash, once in a while paying smaller amounts to those who cashed the checks at Central Bank, the plea agreement states. She would telephone Big Brothers' bookkeeper at Stivers and Co., an accounting firm hired by the agency, and authorize checks payable to third parties, according to the plea agreement. She would pick up the checks from Stivers and forge the signatures of Big Brothers board members who could sign checks. The convict would then give the checks to the third parties, who would cash them. The maximum penalty for the crime is 30 years in prison, a fine of up to \$1 million, and up to 5 years of supervised release.  
Source: <http://www.kentucky.com/2011/05/24/1750198/former-big-brothers-big-sisters.html>
  
20. *May 23, Reuters* – (International) **Gas tank attacks damage two Mexico banks; no injuries.** Two small explosive devices went off before dawn May 23 at two banks in Mexico City, Mexico, shattering windows but leaving no injuries, the city's top prosecutor said. No arrests have been made, but the Mexico City Attorney General (AG) said authorities suspect youth gangs were behind the attack. "There were just material damages," he told Mexican television. The attack did not appear related to the country's drug war, in which cartels have set off car bombs as they resist a government

crackdown. The explosive devices May 23 appeared to be using small butane tanks, the AG said. Images from Televisa network showed shattered glass on the floor and damaged furniture inside a BBVA Bancomer bank office on the city's west side. The other explosion was at a Santander Serfin branch, Reforma newspaper reported. A third device was left in another Santander Serfin branch but did not explode, Reforma reported.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/05/23/mexico-explosions-idUSN2315681720110523>

21. *May 23, Wall Street Journal* – (International) **Ohio couple pleads guilty to conspiring to finance Hezbollah.** A married couple from Toledo, Ohio, pleaded guilty May 23 to charges related to a plan to send hundreds of thousands of dollars to Hezbollah. The couple met multiple times between August 2009 and June 2010 with a confidential source working on behalf of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, during which time they discussed ways to secretly send money to Hezbollah leaders in Lebanon, court documents said. The confidential source delivered \$200,000 to the couple June 3, 2010, and told them he would return later in the day with more money, court documents said. Shortly thereafter, the couple was seen inside their home bundling a portion of the money in plastic wrap and duct tape to prepare it for concealment. The wife pleaded to one count of conspiracy, and the husband to a total of five counts that included conspiracy to provide support to a foreign terrorist organization, and conspiracy to violate money laundering law.

Source: <http://blogs.wsj.com/corruption-currents/2011/05/23/ohio-couple-pleads-guilty-to-conspiring-to-finance-hezbollah/>

22. *May 23, KWTV 9 Oklahoma City* – (Oklahoma) **Reward offered for Oklahoma City 'Pantyhose Posse'.** According to the FBI, two unknown white or Hispanic men entered the MidFirst Bank located on S.W. 44th Street in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, around 10:15 a.m. May 23 wearing black pantyhose over their heads. Investigators said one of the robbers vaulted the counter and verbally demanded hundred-dollar bills while holding a firearm. The other robber stood in the lobby area of the bank holding another firearm. The bank employees complied with the robbers' demand. The robbers gathered an undetermined amount of money and left the bank. Currently, law enforcement believes the so-called "Pantyhose Posse" is also responsible for two other Oklahoma City bank robberies. The first located at Bank of Oklahoma at 4324 S.E. 44th Street May 6, and Coppermark Bank at 6809 N. Meridian Avenue May 11. In addition to MidFirst's reward of \$4,000 dollars, the Oklahoma Banker's Association is offering \$2,000 in reward money, and Coppermark Bank also is offering \$2,000.

Source: <http://www.news9.com/story/14700454/reward-offered-for-information-on-the-pantyhose-posse>

23. *May 21, Stockton Record* – (California) **Alleged bank robber who used fake bombs hears string of charges.** A 58-year-old man accused of using phony bombs to threaten his victims in a string of bank robberies appeared in a Stockton, California courtroom May 21 to hear a judge read out the charges. Authorities said the man walked into the banks, each time placing on the counter a package, which he claimed to be an



explosive. He then demanded money, officials said. The alleged bank robberies took place at Bank of the West branches in Lockeford, Ripon, and Lodi, and at the Farmers & Merchants Bank in Linden. Officials have said they also suspect the man of similar robberies in Amador and Stanislaus counties, but May 21 the charges filed against him stemmed only from alleged cases in San Joaquin County. The robberies happened between December 2010 and May 2011. San Joaquin County Sheriff's deputies arrested the man May 18 at his Stockton home on Acacia Avenue. He is charged with four counts of second-degree robbery, and four counts of making a false bomb threat, according to the criminal complaint filed with the San Joaquin County Superior Court. Source:

[http://www.recordnet.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20110521/A\\_NEWS09/105210311](http://www.recordnet.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20110521/A_NEWS09/105210311)

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## **Transportation Sector**

24. *May 24, Associated Press* – (National) **At least 200 AA flights canceled over Texas storms.** More than 200 American Airlines flights have been canceled after storms rolled through Dallas-Fort Worth (DFW) International Airport in Dallas, Texas, and hail damaged some planes. An American Airlines spokeswoman said spring storms expected May 24 in North Texas, the Chicago and New York areas, could mean additional cancellations system wide. At DFW, 72 flights were canceled May 24, a day after thunderstorms led to cancellation of 130 flights at the carrier's main hub. The spokeswoman said 25 planes were inspected for possible hail damage. She said two planes found with minor damage have been repaired. Dozens of travelers ended up spending Monday night at DFW Airport, the world's eighth largest in terms of passengers.

Source: <http://www.star-telegram.com/2011/05/24/3098621/at-least-200-aa-flights-canceled.html>

25. *May 24, Examiner.com* – (North Carolina) **Fiery train crash on CSX in North Carolina kills one.** Two CSX trains collided May 24 in the small community of Mineral Springs, North Carolina. The crash and derailment killed one crew member and injured three more. There were nine cars derailed and a fire burning according to local reports. The fire seemed to be caused by a container load of cooking oil that was fueling the fire. According to CSX officials, the other eight railcars were carrying common freight, and no hazardous material was spilled. Several homes were evacuated due to the fire, and morning commuters were being detoured around the area. The crash occurred on the Monroe Subdivision of the CSX that runs on the former Seaboard Air Line tracks between Hamlet, North Carolina, and Atlanta, Georgia.

Source: <http://www.examiner.com/transportation-headlines-in-national/fiery-train-crash-on-csx-north-carolina-kills-one>

26. *May 24, Associated Press* – (International) **Hundreds of flights canceled as ash cloud hits.** Airlines clashed with regulators and pilots May 24 as passengers braced themselves for days of uncertainty and chaos caused by a volcanic ash cloud being blown across the British Isles. England's weather service said ash from Iceland's Grimsvotn volcano had moved over parts of Scotland, prompting air regulators to warn airlines they had to seek permission to fly to and from the area. Hundreds of flights were canceled in Britain and Ireland. A weather service spokesman said volcanic ash had been detected on the ground in Scotland, and a special laser based on the Shetland Islands northeast of the Scottish mainland also detected ash in the atmosphere. "All the data we are receiving confirms our forecasts, that there is high-density ash over Scotland," he said. Experts said particles in the ash could stall jet engines and sandblast planes' windows. Irish budget airline Ryanair immediately challenged the results. It said it sent its own airplane into Scottish airspace and found no ash. The main international body representing carriers, the International Air Transport Association, complained to the British government about the way it had handled the issue, saying it should have had Cessna planes ready to carry out tests, instead of relying on the weather service. But other airlines were more willing to follow official advice. The spokesman for Aer Lingus, said it had canceled 20 flights between Ireland and Scotland.  
Source: <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/43148143/ns/travel/?GT1=43001>

27. *May 23, WPIX 11 New York City* – (New Jersey) **Alarming security breach: 'Iraqi insurgent' stowaway lived In NJ warehouse.** The chairman of the U.S. House Homeland Security Committees is demanding a "top to bottom" investigation of a January security breach at the Port Newark-Elizabeth Marine Terminal in Newark and Elizabeth, New Jersey. A stowaway who lived there for two weeks, told authorities he fought as an insurgent against U.S. soldiers in Iraq. He reportedly arrived in New Jersey in mid-January as a stowaway on an Italian freighter. The stowaway told Port Authority of New York and New Jersey police he spent two weeks in a warehouse at the port before they discovered him. The man originally told authorities that he is Iraqi and fought as an insurgent against U.S. soldiers in Fallujah. A bit of digging, though, indicated he's really Egyptian — although he has no known ties to the Taliban or Al Qaida.  
Source: <http://www.wpix.com/news/local/wpix-iraqi-insurgent-stowaway-lived-in-nj-warehouse-after-breaching-us-security-20110523,0,7047279.story>

28. *May 23, KJTV 34 Lubbock* – (Texas) **Airplane cleaning contractor admits to making bomb threat.** A former airplane cleaning contract worker at Lubbock International Airport in Lubbock, Texas, is awaiting sentencing after he pled guilty to making a bomb threat. According to court documents, the former contractor admitted to posting the threat on Youtube in April 2010. The comment stated he was building a bomb and had plans to blow up a plane. FBI agents arrested the 20-year-old after he was indicted by a federal grand jury.  
Source: [http://www.myfoxlubbock.com/news/local/story/johnathan-Ivins-lubbock-bomb-threat-youtube/13R2SdIGUUGwtbp\\_e8bNVA.csp?rss=2345](http://www.myfoxlubbock.com/news/local/story/johnathan-Ivins-lubbock-bomb-threat-youtube/13R2SdIGUUGwtbp_e8bNVA.csp?rss=2345)

29. *May 21, United Press International* – (International) **Pirates plead guilty in killings.** Three Somalis have pleaded guilty in the piracy that led to the killings of four U.S. citizens aboard the yacht *Quest* in February. All of the three suspects entered guilty pleas in federal court in Norfolk, Virginia May 20. The charges carry mandatory life sentences. In their plea agreements, the three men said they "played no role in the murder of the four United States citizens."  
Source: [http://www.upi.com/Top\\_News/US/2011/05/21/Pirates-plead-guilty-in-killings/UPI-10711305982905/](http://www.upi.com/Top_News/US/2011/05/21/Pirates-plead-guilty-in-killings/UPI-10711305982905/)

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## Postal and Shipping Sector

30. *May 23, Elmira Star-Gazette* – (New York) **Suspicious device in mailbox closes Elmira street.** A postal worker May 23 discovered what he thought was an explosive device in a mail drop box in Elmira, New York but it turned out not to be a bomb, according to police. A letter carrier said he started to empty the drop box in front of Elmira Savings Bank on East Water Street a little before 2 p.m. when he made the unusual discovery. The letter carrier who has been employed by the U.S. Postal Service for 16 years, said he closed the box and called his supervisor to tell him that there was something in the drop box that was not right. "It looked like somebody tried to make a makeshift bomb or something," he said. His supervisor told him to get away from the box and called police. Elmira police and fire departments closed East Water Street from Baldwin Street to Lake Street for about 30 minutes while they conducted their investigation. "Apparently, it was supposed to be designed to look like a bomb, but it wasn't," said the police chief. "It was a flare wrapped in a magazine with a bunch of paraphernalia. No threats against anybody or anything like that."  
Source:  
<http://www.stargazette.com/article/20110523/NEWS01/105230341/Suspicious-device-in-mailbox-closes-Elmira-street?odyssey=tab|mostpopular|text|FRONTPAGE>
31. *May 23, KTRK 13 Houston* – (Texas) **Authorities probe white substance in letter at school.** The Houston Police Department is testing a white substance found in a letter at John Paul II Catholic School in Houston, Texas around 10:45 a.m. May 23. Houston police, a Houston Fire Department haz-mat team, and a postal inspector were dispatched to the school to investigate the letter. Authorities are now testing the substance to determine what it is. Another envelope had been mailed to the school before. In the fall, someone sent powder-filled letters to 17 Houston-area schools. Authorities put up a \$100,000 reward for information leading to the person who sent the letters, but never made any arrests.  
Source: <http://abclocal.go.com/ktrk/story?section=news/local&id=8148234>
32. *May 23, Lawrenceville Patch* – (New Jersey) **'Suspicious' powder spilled from envelope was baking soda; police suspect mailer wanted to cause panic.** The

“suspicious” white powder that spilled out of an envelope May 23 in New Jersey, prompting the evacuation of one of the buildings in the Princeton Pike Office Park and the response of the Trenton Fire Department’s hazardous materials team, turned out to be an everyday substance – baking soda, according to a spokesman for Lawrence Township police. But while it was harmless, police suspect that whoever filled the envelope and sent it through the mail was deliberately trying to prey on people’s memories of the 2001 anthrax attacks and cause a panic, the spokesman said. He said investigators are working to track the route taken by the envelope, which appears to have been introduced into the U.S. postal system in New York and was addressed to a New Jersey state agency.

Source: <http://lawrenceville.patch.com/articles/photosvideo-suspicious-powder-scare-in-lawrence#photo-6211299>

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## **Agriculture and Food Sector**

33. *May 24, Pittsburgh Tribune-Review* – (National) **Honeybees continue to die off at 'unsustainable' level.** Winter losses of honeybees impacted by still-unexplained die-offs remained about the same as the previous 5 years, but the level still concerns beekeepers in Pennsylvania. About 30 percent of managed honeybee colonies across the nation died between October and April, according to a preliminary analysis of an annual survey conducted by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Apiary Inspectors of America. Winter losses have ranged from 29 percent to 36 percent since late 2006. "That's unsustainable," a senior extension associate and bee expert at Penn State University said. "The lack of increase in losses is marginally encouraging in the sense that the problem does not appear to be getting worse for honeybees and beekeepers," a USDA entomologist who helped conduct the study said in a news release. "But continued losses of this size put tremendous pressure on the economic sustainability of commercial beekeeping." Beekeepers reported that losses of 13 percent would be economically acceptable, the survey said. Average colony losses for individual beekeepers was about 38 percent, down from 42 percent in 2010. Survey reports were fielded from 5,572 beekeepers who manage more than 15 percent of the country's estimated 2.7 million colonies.

Source: [http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/pittsburghtrib/news/s\\_738560.html](http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/pittsburghtrib/news/s_738560.html)

34. *May 24, Food Safety News* – (Illinois) **Salad suspected in Illinois salmonella outbreak.** Although health department investigators have not been able to pinpoint the cause of a salmonella outbreak in St. Charles, Illinois, they said evidence suggests it was the salad at Portillo's restaurant. Fifteen people have been confirmed infected with the outbreak strain of salmonella, according to a news release May 23 from the Kane County Health Department. Eleven of the case patients reported eating at Portillo's, and 7 of those reported eating a salad. It is not known how the salad might have become contaminated. Food samples collected from the restaurant all tested negative. Two Portillo's employees tested positive for Salmonella Typhimurium, but investigators identified them as likely victims of the outbreak, not the source. So far, 76 employees

have been cleared to return to work after twice testing negative in tests conducted 48 hours apart. The onset of the first illness was April 5, and onset of the last illness was April 30. Three of the case patients became so ill they were hospitalized. Kane County said it will work with the Illinois Department of Public Health and the DuPage, DeKalb, and Chicago health departments in investigating the outbreak.

Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/05/salad-suspected-in-illinois-salmonella-outbreak/>

35. *May 24, WBAY 2 Green Bay* – (Wisconsin) **Fire damaged semis, threatened Schreiber Foods plant.** Fire damaged several semi-trucks and a building at the Schreiber Foods plant May 24 in De Pere, Wisconsin. The De Pere Fire Department said flames spread from one semi tractor and its trailer to another trailer, reaching into the loading dock doors. The fire department credits the sprinkler system for preventing a "catastrophic fire." The fire was put out shortly after 4 p.m. The plant was evacuated and no one was hurt. The fire is under investigation.  
Source: <http://www.wbay.com/story/14700779/2011/05/23/fire-damages-semi-trucks-at-schreiber-foods-plant>
36. *May 23, Food Safety News* – (International) **Listeria test prompts cheese recall.** Atalanta Corp. of Elizabeth, New Jersey, recalled some bulk cheese because it may be contaminated with *Listeria monocytogenes*. In a news release, the company said that after routine testing by the Belgium manufacturer revealed the presence of *Listeria monocytogenes*, the company recalled less than 70 cases of its "Nazareth Classic" and "Nazareth Light" cheeses. The cheeses were distributed mostly in North East retail stores. Recall notices were sent to retail outlets that received the potentially affected product. All remaining inventory was quarantined and will be destroyed under U.S. Food and Drug Administration supervision. No illnesses were reported.  
Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/05/listeria-test-prompts-cheese-recall/>
37. *May 23, WLS 7 Chicago* – (Illinois) **Cattle truck flips on ramp, spills cows onto I-294.** A cattle truck flipped over May 22 on an interstate ramp in the south suburbs of Chicago, Illinois, snarling traffic and killing 16 cows. The carrier flipped onto its side on top of the ramp wall, and seven cows fell out of the truck and onto the interstate below. The cows fell from the ramp from eastbound I-80 onto the northbound Tri-State Tollway (I-294) near Hazel Crest. The ramp was closed for hours following the flipover, reopening at 7:15 p.m. One cow escaped from the truck as crews were trying to upright it. The cow, which had a broken leg, charged at some of the workers. Illinois State Police (ISP) said they were forced to shoot it to put it down. ISP confirmed one of the cows fell on to the roof of a car on the interstate below. The driver suffered minor injuries and was taken to the hospital. The ramp remained shut down as of 5 p.m. May 23 as crews cleared up the scene. They had to take special care to upright the truck, since dozens of cows remained alive inside. Traffic in the area was backed up for miles. There was no word on what caused the crash.  
Source: <http://abclocal.go.com/wls/story?section=news/local&id=8145137>

38. *May 20, U.S. Food and Drug Administration* – (National) **FDA: Do not feed SimplyThick to premature infants.** The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is advising parents, caregivers, and health care providers not to feed SimplyThick, a thickening product, to premature infants. The product may cause necrotizing enterocolitis (NEC), a life-threatening condition. FDA first learned of adverse events possibly linked to the product May 13. To date, the agency is aware of 15 cases of NEC, including 2 deaths, involving premature infants who were fed SimplyThick for varying amounts of time. The product was mixed with mothers' breast milk or infant formula products. Illnesses have been reported from at least four different medical centers. The illnesses involve premature infants who became sick over the past 6 months. SimplyThick was added to the feeding regimen of infants — who later developed NEC — to help with swallowing difficulties stemming from complications of premature birth. Parents and caregivers who have medical concerns or concerns or questions related to the use of the product should contact their health care provider. The product is sold in packets of individual servings and in 64-ounce dispenser bottles. It can be purchased from distributors and local pharmacies throughout the United States. Source: <http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm256253.htm>

For another story, see item [25](#)

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## **Water Sector**

39. *May 23, KXLY 4 Spokane* – (Washington) **Burst water main shuts down Perry.** A 12-inch water main break at the intersection of North Foothills and Perry Street in Spokane, Washington, flooded the roadway May 23, and has forced the city to shut down the intersection for the rest of the week to repair the damage. City crews said the cast iron main broke around 4 a.m. The water was flowing slowly at first and gradually picked up speed and intensity, sending a river of debris down the street in all directions, including the city's water department building. City crews scrambled to stop the flow. It took two men to close a valve on North Foothills. After 90 minutes and an estimated 2.4 million gallons of water escaped, workers were able to shut it off, leaving a hole about 15 feet wide and 15 feet long. Source: <http://www.kxly.com/news/27988534/detail.html>

For more stories, see items [4](#), [48](#),

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## **Public Health and Healthcare Sector**

40. *May 24, HealthDay News* – (National) **CDC warns against exposure to 'mad cow'-like brain diseases.** U.S. researchers have new data about how humans are exposed to "prion" diseases, which are rare, progressive conditions that affect brain function, such



as variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, chronic wasting disease, and bovine spongiform encephalopathy, commonly known as "mad cow disease." The study, published in the June issue of the Journal of the American Dietetic Association, found that eating wild deer meat (venison) is one of the most common ways people are exposed to these serious, debilitating diseases. In examining the results of a 2006-2007 population survey conducted by the Foodborne Diseases Active Surveillance Network (FoodNet), U.S. Centers for Disease Control researchers were able to track how participants may have been exposed to prion diseases. Investigators found that 29.5 percent of those polled traveled to at least one of the nine countries where bovine spongiform encephalopathy was widespread, with England being the most common destination (19.4 percent of survey participants). Travelers to England were also more likely to stay longer. In fact, nearly one-quarter remained in the country for at least a month. Moreover, 18.5 percent of those polled hunted for deer, and 1.2 percent hunted for elk in regions known for chronic wasting disease. Venison was eaten by 67.4 percent of those surveyed. Of those who ate deer meat, 88.6 percent got it from the wild.

Source: <http://www.wsfa.com/Global/story.asp?S=14699182>

41. *May 23, Associated Press* – (Minnesota) **Man who allegedly pointed gun at others in Minneapolis medical center taken into custody.** A standoff May 23 at a medical center near Minneapolis, Minnesota ended peacefully. The Minneapolis Star Tribune reported a patient apparently pointed his gun at others on the second floor of the Axis Medical Center. The standoff lasted about 45 minutes and ended shortly before 5 p.m. The man eventually sat down on the floor away from his weapon and was shot with a Taser, handcuffed, and taken into custody.  
Source:  
<http://www.greenfieldreporter.com/view/story/c093ce048d014ffcb1be5a5a15abcd94/MN--Clinic-Standoff-Minneapolis/>
  
42. *May 23, Chicago Tribune* – (Illinois) **Regulators found safety holes at North Chicago military hospital.** Federal regulators found dangerous working conditions at a military hospital in Chicago, Illinois, but said May 23 officials have taken steps to correct them. The safety violations were found during inspections in August and September of 2010 at the Capt. James Lovell Federal Health Care Center and ranged from incomplete stairway railings to inadequate exit signs. The health care center received notices for 11 serious safety violations, including a lack of middle guardrails on stairs and elevated runways, failing to keep exit routes free and unobstructed, failing to properly post signs along an exit route, and failing to protect wires from damage. The medical center received notices for nine serious health violations related to blood-borne pathogens and asbestos, including inadequate asbestos awareness training, and not providing the hepatitis B vaccine to some employees whose work exposed them to blood. The violations found in 2010 were when the center was known as the North Chicago VA Medical Center.  
Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/northnorthwest/ct-met-veteran-health-care-center-05-20110523,0,3124597.story>

43. *May 21, Buffalo News* – (New York) **Amherst man charged with fraud.** An Amherst, New York businessman is accused of pilfering \$900,000 to \$1 million from a charitable organization, patient trust accounts, and payroll funds at two nursing homes that he owns. A felony charge of scheming to defraud was announced May 20 by a U.S. attorney. The suspect was charged after a criminal investigation by Buffalo, New York agents of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and the FBI. Authorities identified him as owner of the Fairchild Manor Nursing Home in Lewiston, the Batavia Nursing Home in Batavia, and as a former director of a charity known as the American Friends of Assaf Harofeh Medical Center. He also is accused of withholding payroll taxes from employee salaries and then keeping the money for his own use, rather than sending it to the IRS. He used funds from the charity to pay for “lavish personal expenses” and allegedly took \$190,000 from the charity between March 2006 and July 2007, a federal prosecutor said. A plea of not guilty was entered for the suspect during a brief federal court appearance late May 20.

Source: <http://www.buffalonews.com/city/article429248.ece>

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## **Government Facilities Sector**

44. *May 24, Associated Press* – (Hawaii) **Gun fired at Hawaii school, 1 student injured.** A loaded handgun brought to Highlands Intermediate School, a middle school in Pearl City, Hawaii, by a student was fired on campus before school started May 23, narrowly missing one student and leaving another with minor injuries, police said. The .45-caliber Glock went off after the student carrying the handgun pointed it at another student, and the second student pushed the gun away, a Honolulu police captain said. The bullet ricocheted off a lava rock wall and went through the jacket of the boy who batted the weapon away. It is believed to have ricocheted a second time before hitting another student's right hand and thigh. Scratches to his finger and thigh were treated with bandages, the captain said. It was the first time on record of a gun being discharged on a public school campus in Hawaii, a U.S. Education Department spokeswoman said. The 14-year-old who brought the gun to the school was arrested on suspicion of attempted murder, police said. The gun was registered in the name of someone with a different last name from the 14-year-old, the captain said. It was unclear how the teen obtained the gun. Classes continued at the school while police tape blocked off the basketball court area. Police later removed the tape and coned off the area of the shooting.

Source: <http://www.seattlepi.com/news/article/Gun-fired-at-Hawaii-school-1-student-injured-1391985.php>

45. *May 23, Associated Press* – (Colorado) **Fort Carson fire 90 percent contained.** A wildfire that burned about 25 acres on Fort Carson near Colorado Springs, Colorado was 90 percent contained. Officials of the U.S. Army post said firefighters expect full containment later in the day May 23. The cause of the fire has not been disclosed. Fire engine crews from Fort Carson, and a hand crew from the El Paso County Sheriff's

Department were on the scene.

Source: <http://www.newsfirst5.com/news/fort-carson-fire-90-percent-contained1/>

46. *May 23, Fontana Herald News* – (California) **Fire destroys administrative building at Bloomington High School; no injuries are reported, but damages are estimated at more than \$250,000.** A fire May 21 destroyed the administrative building at Bloomington High School, and investigators have determined the blaze was intentionally set, according to the San Bernardino County Fire Department in California. There were no injuries, but the interior and contents of the building are a complete loss, with early damages estimated at more than \$250,000. Firefighters responded to the fire at 3:49 a.m., and with a quick interior attack, they were able to bring the second alarm blaze under control in about 40 minutes, according to the public information officer. About 45 firefighters from San Bernardino County Fire, with assistance from Rialto and Colton Fire, kept the fire contained to the administration offices. The cause of the fire is under investigation by San Bernardino County Fire, with the assistance of San Bernardino County Sheriff's Arson/Bomb unit.

Source:

<http://www.fontanaheraldnews.com/articles/2011/05/23/news/doc4dd82e56aae49204976672.txt>

47. *May 23, WSLs 10 Roanoke* – (Virginia) **Craig County man charged with threatening to kill President Obama.** The U.S. Secret Service charged a Craig County, Virginia man with threatening to kill the U.S. President. The man was in jail when he wrote the threatening letters May 5 and 6, investigators said. A federal complaint on file in U.S. district court in Roanoke claimed deputies at the Botetourt-Craig Regional Jail uncovered the letters since it is jail policy to inspect all outgoing mail for contraband. Visible on at least one of the mailings was a cross hair with the words "Got you in my cross hairs" written on the envelope, according to the court document. Investigators wrote they found the phrase "The Hate Nation is comin' for you and your people," written in the letter, along with a newspaper article on the President with a cross hair drawn over a picture of the President. The words "Die Slow" were also written near the President's picture, as was the phrase "die slow FBI DEA DEA," according to the federal complaint. The man was in the jail pending trial on six unrelated charges in Craig County Circuit Court, including probation violation, and credit card fraud. In the federal court filings, a Secret Service agent wrote the man confessed to writing the threats during a May 12 interview.

Source: <http://www2.wsls.com/news/2011/may/23/4/secret-service-charges-craig-county-man-threatenin-ar-1058548/>

48. *May 22, St. Petersburg Times* – (North Carolina) **Marine Corps can't find records of critical tests.** Some soil at the Camp Lejeune U.S. Marine training base in North Carolina, was so saturated with fuel and chemicals by the late 1980s, the Marine Corps knew it was critical to test the air in nearby buildings for carcinogens. Even though it was announced in 1988 by an environmental engineer that testing would begin "in the very near future," nothing in the vast collection of public records detailing one of the nation's worst contamination sites shows the Corps kept that promise. The only indoor

air quality testing reflected in records occurred a decade or more later. And by then, fuel odors were so bad five buildings would be demolished. After weeks of searching their files, Corps officials acknowledged to the St. Petersburg Times they could find no documentation testing was completed before the late 1990s. A Marine spokesman said testing may have occurred. Records, he said, may have simply been destroyed pursuant to the Marines' document-retention guidelines. Fuel and chemical fumes are one of the topics federal scientists expect to examine as they determine if up to 1 million Marines and civilian employees exposed to contaminants in water and air at Camp Lejeune suffered adverse health effects. People who may have been exposed over a 30-year period come from every state. About 170,000 people who lived or worked on the base have signed up for a registry to get updates of research. Contaminated drinking water is the focus of current research and undoubtedly exposed far more people than air. Source: <http://www.tampabay.com/news/military/marine-corps-cant-find-records-of-critical-tests/1170791>

For more stories, see items [31](#), [32](#), and [60](#)

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## **Emergency Services Sector**

49. *May 24, Reuters* – (California) **Supreme Court orders California prisoner release.** The U.S. Supreme Court May 23 ordered California to release tens of thousands of inmates or take other steps to ease overcrowding in its prisons to prevent "needless suffering and death." By a 5-4 vote, the high court told the nation's largest state prison system to sharply cut its inmate population in stages over 2 years in one of the biggest prison release orders in U.S. history. A Justice said for the court majority that the medical and mental health care provided by California's prisons had fallen below the standard of decency required by the U.S. Constitution. He cited suicidal inmates being held for prolonged periods in telephone booth-sized cages, backlogs of up to 700 prisoners waiting to see a doctor for care, and as many as 54 inmates sharing a single toilet. California's 33 adult prisons were designed to hold about 80,000 inmates and now have about 145,000. Because of prison population reductions while the case has been on appeal, the Justice calculated the state may have to release 37,000 more inmates or take other measures, such as putting low-risk offenders into community-based programs, and building more prisons. Source: <http://www.myvictoriaonline.com/pages/9900428.php?contentType=4&contentId=8210377>
50. *May 23, Billings Gazette* – (Montana) **Police jackets stolen from unmarked car.** Eleven Billings, Montana Police Department investigations division jackets and a radio were stolen from an unmarked police car on the West End either May 21 or 22. The police sergeant said the car was parked at an officer's house and had two boxes of jackets and the radio inside. The new jackets were supposed to be given to officers May 23. The suspect made off with one of the jackets and an EF Johnson radio. The jackets

are black with "Billings Police Investigations Division" embroidered on the front left side and "Police/Investigations Division" written on the back in yellow. The police sergeant said anyone who feels suspicious about someone wearing a similar jacket can ask to see a badge or identification.

Source: [http://billingsgazette.com/news/local/crime-and-courts/blogs/crime-watch/article\\_b578213d-f811-54f7-9f7c-4777698e66f3.html](http://billingsgazette.com/news/local/crime-and-courts/blogs/crime-watch/article_b578213d-f811-54f7-9f7c-4777698e66f3.html)

51. *May 23, Knoxville News Sentinel* – (Tennessee) **Tractor-trailer damages emergency vehicles on I-75.** Three emergency response vehicles responding to a wreck and parked in the inside lane of Interstate 75 in Clinton, Tennessee were struck and damaged by a tractor-trailer May 21, officials said. About 15 rescue personnel from the Knoxville, Tennessee Volunteer Emergency Rescue Squad, Heiskell Volunteer Fire Department, and Rural/Metro were on the scene but no one was injured, officials said. The crews were responding to a wreck where a vehicle had overturned about 1 a.m. off the northbound lanes of I-75 between Emory and Raccoon Valley roads in Knox County. A 5-year-old girl was seriously injured, according to reports. The vehicles were parked with their emergency lights flashing. The northbound lanes of I-75 were closed for several hours after the incident, according to reports.

Source: <http://www.knoxnews.com/news/2011/may/23/tractor-trailer-damages-emergency-vehicles-i-75/>

For more stories, see items [60](#) and [65](#)

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## **Information Technology Sector**

52. *May 24, IDG News Service* – (International) **Dimension Data finds vulnerabilities on Cisco devices.** Large numbers of companies using Cisco network equipment are still vulnerable to a single security vulnerability flaw nearly 2 years after a patch was issued, an analysis of network scans by Dimension Data for its 2011 Network Barometer Report has found. Overall, Dimension's Technology Lifecycle Management assessment service discovered that an average of 73 percent of the 270 assessments it carried out on Cisco-dominated global companies had at least 1 known device security vulnerability that had yet to be patched. This held true for companies of all sizes and across all geographies. A single prominent vulnerability, Cisco PSIRT (Cisco Product Security Incident Response Team) 109444, was found on 66 percent of the networks reviewed, accounting for much of the security exposure it found. PSIRT 10944 has been rated by the industry Common Vulnerability Scoring System as being between 6.4 and 7.8 out of 10 in terms of severity (moderately critical), and capable of allowing an attacker to hit affected devices with a successful DDoS attack, Dimension Data said.

Source:

[http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9216988/Dimension\\_Data\\_finds\\_vulnerabilities\\_on\\_Cisco\\_devices](http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9216988/Dimension_Data_finds_vulnerabilities_on_Cisco_devices)

53. *May 24, The Register* – (International) **LinkedIn slashes cookie lifespan after research exposes security flaws.** LinkedIn said it would reduce the persistence of cookies it uses to identify users of the business-focused social networking site following the discovery of security issues with the site that create a possible means for fraudsters to hijack profiles. A security researcher discovered LinkedIn session cookies are transmitted over an unsecured HTTP connection even in cases where users follow the option of signing in over a secure (SSL) connection. These cookies remain active for up to a year. Hackers who captured these cookies could obtain unauthorized access to other users' accounts. The LEO\_AUTH\_TOKEN cookie grants access to an associated account irrespective of whether or not users are logged in at the time, the researcher warned. These cookies work for up to a year or until a user changes their password and logs in using this new password, generating a fresh authentication token. LinkedIn boasts more than 100 million registered users. In response to the research, LinkedIn reduced the persistence of the authentication cookie from 1 year to 3 months. Also, the business-focused social network is extending plans to support SSL across its site — not just during logins.  
Source: [http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/05/24/linkedin\\_cookie\\_vuln/](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/05/24/linkedin_cookie_vuln/)
54. *May 24, The Register* – (International) **Exploited Hotmail bug stole email without warning.** Microsoft has patched a bug in its Hotmail e-mail service that attackers were exploiting to silently steal confidential correspondences and user contacts from unsuspecting victims. The vulnerability was actively being exploited using e-mails that contained malicious scripts, a Trend Micro researcher said May 23. Successful attacks required only that a Hotmail user open the malicious e-mail or view it in a preview window. The commands embedded in the e-mails uploaded users' correspondences and user contacts to servers under the control of attackers without requiring the victim to click on links or otherwise take any action. The scripts also had the capability of enabling e-mail forwarding on the targeted Hotmail account, allowing attackers to view e-mails sent to the victim in the future.  
Source:  
[http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/05/24/microsoft\\_hotmail\\_email\\_theft\\_attack/](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/05/24/microsoft_hotmail_email_theft_attack/)
55. *May 24, Softpedia* – (International) **Hackers continue to exploit holes in Sony's Web properties.** Hacking outfit LulzSec hacked into the Sony Music Online's Japanese Web site and leaked the database structure. The pastebin link does not lead to a full database dump, but to a listing of the tables and columns that can be found inside it. Instead of extracting and publishing the data themselves, the hackers made public two SQL injection vulnerabilities that can be exploited by anyone with a simple understanding. The LulzSec members also mentioned there are "two other databases hosted on this boxxy box" and encouraged people to go for them on their own. SQL injection vulnerabilities occur when user input is not properly sanitized. They can be exploited by attackers to access the underlying database with the credentials of the vulnerable Web site. A Romanian hacker known as d3v11 disclosed two other vulnerabilities in Sony Web properties. One is also an SQL injection located in the Sony Pictures Italia Web site, while the other is a cross-site scripting (XSS) flaw on Sony.com.



Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Hackers-Continue-to-Exploit-Holes-in-Sony-s-Web-Properties-202012.shtml>

56. *May 23, threatpost* – (International) **Black Hole exploit kit available for free.** Several weeks after the source code for the Zeus crimeware kit turned up on the Web, the Black Hole exploit kit now appears to be available for download for free as well. Black Hole normally sells for \$1,500 for an annual license, and is currently one of the more powerful attack toolkits on the market. The Black Hole exploit kit is somewhat newer and less well-known than attack toolkits such as Zeus and Eleonore, but it has been used by attackers for major Web-based attacks for the last few months. Researchers have found that thousands of URLs have been infected with Black Hole exploit code, which is then used to infect site visitors via drive-by downloads. Kits such as Black Hole and Zeus typically will sell for upwards of \$1,000 for an annual license, and some of them also give buyers the option to add extra modules and exploits for additional fees.

Source: [http://threatpost.com/en\\_us/blogs/black-hole-exploit-kit-available-free-052311](http://threatpost.com/en_us/blogs/black-hole-exploit-kit-available-free-052311)

57. *May 23, Softpedia* – (International) **Qakbot increasingly prevalent this quarter.** Security researchers from Symantec warn that Qakbot, a data stealing piece of malware, has registered an activity spike during April which continued into May. Qakbot dates back to 2009 and the main infection vector used by its creators are drive-by download attacks that exploit vulnerabilities in outdated software. The piece of malware is technically a worm because it has self-propagation mechanisms that involve copying itself to network shares and removable drives. Once running on a computer, the worm can download and execute additional files, steal and send data to its creators, and open a backdoor for them to control the system. The Symantec malware researchers who monitored Qakbot for the past few years, recorded a significant spike in the malware's activity in April. The worm's creators released new variants that were able to spread very quickly, peaking at almost 250,000 hits in the second half of April. This activity was significantly different than that of similar malware, suggesting a renewed interest. The researchers warn users, especially those in corporate environments where this worm thrives best, to be on the lookout for the Qakbot. It can steal keystrokes, digital certificates, POP3 account passwords, and FTP credentials, which are then used to infect Web pages with drive-by download code. It also targets online banking session tokens.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Qakbot-Increasingly-Prevalent-this-Quarter-201792.shtml>

58. *May 23, The Register* – (International) **Researchers find irreparable flaw in popular CAPTCHAs.** Computer scientists have developed software that easily defeats audio CAPTCHAs offered on account registration pages of a half-dozen popular Web sites by exploiting inherent weaknesses in the automated tests designed to prevent fraud. Decaptcha is a two-phase audio-CAPTCHA solver that correctly breaks the puzzles with a 41-percent to 89-percent success rate on sites including eBay, Yahoo, Digg, Authorize.net, and Microsoft's Live.com. The program works by removing background noise from the audio files, allowing only the spoken characters needed to complete the

test to remain. In virtually all of the tests, Decaptcha was able to correctly solve the puzzle at least once in every 100 attempts, making the technique suitable for botmasters with large armies of compromised computers. The high success rate was largely the result of the ease in removing sound distortions known as background noise, intermediate noise, and constant noise inserted into the background to throw off speech-recognition programs. Most audio-based CAPTCHA systems are wide open to the attack.

Source: [http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/05/23/microsoft\\_yahoo\\_captchas\\_busted/](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/05/23/microsoft_yahoo_captchas_busted/)

### Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at [sos@us-cert.gov](mailto: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

59. *May 24, Waterbury Republican-American* – (Connecticut) **Texas men charged after trooper finds them on tower.** Two men from Texas who got around a barbed-wire fence and climbed the communications tower at Mohawk State Forest in Cornwall, Connecticut were arrested May 23. State police said a 20-year-old man, of Spring Branch, and the 26-year-old man, of Fredericksburg, were in the tower when a state trooper spotted lights flickering from it while he was on routine patrol. The 20-year-old was charged with second-degree criminal trespass and delivery of alcohol to a minor. The 26-year-old was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of a controlled substance, possession of liquor and second-degree criminal trespass. They were both held overnight on \$5,000 bond and arraigned May 23 in Bantam Superior Court. Police said there was no apparent damage to the communications tower.  
Source: <http://www.rep-am.com/news/local/doc4ddba0f75b4cf660150141.txt>

60. *May 20, Nextgov* – (National) **LightSquared cell network knocks out first responders' GPS in tests.** Initial tests of a controversial cellular broadband network planned by LightSquared showed the company's system knocked out global positioning system (GPS) receivers used by first responders. LightSquared of Reston, Virginia, tested its system last month at Holloman Air Force Base, New Mexico, with the participation of state police vehicles and county ambulances, both of which experienced outages from the company's cell tower, according to the director of the State of New Mexico E911 program. LightSquared operates in the 1525-1559 MHz and 1626.5-1660.5 MHz bands, and the Federal Communications Commission directed the tests to determine if the network interfered with GPS systems that operate in the nearby 1559-1610 MHz bands. The director of E911, in a May 11 letter to the director of the Air Force Global Positioning Directorate said the results of the April tests, "substantiate concerns that the LightSquared network will cause interference to GPS signals and

jeopardize 911 and public safety nationwide." LightSquared, the GPS industry, and numerous federal agencies are conducting tests through June to determine the extent of interference from the company's system to GPS receivers. The Federal Aviation Administration said another test of the LightSquared system started May 23 in Las Vegas, Nevada and will continue through May 27. FAA warned of potential GPS outages within 300 miles of the LightSquared tower in Boulder City, Nevada, 25 miles southeast of Las Vegas. The U.S. defense and transportation departments have serious concerns about the impact LightSquared's network of 40,000 cell towers will have on GPS receivers. LightSquared maintains the interference is not caused by its system, but by sensitive GPS receivers that "see" into the frequency band the network uses.

Source: [http://www.nextgov.com/nextgov/ng\\_20110520\\_9569.php](http://www.nextgov.com/nextgov/ng_20110520_9569.php)

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## **Commercial Facilities Sector**

61. *May 23, City News Service* – (California) **Unknown fumes at Banning Dr.'s office sends 2 to hospital, others treated.** Two people who were exposed to an unknown type of fumes at a Banning, California strip mall were hospitalized May 23 and businesses were evacuated while investigators tried unsuccessfully to find the source of the odor. Around 12 p.m., employees and customers at the mall, located at 3055 W. Ramsey Street, complained a strong odor was making them ill. The odor was originally thought to be a natural gas leak, but a gas company spokesman said there was no leak. The Riverside County Fire Department sent five engine crews -- numbering around two-dozen firefighters -- to the scene to investigate. The immediate premises were evacuated as a hazardous materials team tried to isolate the source of the fumes, which could never be identified. Seven people were treated for exposure-related illness, and two of them were transported to San Geronio Memorial Hospital for further examination, according to the fire department. The evacuation order was lifted around 1 p.m.

Source: <http://www.swrnn.com/2011/05/23/banning-gas-leak-at-dr-s-office-prompts-evacuations-one-injured/>

62. *May 23, San Ramon Express* – (California) **Hotel partially evacuated after suicide.** A guest at the Courtyard Marriott on San Ramon Valley Boulevard in San Ramon, California, committed suicide May 22, suffocating himself with toxic gas. The 59-year-old man asphyxiated himself inside his third floor hotel room using a substance similar to helium, a deputy with the Contra Costa County coroner said. The second through fourth floors of the hotel were evacuated and management re-opened all but the victim's room by 9:30 p.m. "(The gas did) not extend beyond the victim's room," a public information officer for the San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District said. "Our haz-mat team vented the hotel and did testing throughout the hotel to ensure that it was safe to be in those areas."

Source: [http://www.sanramonexpress.com/news/show\\_story.php?id=3738](http://www.sanramonexpress.com/news/show_story.php?id=3738)

63. *May 23, Philadelphia Inquirer* – (Pennsylvania) **Philadelphia mayor vows to shut club after shooting injures 9.** Five women and four men, ages 19 to 35, were shot May 22 outside the Felton Supper Club, in the 4800 block of Rising Sun Avenue in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. All were in stable condition at Temple University Hospital or Albert Einstein Medical Center, according to police. The most seriously wounded, a 23-year-old man, was shot 5 times in the back and legs. The attack happened around 2:45 a.m. as people exited the club and two young men walked into the street and opened fire, police said. No motive had been determined, they said. The mayor said a total of 18 shots had been fired. He said the city would be aggressive in its efforts to keep the club closed. He spoke of revoking its licenses, going back to court to keep it closed, and having police officers stationed outside to ensure it remained shut down. Source: [http://articles.philly.com/2011-05-23/news/29574588\\_1\\_mayor-nutter-overnight-shooting-stable-condition](http://articles.philly.com/2011-05-23/news/29574588_1_mayor-nutter-overnight-shooting-stable-condition)
64. *May 22, KITV 4 Honolulu* – (Hawaii) **Teen finds unexploded bomb in Kapaa.** An unexploded ordnance was destroyed May 22 in a remote area of Kapaa, Hawaii by the U.S. Army's 706th Explosive Ordnance Disposal team from Schofield Barracks in Honolulu. The Kauai Police Department was called to a home on Iwaena Loop in Kapaa at about 7:33 a.m. May 21, when the parents of a 15-year-old discovered the cylindrical object on their front porch. The teen found the ordnance on the beach in Kapaa near mile marker 9 off of Kuhio Highway at about 10:30 p.m. May 20, and brought it home, police said. Officers closed portions of Iwaena Loop by 8 a.m. to secure the area and evacuated several adjacent houses until the ordnance could be removed. An explosive specialist from the Transportation Security Administration confirmed the device was unexploded ordnance and could be dangerous. Attempts to disable the device May 21 were unsuccessful. On May 22, additional equipment was flown to Kauai and the ordnance was successfully destroyed at about 10:58 a.m. The ordnance, which was about two and a half feet long and 6 inches in diameter, was identified by the Army as a World War II-era, French-made marine sea marker containing minor explosives. Source: <http://www.kitv.com/r/27984066/detail.html>
65. *May 20, Hartford Courant and Associated Press* – (Connecticut; New York) **Bridgeport man accused of selling pipe bombs in NYC.** A 37-year-old Connecticut man was charged May 20 with five counts of making, transporting and selling explosives and firearms after selling eight sticks stuffed with ball bearings and explosive material from his car in a Bronx, New York parking lot to an undercover police officer for \$3,200 May 19. Bomb-making material was also found inside the man's apartment in Bridgeport, Connecticut, an FBI spokesman said. A bomb squad technician was injured when a small jar containing a white powdery residue exploded while he was examining it. The technician suffered minor injuries and was released from an area hospital, the FBI said. Authorities said agents also identified about 15 flashlights that a bomb technician at the scene said appeared to have been adapted to form a destructive device. They also saw three photographs of between 50 and 80 cylindrical objects with fuses that appeared similar in size to those the man sold. The FBI said there was no evidence of ties to terrorism in the case.

Source: <http://www.courant.com/community/bridgeport/hc-bridgeport-bomb-making-0521-2-20110520,0,6582030.story>

For more stories, see items [25](#), [32](#), and [69](#)

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## **National Monuments and Icons Sector**

66. *May 24, Associated Press* – (New Mexico) **Wildfire near Silver City burns 83,000 acres.** The burned acreage numbers from a wildfire in southwest New Mexico continue to rise. The U.S. Forest Service said the Miller Fire in the Gila National Forest has burned more than 83,000 acres as of May 24. Fire crews have made some progress containing 48 percent of the fire near Silver City. Fire officials said crews were attempting to preserve the natural condition of the land by minimizing the cutting of trees. The Forest Service said it has been a challenge getting firefighters to the scene. Helicopters are used to place firefighters, but most access is by foot with 8- to 10-mile hikes through the wilderness.

Source: <http://www.greenwichtime.com/default/article/Wildfire-near-Silver-City-burns-81-500-acres-1391891.php>

67. *May 23, KNXV 15 Phoenix* – (Arizona) **Wildfire spreading in Coronado National Forest because of dry conditions.** A wildfire burning in the Coronado National Forest along the Arizona-Mexico border was spreading quickly May 23 due to dry grass and brush, authorities said. The Stage Two wildfire named “Arlene” has burned approximately 4,000 acres as of May 23, according to a spokeswoman. Several firefighters, water and air tankers, and helicopters worked to slow down and contain the fire that evening. Crews believe the Arlene wildfire is human caused. The fire is under investigation.

Source: [http://www.abc15.com/dpp/news/region\\_northern\\_az/other/wildfire-spreading-in-coronado-national-forest-because-of-dry-conditions-](http://www.abc15.com/dpp/news/region_northern_az/other/wildfire-spreading-in-coronado-national-forest-because-of-dry-conditions-)

68. *May 23, Associated Press* – (Arizona; Utah) **Grand Canyon plane carrying tourists crashes.** A plane carrying five German tourists that took off from the Grand Canyon in Arizona crashed about an hour into its flight May 23, critically injuring the pilot. A Federal Aviation Administration spokesman said the Cessna 207 crashed after 2 p.m. just short of a runway in Monument Valley, Utah. The San Juan County Sheriff's Office in Utah said the pilot was taken to a local hospital in critical condition, and the five passengers were being treated for non-life-threatening injuries. The sheriff said the plane was trying to land when strong winds blew it out of control. The pilot was being treated in Flagstaff, Arizona, and the passengers were being treated in Kayenta, Arizona. The plane was chartered from Grand Canyon Airlines.

Source: <http://www.newstimes.com/news/article/Grand-Canyon-plane-carrying-tourists-crashes-1392471.php>

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## Dams Sector

69. *May 24, Associated Press* – (North Dakota) **Bismarck mayor declares flood emergency as Missouri River continues to rise; gov pledges help.** The Bismarck, North Dakota mayor has declared a flood emergency as the Missouri River continues to rise, and the governor has pledged state resources including the National Guard. The governor said the Guard will help Minot and Ward County battle flooding by monitoring levee systems around the clock. Lake Sakakawea upstream of Bismarck is full because of spring snowmelt and rain, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers plans to increase water releases to the highest level since Garrison Dam was built. The state water commission engineer said it could be "the No. 1 flood event for Bismarck," with a river level possibly reaching 17 feet. Flood stage is 16 feet. Residents of threatened areas in south Bismarck have been sandbagging for days. Several streets in Minot flooded May 23 because of storm sewers that could not handle any more water.

Source:

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/98090aadaf914fb4bcc2fc60ef2ef8f0/ND--ND-Flooding-Missouri-River/>

70. *May 24, Opelousas Daily World* – (Louisiana) **Mandatory evacuation order lifted.** In Louisiana, the mandatory evacuation order for residents living south of U.S. 190, the Three Mile Lake area and the North Wilderness Road area has been lifted, the St. Landry Parish president announced May 23. The areas will remain under voluntary evacuation until further notice, and a mandatory evacuation order remains in effect all for all livestock and residents on the east side of the levee. The president asked the 335 residents affected by the evacuation zones not to bring furniture and evacuated items back into their homes yet because another mandatory evacuation may be issued. The St. Landry Parish Sheriff's Department will continue patrolling the voluntary evacuation areas and preparing for possible flooding. Along with the sheriff's deputies, the National Guard, U.S. Coast Guard and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will keep a presence in areas at risk of flooding. According to a deputy district commander with the New Orleans District Corps of Engineers, 17 floodgates of the Morganza Spillway were open as of May 23. The floodgates reroute water from the swollen Mississippi River into the Atchafalaya Basin to prevent further strain on Baton Rouge and New Orleans levee systems. The Corps will continue observing Mississippi River levels to determine if more gates will be opened.

Source:

<http://www.dailyworld.com/article/20110524/NEWS01/105240317/Mandatory-evacuation-order-lifted>

71. *May 24, Associated Press* – (Missouri) **Army Corps sets March deadline for temporary fix of Birds Point levee; landowners angry.** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' efforts to have a temporary fix on the Birds Point Levee in southeast Missouri by March 2012 is too slow for property owners whose land was flooded when the levee was intentionally breached, an attorney for the landowners said. A Corps spokesman said in a Twitter post May 23 engineers in Memphis are developing plans to temporarily fix the levee by March 1, 2012. The Corps intentionally breached the levee



near the town of Wyatt oMay 2 to reduce the threat of major flooding from the swollen Mississippi and Ohio rivers in nearby Cairo, Illinois. The breach flooded 130,000 acres of prime Missouri farmland and damaged or destroyed as many as 100 homes. The March deadline is not good enough for many landowners, said a Cape Girardeau lawyer representing "upwards of 80" people who have joined a federal lawsuit against the Corps. A Corps spokesman said the agency may be able to fix the levee before March 1. No timeline for a permanent repair of the levee has been set.

Source:

<http://www.greenfieldreporter.com/view/story/55d88e87ca104d0596a2a83583cdc077/MO--Birds-Point-Levee/>

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