



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 26 May 2011

Top Stories

- The Arizona Republic reports three Maricopa County Sheriff's Office employees were arrested May 24 by authorities who said they were involved in a drug- and human-trafficking ring and used sheriff's office intelligence to guide smugglers. (See item [41](#))
- According to the New York Times, 14 people were killed by tornadoes that struck Arkansas, Kansas, and Oklahoma, downing power lines and destroying livestock, and wiping out homes, businesses and churches. (See item [51](#))

Fast Jump Menu

PRODUCTION INDUSTRIES

- [Energy](#)
- [Chemical](#)
- [Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste](#)
- [Critical Manufacturing](#)
- [Defense Industrial Base](#)
- [Dams](#)

SUSTENANCE and HEALTH

- [Agriculture and Food](#)
- [Water](#)
- [Public Health and Healthcare](#)

SERVICE INDUSTRIES

- [Banking and Finance](#)
- [Transportation](#)
- [Postal and Shipping](#)
- [Information Technology](#)
- [Communications](#)
- [Commercial Facilities](#)

FEDERAL and STATE

- [Government Facilities](#)
- [Emergency Services](#)
- [National Monuments and Icons](#)

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 25, Indianapolis Star* – (Indiana) **3 relatives accused in theft of copper wire.** Three men are charged with breaking into seven Duke Energy electrical substations in Indiana — three in Hendricks County and four in Putnam County — and stealing up to 200 pounds of copper and ground wire. Duke estimated the thefts caused at least \$15,000 in damages, as well as several customer power outages. Two of the men are charged with felony burglary, theft and criminal mischief. while the third man faces felony counts of burglary and theft.

Source: <http://www.indystar.com/article/20110525/LOCAL0504/105250356/3-relatives-accused-theft-copper-wire?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|Communities|p>

2. *May 25, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* – (Pennsylvania) **North Hills power restored after lines fail.** Penn Power said it had restored electrical service to all customers who were affected by an outage May 24. More than 42,000 customers in northern Allegheny, Pennsylvania, and southern Butler counties were without power because of the 7:35 p.m. outage at the Maple substation in Cranberry, the area manager for Penn Power said. Service was restored to the final customers around 7:55 a.m. May 25. Two transmission lines that serve the substation were down, but the cause is still unclear. “It really does take something pretty drastic to take those down,” the area manager said. “I can’t blame the weather on those.” Community College of Allegheny County-North Campus in McCandless was closed May 25 for daytime classes.
Source: <http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/11145/1148904-54.stm>
3. *May 25, WLEX 18 Lexington* – (Kentucky) **Explosion at Madison County electrical substation.** A fire at an electrical substation plunged parts of southern Madison County, Kentucky, into darkness May 25. Residents in the area report hearing an explosion and then crackling sounds around 1 a.m.. Witnesses said flames shot up to 100 feet in the air. As of 5 a.m., firefighters said they had the fire contained within the substation, but crews continued to battle the blaze. Due to the electrical nature of the fire and the oil in the transformers, firefighters used dry chemicals to fight it. Bluegrass Energy officials said areas of northern Berea were without power. Crews were working to reroute electricity around the damaged substation. Officials have not said how long it will take to restore power to affected areas.
Source: <http://www.lex18.com/news/explosion-at-madison-county-electrical-substation>
4. *May 25, Associated Press* – (Virginia) **Storms kill worker at Navy shipyard, leave thousands without power in Hampton Roads.** More than 20 schools are closed due to power outages and about 49,000 customers remain without electricity May 25, 1 day after powerful thunderstorms rolled through Hampton Roads, Virginia. One man was killed during the May 24 storms when winds up to 90 mph moved a dock crane at the Naval Shipyard in Portsmouth and pinned him between two portable buildings. A shipyard spokesman said the 30-year-old man was crushed. Emergency officials said five adults watching a baseball game at a Virginia Beach high school were injured when high winds blew a pole vault mat into them. Dominion Virginia Power said 179,000 customers lost power. As of 12:30 p.m. May 25, 49,459 customers remained without electricity. Power is expected to be restored to all areas by late May 26.
Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/storms-kill-worker-at-navy-shipyard-leave-thousands-without-power-in-hampton-roads/2011/05/25/AGIFtBBH_story.html
5. *May 24, KGET 17 Bakersfield* – (California) **Gas leak shuts down local refinery.** A hydrogen sulfide leak shut down the Alon Refinery on Rosedale Highway in Bakersfield, California May 24 and may have sickened a handful of people around the plant. Hydrogen sulfide is a flammable, noxious gas produced during oil refinement. The smell sent the refinery into alert mode as firefighters, air quality experts and

environmental health workers descended to help sniff out the leak. Alarm bells sounded after chemical monitors at the plant detected a hydrogen sulfide leak around 8 a.m. Ambulances were on standby as crews posted at the plant's driveway, turned away deliveries and trucks. The plant is also monitored by environmental health.

Source: <http://www.kget.com/news/local/story/Gas-leak-shuts-down-local-refinery/o2mlo0RB9k6YWXSToXhs2A.csp>

For more stories, see items [16](#), [32](#), [48](#), [51](#), and [57](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Chemical Industry Sector

6. *May 25, Hutchinson News* – (Kansas) **Acid spill at Kansas plant challenges firefighters.** Crews are working to remove about 3,700 gallons of hydrochloric acid that spilled late May 24 at Morton Salt in South Hutchinson, Kansas. The spill stayed in the tank's containment area, said the South Hutchinson Fire chief. Morton officials were working with the South Hutchinson Fire Department May 25 to take the acid out of the containment area and transplant it elsewhere. South Hutchinson firefighters will remain on scene until the transfer is completed. The National Weather Service forecast a 60 percent chance for severe thunderstorms for the area in the late afternoon and early evening of May 25. A significant amount of rain could cause the acid to overflow from the containment area, the chief said. As of 2:30 p.m., the acid was "close to the top" of the 3-foot high containment area, he said.

Source: <http://www.firehouse.com/news/top-headlines/acid-spill-kansas-plant-challenges-firefighters>

7. *May 24, Bloomberg News* – (Texas) **Flint Hills reports fire on feed pump at Port Arthur plant.** Flint Hills Resources reported a fire on the C3 hydrogenation feed pump in Flint Hills, Texas, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. Workers noticed the fire at 10:45 p.m. May 23, the filing showed. The plant's emergency operations center was activated and the in-house fire brigade reported. The light olefins unit was shut down and process gases were routed to that unit's flare. The fire's cause is unknown and under investigation, the company said in the filing. The resulting emissions haven't stopped, the filing showed.

Source: <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-05-24/flint-hills-reports-fire-on-feed-pump-at-port-arthur-plant-1-.html>

For another story, see item [32](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

8. *May 25, Bloomberg* – (International) **Fukushima containment vessels may be leaking, Tepco says.** Tokyo Electric Power Co. (Tepco) said May 24 the containment

chambers of damaged reactors at its Fukushima nuclear plant were likely breached, identifying additional source of radiation leaks that may exceed Chernobyl. Computer simulations of the meltdowns of three reactors in March indicates holes formed in chambers, Tepco said in a report. The Fukushima plant 137 miles north of Tokyo has not yet released as much radiation as Chernobyl, a Tepco general manager, said May 24. The company does not expect large releases in the future. Tepco's analysis shows the No. 1 chamber has one hole and the No. 2 unit has two breaches, according to a report filed to a Japanese nuclear watchdog. Cooling systems may have been breached at the No. 3 reactor at the site, Tepco said.

Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/news/2011-05-25/fukushima-containment-vessels-may-be-leaking-tepco-says.html>

9. *May 24, WABC 7 New York* – (New York) **Radiation scare in Astoria, Queens.** A hazardous material teams investigated a possible radiation scare at a house in Queens, New York, May 24. A box with a radiation symbol was found inside an apartment on 45th Street in Astoria. The owner had recently died, and donated everything to charity. While his belongings were being packed up, a suspicious box was discovered. It tested positive for trace amounts of radiation. It turns out the box was full of rocks that emit low levels of radiation.

Source: http://abclocal.go.com/wabc/story?section=news/local/new_york&id=8150509

For another story, see item [48](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Critical Manufacturing Sector

10. *May 25, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission* – (National) **STIHL recalls yard power products due to burn and fire hazards.** STIHL Inc., of Virginia Beach, Virginia, issued a recall May 25 for 2.3 million trimmers, brushcutters, KombiMotors, hedge trimmers, edgers, clearing saws, pole pruners, and backpack blowers that utilize a toolless fuel cap. The level of ethanol and other fuel additives can distort the toolless fuel cap, allowing fuel to spill, posing a fire and burn hazard. STIHL has received 81 reports of difficulty installing and/or removing the fuel caps and fuel spillage. No injuries have been reported. The yard power products were sold at authorized STIHL dealers nationwide from July 2002 through May 2011.

Source: <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml11/11226.html>

11. *May 24, Personal Injury Lawyers News* – (Indiana) **Indiana industrial accident: man killed, 1 injured at Fairfield Manufacturing.** An industrial accident at Fairfield Manufacturing in Lafayette, Indiana, left one man dead and another injured when they became pinned between a forklift and a semi trailer. The fatal accident occurred May 19 at 11:49 a.m., at the loading dock of the plant at 2309 Concord Road, reported JOnline.com. The Lafayette Police Department reported that two employees were injured when they became pinned between a forklift and a semi-truck trailer on a rear loading dock. Details surrounding the accident were not released. One victim sustained

an arm injury. He was transported to St. Elizabeth East Hospital for treatment. Responding rescue crews pronounced the second victim dead at the scene. The Indiana Occupational Safety and Health Administration is expected to conduct an investigation. Source: http://www.justicenevnewsflash.com/2011/05/24/indiana-industrial-accident-man-killed-1-injured_201105247643.html

12. *May 24, Memphis Commercial Appeal* – (Tennessee) **Worker dies at Nucor Steel plant in Memphis.** A shipping department employee at Nucor Steel’s mill in Memphis, Tennessee, died May 23 after an accident in an inventory yard, the company announced May 24. A police report said the man was pinned between a forklift and a pallet of steel. The accident was under investigation May 24. Company officials voluntarily suspended operations and were unsure when production would resume. Police responded about 12:30 p.m. May 23 at the plant at 3601 Paul R. Lowry Road in Frank C. Pidgeon Industrial Park in Southwest Memphis. The police report said the man was unconscious and was taken by ambulance to the Regional Medical Center at Memphis, where he was later pronounced dead. “The circumstances leading up to this incident are unknown,” the report said. The man was operating mobile equipment at the time, and nobody else was involved in the accident, company officials said. Source: <http://www.commercialappeal.com/news/2011/may/24/nucor-steel-reports-fatality-its-memphis-steel-pla/>

13. *May 24, MMD Newswire* – (Arkansas) **OSHA cites Little Rock, Ark.-based pipe manufacturer following death of worker.** The U.S. Department of Labor’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) cited Welspun Tubular LLC with one willful and two serious violations following the death of a worker at the company’s facility in Little Rock, Arkansas, MMD Newswire reported May 24. OSHA’s Little Rock office initiated a safety inspection December 22, 2010, at the company’s facility on Frazier Pike following a report a worker was crushed to death by being caught between two pipes on a conveyor. The Mumbai, India-based company is a worldwide pipe manufacturer that employs more than 20,000 workers globally, with about 400 at the Little Rock facility. The willful citation was issued for failing to provide the required machine guarding to ensure workers are protected from being caught between pipes on a conveyor while the pipes are being manufactured. Serious safety violations include failing to ensure open floor holes were repaired to protect workers from falling. Source: <http://www.mmdnewswire.com/us-department-of-labor-42732.html>

For another story, see item [48](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Defense Industrial Base Sector

See item [4](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Banking and Finance Sector

14. *May 25, Show Low White Mountain Independent* – (Arizona) **Five plead guilty in \$5.4 million bank fraud.** Five defendants pleaded guilty in federal court May 23 to defrauding banks out of \$5.4 million in a conspiracy involving Surfside Boat Center, a high-end boat dealership in Mesa, Arizona, that is now defunct. The charges stem from the defendants' use of the boat dealership to fraudulently obtain millions of dollars in purchase loans from various banks. More than 50 loans from 11 lenders were represented to be for legitimate boat sales but were instead for straw sales, and the funds were put to personal use by the defendants. The defendants ultimately defaulted on the loans. The defendants pled guilty to conspiracy, bank fraud, and money laundering. Under the terms of the plea agreements, all defendants face prison terms and must repay the loan balances to the banks. A conviction for bank fraud carries a maximum penalty of 30 years in prison and/or a \$1 million fine; a conviction money laundering carries a maximum penalty of 10 years in prison, and/or a \$250,000 fine; and a conviction for conspiracy carries a maximum penalty of 5 years, and/or a \$250,000 fine.
Source: http://www.wmicentral.com/police/five-plead-guilty-in-million-bank-fraud/article_d9f250d6-865d-11e0-bef4-001cc4c03286.html

15. *May 24, Federal Bureau of Investigation* – (Minnesota) **Federal jury convicts Burnsville man of bilking mortgage lenders out of more than \$43 Million.** A jury convicted a 44-year-old Burnsville, Minnesota man in federal court May 24 on seven counts of wire fraud, three counts of mail fraud, and one count of conspiracy to commit wire fraud and mail fraud in a scheme that bilked mortgage lenders out of more than \$43 million. The evidence presented at trial indicated that between 2005 and 2008, the man conspired with others to obtain money fraudulently through over 100 residential property transactions. To further this scheme, the conspirators negotiated with builders of new properties as well as owners of existing properties to buy property and property groupings at greatly reduced prices. They then solicited real estate purchasers by promising they would receive large cash pay-outs, or "kickbacks," from lenders' funds. They failed to tell potential buyers about the reduced prices they negotiated for the properties, choosing instead to quote them the grossly inflated prices. By charging buyers the higher prices, they acquired enough cash from loan proceeds to pay buyers their kickbacks and still have money left for themselves and their co-conspirators. Once a potential buyer was recruited through this scheme, the conspirators, or someone working on their behalf, drafted a purchase agreement that reflected the inflated sale price only and failed to disclose to lenders the kickback amount to the buyer. The convict faces a potential maximum penalty of 20 years in federal prison on each count.
Source: <http://minneapolis.fbi.gov/dojpressrel/pressrel11/mp052411a.htm>

16. *May 24, Hartford Courant* – (Connecticut) **President of bankrupt fuel oil company pleads guilty to bank fraud.** The former president of Waterbury, Connecticut-based F&S Oil, a home heating oil business whose bankruptcy cost customers millions of dollars in prepaid contracts, pleaded guilty in federal court May 24 to taking millions more in fraudulent loans from the company's banker. He pleaded guilty to a single

count of bank fraud for overstating company receivables to collect what federal prosecutors said was from \$2.5 million to \$7 million on three lines of credit. In legal papers filed in court, federal prosecutors said the man falsified the oil company's cash flow to tap loans F&S had with Citizens Bank. F&S was forced to file for bankruptcy protection in early 2008, creating thousands of claims among those of its 12,000 customers who had signed prepaid heating oil contracts. If sentenced under the advisory guidelines used in federal court, the former president could get from 41 to 51 months in prison.

Source: http://articles.courant.com/2011-05-24/news/hc-oil-dealer-guilty-0525-20110524_1_f-s-oil-heating-oil-federal-court

17. *May 23, Washington Times* – (National) **IRS staff committed tax credit fraud.** According to federal investigators, more than 100 employees of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) cheated the government by fraudulently claiming a first-time homebuyer tax credit included in the 2008 and 2009 economic stimulus packages, the Washington Times reported May 23. The Treasury Department's inspector general for tax administration, in several reports over the past few years, identified a total of 128 IRS employees who claimed the credit but who also made other claims that showed they either were not first-time buyers or bought their homes outside the eligibility period for the credit, which was worth up to \$8,000. The IRS employees represented a small part of the total fraud in the program, which the inspector general said may have totaled more than \$500 million overall. At least one IRS employee is facing charges of making a false claim while acting as an officer of the government — a felony punishable by up to 5 years in prison — stemming from the tax credit. In another case, a part-time IRS employee in Georgia has been charged with altering information on IRS computers to help four friends and family members appear eligible for the credit. She pleaded guilty March 24 to one count of accessing a computer without authorization and is awaiting sentencing.
Source: <http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2011/may/23/irs-staff-committed-tax-credit-fraud/?page=all#pagebreak>
18. *May 23, Baltimore Sun* – (International) **Baltimore feds target Internet gambling sites.** Federal investigators in Baltimore, Maryland, set up a phony business — and handled \$33 million in transactions from Internet gamblers — in a lengthy sting operation that led to the indictment of two online betting companies and their international owners, the U.S. attorney's office announced May 23. Details were released after 11 associated bank accounts were seized in 5 countries and 10 Web domain names were shut down. The indictments are the result of an undercover operation by Homeland Security Investigations in Baltimore, a division of U.S. Customs and Immigration Enforcement. The agency created a phony payment-processing business. A half-dozen Internet gambling companies ultimately relied on it. Agents said the phony business processed more than 300,000 transactions in 2 years for the defendants using banks in Portugal, Malta, Panama, the Netherlands, and the United States. If convicted of running an illegal gambling business, the defendants face a maximum of 5 years in prison. Money laundering carries a maximum sentence of 20 years.

Source: <http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/maryland/bs-md-internet-gambling-20110523,0,5157985,full.story>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Transportation Sector

19. *May 25, Associated Press* – (Texas) **About 10,000 stranded at DFW Airport after storms.** About 10,000 passengers were stranded at Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport in Texas after strong storms packing hail grounded flights. An airport spokesman said flight operations were returning to normal May 25. Carriers examined aircraft for possible damage from golf ball-size hail. The spokesman said about 90 flights were canceled May 25, after about 200 departures were canceled May 24. He said cots were made available to passengers whose flights were canceled or diverted. Concession areas also stayed open throughout the night. A spokesman for Dallas Love Field, told the Associated Press that flight operations were suspended for about 2 hours May 24. Operations were returning to normal May 25. A Southwest Airlines spokesman said eight planes in Dallas suffered hail damage, which could lead to flight delays or cancellations.

Source: <http://www.timesunion.com/default/article/About-10-000-stranded-at-DFW-Airport-after-storms-1394938.php>

20. *May 25, WCNC 36 Charlotte* – (North Carolina) **N.C. 75 in Union County reopens after train crash.** North Carolina 75 is open again and all residents are back in their homes in Mineral Springs, North Carolina, but the investigation and cleanup are continuing in the wake of the fatal train collision in the Union County town May 24. In addition, the half-dozen families evacuated from their homes near the crash site have been permitted to return, with the fire having been extinguished. Investigators from the government and CSX are working to determine what caused the crash. Two train operators were killed when their freight train crashed into another and derailed, sparking a fire that burned throughout the day. Two crew members aboard the other train, which was stopped on the track, were treated for injuries and released from a hospital. The crash, which happened shortly before 3:45 a.m., forced the evacuation of six families. Neither train carried hazardous materials, but thick black smoke rose from the wreckage until midday. A CSX Corp. spokesman said the cause of the wreck, which involved four engines and 21 freight cars, is still under investigation.

Source: <http://www.charlotteobserver.com/2011/05/25/2323393/mineral-springs-train-crash-kills.html>

21. *May 25, Reuters* – (National) **New tests of US airport scanners find radiation OK.** New tests of full-body scanners deployed at U.S. airports found that the radiation they emit was within acceptable levels, the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) said May 24 after previous checks found some anomalies in results. The machines, which have provoked health concerns about excessive radiation exposure, have been deployed at dozens of airports to thwart attacks on the U.S. aviation system, which continues to be a prime target of al-Qaida militants. There are about 486 full-

body scanners in 78 airports, of which 247 are so-called backscatter machines made by Rapiscan Systems, a unit of OSI Systems Inc. They expose a person to about 0.0025 millirem of radiation. The machines cannot produce more than 0.005 millirem per scan, according to the TSA. In comparison, a chest X-ray will expose someone to 10 millirem of radiation and the maximum recommended exposure to radiation from man-made sources is 100 millirem per year, the TSA said.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/05/25/uk-usa-security-scanners-idUSLNE74O00X20110525>

22. *May 24, KLFY 10 Lafayette* – (Louisiana) **Coast Guard re-opens Mississippi River to north, southbound traffic with tight restrictions.** After evaluations to determine relevant safety concerns, the U.S. Coast Guard is allowing southbound traffic to transit on the Mississippi River with tight restrictions, May 24, following the sinking of three barges near Baton Rouge, Louisiana May 20. Southbound traffic can only transit during daylight hours with a tow of no more than 20 barges with a minimum of 300 horsepower per barge. Also, all southbound traffic must utilize a towing-assist vessel when transiting through Wilkinson Point with a minimum of 5,000 horsepower. Northbound restrictions remain in place. The section of river was re-opened after the USCG and members of the maritime industry conducted an evaluation through mile markers 228-237, near the highway 190 bridge, to determine how safely a vessel could transit. The evaluation involved two different tows, one with a tow of 15 barges, and the second with a tow of 20 barges. Salvage operations for the barges are not scheduled to begin until water levels have reached a level deemed safe. There are no reports of pollution or injuries. The USCG is investigating the cause of the incident.

Source: <http://www.klfy.com/story/14709267/coast-guard-re-opens-mississippi-river-to-north-southbound-traffic-with-tight-restrictions>

23. *May 24, VOA News; Associated Press; Reuters* – (International) **2 more Somalis plead guilty in US piracy trial.** Two Somali men have pleaded guilty to piracy for their roles in a yacht hijacking in February that left four Americans dead. The suspects entered their pleas May 24 in a court in Norfolk, Virginia. They are the latest of seven Somalis to enter guilty pleas in connection with the incident. According to court documents, the suspects spotted ships to target for hijacking and believed he could get as much as \$80,000 as his share of ransom. One of them admitted to bringing a semi-automatic weapon on board the ship. He said he often was stationed at the front of the yacht as a guard. Both men said they were not personally involved in the shooting of the four U.S. citizens on board. They face mandatory life sentences, but they could serve less time as a result of their plea agreement. The men are expected to be sentenced by September. The two men, and 14 other people from Somalia and one from Yemen are facing charges related to the hijacking.

Source: <http://www.voanews.com/english/news/2-More-Somalis-Plead-Guilty-in-US-Piracy-Trial-122531334.html>

For more stories, see items [25](#), [29](#), [48](#), and [51](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Postal and Shipping Sector

24. *May 25, Monroe News-Star* – (Louisiana) **Police destroy package.** The U.S. post office on U.S. 165 in Monroe, Louisiana was evacuated May 24 when an employee discovered a small suspicious package that was said to have been ticking. The package, which was later identified by police as a cellphone, was destroyed by the Monroe Police Department. Witnesses inside the post office at the time of the discovery said the employee kicked the package through the building and out onto the building's back loading dock. The police department's bomb team, one suited in protective gear, X-rayed the package, and when contents were still unclear, the decision was made to destroy it. Surrounding businesses were also evacuated when the package was discovered.
Source: <http://www.thenewsstar.com/article/20110525/NEWS01/105250313>
25. *May 25, Lower Hudson Journal News* – (New York) **Another suspicious package sent to Sen. Ball.** The Putnam County Sheriff's Office in New York continued its investigation May 23 into a suspicious package that was delivered in the evening May 20 to the Route 22 office of a state senator, forcing authorities to shut down the road in Southeast for about 3 hours while the Westchester County Bomb Squad investigated. Authorities finally determined the package was not a threat and that it contained a book on the values of the Prophet Muhammad and other Islamic views. It also contained a letter to the senator voicing concerns over a recent legislative hearing he chaired in New York City. In April, a Georgia woman mailed a suspicious package to the senator's Albany office. It contained a stuffed Curious George monkey pinned with Stars of David and a vicious, anti-Semitic, and racially charged letter.
Source: <http://www.lohud.com/article/20110525/NEWS01/105250329/Another-suspicious-package-sent-Sen-Ball?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|News>
26. *May 24, Washington Post* – (District of Columbia) **Package sent to D.C. school investigated, cleared: police.** Police officers who investigated a suspicious package sent to Lafayette Elementary School in Northwest Washington, D.C. did not find anything dangerous, authorities said May 24. It was unclear whether the package was connected to other harmless letters containing white powder sent to D.C. schools earlier in May.
Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/crime-scene/post/suspicious-letter-at-dc-elementary-school-police/2011/05/24/AFRFfTAH_blog.html
27. *May 24, Rome News-Tribune* – (Georgia) **Report: Mailboxes destroyed by explosives on Pleasant Hope Road.** Two neighbors on Pleasant Hope Road in Silver Creek, Georgia called police May 22 when their mailboxes were vandalized with an explosive, reports state. According to Floyd County police reports, the two men reported their mailboxes were damaged in the afternoon of May 22. Both mailboxes were destroyed, and police found pieces of aluminum foil on the ground. A melted bottle was found inside the mailboxes. No suspects were listed in the report.
Source: http://romenews-tribune.com/view/full_story/13384325/article-Report--

[Mailboxes-destroyed-by-explosives-on-Pleasant-Hope-Road?instance=home_news_lead_story](#)

28. *May 24, KTRK 13 Houston* – (Texas) **Police identify powder mailed to local school yesterday.** Police said white powder found in envelopes sent May 23 to John Paul II Catholic School in west Houston, Texas was harmless silicone. Hazardous materials teams responded. The letters were addressed to someone at the school. It is the second time that person has been mailed white powder. It is not known if these letters are connected to similar envelopes sent out to 17 Houston area schools last fall or to schools in north Texas and Washington D.C.
Source: <http://abclocal.go.com/ktrk/story?section=news/local&id=8149919>

[[Return to top](#)]

Agriculture and Food Sector

29. *May 25, Mohave Daily News* – (Arizona) **Truck overturns on Highway 68.** The driver of a semi truck suffered minor injuries May 24 when his rig hauling a load of produce overturned on Highway 68 near Davis Camp in Bullhead City, Arizona. The driver was treated at Western Arizona Regional Medical Center and released after the accident that totaled his rig, crushing the cab and leaving hundreds of watermelons on the roadway. According to a Bullhead City police officer, the driver was westbound on Highway 68, approaching the intersection with McCormick Boulevard, when he lost control of his rig, it overturned, with the flatbed trailer hanging over the edge of the roadway and down an embankment near the entrance to Davis Camp. Watermelons, most of them damaged, littered the roadway for about 100 yards. Melons that were not damaged were taken to a local food bank. “The road turned and he didn’t,” the officer said of the accident, which was in the same location as several others involving tractor-trailer rigs in recent years. Trucks hauling beer and bottled water have crashed in almost the same exact location. The wreck forced closure of westbound Highway 68 for about 4 hours while crews cleaned up debris. The driver was cited for failure to control a vehicle to avoid an accident.

Source:

<http://www.mohavedailynews.com/articles/2011/05/25/news/local/doc4ddcad1f59334693226073.txt>

30. *May 24, Washington Post* – (International) **Nearly 90 pounds of sheep’s meat seized at Dulles.** Almost 90 pounds of cooked sheep’s meat was seized from an Ethiopian traveler at Dulles International Airport in Dulles, Virginia the week of May 16, according to customs officials. The passenger had 15 bags of the meat, which was cooked in a red gravy, stuffed in his six suitcases, officials said. The man was en route to Seattle, Washington. “Customs and Border Protection (CBP) agriculture typically encounter similar food products arriving from Africa, but the sheer volume makes this an extraordinarily unique seizure,” said the CBP port director for the Port of Washington. Customs rules prohibit the importation of animal products from countries that are known to have certain animal diseases, such as swine fever and foot-and-mouth

disease. The passenger declared he had the meat in his luggage. The meat was incinerated.

Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/crime-scene/post/nearly-90-pounds-of-sheeps-meat-seized-at-dulles/2011/05/24/AF5XORAH_blog.html

31. *May 24, KTKA 49 Topeka* – (Kansas) **Del Monte worker dies from Friday injuries at plant.** Del Monte Foods in Topeka, Kansas, is investigating the death of a long-time employee who was injured at the plant May 20. The 64-year-old employee died May 21 at a local hospital following injuries at the Del Monte plant. It has not yet been determined if the injuries were from a work-related accident. A spokeswoman for Del Monte Foods said an investigation has been launched to understand the circumstances surrounding the man's death.

Source: <http://www.ktka.com/news/2011/may/24/del-monte-worker-dies-friday-injuries-plant/>

For more stories, see items [32](#) and [51](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Water Sector

32. *May 24, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency* – (Missouri) **EPA to conduct limited floodwater sampling at the Birds Point-New Madrid floodway.** U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 7 crews conducted limited floodwater sampling May 24 at the Birds Point-New Madrid Floodway in Kansas City, Kansas. The surface water sampling will be conducted at locations where floodwater is present, to determine if any threats are presented to emergency response workers who may be in contact with the potentially contaminated water. EPA will conduct surface sampling to identify the potential presence of contamination in the floodwater. These sampling results will aid in identifying potential risk to people and resources for contact with floodwater that may be contaminated with hazardous materials released during the flood. The surface water samples will be analyzed for organophosphorus pesticides, triazine herbicides, total metals including aluminum, perchlorate, total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH)-gasoline range organics, TPH-diesel range organics, and coliform bacteria. The EPA established the limited floodway sampling plan based on chemicals from explosives used to activate the floodway, the rural agricultural characteristics of the area, the presence of a confined animal feeding operation, and information that not all petroleum products were removed from the floodway.

Source:

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/0/e597469fb3486e5c8525789a00646e16?OpenDocument>

For another story, see item [57](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Public Health and Healthcare Sector

33. *May 25, Buckhead Patch* – (Georgia) **Police seek ‘Grandma Bandit’ in pharmacy robberies.** The police department in Atlanta, Georgia, is looking for a woman between the ages of 50 and 60 for the robberies of several pharmacies in Buckhead and Midtown. Dubbed the “Grandma Bandit,” the woman last robbed the Rite Aid Pharmacy at 2020 Howell Mill Road May 24, police said. She was last seen driving a tan or gold Jeep Liberty. She is also wanted for the robbery of the Rite Aid Pharmacy at 1512 Piedmont Avenue May 12 at 10:10 a.m.; the Rite Aid at 891 Ponce De Leon Avenue May 14 at 1:55 p.m.; and the CVS Pharmacy at 2350 Cheshire Bridge Road May 20 at 6 a.m.
Source: <http://buckhead.patch.com/articles/police-seek-grandma-bandit-in-pharmacy-robberies>
34. *May 25, U.S. Department of Justice* – (Florida) **USDOJ: Miami-area owners and operators of medical equipment company plead guilty to Medicare fraud.** Two Miami, Florida residents who were owners and operators of a durable medical equipment (DME) company, pleaded guilty May 25 for their roles in a scheme to defraud Medicare, the Departments of Justice, and Health and Human Services (HHS) announced. A married couple, each pleaded guilty before a U.S. district judge in the Southern District of Florida to one count of conspiracy to commit health care fraud. According to plea documents, they incorporated and operated OM Best Help Corp. in 2006 for the purpose of defrauding Medicare. OM Best purportedly specialized in the provision of DME and prescription drugs to Medicare beneficiaries. According to court documents, starting in 2008, they submitted and caused the submission of about \$1,089,234 in fraudulent claims to Medicare. The defendants and their co-conspirators used without authorization the Medicare billing identifiers of licensed medical doctors and falsely represented to Medicare that the doctors had prescribed DME, when, in fact, the doctors had not done so. The defendants knew that the Medicare beneficiaries, on whose behalf claims were submitted to Medicare by OM Best, never received the items OM Best billed to Medicare. Each defendant faces a maximum of 10 years in prison.
Source: http://7thspace.com/headlines/383870/usdoj_miami_area_owners_and_operators_of_medical_equipment_company_plead_guilty_to_medicare_fraud.html
35. *May 25, Reuters* – (Missouri) **Five patients who died in Joplin hospital suffocated.** Workers at a hospital hit by a tornado in Joplin, Missouri May 22 describe a storm so terrible that every window blew out and the building lost power, causing the deaths of five patients on ventilators. The storm sucked a power generator out of the hospital, leaving the building without power and without oxygen for patients, a registered nurse said May 24. A back-up generator did not work, she said. Minutes before the storm arrived, hospital officials announced “condition gray” — hospital code for the approach of severe weather. Blankets were placed on windows and some patients were taken into hallways, workers said. A hospital spokeswoman confirmed the five patients who died were on ventilators and their deaths were caused by the loss

of power to the building and the ventilators. Another unidentified person, also died, but the cause of his death was not known, she said. There were 175 staff in the building at the time of the storm and there were no staff fatalities, the spokeswoman said. The registered nurse said there were 183 patients in the hospital during the tornado. After the storm, patients were helped down darkened stairways to the main level where a triage area was set up outside, the nurse said. From there, patients were transferred to other hospitals.

Source:

<http://www.myvictoriaonline.com/pages/9909954.php?contentType=4&contentId=8217296>

36. *May 24, Federal Bureau of Investigation* – (Florida) **Former Mayo Clinic employee Steven Beumel indicted.** A U.S. attorney in Jacksonville, Florida announced the unsealing of an indictment charging a suspect with five counts of tampering with a consumer product, resulting in death or serious bodily injury, and five counts of obtaining a controlled substance by fraud. If convicted on all counts, he faces a maximum penalty of life in federal prison. According to the indictment, the suspect was a radiology technician at Memorial Hospital in Jacksonville from May 1992 through October 2004. He also worked as a radiology technician at Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville from October 2004 through August 2010. The indictment alleges that the suspect, before patients' procedures, took syringes of Fentanyl and replaced them with used syringes contaminated with his own Hepatitis C Virus. According to the indictment, five different patients contracted Hepatitis C from him. The indictment alleges that one patient died as a result from the suspect's tampering.

Source: <http://www.fbi.gov/jacksonville/press-releases/2011/former-mayo-clinic-employee-steven-beumel-indicted>

For another story, see item [21](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Government Facilities Sector

37. *May 25, MonroeNews.com* – (Michigan) **Summerfield High evacuated after gas turned on.** A burglar broke into Summerfield High School in Petersburg, Michigan, and intentionally turned on a natural gas valve that led to an evacuation May 24, police said. Students and staff were allowed back inside the building about 2 hours after the incident was discovered, a sergeant with the Monroe County Sheriff's Office said. "It could have been a very, very serious situation," he said. The suspect broke into the lab and turned on the gas typically used for a burner in experiments. Fire and gas company officials cleared the air and allowed everyone back inside around 10 a.m. once they determined it was safe. There are no suspects, but the case is being investigated. The building houses both high school and middle school students and staff.

Source:

<http://www.monroenews.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20110524/NEWS01/110529990>

38. *May 25, KFSN 30 Fresno* – (California) **Bomb scare near Tenaya Middle School.** Fresno Police are on the scene May 25 of a suspicious device on Mesa Avenue right across the street from Tenaya Middle School in North Fresno, California. As a precaution, Fresno Unified School District has asked all students at Tenaya Middle School to shelter in place. The Fresno Police Bomb Squad arrived at the scene. Mesa Avenue is closed to traffic.
Source: <http://abclocal.go.com/kfsn/story?section=news/local&id=8150905>
39. *May 24, Shelby Township Advisor & Source* – (Michigan) **Students hack into district email system.** Four Romeo High School students in Bruce Township, Michigan have been disciplined for their roles in hacking into the Romeo Community Schools (RCS) District's e-mail system. The RCS superintendent said administrators were notified May 13 by a student that another student hacked the e-mail system. She said the information correlated with strange activity following an interruption to e-mail service. The student was questioned by administrators, and the student admitted to learning how to hack through the Internet. "That student brought another three into their confidence," she said. "They were practicing it at school." The students used computer programs to access accounts of 60 teachers and administrators who had accessed their work e-mail through their mobile phones. No other e-mails or information was compromised. The four students were forthcoming about their involvement and said they did not do anything with the information they took, the superintendent said. The students were disciplined based on the district's policies and will have to make restitution for the cost of hiring an outside consultant to assist the district. The case is still under investigation by the Michigan State Police.
Source:
<http://www.sourcenewspapers.com/articles/2011/05/24/news/doc4ddc0cc1b06e2562123693.txt?viewmode=fullstory>
40. *May 24, KVEW 42 Yakima* – (Washington) **Gas leak forces evacuation at Pasco Elementary School.** A gas leak on the south side of Whittier Elementary in Pasco, Washington, forced the evacuation of the school's students and faculty May 24. A construction crew was digging into the ground on the south side lawn when the crew's machinery hit a gas pipe hidden under the ground. Officials immediately evacuated the school even though the gas was not leaking into the school, and the Pasco Fire Department did not deem the leak an imminent threat. Crews from Cascade Natural Gas closed the leak about an hour later.
Source: <http://www.kvewtv.com/article/2011/may/24/gas-leak-forces-evacuation-pasco-elementary-school/>

For more stories, see items [2](#), [4](#), [25](#), [26](#), and [28](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Emergency Services Sector

41. *May 25, Arizona Republic* – (Arizona; International) **3 in MCSO accused of cartel ties.** Three Maricopa County, Arizona, Sheriff’s Office employees, including a deputy in the human-smuggling unit, were arrested May 24 by authorities who said they were involved in a drug- and human-trafficking ring and used sheriff’s office intelligence to guide smugglers through the Valley. The sheriff’s employees were among 12 suspects arrested May 24 during a series of early-morning raids at 16 locations where investigators targeted members of the organization. The group mostly moved heroin, according to investigators, and officials suspect each of the arrested sheriff’s employees played a crucial role in moving the drugs and hiding the illicit profits. Authorities said the ring moved about \$56,000 worth of heroin a week through the Valley. The sheriff’s employees helped set up a shell corporation called West Utilities Group Inc., which was used to launder nearly \$50,000 in drug proceeds, according to court documents. The investigation went public when search warrants were served and a series of arrests were made May 24. But officials said the probe could last for months and target other suspects.

Source:

<http://www.azcentral.com/arizonarepublic/news/articles/2011/05/25/20110525mcsorarests0525.html>

42. *May 24, Boston Globe* – (Massachusetts) **Former Watertown police officer among 18 charged in drug, extortion offenses.** Federal law enforcement authorities May 24 unsealed an indictment that charges 18 people, including a former Watertown, Massachusetts police officer, with drug, extortion, and money laundering offenses, a U.S. attorney announced. According to the U.S. attorney, federal and local law enforcement agencies have “executed search warrants at seven locations in Watertown and Waltham, resulting in the seizure of more than \$700,000 in U.S. currency, seven kilograms of gold bars, 80 pounds of marijuana, four weapons, and several vehicles.” The indictment, according to U.S. attorney’s office, alleges a former Watertown Police officer, conspired with another defendant to “impede, impair, and obstruct the lawful functions of the Department of Homeland Security.” The indictment alleges one of the defendants, used his personal connections with members of the Watertown Police Department, “to obtain information about law enforcement activity in order to impede and obstruct investigations into his drug trafficking activities in Watertown.” The former police officer was fired in November 2010 for unrelated misconduct issues, the police department said. He had a history of complaints during his 13-year career in Watertown, the police chief said.

Source:

http://www.boston.com/yourtown/news/watertown/2011/05/former_watertown_police_office.html

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Information Technology Sector

43. *May 25, H Security* – (International) **Chrome 11 update patches critical holes.** Google has released version 11.0.696.71 of its Chrome Web browser, a

maintenance and security update that addresses a total of four security vulnerabilities, two of which are rated as critical: the new version fixes a critical memory corruption bug in the GPU command buffer and an out-of-bounds write problem in blob handling discovered by a member of the Chromium development community. A high-risk exploit — a stale pointer in floats rendering — along with a low-risk bug that bypassed the pop-up blocker have also been closed.

Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/Chrome-11-update-patches-critical-holes-1250075.html>

44. *May 25, Softpedia* – (International) **Sensitive data extracted from Comodo Brazil Website.** Hackers managed to compromise the Web site of Comodo Brazil and extracted sensitive data about the company’s SSL certificate customers. It appears the attack vector used was SQL injection. A partial database dump was posted on pastebin(dot)com May 21, together with information about the vulnerability. The compromised data includes certificate authority name, e-mail, fax, phone number, order number, certificate request, private key file name, and other details. Customer details such as organization names, addresses, telephones, domain names, type of Web servers, serial numbers, and more, are also included. There is also a list of what appears to be employee accounts, with @comdobr(dot)com e-mail addresses and hashed passwords. The password for an account called validacao@comodobr(dot)com (validation@) is listed in plain text.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/SSL-Customer-Data-Extracted-from-Comodo-Brazil-Website-202130.shtml>

45. *May 25, The Register* – (International) **Timing attack threatens private keys on SSL servers.** Security researchers have discovered a “timing attack” that creates a possible mechanism for a hacker to extract the secret key of a TLS/SSL server that uses elliptic curve cryptography (ECC). Elliptic curve cryptography is a type of public-key algorithm that uses the maths of elliptic curves rather than integer factorization, which is used by RSA as a one-way function. By using ECC, it is possible to provide equivalent levels of difficulty for a brute-force attack as can be provided by the more familiar integer-factorization approaches, but using smaller key lengths. The approach has benefits for mobile and low-power systems. Two researchers discovered some implementations of ECC are vulnerable to a form of side-channel attack based on measuring the length of time it takes to digitally sign a message. The attack can be carried out locally or, with greater difficulty, remotely. The researchers validated their research through tests on an OpenSSL Server running ECC they had established, as explained in the abstract of a research paper by the computer scientists.

Source:

http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/05/25/elliptic_curve_crypto_security_attack/

46. *May 24, Computerworld* – (International) **Apple admits Mac scareware infections, promises cleaning tool.** Apple May 24 promised an update for Mac OS X that will find and delete the MacDefender fake security software, and warn still-unaffected users when they download the bogus program. The announcement — part of a new support document that the company posted late May 24 — was the company’s first public

recognition of the threat posed by what security experts call “scareware” or “rogueware.” “In the coming days, Apple will deliver a Mac OS X software update that will automatically find and remove Mac Defender malware and its known variants,” Apple said. “The update will also help protect users by providing an explicit warning if they download this malware.” Apple also outlined steps that users with infected Macs can take to remove the scareware.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9217034/Apple_admits_Mac_scareware_infections_promises_cleaning_tool

47. *May 24, Help Net Security* – (International) **Spammers establish their own fake URL-shortening services.** For the first time ever, spammers have established their own their own fake URL-shortening services to perform URL redirection, Symantec said. This new spamming activity has contributed to May’s increase in spam by 2.9 percent. Under this scheme, shortened links created on fake URL-shortening sites are not included directly in spam messages. Instead, the spam e-mails contain shortened URLs created on legitimate URL-shortening sites. These shortened URLs lead to a shortened-URL on the spammer’s fake shortening site, which redirects to the spammer’s own Web site. These new domains were registered several months before they were used, potentially as a means to evade detection by legitimate URL-shortening services since the age of the domain may be used as an indicator of legitimacy making it more difficult for the genuine shortening services to identify potential abuse.

Source: <http://www.net-security.org/secworld.php?id=11071>

48. *May 24, Computerworld* – (International) **Researcher blasts Siemens for downplaying SCADA threat.** The security researcher who voluntarily canceled a talk on critical vulnerabilities in Siemens’ industrial control systems the week of May 16 took the German company to task May 23 for downplaying the problem. The researcher, with NSS Labs, took exception to Siemens’ claim the vulnerabilities he and a colleague uncovered had been discovered “while working under special laboratory conditions with unlimited access to protocols and controllers.” “There were no ‘special laboratory conditions’ with ‘unlimited access to the protocols.’ My personal apartment on the wrong side of town where I can hear gunshots at night hardly defines a special laboratory,” he said in a message posted on a public security mailing list. “[And] I purchased the controllers with money my company so graciously provided me with.” While Siemens promised the week of May 16 that it would patch the bugs, it downplayed the threat to its industrial control systems, and the thousands of companies that rely on Siemens’ programmable logic control systems, the researcher argued.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9216994/Researcher_blasts_Siemens_for_downplaying_SCADA_threat

For another story, see item [50](#)

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>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Communications Sector

49. *May 24, Network World* – (International) **Lack of IPv6 traffic stats makes judging progress difficult.** The Internet is poised to undergo the biggest upgrade in its 40-year history, from the current version of the Internet Protocol known as IPv4 to a new version dubbed IPv6, which offers an expanded addressing scheme for supporting new users and devices. However, it will be difficult for Internet policymakers, engineers, and the user community at large to tell how the upgrade to IPv6 is progressing because no one has accurate or comprehensive statistics about how much Internet traffic is IPv6 versus IPv4. The issue of IPv6 traffic measurement is timely given that the Internet engineering community is preparing for its biggest trial of IPv6: World IPv6 Day June 8. So far, 225 Web site operators — including Google, Yahoo and Facebook — have agreed to participate in the event by serving up their content via IPv6 for 24 hours. Without accurate IPv6 traffic statistics, neither the sponsors nor the participants of World IPv6 Day will be able to tell for sure how much IPv6 traffic is sent over the Internet June 8, or how much difference the event has on IPv6 traffic volumes afterward.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9217043/Lack_of_IPv6_traffic_stats_makes_judging_progress_difficult

50. *May 24, IDG News Service* – (International) **Sony says hacker stole 2,000 records from Canadian site.** Sony confirmed May 24 someone had hacked into its Web site and stole about 2,000 customer names and e-mail addresses. Close to 1,000 of the records have already been posted online by a hacker calling himself Idahc, who said he is a “Lebanese grey-hat hacker.” Idahc found a common Web programming error, called an SQL injection flaw, that allowed him to dig up the records on the Canadian version of the Official Sony Ericsson eShop, an online store for mobile phones and accessories. The hacker got access to records for about 2,000 customers, including their names and e-mail addresses and a hashed version of users’ passwords, according to a Sony Ericsson Mobile Communications spokeswoman. “Sony Ericsson has disabled this e-commerce Web site,” she said. “We can confirm that this is a standalone Web site and it is not connected to Sony Ericsson servers.” Other than the names and e-mail addresses, no personal or banking information was compromised, she said. Sony Ericsson is a mobile-phone company run jointly by Sony and Ericsson.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9217028/Sony_says_hacker_stole_2_000_records_from_Canadian_site

[[Return to top](#)]

Commercial Facilities Sector

51. *May 25, New York Times* – (National) **Storms kill at least 14 people in 3 states.** Residents of the South and Midwest braced for another round of severe weather May 25, only hours after at least 14 people were killed in a series of storms that struck portions of Arkansas, Kansas and Oklahoma, including a tornado that killed five people near Oklahoma City. The Oklahoma tornado struck around midday May 24 devastating El Reno, a town of 15,000 people about 25 miles west of downtown Oklahoma City, officials said. At least five people were killed and officials said the number could rise May 25 as rescue teams searched through the rubble of houses, businesses and churches in the area. Five people died in Canadian County, two in Logan County and one in the Grady County, where a woman died when a tornado hit a mobile-home park, said a spokeswoman for the Oklahoma medical examiner. At least 60 people were injured across central Oklahoma, many along the Interstate 40 corridor. The tornado left a trail of shredded and overturned cars along I-40, destroyed livestock, set off a gas line explosion, and spurred people across El Reno to evacuate their homes. On May 25, about 70,000 people remained without electricity in Oklahoma. In Kansas, two people died when winds blew a tree into their van near St. John, the authorities said.. And in Arkansas, at least four people died in storms, including one killed by a tornado in Franklin County, said a spokesman for the state department of emergency management. Other tornadoes were reported in Texas near Springtown and Azle, just northwest of Fort Worth and near Muenster. The Texas tornadoes caused no injuries.
Source: http://www.nytimes.com/2011/05/26/us/26storm.html?_r=1

52. *May 25, KCCI 8 Des Moines* – (Iowa) **Fire forces casino evacuation.** Crews put out a fire at Terrible’s Casino in Osceola, Iowa, May 25. The casino’s general manager said the fire broke out in an electrical room at about 3:15 a.m. The fire was small, but smoke spread quickly throughout the facility and into the casino. Staff and customers were evacuated from the casino and hotel. “We had 45 to 40 staff on duty, 60 to 100 [customers] on the casino floor and probably 50 to 52 of the 60 room hotel occupied,” the general manager said. He said the casino would likely be closed for the next 36 to 48 hours. He said no one was hurt in the incident and procedures to evacuate the facility worked as planned.
Source: <http://www.kcci.com/r/28017455/detail.html>

53. *May 25, Green Bay Press-Gazette* – (Wisconsin) **Fire at Oakwood Haven apartments in Crivitz sends 13 to hospital.** At least 13 people were hospitalized May 25 for minor injuries and smoke inhalation after fire damaged an elderly, low-income apartment complex in Crivitz, Wisconsin. A resident reported smoke in the hallway about 4:10 a.m. at the Oakwood Haven apartments, a Marinette County public information officer said. The Crivitz Fire Department was assisted by crews from

Stephenson, Lake, and Grover-Porterfield. The 20-unit complex had 11 apartments rented, and all residents were accounted for, the public information officer said. One person jumped from a second-story window to escape the fire, the Crivitz police chief said. The Lakeland Chapter of the American Red Cross set up a receiving center to assist at least 19 displaced residents. Crews are still investigating the cause of the fire. Source:

<http://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/article/20110525/GPG0101/110525016/6-hospitalized-after-Crivitz-apartment-building-fire?odyssey=nav|head>

54. *May 25, Denver Post* – (Colorado) **Cars explode in Springs parking lot, residents evacuated.** Two cars exploded in a Colorado Springs, Colorado apartment complex parking lot May 25, forcing the evacuation of some residents, police said. The incident happened at about 12:35 a.m. at 920 Bennett Avenue, according to the Colorado Springs Police Department crime blotter. When officers and firefighters arrived, two cars were ablaze and the flames spread to a third vehicle. Residents of a nearby building were temporarily evacuated as a safety precaution. No one was injured. Arson investigators are looking into the cause of the explosion. Investigators did not have any immediate suspect information.

Source: http://www.denverpost.com/news/ci_18135893

55. *May 24, Dallas Morning News* – (Texas) **Rangers game delayed as storms, golf ball-sized hail hit ballpark.** A night filled with indicators of tornadic activity forced the Texas Rangers Major League Baseball team to move about 15,000 fans at Rangers Ballpark in Arlington, Texas, temporarily from the stands to the tunnels beneath the stadium May 24. During a night of storms that brought hail and gusts up to 66 mph at the stadium, the club initially moved fans in the more open upper deck to lower areas. But after disaster sirens sounded and City of Arlington officials recommended evacuating the stands over tornado fears, Rangers officials tried to move as many fans as possible from the announced crowd of more than 35,000 into the tunnels. Fans were ushered down onto the field and into the tunnels through the two dugouts, the bullpen, and the equipment tunnel in left field. While some fans were still moving into the dugouts and tunnels, however, a heavy hail storm hit the park and officials moved to get fans back up into the stands and under overhangs to avoid injury. While the entire crowd was not moved into the tunnels, a park official said fans who were on the interior of the suite and club levels, and fans who moved towards the interior of the concourse remained safe.

Source: <http://www.dallasnews.com/sports/texas-rangers/headlines/20110524-rangers-game-delayed-as-storms-golf-ball-sized-hail-hits-ballpark.ece>

56. *May 24, Gwinnett Daily Post* – (Georgia) **Unexploded mortar shell sparks evacuation in Winder.** Officials in Barrow County, Georgia, closed a Winder road and evacuated five homes May 24 after a resident found an unexploded mortar shell while digging in their yard. After the resident called 911, public safety personnel began trying to determine if the shell, found at a Creekwood Road residence, was still live and how to safely remove it, according to a Barrow County Emergency Services spokesman. The University of Georgia bomb disposal unit assisted for several hours. The military

device was described as a round, metal cylinder with four fins attached. By nightfall, the FBI was involved, telling Barrow officials to expand the initial evacuation area from one house to five “and to leave the device alone,” the spokesman said. Barrow authorities were controlling the scene until an explosive ordinance demolition team from Dobbins Air Force Base could travel from Marietta to Winder.

Source:

http://www.gwinnettdaily.com/localnews/headlines/Unexploded_mortar_shell_sparks_evacuation_in_Winder_122548099.html

57. *May 24, WCAX 3 Burlington* – (Vermont) **Gas leak shuts down Essex shopping plaza.** The Post Office Square shopping plaza in Essex Junction, Vermont, and surrounding businesses were shut down May 24 when property managers smelled gasoline coming from the parking lot. Eight fire and rescue crews including a state hazmat team responded to secure the area and identify the source. More than 15 businesses were shut down and evacuated as teams tested the stormwater drains all around the complex. It did not take long to identify the source. The owner of a nearby Gulf gas station told hazmat crews his business got a fuel delivery earlier in the day. “An outside hauler brought a gasoline delivery here today. That is what we suspect happened. Maybe a small amount of gasoline spilled during the delivery,” he explained. The assistant fire chief said the rainy weather played a part pushing the fuel down into the storm drain. Crews dropped an absorbent boom into the manhole to soak up the gas and prevent any more from flowing away from the station. A high-speed fan was used to vent out the other end of the drain. State crews were expected to be on scene May 25 to pinpoint the source and evaluate the total damages. Officials expected the shopping plaza to reopen May 25.

Source: <http://www.wcax.com/story/14710134/gas-leak-shuts-down-essex-shopping-plaza>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

National Monuments and Icons Sector

58. *May 25, Associated Press* – (Arizona) **Horseshoe Two fire burns 43,000 acres.** Fire crews continued burnout operations May 24 in an attempt to contain and extinguish the Horseshoe Two wildfire in southeastern Arizona. The U.S. Forest Service said structure protection crews were in place in the community of Paradise west of Portal to protect against spot fires due to high winds. Crews on the south and southwest side of the fire continued to work on lines toward Rucker and Tex Canyons in preparation of burnout operations aimed at removing dead and dry grass in the path of the wildfire. The Horseshoe Two fire has burned 43,000 acres and is 30 percent contained.

Source: <http://ktar.com/category/local-news-articles/20110524/Horseshoe-Two-fire-burns-43,000-acres/>

59. *May 25, Amarillo Globe-News* – (Texas) **Palo Duro Canyon evacuated.** Strong winds and dry conditions fueled wildfires across the area May 24 and forced the evacuation of Palo Duro Canyon State Park and the Sunday Canyon area near Canyon, Texas. Large

grass fires also burned in Deaf Smith, Swisher, and Dallam counties. The wildfire that threatened Palo Duro State Park started about 6:30 p.m. near Interstate 27 and Cemetery Road, a spokesman for the Randall County Sheriff's Office said. Strong winds pushed the fire in a line stretching about 7 miles east-southeast across Sunday Canyon and into the fingers of Palo Duro Canyon. It was unclear if any structures had been damaged. The spokesman did not immediately know how many acres had burned or if the fire reached the state park. The Amarillo-Potter-Randall Emergency Operations Center asked people in Sunday Canyon and at the state park to evacuate, the emergency management coordinator said. Some evacuees checked in at the Cole Community Center in Canyon, which was converted into a temporary emergency center. Firefighters from departments across the area were battling the fire.

Source: <http://amarillo.com/news/local-news/2011-05-25/palo-duro-canyon-evacuated>

60. *May 24, Oregon Public Broadcasting* – (Oregon) **Vandals mar cave in Central Oregon.** The U.S. Forest Service is trying to find out who vandalized a popular cave in Central Oregon. Authorities said extensive damage was done to the cave's natural and cultural features. The vandalism occurred sometime in late April at the Hidden Forest Cave in the Deschutes National Forest. Vandals chopped down trees and set a fire inside the cave. They also spray-painted extensively both outside and inside the cave, covering native pictographs. A forest archeologist with the Deschutes National Forest said the paintings were likely made by member of the Klamath Tribe or the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. The national forest has called in an expert to examine the pictographs and see whether they can be restored. The vandals could face misdemeanor or felony charges under the Archaeological Resources Protection Act. A local caving group has started a reward for information leading to an arrest.
Source: <http://news.opb.org/article/vandals-mar-cave-central-oregon/>

61. *May 24, Abilene Reporter-News and Associated Press* – (Texas) **Federal wildfire teams dismantled; Merkel to continue as central command for TFS.** The last of the federal incident management teams that helped fight the so-called Trans-Pecos Complex of wildfires will hand command of the region's wildfire response back to the Texas Forest Service (TFS) May 24, Forest Service officials said. The TFS post in Merkel will continue to serve as central command with a staff of about 150. Officials said all of the region's major wildfires have been contained, leaving small fires that can be handled by local firefighters. As many as three federal incident management teams had been coordinating the response on fires in Texas since April 10. Wildfires were reported May 24 in Fisher and Mitchell counties. TFS crews were dispatched to help volunteer firefighters battle the 75-acre Jeter Fire in Shackelford County — which was threatening four homes — around 3:30 p.m. At 5 p.m., additional TFS personnel were sent to a new 100-acre fire reported near the Scurry/Mitchell county line. The possibility for wildfires remains high statewide, with 194 of Texas' 254 counties under burn bans. High winds and low humidity will cause critical wildfire conditions in the Panhandle and in far West Texas as well as critical fire weather conditions for the Big Country the week of May 23.
Source: <http://www.reporternews.com/news/2011/may/24/federal-wildfire-teams-dismantled-in-midland-to/>

62. *May 24, Great Falls Tribune* – (Montana) **James Kipp Recreation Area closed, evacuated.** Extremely high flows in the Missouri River prompted the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to close James Kipp Recreation Area in Montana, where U.S. Highway 191 crosses the river. The area is about 20 miles north of Bohemian Corner in north central Montana. The BLM received word May 21 from the Fergus County Sheriff's Office that the Missouri River near Kipp was rising quickly with the potential to surprise and endanger anyone camping or recreating there. In the interest of public safety, the BLM with assistance from the Charles M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge, evacuated the recreation area. While water flows fluctuate daily, the water flow in the Missouri River near the Kipp Recreation Area May 23 was 87,500 cubic feet per second (cfs). The mean water flow this time of year on this portion of the river is just over 15,000 cfs. The Kipp Recreation Area will be closed through the Memorial Day weekend, and will remain closed indefinitely until water levels and associated dangers abate.

Source:

<http://www.greatfallstribune.com/article/20110524/NEWS01/110524006/James-Kipp-Recreation-Area-closed-evacuated?odyssey=nav/head>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Dams Sector

63. *May 25, New Philadelphia Times-Reporter* – (Ohio) **Levee study will take time, Zoar residents told.** Officials with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers promised May 24 that the process to determine what action will be taken to fix problems facing the Zoar, Ohio levee will be done “as fast and as well as possible.” But the residents of Zoar — concerned about the future of their village — will have to be patient, because the Dam Safety Modification Study likely will not be done until September 2012, a manager for the levee project said. It then will take another year to finish the process. Corps officials told residents at a public meeting in March that the levee and diversion dam in Zoar have been classified as a Dam Safety Action Classification I, meaning its needs are urgent and compelling. They also said an 18-month study is being done to determine the best course of action, with the three most likely solutions being: repair the levee; tear down the village and allow the area to flood; or move Zoar to higher ground.

Source: <http://www.timesreporter.com/news/x157802017/Levee-study-will-take-time-Zoar-residents-told>

64. *May 25, Winnipeg Sun* – (International) **Lake Manitoba becomes ground zero in battle against rising water.** As the Red and Assiniboine Rivers continue to recede, the focus of Manitoba's flood fight has shifted firmly to Lake Manitoba. The province in Canada reported high winds pushed water ashore in several areas of the lake's south basin, including Delta Beach, where a voluntary evacuation notice for about 30 permanent homes remained in effect May 24 — a day after it was first imposed. A deputy minister of Manitoba infrastructure and transportation estimated about one-third of the roughly 2,000 properties in the flood risk area must be raised or relocated to fend off the rising waters, especially during wind storms. Nearly 1 million sandbags have

been deployed to the lake's shores in recent weeks, and military personnel continue to work in the area to help fill more bags and shore up dikes. The lake has received record inflows this year, both from its natural inlet rivers and from the Portage Diversion.

Source: <http://www.winnipegsun.com/2011/05/25/lake-manitoba-becomes-ground-zero-in-battle-against-rising-water>

65. *May 24, New Orleans Times-Picayune* – (Louisiana) **Swollen, surging Mississippi River damage to levees must be repaired quickly, official says.** As the swollen Mississippi River surges toward the Gulf of Mexico, increasing stress on the levees means the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers must evaluate and repair any damage to the flood protection system before next season, the Army Secretary said May 24. The levee system was designed in the 1930s to contain the worst flood that was theoretically possible in the valley, he said during a news conference at the Bonnet Carre Spillway. “We’re putting as much pressure on this system as it was designed for,” he said, adding that 500 engineers are inspecting the levee system to ensure that it is holding. Repairs are imperative, he said, to rule out the possibility that “a situation where a flood of less magnitude could have more impact next year.”

Source:

http://www.nola.com/environment/index.ssf/2011/05/swollen_surging_mississippi_river.html

66. *May 24, KAIT 8 Jonesboro* – (Arkansas) **New flood threat after Corps opens Bull Shoals floodgates.** There is a new threat of flooding for people living along the White River in Arkansas after the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers made an unprecedented move May 24 and opened the floodgate spillways at Bull Shoals Dam. A spokeswoman for the Corps’ Little Rock district, said 35,000 cubic feet of water per second (cfs) was pouring from the dam. The Corps planned to increase that number to about 44,700 cfs. That amount is double the amount of water normally discharged into the White River. That extra water will head down the White River, causing the river to rise several feet and potentially lead to flooding.

Source: <http://www.kait8.com/story/14710172/new-flood>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information

About the reports - The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is a daily [Monday through Friday] summary of open-source published information concerning significant critical infrastructure issues. The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is archived for ten days on the Department of Homeland Security Web site: <http://www.dhs.gov/iaipdailyreport>

Contact Information

Content and Suggestions:

Send mail to cikr.productfeedback@hq.dhs.gov or contact the DHS Daily Report Team at (703)387-2267

Subscribe to the Distribution List:

Visit the [DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report](#) and follow instructions to [Get e-mail updates when this information changes](#).

Removal from Distribution List:

Send mail to support@govdelivery.com.

Contact DHS

To report physical infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact the National Infrastructure Coordinating Center at nicc@dhs.gov or (202) 282-9201.

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Web page at www.us-cert.gov.

Department of Homeland Security Disclaimer

The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is a non-commercial publication intended to educate and inform personnel engaged in infrastructure protection. Further reproduction or redistribution is subject to original copyright restrictions. DHS provides no warranty of ownership of the copyright, or accuracy with respect to the original source material.