



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report
12 October 2011

Top Stories

- Police broke up the biggest identity theft ring in U.S. history after arresting 111 people who made bogus credit-cards in a New-York based scam that cost banks, retailers, and consumers \$13 million. – *New York Post* (See item [23](#))
- Two men allegedly working for “factions of the Iranian government” were charged with plotting to assassinate the Saudi ambassador to the United States, and to attack the Saudi and Israeli embassies in Washington D.C. – *msnbc.com*; *Reuters*; *Associated Press* (See item [44](#))

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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. *October 11, Associated Press* – (Ohio) **Fatal crash closes I-270 at Westerville Road.** Part of a major highway around Columbus, Ohio, was shut down by a fuel spill that resulted from a deadly crash. Interstate 270 was closed in both directions on the northeast side of the city after a tanker truck overturned October 10, killing the driver. Multiple media outlets reported a hole was torn in the tanker and caused it to leak about 3,000 gallons of the gasoline it was hauling. Fire officials said the cleanup could keep

the section of freeway closed into October 11. Police said it was unclear what caused the accident. No other vehicles were involved, and no one else was hurt.

Source:

<http://www.lancastereagle.com/article/20111011/NEWS01/111011001/Fatal-crash-closes-270-Westerville-Road?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|Frontpage>

2. *October 11, Dayton Beach News-Journal* – (Florida) **Live power lines force workplace evacuation.** Several people were evacuated October 10 from their workplace after inclement weather knocked down a utility pole and left power lines hanging over the vent stack of a large propane gas tank in Holly Hill, Florida, officials said. According to a Daytona Beach Fire Department spokesman, the high voltage wires were on top of a 30,000-gallon propane tank at the AmeriGas company at Commercial Drive and Sixth Street. Authorities were called at 9 a.m. by gas company employees, who reported the power lines posed a potential hazard, said the Holly Hill police chief. As a precaution, about 20 people from several surrounding small businesses in a city-size block area were asked to temporarily leave their workplace. Florida Power & Light crews were called to shut down the power grid so the wires could be safely removed. After about 1.5 hours, power was restored. Once the area was safe and secure, the employees were allowed to return to work at 10:15 a.m.
Source: <http://www.news-journalonline.com/news/local/east-volusia/2011/10/11/live-power-lines-force-workplace-evacuation.html>
3. *October 10, KSAZ 10 Phoenix* – (Arizona) **Tanker fire forces closure of SR 85 in Buckeye.** A hazardous materials fire brought firefighters to Buckeye, Arizona, October 9 after a tanker carrying 8,500 gallons of gasoline collided into the back of a van on State Road 85, Buckeye fire crews said. The tanker's undercarriage caught on fire, but the people involved in the crash were able to escape before the blaze. The crash occurred near a fertilizer plant. The southbound lanes of SR 85 were shut down, along with all Union Pacific railroad traffic across the highway. The highway was expected to be shut down while haz-mat crews cleaned the area. The exact amount of gasoline that leaked, if any, was unknown.
Source: <http://www.myfoxphoenix.com/dpp/traffic/tanker-catches-on-fire-spills-gas-in-buckeye-10092011>
4. *October 10, WESH 2 Orlando* – (Florida) **Trees down, thousands without power.** Residents in about 20,000 homes woke up without power early October 10 in Volusia County, Florida, after heavy storms pushed through Central Florida. In Brevard County, another 7,800 were without power. By the early afternoon, power had returned to most homes across the region, but crews were still working in many areas. Florida Power and Light and Progress Energy representatives said extra crews were brought in. They said tree branches and downed lines were the cause of the major problems.
Source: <http://www.wesh.com/r/29436935/detail.html>
5. *October 9, Associated Press* – (Idaho) **N. Idaho fuel pipe shut down after pressure drops.** ConocoPhillips has shut down an underground diesel fuel and unleaded gas pipeline that crosses northern Idaho because of a pressure drop and is having to truck fuel to its distribution center in Spokane, Washington. Workers October 9 had not yet

determined the reason for the pressure drop in the Yellowstone Pipeline, said a company spokesman. He said a special instrument sent through a 5-mile section of the 10-inch diameter pipe October 8 between the Idaho towns of Enaville and Cataldo found no leaks. Fuel was not been detected outside the pipe, but as a precaution floating booms were placed across the Coeur d'Alene River in two places, and absorbent material along the bank in a third location. Workers immediately shut the pipe when the pressure drop occurred October 1, and valves at each end of the 5-mile section were closed. Workers and an airplane have been monitoring closely since then. Daily water samples from the river have all come back clean. There was no estimate on how much fuel spilled if a leak was the cause of the pressure drop. The pipe carries fuel from the company's refinery in Billings, Montana, and is piped to Missoula, Montana, where it is loaded in trucks and taken to Thompson Falls, Montana. From there it goes into the Yellowstone Pipeline and to Spokane.

Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D9Q907A01.htm>

6. *October 8, Chicago Tribune* – (Illinois) **Crews start moving derailed train cars as inspectors investigate Tiskilwa accident site.** Crews began slowly clearing railroad cars involved in a fiery derailment more than 100 miles west of Chicago, October 7. Investigators arrived on-scene about noon, just 10 hours after 26 cars of the 131-car Iowa Interstate Railroad-operated train derailed near Tiskilwa in Bureau County, resulting in nine cars containing ethanol going up in flames or exploding, said the National Transportation Safety Board's (NTSB) chief accident investigator. The train was en route to Chicago from Rock Island, Iowa, around 2 a.m. when 26 cars derailed just east of Tiskilwa. By about 3:15 p.m. October 8, crews had moved at least one derailed car and were in the process of moving others, while fire crews continued suppression efforts to tamp down possible flare-ups from oxygen reaches smoldering ethanol or other fuel. The train cars will be moved to another location so they can be examined separately, officials said October 7. Only after the track is confirmed safe will it be opened again to rail traffic. Of the 26 derailed cars, 14 contained mash, a byproduct of ethanol production, and one contained sand. Three cars containing ethanol remained upright, although one of those three derailed. The train carried two video recorders and an event recorder that tracks the use of train controls and a train's movements, and those are in transit to Washington, D.C. for analysis. The six-person NTSB team was joined by investigators and inspectors from the Federal Railroad Administration, the Illinois Commerce Commission, the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration, and the Iowa Interstate Railroad.

Source: http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2011-10-08/news/chi-national-state-inspectors-investigate-tiskilwa-derailment-site-20111008_1_train-cars-event-recorder-federal-railroad-administration

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Chemical Industry Sector

7. *October 11, Bryan-College Station Eagle* – (Texas) **Train derailment under investigation.** Roads were opened and an evacuation order was lifted October 10 after crews cleaned up a 12-car train derailment in Burleson County, Texas, along Texas 36. A spokesman for Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway (BNSF) said the cause of the October 9 derailment is under investigation. The accident left four cars derailed upright and eight on their sides, he said. One of the upright cars was carrying sulfuric acid — a highly corrosive and colorless acid — which is why county officials ordered a temporary evacuation, and closed Texas 36 from 8 p.m. October 9 until 2 a.m. October 10. The BNSF spokesman said the railway bridge over the highway was reopened for service at 1 p.m.
Source: <http://www.theeagle.com/local/Train-derailment-under-investigation--6708497>
8. *October 11, Abilene Reflector-Chronicle* – (Kansas) **Hazardous chemicals on semi ignite.** Westbound traffic on Interstate 70 in Kansas from Abilene to Salina was closed for several hours October 9 after a semi tractor-trailer carrying hazardous chemicals caught fire near the Solomon exit in Dickinson County. The semi driver reported a fire at the rear of the tractor trailer around 5 a.m., and pulled off the interstate just east of the Solomon exit. The Solomon fire chief said firefighters from Solomon Fire Department, assisted by Saline County Fire District #5 brought the fire under control. He said the fire destroyed plastic packaging and other items inside the trailer, but did not ignite the trailer's hazardous load, which included containers of aluminum hydroxide, printer ink, motor oil, and other materials. Because of the presence of hazardous chemicals, officials from the Kansas Department of Transportation, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, and hazardous materials teams from Wichita were called to the scene. The Solomon fire chief said rescue workers remained at the scene for more than 12 hours. Westbound traffic at Abilene was closed and traffic was rerouted. One westbound lane was opened around 1:30 p.m. October 9.
Source: http://www.abilene-rc.com/view/full_story/15990050/article-Hazardous-chemicals-on-semi-ignite?instance=homefirstleft
9. *October 11, WEWS 5 Cleveland* – (Ohio) **Akron fire, hazmat crews contain chlorine leak.** Fire and Hazmat crews contained an early morning chemical leak that occurred at the Hygenic Corporation in Akron, Ohio. Fire units responded to stop a 100-pound cylinder from leaking chlorine. Several ambulances also responded after an employee identified and reported the leak. About a dozen workers were inside the building, and one worker was transported to the hospital, according to emergency crews. The worker's injuries were not believed to be life threatening. The scene was cleared by about 5:20 a.m. The leak occurred just one day after the cylinder had been changed at the facility, crews indicated.
Source: http://www.newsnet5.com/dpp/news/local_news/akron_canton_news/akron-fire-hazmat-crews-work-to-contain-chlorine-leak
10. *October 10, Augusta Chronicle* – (Georgia) **Morning wreck spills 6,000 gallons of fertilizer on U.S. 1.** An 18-wheeler flipped on U.S. Highway 1 October 9, spilling 6,000 gallons of liquid nitrogen fertilizer. The Augusta Fire Department, Richmond

County Sheriff's Office, and a hazardous materials crew responded to the scene about 5 miles north of the Blythe and Richmond county lines, according to a dispatch supervisor. He said one of two southbound lanes was blocked into the afternoon as the hazardous materials crews cleaned up the scene. The Georgia Department of Transportation is investigating what caused the truck to flip over. The truck driver was taken to a local hospital.

Source: <http://chronicle.augusta.com/latest-news/2011-10-09/morning-wreck-spills-6000-gallons-fertilizer-us-1?v=1318175353>

11. *October 10, Charleston Daily Mail* – (West Virginia) **DuPont says sulfur dioxide vapor caused workers to become ill.** DuPont said after an internal investigation, it believes sulfur dioxide vapor caused four workers at its Belle, West Virginia plant to become ill 2 weeks ago. The U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration also is investigating. DuPont said three mechanics conducting maintenance in the Dimethyl Sulfate unit began to experience eye discomfort, with one also suffering a sore throat. The plant's medical staff evaluated the workers and sent one to a hospital where he spent 4 days before being released. The other two workers were released from the plant's medical facility the day of the incident. But one of them went to a local hospital where he was evaluated and released. A contract employee also went to the plant's medical facility September 28. He was sent to the hospital for further evaluation, and spent 2 days under observation as a precaution, DuPont said. It said during the maintenance work, kettle heel, which is waste residue from process equipment, was discharged to the drain in the area. The mixing of the heel and water caused a less than 2-pound vapor release of sulfur dioxide, which drifted toward the mechanics, who were about 70 feet away. DuPont said it is reviewing maintenance procedures and training in the wake of the incident.

Source: <http://www.dailymail.com/News/201110102291>

12. *October 7, Charleston State Journal* – (West Virginia) **Feds settle claims against TRAC Enterprises.** The federal government could be looking at a settlement in a case that charges a former Dunbar, West Virginia company with a "threatened release" of hazardous materials, the Charleston State Journal reported October 7. In a notice of a consent decree filed September 22, federal attorneys asked TRAC Enterprises LLC to pay \$72,000 to the Hazardous Substance Superfund to resolve costs incurred by the government. A lawsuit filed that same day by a U.S. attorney and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency charges the metal refinishing business of Custom Plating and Polishing Inc. (CPP) with "the release or threatened release" of hazardous substances. It said TRAC was the owner of the site and entered a lease agreement with CPP in December 2002. The company evicted CPP from the site 5 years later, with CPP leaving behind "chemicals, wastes and other equipment used in metal refinishing and electroplating." The suit said the EPA found many containers of chemicals. Some appeared to be degraded and leaking. They contained about 3,700 gallons of hazardous materials, including chromium, chromic acid, copper, copper cyanide, cyanide, hydrochloric acid, nickel, nitric acid, sodium, sodium cyanide, and sulfuric acid, the suit said. It also noted that materials with very low and high pHs were stored close together "with no secondary containment." It added that containers containing acids and bases were stored close to containers of cyanide compounds, which raises the

danger of the release of deadly hydrogen cyanide. The EPA sampled the containers from September 2006 to October 2006 to calculate potential risk to human health. From November 2006 to January 2007, the EPA and the U.S. Coast Guard Atlantic Strike Team conducted emergency removal at the site.

Source: <http://www.statejournal.com/story.cfm?func=viewstory&storyid=109621>

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

13. *October 10, NewJerseyNewsroom.com* – (New York) **Entergy Nuclear wants heavier weapons for Indian Point guards.** Entergy Nuclear has asked federal regulators to override New York State’s weapons law to allow Indian Point guards to carry heavier weaponry on the Buchanan nuclear site than standard commercial security guards. The request comes 10 years after terrorists flew a hijacked plane directly over the twin containment domes en route to a suicidal dive into the World Trade Center. In the interim, Entergy and the nuclear industry have waged a two-pronged effort: a public relations campaign with advertisements depicting a heavily armed, paramilitary protective force; and a lobbying campaign to dissuade the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) from requiring the firms to have significantly more protection than average commercial guard forces. While the exact armaments used by guards at particular nuclear power plants vary and are not made public, federal regulators do not require operators to have a paramilitary force capable of defending against an armed assault using rocket propelled grenades and other heavy weaponry. And while the NRC came out with new security guidelines in 2003, these were largely voluntary. They were made mandatory in 2009, but Indian Point, and about 63 others around the country were granted waivers so they did not have to incur immediate expenses. The new request for heavier weapons was submitted April 27, and asks for federal “Preemption Authority” to overrule state gun laws. An NRC spokesman said “New York State law prohibits the possession and use of handguns, rifles, shotguns, short-barreled shotguns, short-barreled rifles, machine guns, semi-automatic assault weapons and large-capacity magazines, the possession and use of which have been determined to be necessary at Indian Point for the protection of radioactive material or other property.” The NRC has not rushed to grant the request. Instead, it sent a formal “Request for Additional Information” to the firm. According to a NRC spokeswoman, “The September 28th letter simply informs Entergy that we need more information to complete our review, specifically, it asks Entergy to ‘Describe the impact on Indian Point’s current physical protection program and capabilities, including response capabilities, if the NRC were to elect not to grant stand-alone pre-emption authority to Indian Point’.”

Source: <http://www.newjerseynewsroom.com/science-updates/entergy-nuclear-wants-heavier-weapons-for-indian-point-guards>

14. *October 10, Associated Press* – (Georgia) **Pipe leaking radioactive water at Georgia nuclear plant sealed.** An underground pipe that leaked radioactive water was sealed

October 10 underneath a nuclear power plant in Georgia. Southern Co. Officials said that covers have been welded onto the ends of the faulty pipe below Plant Hatch in Baxley. A utility spokeswoman said October 10 the pipe was no longer used. An above-ground replacement will be constructed. The company learned of the leak in September when it detected abnormal amounts of tritium, a radioactive form of hydrogen, in test wells at the plant. The spokeswoman said there are no signs the radioactive water has moved off the property. Tritium has been linked to cancer if ingested or absorbed through the skin in large amounts. But the utility said it is highly unlikely the contaminated water would get into drinking wells.

Source: <http://www.ajc.com/news/pipe-leaking-radioactive-water-1198231.html>

15. *October 7, Reuters* – (Virginia) **NRC not ready to allow restart of Virginia reactors.** The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) said October 7 it does not expect to allow U.S. power company Dominion to restart the 1,806-megawatt North Anna nuclear power plant in Mineral, Virginia until sometime after an October 21 meeting. A spokesman at the NRC could not say when the NRC would be ready to allow Dominion to restart the plant's two reactors, which shut down safely following the August 23 earthquake in Virginia. At the meeting to be held at the NRC headquarters in Rockville, Maryland, the NRC said the commissioners will hear presentations from Dominion and the management of the NRC's Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation and the NRC's Region II office in Atlanta. Dominion has said the 903-MW Unit 1 at North Anna would be ready for restart by the end of September. The 903-MW Unit 2 will remain shut for a planned refueling outage. The August 23 quake in Virginia generated stronger ground motion than what was anticipated during the licensing of North Anna, located about 40 miles northwest of Richmond. The NRC has said it wants Dominion to prove the plant can operate safely before the agency will approve of its restart.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/10/07/utilities-operations-dominion-northanna-idUSN1E7960YS20111007>

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

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Banking and Finance Sector

16. *October 11, WNYW Fox 5* – (New York) **Cops hunt bleach robbers.** New York City cops have been hunting for a crew of burglars with a trademark move — they break into stores, loot their ATMs, then cover their tracks with a splash of bleach. There have been more than 50 “cash-and-splash” burglaries since last summer in Brooklyn neighborhoods, investigators said October 11. The thieves occasionally took cash from store registers, but their top prize is always the ATMs, which they bust open with tools. So far, the operation has netted the thieves \$250,000. Surveillance video has caught the bandits in action, but sources said the recordings show nothing more than men in gloves with their faces covered.
Source: <http://www.myfoxny.com/dpp/news/cops-hunt-bleach-robbers-ncx-20111011>

17. *October 11, U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission* – (California) **SEC charges bank executives with hiding millions of dollars in losses during 2008 financial crisis.** The Securities and Exchange Commission October 11 charged former bank executives with misleading investors about mounting loan losses at San Francisco, California-based United Commercial Bank during the height of the financial crisis in 2008 and 2009. The SEC alleged the bank’s former chief executive officer (CEO), chief operating officer (COO), and a senior officer concealed losses on loans and other assets from the bank’s auditors, causing the bank’s public holding company UCBH Holdings Inc. (UCBH) to understate 2008 operating losses by at least \$65 million. A few months later, continued declines in the value of the bank’s loans led the bank to fail, and the California Department of Financial Institutions closed the bank and appointed the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) as receiver. United Commercial Bank was one of the 10 largest bank failures of the recent financial crisis, causing a loss of \$2.5 billion to the FDIC’s insurance fund. The SEC alleges the CEO, COO, and senior officer deliberately delayed the proper recording of loan losses, and each committed securities fraud by making false and misleading statements to investors and UCBH’s independent auditors. During December 2008 and the first 3 months of 2009, the three were aware of significant losses on several large loans. They allegedly learned about dramatically reduced property appraisals and worthless collateral securing the loans, yet repeatedly hid this data from UCBH auditors and investors. The SEC’s complaint also alleges the bank’s former chief financial officer (CFO) acted negligently by misleading the company’s outside auditors, and aiding the filing of false financial statements. The CFO agreed to settle the SEC charges without admitting or denying the allegations. He will be permanently enjoined from violating certain antifraud, reporting, record-keeping, and internal controls provisions of federal securities laws, and will pay a \$150,000 penalty. He also consented to an administrative order suspending him from appearing or practicing before the SEC as an accountant, with a right to apply for reinstatement after 5 years.
Source: <http://www.sec.gov/news/press/2011/2011-202.htm>

18. *October 11, Reuters* – (New York) **NYSE Web site inaccessible for 30 minutes Monday: monitor.** The New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) Web site was inaccessible for 30 minutes October 10, according to an Internet-monitoring company, but the exchange said there was no interruption of service. On October 10, the day hackers said

they would attack the site, the NYSE site was unavailable from 5:30 p.m. EDT to 6 p.m. EDT and there was also an incident at 3:30 p.m. that lasted for about 1 minute, according to California-based Keynote System. A NYSE spokesperson said there was no interruption to Web traffic, and no sign of a hacker attack. A person familiar with the matter said October 11 internal monitoring systems indicated the site had not experienced service issues, and that the NYSE servers were not compromised. The source said there may have been some slowness during the day originating from the external Internet service provider. A video posted on YouTube, which claimed to be from the activist hacker group Anonymous, said the site would be “erased from the Internet” October 10. The video said the move was in sympathy with the ongoing “Occupy Wall Street” protests in Lower Manhattan. The threat was made against the site not the trading platform, which is used to process billions of share transactions each day. It was not possible to verify the origin of the threat.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/10/11/us-nyse-hackers-idUSTRE79A32M20111011>

19. *October 10, SC Magazine* – (California) **TD Ameritrade settles lawsuit over major breach.** A federal judge approved a settlement stemming from the 2007 TD Ameritrade breach that exposed the personal information of 6.3 million customers, 2 years after a deal was shot down because it did not benefit the plaintiffs enough. The settlement, which recently received a final sign-off after being approved by a California federal judge, allows individuals who fell victim to identity theft to collect between \$50 and \$2,500, according to an Associated Press report. TD Ameritrade will pay between \$2.5 million and \$6.5 million under the agreement. The brokerage revealed in September 2007 the names and contact details of its customers were exposed when hackers infiltrated a database. No Social Security numbers, account information, or other sensitive data was hijacked in the attack, and the company maintains no identity theft resulted. But the company decided to revise the settlement to compensate its clients, even though the brokerage believes the incident is not responsible for any accounts that may have been compromised due to identity theft, a spokeswoman said. The 2009 proposed deal would have provided 1 year of free anti-spam services to victims, and forced TD Ameritrade to implement better security, as well as pay \$1.9 million in legal fees. Some individuals complained they received pump-and-dump stock spam after the breach, though there appeared to be no instances of identity fraud. But a federal judge in San Francisco ruled at the time the proposal did not provide “discernible” benefit to the plaintiffs.

Source: <http://www.scmagazineus.com/td-ameritrade-settles-lawsuit-over-major-breach/article/214042/>

20. *October 10, IDG News Service* – (New York; New Jersey) **Fire disrupts NYSE data center.** An electrical fire October 9 at a data center of the New York Stock Exchange in Mahwah, New Jersey, affected communications connectivity to 58 trading firms, but the exchange expects “completely normal operations” for the October 10 market open. The electrical fire was in a single computer cabinet at the Mahwah data center, and was quickly extinguished, said a spokesman for NYSE Euronext, which owns the exchange. NYSE Euronext owns and operates the data center, he said. The traders whose communications were affected have been notified that all systems were being tested,

and that normal operations were expected for the open October 9, the spokesman said.
Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9220664/Fire_disrupts_NYSE_data_center

21. *October 8, Associated Press* – (Georgia) **FDIC sues failed Alpharetta bank seeking nearly \$24 million in damages.** Federal regulators October 7 sued 11 insiders at a failed Georgia bank, accusing them of gross negligence. The Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. (FDIC) accused the executives and directors of Alpha Bank & Trust, in Alpharetta, of sloppy lending practices. The Atlanta Journal-Constitution reported the lawsuit seeks \$23.9 million in damages. Alpha Bank failed in October 2008, roughly 30 months after it opened. The suit filed in U.S. district court in Atlanta said the bank's strategy focused on "growth above all else, including safety and soundness." The FDIC estimated in the suit that Alpha Bank's collapse cost \$214.5 million.

Source:

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/cbc814f43ccb423aa0ec42d3b18d4783/GA--Bank-Failure-Lawsuit/>

22. *October 8, KSEE 24 Fresno* – (California) **Counterfeit check scam uses fake Fresno County Federal Credit Union checks.** The Better Business Bureau has learned that Fresno County Federal Credit Union (FCFCU) has been a victim of a serious counterfeit check scam. FCFCU Official Bank checks were sent out with a scam letter encouraging recipients to cash the checks. FCFCU was initially notified of the scam by an officer from the U.S. Customs & Border Patrol division of John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York. He indicated they had confiscated one box of checks coming out of Africa and being shipped to an individual in Los Angeles. The box contained 250 FCFCU official checks. The checks were in various dollar increments (\$40,000, \$15,000, \$7,500, \$3,500, and \$2,500). Each check showed the same REF name. The pay to the order and date were blank. The amount of potential loss in this box was over \$2 million. This was the only box the US Customs officer found but, the credit union has begun receiving calls from various banks and individuals indicating they were in possession of bank checks.

Source: <http://www.ksee24.com/news/local/Counterfeit-Check-Scam-Uses-Fake-Fresno-County-Federal-Credit-Union-Checks-131373893.html>

23. *October 7, New York Post* – (International) **Biggest ID scam in US history results in 111 arrests.** Police broke up the biggest ID theft in American history after arresting 111 people who allegedly made bogus credit cards as part of a Queens, New York-based scam that cost consumers, banks, and retailers \$13 million, authorities said October 7. The alleged scammers — members of five organized forged credit card and identity theft rings — had ties to Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Middle East, the New York City Police Department and Queens district attorney's (DA) office said. The people arrested were charged in 10 indictments with stealing personal credit data of thousands of American and European consumers over a 16-month period. Some 86 defendants are in custody, while 25 others are wanted, authorities said. Cops said nearly two dozen people were charged in six indictments with participating in burglaries and robberies throughout Queens. The Queens DA's office said four defendants were charged with conspiring to commit a bank robbery in Forest Hills.

Five are charged with stealing more than \$95,000 worth of cargo from John F. Kennedy International Airport, and seven are accused of stealing about \$850,000 worth of computer equipment from the Citigroup Building in Long Island City, the DA said. He said more than 90 people connected to the scam have been charged in five indictments charging 784 pattern acts with, among other crimes, enterprise corruption under New York's Organized Crime Control Act. He said they are also accused of allegedly being members and associates of organized criminal enterprises that operated between May 2010 and September 2011, scheming to defraud thousands of American Express, Visa, MasterCard, and Discover Card customers. According to the indictments, the defendants fraudulently obtained credit card account numbers and then used the data to make forged credit and ID cards. Once the counterfeit cards were created, according to the indictments, they were ultimately given to teams of "shoppers" who were sent out on shopping expeditions in New York, Florida, Massachusetts, California, and other states.

Source:

http://www.nypost.com/f/print/news/local/biggest_id_scam_in_us_history_results_lzD4ISQypXL3ssu5VJtDON

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Transportation Sector

24. *October 10, Associated Press* – (Washington) **TSA finds loaded gun at Seattle airport for the second time in a week.** The U.S. Transportation Security Administration (TSA) said officers found a loaded handgun at security checkpoint at Seattle-Tacoma International for the second time in a week, according to the Associated Press October 10. A TSA spokeswoman said the first handgun was found October 1 during routine carry-on baggage screening. Officers found another loaded handgun in a carry-on bag October 5. Both passengers were arrested. Passengers are prohibited from carrying firearms or ammunition in carry-on baggage.
Source: <http://www.thenewstribune.com/2011/10/10/1859639/tsa-finds-loaded-gun-at-seattle.html>
25. *October 8, NY1 News* – (New York) **JFK passenger busted for carrying weapons cache.** An Egyptian man was facing charges after security agents at John F. Kennedy International Airport in Queens, New York, found a cache of weapons in his carry-on bag. Authorities said the passenger was headed to Paris, France, when he was stopped October 4. The Transportation Security Administration said the items in his bag included two stun guns, a sword, and four pairs of brass knuckles. The passenger was charged with nine misdemeanor counts of criminal weapons possession.
Source: http://www.ny1.com/content/top_stories/148608/jfk-passenger-busted-for-carrying-weapons-cache
26. *October 7, KDKA 2 Pittsburgh; Associated Press; CBS* – (Pennsylvania) **Thieves steal 50-foot bridge in Western Pa.** Pennsylvania State Police said thieves snuck away with

a 50-foot steel bridge. A state police spokesman said in a report filed October 6 that the bridge in North Beaver Township was stolen sometime between September 27-October 5. According to CBS affiliate KDKA, the 20-foot wide bridge was in a wooded area along a railroad line, about 60 miles north of Pittsburgh. Police said it was made out of corrugated steel and valued at about \$100,000. The thieves used a blowtorch to cut the bridge apart. They presumably aim to sell it for scrap metal.

Source: http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-504083_162-20117176-504083.html

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Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to report

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Agriculture and Food Sector

27. *October 11, Food Safety News* – (National) **Louisiana deaths linked to Listeria outbreak.** Two deaths in Louisiana have been confirmed to be part of the multistate outbreak of Listeria infection linked to cantaloupe grown on a Colorado farm, Food Safety News reported October 11. Louisiana health authorities said a woman died after eating contaminated cantaloupe. The woman's death was one of the first cases to make headlines when reports of listeriosis illness surfaced, but officials there did not immediately confirm the connection to the outbreak. The second outbreak-related fatality in Louisiana was also a woman, according to state officials. Meanwhile, Missouri health authorities have confirmed a fourth case of listeriosis caused by cantaloupe from Jensen Farms in Colorado. The new reports push the outbreak toll to at least 112 cases and 23 deaths, plus one miscarriage, over 24 states. The Louisiana fatalities and fourth Missouri case were not included in the October 7 outbreak update by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which listed Listeria-related illness in Alabama, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Maryland, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming. Colorado has reported the most infections, with 32 sickened. Texas has 16 reported illnesses, New Mexico has 13, and Oklahoma has 11.

Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/10/2-louisiana-deaths-linked-to-listeria-outbreak/>

28. *October 10, Walla Walla Union-Bulletin* – (Washington) **Spotted wing fruit fly could devastate the Walla Walla Valley.** It is no bigger than a preschooler's crayon dot but has the potential to cost the Walla Walla Valley in Washington state \$500 million in damages, the Walla Walla Union-Bulletin reported October 10. The head of Oregon State Extension Services office in Milton-Freewater, said October 7 that five new sightings of the "spotted wing drosophila" fruit fly have been confirmed in the area

during the past few weeks. The flies are a common problem in California, Western Washington, and Oregon, along with British Columbia. Mild winters in those regions allow the pest to thrive. It is a significant threat. The pest has the potential to be devastating to berry and grape crops, the official noted. While other fruit flies lay eggs in the cracks and spots of soft or rotting fruit, the female Spotted Wing is uniquely equipped to attack green fruit in order to prepare a birthing bed. She can open unripe fruit and tuck in her one to three eggs. In a few days, the fruit has a visible, widening blemish that sometimes weeps juice, attracting bacteria and fungus. The female may lay as many as 300 eggs in her short lifetime, and one growing season may see up to 13 generations of the pest. Officials have been trapping the pests, sometimes catching as many as 14 in one trap.

Source: <http://union-bulletin.com/stories/2011/10/10/spotted-wing-fruit-fly-could-devastate-valley>

29. *October 10, Food Safety News* – (Pennsylvania) **PA restaurant patrons at risk for Hepatitis A.** The Allentown Health Bureau announced October 9 it is investigating a laboratory-confirmed case of hepatitis A in an employee of the Pasta Alla Rosa Restaurant in Allentown, Pennsylvania. All restaurant patrons who ate at Pasta Alla Rosa Restaurant between September 23 and October 7 and were not previously vaccinated against hepatitis A were encouraged to receive hepatitis A vaccine to prevent infection with the virus.
Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/10/pa-restaurant-patrons-at-risk-for-hepatitis-a/>
30. *October 10, WTVD 11 Durham* – (North Carolina) **Family speaks out after IHOP shooting.** Two people were shot, one fatally, at an IHOP restaurant in Durham, North Carolina October 8. Investigators said a man was told to leave the restaurant by two off-duty Durham County sheriff's deputies, but returned a few minutes later and fired shots into the eatery. Durham police said a woman was taken to the hospital in serious condition, and later died. A man, was grazed by a bullet but was not seriously hurt. Authorities said the shooter got away. The IHOP restaurant was expected to re-open October 9, and have grief counselors on hand for traumatized employees.
Source: <http://abclocal.go.com/wtvd/story?section=news/local&id=8384120>
31. *October 10, Associated Press* – (South Dakota) **Meatpacker fined for polluting river with ammonia.** The John Morrell & Co. meatpacking plant in Sioux Falls, South Dakota has agreed to pay a \$44,000 fine for polluting the Big Sioux River, the Associated Press reported October 10. The Sioux Falls Argus Leader reported the company agreed to the civil penalty settlement October 7 with the state department of environment and natural resources. The sanctions cover dozens of effluent violations since 2008. In early 2010, the plant was discharging three times the permitted amount of ammonia into the river. The company was sued in federal court for violations uncovered during an inspection of the hog slaughterhouse October 6.
Source: <http://minnesota.publicradio.org/display/web/2011/10/10/meatpacker-pollution/>

32. *October 8, Dallas Morning News* – (Texas) **Updated: Eight shot and injured in early Saturday morning gang shooting at nightclub.** Eight people were injured after gang members fired into a crowd during a fight at a “rap off” contest inside a Dallas, Texas nightclub October 8. The confrontation occurred about 2:30 a.m. at the Rolls Royce club. Police said that during the rap contest, two gangs got into a confrontation. Two members of one of the gangs pulled out guns and began shooting. The victims ranged from critical to fair condition, authorities said. A man told police that he was about to take the stage when a man began arguing with him. That man pulled out a gun and shot him twice in the leg and once in the buttocks, reports said. Bullets began flying into the crowd. Another victim shot in both legs told police that he “dove” when he heard gunfire. Police seized drugs at the club, reports indicated.
Source: <http://crimeblog.dallasnews.com/archives/2011/10/eight-shot-and-injured-in-earl.html>
33. *October 7, Associated Press* – (Ohio) **Pa.-based maker of anhydrous ammonia tanks in Ohio fined nearly \$4M by feds over safety issue.** Federal regulators have issued a \$3.9 million fine against a Pennsylvania company with an Ohio plant that makes tanks to store and transport anhydrous ammonia used by farmers, the Associated Press reported October 7. The U.S. Department of Transportation said the company’s tanks did not meet federal hazardous materials safety standards. American Welding & Tank in Fremont, Ohio makes the tanks. A company spokesman denied it had violated federal guidelines, and said it will oppose the proposed fine. A statement released October 7 also said the company does not know of any injuries or damage caused by a defect in its tanks. Regulators said they found problems after looking at the company’s welding practices and safety records.
Source:
<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/fa724963c8d94586bd5a2d1a722a40db/OH--Ammonia-Tanks-Fine/>

For more stories, see items [44](#) and [60](#)

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Water Sector

34. *October 10, Associated Press* – (National) **Ryland Group to pay \$625K to feds, Md. and 6 other states for stormwater violations.** One of the nation’s largest homebuilders must pay \$625,000 to the federal government and seven states, including Maryland, for stormwater violations, the U.S. Department of Justice and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced October 7. The penalty against The Ryland Group Inc. for alleged violations at construction sites nationwide includes the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. Maryland will receive a portion of the settlement along with Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Nevada, and Virginia. The consent decree also includes sites in California, Georgia, Kentucky, Minnesota, South Carolina, and Texas. Alleged violations include failing to obtain permits and not complying with permit requirements. The EPA said the settlement was expected to keep millions of pounds of sediment from entering waterways each year, where it can harm water quality and

ecologically important plants and other species.

Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/ryland-group-to-pay-625k-to-feds-md-and-6-other-states-for-stormwater-violations/2011/10/10/gIQAaf9QaL_story.html

35. *October 10, San Antonio Express News* – (Texas) **SAWS sewage spills into Salado Creek.** A flash flood October 9 inundated a 27-inch sewer line, tearing off four manhole covers and flushing more than 100,000 gallons of raw sewage into Salado Creek near U.S. 281 north of San Antonio International Airport in Texas. According to the spill report filed with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, high flow alarms at the San Antonio Water System (SAWS) went off and crews were able to stop the flow and seal the pipe by October 10, a SAWS spokeswoman said. The high water level in the creek prevented capture of the spill, but the sewage was diluted as it was carried downstream. The San Antonio Express News reported the SAWS is under pressure by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to reduce the number of sewage spills it has each year. If the utility does not, the federal government could force it to invest an estimated \$1 billion in upgrading and replacing its sewer lines.
Source: <http://www.mysanantonio.com/news/environment/article/SAWS-sewage-spills-into-Salado-Creek-2212039.php>
36. *October 9, Birmingham News* – (Alabama) **Last of two major leaks in Centreville water system found.** Centreville, Alabama’s water department located the second of two major leaks in its system October 9 that left nearly half of its customers with little or no water this past week, and all 1,900 of its customers under a state alert to boil their water. The alert from the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) will continue until the last leak is repaired and water samples have been tested and found safe for public consumption, said the superintendent for the City of Centreville Water Department. Two major leaks in the water system drained two different water storage tanks beginning last weekend, causing 900 customers to have low — or no — water in the past week, he said. Three schools — Brent Elementary, Centreville Middle, and Bibb County High — delayed opening October 6 because of the leaks. Brierfield Ironworks Historical State Park gave out bottled water for campers and guests at the park’s five cabins and 25 camp sites October 8.
Source: http://blog.al.com/spotnews/2011/10/last_of_two_major_leaks_in_cen.html
37. *October 8, Waterville Morning Sentinel* – (Maine) **Chemical spill creates mess on I-95.** Utility crews and state engineers in Maine were monitoring city water supplies and Bond Brook after a loaded tanker hauling 3,800 gallons of Nopcote, spilled about 400 gallons of the paper-making chemical October 7 in an Interstate 95 crash. Crews from the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and hazardous waste disposal company Clean Harbors offloaded about 3,400 gallons from the tanker in an operation that kept one lane of the interstate closed virtually all day. “Dams were set up by DEP responders to prevent the product from reaching Bond Brook, but apparently an unknown portion of product went from the ditch into the stream and created a ... white plume,” a DEP spokeswoman said. The chemical threatens three wells that supply water to the Greater Augusta Utility District, the district general manager said. The three wells were immediately shut down, and two wells farthest from the crash were turned back October 7 after officials determined they were not threatened. The third

well, underneath the Bond Brook Bridge, will remain off until October 11 when the utility district is fully staffed.

Source: http://www.onlinesentinel.com/news/chemicaltanker-createsmess-on-i-95_2011-10-07.html

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

38. *October 10, Greensboro/Winston-Salem Business Journal* – (North Carolina) **Ex-Baptist worker pleads guilty to taking patient records.** A former Wake Forest, North Carolina, Baptist Medical Center employee pleaded guilty to larceny by an employee October 10, after taking medical documents and hoarding them in her Winston-Salem home and other locations, according to the Winston-Salem Journal. She worked for Wake Forest Baptist for about 10 years and was assigned to the medical records division in 2006, at which point she began taking records home, according to prosecutors. Her attorney said during the hearing that his client was a “hoarder” and collected the documents without any “bad intent,” according to the newspaper. The medical center previously reported the breach affected 357 people, including 136 patients, and 221 past or current employees
Source: <http://www.bizjournals.com/triad/news/2011/10/07/former-baptist-employee-pleads-guilty.html>
39. *October 9, KSAZ 10 Phoenix* – (Arizona) **More than 50 evacuated from health center.** A Mesa, Arizona, police officer sprayed pepper spray into a Desert Vista Behavior Health Center air vent after a patient trying to escape crawled into the vent and refused to come out. Fumes traveled through the vent to the entire floor. More than 50 people were evacuated, including the person who had been trying to escape, after residents and staff complained of difficulty breathing. Patients were taken to a hospital across the street for an evaluation.
Source: <http://www.myfoxphoenix.com/dpp/health/more-than-50-evacuated-from-health-center-10092011>
40. *October 7, Fierce Healthcare* – (California) **Stanford Hospital sued \$20M over data breach, faults billing contractor.** A \$20-million class-action lawsuit has been filed against the Stanford Hospital & Clinics in Stanford, California, after 20,000 patients’ medical records were compromised in a data breach discovered August 22. Stanford plans to fight the lawsuit filed by a patient who represents thousands of patients whose information was exposed online for almost an entire year, the Palo Alto Daily News reported. The patient seeks damages worth \$1,000 for each patient. She was treated in the emergency room in 2009. The data breach included patients’ names, diagnosis codes, hospital account numbers, and emergency room admission and discharge dates. Credit card and Social Security numbers were not exposed, according to the Stanford statement.

Source: <http://www.fiercehealthcare.com/story/stanford-hospital-sued-20m-over-data-breach-faults-billing-contractor/2011-10-07>

41. *October 7, Associated Press* – (National) **Panel advises against prostate cancer screening.** Prostate-specific antigen (PSA) blood tests that check for prostate cancer do more harm than good and healthy men should no longer receive them as part of routine cancer screening, the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force has recommended. No major medical group recommends routine PSAs, and the government panel's guidelines had long advised men over 75 to forgo them. The new recommendation extends that do-not-screen advice to healthy men of all ages, the Associated Press reported October 7. Currently, most men over 50 have had at least one PSA blood test. But there is harm from routine screening: impotence, incontinence, infections, even death that can come from the biopsies, surgery, and radiation. One study estimated 2 of every 5 men whose prostate cancer was caught through a PSA test had tumors too slow-growing to ever be a threat. The head of the task force said 30 percent of men who are treated for PSA-discovered prostate cancer suffer significant side effects, sometimes death, from the resulting treatment. The task force previously had considered the evidence for or against PSA screening inconclusive. The new recommendation says not to routinely screen. That recommendation is a draft that is open for public comment beginning the week of October 10.

Source: <http://yourlife.usatoday.com/health/medical/story/2011-10-07/Panel-advises-against-prostate-cancer-screening/50686812/1>

For another story, see item [29](#)

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Government Facilities Sector

42. *October 11, WDTN 2 Dayton* – (Ohio) **School evacuated after bomb threat.** A Beavercreek, Ohio school was evacuated after school officials discovered a bomb threat, WDTN 2 Dayton reported October 11. Ferguson Middle School students were ordered out of the building. Sources told WDTN that an eighth grade student posted a bomb threat on his Facebook page. Witnesses said the student has been taken into custody by police.
Source: http://www.wdtn.com/dpp/news/local/greene_county/school-evacuated-after-bomb-threat
43. *October 11, Associated Press* – (Ohio) **Ohio school vandals cause extensive damage.** A central Ohio school attacked by very thorough vandals has been forced to relocate to a church to hold classes for its roughly 300 students in Plumwood, the Associated Press reported October 11. The Columbus Dispatch reports Monroe Elementary School in Plumwood was broken into the weekend of October 8 and October 9. Windows and computers were smashed, along with furniture and library bookcases. A lieutenant with the Madison County sheriff's office said it will take a lot of time, money, and effort to put the school back together. He also said investigators do not think they are looking for elementary school kids as suspects, given the extent of

the damage. Until Monroe Elementary School is put back together, students are attending Sharon Mennonite Church in nearby Plain City.

Source: <http://www.wlwt.com/news/29447806/detail.html>

44. *October 11, msnbc.com; Reuters; Associated Press* – (International) **US: Iran faction plotted to kill Saudi ambassador.** Two men allegedly working for “factions of the Iranian government” were charged with plotting to assassinate the Saudi ambassador to the United States, and to attack the Saudi and Israeli embassies in Washington D.C., the U.S. Attorney General (AG) said October 11. The criminal complaint was unsealed October 11 in federal court in New York City. The AG said one of the suspects, who was arrested September 29 in New York, was working for the Iranian Islamic Revolutionary Guard and had confessed to a plot. The other suspect is based in Iran and remains at large, the AG said. He allegedly is a member of Iran’s Quds Force, a special unit of the Revolutionary Guard. Both are originally from Iran and the suspect who was arrested is a naturalized U.S. citizen, the complaint said. Shortly after the announcement, the Treasury Department announced that U.S. citizens are barred from any financial dealings with the two suspects and three others, all Revolutionary Guard officials. The indictment is the result of a sting operation conducted by the FBI. The case started when the arrested suspect, who lived in Texas, allegedly made contact with an undercover DEA informant in Mexico and asked for assistance from a major drug cartel to assassinate the ambassador at a restaurant that he frequented. Sources told NBC News the group being recruited was the Zetas cartel. No assassination attempt was ever made, and no one was ever in any danger, officials said. A Justice Department statement said the suspect claimed he was being directed by his cousin in Iran, described as a “big general” in the Iranian military and within the Quds Force. He allegedly wired \$100,000 to the informant as a down payment on a \$1.5 million assassination fee. The suspect was scheduled to make a first court appearance October 7. He could face a maximum sentence of life in prison.

Source: http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/44861178/ns/us_news-security/#.TpSbcnJnAxE

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Emergency Services Sector

45. *October 11, North Andover Eagle-Tribune* – (New Hampshire) **Atkinson police station still source of air quality woes.** One dispatcher at the Atkinson, New Hampshire police department said she has had breathing problems since she starting working at the police station. She said some of her coworkers have experienced similar problems. The department’s air quality issues were addressed in the recently released municipal resources report, an independent analysis of the department. The cause of the problems is water damage from a roof leaking over the years, the study said. Selectmen said they are committed to fixing the problem. The town planned to tear out and replace the duct work over the summer, but delayed the project because of the police chief’s health problems. The project will take at least 3 days, the selectman said, so the department has to vacate the building. The board is still trying to work out a schedule

with the contractor.

Source: <http://www.eagletribune.com/newhampshire/x1385485456/Atkinson-police-station-still-source-of-air-quality-woes>

46. *October 10, WCMH 4 Columbus* – (Ohio) **Woman found sleeping in stolen Columbus police vehicle.** A woman is in custody, accused of stealing an unmarked police vehicle during an incident October 10. Columbus, Ohio police arrested her at a rest area along Interstate 71 north, south of Route 36/37 in Delaware County at 8:49 a.m. She was being sought after allegedly stealing the police vehicle from a parking lot at 2 a.m. According to police, she managed to get behind the wheel and allegedly sped off. She is facing charges of aggravated robbery, grand theft, and failure to comply with a police order. According to police, the suspect was found asleep in the vehicle at the rest stop. Columbus police took her into custody. Two officers were injured during the initial incident. One of the officers was treated for minor injuries at a local hospital and released.
Source: <http://www2.nbc4i.com/news/2011/oct/10/16/woman-accused-of-stealing-columbus-police-vehicle-ar-779163/>
47. *October 10, WFPL 89.3 FM Louisville* – (Kentucky) **City-wide alert system should be functional by Oct. 26.** The city-wide alert system to warn Louisville, Kentucky, residents of emergencies should be functional in about 2 weeks. The Florida-based Emergency Communications Network is finished hooking the city into its nationwide network. Metro Government began looking into the possibility of an alert system after an accident in the Rubbertown neighborhood released chemicals and killed two workers. Area residents did not know whether they should evacuate or stay where they were. The new system will alert people about accidents or weather emergencies in their neighborhoods — as long as they have signed up on the city’s Web site. The system was originally intended to provide alerts about chemical releases, but now it does much more, including weather notifications. The president of Emergency Communications Network said the technology uses home addresses, so it only sends alerts to residents in the path of a storm. The system setup is complete, and he said Metro Government staff will be trained to use the technology in the next few weeks. He said the system should be entirely functional by October 26. The system will cost \$150,000 a year for the first 3 years; after that, the contract will be renegotiated.
Source: <http://www.wfpl.org/2011/10/10/city-wide-alert-system-should-be-functional-by-oct-26/>
48. *October 9, Associated Press* – (Iowa) **Center reports 911 outages in 3 Iowa communities.** The center that handles 911 calls for three central Iowa communities said October 9 it has been experiencing intermittent outages. A release from the Westcom Emergency Communications Center said the outages affected 911 calls made in Clive, Urbandale, and West Des Moines October 8 and 9. The center said the phone technicians located the source of the problem and believed they had corrected the issue as of the afternoon of October 9.
Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/chi-ap-ia-911outages,0,5547470.story>

For another story, see item [49](#)

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Information Technology Sector

49. *October 11, IDG News Service* – (International) **RSA chief says two groups for SecurID breach.** October 11, at RSA’s security conference in London, England, the RSA president revealed more details about the March 2011 attack that compromised SecurID, an authentication system used by 40 million people in at least 30,000 organizations worldwide to securely access IT systems. RSA insists the attack did not undermine the integrity of the entire system. RSA, which has worked with the FBI, DHS, British law enforcement and other agencies, believes that two groups were responsible for the attack. The EMC executive chairman declined to identify the groups, but said that due to the sophistication of the intrusion “we can only conclude it was a nation-state sponsored attack.” The RSA president said both groups had been known to authorities before, although they were not known to work together. RSA spotted the attack as it was using technology from NetWitness, a company it acquired in April, the president said. It is now believed hackers gained access to RSA’s systems by sending certain employees in EMC’s human resources department an Excel spreadsheet rigged to exploit an Adobe Flash vulnerability, although RSA has not confirmed this. Additionally, the hackers had knowledge about RSA’s internal naming conventions used for hosts on its network as well as Active Directory — a Microsoft product used for managing authentication of users on corporate networks — which made their movements inside the system appear to be more legitimate. The president said the attacks were sophisticated: they used advanced techniques to connect to RSA’s systems and used different malware, some of which was compiled just hours before an attack. The data stolen was compressed and encrypted before it was exfiltrated, making it more difficult to identify.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9220710/RSA_chief_says_two_groups_for_SecurID_breach

50. *October 11, The H Security* – (National) **VLC Media Player 1.1.12 closes security hole.** The VideoLAN project development team announced the release of version 1.1.12 of the VLC Media Player. The maintenance and security update addresses a NULL dereference vulnerability in the HTTP and RTSP server component used by VLC that could be exploited by an attacker to crash the server. For an attack to be successful, a victim must have started VLC server and manually started the HTTP Web interface, HTTP output, RTSP output or RTSP VoD functions. Versions up to and including 1.1.11 are affected. According to the developers, the issue “does not affect standard usage of the player”. The thirteenth release of the 1.1.x branch of VLC also brings improvements for audio output: it adds support for AC-3 and DTS passthrough included in version 1.0 of PulseAudio, has fixes for PulseAudio synchronization, and better support for Mac OS X 10.7 Lion. Other changes include Unix port compatibility updates, translation updates, and fixes for bugs that cause VLC to crash on Japanese locale Mac OS X systems.

Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/VLC-Media-Player-1-1-12-closes-security-hole-1358606.html>

51. *October 10, Computerworld* – (International) **Zero-day flaws found in SCADA systems.** An Italian security researcher recently disclosed details about several zero-day vulnerabilities in supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) systems from several vendors. The discovery — the second such disclosure by this researcher this year — is likely to reinforce concerns about weaknesses in the nation’s critical infrastructure. The most recent vulnerabilities affect SCADA products from Rockwell Automation, Cogent DataHub, Measuresoft, and Progea, among other vendors. Most of the vulnerabilities are remote code execution flaws that allow attackers to run code on the systems, and some of the flaws are easy to exploit, the researcher said. At least three of the vendors have already issued fixes, and Rockwell is working on one, he said. SCADA systems are used to control critical equipment at power plants, manufacturing facilities, water treatment plants, and elsewhere. Security analysts fear attacks against such systems could cripple critical infrastructure, including the electric grid, and water supplies.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/359141/Zero_Day_Flaws_Discovered_in_SCADA_Systems

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Internet Alert Dashboard

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

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

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Communications Sector

52. *October 11, Associated Press* – (International) **BlackBerry services hit in Latin America, India.** BlackBerry’s woes spread October 11 as the smartphone’s maker reported service disruptions for a second straight day in Europe, the Middle East, and Africa, and fresh problems in Latin America, and India. Research in Motion Ltd., which makes BlackBerry devices, acknowledged there were ongoing problems October 9, hours after it said services were operating normally and the cause of delays in subscriber services a day earlier had been resolved. “Some users in Europe, the Middle East and Africa, India, Brazil, Chile, and Argentina are experiencing messaging and browsing delays,” the company said in a statement, adding it was “working to restore normal service as quickly as possible.” In Britain, Vodafone UK told customers via Twitter that service was not fully restored. Rival T-Mobile UK blamed “a European-wide outage on the BlackBerry network” which it said was affecting all mobile operators. There were also reports of problems elsewhere in Europe, such as Spain.

There were no reports of any problems in the United States.

Source: <http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=141231570>

53. *October 10, San Bruno Patch* – (California) **300 AT&T customers still without service after outage.** About 300 AT&T customers have been left without service since the week of October 3 after a heavy storm caused water damage to several cable lines in San Bruno, California, near San Mateo and San Bruno avenues, the San Bruno Patch reported October 10. Initially, about 400 residential and commercial customers were without service. But AT&T crews were able to restore service to 100 of those customers. Still, many residents and business owners said they have been left in the dark about when their service would be fully restored. The service outage was caused some time October 5 when a manhole at the intersection flooded, and several underground copper cables were damaged with water, said an AT&T spokesman. Crews were able to dry out some of the cables, but not others, and they have begun replacing the damaged lines with new ones, a spokesman said. One cable was expected to be put back in service by 7 a.m. October 11 and another restored by October 12, he said. It is not clear what caused the flooding, but the spokesman said the company will conduct an investigation into what happened after service has been fully restored. Many businesses along San Mateo Avenue have not been able to take credit cards.
Source: <http://sanbruno.patch.com/articles/300-att-customers-still-without-service-after-outage>
54. *October 7, Space News* – (International) **Telesat broadband satellite back in service after glitch.** Satellite fleet operator Telesat October 7 said its Anik F2 satellite, which delivers service to Canadian and American subscribers including the WildBlue broadband service, returned to service after being shut down most of October 6. Anik F2 had gone into automatic emergency sun acquisition mode October 6 following what Telesat described as “a routine maneuver.” The maneuver “triggered the satellite to place itself into a safe mode, shutting itself down and pointing itself at the sun to ensure it remained powered,” Telesat said. “The software error that led to the anomaly appears to have been caused by a software update that was recently provided by the satellite manufacturer. That particular software update was not re-loaded onto the satellite.” A Boeing spokesman said October 7, “The investigation of this technical anomaly is underway, but we believe that the cause of the interruption may be due to a software error.”
Source: http://www.spacenews.com/satellite_telecom/111007-telesat-broadband-sat-back.html
55. *October 6, DNAinfo.com* – (New York) **Verizon outages hurt Little Italy businesses.** Merchants on a tourist-heavy stretch of Little Italy in New York City said they have lost thousands of dollars in revenue due to phone and Internet outages on the block. The outages hit Verizon customers along a busy strip of Grand Street for the past 3 weeks and counting, DNAinfo.com reported October 6. It has prevented many businesses from performing range of basic operations, including credit card transactions and taking phone calls. Merchants have been given no timetable for the when the problem will be fixed or a full explanation on what caused it. A Verizon spokesman blamed the outage on an underground fire at the corner of Grand and Baxter

streets, which Verizon said burned cables connected to multiple buildings on the block. A ConEd spokeswoman said utility crews have been working on underground steam pipes in advance of the upcoming installation of a new water main on Grand Street. She added that a September 29 report of a smoking manhole at Grand and Baxter streets, where work was being done by an outside contractor not affiliated with ConEd, forced the company to come make repairs. A Verizon spokesman said the company had to relocate certain fiber cables away from the steam to prevent further damage, affecting customers' service. The Verizon outages were followed by Time Warner outages October 6, as about 20,000 customers downtown lost their cable and Internet services, a spokesman said. A Time Warner spokesman confirmed its outages were caused by a fire at Grand and Baxter streets that melted its fiber cable. He said power companies tend to activate more of their infrastructure in the fall, creating steam that can lead to fires.

Source: <http://www.dnainfo.com/20111006/lower-east-side-east-village/verizon-outages-hurt-little-italy-businesses>

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Commercial Facilities Sector

56. *October 11, msnbc.com; Reuters; Associated Press* – (District of Columbia; Massachusetts) **Occupy DC protesters arrested in Senate building.** U.S. Capitol police swooped in on protesters unfurling banners at a U.S. Senate office building in Washington, D.C. October 11 as part of the Occupy DC movement, arresting at least six, NBC reported. Demonstrators stormed the Hart building's atrium and dropped large banners, one which said "End War Now," the other "People for the People." As soon as they displayed their signs, Capitol police arrested them, WRC 4 District of Columbia said. Dozens of others ran through the building with smaller signs. The arrests followed a rash of police activity in an Occupy Boston event overnight October 10, in which about 100 protesters were arrested after they refused to leave a park in Boston, police reportedly said. Riot police arrived near the Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy Greenway park at about 1:20 a.m. October 11 with dozens of sheriff vans and police wagons arriving minutes later, the Boston Globe reported. More than 200 officers surrounded the Greenway and the police superintendent gave the protesters 2 minutes to leave or be thrown in jail, according to the newspaper. The paper said officers went into the park about 10 minutes later with another warning given over loudspeaker. Protesters were then made to lie down, cable-tied and taken away. Tents were torn down. The paper said many of the protesters — about 1,000 people had gathered there earlier — left the park. A police spokesman, told the Washington Post that the arrests were mainly for trespassing.

Source: http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/44855382/ns/us_news-life/#.TpSdRnJnAxF

57. *October 11, WPLG 10 Miami* – (Florida) **Fire guts part of Fort Lauderdale country club.** A fire at the Coral Ridge Country Club in Fort Lauderdale, Florida October 11 caused more than \$2.5 million in damages, according to investigators. Just before 3

- a.m., nearby residents called 911 with reports of a fire and explosions at the country club. Fort Lauderdale Fire Rescue arrived and found a building fully engulfed in flames. The fire gutted a 3,000 square-foot building and destroyed \$540,000 in golf carts. The golf shop also sustained heavy smoke damage. Investigators said a storage room where member golf bags were kept was also damaged.
Source: <http://www.local10.com/news/29447251/detail.html>
58. *October 10, Associated Press* – (Maryland) **Hazmat team called to bleach fight at Walmart.** Authorities in Maryland said two women threw bleach and another chemical on each other during a fight at a Walmart, prompting officials to evacuate the store for 2 hours and call in a hazardous materials team, the Associated Press reported October 10. Fire officials said 19 people had to be taken to hospitals, although only one was thought to have serious injuries. Fire officials were called to the store in the Baltimore suburb of Arbutus shortly before 11 a.m. October 8. A fire department spokesman said one person was arrested, and charges were pending.
Source: http://www.pantagraph.com/news/weird-news/article_3746c116-f1db-11e0-9397-001cc4c002e0.html
59. *October 10, Associated Press* – (Texas) **3 injured in shooting outside Houston store.** Authorities said three people were shot after a customer opened fire in the parking lot outside a Houston sporting goods store, the Associated Press reported October 10. A Houston police official said two men and a woman were hospitalized in stable condition after the October 9 shooting. He said there was a brief altercation before the shooting. Police said the woman was shot in the leg while one man was shot in the neck, and the other man was shot in the back. Authorities said one person was taken into custody.
Source: <http://www.kltv.com/story/15655884/3-injured-in-shooting-outside-houston-store>
60. *October 10, KDAF 33 Dallas* – (Texas) **Carbon monoxide leak at Frisco salon sickens teens and adults.** Fifteen people who were in a salon were taken to the hospital for exposure to carbon monoxide in Frisco, Texas October 8. Workers at the salon called 911 after customers and staff started showing classic symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning, including headaches and dizziness. A gas detector identified the carbon monoxide within seconds. Investigators traced the leak to a vent pipe from a water heater that had become disconnected. By the end of the day, the problem had been fixed without any serious injuries. But an inspection of the entire building found a gas leak at a restaurant near the salon. The restaurant was shut down while plumbers worked to fix the problem.
Source: <http://www.the33tv.com/news/kdaf-carbon-monoxide-leak-at-frisco-salon-sickens-teens-and-adults-20111010,0,3294587.story>
61. *October 10, Associated Press* – (California) **1 dead, 2 wounded in shooting in south LA park.** Police said one man was killed and two other people were wounded when a gunman on a bicycle opened fire on a crowded South Los Angeles park, the Associated Press reported October 10. Police said a bystander flagged down patrol officers after shots rang out at about 4:30 p.m. at Algin Sutton Park and dozens were sent scrambling

for cover. A Los Angeles police officer said a man in his early 20s was shot in the head and died. A 17-year-old girl was in serious condition, and a 16-year-old boy was in fair condition with a gunshot wound to the leg. Authorities said the suspect took off on foot before being chased down and arrested. He will be booked on suspicion of murder.
Source: http://www.contracostatimes.com/california/ci_19084525

62. *October 9, Associated Press* – (District of Columbia) **National Air and Space Museum reopens in DC, 1 day after protesters prompted closure.** The National Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C, was open for business and crowded with visitors, a day after demonstrators swarmed the building to protest a drone exhibit, according to the Associated Press October 9. A museum spokeswoman said the museum opened on schedule October 9. She said there were no changes to its security procedures. The museum closed early October 8 after security guards used pepper spray to repel more than 100 demonstrators who were told they could not enter the building while carrying signs. A number of protesters were sickened by the spray. The group that arrived at the museum included individuals taking part in the October 2011 Stop the Machine demonstration in the city’s Freedom Plaza, which has an anti-war and anti-corporate greed message.
Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/national-air-and-space-museum-reopens-in-dc-1-day-after-protesters-prompted-closure/2011/10/09/gIQA3kdAYL_story.html

63. *October 7, Fresno Bee* – (California) **Madera man pleads guilty in firebombing.** A 38-year-old Madera, California resident pleaded guilty October 7 in federal court to firebombing a Madera Planned Parenthood office, and for vandalism and leaving menacing signs at the city’s Islamic center. The man faces a mandatory 5-year federal prison sentence, and possibly more than 2 decades behind bars when he is sentenced January 6, 2012. The man pleaded guilty to a felony count of malicious damage to property by means of fire or an explosive, and misdemeanor counts of damaging religious property and damaging property of a reproductive health services facility. He was arrested in March after an investigation spearheaded by the FBI. He admitted that in August 2010, he placed a sign in front of Masjid Madera. He also admitted throwing a brick at the front of the mosque that damaged its facade. He also admitted that a few days later, he left additional signs at the mosque that read, “Wake up America, the enemy is here” and “American Nationalist Brotherhood.” He also admitted that early in September 2010, he threw a Molotov cocktail at the Madera Planned Parenthood Clinic. It went through a ground-floor window and caused a fire that resulted in more than \$26,000 in damages.
Source: <http://www.fresnobee.com/2011/10/07/2568871/madera-man-pleads-guilty-in-firebombing.html>

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

64. *October 10, KDLT 47 Sioux Falls* – (South Dakota) **Okreek fire extinguished.** A wildfire that damaged thousands of acres across South Central South Dakota is now considered to be completely out, KDLT 47 Sioux Falls reported October 10. The Okreek fire spanned 23 miles long, and 3 miles wide. The fire ultimately damaged 17,500 acres of land. The chief with the Wood Fire Department said they “have never seen a fire this big,” and said flames reaches 125 feet high. The fire appears to be human caused, but the investigation continues into what started the fire.
Source:
http://www.kdlt.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=12564&Itemid=57
65. *October 7, Superior Telegram* – (Minnesota) **Pagami fire ‘spots’ outside line.** The Pagami Creek fire in the Superior National Forest in Minnesota jumped outside its perimeter in spots in recent days fanned by strong winds in tinder-dry conditions, the Superior Telegram reported October 7. Trees inside the perimeter of the fire burned as well, sending embers in the wind that landed and started new fires that ground and air crews immediately attacked. An information officer assigned to the fire said southeast wind pushed smoke across the Fernberg Trail area. The smoke was from unburned “islands” within the fire perimeter, she said. Most of the effort now is aimed at the east end of the 93,000-acre fire that is considered about 71 percent contained. Other fires also were burning in northern Minnesota, including a 38,000-acre fire near Greenbush in northwestern Minnesota. The state’s governor sent two National Guard Blackhawk helicopters to Roseau to join other aircraft already fighting the fire, called the Juneberry 3 fire. Winds in that area of the state gusted to 50 mph October 7.
Source:
http://www.superiortelegram.com/event/article/id/211293/group/News/publisher_ID/36/

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Dams Sector

Nothing to report

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