



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report
3 November 2011

Top Stories

- Federal prosecutors sued Allied Home Mortgage Corp. and two of its officers, claiming one of the nation's largest lenders committed serial frauds that could result in \$1 billion in losses. – *Courthouse News Service* (See item [12](#))
- Four men in Georgia were charged with planning to use the lethal toxin ricin to attack government buildings and employees in several cities. – *Associated Press* (See item [33](#))

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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. *November 2, CNN* – (Northeast; Mid-Atlantic) **States scramble to restore power after snowstorm.** Utility companies in five states scrambled to restore power to more than 1 million people still in the dark November 2 after a snowstorm pounded the Northeast the weekend of October 28. By November 2, about 178,000 people in New Jersey and 573,000 others in Connecticut remained without power, according to the states' utility companies. In Massachusetts, about 228,000 were in the dark while thousands also lost power in New Hampshire, Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia, according to power companies in those states. Elsewhere, about 63,000 customers were without power in

Pennsylvania and 105,000 were affected in New York. The U.S. President signed an emergency declaration for New Hampshire and Connecticut, clearing the way for federal aid to supplement state and local response efforts. Authorities reported at least 15 deaths blamed on the storm, including 3 in Massachusetts, 4 in New Jersey, and 4 in Connecticut.

Source: http://www.cnn.com/2011/11/02/us/east-coast-storm/index.html?hpt=hp_t2

2. *November 2, Denton Record-Chronicle* – (Texas) **Officials: Ring targeted gas wells.** Denton County, Texas, sheriff’s investigators arrested five people near Justin October 31, and expect to make more arrests in connection with criminal activity involving the sale of narcotics and the theft of property from gas well sites. A sheriff’s sergeant said 31 people have been identified as participants in the scheme. The five who were found at the property in the 1700 block of Mary Polk Road were charged with engaging in organized criminal activity. “People were stealing the gas well equipment and trading it to them for drugs, and they were stealing equipment themselves,” she said. According to an affidavit used to obtain the arrests, a joint investigation that included narcotics officers had been ongoing for about 2 months. Numerous instances of theft from well sites had been reported in the western portion of Denton County. The thefts involved \$300 batteries, solar panels, and other well equipment. Sheriff’s investigators, deputies, and animal control officers went to the property near Justin October 31 with search warrants. They recovered \$25,000 worth of stolen property, according to the court document.

Source:

http://www.dentonrc.com/sharedcontent/dws/drc/localnews/stories/DRC_Arrests_1102_25da27936.html

3. *November 1, KYTV 3 Springfield* – (Missouri) **City Utilities: Coal in bin at power plant likely caught fire by spontaneous combustion.** City Utilities (CU) of Springfield, Missouri said November 1 that it had not finished its investigation of a fire in two steel coal bunkers at the John Twitty Energy Center (JTEC). Utility managers said, however, that coal from the Powder River region of Wyoming has characteristics that allow it to spontaneously combust if it is exposed to hot air for too long. The coal was waiting to be burned October 21 after a planned 4-week outage for plant maintenance. As unit 2 at the JTEC, formerly known as the Southwest Power Plant, was being restarted, the coal in two bunkers ignited. CU officials said November 1 that the bunkers had been emptied of coal during the maintenance outage, but it is possible some hidden coal was accidentally left behind. Two CU workers put out the fire on the 10th floor bunker by dousing it with water, but they started to feel the effects of carbon monoxide poisoning. A third worker found the two and helped them walk to safety.

Source: http://articles.ky3.com/2011-11-01/john-twitty-energy-center_30348293

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Chemical Industry Sector

4. *November 2, Fort Wayne Journal-Gazette* – (Indiana) **Toxic blaze cleanup may take weeks; Main reopens.** West Main Street in Fort Wayne, Indiana, has been reopened

after a fire consumed Momper Insulation and closed part of the road, but a full cleanup of the site could take 2 more weeks, officials said November 1. The road was closed from West Jefferson Boulevard to the entrance of Lindenwood Cemetery so cleanup crews could pull burnt-out vehicles and other wreckage from the site. West Main reopened about 6 p.m. November 1, a city spokesman said. The fire department's involvement also is winding down as an environmental cleanup crew hired by Momper begins its work. More than 40 firefighters responded to the October 30 fire. Because of the size of the fire, the department had to call in extra battalion chiefs and other support, an assistant chief said. Two firefighters were injured, but their injuries were not serious, she said. The director of the local homeland security office said firefighters were still spraying basketball-sized hot spots November 2 and wetting down piles of partly burned insulation. "There were 30 to 35 vehicles in that building and it looks like the bulk of what was in that black smoke was cars burning," he said. The director noted sludge has formed near the edges of dams placed in a contaminated portion of Junk Ditch. The dams are isolating runoff from water used fighting the blaze. Crews will start to filter water today. After it meets the Indiana Department of Environmental Management's standards, the water will be pumped back into the ditch and the dams will be removed. One of the dams is at the mouth of the St. Marys River and the other is near Shangri-La West on West Jefferson Boulevard. In accordance with state law, Momper could be held responsible for a large fish kill in Junk Ditch, said a spokesman for the Indiana Department of Natural Resources.

Source:

<http://www.journalgazette.net/article/20111102/LOCAL07/311029974/1043/LOCAL07>

5. *November 2, Global Security Newswire* – (International) **Details emerge about undeclared Libyan chemical arms.** Libya's interim government November 1 disclosed it had taken control of two chemical weapons storage sites that had not been declared by the former regime of the country's long-time dictator Agence France-Presse reported. Libya agreed in 2003 to shutter its weapons of mass destruction programs. Tripoli the next year joined the Chemical Weapons Convention, which required the dictator's regime to declare and eliminate all stocks of chemical warfare materials and precursor substances. Libya's former ruler declared a chemical weapons site at al-Jafra, but went to lengths to keep the other two sites secret, according to the nation's new leadership. One of the undeclared locations holds chemical arms "ready for immediate military use," said a Libyan specialist charged with managing the leftover materials. The expert said the two secret facilities have been "securitized" and do not represent a health danger. When civil war broke out in Libya in February, the regime had 9.5 metric tons of mustard gas, in addition to hundreds of tons of precursor material, the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons has said. To prevent the former regime from using the mustard gas, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) secretly dispatched personnel to work with opposition specialists to monitor the toxic material, said the specialist. He said the task force maintained surveillance on the chemical arms sites, and eventually took control of them. The former dictator "quickly abandoned the idea of using chemical weapons, the Americans were watching over them from too near," said the deceased ruler's former head of interior security. "We could not get near them" without risking a NATO air attack, he

said. The Benghazi-based task force also took charge of monitoring a small amount of radioactive materials, that could have been employed to make a radiological “dirty bomb.” Currently, a unit located in Waddan and comprised of U.S. and Libyan personnel is handling the chemical materials issues.

Source: http://www.globalsecuritynewswire.org/gsn/nw_20111102_4020.php

6. *November 1, Associated Press* – (International) **Groups push J&J on baby shampoo chemicals.** Two chemicals considered harmful to babies remain in Johnson & Johnson’s (J&J) baby shampoo sold in the United States, even though the firm already makes versions without them, according to a coalition of health and environmental groups. The Campaign for Safe Cosmetics has unsuccessfully been urging the world’s largest health care company for more than 2 years to remove the trace amounts of potentially cancer-causing chemicals — dioxane and a substance called quaternium-15 that releases formaldehyde — from Johnson’s Baby Shampoo, one of its signature products. J&J said it is reducing or gradually phasing out the chemicals, but did not respond directly to the campaign’s demands. Now the group is ratcheting up the pressure and urging consumers to boycott J&J baby products until the company agrees to remove the chemicals from its baby products. The campaign’s new report, “Baby’s Tub is Still Toxic,” was set for release November 1, when the group planned to launch the boycott via its Web site. The group’s director said her group has met with J&J representatives three times since spring 2009, and is disappointed the company is not making safer baby shampoo and other products in the United States when it does elsewhere. On October 31, the campaign sent J&J a letter, signed by about 25 environmental, medical, and other groups representing about 3.5 million people in the United States, and other countries. It urges the company to commit by November 15 to removing the chemicals from all personal care products. In response, J&J said in a statement that formaldehyde-releasing preservatives are safe and approved by regulators in the United States and other countries, but that it is gradually phasing them out of its baby products. It said it is also reformulating baby products to reduce the level of dioxane below detectable levels.

Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D9QO544O1.htm>

7. *October 31, Illinois Office of Attorney General* – (Illinois) **Attorney general Madigan, state’s attorney Herrmann sue railroad over cleanup at Tiskilwa derailment site.** The Illinois attorney general (IAG) and a state’s attorney October 31 filed suit alleging environmental violations occurred in the aftermath of the October 7 derailment near Tiskilwa in which nine tank cars transporting ethanol caught fire. The lawsuit seeks to protect the area and nearby residents from the damage caused by the fire and the release of thousands of gallons of ethanol. At least three drinking water wells are located in the vicinity of the derailment site in addition to Plow Hollow Creek and Big Bureau Creek, which eventually flow into the Illinois River. The complaint asks the court to require a complete cleanup, and to order Iowa Interstate Railroad, Ltd. (IIR) to pay all cleanup costs. The IAG and state’s attorney also requested, and the court entered, an agreed order to ensure that while the lawsuit proceeds the IIR works with the state to conduct a thorough investigation and cleanup to address any environmental damages the early-morning derailment caused. Of the 26 derailed cars, about 10 tank cars each contained 30,000 gallons of denatured ethanol. Nine of the overturned cars

caught fire, which consumed much of the ethanol, but authorities believe an unknown quantity seeped into the soil. The release of ethanol and its by-products can cause adverse health effects and harm to the environment. The court order requires IIR to: report the results of testing of all samples of air, soil, groundwater, and surface water, taken from October 7 to October 31, as well as all data related to modeling and hydrogeologic studies; survey private wells and community water supplies within a 1-mile radius of the derailment site to determine if contamination occurred, and to supply bottled water if testing shows the levels of chemicals exceed legally allowed standards; submit bi-weekly and monthly progress reports to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency.

Source: http://illinoisattorneygeneral.gov/pressroom/2011_10/20111031b.html

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

8. *November 2, Bloomberg News* – (International) **Tepeco detects nuclear fission at Fukushima Dai-Ichi Station.** Tokyo Electric Power Co. (Tepco) detected signs of nuclear fission at its crippled Fukushima atomic power plant in Japan November 2, raising the risk of increased radiation emissions. No increase in radiation was found at the site and the situation is under control, officials said. The company began spraying boric acid on the No. 2 reactor to prevent accidental chain reactions, according to an e-mailed statement. The detection of xenon, which is associated with nuclear fission, was confirmed by the Japan Atomic Energy Agency, the country's atomic regulator. There's been no large-scale or sustained criticality and no increase in radiation, a manager at Tepco said. Fission taking place in the reactor can lead to increases in radiation emissions and raises concerns about further leaks. It is possible there are similar reactions occurring in the No. 1 and No. 3 reactors, the other cores damaged at the station, the Tepco manager said.
Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/news/2011-11-02/tepeco-detects-nuclear-fission-at-fukushima-dai-ichi-station.html>
9. *November 1, Associated Press* – (California) **Ammonia leak at Calif. nuke plant prompts alert.** A non-radioactive ammonia leak at the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station in San Diego County, California, prompted an emergency alert and precautionary evacuation of nearby workers before it was contained November 1, authorities said. Workers stopped the leak by 5 p.m., about 2 hours after it was detected in a storage tank in the water purification system of Unit 3, according to the plant's engineering manager. The emergency alert was required because fumes could prevent access to certain areas of the plant. The alert, the second lowest of four federal classifications for emergencies at commercial nuclear power plants, was canceled at 6:07 p.m. and evacuated workers were allowed to return. The cause of the leak was under investigation.
Source:

http://www.boston.com/news/nation/articles/2011/11/01/ammonia_leak_at_san_onofre_nuke_plant_in_s_calif/

For another story, see item [5](#)

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

10. *November 2, U.S. Department of Transportation* – (National) **NHTSA recall notice - BMW 8 and 12 cylinder turbocharged engine equipped vehicles.** The National Highway Transportation Safety Administration announced November 2 that BMW is recalling 32,084 model year 2011 5-Series, 2010-2011 5-Series Gran Turismo, 2009-2011 7-Series, 2010-2011 X5 SAV, and 2008-2011 X6 SAV vehicles equipped with 8- or 12-cylinder turbocharged engines because the circuit board for the electric auxiliary water pump can overheat. This could lead to a smoldering of the pump, or an engine compartment or vehicle fire. BMW will notify owners, and dealers will replace the auxiliary water pump free of charge. The safety recall is expected to begin during December 2011.

Source: http://www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/recalls/recallresults.cfm?start=1&SearchType=QuickSearch&rel_ID=11V521000&summary=true&prod_id=914777&PrintVersion=YES

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

Nothing to report

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Banking and Finance Sector

11. *November 2, Arlington Heights Daily Herald* – (Illinois) **Ex-Crystal Lake man charged in \$34 million Ponzi scheme.** A former Crystal Lake, Illinois man has been charged as a new defendant in a pending Ponzi scheme case that caused losses of about \$34 million, authorities said November 1. The man now joins a co-defendant to face charges the two tricked about 400 victims into investing more than \$105 million to fund their scheme, authorities said. According to a federal indictment, the man acted as a sales agent and trader for a dozen investment funds operated in the U.S. Virgin Islands under the title of “Kenzie Funds.” He and his co-defendant misused the money they raised for their own benefit, and to make Ponzi-type payments totaling about \$71 million to certain investors, the U.S. attorney’s office said. The men informed investors their money would be used primarily in foreign currency trading, and that Kenzie Funds had never lost money and had achieved profitable historical returns, according to the indictment. Between 2004 and July 2010, the defendants misappropriated a large part of the \$105 million. The man was charged with 10 counts of mail fraud and six

counts of filing false individual and corporate income tax returns, while his co-defendant is facing 10 counts of mail fraud. The indictment seeks forfeiture against both men of about \$34 million. The man was also charged with six counts of filing false federal income tax returns between 2005 and 2007.

Source: <http://www.dailyherald.com/article/20111101/news/711019616/>

12. *November 2, Courthouse News Service* – (National) **Allied Mortgage fraud could cost taxpayers \$1 billion, USA says.** Federal prosecutors sued Allied Home Mortgage Corp. and two of its top officers November 1, claiming one of the nation’s largest privately held mortgage lenders committed serial frauds that cost taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars, and cost thousands of people their homes. More than 30 percent of the 110,000 Federal Housing Administration (FHA) mortgages Allied originated in the past decade are in default, and the default rate for loans in 2006-07 climbed to 55 percent, prosecutors said. The FHA has paid \$834 million “for mortgages originated and fraudulently certified by Allied that are now in default,” the U.S. attorney’s office said in announcing the lawsuit. “An additional 2,509 loans are currently in default but not yet in claims status, which could result in additional insurance claims paid by the HUD [U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development] amounting to \$363 million.” The nine-count complaint claims Allied, its CEO, and executive vice president (VP) and compliance director, defrauded the government and taxpayers by “knowingly and intentionally submit(ing) false loan certifications to the HUD by originating FHA loans out of shadow branches;” made false statements to HUD; made false annual certifications to HUD; made false branch certifications to HUD; violated the False Claims Act; and made false loan certifications to HUD. “Allied’s concealed corruption continued in part because [the CEO] persistently monitored and intimidated senior managers and other employees,” prosecutors claim. “[He] also required employees to sign extremely broad confidential agreements and has sued numerous former employees for the slightest perceived breach, including a former tax manager for speaking to the IRS.” Prosecutors said Allied ran hundreds of “shadow,” unapproved branch offices that originated FHA loans, and deceived the HUD by using the ID number of a HUD-approved branch on the applications.

Source: <http://www.courthousenews.com/2011/11/02/41119.htm>

13. *November 2, Middletown Times Herald-Record* – (New York) **Bank evacuated after staff gets ill; cause unknown.** One person was taken to the hospital in Montgomery, New York, November 1 after multiple people at a Key Bank complained of dizziness, nausea, and headaches, town police said. At around 3:20 p.m., a Montgomery police lieutenant said he received a complaint of people feeling ill at the Key Bank at 1031 Route 17K. When police arrived, two bank tellers and a manager said they felt dizzy and nauseous. The officer on scene at the bank also began getting a headache. The bank was evacuated and cordoned off, the lieutenant said. One person was sent to St. Luke’s Cornwall Hospital complaining of dizziness and a headache, and another refused treatment. An Orange County haz-mat team checked carbon monoxide levels, but they were not sure of what caused the illnesses.

Source:

<http://www.recordonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20111102/NEWS/111109972/-1/news>

14. *November 1, U.S. Department of Treasury* – (National) **The passage of late legislation and incorrect computer programming delayed refunds for some taxpayers during the 2011 filing season.** According to a report released November 1 by the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration, as of April 30, 2011, the IRS had identified 775,723 tax returns with \$4.6 billion claimed in fraudulent refunds and prevented the issuance of \$4.4 billion (96 percent) of those fraudulent refunds. The IRS also selected 199,854 tax returns filed by prisoners for fraud screening, a 256 percent increase compared to last year. However, the IRS review found implementing some legislative provisions such as the First-Time Homebuyer Credit, Adoption Credit, Nonbusiness Energy Property Credits, and Plug-in Electric and Alternative Motor Vehicle Credits resulted in an inability to identify to the Internal Revenue Service Commissioner 140,596 taxpayers erroneously claiming \$140.2 million. In addition, 26,649 taxpayers had their Homebuyer Credit inaccurately processed, \$5.8 million in repayment amounts was not assessed, and \$675,063 in repayment amounts was erroneously assessed. Source: <http://www.treasury.gov/tigta/auditreports/2011reports/201140128fr.pdf>
15. *November 1, U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission* – (North Carolina) **Federal court orders Charlotte, NC, couple and their companies to pay \$24 million for defrauding customers in foreign currency Ponzi scheme.** The U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) November 1 announced it obtained a federal court supplemental consent order requiring two defendants and their companies, Queen Shoals, LLC, Queen Shoals II, LLC, and Select Fund, LLC, to pay \$24 million in restitution and civil monetary penalties for defrauding customers and misappropriating millions of dollars in a foreign currency (forex) Ponzi scheme. In addition, the supplemental consent order requires the following relief defendants to disgorge ill-gotten gains totaling \$23.3 million because they received funds as a result of the defendants' fraudulent conduct to which they had no legitimate entitlement: Secure Wealth Fund, LLC; Heritage Growth Fund, LLC; Dominion Growth Fund, LLC; Two Oaks Fund, LLC; Dynasty Growth Fund, LLC; and Queen Shoals Group, LLC. According to the CFTC's complaint, starting in at least June 2008 and continuing through the present, the defendants fraudulently solicited at least \$22 million from individuals and/or entities for the purported purpose of trading off-exchange forex on their behalf. In their personal and Web site solicitations, defendants falsely claimed success in trading forex, guaranteed customers profits through use of "non-depletion accounts," represented that there would be no risk to customers' principal investment, and lured prospective customers with promises of returns of 8 to 24 percent, according to the complaint. The defendants claimed to pool customers' funds and then to use the profits generated by trading forex, along with gold and silver bullion, to guarantee payments to customers at the end of the 5-year "promissory note" period. In reality, however, defendants deposited little or none of customers' funds into forex trading accounts. The defendants misappropriated customer funds for personal use or to make purported profit payments or return principal to existing customers. Source: <http://www.cftc.gov/PressRoom/PressReleases/pr6133-11>
16. *November 1, KMGH 7 Denver* – (Colorado) **Colo. credit card scam traced to theaters, other locations.** Loveland, Colorado police said November 1 they have traced the large credit and debit card fraud in northern Colorado to many common

locations. While officers are not releasing the entire list yet, they said one location was the Loveland Metrolux 14 in the Promenade Shops at Centerra. Investigators said the theater's parent company, Metropolitan Theaters, hired an outside forensic analysis team to inspect its data transmission systems. Theater officials said the analysis showed there had been an external breach into the theater's computer system initiated from outside the organization, police said. The theater company said measures have been put into place to remove the breach and make sure the systems are now secure. Loveland Police investigators said there are 1,180 related fraud cases that have been reported to law enforcement throughout northern Colorado. Purchases have been made online and in person, implying someone is printing new, physical cards with account numbers. Source: <http://www.thedenverchannel.com/money/29650488/detail.html>

17. *November 1, KHON 2 Honolulu* – (Hawaii) **Nine indicted in identity theft ring bust.** Authorities said November 1 they believe they have arrested the nine remaining members of an identity theft ring that has victimized 256 Oahu, Hawaii residents and businesses. The nine suspects were indicted by an Oahu grand jury on more than 150 counts of identity theft related crimes. Four other ring members have already been convicted and sentenced to 10 years in prison, and the alleged ring leader of the scheme is awaiting trial. Prosecutors believe the suspects stole more than \$200,000 over 8 months starting in May 2010. Prosecutors believe the group created fake ids and counterfeit checks, and cashed them. The bust is the result of a 13-month investigation by police, sheriff's deputies, prosecutors, and federal agencies. Source: <http://www.khon2.com/news/local/story/Nine-indicted-in-identity-theft-ring-bust/4MbLGxhEbEOzjEL04bEjw.csp?rss=1803>

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Transportation Sector

18. *November 2, Orange County Register* – (California) **Train tracks shut from Anaheim to Fullerton.** An unstable power pole caused officials to shut down train tracks in California for about 3 hours November 2 between Anaheim and Fullerton. The tracks were open after crews secured the pole at about 9:10 a.m., said a spokeswoman with Anaheim Public Utilities. The power pole was reported leaning toward the track just before 7 a.m. at 711 E. La Palma, said a supervisor with MetroNet, a fire dispatch service. It appears the wind could have weakened the pole, the supervisor said. The track closure caused several delays to Metrolink train service. As of 10 a.m., trains in the Orange County line and Inland Empire-Orange County line were delayed by more than an hour. La Palma lanes were closed as crews worked to stabilize the pole. Source: <http://www.ocregister.com/news/pole-325013-train-unstable.html>
19. *November 2, Associated Press* – (California) **Los Angeles terminal closed over security breach.** A busy terminal at Los Angeles International Airport was shut down for nearly an hour November 2 after a man reportedly tried to evade security. A Transportation Security Administration (TSA) spokesman said what could have been

drug paraphernalia was spotted in the man's carry-on bag at around 6 a.m. at Terminal 1, which houses Southwest Airlines. The TSA spokesman said the man was directed to secondary screening, but instead grabbed the bag and dashed into the terminal. It was shut down for about 45 minutes until the man was found. An airport police sergeant said he was arrested on an outstanding warrant, not for a security breach.

Source:

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5jFAT2pTpnvum3CGmBs7pEbFdeu2g?docId=3f950a3b31e74cbab4cc70eebaff730>

20. *November 2, Chicago Tribune* – (Illinois) **Teen killed by Amtrak train in Lansing.** An Amtrak train hit and killed a teenage boy in Lansing, Illinois, November 1. It was not known why he was on the tracks. Amtrak's Cardinal, headed for New York City, was about 4 miles north of Dyer, Indiana, about 7:10 p.m., traveling about 60 mph when the boy was struck, said a spokeswoman for Amtrak. The train stopped and was delayed 2 hours and 25 minutes while police conducted their investigation. Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/breaking/chi-person-killed-by-amtrak-train-in-lansing-20111101,0,379012.story>
21. *November 2, Somerville Patch* – (Massachusetts) **Somerville commuter rail facility cited with 'serious' workplace safety hazards.** The U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has cited the Commuter Rail maintenance facility in Somerville, Massachusetts, with 22 alleged "serious" violations of workplace safety. According to a press release sent by the U.S. Department of Labor, the safety administration "found employees in the facility's diesel, carpentry, truck, pipe, and coach shops exposed to potential electric shocks, electrocution, fires, falls, chemical burns, lacerations, amputations, and blood-borne pathogens, as well as to injuries from crushing, slipping, and tripping hazards." The proposed fines for these violations is \$130,800, and the Massachusetts Bay Commuter Railroad has 15 days from the receipt of the citations to pay the fines or contest the violations. Source: <http://somerville.patch.com/articles/somerville-commuter-rail-facility-cited-with-serious-workplace-safety-hazards>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

22. *November 1, Chicago Tribune* – (Illinois) **Streets reopen after cops check suspicious package in downtown mailbox.** Chicago police and postal police checked a suspicious package found in a mailbox near the Metropolitan Correctional Center (MCC) November 1 and sounded the all-clear after about 2 hours. The MCC is a federal jail that houses prisoners scheduled to appear in court in the Dirksen Federal Courthouse. Chicago Bomb and Arson and U.S. Postal Service police responded. The Chicago Fire Department also responded, assisting a hazardous materials team. Streets were closed in the area for about 2 hours until police resolved the situation. An official at the MCC said that nothing was found at the MCC, and its operations were not affected, but the

area around the building was sealed off and identification of anyone going to buildings in the area was checked by police.

Source: http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2011-11-01/news/chi-cops-check-suspicious-package-in-loop-20111101_1_suspicious-package-mailbox-mcc

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Agriculture and Food Sector

23. *November 2, St. Louis Post-Dispatch* – (Missouri) **Search expands for source of E. coli outbreak in St. Louis area.** The race to find the source of the E. coli 0157 bacteria that has sickened more than two dozen people in the St. Louis, Missouri area will expand to food distributors outside the state, Missouri health officials announced November 1. There have been 26 E. coli infections confirmed through lab testing done in Jefferson City. Another eight suspected cases in the St. Louis area, including one in St. Clair County, may be linked to the outbreak. Based on interviews with sick people and their relatives, health authorities determined Schnucks salad bars appeared to be a common link. Of 20 people who reported they recently shopped at Schnucks, 17 said they had eaten from the salad bar. Schnucks voluntarily removed suspected items including lettuce, strawberries, and Caesar dressing from its salad bars when the outbreak was confirmed October 26. Investigators collected samples that remain in cold storage. While testing is ongoing, none of the 17 food samples from several area stores tested positive for E. coli. Food safety inspectors said they found no evidence of possible contamination in Schnucks stores or warehouses. The negative tests on the food samples from Schnucks stores indicate the source of the bacteria could be further up the food distribution chain. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration will join the investigation as it expands to farms and distribution centers in other states. The investigation could lead to soil testing for possible contamination with animal feces. Source: http://www.stltoday.com/news/local/metro/article_bcd12c59-7b8a-57b9-aab7-b831396a7132.html
24. *November 2, Food Safety News* – (Idaho; National) **FDA cites Idaho sprout grower for food safety lapses.** Federal inspectors documented unsanitary conditions and food-safety lapses at the Idaho sprout-growing facility implicated in an outbreak of Salmonella Enteritidis illnesses earlier in 2011, according to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Food Safety News reported November 2. In a warning letter sent October 19 to the president and owner of Evergreen Fresh Sprouts of Moyie Springs, Idaho, the FDA said it found dirty pipes dripping onto uncovered sprouts, and employees not donning clean gloves or aprons before they worked with sprouts. In late June, the president and owner initially balked at recalling sprouts that had been linked to about 20 Salmonella infections in 5 states. Nine of the first 13 people sickened in the outbreak had reported eating the alfalfa sprouts before they became ill. The FDA and Idaho public health officials took the unusual step of warning consumers not to eat Evergreen Produce-brand alfalfa sprouts or spicy sprouts. The owner and president later relented and agreed to recall the sprouts. As of July 6, the Salmonella outbreak sickened 25 people in Washington, Montana, Idaho, North Dakota, and New Jersey, and sent at least 3 people to the hospital, according to the Centers for Disease Control

and Prevention.

Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/11/fda-cites-idaho-sprouts-grower-for-food-safety-lapses/>

25. *November 1, St. Joseph News-Press* – (Kansas) **OSHA investigation to take 6 months.** A U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) spokesman said November 1 several OSHA investigators were at the Bartlett Grain Co. plant in Atchison, Kansas, where six workers were killed in an explosion. Those investigators were interviewing workers and employees and sifting through the accident scene, trying to determine the cause and if there were any violations. He said the OSHA has a legal obligation to finish the investigation within 6 months. The spokesman said explosions were much more common before regulations helped make the industry safer. The agency introduced the Grain Handling Facilities Standard in 1987, which drastically reduced the number of engulfments — workers being trapped and suffocated in grain — and explosions. According to OSHA statistics, by 2003, the number of explosions dropped by 42 percent, explosion-related fatalities fell by 70 percent, and suffocations went down by 44 percent. The standard adopted by OSHA involved stricter training requirements at grain elevators and other required safety precautions and preventative measures.

Source: <http://www.newspressnow.com/localnews/29657839/detail.html>

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Water Sector

26. *November 2, American Recycler* – (New Hampshire) **New Hampshire scrap yard fined.** Grimmel Industries, a metal scrap recycler located on the Piscataqua River in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, is facing a fine for allowing polluted stormwater to flow into surrounding waters, in violation of the Clean Water Act, American Recycler reported November 2. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is seeking a proposed penalty of up to \$532,500. Stormwater monitoring by the property owner of Grimmel’s Portsmouth facility confirms stormwater discharges from scrap yard operations contain metals, suspended solids, and chemical oxygen demand that exceed permit benchmarks. Further, the stormwater discharges contain mercury and PCBs that cause or contribute to an exceedance of water quality standards. Grimmel had several violations of the “Multi-sector General Permit for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Industrial Activity,” including failing to perform required inspections or sampling, and not performing required reviews of its Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan.

Source: <http://www.americanrecycler.com/1111/1224new.shtml>

27. *November 1, NBC Connecticut* – (Connecticut) **37 boil water advisories issued.** Connecticut health officials have put 37 small, public drinking water systems under a boil water advisory, NBC Connecticut reported November 1. Public drinking water systems that experienced power outages and do not have a backup power source issued boil water advisories as a precautionary measure. The Connecticut Department

of Public Health (DPH) is monitoring the systems and working to contact other small public drinking water systems to determine their status and offer assistance as needed. The list will be updated daily on the DPH Web site.

Source: <http://www.nbcconnecticut.com/news/local/37-Boil-Water-Advisories-Issued-133025848.html>

28. *November 1, Allentown Morning Call* – (Pennsylvania) **Outage shuts down Bethlehem sewage plant.** A pump in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania’s wastewater treatment plant and its backup system lost power in an “unprecedented” failure over the weekend of October 29 and 30, causing an estimated 12 million to 13 million gallons of raw sewage to flow into the Saucon Creek, a city official said November 1. Electric power went out to a power feed line that pumps wastewater into the treatment plant, the director of water and sewer resources said. Around the same time, a second line also went down.
Source: http://articles.mcall.com/2011-11-01/news/mc-bethlehem-wastewater-sewage-river-20111101_1_wastewater-bethlehem-sewage-plant-water-filtration-plant
29. *November 1, New York Times* – (New York) **City finds possible cause of fire at Harlem sewage plant.** The four-alarm fire that shut down a Harlem sewage treatment plant in July, sending hundreds of millions of gallons of wastewater into New York City’s waterways, was probably caused by a single, improperly tightened nut, according to a report the city’s department of environmental protection released November 1. Though equipment damage during the fire at the North River Wastewater Treatment Plant prevented conclusive identification of a specific culprit, the agency’s analysis suggests a nut connecting a fuel injector to its pump was tightened either too much or too little during routine maintenance in June. Once the fitting leaked, the agency’s commissioner said, “a spray of fuel oil hitting the engine’s extremely hot turbocharger” may have started a small fire, melting the cover of the turbocharger, which is directly above larger fuel pipes. “As the melted casing dripped onto the larger fuel piping, it damaged the valves in the line, fueling a much larger fire,” he said in a statement. The commissioner said workers do not appear to have been at fault for the problematic nut, because the equipment’s maintenance manual does not specify to what degree the nut should be tightened. The report also offered a second possible premise for the fire: a leak from a “flexible fuel line,” also near the turbocharger, setting off a similar chain of events. As a result of the analysis, the agency has moved large fuel pipes at the plant away from hot surfaces such as turbochargers and installed what the commissioner called “kill switches” in the plant’s control room, which can immediately cut fuel in the event of a fire. Site investigations have been conducted at three other wastewater plants with similar engines, in an attempt to determine which recommendations from the North River analysis may be applicable.
Source: <http://cityroom.blogs.nytimes.com/2011/11/01/fire-at-sewage-plant-may-be-linked-to-a-single-nut/>
30. *November 1, Pasadena Star-News* – (California) **Agencies: South Pasadena faces \$2.8 million in fines for releasing raw sewage into Arroyo.** The city of South Pasadena, California, is facing up to \$2.8 million in fines for 26 separate raw sewage spills over the past 4 years that contaminated waterways and closed county beaches,

according to state and federal regulatory agencies. The Pasadena Star-News reported November 1 that since 2007, South Pasadena reported dozens of breaches to its 75-year-old sewer pipes, amounting to 121,040 gallons of untreated wastewater being released into local waterways. Of that total, about 85,575 gallons reached the surface waters of the Arroyo Seco and Los Angeles River. On several occasions, wastewater containing solids, pathogens, grease, oil, and toxics flowed downstream into the ocean in Long Beach, according to a detailed report from the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board. Two overflows resulted in the closure of Alamitos Beach and Junipero Beach, each for 3 days, according to the state agency's report. The regional state agency turned the matter over to the state attorney general's office, which is investigating possible violations of the Clean Water Act that carry fines of \$25 per gallon of spillage, and up to \$25,000 per day per violation. In addition, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency reported South Pasadena failed to report every sewage spill to the state and may have misrepresented the reasons for some spills. Source: http://www.pasadenastarnews.com/news/ci_19242775

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

31. *November 1, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention* – (National) **Prescription painkiller overdoses at epidemic levels.** The death toll from overdoses of prescription painkillers has more than tripled in the past decade, according to an analysis in the Centers for Disease Control Vital Signs report released November 1 from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). This new finding shows that more than 40 people die every day from overdoses involving narcotic pain relievers such as hydrocodone (Vicodin), methadone, oxycodone (OxyContin), and oxymorphone (Opana). “Overdoses involving prescription painkillers are at epidemic levels and now kill more Americans than heroin and cocaine combined,” said the CDC director. “States, health insurers, health care providers, and individuals have critical roles to play in the national effort to stop this epidemic of overdoses while we protect patients who need prescriptions to control pain.” The increased use of prescription painkillers for nonmedical reasons, along with growing sales, has contributed to the large number of overdoses and deaths. In 2010, 1 in every 20 people in the United States age 12 and older — a total of 12 million people — reported using prescription painkillers nonmedically according to the National Survey on Drug Use and Health. Based on data from the Drug Enforcement Administration, sales of these drugs to pharmacies and health care providers have increased by more than 300 percent since 1999. Source: <http://insurancenewsnet.com/article.aspx?id=294542>

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Government Facilities Sector

32. *November 2, Anchorage Daily News* – (Alaska) **Soldier, 22, held on suspicion of spying.** A 22-year-old U.S. Army military policeman from Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER) near Anchorage, Alaska is in custody on suspicion of espionage, an FBI spokesman said November 1. The soldier was booked in the Anchorage jail October 28. He's being held without bail, a jail spokesman said. An Army spokesman said the Kentucky resident was arrested October 28 by special agents from the Army counterintelligence service, and the Army Criminal Investigation Command. An FBI spokesman said the suspect was arrested following an investigation by the FBI and Army counterintelligence. He said the case is being handled in the military justice system. The suspect was assigned to the 164th Military Police Company, part of the 793rd Military Police Battalion of the new 2nd Engineer Brigade at JBER, according to an Army spokesman.

Source: <http://www.adn.com/2011/11/01/2149870/22-year-old-soldier-held-on-suspicion.html?storylink=tacoma>

33. *November 2, Associated Press* – (National; Georgia) **4 men in Ga. accused of planning ricin attacks.** Four men in Georgia intended to use an online novel as a script for a real-life wave of terror and assassination using explosives and the lethal toxin ricin, according to court documents. Federal agents raided their north Georgia homes November 1 and arrested them on charges of conspiring to plan the attacks. The four men are scheduled to appear in court November 3. Relatives of two of the men said the charges were baseless. Court documents accused the men of trying to obtain an explosive device and a silencer to carry out targeted attacks on government buildings and employees. Two of the men are also accused of trying to seek out a formula to produce ricin, a biological toxin that can be lethal in small doses. One suspect discussed ways of dispersing ricin from an airplane in the sky over Washington D.C., court records state. Another suspected member of the group intended to use the plot of an online novel as a model for plans to attack U.S. federal law officers and others, authorities said. Court documents state the 73-year-old man told others he intended to model their actions on the online novel "Absolved," which involves small groups of citizens attacking U.S. officials. Investigators said the four men took several concrete steps to carry out their plans. One suspect is accused of driving to Atlanta with a confidential informant to scope out federal buildings that house the IRS and other agencies. He and another suspect also arranged to buy what they thought was an explosive device and a silencer from an undercover agent. The men were arrested days after a lab test confirmed they had trace amounts of ricin in their possession, authorities said. Court records indicate at least two of the suspects are former federal employees. Prosecutors say one suspect said he would like to make 10 pounds of ricin and simultaneously place it in several U.S. cities.

Source: <http://www.chron.com/news/article/Feds-arrest-4-in-alleged-Ga-ricin-attack-plot-2248031.php>

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Emergency Services Sector

34. *November 2, Kalamazoo Gazette* – (Michigan) **Police arrest escaped inmate after stolen vehicle crashes on Kalamazoo-Portage border.** Police arrested an escaped inmate of St. Joseph County Jail following a chase that started in Kalamazoo, Michigan and ended in Portage after the suspect crashed a stolen vehicle and fled on foot. Police arrested the inmate in Portage behind the United Kennel Club shortly after he fled the scene of the crash. At about 10 p.m. a Kalamazoo Department of Public Safety (KDPS) officer spotted the stolen vehicle near the intersection of Paterson and Walbridge while on routine patrol, according to a KDPS news release. The officer attempted to pull the vehicle over but the driver did not stop. The officer chased the stolen vehicle to Woodmont Street just South of Kilgore Road, where the driver lost control of the vehicle, left the roadway, and struck a sign. A sergeant of the Kalamazoo County Sheriff's Office searched for an hour with a K9 before spotting the suspect hiding under a loading dock of a nearby business. He was taken into custody on numerous charges including fleeing and eluding, and resisting and obstructing arrest. Officers from the Portage Department of Public Safety assisted in the search.

Source:

http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2011/11/police_arrest_man_after_van_cr.html

35. *November 1, New City Patch* – (New York) **Clarkstown police dealing with more emergency calls from snowstorm than hurricane.** With emergency calls still coming in from the October 29 snowstorm, Clarkstown, New York police have started comparing the snowstorm to Hurricane Irene. At police headquarters in New City, the snowstorm seems to be worse than the hurricane. The police chief said that as of about 3 p.m. November 1, the snowstorm far outpaced Irene for the number of emergency calls. Over the same timeframe, Clarkstown police received 8,118 calls during Hurricane Irene. With the snowstorm, 9,373 calls have come in. Police and Clarkstown highway workers have had to deal with so many downed trees and utility wires that the town is running out of traffic cones and barriers to block off hazardous areas. The chief said the lingering power outages from the snowstorm have created bigger problems than Irene in terms of closed roads and traffic signals out. He said one criticism his department received was for not putting police officers at key points — such as Route 303 in West Nyack — when the traffic lights were knocked out.

Source: <http://newcity.patch.com/articles/clarkstown-police-dealing-with-more-emergency-calls-from-snowstorm-than-hurricane>

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Information Technology Sector

36. *November 2, IDG News Service* – (International) **Secunia offers to coordinate vulnerability disclosure on behalf of researchers.** Danish vulnerability management

company Secunia aims to make the task of reporting software vulnerabilities easier for security researchers by offering to coordinate disclosure with vendors on their behalf, IDG News Service reported November 2. The Secunia Vulnerability Coordination Reward Programme (SVCRP) is the latest addition to a list of offerings such as TippingPoint's Zero Day Initiative or Verisign's iDefense Labs Vulnerability Contributor Program that allow researchers to avoid having to deal with different vendor bug reporting policies. However, according to Secunia's chief security specialist, the SVCRP is meant to complement these programs. Secunia plans to accept vulnerabilities other programs reject, regardless of their classification and as long as they are in off-the-shelf products. Flaws discovered in online services such as Facebook, for example, do not qualify. The company will not profit directly from the SVCRP and does not plan to provide advance notification about the reported flaws to its customers, as other companies do. Researchers will continue to receive payments they are entitled to from vendors for disclosing vulnerabilities even if they use the SVCRP for coordination, Secunia said. However, vendors will have the final word on whether they will pay out rewards to researchers who offload vulnerability coordination work to companies such as Secunia.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9221392/Secunia_offers_to_coordinate_vulnerability_disclosure_on_behalf_of_researchers

37. *November 1, Computerworld* – (International) **Update: Duqu exploits zero-day flaw in Windows kernel.** The Duqu trojan infects systems by exploiting a previously unknown Windows kernel vulnerability that is remotely executable, security vendor Symantec said November 1. Symantec said in a blog post that CrySys, the Hungarian research firm that discovered the Duqu trojan earlier in October, has identified a dropper file that was used to infect systems with the malware. The installer file is a malicious Microsoft Word document designed to exploit a zero-day code execution vulnerability in the Windows kernel. "When the file is opened, malicious code executes and installs the main Duqu binaries" on the compromised system, Symantec said. According to Symantec, the malicious Word document in the recovered installer appears to have been specifically crafted for the targeted organization. The file was designed to ensure that Duqu would only be installed during a specific 8-day window in August, Symantec noted. No known workarounds exist for the zero-day vulnerability that Duqu exploits. The installer that was recovered is one of several that may have been used to spread the trojan. It is possible that other methods of infection are also being used to spread Duqu, Symantec noted.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9221372/Update_Duqu_exploits_zero_day_flaw_in_Windows_kernel

38. *November 1, threatpost* – (International) **Zeus now using autorun as infection numbers rise.** After tapering off, the Zeus trojan has been staging a comeback over the last few months, possibly using a new infection routine that leverages Windows' autorun feature even after a company update to limit infections that use it, according to research by Microsoft. Microsoft's Malicious Software Removal Tool removed the common banking trojan horse program from 185,000 computers in September and the

company expects more than 100,000 removals in October, according to a new post on Microsoft's Threat Research and Response blog. The growth spurt reflects Zbot's growing use of Windows autorun functionality, said the senior anti virus research lead at Microsoft.

Source: http://threatpost.com/en_us/blogs/zeus-now-using-autorun-infection-numbers-rise-110111

39. *November 1, The Register* – (International) **Researchers propose simple fix to thwart e-voting attack.** Researchers have devised a simple procedure that can be added to many electronic voting machine routines to reduce the success of insider attacks that attempt to alter results, The Register reported November 1. The approach, laid out in a short research paper, augments the effectiveness of end-to-end verifiable election systems, such as the Scantegrity and the MarkPledge. They are designed to generate results that can be checked by anyone, by giving each voter a receipt that contains a cryptographic hash of the ballot contents. The researchers propose chaining the hash of each receipt to the contents of the previous receipt. By linking each hash to the ballot cast previously, the receipt serves not only as a verification that its votes have not been altered, but also as confirmation that none of the votes previously cast on the same machine have been tampered with. The procedure is intended to reduce the success of what is known as a trash attack, in which election personnel or other insiders comb through the contents of garbage cans near polling places for discarded receipts. The presence of the discarded receipts is often correlated with votes that can be altered with little chance of detection. The running hash is designed to make it harder for insiders to change more than a handful of votes without the fraud being easy to detect.

Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/11/01/electronic_voting_fraud_mitigation/

40. *November 1, IDG News Service* – (National) **Researchers defeat CAPTCHA on popular Websites.** Researchers from Stanford University developed an automated tool capable of deciphering text-based anti-spam tests used by many popular Web sites with a significant degree of accuracy. The researchers presented the results of their 18-month long CAPTCHA study at the recent ACM Conference On Computer and Communication Security in Chicago. CAPTCHA stands for 'Completely Automated Public Turing test to tell Computers and Humans Apart' and consists of challenges that only humans are supposed to be capable of solving. Web sites use such tests to block spam bots that automate tasks such as account registration and comment posting. There are various types of CAPTCHAs, some using audio, others using math problems, but the most common implementations rely on users typing back distorted text. The Stanford team devised various methods of cleaning up purposely introduced image background noise and breaking text strings into individual characters for easier recognition, a technique called segmentation. Some of their CAPTCHA-breaking algorithms are inspired by those used by robots to orient themselves in various environments and were built into an automated tool dubbed Decaptcha. This tool was then run against CAPTCHAs used by 15 high-profile Web sites. The results revealed tests used by Visa's Authorize.net payment gateway could be beaten 66 percent of the time, while attacks on Blizzard's World of Warcraft portal had a success rate of 70 percent. For eBay, CAPTCHA implementation failed 43 percent of the time, and for Wikipedia, one in four attempts was successful. Lower success rates were found on

Digg, CNN, and Baidu — 20, 16, and 5 percent respectively.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9221364/Researchers_defeat_CAPTCHA_on_popular_websites

41. *November 1, CNET* – (International) **Socialbots’ steal 250GB of user data in Facebook invasion.** Programs designed to resemble humans infiltrated Facebook recently and made off with 250 gigabytes of personal information belonging to thousands of the social network’s users, researchers said in an academic paper released November 1. The 8-week study was designed to evaluate how vulnerable online social networks were to large-scale infiltrations by programs designed to mimic real users, researchers from the University of British Columbia Vancouver said in the paper, titled “The Socialbot Network: When bots socialize for fame and money.” The 102 “socialbots” researchers released onto the social network included a name and profile picture of a fictitious Facebook user and were capable of posting messages and sending friend requests. They then used these bots to send friend requests to 5,053 randomly selected Facebook users. Each account was limited to sending 25 requests per day to prevent triggering anti-fraud measures. During that initial 2-week “bootstrapping” phase, 976 requests, or about 19 percent, were accepted. During the next 6 weeks, the bots sent connection requests to 3,517 Facebook friends of users who accepted requests during the first phase. Of those, 2,079 users, or about 59 percent, accepted the second round of requests. The increase was due to what researchers called the “triadic closure principle,” which predicts that if two users had a mutual friend in common, they were three times more likely to become connected. Researchers found social networks were “highly vulnerable” to a large-scale infiltration, with an 80-percent infiltration rate. Source: http://news.cnet.com/8301-1009_3-20128808-83/socialbots-steal-250gb-of-user-data-in-facebook-invasion/

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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

42. *November 2, KMGH 7 Denver* – (Colorado) **Guardrail work blamed for NW Colo. cellphone outages.** Guardrail work near Dillon, Colorado, was blamed for a severed fiber-optic cable that cut cellphone service to thousands of customers in northwest Colorado October 31. The cable cut knocked out cellphone service for Verizon, AT&T, Cricket, Sprint, and T-Mobile customers. The severed CenturyLink line also disrupted long-distance phone service for land lines and Internet service, according to the Summit

Daily. Ideal Fencing of Erie said it checked before starting work and was informed the area was clear of utility lines, the newspaper reported. A CenturyLink spokesman said his firm did a “temporary fix” on the damaged cable October 31 to restore cellphone and other services, the newspaper reported.

Source: <http://www.thedenverchannel.com/news/29661856/detail.html>

43. *November 1, Yuma Sun* – (Arizona) **Fire damages Yuma home; disrupts area Internet, cable and phone services.** A Yuma, Arizona house fire damaged a Time Warner fiber optics cable November 1, disrupting Internet, cable television, and phone services for thousands of customers in Somerton, San Luis, the Foothills, and parts of Yuma. “Some of our fiber lines were melted by a nearby fire,” a Time Warner business manager said. “We have our construction members out there and they are determining if there is any additional damage.” The business manager said November 1 that service should be restored before the end of the day. The cause of the fire was under investigation.

Source: <http://www.yumasun.com/news/yuma-74151-fire-disrupts.html>

44. *November 1, KTVL 10 Medford* – (Oregon) **CenturyLink Jackson Co. outages repaired.** CenturyLink informed KTVL 10 Medford the evening of November 1 that their systems were back online and fully functional in Jackson County, Oregon following an equipment failure. Landline phone customers in the Rogue River and Gold Hill areas were without service the afternoon of November 1. A CenturyLink spokesman said crews were trying to determine what caused the outage. The outage affected 911 service in area. The director of Jackson County’s 911 Center said the county sent dispatchers and sheriff’s deputies to the affected areas.

Source: <http://www.ktv.com/articles/river-1202376-rogue-outage.html>

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Commercial Facilities Sector

45. *November 2, Wichita Eagle* – (Kansas) **Torched Kansas mosque had received anti-Islam letters, leader says.** A Muslim mosque in Wichita, Kansas, that was heavily damaged by fire October 31, received anti-Islam letters in recent months, the Wichita Eagle reported November 2. Somebody also began turning on its outside water faucet overnight to hike its water bill, the mosque’s leader said. The president of the Islamic Association of Mid Kansas said the letters put down Islam, called the prophet Muhammad a pig, and enclosed drawings that mocked him. The mosque received about eight of the letters starting 4 to 6 months ago, but they had stopped about a month ago, the mosque leader said. The FBI and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives joined the fire investigation October 31. The fire spread quickly and gutted the attic, a Wichita fire captain said. Damage was set at about \$130,000.

Source: <http://www.stripes.com/news/us/torched-kansas-mosque-had-received-anti-islam-letters-leader-says-1.159503>

46. *November 2, KSTP 5 St. Paul and Associated Press* – (Minnesota) **Fire forces evacuation of Roseville apartment building.** A fire forced emergency crews to evacuate close to 100 people from a Roseville, Minnesota apartment building November 1. Crews from five different agencies responded. They said the fire started on the second floor and spread to the third. Crews had to fight the fire from the roof. The tenant of the unit where the fire started said she thought she turned off the stove after cooking dinner and left to pick up a friend at the bus station. The Pioneer Press said Centennial Commons apartments were built in the 1960s, and had no sprinklers in the building.
Source: <http://kstp.com/news/stories/s2354586.shtml>
47. *November 2, KTLA 5 Los Angeles* – (California) **74-year-old man beaten to death with bat at Walmart.** Walmart shoppers and employees watched as a man was beaten to death with a baseball bat inside the store November 1 in what police say was an unprovoked attack in Lakewood, California. Police said the suspect walked into the Walmart’s sporting goods area, took an aluminum baseball bat off of a display, and beat the man with it until he was dead. As quickly as the beating began, it was over. Police arrested the suspect outside the store. Officials said the attack on the elderly man was an unprovoked “random act of violence.” There were no words exchanged and the elderly man likely did not see his attacker coming until it was much too late. The store was closed for several hours while police investigated.
Source: <http://www.ktla.com/news/landing/ktla-lakewood-walmart-beating,0,1683724.story?track=rss>
48. *November 2, WJW 8 Cleveland* – (Ohio) **People forced to evacuate after fire destroys apartment building.** A large fire on Cleveland, Ohio’s west side forced several people to evacuate their homes, WJW 8 Cleveland reported November 2. According to a Cleveland Fire Department spokesperson, the fire started in the back of a vacant, 4-story apartment building November 1. Although 12 fire departments and special units responded to the emergency, the building became fully engulfed by flames and eventually collapsed. The flames also spread to nearby apartments that were occupied. A total of six people in surrounding apartments were forced to evacuate. Crews remained at the scene overnight, putting out hot spots and cleaning debris from the street.
Source: <http://www.fox8.com/news/wjw-west-98-madison-fire-txt,0,3941422.story>
49. *November 1, Associated Press* – (Oregon) **Carbon monoxide blamed for Ore. church illnesses.** A Portland, Oregon fire spokesman said carbon monoxide from a furnace is to blame for the symptoms that sickened nearly a dozen people November 1 at a northeast Portland church. The spokesman said 11 of about 15 people at the Northeast Baptist Church reported experiencing symptoms of nausea, dizziness, skin redness, and fainting. Nine people were transported to area hospitals while two more were treated by medics at the scene. Hazardous materials firefighters determined that exceptionally high levels of carbon monoxide were coming from the furnace area. The haz-mat coordinator said levels of the odorless, colorless gas were at 1,400 parts per million in the basement, a level that can be deadly after prolonged exposure. Elsewhere in the church, gas levels were sufficient to make people very sick.

Source: <http://www.columbian.com/news/2011/nov/01/carbon-monoxide-blamed-for-ore-church-illnesses/>

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

Nothing to report

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Dams Sector

50. *November 2, Minot Daily News and Associated Press* – (North Dakota) **Corps: No increase in dam’s water releases.** The top U.S. Army Corps of Engineers officer in charge of the Missouri River’s dam network said the agency will not be increasing Lake Sakakawea water releases this fall, despite arguments from the governor of North Dakota that the move would help fight flooding. A Corps official spoke at a public hearing November 1, saying he had turned down a request from the governor and the chief engineer of the North Dakota Water Commission to draw the lake down to 1,835 feet above sea level by March 1. Instead, the agency will stick to its target level of 1,837.5 feet on that date, said the Corps official.
Source: <http://www.minotdailynews.com/page/content.detail/id/560009/Corps--No-increase-in-dam-s-water-releases.html?nav=5010>
51. *November 2, Bloomberg* – (International) **Bangkok governor tells police to defend floodgates from residents’ attacks.** The governor of Bangkok, Thailand, ordered police to protect a levee on the city’s outskirts after thousands of people damaged the floodgate, threatening inner parts of the Thai capital, Bloomberg reported November 2. “The gate needs to be urgently fixed otherwise the floodwater would cause heavy flooding” in eastern Bangkok near industrial estates where international manufacturers are located, he said on his Web site the night of November 1. Residents living near Sam Wa canal in northeastern Bangkok destroyed part of a levee so water would flow out of their neighborhood, television images on the Thai PBS television channel showed. Bangkok officials were struggling to maintain a system of dikes, canals, and sandbag barriers designed to divert water around the city center. Floodwaters that spread over 63 of Thailand’s 77 provinces over the past 3 months have killed 427 people, and shuttered 10,000 factories north of Bangkok, disrupting supply chains across Asia.
Source: <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-11-02/bangkok-chief-tells-police-to-defend-floodgates-as-inner-city-threatened.html>
52. *November 1, Sacramento Capital Public Radio* – (California) **Levee improvements begin in Sacramento.** Work crews with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers began levee repair work in Sacramento, California November 1, Sacramento Capitol Public radio announced November 1. The construction is taking place along the south bank of

the American River between Watt Avenue and the Mayhew Drain. About two dozen trucks will make up to 150 trips a day. The project manager said the levee is eroding because of abundant Sierra snowmelt. Crews will add riprap, rock, soil, and wooded debris to the levee. Improvements should be finished by the end of November. The work is part of a larger levee repair project on four sites totaling \$4 million with most of the money coming from the federal government.

Source: <http://www.capradio.org/articles/2011/11/01/levee-improvements-begin-in-sacramento>

53. *November 1, Yakima Herald-Republic* – (Washington) **Public warned of danger around breached dam.** A week after the historic breaching of the Condit Dam in Washington state, officials are warning the public to stay away from the empty lake bed above the dam and the river below it. According to officials with PacifiCorp, the dam's owner, the resulting flood of water released from the October 27 breach created dangerous log jams along narrow sections of the White Salmon River below the dam. In the 92-acre former lake bed above the dam, the river is cutting through sediment, creating unstable slopes and moving debris, such as previously buried logs, PacifiCorp's project manager said in a news release. Company officials said they have several options for clearing the debris, including using cranes and yarders, or in some instances explosives.

Source: <http://www.yakima-herald.com/stories/2011/11/01/public-warned-of-danger-around-breached-dam>

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