



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report 15 November 2011

Top Stories

- The Securities and Exchange Commission, which failed to stop a long-running investment fraud despite repeated warnings, has disciplined eight agency employees, but did not fire anyone. – *Washington Post* (See item [15](#))
- The owner of a company that defrauded more than 1,000 homeowners — most from Maryland — in a \$78 million scheme was convicted of conspiracy to commit money laundering and related crimes in federal court. – *Baltimore Sun* (See item [19](#))

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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 14, Associated Press* – (Idaho) **850 gallons of gasoline spill in north Idaho tanker crash, none believed in the Lochsa River.** A weekend fuel tanker crash along the Lochsa River in northern Idaho spilled about 850 gallons of gasoline, but none is believed to have reached the water. The driver failed to negotiate a curve and crashed about 8 a.m. November 12 on U.S. Highway 12 about 29 miles east of Lowell. A Lewiston Fire Department engineer and paramedic said the tanker was carrying diesel fuel and gasoline, but only the gasoline tanker was breached. Crews placed about 200

feet of absorbent booms in the river as a precaution, but the spill site was about 75 feet into the water. About 2,000 gallons of diesel was recovered along with half of the estimated 1,700 gallons of gasoline.

Source:

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/22ae05b47e6a4bed8951a6bcc7c128f3/ID--Fuel-Tanker-Crash/>

2. *November 12, WSYR 9 Syracuse* – (New York) **I-81 re-opens, neighbors return home after propane tanker derails.** Police in Syracuse, New York, said Interstate 81 in both directions re-opened around 4:30 a.m. November 12. Evacuees have also been able to return home. Inspectors said the area is now safe, following a derailment November 11 that shut down parts of 81, causing major traffic problems. Special equipment was brought in to get both train cars, including one that was carrying propane, back on the tracks. Syracuse police confirmed that two tankers, including one carrying propane, at the end of a train rolled off a set of tracks on the city's South Side. Route 81, both northbound and southbound, was shut down in the area.
Source: http://www.9wsyr.com/news/local/story/I-81-re-opens-neighbors-return-home-after-propane/QoyP2kY_okqiPpzOBOgaw.csp
3. *November 12, Pittsburgh Tribune-Review* – (Pennsylvania) **Seven coal cars come off the tracks in Blairsville.** Seven Norfolk Southern coal cars came off the tracks November 11 in Blairsville, Pennsylvania, according to a spokesman for the railroad. The accident involving the 30-car train occurred in an area where coal is unloaded from cars onto trucks for transport to the nearby Homer City Generating Station. Only one of the seven cars, all of which remained upright after they went off the tracks, still contained coal.
Source: http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/blairsvilledispatch/s_766972.html
4. *November 11, Associated Press* – (Nebraska) **Officials report diesel supplies short in Nebraska.** Gasoline and diesel shortages at fuel terminals in the Upper Midwest have forced fuel truck drivers to sit in line for hours, waiting for fuel to arrive via pipeline. Other truck drivers have seen diesel prices rise, nearing \$4 a gallon in Nebraska, and passing that in the Dakotas. One of the two fuel terminals south of Lincoln, Nebraska, has not had diesel for at least a month. When a supply comes in to the other, it runs out in a few hours. A spokesman for Magellan Midstream Partners, which owns one of the terminals, blamed the shortage on a combination of factors. There has been extremely high demand for diesel at the terminals in the northern part of his company's system. Much of the demand comes from growth in the region's oil and natural gas industry, but there is also seasonal demand from farmers bringing in their crops. Other reasons include export demand, and refineries switching over to winter blends.
Source: http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-505245_162-57322952/officials-report-diesel-supplies-short-in-nebraska/

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Chemical Industry Sector

5. *November 14, WSAZ 3 Huntington/Charleston* – (Kentucky) **Route 60 in Cannonsburg back open following spill.** Crews have nearly finished cleaning up a chemical spill that closed a portion of U.S. 60 West near Cannonsburg, Kentucky, November 14. About 4 a.m., a truck hauling urea-based fertilizer began spilling its load onto portions of U.S. 60 West, U.S 23, and I-64 in the Boyd County area. 911 dispatchers said crews were working to clean up some isolated spills along U.S. 23, and that U.S. 60 West was back open after being closed for several hours. They said the truck was headed for an American Electric Power facility along U.S. 23 in Lawrence County. It was eventually stopped in Lawrence County.
Source: <http://www.wsaz.com/news/headlines/133792963.html>
6. *November 14, Ripon Commonwealth Press* – (Wisconsin) **Highway 23 open again after chemical spill.** After being closed for more than 35 hours thanks to a chemical spill, the Highway 23 bridge over the Puchyan River in Brooklyn, Wisconsin, reopened the afternoon of November 11. The Green Lake County Sheriff's Department confirmed November 10 that a semi accident caused an acetic acid spill. According to a press release from the sheriff's department, the semi overturned at about 12:33 a.m. on Highway 23. The semi was hauling diluted hazardous material, it continued. "A minor quantity spilled from the trailer and was contained posing no immediate hazard to the public or environment." Traffic was rerouted around the scene during cleanup.
Source:
<http://riponpress.com/main.asp?SectionID=2&SubSectionID=36&ArticleID=3510>
7. *November 11, San Marcos Mercury* – (Texas) **Texas 80 reopens six hours after chemical spill.** Traffic reopened on Texas 80 in San Marcos, Texas, around 12:30 p.m. November 11 after a chemical spill closed the road for many hours. One eastbound lane of Texas 80 remained closed the afternoon of November 11 while cleanup continued. "A semi tractor trailer carrying sodium hydroxide or lye, a caustic material, dropped two containers off the trailer around 6:24 a.m. A 330-gallon container spilled its contents. "The San Marcos fire and police departments, and Hays-San Marcos EMS, responded. Haz-mat company Alamo 1 was called in to conduct the cleanup. Texas 80 was closed from Clarewood Drive to Texas 21 for 6 hours. Many agencies, including the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Texas Parks & Wildlife, and the National Response Center were notified of the incident.
Source: <http://smmercury.com/50407/texas-80-open-after-six-hour-chemical-spill-shutdown/>
8. *November 10, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency* – (Delaware) **EPA, DNREC reach settlement with DuPont Corp. for water quality violations.** The Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and state and federal justice departments have entered into a consent decree with DuPont Corp. in which the company agreed to pay \$500,000 for many violations of the Edge Moor plant site's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit, and other rules. Many of the violations at the facility -- which makes a white pigment from titanium used in the print and publishing

industries — were pollutant discharges into the Delaware River that occurred between 2005 and 2011. The DNREC first issued a notice of violation to DuPont in April 2008 for numerous effluent discharges that exceeded permit limits. In addition to the penalty, DuPont agreed to complete an environmental compliance assessment within 15 months, and develop a plan that includes a schedule for completing each corrective action. DuPont must also submit stormwater inspection reports to the EPA. The most serious violations included discharges of hydrogen chloride, titanium tetrachloride, and iron chloride into the Delaware River. Other violations included the discharges of ores, and overflow from the facility's wastewater treatment plant's neutralizers and clarifiers into the Delaware. The DNREC also said effluent violations from the facility added excess volumes of pollutants discharged into the Delaware River in the form of solids, organics, metals, and potentially harmful pH levels to the state's surface waters, and contributed to impairment of the state's waterways.

Source:

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/0/f37e97b1586be47f85257944006a67e9?OpenDocument>

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

9. *November 13, Pottstown Mercury* – (Pennsylvania) **Limerick nuke plant cited for safety issues.** The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) issued a preliminary "white finding" violation following a month-long failure of two safety components involved with the cooling and containment of a nuclear reactor core at Exelon Nuclear's Limerick Generating Station in Limerick, Pennsylvania, the Pottstown Mercury reported November 13. Two other less serious "green findings" indicated the cause of two reactor scrams the spring of 2011. All three issues were the result of inadequate guidance or instructions on the part of Exelon personnel, which is based on inspections that were completed September 30, according to the NRC report.

Source:

<http://pottsmmerc.com/articles/2011/11/13/news/doc4ec088f781ba5091350842.txt?viewmode=fullstory>

10. *November 11, Associated Press* – (Virginia) **U.S. nuclear plant gets OK to restart.** Dominion Virginia Power's North Anna Power Station in Louisa County, Virginia, was authorized to restart after being offline since the August 23 tremor that shook millions along the East Coast, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission said November 11. The two nuclear reactors at the plant about 11 miles from the quake's epicenter automatically shut down after the 5.8-magnitude earthquake caused peak ground movement about twice the level for which it was designed. Multiple inspections done by Dominion and by federal regulators show the plant's reactors and other safety components did not suffer any functional damage during the temblor. The plant did experience some cosmetic damage ranging from small buckles and cracks in tile floors in one of its technical buildings, to bolts of large metal parts that transfer power from

transformers to the electrical grid and into homes. The quake also caused 25 massive nuclear storage containers at the plant to shift, but they remained intact.

Source: http://hosted2.ap.org/APDEFAULT/Article_2011-11-11-Earthquake-Nuclear-Plant/id-p3eb8bb50d0cb430283fd49519bdfd4a9

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

11. *November 12, Fort Greene-Clinton Hill Patch* – (New York) **Classon ave. factory blaze now under control.** Nearly 100 firefighters battled a blaze at the Hercules Manufacturing airplane parts factory in Brooklyn, New York, for more than an hour November 12. The factory contained large amounts of chemicals, but they were in a partially fireproofed area and did not ignite. It was primarily cardboard and wooden pallets that fed the fire, a New York City Fire Department spokesman said.

Source: <http://fortgreene.patch.com/articles/fire-breaks-out-at-classon-avenue-factory>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

Nothing to report

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Banking and Finance Sector

12. *November 13, Associated Press* – (New Jersey) **NJ man admits swindling 4 banks out of more than \$1 million, now faces up to 30 years in jail.** Federal prosecutors said a New Jersey businessman has admitted swindling four banks out of more than \$1 million through an elaborate scheme that involved stolen Social Security numbers, the Associated Press reported November 13. The businessman faces up to 30 years in prison, and a \$1 million fine. The man, who owns an auto repair business, pleaded guilty November 11 to bank fraud. He admitted bribing a Social Security Administration staffer to obtain numerous Social Security numbers, then used the information to illegally obtain many credit cards. Prosecutors said the businessman provided false employment and salary histories through his firm for many people, who then used the false data and the stolen Social Security numbers to obtain various credit cards and home mortgages.

Source:

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/013ef7db4d414a0e96bcf70586e3e2eb/NJ--Bank-Fraud/>

13. *November 13, Washington Examiner* – (Virginia; Maryland; Pennsylvania.) **Guilty pleas for leaders in card-skimming ring.** One of the leaders in an identity-theft ring that stole the credit card numbers of hundreds of Washington, D.C. metropolitan area consumers has pleaded guilty, and the other was scheduled to do so November 14. The

men were charged in July with running a card-skimming ring that stole credit card numbers, re-encoded those numbers on credit and gift cards, and used the cards to buy merchandise and additional gift cards at stores in Virginia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania. They also recruited and paid "runners" to use the re-encoded credit and gift cards to buy merchandise and return previously purchased items for cash, according to court records. Three other men have also been charged with working with the pair. One leader pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit access device fraud and aggravated identity theft earlier in November. Court records don't give totals of how many credit card numbers ring members stole, or how many fraudulent purchases were made. But some details provided show the ring had a broad scope, affecting hundreds of consumers and purchases. The ring operated from at January 2010 until June 2011, according to an indictment. A single restaurant server who swiped customers' cards after they paid for their meals obtained about 100 credit card numbers every 4-6 weeks during that time, the indictment says. The group made more than 1,000 transactions at area stores using skimmed credit cards, according to a plea agreement. An unnamed informant who worked as a "runner" in the scheme fraudulently returned nearly \$25,000 in merchandise to one store, Nordstrom, according to court documents. Two of the other men charged in the scheme pleaded guilty in October.

Source: <http://washingtonexaminer.com/local/crime-punishment/2011/11/guilty-pleas-leaders-card-skimming-ring>

14. *November 12, Pierce County Herald* – (Wisconsin) **Milwaukee police kill bank robber.** Milwaukee police said convicted bank robber fired at officers after sticking up the Guaranty Bank in the Grand Avenue Mall November 11. One officer returned fire, killing the robber. The suspect had been convicted of robbing the same bank 10 years ago, serving time for that crime. He was also wanted in connection with two other recent bank robberies. A witness said he saw a man being chased by police in the mall, then heard shooting and yelling. The Milwaukee police officer who fired the fatal shot has been placed on administrative duty while the incident is investigated.
Source: <http://www.piercecountyherald.com/event/article/id/40786/group/News/>
15. *November 11, Washington Post* – (National) **Eight SEC employees disciplined over failures in Madoff fraud case; none are fired.** The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), which failed to stop a long-running investment fraud despite repeated warnings, has disciplined eight agency employees over their handling of the matter but did not fire anyone, reported the Washington Post. The SEC's head of human resources and a law firm hired to advise the agency had recommended the chairman fire one person, whom the SEC described as a manager in the office that inspects investment firms. But the chairman did not fire the worker because doing so "would harm the agency's work," a SEC spokesman said. The Washington Post reported November 11 seven SEC employees had been disciplined, based on details provided by a person familiar with the actions. A second source, an official involved in the process, told the Post the chairman had received recommendations to fire an employee over the mishandling of the case. Later November 11, the SEC spokesman confirmed details and added that an eighth employee also received disciplinary action. A ninth employee, who was facing a 7-day suspension, resigned before disciplinary action was taken, the spokesman said. The punishments given the SEC employees

varied and included suspensions, pay cuts, and demotions. Although the SEC conducted five examinations and inspections of the hedge fund manager based on complaints, agency personnel "never took the necessary and basic steps to determine if [he] was misrepresenting his trading," the inspector general reported. "While examiners and investigators discovered suspicious information and evidence and caught [the manager] in contradictions and inconsistencies, they either disregarded these concerns or relied inappropriately upon [his] representations and documentation in dismissing them," the inspector general added.

Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/business/economy/seven-sec-employees-disciplined-on-failure-to-stop-madoff-fraud/2011/11/10/gIQA3kYYCN_print.html

16. *November 11, San Francisco Chronicle* – (California) **Mouli Cohen guilty in \$30 million investment fraud.** A federal court jury November 9 convicted a former Marin County, California businessman of a \$30 million investment fraud whose victims included the Vanguard Public Foundation, a long-time patron of causes on the political left. The defendant was found guilty of 29 counts of fraud, money laundering, and tax evasion, and acquitted of six additional charges. The fraud charges are punishable by up to 20 years in prison. Prosecutors said the businessman falsely told investors his company, Ecast, was about to be acquired by Microsoft Corp. and would exchange its shares for Microsoft shares worth six to 10 times as much. Ecast provided digital music, games, and interactive advertising to bars and nightclubs. He later told investors U.S. and European Union regulators were holding up the acquisition and needed fees and bonds to approve it, prosecutors said. They said investors initially spent more than \$6 million on Ecast shares, and paid another \$25 million over the next 3 years for the purported fees and bonds. Meanwhile, prosecutors said, the businessman was spending millions on luxury cars, jet rentals, jewelry, vacations, and rent on a home. The charges covered a period from 2002 to 2008. Officials of Ecast have been quoted as saying the businessman, who co-founded the company in 1999, was no longer connected with it after 2002. Prosecutors said most of the victims were affiliated with Vanguard Public Foundation, which has attributed its collapse to its investments with the businessman. Source: <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2011/11/10/BAQI1LTH3U.DTL>
17. *November 10, U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission* – (National) **SEC charges UBS with faulty recordkeeping related to short sales.** The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) November 10 charged UBS Securities LLC for inaccurate recording practices when providing and recording "locates" to customers seeking to execute short sales. UBS settled the enforcement action by agreeing to pay an \$8 million penalty, and retain an independent consultant. According to the SEC's order instituting settled administrative proceedings, UBS employees routinely recorded the name of a lender's employee even when no one at UBS had contacted the employee to confirm availability. The SEC's investigation found UBS employees sourced thousands of locates to lender employees who were out of the office and could not have provided any information to UBS on those days. "UBS permitted its employees to create records that do not accurately convey the basis upon which its employees granted locates," the director of the SEC's New York Regional Office said. The SEC's investigation found that since at least 2007, UBS's "locate log" that records the locates it granted

"inaccurately portrayed which locates were based on electronic feeds or direct confirmation with specific lenders. UBS's practices obscured inquiry into whether UBS had a reasonable basis for granting locates, and created a risk of locates being granted based on sources that could not be relied upon if shares were needed for settlement."
Source: <http://www.sec.gov/news/press/2011/2011-240.htm>

18. *November 10, U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission* – (New York) **SEC charges New York-based hedge fund managers ThinkStrategy Capital and Chetan Kapur with securities fraud.** The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) November 10 filed a civil injunctive action charging ThinkStrategy Capital Management, LLC (ThinkStrategy) and its sole managing director with deceptive conduct in connection with two hedge funds that they managed and advised: ThinkStrategy Capital Fund (Capital Fund) and TS Multi-Strategy Fund (Multi-Strategy Fund). The Capital Fund primarily traded equities, while the larger Multi-Strategy Fund holds investments in other hedge funds. At its peak in 2008, ThinkStrategy managed about \$520 million in assets. The SEC's complaint alleges that for more than 7 years, ThinkStrategy and the managing director engaged in a pattern of deceptive conduct designed to bolster their track record, size, and credentials. ThinkStrategy and its director materially overstated the performance of the Capital Fund, giving investors the false impression the fund's returns were consistently positive, and minimally volatile. The Multi-Strategy Fund made investments in certain hedge funds later revealed to be Ponzi schemes or other serious frauds, including Bayou Superfund, Valhalla/Victory Funds, and Finvest Primer Fund. Had ThinkStrategy adhered to its stated due diligence standards, and required audited financial statements certified by bona fide accounting firms, the Multi-Strategy Fund may not have invested detrimentally in those funds. The complaint seeks permanent injunctions, disgorgement and prejudgment interest thereon, and civil monetary penalties against ThinkStrategy and its director.
Source: <http://www.sec.gov/litigation/litreleases/2011/lr22151.htm>

19. *November 10, Baltimore Sun* – (Maryland; National) **Metro Dream Homes owner convicted in \$78 million scheme.** The owner of a company that defrauded more than 1,000 homeowners — most from Maryland — in an "egregious" \$78 million investment scheme was convicted of conspiracy to commit money laundering and related crimes November 10 in federal court in Greenbelt, Maryland. The defendant, who ran Metro Dream Homes, promised to pay off people's mortgages if they invested in his company, according to a U.S. attorney. But it was nothing but a Ponzi scheme, prosecutors said. The defendant and other company officials used some of the proceeds to enrich themselves, at one point hiring chauffeurs to drive them around in a fleet of luxury cars. According to prosecutors, the pitch was as follows: invest at least \$50,000 in Metro business ventures, and the company would in turn make mortgage payments — paying the loan off completely in 5-7 years. But the company's ventures, such as electronic kiosks that sold goods and services, never produced much money, prosecutors said. The defendant and other Metro leaders used money from new recruits to pay the mortgages of early investors, who were then asked "to attend recruitment meetings to assure potential investors the Dream Homes Program was not a fraud," according to the U.S. attorney. Metro — which began recruiting investors in 2005, during the housing bubble — encouraged victims to raise the necessary money by

refinancing their mortgages, prosecutors said. The defendant faces the possibility of 30 years in prison for each of 15 counts of wire fraud, up to 30 years for fraud conspiracy, and up to 20 years for conspiracy to commit money laundering.

Source: http://articles.baltimoresun.com/2011-11-10/business/bs-bz-dream-home-fraud-20111110_1_metro-dream-homes-scheme-money-laundering

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Transportation Sector

20. *November 14, Associated Press* – (National) **American Eagle Airlines fined \$900,000 for lengthy tarmac delays.** The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) said November 14 it fined a regional affiliate of American Airlines \$900,000 for keeping hundreds of passengers cooped up for hours on planes in Chicago earlier in 2011, a clear warning to airlines that similar incidents will not be tolerated. American Eagle Airlines had tarmac delays of more than 3 hours on 15 flights arriving at O'Hare International Airport May 29, the department said in a statement. A total of 608 passengers were aboard the delayed flights. The airline must pay \$650,000 of the fine within 30 days, the department said. Up to \$250,000 can be credited for refunds, vouchers, and frequent flyer mile awards provided to the passengers on the 15 flights, as well as to passengers on future flights that violate the 3-hour rule, the department said. The department implemented a new rule in April 2010 limiting tarmac delays on domestic flights to 3 hours. After that, airlines must either return to a gate or provide passengers who wish to leave planes with some other means of safely getting off. Airlines that violate the rule can be fined as much as \$27,500 per passenger. The rule has since been extended to international flight delays, which are capped at 4 hours. Source: http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2011/11/14/american-eagle-airlines-fined_n_1092050.html
21. *November 13, Washington Post* – (District of Columbia) **Metro bus rider shot at close range in Southeast Washington.** An unknown assailant fired three gunshots into a Metro bus at a stop near Fort Dupont Park in Washington, D.C. shortly before 6:30 a.m. November 13, wounding a Prince George's County man in the left hand and right arm, transit authorities said. The victim was taken from the scene at 37th Street near Ely Place to Prince George's County Hospital with non-life threatening injuries, a Metro spokesman said. The shooter escaped. Police are interviewing the victim and witnesses and camera footage from the bus, the spokesman said. "At this point it is unclear whether the shooter knew either one of these passengers on the bus, but that is something we are looking into." The U-6 bus was just pulling away from the stop when a man who had declined to board the bus pointed a gun at the last panel of the bus's right, or curbside, window, firing three times at near-point blank range, the spokesman said. Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/crime-scene/post/metro-bus-rider-shot-at-point-blank-range-in-southeast-washington/2011/11/13/gIQASPyJIN_blog.html

22. *November 13, Newark Star-Ledger* – (New York; New Jersey) **PATH system restored after five-hour shut down.** The Newark Star-Ledger reported November 13 that, according to officials, Port Authority Trans-Hudson (PATH) service was restored after an electrical fire near the Journal Square train station in Jersey City, New Jersey knocked out all PATH train lines in New York and New Jersey for nearly 5 hours. While the fire that ignited November 12 was extinguished quickly and caused no injuries, the incident caused signal malfunctions for all PATH trains operating between Newark and New York City around 8 p.m., said a Port Authority spokesman, forcing transit officials to shut down PATH service for safety reasons. At 1:15 a.m., November 13, PATH service was "fully restored," according to the spokesman. New Jersey Transit was cross-honoring PATH tickets at Newark-Penn Station and New York-Penn Station. Passengers were able to be unloaded at nearby stations after the fire, he said, but the signal malfunctions made it unsafe for engineers to continue to operate PATH engines.

Source:

http://www.nj.com/news/index.ssf/2011/11/path_service_shut_down_complet.html

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Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to report

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Agriculture and Food Sector

23. *November 14, Food Safety News* – (International) **South Africa finds E. coli in 22 tons of Irish cheese.** At South Africa's eastern port of Durban, a shipment of 22 tons of cheddar cheese sent from Ireland will be destroyed because it was contaminated with E. coli, Food Safety News reported November 14. South African milk producers immediately asked their government to put a temporary ban on Irish dairy products. The cheddar cheese shipment from Ireland was found to be "too risky for human consumption" after it docked at the South African port. The cheese was shipped in 25-kilo blocks and was said to have enough bacteria to cause food poisoning in anyone consuming it. Durban port officials said the cheese would be returned to the Irish shipper who would then have the responsibility of destroying the product.

Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/11/e-coli-found-by-south-africa-in-22-tons-of-irish-cheese/>

24. *November 14, Food Safety News* – (Missouri) **32 cases in St. Louis E. coli outbreak.** Missouri health officials said 32 people in and around St. Louis are now confirmed to have been infected by the same strain of pathogenic E. coli, but a team of experts has still not been able to pinpoint the source of the outbreak, Food Safety News reported November 14. The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services said

the latest case was based on a specimen collected November 3. Another specimen, collected November 2, also is a genetic match to the outbreak strain, but that is likely a case of secondary transmission — someone who was exposed by another ill individual rather than to the source of the infection.

Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/11/st-louis-e-coli-outbreak-cases-push-to-32/>

25. *November 11, Food Safety News* – (California) **Potential botulism in black bean tortillas.** United Natural Foods (UNFI) is recalling certain types of Gentes Foods Gordita Black Bean Tortillas because they have the potential to be contaminated with *Clostridium botulinum*, Food Safety News reported November 11. The latest recall was the second in 2 days for the company, which recalled certain types of Divina stuffed olives and Tabatchnick Yankee Bean Soup November 9. In each case, the company said the recalls were due to a lack of temperature control during the distribution process. UNFI said it inadvertently subjected the recall items to temperature ranges above those directed by the manufacturer.
Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/11/potential-botulism-in-black-bean-tortillas/>
26. *November 11, Fort Lauderdale Sun-Sentinel* – (National) **Badia recalls 3,800 pounds of packaged pine nuts for possible salmonella contamination.** Badia Spices in Miami recalled 3,800 pounds of packaged pine nuts November 10, because they may be contaminated with salmonella, the Fort Lauderdale Sun-Sentinel reported November 11. The nuts were sold in retail stores in Florida, and four other states from June to October, Badia said. Badia repackaged the nuts purchased in bulk from a New Jersey firm that recalled them this month after several illnesses. Samples contained salmonella bacteria.
Source: <http://www.wptv.com/dpp/news/state/badia-recalls-3,800-pounds-of-packaged-pine-nuts-for-possible-salmonella-contamination>

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Water Sector

27. *November 12, Associated Press* – (Wisconsin) **Wis. DNR: Coal-Ash spill no risk to human health.** A recent mudslide that swept tons of coal ash and debris into and around Lake Michigan probably will have little effect on the environment and none on human health, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) said November 10. Test results show elevated levels of several elements in the coal ash still on land and in the water, two DNR officials said. But the contaminants are confined to areas not accessible to people, and the chemicals can be cleaned up and safely disposed. Their comments were based on a report released to the DNR the week of November 7 by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The EPA found slightly elevated levels of arsenic and chromium in the land-bound ash, while water samples tested slightly higher for iron and aluminum. Onshore sludge contained higher levels of arsenic, iron, and nickel. Coal ash has arsenic, selenium, lead, and mercury in low concentrations. But like many other types of energy waste, it is not classified as

hazardous under waste laws.

Source: <http://abcnews.go.com/US/wireStory/wis-dnr-coal-ash-spill-risk-human-health-14935269#.TsE4DVavlYQ>

28. *November 11, Amarillo Globe-News* – (Texas) **100,000 gallons of sewage spill in northwest Amarillo.** A failure of fittings that connected an air release valve and a force main pipeline at a city utility site caused a 100,000-gallon sewage spill in Amarillo, Texas, November 11, a city spokeswoman said. City crews were completing minor repairs to an air release valve about 9:45 a.m. near Lift Station 40, 4100 Cliffside Drive, when the incident occurred. The sewage, which ran into a surrounding pasture and into a dry creek, did not threaten or damage any residences. The property owner was notified, and the city crews finished their work. “Repairs are complete and the lift stations put back into service,” a spokesman said in a statement. City crews treated the area in accordance with state environmental quality standards, and no public health risk remained.

Source: http://amarillo.com/news/local-news/2011-11-11/100000-gallons-sewage-spill-northwest-amarillo#.TsE_11avlYQ

29. *November 11, Ocean City Dispatch* – (Maryland) **Salisbury settles water lawsuit for \$900K.** The city of Salisbury, Maryland, the week of November 7, announced it had negotiated a settlement in its portion of a \$20 million civil suit against the nation’s major oil companies over a potentially harmful and perhaps deadly gasoline additive that leaked into the drinking water supply of the seven jurisdictions, including the town of Berlin, and Worcester County. Salisbury officials announced November 7 they had reached a settlement in the suit against 43 total defendants, including all of the nation’s major gasoline manufacturers, distributors and their subsidiaries over the presence of methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE) in the city’s drinking water supply wells. According to the terms of the settlement, Salisbury will receive an award of \$900,000, which will result in a net \$700,000-plus after legal costs are subtracted. Salisbury officials said the presence of MTBE was detected in only one of its 10 municipal water wells, Park Well 10 in the city park, and that the well was shut down in November 2010 once lab results were received. When the suit was filed earlier this year, Worcester County officials said MTBE had been detected in at least two wells in the county, although the exact locations were uncertain. According to the release from Salisbury, the big oil companies continued to add MTBE to gasoline at varying levels between 1979 and 2007, but the chemical often leaked from underground storage tanks at service stations and continued to contaminate groundwater. As a result, jurisdictions across Maryland, including Salisbury, Berlin, and Worcester County, and all over the country, have filed lawsuits to offset the cost of removing MTBE from their water supplies.

Source: <http://www.mdcoastdispatch.com/articles/2011/11/11/Top-Stories/Salisbury-Settles-Water-Lawsuit-For-900K>

30. *November 10, Associated Press* – (Wyoming) **Latest EPA tests find high levels of groundwater benzene, other chemicals in Wyo. gas field.** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) said it has found high levels of benzene and other chemicals in the latest groundwater samples from a community within a gas field. A variety of

chemicals and high levels of methane turned up in two wells drilled specifically to test for pollution in the central Wyoming community of Pavillion. The carcinogen benzene measured as high as 50 times the EPA limit, according to a report released at an EPA public meeting November 9 in Pavillion. Elevated levels of diesel- and gasoline-grade organic compounds also were found. Meanwhile, the EPA has sampled 42 domestic water wells to date, finding methane in 10 wells and a chemical called 2-butoxyethanol phosphate in nine. So far the EPA is not speculating about where the pollution originated, but plans to release a summary of findings later this month.

Source:

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/18ba23e292874c96b8fa6a178f5922cd/WY--Pavillion-Contamination/>

For more stories, see items [1](#) and [8](#)

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

31. *November 11, Associated Press* – (Rhode Island) **Rhode Island doc leaves US; patients can't get medical files.** The medical records of an estimated 33,000 patients of a Rhode Island physician cannot be accessed because a dermatologist abandoned his practice without designating another physician to assume responsibility for his patients and left the country to run for political office in Nigeria, state health officials said. The records are being held in an office building in the town of Foster that has been foreclosed upon. Another one of his offices has also been foreclosed upon in Cumberland. The health department suspended his license last month, saying he left patients without any continuity of care, and that he has many unanswered complaints before the board of medical licensure and discipline, indicating a pattern of "negligence in diagnosis and treatment." He and his practice are also named in several malpractice claims in state court. The suspension order said his continued practice in Rhode Island would constitute "an immediate danger to the public."

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/health/2011/11/11/ri-doc-leaves-us-patients-cant-get-medical-files/?test=latestnews>

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

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Government Facilities Sector

32. *November 11, Becker's Hospital Review* – (Virginia) **Data breach potentially exposes Virginia Commonwealth University Medical Center employees' data.** Unauthorized access to a computer server may have exposed files with information on employees and students of Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) and employees of VCU Medical Center in Richmond, Virginia, according to a VCU security notification. An Internet worm infected a VCU computer server October 18 that allowed an intruder to access the server October 19 and use it as a platform to hack a second computer server,

on which the intruder created two unauthorized accounts. The files on the second server contained 176,567 individuals' data, including names or eIDs, Social Security numbers, and in some cases birth dates, contact information and various programmatic or departmental information. VCU believes the likelihood that individuals' files were accessed or copied is very low.

Source: <http://www.beckershospitalreview.com/healthcare-information-technology/data-breach-potentially-exposes-virginia-commonwealth-university-medical-center-employees-data.html>

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Emergency Services Sector

33. *November 14, WBIR 10 Knoxville* – (Tennessee) **Bomb threat evacuates Union Co. courthouse & jail.** A bomb threat led to the evacuation of the Union County Courthouse and jail in Maynardville, Tennessee. According a spokesperson for the Union County Sheriff's Office, the call was made about 8:50 a.m November 14. Officials quickly began an evacuation of the courthouse and the surrounding buildings. About 100 jail inmates had to be removed. They were placed on buses with officers to guard them, and drove about a half mile away from the jail. Knox County's bomb squad came to assist in checking the building. A K-9 went through the entire building and found nothing. The "all-clear" was given at 10:30 am. Investigators are now working to determine who made the threat.

Source: <http://www.wbir.com/news/article/191083/2/Bomb-threat-evacuates-Union-Co-courthouse--jail>

34. *November 14, HS Today* – (District of Columbia) **GAO: FBI facilities face security challenges.** Dispersion of Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) staff in annexes throughout the National Capital Region creates security challenges, according to a Government Accountability Office (GAO) report. The report found “the FBI’s headquarters facilities — the Hoover Building and the headquarters annexes — do not fully support the FBI’s long-term security, space and building condition requirements.” It said FBI security officials indicated to GAO staffers they had “some security concerns — to varying degrees— about some of the headquarters annexes.” These concerns include proximity of non-FBI tenants to FBI employees performing sensitive operations, lack of control over common areas, and the fact that “security at the annexes is primarily handled by contract guards, local police or the FBI’s internal police force, the FBI police, depending on the location and circumstances.” With its employees dispersed throughout the National Capital Region and many of them housed in the aging and inefficient Hoover Building, which was constructed prior to current Interagency Security Committee Standards [ISC] governing security countermeasures, GAO said, “the FBI is under pressure to find an alternative that will meet its security, space, and building condition requirements. Any alternative will take years to implement and is likely to cost over a billion dollars.”

Source:

[http://www.hstoday.us/index.php?id=95&tx_ttnews\[tt_news\]=19996&cHash=27a86d6b82b8494a621a8058cd6bf189](http://www.hstoday.us/index.php?id=95&tx_ttnews[tt_news]=19996&cHash=27a86d6b82b8494a621a8058cd6bf189)

Information Technology Sector

35. *November 14, Softpedia* – (International) **sn3Ak3r hacks social network and leaks 57,000 credentials.** Social network FindFriendz.com was attacked by An0nym0us sn3Ak3r, a member of t34m t!g3R, and credentials on 57,000 members were stolen. E Hacking News reported the social network's Web site lost the information as a result of an SQL injection attack that took advantage of a common vulnerability. The hacker published only a small part of the stolen data, but he claimed he would make the rest available for anyone who requests it.
Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/sn3Ak3r-Hacks-Social-Network-and-Leaks-57-000-Credentials-234240.shtml>
36. *November 13, The Register* – (International) **Valve says credit card data taken.** Valve confirmed the hack of its Steam forums reported the week of November 7 may have included the theft of credit card numbers. The company e-mailed users saying the intruders that defaced its forums also accessed a database that included "information including user names, hashed and salted passwords, game purchases, email addresses, billing information, and encrypted credit card information." Since the card data was encrypted, it may not be usable to the attackers, operating under the handle fkn0wned. However, according to the Washington Post and others, the e-mail from Valve's founder advised customers to watch their credit card statements for evidence of misuse. Valve has sought to reassure users it was not slack with their personal information. A password reset was applied to all forum users, and the company suggests any gamers whose Steam password was the same as their forum password should reset that as well.
Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/11/13/steam_confirms_credit_card_database_attack_ed/
37. *November 11, The Register* – (International) **Duqu targeted each victim with unique files and servers.** The creators of the Duqu malware that penetrated industrial manufacturers in at least eight countries tailored each attack with exploit files, control servers, and booby-trapped Microsoft Word documents that were different for each victim, according to research published November 11. Two of the drivers the sophisticated, highly modular rootkit used in one attack showed compilation dates of 2007 and 2008, the Kaspersky Lab expert and author of the report said. If the dates are genuine, they suggest the Duqu architects may have spent the past 4 years developing the malware. The Duqu version examined in the report was recovered by the Sudan Computer Emergency Response Team from an undisclosed company the attackers targeted in advance. Like attacks on other targets, it was launched using a booby-trapped Word document with content tailored to the receiving organization, and exploited a previously unknown vulnerability in the kernel of all supported versions of Microsoft Windows.
Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/11/11/duqu_analysis/

38. *November 11, Softpedia* – (International) **Patched Adobe Flash SWF vulnerability still makes victims.** While Adobe patched a SWF file vulnerability in April 2011, users who failed to update their browser plug-ins are still highly targeted by attacks that rely on the outdated version of Flash Player, Softpedia reported November 11. Zscaler researchers noticed the phenomenon which still makes many victims out of the 7 percent of customers who still use an old version of the software. In April, Adobe made sure the weakness that would allow a cyber criminal to execute arbitrary code or launch a denial of service attack by using specially crafted Flash content, would never hurt customers who updated the player to the latest versions. Now, it turns out since many still rely on the old variants, they become easy targets for hackers who encapsulate malevolent swf files into Microsoft Office documents or html pages. A location discovered recently by the experts embedded a nb.swf flash file into a page executed by Adobe's Flash Player when the site was loaded. The execution of the specially crafted element leads to a memory corruption in the player that allows for a piece of shellcode to be passed on as an input parameter. At the time when it was discovered, only half of the security vendors listed in Virus Total detected the swf file as a threat.
Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Patched-Adobe-Flash-SWF-Vulnerability-Still-Makes-Victims-233980.shtml>
39. *November 11, H Security* – (International) **Apple closes iPhone key signing hole.** Apple released iOS 5.0.1 – an update to October's publication of iOS 5.0 for iPhones and iPads – which includes fixes for two major security holes discovered since the release. A researcher recently revealed he was able to run unsigned code on Apple's devices by exploiting a flaw in versions of iOS 4.3 and later. That flaw, a logic error in the kernel's mmap system call and its checking of flags, is now corrected. Exploitation of the flaw could have allowed an attacker to inject unsigned code into a maliciously crafted signed application, bypassing many of Apple's security restrictions. The problem with the iPad 2's Smart Cover and iOS 5.0 which allowed the passcode lock to be bypassed has also been fixed. Among the other issues resolved in the update are two flaws said to "lead to the disclosure of sensitive information:" one in CFNetwork's handling of URLs, and the other in the handling of DNS lookups. Apple also configured the default trust system for certificates to no longer trust DigiCert Malaysia's certificates after they were found to be weak and incorrectly formed.
Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/Apple-closes-iPhone-key-signing-hole-1377460.html>
40. *November 11, H Security* – (International) **Chrome 15 update closes holes, updates Flash.** Google released version 15.0.874.120 of Chrome. The maintenance and security update to the WebKit-based browser upgrades the V8 JavaScript engine to version 3.5.10.23, addresses several vulnerabilities, and includes the recent Flash Player 11.1 release, which also closes critical security holes. The Stable channel update fixes five "high-risk" bugs: a heap overflow in the Ogg Vorbis decoder, a double free issue in the Theora decoder, and a memory corruption regression in VP8 decoding, as well as a use-after-free error and a buffer overflow in shader variable mapping. Two medium-risk out of bounds reads in MKV and Ogg vorbis media handlers, and a low-risk issue that caused JRE7 to fail to ask for permission to run applets have also been fixed.

Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/Chrome-15-update-closes-holes-updates-Flash-1377300.html>

41. *November 11, H Security* – (International) **Adobe closes 12 critical holes in Flash.** Adobe closed 12 critical holes in all supported versions of Flash Player up to and including version 11.0.1.152. The memory corruption vulnerabilities allowed attackers to inject malicious code on computers; visiting a specially crafted Web page is all that was required to become a victim. When Internet Explorer is used, attackers can exploit a further hole to bypass the cross-domain policy. It is recommended all users update to the latest version 11.1.102.55 of Flash to protect their systems. Flash Player for Android is also affected — the most recent vulnerable version is 11.0.1.153; the update to version 11.1.102.59 can be installed via the Android Market. Version 3.0 of the AIR application platform (including Adobe AIR for Android) is also vulnerable. Updating to version 3.1.0.4880 fixes the issues.

Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/Adobe-closes-12-critical-holes-in-Flash-1377759.html>

42. *November 10, Softpedia* – (International) **Researchers find way to protect hardware against trojans.** Researchers from the Polytechnic Institute of New York University (NYU-Poly) and the University of Connecticut managed to design a new technique that should assure the integrity of hardware components against malicious altering or manufacturing flaws. According to the Sacramento Bee, a professor of electrical and computer engineering at NYU-Poly believes people are falsely assuming hardware elements are free of malware. He claims that since products are in many cases assembled of components manufactured all over the world, during the transportation and in other processes, hardware elements can be tampered with. Since many organizations could end up with such units, the professor's team believed something had to be done to verify the integrity of hardware, especially since in many cases it is utilized by critical infrastructure agencies. One of the techniques proposed by the scientists involved ring oscillators, devices composed of odd numbers of NOT gates whose output oscillates between two voltage levels. Since circuits that contain these devices produce specific frequencies, any kind of tampering would alter their original design, thus alerting testers the circuit was compromised. To make it difficult for criminals to replicate these frequencies, the researchers proposed the creation of more versions of the ring oscillator arrangements to make it impossible to keep track of.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Researchers-Find-Way-to-Protect-Hardware-Against-Trojans-233568.shtml>

For more stories, see items [32](#) and [44](#)

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

43. *November 12, Examiner.com* – (Florida; Alabama) **WHBR-TV not broadcasting due to technical issues.** WHBR-TV Pensacola in Florida stopped broadcasting November 11 due to technical issues with the Robertsdale, Alabama-based transmitter used to broadcast their programming. According to a message on the WHBR-TV's Web site, the issues were described as "major" and folks at the station were told the station could be off the air for about a week. The message advised visitors of the site they could still watch programming streamed live on the World Wide Web. The last image WHBR-TV broadcast on their main channel was frozen for cable TV customers. The station was broadcasting on two digital sub-channels in addition to the main channel. The programming for the main channel included local programs and national programs from CTN. The sub-channels had programming from Christian Television Network International (CTNi) and BLAB TV, a broadcaster based in Pensacola, Florida, respectively. Unlike the stream of programming for the main channel, the streams of programming from the sub-channels were not available to cable TV and satellite TV customers in Mobile, Alabama.

Source: <http://www.examiner.com/tv-in-mobile/whbr-tv-not-broadcasting-due-to-technical-issues>

44. *November 10, WNCT 9 Greenville* – (North Carolina) **Internet service restored in Craven County.** Century Link representatives said a cut fiber was the cause of a wide spread Internet outage that affected parts of Craven and Pamlico Counties, North Carolina, November 10, WNCT 9 Greenville reported. The outage lasted a little more than hour and affected thousands of customers, including Century Link customers, and customers who use other Internet providers. As of 5:45 p.m. November 10, a spokesperson for Century Link said the fiber had been repaired and service had already been restored in most places.

Source: <http://www2.wnct.com/news/2011/nov/10/2/widespread-internet-outage-reported-craven-county-ar-1597159/>

For another story, see item [39](#)

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Commercial Facilities Sector

45. *November 14, KAYU 28 Spokane* – (Washington) **Tank washes up on Tulailup beach, leaks toxic ammonia.** State, federal, and local officials were monitoring a tank of ammonia that was slowly leaking on a Tulailup Indian Reservation beach in Washington, KAYU 28 Spokane reported November 14. Officials planned to allow the corrosive and toxic substance to vent on its own from the damaged tank on a marine beach. The slow release allowed the nearby ammonia concentrations to remain below safe levels for residents in the surrounding area, officials said. It was unknown how the 460-gallon tank arrived on the beach, but officials said it appears to have been in the

water for a long time.

Source: <http://www.myfoxspokane.com/news/kcpq-tank-washes-up-on-tulailup-reservation-beach-leaks-toxic-ammonia-20111114,0,7417498.story>

46. *November 14, WSB 2 Atlanta* – (Georgia) **Person of interest held in 3 business fires.** Three businesses on the same Marietta, Georgia, street caught fire early November 14. Three businesses went up in flames, closing the street for hours. At least 10 fire trucks worked a fire at a car repair shop. The fire is being investigated as arson, and Marietta police said they later caught a person of interest in the area. Owners of the businesses said the fires were set after burglaries.
Source: <http://www.wsbtv.com/news/news/local/person-interest-held-3-business-fires/nFwc/>
47. *November 14, Crawfordsville Journal Review* – (Indiana) **Fire destroys Yountsville church.** Yountsville Community Church in Crawfordsville, Indiana, caught fire November 13 while members were inside the church. The congregation of nearly 30 people evacuated the building. Church members said the fire was likely electrical in nature and may have started in the attic. Fire officials said the church is a total loss. As many as 33 firefighters from four departments battled the fire.
Source: http://www.journalreview.com/news/article_71aec5f4-0e25-11e1-bd7b-001cc4c002e0.html
48. *November 13, Associated Press* – (Maryland) **Gas leak prompts evacuation of MD shopping centers.** Anne Arundel County fire officials said a natural gas leak prompted the evacuation of two Annapolis, Maryland, shopping centers November 13. A fire spokesman said about two dozen stores were affected. A Baltimore Gas and Electric spokeswoman said the leak was reported following a fire at a store, and natural gas service was stopped while crews searched for the source of the leak.
Source: <http://www.wtop.com/?nid=46&sid=2631321>
49. *November 12, Associated Press* – (Maryland) **Hours after Md. mall shootings, police fatally shoot suspect after exchange of gunfire.** A man suspected of killing two people outside a Hanover, Maryland, shopping mall November 12 was fatally shot hours later in an exchange of gunfire with Prince George’s County police officers, authorities said. A Prince George’s police spokesman said the suspect was killed after emerging from a District Heights home with two guns. He said the suspect shot one officer in the torso with a shotgun, but the officer was expected to survive. Six officers were believed to have opened fire. The spokesman said the man killed was suspected in the fatal shooting hours earlier of two people in the parking lot of Arundel Mills Mall in Hanover. Prince George’s police went to the home based on information and tips received by Anne Arundel police.
Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/police-investigate-whether-man-shot-by-pg-officer-is-suspect-in-shootings-at-md-mall/2011/11/12/gIQA1czLFN_story.html?tid=pm_local_pop
50. *November 11, Los Angeles Daily News* – (California) **134 firefighters douse blaze at Reseda auto parts store.** A fire inside a Reseda, California, auto parts store raged for

more than an hour before 134 firefighters extinguished it, a fire official said November 11. The fire inside Padco Brake and Parts was sparked late November 10, a city fire department spokesman said.

Source: http://www.dailynews.com/news/ci_19314615

For another story, see item [13](#)

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

51. *November 13, Waynesboro News Virginian* – (Virginia) **Firefighters hope to contain National Forest wildfires Monday.** Firefighters worked throughout November 13 to contain six wildfires in the George Washington National Forest in Augusta County, Virginia. The U.S. Forest Service fire management officer for the central district of Washington and Jefferson National Forests said the largest of the fires was 95 acres. He said one of the blazes eluded containment as nightfall approached. The fires were in the national forest adjacent to the Howardsville Turnpike, and a few miles from the Sherando-Lyndhurst area. The Forest Service and several area fire departments used bulldozer and manual fire lines to try to contain the blazes. The fire management officer said the hope is that more favorable weather conditions November 14 would allow for complete containment. He said the cause was under investigation, but that factors contributing to the wildfires included the temperature, relative humidity, and wind November 13.

Source: <http://www2.newsvirginian.com/news/2011/nov/13/firefighters-hope-contain-washington-national-fore-ar-1457184/>

52. *November 12, Associated Press* – (Illinois) **Copper sword stolen from statue at Lincoln's Tomb.** Thieves stole a 3-foot-long copper sword atop Abraham Lincoln's Tomb in Springfield, Illinois, in what is believed to be the first theft at the site in more than a century, the Associated Press reported November 12. An employee noticed the week of November 7 the sword was cut from a statue of a Civil War artillery officer, the Springfield State Journal-Register reported November 12. Officials believe the sword was stolen sometime between September and early November. The rest of the statue was unharmed. A spokesperson for the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency said officials plan to fix the statue.

Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/breaking/chi-copper-sword-stolen-from-statue-at-lincolns-tomb-20111112,0,7231200.story>

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Dams Sector

53. *November 14, Sacramento Bee* – (California) **Levee repair work in Marysville faces a year's delay.** A long-awaited levee repair job in Marysville, California has been stalled by disagreement about the construction of a new seepage barrier, the Sacramento Bee reported November 14. The first phase of the project, led by the U.S.

Army Corps of Engineers, was to be completed in November but will now be delayed by a year. Marysville is unique in that, during big storms, the city of 13,000 people becomes an island. A 7.5-mile ring of levees encircles the city, protecting inhabitants from the Yuba and Feather rivers as well as Jack Slough stream. But because Marysville was settled at the confluence of these streams, it sits atop deep, ancient layers of porous sediment. That sediment is the cause of deep seepage beneath the levees; the problem emerged in 1997 during storms that flooded surrounding areas. It also is the source of the disagreement that halted repairs earlier in 2011. The \$95 million project includes installing new seepage barriers deep within some levee sections, as well as widening levees in areas that are now too narrow.

Source: <http://www.sacbee.com/2011/11/14/4052098/levee-repair-work-in-marysville.html>

54. *November 12, KXMB 12 Bismarck* – (North Dakota) **Levee repairs underway.** Levee repairs in North Dakota started on the eight sites where the levee was washed out or breached during the flood earlier in 2011, KXMB 12 Bismarck reported November 12. Ceres Environmental Services Inc. initiated their contract work November 10 at the Perkett ditch breach in Minot, North Dakota. The work at Perkett was expected to be completed the weekend of November 12 and 13. The three sites in the Country Club area will be complete late the week of November 21, weather permitting. Talbotts Nursery repairs will be started immediately upon completion of the Country Club sites. A U.S. Army Corps of Engineers site supervisor said the contractors will be working from sun up to sundown 7 days a week to complete the repairs. He said the final two sites in Renville County may take longer because they are different in nature, including damage to guard rails and pavement.

Source: <http://www.kxnet.com/getArticle.asp?ArticleId=872586>

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