



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report 29 November 2011

Top Stories

- Police broke up a fight in a Washington, D.C. restaurant November 27, only to have the melee erupt into gunfire and knife-play that left one dead and five wounded. – *United Press International* (See item [18](#))
- Federal officials entered discussions with W.R. Grace & Co. over how to clean up asbestos washing into the Kootenai River from a vermiculite mine that the company owns in Libby, Montana. The mine has created dust that killed about 400 people and sickened thousands. – *Associated Press* (See item [21](#))

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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 28, Delaware News Journal* – (Delaware) **Refinery flares light up sky, release toxic chemicals.** Troubles at Delaware City Refinery in Delaware City, Delaware lit up the sky November 27, as open-air, high-level incinerator towers on the north and south ends of the refinery activated. PBF Energy officials said an early evening power failure led to the flaring at the 210,000-barrel-per-day refinery. A state official reported the flare released hazardous chemicals into the air, including more

than 1,000 pounds of carbon monoxide, 10 pounds of hydrogen cyanide, 100 pounds of hydrogen sulfide, and 500 pounds of sulfur dioxide. Officials reported shortly after midnight, November 28 that the problem was under control, with affected production units expected to come back to service over the next few days. The Delaware plant processes heavy, high-sulfur crude oil.

Source:

<http://www.delawareonline.com/article/20111128/NEWS/111128013/Refinery-flares-light-up-sky-release-toxic-chemicals?odyssey=nav|head>

2. *November 27, Seattle Times* – (Washington) **Tanker wreck closes I-405 lanes.** A northbound double-tanker semitruck carrying fuel crashed and partially rolled into the median of I-405 north of Highway 520 in Bellevue, Washington, November 27, closing northbound I-405 and forcing crews to contain a spill of up to 2,500 gallons. At about 9:45 p.m., a car struck the tanker, causing the rear tank to roll. A firefighter said the spill could be between 1,600 and 2,500 gallons. The state department of ecology and state department of transportation crews responded to contain the fuel as the state patrol shut down all northbound lanes of I-405. The tanker, from Lee & Eastes Tank Lines of Seattle, held up to 7,000 gallons, with three compartments within the tank, said a Bellevue Fire Department lieutenant. After the initial accident overturned the tanker, fuel spilled for nearly a mile down I-405, flowing along the median. Fuel also got into storm drains, but it was unclear how far it had gone.

Source: <http://today.seattletimes.com/2011/11/fuel-tanker-crashes-on-i-405-in-bellevue-spilling-fuel/>

3. *November 27, Alaska Dispatch* – (Alaska) **Alaska pipeline operator to pay \$600,000 in federal fines.** Alyeska Pipeline Service Co. will pay \$600,000 in fines stemming from several enforcement cases against the operator of the trans-Alaska oil pipeline. The civil fines are part of a settlement with the Transportation Department's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA). The federal agency had opened enforcement cases against Alyeska for 2006, 2007, 2008, and 2009. Those cases will be settled and Alyeska has agreed to drop a lawsuit against the PHMSA, Petroleum News reports. In one case, Petroleum News wrote, "PHMSA alleged Alyeska committed two violations of pipeline safety regulations. First, it was too slow to obtain a vendor's full report on a 2004 pig run to test for corrosion or other hazards on the pipeline, the agency said. Second, Alyeska failed to promptly repair a damaged segment of buried pipe near mile 546, PHMSA said." Alyeska has faced criticism off and on through the decades over its maintenance and operations of the pipeline, which carries more than 13 percent of U.S. domestic oil production. The trans-Alaska oil pipeline runs 800 miles from Alaska's North Slope oil fields to a tanker terminal in Valdez at Prince William Sound.

Source: <http://www.alaskadispatch.com/article/alaska-pipeline-operator-pay-600000-federal-fines>

4. *November 25, Associated Press* – (Louisiana) **Report: Refinery emissions down, but not low enough.** Air pollution from Louisiana's 17 oil refineries has been declining in the two decades since reporting requirements began, with last year's emissions down by two-thirds from 1988 levels, according to a report by an environmental group.

Citing a new study led by the Louisiana Bucket Brigade, the New Orleans Times-Picayune reports that although emissions are down, the state's refineries continue to release toxins into the air as a result of accidents. The environmental watchdog group, known for equipping residents near refineries with air sampling equipment, said poor maintenance and aging piping cause many of the accidental releases. The study was based on state records, which are compiled from reports submitted by refineries. Industry officials charged the report skewed the number of accidents upward. The state's refineries averaged about an accident a day in 2010, accounting for a little less than half of all toxic releases by refineries, the study found. A bucket brigade member said recent years saw large releases of toxic chemicals occurred during the shutdown and startup of refineries for hurricanes Katrina, Rita, Gustav, and Ike.

Source: <http://www.theadvertiser.com/article/20111126/NEWS01/111260345/Report-Refinery-emissions-down-not-low-enough>

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Chemical Industry Sector

5. *November 25, Kansas City infoZine* – (Missouri) **Hazardous waste violations at salvage goods facility in Grandview, Missouri.** Eldo W.R.M.S., Inc., a commercial goods salvage wholesale and retail business, agreed to pay a \$23,900 civil penalty to the United States to settle hazardous waste violations at its facility in Grandview, Missouri. According to an administrative consent agreement filed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), an EPA representative conducted an inspection at the Grandview facility in February 2010 and noted several violations of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), which regulates hazardous waste. Those violations included failure to perform hazardous waste determinations on multiple waste streams, storing hazardous wastes without a RCRA permit, and offering hazardous waste for transport without a hazardous waste manifest. More specifically, the violations involved the storage of at least seven types of waste pharmaceuticals, and several containers of paint, adhesives, ink, and printing chemicals. The facility was storing about 17,750 pounds of hazardous wastes, not including the waste pharmaceuticals.

Source: <http://www.infozine.com/news/stories/op/storiesView/sid/49847/>

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

6. *November 28, Associated Press* – (Virginia) **Va. nuclear plant back at full power after quake.** The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Web site stated November 28 that both reactors at Dominion Virginia Power's North Anna Power Station in Louisa County, Virginia, were back at 100 percent power. The units automatically shut

down after the 5.8-magnitude August 23 quake caused peak ground movement about twice the level for which the plant was designed. Multiple NRC inspections followed the shutdown and concluded the plant did not suffer any functional damage.

Source: http://abclocal.go.com/wpvi/story?section=news/national_world&id=8446727

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

7. *November 28, Bloomberg* – (International) **Honda says factories in U.S., Canada will normalize production on Dec. 1.** Honda Motor Co. said November 28 that six plants in the United States and Canada will reach normal production levels December 1 after having to adjust output this month because of floods in Thailand. The company said in a statement on its Web site that flooding in Thailand “continues to have some impact to our parts supply”, and that it is working with suppliers “to fully re-establish the flow of parts.” The company said November 8 that the six plants in the United States and Canada were running at 50 percent to 75 percent of planned output. The floods deferred plans by Honda and Toyota Motor Corp. to increase production and rebuild inventories depleted by Japan’s March 11 earthquake and tsunami.

Source: <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-11-28/honda-says-plants-in-u-s-canada-to-normalize-output-on-dec-1.html>

8. *November 28, Associated Press* – (National) **Feds probe new battery fires in Chevrolet Volt.** The federal government is investigating fires involving the lithium-ion batteries in General Motors Co.’s Chevrolet Volt to assess the fire risk in the electric car after a serious crash, the Associated Press reported November 26. One Volt battery pack that was being closely monitored following a government crash test caught fire, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) said in a statement November 25. Another recently crash-tested battery emitted smoke and sparks, the statement said. The latest fires are in addition to a battery fire in a crash-tested Volt 6 months ago. The NHTSA learned of a possible fire risk involving damaged Volt batteries when a fire erupted in a Volt stored in a parking lot of a test facility in Burlington, Wisconsin. The fire was severe enough to cause several other vehicles parked nearby to catch fire.

Source: <http://www.timesunion.com/news/article/Feds-probe-new-battery-fires-in-Chevrolet-Volt-2293573.php>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

Nothing to report

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Banking and Finance Sector

9. *November 28, Sofia News Agency* – (International) **Bulgaria: Sofia airport customs officers seize flash drives containing credit card data.** Customs officers at Sofia Airport in Bulgaria have seized USB memory sticks containing credit card data, Bulgaria's Customs Agency reported November 28. The portable devices were found to belong to two Bulgarian citizens arriving from a Madrid flight. The passengers were coming from Lima, Peru, and were selected under a risk analysis method in the sphere of cocaine trafficking. In the course of the inspection and the subsequent questionings, the two passengers were nervous and offered contradicting and mixed-up explanations about their trip, which caused the customs officers to dig deeper. Although the data stored on the flash drives was encrypted, the customs authorities were able to identify data from numerous credit cards of American and European tourists residing in Peru, as well as instructions regarding the ownership of the cards and the methods for withdrawing the money. The customs officers also seized the two men's laptops.
Source: http://www.novinite.com/view_news.php?id=134328

10. *November 22, KOMO 4 Seattle* – (Washington) **Bellevue stockbroker pleads guilty in \$7 million fraud scheme.** A Bellevue, Washington stockbroker pleaded guilty November 21 to wire fraud in federal court, admitting he defrauded at least 10 clients of as much as \$7 million. According to U.S. district court records, he sent phony statements to his clients that hid significant losses and commissions. He also charged huge commissions, transferring hundreds of thousands of dollars to his personal checking account to pay for his own credit card bills, food, and entertainment, as well as business expenses such as payroll, fees, and taxes, court records show. The man now faces more than 6 years in federal prison under the plea deal with prosecutors. The amount of restitution will be determined at his sentencing February 17. A spokesperson for the U.S. attorney's office said the man owned and operated Black Diamond Capital Management, LLC, and Black Diamond Securities, LLC. In the plea agreement, the man admitted some of the victims invested with him when he was working for a Seattle brokerage firm.
Source: <http://www.komonews.com/news/local/Bellevue-stockbroker-pleads-guilty-to-7-million-fraud-scheme-134351898.html>

11. *November 22, Nanuet Patch* – (New York) **Five charged with involvement in countywide ATM skimming operation.** Police warned holiday shoppers to be careful while using Westchester, New York ATMs after uncovering an elaborate ATM skimming scheme they said netted a group of thieves about \$1 million over the last few months, the Nanuet Patch reported November 22. A joint task force involving the Westchester County Police, U.S. Secret Service, and nine local police departments worked together to make five arrests. The scheme involved the placement of "dip readers," which read ATM cards when they are placed in a machine, paired with a small pin-hole camera used to obtain card-holders' PIN numbers, police said. The obtained personal information was then copied onto blank cards and used to make withdrawals at another bank. Police believe those arrested are low-level criminals working for a larger organized crime group. ATM skimmers have been found in ATMs throughout the New York Metro area. The Bronxville police chief said 330 accounts

were compromised at a Chase branch on Parkway Road in Bronxville in October. “On two consecutive Sundays we lost \$330,000 as a result of the skimmers,” he said. Police said none of those arrested are from Westchester County, and that some are not U.S. citizens. All of the suspects are of Eastern European descent. All have been charged with possession of forgery devices, a felony.

Source: <http://nanuet.patch.com/articles/5-arrested-in-county-wide-atm-skimming-operation#video-8519476>

12. *November 22, Bloomberg* – (National) **Bank of America settles Countrywide fraud claims by Calpers.** Bank of America Corp. settled securities fraud claims by a group of Countrywide Financial investors including the California Public Employees’ Retirement System (Calpers) that opted out of a \$624 million class-action settlement in 2010, Bloomberg reported November 22. A confidential settlement has been reached with all defendants except KPMG LLP, Countrywide’s former auditor, lawyers for the plaintiffs said in a filing November 21 in federal court in Los Angeles. Countrywide, acquired by Bank of America in 2008, was accused of misleading shareholders about its finances and lending practices. The plaintiffs, which also include funds managed by BlackRock Inc., T. Rowe Price Group Inc., and TIAA- CREF are the largest group of those who rejected the 2010 settlement, saying the terms were inadequate. The settlement leaves two other lawsuits by investors that opted out of the 2010 settlement still pending in Los Angeles federal court, one by a group of Michigan public pension funds, and one by the Fresno County Employees Retirement Association. A group of Oregon funds that opted out filed a lawsuit in January in Oregon state court. Calpers, the largest U.S. public pension fund with \$227.5 billion in assets, and the other investors did not specify their alleged damages in the complaint filed July 28.
Source: <http://news.businessweek.com/article.asp?documentKey=1376-LV2UVS6JTSEC01-7TUFRCEG9OTQCC2147KJ873QM>

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Transportation Sector

13. *November 28, Associated Press* – (Indiana) **Bus vandalism closes Indiana school district.** Authorities said thieves stole the batteries from more than two dozen buses belonging to an Indiana school district, leading it to cancel classes for the day. The damage to the Warren Township district buses was discovered about 5:30 a.m. November 28, after which district officials first delayed the start of school before deciding to call off classes. The district superintendent said at least 26 buses were damaged over the weekend. She said thieves cut cables to steal between 50 and 60 batteries from the buses, many of which have dual battery systems. The thieves apparently got in by cutting a hole in the barbed-wire fence surrounding the district’s bus facility on the east side of Indianapolis.
Source: <http://www.wlky.com/r/29869687/detail.html>
14. *November 28, Associated Press* – (New York; Connecticut) **Metro-North to cut rail service in extreme winter.** Metro-North and Connecticut transportation officials plan to cut rail service if extreme winter weather requires measures to protect rail cars.

Connecticut Hearst Newspapers report that a draft plan has been developed that calls for Metro-North to more quickly reduce or suspend service during blizzard-like conditions and improve communications about service changes. A spokesman for the state department of transportation said officials are learning from 2010, when back-to-back snow and ice storms plagued the New Haven Line. He said new railcars that are less sensitive to weather also should help improve reliability. However, he said the fleet is still dominated by older cars. A Metro-North spokesman said the railroad will suspend work revamping overhead wires, closing one rather than two tracks during the winter between Southport and Bridgeport.

Source: <http://www.newsday.com/news/region-state/metro-north-to-cut-rail-service-in-extreme-winter-1.3350735>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to report

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Agriculture and Food Sector

15. *November 29, KUSA 9 Denver* – (National; International) **FDA issues warning on jerky treats for pets.** The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is warning dog owners about feeding their pets chicken jerky treats. At least 70 dogs across the country got sick after eating the treats, which are imported from China. The FDA has not been able to pinpoint specific brands of treats, but officials said to look out for the following symptoms: decreased appetite and activity, vomiting, diarrhea, and increased thirst and urination. FDA officials said if a dog shows any of these signs to stop feeding the animal chicken jerky products. If symptoms last more than 24 hours, owners should take their pets to the vet. Officials said most dogs have recovered.

Source: <http://www.9news.com/news/article/232476/188/FDA-issues-warning-on-jerky-treats-for-pets>

16. *November 28, Washington Post* – (District of Columbia) **Woman hurt after food truck's propane tank explodes.** In Washington, D.C., a woman was taken to an area hospital with life-threatening injuries November 28 after a food truck's propane tank exploded, according to authorities. The explosion took place around 10:30 a.m., near Logan Circle in Northwest, authorities said, with the woman suffering burns to her face and lungs.

Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/crime-scene/post/woman-hurt-after-food-trucks-propane-tank-explodes/2011/11/28/gIQA5R6O5N_blog.html

17. *November 28, Delish.com* – (National) **Recall alert: Ocean Spray Original Flavor Craisins.** Ocean Spray issued a voluntary recall of Original Flavor Craisins (dried

cranberries) due to a contamination of metal fragments from an equipment malfunction at their main plant, Delish.com reported November 28. Though no one has been injured, the company is taking required precautions. Roughly 150,000 pounds of dried cranberries in 5-ounce, 10-ounce, 48-ounce, and 10-pound bulk packages are being recalled.

Source: <http://www.delish.com/food/recalls-reviews/ocean-spray-craisins-recall>

18. *November 27, United Press International* – (District of Columbia) **1 dead, 5 wounded in melee shooting.** Police broke up a fight in a Washington, D.C. restaurant November 27, only to have the melee erupt into gunfire and knife-play that left one dead and five wounded. The victim who died was identified as a 34-year-old, the Washington Post reported. One of the wounded, who was at the Heritage India restaurant in Dupont Circle celebrating a friend's birthday when the violence broke out about 2:45 a.m., told the newspaper he and a lifelong friend crossed the street with another person to escape the violence. One other person was shot, and three people were stabbed. All of the victims live in Maryland, police said. No arrests were made and investigators were trying to determine what led to the initial fight, the Post said.

Source: http://www.upi.com/Top_News/US/2011/11/27/1-dead-5-wounded-in-melee-shooting/UPI-32201322454882/?spt=hs&or=tn

19. *November 26, Xinhua* – (International) **China penalizes 113 over chemical tainted pork.** Central China's Henan Province penalized 113 people, including 77 government employees, over a chemical tainted pork scandal reported in March. Their punishments varied from jail terms to reprieved death penalty, the provincial higher people's court said in a press release November 25. The main suspect was sentenced to death with 2 years' reprieve on conviction of harming public safety, the release said. His clandestine workshop producing clenbuterol, a carcinogenic chemical added to pig feed to produce leaner pork, was seized in Henan's Xiangyang city March 25, 10 days after he was prosecuted, the court said. His collaborator was sentenced to life, the court statement said. It said all of the government employees involved in the scandal, including animal health inspectors and food safety officials, received tougher penalties for negligence and abuse of power. Their average jail term is 3 to 9 years. Punishments for the 36 pig farmers involved were more lenient, ranging from probation to jail terms under a year, the court statement said. In March, China Central Television reported clenbuterol was detected in pigs purchased by a subsidiary company of Shuanghui Group, China's largest meat processor. The report was followed by a nationwide boycott of the Shuanghui brand and a food safety overhaul. Clenbuterol is banned as a livestock feed additive as it can cause nausea, dizziness, headaches, and heart palpitations in humans.

Source: http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2011-11/26/content_14167275.htm

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Water Sector

20. *November 28, KXXV 25 Waco* – (Texas) **Town wakes up to find no water coming from their faucets.** The city of Mart, Texas, has been facing some water troubles since a transmission line broke at the city’s water plant November 26. Crews have been working diligently to fix the line since it broke but those who live just outside the city limits of Mart will be without water until the line gets fixed, KXXV 25 Waco reported November 28. If everything goes as planned, the line should be fixed November 28. Residents were advised to boil their water until further notice.
Source: <http://www.kxxv.com/story/16133823/town-wakes-up-to-find-no-water-coming-from-their-faucets>
21. *November 26, Associated Press* – (Montana) **As asbestos washes into Montana river, EPA and W.R. Grace negotiate Libby mine site cleanup.** Federal officials have entered discussions with W.R. Grace & Co. over how to clean up asbestos washing into the Kootenai River from a deadly vermiculite mine the company owns in Libby, Montana. More than 20 years after the Maryland-based Grace closed the above-ground mine, tests results provided by regulators show high amounts of asbestos pouring from creeks inside the mine site during the annual spring snowmelt. The creeks drain into the Kootenai upstream of Libby, where an estimated 400 people have been killed and 1,750 sickened by asbestos dust released when vermiculite ore was mined to make residential insulation. The consequences of inhaling Libby’s potent asbestos fibers are well documented, but much less is known about the dangers of ingesting the fibers and their potential harm to wildlife. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulators said they are trying to gauge the risk from the water-borne asbestos and have yet to determine how far downriver the contamination might extend. Some Libby residents worried the contaminated water could prolong a cleanup that has cost more than \$370 million over the past decade. At the mine site, one water sample taken from Rainy Creek in May showed 276 million asbestos fibers per liter of water. Several miles downstream, water pumped from the Kootenai is used in the cleanup to suppress dust and for equipment decontamination. EPA officials said 10 samples taken in recent months did not detect asbestos in the pumped water. The Kootenai River is not the drinking water source for Libby, nor are any of the creeks that come from the mine, however, the test results from Rainy Creek are “huge” and could pose risks to populations that live anywhere along the Kootenai between Rainy Creek and the Pacific Ocean, said a member of the Libby Area Technical Advisory Group, an EPA-funded cleanup oversight panel. State officials said berms along the creeks, more vegetation, and other measures could be used to stop asbestos-tainted sediment from entering the water.
Source:
<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/9a322b2b8ebb442ca4dea5fceb4e5379/MT--Libby-Mine/>
22. *November 25, Baltimore Sun* – (Maryland) **Thousands of pounds of chemicals polluting Severn River, study says.** Thousands of pounds of pollutants are running into the Severn River because systems designed to stop the chemicals are poorly maintained, a privately funded study released November 25 stated. According to the

Severn River Preliminary Watershed Audit, drainage systems are outdated or in disrepair, allowing some of the 1.4 million pounds of pollutants to enter the river annually. The large number of ineffective storm water systems — a third or more are not working — in the watershed could harm aquatic life, such as fish and shellfish, according to the study. Maryland Department of the Environment records indicate there are about 2,000 individual drainage systems that serve around 7,000 acres of developed land in the Severn watershed, according to the report. Replacing rusted pipes or clearing sediment can often return these drainage systems to full working order, the reported stated, though no one is routinely checking these systems to make sure they are functioning properly. In the 1990s, Anne Arundel County employed seven people to inspect pollution-catching water systems, the study said. Currently, there is only one person doing that job, and each of the 2,000 systems is supposed to be inspected at least every 3 years. The audit examined other factors besides drainage systems that affect the health of the Severn River, including sewage collection, forest conservation, and construction-site erosion.

Source: http://articles.baltimoresun.com/2011-11-25/news/bs-md-severn-river-pollution-audit-20111125_1_water-systems-severn-river-association-severn-watershed

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

23. *November 28, Central Florida News 13 Orlando* – (Florida) **Caught on camera: Man with gun demands oxycodone at Daytona Beach pharmacy.** Police said they are looking for a man who robbed one pharmacy and tried to rob a second over the weekend in Daytona Beach, Florida. Surveillance video from the CVS showed the man walking into the store November 27, acting like he was on his cell phone. The man went up to the clerk, handed over a note asking for Oxycodone and showed a gun. Investigators said he got away with the drugs, but the morning before, he left a Walgreens empty-handed after using the same tactic.

Source: <http://www.cfnews13.com/article/news/2011/november/350197/Caught-on-camera:-Man-with-gun-demands-Oxycodone-at-Daytona-Beach-pharmacy>

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Government Facilities Sector

24. *November 28, Salisbury Daily Times* – (Maryland) **Spontaneous combustion cause of UMES fire.** The Maryland state fire marshal has concluded the fire that destroyed several orchid greenhouses on the University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES) campus was accidental and began with spontaneous combustion. The deputy said the fire originated within a pile of sphagnum moss, which was not near heaters or electrical outlets or any other devices that could have sparked a fire. Once the fire began, it

quickly spread to nearby combustible plastics. According to UMES officials, the fire destroyed much of the greenhouse facility they lease to Jet Green Group, of Beijing, China, and its Maryland incorporated subsidiary, U.S. Orchid Laboratory & Nursery Inc., as part of an orchid growing economic development project. The UMES director of public relations said an initial investment of \$3.4 million was put into the greenhouse in 2000, but with the addition of U.S. Orchid equipment and other improvements, it could cost some \$6 million to replace today.

Source: <http://www.delmarvanow.com/article/20111128/NEWS01/111280301/Major-fire-strikes-UMES-greenhouse>

25. *November 26, Associated Press* – (New Jersey) **16 students temporarily displaced after Ramapo College dorm fire.** Sixteen Ramapo College students will have to be temporarily relocated after a smoky fire damaged their dorm building in Mahwah, New Jersey. The blaze broke out shortly before noon November 25. Officials said the Holly dorm was empty for Thanksgiving break. Investigators said the fire apparently was sparked by a faulty wall heater in a first-floor room of the dorm, which is in the College Park apartment complex. Authorities said they did not know when the displaced students will be able to return to their dorm. The fire caused minor damage, but left a heavy smoke odor in the building.

Source: <http://newyork.cbslocal.com/2011/11/26/16-students-temporarily-displaced-after-ramapo-college-dorm-fire/>

26. *November 26, Associated Press* – (Kansas) **Fire damages science lab at University of Kansas.** Fire crews were assessing the damage after a fire at a science building at the University of Kansas in Lawrence, Kansas. The Lawrence Journal-World reported firefighters were called to a structure fire November 26 on the fifth floor of Malott Hall. A university spokesman said the fire damaged one lab, and water damaged surrounding classrooms. Changes in water pressure in the building set off fire alarms in Watson Library and Eaton Hall before the fire was extinguished.

Source: <http://www.kansas.com/2011/11/26/2117318/fire-damages-science-lab-at-university.html>

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Emergency Services Sector

27. *November 28, WLEX 18 Lexington* – (Kentucky) **Lockdown at hospital lifted, investigation underway.** Officials placed St. Joseph Hospital in London, Kentucky, on lockdown November 27 after a family of five from Jackson County walked in suffering from symptoms apparently due to chemical contamination. Kentucky Emergency Management officials said the family of five drove themselves to the hospital. They arrived around 8 p.m., suffering from symptoms including throat irritation, shortness of breath, headache, and burning skin. Shortly after the family arrived, four emergency room workers, including a doctor, began experiencing similar symptoms. The hospital was temporarily placed on lockdown and all nine people were decontaminated in the hospital's decontamination area. All nine people were reportedly recovering. The lockdown was lifted November 29, and the emergency room was reopened.

Investigators said they have not determined the exact source of the chemical. The family reported coming in contact with a stray pit bull shortly before experiencing the symptoms, and officials are looking into the dog as a possible source of the contamination.

Source: <http://www.lex18.com/news/update-lockdown-at-hospital-lifted-investigation-underway>

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Information Technology Sector

28. *November 28, CNN* – (International) **150 domain names shut down in probe of counterfeit goods.** U.S. officials used Cyber Monday (November 28) to announce court orders shutting down 150 domain names of commercial Web sites they say were selling “many millions” of dollars worth of counterfeit goods. Sports jerseys and uniforms, DVDs, shoes and handbags, golf sets, and exercise equipment were among the more popular purchases of “knock off” versions of name brand products, officials said. Investigations show the majority of those engaged in defrauding rights-holding companies and consumers are from China, but the phony goods are also produced in other countries, according to top law enforcement officials. The officials said they conduct undercover purchases with the help of legitimate rights holders to confirm the goods are bogus. They acknowledge the operators of the Web sites are beyond the reach of U.S. agents, and when the sites selling counterfeit goods are shut down, the same criminal enterprises sometimes change domain names and continue to prey on customers. The Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency, the FBI, and U.S. attorney offices cooperated in the investigation, dubbed Operation In Our Sites. The operation they announced November 28 is designed in part to educate consumers to be wary of Web sites that appear to be offering name-brand products at substantially reduced prices. Authorities said they are unable to provide estimates of losses, but are concerned some of the millions of dollars in proceeds may end up in the hands of organized crime rings.

Source: http://www.cnn.com/2011/11/28/tech/websites-counterfeit-goods/index.html?hpt=hp_t3

29. *November 28, Softpedia* – (International) **BlackHole kit enhanced with new Java exploit.** A security researcher discovered a new exploit kit that relies on a recently patched security flaw present in Java, being packaged with BlackHole. It appears all the versions of Oracle’s Java are susceptible to the attack, except for the latest variants, but considering many do not rush to update these components, the exploit could be used successfully against many devices. Also, these means of attack can be easily turned into automated tools, which once placed on a Web site, can infect the machines of unsuspecting Internet users without much effort. The Java exploit works on most browsers, except for Google Chrome, which for some reason often mitigates attacks launched with the new package. The security journalist also believes that, theoretically, such an attack can also work against Mac OS X operating systems, but so far it has only been tested on Windows platforms. The hacker that advertised the newest Java exploit is giving it away for free to customers that already purchased the BlackHole kit,

but for newcomers, the price is around \$4,000, plus the cost of the Blackhole license.
Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/BlackHole-Kit-Enhanced-With-New-Java-Exploit-236928.shtml>

30. *November 27, TheDomains.com* – (International) **101Domain.com suffers security breach.** 101Domain.com appeared to suffer a security breach that “may have resulted in unauthorized access to your personal information and possibly payment information.” According to Webhosting.info, 101domain.com has about 10,000 domain names under management. A message by 101Domain.com to its customers explains: “We need to make you aware of a security breach that may potentially have affected your account. We were recently informed by one of our vendors that some of its systems, and those of a few of its customers, including 101domain.com, were compromised to varying degrees by a phishing attack. Although there is no direct evidence that your information was stolen and we have received no customer complaints, this attack may have resulted in unauthorized access to your personal information and possibly your payment information.”
Source: <http://www.thedomains.com/2011/11/27/101domains-com-suffers-security-breach/>
31. *November 25, Infosecurity* – (International) **BEAST-driven SSL attack not as bad as it seems claims Context.** Researchers at Context Information Security are playing down the level of risk to enterprises caused by the BEAST — Browser Exploit Against SSL/TLS — that was identified by researchers in late September. As previously reported, the researchers said they found a way of breaking the SSL/TLS encryption that is widely used to guarantee the reliability and privacy of data exchanged between Web browsers and servers. After analyzing the researcher’s findings, Context said hackers are very unlikely to use the complex attack methodology. The company also provided advice on how to further reduce risk. According to Context’s research and development manager, developers can increase complexity and mitigate the risk of malicious content being injected within the same origin by setting the HTTPOnly property that prevents applets or JavaScript to gain access to the cookie and prevent session hijacking. Against this backdrop, Context’s research team argues that — in terms of risk — the BEAST attack is similar to not setting the HTTPOnly property on cookies, which is something that is not unusual among Web sites.
Source: <http://www.infosecurity-magazine.com/view/22287/beastdriven-ssl-attack-not-as-bad-as-it-seems-claims-context/>

For more stories, see items [9](#) and [32](#)

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

32. *November 27, San Jose Mercury News* – (International) **Spotify music service resumes after login problems for users in U.S. and Europe.** Users of the Spotify streaming music service were again able to log in the afternoon of November 27 after an outage that lasted several hours and affected users in the United States and Europe. The company did not explain what went wrong, but said in a tweet about 3 p.m. Pacific time that it had identified the problem. Beginning at some point before 1 p.m. Pacific time November 27 some Spotify users trying to log in to the popular music streaming service were greeted with error messages, sparking a flurry of tweets complaining the company was not keeping users informed. Spotify’s service status page reported “All systems are up and feeling jolly good” as of 1 p.m. Pacific time. But users trying to log in via the desktop or mobile client were receiving 404 errors. An attempt to log into an account on the Spotify.com Web site generated the error message: “Service Temporarily Unavailable. The server is temporarily unable to service your request due to maintenance downtime or capacity problems. Please try again later.” Spotify users from Spain, France, the United Kingdom, and the United States took to Twitter to complain.
Source: http://www.mercurynews.com/business/ci_19421484?source=rss

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Commercial Facilities Sector

33. *November 28, KOLD 13 Tucson* – (Arizona) **12 Park Place Mall stores close early because of odor.** Twelve Park Place Mall stores in Tucson, Arizona, closed early November 27 as a precaution after shoppers complained of a foul chemical odor, a Tucson Fire spokeswoman said. The mall has been doing remodeling, and the odor came from work being done on the north side of the shopping center, she said. The incident started around 4:15 p.m. All remaining stores at the mall were scheduled to stay open until 6 p.m., a mall spokesperson said. The entire mall was scheduled to open as usual November 28. The mall is located at 5870 E. Broadway Boulevard.
Source: <http://www.kold.com/story/16131315/park-place-mall-stores-close-early-because-of-chemical-odor>
34. *November 27, Indianapolis Star* – (Indiana) **Blaze destroys vacant apartment buildings; 2 firefighters hospitalized.** Two Indianapolis firefighters were taken to Methodist Hospital November 27 after battling a massive apartment building fire that destroyed three vacant buildings, a loss estimated at \$500,000. The Indianapolis Fire Department was called to the Washington Arms Apartments, 1244 E. Washington Street, about 11:45 p.m. November 26, according to a release from a department spokeswoman. They found heavy smoke and fire at the back, or north building, immediately called in a second alarm, and within minutes went into a “defensive” mode to contain the fire as it burned out. About 80 firefighters and 35 pieces of equipment responded. Two firefighters were transported to the hospital, one after having chest pains and the other to be treated for dehydration. The fire was brought

under control at about 1:45 a.m., November 27.

Source: <http://www.indystar.com/article/20111127/LOCAL/111270381/Blaze-destroys-vacant-apartment-buildings-2-firefighters-hospitalized?odyssey=tab|mostpopular|text|LOCAL>

35. *November 27, North Andover Eagle-Tribune* – (Massachusetts) **Lawrence mill fire burns into the night.** A four-alarm fire burned for hours at an old mill building complex in Lawrence, Massachusetts, November 26, filling the air with billowing smoke and injuring two firefighters. The fire chief said the fire started on the roof of the brick building at 65 Manchester Street at 5:16 p.m. November 26. The deputy chief said fire crews were still fighting the fire at 10 p.m., 5 hours later. No one was in the building when the fire started, but he said two firefighters were injured. The extent of their injuries was unknown last night. Lawrence police closed Manchester Street and part of Broadway for hours, diverting traffic away from the fire while smoke billowed out of the old mill buildings. The fire chief said the fire affected an area covering three businesses, including United Linen Supply, La Fruteria, and Delaware Valley linen company. Firefighters mentioned concerns about flammable chemicals from the businesses. The fire did not spread past the original building complex, and no area residents were evacuated. Ten mutual aid communities assisted with the fire, including North Andover, Andover, Dracut, Methuen, Haverhill, North Reading, Lowell, Amesbury, Wilmington, and Salem, New Hampshire.

Source: <http://www.eagletribune.com/latestnews/x1938326264/Lawrence-mill-fire-burns-into-the-night>

36. *November 27, Sheboygan Press* – (Wisconsin) **Explosive device found near Falls gas station.** The Milwaukee County Bomb Squad dismantled an explosive device November 27 that was found outside a Sheboygan Falls, Wisconsin gas station. The Sheboygan Falls Police Department said the device had been placed near the front entrance to the Q-Mart at 300 Fond du Lac Avenue. Officers evacuated the mini-mart, and residents from nearby homes. The county bomb squad used a mechanical robot to disassemble the device, which authorities said contained explosive powder. Officials from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives were called in to aid in the investigation.

Source:

<http://www.sheboyganpress.com/article/20111128/SHE0101/111280395/Explosive-device-found-near-Falls-gas-station?odyssey=tab|topnews|img|FRONTPAGE>

37. *November 26, Hawaii News Now* – (Hawaii) **Waikiki apartment residents evacuated during garage fire.** A few dozen residents were evacuated from a Waikiki, Hawaii apartment complex after a truck fire filled the apartment building garage with smoke November 26. The blaze was reported at 5:18 a.m. According to authorities, flames and smoke were seen pouring out of a truck parked on the third floor garage complex at the Waikiki Lanais apartments on Tusitala Street. Fire crews extinguished the blaze by 6:20 a.m. Honolulu Fire Department investigators said the cause of the blaze was undetermined. Earlier, it was thought that the fire began in the truck, but it is now believed the blaze started in some mattresses and a wooden desk and dresser drawer that were stored behind the truck. The fire also spread to two other vehicles in the

garage. Damage was estimated at \$40,000 for the three vehicles, and \$20,000 to the structure.

Source: <http://www.hawaiinewsnow.com/story/16126700/waikiki-apartment-residents-evacuated-during-garage-fire>

38. *November 26, Snoqualmie Valley Record* – (Washington) **Two injured, dozens displaced in Thanksgiving apartment fire in North Bend.** An apartment building fire forced several dozen North Bend, Washington residents out of their homes November 24. Occupants of an apartment returned to their unit at Mount Si Court Apartments just after 8 p.m., opening the door to find smoke and flames. More than 40 firefighters from Eastside Fire and Rescue and neighboring agencies responded to the building, located at the 400 block of North Bend Way on the city's east side. When fire crews arrived, heavy smoke and flames were coming from at least three floors of the complex, and several people already evacuated the building. A 38-year-old woman who collapsed in the parking lot had to be resuscitated and transported for treatment by Bellevue's Medic 14 unit. An officer with the King County Sheriff's Office also suffered smoke inhalation and was later transported to a hospital. The King County Fire Marshal's Office is investigating.
Source: <http://www.valleyrecord.com/news/134533383.html>
39. *November 26, Associated Press* – (California) **8 injured in Southern California power boat blast.** An explosion aboard a 26-foot power boat in a Huntington Beach, California harbor left eight of the nine people aboard injured. The Huntington Beach fire captain told the Orange County Register the boat was just a few minutes into a trip to Long Beach when the driver noticed gasoline leaking. The boat then immediately exploded in the middle of Huntington Harbour and eight people ended up in the water. Some were thrown by the blast, others jumped. A sheriff's boat and a private vessel rescued them and a lifeguard boat helped douse the flames. The injured were taken to hospitals with bruises, scrapes, and broken bones. The boat was destroyed, creating a sky-high plume of black smoke, and filling the harbor with the smell of burning plastic.
Source: <http://www.sacbee.com/2011/11/26/4081541/8-injured-in-calif-boat-explosion.html>
40. *November 25, Associated Press* – (Maryland) **Police identify man fatally struck in Home Depot parking lot on Thanksgiving.** Police identified a man struck by a car and killed in the parking lot of a Home Depot in Hyattsville, Maryland. The 41-year-old of Hyattsville was standing with several people in the parking lot of the Home Depot November 24 when a car crashed into him and the group. The man and five others were taken to a hospital, where the man later died. Police said as the driver of the car was leaving the store, he suffered a medical emergency and blacked out. The driver was a 79-year-old Hyattsville man.
Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/police-identify-man-fatally-struck-in-home-depot-parking-lot-on-thanksgiving/2011/11/25/gIQA2W23vN_story.html
41. *November 25, Danbury News-Times* – (Connecticut) **Ethan Allen Hotel evacuated because of carbon monoxide.** Fire department officials said carbon monoxide leaking from an improperly vented water boiler caused the Ethan Allen Hotel on Lake Avenue

in Danbury, Connecticut, to evacuate its staff and guests November 25. The assistant fire chief said personnel at the hotel smelled what they thought was a gas leak near the hotel's kitchen area. After hotel managers talked to Yankee Gas and the city's fire department, they evacuated the building, he said. The fire department was called at about 4:15 p.m. and found high levels of carbon monoxide. The hotel shut down the boiler, the fire chief said, and the fire department began venting the exhaust out of the building. The city health director was also involved in the evacuation, the fire chief said. Fire officials said the work was completed by 7:30 p.m., and guests were allowed to return to their rooms. Two people were treated at an area hospital and released. Source: <http://www.newstimes.com/news/article/Ethan-Allen-Hotel-evacuated-because-of-carbon-2292966.php>

For more stories, see items [18](#), [21](#), [24](#), [28](#), and [43](#)

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

42. *November 26, Associated Press* – (South Dakota) **Floods caused damage, financial loss to South Dakota parks.** The Associated Press reported November 26 that last summer's flooding ultimately caused \$9 million in damage to dozens of South Dakota's parks. High water damaged 41 parks and recreation areas statewide, with the most extensive destruction in seven parks and recreation areas along the Missouri River, where water rushed through the parks for more than 2 months. State officials had expected the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to reimburse South Dakota for part of the damage to its parks system, but FEMA recently notified the state it would not cover damage to parks along the Missouri River. The state's parks and recreation division will use its own money to fix what it can, but it may have to ask for some state general funds to finish the job.

Source:

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/fb67a7fdb49d4246be72b4b9177b51eb/SD--Flooding-Parks/>

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Dams Sector

43. *November 27, Associated Press* – (Missouri) **Northwest Mo. levee owners beg Army Corps of Engineers for help.** The landowners who maintain a damaged northwest Missouri levee are asking the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers to reconsider kicking them out of a program that helps make repairs after flooding. The Associated Press reported November 27 that the Forest City Levee District Levee learned in a letter dated May 23 that it failed an inspection and would no longer qualify for federal help. A week later, the Corps began releasing massive amounts of water from upstream dams. Months of sandbagging kept waters from flowing over the top of the levee. But when the water subsided, landowners found a trench near the levee's base. The hole is 20 to 30 feet deep, more than a quarter-mile long and more than 100 yards wide, said the secretary-

treasurer of the Forest City Levee District. An engineer told the levee district it would cost about \$4 million to make repairs. The district sent a letter to the Corps earlier this month appealing its dismissal from the program. The Corps plans to review the request this week, said the emergency management chief for the agency's Kansas City district. Engineers said the levee is fragile and cannot handle another deluge and the problem boils down to a lack of money to upgrade the district's levee, which dates back to the 1950s. The levee protects about 300 people and 8,000 acres, a grain elevator and the main line of the Burlington-Northern Railroad.

Source: <http://www.semissourian.com/story/1788597.html>

44. *November 26, Ramona Sentinel* – (California) **Workers pour concrete for \$450 million dam project.** Workers began pouring concrete November 22 for the San Diego County Water Authority's (CWA) \$450 million project to raise the height of the San Vicente Dam in San Diego, California. The dam's height will rise from 220 feet to 337 feet, which will allow the San Vicente Reservoir to hold an additional 150,000 acre-feet of water. Projected completion is two years. One acre-foot is considered enough to supply two average single-family households for one year. The project is one of the last in the CWA's program to improve the region's emergency storage capacity in case water deliveries from the north are cut off. The larger reservoir will also help San Diegans get through drought years. The CWA plans to refill the reservoir between late 2014 and 2017, depending on rainfall, supply and demand for water.

Source: <http://www.ramonasentinel.com/2011/11/26/workers-pour-concrete-for-450-million-dam-project/>

For another story, see item [42](#)

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