



# Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 24 November 2006

Current  
Nationwide  
Threat Level is

**ELEVATED**  
SIGNIFICANT RISK OF  
TERRORIST ATTACKS

[For info click here](http://www.dhs.gov/)

<http://www.dhs.gov/>

## Daily Highlights

- In the first nuclear-related evacuation since the Three Mile Island accident of 1979, a Tennessee school district sent all 1,800 pupils home on Tuesday morning, November 21, because operators at a nearby nuclear reactor believed they might have had a leak of radioactive cooling water inside the plant. (See item [2](#))
- The Associated Press reports a chemical plant near Boston exploded early Wednesday, November 22, sparking a massive fire and blowing debris for blocks that damaged nearly 90 homes but caused only minor injuries. (See item [5](#))
- The Department of Homeland Security and the Department of State have announced the official requirement for citizens of the United States, Canada, Mexico, and Bermuda to present a passport to enter the United States when arriving by air from any part of the Western Hemisphere beginning January 23, 2007. (See item [16](#))
- WHO-TV reports nearly 1,000 Iowans have gotten ill in the last several weeks due to norovirus, which has occurred in a wide variety of settings such as social receptions, long-term care facilities, a gaming facility, business functions, restaurants, and schools (See item [27](#))

## DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report *Fast Jump*

Production Industries: [Energy](#); [Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#)

Service Industries: [Banking and Finance](#); [Transportation and Border Security](#); [Postal and Shipping](#)

Sustenance and Health: [Agriculture](#); [Food](#); [Water](#); [Public Health](#)

Federal and State: [Government](#); [Emergency Services](#)

IT and Cyber: [Information Technology and Telecommunications](#); [Internet Alert Dashboard](#)

Other: [Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument & Icons](#); [General](#); [DHS Daily Report Contact Information](#)

## Energy Sector



**Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: ELEVATED, Cyber: ELEVATED**

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. **November 22, Reuters — Oil hits \$60 on Alaska port problems.** Oil prices jumped more than two percent to \$60 a barrel after bad weather disrupted loadings at Alaska's main export terminal and analysts forecast a drawdown in U.S. fuel stocks ahead of winter. The halt of oil production on a North Sea oil platform due to a gas alert also buoyed prices, dealers said. U.S. crude settled \$1.37 higher to \$60.17 a barrel, reversing a 17-cent loss. "Supply disruptions in Alaska and the North Sea are all playing into the market today," said Mark Waggoner of Excel Futures. High winds forced operators in Alaska's port of Valdez to suspend loadings on Monday, slowing the 800,000 barrel per day Trans Alaska Pipeline to 25 percent of capacity. The giant oil state's production was also cut by 65 percent as the port inventories swelled, rekindling worries over U.S. stockpiles heading into the winter heating season. In the North Sea, production was halted on the Brae Alpha oil platform operated by the UK subsidiary of U.S. Marathon Oil Corp after a gas alert.  
Source: <http://www.smh.com.au/news/Business/Oil-hits-US60-on-Alaska-port-problems/2006/11/22/1163871437264.html>
2. **November 22, New York Times — Pupils evacuated after warning at nuclear plant.** In the first nuclear-related evacuation since the Three Mile Island accident of 1979, a Tennessee school district sent all 1,800 pupils home on Tuesday morning, November 21, because operators at a nearby nuclear reactor believed they might have had a leak of radioactive cooling water inside the plant. The operators at the Watts Bar Nuclear Plant, owned by the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), decided around 6:15 a.m. EST that instruments indicated a possible leak and declared an "unusual event," the lowest of four categories of plant problems. They canceled the notification at 7:35 a.m., but the children were boarding buses. There have been 20 unusual events around the country this year, according to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. While the problem that triggered the unusual event was not immediately clear, experts said that in other cases when a plant is shut down, workers have sometimes opened valves that allowed water from the reactor to enter empty piping, and operators, observing the resulting decline in the water level somewhere else in the system, have become concerned that there was a leak somewhere.  
Source: [http://www.nytimes.com/2006/11/22/us/22nuclear.html?\\_r=1&oref=slogin](http://www.nytimes.com/2006/11/22/us/22nuclear.html?_r=1&oref=slogin)
3. **November 21, Associated Press — Oil flowing down pipeline is intentionally slowed.** The amount of oil flowing through the trans-Alaska oil pipeline has been intentionally slowed because of high winds at the marine terminal in Valdez, AK, where oil is loaded onto tankers for shipment to West Coast refineries. The flow of oil is being reduced to about 25 percent of normal in several ways, Mike Heatwole, spokesperson for the Alyeska Pipeline Service Co., said Tuesday, November 21. It is being slowed both by how much is being allowed to go into the 800-mile pipeline at the Prudhoe Bay oil field and how fast it is flowing through the pipe to the terminal. The rate into the storage tanks also is being slowed, he said. On November 21, the pipeline was carrying about 300,000 barrels. The normal throughput is over 800,000 barrels a day, Heatwole said. January and February tend to be peak times for having to suspend operations because of wind, Heatwole said, but this wind was coming earlier than usual in the season. "It is part of doing business in Alaska," he said.

Source: <http://www.adn.com/front/story/8430203p-8324484c.html>

4. *November 21, Electric Light & Power* — **Commission finalizes electric transmission siting rule.** The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission approved a final rule governing the filing requirements and procedures for entities asking the commission to exercise its supplemental authority to site interstate transmission facilities under the Energy Policy Act of 2005. The biggest change from the proposed rule relates to the initiation of prefilings at the commission. Under the proposed rule, an applicant was barred from making a formal application for a federal construction permit until one year after initiation of a state proceeding. But prefilings could be initiated earlier, and could overlap with the state siting proceeding. The final rule largely affirms the approach outlined in the proposed rule. A proposal to build or expand electric transmission facilities: must apply to facilities that will be used for transmission in interstate commerce; be consistent with the public interest and enhance energy independence; significantly reduce transmission congestion in interstate commerce and protect or benefit consumers; be consistent with national energy policy and enhance energy infrastructure; and maximize, to the extent reasonable and practicable, existing towers or structures.

Source: [http://uaelp.pennnet.com/display\\_article/277891/22/ARTCL/non e/none/Commission\\_finalizes\\_electric\\_transmission\\_siting\\_rule/](http://uaelp.pennnet.com/display_article/277891/22/ARTCL/non e/none/Commission_finalizes_electric_transmission_siting_rule/)

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

## **Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials Sector**

5. *November 22, Associated Press* — **Chemical plant explodes near Boston.** A chemical plant exploded early Wednesday, November 22, sparking a massive fire and blowing debris for blocks that damaged nearly 90 homes but caused only minor injuries in Danvers, MA. The explosion could be felt miles from the CAI Inc. plant, about 20 miles north of Boston. About 300 people were in the surrounding neighborhood at the time, but police who went door-to-door throughout the area found fewer than a dozen had been injured, and none were in serious condition. The explosion ripped rooftops from homes, and buildings were shaken off their foundations. Nearly all of the about 90 homes in the surrounding neighborhood were damaged, including 15 to 25 that probably can't be saved. Residents, including those in a nursing home and a facility for the deaf, were evacuated to shelters set up at area schools. Utilities were out across the neighborhood surrounding privately-owned CAI. Town officials cancelled school for the day, and some residents who tried to drive out found their cars were stuck because their garage doors had been blown off their rails.

Source: [http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/M/MASSACHUSETTS\\_EXPLOSION?SITE=WUSA&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT](http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/M/MASSACHUSETTS_EXPLOSION?SITE=WUSA&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT)

6. *November 22, Associated Press* — **Evacuation order lifted in propane truck crash.** Authorities allowed people to return to their homes and businesses Wednesday morning, November 22, as the emergency response to an overturned propane tanker truck neared an end in Guilford, CT. Dozens of homes and businesses were evacuated in a shoreline neighborhood Tuesday afternoon after a tanker loaded with 9,000 gallons of liquid propane flipped over on Soundview Road near Interstate 95. No leaks were found, but authorities ordered an evacuation of the surrounding area as precaution. Officials also shut off power and phone service to the area and set up an emergency shelter. Amtrak and Shoreline East rail passengers had to take

buses to get around the scene.

Source: <http://www.norwalkadvocate.com/news/local/state/hc-22110847.apds.m0800.bc-ct-brf--nov22.0.2530506.story?coll=hc-headline s-local-wire>

[[Return to top](#)]

## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

Nothing to report.

[[Return to top](#)]

## **Banking and Finance Sector**

7. *November 22, Reuters* — **Microsoft brings 129 lawsuits against phishers.** Microsoft is helping law enforcers hunt down criminals who try to steal bank account details on the Internet and has initiated 129 lawsuits in Europe and the Middle East, Microsoft said on Wednesday, November 22, eight months after it announced the launch of a Global Phishing Enforcement Initiative in March. "Sometimes we initiate our own legal action, but more importantly we work with law enforcement agencies," said Nancy Anderson of Microsoft. Of the 129 lawsuits that have been initiated, 97 are criminal procedures in which Microsoft and other technology companies have provided information. Microsoft has an investigative team at its headquarters in Redmond, Washington, which uses Web-crawling software and customer complaints to find out where attacks are taking place. Old-fashioned investigative techniques are then used to discover the identity of the phishers. Before legal action was taken, 253 cases were investigated. Most of the investigations and 50 of the criminal complaints were filed in Turkey. Germany was second with 28 criminal complaints and France third with 11. Cases were also filed in Dubai, Italy, Morocco and the Netherlands.

Source: <http://www.eweek.com/article2/0.1895.2062627.00.asp>

8. *November 22, Sophos* — **Over half of Chinese malware aims to steal passwords.** SophosLabs has revealed that over half of all malware originating in China in October was designed to steal usernames and passwords. This malicious code is designed to give cyber criminals easy access to personal and sensitive data for financial gain and identity theft. By analyzing the malware, Sophos has identified that 45.2 percent aimed to steal online game login information, with a further 7.5 percent designed to provide the hackers with username and password details for the popular Chinese QQ instant messaging client. "Given the ever growing popularity of online gaming in China, this is a worrying trend — once hackers have stolen login details, they can effectively impersonate the victim in the online world," explained Carole Theriault of Sophos. Furthermore, with a significant proportion of the remaining malware designed to give hackers access to instant messaging clients, Sophos is warning computer users of the risks of using the same password across multiple sites and of the importance of using secure passwords.

Source: [http://www.sophos.com/pressoffice/news/articles/2006/11/chin\\_a malware.html](http://www.sophos.com/pressoffice/news/articles/2006/11/chin_a malware.html)

9. *November 22, Reuters* — **Banks face growing threat of inside identity theft.** While banks are confident they can deal with phishing attacks by constantly warning customers of the dangers,

they are now getting increasingly concerned about the physical theft of confidential client data by insiders or impostors. Widespread outsourcing of data management and other services has exposed some weaknesses and made it harder to prevent identity theft by insiders. In what many regard as the biggest wake-up call in recent memory for financial institutions, thieves disguised as cleaning staff last year narrowly failed to steal the equivalent of more than \$400 million from the London branch of Sumitomo Mitsui. They installed programs to record keystrokes on computers that were used to handle international wire transfers of money. After analyzing user identifications and passwords recorded by the keylogging programs, they used the information to make a huge money transfer to an Israeli bank but were foiled at the last minute when police were tipped off. Banks are starting to respond to the threat by combining teams working on physical and information technology security, which have traditionally been separate functions, said Potter.

Source: <http://www.eweek.com/article2/0.1895.2062804.00.asp>

10. *November 22, CNET News* — **Firefox, IE vulnerable to fake login pages?** Mozilla's Firefox 2 and Microsoft's Internet Explorer 7 are vulnerable to a flaw that could allow attackers to steal passwords. Dubbed a reverse cross-site request, or RCSR, vulnerability by its discoverer, Robert Chapin, the flaw lets hackers compromise users' passwords and usernames by presenting them with a fake login form. Firefox Password Manager will automatically enter any saved passwords and usernames into the form. The data is then automatically sent to an attacker's computer without the user's knowledge, according to the Chapin Information Services site. An exploit for this flaw has already been seen on social-networking site MySpace.com, and it could affect anyone using a blog or forum that allows user-generated HTML code to be added, according to Chapin. According to security company Netcraft, which discovered the exploit being used on MySpace, a fraudulent login page was hosted on the company's own servers. As the page did not exhibit any signs of external content, such as cross-site scripting (XSS) or open redirects, it is convincing, and even security-conscious users are at risk of becoming victims.

Source: [http://news.com.com/Firefox%2C+IE+vulnerable+to+fake+login+pages/2100-1002\\_3-6137844.html?tag=cd.lede](http://news.com.com/Firefox%2C+IE+vulnerable+to+fake+login+pages/2100-1002_3-6137844.html?tag=cd.lede)

11. *November 21, Government Computer News* — **Arrest made in Department of Transportation laptop theft.** Law enforcement officials arrested a suspect in the theft of a laptop belonging to a Transportation Department's Office of Inspector General (OIG) in the same restaurant parking lot near Miami from which the laptop was taken, according to an OIG status report released Tuesday, November 21. The laptop taken in July contained sensitive, personally identifiable information for 133,000 pilots, commercial truck drivers, and individual driver's license holders in Florida. Authorities have not recovered the laptop. An identity risk management company reviewed the personal data involved and found no indication of data misuse, the report said. Investigators found a small theft ring that stole laptops at and near the restaurant, loaded new operating systems, and then sold the computers on the used computer market, primarily to high school students. An investigation continues in the theft of another Transportation OIG laptop in April during a conference in Orlando, FL. "No credit fraud has resulted from the theft of either laptop, and we believe that the risk of credit fraud in the future is very low," the report said.

OIG status report: [http://www.oig.dot.gov/files/November21\\_2006statusreport.pdf](http://www.oig.dot.gov/files/November21_2006statusreport.pdf)

Source: [http://www.gcn.com/online/vol1\\_no1/42653-1.html](http://www.gcn.com/online/vol1_no1/42653-1.html)



12. *November 21, This Is London (UK)* — **Laptop thief lands the bank details of 15,000 policemen.** A burglar has stolen bank account details of more than 15,000 Scotland Yard officers following a huge security blunder. Sensitive financial information about high-ranking officers and anti-terrorist detectives were stored on three laptops stolen from the company responsible for the force's pay and pensions services. Authorities fear the computer files — which include National Insurance numbers — could be used by criminal gangs to create false identities. The break-in occurred at the offices of software group LogicaCMG in Peckham, South-East London. It is thought that sensitive information about several thousand civilian staff were also on the computers, which have not been recovered. A Scotland Yard spokesperson said the burglary happened Thursday evening, November 16.  
Source: <http://www.thisislondon.co.uk/news/article-23375377-details/Laptop+thief+lands+the+bank+details+of+15%2C000+policemen/article.do>

[[Return to top](#)]

## **Transportation and Border Security Sector**

13. *November 23, Associated Press* — **Weather complicating holiday travel.** Heavy rain and high wind gusts didn't help travelers on their way to be with family and friends for Thanksgiving, as airports reported delays and traffic jams clogged major thoroughfares. Rain was forecasted Thursday, November 23, for coastal areas from the Mid-Atlantic to New England. Freezing rain was possible in higher elevations of Pennsylvania and New York. A wet Thanksgiving also was expected in many areas of the Northwest. Snow was expected in parts of Washington, Oregon, western Montana, and Wyoming. The AAA estimated that 38.3 million people would travel 50 miles or more for Thanksgiving — up a million from last year. Moderating gas prices may be one reason for the increase, said AAA's Robert Sinclair. Thanksgiving air travel was expected to surge, too. AAA predicted 4.8 million travelers would fly to their Thanksgiving destination. The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey anticipated 1.6 million passengers — about two percent more than last year — would pass through LaGuardia, John F. Kennedy International, and Newark Liberty International airports. In Virginia, a tunnel between Norfolk and Portsmouth was shut down because of high water, and high winds prompted operators of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel to limit vehicles crossing the span to cars and pickups.  
Source: <http://www.usatoday.com/travel/news/2006-11-23-holiday-travel1.x.htm>

14. *November 22, Associated Press* — **Northwest Airlines baggage handlers briefly stop working.** Baggage handlers for Northwest Airlines Corp. stopped working briefly in its Detroit and Minneapolis hubs on Wednesday, November 22, in a dispute over who would clean airplanes, a union official said. The stoppage began around 1 p.m. EST and lasted about a half-hour in Minneapolis, said airport spokesperson Patrick Hogan. The stoppage took place during a time when few planes were taking off or landing, and no noticeable disruption to airline traffic was caused, Hogan said. Ken Hooker, president of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers local that covers Northwest in Minneapolis, said the workers gathered in a ramp area to talk about the dispute over cleaning planes.  
Source: <http://www.usatoday.com/travel/news/2006-11-22-northwest-strike.x.htm>

15.

*November 22, Associated Press* — **Continental CEO says company would consider merger.**

The chief executive of Continental Airlines says the company would consider a merger to remain competitive if the industry continues to consolidate. In a message to employees Friday, November 17, two days after US Airways Group made a hostile bid for bankrupt rival Delta Air Lines, Continental chief Larry Kellner told employees the airline wants to remain independent and continue to grow. Speculation that United Airlines parent UAL Corp. might make a play for Continental or Delta as a merger partner has intensified since US Airways' unsolicited bid. Analysts said the US Airways offer could touch off a long-expected round of consolidation among U.S. network carriers. United, which has been an outspoken advocate of the need for industry consolidation, reportedly hired Goldman Sachs as its investment banker in recent months to pursue strategic options. Continental has long been considered a good potential partner for the Elk Grove Village, Ill.-based airline because of their complementary route networks. Houston-based Continental has a major hub in Newark, NJ.

Source: [http://www.usatoday.com/travel/news/2006-11-22-continental-ceo\\_x.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/travel/news/2006-11-22-continental-ceo_x.htm)

**16. *November 22, Department of Homeland Security* — DHS: Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative Rule outlines requirements for air travel.**

On Wednesday, November 22, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the Department of State announced the official requirement for citizens of the United States, Canada, Mexico, and Bermuda to present a passport to enter the United States when arriving by air from any part of the Western Hemisphere beginning January 23, 2007. "The ability to misuse travel documents to enter this country opens the door for a terrorist to carry out an attack. We can not continue to allow loopholes that could facilitate access to the United States through false claims of citizenship or fake identities," said DHS Secretary Michael Chertoff. "This initiative strengthens our border security by designating verifiable secure documents that may be used at our air ports of entry." The travel document requirements make up the departments of State and Homeland Security's Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative. This change in travel document requirements is the result of recommendations made by the 9/11 Commission, which Congress subsequently passed into law in the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004. A separate proposed rule addressing land and sea travel will be published at a later date proposing specific requirements for travelers entering the United States through land and sea border crossings. Those wishing to view the final rule may visit <http://www.dhs.gov/> or <http://travel.state.gov/>. The rule will be published in the Federal Register on Friday, November 24, 2006, where it can be viewed at <http://www.regulations.gov/>.

Additional information on the Travel Initiative:

[http://www.dhs.gov/xnews/releases/pr\\_1164210249468.shtm](http://www.dhs.gov/xnews/releases/pr_1164210249468.shtm)

Source: [http://www.dhs.gov/xnews/releases/pr\\_1164209628449.shtm](http://www.dhs.gov/xnews/releases/pr_1164209628449.shtm)

**17. *November 21, Associated Press* — Southwest sees opportunities in possible US**

**Airways-Delta merger.** Southwest Airlines officials see US Airways' \$8 billion hostile merger bid for Delta as an opportunity for the Dallas-based airline to make inroads on the East Coast. Southwest Airlines Co. founder and board chairman Herb Kelleher has called the CEOs of both airlines to express interest in any assets that might become available, Southwest spokesperson Edna Ruano said Monday, November 20. Merging airlines typically have to get rid of assets such as routes, gates, and aircraft to allay antitrust concerns. Southwest has routes to nine East Coast cities in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic, from Manchester, VT, south to Raleigh, NC. The airline also serves six Florida cities: Jacksonville, Orlando, West Palm Beach, Fort

Lauderdale, Fort Myers, and Tampa.

Source: [http://www.usatoday.com/travel/news/2006-11-21-delta-merger-southwest\\_x.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/travel/news/2006-11-21-delta-merger-southwest_x.htm)

18. *November 21, Cincinnati Business Courier* — **Comair loses 12 jets to SkyWest.** Regional airline SkyWest will operate 12 jets formerly assigned to Comair, Delta Air Lines said late Tuesday, November 21. Delta said SkyWest will begin operating the jets from Delta's hub at the Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport — CVG is located 13 miles south of Cincinnati in Northern Kentucky — beginning in February. Delta took bids from regional carriers to provide service in September. Erlanger-based Comair, which has been trying to restructure as part of its parent Delta's bankruptcy reorganization had been pessimistic about its chances, since it had been unable to reach cost-cutting agreements with its pilots and flight attendants.

Source: <http://biz.yahoo.com/bizj/061121/1380083.html?.v=1>

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

## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

Nothing to report.

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

## **Agriculture Sector**

19. *November 22, Dow Jones* — **USDA pledges livestock identification program to remain voluntary.** The debate on whether or not the national livestock identification and tracking program will eventually become mandatory is over now that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is pledging it will be a permanently voluntary system, Undersecretary Bruce Knight said Wednesday, November 22. Knight said livestock sector concerns over a mandatory National Animal Identification System has only slowed down progress and the USDA is in a hurry to meet self-imposed deadlines. The goal of the massive effort to eventually be able to track any animal to its source in a 48-hour time frame in the event of disease outbreak is on track, Knight told reporters. The first deadline is January 2007, when USDA is trying to get 25 percent of all livestock-producing premises registered in databases that the federal government could access in the event of a disease outbreak. USDA hopes to have 70 percent of premises and 40 percent of livestock registered by January 2008. By January 2009, USDA wants 100 percent of all premises registered, 100 percent of all newborn animals identified, and 60 percent of all animals under a year old documented.

Source: <http://www.agriculture.com/ag/futuresource/FutureSourceStoryIndex.jhtml?storyId=73600275>

20. *November 22, Naples News (FL)* — **Citrus greening disease found in Florida could have devastating consequences.** The Asian citrus psyllid, an aphid-like insect, spreads what the Florida Department of Agriculture said “may be the most serious citrus disease in the world” — citrus greening. A department field worker found the first two cases ever on Marco Island, FL, last month. The disease has no ill effects on human health, even if someone were to eat the fruit of an infected tree. The same cannot be said for the trees. Leaves yellow and mottle, flowering



stunts, and fruit grows lopsided and fails to ripen. The result is sour-tasting, unusable fruit. The cure is simply that the tree must be cut down. Asian citrus psyllids are three to four millimeters long and sit at an angle to the leaf in which they feed. Their eggs are bright yellow. Controlling the insect population and the quick disposal of already infected trees are the best ways to stop the problem from increasing, department spokesperson Mark Fagan said.

Source: [http://www.naplesnews.com/news/2006/nov/22/citrus\\_greening\\_disease\\_found\\_marco\\_could\\_have\\_dev/?local\\_news](http://www.naplesnews.com/news/2006/nov/22/citrus_greening_disease_found_marco_could_have_dev/?local_news)

21. *November 21, Associated Press* — **New York issues emergency rules to limit spread of fish disease.** New York State conservation officials have issued emergency rules against taking bait fish from many New York waterways in an effort to prevent the spread of a deadly fish disease. The state Department of Environmental Conservation on Tuesday, November 21, said the regulation takes effect immediately. It prohibits commercial collection of bait fish from state waters where viral hemorrhagic septicemia has been confirmed — Lake Ontario, Lake Erie, Conesus Lake, and the St. Lawrence River — as well as tributaries.

Source: <http://www.newsday.com/news/local/wire/newyork/ny-bc-ny--fishkilled1121nov21.0.645276.story?coll=ny-region-apnewyork>

[[Return to top](#)]

## **Food Sector**

22. *November 22, Associated Press* — **Creamery recalls improperly pasteurized eggnog.**

Golden Glen Creamery in Skagit County, WA, has agreed to a voluntary recall of its eggnog because of potential health problems related to improper pasteurization. The Washington Department of Agriculture says the eggnog was bottled in quart-size glass containers and had a pull date of November 28 on the cap. The product was distributed at groceries in Bellingham, Issaquah, Seattle, Langley, Bellevue, Bremerton, Silverdale, Everett, Kent and Redmond.

Source: [http://www.kndo.com/Global/story.asp?S=5716030&nav=menu484\\_2](http://www.kndo.com/Global/story.asp?S=5716030&nav=menu484_2)

[[Return to top](#)]

## **Water Sector**

23. *November 22, San Diego Union-Tribune* — **California water plant closure to limit usage.**

Portions of San Diego County are about to get squeezed by an 11-day shutdown of a major water treatment plant east of Temecula, CA, prompting calls for conservation in several districts. Water officials are encouraging residents to water deeply for the next few days, then practice “extreme conservation” so agencies can fill their reservoirs for the shutdown. The outage is scheduled to start Monday, November 27, and end December 7. Work at the Skinner Water Treatment Plant is part of a \$400 million plan to improve the facility's water treatment ability and increase its capacity. The region's biggest municipal water provider, the city of San Diego, is not expecting reduced water flows to affect customers, spokesperson Tedi Jackson said.

Source: <http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/northcounty/20061122-9999-7m22water.html>

## **Public Health Sector**

- 24. *November 22, Reuters* — Whooping cough strikes Winnetka, Illinois.** For the past two weeks, Colleen Kahler, health services coordinator at New Trier High School in Winnetka, IL, has been on high alert. Her office, which typically treats routine ailments such as sore throats, stomach aches and pulled muscles, has been transformed into a screening center for an unlikely disease with a name that recalls a bygone era — whooping cough. New Trier had 26 confirmed cases of whooping cough by November 16, or one third of all those reported in suburban Cook County. The school's first case was detected in late August when students returned from summer break. There have also been reports of sporadic cases at other high schools in the area. Since early November, New Trier has been operating under directives from local health authorities to treat the situation as an outbreak. Health experts said the New Trier outbreak underscores how whooping cough, a highly contagious respiratory infection, remains a public health threat in the United States.

Source: <http://health.yahoo.com/news/reuters/midwesttownseesreturnofolddisease:ylt=Auc2pLUrGxCfnBYRet2DHNKz5xcB>

- 25. *November 21, IRIN News* — Polio vaccination campaign targets children in Afghanistan.** Afghanistan has begun its latest drive to vaccinate millions of children under five against the crippling polio virus, United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan officials have said. The three-day campaign is the fifth in Afghanistan this year and was launched Sunday, November 19, by the Afghan Ministry of Public Health, with the support of the United Nations Children's Fund, the World Health Organization (WHO), Rotary International and other partners. Afghanistan, one of just four countries in the world where polio is endemic, has seen the number of people suffering from the disease surge this year. There have been 29 confirmed polio cases in 2006, compared to only nine cases last year, according to the WHO in Kabul.

Source: <http://www.irinnews.org/report.asp?ReportID=56461&SelectRegion=Asia&SelectCountry=AFGHANISTAN>

- 26. *November 21, World Health Organization* — Meningococcal disease in Sudan.** From September 1 to November 8, 231 suspected cases and 16 deaths of meningococcal disease have been reported in Greater Yei County, Central Equatorial State of South Sudan. The epidemic threshold was crossed in this county during the last week of October. Five cerebral spinal fluid specimens have tested positive for *Neisseria meningitidis* serogroup A by latex test.

Source: [http://www.who.int/csr/don/2006\\_11\\_21/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/csr/don/2006_11_21/en/index.html)

- 27. *November 21, WHO-TV (IA)* — Norovirus outbreak hits 1,000 Iowans.** Nearly 1,000 Iowans have gotten ill in the last several weeks due to norovirus. At least seven outbreaks have occurred in a wide variety of settings such as social receptions, long-term care facilities, a gaming facility, business functions, restaurants and schools. The outbreaks have no common links, but are spread by people failing to wash their hands after going to the bathroom and before preparing food, as well as working in food preparation while ill with vomiting and diarrhea. While norovirus outbreaks can occur throughout the year, it is unusual to see this number of them in a short period of time, prompting concerns that more disease will spread as

we go into the holiday season.

Source: <http://www.whotv.com/Global/story.asp?S=5715432&nav=2HAB>

28. *November 21, WGHP (NC)* — **Fifth case of whooping cough confirmed in North Carolina county.** The Stokes County, NC, Health Department is concerned about an outbreak of whooping cough. The county is reporting its fifth case of the upper respiratory infection that is highly contagious and causes violent coughing. Doctors said among the five children who have pertussis or whooping cough, there are three eight-year-olds, one nine-year-old and a four-year-old. Most of the children are in third grade at Olive Elementary School or they attend the same after school care program.

Source: <http://www.myfoxwghp.com/myfox/pages/News/Detail?contentId=1558098&version=1&locale=EN-US&layoutCode=TSTY&pageId=3.5.1>

29. *November 20, IRIN News* — **Seasonal typhoid fever cases on the rise in Lebanon.** There have been up to 30 suspected cases of seasonal typhoid fever in Lebanon over the past six to eight weeks and more are expected, health experts said. "Of these, only 11 have been confirmed, but all are being closely monitored in hospital," said Assaad Khoury, a department director in the Lebanese public health ministry. Initial cases were confirmed by the World Health Organization's Early Warning and Response System, a team of health experts set up for the prompt detection of disease outbreaks. The majority of typhoid cases so far have been in children aged 11 to 16. Although typhoid fever is potentially deadly, Khoury said it was unlikely there would be any fatalities in Lebanon because the condition, if detected, is easily treated with antibiotics.

Source: <http://www.irinnews.org/report.asp?ReportID=56434&SelectRegion=Middle East&SelectCountry=LEBANON>

30. *November 15, University of Saskatchewan (Canada)* — **Researchers discover key step in flu virus replication.** As public health officials around the world keep a nervous eye on the spread of avian influenza, the University of Saskatchewan's Vaccine and Infectious Disease Organization (VIDO) has uncovered a key step in how the influenza virus causes infection. Yan Zhou and her team have discovered how a crucial pathway that supports the influenza A virus's ability to reproduce itself is activated, a finding that could pave the way for new drugs and vaccines. The paper will appear in the January 2007 issue of the Journal of General Virology and recently has been given advance on-line publication. "The work we are doing will be applicable to all influenza viruses, including influenza A virus subtype H5N1," said VIDO Director Lorne Babiuk. Zhou says that although years of research remain to be done, this work provides novel insights for developing live vaccines and antiviral drugs for influenza epidemics and pandemics. A provisional patent has been filed on the findings. The study revealed novel characteristics of a protein, called NS1, that activates a key pathway in the virus's reproduction. This information will help the researchers learn how to create harmless influenza viruses that can be used as live vaccines.

Study: <http://www.sgm.ac.uk/jgvdirect/82419/82419ft.pdf>

Source: <http://www.usask.ca/research/news/read.php?id=650>

[[Return to top](#)]

## **Government Sector**

31. *November 23, Associated Press* — **Schools push radioactive safety.** The Illinois Emergency Management Agency has launched a program to help schools safely dispose of radioactive materials that are used teach students. Agency officials will collect the materials and send them to a radioactive waste disposal facility. Illinois' program is one of several around the country — such as Connecticut, Colorado, and Vermont — that have begun since the federal government, following the 2001 terrorist attacks, recommended hunting down radioactive materials in schools, businesses and medical facilities. School labs have used low-level radioactive materials safely for decades; experts say they're critical in teaching physics and chemistry. And, it's easy for schools to lose track of what they've got, or to store them incorrectly, said Dr. Sandra West, an associate biology professor at Southwest Texas State University in San Marcos. Schools' radioactive discoveries aren't limited to science labs. In what one state official called a "classic example," a Colorado high school kept a chunk of ore from a field trip in a display case for years. The rock turned out to be highly radioactive, said Ken Niswonger, chief chemist at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, which has collected materials from schools since 1999.

Source: [http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/R/RADIOACTIVE\\_SCHOOLS?SITE=WUSA&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT](http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/R/RADIOACTIVE_SCHOOLS?SITE=WUSA&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT)

[[Return to top](#)]

## **Emergency Services Sector**

32. *November 21, American Forces Press Service* — **Technology transfers benefit warfighter, first responders.** The Department of Defense's (DoD) technology transfer program, which shares newly developed DoD technologies with civilian first responders, benefits both communities in cost effectiveness and mission accomplishment, the DoD official in charge of the program said Tuesday, November 21. Under the technology transfer program, DoD works closely with the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Justice to determine the needs of the first responder community, said Donald Lapham, manager of the program. DoD laboratories look at the technologies they are developing to identify those that might transfer well to first responders, and consider dual-use capabilities for future products, he said. Due to recent events, there is a strong focus within DoD and the first responder community on developing compatible communications, Lapham said. DoD has been working on new communications systems, and these technologies will probably be the first to be transferred to civilian first responders.

Source: <http://www.defenselink.mil/news/NewsArticle.aspx?ID=2189>

33. *November 21, Government Technology* — **Emergency response patient tracking model debuts in New England disaster exercise.** On November 15, the Northern New England Metropolitan Medical Response System conducted an emergency response exercise simulating a public health emergency involving multiple casualties. The exercise was designed to test the hospital and surrounding community's ability to provide prophylactic medicines and hospital bed surge capacity when the hospital became overwhelmed. The exercise simulated an intentional infectious disease mass casualty event and tested real-time field status tracking management software, which was used to input, track, and manage patient status and metrics in a real-time, Web-based environment. The critical information was gathered and relayed to the

system in real time from the field where it was available for immediate use by the hospital Emergency Operation Center (EOC) staffers and other decision makers and caregivers. The software was also utilized to demonstrate the mass distribution of critical medications and supplies from a Strategic Nation Stockpile Point of Distribution Center, as might occur during a pandemic flu or other mass-casualty event. This field-based status tracking and management system instantaneously relayed inventory and status information back to the EOC and to other participating agencies where they were better able to define and respond to their surge capacity needs and decision support alternatives.

Source: <http://www.govtech.net/news/news.php?id=102472>

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

## **Information Technology and Telecommunications Sector**

34. *November 22, eWeek* — **Exploit code published for Apple OS X glitch.** Researchers have published exploit code that targets an unpatched kernel vulnerability in Apple's OS X desktop software. An independent vulnerability analyst working as part of the "Month of Kernel Bugs" campaign released the details necessary to attack the hole in OS X on Wednesday, November 22, revealing the manner in which hackers could target the glitch, which affects the way Apple's software handles disk image files. The researcher, identified only by the screen name "LMH," issued the exploit via a post on the Kernel Fun Website. "Mac OS X fails to properly handle corrupted image structures, leading to an exploitable denial-of-service condition," LMH wrote in his latest blog. "Although it hasn't been checked further, memory corruption is present under certain conditions." The researcher said that the demonstration exploit offered on the site would be unlikely to allow arbitrary code execution if applied by attackers, however, the analyst indicated that the flaw could be taken advantage of by malware writers by targeting the manner in which Cupertino, CA-based Apple's Safari browser downloads online image files.

Source: <http://www.eweek.com/article2/0.1895.2062806.00.asp>

35. *November 22, IDG News Service* — **Thieves steal chips worth millions.** A gang of thieves stole computer chips reportedly worth millions of U.S. dollars in a Monday, November 20, raid on the Penang International Airport Free Commercial Zone in Batu Muang, Malaysia. Malaysian police are investigating the theft. The gang of 20 thieves subdued 17 security guards using weapons and chloroform before stealing 585 cartons and 18 pallets of microchips and motherboards manufactured by a multinational company in Bayan Lepas, Malaysia. The stolen goods were estimated to be worth \$12.7 million, making the theft the largest ever in Malaysia.

Source: [http://www.infoworld.com/article/06/11/22/HNchipthieves\\_1.ht ml](http://www.infoworld.com/article/06/11/22/HNchipthieves_1.ht ml)

36. *November 22, CNET News* — **Firefox, IE vulnerable to fake login pages.** Mozilla's Firefox 2 and Microsoft's Internet Explorer 7 are vulnerable to a flaw that could allow attackers to steal passwords. Dubbed a reverse cross-site request, or RCSR, vulnerability by its discoverer, Robert Chapin, the flaw lets hackers compromise users' passwords and usernames by presenting them with a fake login form. Firefox Password Manager will automatically enter any saved passwords and usernames into the form. The data is then automatically sent to an attacker's computer without the user's knowledge, according to the Chapin Information Services site. An exploit for this flaw has already been seen on social-networking site MySpace.com,



and it could affect anyone using a blog or forum that allows user-generated HTML code to be added, according to Chapin. According to Chapin, an RCSR attack is much more likely to succeed than a cross-site scripting attack because neither Internet Explorer nor Firefox is designed to check the destination of form data before the user submits them. The browser doesn't sound an alarm because the exploit is conducted at the trusted Website.

Source: [http://news.com.com/Firefox%2C+IE+vulnerable+to+fake+login+pages/2100-1002\\_3-6137844.html?tag=nefd.top](http://news.com.com/Firefox%2C+IE+vulnerable+to+fake+login+pages/2100-1002_3-6137844.html?tag=nefd.top)

**37. November 22, IDG News Service — Mobile phone sales grow -- except in Japan.**

Worldwide mobile phone sales grew 21.5 percent year on year to 251 million units in the third quarter, with India and China driving growth, according to research from Gartner Inc. Gartner predicts that sales for the year will fall just shy of one billion phones. Asia Pacific experienced the most dramatic gains, with sales of 80.8 million units during the third quarter, an increase of 54.7 percent over the same period last year. That significant growth happened despite a decline in sales of 4.7 percent in Japan compared to the third quarter in 2005.

Source: [http://www.infoworld.com/article/06/11/22/HNmobilephonesales\\_1.html](http://www.infoworld.com/article/06/11/22/HNmobilephonesales_1.html)

**38. November 22, Internet News — Security researcher to release Oracle bugs in December.**

Oracle database users take heed: December may be a tough month. A security researcher is warning of a week of Oracle database bugs. The revelation comes after Oracle's recent quarterly patch cycle for its namesake database. It typically yields double-digits' worth of fixes for security flaws. But even more flaws are lurking that have not yet been disclosed, according to Cesar Cerrudo, founder and CEO of the Argeniss Security Research Team. Cerrudo said he plans to release one bug a day for a full week in December. It's an effort he's calling, "The Week of Oracle Database Bugs."

Source: <http://www.internetnews.com/security/article.php/3645306>

**39. November 20, Security Focus — Report: Concerns focus on flaws, not viruses.** Anti-virus firm Kaspersky released its third-quarter security analysis on Monday, November 20, finding that software vulnerabilities, especially in Microsoft Office, have become its main worry. In the report covering July, August and September, the company noted that the Internet did not suffer a major worm or virus epidemic, as it did in previous years. While virus writers appear to be disappearing, malicious programs that take advantage of flaws in Microsoft Office seem to be on the rise, Alexander Gostev, senior virus analyst at Kaspersky Lab, wrote in the analysis. The report also focused on the potential for attacker to build on recent Wi-Fi vulnerabilities and the increasing, albeit slowly, trend in instant messaging and cell-phone malware.

Report: <http://www.viruslist.com/en/analysis?pubid=204791907>

Source: <http://www.securityfocus.com/brief/362>

### Internet Alert Dashboard

Current Port Attacks	
Top 10	1026 (win-rpc), 4662 (eDonkey2000), 4672 (eMule), 1027 (icq), 1028
Target Ports	(---), 13639 (---), 42011 (---), 50001 (---), 49231 (---), 25 (smtp)

[[Return to top](#)]

## **Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument & Icons Sector**

40. *November 22, WOAI (TX)* — **Explosives found near park in San Antonio.** Explosives were found near a San Antonio city park, and it took a bomb squad robot to diffuse the situation, News 4 WOAI learned Tuesday, November 21. A man was walking his dog near the Miller's Pond Park on the south side Monday when he spotted a plastic pipe in the brush. Inside, he found two blasting caps, authorities said. Blasting caps are small explosives used to set off larger explosives such as dynamite, officials said. They can be set off by the heat of your hands, authorities said. San Antonio Police do not know who left them near the park or why.

Source: [http://www.woai.com/news/local/story.aspx?content\\_id=8DF495AB-7E2F-41FA-B9E6-E14BEA6D3CD9](http://www.woai.com/news/local/story.aspx?content_id=8DF495AB-7E2F-41FA-B9E6-E14BEA6D3CD9)

41. *November 21, Journal News (NY)* — **Man claims to have explosives, robs New York eatery.** A man walked into a Subway sandwich shop in Greenburgh, NY, on Sunday, November 19, with what he said were explosives strapped to his chest and robbed it after threatening to blow up himself and the employees, police said. The robber escaped with an undetermined amount of cash. After the robbery, he forced the employees into a store bathroom and told them he would kill everyone if they came out. The robber is described as a six-foot black man in his late 30s or early 40s with a medium build.

Source: <http://www.thejournalnews.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20061121/NEWS02/611210329/1023/NEWS07>

42. *November 16, Rocky Hill Post (CT)* — **Police looking for bomb manufacturing suspects.** Police are asking for the public's help in finding the suspects who have manufactured and detonated at least four homemade bombs in the West end of Rocky Hill, CT, since October 31. Police said the most recent incident occurred Saturday morning, November 16, when they responded to a report of an explosion in a residential yard. Lt. Robert Catania said that officers found a detonated homemade explosive device in the yard and a partially detonated device closer to the house, which was occupied at the time of the incident. Catania said since October 31, police have responded to four similar incidents, and in one case, two police officers were overcome with fumes from the homemade devices. After Saturday's incident, police said the occupants of the home were evacuated and the Rocky Hill Fire Department, the state of Connecticut Hazardous Materials Unit and the Connecticut State Police Bomb Squad responded to the scene. Catania said the case is being investigated by the local police and Fire Marshal's Office, the state Department of Environmental Protection Hazmat Team, the Connecticut State Police Bomb Squad, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Source: [http://www.zwire.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=17476234&BRD=1649&PAG=461&dept\\_id=11971&rft=6](http://www.zwire.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=17476234&BRD=1649&PAG=461&dept_id=11971&rft=6)

[[Return to top](#)]

## **General Sector**

Nothing to report.

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

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To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US–CERT at [soc@us-cert.gov](mailto:soc@us-cert.gov) or visit their Web page at [www.us-cert.gov](http://www.us-cert.gov).

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