



Department of Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 4 November 2008

Current Nationwide Threat Level is

ELEVATED
SIGNIFICANT RISK OF TERRORIST ATTACKS

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

- According to Computerworld, a cybercrime group that has maintained an especially devious Trojan horse for nearly three years has stolen the log-ons to more than 300,000 online bank accounts and almost as many credit cards during that time, a security company said Friday. (See item [13](#))
- KTLA 5 Los Angeles reports that a portion of Highway 101 was closed Monday in both directions in downtown Santa Barbara, California, after a masked gunman was spotted on a freeway overpass. (See item [17](#))

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Fast Jump

Production Industries: [Energy](#); [Chemical](#); [Nuclear Reactors](#), [Materials and Waste](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#); [Dams](#)

Service Industries: [Banking and Finance](#); [Transportation](#); [Postal and Shipping](#); [Information Technology](#); [Communications](#); [Commercial Facilities](#)

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

Federal and State: [Government Facilities](#); [Emergency Services](#); [National Monuments and Icons](#)

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 3, Occupational Health & Safety* – (Alabama; Mississippi) **Refinery fined \$357,750 for willful chemical, explosion hazards, more.** The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) is proposing \$357,750 in penalties for three willful and 58 serious safety violations found at Hunt Refining Co.’s Sandersville, Mississippi, and Tuscaloosa, Alabama, oil refineries. Proposed penalties for the Sandersville plant alone total \$216,900 and account for two of the willful and 35 of the serious charges. The agency issued willful violations at the Sandersville site for management’s failure to recognize and evaluate fire and explosion hazards from electrical equipment in the process area and failure to address hazards to employees situated in a control room in

close proximity to process equipment. Serious safety issues at the site include numerous violations of process safety management standards, lack of safety training for employees, and employee exposure to electrical and fall hazards. Hunt's Tuscaloosa facility received one willful and 23 serious safety citations with penalties totaling \$140,850. The willful violation addresses hazards associated with the company's failure to inspect and test process vessels, which could lead to equipment being unable to contain hazardous chemicals. Serious violations include excessive dust accumulation, employee exposure to electrical hazards, and 16 violations of process safety management standards.

Source: <http://ohsonline.com/Articles/2008/11/3-Refinery-Fined-357750-for-Willful-Hazards.aspx>

2. *October 31, Reuters* – (Texas) **Petrobras to take over Pasadena refinery in Texas.** Brazil's state-owned oil giant Petrobras is set to take over Astra Oil Trading's 50 percent stake in the Pasadena refinery which they jointly own in Texas, Petrobras said on Friday, after a dispute over its expansion. The two firms disagreed over the pace of investments to expand the plant and brought their dispute to arbitrators at the International Center for Dispute Resolution, which deemed Petrobras could exercise an option to buy Astra's half. The decision also gives Petrobras the option of taking over Pasadena Refining System Inc., a firm set up to distribute crude oil and the refinery's products. Petrobras said a price had not yet been agreed for Astra's share of the refinery and linked companies but it said it was already working with Astra, a unit of Belgian holding company NPM/CNP, to immediately take over operational and financial management of the assets.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssEnergyNews/idUSN3136953720081031>

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

Chemical Industry Sector

3. *November 1, Courier Post Online* – (New Jersey) **Hazmat crews shut down Erial Street after accident.** Police say a man from Erial was driving on Prospect Avenue around 2:30 p.m. when he struck two parked vehicles and flipped his van. Inside the van was a 100 gallon tank of cement cleaner containing a combination of water, bleach, and hydrochloric acid, which leaked into a nearby storm drain. Officials closed off the area for about five hours while crews cleaned up the spill, officials reported. The man was arrested and charged with driving while intoxicated.

Source: <http://www.courierpostonline.com/article/20081101/NEWS01/81101008/1006>

4. *October 31, WBZ 38 Boston* – (Massachusetts) **Chemical spills evacuates Walpole homes.** Two homes were evacuated in a Walpole neighborhood Friday night because of a titanium chloride leak, local fire officials said. Officials said a man walking his dog came across 48 vials of the chemical near a railroad track. It is unclear where the vials came from, and police are investigating. Crews were working to safely remove the canisters and clean up the chemical spill. They explained that titanium chloride has a reaction to air, so they have been handling the vials carefully. Officials said they could not say when residents in the two homes would be allowed back into their homes.

Source: <http://wbztv.com/local/chemical.spill.walpole.2.853909.html>

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

Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector

5. *November 3, Richmond Times Dispatch* – (Virginia) **North Anna reactor still shut down; Surry unit restarted.** Dominion Virginia Power’s North Anna 2 reactor remains inoperable today, nearly a week after the utility attempted to restart it after a refueling. The unit was shut down October 29 when a faulty transformer was discovered during the restart. Dominion said a spare transformer was at the site and that the unit would be restarted soon, but the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported this morning that the unit remained offline. Unit 2 has been down since Sept. 13. North Anna’s other reactor, Unit 1, was operating at 85 percent of capacity this morning, the NRC said. In the meantime, the NRC said Dominion has restarted its Surry 1 reactor, which is again operating at 100 percent of capacity after being shut down October 28 to repair a leaking feedwater heater.
<http://www.inrich.com/cva/ric/news.apx.-content-articles-RTD-2008-11-03-0195.html>
6. *November 3, Reuters* – (North Carolina) **Duke stops NC McGuire 1 reactor restart.** Duke Energy Corp. shut Unit 1 at the McGuire nuclear power station in North Carolina from hot standby mode on October 31 as it prepared to exit a refueling outage, the company told the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) in a report. Operators shut the reactor due to a rod control malfunction. At the time of the reactor shutdown, the unit was not yet connected to the grid. Nuclear reactors usually connect to the grid once they reach about 15 percent to 20 percent power. On November 3, the company issued another report to the NRC that the unit was in cold shutdown and operators manually opened reactor trip circuit breakers due to a blown fuse in the rod control cabinet.
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/marketsNews/idUSN0328259720081103>
7. *November 3, Reuters* – (Minnesota) **Xcel Minn. Prairie Island 2 reactor exits refuel.** Xcel Energy Inc.’s Unit 2 at the Prairie Island nuclear power station in Minnesota exited a refueling outage and ramped up to 43 percent power by early Monday, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission said in a report. The unit shut on September 19 for the refueling outage. The company tried to restart the unit last week it shut on October 30 from 1 percent power due to a failure in the rod control system.
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/marketsNews/idUSN0329786320081103>
8. *November 2, Lower Hudson Journal* – (New York) **National Guard will be removed from plant.** National Guard members who patrol the perimeter of the nuclear power plant in Buchanan will be eliminated, the governor’s office said November 1. “The Guard is assessing troop strength and re-evaluating the best use of the National Guard to the state,” said the governor’s spokeswoman. She declined to say when the troops would be removed. A recent state budget report determined that standing patrols at specific downstate posts, including nuclear power plants and New York City airports and subways, would be moved to a permanent headquarters at Fort Hamilton in

Brooklyn. Units will instead be deployed in the event of a threat, the report says. The state spends \$6.25 million to provide 84 National Guard members and 15 Naval Militia members to Indian Point, according to published reports. An Entergy spokesman said the National Guard's duties vary from the plant's own security force, which works around and inside the plant. The National Guard is limited to patrolling the entrance and perimeter, he said.

Source: <http://www.lohud.com/article/2008811020365>

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

Defense Industrial Base Sector

9. *November 3, U.S. Air Force* – (National) **Technical issues, more tests delay tactical satellite-3's liftoff.** Initially scheduled to launch in October, TacSat-3's liftoff is now scheduled for January 2009 after the project team discovered and then fixed problems with the spacecraft's Star Tracker apparatus. The team subsequently required additional time to evaluate the final version of flight software to ensure smooth operations during the one-year mission. The program is part of the Air Force Research Laboratory's (AFRL) Space Vehicles Directorate at Kirtland AFB. TacSat-3's Star Tracker unit will provide position updates to maneuver the 880-pound satellite to the precise location for mission operations. Once software assessments are accomplished, the program will conduct mission operations planning and dress rehearsals at the Space and Missile Systems Center's Space Development and Test Wing at Kirtland AFB. In mid-December, TacSat-3 will be shipped to the liftoff site. Established in 2004 to address military requirements for responsible, flexible, and affordable spacecraft operating in the cosmos, TacSat-3, administered by AFRL's Space Vehicles Directorate, features three revolutionary trials: the Raytheon Company-built Advanced Responsive Tactically Effective Military Imaging Spectrometer hyperspectral imager, the Office of Naval Research's Satellite Communications Package, and the Air Force Research Laboratory's Space Avionics Experiment. The trio of payloads will offer real-time imagery, sea-based information transmitted from ocean buoys, and plug-and-play avionics.

Source:

http://www.spacewar.com/reports/Technical_Issues_More_Tests_Delay_Tactical_Satellite_3_Liftoff_999.html

10. *November 2, Chicago Lincoln-Tribune* – (National) **More than 145 suspects charged in U.S. Export Enforcement.** A multi-agency initiative to combat illegal exports of restricted military and dual-use technology from the United States has resulted in criminal charges against more than 145 defendants in the past fiscal year, with roughly 43 percent of these cases involving munitions or other restricted technology bound for Iran or China, the U.S. Justice Department and several partner agencies announced on Friday. Over the past fiscal year, the National Export Enforcement Initiative has also resulted in the creation of Counter-Proliferation Task Forces in various judicial districts around the country. Today, there are approximately 15 such task forces, or versions of them, nationwide. Among the most recent cases brought in connection with the initiative was an indictment returned Sunday in the U.S. District Court in Minnesota

charging three individuals with conspiring to illegally export to the People's Republic of China (PRC) controlled carbon-fiber material with applications in rockets, satellites, spacecraft, and uranium enrichment process. According to the indictment, the intended destination for some of the material was the China Academy of Space Technology, which oversees research institutes working on spacecraft systems for the PRC.

Source: <http://www.lincolntribune.com/modules/news/article.php?storyid=10117>

11. *October 31, Aviation Week* – (National) **U.S. Navy sees Joint Standoff Weapon gains.** The U.S. Navy is satisfied with the results of a recent critical design review for Raytheon's Joint Standoff Weapon (JSOW) C-1, though the program manager notes that adding a datalink to an existing weapon is likely to create difficulties. The C-1 variant will maintain the outer mold line and airframe of the existing JSOW glide while adding a Rockwell Collins datalink, which will be used for in-flight targeting updates, and new seeker algorithms optimized for targets at sea. The same datalink is being added to the Harpoon Block III as part of a Navy effort to "network" its existing weapons. "This is the first time we have ever taken a true datalink...fitting it into an existing weapon," said the JSOW program manager. Maintaining the same weapon weight and flight characteristics leaves little margin for technical changes. By contrast, when a datalink was added to the ship-launched Tomahawk cruise missile, designers started with a clean sheet of paper. Rockwell is slightly behind on delivering hardware for integration on both Harpoon and JSOW, but officials say the delays are negligible and are not detracting from overall execution of the program. JSOW C-1 will begin its captive carriage tests next spring.

Source:

http://www.aviationweek.com/aw/generic/story_channel.jsp?channel=defense&id=news/JSOW10418.xml

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

Banking and Finance Sector

12. *November 1, Washington Post* – (National) **Money-laundering risk of hedge funds gauged.** The roughly \$2 trillion hedge-fund industry remains free of government restrictions, and this week the Treasury Department formally withdrew its once proposed rules. There are several reasons the Treasury has been delayed in requiring hedge funds to adopt money-laundering measures. For one thing, because the industry is unregulated there are no government examiners to enforce the measures. For another, hedge funds are indirectly regulated because they do business through bank and other financial firms that are required to monitor transactions for possible money-laundering. One key reason for the delay is that the risk that a terrorist group might use a hedge fund to launder money is deemed relatively small. For similar reasons the Treasury Department last year exempted casinos from a requirement that they report currency transactions on slot machine jackpots and video lottery terminals.

Source: [http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-](http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/10/31/AR2008103103210.html?hpid=sec-business)

[dyn/content/article/2008/10/31/AR2008103103210.html?hpid=sec-business](http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/10/31/AR2008103103210.html?hpid=sec-business)

13. *October 31, Computerworld* – (International) **"Ruthless" Trojan horse steals 500K**

bank, credit card log-ons. A sophisticated cybercrime group that has maintained an especially devious Trojan horse for nearly three years has stolen the log-ons to more than 300,000 online bank accounts and almost as many credit cards during that time, a security company said today. Researchers at RSA Security Inc.'s FraudAction Research Labs tracked the Sinowal Trojan horse, also known as Mebroot and Torpig, to a drop server that contained the stolen credentials, said the product marketing manager at RSA's ID and access assurance group. All told, the gang behind Sinowal managed to obtain access to nearly half a million bank accounts and credit cards, a volume RSA dubbed "ruthless" and "extraordinary." Sinowal has infected hundreds of thousands of PCs worldwide during its run, and it continues to attack machines. It is triggered by more than 2,700 specific Web addresses, a massive number compared with other Trojan horses. Due to the global distribution of the malware attacks, RSA Security suspects that the group responsible for Sinowal is based in Russia.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&articleId=9118718&intsrc=hm_list

14. *October 31, Government Technology* – (National) **Red flag security regulation in effect as of November 1.** As of November 1, 2008, federal regulation will require all organizations in the United States that offer consumer credit accounts to have implemented Red Flag programs to address consumer identity theft. Businesses will now be required to seriously address the identity theft problem in the interest of their customers, rather than just in their own business interests. Compliance is not a complex process, but it requires senior management's attention to ensure the organization gets the full benefit of both compliance and reduction of identity theft as a major inhibitor of consumer economic activity.

Source: <http://www.govtech.com/gt/427073?topic=117671>

15. *October 31, CNN Money* – (Florida) **Fla's Freedom Bank becomes 17th FDIC insured failure this year.** Florida-based Freedom Bank was closed by state regulators Friday and its deposits were sold to Fifth Third Bancorp (FITB) under an agreement orchestrated by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. The FDIC said the cost of the failure to its deposit insurance fund will be between \$80 million and \$104 million — the "least costly" option, according to the regulator. Freedom Bank had assets of \$287 million as of October 17, along with \$254 million in total deposits, according to the FDIC. Fifth Third acquired Freedom Bank's deposits for a premium of 1.16 percent, and also bought \$36 million of assets from the bank. Any remaining assets will be held by the FDIC.

Source:

http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/djf500/200810311851DOWJONESDJONLINE000897_FORTUNE5.htm

16. *October 31, Twin City Pioneer Press* – (Minnesota) **FDIC chastises BankCherokee.** The FDIC chastised BankCherokee for its "excessive concentration of real estate loans" and for not having enough capital to support the risk it was taking. A BankCherokee CEO said the bank already has taken steps to address the FDIC's concerns, shoring up

its capital and moving to diversify its loan portfolio. The FDIC's action, called a cease and desist order, is at the middle level of enforcement actions. Such orders prohibit certain practices and usually require that bank officers correct problems that led to the order. Since 1975, the FDIC has issued about three dozen cease-and-desist orders in Minnesota. Most of the other orders from bank regulators require a change in a bank's management or board makeup. The FDIC made no such request of BankCherokee. Source: http://www.twincities.com/ci_10869862

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

Transportation Sector

17. *November 3, KTLA 5 Los Angeles* – (California) **Gunman in army fatigues shuts down freeway.** A portion of Highway 101 is closed in both directions in downtown Santa Barbara after a masked gunman was spotted on a freeway overpass. Witnesses say the gunman, wearing brown fatigues and a black ski mask, was spotted waving a gun around on the La Cumbre overpass around 7:10 a.m. Monday. Police said the man is armed with a revolver and is also waving an American flag. The freeway was shut down in both directions at La Cumbre as a precaution, and traffic is being diverted through downtown Santa Barbara. The California Highway Patrol (CHP) reports the freeway closure has caused a massive traffic backup throughout the area. The roadway will remain closed until further notice, according to the CHP. No shots have been fired. Source: http://www.ktla.com/content/landing_page/?Masked-Gunman-Shuts-Down-Highway-101-in-1&blockID=124961&feedID=171
18. *November 2, Newsday* – (Connecticut) **Bridgeport train station evacuated in bomb scare.** Authorities say hundreds of Metro-North Railroad passengers were delayed during a weekend bomb scare at Bridgeport's train station. A search by local and Metropolitan Transportation Authority police late Saturday concluded the threat was a hoax. Two suspicious packages were found, but they did not contain explosives. The station was evacuated for over an hour Saturday night, delaying about 700 passengers on six west and eastbound trains. A Metro-North spokesman says it is rare for an entire station to be shut down, but that Bridgeport police were correct to err on the side of caution. Information was not available about what was inside the suspicious packages, and whether they were left there by accident or intentionally to cause alarm. Source: <http://www.newsday.com/news/local/wire/connecticut/ny-bc-ct--trains-bomb scare1102nov02,0,3463173.story>
19. *November 2, Associated Press* – (National) **Saudi official: 2003 terror plot against U.S. foiled.** Saudi Arabia foiled a 2003 terror plot by militants who planned to hijack a plane and blow it up over a densely populated American city, a Saudi official said Sunday. The official said the plan, first reported Sunday in government-guided Al-Watan newspaper, was for the attackers to transit through the United States to another destination so they could avoid applying for visas. The official said the militants were preparing to execute the alleged plot when it was halted. The Saudi official said the alleged hijacking plan was one of 160 terror plots the kingdom announced last month that it had foiled. At the time, authorities provided no details about any of the alleged

plots, and it was unclear why Saudi authorities never publicly revealed the 2003 plan previously.

Source:

http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20081102/ap_on_re_mi_ea/ml_saudi_terrorism;_ylt=AqmqzO1g_ZarX9EjxTuRqVMgLewgF

20. *October 31, Nextgov.com* – (National) **Transportation launches Web site to track hazardous materials.** The Transportation Department unveiled a Web site on October 31 to help the federal government monitor the shipment of hazardous materials across the nation. The Multimodal Hazmat Intelligence Portal (HIP) will allow federal officials to track companies that haul explosive, flammable, caustic or biological materials that pose risks to the public if released. The goal is to identify companies involved in mishaps such as chemical spills, explosions or other incidents and determine whether government intervention is needed to ensure public safety. The Website combines 25 data sources into a common system that allows officials to view the most up-to-date information on what is being transported, by whom and whether incidents have occurred. The site unites the five agencies that monitor the transport of hazardous materials: the Federal Aviation Administration, the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, the Federal Railroad Administration, and the Coast Guard. “The idea is to bring a search capability and the score card into one place, to provide a 360-degree view,” said the HIP program manager. Officials also plan to work with law enforcement agencies and the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) to expand the Website’s reach and information. TSA hopes the new site will help officials identify and address negative trends with particular goods or packaging.

Source: http://www.nextgov.com/nextgov/ng_20081031_7034.php

21. *October 31, Coast Guard News* – (National) **Coast Guard to inspect towing vessels crew credentials.** Coast Guard units, along the Gulf Coast, Mississippi River, and Western Rivers system, will begin operations to ensure towing vessels are properly manned and crews have proper licensing as part of Operation Big Tow, which will take place from November through January. The primary objective of Operation Big Tow is to ensure towing vessels are being operated by properly licensed individuals through boardings and examinations. The Coast Guard is hoping to minimize the commercial impact of these checks by conducting them while vessels are otherwise inactive, such as while vessels are tied up pier side, or at locks and dams.

Source: <http://coastguardnews.com/coast-guard-to-inspect-towing-vessels-crew-credentials/2008/10/31/>

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

Postal and Shipping Sector

22. *November 2, Chillicothe Gazette* – (New Jersey) **Officials: Package did not contain powder.** Officials from the U.S. Postal Inspection Service have determined a suspicious package that caused a building at Newark High School to be evacuated on October 31 did not contain powder, as was initially rumored to be the case. “It appears

as if there was no powder,” said a U.S. postal inspector. “That was a miscommunication by somebody initially.” Fifteen Newark High School students were placed under quarantine after the package was opened in a classroom, causing two staff members to start itching. The students were released on the afternoon of October 31 after undergoing a precautionary decontamination. Eight adults, including the two initially affected and a police officer, also underwent the same decontamination process outside of Building K, which had been closed off. A shower and other equipment consistent with a decontamination area was set up behind the building shortly before three p.m. Officials called for medical scrubs to be brought to the scene, as well. The envelope was sent via the U.S. Postal Service and addressed to the band director, with no return address, officials at the scene said.

Source: <http://www.chillicothe Gazette.com/article/20081102/NEWS01/811020309>

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

Agriculture and Food Sector

23. *November 3, Fresh Plaza* – (National) **FDA and CBP announce final rule and compliance policy guide on prior notice of imported food shipments.** The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) announced a final rule and draft compliance policy guide (CPG) Monday for “Prior Notice of Imported Food Shipments.” The final rule is part of the requirements of the Public Health Security and Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Act of 2002. This rule is part of FDA’s efforts to protect the nation’s food supply against terrorism and other food-related emergencies. The draft CPG describes FDA and CBP’s strategy for enforcing the requirements of the prior notice final rule while maintaining an uninterrupted flow of food imports. The final rule, which takes effect on May 6, 2009, revises the IFR in only a few key areas. FDA and CBP also are issuing a companion CPG for the final rule to describe our enforcement strategy.

Source: http://www.freshplaza.com/news_detail.asp?id=32072

24. *November 3, MeatingPlace* – (National) **FSIS provides new guidance to inspectors for E. coli testing in raw beef.** USDA’s Food Safety and Inspection Service is providing new guidance to inspection program personnel on collecting samples of beef manufacturing trimmings and other raw ground beef and patty components for E. coli O157:H7 testing. Currently, FSIS personnel are not to send samples to a laboratory until the establishment has completed pre-shipment review for the sampled lot. Under this notice, however, inspection program personnel are instructed not to wait, and instead submit the raw beef sample to the laboratory after the establishment has completed all interventions, except for any intervention that is based on microbiological test results. Consequently, FSIS, in many cases, will be collecting and submitting samples to the laboratory before the establishment completes pre-shipment review.

Source:

<http://www.meatingplace.com/MembersOnly/webNews/details.aspx?item=10257>

See also: <http://www.cattlenetwork.com/Content.asp?ContentID=265215>

25. *November 3, Environment News Service* – (National) **New rule: clean water permits voluntary for factory farms.** The Presidential Administration finalized a rule Friday that allows more than 15,000 factory farms across the country to avoid certain requirements of the Clean Water Act if they claim they do not discharge animal wastes into lakes, rivers, and streams. Federal officials said the rule will help protect water quality and ensure safe disposal of manure, but environmentalists contend it does neither and lets some of the nation's largest polluters police themselves. The rule affects concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs) which annually produce some 500 million tons of animal waste from cattle, pigs, and poultry. CAFOs store waste in massive open-air lagoons or dispose of it on land. Spills and runoff of the waste, laden with the nutrients nitrogen and phosphorous, can contaminate drinking water supplies, kill fish, and spread disease. The EPA estimates that the new rule will prevent 56 million pounds of phosphorus, 110 million pounds of nitrogen, and two billion pounds of sediment from entering streams, lakes, and other waters annually.

Source:

http://www.nbcchicago.com/news/green/New_Rule_Clean_Water_Permits_Voluntary_for_Factory_Farms.html

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

Water Sector

26. *October 31, Associated Press* – (Alaska) **EPA to allow Alaska to oversee state water quality program.** Alaska will soon be running its own wastewater discharge program. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) says it has approved an application for the state to oversee its National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System. This gives Alaska's Department of Conservation responsibility for permitting and ensuring that companies discharging pollutants into water adhere to permit conditions. The authority gets phased in over three years, starting immediately. This covers industries ranging from seafood processing to mining to oil and gas production. The EPA still retains oversight of the state's program, has the right to review any wastewater discharge permit, and has the right to object to permits not compliant with the Clean Water Act. Source: <http://newsminer.com/news/2008/oct/31/epa-allow-alaska-oversee-state-water-quality-progr/>

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

Public Health and Healthcare Sector

27. *November 3, Bloomberg* – (International) **Indonesia says pandemic threat remains as deaths ease.** Indonesia, the nation with the most bird flu deaths, said the threat of a deadly flu pandemic has not passed even though no new human cases of the H5N1 virus have been detected in the archipelago since July. The government has started work on its own H5N1 vaccine and allocated \$64 million in next year's budget to prepare for a pandemic, including building facilities to produce inoculations, the country's health minister said. The nation may also resume sharing H5N1 samples with the world next year if it can complete an agreement at a World Health Organization

meeting next month. Producing its own vaccine may strengthen Indonesia's position in demanding access to affordable shots for Asia in exchange for sharing H5N1 samples. The Southeast Asian nation, which accounts for 46 percent of bird flu deaths globally in the past six years, has withheld samples since December 2006, saying the viruses are its own intellectual property. Doctors can't produce up-to-date vaccines without the latest virus strains.

Source:

http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601080&sid=acboyNqM6t_U&refer=asia

28. *November 2, Atlanta Journal-Constitution* – (Georgia) **Flooding at UGA germ lab revealed.** A University of Georgia high-containment germ lab, designed for experiments on infected cows and other animals, flooded twice this fall and leaked water into a basement during one of the overflows, according to internal reports. The lab was shut down after the experiment was complete, which was two weeks after the last flood. The lab will remain closed until UGA officials are satisfied that the flooding problem has been solved. The flooding and the leak raise questions about the operation of the biosafety lab, which is one of about a dozen in the three-level building. Other labs in the building continue to operate. Officials said future experiments at the center could include work on germs such as SARS, West Nile, tuberculosis, and highly pathogenic avian flu.

Source:

http://www.ajc.com/metro/content/metro/stories/2008/11/02/lab_1102_2DOT.html

29. *November 2, Atlanta Journal-Constitution* – (Texas) **Tarrant health officials zeroed in on tuberculosis outbreak.** While the Tarrant County Public Health Department had already noticed the unusual concentration of tuberculosis cases, the scale became apparent when health workers entered the addresses of those suffering from the highly contagious disease into the computer system at University of North Texas' Computational Epidemiologist Research Laboratory. In elevations based on the number of cases per ZIP code, an area containing a number of homeless shelters rose well above the others. After looking at the data, the researchers noticed that a higher rate of TB cases occurred among people who remained in the shelters than those who left daily. The difference was caused by the amount of exposure to someone with the disease. In all, 17 active cases had been identified. Researchers installed new air filters and ultraviolet lights that kill TB bacilla at the Presbyterian Night Shelter in an attempt to stop the spread.

Source: <http://www.star-telegram.com/health/story/1013084.html>

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

Government Facilities Sector

30. *November 3, Adnkronos International* – (International) **Syria: U.S. Embassy reopened after security threat.** The United States Embassy in Damascus reopened on November 2 following protests against an alleged air raid by the United States on a village near the Iraqi border last weekend. The embassy had been closed on October 30 after Syrian

riot police were deployed to protect it as tens of thousands of students, unions, and religious and civic leaders protested. Syrian sources exclude the possibility of a permanent closure of the U.S. Embassy or any move to recall Syria's ambassador in the United States.

Source: <http://www.adnkronos.com/AKI/English/Security/?id=3.0.2663272980>

31. *November 3, Kommersant* – (International) **20,000 protest at U.S. Embassy.** More than 20,000 people gathered in front of the U.S. Embassy in Moscow to protest the policies of the U.S. government. The action was organized by the Nashi pro-Kremlin youth movement, but the level of participation far exceeded their expectations. Traffic on the Garden Ring, the major ring road around downtown Moscow on which the U.S. Embassy is located, was reduced to the flow of buses bringing demonstrators in from other cities.
Source: http://www.kommersant.com/p-13488/Russia_Georgia_South_Ossetia_conflict_Nashi/
32. *November 1, Argus Leader* – (South Dakota) **Spilled powder prompts investigation.** The Minnehaha County Administration building was sealed off for an hour on the morning of October 31 after an employee reported a man sprinkled some suspicious-looking powder near an exit, a Minnehaha County sheriff said. “An individual walked through the south entrance and then back out the south exit. As he did so, it appeared that he was dropping some sort of powder substance,” he said. The building was not evacuated, but a Sioux Falls Fire Rescue Haz-Mat team was called out to examine the powder. While the team worked, other people were not allowed into the building, he said. “There wasn’t even a sufficient quantity to test,” the sheriff said. The man who dropped the powder has not been found.
Source: <http://www.argusleader.com/article/20081101/NEWS/811010308/1001>
33. *November 1, KBCI 12 Boise* – (Idaho) **Costume triggers bomb scare near Boise State dorm.** The Boise Police Bomb Squad was called to Boise State University (BSU) the morning of November 1 after a student noticed something that looked suspicious near a bike rack. Boise Police shut down part of the university campus and more than 300 people were evacuated until police were sure the area was safe. After investigating, BPD bomb technicians and detectives say it appears the item was never a viable explosive device, although it was made to look like one. Officials brought in a robot to handle the device. As another precaution, BSU campus security and Boise Police made a campus-wide sweep checking for anything else that may be connected to this incident, but nothing else was found. The item was taken by Boise Police detective for further investigation.
Source: <http://www.2news.tv/news/local/33700754.html>
34. *October 31, Federal Computer Week* – (International) **ODNI establishes security center for embassies.** Under a new directive, the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI) has established a new center that will be involved in securing U.S. Embassies from physical and cyber intrusions. Under Intelligence Community Directive 707 signed Oct. 17, ODNI's Center for Security Evaluation will work with

the State Department to ensure the protection of classified national security information and other intelligence at U.S. diplomatic and consular facilities. The center will advise on new constructions and major renovations of embassies and assist in national technical surveillance countermeasures. The center also will assist the intelligence community in activities for continuity of government and operations. U.S. Embassies abroad have experienced security leaks in the past. The government abandoned a new U.S. embassy in Moscow in 1985 after learning it was riddled with KGB listening devices.

Source: <http://www.fcw.com/online/news/154260-1.html>

35. *October 31, Information Week* – (National) **Defense Intelligence Agency fixes risky web site code.** The Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) Web site, until earlier this week, exposed job applicants to potential privacy and security risks because it included a link to JavaScript code hosted on a third-party Web site. While there is no evidence that the site leaked personal information, the presence of a call to execute JavaScript code that resides on a Statcounter.com server in Ireland provided a weak link in the security chain that could have been exploited to provide potentially valuable foreign intelligence about future DIA personnel. “This code was brought to DIA’s attention by individuals within the agency on Monday,” said a DIA spokesperson via e-mail. “Upon further investigation, it was resident only on the one page and was determined to be superfluous coding from a previous page incarnation. The code was deleted and no longer resides on DIA servers.” In response to the suggestion by one participant on the Full Disclosure mailing list that the cookie files used by StatCounter.com might have violated federal guidelines, the DIA spokesperson said that the DIA used session cookies (not persistent cookies) for its employment pages only and that the rest of dia.mil is cookie-free. The spokesperson said, “DIA has followed and continues to follow Department of Defense policy on cookie usage.”

Source:

<http://www.informationweek.com/news/security/government/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=211800622>

36. *October 31, NextGov* – (National) **Feds miss ID card deadline.** The Federal Government fell far short of meeting an October deadline to issue secure personal identification cards to agency employees and contractors, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) reported on October 31. Less than a third of all federal employees and contractors, about 29 percent, had been issued a new high-tech ID card, which contains a cardholder’s biometric information. OMB had set October 27 as the deadline for agencies to issue the cards to all federal employees and contractors. OMB found that 12 of the 16 agencies it tracks as part of the President’s Management Agenda met or nearly met their targets for card issuance that were set in previously agreed-upon implementation plans. The U.S. President called for the new federal ID cards in August 2004 when he issued Homeland Security Presidential Directive (HSPD) 12 to control access to federal buildings and government networks. Many agencies missed the deadline because of technical problems. The most common complication has been integrating data from legacy systems to new systems that incorporate HSPD-12 capabilities. Many agencies also underestimated the amount of time it would take to

enroll and issue cards to workers in field offices. Some agency officials were concerned that diverting resources to deploy the new cards would delay other programs.

Source: http://www.nextgov.com/nextgov/ng_20081031_5823.php

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

Emergency Services Sector

37. *October 31, EMS First Responder* – (Minnesota) **Ambulance strike teams at the RNC a model for success.** A Twin Cities paramedic, who had received RNC training prior to the Republican National Convention, which took place in September in St. Paul, spotted an “ambulance” with unusual generic markings there. The medic reported the location of the vehicle he had seen to a supervisor, who then forwarded this information on to the USSS MACC. St. Paul Police were dispatched to investigate. Police found the vehicle unlocked, and inside found a large cache of weapons and related items to cause criminal damage to property. St. Paul Police turned the “fake ambulance” over to USSS. An intelligence report detailing the incident was shared between all the three letter federal agencies including the CIA, FBI, NSA, and the Department of Justice.

Source: [http://www.emsresponder.com/web/online/Operations/Ambulance-Strike-Teams-at-the-RNC-a-Model-for-Success/4\\$8447](http://www.emsresponder.com/web/online/Operations/Ambulance-Strike-Teams-at-the-RNC-a-Model-for-Success/4$8447)

38. *October 30, Government Technology* – (National) **CIOs and first responders say flawed 700MHz public safety plan needs new approach.** Public safety officials and chief information officers (CIOs) from many of the largest cities and counties in the United States, as part of the Digital Communities 700Mhz CIO working group initiative, have banded together to protest the Federal Communications Commission’s (FCC) new proposed rules for the 700MHz D-Block auction. In a letter to the FCC chairman, they argue that the FCC plan—to pair the public safety spectrum with the commercially auctioned “D-Block” of spectrum to create a nationwide network—is critically flawed. This “will fall far short of satisfying a once in a life time opportunity to fix the weaknesses in the core structure of public safety spectrum,” they wrote. The officials are asking the chairman to stop plans to auction the D-Block and return the public safety spectrum to those charged with protecting public safety. Additionally, they do not feel that local public safety agencies should be charged a usage fee for spectrum that is already assigned for public safety usage. The group is urging that the FCC begin talks directly with the large public safety agencies as a group so that standards can be set to make this solution work as a national interoperable platform.

Source: <http://www.govtech.com/gt/articles/426514>

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

Information Technology

39. *October 31, Dark Reading* – (International) **Antivirus ‘scareware’ is lucrative.** An infamous pop-up aimed at spooking users into downloading a phony anti-virus program does detect a little malware, but it also make big bucks for its developers and

distributors. According to new research conducted by SecureWorks director of malware research, who recently dissected the infamous software program and its money trail, affiliates who sell the so-called Antivirus XP 2008 (and now 2009) get a 58 to 90 percent commission on sales of the around \$50 package. The program infects Web sites with phony pop-ups warning users that their machine is infected and to download the “anti-virus” software.

Source:

<http://www.darkreading.com/security/antivirus/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=211800542>

40. *October 31, VNUnet.com* – (International) **Warning on Halloween web fraud.**

Scammers are latching onto Halloween Web sites as a method of spreading infectious code, internet monitoring company Websense is warning. The company said that sites selling Halloween gifts and services have been targeted as never before and Internet users can be put at risk of infection from code embedded within the sites. “One particular example is a Web site selling Halloween costumes. The ‘deobfuscation’ returned by ThreatSeeker shows that the JavaScript has multiple layers of obfuscation, the company said in an alert. “The script contacts a malicious server in the .biz TLD. Within the ThreatSeeker network, we have seen almost 10,000 sites infected with the same obfuscation technique.” Another technique involves building a redirect into a popular Web site. Websense has detected over 13,000 such script injections in popular sites.

Source: <http://www.vnunet.com/vnunet/news/2229576/warning-halloween-web-fraud>

Internet Alert Dashboard

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

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

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

Communications Sector

41. *November 3, RIA Novosti* – (National) **Russia starts preparations to launch U.S.**

telecoms satellite. Russian space technicians have started launch preparations for a Zenit carrier rocket with a U.S. Telstar telecom satellite on board, Russia’s space agency said on Friday. A Zenit-3SLB carrier rocket equipped with a DM-SLB booster is scheduled to lift off from the Baikonur space center in Kazakhstan at the end of December. The Telstar 11N, built by Space Systems/Loral for Loral Skynet telecoms company, will provide services from 39 high-power Ku-band transponders spread across four different geographic beams in each of North and Central America, Europe, Africa, and the maritime Atlantic Ocean Region.

Source: <http://www.space->

[travel.com/reports/Russia_Starts_Preparations_To_Launch_US_Telecoms_Satellite_99.html](http://www.space-travel.com/reports/Russia_Starts_Preparations_To_Launch_US_Telecoms_Satellite_99.html)

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

Commercial Facilities Sector

42. *November 3, Associated Press* – (International) **American school in Syria obeys order to close.** An American school in Damascus has closed and told students to leave after the Syrian government ordered it shut down in response to a deadly U.S. cross-border raid. A voice message on the school's answering machine says the school was closed to comply with the government's decision. A person who answered the phone at the U.S. Embassy in Damascus confirmed that the school was closing. The Syrian government ordered the school to close by the end of the week in response to a U.S. military raid on October 26.

Source:

<http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5gIGiMHBqDAAjSPWUmyVncR7wvnHAD947F7000>

43. *October 31, Detroit News* – (Michigan) **Bomb threat forces evacuation of two Detroit Blue Cross offices.** After layoff notices were delivered to about 100 employees this week, a telephoned bomb threat sent 3,000 Michigan Blue Cross Blue Shield workers home before lunch on Friday from both of the health insurance giant's downtown headquarters building complexes. A Blue Cross spokeswoman said police are investigating the threat, but she would not speculate whether the layoffs were related. A search of the 21-story headquarters building on Lafayette in Bricktown and offices on Jefferson downtown failed to locate any explosives, Detroit Police officials said. According to the company's procedure, they did not sound alarm but security guards searched the building floor by floor. A member of the sheriff's bomb squad said at about 2:05 p.m. that the building had been cleared

Source:

<http://www.detnews.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20081031/METRO/810310445&imw=Y>

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

National Monuments & Icons Sector

Nothing to report

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

Dams Sector

44. *November 3, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* – (Pennsylvania) **Money dries up for work on locks and dams.** On the Monongahela River at Charleroi, construction is progressing at Lock and Dam No. 3 on a new river wall, the first step in a planned replacement and upgrade of the dam's two locks. But that progress will halt when the steel rebar and concrete wall is finished. The critically needed lock replacements — part of the Army Corps of Engineers' Lower Mon Project to fix old, deteriorating, and unsafe Mon River

navigational dams at Charleroi, Braddock, and Elizabeth — will not be funded for at least three years or finished for even longer. That is because the federal Inland Waterways Trust Fund, which by law must provide half of the dollars for the maintenance and repair work, is nearly bankrupt. The trust fund, which annually collects about \$90 million through a 20-cent-a-gallon tax on diesel fuel used by barge industry tow boats, has been spent down and depleted by lock and dam projects further down the Ohio River in Kentucky. Because of the insolvency of the trust fund, the Corps cannot draw on federal money to remove the 101-year-old Elizabeth Locks and Dam, which the Corps has rated “unsafe and critically near failure.” The Corps now says the Lower Mon Project, originally priced at \$800 million, will not be finished until 2016 or 2022, and could cost a total of \$1.2 billion to \$1.5 billion. According to the Corps, most of the 23 Pittsburgh area locks and dams are “highly unreliable” and “critically near failure,” and more than half are at high risk for breakdowns that would halt commercial transportation in the nation’s biggest inland port.

Source: <http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/08308/924921-147.stm>

45. *November 1, Boston Globe* – (Massachusetts) **AG sues owner of faulty Taunton dams.** The state attorney general’s office has filed a lawsuit against the owner of two dams in Taunton that have been declared structurally unsound, to the point that they have triggered worries of massive floods whenever heavy rainfall occurs. The lawsuit filed Thursday in Suffolk Superior Court requests the owner of the dams make immediate repairs to the Morey’s Bridge Dam and a cofferdam, 25 feet away, that help to hold back the waters of the 250-acre Lake Sabbatia. The company owned the former Whittenton Pond Dam that officials feared might collapse in 2005, forcing the evacuation of some 2,000 residents who were downstream from the deteriorating structure and threatened by flooding. The dam has since been replaced. The cofferdam was built in July 2007 as a temporary replacement for the Morey’s Bridge Dam, which is in need of structural repairs. However, the cofferdam was supposed to be used only as a temporary replacement. And the volunteers who built it never sought the guidance of a civil engineer, and no engineer will certify its integrity. The state Department of Environmental Protection has levied a \$30,000 fine against Jefferson Development Partners, though the implementation of the fine has been suspended while agencies continue to ask the company to make repairs.

Source:

http://www.boston.com/news/local/articles/2008/11/01/ag_sues_owner_of_faulty_tauton_dams/

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

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Reports – The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is a daily [Monday through Friday] summary of open-source published information concerning significant critical infrastructure issues. The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is archived for ten days on the Department of Homeland Security Website: <http://www.dhs.gov/iaipdailyreport>

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information

Content and Suggestions: Send mail to NICCReports@dhs.gov or contact the DHS Daily Report Team at (202) 312-3421

Subscribe to the Distribution List: Visit the [DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report](#) and follow instructions to [Get e-mail updates when this information changes](#).

Removal from Distribution List: Send mail to NICCReports@dhs.gov or contact the DHS Daily Report Team at (202) 312-3421 for more information.

Contact DHS

To report physical infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact the National Infrastructure Coordinating Center at nicc@dhs.gov or (202) 282-9201.

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Web page at www.us-cert.gov.

Department of Homeland Security Disclaimer

The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is a non-commercial publication intended to educate and inform personnel engaged in infrastructure protection. Further reproduction or redistribution is subject to original copyright restrictions. DHS provides no warranty of ownership of the copyright, or accuracy with respect to the original source material.