



Department of Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 10 November 2008

Current Nationwide Threat Level is

ELEVATED
SIGNIFICANT RISK OF TERRORIST ATTACKS

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- The Associated Press reports that the U.S. Energy Department will tell Congress in the coming weeks it should begin looking for a second permanent site to bury nuclear waste, or approve a large expansion of the proposed waste repository at Yucca Mountain in Nevada. (See item [7](#))
- According to Reuters, Express Scripts Inc. said on Thursday it received an extortion letter threatening to expose millions of patient records and warned of a “potential large data breach.” (See item [25](#))

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Fast Jump

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

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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 7, Reuters* – (International) **Gunmen attack Nigerian army at Chevron oil facility.** Gunmen in speedboats attacked the Nigerian military at an oil flow station operated by U.S. energy firm Chevron late on Thursday, but the facility was not affected, the military said on Friday. “Last night, some men in speedboats attacked our men at Robert-Kiri flow station. In the shoot-out there were fatalities,” said a military spokesman in the Niger Delta. “The attack did not affect the Chevron facility,” he added. He said it was not clear who was responsible. Chevron was not immediately available for comment. The shoot-out took place near the border between Rivers and Bayelsa states in the Niger Delta. A private security source working in the oil industry

said several navy officials died.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssEnergyNews/idUSL738661520081107>

2. *November 7, Associated Press* – (Nebraska; South Dakota) **Blizzard pummels South Dakota, stranding motorists.** In western South Dakota’s blizzard, snowfall neared 4 feet in the Black Hills and winds gusted higher than 50 mph. State officials stressed that the storm, which stranded an unknown numbers of motorists and knocked out power to thousands, would keep causing problems as it moves eastward Friday. “This is a dangerous storm,” the governor of South Dakota said Thursday evening. The wind and heavy snow caused many power failures, but repair crews can not get to the downed lines because of the blizzard, the governor said. More than 10,000 customers lost power at some point in Nebraska and South Dakota. According to the South Dakota Rural Electric Association, eight cooperatives reported outages and damage to their systems. Some people will be without power for several days, the governor said.
Source:
<http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5gudBnWr4taA9LEMITo1PJ2kLFvKQD94A499G3>
3. *November 7, Associated Press* – (Massachusetts) **Tanker truck fuel spill on I-95 closes lanes.** A stretch of Interstate 95 southbound in Attleboro, Massachusetts, was closed for much of the day Thursday after a tanker truck rolled over, spilling thousands of gallons of jet fuel, injuring three people, and forcing the evacuation of 14 nearby homes. State police said the truck rolled after colliding with a car at about 4:45 a.m. The truck spilled about a third of the 11,000 gallons of fuel it was carrying. Police said the truck, owned by C. White Trucking of Connecticut, was delivering the aviation fuel to T.F. Green Airport in Rhode Island. The accident remains under investigation by state police, and no charges had been filed.
Source:
<http://www.nashuatelegraph.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20081107/NEWS02/311079930/-1/news>
4. *November 7, Reuters* – (California) **PG&E-Ruby natural gas pipeline deal approved.** On November 6, the California Public Utilities Commission approved plans by PG&E Corp’s Pacific Gas & Electric unit to bring Rockies natural gas to California on the \$3 billion Ruby Pipeline planned by El Paso Corp. The 670-mile, 42-inch-diameter Ruby pipeline will run from the Opal hub in Wyoming to the Malin, Oregon, hub near the California-Oregon border. The Ruby line would connect with the PG&E natural gas pipeline system at Malin. A Federal Energy Regulatory commissioner said the Ruby Pipeline-PG&E deal is “in the public interest” and will help keep natural gas and electric rates lower and allow California to diversify its gas supply. The state is heavily reliant on Canadian natural gas, which is declining, the commissioner said.
Source:
<http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssIndustryMaterialsUtilitiesNews/idUSN074028782081107>
5. *November 6, Fort Mill Times* – (Texas) **Refinery owner closes Texas chemical plant.**

The company that operates the North Pole Refinery is closing its Odessa, Texas, chemical plant. North Pole employees of Flint Hills Resources are keeping an eye on the parent company after officials in May said the refinery's own future would be assessed. The company six months ago said the plant could be sold or reconfigured. A company spokesman told lawmakers recently that the refinery has lost money for the past year and is constrained by high prices for state royalty oil and tight federal standards on fuels and production. The plant makes jet fuel, home heating fuel, and vehicle fuel.

Source: <http://www.fortmilltimes.com/124/story/351049.html>

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Chemical Industry Sector

6. *November 5, KFDM 6 Texas* – (Texas) **BASF fined \$200,000**. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality today approved penalties totaling \$895,607 against 70 regulated entities for violations of state environmental regulations. Agreed orders were issued for the following enforcement categories: three agricultural, 22 air quality, two dry cleaner, six multi-media, three municipal solid waste, four municipal waste discharge, nine petroleum storage tank, eight public water system, two wastewater operator, one water quality. Included in the total were fines against Formosa Plastics Corporation, Texas, of Calhoun County in the amount of \$121,443 for numerous air violations documented in inspections, conducted between 2005-2006, and unauthorized emissions during the same period. Also included in the total, were fines against BASF FINA Petrochemicals Limited Partnership, Jefferson County, in the amount of \$200,603. The fines were the result of nine air violations, documented routine inspections conducted in 2007-2008.

Source: http://www.kfdm.com/news/quality_28650_article.html/basf_texas.html

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector

7. *November 7, Associated Press* – (National) **Report: Expand Nevada nuclear dump or OK second site**. The U.S. Energy Department (DOE) will tell Congress in the coming weeks it should begin looking for a second permanent site to bury nuclear waste, or approve a large expansion of the proposed waste repository at Yucca Mountain in Nevada. The head of DOE's civilian nuclear waste program said Thursday the 77,000-ton limit Congress put on the capacity of the proposed Yucca waste dump will fall far short of what will be needed and has to be expanded, or another dump built elsewhere in the country. He said DOE will send a report to Congress in the coming weeks maintaining that the Yucca site will need to be expanded. He said within two years the amount of waste produced by the country's 104 nuclear power plants plus defense waste will exceed 77,000 tons. Yucca Mountain is not projected to be opened before 2020 at the earliest. If the limit is not removed, he said, the report will urge Congress to give the department authority to begin looking for and evaluating a second nuclear waste repository elsewhere in the country. The law currently prohibits any such

search, he said. An alternative could be a temporary above-ground repository, possibly on a federal site.

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2008/US/11/07/nuclear.dump.nevada.ap/>

8. *November 7, Asbury Park Press* – (New Jersey) **NRC rejects appeal by nuke plant foes.** The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has rejected an appeal concerning metal fatigue in reactor water nozzles at the Oyster Creek nuclear power plant in Lacey, New Jersey. Six local, state, and national groups appealed to the four commissioners who oversee the NRC after an atomic safety panel within the agency rejected their request to add a challenge on the metal fatigue issue. The groups oppose a proposed 20-year license renewal for Oyster Creek. The plant's current license will expire in April, but it can keep operating while the NRC review continues. An NRC spokesman has said a broken nozzle could result in a severe accident. Meanwhile, a six-inch rust stain and a small, isolated blister at its top were found on the epoxy coating on the corroded drywell radiation barrier at the plant, according to a document filed with the NRC on Thursday by AmerGen Energy Co., which runs Oyster Creek. Three small bumps also were discovered near the blister. AmerGen's contractor also identified several cracks in a moisture seal, and AmerGen is taking "corrective actions" to further inspect and repair the coating and moisture seal, the document says.

Source: <http://www.app.com/article/20081107/NEWS02/811070368/1070/NEWS02>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

9. *November 7, Navy Times* – (National) **Cracks in wing hinges sideline 10 Hornets.** Ten F/A-18 Hornets have been grounded and 20 others placed on flight restrictions after "fatigue cracks" were found in some wing-panel hinges, a Navy spokesman said Thursday. The Navy in early November completed the inspections of nearly 480 in-service Hornets from the Navy and Marine Corps fleet, a move directed by an Oct. 23 inspection bulletin. The inspections were prompted by the discovery in early October of cracks in wing-panel hinges on 15 aircraft. All Navy and Marine Corps Hornets were to be inspected within the next 15 flight hours. More than half of the Navy and Marine Corps Hornets are past their original service life of 6,000 flight hours.

Source: http://www.navytimes.com/news/2008/11/navy_hornets_110708w/

10. *November 7, Kansas City Star* – (National) **Ammunition plant goes green.** The Lake City Army Ammunition Plant in Independence, Missouri, produces millions of 5.56 mm cartridges every day for weapons that are carried by U.S. military forces. However, the firm is changing its manufacturing process to eliminate the use of toxic lead. Instead, the new ammunition will use bismuth alloy, which has a density roughly equivalent to lead but without lead's toxicity. The lead-free cartridges assembled in October were part of an initial 600,000-round test sample of green ammunition headed for the Aberdeen Proving Ground in Maryland for evaluation. This month, Lake City employees will begin producing the first order of 20 million rounds of lead-free cartridges. The cartridges still will have to pass muster in ongoing evaluations, but they could be delivered by January to U.S. troops in Iraq and Afghanistan. According to

Lake City officials the key reason for the lead-free round is that, “the military is looking to preserve its ability to train in the context of increasing environmental regulation.” Within the ammunition-manufacturing universe, the conversion represents a vast retooling, which gives Lake City the opportunity to add other improvements, such as a muzzle flash suppressant, to the round.

Source: http://www.navytimes.com/news/2008/11/ap_greenammo_110708/

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Banking and Finance Sector

11. *November 7, Washington Post* – (National) **Treasury is working to widen the rescue.**

The Federal Government is preparing to take tens of billions of dollars in ownership stakes in an array of companies outside the banking sector, dramatically widening the scope of the Treasury Department’s rescue effort beyond the \$250 billion set aside for traditional financial firms, government and industry officials said. Treasury officials are finalizing the new program, which could ultimately involve hundreds of billions of the \$700 billion rescue package, though the initiative is unlikely to be announced until the end of next week at the earliest. The new initiative would make it easier for the Treasury to aid a wider variety of firms if their troubles put the wider financial system at risk, government and industry officials said. These companies would still have to be financial firms that fall under federal regulators. Several companies, including GMAC, an auto financing company, and CapitalSource, a commercial lender in Bethesda, Maryland, are seeking ways to restructure themselves as banks or thrifts, which entails submitting to much tighter federal regulation. If other firms follow suit, the trend would vastly expand government oversight into a variety of industries.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/11/06/AR2008110604054.html>

12. *November 6, International Herald Tribune* – (National) **NY lawsuit: Bear Stearns built a ‘house of cards.’**

A company that insured groups of mortgage loans for a subsidiary of Bear Stearns accused the investment bank in a lawsuit Wednesday of building a “house of cards” through fraud and misrepresentations. Ambac Assurance Corp., based in Manhattan, sued EMC Mortgage Corp., of Lewisville, Texas, in U.S. District Court in Manhattan. EMC was a mortgage unit of Bear Stearns Cos., which JPMorgan acquired in February. The lawsuit claims Bear Stearns leveraged its reputation and dominance in mortgage finance to entice companies such as Ambac to insure loans plagued by rampant fraud. The suit seeks unspecified damages to recoup what is projected to be hundreds of millions of dollars in losses. In the lawsuit, Ambac said Bear Stearns promised that its mortgage loans originated through proper means and did not result from fraud, misrepresentations or gross negligence. Yet, the lawsuit charged, Ambac discovered widespread breaches of representations in almost 80 percent of the documents supporting 695 defaulted loans it studied.

Source: <http://www.ihf.com/articles/ap/2008/11/06/business/NA-US-Bear-Stearns-Lawsuit.php>

13. *November 5, San Antonio Business Journal* – (Texas) **FDIC will insure 100 percent of**

Amegy Bank checking accounts. Amegy Bank of Texas officials said the institution will continue to participate in the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp's voluntary Temporary Liquidity Guarantee Program. This program insures 100 percent of deposits that are held in non-interest bearing deposit transaction accounts at Amegy Bank, regardless of the dollar amount, through December 31, 2009. The Amegy Bank president and CEO for the San Antonio region says the bank's participation in the program gives peace of mind to many Texas-based businesses that have payroll and payment processing accounts that exceed the current \$250,000 FDIC insurance limit. Source: <http://www.bizjournals.com/sanantonio/stories/2008/11/03/daily18.html>

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Transportation Sector

14. *November 7, WJXT 4 Jacksonville* – (Florida) **3 killed when small-plane goes down short of Gainesville airport.** The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) says three people were killed when their twin-engine plane crashed early Friday morning near the Gainesville airport. An FAA spokeswoman said the crash occurred about 2:45 a.m. November 7 after the plane was cleared for an instrument landing at the airport and visibility was limited by dense fog. A Gainesville police spokeswoman said a caller reported finding the plane's tail section about 7 a.m. Officers found other debris nearby. The aircraft was a Parthenavia P.68C, a six-passenger plane. The FAA says the plane was flying from Key West. A portion of 39th Avenue was closed during the search and recovery operations in the area, and motorists were asked to avoid the area. The National Transportation Safety Board and the FAA will investigate the cause of the crash.
Source: <http://www.news4jax.com/news/17929785/detail.html>
15. *November 6, National Parks Traveler* – (Montana) **National Park Service signs off on decision not to allow bombing of avalanche chutes in Glacier National Park.** The National Park Service has signed off on a plan that prevents railroads from routinely using explosives to clear avalanche chutes above tracks that run along the southern border of Glacier National Park. Roughly three years ago, Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway officials approached Glacier officials about the possibility of lobbing 105 mm explosives at key avalanche chutes. The request came in the wake of a 2004 avalanche that caused a derailment along the border. Snowsheds along the tracks long have been used by railroads to shield trains from slides, but explosives are a cheaper option. With freight trains running daily past Glacier, hauling upwards of 33,000 container cars a day to and from the Northwest, this section of track is a key route to keep open for commerce. Park managers will soon begin meeting with BNSF to discuss a special use permit allowing avalanche forecasting and non-explosive stability testing in the park for the 2008-2009 winter season.
Source: <http://www.nationalparkstraveler.com/2008/11/national-park-service-signs-decision-not-allow-bombing-avalanche-chutes-glacier-national-par>
16. *November 6, Portland Observer* – (Oregon; Washington) **Severe weather batters Northwest.** Roads to the coast and I-5 to Seattle were closed by flooding, downed trees

and mud slides as back-to-back storm fronts pounded the Pacific Northwest this week. Mudslides also halted Amtrak passenger train service between Portland and Vancouver, British Columbia. In Portland, Johnson Creek overflowed its banks and flooded streets around Foster Road and Southeast 102nd Avenue. The storm fronts Sunday and Monday were among the worst in recent memory. Oregon National Guard troops evacuated residents in flooded Vernonia, 35 miles northwest of Portland Tuesday, and tens of thousands of residents remained without power.

Source: <http://www.portlandobserver.com/story.asp?record=7185§ion=Features>

17. *November 6, Homeland Security Wire* – (International) **New bridge-inspection software contributes to bridge security.** The changing effects of weather and temperature, road salt, and traffic all take their toll on bridges, causing damage such as hairline cracks, flaking concrete, and rust. In extreme cases, they contribute to the collapse of a bridge, as happened in Minneapolis last year. Until now, inspecting a bridge has been a manual process — inspectors have always examined bridges for visible damage directly on site. A new image processing software developed by researchers at the Fraunhofer Institute for Industrial Mathematics in Kaiserslautern, Germany, and scientists from the Italian company Infracom is about to change all this. The new software they have written can examine a photograph of a bridge for irregularities and then mark the respective area on the photo to alert an inspector to any problems. Engineers have already been using the software over the past six months to inspect bridges in Italy.

Source: <http://hsdailywire.com/single.php?id=7043>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

18. *November 7, Associated Press* – (Iowa) **Garner man convicted of mailing bomb.** A federal jury has convicted of Garner man of mailing a pipe bomb to his former supervisor. The man was convicted in U.S. District Court in Sioux City on November 6 of four counts — mailing a non-mailable matter, possessing a destructive device, transporting a destructive device, and possessing and using a pipe bomb to commit a crime of violence. Prosecutors say he tried to mail a pipe bomb to his former supervisor at her home in an attempt to take revenge. He hid a pipe bomb in an antique radio, knowing she collected antiques. The bomb was discovered in Renwick, when the postmaster became suspicious of a package left anonymously in the lobby of the post office. He faces a maximum sentence of life in prison and a \$1 million fine. A sentencing date was not set.

Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/chi-ap-ia-mailingexplosives,0,5363914.story>

19. *November 6, Star-Ledger* – (New Jersey) **Powder in envelope prompts evacuation at Essex County clerk's office.** The Essex County clerk's office was briefly evacuated this morning after a staffer opened an envelope containing a threatening letter and a white powder that turned out to be "a little bit of sugar," a sheriff said. Officials notified Newark fire department which dispatched a hazardous materials crew to

remove the envelope and test the powder. They determined that it was sugar. The note, which the Sheriff described as a “rambling threat,” appears to have been sent from a jail, but he would not elaborate. County officials plan to pass the envelope and its contents to federal authorities to follow up on a possible criminal investigation, he said.
Source:

http://www.nj.com/newark/index.ssf/2008/11/powder_in_envelope_prompts_eva.html

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Agriculture and Food Sector

20. *November 7, Associated Press* – (California) **Calif. drought forces cattle ranchers to downsize.** California’s worst drought in decades is forcing the state’s cattle ranchers to downsize their herds because two years of poor rainfall have ravaged millions of acres of rangeland used to feed their cows and calves. During most dry years, California cattlemen send their herds to places with healthier pastures or buy supplemental feed to sustain their animals until the rainy season. But high fuel prices, a lack of green pastures in California and neighboring states, and the soaring cost of livestock feed have left ranchers little choice but to sell off their mother cows because they can’t afford to feed them. The number of beef cows on California pastures dropped from 700,000 in January 2007 to 655,000 in January 2008, or 6 percent, according to the U.S. Department of Food and Agriculture. The drought has also hurt out-of-state ranchers who normally bring their cattle to graze on California pastures during the winter rainy season. Some of those cattlemen are selling their cows because feeding them is too costly. A recent federal report found that 95 percent of the state’s rangelands are in “poor” or “very poor” condition.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/11/07/AR2008110701260.html>

21. *November 7, Grand Folks Herald* – (North Dakota) **‘Disgruntled employee’ makes bomb threat.** An anonymous caller told the Wells County Sheriff’s Department on Thursday there was a pipe bomb in a Harvey, North Dakota, flour mill. Earth Harvest Mills was evacuated after the call was received about 8:40 a.m. Police searched the mill complex but did not find a bomb. Investigators are trying to establish whether there had been an actual bomb in the building, a police spokeswoman said. An Earth Harvest Mill spokesman said that “Some disgruntled employee called in,” and “It was all just fabrication.” He did not identify the employee and the Harvey Police chief said the threat remains under investigation.

Source: <http://www.grandforksherald.com/articles/index.cfm?id=92172§ion=News>

22. *November 5, Food Production Daily* – (International) **New software is performance boosting tool, says developer.** Lawson Software said its Lawson M3 Analytics package for Food and Beverage has been developed to assist decision-makers in the two sectors identify underperforming operational areas in time to help them take corrective action. The application could benefit manufacturers that are being forced to streamline their operations amid significant raw material, energy cost volatility, and uncertain prospects for the global economy. The director of industry strategy for food

and beverage at Lawson Software said the application has been designed to help food and drink manufacturers eliminate unnecessary reports so decision-makers receive the right information at the right time. The product comes with 70 preconfigured key performance indicators and 50 prebuilt scorecards commonly used by the two sectors. Source: <http://www.foodproductiondaily.com/Supply-Chain/New-software-is-performance-boosting-tool-says-developer>

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Water Sector

23. *November 7, Newsday* – (New York) **Equipment failure sends raw sewage into Hempstead Bay.** An equipment failure early yesterday at Nassau County’s Cedar Creek sewage treatment plant in Wantagh released 51,000 gallons of raw sewage, some of which spilled into East Hempstead Bay, where long-closed shellfish beds had been reopened recently. The malfunction occurred overnight said the Nassau Public Works Commissioner. State environmental officials said such a large spill was unusual for the plant, particularly as containment systems should have kept effluent from reaching the bay. “This is the biggest one we can recall,” said a regional water manager for the state Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). The DEC has closed shellfish beds in East Hempstead Bay through November 13 to prevent human consumption of contaminated shellfish. The closure includes 500 acres of shellfishing areas in the northern part of East Bay just opened in October to year-round harvest, and another several hundred acres. County engineers estimated that about half of the spilled sewage was captured by three floor drains inside the plant. But a fourth drain was clogged, causing the rest to flow outside and into a catch basin that discharges into Cedar Creek — and ultimately, the bay. Officials said once the spill was detected, plant operators rerouted the sewage flow to another unit and pumped out the outdoor catch basin. The regional water manager for DEC said it was unlikely that the spill indicated larger problems at the plant, but that the DEC would probably inspect the facility for “potential pathways” for sewage to reach the bay.

Source: <http://www.newsday.com/news/printedition/longisland/ny-lisewe075915829nov07,0,4599215.story>

24. *November 6, WTVD 11 Durham-Raleigh* – (North Carolina) **Chemical spill reported in Durham County.** Emergency crews were dispatched to a chemical spill in Durham County. Ammonia hydroxide spilled near the Durham and Wake County lines. The building where the spill was reported is located in Durham County and is a water pump station operated by the Town of Cary. The station uses ammonia to treat water. Some of the chemical seeped out and turned into liquid when it was exposed to the air. According to officials, there is a puddle inside the building’s containment area. HAZMAT was called to the scene per protocol. No one was evacuated, and there is no impact on the town’s water.

Source: <http://abclocal.go.com/wtvd/story?section=news/local&id=6492087>

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

25. *November 6, Reuters* – (National) **Express Scripts reports extortion over data breach.** Express Scripts Inc. said on Thursday it received an extortion letter threatening to expose millions of patient records and warned of a “potential large data breach.” The letter, which was sent to the pharmacy benefit manager in early October from “an unknown person or persons,” contained information on 75 Express Scripts customers, including names, dates of birth, social security numbers and, in some cases, prescription information. The large U.S. pharmacy benefit manager would be the latest company to face a major data breach in recent years, following discount retailer TJX Cos and Bank of New York Mellon Corp. among others. Express Scripts said it immediately notified the Federal Bureau of Investigation, which is investigating, and it notified the customers named in the letter last week. The St. Louis-based company, which handles about 500 million prescriptions a year, said it is also conducting its own investigation with the help of outside experts in data security and computer forensics. Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/ousiv/idUSTRE4A59FX20081106>
26. *November 6, KFMB 8 San Diego* – (National) **MRSA staph bacteria becoming a superbug.** The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that the Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) bacteria has become more resistant to antibiotics and is getting Superbug status. While MRSA has traditionally been treated with a regiment of antibiotics like penicillin, doctors are now turning to other antibiotics to treat the super bug. While community-acquired MRSA infections are usually still treatable with older antibiotics such as bactrim or tetracycline, hospital-setting staph infections can be life threatening if the infection enters the blood stream, lungs, or organs. Source: <http://www.cbs8.com/features/healthcast/story.php?id=145599>
27. *November 6, CNN* – (Ohio) **U.S. marshals seize tainted blood thinner in Ohio.** U.S. marshals, acting at the request of the Food and Drug Administration, seized 11 lots of heparin, a common blood thinner, from Cincinnati-based Celsus Laboratories Inc. The lots, which originate in China, were contaminated with over-sulfated chondroitin sulfate (OSCS), a substance that mimics heparin’s anti-clotting activity, the agency said. Thursday’s report is the latest concerning heparin safety. Earlier this year, shipments of other lots of contaminated heparin were traced from China to 11 countries, including the United States. In all cases, investigators identified OSCS — a compound made from animal cartilage — as the contaminant that was linked to hundreds of serious adverse events, including allergic reactions causing nausea, vomiting, shortness of breath, a severe drop in blood pressure, and death. Source: <http://edition.cnn.com/2008/US/11/06/heparin.seizure/>

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Government Facilities Sector

28. *November 7, Boston Globe* – (Massachusetts) **Ex-Mass. inmate charged in prison**

computer hacking. Authorities arrested a former Massachusetts prisoner in North Carolina on Wednesday and charged him with hacking into a Plymouth prison's computer system and providing inmates with a list of current and former prison workers, a U.S. Attorney said yesterday. The former prisoner allegedly hacked into the Plymouth County Correctional Facility's computer's management program and provided inmates with access to the names, dates of birth, Social Security numbers, home addresses, and telephone numbers of more than 1,100 current and former prison employees. The former prisoner was indicted October 29 on one count of intentional damage to a protected computer and one count of aggravated identity theft, the U.S. Attorney said in a statement.

Source:

http://www.boston.com/news/local/articles/2008/11/07/ex_mass_inmate_charged_in_prison_computer_hacking/

29. *November 7, Knoxville News Sentinel* – (Tennessee) **Official says bomb-grade uranium at Y-12 safe.** The head of security for the U.S. nuclear weapons complex said November 6 that he is confident the nation's stockpile of bomb-grade uranium at Y-12 is safe and secure. "The American people can rest assured this is one of the most well-protected facilities in the world," said an associate administrator of the National Nuclear Security Administration after viewing a security demonstration at a new \$2 million Tactical Training Facility in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. The associate declined to be specific about the results of Y-12's latest security evaluation, saying the report was still preliminary, but the government official said the overall marks were positive and surpassed Y-12's performance in similar reviews in 2003 and 2005. On November 6, officials dedicated two new facilities at the government's security training site on Bear Creek Road, a couple of miles west of Y-12. Both the Tactical Training Facility and the \$1.39 million Live Fire Shoot House were completed ahead of schedule and within budget, federal officials said. The associate said the new facilities are important additions to the training regimen for security police at the high-risk nuclear facilities. They provide realistic training scenarios to prepare the forces for possible combat against terrorists, he said.

Source: <http://www.knoxnews.com/news/2008/nov/07/official-says-bomb-grade-uranium-at-y-12-safe/>

30. *November 6, Financial Times* – (National) **Chinese hack into White House network.** Chinese hackers have penetrated the White House computer network on multiple occasions, and obtained e-mails between government officials, a senior U.S. official told the Financial Times. The cyber attackers managed to penetrate the White House system for brief periods that allowed them to steal information before U.S. government experts patched the system. U.S. government cyber experts suspect the attacks were sponsored by the Chinese government, although they cannot say for certain. "We are getting very targeted Chinese attacks so its stretches credulity that these are not directed by government-related organizations," said an official. The National Cyber Investigative Joint Task Force, a unit established in 2007 to tackle security, detected the attacks. The official stressed the hackers had accessed only the unclassified computer network, and not the more secure classified network. "For a short period of time, they

successfully breach a wall, and then you rebuild the wall... it is not as if they have continued access,” said the official.

Source: <http://freerepublic.com/focus/f-news/2127655/posts>

31. *November 6, Ames Research Center* – (California) **NASA Ames conducts earthquake emergency drill.** In preparation for a major earthquake striking the Bay Area, emergency response teams at NASA Ames Research Center underwent two days of disaster response training this week. Conducted November 5-6, 2008, the Great Worden Quake II emergency exercise featured several events designed to train and sharpen the skills of the center’s emergency and disaster assistance responders. The drill also provided an opportunity for the entire center’s workforce to participate and become familiar with specific procedures they would need to follow in the event of a major earthquake. The emergency drill was developed to respond to a 7.3 magnitude earthquake striking the Hayward and Rogers Creek faults, which if real, would undoubtedly cause numerous injuries and major damage at NASA Ames.

Source: <http://www.spaceref.com/news/viewpr.html?pid=26881>

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Emergency Services Sector

32. *November 7, Port Huron Times Herald* – (Michigan) **Cut cable halts 911.** Verizon telephone customers in several areas of St. Clair County couldn’t call 911 for help Thursday after DTE Energy workers cut a fiber optic cable. Crews from DTE were installing a utility pole in Richmond on 33 Mile Road when the cable was cut. Landline customers in Brockway, Greenwood, Mussey and Emmett townships and surrounding areas were affected. Service was restored about 5:30 p.m. Some people may have been able to make local calls during the outage but may not have been able to make long distance or 911 calls.

Source: <http://www.thetimesherald.com/article/20081107/NEWS01/811070318/1002>

33. *November 7, Tahoe Daily Tribune* – (California) **Statewide drill begins at Lake Tahoe.** An annual California disaster preparedness exercise entitled “Golden Guardian 2008,” was held in South Lake Tahoe on Thursday. The exercise was designed to improve local, regional and state agencies’ abilities to work together and coordinate effective emergency responses in times of crisis. The South Lake Tahoe exercise was based on the effects of a 6.8 magnitude earthquake striking the area near Mt. Rose. Under the disaster scenario, the earthquake would cause an underwater landslide, setting off a 20 foot seiche wave which strikes Lake Tahoe’s South Shore “causing widespread damage, injury, and fatalities in the city of South Lake Tahoe and surrounding areas,” according to a description of the exercise from the Governor’s Office of Homeland Security. Although improbable, scientists have pointed to the seiche wave scenario as a possibility and emergency managers felt the scenario would be appropriate for Golden Guardian.

Source:

<http://www.tahodailytribune.com/article/20081107/NEWS/811070324/1008/NONE&parentprofile=1056&title=Statewide%20drill%20begins%20at%20Lake%20Tahoe%20>

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Information Technology

Nothing to report

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/>.

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Communications Sector

Nothing to report

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Commercial Facilities Sector

34. *November 7, Albany Herald* – (Georgia) **Teen arrested in Lee homemade bomb case.**

A teen has been arrested after a homemade bomb exploded at a Leesburg business Tuesday morning, officials say. No injuries were reported in the explosion at South Georgia Heating and Cooling. Agents with the Georgia Bureau of Investigation say they found three additional devices, two of which had been detonated, at a nearby housing project where they believe the 16-year-old suspect resides. The teenager was arrested nearby and brought back by police before being taken to an area youth detention center, officials say. While patting him down, police found bottles of toilet bowl cleaner, which was believed to be a chemical used to make the bombs.

Investigators were still trying to determine why the teen picked the company as a target, but they said that the first priority was ruling out the election as a possible motive. The bombs, which were mostly soda bottles filled with certain chemicals, were all recovered Tuesday. “Joey,” the GBI’s bomb removal robot, removed the remnants of the bomb at the targeted business. The Leesburg Police Chief and his officers were on scene during the entire event and kept a block of Magnolia Street closed down until the area was rendered safe. Police officials at the scene said they were tipped off about the teen’s involvement when they say he approached someone speaking about a class project he was working on. They say the teen hasn’t been in school since August.

Source: <http://www.albanyherald.com/stories/20081105n1.htm>

35. *November 7, Chico Enterprise Record* – (California) **Bomb squad removes suspicious package.** A “suspicious” metal briefcase found behind an office complex at East First

and Arbutus avenues led to a bomb squad call-out and some tense minutes at a couple of nearby schools. Just after 1 p.m. an office employee in a building at 676 E. First Ave. reported the case to police. The package was located behind the building, near the southwest corner of a parking lot that serves the Assembly of God Church. Chico police immediately blocked off Arbutus between East First and East Third avenues and notified both Hooker Oak School and Kings Christian School of the situation. Hooker Oak was locked down for a period, but the students in both schools were allowed to leave campus at the usual time. At the same time police contacted various utility and cable television companies to determine if any of their staff might have inadvertently left the case behind. The package was placed in a bomb-hauling trailer and taken to the Chico Municipal Airport, where the bomb disposal team blew it up. As of press time there was no word on what was found in the case after it was destroyed.
Source: http://www.chicoer.com/news/ci_10924213

36. *November 7, Philadelphia Inquirer* – (Pennsylvania) **Teacher convicted of making threats is sentenced.** An acclaimed teacher convicted of terrorizing her Bucks County elementary school was led off to prison yesterday, maintaining her innocence as she departed. The 46 year old teacher was sentenced to serve one to two years, minus one day, for making terroristic threats last fall against Longstreth Elementary School in Warminster. She then faces 20 years of probation, during which she can hold no job in which she supervises children. On June 26, a jury held the woman responsible for an onslaught of written messages — childishly scrawled, threatening in tone, and scattered about the school — that left teachers, parents, and children petrified for weeks. Threats were written on walls, and a fifth-grade girl found a fake bomb inside her desk. The jury convicted the woman of planting 11 of the 17 threats found between October 11 and October 19, 2007.

Source:

http://www.philly.com/inquirer/local/pa/chester/20081107_Teacher_convicted_of_making_threats_is_sentenced.html

37. *November 6, Silicon Valley Mercury News* – (California) **‘Anthrax’ find in El Cerrito turns out to be baby powder.** A bucket holding white powder and labeled “anthrax” found in the basement of a San Pablo Avenue business in El Cerrito prompted a hazardous materials response and the precautionary closure of the major thoroughfare near the Del Norte BART station this afternoon. The El Cerrito Fire Department received a call at 2:13 p.m. from the owner of a building on the 11400 block of San Pablo Avenue who said he’d been cleaning the basement of NEC Insurance Inc. when he found the 1-gallon bucket containing the powder, according to the Fire Battalion chief. The two people inside the building when the bucket was found were quarantined. The substance turned out to be baby powder, and the shelter in place was lifted about 3:40 p.m.

Source: http://www.mercurynews.com/breakingnews/ci_10918670?nclick_check=1

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National Monuments & Icons Sector

38. *November 6, California Fire News* – (California) **Red Flag warnings for Southern California.** The state of California issued Red Flag warnings for Los Padres National Park and Angeles National Park on November 6. A Red Flag warning indicates elevated vulnerability to forest fires. The Los Padres forest was the site of a forest fire earlier this year.

Source: <http://calfire.blogspot.com/2008/11/red-flag-warnings-for-southern.html>

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Dams Sector

Nothing to report

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