



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 4 May 2010

Current Nationwide Threat Level

ELEVATED

Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks

For information, click here:
<http://www.dhs.gov>

Top Stories

- The Associated Press reports that the Homeland Security Secretary said Monday that investigators have not ruled out any suspects, including foreign terrorist organizations, in the case of the unexploded car bomb that was parked in New York City's Times Square on Saturday night. CNN reports that TSA is ramping up security screening at airports along the East Coast to counter "vehicle-born improvised explosive devices" as well as taking measures to prevent other kinds of terrorist acts that might occur in crowded public spaces. (See items [31](#), [34](#), and [66](#))
- The Associated Press reports that authorities evacuated portions of Nashville, Tennessee where a leaky levee threatened residents and businesses, including 1,500 guests at the Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center. The mayor also called on residents Monday to use water only for cooking and drinking because one of the city's two water treatment plants was flooded. (See item [69](#))

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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. *May 3, Bloomberg* – (Kentucky) **Kentucky mine had violations before fatalities.** Alliance Resource Partners coal mine in Hopkins County, Kentucky, had 19 instances of falling debris in the year before the roof buckled Wednesday in an accident that killed two workers, according to Mine Safety and Health Administration data. Thirteen of the incidents of “roof falls” at the Dotiki mine resulted in injuries, the MSHA records show. Federal regulators cited the mine 11 times this year for violations pertaining to roof support. “Roof falls are the No. 1 killer of coal miners,” said a mine safety advocate and former regulator who practices law in Kentucky. “When you have a lot of roof violations, it is very troubling.” “Significant and substantial” describes violations that have “a reasonable likelihood” of resulting in an injury “of a reasonably serious nature,” according to MSHA’s website. An MSHA spokeswoman declined to comment about specific violations.
Source: <http://www.pressherald.com/news/nationworld/kentucky-mine-had-violations-before-fatalities-2010-05-01.html>
2. *May 2, WTVF 5 Nashville* – (Tennessee) **Middle Tennessee power outages.** Severe thunderstorms and flooding are causing power outages across the Meriwether Lewis Electric Cooperative service area of Hickman, Houston, Humphreys, Lewis and Perry counties. An estimated 6000 are without power as of Sunday morning. In addition to continuing storms, roads and bridges being washed out prevent linecrews from reaching areas that are in need of repair. Currently, cooperative personnel are working in areas they can reach, assessing the damage, and making preparations to “hit the ground running” when the weather breaks. This includes calling in area utility and contract crews for assistance.
Source: <http://www.newschannel5.com/Global/story.asp?S=12412322>
3. *May 2, Reuters* – (Louisiana) **Cost of oil spill could exceed \$14 billion.** Since an explosion almost two weeks ago on the Deepwater Horizon rig, a disaster scenario has emerged with hundreds of thousands of gallons of crude oil spewing unchecked into the Gulf and moving inexorably northward to the coast. The responsibility for the cleanup operation lies with the owners of the well, led by 65 percent shareholder, London-based oil company BP Plc. BP said last week that it was spending \$6 million a day on the clean up but admitted this figure would rise sharply when the slick hits land. Neither the company or its 25 percent partner, explorer Anadarko Petroleum, have put an estimate on total costs, although BP’s CEO told Reuters in an interview on Friday that he would pay all legitimate claims for damages.
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE6412H820100502>
4. *May 1, Beckley Register-Herald* – (West Virginia) **Manchin says prevention teams needed in every mine.** West Virginia’s governor said he understands state inspectors can close a mine where safety is compromised, but federal regulators don’t enjoy this option, although the idea is on the radar in Congress. “Why shouldn’t we have a certified prevention team in every mine, the most experienced miners, who are basically untouchable?” he asked. And all would be protected by law from the federal to state level, so that if they detect something amiss in a mine, no coal is cut until the wrong is righted, the governor said. “No one can intimidate, no one can harm them, no

one can bring any pressure about doing something for any other reason except for the case of making it safer for miners so they can come home safe to their families,” the governor said. The governor said he is “very much concerned” with the inability to re-enter the ill-fated Upper Big Branch mine in Raleigh County, scene of an April 5 explosion that killed 29 workers and injured two others. The federal Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) has said it cannot send its teams into the mine because of unsafe conditions, but is performing interviews to start the investigation.

Source: <http://www.register-herald.com/todaysfrontpage/x1164470780/Manchin-says-prevention-teams-needed-in-every-mine>

5. *April 30, Associated Press* – (Washington) **Refinery where 7 killed likely closed through June.** Tesoro Corp. officials say the Anacortes, Washington, refinery where seven people died in an explosion and fire will likely stay closed through June and possibly longer. The company’s director of investor relations made the announcement to industry analysts on Friday. The Skagit Valley Herald says it was told by a Tesoro spokesman that the statement was only meant to help analysts with financial modeling, not a business decision on how long to keep the plant closed. The cause of the April 2 fire hasn’t been determined. But federal investigators say the victims apparently were engulfed in “a firewall” that ignited within seconds.

Source: <http://www.thenewstribune.com/2010/04/30/1169780/refinery-where-7-killed-likely.html>

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Chemical Industry Sector

6. *May 3, WLWT 5 Cincinnati* – (Ohio) **Chemical spills into Brown County Creek.** Hazardous-material crews responded to a chemical spill in Brown County, Ohio over the weekend. About 150 gallons of Ignite, a weed killer, from the Southwest Landmark Plant spilled into the Straight Creek, which is off U.S. Route 68 between Georgetown and Ripley. Representatives from the Environmental Protection Agency were called to the spill along with fire units from Ripley and Russellville. Officials urged farmers to keep their animals away from the creek to avoid contamination.

Source: <http://www.wlwt.com/news/23432021/detail.html>

7. *May 3, Associated Press* – (California) **Ammonia spill closes NoCal highway for hours.** A tanker truck crashed and spilled its cargo of toxic ammonia, forcing the closure of Highway 99 in Sutter County south of Yuba City for several hours. A captain of the California Highway Patrol says a the truck flipped onto its side the afternoon of May 2 when the driver tried to turn off the highway on to Nicolaus Avenue. The crash ruptured a tank and it spewed aqueous ammonia onto the road shoulder. Authorities closed the roadway in both directions while a hazmat team worked to clean the spill. The highway reopened late that night. The driver was not hurt.

Source: http://www.mercurynews.com/breaking-news/ci_15006026

8. *May 2, KIMT 3 Rochester* – (Minnesota) **Truck hauling arsenic near Albert Lea catches fire.** On May 1, a truck hauling double trailers loaded with 4,200 pounds of arsenic and 10,000 pounds of ammunition and small firearms caught fire and forced the closure of Interstate 35 near Albert Lea for nearly two hours. Hundreds of homes on the South-end of Albert Lea were also evacuated. The area included around 300 homes. The Freeborn County Sheriff's department says the evacuation was just a precaution. The Freeborn County sheriff said, "There wasn't a chemical released, we were concerned about the ammo primer exploding." The Sheriff's Department said the truck was from the Twin Cities area and they're unsure of its destination. The Minnesota state patrol is still investigating the situation, but the Sheriff's Office reports that the fire started with the breaks.
Source: <http://www.kimt.com/content/localnews/story/Truck-Hauling-Arsenic-Near-Albert-Lea-Catches-Fire/Ue9MfOIhZUKJVJI1ndW9SA.csp>
9. *April 30, Peoria Journal Star* – (Illinois) **Firefighters lauded in plant blaze.** Rapid response from Princeville area volunteer firefighters confined a fire at a rural fertilizer business April 29 to a building used to store and work on equipment, officials said April 30. At least 50 to 60 firefighters responded to the blaze at Kraft Fertilizer Inc. near the Peoria County-Stark County line. Winds the night of April 29 created the capacity for disaster, and a fire that apparently started in the wiring of a piece of machinery called a skid-loader spread quickly through the maintenance building. Firefighters soaked nearby gasoline and diesel tanks with thousands of gallons of water and also kept the blaze from reaching a nearby office building or any other structures at the site. The business, which has no connection to Kraft food products, stores and blends fertilizer products for application to farm fields but does not manufacture them. "Our fertilizer plant is 100 percent fine. Our chemical plant is untouched," the Kraft operations manager said. An Illinois Environmental Protection Agency official was on the scene early April 30 to make sure there was no environmental risk. The Stark County Emergency Management Agency director said he had not been notified of any hazards. The equipment lost in the fire was probably worth "well over half a million dollars," the operations manager said.
Source: <http://www.pjstar.com/news/x1195009478/Firefighters-lauded-in-plant-blaze>
10. *April 30, al.com* – (Alabama) **Fire at chemical plant sets off explosions in Bay Minette.** Several explosions rocked the former Reichhold Chemicals plant in Bay Minette on April 30 and sent plumes of thick, black smoke billowing into the air. No injuries were reported from the blasts, authorities said, and no evacuations of nearby homes were required. The Bay Minette Police chief said a massive fire broke out shortly after 5 p.m. today at Plasmine Technology Inc. on Newport Parkway and extended to tanks of pine rosin, triggering several explosions. The Bay Minette Fire chief said the blaze involved six tanks with up to 53,000 gallons of tall oil rosin. All the product was contained within levees and none escaped, therefore there was no environmental hazard, he said. Two workers were at the plant at the time of the fire. Firefighters received the call about the fire at 5:11 p.m. and had it contained by 5:45 p.m. and extinguished at 5:50 p.m. The cause of the blaze remained under investigation

and the fire chief said he expected fire officials to be on the scene through the night.

Source: http://blog.al.com/live/2010/04/fire_at_chemical_plant_sets_of.html

11. *April 30, MyCentralJersey.com* – (New Jersey) **Flash fire evacuates South Plainfield plant, causes no injuries.** Operations will proceed as normal May 3 at a South Plainfield plant following a flash fire April 30 in a chemical storage area, which forced evacuation of the building but yielded no injuries. Firefighters from the South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Co. were called at around 11 a.m. to Tempil Inc. at 2901 Hamilton Blvd., where an unknown quantity of toluene vapors ignited during transfer into a five-gallon container. The blaze was extinguished within 20 minutes after firefighters arrived. About a dozen workers were evacuated. Damage was confined to the container, which was standing by itself, away from other chemicals. Exactly what sparked the blaze has not been determined. Tempil produces an array of devices used to measure temperature, including a popular cold-storage food thermometer.
Source: <http://www.mycentraljersey.com/article/20100430/NEWS/4300346/-1/newsfront/Flash-fire-evacuates-South-Plainfield-plant-causes-no-injuries>
12. *April 30, Asheville Courier-Tribune* – (North Carolina) **Chemical spill shuts down stretch of Dixie Drive.** Traffic on Dixie Drive returned to normal Friday after three hours of being shut down due to a chemical spill. According to Asheville Police, a tanker truck hauling formaldehyde braked suddenly, causing a chemical spill and backing up traffic along a stretch of Dixie Drive. A captain with the Asheville Police Department reported that a valve on top of the truck was not closed tightly, and when the vehicle stopped suddenly at a traffic light an unknown amount of formaldehyde “sloshed out” on the road. The incident occurred around 8 a.m. No charges were filed. Another captain with the Asheville Fire Department said employees in several businesses between Cliff Road and Third Street were asked to keep doors closed and air conditioning units off to help keep the fumes out of the buildings. The only business that closed during the clean-up time was Hardees. Officials did not report any injuries.
Source: http://courier-tribune.com/local_news/story/2010/04/30/chemical_spill_shuts_down_stretch_dixie_drive
13. *April 28, U.S. Department of Labor* – (National) **US Labor Department’s OSHA releases data detailing worker exposure to toxic chemicals.** In keeping with the President’s memorandum on open government, the U.S. Labor Department’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) is releasing 15 years of data providing details of workplace exposure to toxic chemicals. The data is comprised of measurements taken by OSHA compliance officers during the course of inspections. It includes exposure levels to hazardous chemicals including asbestos, benzene, beryllium, cadmium, lead, nickel, silica, and others. The data offers insights into the levels of toxic chemicals commonly found in workplaces, as well as insights into how chemical exposure levels to specific chemicals are distributed across industries, geographical areas and time. “We believe this information, in the hands of informed, key stakeholders, will ultimately lead to a more robust and focused debate on what still needs to be done to protect workers in all sectors, especially in the chemical industry,”

said the assistant secretary of Labor for OSHA. With an understanding of these data and their limitations, it can be combined with other related data to target further research into occupational hazards and illness. In addition to this raw data, OSHA will soon make available an easy-to-use online search tool allowing easy public access to this information.

Source: <http://www.dol.gov/opa/media/press/osha/osha20100583.htm>

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

14. *May 1, News & Observer* – (North Carolina; Florida) **Fire safety review begins at Brunswick nuclear plant.** The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), which oversees the safety of the nation's 104 reactors, notified Progress that Brunswick in North Carolina is one of five nuclear sites in the nation identified as having multiple safety risks. The NRC's April 21 letter opens a federal safety review of the power plants to determine the level of fire risk at each facility. The letter identifies "eight risk factors that can lead to elevated ongoing risk if not appropriately mitigated." The companies will be required to fix the problems. Fire safety has bedeviled the nuclear industry for decades, and safety reviews this month add five sites to the list of plants that may be falling short. Progress' Shearon Harris nuclear plant in southwestern Wake County in North Carolina for years has required round-the-clock foot patrols and other compensatory safety measures that nuclear critics have long said are inadequate. According to the NRC's new safety reviews, the two nuclear sites with the greatest number of risks are Brunswick and Florida Power & Light's Turkey Point, south of Miami. Both are cited for seven out of eight risk factors. The risks include complex safety procedures where "there is not high confidence that operators would be able to implement them in fire conditions."

Source: <http://www.newsobserver.com/2010/05/01/462056/nuclear-safety-review-begins.html>

15. *May 1, Lower Hudson Journal News* – (New York) **Indian Point appeals ruling on Hudson water use.** Officials of the Indian Point (New York) nuclear plant are appealing a recent state ruling that says the way the plant uses Hudson River water to cool its operations does not comply with the Clean Water Act. If the company fails to win the argument, the future of creating electricity at the Buchanan site could end as early as 2015. "Today's request for intervention to the administrative law judges reflects our strong belief that the (state) staff, in this instance, is mistaken in its conclusions," said the vice president for license renewal for Entergy Nuclear, which owns and operates Indian Point. "Entergy ... is proposing a technology — Wedgewire screens — that will significantly advance our longstanding efforts to protect Hudson River fish eggs and larvae while not adversely affecting human health or the Hudson's scenic shoreline," the vice president said. The appeal to the Department of Environmental Conservation's judges comes after an April 2 decision from the agency's staff that the two working plants in Buchanan have harmed shortnose and Atlantic sturgeon by trapping them against screens or killing them as they are drawn in

with the 2.5 billion gallons of river water Indian Point uses every day to cool its operations.

Source: <http://www.lohud.com/article/20100501/NEWS01/5010344/-1/newsfront/Indian-Point-appeals-ruling-on-Hudson-water-use>

16. *May 1, Brattleboro Reformer* – (Vermont) **Report: Leaks may affect VY's reliability.** Vermont Yankee personnel responded to a leak of tritiated water in a timely, appropriate and effective manner, according to Nuclear Safety Associates in a supplement to the Comprehensive Reliability Assessment submitted to the state last year. Nevertheless, it wrote, the plant is potentially susceptible to similar leaks, which could prove to be a challenge to the plant's continued reliability. Nuclear Safety Associates was hired by the state to review Yankee's reliability, a report that was meant to inform the legislature, the Public Service Board (PSB) and the Department of Public Service in making the decision whether the nuclear power plant in Vernon should be allowed to continue to operate past its license expiration date of 2012. Entergy, which owns and operates the nuclear power plant, has applied to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to extend the license to 2032, but also needs approval from the state. Recently, the state senate voted 26 to 4 against continued operation. PSB is in the process of determining whether the plant should receive a certificate of public good, which every public utility in the state must have to operate.

Source: http://www.reformer.com/localnews/ci_14996224

17. *April 30, WSBTV 2 Atlanta* – (National) **Experts: CT scans linked to radiation overdoses.** CT scans can be a lifesaving tool, but they also can cause radiation overdoses. Experts said this is happening more and more at hospitals across the country. Miscalibrated machines or operator error is exposing patients to dangerous doses of radiation. One patient went to a hospital in Huntsville, Alabama, for a routine scan. She said what happened was anything but routine. "I thought, there is something wrong with me. Then the nausea and headaches started," said the former patient. Radiation from the scan scorched part of her head and burned some of her hair off, she said. Her hair has grown back, but she still suffers from nausea, dizziness and blurry vision. "As time has gone on it has gotten worse. I keep waiting for it to get better," the former patient said. Officials are notifying about 60 patients at the same Huntsville hospital that they may have been exposed to hazardous levels of radiation. But this is not an isolated case. At Cedars Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles, CT scans gave patients more than eight times the proper dose of radiation, officials said. In Missouri, officials said they discovered a machine used for years was miscalibrated, exposing 76 patients to radiation overdoses.

Source: <http://www.wsbtv.com/2investigates/23291534/detail.html>

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

18. *May 3, Connecticut Post* – (Connecticut) **Fire breaks out at junction of three factory buildings in Bridgeport.** Firefighters responded May 2 to a two-alarm blaze at the

junction of three old factory buildings in Bridgeport, Connecticut. It started in a shed attached to the outside of a vacant building once used for storage by Zwally Hauling, and spread to cause minor damage to that building and worse damage to a second used by Hawie Manufacturing Co, a metal products manufacturer. A third building, housing Park City Valve & Fitting., could easily have been involved but was not damaged, said the fire chief. "The potential for a tremendous amount of fire was there," he said, adding that damage was minimized "because of the aggressive attack that our personnel did."

Source: <http://www.ctpost.com/local/article/Fire-breaks-out-at-junction-of-three-factory-471670.php>

19. *May 3, Reuters* – (National; Indiana) **U.S. probes potential Chrysler sticky pedal issue.** The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration said in a document posted on its website that five consumers reported that the accelerator pedal became stuck and would not return to the idle position when released. Elkhart, Indiana-based supplier CTS Corp made the pedals involved in the Chrysler investigation. CTS is also the supplier of pedals involved in Toyota Motor Corp's January recall of more than 2 million vehicles. Chrysler said its own review has found that consumer complaints were limited to about 10,000 Calibers built during a five-week window in March and April 2006. The NHTSA probe covers some 161,000 Dodge Calibers built for the 2007 model year. Chrysler and NHTSA said they were not aware of any accidents, injuries or property damage related to the issue. "It appears to be a supplier manufacturing concern, which is mechanical in nature and not a design or electronic issue," Chrysler said in a statement. The automaker also said the vehicle is equipped with a brake override system, which allows the engine controller to reduce power and stop the car when both the brake and the accelerator are depressed. CTS representatives were not immediately available to comment.

Source:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE6422KO20100503?feedType=RSS&feedName=domesticNews>

20. *May 1, Sheboygan Press* – (Wisconsin) **Molten metal cause of fire at Kohler Co. foundry.** A fire in the Kohler Co. foundry was started by molten metal that escaped from a line feeding into a mold, fire officials said Friday. The blaze, reported on April 29, sent 15- to 20-foot flames shooting into the air and took firefighters two hours to bring under control, said the Kohler fire chief. The fire forced about 30 workers to evacuate but did not injure anyone. "It was some kind of spillage from the mold line, molten metal that for whatever reason spilled onto the materials underneath, and it started from there," the chief said. A Kohler spokeswoman did not have an estimate on the amount of the damage or the time needed for repairs. She said the fire did significant damage to a 75-yard section of the Herman line. The molten metal dripped into the basement and ignited there as well as on the first floor where the machinery was located.

Source:

<http://www.sheboyganpress.com/article/20100501/SHE0101/5010442/1062/SHE01>

For another story, see item [38](#)

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

21. *May 3, Associated Press* – (Missouri) **Machinists at Boeing’s defense systems plant in St. Louis authorize strike.** Machinists at Boeing’s St. Louis defense systems plant have authorized a strike if a contract is not accepted before the current agreement expires next month. The International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers District 837 said in a statement that the strike authorization vote was supported by 99 percent of the workers who attended a meeting on Sunday. The district 837 president says seniority, pension, health care and job protection are the key issues. The current contract expires June 13. The union has not been on strike since Boeing purchased McDonnell Douglas Corp. The last walkout was in 1996.

Source: <http://www.latimes.com/business/nationworld/wire/sns-ap-us-boeing-st-louis,0,1764247.story>

22. *April 30, Associated Press* – (Pennsylvania) **Military vest company shutting Western Pa. plant.** A defense contractor that makes protective vests for the military is shutting down its plant in Johnstown, Pennsylvania, no later than July 1. A letter from KDH Defense Systems to workers said many of the plant’s workers were laid off earlier this year. The letter tells workers that the business environment is not improving, so the company plans to shut down the plant and won’t be calling back any workers. The plant has about 100 employees. KDH was founded in Johnstown in 2004 and moved into the former Bestform garment plant in Cambria City. The company hired many former Bestform workers because of their experience in the textile industry.

Source:

http://www.philly.com/philly/business/homepage/20100430_ap_militaryvestcompanys_huttingwesternpaplant.html

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Banking and Finance Sector

23. *May 3, CNN* – (California) **Geezer Bandit strikes for 8th time.** The bank robber dubbed the “geezer bandit” has struck again. The elderly suspect held up a San Diego bank on April 30 bringing the total number of heists he has been accused of committing in the area to 8. While the moniker may be amusing, authorities told CNN the “geezer bandit” has carried a weapon in at least one robbery and should be considered dangerous. One of his most recent heists occurred on April 20, the FBI said. On 9:10 that morning, the “geezer bandit” entered a branch of the California Bank and Trust in Vista, California, and handed a demand note to the teller, authorities said. According to an FBI release, the note “stated it was a robbery and threatened having a weapon.” The suspect then “opened a black day planner to show the teller that he had a black short barreled revolver pointed at her. After the teller produced the money he put the cash

into his day planner and walked out of the bank and out of sight,” the release said. The suspect has been described as between 60-70 years old, but there has been some suggestion that he may be wearing a mask to conceal his real age and make him appear much older than what he actually is. A \$16,000 reward has been offered for information leading to his arrest and conviction.

Source: <http://ac360.blogs.cnn.com/2010/05/03/geezer-bandit-strikes-for-8th-time/>

24. *May 3, Better Business Bureau* – (National) **BBB warns that insurance scams are flourishing in current economy.** In the midst of a tight economy and in the wake of the new national healthcare reform bill, State and Federal regulators are warning about a surge in healthcare-related scams. According to an October 2009 survey conducted by the Coalition Against Insurance Fraud, 57 percent of state fraud bureaus reported a higher incidence of health insurance fraud in 2009 compared to the previous year. The increase was largely attributed to “unauthorized entities selling fake coverage” and “the rise of medical discount plans.” Companies such as HealthcareOne/Elite Healthcare, Consolidated Workers Association, and Smart Data Solutions/American Trade Association, have all recently come under fire from state regulators for peddling worthless coverage or discount medical plans — instead of actual insurance — to thousands of consumers. Additionally, shortly after the healthcare reform bill was signed into law, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services issued a warning to consumers to beware of health insurance offers claiming to be part of new federal regulations. For example in Missouri, the State Insurance director warned that a door-to-door salesman was claiming to be a federal agent selling insurance under the new law.

Source: <http://www.bbb.org/us/article/bbb-warns-that-insurance-scams-are-flourishing-in-current-economy-19245>

25. *May 2, Reuters* – (International) **Explosion damages HSBC branch in Athens, no injuries.** A bomb exploded at a branch of HSBC bank in Athens on Sunday, damaging the entrance but causing no injuries, police said. “It appears a home-made bomb comprised of gas canisters and fuel caused small damage to the bank’s facade,” a police official said. Gas canister bomb attacks are common in Athens and are usually staged by leftist and anarchist groups against business and political targets. Sunday’s bombing against the U.K.-based banking group was the first since the Socialist government announced tough new austerity measures in exchange for international aid to cope with a debt crisis.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE6412AY20100502>

26. *May 1, Bank Info Security* – (National) **7 banks fail on April 30.** State and federal banking regulators closed seven banks on April 30, including three banks in Puerto Rico — the first banks to fail in the U.S. commonwealth, as well as three of the largest institutions to close in 2010. Westernbank had \$11.94 billion in assets; R-G Premier Bank, \$5.92 billion; and Eurobank, \$2.56 billion. These latest closings raise to 71 the number of failed banks and credit unions so far in 2010. The three Puerto Rican banks closed on April 30 included Eurobank, San Juan, Puerto Rico, R-G Premier Bank, and Westernbank. The three were closed by the Office of the Commissioner of Financial

Institutions of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, which appointed the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) as receiver for all three. The FDIC and Oriental Bank and Trust entered into a loss-share transaction on \$1.58 billion of Eurobank's assets. The estimated cost to the Deposit Insurance Fund (DIF) will be \$743.9 million.

Source: http://www.bankinfosecurity.com/articles.php?art_id=2482

27. *April 30, Kansas City Star* – (Missouri) **BC National Banks fails.** BC National Banks failed April 30 and will reopen Saturday as part of Community First Bank in Butler, Missouri, where BC National had its headquarters. The failure came after BC National unsuccessfully had sought additional capital to restore capital that had been eroded by loan losses. Owners had recently sold some branches but the bank was unable to overcome its problems. Customers can continue to use their checks and access their accounts normally, according to the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp.'s announcement. The FDIC said it transferred \$54.9 million in deposits from BC National to Community First. Community First also acquired essentially all of the failed bank's \$67.2 million in assets. The FDIC agreed to share in losses the assets may suffer. BC National's failure is expected to cost the FDIC's deposit insurance fund \$11.4 million.

Source: <http://economy.kansascity.com/?q=node/7046>

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Transportation Sector

28. *May 3, KPHO 5 Phoenix* – (Florida) **Mid-air incident delays flight.** Passengers reported that a 16-year-old boy with special needs was sitting in the back of a US Airways plane with his mother and father when he became violent, striking his father repeatedly. The incident happened about 30 minutes after takeoff. The pilot made the decision to turn the plane around over safety concerns for other passengers. "We were first told it was a medical emergency of some sort, so we were very sympathetic but when the police came on instead of medical personnel we decided it is what it is," one passenger said. "The father came off, he had a black eye and (the flight attendant) was saying he was hitting him on the chest," another passenger said. No one else was hurt during the incident. A few additional passengers also got off when the plane went back to Orlando. A number of other passengers connecting through Phoenix missed their flights.

Source: <http://www.kpho.com/news/23429675/detail.html>

29. *May 3, KTVI 2 St. Louis* – (Illinois) **Plane makes emergency landing at bus station.** The people at Metro Transit are used to dealing with buses and commuter trains, but Sunday night they got an unexpected transportation vehicle at one of their stations: a small airplane. Around 11 p.m. May 2 a Cessna 172N made an emergency landing in one of Metro's bus lanes at the Fairview Heights, IL Metrolink Station. The only person on board was the pilot. He was not hurt and no one on the ground was injured. A call went out over police radios that an aircraft was missing five miles east of the St. Louis Downtown Airport. Within minutes it was discovered the plane had landed on the Metro parking lot.

Source: <http://www.fox2now.com/news/ktvi-plane-lands-metrolink-bus-stop-050310,0,4829125.story>

30. *May 2, ABC News* – (California) **Calif. train line to unveil crash-resistant cars.** Southern California's commuter rail service is preparing to show off new crash-resistant train cars that will replace most of its older cars. The cars, which feature "crush zone" technology to absorb impact in a crash, will be unveiled Monday at Metrolink's maintenance facility in Colton. Metrolink began considering using the technology after a 2005 crash in suburban Glendale that killed 11 people. Another crash in 2008 in the San Fernando Valley killed 25 people and unleashed a second wave of concern about Metrolink safety. Metrolink hopes to have 117 cars ready by next year. The \$229 million fleet is being built by Rotem, a division of Hyundai, in South Korea.

Source: <http://abcnews.go.com/Business/wireStory?id=10535237>

31. *May 2, CNN* – (National) **Official: TSA ramping up East Coast security measures.** The Transportation Security Administration on Sunday ramped up security screening at airports along the East Coast after an attempted car bombing a day earlier in New York's Times Square, a Department of Homeland Security official said. The official told CNN the TSA has begun operations to counter potential car bombs, or "vehicle-born improvised explosive devices," as well as taking measures to prevent other kinds of terrorist acts that might occur in crowded public spaces. The TSA also is coordinating with Customs and Border Protection to facilitate additional secondary passenger screening on both domestic and international flights, the official said. Officials in Washington participated in a call with top TSA officials at airports in New York, Boston and Philadelphia to talk about partnering with Customs to identify flights that might need more random screening, the official said.

Source: <http://news.blogs.cnn.com/2010/05/02/official-tsa-ramping-up-security-measures-at-east-coast-airports/>

See items [34](#) and [66](#)

32. *May 2, Associated Press* – (Nevada) **FAA: Plane lands safely in Vegas with blown tire.** Federal aviation officials say a plane landed safely in Las Vegas after blowing a tire while taking off from Fresno, California. A Federal Aviation Administration spokesman said April 30 that the Allegiant Air plane landed safely at McCarran International Airport after 5 p.m. with damage to an outer tire and the flaps on its right wing. The spokesman says the pilot declared an emergency after the tire blew and the plane landed "uneventfully." An Allegiant spokeswoman says no injuries were reported among the 139 passengers, five crew members and one FAA official aboard.

Source: <http://www.lasvegassun.com/news/2010/may/02/faa-plane-lands-safely-in-vegas-with-blown-tire/>

33. *May 2, Associated Press* – (Pennsylvania) **TSA: 'Suspicious message' on Philly-bound airplane.** A United Airlines flight from Chicago to Philadelphia has landed safely after the crew found "a suspicious message." A Transportation Security Administration spokeswoman said Saturday the agency was notified by the crew of

Flight 148 that “a suspicious message was found on board.” She would not elaborate. The flight landed safely at 6:55 p.m. at Philadelphia International Airport, near its scheduled time. The agency says the plane was directed away from the terminal as a precaution and met by law enforcement officers and TSA officials. Once the passengers got off, officers swept the aircraft but did not find anything of concern. A United Airlines spokesman says 112 passengers and five crew members were on the plane. Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D9FEUV5O1.htm>

34. *May 2, Associated Press* – (New York) **‘Amateurish’ car bomb found in Times Square.** Police found an “amateurish” but potentially powerful bomb that apparently began to detonate but did not explode in a smoking sport utility vehicle in Times Square, authorities said Sunday. Thousands of tourists were cleared from the streets for 10 hours while the bomb was dismantled. “We avoided what we could have been a very deadly event,” the New York City mayor said. “It certainly could have exploded and had a pretty big fire and a decent amount of explosive impact.” Investigators removed three propane tanks, fireworks, two filled 5-gallon (19-liter) gasoline containers, and two clocks with batteries, electrical wire and other components from the back of the Nissan Pathfinder, the New York City Police Commissioner said. A black metal box resembling a gun locker was also recovered and will be detonated off site, he said. The mayor called the explosive device “amateurish” and the police commissioner said the explosives were consumer-grade fireworks but could have caused huge damage on a block of Broadway theaters and restaurants teeming with tourists. Firefighters who arrived shortly after first call heard a popping sound, said the New York City Fire Commissioner. The bomb appeared to be starting to detonate but malfunctioned, a top police spokesman told The New York Times and the Wall Street Journal. Source: <http://www.amny.com/urbanite-1.812039/amateurish-car-bomb-found-in-times-square-1.1891286>
See items [31](#) and [66](#)

35. *May 1, WTOP 1500 Washington* – (District of Columbia) **Dupont Circle Metro station reopens after police investigation.** The Dupont Circle Metro station has reopened after receiving reports of a bomb threat. Metro says someone called 911 with a bomb threat to the station on Saturday, May 1, and D.C. Police asked Metro to close the station while they investigated the threat. Police did not find any hazardous materials at the station Saturday afternoon. Metro set up shuttle bus services from Woodley Park to Farragut North to accommodate passengers during the investigation. Source: <http://wtop.com/?nid=25&sid=1947424>

36. *May 1, WCBS 2 New York* – (New York) **Security issues arise following NYC subway scare.** New York’s subway system is the largest in the world, and its thousands of entrances and 800-plus miles of track make it vulnerable to attack. On April 30, a college student disguised as a track worker exposed just how vulnerable that system is. Police said a Pace student dressed in a reflective vest, a backpack, hardhat and boots wandered for hours underground before being picked up by suspicious track workers. “In the backpack was found a can of sodium cyanide, five flares,” the NYPD

Commissioner said. The student told investigators he wanted to commit suicide and didn't want his body to be found, but a special team was called in to investigate the chemical being carried inside a gallon-sized paint can found in the student's possession. "Sodium cyanide does not have an explosive quality or capability but is highly toxic," the commissioner said. A security expert told CBS 2 HD, "We can go right now into any train station, walk down the platform, walk onto tracks and we're in the tunnel and it's gonna take a long time before anybody sees." The expert, a former co-chair of the New York State Anti-Terrorism Task Force, said without a completely monitored transit system, it's up to New Yorkers to be ever vigilant. "This is where the millions of riders that get on our trains every day, the workmen, everybody involved ... they see something, they report it and they take action. That's about the best we can do," he said. Police will not identify who the Pace University student is, but he has been charged with criminal trespass and is having a psychological evaluation at Bellevue Hospital.

Source: <http://wcbstv.com/topstories/subway.cyanide.scare.2.1666728.html>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

37. *May 2, Associated Press* – (Rhode Island) **OSHA cites Providence post office in safety probe.** Federal officials said the U.S. Postal Service faces more than half a million dollars in potential fines as part of a worker-safety investigation in Providence, Rhode Island. The federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration said the postal service has ignored several critical safety standards at its processing and delivery center on Corliss Street. One OSHA official said the post office "knowingly put its workers in harm's way." OSHA officials say they've issued eight citations and proposed \$558,000 in fines for problems that included letting untrained employees work on electrical equipment without proper safety gear. The Postal Service has 15 days to respond. The Postal Service said the safety and well being of its employees are a top priority and that it will review the findings and make necessary adjustments to ensure a safe working environment.

Source: <http://www.abc6.com/Global/story.asp?S=12412275>

38. *May 1, Quad City Times* – (Illinois) **FBI investigating powder scare at Deere.** The Federal Bureau of Investigation is now the lead agency investigating a hazardous materials scare Friday at the John Deere Seeding Group in Moline, Illinois. Firefighters and a hazardous materials, or HAZMAT, team were dispatched to the plant at 501 River Drive at 3:46 p.m. after a suspicious substance was found on the outside of an envelope, said the Moline deputy fire chief. The envelope containing an unknown white powder was discovered in the facility's mailroom, said a Deere & Co. spokesman. Authorities temporarily shut down River Drive and kept about 100 employees inside the facility, officials said. The HAZMAT team concluded the substance was not hazardous in nature, he added. The envelope is at the State

Laboratory in Springfield for testing, the deputy fire chief said. Manufacturing was not interrupted, the spokesman said. The workers at the site are responsible for maintenance and other similar duties, he said, adding that they were sent home for the night. Manufacturing operations were not scheduled at the plant over the weekend.

Source: http://qctimes.com/news/local/crime-and-courts/article_a5e42356-558e-11df-8b51-001cc4c03286.html

39. *April 30, Orange County Local News Network* – (California) **Man charged for sending white powder to Costa Mesa collection company.** A Pacific Grove man will be arraigned April 30 for allegedly mailing an envelope containing white powder to a collection company after becoming angry about a parking ticket, the Orange County District Attorney's Office announced. He is charged with one felony count of mailing a false weapon of mass destruction. He is being held on \$100,000 bail. He received a citation for \$68.50 from the California Department of State Parks and Recreation for failing to pay for parking at a state park. After an appeal of the ticket was rejected, he was instructed to send payment to a Costa Mesa parking citation collection agency, Judicial Data Systems. He is accused of mailing his check for \$68.50 to Judicial Data Systems with a copy of his denied appeal form sometime in early April, and he allegedly included in the envelope about one gram of a white powder intended to scare the company into thinking it was a hazardous substance. In the memo section of his check and across the appeal request form, he allegedly wrote threatening and profane messages. The company received the form on April 12. Police determined that the substance was not hazardous. The defendant was arrested April 28.

Source: <http://www.oclnn.com/orange-county/2010-04-30/courts-crime/man-faces-charges-for-sending-white-powder-to-costa-mesa-collection-company>

40. *April 29, KCRA 3 Sacramento* – (National) **Transient accused of anthrax hoax.** A transient from Roseville and San Francisco accused of mailing anthrax hoax letters to federal offices has been indicted on 10 counts. He faces four counts of hoax mailings, four counts of mailing threatening communications, one count of threatening the president, and one count of crossing state lines after failing to register as a sex offender. He is accused of sending envelopes to Social Security Administration offices in New York, Kansas City, and Baltimore on January 30. The U.S. attorney's office said the envelopes had a white powder inside and a card reading "you stole my money" and "die." According to the U.S. attorney's office, the White House got a similar envelope with a newspaper picture of the U.S. President that had crosshairs drawn over his face. He was arrested April 22 in San Francisco.

Source: <http://www.kcra.com/news/23312182/detail.html>

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Agriculture and Food Sector

41. *May 3, U.S. Food and Drug Administration* – (New York; New Jersey) **Firm recalls Havista brand white fungus.** Northern Food I/E Inc. of Hicksville, New York, is recalling its 100-gram packages of Havista brand "white fungus" because they contain

undeclared sulfites. People who have a sensitivity to sulfites run the risk of serious or life-threatening reactions if they consume this product. The product comes in a 100-gram clear plastic bag with a multi-color label on the front and a white label on the back. The product is coded Best Before 09/10/2011. The fungus was distributed in New York and New Jersey in retail stores. The recall was initiated after the sulfites were uncovered through routine sampling by the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets Food Inspectors. The consumption of 10 milligrams of sulfites per serving has elicited severe reactions, including anaphylactic shock in some asthmatics. Analysis of the Havista fungus revealed it contained 124 milligrams per serving. No illnesses have been reported to date.

Source: http://eatdrinkandbe.org/article/index.0503_or_whitefungus

42. *May 1, U.S. Food Safety and Inspection Service* – (Colorado) **Colorado firm recalls pork-sausage products for possible Listeria contamination.** Custom Corned Beef, Inc. of Denver is recalling approximately 460 pounds of fully cooked, crumbled pork-sausage products that may be contaminated with *Listeria monocytogenes*, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) announced May 1. The recall covers 10-pound boxes, with two, 5-pound packages of Polidori, Fully Cooked Pork Sausage Crumbles, Keep Refrigerated/Frozen. Each box label bears the establishment number "EST. 4121" inside the USDA mark of inspection. The fully cooked crumbled pork sausage products were produced on Apr. 9, 2010, and were distributed to institutional establishments in Colorado. The problem was discovered by a receiving federal establishment who had recently been tested by FSIS for *Listeria monocytogenes*. There have been no reports of illnesses yet associated with consumption of this product.

Source:

http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News_&_Events/Recall_027_2010_Release/index.asp

43. *April 30, Albany Times Union* – (New York) **New York fights back against tomato-blight threat.** New York plans to set up an early-warning system to avoid a repeat of last year's sudden appearance of a highly destructive tomato-plant disease. The agriculture and markets commissioner said the strategy against "late blight" will rely on "rapid detection, clear communication and an organized system to protect plant health this summer." Last year, the fungus blight ravaged many backyard tomato gardens, and had commercial growers hurriedly spraying fungicides to control the disease, which can also infect potato plants. Infected plants display dark spots, or lesions, the size of a quarter or larger. Lesions become water-soaked after watering or from heavy dew, with edges showing a border of white fungus. The fungus releases spores that spread the disease, which can kill infected plants in as little as three days. Since April 1, state inspectors have been surveying plants at retail stores and commercial greenhouses, the agriculture and markets commissioner said. At the same time, agents from Cornell Cooperative Extension are prepared to pursue suspect cases in the field from commercial growers or home gardeners. The state also is asking distributors to provide details on what plants are being shipped in and where those plants are going. If a state inspector finds what is likely to be late blight, suspect plants will be quarantined. Plants confirmed to be infected will be destroyed.

Source:

<http://www.timesunion.com/AspStories/story.asp?storyID=926626&category=STATE>

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Water Sector

44. *May 3, Associated Press* – (Massachusetts) **Pipe that interrupted Mass. water supply is fixed.** The Boston region's drinking water supply could be back to normal in a day or two under a "best-case scenario" outlined by state officials on Monday, leaving in place the order to boil water after a ruptured pipe disrupted the flow of clean water to about 2 million people. Crews working through the night successfully repaired the 10-foot-wide pipe that broke in suburban Weston on Saturday, prompting the governor to declare a state of emergency. The order for Boston and about 30 surrounding communities remains in effect Monday even though the broken pipe is now operating at full capacity. Officials have already started some environmental tests, which take about 24 hours to complete. The exact reason the coupling gave way remains under investigation. Health officials warned of the risk of a parasite infection if residents used unboiled tap water for brushing their teeth, washing raw vegetables, or making ice. However, the water remained safe for showering and toilet flushing. The repair was initially expected to perhaps take weeks, but officials diverted a spare coupling from a nearby project and welders modified the parts in a matter of hours. Officials remained puzzled by the cause because the break was in a stretch of pipe just seven years old. They said they would be checking the blueprints for other similar connections, to assess the risk of another breach.

Source: <http://www.wrex.com/Global/story.asp?S=12412417>

45. *May 1, KSPR 33 Springfield* – (Missouri) **Willow Springs water treatment facility hit by tornado.** A small tornado hit Willow Spring, Missouri, on April 30. Several homes and businesses were damaged. Power crews were working around the clock to fix broken poles and lines. Some of the worst damage in Willow Springs was to its infrastructure. A wall was blown out of its waste water treatment facility, destroying the filtration system and rendering it full of debris. The chlorination facility was also heavily damaged. "We are operating with one pump and we are doing it manually. We have emergency power running our treatment lab, but we've got some problems here," said the police chief. He is asking everyone in Willow Springs to conserve as much water as possible because the treatment plant can only take in about a quarter of its normal capacity. He says it could take weeks to restore the facility. The city says a conservative estimate on repairs to the waste water treatment facility is around \$1.3 million. The National Weather Service said damage was likely caused by an EF1 tornado with winds between 86 and 110 miles per hour.

Source: <http://www.kspr.com/news/local/92603704.html>

46. *April 30, Courthouse News Service* – (National) **EPA launches Web site listing water polluters.** The Environmental Protection Agency said it's launching an interactive Web page that identifies Clean Water Act violators in communities across the country. The site has maps showing which facilities are polluting and where. The Web site is part of the EPA's Clean Water Act Action Plan aimed at helping states keep polluters in check. The page shows federal compliance information for about 40,000 permitted, smaller facilities across the country. "EPA is taking another important step to increase transparency and keep Americans informed about the safety of their local waters," said the assistant administrator for EPA's Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance. "Making this information more accessible and understandable empowers millions of people to press for better compliance and enforcement in their communities."
- Source: <http://www.courthousenews.com/2010/04/30/26876.htm>

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

47. *May 3, Chandler East Valley Tribune* – (Arizona) **Powder found at Tempe hospital is harmless.** White powder discovered inside three offices of managers at Tempe St. Luke's Hospital on May 2 and early May 3 turned out to be a harmless sugar-based substance. Hazardous materials crews were called to the hospital at 1500 S. Mill Ave. shortly after 9 p.m. May 2 after someone discovered the substance folded inside a white piece of paper, according to a Tempe Fire Department spokesman. After testing the powder, it was discovered that the substance was harmless. Police then were called back out to the hospital about 6:30 a.m. May 3 for a second discovery of white powder. While investigating it, officers found more white powder and called the fire department to investigate. In two of the offices, the powder was found inside mail slots. In the third, it was discovered under the door. Some of the powder was sent to the Arizona Department of Health Services lab to review for possible evidence that might help investigators identify the perpetrator. No evacuations were made during the incidents.
- Source: <http://www.eastvalleytribune.com/story/153245>
48. *May 1, Associated Press* – (International) **FDA to probe children's cold, allergy medicine recall.** The Food and Drug Administration says it is investigating after a health-care company recalled more than 40 over-the-counter infant's and children's liquid medications. McNeil Consumer Healthcare issued the voluntary recall late Friday in the United States and 11 other countries after consulting with the FDA. The recall involves children's versions of Tylenol, Tylenol Plus, Motrin, Zyrtec and Benadryl, because they don't meet quality standards. In a statement Saturday, the FDA says it was reviewing procedures at McNeil. The company is based in Fort Washington, Pa., and appears to be the sole source of the problems. The FDA says the potential for serious medical problems is "remote," but it is advising consumers to stop using the medicine. Some of the products recalled may have a higher concentration of active

ingredient than is specified on the bottle. Others may contain particles, while still others may contain inactive ingredients that do not meet internal testing requirements.

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,591882,00.html?test=latestnews>

49. *April 30, Nextgov* – (National) **VA finds bug that caused mix-up in health exchange system.** The Veterans Affairs Department discovered on April 27 the software bugs that led to instances of doctors receiving the wrong patient data when they accessed electronic medical information shared with the Defense Department. The glitches first surfaced in March, when a VA doctor checked the Defense's AHLTA electronic health record system for prescription data on a female patient. That record showed a Defense physician had prescribed her an erectile dysfunction drug, leading the VA doctor to suspect the system had mixed up patient information. VA issued a safety alert about the problem March 3. "The VA clinician may see the patient's data during one session, but another session may not display the data previously seen," the alert noted. "This problem occurs intermittently and has been reported when querying DoD laboratory, pharmacy and radiology reports." VA clinicians also reported an intermittent bug in the Bidirectional Health Information Exchange with Defense, which allows the two departments to exchange medical data. In that instance, search results occasionally would return incomplete records when a clinician made a patient inquiry on AHLTA. Source: http://www.nextgov.com/nextgov/ng_20100430_8415.php?oref=topnews

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Government Facilities Sector

50. *May 3, KTVX 4 Salt Lake City* – (Utah) **Teachers train to prepare for terror attacks.** One local elementary school is getting prepared in case of a terror attack. Teachers at Sunset Elementary School in Davis County, Utah, went through training Friday afternoon, so they would know what to do to keep their students safe. Safety experts were on hand to educate the teachers about weapons and how they work, in case they encounter them in the classroom one day. Teachers also learned self-defense, the safest way to barricade their classroom, and what to expect if a SWAT team enters the school. The principal of Sunset Elementary said he wants his teachers prepared for any situation that may put students in danger. Source: <http://www.abc4.com/content/news/slc/story/Teachers-train-to-prepare-for-terror-attacks/Id0AvBacE0CS1k1O7pIu5Q.csp>
51. *May 3, WJSV 28 South Bend* – (Indiana) **Capitol security system fails.** A \$400,000 system designed to block access to roads around the Indiana state government complex has been off-line for about a year because of malfunctions that the state cannot afford to repair. The hydraulic bollards rise out of the ground to give capitol police a way to shut off traffic, and were used for a few events in 2005 and 2006. They began having problems after water got into the pumps and controls and caused them to rise without warning. A federal grant paid for the project, but the more than \$44,000 needed to

repair the bollards would have to come from the state. The manufacturer has declared bankruptcy, and the state says it cannot pay for the work. For now, police are using wooden and concrete barriers and law-enforcement vehicles to block off the main artery.

Source: <http://www.fox28.com/Global/story.asp?S=12414832>

52. *May 2, WLTX 19 Columbia* – (South Carolina) **1 soldier dies, 1 injured in helicopter accident at McEntire Joint National Guard base.** One soldier has died and another remains hospitalized from an accident involving a military helicopter at McEntire Joint National Guard Base Sunday. A brigadier general from the South Carolina Air National Guard said the accident took place just before 3 p.m. and involved an Air National Guard AH-64 Apache helicopter at the base. The soldiers were taken to a local hospital. The Richland County Coroner confirmed Sunday night that one of the soldiers has died, but could not release any additional information. Officials indicated the incident happened on a ramp and may have involved a hard-landing or a crash. The event occurred during routine training at the base during a drill weekend, and was not related to any upcoming deployment. Both Army and Air National Guard were flying Sunday at the base.

Source: <http://www.wltx.com/news/story.aspx?storyid=86985&catid=2>

53. *May 2, Associated Press* – (National) **Obama takes direct aim at anti-government rhetoric.** In a blunt caution to political friend and foe, the U.S. President said Saturday that partisan rants and name-calling under the guise of legitimate discourse pose a serious danger to America's democracy, and may incite "extreme elements" to violence. The comments, in a graduation speech at the University of Michigan's huge football stadium, were the President's most direct take about the angry politics that have engulfed his young presidency after long clashes over health care, taxes and the role of government. "What troubles me is when I hear people say that all of government is inherently bad," the President said. "When our government is spoken of as some menacing, threatening foreign entity, it ignores the fact that in our democracy, government is us."

Source:

http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5juui7didNwh_vzBmJyrbjxkeF-IgD9FE6UV00

54. *May 1, Myrtle Beach Sun News* – (South Carolina) **Students face charges after bomb prank.** Two St. James High School students face possible expulsion and charges due to a prank involving a suspicious package found at the school April 29, according to a Horry County police report. Authorities were called to the school around 3:15 p.m. after school officials called 911 about a suspicious package. The package was isolated by the Horry County fire department and was in police custody for testing. The St. James High principal told police that four students had walked into the front office and stated that they had found a note that read "Bomb. I have laced this letter has anthrax, have a nice day and you will die a slow and painful death." The note was signed by another student, whose parents were contacted by police. The four victims were checked out by the Horry County Fire Rescue's Hazmat team and released to their

parents. The case will go before a magistrate who will decide whether to issue an arrest warrant.

Source: <http://www.thesunnews.com/2010/05/01/1451191/police-students-face-charges-after.html>

55. *April 30, KSL 5 Salt Lake City* – (Utah) **Hazmat teams responded to Hill Air Force Base twice.** Emergency and hazmat crews were dispatched to Hill Air Force Base twice Friday. The first was for a suspicious package. The second was in response to a possible spill of the dangerous chemical hydrazine. At least one person sought medical treatment at a local hospital. Bioenvironmental teams responded to determine the nature of the suspicious package and who had come in contact with it. Officials said the response ended around 2 p.m. In the second incident, crews were working on construction site when a worker said he smelled something and then felt a headache. According to an official with the Davis County Sheriff's Office, deputies received reports just before 11 a.m. that anywhere from 20 to 25 people had been exposed to an unknown chemical substance. That chemical was thought to have been identified as hydrazine, which is used in F-16 jets and is highly toxic if inhaled or absorbed by skin. The law enforcement official says the sheriff's office dispatched ambulances, paramedics and deputies to the base. The crews were sent to a staging area, but a short time later were dismissed. After testing the area, no hydrazine was found. The official said it is unclear how many people were actually exposed to the chemical or experienced symptoms. He said only one person drove himself to a local hospital. Source: <http://www.ksl.com/?nid=148&sid=10591365>

56. *April 30, Pioneer Press* – (Minnesota) **Columbia Heights man arrested after he threatened to destroy property at state capitol.** Authorities arrested a Columbia Heights, Minnesota man on Friday after receiving word he had made threatening statements about destroying property on the grounds of the Minnesota State Capitol building. Columbia Heights police working in conjunction with capitol security and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives arrested the 57-year-old suspect in his home at 4 p.m., said a state patrol spokesman. The suspect was being held Friday night in the Hennepin County Jail in Minneapolis, pending charges. Authorities removed evidence from his home, which will be analyzed to determine if it posed an explosives threat, the spokesman said. Capitol security interviewed the suspect after learning of the threat through his acquaintances. They then consulted with the Hennepin County Attorney's office before pursuing the arrest. "He just made threats and some of them involved possible use of explosives," the spokesman said. Source: http://www.twincities.com/ci_14995199?nclink_check=1

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Emergency Services Sector

57. *May 3, FirehouseNews.com* – (National) **DHS wants fire service to join fusion centers.** The Department of Homeland Security Secretary said America’s firefighters are truly the face of homeland security. Addressing about 1,800 at the annual CFSI Fire and Emergency Services dinner Thursday night, she announced a move to officially make the fire service an official partner in fusion centers, a clearinghouse for terrorist information. Fusion centers — recommended following the federal investigation of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks — are staffed by federal employees. She encouraged responders to keep their eyes and ears open for suspicious activity. “The integration of fire service organizations and personnel into the fusion process enhances the efforts of all homeland security partners across all mission areas,” officials said in a document entitled Fire Service Integration for Fusion Centers. The Secretary said it only makes sense that the people who are intimately familiar with their communities be included in the intelligence gathering.
Source: <http://www.firehouse.com/news/top-headlines/dhs-wants-fire-service-join-fusion-centers>
58. *May 3, Columbus Telegram* – (Nebraska) **Neb. regulators to launch probe after 911 outage.** Regulators plan to launch a state-wide investigation this week in the wake of an unusual phone outage that disrupted 911 service in a large swath of southeast Nebraska. The executive director of the state Public Service Commission (PSB), said the process is expected to begin Tuesday with the opening of an official docket on the matter. The April 1 failure of a routing switch in the Windstream phone system interrupted 911 service via both cell phones and landlines in at least a dozen counties, forcing local authorities to take reports in person and by e-mail. Roughly 36,000 customers lost land-line phone service. “We want to look at all the exchanges to make sure there’s enough redundancy and backups so this doesn’t happen anywhere else in the state,” the PSC director said. The large outage caused by an equipment failure in Windstream’s central office in Lincoln has surprised many in the phone business, he said, adding that it was the first such outage he’s ever heard of. Regulators expected to receive a full report Monday on what caused the outage.
Source: http://columbustelegram.com/news/state-and-regional/article_e2f6fbac-ba72-57ed-a097-bc89d2d6a8c5.html
59. *May 1, LEX 18 Lexington* – (Kentucky) **Thieves targeting fire stations.** Kentucky firefighters believe they are the target of a group of thieves, after break-ins at two different fire stations this week. The first break-in occurred at a fire station in Lewis County. Then there was another one just a few miles down the road at a station in Rowan County, discovered Saturday. That one was caught on tape. The surveillance video from the Route 377 fire station shows what appears to be three men casing the station about two o’clock Friday morning. The men broke into a storage building, but didn’t steal anything. The fire chief believes an alarm system scared them off before they hit the station’s main building.
Source: <http://www.lex18.com/news/thieves-targeting-fire-stations>
60. *April 29, KFOR 4 Miami* – (Florida) **Boating accident a hoax, “rescued boater” arrested.** A South Florida man who set off a massive search and rescue operation

involving the U.S. Coast Guard and Miami-Dade Fire Rescue after calling 911 to say he and his friends had been in a boating accident, has been arrested and charged with filing a false police report. A Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission spokesman said when the man was taken into custody investigators found that he had an outstanding warrant for drug possession and trafficking along with weapons charges. The spokesman said the suspect admitted to calling 911 on April 26 around 9 p.m. to report his boat had been struck by another vessel off Haulover Beach. The suspect reportedly told the emergency operator that the other boat had taken off after the crash, his boat was taking on water, and three people were missing. Investigators would later track the call to determine that he made it from his home and not out on the water. The U.S. Coast Guard launched two search boats and a helicopter while Miami-Dade Fire Rescue dispatched ten search boats and searched a five-mile grid for hours. Investigators were unable to find any evidence that there was a boat collision. Source: <http://cbs4.com/local/willie.lawyer.boaters.2.1664541.html>

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Information Technology Sector

61. *April 29, The Register* – (International) **Google ‘personal’ search bug exposed user Web history.** Google has restored its “personalized” search suggestions after purging the tool of a critical vulnerability that allowed attackers to steal a user’s Web history. Personalized search suggestions were disabled on March 1 after a trio of security researchers — one at the University of California, Irvine and two at the French National Institute for Research in Computer Science and Control (INRIA) — sent Google a preliminary version of a paper showing how they were able to infer large portions of a user’s Web history by hijacking the user’s session ID (SID) cookie and nabbing the company’s personalized-suggestion data. Then, on March 15, the company sent a statement to the researchers saying it had added SSL decryption to Google Web History and that it had started encrypting the back-end Web History server requests used to personalize suggestions on its Maps site. Google also said it would “soon” do the same for search, and this happened more than a month later. Google tells The Register that personalized search suggestions took longer to restore because the fix was “more complex to deploy and involved a larger code change.” In a statement Google said, “We highly value our relationship with the security-research community, and we are grateful to the researchers from INRIA and University of California, Irvine who have been in contact with us since the end of February about their findings related to open, unsecured network connections and personalized suggestion technology.”

Source:

http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/04/29/google_personalized_suggestions_turned_off_after_researcher_attack/

62. *April 29, Infoworld* – (International) **The security-hole baton passes from Microsoft to Adobe.** Microsoft has gained new-found respect for its security efforts while other popular software vendors are accused of making the same mistakes. In recent years, Microsoft has tightened up its security issues — while Adobe Systems has increasingly

become the sloppy vendor whose products such as Acrobat and Flash increasingly pose the security holes that bedevil information technology experts. And many researchers think Apple could be next. In an interview, the co-founder and CTO of eEye Digital Security says: “A lot of security practitioners compare the Adobe of today to the Microsoft of yesterday.”

Source: <http://www.infoworld.com/d/security-central/the-security-hole-baton-passes-microsoft-adobe-129>

63. *April 28, V3.co.uk* – (International) **Infosec 2010: Large firms overwhelmed by security breaches.** A staggering 92 percent of large organizations have suffered a security incident or data breach in the past year, as they struggle to cope with the changing threat landscape, according to the latest biennial Information Security Breaches Survey from PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC). PwC branded the findings, released April 28 at Infosec 2010, as “surprisingly bad,” and said that companies are struggling to mitigate the increased external threat levels and the large numbers of accidental breaches from insiders. “We were not expecting the results to be as significant as that. Right now it looks quite serious in terms of the costs,” said a spokesman. “People are maintaining expenditure on security, but serious threats are rising and people are having to adapt and change to the new threat landscape.” The report found that the median number of data breaches rose from five, two years ago to 45 today, and that the average costs had risen roughly threefold. Breaches totaled around £10bn in costs, with a big increase in the cost of reputation damage.
- Source: <http://www.v3.co.uk/v3/news/2262177/infosec-2010-large-firms>

Internet Alert Dashboard

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

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

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Communications Sector

64. *May 3, Washington Post* – (National) **FCC chairman expected to leave broadband services deregulated.** The chairman of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has indicated he wants to keep broadband services deregulated, even as a federal court decision has exposed weaknesses in the agency’s ability to be a strong watchdog over the companies that provide access to the Web. The FCC currently has “ancillary” authority over broadband providers such as Comcast, AT&T, and Verizon and must adequately justify actions against those providers. Last month, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit said the agency had exceeded its authority in 2008 when it applied sanctions against Comcast. The ruling cast doubt over the FCC’s ability to create a “net neutrality” rule that would force Internet service providers to treat all services and applications on the web equally. The FCC Chairman

is expected to respond soon to the court ruling. Three sources at the agency said that while the chairman has not made a final decision, he has indicated in recent discussions that he is leaning toward keeping in place the current regulatory framework for broadband services, while making small changes that would bolster the FCC's chances of overseeing some broadband policies.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/05/02/AR2010050203262.html?hpid=sec-tech>

For more stories, see items [58](#) and [66](#)

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Commercial Facilities Sector

65. *May 3, RTT News* – (International) **Canada issues travel advisory over terror threat in Delhi.** Canada is the latest country — after the U.S., the U.K. and Australia — in warning their citizens traveling to India about a threat of an imminent Islamist terrorist attack in New Delhi. This travel advisory was the third sent out in recent days, cautioning tourists to avoid New Delhi's popular Chandni Chowk area in Old Delhi. The U.S., the U.K. and Australia have also warned of imminent terror threat in New Delhi, particularly in market places like Connaught Place, Greater Kailash and Chandni Chowk, where crowds throng, especially during weekends. Reports citing intelligence sources said e-mails recently received from some servers in Pakistan by sports organizations in the U.K., Canada and Australia warn them not to send athletes to Delhi for the Commonwealth Games. Intelligence agencies also suspect that Islamic terrorists might be planning to target the infrastructure of the games, and participants and organizers ahead of the games. Meanwhile, it is reported that a Kashmiri Muslim was arrested for allegedly being a major part of a plan to attack Delhi this weekend. The Jammu and Kashmir police said the man, who was allegedly operating on behalf of the Pakistan-based Islamic terrorist group Lashkar-e-Toiba, confessed to his planned role to carry out bomb attacks in Delhi. He was to have picked up a consignment of explosives and reach Delhi April 27 to carry out the attacks, but was detained last week as part of a group of persons who threw stones at members of the security forces. Source: <http://www.rttnews.com/Content/CanadianNews.aspx?Id=1289015&SM=1>

66. *May 3, Associated Press* – (New York) **Napolitano: No suspects ruled out in NY bomb scare.** The head of homeland security said Monday that investigators haven't ruled out any suspects, including foreign terrorist organizations, in the case of the unexploded car bomb that was parked in New York City's Times Square on Saturday night. "Right now, every lead has to be pursued," the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary told NBC's "Today" show. "I caution against premature decisions one way or another." The Pakistani Taliban appeared to claim responsibility for the car bomb in three videos that surfaced over the weekend, but the New York police commissioner said police have no evidence to support those claims. New York's mayor said Monday that "there is no evidence tied to international terrorism." But the DHS Secretary called it "premature to rule in or rule out" any suspects. She praised New York street vendors who alerted police to the suspicious vehicle, telling CBS'

“Early Show” that the incident is a reminder that “everybody needs to be and is a part of the process of being watchful, of being vigilant.” There has been speculation that because the SUV was parked near the headquarters of Viacom, the attack might have been related to a controversial “South Park” episode that portrayed the Prophet Muhammad dressed in a bear costume. Viacom owns Comedy Central. “I’m not going to speculate on speculation. It is out there as one theory. There may be others,” the DHS Secretary told CNN.

Source:

http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5hi02kJELPA_LJ1Ey63urWIgrtqAD9FFBEK00

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67. *May 2, Associated Press* – (Pennsylvania) **Suspicious device forces delay near marathon finish.** A suspicious device near the Pittsburgh Marathon finish line prompted police to stop the race for 10 to 12 minutes after the race leaders finished. The device was disabled, and the police said it was not believed to have been an explosive. A race spokeswoman said that the race was diverted around the block where the device was found but that the finish was not changed.

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2010/05/03/sports/03sportsbriefs-marathon.html>

68. *May 1, KXTV 10 Sacramento* – (California) **Pipe bomb blows off Vacaville man’s fingers; 2 arrested.** A Vacaville, California man lost two fingers and two of his friends were arrested, after investigators said a home-made pipe bomb blew up in the man’s hand in a Vacaville park Saturday night. The device went off in Centennial Park on Browns Valley Road around 10:20 p.m. a Vacaville police sergeant said. He said officers got involved after a call from Kaiser Hospital in Vacaville, where a 19-year-old man arrived with serious injuries. Following interviews with the victim, investigators determined the man, two friends and a group of high school students met in the park to blow up the device. According to authorities, the man was trying to throw the lit pipe bomb when it prematurely detonated in his hand. The man was taken by his two friends to the hospital, where he was treated for the wound that resulted in the loss of two fingers. The two friends, one 18, and the other 17, both from Vacaville, were arrested for manufacturing, transporting and possessing an explosive device. The Vacaville police sergeant said a search of several locations and vehicles turned out no other devices or explosive materials.

Source: <http://www.news10.net/news/story.aspx?storyid=80649&catid=2>

For another story, see item [69](#)

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

Nothing to report

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Dams Sector

69. *May 3, Associated Press* – (Tennessee) **Tenn. officials brace for more flooding, more deaths in weather that's killed at least 19.** About 1,500 guests at the Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center in Nashville spent the night in a high school to escape the flooding Cumberland River, which was expected to crest Monday following weekend thunderstorms that killed at least 19 people in Tennessee, Mississippi, and Kentucky. Officials in Tennessee were preparing for more deaths and for the Cumberland River to crest more than 11 feet Monday afternoon, putting portions of Nashville in danger of the kind of damage experienced by thousands of residents whose homes were swamped by flash floods. The Cumberland River had already reached record levels since an early 1960s flood control project was put in place. Authorities evacuated the downtown area and north Nashville where a leaky levee threatened residents and businesses. The Nashville mayor called on Nashville residents Monday to use water only for cooking and drinking because one of the city's two water treatment plants was flooded. Water flooded parking lots around the nearby Grand Ole Opry House and the Opry Mills shopping mall, but it was not immediately clear if water had made it inside the buildings.

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/us/2010/05/03/tenn-officials-brace-flooding-deaths-weather-thats-killed/>

70. *May 3, Associated Press* – (California) **State wants exemption from federal levee-stripping.** Federal officials want California to remove trees from 1,600 miles of levees, saying they could cause the levees to breach during floods. California officials estimate removing levee trees would cost \$7.5 billion. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers said trees cause floods by ripping out sections of levee if they fall in a storm, and then creating a path for water to seep through levees via their roots. In an April 15 letter, the heads of state water resources and fish and game warned of “devastating environmental consequences” if the Army Corps implements its post-Hurricane Katrina policy. They want an exemption to Army Corps rules requiring only short grass on the levees, saying there have not been any levee failures from woody vegetation.

Source: http://www.mercurynews.com/news/ci_15006514?nclink_check=1

71. *May 2, New Orleans Times-Picayune* – (Louisiana) **Floodgates closed at Harvey and Company canals.** Rising water levels from heavy rainfall and easterly winds prompted the Army Corps of Engineers to close floodgates on the Harvey and Company canals the morning of May 2. The Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-West requested that the gates be closed so that pumps could be used to reduce water levels in the West Bank canals. The barge gate at Company Canal was closed at 10:30 a.m. The gate takes two hours to close and, once closed, the levee authority can pump water around the gate. The sector gate on the Harvey Canal, which takes about 10 minutes to close, was closed at 9:30 a.m. The National Weather Service said above-normal tides — 1 to 2 feet above normal — would continue to pose a coastal flood threat through Sunday night. Strong southerly winds and increased wave action will continue to bring higher than normal tides to coastal Louisiana and coastal Mississippi.

Source:

http://www.nola.com/news/index.ssf/2010/05/floodgates_closed_at_harvey_an.html

72. *May 2, LEX 18 Lexington* – (Kentucky) **Flood warning issued in Metcalfe County; dam failure imminent.** The National Weather Service in Louisville has issued a flash flood warning for the Little Barren River in Metcalfe County as heavy rains continue to fall throughout the state. The flash flood warning is in effect until 3:15 p.m. CDT, May 2. At 12:11 p.m. CDT, the imminent failure of the Dunham Lake Dam was reported by county emergency management. Authorities said people who live downstream of the dam should evacuate to higher ground now. U.S. 68 in Metcalfe county may be impacted by this dam failure.

Source: <http://www.lex18.com/news/flood-warning-issued-in-metcalfe-county-dam-failure-imminent>

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