



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 5 May 2010

Current Nationwide Threat Level

ELEVATED

Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks

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

Top Stories

- USA Today reports that the Transportation Department never conducted required safety checks on 20,000 to 30,000 companies that got special permits to move risky shipments of hazardous materials by road, rail, water and air, according to data compiled by DOT's inspector general. (See item [25](#))
- GovInfoSecurity.com reports that the Treasury Department blamed a cloud computing provider for the disruption of its Web site that provides the Internet face of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. A researcher for IT security software vendor AVG wrote in his blog that "for a short while (Monday) a couple of treas.gov websites were hacked, and were reaching out to an attack site in Ukraine." (See item [37](#))

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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 4, St. Louis Business Journal* – (Utah) **Arch Coal temporarily shuts Utah mine.** An Arch Coal mine remains shut as the company and regulators work to eliminate a "hot spot" that appeared last Thursday and caused elevated carbon

monoxide levels. Arch Coal's Canyon Fuel Co. subsidiary said late Monday that production at its Dugout Canyon mine in Wellington, Utah, was temporarily suspended April 29. An increase in carbon monoxide levels detected in a mined-out area that was being sealed is believed to have been caused by a small fire or "hot spot" in a previously mined area, the company said. No employees were injured and the mine was not damaged, the company said. Carbon monoxide levels haven't gone up since the initial spike and methane levels remain low, the company said.

Source: <http://stlouis.bizjournals.com/stlouis/stories/2010/05/03/daily18.html>

2. *May 4, WDSU 6 New Orleans* – (Louisiana) **BP: Relief well work has begun.** BP said Tuesday it has begun drilling a relief well that will allow it to permanently seal the Deepwater Horizon leak on the floor of the Gulf of Mexico. The company's explanation of the project follows. Drilling began at 3 p.m. Central Standard Time Sunday May 2. The new well, in 5,000 feet of water, is planned to intercept the existing well around 13,000 feet below the seabed and permanently seal it. The new drill site is located on the seabed about a half mile from the leaking well in Mississippi Canyon block 252, and drilling will take about three months. "This is another key step in our work to permanently stop the loss of oil from the well," said BP Group's chief executive. "At the same time we are continuing with our efforts to stop the leak and control the oil at the seabed, to tackle the oil offshore, and to protect the shoreline through a massive effort together with government agencies and local communities." Source: <http://www.wdsu.com/news/23445397/detail.html>

3. *May 4, Reuters* – (Tennessee) **Flooding causes power outages in Nashville.** Flooding overwhelmed utilities in downtown Nashville Tuesday, knocking out power and water service to thousands, after weekend storms were blamed for more than two dozen deaths. "Power will be out for the next few days downtown due to water in underground vaults," the city's mayor said in a statement. He said 3,500 customers were without electricity. Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE6412Y620100504?type=domesticNews>

4. *May 4, Morristown Daily Record* – (New Jersey) **Mayor: 'JCP&L is really rolling the dice' with underground explosions.** The mayor of Morristown, New Jersey said it might be time to have independent engineers examine the town's chronic problems with underground electrical fires — just hours after a fire sparked a basement explosion at the Morristown and Morris Township Library. No one was hurt in Monday morning's explosion, which blew out windows and doors in the basement of the library on South Street shortly before 9 a.m., prompting evacuations in surrounding buildings and shutting down much of the street until 12:15 p.m. This was the third underground fire and explosion over the past six months, and the second in the same area of South Street in a little more than two months. Jersey Central Power and Light (JCP&L) officials said they were unable to determine the cause of the fire but added that a secondary electric cable serving the library and St. Peter's Episcopal Church was damaged Monday. JCP&L officials told council members in March that they had spent \$154,000 to replace 10,000 feet of cable and nine junction boxes to address concerns

about the system following the February 28 explosion. They said the town's electric system was safe and reliable, but added that they could not guarantee that the work would prevent all future problems.

Source:

<http://www.dailyrecord.com/article/20100504/COMMUNITIES/305040001/1005/NEWS01/Mayor---JCP&L-is-really-rolling-the-dice--with-underground-explosions>

5. *May 3, KOSA 7 Odessa* – (Texas) **Alon refinery hit with more OSHA violations.** The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration has cited ALON USA LP for alleged serious and repeat violations following an inspection at the company's crude oil refinery in Big Spring. Proposed penalties total \$84,000. OSHA's Lubbock District Office began its investigation Oct. 27, 2009 at the company's facility on 200 Refinery Road following a report of an explosion. As a result of the explosion, three workers were hospitalized, treated and released. "This is not the first time this company has failed to effectively implement OSHA's process safety-management regulations to protect workers from potential hazards," said OSHA's area director for El Paso, Texas. "This inspection has identified hazards that require corrective action to prevent accidents and injuries." The serious citation, which includes eight violations, was issued for hazards associated with process-safety management.

Source: <http://www.cbs7kosa.com/news/details.asp?ID=19279>

6. *May 3, Reuters* – (Illinois) **Exxon reports malfunction at Joliet refinery.** Exxon Mobil Corp reported a malfunction at its 238,600 barrel-per-day Joliet, Illinois, refinery, which shut down units, according to a filing on Saturday with the Illinois Emergency Management Agency. The filing provided no further detail on the shuttered units or on the incident's impact on production.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSN0322559620100503?type=marketsNews>

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Chemical Industry Sector

7. *May 4, KCTV 5 Kansas City* – (Kansas) **Chemical spill reported at KCK business.** A chemical spill was reported shortly before 7:30 a.m. at a business at 935 Sunshine Road in Kansas City, Kansas. The spill involved a flammable solvent in a loading dock area of ALS Laboratories. Employees of the business were evacuated as a precaution. Around 7:50 a.m. employees were allowed to go back inside the building. Hazardous materials teams from the company and from the Kansas City Fire Department were on the scene.

Source: <http://www.kctv5.com/news/23445394/detail.html>

8. *May 4, WCBD 2 Charleston* – (South Carolina) **Leak at Rhodia in Charleston contained, plant given all clear.** An early morning leak at Rhodia in Downtown Charleston is contained, and the plant sounded the all clear around 10:45 Tuesday morning. According to a CFD spokesman, a small amount of Phosphorous Trichloride leaked in part of the plant; when the chemical mixes with water it forms hydrochloric

acid. The plant manager says the leak formed in a pipe used to package the chemical for transport to various clients. He also said the company activated sirens to alert the neighborhoods by the plant to the spill. He says the company will now start an investigation into what caused the leak.

Source:

http://www2.counton2.com/cbd/news/local/article/firefighters_are_working_a_small_leak_at_the_rhodia_plant/135087/

9. *May 3, Reuters* – (California) **Wal-Mart to pay \$27.6 million over toxic waste case.** The accord ends a five-year probe in which California investigators said they found violations at 236 Wal-Mart and Sam's Club stores, distribution centers, and storage facilities in the state. Wal-Mart was accused of improperly dumping hazardous waste such as acid, aerosols, chemicals, fertilizer, motor oil, paint, and pesticides. In one instance, according to an April 2 court filing, investigators in April 2002 observed "piles of multicolored unknown fertilizer-type substances and torn sacks of ammonium sulfate" at a Wal-Mart store in Vacaville, California, after learning a child had been playing on a pile of "yellowish colored powder" near the store's garden department. The accord calls for Wal-Mart to pay a \$20 million fine, \$3 million to improve store maintenance, \$3 million for other environmental projects, and \$1.6 million for legal costs. The San Diego County district attorney called the settlement one of the largest of its kind in the United States. Nineteen other prosecutors, including the California State Attorney and 32 environmental health agencies joined the accord. Wal-Mart's vice president of environmental compliance said in a statement the retailer has worked closely with California on a comprehensive hazardous waste plan that includes improved training programs, policies and procedures. A spokesman said Wal-Mart is working to resolve a separate federal probe that raises similar allegations.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE6424B620100503>

10. *May 3, WDEM 5 Saginaw* – (Michigan) **Smoke triggers evacuation at Dow Chemical HQ.** The Midland City Fire Department was called Monday morning on reports of smoke in a Dow Chemical building at its corporate headquarters in Michigan. The fire department said an automatic fire alarm had triggered their response around 8 a.m. When the department arrived, they said a light haze was visible and an electrical smell permeated the building's first floor. Authorities said they were not able to locate the source of the smoke, but said they suspected it was originating from an elevator component. The building was evacuated of all personnel. Eventually, the haze and smell cleared away and the fire department said there were no injuries as a result of the stench. A fire department representative said a Dow Chemical Health and Safety team took over the investigation into the smoke's source.

Source: <http://www.wnem.com/news/23434863/detail.html>

11. *May 2, Dalton Daily Citizen* – (Georgia) **Fire damages chemical plant.** No one was injured Sunday afternoon when a fire broke out at a chemical plant off Abutment Road in Dalton, Georgia, officials said. Just after 1 p.m., 911 began receiving calls from several people who reported hearing explosions coming from the Polystar Chemical plant on Brookhollow Industrial Blvd. No one was in the building when the fire began,

fire officials said. The Dalton Fire chief said around 6 p.m. that officials had not yet begun to investigate the cause of the fire. “There was one tank we were especially concerned with,” he said. “It contained epichlorodhydrin. It’s toxic. It is poison. There could have been a lot more explosions if the fire had gotten into that section of the building. There were other tanks on the inside. It could have been a lot worse situation.” He said he expects there to be “extensive dollar loss” because of the reactors, chemicals and equipment that were destroyed in the fire. He did not yet know if an explosion sparked the fire or if a fire caused the explosions. Black smoke from the fire could be seen for miles to the north. A few roads were closed as firefighters worked to contain the fire.

Source: <http://daltondailycitizen.com/local/x1164471984/Fire-damages-chemical-plant>

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

12. *May 4, Associated Press* – (North Carolina) **NC counties give protective pills near nuke plant.** Health officials are refreshing the radiation-fighting pills for residents in two North Carolina counties living near a nuclear power plant. The StarNews of Wilmington reported Monday a new batch of potassium iodide pills will be offered this month to residents within 10 miles of the Brunswick nuclear plant. They are to replace tablets distributed in 2003. Health officials in Brunswick and New Hanover counties will give away two pills for each person. People can pick up the pills for other family members or neighbors. Potassium iodide can reduce the risk of thyroid cancer from radiation exposure. The pills will be distributed at community centers and city halls in the area.

Source: <http://www.blueridgenow.com/article/20100504/APN/1005041420>

13. *May 4, Augusta Chronicle* – (South Carolina) **MOX plant inspection results in 3 notices.** The Nuclear Regulatory Commission’s most recent round of inspections at the U.S. Energy Department’s mixed oxide fuel facility yielded three notices of violation for minor procedural infractions, according to a copy of the report made public Monday. Inspectors, who conducted extensive reviews at the construction site from January 1 to March 31, also noted that many programs — including welding, testing, placement of concrete and steel and other construction activities — were “performed in a safe and quality related manner.” The \$4.8 billion MOX facility, scheduled to open at Savannah River Site in 2016, is designed to dispose of 34 metric tons of surplus weapons-grade plutonium by using small amounts to make fuel for commercial reactors. The inspections evaluated construction of principal structures and included quality assurance and documentation activities, the report said. The three violations identified by the NRC were assigned a priority level of IV, the least serious on the agency’s scale.

Source: <http://chronicle.augusta.com/news/metro/2010-05-04/mox-plant-inspection-results-3-notices?v=1272932230>

14. *May 3, Asbury Park Press* – (New Jersey) **47 fish found dead at Oyster Creek nuclear plant in Lacey.** Authorities have an environmental mystery on their hands after about 50 fish died near the discharge canal of Oyster Creek Generating Station. The nuclear plant went offline Wednesday for planned maintenance and restarted Saturday night. But the 47 floating fish were found Saturday morning, days after the shutdown and before the startup began. “It is puzzling that there could be a thermal shock this time of year. Usually it happens in the winter,” said a spokesman for the state Department of Environmental Protection. A Plant spokesman said Monday, “Our reactor was offline for four days. The discharge canal was at environmental-level temperatures. We found 47 fish over the weekend, mainly bluefish.” The spokesman said Exelon Nuclear, which owns and operates the power plant, had environmental contractor Normandeau and Associates handle the cleanup. “They were responsible for collecting the fish. We will find out what this is all about,” the spokesman added. A news release from Exelon concerning the incident stated, “During the maintenance outage, the Oyster Creek Generating Station met all water discharge permit requirements. Canal temperatures have been stable, changing only with natural environmental conditions.”
Source: <http://www.app.com/article/20100503/NEWS/5030335/1070/NEWS02/47-fish-found-dead-at-Oyster-Creek-nuclear-plant-in-Lacey>
15. *May 3, Associated Press* – (National) **New US study on nuclear plant health risks hailed.** Pennsylvania officials and activists say they are glad the federal government is taking another look at whether people who live near nuclear plants have a higher risk of getting cancer. The federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission announced last month that it was asking the National Academy of Sciences to do a “state-of-the-art study” on cancer risk for populations surrounding nuclear power facilities. The academy is being asked to update a 1990 study released by the National Cancer Institute that found no increased risk of cancer deaths in counties surrounding 62 nuclear facilities, “including all of the nuclear power reactors operational before 1982,” the commission said. The NRC spokesman said the question of possible health effects comes up frequently from the public. “It’s an appropriate time now,” he said. “It’s been two decades since this kind of national study.” In addition, he said, the previous study looked only at data on the county level, and technology developed since then will allow for more refined breakdowns that could find clusters of health problems the previous study might have missed. The four- to five-year study will also look at all cancers rather than only at cancer deaths, he said.
Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D9FFEAI0.htm>
16. *May 3, Reuters* – (Michigan) **AEP reduces Mich. Cook 1 reactor to half power.** American Electric Power Co Inc (AEP.N) reduced the 1,009-megawatt Unit 1 at the Cook nuclear power station in Berrien County, Michigan to about half power on May 2 due to the loss of a main feedwater pump, the company told the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission in a report. The unit was operating at full power before the power reduction. The company said operators reduced the unit due to high bearing temperatures on the feedwater pump.
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSN0323845620100503?type=marketsNews>

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

17. *May 3, Kalamazoo Gazette* – (Michigan) **Employee injured in apparent explosion at Three Rivers metal-casting company.** An employee was injured Monday morning in an apparent explosion at a metal-casting company in Three Rivers, authorities said. Three Rivers firefighters responded to Metal Technologies at 8:28 a.m. after receiving a report of an explosion with injuries, according to a news release. Firefighters arrived to find an employee being treated by other staff members. The employee declined to be taken from the scene by ambulance. Firefighters found no fire or “obvious structural damage” to the building, the news release said.

Source:

http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2010/05/employee_injured_in_apparent_e.html

18. *May 3, Jackson Citizen Patriot* – (Mississippi) **Fire at Westlund Manufacturing on S. Cooper Street temporarily closes road.** Firefighters were able to quickly put out a fire the morning of May 3at Westlund Manufacturing in Jackson, Mississippi. Several trucks were still at the business at 1415 S. Cooper St. as of about 11:20 a.m. The road was temporarily closed from Damon Street to Wall Street. Firefighters arrived about 10:45 a.m. and found some flames in the main part of the polishing and plating company, said an assistant fire chief. The first crew in the building put out the fire,the chief said, but smoke continued to come outside. No one was in the structure at the time. It is an operating business with power and gas. The fire chief said he did not yet know the cause of the fire.

Source:

http://www.mlive.com/news/jackson/index.ssf/2010/05/fire_at_westlund_manufacturing.html

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

19. *May 4, Naval Open Source Intelligence* – (National) **Raytheon’s Standard Missile-6 program begins sea-based flight testing.** Raytheon Company’s Standard Missile-6 begins sea-based flight testing this month, paving the way for initial operational capability (IOC) in 2011. “With its over-the-horizon protection, SM-6 increases the surface Navy’s battlespace against air and cruise missile threats and offers protection for coalition forces ashore,” said Raytheon’s vice president of Air and Missile Defense Systems product line. “These sea-based flight tests clear the way for Raytheon to deliver a critical capability to the warfighter by 2011.”

Source: <http://nosint.blogspot.com/2010/05/raytheons-standard-missile-6->

[program.html?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed:+blogspot/fqzx+\(Naval+Open+Source+INTelligence\)](http://program.html?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed:+blogspot/fqzx+(Naval+Open+Source+INTelligence))

20. *May 4, Aviation Week* – (National) **Falcon 9 debut stands aside for Shuttle.** The first flight of Space Exploration Technologies' (SpaceX) Falcon 9 rocket will fall behind the targeted May 14 launch of space shuttle Atlantis on the STS-132 mission. The California-based firm, which holds NASA contracts for Falcon 9 development, demonstration and cargo delivery missions to the International Space Station, had been targeting a "no earlier than" May 8 launch date on Cape Canaveral Air Force Station range schedules. Last week, a new planning date of May 11 surfaced, but in an e-mail May 3, the SpaceX CEO said that if qualifications of Falcon 9's Flight Termination System (FTS) go well, launch could take place in mid-May, between the STS-132 launch and the scheduled May 20 launch of a Delta IV booster with the Air Force's Global Positioning System IIF-SV1 satellite. If range schedules cannot accommodate a mid-May launch date, the flight would be retargeted for late May.

Source:

http://www.aviationweek.com/aw/generic/story_channel.jsp?channel=space&id=news/asd/2010/05/04/06.xml

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Banking and Finance Sector

21. *May 4, Nashua Telegraph* – (New Hampshire) **Securities chief quits over scheme.** New Hampshire's securities chief resigned Monday and issued a scathing indictment of the government's handling of the legal case against Financial Resources Mortgage (FRM) that has become a Lakes Region Ponzi scheme robbing investors of up to \$100 million. The director of the Bureau of Securities Regulation vowed to press the Legislature to beef up powers to prevent this kind of case from recurring. The director contends the Banking Department stonewalled his investigators by not giving them all documents relating to the FRM matter. Asked if it amounted to a cover-up, he answered, "If someone is not providing the information that is available, then in fact that is a cover-up." Last month, federal authorities indicted FRM and its president on wire fraud charges. They allege that many of the projects that investors contributed to were bogus and that he had pooled all the money collected into a single account. A trial date is set for June 5 in US District Court in Concord. House and Senate committees will open their investigation of the FRM matter Friday.

Source: <http://www.nashuatelegraph.com/news/statenewengland/725230-227/securities-chief-quits-over-scheme.html?i=1>

22. *May 4, Oklahoman* – (Oklahoma) **Serial bank robber sought in Oklahoma City area crimes.** The FBI is looking for a man who has robbed at least seven banks in the Oklahoma City area, the last two crimes including pistol whippings. During each of the robberies, the man wore a ski mask and was armed with a black semiautomatic pistol. But on the last two robberies, including one in Edmond two weeks ago and another in Midwest City on Saturday, the robber used his gun to hit bank employees who were

complying with the man's demands. During the past 11 months the man has robbed banks in Oklahoma City, Norman, Edmond, and Midwest City. The man is suspected of robbing Bank of the West and Bank of Oklahoma banks. A reward of up to \$10,000 is offered by Bank of the West, the Oklahoma Bankers Association, and the FBI for information leading to the capture and conviction of the robber.

Source: http://www.newsok.com/serial-bank-robber-sought-in-oklahoma-city-area-crimes/article/3458733?custom_click=pod_headline_crime

23. *April 30, City of Berkeley, CA* – (California; National) **Community crime alert increase in credit card fraud.** In recent months, the City of Berkeley Police Department (BPD) in California has seen a spike in identity theft and credit card fraud. These cases may be in the City of Berkeley, but personal and credit card information is usually used by a larger national and international network of criminals. After community members' credit and bank accounts are compromised, suspects often use them at large retailers across the United States, with a high concentration in Texas, Louisiana, Michigan, and Georgia. BPD is investigating these cases and has some indications that they may be part of a larger data breach. Ultimately, BPD cannot confirm where the compromises originate.

Source: <http://www.ci.berkeley.ca.us/PressReleaseMain.aspx?id=53372>

For another story, see item [37](#)

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Transportation Sector

24. *May 4, Associated Press* – (New York) **NYC bomb suspect nabbed aboard Dubai-bound plane.** A Pakistan-born U.S. citizen accused of driving a bomb-laden vehicle into Times Square and parking it on a street lined with restaurants and Broadway theaters was to appear in court Tuesday to face charges that he tried to set off a massive fireball, federal authorities said. The suspect was on board a Dubai-bound flight at John F. Kennedy International Airport when FBI agents and New York Police Department detectives took him into custody late May 3, law enforcement officials said. One official said he claimed to have acted alone. The suspect is a naturalized U.S. citizen and had recently returned from a five-month trip to Pakistan, where he had a wife. The man became a naturalized U.S. citizen last year shortly before traveling to Pakistan, a federal law enforcement official said, speaking on condition of anonymity amid the ongoing investigation. The suspect was not known to the U.S. intelligence community before the Times Square incident, the source said. Investigators hadn't established an immediate connection to the Pakistani Taliban — which had claimed responsibility for the botched bombing in three videos — or any foreign terrorist groups, a law enforcement official told The Associated Press.

Source: <http://www.newstimes.com/news/article/NYC-bomb-suspect-nabbed-aboard-Dubai-bound-plane-471057.php>

25. *May 4, USA Today* – (National) **Records: Safety checks didn't follow special hazmat permits.** The U.S. Transportation Department never conducted required safety checks on 20,000 to 30,000 companies that got special permits to move risky shipments of hazardous materials by road, rail, water and air, records show. Starting this month, DOT will require all the companies to file new permit applications and undergo a "fitness review," including assessments of their safety and security records, before the permit is issued, according to an agency plan. The special permits allow holders to move hazardous loads that normally are barred, such as mixed cargos of flammable, toxic or caustic compounds. Some companies using the permits have had serious hazardous materials accidents or safety violations, according to data compiled by DOT's inspector general. This year, for example, a company got a special permit to haul a poisonous and flammable ammonia solution despite having 14 hazardous material spills in the last four years, including four "serious" incidents that caused evacuations, major injuries, highway closures or other significant consequences. The firm also had 11 violations of hazardous materials rules. By law, DOT must evaluate the fitness of every company given a special permit, but it has issued dozens of blanket permits over the last decade to industry trade groups. The thousands of companies using those permits were not vetted by DOT, which doesn't even know all their identities. DOT's failure to evaluate each permit holder is a "pernicious" practice that "can significantly impact (public) safety," the Inspector General said last month. Source: http://www.usatoday.com/news/washington/2010-05-03-hazmat-permits_N.htm?csp=34
26. *May 3, Associated Press* – (Texas) **Near collision of airliner and helicopter probed.** Federal safety officials say they're investigating the near collision of a Southwest Airlines jet and a news helicopter over a Houston airport runway last week. The National Transportation Safety Board said Monday that Southwest Airlines Flight 1322 and the helicopter came within 125 feet of each other at Hobby Airport on April 28. The board says both pilots took evasive maneuvers to avoid colliding. No one was injured. The Boeing 737 was bound for Baltimore. This is the second near runway collision in the past two weeks. The other was April 19 in Burbank, California. Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D9FFIGNO4.htm>
27. *May 3, KGBT 4 Harlingen* – (Texas) **Expressway 77 reopened following bus bomb threat.** Authorities have reopened one of the main highways to the Rio Grande Valley following an bomb threat aboard a bus. The Kenedy County Sheriff's Department asked authorities to shut down Expressway 77 between Raymondville and Riviera for the investigation Monday evening. The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) reported the expressway was closed on the northbound lanes at State Highway 186 in Raymondville. TxDOT officials also closed the southbound lanes from State Highway 285 in Riviera. Authorities reopened the highway in both directions shortly before 8:30 p.m. Monday. Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) reported that the highway had been closed due to a threat that a bomb was aboard a bus. KZTV-TV in Corpus Christi reported that investigators used a bomb dog to search the Valley Transit Company bus but found nothing. Source: <http://www.valleycentral.com/news/story.aspx?id=452076>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

28. *May 3, Star Telegram* – (Texas) **Device in FedEx box was meant to burn, not to explode, Colleyville police say.** A device in a FedEx box that a woman opened at her home Sunday was incendiary, intended to burn rather than explode, the Colleyville Police Chief said Monday. The cardboard box contained other objects, the police chief said, but he declined to describe them, citing the ongoing investigation by police and the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. At a news conference, the police chief played part of the 911 call the woman made about 11 a.m. Sunday from her home in the 1000 block of Dogwood Court. “I opened it and there was a battery in it,” she told the 911 operator. “My neighbor said it looks like a home-made bomb.” She told police that she didn’t hear a delivery truck and that no one had knocked on her door. “We still don’t know how long that box had been there,” said a police spokesman. “It’s still too early in the investigation to say whether the homeowner was the target or not.” The Northeast Explosive Response Team used a remote-controlled vehicle and water cannon to render the device safe, and components have been sent to an ATF office in San Francisco to try to determine who made it, the police chief said. No one was injured. But when asked whether the woman who opened the box had been lucky, the police chief said, “Absolutely.”
Source: <http://www.star-telegram.com/2010/05/03/2161010/device-in-fedex-box-was-meant.html>

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Agriculture and Food Sector

29. *May 4, KBND 1110 Bend* – (Oregon) **Oregon farmers get some relief.** Two U.S. Senators from Oregon announced May 4 that the U.S. Department of Agriculture has designated Klamath County as a primary natural disaster area due to severe drought conditions affecting Oregon ranchers and farmers. This designation extends beyond Klamath County and includes Deschutes, Douglas, Jackson, Lake and Lane counties. Financial assistance will come in the form of low interest loans through the USDA. In their announcement, the Senators said the USDA is making good on its’ promise to help growers and ranchers in the Klamath Basin during the drought, noting the loans will help take some of the burden off of Oregon ranchers and farmers.
Source: <http://www.kbnd.com/385098.aspx>
30. *May 4, Cattle Network* – (International) **R-CALF: South Korean FMD outbreak source should alarm Homeland Security.** R-CALF USA sent formal correspondence May 4 to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Secretary to urge her to reverse the decision to relocate veterinary research on highly contagious diseases from Plum Island, New York, to the heart of cattle country – Manhattan, Kansas. The International

Society for Infectious Diseases (ISID) has reported that a new outbreak of the foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) virus was confirmed in South Korea in a state-run livestock and veterinary science institute in South Chungcheong Province, South Korea. Prior to this latest outbreak, ISID reported that South Korea had experienced 16 outbreaks since January 1, 2010. Of particular interest is that ISID also reported that: “Quarantine control and decontamination efforts carried out at the site (the state-run livestock and veterinary science institute) are much more stringent than normal farms, raising concerns that the nationwide effort to contain the disease may not be effective.” So far, according to ISID, more than 49,000 Korean animals were ordered to be culled as a result of that country’s ongoing outbreaks. “Based on South Korea’s ongoing FMD experience, combined with the clear evidence USDA lacks the ability to predict not only the actual risk of FMD, but also, the capacity to measure the effectiveness of measures designed to control FMD outbreaks, we are concerned any action by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to allow live FMD viruses on the U.S. mainland will result in the potential for FMD release and subsequent infection in U.S. livestock,” the letter concludes.

Source: http://www.cattlenetwork.com/R-CALF--South-Korean-FMD-Outbreak-Source-Should-Alarm-Homeland-Security/2010-05-04/Article_Latest_News.aspx?oid=1065014&fid=CN-LATEST_NEWS

31. *May 4, Food Safety News* – (National) **Gulf seafood in commerce safe to eat.** As 200,000 gallons of crude oil continue to flow unabated into the Gulf of Mexico, government officials, seafood industry groups, and food safety experts are working to assure the public that seafood coming from the Gulf is safe for consumption. On May 2, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) closed a 6,800 square mile section of the Gulf to recreational and commercial fishing to keep potentially unsafe, petroleum-contaminated seafood out of the food supply, but there is palpable concern in the fishing industry that consumers will think harvested seafood from the region is unsafe. “We will definitely not want to be anywhere near any type of oil spill to harvest any shrimp, if they were even in that area,” one experienced shrimper based in Chalmette, Louisiana told Food Safety News. “The Louisiana Coastline is expansive, more than 300 miles long, and provides Louisiana fishermen an abundance of clean water areas in which to fish,” the Louisiana Restaurant Association said in a statement this week. “According to the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries’ biologists, 77 percent of our seafood production comes from the west side of the Mississippi River, which is not in the impacted area.” According to the head of environmental and occupational health sciences at the Louisiana State University School of Public Health, “[I]f the seafood smells like gasoline, if it smells like petroleum, then consider it tainted and don’t eat it. If on the other hand it looks fresh, smells fresh, it tastes fresh, it’s probably okay. The seafood, we know depending on the species, has a great capacity either to avoid contamination or ultimately to cleanse itself.”

Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2010/05/gulf-seafood-in-commerce-is-safe-to-eat/>

32. *May 4, Tennessean* – (Tennessee) **Floods wipe out Tennessee farmers' crops.** Just weeks after planting 260 acres of corn, a farmer expects a total loss after the Duck River flooded his Tennessee farm last weekend. "It's all under about 20 to 30 feet of water," he said. Farmers statewide are counting costs of the flood that brought rain at levels that occur only once in a thousand years to roughly two-thirds of Tennessee's 95 counties. "There's no one alive in Tennessee today that has seen a storm of this magnitude," said a state conservationist for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service. Corn planted last month, wheat planted last fall and expected to be harvested next month, and soybeans whose planting season just began face the biggest risks, depending on how long the water remains. The flood coming early in this year's planting season, however, should lessen the financial effect. "It would have been a whole lot worse if it had been a month from now rather than now," said the area farm management specialist for eight West Tennessee counties with the University of Tennessee Extension Service. Farmers are also dealing with damage to equipment, fences and pastures. On May 3, a dairy farmer still had eight feet of water on 83 percent of his 240-acre Strasser Farms off Pennington Ben Road near Gaylord Opryland. On Sunday, 22 heifers had to be moved to higher grounds, and the farmer is concerned about cleanup and higher feed costs because the cows won't eat the muddied grass.
Source: <http://www.tennessean.com/article/20100504/BUSINESS01/5040345/-1/nsitemapXML/TN-floods-wipe-out-farmers--crops>

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Water Sector

33. *May 4, Syracuse Post-Standard* – (New York) **Chlorine leak cleared up at Oneida city water plant in Annsville.** Hazmat workers have cleared up a chlorine leak inside a water filtration plant the morning of March 4 that delayed schools and resulted in a warning to residents of this rural Oneida County town to remain indoors. The "all clear" was issued about 8:50 a.m. by the Oneida County hazmat team working at the Oneida City Water Treatment Plant where the leak occurred. The leak was discovered inside the facility about 3:30 a.m.. Officials used Reverse 911 to advise residents within a 2-mile radius to remain indoors as a precaution. Annsville Elementary School in Taberg, operated by the Camden Central School District, was put on a two-hour delayed opening and the town's secondary school students got the day off, the schools' superintendent said.
Source:
http://www.syracuse.com/news/index.ssf/2010/05/chlorine_leak_cleared_up_at_on.html
34. *May 2, Associated Press* – (Indiana) **Algae bloom fouls tapwater in Indianapolis, Muncie; musty taste could last several more days.** An unpleasant, musty flavor, and smell that has infiltrated the tap water in up to a million homes in Indiana's capital and suburbs will likely linger until chemicals kill the algae causing the unsavory taste, utility officials say. Indianapolis' drinking water woes come as three state agencies are

preparing to launch the first statewide monitoring network for blue-green algae, a plantlike bacteria that's usually a problem in lakes during the summer. But recent sunny, warm weather has caused an early algae bloom in Prairie Creek Reservoir some 40 miles northeast of Indianapolis. Water from that 1,200-acre, Muncie-area lake flows into the White River, from which both cities draw drinking water. Compounds released by the algae are inundating the cities' water-treatment plants, infusing the tap water with a taste and smell some residents call musty, moldy, or dirt-like. State officials and the two affected water utilities say the drinking water remains safe.

Source:

http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/287c31bf649d45afb74d6c40da12d6a8/IN--Algae_Bloom-Tapwater/

For another story, see item [14](#)

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

35. *May 3, Associated Press* – (Pennsylvania) **VA investigation says Philadelphia hospital went 4 years without peer review.** The prostate cancer program at the Veterans Affairs Department's medical center in Philadelphia, where 97 patients were given an incorrect radiation dose, went four years without a peer review or quality assessment, the agency's internal watchdog said Monday. The inspector general for the Veterans Affairs Department also found that computer problems kept several patients under treatment for cancer from receiving a check to make sure they received the correct dose. The inspector general recommended that standardized procedures be implemented throughout the VA. It also said the agency should follow-up to ensure patients who received too low of a dose receive appropriate care. The program in Philadelphia had treated more than 100 prostate cancer patients before it was halted in 2008. The cases involved brachytherapy, in which implanted radioactive metal seeds are used to kill cancer cells. Most veterans got far less than the prescribed dose while others received too much. In a statement released Monday, the VA press secretary said the agency has cooperated fully with investigations into what happened and has taken precautions that prevent a similar situation from occurring.

Source: <http://www.sfexaminer.com/politics/ap/va-investigation-says-philadelphia-hospital-went-4-years-without-peer-review-92709144.html>

36. *May 3, Healthcare IT News* – (Kentucky) **Hard drive containing data of 5,418 patients stolen from Kentucky hospital.** A medical center in Kentucky is notifying 5,418 patients of a data breach that occurred when computer equipment, containing information on patients who underwent bone density testing, was stolen from its mammography suite. Hospital officials reported that the information on the hard drive was not encrypted, but was maintained in a locked, non-public, private area. Officials at The Medical Center at Bowling Green said the stolen piece of equipment held the data of patients who had bone density testing done between 1997 and 2009. The Medical Center at Bowling Green is a 337-bed, full service, not-for-profit hospital and

is the flagship hospital for the Commonwealth Health Corporation (CHC), a not-for-profit holding company for hospital and health related businesses in South Central Kentucky and beyond.

Source: <http://www.healthcareitnews.com/news/hard-drive-containing-data-5418-patients-stolen-kentucky-hospital>

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Government Facilities Sector

37. *May 4, GovInfoSecurity.com* – (National) **Treasury: Cloud computing host hacked.** The Treasury Department blamed a cloud computing provider for the disruption of its Web site that provides the Internet face of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, the agency that prints U.S. currency. A blog Monday reported that the sites were hacked. As of Tuesday afternoon, the bureau's Web site was inaccessible. On Tuesday, Treasury issued the following statement: "The Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP) entered the cloud computing arena last year. The hosting company used by BEP had an intrusion and as a result of that intrusion, numerous websites (BEP and non-BEP) were affected. On May 3, the Treasury Government Security Operations Center was made aware of the problem and subsequently notified BEP. BEP has four Internet address URLs all pointing to one public website. Those URLs are; BEP.gov; BEP.treas.gov; Moneyfactory.gov and Moneyfactory.com. BEP has since suspended the Web site. Through discussions with the provider, BEP is aware of the remediation steps required to restore the site and is currently working toward resolution." Treasury did not identify the host company. The chief research officer for IT security software vendor AVG wrote in his blog that "for a short while (Monday) a couple of treas.gov websites were hacked, and were reaching out to an attack site in Ukraine." He added: "They had been script injected with the line of code. BTW, you should not mess with the attack site. It was dead earlier (Monday), but could easily come back to life." Source: http://www.bankinfosecurity.com/articles.php?art_id=2488
38. *May 3, Contra Costa Times* – (California) **Botched copper theft causes Freon leak at Concord library.** A would-be copper thief trying to cut pipes from the Concord, California library caused a release of a cooling agent that prompted the building's closure over the weekend, authorities said. Between Friday night and Saturday morning, someone unbolted a ground-level ventilation grate and went into a basement floor, according to city public works' officials. The trespasser cut one of the copper pipes, presumably to sell the metal for scrap, and caused the release of Freon, a chemical used in air conditioning systems. No injuries were reported. Police took a report about the attempted theft but did not identify any suspects. By Saturday afternoon, county hazardous materials specialists had sealed off the leak. Public works crews have since bolted the ventilation grate from underneath to make it more difficult for someone to remove it. Source: http://www.contracostatimes.com/news/ci_15008185

39. *May 3, Quad City Times* – (Iowa) **Package near federal courthouse no bomb.** A suspicious package found Monday outside the federal courthouse in Davenport, Iowa wasn't explosive, but it did prompt an investigation by the Quad-City Bomb Squad. Building security found the package about 9:30 a.m. near a park bench on the east side of the building at 134 E. 4th St., according to a U.S. Marshals supervisory deputy. "It looked questionable to us, so we called the Davenport Police Department, and they activated the bomb squad," the marshal said. Officials took an X-ray of the package and determined it did not contain explosives, said the Rock Island County sheriff's department's bomb squad commander. After the package was removed, it was turned over to federal authorities for further investigation, the marshal said. The package's location and its appearance made it appear suspicious, he said. The package was burned beyond recognition and was the size of a small motorcycle battery, the marshal added. Also found was melted candle wax, nylon cord and the spring of a mouse trap, which the marshal said is sometimes used as a trigger device for a bomb.
Source: http://qctimes.com/news/local/article_1a230620-56e2-11df-bfa0-001cc4c002e0.html
40. *May 3, Panama City News Herald* – (Florida) **Student arrested in Arnold High bomb hoax.** Authorities arrested an Arnold High School senior Monday afternoon, after a suspicious device was found in the Florida school's bathroom. The 18 year-old suspect was charged with manufacturing a hoax explosive device, a second-degree felony, and taken to the Bay County Jail after telling investigators he made the device with the "purpose of gaining popularity by pulling off a memorable senior prank and getting everyone out of class," according to a Bay County Sheriff's Office news release. "This kind of thing is so dangerous on so many levels," the Bay District schools superintendent said. "It was scary to students, parents and faculty members. We have seen senior pranks before, but this was planned and premeditated." Officials said a student reported finding the suspicious device taped to the bottom of a sink in the boy's bathroom in the cafeteria about 7:15 a.m. The student reported it to the school's resource deputy, and students were ushered into the stadium as they arrived. School and law enforcement officials described the device as a cell phone that had parts of wires and a Game Boy sticking out, but it contained no chemical or explosive material.
Source: <http://www.newsherald.com/news/road-83530-alf-students.html>
41. *May 3, Sierra Vista Herald* – (Arizona) **Fort Huachuca has prescribed burn Monday.** Another in a planned series of prescribed burns on the Fort Huachuca, Arizona post was done May 3, burning 672 acres on the northern side of Lower Garden Canyon, a fort spokeswoman said. Earlier this year, U.S. Forest Service's Sierra Vista Ranger District officials said a series of prescribed burns would take place on the fort, to help reduce fuels on the installation.
Source: <http://www.svherald.com/print/107758>

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Emergency Services Sector

42. *May 3, FirehouseNews.com* – (Arkansas) **Ark. firehouse destroyed by tornado.** A fire station in East End, Arkansas, sustained heavy damage by a tornado on Friday night, according to KTHV-TV. As crews worked to clean up the aftermath this weekend, they assessed what was left of their firehouse. “I hate to see it: your equipment and building damaged. Fortunately, all this can be replaced and repaired,” the fire chief told the news station. Several tornadoes tore through central Arkansas, leaving damaged homes and uprooted trees in its wake. One woman died and two dozen others were injured, according to Associated Press reports.
Source: <http://www.firehouse.com/news/top-headlines/ark-firehouse-destroyed-tornado>
43. *May 3, Nashville Tennessean* – (Tennessee) **Officers begin evacuations at West Nashville jail.** The Department of Correction is evacuating more than 100 inmates from a Nashville prison due to flooding. Several housing units at the Charles Bass Correctional Complex in West Nashville have been affected by the recent flood. Forty-six inmates have been moved to the nearby Lois M. DeBerry Special Needs Facility. Forty inmates have been transferred to the Northwest Correctional Complex in Lake County. Thirty-eight inmates are being moved to the Turney Center Industrial Prison in Hickman County. Several Nashville prisons had been without power on Sunday. Service has since been restored. No other major problems have been reported at TDOC facilities.
Source: <http://www.tennessean.com/article/20100503/NEWS/100503078/Officers+begin+evacuations+at+West+Nashville+jail>
44. *May 3, Patriot News* – (Pennsylvania) **Firefighters say radio glitches hamper their efforts on calls involving York, Cumberland counties.** Firefighters from Cumberland County responding to a fire April 29 in Newberry Township, Pennsylvania were unable to communicate by radio with their York County counterparts due to ongoing issues with the two counties’ incompatible radio systems, the Lewisberry Community Fire Company chief said. Crews from Cumberland County responding to the fire, which destroyed two mobile homes, arrived at the scene in Miller’s Skyview Trailer Park only to find they could not talk by radio with the command. Chiefs in both counties worry the day could come when the inability to communicate could have a more serious impact, leading to the death or injury of firefighters, or hampering the ability to effectively fight a fire. Officials in both counties said a solution is in the works. They are working on patches that allow them to relay radio traffic between responders using different systems.
Source: http://www.pennlive.com/midstate/index.ssf/2010/05/radio_glitches_hamper_cooperat.html
45. *May 2, Chicago Tribune* – (Illinois) **Bensenville police get ‘suspicious package’.** Bensenville, Illinois, police were investigating a “suspicious package” received at the main police station Sunday afternoon. A dispatcher said the package arrived at the station at 100 N. Church Road about 2:15 p.m., but she did not have details on how it arrived. There was no evacuation from the building, she said. Police

and fire officials are inspecting the package. No further information was available.
Source: <http://www.chicagobreakingnews.com/2010/05/bensenville-police-get-suspicious-package.html>

46. *May 2, PR Web* – (National) **Federal agencies to study causes of firefighters' cancers.** The United States Fire Administration, or USFA, and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, or NIOSH, recently announced a collaborative study to evaluate an increased risk of cancer among firefighters as a result of smoke, soot and other contaminants contained in burning buildings. The USFA is a division of the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency, and, as such, provides a national locus for fire and emergency response teams and individuals, and a resource to provide public information, training, technology and data used to evaluate fires or institute new studies. A division of the Centers for Disease Control, or CDC, NIOSH serves a number of vital functions in the U.S. workforce, primarily diagnosing and preventing work-related illnesses and hazards. It also maintains a Fire Fighter Fatality Investigation and Prevention Program, which combines a database with safety publications.
Source: <http://www.prweb.com/releases/2010/05/prweb3944984.htm>

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Information Technology Sector

47. *May 3, Krebs on Security* – (International) **Accused Mariposa botnet operators sought jobs at Spanish security firm.** The technical director and blogger for Spanish security firm Panda Security spent much of the last year helping Spanish police with an investigation that led to the arrest of three local men suspected of operating and renting access to a massive and global network of hacked computers. Then, roughly 60 days after the hackers' arrest, something strange happened: Two of them unexpectedly turned up at his office and asked to be hired as security researchers. He said he received a visit from them on the morning of March 22. The two men, known by the online nicknames "Netkairo" and "Ostiator," were arrested in February by Spanish police for their alleged role in running the "Mariposa" botnet, a malware distribution platform that spread malicious software to more than 12 million Internet addresses from 190 countries. "Ostiator told me, 'The thing is, with everything that's been happening, we're not earning any money at the moment,' " the technical director recalled. "He said, 'We thought we could look for some kind of agreement in which both sides would benefit. We think we have knowledge [that] could be useful to Panda and thought we could have some kind of agreement with Panda.' " Netkairo and Ostiator have not yet been charged with any crime. The technical director asked them how they got started creating Mariposa. "Basically, they said they started it as kind of a hobby, and that they weren't working at the time," he said. "Suddenly, they started to earn money, a few hundred Euros a week to start, and then discovered they couldn't stop. And the whole time, their network kept growing."
Source: <http://krebsonsecurity.com/tag/luis-corrans/>

48. *May 3, IDG News Service* – (International) **Microsoft fixes bug in Producer software.** Microsoft has released a new version of its Producer software, fixing a critical security problem that plagued the product for several months. Last March, Microsoft warned of a critical security bug in the product, but it did not release a new update. Instead, it said that Producer 2003 users should simply uninstall their software. On Monday, however, Microsoft posted an update, and is now recommending that “all customers using Producer 2003 upgrade to the new version,” according to a blog post from the Microsoft Security Response Center. The flaw, which has to do with the way Producer reads certain file formats, also affects Windows Movie Maker. But Microsoft issued a Movie Maker patch when it first warned of the issue in March. A similar product, Windows Live Movie Maker — which runs on Vista and Windows 7 — is not affected by the issue. Microsoft does not know of anyone exploiting the bug in online attacks, but it is worried that hackers might be able to use it to install unauthorized software on victims’ computers.
Source:
http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9176280/Microsoft_fixes_bug_in_Producer_software
49. *May 3, eWeek* – (International) **Apple iPad jailbreak hits the street.** Hackers have released software to jailbreak the Apple iPad as well as the latest version of the iPhone OS. The software, dubbed Spirit, works on the iPad, the iPod Touch, and iPhones running OS versions 3.1.2, 3.1.3 and 3.2. With Spirit, users can run programs not approved by Apple. Unlike other jailbreaks, Spirit is untethered, allowing users to reboot their devices without them being plugged into their computers. “Spirit is able to do this because it doesn’t actually kick in until after the kernel is running,” said the iPhone Dev Team. The Spirit jailbreak was demonstrated on the iPad in early April, but its release was delayed until the week of April 26 when the iPad 3G was released.
Source:
http://securitywatch.eweek.com/apple/apple_ipad_jailbreak_hits_the_street.html
50. *May 3, DarkReading* – (International) **New IM worm spreading fast.** A smiley-faced Instant Message (IM) with a photo link posing as if it is from someone on a user’s buddy list is actually spreading a worm on Yahoo Instant Messenger: The IM ultimately delivers a worm that allows an attacker to take over the victim’s machine, and to spread the worm to people on the victim’s contact list. Researchers at BitDefender, BKIS, and Symantec May 3, each separately warned Yahoo Messenger users about the worm attack, which is rapidly growing. A researcher for BitDefender says his team has seen infection rates as high as 500 percent per hour in his home country of Romania since they first spotted it last week. He expects the worm to make inroads in the United States May 3 and May 4, with potential victims coming off of a weekend. The worm — known as Palevo by BitDefender, W32.Ymfocard.fam.Botnet by BKIS, and W32.Yimfoca by Symantec — is a new variant of an existing worm. In the Yahoo IM attack, it tricks the user into saving what appears to be a JPG or GIF file, but instead is a malicious executable. BitDefender said the worm contains a backdoor to install more malware, steal files, intercept passwords, and launch spam or other malware attacks on other systems. According to Symantec, once the worm is run, it

adds itself to the Windows Firewall list, stops the Windows Update service, and configures itself such that it runs each time the system boots. The worm automatically sends itself to everyone on the victim's contact list.

Source:

<http://www.darkreading.com/insiderthreat/security/attacks/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=224700541>

51. *April 30, The Register* – (International) **Researchers spy on BitTorrent users in real-time.** Researchers have devised a way to monitor BitTorrent users over long stretches of time, a feat that allows them to map the Internet addresses of individuals and track the content they are sending and receiving. In a paper presented the week of April 26 at the Usenix Workshop on Large-Scale Exploits and Emergent Threats, the researchers demonstrated how they used the technique to continuously spy on BitTorrent users for 103 days. They collected 148 million Internet Protocol (IP) addresses and identified 2 billion copies of downloads, many of them copyrighted. The researchers, from the French National Institute for Research in Computer Science and Control, also identified the IP addresses where much of the content originated. They discovered the vast majority of the material on BitTorrent started with a relatively small number of individuals. “We do not claim that it is easy to stop those content providers from injecting content into BitTorrent,” they wrote. “However, it is striking that such a small number of content providers triggers billions of downloads. Therefore, it is surprising that the anti-piracy groups try to stop millions of downloaders instead of a handful of content providers.” The researchers said the information leak is built into the very core of most BitTorrent systems, including those used by ThePirateBay and IsoHunt.

Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/04/30/bittorrent_continuous_spying/

For another story, see item [37](#)

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

52. *May 3, Space.com* – (International) **Out-of-control satellite threatens spacecraft.** An adrift Intelsat satellite that stopped communicating with ground controllers last month remains out of control and has begun moving eastward along the geostationary arc, raising the threat of interference with other satellites in its path, Intelsat and other industry officials said. In what industry officials called an unprecedented event, Intelsat's Galaxy 15 communications satellite has remained fully “on,” with its C-band telecommunications payload still functioning even as it has left its assigned orbital slot

of 133 degrees west longitude 36,000 kilometers over the equator. Galaxy 15 stopped responding to ground controllers April 5. The satellite's manufacturer, Orbital Sciences Corp. of Virginia, said an intense solar storm in early April may be to blame. The first satellite likely to face signal interference problems from the adrift Galaxy 15 is the AMC-11 C-band satellite owned by SES of Luxembourg. The chief technology officer at SES World Skies said the period of May 31 to June 1 is going to be the riskiest time for AMC-11 customers. On May 3, Intelsat blasted a powerful signal intended to force it into a complete shutdown. The chief technology officer at SES said that both SES and Intelsat are fortunate in this case because their two satellites' customers are mainly media companies using fairly large antennas to communicate with the satellites. During the period of maximum danger for AMC-11, SES expects to be able to reroute customer signals to SES-operated teleports with still-larger antennas to maintain communications links. Intelsat's vice president for satellite operations and engineering said the current estimate is that Galaxy 15 will lose Earth-pointing capability by late July or early August.

Source: http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/36919374/ns/technology_and_science-space/

For another story, see item [44](#)

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Commercial Facilities Sector

53. *May 4, Santa Cruz Sentinel* – (California) **Santa Cruz police ask FBI to help investigate downtown riot.** At the request of Santa Cruz police, the FBI on Monday joined an investigation into the weekend riot downtown, which authorities say was a “methodical and coordinated” attack by anarchists. Investigators believe the Saturday night May Day street party that drew 250 people, an unsanctioned event advertised by fliers placed around town and at UC Santa Cruz, was designed to provide “political and physical” cover for an unnamed anarchist group. Masked demonstrators grabbed large rocks from Pacific Avenue tree beds and threw them through business windows. They also scrawled anarchist graffiti on buildings and jumped on top of a police car, pelting it with rocks and covering it with paint. Police also revealed Monday that they received two 911 calls about shooting incidents that night, which were later determined to be unfounded. Investigators believe the calls were meant to divert officers away from downtown, where 18 businesses, half of them small locally owned enterprises, eventually sustained damage estimated at \$100,000. Police said Monday that authorities made a second arrest in connection with the riot. Police leaders say there was no reason to suspect the May Day event was a cover for vandals. The city manager said the city will investigate its procedures for investigating non-permitted functions. Source: http://www.insidebayarea.com/oaklandtribune/localnews/ci_15008672
54. *May 3, Clayton News-Star* – (North Carolina) **Award in excess of \$10,000 offered in arson cases.** Clayton Police are offering an award in excess of \$10,000 for information that results in the arrest and conviction of the person or people responsible for arsons at six homes under construction in east Clayton since October 31. The award was

announced Monday morning after two houses in the upscale Glen Laurel neighborhood were torched early Sunday. In addition, the fires have occurred at new nearby subdivisions, Chandler's Ridge and Summerlyn. Clayton Police have concluded that the Glen Laurel blazes were acts of arson. The Clayton police chief declined to speculate on the record whether the east Clayton fires were set by a group of arsonists operating together, by multiple individuals, or groups operating independently, or by a "copy cat" arsonist who has emerged following the arrest of a teen in connection with an April 5 arson at a child-care center under construction near Glen Laurel. In contrast to the earlier fires in east Clayton, Sunday morning's arsons were near occupied homes. Clayton Police, the State Bureau of Investigation and federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms are investigating the arsons, along with the fire marshals of Clayton and Johnston County. The homes targeted over the weekend were destroyed. One house, built by Veronelli Homes, was listed at \$329,000. The other house, built by Crosswind Custom Homes, was priced at \$389,000.

Source: <http://www.claytonnews-star.com/default.asp?sourceid=&smenu=106&twindow=&mad=&sdetail=1403&wpage=1&skeyword=&sdate=&ccat=&ccatm=&restate=&restatus=&reoption=&retype=&repmin=&repmax=&rebed=&rebath=&subname=&pform=&sc=2111&hn=claytonnews-star&he=.com>

55. *May 3, Associated Press* – (California) **At least 4 stabbed in SoCal target, woman arrested.** A woman who stabbed and wounded four people in a busy Target store Monday afternoon was arrested when an off-duty sheriff's deputy pulled his gun and ordered the woman to the ground as screaming shoppers ran from the building, authorities said. The suspect started randomly stabbing people with a blade about the size of a kitchen knife at about 12:45 p.m. May 3, a Los Angeles sheriff's sergeant said. The 35-year-old was arrested with the help of private security guards. Several shoppers who saw the deputy pull out his weapon feared he was a gunman, adding to the sense of panic, the sheriff's sergeant said. "There's a bunch of screaming going on," he said. "He orders her to the ground. She complies." Three women and a man were stabbed and taken to area hospitals, he said. The Los Angeles County Fire Inspector said one victim was in critical condition. Authorities did not immediately know the conditions of the others. The sheriff's sergeant said the deputy hero is a five-year veteran of the department and was authorized to have a weapon in the store. "Police officers can carry guns anywhere in the U.S.," he said. "I carry my gun everywhere. Most police officers carry a firearm all the time. We see a lot of bad guys at work."

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/us/2010/05/03/stabbed-socal-target-woman-arrested/?test=latestnews>

56. *May 2, Asheville Citizen-Times* – (North Carolina) **Vandals destroy downtown Asheville storefronts, car windows.** Police arrested eleven people after a downtown Asheville vandalism spree was carried out by about 30 people wearing black and wielding hammers. The mob moved through an area around Battery Park Avenue and the Grove Arcade late Saturday night. Most are students and are loosely tied to an anarchist website and the anti-capitalist May Day movement, police said Monday. In total, they face 112 misdemeanor and 33 felony charges, with three new felony charges

for damage to property, causing a riot, and conspiracy to riot added Monday. The mob broke windows and damaged property at seven businesses and hit cars, causing more than \$18,000 in damage. Police say the vandals gathered in a parking garage on Haywood Street near the Civic Center. With hoods over their heads and bandannas often covering their faces, the group moved west from the smaller garage and turned onto O. Henry Avenue on the west side of the Grove Arcade. Along with hammers, the vandals used crowbars, rocks, other pieces of metal and chairs to do their damage. Police were aware that something might happen on May 1 but they did not suspect a rampage. Intelligence reports showed the anarchist theme for this May Day was stealing money from employers and police had thought they would see more reports of embezzlement and not property damage, said the head of the police investigation division. In total, 16 officers responded Saturday night. The downtown area typically has 8 officers on duty at that time of night on a Saturday.

Source: <http://www.citizen-times.com/article/20100502/NEWS01/100501022/1009>

57. *May 2, Associated Press* – (Louisiana) **Flare set off in Thibodaux store.** A flare set off inside the Thibodaux, Louisiana Wal-Mart May 1, resulted in a small fire and smoke that resulted in an evacuation of shoppers and staff. The Daily Comet reported police are reviewing store surveillance tapes in an effort to identify who is responsible. A police lieutenant at the scene, said smoke from Saturday's fire was spread through the store by the air conditioning system. Firefighters used large fans set up at the entryways to bring fresh air into the store and clear the smoke. Shoppers along with staff were allowed back in within half an hour. A Wal-Mart spokesman said the company is cooperating with the investigation and grateful to its employees for acting quickly to evacuate the store and prevent injury or further damage.

Source: <http://www.klfy.com/Global/story.asp?S=12411929>

58. *May 2, Beaufort Gazette* – (South Carolina) **T.J. Maxx reopens after Friday's evacuation.** T.J. Maxx on Hilton Head Island in South Carolina was back open for business May 1, the day after a suspicious odor led to the mid-island store's evacuation. No further details were available Saturday night on what caused the odor that led to eight people being treated at Hilton Head Hospital and released. Fire officials first thought the cause of the odor was a pulverized belt in the store's ventilation system, but later found a 4-gram can of pepper spray in the back of the building.

Source: <http://www.islandpacket.com/2010/05/02/1226385/tj-maxx-reopens-after-fridays.html>

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

59. *May 3, National Park Service* – (Kentucky) **Flooding closes roads and ferries in Mammoth Cave National Park.** Mammoth Cave National Park in Kentucky was affected by flooding as a result of 10 inches of rain that fell May 1-2. Currently, both

Green River Ferry and Houchin Ferry are closed. The river has risen 35 feet and was not expected to crest until May 5. Once the river level drops, park staff will assess damage and remove mud and debris from the ferry landings. Every effort will be made to have both ferries back in service as soon as possible. Several park roads have been closed temporarily as a result of flooding impacts. Green River Ferry Road is closed on the south side of the park, and on the north side below the Maple Springs Campground. Houchin Ferry Road is closed on the south side, and on the north side beyond the Temple Hill Trailhead. The Ugly Creek/Little Jordan Road is closed. Dennison Ferry Day Use Area is closed. Cave tours continue to operate on regular schedules. Temporary adjustments have been made to the routing of the Historic Tour and the Violet City Lantern Tour as a result of flooding impacts. These tours will resume their usual routes as soon as conditions in the cave have returned to normal. Park staff are currently evaluating storm and flood impacts on the park's frontcountry and backcountry trails. While no trails have been closed at this time, visitors are advised to exercise caution in areas where trails may be blocked or eroded. All other park resources and facilities remain open.

Source: http://www.nps.gov/macaparknews/floodingimpacts_5-3-2010.htm

60. *May 3, South Florida Sun Sentinel* – (Florida) **South Florida prepares for arrival of oil slick.** Powerful water currents could drag oil slick that resulted from a drilling explosion in the Gulf of Mexico to the southern Florida coast, threatening national parks. Outer bands of the powerful Loop Current moved north to within 31 miles of the destroyed wellhead, that is spewing thousands of barrels a day. If the current reaches the spill, it could drag the slick south to the Florida Keys within days, and push it north to Broward and Palm Beach counties in a week to two weeks, marine scientists said May 3. “If it continues to move in that direction, and there is no reason why it shouldn’t, the Loop Current could very well be at the wellhead,” said a marine scientist, who is using satellite images to track the slick at the College of Marine Science at the University of South Florida. “So there is a strong likelihood that at some point in the future oil will be entrained into the Loop Current.” On May 3, Florida’s governor extended a state of emergency south to Sarasota County. Everglades National Park, Big Cypress National Preserve, Dry Tortugas National Park and Biscayne National Park began disaster preparations, establishing a response team comparable to that set up for hurricanes, and May 4 they will begin assessing vulnerable natural systems, such as mangrove shorelines.

Source: http://articles.sun-sentinel.com/2010-05-03/news/fl-loop-current-20100503_1_beaches-slick-oil

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Dams Sector

61. *May 4, WPTZ 5 Plattsburgh* – (Vermont) **Residents evacuated after dam breaks.** The Adamant Pond began emptying into town Monday night after a beaver dam broke, prompting evacuations. As of early Tuesday morning, the roads through the center of Adamant, Vermont remained closed. Authorities evacuated residents from as many as

six houses. One of two dams on the pond gave way and sent water into the town. A man-made concrete dam was not affected. By 11 p.m., the water started to subside as Vermont Emergency Management crews, police and fire officials converged at the scene. The Red Cross is assisting evacuated residents. No injuries were reported.

Source: <http://www.wptz.com/news/23440253/detail.html>

62. *May 4, Lexington Herald Leader* – (Kentucky) **Kentucky River exceeds expected crest levels; homes evacuated.** The National Weather Service (NWS) in Louisville reported that the Kentucky River had already exceeded expected crest levels in Frankfort, Kentucky early Tuesday morning, and some homes were being evacuated due to flooding. At 9 a.m., the river level was already at 41.9 feet, more than 10 feet above flood level and several feet above the predicted crest of 38.4 feet, according to a NWS hydrologist. Updated projections put the crest at 42.5 feet Tuesday afternoon, he said. Flood level is around 31 feet. A spokesman for Kentucky Emergency Management said flooding has occurred in some areas and emergency officials started going door to door to conduct voluntary evacuations. He said it was crucial that residents “heed any warnings from local officials and requests for volunteer evacuations.” If projections are accurate, this will be the fifth-highest crest ever recorded in Frankfort.

Source: <http://www.kentucky.com/2010/05/04/1251122/kentucky-river-exceeds-expected.html>

63. *May 4, News Tribune* – (Washington) **Seepage returns to normal at Howard Hanson Dam.** The reservoir behind a troubled dam east of Auburn, Washington now is 2 feet higher than at the same time last year, when excessive seepage through the right dirt abutment was seen. The reservoir will be allowed to rise another 10 feet, to 1,167 feet as measured above sea level. That’s the normal summer level under an agreement with Tacoma Public Utilities. The reservoir is Tacoma’s major source of drinking water. Dam managers are spending 24 hours a day monitoring the dam’s right abutment as the pool rises to see whether a curtain of grout-filled columns installed last summer slows the seepage. The current seepage is at a normal flow, and the water coming through into the dam’s drainage tunnel is clear. Those are good signs, said a spokeswoman for the Seattle District Office of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which operates the flood-control dam on the Green River. Water levels at some spots between the grout barrier and the drainage tunnel are lower than last year, suggesting the barrier is reducing flow through the north abutment. The drainage tunnel also is more efficient at collecting seepage from the abutment.

Source: <http://www.thenewstribune.com/2010/05/04/1173281/seepage-returns-to-normal-at-dam.html>

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