



# Homeland Security

## Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 6 May 2010

Current Nationwide Threat Level

ELEVATED

Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks

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

### Top Stories

- According to WHNT 19 Huntsville, a spokesperson for Redstone Arsenal near Huntsville, Alabama confirmed that two Amtec contractors were hurt Wednesday morning in a chemical explosion at a building at the Aviation Missile Research Development & Engineering Center. The contractors were demilitarizing a tactical missile. (See item [11](#))
- The Louisville Courier-Journal reports that Insight Communications has restored cable to about 300,000 customers in the Louisville area and in parts of Lexington and northern Kentucky. The Tuesday outages were caused by a broken router and the subsequent failure of Insight's backup routers at its Lexington service center. (See item [55](#))

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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 5, RTT News* – (International) **Pirates seize Russian oil tanker off Yemen.** A Russian oil tanker has reportedly been hijacked by pirates off the coast of Yemen Wednesday, and the Russian warship 'Marshal Shaposhnikov' patrolling the dangerous waters had responded to its distress call and was now on its way to assist the stricken

vessel. 'MV Moscow University' belonging to Novorossiysk Shipping Company was sailing from Sudan to China, carrying 86,000 tons of oil when it came under attack from buccaneers. "The oil is Chinese. It belongs to Unipet. It was sailing to (the Chinese) port Ningbo," reports quoted a Russian shipping source as saying.

Source: <http://www.rttnews.com/Content/GeneralNews.aspx?Id=1293390&SM=1>

2. *May 5, North Andover Eagle-Tribune* – (Massachusetts) **MBTA, National Grid continue to fight over stray current.** The MBTA general manager said he is fed up with what he calls a slow response by National Grid to correct a life-threatening and costly problem along the Haverhill-to-Boston commuter rail line. The problem involves stray electrical currents that are frying electronic components and endangering railroad workers and the public. The manager was in Andover Monday for the groundbreaking on a new set of tracks from Ballardvale to Lawrence. He said National Grid's Ward Hill substation has been plagued with problems for more than two years. But National Grid Tuesday said it has been working diligently on a solution and spending upward of \$15 million to fix the problem. "The issues faced in Haverhill are issues that other utilities and rail systems encounter when they operate in shared corridors and are not unique just to the Haverhill line," the company said in a statement. As of September 2009, the surges going back at least to January 2008 had damaged nearly \$500,000 in equipment. The MBTA has requested that the state Department of Public Utilities review the situation.

Source: <http://www.eagletribune.com/local/x500180335/MBTA-National-Grid-continue-to-fight-over-stray-current>

3. *May 3, Associated Press* – (New York) **Underground cables blamed in NYC manhole fire.** A manhole fire blamed on underground electrical cables shot flames 10 feet into the air Monday around 1:40 p.m. near Times Square, startling passers-by and closing a street. No injuries were reported, but acrid smoke still filled the air an hour and a half later, and the fire chief said 300 people evacuated four nearby office buildings. A Con Edison spokesman said that smoking underground cables caused the fire. Utility crews were at the scene, but no power outages were reported. Officials closed 40th Street between Seventh and Eighth avenues. A fire official said that after the blast, firefighters checked carbon monoxide levels in the basement of a nearby building.

Source: <http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=126481358>

4. *May 3, WXIA 11 Atlanta* – (Georgia) **Large fuel spill at Cobb County gas terminal.** Monday's heavy rains caused concerns that a large fuel spill in Powder Springs, Cobb County might overflow into nearby creeks and streams. The leak happened at the Marathon Oil depot on Anderson Farm Road around 7:30 a.m. A Cobb County Fire Department spokeswoman said a pump on one of the storage tanks malfunctioned, sending about 1,500 gallons of fuel across the property and into some nearby ditches. Clean up crews managed to contain most of the spill with absorbent pads and booms before it went much farther. Police blocked off several roads in the area most of the day to help prevent any type of fire. No homes were affected, but one

nearby country club was off limits for several hours.

Source: <http://www.11alive.com/news/local/story.aspx?storyid=143557&catid=3>

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## **Chemical Industry Sector**

5. *May 4, Homeland Security Newswire* – (Texas; National) **Trains still carry lethal cargo through Dallas-Forth Worth, other American cities.** Railroads continue to haul chlorine, ammonia, and other hazardous materials through major metropolitan areas such as Fort Worth and Dallas despite years of efforts to reduce shipments in populated areas where an accident or terrorist attack could kill thousands. The U.S. railroad industry transported some 75,000 tank cars of toxic inhalants nationwide in 2009. The Star Telegram writes that critics say one federal rule designed to prevent terrorism actually increases the potential of exposure in cities. The rule requires railroads to keep chlorine-filled rail cars in yards where employees are always on duty, if possible. Those places tend to be in populated areas rather than in rural areas where they may go unattended. One Fort Worth emergency response official who has been briefed on historical railroad shipping trends said that about 1,300 chlorine-filled cars go through Union Pacific Railroad's Davidson Yard in west Fort Worth in a typical year. Although local officials are not told ahead of time when a train with chlorine cars is coming through town, they are trained to cooperate with railroads in the event of an emergency. Critics say several changes in federal law since 2004, while perhaps meant to improve safety, may have actually increased the risk of a tragedy.

Source: <http://homelandsecuritynewswire.com/trains-still-carry-lethal-cargo-through-dallas-forth-orth-other-american-cities>

6. *May 4, Torrance Daily Breeze* – (California) **HazMat team clears chemical leak aboard ship at Port of LA.** No injuries or illnesses were reported early Tuesday morning when a nontoxic chemical seeped from two cargo containers aboard a vessel from China docked at the Port of Los Angeles, officials said. The U.S. Coast Guard and Los Angeles Police and Fire departments arrived at Berth 303 shortly after the APL Tennessee pulled into the harbor around 4 a.m., said a port spokesman. The captain of the ship apparently knew that last week two 20-foot-long cargo containers were leaking a white powder substance known as trichloroisocyanuric acid, an industrial disinfectant and bleaching agent with a strong chlorine odor. The cause of the leak was attributed to the fact that the powder was placed in loose-fitting packaging, then mixed with coastal moisture, the port spokesman said. It was unclear how much of the substance had escaped from the cargo containers, but the Fire Department's hazards materials team deemed the situation as safe. The APL shipping terminal was closed for 90 minutes as the containers were moved to an area designated by the hazmat team, where they were emptied.

Source: [http://www.dailybreeze.com/news/ci\\_15015644](http://www.dailybreeze.com/news/ci_15015644)

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

## **Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector**

7. *May 5, Rutland Herald* – (Vermont) **Yankee drill planned in towns near plant.** Vermont is planning an emergency exercise in six towns surrounding the Vermont Yankee nuclear plant, hoping to assess their disaster readiness. The date and time are secret for now, though. Vermont Emergency Management, in conjunction with the Vermont National Guard, the State Guard and the towns of Vernon, Halifax, Guilford, Brattleboro, Marlboro and Dummerston, want to know how quickly and orderly schoolchildren, nursing home residents and health care facility patients can be taken to a reception center at Bellows Falls High School. More than 100 responders, local officials and volunteers will take part. A Vermont Emergency Management spokesman said the drill time won't be announced in advance. But he said it would happen by May 7.

Source: <http://www.rutlandherald.com/article/20100505/THISJUSTIN/5050364>

8. *May 4, Toledo Blade* – (Ohio) **8 more nozzles at Davis-Besse found to be flawed.** Eight more control-rod-drive mechanism nozzles atop Davis-Besse's nuclear reactor head in Oak Harbor, Ohio have indications of cracks or flaws, bringing the number needing repair to 24, FirstEnergy Corp. said May 3. That's more than one third of the head's 69 nozzles. The utility said its best-case scenario for restarting the plant, idle since February 28 is now sometime in July. The discovery of eight more flawed nozzles came during a final round of testing, one that used electromagnetic currents. Four nozzles initially were found to have problems until ultrasonic tests revealed another eight. The number was then bumped from 12 to 16 after additional testing. Now the figure is up to 24, a FirstEnergy Corp. spokesman said. The flaws were in the early stages of becoming cracks, many too small to be seen. Only one nozzle developed a through-wall crack large enough to leak radioactive coolant, the spokesman said. Davis-Besse's reactor head was built years ago for a nuclear plant in Midland, Michigan, that was never completed. It went into service six years ago at the Oak Harbor plant. Officials remain puzzled why the device, built to last decades, had problems with its nozzles so quickly. The utility, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and the U.S. Department of Energy are developing separate root-cause reports. Their findings are expected to be discussed with the public at a meeting that has yet to be scheduled.

Source: <http://toledoblade.com/article/20100504/NEWS16/5040422>

## **Critical Manufacturing Sector**

9. *May 5, WSPA 7 Spartanburg* – (South Carolina) **DHEC contains lead water from Westminster plant fire.** A hazardous materials team worked into the early morning hours to clean up after a fire at a plant. Five fire departments were called to Ulbrich Precision Flat Wire at 692 Plant Road in Westminster, South Carolina on Tuesday

night. The Oconee County Emergency Services Operations chief said there were flames in a hazardous waste bin outside the plant. Lead was burning, but the fire was put out quickly. The hazardous materials team along with DHEC contained the contaminated water to keep it from being absorbed into the ground. The facility was closed at that time, and no one was hurt.

Source: <http://www2.wspa.com/news/2010/may/05/dhec-contains-lead-water-westminster-plant-fire-ar-147438/>

10. *May 4, KWTX 10 Waco* – (Texas) **Fire breaks out at Waco Caterpillar plant.** A machine fire Tuesday evening at Caterpillar's excavator bucket plant in the 2000 block of Texas Central Parkway in Waco produced a lot of smoke and triggered the facility's sprinkler system. "The sprinkler system did the work for us," said a Waco assistant fire chief. No one was injured. The facility employs about 80 people.  
Source: <http://www.kwtx.com/home/headlines/92823824.html>

For another story, see item [20](#)

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## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

11. *May 5, WHNT 19 Huntsville* – (Alabama) **Emergency crews respond to explosion at Area 10 on Redstone Arsenal.** A spokesperson for Redstone Arsenal confirmed two people were hurt Wednesday morning in a chemical explosion at Test Area 10, as they were working to get rid of ammonium perchlorate, a chemical used in rocket fuel. The explosion happened at approximately 8:45 a.m. at Building 7352, the Aviation Missile Research Development & Engineering Center. The Arsenal says Amtec contractors were demilitarizing a tactical missile. They were working to separate ammonium perchlorate from other chemicals, and during the process, something exploded. The building they were in exploded, but the roof and sides of the building were designed to take the force of the explosion, blow off, and protect the workers. The Arsenal said the building fell apart just as it was supposed to. Huntsville Police, Huntsville Fire, and HEMSI responded to the Arsenal shortly after the explosion to help. According to a HEMSI spokesman, paramedics treated two men at the scene. Both are civilian workers. One was taken by helicopter to the UAB Burn Center in Birmingham, and the second person was taken by helicopter to Huntsville Hospital. After the explosion, the Arsenal sent an email to workers in nearby buildings to let them know about it, and to say the situation was not an exercise. In the email, they asked workers to stay inside until they hear otherwise. A spokesperson says investigators will look into the situation closely to find out what went wrong in this case, so it does not happen again.  
Source: <http://www.baltimoresun.com/whnt-explosion-redstone-arsenal-050410,0,956773.story>

12. *May 5, Military Times* – (National) **DoD official: No case for 2nd JSF engine.** The Pentagon's top acquisition official again tried to shoot down the case for a second engine for the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter (JSF), which many in Congress are urging as a

cost-control move. “There is not a good analytical case that the upfront costs of the second engine would be paid back,” the official told an audience Tuesday in Washington at the Sea-Air-Space symposium sponsored by the Navy League of the United States. The engine issue has emerged as one of the most contentious concerns in debate over the fiscal 2011 budget request. The Pentagon wants to stick with the Pratt & Whitney F135 engine for the new aircraft, while Congress has repeatedly directed the Pentagon to include the F136 engine, made by General Electric and Rolls-Royce, for reliability and to compete with the first engine on cost. “The key to success” in the JSF program “must be affordability,” the official said.

Source: [http://www.militarytimes.com/news/2010/05/defense\\_carter\\_jsf\\_050410/](http://www.militarytimes.com/news/2010/05/defense_carter_jsf_050410/)

13. *May 5, Military Times* – (National) **Corps shows off long-delayed EFV.** The Marine Corps celebrated the rollout of the first Expeditionary Fighting Vehicle on Tuesday, one day after the Secretary of Defense once again raised doubts about the need for the multi-million dollar vehicle. Despite the renewed criticism, the hundreds of Marines and civilian contractors who showed up to the rollout ceremony at the National Museum of the Marine Corps had high hopes for the EFV, saying it is a “quantum leap forward in technology,” and the start of a new chapter in the Corps’ long and storied expeditionary history. The Corps, which hopes to purchase 573 vehicles, will test seven different prototypes. The prototypes will head to the amphibious vehicle test branch at Camp Pendleton, Calif., for additional testing. The Corps is expected to take possession of the first vehicle in June, and the remaining prototypes will be turned over to the Corps between July and October, officials said. The EFV has overcome numerous challenges. Widespread technical failures caused the Corps to scrap plans for the vehicle in 2007 and restart the program’s entire development and demonstration phase, a move that cost nearly \$1 billion and resulted in hundreds of design changes. The Corps will put the vehicle and those design changes through 500 hours of rigorous testing beginning this summer and ending in December, and Marine officials are anxiously standing by to see how it performs.

Source: [http://www.militarytimes.com/news/2010/05/marine\\_efv\\_rollout\\_050410/](http://www.militarytimes.com/news/2010/05/marine_efv_rollout_050410/)

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## **Banking and Finance Sector**

14. *May 5, Associated Press* – (International) **3 dead in fire at Greek bank during Athens riots.** Three people died when an Athens bank went up in flames Wednesday as tens of thousands of Greeks took to the streets to protest harsh spending cuts aimed at saving the country from bankruptcy. Tear gas drifted across the city’s center as hundreds of rioters hurled paving stones and Molotov cocktails at police, who responded with heavy use of tear gas. At least two buildings were on fire. The fire brigade said the bodies were found in the wreckage of a Marfin Bank branch, on the route of the march in the city center. An estimated 100,000 people took to the streets as part of nationwide strikes to protest austerity measures imposed as a condition of bailout loans from the International Monetary Fund and other eurozone governments.

Source:



<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5iXUJvBknZVGqsBenIusBgBvWj5WQD9FGMT100>

15. *May 4, Wired* – (Texas) **Former con man helps feds thwart alleged ATM hacking spree.** A North Carolina grocery worker is being held without bail in Houston on attempted computer hacking charges after inadvertently partnering with an undercover FBI agent in an alleged citywide ATM-reprogramming caper. The 19-year-old was arrested at a Houston flea market last month after trying a default administrative passcode on a Tranax Mini-Bank ATM there, according to the FBI. He allegedly hoped to reprogram the machine to think it was loaded with \$1 bills instead of \$20 bills. That would let him pull \$8,000 in cash with \$400 in withdrawals from a prepaid debit card. The 19-year-old ran a Web site that sold replicas of American Express Centurion Cards. He allegedly planned his ATM attacks after meeting a former Houston-area con artist through the site.  
Source: [http://www.wired.com/threatlevel/2010/05/thor/?utm\\_source=feedburner&utm\\_medium=feed&utm\\_campaign=Feed:+wired/index+\(Wired:+Index+3+\(Top+Stories+2\)\)&utm\\_content=Google+Feedfetcher](http://www.wired.com/threatlevel/2010/05/thor/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed:+wired/index+(Wired:+Index+3+(Top+Stories+2))&utm_content=Google+Feedfetcher)
16. *May 4, KCRA 3 Sacramento* – (California) **‘Poodle Bandit’ sought in bank heists.** The FBI said it is looking for a bank robber who’s been dubbed the “poodle bandit.” The man is wanted in at least five bank robberies across the Central Valley. He was given the moniker because of a fluffy wig he has worn during the robberies. Officials said the man typically shows a hand gun to the teller while demanding money. According to the FBI, the “poodle bandit” is wanted in the robberies of a U.S. Bank branch in Tracy on March 8, a U.S. Bank branch in Elk Grove on March 29, a Citibank branch in Fresno on April 14, a Rabobank branch in Bakersfield on April 28, and a Rabobank branch in Turlock on April 29. Surveillance photos show that the robber usually wears a dark-colored blazer, blue jeans, black gloves and glasses.  
Source: <http://www.kcra.com/news/23454274/detail.html>
17. *May 4, U.S. Department of Justice* – (Oklahoma) **Two Oklahoma men convicted of devising and participating in stock manipulation scheme.** A Tulsa, Oklahoma, attorney and another Tulsa man were convicted on March 3 by a federal jury of devising and participating in a scheme to defraud investors through the manipulation of publicly traded stocks of three companies, announced an Assistant Attorney General of the Criminal Division and U.S. Attorney of the Northern District of Oklahoma. They were each convicted of one count of conspiracy to commit wire fraud, securities fraud, and money laundering. In addition, the attorney was convicted of nine counts of wire fraud, five counts of securities fraud, five counts of money laundering and one count of making a false statement to the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). The other was also convicted of seven counts of wire fraud, five counts of securities fraud and one count of money laundering. According to evidence presented at trial, between April 2004 and December 2006, both men devised and engaged in a scheme to defraud investors known as a “pump and dump,” in which they manipulated three publicly traded penny stocks. A penny stock is a common stock that trades for less than \$5 per

share in the over the counter market, rather than on national exchanges. “Investors were left with nearly worthless stock while these defendants reaped more than \$44 million in profits,” said an Assistant Attorney General.

Source: <http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/2010/May/10-crm-515.html>

18. *May 3, Federal Bureau of Investigation* – (California) **Valley man pleads guilty in \$39 million ponzi scheme.** A Sherman Oaks man pleaded guilty on March 3 to 26 felony counts related to a long-running scam that offered investments in, among other things, caffeinated mints, and took approximately \$39 million from 1,000 victims across the United States. The defendant pleaded guilty Monday morning in United States District Court to fraud, money laundering and tax offenses. His son pleaded guilty on April 22 to 20 felony counts related to the scheme that utilized a number of sham companies, including one called Euromints. Both face hundreds of years in federal prison when they are sentenced in the fall.

Source: <http://losangeles.fbi.gov/dojpressrel/pressrel10/la050310.htm>

19. *May 3, Government Computer News* – (National) **Federal mortgage watchdog agency struggles with its information security.** The Federal Housing Finance Agency has not fully implemented an information security program, resulting in weaknesses in its information technology security, according to the Government Accountability Office. GAO found that FHFA did not always maintain authorization records for network and system access, and did not enforce least-privilege policies for system and application users. It also did not have adequate physical security and environmental safety controls for facilities housing IT resources. “Until the agency strengthens its logical access and physical access controls and fully implements an information security program that includes policies and procedures reflecting the current agency environment, increased risk exists that sensitive information and resources will not be sufficiently protected from inadvertent or deliberate misuse, improper disclosure, or destruction,” GAO concluded. FHFA expects to have final access control procedures in place by June that will restrict access to administrators, application users, and others authorized by the information owners. “We are moving forward expeditiously to strengthen and complete implementation of FHFA’s information security program,” the acting director wrote in response to the GAO findings.

Source: <http://gcn.com/articles/2010/05/03/fhfa-security-050310.aspx>

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## **Transportation Sector**

20. *May 5, Aviation Week* – (National) **NTSB aims to improve bird ingestion standards.** The National Transportation Safety Board’s (NTSB) 33 safety recommendations stemming from its probe of US Airways Flight 1549 focus primarily on improving two main safety areas — bird ingestion engine certification standards and passenger survivability — in a continuing effort to mitigate the hazards of bird strikes. At its May 4 final hearing on Flight 1549, the NTSB outlined the recommendations after its determination of probable cause of the January 15, 2009, ditching accident:



The ingestion of large birds into each of the Airbus A320's engines that led to almost total loss of thrust in each engine. Recommendations related to powerplants and bird strike ingestion include asking the FAA to work with military, manufacturers and NASA to develop a technology that would inform pilots about operational status of an engine and, once the technology is available, require its implementation on transport-category engines with full-authority digital engine controls. The board also asks the FAA, as well as the European Aviation Safety Agency, to modify the small- and medium-flocking bird certification test standard to require that the test be conducted using the lowest expected fan speed, instead of 100% fan speed, for the minimum climb rate. The lower speed is more realistic operationally, as most bird strikes occur when an aircraft is operating at lower altitudes when engine fan speeds are not at 100%. The NTSB also asked the bird-ingestion rulemaking database working group, in its next review of suitability of current test standards, to reevaluate large flocking bird certification standards. The group should determine if the standards should apply to engines with an inlet area of less than 3,875 sq. in. and include a requirement for engine core ingestion.

Source:

[http://www.aviationweek.com/aw/generic/story\\_channel.jsp?channel=mro&id=news/awx/2010/05/04/awx\\_05\\_04\\_2010\\_p0-224192.xml&headline=NTSB Aims To Improve Bird Ingestion Standards](http://www.aviationweek.com/aw/generic/story_channel.jsp?channel=mro&id=news/awx/2010/05/04/awx_05_04_2010_p0-224192.xml&headline=NTSB+Aims+To+Improve+Bird+Ingestion+Standards)

21. *May 5, Reuters* – (International) **Ash grounds Irish, UK flights; summer chaos feared.** Airspace over Scotland and Northern Ireland will be closed from early Wednesday because of volcanic ash that closed airports in Ireland on Tuesday and could threaten summer holiday travel. Britain's aviation authority said airports in northwest England and north Wales could also be affected by the ash from an Icelandic volcano which brought chaos to European air travel last month. Forecasts showed the concentration of ash in the atmosphere exceeded recommended safety levels, it said. "The situation is very dynamic, so passengers expecting to travel from the impacted airports should contact their airlines to check whether their flight is operating," the Civil Aviation Authority said on its website. Airspace over Scotland and Northern Ireland will be closed from 0600 GMT (7:00 a.m. British time) and airports in the two regions are also expected to close. Airports in Ireland and parts of Britain were closed for a number of hours on Tuesday. The latest disruption was caused by ash being blown from the same volcano in Iceland that caused mayhem for 10 million travellers last month. It was the first test of a European system of progressive closures, including partial no-fly zones, introduced after the abrasive ash cloud prompted a blanket ban that was criticised by airlines forced to ground thousands of flights in April. The IAA said northerly winds forecast for the coming days could bring more clouds of ash from the Icelandic eruption and disruption for passengers this week. "We could be faced with this periodically during the summer," the IAA Chief Executive said. "We are probably facing a summer of uncertainty due to this ash cloud."

Source: <http://uk.reuters.com/article/idUKTRE6431NA20100504>

22. *May 4, KSTU 13 Salt Lake City* – (Idaho) **Flight diverted to SLC after passenger claims to be a space alien.** A Skywest flight from Helena, Montana, to Salt Lake City

Sunday evening was diverted to Idaho Falls after a passenger claimed he was an alien. Police say the 32-year-old suspect from Las Vegas began banging on the cockpit door and said he was a space alien and wanted to fly the plane. An Idaho Falls police sergeant said other passengers on the flight helped restrain the man. The plane made an emergency landing at 6:00 p.m. in Idaho Falls. The man faces misdemeanor counts of disturbing the peace and resisting arrest and a felony count of battery of an officer.

Source: <http://www.fox13now.com/news/kstu-flight-diverted-space-alien-passenger,0,6001052.story>

23. *May 4, New York Times* – (New York) **Lapses allowed suspect to board plane.** Why was the Times Square Bombing suspect permitted to board a flight for Dubai some 24 hours after investigators of the Times Square terrorism case learned he might be connected to the attempted bombing? Though the suspect was stopped before he could fly away, there were at least two significant lapses in the security response of the government and the airline that allowed him to come close to making his escape, officials of the Department of Homeland Security, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and other agencies said on Tuesday. First, an F.B.I. surveillance team that had found the suspect in Connecticut lost track of him before he drove to John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York, the officials said. As a result, investigators did not know he was planning to fly abroad until a final passenger list was sent to officials at the federal Customs and Border Protection agency minutes before takeoff. In addition, the airline he was flying, Emirates, failed to act on an electronic message at midday on Monday notifying all carriers to check the no-fly list for an important added name, the officials said. That meant lost opportunities to flag him when he made a reservation and paid for his ticket in cash several hours before departure. The New York mayor added: “Clearly the guy was on the plane and shouldn’t have been. We got lucky.”

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2010/05/05/nyregion/05plane.html>

24. *May 4, Star-Ledger* – (New Jersey) **Newark airport security accused of not reporting, throwing away marijuana found on terminal floor.** Two security screeners at Newark Liberty International Airport were charged with official misconduct today, after officials said a surveillance video captured them throwing a bag of marijuana they had found on the terminal floor into the trash. A spokeswoman for the Transportation Security Administration said the pair should have turned the drugs over to law enforcement authorities. The screeners were also charged with improper disposition of a controlled substance, said a spokesman for the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, which runs the airport. A TSA spokeswoman said the agency is cooperating with Port Authority police, and conducting its own internal investigation.

Source:

[http://www.nj.com/news/index.ssf/2010/05/newark\\_airport\\_screener\\_accus.html](http://www.nj.com/news/index.ssf/2010/05/newark_airport_screener_accus.html)

25. *May 4, Associated Press* – (Texas) **Smoking bag found on international flight in Texas.** A ruptured, smoking suitcase was removed from an international flight at Houston’s busiest airport. Officials say luggage was being taken off a KLM flight that had arrived at George Bush Intercontinental Airport from Amsterdam on Tuesday when

a baggage handler found a suitcase that appeared to have ruptured with smoke coming from it. The same plane was set to make a return trip later in the day. The handler carried the bag away from the plane and terminal and called emergency crews. An assistant fire chief said bomb crews hit the suitcase with a water gun before examining it. There was no explosion and no injuries. An airport spokeswoman says authorities determined the bag posed no threat and airport operations weren't affected.

Source:

<http://news.moneycentral.msn.com/provider/providerarticle.aspx?feed=AP&date=20100504&id=11479807>

For more stories, see items [1](#), [2](#), [5](#), and [6](#)

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## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

26. *May 5, WHNS 21 Greenville* – (South Carolina) **3rd girl charged in T.R. bomb hoax.** Greenville County deputies said that two children and a teenager have been charged in connection with a bomb hoax in Travelers Rest, South Carolina, May 4. Investigators said that a woman who lives on Morrison Drive said that she found a package in her mailbox with a note indicating it would self-destruct in 10 minutes. They said once the bomb squad opened the box a balloon was found inside with a note that read, "Enjoy. Ha! Ha!" Deputies said that an 11-year-old girl, a 12-year-old girl, and a 13-year-old girl have each been charged with possession or distribution of a hoax device of destruction. The girls told investigators that they were trying to play a prank on the woman's 12-year-old son and had originally tried to put the package in the mailbox Sunday.

Source: <http://www.foxcarolina.com/news/23453680/detail.html>

27. *May 4, Phoenix Business Journal* – (Arizona) **Police analyzing white powder from letter mailed to Arizona Capitol.** State police are testing a white powdery substance and investigating a letter sent to the Arizona Capitol. The capitol police chief said a staffer who works for the Arizona governor opened a letter Tuesday morning that contained a suspicious white substance. The Executive Tower at the Capitol complex in Phoenix was locked down for about 30 minutes. The building was later reopened, and the capitol police chief said state police are analyzing the substance to see if it is dangerous. Details about the letter were not disclosed.

Source: <http://phoenix.bizjournals.com/phoenix/stories/2010/05/03/daily25.html>

28. *May 4, Associated Press* – (Indiana) **Gelatin prompts evacuation of Census Bureau office.** The discovery of red powdered gelatin in an envelope containing a completed census form prompted a five-hour evacuation of the U.S. Census Bureau's national processing center in Jeffersonville, Indiana on May 4. A worker opening envelopes containing returned census forms spotted the powder in an envelope about 8 a.m., said the director of the Census Bureau National Processing Center. When employees could not identify the powder, supervisors evacuated about 200 workers and called 911,

bringing in police, firefighters and the Indiana National Guard's hazardous materials team. Workers returned to the building, which is across the Ohio River from Louisville, Kentucky, about 1 p.m. Tuesday, after the hazardous materials team identified the substance as powdered gelatin. "Our protocol is to evacuate the building, so we had roughly 200 people who had been outside for quite awhile," the director said. "We wanted to make sure it was safe for them to go in, and we'd get them back in out of the sun."

Source: <http://www.wsbt.com/news/regional/92777114.html>

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## **Agriculture and Food Sector**

29. *May 4, U.S. Food Safety and Inspection Service* – (Illinois; Indiana) **Illinois firm recalls imported prosciutto products due to potential listeria contamination.** Orlando Greco & Son Imports, a Carol Stream, Ill., firm, is recalling approximately 822 pounds of prosciutto products that may be contaminated with *Listeria monocytogenes*, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) announced today. Specifically, the FSIS is recalling various pound cases of "Prosciutto Boneless Casa Italia" products. The problem was discovered by FSIS testing of imported product. FSIS was notified by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency that the implicated product was also distributed to an importer of record and further distributed. FSIS has received no reports of illness. The products were distributed to restaurants and retailers in Illinois and Indiana.

Source:

[http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News\\_&\\_Events/Recall\\_028\\_2010\\_Release/index.asp](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News_&_Events/Recall_028_2010_Release/index.asp)

30. *May 4, KHON 2 Honolulu* – (Hawaii) **New pest could destroy Hawaii's honey industry.** A beetle that's plaguing the United States mainland and has the potential to destroy bee hives is now on the Big Island of Hawaii. The state agriculture department said it could have a huge impact on Hawaii's multi-million dollar honey and queen bee export business. The threat is from the small hive beetle, which despite its small size — about a quarter of an inch — can cause big problems. The beetle feeds on honey, pollen, wax, and honey bee eggs. The larvae can tunnel through the honeycomb which contaminates the honey and can lead to the death of hives. This also can affect the production of queen bees. "How it got here we have no idea. But part of the problem is that it not only survives in bee hives, but also on fruit so if there's rotting fruit on the ground like mangoes or guava, the beetles will breed in that as well," said a state agriculture department employee. A beekeeper on a Pana'ewa farm discovered the beetles in his hives last week, and then contacted the state agriculture department. The U.S. Department of Agriculture confirmed that the bugs were small hive beetles. Staff at the department of agriculture staff began surveying parts of the Big Island today, looking at bee hives and fruit.

Source: <http://www.khon2.com/news/local/story/New-pest-could-destroy-Hawaiiis-honey-industry/Z7bdepLiSUujYCOm2jgvmA.csp>

31. *May 4, Kansas City Star* – (Missouri) **Leak in refrigerators brings HazMat crew to Russell Stover headquarters.** The Kansas City hazardous-material response team was called to the headquarters of Russell Stover Candies Inc. after reports of an overnight gas leak from refrigerators in the basement of the building near the Country Club Plaza. No injuries were reported.  
Source: <http://www.onenewspage.com/news/Front+Page/20100504/10672168/Leak-in-refrigerators-brings-HazMat-crew-to-Russell.htm>
32. *April 30, Racine Journal Times* – (Wisconsin) **Salmonella bacteria again detected in Nestle morsels.** For the second time this year, Nestle’s Burlington, Wisconsin plant has shut down a production line after a positive salmonella test. Workers reported, and the company confirmed, that a batch of chocolate chips tested positive for salmonella April 28. A Nestle spokeswoman said the batch was made April 22, and the results came back several days later. That production line was shut down for “thorough additional cleaning,” the spokeswoman said April 30. She said cleaning would continue through the weekend, and that production was expected to resume May 3. The spokeswoman said none of the contaminated morsels left the plant. A single sample of chocolate chips tested positive for salmonella, she said. Nestle tested batches before and after that one, and they all tested negative. Although only one production line was affected, Nestle will test for salmonella throughout the plant, and investigate to determine the source. She said raw agricultural products, such as cocoa beans, can carry salmonella. In mid-February, Nestle’s acknowledged a similar incident where it discovered salmonella during routine testing. Then, as now, none of the contaminated product ever left the plant; it was later destroyed. That investigation proved inconclusive as the cause, the spokeswoman said.  
Source: [http://www.journaltimes.com/news/local/article\\_48831052-549c-11df-805a-001cc4c002e0.html](http://www.journaltimes.com/news/local/article_48831052-549c-11df-805a-001cc4c002e0.html)

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## **Water Sector**

33. *May 4, WHDH 7 Boston* – (Massachusetts) **Boil water order lifted for all 30 towns in Boston area.** The governor of Massachusetts lifted a boil water order for all 30 MWRA communities on Tuesday morning. He lifted the order at around 3:45 a.m., hours after officials took over 800 water samples from 400 locations, and found no signs of contamination. The MWRA Water Quality Assurance program manager showed the governor on Tuesday around 800 samples of water that had been tested over 48-hour period after the 10-foot pipe was repaired and pressure-tested for leaks. Officials said any discoloration of the water Tuesday was not a cause for concern. As part of their investigation, officials now will look to recover a connector piece on a 10-foot pipe that broke last Saturday in Weston and flowed into the Charles River. The break created a leak and spilled nearly 8 million gallons of water per hour into the river for nearly eight hours. Roughly 700,000 households in 30 communities were affected by the order. After speaking with the governor, the President approved a declaration of emergency that will allow Massachusetts to get federal funds to help areas impacted the water

main break that left 2 million people without clean water. Affected residents are urged to flush out their water system as a precaution.

Source: <http://www1.whdh.com/news/articles/local/BO141372/>

34. *May 4, Associated Press* – (Nebraska) **Report: Atrazine contamination high in Nebraska.** A newly-released report shows Nebraska's watersheds are among the most contaminated by an herbicide commonly used on corn and other crops. The report by the Natural Resources Defense Council released Tuesday shows the Big Blue River watershed in upper Gage County had the highest maximum peak concentration of atrazine of 20 watersheds in five farm states monitored in 2007 and 2008. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is in the process of re-evaluating the health effects of atrazine and will decide whether further restrictions are needed to protect human health. Recent studies carried out by the EPA have shown that even at low levels, atrazine in drinking water can contribute to low birth weights, birth defects, and reproductive problems.  
Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D9FG9CJG0.htm>
35. *May 4, Associated Press* – (Georgia) **Rains blamed for Columbus sewage spills.** More than four inches of rain was blamed for separate spills that dumped more than 235,000 gallons of untreated sewage into Lindsey Creek and Bull Creek on Monday. Columbus Water Works officials say the first spill spilled 209,803 gallons from a 24-inch sewer. Authorities had it under control eight hours later. The second spill was reported about noon as rainwater and sewage overwhelmed an 8-inch sewage line. That spilled 25,515 gallons and crews had to work about eight hours to get it under control. Rains dropped some 4.77 inches in Columbus, the highest amount in the state.  
Source: <http://www.wrcbtv.com/Global/story.asp?S=12424859>
36. *May 4, U.S. Department of Justice* – (Puerto Rico) **Puerto Rico Aqueduct and Sewer Authority to spend more than \$195 million on improvements to 126 drinking water plants.** The Puerto Rico Aqueduct and Sewer Authority (PRASA) has agreed to implement major capital improvements and upgrades to resolve alleged longstanding violations of the Clean Water Act at 126 drinking water plants across the island and violations of the Safe Drinking Water Act at three others, the Justice Department and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced Tuesday. Most of the communities served by the drinking water treatment plants that will be upgraded under the agreement are in low income communities. The agreement, filed in federal court in the District of Puerto Rico, requires PRASA to implement measures to properly handle harmful pollution from 126 drinking water treatment plants that discharge into Puerto Rico's lakes, rivers and streams, some of which are sources of drinking water. The work required by the agreement, when fully implemented by PRASA, is estimated to cost more than \$195 million.  
Source: <http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/2010/May/10-enrd-520.html>
37. *May 4, Utica Observer-Dispatch* – (New York) **Automated alarm called crews to chlorine spill.** An automated alarm system helped avert a potential disaster Tuesday by



alerting county 911 dispatchers to a chemical leak inside the Oneida City Water Treatment Plant, the Taberg Fire chief said. The water treatment facility was unstaffed at about 3:30 a.m. Tuesday when an alarm indicated dangerous levels of chlorine gas accumulating in the facility, he said. Hazmat crews later determined that one of four 1-ton gas cylinders inside the facility had begun leaking, although the reason for the leak was not known. Residents within a 2-mile radius of the Glenmore Road facility received reverse 911 calls Tuesday morning advising them to keep their doors and windows closed until the spill has been cleaned. And Annsville Elementary School also was delayed for two hours as a result. The warning was lifted later that morning after tests showed the air was safe to breathe, and while there was a potential for the gas to escape the facility, it did not appear that any of it had. “There was leaked chlorine inside the facility and as far as we know it was contained,” he said. He also said the local water supply was never in any danger. Hazmat crews from the Rome Fire Department responded to the scene shortly after the alarm sounded, and began hosing down air vents on the outside of the building to create a “water curtain” for containment. Altogether about 30 firefighters responded to the scene and they spent approximately seven hours containing and cleaning up the spill. No injuries were reported.

Source: <http://www.uticaod.com/topstories/x1042479824/Crews-work-to-clean-up-chlorine-spill>

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## **Public Health and Healthcare Sector**

38. *May 5, Santa Clarita Valley Signal* – (California) **Bomb threat clears medical center.** A bomb scare, which later turned out to be a false alarm, shut down a Valencia, California, medical center for nearly two hours Tuesday morning as authorities searched a three story building but came up with nothing. The incident began to unfold around 10:15 a.m., when an employee at the Facey Medical Group building at McBean Parkway and Valencia Boulevard received a phone call from a man with an accent who told her she should leave if she didn’t want to get hurt, authorities said. Authorities said the man did not give a reason why the building was targeted.

Source: <http://www.the-signal.com/news/article/28166/>

39. *May 5, USA Today* – (Pennsylvania) **Children’s Tylenol recall: FDA report rips quality control at plant.** Raw materials used to make children’s liquid cold medications subject to an April 30 recall were contaminated with bacteria, according to a U.S. Food and Drug Administration report released Tuesday. The recall affected 43 different Johnson & Johnson products sold under the brand names of Tylenol, Motrin, Zyrtec and Benadryl. Preliminary tests have only narrowed down the possible bacterial contaminant to a category of microorganism described as “gram negative,” a broad group that includes many germs potentially harmful to humans. No injuries or illnesses have been reported in relation to the recalled products, and the FDA has said that despite finding the bacterial contaminants in the raw materials used to make the drugs, tests have yet to reveal any of the finished product to be similarly contaminated. The

report also suggested that raw material with “known contamination with gram negative organisms” were used to manufacture several finished lots of Children’s and Infant’s Tylenol drug products. In response to the report, the McNeil Consumer Healthcare plant in Fort Washington, Pennsylvania, where the medicines were made by the Johnson & Johnson subsidiary, has been shut down by the company indefinitely.

Source: <http://abcnews.go.com/GMA/OnCall/childrens-tylenol-recall-fda-report-rips-quality-control/story?id=10558014>

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## **Government Facilities Sector**

40. *May 5, Associated Press* – (Pennsylvania) **Mercury spill forces Pa. school to close early.** A pair of suburban Pittsburgh schools had to be evacuated after a broken thermometer resulted in a small mercury spill. The Chartiers Valley acting superintendent said the district’s middle and high schools had to be dismissed early May 4, after a student accidentally broke the thermometer in a science lab. School officials said the spill happened in a third-floor classroom. A hazmat team responded to deal with the spill. Seventeen people, including seven students, had to be decontaminated but no injuries were reported. The school opened May 5 without incident.

Source: <http://www.timesleader.com/news/ap?articleID=4492807>

41. *May 4, Longview Daily News* – (Washington) **Coweeman student found with homemade explosive.** Kelso, Washington police arrested a Coweeman Middle School student May 4 on suspicion of possession of explosives and a dangerous weapon on school grounds. The student was found in possession of a homemade explosive, which contained a very small amount of black powder, according to a police report. The student also had an illegal knife. The student was arrested without incident. There was no indication he intended to harm any students, police said.

Source: [http://www.tdn.com/news/local/article\\_cc4ec92a-57e0-11df-a121-001cc4c03286.html](http://www.tdn.com/news/local/article_cc4ec92a-57e0-11df-a121-001cc4c03286.html)

42. *May 4, WHBQ 13 Memphis* – (Tennessee) **Millington naval base remains closed from flood damage.** Across West Tennessee, the flood levels are starting to come down after the weekend storms, but in Dyersburg and Millington flooding is still a major problem. The Millington Naval Base was one of the hardest parts of town hit. A spokesman with Naval Support Activity Mid-South said that nearly every building on the property, which is home to about 5,000 people, was damaged. “It came through and began flooding in our Cape Heart Enlisted Housing, by the afternoon the entire base was pretty much under water,” the spokesman said. “We don’t know when we’re going to be able to fully reopen; that’s going to be piecemeal and its going to depend on as buildings open up and what shape they are in.” No loss of life and no major injuries were reported, but while the flooding water is gone the marks of Mother Nature’s blast are still very apparent. At the naval base, more than 100 cars and trucks were left abandoned. The flood waters were at least 4-feet high as people in the vehicles got out

to try and save their own lives.

Source: <http://www.myfoxmemphis.com/dpp/news/local/050410-millington-naval-base-remains-closed-from-flood-damage>

43. *May 3, Federal Computer Week* – (National) **Coast Guard has IT internal control problems, audit says.** Weaknesses in the Coast Guard's Information Technology (IT) system configurations and security has contributed to a Homeland Security Department-level material weakness in IT controls, according to a new audit. The DHS Assistant Inspector General released the IT Management Letter for the Coast Guard April 30. It was authored by the accounting firm KPMG LLP as part of an audit of the guard's parent department, DHS, in fiscal 2009. Despite improvements in the Coast Guard's finances and account-management controls, and completion of certification and accreditation for core financial systems, the audit identified 20 IT deficiencies, including 11 new findings and nine repeat weaknesses. The deficiencies included gaps in security management, access controls and configuration management.  
Source: <http://fcw.com/articles/2010/05/03/coast-guard-has-it-internal-control-problems-audit-says.aspx>

For more stories, see items [11](#), [19](#), [27](#), and [28](#)

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## **Emergency Services Sector**

44. *May 4, Sheboygan Press* – (Wisconsin) **Firefighter allegedly stole, auctioned fire gear.** A former volunteer firefighter will make an initial court appearance Monday for allegedly stealing more than \$20,000 worth of gear from the Town of Sheboygan Fire Department and auctioning it on eBay. Items reported stolen included two sets of fire gear, 15 pagers, 13 defibrillator batteries, two defibrillators, a dash-mounted two-way radio, a set of vehicle emergency lights and a device that changes traffic lights to green as fire trucks approach, according to a criminal complaint filed Friday. The stolen equipment was valued at \$23,000. The man could face up to five years in prison on a count of felony theft. He has no prior criminal record, but he does have another pending case for an alleged theft in January. The man has admitted to the fire department thefts and told investigators he took items between mid-2008 and spring 2009 after losing his job at the Elks Club, records show. He was fired from the fire department after the thefts were discovered.

Source:

<http://www.sheboyganpress.com/article/20100504/SHE0101/5040441/1062/SHE01>

45. *May 3, KAKE 10 Wichita* – (Kansas) **Wichita man who threatened police pleads guilty to firearms violation.** A 22 year old Wichita, Kansas, man has pleaded guilty to unlawful possession of ammunition after a felony conviction. In his plea, he admitted that on September 28, 2009, he made a call to 911 dispatch in Sedgwick County, Kansas. During the call, he spoke of having a .45-caliber firearm and ammunition and threatened to kill police. Investigators say the man is related to a man who shot and

killed a Sedgwick County sheriff's deputy.

Source: <http://www.kake.com/news/headlines/92706569.html>

46. *May 3, WLFI 18 Lafayette* – (Indiana) **Changes for TEMA hazmat team.** A restructuring plan may just be the answer for finding a place to house Tippecanoe County's Emergency Management (TEMA) equipment. After months of debate, the Emergency Management director came up with an idea to reorganize and restructure the TEMA Hazardous Materials Response Team. Over the next few months some of the equipment will be moved to the Lafayette and Purdue Fire Departments. The director said those departments will be the primary response teams to all hazardous material incidents within Tippecanoe County. He said the TEMA hazmat team will serve in a supplemental role. For hazmat responses outside the county, but within Indiana Department of Homeland Security District 4, the TEMA Team will be the primary responders. Purdue and Lafayette Fire will assist TEMA for those hazmat calls. He said this change will allow the county's storage issue to be reduced, and at the same time benefit the community. He expects the transition to be complete by mid summer.

Source: <http://www.wlfi.com/dpp/news/local/Tippecanoe-County-Emergency-Management-Agency>

47. *April 29, Federal Bureau of Investigation* – (International) **Bridgeport man charged with sending threatening e-mails to FBI offices.** A Bridgeport, Pennsylvania man was charged April 29 in a one-count indictment alleging that during the period of March 27 through April 1, 2010, he sent numerous threatening e-mails to many FBI offices throughout the world, threatening to kill people in the United States of America, announced a U.S. Attorney. If convicted the defendant faces a maximum possible sentence of five years' imprisonment, three years' supervised release, and a \$250,000 fine. The case was investigated by agents from the Department of Homeland Security Federal Protective Services and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Source: <http://philadelphia.fbi.gov/dojpressrel/pressrel10/ph042910c.htm>

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## **Information Technology Sector**

48. *May 5, IDG News Service* – (International) **Wi-Fi key-cracking kits sold in China mean free Internet.** Dodgy salesmen in China are making money from long-known weaknesses in a Wi-Fi encryption standard, by selling network key-cracking kits for the average user. Wi-Fi USB adapters bundled with a Linux operating system, key-breaking software, and a detailed instruction book are being sold online and at China's bustling electronics bazaars. The kits, pitched as a way for users to surf the Web for free, have drawn enough buyers and attention that one Chinese auction site, Taobao.com, had to ban their sale last year. With one of the "network-scrounging cards," or "ceng wang ka" in Chinese, a user with little technical knowledge can easily steal passwords to get online via Wi-Fi networks owned by other people. The kits are also cheap. A merchant in a Beijing bazaar sold one for 165 yuan (US\$24), a price that

included setup help from a man at the other end of the sprawling, multistory building. To crack a WEP key, they capture data being transmitted over the wireless network and target it with a brute-force attack to guess the key. The brute-force attacks on WPA encryption are less effective. But while WEP is outdated, many people still use it, especially on home routers, said one security researcher in China. That means an apartment building is bound to have WEP networks for a user to attack. “No matter where you go, you can use the Internet for free,” the researcher said.

Source:

[http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9176318/Wi\\_Fi\\_key\\_cracking\\_kits\\_sold\\_in\\_China\\_mean\\_free\\_Internet](http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9176318/Wi_Fi_key_cracking_kits_sold_in_China_mean_free_Internet)

49. *May 5, TechWorld* – (International) **Fast-spreading P2P worm targets USB drives.** A crafty new P2P worm appears to be spreading quickly among users of a range of popular file-sharing programs. The worm lures victims using a link embedded in a spam IM message, which leads to what appears to be an image file but is actually the malicious payload. From that point on, the malware burrows into the host by installing a number of files that compromise the Windows XP firewall. By this point the criminals have control over the system and can open backdoors to install further malware or capture passwords entered using Internet Explorer or Mozilla Firefox. Two elements make Palevo.DP, the worm, interesting. First, it copies itself to network shares from the infected PC as well as USB sticks or other external drives. Any unprotected system with the Windows autorun feature turned on — basically almost every PC — will find itself infected as those drives are moved from PC to PC. The second feature is its targeting of P2P services by adding code to shared program files. The combination of removable media and P2P gives the worm a two-pronged attack-and-spread strategy which allows it to target home systems which are then used to launch attacks on better-defended business PCs from inside the network perimeter.

Source: <http://www.networkworld.com/news/2010/050510-fast-spreading-p2p-worm-targets-usb.html?hpg1=bn>

50. *May 4, Computerworld* – (International) **Foxit Reader update blocks new PDF attack tactic.** PDF-based attacks are a major problem. According to recent tallies by antivirus vendor McAfee, PDF exploits were up more than eight-fold in 2009 compared to the year before, a trend that has continued thus far into 2010. Microsoft and Symantec have also noted a surge in exploits tucked into PDF documents. Last week, several security companies warned of a major malware campaign that tried to dupe users into opening rigged PDFs that exploited an unpatched design flaw in the PDF format, one attackers could use to infect users of Adobe’s and Foxit’s software. Foxit Software, the developer of a rival PDF viewer to Adobe’s vulnerability-plagued Reader, released an update Tuesday that blocks some attacks with a “safe mode” that’s switched on by default. Foxit Reader 3.3 for Windows includes what Foxit dubbed “Trust Manager,” which blocks all external commands that may be tucked into a PDF document. The new version is designed to stymie some common attack vectors that hackers use when they probe PCs for bugs in the PDF format, or in a viewer application. “The Foxit Reader 3.3 enables users to allow or deny unauthorized actions and data transmission, including URL connection, attachment PDF actions, and

JavaScript functions,” the update’s accompanying text explains. Foxit 3.3 can be downloaded free-of-charge from the company’s Web site.

Source:

[http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9176308/Foxit Reader update blocks new PDF attack tactic](http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9176308/Foxit_Reader_update_blocks_new_PDF_attack_tactic)

51. *May 4, M86 Security* – (International) **M86 Security Labs report details Web exploit kits.** M86 Security Tuesday announced the release of their latest security report which details the rise of distributed, monetized “exploit” kits, with M86 Security Labs counting more than a dozen new attack kits being launched in just the last six months. M86 Security Labs noted that the majority use Adobe Flash, Java classes, and PDF-based exploits. Code used in the exploit kits observed, particularly for malicious Javascript code, is often obfuscated, greatly reducing the ability of many security products to even ‘read’ the code. All kits observed pose a serious threat to Web and email with applications that allow less technical individuals to easily and inexpensively run cyber attacks. These kits have quickly become a major driver of Internet exploits in the “wild.” M86 Security Labs also has noted that most of the exploit kits were in Russian, such as Adpack and Fragus, perhaps indicating the location of buyers.

Source:

<http://www.darkreading.com/security/vulnerabilities/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=224700717&subSection=Vulnerabilities+and+threats>

52. *May 4, ZDNet* – (International) **‘Extremely severe’ flaw in Opera web browser.** An “extremely severe” security vulnerability in the Opera browser could put web surfers at risk of remote code execution attacks, the software maker warned Tuesday. The vulnerability, now patched with the new Opera 10.53, affects Opera for Windows and Mac. Details on the flaw are scarce. In this advisory, Opera warns: Multiple asynchronous calls to a script that modifies the document contents can cause Opera to reference an uninitialized value, which may lead to a crash. To inject code, additional techniques will have to be employed.

Source: <http://www.zdnet.com/blog/security/extremely-severe-flaw-in-opera-web-browser/6355>

### Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at [sos@us-cert.gov](mailto: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

53. *May 5, McMurray Almanac* – (Pennsylvania) **Verizon seeks to install antenna at stadium.** Upper St. Clair Township Commissioners will continue a public hearing at its



June 1 meeting regarding a request from Verizon Wireless to locate an antenna on an existing light post at Upper St. Clair High School stadium. At the start of the May 3 public hearing, Verizon representatives outlined their request to install an antenna on one of the light poles, as well as equipment, batteries and a diesel generator with a muffler in a locked room under the bleachers of the stadium. A commissioner questioned the problem of radio signal interference for nearby residents, and Verizon representatives stated that they monitor that issue and that the Federal Communications Commission requires them to correct any radio interference problems that surface. A township resident asked about the safety of the diesel fuel stored for use by the generator that is kept in case of electrical power failure. Verizon representatives said the fuel is kept in dual-walled steel tanks. Verizon representatives said they already had a signed agreement with the school district to place the antenna on the light pole. The representatives also said that three other cell phone companies already operate antennas on the stadium's light poles.

Source: <http://www.thealmanac.net/ALM/Story/05-05-2010-USC-antenna>

54. *May 4, Utica Observer-Dispatch* – (New York) **Storm knocks out WKTV transmitter.** WKTV was off air for several hours Tuesday after a weather-related power outage disabled its transmitter in Middletown, according to the station's website. A message about the outage - which did not affect cable customers - was published to the WKTV website at about 3:45 p.m. Tuesday. As of 9 p.m., the transmitter was still off air, but a station employee said regular broadcasting was expected to resume later that evening.  
Source: <http://www.uticaod.com/latestnews/x359588118/Storm-knocks-out-WKTV-transmitter>

55. *May 4, Louisville Courier-Journal* – (Kentucky) **Insight fixes problem, restores service to tens of thousands of TV customers.** About 300,000 cable customers in the Louisville area woke up Tuesday morning with no television coming from Insight Communications. Thousands more in the Lexington area and northern Kentucky were also affected. The problem was fixed between mid-morning and 1:30 p.m. Insight phone and Internet service remained intact. Caused by a broken router and the subsequent failure of Insight's backup routers at its Lexington service center, the television blackout affected all Louisville-area subscribers, an Insight spokesman said. "It is the largest video outage that I am aware of," he said, in the company's 10-year history in Louisville. By 10 a.m., Insight restored high-definition service, he said. Technicians replaced routing equipment and restored all service to the Louisville region by 1:30 p.m. Early Tuesday morning, Insight's customer service lines were so deluged with calls that a customer said he could not get through with his complaint.  
Source: <http://www.courier-journal.com/article/20100504/NEWS01/5040329/1003/BUSINESS/Insight+fixes+problem++restores+service+to+tens+of+thousands+of+TV+customers>

For another story, see item [48](#)

## **Commercial Facilities Sector**

56. *May 4, North Platte Bulletin* – (Nebraska) **Explosive device burns church parking lot.** North Platte, Nebraska authorities responded to an explosive device set off May 3 in the Bethel Evangelical Free Church parking lot at 2700 W. Philip. A fire marshal estimated that the device burned for 15 to 20 minutes before the fire department was alerted and responded around 11:30 p.m. He said it took about five minutes to extinguish the flame. A police department lieutenant said that the device appeared to be a propane tank, attached by a hose to a gas can. “They poured some gasoline to act like a fuse,” he said. The fire marshal said that when firefighters arrived, the propane tank was shooting flame and needed to be cooled down before the fire could be put out. The device was placed in the middle of the parking lot, away from the building. “It didn’t appear to be an intentional act to destroy property,” the police lieutenant said. The building was not damaged but some asphalt was melted. The fire marshal said this marked the second time in a few months that the church parking lot was used to set off a similar device. He said the first occurred in March.

Source:

<http://www.northplattebulletin.com/index.asp?show=news&action=readStory&storyID=18703&pageID=3>

57. *May 4, KCAU 9 Sioux City* – (Iowa) **Chemical leak evacuates Tyson Events Center.** A potentially dangerous situation at the Tyson Events Center in Sioux City, Iowa resulted in the evacuation of the entire center, and brought out fire officials and a hazardous materials team. Just before noon, May 4, emergency crews were called to the center for a chemical leak that occurred during water-fountain preparations. Smoke began seeping from pipes inside the center shortly after employees began treating water in a fountain. When emergency officials arrived on scene, they determined the problem was caused by a chemical reaction between bromine and glycol. “Bromine is a chemical that they usually use for pools and glycol is kind of like an antifreeze, what they winterize the pipes with so they won’t freeze during the wintertime,” said a Sioux City fire official. Leftover antifreeze was still in the pipes from last winter when the purifying agent bromine was added Tuesday. No one was hurt in the incident.

Source: <http://www.kcautv.com/Global/story.asp?S=12424456>

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## **National Monuments and Icons Sector**

58. *May 4, Associated Press* – (Colorado; Wyoming) **Beetle-killed areas may see closures, forester says.** A top U.S. Forest Service (USFS) official said he might have to close off national forests in Wyoming and Colorado unless more work is done to cut down beetle-killed trees near roads, trails and campsites. The USFS regional forester told U.S. Congressmen, May 4 that he expects 100,000 trees a day to fall in the forests of Colorado and southern Wyoming over the next decade. Trees are falling on roads and trails and are a safety concern, the forester told the U.S. House Agriculture Committee, which discussed the beetle epidemic during a field hearing in Cheyenne,

Wyoming. “We’ve had several near misses already,” he said. The forester said that more than \$100 million would be needed to finish the tree-clearing work on the more than 3,000 miles of forest roads. But Wyoming’s governor was skeptical about the need to close forests — a touchy proposition in a state where people love to hunt, hike, camp and fish and frequently second-guess the motives of federal-land managers. “I think that is a bit of an overreaction,” the governor said in a news conference later. Beetles have been killing pine forests across the West over the past decade. Late last year, the USFS allocated \$40 million to clear some of the 3.6 million acres of beetle-killed forest in Colorado and Wyoming.

Source: [http://billingsgazette.com/news/state-and-regional/wyoming/article\\_e6a2f580-57fe-11df-b60f-001cc4c002e0.html](http://billingsgazette.com/news/state-and-regional/wyoming/article_e6a2f580-57fe-11df-b60f-001cc4c002e0.html)

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## **Dams Sector**

59. *May 5, Dyersburg State Gazette* – (Tennessee) **Levee breach at Sorrell’s Chapel does not alter flood levels; levee did not break or fail.** On Tuesday afternoon, as emergency personnel continued their evacuation of residents in Southtown, Evansville and the southern point of Cotton Vista, a levee located on Sorrell’s Chapel Road was breached. According to the Emergency Operations manager the levee did not fail. It appeared that water near the top of the levee pushed gravel out from under the Illinois Central Railroad tracks, causing a minor breach in the barrier. Fortunately, the water lost in the breach entered an area already evacuated by first responders. “We have had a minor levee breach on the Illinois Central Railroad, where the railroad crosses Sorrell’s Chapel,” he said. “It was pretty quickly repaired by Illinois Central.” He said the breach was “minor and insignificant” because the water was displaced to an area already affected by floodwaters. The Corps of Engineers visited Dyersburg on Tuesday to inspect levees in the area and found no concerns with the structure of the levees protecting Dyer County residents from the floodwater.

Source: <http://www.stategazette.com/story/1632084.html>

60. *May 3, Hendersonville Star News* – (Tennessee) **Water below Old Hickory Dam 16 feet from lake level.** Water levels of the Cumberland River are within 16 feet of the level of Old Hickory Lake at the dam Monday morning. “This is the biggest event that the reservoir system has been through,” said the chief of the water management section for the Nashville district U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Normally, the difference in water level between the Cumberland and Old Hickory Lake at the dam is 60 feet. “There’s not enough difference in level above the dam and below the dam to run hydroelectric (electricity),” he said. He said he did not think there would be interruptions in electric service as a result. The Corps of Engineers is currently attempting to manage the flow of water from Kentucky through Nashville and to relieve swollen lakes, rivers, and streams without creating further complications for already-flooded communities. Old Hickory Lake is currently five feet higher than normal at the dam, which is a foot lower than May 2.

Source:

<http://www.tennessean.com/article/20100503/HENDERSONVILLE01/100503025/-1/newssitemapXML/Water-below-Old-Hickory-Dam-16-feet-from-lake-level>

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