



# Homeland Security

## Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 12 May 2010

Current Nationwide Threat Level

ELEVATED

Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks

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

### Top Stories

- According to CNN, more than 65,000 homes and businesses were without power throughout Oklahoma after a storm system spawned multiple tornadoes on Monday. The Oklahoman reports that a tornado knocked out primary and backup power to the Lake Draper Water Treatment Plant, which supplies half of Oklahoma City's water. (See items [4](#) and [31](#))
- The Associated Press reports that authorities are investigating an explosion and fire at an Islamic center in Jacksonville, Florida to determine if it was a hate crime. Witnesses said they heard a loud noise on Monday as preparations were being made for the evening prayer. (See item [54](#))

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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 11, Sunbury Daily Item* – (Pennsylvania) **Fuel truck flips, sparks fire.** The driver of a tanker truck carrying 8,500 gallons of gasoline and diesel fuel down Shade

Mountain in western Snyder County, Pennsylvania, was badly burned May 10, after the brakes gave out, and the truck rolled off the road. The driver was flown by Geisinger Medical Center's helicopter to the Lehigh Valley Hospital burn unit. His condition was initially described as critical, but further information was unavailable Monday night. State police at Selinsgrove said the man lost his brakes when on a steep part of the road and couldn't make it around a turn. The tanker truck turned on its side and slid about 60 feet on its side, before leaving the road, striking a utility pole and coming to rest in a small stream upside down. The tank began to leak, then caught fire, but no explosions occurred. The fire spread to the creek, underneath a culvert pipe, across the road and into a hill of trees. A number of trees and wires came down as a result of the fire. It was unknown if there were any power outages. The truck was leased to the Shipley Energy Co.

Source: [http://dailyitem.com/0100\\_news/x433566292/Fuel-truck-flips-sparks-fire](http://dailyitem.com/0100_news/x433566292/Fuel-truck-flips-sparks-fire)

2. *May 11, San Diego Union-Tribune* – (California) **Power plants face closures.** Three power plants on the San Diego County coastline face major changes — from shuttering operations to building new cooling towers — in the wake of a landmark ruling by California's water-quality officials to protect sea life. The State Water Resources Control Board last week decided to phase out once-through cooling for seaside power plants because the process kills more than 2.6 million fish and 19 billion fish larvae annually, according to the agency. The policy may be contested by energy companies concerned about the cost of compliance, including fitting new infrastructure into existing facilities. Ratepayers statewide will pay the bills for retrofitting, which could reach into the billions of dollars. The rules make California a national leader in efforts to get rid of once-through cooling, which many ocean experts consider a great threat to coastal marine life. Environmentalists generally support these measures designed to meet the federal Clean Water Act despite concerns that loopholes might allow some plants to operate without significant improvements for years past compliance deadlines. Source: <http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/2010/may/11/power-plants-face-closures/>
3. *May 11, WTVD 11 Raleigh* – (North Carolina) **Power restored after explosion in downtown Fayetteville.** In downtown Fayetteville, North Carolina May 10, three underground transformers exploded — sending smoke billowing from sewer grates and knocking out power. Utility crews restored the power around 9:30 p.m. Public Works Commission utility crews said it appeared underground power cables running between three transformers short-circuited and caught fire. Firefighters quickly brought the electrical fire under control. Crews used handheld extinguishers on the burning wires. Utility crews worked into the evening pulling and connecting new lines. They said the underground lines they replaced were old and some of the insulation was cracked and brittle. Source: <http://abclocal.go.com/wtvd/story?section=news/local&id=7433569>
4. *May 11, CNN* – (Oklahoma) **Tornado-ravaged Oklahoma may face more storms.** Forecasters warned that another round of severe weather may hit Oklahoma Tuesday, May 11, less than 24 hours after a storm system spawned multiple tornadoes

and left five people dead. Officials said they planned to release more detailed damage estimates Tuesday — and decide how to manage clean-up efforts in areas where tornadoes left behind snapped utility poles, downed trees, and severely damaged homes. Rescuers were searching a 30-square-mile area Monday night to look for victims and clear away downed power lines and other hazards, the Oklahoma City fire chief said. More than 65,000 homes and businesses were without power throughout the state, emergency management officials said. Nearly 15,000 homes were without power in Norman alone, according to Oklahoma Gas & Electric. “It’s unknown when that power will be restored,” the Oklahoma City manager said. “Major transmission lines in the area have been damaged.”

Source: <http://edition.cnn.com/2010/US/weather/05/11/severe.storms/>

5. *May 10, Reuters* – (Texas) **Valero says Texas refinery unit shut due to fire.** Valero Energy Corp. had to implement an emergency shutdown May 10 of a unit at its 315,000 barrel-per-day Corpus Christi, Texas, refinery due to a flange fire, according to a company environmental filing. It was not immediately clear which unit was shut but a Coker Elliot Compressor and Complex 7 were cited as sources of emissions related to the incident in the refinery’s East Plant, added the filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. “Emergency shutdown and depressure of unit due to flange fire,” said the filing. A company spokesman was not immediately available for comment.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSN1023884820100510?type=marketsNews>

6. *May 10, KARE 11 St. Paul* – (Minnesota) **State issues new requirements for installing underground gas lines.** New Minnesota guidelines are now in place for any business or crew installing new underground gas lines and documenting the installation process. The new requirements were issued in an Alert Notice from the Minnesota Department of Public Safety Office of Pipeline Safety (MNOPS) that was e-mailed to all 57 gas-distribution operators in Minnesota. The requirements are effective immediately. The new installation and documentation requirements are intended to prevent “cross-boring,” where underground gas pipelines intersect and puncture privately owned sewer pipes. Minnesota is the first state to issue such requirements, and operators who fail to follow the new guidelines will be subject to citations and fines. On February 1, 2010, a cleaning contractor damaged a natural gas pipeline that had been inadvertently installed through a sewer service lateral on Villard Avenue in St. Paul. The gas escaped into a home and ignited, causing an explosion and fire that destroyed the home.

Source: [http://www.kare11.com/news/news\\_article.aspx?storyid=850777&catid=14](http://www.kare11.com/news/news_article.aspx?storyid=850777&catid=14)

7. *May 10, WFAA 8 Dallas-Fort Worth* – (Texas) **Atmos Energy, state officials, blasted over explosion report.** The Texas Railroad Commission said Atmos Energy has violated state and federal laws in its response to a house explosion in Mesquite last November. Not only did Atmos fail to investigate the initial blast, but they have failed to maintain the safety of their gas lines throughout Mesquite, where 78 leaks have been discovered in one neighborhood in the last nine months. Just released by the Texas Railroad Commission, the report blames — yet again — a faulty compression coupling

for the November explosion. But now, one state lawmaker is not only blaming Atmos, but also state regulators for not ordering the removal of these couplings years ago. It has been nearly six months since a Mesquite woman survived a natural-gas explosion in her home. A faulty compression coupling on a main line beneath the alley leaked gas into her home, causing it to explode. While Atmos Energy has agreed to help pay for a new house, they have conceded little else.

Source: <http://www.wfaa.com/news/investigates/Atmos-Energy-State-Officials-Blasted-Over-Explosion-Report-93327104.html>

8. *May 10, Sidney Herald* – (North Dakota; Montana) **Highway reopens after derailment.** Law enforcement from Richland and McKenzie counties were called in after a May 8 report of a train derailment where five railroad cars went off the tracks at the Dore, North Dakota Exchange off North Dakota Highway 58, northeast of Fairview. At 5:15 p.m., Yellowstone Valley Rail Road officials reported the cars were filled with liquid propane. The McKenzie County Sheriff's Office, along with Fairview, North Dakota police officers, Fairview firefighters, the North Dakota Highway Patrol and the Department of Transportation, evacuated residents within one mile of the accident as a precautionary measure. Highway 58 remained closed to through traffic from the intersection at N.D. Highway 200 to N.D. Highway 1084 Saturday evening and well into Sunday, May 9, as McKenzie County officials investigated. By 4:15 p.m. May 9, the McKenzie County Sheriff's Office reported all five cars had been successfully placed on the tracks once again. Officials said there were no spills, leaks or injuries, and Highway 58 was reopened. The accident remains under investigation.

Source:

[http://www.sidneyherald.com/articles/2010/05/10/news/breaking\\_news/doc4be85f9d7e10a049138998.txt](http://www.sidneyherald.com/articles/2010/05/10/news/breaking_news/doc4be85f9d7e10a049138998.txt)

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## **Chemical Industry Sector**

9. *May 11, Athens Banner-Herald* – (Georgia) **Fire destroys chemical plant building.** An early-morning fire destroyed a building at a chemical plant near Jefferson over the weekend, Jackson County, Georgia, and company officials said. A fire that was reported shortly after midnight May 9 triggered multiple explosions and sent plumes of potentially toxic smoke into the air, closing the nearby Jackson County Airport for several hours, said the director of emergency services for Jackson County. Emergency workers evacuated more than 20 people who live near H. Wilson Manufacturing Co. Inc., which makes pesticides, antibacterial agents and other products for chicken houses, he said. Firefighters from four Jackson County volunteer fire departments battled the blaze for about six hours before bringing it under control early May 9, he said. Authorities shut down all roads in the vicinity while the fire raged, he said. Officials from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency were at the scene assessing the damage. Members of a Hall County hazardous-materials unit responded, but were not needed to contain or clean up any spills, he said. Investigators

did not know what caused the fire as of May 10. The fire began in a building where about a dozen employees work, but the building was closed at the time, and no workers were inside. The fire began in the wet-products building, he said.

Source: [http://www.onlineathens.com/stories/051110/new\\_637206470.shtml](http://www.onlineathens.com/stories/051110/new_637206470.shtml)

10. *May 11, Associated Press* – (Alabama) **South Walker County town evacuated after train crash.** Norfolk Southern Railway crews are righting overturned cars and replacing a stretch of track after a train derailment set off fires and forced temporary evacuations in south Walker County, Alabama. There were no reports of injuries. The derailment in the city of Parrish May 9 led officials to call for the evacuation of residents within a half-mile radius of the derailment while any possible danger was evaluated. Police said concerns were raised because sparks from the derailed cars caused several small fires along the track and officials learned some of the cars, which reportedly were tankers, were hauling flammable chemicals. A Parrish patrol officer was in the area on another assignment when the accident occurred and immediately began going door-to-door warning residents to evacuate. The Parrish police chief said railroad officials told him it would take several days to upright the overturned cars and remove them from the area. "It's going to take them several weeks to repair the damage to the track," he said.

Source:

<http://www.montgomeryadvertiser.com/article/20100511/NEWS02/5110316/South-Walker-County-town-evacuated-after-train-crash>

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

11. *May 11, Brattleboro Reformer* – (Vermont) **Entergy tries to toss out info requests.** Entergy has asked the Vermont Public Service Board (PSB) to deny 142 of the 154 discovery requests made by interested parties in the board's investigation into whether Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant should cease operations due to a leak of tritiated water that was detected January 6. In a document filed April 30, an attorney from Downs Rachlin Martin, which represents Entergy in Vermont, wrote that many of those requests were either beyond the scope of the board's investigation or were under the purview of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. And, he added, those 154 requests actually break down into 440 separate questions. It is impractical, he wrote, to expect Yankee staffers to respond to any of the discovery requests until the power plant's refueling outage is completed sometime the week of May 17. During the outage, Yankee's employees, as well as several hundred contractors, will be conducting more than 6,000 tasks at the plant. In documents filed with the PSB May 10, the Windham Regional Commission, the New England Coalition on Nuclear Pollution and the Conservation Law Foundation all stated that while Entergy should be given additional time to respond to questions, its request to toss out most of them should be denied.

Source: [http://www.reformer.com/localnews/ci\\_15058561](http://www.reformer.com/localnews/ci_15058561)

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## **Critical Manufacturing Sector**

12. *May 10, A.O. Smith Corporation* – (Tennessee) **Clean-up begins at Ashland city plant; water heater production shifted.** With the flood waters of the nearby Cumberland River receded, clean-up work has begun on the A.O. Smith Water Products Company plant in Ashland City, Tennessee. Management employees and outside contractors gained access to the 1.5-million-square-foot residential water heater plant May 6, and immediately began to assess the damage from the historic flood that swept through the manufacturing area, finished goods warehouse, and first-floor offices of the facility. “With the help of outside experts, we have begun round-the-clock clean-up work throughout the facility,” the president of the company said. “Our clean-up will focus first on those parts of the plant that are critical to our manufacturing processes. We expect to have those critical areas cleaned within the next couple of weeks. We will call back a select group of employees to begin the assessment and start-up of the equipment as the clean-up proceeds,” she said. “Production will resume at the facility as soon as possible, and there is a plan to phase in production as portions of the plant are made ready.” In the meantime, the company has begun shifting residential water heater production temporarily to other A. O. Smith plants in North America. Source: <http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/clean-up-begins-at-ashland-city-plant-water-heater-production-shifted-93319849.html>

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## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

13. *May 10, Hollister Freelance* – (California) **Suspect in truck sought after bomb hoax at explosives site.** Authorities are looking for a suspect seen in a black truck outside Pacific Scientific Saturday morning, May 8, shortly before a security guard discovered a suspicious package, which a bomb squad blew up as a precaution before realizing it was a hoax. A security guard at the small-explosives manufacturer located outside Hollister, California along Union Road, noticed the suspicious package shortly after 8 a.m. on a shoulder of the driveway entrance, said a spokesman with the San Benito County Sheriff’s Office. It was about the size of a phone book and was wrapped with duct tape, with no other writings or indications of what might have been inside, according to the sheriff’s office. The security guard told investigators that a small, black truck had pulled to the side of the road for “some time” before it was left there. When the guard looked up at one point, the truck was gone and the suspicious package was in the road, the spokesman said. Local authorities thought it looked suspicious and called in help from the Santa Clara County Sheriff’s Office bomb squad. A three-person bomb-squad team arrived and used a robot to get close to the package. The camera on the robot showed that “something didn’t look right,” the spokesman said, so a bomb-squad member put on a protection suit, approached the package and used a hand-held X-ray machine to examine it. The X-ray revealed there were a lot of wires within the package. “They couldn’t tell if it had any explosives or not,” the spokesman said. “It appeared to them it did not.” Still, authorities decided to attempt a detonation in case there were explosives inside. They blew up the package at the same spot and



determined there were no explosives, the spokesman said.

Source: <http://hollisterfreelance.com/news/265535-suspect-in-truck-sought-after-bomb-hoax-at-explosives-site>

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## **Banking and Finance Sector**

14. *May 11, Valley News Dispatch* – (Pennsylvania) **Oakmont bank gets bomb threat; police have suspect.** Police said they have a female suspect in a case where a bomb threat was phoned in concerning the PNC Bank branch along Allegheny Avenue in Oakmont, Pennsylvania. The bank was evacuated May 10 after an Allegheny County 911 dispatcher fielded a bomb threat directed toward the bank. The call came in about 11:40 a.m. when the caller stated “the building was going to blow up.” The bank evacuated because a suspect, a woman, was known to bank personnel and “there was some bad history between them.” No arrest had been made as of last night.  
Source: [http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/valleynewsdispatch/s\\_680527.html](http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/valleynewsdispatch/s_680527.html)
15. *May 10, The H Security* – (International) **Police apprehend Romanian phishing gang.** Romanian police investigators have exposed a gang of criminals who fraudulently gained online access to bank accounts and for months, continued to draw money from these accounts. The Romanian Directorate for Investigating Organised Crime and Terrorism (DIICOT) in Bucharest said that after conducting nationwide searches May 9, Romanian police questioned 28 suspects. Since October 2009, the gang is said to have obtained sensitive data, such as online banking and credit card user names and passwords, particularly of Bank of America customers, via phishing attacks. The criminals then transferred money from these accounts via the Western Union financial service and withdrew the money in Vienna, Munich, Prague and Romania. According to the DIICOT, the damages incurred amount to approximately \$1 million (£665,000). Most of the suspects come from the Romanian city of Constanta on the Black Sea coast. The gang is said to have had 70 members in total. Romanian authorities collaborated with U.S. agencies in investigating the case.  
Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/Police-apprehend-Romanian-phishing-gang-997151.html>
16. *May 10, Savannah Morning News* – (Georgia) **Mysterious substance found at Ogeechee Road bank.** Authorities have shut down a Wachovia bank branch in the 5700 block of Ogeechee Road in Savannah, Georgia after an unidentified substance was discovered on cash a customer deposited the afternoon of May 10. Fire crews from Savannah and Southside departments were at the scene, which Savannah-Chatham police have cordoned off. Hazardous-materials technicians, wearing protective bodysuits, entered the bank, near the Kroger grocery store at Berwick Boulevard. A female customer pulled into the drive-through about 2:45 p.m. and gave \$1,400 in cash to a teller, who then stuffed cash into a money counter. A powdery substance plumed from the bills, causing irritation to at least one employee’s skin. At least eight people were exposed to the substance. Four were taken to Memorial University Medical

Center as a precaution. Four others were treated at the scene. Crews were working to decontaminate the bank's interior, contain the material, and identify the substance.

Source: <http://savannahnow.com/latest-news/2010-05-10/update-mysterious-substance-found-ogeechee-road-bank>

17. *May 10, U.S. Department of Justice* – (International) **Former ABN Amro Bank N.V. agrees to forfeit \$500 million in connection with conspiracy to defraud.** The former ABN AMRO Bank N.V., now named the Royal Bank of Scotland N.V., has agreed to forfeit \$500 million to the United States in connection with a conspiracy to defraud the United States, to violate the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA) and to violate the Trading with the Enemy Act (TWEA), as well as a violation of the Bank Secrecy Act (BSA). A criminal information was filed May 10 in U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia charging the former ABN AMRO, a Dutch corporation that was headquartered in Amsterdam, with one count of violating the BSA and one count of conspiracy to defraud the United States and violate the IEEPA and TWEA. The bank waived indictment, agreed to the filing of the information, and has accepted and acknowledged responsibility for its conduct. ABN AMRO agreed to forfeit \$500 million as part of a deferred-prosecution agreement, also filed today in the District of Columbia. A U.S. district court judge May 10 accepted the agreement. Under the BSA, it is a crime to willfully fail to establish an adequate anti-money laundering program. The IEEPA and TWEA violations related to ABN AMRO conspiring to facilitate illegal U.S. dollar transactions on behalf of financial institutions and customers from Iran, Libya, the Sudan, Cuba, and other countries sanctioned in programs administered by the Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Affairs Control.

Source: <http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/2010/May/10-crm-548.html>

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## **Transportation Sector**

18. *May 11, Homeland Security Today* – (National) **CBP may screen passengers on cruises.** The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) currently checks passenger manifests for commercial airplanes to determine if any potential terrorists have booked a flight and it could start doing the same for cruise ships. The Government Accountability Office (GAO) recommended May 10 that U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) examine the possibility of checking passenger reservations for cruise ships in much the same way that the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) does for airlines. "Cruise ships are the single largest passenger conveyances in the world, with one ship currently in service that can carry more than 8,500 passengers and crew," GAO said in its report, *Maritime Security: Varied Actions Taken to Enhance Cruise Ship Security, but Some Concerns Remain*. "The Coast Guard considers cruise ships to be highly attractive targets to terrorists, and according to a 2008 RAND Corporation report, cruise ships can represent high-prestige symbolic targets for terrorists. Moreover, terrorists have either targeted cruise ships or been able to board cruise ships in the past." In 2008 (the last year examined by GAO), more than 9 million



passengers sailed from U.S. ports onboard cruise ships. The Coast Guard is the lead agency charged with assessing risk onboard cruise ships as it holds responsibility for maritime security functions at DHS. But CBP has expertise in vetting passenger reservation data, and has performed analysis of cruise-ship passenger manifests in the past as a means to analyze the level of risk various cruises might face from terrorism, the GAO report noted. As such, CBP is well positioned to conduct a study to see if reports on passenger data from cruise lines would prove beneficial to protecting them from terrorist attack as well as to determine the best means of vetting such passenger data, GAO suggested. A terrorist attack that closed ports could cause a ripple effect, slowing down the demand for cruise travel for some time, crippling an industry that contributed roughly \$19 billion to the U.S. economy in 2008, the report said.

Source: <http://www.hstoday.us/content/view/13223/128/>

19. *May 11, Associated Press* – (Kentucky) **US 51 reopened after barge hit it early Tuesday, no damage found.** Kentucky transportation officials have reopened an Ohio River bridge after finding no damage from a barge hit. The U.S. 51 bridge between Wickliffe, Kentucky, and Cairo, Illinois, was closed for a time early May 11 until it could be inspected. A Kentucky Transportation Cabinet spokesman said the towboat Terri C was under way with 25 empty hopper barges when the tow struck a bridge pier around 2:30 a.m. The pilot said gusty winds contributed to the accident and the nearby Cairo Airport was reporting gusts to 28 mph at the time. After finding no damage, officials reopened the bridge at about 4 a.m.

Source: <http://www.fox2now.com/news/sns-ap-ky--bridgestruck,0,5567166.story>

20. *May 11, Staten Island Advance* – (New York) **Bomb threat puts a scare into Staten Island Ferry operations.** A homeless man was busted for phoning in false bomb threats to the Staten Island Ferry May 10, police said. Both the Whitehall terminal in Manhattan and the St. George terminal were briefly shut down and sweeps were conducted by New York Police Department personnel, said a police spokesman. The scare at Whitehall forced the brief evacuation of the terminal about 8:50 p.m. The upper-level waiting area was cordoned off with yellow caution tape and commuters were directed to temporarily board ferries from the lower level, according to a Department of Transportation spokesman. The threats were deemed unfounded and no boats were delayed by the threats, officials said. The calls apparently were made about 8:15 p.m. from a pay phone in the vicinity of Orchard and Rivington streets in Manhattan, according to a police source. About 8:30 p.m., police canvassing the area spotted a 47-year-old man wheeling a cart, the source continued. He was stopped and, during interviews, the source continued, he made statements to police implicating himself as the source of the bomb threats. “He appeared slightly intoxicated and not all there,” said the source. The suspect was taken to the 7th Precinct stationhouse and, through a comparison with 911 tapes, his voice was positively identified as that of the caller, the source said. He is expected to be charged with making terroristic threats and aggravated harassment.

Source:

[http://www.silive.com/news/index.ssf/2010/05/bomb\\_threat\\_puts\\_a\\_scare\\_into.html](http://www.silive.com/news/index.ssf/2010/05/bomb_threat_puts_a_scare_into.html)

21. *May 10, KING 5 Seattle* – (Washington) **Bomb threat disrupts service at Everett transit center.** Sound Transit bus service in Seattle was suspended through the Everett Station on Smith Ave. for a time May 10 because of a bomb threat. Sound Transit said ST Express route 510/532/535 were being held at 33rd & Broadway in Everett. The transit center was evacuated and the regional bomb team conducted a sweep, but nothing was found.  
Source: <http://www.king5.com/news/local/Bomb-threat-at-Everett-transit-center-93308044.html>
22. *May 10, Reuters* – (International) **Man arrested over possible Afghan plane attack.** An Afghan man has been arrested after an attempted attack in a civilian passenger plane, but the motives behind the incident were unclear, the interior ministry said May 10. “One of the passengers had a knife and while the plane was flying mid-flight he wanted to commit a destructive action on the plane,” an interior ministry spokesman told Reuters about the May 9 incident. “But before that could happen, security personnel and passengers inside the plane identified the passenger and arrested this suspect ... we’re questioning the man to find out what was his motive.” The ministry could not immediately confirm which airline was involved nor its route. The Afghan was from a northern province. “We have 72 hours to question him and we will soon let you know for what reason he wanted to do this, whether this (was) a hijack or another destructive plan to bring the plane down,” the official said. While there was no confirmation the incident was linked to any militant attack, the arrest comes as the Taliban announced an offensive against foreign troops, Afghan government officials and diplomats said May 11. Thousands of Western and Afghan troops are gearing up to launch a military campaign against the Taliban in their spiritual stronghold in Kandahar next month.  
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE6493GD20100510>
23. *May 10, Montgomery Advertiser* – (Alabama) **State to simulate I-65 lane reversal for hurricane evacuation.** The Alabama Department of Transportation May 12 will lead a rehearsal of the plan that helps safely evacuate the Gulf Coast during major hurricanes. Annually, the department conducts rehearsals of its plan to reverse southbound traffic on Interstate 65 to allow four northbound lanes to evacuate the Gulf Coast. On Wednesday, about 200 transportation department workers along with state troopers will be positioned along I-65 between Baldwin County and Montgomery to simulate the activity associated with reversing I-65 traffic. The plan for reversing I-65 traffic consists of 120 steps and requires 200 Department of Transportation employees, about 140 state troopers, and additional personnel from the Alabama National Guard, state, and local emergency management and local law enforcement agencies, a news release from the Alabama Department of Transportation states. The rehearsal simulates the lane-reversal activities that might occur during a real hurricane evacuation and provides an opportunity to practice each of the steps required in the process. Traffic will not be reversed or detoured anywhere along I-65 during the training exercise Wednesday, but every other portion of the plan will be simulated.  
Source:

<http://www.montgomeryadvertiser.com/article/20100510/NEWS/100510013/State+to+simulate+I-65+lane+reversal+for+hurricane+evacuation>

For more stories, see items [1](#), [6](#), [7](#), [8](#), [10](#), and [32](#)

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## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

24. *May 10, Santa Cruz Sentinel* – (California) **Aptos mailbox blown up by unknown vandal.** A vandal used an explosive to blow up a mailbox in front of a house on the 6300 block of Forehand Court in Aptos, California Friday, May 7, the sheriff's office reported. The couple who lives in the house was watching a movie in the living room around 8:15 p.m. when there was a loud explosion out front, a police spokesman said. The man ran outside and found the mailbox destroyed and no one in sight, according to the sheriff's office. A neighbor told deputies a man wearing dark pants and a light gray hooded sweatshirt was running away from the mailbox just after the explosion, according to the police spokesman. However, no arrests were made and no motive could be established. Deputies also are investigating what type of explosive device, such as a pipe bomb, was used. The police spokesman said there have been no other mailbox explosions recently but, "this happens on occasion." There typically is a surge in such incidents around the Fourth of July, he said.

Source: [http://www.santacruzsentinel.com/ci\\_15055507?source=most\\_email](http://www.santacruzsentinel.com/ci_15055507?source=most_email)

25. *May 8, Pegasus News* – (Texas) **Suspicious package found at Rowlett post office was not a bomb.** A suspicious device that was discovered in a Rowlett, Texas U.S. Post Office mail dropbox by a postal worker created a tense situation May 8, when a postal employee brought the suspicious device directly to Rowlett Police Department (RPD) headquarters. The RPD building is on Rowlett Road, just blocks away from the post office. At approximately 3 p.m., the postal employee arrived at RPD with the suspicious device in the bed of his personal pickup truck, parked in the front parking lot facing Rowlett Road, and went inside to notify officers. The Rowlett Police and Fire Rescue Departments immediately went into action to secure the area around the vehicle, block traffic in both directions on Rowlett Road, and prepare for a possible explosion or fire until the Garland bomb squad arrived. Once on the scene, the bomb squad removed the device from the vehicle with a remote-controlled robot and placed it in a vacant lot adjacent to RPD headquarters for inspection. After approximately 45 minutes, the device was determined to be harmless.

Source: <http://www.pegasusnews.com/news/2010/may/08/suspicious-package-found-rowlett-post-office-was-n/>

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## **Agriculture and Food Sector**

26. *May 11, Boston Globe* – (Massachusetts) **Sudbury greenhouse fire causes millions in damage.** A five-alarm fire caused an estimated \$3 million to \$5 million worth of damage to a 100-year-old Sudbury greenhouse complex early May 11, according to the Sudbury, Massachusetts Fire Department. Firefighters responded to the blaze at Cavicchio Greenhouses Inc. on Codjer Lane at about midnight, said the Sudbury fire chief. An employee who may have been a security guard reported the fire, he said. “When we got there, quite a bit of fire was showing,” the fire chief said. The blaze, which started at one side of the structure and quickly spread, destroyed about 120,000 square feet – or about 30 percent – of the company’s greenhouses, the fire chief said. The fire was brought under control by about 4 a.m. “The owner tells me it was probably somewhere between a \$3 and \$5 million loss,” the fire chief said. “[The greenhouses] had flowers in them ready for delivery to stores.” The wholesale company, which was established in 1910, provides plants and supplies to gardening and landscaping businesses, municipalities and golf courses in New England, according to its Web site. About 15 communities and 75 to 80 firefighters were on scene partly due to a problem with the water supply. The nearest municipal hydrants were about a half-mile away, and yard hydrants offered a limited supply of water at a relatively low pressure to prevent the rapid spread of fire early on, the fire chief said. No injuries were reported. The cause of the blaze is under investigation.  
Source: [http://www.boston.com/news/local/breaking\\_news/2010/05/four-alm\\_fire.html](http://www.boston.com/news/local/breaking_news/2010/05/four-alm_fire.html)
27. *May 11, Hagerstown Herald-Mail* – (Maryland) **Fire that destroyed DOT Foods truck cabs believed to have been accidental.** A fire May 8 that destroyed three tractor-trailer cabs and damaged another at DOT Foods, 16301 Elliott Parkway, in Williamsport, Maryland was under investigation, the deputy chief state fire marshal said May 10. Initial indications were that the fire was accidental, he said. The fire was called in at 2:17 p.m., May 8, by an employee who spotted smoke coming from one of the cabs, the deputy fire marshal said in a news release. The employee and another worker attempted to control the fire with fire extinguishers, but the windy conditions helped spread the fire to other vehicles, he said. Employees helped contain the fire by moving other tractor-trailer cabs away from the burning vehicles, the deputy fire marshal said. The damage to the cabs was estimated at \$280,000. The fire is believed to have started in the engine compartment of one of the vehicles, the deputy fire marshal noted. About 20 firefighters from Williamsport, Halfway and Funkstown fire companies responded, along with the special operations hazardous materials unit. It took firefighters about 20 minutes to bring the fire under control and there were no injuries, the release said. Investigators and DOT Foods’ insurance company were reviewing mechanical issues and safety problems that might have caused the fire, the deputy fire marshal said.  
Source: [http://www.herald-mail.com/?cmd=displaystory&story\\_id=245088&format=html](http://www.herald-mail.com/?cmd=displaystory&story_id=245088&format=html)
28. *May 10, Produce Safety Project* – (International) **U.S. food safety system must integrate human health, animal, and plant pathogen data.** The Produce Safety Project May 10, issued a report that examines the steps taken by select European Union

(EU) countries to reform their food-safety data collection and analysis systems since the 1990s. Coauthored by the director, and the head of food safety programs at the Emerging Pathogens Institute at the University of Florida, the report, “Building the Science Foundation of a Modern Food Safety System,” looks at European countries with strong food-safety systems and makes many recommendations on how to improve those in the United States. A key suggestion is the annual publication of a unified cross-agency report on tracking food-borne pathogens in humans, animals, food and feed. To be produced by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), the annual analyses would summarize surveillance data on human foodborne illnesses – including outbreaks and sporadic cases – and on pathogen contamination in domestic and imported animals, food and feed. “A national annual report on food safety will actually tell us if we are making progress or not in reducing the burden of food-borne illness,” said the director of the Produce Safety Project. “It is a yardstick we don’t have now.” The analysis would also present trends and provide the evidence basis for measuring food-safety progress and include routinely updated national estimates of the incidence of food-borne illness due to major pathogens. The authors called for these reports to be written in a readable and consumer-friendly manner. Copies of the report are available at [www.producesafetyproject.org](http://www.producesafetyproject.org).

Source: <http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/us-food-safety-system-needs-to-integrate-human-health-animal-and-plant-pathogen-data-93266819.html>

29. *May 10, Food Safety News* – (National) **Poultry industry gets new performance standards.** The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Secretary May 10 announced new performance standards for the poultry industry to use in knocking down Salmonella and Campylobacter contamination levels. He said after two years under the new standards, the USDA’s Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) estimates that 39,000 illnesses will be avoided each year under the new Campylobacter standard, and there will be 26,000 fewer illnesses with the revised Salmonella standard. The first-ever Campylobacter standards, and the first revised Salmonella standards since 1996 are targeted at establishments producing young chickens (broilers) and turkeys. The performance standard for Salmonella in young chickens currently is 20 percent or no more than 12 samples out of 51. After the 60-day comment period when the new standard goes into effect, it will be 7.5 percent or no more than 5 sample tests positive out of 51. USDA will continue to categorize establishments based on their history of test data. The new Campylobacter standard is more complicated, and has existed only since 2005. In the conference call with reporters, the Agriculture Secretary declined to address whether non-O157:H7 strains of E. coli should be banned from meat and poultry. He said he wanted to keep the attention on Salmonella and Campylobacter because they cause so many illnesses.

Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2010/05/poultry-industry-gets-new-performance-standards/>

30. *May 10, The Packer* – (National) **E. coli concerns prompt another romaine recall.** Andrew Smith Co., Salinas, Calif., recalled 1,000 cartons of lettuce May 7 after tests showed the presence of E. coli in a bag of romaine lettuce, the day after another



company recalled romaine products — but the two recalls are apparently unrelated. An Andrew Smith Co. spokeswoman said its recalled romaine went to two food-service processors, and the strain of bacteria prompting the recall is unrelated to one initiated by foodservice supplier Freshway Foods, Sidney, Ohio, the day before. The recall started late May 7, the spokeswoman said, after Andrew Smith Co. was contacted by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) about a confirmed positive test for E. coli O145 conducted in Ohio on a sample of the company's romaine. "It was a precautionary measure," the spokeswoman said about the recall; unlike the Freshway case, there are no illnesses attributed to the Andrew Smith Co. romaine. On May 10, she said she didn't know whether Freshway Foods was one of the customers involved in the Andrew Smith Co. recall, which does not involve any retail product. Freshway's recall involves romaine linked to an outbreak of E. coli O145 that sickened people in Ohio, Michigan and New York. As of May 10, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported there are 19 confirmed cases and 10 probable cases associated with the Freshway Foods case. The spokeswoman said health officials in those states and the FDA have been testing romaine following the outbreak, and the E. coli in Andrew Smith Co.'s product was detected during those tests. Andrew Smith Co. decided to recall the entire lot of romaine, which was sourced from Yuma, Arizona she said, even though no tests at the Yuma ranch or tests carried out by Andrew Smith Co. showed any indications of further bacterial contamination.

Source: <http://thepacker.com/m/story.asp?sect=news&page=Top Stories from ThePacker.com&contentId=1072200>

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## **Water Sector**

31. *May 11, Oklahoman* – (Oklahoma) **Emergency crews start second search; water conservation urged.** Emergency crews are doing a second search of a 49-square-mile area hard hit by tornadoes May 10. City officials say about 50 homes were destroyed and another 30 to 40 damaged, and about a half-dozen businesses were ruined Monday night when tornadoes raked the city. Oklahoma City's main water treatment plant remains without power, causing widespread water outages and low pressure across the southern metro area. The tornado that hit the Choctaw Road area May 10 knocked out primary and backup power to the Lake Draper Water Treatment Plant, which supplies half the city's water, a city utilities spokeswoman said. Oklahoma Gas and Electric Co. hopes to restore power to the plant by the end of the day. Crews are working to repair substantial damage to a major power source near the plant. The power outage halted a complex, time-consuming water-filtering process that makes water safe to drink. A spokesman said it is unclear how long it will take to restart that process once the plant's power is restored. Because it is unclear how long water shortages could last, the city on Monday enacted a 48-hour mandatory outdoor-watering ban. Other neighboring communities that receive water from the plant have enacted similar water use restrictions. Oklahoma City water utility crews worked throughout the night to re-route water from the city's Lake Hefner and Lake Overholser plants to customers across the southern metro area, but many are still without water, the spokesman said. Residents of



Norman, Midwest City and Del City are being asked to conserve water as power is out to the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District, which controls the water supply from Lake Thunderbird that serves the three cities.

Source: <http://www.newsok.com/emergency-crews-start-second-search-water-conservation-urged/article/3460499>

32. *May 11, Tampa Tribune* – (Florida) **Cost of Plant City sinkhole repairs rises to \$7 million.** Sinkholes that opened after farmers pumped billions of gallons of water to protect crops during January's record freezes have swallowed more than \$7 million in Florida taxpayer money and not all the bills have come in. The biggest expense is fixing roads where sinkholes devoured pavement and rights of way. Officials estimate Hillsborough County will spend \$4.9 million to repair 39 sinkholes affecting county roads. Plant City will also spend \$255,000 to fix a water tower where a sinkhole threatened to topple the structure. And the county school district had to close Trapnell Elementary School while workers filled an underground cavern that threatened to grow into a sinkhole. The bill for that work was \$900,000. Plant City was especially hard hit. Fourteen sinkholes that opened since the first week of January have been filled and resurfacing of affected public roads is ongoing at a cost of about \$1.6 million. Money for the road repairs comes from the city's coffers. Four county roads remain closed nearly four months after temperatures dropped to freezing 11 nights in early January and forced strawberry farmers to pump groundwater to cover the plants and fruit. Paving on two of the closed roads should be finished in a week or so, a spokesman for the county's Public Works Department said. As farmers pumped nearly a billion gallons a night January 3 through January 13, groundwater levels plummeted, dropping 60 feet in some places. When the water vanished, it was unable to support the soil atop underground cavities that collapsed and formed sinkholes. The \$7 million tally does not include the cost to residents who lost houses and property when the ground caved in. Several roads in Plant City remain closed due to the repairs. Officials expect those roads to reopen by mid-June, but additional sinkholes continue to appear. In all, the district received reports of 150 sinkholes and 767 complaints about dry wells. Most dry wells were in areas where strawberry farmers were responsible for repairs.

Source: <http://www2.tbo.com/content/2010/may/11/cost-plant-city-sinkhole-repairs-rises-7-million/news-metro/>

33. *May 10, Joplin Globe* – (Kansas) **Lightning strikes water tower, Columbus without water.** A lightning strike on a Columbus, Kansas water tower will result in residents being without water for at least 24 hours, said the police chief. He said the Cherokee County Courthouse, city hall and schools in Columbus are closed. The police chief said lightning struck the water tower in the city park around 1:30 or 2 a.m. May 10. The strike blew the water line from the ground and shorted out the water pump. He said after repairs are made, a boil water order will be in place. Residents must rely on bottled water until the situation is resolved.

Source: <http://www.joplinglobe.com/local/x334277152/Lightning-strikes-water-tower-town-without-water>

34. *May 10, Associated Press* – (Texas) **Vandals blamed for wastewater spill.** Officials are blaming vandals for a 250,000-gallon waste-water spill in southwestern Austin, Texas. Austin Water Utility officials said the spill happened May 9 just off Loop 1 near Slaughter Creek Park. The utility said vandals blocked the sewer line with construction fencing and rocks, causing a spill into Slaughter Creek, a stream that feeds into the Barton Springs segment of the Edwards Aquifer. The utility is asking well users in the area to boil their water, and Austin parks officials have closed Barton Springs Pool for water testing.

Source: <http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/ap/tx/6998901.html>

35. *May 10, Beaufort Gazette* – (South Carolina) **Hilton Head plan intended to keep drinking water flowing.** As salt water continues to slowly take over Hilton Head Island's main underground water supply, the Hilton Head Public Service District in South Carolina has a \$3-million plan to make sure drinking water keeps flowing to customers. The district intends to store water purchased from the Beaufort-Jasper Water & Sewer Authority (BJWSA) in an underground aquifer. The water, which is piped in from the Savannah River, would be treated by BJWSA, and treated again by the island district when it is removed. The plan would result in a one-time increase in the annual district taxes. The Beaufort County Finance Committee May 10, recommended the district be allowed to issue up to \$4 million in bonds to pay for the project. The additional \$1 million would be for other waterline improvements. The matter now goes to the county council for consideration. By 2020, all but one of the district's seven active drinking-water wells are expected to contain water too salty to drink. By storing water underground during the winter, the district would have water on hand when it's needed during peak demand in the summer. The BJWSA has two aquifer storage and recovery plants and is building a third at the entrance to Palmetto Bluff, according to the agency's communications manager. The island district's aquifer storage and recovery plant would be built at the district's site in Hilton Head Plantation off Royal James Drive. Construction is scheduled to begin in 2013, around the same time three of the district's wells are expected to be overtaken by saltwater.

Source: <http://www.islandpacket.com/2010/05/10/1235679/hilton-head-comes-up-with-plan.html>

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## **Public Health and Healthcare Sector**

36. *May 11, Associated Press* – (California) **Hospital investigating possible patient info leaks.** Officials at Olive View-UCLA Medical Center in California said they are investigating possible leaks of patient information at the hospital. Olive View's chief executive told the Los Angeles Times in a report published May 10 that hospital officials began looking into possible leaks last week after the county launched an inquiry into anonymous complaints made to an accreditation agency. The complaints alleged that neonatal intensive care nurses were running a makeshift beauty parlor and that the unit did not have the personnel to care for seriously ill newborns. She said several families of intensive care infants complained that they had been contacted by

reporters and a lawyer, which she said indicates that information may have been released in violation of federal law.

Source: <http://www.kswt.com/Global/story.asp?S=12461060>

37. *May 11, Associated Press* – (National) **Obama strategy treats illegal drugs as public health issue.** The White House is putting more resources into drug prevention and treatment, part of the President's pledge to treat illegal drug use more as a public health issue than a criminal-justice problem. The new drug-control strategy to be released May 11 boosts community-based anti-drug programs, encourages health care providers to screen for drug problems before addiction sets in, and expands treatment beyond specialty centers to mainstream health-care facilities. "It changes the whole discussion about ending the war on drugs and recognizes that we have a responsibility to reduce our own drug use in this country," said a White House official in a statement. The plan calls for reducing the rate of youth drug use by 15 percent over the next five years and for similar reductions in chronic drug use, drug abuse deaths and drugged driving. Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2010/05/11/obama-strategy-treats-illegal-drugs-public-health-issue/?test=latestnews>

38. *May 11, CNN* – (Montana) **Medical marijuana stores firebombed in Montana.** The Billings, Montana, City Council planned to take up the issue of regulating medical marijuana May 10, in a meeting expected to be intense in the wake of the firebombings of two of the city's medical marijuana storefronts in the last two days. The southern Montana city's dispensaries legally provide marijuana to medical patients who use it for maladies from glaucoma to nausea to lack of appetite. In the latest incidents, the phrase "Not in our town" was spray-painted on the businesses, police said. The police sergeant said Big Sky Patient Care was hit early May 9 and Montana Therapeutics was the target early May 10. Both had a rock thrown through the front door, followed by a Molotov cocktail. In both cases, he said, the fire was put out swiftly and damage was not extensive. Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2010/CRIME/05/10/montana.medical.marijuana/?hpt=Sbin>

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## **Government Facilities Sector**

39. *May 11, Bay City News* – (California) **Suspicious powder at Redwood City Social Security office deemed harmless.** An envelope containing a suspicious white powder was found at the Social Security Administration office in Redwood City, California, May 10, prompting a three-hour hazardous materials investigation, a Redwood City fire battalion chief said. Firefighters responded to the building at 601 Allerton St. at about 3:35 p.m. and evacuated occupants as they worked to determine whether the chemical posed a threat, a battalion chief said. Investigators concluded there were no dangerous chemicals present and cleared the scene by about 6:40 p.m., the battalion chief said. He said the investigation into the source of the suspicious envelope is being conducted by federal authorities.

Source: <http://www.sfexaminer.com/local/Suspicious-powder-at-Redwood-City-Social-Security-office-deemed-harmless-93369414.html#ixzz0nd5VSqdD>

40. *May 11, Associated Press* – (New York) **Teen charged with calling in phony bomb threat on prom night.** Police say a northern New York teen was in the county lockup after being charged with calling in a bomb threat to sabotage the prom at his high school. It turned out to be an empty threat at an empty school, as the prom was being held on the campus of the State University College at Oswego. Oswego police got a 911 call to Oswego High School shortly before 10:30 p.m. May 8. They swept the school and found nothing suspicious. On May 10, police arrested an 18-year-old Oswego High student, and charged him with falsely reporting an incident, a felony. He was arraigned in City court and taken to Oswego County jail in lieu of \$1,000 bail. The suspect is due back in court May 25.  
Source: <http://www.wcax.com/Global/story.asp?S=12461141>
41. *May 11, CNN* – (International) **Pakistani with bomb residue on hands arrested in Chile.** A 28-year-old Pakistani man with explosive residue on his hands was arrested at the U.S. Embassy in Chile, national police said. The man, who had been in Chile since January, was applying for a visa to the United States, said an official with the Carabineros, Chile's uniformed national police. The suspect was arrested May 10 at the embassy and turned over to Chilean authorities. "The embassy has their security procedures in place and their security measures were activated and that required the support of our personnel," the official said. "Our personnel is on site and, according to agreements and protocols, the individual has been in custody of the interior minister." A senior State Department official confirmed the arrest, telling CNN "we found traces of explosives residue and the man was turned over to the Chilean police." The suspect was doing an internship in tourism at a Chilean hotel, CNN Chile said. He is scheduled to be charged May 11 with violating Chile's law on weapons and explosives, CNN Chile reported.  
Source: <http://news.blogs.cnn.com/2010/05/11/pakistani-with-bomb-residue-on-hands-caught-in-chile/>
42. *May 10, WINK 9 Fort Meyers* – (Florida) **Scene clear after suspicious powder scare at Charlotte courthouse.** Crews have given the all clear after a hazmat scare May 10 in Charlotte County, Florida. First responders arrived at the clerk of courts office on Marion Street in Punta Gorda, just before 3 p.m. Officials said an envelope containing a white powder had made it from the clerk's office to the truck of a deputy's car. A sheriff's office spokesperson said it appears the envelope came from an inmate who sent back medication he didn't want to take. Fire crews said the case is being handled like any other suspicious event. Fire officials and the health department said the powder hasn't been officially identified, and will be sent to an office in Tampa for tests. No illnesses were reported.  
Source: <http://www.winknews.com/Local-Florida/2010-05-10/Scene-clear-after-suspicious-powder-scare-at-Charlotte-courthouse#ixzz0nd8MmYHn>

43. *May 10, WGHP 8 Greensboro* – (North Carolina) **School locked down briefly after explosive device found on playground.** An elementary school in Winston-Salem, North Carolina was placed on lockdown after a suspicious device was found on a playground May 10. The device made of soda bottles was discovered on a playground at Whitaker Elementary School in Winston-Salem. An official with the Winston-Salem Police Department said some kids were playing near the school this weekend and were trying to build an explosive using soda bottles and antifreeze. The school was placed on lockdown while officials investigated the device. Emergency officials were called to the scene to detonate some of the bottles. No one was injured and the lockdown was lifted shortly after 9 a.m.

Source: <http://www.myfox8.com/news/wghp-story-school-lockdown-100510,0,3870154.story>

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## **Emergency Services Sector**

44. *May 10, Federal Bureau of Investigation* – (National) **FBI releases preliminary statistics for law enforcement officers killed in 2009.** According to preliminary statistics released May 10 by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), 48 law-enforcement officers were feloniously killed in the line of duty in 2009. Geographically, 21 of the victim officers were killed in the South, 13 in the West, seven in the Northeast, and five in the Midwest. Two officers were slain in Puerto Rico. The total number of officers killed is seven higher than in 2008. By circumstance, 15 deaths occurred as a result of ambush situations, nine officers died during arrest situations, eight were killed while handling traffic pursuits/stops, five died responding to disturbance calls, four died while investigating suspicious persons/circumstances, four died during tactical situations, two were killed while handling and transporting prisoners, and one died while handling a person with a mental illness. A breakdown of weapons revealed that firearms were used in the majority of slayings. Of the 45 officers killed with firearms, 28 were killed with handguns, 15 with rifles, and two with shotguns. Three officers were killed with vehicles. At the time they were killed, 35 law-enforcement officers were wearing body armor. Twelve officers fired their weapons, and nine of the slain law-enforcement officers attempted to fire their weapons. Seven officers had their weapons stolen, and two officers were slain with their own weapons. The 48 law-enforcement officers were killed in 37 separate incidents in 2009. All of the incidents have been cleared by arrest or exceptional means.

Source: [http://www.fbi.gov/pressrel/pressrel10/prelimleoka\\_051010.htm](http://www.fbi.gov/pressrel/pressrel10/prelimleoka_051010.htm)

45. *May 8, Foxnews.com* – (National) **As Tennessee copes with flooding disaster, FEMA faces own financial crisis.** With a flooded Tennessee becoming the latest disaster to strike the United States, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is confronting its own emergency as its relief funds run perilously low. Last month, FEMA's director wrote a letter to Congress warning that its relief fund had fallen to \$693 million as of April 7, but the agency owed \$645 million to 47 states for past disasters. That does not include the \$1.7-billion settlement the agency owes to the Gulf

Coast state and city governments for Hurricane Katrina. Now FEMA is handing out money to the residents of Tennessee after deadly floods ravaged the region last weekend. FEMA has already approved \$4.1 million in individual assistance and more than 16,200 Tennesseans had registered with FEMA for disaster assistance by Saturday, May 8 with 650 inspections complete. The White House's spokesman said May 7 that FEMA will probably need a shot of supplemental funding. The administration is seeking \$5.1 billion in emergency funding from Congress.

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2010/05/08/tennessee-copes-flooding-disaster-fema-faces-financial-crisis/?test=latestnews>

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## **Information Technology Sector**

46. *May 11, Computerworld* – (International) **New attack tactic sidesteps Windows security software.** A just-published attack tactic that bypasses the security protections of most current anti-virus software is a “very serious” problem, an executive at one unaffected company said May 11. On May 5, researchers at Matousec.com outlined how attackers could exploit the kernel driver hooks that most security software uses to reroute Windows system calls through their software to check for potential malicious code before it is able to execute. Calling the technique an “argument-switch attack,” a Matousec-written paper spelled out in relatively specific terms how an attacker could swap out benign code for malicious code between the moments when the security software issues a green light and the code actually executes. “This is definitely very serious,” said vice president of engineering at Immunit, a Palo Alto, Calif.-based anti-virus company. “Probably any security product running on Windows XP can be exploited this way.” According to Matousec, nearly three-dozen Windows desktop security titles, including ones from Symantec, McAfee, Trend Micro, BitDefender, Sophos, and others, can be exploited using the argument-switch tactic.  
Source: <http://www.infoworld.com/d/security-central/new-attack-tactic-sidesteps-windows-security-software-339>
47. *May 10, IDG News Service* – (International) **Windows 7 ‘compatibility checker’ is a Trojan.** Scammers are infecting computers with a Trojan horse program disguised as software that determines whether PCs are compatible with Windows 7. The attack was first spotted by BitDefender May 9 and is not yet widespread; the antivirus vendor is receiving reports of about three installs per hour from its users in the U.S. But because the scam is novel, it could end up infecting a lot of people due to the interest in Windows 7. The scammers steal marketing text directly from Microsoft, which offers a legitimate Windows 7 Upgrade Advisor on its Web site. “Find out if your PC can run Windows 7,” the e-mails read, echoing Microsoft’s Web page. Users who try to install the attached, zipped file end up with a back-door Trojan horse program on their computer. BitDefender identifies the program as Trojan.Generic.3783603, the same one that is being used in a fake Facebook password reset campaign. Once a victim has installed the software, criminals can pretty much do whatever they want on the PC.



Source: <http://www.networkworld.com/news/2010/051010-windows-7-compatibility-checker-is.html?hpg1=bn>

48. *May 10, TechWorld* – (International) **Gumblar Trojan vanishes suddenly yet again.** A prolific variant of the Gumblar Trojan has performed another vanishing act, disappearing suddenly from malware figures gathered by Kaspersky Lab. The company's statistics for April show that the Gumblar.x downloader was nowhere to be seen after being the most recorded piece of malware for February and March. After appearing in March 2009, Gumblar and subsequent variants went to the top of various company's malware league tables by October, at which point it started to die out. By January 2010 it had disappeared altogether before surging once again, seemingly from nowhere. Gumblar and its variants are effective and versatile pieces of malware, recording 453,000 infections detected by Kaspersky during February alone. Its main means of spread is to use compromised Web sites to serve malicious browser scripts, which redirect the PCs of infected users. It can also be used to steal FTP and other log-ins for Web sites. It is unusual for malware other than Internet worms to surge and recede in this fashion, but it is likely to be a technique to keep some of the compromised Web sites beyond the range of easy detection.  
Source: <http://www.networkworld.com/news/2010/051010-gumblar-trojan-vanishes-suddenly-yet.html?hpg1=bn>

49. *May 10, Internetnews.com* – (International) **Phishing scheme targets Apple gift cards.** Hackers have constructed a bogus Web site designed to steal the account numbers and PINs of gift card holders. This latest consumer phishing scam uses a typosquatted Web site disguised as an official Apple site to trick users into entering their card numbers and PINs in order check the available balance on gift cards for Apple products. The scam is just the latest in a line of sophisticated phishing attacks that has security software companies and law-enforcement agencies urging consumers to take their time and pay close attention to where they are actually conducting transactions to avoid being ripped off.  
Source:  
<http://www.internetnews.com/security/article.php/3881251/Phishing+Scheme+Targets+Apple+Gift+Cards.htm>

### 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

50. *May 11, Federal News Radio* – (National) **FCC to establish cyber certification program.** The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) wants to establish a cybersecurity certification program for private sector telecommunications networks. In a Federal Register notice released May 11, the agency says the undertaking would be voluntary for broadband and other communication service providers. “The Commission’s goals in this proceeding are to increase the security of the nation’s broadband infrastructure, promote a culture of more vigilant cyber security among participants in the market for communications services, and offer end users more complete information about their communication service providers’ cyber security practices,” the FCC writes in the notice. The commission wants vendors to answers numerous questions about how such a program would work, what security criteria should be included, whether they have at the legal authority to even create such a certification program and more. “The security of the core communications infrastructure - the plumbing of cyberspace - is believed to be robust,” the FCC states. “Yet recent trends suggest that the networks and the platforms on which Internet users rely are becoming increasingly susceptible to operator error and malicious cyber attack.” PandaLabs reports that in 2009 it detected more new malware than in any of the previous 20 years. It also reports that in 2009, the total number of individual malware samples in its database reached 40 million, and that it received 55,000 daily samples in its laboratory, and this figure has been rising in recent months. The criteria for the voluntary program would address four areas: secure equipment management, updating software, intrusion prevention and detection and intrusion analysis and response. The FCC wants to make the private sector responsible for developing and maintaining the security criteria, accrediting auditors to conduct assessments and maintain a database of service providers who meet the standards.  
Source: <http://www.federalnewsradio.com/?sid=1954347&nid=35>

51. *May 10, Associated Press* – (West Virginia) **W.Va. orders Verizon to establish escrow account.** The West Virginia Public Service Commission (PSC) is ordering Verizon-West Virginia to deposit \$72.4 million into an escrow account dedicated to improving service in the state. The May 10 order was a follow up to one issued in 2008 that directed Verizon-West Virginia to take actions to improve its services. Commissioners said the escrow account was ordered because the company’s efforts since 2008 were neither sufficient nor consistent. A PSC spokeswoman said Verizon has until May 14 to say how it will deposit the money. The money is to be used over the next several years to finance improvements ranging from restoring copper lines to conducting maintenance and hiring additional employees. A Verizon spokesman said the company is reviewing the commission’s order.  
Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D9FK7L9G0.htm>

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## **Commercial Facilities Sector**

52. *May 11, WKBT 8 La Crosse* – (Wisconsin) **Bomb threat forces evacuation of Onalaska business.** A bomb threat forces around 30 employees to evacuate an

Onalaska, Wisconsin business May 10. It happened around 4:45 p.m. at IC System in the Center 90 building on Sand Lake Road. An employee got a phone call saying there was a bomb in the building. Onalaska Police called in the La Crosse Police Department's bomb sniffing dog to do a sweep of the building. No bomb was found and IC System employees were allowed back into the building just before 6:30 p.m.  
Source: <http://www.wkbt.com/Global/story.asp?S=12460587>

53. *May 11, Scranton Times-Tribune* – (Pennsylvania) **Prom bomb threat puts an abrupt end to festivities.** State police are investigating a bomb threat made by an unidentified male caller that abruptly ended a high school prom May 8 at Ehrhardt's Waterfront Resort in Palmyra Twp. in Pike County, Pennsylvania. The resort owner said he was told by a male caller that a bomb was on the premises and that all male students had to be evacuated or the bomb would be detonated. The caller also stated that the female students of the Wayne County School District had to remain inside. Resort staff and school officials followed the caller's instructions. All students were eventually evacuated. State police arrived and conducted an extensive search for the bomb but found nothing.

Source: <http://thetimes-tribune.com/news/prom-bomb-threat-puts-an-abrupt-end-to-festivities-1.779061>

54. *May 11, Associated Press* – (Florida) **Investigators searching for clues after Islamic center explosion.** Authorities are investigating an explosion at an Islamic center in Jacksonville, Florida to determine if it was a hate crime. Witnesses said they heard a loud noise May 10 as preparations were being made for the evening prayer. A fire caused minimal damage to the building. No one was injured. Witnesses said they found a device at the scene. The Council on American-Islamic Relations issued a statement saying an attack "on a house of worship should be of great concern to Americans of all faiths." The group called for political and religious leaders to speak out against anti-Muslim sentiment.

Source: <http://www.miamiherald.com/2010/05/11/1623486/investigators-at-islamic-center.html>

55. *May 10, The Birmingham News* – (Alabama) **Possible meth lab discovered in bathtub of motel in downtown Birmingham.** Authorities found what appears to be a methamphetamine lab at a downtown motel May 10, after a caller reported "something cooking in the bathtub." Birmingham Fire and Rescue officials shut down about a block radius around the Knights Inn at 1313 Third Ave. North. At least part of the motel was evacuated. Authorities were called to the motel about 1 p.m. by management. The owner was cleaning when he said he smelled a strange odor coming from the room, he told fire officials. He opened the door but the odor was so strong, it turned him back. The occupant of the room had checked out earlier May 10. Hazardous-materials crews and Drug Enforcement Administration agents also responded to the scene. Monitors taken into the motel room showed there was hazardous material inside.

Source: [http://blog.al.com/spotnews/2010/05/possible\\_meth\\_lab\\_discovered\\_i.html](http://blog.al.com/spotnews/2010/05/possible_meth_lab_discovered_i.html)

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## **National Monuments and Icons Sector**

Nothing to report

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## **Dams Sector**

56. *May 10, KGET 17 Bakersfield* – (California) **Dam OK after small Isabella quake.** A small earthquake rattled dishes in Lake Isabella, California May 10. There were no reports of damage or injuries, and no apparent damage to Isabella Dam. Residents said it felt like a sharp jolt when a magnitude 3.9 earthquake hit near Lake Isabella at 2:28 p.m. The Kern County Fire Department received no reports of injury or damage and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers said there was no apparent damage to the dam. Engineers were making a secondary, thorough survey to make sure there was no hidden damage. The epicenter was about nine miles southeast of the town of Lake Isabella. There were two small aftershocks in the 30 minutes following the Isabella quake. Source: [http://www.kget.com/news/local/story/Dam-OK-after-small-Isabella-quake/ddFRX\\_mjp0a8iuJbHrGZ9A.csp](http://www.kget.com/news/local/story/Dam-OK-after-small-Isabella-quake/ddFRX_mjp0a8iuJbHrGZ9A.csp)

57. *May 9, Portland Oregonian* – (Oregon) **A river ready to run free.** Now it is Gold Ray Dam's turn to give way on the Rogue River. The Jackson County Board of Commissioners voted unanimously last week to remove the 106-year-old dam near Gold Hill, Oregon. If all goes as planned, by late summer the 38-foot-high, 360-foot-long, defunct hydropower dam will be gone. And when the Rogue finally bursts through the remnants of Gold Ray, for the first time since 1904, one of Oregon's great salmon rivers will run wild and free for 157 miles to the Pacific. Oregonians are not especially given to celebrating conservation victories, probably because they usually come at a painful cost to a traditional industry or a segment of rural Oregon. But the Rogue is different. The dams that have fallen one after another on the Rogue — Savage Rapids, Gold Hill Diversion, Elk Creek and, soon, Gold Ray — generally were decommissioned relics from another era. As soon as next month, workers will begin the job of breaching Gold Ray.

Source:

[http://www.oregonlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2010/05/a\\_river\\_ready\\_to\\_run\\_free.html](http://www.oregonlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2010/05/a_river_ready_to_run_free.html)

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