



# Homeland Security

## Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 14 May 2010

Current Nationwide Threat Level

ELEVATED

Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks

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

### Top Stories

- According to the Associated Press, an explosion rattled Cleveland and its suburbs on Wednesday, destroying three houses, damaging at least 12 others, and injuring at least 11 people, though none seriously. Dominion East Ohio crews were canvassing the area for gas leaks and shut off service to 17 homes as a safety measure. (See item [4](#))
- WTAP 5 Parkersburg reports that four workers were injured Wednesday after a dumpster outside the Felman Productions ferroalloy plant in Letart in Mason County, West Virginia caught fire and sparked a small explosion. (See item [10](#))

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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 13, Dow Jones Newswires* – (West Virginia) **Massey Energy processing plant to restart sooner than planned.** Massey Energy Co. expects to complete construction and restart operations at its Bandmill preparation plant in Logan County, West Virginia, earlier than predicted. The plant, which was destroyed by fire in August, is scheduled to resume processing coal by mid-September. The chairman and chief

executive said last month the company was hoping to restart “early to mid fourth quarter.” Boosting output will come as Massey deals with the April blast at its Upper Big Branch mine that killed 29 workers, making it the nation’s worst mine disaster in four decades. The blast has driven a selloff in Massey shares as the company faces increased scrutiny from federal and state regulators. Total employment at operations served by the plant is expected to exceed 480 workers.

Source: <http://www.nasdaq.com/aspx/stock-market-news-story.aspx?storyid=201005121529dowjonesdjonline000647&title=massey-energy-processing-plant-to-restart-sooner-than-planned>

2. *May 13, Forum of Fargo-Moorhead* – (Minnesota; North Dakota) **Vandalism suspected in power outages.** Two apparent acts of vandalism that cut electricity to most residents in Wahpeton, North Dakota and some in Breckenridge, Minnesota early May 12 could be considered acts of terrorism, said a spokeswoman for Otter Tail Power Co. About 1,800 customers were affected by the power outages, she said. Bolts were removed and switches were opened at two locations to interrupt the flow of electricity, according to the spokeswoman and the Wahpeton police chief. “They obviously, I believe, had to have had tools... and knowledge of how it worked,” he said. A police officer noticed the first power outage at 2:27 a.m., affecting the north side of Wahpeton. Otter Tail Power crews restored the switches and reported the outages as vandalism. Electricity was restored to all customers by 3:30 a.m. Police have no suspects. The vandal or vandals interrupted power by opening a distribution-line switch and a larger 41.6-kilovolt transmission-line switch.  
Source: <http://www.dl-online.com/event/article/id/52845/group/News/>
3. *May 12, McLatchy Newspapers* – (Louisiana) **Federal laws point to criminal charges in Gulf oil spill.** Federal investigators are likely to file criminal charges against at least one of the companies involved in the Gulf of Mexico spill, raising the prospects of significantly higher penalties than the current \$75-million, civil-liability cap, legal experts said. The inquiry by the Homeland Security and Interior Departments into how the spill occurred is still in its early stages and authorities have not confirmed whether a criminal investigation has been launched. But environmental law experts said it is just a matter of time until the Justice Department steps in — if it has not already — to initiate a criminal inquiry and take punitive action. “There is no question there will be an enforcement action,” said the former head of the Justice Department’s environmental crimes section for seven years during the previous two Presidential administrations. “And, it is very likely that there will be at least some criminal charges brought.”  
Source: <http://www.miamiherald.com/2010/05/12/1626680/federal-laws-point-to-criminal.html>
4. *May 12, Associated Press* – (Ohio) **Blast levels 3 Cleveland homes; 11 people hurt.** An explosion rattled Cleveland and its suburbs on Wednesday, destroying three houses, damaging at least 12 others, and injuring at least 11 people, though none seriously, authorities said. The blast around 8 a.m. demolished an apparently unoccupied home, leaving a hole. Only the chimney was left of one adjacent home, and another had just one wall standing. Authorities evacuated the street where the explosion

occurred, located on the city's east side, and were checking for leaking natural gas. City and federal authorities were trying to determine the cause of the blast. A Fire Department spokesman said the injuries were minor, mostly burns. MetroHealth Medical Center said it received six adults and five children from the scene. People living in suburbs at least 10 miles away reported feeling the explosion. A spokesman for Dominion East Ohio said crews were canvassing the area for gas leaks and shut off service to 17 homes as a safety measure. A public school located in the neighborhood closed for the day before students arrived.

Source: [http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5i\\_i0DDBawZB-SOnGfb1\\_oI-DV7WwD9FLL1001](http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5i_i0DDBawZB-SOnGfb1_oI-DV7WwD9FLL1001)

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## **Chemical Industry Sector**

5. *May 13, Athens Banner-Herald* – (Georgia) **Chemical fire leaves questions.** Some of the Jackson County, Georgia volunteer firefighters who pulled up to the inferno at H. Wilson Manufacturing Co. chemical plant last weekend had no idea what kind of fire they were facing or what kind of flammable material was inside the building. Not knowing what could be burning made fighting the fire more dangerous than it had to be, said the director of emergency services for Jackson County. It also forced firefighters to evacuate 25 families from their homes in the middle of the night in case the smoke coming from the chemical plant proved toxic. "Any company that has a significant quantity of chemicals in the building is supposed to let us know," the director said. "That way we know there's something in there before we get there." H. Wilson Manufacturing never filed that paperwork, according to the state environmental protection division. The company never had enough chemicals on hand at one time to require filing, the owner said.

Source: [http://onlineathens.com/stories/051310/new\\_638109803.shtml](http://onlineathens.com/stories/051310/new_638109803.shtml)

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

6. *May 13, Las Vegas Review-Journal* – (Nevada) **DOE tells Yucca contractors to stop work, prepare further job reductions.** The dismantling of the Yucca Mountain repository plan advanced this week when the Department of Energy ordered the project's main contractors to stop most work and prepare further job reductions. The department, May 11, notified operations and management company USA Repository Services to halt activities on the nuclear waste program except to preserve records and administer the Yucca Mountain pension and workers compensation plans and medical coverage for retirees. "Effective May 24, 2010, USA RS is no longer tasked to perform work on contract tasks other than that needed for an orderly shutdown of the contract," a department contracting officer said in a letter to the company's general manager. The

contractor was directed to provide estimates of severance pay and other costs to carry out a reduction in the company's work force by May 17.

Source: <http://www.lvrj.com/news/doe-tells-yucca-contractors-to-stop-work--prepare-further-job-reductions-93662894.html>

7. *May 13, Star-Ledger* – (New Jersey) **Federal nuclear agency disputes handling of Oyster Creek radiation-spill cleanup.** The federal agency that oversees nuclear power plants disputed New Jersey environmental officials' suggestion that it did not compel the Oyster Creek nuclear power plant in Lacey Township to clean up a radiation spill last year, a report in the Press of Atlantic City said. The state Department of Environmental Protection took over the clean-up May 7, using the New Jersey's Spill Act to oversee cleaning up 180,000 gallons of irradiated water that leaked from a generating station in April 2009, according to the report. The DEP said in a statement that after the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) was notified of the spill, it performed an investigation but "did not compel a cleanup," the report said. But a NRC spokesperson told the newspaper the agency was still working on the remediation plan, according to the report. The DEP said it wanted to intervene when the water affected by radiation was going into a reservoir.

Source:

[http://www.nj.com/news/index.ssf/2010/05/federal\\_agency\\_responds\\_to\\_nj.html](http://www.nj.com/news/index.ssf/2010/05/federal_agency_responds_to_nj.html)

8. *May 13, Greeley Tribune* – (Colorado) **Mock tornado, plane crash test response at former nuclear plant near Platteville.** It was a disaster scenario that tested several aspects of the Fort St. Vrain plant north of Platteville, Colorado: a tornado hit and caused a plane to crash into a building at the spent fuel storage area. Fort St. Vrain was once a nuclear power plant in Weld County operated by the Public Service Co. of Colorado, but it never accomplished what the company wanted. It was changed to the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Fort St. Vrain Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation and now stores the used nuclear fuel that was used in the plant. That means a real tornado or plane crash into the plant could present some difficult emergency situations that local and national emergency systems would have to control. "That's why we presented this scenario," said a spokesman with the DOE's Idaho National Laboratory. "We want to see how they react to this type of emergency."

Source:

<http://www.greeleytribune.com/article/20100513/NEWS/100519878/1051&ParentProfile=1001>

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## **Critical Manufacturing Sector**

9. *May 13, Rochester Post-Bulletin* – (Minnesota) **Lake Zumbro contamination came from Pine Island plating plant.** A major source of perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) that has been contaminating fish in Lake Zumbro has been found in a Pine Island, Minnesota plating plant. DS Manufacturing Inc. used perfluorooctane sulfonates as a way to control pollution because it helped stop chromium from contaminating the air

inside or letting it get into the air outside. Use of the chemical was completely legal and the company quit using it many months ago. The company and the Pine Island Wastewater Treatment Plant, which receives wastewater from the DS, have been cooperating with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA). The plating plant is using another chemical to control chromium, one that doesn't contain PFOS. Because the chemical was found in high enough concentrations in the lake, the Minnesota Department of Health tightened its recommendation for people eating fish caught from the lake from unrestricted for the general population to once a week. Also, the MPCA has found lower levels of PFOS coming from the Rochester Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Source:

[http://www.postbulletin.com/newsmanager/templates/localnews\\_story.asp?z=2&a=452185](http://www.postbulletin.com/newsmanager/templates/localnews_story.asp?z=2&a=452185)

10. *May 12, WTAP 5 Parkersburg* – (West Virginia) **Dumpster fire ignites explosion.** The West Virginia Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management received a report of a hazardous materials incident at the Felman Productions Plant, a ferroalloy plant located in Letart in Mason County, West Virginia. At approximately 12:50 Wednesday afternoon, a dumpster outside the plant caught fire and sparked a small explosion. Four people have been reported injured and are being treated at Pleasant Valley Hospital in Point Pleasant. Their injuries are not believed to be life-threatening at this time. A hazmat crew with the state Department of Environmental Protection is en route to the Mason County plant. Felman Production is a producer of ferrosilicomanganese. That product is used as a steel deoxidizer and alloy additive.

Source: <http://www.wtap.com/news/headlines/93597509.html>

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## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

11. *May 12, Smart Trend* – (National) **Strike at Boeing Co. plant, pricey C-17 military-jet production program to suffer.** A strike at a Long Beach, California-based Boeing Co. plant has reportedly thrown a thorn in the side of a C-17 military-transport jet program that Congress has fought for years to save from Pentagon cancellation threats. “The real rub is the life of the program,” said a Frost & Sullivan aerospace analyst. “While both the union and Boeing talk about the potential for more sales to keep the line open, this may effectively seal its fate ... the defenders of the program in Congress have pretty well spent their chips on past rescues of the program.” About 1,700 assembly-line workers from the plant have picketed twice this week, asking for better medical and pension benefits. Employees rejected a 46-month contract offer last week from management. Orders for Boeing-built C-17s, used mainly by the U.S. Air Force at a price tag of about \$200 million each, have declined steadily and Boeing officials said that the company will decrease its annual production rate of the jets from 16 to 10 by mid-2011. “The leadership of the Air Force is clear: They do not need and cannot afford more C-17s,” the Defense Secretary said in a speech.

Source: <http://www.mysmartrend.com/news-briefs/news-watch/strike-boeing-co-plant-pricey-c-17-military-jet-production-program-suffer-ba>

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## **Banking and Finance Sector**

12. *May 12, Computerworld* – (International) **PCI Security Council updates requirements for payment card devices.** The council that administers the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard today released new requirements that vendors of payment card devices will be expected to incorporate into their products going forward. The new requirements are in the latest version of the council's PIN Transaction Security (PTS) requirements and are designed to bolster security on retail point-of-sale card readers and unattended kiosks and payment terminals, such as those found at airports and gas stations. Version 3.0 of the PCI council's PTS includes three new modules to secure sensitive card data for device vendors and their customers. One of the modules contains requirements pertaining to the secure reading and exchange of data on payment-card devices. The requirements would enable the secure reading and encryption of sensitive cardholder data at the point where a credit or debit card is swiped. A second module spells out the security standards that device vendors will be expected to follow while integrating all of the different components that make up an unattended point-of-sale device that accepts PIN-based debit-card transactions. The third module, called Open Protocols, contains a set of new requirements related to wireless-enabled payment-card devices.

Source:

[http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9176645/PCI\\_Security\\_Council\\_updates\\_requirements\\_for\\_payment\\_card\\_devices](http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9176645/PCI_Security_Council_updates_requirements_for_payment_card_devices)

13. *May 12, Wall Street Journal* – (New York) **Wall Street probe widens.** Federal prosecutors, working with securities regulators, are conducting a preliminary criminal probe into whether several major Wall Street banks misled investors about their roles in mortgage-bond deals, according to a person familiar with the matter. The banks under early-stage criminal scrutiny — J.P. Morgan Chase & Co., Citigroup Inc., Deutsche Bank AG and UBS AG — have also received civil subpoenas from the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) as part of a sweeping investigation of banks' selling and trading of mortgage-related deals, the person said. Under similar preliminary criminal scrutiny are Goldman Sachs Group Inc. and Morgan Stanley, as previously reported by The Wall Street Journal. The Manhattan U.S. Attorney's office and SEC are working hand-in-hand. At issue is whether the Wall Street firms made proper representations to investors in marketing, selling and trading pools of mortgage bonds called collateralized debt obligations, or CDOs. Many major Wall Street banks created CDOs at the behest of players that made bets against the deals — and banks themselves sometimes bet against the deals. Bearish bets paid off when the mortgage market crashed. Federal prosecutors, along with securities regulators, are pursuing a preliminary criminal probe into whether several Wall Street banks misled investors on mortgage-bond deals.



Source:

[http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704247904575240783937399958.htm?mod=WSJ\\_hpp\\_MIDDLENexttoWhatsNewsTop](http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704247904575240783937399958.htm?mod=WSJ_hpp_MIDDLENexttoWhatsNewsTop)

14. *May 12, Computerworld* – (International) **House Committee fails to find smoking gun on market plunge.** The U.S. House of Representatives Financial Services Subcommittee on Capital Markets failed to pinpoint any single cause for last week's stock market plummet that sent the Dow Jones Industrial Index plunging almost 1,000 points in a half hour. The committee held several hearings May 11, during which members questioned the heads of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), New York Stock Exchange and Nasdaq in an attempt to gain some insight on what caused the precipitous drop. The Dow fell to 9,872 points in a half hour May 6. As quickly as the market dropped, it suddenly and dramatically reversed itself, recovering 543 points in approximately a minute and a half, to 10,415.65, and ended the day down 347.80 points from the previous day's close. The SEC chairman told the committee she was "committed to finding effective solutions in the very near term," and also said an existing agreement with major exchanges was in the process of strengthening trading restraints with regards to big market fluctuations. Industry experts said it was obvious that there was some sort of "algorithmic error" in the computerized-trading systems that caused the pricing in the markets to collapse. Some blamed the anomaly on a trader attempting to short-sell 16 million shares of S&P 500 stock, but instead of entering a "M" for million, he entered a "B" for billion. That error allegedly sent high-frequency traders scurrying, causing liquidity to vanish. Whatever the error, experts have said it was very likely exacerbated by a market made more volatile by high-speed trades and automatic-sale orders that are measured in milliseconds, instead of seconds or minutes with a manual system.

Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/idg/2010-05-12/house-committee-fails-to-find-smoking-gun-on-market-plunge.html>

15. *May 10, KMGH 7 Denver* – (Colorado) **Portfolio bandit strikes again.** A bank robbery May 8 in Westminster, Colorado is believed to have been carried out by a man the FBI has dubbed the "Portfolio Bandit." According to the FBI, the Portfolio Bandit is believed responsible for 12 bank robberies in the Denver metro area since last December. The FBI dubbed the robber the "Portfolio Bandit" because he pulls a holdup note out of a black portfolio folder and gives it to the teller. During three previous robberies, the robber "simulated a weapon" in his coat or waistband; however, no weapon has been seen, according to the FBI.

Source: <http://www.thedenverchannel.com/news/23510867/detail.html>

16. *May 10, KGTV 10 San Diego* – (California) **Police: Woman robbed 3 banks within 2 hours.** A heavyset woman in blue jeans and a sun hat is believed to have robbed a Mission Valley, California bank and an East County credit union in less than an hour May 10 before making an aborted attempt to rob an Oak Park-area bank about 20 minutes later, authorities said. The first heist took place at a Wells Fargo branch office in the 5600 block of Mission Center Road about 9:45 a.m., according to the FBI. The thief, described as an overweight woman in her mid- to late 20s or early 30s, fled with

an undisclosed amount of cash. About 50 minutes later, a similar-looking woman robbed a Mission Federal Credit Union office in the 3800 block of Avocado Boulevard in Rancho San Diego, the federal agency reported. Just before 11 a.m., a female robber of the same description demanded cash from a teller at a Chase Bank in the 3400 block of College Avenue, but suddenly turned around and walked off before the employee was able to comply, according to the FBI. Witnesses described the thief in all three cases as an approximately 5-foot-9-inch, 150- to 180-pound white woman with shoulder-length blond hair. She was carrying a black purse and wearing blue jeans, a purple-checked blouse with a white collar, a black sweater with the lowercase letters “sd” or “sp” on the front, a “floppy” light-colored hat, square sunglasses with white frames and some type of tape on her fingertips. During each of the robberies, she handed a demand note to a cashier and claimed to have a gun, though none was seen. Source: <http://www.10news.com/news/23509108/detail.html>

For another story, see item [59](#)

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## **Transportation Sector**

17. *May 13, KOB 4 Albuquerque* – (New Mexico) **Sunport, feds get aggressive controlling prairie dogs.** An effort to exterminate prairie dogs at the Albuquerque International Sunport in New Mexico will be stepped up, with continued threats by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to shut down the airport because of ongoing problems with prairie dogs. Prairie dogs attract birds of prey, and officials are worried about a bird and plane colliding, causing a crash. Coyotes also feed on prairie dogs. Since 2006, planes have struck 10 coyotes with their landing gear. The city will contract with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to get rid of prairie dogs using nerve gas. City officials said the USDA will also have the authority to shoot coyotes. The FAA has told the city it will be doing surprise inspections. The extermination measures are about keeping the public safe, officials said, noting efforts to relocate animals using traps simply were not working. Source: <http://www.kob.com/article/stories/S1557699.shtml?cat=516>

18. *May 13, Chicago Tribune* – (Illinois) **Flooding closes number of area roads.** A weather system that could dump 2 to 4 inches of rain has hit the Chicago area, prompting a widespread flash flood warning. Heavy rain closed a number of area roads — particularly in Lake County — and the morning rush was slowed all over by standing water on expressways and other roadways. In Lake Forest, at least four cars were trapped by water in an underpass at Kennedy Road and U.S. Highway 41. A number of homes also were surrounded by water in the community. Morning commuters were encountering serious problems, with Lake County a particular trouble spot. Traffic on the outbound Kennedy Expressway was crawling at 10 m.p.h. Lake Cook Road was closed for more than six miles between Barrington and Algonquin. Flooding closed the intersection of U.S. Route 41 and Highway 176. Route 41 was also closed at Route 60 in Lake Forest and Route 59 at W. Miller Road in Lake Barrington.



Route 60 was closed in Riverwoods between North Saint Mary's Road and Riverwoods Road. U.S. Highway 45 in Libertyville also was flooded. U.S. Highway 41 was closed for a 3½-mile stretch between Lake Bluff and Lake Forest. In Elmhurst, eastbound North Avenue at I-290 was closed. In Glenview, Shermer Road was closed between East Lake Avenue and Willow Road. The Federal Aviation Administration said the weather was delaying incoming flights at O'Hare International Airport.

Source: <http://www.chicagobreakingnews.com/2010/05/heavy-rain-in-forecast-for-chicago-area.html>

19. *May 13, Associated Press* – (North Carolina) **9 suffer minor injuries in NC train derailment.** An Amtrak-operated passenger train has derailed in North Carolina, causing at least nine minor injuries and setting the locomotive and a car on fire. Authorities say the Piedmont train with 36 passengers on board derailed shortly after 8 a.m. May 13, when it struck a low-boy trailer used to carry large equipment at a crossing in Mebane. Amtrak operates the train, which the state of North Carolina owns. Nine people who suffered non-life threatening injuries were being treated at three hospitals. The derailment disrupted service on the Piedmont and on trains traveling between New York and Charlotte.  
Source: [http://www2.wnct.com/nct/ap\\_exchange/north\\_carolina\\_news/article/9-suffer-minor-injuries-in-nc-train-derailment/141151/](http://www2.wnct.com/nct/ap_exchange/north_carolina_news/article/9-suffer-minor-injuries-in-nc-train-derailment/141151/)
20. *May 13, Casper Star-Tribune* – (Wyoming) **Train hits boulder, derails.** A freight train hit a large boulder in Wind River Canyon in Wyoming May 12 and slid down a 50-foot embankment into the river, spilling some diesel fuel but causing no injuries. The rock was about 8-feet across and 6-feet high. The train's two-man crew was able to escape and swim to safety. Containment crews were using booms Wednesday afternoon in an attempt to keep contaminated water out of the Thermopolis water supply. The southbound train derailed around 12:30 p.m. while traveling on the single mainline track in the scenic canyon. The incident occurred about six miles south of Thermopolis at the north end of the canyon. The train was traveling an estimated 30 mph when it hit the pickup truck-sized boulder. The train included two locomotives in front, 62 cars and a rear locomotive. 45 of the cars were loaded and 17 were empty. The town of Thermopolis had shut down its municipal water system intakes from the river because of the diesel fuel spill.  
Source: [http://trib.com/news/state-and-regional/article\\_e47af926-1021-5412-9d9c-c1560008fd03.html](http://trib.com/news/state-and-regional/article_e47af926-1021-5412-9d9c-c1560008fd03.html)
21. *May 13, Boston Globe* – (Massachusetts) **Trucking of risky material resuming.** Starting May 17, trucks carrying hazardous materials will once again be allowed to rumble along crowded Boston streets at all hours, after federal officials voided the city's four-year ban this week, and chastised state and local officials for failing to justify the restrictions as required by federal law. Trucking-industry officials said the decision will not put the public at risk, pointing out that the ban was lifted only because the city failed, after four years, to formally make its case for the restrictions. The decision means that trucks carrying hazardous materials to other communities will no longer be banned from traveling through the city between 7 a.m. and 6 p.m. In

addition, it will change the route they must take through Boston. The vice president of the American Trucking Association said the decision could increase public safety because the restriction currently forces trucks leaving the region's main fuel depot in Everett to travel north to interstates to reach points south of Boston, extending a trip to Milton, for example, roughly sixfold to 42 miles.

Source:

[http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2010/05/13/trucking\\_of\\_risky\\_material\\_resuming/](http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2010/05/13/trucking_of_risky_material_resuming/)

22. *May 13, Associated Press* – (Puerto Rico) **FBI alleges Puerto Rico man made bomb threats.** A Puerto Rico man previously convicted of making false threats has been accused of phoning in bomb scares to the Caribbean island's main airport, allegedly telling a 911 operator that a bomb had been put on an American Airlines plane, and that another was sent to the airport's post office. The man was arrested May 10 at a Luis Munoz Marin Airport terminal shortly after the calls were made. He faces up to 10 years in prison if convicted of making the bomb threats.

Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D9FLUSG80.htm>

23. *May 12, Long Beach Press-Telegram* – (California) **5 treated at Port of LA for exposure to noxious odor.** Five people at the Port of Los Angeles were evaluated May 12 for exposure to a noxious odor. Los Angeles Fire Department paramedics were sent to Berth 301 shortly before 2 a.m. on reports of several people reporting respiratory irritation, dispatchers said. More than an hour later, fire department investigators had yet to determine the source or cause of the odor.

Source: [http://www.presstelegram.com/breakingnews/ci\\_15067390](http://www.presstelegram.com/breakingnews/ci_15067390)

24. *May 12, Chicago Southtown Star* – (Illinois) **Bomb scare results in unexpected layover for bus passengers.** Illinois State Police stopped a Chicago-bound Greyhound bus for three hours May 11, after a passenger called 911 about a bomb scare on the bus. A passenger thought she overheard another passenger who was speaking in a "foreign dialect" say something about a bomb while the other passenger was talking on a cell phone. The state police, Cook County bomb squad, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation responded to the call about 9:15 a.m. and directed the driver to stop the bus at the weigh station on northbound Interstate 57 near Monee. The bus was stopped and the truck scales were closed until about 12:15 p.m. while police searched the interior and exterior of the bus and all of its contents with the help of Cook County's bomb-sniffing dogs. Fifty passengers and the driver were on board at the time of the stop. After an investigation that included interviews with the woman, the cell-phone caller and another passenger, nothing was found and no one was taken into custody.

Source: <http://www.southtownstar.com/news/2261220,051210busstop.article>

25. *May 12, Reuters* – (Massachusetts) **U.S. airport security officers targeted in ID theft.** A Massachusetts couple has been charged with stealing the identities of dozens of Transportation Security Administration (TSA) officers, who screen passengers and baggage at U.S. airports. On May 12, a federal grand jury accused the pair of conspiracy and aggravated identity theft, alleging they stole personal information

including the Social Security numbers of dozens of TSA workers at Boston's Logan International Airport. While there was no indication the information was passed to any militant group that might be planning an attack, the case suggests federal officers are vulnerable to identity theft. Prosecutors said that, between July 2008 and December 2009, the couple obtained information on TSA workers from a relative of one defendant who worked as a contractor for TSA's human resources department at the airport. The grand jury alleged both defendants used the identities to obtain electricity, cable television, telephone, and other services for themselves, relatives, friends, and customers.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE64B63X20100512>

26. *May 11, Charleston Gazette* – (West Virginia) **Three men questioned, released in Yeager Airport 'incident'**. Three men were released May 11 after being questioned at Yeager Airport in Charleston, West Virginia by FBI agents after they were found near one of the airport's navigation aides. The men are all related, all from Kanawha City and between the ages of 19 and 26. A Coonskin Park policeman found the men, apparently of Middle Eastern descent, in the vicinity of one of the many airport-navigation aides scattered around the park. Navigation aides can be anything from radios to weather instruments to lights that help airplanes land. Each of the navigation aides is fenced in and owned by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). The police officer was suspicious when he found the men's van parked deep into Coonskin Park, near one of the navigation towers. The park officer called Yeager Airport police. When the men saw the police, they took off running. They were caught and questioned at the airport by the FBI, the federal Transportation Security Administration, the Charleston Police Department and the Kanawha County Sheriff's Department. The men said that they did not cross onto FAA property, and Kanawha County sheriff's deputies who went to the scene said they could see muddy footprints and saw that they stopped before the property changed over.

Source: <http://wvgazette.com/News/201005110662>

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## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

27. *May 12, WLTX 19 Columbia* – (South Carolina) **'Suspicious package' turns out to be computer part**. Law-enforcement agents say an electronic part is to blame for calls of a suspicious package May 12 at the Matthew J. Perry Federal Courthouse in Columbia, South Carolina. The courthouse was evacuated as a precaution. The item was found in a loading dock of the courthouse, and was said to have wires coming out of it. Officials said it was delivered by the post office. Officials with the Columbia Homeland Security Bomb Squad said they sent in a robot in and they took an X-ray of the device. After that, investigators said technicians placed a charge on the package to disrupt it. Agents made the sure the scene was safe before they cleared it at 2:30 p.m.

Source: <http://www.wltx.com/news/story.aspx?storyid=87390&catid=2>

For another story, see item [61](#)

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## **Agriculture and Food Sector**

28. *May 13, Santa Rosa Press Democrat* – (California) **Grape quarantine spreads over half of county's vineyards.** Half of Sonoma County's vineyards soon could come under quarantine due to the European grapevine moth, a pest that infests the Napa Valley and has now been found in six other counties, most recently Merced. California officials are leaning toward a single quarantine area for Sonoma County that extends from north of Healdsburg to the Carneros region south of Sonoma. The exact boundary lines have yet to be spelled out, but "it's pretty much one large quarantine area" rather than a series of smaller ones, a county agricultural commissioner said May 12. The quarantine could take in about 30,000 acres of grapes, about half the county's vineyard land, said the chief deputy agricultural commissioner. The expansion of the quarantine is due to new moths found around Windsor and Healdsburg and to new federal rules. Those rules, proposed by moth experts advising the U.S. Department of Agriculture, now expand the quarantine boundary from three to five miles in all directions from a moth found in an infested area. To date, inspectors have trapped 18 moths in Sonoma County the chief deputy agriculture commissioner said May 12. In contrast, agriculture inspectors have trapped well over 30,000 moths in Napa County, where the pest was first confirmed in the U.S. last September. This year the moth has been found and quarantine areas have been proposed in Sonoma, Mendocino, Solano and Fresno counties. On May 12, a federal spokesman confirmed that three grapevine moths have been found in Merced County, and a quarantine will be established there. The federal government last week announced it has set aside \$1 million in emergency funds to fight the moth.

Source:

<http://www.pressdemocrat.com/article/20100512/ARTICLES/100519813/1350?p=all&tc=pgall>

29. *May 13, Food Safety News* – (National) **FDA finds animal drug abuse in 4 states.** The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) charged four animal-agriculture practitioners in warning letters sent out April 21-30 with abusing mostly antibacterial drugs. Misuse of animal drugs may mean antibiotics are getting into the human food supply at higher than FDA-tolerated levels. Warning letters went out to agricultural operations in Florida, Washington state, Illinois, and Nebraska. The first two warning letters went out to dairies: Mayo, Florida-based Land Dairy Inc. and Rochester, Washington-based Elma Dairy, LLC. Both were subjected to recent FDA investigations. Land Dairy holds animals "under conditions that are so inadequate that medicated animals bearing potentially harmful drug residues are likely to enter the food supply," FDA's Florida district director, wrote. FDA also is not happy with Land's recordkeeping and inventory systems. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) conducts tissue sample tests after cows are slaughtered for human consumption. Tissue from a beef heifer sold by the Martin Food

Lot in Harrisburg, Illinois had too-high levels of antibiotics, the FDA found. And it indicated that Darr Feedlots Inc. in Cozad, Nebraska unsafely combined two drugs in cattle feed.

Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2010/05/fda-finds-animal-drug-abuse-in-4-states/>

30. *May 13, San Antonio Express-News* – (International) **Seven sickened, two killed, by food-borne infection.** State and local health officials are investigating a cluster of food-borne infections that sickened seven people in three Texas counties this year, killing two of them. The patients — five from Bexar County and one each from Travis and Hidalgo counties — developed listeriosis, a bacterial infection. Genetic analysis found the identical strain of bacteria in all the patients, suggesting they were infected by the same food item, said a senior epidemiologist with the Metropolitan Health District. But because of the small numbers and the dispersal of cases — two of the patients lived 300 miles apart — it might be difficult to pinpoint the cause, he added. “This is not a large outbreak. What made it bad is that it has infected people who are fragile, elderly people.” The epidemiologist said the infected patients ranged from ages 66 to 93. Most had serious underlying health problems, and all but one were hospitalized either before or during their infection. The first case was reported in January, the most recent May 6. On May 10, the U.S. Department of Agriculture issued a public health alert for deli meats imported from Canada and produced by Ontario-based Zadi Foods. The products were prosciutto sold under the brands Casa Italia and Emma. “Deli meats are implicated a lot because the bacteria can multiply in refrigerator temperatures,” unlike most other forms of bacteria, the epidemiologist said. Source: [http://www.mysanantonio.com/news/local\\_news/seven\\_sickened\\_two\\_killed\\_by\\_food-borne\\_infection\\_93633679.html?showFullArticle=y](http://www.mysanantonio.com/news/local_news/seven_sickened_two_killed_by_food-borne_infection_93633679.html?showFullArticle=y)
31. *May 13, Associated Press* – (National) **E. coli outbreak expands to Tenn.** An outbreak of E. coli poisoning has expanded to Tennessee, where one person has been sickened after eating romaine lettuce grown on an Arizona farm. The federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) said there are 23 confirmed cases of E. coli and seven probable cases connected to the tainted lettuce. The rest of those sickened live in Michigan, Ohio and New York. Many of them were middle and high school and college students who ate in school cafeterias. The CDC said there are 10 confirmed cases in Michigan, eight confirmed cases in Ohio, four confirmed cases in New York and one confirmed case in Tennessee. All of those sickened became ill before late April. The strain of E. coli involved in the outbreak is rare and difficult to diagnose, officials have said. There have been two recalls of romaine lettuce related to the outbreak, both by distributors who bought lettuce from the same Yuma, Arizona, farm. Source: <http://www.knoxnews.com/news/2010/may/13/e-coli-outbreak-expands-to-tenn/>
32. *May 12, U.S. Food Safety and Inspection Service* – (California) **California firm recalls chicken and beef puff products due to mislabeling and undeclared allergens.** Galant Food Co., a San Francisco, California, firm, is recalling

approximately 250 pounds of chicken-puff products and beef-puff products because they contain an undeclared allergen, egg, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) announced today. Egg is a known potential allergen, which is not declared on the label. The chicken-puff products also contain soy and yellow #5, to which some individuals have an allergic response or intolerance. Neither soy nor yellow #5 is declared on the recalled chicken-puff products' label. The products subject to recall include Galina's Piroshki Chicken Provance Puffs and Galina's Piroshki Beef & Farm Vegetable Puffs. The chicken and beef puffs were produced on various dates between March 2010 and May 11, 2010, and were distributed to retail establishments in the San Francisco, Calif., area. The products would have been prepared and sold individually to customers at bakeries, delis and similar establishments. The problem was discovered by FSIS during a routine Food Safety Assessment. FSIS and the company have received no reports of adverse reactions due to consumption of these products. Anyone concerned about an allergic reaction should contact a physician.

Source:

[http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News\\_&\\_Events/Recall\\_032\\_2010\\_Release/index.asp](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News_&_Events/Recall_032_2010_Release/index.asp)

33. *May 12, McAllen Monitor* – (International) **Ag inspection station reopens in San Juan.** A U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) inspection center that was housed near Reynosa, Mexico has temporarily reopened on the San Juan Plantation in San Juan, Texas. The USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service centers in Reynosa and Nuevo Laredo, Mexico were closed in late March after veterinarians were detained outside Nuevo Laredo by gunmen dressed as police officers. The department uses the inspection centers to ensure livestock exported to the U.S. from Mexico are free from disease. After the centers' closure, about 17,000 head of cattle were diverted to other ports of entry — mainly at Eagle Pass, Texas — while security concerns were being addressed. The USDA reported it had resumed its Reynosa-Pharr operations beginning May 12 on the San Juan Plantation, a 4000-acre area located south of San Juan and east of Pharr, Texas. "Resuming these operations is vitally important to our Texas ranchers, farmers and cattlemen," said a U.S. Representative from Texas. He said more work is needed to reopen the center in Nuevo Laredo, Mexico which remains closed at this time.

Source: <http://www.themonitor.com/articles/inspection-38530-san-juan.html>

34. *May 12, Associated Press* – (Indiana) **Power outage kills 1,500 pigs.** An owner of a northern Indiana hog farm said about 1,500 pigs died of apparent suffocation May 11, after a power outage caused a loss of ventilation. N&L Pork Inc.'s co-owner said electricity went out over the weekend to the farm near the Starke County community of Knox. He told the South Bend Tribune that the diesel generator and curtains for ventilation also failed. The farm co-owner said the hog buildings are designed for 8,000 animals and that not all of them died. He said the hog remains were hauled away May 11 to a fertilizer and rendering plant in Plymouth.

Source: <http://www.foodmanufacturing.com/scripts/ShowPR~RID~15600.asp>



35. *May 11, KLFY 10 Lafayette* – (Louisiana) **Train accident in Abbeville.** On May 11 at 3:45p.m. the Vermilion Parish Sheriff's Office responded to a train/vehicle crash on South Hospital Drive, south of Abbeville, Louisiana. A north bound Mazda vehicle failed to yield at the marked railroad crossing and struck a east bound L and D train. Both occupants of the vehicle were transported to local hospitals with moderate injuries. The train was transporting grain and no hazardous materials were released. Charges are pending against the driver of the vehicle.  
Source: <http://www.klfy.com/Global/story.asp?S=12465915>

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## **Water Sector**

36. *May 13, Associated Press* – (Washington) **Broken pipe spills sewage at Grandview.** The Benton-Franklin Public Health District issued an alert because of a sewage spill at Grandview, Washington. The Yakima Herald-Republic reports about 300,000 gallons spilled from a broken main May 12 and likely reached the Yakima River. The health district advised people not to swim in the river and to avoid contact with irrigation water in the Kennewick, Prosser and Columbia districts. The flow in the 21-inch line was diverted and crews are replacing about 60 feet of pipe.  
Source: [http://www.seattlepi.com/local/6420ap\\_wa\\_grandview\\_sewage\\_spill.html?source=myp](http://www.seattlepi.com/local/6420ap_wa_grandview_sewage_spill.html?source=myp)  
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37. *May 13, Cape Cod Times* – (Massachusetts) **Silent Spring water tests reveal contamination.** A study released this week by a Newton breast-cancer research foundation found traces of pharmaceuticals, personal care products and flame retardants, among other chemicals, in a majority of wells tested across Cape Cod in Massachusetts. But the contaminants were detected in low concentrations, and researchers have not yet identified any detrimental health effects, said the Silent Spring Institute environmental researcher, who led the study. Scientists from the institute have spent the last six months analyzing water samples from public wells across the cape. Historically, Cape Cod has had a 20-percent higher incidence rate of breast cancer than the rest of the state, and the cape's sandy shores can leave groundwater supplies vulnerable to chemicals that can penetrate soil, researchers said. Concerned that these chemicals can contribute to illness and deformities once they reach the water supply, researchers took samples last fall from 20 of the cape's 150 public wells, and two water-distribution systems, testing for more than 90 contaminants. Of those, the samples detected low levels of 18 varieties of contaminants spread over 15 wells in Barnstable, Chatham, Dennis and Falmouth, among other water districts. Higher levels of these chemicals, detected in other parts of the country, have been shown to affect liver, blood, thyroid and immune systems in animals, as well as lead to the feminization of male fish.  
Source: <http://www.capecodonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20100513/NEWS/5130327>

38. *May 13, Associated Press* – (Pennsylvania) **State DEP threatens Johnstown with sewage fines.** The Pennsylvania State Department of Environmental Protection is threatening to fine the town of Johnstown \$20,000 per day if it doesn't fix an outmoded system that sends raw sewage flowing into rivers during wet weather. Local leaders said the fixes will cost \$40 million and require big rate hikes. The city council last year raised its sewer maintenance charge, which is in addition to Johnstown Regional Sewage's monthly treatment bill, from \$4.10 to \$10 a month, and some officials said the fee should be as much as \$25. The overflows occur because stormwater catch basins flood the sewage system with million of gallons of rainwater. That was allowed under old environmental regulations, but now stormwater, including from downspouts illegally hooked into sewage lines, must be separated from sewage.  
Source: <http://www.timesleader.com/news/ap?articleID=4543572>
39. *May 12, KNDO 23 Yakima* – (Washington) **Power problems at Mabton's treatment plant are fixed.** A power failure that led to 370,000 gallons of raw sewage flowing into the Yakima River in Washington last month has been fixed, according to the city's mayor. In mid-April, a backup generator did not turn on at Mabton's wastewater treatment plant, leading to the massive sewage leak. The mayor told KNDO May 12 that the generator has been repaired, and he said tests performed by an electrician show the system is now working fine. That means an estimated \$20,000 system repair will not be needed. Engineers will visit the plant May 13 to see if it is operating properly.  
Source: <http://www.kndo.com/Global/story.asp?S=12472953>
40. *May 12, Associated Press* – (Michigan) **Researcher: St. Clair Shores canals still polluted.** A Wayne State University researcher said new tests conducted this year show dangerous levels of PCB contamination remain in St. Clair Shores, Michigan canals that connect to Lake St. Clair. A geologist presented his findings May 11 at a meeting in Macomb County. Though contaminants have not been found in fish, he said the public should be warned not to eat fish caught there. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) spent \$10 million over seven years on initial cleanup in the PCB-contaminated Ten Mile drain and the canals, but tests conducted last year showed PCB levels were higher than ever. More cleanup is planned. The drain has been proposed for addition to the EPA's Superfund National Priorities List. PCBs are chemicals found to cause numerous illnesses, including cancer.  
Source: <http://www.9and10news.com/Category/Story/?id=226553&cID=2>
41. *May 11, Duluth News Tribune* – (Minnesota) **Most Minnesota fish sampled don't carry Scotchguard chemical.** Fish from 54 Minnesota lakes outside the Twin Cities have low or undetectable levels of PFOS, the chemical formerly in Scotchguard, fire retardants and nonstick cookware that has raised health concerns in recent years. On May 11, the Minnesota Department of Health reported the results from tests conducted by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and recently published in the scientific journal Environmental Science and Technology. PFOS, perfluorooctane sulfonate, and related chemicals have been traced to immune system and other health issues. Over the past four years they have been found at high levels in some Twin Cities' lakes and rivers, and in groundwater. The EPA study, while not a

comprehensive sampling of the state's more than 10,000 lakes, seems to indicate that the chemicals are not widely distributed in the state. "This is the first time we've taken a statewide look at the problem, and the good news is that PFOS weren't found in most fish outside the metro area, or were found in levels so low that they wouldn't trigger an elevated fish consumption advisory," a spokesman for the Minnesota Department of Health, said.

Source: <http://www.grandforksherald.com/event/article/id/161091/>

For another story, see item [9](#)

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## **Public Health and Healthcare Sector**

42. *May 13, Associated Press* – (National) **New enforcement tools help fight health-care fraud.** The government says it recovered \$2.5 billion in overpayments for the Medicare trust fund last year as the current administration focused attention on fraud-enforcement efforts in the health care industry. Investigators have new tools this year to help crack down on health-care fraud, with the Justice Department and the Health and Human Services Department (HHS) working cooperatively to police companies. The newly enacted Affordable Care Act is designed to lengthen prison sentences in criminal cases, and the new law provides an additional \$300 million over the next 10 years for stronger enforcement. It also gives the government new authority to step up oversight of companies participating in Medicare and Medicaid. Under the Affordable Care Act, providers could be subject to fingerprinting, site visits and criminal background checks before they begin billing Medicare and Medicaid. To combat fraud, the act allows the HHS Secretary to bar providers from joining the programs, and allows her to withhold payment to Medicare or Medicaid providers if an investigation is pending. In a report slated for release May 13, the Justice Department and HHS said they are putting investigative resources into areas where health-care fraud is especially widespread, including south Florida; Los Angeles; Houston; Detroit; New York City's Brooklyn borough; Baton Rouge, Louisiana; and Tampa, Florida.

Source:

[http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5gVyFvPO6tDLsg228D\\_xK6c123SvAD9FLT46O0](http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5gVyFvPO6tDLsg228D_xK6c123SvAD9FLT46O0)

43. *May 13, Marshalltown Times Republican* – (Iowa) **Grundy County Hospital evacuated after gas leak.** Nearly 200 patients were evacuated from the Grundy County Memorial Hospital in Iowa, May 12, following a gas leak. According to the CEO of the hospital, an old gas pipe that had not been capped was struck during a construction project at the hospital. At approximately 3:30 p.m. patients and staff in the long-term care unit of the hospital noticed a strong natural gas smell, and evacuation began. With the help of some 147 staff, emergency medical service personnel and volunteers, and all patients were taken to a new medical center building near the hospital. The CEO said the gas leak occurred at a tremendously busy part of the day when outpatient clinics were occurring and staff shifts were changing. Just two hours later, all patients

and staff were able to return to the hospital.

Source: <http://www.timesrepublican.com/page/content.detail/id/525405.html?nav=5005>

44. *May 12, Minneapolis Star Tribune* – (Minnesota) **H1N1 flu strain linked to two more deaths in Minnesota.** Two more Minnesota deaths, both in 2009, have been linked to complications of the H1N1 flu strain, bringing the state total to 72 flu deaths in the past year. State health officials announced the confirmation May 12. One death occurred last September, the other in November. There is often a lag between a death and confirmation that it was flu-related because of the complex investigation and testing required by some cases. In another sign that the flu pandemic is largely spent, the Minnesota Department of Health reported that no outbreaks have been reported in schools or long-term care facilities in the past week. Of the 72 deaths attributed to the flu, all but nine have been linked to the H1N1 strain.

Source:

[http://www.startribune.com/local/93597214.html?elr=KArks:DCiUHc3E7\\_V\\_nDaycUiD3aPc:Yyc:aUU](http://www.startribune.com/local/93597214.html?elr=KArks:DCiUHc3E7_V_nDaycUiD3aPc:Yyc:aUU)

45. *May 12, WTOP 103.5 Washington D.C.* – (Maryland) **Shady Grove ER reopens after haz-mat scare.** The emergency room at Shady Grove Adventist Hospital in Rockville, Maryland has reopened after a haz-mat scare May 12. Montgomery County's fire and rescue captain said a man walked into the emergency room shortly after 5:30 p.m. complaining of an itchy arm after opening an envelope and seeing a white powder inside. The man was isolated in a room in the emergency room and the contents of the envelope were placed in a sealed bag. A hazardous-materials team investigated the substance and found it non-toxic. The emergency room was on lockdown for 90 minutes while haz-mat teams investigated.

Source: <http://www.wtop.com/?nid=598&sid=1955954>

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## **Government Facilities Sector**

46. *May 13, Krebs on Security* – (Georgia) **Stolen laptop exposes personal data on 207,000 Army reservists.** A laptop stolen from a government contractor last month contained names, addresses and Social Security numbers of more than 207,000 U.S. Army reservists, Krebsonsecurity.com has learned. The U.S. Army Reserve Command began alerting affected reservists May 7 via e-mail. The public affairs chief for the Army Reserve, said the personal data was contained on a CD-Rom in a laptop that was stolen from the Morrow, Georgia offices of Serco Inc., a government contractor based in Reston, Virginia. The laptop was one of three stolen from Serco offices, but it was the only one that contained sensitive personal information, the public affairs chief said. Serco held the data on reservists as part of its contract with the U.S. Army's Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation division. As a result, the Army Reserve spokesman said, some of the data on the missing laptop may belong to dependents and spouses of U.S. Army reservists. The e-mail sent to affected service members expresses regret over the incident, but offers little other consolation.

Source: <http://krebsonsecurity.com/2010/05/stolen-laptop-exposes-personal-data-on-207000-army-reservists/>

47. *May 13, Federal News Radio* – (National) **Survey: Most federal CISOs not moving to cloud yet.** The second annual State of Cybersecurity from the Federal CISO's Perspective survey has been released. (ISC)2 and Cisco, along with Garcia Strategies, put together their second annual report based on questions answered by a broad cross-section of U.S. government chief information security officers. Fed Cloud Blog got to sit down with the operations director for federal security at Cisco and the former director of government affairs at (ISC)2 to get their perspective on the survey results. The operations director said that "one of the interesting things that the survey showed was that 72 percent of respondents are not using cloud computing. What that tells me is that, while everybody's talking about it and talking about how great it's going to be, it means that only 28 percent of our customers are really diving into it. Chances are, that's primarily due to security concerns, whether it's data loss or an inability to enforce policy. If you think about it, whether it's a private cloud or a public cloud, either way you have to be able to extend your policy into that cloud in order to protect the information that resides there. So, probably what we'll see, say, over the next two years, is that ability to extend policy into the cloud, and be able to enforce it, and that will reduce the risk and allow our customers to move there. Right now, they're looking at it and not jumping in."

Source: <http://www.federalnewsradio.com/index.php?nid=249&sid=1955442>

48. *May 12, The Tennessean* – (Tennessee) **Nashville schools' flood damage estimated at \$1.66 million.** Metro Nashville's public schools director called the Tennessee district "extremely fortunate" to sustain as little flood damage as it did, although the total assessment may rise as the school year resumes this week. The director addressed the school board May 11, delivering the flood damage estimate of \$1.66 million. In addition, the transportation department had to make 137 changes to the city's school bus routes to avoid damaged or inaccessible roads. Eleven buses appear to be total losses, but other than that, the director said, things were going smoothly. "We've had some gym floors buckle, and we've had some asphalt problems," he said. "Some books and classroom materials were damaged, but it could have been worse, especially considering how many schools we have in different areas across the city." Students returned to school May 10 after a week-long absence in the wake of widespread flooding in Tennessee May 2. "To my knowledge, there were 264 teachers that had serious problems due to flooding at home," the director said. "Even when you consider that, teacher absences have been lower than normal." Attendance at Metro Schools was 92 percent May 10, and 94 percent May 11, as high school students began Gateway testing delayed by the flooding. That's higher than average, the director said. In 2009, average high school attendance was 91 percent.

Source: <http://www.tennessean.com/article/20100512/NEWS04/5120377/-1/nsitemapXML/Nashville-schools--flood-damage-estimated-at--1.66-million>

49. *May 12, News Gazette* – (Illinois) **Mahomet schools canceled after 'low-level' bomb/firearm threat.** School was canceled for the day May 12 in the Mahomet-

Seymour district in Mahomet, Illinois after a bomb and firearm threat. The Mahomet police chief said the threat was in a note found in the drop-off box of the Mahomet Public Library. Officials earlier described a bomb threat, but a release from the school superintendent Keith Oates referred to “both a bomb and firearm threat.” The threat was directed toward all five schools, according to a Mahomet officer. “We were made aware of it around 8:45 a.m.,” the police chief said. “We had a late start today at school, so the kids weren’t due at school until 10 a.m. I notified the superintendent, and he made the decision to divert the students to alternative locations.” Buses already en route took students to local churches. Parents and children were notified as they arrived at the schools. Some parents took their children home. Teachers, administrators and students who had arrived early were evacuated. The threat was specific to May 12, according to the school superintendent, who sent out e-mails and mass calls to parents. “We wanted our parents to be aware (of the threat),” the school superintendent said. Mahomet police and county deputies will be working together to have a presence in the district for the rest of the week. An initial walk-through found nothing at any of the schools. Two bomb-sniffing dogs, from the University of Illinois and the Champaign County sheriff’s office were then taken back through the buildings and nothing was found in any of them.

Source: <http://www.news-gazette.com/news/courts-police-and-fire/2010-05-12/mahomet-schools-canceled-after-low-level-bombfirearm-threat.h>

For more stories, see items [25](#) and [27](#)

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## **Emergency Services Sector**

50. *May 13, Pensacola Business Journal* – (Florida) **Thousands of feet of oil-spill boom stolen.** Nearly a mile of orange, oil-containment boom, worth more than \$100,000, has been reported stolen from Santa Rosa Sound and Pensacola Bay, Florida. Some 3,400 feet of boom deployed near the southeast side of the Bob Sikes Bridge disappeared sometime May 9 or early May 10, an employee contracted by BP to aid in oil-spill response told the Escambia County Sheriff’s Office Tuesday. During the same period, another 1,800 feet of boom disappeared from Gulf Breeze to the southwest of the Pensacola Bay Bridge, he said. The boom, last seen at 9 a.m. Sunday, was discovered missing during a routine inspection at 9 a.m. Monday.

Source:

<http://www.pnj.com/article/20100513/NEWS01/5130322/1006/NEWS01/Thousands-of-feet-of-oil-spill-boom-stolen>

51. *May 12, Denton Record Chronicle* – (Texas) **Sheriff’s deputy injured in lab explosion.** A deputy was burned Tuesday evening, May 11, in a flash explosion in a lab at the Denton County Sheriff’s Office in Texas and taken by medical helicopter to Parkland Hospital in Dallas. He was working in the lab with an investigator about 7 p.m. when the small explosion flashed over him, said the lab’s overseer. “They were processing evidence that was seized in a drug search warrant situation by our narcotics



investigators,” he said. “It apparently contained a volatile substance that we were not aware of.” He said the deputy suffered what appeared to be second-degree burns on his face and arms. He was taken by ambulance to a Denton emergency room and then transported by air as a precaution to the Dallas burn unit. No further information on his condition was available Tuesday night. The other investigator was not injured.

Source:

[http://www.dentonrc.com/sharedcontent/dws/drc/localnews/stories/DRC\\_Deputy-Explosion\\_0512.1a678ce1.html](http://www.dentonrc.com/sharedcontent/dws/drc/localnews/stories/DRC_Deputy-Explosion_0512.1a678ce1.html)

52. *May 11, WGCL 19 Atlanta* – (Georgia) **Sandy Springs police worry about radio outages.** Sandy Springs, Georgia’s, police chief said there are problems with the department’s radio system. “Everything from static, to extra noise in the radio system, to complete failures from time to time,” he said. “If an officer gets into a situation where he can’t get assistance, that can cause the use of force to escalate very quickly.” CBS Atlanta put the radios to the test. An officer took a crew down Windsor Parkway, a spot known for outages. He tried to use the portable radio to let dispatch know he would be testing the system, but even that call could not get through. When he parked in a neighborhood off the main road, the dispatcher heard him just fine. But when he tried again a few blocks away, the dispatcher told him he could not understand the call. “You think you’re transmitting, because all you’re doing is pressing and talking, but when you get repeated calls from the dispatcher that the call is unreadable it can get really frustrating for the officer who’s trying to call for help,” he said. Residents said staying on the current system is not safe for the officers or the people who they are supposed to protect.

Source: <http://www.cbsatlanta.com/news/23521784/detail.html>

53. *May 11, KMGH 7 Denver* – (National) **Life-saving hazmat equipment leaving Denver for D.C. area.** Employees of the National Medical Response Team Central (NMRT) fear a government plan to move life-saving emergency medical equipment from a Denver warehouse to a storage facility near Washington, D.C., could cost lives in the event of a national disaster in the western region of the United States. The NMRT is deployed as a back-up resource to local firefighters and medical agencies during disasters and has responded to such events as hurricanes Katrina and Rita, and the 1996 Olympic Park bombings. The team was on stand-by during the 2008 Democratic National Convention in Denver. The NMRT Web site calls the federal team “the only response team in the system that has the ability to be ‘wheels up’ on commercial aircraft in four hours.” According to employees, there are only a handful of military assets that can deploy faster than NMRT. But employees said the rapid response time could change when the Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) removes NMRT’s equipment cache, including high-tech chemical air monitors and advanced hazardous materials suits, from its Denver warehouse next week. In a statement, a DPHHS spokeswoman said the government is moving the cache “for rehabilitation and to re-outfit the cache to enhance preparedness and response to the central corridor of the United States.” But employees told 7News they feared the move would have the opposite effect, slashing hands-on training at the Denver facility

and handicapping the team's response times.

Source: <http://www.thedenverchannel.com/news/23512400/detail.html>

54. *May 11, Federal Bureau of Investigation* – (International) **FBI expanding U.S. Mexican border anti-terrorist corruption task force.** The FBI is reporting that they are forming a new border task force to look for and combat possible terrorists entering the U.S. through borders with Mexico and Canada, with a eye on dishonest federal, state and local law enforcement and other officials. FBI-led Border Corruption Task Forces are the cornerstone of efforts to root out corruption. Initially located primarily along the southwest border, the FBI now also has task forces in Detroit, Miami, Florida and San Juan, Texas, and is setting up others in cities like Buffalo, New York, Newark, New Jersey, and Seattle. These task forces generally consist of representatives from the FBI, Department of Homeland Security agencies (including Customs and Border Protection Internal Affairs, Transportation Security Administration, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and Department of Homeland Security — Office of Inspector General), and state and local law enforcement.

Source: <http://www.americanchronicle.com/articles/view/155483>

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## **Information Technology Sector**

55. *May 13, IDG News Service* – (International) **European officials chastise Facebook privacy settings.** Facebook made “unacceptable” changes to its privacy settings at the end of last year that are detrimental to users, a coalition of European data protection officials warned the social-networking sites May 12. The warning, contained in a letter to Facebook from the Article 29 Data Protection Working Party, could spell more difficulties for Facebook, which was hit with a complaint by U.S. regulators over similar concerns earlier this month. The working party told Facebook of the need for default settings that would only allow access to profile information and friends to self-selected contacts, and that access by search engines should be the explicit choice of users. Facebook has moved to make even more of its users' information publicly available. The defaults settings are typically the most permissive, and users must manually change to more restrictive settings. Privacy groups have said the settings are confusing, frequently change and some users aren't aware of the options, putting their personal data at risk.

Source:

[http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9176698/European\\_officials\\_chastise\\_Facebook\\_privacy\\_settings](http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9176698/European_officials_chastise_Facebook_privacy_settings)

56. *May 12, The Register* – (International) **‘Tamper evident’ CPU warns of malicious backdoors.** Scientists have devised a chip design to ensure microprocessors have not been surreptitiously equipped with malicious backdoors that could be used to siphon sensitive information or receive instructions from adversaries. The on-chip engines at the heart of these “tamper evident microprocessors” are the computer equivalent of cellophane shrink wrap or aluminum seals that flag food or drug packages that have

been opened by someone other than the consumer. They are designed to monitor operations flowing through a CPU for signs its microcode has been altered by malicious insiders during the design cycle. The design, made public this week at the 31st IEEE Symposium on Security & Privacy, comes as an investigation by Engineering & Technology magazine reported that at least 5 percent of the global electronics supply chain includes counterfeit elements that could “cause critical failure or can put an individual’s data at risk,” according to The Inquirer. While most of that appears to be coming from grey-market profiteers, analysts have long fretted that bogus routers and microprocessors could pose a threat to national security.

Source: [http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/05/12/tamper\\_evident\\_microprocessor/](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/05/12/tamper_evident_microprocessor/)

57. *May 12, DarkReading* – (International) **Two-thirds of all phishing attacks generated by a single criminal group, researchers say.** Like convenience stores and fast-food restaurants, phishing is no longer a mom-and-pop operation, according to a study released today. A single crime syndicate dubbed “Avalanche” was responsible for some 66 percent of the phishing traffic generated in the second half of 2009, according to a report published by the Anti-Phishing Working Group (APWG). “Avalanche” is the name given to the world’s most prolific phishing gang and to the infrastructure it uses to host phishing sites, according to APWG. “This criminal enterprise perfected a system for deploying mass-produced phishing sites, and for distributing malware that gives the gang additional capabilities for theft,” the study said. Avalanche successfully targeted some 40 banks and online service providers, as well as vulnerable or nonresponsive domain name registrars and registries, in the second half of 2009, according to APWG. Avalanche could be a successor to the “Rock Phish” criminal operation, which became notorious between 2006 and 2008, APWG said. Avalanche was first seen in December 2008, and was responsible for 24 percent of the phishing attacks recorded in the first half of 2009, the study said. “Avalanche uses the Rock’s techniques but improves upon them, introducing greater volume and sophistication,” it said. To speed its spread of attacks, Avalanche runs on a botnet and uses fast-flux hosting that makes mitigation efforts more difficult, APWG said. “There is no ISP or hosting provider who has control of the hosting and can take the phishing pages down, and the domain name itself must be suspended by the domain registrar or registry,” the report noted.

Source:

[http://www.darkreading.com/vulnerability\\_management/security/cybercrime/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=224701763](http://www.darkreading.com/vulnerability_management/security/cybercrime/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=224701763)

58. *May 12, Mashable* – (International) **Facebook attracts more phishing attacks than Google and IRS.** New research from Kaspersky Lab shows that the number of phishing attacks on social networks has increased in the first quarter of 2010, especially at Facebook, the fourth most popular online target. The primary target is PayPal, the victim of more than half (52.2 percent) of all phishing attacks. EBay is the second most targeted organization at 13.3 percent, and HSBC rounds out the top three with a 7.8-percent share. The report also revealed that links to phishing sites appear in 0.57 percent of all mail traffic. Facebook’s presence on the top 10 list — it is the target of 5.7 percent of attacks — comes as no surprise given the string of widely publicized

phishing attacks in recent months. Most recently, a board member saw his account compromised in a phishing attack that was perpetuated via a misleading Facebook event invitation. What's even more remarkable, however, is that Facebook is a more popular target than Google and the IRS. Google ranks fifth on the list of organizations, accounting for 3.1 percent of the phishing pie, while the IRS attracts 2.2 percent of attacks.

Source: <http://mashable.com/2010/05/12/facebook-phishing-target/>

### 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

59. *May 12, The New New Internet* – (National) **Telecom DoS hides cyber crime.** The recent spike in unsolicited and mysterious telephone calls may be part of a new scheme to use telecommunications distributed denial of service (DDoS) attacks to distract individuals from ongoing cyber crime, the FBI warned recently. According to the FBI, cyber criminals are using telephone calls to mobile and land lines to distract victims from the attempts by criminals to empty their bank and trading accounts. The attacks, known as telephony denial-of-service (TDOS), have surged in recent weeks, according to telecom companies working with the FBI. Using automated systems, cyber crooks place calls to prospective victims, and while the victim is distracted by the call, the criminals transfer funds from the victim's bank or trading accounts. As a result, financial institutions that detect the fraud are unable to get in touch with the victim until it is too late. "Following that first incident in November 2009, we have recently seen an increase in this activity targeting our customers across the country," said the associate director of global fraud management for AT&T.

Source: <http://www.thenewnewinternet.com/2010/05/12/telecom-dos-hides-cyber-crime/>

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## Commercial Facilities Sector

60. *May 12, WOKV 690 Jacksonville* – (Florida) **FBI investigating mosque pipe-bombing as possible domestic terrorism.** FBI agents are reemphasizing the seriousness of a possible hate crime at a Jacksonville, Florida mosque. The FBI is looking at this case as a possible hate crime, and now they are analyzing it as a possible act of domestic terrorism. Surveillance video from the Islamic Center shows the arsonist carrying gasoline and the pipe bomb. When the explosive went off, parts of it were found 100

feet away on 9A. Despite receiving few phone calls from the public, investigators are following up on leads.

Source: <http://wokv.com/localnews/2010/05/fbi-investigating-mosque-pipeb.html>

For another story, see item [61](#)

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## **National Monuments and Icons Sector**

61. *May 12, Washington Post* – (District of Columbia) **Planters averted worse damage at museum.** The UPS truck that smashed into a lobby window of the Smithsonian Institution's Hirshhorn Museum in Washington D.C. plowed through five of the building's 1,200-pound cement security planters, but the planters slowed the runaway vehicle and prevented more damage. The May 10 incident, in which the delivery truck inexplicably careened off Independence Avenue SW, flattened a decorative street light, and smacked into the museum, remains under investigation. The unidentified driver was treated and released from a hospital the same night. Although apparently an accident, the crash seems likely to prompt concern over the hierarchy of security around the city's monument and government core and the evolution of security levels at Washington's icons. Although the truck seemed to push the security planters aside easily, the planters did what they were designed to do: slowed the truck and prevented the damage from being worse. Additional permanent security measures are planned for a future fiscal year. The truck has been recovered and would be part of a company examination of the incident. The cause of the accident is unknown.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/05/11/AR2010051104778.html>

62. *May 12, Anniston Star* – (Alabama) **Forest Service to burn 432 acres near Heflin today.** The U.S. Forest Service planned to burn 432 acres of the Talladega National Forest May 12, three miles northwest of Heflin, Alabama. The burn area will be bounded in part by Forest Service roads 500 and 523. Smoke also may be visible on Alabama 9 west of the burn area. The release said drivers on those roads should use caution. Smoke from the fire was expected to blow northeast. The smoke could end up near Alabama 9 just north of the intersection with U.S. 78 as temperatures cool. The section of the Pinhoti Trail between Forest Service roads 500 and 523 will be closed during the burn.

Source: <http://annistonstar.com/bookmark/7401299-Forest-Service-to-burn-432-acres-near-Heflin-today>

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## **Dams Sector**

63. *May 13, WJAR 10 Providence* – (Rhode Island) **Dam safety depends on compliance from owners.** Of the 600-plus dams in Rhode Island, three-quarters of them are

privately owned. There are nearly 100 high-hazard dams alone — and if they breached, there would likely be loss of life and major damage. The state Department of Environmental Management (DEM) is unable to identify who owns 13 of those dams. Even when the DEM thinks it has found the owner, that is often just the beginning of a long, drawn out process. Take Blue Pond Dam in Hopkinton. “Initially they were progressing. They filed an initial report with us (outlining) the options that (they were) considering. And then we had another meeting with them and they said we’re going to go for this long-term option of lowering the water level to reduce the risk so that it was no longer a significant-hazard dam, it was a low-hazard dam. And they were going to go through the permitting process to get that approved,” said the acting chief of DEM’s Office of Compliance and Inspection. After three years of back and forth with DEM requirements to satisfy wetland applications, impact statements and engineering studies, there was no reconstruction to fix a dam classified as a significant hazard and unsafe.

Source:

[http://www2.turnto10.com/jar/news/local/historic\\_flooding/article/dam\\_safety\\_depends\\_on\\_compliance\\_from\\_owners/36522/](http://www2.turnto10.com/jar/news/local/historic_flooding/article/dam_safety_depends_on_compliance_from_owners/36522/)

64. *May 12, Franklin News-Post* – (Virginia) **Council told dam should be removed.** Engineers have recommended that the low-head dam at the Franklin County Veterans’ Memorial Park in Rocky Mount, Virginia be removed because that is the only way to eliminate the safety hazard and improve the aquatic habitat for the endangered Roanoke Logperch fish. A project manager for Anderson and Associates in Blacksburg told the Rocky Mount Town Council May 10 that it would be cheaper for the town to remove the dam than to modify the dam face and stabilize the dangerous hydraulic in front of the dam. Safety at the dam has become an issue because the low-head dam is similar to one on the Blackwater River near the town’s water-treatment plant where two people drowned last year. One of the options for the Veterans’ Park dam is to do nothing, but that would not remove the safety hazard or improve the aquatic habitat, the project manager said. Modifying the dam face and stabilizing the hydraulic would reduce, but not eliminate the safety hazard, he said. And the benefits for the aquatic habitat would be unknown. This would be the most costly option — \$110,000 to \$135,000 — with no financial assistance or project management by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS). If the dam is removed, however, FWS has offered to partner with the town in the project on the Pigg River. FWS has been reluctant to issue a permit for modifying the dam face or any work in the Pigg River downstream from the dam, however, because it is a high sensitive area for the endangered Roanoke Logperch fish. The estimated cost for removing the dam is \$84,425, with an additional cost of \$10,000 - \$20,000 for bank stabilization, and landscaping and buffer, he said.

Source: <http://www.thefranklinnewsblog.com/article.cfm?ID=16243>

65. *May 12, Toledo Blade* – (Ohio) **Fremont to get U.S. aid to remove Ballville dam.** Fremont, Ohio will get \$400,000 in federal money to help it remove the 35-foot-high Ballville Dam on the Sandusky River. The announcement was made May 11 by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, which identified Fremont as one of seven



federal Clean Water Act grant recipients. The agency is divvying up nearly \$2.9 million in federal funds among them. Removing the 420-foot-wide dam will help restore the flow to a degraded portion of the Sandusky, designated by the state as one of Ohio's most scenic rivers. Improvements are expected to enhance the river's spawning of Lake Erie walleye, the backbone of Ohio's \$800-million sport-fishing industry, and help improve the city's drinking water. Demolition is to start by July, 2011. Fremont is spending \$1.25 million on the project. Other contributors include the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Source: <http://toledoblade.com/article/20100512/NEWS16/100519930>

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