



Top Stories

- The Wall Street Journal reports that public health officials are battling a host of new infectious threats to the nation's blood supply on May 24, but new screening tests are hard to develop and can take years to win government approval. (See item 43)
- AT&T's new digital home phone service failed across the country on May 25, illustrating continuing reliability issues with Internet-based phone service, according to the Associate Press. (See item 56)

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Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: <u>Physical:</u> ELEVATED, <u>Cyber:</u> ELEVATED

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) - [http://www.esisac.com]

1. *May 26*, *Salt Lake Tribune* – (Utah) **Provo utility outage lasted 90 minutes.** Sections of southern Provo were without power for up to 90 minutes on Tuesday due to a problem at a city substation. The crews were working on a transmission substation, where the city receives power from Rocky Mountain Power, when it became disconnected from the power grid. Crew workers said that the blackout, which started at 1:45 p.m., affected south and west portions of the city. The power was also knocked

out in the East Bay section of the city. By 3 p.m., the power was back on and crew were working to restore power to the affected areas.

Source: http://www.sltrib.com/news/ci_15159211

2. May 26, Associated Press – (New Jersery) PSEG files papers to build its 4th N.J. nuclear power plant. A New Jersey utility company has submitted an application to build a fourth nuclear reactor at a complex of nuclear power plants in southern New Jersey. PSEG Power said Tuesday it filed an Early Site Permit application with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. PSEG Power is a unit of Newark-based Public Service Enterprise Group, which also operates the state's largest utility. The reactor would be built on Artificial Island in Salem County. It is already the nation's second largest nuclear facility. The early site permit is the first step toward building a plant. PSEG Power said the permit is not a commitment to build. The review process is expected to take about three years. Source:

http://www.nj.com/news/index.ssf/2010/05/pseg_file_application_to_build.html

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Chemical Industry Sector

- 3. May 26, Watertown Daily Times (New York) Chemical spill probed at facility in **Lowville.** The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is investigating a chemical spill at a Utica Boulevard digester facility last week that drained into the village sewer system. "There was no danger to the public," said a DEC spokesman at the Watertown office. Owing to failure of a piping system, 1,765 gallons of ferric chloride May 20 spilled inside the anaerobic digester facility operated by Ecovation Inc., Victor, and went down a drain into the sewer system. The facility, behind the Kraft Foods cream cheese manufacturing plant, creates renewable energy from whey, a byproduct of cheesemaking, and pretreats the wastewater before it enters the sewer system. It began operation in late 2008. Ferric chloride is a chemical used to settle out phosphorus during the pretreatment process and is very acidic. Workers at the village sewage treatment plant off East State Street, which treats wastewater and pipes it into the Black River, noticed a spike in the acidity and contacted DEC, he said. "They've been able to assimilate it and monitor it," he said. Ecovation officials did not report the spill until Monday. While the company could be fined, DEC's primary goals are to ensure that Ecovation takes measures to avoid another spill and, if one does occur, reports it in a more timely manner, he said.
 - Source: http://www.watertowndailytimes.com/article/20100526/NEWS04/305269939
- 4. *May* 26, *WHIO* 7 *Dayton* (Ohio) **Source of nitrogen leak found.** After weeks of searching, Ohio officials said they believe they have found the source of a nitrogen gas leak that killed one man and sent three others to a local hospital. Workers in Middletown said the problem stemmed from a nitrogen line that runs between the Air

Products Company and AK Steel. An investigation revealed that nitrogen was leaking into two, possibly three manholes. Officials said no new leaks have been found. Crews have been checking surrounding neighborhoods since the accident happened, and said they will continue to do so until the problem is resolved.

Source: http://www.whiotv.com/news/23678726/detail.html

5. May 25, WREG 3 MEmphis – (Tennessee) Chemical leak forces evacuation. A few hundred people had to be evacuated from homes and businesses after a chemical leak at Lucite International on Fite Road in Millington, Tennessee Tuesday morning. Highway 51 was also shut down while the company tried to get the situation under control. Traffic was a nightmare for motorists who were forced to turn around. Shelby County deputies, firefighters, Tennessee State Troopers and the EMA were all called in after workers at the Lucite plant discovered Co3 or a combination of sulfur dioxide and trioxide vapors leaking from the main stack at the plant. Plant officials said that even though the levels were never high enough to be considered dangerous, they sounded emergency sirens and emergency responders evacuated homes and businesses within a mile and a half radius of the plant. During the incident, which latest about an hour, about 200 employees at the Lucite plant were asked to follow emergency procedures, but plant officials said there were no health issues. The plant, which makes methyl methacrylate and acrylic sheets, will remain shut down until it finds the problem and fixes it. The plant had just restarted operations Monday morning after being shut down for a month for scheduled maintenance. Plant officials said they have been in contact with the Environmental Protection Agency about what happened, and it will be up to that agency to decide whether it needs to investigate.

Source: http://www.wreg.com/news/wreg-lucite-story,0,3767565.story

6. May 25, Park Record – (Utah) Drill helps responders prepare for the real thing. A Summit County practice drill involving a hazardous materials spill was held Saturday to help prepare emergency responders for the real thing in Park City, Utah. Here is the scenario: a tanker truck crashes on Interstate 80 spilling an unknown toxic substance. "They will transport the patients via ambulance to the [hospital] emergency department where they will have decontamination tents," said a spokeswoman for the Park City Medical Center. Several ambulances, fire trucks, and the Summit County sheriff's office mobile command center were present at the scene. When it comes to hazardousmaterials spills, Summit County has had many close calls. "We did a run last year at Echo Canyon where we pulled trucks in and checked them," said a spokesman for Summit County's Local Emergency Preparedness Committee. "We were surprised that 15 percent of all the trucks on I-80 westbound had hazardous materials in one way or another." The simulated spill Saturday injured several people, including firefighters. Fuel spills have occurred on the freeway in Summit County. But potential chlorine and hydrous ammonia spills would be more dangerous. During the drill, crews practiced containing the spill before nearby neighborhoods were contaminated. Source: http://www.parkrecord.com/ci_15159880

7. May 24, Oregonian – (Oregon) Truck carrying jet fuel, insecticide lands in Oregon City ditch. Firefighters are trying to keep jet fuel and insecticide from leaking from a

truck that went into a ditch, Monday on South Forsythe Road in Oregon City, Oregon. A small amount of diesel that leaked from the trucks fuel tanks was contained with absorbent booms. "It doesn't look as if any of the chemicals or jet fuel is getting out," said a Clackamas Fire District 1 spokesman. "We've been able to remove a lot of it from the truck." No injuries were reported. The truck was headed downhill on Forsythe Road shortly before 8 a.m., when the driver lost control. The truck went into a ditch and then tipped over on its side. The truck was loaded with supplies for helicopters that do crop-dusting and insect control. Most of the potentially dangerous chemicals were in powdered form in boxes, which firefighters were able to safely remove. The jet fuel was contained in tanks, also removed without incident. HazMat 3, the state's hazardous-materials response team, responded from Gresham. Meanwhile, a tow truck is trying to pull the fallen truck out of the ditch. As of May 24, Forsythe Road was temporarily closed between Front Avenue and Clackamas River Drive.

Source: http://www.oregonlive.com/oregon-

city/index.ssf/2010/05/truck carrying jet fuel insecticide lands in oregon city ditch .html

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

8. May 26, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission – (Ohio) NRC asks FENOC to discuss basis for Davis-Besse plant restart at pubic meeting June 3. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff will meet with representatives of FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company (FENOC) on Thursday, June 3, to obtain information about the suitability of tests and repairs of Control Rod Drive Mechanism (CRDM) nozzles and the technical basis for the company's decision to start up the Davis-Besse nuclear station. The plant is located in Oak Harbor, Ohio, roughly 40 miles southeast of Toledo. "The NRC and the public need to have confidence that Davis-Besse will operate safely after it returns to service," said the regional administrator of NRC Region III office in Lisle, Illinois "That's why we called on FirstEnergy to tell us in a public forum if they understand what happened, if they are confident in their repairs; and how they will ensure the integrity of the reactor vessel head moving forward." The NRC is concerned about this issue because a crack in CRDM nozzles, which penetrate the reactor vessel head, can if not repaired, lead to structural damage of the reactor head. The reactor head is one of the barriers that prevent radioactive material in the reactor from escaping into the plant containment building. The current situation is not comparable to what occurred at Davis-Besse in 2002. Neither the small amount of boric acid (one tablespoon) present on the head nor the identified flaws in the nozzles challenge the structural integrity of the reactor vessel head. The NRC special inspection report will be available within 45 days of the inspection's completion through the NRC RIII Office of Public Affairs and at the NRC Web site at http://www.nrc.gov/readingrm/adams/web-based.html.

Source: http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/news/2010/10-023.iii.html

- 9. May 25, Nuclear Energy Institute (National) NEI recommends series of policies to **DOE's blue ribbon commission on used nuclear fuel.** The nuclear energy industry made several policy recommendations May 25 to the blue ribbon commission counseling the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) on future management of used nuclear fuel and nuclear waste. These recommendations covered the value of centralized temporary storage of used fuel assemblies, the continuing need for a geologic disposal facility even if used fuel is recycled, and a new management and financing structure for the entity that oversees the program. "The greatest service that the commission can render to the nation is to develop a used-fuel management policy that will endure, define a process for implementing the policy, determine the timelines to be followed to achieve the policy, and delineate the legal and legislative changes needed to make the policy a reality," said the Nuclear Energy Institute President and CEO in a presentation to the commission. The CEO told the body, which is taking input to inform its report to DOE about a year from now, that a stable policy for managing used fuel is essential and must be implemented "in a manner that will enhance public trust." The CEO identified five broad principles to shape a stable management policy for nuclear waste, some of which results from U.S. Defense Department applications, and the uranium fuel rods that are used to power the commercial nuclear energy facilities that provide electricity to one of every five U.S. homes and businesses. He said: The nation must have durable policy for responsible management; it must have a plan for ultimate disposal of the material; an "ideal" technical solution is not required to begin implementation of a new policy direction; non-proliferation goals must be met; and past experience, particularly in the siting of a disposal facility, must be heeded. Source: http://www.nei.org/newsandevents/newsreleases/nei-recommends-series-ofpolicies-to-does-blue-ribbon-commission-on-used-nuclear-fuel/
- 10. May 25, Associated Press (Minnesota) Automatic shutdown of Prairie Island nuclear power plant under investigation. Prairie Island operators are trying to figure out what tripped a turbine at the nuclear power plant in Red Wing, Minnesota, automatically shutting down one of its two units Tuesday. The plant's owner, Xcel Energy, said there were no injuries, no release of radiation and no threat to the public. The reactor was being returned to full power Monday after it was shut down for refueling and maintenance April 17. Operators said it was about 32 percent of power capacity when the turbine tripped about 3 a.m. Tuesday. The plant's other reactor was not affected and continues to operate at 100 percent power. Xcel Energy said each unit generates about 550 megawatts of power, which together, provides enough energy to power nearly 1 million homes.

Source: http://www.wctrib.com/event/article/id/67907/group/homepage/

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

11. *May 26, Associated Press* – (Tennessee) **Nissan breaks ground on Tenn. car battery plant.** Nissan North America, Inc. broke ground Wednesday for a lithium-ion battery plant as part of its plan to start building electric cars and eventually create up to 1,300

jobs in Tennessee. The Smyrna plant is part of a \$1.7 billion investment to start production of Nissan's all-electric Leaf starting in 2012. The investment includes a federal energy loan. The 1.3-million-square-foot battery plant will also create about 250 construction jobs at Smyrna, where Nissan currently has about 3,800 employees, at the first foreign auto assembly plant located in the South. Nissan has said the production hiring will coincide with its scheduled opening of the battery plant in 2012, and there will be up to 1,300 new jobs when Leaf assembly starts operating at full capacity. Source: http://www.forbes.com/feeds/ap/2010/05/26/business-business-and-professional-services-tn-nissan-battery-plant_7637423.html

12. May 25, Bloomberg – (National) Toyota sudden acceleration may be tied to 89 **deaths.** Toyota vehicles in unintended acceleration crashes may be linked to 89 deaths since 2000, up from 52 reported in March, the U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) said. The deaths occurred in 71 crashes allegedly caused by the vehicle defect, more than the 43 reported in March, the agency said today, citing data through May 20, in an e-mailed response to a request for the data. The agency has received 6,200 complaints where drivers reported sudden, unintended acceleration in Toyota vehicles from 2000 to mid-May, the agency said, up from 2,600 reported in March. The cases in NHTSA's database are submitted by the public and not every incident may be verified. Regulators have not found evidence to warrant a new defect investigation after speaking to 100 car owners who complained about sudden acceleration following repairs Toyota made to their vehicles, the NHTSA administrator said at a May 20 House hearing. Toyota, the world's largest automaker, hasn't found any electronics flaws after examining more than 2,000 vehicles that would help explain the reports of sudden acceleration, Toyota Motor Sales USA's president said at the hearing.

Source: http://www.businessweek.com/news/2010-05-25/toyota-sudden-acceleration-may-be-tied-to-89-deaths-update1-.html

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

13. *May* 26, *The Register* – (International) **X-51 hypersonic scramjet flight delayed by errant freighter.** The X-51A Waverider scramjet test scheduled for May 25 has been delayed for 24 hours by a freighter wandering into the Pacific firing range where the trial flight is to take place. According to a statement issued by U.S. spokesmen at Edwards Air Force Base in California - where the X-51's launch aircraft, a modified B-52 bomber operated by NASA, is based - the test required clear seas across the Point Mugu Naval Air Warfare Center Sea Range several hundred miles off the coast. The statement goes on to say that a U.S. Navy P-3 Orion aircraft supporting the test was safety-scanning the Pacific Ocean test range for shipping traffic when its crew discovered a ship steaming in international waters underneath a block of restricted airspace located in the vicinity of the X-51A's potential splashdown zone. Weather

permitting, the X-51A was slated to make its first hypersonic flight attempt May 26. Planned firings and tests are notified to mariners through a warning system which professional seafarers pay attention to, but there are many unprofessional seafarers plying the oceans of the world: and ultimately the U.S. government can't force ships to keep clear of range areas like Point Mugu located in international waters. Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/05/26/x51_postponed/

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Banking and Finance Sector

14. *May 26, The New New Internet* – (Minnesota; North Dakota) **Hackers target small businesses.** The Better Business Bureau of Minnesota and North Dakota, and the
Minnesota Cyber Crime Task Force are urging all small businesses with outdated or
lacking online security software to be aware of foreign hackers stealing credit card
information and then selling it on the Web. Businesses targeted by these cyber
intrusions could be liable for any losses involving stolen credit card data, which could
potentially bankrupt smaller enterprises. All small businesses that process, store or
transmit credit card information are advised to bring up to date their security software
and become PCI compliant immediately. The Payment Card Industry Data Security
Standard is a set of requirements designed to ensure that all companies that deal with
credit card information maintain a secure environment. Although the PCI is not law, it
was created by major credit card brands that can, at their discretion, fine merchants that
do not comply with the standards in case of a data breach.

Source: http://www.thenewnewinternet.com/2010/05/26/hackers-target-small-businesses/

15. May 26, SC Magazine – (International) American Express may have failed to encrypt data. American Express may be in hot water after a computer engineer discovered a portion of the card brand's Web site, which claims to be secure, sending private information in the clear. The engineer wrote in a blog post May 25 that he received a promotional e-mail from American Express encouraging him to sign up for the Daily Wish service, through which cardholders can receive hefty discounts on a limited amount of merchandise, such as computers and camcorders. If users click on the "Sign up for Daily Wish" button, they are prompted to enter personal information, such as name, card number, security code, expiration date and billing zip code, into a pop-up box. The box includes a "this page is secure" notification link, but upon further review, the engineer found this not to be the case. The domain for the sign-up box was not using https, he said. He used the open-source packet analyser Wireshark to confirm that the (fake) information he entered into the form was delivered in clear text back to American Express' server. The card company, in a tweet posted May 25, said it was aware of the issue and was investigating.

Source: http://www.scmagazineuk.com/american-express-may-have-failed-to-encrypt-data/article/171005/

16. *May* 26, *BBC* – (International) **German bank 'blown up by robbers.** Suspected robbers in Germany appear to have miscalculated the quantity of explosives needed to blow their way into a rural bank. The building housing the bank in the northern village of Malliss was largely destroyed by an overnight explosion. The bank's cash machine survived intact and the suspected thieves are not thought to have made away with any money, Germany's Welt Online reported. No one was injured, though the blast damaged nearby cars and buildings. Investigators were working on the assumption that robbers had placed their explosives, possibly made from petrol or acetylene, at the entrance to the bank, German broadcaster NDR said. The presence of a delivery van near the site of the explosion indicated that the suspected thieves may have intended to drive off with the cash dispenser, local media reported.

Source: http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/world/europe/10161486.stm

17. May 25, Montgomery County Courier – (International) Russian Mafia funds recovered in eBay scam. Montgomery County (Texas) Sheriff's Office (MCSO) detectives, and the district attorney's office recovered \$11,200 in an eBay scam from a bank account suspected of belonging to the Russian Mafia, officials said. The complainant in the case had ordered a tractor on eBay in February, with March 5 as the expected delivery date, according to a MCSO press release. When the equipment never arrived, the complainant contacted eBay, who informed the complainant that the transaction was fraudulent. A MCSO detective learned the transaction was part of a much larger multimillion dollar scam, with the proceeds of the transaction linked to an account that had recently been seized in a criminal investigation involving the Russian Mafia, the release stated. All documentation regarding the account was linked to stolen passports, the release stated, making it next to impossible to locate the thieves. Source:

http://www.hcnonline.com/articles/2010/05/25/conroe_courier/news/ebay052610.txt

18. *May 25, Triangle Business Journal* – (National) **RBC Bank, Wachovia, SunTrust on Weiss list of vulnerable banks.** Raleigh, North Carolina-based RBC Bank is one of 20 large U.S. banks and 11 Triangle, North Carolina-based banks considered vulnerable by Weiss Ratings, a Florida-based company that evaluates the financial strength of insurers, banks and savings and loans. A new Weiss report gives RBC Bank, the U.S. banking arm of the Royal Bank of Canada, a "D-" The bank, with \$27.5 billion in assets, has been dealing with a loan portfolio weighed down by depressed real estate in Florida. Three other huge players in the Triangle banking market also are on the Weiss list of weakest banks. Atlanta-based SunTrust Banks joins RBC Bank in receiving a Drating. Weiss gave D ratings to Bank of America, the country's largest commercial bank but No. 5 in the Triangle, and Triangle-market leader Wachovia, a Charlotte-based bank now owned by San Francisco-based Wells Fargo & Co. All told, Weiss said, 2,259 U.S. banks and savings and loans, controlling \$5.8 trillion, or 43.8 percent of the industry's total assets, are vulnerable. Those banks are given grades ranging from D+ to D-.

Source: http://www.bizjournals.com/triangle/stories/2010/05/24/daily26.html

- 19. May 25, WPTV 5 West Palm Beach (National) Gas stations protect customers from 'skimming'. Criminals have found an easy way to make money breaking into gas pumps and installing tiny card-skimming machines that can read credit cards. It has become such a worldwide problem, that as of this summer, credit card companies are requiring all gas station owners to purchase and install new technology to curtail the crime. "The penalties are stiff," said a West Palm Beach, Florida Exxon owner. "If we do not upgrade, we will not get to take credit cards and that's 90 percent of our business." The cost is roughly \$4,000 per pump. Add that to requirements for station generators and hurricane-proof pumps, and the Exxon owner fears the few little guys in the gas station business may be driven out of business. All stations are required to have the new technology by June 30. There is one exception, because of an equipment shortage, Exxon and Mobil stores, have been given an extension until December. Source: http://www.wptv.com/content/news/centralpbc/westpalmbeach/story/Gasstations-protect-customers-from-skimming/4pMYf6EWvEuMkPrXD Fonw.cspx
- 20. May 25, KMGH 7 Denver (Colorado) FBI: 'Bad Hatter Bandit' hits another bank. A woman dubbed the "Bad Hatter Bandit" for her floppy sun hats robbed a south Denver bank May 25, the FBI said. The woman is believed to be responsible for two other bank robberies in the Denver metro area, a FBI spokesman said. She was wearing a red floppy hat, a flowered pink tank top and khaki shorts when she entered the Bank of the West, 2050 S. Downing St., at about 2:08 p.m. She handed a note to a teller demanding money and implying she had a weapon, police said. The FBI Rocky Mountain Safe Streets Task Force has nicknamed the bank robber the Bad Hatter Bandit "for obvious reasons."

Source: http://www.thedenverchannel.com/news/23675357/detail.html

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Transportation Sector

21. May 26, KABC 7 Los Angeles – (International) Turbulence on L.A.-bound plane injures 6. A United Airlines flight bound from London to Los Angeles was forced to make an emergency landing in Montreal May 25 after hitting severe turbulence. Rattled and tired passengers filed out of Terminal 6 at LAX Tuesday night. The turbulence they experienced resulted in broken ribs, fractured bones and many scared passengers. Six passengers were injured from the turbulence, but none of the injuries were life threatening. "There were three big jumps. I was sitting one row behind the bathroom and I saw a woman fall and she twisted her ankle," said one passenger. The sudden turbulence was so severe, some on board said it felt like an earthquake. The Boeing 777, filled with nearly 200 passengers, had left London's Heathrow Airport Tuesday morning en route to Los Angeles. It was flying over the Atlantic Ocean when turbulence suddenly struck the aircraft. The seat belt sign was off, and several passengers were severely injured. An L.A. plastic surgeon who was on the flight jumped into action to treat the injured, including one flight attendant, who severely fractured her leg. "She was shivering, and she was losing a lot of blood," said the doctor. The flight made an emergency landing at Montreal's Trudeau International

Airport just after noon local time. Ambulances rushed to the tarmac to treat the injured, and half a dozen people were taken to area hospitals.

Source: http://abclocal.go.com/kabc/story?section=news/national_world&id=7461586

22. May 26, KPCC Wire Services – (California) Modernized Tom Bradley international terminal to be unveiled at LAX today. After more than three years of renovations at a cost of \$737 million, an upgraded Tom Bradley International Terminal will be unveiled at Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) May 26. The renovation gave the 26-yearold terminal a contemporary look while making travel "safer, faster and more convenient to passengers," an LAX spokesperson said. The largest addition – about 45,000 square feet – is for baggage screening. That should ease congestion around ticketing counters and prevent passengers from having to wait in line for checked luggage to be examined. The baggage area will have larger, high-capacity carousels. The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) will have a new screening system, featuring high-tech explosives detection machines. The terminal also has new airline check-in and passenger arrival lobbies, boarding gates, restrooms, and "dynamic video panels" and digital signage for flight information. The renovation began in February 2007 and was completed for \$18 million less than the original \$755.3 million budget. Funding came from various sources, including passenger facility charges, revenue bonds, airline reimbursements and airport revenues. The TSA contributed \$106 million toward the baggage-screening system.

Source: http://www.scpr.org/news/2010/05/26/modernized-tom-bradley-international-terminal-unve/

23. *May* 26, *Associated Press* – (Pennsylvania) **Sleeping woman left on plane in Philly for 4 hours.** Airline officials are trying to figure out how a sleeping passenger was left aboard a flight for four hours after it landed in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. According to police and the Transportation Security Administration, the passenger didn't wake up when her United Express flight from Dulles airport outside Washington landed shortly after midnight Tuesday. At about 4 a.m., a cleaning crew found her. United Airlines said they are working with a regional partner carrier to determine why the plane wasn't cleared upon landing.

Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/05/26/AR2010052601762.html

24. *May* 26, *Aviation Today* – (Virginia) **NTSB develops helicopter-accident course.** The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) will host a five-day course in August focusing on rotorcraft accident investigation. The class — set for Aug. 16 to 20 at the NTSB Training Center in Ashburn, Va. — is designed to give investigators from regulatory agencies, private industry and other organizations the tools, methods and skills to conduct helicopter-related accident inquiries. The course will also examine case studies, including in-flight fires and break-ups, midair collisions and weather-related incidents.

Source: http://www.aviationtoday.com/rw/topstories/NTSB-Develops-Helicopter-Accident-Course 68532.html

25. *May* 26, *The Washington Post* – (Virginia) **Safety tests to disrupt Orange Line**weekend service. Service will be disrupted on Metro's Orange Line over the next three weekends while safety tests are performed for a bridge that will carry trains over Interstate 66 to Dulles International Airport. Free shuttle buses will carry riders between the West and East Falls Church stations while the contractor building the first 11.7 miles of the Metrorail extension conducts load-bearing tests on 10 bridge supports. The tests were ordered by the federal government, which opened a safety inquiry into what it called an inadequate plan by Dulles Transit Partners to test the 32-year-old foundations. This will be the longest service disruption on a single train line in recent memory, a Metro spokesman said, and Orange Line riders should expect the Dulles rail construction to cause other weekend closures in coming months. "This is a major expansion of the rail system, and integrating the new line into the existing system is something that is extremely involved," the spokesman added.

Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/05/25/AR2010052504834.html?wprss=rss_metro

- 26. May 25, Nashville Public Radio (Tennessee) CSX reopens flood-damaged Memphis-Nashville line. CSX Transportation is re-opening its rail line from Memphis to Nashville, Tennessee ahead of schedule after closing down because of flood damage. Some rails washed out. Rushing water twisted two bridges spanning the Harpeth River. CSX thought it would be mid-June before service could resume on the 200-mile line connecting Tennessee's two largest cities. Company officials said employees worked long hours to get back on track as shipments had to be rerouted or delayed. The state's agriculture sector which uses CSX to transport grain and supplies has been particularly hard hit. The company has also announced an effort to aid in the financial pinch many counties now face. A spokesman said the company will pre-pay property taxes that aren't due until next year. "We find that it is helpful to the states and counties to prepay those taxes so they can apply those funds to the recovery efforts." A total of 23 counties in Tennessee will benefit, with more than a million dollars being paid in Davidson County. CSX also prepaid property taxes after Hurricane Katrina. Source: http://wpln.org/?p=17992
- 27. *May* 25, *Detroit Free Press* (Michigan) **NB I-75 ramps to I-696 reopen after concrete falls.** Ramps from northbound I-75 to both directions of I-696 in Oakland County were closed May 25 to make emergency repairs after loose concrete apparently fell from an overpass near the interchange, the Michigan Department of Transportation said. Those ramps have reopened. MDOT said no vehicles were hit by the debris that appears to have fallen from the Shevlin Road overpass, which crosses I-75 a few blocks south of I-696, sometime around 2:30 p.m. today. MDOT's metro Detroit region engineer said there were no reports of injury or property damage to vehicles. Crews were at the scene in Hazel Park working to remove concrete from the underside of the Shevlin overpass. The engineer said workers were hoping to have the ramp lanes reopened sometime the night of May 25, and would come back later to add wooden scaffolding underneath the overpass to prevent more concrete from falling. MDOT installed the wooden "false decking" beneath hundreds of sections of bridges in metro Detroit after concrete fell from the Groesbeck Highway overpass onto I-696 during the

morning rush hour in March 2007, damaging several vehicles but leaving no one seriously hurt.

Source: http://www.freep.com/article/20100525/NEWS03/100525054/Falling-concrete-shuts-NB-I-75-ramps-to-I-696

28. May 25, Georgetown News Graphic – (Kentucky) Cleanup continues on hazardous material spill at airport. Cleanup continued Tuesday at Georgetown-Scott County Regional Airport in Kentucky after a hazardous spill earlier in the afternoon. Emergency units responded to a call from the airport after a concrete truck working on the new runway ran over a device meant to measure concrete depth, the Scott County fire chief said. The device, a Troxler model 4640B thin-layer density gauge, used cesium 137, a radioactive material commonly used in measuring devices to gauge thickness or density, according to the EPA. Cesium has a mild chemical toxicity and presents a high health risk in cases of radiation leaks. There were no injuries and no one was contaminated, the chief said. The airport was closed for about an hour, but reopened to air traffic around 2:30 p.m. The cement truck that caused the leak left the airport before the accident was discovered, and is believed to be on the road. A regional hazardous materials team was on scene with a Geiger counter looking for radiation. Source:

http://www.georgetownnews.com/articles/2010/05/25/breaking_news/doc4bfc0d92d1eb3780409756.txt

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Postal and Shipping Sector

29. May 26, CCA – (Colorado) OSHA proposes \$217,000 in fines against U.S. Postal Service for electrical hazards at Denver mail-processing facility. The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has cited the U.S. Postal Service for alleged willful and serious violations of safety standards at the Denver Network Distribution Center, 7755 E. 56th Ave. for exposing workers to electrical hazards. Proposed penalties total \$217,000. OSHA's inspection found that employees were performing testing on live electrical equipment and doing so without adequate training, personal protective equipment and safety-related work practices. As a result of these conditions, OSHA has issued three willful citations with \$210,000 in proposed fines. OSHA defines a willful violation as one committed with plain indifference to or intentional disregard for employee safety and health. "These sizable fines reflect the severity and ongoing nature of these hazards," said the Assistant Secretary of Labor for OSHA. "The Postal Service ignored long-established safety standards and knowingly put its workers in harm's way." In addition, one serious citation, with \$7,000 in fines, has been issued for failure to post warning signs to alert employees of electrical hazards. OSHA issues serious citations when death or serious physical harm is likely to result from hazards about which the employer knew or should have known. "The Postal Service was aware of the hazardous electrical conditions but

did not correct them in a timely manner to prevent potential serious injuries," said the OSHA regional administrator in Denver.

Source: http://hr.cch.com/news/safety/052610a.asp

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Agriculture and Food Sector

- 30. *May* 26, *UPI* (National) **Scientist issues grasshopper alert.** A major infestation of grasshoppers may be in store for Wyoming, Montana, Nebraska and the Dakotas this summer, a grasshopper specialist said. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) expert on grasshopper suppression is warning that this summer could be the worst for grasshoppers since the mid-1980s, USA Today reported May 26. He said the threat assessment is based on the USDA's annual survey of adult grasshopper populations conducted each year in late summer. High numbers recorded last summer were part of a natural buildup of grasshopper populations, the USDA expert said. An entomologist with the Nevada Department of Agriculture said grasshoppers can wipe out farm crops and decimate fields of native grasses that feed cattle. "I've seen alfalfa fields where there's nothing left but stubble," the entomologist said. Federal and state officials can spray land with chemicals that would eventually kill the insects.

 Source: http://www.upi.com/Science_News/2010/05/26/Scientist-issues-grasshopper-alert/UPI-92301274886267/
- 31. May 26, Tech Jackal (California) Fresh Express recalls romaine lettuce potentially contaminated with salmonella. Another lettuce recall has been issued after salmonella poisoning was found in a package randomly tested by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Salinas, California-based Fresh Express issued a voluntary recall on several different ready-to-eat packages of salad mix. The packages all had use by dates of May 13 through May 16 and an "S" in the product code. The packages were distributed to 26 states in the North, West and Midwest. The Canadian Food Inspection Agency has issued a recall on the same products as well. Products involved in the recall include various salad-making kits, romaine lettuce, Caesar salad mix and various other mixes with romaine lettuce. Twenty-four different products produced by the company are included in the recall. Although, the packages are probably not available for sale in grocery stores because of the expired date, consumers who have the products in their refrigerators are asked to throw them away. There have been no reports of any illnesses related to these packages. The recall states the packages have the potential to contain salmonella.

Source: http://www.techjackal.net/other/2010/05/26/fresh-express-recalls-romaine-lettuce-potentially-contaminated-with-salmonella/

32. *May* 25, *Portland Oregonian* – (Oregon) **State imposes \$8,500 fine on Clackamas County water buffalo ranch.** The Oregon Department of Agriculture imposed an \$8,500 civil penalty on a prominent Clackamas County businessman this month and ordered him to keep his herd of more than 200 water buffalo from fouling a local stream. The property owner, who operates a feedlot near Carver, was also fined in

2007. Water samples taken at seven locations last month showed levels of fecal bacteria 60 to 2,700 times greater than maximum safe level. The rancher has until the end of the month to submit a waste management plan. Source:

http://www.oregonlive.com/clackamascounty/index.ssf/2010/05/state_fines_clackamas_county_w.html

33. May 25, The Oregonian – (National) County restaurants getting defense kits to combat food-related bioterrorism. Multnomah County in Oregon proposed the project, got the grant and wrote the guidelines. Now it is passing out binders in hopes of preventing a food-related bioterrorism attack. The county's Food Defense Toolkit is being distributed to restaurants in hopes of protecting them from food poisoning sprees like the one in The Dalles in 1984. The county — and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) — hopes its new guidelines will prevent similar attacks. "These things don't occur often, but they're serious when they happen," said a county health educator. The FDA has guidelines to prevent a bioterrorism attack in food processing facilities, she said, but nothing was being done in restaurants. So in 2008, the county applied for a grant. The agency liked the idea, forked over \$40,000, and the county got to work. Food safety experts, restaurant managers and county inspectors worked on the project for more than a year. Ideas they came up with, include: a risk-assessment checklist, a list of steps restaurants can take to establish controls, suggested rules aimed at preventing an attack, an employee-training guide and videos, and posters. The kit is being rolled out to the county's nearly 3,000 restaurants during biannual inspections. So far, about 1,500 have been distributed, the county health educator said. Compliance is voluntary. The kit is also available to other restaurants across the country on the county's website, http://mchealthinspect.org, or by calling 503-988-3400.

http://www.oregonlive.com/portland/index.ssf/2010/05/county_restaurants_getting_def .html

34. May 25, Food Poison Journal – (California) Study of E. coli O157:H7 in California wildlife set to be released. Following the completion of a "massive field study" researchers have reported the presence, albeit uncommon, of E. coli O157:H7 in wildlife in California's central coast region. The findings were reported May 24 at the annual meeting of the American Society for Microbiology in San Diego. The occasional presence of E. coli O157:H7 in fecal samples of wildlife species including cowbirds, coyotes, crows, mice and feral pigs was reported. The impetus for the study was the 2006 outbreak of E. coli O157:H7 in bagged spinach grown and processed in the region. The outbreak caused at least 205 illnesses and five deaths. "The study helps us better understand the possible risk of crop contamination from wildlife and allows us to compare that to the risk of contamination from other possible sources such as livestock and irrigation water," said lead study author, who is also a veterinarian at UC Davis' Western Institute for Food Safety and Security. The incidence of E. coli O157:H7 in the tested wildlife was perhaps somewhat lower than expected. From 2008 through 2009, the team collected and tested 1,133 fecal samples from wild birds and mammals on 38 private properties in Monterey, San Benito and San Luis Obispo

counties in California. All three counties are home to farms that grow fresh spinach, lettuce and other produce. Lab tests revealed that E. coli O157:H7 was present in samples from two cowbirds, two coyotes, five crows, one deer mouse and 10 feral pigs. Samples from deer, opossums, raccoons, skunks, ground squirrels and other bird and mouse species all tested negative for the bacterium. The relatively low incidence of the bacteria in wildlife stands in contrast to the large number of E. coli O157:H7 outbreaks tied to leafy greens from the area. Thus, researchers are left to ponder other potential sources and explanations.

Source: http://www.foodpoisonjournal.com/2010/05/articles/food-poisoning-information/study-of-e-coli-o157h7-in-california-wildlife-set-to-be-released/

35. *May* 25, *Food Poison Journal* – (National) **Athens salmonella outbreak case count:**41 and growing. A salmonella outbreak in May has been linked to Athens, Ohio restaurant Casa Lopez, located on East State Street. WSAZ reported today that at least 41 people have "come down with salmonella poisoning after eating at Casa Lopez," and that health officials are waiting on test results from 15 other cases. Source: http://www.foodpoisonjournal.com/2010/05/articles/foodborne-illness-outbreaks/athens-salmonella-outbreak-case-count-41-and-growing/

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Water Sector

36. May 26, The Courier News – (Illinois) Elgin gas station leak quickly contained. A quick response by multiple agencies was credited Tuesday for containing more than 100 gallons of motor oil that leaked from a west-side gas station into Elgin's storm sewer system. Emergency personnel were called to the Marathon gas station around 8:14 a.m. The Elgin fire chief said between 100 and 150 gallons of used motor oil had leaked sometime overnight from a 250-gallon holding tank at the rear of the establishment. The oil flowed onto a back parking lot, then onto the street and into a storm sewer drain near the intersection of Larkin and Aldine avenues. Elgin firefighters, with the help of a hazardous-materials team from the South Elgin Fire Department, were able to stop the flow of the oil through the sewer before it got into Tyler Creek about 12 blocks away, and eventually the Fox River. Once the flow was stopped, a company was called to clean up the oil from the sewer. Members of the Illinois Environment Protection Agency were on site to monitor the operation. The chief credited the quick actions by all involved as the difference in ensuring the leak did not enter the Fox River, the primary source of the city's water supply. The Marathon owner said the problem was first spotted by a mechanic early Tuesday when he arrived to work, and that he called authorities. Source:

http://www.suburbanchicagonews.com/couriernews/news/2314302,Oil_leaking-Elginsewer_EL052510.article

37. May 26, Associated Press – (Tennessee) 1 water plant still down, Nashville residents asked to not make fire hydrants spray. Nashville, Tennessee city officials are asking

residents to not tap fire hydrants to make them spray as the start of summer approaches. The metro water services director said unauthorized use of hydrants is a bad idea under normal circumstances. With one of Nashville's two water treatment plants still offline after major flooding, this is a particularly critical time to conserve water. A statement through the police department said criminal charges can be filed against anyone tampering with a fire hydrant. The water services department asks anyone seeing a spraying hydrant to call so it can be shut off.

Source: http://www.wreg.com/news/sns-ap-tn--floods-hydrants,0,3762164.story

38. May 25, Muskegon Chronicle – (Michigan) Study: Former 'celery flats' hurting Mona Lake water quality. The old "celery flats" just upstream of Mona Lake in Norton Shores, Michigan may be profoundly harming the lake's water quality, a new report said. The main culprit is phosphorus. In high concentrations, the substance is a primary cause of toxic algae blooms that have fouled parts of Mona Lake in recent years, turning the water green and making some beaches unsafe for swimming. The study looked at the impact of the abandoned muck fields, once used for celery production but now converted to shallow lakes, that abut Black Creek just before it flows into Mona Lake. Phosphorus-rich water leaks into Black Creek through breaches in a levee between the muck fields and the creek, the study found. The report concludes that phosphorus from the muck fields "accounts for a substantial, if not overwhelming, amount of the (phosphorus) reaching Mona Lake from Black Creek." The report notes that Black Creek carries a substantial amount of phosphorus even upstream of the celery flats. That means that any strategy to control phosphorus in the Black Creek watershed — and, ultimately, in Mona Lake — must take both the muck fields and upstream sources into account. The report discussed four potential approaches to reduce the flow of phosphorus from the muck fields themselves: Planting of fastgrowing aquatic plants such as cattails, which can remove phosphorus by incorporating it into their own "biomass." Chemical treatment with alum, lime or iron to deactivate the phosphorus. This method only lasts roughly 10 to 15 years. Dredging to remove the phosphorus-laden sediment. Closing the breaches in the levee. Source:

http://www.mlive.com/news/muskegon/index.ssf/2010/05/tudy_former_celery_flats_hurti.html

39. *May* 25, *WJZ* 13 *Baltimore* – (Maryland) **Sewage spill poses threat to area** waterways. Hundreds of thousands of gallons of sewage are contaminating a popular area waterway. It is so bad boaters, swimmers and, fisherman are being warned to stay away. Anne Arundel County officials said a power outage is what caused the sewage spill. Environmentalists said that beyond that, it is important to find a way to prevent similar incidents in the future. Even though you can not see or smell it, Anne Arundel County officials estimate that about 100,000 gallons of sewage spilled into Cypress Creek in Severna Park. The Anne Arundel County Department of Public Works said the incident started around 10 p.m. Monday, after a power failure at the pumping station on McKenzie Road. The waste flowed until 2 a.m. Tuesday, a total of four hours. The county has posted signs to make sure residents are warned. Cypress Creek is closed to swimming, and Cape McKinney, Cape Arthur, and Manhattan Beaches are all

closed as well. Cypress Creek feeds into the Magothy River and the Magothy flows into the Chesapeake Bay. It may be early to try and determine what type of environmental impact the sewage spill will have, but those who advocate for protecting the waterways said they are certain there will be some kind of impact. It is unclear why a backup generator did not kick in at the pumping station. It is not clear when Cypress Creek will be safe for swimming again.

Source: http://wjz.com/local/sewage.spill.Cypress.2.1715202.html

40. May 24, Orange County Register – (California) Repairs needed on groundwater well in Tustin. Repairs to the Tustin, California Vandenberg Well, which suffered a mechanical failure in December, will cost \$103,000. The city's water services department has been borrowing general fund money because it has been operating at a financial loss. For 2008-2009, the water department ended the year with an estimated loss of \$2 million. The borrowed general fund money goes into the water enterprise fund and is used to make repairs. Other funds, in the city's water services operating fund, are used to buy imported water to meet demand in the meantime. The Vandenberg Well normally produces 1,500 gallons of water per minute. While the well is offline, the city will be buying water from the East Orange County Water District, costing about \$701 per acre foot, or about 325,000 gallons of water. The well went down in December. Repairs should take about two months, the public works director said. The well has been operating off and on, depending on demand, for the past 15 years so wear and tear repairs occur naturally over time. The cost of repairs will not affect the water bills of the city's 14,100 customers, but the city council will hold a public hearing on water rates at 7 p.m. June 15 at 300 Centennial Way. Without a rate increase, water services will not have the money to repair or upgrade the water mains, wells or reservoirs, city documents state. The city council voted in October 2009 against six plans that would increase rates. The rate was last increased in May 2006. The Vandenberg Well pump, bearings, shaft and column pipe are being replaced. While General Pump Company workers make repairs, the well also will be scrubbed and disinfected and the motor will be reinstalled and tested.

Source: http://www.ocregister.com/news/water-250123-city-well.html

For more stories, see items 3, 32, and 70

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

41. *May 26, CNN* – (National) **Tylenol maker pledges quality overhaul.** Drugmaker McNeil Consumer Healthcare, currently under investigation by the Food and Drug Administration following a string of recalls related to its over-the-counter drugs including Tylenol, Motrin and Benadryl, outlined steps Tuesday to remedy serious quality and safety lapses at its manufacturing facilities. McNeil, a division of Johnson & Johnson, has initiated four recalls of its products in the past seven months, including a widespread recall of children's non-prescription drugs May 1. Johnson & Johnson has suspended production at McNeil's Fort Washington, Pennsylvania plant that

manufactured the children's products. Johnson & Johnson also faces Congressional hearings Thursday about McNeil's product recalls. Among the measures, the drugmaker said it has hired an independent pharmaceutical consulting firm to identify corrective actions to improve quality and manufacturing systems at its Fort Washington facility. The company said it is improving employee training in every part of the manufacturing and quality operations, and implementing new processes for conducting investigations on quality levels. McNeil also said the company has made significant organizational changes but did not provide details about the changes.

Source:

http://money.cnn.com/2010/05/25/news/companies/tylenol_recall_mcneil_quality_over haul/

- 42. *May* 26, *Chicago Daily Herald* (Illinois) **Tuberculosis outbreak may push Kane Co. to dip into savings.** An outbreak of tuberculosis at a homeless shelter in Aurora, Illinois might now result in Kane County spending an additional \$65,000 to prevent the problem from getting worse. The outbreak was first spotted several months ago at Hesed House. Since then, 13 people exposed to the bacteria at the shelter have developed the active form of the infection. Homeless people tend to live a high-stress lifestyle that wears on their immune system, making them more susceptible to tuberculosis, said the executive director of the Kane County Health Department. He appeared before the county's public health committee Tuesday to plead for more money to stop the outbreak from spreading through the homeless population and among the general public. Tuberculosis can be lethal if left untreated. Source: http://www.dailyherald.com/story/?id=383417
- 43. May 24, Wall Street Journal (National) New threats to U.S. blood supply. Public health officials are battling a host of new infectious threats to the nation's blood supply. Blood centers, which have long tested for risks like hepatitis C and AIDS, have added a number of new tests on donated blood in recent years, including checks for West Nile virus and Chagas, a tropical parasitic disease. But new screening tests are hard to develop and can take years to win government approval. Currently, for instance, there's no way to screen for newer threats like babesiosis, a parasitic infection that has been linked to 10 U.S. deaths through blood transfusions since 2006. And a dangerous virus known as Chikungunya has spread to the U.S. and Europe from Africa in the last several years. Blood supply officials are urging the U.S. government to adopt so-called pathogen-reduction technology that can kill a wide range of contaminants in blood after it has been donated. One method already in use in about a dozen countries in Europe, Asia and elsewhere destroys most pathogens with a combination of chemicals and ultraviolet light. The Food and Drug Administration declined to approve the technology several years ago, citing possible side effects. But the agency is continuing to evaluate it.

Source:

http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704792104575264600619273586.html?mod=WSJ_hpp_MIDDLENexttoWhatsNewsFifth

44. *May 24, New York Times* – (National) **New way bacterium spreads in hospital.** Health care workers and patients have yet another source of hospital-acquired infection to worry about, British researchers are reporting. Clostridium difficile, a germ that causes deadly intestinal infections in hospital patients, has long been thought to be spread only by contact with contaminated surfaces. But a new study finds that it can also travel through the air. The researchers emphasized that there is no evidence that C. difficile can be contracted by inhaling the germs. Rather, they float on the air, landing in places where more people can touch them. The bug is commonly spread by contact with infected feces, and the British scientists said the new study made it even more urgent to isolate hospital patients with diarrhea as soon as possible — even before tests confirm a C. difficile infection. Outbreaks of C. difficile, a bacterium resistant to many antibiotics, have been increasing in the United States since 2001, along with the evolution of more virulent strains.

Source: http://www.nytimes.com/2010/05/25/health/25infect.html

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Government Facilities Sector

- 45. May 26, Mid Columbia Tri-City Herald (Washington) State Ecology says Hanford needs more funding. The Hanford Nuclear reservation in Hanford, Washington will need an estimated \$471 million more in fiscal 2012 than the Department of Energy (DOE) has projected in its five-year spending plan to meet legal requirements, according to Washington State Department of Ecology calculations. The public got an initial look Tuesday at DOE planning for the fiscal 2012 budget in a daylong workshop in Richland. "We knew 2012 was going to be an important year," said the Hanford program manager for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), a Hanford regulator. It is the first year since fiscal 2009 that DOE will not have economic stimulus money to bolster its annual environmental cleanup budget at Hanford. The \$1.96 billion in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act money Hanford is expected to receive should be spent by the start of fiscal 2012. DOE Hanford offices have prepared budget requests to submit to DOE headquarters that project a need for almost \$2.8 billion in fiscal 2012, up from the previously estimated available funding of \$2.3 billion. If Hanford does not get that money, DOE and its regulators — EPA and the state — will be facing some difficult discussions in 2012, the program manager said. Either that or DOE will have to look at becoming much more efficient, he said. The state has prepared a list of priorities on how it wants budget money spent in the next decade. At the top is building and operating the vitrification plant to treat 53 million gallons of radioactive waste held in underground tanks, some of them prone to leaks. Source: http://www.tri-cityherald.com/2010/05/26/1028987/hanford-needs-morefunding-from.html
- 46. *May 26, Associated Press and Florida Today* (Florida) **Fla. man accused of making dozens of bomb threats.** A Florida man was arrested Tuesday and charged with calling in dozens of bomb threats to hospitals, courthouses and schools, hotels and stores in dozens of local communities, resulting in \$1 million spent on investigations.

The homeless suspect was held Tuesday night at the Brevard County Detention Center in lieu of a \$2.4 million bond and could face additional charges from the FBI and municipal police departments. Palm Bay and Indialantic already have filed charges. He is scheduled to appear before a judge at 1:15 p.m. May 26. Authorities said the suspect had fallen on hard times and was mad at the world when he called in the first threat May 1. The suspect, who is accused of making 50 calls, was charged Tuesday with at least 21 counts of threatening to discharge a destructive device. He could face additional charges from the FBI and municipal police departments. The 47-year-old suspect was scheduled to appear in court Wednesday. It is unclear if he has legal representation.

Source: http://www.miamiherald.com/2010/05/26/1648778/fla-man-accused-of-making-dozens.html

47. May 25, WPTV 5 West Palm Beach – (Florida) Westwood High School reopen today. Students at Fort Pierce-Westwood High School in Florida had an unexpected three-day weekend after vandals shut the school down for the day. Sheriff's deputies greeted students arriving at the campus Monday morning and told them to go home. One person who saw what the school looked like said, "It looked like a tornado went through that place." The school's head of security discovered the vandalism before the day started and parents were contacted through the school's emergency telephone system. The superintendent said, "Initially it looked like hazardous materials that might have been used. It now looks like those are eggs and mayo and ketchup and mustard together. There's a mess." Some signs were damaged, garbage cans overturn, and a pipe pulled off a restroom wall. The superintendent said there was no other structural damage to the building but at a prominent spot in the hallway, dimes that spelled out 2010 were superglued to the floor. Outside, toilet paper was hurled into the trees around the school. As to who or how many suspects may be involved, the school district said it has a pretty good idea. That's because there are 14 surveillance cameras surrounding the Westwood campus and that tape is being reviewed at the St. Lucie County Sheriff's Office.

 $Source: \underline{http://www.wptv.com/content/news/stlucie/story/Westwood-High-School-to-reopen-tomorrow/sv2Rn37G-0ynjKQcAQYogg.cspx}$

48. May 25, Associated Press & Denver Post – (Colorado) City of Denver Web site hacked again. The Web site for the city and county of Denver has been hacked for the second time in a week. The Web site Denvergov.org was pulled down Monday night after a hacker replaced the city's home page with a green and black page, and the Web site said it was still down for maintenance Tuesday morning. Denvergov.org also was hacked May 20 and was down for about six hours. A mayor's office spokesman said Monday he didn't know whether the cases were related. Denver police are investigating both cases.

Source: http://cbs4denver.com/wireapnewsco/City.of.Denver.2.1713457.html

49. *May* 25, *Philadelphia Inquirer* – (Pennsylvania) **Lower Merion's laptop tracking system easily hacked.** A Seattle-based security firm said it needed just hours to hack into a version of the laptop tracking system that the Lower Merion School District in

Pennsylvania used, suggesting that tech-savvy outsiders could have commandeered the computers and watched students through their Webcams. The company, Leviathan Security Group, said it launched the review after realizing that some of its clients were using the same system, LANrey, that drew an international spotlight to Lower Merion. Leviathan executives said they had no reason to believe anyone had breached Lower Merion's system. And district officials reiterated that their internal investigation found no proof that anyone had hacked into the system or used it to spy on students. But the Leviathan review, first reported last week by Wired magazine, represents the latest example of how the furor over Lower Merion's system has rippled across the country, stoking new questions and concerns about technology and surveillance. "This is not about just one school in Pennsylvania," said the Leviathan chief executive officer. "There are thousands and thousands of copies out there." LANrev is a software package that lets administrators remotely access and manage multiple computers on a network at the same time. The LANrev feature that drew so much scrutiny was a thefttracking tool that can pinpoint a computer's location, remotely activate its Webcam and store copies of the images on its screen.

Source:

http://www.philly.com/inquirer/local/pa/20100525 Lower Merion s laptop tracking system easily hacked.html#axzz0p39Ixqas

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Emergency Services Sector

See item 69

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Information Technology Sector

50. May 26, SC Magazine – (International) Spam and viruses see minor rises, as 9 out of 10 spam e-mails have a hyperlink or URL contained in the message. In the May 2010 Symantec MessageLabs Intelligence Report, analysis has revealed that nine out of 10 spam e-mails now contain a URL link in the message and in May, 5 percent of all domains found in spam URLs belonged to genuine Web sites. Of the most frequently used domain names contained in spam URLs, the top four belong to well-known Web sites used for social networking, blogging and file sharing and host other forms of usergenerated content. The report also found that there was a minor increase by 0.3 percent of spam in e-mail traffic, while analysis of Web security activity showed that 12.4 percent of all Web-based malware intercepted was new in May, an increase of 1.5 percent since April. MessageLabs Intelligence also identified an average of 1,770 new Web sites per day harbouring malware and other potentially unwanted programs such as spyware and adware, an increase of 5.6 percent since April.

Source: http://www.scmagazineuk.com/spam-and-viruses-see-minor-rises-as-nine-out-of-ten-spam-emails-have-a-hyperlink-or-url-contained-in-the-message/article/171011/

- 51. May 25, The Register (Nebraska) Second man jailed over Scientology DDoS attacks. A second U.S. man has been jailed over controversial denial of service attacks against the Church of Scientology two years ago. The 20-year-old suspect, of Grand Island, Nebraska, was jailed for a year and ordered to pay \$20,000 in compensation to the Hubbardists at a sentencing hearing May 24, The Associated Press reports. The suspect had earlier pleaded guilty to taking part in attacks protesting Internet censorship by the church and organized under the loose banner of Anonymous. As part of an earlier plea bargaining agreement, he admitted using custom software from a message board run by Anonymous to throw useless traffic at Church of Scientology Web sites. Some sites became intermittently unavailable in January 2008 as a result of the efforts of the suspect and many others. The attacks began after the church demanded the takedown of videos featuring an actor and member of the church at an awards event. Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/05/25/second_scientology_ddoser_jailed/
- 52. May 25, IDG News Service (Massachusetts) ISP sues Google over Wi-Fi sniffing. Galaxy Internet Services, an ISP for homes and businesses in Massachusetts, has filed a class-action lawsuit against Google over the search company's admitted blunder that it sniffed and stored data from Wi-Fi networks. Through its legal representative, Carp Law Offices, Galaxy said May 25 that Google violated U.S. federal and Massachusetts privacy laws when it captured residential and business Web activity data. Google declined to comment about the lawsuit. Earlier this month, Google disclosed that its Street View cars, which take photos for services like Google Maps, had since 2006 mistakenly collected "payload data" from Wi-Fi networks they drove by that weren't password-protected. Galaxy filed its lawsuit on its behalf and on behalf of its customers and anyone else similarly affected in Massachusetts, and is seeking class certification. Galaxy is also requesting that Google be forbidden from destroying the Wi-Fi data it collected and that it be required to pay damages as determined by a jury, along with attorneys' fees.

 Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9177348/ISP_sues_Google_over_Wi_Fi_sniff_ing

53. May 25, DarkReading – (International) **Default database passwords still in use.** The rampant use of default passwords within live database environments continues to plague the security of enterprise data, researchers said. "It's a problem that has been around for a long, long time," said the manager of Team SHATTER, Application Security Inc.'s research arm. "A lot of default passwords out there get installed when you deploy a database, you install an add-on to it, or even if you install a third-party application that uses the database." As he puts it, the problem of default passwords lingering in the wild has built up during the years as a result of cumulative errors by both vendors and database administrators. In the past, the majority of vendors had no compunction about pushing out installers that automatically created default accounts to expedite the deployment of new databases, add-ons, or applications on top of the database. Users did nothing to clean up these default accounts once installation was complete. The manager said the situation on the vendor front has improved considerably in recent years, but default passwords continue to be a problem for a

number of reasons. To date, AppSec's team has collected more than 1,000 well-known default user name and password combinations used by different vendors within databases across the IT spectrum. Organizations should do a thorough check of their database accounts to ensure they are not using any of the combos on the list. Source: http://www.darkreading.com/database_security/security/appsecurity/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=225200102&subSection=Application+Security

54. May 25, CNET News – (International) Web hoster Media Temple shut down by attack. Media Temple, Web hosting provider for Adobe, ABC, Sony, NBC, Time, Volkswagen, and Starbucks, was hit with a sophisticated distributed denial-of-service (DDoS) attack May 25. The outage began about 3:50 p.m. Pacific Daylight Time (PDT), when Media Temple's domain name servers were deluged by a flood of traffic coming from outside the U.S., and lasted a total of about two-and-a-half hours, according to a tech support representative at the Los Angeles-based company. "Due to the sophistication of the attack, our normal DDoS firewall prevention techniques didn't block the attack adequately, as the traffic appears to be legitimate," the company reported at around 5:40 p.m. PDT. The company said it had initially blocked all traffic from Asia, South America, and Mexico to reduce strain on the network, but later removed the blocks. As of 6:10 p.m. PDT the network was reported stable. "Overall, network health is normalizing, however more work must be done to mitigate the effects of this incident and prevent future occurrences," the company said, adding that it would provide an update at 10 p.m. PDT.

Source: http://news.cnet.com/8301-27080 3-20005978-245.html

55. May 25, Nextgov – (International) DHS official stresses cybersecurity is industry's **responsibility.** Contractors that fail to live up to security requirements in federal technology contracts should be held accountable, even if the vulnerabilities originated in products or capabilities provided by suppliers, a top Homeland Security Department (DHS) official said May 25. In most business situations, "if we have a contractual arrangement and you fail [to meet the requirements], I have legal recourse," said the director of global cybersecurity management at DHS. "Why wouldn't the same be true when the supply chain [is involved]? I'm buying a product from you, and you represent that it's a product with the following characteristics. If you fail, I have a right to sue you." The director spoke at the SecureAmericas conference in Arlington, Virginia, an event hosted by the cybersecurity provider International Information Systems Security Certification Consortium. He noted a number of examples where failures in the supply chain led to serious security implications, including a wave of hard drives infected with viruses that infiltrated the U.S. market from Asia in 2007 and a recent case in which thumb drives were shipped preinstalled with malicious software, eventually leading to the Defense Department imposing a temporary ban on the storage devices.

Source: http://www.nextgov.com/nextgov/ng_20100525_8667.php

For more stories, see items 48 and 49

Internet Alert Dashboard

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

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

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Communications Sector

56. May 26, Associated Press – (National) AT&T digital network outage silences landlines. AT&T's new digital home phone service failed across the country Tuesday, illustrating continuing reliability issues with Internet-based phone service. Customers of AT&T Inc.'s U-Verse Voice said their landline phones have had no dialtones since the morning. Reached by cell phone, the customers said those who call them get a message that the line has been disconnected. Support personnel are telling customers that a server crash brought down U-Verse Voice in AT&T's entire 22-state local-phone service area. AT&T spokeswoman said the outage started at about 10:30 a.m., and service was restored to most subscribers at 2:45 p.m. She said the extent of the outage was unknown.

Source: http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2010/05/26/tech/main6519669.shtml

- 57. *May* 25, *Forbes* (National) **Cisco aims new gear at smart grids.** For more than a year, information technology giants have been talking up their readiness to power the much hyped "smart grid," a digitally enabled upgrade to electric utilities that promises to make the world's power supply far more flexible and efficient. On Tuesday, Cisco is finally replacing some of that hot air with hardware. The networking giant plans to release two pieces of equipment a router and a network switch aimed at helping utilities create better communication systems designed not only to help automate electrical substations, but someday connect "smart meters" in homes and variable sources of power like solar and wind. "The idea is that data can be interpreted and used to make the flow of electrons more productive, to make everything more efficient around the grid," said a newly appointed chief technology officer for Smart Grid. Source: http://www.forbes.com/2010/05/24/smart-grid-utilities-technology-cisco.html?boxes=Homepagechannels
- 58. May 25, Bloomberg (International) Satellite-killing junk risks \$250 billion market, TV world cup. Trash in space may bring commerce and communications on Earth to a halt unless policy makers and executives take steps to prevent satellite collisions with orbiting junk, according to a Pentagon report. Potential crashes between satellites and debris refuse from old rockets, abandoned satellites and missile shrapnel are threatening the \$250 billion space-services market providing financial communication, global-positioning navigation, international phone connections, Google-Earth pictures, television signals and weather forecasts, the report said. Space is "increasingly congested and contested," said the U.S. Defense Department's interim U.S. Space

Posture Review, which was sent to Congress in March and not publicly released. Scientists are warning that space collisions could set off an uncontrolled chain reaction that might make some orbits unusable for commercial or military satellites because they are too littered with debris. The February 2009 crash between a defunct Russian Cosmos satellite and an Iridium Communications Inc. satellite left 1,500 pieces of junk, each whizzing around the earth at 7.8 kilometers (4.8 miles) a second and each capable of destroying more satellites.

Source: http://www.businessweek.com/news/2010-05-25/satellite-killing-junk-risks-250-billion-market-tv-world-cup.html

59. *May* 24, *ComputerWorld* – (International) **Owner: us cable service unhurt by rogue satellite.** The owner of a satellite that transmits programming to all U.S. cable systems says it avoided interference from another, out-of-control satellite that was drifting into its path. SES World Skies says programming transmitted by its AMC 11 satellite was not affected by the Galaxy 15 satellite, which is drifting out of control thousands of miles above the Earth and had threatened to wander into AMC 11's orbit. Galaxy 15 was expected to move into the second satellite's orbit around May 23. SES had been weighing whether to move AMC 11 in its orbit, along with other protective measures it declined to specify. Various U.S. cable companies contacted Monday by the Associated Press, including comcast, Time Warner and cablevision Systems Corp., said they had had not experienced any disruption or outages.

Source: http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D9FTDMK08.htm

60. *May 24, IDG News Service* – (National) **Democrats to launch effort to rewrite Telecom Act.** Four leading Democratic lawmakers will begin a process of rewriting the 14-year-old law that is the regulatory framework for the U.S. telecommunications and broadband industries, with the group ready to hear proposals starting in June, they said Monday. The four lawmakers, all chairmen of committees or subcommittees that have jurisdiction over telecommunications and the Internet, said they will invite interested parties to participate in a series of "bipartisan, issue-focused" meetings on a rewrite of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, with the meetings starting in June. The Telecom Act was an update of the 1934 Communications Act. Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9177275/Democrats_to_launch_effort_to_rew_rite_Telecom_Act_

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Commercial Facilities Sector

61. *May 26, South Bend Tribune* – (Indiana) **Colfax Ave. suspicious package a fake bomb.** The suspicious package that shut down Colfax Avenue Monday afternoon wasn't a bomb, but police said someone wanted them to think it was. The suspicious package was spotted by a passer-by at 3:22 p.m. behind a sign at the corner of Colfax and Hill streets. A police spokesman said the package was taken to an undisclosed location for detonation. After exploding the package, investigators determined that the

package's contents — taped together dry-cell batteries — were not capable of exploding. However, the package's design, which included several wires, led police to surmise that it was intended to look like a pipe bomb. The spokesman said there was never any danger from the package, but police are now investigating who might have planted it there, and why. "The way (the batteries) were taped together and the way it was packaged, it was made to look like a bomb," the spokesman said, "and then it was placed somewhere it was likely to create a disturbance."

Source: http://www.southbendtribune.com/article/20100526/News01/5260374/-1/googleNews

- 62. *May* 26, *KTVI* 2 *St. Louis* (Illinois) **Overnight fire destroys business in downtown Belleville.** A big fire broke out in the Classic Curl Beauty Salon In Belleville, Missouri around 2:30 a.m. May 26. When firefighters arrived they spotted flames shooting out a side door. The fire quickly spread upstairs and then to the business next door called the Emporium Thrift Shop. About a half hour into the fire they sounded the warning horn for firefighters to get out of the structure. Flames had shot through the roof. It was no longer safe to battle this blaze from the inside. Other area departments assisted Belleville. At this point there have been no reports of any injuries.

 Source: http://www.fox2now.com/news/ktvi-belleville-salon-fire-052610,0,6641022.story
- 63. *May 26, WCAX 3 Burlington* (Vermont) **Rutland office building reopens after propane leak.** The Asa Bloomer office building in Rutland will reopen May 26 following a propane leak that disrupted multiple buildings in the area. Up to 175 state employees were evacuated at 1:15 p.m. May 25 after an underground propane tank near the building started leaking. Many nearby businesses were evacuated as well. Officials now say an overfilled tank and a rusty valve are to blame for the leak. Crews worked throughout the day and evening May 25 to repair the problem.

 Source: http://www.wcax.com/Global/story.asp?S=12544105
- 64. *May 26*, *WABC 7 New York* (New York) Chemical leak forces evacuation of LI ice rink. A strong chemical leak that spewed noxious fumes evacuated dozens from a Bethpage, New York ice skating rink, sending six people to the hospital. The ammonium-like odor seeped through the Oyster Bay Ice Skating Center in Long Island just after 10 p.m. Tuesday. Alarms were set off, and a large number of hazardous materials crews rushed to the scene. A hockey game was stopped and about 35 people inside were quickly evacuated. Six people were taken to the hospital for minor injuries, including scratchy throats. They were treated and released. Authorities said the odor was traced to a filter in a compressor that keeps the ice cold. It caused a leak of ammonium and oil, and noxious fumes quickly spread throughout the building. The malfunction also caused the ice to start melting. The leak was quickly stopped, and the rink could reopen as early as May 26. Emergency crews ventilated the building, located in a commercial area.

Source: http://abclocal.go.com/wabc/story?section=news/local&id=7462553

65. *May* 25, *Arizona Republic* – (Arizona) **Gas leak in Goodyear closes streets, TGI Friday's evacuated.** Goodyear, Arizona, police and fire officials closed a busy intersection and evacuated a restaurant May 25 after a construction crew hit a natural gas line. About 10 a.m., crews were drilling on the southeast corner of McDowell and Litchfield roads, near TGI Friday's, when they struck the gas line. Firefighters evacuated the restaurant and called in police to close off the intersection. The intersection was closed for about half an hour until Southwest Gas secured the leak. No one was hurt.

 $Source: \underline{http://www.azcentral.com/news/articles/2010/05/25/20100525goodyear-gas-leak-closes-streets.html$

For more stories, see items 5, 39, and 46

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

66. May 26, Associated Press – (Michigan) Fire danger remains 'very high' across northern Michigan. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment (DNRE) said warm, dry weather across northern Michigan means wildfire danger will be "very high" during the Memorial Day weekend. The chief of the DNRE's Forest Management Division said Monday in a release that officials are especially concerned about northern pine forests. Last week, firefighters battled a forest fire that burned more than 8,500 acres in Crawford County's South Branch Township, and a range fire in Kalkaska County. Officials urge people to keep campfires small, never leave them unattended and completely douse them. Barbecues should be extinguished, and unburned pieces of charcoal should be soaked in water. The DNRE has responded this year to 264 wildfires. They have consumed a combined 11,051 acres. Source:

http://www.freep.com/article/20100526/NEWS06/100526015/1008/NEWS06/Firedanger-remains-very-high-across-northern-Michigan

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Dams Sector

67. *May* 26, *Democratic Voice of Burma* – (International) 60 arrested over Kachin dam bombs. A major police operation in Burma's northernmost Kachin state netted around 60 people last night suspected to have been involved in the bombing of the Myitsone dam in April. A resident of Myitkyina, capital of Kachin state told DVB that the operation involved police, ward officials, anti-narcotics agents, as well as the tactical operations commander of the Burmese army's Northern Command. At least three bombs exploded at the controversial Myitsone dam site, killing three and injuring 20. The explosions occurred in the compounds of the Asia World Co. Ltd, which is building the dam and all three victims were company employees. The compound is located 18 miles north of Myitkyina. Posters were placed around Myitkyina displaying

sketches of the suspects and announcing rewards for their capture. On the night of May 26 alone, about 60 people were taken into custody from [Kya Zu] ward. Some of the detainees were freed later.

Source: http://www.dvb.no/news/60-arrested-over-kachin-dam-bombs/9176

68. *May 25*, *Lake Expo* – (Missouri) **Flood gates open at Bagnell Dam.** A week of water held back by Truman Dam is now rushing through Lake of the Ozarks. Bagnell Dam operators have opened flood gates to accommodate. Osage River landowners should expect a significant swell over the next several days. Truman's lake level had risen 12 feet over the last three weeks from 710 to 722. Dam operators raised the lake to near full pool maxing out at 659.17 on May 17, a level AmerenUE would like to maintain for Memorial Day Weekend. The lake level was 658.42 at 9 a.m., the morning of May 25.

Source: http://lakeexpo.com/articles/2010/05/25/top_news/08.txt

69. *May 25, Tampa Bay Newspapers* – (Florida) **Time to prepare - county releases new evacuation maps.** The beginning of the 2010 Atlantic hurricane season is June 1, and Pinellas County officials are alerting residents that evacuation maps have changed. The Pinellas County's Communication Department's emergency management specialist said thanks to improved technology information is available to better prepare and to advise residents when a hurricane threatens. Due to the better data, more than 73,000 of the county's 316,425 parcels have changed evacuation level. Of those parcels, 18,861 were placed in a higher surge category, and 54,332 were moved to a lower category. The changes were the result of three important factors: 1) Pinellas County received new light detection and ranging data providing more accurate information on ground elevations above sea level; 2) The National Hurricane Center now is using a more powerful computer model to better simulate anticipated surge levels; 3) Unusual and destructive storms, which brought very high storm surges, such as Ike (2008) and Katrina (2005), were considered in the model process.

Source: http://www.tbnweekly.com/pinellas_county/content_articles/052510_pco-02.txt

70. *May* 25, *KSTU* 13 Salt Lake City – (Utah) **Invasive species of mussel confirmed at Sand Hollow Reservoir.** The Utah Department of Natural Resources' tests confirm that an extremely invasive mussel has showed up at southern Utah's Sand Hollow Reservoir. That has prompted some mandatory safety measures to protect Utah waters this weekend. The mussels were discovered underneath a dock at Sand Hollow. State officials say they do not know for sure yet whether they are Quagga or Zebra mussels, but either way, it is bad news. The mussels are described as eco-system killers. They clog waterways and dams, kill fish by sucking up nutrients, cut people's feet when they attach themselves to rocks. They have the potential to wreak a lot of havoc. "They get stuck on fish, everything in the entire lake, it's just a big huge mess so people really need to take care and watch what they're doing and clean these things up," said a boater. To protect other lakes and reservoirs in Utah, the state is issuing a mandatory decontamination process for all boats leaving the Sand Hollow Reservoir. Boats are hosed down with 140-degree, high-pressure water — even the back of trucks — to keep

the mussels from hitching a ride. Hundreds are expected to be out on the waters this holiday weekend and wildlife officials are trying to stop the mussels from leaving Sand Hollow. If they spread to other waters that help with power, irrigation or culinary water, state officials say it could be catastrophic, and expensive for taxpayers to help clean up. The state has set up a Web site to answer questions about decontamination and the mussel problems, stopthemussels.org

Source: http://www.fox13now.com/news/kstu-invasive-mussels-confirmed-sand-hollow-reservoir,0,7074970.story

For another story, see item <u>38</u>

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