Top Stories

- According to the Houston Chronicle, the Houston school district has imposed strict rules for handling incoming mail after 17 schools discovered typewritten envelopes containing a suspicious, but non-harmful powder since October 8. (See item 33)
- The New York Daily News reports that Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula has urged attacks on U.S. government workers in crowded restaurants in Washington, D.C., according to a copy of a propaganda publication obtained by the SITE intelligence group. (See item 36)

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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. *October 12, Associated Press* – (International) **Tanker, container ship collide in North Sea.** A Greek tanker collided with a container ship 20 miles off the Dutch coast October 12 and briefly leaked jet fuel into the North Sea. The crew of the Mindoro
pumped the remaining fuel into an undamaged part of the ship, ending the leak, a Coast
Guard spokesman said. “We have a small slick in the water, but it is minimal and it is
evaporating very quickly,” he said, adding that it was unclear how much jet fuel had
spilled into the sea. Offshore winds were blowing the slick away from the coast. “The
situation appears to be under control,” he said. The spokesman said an oil spill control
boat was on its way to the stricken tanker as a precaution. A coast guard tug boat also
was heading to the scene. No one was injured on either of the ships. The Mindoro
dropped its anchor and was waiting for experts to investigate whether it was safe for it
to return to port. The tanker had a 16-foot-wide hole torn in its hull close to the
waterline. The container ship involved in the collision, the Cypriot-flagged Jork
Ranger, was returning to port, but was not seriously damaged. It was not immediately
clear how the collision happened. Cypriot and Greek authorities were discussing who
will head an investigation since the collision occurred in international waters.
Source: http://www.foxnews.com/world/2010/10/12/media-tanker-leaking-kerosene-
north-sea/

2. **October 11, Charleston Gazette** – (West Virginia) **Miner killed in Fayette County.** A
Fayette County miner was killed October 11 when a piece of rock fell on him inside an
Alpha Natural Resources underground coal mine in Fayette County, officials said. State
officials had few details on the incident, but Abingdon, Virginia.-based Alpha Natural
Resources issued a news release about the death at its Kingston No. 1 Mine. The miner
had finished bolting a section of mine roof at about 10:30 a.m. when a piece of rock fell
on him, according to the company. He was evacuated from the mine and transported to
Raleigh General Hospital, where he was pronounced dead. Alpha said that the miner
had operated roof-bolting equipment for Kingston since August 2001. He recently
completed a regularly scheduled annual retraining session on October 3. Alpha said that
company employees had experienced just two lost-time accidents over the last 3 years
and the mine had not experienced a fatality in its 15-year history. During their most
recent complete inspection of the Kingston operation, MSHA officials cited the
company for two roof-control violations, both of which were classified as serious.
Source: http://sundaygazettemail.com/News/201010110997

3. **October 11, Coast News** – (California) **Police respond to bomb threat.** The Carlsbad
Police Department’s Communications department received a 911 call about a
suspicious container located in front of 4706 Amberwood Court next to a power
transformer at 7:30 p.m. October 7. The reporting party stated the container looked like
an old ammunition container with military markings on it. Inside the container was
another container with tape around it, wires coming out of it, and a cylinder with wires
coming out of it. Officers responded and determined that the container could be a bomb
and for the safety of the residents, they evacuated eight residences and called the San
Diego County Sheriff’s Bomb/Arson to examine the container. The San Diego County
Sheriffs’ Bomb/Arson investigators conducted a preliminary examination of the
container and requested that Tamarack Avenue be closed from El Camino Real to
Palisades for both west and eastbound traffic for public safety. They used their robots
to open the containers and discovered they were empty. There are no suspects. The
Carlsbad Police Department and San Diego County Sheriff’s Department are
conducting a joint investigation.
4. **October 11, Rome News-Tribune** – (Georgia) **Tornado response drill to be held at Plant Hammond October 13.** Georgia Power, in conjunction with the Rome-Floyd Local Emergency Planning Committee will be conducting a full-scale tornado response drill October 13 at the Georgia Power’s Plant Hammond in Coosa. A Georgia Power spokesman said that the utility conducted a table top drill earlier this year, but the drill October 13 will be a full blown exercise. The purpose is to test the effectiveness of Georgia Power’s safety plan and the response by emergency personnel on a number of levels. The drill October 13 is slated to get underway at 8 a.m. and should be completed by 10:30, at which time Georgia Power personnel and emergency responders alike will conduct a mock-press conference with the local media which will also be designed to simulate a real life situation. During the exercise utility personnel and emergency responders will be asked to deal with issues ranging from the rescue and treatment of victims, site security and crowd control. The spokesman said that the types of damages that could be incurred at Plant Hammond in the event of an actual tornado hit could vary significantly depending on the severity of winds associated with the storm. In March of 2008, the tornado, which resulted in two fatalities between Rome and Rockmart, also caused damage to transmission lines coming from Georgia Power’s Plant Bowen in Euharlee. The same storm system wreaked havoc at the utility’s Plant McIntosh near Savannah, damaging cooling towers and knocking the plant offline for a period of time.


5. **October 11, Reuters** – (Louisiana) **Chalmette refinery leak fixed, no update on output.** A hydrogen sulfide leak from a pipe has been fixed at Exxon Mobil Corp’s joint-venture refinery in Chalmette, Louisiana, but a spokesman had no update on whether affected production had been restored. A spokesman said on October 11 that the leak at the 192,500 barrels-per-day refinery was contained late October 8. Last week he said the leak had affected production, and on October 11 he had no information on whether it had been restored. He said the refinery was able to meet customer needs. A 33-year-old contractor late October 6 collapsed and died at the refinery while working to repair the leak. The St. Bernard Parish Coroner in Chalmette will not be able to say why the worker died until toxicology test results are available within a few weeks.

Source: [http://af.reuters.com/article/energyOilNews/idAFN1112595420101011](http://af.reuters.com/article/energyOilNews/idAFN1112595420101011)

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**Chemical Industry Sector**

6. **October 12, Waynesboro Record Herald** – (Pennsylvania) **Hazardous materials leak shuts ramps to Interstate 81 Exit 24.** The ramps to Interstate 81 at Exit 24 in Southampton Township in Transylvania and a section of Route 696 were closed for
several hours after an acid spill the morning of October 11. Two nearby businesses also were evacuated. About 275 gallons of sulfuric acid leaked from a tractor-trailer carrying 20,000 pounds of cleaner after the load shifted. The hazardous materials incident started at 8:25 a.m. and emergency crews from as far away as South Mountain and McConnellsburg assisted with traffic control and cleanup, according to the Franklin County Department of Emergency Services. They were on the scene until 1:08 p.m.

7. October 12, Charleston Gazette – (West Virginia) **Leaky valve triggers alarm in Institute.** A leaky valve triggered an emergency alarm at the Bayer CropScience plant in Institute in Charleston, West Virginia, the morning of October 12. The alarm started going off about 7:45 a.m. The Kanawha County Fire coordinator, who was at the plant that morning, said that crews were scrubbing out a tank that contained sulfur dichloride residue when the residue apparently reacted with water and caused a safety valve to vent. He said a small amount of hydrochloric acid and water vapor was released. He said there was no danger to the public.
Source: http://sundaygazettemail.com/News/201010120253

8. October 11, Corpus Christi Caller-Times – (Texas) **Chemical plant worker hospitalized.** A man was taken by HALO-Flight to San Antonio’s Brooke Army Medical Center late October 10 after suffering injuries at the Oxea chemical plant in Bishop, Texas. The incident occurred about 7 p.m., and the man was in stable condition upon arrival in San Antonio, according to a statement from Oxea Company officials, but they had not been updated on his condition late October 11. The nature of the man’s injuries were unknown late October 11. Company officials said maintenance activities were going on in one of the processing units when the man was injured. The unit was not operating, and there was no chemical release, company officials said. The incident will be investigated. The company produces more than 60 chemicals for customers in a wide range of industries.

9. October 10, Associated Press – (Illinois) **Company: Plant destroyed by fire in central Illinois.** Executives say a weekend fire destroyed a chemical plant in rural central Illinois. An October 10 statement from Euclid Chemical says the blaze that started early October 9 and burned for much of the day could not be controlled. It calls the plant about 10 miles west of Princeton “a total loss.” The Cleveland, Ohio-based company adds the plant was closed when the blaze began and none of its 15 employees was hurt. Several firefighters battling the fire on Saturday were treated for smoke inhalation. Some witnesses reported hearing explosions early October 9. And smoke billowed from the plant for hours. Authorities closed area roads and residents miles away were told to stay inside. The company says it is cooperating with authorities to pinpoint what caused the fire.
10. **October 11, Georgia Public Broadcasting** – (Georgia) **DOE fines nuclear contractors.** The Department of Energy is holding Savannah River Nuclear Solutions responsible for an acid spill and an electrical accident that injured workers in 2009. It is the contractor responsible for radioactive cleanup at the site. The company will have to pay $3 million. The DOE has also fined Parsons Infrastructure and Technology $70,000 for a separate 2009 accident involving a crane, which caused a worker to lose three of his fingers. Site officials say safety programs at SRS have been improved since the accidents.


11. **October 11, Topeka Capital-Journal** – (Kansas) **Wolf Creek offline to repair leak.** A small hole in a 30-inch pipe forced the Wolf Creek Generating Station to shut down power production last week, a company spokeswoman said Monday. Wolf Creek uses nuclear power to generate electricity, but there was not any radioactive danger from the pipe leak a spokeswoman said. The lake water involved in the leak doesn’t touch the nuclear reactor coolant that comes into contact with the fuel assemblies, she said. The station started powering down at 10 p.m. October 4 and went off-grid the morning of October 5 the spokeswoman said. The leak had been discovered during the previous weekend. The leak in the pipe, which is 30 inches in diameter, was about one-eighth of an inch, the spokeswoman said, and the leak was discovered when a build-up of water was found in concrete vaults the pipe passes through. There are several vaults located in the system, which provide access points to the pipes.


12. **October 11, Reuters** – (Vermont) **Entergy finds tritium at Vermont Yankee again.** Entergy Corp said on October 11 it found radioactive tritium in a water sample from a well at its Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant, whose license expires in 2012 unless it is renewed. “This water sample test result does not indicate any new leak of tritium from Vermont Yankee,” Entergy, of New Orleans, said in a release. A tritium leak earlier this year hurt Entergy’s effort to convince Vermont politicians that Vermont Yankee should continue to operate after its license expires in 2012. The amount of tritium found was 1,040 picocuries per liter, significantly below the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission’s required level to report tritium findings of 30,000 picocuries per liter and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s standard for permissible levels of tritium in drinking water of 20,000 picocuries per liter, Entergy said.

Source: [http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSN1112999620101011](http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSN1112999620101011)

13. **October 8, Associated Press** – (South Carolina) **SC nuclear plant shut down by coolant issue.** A South Carolina nuclear reactor shut down after regulators say a motor that powers a pump to cool the reactor malfunctioned. A spokesman with the Nuclear
Regulatory Commission says the reactor at H.B. Robinson plant in Hartsville shut itself down early October 8 when the problems developed. Backup coolant systems took over, and two other pumps are working. The reactor remained shut down Friday afternoon. The spokesman says the NRC will do a full investigation of the plant, which is owned by Progress Energy of Raleigh, North Carolina. Robinson shut down last month after a control problem with one of the plant’s turbines. Earlier this year, two electrical system fires led to a nearly four-month shutdown of the plant, which reopened in July.

Critical Manufacturing Sector

14. **October 12, BLR.com** – (Pennsylvania) **Foundry faces $550,400 OSHA fine.** The U.S. Department of Labor’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has cited Kief Industries Inc., doing business as Excelsior Brass Works, for knowingly exposing workers to lead hazards and violating federal workplace safety and health standards at its Blandon, Pennsylvania facility. Proposed penalties total $550,400. “The employer deliberately refused to protect workers from overexposure to lead and other workplace hazards,” said OSHA’s assistant secretary of labor. “Even though company management knew of the OSHA requirements and the workers’ lead exposures, it failed to provide medical surveillance to monitor worker health and to train its workers about lead exposure risks.” OSHA cited the company for numerous willful violations, including: failure to take required air samples for employees overexposed to lead; failure to provide required annual lead hazard training; failure to provide required medical surveillance; failure to share medical test results with OSHA; and failure to provide hearing tests to employees exposed to excessive noise. OSHA also cited Excelsior for numerous serious violations.

15. **October 9, Examiner.com** – (Missouri) **St. Louis company to close smelter and clean up lead pollution.** Doe Run Resources Corp. of St. Louis, North America’s largest lead producer, has agreed to spend approximately $65 million to correct violations of several environmental laws at 10 of its lead mining, milling and smelting facilities in southeast Missouri, the Justice Department, Environmental Protection Agency and the Missouri Department of Natural Resources announced October 8. The settlement also requires the company to pay a $7 million civil penalty. As part of the settlement, Doe Run will pay a civil penalty of $7 million for violating a series of environmental laws. The settlement also requires Doe Run to establish financial assurance trust funds, at an estimated cost of $28 million to $33 million, for the cleanup of Herculaneum and several active or former mining and milling facilities.
Defense Industrial Base Sector

16. *October 8, Denver Post* – (Colorado) **Crews battle grass fire near Lockheed plant.** Fire crews continue to work on the Wadsworth Ridge fire in Jefferson County, Colorado, which is now estimated to have burned 10 acres. The fire is burning northeast of the Lockheed Martin plant. Currently no structures are threatened and air support was canceled, said a spokeswoman with West Metro Fire. Lockheed fire crews are working along with West Metro Fire and South Metro Fire Rescue. A total of 15 units are working on the fire at this time, which includes fire engines and brush trucks. A fire crew will remain on watch overnight, but temperatures and high humidity levels are favorable, according to the release.

Banking and Finance Sector

17. *October 12, SC Magazine UK* – (International) **New version of Bugat Trojan was payload in LinkedIn spam and not Zeus.** Warnings have been made of a new version of the Bugat financial malware. Trusteer claimed that it was used in the recent LinkedIn phishing attack and unlike Zeus, which many assumed to be the payload of the emails, it is less well known and harder to detect. In the attack, LinkedIn users received emails reminding them of pending messages in their account that contained a malicious URL. When a victim clicked on the link they were directed to a fraudulent Web site where a Java applet fetched and installed the Bugat executable. The company claimed that the emergence of this new version of Bugat is similar in functionality to the Zeus, Clampi, and Gozi Trojans, and it targets Internet Explorer and Firefox browsers and harvests information during online banking sessions. The stolen financial credentials are then used to commit fraudulent Automated Clearing House and wire transfer transactions, mostly against small to mid-sized businesses, which result in high-value losses. Detection showed that Bugat is three times more common in the United States than in Europe, but its distribution is still fairly low.

18. *October 12, The New New Internet* – (International) **Massive phishing attack zones in on iTunes users.** PandaLabs has discovered that iTunes has become a major target for hackers looking to steal credit-card data from the millions of users. Victims receive an email informing them they have made an expensive purchase on iTunes. The user, who has never made the purchase, is concerned by the email and tries to solve the problem by clicking on the fake link. After clicking the link, the victim is asked to download a fake PDF reader. Once installation is complete, the user is redirected to an infected Web page containing the Zeus Trojan, which is designed to steal personal data. This phishing attack was uncovered shortly after a similar phishing attack targeting LinkedIn users, which appears to have originated in Russia. This technique has been reported to
the Anti-Phishing Working Group, which has started to block some of the Web
addresses linked to in the fake email.
Source: http://www.thenewnewinternet.com/2010/10/12/massive-phishing-attack-
zones-in-on-itunes-users/

19. October 11, Associated Press – (International) **Gunmen storm Baghdad money
exchange, kill 5.** Iraqi officials say gunmen stormed a money exchange office in
central Baghdad, killing five people in a brazen afternoon robbery. The police officials
say three bystanders were also wounded in the October 11 heist in Baghdad’s busy
commercial area around Rashid Street. The officials say those killed included the
exchange office’s owner, his business partner and three customers. It was not
immediately clear how much cash the assailants made away with. The officials spoke
on condition of anonymity because they are not authorized to talk to the
media. Violence has dropped in Iraq, but criminal activity has been on the rise, with a
spate of brazen daylight robberies of banks and jewelers in Baghdad this year.
Source: http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5hwK_CSgBxsNuVUEaDuOw
mSSCiGwD9IPIE801?docId=D9IPIE801

20. October 11, Washington Post – (National) **Foreclosure logjam threatens Fannie,
Freddie.** A breakdown in the nation’s foreclosure process threatens to create billions
of dollars in losses for federally controlled mortgage finance companies Fannie Mae and
Freddie Mac, highlighting how improper actions by banks could impose new costs on
taxpayers, said government officials and industry sources. In letters and in a conference
call October 7, Fannie and Freddie told the lenders they would be on the hook for any
losses the two mortgage companies might suffer as a result of flaws in the foreclosure
process. Freddie has set a deadline of October 11 for banks to respond, according to the
letter. The interim director of the Federal Housing Finance Agency said the two firms
are trying to come up with a “tailored approach” to the debacle. In some of these
meetings, administration officials have expressed concern about whether a nationwide
moratorium on foreclosures would damage not only Fannie and Freddie but the fragile
housing market as well.
Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-
dyn/content/article/2010/10/11/AR2010101106693.html

21. October 11, Wall Street Journal – (National) **States to probe mortgage mess.** A
coalition of as many as 40 state attorneys general is expected October 13 to announce
an investigation into the mortgage-servicing industry, an effort some of them hope will
pressure financial institutions to rewrite large numbers of troubled loans. The move
comes amid recent allegations that mortgage-servicers, which include units of major
banks such as Bank of America Corp., submitted fraudulent documents in thousands of
foreclosure proceedings nationwide. The banks say the document problems are
technical — largely the result of papers approved by so-called robo-signers with little
review — and do not reflect substantive problems with foreclosures. The attorneys’
general immediate aim is to determine the scale of the document problems and correct
them. But several of them have said that the investigation could force the lenders and
servicers to agree to mass loan modifications or principal forgiveness schemes. Other
possibilities include financial penalties or changes in mortgage servicing practices.
Source: http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704518104575546512922974100.htm
l?mod=WSJ_RealEstate_LeftTopNews

22. October 8, DarkReading – (International) **PCI council offers guidance on point-to-point encryption.** In a new document, “Initial Roadmap: Point-to-Point Encryption Technology and PCI DSS Compliance” (PDF), the PCI Security Standards Council offers guidance on what organizations should look for when acquiring and purchasing encryption technology to protect credit cardholder data as it is authorized and transported into a database. Among other things, the new guidance helps clarify the concept of end-to-end encryption, offering the new moniker of “point-to-point encryption” (P2Pe). “The first thing you immediately notice when you begin to look at these things is that there’s really no standard for any of this stuff,” says the general manager of the PCI Council. “You’ve got many [vendors] out there extolling the virtues of their ‘end-to-end’ encryption solutions, and you’ve got lots of confusion from merchants saying, ‘Well, if I do this, then I’m OK, right?’ In an effort to straighten this stuff out, we’re looking to see if we can redefine that cardholder data environment and make this more meaningful for everyone out there.” During the past several years, some vendors have pitched end-to-end encryption as a way to eliminate the need to encrypt or tokenize database data for the purpose of PCI compliance. But as outlooks have matured, experts say, the question of how to encrypt data under PCI has become more complex.
Source: http://www.darkreading.com/database_security/security/encryption/showArticle.jhtml?
articleID=227700423

23. October 7, Krebs on Security – (National) **Bill would give cities, towns and schools same e-banking security guarantees as consumers.** In response to a series of costly online banking heists perpetrated against towns, cities and school districts, a Democratic senator from New York has introduced legislation that would extend those entities the same protections afforded to consumers who are victims of e-banking fraud. Under “Regulation E” of the Electronic Funds Transfer Act (EFTA) consumers are not liable for financial losses due to fraud — including account takeovers due to lost or stolen usernames and passwords — if they promptly report the unauthorized activity. However, entities that experience similar fraud with a commercial or business banking account do not enjoy the same protections and often are forced to absorb the losses. Organized cyber thieves, meanwhile, have stolen more than $70 million from small to mid-sized businesses, nonprofits, towns and cities, according to the FBI.
Source: http://krebsonsecurity.com/2010/10/bill-would-give-cities-towns-and-schools-
same-e-banking-security-guarantees-as-consumers/

For another story, see item 56

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**Transportation Sector**
24. *October 12, Philadelphia Inquirer* – (New Jersey) **All six safe aboard disabled boat off A.C.** A recreational fishing boat that had been missing for a day off the New Jersey coast with six men aboard was being towed back to port October 12 after being found adrift about 120 miles off Atlantic City the evening of October 11. The search for the 32-foot Black Magic began October 10 after it failed to return to the Forked River section of Lacey Township on the morning of October 10 after an overnight tuna-fishing trip, authorities said. A Coast Guard helicopter from Elizabeth City, North Carolina, found the vessel, a petty officer said October 11. A Coast Guard cutter towing the boat to safe harbor is expected to arrive at Atlantic City Tuesday evening, it progress slowed by stormy weather, officials said.

Source: [http://www.philly.com/inquirer/local/nj/20101012_All_six_safe_aboard_disabled_boat_off_A_C_.html](http://www.philly.com/inquirer/local/nj/20101012_All_six_safe_aboard_disabled_boat_off_A_C_.html)

25. *October 12, Aviation News* – (National) **NTSB: Aviation fatalities in U.S. decrease in 2009.** Aviation fatalities in the U.S. in 2009 decreased to 538 from 574 in 2008, the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) reported. Nearly 90 percent of aviation fatalities last year occurred in general aviation accidents (471), but they still represented a decrease from the previous year (494), the board said. In other categories, airline fatalities increased to 52 from three in 2008; air taxi deaths declined to 11 from 69 in the previous year; commuter carriers recorded no deaths in either year; and foreign carriers posted four deaths, down from eight in 2008.

Source: [http://www.aviationnews.net/?do=headline&news_ID=184365](http://www.aviationnews.net/?do=headline&news_ID=184365)

26. *October 11, WRCB 3 Chattanooga* – (Tennessee) **Airport terminal evacuated.** A terminal at Chattanooga Metropolitan airport in Tennessee was evacuated the night of October 11, when the fire alarms went off. An airport spokeswoman said an air conditioning unit’s motor malfunctioned, causing smoke. The Chattanooga fire department and the airport fire department both responded but did not find any fire. No flights were impacted during the evacuation.


27. *October 11, WALB 10 Albany* – (Georgia) **Flight delayed after security concern.** A Delta flight was delayed for a half hour October 11 because of concern over the safety of baggage. Shortly after the luggage was loaded into the plane, security workers spotted a man in a secured area near where the luggage passed through security, so they ordered all bags off the plane to be re-inspected. A man interviewing for a job with the airport sparked the concern. The man claimed that, while waiting for his interview, airport employees invited him into the baggage area. The TSA spotted the man standing in a secured area. The airport said he had an escort. The TSA said he did not.


28. *October 11, KELO 11 Sioux Falls* – (South Dakota) **Gun found in passenger’s bag at SF airport.** Security officials at the Sioux Falls Regional Airport in South Dakota found a loaded handgun in a passenger’s bag October 11. The Transportation Security Administration confirmed the situation and said it closed down the security checkpoint for 18 minutes. The gun was confiscated, and the TSA did clear the passenger for a
later flight. There is no word on possible charges. The TSA says while it is unusual to have a security scare in South Dakota, the organization did confiscate 902 guns across the nation in 2009.
Source: http://www.keloland.com/News/NewsDetail6371.cfm?Id=105802

29. October 11, Associated Press – (National) FAA: **Dangerous runway incidents down 50 percent.** Transportation officials say the number of runway incidents that pose a danger of planes colliding dropped by half over the last 12 months. The U.S. Transportation Secretary and Federal Aviation Administrator said October 8 that there were six incidents during the federal budget year ending September 30 in which a plane on the wrong runway or crossing a runway risked colliding with another plane. There were 12 such incidents in the 2009 budget year. That’s a dramatic drop from 67 incidents in 2000. Reducing such incidents has long been a top safety priority for FAA. Source: http://technews.tmcnet.com/topics/associated-press/articles/107928-faa-dangerous-runway-incidents-down-50-percent.htm

30. October 10, Associated Press – (New York) **JetBlue passenger removed for security reasons.** A passenger at New York City’s John F. Kennedy International Airport has been removed from a Florida-bound JetBlue flight due to a security concern. A JetBlue spokeswoman said the passenger was taken off JetBlue Flight 21. The plane originally was scheduled to depart JFK at 6:59 p.m. October 9 for Tampa. The spokeswoman did not give a reason for the passenger’s removal. She says the aircraft has been re-screened and was expected to depart later on Saturday.
Source: http://www.wndu.com/nationworldnews/headlines/JetBlue_passenger_removed_for_security_reasons_104673194.html

31. October 9, Associated Press – (Connecticut) **Police surround tractor-trailer on I-95.** The FBI says a tractor-trailer that agents and police officers had surrounded at a travel stop off of I-95 in Connecticut is carrying no explosives. A spokesman said that the truck is not a danger to the public. A man and a woman who were in the truck were being interviewed and released October 8. No arrests were expected. The truck company’s owner complained of suspicious activity. Authorities were asked to look out for the truck, and it was later spotted in Branford. Police may have believed the truck was carrying explosives.

For more stories, see items 1, 6, 32, and 51

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**Postal and Shipping Sector**

32. October 12, WOAI 4 San Antonio – (Texas) **FedEx truck flips, leaks flammable liquids.** HazMat crews had to be called after a Fedex truck crashed Monday night. The accident happened near Loop 1604 and Applewhite Road in South Bexar County. Fire
officials said the driver of the FedEx semi-truck drove off the shoulder and then apparently over-corrected. That caused the truck to flip onto its side. The truck was carrying several hundred gallons of flammable liquids that started to leak. HazMat crews were called out to help clean up the mess. Applewhite Road was shut down for several hours.

33. **October 11, Houston Chronicle** – (Texas) **Amid white powder scare, HISD sets new mail rules.** The Houston school district has imposed strict rules for handling incoming mail after more schools October 11 discovered typewritten envelopes containing a suspicious, but unharmful powder. On October 8, 13 schools in the Houston Independent School District received the envelopes. More envelopes were discovered by school officials at four other schools October 9 and 11. A field test done October 8 by the Houston Fire Department’s hazardous material unit indicated that the substance was cornstarch. The incident, while serious, had little impact on overall operations at the campuses. FBI officials believe each envelope is connected to an individual or a group of individuals. School officials have put in place new procedures for handling mail. All mail now must be screened and opened in an isolated area, and if an item is suspicious, the air handlers must be turned off, and the room must be evacuated and secured, said an HSID spokesperson. In addition, the person who handled the mail must be isolated, and the police should be notified, she said. School personnel also are being advised to open mail before or after school hours. The U.S. Postal Inspection Service also has implemented a special screening process for all HISD mail.

Agriculture and Food Sector

34. **October 12, Green Bay Press-Gazette** – (Wisconsin) **Temperature fluctuation prompts recall from Otto’s Meats in Luxemburg.** A Luxemburg, Wisconsin, meat processor is recalling all processed, cooked meats produced this year because they may have been under-processed, state food safety officials said. There have been no reports of illness associated with the products from Otto’s Meats, according to a statement released October 11 by the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP). The company’s owner said the voluntary recall is based on a temperature fluctuation noted during a routine inspection October 8 of a single meat sample from the smokehouse. A DATCP public information officer said the voluntary recall was prompted by a thermometer problem on a cooking unit. Subsequent retesting of the meat and thermometers on October 8 checked out fine, the information officer said. All products in the voluntary recall carry Otto’s Meats on the label, were made this year and were sold at the Otto’s Meats retail store in Luxemburg.
Source: [http://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/article/20101012/GPG03/10120540/1247](http://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/article/20101012/GPG03/10120540/1247)

36. **October 11, New York Daily News** – (District of Columbia) **Terror threat to restaurants as Al Qaeda calls for attacks on government workers in D.C.** The terror group tied to the Ft. Hood killings and the Christmas Day air bomber urge wannabe American jihadis to open fire on crowded restaurants in the nation’s capital to massacre U.S. government workers. The advice appears in “Inspire,” the latest issue of a slick propaganda publication by Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP). “A random hit at a crowded restaurant in Washington, D.C., at lunch hour might end up knocking out a few government employees,” a writer wrote in the 74-page jihadi how-to magazine. “Targeting such employees is paramount and the location would also give the operation additional media attention,” he added. According to a copy of the magazine obtained by the SITE intelligence group, AQAP also urged those bent on murdering for Islam to use everything from pickup trucks to improvised pressure-cooker bombs to kill. Source: [http://www.nydailynews.com/news/national/2010/10/11/2010-10-11_terror_threat_to_restaurants_as_al_qaeda_calls_for_attacks_on_government_workers.html#ixzz129cdD3JY](http://www.nydailynews.com/news/national/2010/10/11/2010-10-11_terror_threat_to_restaurants_as_al_qaeda_calls_for_attacks_on_government_workers.html#ixzz129cdD3JY)

37. **October 11, San Bernardino Sun** – (California) **Search warrants served at Chino dairy.** Officials are testing questionable materials found on a Chino, California, dairy after the dairyman was arrested for allegedly possessing firearms and ammunition. A 42-year-old felon was booked October 7 at the West Valley Detention Center in Rancho Cucamonga on the felony charge, according to a Chino police news release. More than 50 officials served two warrants at the Vander Eyk Dairy based on information that the suspect was involved in illegal activity, including firearms and numerous environmental violations related to illegal dumping on the dairy property, police said. Chino police officers, along with officials from the San Bernardino County District Attorney’s Office, California Highway Patrol, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, San Bernardino County Fire Haz Mat, and the Regional Water Quality Control Board, served the search warrants about 6 a.m. Environmental agencies are testing the substances found on the property, according to the news release. Additional charges against the suspect may be added after the results come in. Source: [http://www.sbsun.com/breakingnews/ci_16311273](http://www.sbsun.com/breakingnews/ci_16311273)

38. **October 9, Salina Journal** – (Kansas) **Man suffers minor burns in dust explosion.** One man received minor burns in a dust explosion October 7 at McShares, a company that makes food additives in Salina, Kansas. A 48-year-old McShares contract employee was taken by private vehicle to Salina Regional Health Center, according to Salina Police. The Salina Fire Department responded to an alarm and sprinkler system activation at McShares about 11 p.m. Witnesses reported that the McShares contract employee was changing dust collector bags when static electricity caused a dust
explosion and a fireball, according to the fire department. Firefighters helped shut down equipment in the plant and turned off water to sprinkler heads. A garage door was pushed out. McShares president said the company is assessing the damage and will be conducting its own investigation. Source: http://www.salina.com/news/story/dust-explosion-at-McShares-10810

39. October 8, KWTX 10 Waco – (Texas) Smoky fire breaks out at local pet food plant. A fire forced the evacuation of Doane Pet Care, a pet food plant, October 7 in Temple, Texas. Twenty-one employees were in the building at the time, fire officials said. The fire broke out in a dryer unit just before 9:30 p.m., and the first units on the scene reported that heavy smoke was pouring from the building. Because the fire was in a manufacturing facility, a second alarm was ordered. Damage was limited to the interior of the dryer. An equipment malfunction caused the fire, officials said. The last units left the scene just after 11:30 p.m. that night. Source: http://www.kwtx.com/news/headlines/Smoky_Fire_Breaks_Out_At_Local_Pet_Food_Plant_104571624.html?ref=624

For another story, see item 66

40. October 8, Associated Press – (California) Sewage spill costs Redwood City at least $158K. Redwood City, California, is on the hook for at least $158,000 of the costs associated with a 48,000-gallon sewage spill in a local lagoon. The Palo Alto Daily News reports that city officials on October 7 posted a list online of the expenses connected with the August 25 spill. They include testing and treating the lagoon’s water and hiring tanker trucks. City officials say they are expecting additional costs, as repair and cleanup efforts continue. Source: http://articles.sfgate.com/2010-10-08/news/24119508_1_sewage-spill-pipe-burst-corrosion

41. October 8, KNSD 7 San Diego – (California) Big sewage spill = stinky mess. Crews worked through the night of October 7 to contain a sewage spill in Carlsbad, California, after a pipe burst sending thousands of gallons of raw sewage spilling into the streets, threatening the beach. The pipe burst around 11 a.m. October 7 at Avenida Encinas, near Palomar Airport Road at a Carlsbad wastewater plant. “When I came down the road they had it completely blocked off. When I walked back here I saw a 20-foot river across the road of water,” said a man who works nearby. Sewage service in the area was not affected, but residents of Carlsbad, Encinitas, and Vista were asked to reduce their water use while crews worked to fix the pipe. Workers completed the installation of temporary bypass lines at 12:45 a.m., a spokesperson said. The lines reroute sewage from manholes in the street into the treatment plant. Excavation of the damaged pipeline started October 8 with repairs continuing through the weekend. As a precaution, a portion of Carlsbad State Beach was closed until the water is deemed
safe. It is unclear how much, if any of the sewage reached the ocean. The cause of the break is under investigation.

For another story, see item 12

Public Health and Healthcare Sector

42. October 12, Oregon Business Report – (Oregon) **Stolen medical records yield no claim against health care firm.** Individuals whose electronic patient records were stolen from the car of an employee of Providence Health System were left with no remedy in a decision Wednesday by the Oregon Court of Appeals. The plaintiffs in the case were two of the 365,000 individuals whose records were stolen when a Providence employee took home computer discs and tapes and left them in his car overnight. The plaintiffs sought to assert claims for negligence and violation of the Unlawful Trade Practices Act against Providence, claiming damages associated with the cost of credit-monitoring services, as well as emotional distress. The Court of Appeals likewise dismissed a claim based on an alleged breach of a duty of confidentiality. Such a claim exists under Oregon law for an affirmative disclosure of confidential information, but not for a failure to protect the information from misappropriation by a third party. Finally, the Court of Appeals dismissed the Unlawful Trade Practices Act claim. Plaintiffs alleged that, as a provider of medical services, Providence represented that it would keep medical records safe. Plaintiffs could not show a “loss of money or property” from that misrepresentation under the Act because they did not allege a difference in value between the product or service as represented and as actually received. The out-of-pocket losses associated with credit monitoring are not the type of losses that are recoverable under the Act, according to the Court.

43. October 12, Nextgov – (National) **Coast Guard awards contract for electronic health record system.** The Coast Guard made clear in its procurement documents that it must move away from CHCS and its graphical interface because these “systems do not meet current federal requirements for an interoperable electronic medical record.” The current systems “have outdated architecture and interfaces, and lack basic EHR features such as clinical decision support, billing, patient scheduling portals, and population health functionality,” the Coast Guard wrote. “Finally, the current environment is inefficient, experiences poor user satisfaction, and has no wireless user interfaces.” Officials said they needed a new system that could work with the Nationwide Health Information Network and support the Virtual Lifetime Electronic Record, a project the President kicked off in April 2009 to build a joint record system for Defense and the Veterans Affairs Department.
Source: http://www.nextgov.com/nextgov/ng_20101012_2961.php
44. **October 10, Concord Monitor** – (New Hampshire) **FBI responds to hospital threat.** On October 8, an FBI agent and a state bomb-sniffing dog team did a sweep on the property of Concord Hospital in response to threats made to the hospital, said a supervisory special agent to FBI officers in New Hampshire. He declined to discuss the nature of the threats. The hospital “felt that at the time the threats warranted some precautionary measures and getting law enforcement involved,” he said. The search of the hospital grounds turned up nothing, said the hospital’s vice president for community affairs. Staff were told of the search so as to allay any fears of visitors or patients, she said, and there have been no problems since.


For another story, see item 52

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**Government Facilities Sector**

45. **October 12, Charlotte Observer** – (North Carolina) **Homemade bomb found at Catawba College; student charged.** A Catawba College student was arrested October 10 after police say they found him with explosive materials on campus in Salisbury, North Carolina. The 21-year-old suspect was charged with two felony counts of having weapons on campus. Police say that fire crews were called to the campus for a report of smoke in a trash can early October 10. They found what appeared to be a homemade bomb in that trashcan, then found a second bomb in another trashcan. Police said the suspect told firefighters a friend had explained how to make a bomb and he wanted to try it. He was released into the custody of his sister.


46. **October 11, Albany Times-Union** – (New York) **SUNY Central closed by flood.** Hundreds of workers at the central headquarters of the State University of New York have been told not to report to work October 12 because of a major water emergency in the building. A flood has knocked out SUNY Central’s power, computers and telephone system, according to a spokesman for SUNY central. He said the flooding occurred October 10 in the basement of the South Tower and the outage has affected the entire building. No one was in the building at the time and the cause of the water emergency is unknown at this time, he added. More than 400 people work in the building, located on Broadway in downtown Albany. No one was in the building October 11 because SUNY offices and campuses throughout the state were closed for the Columbus Day holiday. The administration has set up a Gmail account to communicate with employees since the e-mail system, along with the computer system, is down. The outage has only affected computers at SUNY’s central administrative offices and not the SUNY campuses, he said.

47. October 11, Associated Press – (California) **Workers hailed for halting school shooting suspect.** A 41-year-old from Oceanside, California, was arrested October 8 for investigation of attempted murder and remained jailed without bail. Detectives were preparing to present the case to the San Diego County District Attorney’s Office for possible charges. Police believe the man armed himself with a .357-magnum revolver, jumped a fence and opened fire toward the crowded playground at Kelly Elementary School in Carlsbad, California. Two girls, ages 6 and 7, were each shot in an arm. Construction workers building a school cafeteria chased the gunman. Police said one man jumped in his pickup truck and rammed the man, knocking him down. He and two other workers held the man for police, authorities said. The gunman was fumbling to reload when he was struck, and his poor gun handling may have saved lives, police said.  
Source: [http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5gpgt5xBUGEXRFmhwZpPGDQ-6pZNQD9IPPJMO0?docId=D9IPPJMO0](http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5gpgt5xBUGEXRFmhwZpPGDQ-6pZNQD9IPPJMO0?docId=D9IPPJMO0)

48. October 11, Newport News Daily Press – (Virginia) **Update: Heritage High School lets students back in after bomb threat prompts evacuation.** Students and school staff have returned to classes at Heritage High School in Newport News, Virginia, after a bomb threat prompted an evacuation October 11, one of two unrelated incidents at Peninsula schools that drew police responses. A Newport News police spokeswoman said Heritage was evacuated after several students received a text message regarding a bomb threat at the school. A student reported the text message to a member of the school’s staff around 8:30 a.m., and the school then notified police, the spokeswoman said. School administrators evacuated the building via a fire drill. Emergency crews — including K-9 units from Newport News, Langley Air Force Base and Fort Eustis — checked the inside and outside of the school and found nothing suspicious. The students and staff returned to the school around 11:45 a.m.  

49. October 9, Associated Press – (Mississippi) **Miss. Guard probes breach of personnel information.** The Mississippi National Guard is investigating the extent of a security breach after nearly 3,000 active members’ personnel records, including Social Security numbers, were posted online for several weeks. The National Guard and AP were notified about the breach by the information privacy director of Liberty Coalition, a Washington-based policy institute. The administrative records belonged to the 155th Brigade Combat Team and were compiled at various times between 2006 and 2008, he said. The files contained 2,674 unique names and 2,672 Social Security numbers. Other breached information included dates of birth, security clearance data, ranks and pay grades, and home and cell phone numbers. A spokesman for the National Guard would not confirm whose files were breached. The files had been online since September 10, posted on the brigade team’s Sharepoint Web site, which was insecure and did not require a password to access. The information privacy director of Liberty Coalition believes the breach inadvertently happened when someone uploaded the files to a new computer system.  
Source: [http://picayuneitem.com/local/x1274851776/Miss-Guard-probes-breach-of-personnel-information](http://picayuneitem.com/local/x1274851776/Miss-Guard-probes-breach-of-personnel-information)
50. *October 8, GovernmentExecutive.com* – (National) **GAO: Federal background checks can be risky business.** The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) should improve its oversight of federal background investigations to ensure the security of personal information, according to a new audit. A Government Accountability Office (GAO) report released October 7 found OPM’s Federal Investigative Service (FIS), which conducts background checks for individuals seeking government employment and security clearances, has limited oversight of privacy regulations designed to protect identifying information collected in those processes. FIS is bound by the 1974 Privacy Act and the 2002 E-Government Act to limit the disclosure and use of personal information and to implement safeguards for protecting that data. It does not monitor investigator and agency compliance to privacy laws, however, the audit found. According to GAO, the Federal Investigative Service collects large amounts of personal identifying information to conduct background investigations. While OPM has developed assessments to ensure data is used only for specified purposes, it has not updated guidance for officials responsible for implementing processes to address those risks. FIS also has limited oversight of investigators and customer agencies to ensure they are following privacy protection regulations, the report found. Source: [http://www.govexec.com/dailyfed/1010/100810l1.htm](http://www.govexec.com/dailyfed/1010/100810l1.htm)

For more stories, see items 23, 33, 36, and 56

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**Emergency Services Sector**

51. *October 12, USA Today* – (California) **NTSB finds lapses in smoke jumper crashes.** Federal investigators probing a helicopter crash that killed seven firefighters during a California blaze in 2008 have uncovered widespread violations and falsified records. Carson Helicopters was attempting to evacuate a group of smoke jumpers from a 6,000-foot mountain on August 5, 2008, when its chopper slammed into trees and burst into flames. The crash killed one company pilot and a flight inspector. Four others were injured in the flight, which was under contract to the U.S. Forest Service. The Carson pilots had made two improper takeoffs in the hours before the crash, and the firm used false information about the weight of the large helicopter, according to federal records reviewed by USA Today. The result was that the chopper had no margin for error when it lifted off in a mountaintop clearing, according to the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB). Source: [http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2010-10-12-1Asmokejumpers12_ST_N.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2010-10-12-1Asmokejumpers12_ST_N.htm)

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**Information Technology Sector**


52. *October 12, Wall Street Journal* – (International) ‘Scrapers’ dig deep for data on Web. At 1 a.m. on May 7, the Web site PatientsLikeMe.com noticed suspicious activity on its “Mood” discussion board. There, people exchange highly personal stories about their emotional disorders, ranging from bipolar disease to a desire to cut themselves. It was a break-in. A new member of the site, using sophisticated software, was “scraping,” or copying, every single message off PatientsLikeMe’s private online forums. PatientsLikeMe managed to block and identify the intruder: Nielsen Co., the privately held New York media-research firm. Nielsen monitors online “buzz” for clients, including major drug makers, which buy data gleaned from the Web to get insight from consumers about their products, Nielsen says. The market for personal data about Internet users is booming, and in the vanguard is the practice of “scraping.” Firms offer to harvest online conversations and collect personal details from social-networking sites, resume sites, and online forums. Scrapers operate in a legal gray area. Internationally, anti-scraping laws vary. In the United States, court rulings have been contradictory.

Source: http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748703358504575544381288117888.htm?mod=WSJ_hpp_MIDDLETopStories

53. *October 12, The H Security* – (International) Trojan forces Firefox to secretly store passwords. A Trojan recently analyzed by Webroot is said to rely on retrieving Web page passwords from a browser’s password storage, rather than logging a user’s keyboard inputs. To make sure it will find all the interesting passwords in Firefox, the malware, called PWS-Nslog, makes some changes to jog the browser’s memory. A few manipulations in a JavaScript file prompt Firefox to store log-in information automatically and without requesting the user’s consent. The malware will, for instance, simply comment out Firefox’s confirmation request in the nsLoginManagerPrompter.js file and add a line with automatic storage instructions. The H’s associates at heise Security were able to reproduce the effect of the manipulations, which the malware author probably borrowed from a work around that has been in circulation since 2009. The manipulation works on all platforms on which the Trojan has the rights to modify the nsLoginManagerPrompter.js file. In tests, this worked on Windows XP, Windows 7, and Ubuntu 10.04. However, on Windows 7 and Ubuntu the user is usually working with limited privileges by default, and under these circumstances the malware is unable to manipulate the file. According to Webroot, the malware author did not put any effort into covering his tracks, as the malware contains a name as well as a Gmail address. Furthermore, Webroot soon found the Facebook page of the allegedly Iranian developer who claims he develops crimeware for fun.


54. *October 11, DarkReading* – (International) University study offers recipe for stealth malware attacks via social networks. A group of researchers the week of October 4 published a paper that mathematically shows how a low-and-slow malware attack based on social networking behavior patterns could be more effective than a traditional network attack. In their paper, Stealing Reality, researchers from MIT, Ben Gurion University, and Deutsche Telekom Laboratories offer formulas that show the potential
effectiveness of a “stealth” attack that uses social networks as its underlying platform. “In this paper we discuss the ability to steal vital pieces of information concerning networks and their users by a nonaggressive — and hence, harder to detect — malware agent,” the researchers say. “We analyze this threat and build a mathematical model capable of predicting the optimal attack strategy against various networks.” The paper offers a number of mathematical models conducted on actual mobile network data, showing that malware attacks can be adapted to follow human behavior on social networks.

Source: http://www.darkreading.com/security/vulnerabilities/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=227701108

55. October 11, Homeland Security Newswire – (International) **Experts: Stuxnet a “game changer”**. The Stuxnet malware is a game changer for critical information infrastructure protection, an EU security agency has warned. ENISA (European Network and Information Security Agency) issued a technical report titled “Stuxnet Analysis,” in which it warns that a similar attack of malware capable of sabotaging industrial control systems as Stuxnet may occur in future. A researcher writes that the worm, whose primary method of entry into systems is infected USBs, essentially ignores vulnerable Windows boxes but aggressively attacks industrial control (SCADA) systems from Siemens, establishing a rootkit as well as a backdoor connection to two (now disconnected) command and control servers in Malaysia and Denmark. PLC controllers of SCADA systems infected with the worm might be programmed to establish destructive over/under pressure conditions by running pumps at different frequencies, for example. The researcher notes there is no evidence either way as to whether this has actually happened.

Source: http://homelandsecuritynewswire.com/experts-stuxnet-game-changer

56. October 11, Help Net Security – (International) **Social media sites and universities increasingly targeted by phishers**. Social media sites and educational institutions were increasingly targeted by phishers who continued to expand the targets of their attacks in the first half of 2010. With greater diversity of attacks, phishing continues to be a global problem, with numerous industries and well over 30 different countries experiencing targeted attacks, according to Cyveillance’s “1H 2010 Cyber Intelligence Report.” While banks and credit unions continue to be the top targets of phishers, social media sites and universities are growing favorites of phishers due to the inherent nature of these users to share personal information. Cyber criminals are gaining access to confidential information through simple searches in order to carry out elaborate social engineering scams. Universities are specifically targeted for credentials including name and password information. Phishers use these details to create botnets. Alternatively, social media is used as a means to distribute malware in order to reap greater financial benefits. While these avenues are used in different ways, they are both targeting large groups of individuals who are typically more willing to share information and trust online links.

Source: http://www.net-security.org/secworld.php?id=9977
57. **October 11, TG Daily** – (International) **Operation Payback causes massive service interruptions.** An ongoing campaign of DDoS attacks against 11, high-profile global targets has caused more than 550 hours of downtime and 742 service interruptions since September 17. The strikes — executed by Anonymous — recently claimed 119 service interruptions and over 68 hours of downtime across multiple Spanish sites, including the Copyright Protection Society (SGAE), the Culture Ministry, and Promusicae. “Since the onset of the DDoS attacks, the websites longest affected have been ACS:Law, with 179 hours downtime; the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA), with 127 hours and Aiplex Software with 123 hours,” explained PandaLabs’ director of research. “[Clearly], the popularization of this group’s activities has led many users without much technical know-how to join in.” As the director points out, the Internet offers easy access to basic tutorials and multiple tools for launching crippling DDoS attacks. The director also warned that Anonymous cyber activists — who communicate with each other via Facebook, Twitter, and various blogs — are likely to step up their attacks against current and new targets in the near future.


58. **October 11, Network World** – (International) **Most large companies hit by hack attacks, survey shows.** A survey of 350 IT and network professionals would indicate that 2010 has been worse than 2009 for getting hacked, with large companies in particular reporting this to be worse than last in terms of suffering at least one network intrusion of their user machines, office network, or servers. The Sixth Annual Enterprise IT Security Survey, released October 11, found that 67 percent of large companies with 5,000 or more employees reported one successful intrusion or more this year, compared with 41 percent in 2009. Mid-size companies of 1,000 to 4,999 employees fared better with 59 percent reporting an intrusion, up slightly from 57 percent in 2009. For the first time, the survey, sponsored by VanDyke Software and undertaken by Amplitude Research in mid-September, delved into what the survey respondents believed primarily caused the network intrusion. Fourteen percent of those surveyed attributed their intrusion problem to “hacker/network attack,” 12 percent cited “lack of adequate security policies/measure,” 10 percent said “employee Web usage,” 9 percent pointed to “virus/malware/spyware,” 8 percent faulted other “employee carelessness, negligence,” 6 percent said “unauthorized access by current/former employees,” 5 percent blamed “weak passwords,” 5 percent thought it was because of “lack of software updates,” and 5 percent simply said “software security flaw/bug.”

Source: [http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9190559/Most_large_companies_hit_by_hack_attacks_survey_shows](http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9190559/Most_large_companies_hit_by_hack_attacks_survey_shows)

For more stories, see items [17](#) and [18](#)
Communications Sector

59. *October 12, Northescambia.com* – (Florida) **Thief strips copper wiring from county radio tower in Molino.** Copper wiring valued at over $3,000 was reported stolen October 11 from a county radio tower in Molino, Florida. A technician for CES Team One Communications, the company that maintains the radio tower for Escambia County, told deputies that the theft occurred sometime between September 1 and his service visit October 11 morning. The technician told Escambia County Sheriff’s Office investigators that someone cut a gate lock on the fence surrounding the tower, which is located behind the Escambia County Health Department on Highway 29. The thief took two copper bars about three feet in length and cut nine, two-foot sections of copper wire; and ten, six-foot sections. The items were valued at $3,450. According to Escambia County officials, the wiring was part of the tower’s electrical grounding system and no county communications systems were taken off the air by the incident. A spokesperson said the missing wiring would place the tower and equipment at a higher risk of damage from lightning, and replacement items are on order. The Escambia County Sheriff’s Office investigation into the incident is continuing. Source: [http://www.northescambia.com/?p=31289](http://www.northescambia.com/?p=31289)

60. *October 11, Charleston Gazette* – (West Virginia) **FiberNet outage did not jeopardize 911 calls.** FiberNet’s recent phone outage inconvenienced customers and knocked out non-emergency service to police and fire departments in at least six West Virginia counties, but the problem never compromised 911 calls, a state official said October 11. The State Homeland Security Director said 911 centers across the state use phone lines operated by Frontier Communications, not FiberNet. Parts of Kanawha, Hancock, Wetzel, Marion, Monongalia and Ohio were affected by the FiberNet outage October 10 night.”We had no loss of 911 service, but if you had FiberNet, you couldn’t call anybody,” the director said. The company said the service disruption started at 6 p.m. October 10, and the problem was fixed by 10 p.m. FiberNet did not disclose how many customers were affected and what caused the outage. The company would only say that customers in West Virginia and “some surrounding states” were without service October 10 night. Source: [http://wvgazette.com/News/201010110917](http://wvgazette.com/News/201010110917)

61. *October 10, Radio and Television Business Report* – (California) **Fire burns KSJX-AM transmitter site.** An October 9 night brush fire consumed the transmitter building for KSJX-AM San Jose, California, knocking the Vietnamese-language station off the air. According to the San Jose Mercury News, 70 firefighters were called to the scene.
They managed to keep the flames from spreading to a Kellogg’s Eggo frozen waffles plant, but could not save the radio transmitter building. KSJX is one of three radio stations in the San Jose and San Francisco market owned by Multicultural Broadcasting.
Source: http://www.rbr.com/radio/28162.html

62. October 8, Bloomberg – (International) **AT&T received security warning over Huawei, Washington Post says.** AT&T Inc. was threatened by the U.S. National Security Agency (NSA) with loss of government business if it bought equipment for a next-generation phone system from China’s Huawei Technologies Co., the Washington Post reported, citing several unidentified people with knowledge of the matter. The electronic spying agency was worried that its Chinese counterparts might insert “digital trapdoors” in Huawei’s equipment that would function as secret listening posts, the newspaper said. In February, AT&T said it would obtain the necessary equipment from Ericsson AB of Sweden and France’s Alcatel-Lucent SA.

**Commercial Facilities Sector**

63. October 12, Associated Press – (New York) **Old explosives found in NY cemetery.** A caretaker doing gardening work at a historic cemetery dug up a plastic garbage bag containing eight bricks of military-grade C-4 explosives in 2009 and left it at the site, where it remained until a volunteer told authorities about it October 11, setting off a big police response. The employee found the bag in May or June 2009 after digging down about a foot into the ground at New York City Marble Cemetery on Manhattan’s Lower East Side, a police commissioner said. The commissioner said the explosives could not have gone off because there was nothing to detonate it. “It’s not clear at this time whether he understood precisely what was in the bag,” the commissioner said. A volunteer cleaning the cemetery, a landmark opened in 1831, came across the bag over the weekend and initially left it there before calling police October 11 because it was not clear what the material was. Authorities closed nearby streets as they investigated.

64. October 11, WDAY 6 – (North Dakota) **Nearly 150 residents displaced by a massive apartment fire.** Authorities got the call around 5:45 tonight and the fire quickly spread, turning into a 4 alarm fire. Fargo’s fire marshal says the fire started on the first floor, possibly because of a grill. It moved up, igniting propane tanks. The entire roof of the building is gone. Authorities say it was tough to get water up to the attic. Authorities believe everyone did get out of the complex. So far, no serious injuries reported. The apartment’s property manager spotted the fire and called 9-1-1.
Source: http://www.wday.com/event/article/id/39475/
65. *October 11, Monterey County Herald* – (California) **Firecracker causes San Pedro hotel bomb scare.** A San Pedro hotel was evacuated Sunday morning after police received reports that a bomb exploded in the underground garage. Police later determined that the incident at the Clarion Hotel at 111 S. Gaffey St. was caused by an M-80 firecracker and was most likely an act of vandalism, but not before the entire city of Los Angeles was put on tactical alert. The incident began at 7:30 a.m. when several guests heard a loud noise. An officer from the Port of Los Angeles police arrived on the scene first and discovered broken glass near a Lincoln Navigator. After he noticed that there was a softball-sized hole in the car door, the bomb squad was called and the facility evacuated. Police also closed streets in a two-block radius of the hotel. The damage was caused by a giant firecracker, but Los Angeles police officer said the noise was amplified because the ground-floor parking structure is enclosed.


66. *October 9, Lafayette Journal and Courier* – (Indiana) **WL’s State St. reopens after bomb threat.** A bomb threat briefly shut down much of the Village area in West Lafayette, Indiana, the night of October 9. According to West Lafayette police, someone phoned in a vague bomb threat to the Dominos Pizza on Salisbury Street around 6:45 p.m. Police evacuated the restaurant, some nearby businesses and shut down much of State Street, Chauncey Street and some nearby alleys for about 30 minutes while a bomb-sniffing dog searched the area. The closure came just as crowds were starting to file into the near-campus bar and restaurant district to catch the 7 p.m. kickoff for the Purdue-Northwestern football game. After no bomb was discovered, police opened things up again around 7:25 p.m. According to a West Lafayette police sergeant, police will try to locate the suspect and press charges. “We’ll have to look at every avenue of what’s going on before we decide on charges,” he said.


67. *October 9, West Yellowstone News Online* – (Wyoming) **Antelope Fire continues to dwindle in park near Mt. Washburn.** The Antelope Fire in Wyoming grew to 5,510 acres over the week of October 4, but cooler, moist weather is diminishing fire activity. Yellowstone Park fire officials are expecting little in fire movement or progression though the week and are primarily monitoring it, with one engine and seven firefighters assigned to the fire. The fire, which is located northeast of Mt. Washburn south of the Tower Falls area in the north-central portion of the park, was measured at 5,510 acres October 5. It is now listed as 20 percent contained.

Source: [http://www.westyellowstonenews.com/news/article_bde40842-d3c2-11df-8ef6-001cc4e002e0.html](http://www.westyellowstonenews.com/news/article_bde40842-d3c2-11df-8ef6-001cc4e002e0.html)

68. *October 8, Porterville Recorder* – (California) **Sheep Fire spreads through Giant Sequoia Grove.** The Sheep Fire, ignited by lightning on July 16 in Kings Canyon and Giant Sequoia National Monument in California, has spread through nearly 9,000 acres
in less than two and one-half months, the U.S. Forest Service reported October 7. On September 22, the fire spread into the 54-acre Monarch Giant Sequoia Grove before it was contained on its western flank. Fire growth to the north was stopped along Highway 180 and the Kings River. On the east, growth was slowed by scarce accumulated debris left from prior wildland and prescribed fires. To the south, fire spread into scarce fuels or was controlled by firefighters. Fire spread was stopped on the western edge of the fire on a ridge near Deer Meadow.


Dams Sector

69. October 12, San Francisco Chronicle – (California) **Officials refuse to clear levees of foliage.** In defiance of a federal policy intended to bolster the safety of California levees, some Bay Area legislators, regulators and water agencies said October 11 that they refuse to remove shrubs and trees from the banks of numerous creeks and culverts. They say stripping vegetation from 100 miles of levees around the nine counties would cost millions, ruin scenic byways and damage riparian, or riverbank, ecosystems. The corps argues that in driving wind and rain, trees may topple over, pulling levees with them and unleashing untold storm water into neighborhoods, businesses, and roadways. Source: http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2010/10/11/MNQT1FR969.DTL

70. October 12, CNN – (International) **Workers building emergency dams to stem second toxic spill.** Workers in Hungary were racing October 12 to build three emergency dams to stem an expected second toxic spill from an aluminum plant. Some 500,000 cubic meters of toxic red sludge is in the plant’s reservoir, whose wall shows signs of ruptures and cracks, said a spokeswoman with Hungary’s emergency services department. Officials say it is only a matter of time before the wall breaks and spews the sludge across the landscape. The amount of sludge that remains in the reservoir is about half the amount that spilled out a week ago, inundating three villages, killing eight people, and leaving the landscape covered in red. It was not clear when the emergency dams would be finished. Officials had said the dams would be finished by the morning of October 12, but later they pushed it back to the morning of October 13. Crews were also trying to remove a layer of liquid from the top of the sludge in the reservoir in order to make the mud less mobile if the wall breaks. The head of the company that owns the plant was arrested, accused of public endangerment and harming the environment, authorities said. About 800 people have been evacuated from the village of Kolontar, downstream from the reservoir, and hundreds of soldiers were ready to rescue inhabitants of a nearby village if the wall collapses. Source: http://www.cnn.com/2010/WORLD/europe/10/12/hungary.toxic/

71. October 11, Associated Press – (Oregon) **S. Oregon dam removal uncovers some problems.** Construction crews are racing against a mid-October deadline to finish restoration and rebuilding work along a stretch of Bear Creek that was exposed by the removal of a major area dam this summer in Oregon. The removal of the Gold Ray
Dam has exposed old moss-covered boats, a sunken dock and a swarm of mosquitoes that have plagued area residents since demolition began. Construction crews and a design firm are trying to finish work before Oregon’s rainy season begins in earnest. If the water is not slowed during high-flow periods, the creek could cut unwanted paths to nearby gravel pits. The construction firm is placing rocks, organic nets and logs to give the creek a natural look while slowing the water flow. State and federal permits mandate that work in the water must be finished by dusk on October 15.