



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 2 November 2010

Current Nationwide Threat Level

ELEVATED

Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks

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

Top Stories

- Bloomberg reports 9 years after the September 11 terrorist attacks, less than 1 percent of the 14.5 million cargo boxes reaching U.S. shores are scanned abroad for nuclear material, the federal government said. (See item [6](#))
- U.S. counter terrorism officials are warning local law enforcement and emergency personnel to be on the lookout for mail that could have dangerous substances hidden inside, according to the Associated Press. The warning comes after mail bombs designed to either blow up planes headed to or targets in the United States made it onto foreign flights originating in the Middle East. (See items [15](#), [17](#), [20](#))

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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. *November 1, Associated Press* – (Kentucky) **Man found seriously injured after power failure.** When the power failed for about 2,500 Beattyville, Kentucky customers, utility workers found an injured man on the ground near an electricity substation. WKYT-TV in Lexington quoted Kentucky State Police in reporting a 28-

year-old was shocked while trying to steal copper October 31. Investigators said the suspect suffered burns over 30 percent of his body and has a broken arm. He was airlifted to University of Kentucky Hospital. The suspect is in serious condition and charges against him are pending. Jackson Energy said a lot of damage was done to the substations. A utility spokeswoman said the outage in Lee County lasted about 5 hours and power was restored about midnight to all customers.

Source: <http://www.kentucky.com/2010/11/01/1504429/man-found-seriously-injured-after.html>

2. *November 1, Associated Press* – (Alabama) **Power outage is blamed on squirrel.** A squirrel is being blamed for a power outage in Phenix City, Alabama that left about 5,000 Alabama Power customers in the dark for a few hours October 30. Alabama Power officials told The Columbus-Ledger Enquirer that a squirrel got into a transformer and caused breakers in a substation to lock out. Power was restored in waves in different parts of the city by about 11 a.m.
Source: <http://www.fox10tv.com/dpp/news/alabama/power-outage-in-blamed-on-squirrel>
3. *October 31, San Marcos Daily Record* – (Texas) **Acid spill incident brings changes at Texas State plant.** New people and procedures are in place at Texas State University's (TSU's) co-generation plant in the wake of a September 2010 chemical spill that could have caused serious damage to the San Marcos River in San Marcos, Texas. Approximately 446 gallons of sulfuric acid were accidentally released September 16 after a valve on a secondary containment system was left open, TSU's director of facilities said. The acid had leaked from the primary storage tank to the secondary containment system after a tank fitting broke, he said. Subsequent to the spill, many new measures were instituted at the co-gen plant. Six people were fired after the spill, and TSU has also mandated additional training "for people that operate and maintain those systems," the director said. While written procedures existed before, they were "pretty loose" and incomplete, he said. "So we reviewed all of those along with our environmental health and safety people to make sure they're much more comprehensive," plainly laying out what must be done, the frequency at which it must be done and "actions to be taken to make sure we identify problems early and fix them before they turn into bigger problems."
Source: <http://www.istockanalyst.com/article/viewiStockNews/articleid/4626118>
4. *October 31, Denton Record-Chronicle* – (Texas) **Pipeline report calls for safety regulations.** Recommendations from a new pipeline safety report apply to many parts of the Barnett Shale region, even though they came out of a study of Fort Worth, Texas neighborhoods, experts said. The report, paid for by the Fort Worth League of Neighborhoods with a \$48,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation Office of Pipeline Safety, included 26 recommendations for local, state and federal regulators. A national expert on pipeline safety and one of the report's co-authors, said gas gathering pipelines should not be exempt from new federal rules, known as integrity management, that specify how operators must maintain their lines. "We don't want to scare people, because prudent pipeline operators do these things," he said. "But

other operators do just enough to get by.” Recent explosions, including the unexplained rupture of a 30-inch, 400-psi pipeline in San Bruno, California, and the accidental puncture of major transmission line in Johnson County by utility workers, have caused fatalities and extensive property damage. Significant incidents with natural gas gathering pipelines have increased nationwide and in Texas over the past 10 years, according to the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration. More than 1,250 miles of commercial pipeline crisscross Denton County, according to records with Denton County Geographic Information Systems.

Source:

http://www.dentonrc.com/sharedcontent/dws/drc/localnews/stories/DRC_pipelines_1031.1e1d38401.html

5. *October 30, Austin American-Statesman* – (Texas) **Driver dies in MoPac fiery tanker truck crash.** The driver of an 18-wheeler truck carrying gasoline that flipped over and led to a fatal fiery wreck on a North Austin, Texas overpass October 30 may have been driving too fast to negotiate a curve on the ramp, authorities said. The crash, in which the truck driver was killed, happened about 6 a.m. at U.S. 183 and MoPac Boulevard (Loop 1). “A number of northbound roads near the intersection were closed for many hours while officials cleared the site, leaving traffic congested through the early afternoon. The Austin Fire Department responded to the two-alarm fire on the ramp with 20 trucks and 75 firefighters, a fire department spokesman said. The fire completely engulfed the tanker, prompting firefighters to extend a 3,100-foot hose onto the ramp to cool the steel rebar in the concrete to prevent the ramp from collapsing, he said. A spokesman for the Texas Department of Transportation said the accident caused about \$500,000 in damage to the ramp. That amount is likely to be billed to the trucking company the driver was working for, he said, adding the damage to the ramp appeared to be mostly superficial.

Source: <http://www.statesman.com/news/local/central-texas-digest-driver-dies-in-mopac-fiery-1009895.html>

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Chemical Industry Sector

See items [3](#) and [25](#)

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

6. *October 29, Bloomberg* – (International) **U.S. nuclear-bomb scan ignored by truckers, boxes go unchecked.** Two years after South Korea’s busiest port installed a \$3.5 million scanner to check U.S.- bound shipping containers for nuclear weapons, the machine sits idle because truckers will not drive through it due to fears of radiation exposure. That means about 1.9 million containers left Busan for American harbors last year without U.S.-mandated screening. Singapore and Hong Kong, the world’s busiest

and third-busiest ports, also do not participate. Nine years after the September 11 attacks, less than 1 percent of the 14.5 million cargo boxes reaching U.S. shores are scanned abroad, the government said. A goal to screen all containers is opposed by the Retail Industry Leaders Association, a group representing Wal-Mart Stores Inc., Apple Inc., and Nike Inc. “Prohibitive challenges” involving cost and technology mean a July 1, 2012, deadline for 100 percent inspections will be delayed by at least 2, the DHS Secretary said. “The system remains very vulnerable,” said the president of the Washington-based Center for National Policy, which studies security issues. “If I were an adversary who wants to cause mass destruction to the global economy, this is the system to target.”

Source: <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2010-10-30/u-s-nuclear-bomb-detector-ignored-by-truckers-leaves-shipping-vulnerable.html>

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

7. *October 30, Sacramento Bee* – (California) **Judge says Merced cement firm had illegal paint shop.** A Merced-based concrete company operated an illegal paint shop, violated numerous California hazardous waste laws, and hid their conduct from local regulators, a Merced County, California, judge has determined. The Merced County Superior Court judge issued an October 19 statement of decision in a civil action brought by the state against Central Valley Concrete (CVC). The suit alleged CVC operated an unpermitted paint shop at its main Merced plant, producing air emissions and hazardous waste, among other violations. In his decision, he issued an injunction prohibiting CVC from failing to comply with any applicable provisions of the state’s hazardous waste control laws. He also ordered CVC to pay nearly \$300,000 in civil penalties.

Source: <http://www.sacbee.com/2010/10/30/3145016/judge-says-merced-cement-firm.html>

8. *October 30, Willoughby News-Herald* – (Ohio) **Firefighters extinguish blaze at Euclid industrial facility.** Euclid, Ohio, firefighters doused a fire at Tect Power, a business that manufactures components and assemblies for turbine engines for aviation and industrial applications, on Euclid Avenue October 29. the fire started when a tank filled with hydrofluoric and nitric acids overheated and ignited. Firefighters used water from the hose line to squelch the flames, the fire chief said. The hazardous materials unit from Cleveland Fire Department also responded to the fire scene and helped clean the acid spill. They also decontaminated the firefighters. The fire caused about \$25,000 worth of damage to the business. Two of Tect’s employees also were taken to the hospital for smoke inhalation as a safety precaution. Units with the Wickliffe Fire Department also assisted at the scene.

Source: <http://news-herald.com/articles/2010/10/30/news/doc4ccae2b73fe6d476376382.txt>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

9. *October 31, Military Times* – (National) **DoD plans 4 new joint helicopters.** The Pentagon plans to change the way it buys and develops helicopters and tilt-rotor aircraft in an “as-needed” approach. The approach to purchases and upgrades will be replaced by a “balanced transformational strategy,” says the Pentagon’s strategic plan for vertical lift aircraft, unveiled August 27 and presented 3 days later to Congress. Pentagon officials also want a significant increase in research and development funds to allow the helicopter industry to develop “next-generation capabilities” for fielding between 2020 and 2050. An annual \$110 million boost in science and technology funding is needed to develop technology, to allow military officials to choose between extending the life of the current fleet or buying new aircraft, the plan says. It notes that the military has focused on upgrades to its rotorcraft instead of clean-sheet designs during the past 9 years of war. That trend, plus other “downward trends in science, technology and engineering” in the rotorcraft industrial base, “pose significant risks in addressing the future of DoD requirements,” the report says. The answer: develop the “breakthrough technology and new aircraft starts required to achieve next generation vertical lift capabilities.” The plan envisions four new “joint multirole” rotorcraft: light, medium, heavy and ultra-sized. The aircraft would be equipped with common systems for situational awareness, avionics, engines, countermeasures and “repairables” that can be used by each service. They would be developed sequentially, with the new technology for each applied to the next, the plan says.

Source: <http://www.militarytimes.com/news/2010/10/dod-plans-4-new-joint-helicopters-103010w/>

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Banking and Finance Sector

10. *November 1, Quincy Patriot Ledger* – (National) **Canton man charged in mortgage scam.** A Canton, Massachusetts, man has been arrested on wire fraud charges involving an alleged mortgage fraud scam. He is facing eight counts of wire fraud as a result of his indictment in U.S. District Court. Authorities allege the suspect committed fraud in connection with condominium sales in two Dorchester buildings in 2006 and 2007. The suspect paid straw buyers to buy individual units in buildings he controlled. He allegedly promised the straw buyers they would not have to make down payments, pay funds at closing, or be responsible for mortgage payments. The straw buyers’ financing was obtained from mortgage loan applications that falsely represented key information, such as the buyers’ income, assets, and/or intention to live in the condominiums, authorities alleged. The deals were closed with federal Housing and Urban Development settlement statements that falsely represented that buyers had made substantial down payments, authorities noted. If convicted, the suspect faces a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison to be followed by 3 years of supervised release, and a \$250,000 fine on each of the counts.

Source: http://www.patriotledger.com/news/cops_and_courts/x1673647946/Canton-man-charged-in-mortgage-scam

11. *November 1, XETV 6 San Diego* – (California) **Two marines arrested for La Mesa armed robbery.** Two active duty Marines were behind bars November 1 on suspicion of robbing a La Mesa, California credit union at gunpoint, after one of them allegedly led police on a chase that included gunfire and the evacuation of a Rolando neighborhood. The suspects are suspected of robbing the California Coast Credit Union at 8002 La Mesa Blvd. about 2 p.m. October 30, according to a FBI Special Agent. They wore masks and one of them was armed with a handgun, he said, adding they jumped over the counter and held up several tellers at gunpoint. A short time later, a San Diego police sergeant saw the robbers' getaway car — a black Chevrolet Monte Carlo — in the 4600 block of Mataro Drive. The FBI Agent said the sergeant attempted to stop one suspect as he was walking away from the vehicle, but he fled behind Clay Elementary School. Another police officer then allegedly spotted the suspect at Catherine and Stanley avenues, and a pursuit ensued, according to the special agent, who added that the suspect reached for his waistband during the pursuit, prompting the officer to fire several rounds. Both men were apprehended. The suspects were expected to be arraigned November 1 or November 2.
Source: <http://www.sandiego6.com/news/local/story/Two-Marines-Arrested-for-La-Mesa-Armed-Robbery/JC5zYqTj4kuOI02zA2GTSA.csp>
12. *October 31, AOMID* – (Illinois) **Mortgage loan modification scam discovered by local Chicago neighborhood council.** A mortgage loan modification scam was discovered by a Chicago, Illinois neighborhood council. Based on information received from the Brighton Park Neighborhood Council, the Chicago Mortgage Fraud Task Force successfully shut down 11 companies who were charging Chicago homeowners thousands of dollars in up front fees to modify their home loans. Accepting fees before even attempting loan modifications is considered fraud, and the 11 companies were told to immediately cease and desist operations, and all were fined \$25,000 for “illegal and predatory” activities. The task force additionally found that not one of the loans had actually been modified, and several of the homeowners were not allowed to reapply for loan modification, because the window of opportunity to reapply had been closed. Additionally, none of the 11 companies were licensed by the state of Illinois, which is required by law, and they all failed to meet the minimum requirements of a loan originator in the state as well. Recent reports show that 10 percent of homes in Illinois either missed or were late on a mortgage payment during the second quarter of 2010, which makes the state highly susceptible to loan modification programs, and by extension, fraud.
Source: <http://aomid.com/mortgage-loan-modification-scam-discovered-by-local-chicago-neighborhood-council/224171/>
13. *October 30, Coos Bay World* – (Oregon) **FBI seeks local teller in bank fraud probe.** Coos Bay, Oregon police and FBI agents raided the home of a bank teller October 28 with a search warrant. The raid was part of an investigation into charges the suspect stole money from customers' accounts at the Wells Fargo Bank branch at 200 N. Broadway, where she worked. A Special Agent of the FBI's Eugene office said October 29 the suspect eluded arrest October 28, but police and FBI agents are searching for her. According to the FBI Agent's affidavit requesting a warrant from the

U.S. Magistrate Judge, the suspect worked at Wells Fargo from August 9, 2006, until August 25, 2010, rising to the position of assistant store manager. She was terminated when Wells Fargo personnel discovered she had opened bank accounts for customers without their knowledge in order to obtain commissions for the new accounts. After the suspect was terminated, two of her regular customers reviewed their accounts and discovered the suspect had made unauthorized withdrawals. Wells Fargo investigators then discovered that using transfers, telephone banking system withdrawals and ATM withdrawals, the suspect had taken as much as \$740,000 from the accounts of several customers. Further investigation showed the suspect may have taken as much as \$1,200,000 in funds and gold coins from account holders. The affidavit requested a search warrant for digital media, data, financial records, currency, precious metals, and monetary instruments.

Source: http://www.theworldlink.com/news/local/article_15dac508-e3f5-11df-a202-001cc4c03286.html

14. *October 30, Baltic Times* – (International) **Police expose Estonian hacking ring.** German police are seeking to extradite four Estonians who were allegedly involved in disseminating a computer virus that stole millions of euros from online banking transactions. The Katusha virus sat dormant on its victims computers until they used online banking. When the customers tried to transfer money, the virus changed the amount of the transfer and the recipient. Online bank statements were also changed to cover the crime. The scam reportedly affected 2.5 million private computers worldwide and diverted at least 1.65 million euros.

Source: <http://www.baltictimes.com/news/articles/27268/>

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Transportation Sector

15. *November 1, USA Today* – (National) **Bomb plot shows gaps in screening of air cargo.** The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) boasted that every piece of cargo carried on domestic passenger flights is screened for bombs before being put in the belly of an airliner. However, when it comes to ensuring the security of cargo packages on foreign flights heading to the United States, the TSA makes no such proclamations. Despite federal law requiring all cargo on U.S.-bound passenger flights to be screened as of August 2010, authorities still are not close to meeting the requirement. A reminder of that gap in airline security — and of the daunting challenge officials face in closing it — came last week, when terrorists in Yemen linked to al-Qaeda slipped bombs into cargo packages addressed to synagogues in Chicago. The discovery of the explosives in cargo shipments at airports in northern England and Dubai reflected how the complexities in shipping cargo by air can leave passengers on commercial airliners vulnerable to such security breaches: By the time the explosives were detected, both shipments had made part of their journey from Yemen on passenger jets. That is why investigators are trying to determine whether the Yemen plot was about sending explosives to the USA, blowing up cargo jets, or even trying to attack passenger jets that happened to pick up the packages from Yemen.

Source: http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2010-11-01-1Acargo01_CV_N.htm?csp=34news

16. *November 1, Marketplace* – (National) **Airlines required to provide new passenger information to TSA.** As of November 1, U.S. airlines must collect new personal information from passengers, as it appears on government-issued ID, before they board a flight. A new Transportation Security Administration (TSA) rule mandates airlines to collect a passenger's full name, date of birth, and gender. "If you don't provide the information, it's pretty simple — you can't complete your reservation, you can't get a boarding pass, and you can't travel," a spokesman said for the Air Transport Association. The industry association represents all major U.S. airlines. The TSA program, called Secure Flight, has been implemented in phases since late last year. The rule came as a result of a 9/11 Commission recommendation made 6 years ago. It is geared towards improving aviation safety, and providing consistency in the airline industry's identification matching process.

Source: <http://marketplace.publicradio.org/display/web/2010/11/01/am-airlines-required-to-provide-new-passenger-information-to-tsa/>

17. *November 1, Associated Press* – (International) **Mail bombs may have been planned to explode in mid-flight.** The mail-bomb plot stretching from Yemen to Chicago may have been aimed at blowing up planes in mid-flight and was only narrowly averted, officials said October 31, acknowledging that one device almost slipped through Britain, and another seized in Dubai was unwittingly flown on two passenger jets. Senior U.S. officials met to develop a U.S. response to the al Qaeda faction linked to the powerful explosives addressed to synagogues in Chicago that would have gone via Philadelphia. Investigators were still studying the two bombs they believed were designed by the top explosives expert working for al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula, the Yemen-based militant faction thought to be behind the plot. Yemeni authorities released a woman engineering student arrested earlier, saying someone else had posed as her in signing the shipping documents. Authorities admitted how close the terrorists came to getting their bombs through, and a senior U.S. official said investigators were still trying to figure out if there were other devices in the pipeline.

Source:

http://www.philly.com/dailynews/national/20101101_Mail_bombs_may_have_been_planned_to_explode_in_mid-flight.html

18. *November 1, Associated Press* – (Florida; Alabama) **Foot powder delays Birmingham-Jacksonville flight.** Southwest Airlines flight 602 from Birmingham, Alabama to Jacksonville, Florida was delayed October 31 in Alabama after a flight attendant spotted white powder leaking from a box in an overhead bin. Passengers were taken off the plane, and a hazardous materials team went on board to investigate. Officials said the substance turned out to be a harmless foot powder. The 77 passengers were allowed back on the plane and departed safely to Florida. A Southwest spokesman said a passenger thought the substance was foot powder he had packed. Authorities confirmed that was the case.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/11/01/AR2010110101766.html>

19. *October 29, San Diego Union Tribune* – (California) **I-5 briefly closed when utility lines fall across freeway.** Interstate 5 was shut down in both directions for about 90 minutes October 29 after a tractor-trailer hauling a mobile home clipped a phone wire and caused power lines to droop across the freeway in National City, California. The low-hanging wires were reported about 10:20 a.m. at Harbor Drive after at least one motorist and an ambulance hit them, the California Highway Patrol said. All lanes of the highway were reopened by about 11:45 a.m.

Source: <http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/2010/oct/29/interstate-5-closed-both-directions-national-city/>

For more stories, see items [4](#), [5](#), and [6](#)

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Postal and Shipping Sector

20. *November 1, Associated Press* – (International) **Feds warn local law enforcement about more possible mail bombs.** Counter terrorism officials are warning local law enforcement and emergency personnel to be on the lookout for mail that could have dangerous substances hidden inside. The FBI and Homeland Security Department said packages from a foreign country with no return addresses and excessive postage need to be scrutinized, according to an advisory sent to local officials around the country and obtained November 1 by the Associated Press. Mail bombs believed to have been designed by the top explosives expert working for al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula were sent in packages addressed to Jewish synagogues last week. While officials caught two bombs in the United Arab Emirates and the United Kingdom, U.S. officials said there may be more in the system.

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/us/2010/11/01/feds-warn-local-law-enforcement-possible-mail-bombs/>

21. *October 31, Florence Times Daily* – (Alabama) **Resident finds white powder.** Hazardous materials experts were called to a Lawrence Avenue home in Florence, Alabama, October 30 after one of the residents opened an envelope containing a white powdery substance wrapped in plastic. Law enforcement officials were expected to analyze the substance, according to the Lauderdale County Emergency Management Agency (EMA) director who responded to the scene along with Florence police and firefighters. The Colbert County EMA director also responded to the call. The residents did not come in contact with the substance in the envelope. “The main thing I would want people to know, if you get something like this, do like these people and don’t shake it out into the air,” the director said. Anyone receiving similar packages should contact law enforcement authorities immediately, he said.

Source:

<http://www.timesdaily.com/article/20101031/NEWS/101039979?Title=Resident-finds-white-powder->

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Agriculture and Food Sector

22. *November 1, Food Safety News* – (New York) **Alert issued for uninspected food in New York.** The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA's) Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) has issued a public health alert for various meat and poultry products prepared by a Brooklyn, New York, company, saying the food did not undergo federal inspection. The USDA said the alert for certain foods produced by N.Y. Gourmet Salads Inc., was initiated "based on evidence collected during an ongoing investigation." Evidence showed the establishment had been distributing produce without federal inspection, the agency said. The USDA said products subject to the alert include, but are not limited to, the following: 5-pound tubs of "Chicken Salad," and 5-pound trays of "Meatballs & Sauce," "Meatballs," "Swedish Meatballs," and "Sausage & Pepper." The products were produced between March 11, 2010 and October 29, 2010 and were distributed to retail establishments in New York.
Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2010/11/warning-issued/>
23. *October 31, Grand Rapids Press* – (Michigan) **Wolf attacks on U.P. farms a growing concern.** Michigan's gray wolves have attacked Upper Peninsula farms more times in 2010 than in the past 3 years combined, killing a record number of livestock as state officials continue to push to remove federal protections for the endangered animal. Farmers are reimbursed by the state for livestock killed in confirmed attacks, but the process can be frustrating because federal law leaves landowners and wildlife officials hamstrung in dealing with repeated attacks from rogue wolf packs, officials said. Two dogs, 57 cattle, seven sheep, and a guinea hen have fallen victim to wolves this year. Sixteen animals were killed in 2009. Michigan officials said it is a small percentage of Michigan's 557 gray wolves that prey on domestic animals from farms across the Upper Peninsula. Wolves are protected under the Endangered Species Act and are illegal to kill except in defense of human life.
Source:
http://www.mlive.com/outdoors/index.ssf/2010/10/wolf_attacks_on_up_farms_a_gro.html
24. *October 30, Food Safety News* – (New York; New Jersey) **Nova Lox Salad recalled due to Listeria.** A lox salad sold at Costco stores in New York and New Jersey has been recalled after health inspectors found the product to be contaminated with Listeria, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration reported October 29. Tuv Taam Salads Nova Lox Salad was recalled by Kosher First LLC after routine sampling by New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets Food Inspectors and subsequent analysis found the product to be positive for Listeria monocytogenes. The salad should not be eaten.
Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2010/10/lox-salad-recall/>

25. *October 29, Molalla Pioneer* – (Oregon) **Hazmat team stops ammonia leak.** Firefighters and a hazardous materials team contained an ammonia leak at a berry plant between Molalla and Canby, Oregon, on Macksburg Road October 29. About 3,000 pounds of ammonia leaked from an indoor tank before a hazmat team shut off the valve at Santiam River Inc., a cold storage berry-packing plant. Molalla Fire District (MFD) received mutual aid from Canby, Clackamas and Gresham fire districts, including Gresham's hazmat team, said a MFD spokeswoman. Two hazmat teams of two – an entry team and a rapid intervention team – entered the building and the first successfully shut off the valve to the ammonia tank. After exiting, they were decontaminated first using air and then water, since water can react violently with ammonia. About 25 employees were working at the plant when the ammonia began to leak. They were sent home immediately before emergency crews arrived and no injuries were reported. The cause of the leak has not yet been determined.

Source:

<http://www.molallapioneer.com/news/2010/October/29/Local.News/hazmat.team.stops.ammonia.leak/news.aspx>

26. *October 29, Hillsdale Daily News* – (Michigan) **Early detection program finds a new invasive pest of fruit in Michigan.** Spotted Wing Drosophila (*Drosophila suzukii*), or SWD, a small vinegar fly native to Asia, has been found in traps deployed this year by Michigan State University (MSU) entomologists in southwestern Michigan. This pest is established in the western United States, damaging fruit in California and the Pacific Northwest, but this is the first time it has been found in the Midwest. SWD is a pest of berry crops, cherries, grapes, and tree fruit. No flies were trapped in Michigan through the summer months in 2010, but in late September and early October, monitoring traps in southwestern Michigan picked up male and female SWD. This pest has not been found in any fruit, and flies were trapped only after crop harvest was complete.

Source: <http://www.hillsdale.net/news/camden/x1272817509/Early-detection-program-finds-a-new-invasive-pest-of-fruit-in-Michigan>

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Water Sector

27. *October 30, Contra Costa Times* – (California) **Pollution violations expected after Richmond wastewater seepage.** It could take up to 1 year for air quality officials to finish investigating problems at Richmond, California's wastewater treatment plant that allowed hydrogen sulfide to seep into the community, including how much gas was released and when operators knew. The Bay Area Air Quality Management District has indicated violations occurred for which citations can be issued. "We do have a public nuisance violation so that if a significant number of members of the public are impacted by an odor, a noxious chemical, we can issue violations," said an air quality program manager. Complaints from Point Richmond about a rotten egg odor and health problems soared October 5-13. Some residents reported vomiting, headaches, eye irritations, and respiratory trouble. The air district inspected the plant October 13 and discovered tears in a digester cover that allowed hydrogen sulfide to escape. The

digester, which processes and breaks down waste, was subsequently shut down to stop the gas production. Veolia Water, which operates the plant, will pay to replace the cover, said the city's wastewater manager. Officials will install up to 10 air monitors in the neighborhood, and are developing a plan to move the material inside the digester to a standby digester.

Source: http://www.mercurynews.com/breaking-news/ci_16471184

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

28. *November 1, Canadian Medical Association Journal* – (International) **Continuing drug shortages affect North American patients.** Pharmacists across Canada said drug shortages are affecting patients and will likely continue to do so, despite assurances from manufacturers that they are trying to increase supplies. The association in October surveyed members about whether they were unable to fill any prescriptions during their most recent shifts, and over the previous week. Of the more than 600 pharmacists who responded online, 84 percent had problems locating a drug during their most recent shift, and 94 percent could not find at least one drug in the previous week. The 89 percent of pharmacists also said that drug shortages have greatly increased over the past 12 months, while 70 percent said the shortages were affecting their patients' health. The United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) lists more than 40 drugs in short supply. An FDA official said most of those are sterile injectable products, which are "on the brink" of being unavailable. American patients have been affected by some shortages, including a critical lack this summer of propofol, an injectable anesthetic, she said. That particular shortage occurred when two of the three firms that make propofol in the United States had quality issues, including one with a risk of microbial contamination.

Source: <http://www.cmaj.ca/earlyreleases/1nov10-continuing-drug-shortages-affect-north-american-patients.dtl>

29. *October 31, Associated Press* – (Delaware) **Police investigate bomb scare at Rehoboth pharmacy.** Delaware State Police said they are investigating a weekend bomb threat phoned into a pharmacy on the Coastal Highway in Rehoboth, Delaware. Authorities said a man called the Rite Aid store in the 4000 block of Coastal Highway October 30 and asked to speak to the pharmacist on duty. According to police, the man told the pharmacist that if he did not receive certain drugs he had requested, he would blow up the store with a bomb he had placed inside. Authorities said the pharmacist called police while he kept the person on the line, but got disconnected from the man in the meantime. Authorities said the suspect called back and the store was evacuated while police conducted a search. Police said they did not find any explosives.

Source: <http://wjz.com/wireapnewsmd/Police.investigate.bomb.2.1989571.html>

30. *October 30, Tacoma News Tribune* – (Washington) **2 hospitalized, wing evacuated after Tacoma nursing home fire early Saturday.** Two residents at the Park Rose Care Center in northwest Tacoma, Washington, were hospitalized after a fire in a third

floor room forced evacuation of one wing of the center October 30. The assistant fire chief with the Tacoma Fire Department said a sprinkler in the room was activated and helped control the fire, though the 30 firefighters who responded found heavy smoke in the wing. Neither resident was seriously injured. A Park Rose spokeswoman said October 30 that one of the people had returned to the center and the other was being kept at the hospital for observation. A Tacoma Fire Department fire inspector determined the fire was accidental and started by smoking material that ignited a mattress in a room.

Source: <http://www.thenewstribune.com/2010/10/30/1402517/2-hospitalized-wing-evacuated.html>

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Government Facilities Sector

31. *November 1, Dearborn Press & Guide* – (Michigan) **Pool chemical mixing evacuates Fordson for most of Wednesday.** Fordson High School in Dearborn, Michigan was evacuated October 27 after a chemical reaction near the pool caused a foul smell throughout the building. The building was to reopen at 2 p.m. October 27 for after-school activities and parent-teacher conferences, the Dearborn Public Schools communications coordinator said. About 7:45 a.m., students and staff noticed a foul smell. The building was evacuated as a precaution, and the fire department was called to investigate. The problem was traced to the pool area where too much chlorine had been added to the muriatic acid also used in the filtering system. The school employee who accidentally applied the chemicals was overcome by the noxious vapors and was sent to a walk-in medical facility, the fire chief said. The fire department estimated it would take 2 to 4 hours to ventilate the high school. School officials then opted to cancel classes for the rest of the day rather than make the 2,400 students spend that long a period of time outside.

Source:

<http://www.pressandguide.com/articles/2010/11/01/news/doc4ccd8a9433da5804508868.txt>

32. *November 1, Associated Press* – (Virginia) **DC-area gunman may have grievance against Marines.** A gunman who fired shots at a Washington-area Marine Corps museum and is believed to be responsible for three similar incidents may have a grievance against the U.S. Marine Corps, the FBI said October 29. The acting assistant director for the FBI's Washington field office said during a press conference that investigators believe the person takes issue with the institution of the Marines, but not those serving in uniform. The person has made sure no one has been hurt, and authorities do not believe he wants to harm citizens or Marines, he said. The suspect may be dealing with a traumatic event such as loss of a job, financial problems, or divorce. The acting assistant director said officials are working under the assumption that the individual was part of the Marine Corps. The FBI has said the first three shootings are connected, and investigators say they assume the fourth is connected as well.

Source: <http://topnews360.tmcnet.com/topics/associated-press/articles/2010/11/01/113051-dc-area-gunman-may-have-grievance-against-marines.htm>

33. *October 31, Associated Press* – (National) **Napolitano: Military to aid civilian cybersecurity.** The Defense Department's National Security Agency (NSA) can be used "appropriately" on civilian cybersecurity matters, the Homeland Security secretary said October 28. She said that an agreement between the military and DHS, announced in October, takes privacy and civil liberties into account. The agreement allows DHS to tap into NSA expertise on cybersecurity issues. She said her department and the military are responsible for 95 to 99 percent of the federal jurisdiction for cybersecurity, so a partnership was logical and necessary to make the most of both departments' resources and expertise. The Secretary did not elaborate on what the NSA's role in civilian cybersecurity would be.
Source: <http://topnews360.tmcnet.com/topics/associated-press/articles/2010/10/31/112919-napolitano-military-aid-civilian-cybersecurity.htm>
34. *October 29, WarehamVillageSoup.com* – (Massachusetts) **Training grenade causes evacuation of Minot Forest Elementary.** Minot Forest Elementary in Wareham, Massachusetts was evacuated October 29 after a training grenade was found in a child's backpack, a Wareham fire captain confirmed. The device was found to be inert by emergency responders. The incident was reported around 1:30 p.m. after a student showed a "suspicious object" to her teacher, Wareham Public Schools' superintendent said. The teacher informed the principal, who had the building evacuated. Students were allowed to board buses at approximately 3 p.m. after a Wareham fire chief declared the area safe. The entrance of the school was closed to vehicles, except for "special needs" buses, however, so larger buses lined up on Minot Avenue, causing brief traffic delays. Students picked up by parents were bused to Hammond Elementary in Onset. Parents were notified via the district's phone alert system regarding when to pick up items the students left in the building, such as Halloween costumes.
Source: <http://wareham-ma.villagesoup.com/news/story/training-grenade-causes-evacuation-of-minot-forest-elementary/3594>
35. *October 29, KRNV 4 Reno* – (Nevada) **Cosmetology school in Reno evacuated.** The Milan Institute of Cosmetology in Reno, Nevada, was evacuated October 29 after a woman allegedly made threats toward people inside. It happened just before 2 p.m. on Matley Lane. Reno police said a woman showed up and made threats to those inside. A witness told KRNV News 4 the woman even made a threat to shoot people inside. Police would not release much information, but said the woman appeared to have mental health issues. Officers said the woman kicked an officer, before she was arrested and taken to jail. No one else was injured in the incident.
Source: <http://www.mynews4.com/story.php?id=30781&n=122>
36. *October 29, KCTV 5 Kansas City* – (Kansas) **KU building evacuated for ammonium hydroxide spill.** Malott Hall on the University of Kansas campus in Lawrence, Kansas, was evacuated October 29 due to an ammonium hydroxide spill in a classroom.

Campus police said the spill was in a room that was used by professors and staff to prepare items for classes. Students did not have access to the room. A staff member noticed the spill and pulled a fire alarm. KU officials sent out an alert around 2:20 p.m. that the building at 1251 Wescoe Hall Drive, which houses the chemistry and physics departments, was being evacuated. Hazardous materials teams were called to the area. Source: <http://www.kctv5.com/news/25567368/detail.html>

37. *October 28, Fort Myers News-Press* – (Florida) **Cut power line at Lee County Jail forces evacuations, road closures.** A construction crew was drilling concrete in one of the Lee County Jail cells in Fort Myers, Florida when one hit a power line, according to a supervisor with Cougar Cutting. “We had fire balls shooting out of the cell,” he said. The crew ran out of the jail and once outside heard two big explosions. A captain with Fort Myers police asked people to avoid the downtown area for most of the afternoon. Roadways have since reopened. Firefighters are currently checking each floor of the jail. A few jail employees are being transported to the hospital for smoke inhalation. The first floor of the jail was evacuated and intake of inmates ceased, according to a sheriff’s spokesman. The cut power line did not cause a fire, but did force a power outage on the first floor. The jail is now on back-up power. Source: <http://www.news-press.com/article/20101028/NEWS0110/101028025/1075/Cut-power-line-at-Lee-County-Jail-forces-evacuations--road-closures>

For another story, see item [3](#)

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Emergency Services Sector

38. *October 29, Contra Costa Times* – (California) **Chemical spill at men’s prison sends guards, inmate to hospital.** An October 29 chemical spill inside a laundry facility in a yard at the California Institution for Men (CIM) in Chino, California sent one inmate to the hospital with chemical burns and caused minor injuries to six corrections officers. Two other inmates were treated at the prison. About seven inmates in the facility were medically evaluated and decontaminated, but did not receive any other injuries, said a CIM spokesman. He said an investigation is ongoing, but the spill would likely be determined an accident. Inmates, he said, accidentally dropped a 55-gallon drum containing a liquid cleaning agent that had been approved for use by the state. A private company will clean up the spill. Chino Valley Independent Fire District firefighters were dispatched to provide emergency medical services to inmates and officers. The prison’s fire department was working to contain the spill when fire crews arrived. Source: http://www.contracostatimes.com/california/ci_16472136?nclick_check=1

For another story, see item [49](#)

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Information Technology Sector

39. *November 1, IDG News Service* – (International) **Facebook hits developers that passed user IDs to data broker.** Facebook is punishing several application developers for passing certain information to a data broker in the latest move by the social networking site to control growing concerns over privacy. Facebook will deny those application developers access to “communication channels” for 6 months, wrote a spokesman, on Facebook’s blog, October 29. The developers number fewer than a dozen, he said. The developers were being paid by a data broker for user IDs, unique numerical identifiers assigned to the site’s users, which can appear in a URL when they use the site. After an investigation into online privacy by the Wall Street Journal, Facebook said last month that in some cases user IDs were inadvertently being passed on to applications, which is against Facebook’s policy. The situation was due to a Web standard called referral URLs that lets a Web site know where a person was previously browsing. The user IDs do not contain personal information, but could lead to information that the person has chosen to display publicly. The latest revelation, however, shows that some application developers were then passing those user IDs to a data broker. Those brokers typically compile information to sell to advertising networks so users can be targeted with ads that are related to their personal interests.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9194199/Facebook_hits_developers_that_passed_user_IDS_to_data_broker

40. *November 1, Register* – (International) **RIAA and Anonymous sites both downed by DDoS assaults.** Hacktivists briefly took out the two main Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) Web sites October 29 as revenge for the organization’s long-running legal offensive against Limewire, which led to the closure of the controversial P2P service earlier in the week. Denizens from the loosely-affiliated Anonymous collective used its Low-Orbit Ion Cannon (LOIC) tool to swamp the Web sites of RIAA.org and RIAA.com with spurious traffic. The assault began around 5 p.m., Slyck.com reported. The assault was originally coordinated from the Operation Payback site (<http://tieve.tk>), which helped coordinate an ongoing series of distributed denial of service (DDos) attacks against entertainment industry Web sites that began last month. The campaign is designed to support The Pirate Bay and came in response to the Bollywood film industry’s use of hired guns prepared to launch DDoS attacks against file-sharing sites in cases where legal action failed to bear fruit. However, after tieve.tk itself came under attack, the attackers moved shop to anonops.net. Service to tieve.tk has largely been restored. The riaa.com and riaa.org sites remained unavailable from Europe, possibly as a deliberate defensive measure aimed at containing the latest in a long line of hack attacks against RIAA.

Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/11/01/riaa_anon_ddos/

41. *November 1, Softpedia* – (International) **Communist hackers build botnet to attack Vietnamese dissidents.** A new Trojan, created by a group of hackers sympathizing with the Vietnamese Communist Party, was specifically built to attack dissident Web sites and bloggers. The malware, which has been dubbed Vecebot by Atlanta-based

security vendor SecureWorks, was created and released around October 13. The Trojan drops several files called wuauct.exe, wuauserv.dll, and UsrClass.ini in a folder and installs itself as a service called Windows Update Components. The configuration file is downloaded from remote servers and defines parameters for HTTP DDoS against Web sites used by Vietnamese anti-establishment bloggers and civil rights activists. The list of targets includes x-cafevn.org, a popular dissident community Web site, which commonly criticizes the actions of the Vietnamese Communist Party. In addition to DDoS attacks, the server hosting x-cafevn.org and the administrator's computer were broken into. The hackers stole private e-mails and the forum's member database and published it online. The Vecebot botnet is believed to be comprised of between 10,000 and 20,000 infected computers at the moment, the majority of which are located in Vietnam. It is likely that this new Trojan is related to a different botnet called Vulcanbot, which targeted Vietnamese dissidents earlier this year.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Communist-Hackers-Build-Botnet-to-Attack-Vietnamese-Dissidents-163992.shtml>

42. *October 30, KXTV 10 Sacramento* – (California; National) **Citrus Heights man arrested in nationwide computer hacking case.** After using Facebook as a way to survey people and their private information from California to Connecticut, a 23-year-old was arrested October 29 on counts of computer intrusion, identity theft, and child pornography, according to the California Highway Patrol (CHP). The suspect was taken into custody from his home in Citrus Heights. The CHP said the suspect hacked into more than 170 e-mail and Facebook accounts nationwide. He was able to get access to private accounts by surveying Facebook pages, narrowing down password information, and ultimately breaking in, according to an investigator. The suspect is accused of using that data to obtain nude and semi-nude photos from those accounts, then distributing them. The CHP said he was also in possession of child porn. "Some of (the pictures) were extremely sexually explicit-natured that would shock the conscience of any parent who might receive them," said a sergeant of the California Highway Patrol's Computer Crimes Investigation unit. "I think the damage that's been done to victims throughout the country, it's irreparable."

Source: <http://www.news10.net/news/story.aspx?storyid=103310&catid=2>

43. *October 29, IDG News Service* – (Virginia) **IT director gets jail term for hacking former employer's site.** A man fired as IT director for a Richmond, Virginia, seller of telecom equipment has been sentenced to 27 months in prison for hacking into his former employer's Web site and deleting files, the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) said. The convict pleaded guilty to one count of intentionally damaging a protected computer without authorization June 29. He was sentenced October 29 in U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia and, in addition to the prison time, he was ordered to pay \$6,700 in restitution to Trans Marx, which sells discounted telecom equipment and supplies. The convict, of Richmond, worked at Trans Marx from February to June 2008, according to court documents. Before he was fired, he had access to the Trans Marx computer network, including the company Web site hosted in Georgia, the DOJ said. On July 25, the convict used a personal computer and an administrator account to access the computer hosting the company's Web site, and he

deleted about 1,000 files related to the Trans Marx site, the DOJ said.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9194027/IT_director_gets_jail_term_for_hacking_former_employer_s_site

44. *October 29, Canadian Press* – (International) **Student creates tool to fight Facebook hacking on WiFi.** A student at the University of Iceland has programmed a potential antidote to Firesheep, a hacking tool that can access social networking accounts over unsecured WiFi networks. It is called FireShepherd and it aims to stop Firesheep, which was apparently created with good intentions but has the potential to wreak havoc. A Seattle-based software developer released Firesheep as a way of informing Internet users about the dangers of using public WiFi networks that are not password protected. Hackers have long been able to intercept data that crosses open WiFi networks, but Firesheep makes it simple for virtually anyone to do it. The Icelandic student said FireShepherd is a way to protect against Firesheep while using public WiFi; it will also guard the other users on the same network. He said the program floods the network with data that should stop Firesheep from working. But he warns that FireShepherd will not protect against other more-sophisticated hacking methods, and users should still be cautious about what they do on a public network.

Source: <http://www.thestar.com/business/article/883046--student-creates-tool-to-fight-facebook-hacking-on-wifi>

45. *October 28, Ocala.com* – (Florida) **Former employee charged in Internet hacking of business computer.** Police said a man who hacked into his former Ocala, Florida employer's computer and deleted 10 orders worth more than \$5,000 turned himself in October 27 to authorities. The suspect was booked into the Marion County Jail at 9 p.m. October 27 and charged with offenses against intellectual property. He was released at 1:49 a.m. October 28 on \$1,000 bail. An employee at Florida Hydraulic Industrial at 4130 S.W. 13th St. told an officer that between 10:56 a.m. and 11:29 a.m. September 26, someone accessed their Web site and erased 10 orders worth \$5,348 in Internet sales. An Ocala police detective discovered the computer used to illegally enter the business site belonged to the suspect. The detective went to the suspect's home with a search warrant and seized computers that had evidence showing they were used to access the site.

Source:

<http://www.ocala.com/article/20101028/ARTICLES/101029692/1001/NEWS01?Title=Former-employee-charged-in-Internet-hacking-of-business-computer>

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>

Communications Sector

46. *October 31, Financial Times* – (International) **Android faces critical security study.** An analysis of the most critical part of the Android smartphone operating system has turned up programming errors, some of which could allow hackers or malicious applications to access users' e-mail or other sensitive information. The study examined the publicly disclosed version of the Android kernel — heart of Google's open-source software for phones — that shipped inside the HTC Droid Incredible phones. But the study said it is likely other Android phones have the same programming flaws. Android software could be updated wirelessly, so Google would be able to issue the fixes if it confirmed they were needed, a spokesman said. The study by Coverity, the code analysis group, serves as a reminder that smartphones are vulnerable to attacks even as the phones are welcomed more extensively in big companies. Research in Motion, maker of the BlackBerry, and Apple, maker of the iPhone, have also fixed critical security issues in their software through updates. While the number of Android kernel flaws Coverity turned up per 1,000 lines of code is lower than the average for open-source projects, 88 of the Android problems are "high-risk defects". They include improper memory access and memory corruption, and have "significant potential to cause security vulnerabilities, data loss, or quality problems such as system crashes."

Source: <http://www.ft.com/cms/s/2/10b955ba-e519-11df-8e0d-00144feabdc0.html>

47. *October 30, 2theadvocate.com* – (Louisiana) **AT&T works on cut cable on Comite Drive.** A construction crew working on Comite Drive off of Plank Road in Baton Rouge, Louisiana apparently cut a telephone cable October 29 causing up to 400 customers to lose service, an AT&T spokesman said. An executive director for AT&T Corporate Communications, said repair crews had been working several hours to restore service. Apparently crews working to widen Comite Drive cut what is known as a "400 pair cable," which can service as many as 400 lines, he said. The president of the Comite Drive Property Owners Association said October 29 construction crews working on the road-widening project had caused telephone service to be interrupted several times. "Twice in two months we've been without telephone service for an \$18 million, totally unnecessary center lane," he said. An outage August 24 lasted 5 days and affected 800 people, the association president said.

Source: <http://www.2theadvocate.com/news/106357478.html>

48. *October 30, Gloucester County Times* – (New Jersey; National) **Lawmakers call for a clear emergency signal for New Jersey.** Politicians and various branches of the Gloucester County, New Jersey emergency response team rallied October 29 to call for the Federal Communications Commission to intervene in new digital television signals that interfere with emergency communications frequencies. Broadcast stations from North Carolina, Connecticut and Massachusetts are being influenced by an atmospheric condition called Tropospheric Ducting, in which a digital signal gets trapped in a duct of cold air being overrun by warm air. Most common during periods of stable,

anticyclonic weather, authorities said the summer and autumn months create ideal conditions for this phenomenon, with temperature inversions occurring most frequently along coastal areas bordering large bodies of water. The broadcast signal gets trapped within these ducts created by overlapping channels of air, and follows a path sometimes up to 250 miles away, where it drops into and begins interfering with other signals carried on the same wavelength to which the DTV signal is broadcast. The digital signals are supposed to be restricted to a 50-mile radius based on their signal strength, but these air ducts cause them to travel much farther. As a result, radio signals between dispatch and emergency response teams such as the police and fire departments and EMS squads will become scratchy, garbled, or cut out altogether when these signals drop into the channel.

Source: <http://www.nj.com/gloucester/index.ssf?/base/news-6/1288427128298280.xml&coll=8>

49. *October 29, Associated Press* – (West Virginia) **Fibernet to develop notification procedures.** Fibernet officials said they will work to develop procedures for notifying emergency officials when it has a widespread outage in West Virginia. The company experienced two service interruptions in October 2010. Customers across the state lost telephone and Internet service for about 4 hours October 25. Another outage occurred in at least six counties October 10. The Charleston Gazette reported the state public service commission is investigating Fibernet's recent outages. Fibernet said it does not provide service to emergency services centers in West Virginia, but its customers include first responders such as the Charleston Fire Department. The Kanawha County Commission president said Fibernet must notify 911 centers in a timely manner when service is interrupted.

Source:

http://www.wtap.com/news/headlines/Fibernet_To_Develop_Notification_Procedures_106303788.html?ref=788

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Commercial Facilities Sector

50. *November 1, Associated Press* – (Washington) **Dozens evacuated as fire rages through apartments.** A fire raged through an apartment building in Spokane, Washington, and forced the evacuations of dozens of residents October 31. The Spokane fire chief said all 85 residents of the 29-unit complex were safe following the three-alarm blaze that drew the vast majority of the city's firefighters. He said the blaze gutted much of the southern side of the I-shaped building. The Spokesman-Review reported that the homes of a couple of dozen people were destroyed. The Red Cross set up a shelter for residents at a nearby church. The fire appeared to have started in a unit in the building's second floor, but there was no further word on the cause.

Source: http://www.seattlepi.com/local/6420ap_wa_fire_evacuees.html

51. *October 31, Charleston Post and Courier* – (South Carolina) **Charleston deputies find meth lab at hotel.** A 38-year-old man is in custody after Charleston County, South

Carolina, sheriff's deputies discovered a meth lab October 30 at a motel on Savannah Highway. Deputies were called to the motel behind the old Peter Miller's nightclub, 4213 Savannah Highway, around 10 a.m. to investigate a reported dispute between a man and a woman, a deputy said. They did not find a dispute. But when they approached the door of the room, a man took off running, he said. Deputies caught the man and discovered the room held materials used to make methamphetamine. The lab was not actively cooking a batch, he said. A hazardous materials crew was called in to remove the items. The North Charleston man is charged with manufacturing methamphetamine and was expected to have a bail hearing October 31.

Source: <http://www.postandcourier.com/news/2010/oct/31/charleston-deputies-find-meth-lab-hotel/>

52. *October 30, WVEC 13 Hampton Roads* – (Virginia) **2 charged in bottle bomb explosions at Mount Trashmore.** An 18-year-old and a juvenile have been arrested in connection with two explosions at Mount Trashmore in Virginia Beach, Virginia, October 30. The bottle bombs went off around 10 a.m. No one was injured. The first explosion occurred when someone threw a 2-liter bottle into a crowd that was gathered for the Harvest Festival. A patron noticed the bottle contents foaming and threw the bottle into a trash can, where it went off. A second bottle bomb exploded near Kids Cove. None of the children playing there were near the site of the explosion. "Bottle bombs can cause some serious injuries — maiming, even blindness could be caused by the solution," said a fire department official. "And when it discharges in public, it takes the threat to a whole different level, going from a potential prank to nearly reaching domestic terrorism," he stated. The two suspects were booked November 1, and the case was being screened with the Virginia Beach Commonwealth's Attorney to determine potential charges beyond manufacturing and use of an explosive device.

Source: <http://www.wvec.com/news/local/Mount-Trashmore-the-site-of-two-morning-explosions-106372484.html>

53. *October 30, CNN* – (Nevada) **Gunman arrested after Walmart standoff.** A gunman who opened fire on his co-workers at a Walmart in Reno, Nevada, was arrested without incident October 29 after a 6-hour standoff with authorities, Reno police said. Three employees were injured and two remained hospitalized that night in serious to stable condition, a police officer told CNN. The 46-year-old man will be charged with three counts of attempted murder in the shootings. The incident began at 8:30 a.m. when the man walked into the store and opened fire on employees before barricading himself in an office. It ended at 2:30 p.m. after hours of police negotiations. A possible motive for the attack was not immediately clear.

Source: <http://edition.cnn.com/2010/CRIME/10/29/nevada.walmart.shooting/>

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

54. *November 1, Associated Press* – (Virginia) **Firefighters battle wildfire in Page County.** Falling leaves are hampering efforts to extinguish a wildlife that has burned

almost 400 acres in the George Washington National Forest in Page County, Virginia. The Daily News-Record reported that firefighters set fire to about 182 acres October 31 in an attempt to prevent the blaze from spreading. The fire on the eastern slope of the Massanutten Mountain range was reported October 24. It was 60 percent contained October 31. A U.S. Forest Service spokeswoman said falling leaves are the biggest problem. The cause of the fire has not been determined.

Source: <http://www.wset.com/Global/story.asp?S=13421464>

55. *October 31, Watauga Democrat* – (North Carolina) **Fire burns woods near Shulls Mill Road.** Discarded fireplace ashes were believed to be the cause of a fire that broke out in the woods October 31 near Shulls Mill Road in North Carolina. The Foscoe Volunteer Fire Department responded just after 1 p.m. to a portion of land between Shulls Mill Road and Rockledge Knoll, less than 1 mile from Hound Ears Club. Assisted by the North Carolina Forest Service (NCFS) and later by the Boone Fire Department, the group got to work spraying the trees and leaves on the forest floor, building fire lines to help prevent the fire's movement and checking for hot spots that could flare up again. A ranger with NCSF said fireplace ashes dumped off the porch at Rockledge Knoll appeared to have started the fire.

Source:

http://www2.wataugademocrat.com/story/Fire_burns_woods_near_Shulls_Mill_Road_id_004078

56. *October 31, Associated Press* – (Louisiana) **Kisatchie wilderness fire 95% contained.** The U.S. Forest Service said a wildfire that burned nearly 4,400 acres of the Kisatchie Hills Wilderness Area in Louisiana is 95 percent contained but will continue to smolder — and smoke may be visible for weeks. An update posted October 30 said the wilderness area will remain closed until further notice. The rest of the Red Dirt National Wildlife Management Preserve and the Kisatchie National Forest remains open to the public. A 20-person fire crew is on duty to patrol, maintain firelines and set backfires when necessary. Once the fire is fully contained, crews will spread a mixture of native grass seed and fertilizer on the fire lines. The Forest Service said people should be very cautious on area roads because of smoke and firefighting traffic.

Source: <http://www.wxvt.com/Global/story.asp?S=13418035>

57. *October 30, United Press International* – (Colorado) **Colo. wildfire eases, evacuation lifted.** Firefighters got the upper hand on a wildfire October 30 west of Boulder, Colorado, allowing about 1,800 people to return to their homes, authorities said. The Boulder County sheriff said the evacuation order was lifted at 10 a.m. after fire crews got the Dome Fire 70 percent contained. The blaze had burned more than 150 acres, but no structures were threatened, he said. Windy conditions October 30 were making it difficult to fully subdue the flames despite 150 firefighters working fire, but the sheriff said plans were being formulated “for a full-frontal attack” October 31.

Source: http://www.upi.com/Top_News/US/2010/10/30/Colo-wildfire-eases-evacuation-lifted/UPI-55571288488614/

Dams Sector

58. *November 1, New Straits Times Press (Malaysia) Berhad* – (International) **Widespread flooding forces evacuation of 3,000.** Floods brought by overnight rain have caused the evacuation of more than 3,000 people in Perlis, Kedah, and Terengganu in Malaysia, October 31, and are threatening to force people out of their homes in Kelantan as well. There are fears the situation may worsen because the meteorological services department has warned of heavy rain through November 3. In Perlis, 1,096 people had been moved to nine relief centers, and the six sluice gates of the Timah Tasoh Dam have been opened as the water level at the dam was high.

Source:

http://www.nst.com.my/nst/articles/Widespreadfloodingforcesevacuationof3_000/Article/

59. *October 31, Fairbanks Daily News Miner* – (National) **Small leak reported at Ketchikan dam.** The Southeast Alaska Power Agency is reporting a “pinhole” leak of water coming through the concrete of the spillway near the top of the Swan Lake Dam. The agency said the small leak in the hydroelectric structure that serves Ketchikan is not a safety concern and does not reduce the dam’s structural integrity. The agency owns the dam that was built in the early 1980s near the head of Carroll Inlet about 25 miles northeast of downtown Ketchikan. A powerhouse near the dam generates about 45 percent to 55 percent of the Ketchikan area’s annual electricity supply. The Ketchikan Daily News reports recent heavy rains have raised water levels in the Swan Lake Reservoir to near the 330-foot level, where water starts moving over the dam’s spillway.

Source: http://newsminer.com/view/full_story/10115367/article-Small-leak-reported-at-Ketchikan-dam?instance=home_news_window_left_bullets

60. *October 29, Massillon Independent* – (Ohio) **Repairs needed at Rezzy dam.** The Sippo Creek Reservoir Dam in Massillon, Ohio is a hazard and a danger to human life, according to a study by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR). The city must repair it, replace it or remove it. It is aging and eroding to the point the Massillon Parks and Recreation Department must spend hundreds of thousands, if not 1 million dollars, to improve its condition. “We’re going to do everything we can as quickly as possible to make sure we come up and meet with all the department standards that they need us to to make sure we protect the dam, obviously human life and anything in its way if it were to collapse,” said the parks and recreation supervisor. But the ODNR does not consider the dam an extreme hazard and has not placed a timetable on repairs. ODNR’s Division of Soil & Water Resources conducted a safety inspection in May. The bricks and subwall are eroding and vegetation is growing through some of the masonry. The dam is 18 feet in height. It has a storage capacity in excess of 50 acres per foot. It was given a first-class hazard rating during the inspection, meaning that it poses a risk of “probable loss of human life.” ODNR does not know when the dam was constructed.

Source: <http://www.indeonline.com/news/x1272818466/Repairs-needed-at-Rezzy-dam>

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