



# Homeland Security

## Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 22 November 2010

### Current Nationwide Threat Level

ELEVATED



Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks

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

### Top Stories

- BankInfoSecurity.com reported a Malaysian man was arrested at an airport in New York City and charged with hacking into the Cleveland Federal Reserve Bank and stealing more than 400,000 credit and debit card numbers. (See item [12](#))
- Fifteen curbside baggage handlers at Miami International Airport were arrested for accepting cash payoffs from travelers to check in extra or overweight and/or unaccompanied bags or boxes, according to the Miami Herald. (See item [25](#))

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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 19, Press of Atlantic City* – (New Jersey) **Police: Hamilton Township power outage, traffic backups caused by DWI accident.** An alleged DWI accident in Hamilton Township, New Jersey cut power to thousands of homes — and caused morning-long traffic backups. The accident happened at 1:26 a.m. November 18 along Route 50, near Holly Street in the Laureldale section of the township. Police said a 25-year-old woman of Egg Harbor City was driving west on Holly Street and failed to stop

at a stop sign, crossed over four lanes of Route 50, including the grass median, then struck a utility pole. The woman and a 6-year-old inside the car were not injured, police said. That pole helped supply power to more than 1,000 Atlantic City Electric customers, leaving the region without power November 18. Subsequently, low-hanging wires caused two tractor trailers to become stuck while trying to exit the Atlantic City Expressway onto Route 50, shutting down the highway's exit 17 ramp for 4 hours. Hamilton Township police arrested the woman for driving while intoxicated. She also faced charges of careless driving, reckless driving, and driving while intoxicated with a minor passenger.

Source: [http://www.pressofatlanticcity.com/news/breaking/article\\_16bca37a-f3d5-11df-9ccc-001cc4c002e0.html](http://www.pressofatlanticcity.com/news/breaking/article_16bca37a-f3d5-11df-9ccc-001cc4c002e0.html)

2. *November 18, Denver Post* – (Colorado) **Power restored to 25,000 in Denver.** An estimated 25,000 Xcel customers in Denver, Colorado lost power November 18 because of a problem at the same substation that exploded in June. An Xcel spokesman said all power was restored before 7 p.m. Street lights were out in the area, and the fire department was busy working a number of elevator rescues in the area, according to a spokesman. No explosion was reported at the substation at 1310 Jackson St. Outages were reported from First to 26th avenues and Downing to Uinta streets. The widespread outages began at about 5:15 p.m. The explosion at about 6:30 p.m. June 7 knocked out power to about 31,000 customers in the same general area, after an explosion sent a fireball and tower of smoke above the busy neighborhood. One week later, a replacement part malfunctioned and caused outages to about 6,000 customers.

Source: [http://www.denverpost.com/commented/ci\\_16651366?source=commented-](http://www.denverpost.com/commented/ci_16651366?source=commented-)

3. *November 18, Annapolis Capital* – (Maryland) **Blaze ignites at BGE substation.** Dozens of county firefighters spent 6 hours November 17 battling a transformer fire at a Baltimore Gas and Electric Co. (BGE) power substation in Gambrills, Maryland. It was the second large fire at the substation, at 1155 Waugh Chapel Road, since late June. Firefighters were called to the substation around 4:30 p.m. and found a 30-by-30-foot live transformer ablaze, said a county fire department spokesman. Crews had to wait 30 minutes for BGE officials to disconnect power to the energized transformer before they could work on extinguishing the fire. The spokesman said the 500,000-volt transformer contains 50,000 gallons of mineral oil. Because there are no hydrants near the substation, firefighters had to shuttle water to the scene from another section of Waugh Chapel Road using five tanker trucks. More than 70 firefighters fought the blaze, dousing the flames with water and foam. The fire was under control at 11 p.m. Firefighters stayed on scene through the night and into November 18, applying foam to the transformer to keep it cool. While the transformer was in service at the time of the fire, the blaze had no impact on service for customers, said a BGE spokesman.

Source: <http://www.hometownannapolis.com/news/for/2010/11/18-40/Blaze-ignites-at-BGE-substation.html>

4. *November 18, Billings Gazette* – (Montana) **Gas vapors under Miles City Post Office prompt evacuation order.** In Montana, the Miles City Post Office was evacuated after

fuel vapors were detected in the offices on the building's main floor November 17. The gasoline leak was first discovered in the basement of the Lewis and Clark apartment building next to the Conoco Short Stop gas station off Seventh Street. The apartment manager reported an unusual odor to Montana Dakota Utilities October 25. The apartment building was evacuated. Crews from the state Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) were working to mitigate the vapors from the apartment so residents could return. It was believed about 9,700 gallons of fuel leaked from one of the tanks at the Short Stop. The DEQ brought in interior and exterior vapor extraction units that collect the gas fumes. More of the vapor extraction units were expected to arrive next week. The DEQ will continue to monitor the size of the gasoline plume and track its spread using ground wells and the water table. Postal operations and customer retail service will move to 715 Haynes Ave. beginning November 19, according to a press release from the U.S. Postal Service. The post office is expected to reopen the week after Thanksgiving.

Source: [http://billingsgazette.com/news/state-and-regional/montana/article\\_7c982106-c976-582a-8123-4ddf191e9ae7.html](http://billingsgazette.com/news/state-and-regional/montana/article_7c982106-c976-582a-8123-4ddf191e9ae7.html)

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## **Chemical Industry Sector**

5. *November 19, Sierra Vista Herald* – (Arizona) **St. David plant cited for high level of ammonia.** The Apache Nitrogen plant near Saint David, Arizona, received a “notice of violation” from the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) for incidents March 23 and 24, and June 25. On the two days in March, ammonia air pollution levels were more than nine times state emissions limits. On June 25, they were over twice permitted levels. A company official said this is leading to installation of a new ammonia scrubbing system. An ADEQ spokesman said in an e-mail that plant monitoring of the ammonia scrubbing devices indicated that only the two violations occurred, although there is no continuous monitoring of ammonia emissions.

Source: <http://www.svherald.com/content/news/2010/11/19/st-david-plant-cited-high-level-ammonia>

6. *November 19, Associated Press* – (Michigan) **EPA to remove hazardous chemicals near Rogers City.** Federal inspectors have been granted approval to remove drums of hazardous chemicals and other toxic substances near Rogers City in northern Michigan's Presque Isle County. The substances were discovered 18 months ago, but the government said it has been unable to reach an agreement with the property owners. A federal judge the week of November 15 granted a request by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to enter the Klee Road property. Chemicals such as hydrochloric acid, nitric acid and sulfuric acid were found in May 2009 during an unrelated investigation by postal authorities. The EPA said the owners were using chemicals to extract gold from jewelry. The property has three buildings, and is 60 miles southeast of the Mackinac Bridge.

Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/chi-ap-mi-hazardouschemical,0,7456433.story>

7. *November 18, Associated Press* – (Pennsylvania) **Crews clean up formaldehyde spill in Pa.; 1 hurt.** Hazardous materials crews are cleaning up a formaldehyde spill in York County, Pennsylvania, after a tractor-trailer leaked outside an electrical business. A tractor-trailer was delivering cargo to Marchineck Electric Company in Shrewsbury when it started leaking an unknown substance around 11:15 a.m. November 18. A York County spokesman said the material was eventually determined to be a formaldehyde solution. Officials said about 5 gallons leaked onto the road. The electric company and another business were evacuated. One man was taken to the hospital after complaining of dizziness.

Source: [http://www.ldnews.com/news/ci\\_16650113](http://www.ldnews.com/news/ci_16650113)

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

8. *November 19, Carson City Appeal* – (Nevada) **GOP seeks to revive Yucca project.** Three Republican Congressmen have served notice in a letter to the Office of Management and Budget that the battle over Yucca Mountain is far from over. The letters were written by Representatives from the states of Idaho, Washington, and Wisconsin, and they requested a review of the decision by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Chairman to shut down the review of the Department of Energy's (DoE) application to license the nuclear waste dump 100 miles north of Las Vegas, Nevada. They argue the issue is being litigated in federal court and that the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board rejected the DoE's motion to withdraw the license application. "I am greatly concerned by the NRC chairman's decision to unilaterally shut down the Yucca Mountain license application over the concern of other commissioners and Congress," the Idaho Representative said in the letter. The Nuclear Projects office director said the letter is nothing new. "The reason is simple: none of the other 49 states want nuclear waste in their state," he said.

Source:

<http://www.nevadaappeal.com/article/20101119/NEWS/101119599/1070&ParentProfile=1058>

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## **Critical Manufacturing Sector**

9. *November 18, Associated Press* – (National) **Toyota safety crash in spotlight after fatal Utah crash.** The deadly crash of a Toyota Camry in western Utah is being blamed on a sticky gas pedal, the same problem that led the world's largest automaker to recall the car for repairs early this year. The 2008 Camry slammed into a rock wall

near the Nevada border November 5, killing the driver and a passenger. The vehicle was the subject of three recalls, most recently for an accelerator that can get stuck in the open position. The crash raised questions about Toyota Motor Corp.'s system for repairing flaws in its vehicles. Safety advocates note that the government has received dozens of customer complaints about problems continuing even after a repair. A Toyota spokesman said the automaker was assisting the Utah Highway Patrol with its investigation. The automaker said it was too early to draw any conclusions about the cause of the crash. "We can't say definitely, but there is a strong likelihood that that in fact did cause the crash," a police officer at the scene told the newspaper.

Source: <http://www.longislandpress.com/2010/11/18/toyota-safety-in-spotlight-after-fatal-utah-crash/>

10. *November 18, Associated Press* – (International) **Airlines: Rolls modified engine before blowout.** Rolls-Royce modified a problematic section on new models of its engine for the world's largest jetliner months before one caught fire and blew apart over Indonesia, a Lufthansa spokesman said November 18. The chief executive of Qantas, meanwhile, said Rolls-Royce had made modifications to the Trent 900 engine without telling the airline or Airbus, which makes the A380 superjumbo. The officials' remarks were the strongest indication yet that Rolls-Royce had addressed a defect in new models of the engine while allowing Airbus A380 superjumbos to continue flying with unmodified older models. Lufthansa's first A380, delivered by Airbus May 19, had three newer versions of the Trent 900 engine and one older version, an airline spokesman said.

Source: <http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5hfV7sShP4-zswscy-FeUQuFQcy9Q?docId=10165f36a2b54bea89894f3cf0b9b958>

For another story, see item [22](#)

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## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

11. *November 19, Reliable Plant* – (Georgia) **Georgia plating company fined \$300,000 for exposing workers to hazardous chemicals.** The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) is proposing \$300,400 in penalties against Aerospace/Defense Coatings of Georgia Inc. in Macon, Georgia, for 19 health violations. OSHA began its inspection in May after receiving a complaint concerning personal protective equipment and the handling, storing, and disposing of chemicals. Inspections were conducted at all three Aerospace/Defense Coatings of Georgia plants and followed up on violations from 2005 and 2008. The company is being cited with four alleged willful violations with a proposed penalty of \$224,000. The violations are associated with respirator protection, chromium (VI) overexposure, personal protective equipment and failing to perform periodic monitoring of chromium (VI) exposure. The agency defines a willful violation as one committed with intentional knowing or voluntary disregard for the law's requirements, or with plain indifference to

worker safety and health.

Source: <http://www.reliableplant.com/Read/27492/Georgia-plating-company-fined>

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## **Banking and Finance Sector**

12. *November 19, BankInfoSecurity.com* – (International) **Cleveland Federal Reserve hacked.** A 32-year-old Malaysian man was arrested shortly after his arrival last month at John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York City. Authorities said he hacked into the Cleveland Federal Reserve Bank and several other computer systems, including a defense contractor. The Malaysian national faces a four-count indictment that charges him with hacking into computer systems, and the possession of more than 400,000 stolen credit and debit card numbers. “Cybercriminals continue to use their sophistication and skill as hackers to attack our financial and national security sectors,” said the United States Attorney for the Eastern District of New York. The suspect’s arrest comes just 1 month after authorities arrested a big cyber crime gang in the United States and Europe for similar crimes. When the suspect arrived in New York October 21, he was arrested hours later by Secret Service agents. The suspect, who is being held in pre-trial detention, “made a career of compromising computer servers belonging to financial institutions, defense contractors and major corporations, among others, and selling or trading the information,” said the United States Attorney for the Eastern District of New York.

Source: [http://www.bankinfosecurity.com/articles.php?art\\_id=3115](http://www.bankinfosecurity.com/articles.php?art_id=3115)

13. *November 19, Madison Capital Times* – (Wisconsin) **Former Park Bank official indicted for embezzling \$227,764.** The former assistant manager of Park Bank’s Sun Prairie, Wisconsin branch was indicted November 18 on accusations that he embezzled \$227,764 from the bank last year. The 26-year-old male, of Sun Prairie, who left the bank for unrelated reasons in June, appeared November 18 in U.S. District Court in Madison, where the U.S. Magistrate Judge ordered him jailed until an arraignment is held at a later date. According to a one-paragraph indictment unsealed November 18, the suspect took the money from the bank on or about August 27, 2009. If convicted, the suspect faces up to 30 years in prison. The case is being investigated by the FBI. An agency spokesman said he could not provide any further information. The Park Bank’s vice president of marketing said the suspect worked for Park Bank for more than 4 and a half years.

Source: [http://host.madison.com/wsj/news/local/crime\\_and\\_courts/article\\_60bd6ba2-7ef3-5877-8cee-51328c68fe98.html](http://host.madison.com/wsj/news/local/crime_and_courts/article_60bd6ba2-7ef3-5877-8cee-51328c68fe98.html)

14. *November 19, Reuters* – (National) **U.S. bars advance fees to loan modification companies.** Foreclosure rescue companies and loan modification firms, many of which have been accused of taking money from desperate homeowners and doing little for them, will no longer be allowed to require payment in advance, the Federal Trade



Commission (FTC) said November 19. The firms will be barred from asking for payment until home owners receive a written offer from a lender or other mortgage servicer that they decide to accept, the agency said. “At a time when many Americans are struggling to pay their mortgages, peddlers of so-called mortgage relief services have taken hundreds of millions of dollars from homeowners without ever delivering results,” the FTC Chairman said in a statement. The agency has brought more than 30 cases against the companies, which often promise to negotiate with lenders on the homeowners’ behalf and then fail to deliver. A report by the Government Accountability Office completed in July 2010 found home owners were often scammed out of several thousand dollars.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSN1811459420101119>

15. *November 19, Cherry Hill Courier-Post* – (Pennsylvania; New Jersey) **South Jersey robbery suspect strikes Philadelphia bank.** A bank robber, who is suspected of at least six holdups in New Jersey, on November 18 targeted a Center City bank in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania for the second time in 1 week. The robber took an undisclosed amount of cash from a Republic Bank office in the 800 block of Chestnut Street around 1:20 p.m. Authorities believe he robbed the same office November 11. The man also is suspected of robbing a TD Bank on the Black Horse Pike in Bellmawr, New Jersey September 30 and October 24. He is believed to have robbed New Jersey offices of Sun National Bank in Cherry Hill and Glendora, and a TD Bank in Cherry Hill during a spree that began September 21, according to the FBI. The man, who also robbed a 3rd Federal Savings branch in Philadelphia, attempted to hold up a Beneficial Bank in Audubon, New Jersey authorities said. The suspect, who is considered armed and dangerous, is described as a black man in his mid 20s, about 5-foot-7, with a medium build, a mustache and a goatee.

Source: <http://www.courierpostonline.com/article/20101119/NEWS01/11190316/S-J-robbery-suspect-strikes-Phila-bank>

16. *November 17, Toronto Globe and Mail* – (International) **Classified documents stolen from Bank of Canada Governor Mark Carney’s car.** The Bank of Canada is dealing with a serious security breach after a thief smashed the window of the Central Bank Governor’s unattended car in Montreal, Quebec, Canada, and made off with a travel bag containing classified documents. Confirming the theft on November 16, a Bank of Canada spokesman said the stolen documents had differing levels of security classification, and included staff reports and briefing notes that would not affect markets. None of the documents were related to sensitive policy areas such as the direction of interest rates.

Source: <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/politics/classified-documents-stolen-from-bank-of-canada-governor-mark-carneys-car/article1801978/>

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## **Transportation Sector**

17. *November 19, Aspen Daily News* – (Colorado) **Patience wears thin as FAA equipment problem returns.** After a third unsuccessful start-up, a navigational aid atop Aspen Mountain in Aspen, Colorado used to guide planes landing at the airport shut off November 17, prompting a federal aviation director to meet with frustrated and uneasy local officials at city hall November 18. The Federal Aviation Administration has been working on replacing the equipment since October 8, when officials estimated it was a 2-week project. With problems persisting for more than 1 month since, and ski season less than 1 week away, several local officials foretold calamitous local economic repercussions if it isn't up and running soon. The inoperable system affects most flights into Aspen, which are operated by SkyWest for United Airlines. The airport's other carrier, Frontier Airlines, is unaffected because it uses global-positioning technology to land and does not need the on-the-ground aid.  
Source: <http://www.aspendailynews.com/section/home/143775>
18. *November 19, Honolulu Star Advertiser* – (Hawaii) **United workers evacuate building.** About 50 workers evacuated a United Airlines building at Honolulu Airport in Hawaii November 18 because of a sulfurous smell, shortly after emergency medical personnel were called to treat a woman complaining of chest pains. The female employee was taken by ambulance to a Honolulu hospital and her condition was unknown, according to the state Department of Transportation (DOT). Although some evacuated workers complained about the smell, about 100 other workers remained in the building, the DOT said, adding it did not know if the woman's problem was linked to the smell. Airport fire officials checked the building but were unable to detect any chemical readings, and the odor apparently dissipated, the DOT said. They said a possible cause was cooking by workers inside the building. Employees returned to the building at 11:15 a.m., about 35 minutes after the evacuation.  
Source:  
[http://www.staradvertiser.com/news/hawaii/news/20101119\\_United\\_workers\\_evacuate\\_building.html](http://www.staradvertiser.com/news/hawaii/news/20101119_United_workers_evacuate_building.html)
19. *November 19, WDEL 1150 AM Wilmington* – (Delaware) **PA truck driver ticketed for crash that shut down 495 N.** A Pennsylvania man faces a traffic charge after his tractor-trailer crashed into a guardrail on I-495 northbound in Delaware November 18, snarling traffic for several hours. Delaware State Police said the driver was tailgating on 495 near the Edgemoor Road interchange shortly before 1 p.m., and lost control of his rig when the traffic in front of him suddenly slowed down. The tractor-trailer hit the left guardrail, then the right, with the truck's cab going over the rail. The driver and his passenger were trapped inside for about 1 hour and a half until emergency workers could stabilize the truck — they were then taken to Christiana Hospital. Interstate 495 northbound was shut down for about 2 and a half hours, the left lane re-opened after that, and the center lane re-opened around 6:30 p.m. — the right lane is still closed due to guardrail damage and environmental concerns.  
Source: <http://www.wdel.com/story.php?id=716143976661>
20. *November 19, Reuters* – (International) **U.S. dummy bomb sparked airport terror scare.** A suspicious suitcase found in Namibia at Windhoek airport that triggered an



international alarm was only a test of local security and did not contain any explosives, the German interior minister said November 19. Namibian police found the suitcase in routine security checks during loading ahead of a German tourist flight to Munich, Namibian and German authorities said November 18. On November 19, the German interior minister told a news conference that Federal Crime Office (BKA) experts examined the suitcase and found it was a test suitcase designed to check security. “BKA officials have examined it and the result is that it is a so-called ‘real test suitcase’ from a U.S. company,” he said. “This company produces alarm and detection systems and these test suitcases are made to test security measures,” he added. “No explosives were found in the suitcase and at no time was there any danger to passengers.”

Source: [http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/40270827/ns/world\\_news-europe/](http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/40270827/ns/world_news-europe/)

21. *November 19, Associated Press* – (New York; New Jersey) **Downed wires strand rail passengers in NJ.** A commuter train became entangled in damaged overhead wires November 19, stranding about 100 passengers for more than 2 hours and causing delays for hundreds of other rail riders along Amtrak’s busy Northeast Corridor. A New Jersey Transit (NJ Transit) train headed to Trenton from New York City’s Penn Station got stuck east of Metropark station around 7 a.m., a NJ Transit spokeswoman said. Rail service out of New York City was suspended for about 90 minutes because the wires covered three of the four tracks in the area. Amtrak trains faced delays of up to 1 hour, an Amtrak spokesman said. The passengers on the disabled train were transferred to another train after 9 a.m., according to another NJ Transit spokesman. NJ Transit passengers faced residual delays on the Northeast Corridor throughout the morning. NJ Transit was moving crews and equipment into position and expected a normal evening commute home. Amtrak was trying to determine what caused the damage.

Source: <http://online.wsj.com/article/APc851e43f7e484b4f9397d87aed618088.html>

22. *November 18, Associated Press* – (National) **FAA orders window fix for Boeing 747s.** The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) plans to add the Boeing 747 to the list of planes that must have their cockpit windows either inspected or replaced because of the danger of an electrical fire. The FAA issued a similar order for other Boeing planes in July. The problem is that the window heaters on some planes have had electrical arcing or even open flames. Boeing has acknowledged at least 29 incidents since 2002. Some of them led to forced landings. The proposed order was slated to be published November 19. It would cover 251 U.S.-registered 747s. The FAA estimated that each inspection cycle would cost 747 operators \$5.4 million.

Source: <http://abcnews.go.com/Business/wireStory?id=12183417>

23. *November 18, Shreveport Times* – (Louisiana) **Bridge closed after accident.** Motorists on Mira Levee Road in north Caddo Parish, Louisiana are being forced to find an alternate route of travel after a bridge was damaged in a traffic crash November 18. A 24-year-old man from Mira, was traveling westbound when he rounded a curve in his 1996 GMC truck and hit the bridge’s guardrail. The truck landed upside down in a gully near the bridge. The driver was not injured, but left the truck at the crash site and

failed to notify authorities of the accident. A citizen later reported finding the truck. The driver was cited for careless operation and failure to report an accident. Authorities said the bridge will be closed for at least the next week while it is repaired.

Source:

<http://www.shreveporttimes.com/article/20101118/NEWS01/101118015/Bridge-closed-after-accident>

24. *November 18, Associated Press* – (National) **Windshield cracks on California-bound Delta flight.** A Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) spokesman said a Delta Air Lines jet bound for Southern California had to divert to Dallas-Fort Worth because of a cracked windshield. A FAA spokesman said Delta Flight 1795 declared an emergency November 18 while en route from Atlanta, Georgia, to John Wayne Airport in Orange County. He said the Boeing 737 landed in Texas without incident at 12:29 p.m. The FAA is investigating. A John Wayne Airport spokeswoman said the passengers continued on another plane and arrived in Orange County at 3:30 p.m.  
Source: <http://abcnews.go.com/Business/wireStory?id=12186791>

25. *November 17, Miami Herald* – (Florida) **Miami International Airport ‘skycaps’ caught in baggage scam.** Dozens of curbside baggage handlers at Miami International Airport in Miami, Florida accepted cash payoffs from travelers to check in extra or overweight bags or boxes — creating a possible security risk and adding extra, unrecorded pounds to airliners, authorities said. Miami-Dade police arrested 15 baggage handlers November 17 employed by Eulen America, the company contracted to check in luggage for American Airlines. The sweep concluded a 9-month investigation spearheaded by Miami-Dade police airport district detectives, American Airlines security, and state prosecutors. Investigators believe the travelers were mostly business operators shipping goods to Latin America who had cultivated relationships with skycaps over months or years. The probe revealed the travelers would call and arrange the deals with skycaps days in advance. In some cases, unaccompanied bags were sent through — an apparent violation of federal transportation regulations for international flights.  
Source: <http://www.miamiherald.com/2010/11/17/1931088/airport-skycaps-caught-in-baggage.html>

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## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

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## **Agriculture and Food Sector**

26. *November 19, Honolulu Star Advertiser* – (Hawaii) **Quarantine proposed to stop spread of coffee borer beetle.** A state agricultural advisory committee has recommended an emergency quarantine on the Island of Hawaii to prevent the spread of a beetle that could severely damage Hawaii's \$27-million coffee-farming industry. The board of agriculture is scheduled to meet at 8 a.m. November 23 at the plant quarantine office, 1849 Auiki St., to consider the measure. The advisory committee on plants and animals November 17 recommended a quarantine for 1 year on all coffee plants and unroasted beans in areas of Kona and Kau, unless farmers follow various procedures to reduce the spread of the coffee berry borer. The committee did not specify methods that might be used to kill the beetle and its larvae. Various methods to eliminate the beetle, including moisture reduction and heat and chemical treatments, were discussed during the public meeting, with the final list to be determined later. A statewide survey found the coffee berry borer, *Hypothenemus hampei*, present at 21 sites in Kona and Kau as of November 15. No other island was found to have the pest. Farmers in those areas will be required to have their products undergo a method of eliminating the beetles before coffee plants, parts of plants, unroasted beans, or related equipment can be transported elsewhere.
- Source:  
[http://www.staradvertiser.com/news/20101118\\_Quarantine\\_proposed\\_to\\_stop\\_spread\\_of\\_coffee\\_borer\\_beetle.html](http://www.staradvertiser.com/news/20101118_Quarantine_proposed_to_stop_spread_of_coffee_borer_beetle.html)
27. *November 19, Associated Press* – (Illinois; Indiana ) **Hatchery admits selling quarantined fish to Ind. undercover officer despite ban on sale.** The owner of an Illinois fish hatchery has admitting selling an undercover officer quarantined fish intended for stocking a northern Indiana pond. The Post-Tribune of Merrillville, Indiana, reported a federal plea agreement calls for the owner of Richmond, Illinois-based Keystone Hatcheries to plead guilty to an indictment charging it with one count of selling fish without being permitted to do so and pay a \$75,000 fine. The charge against Robinson Wholesale alleged Keystone Hatcheries agreed to sell fish to an undercover Indiana wildlife officer, even though it was banned from selling fish in 15 Indiana counties following an outbreak of a deadly fish disease transmitted by parasites. Court records said Indiana officials stopped a truck carrying those fish before it arrived at a Porter County pond.
- Source:  
[http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/1e7c59b05d03480899b670d69c274044/IN--Quarantined\\_Fish-Charges/](http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/1e7c59b05d03480899b670d69c274044/IN--Quarantined_Fish-Charges/)
28. *November 19, Food Safety News* – (California) **Residue gets in human food from animal drug misuse.** Tissue samples of a cow sold by Pastime Lakes Dairy near Lakeview, California, for slaughter as food to American Beef Packers Inc. were tested by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) and found to contain flunixin residue at higher than allowed tolerance levels. According to a November 8 warning letter sent to Pastime by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the USDA tests found 0.162 parts per million (PPM) of flunixin in the liver tissue. FDA's tolerance level for flunixin in the edible tissues of an animal is 0.125 PPM. "Our investigation also found that you hold animals under conditions that are so

inadequate that medicated animals bearing potentially harmful drug residues are likely to enter the food supply,” the warning letter said. In an inspection conducted last September, FDA found Pastime was not following label instructions for flunixin meglumine and tetracycline hydrochloride, an anti-infective agent.

Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2010/11/residue-gets-in-human-food-from-animal-drug-misuse/>

29. *November 18, Associated Press* – (Tennessee) **12 counties declared disasters, will receive assistance.** Twelve more counties and adjoining counties in Tennessee have been designated a natural disaster for agriculture because of drought and excessive heat during the growing season. According to a November 18 news release from the Tennessee governor, the 12 counties are Benton, Bledsoe, Blount, Carroll, Greene, Loudon, McMinn, Meigs, Monroe, Roane, Warren, and Weakley. Adjoining counties also received the designation: Anderson, Bradley, Cannon, Cocke, Coffee, Cumberland, DeKalb, Decatur, Gibson, Grundy, Hamblen, Hamilton, Hawkins, Henderson, Henry, Houston, Humphreys, Knox, Madison, Morgan, Obion, Perry, Polk, Rhea, Sequatchie, Sevier, Stewart, Unicoi, Van Buren, Washington, and White. The federal designation makes farmers in the counties eligible to apply for low-interest loans and supplemental farm payments.

Source:

[http://www.volunteertv.com/news/headlines/12\\_counties\\_declared\\_disasters\\_will\\_receive\\_assistance\\_109042509.html?ref=509](http://www.volunteertv.com/news/headlines/12_counties_declared_disasters_will_receive_assistance_109042509.html?ref=509)

30. *November 18, Kearney Hub and Associated Press* – (Nebraska) **Cozad man charged with failing to do mad cow disease reports.** A two-count indictment against a Cozad, Nebraska, man alleging that he provided false information to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is among 23 indictments charging 25 defendants announced November 17 by a U.S. attorney. The indictments were returned by a federal grand jury for the District Court of Nebraska. According to a press release from the U.S. attorney, it is alleged the man provided false information to HHS on or about September 10, 2009, as an employee of the Nebraska Department of Agriculture. The man’s job duties required him to contact cattle producers, perform inspections of cattle operations, and collect samples of cattle feed for the purpose of detecting potential contaminants such as bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), also known as mad cow disease. The indictment alleged he provided false BSE reports to the Food and Drug Administration by stating he had made contact with and interviewed cattle owners, inspected premises, and collected samples of cattle feed when, in fact, he had not done so. The maximum penalty for this count includes 5 years imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine, 3 years of supervised release, and a \$100 special assessment.

Source: [http://www.kearneyhub.com/news/local/article\\_bd160750-f31e-11df-8d34-001cc4c03286.html](http://www.kearneyhub.com/news/local/article_bd160750-f31e-11df-8d34-001cc4c03286.html)

31. *November 18, Associated Press* – (Indiana; National ) **USDA investigating cattle brokerage for bad checks.** One of the nation’s largest cattle brokerages is under investigation after federal regulators said the Indiana company left ranchers nationwide hanging for \$130 million. U.S. Department of Agriculture officials said November 18

that Eastern Livestock Co. wrote checks totaling about \$81 million to buy cattle in November that have been returned for insufficient funds. The agency said Eastern may owe cattle farmers across the Midwest and West as much as \$130 million. Many ranchers are hurting from rising costs and bad weather, and it is unclear how they will get their money back. Eastern's assets are frozen and the company is bonded for only \$875,000.

Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D9JIQEM01.htm>

32. *November 18, KXXV 25 Waco* – (Texas) **Two people hospitalized after ammonia leak in Bell County.** A Central Texas community is safe again after an Anhydrous Ammonia spill sent two people to the hospital November 18. It happened at the Blackland Grain and Storage in Heidenheimer, just southeast of Temple, around 8:20 p.m. Hazardous fumes sent two men to the hospital. One of them was in critical condition. Two other people drove themselves to the hospital to get checked out. Some of them had to be hosed down to get the chemical off of them. Firefighters said a valve on an ammonia tank was not sealed off all the way likely causing the leak. Highway 36 was closed until about 1 a.m. as the chemical was cleaned-up. Little River Academy Volunteer Fire Department initially responded. They requested assistance from Temple Fire & Rescue. A total of 24 Temple fire personnel responded. An engine company was dispatched to the Scott & White Emergency Department to help with decontamination procedures at the hospital. Hazardous materials technicians in encapsulated chemical suits made entry into a building on the property and located a partially opened valve on a transport tank (tank mounted onto a trailer). The valve was closed by the technicians. An investigation determined the release was accidental.

Source: <http://www.kxxv.com/Global/story.asp?S=13534110>

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## **Water Sector**

33. *November 19, NaturalNews* – (Minnesota) **DEET chemical now being found in municipal water supplies.** The Minnesota Department of Health (MDOH) is conducting an investigation into the popular insect repellent N,N-Diethyl-meta-toluamide (DEET), in response to concerns over its prevalence in groundwater, rivers and lakes that serve as drinking water sources. DEET has also been detected downstream of wastewater treatment plants. "We shower, it goes down the drain, and it ends up in wastewater that goes into rivers," a state toxicologist said. DEET, the active ingredient in most chemical insect repellents, may be toxic to the nervous system. Little is known about DEET's effects if ingested in drinking water. A 2004 U.S. Geological Survey study found it was among the top 10 most commonly detected chemicals in a survey of 65 Minnesota lakes and streams. A 2006 study confirmed the chemical's presence in one-third of 43 Mississippi River sites tested in the state, while a 2009 study found it in every one of 12 lakes and four rivers tested. As a consequence, MDOH designated DEET as one of seven "chemicals of emerging concern" whose safety it will assess during the coming year.

Source: [http://www.naturalnews.com/030446\\_DEET\\_water\\_supply.html](http://www.naturalnews.com/030446_DEET_water_supply.html)

34. *November 18, Salt Lake Tribune* – (Utah) **Dangerous levels of mercury in Park City’s water.** Park City, Utah, in conjunction with the Utah Division of Drinking Water, is running tests the week of November 15 after high levels of mercury and other metals were found in five areas. Complaints of off-color water came pouring in after the city changed drinking water sources to allow for snow making at Park City Mountain Resort, according to the city water manager. About 300 residences and businesses in Thaynes Canyon, Aspen Springs, Saddle View, Iron Canyon, and Park City Mountain Resort have been advised not to drink or cook with tap water. Last week, the municipality switched its Spiro Tunnel water to Park City Mountain Resort for the ski season. At the same time, it turned on its Judge Tunnel and Thiriot Springs sources to fill municipal drinking water needs. A decrease in water acidity, or pH-level, made the water more corrosive, the water manager said. The more acidic water could be dissolving buildup in pipes, she said. Mercury readings jumped from a permissible 2 parts per billion to as high as 16 parts per billion in affected areas. Arsenic, manganese and thallium were also identified at unacceptable levels, according to the director of the state division of drinking water. Officials believe the problem lies with the Thiriot Springs water. It will be diverted to the Spiro Water Treatment Plant where its pH can be adjusted. Ongoing tests should reveal whether the plan is working.  
Source: <http://www.sltrib.com/sltrib/home/50696942-76/park-drinking-levels-mercury.html.csp>

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## **Public Health and Healthcare Sector**

35. *November 19, Vacaville Reporter* – (California) **Emergency drill checks Solano County hospitals’ readiness for disasters.** Some 300 volunteers or “victims” in Solano County, California, helped out November 18 during a simulated medical surge exercise (disaster drill) arranged by the Solano County Public Health, Emergency Services Bureau. Emergency crews and hospitals responded to the simulated multivictim incident caused by a mock explosion at the truck scales on Interstate 80 in Cordelia. The incident would have closed both directions of traffic had it been real. The mock incident scene, however, was not near the highway but instead set up at Solano Community College. The purpose of the drill, according to the Solano County health education manager, was to exercise local hospitals’ emergency department capacities to treat patients in multivictim incidents. At NorthBay Medical Center in Fairfield, 79 victims were seen and another 75 at VacaValley. Kaiser Permanente in Vacaville “treated” 35 victims. “It is only by conducting exercises and testing our capability that we can identify where our shortfalls exist,” said the emergency medical services administrator.  
Source: [http://www.thereporter.com/news/ci\\_16656386](http://www.thereporter.com/news/ci_16656386)
36. *November 18, San Bernardino County Sun* – (California) **Test simulates hospital explosions.** Many agencies in San Bernardino County, California, participated November 18 in a simulation of the complex information sharing that would be necessary if improvised explosive devices struck 4 of the county’s 18 hospitals.



Individual units will analyze results in the coming weeks, but officials in charge of disaster preparation for county agencies and hospitals involved in the drill said preliminary results were encouraging but showed several areas needing improvement. “No matter how well you prepare, you always learn something with these drills,” said the director of Inland Counties Emergency Medical Agency. The program coordinator with the San Bernardino County Department of Public Health said the test highlighted the mass of information that must be exchanged when the county system as a whole faces a surge — detailed information sharing among hospitals and law enforcement, requests for resources from state agencies, and more.

Source: [http://www.sbsun.com/news/ci\\_16651903](http://www.sbsun.com/news/ci_16651903)

37. *November 18, Cypress Times* – (Michigan) **Medical assistant sentenced to 46 months in prison for his role in a fraudulent home health scheme.** A medical assistant was sentenced November 17 to 46 months in prison for his role in a conspiracy to defraud the Medicare program, the departments of Justice and Health and Human Services announced. The man was also sentenced by a U.S. District Judge in the Eastern District of Michigan to 2 years of supervised release following his prison term, and was ordered to pay \$2.8 million in restitution. The man pleaded guilty in June 2010 to one count of conspiracy to commit health care fraud. He admitted he was responsible for submitting or causing the submission of approximately \$2.8 million in false or fraudulent claims to the Medicare program between July 2008 and April 2009.

Source:

[http://www.thecypresstimes.com/article/News/National\\_News/MEDICAL\\_ASSISTANT\\_SENTENCED\\_TO\\_46\\_MONTHS\\_IN\\_PRISON\\_FORHIS\\_ROLE\\_IN\\_A\\_FRAUDULENT\\_HOME\\_HEALTH\\_SCHEME/36393](http://www.thecypresstimes.com/article/News/National_News/MEDICAL_ASSISTANT_SENTENCED_TO_46_MONTHS_IN_PRISON_FORHIS_ROLE_IN_A_FRAUDULENT_HOME_HEALTH_SCHEME/36393)

38. *November 18, Federal Bureau of Investigation* – (North Carolina) **Two North Carolina residents indicted on health care fraud charges.** The United States Attorney’s Office for the Western District of North Carolina announced two health care fraud indictments November 18, which are the work of the newly formed Western District Health Care Fraud Task Force. The former executive director of Mecklenburg Open Door (MOD) was indicted on charges of embezzling \$147,000 from the non-profit community mental health agency in Charlotte, North Carolina. He faces a maximum statutory penalty of 10 years’ imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine, or both, as to each criminal count. A Charlotte woman is charged in a 27-count bill of indictment which alleged she submitted more than \$600,000 in false Medicaid claims. If convicted, she faces a maximum statutory penalty of 10 years of imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine, or both, as to each criminal count.

Source:

[http://7thspace.com/headlines/364148/two\\_north\\_carolina\\_residents\\_indicted\\_on\\_health\\_care\\_fraud\\_charges.html](http://7thspace.com/headlines/364148/two_north_carolina_residents_indicted_on_health_care_fraud_charges.html)

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## **Government Facilities Sector**

39. *November 19, KWTX 10 Waco* – (Texas) **Area school threat may have originated in Saudi Arabia.** Authorities in Williamson County, Texas, and agents of the FBI believe an Internet-linked bomb threat against a school in Round Rock may have originated with a juvenile in Saudi Arabia. The Facebook-related incident led to the evacuation November 16 of two schools in the Round Rock Independent School District. After inspection authorities did not find any suspicious devices at either Deerpark Middle School or Live Oak Elementary School. A Williamson County sheriff's official said November 18 the suspect, who could face charges, was never in Texas, and that the Deerpark school evidently was randomly targeted. The official said the suspect posed as a Deerpark student and also allegedly called several students. The FBI is also investigating. Making a false alarm or report is a state jail felony.

Source: <http://www.kwtx.com/home/headlines/109186454.html>

40. *November 19, Washington Post* – (District of Columbia) **Commerce Department hit by series of power outages.** The work is getting done, but the lights keep going out at the Commerce Department's headquarters in downtown Washington D.C. — the latest of several problems at some of the region's federal buildings. Rooms in two sections of the massive Herbert C. Hoover Building on Constitution Avenue NW went dark November 17 for the fourth time in days. An outage last week forced an early dismissal for some workers, according to the department. The outages are also affecting a computer network linked to other parts of the building. Power was quickly restored November 17, and the outages have affected only 250 of the building's 3,000 workers, according to a department spokeswoman. Officials continue to inform workers about the outages and are asking the General Services Administration — which owns and operates most federal buildings — to address the problem. Antiquated electrical equipment is to blame, said a GSA spokeswoman. "We believe we have prevented some future problems by separating our construction-zone power load entirely from the problematic breakers, and we will continue to reduce the load on those breakers that have failed."

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/11/18/AR2010111806347.html>

41. *November 18, Nashville Tennessean* – (Tennessee) **Mishap wipes out 500 Metro hard drives.** An accidental command wiped out the data on the hard drives of more than 500 computers in several Metro departments in Nashville, Tennessee, but the mayor said it did not do much damage because employees do not keep much data on those drives. A technician doing routine system work November 16 inadvertently sent out a command to clear the hard drives. The information destroyed is specific to each computer user, said the chief information officer for Metro's Information Technology Services department. Any data that might include information about citizens on the affected hard drives was destroyed and would not be available to any other user or system, the official said. The damaged computers were in the mayor's office, the fire department, finance, human resources, information technology services, water services, and the emergency command center. Documents, spreadsheets, letters, notes, and photos are examples of the type of data that could typically be stored on a hard drive. The emergency communications center said computers were down for 10 minutes, but there

was no impact on emergency services, a spokeswoman said.

Source: <http://www.tennessean.com/article/20101118/NEWS02/11180337/Mishap-wipes-out-500-Metro-hard-drives>

42. *November 18, UPI* – (Washington) **Contaminated mice hunted at nuclear site.** Workers at the decommissioned Hanford nuclear complex in Washington said they are looking for a radioactive mouse, following the capture of a radioactive rabbit. Radioactive mouse droppings have been found in the same area where radioactive rabbit droppings were found this month, officials of Washington Closure Hanford said. The company is responsible for cleaning up waste sites, demolishing buildings, placing two plutonium production reactors, and one nuclear facility in interim safe storage at the decommissioned nuclear production complex on the Columbia River, the Tri-City Herald said.  
Source: [http://www.upi.com/Top\\_News/US/2010/11/18/Contaminated-mice-hunted-at-nuclear-site/UPI-35581290125729/](http://www.upi.com/Top_News/US/2010/11/18/Contaminated-mice-hunted-at-nuclear-site/UPI-35581290125729/)

43. *November 18, KCRG 9 Cedar Rapids* – (Iowa) **Dubuque City Hall evacuated for bomb threat.** One man's bomb threat closed down the entire city hall in Dubuque, Iowa, and blocked traffic for almost 4 hours November 18. A bomb squad discovered there was not anything explosive inside a suitcase left in front of city hall. A 68-year-old male now faces a charge of felony false report. Police said he claimed he had a bomb inside a suitcase. That caused police to shut down four blocks around the downtown Dubuque building, and evacuate several surrounding businesses. Two teenagers told police they saw the suspect carrying two black suitcases in front of city hall. He then made mention of some sort of an explosive device inside the bags. Police started blocking off the streets surrounding city hall around 3:30. Officers evacuated everyone working inside city hall, and the neighboring businesses.  
Source: <http://www.kcrg.com/news/local/Dubuque--109032374.html>

For another story, see item [45](#)

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## **Emergency Services Sector**

44. *November 19, Las Cruces Sun-News* – (New Mexico; International) **Hazardous materials drill to shut down port.** Local, state, and federal government agencies on both sides of the U.S.-Mexico border will conduct a full-scale hazardous materials drill November 22. The emergency drill is planned to test communications and the multi-agency binational response to such an incident just south of the Santa Teresa-Jeronimo Port of Entry in New Mexico. The port is scheduled to be closed to north- and south-bound traffic between 10 a.m. and noon, as part of the drill. Dona Ana County law enforcement and emergency management, as well as officials from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Customs and Border Protection, Border Patrol, and New Mexico State Police will participate in the exercise.  
Source: [http://www.lcsun-news.com/las\\_cruces-news/ci\\_16656027](http://www.lcsun-news.com/las_cruces-news/ci_16656027)

45. *November 18, San Francisco Golden Gate X-Press* – (California) **Chemical scare prompts evacuation of police station.** A chemical reaction caused the San Francisco State (SFS) Police Station in California to be evacuated November 18 after SFS police used a testing kit to identify a substance they obtained on a call, according to a SFS spokeswoman. The initial reaction occurred at 4:45 p.m., prompting about five fire trucks to arrive at the scene and officials marked off the area directly in front of the police station. “When the substances combined, it caused an unexpected reaction,” she said. Neither the SFS spokeswoman nor the deputy police chief could confirm the substance, but an industrial hygienist will perform preliminary testing on the materials. Paramedics arrived on the scene and examined five people but there were no injuries. One person was sent to a hospital for further evaluation, three were determined fine, and one person was in triage.  
Source: <http://xpress.sfsu.edu/archives/news/015825.html>

For more stories, see items [35](#) and [52](#)

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## **Information Technology Sector**

46. *November 19, IDG News Service* – (National) **Wiseguy scalpers bought tickets with CAPTCHA-busting botnet.** Three California men have pleaded guilty to charges they built a network of CAPTCHA-solving computers that flooded online ticket vendors and snatched up the very best seats for Bruce Springsteen concerts, Broadway productions, and even TV tapings of Dancing with the Stars. The men ran a company called Wiseguy Tickets, and for years they had an inside track on some of the best seats in the house at many events. They scored about 1.5 million tickets after hiring Bulgarian programmers to build “a nationwide network of computers that impersonated individual visitors” on Web sites such as Ticketmaster, MLB.com, and LiveNation, the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) said November 18 in a press release. The suspects pleaded guilty to hacking and wire fraud charges November 18 in U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey. Two convicts face a maximum of 5 years in prison. The third, who pleaded guilty to just one count of hacking, faces 1 year in prison. The suspects were indicted in February and are set to be sentenced March 15, 2011. A fourth Wiseguy Tickets partner, the chief financial officer, is still at large, DOJ said.  
Source:  
[http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9197278/Wiseguy\\_scalpers\\_bought\\_tickets\\_with\\_CAPTCHA\\_busting\\_botnet](http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9197278/Wiseguy_scalpers_bought_tickets_with_CAPTCHA_busting_botnet)
47. *November 19, ITProPortal* – (International) **German hacks national security agency’s hashing algorithm.** A German hacker has claimed to have hacked the national security agency’s Secure Hashing Algorithm (SHA1) using rented computing resources. The hacker used GPU-powered rented computing resources to crack 10 out of the 14 SHA1 passwords he was aiming for. He used brute force attacks to achieve the hack in 49 minutes. He managed to hire the computing resources used to hack the SHA1 encryption for \$2. Security experts have warned for quite some time that the

once powerful password encryption technique is no longer safe to use.

Source: <http://www.itproportal.com/2010/11/19/german-hacks-national-security-agencys-shal/>

48. *November 19, First Post* – (International) **Murdoch website hacked by Iranian Cyber Army.** The Web site of the popular Iranian satellite channel Farsi1 was reportedly hacked November 18 by a group calling itself the Iranian Cyber Army, which is thought to operate under the aegis of the revolutionary guard. The hacking was timed for the start of the Muslim festival of Eid — otherwise known as the festival of sacrifice. Moby runs Farsi1 in partnership with Star TV, the Hong Kong-based TV service owned by News Corp. Farsi1 has been constantly criticized by the Iranian regime, which sees its mix of comedy, soap opera, and U.S.-born programming as corrupting and destructive of family life. As for the Iranian Cyber Army, according to the Persian Letters blog on Radio Free Europe's Web site, it is almost certain that it is run by the Iranian Revolutionary Guard.

Source: <http://www.thefirstpost.co.uk/71740,news-comment,technology,murdoch-tv-website-hacked-by-iranian-cyber-army>

49. *November 18, Computerworld* – (International) **Apple patches critical 'drive-by' Safari bugs.** Apple November 18 patched 27 vulnerabilities in Safari for Mac OS X and Windows, 85 percent of them critical bugs that could be exploited to hijack Macs or PCs. Of the 27 flaws fixed in Safari 5.0.3 for Mac and Windows, four were patched by Apple in September in its iOS mobile operating system, and at least three had been addressed by Google in its Chrome browser as far back as mid-August. Chrome and Safari share the open-source WebKit browser engine. Apple identified all 27 vulnerabilities it patched as within WebKit. Most of the vulnerabilities addressed in the Safari updates — Apple also patched the older Safari 4 that runs in Mac OS X 10.4, aka Tiger — were accompanied by the phrase "arbitrary code execution," which is Apple's way of saying "critical." According to Apple, the 23 critical bugs can be exploited by "drive-by" attacks that launch as soon as a victim browses to a malicious Web site. Among the non-critical vulnerabilities was one that could be used by unscrupulous site owners to secretly track users' browsing habits, even when Safari has disabled cookies. Another flaw could let identity thieves spoof the URL showing in Safari's address bar, a common tactic of phishers who feed bogus sites to users in the hope of capturing passwords to online bank accounts.

Source:

[http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9197184/Apple\\_patches\\_critical\\_drive\\_by\\_Safari\\_bugs](http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9197184/Apple_patches_critical_drive_by_Safari_bugs)

50. *November 18, The Street* – (International) **Yahoo! Finance back up.** The Yahoo! Finance Web site was back up and running after going down November 18. The company acknowledged the outage via its Twitter feed. At about 10:45 a.m., Yahoo! Finance tweeted, "Our apologies for the quotes outage. Working to resolve ASAP." Visitors that tried to view the Yahoo! Finance quote page saw a white screen with the message, "internal error - server connection terminated."

Source: [http://www.thestreet.com/story/10926612/1/yahoo-finance-back-up.html?cm\\_ven=GOOGLE](http://www.thestreet.com/story/10926612/1/yahoo-finance-back-up.html?cm_ven=GOOGLE)

51. *November 17, Computer Business Review* – (National) **McAfee warns users against 12 online scams this Christmas.** McAfee has revealed the 12 most dangerous online scams computer users should be cautious in this holiday season. The “Twelve Scams of Christmas” include iPad offer scams, “Help! I’ve Been Robbed” scam, fake gift cards, holiday job offers, “Smishing”, suspicious holiday rentals, recession scams, Grinch-like greetings, low price traps, charity scams, dangerous holiday downloads, and hotel and airport wi-fi. McAfee Labs director of security research said scams continue to be big business for cybercriminals who have their sights set on capitalizing on open hearts and wallets. McAfee advised Internet users to follow five tips to protect their computers and personal information in lieu of these cyber threats. The security firm has advised users to stick to well-established and trusted sites, and not to respond to offers that arrive in a spam e-mail, text, or instant message. McAfee also advised online users to preview a link’s Web address before clicking, to stay away from vendors that offer prices well below the norm, and to only use trusted wi-fi networks.

Source: <http://security.cbronline.com/news/mcafee-warns-users-against-12-online-scams-this-christmas> 161110

For another story, see item [12](#)

### Internet Alert Dashboard

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

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

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## Communications Sector

52. *November 19, Champaign News-Gazette* – (Illinois) **Complete AT&T fix may take a couple of days.** An outage of phone and Internet service was caused by a break in an AT&T line on the University of Illinois campus November 18. An AT&T spokeswoman indicated in an e-mail that the fix might take days to complete. “There is extensive damage to several cables and we expect this rather tedious process of splicing pairs of cables together to take some time. We’d expect some customers will begin coming back online as soon as November 19, but complete restoration could take several days,” the spokeswoman said. She was unable to give the number of affected customers. The break happened shortly after 8:30 a.m. when a third-party contractor was taking core samples near Illinois Street and Mathews Avenue in Urbana and an auger struck the cables. At METCAD, the center that dispatches emergency personnel in most of Champaign County to calls for service, the first hint that there was something wrong came when the deputy director’s computer went “haywire.” The 911



phone lines were rerouted to the Rantoul Police Department by 9:30 a.m. METCAD officials called in extra employees to help field calls there and began notifying the media to let the public know about the glitch.

Source: <http://www.news-gazette.com/news/technology/2010-11-19/complete-att-fix-may-take-couple-days.html>

53. *November 19, Tech Herald* – (International) **Nokia N8 smartphone struck by terminal power malfunction.** Nokia's flagship N8 smartphone has been struck by a mysterious malfunction that causes it to abruptly power down permanently. According to Nokia, the problem points to an installation conflict connected to the handset's power management system and its internal engine. "We have dressed it down to the way we assemble the engines," commented the executive vice president in an AFP report, adding that "precautionary measures" have already been deployed in order to fully isolate the issue. However, although admitting there is an issue, a spokesman for the Finland-based company has been quick to note that the power outage has only affected an extremely small number of N8 devices. He also said the problem is covered by the handset's existing warranty and any device that cannot be properly repaired will be replaced with a new unit at no extra charge.

Source: <http://www.thetechherald.com/article.php/201046/6439/Nokia-N8-smartphone-struck-by-terminal-power-malfunction>

54. *November 19, The Register* – (International) **Chinese retailers sell Apple-only white iPhone 4s.** Chinese resellers are offering locals the white iPhone 4. According to Web site Giz-China, one can pay between \$828-\$1,205 for the 16GB version, and more for the 32GB model. The handset was labeled in Chinese that the product is for Apple use only and not to be sold. The site said the phones are locked to the AT&T network, suggesting they were destined for the U.S. market rather than the domestic one. That Apple has stocks of the much-delayed — and possibly doomed never to be released — white iPhone was suggested October 2010 when one of the things was spotted in the hands of a user in New York. He said he got it from a friend who works at Apple. Whether the China-sold white iPhones come from there, from Apple's Chinese operation, or from one of its manufacturing partners is not known. The latter were certainly the source for the parts an enterprising New York teenager used as the basis for the black-to-white iPhone 4 conversion kits he has done rather well selling — to the extent he was accused of fencing stolen goods.

Source: [http://www.reghardware.com/2010/11/19/china\\_white\\_iphones/](http://www.reghardware.com/2010/11/19/china_white_iphones/)

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## **Commercial Facilities Sector**

55. *November 19, KSTP 5 St. Paul* – (Minnesota) **Cigarette sparks Fridley apartment fire, building evacuated.** Firefighters said a cigarette is to blame for an apartment fire that evacuated residents November 19. The fire started around 2:30 a.m. on the fifth floor of an apartment building on the 400 block of Mississippi Street in Fridley, Minnesota. Fire investigators believe the cigarette fell on a rug in an apartment unit,

causing the fire. Heavy smoke filled the fifth floor of the building, forcing residents to quickly evacuate the building. The woman inside of the apartment was taken to a nearby hospital for smoke inhalation. Firefighters said no one else was injured.

Source: <http://kstp.com/article/stories/s1846941.shtml>

56. *November 18, KOTV 6 Tulsa* – (Oklahoma) **Tulsa fire: Woman injured in Tulsa fire jumped from sixth floor.** Emergency crews responded to a fire at an apartment building in Tulsa, Oklahoma, November 18. The fire broke out at the Hewgley Terrace Apartments at 4th and Lawton. Police said the initial call went out as a stabbing, when a woman stabbed a man. Officers were chasing the suspect when she ran into her apartment and set it on fire. When firefighters tried to go inside, they saw her jump out the sixth floor window. The woman, believed to be in her 50s, is in the hospital with serious injuries and will eventually be booked into jail. Tulsa police said 17 officers were treated for smoke inhalation. At least four of those officers were taken to the hospital. The building was evacuated, but residents were allowed back inside a short time later. Firefighters said the fire was contained to one apartment.

Source: <http://www.newson6.com/Global/story.asp?S=13533992>

57. *November 18, Reuters* – (Colorado) **Activist admits setting fire to Colorado sheepskin store.** A self-described animal-rights activist known on the Internet as “Lone Wolf” pleaded guilty in federal court November 18 to arson in a fire that destroyed a Denver, Colorado sheepskin business. The man admitted in U.S. district court to setting the fire that burned the Sheepskin Factory to the ground April 30, 2010. The store sold sheepskin blankets, rugs, and related products. Authorities were led to the suspect after an informant told them the man — who called himself “Lone Wolf” on the Internet and has the word “Vegan” tattooed in his neck in large letters — bragged on an animal rights Web site that he “torched” the business. The man faces up to 30 years in federal prison and a maximum \$500,000 fine when he is sentenced at a later hearing. The man has a prior arson conviction in Iowa and is a suspect, while not charged, in two other arson cases of a leather store and a restaurant in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Source: <http://wsau.com/news/articles/2010/nov/18/activist-admits-setting-fire-to-colorado-sheepskin/>

58. *November 18, KCTV 5 Kansas City* – (Kansas) **Fire crews: Chemical scare from homemade bug spray.** Kansas City, Kansas, fire crews and a hazardous materials team spent hours investigating an apartment alarm at 1742 S. 40th Street November 18 that turned out to be a resident who had attempted to make their own bug spray. A Kansas City fire spokesman had initially said an “illicit drug lab” was at the center of the high-rise complex, called Douglas Heights Apartments. The sixth, seventh, eighth, and ninth floors of the apartment building were evacuated. No injuries were reported. Residents have been taken to the Argentine Community Center while the building was being examined. Fire officials said chemical fumes from an apartment on the seventh floor triggered a fire alarm. Fire officials found chemicals originally believed to be part of a methamphetamine lab inside an apartment, but came to a different conclusion after

questioning a woman who was inside the apartment.

Source: <http://www.kctv5.com/news/25838499/detail.html>

For another story, see item [43](#)

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## **National Monuments and Icons Sector**

59. *November 19, WSAZ 3 Huntington* – (Ohio) **Coal fire spotted in Wayne National Forest.** The Wayne National Forest in Ohio is on fire, but not at first glance. That is because it is an underground coal fire, according to the Wayne National Forest Public Affairs Office. A small amount of smoke coming up from the ground was discovered November 18 by federal firefighters near Nelsonville in Athens County, where a wildfire happened back in April. Forest officials issued an emergency closure for the next 48 hours. The public is being urged not to visit the site, as there are potential unsafe conditions. Heavy equipment to contain the fire is expected to be used the weekend of November 20 and 21.

Source:

[http://www.wsaz.com/news/headlines/Underground Coal Fire On Wayne National Forest\\_109182809.html?ref=809](http://www.wsaz.com/news/headlines/Underground_Coal_Fire_On_Wayne_National_Forest_109182809.html?ref=809)

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## **Dams Sector**

60. *November 19, KFGO 790 AM Fargo* – (North Dakota; Minnesota) **Another flood survery from the Corps.** The Army Corps of Engineers said it is working on a new plan that would eliminate any impacts on people living downstream from a Fargo-Moorhead diversion in North Dakota and Minnesota. The plan would involve two major changes: The first would include a large water storage area just north of the diversion inlet. That would put it roughly south and east of Horace, North Dakota. The second would involve a levy and gates that would back up the Red River to the south of the diversion by 3 to 7 feet. The biggest result would be no additional downstream flooding. A Corps spokesman said impacts would be felt to the south of the diversion for up to 7 miles. That is better than the hundreds of miles expected to be impacted north of the Fargo-Moorhead area under the other plans. A Cass County commissioner said 800 homes could be affected to the south, including the Oxbow, Minnesota area. That compares to more than 4,000 homes that would be affected to the north of Fargo-Moorhead.

Source: [http://www.kfgo.com/news\\_Detail.php?ID=11971](http://www.kfgo.com/news_Detail.php?ID=11971)

61. *November 18, Hannibal Courier-Post* – (Missouri) **Spillway erosion threatens Lake Apollo.** For the second time in 2 years, privately-owned Lake Apollo, in Hannibal, Missouri, is experiencing problems that could lead to a catastrophic draining that would create a nightmare for those downstream. City personnel were mobilizing November 17

in an effort to help deal with the problem that faces residents near the lake. In 2009, the city helped save Pioneer Lake in western Hannibal by providing a pump unit. It was used to lower the water level after problems arose with a new out-fall pipe on the lake's eastern side. According to a city engineer, the lakes' problems are not all that dissimilar.

Source: <http://www.hannibal.net/features/x794468719/Spillway-erosion-threatens-Lake-Apollo>

62. *November 18, USA Today* – (South Carolina) **Protecting shortnose sturgeon could cost S.C. utility millions.** A state-owned utility that supplies power to about 2 million South Carolina residents is contesting a study that could require it to spend more than \$130 million to build devices to allow an endangered fish species to swim from the sea to its spawning grounds above two dams. A draft report this summer by the National Marine Fisheries Service, a branch of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, said the shortnose sturgeon, a federally designated endangered species, is in jeopardy of extinction. The report calls on the South Carolina Public Service Authority, which operates the dams of the Santee Cooper Hydroelectric Project and is awaiting license renewal, to install fish lifts — essentially elevators, or some other device — that will allow the fish to swim over the dams and into the lakes to reach the headwaters that are their ancient spawning grounds. The utility said it could lose more than \$1 billion in lost electrical generation over the life of its next license.

Source: [http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2010-11-19-shortnosesturgeon19\\_ST\\_N.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2010-11-19-shortnosesturgeon19_ST_N.htm)

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