



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 26 November 2010

Current Nationwide Threat Level

ELEVATED

Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks

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

Top Stories

- According to the Associated Press, a woman charged with making threats that caused 300 Broward County, Florida schools to be locked down was arrested November 23, federal authorities said. (See item [43](#))
- According to BBC News, one fifth of Facebook users are exposed to malware contained in their news feeds, claim researchers at security firm BitDefender. (See item [49](#))

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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 24, Omaha World-Herald News Service* – (National) **Pipeline spill response plans faulted.** An environmental watchdog group says that emergency spill response plans for Canadian crude oil pipelines crossing Nebraska are inadequate, including the pipelines' location far from spill-response equipment and resources. "Areas that have suffered through oil spills, such as Alaska and the Gulf Coast, have large amounts of equipment and personnel ready to go. The northern Great Plains does not," said the group, Plains Justice, in a report issued November 23. The group, which has offices in

Vermillion, S.D., and Cedar Rapids, Iowa, says pipeline operator TransCanada has given only “lip service” to such concerns and should be required to substantially upgrade its response plans. A TransCanada spokesman said that while the company had not yet completely digested the report, its emergency response plans meet all federal requirements and have adequate equipment to handle any spills in remote areas crossed by their pipelines. Its equipment, the report said, is between eight and 13 hours driving distance from Yankton, S.D., where the Keystone Pipeline crosses the Missouri River. Source: <http://www.omaha.com/article/20101124/NEWS01/711239862/0>

2. *November 24, WLEX 18 Lexington* – (Kentucky) **SUV hits rack of propane tanks.** One man was hospitalized after an SUV ran into a rack of propane tanks outside of a Rowan County, Kentucky, Walmart. Police say three men were inside that SUV when it took out a concrete post and hit a metal cage containing propane tanks up against an outside wall of the store. EMS transported one of the men to the hospital. None of the tanks ruptured and there was no fire or explosion. Investigators were not yet sure why the SUV crashed. Source: <http://www.lex18.com/news/suv-hits-rack-of-propane-tanks>
3. *November 24, Bloomberg* – (Louisiana; Texas) **Shell ordered to operate 360,000-barrel-a-day pipeline at reduced pressure.** Royal Dutch Shell Plc must reduce operating pressure on its 360,000-barrel-a-day pipeline from Houma, Louisiana, to Houston by 20 percent, under a corrective- action order issued November 23 by U.S. regulators. The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) found that the company failed to identify an indication of corrosion during a 2007 inspection of the pipeline, according to the order. The pipeline was shut after it leaked about 1,000 barrels of oil November 16. “There is valid cause for concern about other potential sites along the affected pipeline that may have been assessed in a similar manner and should be re-evaluated and investigated for the threat of failure,” the agency said in the order. The cause of the failure is not known and the investigation is ongoing, according to the order. Preliminary assessments by Shell and PHMSA “indicate that the cause of the failure may have been external corrosion,” according to the order. Shell was in the process of restarting the line, a company spokesman said November 23. The conduit, known as the Ho-Ho pipeline system, makes deliveries to refineries in Texas and Louisiana with a combined daily capacity of more than 1.2 million barrels, according to data compiled by Bloomberg. The segment that failed was constructed in 1952, according to PHMSA. Source: <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2010-11-24/shell-ordered-to-operate-360-000-barrel-a-day-pipeline-at-reduced-pressure.html>
4. *November 24, Brockton Enterprise* – (Massachusetts) **Fire under toppled power-line stanchion in Middleboro under control.** About two acres of land were reported burning under power lines between Route 105 and Plain Street at 10:15 a.m. November 24 after a wooden light stanchion toppled during high winds. The fire was under control and smoldering by 11:45 a.m. Fire officials were concerned that a shift of wind could threaten homes on Plain Street and erected a barrier to protect them. Crews from NStar were expected to shut down electrical service on the lines. The police chief said a wooden tower supporting secondary transmission lines appeared to have rotted. It

snapped around 7:45 a.m., caught fire and fell on local power lines that serve Oak Point and the surrounding area, causing a brief outage for more than 1,000 homes. Middleboro Gas & Electric quickly re-routed service and restored power. Wind gusts of up to 35 miles per hour were reported in Middleboro, though it was not immediately known what caused the stanchion to collapse.

Source: <http://www.enterpriseneews.com/topstories/x1384137584/Fire-erupts-after-power-line-stanchion-falls-in-high-winds-in-Middleboro>

5. *November 24, Bismarck Tribune* – (North Dakota) **Second ‘frac’ spill worries officials.** Two spills during oil well fracture treatments in four months — the last one November 20 — has North Dakota’s chief oil regulator poised to bear down to prevent more incidents as drilling intensifies in the oil patch. The head of the state’s Department of Mineral Resources, said he plans an in-house review of drilling policies to make sure they are adequate to prevent future repeats. His agency was already preparing for a complaint against Denbury Resources of Texas, for an apparent violation that caused a fracture blowout and 2,500-gallon spill near Killdeer in early September. November 20’s spill occurred at a Whiting Petroleum Corporation well eight miles northwest of New Town. The well was shut down after 5,600 gallons of chemical-laced fracture water and 420 gallons of oil were spilled inside a lined dike around the well. Since 2008, after four wells failed during fracture treatments, North Dakota has required that drillers install pressure relief valves to prevent blowouts. The Killdeer well blew out when the fracture pressure spiked up to 9,000 psi, a third higher than normal, without adequate relief valving. That spill also was contained within a dike. Groundwater monitoring around the Killdeer well detects no contamination. Source: http://www.bismarcktribune.com/news/local/article_ad40e1b8-f78f-11df-be35-001cc4c002e0.html
6. *November 23, Associated Press* – (Kentucky) **Man killed in Eastern Kentucky mine.** A contract employee at an eastern Kentucky mine has died after his vehicle overturned. A statement from the Kentucky Office of Mine Safety said a 32-year-old of Perry County died November 23 at Rex-Strip Coal Mine in Harlan County. The statement said the employee was on his way to service equipment when the truck he was driving went out of control. Mine investigators were on the scene most of the morning and planned to return November 24 to conduct interviews. Rex-Strip Mine has been closed until further notice, according to the statement. The death is the seventh mine-related fatality in the state in 2010. Source: http://www.wsaz.com/news/headlines/Man_Killed_in_Eastern_Kentucky_Mine_110158209.html
7. *November 23, Naperville Sun* – (Illinois) **Cause of power outage sought.** Investigators from Naperville, Illinois’ department of public utilities/electric November 23 continued to seek the cause of a power outage that at one point affected more than 2,000 customers on the west and far northwest sides of the city. “We had a transformer trip out at the west side substation” near the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway tracks and Route 59, said the department’s director. The transformer failure, which occurred at 3:10 p.m. November 23, in turn “affected service to the Jefferson substation” on

Jefferson Avenue near the Kraft Foods manufacturing plant, he said. An estimated 2,166 homes and businesses went dark during the outage, he said. The affected area stretched in an L-shape from roughly North Aurora and Frontenac roads on the far northwest side, south along Route 59 to Aurora Avenue, and east to River Road. The Naperville police station and Fire Station No. 1, on the 1300 block of Aurora Avenue, were among those buildings losing power, although the blackout never impacted the city's ability to provide emergency services. Half of the affected customers had their power restored within 30 minutes, the director said. The others remained in the dark for as long as 90 minutes, or until 4:40 p.m., at which point service had been restored to everyone. Electrical department workers were continuing to investigate the reason for the transformer trouble and subsequent outage.

Source: <http://napervillesun.suntimes.com/news/2528779-418/affected-curran-outage-power-aurora.html>

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Chemical Industry Sector

8. *November 24, WFIN 1330 Findlay* – (Ohio) **No one hurt in industrial spill.** No one was injured early November 24 in a chemical spill at an asphalt plant west of Findlay, Ohio. The Hancock County EMA says that the accident happened at the Shelly Company on County Road 313 around 7:45 a.m. Between 50 and 70 gallons of an adhesive substance were spilled into a dry ditch. The Ohio EPA has been notified about the spill.

Source: <http://www.wfin.com/localnews201.asp?id=5911&storyno=6>

9. *November 23, KRIV 26 Houston* – (Texas) **Highway 59 reopens after chemical truck fire.** A dangerous truck fire November 23 closed the Eastex Freeway in both directions near the town of Cleveland, Texas. Officials say a tanker truck carrying an acrylic acid caught fire, blocking traffic at the Liberty-San Jacinto county line. The fire was first reported around 5 a.m. November 23. The highway was reopened around 8 a.m. According to officials, the fire started in the truck's cab. It is not clear if the flames spread to the acidic load. Hazmat was called to the scene, but firefighters were kept at a distance due to the dangerous cargo. No injuries were reported.

Source: <http://www.myfoxxhouston.com/dpp/traffic/101123-truck-fire-shuts-down-eastex-freeway>

10. *November 23, Associated Press* – (Georgia) **Crews clean derailed chemical train.** Crews worked November 23 to clean up a chemical train that was derailed in Burke County, Georgia. A Norfolk Southern Railway spokeswoman said all 38 derailed cars had either been rerailed or moved to the side of the track. Authorities said Highway 17 was reopened after the accident and that the half of the damaged track has been repaired.

Source: <http://www.wtvm.com/Global/story.asp?S=13559957>

11. *November 23, Associated Press* – (Oklahoma; National) **Chemical company to pay \$270M for enviro cleanup.** Tronox Inc., an Oklahoma company that makes specialty chemicals used in paints and other products, has agreed to pay \$270 million for cleanup of contaminated sites in 22 states. The company agreed to the payments as part of a bankruptcy settlement announced November 23. The company will pay the money to states, the federal government, and court-approved trusts for future cleanup and administration at sites contaminated by Tronox and its predecessor companies. Tronox also will transfer to the governments and trusts an 88 percent share of its interest in a pending lawsuit against the company's former parent company, Kerr-McGee Corp., and its parent company Anadarko Petroleum Corp.
Source: <http://abcnews.go.com/Business/wireStory?id=12228887>

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

12. *November 24, Brattleboro Reformer* – (Vermont) **Tritium cleanup finished at VY.** Groundwater remediation at Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant wrapped up on November 18, according to the Vermont Department of Health's website. The water, contaminated by tritium, is being shipped to a treatment facility in Tennessee. Also on November 18, the NRC held a non-public exit meeting for its groundwater contamination inspection "At this point, however, the inspection results remain preliminary and therefore we would not provide details," said a spokesman for the NRC. "The inspection report is due out within 45 days. That report will contain our formal findings for the inspection." Yankee technicians removed 309,000 gallons of groundwater from beneath the plant, 9,000 of which was cleaned up and returned to the plant's reactor system. The remaining 300,000 gallons is being loaded into tanker trucks for disposal in Tennessee. The last shipment is expected to leave the plant the end of this month. The groundwater was contaminated by a leak of tritiated water that was discovered earlier this year.
Source: http://www.reformer.com/localnews/ci_16697538
13. *November 24, Lower Hudson Journal News* – (New York) **Indian Point 2 back on line.** Indian Point 2 went back on line early November 24, 17 days after a transformer fire shut it down, a company spokesman said. The 1,000-megawatt reactor was shut down around 6:39 p.m. November 7 according to procedure with no release of radioactive material, a company spokesman said at the time. The transformer that caught fire was not part of the nuclear operation. There were no injuries. This was the second emergency shutdown of Indian Point 2 this fall and the third since 2008.
Source: <http://www.lohud.com/article/20101124/NEWS02/11240369/-1/newsfront/Indian-Point-2-back-on-line>
14. *November 24, Associated Press* – (New Mexico) **EPA recertifies nuclear waste dump in NM.** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has recertified the federal government's underground nuclear waste repository in southeastern New Mexico. The U.S. Department of Energy says the EPA recertified the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant east of Carlsbad on November 18. Officials say that verifies the plant remains in

compliance with federal regulations. The recertification was based on independent technical analyses, public comments, and a review of information submitted by the Energy Department. The repository, known as WIPP, opened in 1999. It buries defense-related radioactive waste in rooms mined from an ancient salt formation 2,150 feet below the desert floor. The Assistant Energy Secretary for Environmental Management said the EPA concluded WIPP continues to meet regulatory performance requirements.

Source: <http://www.newswest9.com/Global/story.asp?S=13561674>

15. *November 24, Pueblo Chieftain* – (Colorado) **Uranium exploration to expand by 2,220 acres.** County commissioners on November 23 narrowly passed a resolution approving expanded uranium exploration in the Tallahassee Creek area of Colorado, putting into place stringent guidelines aimed at protecting water. The commission voted 2-1 to allow Australia-based Black Range Minerals' request to expand exploration on an additional 2,220 acres of property known as the Hansen Deposit, which is believed to be the largest uranium deposit in the district. In passing the resolution, commissioners also put into place 34 conditions the company must abide by to continue exploration. A Black Range explorations manager asked the commission to consider changing one of the conditions from twice-a-year water well monitoring to once a year. He also requested the proposed water sampling take place twice a year on wells within a half-mile of exploration areas and only once a year for wells outside of the half-mile range. The commission denied that request. The Commission chairman said the stringent conditions may be unprecedented for prospecting and exploration.

Source: http://www.tradingmarkets.com/news/stock-alert/blkmf_uranium-exploration-to-expand-by-2-220-acres-1328834.html

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

16. *November 24, Bloomberg* – (International) **Rolls-Royce Trent 900 users should focus on oil pipes, EASA says.** Operators of Rolls-Royce Group Plc Trent 900 engines, used on the Airbus SAS A380 superjumbo, should focus their inspections on the oil-service tubes in the turbines, the European Aviation Safety Agency said. The instruction follows an analysis of engine data supplied by airlines, the regulator said in a so-called emergency airworthiness directive to A380 operators with Trent engines, published on November 22. It is the regulator's second such instruction since the blowout of a Trent 900 turbine on a Qantas Airways Ltd. jetliner on November 4. Maintenance crews should inspect the air-buffer cavity and focus on the oil-service tubes within the high-pressure and intermediate-pressure sections of the engines. The directive replaces one published on November 10. As with the prior instruction, where an engine is mounted on a plane, the checks must be made within 10 flight cycles and then again at least every 20 cycles.

Source: <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2010-11-24/rolls-royce-trent-900-users-should-focus-on-oil-pipes-easa-says.html>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

17. *November 24, WRAL 5 Raleigh* – (North Carolina) **Hazmat crews called to Cree in RTP.** Two contractors working at Cree, Inc. in Research Triangle Park in Durham, North Carolina, were transported to the hospital after coming into contact with hydrochloric acid November 23, a Bethesda Volunteer Fire Company chief said. Crews were called to 3026 E. Cornwallis Road for a pipe burst around 3 p.m., but the issue was upgraded to an acid spill, the department said. The contractors immediately washed the acid off in nearby showers, which are located throughout the building as a precaution. They were taken to Duke University Hospital as a precaution. The building was evacuated when hazmat crews arrived, and the pipe that was leaking the acid was immediately shut off.

Source: http://www.wral.com/news/news_briefs/story/8676689/

18. *November 23, DoD Buzz* – (National) **Schwartz concerned about F-35A delays.** The Air Force Chief of Staff is concerned that delays in software engineering for the F-35A Lightning II Joint Strike Fighter could delay the service's fielding of the jet. He said that while the plane is ahead of schedule in terms of test flights, test points, and has had no "failures or surprises" structurally, delays in writing code for the plane have him worrying about whether it will reach initial operational capability by early 2016. "There are some issues with respect to timing on software development, and we don't have complete understanding on whether or not that will affect the IOC [initial operational capability] which was predicted after the Nunn-McCurdy assessment to be April of 2016," he said. The Air Force plans to buy 1,763 of the jets, making it the largest F-35 customer in the world.

Source: <http://www.dodbuzz.com/2010/11/23/schwartz-concerned-about-f-35a-delays/>

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Banking and Finance Sector

19. *November 24, Krebs on Security* – (International) **Crooks rock audio-based ATM skimmers.** Criminals increasingly are cannibalizing parts from handheld audio players and cheap spy cams to make extremely stealthy and effective ATM skimmers, devices designed to be attached to cash machines and siphon card + PIN data, a new report warns. The European ATM Security Team (EAST) found that 11 of the 16 European nations covered in the report experienced increases in skimming attacks last year. EAST noted that in at least one country, anti-skimming devices have been stolen and converted into skimmers, complete with micro cameras used to steal PINs. EAST said it also discovered that a new type of analog skimming device — using audio technology — has been reported by five countries, two of them "major ATM deployers" (defined as having more than 40,000 ATMs).

Source: <http://krebsonsecurity.com/2010/11/crooks-rock-audio-based-atm-skimmers/>

20. *November 24, Krebs on Security* – (Missouri) **Escrow Co. sues bank over \$440K cyber theft.** An escrow firm in Missouri is suing its bank to recover \$440,000 that organized cyber thieves stole in an online robbery earlier this year, claiming the bank's reliance on passwords to secure high-dollar transactions failed to measure up to federal e-banking security guidelines. The attack against Springfield, Missouri based title insurance provider Choice Escrow and Land Title LLC began late in the afternoon on St. Patrick's Day, when hackers who had stolen the firm's online banking ID and password used the information to make a single unauthorized wire transfer for \$440,000 to a corporate bank account in Cyprus. The following day, when Choice Escrow received a notice about the transfer from its financial institution — Tupelo, Mississippi based BancorpSouth Inc. — it contacted the bank to dispute the transfer. But by the close of business on March 18, the bank was distancing itself from the incident and its customer, said the director of business development for Choice Escrow. "What they really were doing is contacting their legal department and figuring out what they were going to say to us. It took them until 5 p.m. to call us back, and they basically said, 'Sorry, we can't help you. This is your responsibility.'" A spokesman for BancorpSouth declined to discuss the bank's security measures or the specifics of this case, saying the institution does not comment on ongoing litigation.
Source: <http://krebsonsecurity.com/2010/11/escrow-co-sues-bank-over-440k-cyber-theft/>
21. *November 24, Tallahassee Democrat* – (Florida) **Capital Circle NE remains closed after bomb threat.** Capital Circle Northeast in Tallahassee, Florida, remained closed in both directions between Raymond Diehl and Lonnbladh roads on November 24 as police officers and bomb squad technicians investigate a bomb threat made by a bank robber. A 56-year-old man entered Premier Bank, 3110 Capital Circle NE, said that he had a bomb and demanded money from a teller, said a spokesman for Tallahassee Police Department (TPD). There were customers in the bank at the time of the robbery, but no injuries have been reported. Capital Circle should be reopened within an hour, the spokesman said. Police officers arrived before the man could exit the bank, and he was taken into custody without incident. The man then claimed the bomb threat was merely a bluff, but law-enforcement officials are required to take the threat seriously. The Big Bend Regional Bomb Squad, comprised of officials from TPD, the Tallahassee Fire Department, Florida Capital Police, and other local law-enforcement agencies, deployed a robot to the bank earlier in the morning. Investigators also examined a secondary search site, the parking lot of Gold's Gym, 2695 Capital Circle NE, where they think the man may have parked his car.
Source: <http://www.tallahassee.com/article/20101124/BREAKINGNEWS/101124004/Updated--Capital-Circle-NE-remains-closed-after-bomb-threat>

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Transportation Sector

22. *November 24, South Florida Sun Sentinel; Associated Press* – (National) **Spirit Airlines computer outage reported nationwide.** Travel through major airports in the

southeast was off to a largely smooth start early November 24 with the exception of passenger check-in delays for Miramar-based Spirit Airlines where an apparent nationwide crash of the carrier's computer system was reported. "Our system is currently down, but we expect to be up again shortly. In the meantime, we are checking in customers manually. Although this does take a bit more time, we do have additional staffing at our airports today and we are getting customers to their flights on time," Spirit said in a statement.

Source: <http://www.palmbeachpost.com/news/spirit-airlines-computer-outage-reported-nationwide-1071226.html>

23. *November 24, WTVG 13 Toledo* – (Ohio) **Train derailment in Wauseon causes evacuations.** A train derailment backed-up traffic between Lawrence Avenue and Brunell Street in Wauseon, Ohio, November 23 around 8:15 p.m. Police evacuated a few houses as a precaution. The fire and police chief in Wauseon said they are fortunate because a few cars at the back of the train would have caused a Hazmat situation. The 15 or so cars that did derail were not carrying any hazardous materials. Crews were on scene throughout the night. Nearby roads are shut down due to several utility poles being knocked down. Two people were on board the train when it derailed — the conductor and the engineer. An investigation is underway to determine what caused the derailment.
Source: <http://abclocal.go.com/wtv/story?section=news/local&id=7807380>
24. *November 24, Denver Post* – (Colorado) **Feds remove two men from plane; both freed after search.** Two men were taken off a US Airways flight in Denver, Colorado by uniformed federal officers the morning of November 23, but nothing was found when the officers and bomb-sniffing dogs searched the plane. Both men were released, authorities said. The FBI in Denver said one of the two men drew suspicion from a passenger who became concerned about the man's multiple trips to the bathroom during the 3-hour, 41-minute flight from Charlotte, North Carolina. The man who first drew suspicion told officers he had a medical condition, said a FBI spokesman.
Source: http://www.denverpost.com/news/ci_16697771
25. *November 24, WOWK 13 Huntington* – (West Virginia) **Train derails in Logan County.** A train derailed in Logan County, West Virginia, closing a portion of state Route 44, according to emergency dispatchers. Three cars went off the tracks at about 9 a.m. near the mouth of Cow Creek. Dispatchers were unsure about when the road is expected to reopen. The roadway was damaged by the derailed cars and the railroad beside Route 44 was damaged.
Source: <http://wowktv.com/story.cfm?func=viewstory&storyid=90060>
26. *November 23, Reuters* – (National) **Security scares at U.S. airports during travel rush.** A string of unrelated security incidents at U.S. airports November 23 kept travelers on edge, adding to the existing worries about full body searches during the Thanksgiving travel rush. Boston's Logan International Airport had a brief scare when a trained sniffer dog suggested something suspicious about two duffel bags addressed to a Nigerian location. The Massachusetts State Police bomb squad examined the bags after the Transportation Security Administration's (TSA) K-9 unit raised the alarm. The

bags were suspected to contain bedding material. The packages were found in a Delta Airlines cargo building. Passenger flights were not affected. In Phoenix, Arizona, the discovery of a loaded gun clip aboard a Southwest Airlines jet triggered a scare. The clip was found on the cabin floor by a passenger aboard a Southwest flight from Burbank, California, to Phoenix Sky Harbor airport. The plane was met at the gate by local police and personnel of the federal TSA. Authorities determined that the clip belonged to a law enforcement officer who apparently had dropped it during a previous flight. Yet another incident, ultimately benign, was logged on a US Airways flight from Charlotte, North Carolina, to Denver International Airport. The flight crew alerted authorities about a passenger acting suspiciously. The Transportation Security Administration monitored the flight, which landed without incident and met by law enforcement personnel. The passenger was interviewed and released, and the plane was swept. All other passengers were allowed to continue to their destinations.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE6AM72320101123>

27. *November 23, KABC 7 Los Angeles* – (National) **TSA protesters could clog security for holiday.** The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) is gearing up for a busy day November 24 that could be made even more complicated if people begin to protest full body scans by opting out of the procedure. Body scans take about 20 seconds but pat-downs take about 2 minutes. The TSA says if thousands of people do choose to opt out it could mean delays and missed connections for everyone. “We’re fully staffed. We can deal with every contingency we can but there is no guarantees that people get on that flight if there are a large number of people protesting,” said the head administrator of the TSA.

Source:

http://abclocal.go.com/kabc/story?section=news/local/los_angeles&id=7807297

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Postal and Shipping Sector

28. *November 23, TTKN News* – (Oregon) **Arrest in bomb threat case brings federal charges.** A 61-year-old Corvallis man arrested by Eugene Police officers on November 24 now faces a federal charge of using a telephone to threaten to bomb a federal facility. The FBI and the U.S. Postal Inspection Service jointly investigated this alleged threat against the post office in Eugene, Oregon. The suspect is currently lodged at the Lane County Jail. He will make his initial appearance before a federal judge at 1:30 p.m. on November 18th, at the U.S. District Courthouse in Eugene. The Assistant United States Attorney is prosecuting this case.

Source: <http://www.ttkn.com/law-and-order/arrest-in-bomb-threat-case-brings-federal-charges-6105.html>

29. *November 23, WAFB 9 Baton Rouge* – (Louisiana) **Boy finds bomb in mailbox.** It was a close call for neighbors in The Willows subdivision in Livingston Parish, Louisiana. Deputies said a 9-year-old boy found what they call an “ice bomb” in his mailbox.

Deputies said they found a total of five “ice bombs” in the subdivision. Three of them exploded. They are made inside of a two liter coke bottle. That does not necessarily sound too dangerous, but it can be quite destructive when detonated. That coke bottle police said was an “ice bomb.” It was powerful enough to blow a mailbox apart. The State Police Hazmat Unit was called out to safely remove both bombs. They also searched the area. An official with the Livingston Parish Sheriff’s Office said they are currently on the lookout for whoever was behind the “ice bombs.” He said they could possibly face federal charges, for tampering with mail.

Source: <http://www.wafb.com/Global/story.asp?S=13559321>

30. *November 23, WUSA 9 Washington* – (Virginia) **Prince William County hazmat team determines powder not hazardous.** The Prince William County Courthouse in Manassas, Virginia, was partially evacuated about 11 a.m. November 23 because of a suspicious white powder, Prince William Fire officials said. The county’s HAZMAT tested the powder and determined it is not hazardous. The people who opened the envelope are being interviewed by the FBI. A Prince William County Fire and Rescue spokesperson told 9News Now three people were exposed to the powder which fell out of an envelope. The mail room and cafeteria were evacuated. The FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force is also on the scene assisting with the investigation. A spokesperson for the sheriff’s department said the upper floors of the courthouse are open and conducting “business as usual.”

Source: <http://wusa9.com/news/breaking/story.aspx?storyid=121734&catid=158>

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Agriculture and Food Sector

31. *November 24, Philadelphia Inquirer* – (New Jersey) **Disaster areas declared after N.J. drought.** The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) on November 23 designated 16 New Jersey counties natural disaster areas to assist farmers plagued by excessive heat and lack of rain during the 2010 growing season. “It was the toughest summer ever,” said a fifth generation farmer who raises tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers, beans, and other crops on several hundred acres in the South Jersey farm belt. The disaster declaration covers June 1 through September 30. Farmers in the affected area — which also includes Camden, Burlington, Gloucester, Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland, and Ocean Counties — will have access to emergency loans that could cover up to 100 percent of their agricultural losses during the period, the executive director of the USDA’s Farm Service Agency in New Jersey said. The declaration also allows farmers to receive direct relief through the Supplemental Revenue disaster-assistance program.

Source:

http://www.philly.com/inquirer/local/nj/20101124_Disaster_areas_declared_after_N_J_drought.html

32. *November 24, Food Safety News* – (Connecticut; Massachusetts) **Listeria prompts appetizer recall.** The USDA’s Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) discovered Listeria contamination at New Haven’s Calabro Cheese, causing the Connecticut

company to recall 57 pounds of its meat and cheese roll called Rotolini. The specific product is: 8-ounce packages of “Calabro All Natural Rotolini Mozzarella & Prosciutto.” The packages also bear a white sticker with the lot number “3190” and establishment number “34051M” inside the USDA mark of inspection. The product was produced November 15 and distributed to warehouse and retail outlets in Boston and Springfield in Massachusetts and Westport, Connecticut. USDA said none of the product was purchased for the National School Lunch Program. No illnesses have yet been associated with the contaminated cheese.

Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2010/11/meat-cheese-recall-falls-under-usda/>

33. *November 23, Arkansas Online* – (Arkansas; National) **Drought-stricken Arkansas declared national disaster area.** The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has designated the entire state of Arkansas as a natural disaster area because of losses caused by drought, excessive heat, and related insects and diseases that began April 1 and continues. The designation includes all 75 counties in Arkansas. “(The President of the United States) and I understand these conditions caused severe damage to pasture and forage crops,” the U.S. agriculture secretary said. “This action will provide help to farmers who suffered significant production losses.” Small, non-farm businesses in Arkansas (plus neighboring parishes in Louisiana and neighboring counties in Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma, Tennessee, and Texas) are now eligible to apply for low-interest disaster loans from the U. S. Small Business Administration (SBA).

Source: <http://www.arkansasonline.com/news/2010/nov/23/drought-stricken-arkansas-declared-national-disast/>

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Water Sector

34. *November 24, Wheeling Intelligencer* – (West Virginia) **Chesapeake cited for filling local streams.** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has the ability to fine Chesapeake Energy as much as \$200,000 per day for alleged unauthorized stream filling in Wetzel and Marshall counties in West Virginia. The Oklahoma City-based company - which is working toward drilling on private property near The Highlands in Ohio County and at other locations throughout the Wheeling area - received four separate “Order for Compliance” forms from the EPA, citing the driller for allegedly violating the Clean Water Act. The orders show the earthwork occurred at various points from January 2007 through this month. Each of the four orders notes at the end that fines of up to \$50,000 per day may be imposed if Chesapeake does not follow the instructions. The compliance orders compel Chesapeake to remove the fill and restore the streams and wetlands “to pre-disturbance conditions” and “requires mitigation for the environmental harm which was caused by the unlawful discharge to waters of the United States.” One violation stems from creating a gravel road in the stream channel of Blake Fork. Chesapeake removed the stream and a small waterfall to create a gravel road. Blake Fork and three other streams affected by Chesapeake’s drilling activities are tributaries of Fish Creek, which flows into the Ohio River.

Source: <http://www.theintelligencer.net/page/content.detail/id/549128/Chesapeake-Cited-For-Filling-Local-Streams.html?nav=515>

35. *November 24, Wicked Local Brockton* – (Massachusetts) **Aquaria desalination plant violates drinking water standard for bacteria.** The Aquaria desalination plant, which sends drinking water to parts of Brockton, Massachusetts, violated a federal standard for coliform bacteria, according to a statement from the company on November 23. The violation happened in October, but the company has 30 days to inform consumers of the problem, said the Aquaria plant manager. Coliform bacteria is not generally harmful, but it can be an indicator that there is a problem with the system's pipes and that other, more harmful bacteria may be present, according to a company release. Coliform bacteria occur naturally in the environment, she said. Under federal guidelines, no more than 5 percent of water samples, or one per month, can contain coliform bacteria. But two samples taken from Aquaria were found to have the bacteria present last month. A sample was taken at Aquaria's vault on Pearl Street on October 28 and the company was notified of the presence of total coliform bacteria on October 30, she said. The plant's water flow to Brockton was then shut off while the plant flushed the system, she said. Residents do not need to boil water or take precautions, but should consult a doctor if they have health concerns, according to the company's statement. "People with severely compromised immune systems, infants, and some elderly may be at increased risk," the announcement said.
Source: <http://www.wickedlocal.com/brockton/news/x1621194331/Aquaria-plant-violates-drinking-water-standard>
36. *November 23, Appomattox Times Virginian* – (Virginia) **Half of town's wells offline due to zinc problem.** Currently, the Town of Appomattox in Virginia is working on reducing high metal levels that plague the town's wastewater treatment plants. As a result of high zinc levels at the town's SBR wastewater treatment plant, four of the town's eight wells have been taken offline, according the town's chief water operator. Currently, the Town is under a consent order agreement from the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality so that the town can control its zinc levels and come into compliance with its water quality standards. The town has been under a consent order since early 2009 and will remain under the consent order until Oct. 2011. As part of the agreement, the town is required to submit progress reports. Along with high zinc levels, town officials have been battling with high copper levels at the town's trickling filter plant. Due to the corrosive nature of the water, copper has been leaching from the piping as the water runs through and then is eventually discharged into Caldwell's Creek stream, a tiny tributary of Falling River. Although the issue does not have an influence on drinking water, the discharge is detrimental to fish and other aquatic life.
Source: <http://www.wpcva.com/articles/2010/11/24/appomattox/news/news31.txt>

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

37. *November 24, Rock Hill Herald* – (North Carolina) **NC man poses as doctor at hospital ER for weeks.** A North Carolina man faced criminal charges after police say he posed as a health professional and got involved with patients at a hospital

emergency room. The 24-year-old man was charged with three misdemeanor counts of impersonating a doctor, multiple media organizations reported November 24. He posed as a visiting medical resident seeking training and camped out in the emergency room of Cape Fear Valley Medical Center. He said he was at it for two weeks in October before a physician assistant noticed he was not wearing a badge in the emergency department. The hospital said he was shadowing doctors and nurses and was never alone with a patient. The accused is “a troubled young man with a history of impersonation, or similar activity,” a hospital spokesman said in a statement. The man said he has a medical degree from the University of Tennessee, but the school has no record of him being enrolled, the Fayetteville Observer reported. “My job is to observe and be a helping hand if needed and to further medical assessment,” he told WTVD-TV. The hospital has launched an internal investigation to determine how many patients the man may have come in contact with.

Source: <http://www.heraldonline.com/2010/11/24/2639936/nc-man-poses-as-doctor-at-hospital.html>

38. *November 23, WDIV 4 Detroit* – (National) **FDA releases drug shortage list.** There are 150 prescription drugs on the Food and Drug Administration’s (FDA) shortage list. The list includes many drugs that are used in hospitals — including painkillers such as morphine and many cancer treatment drugs. The FDA has a list of reasons for the drug shortages on its website.

Source: <http://www.clickondetroit.com/health/25896874/detail.html>

39. *November 23, ITProPortal* – (International) **Security experts outraged as NHS allows Facebook to track its Website users.** The U.K. National Health Service has come under fire from online security experts, who have responded angrily to the discovery that the service has allowed Facebook to track users of its NHS Choices Web site. Research company Garlik discovered that the NHS Choices Web site had been linked with Facebook connect, allowing users to “like” and share articles. However, this also allows Facebook to trawl through the data and pin-point the information of people researching the details of embarrassing illnesses. The Garlik software developer who discovered the goings on said: “The NHS is sharing this information out liberally and the users don’t know it and can’t opt out of sharing even if they did.” The NHS retaliated to the software developer’s criticism by claiming that it was the responsibility of users themselves to sign out of social networks before using the NHS site.

Source: <http://www.itproportal.com/2010/11/23/security-experts-outraged-nhs-allows-facebook-track-its-website-users/>

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Government Facilities Sector

40. *November 24, Help Net Security* – (Missouri) **Two indicted for university hack binge.** Two former students of the University of Central Missouri have been charged with computer intrusion, intercepting electronic communication, and aggravated identity theft, following a hacking spree that would put to shame the efforts of most cyber criminals. The 26- and 21-year-old suspects have allegedly hacked into the

university's network, stolen personal information belonging to thousands of students and university staff, tried to steal the university's money by transferring it into their own accounts, and to modify various grades. Then, they infected public university computers and personal computers belonging to other students with information stealing Trojans and a virus of their own making. Furthermore, the 26-year-old suspect tried to sell the information stolen from the university's database. Softpedia reports that when the two discovered that were being investigated, they immediately removed the computer equipment they have been using for hacking from the 21-year-old suspect's dorm room, leaving only a monitor with a post-it note on it saying "Too late! :)" to welcome the FBI when they searched the room.

Source: <http://www.net-security.org/secworld.php?id=10209>

41. *November 24, Oregon Daily Emerald* – (Oregon) **Bomb threat shuts down Knight Library, Lillis Business Complex.** A potential bomb threat aimed at the University of Oregon resulted in the temporary closure and search of Knight Library and Lillis Business Complex the evenings of November 21, 22, and 23. On November 21, a message was found written on a blackboard on the fourth floor of the Knight Library that seemed to indicate a bomb threat against the university. A captain of the University Department of Public Safety (DPS) said the message roughly indicated that explosive devices would be placed and detonated in Lillis Business Complex and the Knight Library on the morning of November 24. The captain did not discuss further details of the message because he said there was an ongoing criminal investigation. As a result of the posed threat, DPS conducted sweeps of both buildings, looking for any explosive devices November 21 and 22. Both buildings were shut down again and searched by the Eugene Police Department's Explosives Disposal Unit with the assistance of a K-9 bomb sniffing unit from the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Protective Service and DPS. Most university students were first notified about the potential threat on campus and the proposed building closures through mass text messages and e-mails sent out by the University at approximately 1:20 p.m. November 23.

Source: <http://www.dailymerald.com/news/bomb-threat-shuts-down-knight-library-lillis-business-complex-1.1796474>

42. *November 23, East County Magazine* – (California) **SDSU transit center shut down while police investigate suspicious package.** San Diego State University (SDSU) students, faculty, and staff were blocked from areas around the trolley station for almost three hours while the SDSU Police Department investigated an undisclosed, suspicious package which was later deemed nonthreatening. At approximately 1:40 p.m. November 23 an emergency alert was made on campus loudspeakers advising people to avoid the Transit Center, Aztec Center, and the Adams Humanities building. Those areas had been evacuated prior to the announcement. Security personnel and caution tape surrounding the entire area blocked people from passing through. When students approached the security, they were told that the area would be closed until further notice because of a potential bomb threat. SDSU police say the suspicious package was found by one of the trolley security members. "There was a piece of luggage located on the mezzanine level of the trolley station at SDSU," an SDSU police captain said. "After the San Diego Fire Department Metro Arson Strike Team evaluated it, it was determined to be non-explosive and safe to transport, although there

was a chemical detected. Further initial investigation revealed it to be a substance similar to modeling clay and epoxy. It was rendered safe and the trolley station has since been reopened.”

Source: <http://eastcountymagazine.org/node/4857>

43. *November 23, Associated Press* – (Florida) **Fla. woman accused in school threats arrested.** A woman charged with making threats that caused 300 Florida schools to be locked down and a congressman-elect’s top aide to step down was arrested November 23, federal authorities said. FBI agents apprehended the 48-year-old suspect of New Port Richey, Florida, near Los Angeles, the U.S. Attorney’s Office in Miami said. She is accused of sending an e-mail on November 10 to a WFTL 850 AM conservative talk show host, who was tapped to be a U.S. Representative-elect’s chief of staff. The suspect called the Pompano Beach station later that morning and claimed that her husband was going to go to a school in Pembroke Pines and start shooting, according to federal authorities who said they traced the call. Authorities responded by placing all 300 Broward County schools in lockdown for several hours. The talk show host has been on South Florida radio for nearly 20 years. She stepped down as chief of staff a day after the lockdown, saying she wanted to avoid any repercussions against the U.S. Representative.

Source: <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2010-11-24/fla-woman-accused-in-school-threats-arrested.html>

44. *November 23, Associated Press* – (Rhode Island) **FBI building in RI reopens after threatening calls.** A building that houses offices of the FBI, U.S. Bankruptcy Trustee, and some Social Security offices in Providence, Rhode Island, has been reopened after being evacuated due to threats of violence. A security guard at the Westminster Square building in downtown Providence said November 23 that a call made to police November 22 threatened that men with guns were planning to come to the Social Security offices to shoot judges there. The guard said another call was received by the Social Security offices on November 23, warning that there were explosives in the building. An FBI agent, who was evacuated, said the matter was under investigation. The evacuation lasted about two hours.

Source:

http://www.boston.com/news/local/rhode_island/articles/2010/11/23/fbi_social_security_offices_in_ri_evacuated/

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Emergency Services Sector

45. *November 24, Columbus Dispatch* – (Ohio) **State audit details misspent tax money at 911 operation.** A state audit released November 23 sheds more details underlying the indictments of two men formerly associated with the tax-funded group that operates 911 dispatching and ambulance services in Morrow County, Ohio. An audit says that one man must repay \$82,590 that he received for undocumented accounting services

from 2004 through March 2008 at the Morrow County Firefighters and Squadsmen Association. He was indicted last month on a charge of grand theft. The audit also found that a former supervisor pocketed commissions by selling services to the nonprofit organization. The review accused the former 911 supervisor and treasurer, who was dismissed in 2008, of receiving \$5,002 in commissions that could violate ethics laws. He was indicted last month on charges of theft, complicity to grand theft, having an unlawful interest in a public contract, and theft in office. The matter was referred to the Ohio Ethics Commission. The audit, requested by Mount Gilead police and the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Identification & Investigation, was released by the office of Ohio Auditor.

Source: http://www.dispatch.com/live/content/local_news/stories/2010/11/24/state-audit-details-misspent-tax-money.html?sid=101

46. *November 24, Daily Utah Chronicle* – (Utah) **Hospital helicopter damaged after landing on freeway.** While responding to a traffic accident on I-84, an AirMed helicopter had to make a crash landing on the freeway near Ogden, Utah. At around 1 p.m. November 22, the driver of a Ford truck fell asleep at the wheel, heading west on I-84. The truck rolled off the side of the freeway, badly injuring the driver, who according to the police is lucky to be alive. An AirMed helicopter brought the injured individual back to University Hospital — but the flight was anything but typical for the three crew members. After landing, the pilot tried to lift the helicopter off the ground but clipped its tail rotor on a road sign in the process. The pilot was forced to bring the helicopter down in the middle of I-84, which damaged the landing gear on impact. None of the flight crew were injured. After blocking traffic for nearly three hours, the helicopter was cleared off the road and taken away on a flatbed truck for repairs.
- Source: <http://www.dailyutahchronicle.com/news/hospital-helicopter-damaged-after-landing-on-freeway-1.2415790>

47. *November 23, Associated Press* – (Georgia) **Security stepped up at Clayton County, Ga. jail.** Security has been increased at the Clayton County Courthouse in Georgia and for Superior Court judges there while the sheriff's office investigates a possible threat and the discovery of a bullet at the jail. The sheriff said a tool that could be adapted into a homemade gun also was found at the jail. He said the tool has a legitimate purpose in the jail's laundry room. An inmate reported a threat to kill a judge, but the sheriff said he doubts the threat is legitimate. The investigation remains open. The sheriff said investigators suspect the inmate made up the story, but he's concerned about the live round of ammunition found in a trash can in the jail's medical section. It is not the kind of bullet his officers use.
- Source: <http://www.wtvm.com/Global/story.asp?S=13556709>

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Information Technology Sector

48. *November 24, Help Net Security* – (International) **Kids lured to scam site by promises of parental control bypassing.** The latest scam to hit Facebook users is one that supposedly offers a completely free proxy service for those who want to bypass parental controls and blocks set up by schools and at workplaces that prevent users from accessing certain sites such as Facebook. The campaign is specifically targeting kids, luring them into trying out the service located at [hxxp://myfatherisonline.com](http://myfatherisonline.com) to access Facebook in school. Sunbelt researchers have have poked around the site and discovered a veritable trove of various scamming attempts. The victims are faced with an affiliate site containing malware, surveys, quizzes, and offers for free iPhones that will try to get them to subscribe to a premium rate service or sign up for spam. Source: http://www.net-security.org/malware_news.php?id=1546
49. *November 24, BBC News* – (International) **Facebook news feeds beset with malware.** One fifth of Facebook users are exposed to malware contained in their news feeds, claim security researchers. Security firm BitDefender said it had detected infections contained in the news feeds of around 20 percent of Facebook users. Facebook said it already had steps in place to identify and remove malware-containing links. BitDefender arrived at its figures by analyzing data from 14,000 Facebook users that had installed a security app, called safego, it makes for the social network site. In the month since safego launched, it has analyzed 17 million Facebook posts, said BitDefender. The majority of infections were associated with apps written by independent developers, which promised enticements and rewards to trick users into installing the malware. These apps would then either install malware used for spying on users or to send messages containing adverts to the users' contacts. Facebook said it had processes and checks in place to guard against the risk of malware. "Once we detect a phony message, we delete all instances of that message across the site," the site said in a statement. Source: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-11827856>
50. *November 24, PCWorld* – (International) **Android browser flaw exposes user data.** A vulnerability in the Android browser could permit an attacker to steal the user's local data, according to a report November 23 from a security expert. Specifically, a malicious Web site could use the flaw to access the contents of files stored on the device's SD card as well as "a limited range of other data and files stored on the phone," the expert explained. In essence, the problem arises because the Android browser does not prompt the user when downloading a file. "This is a simple exploit involving JavaScript and redirects, meaning it should also work on multiple handsets and multiple Android versions without any effort," he noted. The Android Security Team responded within 20 minutes of the expert's notification about the flaw and is planning a fix that will go into a Gingerbread maintenance release after that version becomes available, he said. An initial patch has already been developed and is now being evaluated. In the meantime, the security expert suggests a few steps users can take to protect themselves, including disabling JavaScript in the browser. Source: http://www.pcworld.com/businesscenter/article/211623/android_browser_flaw_exposes_user_data.html

51. *November 24, Help Net Security* – (International) **Korean cross-border attacks exploited to spread malware.** The recent cross-border shellings between North and South Korea have left many people wondering what has been going on and what triggered the attacks, and scareware and malware pushers have been very prompt at poisoning related search results. Search combinations such as “north korea bombs/attacks south korea”, “kim jong il”, “korean war”, “world war 3”, “yeonpyeong island” and “korean news” have been producing results that take users to pages where warnings about infection on their computers are shown and the users are offered to download rogue antivirus solutions, to pages that attempt to hijack their browser through JavaScript or pages that offer Trojans disguised as codecs and bogus updates for Mozilla’s Firefox. The Tech Herald reports that all of the offending compromised domains are using open source CMS software which was not updated and, consequently, vulnerable to attack. They also noted that topics related to Black Friday, Dancing with the Stars, and others have been targeted by the same black hat SEO campaign.

Source: http://www.net-security.org/malware_news.php?id=1544

52. *November 23, Network World* – (International) **HTTPS Everywhere gets Firefox “Firesheep” protection.** The Electronic Frontier Foundation (EFF) November 23 said it rolled out a version of HTTPS Everywhere that offers protection against “Firesheep” and other tools that seek to exploit Web page security flaws. Firesheep sniffs unencrypted cookies sent across open WiFi networks for unsuspecting visitors to Web sites such as Facebook and Twitter, and lets the user take on those visitors’ log-in credentials. EFF says the new version of HTTPS Everywhere (0.9.x) is a direct response to growing concerns about Web site vulnerability in the wake of Firesheep on social networking sites or Web mail systems, for example — if the browser’s connection to the Web application either does not use cryptography or does not use it thoroughly enough. EFF says that HTTPS Everywhere now protects sites such as Bit.ly, Cisco, Dropbox, Evernote, and GitHub.

Source: <http://www.networkworld.com/community/node/68828>

53. *November 23, The Register* – (International) **Network card rootkit offers extra stealth.** Security researchers have demonstrated how it might be possible to place backdoor rootkit software on a network card. A reverse engineer at French security firm Sogeti ESEC was able to develop proof-of-concept code after studying the firmware from Broadcom Ethernet NetExtreme PCI Ethernet cards. He used publicly available documentations and open source tools to develop a firmware debugger. He also reverse-engineered the format of the EEPROM where firmware code is stored, as well as the bootstrap process of the device. Using the knowledge gained from this process, he was able to develop custom firmware code and flash the device so that his proof-of-concept code ran on the CPU of the network card. The technique opens the possibility of planting a stealthy rootkit that lives within the network card, an approach that gives potential miscreants several advantages over conventional backdoors. Chief among these is that there will be no trace of the rootkit on the operating system, as it is being hidden inside the network interface card.

Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/11/23/network_card_rootkit/

Internet Alert Dashboard

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

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

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Communications Sector

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Commercial Facilities Sector

54. *November 23, Associated Press* – (Alaska) **Fire forces evacuation of 24 apartments.**

A fire at an Alaska housing complex forced an evacuation during one of the worst ice storms in Fairbanks history. The Fairbanks Daily News-Miner reported there were no serious injuries in the November 22 fire at Fairview Manor, which began in a third-floor apartment. Fire officials said 24 apartments were evacuated, and some of the people were housed in hotels by the Red Cross of Alaska because the power was still off. At least two people were taken to Fairbanks Memorial Hospital for smoke inhalation.

Source: <http://www.adn.com/2010/11/23/1570151/fire-forces-evacuation-of-24-apartments.html>

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

55. *November 24, WHSV 3 Harrisonburg* – (Virginia) **Page forest fires nearly contained.** Two forest fires in Page County, Virginia, are almost completely contained, thanks to a light drizzle of rain in the mountains early November 23. The Burners Gap fire remains at 563 acres, and the Kennedy Peak fire is 83 acres. The Forest Service reports that both fires are 90 percent contained. Forest officials say they will have about 25 firefighters out November 24, and maybe just a handful on November 25. They hope to be able to have both fires completely under control by the weekend.

Source:

http://www.whsv.com/news/headlines/Page_Forest_Fires_Nearly_Contained_110297899.html

56. *November 24, Superior Telegram* – (Minnesota) **Theft, arson charges follow fire in forest.** A Superior, Wisconsin, man has been charged in connection with a trailer

explosion and fire that took place July 19 along Billings Drive. The 28-year-old suspect faces felony charges of arson of property other than a building and theft of movable property. He is accused of taking part in stealing a J.F. Brennan Company trailer from a job site at Jay Cooke State Park in Carlton County, Minnesota, stealing items from the trailer, then setting it on fire in a remote spot along Billings Drive. Following a search warrant at the suspect's home, approximately \$5,000 worth of stolen property, including tools, copper wire, and an ATV, were located, the complaint stated. Source: <http://www.superiortelegram.com/event/article/id/47940/group/News/>

57. *November 23, Associated Press* – (California) **Teens stranded in snow in Mendocino rescued.** Authorities in Mendocino County, California, say a group of teenagers — some wearing just T-shirts and jeans — were rescued after a snowstorm left them stranded on a mountain peak in Mendocino National Forest. Eight of the teens were picked up by rescuers on snowmobiles on November 22 after spending the night in their vehicles near the town of Covelo. Four others who had winter gear managed to walk two miles to a rescue base the previous night. A sheriff's captain told the Santa Rosa Press Democrat the teens — students at Willits and Laytonville high schools — were traveling to Anthony Peak on November 21 when one of their trucks broke down and the other got stuck in three-feet deep snow. They used their cell phones to call for help, but the storm prevented rescuers from reaching them immediately. Source: http://www.mercurynews.com/breaking-news/ci_16692550?nclick_check=1

58. *November 23, Associated Press* – (Wyoming) **Winter storm hits western Wyoming.** A powerful winter storm is bringing heavy snow, strong winds, and bitter cold to western Wyoming. The National Weather Service posted a winter storm warning from Yellowstone National Park in northwest Wyoming down to Kemmerer in southwest Wyoming on November 23. The Evanston area was under a blizzard warning the afternoon of November 23. Up to 2 feet of snow was expected in the mountains and up to a foot in the valleys. Teton Pass between Wilson and the Idaho state line was closed November 23 because of an avalanche. Snow-covered roads and blowing snow made travel hazardous elsewhere in the western part of the state. The weather service said a large area of western Wyoming would see temperatures of 15 to 30 degrees below zero late November 23 and 24. Source: <http://cbs4denver.com/wireapnewswy/Bitter.cold.temperatures.2.2021348.html>

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Dams Sector

59. *November 24, Hannibal Courier-Post* – (Missouri) **Spillway erosion threatens Lake Apollo.** For the second time in as many years a privately-owned Hannibal, Missouri lake is experiencing problems that could lead to a catastrophic draining that would create a nightmare for those downstream. City personnel were mobilizing November 23 in an effort to help deal with the problem that faces residents near Lake Apollo, located adjacent to U.S. 36 in western Hannibal. 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 the city

engineer, the lakes' problems are not all that dissimilar. "At Pioneer Trail they were interested in replacing a bad outflow pipe. They were actually going to cut a gash into their dam on purpose. Here, Mother Nature has cut the gash, but the dangers are similar in both cases," he said. "We really need to fix that so we don't lose that dam and create all kinds of problems downstream." The city engineer estimates he first became aware of the problem a year ago, but the erosion problem on the spillway was not nearly as bad as it currently is. This year's heavy rains are being blamed for dramatically worsening the problem. Atmos Energy approached Rees recently about the situation after runoff from the lake washed away material and exposed a gas pipeline.

Source: http://www.hannibal.net/news_state/x298232344/Spillway-erosion-threatens-Lake-Apollo

60. *November 23, Township Journal* – (New Jersey) **Dam finally getting fixed.** After over 10 years of negotiations, deliberations, and funding applications, repairs and upgrades on Green Township, New Jersey's Lake Tranquility dam began October 2010. The repairs are due to the state's mandate that all dams be evaluated, rated, and upgraded to withstand State classification requirements. The Green Township Mayor explained that the dam for Lake Tranquility is rated as a Class 1 dam because if a breach ever occurs there would be a possibility of loss of life and/or property downstream. The state's actions began after several dams in Sussex County gave way following heavy rains in August of 2000. To this day, ownership of the Lake Tranquility dam is still in question. "It is still a mystery," said the mayor. "There is no record of who the actual owner is or was." Green Township assumed ownership so that process could begin and continue to completion. Ownership is not the only mystery surrounding the dam. The sluice gates built into the original dam, which are the devices that are used to raise and lower water levels of a lake, that were built into the original dam, were cemented closed for unknown reasons. The current project will cost \$1.6 million and is being funded with state grants and low interest loans.

Source: http://www.strausnews.com/articles/2010/11/24/township_journal/news/1.txt

61. *November 23, Omaha World-Herald News Service* – (Iowa) **Lowering lake wouldn't have helped.** Contrary to complaints from downstream residents, an earlier lowering of Lake Delhi would not likely have prevented the catastrophic July 24 dam failure, according to a draft report by an independent panel of engineers. Had all three of the dam's floodgates been working properly, however, the disaster might have been less likely, the engineers said. The engineers, in a draft report issued last week by the Iowa Department of Economic Development, evaluated the effect of lowering the lake by as much as 10 feet at the beginning of the flood and concluded that doing so would not have made any difference. The results of their tests indicated that the maximum reservoir water surface and the duration of high reservoir water surface elevations would have been essentially unchanged. The engineers said internal erosion in the earthen embankment that made up the southernmost two-thirds of the dam was the likely cause of its failure after two days of heavy rain. Contributing factors, they said, included the design of the dam, with a reinforced concrete core wall; the low plasticity sandy clay that made up the embankment; the limited ability of the dam with a spillway capacity of about 25,000 cubic feet per second to pass a major flood; and the binding of

one of the three spillway gates, which prevented its full opening during the flood.
Source: <http://www.omaha.com/article/20101123/NEWS01/711249919/1014933>

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To report physical infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact the National Infrastructure Coordinating Center at nicc@dhs.gov or (202) 282-9201.

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Web page at www.us-cert.gov.

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