



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 30 November 2010

Current Nationwide Threat Level

ELEVATED

✓

Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks

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

Top Stories

- According to NBC News, the U.S. Secretary of State condemned the release of more than 250,000 classified State Department documents November 29, saying the United States was taking aggressive steps to hold responsible those who “stole” the information, which includes unflattering assessments of world leaders and revelations about backstage U.S. diplomacy. (See item [42](#))
- A 19-year-old naturalized U.S. citizen from Somalia was arrested on charges of attempting to use a weapon of mass destruction in connection with a plot to detonate a vehicle bomb at an annual Christmas tree lighting ceremony in Portland, Oregon, the U.S. Justice Department announced. (See item [62](#))

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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 28, Pueblo Chieftain* – (Colorado) **31 cars of coal train derail.** A BNSF Railway train carrying coal derailed near Pueblo Memorial Airport in Pueblo, Colorado

about 8 a.m. November 26, throwing 31 cars off the tracks, and closing the rail line for the day and through the night. The BNSF public affairs officer said there were no injuries, and no hazardous materials were involved. She said the derailment scattered rail cars and coal on about 6,100 feet of track. The incident happened along U.S. 50 East, just east of Baxter Road. “The cause is still under investigation,” she said. The spokeswoman said railway officials anticipated the line would be cleared and operational by 6 a.m. November 28. The coal train was headed from Wyoming to Texas, she said. Crews using front loaders and other heavy equipment were still clearing the track at sunset November 27.

Source: http://www.chieftain.com/news/local/article_a04241f2-fab2-11df-8950-001cc4c03286.html

2. *November 28, St. Cloud Times* – (Minnesota) **Vehicle hits power pole, cuts out electricity in St. Cloud.** Thousands of Xcel Energy consumers were temporarily without power November 26-27 because of a vehicle crashing into a power pole, according to a company spokeswoman. At 11:13 p.m. November 26, a vehicle crashed into a power pole, causing loss of power to 2,750 costumers in St. Cloud, Minnesota, an Xcel spokeswoman said. Power was restored by 12:19 p.m. November 27. The spokeswoman said that an Xcel crew’s attempt to replace the pole at 5:56 a.m. led to a second power outage for 5,000 Xcel customers until 7:32 a.m., when power was once again restored.
Source: <http://www.sctimes.com/article/20101128/NEWS01/111280022/1009>
3. *November 27, Springfield Republican* – (Massachusetts) **Burning propane truck could have ignited nearby fuel tanks, gas line in Palmer.** The tires and cab of a truck carrying propane gas were destroyed by a fire, November 26, after it struck a utility pole in Palmer, Massachusetts. Because of nearby propane tanks and buried natural gas lines, more than 100 people had to be evacuated for about 4 hours after the crash. The incident started about 7:30 p.m. when the 18-wheel truck belonging to Osterman Propane hit the pole near the company’s headquarters, and was set on fire by electrical wires. The Palmer emergency management director said because of the potential of explosions if the fire breached the truck’s propane tank, a decision was made to evacuate nearby residences and let the fire burn out. Routes 20 and 32 though town were closed, and Amtrak passenger and freight trains through the area were halted. The railroad tracks run behind a building near the site of the crash. At about 12:30 a.m. November 27, with front and rear tires on the truck mostly consumed by fire and the cab heavily damaged, firefighters determined the fire was basically out, and residents were allowed to go back to their homes shortly before 1 a.m.
Source:
http://www.masslive.com/news/index.ssf/2010/11/burning_propane_truck_could_ha.html
4. *November 27, Lafayette Advertiser* – (Louisiana) **Outage leaves most of Lafayette in twilight.** A power outage in Lafayette, Louisiana November 26 took out the lights for at least half the city — or about 37,000 customers — for about an hour. Around 5:15 p.m., reports of electricity going out extended from Ambassador Caffery Parkway in

the east to to the Evangeline Thruway in the west, from Pinhook in the south to Interstate 10 in the north. A Lafayette Utilities System (LUS) spokeswoman said the outage ranged as far north as Pont des Mouton way to the Mall of Acadiana. Within an hour, areas of north and central Lafayette began regaining power. By 6:30 p.m., only about 4,000 customers were left without power. The LUS director said the outage started with a malfunction in a transformer at the Doc Bonin generating station at the LUS Walker Road Complex. A Lafayette Police Department spokesman said officers responded to major intersections to direct traffic because signals were not working.

Source:

<http://www.theadvertiser.com/article/20101127/NEWS01/11270336/Outage+leaves+m+ost+of+Lafayette+in+twilight>

5. *November 26, Reuters* – (International) **Flows on Enbridge oil line seen cut until November 30.** Enbridge Inc's 670,000 barrel per day Line 6A oil pipeline in the U.S. Midwest was expected to run at reduced rates until November 20, creating another costly bottleneck for Canadian crude exports, the company said November 26. An outage at a power utility's substation in Illinois forced Enbridge, which has been struggling with numerous outages on its massive oil pipeline system, to reduce flows as electricity to a pumping station got cut off. Market sources said flows on the pipeline to Griffith, Indiana, from Superior, Wisconsin, have been chopped by about one third from already-reduced volumes. The power outage occurred November 25 at Lockport, Illinois, near Chicago. The incident happened on the same day Enbridge restarted the 290,000 barrel per day Line 6B, which was shut for about 1 week as the company investigated possible problem spots it found during an in-line inspection.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSN2612255320101126>

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Chemical Industry Sector

6. *November 26, Epoch Times* – (New Jersey) **Illegal mothballs resembling candy imported by Brooklyn company.** About 4,800 bags containing moth balls resembling candy were found by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in a New Jersey warehouse. The illegal pesticides, which are not registered with the EPA, were imported by a Brooklyn, New-York-based company from China. The EPA is asking consumers who may have purchased the bright packaging, labeled Fuji Lavender Moth Tablets, to contact them so the products can be disposed of properly. "Importing pesticide products that are not registered with EPA is a serious violation," the EPA regional administrator said in a statement. "The registration process ensures that we know what pesticides are in the products, and that they have labels with directions for proper use. Mothballs sold in colorful packaging that resemble candy pose a particular risk to children." The EPA said it suspects the mothballs contain a chemical called para-dichlorobenzene, which can cause many illnesses including respiratory distress, vomiting, and diarrhea.

Source: <http://www.theepochtimes.com/n2/content/view/46558/>

7. *November 26, Associated Press* – (California) **Officials pull out of CA bomb factory, cite danger.** Explosives experts have pulled out of a San Diego County, California home described as a virtual bomb-making factory because it is too dangerous to remove some of the materials discovered inside the rental property. Operations at the Escondido home were suspended November 24 until local, state and federal explosives experts can make plans to re-enter it and remove blasting caps and dangerous chemicals, the county sheriff's department said in a statement. Prosecutors have said the materials make up the largest amount of certain homemade explosives in one location in U.S. history. Explosives were discovered in his rented home after a gardener was injured earlier in November in a blast that occurred when he stepped on explosive powder in the backyard, authorities said. Investigators said they found 13 unfinished shrapnel grenades, and at least 9 pounds of dangerous materials in and around the home. Authorities said it is unclear what the suspect may have planned to do with the materials. The same types of chemicals have been used by suicide bombers and insurgents in Iraq and Afghanistan. They included Pentaerythritol tetranitrate, or PETN. The other chemicals were highly unstable Hexamethylene triperoxide diamine, or HMTD, and Erythritol tetranitrate, or ETN, authorities said. Investigators said they also found gallons of hydrochloric, nitric and sulfuric acid, and 50 pounds of the toxic chemical hexamine.
Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20101126/ap_on_re_us/us_backyard_explosion

8. *November 24, Davenport Quad City Times* – (Iowa) **Bettendorf company accused of mishandling hazardous materials.** A Bettendorf, Iowa, electroplating company is alleged to have improperly stored hazardous waste after a whistle-blower complaint resulted in a site inspection by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). In October, inspectors from EPA Region 7, acting on a tip from a former employee, searched Heartland Plating, 3900 Elm St. They documented spilled and abandoned materials for which the company's representatives could not provide complete and accurate hazardous waste determinations, an EPA spokesman said. "Metal electroplating has a lot of applications in industry, a lot of commercial and industrial applications," he said. "It uses a lot of different chemicals, many of them hazardous." Based on container labels and information provided by Heartland employees, EPA inspectors were able to determine that the company was storing or treating a number of wastes, including chromium, zinc, cyanide, cobalt, potassium permanganate, sulfuric acid, hydrochloric acid, sodium hydroxide, and hydrogen peroxide. The EPA ordered the company to take immediate actions to address violations.
Source: http://qctimes.com/news/local/article_773c0298-f805-11df-bf28-001cc4c03286.html

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

9. *November 29, Bloomberg* – (Connecticut; North Carolina) **U.S. nuclear output slips as Dominion's Millstone plant trips.** U.S. nuclear production slipped from a 2-month high reached November 28 as a unit at Dominion Resources Inc.'s Millstone plant in Waterford, Connecticut tripped offline, and Duke Energy slowed a unit at its Catawba reactor in York County, South Carolina, a Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) report November 29 showed. Output from U.S. plants fell by 1,571 megawatts to 93,348 megawatts, or 92 percent of capacity, according to the NRC report, and data compiled by Bloomberg. That's 403 megawatts higher than on November 26. Eight of 104 plants were offline. Dominion's 884-megawatt Millstone 2 reactor automatically shut down November 28 after a water pump tripped offline, the NRC said. The cause of the trip was under investigation, and the reactor is stable at normal operating pressure and temperature, it said. Another unit at the site, Millstone 3, is at 100 percent of capacity.
Source: <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2010-11-29/u-s-nuclear-output-slips-as-dominion-s-millstone-plant-trips.html>
10. *November 29, Nuclear Street* – (Michigan) **Worker at Fermi 2 loses two fingertips.** An outage worker at DTE Energy's Fermi 2 nuclear plant in Monroe County, Michigan, lost the tips of two fingers in a Thanksgiving Day accident. The worker's fingers were caught behind a large concrete plug as it was being moved into a reactor cavity, a spokesman said November 26. The accident occurred around 3 a.m. November 25. After the accident, the employee was taken to Mercy Memorial Hospital. Hospital staff determined they could not reattach his fingertips, and they were disposed of as contaminated material at the Fermi site. The worker was later released from the hospital. A plant spokesman said an investigation of the accident is under way. Officials conducted security briefings with all of the plant's workers immediately after the incident, he said.
Source: http://nuclearstreet.com/nuclear_power_industry_news/b/nuclear_power_news/archive/2010/11/29/worker-at-fermi-2-loses-two-fingertips-112903.aspx
11. *November 27, Kitsap Sun* – (Texas; Washington) **Navy's Trident nuclear warheads hit the highway, bound for Texas.** Hundreds of nuclear warheads are secretly being trucked between Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor in Silverdale, Washington and the Texas panhandle to have their lives extended. The 100-kiloton W76 warheads are between 23 and 32 years old and need to be upgraded, according to the Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA). Bangor's eight Trident ballistic-missile submarines can each carry 24 D5 missiles. Those missiles can each carry up to eight W76 warheads. Workers at the Pantex Plant outside of Amarillo, Texas, will add about 30 years to the weapons' lives. The plant, which is charged with maintaining the safety, security and reliability of the nation's nuclear weapons stockpile, will refurbish the nuclear explosive package, the arming, firing and fusing system, and the gas transfer system, according to the NNSA.
Source: <http://www.kitsapsun.com/news/2010/nov/27/tridents-warheads-on-the-road-to-refurbishment/>

12. *November 27, Associated Press* – (Illinois) **Dresden Unit 3 back online.** Operators at Exelon Nuclear’s Dresden Generating Station in Morris, Illinois, said Unit 3 has been returned to the electrical grid after a refueling and maintenance outage that began October 31. The Dresden site vice president said Unit 3 was returned to the grid safely November 26. He said that in addition to replacing about one-third of the reactor’s fuel, workers performed more than 9,000 inspection and maintenance activities that cannot be done while the unit is operating. They also completed several major modifications, including installing new electrical windings in the main generator, and replacing the unit’s main power transformer.
Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/chi-ap-il-dresdennuclear,0,4092127.story>

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

13. *November 29, WXIN 59 Indianapolis* – (Indiana) **One person burned during explosion at Rolls Royce facility.** Fire crews are working a small explosion and fire that occurred November 29 at the Rolls Royce plant located at 2001 South Tibbs Avenue in Indianapolis, Indiana. One person was burned after a furnace exploded in the back of the building that produces turbine engines for light helicopters and regional aircraft. Firefighters were called for a reported furnace explosion. When they arrived on the scene, they found the heat treating furnace and an employee who suffered “minor to moderate injuries” as a result of the explosion. The worker was taken to Wishard Memorial Hospital. There had been reports of a chemical spill inside the facility. Fire officials said this was not the case. They said the remaining spot fires were put out quickly. The plant remains open due to the fact the explosion area was a very small portion of the facility. The cause of the explosion is still under investigation.
Source: <http://www.fox59.com/news/wxin-one-person-burned-during-explo-112910,0,4796942.story>
14. *November 28, Cincinnati Enquirer* – (National) **Boeing to rework 787 electric system after fire.** Boeing Co. will have to rework part of the software on the 787 Dreamliner’s electrical system and its power panels after an onboard fire 2 weeks ago halted flight tests, three people familiar with the matter said. A stray aluminum washer inside a power panel shorted out during a November 9 flight, causing the blaze. The 787 test fleet will stay grounded in the meantime. The company plans to modify the Dreamliner’s power panels to make sure stray materials cannot get inside, and will also change the electrical system’s software to improve power distribution.
Source: <http://news.cincinnati.com/article/20101128/BIZ/11280301/1076/Boeing-to-rework-787-electric-system-after-fire>
15. *November 27, JusticeNewsFlash.com* – (Kentucky) **1 killed, 4 injured in Kentucky’s Harsco Metals plant explosion.** One person was killed and four others were injured when a tire they were working on exploded at a Gallatin County, Kentucky factory

November 23. The workplace accident occurred around 3:30 p.m. at Harsco Metals on U.S. Highway 42 in Ghent. According to preliminary investigations, the workers were repairing a large tire from a piece of heavy equipment, when it exploded inside the facility. The tire reportedly hit one man in his chest, leaving him with fatal injuries. Emergency rescue crews from Gallatin County EMS rushed to the scene to transport those who were injured to area hospitals for treatment.

Source: http://www.justicenewsflash.com/2010/11/27/kentuckys-harsco-metals-plant-explosion_201011276283.html

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

16. *November 28, Seacoastonline.com* – (Maine) **Navy expected to reduce funds for shipyard maintenance work.** Despite a report from a federal watchdog agency indicating the U.S. Navy drastically under funds maintenance work at its Portsmouth Naval Shipyard in Kittery, Maine, the Navy is expected to provide even less funding than it currently does at least through 2016. That was the message delivered the week of November 22 to shipyard and union officials by the commander of Naval Sea Systems Command. “He made it clear to us there’s less money next year than this year, and with a tightening for the next few years,” said the president of the Metal Trades Council at the yard. “The problem is we’re already woefully underfunded for any maintenance. The work will have to come out of our existing budget and our existing budget is allocated for mission essentials.” The cuts are to the restoration and modernization, or facilities maintenance, budget. There will not be any cuts to the shipyard workforce.

Source: <http://www.seacoastonline.com/articles/20101128-NEWS-11280323>

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Banking and Finance Sector

17. *November 29, FINalternatives* – (National) **First arrest in wide insider-trading probe.** The FBI has made the first arrest in a sweeping insider-trading investigation targeting hedge funds and others. One male suspect was arrested November 24 at his Somerset, New Jersey, home and charged with conspiracy to commit securities fraud and conspiracy to commit wire fraud. According to prosecutors, while at Primary Global Research, the suspect provided confidential tips about Atheros Communications, Broadcom Corp., and Sierra Wireless Inc. to a hedge fund manager. The suspect’s arrest provides the first concrete link between the current insider-trading investigation, which has seen three hedge funds raided and dozens of others served with subpoenas, and the Galleon Group insider-trading case. The former hedge fund manager, who ran Spherix Capital, is a cooperating witness in the Galleon case.

Source: <http://www.finalternatives.com/node/14698>

18. *November 29, LoanSafe.org* – (Virginia) **Virginia woman indicted in multi-million dollar mortgage elimination scam.** On November 29, a federal grand jury indicted a 51-year-old Manassas, Virginia woman for her alleged involvement in a “mortgage elimination” scheme that caused more than \$10 million in losses. The U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia, and the Assistant Director in Charge of the FBI’s Washington D.C. Field Office, made the announcement November 29. The indictment alleged the woman defrauded more than 150 homeowners of \$10 million. It noted that from 2004 through 2008, the suspect is accused of marketing a scheme known as a “Mortgage Elimination Program.” The suspect allegedly falsely represented to potential homeowner clients that lenders were acting illegally with regard to refinanced mortgages, and that she could obtain a discharge of newly refinanced loans because of the lenders’ illegal actions. The suspect allegedly proposed that she, acting through her businesses, would represent homeowner clients and challenge the lenders for their purportedly illegal actions, and any monetary settlements obtained from successful challenges against the lenders would be applied against the balances due on the refinanced mortgages, thereby eliminating the mortgages.
Source: <http://www.loansafe.org/virginia-woman-indicted-in-multi-million-dollar-mortgage-elimination-scam>
19. *November 27, Greek Reporter* – (National) **Greek American Pihakis busted by feds for \$5.8 million.** An 80 year-old Greek-American living in Pensacola Beach, Florida, has been charged by federal authorities in Arizona with stealing \$5.8 million in a financial scheme. He is also charged with conspiracy to commit wire fraud for his part in a scam that allowed him to receive \$2.5 million. He asked his victims to invest in the trust and prove they have \$10 million in a bank account to receive investments in their projects. In case they could not prove they had that much money, the investors were told they could pay a 4 percent fee instead. This money was used to purchase a “proof of funds” instrument from a bank; the trust was supposed to agree to provide funding for the investors’ projects. In order to convince his potential investors for his liability, the suspect often presented to them bank statements from various banks showing hundreds of millions of dollars in accounts. It was not until September that an FBI agent in Africa took a copy of one bank statement to Barclay’s Bank of Ghana. The bank statement read \$677 million in the account that the suspect used to lure investors. Investors complained that they didn’t see any money for years. When the suspect was pressed by investors to make good on the investments, he would tell them that money was tied up in a fund for a Thailand tsunami relief project, or that they needed more investors before he could begin paying.
Source: <http://usa.greekreporter.com/2010/11/27/greek-american-pihakis-busted-by-feds-for-5-8-million/>
20. *November 27, Crystal Lake Northwest Herald* – (Illinois) **Huntley armed robbery suspect caught; LITH incident probed.** A 29-year-old Huntley, Illinois, man is in police custody after he allegedly robbed a Harris Bank November 27. At about 11 a.m., police said the suspect entered the bank at 12920 Route 47 in Huntley. He approached the teller while carrying a shotgun and demanded money. After receiving an undisclosed amount of cash, he fled in a white Ford Tempo, according to a news

release. A description of the suspect and his vehicle was given to Huntley police officers. They located the suspect driving the Tempo near Route 47 and Powers Road. Officers attempted to stop him, but he continued to flee. The pursuit continued onto Route 31 in Elgin with the assistance of the Elgin Police Department. The suspect then damaged his vehicle by driving over a curb. The vehicle came to a rest at the bottom of a grassy hill, where the suspect exited and attempted to flee on foot. Officers apprehended him and took him into custody. A Huntley Police spokesman said the suspect was transferred November 27 from the Huntley Police Department to FBI headquarters in Chicago, where he awaits charges.

Source: <http://www.nwherald.com/2010/11/27/huntley-armed-robbery-suspect-caught-lith-incident-probed/ad0v1v/>

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Transportation Sector

21. *November 29, WMAZ 13 Macon* – (Georgia) **Atlanta airport power outage cancels some flights.** A power outage at Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport in Atlanta, Georgia forced the cancellation of about two dozen Delta flights November 29. The power was out from about 5 a.m. until noon for half of the B Concourse. The cause of the outage was not yet clear, according to an airport spokesperson. A Delta spokesman said 90 percent of travelers whose flights were cancelled were rebooked within the first few hours of the outage. An automatic rebooking system was able to shift most travelers to later flights November 29.

Source: <http://www.13wmaz.com/news/local/story.aspx?storyid=102021&catid=175>

22. *November 28, KATU 2 Portland* – (Oregon) **Semi-truck fires close I-84 Friday.** Interstate 84 near the John Day River in The Dalles, Oregon was closed for about seven and a half hours November 26 after a crash involving several vehicles, including three semi trucks that caught fire and burned. An Oregon State Police sergeant said around 9 a.m. a Nissan XTerra was traveling eastbound near milepost 113. The vehicle lost control on the icy roadway, spun around and came to a stop in the slow lane. An eastbound semi truck towing an empty trailer then lost control and struck the Nissan, before jackknifing and blocking the eastbound lanes, according to police reports. That's when a Subaru station wagon slid into the jackknifed semi truck. Two more westbound semi trucks slid into the crash scene and collided with the first jackknifed semi truck. "The three semi trucks came to a rest, blocking the eastbound lanes of the freeway, and caught fire," state police report. "All three semi trucks were fully engulfed by fire and completely destroyed." All lanes of travel were blocked while emergency crews attempted to extinguish the burning vehicles and clear the scene of wreckage. State troopers were assisted at the scene by the Oregon Department of Transportation, the Gilliam County Sheriff's Office, the Rufus Fire Department, and Sherman County Fire and Rescue.

Source: <http://www.katu.com/news/local/110938269.html>

23. *November 28, KSL 5 Salt Lake City* – (Utah) **Storm leads to more than 200 crashes statewide.** Another big winter storm packed a punch across the Wasatch Front in Utah, November 28, bringing the kinds of conditions many drivers find difficult to handle. Many motorists took to the road and soon found themselves on the side of it. The Utah Highway Patrol reported more than 300 slide-offs and crashes in 11 counties across the state. Of the 359 crashes reported, 57 involved injuries, 239 caused vehicle damage, and 63 were slide-offs. The majority of crashes took place in Salt Lake County, where 40 resulted in injuries, 179 damaged vehicles, and 22 were slide-offs. Many of the problems occurred on major roads like Interstate 15, Interstate 80, and Interstate 215. According to an officer from the Unified Police Department, no injuries were reported. Source: <http://www.ksl.com/?nid=148&sid=13441976&autostart=y>
24. *November 28, Des Moines Register* – (Iowa) **Updated: All I-80 lanes reopened.** Accidents closed three portions of eastbound Interstate Highway 80 in eastern Iowa November 28, the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) said. All the road segments were reopened. The closures lasted varying times. A closing due to an accident between mile markers 225 and 230, straddling the Iowa-Johnson county line, lasted about 4 hours. IDOT said the interstate was open again at about 9:30 p.m. Eastbound I-80 between mile markers 220 and 225, east of Williamsburg, was reopened by about 7:10 p.m., IDOT said. Those lanes had been closed at about 6:15 p.m. because of “numerous accidents.” At 7:05 p.m., IDOT said I-80 eastbound had reopened between mile markers 301 and 306 at Bettendorf after an accident involving a pedestrian. That closure had been announced at about 5 p.m. Source: <http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20101128/NEWS/101128009/Updated-Accidents-close-I-80-stretches>
25. *November 27, St. Cloud Times* – (Minnesota) **Collision closes University Bridge; 3 vehicles sustain substantial damage.** Minor injuries resulted after an accident that closed University Bridge for about two and a half hours November 26, according to St. Cloud, Minnesota police. A vehicle slid into a semitruck on the bridge at about 9:35 a.m. The driver was traveling west when she lost control on the icy bridge and slid into a semi that was traveling east, according to a police report. After the car and semi collided, the semi slid into the westbound lane and collided with another vehicle. Diesel fuel and oil from the semi leaked onto the bridge deck but was contained and cleaned up by the St. Cloud Fire Department and Andy’s Towing. The bridge also was sanded. Icy road conditions are believed to have been a contributing factor in the accident. The Minnesota State Patrol and Gold Cross Ambulance assisted at the scene. Source: <http://www.sctimes.com/article/20101127/NEWS01/111260037/1009>
26. *November 25, FOXNews.com* – (National) **May be time for tains, ships and mass transit to use body scanners, Napolitano says.** The Homeland Security Secretary hinted the week of November 22 that the body scanners and “enhanced” pat-downs that have caused a ruckus at airports across the country could be coming to a train stations, ports, or subways. In an interview on “Charlie Rose” that aired November 22, the Secretary said terrorists will continue to seek vulnerabilities in the nation’s

transportation systems. “I think the tighter we get on aviation, we have to also be thinking now about going on to mass transit or to trains or maritime,” she said. “So what do we need to be doing to strengthen our protections there?”

Source: <http://www.infowars.com/may-be-time-for-trains-ships-and-mass-transit-to-use-body-scanners-napolitano-says/>

For more stories, see items [1](#) and [3](#)

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Postal and Shipping Sector

27. *November 27, Los Angeles Times* – (Tennessee) **Missing radioactive rods found by FedEx.** A shipment of radioactive rods that went missing Thanksgiving Day was found November 26 in Tennessee by the shipping company FedEx. Though the materials, used for medical equipment, posed little threat to the public, the misplaced shipment underscores the need to track low-hazard materials that could be used in small-scale terrorist attacks, experts said. The rods, used to calibrate quality control in CT scans, contain little energy and a low concentration of radiation, according to a FedEx spokeswoman. The shipment was sent from Fargo, North Dakota, and was reported missing at its destination in Knoxville, Tennessee. FedEx alerted all of its U.S. stations about the missing shipment. The shipment was found at a FedEx station in Knoxville, with its shipping label missing from the outer box, the spokeswoman said. All of the rods were intact and no FedEx employees were exposed to radiation. Three shipments of radioactive rods were mailed earlier this week. The recipient notified FedEx when only two containers arrived in Knoxville, the spokeswoman said.

Source: <http://articles.latimes.com/2010/nov/27/nation/la-na-fedex-radiation-20101127>

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Agriculture and Food Sector

28. *November 29, Muncie Star Press* – (Indiana) **Randolph County pork farmer cited by IDEM.** The State of Indiana has issued a notice of violation to a Randolph County pork producer who sprayed 200,000 gallons of hog manure onto a field upstream of a major fish kill. The manure was spread during rainy weather in June, when more than 106,000 fish died in Bear Creek and Mississinewa River. The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) said the man applied animal waste that polluted Bear Creek June 18-21. In addition, he allegedly filed a written spill report as required by law but did not provide adequate information. The pork producer is accused of failing to notify the nearest affected downstream water user of the spill as required by law. In inspection reports, IDEM claimed the manure was applied at a rate that did not comply with Natural Resources Conservation Service standards. When state inspectors returned to the field in mid-August, they found no row crops growing there.

Source: <http://www.pal-item.com/article/20101129/NEWS01/11290326>

29. *November 29, WFMJ 21 Youngstown* – (Pennsylvania) **Fire destroys Mercer County bar.** A fire in Jefferson Township, Pennsylvania, destroyed the Jacks-R-Wild bar and left its owner homeless. Shortly after 11 p.m. November 27, the bar caught fire. The blaze was so intense the road was shut down while water tanker trucks were brought in to battle the flames. Eight people were inside the bar when flames began to consume the building. Nobody was injured.
Source: <http://www.wfmj.com/Global/story.asp?S=13578684>
30. *November 28, WAAY 31 Huntsville* – (Alabama) **Fire destroys interior of Priceville diner.** Investigators are trying to determine what caused a fire that destroyed the interior of a Morgan County, Alabama, restaurant. The blaze erupted November 28 at Libby's Catfish and Diner on Highway 67 in Priceville. Witnesses at the scene told investigators they heard an explosion just prior to seeing flames at the business. Crews with the Priceville and Somerville volunteer departments, along with a truck from the Decatur Fire Department extinguished the blaze. The business was closed, so there were no employees or customers in the building, and there were no injuries.
Source: <http://www.waaytv.com/news/local/story/Priceville-fire-Libbys-diner-fire/xGCIMiUM20-aRZoh6Y2uTQ.csp>
31. *November 28, Associated Press* – (Alaska) **Fish processor will recall salmon.** The owner of a Fairbanks, Alaska, fish processing company said three samples of the same batch of smoked salmon the state deemed contaminated were tested by independent laboratories in the lower 48 states and came back negative. But the owner said he will comply with the state's order for a recall of Santa's Smokehouse brand Cajun-Style Smoked Keta Salmon. "We're required by law to issue a recall," he said. The fish is produced by Interior Alaska Fish Processors Inc. The fish was sold in half-pound packages between August 27 and November 6. The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation found the bacterium *Listeria monocytogenes* in a batch sold at the company's retail stores.
Source: <http://www.necn.com/11/28/10/Fish-processor-will-recall-salmon/landing.html?&blockID=3&apID=0e9fc1fa23bc4b4780e65a31907d879c>
32. *November 27, LaSalle News Tribune* – (Illinois) **Suspected refrigerant leak clears out McDonald's.** The McDonald's on Shooting Park Road, in Peru, Illinois, was shut down for nearly 2 hours November 26 to repair a refrigerant leak. About 10 people evacuated because of a lung irritant, but no injuries were reported. Peru firefighters responded at about 5:30 p.m. and believed the irritant to be refrigerant leaking, the fire chief said. The irritant had no odor, he said. At about 6:45 p.m., maintenance workers for McDonald's were on the scene and employees were back inside the building, but the restaurant remained closed at 7:45 p.m. and the exact cause of the irritation was undetermined, the fire captain said. A restaurant manager said two customers were inside when the irritant was noticed. Workers held shirts over their faces and the customer went outside. The fast food restaurant was back to regular operation by about 10 p.m.
Source:

<http://www.newstrib.com/articles/news/local/default.asp?article=24541&aname=UPD ATE:+Suspected+refrigerant+leak+clears+out+McDonald's>

33. *November 27, Baltimore Sun* – (Maryland) **Three injured in early morning shooting near Fort Meade.** A man was shot three times on the parking lot of an Odenton, Maryland, bar, and two patrons were struck by stray bullets just outside the establishment November 27, Anne Arundel County police said. Officers found a man with bullet wounds to his head, back, and abdomen, lying on a parking lot behind My Place Bar & Lounge in the 1600 block of Annapolis Road shortly before 2 a.m., police said. Two other men were hit by stray bullets as they entered the bar, located in a strip of clubs and restaurants nicknamed “Boomtown,” across from the Fort Meade military base, police said. Police said they found a 23-year-old suspect, of Halethorpe, crouched behind a fence of a nearby KFC restaurant. The suspect was charged with three counts of attempted first-degree murder along with other charges and held at the Anne Arundel Detention Center.

Source: <http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/maryland/anne-arundel/bs-md-ar-odenton-bar-shooting-20101127,0,2567303.story>

34. *November 26, Associated Press* – (National; International) **Asian carp create nagging fear in Lake Erie towns.** The Great Lakes are already ravaged by exotic species such as the sea lamprey and quagga mussel. The Asian carp could be next. Scientists are unsure how much damage they could do, but some fear the carp would crowd out competitors and decimate a \$7 billion fishing industry. The carp are greedy giants that suck plankton from the water with the efficiency of vacuum cleaners. The danger is greatest in Lake Erie, which has the most abundant fish populations of the five lakes and a plentiful supply of plankton, the foundation of the food chain. Commercial fishing is still alive in Canadian port towns scattered along the lake’s northern shoreline. Local fishermen are already squeezed by the economy and catch regulations, and they fear Asian carp could devastate their livelihood.

Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D9JNMIO81.htm>

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Water Sector

35. *November 29, Delaware News-Journal* – (Delaware) **Water main break likely to take days to repair.** Repairs were expected to take several days for a water main break discovered the weekend of November 27 and 28 near Fourth and Jackson streets in Wilmington, Delaware. Traffic was restricted on Jackson Street between Fourth and Sixth streets, and along the westbound lanes of Fourth Street, the city communications director said November 28. Traffic exiting Interstate 95 onto Fourth Street was not affected. He said officials do not expect traffic problems during the repair. A gas station and a discount store might have water service interrupted, he said. But no homes would lose water. City engineers investigated the area after noticing a large increase in water consumption from the Porter Reservoir off Concord Pike. There are no indications of a water main break on the road surface because water from the broken

main is flowing into a storm sewer located below the area of the main break.

Source: <http://www.delawareonline.com/article/20101129/NEWS/11290322>

36. *November 28, LakeNewsOnline.com* – (Missouri) **Water break in Lake Ozark: Crews fix leak over holiday weekend.** Water service was disrupted November 26 for a number of Lake Ozark, Missouri residents while crews repaired a water line after it ruptured. Residents and businesses along the Bagnell Dam Strip and the surrounding areas including Ballenger, School, Hidden Acres, Flynn and Port Elsewhere roads were all impacted. The city's public works crews were at the scene for several hours repairing the line. The water line broke November 25.
Source: <http://www.lakenewsonline.com/communities/x1316687681/Water-break-in-Lake-Ozark-Crews-fix-leak-over-holiday-weekend>
37. *November 27, Albany Times-Union* – (New York) **Sewer order vexes town.** The town of Niskayuna, New York, faces \$37,500 in fines from the New York Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and may be forced to halt residential building projects unless it comes up with a long-range plan to fix its crumbling sewer system to meet increasing demands, according to a councilman who is a member of Niskayuna's water and sewer committee. He said November 26, the DEC in October notified the town supervisor the town would be assessed a \$7,500 fine for violating water flow regulations related to a 2003 agreement with the agency. Additionally, Niskayuna could face \$30,000 more in penalties if it fails to submit a comprehensive plan by a January 3 deadline. DEC documents indicated that back in 2003, DEC put Niskayuna on notice that new housing construction was outpacing upgrades being made to the pipes, and it needed to reduce water inflow and infiltration. By December 2003, the DEC approved a plan, the paperwork shows. Over time, however, Niskayuna has exceeded those limits and now stands at 95 percent of its maximum capacity wet water limit of 2.85 million gallons per day. Making matters worse are cracked pipes in the system and illegal connections to the wastewater treatment plant. So, the town must now either fix the pipes or build a collection tank in front of the treatment plant to catch excess water and store it until the plant is able to process it, the councilman said.
Source: <http://www.timesunion.com/local/article/Sewer-order-vexes-town-834859.php>

For another story, see item [28](#)

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

38. *November 29, HealthDay News* – (National) **Shortage of on-call trauma surgeons in U.S. hospitals: poll.** Three-quarters of U.S. emergency department directors said they do not have adequate on-call trauma surgeon coverage, and nearly one-quarter said their hospital's trauma center designation has been downgraded or lost, a new survey finds. The poll also found that: 60 percent of directors said their emergency department lost the ability to provide 24-hour coverage for at least one medical specialty in the last 4 years; more than 75 percent said their departments have inadequate coverage for

plastic surgery, hand surgery, and neurosurgery; nearly 25 percent reported an increase in the number of patients leaving before being seen by a needed specialist, a situation that can lead to worse outcomes and increased need for hospitalization; inadequate surgical coverage was reported by 68 percent of teaching hospitals and 78 percent of non-teaching hospitals. The findings are published online and in the December print issue of the journal *Academic Emergency Medicine*.

Source: <http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2010/11/29/shortage-of-on-call-trauma-surgeons-in-us-hospitals-poll.html>

39. *November 27, Knoxville News Sentinel* – (Tennessee) **University of Tennessee Medical Center data not disposed properly.** University of Tennessee (UT) Medical Center officials are alerting about 8,000 patients hospital reports containing their private information were not properly disposed of and could pose a privacy breach risk. A UT Medical Center spokesman said November 26 that based on an internal investigation there is no reason to believe any patient information was disclosed, used, or accessed inappropriately. He said the hospital is sending potentially affected patients letters about the breach “out of an abundance of caution.” According to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act privacy officer for UT Medical Center, the hospital became aware October 4 records were disposed of without being shredded. “There was no sensitive, personal or identifying information in view on the outside of the report; however, within the report was certain patient-related information, including the patient’s name and Social Security number.” He said the medical center immediately corrected the disposal process for the reports amid an extensive investigation into the issue. He added that all information was rendered unreadable during the hospital’s waste management process shortly after the disposal.

Source: <http://www.knoxnews.com/news/2010/nov/27/ut-data-not-disposed-properly/>

40. *November 24, Healthcare Info Security* – (International) **Puerto Rican breach affects 400,000.** About 400,000 Puerto Ricans enrolled in the government’s health insurance plan for the impoverished have potentially been affected by a breach incident involving unauthorized access to an Internet database. Triple-S Management Corp., a holding company that runs Blue Cross and Blue Shield plans and serves as a government contractor, said in a recent 10-Q securities filing that a competitor informed it that “certain of our competitor’s employees” accessed the database without permission September 9-15. The database included information pertaining to individuals previously insured under the government health plan that was managed by a Triple-S subsidiary, as well as information about the independent practice associations that provided services to those individuals. “The database intrusion may have potentially compromised protected health information of approximately 398,000 beneficiaries,” according to the 10-Q filing. The company said its investigation also revealed protected health data of about 5,500 government health insurance plan beneficiaries and 2,500 Medicare beneficiaries, plus certain independent practice association data, was inappropriately accessed through multiple intrusions into the database from October 2008 to August 2010. The information accessed did not include Social Security

numbers, the company said.

Source: http://www.healthcareinfosecurity.com/articles.php?art_id=3129

41. *November 24, Reuters* – (National) **J&J recalls more Tylenol.** Johnson & Johnson (J&J) said November 24 it is recalling 9 million more bottles of its Tylenol painkiller because they do not adequately warn customers about the presence of trace amounts of alcohol used in the product flavorings. The latest in a string of J&J recalls involves three brands of Tylenol Cold Multi-Symptom Liquid. The Tylenol formulations include Daytime 8-ounce Citrus Burst, Severe 8-Ounce Cool Burst, and Nighttime 8-Ounce Cool Burst. “There is less than 1 percent alcohol in the flavoring, and this information is on the back of the bottles,” a company spokeswoman said. “But the information does not appear on the front of the bottles,” she added. More than 200 million packages of painkillers Tylenol and Motrin, allergy treatment Benadryl, and other consumer brands have been recalled over the past year due to quality-control lapses. The company said no side effects have been seen with the newly recalled liquid Tylenol products. Just days ago, J&J recalled almost 5 million packages of Benadryl, Motrin, and its Rolaid’s antacid because of manufacturing “insufficiencies.” J&J said those recalls, like many of the earlier ones, involved products made at its plant in Fort Washington, Pennsylvania. The facility was closed earlier this year to fix quality-control lapses, including unsanitary conditions, and is not expected to resume operations until late next year.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE6AN4WX20101124>

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Government Facilities Sector

42. *November 29, NBC News, msnbc.com, Associated Press and Reuters* – (National; International) **Clinton: U.S. ‘deeply regrets’ WikiLeaks disclosures.** The U.S. Secretary of State condemned the release of more than 250,000 classified State Department documents November 29, saying the United States was taking aggressive steps to hold responsible those who “stole” the information. In her first public comments since the November 28 release of the classified State Department cables, she said online whistleblower Wikileaks acted illegally in posting the material. She said the U.S. Presidential administration was “aggressively pursuing” those responsible for the leak. Her comments come as the Presidential administration moved into damage control mode, trying to contain fallout from unflattering assessments of world leaders and revelations about backstage U.S. diplomacy. The publication of the secret cables amplified widespread global alarm about Iran’s nuclear ambitions and unveiled occasional U.S. pressure tactics aimed at hot spots in Afghanistan, Pakistan, and North Korea. According to the vast cache of cables, a Saudi Arabian leader repeatedly urged the United States to attack Iran’s nuclear program, and China directed cyber attacks on the United States. The documents, given to five media groups by the whistle-blowing Web site WikiLeaks, provide candid and at times critical views of foreign leaders as well as sensitive information on terrorism and nuclear proliferation filed by U.S. diplomats, according to The New York Times. The White House condemned the

release, and said the disclosures may endanger U.S. informants abroad.

Source: http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/40412689/ns/us_news-security

43. *November 29, Atlanta Journal-Constitution* – (Georgia) **Smash-and-grab burglars hit Atlanta school.** One person was in custody November 29, and police were looking for at least one other suspect in an overnight smash-and-grab burglary at an Atlanta, Georgia high school. WSB Radio reported the thieves smashed their way into a computer lab at Maynard H. Jackson High School on Glenwood Avenue. The suspects fled into nearby woods when officers arrived and interrupted the burglary. “They were in and out in minutes,” an Atlanta police officer told WSB. Police said the fleeing suspects ditched the stolen computers in the woods. Four computers were recovered, but more may be in the woods, police said.

Source: <http://www.ajc.com/news/atlanta/smash-and-grab-burglars-757172.html>

44. *November 27, Honolulu Star-Advertiser* – (Hawaii) **2 men arrested; SUV searched for bombs near military housing.** Police in Honolulu, Hawaii, shut down the Ala Kapuna off-ramp along Moanalua Freeway Honolulu-bound for about 2 hours November 27 to investigate a suspicious vehicle that may contain explosives, police dispatch reported. An Army spokesman said two men had been arrested in connection with the case. The chief of public affairs for U.S. Army Pacific would not elaborate, but he said the men had apparently tried to get into the Aliamanu Military Reservation housing area. They earlier tried to get onto other military installations on Oahu, he said. A black mid-size sport utility vehicle was stopped at the gate while the investigation continued. The two men were spotted trying to enter at least two other “Leeward Oahu military bases” that he would not name. Police also closed Ala Kapuna Street, starting at the overpass, heading to mauka and the mauka gate to Aliamanu military housing. The off-ramp, overpass, and gate were reopened just after 5:25 p.m. It was not clear if any explosives were found in the SUV.

Source:

http://www.staradvertiser.com/news/breaking/Suspicious_vehicle_near_freeway_may_contain_explosives.html

45. *November 26, Kitsap Sun* – (Washington) **Burst pipe shuts down Manchester library indefinitely.** A broken water pipe that flooded the Manchester Library in Manchester, Washington following a winter storm has shut down the facility indefinitely. Kitsap Regional Library personnel and members of the Friends of Manchester Library, who own the building, are still assessing the damage that was done when the pipe burst after heat was restored following a nearly 3-day power outage. The pipe burst in the staff area, and most of the collection is fine, said the director of IT and facilities for KRL. Water leaked out of the staff area into the entire building and was up to 3 inches deep in some areas.

Source: <http://www.kitsapsun.com/news/2010/nov/26/burst-pipe-shuts-down-manchester-library/>

46. *November 24, Los Angeles Times* – (California) **FBI probe claims of AIDS-tainted razors sent to UCLA professor.** The FBI and local police November 24 were

investigating another incident involving a University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) neuroscientist, this one involving an animal-rights group that claims to have sent “AIDS-tainted” razors to the researcher. Officials said they do not know whether the razors had any substance on them, but that they are trying to find out. Earlier in November, a researcher, who does research on rodents and primates, received the package, a UCLA spokesman said. Previously, animal-rights activists have demonstrated in front of the researcher’s house and allegedly set fire to his car. In a news release issued November 23, the Animal Liberation Front said it had obtained statements from animal activists called “The Justice Department of UCLA,” which claimed responsibility for sending AIDS-tainted razor blades to the researcher, whom the group alleged has injected the rodents with addictive drugs. Much of the research is funded by the National Institutes of Health and has provided key information on biochemical processes that contribute to methamphetamine addiction affecting teens, and disabilities affecting speech and behavior of schizophrenia patients, UCLA said. Source: <http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/lanow/2010/11/fbi-probes-allegedly-aids-tainted-razors-sent-to-ucla-professor.html>

For more stories, see items [11](#) and [63](#)

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Emergency Services Sector

47. *November 28, Los Angeles Times* – (California) **Wait times drop for cellphone 911 calls in California.** Millions of California cellphone users are no longer getting busy messages, experiencing unconnected calls, or being put on hold for extended periods when they dial 911. The number of wireless emergency calls reaching busy operators or failing to go through for various reasons dropped from 4.9 million, or 42 percent of calls, in 2007 to just 470,000, or 5 percent, so far this year, according to the state’s public safety communications division. In addition, emergency call hold times at the California Highway Patrol (CHP) also improved. In 2007, the Times reported that about half of the CHP’s call centers failed to meet state standards of 90 percent of 911 calls being answered in 10 seconds or less. Over the last 3 months, all 25 centers exceeded the quick-answer standard, records show. Statewide this year, the agency has answered 94 percent or more of its emergency calls within 10 seconds. A combination of increased staffing, more efficient operator scheduling, and more refined call-routing procedures contributed to the improvement, said a CHP chief who oversees the 911 program.

Source: <http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-911-calls-20101129,0,1947409.story>

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Information Technology Sector

48. *November 29, Help Net Security* – (International) **Fake Facebook ‘photo comment’ e-mail leads to malware.** As Facebook has announced its new messaging system and its

deployment in the coming months, online scammers have been trying to use that announcement against unsuspecting Facebook users that may have heard about it and believe that changes will be made in the way that the social network contacts and notifies its users. McAfee warns about the latest of these scams — a fake “Your friend commented on your photo” e-mail: The e-mail is coming from a Gmail address — a fact that should tell the recipients that the e-mail is not legitimate. And, if they run their mouse over the embedded link, they will also notice that the real link has nothing to do with Facebook. A click on it will redirect the user to a malicious page serving malware. Source: http://www.net-security.org/malware_news.php?id=1549

49. *November 29, The Register* – (International) **Feds seize 70 ‘filesharing, dodgy goods’ sites.** The U.S. government has seized 70 sites allegedly offering counterfeit goods or links to copyright-infringing material. Among the domains seized was a BitTorrent meta-search engine Torrent-Finder.com, along with other music linking sites. Other sites on the hitlist allegedly sold fake designer clothes. Surfers visiting the seized sites were confronted by a notice from Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), instead of the expected content. ICE told the New York Times the seizures were part of an “ongoing investigation” but declined to elaborate, beyond saying court-issued seizure warrants were involved. The seizures happened as a new bill addressing this issue, the Combating Online Infringements and Counterfeits Act, has been introduced in Congress.

Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/11/29/ice_piracy_domain_seizures/

50. *November 29, The Register* – (International) **Lone hacker theory in Wikileaks DDoS attack.** A denial of service attack against Wikileaks that brought the whistleblower site to its knees November 28 in the run up to its publication of classified State Department documents, may turn out to be the work of a lone hacker. The attack, which rendered the site inaccessible for several hours, might be blamed on an application level assault targeting a vulnerability in Wikileaks’ Apache Web server, according to Internet reports. A hacker called The Jester has previously used the XerXeS attack tool to attack jihadist sites. Now, if the rumors are true, this tool was turned against Wikileaks, making the site unavailable at a critical time. “We are currently under a mass distributed denial of service attack,” Wikileaks said November 28 via updates to its Twitter feed. “El Pais, Le Monde, Spiegel, Guardian & NYT will publish many U.S. embassy cables tonight, even if WikiLeaks goes down,” it added. Rather than a purely conventional packet flood, it seems probable the site was also hit by the XerXeS tool. The Jester claimed responsibility for an attack on Wikileaks via a Twitter update November 28.

Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/11/29/wikileaks_ddos/

51. *November 29, New New Internet* – (National) **Cocky hacker defaces Navy Memorial site, ridicules admin.** A hacker broke into the U.S. Navy Memorial Web site and left a message for the administrator, mocking him for the inadequate security and offering his assistance, Softpedia reported. Operated by the U.S. Navy Memorial Foundation, the site provides visitors information about the memorial, as well as news, annual reports, and other services. The breach was detected by a senior threat researcher at GFI

Software, who wrote on the company blog that the hacker had left his message in a .txt file inside a directory on the server. However, because the folder was accessible to search engine crawlers, the message got indexed and became available on Google. The hacker offered to help and left his contact information, something overly confident hackers sometimes do, according to Softpedia.

Source: <http://www.thenewnewinternet.com/2010/11/29/hackers-defaces-us-navy-memorial-site-ridicules-admin/>

52. *November 28, IDG News Service* – (International) **Leaked U.S. document links China to Google attack.** The cache of more than 250,000 U.S. Department of State cables that WikiLeaks began releasing November 28 includes a document linking China's Politburo to the December 2009 hack of Google's computer systems. The U.S. Embassy in Beijing was told by an unidentified Chinese contact that China's Politburo "directed the intrusion into Google's computer systems," the New York Times reported November 28, citing a single leaked State Department cable. "The Google hacking was part of a coordinated campaign of computer sabotage carried out by government operatives, private security experts, and Internet outlaws recruited by the Chinese government. They have broken into American government computers and those of Western allies, the Dalai Lama and American businesses since 2002, cables said," the Times reported. The cable is another piece of evidence, albeit thinly sourced, linking China to the Google attack. Security experts have linked the attacks to servers at a university used by the Chinese military, and both Google and the State Department implied that they thought China was behind the attacks when they were first disclosed in January 2010, but nobody has produced conclusive proof that they were state-sponsored.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9198198/Leaked_U.S._document_links_China_to_Google_attack

53. *November 27, Computerworld* – (International) **'Nightmare' kernel bug lets attackers evade Windows UAC security.** Microsoft is investigating reports of an unpatched vulnerability in the Windows kernel that could be used by attackers to sidestep an important operating system security measure. One security firm dubbed the bug a potential "nightmare," but Microsoft downplayed the threat by reminding users that hackers would need a second exploit to launch remote attacks. The exploit was disclosed November 24 — the same day proof-of-concept code went public — and lets attackers bypass the User Account Control (UAC) feature in Windows Vista and Windows 7. UAC, which was frequently panned when Vista debuted in 2007, displays prompts that users must read and react to. It was designed to make silent malware installation impossible, or at least more difficult. The bug is in the "win32k.sys" file, a part of the kernel, and exists in all versions of Windows, including XP, Vista, Server 2003, Windows 7, and Server 2008, a Sophos researcher said in a November 25 blog post. Several security companies, including Sophos and Vupen, have confirmed the vulnerability and reported that the publicly-released attack code works on systems running Vista, Windows 7, and Server 2008.

Source:

[http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9198158/ Nightmare kernel bug Lets attackers evade Windows UAC security](http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9198158/Nightmare_kernel_bug Lets_attackers_evade_Windows_UAC_security)

54. *November 25, TrendLabs Malware Blog* – (International) **ZeuS-SpyEye merger in progress?** In late October 2010, it was reported the “rivalry” between the ZeuS and SpyEye malware families was ending with a merger of the two families. It was reported ZeuS author Slavik or Monstr had gone underground and had given his toolkit’s source code to SpyEye author Gribodemon or Harderman. This has prompted a lot of speculation about what will come next. Many researchers are waiting for a new malware family that will combine the features of SpyEye and ZeuS. For now, SpyEye and ZeuS remain separate malware families. Whether the merger pushes through or not, however, SpyEye is still growing as a threat. According to new data, the number of SpyEye infections has grown since July 2010 to as much as 20 times to date. Since news of this “merger” first came out, many security analysts rushed to gather intelligence on SpyEye. In anticipation, Gribodemon went through many underground forums and deleted his posts to cover up what he was doing. Trend Micro and the rest of the security industry are ready to respond. One of the more public signs of this is the ZeuS Tracker administrator has opened the SpyEye Tracker, to track SpyEye. This will aid law enforcement agencies and security companies in taking down and investigating SpyEye command-and-control (C&C) servers.

Source: <http://blog.trendmicro.com/zeus-spyeye-merger-in-progress/>

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

55. *November 29, msnbc.com* – (National) **Comcast Internet outage hits eastern U.S.** A failure of Comcast’s Internet services hit a wide swath of the Eastern United States. November 28, and the company said the issue was a problem with its DNS servers. Comcast told the Baltimore Sun that service was restored late November 28. A spokesman told the Sun that extra staff were brought in to fix the problem. Earlier, another Comcast spokesman told NBC News: “All other services are working properly. ... We certainly apologize for any inconvenience this may be causing our customers.” It was not clear how widespread the failure was. A technician who answered Comcast’s customer service line told NBC News that there were significant Internet outages in Connecticut, Maryland, Virginia, Massachusetts, New York, and New Hampshire. The “focus” of the outages was in the Boston and Washington D.C. areas. Television and telephone service from Comcast was unaffected.

Source: http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/40410491/ns/technology_and_science-tech_and_gadgets/

56. *November 29, InformationWeek* – (National) **FBI warns of mobile cyber threats.** People should be wary of criminal efforts targeting their cell phones, the FBI is warning. The agency's Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3) said that creative criminals will be using scams called "smishing" or "vishing" to steal people's personal information, such as bank account numbers, personal identification number (PIN) codes, or credit card numbers. Smishing is a combination of SMS texting and the common online practice of phishing, which uses e-mails to direct people to Web sites where they are asked to give up personal information. In a smishing scam, people receive a text message on their phone telling them there is a problem with their bank account. The message will contain a phone number to call or a Web site to log into. To pull off these crimes, people set up an automated dialing system to text or call mobile phone subscribers in a particular region or area code. They also steal phone numbers from banks and credit companies and target people on these lists, according to the FBI. If a person follows through and follows directions, it is likely there is a criminal on the other end stealing personal information. Vishing is similar to smishing except instead of an SMS, a person will receive a voicemail giving them the same information. People who fall victim to mobile device scams could be in danger even if they stop short of giving up the information requested, the FBI warned. If they only log onto the fake Web site via their mobile device, they could end up downloading malicious software giving criminals access to anything on their phone, the agency said.

Source:

http://www.informationweek.com/news/government/security/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=228400096&cid=RSSfeed_IWK_All

57. *November 26, KGO 7 San Francisco* – (California) **AT&T blames vandals for outages.** AT&T is confirming reports of vandalism at several East and South Bay, California locations that cut off service to some customers November 25-26. A spokesperson said lines were cut in 15 locations causing a loss of both phone and Internet service to customers in Walnut Creek, Orinda, and Morgan Hill. The outages began November 25. AT&T crews worked through the night to repair those lines and expected all customers to be back up and running by November 26. They would not say how many customers were affected.

Source: http://abclocal.go.com/kgo/story?section=news/local/east_bay&id=7811914

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Commercial Facilities Sector

58. *November 28, Associated Press and NBC New York* – (New York) **1 dead, 7 injured in Bronx apartment fire.** One man is dead and seven people were injured in a fire that broke out late November 27 in an apartment building in the Bronx, New York. Five of the victims are in serious condition, and two have minor injuries, fire officials said. They were all taken to Lincoln Medical and Mental Health Center. More than 120

people had to scramble to safety, fire officials said. The fire was under control about 10:30 p.m. November 27, less than 1 hour after the initial report of the blaze, The New York Fire Department said. The department said the man who died was 46. The fire erupted in a 5-story building on East 169th Street, west of the Grand Concourse. The Red Cross has set up a shelter at PS 64 at 425 Walton Avenue in the Bronx to assist the estimated 35 families displaced by the blaze.

Source: <http://www.nbcnewyork.com/news/local-beat/One-Dead-Seven-Injured-in-Bronx-Fire-110933849.html>

59. *November 28, KOIN 6 Portland* – (Oregon) **Arson attack on Corvallis Islamic center.** FBI agents are investigating an arson-caused fire at the Salman AlFarisi Islamic Center in Corvallis, Oregon. It was reported at 2:15 a.m. November 28 by a police officer who was patrolling the area. Firefighters responded quickly and extinguished it within 10 minutes. There was considerable fire and smoke damage to the office of the Islamic Center, which was the one frequented by the man accused of trying to explode a bomb in Portland's Pioneer Courthouse Square November 26. Two rooms adjacent to the office also suffered some light smoke damage. There was no damage to any worship area, the imam said. The mosque did not show visible external damage. The center is located at 610 NW Kings Boulevard near the Oregon State University campus. The FBI is offering a reward of up to \$10,000 for information leading to the identification, arrest, and conviction of the person or people responsible.

Source: http://www.koinlocal6.com/content/news/topstories/story/Arson-attack-on-Corvallis-Islamic-Center/WcV9GbFJfEK484l8RXMU_w.csp

60. *November 28, Associated Press* – (Michigan) **Police: 2 men shot inside suburban Detroit mall.** A dispute between two rival groups of teenagers escalated into gunfire November 27 when members of one of the groups opened fire inside a shopping mall, critically injuring one teenager and a clothing store worker as holiday shoppers dashed for cover, police said. The shooting happened around 6 p.m. at Eastland Mall, east of Detroit, Michigan. The mall was closed for the night as police searched for suspects, said the Harper Woods deputy police chief. The 18-year-old victim, a member of the rival group, was struck in the chest, and a stray bullet hit the leg of the worker, in his mid-30s, who was standing outside the clothing store, he said. Both were taken to St. Johns Hospital in Detroit. They were listed in critical condition but were expected to survive. The deputy chief said the shooting caused panicked shoppers to run for cover or exits as chaos unfolded inside the mall, which has more than 100 stores and restaurants, according to its Web site.

Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20101128/ap_on_re_us/us_detroit_mall_shooting

61. *November 28, Associated Press* – (New Jersey) **Fire forces evacuation of casino.** Gambling was briefly halted at an Atlantic City, New Jersey, casino November 27 when a fire damaged part of the building. No injuries were reported in the blaze at the Tropicana Casino and Resort, which broke out on the sixth floor just before 4:30 a.m. But it forced officials to evacuate the casino floor for about 20 minutes. An Atlantic City fire chief said the fire apparently started in an outdoor planter and then burned through the facade and into a wall. But he said the investigation was ongoing.

The blaze, which was brought under control in about 40 minutes, caused an estimated \$30,000 to \$50,000 in damage. That includes structural damage to the building's exterior and water damage to utility closets and stairwells on the fourth and fifth floors. Crews will also have to repair or replace wiring and other mechanics that were exposed or disrupted when firefighters had to break through the wall to get to the source of the fire.

Source: <http://www.courierpostonline.com/article/20101128/NEWS01/11280342/Fire-forces-evacuation-of-casino>

62. *November 26, U.S. Department of Justice* – (Oregon) **Oregon resident arrested in plot to bomb Christmas tree lighting ceremony in Portland.** A 19-year-old naturalized U.S. citizen from Somalia and resident of Corvallis, Oregon, has been arrested on charges of attempting to use a weapon of mass destruction (explosives) in connection with a plot to detonate a vehicle bomb at an annual Christmas tree lighting ceremony November 26 in Portland, Oregon, the Justice Department announced. According to a criminal complaint signed in the District of Oregon, the man was arrested by the FBI and Portland Police Bureau November 26 after he attempted to detonate what he believed to be an explosives-laden van that was parked near the tree lighting ceremony in Portland's Pioneer Courthouse Square. The arrest was the culmination of a long-term undercover operation, during which the man had been monitored closely for months as his alleged bomb plot developed. The device was in fact inert; and the public was never in danger from the device. The man is expected to make his initial appearance in federal court in Portland November 29. He faces a maximum statutory sentence of life in prison and a \$250,000 fine if convicted of the charge of attempting to use a weapon of mass destruction.

Source: <http://portland.fbi.gov/dojpressrel/pressrel10/pd112610.htm>

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

63. *November 28, Nashville Tennessean* – (Tennessee) **MLK magnet school to be closed Monday after weekend fire.** Classes were canceled November 29 at Martin Luther King Jr. Magnet High School in Nashville, Tennessee after a November 27 fire damaged the historic school on 17th Avenue North at D.B. Todd Boulevard. Two classrooms were burned. The rest of the two-story building has water damage, and a smoke smell will affect 21 classrooms, almost half of the school's teaching space. The fire began at about 4 a.m. and was in the roof and ceiling. It is thought to have started in an upstairs maintenance room. The Depression-era building is a touchstone for Nashville's black community. The building once housed Pearl High School, one of the city's pre-eminent blacks-only schools. The 1936 structure is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Source: <http://www.tennessean.com/article/20101128/NEWS01/11280348/MLK-Magnet-school-to-be-closed-Monday-after-weekend-fire>

64. *November 27, Associated Press* – (Kentucky) **Fire destroys businesses at Green River Lake park.** A fire November 26 at Green River Lake State Park in Lexington, Kentucky destroyed a building that housed a marina store, gift shop, and restaurant. The fire around 11 a.m. did not injure anyone because the marina was closed at the time, but floating cabins at the marina's docks were evacuated. Fire officials said several small propane tanks, possibly used for cooking, exploded and helped to fuel the blaze. Officials are still trying to determine the cause. A jet ski and a boat were also damaged.
Source: <http://www.courier-journal.com/article/20101127/NEWS01/311270053/Fire+destroys+businesses+at+Green+River+Lake+park>
65. *November 26, Associated Press* – (Maryland) **Historic farmhouse damaged by fire; 2 hurt.** Fire officials said a historic farmhouse in Frederick, Maryland, was severely damaged in a blaze November 25 about 8:15 a.m. Two firefighters suffered minor injuries. The fire was reported when a passer-by saw flames coming from the Tauraso Medical Clinic. Twenty-one fire trucks were eventually called to the scene. Fire was still seen coming from the roof about 3 hours later. Damage was estimated at \$500,000. The cause of the blaze is under investigation. The structure was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1979. The house is believed to be 230 years old.
Source: http://www2.wjtv.com/jtv/ap_exchange/special_-_medical/article/historic-farmhouse-damaged-by-fire-2-hurt/223871/

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Dams Sector

66. *November 28, Associated Press* – (Arizona; California) **New reservoir to save water from escape to Mexico.** Nearly 1 month after water filled the Warren H. Brock Reservoir near the Arizona-California border for the first time, the project's builders got the news they wanted: It didn't leak. So, they pulled the plug and let all the water out. Emptying the reservoir, dug out of the sand dunes about 25 miles west of Yuma, Arizona was as much a part of the final construction test as filling it and watching for leaks. This reservoir was built to be in motion: Get the water in, wait a few days, get the water out. The \$172 million project is an attempt to seal decades-old leaks in the Colorado River's water-delivery system by capturing the dribbles lost downstream to Mexico when farmers in Arizona and California do not take water they ordered, usually because rain filled the need. Now, that water can be shunted into the reservoir and held until the farmers ask for it. The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation estimates the project could save as much as 70,000 acre-feet of water a year — water that can remain in Lake Mead as a hedge against drought. With testing complete, the reservoir could begin operating any time, although officials plan to inspect the structure's basins and the site to be certain no hidden problems emerge. The water used in the test was returned to the system and used by farmers.
Source: <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/n/a/2010/11/28/state/n101810S80.DTL>

67. *November 26, Thibodaux Daily Comet* – (Louisiana) **Corps searches for quality dirt in Raceland to build levees.** In a search for the quality clay dirt it now requires for levees, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers have selected a site in Raceland, Louisiana, to harvest material for the massive \$14 billion plan to upgrade levees in the New Orleans area. Locals said it demonstrates just how absurd new post-Katrina standards for levee construction are becoming as levee builders must truck in the high-quality dirt required by the Corps if it is not available nearby — sometimes at great distance — to meet federal levee standards. But a Corps spokesman said it is unlikely the site will be used for the New Orleans levee project. They were only chosen so the material is available for contractors if necessary. He said contractors working for the Corps want to minimize costs and likely would not want to lose the time it would take to truck material from Lafourche Parish 40 miles or more to the New Orleans area. Trucking in material for levee construction has become more common as the Corps has raised standards, requiring levees built post-Katrina to have an extremely high clay content that can not be found in some wetland or swampy areas where levees are built.

Source:

<http://www.dailycomet.com/article/20101126/ARTICLES/101129728/1212?p=all&tc=pgall>

68. *November 26, New Orleans Times-Picayune* – (Louisiana) **West Bank pump station is big enough despite reductions, study says.** Despite cost-saving reductions in the capacity of the massive pump station being built south of Harvey, Louisiana, it will still be large enough to prevent the Harvey and Algiers canals from overtopping when a new floodgate is closed to block storm surge from the canals, according to a hydraulic study by the Army Corps of Engineers. Water levels from rainwater runoff would peak at least 3 feet below the tops of floodwalls and levees lining the canals when the gate is closed during a 10-year rainstorm, defined as 9.1 inches of rain in 24 hours, according to the study. The Corps reduced the number of pumps late last year from 13 to 11 to help keep the \$1 billion project under budget and on schedule. The modification saved an estimated \$50 million to \$100 million. Even with the reduction, the pump station will be the largest in the world, with a capacity of 19,140 cubic feet per second — enough to fill an Olympic-size pool in 5 seconds. A second study released November 18 supports the Corps' revised plans for keeping the pumps' 5,400-horsepower diesel engines from overheating. The West Closure Complex is about 56 percent complete and will be far enough along to provide protection from a 100-year storm before the peak of the 2011 hurricane season, though the project is not expected to be finished until 2013.

Source:

http://www.nola.com/hurricane/index.ssf/2010/11/harvey_pump_station_is_big_eno.html

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