



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 12 July 2011

Top Stories

- Severe thunderstorms hit the Chicago, Illinois area July 11, shutting down train service, canceling hundreds of flights, and knocking out power to more than 600,000 customers, according to the Chicago Sun-Times. (See item [25](#))
- The U.S. State Department said it would seek compensation from the Syrian government after hundreds of its supporters smashed windows and scrawled graffiti at the U.S. Embassy in Damascus July 11, msnbc.com reports. (See item [45](#))

Fast Jump Menu

PRODUCTION INDUSTRIES

- [Energy](#)
- [Chemical](#)
- [Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste](#)
- [Critical Manufacturing](#)
- [Defense Industrial Base](#)
- [Dams](#)

SUSTENANCE and HEALTH

- [Agriculture and Food](#)
- [Water](#)
- [Public Health and Healthcare](#)

SERVICE INDUSTRIES

- [Banking and Finance](#)
- [Transportation](#)
- [Postal and Shipping](#)
- [Information Technology](#)
- [Communications](#)
- [Commercial Facilities](#)

FEDERAL and STATE

- [Government Facilities](#)
 - [Emergency Services](#)
 - [National Monuments and Icons](#)
-

Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: LOW, Cyber: LOW

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) - <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *July 11, Associated Press* – (Minnesota) **Train derailment near Brainerd ties up main track.** Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway (BNSF) was working July 11 to clear a main track near Brainerd, Minnesota, where 18 cars in a coal train derailed. The derailment July 10 left some of the coal cars on their sides. No injuries were reported. Officials said the train, on its way to Superior, Wisconsin, had 121 loaded cars, and 3 locomotives. The derailment, east of the Brainerd Lakes Regional Airport, blocked a

main track. A BNSF spokeswoman said the incident would result in delays for the railroad, so crews were working as quickly as possible to clear the tracks. The cause of the derailment remains under investigation.

Source: <http://www.kttc.com/story/15058396/train-derailment-near-brainerd-ties-up-main-track>

2. *July 11, KARE 11 Minneapolis; Associated Press* – (Minnesota) **More than 13,000 remain without power after severe storms.** More than 9,000 Xcel Energy customers across the Twin Cities metro in Minneapolis remained without power July 11 after a line of severe storms with winds approaching 80 mph swept across much of Minnesota overnight, toppling trees and downing power lines. An Xcel Energy spokesperson said that as of 8 a.m. July 11, 5,600 customers in the east metro were without electricity, while 3,700 customers in the west metro had no power. The outages come after the National Weather Service issued severe weather warnings about a line of thunderstorms capable of producing destructive winds with gusts of more than 70 mph July 10. As of midnight, Xcel Energy reported more than 27,000 customers without power. Connexus Energy reported more than 5,000 customers without power due to "widespread damage" throughout its service area.
Source: <http://www.kare11.com/news/article/929880/391/More-than-30000-without-power-after-severe-storms>
3. *July 11, Associated Press* – (Arkansas) **Cleanup continues after derailment near Ashdown.** The cleanup continues near Ashdown, Arkansas following the derailment of 34 rail cars in Little River County the week of July 4. Crews with blowtorches were working July 11 to cut the Kansas City Southern Railroad cars into pieces that can be hauled from the site. Much of the coal that spilled from the cars during the July 5 derailment has been removed while some remains on site. The county emergency management coordinator told the Texarkana Gazette that some of the coal cannot be removed until the rail cars are removed. Kansas City Southern's vice president of transportation has said the derailment was caused by a broken rail which has since been removed and replaced.
Source: <http://www.todaysthv.com/news/article/164430/2/Cleanup-continues-after-derailment-near-Ashdown->
4. *July 10, Anderson Independent Mail* – (South Carolina) **Gas tanker spill cleanup to be finished at start of week.** The cleanup of a gasoline spill that happened July 9 near Williamston, South Carolina, should be completed early the week of July 11, the Anderson County fire chief said. The spill happened at 2:30 p.m. on S.C. 20 when a gas tanker truck ran off the road and landed on its side. A man was driving the truck, which was approaching stopped traffic, when it overturned, said a corporal of the South Carolina Highway Patrol. The driver suffered minor injuries. The man was charged with driving too fast for conditions. No other vehicles were involved. The overturned gas tanker and debris were removed by 11:30 p.m. July 9, the fire chief said. The truck was carrying 8,500 gallons of gasoline, and 500 gallons spilled onto the road and into soil. If more gas was lost the effect could have been "catastrophic," the fire chief said.
Source: <http://www.independentmail.com/news/2011/jul/10/gas-tanker-spill-be-finished-start-week/>

5. *July 8, Williston Herald* – (Texas) **Oil well spill in McKenzie County.** A producing oil well south of Alexander, Texas, sprung a leak after a bulldozer hit it July 7. The investor and media relations manager for Denbury Resources said the well site has been secured, and was capped with a new valve July 8. "There are no injuries, there is no fire," the manager said. The Denbury senior vice president of production operations said the well began leaking between 3:45 and 4 p.m. July 7. The well is located in a rural location approximately 11.5 miles south of Alexander. He said a bulldozer on-site was leveling ground and struck the wellhead, causing oil, gas, and saltwater to begin pouring from the well. He said the air quality was being monitored and the area had been sealed off.

Source:

<http://www.willistonherald.com/articles/2011/07/08/news/doc4e172fce958f2139502069.txt>

For more stories, see items [6](#), [25](#), [37](#), and [47](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Chemical Industry Sector

6. *July 10, KTRE 9 Lufkin* – (Texas) **Diboll tanker truck accident cleared, spill contained.** Containment and initial clean-up of a tanker spill of liquid asphalt at Diboll Depot in Diboll, Texas, was completed by July 10. The July 9, 7 p.m. spill "turned out be less severe than was first thought," said the district manager for VLS Hazmat. "Liquid asphalt is transported at a temperature of 300 degrees, so it is very hot," he said. To cool it down and remove it, crews had to cover the affected area with dirt, the district manager noted. He said once the asphalt cools and hardens, crews will dig it up, which will likely take place July 11 or 12. A tanker trucker was making a turn into the Diboll Depot off of Highway 59 southbound when he apparently turned too fast for the size of the load and the weight shifted, according to the investigating Diboll police officer. The truck, which belongs to EHC Trucking of Houston, Texas, overturned in the parking lot of the Chevron Station. The tanker had been carrying a liquid oil type substance, a type of asphalt ready mix, or tar pitch that bonds gravel used for roadwork, investigators said. It is believed as much as 3,000 gallons of the substance leaked from the tanker into the roadway, causing the southbound lanes of highway 59 to be closed until July 10. The closest source of possible contamination was a dried up creek bed, however, emergency personnel were able to keep it from spreading to that area. The truck driver suffered a broken arm and hit his head during the accident. He was transported to Lufkin Memorial Health System for treatment.

Source: <http://www.ktre.com/story/15055595/update-diboll-tanker-truck-accident-cleared-spill-contained>

7. *July 9, WYFF 4 Greenville* – (South Carolina) **Arsenic found In soil around makeshift chemical lab.** Federal environmental investigators said they have found dangerous levels of arsenic in the soil surrounding a makeshift chemical lab recently discovered in Anderson, South Carolina near Lake Hartwell. The Anderson Independent-Mail reported July 9 that Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

investigators found arsenic levels 10 to 20 times higher than what would typically concern them. Last month, the EPA began helping clean up two properties in Anderson where hazardous chemicals have been found. Officials think the site's owner was trying to make organic diesel fuel in a makeshift chemical lab. They noted the site's months-long cleanup will cost about \$1 million. The property's owner has been cooperating with authorities.

Source: <http://www.wyff4.com/r/28498981/detail.html>

8. *July 9, Knoxville News Sentinel* – (Tennessee) **Lanes reopened after chemical spill on I-75 in Campbell County.** All four lanes of Interstate 75 in LaFollete, Tennessee were reopened after a tractor trailer carrying hazardous materials overturned early July 9. Tennessee Highway Patrol (THP) dispatchers said after almost 12 hours, the road reopened shortly before 3 p.m. The THP responded to a call at 3:08 a.m. about the wreck at the 142 mile marker. Northbound traffic was diverted through a detour up Highway 25, and the southbound roadway was partially blocked, according to the state department of transportation's Web site. Because the wreck involved hazardous materials, cleanup had been expected to be complete by 1 p.m., but it was still a few more hours before that happened. The overturned trailer was the only car involved in the accident, dispatchers said.

Source: <http://www.knoxnews.com/news/2011/jul/09/chemical-spill-closes-i-75-campbell-county/>

9. *July 9, Associated Press* – (Louisiana) **Judge says Dow Chemical was responsible for contamination of aquifer in Iberville Parish.** The Dow Chemical Co. has been found responsible for contaminating a water source in Plaquemine, Louisiana. The Michigan-based company must clean up the Upper Plaquemine Aquifer, a state district judge ruled in a class-action lawsuit filed on behalf of thousands of landowners between Bayou Plaquemine and Dow's plant in Plaquemine. The groundwater supply has tested positive for vinyl chloride, a carcinogen, several times since 1997, the Baton Rouge Advocate reported. A Dow spokeswoman said July 8 the company was evaluating the ruling and "will continue to vigorously defend the case." She said that although Dow denies responsibility for the contamination, it has worked with state and federal agencies to implement a process that uses bacteria to break down vinyl chloride. Dow also has voluntarily installed 19 test wells in the area, and has been monitoring vinyl chloride levels with the state on a quarterly basis, she said. An attorney for the plaintiffs disputed Dow's claim that tests have shown lowered levels of vinyl chloride, along with a contamination area that hasn't expanded. Other tests taken as recently as last year have shown the contamination is expanding south toward wells owned by the city of Plaquemine, he said. When the two sides meet in front of the judge next month to discuss how to proceed with the cleanup, the attorney said he plans to argue for a more aggressive monitoring approach suggested by the state. He said additional monitoring wells must be installed, and water samples should be tested every month. He said it could be several years before the health effects are understood.

Source:

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/1358402244594ccaa4aec5136d49f2b0/LA--Dow-Water-Contamination/>

10. *July 8, Fort Worth Star-Telegram* – (Texas) **Five-alarm chemical fire shuts down service road by Texas 114.** An explosion at an industrial plant in Grapevine, Texas, sent thick black smoke rolling over Texas 114 July 8, and shut down a service road. The fire at GT Products started just before 3 p.m. but caused traffic headaches through rush hour. The access road reopened at 6:30 p.m. Firefighters from multiple agencies responded to the five-alarm blaze at 501 Industrial Boulevard. Hazardous chemicals were involved, prompting extra caution from firefighters, said a Grapevine police spokesman. He said there was no danger to the public. No injuries were reported, but few firefighters were treated for heat exhaustion. According to its Web site, GT Products supplies silicone, plastic and other products.
Source: <http://www.star-telegram.com/2011/07/08/3209834/five-alarm-chemical-fire-shuts.html>

11. *July 8, Springfield Republican* – (Massachusetts) **Truck driver taken to Baystate Medical Center after exposure to chemicals in trailer at Astro Chemicals, Inc. in Springfield.** A truck driver making a delivery at Astro Chemicals on Memorial Drive in Springfield, Massachusetts, was taken to Baystate Medical Center for evaluation July 8 after he was exposed to chemicals inside his trailer. A fire department spokesman said firefighters were summoned to the facility at 126 Memorial Drive shortly after noon. He said the truck trailer contained chemicals in tablet form. The truck driver, who does not work for Astro, detected a strong chemical odor as he opened the trailer door and felt ill afterwards. An Astro operations manager said there was no rupture or leak of any kind, and that chemical gases built up in the trailer due to heat. The fire department spokesman said the chemicals did not pose any danger to the public or emergency personnel. The operations manager, speaking about 3:45 p.m. July 8, said the materials had been safely off-loaded. Chemicals onboard the trailer included sodium metabisulfite, sodium thiosulfate, and sodium sulfite, the fire department spokesman said.
Source:
http://www.masslive.com/news/index.ssf/2011/07/worker_taken_to_baystate_medical.html

12. *July 8, Rocky Mount Telegram* – (North Carolina) **Crews work to clean up hazardous chemicals.** Crews were working to contain the hazard posed by unknown chemicals, which have been stored in hundreds of drums in five tractor trailers for more than 20 years on a property on the outskirts of Rocky Mount, North Carolina. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) June 27 went to the site in the 200 block of Romie Lane and after taking samples from a few containers, the agency's on-scene coordinator called contractors to clean up the site. "The reason for the emergency response ... was because we observed several unknown containers, several were bulging, and several were leaking," he said. "We felt the instability posed a potential threat to the public health." The extent of the contamination was not known as of July 8, the coordinator noted. "We are going to sample the soil to figure out how deep it has gone and how far the contamination has gone — I don't think it has spread outside the fenced area — and we don't know if it has impacted the ground water." Crews expected to complete initial sampling and containment by July 11, a U.S. Coast Guard petty officer said. "The condition of the drums has slowed us down," he said. "None of

these materials were supposed to be stored under these conditions.” Exposure to the weather in combination with the properties of some of the chemicals deteriorated the drums as well as the trailers the drums were stored in. Some of the barrels were in such bad condition that crews could not move them and instead had to drain the chemicals from their original container into a new one. Crews had to call in the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation bomb squad the week of June 27 to detonate six 4-gallon containers because the chemicals could have been shock-sensitive. “We were told by the property owner that his father brought the trailers onto the property around 1987 with the intent to just temporarily store them for a warehouse in New Jersey that was closing,” the EPA coordinator said. “His father worked for the warehouse and they asked him to temporarily store these containers and drums and stuff until they could find a new warehouse, but that never happened.”

Source: <http://www.rockymounttelegram.com/news/crews-work-clean-hazardous-chemicals-567089>

For more stories, see items [15](#), [29](#), [30](#), [32](#), [33](#), and [34](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

13. *July 11, Nuclear Regulatory Commission* – (South Carolina) **Offsite notification due to a contained on-site liquid radwaste leak.** During a routine inspection July 7, a leak was discovered in a liquid radioactive waste (radwaste) line at the V. C. Summer Nuclear Station near Jenkinsville, South Carolina, upstream from its final discharge point, and downstream of the release radiation monitors. This line contains processed liquid radwaste that has been sampled and permitted for release. The leak occurred inside a containment enclosure that overflowed. The enclosure was drained and the liquid was returned to the plant for disposal. The leak has been isolated and all radwaste release via this pathway has been suspended.
Source: <http://www.nucpros.com/content/summer-offsite-notification-due-contained-site-liquid-radwaste-leak>
14. *July 9, Japan Times* – (International) **Tepeco to soon inject unit 3 with nitrogen.** Tokyo Electric Power Co. (Tepeco) said July 9 it will soon begin injecting nitrogen into reactor 3 at the Fukushima No. 1 power plant in Japan to prevent a hydrogen explosion — a sign that the utility could achieve stable cooling of all the crippled reactors by mid-July as initially planned. The injection of nitrogen into the No. 3 unit is part of what is known as "step one," which could be achieved by July 17. Tepeco began injecting nitrogen in the No. 1 unit in April. The procedure was not possible for unit 3 because excessively high radiation prevented workers from laying the necessary groundwork. The utility plans to achieve a cold shutdown of the reactors after stable cooling is achieved.
Source: <http://search.japantimes.co.jp/cgi-bin/nn20110709x1.html>
15. *July 8, Dow Jones* – (International) **Former PPG unit worker charged with illegal coatings exports.** A former employee for U.S.-based PPG Industries Inc.'s (PPG)

Chinese subsidiary was charged with conspiracy and export-law violations, the U.S. Department of Justice said July 8, claiming the woman tried to illegally export epoxy coatings to a Pakistan nuclear power plant. The PPG Paints Trading (Shanghai) Co. in December 2010 pleaded guilty to counts in the case and agreed to pay \$3.75 million in criminal and administrative fines, and more than \$32,000 in restitution.

Source: <http://www.foxbusiness.com/markets/2011/07/08/former-ppg-unit-worker-charged-with-illegal-coatings-exports/>

16. *July 7, North Carolina State University Technician* – (North Carolina) **Pulstar nuclear reactor experiences benign leak.** The North Carolina State University Technician reported July 7 crews were working to repair a leak at North Carolina State's PULSTAR nuclear reactor in Raleigh, North Carolina, but campus officials said it was not a threat to public safety. The leak is located in the liner of the reactor water cooler, according to the assistant director of news services. According to the assistant director, the 10-gallon-per-hour leak from the liner does not pose a threat to the public, and a service crew was working to mend the problem. Under regulations from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, leaks of 350 gallons per hour must be reported, but the assistant director said the university reported the "miniscule leak" to ensure transparency.

Source: <http://www.technicianonline.com/news/pulstar-nuclear-reactor-experiences-benign-leak-1.2604513>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Critical Manufacturing Sector

Nothing to report

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Defense Industrial Base Sector

17. *July 11, DoD Buzz* – (National) **AF: No word when F-22s could fly again.** The U.S. Air Force's fleet of F-22 jets has been grounded for more than 2 months, while service officials had no details July 8 about when the F-22s may fly again or even when engineers could finish the investigation into the fighters' onboard oxygen systems. A spokeswoman for Air Combat Command told DoD Buzz that when the grounding is lifted, there may be an increase in operations tempo for F-22 units as everyone involved gets re-qualified on their jobs under operational conditions, as opposed to working with simulators or static aircraft. The F-22s could take off if they absolutely had to, the spokeswoman said, meaning in an emergency situation, the pilots and their crews might have to chance flying the aircraft in combat even if engineers did not have a permanent fix for their oxygen problems. According to Defense Tech, the grounding is not only affecting the Air Force's stockpile of F-22s, but it also means Lockheed had to stop delivering new aircraft.

Source: <http://www.dodbuzz.com/2011/07/11/af-no-word-when-f-22s-could-fly-again/>

18. *July 9, Marine Corps Times* – (International) **Marine Corps using X-rays to inspect armor.** Marine Corps Times reported July 9 the U.S. Marine Corps has a new tool to identify life-threatening flaws in body armor: X-ray machines. An X-ray can reveal hairline cracks in armor that, in worst-case scenarios, can allow projectiles to penetrate vests and injure or kill Marines, Marine officials said. The Corps began scanning plates in January and is in a catch-up phase, attempting to scan all plates in its inventory. So far, 40,000 Enhanced Small Arms Protective Insert plates have been scanned. About 5 percent of the ceramic plates have been found to have cracks, according to the operations chief at Program Manager Infantry Combat Equipment in Quantico, Virginia. Testing the inventory should take until October, he said, as plates in the field will not be scanned until Marines return home. Moving forward, plates will be scanned when they are received from manufacturers, and again each time they return from a deployment or change hands.
Source: <http://www.marinecorpstimes.com/news/2011/07/marine-corps-using-xrays-to-inspect-armor-070911/>
19. *July 8, Military Times* – (International) **Army suspends use of T-11 parachute.** The U.S. Army suspended all use of the new T-11 Advanced Tactical Parachute System July 8. The announcement came 2 weeks after the death of an 82nd Airborne paratrooper, the first fatality involving the new chute, and 1 month after the Army placed safety restrictions on the T-11 after officials at the Pathfinder School at Fort Benning, Georgia, questioned whether published wind drift offset factors were accurate. This latest restriction, outlined in All Army Action 251/2011, is due to “potential packing, inspection, quality control and functionality problems,” according to the message.
Source: <http://www.militarytimes.com/news/2011/07/army-suspends-use-of-t-11-parachute-070811/>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Banking and Finance Sector

20. *July 10, Sebring News-Sun* – (Florida) **More than 120 victims of skimmers reported by HCSO.** The Sebring News-Sun reported July 10 suspected credit card skimming activities first reported in Avon Park, Florida, have encompassed 3 counties and more than 120 victims locally, according to a spokeswoman with the Highlands County Sheriff's Office. "The Highlands County Sheriff's Office has taken 80 reports to date and estimated Friday [July 8] morning that over 100 people in Highlands County alone have been victims of credit card fraud during the recent suspected skimming activity," a press release stated. The spokeswoman later confirmed 46 more cases were reported July 8 by an undisclosed credit card company. "In all it is estimated the total claims will exceed \$200,000," she said.
Source: <http://www.newssun.com/071011-eb-county-skimmers>
21. *July 9, Cincinnati Enquirer* – (Ohio; Indiana) **4.5M Ponzi scheme probed.** Dunhill Investment Advisers kept an office on the edge of downtown Cincinnati, Ohio, and advertised a stock trading strategy that promised profits even when the markets were

down. However, investigators said most of the \$4.5 million the firm was entrusted with was never invested, the Cincinnati Enquirer reported July 9. Instead, the money went to pay the salaries of the owners. After an investigation of more than a year, Indiana authorities arrested one of Dunhill's owners, an Indiana resident, and charged him with 18 felonies, including securities fraud and theft. Another owner faces the same charges, but investigators said he has not surrendered, and they do not know where he is.

Source:

<http://communitypress.cincinnati.com/article/AB/20110710/BIZ01/107080357/-4-5M-Ponzi-scheme-probed?odyssey=nav|head>

22. *July 8, Chicago Tribune* – (Illinois) **Defective counterfeit detector caused Bank of America fire in Loop, suit claims.** A March fire at a Bank of America branch in the Loop area of Chicago, Illinois, was caused by a defective machine that is used to detect counterfeit money, Bank of America said in a lawsuit. An independent investigation by Bank of America shows the fire March 6 originated in the machine that was located at a teller window, according to the suit filed July 6 in a Chicago federal court. Bank of America is suing the counterfeit detector's manufacturer, Hilton Trading Corp., based in Miami, Florida. The bank said the fire caused about \$1 million in damages.

Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/business/breaking/chi-defective-counterfeit-detector-caused-bank-of-america-fire-in-loop-suit-claims-20110708,0,3032199.story>

23. *July 8, Torrance Daily Breeze* – (California) **Gardena mortgage broker, former bank employees face charges in loan fraud.** A mortgage broker from Gardena, California, and two former bank employees faced charges for their alleged involvement in a scheme in which bogus loan applications were used to con lenders out of about \$4 million, prosecutors said July 8. Prosecutors allege the man and the co-conspirators obtained about \$4 million from various financial institutions by lying on loan applications used to purchase homes in the names of straw buyers.

Source: http://www.dailybreeze.com/news/ci_18441249

For more stories, see items [55](#) and [63](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Transportation Sector

24. *July 11, Associated Press* – (Massachusetts; New Jersey) **Stun gun found in Boston-to-NJ jet after arrival.** Authorities were trying to determine how a stun gun got aboard a JetBlue plane that landed at New Jersey's Newark Liberty International Airport in Newark. The crew was cleaning up around 10:20 p.m. July 8 after the flight arrived from Boston, Massachusetts and found the stun gun tucked into the back of a seat. A Port Authority spokesman said it is not clear who the weapon belonged to or how it got on the plane. He said there was no indication the weapon had been fired. Port Authority police turned the stun gun over to the Transportation Security Administration. The agency is responsible for screening those who boarded the flight. The FBI is also involved in the investigation.

Source:

http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2011/07/11/stun_gun_found_in_boston_to_nj_jet_after_arrival/

25. *July 11, Chicago Sun-Times* – (Illinois; Indiana) **615,000 without power, travel delays after storms pelt Chicago area.** Severe thunderstorms swept through the Chicago, Illinois area the morning of July 11, pelting commuters rushing to get to work, and leaving more than 615,000 Commonwealth Edison customers without power. The heavy rain, hail and winds downed wires throughout Chicago, and sent trees into streets. As of 9:15 a.m, more than 615,000 ComEd customers were without power after the storms, a spokesman said. The hardest hit region was in the northern suburbs where 280,000 were without power. Flights in and out of O’Hare International Airport were experiencing 45-minute delays. More than 100 flights have been canceled, the department of aviation said. At Midway International Airport, some airlines were experiencing delays averaging 50 minutes for in and inbound flights, with 1 cancellation reported, the department said. Trains were either halted or delayed during the heavy storms, according to the Chicago Transit Authority, and Metra. On Metra, due to weather related high winds, Union Pacific North Line, Northwest Line and West Line trains were stopped the morning of July 11, a Metra spokesman said. Trains were back on the move by about 8:50 a.m. but several trains remained delayed as of 9:40 a.m. On the BNSF Railway line, trains were traveling at a reduced speed due to the winds, the Metra spokesman said. All other lines were operating normally. The CTA was honoring Metra tickets on Union Pacific trains during the delays. The CTA issued a customer alert noting all CTA trains were experiencing major delays due to the severe weather. Downed trees on tracks near the Morris station temporarily stopped Purple Line train service. Yellow Line service was also suspended.

Source: <http://www.suntimes.com/6455127-417/metra-trains-halted-as-heavy-storm-passes-through-chicago-area.html>

26. *July 10, Associated Press* – (Idaho) **Faulty bolts found in new N. Idaho bridge.** The Idaho Transportation Department said scores of anchor bolts on a \$22 million bridge being built on U.S. Highway 2 in Dover, Idaho have been improperly installed and must be fixed. A department spokeswoman told the Bonner County Daily Bee that between 75 and 100 faulty bolts were detected during a routine construction inspection last spring. The agency made the announcement July 8. Officials said the Federal Highway Administration and the U.S. Department of Transportation's Office of Inspector General is investigating because the new bridge is being paid for with money from the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act. The project's lead contractor, Sletten Construction Co., installed the bolts. The company could face penalties if inspectors find malfeasance. Officials said a corrective plan has been started and will not delay construction.

Source: <http://www.greenwichtime.com/news/article/Faulty-bolts-found-in-new-N-Idaho-bridge-1460178.php>

27. *July 10, Los Angeles Daily News* – (California) **Homemade explosive device found in Oxnard.** Oxnard, California police were investigating who made a homemade explosive device, and abandoned it on the side of a road. The suspicious container was found at 8:30 a.m. July 10 by an Oxnard police officer who was patrolling the 2300

block of Greenbrook Drive, according to authorities. The 1-gallon plastic container included a wick fuse on the lid. Police blocked off nearby streets while members from the Oxnard Fire Department Hazardous Materials unit and the Ventura County Sheriff's Bomb squad responded and rendered the device safe. It was later determined to be a homemade explosive device.

Source: http://www.dailynews.com/ci_18451544?source=most_viewed

For more stories, see items [1](#), [3](#), [4](#), [6](#), [8](#), [10](#), [60](#), and [68](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Postal and Shipping Sector

28. *July 11, Federal Aviation Administration* – (National) **FAA proposes \$689,800 civil penalty against Federal Express.** The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has proposed a civil penalty of \$689,800 against Federal Express Corp. (FedEx) of Memphis, Tennessee, for allegedly violating U.S. Department of Transportation hazardous materials regulations. The FAA alleges that in 89 instances from June 13 to September 4, 2009, FedEx failed to provide pilots-in-command with complete, accurate information on the nature, quantity, and weight of hazardous materials loaded on their aircraft. The FAA also alleged that FedEx accepted four shipments of hazardous materials for transportation by air when those materials were not accurately described and certified in the accompanying shipper's documents. The shipments were accepted between June 18 and August 26, 2009. The alleged violations were found during an FAA dangerous goods inspection at the FedEx cargo-handling facility at Bradley International Airport near Hartford, Connecticut, from August 31 to October 1, 2009. FedEx has 30 days from the receipt of the FAA's enforcement letters to respond. Source: <http://www.amtonline.com/article/article.jsp?siteSection=1&id=13987>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Agriculture and Food Sector

29. *July 10, Fort Myers News-Press* – (Florida) **Lehigh coffee business loses warehouse in fire.** A 33,000 square-foot coffee distribution center, 30 pallets of coffee, and 1,500 dry grocery items caught fire July 10 in Lehigh Acres, Florida. Authorities are investigating what sparked the fire at Stan's Coffee Service and P&L Foods, Inc. Stan's has shipped coffee and dry grocery items to Southwest Florida restaurants and country clubs since 1955. Authorities said the fire began around 2 p.m. It took firefighters almost 4 hours to get it under control, the Lehigh Acres Fire Department battalion chief said. No one was injured and no other structures were damaged. Lehigh, Fort Myers, and South Trail fire crews planned to watch the smoldering fire overnight into July 11 as a precaution. The warehouse's collection of food and household items might have helped fuel the fire. The warehouse stored more than 1,500 dry grocery items — products from Lavazza, Sara Lee, Maxwell House, Latitude 23.5, Bunge, Kraft, Kellogg's, Nabisco, McCormick, Durkee, Bigelow, Stanislaus, Gold Medal, Kikkoman, French's, Westminster Cracker, Heinz, Ocean Spray, Smuckers, Dart, and SanTec

Chemicals. The large amount of cooking oil in storage led authorities to call in a hazardous materials response team.

Source: <http://www.news-press.com/article/20110711/NEWS0103/107110346/1075/NEWS0110/Lehigh-coffee-business-loses-warehouse-fire?odyssey=nav|head>

30. *July 10, United Press International* – (National) **Herbicide implicated in mass tree death.** A new herbicide may be killing Norway spruce and white pine trees across the United States, and DuPont said its product should not be sprayed near them. Landscapers switched to Imprelis in 2011 to control weeds because it was claimed to be safer for the environment than predecessors, the Detroit Free Press reported. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approved it last year. The head of the Michigan Nursery and Landscape Association said she has not seen such widespread tree death since the emerald ash borer ravaged ash trees. The EPA held a teleconference July 6 with agriculture officials from several states to gather information about Imprelis' effect on trees.
Source: http://www.upi.com/Science_News/2011/07/10/Herbicide-implicated-in-mass-tree-death/UPI-60191310330539/
31. *July 10, Columbus Dispatch* – (National) **Asian stinker gobbles up fruit.** The brown marmorated stink bug is living up to its reputation as a crop killer. "The market value of (apple) losses so far is around \$37 million," said the director of regulatory and industry affairs for the U.S. Apple Association. "It's even worse for peaches. Penn State University estimated that Pennsylvania lost over half their peach crop last year." The invasive species was identified in Allentown, Pennsylvania, in 1998. The species is in at least 33 states, including every state east of the Mississippi River, and along the Pacific coast. The bug likely hitched a ride on containers from Asia, where it damages fruit and soybeans from China to Japan. Where it is found, the brown marmorated stink bug, which has no natural predators, outnumbers native stink bugs 10 to 1. And they eat at least 100 different plants. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in June approved an emergency-use insecticide for seven states. Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia were granted permission to use the insecticide dinotefuran on fruit crops. The stink bug does not respond to conventional insecticides. Researchers also are looking at a wasp that in Asia preys exclusively on the eggs of the bug. It simply injects its own eggs into the stink bugs' eggs. Within days, wasp larvae hatch and feed on developing stink bugs. Setting the wasps loose in the United States is several years away.
Source: http://www.dispatch.com/live/content/local_news/stories/2011/07/10/asian-stinker-gobbles-up-fruit.html?sid=101
32. *July 10, Occupational Health and Safety* – (Texas) **Texas bakery fined \$199,600 for hazardous chemicals violations.** The Occupational Safety and Health Administration cited Lone Star Bakery Inc. for 18 serious and three repeat safety and health violations at Plant 2 of the company's facility in China Grove, Texas. A January 10 inspection conducted by OSHA's San Antonio Area Office found the company failed to establish a program to manage highly hazardous chemicals covered by OSHA's process safety management standard. Proposed penalties total \$199,600. Serious violations include

failing to: ensure employees participate in a process safety management program, including the development of process hazard analyses; ensure piping and instrumentation diagrams are current and accurate; ensure tanks containing anhydrous ammonia are properly protected by recognized and generally accepted engineering practices; ensure operating procedures are in place; develop and implement standard operating procedures for emergency situations. The company also was cited in April 2011 with proposed penalties of \$229,400 following an amputation incident, and multiple inspections at the two facilities. Lone Star Bakery employs about 500 workers at its China Grove facility.

Source: <http://ohsonline.com/articles/2011/07/10/texas-bakery-fined-199600-for-hazardous-chemicals-violations.aspx?admarea=news>

33. *July 9, Rocky Mount Telegram* – (North Carolina) **Official: Fire no end for Enfield fertilizer plant.** A fertilizer plant in Enfield, North Carolina, is in ruins after a fire engulfed the wooden facility late July 8, setting off several explosions throughout the night. Close to 60 firefighters from 5 departments spent more than 10 hours trying to contain the fire at the Halifax Fertilizer Co. Authorities said it took local firefighters until 7 a.m. July 9 to stop the fire. By that time, the 18,000-square-foot building – which was nearly 40 years old – was completely destroyed. Plant employees were not present when the fire started. The Enfield fire chief said a call about the fire was received about 9:09 p.m. Firefighters from Enfield, Whitakers, Halifax, Scotland Neck, and Darlington started arriving by 9:14 p.m. The chief said the crews had to briefly retreat and regroup because of two to four explosions caused by fire reaching acetylene and oxygen tanks, oil drums, and diesel fuel on the plant property. Tankers were low on water and hydrants were located 900 feet off the road from the fire. Firefighters had to evacuate residents from 7 to 10 homes until midnight. Authorities said the fire and any runoff posed no immediate threat to the plant's neighbors. Crews were able to keep flames away from ammonia tanks located on the plant site, as well as three to four industries in the vicinity, including a nearby chemical plant – Helena Chemical Co. Officials from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will assess the plant site for any possible environmental hazards.

Source: <http://www.rockymounttelegram.com/news/official-fire-no-end-enfield-fertilizer-plant-568303>

34. *July 8, Bakersfield Californian* – (California) **Ammonia leak at Paramount Farms plant.** The Kern County Fire Department responded July 7 to Paramount Farms Export Plant northwest of Lost Hills, California, for a reported hazardous materials leak. The plant's safety officer ordered the evacuation of all employees from the plant. The Kern County Hazardous Materials team and Kern County Environmental Health responded. After investigating, it was determined that a compressor in a refrigeration unit leaked 400 pounds of ammonia. An emergency venting system cleared the affected building and processed the ammonia, making it nonhazardous before releasing it into the environment. Employees were able to return to work 3 hours later.

Source: http://www.bakersfield.com/blogs/breaking_news/x1928174367/Ammonia-leak-at-Paramount-Farms-plant

35. *July 8, msnbc.com* – (Arizona; International) **Arizona man died from Europe E. coli infection, CDC says.** The death of an Arizona man, and five other U.S. cases of severe E. coli infection were caused by the deadly food poisoning outbreak that has ravaged Europe, federal health officials confirmed July 8. The death of the man, who had recently visited Germany, is the first U.S. fatality connected to the outbreak that has killed 50 in Europe, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The man was older than 65. Overall, six cases of confirmed infection with Shiga toxin-producing E. coli 0104:H4 have been confirmed, the CDC said. They include five people who recently traveled to Germany. Another victim likely became ill from close contact with a traveler.

Source: http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/43688179/ns/health-food_safety/t/arizona-man-died-europe-e-coli-infection-cdc-says/

For another story, see item [60](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Water Sector

36. *July 11, Walla Walla Union-Bulletin* – (Washington) **E. coli closes lake to swimming.** Health officials warned citizens not to swim in Bennington Lake in Walla Walla, Washington, after moderately high E. coli samples were discovered July 7. Officials with the Walla Walla District of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers put up signs around the lake warning people. According to a Corps spokesman, a stagnant aquatic environment created by low water flows may be the problem, and it had been several years since the last time a high E. coli level was detected at the lake. The state threshold for E. coli in a body of water is 126 parts per 100 milliliters; Bennington Lake had a measurement of 175 parts per 100 milliliters. On July 9, officials said they had to verbally warn several people not swim, and one completely disregarded the warning. Corps officials took several samples July 8 from around the lake; the results will be available July 11. If the tests come back negative, the signs will be removed. If the high levels continue, the Corps will try to find a possible source of the contamination.

Source: http://www.eastoregonian.com/news/e-coli-closes-lake-to-swimming/article_b028c3ea-ab77-11e0-8e8b-001cc4c002e0.html

37. *July 10, MarketWatch* – (Montana) **No damage to drinking water from Exxon spill.** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) said the drinking water tested normal in cities close to the Exxon Mobil Corp. oil pipeline spill in Montana. The agency tested water in the cities of Billings, Lakewood, and Laurel after Exxon's Silvertip pipeline spilled up to 1,000 barrels of crude oil into the nearby Yellowstone River July 1. The EPA has ordered Exxon to clean the spill's immediate area by August, and to completely clean the damage by September. Exxon is investigating what caused the rupture. Extreme flooding, which may have been the cause of the problem, is also making cleanup difficult.

Source: <http://www.marketwatch.com/story/no-damage-to-drinking-water-from-exxon-spill-epa-2011-07-10>

38. *July 10, WSET 13 Lynchburg* – (Virginia) **Garage catches fire at Lynchburg water filtration plant.** A garage at the College Hill Water Filtration Plant in Lynchburg, Virginia, caught fire July 10, destroying two city sewer vehicles. Fire officials said a garage that houses the city's fleet of sewer cleaning trucks caught fire. The fire started around 5:20 a.m. It took firefighters about 40 minutes to put out the fire. Hazmat teams were brought out to clean up the antifreeze and diesel that leaked from the sewer vehicles. Two sewer trucks were destroyed, and the other two were badly damaged. There were no employees in the garage at the time of the fire, and no one was injured. The director of public utilities said the trucks are insured through city, and the damage was estimated to be about \$1 million.
Source: <http://www.wset.com/story/15054947/garage-catches-fire-at-lynchburg-water-filtration-plant>
39. *July 9, Springfield State Journal-Register* – (Illinois) **Boil order canceled in Jacksonville, in effect elsewhere.** City officials in Jacksonville, Illinois, announced the end of the city's 3-week-old boil order July 8, and said the city water treatment plant was back to near-normal capacity. The boil order was issued following a June 18 flash flood that inundated the water plant. Although customers in Jacksonville and the Murrayville-Woodson Water Commission District, which also had its boil order lifted, might see small amounts of discolored water, it is safe for consumption, Jacksonville/Morgan County Emergency Services & Disaster Agency officials said. All the untreated water pumped directly from the Illinois River into the water system had to be flushed out before crews could test the water to determine if it met Illinois Environmental Protection Agency standards. Distribution system flushing is currently in progress for the Scott-Morgan-Greene Water Cooperative and the Alexander Rural Water District — both of which are still under a boil order — to restore chlorine residuals and begin water-quality sampling.
Source: <http://www.sj-r.com/top-stories/x1320224818/Jacksonville-cancels-boil-order-Scott-Morgan-Greene-Alexander-still-under-order>
40. *July 9, Worcester Telegram and Gazette* – (Massachusetts) **Pipe draining Clinton pond is plugged.** The Clinton Water Department plugged a broken pipe that was draining Coachlace Pond in Clinton, Massachusetts, July 8. The 24-inch, cast-iron pipe was one of two pipes running from the 150-acre pond to former mills on Main Street. On July 1, the town water department tried to stop the water, which was draining Coachlace Pond. In one day, the pond drained about a foot. Over the July 4 holiday weekend, residents built a makeshift dam to try to stop the water from getting to the intake pipe. The valves that open and close the pipe were frozen shut after over 150 years of being idled. Efforts to turn the valves proved to be “back breaking,” according to an official, so, the department got to the pipe itself, put in a plug, and measured the end for a cap which was slated to arrive July 11. Officials from the state department of environmental protection investigated the pipe the week of July 4, and evidence showed it has been “leaking for years. There is a 2-foot long crack that shows water has been running over it, the department of public works superintendent said, noting similar leaks have occurred all over town.
Source: <http://www.telegram.com/article/20110709/NEWS/107099988/1003/NEWS03>

41. *July 9, Omaha World-Herald* – (Nebraska) **Sandbags, pumps battle leak.** About 100 gallons of water per minute was found gushing out of an abandoned pipe at Omaha's waste water treatment plant in Omaha, Nebraska, near 13th Street and Missouri Avenue on July 8, said the quality control manager for the Omaha Public Works Department. Water pumps and more than 10,000 sandbags were brought in to control the leaking water, which pooled on the dry side of a recently constructed levee. A dive team based in Rapid City, South Dakota, was called in to locate the 15-inch pipe. A spokeswoman for the mayor said that the plan is to plug the pipe, a 2,000-square-foot area, but if that fails, pumps will keep up with the amount of water being discharged. No buildings or treatment operations were expected to be affected by the leak, officials said. Pressure from flood waters was causing similar pipe-spewing issues up and down the river.
Source: <http://www.omaha.com/article/20110709/NEWS01/707099886>

For another story, see item [9](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Public Health and Healthcare Sector

42. *July 9, Pittsburgh Tribune-Review* – (Pennsylvania) **Hospital staff 'a little shaken' by emergency room shooting.** An elderly Mt. Lebanon, Pennsylvania, man, who sought treatment in St. Clair Hospital's emergency department died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head July 8. He apparently drove himself to the Mt. Lebanon hospital emergency room about 10 p.m., complaining of shortness of breath and nausea. Hospital personnel took him to an examination room when he told a nurse he had to go to the bathroom. He insisted he go by himself. The nurse followed him to the bathroom and waited outside the door. The nurse heard a noise and found the patient dead. From the time the man arrived to the time he shot himself took about 7 minutes. He did not threaten other patients or staffers. Handguns are not permitted in the hospital. The hospital does not have metal detectors.
Source: http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/pittsburghtrib/news/pittsburgh/s_746004.html
43. *July 8, WPXI 11 Pittsburgh* – (Pennsylvania) **Computer with patient information stolen from Jeannette hospital.** Excelsa Health sent letters to patients after hospital officials said a computer with personal information was stolen from its Jeannette, Pennsylvania, campus, WPXI 11 Pittsburgh reported July 8. The computer was used in the radiology department and contained patient's name, date of birth, and type of exam performed. The letter sent to patients said, "Although we haven't met our high standards for protecting patient information, Excelsa believes that the risk for financial or other harm due to this incident is very small." The hospital did not say how many patients were involved.
Source: <http://www.wpxi.com/news/28491253/detail.html>
44. *July 7, Associated Press* – (Iowa) **Lyme disease showing up more in Iowa.** The cases of Lyme disease in Iowa are on the rise, tripling over the past decade. The Iowa Department of Public Health's medical director told the Des Moines Register the disease appears to be more prevalent in the state than it was in the 1980s. Now, more

people are getting sick at home with cases being reported in metropolitan areas such as Des Moines. The state recorded 34 cases in 2000. That jumped to 97 in 2006, and topped 100 from 2007 to 2009. Last year, 87 cases were reported across Iowa. The director said weather conditions are a big factor in predicting spikes in Lyme disease. Warmer temperatures make ticks — and people — more active outdoors. It is unclear how much of the increase in Lyme disease is because of better reporting, and how much is because of the disease's westward spread, but Lyme reports have also been climbing elsewhere in the United States. Delaware and Connecticut both had higher infection rates.

Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/chi-ap-ia-lymedisease,0,7465441.story>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Government Facilities Sector

45. *July 11, msnbc.com, Reuters, and Associated Press* – (International) **Pro-Assad mob attacks US, French embassies in Syria.** Syrian government supporters smashed windows at the U.S. and French embassies in Damascus July 11, raised Syrian flags, and scrawled graffiti calling the U.S. ambassador a "dog" in anger over a visit last week to an opposition stronghold. They tore down U.S. Embassy plaques and tried to break security glass, diplomats said, in an escalation of protests against the visit by the U.S. and French ambassadors to the city of Hama, which has seen demonstrations against the Syrian president. "Four buses full of shabbiha (militia loyal to Assad) came from Tartous. They used a battering ram to try to break into the main door," a resident of Afif, the old district where the U.S. Embassy is located, told Reuters by telephone. "This is a violent escalation by the regime," a Western diplomat in the Syrian capital said. "You do not bring busloads of thugs into central Damascus from the coast without its consent." After the crowd was dispersed, protesters moved to the residence of the U.S. Ambassador and attacked it, causing unspecified damage, officials said. No staff at either location were injured, and no personnel were ever in imminent danger, the officials said. French Embassy security guards fired in the air to hold back supporters of Assad's regime who were also protesting the French ambassador's visit to Hama. Protesters smashed French Embassy windows, shattered the windshield of a diplomatic SUV outside the compound and replaced the French flag with a Syrian one. The French Foreign Ministry said three embassy workers were injured. The Syrian regime called the visits to Hama interference in the country's internal affairs, and accused the ambassadors of undermining Syria's stability. The U.S. State Department July 11 condemned Syria for failing to protect the U.S. embassy. "A television station that is heavily influenced by Syrian authorities encouraged this violent demonstration," a State Department spokesperson said in a statement. "We strongly condemn the Syrian government's refusal to protect our embassy, and demand compensation for damages," the statement said.

Source: http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/43711672/ns/world_news-mideast_n_africa/?GT1=43001)>http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/43711672/ns/world_news-mideast_n_africa/?GT1=43001
(http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/43711672/ns/world_news-mideast_n_africa/?GT1=43001)

46. *July 10, WGRZ 2 Buffalo* – (New York) **Rear-end crash causes damage to local library.** A Buffalo, New York man was arrested after an accident he caused lead to extensive damage to a local library, WGRZ 2 Buffalo reported July 10. The 47-year-old, was arrested and charged with DWI, speeding, vehicular assault, and other charges for rear-ending another vehicle. By doing so, he caused that vehicle to crash into Frank Merriweather Library on Jefferson Avenue. Police said the library suffered extensive damage. Two people from the vehicle that was rear-ended were taken to Erie County Medical Center to be treated for their injuries.
Source: <http://www.wgrz.com/news/article/127204/13/Rear-End-Crash-Causes-Damage-to-Local-Library->
47. *July 10, NewsCore* – (Tennessee) **Tennessee National Guard helicopter crashes, two pilots killed.** Two pilots were killed July 9 when a Tennessee National Guard helicopter crashed near Caryville in Campbell County, Tennessee. The pair were conducting a routine training flight when their OH-58D Kiowa Warrior aircraft crashed at about 5:30 p.m., according to the director of Joint Public Affairs for the Tennessee Military Department. The cause of the crash was not immediately known. The Nashville Tennessean reported the helicopter had crashed in the woods near the Royal Blue Recreation area, about 30 miles north of Knoxville, and there was no access to the site early July 10. The crash downed several power lines, leaving more than 5,000 households without electricity for few hours.
Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/us/2011/07/10/tennessee-national-guard-helicopter-crashes-two-pilots-killed/>"><http://www.foxnews.com/us/2011/07/10/tennessee-national-guard-helicopter-crashes-two-pilots-killed/>
(<http://www.foxnews.com/us/2011/07/10/tennessee-national-guard-helicopter-crashes-two-pilots-killed/>)
48. *July 8, InformationWeek* – (Florida) **Florida election servers hacked again.** For the second time in a week, a hacker has broken into systems connected with voting in Florida, stolen data, and released it to the public, InformationWeek reported July 8. The most recent breach occurred after Florida election officials had touted the security of their systems. Florida officials said the data stolen during the first breach was from an election office system in Liberty County. After that breach, the chief department supervisor of elections for Collier County downplayed the potential impact on election results saying that every vote generates a paper trail. "Paper ballots are reviewed and compared with totals that are given per the voting machine, and that's done at an open public meeting," he said, according to Storify. Likewise, another election official said that all vote tabulation was handled by a separate system, not breached during the attacks, that was not connected to any other systems.
Source: <http://www.informationweek.com/news/security/attacks/231001248>

For more stories, see items [17](#), [18](#), [19](#),

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Emergency Services Sector

49. *July 9, Associated Press* – (Louisiana) **La. jailer taken hostage, rescued by SWAT team.** Louisiana authorities said three jail inmates overpowered a guard, cut, and stabbed him with homemade knives, and held him hostage for about two and a half hours before a SWAT team broke into the cell and rescued him. The captain of the Iberia Parish Sheriff's Office said July 9 that the incident was over by 8 a.m. July 9. He said the deputy was treated and released, while the inmates were treated for injuries received when they resisted arrest. He said one was awaiting trial and is back in jail. The others are state inmates and were sent to the state prison at Angola. The captain said the inmates made a number of demands, which were being investigated.
Source: <http://www.heraldonline.com/2011/07/09/3207712/la-jailer-taken-hostage-rescued.html>
50. *July 9, Lake County News* – (California) **Sheriff's office says it's investigating threats on law enforcement radio frequency.** The Lake County, California Sheriff's Office said July 8 it is investigating a series of radio transmissions on local law enforcement frequencies that included apparent threats against the sheriff. The captain of the Lake County Sheriff's Office issued a statement shortly after 7 p.m. July 8 in which he said the agency is seeking the public's assistance in identifying the source of death threats and malicious radio interference recently transmitted on the sheriff's primary radio frequency over the July 4 weekend that were aimed at the sheriff. The issues with a series of of strange transmissions on law enforcement frequencies actually predate the July 4 weekend, beginning in the spring. In late March, Lake County News began receiving reports from community members who monitor Red-Net, the primary frequency for local fire agencies, that over a period of just under a week an unidentified person or group was broadcasting what was characterized as extreme and graphic language over the airwaves a few times daily. The captain said the sheriff's office is currently investigating the source and identity of the person or persons responsible for the radio interference and threats directed toward the sheriff. He said the agency also is requesting the FBI's assistance.
Source: <http://lakeconews.com/content/view/20499/919/>
51. *July 8, Government Technology* – (Texas) **Houston streamlines security alarm notifications to its 911 center.** The Houston, Texas Emergency Center (HEC) implemented a new alert system to streamline the receipt of notifications for emergency dispatch from alarm monitoring companies. The new computer-aided dispatch system, called the Automated Secure Alarm Protocol (ASAP), eliminates the need for alarm monitoring companies to call the HEC about alarm notifications, according to HEC's director. When a security alarm in a home goes off, the alarm company is notified. At the company, a computer-aided dispatch event is created in the computer system, which directly transmits the alarm notification to police dispatchers. Previously when an alarm monitoring company's call center received an alert of an alarm, a call taker at the center would call the HEC, he said. Because the alarm companies that contact the HEC are not located in the Houston area, the calls come through nonemergency lines, which would often delay the time it took for the call to be answered, he said. Cutting the phone calls made from the companies to the HEC out of the process reduces miscommunication, the director said.

Source: <http://www.govtech.com/public-safety/Houston-Streamlines-Security-Alarm-Notifications-911.html>

52. *July 6, JusticeNewsFlash.com* – (Florida) **Riot at a Florida juvenile detention center injured 2 officers, 5 inmates.** A massive fight at a juvenile detention center near Daytona Beach, Florida injured two corrections officers and five juveniles July 4, as staff members were trying to discipline an inmate. The riot broke out at 7:09 p.m., which involved at least 38 detainees, reported the Daytona Beach News-Journal. Officials said deputies were disciplining an inmate for breaking state property when the fight broke out. A suspected 11 juvenile inmates started the riot. About 19 inmates in the Charlie Pod were involved in the fight because they were not in lockdown and were able to freely move around. As the fight in Charlie Pod was occurring, another fight broke out in the Delta Pod. The department of juvenile justice special response team was brought in to stop the fights. As a result of the riot, two corrections officers suffered minor injuries. Five juvenile detainees were transported to Halifax Health Medical Center for treatment of minor injuries. The fight is under investigation. Source: http://www.justicenevflash.com/2011/07/07/riot-at-a-florida-juvenile-detention-center-injured-2-officers-5-inmates_201107077940.html

For another story, see item [33](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Information Technology Sector

53. *July 11, Softpedia* – (International) **Microsoft security center search results poisoned with malicious links.** Microsoft suspended the search capability on its Safety & Security Center Web site after it was discovered cyber criminals poisoned the results with malicious links. Search result poisoning, technically known as black hat search engine optimization (BHSEO), is a common method used to distribute malware or promote spam sites. The technique involves compromising legitimate Web sites and creating pages under their domain that are filled with popular search keywords. Attackers then use other hacked Web sites to link back to the pages, increasing their search result standing for the targeted terms. However, while the pages appear to have content to search engine crawlers, they are designed to redirect real visitors to malicious Web sites. According to the general manager of security software at GFI, the BHSEO campaign on Microsoft's Safety & Security Center Web site was unique. It appeared cyber criminals managed to create search results to search results. "In other words, blackhat SEOs are seeding illegitimate search results within the Microsoft search results," the security expert noted. "There are a number of ways this could be done (for example, using the ability on the site to Twitter a search result)," he explained. The rogue search results on Microsoft's Security Center predominantly led to malicious adult sites which asked users to download special codecs in order to play videos. Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Microsoft-Security-Center-Search-Results-Poisoned-with-Malicious-Links-210836.shtml>

54. *July 11, IDG News Service* – (International) **Google+ hit with spam bug.** The Google+ social networking site malfunctioned the weekend of July 9 and 10, spamming its users with repeated notifications via e-mail. Google+, which is being beta tested with a limited number of users, ran out of disk space July 9, causing the glitch, according to a Google senior vice president of engineering. "Please accept our apologies for the spam we caused this afternoon. For about 80 minutes we ran out of disk space on the service that keeps track of notifications. Hence our system continued to try sending notifications. Over, and over again. Yikes," he wrote in a Google+ post. "We didn't expect to hit these high thresholds so quickly, but we should have. Thank you for helping us during this field trial, and once again, we are very sorry for the spam," he added. Google+ is the company's latest and most high-profile attempt to date to launch a social networking service.
Source: http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9218299/Google_hit_with_spam_bug
55. *July 9, Softpedia* – (International) **Zbot targets Android users.** Security researchers identified a Zbot component designed for Android that steals mobile transaction authentication numbers sent by banks via SMS. ZeuS, or Zbot, is one of the most popular banking trojans. Zbot originally targeted desktop systems and stole financial information and online banking credentials that fraudsters exploited. However, more banks began to introduce additional layers of security, such as two-factor authentication systems. Some banks also require each transaction request to be confirmed by inputting a unique code sent to the account owner's mobile phone. These codes are known as mobile transaction authentication numbers (mTAN) and make it harder to steal money from compromised accounts. In order to continue stealing money, ZeuS fraudsters learned to capture these mTANs with the help of a man-in-the-mobile component, and social engineering. In 2010, security researchers began to discover ZeuS-related mobile malware created specifically to steal mTANs from phones running Symbian, Windows Mobile, and BlackBerry. However, a sample targeting Android devices only appeared during the past several weeks. "Actually, it is not a new sample and has been detected under several names (Android.Trojan.SmsSpy.B, Trojan-Spy.AndroidOS.Smsr.a, Andr/SMSRep-B), but it is far more scary when propagated by the ZeuS gang," said a Fortinet security researcher. He said the malware poses as a banking activation application, but after it is installed, it intercepts all SMS messages and uploads them to a remote server.
Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Zbot-Targets-Android-Users-210645.shtml>
56. *July 8, Computerworld* – (International) **Microsoft beefs up Outlook-to-Hotmail security.** Microsoft July 7 boosted the security of a tool that lets Outlook users send and receive messages through the company's Web-based Hotmail service. The new Outlook Hotmail Connector supports HTTPS, a protocol that encrypts all traffic between the e-mail client and the Windows Live Hotmail service. Microsoft added an all-HTTPS option to Hotmail in November 2010, in part as a reaction to Firesheep, a Firefox add-on released October 2010 that let anyone scan an unsecured Wi-Fi network and hijack others' access to Facebook, Twitter, and a host of other services. The latest update to Outlook Hotmail Connector is a follow-up to Microsoft's 2010 move. "Using a connection with HTTPS helps you be even more confident that your account is safer from hijackers, and that your private information remains private," the Outlook team

wrote. The new tool encrypts communication between Outlook and the Windows Live e-mail, calendar, and contacts services.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9218266/Microsoft_beefs_up_Outlook_to_Hotmail_security

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

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>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Communications Sector

See items [54](#), [55](#), and [56](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Commercial Facilities Sector

57. *July 10, WBAL 11 Baltimore* – (Maryland) **Fire officials confirm origin of Catonsville hotel fire.** Fire investigators have determined a four-alarm fire at the Days Inn in Catonsville, Maryland originated inside a locked storage area on the seventh floor, but they have not determined how the fire started. Contrary to reports from hotel patrons that the fire was smoking-related, investigators said the fire did not begin as a result of improperly discarded smoking materials. The fire ignited late July 9 at the Days Inn at 5801 Baltimore National Pike in Baltimore County, injuring three people and displacing about 160 guests. About 70 pieces of fire equipment, including some from Howard County, were used to fight the fire. Officials said July 10 that about \$3.5 million worth of damage was done to the facility. Two people were taken to Northwest Hospital for smoke inhalation, and a firefighter was treated for a minor unspecified injury.

Source: <http://www.wbaltv.com/news/28499481/detail.html>

58. *July 10, Associated Press* – (Texas) **Rihanna cuts Dallas concert short because of fire.** A small fire above the stage forced a pop star to cut her Dallas, Texas, concert short July 8. The Fort Worth Star-Telegram reported the fire broke out near a lighting truss as the pop star was finishing the ballad "California King Bed" and descending below the stage for a costume change. The newspaper said the production crew quickly extinguished the fire, but the concert was canceled anyway. About 12,500 people were in the audience. An American Airlines Center spokeswoman said an evacuation was

orderly, and no injuries were reported.

Source: <http://abclocal.go.com/ktrk/story?section=news/entertainment&id=8242134>

59. *July 10, Worcester Telegram and Gazette* – (Massachusetts) **Theater burns; apartments evacuated.** A fire that broke out about 4 p.m. July 10 gutted an 87-year-old theater in Fitchburg, Massachusetts that had long been the home of the Stratton Players, one of the country's oldest community theater groups. The fire forced the temporary evacuation of dozens of elderly and disabled residents of a high-rise apartment building next door to the theater. Two residents of the public housing were taken to a hospital with chest pains. Fire officials said the cause could be arson. The building was locked and unoccupied at the time of the fire, according to the deputy fire chief. "It's 100 percent suspicious," he said. "It's destroyed. It appears nothing is salvageable." People associated with the theater, however, said the building had outdated electrical systems, including aging fuse boxes in the second floor area to the rear where the fire apparently started.
Source: <http://www.telegram.com/article/20110710/NEWS/110719988/0/NEWS06>
60. *July 10, WBBM 2 Chicago* – (Illinois) **Two people in custody for Millennium Park bomb scare.** Two people are in custody after a bomb scare at Millennium Park in Chicago, Illinois. Chicago Police received a call at 5:36 p.m. July 9 about a device found on top of the Park Cafe Restaurant at Millennium Park. Police started to evacuate the restaurant and the surrounding area immediately. Madison to Randolph to Michigan was cordoned off so no one could get through on foot or by vehicle. The police bomb and arson unit was called in along with the Chicago Fire Department. The fire department called a Level 1 hazardous materials response, after finding the suspicious object. Sources said one of the two people of interest, who are both now in custody, started leading investigators around Millennium Park after the first package was found. The person showed officers other devices that were placed in the park. Sources also said, the first device looked like a realistic explosive, complete with wires sticking out of a package, surrounded by duct tape. If this was an elaborate hoax, as one source said, there would be quite a price tag on this possibly, monetarily, for those involved. The amount of police and fire manpower that responded was tremendous.
Source: <http://www.digtriad.com/news/article/182470/175/Chicagos-Millennium-Park-Bomb-Scare-Two-People-In-Custody>
61. *July 9, Cincinnati Enquirer* – (Ohio) **Explosion destroys auto shop in Columbia Tusculum.** An auto shop in Cincinnati, Ohio, was completely totaled after what appears to be a gas tank explosion sparked a two-alarm fire July 9. Cincinnati firefighters were called to Mendoza's Auto Service in the 4200 block of Kellogg Avenue around 3:45 p.m. A gas tank was being moved out of a vehicle and found an ignition source, a Cincinnati fire captain. No one was injured. Employees in the neighboring auto shop said they heard multiple explosions and that it sounded like fireworks at one point. About an hour after arriving, firefighters were still battling defensively and the roof had collapsed. Fire officials were not sure how many vehicles were inside the shop at the time.
Source: <http://news.cincinnati.com/article/20110709/NEWS01/110709015/Explosion-destroys-auto-shop-?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE>

62. *July 9, WGRZ 2 Buffalo* – (New York) **War veteran dies after falling out of ride at Darien Lake.** A U.S. Army war veteran died July 8 when he fell out of a roller coaster at the Darien Lake Theme Park & Resort in Darien, New York. According to park officials, the 29-year-old "came out" of the Ride of Steel ride and "passed away." The incident happened at 5:30 p.m. Investigators said the veteran was a passenger in the front seat. The initial investigation indicated both restraints were properly working. Officials said he fell out at a "low hill" in the ride. The veteran is a Gowanda resident who was visiting the park with his sister and his children. Officials said the children were not on the ride with him. Witnesses said it took some time to get the man situated and secured in the front seat of the rollercoaster. Investigators said the lap bar and seat belt were functioning properly before, during, and after the accident. The victim had previously lost both his legs and suffered a brain injury when the vehicle he was in, in Iraq hit a roadside bomb in 2008. Darien Lake safety experts and Genesee County Sheriff's Department were continuing their investigation. The ride will remain closed until the New York State Department of Labor determines it fit to be reopen.
Source: <http://www.wgrz.com/news/article/127015/37/Deadly-Accident-on-Ride-of-Steel-Coaster-at-Darien-Lake?odyssey=obinsite>
63. *July 9, Bloomberg* – (International) **Kiplinger warns customers hackers got account, credit card information.** Kiplinger Washington Editors Inc., the publisher of Kiplinger's Personal Finance, warned customers that hackers breached its computer network at least as early as June 25 and stole account data, including credit card numbers. The company's director of new media said the attackers stole user names, passwords, and encrypted credit card numbers from as many as 142,000 subscribers to the magazine or the company's various newsletters, including the Kiplinger Letter. He said the 2-week delay in notifying customers resulted from efforts to understand the extent of the break-in by "an unidentified third party," as the Kiplinger Web site described the intruders. He said the company notified the FBI and is working with the agency on a probe of the incident. "Part of the problem is we still don't know exactly what the hackers got," he said in a phone interview. An e-mail sent to Kiplinger customers said the hacker may have accessed e-mail addresses as well as other personal information.
Source: <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-07-08/kiplinger-warns-customers-hackers-got-account-information-1-.html>

For more stories, see items [9](#), [25](#), [27](#), [33](#), [36](#), [47](#), and [68](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

National Monuments and Icons Sector

64. *July 10, KATU 2 Portland* – (Oregon) **Historic Columbia River Gorge inn catches fire.** The historic View Point Inn in the Columbia River Gorge in Corbett, Oregon caught fire July 10, burning much of the building's top floor. The inn's owners said two people walking around the back of the inn first spotted the flames and ran inside to alert employees. It is not clear how the fire started or the extent of the damage. Staff members tried to put the fire out with a garden hose but were not successful. Deputies

said several guests were in the building at the time. A wedding was scheduled for the afternoon, and the guests who had arrived were sent home. The fire burned through the roof and did extensive damage to the second floor. The inn was built in 1924 as a stop along the old Columbia Gorge Highway. It is on the National Register of Historic Places and once hosted a former U.S. President.

Source: <http://www.katu.com/news/local/125300738.html>

65. *July 9, Grass Valley Union* – (California) **Cops pull 8,600-plus marijuana plants in Friday bust.** Narcotics officers in California destroyed a large marijuana garden July 8 in the first major outdoor operation of 2011. A total of 13 officers from the Nevada County Sheriff's Office and the U.S. Forest Service found a large marijuana garden composed of three terraced seed beds on Tahoe National Forest property between Graniteville and the Town of Washington in eastern Nevada County, the sheriff said. It was not immediately clear exactly where the garden was, officials said. Officers pulled 8,625 plants, which were still young as it is early in the growing season. No arrests were made at the scene, which was deserted. Debris left at the scene was consistent with Mexican drug organizations, the sheriff said, adding such organizations are also known to use public lands. Police did not have any suspects, and the people tending the garden may have been tending another garden in the area when officers arrived, he said. Generally, about two to three people would tend such a garden, the sheriff said.

Source:

<http://www.theunion.com/article/20110709/NEWS/110709823/1007&parentprofile=1053>

66. *July 8, Grand Junction Daily Sentinel* – (Colorado) **Fruita man accused of trailhead thefts from cars arrested again.** A 24-year-old Fruita, Colorado man was arrested the evening of July 7 on allegations he broke into several vehicles at local hiking trails and stole items over the span of one week, which was less than a month after his arrest on similar allegations involving cars at a trailhead near Colorado National Monument. The suspect was booked into the Mesa County Jail on suspicion of 16 counts of first-degree criminal trespass of an auto, 14 counts of criminal mischief, in addition to 3 theft charges, according to an arrest affidavit. Between July 1 and July 7, the man was suspected of smashing windows on parked cars and stealing thousands of dollars in property at locations including Devil's Canyon, Opal Loop, and the Loma boat launch, among other areas, the affidavit said. The suspect admitted involvement in at least five of the incidents, according to the affidavit. Deputies with the Mesa County Sheriff's Department street crime unit allegedly watched late July 7 as the suspect smashed windows on a Jaguar parked at Devil's Canyon trailhead. The suspect allegedly needed four tries with a rock to smash a window, while deputies reportedly observed the crime.

Source: <http://www.gjsentinel.com/breaking/articles/fruita-man-accused-of-trailhead-thefts-from-cars-arrested-again/>

For another story, see item [37](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Dams Sector

67. *July 10, Sioux City Journal* – (South Dakota; Nebraska; Iowa) **Wet forecast postpones reduced flows at Oahe.** A persistent pattern of thunderstorms capable of producing up to 4 inches of rain between July 10 and July 14 nixed the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' plan to reduce the amount of water released from Oahe Dam near Pierre, South Dakota July 10. An active line of organized thunderstorm activity was being predicted for the Missouri River Basin, which includes Northeast Nebraska, Southeast South Dakota, and Northwest Iowa, the National Weather Service said. According to the chief of the Corps' Missouri River Basin Water Management Division, releases from Oahe will continue at 150,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) until July 11, when they will drop to 145,000 cfs. Barring any major rain events, Oahe releases are planned to steadily decrease in mid-July, reaching 135,000 cfs by July 22. The Corps will continue to monitor the reservoirs on the Missouri River which was at 34.39 feet in Sioux City, Iowa, July 10, up from 34.36 feet July 9.

Source: http://www.siouxcityjournal.com/news/local/a1/article_92fa2782-90cb-5d22-baea-7d79a43317c3.html

68. *July 8, Charlotte Observer* – (North Carolina) **Dam's problems known more than 2 years ago.** Repairs were set to begin in August at the Forest Lake Dam in Charlotte, North Carolina, which crumbled under heavy rains July 7. Problems with the dam, whose failure forced the evacuation of dozens of homes in east Charlotte July 7, were identified more than 2 years ago, state officials said. Inspectors found water eroding earth under the concrete spillway of the dam in January 2009 and asked for an engineering evaluation. Part of Albemarle Road was closed for more than 12 hours as officials pumped millions of gallons of water from the pond July 8, lowering it about 4 feet. "If the (city) didn't act quickly, there could have been catastrophic damage. Albemarle Road could have washed away," an official said. North Carolina is dotted by more than 4,500 dams, most of them at privately owned lakes and ponds ranging in size from less than an acre to more than 3,500 acres, state records show.

Source: <http://www.charlotteobserver.com/2011/07/08/2440108/dams-problems-known-more-than.html>

For more stories, see items [40](#) and [41](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information

About the reports - The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is a daily [Monday through Friday] summary of open-source published information concerning significant critical infrastructure issues. The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is archived for ten days on the Department of Homeland Security Web site: <http://www.dhs.gov/iaipdailyreport>

Contact Information

Content and Suggestions:

Send mail to cikr.productfeedback@hq.dhs.gov or contact the DHS Daily Report Team at (703)387-2267

Subscribe to the Distribution List:

Visit the [DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report](#) and follow instructions to [Get e-mail updates when this information changes](#).

Removal from Distribution List:

Send mail to support@govdelivery.com.

Contact DHS

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.

Department of Homeland Security Disclaimer

The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is a non-commercial publication intended to educate and inform personnel engaged in infrastructure protection. Further reproduction or redistribution is subject to original copyright restrictions. DHS provides no warranty of ownership of the copyright, or accuracy with respect to the original source material.