



# Homeland Security

## Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report 22 September 2011

### Top Stories

- Thousands of gallons of gasoline flooded an Aurelius, New York crop field and nearby waterways, and forced a large-scale residential evacuation September 20 after a farmer dug into a 10-inch fuel line. – *Auburn Citizen* (See item [2](#))
- U.S. officials expressed concern September 21 about recent massive cyberattacks on Japan defense contractors who work with U.S. contractors to build weapons for the Japanese military. – *New York Times* (See item [13](#))

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### 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. *September 21, Associated Press* – (Alabama; National) **BP oil not degrading on Gulf floor, study says.** Tar balls washed onto Gulf of Mexico beaches by Tropical Storm Lee earlier in September show oil left over from 2010's BP spill is not breaking down as quickly as some scientists thought it would, university researchers said September 20. Auburn University experts who studied tar samples at the request of coastal leaders said the latest wave of gooey orbs and chunks appeared fresh, smelled strongly, and were hardly changed chemically from the weathered oil that collected on Gulf beaches

during the spill. The study concluded that mats of oil — not weathered tar, which is harder and contains fewer hydrocarbons — are still submerged on the seabed, and could pose a long-term risk to coastal ecosystems. BP added cleanup crews and extended their hours after large patches of tar balls polluted the white sand at Gulf Shores and Orange Beach in Alabama starting around September 6. Tar balls also washed ashore in Pensacola, Florida, which is to the east and was farther from the storm's path. Auburn analyzed tar balls dredged up by Lee at the request of the city of Orange Beach with outside funding from the city, the National Science Foundation, and the Marine Environmental Sciences Consortium. The study was not reviewed by outside scientists before its release.

Source: <http://moneywatch.bnet.com/economic-news/news/ap-bp-oil-not-degrading-on-gulf-floor-study-says/6301483/>

2. *September 20, Auburn Citizen* – (New York) **Aurelius evacuation order lifted; spill cleanup continues.** Thousands of gallons of gasoline flooded an Aurelius, New York crop field and forced a temporary large-scale residential evacuation September 20 after a farmer dug into a 10-inch fuel line while attempting to bury drainage pipes. The director of the Cayuga County Emergency Management Office said officials do not know how much fuel was spilled when the line was ruptured at 10:26 a.m., but said at least 1,500 gallons were recovered by 3 p.m. The line was leaking for 45 minutes to an hour before it was shut off. Residents within 1.5 miles east of the spill were temporarily evacuated due to concerns about the potential for explosions, and residents to the west were told to stay indoors, the director said. About 70 households were evacuated. The evacuation area was determined based on wind direction and speed. That evacuation order was lifted at 7:30 p.m., allowing residents to return home. Massive pools of fuel remained in the crop field near the intersection of Turnpike and Townsend roads throughout most of the day, he said. Some of the pools were the size of a football field and up to 5 inches deep. Residents in the area were also being advised to use bottled water for their household needs until health officials could conduct tests to determine if well water in the area is safe to use. Those tests were scheduled to be conducted September 21. Fuel also entered a nearby stream, and the director said emergency crews set up booms to absorb the contamination there. Officials with the state department of environmental conservation have been on the scene assessing damage and will be in charge of the ensuing investigation. The county department of health is also monitoring the situation.

Source: [http://auburnpub.com/news/local/article\\_6ffaf470-e3a1-11e0-a767-001cc4c002e0.html](http://auburnpub.com/news/local/article_6ffaf470-e3a1-11e0-a767-001cc4c002e0.html)

3. *September 20, Associated Press* – (North Dakota) **New ND oil rules would ban most open waste pits.** North Dakota oil regulators are planning new rules on the state's fracking industry, the Associated Press reported September 20. The rules include a ban on most open waste pits at oil well sites. The rules would also encourage oil companies to disclose the chemicals they use in "fracking" oil wells. North Dakota's Department of Mineral Resources director said the oil industry needs a "lighter environmental footprint" in the state. The director is expecting oil companies will be drilling thousands of wells in western North Dakota in the coming years. North Dakota Petroleum Council president said oil companies will be reviewing the proposals.

Source: <http://www.valleynewslive.com/story/15507194/new-nd-oil-rules-would-ban-most-open-waste-pits>

4. *September 20, Oklahoman* – (Oklahoma) **Oil rig explosion rocks Watonga; fire could burn for days.** An oil drilling rig continued to burn September 20 as an oil and gas company worked to extinguish the blaze that started September 19 in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. An oil rig fire could burn for several days before crews plug it, the Blaine County sheriff said September 20. A representative of Continental Resources told the sheriff September 20 that all of the rigging must be removed from the wellhead before cement can be dumped to plug the well. An estimate of how long it will take has not been given. A spokeswoman for Continental said an oil-field firefighting team, Wild Well Control, had been called in. No vehicles near the rig have been damaged. About two dozen firefighters from Watonga and nearby communities were working to contain the blaze and evacuate homes until oil company representatives could arrive to extinguish it, the Watonga assistant fire chief said. The cause of the fire was not known.

Source: <http://www.istockanalyst.com/business/news/5429043/oil-rig-explosion-rocks-watonga-fire-could-burn-for-days>

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## **Chemical Industry Sector**

5. *September 21, PhillyBurbs.com* – (Pennsylvania) **Hydrogen explosion causes evacuation.** About 50 workers were evacuated from a Falls, Pennsylvania company after an accidental hydrogen explosion September 20. The explosion and subsequent fire happened about 3:40 p.m. at GTS off Steel Road when a worker was moving a hydrogen cylinder, said the Falls Fire Co. chief. “An employee was working near a bank of hydrogen tanks, which includes between six and nine tanks,” he said. “One of the connections got hung up and there was an explosion.” The fire chief said hydrogen burns so hot the flames are invisible. Firefighters worked with GTS’s fire brigade and quickly extinguished the flames after finding them with a heat-sensing camera.  
Source: [http://www.phillyburbs.com/news/local/courier\\_times\\_news/hydrogen-explosion-causes-evacuation/article\\_a0809245-4c77-51f9-910b-68b3a82604a1.html](http://www.phillyburbs.com/news/local/courier_times_news/hydrogen-explosion-causes-evacuation/article_a0809245-4c77-51f9-910b-68b3a82604a1.html)
6. *September 21, Hackensack Record* – (New Jersey) **State says homes in Hawthorne are safe.** Hawthorne, New Jersey homeowners are safe from the toxic contamination found beneath some homes on North 11th Street, a state official said September 20. The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) released results from testing for toxic contamination in homes on the 371-377 block. The agency tested air and soil in August for perchloroethylene (PERC), a chemical used in dry cleaning that has been linked to cancer. The agency found vapors from the chemical had not seeped into homes, and that the underground contamination was not a danger to residents. However, the DEP said it will conduct a second round of tests in the fall, when closed windows in the homes will reduce indoor air circulation. The site once was occupied by

Prospect Park Cleaners and Launderers, which burned down more than 30 years ago. Chemical contamination was first discovered after a leaking oil tank at 377 N. 11th Street led the DEP to test soil in 2002. Contamination levels in groundwater were found to be 150,000 times greater than normal, DEP documents indicate. In the August tests, the DEP found that four homes, built directly above the former cleaner site, had contamination in soil beneath them. But because the contamination poses no danger, no remediation is necessary, the DEP said.

Source:

[http://www.northjersey.com/news/130252843\\_Pollution\\_hasn\\_t\\_seeped\\_into\\_homes.html](http://www.northjersey.com/news/130252843_Pollution_hasn_t_seeped_into_homes.html)

7. *September 20, Care2.com* – (International) **H&M agrees to stop using toxic chemicals.** H&M, one of the largest clothing retailers in the world, recently agreed to protect rivers and people around the world by discontinuing the use of toxic chemicals throughout its supply chain, Care2.com reported September 20. Sweden-headquartered H&M agreed to eliminate the use of hazardous chemicals from all production processes associated with its products by 2020. The announcement came after a well-orchestrated campaign by Greenpeace International during which activists in 12 countries spent a week sticking huge “Detox our future!” and “Detox our water!” stickers on shop windows of H&M stores. The sticker campaign was accompanied by a Twitter petition that reached about 635,000 people. According to Greenpeace research, “H&M has links to factories discharging a range of hazardous chemicals into China’s rivers, and that clothing — including kids clothing — sold by H&M, contain nonylphenol ethoxylates (NPEs) that break down into the toxic nonylphenol (NP). These chemicals are a cause for serious concern, as they are known hormone disruptors and can be hazardous even at very low levels.” On its Web site, H&M promised to come up with corporate action plan within the next 8 weeks. The plan will detail measures to be taken, including timelines for public disclosure, by the end of 2012, and for the elimination of the highest priority hazardous chemicals.

Source: <http://www.care2.com/causes/hm-agrees-to-stop-using-toxic-chemicals.html>

8. *September 20, Charleston Gazette* – (West Virginia) **CSB renews call for local chemical safety program.** The U.S. Chemical Safety Board (CSB) September 20 approved the final version of its report on three January 2010 accidents that left a worker at the DuPont Co’s Belle, West Virginia plant dead, and created major questions about the company’s safety practices. CSB members voted 4-1 to approve the report, along with its recommendation that the Kanawha Valley create a new chemical plant safety program aimed at preventing future leaks, explosions and fires. A final version of the board report, to reflect changes made after a 45-day public comment period, will be released in a few days. In a July draft report, CSB investigators found common threads — including poor maintenance practices, ineffective warning alarms and insufficient accident investigations — among the three incidents that occurred over a 33-hour period January 22-23, 2010. Chief among the findings was that nearly 25 years ago, DuPont rejected proposals to enclose the Belle plant’s phosgene unit, a move that would have protected workers and local residents from the poisonous material used as a chemical weapon in World War I. CSB investigators also concluded the most serious of the incidents, a fatal phosgene leak, was caused by the use of the wrong type

of chemical hose and DuPont's failure to replace that inadequate hose on its own required schedule. Besides the fatal leak, CSB experts also examined a methyl chloride leak that went on for 5 days before being discovered.

Source: <http://wvgazette.com/News/201109202896>

9. *September 20, Monroe News-Star* – (Louisiana) **Derailment issues still linger.** About 13 homes remained evacuated late September 20 as numerous agencies, including the Louisiana State Police (LSP) haz-mat team, and Kansas City Southern Railroad crews, worked to remove hazardous material from one of the railroad cars involved in the September 18 derailment. A major with the Lincoln Parish Sheriff's Office said crews began off-loading chemicals early September 20 from the railroad car damaged in the derailment. "We're still going to have a mess here for about a day and a half," the major said late in the day September 20. He said the tanker car was carrying carbon disulfide. Carbon disulfide is used in the production of cellophane, and for many other industrial purposes. A LSP spokesman said several roads would remain closed and residents would remain evacuated until the hazardous material was cleaned up. Specifically, U.S. 80 will remain closed between Owens Road and Crocker Road. Thirty-two cars on a 123-car KCS mixed freight train were involved in the derailment around 7:30 p.m. September 18. Two railroad cars were carrying hazardous material. Source: <http://www.thenewsstar.com/article/20110921/NEWS01/109210310>

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

10. *September 21, Burlington Free Press* – (Vermont) **Blaze at Vermont Yankee office in Brattleboro ruled arson.** Police and fire investigators have determined that a fire September 20 at the corporate offices of the Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant in Brattleboro, Vermont, was deliberately set. The Brattleboro Police Department and Vermont State Police are investigating the incident as an act of vandalism and arson, a news release stated. The plant's owners and the state of Vermont have been engaged in a bruising fight over whether it should be allowed to operate beyond March. The 2-story building includes a basement with testing laboratories, the plant's communication equipment, and its public and government relations offices. The reactor itself is about 7 miles south, in the town of Vernon. Investigators found a window had been broken and the fire had been set. Source: <http://www.burlingtonfreepress.com/article/20110920/NEWS07/110920041/Blaze-Vermont-Yankee-office-Brattleboro-ruled-arson?odyssey=nav|head>
11. *September 21, Nuclear Street* – (International) **Nuclear plant information among targets in Mitsubishi cyberattack.** At least eight viruses infected servers at Mitsubishi Heavy Industries (MHI) in Japan, the company acknowledged September 20, with nuclear plant data believed to be among the targets of a coordinated cyberattack. MHI is a leading defense contractor in Japan, and also provides a wide range of products and

design services to the civilian nuclear industry. The viruses infected 45 servers and 38 individual computers, and also put data on weapons systems at risk. International media quoted Japanese government officials as saying they are not aware of any sensitive information being accessed during the attack. Nonetheless, the government demanded that MHI conduct an investigation, which the company said will be complete by the end of September. The attack occurred in August, MHI reported. It originated outside the company's computer network and may have revealed some MHI information, such as IP addresses.

Source:

[http://nuclearstreet.com/nuclear\\_power\\_industry\\_news/b/nuclear\\_power\\_news/archive/2011/09/21/nuclear-plant-information-among-targets-in-mitsubishi-cyberattack-092102.aspx](http://nuclearstreet.com/nuclear_power_industry_news/b/nuclear_power_news/archive/2011/09/21/nuclear-plant-information-among-targets-in-mitsubishi-cyberattack-092102.aspx)

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## **Critical Manufacturing Sector**

12. *September 20, Birmingham Business Journal* – (Pennsylvania; Alabama) **Contractor: Employees attempted to steal \$850,000.** Tube City IMS, based near Pittsburgh, has sued three former employees in U.S. District Court in Mobile, Alabama, claiming they conspired to steal more than \$850,000 by billing for unneeded work and taking vendor kickbacks on inflated bills. The suit also claims the defendants stole equipment and metal. According to the Birmingham Press-Register September 20, Tube City alleged in a September 9 civil suit that three former workers — a general manager, maintenance manager, and a safety coordinator, all from Alabama — cooperated to cover up five separate efforts to steal money from the contractor.

Source: [http://www.bizjournals.com/birmingham/morning\\_call/2011/09/contractor-ssab-emp-attempt-steal-850000.html?ana=RSS&s=article\\_search&utm\\_source=feedburner&utm\\_medium=feed&utm\\_campaign=Feed:+bizj\\_birmingham+\(Birmingham+Business+Journal\)](http://www.bizjournals.com/birmingham/morning_call/2011/09/contractor-ssab-emp-attempt-steal-850000.html?ana=RSS&s=article_search&utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed:+bizj_birmingham+(Birmingham+Business+Journal))

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## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

13. *September 21, New York Times* – (International) **U.S. expresses concern over cyberattacks in Japan.** The United States gave a stern warning September 21 over recent cyberattacks on Japan's top defense contractors, the latest in a series of security breaches that have fueled worries over Tokyo's ability to handle delicate information. An online assault on defense contractors including Mitsubishi Heavy Industries (MHI), which builds F-15 fighter jets and other American-designed weapons for Japan's Self-Defense Forces, began in August but came to light only earlier the week of September 19, prompting rebukes from Japanese officials over the timing of the disclosure. IHI Corp., a military contractor that supplies engine parts for fighter jets, may have also been a target, the Nikkei business daily reported. MHI said September 19 its computer

systems were hacked and some network information may have been compromised. According to the company, 83 computers and servers at 11 locations, including its Tokyo headquarters, factories, and a research and development center were accessed in the attack. Details of the breach were still unclear, a company spokesman said September 21. Japan's defense minister said he did not receive reports that any classified information was compromised. It also remained unclear where the attacks originated, he said. However, an investigation by a security company revealed connections were made to 14 overseas sites, including at least 20 servers in China, Hong Kong, the United States, and India, according to the Yomiuri Shimbun, Japan's largest daily. MHI has built F-15 fighter jet and missile systems, including Patriot batteries, and AIM-7 Sparrow air-to-air missiles, designed in the United States. The company builds some of that equipment with American contractors, including Raytheon and Lockheed Martin.

Source: [http://www.nytimes.com/2011/09/22/world/asia/us-expresses-concern-over-cyberattacks-in-japan.html?\\_r=1](http://www.nytimes.com/2011/09/22/world/asia/us-expresses-concern-over-cyberattacks-in-japan.html?_r=1)

14. *September 20, Military Times* – (California) **3rd MAW halts training flights; victims named.** Nearly all training flights for the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing (MAW) were canceled until September 22, according to the unit commander, who made the announcement 1 day after a deadly helicopter crash at Camp Pendleton in California. That came shortly before wing officials identified the pilots killed in the September 19 crash, both assigned to Marine Light Attack Training Squadron 303 at Camp Pendleton. A major general ordered the “operational pause” as investigators look for the cause of the crash of the AH-1W Super Cobra attack helicopter, according to 3rd MAW. “All of our training flights are going to be grounded,” a wing spokeswoman at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, California said September 20. The pause allows commanders “to conduct any safety stand-downs [and] conduct any routine maintenance on aircraft,” she said. “It’s not for a loss of confidence in their aircraft,” she added. The order affects rotary-, tilt-, and fixed-wing squadrons belonging to Marine Aircraft Group 11, MAG-13, MAG-16, and MAG-39 at Camp Pendleton, Miramar, and MCAS Yuma, Arizona.

Source: <http://www.militarytimes.com/news/2011/09/marine-training-flights-halted-pendleton-california-092011w/>

15. *September 20, Aviation Week* – (National) **USAF: Hypoxia not cause of F-22 crash.** Pilot hypoxia was not the cause of an F-22 crash last November in Alaska, and though a root cause has not been identified, the U.S. Air Force (USAF) returned the twin-engine stealth jets to flight September 20, according to the USAF chief of staff. Earlier incidents of oxygen deprivation problems prompted the service to embark on an extensive monitoring plan for the pilots and the aircraft. The armed service is instituting a rigorous program of monitoring and data collection to explore if any potential problems in the future are related to the onboard oxygen generating system for pilots or any other systemic problem. They are also monitoring physiological status of the pilots to compare them against a baseline, the service chief said. This requires some additional training for support crews, as well as data collection on future sorties. Though flight operations were slated to begin September 20, the Lockheed Martin jets will be methodically phased back into flight, the chief said. “We did not identify a

specific course of contamination or a specific case of under performance of the oxygen producing system on the aircraft,” he said. The chief said it will take “a couple of months” to return to flight ops at Tyndall Air Force Base in Florida, and to bring back operational capability into the fleet.

Source:

[http://www.aviationweek.com/aw/generic/story\\_channel.jsp?channel=defense&id=news/awx/2011/09/20/awx\\_09\\_20\\_2011\\_p0-372280.xml&headline=USAF: Hypoxia Not Cause of F-22 Crash](http://www.aviationweek.com/aw/generic/story_channel.jsp?channel=defense&id=news/awx/2011/09/20/awx_09_20_2011_p0-372280.xml&headline=USAF: Hypoxia Not Cause of F-22 Crash)

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## **Banking and Finance Sector**

16. *September 21, Inquirer* – (National) **Malware distribution campaign uses legal threats.** Security researchers warn that an e-mail-based malware distribution campaign is threatening users with lawsuits to trick them into opening malicious attachments. In an attempt to gain credibility, the rogue e-mails purport to originate from the Investment Company Institute (ICI), the national association of U.S. investment companies. The spam bear various subjects, most of them threatening in nature, such as, “We are going to sue you”, “FW: This is a final warning”, “We’ve sent you a copy of a complaint” or “A message from our security service”. The spammers actually accuse targeted users of sending spam. The messages reads, “Your email is sending spam messages! If you don’t stop sending spam, we will be impelled to sue you!” The purpose of the threat is to convince users to open the attached file, which the spammers claim is a document detailing the problem. The attachment contains a trojan downloader. “When the trojan triggers, it copies itself to the system path under the Startup folder and deletes itself,” Websense security researchers warned. “Whenever you start the computer, the trojan will execute. This trojan can connect to remote servers and download malicious files.”

Source: <http://www.theinquirer.net/inquirer/news/2110905/malware-distribution-campaign-legal-threats>

17. *September 21, WGAL 8 Lancaster* – (Pennsylvania) **Police: thieves pose as workers, steal entire ATM.** Businesses in Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, that have portable ATMs are being warned about a recent theft pulled off with one phone call. Swatara Township police said someone called the Spring Creek Rehabilitation and Health Center September 19 and asked if maintenance personnel had picked up the ATM. “This phone call created the false impression that someone was supposed to pick up the ATM machine,” stated a police news release. Minutes later, three men entered the lobby, put the machine on a dolly, loaded it into a dark-colored minivan and drove off. The Swatara Township Police are currently attempting to identify the three individuals who removed the ATM.

Source: <http://www.wgal.com/r/29254652/detail.html>

18. *September 20, Agence France-Presse* – (International) **Online gambling site busted in ‘Ponzi scheme.** International online gambling site Full Tilt Poker stole \$440 million from players in a Ponzi scheme used to pay lavish fees to board members, U.S. prosecutors said September 20. Full Tilt “defrauded players by misrepresenting that their funds on deposit in online gambling accounts were safe, secure, and available for withdrawal at any time,” the U.S. Attorney’s Office for Southern Manhattan said. “In reality, Full Tilt Poker did not maintain funds sufficient to repay all players, and in addition, the company used player funds to pay board members and other owners more than \$440 million since April 2007.” The senior prosecutor said the site’s top figures, including two famed poker champions, “lined their own pockets with funds picked from the pockets of their most loyal customers while blithely lying to both players and the public alike about the safety and security of the money deposited with the company.” In a classic pyramid scheme, gamblers were given the impression they still had money deposited and were allowed to keep gambling, even when all that remained were “phantom” funds, prosecutors said. The company ended up owing \$390 million worldwide, including \$150 million to U.S. customers. Full Tilt was first sued by federal authorities in April as part of a broader crackdown on online gambling, which the Justice Department says is illegal. The suit was revised and refiled September 20 in the developing investigation. In the original suit, Full Tilt and two other online poker firms — PokerStars and Absolute Poker — were charged with bank fraud, money laundering, illegal gambling, and other offenses. The two poker champions were not mentioned in the original complaint against Full Tilt Poker. They are alleged to have been paid \$25 million and \$42 million respectively by the site. The amended complaint seeks the forfeiture of dividends received by the champions, other directors, and money laundering penalties.

Source:

[http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5hmoVhax7grfzpeymb85\\_pkIVWlxg?docId=CNG.5cc676d2b02da276cd06b20df22fe7f6.1b1](http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5hmoVhax7grfzpeymb85_pkIVWlxg?docId=CNG.5cc676d2b02da276cd06b20df22fe7f6.1b1)

19. *September 20, New York Times* – (National) **S.E.C. hid its lawyer’s Madoff ties.** After a giant Ponzi scheme was revealed, the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) went to great lengths to make sure none of its employees working on the case posed a conflict of interest. But as a new report made clear September 20, one top official received a pass: the SEC’s general counsel, who went on to recommend how the scheme’s victims would be compensated, despite his family’s \$2 million inheritance from an account in the scheme. The report by the IG provides fresh details about the weakness of the agency’s ethics office, and reveals that no commissioners, except for its chairwoman, had been advised of the counsel’s conflict. It said the chairwoman agreed with a decision to keep the counsel from testifying before Congress, where he would have disclosed his financial interest in the scheme. Federal conflict of interest law requires government employees to be disqualified from participating in a matter “if it would have a direct and predictable effect on the employee’s own financial interests.” But, the counsel “participated personally and substantially in particular matters in which he had a personal financial interest,” the IG wrote. Among the actions taken by the counsel that were cited in the report were his efforts to influence deliberations concerning how victims would be compensated, which could have had a direct impact on his financial standing. The report cited

testimony from a witness who said that by early 2009, the chairwoman indicated most SEC commissioners had agreed on a method that would give investors a claim to only the money they had put into the accounts in the scheme. But after the counsel rejoined the SEC in February 2009 after an earlier stint, he argued for a reversal of this decision, the report said, at first pushing for victims to be compensated partly based on the final balance listed in their account. The counsel's financial interest came to light this year after he and his brothers were sued by the trustee in the case, who is seeking to recover about \$1.5 million of the roughly \$2 million they received from the account. Two House subcommittees have called a hearing for September 22 about the incident. In his conclusion of the report, the IG recommended the SEC change its reporting lines so that the ethics officer reports directly to the chairman.

Source: [http://www.nytimes.com/2011/09/21/business/sec-refers-ex-counsels-actions-on-madoff-to-justice-dept.html?\\_r=1&pagewanted=all](http://www.nytimes.com/2011/09/21/business/sec-refers-ex-counsels-actions-on-madoff-to-justice-dept.html?_r=1&pagewanted=all)

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## **Transportation Sector**

20. *September 21, Associated Press* – (New Mexico; International) **Cops: Mexican national entered US on NM school bus.** A Mexican national is facing multiple immigration violations after authorities said he hitched a ride from the U.S. port of entry on a New Mexico public school bus. The Deming Headlight reports the U.S. Border Patrol-El Paso Sector spokesman confirmed September 20 that the 18-year-old used a Deming Public Schools bus from the Columbus Port of Entry to Deming to illegally enter the country. He could not give specifics on the case, citing the ongoing investigation, but did say the Mexican national faces multiple immigration violations, including illegal entry and fraudulent use of a document. Authorities were tipped off when the Deming Police Department was contacted.  
Source: <http://www.chron.com/news/article/Cops-Mexican-national-entered-US-on-NM-school-bus-2181304.php>
21. *September 20, Washington Post* – (Maryland; Virginia) **Man admits in court to supplying bad concrete for Wilson Bridge.** Substandard concrete was used in drainage inlets installed during construction on the Woodrow Wilson Bridge that connects Maryland and Virginia, a man who supplied the flawed material admitted in pleading guilty to federal charges September 19. Frederick Precast Concrete also sold concrete used in improvements to Interstate 70 and other projects in Maryland. "This particular concrete had no bearing whatsoever on the structural integrity of the Wilson Bridge or I-70," the director of the Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA) said. "Everything they supplied was inspected and either replaced or deemed safe." Frederick's director of quality control pleaded guilty to three counts of making false statements, officials said September 20. The bad concrete was discovered when cracks appeared in a precast piece delivered in 2007 to the I-70 job site, documents said. Inspection revealed the material contained two layers of steel rebar rather than the three layers specified, and that the steel was of a weaker gauge than required. That led investigators to other projects, including the Wilson Bridge, for which contractors bought materials from Frederick Precast. They found several instances where the

wrong number or gauge of steel rebar was used, documents said. The convict could face 5 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine on each of the three counts. He is scheduled to be sentenced December 19.

Source: [http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/commuting/man-admits-in-court-to-supplying-bad-concrete-for-wilson-bridge/2011/09/20/gIQA2m8UjK\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/commuting/man-admits-in-court-to-supplying-bad-concrete-for-wilson-bridge/2011/09/20/gIQA2m8UjK_story.html)

22. *September 20, Atlanta Journal-Constitution* – (Georgia) **Yet another traveler allegedly had gun at Atlanta airport.** Yet another traveler found himself under arrest at Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport in Atlanta, after he forgot he had a handgun in his carry-on luggage, WSB 2 Atlanta reports. He was arrested September 19 after agents monitoring an X-ray machine at a security checkpoint spotted a loaded .22-caliber Beretta in a carry-on bag. The traveler's attorney said his client went to a shooting range, then forgot he put the weapon in his bag before leaving for the airport. The latest incident follows four men arrested for bringing guns to airport security checkpoints within a 29-hour period September 15-16. In every instance, the travelers were detained at least overnight in Clayton County Jail as they awaited bond hearings. Besides criminal charges, offenders could face civil penalties for carrying a firearm at an airport ranging from \$3,000 to \$7,500 for a loaded weapon, and \$1,500 to \$3,000 for an unloaded weapon. A Transportation Security Administration (TSA) spokesman said the TSA averages two gun confiscations a day across the country. Local airport officials told WSB 2 Atlanta they have found 50 guns since January 2011.

Source: <http://www.ajc.com/news/clayton/yet-another-traveler-allegedly-1185305.html>

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## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

Nothing to report

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## **Agriculture and Food Sector**

23. *September 21, Food Safety News* – (Colorado; National) **Second Colorado death in multistate listeria outbreak.** The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment confirmed September 20 the death of another victim of the cantaloupe-caused Listeria outbreak. The 48-year-old Parker, Colorado woman died 3 weeks after being infected with Listeria from eating cantaloupe. Her death — the second in Colorado — raises the number confirmed fatalities in the multistate outbreak to at least five. Two people have died in New Mexico and one in Oklahoma. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has reported 35 outbreak-associated cases of listeriosis in 10 states since the September 14 recall of Rocky Ford-brand cantaloupes by Colorado's Jensen Farms. Most of the people infected have required hospitalization, and tests are pending to determine if several more listeriosis-caused deaths are connected to the outbreak. The latest victim in Colorado was a relatively young

woman, which is unusual because *Listeria* is more likely to claim the lives of the elderly.

Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/09/deadly-listeria-outbreaks-take-elderly-victims/>

24. *September 20, Abilene Reporter-News* – (Texas) **Texas ranchers seek federal help rebuilding fences lost to wildfires.** Texas ranchers are seeking federal changes to help rebuild fences lost in wildfires, the president of the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association (TSCRA) said. TSCRA estimates nearly 6,000 miles of fence have been destroyed this wildfire fire season. Replacing it costs about \$2 per foot, or an average of \$10,000 per mile. “The cost of the barbed wire and the metal posts are very expensive,” said the TSCRA president, a rancher from Byers, in comments the Abilene Reporter-News reported September 20. “The material can be anywhere from \$5,000 to \$7,500 a mile.” In addition to the drought, more than 19,550 wildfires have burned more than 3.67 million acres in Texas, he said. “Sometimes when your fences are burned, you have to sell your cattle or relocate your cattle,” he said. Texas cattle are going to Montana, South Dakota, Kansas, and Nebraska.  
Source: <http://www.reporternews.com/news/2011/sep/20/texas-ranchers-seek-federal-help-rebuilding-lost/>
25. *September 20, Reuters* – (Arkansas) **Thousands of white bass turn up dead in Arkansas River.** Wildlife officials have discovered thousands of dead fish along the Arkansas River in Little Rock and were still counting carcasses September 20, a day after an angler reported seeing dozens of dead white bass. “We are on the river trying to determine the extent of the fish kill,” a public information coordinator for the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission said. Wildlife investigators said the dead fish were mainly white bass, which are common in the river, and were between 5 and 8 inches long. Most were found near the foot of the Two Rivers Bridge, an 80-foot pedestrian bridge that opened in July. An Arkansas Department of Pollution Control and Ecology official said toxins had not been eliminated as a potential cause, and that oxygen levels had tested normal so far. Other test results for disease and parasites could take a month to conclude.  
Source: <http://news.yahoo.com/thousands-white-bass-turn-dead-arkansas-river-012500395.html>
26. *September 20, Montana Department of Livestock* – (Montana) **Equine Infectious Anemia confirmed in Carbon County mule.** A 32-year-old mule in Carbon County, Montana, was diagnosed with equine infectious anemia (EIA), Montana Department of Livestock reported September 20. Also known as swamp fever, EIA is a potentially fatal viral disease of equines spread by biting insects. No vaccine or treatment is available for the disease. The infected mule was discovered when a Coggins test — a screening test required for equine movement into or out of the state — was performed for out-of-state movement. The test was positive, and was confirmed by the federal National Veterinary Service Laboratories (NVSL) in Ames, Iowa. Follow-up testing on two other equines at the premises, which is currently under quarantine, is underway. The premises is in a remote area with limited potential for exposure to other equines. Due to strict regulations, owners of EIA-infected equines have few options. Those

options include a lifetime quarantine with a minimum of 200 yards distance between the quarantined animal and other equines, euthanasia, and donating the animal for EIA-related research.

Source: [http://www.theprairiestar.com/news/equine/equine-infectious-anemia-confirmed-in-carbon-county-mule/article\\_cb43a726-e399-11e0-85f5-001cc4c002e0.html](http://www.theprairiestar.com/news/equine/equine-infectious-anemia-confirmed-in-carbon-county-mule/article_cb43a726-e399-11e0-85f5-001cc4c002e0.html)

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## **Water Sector**

27. *September 21, Associated Press* – (Kansas) **Recent releases of water from Milford Reservoir send algae into Kansas River.** The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) said the release of water from a federal reservoir in northeastern Kansas last month sent algal toxins into the Kansas River, the Associated Press reported September 21. USGS said the controlled release from Milford Lake occurred August 31, 2 days after the lake was closed for recreation because of a large bloom of blue-green algae. The release sent the tainted water into the Kansas River, a main drinking water source for more than 600,000 residents in eastern Kansas. No traces of algal toxins were found in samples of treated drinking water as of September 20.

Source:

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/ed99fb3b0a03413eabbd89bfbbbd2bb7/KS--Algae-Kansas-River/>

28. *September 20, Pottstown Mercury* – (Pennsylvania) **Reading sewer main leaking again, Pottstown losing patience.** Two new leaks were discovered September 19 in the 42-inch sewer main in Reading, Pennsylvania, that has now been found to be leaking in five locations in a 3-week period. According to the Pottstown Mercury, raw sewage was again dumped into the Schuylkill River — upstream of Pottstown's water intake for its drinking water treatment plant — so the repair can be fixed. The town added extra chlorine to its pre-treatment to eliminate the bacteriological contamination that comes hand-in-hand with raw sewage. The divergence from the last leak from the Reading pipe, earlier in September, was calculated to have dumped 750,000 gallons of raw sewage per hour into the river — which works out to about 18 million gallons per day.

Source:

<http://pottsmmerc.com/articles/2011/09/20/news/doc4e794ea96baef324934033.txt?viewmode=fullstory>

29. *September 20, Milford Patch* – (Massachusetts) **Water contaminant remains elevated.** The Milford Water Company recently disclosed that levels of a specific water contaminant remain high, based on testing at several sites in Milford, Massachusetts. The water company posted test results from the August 25 samples on its Web site, according to the Milford Patch September 20. In all six spots, the results indicate the levels of the contaminant Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) are above the maximum

allowed for drinking water, and higher than the most recent quarterly average. According to the state department of environmental protection, the amount of contaminant allowed for drinking water is 80 parts per billion (ppb). In Milford, levels in samples taken at six locations ranged from a low of 87 ppb, on Main Street, to 122.5 ppb, at a site on Countryside Drive, according to the report. Samples taken on Purchase Street, Beaver Street, and South Main Street were all above 100 ppb. The last quarterly report on testing, in July, showed a town-wide average of 82 ppb. The long-term solution to the problem is a new water treatment plant, which is not scheduled to be finished until 2013. By the end of October, the company hopes to have the first unit of a so-called “carbon sandwich” installed at its Dilla Street site.

Source: <http://milford-ma.patch.com/articles/water-contaminant-remains-elevated>

30. *September 20, WLTX 19 Columbia* – (South Carolina) **Water restrictions in place in Batesburg-Leesville.** Officials with the Town of Batesburg-Leesville, South Carolina, have put mandatory water restrictions into effect, according to a news release September 20. The town adopted state-required drought ordinances in 2004, and since the area has not seen significant rainfall, town officials were forced to put the restrictions in place. The mayor said the water levels at the town’s raw water reservoir are about 7 feet below average, and the secondary supply at Lightwood Knot Creek is constantly being used and depleted.

Source: <http://www.wltx.com/news/article/152137/2/Water-Restrictions-in-Place-in-Batesburg-Leesville>

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## **Public Health and Healthcare Sector**

31. *September 21, Spokane Spokesman-Review* – (Washington) **Fire, explosion damage pegged at \$3 million.** A fire and explosion September 19 that blew glass out of the windows and charred parts of a Spokane Valley office building that housed various medical facilities caused an estimated \$3 million in damage. The fire was traced to a room containing the nitrous oxide as well as a smaller oxygen container. The oxygen apparently vented during the fire. Investigators are examining a nitrous oxide tank that apparently blew up at the start of the fire around 7 a.m. It was unknown exactly what sparked the fire or whether the tank blew after the fire started, an assistant fire chief said. The insurance company for the building’s owner is bringing a fire investigation expert to help determine the cause. While the fire damage was mainly confined to the oral surgery business, smoke damage was reported throughout the 2-story building. A structural engineer reported the building could be restored, but that there were stress cracks spotted in concrete that would need to be repaired.

Source: <http://www.spokesman.com/stories/2011/sep/21/fire-explosion-damage-pegged-at-3-million/>

32. *September 21, Oswego Palladium-Times* – (New York) **Police arrest 3 nurses accused of stealing pills.** The Oswego Palladium-Times reported September 21 that New York

State Police arrested three emergency room nurses over the course of nearly a month for allegedly stealing controlled substances while on duty at Oswego Hospital. Troopers charged all three with first-degree falsifying business records, a class E felony; seventh-degree criminal possession of a controlled substance, a class A misdemeanor; and additional charges relating to the Public Health Law. The charges stem from an investigation initiated by hospital administrators. It is alleged that while on duty at the emergency department, the three registered nurses were stealing controlled substances from the Omnicell automated dispensing system. The hospital was able to track several unauthorized transactions over a period of time and identified the three nurses as responsible, according to police reports.

Source:

<http://palltimes.com/articles/2011/09/21/news/doc4e7669d6ed7ab264744613.txt>

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## **Government Facilities Sector**

33. *September 21, Softpedia* – (National) **White Hat hackers: Barack Obama’s Web site vulnerable.** The Web site of the one known as the most powerful man in the world — the U.S. President — contains major XSS vulnerabilities that can be exploited by hackers who are not so friendly. The flaw was announced by a decent person, who immediately alerted the site’s Webmasters, but it could have just as easily been discovered by an enemy of the White House who could have infected it with all sorts of malicious code. This is not the first time the official Web site of the President has turned out to be vulnerable. According to Acunetix, it was also hacked about a year ago, but that time the cybercriminals wore black hats and took it over. Vulnerability Lab is an organization that reveals different weak links in popular sites. They were the ones to make public, after the problem was resolved, the fact that the U.S. President’s personal page is at risk. XSS vulnerabilities, also known as cross-site scripting, allow a hacker to inject malevolent scripts into dynamic Web pages, which he can later rely on to gather data from the user on whose machine the script is executed. The security risk was estimated as being high and as a recommendation, the use of a Web Vulnerability Scanner is the best way to prevent unfortunate events. The solution proposed by the vulnerability experts consists of restricting the username and e-mail fields, and patching up the output sections where the related data is displayed.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/White-Hat-Hackers-Barack-Obama-s-Website-Vulnerable-222707.shtml>

34. *September 20, Associated Press* – (District of Columbia) **White House fence jumper climbs over western entrance gate, runs into Secret Service.** A man climbed over the White House fence near its western entrance gate and ran toward the U.S. Presidential residence in Washington D.C. September 20 before he was apprehended by uniformed Secret Service officers, authorities said. The man carried a backpack as he clambered over the fence, then ran with his arms outstretched directly toward officers who ordered him to the ground with their weapons drawn. The backpack was later

deemed to be safe. The episode occurred around 6:35 p.m. as tourists and passers-by walked on Pennsylvania Avenue in front of the White House. Officers immediately evacuated the avenue and Lafayette Square across from the White House.

Source: [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2011/09/20/white-house-fence-jumper\\_n\\_972559.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2011/09/20/white-house-fence-jumper_n_972559.html)

For more stories, see items [14](#) and [15](#)

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## **Emergency Services Sector**

35. *September 21, Buffalo News* – (New York) **More resources urged for ECMC emergency psych unit.** Psychiatric nurses at Erie County Medical Center in Buffalo, New York and the hospital’s administration September 20 appealed to state officials for more resources that would help them relieve overcrowding at the center’s emergency psychiatric unit. Overcrowding, they said, was a contributing factor in an incident the week of September 12 in which psychiatric nurse suffered a broken jaw after being punched by a mentally ill patient in crisis. During a news conference September 20, a New York State Nurses Association union representative for nurses at the hospital, said there were no open beds in the psychiatry unit when the nurse was injured. “It wasn’t a lack of adequate staffing, it was the overcrowding. We had 16 patients waiting to be admitted, and another 15 to 20 patients coming through the system for evaluation,” he said. The overcrowding in the psychiatric unit, he said, is symptomatic of a mental health crisis in the broader community that is manifested by insufficient housing for non-acute patients, as well as insufficient treatment programs, support groups and advocacy for the mentally ill. All of it is exacerbated by insufficient funding, he stated. Source: <http://www.buffalonews.com/city/communities/buffalo/article564636.ece>
36. *September 20, Associated Press* – (Missouri) **NWS: Some Joplin residents ignored tornado warning.** The federal agency that oversees the National Weather Service (NWS) said warning sirens and notifications went out well ahead of the devastating Joplin, Missouri tornado, but said residents did not respond quickly enough to the sirens warning of the impending twister. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration said September 20 in a report about communications before and during the May 22 tornado that killed 162 people in Joplin that the NWS was well-prepared and “performed in an exemplary manner.” The report also said efforts from the weather service, emergency management and the public “saved many lives.” But the report said “the vast majority of Joplin residents” did not respond to the first siren because of an apparent widespread disregard for tornado sirens. Source: <http://www.kmov.com/news/local/NWS-Some-Joplin-residents-ignored-tornado-warning-130213908.html>
37. *September 19, Associated Press* – (Indiana) **State fair’s plan lacks crucial details.** An emergency response plan drafted 10 months before the Indiana State Fair’s deadly stage collapse that killed 7 people and injured more than 40, details how staff should handle evacuations, but it does not spell out the precise scenarios that would trigger an

evacuation, newly released documents indicate. The 71-page emergency plan released September 14 by fair officials describes more than a dozen situations, including severe weather, shootings and fires, that would prompt fair officials to activate their emergency protocols. But the exact conditions that would require the need for an evacuation are not clearly defined in the document, which leaves the final decision on evacuations up to fair officials. The stage collapsed on top of fans at an outdoor concert at the fair grounds in Indianapolis when a sudden wind gust ahead of an approaching storm blew it down.

Source: <http://www.pal-item.com/article/20110920/NEWS01/109200307/State-fair-s-plan-lacks-crucial-details?odyssey=mod|newswell>><http://www.pal-item.com/article/20110920/NEWS01/109200307/State-fair-s-plan-lacks-crucial-details?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|p> <<http://www.pal-item.com/article/20110920/NEWS01/109200307/State-fair-s-plan-lacks-crucial-details?odyssey=mod|newswell>

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## **Information Technology Sector**

38. *September 21, Softpedia* – (International) **Microsoft Gold partner accused of scam calls.** Microsoft issued a statement to notify people one of their Gold partners has been blacklisted after making scam calls, alerting them of fake virus infections. India-based computer support service Comantra has been supposedly making phone calls to individuals in the United States, the United Kingdom, and Australia, posing as Microsoft personnel in the attempt to dupe computer users into believing their machines were malfunctioning. They would then offer to fix the issue in exchange for certain amounts of money. According to PC Pro, the ill-intended calls were made since 2009 and even if Microsoft was previously warned about the whole operation, no action was taken up until now.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Microsoft-Gold-Partner-Accused-of-Scam-Calls-222874.shtml>

39. *September 21, H Security* – (International) **Malware for everyone - Aldi Bot at a discount price.** Anti-virus vendor G Data is reported a functional botnet builder, dubbed the Aldi Bot, is available on underground forums for \$13. The company said the Aldi Bot Builder appears to be based on the ZeuS source code. The Aldi Bot can read (saved) passwords from the Firefox Web browser, Pidgin IM client, and JDownloader download tool, and send them to a command and control server which is included in the price. The Aldi Bot can also carry out distributed denial-of-service attacks. The bot can also be set up as a SOCKS proxy to use infected computers as proxies for protocols of the bot herder's choosing. Infecting systems with the discount malware does, however, require additional measures, such as exploit packs on infected Web sites.

Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/Malware-for-everyone-Aldi-Bot-at-a-discount-price-1346594.html>

40. *September 21, H Security* – (International) **Cisco warns of vulnerability in its Identity Services Engine.** Cisco is warning users of a critical vulnerability (CVE-2011-3290) in its Identity Services Engine (ISE). In its security advisory, the company said the underlying database used by ISE, its identity and access control policy platform, contains three sets of default credentials that could be exploited by a remote attacker without any end-user interaction. Using these credentials, an attacker could modify the configuration and settings, or even gain complete administrative control of a device. All hardware appliance and software-only versions of Cisco ISE prior to 1.0.4.MR2 are affected. The company said it will release a free update to the software to address the vulnerability September 30; no temporary workaround is available. Once released, the updates will be available to download from the Cisco Software Center. Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/Cisco-warns-of-vulnerability-in-its-Identity-Services-Engine-1347301.html>
41. *September 20, The Register* – (International) **Android bug lets attackers install malware without warning.** It has been more than a month since researchers reported two serious security vulnerabilities in Android, but so far there is no indication when they will be purged from the Google operating system that is the world's most popular smartphone platform. The first flaw allows apps to be installed without prompting users for permission. This permits attackers to surreptitiously install malware in much the way a proof-of-concept exploit a researcher published in 2010 did. In that case, an app he planted in the Android Market and disguised as an expansion pack for the Angry Birds game secretly installed three additional apps that without warning monitored a phone's contacts, location information, and text messages so data could be transmitted to a remote server. The second bug resides in the Linux kernel where Android originates and makes it possible for installed apps with limited privileges to gain full control over the device. The vulnerability is contained in code the device manufacturer has put into some of Android's most popular handsets, including the Nexus S. The bug undermines the security model Google developers created to contain the damage any one application can do to the overall phone. Source: [http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/09/20/google\\_android\\_vulnerability\\_patching/](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/09/20/google_android_vulnerability_patching/)

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### Internet Alert Dashboard

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

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

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## Communications Sector

42. *September 21, Oklahoma City Oklahoman* – (Oklahoma; National) **Oklahoma regulators seeking help with phone problems.** Oklahoma regulators asked the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to address problems that are preventing some telephone calls from being completed. The Oklahoma Corporation Commission (OCC), like its counterparts in other states, sent a letter to the FCC urging the agency to investigate the issue and pursue a solution. There has been a growing number of complaints in Oklahoma and other states from telephone customers and their service providers regarding so-called “call termination” problems, the commission said. Based on complaints, the problem appears to involve long-distance calls made from a wireline, cellular phone, or Internet-based telephone service. The majority of the complaints involve long-distance calls made to telephone customers in rural areas, but the rural phone companies’ equipment and practices do not appear to be responsible. Rural trade associations from across the country told the FCC that complaints regarding call completion problems were up more than 2,000 percent from March 2010 to April 2011. Because of call termination complaints from Oklahoma, phone companies and their customers, state regulators are conducting their own inquiry.  
Source: <http://newsok.com/article/3606084>

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## Commercial Facilities Sector

43. *September 21, Florida Today* – (Florida) **Shore Lanes fire forces 35 people to evacuate.** A bowling alley in Merritt Island, Florida caught fire September 20 causing dozens of people to evacuate. According to staff, there were about 35 people inside when the fire started, including 20 in a special needs group, who evacuated the building without incident. Damage from the fire was limited due to the actions of the bowling center staff, the building’s fire suppression system, and firefighters. The initial report was a grease fire in a fryer, but firefighters entering the structure faced dark smoke, high heat, and flames rolling across the ceiling. After the fire was put out in the kitchen area, firefighters worked to stop fires that began to consume portions of a second floor storage area after moving up into the cooking area’s ventilation system. The three-alarm fire brought 11 fire engines, four rescue vehicles, two ladder trucks, a hazardous materials truck, and 68 personnel from six fire agencies to the scene, according to Brevard County Fire-Rescue.  
Source: <http://www.floridatoday.com/article/20110921/NEWS01/109210317/Shore-Lanes-fire-forces-35-people-evacuate?odyssey=mod|mostview>
44. *September 20, KSDK 5 St. Louis* – (Missouri) **Spill prompts Ladue business evacuations.** An accidental spill at a Ladue, Missouri jewelry store prompted the closure of the westbound lanes of Clayton Road and several nearby businesses September 20. Someone spilled a container of sodium cyanide at Albarre Jewelry

prompting the store, and 7 to 10 nearby stores to be evacuated. The fire chief said the substance was used 25 years ago to clean jewelry, but the government has since banned it. The jewelry store did not know what to do with it, so it was kept in safe storage. The container containing the substance was knocked over in the afternoon of September 20. The fire department could smell the chemical when it arrived at the scene and did not go into the jewelry store. A restoration company was called to the scene to help clean up the spill, and Ameren came in to shut off the power. The westbound lanes of Clayton Road were reopened after about 2 hours.

Source: <http://www.ksdk.com/news/article/277493/40/UPDATE-Spill-prompts-Ladue-business-evacuations>

45. *September 20, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* – (Pennsylvania) **Homemade bomb explodes in Scottdale hotel; man arrested.** Police in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania arrested a man they said constructed a bomb in a soda bottle and detonated it in a Scottdale hotel, the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette reported September 20. The 22-year-old suspect is facing “multiple charges” for setting off the device in the hallway of the New Central Hotel, the Scottdale police chief said. Police charged the suspect with arson, reckless burning, risking catastrophe, criminal mischief, failure to prevent a catastrophe, and making repairs, selling, or taking similar actions with an offensive weapon. He was in the Westmoreland County Prison unable to post \$250,000 bond, according to court records. The police chief said someone called police shortly after seeing the suspect stuffing foil balls in a bottle behind the hotel on Pittsburgh Street. The device blew up in the hallway of the third floor, where the suspect had been living. The explosion damaged the carpet and took some of the paint off the walls, but caused no structural damage. The police chief said the hotel was evacuated after the explosion, but tenants have since been allowed back in.

Source: <http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/11263/1176176-100.stm>

46. *September 20, Agence France-Presse* – (Texas) **70,000 bees end golf tournament.** A collegiate golf tournament in Texas was halted early September 20 after a branch fell from a tree near the 18th green and exposed a beehive, causing an estimated 70,000 bees to begin swarming. The University of Texas at Arlington’s Waterchase Invitational was called off after several people were stung, although none suffered serious injuries. A beekeeper was called to Waterchase Golf Club in Fort Worth and said he would need at least an hour to conduct his work gathering the bees. He also suggested people leave the area for the rest of the day, prompting officials to stop the event early in the final round.

Source: [http://www.myfoxmemphis.com/dpps/news/offbeat/70,000-bees-end-golf-tournament-dpgonc-km-20110920\\_15119752](http://www.myfoxmemphis.com/dpps/news/offbeat/70,000-bees-end-golf-tournament-dpgonc-km-20110920_15119752)

47. *September 20, KGTV 10 San Diego* – (California) **Fire damages La Mesa-area pool supply store.** A mid-morning fire caused an estimated \$10,000 worth of damage to a La Mesa, California-area pool-supply store, and prompted evacuations in the surrounding area September 20. The fire was reported about 9:30 a.m., said a spokesman for Heartland Fire & Rescue. Crews arrived to find light smoke wafting from the roof of Leslie’s Pool Supply, she said. Firefighters cut a hole in the roof of the burning building, finding flames spreading through its attic. It took personnel about 10

minutes to extinguish the flames.

Source: <http://www.10news.com/news/29247492/detail.html>

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## **National Monuments and Icons Sector**

48. *September 21, Bowie County Citizens Tribune* – (Texas) **Forest service investigates string of fires.** The Texas Forest Service (TFS) is investigating a string of fires that occurred September 13 that are believed to have been set deliberately, the Bowie County Citizens Tribune reported September 21. Witnesses saw a blue Z71 pickup at the scene of six of the seven fires that started that day. Seven brush fires were reported in Maud. Those fires were located along C.R. 1207, Kelly Creek Road, where two of the suspicious fires were set, CR 1211 and four on 1202, which is Berry Farm Road. Another fire was set on Hwy 8 in Cass County. The fire departments from Simms, Maud, Redwater, and New Boston responded. According to an arson investigator from the Bowie County Sheriff's Department, the TFS has formed a task force to investigate the cases that cover Bowie, Cass, Marion, and Harrison counties.

Source: [http://www.news-journal.com/bowiecounty/news/forest-service-investigates-string-of-fires/article\\_12b0d65c-437d-54ef-b93d-9787a978b9cd.html](http://www.news-journal.com/bowiecounty/news/forest-service-investigates-string-of-fires/article_12b0d65c-437d-54ef-b93d-9787a978b9cd.html)

49. *September 20, Associated Press* – (Texas) **Texas Forest Service suspects wildfire started with power line sparks.** Sparks from electric power lines likely started the fire that became the most destructive wildfire in Texas history, fire officials said September 20. The September 4 fire started near Bastrop about 25 miles east of Austin, destroying more than 1,500 homes, and killing two people. A copy of the Texas Forest Service report obtained by the Austin American-Statesman stated the massive fire started as two fires ignited about 5 miles apart around the same time. One fire began when winds toppled a dead pine tree onto power lines, showering the dry vegetation below with sparks. The other fire ignited when fallen tree branches became tangled with power lines, showering dry grass and branches with sparks. Northerly winds gusted at up to 31 miles per hour September 4 at the National Weather Service office in Austin, according to the report. The relative humidity was 22 percent, and temperatures reached 99 degrees. The Bastrop County wildfires forced thousands of residents to flee their homes, burned out of control for several days, and blackened more than 50 square miles. The fires were 95 percent contained as of September 20, but officials urged residents to clear pine needles and other debris away from their homes to avoid re-igniting some "hot spots."

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/us/2011/09/20/texas-forest-service-suspects-wildfire-started-with-power-line-sparks/>

For another story, see item [34](#)

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## Dams Sector

50. *September 21, Staunton News Leader* – (Virginia) **Test planned at Gathright Dam next week, Jackson River flows to be affected.** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Virginia Department of Environmental Quality plan to simulate the effect of a storm on Jackson River waterflow with a test pulse at the Gathright Dam September 28. The test — basically, a release of water — will peak at 3,500 cubic feet per second (cfs). The pulse could raise the water level downstream along the Jackson River by up to 5 feet in some sections and up to 3 feet in the upper James River, but will remain several feet below flood stage. The maximum surge at Gathright Dam will last 2 hours, and will begin to gradually decrease, returning to 240 cfs by 2 p.m. The controlled release is meant to see whether the usual storms of late summer and early fall remove algae and improve water quality, since the usual operation of the dam reduces sudden increases of waterflow after heavy rains. A 3,000 cfs test pulse in August 2010 showed raised dissolved oxygen levels in the river, scoured excess oxygen-consuming algae, and “slightly improved” aquatic habitat of the Jackson River below Covington. The pulses are part of a Corps feasibility study at the dam. The study is looking at whether changes in the operation of the dam can improve water quality without affecting fishing in Lake Moomaw, or the trout fishery below the dam.

Source: <http://www.newsleader.com/article/20110921/NEWS01/110921009/Test-planned-Gathright-Dam-next-week-Jackson-River-flows-affected>

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