



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report
3 October 2011

Top Stories

- A suspect in possession of illegal military style assault weapons was arrested after authorities executed a search warrant and found dozens of the guns at his home and business. – *KSEE 24 Fresno* (See item [37](#))
- A federal agency found that slow action by a contractor led to nearly 1,000 soldiers and civilian workers being exposed to a carcinogenic chemical at an Iraqi water treatment plant for more than 5 months. – *Associated Press* (See item [39](#))

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. *September 30, Chicago Sun-Times Media Wire* – (Illinois) **Many ComEd customers without power due to high winds, rain leaving damage.** At least 27,000 Commonwealth Edison customers lost power as the Chicago area was pummeled by strong winds and rain September 29. As of 6:30 a.m. September 30, 5,000 customers, mostly in the southern part of the area, still lacked electricity. Damage from the winds was spread throughout the area. The wind caused the top portion of a 2-story building to fall onto the street and on two cars at 23rd and California. A tree fell onto a home in

northwest Indiana in the 700 block of S. Calumet Avenue early September 30. No one was injured. The night of September 29, 27,800 customers were without power due to the weather, a ComEd spokeswoman said. Of that total, 13,000 customers were in the south region, which includes the suburbs just south of Chicago, stretching down to Joliet, and Pontiac.

Source: <http://www.myfoxchicago.com/dpp/news/metro/more-than-27-thousand-comed-customers-without-power-strong-high-winds-rain-20110929>

2. *September 29, Associated Press* – (Delaware) **Copper theft cuts power to 30,000 in Del., Md.** Delaware State police said people who scaled the fences of two power substations and stole copper wire cut power to 30,000 customers. The incident occurred September 28 about 2:15 p.m. at two Delaware Power and Light power substations on the east and west sides of Kent Avenue south of Bethany Beach. Troopers said someone cut the copper grounding wires to several poles and two large transformers at both substations. The thieves fled with 250 feet of copper wire valued at about \$1,000. Police said they caused \$100,000 in damage to the substations.

Source: <http://www.chron.com/news/article/Copper-theft-cuts-power-to-30-000-in-Del-Md-2195122.php>

3. *September 29, Associated Press* – (Illinois) **Man freed from grain bin at Illinois ethanol plant.** Rescuers have freed a man who spent 2 hours trapped waist-deep in corn inside a bin at a southwestern Illinois ethanol plant. Fire officials said the man was pulled September 29 from the 75-foot-high bin filled with 80,000 gallons of grain at the Center Ethanol Co. in Sauget just east of St. Louis. Officials said the man had gone into the bin to do routine maintenance when the corn shifted like an avalanche around him. Another worker who saw that called for help. Officials said the trapped worker was conscious and talking throughout the rescue effort, and was taken to an awaiting ambulance for treatment.

Source: http://www.stltoday.com/news/state-and-regional/illinois/article_d64f87c9-cf2a-52dd-891e-9d5b89c4cf39.html

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

Chemical Industry Sector

4. *September 30, Arizona Republic* – (Arizona) **U.S. 93 near Wickenburg reopens after fatal crash.** A semi truck rolled on U.S. 93 about 16 miles north of Wickenburg, Arizona, leaving one person dead and closing the highway for much of the day September 29, the state Department of Public Safety (DPS) said. A Dodge pickup truck was heading north when it crossed the center line, colliding head-on with a southbound semi at Milepost 192. The semi rolled and was engulfed in flames, but the driver escaped. The 39-year-old Dodge driver died. Traffic was rerouted via an 18-mile detour on Arizona 89 and 71. Almost an hour later in the same area, a tank in a semi carrying 13,000 pounds of ammonium was punctured, spilling the chemical onto the highway, the DPS reported. The road was shut down at Milepost 192 until 3 p.m.

Source:

<http://www.azcentral.com/arizonarepublic/local/articles/2011/09/29/20110929arizona-fatal-crash-closes-us-93-near-wickenberg-abrk.html>

5. *September 30, Buffalo News* – (New York) **Executives ruled not liable for Holley chemical leak.** The father and son who ran the Diaz Chemical plant in Orleans County, New York, when it leaked dangerous chemicals nearly 10 years ago are not liable to pay punitive damages, a federal judge ruled the week of September 26. The decision is a blow to the more than 100 families who claim Diaz’s chemical emissions endangered their health and contaminated their property in Holley. The ruling severely limits the liability of Diaz’s former executives, and the ability of families to collect \$60 million in damages they sought. The ruling is significant because the Diaz corporation is bankrupt and without any assets. The families plan to appeal the decision, but if it is upheld, their compensation would be limited to specific costs related to federal environmental law. The lawsuit, filed in 2004, claimed the Diaz executives were responsible for decades of chemical emissions leading up to the January 5, 2002 leak. On that day, a valve release on a process tank blew, spewing two little-known chemicals into the air and splattering homes around the plant. Nearby residents complained of severe headaches, skin burns, nausea, vomiting, and difficulty breathing, as well as other health problems. The leak also led to the relocation of many residents. Diaz filed for bankruptcy in 2003 and abandoned the site, leaving behind a number of drums and tanks containing chemicals. The plant became a federal Superfund cleanup site in 2004 and, since then, the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency has shipped more than 9,000 drums, and more than 112,000 gallons of hazardous wastes to other sites for reuse or disposal.
Source: <http://www.buffalonews.com/city/communities/niagara-county/article576541.ece>
6. *September 30, Sunbury Daily Item* – (Pennsylvania) **Merck spilled 31 tons of toxic fluid into river.** Human error caused Merck & Co. to spill 20 tons of ethylene glycol, an anti-freeze, into the Susquehanna River near Riverside, Pennsylvania, August 2, 2007, and, hours later, another 11 tons, according to a federal lawsuit filed September 28 against the pharmaceutical maker. The lawsuit was filed with a settlement agreement that brought a \$1.5 million fine against Merck for environmental violations at plants in Northumberland and Montgomery counties. The 93-page lawsuit alleges many missteps at the Riverside facility, including repeated accidental discharges of hazardous waste such as ammonia and anti-freeze, failure to notify appropriate authorities when waste was discharged, poor maintenance practices, and inadequate equipment testing practices. The spills “had a reasonable likelihood of adversely affecting health or the environment and could have been prevented,” the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency said. The lawsuit alleges the spills were caused by workers who did not turn off valves or failed to properly use equipment.
Source: http://dailyitem.com/0100_news/x1190853275/Merck-spilled-31-tons-of-toxic-fluid-into-river
7. *September 29, Whittier Daily News* – (California) **EPA plans chemicals cleanup of contaminated underground water plume.** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has selected a \$69.2 million plan to clean up a 4.2-mile-long contaminated underground water plume in California that stretches from Whittier

through Santa Fe Springs to Norwalk. The plan calls for the contaminated water to be pumped, treated, and then used for drinking water, most likely by the city of Santa Fe Springs or Golden State Water Co. The water is contaminated with solvents from the former Omega Chemical Co. Superfund site, 12504 and 12512 Whittier Boulevard, a hazardous waste recycling business that was open from 1976 to 1991, said the EPA project manager. She said contamination also may have come from 24 other sources in areas near the plume. "Drinking water aquifers are under a heavy strain, and this decision ensures their preservation," the EPA's regional administrator for the Pacific Southwest said. He said the treated groundwater will meet or surpass drinking water standards, which the EPA expects will be provided to local water purveyors to serve in the surrounding community. The remedy also allows for reinjection of treated groundwater if agreements with water purveyors cannot be reached in a timely manner. What remains to be settled is who will pay for the cleanup. The EPA project manager said the agency will negotiate with the responsible parties — already identified and paying for cleanup of the Omega plant — and other companies in or near the 4.5-mile area that still have to be identified. She said should the EPA be unable to reach agreement with the responsible parties, it could order them to do so, or do the work itself and seek repayment. However, the plan is only an interim remedy, the project manager added. "It's not a cleanup remedy," she said. "It's important to keep it from moving farther. It's very important to get this water contained. We do need to do more studies, and we have to do more cleanup in the future."

Source: http://www.whittierdailynews.com/news/ci_19009014

8. *September 29, United Press International* – (International) **No undeclared chemical weapons in Libya.** The interim government in Libya said it is securing the country's remaining stockpiles of chemical weapons, an international arms control organization said, according to the United Press International, September 29. The Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), based in The Hague, Netherlands, said the country's new leadership has not reported finding any weapons that had not been reported by Libya's former regime. OPCW inspectors were in the country until February, when the facility used to destroy chemical weapons malfunctioned. By that time, the Libyan government had destroyed 55 percent of its reported mustard gas, and 40 percent of its precursor chemicals, along with all the 3,500 aerial bombs designed for chemical attacks. The chemical weapons are stored at a military facility about 400 miles from Tripoli, the OPCW said. It indicated the remaining mustard gas could be destroyed in a month.

Source: http://www.upi.com/Top_News/World-News/2011/09/29/No-undeclared-chemical-weapons-in-Libya/UPI-82021317317376/

9. *September 29, Lafayette Advertiser* – (Louisiana) **Westbound lanes of Interstate 10 reopen.** The westbound lanes of Interstate 10 that were shut down in the Roanoke, Louisiana, area after two hazardous materials spills are open, according to a release from Louisiana State Police (LSP) late September 29. Released around 10:30 p.m., the statement said crews were working to complete the cleanup process and were expected to be finished in a few hours. A hazardous materials accident during the day September 29, added to already-congested traffic from another spill earlier in the day. The LSP said both lanes of 10 were closed following the second spill, when a passenger car rear-

ended a tractor-trailer that was stopped due to traffic back-up from the previous accident at milepost 60. The tractor-trailer was carrying cumene, a flammable material. LSP Emergency Services Crews responded and were still working late at night to clean up the spilled product. The chain-of-reaction events began in the morning when state police were notified about an 18-wheeler tanker leaking nitric acid on the shoulder of I-10 eastbound at milepost 60. The cause of the leak remains under investigation. The first accident left I-10 East closed from the Roanoke Exit 59 to the Jennings Exit 64. Following the second accident, both lanes were closed from Jennings to Welsh.
Source: <http://www.theadvertiser.com/article/20110930/NEWS01/109300331>

10. *September 28, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency* – (California) **EPA orders \$60 million groundwater cleanup at toxic 'mega' Superfund site in Sacramento County.** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has ordered a \$60 million clean-up of rocket fuel-polluted groundwater at the Aerojet Superfund Site in Sacramento County, California, the latest phase of a long-term decontamination project. The extent of toxic pollution at the 8,500-acre site near Rancho Cordova makes it one of the largest and most comprehensive Superfund groundwater cleanups in California. A 27-square mile swath of groundwater underneath and around the former aerospace facility is polluted with several compounds, including very high levels of perchlorate — a main component of rocket fuel — and a known developmental toxin. Aerojet, under the direction of the EPA, will contain the plume to prevent it from spreading into nearby rivers and streams. Future plans will also treat groundwater within the site's boundaries. The order requires Aerojet to fund and construct a water treatment facility that will limit water contamination within set boundaries and purify 25 million gallons of groundwater daily. The widespread contamination will require at least five additional cleanup plans for groundwater and soil over the coming decade. EPA will oversee efforts and monitor many wells. The agency is also working with state and local partners, including the state water board, and department of toxic substances control. Since 1953, Aerojet and its subsidiaries manufactured liquid and solid propellant rocket engines for military and commercial applications, and formulated many chemicals, including rocket propellant agents, agricultural, pharmaceutical, and other industrial chemicals. In addition, the Cordova Chemical Company operated chemical manufacturing facilities on the Aerojet complex from 1974 to 1979. Both companies disposed of unknown quantities of hazardous waste chemicals, including TCE and other chemicals associated with rocket propellants, as well as various chemical processing wastes. Some wastes were disposed of in surface impoundments, landfills, deep injection wells, leachate fields, and some were disposed by open burning.

Source:

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/d0cf6618525a9efb85257359003fb69d/3efec873fe051d988525791900706e23!OpenDocument>

For more stories, see items [27](#), [29](#), [30](#), [44](#), and [49](#)

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

Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

11. *September 30, Pittsburgh Tribune-Review* – (National) **Reactors could fail during an earthquake, maker says.** GE Hitachi Nuclear Energy said September 30 that 35 reactors it built for utilities nationwide may not shut down properly during an earthquake. The likelihood of failure is "low," the company said in an advisory to customers on additional actions to take. GE Hitachi is recommending testing to determine what level of friction would prevent control rods from fully inserting into the reactor core during an earthquake, according to filings with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). "There is no discussion of a recall of any control rods at this point," an NRC spokesman said in an e-mail. "The focus is on testing as evaluations continue on whether any modifications are necessary." GE Hitachi's testing program also forces owners to replace defective control rods when reactors are shut down for refueling instead of continuing the tests. The shutdown "capability is expected to be affected due to the added seismic loads at low reactor pressures" in the boiling-water-reactor plants, GE Hitachi said in the filing. More testing is needed to determine how much friction is produced by "seismic loads," the filing noted.
Source: http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/pittsburghtrib/business/s_759421.html
12. *September 28, scnow.com* – (South Carolina) **Officials investigate reactor shutdown at Robinson plant.** Officials with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and Progress Energy are looking into an unplanned reactor shutdown that occurred at the H.B. Robinson Nuclear Plant near Hartsville, South Carolina, September 26. A plant spokesperson initially said the shutdown occurred when the system that monitors the flow of coolant through the reactor's coolant system indicated a low flow of coolant. Plant officials later determined the incident resulted from a failed electrical relay in the reactor protection system and not from a problem in the coolant system. The reactor was still down as of September 28. The shutdown occurred just days before the NRC was supposed to close a final deficiency finding related to performance at Robinson and problems resulting in four unplanned shutdowns that occurred in 2009 and 2010 that resulted in heightened oversight of the facility by the regulatory agency. That finding was to have been closed September 30 unless additional findings occurred before then.
Source: <http://www2.scnow.com/news/pee-dee/2011/sep/28/5/officials-investigate-reactor-shutdown-robinson-pl-ar-2478081/>
13. *September 28, Agence France-Presse* – (International) **Swiss parliament approves nuclear plant phase out.** The Swiss parliament's upper house September 28 approved plans to phase out the country's nuclear plants over the next 2 decades in the wake of the Fukushima disaster in Japan. It followed a June vote by the lower chamber to back an exit from nuclear energy recommended by the government, which had earlier frozen plans for a new construction program after the Fukushima atomic plant explosion. Switzerland said it would count on the development of its already considerable hydro-electric plants and other renewable energy to make up for the loss of nuclear power, while not ruling out importing electricity.
Source:
<http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5jCSeOpS19tU5dzL4GihVYh4OuAww?docId=CNG.1df1059dafd2f113fff8be0b059fe958.d31>

Critical Manufacturing Sector

14. *September 29, U.S. Department of Labor* – (Texas) **U.S. Department of Labor's OSHA cites Texas Barge & Boat in Freeport, Texas, following deaths of 2 workers.** The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) announced September 29 it cited Texas Barge & Boat Inc. for 1 willful and 39 serious violations following the deaths of 2 workers from a fire at the company's facility in Freeport, Texas, where boats and barges are repaired. The OSHA initiated a safety and health inspection April 2 following a report from the local sheriff's department that an explosion had occurred and two workers were missing at the company's facility. Nine employees were performing cutting and fire watch operations inside the hopper space, an area between the cargo hold and the bottom plate of the vessel, with limited means of entry and exit when the flash fire occurred. The willful violation was cited for failing to conduct air monitoring tests prior to employees entering the confined and enclosed spaces to perform oxygen and fuel gas cutting operations. The serious violations involved failing to: provide fall protection around the perimeter of the barge and around manholes; ensure compressed gas cylinders were secured; ensure proper electrical wiring was installed; ensure circuit breakers were labeled; provide respirator fit-testing; inspect oxygen and acetylene hoses; develop a fire-safety plan.
Source: http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=NEWS_RELEASES&p_id=20775
15. *September 29, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission* – (National; International) **Husqvarna Professional Products recalls RedMax brushcutter due to fire hazard.** The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, in cooperation with Husqvarna Professional Products Inc., September 29 announced a voluntary recall of about 10,500 RedMax brushcutter/trimmers. Some fuel tanks allow leakage at the fuel cap, posing a fire hazard to consumers. The brushcutters were sold at authorized RedMax dealers and distributors throughout the United States and Canada. Consumers should immediately stop using the product and return it to their local RedMax dealer for repair.
Source: <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml11/11341.html>
16. *September 28, WLEX 18 Lexington* – (Kentucky) **Four hurt in steel plant accident.** Four workers from the Kentucky Electric Steel plant in Boyd County, Kentucky, were rushed to a West Virginia hospital after an accident late the night of September 27. Investigator said the men came in contact with heat from molten steel or molten steel itself. Plant officials said one of the men who was air-lifted had third-degree burns, while the others suffered from serious smoke inhalation.
Source: <http://www.lex18.com/news/four-hurt-in-steel-plant-accident/>

For another story, see item [10](#)

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

Defense Industrial Base Sector

17. *September 29, Associated Press* – (Pennsylvania) **Drug arrests made at Boeing helo factory.** Federal agents September 29 raided a Boeing plant that makes military helicopters in a Philadelphia suburb and charged more than three dozen people with distributing or trying to get prescription drugs, among them powerful painkillers. The arrests were made by the FBI and the Drug Enforcement Administration at the 5,400-employee plant in Ridley Park, where workers build aircraft including the H-47 Chinook helicopter, and the V-22 Osprey. The plant is part of Boeing's Defense, Space, and Security unit.
Source: <http://www.militarytimes.com/news/2011/09/ap-army-chinook-factor-drug-arrests-092911/>

For more stories, see items [10](#) and [39](#)

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

Banking and Finance Sector

18. *September 30, Lower Hudson Journal News* – (New York) **ATM 'skimmers,' cameras found in Bronxville, Yonkers, Pelham; how to spot them.** Bank card skimmers and secret cameras have been found at ATMs in four communities in the Lower Hudson region of New York. Bronxville police revealed September 28 they were investigating the discovery of such devices at a bank's automated teller machine. On September 29, Bronxville police said they were working with Yonkers, Pelham, and Poughkeepsie police departments. The U.S. Secret Service has also entered the investigation, a Bronxville police sergeant said. Bronxville police are trying to zero in on a picture of a man wearing a hat and sunglasses whom they believe illegally installed the equipment found at the HSBC Bank branch at 74 Pondfield Road. The device was found September 25. Bronxville police said the devices were detected quickly by customers, and police removed them. The customers who used the ATM while the illegal device was locked into it were notified.
Source: <http://www.lohud.com/article/20110930/NEWS02/109300326/ATM-skimmers-cameras-found-Bronxville-Yonkers-Pelham?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|News|s>
19. *September 29, U.S. Department of Treasury* – (International) **Treasury continues efforts targeting terrorist organizations operating in Afghanistan and Pakistan.** Continuing efforts to combat the financing of terrorism, the U.S. Department of the Treasury September 29 announced the designations of five individuals pursuant to Executive Order (E.O.) 13224 for providing financial, material or technological support, or acting for or on behalf of the most dangerous terrorist organizations operating in Afghanistan and Pakistan. "These financiers and facilitators provide the fuel for the Taliban, Haqqani Network, and al-Qa'ida to realize their violent aspirations," said the Under Secretary for Terrorism and Financial Intelligence. As a

result of the action, U.S. persons are generally prohibited from engaging in transactions with the designees, and any assets they may hold under U.S. jurisdiction are frozen.
Source: <http://www.treasury.gov/press-center/press-releases/Pages/tg1316.aspx>

20. *September 29, Salt Lake Tribune* – (Utah) **Feds file new indictment in Koerber investment fraud case.** A federal grand jury September 29 returned a new 20-count indictment alleging a Utah County businessman engaged in widespread investment and tax fraud. The indictment follows a federal judge’s decision in July to throw out a key piece of evidence in the case, in which he is accused of running an investment scam that took in more than \$100 million. An assistant U.S. attorney previously said the ruling by a U.S. district judge affected a “significant” part of an existing 22-count indictment alleging fraud, money laundering, and tax evasion by the defendant in his operation of FranklinSquires Cos., and related real-estate investment businesses. The judge’s decision forced prosecutors to seek a new indictment, filed September 29, a public information officer for the U.S. attorney’s office said. The indictment accuses the defendant of operating a Ponzi scheme in which money from new investors was used to pay initial and previous investors to make the businesses appear profitable, and to continue to attract new money. The suspect was originally indicted on 3 counts in May 2009, but 19 additional charges were added in a previous superseding indictment in November of that year. The defendant was considered something of an investment guru in Utah County, where he charged large fees for seminars and classes about investing in real estate using procedures he called “equity milling.” But prosecutors also said he lured in hundreds of investors with promises of high returns before the companies collapsed when the nation’s real-estate bubble burst in 2008. The indictments allege he used about half of the \$100 million to pay back initial investors, and also spent funds on investments other than real estate.
Source: <http://www.sltrib.com/sltrib/news/52657502-78/koerber-indictment-investors-federal.html.csp>
21. *September 29, Miami Herald* – (Florida) **20 South Floridians indicted in home equity loan fraud case.** Twenty South Floridians were charged with participating in a \$40 million mortgage fraud scheme, according to an indictment released September 29 by a U.S. district attorney. Between 2006 and 2008, several real estate professionals falsified loan documents and obtained nearly 200 home equity lines of credit loans, the indictment said. The scheme allegedly included individuals from nearly every level of the real estate industry — a bank professional, mortgage brokers, a title agent, a home appraiser and several sales agents. According to the indictment, a brother and sister, both of Miami, fraudulently obtained home equity lines of credit and mortgage loans for homes and condos throughout Miami-Dade County. A Regions Bank manager, also charged, helped approve the loans. The brother, sister, and the brother's wife worked with other real estate professionals to falsify loan documents, misrepresenting borrowers’ income, employment, assets, and other financial data, the indictment states. A title agent from Miami Lake helped disburse millions in loan proceeds to co-conspirators. The 20 defendants are charged with conspiracy to commit bank fraud, bank fraud, and other mortgage fraud charges. If convicted, they face maximum sentences of 30 years in prison on each count.

Source: <http://www.miamiherald.com/2011/09/29/2431659/20-south-floridians-indicted-in.html>

22. *September 29, Minnesota Public Radio* – (Minnesota) **Bloomington accountant charged with mortgage fraud.** A Bloomington, Minnesota accountant was charged September 29 with defrauding a bank of \$8 million. The 63-year-old was the senior vice president and chief financial officer of Centennial Mortgage and Funding, Inc. when he allegedly funneled money from clients' mortgage loans into his company's coffers. The Minnesota U.S. attorney's office claims he used the money to cover Centennial's operating losses and payroll from 2007 through 2008. He also allegedly lied about the status of mortgage loans, and convinced banks to put additional money in lines of credit.

Source: <http://minnesota.publicradio.org/display/web/2011/09/29/traxler-bloomington-mortgage-fraud/>

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

Transportation Sector

23. *September 30, Sacramento Bee* – (California) **Six accused of improper aircraft part repairs at Lincoln shop.** Six former employees of a Lincoln, California, company were accused September 29 in a federal grand jury indictment of endangering the lives of fliers by cutting corners in the repair of airplane parts. On one occasion related in the indictment, two of the defendants used a paper clip instead of an approved part to complete a repair, and then returned the part to the customer after certifying the job had been done properly. The six defendants regularly directed technicians at WECO Aerospace Systems Inc., an air-repair station certified by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), to use unapproved parts in violation of FAA regulations and manufacturers' component maintenance manuals, the indictment alleges. Each time, they falsely certified to customers the parts had been repaired in accordance with FAA regulations. The FAA-approved maintenance manuals describe the steps a repair shop must take to fix a part, as well as the tests and inspections required before the part can be returned to service. Yet, the indictment charges, the defendants did not have the equipment needed to perform many of the mandated tests. Upon learning of the allegations, the FAA issued an emergency order suspending the firm's repair station certificate, a U.S. attorney said. Investigators with three federal departments -- Transportation, Homeland Security, and Defense -- teamed with FBI agents to gather the evidence supporting the charges.

Source: <http://www.sacbee.com/2011/09/30/3949663/six-accused-of-improper-aircraft.html>

24. *September 30, Wall Street Journal* – (New York) **Lightning strike knocks out LIRR's signal system.** A lightning strike knocked out the Long Island Rail Road's (LIRR) signal system September 29, a spokesman said, crippling the railroad just as the evening rush hour was beginning. The strike came just west of a key choke point near Jamaica, New York, through which all of the railroad's train lines pass except for one. By manually moving switches into place, the railroad was able to start running trains

out of Penn Station once every hour on a few branches shortly before 7 p.m. But later, in order to do repairs, the railroad said it was shutting down all service again. It was also able to run a few trains out of Atlantic Terminal in Brooklyn. But as of very late the night of September 29, there were still no trains running into Manhattan, and it was not clear whether the problems would be fixed in time for the September 30 morning rush hour, the spokesman said.

Source:

http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052970204138204576601494276111906.htm?mod=WSJ_WSJ_US_News_5

For more stories, see items [4](#) and [9](#)

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

Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to report

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

Agriculture and Food Sector

25. *September 30, Auburn Citizen* – (New York) **Bacteria reported in area raw milk.** The New York state departments of Health and Agriculture and Markets warned residents in Tompkins County and surrounding areas not to consume unpasteurized raw milk produced at Jerry Dell Farm in Freeville, because of possible bacterial contamination, the Auburn Citizen reported September 30. In a press release September 29, the health department said two people who became ill after consuming raw milk from the farm tested positive for Campylobacter bacteria. Tests confirmed milk collected on the date that the first illness was reported, September 22, contained Campylobacter. The health department said raw milk sales at the farm would be suspended until tests show that the milk is free of pathogens.

Source: http://auburnpub.com/news/local/article_06494dc4-eb08-11e0-801c-001cc4c002e0.html?ST=1

26. *September 30, Associated Press* – (Florida) **State investigates death of millions of honey bees.** Florida state officials are investigating to see how millions of honey bees were killed in Brevard County, the Associated Press reported September 30. Several beekeepers in the county reported they lost colonies the week of September 26. An official with Smith Family Honey Company told Stuart News September 29, he lost 400 beehives. He said the bees appeared to have been poisoned. State officials are testing the bees to determine what type of chemicals contributed to their deaths. The case in Micco, 18 miles south of Melbourne, is being investigated by state agriculture officials, and the sheriff's office.

Source: <http://www.miamiherald.com/2011/09/30/2432240/state-investigates-death-of-millions.html>

27. *September 29, WSLs 10 Roanoke* – (Virginia) **Ammonia leak forces evacuations at Pepsi plant in Wytheville.** Firefighters and rescue crews did not go in to the Pepsi Bottling plant in Wytheville, Virginia right away for fear of how much ammonia had leaked into the building, according to WSLs 10 Roanoke September 29. Investigators said around 60 people were on site when an indoor pipe expanded causing ammonia to leak out. The chemical can be toxic causing respiratory distress and eye irritation. Hazmat crews were called in for cleanup as an investigation into what caused the pipe to expand was underway. As of late September 29, there was no word on when the plant would reopen.
Source: <http://www2.wsls.com/news/2011/sep/29/ammonia-leak-foces-evacuatiions-pepsi-plant-wythevi-ar-1347687/>
28. *September 29, WSB 2 Atlanta* – (Georgia) **Food illness makes 100 plus sick from catering at Georgia Aquarium.** Health investigators are looking into why more than 100 people got sick at a major Atlanta, Georgia attraction, WSB 2 Atlanta reported September 29. The one thing everyone had in common was they ate catered food at the Georgia Aquarium over the summer. In the week of July 25, three groups had catered events at the aquarium. Two had corporate conferences, and there was a wedding reception, officials said. One or two weeks later guests and staff members started coming down with week-long bouts of diarrhea. The Georgia Division of Epidemiology said it is still investigating, but said Cyclospora made the people sick. Officials said they have not pinned the exact cause of the breakout, but did say the common food served at all three events was salad mix, fresh basil, and cherry tomatoes.
Source: <http://www.wsbtv.com/news/news/food-illness-makes-100-sick-catering-georgia-aquar/nDxzG/>
29. *September 29, Kennewick Tri-City Herald* – (Washington) **HAZMAT: Ammonia leak at Tyson Foods in Wallula.** An ammonia leak at the Tyson Foods in Wallula, Washington, forced a temporary evacuation of part of the plant, the Kennewick Tri-City Herald reported September 29. Firefighters from Walla Walla Fire District 5 in Burbank were called around 10 a.m. for a hazardous material response in the mechanical room. The fire chief said a seal in a valve failed on an ammonia line, causing ammonia to get dumped onto the floor. The workers were evacuated. The company's own hazardous material response team responded and was able to isolate the leak and shut it down before fire crews arrived, the fire chief said.
Source: <http://www.tri-cityherald.com/2011/09/29/1660993/hazmat-ammonia-leak-at-tyson-foods.html>

For another story, see item [3](#)

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

Water Sector

30. *September 30, Associated Press* – (Virginia) **Norfolk treatment plant dumps 630,000 gallons of wastewater into river following power loss.** Sanitation officials in Norfolk, Virginia, said residents should avoid swimming, boating, or other contact with a stretch

of the Elizabeth River following an emergency discharge of more 630,000 gallons of wastewater, the Associated Press reported September 30. The Hampton Roads Sanitation District said a treatment plant in Norfolk discharged the wastewater into the river September 28 after it lost power. The discharge prevented wastewater from flooding nearby neighborhoods. Media outlets report the advisory is in effect until October 1. A district spokeswoman said the wastewater was disinfected with chlorine before it was released.

Source:

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/9c7cee1a31b24256a9634f626ae20385/VA--Wastewater-Discharge/>

31. *September 29, Maryville Daily Forum* – (Missouri) **Rural water crews work to repair break.** Nodaway County Public Water Supply District No. 1. workers repaired a series of water main breaks to the east and west of Maryville, Missouri, September 27 and 28. The district superintendent said he expected the damage to be repaired and service restored to all customers by late September 28. He believes the four breaks — three of which occurred along the south side of Highway 136 east of Maryville — were tied to the recent dry weather that may have caused dirt to shift around underground pipes. The flurry of broken mains dropped water storage levels and caused several hundred residents, mostly east of Maryville, to experience either very low water pressure or complete outages. In an effort to keep as many customers online as possible, the district routed water through a smaller line.

Source: <http://www.maryvilledailyforum.com/news/x149331757/Rural-water-crews-work-to-repair-break>

32. *September 29, Maui News* – (Hawaii) **EPA OKs county's order to upgrade sewage treatment.** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) gave final approval to Maui County, Hawaii's consent order that requires it to improve the treatment of sewage at the Lahaina Wastewater Treatment Plant before it is disposed of in injection wells, the Maui News reported September 29. The upgrade is expected to cost \$4 million to \$5 million, and must be in operation by the end of 2013. The Maui County Council approved the settlement in July following negotiations conducted under the threat of EPA enforcement action under the Safe Drinking Water Act. In a September 28 announcement, the EPA said it found treated wastewater contained levels of coliform bacteria that could exceed federal standards protecting the drinking water aquifer. The facility's federal underground injection control permit requires the federal standards to be met. The order requires the installation of a non-chlorine disinfection system. After December 2013, the injected wastewater may not exceed the state's R-1 level for fecal coliform.

Source: <http://www.mauinews.com/page/content.detail/id/553898/EPA-OKs-county-s-order-to-upgrade-sewage-treatment.html?nav=10>

For more stories, see items [6](#), [7](#), and [10](#)

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

Public Health and Healthcare Sector

33. *September 30, Orlando Sun Sentinel* – (Florida) **Florida Hospital privacy breach: Workers accessed ER patient information.** Florida Hospital admitted in a public notice its employees improperly accessed information on more than 2,000 car-accident patients at emergency departments in three Central Florida counties during a 20-month period ending in August. The FBI and the Osceola County Sheriff's Office were contacted, and investigators were reviewing what happened in what was described as an 'inappropriate access' of personal data. The three employees, who have been fired, accessed information including patients' names, date of birth, Social Security numbers, and insurance information. The breaches affect patients at emergency departments in Orange, Osceola, and Seminole counties. Not all patients who went to emergency rooms during that time had their records breached. The intent of the breach appeared to have been to pass the information on to an attorney-referral service. According to the hospital, the incident came to light after a car-accident victim said she'd been contacted by an attorney regarding the accident. She believed the only way the attorney could have received her information was via the hospital. Subsequent investigation found that all 2,252 patients whose records were accessed had been in car accidents. A Florida Hospital spokeswoman said there is no evidence of identity theft, but the hospital has offered credit monitoring, protection, and restoration services to affected patients. The three employees who accessed the data worked in Osceola County, and held clerical jobs. The three "accessed information outside of their job scope," the spokeswoman said.
Source: <http://www.orlandosentinel.com/news/local/crime/os-florida-hospital-privacy-breach-20110930,0,4634663.story>
34. *September 30, Softpedia* – (Georgia) **Atlanta man pleads guilty after hacking medical practice.** A 37-year-old man from Atlanta, Georgia, was accused of hacking into the medical records database of his former employer. The data was used in a marketing campaign launched by his new boss. He worked as an IT specialist for a medicinal practice in Atlanta called A.P.A., and after leaving the company he got a job at a similar business housed in the same building. According to the charges that were brought against him, in April 2010 he used his personal computer to break into the patient database of A.P.A, stealing records, and deleting them from the system. He then utilized the stolen data, which included names, telephone numbers and addresses, to launch a marketing campaign that advertised his new workplace. He pleaded guilty to the charges.
Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Atlanta-Man-Hacks-Medical-Practice-and-Pleads-Guilty-224733.shtml>
35. *September 29, WNEP 5 Bay City* – (Michigan) **Tough Questions: Abandoned medical records found in building.** Thousands of medical records were found piled up from floor to ceiling, wall to wall in a former Michigan doctor's office. The building in Standish sat empty until it was recently bought at an auction. According to TV5 research, the office changed hands a number of times. The original doctor sold the practice, including the records, to another doctor in 2004, then that doctor transferred it to a third doctor.
Source: <http://www.wnep.com/story/15573060/tough-questions-abandoned-medical-records-found-in-building>

For another story, see item [38](#)

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

Government Facilities Sector

36. *September 30, CNN* – (International) **U.S. ambassador safe after Syria attack.** The U.S. ambassador to Syria was safe September 29 after being attacked by a pro-government group in Syria, a U.S. government official told CNN. The ambassador, who has been outspoken against the Syrian government's use of violence against protesters, is seen by pro-government supporters as an activist more than a diplomat. The U.S. ambassador sparked a diplomatic firestorm in July when he traveled to the restive city of Hama to express support for demonstrators. He was welcomed with flowers by local residents who had suffered a brutal crackdown by government forces. A crowd tried to assault him and embassy colleagues "as they went about doing the normal work of any embassy," a State Department spokesman said. Syrian security officers helped secure a path back to the U.S. embassy for the ambassador and his staff. The U.S. Secretary of State condemned what she described as "an unwarranted attack" when the ambassador and his aides were conducting "normal embassy business." Source: http://www.cnn.com/2011/09/29/world/meast/syria-us-ambassador/?hpt=wo_c2
37. *September 29, KSEE 24 Fresno* – (California) **Search warrants turn up 40 illegal military-type weapons.** A suspect in possession of several illegal military style assault weapons was arrested after authorities executed a search warrant and found dozens of the guns at his home and business. Investigators from the MAGEC Metro Tactical Team, with the assistance of the Fresno Police Department's Violent Crime Impact Team, concluded a month-long investigation by serving the warrants September 28 in Fresno, California. The warrants were obtained after investigators received information from "CrimeStoppers" regarding a 41-year-old man possibly being in possession of several stolen military assault weapons. These weapons were possibly related to the theft of numerous AK-74 military machine guns taken from Fort Irwin military base. Authorities searched the suspect's Parlier business and Kingsburg home. They seized 40 illegal military-type assault weapons, a grenade launcher, and suppressed military assault rifles. Also recovered were a large amount of high capacity magazines and ammunition. Investigators did not find any stolen AK-74 assault weapons, however. The suspect was booked into the Fresno County jail on numerous weapons-related charges. Source: <http://www.ksee24.com/news/local/Two-Search-Warrants-Turn-Up-40-Illegal-Military-type-Weapons-130806498.html>
38. *September 29, Global Security Newswire* – (National; Maryland) **CDC notes nearly 400 select agent incidents at U.S. labs.** The U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Prevention has documented nearly 400 accidents over a 6-year period involving dangerous disease materials, the Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy reported September 28. A total of 395 select agent mishaps were identified, including 196 incidents of "loss of containment." Laboratory personnel were also reported to

experience needle pricks, lacerations, and bites from animals, improper functioning of protective gear, and machinery malfunctions. There were seven incidents of infection arising from exposure to the select agents, according to a study by the National Research Council that relied on the CDC information. "Seven LAIs (laboratory-acquired infections) were reported to CDC; four infections involved *Brucella melitensis*, two involved *Francisella tularensis*, and one involved an unspecified *Coccidioides* species," the NRC report said. Details on the effects of the seven infections were not provided. Also not stated are the labs where the incidents occurred, or the agents that might have escaped. The council included information on the select agent mishaps as part of its assessment of the U.S. Army's planned threat analysis for an enormous new disease research facility at Fort Detrick in Maryland. The scientific organization concluded in its Army-commissioned analysis that the service's "methodology of the [site-specific risk assessment] is not sufficiently robust to assist the Army in designing a facility that will reduce the risk from potential hazards from the facility's operations." The council this spring urged the Army to develop a more thorough site-specific risk assessment for the new laboratory than it had planned. Source: http://www.globalsecuritynewswire.org/gsn/nw_20110929_5350.php

39. *September 29, Associated Press* – (International) **IG report says KBR dragged feet on chemical.** A federal agency has found that a contractor failed to act as quickly as it could have to protect soldiers and civilians from exposure to a carcinogenic chemical at an Iraqi water treatment plant. The report by the Inspector General for the Department of Defense faults contractor Kellogg, Brown, and Root (KBR) for failing to comply with safety and health standards, which led to nearly 1,000 Army soldiers and civilian employees being exposed to sodium dichromate over 5 months, the Portland Oregonian reported September 29. Sodium dichromate is an anticorrosive compound that can cause skin and breathing problems and cancer. The report said it took 5 months from the initial site visit until the military command required protective equipment. The report said KBR did not fully comply with occupational safety and health standards required under its contract with the Army, so “a greater number of service members and (Defense Department) civilian employees were exposed to sodium dichromate, and for longer periods, increasing the potential for chronic health effects.” The company has previously denied knowingly exposing soldiers or contractors to health risks. Members of the Oregon National Guard have filed suit over alleged exposure to the chemical while they were at the Qarmat Ali water treatment plant. Source: <http://www.militarytimes.com/news/2011/09/ap-army-guard-oregon-inspector-general-kbr-chemicals-iraq-092911/>

For more stories, see items [42](#) and [49](#)

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

Emergency Services Sector

40. *September 30, Reuters* – (International) **U.S.-Mexico border governors sign crime-fighting pact.** Governors along the U.S.-Mexico border agreed September 29 to examine how to create shared databases where they can swap DNA and other biometric

information on criminals in an effort to curb the flow of guns and drugs between the two countries. Officials announced the agreement at the end of an annual conference of regional leaders from both sides of the border that this year failed to attract many chief executives. The nearly 3decade-old conference was designed to soothe tensions along the busy dividing line.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/09/30/us-mexico-border-idUSTRE78T0LB20110930?feedType=RSS&feedName=domesticNews>

41. *September 30, Associated Press* – (California) **Authorities encounter fugitive murder suspect hiding in California forest but fail to capture him.** Authorities said a fugitive who has been at large for more than a month in the redwoods of Northern California near Fort Bragg fired at law enforcement officials. Authorities came into contact with the suspect September 29 but could not capture him, a sheriff's official said. Mendocino County authorities said a group of Alameda County deputies conducting a search of the area for the 35-year-old came under fire just before noon September 29. He is suspected of killing a city councilman, and one other person. The Mendocino County sheriff said deputies were not hit and returned fire. The sheriff did not know how many shots the fugitive fired or if he had been wounded in the exchange. Deputies fired about 10 shots. More law enforcement officers were being flown into the area to join the 40 officers involved in the search. The suspect has been at large in the redwoods outside of Fort Bragg since August 27, when he allegedly shot dead a city councilman, who also worked as a security contractor and was investigating reports of the suspect's illegal marijuana farm.

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/us/2011/09/29/authorities-have-encounter-with-california-fugitive-wanted-for-slayings/>

42. *September 30, Associated Press* – (California) **Report faults Alameda in death of man in bay.** An independent review on the death of a suicidal man in the waters off California's coast while rescuers watched on shore faults the city of Alameda for not having a water rescue crew. Alameda released the 67-page review by a former state fire marshal September 29. It details missteps by city authorities following the 52-year-old man's decision to wade into the shallow waters off Crown Beach on Memorial Day. The San Francisco Chronicle reported that among those missteps, were police and firefighters' failure to immediately call for a shallow-water boat from Oakland. The man remained in the water for a half hour before succumbing to hypothermia. City officials have said they were unable to help him because their water rescue program had been discontinued. It has since been reinstated.

Source: http://abclocal.go.com/kgo/story?section=news/local/east_bay&id=8373945

43. *September 29, CNN* – (Pennsylvania) **Authorities say prison guard charged with sexually abusing inmates.** A Pennsylvania prison guard accused of sexually and physically abusing more than 20 inmates has been arrested, according to the Allegheny County District Attorney's office. He was arrested September 27 in Pittsburgh, and faces 92 counts of institutional sexual assault, official oppression, terroristic threats, and simple assault. According to the criminal complaint, he is accused of targeting male inmates convicted of sex crimes, particularly those convicted of crimes against children. The 34-page report details what authorities describe as a pattern of verbal,

physical, and sexual abuse directed at the inmates. He told CNN affiliate KDKA 2 Pittsburgh that the allegations are false. His preliminary hearing is scheduled for October 7.

Source: http://www.cnn.com/2011/09/28/justice/pennsylvania-prison-guard-abuse/index.html?hpt=ju_c2

44. *September 29, Urgent Communications* – (California; National) **DHS demos cell phone-based chemical detector.** The DHS's Science & Technology Directorate (DHS S&T) demonstrated in front of invited media and Web cast guests the first-ever cell phone capable of detecting life-threatening chemical exposures, dubbed the Cell-All, Urgent Communications reported September 29. The S&T worked with commercial vendors to miniaturize environmental sensors and embed them in commercial devices. The cell phone's capabilities were demonstrated by the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD), which used them to detect a mock carbon-monoxide incident. Cell-All is a unique environmental sensor and application for cell phones that enhances personal and public safety, ea DHS S&T spokesman explained. He said Cell-All detects and alerts individuals and public-safety authorities to the release of specific toxic chemicals into the environment. The alert is delivered to a device with specific data, such as exposure level or a map of the affected area. In addition, the chemical-detector-empowered cell phone has the potential to send two-way information anonymously. When a citizens' phone records a high reading, the chemical data and the person's location can be transmitted to an emergency operations center anonymously, which then can be sent to first-responder agencies, a spokesman for the LAFD said.

Source: http://urgentcomm.com/mobile_data/news/cellphone-chemical-detector-20110929/

For another story, see item [46](#)

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

Information Technology Sector

45. *September 29, threatpost* – (International) **Cisco patches slew of IOS bugs.** Cisco patched a string of serious vulnerabilities in its IOS networking software, including some that could be used for remote code execution, and also fixed flaws in some of its other products. In all, Cisco released 10 advisories, 9 of which concerned IOS vulnerabilities. The most serious of the flaws in IOS, the company's ubiquitous network operating system, is a bug in the way the Smart Install application works on some Cisco Catalyst switches. The problem can allow an attacker to run arbitrary code on the switch. Several of the other vulnerabilities that Cisco patched in IOS are denial-of-service flaws. In addition to those problems, there also is a serious issue in the Identity Services Engine, which has a default set of credentials for its underlying database. Source: http://threatpost.com/en_us/blogs/cisco-patches-slew-ios-bugs-092911

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

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

46. *September 29, Baxter Bulletin* – (Arkansas) **Severed cable hampers communication services.** Communication service was disrupted in several Arkansas counties for about 3 hours September 29 after a fiber optic cable was cut at 8 a.m. in an area between Conway and Little Rock, a CenturyLink spokesman said. Service was restored at 11:05 a.m. The cut disrupted long distance calls, 800 numbers, and some business circuits, he said. It also affected AT&T's wireless and wireline services, including 911 emergency calls, an AT&T Arkansas media relations spokeswoman said. She reported the cable was cut by a third party doing construction. Customers whose wireless services were affected were unable to make 911 emergency calls, the spokeswoman noted. She said other customers able to call 911 had location data impacted and would have had to provide their address to the 911 operator. Affected counties included part of Baxter County, as well as Marion, Boone, Newton, and IZard counties, a Baxter County Office of Emergency Management spokesman said. In addition, AT&T reported customers in Cleburne, Conway, Faulkner, Fulton, Pope, Searcy, White, and Yell counties may have been impacted. Three of the five trunk lines in the Baxter County 911 Center were not working after the cable was cut, but the center still was able to receive emergency calls, said a Baxter County 911 coordinator. The center sent out a public notice about the cut in the fiber-optic cable and reminded residents to call 911 only for emergencies.

Source:

<http://www.baxterbulletin.com/article/20110930/NEWS01/109300318/Severed-cable-hampers-communication-services>

47. *September 29, KRGV 5 Weslaco* – (Texas) **Lightning strike causes fire at PUB facility.** There are still no estimates on the cost of damage a lightning strike caused at a Brownsville, Texas, public utilities board facility September 29. The lightning hit a radio tower shortly after 12 p.m. It caused a small fire inside a storage room located near the antenna location. Fiber used in the small building and stored by the utility company was a total loss. Firefighters were called to put out the blaze.

Source: http://www.krgv.com/news/local/story/Lightning-Strike-Causes-Fire-at-PUB-Facility/8dMY7ulakUq_cNCdqnl65A.csp

For another story, see item [44](#)

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

Commercial Facilities Sector

48. *September 30, WNCN 17 Raleigh* – (North Carolina) **Durham apartment fire displaces 30 people.** An overnight fire has left 30 people without a place to stay, WNCN 17 Raleigh reported September 30. Flames broke out at the Bridges at Southpoint apartment complex shortly after midnight. Fire officials said flames were through the roof of the apartment building when they arrived. Fire investigators were on the scene during the day September 30 trying to determine what caused the fire. Source: <http://www2.nbc17.com/news/2011/sep/30/durham-apartment-fire-displaces-30-people-ar-1448236/>
49. *September 30, WXIA 11 Atlanta* – (Georgia) **Chlorine leak reported at MLK Natatorium.** Atlanta Fire Rescue is investigating a chemical leak at the Martin Luther King Natatorium, a swimming facility near the King Historic Site and Hope Elementary School in Atlanta, WXIA 11 Atlanta reported September 30. An Atlanta fire captain said the chlorine leak has forced some evacuations from the natatorium. The school has not been evacuated, according to an Atlanta Public Schools spokesman. He said a firefighter was taken to Atlanta Medical Center during the investigation, but did not explain why. Source: <http://www.11alive.com/news/article/207594/3/O4W-Chlorine-leak-reported-at-MLK-Natatorium>
50. *September 30, Chico Enterprise-Record* – (California) **Local pool remains closed after spill.** Bidwell Park staff members in Chico, California are still waiting for chemical test results to determine whether Sycamore Pool at One-Mile Recreation area is safe for swimming, the Chico Enterprise-Record reported September 30. The pool will remain closed until sometime September 30, at least, to ensure the hydraulic fluid that spilled into Big Chico Creek does not pose a health hazard, the Chico Park and natural resource manager said September 29. On September 27, a construction crew was driving steel posts into the ground for the Highway 99 expansion project when an equipment hose snapped, and a small amount of hydraulic fluid spilled into the water. A cleanup crew laid containment booms and absorbent pads. The chemical is not toxic. Butte County Environmental Health is assessing samples from the creek. Source: http://www.chicoer.com/news/ci_19010849
51. *September 29, Binghamton Press* – (New York) **More than 7,000 flood-damaged buildings in greater Binghamton.** More than 7,000 properties in Broome County, New York's urban core were damaged by historic flooding early in September, and dozens more were destroyed, the Binghamton Press reported September 29. A preliminary count of Tropical Storm Lee's toll on Greater Binghamton, compiled by state and local inspectors in the days after the storm, provides an early picture of the widespread devastation. Of the 12,897 properties assessed, inspectors determined 7,273 were damaged, and another 47 were destroyed. Broome County's director of emergency services, said information has been used to assess housing needs, plan debris removal, and conduct other recovery operations. Source: <http://www.pressconnects.com/article/20110929/NEWS01/109290377/More->

[than-7-000-flood-damaged-buildings-greater-Binghamton?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE](#)

52. *September 29, WCMH 4 Columbus* – (Ohio) **3 rescued after building collapses on west side.** One man suffered a broken leg and two more are safe after a warehouse collapsed in Columbus, Ohio September 29. Emergency crews were called to an under-demolition refrigeration warehouse at about 12:39 p.m. Crews were dismantling the building piece by piece and were working on the roof when the steel structure gave way and started to fold in. EMS was on scene almost immediately. Two workers were on the roof at the time. The U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration, and the city building inspector are in charge of the investigation.
Source: <http://www2.nbc4i.com/news/2011/sep/29/17/3-rescued-during-construction-accident-west-broad--ar-763442/>

For more stories, see items [1](#), [5](#), [7](#), [28](#), and [30](#)

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

National Monuments and Icons Sector

53. *September 29, WTTG 5 District of Columbia* – (District of Columbia) **Engineers find ‘expected’ damage at monument.** The team inspecting earthquake damage at the Washington Monument in Washington D.C. is finding “expected” problems with the exterior stones which support the structure. But a National Park Service (NPS) spokesman said the agency believes the monument remains structurally sound. ”They found what they were expecting to find: they found loose mortar, loose grouting, [and] some cracks,” a NPS spokesman said September 29. “They have identified areas of interest that need further examination.” A four-person team of engineers and architects spent 3 hours, September 29, re-inspecting the stones that form the pyramidal top of the monument. They had looked over those same stones September 28. The monument grounds are closed to tourists.
Source: <http://www.myfoxdc.com/dpp/news/local/engineers-find-expected-damage-at-monument-092911>

For another story, see item [41](#)

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

Dams Sector

54. *September 30, Associated Press* – (International) **Myanmar to stop construction of controversial dam.** Myanmar's president called September 30 for work on a controversial, Chinese-backed hydroelectric dam to be halted and the concerns of its critics settled, in a startling turnaround welcomed by democracy activists and environmentalists. The president said in a statement the \$3.6 billion Myitsone dam project in the northern state of Kachin should be suspended because "it is against the will of the people." He said all construction would be stopped for the duration of his

term — at least until 2015. Earlier in September, the electric power minister had vowed the project would go ahead despite swelling public opposition, and widespread criticism. The construction by Chinese state-owned companies already had been underway, and it was not clear how Myanmar's decision would affect relations with Beijing, which had no immediate reaction to the announcement.

Source:

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5hC1zMBDucTyfS5bOw4-RaFQry5Kg?docId=8fddb456e6274159836573c5e8796403>

55. *September 29, Examiner.com* – (Montana) **Ft. Peck spillway given a rest, inspection and repair to begin.** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers announced the end of Fort Peck Dam's spillway release for 2011 will be September 30. The Montana spillway released record levels of floodwater this year and has been flowing for a record 121 straight days. Released water from the spillway reached 52,000 cubic feet per second during the flood releases in June. The project plans to complete any needed repairs on the dam and spillway before next year's runoff season. Another priority will be to lower the reservoir 4 more feet by March 1 from the current pool of 2238.0 feet mean sea level (msl) to 2234.0 msl. March 1 is the target date for the Missouri River main-stem system to reach a flood storage level of 16.3 million acre feet. Fort Peck's share of this total flood storage is 22.6 percent or 3.675 million acre feet.

Source: <http://www.examiner.com/economy-in-billings/ft-peck-spillway-given-a-rest-inspection-and-repair-to-begin>

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

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