



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report 18 October 2011

Top Stories

- A cache of Los Angeles Police Department submachine guns and handguns was stolen from a secured building used by the SWAT unit, police officials confirmed. – *Los Angeles Times* (See item [29](#))
- A man who said he blew up his apartment was taken into custody at a local hospital October 17 after a 6-alarm fire in Boston injured more than a dozen people, including rescue personnel. – *WCVB 5 Boston* (See item [36](#))

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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. *October 16, Detroit Free Press* – (Michigan) **High wind knocks out electricity for 85,000 customers in southeast Michigan.** Roughly 85,000 customers were left without electricity in southeast Michigan October 15 after high winds knocked out power. A DTE spokesman said 52,000 customers lost their power, but by 8 p.m., that number was down to 33,000. He said customers had their power restored by October 16. About 33,000 Consumers Energy customers in Flint and Jackson lost their power. A meteorologist with the National Weather Service at White Lake Township said wind

gusts in the region reached a peak of around 45-55 mph. Some of those strong winds are being blamed for a power line that fell on I-75 at I-696, and caused all northbound lanes of I-75 to close.

Source: <http://www.freep.com/article/20111016/NEWS01/110160654/High-wind-knocks-out-electricity-85-000-customers-southeast-Michigan>

2. *October 15, Associated Press* – (North Dakota) **North Dakota refinery: gas was blended improperly; diesel not affected.** Owners of North Dakota's only oil refinery said October 14 gasoline was blended improperly at the facility, prompting complaints from drivers. Tesoro Petroleum Corp. said in a statement "the situation was related to off-spec fuel" from its Mandan refinery. The company would not comment on how much fuel was improperly made, how it happened, or how many retailers and drivers were affected. Tesoro said it began receiving complaints about bad gasoline October 8. The firm said diesel was not affected. "We cleared the tank and are working with every customer to remove affected fuel and replace it," a company spokesman said in an e-mail. The North Dakota Petroleum Marketers Association president said stations in Bismarck, Mandan, and Washburn had reported problems. Most of the Mandan refinery's products are shipped through pipelines to eastern North Dakota and Minnesota, and sold to customers in the Dakotas, Minnesota, and Wisconsin, the company has said. Gasoline makes up about 60 percent of the refinery's production on average.
Source: <http://www.albertleatribune.com/2011/10/15/north-dakota-refinery-gas-was-blended-improperly-diesel-not-affected/>
3. *October 14, WJW 8 Cleveland* – (Ohio) **Officials identify cause in Fairport Harbor gas explosion.** Months after a massive gas explosion rocked Fairport Harbor, Ohio, a cause has been identified. Back in January, at least 15 fires were reported after a regulator malfunction damaged dozens of homes. "There's a problem that resulted in too much pressure going into the system, where usually we would have the gas pressure going into the appliance at ounces per square inch, this was sort of pounds per square inch," said a Dominion Ohio East Ohio spokesman. In a report filed October 14 with the U.S. Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, Dominion East Ohio said the presence of pipeline fluids and a gas temperature drop across the regulators caused the regulators to malfunction. According to Dominion, nearly 500 stations were examined to prevent a potential recurrence. Seven of the units, including the Fairport Harbor station, will be retired or redesigned. Monitoring equipment was also installed on 287 additional low-pressure regulating stations, which currently do not have the ability to report unusual pressure situations automatically.
Source: <http://www.fox8.com/news/wjw-fairport-harbor-explosion-cause-identified-txt,0,4225924.story>
4. *October 13, U.S. Mine Safety and Health Administration* – (Kentucky) **MSHA audits uncover injury, illness underreporting at Kentucky mine - 4th operation to be placed on potential pattern of violations status.** The U.S. Department of Labor's Mine Safety and Health Administration (MHSa) has placed Dennis Creg Yonts' Mine No. 2 in Letcher County, Kentucky, operated by Vision Coal, on potential pattern of

violations (PPOV) status based on data gathered during audits. MSHA found 19 out of 39 audited mines either failed to report injuries or underreported the lost time associated with reported injuries, and 4 of the 19 met the criteria for a PPOV. The three operations already on PPOV status include two Alpha Natural Resources Inc. mines in Boone County, West Virginia, Randolph Mine operated by Inman Energy, and Justice No. 1 Mine operated by Independent Coal Co. Inc., as well as the Maple Eagle No. 1 Mine operated by Maple Coal Co., a Walter Energy Inc. mine located in Fayette County, West Virginia. "These results expose an unsettling amount of underreporting at mines that already have troublesome compliance records," said the assistant secretary of labor for mine safety and health. The 39 audits revealed 76 injuries that were unreported or underreported, including 47 unreported injuries at six separate mines formerly controlled by Massey Energy. A total of 247 citations was issued as a result of the audits, including 98 for failing to accurately report injuries.

Source: <http://www.msha.gov/MEDIA/PRESS/2011/NR111013.asp>

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Chemical Industry Sector

5. *October 17, Bureau of National Affairs, Inc.* – (National) **EPA removes exemption on reporting releases of hydrogen sulfide under TRI.** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) lifted a 16-year-old administrative stay that had exempted industrial facilities from reporting releases of hydrogen sulfide, saying the substance could cause chronic health effects in humans, the Bureau of National Affairs reported October 17. The action means facilities that produce hydrogen sulfide, including chemical manufacturers, power plants, petroleum refineries, mining operations, and other industries, as well as federal facilities, must comply with a December 1993 rule requiring them to report releases of the substance as a toxic chemical under Section 313 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA). The EPA said it lifted the stay because its technical evaluations since 1993 show hydrogen sulfide can “reasonably be anticipated” to cause serious or irreversible chronic human health effects at relatively low doses and thus is considered to have moderately high to high chronic toxicity. The EPA said the lifting of the stay took effect October 17, and the first reports on hydrogen sulfide are due July 1, 2013. Less than a year after the rule was finalized, the EPA in August 1994 issued an administrative stay of the reporting requirements for the chemical because of concerns brought by some in the regulated community about EPA's basis for determining human health effects. The 1993 rule remained in force during the stay while the reporting requirements were deferred.
Source: <http://www.bna.com/epa-removes-exemption-n12884903896/>
6. *October 14, UN News Centre* – (International) **Hazardous chemical recommended for elimination by UN experts.** A United Nations-backed panel of experts has recommended a toxic flame retardant be added to a watch list of persistent organic pollutants (POPs) designed to eliminate the impact of hazardous chemicals on human health and the environment. At a week-long meeting in Geneva, Switzerland that

wrapped up October 14, the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee, a body of 31 scientific experts, recommended the addition of hexabromocyclododecane (HBCD) to the POPs watch list. Under the Stockholm Convention on POPs, administered by the UN Environment Programme, industrial production of HBCD, a flame retardant widely used in polystyrene for electrical and electronic equipment as well as textile coatings, would ultimately be eliminated. The decision on HBCD was among more than a dozen measures taken by the scientific experts regarding toxic and persistent chemicals.

Source:

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=40063&Cr=environment&Cr1=>

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

Nothing to report

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

7. *October 17, Techworld* – (International) **Japanese defence cyberattack traced to hacked PC.** The worrying cyberattack on Japanese defense contractors in August was probably the work of a single attacker looking to steal industrial secrets, local newspapers reported. Japanese police traced the point of attack to a PC based in the Society of Japanese Aerospace Companies (SJAC), from which an e-mail containing malware was sent August 26 to the target companies, Mitsubishi Heavy (MHI), Kawasaki Heavy, claiming to be a legitimate communication from one of its employees. An online assault on defense contractors including 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 the week of September 19. The attack reproduced an e-mail from a worker sent to the same recipient only hours earlier. Police still maintain no significant data was lost during the attacks, although one of the two firms, MHI admitted some weeks ago that 83 of its PCs and servers had been infected by the malware. The perpetrator and his or her motivation has not yet been uncovered but the site of the attack inside the SJAC raises a possibility the motivation could have been local rather than foreign. The attacker appears to have tried to obscure the origin of the attacks by reaching out via a proxy server based in the United States.

Source: <http://news.techworld.com/security/3311312/japanese-defence-cyberattack-traced-to-hacked-pc/>

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Banking and Finance Sector

8. *October 17, New York Post* – (New York) **ATM ‘bleach bandit’ busts.** Four men were arrested the past few days for allegedly breaking into Brooklyn bodegas, stealing cash from ATMs and then pouring bleach to cover their tracks. Two of the men were arrested October 14; the other two were taken into custody over the weekend of October 15 and 16, sources said October 16. The men have been charged with burglary and possession of stolen property for several of the incidents. They were arrested after police got a tip linking them to the heists.

Source:

http://www.nypost.com/p/news/local/atm_bleach_bandit_busts_Q74b1xu9fJX7Xe0hw_hzjCK

9. *October 15, Lower Hudson Journal News* – (New York; International) **Westchester County police crack credit card fraud operation, two in custody.** Westchester County, New York police arrested two people October 14 following an investigation of a "large-scale" credit card fraud operation, police said. The two were charged with multiple counts of fourth-degree grand larceny, identity theft, and unlawful possession of personal identification, all felonies. The pair is accused of obtaining more than 150 credit cards, and using them to purchase more than \$50,000 in gift cards at several Westchester retailers, police said. The cards, which were in the names of identity theft victims, originated in Germany, Mexico, and several U.S. states outside New York, police said. Police were assisted in the investigation by a Citibank fraud investigator, the U.S. Secret Service, and fraud investigators at the parent company of TJ Maxx and Marshall's. Police said they also "developed information about additional fraudulent purchases in Rockland County and New Jersey and will be turning over information to law enforcement there." The pair was arraigned October 14, and were being held in lieu of bail at the Westchester County jail, police said.

Source: <http://www.lohud.com/article/20111015/NEWS02/110150368/Westchester-County-police-crack-credit-card-fraud-operation-two-custody>

10. *October 15, Los Angeles Times* – (California) **Mr. Magoo Bandit suspected of 12 bank robberies in California.** The bank robber dubbed the "Mr. Magoo bandit" by the FBI is now suspected of a dozen bank robberies from San Diego to the San Francisco Bay Area. His latest robbery was a bank in Thousand Oaks October 8, the FBI said. He also is suspected of striking a bank in Camarillo September 27. The suspect in all 12 robberies is described as a white male in his 40s, with thick glasses and short dirty blond hair, the FBI said. The similarity to the famous cartoon character gave rise to the nickname. The bandit displays a calm demeanor, uses a note to demand money, and warns against getting an explosive dye-pack, the FBI said. He sometimes thanks tellers for being cooperative. Unlike most bank robbers, he makes no attempt at a disguise. His range — six banks in San Diego, four in the San Francisco area and two in Ventura

County — is also unusual, the FBI said.

Source: <http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/lanow/2011/10/mr-magoo-bandit-bank-robberies.html>

11. *October 14, Chicago Sun-Times* – (Illinois) **Loop bank robber 'Chronic Bandit' hits new bank for fifth robbery.** Federal authorities said the man who robbed a North Michigan Avenue bank October 14 in Chicago is the same man who robbed a Loop bank four times in the past 2 months. The October 14 robbery occurred just before 10 a.m. at the U. S. Bank branch, an FBI spokeswoman said. “He implied he had a weapon, though there was none displayed,” she said. The teller complied and the suspect fled, reportedly on a CTA bus. The spokeswoman said the agency is very familiar with this man. “He is believed to be the same individual who robbed the Chicago Community Bank” several times, she said. His physical description, attire and possibly his “technique” — including the threatening note — are similar, she said. The Chicago Community Bank was robbed four times in the last 2 months, most recently the week of October 10. At about 1:30 p.m. October 12 a man handed a note to a teller implying he had a weapon, a police spokesman said. He was seen fleeing eastbound toward Michigan Avenue. The man did not show a gun. The same man is believed responsible for robberies at the same bank branch August 12, September 6, and September 30, an FBI spokeswoman said.
Source: <http://www.myfoxchicago.com/dpp/news/crime/loop-bank-robber-four-times-fifth-robbery-north-michigan-avenue-us-branch-20111014>
12. *October 14, Associated Press* – (Louisiana) **Feds: fraud scheme cost La. firm's clients \$8M.** Two former owners of a Lafayette, Louisiana, investment firm pleaded not guilty October 14 to charges they engaged in a securities fraud scheme that cost more than 100 clients in excess of \$8 million, court records show. A 28-count federal indictment charged the two men with securities fraud, investment adviser fraud, and conspiracy. Prosecutors said one of the men, formerly a general contractor, recruited business associates and friends to become clients. The indictment accuses the other man of trading on clients' accounts without their knowledge or consent with the goal of generating large commissions. He was "churning" his clients' accounts, engaging in "excessive and frequent stock transactions ... for his own benefit and gain without regard for the needs and objectives of his clients," the indictment said. Prosecutors are seeking the forfeiture of more than \$1.7 million in commissions he allegedly received through improper trades. During meetings with investors, the suspect falsely represented he wouldn't charge any commissions until their accounts turned a profit, and lied about generating up to \$150,000 per month on his personal investments, according to the indictment. The men also allegedly provided false and misleading information to clients when they asked about the status of their investments.
Source: <http://www.canadianbusiness.com/article/50976--feds-fraud-scheme-cost-la-firm-s-clients-8m>
13. *October 14, KNXV 15 Phoenix* – (Arizona) **Phoenix man caught stealing victims' ID.** A 31-year-old Phoenix businessman was arrested and charged October 14 with aggravated identity theft after a debit card skimming operation was discovered. Phoenix police said the man is facing additional charges after an investigation revealed

he and others were placed skimmers at various locations around the Valley. Police said the skimmer would be left in place for a weekend then retrieved. The scheme was discovered in late September after a victim purchased gas in northwest Phoenix and 2 days later used her debit card and was notified her card was being used in another part of the Valley. Investigators found the suspect was obtaining unused gift cards and re-encoding them with the stolen credit and debit card data. Officers discovered the suspect owned a smoke shop near 43rd Avenue and Bell Road, and that he used a gift card with stolen information to buy \$800 in cigarettes from a Costco store, then sold them at a discounted price at his business. Search warrants were served at his home and business where \$31,000 and two vehicles were confiscated. Multiple gift cards were also seized. Additional information led investigators to the suspect's bank/safety deposit box and an additional \$44,000 police said.

Source:

http://www.abc15.com/dpp/news/region_phoenix_metro/north_phoenix/phoenix-man-caught-stealing-victims'-id

14. *October 14, Boston Globe* – (National) **Citizens Bank swamped by computer outage.** Citizens Bank, one of the largest regional banks in the country, was hobbled for hours October 13 by a major computer outage that disrupted everything from on-line banking to teller operations to automatic teller machines in Massachusetts, and other states. Citizens Bank blamed the outage, which began early October 13, on a “technical glitch,” but offered few details. Many customers couldn’t withdraw money from their ATMS, access accounts online, or make deposits at branches. The bank said the problems were mostly resolved by 4 p.m, except for some lingering problems with the Web site. The bank said some customers were still having trouble checking accounts because of a surge of people trying to sign in at once.

Source: <http://www.boston.com/Boston/businessupdates/2011/10/citizens-bank-swamped-computer-outage/kut1zy9OPYHyTjqPHYoxuL/index.html>

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Transportation Sector

15. *October 17, Miami New Times* – (Florida) **Two passengers stabbed on Miami-Dade Bus in the middle of MacArthur.** Two passengers are recovering from a bizarre stabbing incident that occurred October 16 around 6 p.m. on a Metrobus traveling westbound on the MacArthur Causeway in Miami, Florida. Police are not sure what the man stabbed the victims with. After the stabbing, the man got off the bus and tried to flee on foot but he was quickly captured. The victims were transported to Jackson Memorial, where they are recovering from non-life threatening wounds.

Source:

http://blogs.miaminewtimes.com/riptide/2011/10/two_passenger_stabbed_on_miami.php

16. *October 16, Galveston Daily News* – (New Mexico) **Broken switch rod caused derailment.** A broken switch rod on a BNSF track caused the July 1 derailment of seven cars near the Hitchcock, Texas police station, the Galveston Daily News reported October 16. It said the information was provided by a Federal Railroad Administration spokesman. Four trains have derailed in 3 years on the stretch of track between Santa Fe and Hitchcock, prompting a city official to say the frequency was troublesome. The administration validated the information and released the cause of the derailment this month. Officials estimated the train was traveling at 38 mph when it derailed after passing over a hand-operated switch rod that was neither secured nor connected to a switch stand, the report states. Although initial reports from the scene listed nine cars left the tracks, the administration's report states only seven of the train's 27 cars derailed.
Source: <http://galvestondailynews.com/story/265206>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

17. *October 15, WPMT 43 York* – (Pennsylvania) **Police: graffiti, bottle bomb found at Cumberland County Home.** Police in Cumberland County, Pennsylvania were searching for the suspects responsible for spray painting a swastika on the side of a house, and putting a bottle bomb inside of a mailbox. It happened in the first block of Pinetree Drive in Upper Allen Township, October 15. The victim told police that someone spray painted a swastika and a smiley face on the side of their house, and that a soda bottle bomb was in their mailbox. The bomb was neutralized at the scene.
Source: <http://www.fox43.com/news/wpmt-graffitti-bottle-bomb-cumberland-county-home-targeted,0,2306834.story>

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Agriculture and Food Sector

18. *October 17, Food Safety News* – (International) **Mussel recall due to paralytic shellfish poisoning fear.** The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) warned the public not to serve or consume certain raw mussels from British Columbia because they may contain paralytic shellfish toxins, Food Safety News reported October 17. The recalled raw mussels were harvested between October 2 and October 14, from Okeover inlet in British Columbia. The recall involves mussels sold by: Aquatec Seafoods Ltd., Comox, BC Mussels, 10-pound bags, Lot #453 (Harvest date October 3/11) and 20-pound bags, Lot #466 (Harvest date October 10/11); and Taylor Shellfish Canada DBA Fanny Bay Oysters, Union Bay, BC, Farmed Salish Mussels, 10 pound 6206 (Harvest date October 02/11), and 20 pounds 6233 (Harvest date October 9/11). The recalled mussels were primarily distributed to wholesalers and restaurants, however, some may also have been sold in smaller quantities at retail seafood counters. The recalled mussels were distributed in British Columbia, Alberta, and Manitoba, although they

also could have been distributed in other provinces and territories.

Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/10/psp-detected-in-some-bc-mussels/>

19. *October 16, KPTV 12 Portland* – (Oregon) **Brawl on Tillamook golf course injures 3, deputies arrest 2.** Three people were stabbed late October 15 at the Alderbrook Golf Course Restaurant and Bar about 5 miles north of Tillamook, Oregon the sheriff's office said. Deputies said two men are considered the assailants. The major crime team determined two men and one woman were stabbed after an altercation. It took a deputy and an Oregon State Police trooper about an hour to search the golf course, locate, and arrest the two suspects, officials said. The suspects were each booked into the Tillamook County Correctional Facility on three counts of first-degree assault.

Source: <http://www.kptv.com/story/15706893/brawl-on-tillamook-golf-course-injuries-3-deputies-arrest-2>

20. *October 16, Cape Girardeau Southeast Missourian* – (Missouri) **Meat at Pocahontas plant ordered to be destroyed.** Tests conducted at the Missouri State Public Health Laboratory indicated chicken and pork products from Reis Meat Processing in Pocahontas contained abnormally high bacteria levels, the Southeast Missourian reported October 16. The Missouri Department of Health initiated its investigation into meats processed at Reis after a routine inspection by the department of agriculture's meat inspection program revealed several sanitation violations September 30. The destruction of vacuum-packed chicken and ground pork products from Reis was ordered October 14 by the state health department. Customers who purchased vacuum-packaged chicken or ground pork from Reis should discard the product, health officials said. Following the September 30 inspection by the department of agriculture, Reis' custom meat-processing operations were suspended until a satisfactory reinspection was conducted October 3. The retail portion of its business remained closed pending health department testing.

Source: <http://www.semissourian.com/story/1774345.html>

21. *October 16, Pocono Record* – (Pennsylvania) **Fire destroys Mount Pocono bar, apartments.** A fire obliterated a popular Mount Pocono, Pennsylvania bar and the apartments above it October 15. According to the chief of the Pocono Mountain Volunteer Fire Company, the fire started in the kitchen of the bar, Burke's Tavern, possibly in a deep-fryer machine. About five fire companies arrived on the scene to fight the fire. Several apartments above the bar were destroyed. The fire chief said the fire does not seem suspicious, but he nevertheless called a state police fire marshal to inspect the premises.

Source:

<http://www.poconorecord.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20111016/NEWS/110160338>

22. *October 15, Food Safety News* – (National) **Ohio firm recalls beef, pork sold without inspection.** Ready-to-eat, seasoned beef, and shredded pork products were recalled October 14 by E-Z Shop Kitchens of Fremont, Ohio, because they were not made under federal inspection. In a news release, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) said it discovered the problem as it was

following up on a complaint about E-Z Shop Kitchens, which the agency said is "the subject of an ongoing investigation." FSIS said "additional regulatory action" may be pending. The recall involves: 16-ounce and 4-pound tub containers of "E-Z SHOP KITCHEN SEASONED BEEF " that bear the establishment number "EST. 19665" in the USDA mark of inspection; 16-ounce and 4-pound tub containers of "E-Z SHOP KITCHEN SHREDDED PORK WITH BBQ SAUCE " that bear the establishment number "EST. 19665" in the USDA mark of inspection; and 16-ounce and 4-pound tub containers of "E-Z SHOP KITCHEN SHREDDED BEEF WITH BBQ SAUCE " that bear the establishment number "P-19665" in the USDA mark of inspection. Production dates are not known for the products, which were distributed between July 1 and October 6 to retail and institutional customers in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, and West Virginia.

Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/10/beef-and-pork-sold-without-inspection-recalled/>

23. *October 15, Food Safety News* – (National) **More lettuce recalled due to Listeria.** In a recall related to one previously announced by Giant Eagle, the Pittsburgh-based grocer chain, the producer River Ranch Fresh Foods of Salinas, California announced October 14 it is taking 2,154 cases of various bagged salads off the market because they may be contaminated with *Listeria monocytogenes*. The bacteria was detected during a routine random test by the Ohio Department of Agriculture. The recall includes: Farmers Market: 8-ounce Shredded Iceberg; 7-ounce Parisian Blend; 9-ounce Leafy Romaine; and 12-ounce Romaine Garden; Hy-Vee: 8-ounce Shredded Iceberg, 12-ounce American Blend; 12-ounce Garden Supreme; and 12-ounce Romaine Garden. The salads were produced September 27 and distributed in Iowa, Ohio, and Pennsylvania, and sold in retail supermarkets.

Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/10/river-ranch-fresh-foods-llc/>

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Water Sector

24. *October 16, Houston Chronicle* – (Texas) **Houston taking more water from Lake Conroe.** The City of Houston started taking 15 million more gallons a day from Lake Conroe over the weekend of October 15 and 16 to help meet water demands during the drought. The move increases the amount of water released from Lake Conroe into Lake Houston to 165 million gallons per day. The city expects Lake Conroe's levels to drop by about 6 inches. However, the San Jacinto River Authority, which operates the lakes, estimates Lake Conroe's levels will drop by up to 1.5-feet a month. City officials said the higher release will likely be in effect through the end of the year, despite recent rains. Mandated water conservation in Houston continues, and residents must repair all detectable leaks on their property within 72 hours of discovery.

Source: <http://www.chron.com/news/article/Water-woes-Lake-Conroe-levels-expected-to-drop-6-2221600.php>

25. *October 15, Associated Press* – (Pennsylvania) **Tests: Pa. gas drilling town's water still fouled.** Three years after residents first noticed something wrong with their drinking-water wells and one of the most highly publicized cases of methane contamination emerged from the early days of Pennsylvania's natural-gas drilling boom, officials are saying wells in Dimock are still laced with dangerous levels of methane. Recent testing confirmed methane gas continues to lurk in Dimock's aquifer, the Associated Press reported October 15. Cabot Oil & Gas Corp., the Houston-based energy firm held responsible and fined hundreds of thousands of dollars for polluting the groundwater, is anxious to resume drilling in a 9-square-mile area of Dimock, population 1,400, that has been placed off-limits to the company until it repairs the damage. State regulators blame faulty gas wells drilled by Cabot for leaking methane into Dimock's groundwater. Methane from gas-drilling operations has since been reported in the water supplies of several other Pennsylvania communities, forcing residents to stop using their wells, and live off water buffaloes and bottled water. Though gas companies often deny responsibility for the pollution, the state has imposed more stringent well-construction standards designed to prevent stray gas from polluting groundwater. After a series of false starts, Cabot, one of the largest drillers in the Marcellus, said it has met the state's October 17 deadline to restore or replace Dimock's water supply, installing treatment systems in some houses that removed the methane. If regulators sign off, the company plans to resume work on a dozen gas wells in Dimock. Source: <http://online.wsj.com/article/APd6b96a4fbd054e40b163f232dfd1556b.html>
26. *October 15, Santa Maria Times* – (California) **Sewage spill reported in Shell Beach.** Approximately 6,000 gallons of sewage was released to a storm drain near 96 Indio Street in the Shell Beach section of Pismo Beach, California, officials said October 15. The incident, which was blamed on a failure in the bypass piping, was reported to the San Luis Obispo County Health Agency. Authorities are advising members of the public to avoid contact with the ocean water and beach in the area. Source: http://santamariatimes.com/news/local/sewage-spill-reported-in-shell-beach/article_5d895840-f76a-11e0-b552-001cc4c002e0.html
27. *October 14, Stonington-Mystic Patch* – (Connecticut; Rhode Island) **Elevated lead levels found in Westerly water.** Elevated lead levels were discovered during routine water quality testing of the Westerly Water System in Westerly, Rhode Island, which serves more than 5,000 Stonington, Connecticut customers, Stonington's first selectman confirmed October 14. Nearly all the customers who use Westerly water live in the Pawcatuck section of Stonington. According to a fact sheet provided by the Town of Westerly, "the public water supply exceeded the action lead levels of 0.015 parts per million in 8 of the 60 samples taken." The Rhode Island Department of Health was notified of the testing results and issued a letter September 30 to the Town of Westerly. It is believed that the "only probable source of lead is from older lead service lines or lead solder remaining in the system." Source: <http://stonington.patch.com/articles/elevated-lead-levels-found-in-westerly-water>

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

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Government Facilities Sector

28. *October 15, Anchorage Daily News* – (Texas) **Fire damages lodging facility on Anchorage military base.** A fire at Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson, a U.S. military facility near Anchorage, Alaska, October 13 badly damaged a building used to house visiting officers, according to a base spokesman. Four people were staying in the 18-room lodging facility, said a sergeant. He said the building's occupants were relocated. The fire began about 6:20 p.m. Base firefighters seemed to have it extinguished within a few hours, but it reignited October 14, the sergeant said. Investigators are looking into the fire's cause. The building appears to be a complete loss and will likely be demolished, the sergeant said.

Source: <http://www.adn.com/2011/10/14/2120095/fire-damages-building-on-anchorage.html>

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Emergency Services Sector

29. *October 17, Los Angeles Times* – (California) **Submachine guns, handguns stolen from LAPD SWAT-training site.** A cache of Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) submachine guns and handguns was stolen the week of October 10 from a secured building used by the department's SWAT unit, raising fears that the weapons, which police had altered to fire only blanks, could be converted back to lethal use, police officials confirmed. The weapons, which include 21 MP-5 submachine guns and 12 large caliber handguns, were moved October 12 to a multi-story building downtown and stored in a locked box on the building's first floor, said the LAPD's deputy chief. Members of the SWAT unit were scheduled to train at the facility October 13, he said. A police officer who arrived at the building around 9 a.m. October 13 discovered the weapons were missing. The officer also found electrical equipment stacked near a back door, indicating the burglars may still have been working and fled when the officer arrived. To get to the weapons, the thieves cut through bolt locks on an outside door and two internal doors, and forced their way through a metal roll gate, the deputy chief said.

Source: <http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-lapd-guns-missing-20111017,0,3752873.story>

30. *October 17, Jersey City Jersey Journal* – (New Jersey) **Insect bomb explodes; 12 responding Jersey City firefighters sickened by the fumes.** Twelve Jersey City, New

Jersey firefighters were rushed to the hospital October 16 suffering from respiratory distress after responding to an explosion caused by an insect fogger, officials said. The firefighters were taken to the Jersey City Medical Center for observation after inhaling the concentrated bug spray, the fire director said. The incident spurred the fire director to consider a public safety campaign to highlight the hazards of the insect-killing devices. The firefighters were responding to a report of an explosion inside a first-floor apartment. No one was home. Firefighters forced entry. They were immediately sickened by the fumes, the fire director said. The vapors from insect bombs are heavier than air and highly flammable. The fire director said people forget to shut off the pilot lights on their stoves when they use them. He said all 12 firefighters were released from the hospital October 16.

Source: http://www.nj.com/jjournal-news/index.ssf/2011/10/insect_bomb_explodes_12_respon.html

For another story, see item [36](#)

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Information Technology Sector

31. *October 17, Help Net Security* – (International) **Analysis of 250,000 hacker conversations.** Imperva released a report October 17 analyzing the content and activities of an online hacker forum with nearly 220,000 registered members, although many are dormant. The forum is used by hackers for training, communications, collaboration, recruitment, commerce, and social interaction. Commercially, it serves as a marketplace for stolen data and attack software. The chat rooms are filled with technical subjects ranging from advice on attack planning to solicitations for help with specific campaigns. The forum is also a place where curious neophytes can find “how-to-hack” tutorials. The report not only provides insight into hacker psychology, but also details the technical strategies they learn, develop, and deploy. ”Studying hacker forums is important to providing insights into hacker psychology and technical strategies,” explained Imperva's chief technology officer.

Source: [http://www.net-security.org/secworld.php?id=11794&utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed:+HelpNetSecurity+\(Help+Net+Security\)&utm_content=Google+Reader](http://www.net-security.org/secworld.php?id=11794&utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed:+HelpNetSecurity+(Help+Net+Security)&utm_content=Google+Reader)

32. *October 14, The Register* – (International) **Mass ASP.NET attack causes websites to turn on visitors.** An infection that causes poorly configured Web sites to silently bombard visitors with malware attacks had hit almost 614,000 Web pages October 14, Google searches showed. The mass infection, which redirects users to a site exploiting old versions of Oracle's Java, Adobe's Flash player, and various browsers, was first disclosed by researchers from Armorize October 12. At the time, it appeared to affect about 180,000 pages. By time of writing October 14, the initial attack and a follow-on exploit spread to 613,890 combined pages. The SQL injection attack mostly exploits Web sites running Microsoft's ASP.Net web application framework. The infection injects code into Web sites operated by restaurants, hospitals, and other small

businesses, and plants an invisible link in visitors' browsers to sites, including jjghui.com and nbnjkl.com. Those sites redirect to many other Web sites that include highly obfuscated code. At the end of the line is a cocktail of attacks that exploit known vulnerabilities in Java and the other targeted programs. Computers running unpatched versions are then commandeered. Servers in the attack used IP addresses based in the United States and Russia. When Armorize researchers submitted the code used in the attack October 12, just six of the top 43 antivirus providers detected the attack, according to a VirusTotal analysis.

Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/10/14/mass_website_injection_grows/

33. *October 14, Infosecurity* – (International) **DLL loading pops back into the malware picture.** Commtouch reported October 14 a new DLL hijacking technique has been spotted in the wild, even though the use of DLL loading has been falling by the wayside in recent times. According to a security researcher with the anti-spam and zero-day remediation specialist, it has been a year since he and his team have seen a DLL (dynamic link layer) hijacking technique that loads a malicious DLL that affects hundreds of programs. The method involves dropping a collection of normal files together with the malicious DLL from within a directory. The most interesting aspect of this latest Deskpan hack, he says, is only the file "deskpan.dll" was detected as malicious, although, he adds, a DLL file inside a folder immediately looks like a DLL hijacking candidate. The researcher said Deskpan.cpl is the Display Panning CPL Extension, a module related to the display settings of pictures that appear on a user's screen. Together with associated DLLs, this extension allows users to adjust the advanced display adapter properties, and display monitor properties. Once executed, the malware creates files and registry entries. The malware then tries to connect to a remote site using port 443.

Source: <http://www.infosecurity-magazine.com/view/21385/dll-loading-pops-back-into-the-malware-picture/>

For more stories, see items [7](#), [14](#), and [38](#)

Internet Alert Dashboard

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

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

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Communications Sector

34. *October 17, Grand Rapids Press* – (Michigan) **WYCE-FM off the air this morning after auto accident causes power outage.** A car accident at 28th Street and Clyde Park Avenue SW in Grand Rapids, Michigan, October 17 caused WYCE-FM (88.1) to go off the air temporarily due to a power outage. The station manager released a statement apologizing for the dead air. Although the station is headquartered on Bridge

Street NW, the transmitter is located in the city of Wyoming. "After having spent an inordinate amount of time off the air this year because of freak accidents, storms and the overall flukey power grid in Wyoming, we are going to make the commitment to spend the necessary \$10,000 to \$15,000 to install a backup generator capable of powering our transmitter," the station manager said in a statement.

Source: <http://www.mlive.com/entertainment/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2011/10/wyce-fm-off-the-air-this-morni.html>

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Commercial Facilities Sector

35. *October 17, Contra Costa Times* – (California) **Four victims, one a 9-year-old girl, shot at Pittsburg party.** A 9-year-old girl and three teenagers were shot outside a family birthday party in a residential Pittsburg, California neighborhood October 16. Two men fired shots into an open garage, said a police official. More than 30 family members and friends were attending a child's birthday party inside the house, and in the backyard. Two young men suffered critical injuries, said the police official, but he said all four victims were expected to survive. The suspects fled the scene.
Source: http://www.contracostatimes.com/news/ci_19128251?source=most_viewed
36. *October 17, WCVB 5 Boston* – (Massachusetts) **Boy dropped out of window of burning apartment.** A man who told officials he blew up his apartment was taken into custody at a local hospital October 17 after a 6-alarm fire in the Roxbury section of Boston injured more than a dozen people. Shortly after the fire sparked, police said a man who lives in the building went to Boston Medical Center with third-degree burns, saying he just blew up his home. Police said the man tampered with a gas line and used a lighter to light the fire. The man was transported to Massachusetts General Hospital, where he is in police custody. The Boston Police Department superintendent said he will face arson and numerous counts of attempted murder. He said there were over 40 residents in the building when the fire started. Residents said they heard a blast before the fire started. When firefighters arrived, several residents had to be rescued — including a young boy who was dropped from a third-floor apartment into the arms of a firefighter. Two firefighters and a police officer were among those injured in the fire. About 160 firefighters were called to the scene. Twenty-four apartments were destroyed and 20 were damaged.
Source: <http://www.thebostonchannel.com/r/29504573/detail.html>
37. *October 17, WSPA 7 Spartanburg* – (South Carolina) **30 apartments destroyed by fire in Duncan.** The Reidville fire chief said an apartment fire in Duncan, South Carolina was the worst apartment fire that he has seen in the area, WSPA 7 Spartanburg reported October 15. The fire took firefighters more than 4 hours to put out. There were eight fire departments fighting the fire. The fire chief said it is also one of the largest complexes, some of whom are now homeless. There were 30 to 60 people living in the building that caught fire. Thirty-two units were destroyed. Neighbors said the fire started from a grill in the patio of an apartment complex on the back side, but the arson team will be investigating further.

Source: <http://www2.wspa.com/news/2011/oct/15/8/apartment-fire-duncan-area-ar-2560947/>

38. *October 17, PC World* – (International) **Sesame Street hacked, porn posted.** The Sesame Street channel on YouTube, a popular stop on the Internet for preschool children, was attacked by a hacker October 16 who deleted all videos from the channel, modified its design, and posted graphic porn to it. It took Google about 22 minutes to take down the offensive content, according to The Next Web. Meanwhile, the Sesame Street Workshop, which produces the kids' show, alerted its audience to the mishap. In addition to having its channel vandalized, Sesame Street's YouTube profile was altered. Its name was changed to Mredxwx and a message naming two users, Mredxwxw and Mrsuicider91, as taking credit for the attack was posted. YouTube user Mredxwx denies he had anything to do with attack. At Mrsuicider's channel site, there's no mention of the hack.

Source:

http://www.pcworld.com/article/242009/sesame_street_hacked_porn_posted.html

39. *October 16, Associated Press* – (International) **Anti-Wall Street protests spread in the US; 70 arrested in Times Square.** From coast to coast and North to South, the Occupy Wall Street protest grew to thousands the weekend of October 15 and 16 with rallies in about two dozen states, and supporters joining in from Canada and overseas, the Associated Press reported October 16. Marches in the United States remained largely non-confrontational, although dozens of people were arrested in New York and elsewhere when police moved to contain overflowing crowds or keep them off private property. Two police officers in New York City were injured and had to be hospitalized. In Times Square, thousands of demonstrators mixed with gawkers, Broadway showgoers, tourists, and police to create a chaotic scene. Over the course of what was billed as "a global day of protest," city police arrested more than 80 people in demonstrations at Times Square, Washington Square Park, and a Citibank bank branch. Police cited violations such as wearing masks, criminal trespass, and refusing to leave the park at midnight when police warned them it was closed. Nearly 1,500 protesters gathered for a march past banks in Orlando, Florida. Hundreds marched on a Key Bank branch in Anchorage, Alaska. In Arizona, reporters and protesters saw about 40 people detained around midnight October 15 at a park just north of Phoenix. In Colorado, about 1,000 people rallied in downtown Denver to support Occupy Wall Street and at least two dozen were arrested. Nearly 200 people spent a cold night in tents in Grand Circus Park in Detroit, Michigan. Hundreds more converged near Michigan's Capitol in Lansing with the same message, the Lansing State Journal reported. Tens of thousands nicknamed "the indignant" marched in cities across Europe October 15. Violence broke out in Rome, and dozens were injured.

Source: <http://www.ndtv.com/article/world/70-arrested-2-policeman-injured-in-times-square-protest-141503>

40. *October 15, Louisville Courier-Journal* – (Indiana) **Fire guts Southern Indiana strip mall.** Fire gutted a Southern Indiana strip shopping center October 14. About 10 employees and customers were evacuated from the building, which housed five businesses, including a liquor store, a Papa John's pizza place, Nance's Florist shop, a

chiropractic business, and Farm Bureau Insurance, said a spokeswoman for the Sellersburg Fire Department. When crews arrived, smoke was coming from the Farm Bureau sign on the roof. Flames quickly blanketed most of the strip center and spread along the roof, the spokeswoman said. She said 35-mph wind gusts helped spread the fire, which caused “extensive damage”. The spokeswoman said the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives was on the scene and would take over the investigation because the fire involved a liquor store.

Source: <http://www.courier-journal.com/article/20111014/NEWS02/310140082/1001/Fire-guts-Southern-Indiana-strip-mall?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|Home|s>

41. *October 14, Orange County Register* – (California) **Nearly 130 sickened from school field trip.** Nearly 130 sixth-grade students from two Orange Unified elementary schools in Orange County, California were ailing after contracting a virus from an unknown source during a field trip to Big Bear Mountain the week of October 10. Officials said initially about three dozen students from Crescent and Olive schools contracted Norovirus, which causes acute gastroenteritis, commonly known as the stomach flu, prompting them to end the trip October 12 — just 2 days after 230 students arrived at Camp Cedar Crest in Running Springs. The number of cases grew to 128 from October 12 to 14, officials said. According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control, Norovirus spreads from person to person, through contaminated food or water, and by touching contaminated surfaces. Norovirus is recognized as the leading cause of food-borne disease outbreaks in the United States. A school official said that health officials had ruled out food poisoning, but there was still no known cause for the outbreak. At the camp, crews spent 2 days deep-cleaning the buildings, the school official said. The camp was expected to reopen October 17 for field trips for the next groups of students.

Source: <http://www.ocregister.com/news/students-322093-school-field.html>

For more stories, see items [3](#), [13](#), [19](#), [21](#), [26](#), [30](#), and [32](#)

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

42. *October 16, Duluth News Tribune* – (Minnesota) **Rain helps contain Boundary Waters wildfire.** The Pagami Creek fire was 90 percent contained October 16, the Minnesota Incident Command System said in a news release. Efforts to contain the fire, which covers 92,682 acres in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness, were helped by more than one and a half inches of rain in the area, the news release said. Strong northwest winds made wind chill a concern for the 362 personnel still fighting the fire. The fire, which was first detected August 18, was caused by lightning about 13 miles east of Ely.

Source: <http://www.duluthnewstribune.com/event/article/id/212040/group/homepage/>

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Dams Sector

43. *October 17, United Press International* – (International) **Dike ruptures; industrial site evacuates.** Several factories in a Bangkok, Thailand-area industrial site were told to cease operations and evacuate workers following a dike rupture in two places, United Press International reported October 17. The Flood Relief Operations Center Director instructed owners of factories in the Nava Nakorn Industrial Estate to stop production and move workers, supplies, and industrial support equipment to safety after 10 percent of the area flooded, government-backed MCOT reported. Officials said 500 residents and military personnel were sandbagging to plug the two ruptures. Chinook helicopters were being used to ferry material needed to shore up the dikes, MCOT said. Officials said the breach in the dike resulted from several factors, such as heavy weekend rain, and high tides in addition to water surging downriver from northern provinces.
Source: http://www.upi.com/Top_News/World-News/2011/10/17/Dike-ruptures-industrial-site-evacuates/UPI-19031318861919/
44. *October 14, Defense Video & Imagery Distribution System* – (Georgia) **Long-range weather forecast prompts Corps to reduce Savannah River outflows.** Updated, long-range weather forecasts for the upper Savannah River basin, indicating a drier-than-normal winter and spring, prompted officials of the Savannah District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, to reduce water discharges from its three-reservoir system on the Savannah River October 14. Water managers for the district reduced discharges from the J. Strom Thurmond Dam from 4,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) to 3,800 cfs in an effort to retain more water in the reservoir system for upcoming months. The Savannah District operates Thurmond Dam and Lake, Richard B. Russell Dam and Lake, and Hartwell Dam and Lake as multipurpose projects.
Source: <http://www.dvidshub.net/news/78502/long-range-weather-forecast-prompts-corps-reduce-savannah-river-outflows#.TpwgcnKwVpw>

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