



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report
24 October 2011

Top Stories

- China's largest rare-earth producer is stopping shipments of the minerals — used in a variety of high-tech components and products — to the United States, Japan, and Europe, for a month starting October 19 to try and drive up prices. – *The Register* (See item [11](#))
- Researchers at a German university said they have cracked parts of XML encryption used to protect data transmitted between online servers such as those used by e-commerce and financial institutions. – *H Security* (See item [48](#))

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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 21, Pittsburgh Tribune-Review* – (National) **Trade group agrees to list chemicals used in gas fracking.** Most natural gas drillers operating in the Marcellus shale region have agreed to disclose voluntarily the chemicals used in the hydraulic fracturing process that makes wells productive, their industry trade group said October 20. The Marcellus Shale Coalition, a trade group of 200 natural gas companies, drillers and related businesses, issued a statement saying its members agreed to disclosed the contents of the chemicals in the fracking fluid used in each well on a national database,

FracFocus.org. Several states, including Pennsylvania, have the information available but do not disclose some of the chemicals that companies claim are trade secrets. While some of its members, such as Chesapeake Energy Corp. and Range Resources Corp., had been disclosing the chemicals used in fracking fluid, the coalition will require that, as of January 1, 2012, all its members do so. Chemicals in fracking fluid are mixed in the millions of gallons of water and sand pumped underground to break apart shale to release natural gas. The fluid can include acids, chlorides, methanol, and ethylene. A controversy has arisen over the hazardous nature of the fracking fluid, and treatment of the fluid that returns to the surface.

Source:

http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/pittsburghtrib/news/s_762992.html?_s_icmp=NetworkHeadlines

2. *October 20, Flint Journal* – (Michigan) **Trio conspired to steal about \$20K in copper wiring from Consumers Energy substations.** A Flint, Michigan man, along with two other individuals, are accused in a scheme to steal about \$20,000 worth of copper wiring from three Consumers Energy substations on nearly two dozen occasions. The Genesee County sheriff said one man stole copper wiring from two substations in Flint and one in Burton, and then gave the wiring to the other two individuals to sell at area recycling facilities. The thefts caused several outages, including one at Genesys Regional Medical Center, said the spokesman. Police said substations were targeted over a month-long period. In all, outages caused by the thefts contributed to service interruptions to about 25,000 local customers. A rise in thefts caused Consumers to offer a \$10,000 reward for any information leading to arrests.

Source:

http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2011/10/scrap_metal_businesses_likely.html

3. *October 20, Associated Press* – (National) **EPA to regulate disposal of fracking wastewater.** Federal environmental regulators signaled October 20 they want to increase oversight of the natural gas extraction industry, announcing they will develop national standards for the disposal of polluted wastewaters generated by a drilling technique known as hydraulic fracturing. Energy companies have dramatically expanded the use of fracking in recent years, injecting millions of gallons of water, sand and chemical additives to unlock gas in deep shale formations in Pennsylvania, Texas and other states. Its prevalence has raised concerns about the potential impact on water quality and quantity. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced it will draft standards for fracking wastewater, chemical-laced water that is a byproduct of drilling, that drillers would have to meet before sending it to treatment plants. The industry in recent months has been recycling much of the wastewater or injecting it deep underground, but some of it is sent to plants ill-equipped to remove the contaminants. The new standards would also apply to wastewater produced by coalbed methane drilling, the agency said. The EPA has largely left it to the states to regulate fracking operations. The agency is also in the midst of a study of whether fracking has polluted groundwater and drinking water.

Source: http://journalstar.com/news/national/article_ddbe67e0-9e3a-58df-b32b-cd6ae87d541f.html

4. *October 20, Middletown Transcript* – (Delaware) **Reports say hydrogen cyanide has been leaking from Delaware City Refinery since Oct. 2.** Reports filed with the National Response Center as recently as October 19 stated that 200 pounds of hydrogen cyanide have been leaking from the Delaware City, Delaware, refinery each day since October 2 because of equipment failure. Over the past 10 years, only 48 reports of more than 100 pounds of hydrogen cyanide emissions have been filed with the center, a spokesman said. Twenty of these came from Delaware City. A caller said October 19 the cyanide was coming from a cat cracker unit due to an outage in the “CO” boiler, and that the refinery has adjusted operations and is working to repair it. On October 2, the first report submitted to the center said the “CO Boiler on the FCC unit blew a hole in the line causing a release of carbon sulfide and hydrogen cyanide into the air,” emitting only a trace amount of chemicals. The Delaware City refinery reopened October 7 after being closed for nearly 2 years.
Source: <http://www.doverpost.com/newsnow/x888169528/Report-says-hydrogen-cyanide-leaked-from-Delaware-City-Refinery>

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Chemical Industry Sector

5. *October 21, WJLA 7 Washington D.C.* – (National) **DEA bans chemicals in 'bath salts' and 'plant food'.** The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) said it is using its emergency powers to control three synthetic stimulants used to make “bath salts” and “plant food,” WJLA 7 Washington D.C. reported October 21. The announcement makes the processing or selling of Mephedrone, 3,4 methylenedioxypropylvalerone (MDPV) and Methylone, or products that contain them, illegal in the United States. It classified them as a Schedule I, under the Controlled Substances Act, which means they have a high potential for abuse and no accepted medical use. The ban will remain in effect for at least 1 year while the DEA and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services conduct a study to decide if the chemicals should be permanently controlled. The interest in these chemicals has grown in recent months, officials said. They are marketed under such names as “Ivory Wave”, “Purple Wave”, “Vanilla Sky” or “Bliss,” and are made up of a class of chemicals that mimic the drugs cocaine, LSD, MDMA, and/or methamphetamine.
Source: <http://www.wjla.com/articles/2011/10/dea-bans-chemicals-in-bath-salts-and-plant-food--68161.html>
6. *October 20, Northwest Indiana Times* – (Indiana) **Officials working to contain chemical spill near Michigan City.** A hazardous materials team worked into the night October 20 to contain a carcinogenic chemical that spilled from the Fiber Bond Company plant into a creek in Michigan City, Indiana. The Michigan City Fire Department was called to clean up a chemical that looked like “latex paint” that had spilled into Wolf Creek leading into Trail Creek, said the fire marshal. He said the greater concern is for wildlife rather than human life. Officials from the fire department, department of natural resources, LaPorte Haz-Mat team, and the Indiana Department of Environmental Management assessed the spill and tried to contain it. Officials built levees to try to stop the water, but the steady rain posed a problem and

broke the levees, the fire marshal said. However, the chemical was visible and sitting on top of the water, which helped to determine where the concentration of the carcinogen was located. The cause of the leak is under investigation, the fire marshal said. He said they determined the chemical had leaked through about 5 miles of water. Trucks were called out to pump the contaminated areas.

Source: http://www.nwitimes.com/news/local/laporte/michigan-city/article_42d7b9f2-491b-5e69-97d7-d6242e3b55e4.html

7. *October 20, Pharmaceutical Technology* – (National) **FDA publishes guidance on physical-chemical identifiers.** The week of October 10, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) published a final guidance for pharmaceutical manufacturers that plan to incorporate physical–chemical identifiers (PCIDs) in solid oral dosage forms as an anticounterfeiting strategy, *Pharmaceutical Technology* reported October 20. The guidance defines a PCID as “a substance or combination of substances possessing a unique physical or chemical property that unequivocally identifies and authenticates a drug product or dosage form.” PCIDs include inks, pigments, flavors, and molecular taggants. In the guidance, the FDA recommends the PCID’s ingredients be pharmacologically inactive so they can be treated as excipients. To minimize toxicological risk, FDA recommends drugmakers use permissible direct food additives, food substances generally recognized as safe (GRAS), or ingredients listed in the Inactive Ingredient Guide that have been used in solid oral dosage forms. To minimize the risk a PCID will adversely affect the dosage form’s identity, strength, quality, purity, potency, or bioavailability, the FDA suggests companies add a PCID to the product at the lowest level that will ensure the dosage unit’s identification. In addition, FDA recommends manufacturers examine potential effect of a PCID on product quality, performance, and stability. The amount of PCID data to be provided depends on its pharmacological characteristics, toxicological characteristics, and design. The FDA expects to see data about items such as the PCID’s chemical composition, the rationale for selecting the PCID, how the PCID is integrated into the product, the location of the PCID in the product, and the relevant physical–chemical attributes of the PCID.

Source: <http://pharmtech.findpharma.com/pharmtech/News/FDA-Publishes-Guidance-on-PhysicalandChemical-Id/ArticleStandard/Article/detail/744698?contextCategoryId=35097>

8. *October 20, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency* – (International) **EPA and municipality of Guaynabo removing 1,500 toxic drums and containers from abandoned warehouse.** Removing a significant threat to public health and safety, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the municipality of Guaynabo, Puerto Rico were proceeding with an emergency cleanup of improperly stored hazardous materials at a storage facility in Barrio Vietnam, Guaynabo, the EPA said October 20. The EPA is working with Guaynabo fire, police, and hazardous materials personnel on the removal of more than 1,500 drums and other containers of various chemical compounds to prevent a chemical release or explosion. The site is a residential area that is not zoned for this type of commercial business. EPA personnel responded September 27 after receiving information about an abandoned chemical warehouse. Besides the more than 1,500 drums, the site contains chemical totes, bags,

and other containers of chemicals, many of which are not labeled. One warehouse is partially collapsed and the chemicals are exposed to wind and rain. Found in varying states of disrepair and neglect, many drums are leaking. The containers are haphazardly stored, and in some instances have collapsed onto other containers. The former owner and operator of the business is deceased. Chemical substances including acids, solvents, discontinued commercial chemicals, and caustic chemicals were being secured or prepared for proper disposal at an off-site licensed facility. The EPA will send hundreds of containers determined safe to transport back to the original manufacturers.

Source:

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/0/3626c4d45ec0a9008525792f005dda24?OpenDocument>

For more stories, see items [1](#), [3](#), [30](#), and [40](#)

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

9. *October 20, Mainichi Daily News* – (International) **Most detailed radioactive contamination maps yet published online.** The most detailed government maps yet of cesium concentrations and radiation levels stemming from Japan's crisis-stricken Fukushima No. 1 nuclear plant are now available online, the Mainichi Daily News reported October 20. The ministry of education, culture, sports, science and technology site went live October 18 with Web-based and PDF versions of maps, providing not only information by municipality as had been the case previously, but also measurements by district. The maps use soil and air sample data already released. Users are presented with a grid laid over a map of most of eastern Japan. Selecting a square in the grid zooms in on that area, at which point users can choose more detailed maps displaying airborne contamination levels, cesium 134 or 137 levels, or total cesium levels.

Source: <http://mdn.mainichi.jp/mdnnews/news/20111020p2a00m0na007000c.html>

10. *October 20, The Hill* – (National) **Nuke regulators toughen safety rules.** Federal regulators agreed October 20 to implement a slew of tighter nuclear safety standards recommended by a task force earlier this year. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) instructed agency staff to move forward with seven of the 12 recommendations put forward by the federal task force in July. The recommendations include new standards aimed at strengthening operators' ability to deal with a complete loss of power, ensuring plants can withstand floods and earthquakes, and improving emergency response capabilities. The new safety standards will take as long as 5 years to fully implement, the NRC said.

Source: <http://thehill.com/blogs/e2-wire/e2-wire/188767-federal-regulators-agree-to-implement-tighter-nuclear-standards>

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

11. *October 21, The Register* – (International) **Chinese giant halts rare earth shipments to hike prices.** China's largest rare-earth producer, the state-owned Baotou Iron and Steel Group, is stopping rare earth shipments to the United States, Japan, and Europe, for a month starting October 19 in an attempt to drive up prices. DailyTech reported the Baotou Group also plans to buy rare earth metals to raise demand and further increase prices. Rare earths are used in many high-tech components, such as disk drive magnets, lenses, and lasers. Lower prices for Chinese-mined rare earths caused China to gradually become the world's largest rare earth provider, controlling 95 to 97 percent of world production. The assumption behind the stoppage is China wants to increase production of goods that use rare earth metals, such as magnets. More money is made using rare earths in finished goods than in mining the minerals.
Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/10/21/china_rare_earth_supply_strike/
12. *October 20, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission* – (National) **ADT recalls carbon monoxide detectors due to failure to properly indicate end of useful life.** The Consumer Product Safety Commission in cooperation with Sensor Systems and ADT Security Services issued a recall notice October 20 for about 20,000 CO 1224T Carbon Monoxide (CO) detectors. When the CO detectors reach the end of their useful life, they should send a signal to make a sound in the home alarm panel alerting consumers it is time to replace them, and a signal to ADT's alarm monitoring center. Some of the detectors were not wired properly to the ADT alarm system, resulting in the sound not going off in the home alarm panel and no signal to the ADT alarm monitoring center at the end of its useful life. Not replacing a CO detector at the end its useful life poses a CO poisoning hazard. The detectors were installed by ADT between October 2008 and December 2010 as part of home security systems. Consumers should contact ADT immediately for a free inspection of the recalled detectors and, if necessary, a free repair.
Source: <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml12/12701.html>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

13. *October 20, Air Force Times* – (Wisconsin) **Report: debris in engine led to Wis. F-16 crash.** A U.S. Air Force investigation report found engine failure caused a June F-16C crash that destroyed the \$25.7 million aircraft and an unoccupied mobile home, according to Air Force Times, October 20. The pilot successfully ejected from the F-16 before it wrecked northwest of Truax Field, Wisconsin, during basic fighter training. Investigators found “clear and convincing evidence” the crash was caused by a failure of the engine's forward main bearing assembly, part of the accessory gearbox. That failure was caused by debris blocking its oil supply line, which caused the gearbox's bearing assembly to lose the lubrication it needed to function, the October 19 report said. The report faulted neither the pilot nor maintenance crewmembers in the June 7 crash. No changes to policy have occurred for maintenance or piloting of the F-16 as a

result of the report, said an Air Combat Command spokeswoman.

Source: <http://www.airforcetimes.com/news/2011/10/air-force-f16-crash-report-engine-failure-blamed-102011w/>

For another story, see item [11](#)

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Banking and Finance Sector

14. *October 21, Missoula Missoulian* – (Montana) **Alleged 'motorcycle bandit' pleads not guilty to Lakeside bank robbery.** The "motorcycle bandit" who allegedly robbed a Lakeside, Montana bank in September, and whose modus operandi implicates him in five other robberies since last fall, pleaded not guilty October 20 to charges in Flathead County District Court. He entered the not guilty plea to a single felony count of robbery, which relates to the September 28 heist at Glacier Bank in Lakeside. Witnesses said September 28, a man wearing a motorcycle helmet walked into the bank, brandished a gun and demanded money. He zoomed away on a small red-and-silver motorcycle with \$14,000. A witness followed him before losing sight of him, but moments later he spotted a Dodge pickup truck. The witness recorded the license plate number and later picked the suspect out of a photo lineup as the driver of the pickup. The arrest provides investigators with insight into how the motorcycle-helmeted man evaded them for more than a year, during which time he is suspected of committing five other robberies in Bigfork, Seeley Lake, St. Regis, Lakeside, and at Muralt's Travel Plaza in Missoula.
Source: http://missoulian.com/news/local/article_c11776a6-fb72-11e0-aeb8-001cc4c002e0.html
15. *October 21, San Francisco Chronicle* – (California) **Cupertino bank robber wore fake glued-on beard.** A man who wore a fake glued-on beard while robbing a Cupertino, California bank is believed to be the same robber who held up banks in South San Francisco and Fremont, authorities said October 20 as they asked the public for help in identifying him. The latest heist happened at the U.S. Bank at 19630 Stevens Creek Boulevard. in Cupertino at about 10:40 a.m. October 19. The robber handed a teller a demand note stating he was armed, although no weapon was seen, a Santa Clara County sheriff's sergeant said. The man asked for money from the top and bottom drawers and placed an undisclosed amount of cash in a blue plastic bag before fleeing.
Source: <http://blog.sfgate.com/crime/2011/10/21/cupertino-bank-robber-wore-fake-glued-on-beard/>
16. *October 20, Minnesota Independent* – (Minnesota) **Seven Occupy protesters arrested in Minneapolis U.S. Bank protest.** In an action that resulted in seven arrests, Occupy Wall Street protesters in Minneapolis October 20 took their almost 2-week long protest to U.S. Bank, a frequent target of protesters' criticism that corporations and banks dominate the political system. The arrests occurred after about 100 protesters took control of 2nd Avenue South and 6th Street South, after rallying at the U.S. Bank building for more than an hour. The protest was partly a bid to set up tents at the

occupation at Hennepin County Government Center Plaza, a request the Hennepin County Sheriff's Department, which controls the occupied plaza, denied. Protesters carried three wooden-framed structures dressed in transparent plastic from the plaza to the sidewalk of the U.S. Bank building across the street, then to the intersection on the other side of the building. Outside the building, U.S. Bank set up a security cordon to control who entered, initially denying media access. All private areas of the plaza were also fenced off. Despite the security, protesters willing to be arrested said they were able to sneak inside and almost set up a tent on the 12th floor before being escorted out, but not arrested, by security. When protesters initially took the intersection, police destroyed a see-through tent, smashing it into pieces. Protesters occupied the intersection peacefully, with police blocking off traffic on all four sides. After almost one and a half hours, police announced protesters who didn't leave would be arrested, the seven who chose to go to jail sat in tents in the middle of the street until they were led away by police.

Source: <http://minnesotaindependent.com/90348/seven-occupy-protesters-arrested-in-minneapolis-u-s-bank-protest>

17. *October 20, Reuters* – (National) **IRS and watchdog clash on tax credit errors.** Millions of U.S. taxpayers may have erroneously received \$3.2 billion in tax credits for college expenses, an Internal Revenue Service (IRS) watchdog said October 20, drawing immediate fire from the U.S. tax collection agency. The IRS mishandled claims for the education tax expense credit that was a key part of the U.S. President's 2009 economic stimulus bill, said the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration. "The IRS does not have effective processes to identify taxpayers who claim erroneous education credits," said the head of the government's IRS watchdog unit. "If not addressed, this could result in up to \$12.8 billion in potentially erroneous refunds over four years," he added. The IRS said that it "strongly disputes the findings" of the report, which it called "flawed and superficial." Still, the IRS acknowledged it can do more to determine a tax credit recipient's eligibility. The agency said it will revise reporting forms to ask for more information, and that it is looking at ways to use Department of Education data to verify claims. The IRS watchdog said most of the erroneous beneficiaries had no documents to prove they were in college; others may not have been in the classroom long enough to qualify or were graduate students; while still others lacked valid Social Security numbers.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/10/20/us-usa-tax-irs-education-idUSTRE79J3ET20111020>

18. *October 17, U.S. Federal Trade Commission* – (National) **Bogus government grant promoters agree to permanent ban to resolve FTC charges.** The Federal Trade Commission October 17 announced it has stopped an operation that allegedly deceived consumers with misleading and unsubstantiated claims about bogus products and services, including one that supposedly would help them get free government grants. To resolve FTC charges, several defendants behind the "Grant Connect" program agreed to a permanent bar from marketing products and services like those they pitched to unwary consumers. According to the complaint, two individuals and other defendants behind Grant Connect used pictures of the U.S. President, the U.S. Vice President, and the American flag to bolster claims their bogus grant service was

affiliated with the U.S. government. The FTC's complaint charges the defendants failed to adequately disclose that consumers who bought their products or services would be enrolled in continuity plans with significant monthly fees, mainly for other unrelated products. It also alleges the defendants used fake testimonials to promote their products, and debited consumers' bank accounts on a recurring basis without consumers' permission. The settlements affects two individuals and four companies. They also impose a \$29.9 million judgment, which will be suspended upon payment of specified lesser amounts and forfeiture of some assets.

Source: <http://www.ftc.gov/opa/2011/10/grantconnect.shtm>

For another story, see item [48](#)

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Transportation Sector

19. *October 21, Associated Press* – (Nevada) **Dozens of Reno storm drain grates stolen; police worry pedestrians might fall in holes.** Reno, Nevada police said they have seen a spike in thieves taking the grates off storm drains, and said the holes left behind are big enough to create a safety hazard. Police said the thefts started in August and are focused on the northwest portion of Reno. More than 40 grates have disappeared. Officials said the grates cost nearly \$200 apiece, and losses have mounted to more than \$8,000. The grates weigh about 175 pounds, and are made out of cast iron. Detectives suspect they may have been sold at scrap yards. Most of the thefts happen at night. Officers said the heists leave holes large enough for a person to fall through.
Source:
<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/19d76ed2d9d4417bbbeb21be8197c420/NV--Storm-Drain-Thefts/>
20. *October 20, Jersey City Jersey Journal* – (National) **Passenger on US Airways Flight 20 to Honolulu ran for cockpit, wanted to jump out of plane: hero cop.** When a hysterical passenger aboard a Hawaii-bound flight made a dash for the cockpit, two Jersey City, New Jersey police officers heading to a wedding tackled and guarded him until touchdown before turning him over to authorities, officials said. One of the officers said the flight was about 2 hours out of Honolulu at about 6:30 p.m. October 19 when they realized there might be a problem and they told the crew that they were cops. They saw a man in a sweater having a panic attack and saying he had to get off the plane, and he was going to try to get off at 40,000 feet, a police spokesman said. A flight attendant gave one of the officers a set of plastic wrist restraints and the cops cuffed the man and led him to the rear of the plane, where they watched him until the wheels touched down. They turned the man over to agents of the FBI, DHS, and the Honolulu Sheriffs Department at the gate.
Source:
http://www.nj.com/hudson/index.ssf/2011/10/passenger_on_us_airways_flight.html

For more stories, see items [16](#) and [26](#)

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Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to report

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Agriculture and Food Sector

21. *October 21, Food Safety News* – (National) **Indiana dairy recalls blue cheese due to Listeria risk.** An Indiana dairy is recalling what it says is a small amount of blue cheese that may be contaminated with *Listeria monocytogenes*, Food Safety News reported October 21. Fair Oaks Dairy Products said its own testing, conducted by an independent laboratory, confirmed that some Fair Oaks Royal Blue Cheese was contaminated with *Listeria*. The company estimates the quantity of blue cheese being recalled is less than 20 pounds. All remaining inventory has been quarantined and will be destroyed under U.S. Food and Drug Administration supervision, the dairy said in its news release. Fair Oaks said that a small quantity of the cheese was sold at its Fair Oaks Dairy store in Northwest Indiana, central Indiana, and to several other stores on and after September 25 in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio. The product is in one-third to one-half pound packages wrapped in royal blue foil.

Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/10/indiana-dairy-recalls-blue-cheese-due-to-listeria-risk/>

22. *October 21, Food Safety News* – (National) **Allergy alert: Fiber One Chewy Bar mix up.** General Mills is recalling a day's production of Chocolate flavor Fiber One 90-Calorie Chewy Bars because the box could contain Chocolate Peanut Butter flavor Fiber One 90-Calorie Chewy Bars, Food Safety News reported October 21. The possibility of an unlabeled allergen makes this a Class One recall. A production error resulted in some properly labeled, individually wrapped Chocolate Peanut Butter flavor Fiber One 90-Calorie Chewy Bar packages being inserted into 5-count boxes labeled as Chocolate Flavor Fiber One 90-Calorie Chewy Bars. Peanuts are not listed on the box's ingredient label. The recall includes only 5-count boxes of Chocolate Flavor Fiber One 90-Calorie Chewy Bars with a "Better if Used By" date 19MAY2012BV printed on the top of the box.

Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/10/allergy-alert-fiber-one-chewy-bar-mix-up/>

23. *October 21, Food Safety News* – (Southeast) **Allergy alert: Cookies with pecans mislabeled.** Murray Biscuit Company is recalling 904 cases of 5.5-ounce packages of Murray Sugar Free Chocolate Chip cookies because the packages actually contain Murray Sugar Free Chocolate Chip Pecan cookies and the label does not list pecans as an ingredient, Food Safety News reported October 21. The packages were shipped to retail customers in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and Tennessee. The company was notified of the error by a customer who is not allergic to nuts. The package is an overwrapped tray and is printed with a warning: "MAY CONTAIN PEANUTS AND

TREE NUTS." While only 12 cases of the product are incorrectly labeled, Murray is voluntarily recalling 904 cases shipped to its Alabama distribution center from one shift of production as a precautionary measure.

Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/10/allergy-alert-cookies-with-pecans-mislabeled/>

24. *October 21, Pueblo Chieftan* – (Colorado) **Tank in Arkansas River threat to canal.** A large tank that apparently washed into the Arkansas River in Pueblo County, Colorado, during the 1999 flood on Fountain Creek is causing problems for the High Line Canal. The Pueblo Conservancy District board October 20 heard a request for assistance from the canal to remove the tank and reinforce the south bank of the river. "The fuel tank is on the north side of the river, causing the river to cut the south bank," said the High Line Canal superintendent. The river has cut the south bank to within 40 feet of the main canal from the river, and could threaten it during high flows next year if erosion continues. The bank is about 18-20 feet high, and the river has cut off several yards each year. The tank is about 8 feet in diameter and 24-30 feet long, and is lodged into the north bank of the river just downstream of the High Line's headgate. It creates a hard point that redirects the course of the river. The superintendent said the canal company has permission from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to do the work this winter. The canal also has sought help from the Natural Resources Conservation Service to stabilize the banks. The total cost, including reinforcement of the south bank, might be as high as \$60,000. The High Line irrigates about 22,000 acres, with 90 percent in Otero County, and 10 percent in Pueblo County.

Source: http://www.chieftain.com/news/local/tank-in-arkansas-river-threat-to-canal/article_ebc365b8-fba4-11e0-905a-001cc4c03286.html

25. *October 20, WOIO 19 Cleveland* – (Ohio) **Alert: Ohio farm recalls turkey breast.** Kuck's Turkey Farm in St. Marys, Ohio is recalling about 2,325 pounds of fully cooked skinless turkey breast products, WOIO 19 Cleveland reported October 20. The products contain wheat and soy, which are not declared on the label, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service announced. The products subject to recall include cartons containing 7- and 8-pound packages of "AMISH HERITAGE "ROTISSERIE SEASONINGS" TURKEY BREAST." The products were produced between September 4 and October 14, and were shipped to a distributor and a retail establishment in Ohio.

Source: <http://www.woio.com/story/15745185/ohio-farm-recalls-turkey-breast>

26. *October 20, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* – (Wisconsin) **Threat to trains leads to carp barrier change, Army Corps says.** Worried that the fight to keep Asian carp out of Lake Michigan could literally turn into a train wreck, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers announced it is throttling back the power on its last line of defense — an electric fish barrier on the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal, the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel reported October 20. Earlier in October, the Corps turned up the strength of the barrier, located about 30 miles downstream from Lake Michigan, because of worries that its previous operating level was not strong enough to repel all sizes of Asian carp. But now agency officials say that higher strength could pose a hazard for trains moving through the heavily industrialized area. As a result, it is at least

temporarily putting the power back to its previous setting.

Source: <http://www.jsonline.com/news/wisconsin/threat-to-trains-leads-to-carp-barrier-change-army-corps-says-132254423.html>

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Water Sector

27. *October 21, Newburyport Daily News* – (Massachusetts) **Water source raises concerns.** Managers of Newburyport, Massachusetts' Water Department will meet with law enforcement officials and emergency-preparedness leaders October 25 to review response plans should the city's primary clear well collapse, the Newburyport Daily News reported October 21. The 470,000-gallon, 80-year old reservoir is deteriorating at an increasing rate, city officials said, adding it is the city's primary source for clean, treated water. The well's replacement is under construction and will not be operational for months. In a 2009 report, divers inside the well were quoted as saying they found "approximately 1,000 linear feet of cracks in the floor up to a quarter-inch wide and up to 12 feet in length." In addition, inspectors identified 150 linear feet of cracks in the walls of the clear well. In 2011, water department inspectors have been checking the clear well every 3 months, and September's inspection suggested its condition is worsening.

Source: <http://www.newburyportnews.com/local/x2117288271/Water-source-raises-concerns>

28. *October 21, KGMI 790 AM Bellingham* – (Washington) **New study shows pesticides remain in Lynden well water.** A new study by Washington state ecology officials shows pesticides remain in the well water near Lynden, KGMI 790 AM Bellingham reported October 21. In 1998, a study found two pesticides no longer used in farming, EDB and 1,2 DCP, were turning up in groundwater west of the city. Homes with contaminated well water were connected to the city's water system. The project manager at the department of ecology's Bellingham field office said a follow-up study found the pesticides were still present in the groundwater, but the levels were slightly less than found in 1998. Scientists project the pesticides will be gone within about the next 5 years.

Source: <http://kgmi.com/New-Study-Shows-Pesticides-Still-Present-In-Lynden/11254336>

29. *October 19, York Dispatch* – (Pennsylvania) **Amount of solid waste spikes at city treatment plant.** For an unknown reason, pipes that carry raw sewage to the York City Wastewater Treatment Plant in Pennsylvania, have seen more than 2 million pounds worth of additional traffic, the plant manager said October 18. The unusual increase in solid waste arriving at the plant will potentially cost the city more money. York City Council members approved October 18 the plant managers' request for a budget transfer needed to cover the expense of treating and disposing of the extra waste. The cost was \$72,650. The request also included about \$94,000 to pay for flood damage caused by Tropical Storm Lee in September, when heavy flows overwhelmed treatment tanks. Officials expect the city will be reimbursed by the Federal Emergency

Management Agency and its insurance company for the cost of repairs. In the meantime, plant workers are tracking the source of the extra solid waste.

Source: http://www.yorkdispatch.com/news/ci_19147419

30. *October 19, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency* – (Massachusetts) **Charles river pollution control district pays penalty for clean water violations.** In March, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) New England office filed a complaint against the Charles River Pollution Control District, which operates a wastewater treatment facility in Medway, Massachusetts, the EPA reported October 19. According to an EPA news release, the district violated the Clean Water Act for discharging phosphorus and suspended solids into the Charles River at levels above those allowed by its federal permit. In a compliance order issued along with the complaint, the district was also ordered to provide EPA with an engineering evaluation explaining how it would improve its operation to comply with permit limits. The agency alleged that over the last 5 years, the district routinely violated its warm-weather total phosphorus monthly average concentration limit, which is in effect from April 1 through October 31, each year. The complaint said operational deficiencies contributed to the district's failure to comply consistently with the limit. The district also routinely violated its monthly limits for total suspended solids. In addition to paying the \$16,500 penalty, the District will spend \$60,000 towards Low Impact Development/Green Infrastructure stormwater improvements in Franklin.

Source:

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/0/84e3d72f5de655758525792e006a5886?OpenDocument>

For more stories, see items [1](#), [3](#), and [6](#)

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

31. *October 20, WESH 2 Orlando* – (Florida) **FBI probes sale of hospital patient information.** A privacy breach at Florida Hospital in Orlando, Florida, has led to an FBI investigation of three former employees for improperly accessing and selling private information on more than 2,000 patients, WESH 2 Orlando reported October 20. It said for a year and a half, investigators said three employees accessed sensitive data on patients in Orange, Seminole, and Osceola counties. No charges have been filed. Hospital security officials told Osceola County Sheriff's Office that one of the individuals was fired in July for accessing the private information of an unnamed high-profile patient. Further investigation showed he accessed an "extreme" amount of data that hospital security officials feared was being sold to an unnamed lawyer referral service. Earlier this month, the hospital ran an ad informing more than 2,000 car accident patients treated in Florida Hospital emergency rooms that they may have had their private information compromised.

Source: <http://www.wesh.com/r/29532426/detail.html>

32. *October 20, Dow Jones Newswire* – (National) **FDA: shortage ends for a leukemia drug, but others remain.** The U.S. Food and Drug Administration said a shortage of the leukemia drug cytarabine has been resolved, although record shortages remain for cancer drugs and medicine used by hospitals for critical care. Cytarabine has been in short supply for about a year, but the shortage became so severe in the spring that even top cancer centers were unable to get it at times. Cytarabine is the main treatment for people with acute myeloid leukemia, or AML, and part of a treatment regimen for other types of blood cancers. For AML patients, there was no substitute drug.
Source: <http://www.foxbusiness.com/industries/2011/10/20/fda-shortage-ends-for-leukemia-drug-but-others-remain/>
33. *October 20, California Health Line* – (National) **New CDC data show significant decline in hospital infection rates.** Rates for four common hospital-acquired infections declined in 2010, as hospitals nationwide made significant progress in implementing prevention strategies, according to U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) data released October 19, National Journal reports. For the report, the agency analyzed data from its National Healthcare Safety Network infection monitoring system for more than 3,000 hospitals. The results showed central line-associated bloodstream infection rates (CLABSI) declined by 33 percent (McKinney, Modern Healthcare, POC, October 19). Specifically, it found a 35 percent decrease in CLABSIs among critical care patients and a 26 percent decrease among non-critical care patients (CDC release, October 19). The CDC also found health care-associated methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* infection rates dropped by 18 percent; surgical-site infection rates declined by 10 percent; and catheter-associated urinary tract infection rates dropped by 7 percent (Modern Healthcare, October 19). In addition, the CDC found improved health care provider adherence to evidence-based infection prevention measures. For example, the agency found more than 94 percent adherence to protocols establishing appropriate techniques for central line catheter insertion (CDC release, October 19).
Source: <http://www.californiahealthline.org/articles/2011/10/20/new-cdc-data-show-significant-decline-in-hospital-infection-rates.aspx>
34. *October 20, Dallas Morning News* – (Texas) **State hospital inspectors investigating new complaints at Parkland's psychiatric emergency room.** The Dallas Morning Star reported October 20 that Texas state inspectors have returned to troubled Parkland Memorial Hospital in Dallas to investigate new patient-harm complaints. Authorities said one focus is the psychiatric emergency room, whose failings triggered the crisis that began unfolding in May at Parkland and has led to its being the largest U.S. hospital ever to face a rare form of intensive federal oversight. As Parkland officials promised to fix previous problems, psych ER employees failed again when they forced a nearly naked, barely conscious patient to leave the hospital alone in the darkness last August. Parkland has since been told it no longer qualifies for federal funding, and is facing a U.S. Justice Department investigation. It has averted the funding cutoff by accepting the rare federal oversight, which includes monitors inside the hospital.
Source: <http://www.dallasnews.com/incoming/20111020-state-hospital-inspectors-investigating-new-complaints-at-parkland-s-psychiatric-emergency-room.ece>

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Government Facilities Sector

35. *October 21, Atlanta Business Chronicle* – (Georgia) **More than \$100,000 in copper stolen from Ga. school district.** Police in Columbus, Georgia, said more than \$100,000 in copper wire was taken from a Muscogee County School District warehouse in early October, the Columbus Ledger-Enquirer reported. The suspect or suspects entered the plant services warehouse through rear windows and took 10 large rolls of copper wire valued at \$110,000, and 40 boxes of solid copper wire valued at \$12,000, according to police reports. No suspects have been identified.
Source: http://www.bizjournals.com/atlanta/morning_call/2011/10/more-than-100000-in-copper-stolen.html
36. *October 21, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* – (Pennsylvania) **Former student's 'threat' closes Penn State-Beaver campus.** Penn State-Beaver university shut down its campus in Monaca, Pennsylvania, October 21 and summoned the help of the FBI after a former student made a threat referencing the Virginia Tech shootings on Twitter. In a statement, officials said police are looking for the suspect, whom they called a former student with outstanding but unspecified warrants. Officials said campus police were alerted to one of his postings on Twitter and decided the threat was "credible." The FBI was contacted to assist with the investigation. On Twitter, someone identifying himself as a guard for Penn-State Beaver's basketball team posted "Lls who want to die," at around 4 p.m. October 20. Shortly after that, the person posted that people were "scared as hell lol", and that they should watch for someone wearing all black and "creepn toinght." Finally, the post said "im have.vt day out this [expletive].whrn he kill ppl," apparently a reference to the Virginia Tech shootings that left 33 people dead in 2007. An hour later, the person posted "Still out here waitn."
Source: <http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/11294/1183783-100.stm>
37. *October 20, Knoxville News Sentinel* – (Tennessee) **Powell 8th grader charged with gun in school.** Authorities October 20 praised students at Powell Middle School who alerted administrators a 14-year-old student had brought a 9mm pistol to school in Knoxville, Tennessee. The chief security officer with Knox County Schools said the incident occurred about 8 a.m. as students got off their buses and gathered in the cafeteria area before classes. Once alerted to the unloaded weapon, school administrators and a Knox County Sheriff's Office deputy assigned to the school were able to quietly separate the 8th grader from other students and got the gun without incident, he said. Although the firearm had a magazine, the security officer said it contained no bullets. Investigators learned the boy had obtained the key to his grandfather's gun safe and took the gun without permission. The chief security officer said the boy's grandfather kept bullets for his weapons in another location separate from the firearms. He noted there was no threat to other students from the charged student, and no one was targeted by the student.

Source: <http://www.knoxnews.com/news/2011/oct/20/powell-8th-grader-charged-with-gun-in-school/?partner=popular>

38. *October 20, CNN* – (Florida) **Florida courthouse evacuated after employees feel ill.** A courthouse in Coral Gables, Florida, was evacuated October 20 after several employees reported feeling ill, fire officials said. "There were approximately 40 employees in the building October 20 when we took the call, and a total of seven have now been transported to area hospitals," said the division chief for the Coral Gables Fire Department. "We believe that this incident stemmed from pest extermination services that took place in the building earlier [during] the week of October 20." None of the patients lost consciousness, the division chief said, adding their conditions were not considered critical. Nine units from the Coral Gables Fire Department, and a total of 28 firefighters responded to the courthouse, she said.
Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2011/10/20/us/florida-courthouse-evacuated/>
39. *October 20, Larkspur-CorteMadera Patch* – (California) **Computer thieves strike Marin Country Day School.** The Marin Country Day School in Corte Madera, California, reported the theft of 20 laptop computers from a classroom sometime during the night October 19. The electronic gate was jimmied and the rear door to the classroom was pried open. All the laptops are silver 13-inch Apple Macbook Pros with an estimated total loss of \$24,000. This comes the same week when 20 laptops were stolen from Strawberry Point Elementary School in Strawberry, California.
Source: <http://larkspurcortemadera.patch.com/articles/computer-thieves-strike-marin-country-day-school>
40. *October 19, U.S. Chemical Safety Board* – (Texas) **CSB releases investigation into 2010 Texas Tech Laboratory accident.** The U.S. Chemical Safety Board (CSB) October 19 released its final report into a January 7, 2010, chemistry laboratory explosion at Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas, recommending that the American Chemical Society develop new hazard evaluation guidelines for laboratories, and calling on the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration to issue a Safety Bulletin on the importance of controlling the physical hazards of chemicals in academic laboratories. The accident occurred during the handling of explosive compounds and resulted in serious injuries to a graduate student. The case study — released October 19 via a Webinar broadcast from Denver, identifies systemic deficiencies in safety accountability and oversight by the principal investigators, the chemistry department, and the university administration at Texas Tech. Furthermore, according to investigators there were also important gaps beyond the university itself, gaps which are addressed in the CSB's safety recommendations.
Source: <http://www.fireengineering.com/articles/2011/10/csb-releases-investigation-into-2010-texas-tech-laboratory-accident.html>

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Emergency Services Sector

41. *October 20, WLS 7 Chicago* – (Illinois) **Large stash of heroin stolen from Will Co. police.** Individually wrapped kilos of heroin worth about a half million dollars were stolen from the Will County Sheriff's Department in Joliet, Illinois, WLS 7 Chicago reported October 20. A shipping container in a fenced in yard at the Laraway service facility of the sheriff's department contained the evidence, which was stolen sometime before October 14. The heroin, worth about \$500,000, was wrapped in four 1-kilogram packages. The sheriff's office asked the FBI to take over the investigation and to look into how Will County manages evidence. The missing heroin deals a potential blow to drug prosecutions in Will County. The area has seen 26 heroin overdoses in the last year, up from only five a decade ago.
Source: <http://abclocal.go.com/wls/story?section=news/local&id=8399892>
42. *October 20, Manchester Union Leader* – (New Hampshire) **Threatening letter containing white powder sent to Salem police.** Firefighters and a hazardous materials team responded to the Salem, New Hampshire Police Department October 20 after an administrative assistant opened a threatening letter that came with white powder — later discovered to be baking soda. “The letter contained a very simple and direct threat toward members of the Salem Police Department,” the deputy police chief said. The letter prompted police to call the Salem Fire Department and members of a regional hazardous material team to investigate. Once the the powder was determined to be baking soda, the office became a crime scene, and police notified the FBI and U.S. Postal Service, officials said. Investigators were processing the envelope and the department, which was cordoned off for nearly 2 hours.
Source: <http://www.unionleader.com/article/20111020/NEWS03/111029993>

For another story, see item [50](#)

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Information Technology Sector

43. *October 21, Softpedia* – (International) **Adobe fixes webcam and microphone spying issue.** Adobe released October 21 the much expected update that would fix the problem pointed out by a Stanford University student, which revealed to the world that any Web site administrator can easily spy on his customers using a bug in the Flash Settings Manager. According to V3, Adobe blamed the communication error between them and the student who discovered the issue on the fact that the student sent his findings to an employee that was off duty at the time. They said that the information was supposed to be sent to their incident response team instead. Because the actual update process was required on their servers, users do not have to apply any patches or updates manually.
Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Adobe-Fixes-Webcam-and-Microphone-Spying-Issue-229137.shtml>
44. *October 21, Softpedia* – (International) **Colonel Gaddafi's death used to spread malware.** As expected by many, the Libyan dictator's death is the subject of a malware

spreading campaign that promises pictures of the dictator, Softpedia reported October 21. The message pretends to be coming from the Agence France-Presse news agency, and includes an attachment. The archive entitled “Bloody Photos_Gadhafi_Death(dot)rar” in fact contains a script file that's actually Mal/Behav-103, a malicious worm that replicates itself across the networks it encounters. The malware family is known to place itself into the PC's registries to make sure it is executed each time the device is powered on.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Colonel-Gaddafi-s-Death-Used-to-Spread-Malware-229260.shtml>

45. *October 21, Help Net Security* – (International) **Skype can be used to tie users to illegal download activity.** Help Net Security reported October 21 a team of researchers proved it is possible to determine the IP address of a user and tie it with his Internet use, and even correlate this information to his file-sharing activity with high accuracy, by taking advantage of a privacy hole in Skype. The user is completely unaware of this happening and the entire scheme is easily scaled to incorporate the simultaneous monitoring of Internet usage patterns of some 10,000 users. The team was able to distinguish which packets are sent from a particular user and extract his IP address from their headers, to call the user but prevent the establishment of TCP connections so that he is not notified of the call, and have discovered a Skype privacy hole that allowed them to do this even if the user did not have them in the contact list or has explicitly blocked them. According to the researchers, other IM applications such as MSN Live and Google Talk can also be used instead of Skype to harvest the user's IP address, but they chose Skype because of the aforementioned privacy flaw.

Source: [http://www.net-security.org/secworld.php?id=11823&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=11823&utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed:+HelpNetSecurity+(Help+Net+Security)&utm_content=Google+Reader)

46. *October 21, H Security* – (International) **iPad 2: magnet bypasses passcode lock.** Apple's Smart Cover or another magnetic object can be used to bypass the passcode lock on an iPad 2 running iOS 5, H Security reported October 21. When the password prompt appears, a user can press and hold the standby key until the red "slide to power off" option appears, close the Smart Cover, open it again, and hit "cancel" — users are then taken either to the home screen or the previously used application without any further prompts. While apps cannot be launched in this mode, they can be moved around or deleted from an iPad. Recently used applications can also be viewed by double clicking the Home button. The Notification Center, however, remains inaccessible, but the iOS Spotlight search function can be used to access an overview of notes, contacts, schedules, tasks, and possibly even e-mails that have been previously opened using Spotlight — but users cannot open any of the displayed results. However, if an app was open when the screen was locked, there can be more of a problem. If the built-in Mail app was open, anyone who bypasses the passcode lock can view all of the e-mails in the open folder; Heise Security researchers even managed to send new e-mails during testing. It is also possible to change or delete a number of settings and accounts if the iOS settings were open when the screen was locked.

Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/iPad-2-magnet-bypasses-passcode-lock-1364450.html>

47. *October 21, IDG News Service* – (International) **World's most sophisticated rootkit is being overhauled.** Experts from security vendor ESET warned that TDL4, one of the most sophisticated pieces of malware in the world, is being rewritten and improved for increased resilience to antivirus detection, IDG News Service reported October 21. "Based on the analysis of its components we can say that some of those components have been rewritten from scratch (kernel-mode driver, user-mode payload) while some (specifically, some bootkit components) remain the same as in the previous versions," ESET's director of malware intelligence said. He and his colleagues believe this suggests a major change within the TDL development team or the transition of its business model toward a crimeware toolkit that can be licensed to other cybercriminals.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9221084/World_s_most_sophisticated_rootkit_is_being_overhauled

48. *October 20, H Security* – (International) **Researchers: XML encryption standard is insecure.** Researchers at the Ruhr University of Bochum in Germany said they have succeeded in cracking parts of the XML encryption used in Web services, thus making it possible to decrypt encrypted data, H Security reported October 20. The official W3C XML encryption specification is designed to be used to protect data transmitted between online servers such as those used by e-commerce and financial institutions. According to researchers, IBM, Microsoft, and Red Hat Linux use the standard solution in Web service applications for many large customers. They said that, based on their findings, the standard should now be considered insecure. They plan to publish details about the problem at the upcoming ACM Conference on Computer and Communications Security in Chicago.

Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/Researchers-XML-encryption-standard-is-insecure-1364074.html>

For more stories, see items [11](#) and [51](#)

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

49. *October 21, TVSpy* – (Unknown Geographic Scope) **Power outage knocks WHAS off the air, and viewers take to Facebook to voice complaints.** Viewers tuning in to Louisville, Kentucky's WHAS October 20 for ABC programs "Grey's Anatomy" and

"Private Practice" were instead greeted with an error message. "WHAS11 experienced a power outage [October 20], which caused a disruption in our broadcast," the station posted on its Web site. "A transformer blew outside of the WHAS11 News on Chestnut Street. It happened around 9 p.m. WHAS11 does have an LG&E backup, but it failed." Programming was restored at 11:20 p.m., which is normally a newscast on the ABC-affiliate.

Source: http://www.mediabistro.com/tvspy/power-outage-in-louisville-knocks-whas-off-the-air_b26163

50. *October 20, Foster's Daily Democrat* – (New Hampshire) **Telephone outage in North Hampton.** There was an interruption in phone service for North Hampton, New Hampshire residences and businesses along Atlantic Avenue east of Route 1 and some outlying areas October 20. The municipal complex, including the police and fire departments as well as the North Hampton School were impacted. All emergency calls were forwarded to the 911 call center or Hampton Fire Emergency Communications Center, and North Hampton Fire and Rescue is receiving calls. Fairpoint Communication was working on repairs.

Source:

http://www.fosters.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20111020/GJNEWS_01/111029949/-1/fosnews

51. *October 20, Sand Hills Express* – (Nebraska) **Great Plains Communications restores services.** Great Plains Communications sent out a press release at 3 p.m. October 20 stating Internet services has been restored to their customers across the state who were affected by a damaged fiber line in eastern Nebraska. Nearly 8,000 customers were affected by the outage, which also disabled the company's toll-free customer service line. Crews responded immediately and were dispatched within minutes of the outage to fix the cut fiber line. The damage occurred when a city construction crew hit the fiber line while digging. The cable was buried about 6 feet underground.

Source:

<http://sandhillsexpress.com/BuySell/BuySellDetails/tabid/108/ArticleId/3953/Great-Plains-Communications-Restores-Services.aspx>

52. *October 20, Teaneck Patch* – (New Jersey) **Cut fiber line causes AT&T cell service outage in parts of north Jersey.** AT&T wireless service in northern New Jersey was restored October 20, a company spokeswoman has confirmed. Service to some area customers had been knocked out for hours. AT&T said wireless customers in some areas of northern New Jersey were temporarily without cell service after a utility company cut a fiber line. The outage was not limited to any specific cell phone or device. In Teaneck, reports of widespread cell phone outages were coming in on Facebook and Twitter. AT&T could not immediately say how many customers were impacted.

Source: <http://teaneck.patch.com/articles/cut-fiber-line-causes-at-t-cell-service-outage-in-parts-of-north-jersey>

For more stories, see items [45](#) and [46](#)

Commercial Facilities Sector

53. *October 21, WLNE 6 Providence* – (Massachusetts) **Fire leaves 30 homeless in New Bedford.** Dozens of people in New Bedford, Massachusetts do not have a place to call home, WLNE 5 Providence reported October 21. A fire tore through their apartment building early October 20. The flames were so intense part of the roof collapsed. One other apartment nearby was also evacuated because fire officials said the flames spread so quickly. Firefighters said the fire started in the basement, where fire officials say oxygen cylinders may have been stored.
Source: <http://www.abc6.com/story/15745922/fire-leaves-30-homeless-in-new-bedford>
54. *October 21, KTLA 5 Los Angeles* – (California) **Knife-wielding man barricades himself inside Kohl's store.** A Kohl's store in Ontario, California was evacuated late October 20 after a man brandished a large knife inside the store. Ontario police said the suspect entered the store around 8 p.m. He went into the kitchenware section, grabbed a knife, and started swinging it around erratically, according to police. Employees evacuated the store and called police. An Ontario Police Department crisis team responded to the store, where the suspect had barricaded himself inside a bathroom. After about an hour, he surrendered to police.
Source: <http://www.ktla.com/news/landing/ktla-kohls-evacuated-ontario,0,4816795.story?track=rss>
55. *October 21, Tarentum Valley News Dispatch* – (Pennsylvania) **Two shot — one fatally — at New Kensington shopping plaza.** One man was killed and another injured late October 20 when gunfire broke out in front of the Family Dollar in Central City Plaza in New Kensington, Pennsylvania, police said. Several people dashed inside and at least one shot was fired in the store, sending frightened employees running to the back of the store for safety, the city police chief said. While it was clear the man who died was shot outside, the police chief said investigators were working to determine how many shots were fired in the parking lot and how many were fired in the store. City and Westmoreland County detectives were investigating the incident, and authorities were searching for several people believed to be involved.
Source:
http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/pittsburghtrib/news/westmoreland/s_763066.html
56. *October 21, Levittown Intelligencer* – (Pennsylvania) **Explosives found in Richland garage.** A family member cleaning out the Richland, Pennsylvania house of his deceased grandparents October 20 found a safe full of World War II ordnance. Police evacuated six homes as the bomb squad from Allentown examined two grenade-like devices. According to police, one of the explosives caused concern. An officer said one of the devices was thought to be an anti-tank grenade. He said the Allentown Fire Department bomb squad would either detonate the explosive on scene or take it back to its facility for detonation.
Source: http://www.phillyburbs.com/news/local/the_intelligencer_news/explosives-found-in-richland-garage/article_2668e20e-91ae-5610-82d3-197509d89280.html

57. *October 21, Associated Press* – (Ohio) **More than 20 Occupy Cincinnati demonstrators arrested after nearly 2-week protest in park.** Police arrested Occupy Cincinnati protesters who previously had received \$105 citations for refusing to leave a downtown park, the Associated Press reported October 21. Multiple media outlets reported more than 20 people were arrested on trespassing charges in Piatt Park early October 21. Demonstrators began camping out in the park nearly 2 weeks ago. The Cincinnati Enquirer reported three city council members signed a motion October 20 urging that the city immediately begin enforcing its park laws. Piatt Park and other city parks have a 10 p.m. curfew.

Source:

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/6f737464efd944d8b11d52bf00181353/OH--Wall-Street-Protest-Ohio/>

58. *October 20, Monrovia Patch* – (California) **Updated: Walmart evacuated as hazmat teams investigate money.** Hundreds of workers and shoppers were cleared out of the Walmart store near the border of Monrovia and Duarte in California October 20 after some workers said they got sick shortly after handling money from an armored car, authorities said. Hazardous materials units and about 50 firefighters responded to the Walmart after three workers complained of falling ill after handling about \$1,000 in one-dollar bills delivered by an armored car, a lieutenant with the sheriff's department said. The area around the office where the money was handled and the money itself was tested for radiological, biological, and chemical weapons, but nothing out of the ordinary was found, he said. The cause of the employees sickness is unknown, he said. About 120 employees, and hundreds of customers were evacuated.

Source: <http://monrovia.patch.com/articles/wal-mart-evacuated-as-hazmat-teams-investigate>

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

59. *October 20, KERO 23 Bakersfield* – (California) **9 indicted for pot grow in national forest.** A U.S. attorney announced October 20 a federal grand jury returned an eight-count indictment against nine suspects in California, charging them with conspiring to cultivate, distribute, and possess marijuana with intent to distribute; cultivating, and possessing marijuana with intent to distribute; and damaging public lands and natural resources. Four of the suspects are also charged with avoidance of examination by immigration officers and are subject to deportation if convicted of the charges. According to court documents, the defendants were located in or near a large marijuana cultivation site in the Sentinel Peak area of the Sequoia National Forest in Tulare County, California. As a result of the investigation, law enforcement agents seized over 16,205 marijuana plants, over 850 pounds of processed marijuana, and three firearms, including an assault rifle. Native vegetation was cut to make room for the marijuana plants. Trash and fertilizer containers were scattered throughout the site and a nearby

stream.

Source: <http://www.turnto23.com/news/29542063/detail.html>

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Dams Sector

60. *October 21, Cape Girardeau Southeast Missourian* – (Missouri) **Corps of Engineers says levee will be rebuilt to 55 feet.** Officials with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers said October 20 the only thing stopping them from raising the Birds Point-New Madrid Floodway levee an additional 4 feet was \$2.7 million. Later in the day, the governor of Missouri announced he had committed \$2 million in public infrastructure assistance funds to bringing the fix to 55 feet. According to an update provided October 19, the Corps has 91 percent of the upper crevasse completed, 48 percent of the middle, and 96 percent of the lower. The middle breach was delayed until an endangered species of bird that was nesting in the area left. Raising the levee to 55 feet will lower the risk to a 6 percent chance of overtopping in any given year, while 51 feet left a 16 percent risk of floodwaters coming over the levee, a Corps spokesman said.

Source: <http://www.semissourian.com/story/1775919.html>

61. *October 21, Associated Press* – (International) **Floodwaters seep into outer Bangkok after government opens canals to drain water to sea.** Thailand's prime minister urged Bangkok residents to move their belongings to higher ground October 21 as the country's worst floods in half a century began seeping into the capital's outer districts. The warning came 1 day after the government opened several key floodgates in a risky move to let built-up water flow through the canals toward the sea. An Associated Press team October 21 saw water entering homes in Bangkok's northern Lak Si district, along the capital's main Prapa canal. Authorities said immense networks of sandbagged barriers could deteriorate under pressure from the water, since they were not designed as dams. Excessive rains and storms have killing 745 people in Asia in 2011, a quarter of them children, in Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam, Laos, and the Philippines, according to the United Nations. The floods have submerged land in about one-third of the country, leaving some towns under water more than 6-feet-high. The latest damage estimate of \$6 billion could double if floods swamp Bangkok.

Source: <http://www.newser.com/article/d9qgli000/floodwaters-seep-into-outer-bangkok-after-government-opens-canals-to-drain-water-to-sea.html>

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