



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report
28 October 2011

Top Stories

- The Chemical Safety Board said in a new report that 26 incidents since 1983 that killed 44 people near oil and gas facilities could have been prevented with basic security measures, warning signs, and safer storage tanks. – *EHS Today* (See item [2](#))
- Eleven people, including two doctors, were charged in a major fraud scheme in which hundreds of workers for Long Island Railroad made false disability claims that may have cost a federal pension agency as much as \$1 billion. – *New York Times* (See item [44](#))

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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 27, Associated Press* – (California; Arizona; International) **Officials: Many issues led to Southwest blackout.** A power outage that affected 7 million people in September 2011 in the southwest United States and part of Mexico was not solely caused by a utility worker doing a minor repair job, as originally thought, utility officials said October 26. Federal officials and executives from California and Arizona utility companies said they still do not know exactly what happened September 8, when power was knocked out for up to 12 hours from Arizona to southern California, and

into the northern part of Mexico's Baja California. While a utility employee's work on a transmission line at an Arizona substation was the first link in the chain of events, it should not have triggered a massive blackout because the system is built to quickly compensate for such glitches, utility officials said. Investigators found that at least 20 events took place within an 11-minute period, said the president and CEO of the California Independent System Operator (ISO) which operates the state's wholesale power system. The utility companies involved, under ISO's direction, have formed a voluntary joint task force to investigate. The ISO president said it could take up to a year before they find the exact cause. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and the North American Electric Reliability Corp. also have opened a joint inquiry into the outage.

Source:

http://www.boston.com/news/nation/articles/2011/10/27/officials_many_issues_led_to_southwest_blackout/

2. *October 27, EHS Today* – (National) **Chemical Safety Board: oil and gas exploration and production sites are hazardous to the public.** On October 27, the Chemical Safety Board (CSB) issued recommendations to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, state regulators, the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), and the American Petroleum Institute (API) aimed at reducing fires and explosions at oil and gas exploration and production facilities. A new report from CSB identifies 26 incidents since 1983 that killed 44 people and injured 25 others under the age of 25. Three of the explosions included in the report occurred at oil and gas production facilities in Mississippi, Oklahoma and Texas that killed and injured members of the public between October 2009 and April 2010. The report found children and young adults frequently socialize at oil sites in rural areas, unaware of the explosion hazards from storage tanks that contain flammable hydrocarbons like crude oil and natural gas condensate. The unintentional introduction of an ignition source (such as a match, lighter, cigarette or static electricity) near tank hatches or vents can trigger an internal tank explosion, often launching the tank into the air, killing or injuring people nearby. "After reviewing the work of our investigators I believe that these incidents were entirely preventable," said the CSB Chairman. "Basic security measures and warning signs -- as well as more safely designed storage tanks -- will essentially prevent kids from being killed in tank explosions at these sites."

Source: http://ehstoday.com/standards/concensus/csb_oil_production_hazardous_1027/

3. *October 27, Associated Press* – (Colorado) **37,000 still without power day after storm.** Xcel Energy said 200,000 homes and businesses lost power during and after the October 26 winter storm in Denver, Colorado, 37,000 of which remained without electricity early the afternoon of October 27. Xcel said it enlisted help from neighboring utility companies to assist with restoration. Most of the remaining outages were in Denver — 22,058, and Greeley — 9,510. The Red Cross set up shelters in Loveland, Greeley, Windsor, and Longmont overnight to house residents who could not heat their homes as temperatures plunged into the teens. Xcel said most customers were expected to have power by October 27, but it would be October 28 before all power was restored.

Source: <http://www.kwch.com/news/kdvr-denver-snow-forecast-48-heavier-amounts-in-foothills-20111025,0,5178269.story>

4. *October 27, Associated Press* – (West Virginia) **Security chief convicted in W. Va. mine disaster.** The former head of security at a West Virginia mine has been convicted of impeding the investigation into a 2010 explosion that killed 29 men. A federal jury in Beckley, West Virginia, found the 60-year-old guilty October 26 of lying to investigators and disposing of thousands of security-related documents following the explosion. He was the first person criminally prosecuted in the worst U.S. coal mining disaster in decades. The jury began deliberating October 26 after hearing 2 days of testimony in which prosecutors painted the defendant as an obstructionist, and defense attorneys claimed he was a scapegoat. The jury was told that investigators retrieved boxes of security documents that the chief ordered dumped into the trash.

Source: <http://www.11alive.com/news/article/210594/166/Official-convicted-in-West-Virginia-mine-disaster>

5. *October 27, Harford County Aegis* – (Maryland) **Tractor trailer crash closes Conowingo Dam.** A tanker truck crash on the Conowingo Dam late October 26 still had Route 1 over the dam closed as of 11 a.m. October 27, police and state highway administration officials said. The accident occurred on the Cecil County (east) side of the dam, just north of the Route 222 and Route 1 intersection. There was no immediate indication when the highway, a major route in northern Harford and Cecil counties, would be reopened. The accident involved a tanker truck, which hit a guardrail and flipped, spilling about 7,500 gallons of diesel fuel, according to WBAL 11 Baltimore. At least two communities, Havre de Grace in Harford County and Port Deposit in Cecil County, draw their drinking water from the Susquehanna River downriver from the dam. Harford County's public water supply also uses the river as a backup.

Source: <http://www.baltimoresun.com/explore/harford/news/ph-ag-dam-accident-1027-20111027,0,4727668.story>

6. *October 26, KUSA 9 Denver* – (Colorado) **Coal train derailment a mess supreme.** A southbound Burlington Northern coal train derailed around 10 a.m. October 26 at Logan County Road 74 and State Highway 113 in Peetz, Colorado. No one was injured when eight cars jumped the tracks near the bulk fuel depot at the Peetz Farmers Coop. The railroad expected the cleanup to be completed by October 26. It is unclear how much, if any, coal spilled as a result of the derailment.

Source: <http://www.9news.com/news/article/226509/188/Coal-train-derailment-a-mess-supreme>

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Chemical Industry Sector

7. *October 27, Wilmington News Journal* – (Delaware) **DuPont to pay \$500,000 for spills.** The DuPont Co. has agreed to pay \$500,000 to settle allegations it wrongfully discharged pollutants into the Delaware River in a series of incidents from 2005 to 2010, according to company regulatory filings. The Wilmington News Journal reported

in August DuPont was in settlement talks with state and federal regulators about noncompliance with the Clean Water Act at its Edge Moor Plant near Wilmington, mostly related to self-reported discharges. The talks involved the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC). The DNREC initiated the talks. The agreement calls for an analysis of how the Edge Moor facility handles wastewater, the filing said. Many of the discharges resulted from breakdowns in the plant's wastewater-treatment system, and some were related to stormwater-related discharges after heavy rain, according to a April 2008 violation notice sent by the DNREC to DuPont. The notice detailed 23 violations between January 2007 and March 2008, including an incident September 2, 2007 when DuPont released hundreds of pounds of hydrogen chloride, titanium tetrachloride, and iron chloride into the river. The Edge Moor plant makes the white pigment titanium dioxide, mostly for the paper industry.

Source:

<http://www.delawareonline.com/article/20111027/BUSINESS/110270310/DuPont-pay-500-000-spills?odyssey=nav|head>

8. *October 27, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission* – (National; International) **Spin Master agrees to \$1.3 million civil penalty for failing to report Aqua Dots and for selling a banned hazardous substance.** The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) announced October 27 that Spin Master, Inc. of Los Angeles, California, and Spin Master Ltd. of Toronto, Canada, (Spin Master) have agreed to pay a civil penalty of \$1.3 million. The settlement resolves staff allegations Spin Master knowingly failed to report the defect and hazard associated with Aqua Dots to the commission immediately, as required by federal law. The settlement also resolves CPSC staff allegations Spin Master knowingly imported and sold Aqua Dots, which were toxic and a banned hazardous substance, in violation of federal law. Aqua Dots was a children's craft kit and toy that included tiny beads of different colors that stuck together when sprayed with water. They were sold nationwide from April to November 2007. CPSC staff alleges that by the middle of October 2007, Spin Master had received reports children, and a dog, had become ill and received emergency medical treatment after ingesting Aqua Dots, and that the product contained 1,4-butylene glycol, which metabolizes to the controlled substance gamma hydroxybutyrate. Spin Master also learned that if swallowed, the substance in the product would target the kidneys and central nervous system, and could cause a coma, respiratory depression, or seizures. However, Spin Master did not report any problems with the product until early November 2007, when it was recalled. The CPSC said Spin Master enlisted an outside testing company to evaluate the toxicity of the product, but the testing was inadequate. Federal law requires manufacturers, distributors, and retailers to report to the CPSC immediately (within 24 hours) after obtaining information reasonably supporting the conclusion a product contains a defect that could create a substantial product hazard, creates an unreasonable risk of serious injury or death, or fails to comply with any consumer product safety rule. In agreeing to the settlement, Spin Master denies CPSC staff allegations it knowingly violated the law.

Source: <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml12/12023.html>

9. *October 27, Global Security Newswire* – (International) **U.N. official: Undeclared chemical agent sites identified in Libya.** The former regime in Libya possessed facilities with chemical munitions or warfare agents that were not declared to the international organization assigned to ensure the elimination of such toxic materials, the Associated Press quoted the United Nations' lead envoy to the North African state as saying October 26. Libya joined the Chemical Weapons Convention in 2004, declaring close to 25 metric tons of mustard blister agent, nearly 1,400 metric tons of precursor materials and more than 3,500 unloaded munitions, according to the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW). A technical problem forced the suspension of disposal operations shortly before the February uprising that led to the death last week of Libya's longtime dictator. The nation has been believed to still hold roughly 9 metric tons of the blister agent. The United Nations is working to ensure cooperation between Libya's transitional government and other groups on securing sensitive materials in Libya, which include a stock of raw uranium, the Libyan envoy told the U.N. Security Council. "It has become clearer that there are additional sites with previously undeclared chemical weapons or materials that the government is about to formally declare" to the OPCW, he said.
Source: http://www.globalsecuritynewswire.org/gsn/nw_20111027_8018.php
10. *October 26, Hunterdon County Democrat* – (New Jersey) **Flemington businesses evacuated after tractor trailer leaks ammonium hydroxide.** Four businesses on the Route 202-31 circle in Flemington, New Jersey, were evacuated October 26 because a tractor-trailer in the parking lot behind T.G.I. Friday's restaurant was leaking ammonium hydroxide. Household ammonia is dilute ammonium hydroxide. At 6 p.m., a member of the Hunterdon County Hazardous Materials Response Team entered the trailer. Officials said the driver made a pick-up at a chemical plant in Raritan Township a short time earlier, then smelled ammonia. He noticed liquid leaking and he pulled into the lot on the circle because he felt the leak was too large to return safely to the plant. Officials said a 150-foot buffer zone is required for such a spill. T.G.I. Friday's is within that zone. The other businesses aren't but were evacuated as a precaution. They are Dunkin Donuts, the Flemington Yamaha motorcycle dealership, and Sleepy's mattress store. Volunteer firefighters and personnel and equipment from the Somerset County haz-mat team responded.
Source: http://www.nj.com/hunterdon-county-democrat/index.ssf/2011/10/flemington_businesses_evacuate.html
11. *October 25, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission* – (National) **Evergreen Enterprises recalls pourable gel fuel due to burn and flash fire hazards.** The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, in cooperation with Evergreen Enterprises of Richmond, Virginia announced a voluntary recall October 25 of 23,400 bottles of Fireside Gel Fuel. The fuel was manufactured by 2 Burn Inc. of Milwaukee. The pourable fuel can ignite unexpectedly and splatter onto nearby people and objects when poured into a firepot that is still burning. This hazard can occur if the consumer does not see the flame or is not aware the firepot is still ignited. Gel fuel that splatters and ignites can pose fire and burn risks that can be fatal. Evergreen is not aware of any reports of incidents involving Fireside Gel Fuel. This recall involves pourable gel fuels packaged in 30-ounce plastic bottles and sold with or without citronella oil. The words

"Fireside," "Gel Fuel," "Evergreen" and "Flag & Garden" are on the container labels. The bottles were sold by the case in quantities of 12. The gel fuel is poured into a stainless steel or ceramic cup in the center of ceramic or glass firepots or other decorative lighting devices and ignited. The bottles were sold at independent retailers across the United States from December 2010 through September 2011. Consumers should immediately stop using the pourable gel fuel and return the gel fuel to the company for a full refund.

Source: <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml12/12020.html?tab=recalls>

For more stories, see items [2](#), [16](#), [17](#), [36](#), [38](#), and [59](#)

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

12. *October 27, Bloomberg* – (International) **Fukushima plant may have emitted double radiation than estimated.** The wrecked Fukushima nuclear plant in Japan may have released more than twice the amount of radiation estimated by the Japanese government, a study by European and U.S.-based scientists said. Tokyo Electric Power Co.'s Fukushima station, wrecked in the March 11 earthquake and tsunami, may have emitted 35,800 terabecquerels of radioactive cesium 137 at the height of the disaster, according to a study in the Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics journal. Japan's nuclear regulator in June said 15,000 terabecquerels of cesium 137 was discharged. The amount is about 42 percent of that released at Chernobyl in 1986, the worst civil atomic disaster in history, according to the study. The plant north of Tokyo may have also started releasing radioactive elements before the tsunami arrived about 45 minutes after the magnitude-9 quake struck, contradicting government assessments that blame the tsunami. The study led by an atmospheric scientist at the Norwegian Institute for Air Research, used readings from stations around the world to assess the amount of radiation release.

Source: <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-10-27/fukushima-plant-may-have-emitted-double-radiation-than-estimated.html>

13. *October 27, Denver Post* – (Colorado) **Cotter plans to reopen uranium mill near Canon City.** Cotter Corp.'s uranium mill near Canon City, Colorado plans to restart operations using ore shipped in from New Mexico, according to a letter filed with the state. But Colorado's governor said a bill passed by the state legislature last year likely prohibits Cotter from beginning a new project until it cleans up contamination left by Cold War-era uranium processing. He said he plans to dispatch his chief of staff to evaluate cleanup efforts at the mill declared a Superfund site in 1984. Cotter is demolishing its buildings and disposing of debris in a leaking tailing pond. In a June 24 letter, Cotter said it intended to "maintain its Radioactive Materials License for the purpose of processing Mount Taylor ore." For the company to reopen, the governor said, it would have to obtain a new license, which would require "a very public process". Cotter's proposal appears to contradict plans made by Rio Grande Resources Corp., owner of the Mount Taylor Mine west of Albuquerque. Cotter and Rio Grande are owned by San Diego-based General Atomics. Rio Grande told the Nuclear

Regulatory Commission in 2008 it intended to mill uranium not at Cotter, but at a planned mill near the New Mexico mine. Although the mill and adjacent neighborhood were declared a Superfund site 27 years ago, new pollution has been discovered, and the state still does not have detailed data on groundwater contamination, said the state health-department radiation-unit manager who has overseen cleanup since 2003. The state's estimate for cleanup costs was \$43 million; however, it permitted Cotter to put up only \$20.8 million to guarantee the work will be completed. The goal is for the U.S. Department of Energy to take the site over from the state, but first the site must be stabilized and cleaned up, which state regulators said is at least 10 years away.

Source: http://www.denverpost.com/news/ci_19202878

14. *October 26, Braidwood Journal* – (Illinois) **Exelon to begin new storage process for spent nuclear fuel.** Exelon's Braidwood Station near Braidwood, Illinois will begin storing spent fuel in dry cask storage blocks October 28. Currently, spent fuel is stored in a concrete steel-lined fuel containment pool. Exelon developed the new storage method because its containment pool is expected to reach capacity by 2013, and political red tape has delayed construction of a national repository. The new process works by placing spent fuel inside multiple, cylindrical containers. The casks are put together like nesting dolls. The first cask collects the spent fuel inside the containment pool, and is sealed while under water. The water is then purged from the cask (making a "dry cask") and removed into another cask. From there, the fuel is sealed inside a huge cask of rugged steel or steel-reinforced concrete, with concrete walls of up to 35 inches thick. That final, large cask will be moved via a special, slow moving vehicle to a concrete storage pad. That storage area is gated and sealed within the secure compound of Braidwood Station, and was specially designed to hold multiple dry casks. The site vice president said dry casks are capable of storing spent fuel for up to 100 years. He said casks are very safe and that people can walk up and touch the containers. Industry officials said dry cask storage will not replace containment pools altogether. The plan is to have spent fuel from the reactor taken first to the containment pool, then into dry cask storage, and then to a national repository yet to be determined.
Source:
<http://www.braidwoodjournal.com/main.asp?SectionID=13&SubSectionID=143&ArticleID=8177>
15. *October 26, Global Security Newswire* – (International) **Radioactive contamination found in Japanese children.** A medical site located near Japan's damaged Fukushima atomic facility reported finding small amounts of radioactive cesium in 50 percent of grade-school and middle-school students tested since late last month, the Asahi Shimbun reported October 25. The six-reactor power plant was damaged by the March 11 earthquake and tsunami. Radiation releases on a level not seen since the 1986 Chernobyl disaster forced the evacuation of about 80,000 residents from a 12-mile exclusion zone surrounding the site in Fukushima prefecture. Japan failed to dispense protective iodine to 900 or more individuals who qualified for the treatment after the March 11 events, the newspaper reported. The drug would help to prevent thyroid glands from soaking in potentially cancer-causing radiation. Meanwhile, authorities have attributed isolated areas of high radiation contamination in Kashiwa city, near Tokyo, to cesium carried by rainwater, the Wall Street Journal reported October 25.

Similar areas of high contamination are likely to turn up elsewhere in the future, the Japan Times quoted an expert as saying October 24.

Source: http://www.globalsecuritynewswire.org/gsn/nw_20111026_9005.php

16. *October 26, Augusta Chronicle* – (South Carolina; New Mexico) **Plan would send contaminated SRS plutonium to New Mexico.** About 500 kilograms of weapons grade plutonium now stored at Savannah River Site could leave South Carolina within 4 years, according to a proposal to send the tightly guarded material to a permanent disposal site in New Mexico. The plutonium is among 6 metric tons contaminated or otherwise unsuitable for conversion to commercial nuclear reactor fuel in the government's mixed oxide "mox" plant under construction at the site. According to an environmental bulletin issued October 26, the plutonium would be moved to the government's Waste Isolation Pilot Plant in New Mexico in 120 shipments over a 3-year period. The site, near the city of Carlsbad, includes a repository 2,000 feet below the surface within layers of geologic salt. Before being shipped, the plutonium would be blended with a classified material, known only as "stardust," that can convert highly contaminated plutonium into a less dangerous form that is also proliferation resistant. "It would then become very difficult and very expensive for anyone to try to recover the plutonium," said an Energy Department spokesman. "It would also no longer be required to have the high security safeguards that are now required." The bulk of the government's surplus plutonium — about 34 metric tons from about 17,000 dismantled warheads — is scheduled to be processed at a \$4.8-billion mox plant, scheduled for startup in 2016. The material would be blended with traditional uranium to make fuel suitable for use in commercial reactors.

Source: <http://chronicle.augusta.com/news/metro/2011-10-26/plan-would-send-contaminated-srs-plutonium-new-mexico?v=1319649023>

17. *October 26, Knoxville News Sentinel* – (Tennessee) **Report: Current mercury exposures not health threat.** A newly released public health assessment concludes current-day exposures to mercury discharged from the Y-12 nuclear weapons plant in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, do not pose a threat to public health. However, the draft report by the Agency for Toxic Substances & Disease Registry (ATSDR) identified a number of past exposure settings — such as children playing in East Fork Poplar Creek during the mid-1950s, when mercury discharges from Y-12 were at their highest — that could have caused health-harming effects, such as kidney problems. The ATSDR, a sister agency of the Centers for Disease Control, conducts health assessments at Superfund sites, and this mercury report is the ninth — and reportedly the last — of the agency's assessments of pollution effects in Oak Ridge. None of the studies resulted in strong warnings or public health alerts. The agency based much of its work on dozens of studies done previously, including the records on discharges or estimates of mercury lost at Y-12 during the 1950s and '60s, when the plant used mercury in vast quantities to process lithium for hydrogen bombs. The 300-page study looked at various types of potential exposures, including breathing mercury vapors in the air, drinking or ingesting mercury-contaminated water or soils, and eating mercury-contaminated fish from East Fork Poplar Creek. The creek has been posted as a health hazard since late 1982. In early 1983, the U.S. Department of Energy released a previously classified report revealing that more than 2 million pounds of mercury had been lost or otherwise

could not be accounted for, with much of it ending up in the environment. The report said Y-12 workers could have exposed family members to toxic material from 1950-1963 by bringing mercury home with them — intentionally or unintentionally. Although current exposures do not pose a health threat, a team leader in ATSDR's Division of Health Assessment and Consultation said the mercury pollution should be cleaned up. The health assessment is available online, and copies of the report are available in public libraries in the Oak Ridge area. Public comments are being accepted on the draft report through November 7.

Source: <http://www.knoxnews.com/news/2011/oct/26/report-mercury-exposures-not-health-threat/>

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

18. *October 27, Bloomberg* – (International) **Sharp says Thai floods to hurt sales as Toyota, Ford cut output.** Sharp Corp., Japan's No. 1 liquid-crystal display maker, expects floods in Thailand to hurt sales as Hynix Semiconductor Inc. said the disaster may trim computer shipments in the first quarter of next year. Toyota Motor Corp., Asia's biggest carmaker, canceled overtime shifts planned for this week at plants in North America, and Ford Motor Co. suspended output in Thailand on parts-supply shortages, the companies said October 26. PC shipments may drop, forcing memory chip prices to tumble, if supply-chain disruptions from the worst floods in half a century last into 2012, Ichon, South Korea-based Hynix said October 27. Suppliers to Sharp's two factories making goods including refrigerators have been affected by floods, a company spokeswoman said. Toyota's overtime cancellations will affect auto-assembly plants in Indiana, Kentucky, and Canada, and an engine factory in West Virginia, the company said. The automaker is working to restock U.S. dealers after Japan's record earthquake and tsunami in March cut production, and has said it will operate North American plants with overtime shifts for the remainder of 2011 to rebuild vehicle inventory. Ford may lose production of 30,000 vehicles, the chief financial officer at the carmaker said. Honda Motor Co., Japan's third-largest carmaker, closed plants in Thailand and Malaysia after a factory in Thailand was flooded. Nissan Motor Co., Japan's second-largest automaker, has closed its Thai factory, citing parts shortages.

Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/news/2011-10-27/sharp-says-thai-floods-to-hurt-sales-as-toyota-ford-cut-output.html>

19. *October 26, Detroit News* – (National) **Audit: NHTSA must improve auto recall probes.** A new audit says the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) needs to make significant improvements in its handling of auto safety investigations. The Transportation Department's Office of Inspector General, after an 18-month review, recommends better training for NHTSA employees, as well as better documentation on response to complaints and in deciding whether to open an investigation. It issued 10 recommendations for improvements. The audit found the NHTSA failed to complete 57 percent of preliminary investigations on time. The audit found NHTSA's Office of Defects Investigation does not track whether it promptly

reviews a consumer complaint. Nor does it thoroughly document how its defect assessment panel decides whether to open a preliminary investigation, the audit said. The agency also needs a systematic process for deciding whether to seek outside assistance and should "develop a formal training program to ensure staff has the necessary skills and expertise," the audit found. Between 2002 and 2009, 15 of NHTSA's 23 defect investigators took training courses related to automobile technology, dynamics, and crashes. NHTSA said it plans to complete a review of its defects office by April 2013, including deciding whether it has proper staffing and training.

Source: <http://detnews.com/article/20111026/AUTO01/110260336/1148/rss25>

20. *October 25, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission* – (National) **General Electric recalls gas rangetop with grill due to an explosion hazard.** The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission in cooperation with General Electric (GE), announced October 25 a voluntary recall of about 750 GE Monogram® Pro Rangetops with Grill. Consumers should stop using recalled products immediately unless otherwise instructed. The Burners on Rangetops operating on liquefied petroleum ("LP" or propane) may fail to ignite or light if the gas control knob is left in a position between OFF and LITE, posing a risk of delayed ignition or explosion. All LP models and only natural gas models that have been converted for use with LP gas are included in the recall. GE will notify known owners of natural gas units and provide a free repair for any consumers who converted their Rangetop with Grill to LP gas. The rangetops were manufactured in Mexico and sold by GE-authorized representatives and distributors nationwide from May 2008 through August 2011. Consumers who are operating the product on LP (propane) gas should stop using the product immediately, turn off the gas supply to the product, and contact GE to schedule a free repair.

Source: <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml12/12021.html?tab=recalls>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

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Banking and Finance Sector

21. *October 26, Reuters* – (Massachusetts) **Massachusetts charges BNY Mellon with forex fraud.** Massachusetts' top securities regulator charged Bank of New York (BNY) Mellon October 25 with fraud for having allegedly overcharged the state's pension fund on currency trades for more than a decade. In an administrative complaint, the secretary of the commonwealth said the bank had applied undisclosed markups in currency trading while acting as a custodian for the state's \$46 billion pension fund. "In reality, BNY Mellon's Standing Instruction Service was a hidden scheme that rigged the pricing of non-negotiated foreign exchange transactions while maximizing profits for the bank," the secretary said in the complaint. Massachusetts has now joined a handful

of states aking action against companies like BNY Mellon and Boston-based State Street Corp., saying they cheated public pension funds on currency transactions by failing to charge the funds the rates the banks paid, and instead forcing them to pay the day's highest rates, and pocketing the difference. An audit by Massachusetts shows BNY Mellon, the world's biggest custodial bank, overcharged Massachusetts by \$30.5 million since 2000. The state's treasurer said earlier this year that Massachusetts had paid nearly eight times as much as other customers did for certain transactions.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/10/26/massachusetts-mellon-idUSN1E79P12Z20111026>

22. *October 26, Bloomberg* – (New York; New Jersey) **Securities trader Kupersmith indicted for \$60 million fraud.** A stock trader and five alleged shell companies were charged October 26 with taking part in \$60 million in allegedly illegal stock trades. The trader used assumed identities to create the companies, defrauding at least six broker-dealers of more than \$830,000, a Manhattan district attorney said. He told the dealers the companies were well-financed and had relationships with reputable banks, when in fact they had no such relationships, the district attorney said. The district attorney's investigation, coinciding with probes by the U.S. attorney's office in New Jersey and the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, covered trades from 2008 to 2010 through New York-based Antibe Arbitrage Group Inc. and Northbrae Capital Group Inc. and New Jersey-based Atlantic Southern Capital Group Inc., Fullerton Capital Group Inc., and Oxford Smith Advisors LLC, authorities said. The trader faces charges of first- and second-degree grand larceny, scheming to defraud, and violating general business law.

Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/news/2011-10-26/securities-trader-kupersmith-indicted-for-60-million-fraud.html>

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Transportation Sector

23. *October 27, Jersey City Jersey Journal* – (New Jersey; New York) **Bus heading to Lincoln Tunnel catches fire, halting Route 495 traffic in both directions for an hour.** A bus heading into the Lincoln Tunnel on Route 495 in Weehawken, New Jersey, caught on fire October 26 at 10:45 a.m., officials said. "The fire was confined to the engine compartment of the bus, and one woman injured her ankle, reportedly, as she was exiting the bus, but she was transported before our units arrived on the scene," said the North Hudson Regional Fire and Rescue Battalion chief. Both sides of Route 495 were shut down due to the fire. Traffic resumed around 11:45 a.m., said a Port Authority spokeswoman.

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

24. *October 27, Associated Press* – (Missouri) **KC school football team bus fire upon after game.** Kansas City, Missouri police are investigating after shots were fired at a bus carrying a high school football team. Five shots hit the bus carrying a team from Southwest Early College Campus October 21. The team had just finished playing the

Afrikan Centered Education Collegium Campus. The Kansas City Star reports no one from Southwest reported the shooting until October 23. In a police report, the Southwest coach said he did not report the shooting earlier because he thought district administrators were going to report it. The bus company confirmed October 26 that the windows in the bus door were broken, with damage to the bus ceiling and the exterior of the bus. A police spokesman said no suspects have been identified.

Source: http://www.stltoday.com/news/state-and-regional/missouri/article_ca916bf9-f600-52e2-ad37-86307c5657bb.html

25. *October 27, Central Florida News 13 Orlando* – (Florida) **LYNX bus slams into school bus, 7 hurt.** Investigators said they are trying to figure out why a LYNX bus crashed into the back of a school bus October 27 near Zellwood, Florida, sending four children and three adults to the hospital. The school bus was on its way to Zellwood Elementary School, when it was hit from behind just after 8 a.m. along Orange Blossom Trail, near Plymouth Sorrento Road. According to Orange County school officials, the bus was stopped, with its red lights flashing and stop sign extended, and children were boarding at the time of the crash. All of the injuries were minor. In all, 25 students were on the school bus, including those boarding at the time of the crash. A backup bus arrived before 9 a.m. to take the uninjured students to school. Charges are pending against driver of the LYNX bus, which is part of a system run by the Central Florida Regional Transportation Authority.

Source: <http://www.cfnews13.com/article/news/2011/october/334137/LYNX-bus-slams-into-school-bus,-7-hurt>

26. *October 27, Associated Press* – (Louisiana) **Bridge closed to traffic after barge strike.** The Chef Menteur Pass bridge in New Orleans was closed after a barge hit the structure October 26. The U.S. Coast Guard said a cement barge being towed by the Shannan C and Portier I struck the bridge about 11:15 a.m. The accident closed the waterway indefinitely to marine traffic near the bridge on the Industrial Canal. Authorities said damage to the bridge was estimated at about \$100,000. Officials said the bridge was stuck in the open position as of the early morning October 27. A Coast Guard spokesman said investigators were working to determine what caused the accident.

Source: <http://www.wdsu.com/r/29601587/detail.html>

27. *October 26, Johnson City Press* – (Tennessee) **Runaway train cars: Wild ride through 3 counties.** Norfolk Southern Railway (NFS) officials are investigating how three top-loading train cars rolled onto the company's main track line in Jonesborough, Tennessee, traveled 10 miles and through numerous crossings before losing momentum in Piney Flats October 26. A NFS public information officer said the cars — called gondolas — were loaded with scrap metal from OmniSource in Jonesborough. "They were bringing in empty rail cars and picking up loaded ones. Those cars, during the switching operation, rolled onto our main line," she said. The incident began a short time after 9 p.m. and the cars finally stopped in Piney Flats around 9:50 p.m. She said the cars went through "at least two dozen" railroad crossings, some with automatic gates and lights, and some with no warning system. The gondolas traveled into and through Johnson City, through a portion of Carter County, and on over to Piney Flats

before stopping. The gondolas stopped on their own and a locomotive caught up to them in Piney Flats. Runaway train cars are highly “unusual,” the officer said, and the incident is under investigation.

Source: <http://www.johnsoncitypress.com/News/article.php?id=95340#ixzz1bxfPCih5>

For more stories, see items [5](#), [6](#), [35](#), and [44](#)

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Postal and Shipping Sector

28. *October 27, WSAU 550 AM Stevens Point* – (Wisconsin) **Small mercury spill at UPS in Stevens Point.** A United Parcel Service sorting facility was shut down in Stevens Point, Wisconsin, October 26 after a small mercury spill. A worker noticed a few droplets of mercury on a loading dock and notified a supervisor. The area was cleared and two outside companies were called in to clean and decontaminate the area. The company has not said where the mercury came from. The area reopened October 26.

Source: <http://wsau.com/news/articles/2011/oct/27/small-mercury-spill-at-ups-in-stevens-point/>

For another story, see item [52](#)

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Agriculture and Food Sector

29. *October 27, WTXF 29 Philadelphia* – (National) **Wegmans recalls pine nuts sold in 5 states.** Wegmans Food Markets is recalling 5,000 pounds of pine nuts sold in the bulk foods department of its stores in New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Virginia, and Maryland between July 1 and October 18, citing possible salmonella contamination, WTXF 29 Philadelphia reported October 27. The grocer said the pine nuts, imported from Turkey by Sunrise Commodities, have been linked to an outbreak of gastrointestinal illness from salmonella. The recall only applies to Turkish pine nuts sold in bulk. The recall was initiated as a result of a multi-state outbreak investigation by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Wegmans has 79 supermarket stores in New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Virginia, Maryland, and Massachusetts.

Source: <http://www.myfoxphilly.com/dpp/health/wegmans-recalls-pine-nuts-sold-in-5-states>

30. *October 27, KTXL 40 Sacramento* – (California) **Cattle barn burns in Elk Grove.** A barn full of hay caught fire overnight October 26, forcing the evacuation of dozens of head of cattle into the cold morning in Elk Grove, California. When fire crews responded to the two-alarm fire, the barn full of hay was fully-engulfed with flames visible for miles around. A second structure nearby also began to burn within an hour.

Source: <http://www.fox40.com/news/headlines/ktxl-twoalarm-fire-on-sacramento-farm->

[20111027,0,3553911.story?track=rss&utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed:+Ktxl-Fox40NewsAtTen+\(KTXL+-+FOX40+News+at+Ten\)](http://www.fox40news.com/2011/10/27/0,3553911.story?track=rss&utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed:+Ktxl-Fox40NewsAtTen+(KTXL+-+FOX40+News+at+Ten))

31. *October 27, Food Safety News* – (Texas) **Red tide closes Texas coast to oyster harvest.** Texas closed all of its coastal waters October 26 to oyster harvesting because of the algal bloom *Karenia brevis*, also known as the red tide. According to the Texas Department of State Health Service (DSHS), red tide has been detected along the Texas coastline from Brownsville to Galveston. As a result, all Texas coastal waters are closed to the commercial and recreational harvesting of oysters, clams, and mussels until further notice. The algae contain a toxin that can accumulate in the tissue of oysters, clams, mussels, and whelks and cause neurotoxic shellfish poisoning, or NSP, in humans who consume them. NSP symptoms can include nausea, dizziness, dilated pupils, and tingling sensations in the extremities. The DSHS is advising people not to harvest and eat oysters, clams, or mussels from Texas coastal waters. Oysters can be toxic without any indication of red tide, such as discolored waters, respiratory irritation, or dead fish. People are also advised not to harvest and eat whelks from Texas waters as these species also accumulate toxin from the red tide organism.
Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/10/red-tide-closes-texas-coastal-waters-to-oyster-harvesting/>
32. *October 27, Food Safety News* – (National) **Sandwich recall expanded over Listeria concern.** Landshire of St. Louis has significantly expanded its recall of Nike sandwiches that may be contaminated with *Listeria monocytogenes*, Food Safety News reported October 27. The company's initial recall of 1,751 cases of sandwiches, announced October 20, has now been increased to 17,305 cases, including the Nike Super Poor Boy Sandwich as well as more production dates of the Nike All-American Sandwich. The sandwiches were distributed nationwide at convenience stores, wholesale food distributors, and retail supermarkets.
Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/10/sandwich-recall-expanded-over-listeria-concern/>
33. *October 27, Food Safety News* – (National) **Airline, hospital ready-to-eat meals recalled.** A California company is recalling approximately 4,100 pounds of ready-to-eat meals that were sent to distribution centers in the Los Angeles County area, which may have sold them to airlines and hospitals, because they were produced without federal inspection, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) said October 26. According to the FSIS news release, Judy's Catering of Burbank produces these meals on an intermittent basis and requests FSIS inspection before operating. When FSIS personnel recently visited the plant to collect data, they found the company had produced meals on certain dates without FSIS inspectors present. FSIS said it may take additional regulatory action.
Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/10/airline-hospital-ready-to-eat-meals-recalled/>
34. *October 26, KTVI 2 St. Louis* – (Missouri) **Suspected food borne illness strikes metro area.** The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (MDHSS) has been notified of a suspected food-borne illness in the St. Louis, Missouri metro area, KTVI 2

St. Louis reported October 26. In the past 24 hours, St. Louis County Health Department has had 14 reports of food-borne illness. The MDHSS is assisting local health officials in the investigation, that includes testing for E. coli at the state public health laboratory in Jefferson City, which has notified the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. At this time, the point of origin to the contamination has not been found.

Source: <http://www.kplr11.com/news/ktvi-suspected-food-borne-illness-strikes-metro-area-20111026,0,3404380.story>

35. *October 25, WBND 57 South Bend* – (Indiana) **Last cow on the loose rounded up.** A semi-truck carrying about 100 cattle rolled over in St. Joseph County, Indiana October 25. About 40 of the cows scattered from the accident. It took emergency crews and farmers more than 3 hours to round them all up. Ten cattle were killed in the crash and three were put down by the Saint Joseph County Humane Society. The surviving cows were taken to a nearby farm until they could be picked up. The truck was transporting the cows from Illinois to Kansas.

Source: http://www.abc57.com/home/top-stories/Semi-truck-rolls-over-100-cows-on-the-loose-132537318.html?hpt=us_bn6

For more stories, see items [10](#), [17](#), [36](#), [38](#), [43](#), [60](#), and [62](#)

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Water Sector

36. *October 27, Portland Oregonian* – (Oregon) **Estacada must submit plan for reducing ammonia discharges from wastewater treatment plant into Clackamas River.** The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is requiring the city of Estacada to submit an engineering study by March 1, detailing its plan for reducing ammonia discharges from its wastewater treatment facility into the Clackamas River, the Portland Oregonian reported October 27. Since last winter, the city has been fined \$2,500 for violations related to the ammonia discharges. "The ammonia levels do not represent a direct human health concern," said a DEQ compliance assurance specialist. But they do represent "a potential aquatic organism toxicity concern if low stream flows, elevated temperatures, and elevated pH all correspond," he said. The discharges occur at the impoundment area above River Mill Dam.

Source:

http://www.oregonlive.com/clackamascounty/index.ssf/2011/10/estacada_must_submit_plan_for.html

37. *October 27, Associated Press* – (West Virginia) **Wayne County residents say outdated system has left them without water for much of past month.** Some Wayne County, West Virginia residents have been without water for much of October due to an old, leaky system, the Associated Press reported October 27. The Fort Gay water system serves more than 750 customers and has been under a boil-water advisory for more than 6 months, and more than 300 customers in outlying areas have no available water. A series of leaks in an outdated pump and power system quickly depletes

reservoir tanks and requires frequent shutdowns of the system for repairs. The Wayne County commission assumed control of the water system from the town the week of October 24. The commission president and Fort Gay mayor told the Huntington Herald-Dispatch they are unsure when reliable service will be restored. Commissioners met with architects and engineers and have also discussed tying into Lavalette's water system as a possible solution.

Source:

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/baa750c8138c4c519e3408029c657a72/WV--Water-System-Woes/>

38. *October 26, Augusta Chronicle* – (Georgia) **Burke County drinking water plant to remain closed after mining chemical detected.** Elevated levels of alum – a chemical compound suspected in the Brier Creek fish kill October 15 – were detected at the city of Waynesboro, Georgia's drinking water filtration plant, which has been closed, the *Augusta Chronicle* reported October 26. Residents will continue to have water service through two groundwater wells the city uses as its primary water source, the city manager said. The filtration plant, permitted to pump up to 200,000 gallons of surface water per day from the creek, is operated as a secondary source, he said, but will remain closed while engineers determine whether alum found in the plant's filters caused any damage. The utilities department planned to flush the water system as part of routine maintenance conducted every 6 months. No formal conclusions have been announced. The October 15 event is believed to have killed thousands of fish along about 18 miles of streams, said the director of Savannah Riverkeeper.

Source: <http://chronicle.augusta.com/latest-news/2011-10-26/burke-county-drinking-water-plant-remain-closed-after-mining-chemical>

39. *October 26, Hagerstown Herald-Mail* – (West Virginia) **Berkeley Co. Public Sewer District blames state for violations.** Berkeley County's public sewer district (BCPSSD) claims the state did not allow the utility to collect enough money from customers to make facility improvements to prevent violations that are now the subject of a lawsuit filed by the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). The assertion by BCPSSD is one of several defenses outlined in the utility's response to the DEP lawsuit, which alleges the BCPSSD repeatedly violated the state Water Pollution Control Act (WPCA). Filed in August, the DEP's lawsuit claims the sewer district is responsible for more than 250 major violations of the WPCA between March 2007 and February 2011, and more than 1,000 total when including moderate and minor infractions, according to Berkeley County Circuit Court documents. The BCPSSD in its response to the DEP's claims, repeatedly said it is "without sufficient information to admit or deny the truth" of specific allegations concerning the violations cited by the DEP. The utility's response to the DEP lawsuit was filed October 17 by a Charleston, West Virginia attorney.

Source: http://articles.herald-mail.com/2011-10-26/news/30326597_1_public-sewer-district-collection-and-treatment-systems-dep-lawsuit

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

40. *October 27, St. Louis Post-Dispatch* – (Missouri) **Five hurt in fire at St. Charles retirement center.** In St. Charles, Missouri, three residents and one employee of the Fairwinds River's Edge retirement community were hospitalized October 23 after a fire broke out in a third-floor apartment. The fire started in the kitchen area of an independent living apartment. A woman who lived in the unit suffered smoke inhalation and was taken to Mercy Hospital St. Louis in Creve Coeur. An 18-year-old man who works at the facility suffered severe smoke inhalation as he and two other staffers contained most of the blaze with fire extinguishers. One of the other staffers was treated for smoke inhalation at the scene. Two other residents, both women, also were hospitalized. One suffered smoke inhalation and the other injured her hip during a fall while evacuating the building. About 50 people needed to be evacuated from the third floor. The ages of the injured residents and their conditions were not immediately available. The exact source of the fire in the kitchen was not immediately known.
Source: http://www.stltoday.com/news/local/crime-and-courts/article_e1c53fc6-0047-11e1-8733-001a4bcf6878.html
41. *October 26, WPVI 6 Philadelphia* – (Pennsylvania) **Man uses bomb threat to rob Chadds Ford pharmacy.** Police say an armed man threatened workers at a pharmacy in Chadds Ford, Delaware County, Pennsylvania, with an alleged bomb plot in an attempt to obtain prescription drugs, WPVI 6 Philadelphia reported October 26. According to investigators, the suspect walked into a Walgreen, approached the pharmacy counter and handed the clerk a note stating he had a bomb. According to the note, the bomb was a half mile down the road and set to go off in 30 seconds. The note also stated he had a gun and that he wanted drugs. The man then flashed a black handgun which was tucked into his waistband. The clerk gave the gunman four bottles of oxycodones. He then fled the scene.
Source: <http://abclocal.go.com/wpvi/story?section=news/crime&id=8406026>

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Government Facilities Sector

42. *October 27, FoxNews.com* – (Maryland) **Maryland University students move to cruise ship after mold overtakes dorms.** Hundreds of students in Maryland will get a crash course in water-borne living when they are moved onto a cruise ship the weekend of October 29 and 30 to escape the mold that has overtaken their college dorm rooms. The students from St. Mary's College in St. Mary's City are being forced off-campus by wet weather that has dogged southern Maryland since Hurricane Irene swept through in August. The college, which is situated on the banks of the St. Mary's River, moved hundreds of students to nearby hotels the week of October 17 in a bid to escape the damp. The president said the students would probably stay aboard the ship for the rest of the semester. The total cost of relocating the students was expected to be \$1.5 million, with another \$1 million being spent on cleaning up the mold.

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/us/2011/10/27/maryland-university-students-move-to-cruise-ship-after-mold-overtakes-dorms/>

43. *October 27, Food Safety News* – (Wisconsin) **Wisconsin E. coli probe focused on school.** Four elementary school students were sent home with stool collection kits by school administrators to help with an investigation in Wisconsin that has not been able to find the source of an E. coli O157:H7 outbreak, Food Safety News reported October 27. By asking for stool specimens, however, Wisconsin's Green County Health Department and the state division of public health identified four Abe Lincoln Elementary School students infected with the same strain of E. coli O157:H7 responsible for nine illnesses and one death between mid-August and mid-September. No source has been identified for either the four recent cases, or the nine earlier illnesses. In mid-October, Wisconsin health officials hoped to test about 140 pre-kindergarten and kindergarten students at Abe Lincoln Elementary School in Monroe, sending the stool kits home with them with instructions to turn specimens into the health department. The samples were then sent to the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene. Students who had not turned in their specimens were not allowed to attend school after October 25. At least two of the earlier E. coli victims were students at Abe Lincoln. The school has since been cleaning and sanitizing and promoting hand washing. Monroe School District officials said they were told Abe Lincoln is not thought to be the source of the pathogen, which has now sickened 15 in the community. Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/10/stool-collection-kits-used-in-wisconsin-e-coli-probe/>
44. *October 27, New York Times* – (New York) **10 arrested in \$1 billion L.I.R.R. disability scheme.** Eleven people, including two doctors and a former union president, were charged October 27 in a major fraud scheme in which hundreds of workers for Long Island Rail Road (LIRR) in New York made false disability pension claims that may have cost a federal pension agency \$1 billion, according to court papers. A total of 10 of the defendants — seven former railroad workers charged with making false pension claims, the former union president, a former federal railroad pension agency employee who helped the workers file the claims, and one of the doctors — were taken into custody in the early morning hours at their homes by FBI agents and state investigators, officials said. The other doctor was expected to surrender in the coming days. All were charged with mail fraud and conspiracy to commit health care fraud, according to a criminal complaint filed in the case. The defendants in custody were expected to be arraigned October 27 in federal court in Manhattan. The federal investigation followed reporting by The New York Times for a series of articles published in 2008 that revealed systematic abuses of Railroad Retirement Board pensions by LIRR workers. The Times articles reported that virtually every career employee of the railroad was applying for and receiving disability payments, giving the LIRR a disability rate of three to four times that of the average railroad. The two doctors, board-certified orthopedists, were paid between \$800 to \$1,200 for each fake assessment and narrative, in addition to millions in health insurance payments they received for unnecessary medical treatments and fees for preparing false medical records to support the disability claims, the complaint said.

Source: <http://cityroom.blogs.nytimes.com/2011/10/27/ten-arrested-in-1-billion-l-i-r-r-disability-scheme/?smid=tw-nytimes&seid=auto>

45. *October 26, KTSM 9 El Paso* – (Texas) **Ft. Bliss soldier shot.** A Fort Bliss soldier is in the hospital for a shooting October 25 in El Paso, Texas. The El Paso police public information officer confirmed a soldier was shot in the leg. The soldier then drove to a gate on Fort Bliss, where he was then taken to William Beaumont Army Medical Center. His injuries are non-life threatening.

Source: <http://www.ktsm.com/news/breaking-ft-bliss-soldier-shot>

46. *October 26, Pensacola Business Journal* – (Florida) **Navy officials take needed steps to correct hangar safety issues.** U.S. Navy officials said that despite warnings, supervisors at the National Naval Aviation Museum in Pensacola, Florida failed to keep up with worker safety and training regulations, forcing the shut-down of the aircraft restoration hangar the week of October 17. The Navy said the unprecedented closing was triggered after an inspection found no staff member was in charge of safety, training documentation was almost nonexistent, and there were no records of what procedures were in place to protect workers exposed to toxic chemicals. Retraining of staff and correction of hazardous environmental conditions began the week of October 24 in hopes of reopening the facility that restores historic Naval aircraft for display in museums across the country. The Navy Museum System program manager ordered the facility shut down October 19 after museum officials failed to correct worker training and safety violations discovered more than a year ago. A Pensacola Naval Hospital safety inspection in June 2010 found restoration workers were being exposed to excessive levels of toxic lead and hexavalent chromium due to improper sandblasting and paint removal procedures.

Source: <http://www.pnj.com/article/20111027/NEWS12/110270328/Navy-officials-take-needed-steps-correct-hangar-safety-issues?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|s>

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Emergency Services Sector

47. *October 27, WGAL 8 Lancaster* – (Pennsylvania) **Police: Theft suspect hangs himself at Lancaster station.** A man being held on a theft charge hung himself at the Lancaster City, Pennsylvania police station October 25. He was arrested about 1:15 p.m. October 25 on a theft charge and put in a holding cell at the station, police said. About 3 p.m., he was discovered hanging by his T-shirt in an apparent suicide attempt, police said. Workers cut him down and tried to resuscitate him, police said. Emergency crews also tried to revive him and he was taken to Lancaster General Hospital, where he was pronounced dead. The camera in his cell was working properly, police said. No one was watching the camera when he hung himself, police said. Lancaster City police, the Lancaster County Coroner's Office, and the Lancaster County District Attorney's Office

are investigating the incident.

Source: <http://www.wgal.com/news/29590189/detail.html>

48. *October 26, New York Post* – (New York) **Yonkers man finds suspected bomb in attic, puts firehouse on lockdown.** A Yonkers, New York man found what looked like a land mine in his grandfather's attic, he then brought it to a local firehouse. The move shut down the firehouse and forced cops to cordon off a busy business area for nearly an hour and a half October 26 while the Westchester bomb squad investigated. "It doesn't look like it was an operable device," the police lieutenant said.

Source:

http://www.nypost.com/p/news/local/yonkers_man_finds_suspected_bomb_COpsINTGnQftGt2rWT2oZM

49. *October 26, KCPQ 13 Tacoma* – (Washington) **Monroe prison fires 3 corrections officers.** The Washington state Department of Corrections (DOC) has fired three corrections officers, demoted two others, and several more were reprimanded in connection with their duties at the Monroe Correction Complex (MCC) the evening an officer was killed. All of the officers were under investigation by the DOC. The focus of the investigation was to determine whether there was any misconduct. The officer died January 29 while working in the prison's chapel. One of the officers reprimanded was a lieutenant cited for failing to notify and account for all staff once the deceased officer had been reported as missing. The lieutenant was demoted to sergeant. Another sergeant was demoted for failing to take action after he became aware an officer was outside his assigned area. The three officers were terminated for being outside their assigned working area during the time the officer was attacked, falsifying a logbook to report the chapel had been cleared, and failing to inspect and secure the chapel.

Source: http://www.q13fox.com/news/kcpq-monroe-prison-fires-3-corrections-officers-20111026,0,4558800.story?hpt=us_bn7

50. *October 21, Emergency Management* – (National) **Millions of Californians set preparedness example in earthquake drill.** One-fifth of California's population took a few minutes out of their day October 20 to practice earthquake preparedness as part of the Great California ShakeOut exercise. Since 2008, the drill has grown to include 9.4 million participants and inspired additional states and foreign countries to prepare for earthquakes. This year Nevada, Oregon, Idaho, Guam, and British Columbia held ShakeOut drills simultaneously. Meanwhile, insurance and advertising industry representatives from Mexico, China, and Japan were on hand to witness an event in Los Angeles. Schools, businesses, and community centers around the state practiced what to do during an earthquake, while several fire departments practiced search and rescue and actions to take following an earthquake. Organizers noted more than 6 million students, faculty, and staff participated in the drill. "Significant increases" were also seen among businesses, medical personnel, federal employees, and nonprofit organizations.

Source: <http://www.emergencymgmt.com/disaster/Millions-of-Californians-Set-Preparedness-Example-in-Earthquake-Drill-.html>

For another story, see item [56](#)

Information Technology Sector

51. *October 27, V3.co.uk* – (International) **Cisco warns of remote code flaw in Security Agent software.** Cisco is advising administrators to update systems following the discovery of a remote code execution vulnerability in Security Agent 6.0, V3.co.uk reported October 27. The flaw could allow an attacker to remotely target the Oracle Outside component for the Fusion Middleware platform to access the Cisco software on Windows systems. Cisco said in a security advisory successful exploitation would allow the attacker to execute code and control the targeted system with administrator rights. Cisco has released a free patch and is advising customers to obtain the Cisco Security Agent 6.0.2.151 fix through their service provider or hardware retailer. No other mitigations for the vulnerability are known. Proof-of-concept code for the flaw has been posted, but Cisco has not received any reports of the vulnerability being exploited in the wild. No other products or components are believed to be affected. Source: <http://www.v3.co.uk/v3-uk/news/2120369/cisco-warns-remote-code-flaw-security-agent-software>

52. *October 27, Help Net Security* – (International) **Fake DHL delivery notification carries info-stealer Trojan.** Malware peddlers have once again started a spam run that consists of e-mails purportedly sent by DHL, Help Net Security reported October 27. They spoofed the sender information, making it look like the e-mail was sent from "DHL Express International Support," and the subject line says it is a "DHL Express Notification for shipment for 26 Oct 2011," said MX Lab. Apart from the usual (legitimate) information about the company, the e-mail contains a request not to reply to the e-mail as it is used by an automated application, and an invite to open the attached file for more details about the shipment: When unzipped, the attached file reveals an executable — DHL-Delivery-Notification-Message-102611(dot)exe. Users are advised to be on the lookout for this spam e-mail and to delete it without opening, because the attached executable seems to be a Zbot Trojan variant currently detected only by a few AV solutions. It is also likely the date in the subject line will probably be changed if the campaign continues for a few days, so slight variations of the e-mail can be expected. Source: http://www.net-security.org/malware_news.php?id=1888

53. *October 27, Help Net Security* – (International) **Cisco WebEx Player WRF file processing vulnerabilities.** Multiple buffer overflow vulnerabilities exist in the Cisco WebEx Recording Format (WRF) player, Help Net Security reported October 27. In some cases, exploitation of the vulnerabilities could allow a remote attacker to execute arbitrary code on the system with the privileges of a targeted user. The Cisco WebEx Players are applications that are used to play back WebEx meeting recordings that have been recorded on a WebEx meeting site or on the computer of an online meeting attendee. The players can be automatically installed when the user accesses a recording file that is hosted on a WebEx meeting site. The Microsoft Windows, Apple Mac OS X, and Linux versions of the players are all affected. Affected versions of the players

are those prior to client build T26 SP49 EP40 and T27 SP28. If the WRF player was automatically installed, it will be automatically upgraded to the latest, nonvulnerable version when users access a recording file hosted on a WebEx meeting site. If the WRF player was manually installed, users will need to manually install a new version of the player after downloading the latest version. Cisco has released free software updates that address these vulnerabilities.

Source: <http://www.net-security.org/secworld.php?id=11851>

54. *October 26, TG Daily* – (International) **Tsunami-A OS X trojan spotted in the wild.** Security researchers have identified a new backdoor trojan targeting systems running Mac OS X, TG Daily reported October 26. Tsunami appears to be a port of Troj/Kaiten, a Linux Trojan that embeds itself on a computer system and monitors an IRC channel for further instructions. As a Sophos Security researcher noted, trojans like Tsunami/Kaiten are typically used to drag infected computers into coordinated DDoS (distributed denial-of-service) attacks, which flood a targeted Web site server with a massive amounts of traffic. "It's not just a DDoS tool though," the researcher said. As evidenced by the portion of OSX/Tsunami's source code, "the bash script can be given a variety of different instructions and can be used to remotely access an affected computer."
Source: <http://www.tgdaily.com/security-features/59283-tsunami-a-os-x-trojan-spotted-in-the-wild>

For more stories, see items [18](#), [55](#), and [56](#)

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

55. *October 27, Santa Cruz Sentinel* – (California) **AT&T fixes SLV Internet service outage.** AT&T made good on a promise to San Lorenzo Valley, California customers to resume Internet service October 26 after service was interrupted October 25. A fiber cable was accidentally cut the afternoon of October 25 by a Granite Construction crew working on Graham Hill Road in Felton, an AT&T spokesman said. The Graham Hill Road work was a project being done under contract for the county department of public works, according to the department's assistant director. A University of California Santa Cruz employee reported AT&T internet service was out in Ben Lomond and Felton. Some customers in the Pasatiempo area reported a 4-day outage in the first week of October, but a spokesman said he was unaware of that issue.
Source: http://www.santacruzsentinel.com/business/ci_19203549

56. *October 26, Associated Press* – (Washington) **CenturyLink cable cut for second time near Pasco.** A contractor doing some plowing south of Pasco, Washington, October 26 accidentally hit a CenturyLink fiber optic cable — the second time in as many days that the cable has been cut, causing outages. It happened about 13 miles south of Pasco. A spokeswoman said it was unclear how the cable was cut twice in the same area since it is well-marked. The cable was cut October 26 by a contractor unrelated to CenturyLink. The 6-hour outage October 25 was caused by a different crew. It affected 911 service in Columbia County and long distance and Internet service in Pasco and Walla Walla for about 20,000 customers. CenturyLink expected repairs to go more quickly October 26.
Source: <http://www.theolympian.com/2011/10/26/1853119/centurylink-cable-cut-for-second.html>
57. *October 26, Radio Survivor* – (California) **FCC issues \$10,000 forfeiture order to Pirate Cat Radio founder.** On October 21, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) posted a notice a forfeiture order for \$10,000 was issued to the founder of Pirate Cat Radio for “willfully and repeatedly violating section 301 of the Communications Act of 1934 by operating an unlicensed radio broadcast station” in San Francisco. The letter is a follow-up to an earlier Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture that was issued to the man August 31, 2009. He responded to that notice October 23, 2009, and claimed he was not involved with the broadcast transmissions of Pirate Cat Radio and that he additionally was “financially unable” to pay the \$10,000 fine. The October 21 forfeiture letter from the FCC discounts his arguments and reiterates the FCC’s finding that Pirate Cat Radio “operated a radio broadcast station without a license issued by the FCC on 87.9 MHz in San Francisco, California.”
Source: <http://www.radiosurvivor.com/2011/10/26/fcc-issues-10000-forfeiture-order-to-pirate-cat-radio-founder/>

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Commercial Facilities Sector

58. *October 27, CNN* – (New York; California; Georgia) **Occupy Wall Street protesters support injured war vet.** More Occupy Wall Street protests were scheduled in New York October 27, a day after demonstrators marched to support an Iraq war veteran who was hurt in California. Hundreds packed the streets near Manhattan's Union Square October 26 in a march in support of the veteran. At least 10 people were arrested in clashes with officers, a New York police spokesman said. The veteran suffered a skull fracture late October 25 after allegedly being shot in the head with a police projectile in Oakland, California, according to Iraq Veterans Against the War. Authorities made a series of arrests at protests in Oakland, California, and Atlanta, Georgia, October 25 and 26. Police said they fired tear gas on protesters in Oakland after the crowd threw paint and other objects at officers. In Atlanta, police arrested dozens of demonstrators at a downtown park after protesters failed to leave the facility.
Source: http://www.cnn.com/2011/10/27/us/occupy-wall-street/index.html?hpt=us_c1

59. *October 27, Lorain Morning Journal* – (Ohio) **Mobile meth lab discovered in trunk of a car at cash checking store.** The Lorain County, Ohio Sheriff’s Office and the Sheffield Township Fire Department dismantled a mobile meth lab in the trunk of a car in the parking lot of a Cash Stop October 26. The car was pulled over by the sheriff’s department for fictitious plates. When backup arrived, the car was searched and chemicals and equipment were found in the trunk that indicated it was being used to cook methamphetamines, officials said. All of the children and workers at a day care center within 100 feet of the car were evacuated to the Red Cross office because of the explosive and toxic nature of the chemicals. All five people in the car were arrested.
Source: <http://morningjournal.com/articles/2011/10/27/news/mj5205861.txt?viewmode=fullstory>
60. *October 26, Associated Press* – (North Carolina) **8 of 9 E. coli victims attended N.C. State Fair.** Three children were in hospital intensive care units after an outbreak of a potentially deadly type of food poisoning that could be linked to the North Carolina State Fair, the Associated Press reported October 26. The Wake County health department said October 26 that seven children and two adults have been infected with E. coli bacteria. Eight of the nine victims attended the state fair that ended October 23. The community health director said the cause of their illness is not yet known and visiting the fair was just one shared characteristic.
Source: <http://www.thetimesnews.com/articles/raleigh-49059-state-victims.html>
61. *October 25, Naperville Sun-Times* – (Illinois) **Bomb squad defuses grenade found in downtown Joliet office.** A man found a live grenade while cleaning out his father’s office in Joliet, Illinois October 25. The man found a box in the safe of his father’s office, a police official said. “The elderly owner is suffering from dementia and his son, who is also a senior, was cleaning when he noticed a box that had the words ‘Don’t touch’ and ‘Boom!’ written on it,” he said. The man opened it, found a grenade inside and called police. As the Cook County Bomb Squad was called to the scene, Joliet police cordoned off the building and evacuated the first and second floors. The bomb squad determined the grenade was a working explosive.
Source: <http://napervillesun.suntimes.com/news/8414508-418/bomb-squad-defuses-grenade-found-in-downtown-joliet-office.html>

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

62. *October 26, Newport News Daily Press* – (Virginia) **Dismal Swamp: \$25 million up in smoke.** The federal government has spent \$25 million fighting fires in the Great Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge in Suffolk, Virginia during the last 3 years, Newport News Daily Press reported October 26. The tab, combined with poor air quality felt as far away as Washington, D.C., has the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service reconsidering how it manages the 111,200-acre refuge. The largest wildfire in Virginia

since the state began keeping records, 2011's fire has scorched nearly 6,400 acres. It started August 4 when lightning struck the refuge's parched floor. Much of the charred area also burned in 2008, when logging equipment caught fire and set off a 4,884-acre fire that lasted 4 months. Each fire cost \$12.5 million, though the bill for the current fire continues to grow. The fire also destroyed 800 acres of Atlantic white cedar seedlings, a \$300,000 project completed earlier in 2011.

Source: http://articles.dailypress.com/2011-10-26/news/dp-nws-cp-dismal-swamp-20111026_1_invasive-plants-chris-lowie-refuge

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Dams Sector

63. *October 27, Los Gatos Patch* – (California) **Local dams vulnerable to earthquakes.** A Santa Clara Valley, California Water District study has found that Calero and Guadalupe dams are subject to significant damage if a major earthquake were to occur. Guadalupe Reservoir is located southeast of Los Gatos, on the western edge of Almaden Quicksilver County Park and Calero Reservoir is located in the hills south of Almaden Valley. The dams have been subject to storage restrictions based on earlier similar findings, according to a district spokesman. As a result of the new findings, the district voluntarily decreased the amount of water the dams can hold to 25 feet below their crest. The new operating restrictions are now subject to approval by the state division of safety of dams, officials explained. The additional 5-foot restriction would reduce the available storage capacity by 1,136 acre-feet. The district is the largest water services provider in Santa Clara County providing flood protection services to about 1.8 million residents.

Source: <http://losgatos.patch.com/articles/local-dams-vulnerable-to-earthquakes>

64. *October 27, Bloomberg News* – (International) **Bangkok floods ‘beyond our control,’ Thai government says.** Thailand’s government said October 27 it is losing the battle to protect Bangkok from rising floodwaters, and plans to open evacuation centers in eight provinces as the deluge forces more residents to give up their homes, Bloomberg reported. Diverting a 3-meter-deep wall of water that is edging toward the capital is key to sparing the city of 9.7 million people from the severity of floods that have damaged about 10,000 factories north of the city. Authorities released large amounts of water earlier this month down a flood plain the size of Florida with Bangkok at its southern tip, after monsoon rains about 25 percent above the 30-year average filled dams to the north of the capital to capacity. Water levels in parts of Bangkok may reach as high as 1.5 meters if a major breach occurs in dikes to the north of the capital, with depths reaching about 50 centimeters in most places, the prime minister said October 26. Thailand’s government announced a 5-day holiday starting October 27 for 21 northern and central provinces to give people time to prepare for flooding.

Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/news/2011-10-27/bangkok-floods-beyond-our-control-thai-government-says.html>

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