



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report 1 November 2011

Top Stories

- About 1.8 million people in at least five states remained without power October 31 after a rare October snowstorm buried parts of the Northeast under more than 2 feet of snow. – *CNN* (See item [1](#))
- Six people were killed and two others injured in an October 29 grain elevator blast in Atchison, Kansas, that destroyed parts of a grain-distribution building, and a concrete silo. – *Associated Press* (See item [27](#))

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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 31, CNN* – (National) **Nearly 2 million without power as Northeast recovers from storm.** About 1.8 million people in at least five states remained without power early the afternoon of October 31 after a rare October snowstorm buried parts of the Northeast under more than 2 feet of snow. Utilities throughout the region reported significant progress in restoring power, but the cold, snowy conditions and house-by-house nature of the damage was slowing the work, officials said. The October 29 and 30 storm prompted emergency declarations from the governors of New York, New

Jersey, Connecticut, and Massachusetts. The Massachusetts governor said some roads in the state were expected to ice up again after dark, and he warned that downed power lines continue to pose a threat of electrocution in the wake of a storm he said warrants a federal disaster declaration. Connecticut power officials told reporters October 31 that about 756,000 people were without power, down from a peak of more than 900,000. Power crews from across the country were converging on the state to help restore power, according to the spokesman, who said every town Connecticut Light and Power serves was adversely affected. In Massachusetts, state officials said utility crews had come from as far as Louisiana and Texas to help. The Massachusetts governor said utility crews had made a 23 percent dent in the number of buildings without power as of Monday morning. Elsewhere, about 90,000 customers were without power October 31 in Pennsylvania; 277,000 in New Jersey; 180,000 in New York, and 191,000 in New Hampshire, according to figures from emergency managers and power companies in those states. Thousands also lost power in Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia. Source: http://www.cnn.com/2011/10/31/us/east-coast-storm/index.html?hpt=hp_t2

2. *October 30, Louisville Courier-Journal* – (National) **Top mine regulator has turned up heat.** After the Upper Big Branch Mine disaster in Montcoal, West Virginia, killed 29 miners last year, federal coal-mine regulators launched a new program of safety blitzes, showing up unannounced at mines in Kentucky and other states, seizing telephones so people underground would get no warning, and fanning out in search of hazards. Since April 2010, the federal Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) has conducted 251 so-called “impact inspections” in coal mines, including 73 in Kentucky, and seven in Indiana. Those safety sweeps have netted 4,530 citations for violations, including nearly 2,000 in Kentucky, and 111 in Indiana. At the same time, the MSHA has ordered 427 temporary mine closings to fix problems, including 174 in Kentucky, and six in Indiana. The MSHA also is moving ahead with proposed regulations to improve and tighten coal-dust monitoring to protect miners from excess exposure that can lead to black lung disease; new rules to crack down on operators with a pattern of safety violations; and additional action to prevent equipment from crushing miners.

Source: <http://www.courier-journal.com/article/20111030/NEWS01/310310008/Top-mine-regulator-has-turned-up-heat?odyssey=nav|head> ><http://www.courier-journal.com/article/20111030/NEWS01/310310008/Top-mine-regulator-has-turned-up-heat?odyssey=nav|head> <<http://www.courier-journal.com/article/20111030/NEWS01/310310008/Top-mine-regulator-has-turned-up-heat?odyssey=nav|head>

3. *October 30, Sacramento Bee* – (California) **Mystery power outage hits 16,000 customers in Sacramento region.** Crews are investigating what caused an outage that affected PG&E customers October 28 and October 29 in California, the utility reports. Outages were reported around 8 p.m. affecting several substations in Placer and El Dorado counties, but power was restored to all 16,000 customers by 1:04 a.m. October 29, said a PG&E spokeswoman. Power was restored by rerouting electricity, she said. Crews continued to look at what may have set off the outages.

Source: <http://www.sacbee.com/2011/10/30/4017143/mystery-power-outage-hits-16000.html>

Chemical Industry Sector

4. *October 31, V3.co.uk* – (International) **Symantec uncovers Nitro attacks targeting chemical industry.** Symantec has revealed a large-scale targeted cyber attack designed primarily to steal information from chemical and defense companies, including 27 in the United States. Dubbed "Nitro", the campaign started in late April focused on human rights groups, before moving onto the motor industry, according to the Symantec Nitro attacks report. The attack moved onto the chemical industry in late July, targeting 29 companies and another 19 in sectors such as defense, the report said. The attackers used the common ploy of sending certain members of a target organization an e-mail with a malicious attachment disguised as a meeting invitation or security update. "The emails contained an attachment that was either an executable that appeared to be a text file based on the file name and icon, or a password-protected archive containing an executable file with the password provided in the email," the report said. "In both cases, the file was a self-extracting executable containing PoisonIvy, a common backdoor Trojan developed by a Chinese speaker." Once the infected machine was connected to the command and control server, attackers could traverse the network, infecting additional computers in search for the domain administrator's credentials, and from there locate servers containing intellectual property. Eventually the content is uploaded to a remote site. The attacks were spread geographically, but most infected machines were located in the United States (27), Bangladesh (20), and the United Kingdom (14). Symantec traced the attacks to a virtual private server (VPS) based in the United States, but registered to a "20-something male" in Heibei, China dubbed "Covert Grove". The male claimed the VPS, which cost him \$32 a month to rent, was set up for legitimate purposes, but Symantec researchers found evidence that may point to the contrary. "When prompted regarding hacking skills, Covert Grove immediately provided a contact that would perform 'hacking for hire'. Whether this contact is merely an alias or a different individual has not been determined," the researchers concluded.
Source: <http://www.v3.co.uk/v3-uk/news/2121298/symantec-uncovers-nitro-attacks-targeting-chemical-industry>
5. *October 31, Global Security Newswire* – (International) **Chemical weapons monitors due back in Libya.** Libya's interim prime minister said October 30 his government asked international monitors to return to the country and assist the new government's efforts to eliminate a small stockpile of chemical warfare agents, the Associated Press reported. When the uprising against Libya's former dictator began in February, Libya still held roughly 9 metric tons of mustard blister agent, part of a 25-ton stockpile it had been destroying under the Chemical Weapons Convention. The north African nation is also believed to still retain hundreds of metric tons of chemical weapon precursor material. The Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, which monitors compliance with the convention's statutes, has said it would send inspectors back to Libya as soon as the situation allowed. A U.S. Assistant Secretary of State said Libya's chemical weapons have been under "continuous surveillance to assure that it has remained in its storage facilities and has not been tampered with." Russia has submitted a resolution to the U.N. Security Council that calls on Libya's interim government to

finish disposing of all chemical warfare materials in a manner agreed on with international monitoring regimes. The 15-nation body was expected to consider the issue the week of October 31. The interim prime minister said the transitional government in recent days had discovered chemical arms in the nation's capital, the Xinhua News Agency reported. There have been conflicting reports on whether all chemical warfare materials found by opposition forces had been previously declared under the Chemical Weapons Convention.

Source: http://www.globalsecuritynewswire.org/gsn/nw_20111031_9913.php

6. *October 31, Fort Wayne Journal-Gazette* – (Indiana) **Warehouse fire launches plume of toxic smoke.** An unrelenting fire at an insulation warehouse west of Fort Wayne, Indiana, started October 30 and burned into the night, sending up plumes of toxic, black smoke and creating concerns about possible environmental effects. More than 40 firefighters responded to the blaze at Momper Insulation on West Main Street. No one was inside the 34,000-square-foot warehouse at the time of the fire. Its cause was not immediately known. The fire's billowing smoke was seen from miles away, and it attracted crowds of onlookers. Meanwhile, fire officials urged people to keep their distance. "Because of the insulation, because of the chemicals that they use inside of the building, the smoke is toxic," a fire captain said. A few residents closer to the warehouse were asked to evacuate, but fire officials said a large evacuation were not needed. A fire chief said a haz-mat crew was monitoring toxicity levels in the air. Firefighters were dispatched at 11:34 a.m. The fire captain said they initially entered the warehouse, but had to leave when the fire intensified. A sidewall later collapsed, hitting a firefighter, he said. The firefighter was treated at a hospital and released. Allen County's Homeland Security director said a milky runoff from fighting the fire drained into Junk Ditch, a stream that flows behind the warehouse and into the St. Marys River, the Maumee River, and Lake Erie. To keep the contaminated runoff from spreading, city crews dammed the stream with booms and sandbags, he said. Authorities emphasized the city's drinking-water supply, which comes from the St. Joseph River, was not at risk of contamination. Fire officials said the warehouse was a total loss. Firefighters were on the scene through the night into October 31. Main Street remained shut down from West Jefferson Boulevard to Leesburg Road.

Source:

<http://www.journalgazette.net/article/20111031/LOCAL07/310319957/1043/LOCAL07>

7. *October 30, Vail Daily* – (Colorado) **I-70 westbound reopens after crash, spill.** A semi truck carrying a flammable hazardous material spilled its load after using the runaway truck ramp on Vail Pass in Vail, Colorado, October 30. The incident closed westbound Interstate 70 for about 7 hours. The truck was hauling 4,950 gallons of a methanol-based mixture, and less than 100 gallons spilled into the Black Gore Creek, said a Colorado State Patrol trooper. The driver reportedly lost his brakes and called "mayday" on his CB radio. He was unable to take a truck ramp because of heavy traffic in the right lane, and continued down the pass at speeds approaching 85 miles per hour. The truck exited the interstate at mile marker 182, 2 miles east of East Vail, and traveled up the ramp at about 12:50 p.m. It did not roll over, but tipped enough to lose its 15, 330-gallon storage containers, all of which were ruptured, officials said. Several

containers rolled back down onto the interstate. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and hazardous materials teams responded to assess and clean up the spill. Motorists were redirected to Highway 91 and Highway 24. The westbound interstate reopened at about 8 p.m. Water district officials were notified, and shut off wells that collect water for the town's drinking system. The water is safe, and was never in question, said a spokeswoman for the Eagle River Water and Sanitation District. She said water intakes would remain shut off in the Gore Creek and Eagle River below the spill until any risk of collecting unsafe water has passed. In coming days, the district will test water above, at ,and below the spill to monitor quality.

Source: <http://www.vaildaily.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2011111039993>

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

8. *October 31, Associated Press* – (International) **Experts: 30 years till Japan can close nuke plant.** A Japanese government panel said it will take at least 30 years to safely close the tsunami-hobbled Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear power plant, even though the facility is leaking far less radiation than before and is considered relatively stable, the Associated Press reported October 31. The plant was severely damaged by Japan's March 11 earthquake and tsunami. It suffered power outages, meltdowns, and explosions that released radioactive material and forced tens of thousands of people to flee. An expert panel named by Japan's Atomic Energy Commission made the 30-year closure estimate in the draft of a report to be completed by the end of the year. Plant workers are still struggling to contain radiation leaking from the plant, although the amount is far less than before. The panel noted it took 10 years to remove nuclear fuel after the 1979 Three Mile Island accident in the United States, and suggested the process at Fukushima would be much more complicated and time-consuming. It is also expected to be more costly. A report October 29 in the Yomiuri, a major newspaper, said independent experts believe the process will cost more than \$19 billion. Officials at Tokyo Electric Power Co., the utility that runs the plant, said they have largely succeeded in cooling the damaged reactors, completing a "cold shutdown." But extensive repairs and safety measures must still be carried out. The panel said removal of fuel rods at Fukushima would not begin until 2021, after the repair of the plant's containment vessels. As a stop-gap measure, one of the damaged units now has an outer shell made of airtight polyester designed to contain radioactive particles inside the building. Similar covers are also planned for other buildings. Government officials must also deal with a massive decontamination effort in areas around the plant. A 12-mile exclusion zone around the facility remains in effect.
Source: http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5hZS3L5T9UFT8-xNWiSjo_wJvjfmA?docId=3aefd7c95acc4905b99be4f0a074ed45
9. *October 29, Mainichi Daily News* – (International) **Cesium-137 flow into sea 30 times greater than stated by TEPCO: report.** The amount of radioactive cesium-137 that flowed into the Pacific Ocean after the start of Japan's nuclear crisis was probably

nearly 30 times the amount stated by Tokyo Electric Power Co. in May, according to a recent report by a French research institute. The Institute for Radiological Protection and Nuclear Safety said the amount of the isotope that flowed into the ocean from the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant between March 21 and mid-July reached an estimated 27.1 quadrillion becquerels. A quadrillion is equivalent to 1,000 trillion. Of the amount, 82 percent had flowed into the sea by April 8, according to the study, which noted that the amount released as a result of the disaster triggered by the March 11 earthquake and tsunami was unprecedented. The report also said the Pacific was polluted at an exceptional speed because the plant stands in a coastal area with strong currents, though it said the impact of the contamination on marine life in remote waters is likely to wane from autumn. But the institute warned that a significant degree of pollution would remain in waters off the coast of Fukushima Prefecture, northeast of Tokyo. Radioactive cesium-137 has a half life of around 30 years.

Source: <http://mdn.mainichi.jp/mdnnews/news/20111029p2g00m0dm016000c.html>

10. *October 29, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission* – (Pennsylvania) **Loss of greater than 25 percent of EPZ sirens due to weather.** The Limerick Generating Station in Limerick Township, Pennsylvania reported a loss of greater than 25 percent of emergency sirens for greater than 1 hour, October 29. Forty eight of the 185 off-site sirens were not functioning due to loss of power related to significant heavy snowfall, according to the report filed with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). The Limerick nuclear plant licensee has notified the NRC resident inspector, and state and local government officials. The loss of greater than 25 percent of the sirens is considered a Major Loss of Emergency Preparedness Capabilities, the NRC said.
Source: <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2011/20111031en.html>
11. *October 29, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission* – (Pennsylvania) **Loss of greater than 25 percent of emergency notification system sirens due to weather conditions.** The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) reported that at about 6:18 p.m. October 29, the Three Mile Island Nuclear Generating Station in Londonderry Township, Pennsylvania, received notification that 25 of 96 emergency notification system off-site sirens were not functional. The loss of greater than 25 percent of the sirens is considered a Major Loss of Emergency Preparedness Capabilities. The loss of off-site sirens was due to loss of electrical power caused by significant heavy snowfall, the NRC said. It indicted the licensee stated compensatory measures were in place should their be a need to notify areas affected by the lost sirens. The licensee has also notified state and local authorities, and will notify the NRC resident inspector.
Source: <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2011/20111031en.html>
12. *October 28, Kalamazoo Gazette* – (Michigan) **Investigations continue at Palisades nuclear power plant, preliminary findings describe possible violations.** The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) October 28 issued preliminary findings from their investigations of two events that occurred during the past year at Palisades nuclear power plant in Covert Township, Michigan. One, in May, involved a piece of emergency equipment improperly maintained and another, in October 2010, where the

manager of the facility's control room left his station without following proper protocols, an incident that wasn't reported within 24 hours. "Neither situation had an immediate consequence, neither resulted in the plant shutting down," said the NRC's Region III spokeswoman. The reports come after two special inspections this year that looked into separate previous failings at the 40-year-old, 430-acre plant. The first letter offering the preliminary findings details what happened May 10. While inspectors were routinely testing the plant's auxiliary feed water system, a turbine-driven pump was tripped. Investigators found a component was greased that should not have been. The system is used in an emergency situation if external power to the plant is shut off, the NRC spokeswoman said. The preliminary findings classified the situation with a low to moderate safety significance. The plant may face additional inspections or have its standing on a performance matrix lowered. The second letter details an incident where a control room operator left the control room because he was upset and did not notify a shift manager, which was against regulation, the NRC spokeswoman said. According to the rule, the employee would have to notify a shift manager to have a qualified operator take her place. In addition, the incident was not reported to management in the required 24-hour window in which it occurred.

Source:

http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2011/10/investigations_continue_at_pal.html

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

Nothing to report

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

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Banking and Finance Sector

13. *October 31, Bloomberg* – (National) **Finra sanctioned by SEC for altering records before inspection.** The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) October 27 ordered the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (Finra) to improve its internal procedures after accusing a Finra employee of altering records before an SEC inspection. The director of Finra's Kansas City office caused the alteration of three records of staff meeting minutes in 2008 hours before producing them to SEC inspectors, making the documents inaccurate and incomplete, the SEC said in a statement. Finra, the industry-funded brokerage regulator, was ordered to hire a consultant and undertake steps to improve policies, procedures and training for

inspections, the SEC said. Finra consented to the SEC order without admitting or denying wrongdoing, the SEC said. The production of altered documents cited in the order was the third instance in 8 years, the SEC said.

Source: http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/g/a/2011/10/31/bloomberg_articlesLTQFQB6S972F.DTL

14. *October 28, Associated Press* – (New York) **NYSE price mix-up causes headaches.** A technical glitch caused New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) Euronext to release incorrect price information on more than 1,000 stocks and other securities October 27. The error resulted in some online sites showing closing prices for some securities that were actually based on trades that had occurred in electronic trading after markets had closed. The problem started at 7:27 p.m. October 27 when NYSE's Arca platform sent incorrectly coded share price information. An e-mail sent to traders on October 28 said the problem involved prices from aftermarket trades October 28 that were incorrectly coded as if they had happened during regular trading that day. The e-mail said the mix-up affected the closing price in some shares that trade on the NYSE as well as its Arca platform. The error affected some stocks, exchange-traded funds, and mutual funds that started with the letters A through T. Symbols starting with U through Z were not affected. A NYSE spokesman said more than 1,000 ticker symbols were affected. He said the mix-up was under investigation.

Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D9QLICQO2.htm>

15. *October 28, WBTV 3 Charlotte* – (North Carolina) **Former Beazer Homes executive guilty of fraud, jury finds.** The former chief accounting officer for Beazer Homes was convicted of fraud October 28. He was found guilty by a federal jury of seven crimes relating to a 7-year accounting fraud conspiracy at Beazer, according to a news release from the U.S. District Attorney's Office for the Western District of North Carolina. The charges arise from an ongoing government investigation involving Beazer and its employees that began in March 2007. Beazer accepted responsibility for the charges and, in a deferred prosecution agreement, agreed to pay restitution of \$50 million. The chief accounting officer was convicted of directing an accounting fraud conspiracy to falsify reported profits at Beazer by lying to Beazer's auditors, fraudulently achieving earnings targets, falsifying Beazer's books and records, and deceiving the public by boosting and lowering earnings. According to the evidence at trial, he executed the conspiracy in two ways: Between 2005 and 2006, he entered into a hidden oral side agreement with another company through one of its employees, which was designed to allow Beazer to obtain cash and to improperly report revenue from purported "sales" of model homes. Between 2000 and 2007, he directed a scheme to commit securities fraud and create false books and records at Beazer by practicing "cookie jar accounting," which allowed the accounting officer and others to falsely report profits in Beazer's publicly reported financial statements. He was convicted of conspiracy to: commit securities fraud; make false and misleading statements to auditors and accountants; circumvent Beazer's internal accounting controls; falsify the books, records, and accounts. He was also convicted of engaging in a wire fraud conspiracy, and securities fraud upon Beazer investors in connection with the sale of Beazer's common stock. The jury also convicted him of two charges of obstruction of a federal grand jury investigation and a charge of destroying documents. Finally, the jury convicted the man

of lying to hinder an investigation by the FBI and the U.S. attorney's office, by making numerous false statements to investigators on behalf of the Audit Committee of Beazer's Board of Directors.

Source: <http://www.wbtv.com/story/15901633/former-beazer-homes-executive>

16. *October 27, U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission* – (North Carolina) **North Carolina federal court orders Rodney W. Whitney, Nicholas T. Cox, and Integra Capital Management, LLC, to pay over \$6.9 million for Ponzi scheme.** The U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) October 27 announced it obtained federal court orders requiring two men and Integra Capital Management, LLC (Integra) to pay more than \$6.9 million in restitution, disgorgement, and civil monetary penalties. The orders found they defrauded investors in a commodity pool Ponzi scheme involving commodity futures and off-exchange foreign currency transactions. The orders stem from a CFTC complaint filed in September 2010, charging the men and Integra with fraud and misappropriation in connection with the scheme. The orders require one of the men and Integra jointly and severally to pay restitution of \$2,185,063, disgorgement of \$1,198,316, and a civil monetary penalty of \$3,594,948, and require the other man to pay restitution of \$2,185,063, and a \$2,185,063 civil monetary penalty. The orders provide for a dollar-for-dollar credit for the men and Integra for any restitution or civil monetary penalty payments paid by the other party. The orders also permanently prohibit the men and Integra from engaging in any commodity-related activity, including trading, and from registering or seeking exemption from registration with the CFTC. A judge found that, beginning in or about September 2006 and continuing through at least August 2009, the men and Integra violated the anti-fraud provisions of the Commodity Exchange Act by misrepresenting Integra's trading performance and by misappropriating pool participants' funds, among other violations.

Source: <http://www.cftc.gov/PressRoom/PressReleases/pr6130-11>

17. *October 27, U.S. Department of Treasury* – (International) **Treasury targets Sinaloa Cartel narcotics distribution network under the Kingpin Act.** The U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) October 27 announced the designation of a key Sinaloa Cartel lieutenant, his two brothers, and two companies located in Mexico pursuant to the Foreign Narcotics Kingpin Designation Act (Kingpin Act). The lieutenant controls a money laundering and narcotics distribution network based in Culiacan, Mexico, that is supplied by the Sinaloa Cartel leader and facilitates the importation of narcotics from Mexico into the U.S. with the assistance of his brothers. The leader and the Sinaloa Cartel were previously identified by the U.S. President as significant foreign narcotics traffickers pursuant to the Kingpin Act in 2002 and 2009. Treasury also designated Autos Mini, a car dealership in Ensenada, Baja California, and Autodromo Culiacan, an auto race track in Culiacan, Sinaloa, owned by the lieutenant and his brother. As a result of the action, U.S. persons are prohibited from engaging in transactions with the designees, and any assets they may have under U.S. jurisdiction are frozen.

Source: <http://www.treasury.gov/press-center/press-releases/Pages/tg1341.aspx>

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Transportation Sector

18. *October 31, Wall Street Journal* – (Connecticut) **JetBlue passengers stranded for 7 hours in snowstorm.** JetBlue will refund airfares for 123 passengers who reportedly were stranded October 29 for about 7 hours on the tarmac at Connecticut's Bradley International Airport during the rare October snowstorm. Flight 504 from Fort Lauderdale, Florida, to Newark, New Jersey, was one of six flights JetBlue diverted October 29 to Bradley International in Windsor Locks, according to the airline. JetBlue diverted 17 flights in all October 29, citing a "confluence of events," including infrastructure issues at Newark Liberty International Airport and at New York's John F. Kennedy International Airport. JetBlue said it worked with Bradley "to secure services, including remote deplaning and [lavatory] servicing." The airline noted the airport faced intermittent power outages, making it difficult to refuel planes and to use jet bridges so fliers could disembark. The airline said it could not confirm the amount of time the plane spent on the tarmac. It also said it had seen media reports "of a lack of provisions on board," but that its own information did not "correlate with those reports."

Source:

http://www.myfoxphilly.com/dpp/weather/JetBlue_Passengers_Stranded_For_7_Hours_103111_NewsCore_ncx

19. *October 31, Associated Press* – (New Jersey) **NJ Transit crews clearing downed trees that damaged Morris & Essex Line.** Service was suspended on New Jersey Transit's Morris & Essex Lines, including the Gladstone branch and the Montclair-Boonton Line, while crews removed hundreds of trees and miles of damaged overhead wire, the Associated Press reported October 31. A NJ Transit spokesman said about 50 miles of rail was impacted by the fall storm that dumped more than a foot of snow in parts of the state. The spokesman said the majority of the damage was on the Morris & Essex line, where fallen trees downed power lines. Buses also faced delays and detours due to road conditions. NJ Transit trains and buses were cross-honoring passes and tickets.

Source:

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/d1a8956f68b042baa6ff358c511c271f/NJ--October-Snow-Transit/>

20. *October 31, Occupational Health & Safety* – (Nebraska) **Unsafe forklifts, chemical hazards carry \$114,000 penalty for freight firm.** The Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA) has cited Central Transport International Inc. for two repeat safety violations at the company's Omaha, Nebraska, facility, including allowing workers to operate unsafe forklifts, and failing to provide proper eyewash facilities for workers exposed to corrosive chemicals, Occupational Health & Safety reported October 31. Proposed penalties total \$114,000. The first violation was cited for exposing workers to hazards by allowing them to operate forklifts that remained in service even after deficiencies were noted. The second violation was cited for exposing

workers' eyes, faces, and hands to corrosive chemicals without providing suitable eyewash facilities. The company was cited for the same violations at numerous facilities between 2006 and 2010.

Source: <http://ohsonline.com/articles/2011/10/31/unsafe-forklifts-chemical-hazards-carry-114000-penalty-for-freight-firm.aspx?admgarea=news>

21. *October 31, Truckinginfo.com* – (Iowa; Nebraska) **Flood-damaged Interstate 680 to reopen Wednesday.** After it was shut down in early June due to Missouri River flooding, repair work on the bridge that links Iowa and Nebraska, just to the north of Omaha, is all but complete, Truckinginfo.com reported October 31. The bridge will reopen later the week of October 31. Officials said all four lanes on a 3-mile stretch of I-680 from I-29 to the Missouri River are ready for business. Officials had targeted the end of 2011, but crews have been working almost 24-hours a day on the \$19 million project since late September to get the highway ready for traffic. The highway experienced some of the worst damage from a summer of flooding on the Missouri River.

Source: http://www.truckinginfo.com/news/news-detail.asp?news_id=75178

22. *October 31, Associated Press* – (National) **Hundreds of schools close as power outages from East Coast snowstorm near 3 million.** Thousands of schoolchildren around the Northeast had one of the earliest snow days in memory October 31 after a snowstorm dumped as much as 30 inches of wet, heavy snow that snapped power lines and trees, causing widespread power outages that threatened to disrupt Halloween trick-or-treating. Communities from Maine to Maryland went into now-familiar emergency mode as shelters were opened, inaccessible roads were closed, regional transit was suspended or delayed, and local leaders urged caution. The storm smashed record snowfall totals for October and worsened as it moved north. Communities in western Massachusetts were among the hardest hit. Snowfall totals topped 27 inches in Plainfield, and nearby Windsor got 26 inches. The snowstorm was blamed for at least 11 deaths, and states of emergency were declared in Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Jersey, and parts of New York. Downed trees and messy roads delayed rescues of motorists stranded along highways in upstate New York, where 50 to 75 vehicles were towed overnight. A commuter train was also evacuated, and passengers were taken to a shelter, state troopers said. Residents were urged to avoid travel altogether October 30. Speed limits were reduced on bridges between New Jersey and Pennsylvania, and a bridge in Delaware was closed. Two of the airports serving New York City, Newark Liberty and John F. Kennedy International Airport, had hours-long delays October 29, as did Philadelphia's airport. Commuter trains in Connecticut and New York were delayed or suspended because of downed trees and signal problems. Amtrak suspended service on several Northeast routes, and one train from Chicago to Boston got stuck overnight in Palmer, Massachusetts. The 48 passengers had food and heat, a spokeswoman said, and were taken by bus October 30 to their destinations.

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/us/2011/10/30/power-outages-from-east-coast-snowstorm-near-3-million/?test=latestnews>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

23. *October 29, WSVN 7 Miami* – (Florida) **Mail carrier fights back against would-be robber.** A mail carrier fought back after she was targeted by a would-be robber. The 48-year-old woman was delivering mail in Hollywood, Florida, when a man tried to snatch her master key. The incident happened near Washington Street and South 26th Avenue, October 28. A struggle ensued and the man got away empty handed. A witness said she watched the letter carrier fight back against her attacker. So far, this month, the U.S. Postal Inspector's Office has had three people arrested for stealing master keys from letter carriers in North Miami, and Miami Gardens. Last year, one postal worker was killed in North Miami-Dade, for his master key. Two people were later arrested in that case. These master key thefts have become such an issue that the Inspector's office recently announced plans to change procedures regarding the key used to open banks of mail boxes in communities.

Source: <http://www.wsvn.com/news/articles/local/21005753280677/mail-carrier-fights-back-against-would-be-robber/>

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Agriculture and Food Sector

24. *October 31, Associated Press* – (Iowa) **Farmer dies after central Iowa ammonia leaks.** A farmer died after anhydrous ammonia leaked from a tank in central Iowa, the Associated Press reported October 31. Authorities said a hose broke, allowing the fertilizer out of the tank early October 29. The son of the man who died was taken to a Des Moines hospital. A sheriff's deputy, two paramedics, and another rescuer were treated for exposure. Anhydrous ammonia can damage skin, eyes, and lungs.
Source: http://www.siouxcityjournal.com/news/state-and-regional/iowa/article_50cd8ba2-03c3-11e1-9101-001cc4c002e0.html
25. *October 31, Food Safety News* – (Oregon; Washington) **Allergy alert: Spiced prawns with sulfites.** An Oregon company is recalling 194 cases of spiced prawns because they contain undeclared sulfites, Food Safety News reported October 31. The recall is for production within the last 180 days. Sulfites were declared on the raw ingredient's label, but were not carried over to the finished product's label on Nate's Spiced Prawn. A recent change in supplier of prawns resulted in the labeling oversight. Pacific Oyster Company distributed the prawns to retailers in Oregon and Washington in 16-ounce glass jars.
Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/10/allergy-alert-spiced-prawns-with-sulfites/>
26. *October 31, Food Safety News* – (National) **Allergy alert: Mislabeled soy burgers with milk.** A Utah company is recalling some Eating Right Soy Protein Burgers sold in Safeway, Carrs, Dominick's, Genuardi's, Pak 'N' Save, Randalls, Tom Thumb, Vons, and Pavilions retail stores nationwide because the packages inadvertently contain

Eating Right Veggie Burgers, which include milk, Food Safety News reported October 31. The label does not list milk as an ingredient. The frozen burgers were manufactured by Gardenburger and distributed by Lucerne Foods. Safeway was notified of the situation by a consumer.

Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/10/alleged-alert-mislabeled-soy-burgers-with-milk/>

27. *October 31, Associated Press* – (Kansas) **Three more victims found after explosion at Kansas grain facility.** The bodies of the final three victims of an October 29 grain elevator blast that killed six people and injured two others were recovered October 31 in Kansas, a company official said. Three victims were found during the weekend of October 29 and 30, but unstable concrete, hanging steel beams, and other damage had forced crews to temporarily call off their search at the Bartlett Grain Co. facility in Atchison. The explosion was a reminder of dangers workers face inside elevators brimming with combustible grain dust at the end of harvest season. The blast fired an orange fireball into the night sky, shot off a chunk of the grain distribution building directly above the elevator, and blew a large hole in the side of a concrete silo. The search for three people presumed dead — another worker and two grain inspectors — was temporarily halted October 30 because of fears the building could fall on rescuers. The Bartlett Grain president said in a statement that workers were loading a train with corn when the explosion occurred, but the cause of the explosion remained unclear. The company brought in a South Dakota-based engineer with expertise in such accidents to help federal safety investigators. Over the past four decades, there have more than 600 explosions at grain elevators, killing more than 250 people and injuring more than 1,000, according to the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration.
Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/us/2011/10/29/grain-elevator-explodes-in-kansas/?test=latestnews>
28. *October 30, Food Safety News* – (National) **Rite Aid recalls butter cookies.** Rite Aid is recalling approximately 85,000 tins of Rich Fields-brand butter cookies because they may be contaminated with *Bacillus cereus*, Food Safety News reported October 30. The recall was initiated after the company conducted quality testing on the affected product because of an uncharacteristic odor. The recalled cookies, sold exclusively in Rite Aid stores, are in 12ounce tins featuring either a decorative castle or Christmas designs. Rite aid has about 4,700 stores in 31 states, and the District of Columbia.
Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/10/rite-aid-recalls-butter-cookies/>
29. *October 30, Food Safety News* – (Missouri) **Store salad bars implicated in St. Louis outbreak.** According to the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, federal health investigators from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention were in St. Louis to help determine the source and scope of the *E. coli* outbreak that has so far sickened at least 23 people across the region, Food Safety News reported October 30. Local hospitals started reporting *E. coli* infections October 24 in St. Louis, Jefferson, St. Charles, and St. Clair counties. St. Louis County health officials confirmed the source of the *E. coli* O157 strain was foodborne, and there were signs a local grocery chain may be involved. Schnucks stores across the region voluntarily replaced or removed some lettuce in salad bars, a company spokeswoman said. Three of the infected people who have been

contacted by the Post-Dispatch said they had recently eaten at salad bars from Schnucks stores in St. Louis, Ladue, and High Ridge.

Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/10/store-salad-bars-implicated-in-st-louis-outbreak/>

30. *October 30, Food Safety News* – (Pennsylvania) **Yersinia turns up again at Pennsylvania dairy.** The Pennsylvania state departments of agriculture and health were advising consumers and retailers who purchased milk from Brunton Dairy in Aliquippa, to immediately discard all milk with a sell-by date of October 25 or later. As part of ongoing oversight testing of the dairy, the agriculture department confirmed a positive test result for Yersinia bacteria from pasteurized, homogenized fat-free milk in a 1- gallon glass bottle with a date code of October 25. Milk production has been suspended at the dairy until additional testing is completed. Yersinia enterocolitica causes diarrhea, abdominal pain, nausea, and vomiting, and it can sometimes enter the bloodstream and affect other organs. This infection can be severe, and illness can mimic appendicitis and sometimes lead to unnecessary surgery. In June and July, five people were sickened with Yersinia enterocolitica after drinking pasteurized milk in glass bottles from Brunton dairy.
Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/10/yersinia-turns-up-again-at-pennsylvania-dairy/>
31. *October 30, Food Safety News* – (North Carolina) **23 of 26 E. coli cases tied to North Carolina State Fair.** North Carolina Division of Public Health authorities investigating an outbreak of E. coli said 23 of the 26 people sickened attended the state fair earlier in October, pointing to the fair as the probable source of exposure. In a news release, the health department said of the 26 cases reported so far, 13 are adults, and 13 are children. Five people were hospitalized. Fourteen of the ill people are from Wake County and six are from Sampson County. Single cases of infection have been reported from Cleveland, Durham, Franklin, Johnston, Orange, and Wilson counties. Public health officials, who are working with the state department of agriculture and consumer services on the investigation, said they will contact some fairgoers as they try to pinpoint the specific source. In 2004, more than 100 attendees of the North Carolina State Fair were sickened with E. coli O157:H7 in an outbreak linked to a petting zoo.
Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/10/23-of-26-e-coli-victims-attended-north-carolina-state-fair/>
32. *October 29, Food Safety News* – (National) **Allergy alert: Kale chips with undeclared cashews.** Rhythm Superfoods is recalling approximately 2,700 cases from 6 days of production of Kool Ranch Kale Chips that were inadvertently placed into packaging that did not declare cashews as an ingredient and were possibly shipped to retail locations nationwide, Food Safety News reported October 29. One case of allergic reaction has been reported. The recall was initiated after it was discovered that product containing cashews was distributed in packaging that did not reveal the presence of cashews. A subsequent investigation indicated the problem was caused by the use of new packaging.
Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/10/allergy-alert-kale-chips-with-undeclared-cashews/>

33. *October 28, Evansville Courier & Press* – (Indiana) **'Ring of death' leads to convictions for pesticide misuse.** Carcasses of wildlife discovered in a "ring of death" in 2008 around a Dubois County, Indiana corn field led to the convictions of four men for illegal use of a pesticide that federal officials describe as acutely toxic, the Evansville Courier & Press reported October 28. Three of the men pleaded guilty and were sentenced October 27 on federal charges of illegally using the highly toxic pesticide Furadan. A fourth man charged in the investigation pleaded guilty and was sentenced earlier in 2011. Commonly sold as a concentrate, Furadan is an insecticide used for corn and other crops. It is regulated by federal law because of its extreme toxicity. According to federal officials, as little as one drop of concentrated Furadan can kill large mammals, making it is extremely hazardous to wildlife and people. The three men appeared in federal court in Indianapolis where a magistrate judge sentenced each to pay a \$5,000 fine.
Source: http://www.courierpress.com/news/2011/oct/28/no-headline---ev_pesticide/

For another story, see item [9](#)

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Water Sector

34. *October 31, Pleasantville Press of Atlantic City* – (New Jersey) **South Jersey deals with higher levels of radioactivity in drinking water.** U.S. Geological Survey researchers recently completed a nationwide survey on radium, which they expect to release by the end of 2011. The study found that while radium is found throughout drinking water nationwide, it is in higher concentrations in specific circumstances such as in southern New Jersey, where it is often made even more acidic from heavy agricultural fertilizer use. Hammonton is the latest municipality to deal with the issue and is in the process of retrofitting one of its treatment plants to filter the contaminated water. But public-water supplies in Buena, Buena Vista Township, Bridgeton, Egg Harbor Township, Upper Deerfield Township, Stow Creek Township, and Vineland all have had problems in the past. The federal limit in drinking water is 5 picocuries per liter. Quarterly tests required by the state of public water suppliers found that two wells in Hammonton had levels of radium just above the limit in recent years. Wells in Vineland have had radium concentrations six times the limit. Local governments have been forced to spend millions of dollars to address the issue, building new treatment plants, digging new wells, or installing filters into current facilities, which is what Hammonton is doing. The human body excretes the majority of radium it absorbs, the U.S. Environment Protection Agency states, but about 20 percent of it is absorbed into bones and remains to damage tissues.
Source: http://www.pressofatlanticcity.com/news/press/atlantic/south-jersey-fights-higher-levels-of-radioactivity-in-drinking-water/article_88ca57e2-034b-11e1-a486-001cc4c002e0.html
35. *October 31, Associated Press* – (Tennessee) **Agency: Corroded joint caused Tenn. plant collapse.** A report October 27 from the Tennessee Occupational Safety and Health Administration (TOSHA) found the walls of a basin at the Gatlinburg

Wastewater Treatment plant were cast in such a way that leakage of acidic waste across a joint corroded metal couplers over a long time, the Associated Press reported October 31. Two plant operators died April 5 when a concrete wall fell onto the control building where they were working. The collapse sent about 850,000 gallons of untreated sewage into the Little Pigeon River. The agency concluded construction of the wall that collapsed during a period of heavy rain was done in such a way that it produced what is called a “cold joint.” The construction allowed acidic effluent to corrode reinforcing bar splice couplers. The report said the couplers probably did not all fail in the collapse, but gave way over many years. Construction of the equalization basin, where the failure occurred, was completed in 1996. Inspectors also found the contractor has used splicing couplers instead of dowels, which were specified in the design of the basin. The TOSHA, however, concluded the switch was not, in itself, a cause of the collapse, but the change did accelerate deterioration.

Source: <http://www.claimsjournal.com/news/southeast/2011/10/31/194121.htm>

36. *October 30, Ft. Lauderdale Sun Sentinel* – (Florida) **Contaminated water advisory issued in Fort Lauderdale.** Recreational waters in the Seminole Canal area of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, have been contaminated by sewage, the city and health department said in a health alert October 30. Residents and businesses abutting the canal should not allow swimming, fishing, jetskiing, or any other activities in the canal, said a release from city officials who had conferred with the Broward County Health Department. The source of the contamination is an October 30 overflow of treated wastewater at the George T. Lohmeyer Wastewater Treatment Plant. There was no indication how long the health advisory will be in effect.

Source: <http://www.sun-sentinel.com/fl-fort-lauderdale-bad-water,0,7205681.story>

37. *October 28, WNCT 9 Greenville* – (North Carolina) **Windsor wastewater sewage spill cleaned up.** WNCT 9 Greenville reported that 73,000 gallons of partially treated wastewater spilled October 28 into a ditch that flows into Broad Branch in Windsor, North Carolina. Broad Branch is a tributary of the Cashie River. The discharge was the result of a blockage in the flow line and lasted for 8 hours. Town officials said the blockage was removed to prevent further discharge.

Source: <http://www2.wnct.com/news/2011/oct/28/windsor-wastewater-sewage-spill-cleaned-ar-1549622/>

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

38. *October 31, Associated Press* – (Illinois) **Hundreds displaced by fire at Ill. health facility.** A fire forced the evacuation of about 400 residents at the Lydia Healthcare Center in Robbins, Illinois, October 31. The Robbins fire chief said the fire started in a mattress and was probably caused by smoking. Firefighters doused the fire, but the building had to be closed due to smoke and water damage. Fire officials said three residents and an employee were taken to a hospital with smoke inhalation, but their

injuries did not appear to be life-threatening. The displaced residents were cared for at the Robbins Community Center.

Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/chi-ap-il-healthcenter-fire,0,4263511.story>

39. *October 31, New York Times* – (National) **Obama tries to speed response to shortages in vital medicines.** The U.S. President issued an executive order October 31 hoping to resolve the growing number of critical shortages of vital medicines used to treat life-threatening illnesses, the New York Times reported October 31. It instructs the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to do three things: broaden reporting of potential shortages of certain prescription drugs; speed reviews of applications to begin or alter production of these drugs; and provide more information to the Justice Department about possible instances of collusion or price gouging. The administration also released two government reports that mostly blame a dysfunctional marketplace for drug shortages, directly contradicting assertions by some commentators that government rules are to blame. Just five large hospital buying groups purchase nearly 90 percent of the needed medicines, and only seven companies manufacture the vast majority of supply. The generic drug industry also recently agreed to provide the FDA with nearly \$300 million annually to bolster inspections and speed drug applications. The administration will also send letters to manufacturers reminding them of their legal responsibility to report pending supply disruptions of certain drugs, and to encourage them to notify the drug agency of events that could possibly lead to disruptions even when not required to do so.

Source: http://www.nytimes.com/2011/10/31/health/policy/medicine-shortages-addressed-in-obama-executive-order.html?_r=2&adxnnl=1&hpw=&adxnnlx=1320058923-15TD4iFN+/a6huGCiAX/dQ

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Government Facilities Sector

40. *October 31, Associated Press* – (National) **School closings seen across the Northeast after heavy snow.** Residents across the Northeast faced the prospect of days without electricity or heat October 31 after an early-season storm dumped as much as 30 inches of wet, heavy snow that snapped trees and power lines, closed hundreds of schools, and disrupted plans for Halloween trick-or-treating in Hartford, Connecticut. Communities from Maryland to Maine that suffered through a tough winter last year followed by a series of floods and storms went into now-familiar emergency mode as roads closed, shelters opened, and regional transit was suspended or delayed. The storm's lingering effects, including power failures and hundreds of closed schools, will probably outlast the snow. Temperatures were expected to begin rising and melting the snow, October 31, the National Weather Service said.

Source: http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2011/10/31/trick-and-treat-school-closings_n_1066929.html

41. *October 31, Associated Press* – (National) **Dozens arrested at 'Occupy' protests in Texas, Oregon.** Dozens of anti-Wall Street protesters were arrested October 30 in Texas, where they clashed with police over food tables, and in Oregon, where officers dragged them out of a park in an affluent neighborhood. In New York and many other East Coast cities, it was a snowstorm that made it difficult for demonstrators to stay camped out in public places. In Portland, Oregon, police have allowed protesters to sleep in two parks surrounded by office buildings despite policies outlawing camping, but the mayor warned demonstrators the week of October 24 that he would not allow them to take over any more parks. Late October 29, hundreds of protesters gathered in another park — Jamison Square in the wealthy Pearl District — and defied a midnight curfew. About 30 people who had decided to risk arrest sat on the ground. Police said the arrests were made on charges that included criminal trespassing, interfering with a police officer, and disorderly conduct. Police in Austin, Texas, made 39 arrests early October 30 as they moved to enforce a new rule banning food tables in the City Hall plaza where protesters have camped out. Most protesters were charged with criminal trespass, said the police chief.
Source: <http://www.fayobserver.com/articles/2011/10/31/1133879?sac=Bus>
42. *October 30, WAVE 3 Louisville* – (Indiana) **IU activates emergency alert system after shots fired on campus.** Indiana University (IU) activated the IU emergency notification system October 29 at 2:57 a.m. when officers responded to a call about a man firing a weapon in the 1400 block of N. Jordan Avenue. Police arrested a non-student, on felony charges of intimidation, criminal recklessness, and pointing a firearm, and a misdemeanor charge of carrying a handgun without a license. He was arrested when an IU officer saw a man knocking on a sorority door. Witnesses identified him as the man who shot the weapon and it was recovered close by. According to fraternity members, the incident began at the conclusion of a Halloween party when visitors were leaving their house. This man, not a house member, was waiting on a ride. He became irritated while waiting and pulled out a gun and pointed it at a house member.
Source: <http://www.wave3.com/story/15909081/iu-activates-emergency-alert-system-after-report-of-man-shooting-on-campus>

For another story, see item [45](#)

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Emergency Services Sector

43. *October 29, Los Angeles Times* – (California) **Most of guns stolen from LAPD may have hit black market.** All but three guns in a cache of weapons stolen earlier this month from an unguarded building used by the Los Angeles Police Department's (LAPD) SWAT unit remain missing and may have been sold or traded on the black market, police said October 28. Police arrested two men on suspicion of committing the heist and three others for allegedly possessing the recovered weapons, said a police commander. Much to police officials' dismay, however, the rest of the roughly 30 weapons stolen were not found in the suspects' possession. Although the weapons,

which included MP-5 submachine guns and large-caliber handguns, had been altered by police to fire only plastic pellets for training exercises, it is possible for them to be converted back to lethal use. The two men who allegedly broke into the building were "low-level burglars" who were looking to strip the building of copper wiring to sell to support their drug habits, the police commander said. Police are continuing to try to find the weapons, but do not know how many people may have bought guns from the men or any of their identities, he said. It is also possible the suspects have stashed the guns, police officials said.

Source: <http://articles.latimes.com/2011/oct/29/local/la-me-swat-20111029>

44. *October 29, Tulsa World* – (Oklahoma) **Police arrest man with Molotov cocktails in his car.** A 58-year-old man accused of walking into a Tulsa, Oklahoma police station and threatening to burn down the city was arrested and jailed October 28. He was booked into Tulsa Jail at 2:45 p.m. October 28 on complaints that include possessing potential explosives in or near a car or building, and threatening to use the devices. A police sergeant said the suspect entered the Tulsa Police Department's Riverside Division, on S. Riverside Drive, October 28 and said his vehicle parked outside contained explosive devices. He made statements indicating he wanted to burn down the city of Tulsa. The sergeant said officers went out to his vehicle and found six gasoline-filled containers with wicks attached — often described as Molotov cocktails.

Source:

http://www.tulsaworld.com/specialprojects/news/crimewatch/article.aspx?subjectid=450&articleid=20111029_11_A4_Aerodm709023&r=9217

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Information Technology Sector

45. *October 31, Marketwire* – (National) **Symantec survey finds global critical infrastructure providers less aware and engaged in government programs.** Symantec Corporation October 31 released the findings of its 2011 Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP) Survey, which found a drop in awareness and engagement on a global basis as measured by the CIP Participation Index. Compared to 2010, companies surveyed this year show a CIP Participation Index of 82 percent in government protection programs, down 18 points from last year. Critical infrastructure providers come from industries that are of such importance that if their cyber networks were successfully attacked and disabled, it would result in an actual threat to national security.

Source: <http://www.marketwire.com/press-release/symantec-survey-finds-global-critical-infrastructure-providers-less-aware-engaged-government-nasdaq-symc-1579434.htm>

46. *October 29, Softpedia* – (International) **DevilRobber OS X malware mines for bitcoins while stealing your data.** Certain torrents that should contain legitimate Mac OS X applications were found to serve a copy of OSX/Miner-D, a new piece of

malware that eats up resources to take part in a Bitcoin mining pool. The threat, also known as DevilRobber, was spotted alongside a Mac image editing app made available on popular file-sharing services. The first clue that gives away the presence of the malware is the fact an infected system will start consuming a lot of resources without the user running large programs. That happens because the Trojan will steal most of the resources supplied by the computer's GPU to solve Bitcoin blocks. It is not uncommon for Bitcoin mining bots to use the GPU to fulfill their tasks, but it is the first time they have targeted Macs. Besides using the device as a mining unit, the malicious element will also take screenshots of the system to try to procure sensitive data one might type while surfing the web. To make sure nothing is left of the user's computing power, it also runs a script that copies data such as browser history and bash history to a text file. Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/DevilRobber-OS-X-Malware-Mines-For-Bitcoins-While-Stealing-Your-Data-230960.shtml>

47. *October 28, threatpost.com* – (National) **New Tor release fixes de-anonymization attack.** The Tor Project has released a new version of its client software to fix a serious vulnerability that allows an attacker to strip users of their anonymity on the network. The new version also includes many other security and privacy fixes. The attack that enables the anonymity stripping requires a specific set of conditions to be in place, and the new version of Tor removes two of those components from the equation, which is enough to prevent the attack. It relies on the fact user clients will reuse their TLS certificates when connecting to different Tor relays, which can enable an attacker to identify a specific user by his certificate. "The attack relies on four components: 1) Clients reuse their TLS cert when talking to different relays, so relays can recognize a user by the identity key in her cert. 2) An attacker who knows the client's identity key can probe each guard relay to see if that identity key is connected to that guard relay right now. 3) A variety of active attacks in the literature ... allow a malicious Web site to discover the guard relays that a Tor user visiting the website is using. 4) Clients typically pick three guards at random, so the set of guards for a given user could well be a unique fingerprint for her. This release fixes components #1 and #2, which is enough to block the attack; the other two remain as open research problems," a Tor Project's spokesman said in a message announcing version 0.2.2.34. Source: http://threatpost.com/en_us/blogs/new-tor-release-fixes-de-anonymization-attack-102811

For more stories, see items [4](#) and [48](#)

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

48. *October 31, Salisbury Post* – (North Carolina) **Fibrant working to restore phone service.** Fibrant's Internet and cable TV services were down for about 2 hours October 31 in Salisbury, North Carolina. Phone service was still out for some customers, but was expected to be restored by 12 p.m. About 1,200 customers were affected, the interim director for the city's new fiber-optic utility said. Internet and TV services were restored by 9 a.m., and Fibrant staffers were manually resetting phone service for about 850 telephone customers one customer at a time. All three services went down at 7 a.m. due to a problem with one of Fibrant's suppliers, the director said. He said he suspected the problem was with the supplier who provides the equipment that allows the network's brain center, called the headend, to communicate with technology installed at each home.
Source: <http://www.salisburypost.com/News/103111-WEB-Fibrant-outage-this-morning-qcd>
49. *October 30, Middletown Times Herald-Record* – (New York) **Warwick dealing with telephone outages, power outages.** As snow blanketed Warwick, New York, October 29, a land-line telephone outage prevented the town's emergency officials and residents to make and receive phone calls. The town supervisor said landlines across the town were down, and the primary carrier, WVT Communications, was searching for the problem. Town and emergency officials were communicating with Orange County Emergency Services and the 911 Center via radio, and Warwick Police officers were patrolling through neighborhoods keeping an eye out for people needing assistance, the supervisor said.
Source: <http://www.recordonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20111030/NEWS/111039996/-1/SITEMAP>
50. *October 29, Vacaville Reporter* – (California) **Cable outages keep Comcast crews busy.** Several Vacaville Reporter readers reported a Comcast service outage in Vacaville, California, October 27 during the World Series broadcast. Though Comcast officials could not confirm the incident, they said that technicians were on the scene October 28 of an outage in the area of Nut Tree Road. An estimated 3,000 subscribers were affected when a lawn mower reportedly took out seven nodes on a Comcast line. Service to all customers was restored by 5:50 p.m.
Source: http://www.thereporter.com/news/ci_19222055

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Commercial Facilities Sector

51. *October 31, KAKE 10 Wichita* – (Kansas) **Overnight fire destroys Islamic Center.** Fire investigators were looking for cause after a fire destroyed a west Wichita, Kansas mosque, KAKE 10 Wichita reported October 31. Crews responded just before 1 a.m. October 31 to the fire. Fire crews arrived on the scene to heavy flames and smoke coming from the front of the building. Crews were forced to battle the fire from the

outside after encountering electrical lines while searching inside the mosque. Fire officials said they believe the mosque is a total loss.

Source:

http://www.kake.com/news/headlines/Overnight_Fire_Destroyes_Wichita_Church_132903953.html?ref=953

52. *October 31, Burlington County Times* – (New Jersey) **3-alarm fire torches wild animal zoo.** People and animals were injured in a three-alarm fire that broke out October 30 at Animal Kingdom in Springfield, New Jersey. Two officers sustained minor injuries and two giraffes were hurt in the fire, which started at around 8:40 p.m. and was contained shortly before midnight, a Burlington County Central Communications supervisor said. Firefighters from several departments battled the flames, which caused structural collapse, the supervisor said. The cause of the fire is under investigation. This is the second fire at the zoo in 2011. A fire that broke out in April claimed the life of its owner.
Source: http://www.phillyburbs.com/news/local/burlington_county_times_news/alarm-fire-torches-wild-animal-zoo/article_837ae11f-b178-5057-8d49-8bed8ce4298d.html
53. *October 31, New York Daily News* – (New York) **Woman fights for life after teens throw shopping cart four-stories in Harlem Target parking garage.** A woman was clinging to life October 30 after a shopping cart — pushed off a ledge by a group of teens in East Harlem, New York — plummeted four stories and landed on her head, cops and witnesses said. The woman was with a young boy when the red cart dropped from a walkway that connects a Target store to a parking lot, cops and witnesses said. A witness said he spotted the teens pushing the cart near the fourth-level parking lot. “Whatever happens, happens,” the witness said one of the teens responded before they launched the cart from the overhead walkway. The cart bounced off a sign before landing on the woman below, witnesses said. Emergency workers responded within minutes and rushed the woman to Harlem Hospital, where she was in critical condition late October 30.
Source: <http://www.nydailynews.com/new-york/woman-fights-life-teens-throw-shopping-cart-four-stories-harlem-target-parking-garage-article-1.969759>
54. *October 30, Appleton Post-Crescent* – (Wisconsin) **11 treated after carbon monoxide leak in New London.** Authorities said 11 people were treated at hospitals and released after a carbon monoxide leak at a 16-unit apartment October 30 in New London, Wisconsin. The New London fire chief said firefighters think a broken exhaust pipe on a hot water heater in the basement was the probable cause for the carbon monoxide leak, which led firefighters to evacuate the entire apartment building. An ambulance responded for four people who reported being ill in one apartment. Five ambulances were summoned from New London, Bear Creek, Clintonville, Fremont, and Manawa to take ill patients to hospitals. Two patients originally seen at New London were seriously ill and transferred to St. Elizabeth, where a hyperbaric chamber is located. All patients had been released by the evening of October 30. Firefighters found carbon monoxide levels as high as 615 parts per million (ppm) inside one of the apartments, and as high as 1,115 ppm in the basement. Officials said carbon monoxide of 50 ppm is considered the maximum allowable continuous concentration for an 8-hour period.

Source: <http://www.postrescent.com/article/20111031/APC0101/110310451/11-treated-after-carbon-monoxide-leak-New-London?odyssey=tab|topnews|img|APC-News>

55. *October 30, Associated Press* – (Alaska) **Alaska police say 1 dead in shooting at hotel.** A disgruntled former employee opened fire in an Anchorage, Alaska hotel and killed a manager, setting off a 4-hour search that ended with the gunman's arrest, authorities said October 30. The female manager died in the shooting that occurred shortly after 6 p.m. October 29 at the Millennium Alaskan Hotel, a police spokesman said. Police locked down the hotel and carried out a room to room search. Police also surrounded the suspect's residence. The suspect was arrested near his home nearly 4 hours after the shooting. A police official told the Associated Press the shooter was a disgruntled former employee who had been fired. The suspect is charged with first-degree murder, he said.

Source: http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-501369_162-20127547/alaska-police-say-1-dead-in-shooting-at-hotel/

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

56. *October 28, Associated Press* – (New Mexico) **Texas man pleads guilty to accidentally starting NM forest fire that burned 53,000 acres.** A Texas man admitted starting a New Mexico wildfire that burned more than 53,000 acres in the Lincoln National Forest in April, the Associated Press reported October 28. The man pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor charge of leaving a fire unattended in federal court in Las Cruces, New Mexico. The U.S. attorney's office in Albuquerque said the the man faces up to 6 months in jail and a \$5,000 fine when he is sentenced. Two other charges in an indictment were dismissed in the plea deal. The Last Chance Fire started April 24 when the man lit toilet paper on fire after relieving himself so he would not leave litter behind. High winds sent sparks into nearby brush, and a fire broke out that he and his friends were unable to control.

Source:

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/a4cb4a89e6cf4988b6d021669e520b91/NM--Wildfire-Charge/>

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Dams Sector

57. *October 29, Associated Press* – (Nebraska) **NPPD crew installing stability berm to strengthen seeping canal between North Platte, Hershey.** Work is being done on a canal between North Platte and Hershey, Nebraska, that was seeping water. KNOP 2 North Platte, reported that a Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD) crew was installing a 600-foot stability berm along a section of the canal about 6 miles west of

North Platte. The canal feeds NPPD's hydroelectric plant. A NPPD official said if the seepage continues, the slope of the canal could weaken. The \$100,000 project should end the week of November 7.

Source:

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/8bf3f4f79ecd4fa387df65730d09808f/NE--NPPD-Canal-Work/>

58. *October 29, Medill News Service* – (National) **\$1 billion needed for levee repairs.** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers said it needs about \$1 billion to repair the damage from this year's catastrophic flooding in the Missouri and Mississippi basins, Medill News Service reported October 29. Last spring brought as much as 10 times the normal rainfall to the south and midwest, which mixed with melting snow to produce record river levels along the lower Ohio and Mississippi rivers, the Corps said. At a Congressional committee hearing the week of October 24, Senators asked why the Corps had not released more water from reservoirs to head off further problems before the next flood season arrives. Officials with the Corps responded there would not be enough time "to get the water out of the flood plain, out of farms, out of homes, out of businesses" or for federal and state agencies to inspect and repair infrastructure before the next flood season, which starts in March. The repair work — such as rebuilding the Birds Point levee in Missouri, which was blasted during the summer flooding — has stretched the Corps' budget about as far as it can go, a division spokesman said. The Corps identified 93 repair projects in the Mississippi basin south of St. Louis, more than 20 of which are crucial to protecting people and property from damage in the next flood season. If money were available, the Corps could complete the work before March, but "at the current funding levels, it may be difficult to do that," officials said. Source: http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/national_world/2011/10/29/1-billion-needed-for-levee-repairs.html

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