



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report
2 November 2011

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- At least 48 chemical and defense companies, many in the United States, were victims of a coordinated cyber attack traced to a man in China, said security firm Symantec Corp. – *Reuters* (See item [6](#))
- MF Global failed to protect customer accounts by keeping them separate from the firm's funds, leading to the disappearance of hundreds of millions of dollars, according to a U.S. regulator. – *Reuters* (See item [20](#))

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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. *November 1, CNN* – (Northeast) **About 1.7 million still without power as Northeast recovers from storm.** Widespread power outages and transit delays marked the start of a challenging week for millions of residents of the Northeastern United States, where a freak October snowstorm dropped more than 2 feet of snow in some places. Close to 1.7 million customers in five states remained without power October 31, and officials warned it could be November 4 before power is back on everywhere. 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 work, officials said. At least 13 deaths have been blamed on the weekend storm, which prompted emergency declarations from the governors of New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, and Massachusetts, and also put Halloween trick-or-treating plans in jeopardy. The U.S. President signed an emergency declaration for Connecticut October 31, ordering federal aid to supplement state and local response efforts. Connecticut power officials said that about 748,000 people were still without power, down from a peak of more than 900,000. In Massachusetts, state officials said utility crews had come from as far as Louisiana and Texas to help.

Source: <http://edition.cnn.com/2011/10/31/us/east-coast-storm/>

2. *October 31, Associated Press* – (Wyoming) **Full capacity OK'd after Wyo. pipeline rupture.** Federal investigators have allowed TransCanada to go to full pressure on a new gas pipeline in northeast Wyoming that ruptured for reasons that still are not entirely clear. Calgary, Alberta-based TransCanada does not have quite enough gas to take full advantage of the recent approval from the federal Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration. The Bison Pipeline is running at about 85 percent capacity. The 30-inch pipeline ruptured July 20 and spewed a brown cloud into the sky 20 miles northwest of Gillette. The rupture shook the ground a mile away, but the gas did not ignite.

Source: <http://www.thedickinsonpress.com/event/article/id/52560/group/News/>

3. *October 31, Associated Press* – (Wisconsin) **Cliff collapse causes mudslide at Wis. power plant.** A section of cliff the size of a football field gave way October 31 at a power plant in southeastern Wisconsin, creating a mudslide that sent a pickup truck and other equipment tumbling into Lake Michigan, and swept several construction trailers toward the beach. No injuries or power disruptions were reported, but the U.S. Coast Guard sent rescue boats as a precaution. Officials were conducting an environmental assessment of the situation after finding an oil-like sheen on the water. "It's most likely fuel, whether gasoline, diesel fuel or hydraulic fluid," said the acting fire chief in the Milwaukee suburb of Oak Creek. The collapse occurred on the southern part of the We Energies complex. It happened at about 11 a.m. near the older power facilities of the coal-fired power plant, close to where pollution-control equipment is being installed. A We spokesman said all employees were accounted for, including We Energies workers and about 250 contractors. Officials with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Association were assisting in the investigation.

Source:

http://www.boston.com/news/nation/articles/2011/10/31/cliff_collapse_causes_mudslide_at_wis_power_plant/

For more stories, see items [36](#) and [48](#)

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Chemical Industry Sector

4. *November 1, Associated Press* – (Rhode Island) **EPA cost for Woonasquatucket site cleanup: \$101M.** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency could spend \$101 million cleaning up dioxins, PCBs, and other chemicals on a former industrial site along the Woonasquatucket River in North Providence, Rhode Island. The Providence Journal reports the agency's cleanup plan comes more than 10 years after it listed a section of the river, nearby ponds, and wetlands as a Superfund site. A former chemical company, Metro-Atlantic, and its parent company worked the site from 1943 to the early 1970s. On one part of the site, another company, New England Container, used an incinerator to recondition metal drums from 1952 to 1971. A total 126,000 cubic yards of contaminated material are to be excavated. Most would be put in a special containment area on the Johnston side of the river, and some could be shipped to as far away as Texas.
Source:
http://www.boston.com/news/local/rhode_island/articles/2011/11/01/epa_cost_for_woonasquatucket_site_cleanup_101m/
5. *October 31, Newark Star-Ledger* – (New Jersey) **Officials unveil \$80M cleanup plan of Passaic River.** The first steps in a Superfund cleanup of massive dioxin deposits in the Passaic River near Newark, New Jersey were unveiled by officials October 31. The \$80-million cleanup of the carcinogenic substance at the Diamond Alkali site on Lister Avenue has begun with construction of a metal enclosure in the water, inside of which dredging will not kick the highest concentrations of pollution into the rest of the river, officials said. The 200,000 cubic yards of sediment to be removed in March is a small part of the 4 million to 10 million cubic yards that must be taken out of the river, officials said. Dioxin, the active chemical in Agent Orange and a proven carcinogen, was manufactured by Diamond from 1951 until 1969 at the site. The commissioner of the state department of environmental protection called the stretch of the Passaic “one of the most severely contaminated waterways in the world,” and said New Jersey wants to rehabilitate the river at the polluters’ cost. Two parties have been held liable in court for the cleanup: Tierra Solutions and Occidental Chemical — though Maxus Energy, the prior owner, will pay for Occidental’s part of the costs. A spokesman for Tierra said the company was working with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on the project.
Source:
http://www.nj.com/news/index.ssf/2011/10/officials_unveil_cleanup_plans.html
6. *October 31, Reuters* – (International) **New cyber attack targets chemical firms: Symantec.** At least 48 chemical and defense companies were victims of a coordinated cyber attack traced to a man in China, according to a report from security firm Symantec Corp. Computers belonging to these companies were infected with malicious software known as "PoisonIvy," which was used to steal information such as design documents, formulas, and details on manufacturing processes, Symantec said October 31. It said the firms included multiple Fortune 100 corporations that develop compounds and advanced materials, along with businesses that help manufacture infrastructure for these industries. The bulk of the infected machines were based in the

United States and United Kingdom, Symantec said, adding the victims include 29 chemicals companies, some of which developed advanced materials used in military vehicles. "The purpose appears to be industrial espionage, collecting intellectual property for competitive advantage," Symantec said in a white paper on the campaign that it dubbed the "Nitro" attacks. The cyber campaign ran from late July through mid-September and was traced to a computer system in the United States owned by a man in his 20s in Hebei province in China, according to Symantec. Researchers said they were not able to determine if the hacker, who they dubbed "Covert Grove", acted alone or conducted the attacks on behalf of another party or parties. Symantec said the Nitro attackers sent e-mails with tainted attachments to between 100 and 500 employees at a company, claiming to be from established business partners or to contain bogus security updates. When a recipient opens the attachment, it installs "PoisonIvy," a Remote Access Trojan that can take control of a machine and that is easily available over the Internet. While the hackers' behavior differed slightly in each case, they typically identified desired intellectual property, copied it, and uploaded it to a remote server, Symantec said in its report. Dow Chemical Co said it detected "unusual e-mails being delivered to the company" last summer, and worked with law enforcers to address this situation.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/10/31/us-cyberattack-chemicals-idUSTRE79U4K920111031>

7. *October 31, Tigard Times* – (Oregon) **Liquid fertilizer spill snarls traffic on I-5.** A spill on Interstate 5 and Sagert Street in Tualatin, Oregon snarled traffic October 31 when a truck hauling 1,000 gallons of liquid fertilizer collided before 8 a.m. with another vehicle. The fertilizer tank dislodged and leaked about 800 gallons of fertilizer onto the highway. Two lanes of traffic were blocked on I-5 northbound just north of the Interstate 205 on-ramp. The Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue's Hazardous Materials Team worked with Oregon's Department of Transportation, Oregon State Police, the state department of environmental quality, and the company that owns the truck on the clean up.
Source: http://www.tigardtimes.com/news/story.php?story_id=132010317462279800
8. *November 1, Global Security Newswire* – (International) **Security council urges Libya to pursue chemical disarmament.** The United Nations Security Council October 31 passed a resolution urging Libya's new government to adhere to the chemical disarmament pledges made by the former dictator's regime, and to secure large quantities of anti-aircraft rockets that have become a major proliferation concern. The 15-member body unanimously approved Resolution 2017, which was introduced by Russia. It calls on the new Libyan leadership to take "all necessary steps to prevent the proliferation of all arms and related materiel of all types, in particular man-portable surface-to-air missiles, to ensure their proper custody, as well as to meet Libya's arms control, disarmament and nonproliferation obligations under international law," according to a U.N. press release. The Security Council urged Libyan authorities to work with the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons to eliminate the last of the North African nations' small stockpile of chemical warfare materials. Libya is believed to possess 9.5 metric tons of mustard blister agent as well as hundreds of tons of chemical weapon precursor materials and a considerable quantity of raw

uranium — remnants of the deceased Libyan dictator's weapons of mass destruction program, which was shuttered under a 2003 agreement with Western powers.

Source: http://www.globalsecuritynewswire.org/gsn/nw_20111101_2620.php

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

9. *November 1, Nuclear Street* – (Minnesota; Georgia) **Monticello and Hatch reactors back online.** Two nuclear plants ended outages in recent days, as the Monticello plant in Monticello, Minnesota, restarted following a reactor trip, and Georgia's Hatch 2 reactor completed a maintenance project. At Monticello, full power was restored October 31. The General Electric type-3 boiling water reactor (BWR) shut down automatically October 21 following the lockout of an auxiliary power transformer, according to a Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) event report. Xcel Energy later reported a cable failure caused the transformer problem, interrupting power to part of the site. Two emergency diesel generators started automatically, but the NRC report indicated "the 11 ESW [emergency service water] pump (cooling for the #11 emergency diesel) failed to develop required pressure." The report said that generator was tagged as out of service. Unit 2 at Southern Co.'s Hatch plant near Baxley, Georgia, resumed electrical generation October 29. The GE type-4 BWR was down for 7 days while workers replaced a relief valve inside the dry well of its containment, according to a company release.

Source:

http://nuclearstreet.com/nuclear_power_industry_news/b/nuclear_power_news/archive/2011/11/01/monticello-and-hatch-reactors-back-online-110201.aspx

10. *November 1, Syracuse Post-Standard* – (New York) **Constellation Energy receives OK to allow one emergency generator to be out of service for 14 days.** The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has approved an amendment to the license for Nine Mile Point Unit 2 in Scriba, New York, to allow one of its primary emergency diesel generators to be out of service longer. Constellation Energy Nuclear Group submitted a license amendment request to the NRC March 31, 2010. It asked for permission to revise the nuclear power plant's Technical Specifications to allow one generator to be out of service 14 days instead of just 72 hours. Emergency diesel generators are used to power plant safety systems in the event power from the grid is lost. Nine Mile Point 2 has three emergency diesel generators. New York State opposed the change, but the NRC approved it because information it received assures enough electricity would be available to power the plant and maintain the reactor in a safe condition in the event of an accident.

Source: http://www.syracuse.com/news/index.ssf/2011/10/post_505.html

11. *November 1, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission* – (National) **NRC approves final rule amending ABWR reactor design certification to include consideration of aircraft impacts.** The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) posted a final rule

amending the Advanced Boiling Water Reactor (ABWR) design certification to address the effects of the impact of a large commercial aircraft, in accordance with the 2009 aircraft impact assessment rule. STP Nuclear Operating Company (STPNOC) submitted an application to amend the ABWR design in June 2009. The rule approved November 1 by the NRC certifies that STPNOC's option for the ABWR design has appropriately accounted for aircraft impact effects. This means that following such an impact, only minimal operator actions would be necessary to meet two conditions: a) the reactor core remains cooled or the containment remains intact; and b) spent nuclear fuel cooling or spent fuel pool integrity is maintained. The rule will become effective 30 days after its publication in the Federal Register, expected shortly.

Source: <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/news/2011/11-207.pdf>

12. *October 31, Associated Press* – (New Mexico) **Los Alamos Lab's safety program questioned by federal nuclear security official.** A pair of memos from an official with the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) has raised questions about safety procedures at Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) in Los Alamos, New Mexico. The memos state the lab has repeatedly missed deadlines to fix nuclear safety problems, but that there are no immediate dangers, the Albuquerque Journal reported. The memos were sent in September by the top nuclear safety official with NNSA's Los Alamos Site Office. They address many systems intended to reduce risk, including procedures aimed at preventing inadvertent chain reactions. The problems affect the lab's main plutonium complex, where nuclear weapons parts are made, and a group of facilities that handles nuclear waste. The NNSA official said the main issue was complacency and overconfidence by workers. The lab is taking steps to fix the problems, said the LANL's associate director for nuclear and high hazard operations. Much of the work at the lab is done in its 55 Plutonium Facility, a large concrete bunker known as PF-4. One of the letters said recent problems "called into question the effectiveness of the conduct of operations and criticality safety programs." Questions were also raised about the adequacy of fire protection at a facility that packages radioactive waste for off-site shipment, inadequate lightning protection in large tent-like structures where radioactive waste is stored, and whether power supply systems in one of the lab's nuclear facilities can withstand an earthquake. The most serious criticism was aimed at criticality safety programs. Criticality happens when too much of particular types of material, including plutonium, are brought together in a small space. When that happens, a nuclear chain reaction can result. The primary danger is exposing scientists and technicians to radiation. The memos cite 23 "criticality infractions" last year in the PF-4 bunker, and the trend continued this year. The LANL official said the problems cited by the NNSA involve efforts to improve the lab's existing criticality safety program. He also noted that many problems cited in the memos were identified and reported by the lab itself, including the 23 infractions of criticality rules during 2010.

Source:

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/1bcf8d3719b3499292197e488c1c9066/NM--Nuke-Safety/>

13. *October 31, Bloomberg* – (Ohio) **FirstEnergy finds more cracks at Davis-Besse nuclear power plant.** FirstEnergy Corp. said an investigation of damage to the

concrete outer shell of its Davis-Besse nuclear power plant in Oak Harbor, Ohio, unearthed additional hairline cracks. The sub-surface cracks on the shield building don't "affect the facility's structure integrity or safety," Akron, Ohio-based FirstEnergy said in a letter to investors October 31. The company said the 913-megawatt reactor, shut since October 1, will resume producing power in late November. FirstEnergy shut the plant to install a new reactor vessel head 3 years earlier than previously planned. The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) in 2005 imposed a \$5.45 million fine, its largest ever, for FirstEnergy's failure to discover corrosion had eaten a hole in a prior vessel head. Contractors found the newest cracks on the shield building, a 30-inch-thick reinforced concrete structure that protects the reactor's containment building from wind and tornadoes. The flaws are primarily in a decorative element that protrudes about 18 inches out from the building and plays no role in structural integrity, a FirstEnergy spokeswoman said. She said the company is still studying two other cracks found as it tested the shield building. Because the shield building doesn't form the primary safety barrier to the nuclear reactor, cracking to its reinforced concrete isn't considered a safety threat and the operator doesn't need federal permission to resume power output from the reactor, a NRC spokeswoman said.

Source: <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-10-31/firstenergy-finds-more-cracks-at-davis-besse-nuclear-power-plant.html>

14. *October 31, Portsmouth Patch* – (New Hampshire) **Power plant back online after precautionary shutdown.** The nuclear reactor at Seabrook Station in Seabrook, New Hampshire, went online October 28 and returned to 100 percent power October 30 after a nearly month-long shutdown, according to a plant spokesman. He said October 31 the shutdown was caused by a water pump. "It shut itself down ... because it detected a small amount of air in the system." The spokesman said they found the air was introduced to the water line by a pump upstream of the main feeding pump, which was initially presumed as the cause of the October 6 shutdown. He said the air was likely introduced during maintenance work on the upstream pump, and further analysis showed there were no faults. The plant took nearly a month to get fully operational because operators used the shutdown to perform "proactive" maintenance projects and improvements as outlined in Seabrook Station's "unplanned forced outage" plan, the spokesman said.

Source: <http://portsmouth-nh.patch.com/articles/seabrook-station-back-online>

15. *October 31, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission* – (Idaho; Missouri) **NRC approves Westinghouse Hematite's request to dispose of low-level radioactive waste at U.S. Ecology site in Idaho.** The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has approved a request by Westinghouse Electric Co. (WEC) to dispose of low-level waste from decommissioning its former Hematite nuclear fuel fabrication facility in Festus, Missouri, at the U.S. Ecology Idaho Inc. facility near Grand View, Idaho. WEC had requested authorization to dispose of about 30,000 cubic yards of low-level radioactive waste, and special nuclear material at U.S. Ecology's site, which is regulated by Idaho and is not licensed by the NRC. WEC also sought an exemption from NRC rules requiring disposal of waste at an NRC-licensed facility. In an environmental assessment published October 24 in the Federal Register, the NRC issued a finding of no significant impact. The assessment found there would be no significant difference in

environmental impacts resulting from disposal at U.S. Ecology or a NRC-licensed low-level disposal site. The assessment also analyzed the “no-action alternative,” which would leave the waste in place and require WEC to monitor it to ensure safety and security. The waste covered by WEC's license amendment request will be generated as part of decommissioning activities under a plan approved by the NRC October 13 that includes digging up 40 unlined burial pits and soil underneath site buildings.

Source: <http://pbadupws.nrc.gov/docs/ML1130/ML11304A093.pdf>

For another story, see item [8](#)

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

16. *October 31, Associated Press* – (International) **Parts shortages due to Thai floods drive Honda to cut US, Canadian factory output by half.** Parts shortages from 3 months of catastrophic flooding in Thailand have forced Honda to cut U.S. and Canadian factory production by 50 percent for the second time this year, the automaker said October 31. The cuts, which come just as Honda was recovering from the March 11 earthquake and tsunami in Japan, will run from November 2 at least through November 10 as Honda tries to find alternate sources for microprocessors made in Thailand. The flooding, which began in July and has forced many auto parts plants to close, also affected Toyota Motor Co., which cut overtime for production in North America through the end of this week. Honda also said it will stop all production in the United States and Canada for 1 day November 11, and all Saturday overtime work will be canceled through November. A spokesman said it is too early to tell if there will be a repeat of model shortages that occurred during the summer and early fall due to parts shortages from the earthquake and tsunami. The company said in a statement the December sale date for the 2012 version of the CR-V crossover vehicle could be delayed by several weeks. Honda said it will announce the sale date in the near future. The spokesman said the company is trying to find other sources for the parts made in Thailand, but production of newer models such as the Civic compact and CR-V will be most affected by the parts shortages.

Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/business/parts-shortage-due-to-thai-floods-drive-honda-to-cut-us-canadian-factory-output-by-50-pct/2011/10/31/gIQAqMLPZM_story.html

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

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Banking and Finance Sector

17. *November 1, Philadelphia Inquirer* – (National) **'Little Nicky' Scarfo's son charged in massive fraud.** The son of a jailed Philadelphia mob boss was arrested November 1 on racketeering and fraud charges tied to what federal authorities allege was a massive scheme to defraud a Texas-based financial firm out of millions of dollars. He was one of more than a dozen individuals named in the indictment announced by the U.S. attorney's office in Camden, New Jersey. The man's father and another jailed mob boss were named as unindicted coconspirators in what the indictment charges was a mob-linked criminal enterprise set up to siphon millions from FirstPlus Financial. A former Elkins Park businessman, a south Jersey criminal defense attorney, and several former officials with FirstPlus Financial were among the 13 defendants named in the indictment. Other defendants include accountants, lawyers, and company officials who the indictment alleges were part a scheme set up to loot FirstPlus. The indictment capped a 3-year investigation by the FBI that became public after search warrants were issued in May 2008 for businesses and homes in Philadelphia, New Jersey, Florida, and Texas. Authorities allege the mobster's son and the Elkins Park businessman were behind-the scenes operatives who orchestrated a series of business deals in which FirstPlus bought or invested in companies the two had set up in Philadelphia and south Jersey. Authorities allege those companies were shells that performed little or no work, but were set up to allow the pair to take more than \$12 million out of FirstPlus. The indictment charges the defendants with being part of a mob-connected racketeering enterprise that engaged in wire fraud, mail fraud, bank fraud, securities fraud, money-laundering, extortion. and obstruction of justice.
Source: <http://www.philly.com/philly/news/132988533.html>
18. *November 1, Delaware County Daily Times* – (Pennsylvania) **Ex-Wachovia Bank employee busted in \$500G embezzlement scam.** A former Wachovia Bank "financial specialist" is behind bars at the Delaware County, Pennsylvania prison, charged with attempting to embezzle more than \$500,000 by transferring cash from customer accounts — many belonging to senior citizens — into accounts he had set up, county authorities said October 31. The man faces multiple felony theft, forgery, identity theft, and related offenses. From February 4, 2008, through March 5, 2009, he allegedly transferred \$574,314.69 from customer accounts into accounts he established. On March 3 and 5 in 2009, authorities allege he made three unsuccessful attempts to remove funds from the accounts he had set up. The attempts were thwarted by Wachovia after a signature on a check and two suspicious electronic transfers were questioned. Two additional checks drawn on the man's Wachovia accounts in the amount of \$9,500 were presented to PNC Bank on March 2 and 3 in 2009 — both of which were returned to PNC based on what authorities said was Wachovia becoming aware of the man's actions.
Source:
<http://www.delcotimes.com/articles/2011/11/01/news/doc4eaf61089d262924546625.txt>
19. *November 1, Chicago Tribune* – (Illinois) **Dozen real estate loans at center of FDIC's \$127M suit in Mutual Bank failure.** The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) brought a \$127 million lawsuit against officers and directors of the Harvey,

Illinois-based Mutual Bank, which failed in July 2009. The lawsuit outlines how nearly \$1.1 million of the bank's assets were "wasted" on extravagances, such as a \$250,000 wedding and a \$300,000 board meeting in Monte Carlo, Monaco. Insiders also paid themselves \$10.5 million in dividends as the bank was tanking. The bulk of what the FDIC is seeking to recover is the more than \$115 million in losses on 12 real estate loans. The FDIC said many of the bank's bad loans, which were concentrated in the hotel industry, originated after the real estate market began its "precipitous" decline in late 2006.

Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/business/ct-biz-1101-bank-suit-follow-20111101,0,2780049.story>

20. *November 1, Reuters* – (National; International) **Clients scramble for money after MF Global shock.** MF Global failed to protect customer accounts by keeping them separate from the firm's funds, a top U.S. regulator said November 1, as administrators to the collapsed brokerage's United Kingdom (UK) arm scrambled to close out billions of dollars worth of client positions. The fall of the group sent shockwaves through commodities markets, as traders feared the damage could spread, or similar problems occur with other players. KPMG, appointed as administrators to MF Global's UK arm, said it had been busy closing out positions all day under a new UK regime set up to prevent a repeat of the slow and painful work-out of the 2008 collapse of Lehman Brothers. KPMG's head of restructuring told Reuters he was confident clients would see their money again: "Our strategy this morning has been ... where we have clients whose position is reconciled, and are due funds, then that money will flow," he said. MF Global's main exchange regulator, the Chicago Mercantile Exchange Group (CME), said the futures broker failed to keep customers accounts separate from the firm's funds, violating a central tenet of futures brokerage. "CME has determined MF Global is not in compliance with Commodity Futures Trading Commission and CME customer segregation requirements," the company's chief executive said. The New York Times reported federal regulators discovered that hundreds of millions of dollars in customer money — supposed to be segregated, and protected from the rest of the business — had gone missing. MF Global filed for bankruptcy protection October 31. In Australia, trading in grain futures and options was suspended by bourse operator ASX Ltd , prompting concerns about the integrity of the country's agricultural futures market. The London Metal Exchange said in a statement it had suspended MF Global from trading with immediate effect, following a similar move by the CME Group.
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/11/01/mfglobal-exchanges-idUSL5E7M12NY20111101>
21. *October 31, Des Moines Register* – (Iowa) **Former Clarksville bank cashier to plead guilty.** A former cashier at Iowa State Bank in Clarksville will plead guilty November 4 to embezzling \$6 million over the past two decades, court records show. The former cashier is charged with stealing the money between 1991 and 2010. A bank examination by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation in May revealed discrepancies in the bank's general ledger. The FBI and U.S. Secret Service took over the investigation. The bank filed a civil lawsuit against the man in Butler County District Court in June, accusing him of transferring bank funds to his own accounts and hiding the thefts by creating false accounts and transactions. The U.S. attorney's office

October 24 filed the embezzlement and the identity theft charges accusing the former cashier of using someone else's name and Social Security number to help him embezzle the money.

Source: <http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20111101/BUSINESS/311010052/-1/GETPUBLISHED03wp-content/Former-Clarksville-bank-cashier-plead-guilty>

22. *October 31, Associated Press* – (Texas) **Ex-Laredo bank officer pleads guilty in \$8M fraud.** A bank officer in south Texas blamed for stealing more than \$8 million from customer accounts pleaded guilty October 31 in a fraud investigation. Prosecutors said the former officer pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit bank fraud, and conspiracy to launder money. The woman was an international banking officer with Compass Bank in Laredo when an audit revealed the 2009 scheme. The officer, in the plea deal, said she used the stolen funds to buy vehicles, make investments, and purchase a condominium on South Padre Island. The woman, who must make restitution, faces up to 30 years in prison on the bank fraud count, and 10 years for conspiracy to launder money.

Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D9QNF5P01.htm>

23. *October 31, Hickory Daily Record* – (North Carolina) **Hickory man pleads guilty to mortgage fraud.** A Hickory, North Carolina man pleaded guilty October 31 in federal district court to five charges that he defrauded dozens in the region who sought to buy or finance manufactured homes. He was charged with one count of conspiracy to commit wire fraud and making false statements to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), two counts of making false statements to HUD, and two counts of wire fraud. He was the manager of Homes America (HA) in Hudson, which was a branch of Phoenix Housing Group out of Greensboro. According to a press release from the U.S. attorney's office, he was involved with up to 154 HUD-insured mortgage loans from 2004 to 2008. Those loans were worth \$16 million, and the losses surpassed \$4.8 million. He lured customers to HA by misrepresenting financial terms, including stating the business had a rent-to-own program — something it never had, the U.S. attorney's office said. He also collected down payment funds without giving borrowers credit for it, collected borrowers' information through documents, and gave that data to lenders. On some of the documents, he altered or forged information about the customers' assets, income, and credit so they would qualify for mortgages they otherwise would not qualify for. Information from the U.S. attorney's office also stated he obtained inflated appraisals, misrepresented the source of down payment money, and coerced consumers to sign closing documents. He faces a maximum of 29 years in prison and \$1.25 million. Phoenix Housing Group, including HA, closed in January 2011 as part of a settlement with the North Carolina Attorney General's Office, according to the U.S. attorney's office.

Source: <http://www2.hickoryrecord.com/news/2011/oct/31/hickory-man-pleads-guilty-mortgage-fraud-ar-1558720/>

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Transportation Sector

24. *November 1, CNN* – (International) **Newark flight makes emergency landing in Poland.** A Boeing 767 on a flight from Newark, New Jersey, made a emergency landing at Warsaw, Poland's Frederic Chopin International airport November 1 after problems with its landing gear, an airport spokeswoman said. All the passengers on the flight, from Newark Liberty International Airport to Warsaw, are safe and uninjured. The LOT Polish Airlines flight, which had been due to land at 1:35 local time, circled above the airport for an hour before coming down in a belly landing at 2:40. There were 230 people aboard the flight, Poland's TVN broadcaster said.
Source: http://www.cnn.com/2011/11/01/world/europe/poland-plane/index.html?hpt=tr_c2
25. *November 1, Chicago Sun Times Media Wire* – (Illinois) **Hazmat situation reported at O'Hare airport for exploding battery.** Chicago emergency crews responded to a Level 1 Hazmat situation at Chicago O'Hare International Airport November 1 when a United Airlines employee suffered minor injuries after “an accidental discharge” of a battery in a shipping container. No criminal activity was suspected. Fire and police officials were inspecting other containers. The bomb and arson unit was also called to the scene. A Level 1 Hazmat situation means an incident that could involve gas, liquid or solid spill with minimal to moderate risk to public health. The aviation commissioner said the airport was operating normally with some minor delays to a few departing flights.
Source: <http://www.myfoxchicago.com/dpp/news/metro/hazmat-situation-ohare-airport-possible-explosion-reports-20111101>
26. *October 31, Associated Press* – (Texas) **Man accused of shining laser pointer at aircraft.** A federal indictment accuses a suburban Dallas man of shining a laser at an aircraft flying near his home, the Associated Press reported October 31. A U.S. attorney's statement said the man is charged with a single count of interfering with an aircraft after a laser was pointed at a Southwest Airlines jet June 2. He is the first such prosecution in North Texas. If convicted, he could get up to 20 years in prison, and a \$250,000 fine. His trial is set for December 16. The man remains free on his own recognizance. He also could get an \$11,000 penalty from a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) civil enforcement action. The FAA said 90 such cases have been reported in North Texas in 2011.
Source: <http://www.kswo.com/story/15918272/man-accused-of-shining-laser-pointer-at-aircraft>
27. *October 31, Charleston Daily Mail* – (West Virginia) **TSA officers find stun gun in carry-on bag at Yeager.** Transportation Security Administration (TSA) officers found a stun gun in a passenger's carry-on bag at Yeager Airport in Charleston, West Virginia, October 31. According to a news release from the TSA, airport police confiscated the weapon, which was about the size of a SmartPhone.
Source: <http://www.dailymail.com/policebrfs/201110310215>

28. *October 31, KOAT 7 Albuquerque* – (New Mexico) **Unruly airport passenger attacked authorities, police say.** Police said an intoxicated airline passenger, who was banned from a flight to Portland, Oregon, hit an officer in the face while under arrest at the security checkpoint at Albuquerque International Sunport in Albuquerque, New Mexico, October 29. Transportation Security Administration agents noticed the man was drunk and had an officer take a look. Authorities decided to let Southwest Airlines make the call on whether or not he could fly. When an agent asked him to sober up and take a later flight, he refused. He then started shouting at TSA agents at the security checkpoint. Police said he hit one officer across the face and cut another officer's hand while in handcuffs. The passenger then threw himself on the ground to avoid getting into the back of a police car, police said. He was charged with battery on a peace officer.
Source: <http://www.koat.com/news/29635988/detail.html>
29. *October 31, Associated Press* – (New Jersey) **TSA spots concealed knife in bag at Newark airport.** A Transportation Security Administration X-ray screener at Newark-Liberty International Airport in Newark, New Jersey spotted a knife in a carry-on bag concealed in the zippered pocket where the bag's handle is stored October 30. The bag belonged to a passenger from New York who was boarding a flight to Atlanta. Port Authority police confiscated the knife.
Source: http://www.nypost.com/p/news/local/tsa_spots_concealed_knife_in_bag_rli8tY1zLLB WxWPrkPwIbO

For more stories, see items [7](#) and [48](#)

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Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to report

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Agriculture and Food Sector

30. *November 1, Indiana's News Center* – (Indiana) **Man shot and killed at Mookie's bar.** One person is dead, and two others were wounded following a triple shooting at a bar on Fort Wayne, Indiana's north side October 31. Police said the man died after he was shot inside "Mookie's" bar. Police said an officer, responding to a noise complaint there, heard multiple gunshots in the bar. Officials estimate about 200 people were in the bar at the time, and said the gunfire sparked "chaos."
Source: <http://www.indianasnewscenter.com/news/local/Man-Killed-in-Bar-Shooting-132982733.html>
31. *November 1, WANE 15 Fort Wayne* – (Indiana) **Momper Insulation chemical spill investigated by DNR.** Indiana Conservation officers are investigating a chemical spill

that resulted in a fish kill in the aftermath of a fire at Momper Insulation in Fort Wayne, WANE 15 Fort Wayne reported November 1. They then joined the Fort Wayne Fire Department and other emergency agencies that had responded to the scene to combat the October 30 fire. According to the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Momper had toxic substances on its premises, and because of the fire the chemical migrated to nearby Junk Ditch. Three conservation officers investigated the incident and found a large number of dead fish in the contaminated water of Junk Ditch. With the help of Fort Wayne City Utilities, the conservation officers were able to leverage construction of an earthen dam on Junk Ditch before it met up with the St. Marys River. DNR is working with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service in evaluating the extent of the impact on fish and wildlife.

Source: <http://www.wane.com/dpp/news/momper-insulation-chemical-spill-under-investigation>

32. *November 1, Food Safety News* – (National) **Plastic bits in chicken pot pie empanadas.** A Los Angeles company is recalling about 11,390 pounds of chicken pot pie empanadas that may contain foreign materials, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) announced October 31. Windsor Quality Food Co. was informed by a food-service distributor customer that there were pieces of plastic in the Molly's Kitchen Mini Chicken Pot Pie Empanadas. The company said the problem may have been the result of equipment breaking during production. The recall involves 10-pound cases each containing 4 boxes of 27-count Molly's Kitchen Mini Chicken Pot Pie Empanadas. The recalled empanadas were produced August 30, and shipped to one food-service distributor for further distribution nationwide.

Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/11/plastic-bits-in-chicken-pot-pie-empanadas/>

33. *October 31, Central Valley Business Times* – (National) **Federal ruling favors endangered species over pesticides.** A U.S. district court judge October 31 ruled that measures required to protect endangered salmon and steelhead from three highly toxic pesticides are valid and can be enforced, the Central Valley Business Times reported October 31. The protections were included in a biological opinion issued by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) in 2008. Pesticide manufacturers had sought to overturn the protections, challenging NMFS's findings. The ruling turns back efforts challenging no-spray buffer zones and other measures required to protect salmon from exposure to the organophosphate pesticides chlorpyrifos, diazinon, and malathion. These pesticides are known to contaminate waterways throughout California and the Pacific Northwest. Earthjustice said the pesticides harm salmon in many ways, including killing them directly, affecting their food supply and habitat, and interfering with their ability to navigate back to their home streams to spawn. In addition to poisoning salmon, the class of organophosphate pesticides has been linked with attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder and childhood developmental delays, the Earthjustice attorney said.

Source: <http://www.centralvalleybusinesstimes.com/stories/001/?ID=19689>

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Water Sector

34. *November 1, Chambersburg Public Opinion* – (Pennsylvania) **Power outage brings call to conserve water in Mercersburg.** Mercersburg Water customers were requested to limit all water use to only essential use due to a prolonged power outage at the water plant in Mercersburg, Pennsylvania, for at least the next 48 hours to prevent loss of water to all customers, the Chambersburg Public Opinion reported November 1. Power at the plant was off for more than 24 hours, the Mercersburg borough manager said. During that time, no water was made, and water in storage tanks was used to supply customers. Power was restored late October 30, the manager said, however, the storage tanks were drawn down drastically.
Source: http://www.publicopiniononline.com/localnews/ci_19236845
35. *November 1, Philadelphia Inquirer* – (Pennsylvania) **Chesco man charged again with wastewater-treatment violations.** A Coatesville-area man serving probation for 2008 wastewater-treatment violations in Chester County is facing new charges related to his operation of a Delaware County sewage plant, the Pennsylvania Attorney General's Office said October 31. He is the owner of TMH Environmental Services Inc. and has run the Fox Valley Community Services Sewage Treatment Plant in Concord Township since 2010, the release said. According to the new criminal complaint, the man violated Pennsylvania's Clean Streams Law 17 times between September 2010 and June 2011, when he did not complete the daily sampling and recording of pH, oxygen, and chlorine levels required of all sewage treatment plants. He is charged with one count of unlawful conduct under Pennsylvania's Clean Streams Law, a felony punishable by up to 7 years in prison and a \$425,000 fine, the release said. The man, arraigned October 31 by a district judge in Glen Mills, was released on \$10,000 bail, court records said.
Source: <http://www.philly.com/philly/news/pennsylvania/132971098.html>
36. *October 31, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* – (Pennsylvania) **16,800 gallons of drilling water spills in Washington County.** About 16,800 gallons of recycled water from a Range Resources natural gas well impoundment in Washington County, Pennsylvania, spilled October 31 after a subcontractor accidentally struck a water line being used to transport the fluid. A range spokesman said the line was ruptured in Hopewell. The line was not in use at the time, officials said, but still contained some of the water, which had been treated and recycled for use in hydraulic fracturing operations. The spokesman said the spill was immediately contained by a quickly excavated trench, though some of the fluid may have reached a nearby unnamed tributary of Buffalo Creek. Chemical testing of the creek done by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) so far shows no elevated levels of total dissolved solids or impacted aquatic species, DEP officials said. It was unclear how much of the fluid may have gotten into the creek.
Source: <http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/11304/1186496-100.stm>
37. *October 31, Associated Press* – (Connecticut) **Conn. public health agency announces 18 public drinking systems under boil water advisory.** Connecticut public health officials said customers of 18 small public drinking systems in the state should boil their water as a precautionary measure, the Associated Press reported October 31. The

systems, located in Ridgefield, New Milford, New Fairfield, Mansfield, and Brookfield, were experiencing electricity outages, and they do not have a backup power source. The Connecticut Department of Public Health said October 31 it was monitoring the systems and contacting other small public drinking water systems to determine their status and whether they need assistance. While some larger public water systems lost power during the nor'easter over the weekend of October 29 and 30, their water supply was not interrupted because they had emergency power capabilities. Source:

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/353a09d185574183817ea1fac8b784ac/CT--October-Snow-Connecticut-Water/>

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

Nothing to report

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Government Facilities Sector

38. *November 1, WTVM 9 Columbus* – (Georgia) **Wildfire burning on Fort Benning.** A wildfire is burning in the impact area near Sand Hill in the Malone Complex in Fort Benning, Georgia, WTVM 9 Columbus reported November 1. The fire is in an area that cannot be accessed by firefighters. It is burning within existing firebreaks and has been fully contained since it started burning October 27. Because it is burning in an area with stream bottoms and wetlands, the fire is producing smoke. The fire is being closely monitored by Fort Benning forestry personnel.

Source: <http://fortbenning.wtvm.com/news/environment/47393-wildfire-burning-fort-benning>

For more stories, see items [6](#), [12](#), and [39](#)

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Emergency Services Sector

39. *October 31, Indiana Daily Student* – (Indiana) **Emergency services track ambulance delays.** When a freshman at Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana, hit his head last month and experienced symptoms related to those of a concussion, emergency personnel were summoned to the scene. Witnesses said the paramedics took about 15 minutes to arrive and assess the situation. The director of emergency transport services at Indiana University Health Bloomington said there are several factors that can affect ambulance response times, including traffic and other circumstantial influences. Indiana Public Media released a report in October stating a dilapidated database system

containing the names of all campus buildings and addresses may be a factor in delayed responses. The director said the average arrival time for an ambulance unit is 7.19 minutes. She also said the main contributing factor for the late arrival of an ambulance unit is the placement of the actual ambulances. Personnel aim to respond to any medical emergency under the national average of 8 minutes, she said. She said state-of-the-art software installed in all ambulance vehicles allows headquarters to track all activity of the trucks. The driver activates the software by pushing a button when he or she enters the vehicle.

Source: <http://www.idsnews.com/news/story.aspx?id=83842>

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Information Technology Sector

40. *October 31, SC Magazine* – (National) **Researcher finds way to send executable file on Facebook.** Researchers have discovered a way to evade Facebook security controls to deliver a message on the social networking site that contains an executable file. Facebook normally strips out messages that contain executables from its private messaging feature. But a yet-to-be-fixed vulnerability, discovered by a penetration tester could enable someone to undermine these security controls by altering the 'POST' request, which is used to send data to a server. The researchers captured the POST query that is sent when attempting to upload an attachment, and altered the coding. "It was discovered the variable 'filename' was being parsed to determine if the file type is allowed or not," according to the vulnerability disclosure. "To subvert the security mechanisms to allow an .exe file type, we modified the POST request by appending a space to our filename variable." Doing this allowed the researchers to "trick the parser" and attach an executable to the message. A bug like this is dangerous because it could allow criminals to send messages that contain malware. Power reported the vulnerability to Facebook September 30, and the company acknowledged its existence October 26.

Source: <http://www.scmagazineuk.com/researcher-finds-way-to-send-executable-file-on-facebook/article/215679/>

41. *October 31, SC Magazine* – (International) **German researchers disclose Amazon cloud vulnerability.** Amazon has fixed a cryptographic hole in its Elastic Compute Cloud (EC2) and Simple Storage Service (S3) services that could allow hackers to compromise customer accounts. The signature-wrapping and cross-site scripting (XSS) attacks hijacked control interfaces used to manage cloud computing resources, which allowed attackers to create, modify, and delete machine images, and change administrative passwords and settings. "Effectively, a successful attack on a cloud control interface grants the attacker a complete power over the victim's account, with all the stored data included," researchers at Germany's Ruhr University wrote in a paper. In one attack, researchers discovered weaknesses in control interfaces that opened them up to new and known XML signature-wrapping attacks. They generated arbitrary Simple Object Access Protocol (SOAP) messages that were accepted by the control interface because application signature verification and XML interpretation were handled separately. Full compromise required knowledge of a signed SOAP

message, while a single arbitrary cloud control operation could be executed with knowledge of a public X.509 certificate. "This attack was made possible by the simple fact the Amazon shop and the Amazon cloud control interfaces share the same login credentials, thus any XSS attack on the (necessarily complex) shop interface can be turned into an XSS attack on the cloud control interface," the researchers wrote. Similar injection attacks also worked against the Eucalyptus cloud computer software. Amazon confirmed the attacks and closed the security holes prior to disclosure, according to the chair of network and data security at the university.

Source: <http://www.scmagazineuk.com/german-researchers-disclose-amazon-cloud-vulnerability/article/215678/>

42. *October 31, IDG News Services* – (International) **Old image resize script leaves 1 million Web pages compromised.** A serious code injection vulnerability affecting timthumb, a popular image resize script used in many WordPress themes and plugins, has been exploited in recent months to compromise more than 1 million Web pages, IDG News Services reported October 31. Estimating the impact is not an easy task, according to Web site integrity monitoring vendor Sucuri Security, which monitored the fallout of this flaw since it was first announced at the beginning of August. The company's researchers have devised a method that involves using Google to search for compromised pages where the malicious code malfunctioned. "If you are familiar with PHP/WordPress, you'll notice that [the attack] is adding the output of this function (counter_wordpress, which calls 91.196.216.30/bt.php) to the header of the compromised site," a Sucuri security spokesman said. Searching for this error on Google returned over 1 million results and using filters for the last 30 days, returned over 200,000. There are other factors to consider as well when trying to estimate the impact, such as the fact Google results correspond to compromised pages, not Web sites, as one Web site can have multiple pages infected. Also, not all servers have the display_errors feature enabled in PHP, which means no error will be outputted even if a site is affected. There is no telling how many Web sites compromised by different exploits targeting this vulnerability are out there. The spokesman believes there could be a few million.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9221328/Old_image_resize_script_leaves_1_million_Web_pages_compromised

43. *October 31, Softpedia* – (National) **Phishing campaign fake legitimate Apple emails, steals victims ID and password.** A phishing campaign that involves the reputation of Apple has been seen invading in-boxes, Softpedia reported October 31. The rogue message perfectly replicates alerts received by customers when the company notifies them on changes to their accounts. A Trend Micro researcher came across a message that looked very much like the genuine message he had received not long ago from the Cupertino, California, firm. The fake e-mail seems to come from "do_not_reply@itunes.com" and is sent via smtp.com. Coming with the subject "Account Info Change," it perfectly replicates most visual aspects of the real deal. The link mentioned before is masked to look authentic, but in fact it leads the unsuspecting user to a phishing site hosted on a free domain. It asks the customer to provide an ID and a password, the information being sent to the masterminds that designed the whole

scheme. These operations provide access to one's Apple account, which contains a lot of sensitive data such as credit card information, address, and phone numbers.

Source: <http://cyberinsecure.com/phishing-campaign-fake-legitimate-apple-emails-steals-victims-id-and-password/>

44. *October 30, Dark Reading* – (National) **Nearly a third of execs say rogue mobile devices are linked to their networks.** Organizations are concerned about the dangers posed by unauthorized mobile devices, according to a study published the week of October 24, but many are not sure what is being done about it. According to a Deloitte poll of nearly 1,200 U.S. IT and business executives about mobile security, some 28.4 percent of survey respondents believe there are unauthorized PDAs, tablets, or a combination of both connecting to their enterprise intranets, and particularly their e-mail servers. Nearly 87 percent of respondents think their companies are at risk for a cyberattack originating from a mobile security lapse, the survey said. Yet, according to the survey, 40 percent of respondents do not know whether their organizations have strategies, policies, procedures, or technology controls in place to effectively enforce mobile security.

Source: <http://www.darkreading.com/insider-threat/167801100/security/news/231901935/nearly-a-third-of-exec-say-rogue-mobile-devices-are-linked-to-their-networks.html>

For another story, see item [47](#)

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

45. *November 1, Hartford Courant* – (Connecticut) **AT&T says crews making progress restoring cell phone service.** AT&T said November 1 it is progressing in its efforts to restore cell phone service in Connecticut. About 150 of the telecommunication companies' Connecticut cell towers, sustained damage as a result of the October 29 Nor'easter, resulting in spotty service for some of its wireless phone customers. Cell towers require electricity to function. "We have deployed generators and crews across the storm-impacted areas and are working around the clock to address service issues," the AT&T spokeswoman for the Northeast Region said. "We also continue to work with local Connecticut utility companies as they restore commercial power to affected cell sites and facilities." Bloomfield residents, for example, had their service restored November 1. On October 30, AT&T told state officials 152 cell towers had been damaged by the storm, and that cell phone service would likely be disrupted in some portions of the state, according to the Connecticut governor. Verizon Wireless said

October 31 that 10 percent of its network was affected by storm damage. "Overall, the network is performing well. Any scattered service issues we have seen have been attributable to local cable/landline network outages, or lack of available power," a Verizon Wireless spokesman said. Neither telecommunications company would disclose how many cell phone towers they operates in the state, or how many were affected by the storm.

Source: <http://www.courant.com/business/hc-mobile-phone-outages-20111031,0,4486469.story>

46. *November 1, Denver Post* – (Colorado) **Cell phone service restored to northern and central Colorado mountain areas.** Wireless cell phone service, and long-distance telephone land line service, was restored in the Colorado mountains November 1. Service went down October 31 at about 2 p.m. after a "third party" cut a fiber-optic line, a CenturyLink spokesman said. The cut line, in Summit County, knocked out cell phone service to Verizon, AT&T, Sprint, and T-Mobile customers. It affected 32 cell phone tower locations northwest of Frisco, including Steamboat Springs, Craig, and Winter Park. The cut also disrupted long-distance service for land lines.
Source: http://www.denverpost.com/breakingnews/ci_19238668
47. *October 31, FierceCable* – (National) **Cable MSOs hustle in snowstorm's wake to restore TV, phone, Internet service.** A winter storm that impacted communities from Maryland to Maine over the weekend of October 29 and 30 left cable operators hustling to restore cable TV, phone, and Internet service to subscribers. With leaves still on trees in the Northeast, falling tree limbs sparked power outages and impacted telecom services. "We have a significant number of Connecticut, New Jersey and Westchester/Hudson Valley customers experiencing service disruptions, primarily related to the loss of electrical power," a Cablevision spokesman said October 31. "We have crews in the field and are working around the clock, in cooperation with local utilities, to restore service as quickly as possible," he added. Verizon said it has seen a spike in outages in areas hit hardest by the storm such as parts of New York and Massachusetts. "Our crews are working to restore service, repair downed poles, and do any other necessary work. We've assigned additional field technicians and customer service reps to ensure repairs are tended to," a Verizon spokeswoman said. Some subscribers to Service Electric in northwestern New Jersey also reported October 30 that they had lost phone and high-speed Internet service. Comcast and Time Warner Cable also operate systems in areas impacted by the storm.
Source: <http://www.fiercecable.com/story/cable-msos-hustle-snowstorms-wake-restore-tv-phone-internet-service/2011-10-31>

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Commercial Facilities Sector

48. *November 1, Lancaster Intelligencer Journal/New Era* – (Pennsylvania) **Gas explosion destroys building in Millersville.** Officials said Millersville, Pennsylvania's main

thoroughfare was expected to remain closed for much of November 1 because of a natural gas explosion that rocked the borough October 31. Crews began work to tear down The Framery Etc. building, according to the commissioner of Blue Rock Fire Rescue. The blast, which was caused by workers who struck a main gas line, severely damaged the 2-story building. The building, along with neighboring properties, had been evacuated about 90 minutes earlier. Fire units were dispatched after a construction crew drilling 3 to 4 feet underground to install a fiber optic line struck an 8-inch gas line. Firefighters immediately began evacuating about 100 homes and businesses in the area because of the strong smell of gas, officials said. The explosion blew off the front of the building, and toppled power lines.

Source: http://lancasteronline.com/article/local/488900_Gas-explosion-destroys-building-in-Millersville.html

49. *November 1, FoxNews.com* – (New York) **12-year-old boys arrested for allegedly dropping shopping cart on NYC mother.** Two 12-year-old boys were in police custody after allegedly dropping a shopping cart four stories onto a New York City mother who was out buying Halloween candy for underprivileged children, FoxNews.com reported November 1. The woman was struck by the falling cart October 30 while shopping with her 13-year-old son at a mall in East Harlem, the New York Post reported. The woman remains in a medically induced coma. The two young suspects were telling jokes and laughing with each other after they were taken into custody, police sources told the newspaper. The suspects were reportedly charged in family court with assault as juveniles.

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/us/2011/11/01/12-year-old-boys-arrested-for-allegedly-dropping-shopping-cart-on-nyc-mother/>

50. *November 1, CNN* – (Louisiana) **2 dead, 13 hurt in New Orleans Halloween shootings.** Two people died and 13 others were injured in four separate shootings in New Orleans November 1, including one on Bourbon Street where costumed revelers were celebrating Halloween. The first shooting, just after midnight outside a Bourbon Street nightclub, sent people running for cover, WWL 4 New Orleans reported. A 25-year-old man was shot several times and died at a hospital, police said. Seven other people were also injured. A second shooting took place on Canal Street, police said. A man was killed, and three other people injured. Officers heard gunshots while on patrol and saw three males running from the scene, a police spokesman said in a statement. After a foot pursuit, two men were apprehended. One of the men was questioned and released, but another man faces charges of first-degree murder and three counts of attempted first-degree murder, police said. Two other shootings took place in different locations later in the morning, the spokesman said, and three people were injured.

Source: http://www.cnn.com/2011/11/01/justice/new-orleans-shooting/index.html?hpt=hp_t2

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

51. *October 31, Rapid City Journal* – (South Dakota) **Progress made on human-caused wildfire in Southern Hills.** Firefighters had a 300-acre fire located 15 miles northeast of Hot Springs, South Dakota, about 20 percent contained as of 7 p.m. October 31 and expected to continue to fight the fire throughout the night, according to information from the Great Plains Fire Information Center. Investigators determined that the Line Creek Fire, which began at about 3 p.m. October 31 in an area of mostly grass and timber was caused by humans. Until heavy moisture in the form of snow and/or rain arrives, the potential for a wildland fire is high, fire officials said. Resources on the fire include: dozers, type 6 engines, handcrews, and miscellaneous fire management personnel from the Black Hills National Forest, State of South Dakota Wildland Fire Suppression Division, Edgemont Volunteer Fire Department, and the Dewey Volunteer Fire Department.

Source: http://rapidcityjournal.com/news/progress-made-on-human-caused-wildfire-in-southern-hills/article_16ffa75e-041b-11e1-a9f9-001cc4c002e0.html

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Dams Sector

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