



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report 10 November 2011

Top Stories

- A tanker truck carrying thousands of gallons of diesel fuel burst into flames after it was hit by a milk tanker near Chandler, Arizona, killing one person, closing a major highway, and forcing evacuations of nearby hotels, schools, and homes. – *Sacramento Bee* (See item [1](#))
- Federal agents at Chicago's O'Hare International Airport averted "a potential catastrophic event" when they stopped a package containing a phosphorous trip flare from being loaded onto a flight to Japan. – *Reuters* (See item [19](#))

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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 9, Sacramento Bee* – (Arizona) **1 killed when 2 tankers collide in south Phoenix.** Two tanker trucks collided and burst into flames on a busy freeway in a south Phoenix, Arizona suburb during the height of the rush hour November 9, killing at least one person and closing both directions of Interstate 10. Police in the city of Chandler and state police ordered the evacuations of at least two hotels and a school alongside I-10, the Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS) spokesman said. Chandler police said they were moving people from hotels, homes, and businesses within a 1-mile

radius to the east of the freeway. The Phoenix Fire Department asked residents on the west side of the freeway to stay in their homes. Horizon Community Learning Center on the west side of the freeway was closed for the day and students were sent home. The evacuation orders were lifted about 2 hours after the crash after firefighters finally were able to move in and douse the flames. The crash happened when a milk tanker rear-ended another tanker truck carrying 7,700 gallons of diesel gas byproduct and caught fire, the DPS spokesman said. The driver of the milk truck was killed in the intense fire that sent flames skyward and black smoke hundreds of feet into the air. The driver of the petroleum tanker was shaken up but uninjured and got out on his own, a Phoenix Fire Department spokesman said. The crash happened at about 7:45 a.m. and snarled freeway traffic across the suburbs south of Phoenix. The freeway was closed in both directions from U.S. 60 south to the Loop 202 freeway. Both are major routes into and out of Phoenix from the south. Firefighters were hampered by a lack of water along the freeway and had to bring in water trucks and firefighting foam to attack the flames, the fire department spokesman said. He said fire crews waited about 2 hours because of the threat of explosion before moving in and dousing the flames in 10 minutes. The eastbound lanes of I-10 were expected to reopen before noon, while the westbound lanes would be closed for hours as the debris was hauled away, officials said.

Source: <http://www.sacbee.com/2011/11/09/4041803/tankers-collide-in-phoenix-businesses.html>

2. *November 8, WAFB 9 Baton Rouge* – (Louisiana) **More fuel thefts hit truck stops.** Just 2 weeks after a Livonia, Louisiana, truck stop owner lost nearly 1,200 gallons of diesel fuel, owners in Port Allen realized they also fell victim, WAFB 9 Baton Rouge reported November 8. It is a problem hitting truck stops around the area and in many cases, owners do not even know it is happening. In West Baton Rouge Parish, there have been at least five known cases and nearly \$10,000 worth of stolen diesel fuel. "We own seven truck stops and we found four of them had been tampered with," said the owner of Super Lucky Louie's and president of TMI Enterprise. The fuel theft incidents date back to October. There were five separate cases with 2,343 gallons of diesel stolen. H & R Truck Stop in Port Allen was also hit with nearly 400 gallons of diesel stolen, or more than \$1,300. According to detectives, thieves pull it off with the help of a pulsator. Every time it clicks, it registers a penny inside the store. The metal lining at the pump is pried off and the thieves attach their own pulsator. The clerk inside sees the meter running and believes the amount of diesel being pumped is about 3 gallons a minute. In reality, the pumps are going full blast at 60 gallons a minute. Source: <http://www.wafb.com/story/15993217/fuel-thefts-hit-port-allen-truck-stops>
3. *November 8, U.S. Department of Labor* – (Texas) **US Department of Labor's OSHA cites Big Spring, Texas, drilling company following the death of 2 workers at work site near Lamesa, Texas.** The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) November 8 cited Robinson Drilling of Texas Ltd. for eight serious, four repeat, and 11 other-than-serious safety and health violations following the death of two workers at the company's work site near Lamesa, Texas. OSHA's Lubbock District Office began its investigation of the incident June 11. About five employees were performing drilling operations when the Kelly bushing, a device that when fitted into the master bushing transmits torque and simultaneously permits

vertical movement to make a hole, came apart and fatally struck two employees working on the drill floor. One serious violation related to the incident was cited for failing to prevent "struck-by" injuries that could have been prevented had the employer adhered to industry practices as enforced by the OSHA under the general duty clause. The remaining serious violations include failing to: provide covers on floor holes to prevent trip hazards; ensure self-contained breathing apparatus are fully charged; ensure work surfaces are clean and dry, ensure stacked materials are blocked to prevent materials from moving when placed on a rack; ensure flexible cords are used properly.

Source:

http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=NEWS_RELEASES&p_id=21186

4. *November 8, Bristol Herald Courier* – (Tennessee) **Explosion sparks fire at oil company.** A fiery blast November 8 occurred at Necessary Oil Co. in Bristol, Tennessee. No one was seriously injured and employees at the company followed the proper procedure assisting firefighters in containing the fire, the owner said. The fire started at the oil refinery plant just before 12:30 p.m., said the assistant chief for the Bristol Tennessee Fire Department. About 26 firefighters from both Bristol fire departments had the blaze contained in about 35 minutes. A preliminary investigation suggests the fire started in the area of the plant where vapors that are pulled off the oil during the refining process are stored, he said. Firefighters were on scene until about 4:30 p.m. There was between \$2,000 and \$3,500 worth of damage to electrical equipment in the plant. Currently, eight people work in the yard at the plant, which refines used motor and hydraulic oil.
Source: <http://www2.tricity.com/news/2011/nov/08/4/explosion-sparks-fire-oil-company-ar-1444450/>
5. *November 8, Contra Costa Times* – (California) **Stench to last into evening as crews tend to oil leak that befouls Concord air.** Cleanup continued November 8 on a crude oil leak at the Concord Naval Weapons Station that befouled the air, but residents were told November 8 the stench should not be as bad as it was November 7. The 16-inch pipeline carrying crude oil from the San Joaquin Valley to ConocoPhillips' refinery in Rodeo, California, ruptured just before 5 p.m. November 7, sending a strong sulfur odor from the 1900 block of Holly Creek Place, near the Sleep Train Pavilion — the southeasternmost edge of the weapons station. A Contra Costa hazardous materials team monitored the leak, and cleanup crews from ConocoPhillips worked to depressurize the line so it could drain more quickly. Repairs on the pipe were expected to begin November 9 after the remaining oil has been drained. Despite the foul smell, there was no health risk, the health department said. Still, it advised people stay away from the area or stay indoors as a precaution. The company first reported the leak as a 25-foot-by-25-foot spill in the pipeline's right-of-way, according to a state hazardous materials spill report. At the time it was reported, the pipeline had been shut down and cleanup had begun. A spokesman said valves on both sides of the pipeline break were sealed, and that a vacuum truck was draining the crude oil left inside.
Source: http://www.contracostatimes.com/news/ci_19289565

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Chemical Industry Sector

6. *November 8, Kennewick Tri-City Herald* – (Washington) **Derailment near Big Pasco spills methanol.** A half-mile-long runaway freight train with 46 freight cars uncoupled and rolled backward for miles November 7, ramming into an oncoming freight train near Pasco, Washington. The 3:40 a.m. accident derailed two locomotives hooked in tandem on the second train pulling 31 freight cars, and caused a tanker car to spill about 10,000 gallons of methanol. The crash derailed or overturned 10 cars on BNSF property, said a BNSF Co. spokesman. He said a faulty coupler is suspected of breaking loose on an 80-car train as it headed toward the hump yard near Fourth Avenue. The BNSF spokesman said liquid methanol leaked from one of the 30,000-gallon derailed cars, while two others containing calcium chloride did not spill. Seven other cars in the runaway train also left the tracks. A fire chief said all of Big Pasco Industrial Park was evacuated initially, but by 9:30 a.m. the evacuation zone was reduced to a smaller area. Employees with companies in the park were not allowed to work in the area until noon, after emergency crews decided the potential risk of a methanol fire had dissipated. The BNSF spokesman said the BNSF main line was not affected during the incident. The fire chief said by noon, the leak in the methanol tank was plugged and what remained of the spilled methanol had seeped into the soil, virtually eliminating any fire hazard.
Source: <http://www.thenewstribune.com/2011/11/08/1897023/derailment-near-big-pasco-spills.html>

7. *November 8, U.S. Department of Labor* – (Illinois) **US Labor Department's OSHA cites Akzo Nobel Surface Chemistry for violating process safety management procedures at chemical plant.** The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) November 8 cited Akzo Nobel Surface Chemistry LLC in Morris, Illinois, a manufacturer of chemical surfactants, for nine serious violations of OSHA's process safety management standards. The agency initiated the inspection in May after a release of methyl chloride was reported. Proposed fines total \$63,000. The serious violations involve: failing to conduct a process hazard analysis on the hydrogen storage and transfer unit; allowing seven pressure relief valves to be missing the required design basis; failing to ensure written operating procedures covered abnormal operating situations; failing to record required equipment inspections and conduct testing at required intervals; allowing unqualified individuals to conduct equipment inspections; failing to take action to correct deficiencies noted during equipment inspections; failing to conduct a management of change analysis when required; and failing to respond to deficiencies noted in an audit.
Source:
http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=NEWS_RELEASES&p_id=21183

For another story, see item [25](#)

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

8. *November 9, Reuters* – (Idaho) **Seventeen workers exposed to radiation at Idaho lab.** At least six workers were contaminated by low-level plutonium radiation and 11 others were exposed November 8 at the Idaho National Laboratory near Idaho Falls, Idaho, but the public was not at risk, officials said. The mishap occurred inside a deactivated reactor housed in a facility used for remotely handling, processing and examining spent nuclear fuel, radioactive waste, and other irradiated materials, the lab said in a series of statements. Lab bulletins on the mishap said there was no evidence of a release of radiation outside the facility, and "there is no risk to the public or environment." A total of 17 technicians were working inside the decommissioned research reactor when "a container was opened for normal, scheduled work, resulting in low-level worker exposure to plutonium," the lab said. The contamination was confined to the room where it was detected, and the room was evacuated and sealed. Workers elsewhere in the reactor building were also evacuated as a precaution, officials said.
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/11/09/us-nuclear-lab-idaho-idUSTRE7A77QW20111109>

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

9. *November 9, Huffington Post* – (International) **Toyota recall: Japanese automaker seeks to fix 550,000 vehicles for possible steering problems.** Toyota Motor Corp. said November 9 it is recalling about 550,000 Toyota and Lexus vehicles worldwide — mostly in the United States — for problems that could make it harder to steer. In the United States, the automaker is recalling 283,200 Toyota brand cars, including the 2004 and 2005 Camry, Highlander, Sienna, and Solara, the 2004 Avalon, and the 2006 Highlander HV. Its recall of 137,000 Lexus vehicles includes the 2004 and 2005 ES330 and RX330, and 2006 RX400h. The recall is due to the possibility the outer ring of the engine's crankshaft pulley may become misaligned with the inner ring, causing noise or a warning signal to light up, the U.S. sales unit said in a press release. If the problem isn't corrected, the belt for the power steering pump may become detached from the pulley, making it suddenly more difficult to turn the steering wheel. Toyota will mail owners a notification to make an appointment with an authorized dealer to have their car inspected once replacement parts have been produced in sufficient quantities. If needed, parts will be replaced for no charge, the company's American sales unit said. Notifications will be mailed starting in January. In the meantime, if an abnormal noise is heard coming from the engine compartment, the owner is asked to make an appointment with any Toyota or Lexus dealer to have the vehicle inspected for this condition, the release said.
Source: http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2011/11/09/toyota-recall-steering-problems_n_1083321.html

10. *November 8, Fridley Patch* – (Minnesota) **Fridley firefighters put out blaze at Kurt Manufacturing on Hwy. 65.** Firefighters from Fridley, Minnesota, and many surrounding cities responded to a fire November 8 on the roof of the Kurt Manufacturing facility. The fire started shortly before 8:35 a.m., when employees at a business just to the south reported flames on top of the die-casting manufacturing plant, according to the Fridley fire chief. A full shift of workers evacuated the plant, and one man suffered smoke inhalation and was treated and released. The fire chief said he did not know yet what caused the fire. He said he had been to several smaller fires at the facility over the years but this was the biggest in his experience. A plant employee said water from a ladel somehow spilled onto a furnace, causing it to blow up and starting the fire on the roof.

Source: <http://fridley.patch.com/articles/fridley-firefighters-put-out-blaze-at-kurt-manufacturing>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

Nothing to report

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Banking and Finance Sector

11. *November 9, Seattle Times* – (Washington) **Seattle bank damaged by ‘suspicious’ ATM fire.** Seattle police are investigating a suspicious fire at a Madison Park bank early November 9. Police responded around 2 a.m. to an alarm at the bank. Officers found the bank’s outdoor ATM engulfed in flames and saw fire inside the bank, possibly originating from the ATM fire. The Seattle Fire Department responded and put out the fire. It appears there was no forced entry into the bank, police said. It was not immediately known if the the ATM had been burglarized.

Source: <http://today.seattletimes.com/2011/11/seattle-bank-damaged-by-suspicious-atm-fire/>

12. *November 8, U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission* – (New York) **SEC obtains record \$92.8 million penalty against Raj Rajaratnam.** The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) November 8 obtained a record financial penalty of \$92.8 million against a former billionaire hedge fund manager for widespread insider trading. The final judgment found the hedge fund manager liable for a civil monetary penalty of \$92,805,705, which marks the largest penalty ever assessed against an individual in an SEC insider trading case. The SEC brought civil charges against the manager October 16, 2009, alleging he and several others, including his New York-based hedge fund advisory firm Galleon Management LP engaged in a massive insider trading scheme. The SEC’s enforcement action against the hedge fund manager and Galleon was part of a larger insider trading probe that has resulted in civil charges against 29 individuals and entities, including hedge fund advisers, Wall Street professionals, and corporate insiders. The SEC alleged insider trading in the securities of more than 15 publicly

traded companies for more than \$90 million in illicit profits or losses avoided. In the parallel criminal case, the SEC provided significant assistance to the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York in its successful criminal prosecution of the hedge fund manager, who was found guilty May 11 of all 14 counts he was charged with. Following the jury verdict, he was sentenced to 11 years in prison, and was ordered to pay more than \$53.8 million in forfeiture of illicit gains, and \$10 million in criminal fines. The total amount of monetary sanctions imposed on the hedge fund manager in the civil and criminal cases is more than \$156.6 million.

Source: <http://www.sec.gov/news/press/2011/2011-233.htm>

13. *November 8, Arizona Daily Sun* – (National) **Bank 'bandit' pleads guilty.** One of the so-called "High Country Bandits" pleaded guilty October 26 to armed robbery and other charges related to a 6-month bank robbery spree that spanned four states and included two banks in Flagstaff, Arizona, the Arizona Daily Sun reported November 8. As a result of the plea agreement, he now faces 15-25 years in prison when he appears at a sentencing hearing in January 2012. Also as a condition of the plea agreement, he will have to pay restitution to all 16 of the banks he was accused of robbing, even though the charges will be dismissed regarding nine of those. The suspect was alleged to be the mastermind of the crimes. The defendant and his partner robbed rural banks at gunpoint and then often fled on all-terrain vehicles. Investigators believed it was the same man robbing the banks and another man would drive the get-away vehicle. They were able to catch the men in March 2010, after the pair's cell phones gave them away. Federal agents combed through the records of 150,000 phones used to make calls near four of the most remote bank robberies. Investigators were able to identify two cell phone numbers used prior to each robbery, and then requested a court order for the subscriber information on the phones. One of the phone subscribers owned vehicles that matched the descriptions of those used in the robberies.

Source: http://azdailysun.com/news/local/crime-and-courts/bank-bandit-pleads-guilty/article_90aee950-0b4c-59da-ac56-7a5869d1cab4.html

14. *November 7, Associated Press* – (National) **Judge approves \$410 million settlement of lawsuit against Bank of America on overdraft fees.** A Federal judge November 7 gave final approval to a \$410 million settlement in a class-action lawsuit affecting more than 13 million Bank of America customers who had debit card overdrafts during the past decade. A senior U.S. district judge said the agreement was fair and reasonable, even though it drew criticism from some customers because they would only receive a fraction of what they paid in overdraft fees. The fees were usually \$35 per occurrence. A Bank of America attorney said 13.2 million customers who had debit cards between January 2001 and May 2011 would get some payment. Those who still have accounts would get an automatic credit, and the others would get a check mailed to them. An attorney for customers who objected to the deal, said he figured the bank raked in \$4.5 billion through the overdraft fees and was repaying less than 10 percent. He said the average customer in the case had \$300 in overdraft fees, making them eligible for a \$27 award — less than one overdraft charge — from the lawsuit. The bank attorney said only 46 customers filed formal objections to the settlement and 350 decided to opt out, meaning they could take separate legal action on their own. Customers will receive a minimum of 9 percent of the fees they paid through the settlement, he added. The bank

has already paid the money into an escrow account. The lawsuit claimed Bank of America processed its debit card transactions in the order of highest to lowest dollar amount so it could maximize the overdraft fees customers paid. Similar lawsuits have been filed against more than 30 other banks.

Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/judge-mulling-over-410-million-settlement-in-bank-of-america-overdraft-lawsuit/2011/11/07/gIQACKjZuM_story.html

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Transportation Sector

15. *November 9, Charlotte Observer* – (North Carolina) **CLT airport: Security was breached.** Charlotte Douglas International Airport in Charlotte, North Carolina said it is investigating a security breach the week of October 31. The breach took place November 1 and involved a US Airways employee, according to the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) and US Airways. Airport officials released a statement, saying, "Airport officials observed a person accessing airport premises by not using proper protocol. The airport notified TSA, and it is under investigation." A spokesman for the TSA in Atlanta confirmed the agency, which oversees security matters at U.S. airports and other transportation facilities, is working with the airport on the investigation. According to a TSA statement November 8, "On the evening of Nov. 1, ... an unauthorized individual entered a controlled access door that leads to a secure area of the airport. The area was swept for threat items with negative findings." A spokeswoman for US Airways said the person involved was an airline employee. She said the employee has been suspended during the investigation. At least four other incidents involving security issues at Charlotte Douglas International Airport have been reported in the past year.
Source: <http://www.charlotteobserver.com/2011/11/09/2759329/clt-airport-security-was-breached.html>
16. *November 9, WRTV 6 Indianapolis* – (Indiana) **49 taken to hospital after bus glass shatters.** Dozens of children were taken to a hospital to be checked out after glass on a Metropolitan School District of Warren Township, Indiana bus apparently fell out and shattered November 8. The incident happened before 9 a.m. in the 10600 block of East 25th Street in Indianapolis. None of the children were believed to be seriously injured, but five people on the bus were taken to Methodist Hospital by ambulance. Forty-four of 49 children on the bus were transported via another bus to Methodist Hospital for observation. It was not immediately known what happened on the bus to cause the shattered glass.
Source: <http://www.theindychannel.com/news/29722134/detail.html>
17. *November 9, WSVN 7 Miami* – (Florida) **270-foot barge takes on water off Miami Beach.** Officials continue to work on moving a barge that is sinking in the waters just off Miami Beach, Florida. The 270-foot barge has been taking on water since November 7. On November 8, officials continued to work to try and salvage the barge. According to the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG), a tug boat towing the barge started experiencing fuel problems and became disabled. The USCG had to tow in the tug

boat, leaving the barge with 33 empty containers out at sea. Master divers were trying to get out as much water as they could to stop the barge from sinking. Authorities said if the barge does submerge, there will be no pollution to the sea. "All the containers on board the barge are empty, and there is no other cargo on board, no fuel, and no other products that they were transferring," said a USCG commander. The Coast Guard is working with the company, Tow U.S. to help salvage the barge. The company is trying to get a 96-foot vessel out to the barge to serve as a platform so crews can place their equipment on it and work off of it.

Source: <http://www.wsvn.com/news/articles/local/21005846938292/270-foot-barge-takes-on-water-off-miami-beach/>

18. *November 9, CBS 2 New York* – (New York, New Jersey) **NJ Transit trains delayed due to water main break in Queens.** It was another morning of delays for New Jersey Transit (NJ Transit) riders November 9. A water main break at a train storage yard in Queens, New York caused up to 30-minute delays on the Northeast Corridor, North Jersey Coast Line, and Midtown Direct lines. By about 10:40 a.m., trains were back on schedule. A NJ Transit spokeswoman said trains were stacking up at New York's Penn Station because they could not access the yard. She said trains normally either leave Penn Station for the yard or return to New Jersey. The delays came just a day after fallen power lines caused trains to run up to an hour behind schedule between Trenton and Princeton Junction. Delays lasted most of the day until full service was restored at around 4 p.m. Amtrak, which owns the tracks, said it did not know yet what caused the wires to come down.

Source: <http://newyork.cbslocal.com/2011/11/09/nj-transit-trains-delayed-due-to-water-main-break-in-queens/>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

19. *November 8, Reuters* – (Illinois) **Agents intercept military flare in mail.** Federal agents at Chicago's O'Hare International Airport averted "a potential catastrophic event" when they stopped a package containing a live military flare from being loaded onto a flight to Japan, a federal agency said November 7. The U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) said the Vietnam War-era device, identified as an M49A1 phosphorous trip flare, was found in the mail as it was passing through the busy facility November 3. A customs supervisor said he did not know whether the package that contained the device would have been routed onto a passenger or cargo plane. The device, which burns at a temperature of 5,000 degrees Fahrenheit, had been listed on the shipping manifest as a "military training dummie," the agency said. When agents looking for contraband in the mail contacted the sender for more details, they learned he had acquired the device online from an estate sale and was sending it to a buyer in Japan. Bomb experts from the Chicago Police Department determined the package contained an incendiary device and rendered it safe. The case is under investigation. The CBP said agents did not believe there was any intent to harm.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/11/08/us-airport-flare-odd-idUSTRE7A742420111108>

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Agriculture and Food Sector

20. *November 9, Food Safety News* – (Washington) **Raw milk cheddar recalled due to Listeria concerns.** Golden Glen Creamery of Bow, Washington, is recalling about 20 pounds of cheddar distributed in Washington state because the cheese may be contaminated with *Listeria monocytogenes*, Food Safety News reported November 9. A surveillance sample of the creamery's cheddar collected and analyzed by the Washington State Department of Agriculture was found to be positive for *Listeria monocytogenes*. Golden Glen Creamery has ceased the production and distribution of the product as the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, the Washington State Department of Agriculture, and the company continue their investigation into what caused the problem. The raw cheddar was distributed through a few retail stores in Washington, as well as at Golden Glen's on-farm store between September 22 and November 5. The random-weight cuts range in size from quarter to half-pound pieces, and are vacuum packaged in clear plastic with a stick-on label that reads in part: "Raw Cheddar," "GOLDEN GLEN CREAMERY," and "Natural handcrafted cheese produced by the Jensen ladies."

Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/11/raw-milk-cheddar-recalled-due-to-listeria-concerns/>

21. *November 9, Food Safety News* – (National) **Salmonella cluster tied to chicken livers.** A cluster of Salmonella illnesses in New Jersey and New York has been linked to broiled chicken livers, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) announced November 8. As a result, Schreiber Processing Corporation is recalling an undetermined amount of products made with the broiled chicken livers, which appeared to be ready to eat, but were only partially cooked, the FSIS said in a news release. The products were distributed to retail stores and institutional users in Maryland, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania. FSIS did not say how many illnesses are involved in the outbreak. According to the FSIS, the outbreak strain of Salmonella Heidelberg was isolated by the New York State Department of Agriculture and Market from samples of broiled chicken livers and chopped chicken livers produced at retail. The agency said the outbreak strain does not match another strain of Salmonella Heidelberg associated with ground turkey recalled earlier in 2011. The recall involves 10-pound boxes with two, 5-pound bags of "Meal Mart Broiled Chicken Liver; Made for Further Thermal Processing" and 10-pound boxes of loose-packed "Chicken Liver Broiled."

Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/11/salmonella-cluster-tied-to-chicken-livers/>

22. *November 8, Associated Press* – (Texas) **WMD threat among new charges against soldier accused in Fort Hood bomb plot.** A U.S. soldier planned to detonate bombs in a restaurant filled with Fort Hood, Texas troops and then shoot those who survived,

federal authorities said in a new six-count indictment returned against him November 8. The suspect was indicted on one count of trying to use a weapon of mass destruction, which carries a maximum sentence of life in prison. The other charges returned by the federal grand jury were attempted murder of officers or employees of the United States, two counts of possession of a firearm in furtherance of a federal crime of violence, and two counts of possession of a destructive device in furtherance of a federal crime of violence. The suspect was indicted in August on three federal charges related to the bomb plot near the Army post in the summer of 2011. The suspect, who remains in federal custody, was arrested in July at a motel near Fort Hood. Investigators said they found a handgun, an article titled "Make a bomb in the kitchen of your Mom," and the ingredients for an explosive device, including gunpowder, shrapnel, and pressure cookers. After his arrest, he told authorities he planned to make two bombs and detonate them in a restaurant where Fort Hood soldiers eat, according to documents filed in the case.

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/us/2011/11/08/new-charges-against-soldier-in-fort-hood-bomb-plot/?test=latestnews>

23. *November 8, KEZI 9 Eugene* – (Oregon) **Fire damages historic Brownsville cafe.** An historic building in Brownsville, Oregon, was destroyed by fire, KEZI 9 Eugene reported November 8. Flames swept through the Corner Cafe. The cafe building, which some estimate was built in the late 1800s, was the last remaining building of the historic town spared during the fire of 1919. Firefighters said by the time they arrived, the fire was so far along they feared for the rest of the block. After pumping hundreds of gallons of water, they managed to douse the flames.

Source: <http://kezi.com/news/local/230032>

24. *November 8, Bluffton Island Packet* – (South Carolina) **Dead crows found in Bluffton poisoned, not drunk.** Crows found dead at the Bluffton, South Carolina Schools Complex and nearby neighborhoods were poisoned, the Bluffton Island Packet reported November 8. Results of toxicology tests conducted by Clemson University found the 23 birds died from a pesticide typically used on cotton and potato fields. Earlier tests by the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control were negative for West Nile virus and eastern equine encephalitis, and a vet's original theory that they were drunk on fermented berries or fruit also proved to be incorrect. An investigator with the department of pesticide regulation at Clemson University said she is trying to determine who applied the pesticide and at what point. Violations of the South Carolina Pesticide Act range from suspension of a business license to fines as much as \$1,000. She said she could not disclose the name of the pesticide, only that it was an organophosphate.

Source: <http://www.islandpacket.com/2011/11/08/1856335/dead-crows-found-in-bluffton-poisoned.html>

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Water Sector

25. *November 9, Sayre Morning Times* – (Pennsylvania) **Former I-R site contaminated.** The site of the former Ingersoll-Rand facility in Athens, Pennsylvania has been contaminated with volatile organic compounds and petroleum hydrocarbons, according to a notice released November 8, stating the Ingersoll Rand Company's intent to remediate the site. The contamination has impacted soil and groundwater on the site, the notice stated. The notice regarding the former I-R site was submitted to the Sayre Morning Times by Arcadis U.S. Inc. Ingersoll-Rand — which still owns the site in question — submitted the notice of intent to remediate the site to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. Under the notice, Ingersoll-Rand has indicated "the proposed remediation measures" will include one or more of the following — "in-situ remediation technologies, source removal, monitored natural attenuation, deed restrictions, and pathway elimination." The proposed future use of the property will be non-residential for commercial or industrial future use, the notice states. Chesapeake Energy currently leases the site for its Athens office location. Ingersoll-Rand officially closed the long-running Athens facility last year.
Source: http://www.morning-times.com/news/2011-11-09/Front_Page/Formal_IR_site_contaminated.html
26. *November 8, St. Davenport Quad City Times* – (Iowa) **Iowa company penalized for wastewater discharge.** Chamness Technology Inc. was ordered to pay a \$30,000 penalty after it discharged wastewater from storm-water retention basins last year at its Eddyville solid-waste composting facility near Des Moines, Iowa, the Quad City Times reported November 8. The court order resolves a lawsuit filed by the Iowa attorney general. The facility includes a 16-acre asphalt pad for processing and active composting of materials, including food-processing byproducts, pre- and post-consumer food scraps, outdated biodegradable agricultural products, industrial biosolids, bio-technology byproducts, nonrecyclable paper and cardboard, manure, and food-processing waste. The facility includes three stormwater retention basins with a total capacity of 8.1 million gallons. Chamness' solid-waste composting permit prohibits the discharge of water from the retention basins. In 2008, the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) issued an administrative order against Chamness, in part because of illegal discharges from its retention basins. Two years later, DNR officials issued a second administrative order against Chamness, again in part because of illegal discharges from the retention basins. In June and July 2010, additional discharges occurred, which were the subject of the lawsuit. Chamness officials admitted the discharges occurred, but said the basin overflows were unintentional and occurred in connection with significant, unanticipated rainfall events. Company officials further stated that it now co-owns 422 additional acres of land in Monroe and Wapello counties that are available for land application of water from the basins. The consent decree approved November 8 resolves all violations alleged in the petition, but it does not resolve the alleged release of retention pond wastewater from an irrigation hose at the facility occurring on or about November 1, 2010. DNR officials referred that matter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, said a news release from the Iowa attorney general.

Source: http://qctimes.com/business/iowa-company-penalized-for-wastewater-discharge/article_86aa837c-0a2d-11e1-98d0-001cc4c002e0.html

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

27. *November 9, WFTS 28 Riverview* – (Florida) **Hernando County sheriff: Hundreds of medical records are at risk.** Hundreds of medical records are at risk after detectives claim a Hernando County, Florida psychiatrist sold his practice to a convicted criminal who claimed to own "Wilson Group Billing Claims Health Care Management LLC." As part of that legal transaction, the convict gained access to all of the psychiatrist's medical records. According to the Hernando County Sheriff's Office, the purchaser used the records to file false Medicare claims on behalf of 74 patients, one of whom is dead. Authorities are still searching for an unaccounted for laptop that contains the records. They believe the suspect's sister has it, so they are not sure who else might have access to the confidential information. The buyer of the facility already had past convictions for fraudulent use of personal identification, and grand theft.
Source: http://www.abcactionnews.com/dpp/news/region_citrus_hernando/hernando-county-sheriff:-hundreds-of-medical-records-are-at-risk

28. *November 9, Associated Press* – (National) **Safety risks seen in computerized medical records.** A report released November 8 by a panel from the Institute of Medicine outlined emerging risks involved with computerized medical records. "Designed and applied inappropriately, health (technology) can add an additional layer of complexity to the already complex delivery of health care, which can lead to adverse consequences," the report said. Problems ranging from computer crashes, to quirky systems, to technology that does not communicate with a rival company's version can lead to medication dosing errors, overlooked signs of a fatal illness, or delays in treatment. An estimated 44,000 to 98,000 people die every year due to medical errors in hospitals. Examples abound of hospitals that have individually improved safety by going electronic. But the report found there is little evidence such improvements are being made across the health care system. The U.S. Presidential administration wants most hospitals and doctors to convert to computerized records instead of paper by 2015, and is investing as much as \$27 billion over 10 years in incentive payments for the purchase of new systems. In response, representatives from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services will develop a safety and surveillance plan within 12 months. The administration requested the expert panel's report because it recognized the potential for unintended consequences in such a complex transition, officials said.
Source: <http://www.staradvertiser.com/news/breaking/133524248.html>

29. *November 9, WSVN 7 Miami* – (Florida) **Fire evacuates local nursing home.** Rescue crews had to evacuate 50 residents at a south Florida assisted living facility after an early morning fire November 9. The fire sparked to about 3:45 a.m. at the Pointe North Gables Assisted Living Facility on Eighth Street and Southwest 58th Avenue. Miami-Dade Fire Rescue (MDFR) said the fire started in a closet in a third floor apartment. More than 100 firefighters responded to evacuate everyone inside. Some residents were

rushed out in wheelchairs, while others were carried out by firefighters and police officers. "The fire was not the main issue," said the MDRF chief. "The life safety was the issue — the evacuation of a lot of people." Rescue crews transported two residents to Metropolitan Hospital and one to South Miami Hospital with minor injuries. City buses also arrived to assist with the rescue and treated some of the seniors on scene. Most of the residents have since returned to their apartments. Investigators are trying to determine the cause of the fire.

Source: <http://www.wsvn.com/news/articles/local/21005854078741/fire-evacuates-local-nursing-home/>

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Government Facilities Sector

30. *November 9, Minnesota Daily* – (Minnesota) **St. Paul gas leak forces evacuation.** Police evacuated a University of Minnesota student housing facility in St. Paul, Minnesota, November 8, after workers broke a gas line. The incident occurred about noon outside the Como Student Community Cooperative (CSCC) — roughly 2 miles from the Minneapolis and St. Paul campuses. CenterPoint Energy shut off the gas shortly afterward. According to the housing properties coordinator, workers struck the gas line while moving a gate used to block a fire lane. University police evacuated buildings 9 and 10 for safety reasons and did not allow residents to return to their homes until after 1 p.m. “[The situation] could be dangerous, but it is hard to say because we are so used to it,” said a CenterPoint Energy spokesperson. Combined, buildings 9 and 10 have 46 apartments, and most of those are 2-person units. A CSCC staff member said most of the residents were in class during the incident.

Source: <http://www.mndaily.com/2011/11/09/st-paul-gas-leak-forces-evacuation>

31. *November 8, WTEN 10 Albany* – (New York) **Schenectady High School evacuated following fire, grenade incidents.** Schenectady High School in Schenectady, New York, was evacuated for nearly 2 hours November 8 due to a fire and hand grenade incident. The two incidents were not related but occurred during the same time at about 1:30 p.m. Police said there was a fire contained to a trash can located in a restroom. The fire department responded immediately. Meanwhile, police responded to a report that a student was carrying a grenade in a backpack. Schenectady Police K9 and members of the New York State Police bomb unit responded and assisted in the search. A 15-year-old student was found to have brought two military surplus hand grenades, and a gas mask to school. The grenades had been hollowed out and contained no visible explosive charge. The student was taken into custody. The polling place at the high school was temporarily shut down while the school was evacuated during these incidents.

Source: <http://www.wten.com/story/15990277/schenectady-polls-shut-down-temporary-following-fire-and-grenade-incidents>

For more stories, see items [1](#) and [22](#)

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Emergency Services Sector

32. *November 8, KZTV 10 Corpus Christi* – (Texas) **Auto burglars arrested at Kingsville Police Station.** A couple of auto burglary suspects were arrested November 8, accused of breaking into vehicles outside the Kingsville, Texas, Police Department. Investigators said the suspects were found as police were checking out suspicious noises. The suspects were allegedly seen breaking into seized vehicles and police cruisers outside the station. Police said one of the young men was arrested without incident, but the other suspect tried to run so a taser was used to get him under control. The pair allegedly had a pile of stolen items in the lot that they planned on taking with them. Both were charged with six counts of burglary to a vehicle, and were being held on \$5,000 bond for each charge.
Source: <http://www.kztv10.com/news/auto-burglars-arrested-at-kingsville-police-station/>
33. *November 8, Easton Express-Times* – (Pennsylvania) **Freemansburg man accused of flooding Bethlehem police station.** Bethlehem, Pennsylvania police accused a 48-year-old Freemansburg man of flooding a holding cell inside police headquarters November 7 after being arrested on public drunkenness charges, court records said. The man tampered with a fire sprinkler enough to activate it, causing the cell and an adjacent hallway to flood. The damage, cost of repair, and related expenses was estimated at \$5,000.
Source:
http://www.lehighvalleylive.com/bethlehem/index.ssf/2011/11/freemansburg_man_accused_of_fl.html
34. *November 8, Merced Sun-Star* – (California) **Calif. correctional officer assaulted by inmate.** A celebration for a sheriff commemorating 30 years of service to Merced County, California was cut short November 8 by a brutal inmate assault on a correctional officer at the county's main jail. The officer was taking the inmate to the courthouse from the jail at about 10 a.m. when the inmate turned and punched her in the mouth, the sheriff said. The officer was knocked to the ground. An ambulance was called to treat the correctional officer, who suffered a possible dislocated wrist and shoulder, the sheriff said. Her lip was split open, and will probably need stitches. A male correctional officer was also injured while trying to subdue the inmate, and was treated for a right arm injury. Both officers were taken to Mercy Medical Center. The inmate, who is in lockdown, did not try to run after assaulting the officers and was shot with a Taser when backup officers arrived. He now faces new felony charges of battery on a correctional officer, according to a sheriff's spokesman.
Source: <http://www.officer.com/news/10448742/calif-correctional-officer-assaulted-by-inmate>
35. *November 8, Associated Press* – (Georgia) **Fulton jail ex-deputy pleads guilty over bribes.** A former sheriff's deputy pleaded guilty November 8 to taking bribes to smuggle cocaine into the Fulton County Jail in Atlanta. The former sheriff's deputy could face decades in federal prison after pleading guilty to accepting a bribe to funnel the drug to an inmate. He also pleaded guilty to separate charges of accepting a bribe to

help bring 1 kilogram of the drug to a north Atlanta suburb. But he is likely to be sentenced to far less time at his January 24 hearing because he signed a lengthy plea agreement with federal prosecutors in which he pledged to cooperate with authorities who have launched separate investigations into corruption at the jail. The arrests came after the Fulton County sheriff asked federal authorities to launch an investigation into his jail in 2010 after noticing a growing contraband problem. The concerns heightened in late June when an inmate was shot in the hand inside the jail with a small gun that was somehow smuggled inside. The former sheriff's deputy was charged in June with accepting a \$300 bribe from an undercover agent to deliver a balloon filled with 7 grams of what he believed to be cocaine to an inmate. Prosecutors said the balloon was recovered in the inmate's cell shortly after the deal. He also pleaded guilty to helping with a drug deal outside the jail. Prosecutors said he helped shepherd 1 kilogram of what he believed to be cocaine from south Atlanta to a northern suburb in exchange for a \$1,500 payment from an undercover agent. Authorities said he helped drive the purported drug to a parking lot in Dunwoody, where it was handed off to another agent. They said he used a personal vehicle, but he had his badge on him at the time.

Source: http://www.wrdw.com/news/headlines/Fulton_jail_ex-deputy_pleads_guilty_over_bribes_133500643.html

For another story, see item [1](#)

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Information Technology Sector

36. *November 9, Computerworld* – (International) **Mozilla ships Firefox 8, adds Twitter search and patches 8 bugs.** Mozilla released Firefox 8 November 8, which patched eight vulnerabilities. Five of the vulnerabilities were rated "critical," the most-serious ranking in Mozilla's threat scoring system. The remaining three bugs were labeled "high," the next-most-serious rating. One of the patches was for a data theft bug originally fixed in August when Mozilla launched Firefox 6, but which was reintroduced in Firefox 7 after developers launched a new Windows graphics acceleration framework, dubbed "Azure," in the September upgrade. Mozilla blamed a Mac-only vulnerability on Apple and Intel, saying the flaw could let attackers sniff out secrets by monitoring a Mac's graphics processor. Mozilla also released Firefox 3.6.24 November 8, a security update that patched three vulnerabilities.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9221663/Mozilla_ships_Firefox_8_adds_Twitter_search_and_patches_8_bugs

37. *November 9, Softpedia* – (International) **Whistler bootkit evolves to evade AV detection.** One of the first discovered pieces of malware that could be considered a bootkit appears to have evolved, with new mechanisms that could allow it to slip unnoticed by anti-virus solutions. According to Bitdefender researchers, in the past months the malware identified as bootkit.MBR.Whistler.B has been seen infecting many master boot records due to its new evasion techniques. The bootkit keeps its data after the last partition on the disk, but if it does not find enough unpartitioned space, it

will shrink the partition until at least 400 sectors are available. The first sector, which is responsible for defining the components of the Whistler, is encrypted differently than before with the aid of an additional key specific to the infected system, the key being hardcoded into the malware's code. To make sure security products do not detect it as easily as before, the new variant comes with all components encrypted, unlike the previous version which had only the malicious code encrypt. The encryption key consists of the absolute sector's LBA. The analysis of the bootkit is extremely difficult since after the dropper does its task infecting the MBR, it removes itself. The driver loaded while the machine boots up injects the payload into processes, and will later make sure other malevolent components will land on the system. Since it does not hide its MBR code like other such bootkits and because its payload is fairly well hidden, Whistler is much harder to detect by anti-virus programs. Another thing that helps it hide is the fact that it does not keep any files on the hard disk of the infected device. Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Whistler-Bootkit-Evolves-to-Evade-AV-Detection-233249.shtml>

38. *November 9, Help Net Security* – (International) **Fake Kaspersky AV solution offered via spam emails.** Rogue AV software mimicking popular legitimate AV solutions is occasionally offered by cyber crooks in the hopes the familiar name and look will entice users into buying the offered product. The latest example of this approach has been brought to the attention of Kaspersky Lab experts by users targeted with spam e-mails touting an "Antivirus & Security Complete Antivirus Protection Solution" and supposedly sent by Kaspersky. "The cybercriminals had done a good job: the e-mail not only looked like an official e-mail from Kaspersky Lab, but the 'From' field was a good imitation as well," comments a Kaspersky researcher. While the e-mail includes an image of the fake solution using colors similar to those used by Kaspersky, the link included in the e-mail takes the potential victim to a page whose colors and look resemble those used by Symantec. "To buy the program, the user had to enter their credit card details and e-mail address so they could receive further instructions. We followed these step as part of our investigations, but received no more instructions at the e-mail address we specified," shared the Kaspersky researcher. "It is quite possible that users could have received more instructions on how to download the fake antivirus at the time the spam was active."

Source: http://www.net-security.org/malware_news.php?id=1906

39. *November 9, The Register* – (International) **Steam games forum down amid hack fears.** Computer games outfit Valve suspended its Steam user forums following unconfirmed reports of a security breach. Eurogamer claims the official message board for Valve's Steam online games platform, Steampowered, was "defaced" the night of November 7, shortly before the site was suspended. It is believed the defacement involved inserting a prominently displayed message promoting a site called FknOwned.com, which offers video game hacks. This was not a simple case of link-spamming, but an out-of-place ostensibly promoted topic on the forum. In addition, some gamers reported the receipt of spam e-mails promoting fknOwned, supposedly from Steampowered.com. This would imply hackers may have stolen e-mail addresses or at least accessed a way to send messages via the Steampowered board, but this remains unclear. The Steampowered forum remained suspended as of the morning of

November 9, with the usual discussion threads and information replaced by a holding message. Currently, there is no evidence to suggest Steam accounts have been breached.

Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/11/09/steam_forum_hack/

40. *November 9, V3.co.uk* – (International) **Apple and Adobe deliver critical security updates.** Apple and Adobe released a series of security updates the week of November 7. The companies issued fixes designed to protect against critical vulnerabilities including remote code execution flaws. The Adobe update addresses vulnerabilities in the Shockwave Player for Windows and Mac OS X systems. The company advises users to install Shockwave Player version 11.6.3.633 to protect against attack. Adobe classifies the update as "critical," warning the flaw could allow an attacker to execute code on a targeted system. The Apple update fixes 17 vulnerabilities in Java for Mac OS X 10.6 and 10.7 systems, some of which could allow an attacker to execute code outside the secure Java sandbox.

Source: <http://www.v3.co.uk/v3-uk/news/2123672/apple-adobe-deliver-security-updates>

41. *November 8, Computerworld* – (International) **Microsoft patches critical Windows 7 bug, downplays exploit threat.** Microsoft delivered four security updates November 8 that patched four vulnerabilities in Windows, most of them affecting the newer editions of Vista and Windows 7. Only one of the updates was marked "critical," Microsoft's most-serious threat ranking. Two of the remaining were labeled "important" and the fourth was tagged as "moderate." Microsoft did not patch the Windows kernel vulnerability exploited by the Duqu campaign. The top threat on Microsoft's chart was the MS11-083 update that patches a bug in Windows Vista's, Windows 7's and Server 2008's TCP/IP stack, which regulates Internet connections. The vulnerability could be used by attackers in certain circumstances to hijack an unpatched PC, said Microsoft, which nevertheless downplayed the likelihood of successful attacks. Microsoft also updated Windows Mail and Windows Meeting Space on Vista, Windows 7, and Server 2008 to fix another "DLL load hijacking" vulnerability. Researchers noted that while Microsoft did not patch the Duqu-exploited bug, it fixed a different flaw in the TrueType font-parsing engine, the component targeted by the trojan's attacks.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9221637/Microsoft_patches_critical_Windows_7_bug_downplays_exploit_threat

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

42. *November 9, Wichita Eagle* – (Kansas) **Federal indictment: Man knocked Pittsburg radio station off air by cutting copper wiring.** A southeast Kansas man was indicted November 8 by a grand jury on federal charges he knocked a Pittsburg, Kansas radio station off the air by cutting copper wiring from a transmission tower. The suspect was charged with one count of attempted damage to a communications system and one count of attempted damage to an energy facility, a U.S. attorney said. The indictment alleged that September 7, the suspect damaged equipment used by radio station KKOW 860, which serves as part of the Emergency Alert System, a national public warning system. The indictment also alleged that the same day, he damaged equipment belonging to Heartland Rural Electric Co. of Girard.
Source: <http://www.kansas.com/2011/11/09/2095868/federal-indictment-man-knocked.html>

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Commercial Facilities Sector

43. *November 8, WTVJ 6 Miami* – (Florida) **Residents evacuate after explosion in Sunny Isles Beach high-rise.** Residents of a Sunny Isles Beach, Florida high-rise had to be evacuated November 8 after a utility explosion set off fire alarms, officials said. The explosion happened just before 4:30 a.m. on the 11th floor of the south tower of the Intracoastal Yacht Club. Officials said 20 Miami-Dade Fire Rescue units and 80 firefighters responded to the 25-floor building. The 500 or so people who live in the building were evacuated as heavy smoke filled hallways.
Source: <http://www.nbcmiami.com/news/local/133429063.html>
44. *November 8, Rancho Bernardo Patch* – (California) **Rancho Bernardo shopping center fire causes \$500K damage.** An electrical fire broke out in a Rancho Bernardo, California shopping center shortly after 10 p.m. November 8, causing an estimated \$500,000 in damage and injuring one firefighter, officials said. Fire crews responded to calls of smoke and found the roof of an empty business on fire, the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department chief said. Investigators said they believe the fire was caused by a glitch in a neon light transformer in a sign from the former business left in the building. Nine units responded.
Source: <http://ranchobernardo.patch.com/articles/fire-breaks-out-in-rancho-bernardo-shopping-center>

For more stories, see items [1](#), [5](#), [22](#), and [47](#)

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

45. *November 9, Associated Press* – (South Carolina) **After vandals smashed iconic statue, Anderson welcomes replacement 'American doughboy'.** Three years after

vandals destroyed its predecessor, the "Spirit of the American Doughboy" is back in Anderson, South Carolina, the Associated Press reported November 9. The Anderson Independent-Mail reported the 900-pound statue depicting an American soldier in World War I was placed on a cement pedestal in town November 8. The new statue replaced one that was broken into more than 50 pieces in May 2008.

Source:

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/dcf1618a3346498baffde3a6b895870a/SC--Doughboy-Statue/>

46. *November 8, Associated Press* – (Missouri) **Rain helps contain wild fires in southern Missouri's Mark Twain National Forest.** The National Forest Service said rainy weather has helped quell week-old wildfires in southern Missouri's Mark Twain National Forest, the Associated Press reported November 8. The three fires near the town of Salem were declared contained early November 8. The Mark Twain forest fire manager said the rain should bring the fires under full control later in the week. But hunters heading out for the firearms deer season that starts November 12 were cautioned to stay out of the area. The fire manager said trees and roots damaged by the flames could fall without warning. Authorities have said they suspect arson in the fires, the largest of which burned more than 5,000 acres.

Source:

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/067da2412da64baaa656b15f3102e731/MO--Mark-Twain-Forest-Fires/>

47. *November 7, Honolulu Civil Beat* – (Hawaii) **Hawaii closes Iolani Palace after Hawaii sovereignty group locks gates.** Hawaii closed Iolani Palace in Honolulu to the public after a Hawaii sovereignty group November 6 locked the gates to the grounds with bicycle locks. The Hawaii attorney general's office issued a statement just after 4 p.m. November 7 saying the palace would close at 5 p.m. and would not reopen until November 15, 2 days after the end of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Summit. "This action has been deemed necessary for the protection of the area and for the safety and welfare of persons and property," according to the statement. About two dozen people associated with Aupuni O Ko Hawaii Pae Aina camped out on Iolani Palace grounds November 6. The campout was unplanned and followed a social meeting of about 70 people earlier November 6, a woman involved in the campout said. The woman, who said she is the group's elected head of state said the group had placed bicycle locks on the 15 gates surrounding the palace grounds around 11 p.m. for the safety of young children and the elderly after police were called by a palace guard. No one was arrested. The locks were removed, she said, after the director of the Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources said the group could stay over night.

Source: <http://www.civilbeat.com/articles/2011/11/07/13638-hawaii-closes-iolani-palace-after-hawaii-sovereignty-group-locks-gates/>

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Dams Sector

48. *November 9, Ft. Lauderdale Sun Sentinel* – (Florida) **Army Corps calls for south Florida levee improvements.** More must be done to shore up levees that protect South Florida from flooding, according to new findings from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The Corps is in the midst of a nationwide evaluation, prompted by the failure of levees in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina in 2005. Since 2009, the Corps has identified deficiencies in the East Coast Protective Levee (ECPL), which keeps the Everglades from swamping Palm Beach, Broward, and Miami-Dade counties. The Corps finalized its review of the 100-mile ECPL and found it minimally acceptable, the middle tier on the federal government's new three-tiered levee-rating system. The South Florida Water Management District, which maintains the levee, agrees with the findings by the Corps and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and is at work on a 2-year effort to beef up the levee. The district plans to spend \$15 million upgrading the Broward section. Work improving the Palm Beach County section is expected to cost about \$7 million. More work could be required when that stretch of the levee needs FEMA certification. Failing to meet FEMA standards can result in increased home insurance costs for those who live in areas at risk from potential levee failures. Levee improvements underway or planned include: raising 2,000 feet of the levee about 2 feet; reinforcing portions of the outer base of the levee; removing vegetation growing on the levee as well as burrowing animals; and installing monitoring stations to identify potential erosion.
Source: <http://www.sun-sentinel.com/news/palm-beach/fl-levee-concerns-army-corps-20111108,0,2238679.story>
49. *November 8, New Philadelphia Times-Reporter* – (Ohio) **Officials initiate repair work on Dover Dam.** Ground was broken November 7 for the final phase of a \$60-million, safety-assurance project to stabilize the aging Dover Dam in Dover, Ohio, according to the New Philadelphia Times-Reporter. One of the top priorities of the Corps is public safety, the commander of the Huntington District said, noting the dam has prevented \$9 billion in flood damage over the years. The dam is unstable due to faults in its foundation bedrock, experts said. Twenty-one multistrand anchors are being installed to link it to the underlying bedrock. Phase II of the project also entails construction of a parapet wall and new parking lot on the right abutment, installation of precast concrete parapet wall panels on the right abutment, construction of a spillway training wall extension on the right and left abutments, installation of 60 bar anchors in the stilling basin, and installation of stone slope protection on the right bank downstream of the dam. This phase of the project will cost \$20.1 million and should be completed by 2015.
Source: <http://www.timesreporter.com/communities/dover/x1696632459/Officials-initiate-repair-work-on-Dover-Dam>
50. *November 8, Associated Press* – (North Dakota) **Minnesota-based contractor says Souris River levee repairs to be completed in 5 weeks.** A Minnesota company said it will take about 5 weeks to repair levees along North Dakota's Souris River that were damaged by major flooding earlier this year, the Associated Press reported November 8. The Minot Daily News stated Ceres Environmental Services Inc. will repair six levee

sites in Renville County, and in the cities of Burlington and Minot for \$542,000. The river flooded because of excessive snowmelt and rain on both sides of the U.S.-Canada border. The Ceres president said work on the first of two phases should be completed by December 20, but that asphalt work to finish the project at some of the locations will have to wait until warmer weather next spring.

Source:

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/57b6262efe0249dea0a72f723b34861d/ND--Minot-Levees/>

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