



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report
22 November 2011

Top Stories

- DHS officials met November 18 with New Jersey officials to discuss a series of sabotage attacks since July against a water and sewer plant. – *Associated Press* (See item [18](#))
- An “al-Qa’ida” sympathizer accused of plotting to bomb police and post offices in New York City as well as U.S. troops returning home was arrested November 19 as he was putting a bomb together in his Manhattan apartment. – *Associated Press* (See item [31](#))

Fast Jump Menu

PRODUCTION INDUSTRIES

- [Energy](#)
- [Chemical](#)
- [Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste](#)
- [Critical Manufacturing](#)
- [Defense Industrial Base](#)
- [Dams](#)

SUSTENANCE and HEALTH

- [Agriculture and Food](#)
- [Water](#)
- [Public Health and Healthcare](#)

SERVICE INDUSTRIES

- [Banking and Finance](#)
- [Transportation](#)
- [Postal and Shipping](#)
- [Information Technology](#)
- [Communications](#)
- [Commercial Facilities](#)

FEDERAL and STATE

- [Government Facilities](#)
- [Emergency Services](#)
- [National Monuments and Icons](#)

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 20, Associated Press* – (Indiana) **Utility probes underground explosions in Indy.** An Indianapolis, Indiana, utility company said an electrical short caused underground explosions that sent manhole covers flying into the air in downtown Indianapolis November 19. WTHR 13 Indianapolis reported fire crews were investigating the first explosion November 19 when another manhole cover blew off beneath a department pickup truck. Police closed traffic just north of Conseco Fieldhouse until November 20 as a precaution. An Indianapolis Power and Light Co. spokesman said crews were investigating what caused the electrical cables to short

circuit, causing the blasts. The November 19 downtown underground blasts are at least the sixth occurrence since February 2010. No one was seriously injured in the previous blasts, but they have damaged cars, scorched buildings, and sent manhole covers soaring into the air, sometimes only feet from customers dining on outdoor patios.

Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/chi-ap-in-undergroundexplos,0,1801999.story>

2. *November 20, Business Management Daily* – (Pennsylvania) **Tremont mine achieves dubious first, will pay \$900k.** The R&D Coal Company (R&D) has become the first company to be cited for a flagrant safety violation under the Mine Improvement and New Emergency Response (MINER) Act of 2006, *Business Management Daily* reported November 20. On October 23, 2006, methane detonated in a tunnel at a mine in Tremont Township, Pennsylvania, killing one man. The company will pay fines and penalties totaling \$905,825. The Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) concluded the explosion occurred “because the mine operator failed to comply with approved ventilation and roof control plans, engaged in poor blasting practices, assigned unqualified personnel to blasting work and conducted improper pre-shift examinations.” In all, MSHA issued 10 citations, six for flagrant violations. The MINER Act defines a flagrant violation as “a reckless or repeated failure to make reasonable efforts to eliminate a known violation of a mandatory safety and health standard that substantially and proximately caused, or reasonably could have been expected to cause, death or serious bodily injury.” A civil penalty of up to \$220,000 may be assessed for each flagrant violation. The mine closed immediately following the blast and was sealed in 2007. R&D contested all the charges over the past 4 years, but finally agreed to withdraw its objections and pay the entire amounts, including penalties.

Source: <http://www.businessmanagementdaily.com/28217/tremont-mine-achieves-dubious-first-will-pay-900k>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Chemical Industry Sector

See item [27](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

3. *November 19, Charlotte Observer* – (North Carolina) **Nuclear plant water leak probed.** The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) announced November 19 it would conduct a special investigation at Progress Energy's Brunswick nuclear plant near Wilmington, North Carolina, after a highly unusual mishap caused boiling water to flow out of a reactor chamber not sealed properly. The incident at the Unit 2 reactor posed no risk to Progress employees or the public, and Brunswick's Unit 1 reactor has continued to generate electricity without interruption. Unit 2's reactor has been shut off since the overflow was discovered early November 17. At one point, moderately

radioactive water, coming directly from the reactor core, poured out of the reactor vessel at 10.1 gallons per minute, about 100 times more volume than would flow out under normal circumstances. The water that escaped came from the reactor core where it had been in contact with nuclear fuel. The water collected in a drain for normal processing of low-level nuclear waste. The cause of the leakage was an improperly fastened reactor lid.

Source: <http://www.charlotteobserver.com/2011/11/19/2787005/nuclear-plant-water-leak-probed.html>

4. *November 18, Old Colony Memorial* – (Massachusetts) **Steam leak shuts down Plymouth nuclear power plant.** The Pilgrim Nuclear Power Plant in Plymouth, Massachusetts, experienced a controlled shutdown the night of November 17 due to a steam leak in a valve. The steam leak in a check valve, part of the cooling system, was discovered while the reactor was operating at 50 percent of capacity for unrelated reasons, a Pilgrim spokesperson said. The leaking valve could not be taken out of service by shutting valves leading to it and halting the leakage, necessitating the shutdown, a Nuclear Regulatory Commission spokesman explained. The leaking valve was located within the plant, in the main steam tunnel, which carries steam lines from the reactor to the turbine.

Source: <http://www.wickedlocal.com/plymouth/news/x505717661/Steam-leak-shuts-down-Plymouth-nuclear-power-plant#axzz1e5US4100>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Critical Manufacturing Sector

Nothing to report

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Defense Industrial Base Sector

See item [27](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Banking and Finance Sector

5. *November 18, BankInfoSecurity.com* – (International) **Fake bank site spreads malware.** On November 18, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC) issued a warning about HelpWithMyBank.com, an illegitimate Web site feigning to offer consumer information about bank accounts and loans. Once visited, the HelpWithMyBank.com URL directs users to a legitimate consumer information site, HelpWithMyBank.gov, attempting to convince users they are connecting to a legitimate site, according to the OCC. But connecting to the fake site before the redirect is believed to expose consumers to malware.

Source: http://www.bankinfosecurity.com/articles.php?art_id=4257

6. *November 18, Associated Press* – (Pennsylvania) **Pittsburgh woman sentenced to 6 years for underreporting bad loans ahead of small bank failure.** The former vice president of a tiny Pittsburgh bank that failed in 2007 was sentenced to 6 years in federal prison for underreporting more than \$7 million in delinquent loans that caused the bank to collapse and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. (FDIC) to pay out \$10.2 million to cover customers' lost funds. The Associated Press reported November 18 that Metropolitan Savings Bank's former vice president filed five false quarterly reports with the FDIC in 2005 and 2006 that hid more than \$7 million in delinquent loans before it was shut down in February 2007 with just \$15.8 million in assets. An assistant U.S. attorney said the woman filed the fake reports to hide \$2.7 million in unbooked loans to friends and associates, and used some of the money to buy cocaine and alcohol.

Source:

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/13d1c5ed757d48a191760449d3bb09af/PA--Bad-Loans-Underreported/>

7. *November 17, WJHG 7 Panama City* – (Florida) **Former bank director convicted of conspiracy to commit bank fraud.** A man from Bristol, Florida, was convicted November 17 of conspiracy to commit bank fraud and nine counts of making false entries in bank records with the intent to deceive bank examiners. The man served as the president of C&L Bank of Bristol in the 1990s. After C&L was purchased by The Bank in 1999, he continued to serve as president of the Bristol branch. In 2001, he was appointed to The Bank's board of directors and promoted to the position of Florida regional president. The man was convicted in federal court in Tallahassee of making millions of dollars in loans and extensions of credit to borrowers he knew were unable to repay. He hid the bad loans from bank management and federal examiners by falsifying customer financial information, using overdraft accounts to make payments on the borrowers' existing loans, and using the proceeds from loans to third parties to make payments on the debts of insolvent bank customers. Prosecutors also presented evidence the man had concealed the true financial picture of the bank from examiners and bank management.

Source: <http://www.wjhg.com/home/headlines/134069538.html>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Transportation Sector

8. *November 21, Contra Costa Times* – (California) **CHP car fire shuts down Highway 101 in Sausalito.** All northbound lanes of Highway 101 in Sausalito, California were shut down November 20 after a California Highway Patrol (CHP) patrol car crashed and caught fire, the CHP said. Two lanes of the five-lane highway remained closed at 10 p.m. All northbound lanes were closed for about an hour south of Spencer Avenue as a precaution because there was live ammunition in the CHP vehicle. The officer was trying to pull a motorist over for a violation just before the accident occurred about 8:30 p.m., a CHP spokesman said. The officer involved appeared to be OK when he ran up to nearby motorists and told them to "Get out of here! Run! There's live ammo!," a motorist said. Soon after, a motorist heard popping sounds she believes was the live

rounds, she said. The CHP said at 10 p.m. November 20 that it was unclear when all lanes would be reopened. An investigation into the accident is ongoing.

Source: http://www.mercurynews.com/news/ci_19381046

9. *November 21, Associated Press* – (Montana) **Busy Mont. track resumes service after freight train derailment.** Railroad tracks are open again along a busy Montana line after a large derailment was cleared. A Burlington Northern Santa Fe spokesman said the line was reopened around 9:30 p.m. November 20. He said a 70-car freight train derailed November 19 in a remote area about 25 miles west of Glasgow. 11 segmented cars, the equivalent of about 40 normal sized rail cars, went off the tracks. A jumble of overturned and crushed cars along with the general freight they contained was spread along a 750-foot stretch of track. The spokesman said heavy equipment operators spent the day pushing the wreckage away from the tracks. Officials have not yet determined the cause of the derailment.
Source:
<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/9d78aaf3542b478bbb28e9455c587177/MT--Montana-Derailment/>
10. *November 20, Contra Costa Times* – (California) **Part of Paseo del Mar slides into sea.** A steady rain all day November 20 proved to be the tipping point for the unfolding landslide along a section of Paseo del Mar on ocean cliffs in the San Pedro section of Los Angeles. At about 3 p.m., power lines and a palm tree began to sway. Officials found a substantial new chunk had completely collapsed, leaving a gaping hole and part of the cliff in the ocean. A section of the cliff where a beach access road had begun crumbling a few months ago, also appeared to be sheared off. The muddy street had completely given way in the middle of the 900-foot-long section between Weymouth and Western avenues. The street had begun to buckle in the summer, and was closed by mid-September. Ever since, the community has been put on landslide watch as cracks and fissures opened wider and deeper by the day. Most recently, city engineers said the land was moving — vertically and horizontally — at a rate of 4 inches per day, heaving itself toward the edge of the cliff and the ocean below. Authorities said the area is extremely dangerous. Workers will reroute storm drain lines to prevent more damage. No homes are in the landslide's direct path, but there are homes immediately to the east along the bluff.
Source: http://www.contracostatimes.com/ci_19381381?source=most_viewed
11. *November 19, Associated Press* – (California) **Man with loaded gun arrested at Sacramento airport.** Authorities said a man was arrested at Sacramento International Airport, in Sacramento California after X-rays showed a loaded, unregistered handgun in his carry-on baggage. Officials from the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) told the Sacramento Bee the man was headed to a Southwest Airlines flight from Sacramento to Tampa, Florida, when the .40-caliber Glock G23 was found in the bag. A TSA spokeswoman told the newspaper the man said he forgot the weapon was in his bag. The spokesman said that is the answer security officials most often get when guns are found. The man, whose name was not released, was arrested by the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department.

Source: <http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/lanow/2011/11/man-with-loaded-gun-arrested-at-sacramento-airport.html>

12. *November 19, Houston Chronicle* – (Texas; International) **TSA investigating how Houston-area man got loaded gun on plane.** An incident involving a man from Magnolia, Texas who flew from Houston’s Bush Intercontinental Airport (IAH) to Argentina carrying a loaded gun in his carry-on briefcase has launched a Transportation Security Administration (TSA) investigation, KHOU 11 Houston reported. The passenger has been detained in Buenos Aires since November 16 for trying to board his return flight with the weapon, ammunition, and pepper spray. According to KHOU, the TSA is trying to determine who at Bush airport was responsible for missing the gun. A year ago, screeners at the airport missed a loaded .40 caliber gun taken on a flight. Last week alone, TSA officers found 24 loaded firearms in carry-on luggage, including two pistols detected at IAH, according to the TSA blog.
Source: <http://blog.chron.com/newswatch/2011/11/tsa-investigating-how-houston-area-man-got-loaded-gun-on-plane/>

For more stories, see items [1](#), [19](#), [39](#), [42](#), and [44](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Postal and Shipping Sector

13. *November 18, KAKE 10 Wichita* – (Kansas) **Ark City mail thefts under investigation.** Police in Arkansas City, Kansas are investigating a string of mail thefts. The Ark City Police Chief said four thefts have been reported since Veterans Day. Two residents reported having their mail stolen November 11. Another mail theft was reported November 13, and the most recent incident was reported November 17. He said the thieves have been removing mail from mailboxes and taking items such as checks and prescription medications before abandoning the rest of the mail in the area.
Source:
http://www.kake.com/news/headlines/Ark_City_Mail_Thefts_Under_Investigation_134156063.html?ref=063

For another story, see item [31](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Agriculture and Food Sector

14. *November 21, Associated Press* – (Ohio) **Ohio Big Boy worker charged with tainting coffee.** An employee at an Big Boy restaurant in Toledo, Ohio, is charged with pouring animal medication into customer coffee with the intent to poison, the Associated Press reported November 21. The Blade newspaper reported the employee told Toledo police he had a delusions of killing customers. A police report said the man went to the Frisch’s Big Boy on his day off November 18 and poured a drug called Dextran, which is used to treat anemia in baby pigs. into a pot of coffee. Police said another worker at

the restaurant saw what he was doing and took vials of the drug from him. The suspect was jailed on a charge of contaminating a substance for human consumption.

Source:

http://www.salon.com/2011/11/21/ohio_big_boy_worker_charged_with_tainting_coffee/

15. *November 20, Associated Press* – (South Carolina) **4 stabbed outside Charleston grocery store.** Authorities said a man was arrested after he stabbed four people during a fight in a grocery store parking lot November 19 in Charleston, South Carolina. Investigators said the suspect pulled out a military-style knife from his pocket during an argument. Authorities said he first swung the knife at three people who were trying to stop him from attacking someone else. One woman was slashed on her neck and two men suffered cuts to their head. Investigators said the suspect then chased down the man he was arguing with and stabbed him in the side, puncturing his lung. He was arrested at a nearby motel and charged with attempted murder.
Source: <http://www.wmbfnews.com/story/16085955/4-stabbed-outside-charleston-grocery-store>

For more stories, see items [19](#) and [39](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Water Sector

16. *November 21, Houston Business Journal* – (Texas) **Central Texas town may run out of water.** The record-setting drought that has overtaken the entire state of Texas has left 11 communities on a state agency list of cities at risk of running out of tap water in 6 months, the Houston Business Journal reported November 21. According to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Groesbeck and its population of 6,000 residents, is on schedule to tap out December 6, if there is no significant rainfall. The state's worst 1-year drought on record has almost dried up Fort Parker Lake, which is fed by the Navasota River that normally flows into catchment that serves the lake. At the beginning of the summer, Fort Parker Lake was filled to capacity.
Source: http://www.bizjournals.com/houston/morning_call/2011/11/central-texas-town-may-run-out-of-water.html
17. *November 19, Associated Press* – (National) **Hacker says he had no intention of harming plant, only proving a point.** A hacker posted diagrams of a Harris County, Texas community's sewer system online to show how easy it is to infiltrate the system, the Associated Press reported November 19. The mayor of South Houston told the Houston Chronicle that no harm was done, but the DHS and FBI are investigating. A hacker identified as "pr0f" posted the diagrams. The mayor said the plant's control system has since been taken offline. The hacker told the newspaper by e-mail that it was easy to access South Houston's online infrastructure diagrams. He said he had no intention of harming the plant, but that he wanted only to prove a point. South Houston is a city of 16,000 people in the Houston area.
Source:

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/da45f624b6434f2989d9d082a47e4957/TX--Sewer-System-Targeted/>

18. *November 18, Associated Press* – (New Jersey) **West Milford water and sewer plant has been a victim of sabotage several times since July.** DHS officials met November 18 with state officials to discuss sabotage at a New Jersey water and sewer plant, the Associated Press reported. West Milford's Municipal Utility Authority has been plagued by a series of attacks since July in which power was shut off, valves were opened, and a wood plank was thrown into a sewage filtration system. The Jersey Environmental Solutions owner, who maintains the system, told the Record of Woodland Park the sabotage has caused residents in at least 60 homes to lose water pressure 3 times, and resulted in numerous sewage spills. The latest incident occurred November 15 when sewage poured into the street near the MUA's Bald Eagle facility after someone interfered with the switches for the pumps. The owner told the newspaper the incidents "border on, or actually are, terrorism."

Source:

http://www.nj.com/news/index.ssf/2011/11/west_milford_water_and_sewer_p.html

19. *November 18, Miami Herald* – (Florida) **Hollywood sewage pipe repaired, but additional leaks spotted.** Although crews were able to mend a broken sewer main November 18 that forced millions of gallons of raw sewage into a Hollywood, Florida neighborhood for 2 days, additional leaks have been discovered in the pipe, the Miami Herald reported. The hairline cracks are not impacting the sewage flow, but must be repaired, a city spokeswoman said. Now the city's attention has shifted to repairing leaks and cleaning up the canal and neighborhood west of Interstate 95. Since the 48-inch sewage pipe burst November 16, more than 20 million gallons of sewage was diverted into the C-10 canal that flows into the Intracoastal and eventually out to the ocean. The city has placed notices on the doors of hundreds of homes near the canal warning them to not fish, swim or wade in the canal. The evening of November 18, workers in plastic suits floated down the canal in a boat scooping up debris and dead fish in a net. Meanwhile, the Broward County Health Department has said the spill did not affect drinking water. Hollywood is likely to face fines from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for piping the raw sewage from the rupture point into the canal, and allowing spillover to go into a storm drain that empties into the same canal.

Source: <http://www.miamiherald.com/2011/11/18/2508222/hollywood-sewer-line-not-repaired.html>

For more stories, see items [10](#) and [43](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Public Health and Healthcare Sector

20. *November 21, Softpedia* – (Pennsylvania) **LIMA patients exposed after contractors dispose of server affected by flood.** Lebanon Internal Medicine Associates (LIMA) patients in Pennsylvania might be exposed to identity fraud after renovation

contractors, without permission, disposed of a computer server damaged by flood waters, Softpedia reported November 21. After being flooded with 100,000 gallons of water, the institution was forced to call in a renovation contractor to repair the damages. It is not yet certain how the misunderstanding occurred, since the notice from the facility only states the workers were not directed to dispose of the machine. “The computer which operated as main file server for LIMA's on-site laboratory was rendered inoperable and was subsequently disposed of by restoration contractors hired by LIMA, who were not directed by LIMA to do so,” the notice reads. The letter also states the risk of identity fraud is slim, even though the computer contained sensitive data gathered over 12 years, including Social Security numbers, names, dates of birth, account numbers, addresses, diagnoses, lab tests, and insurance info. The institution has alerted authorities and they plan to send notifications to all individuals involved after they failed to find the device that disappeared around September 12. The improper disposal of such a machine constitutes a violation of two federal laws regarding handling of protected health information.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/LIMA-Patients-Exposed-After-Contractors-Dispose-of-Server-Affected-by-Flood-235664.shtml>

21. *November 21, National Public Radio* – (National) **Shortage Of ADHD drugs has parents, doctors scrambling.** The scarcity of attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) medications is a problem faced by an untold number of children and adults with the disorder, National Public Radio reported November 21. ADHD is not the only disorder for which drugs are in short supply. Many medications are increasingly in shortage, leading the U.S. President to issue an executive order October 31 to help unsnarl the supplies. But the problem has been concentrated on intravenous medications used in hospitals, and cancer chemotherapy agents. However, for reasons that are unclear, in recent months the hard-to-get drugs include ADHD medications such as Adderall. Last week, methylphenidate, the active ingredient in Ritalin and generic equivalents, was officially declared in shortage. Nobody knows how many people are affected by the shortages. Up to 15 million children and adults are thought to have ADHD, and more than half of children with the disorder take medication for it. Source: <http://www.wbur.org/npr/142571217/shortage-of-adhd-drugs-has-parents-doctors-scrambling>

22. *November 17, KDFW 4 Dallas-Forth Worth* – (Texas) **Parkland patient records stolen.** Parkland Hospital in Dallas is investigating the theft of thousands of patient records. The hospital said it learned in September the data was used inappropriately by an employee who handled record keeping. More than 2,400 records were compromised, and 232 patients had their Social Security numbers exposed. Parkland said it notified affected patients and fired the employee, and is now taking legal action against the ex-worker. Source: <http://www.myfoxdfw.com/dpp/news/111711-parkland-patient-records-stolen>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Government Facilities Sector

23. *November 21, Associated Press* – (California) **Univ. of Calif., Davis police chief now on leave.** The president of the University of California (UC) system said he was "appalled" at images of protesters being doused with pepper spray at UC, Davis, November 18, and plans to assess law enforcement procedures on all 10 campuses, as 2 police officers and the chief were placed on administrative leave. The president said in November 20 statement it was not his intention to "micromanage" campus police, but he said all 10 chancellors would convene soon for a discussion "about how to ensure proportional law enforcement response to non-violent protest." Protesters from Occupy Sacramento planned to travel to nearby Davis November 21 for a noon rally in solidarity with the students, the group said in a statement. UC Davis said early November 21 in a news release that it was necessary to place the police chief on administrative leave to restore trust and calm tensions. One officer was a veteran with many years on the force, and the other was "fairly new" to the department, the police chief has said. Videos posted online of the incident show one riot-gear clad officer dousing the line of protesters with spray as they sit with their arms intertwined. Nine students hit by pepper spray were treated at the scene, two were taken to hospitals and later released, university officials said. Ten people were arrested.
Source: <http://www.timesunion.com/news/article/Univ-of-Calif-Davis-police-chief-now-on-leave-2278918.php>
24. *November 21, Bangor Daily News* – (Maine) **Orono apartment fire displaces 21 students, cause still unknown.** A fire that broke out November 19 at the Stillwater Village Apartments in Orono, Maine, displaced around 21 University of Maine students, a campus spokesman said November 20. He said the college is working to find the students' temporary housing and replace their school supplies. The fire was reported at the multi-unit apartment complex at around 6 p.m., and spread from the back basement of one of the units to the top floor of the building, a fire lieutenant said. A total of 36 units were evacuated, another fire lieutenant said. Firefighters from Orono, Old Town, Bangor, and Veazie fought the blaze. A section of College Avenue in front of the complex was closed to traffic for more than 2 hours. Two firefighters suffered minor injuries, officials said. They are still investigating the cause of the blaze.
Source: <http://bangordailynews.com/2011/11/19/news/bangor/fire-at-orono-apartment-complex-displaces-students-closes-road/?ref=mostReadBox>
25. *November 19, Denver Post* – (Colorado) **Fort Collins school evacuated over odor.** Blevins Middle School in Fort Collins, Colorado was evacuated November 18 after a reported strange odor caused 12 students to feel sick. The school called 911 to report the ill students and the odor coming from a restroom. The Poudre Fire Authority responded with a mass casualty response team and a hazardous materials team. Students were immediately treated and transported to a hospital as a precaution. Ultimately, 15 students were transported, treated, and released, according to a spokesman for Poudre Valley Hospital. He said students generally were feeling nauseous, but medical staff did not find a cause. Fire authority crews searched the school but did not immediately find a cause for the odor.
Source: http://www.denverpost.com/news/ci_19370080

26. *November 18, Hartford Courant* – (Connecticut) **Explosion reported at Cheshire High School.** A homemade bomb exploded inside the Cheshire High School gymnasium, November 18, police and fire officials said in Cheshire, Connecticut. According to a police lieutenant, an officer patrolling the area around the property was flagged down by a person who reported there had been an explosion inside the school. Police, along with firefighters, the FBI, a Connecticut State Police (CSP) Bomb Squad, and members of the CSP Emergency Services Unit, went into the school and found a plastic bottle filled with chemicals. The bottle had been tossed into the gym near where the girls' volleyball team was holding practice around 5:37 p.m., the lieutenant said. No one was hurt and there was no damage to the building or equipment, though two coaches were taken to the hospital after complaining of skin irritation, a police sergeant said.
Source: <http://www.courant.com/community/cheshire/hc-cheshire-high-school-1119-2-20111118,0,364205.story>
27. *November 18, Torrance Daily Breeze* – (California) **2 men trapped in San Pedro storage tank rescued.** Two men cleaning the inside of an underground fuel storage tank at a military facility in San Pedro, California, were hospitalized November 18 after one fell 30 feet to the bottom, firefighters said. The man suffered bruises and other injuries, and was unable to climb from the tank himself. The other was not injured, firefighters said. Both were covered with sludge. The men were cleaning the inside of the 130-foot-wide, 30-foot deep underground tank at the Defense Fuel Support Point facility at 3171 N. Gaffey Street when the accident occurred around noon. The men were contractors at the facility operated by United Paradyne Corp. The facility is a fuel terminal for the energy branch of the military's Defense Logistics Agency, supplying fuel to the western region of the country. One worker appeared to have lost his balance and fell, the Los Angeles city fire assistant chief said. He said neither man was trapped. About 75 firefighters responded, including an urban search-and-rescue team, and a hazardous-materials unit. By 2 p.m. both men were brought out, cleaned up, and taken to hospitals.
Source: http://www.contracostatimes.com/california/ci_19366254
28. *November 18, Missoula Missoulian* – (Montana) **Laid-off IT worker accused of hacking, crashing Missoula company's servers.** When multiple computer servers crashed nearly simultaneously November 2 at Edulog, the Missoula, Montana, firm said it sought help from a former information technology (IT) administrator who had been laid off about a week earlier. Missoula County authorities allege it was that man who hacked into the computers in the first place, took the servers down and erased backup servers. The crash also affected Edulog's sister company, Logisys, which provides software for law enforcement, fire and emergency management services, including the Missoula County Sheriff's Office and the Missoula Police Department. The former IT administrator appeared in court November 19, charged with two counts of unlawful use of a computer. Both are felonies because the value of the property involved exceeded \$1,500. Bail was set at \$5,000. Edulog provides software for school bus routing and scheduling, GPS school bus tracking and systems that affect payroll for school districts. The Edulog servers crashed at 9 a.m., taking down Internet, e-mail, and other essential systems, plus client sites and information access for about 200 clients. A

Edulog systems installation and help desk manager and his team told authorities most of the damage was done to configuration files, that were deleted, altered or overwritten in a way that would allow a person who had backup files to easily repair the problem. Source: http://missoulian.com/news/state-and-regional/laid-off-it-worker-accused-of-hacking-crashing-missoula-company/article_e8691d48-125d-11e1-bcc5-001cc4c002e0.html

For more stories, see items [23](#) and [31](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Emergency Services Sector

29. *November 21, Associated Press* – (Ohio) **One escapee still loose after breaking out of jail van.** Police said a 37-year-old man is at large after escaping from a transport van just outside the Hamilton County, Ohio, jail. Police said another escaped prisoner was recaptured overnight. The man still at large November 21 was identified as a 37-year-old wearing a gray jogging suit with a teardrop tattoo on his left cheek. WCPO 9 Cincinnati reported the two men freed themselves from restraints, kicked down the back door of the private transport van, and ran away around 11:30 p.m. November 20. Police were using dogs to help search for the missing man early November 21. Source: <http://www.newstalkradiowhio.com/news/news/local/one-escapee-still-loose-after-breaking-out-jail-vanFjNR/>
30. *November 20, Redding Record-Searchlight* – (California) **Four arrests in auto theft; man allegedly broke into Redding fire station to steal car.** Redding, California police arrested a man they say broke into a city fire station November 20 and stole a sleeping firefighter's car. Police have arrested three other suspects who are accused of helping the man commit a string of thefts throughout town. Officers arrested the suspect on suspicion of breaking into Redding Fire Station No. 3 on Westside Road with a crow bar, and stealing car keys and a wallet. After burglarizing the station, police believe the suspect drove the stolen Honda sedan to a mini mart and used the firefighter's credit card shortly after 8 a.m., as stated by a police corporal in a news release. While there, an Anderson police captain saw the stolen Honda, the corporal said. Redding police officers helped arrest the suspect as he was leaving the store. Evidence in the stolen car linked him to four burglaries, three cases of credit card fraud, and another stolen car, according to the news release. Source: <http://www.redding.com/news/2011/nov/20/four-arrests-in-auto-theft/>
31. *November 20, Associated Press* – (New York) **Manhattan man accused of NYC bomb plots.** An "al-Qa'ida sympathizer" accused of plotting to bomb police and post offices in New York City as well as U.S. troops returning home remained in police custody after an arraignment November 20 on numerous terrorism-related charges. The New York mayor announced at a news conference the arrest of "a 27-year-old al-Q'aida sympathizer" who was motivated by terrorist propaganda and resentment of U.S. troops in Afghanistan and Iraq. The police commissioner said police had to move quickly to arrest him November 19 because he was ready to carry out his plan. "He was in fact

putting this bomb together," the police commissioner said. "He was drilling holes and it would have been not appropriate for us to let him walk out the door with that bomb." A U.S. citizen originally from the Dominican Republic, the suspect was "plotting to bomb police patrol cars and also postal facilities as well as targeted members of our armed services returning from abroad," the mayor said. New York police had him under surveillance for at least a year and were working with a confidential informant; no injury to anyone or damage to property is alleged, the police commissioner said. In addition, authorities have no evidence that the suspect was working with anyone else, the mayor said. The suspect was denied bail and remained in custody. He is accused of having an explosive device November 19 when he was arrested, one he planned to use against others and property to terrorize the public. The charges accuse him of conspiracy going back at least to October 2010, and include first-degree criminal possession of a weapon as a crime of terrorism, and soliciting support for a terrorist act. The New York City Police Department's Intelligence Division was involved in the arrest. The police commissioner said the suspect spent most of his years in Manhattan, and lived about 5 years in Schenectady. He said police in the Albany area tipped New York City police off to the suspect's activities. Asked why federal authorities were not involved in the case, the Manhattan district attorney said there was communication with them but his office felt that given the timeline "it was appropriate to proceed under state charges."

Source: <http://www.time.com/time/nation/article/0,8599,2099909,00.html>

For more stories, see items [8](#) and [28](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Information Technology Sector

32. *November 19, Softpedia* – (International) **ConBot inflates bills by sending premium rate SMSs.** After researchers discovered OpFake, a mobile trojan that shares code with Spitmo, a newcomer identified as SymbOS/ConBot was found having the same characteristics, Softpedia reported November 19. F-Secure specialists came across the premium SMS sender and determined it has a sophisticated way of functioning, but unlike OpFake, it does not rely on fake Opera updates. Found on a Russian domain, the first and only known instance of ConBot relies on Spitmo's source code, but unlike OpFake, it does not add an icon to the application menu, which makes it harder to detect. Since it does not alert the user of its presence, researchers believe it may be promoted as a "security certificate update." ConBot.A contains a package called SystemService that includes another package called AppBot. The latter's executable file is run automatically each time the phone starts because of an .rsc file. Once executed, it decrypts a file named SystemService.boot that points to c:\sys\bin\SystemService(dot)exe, the file that contains the payload. After collecting all phone numbers it can find on the device, ConBot sends them, along with the phone's IMEI number, to a remote server on the same Russian domain. In return, the server sends the infected machine an XML file with instructions on where to send SMS messages. It also monitors closely all incoming messages, deleting some if certain conditions are met. Even though this function is similar to Spitmo.A and OpFake.A, the

certificate it signs itself with is not the same as the one used by OpFake. Also, ConBot can update the C&C server with a text message, which means that if the C&C server falls, it does not necessarily mean the botnet will, too.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/ConBot-Inflates-Bills-by-Sending-Premium-Rate-SMSs-235603.shtml>

For more stories, see items [5](#), [28](#), and [33](#)

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>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Communications Sector

33. *November 21, Bloomberg* – (National) **AT&T restores Northeast wireless data service after disruption.** AT&T, the second-largest U.S. mobile carrier, said it restored data service to wireless customers in New York and elsewhere in the Northeast after a disruption earlier November 21. “Some mobility customers were unable to connect to data services briefly early this morning,” an AT&T spokesman in Atlanta said. “The issue was resolved.” The disruption, which affected mobile e-mail and Internet access, began at 6:14 a.m. in New York, according to AT&T’s customer-service department November 21. The Dallas-based company began an investigation into the issue, which customer-service representatives described as a “service degradation.” Some customers using Apple iPhones and Research In Motion BlackBerrys said they noticed a loss of e-mail service shortly after 6 a.m., and by 7:45 a.m. some of those AT&T customers reported e-mail began to work again.
Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/news/2011-11-21/at-t-restores-northeast-wireless-data-service-after-disruption.html>

For another story, see item [32](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Commercial Facilities Sector

34. *November 21, Associated Press* – (Nevada) **Officials: Reno fire fully contained.** The fire in southwest Reno, Nevada, that forced thousands to flee and destroyed 32 homes is fully contained, the Associated Press reported November 21. A Sierra Fire Protection District official said late November 20 that the fire was 100 percent contained at 1,935 acres. Nearly 10,000 people were forced to evacuate early November 18 by the unusual, out-of-season fire that was spread by gale force winds and ripped through the Sierra foothills. Although no official cause has been determined, officials suspect

arcing power lines. Officials said crews worked November 20 on lingering hot spots and repaired areas where vegetation was burned and hillsides damaged by bulldozers in an effort to prevent mudslides.

Source:

http://www.boston.com/news/nation/articles/2011/11/21/officials_reno_fire_fully_contained/

35. *November 21, New Haven Minuteman News* – (Connecticut) **Fire causes heavy damage to Saugatuck Congregational Church.** A fire late November 20 caused extensive damage to the Saugatuck Congregational Church in Westport, Connecticut. A total of 63 firefighters from six area towns battled the fire for 6 hours, finally bringing it under control early November 21. The Westport Fire Department received a call for an automatic fire alarm at the church. First arriving units found a heavy smoke condition and fire in the rear of the structure. Fire conditions quickly deteriorated and crews were forced from the building.

Source:

<http://www.minutemannewscenter.com/articles/2011/11/21/westport/news/doc4eca360170198394906558.txt>

36. *November 21, WGHP 8 High Point* – (North Carolina) **Two dead, 5 injured after Pleasant Garden shootings.** Two people are dead and five were taken to Moses Cone Hospital after a series of shootings that took place in three different locations around Pleasant Garden, North Carolina, early November 20. The sheriff said seven people were shot and two of them had died. One of the fatalities is the woman who is believed to be responsible for the shootings, the sheriff said. He said the shooter was related or knew the victims who ranged in ages between 9 and 40. The shootings happened consecutively, beginning around 9 a.m., and took place in three locations, he said. The first shooting happened in the parking lot of the aviation center at Guilford Technical Community College. Deputies found the first victim, who was taken to the hospital with non-life threatening injuries. The second shooting happened at the suspect's home where four more victims were found. One of the victims was pronounced dead at the scene. The other three were taken to the hospital. The third shooting happened when deputies tracked down the suspect's vehicle. As deputies approached the vehicle, the suspect shot herself. A sixth victim suffering from a single gunshot was found in the backseat of the vehicle. Three of the surviving victims were on life support as of 4 p.m. November 20. Multiple firearms used in the shootings have been recovered.

Source: <http://www.ktla.com/news/landing/wghp-story-seven-victims-in-fatal-shooting-pleasant-garden-nc-111120,0,5345758.story>

37. *November 21, WTAE 4 Pittsburgh* – (Pennsylvania) **Dozens evacuated from senior apartment building after fire.** More than 70 people had to be evacuated because of a fire inside an apartment in a senior citizen's high-rise in Pittsburgh late November 20. Crews said 74 people were evacuated from the building because of the fire, many of them elderly. Firefighters had to help many residents who could not walk, and said six people were taken to the hospital because emergency crews did not have enough oxygen at the scene. Crews said the flames were contained to one unit, but the sprinkler system left water damage behind. As of early November 21, it was not clear when the

tenants would be allowed to return.

Source: <http://www.wtae.com/r/29821092/detail.html>

38. *November 21, Softpedia* – (International) **BBC America Shop leaks customer orders.** BBC's America Shop Web site encountered a problem that not only allowed customers to see billing information, but also made simple Google searches take people to the sensitive data-containing pages, Softpedia reported November 21. According to DataBreaches, one of the customers of the site noticed the issue while Googling his own name in an attempt to investigate the reasons for the large number of unsolicited e-mails he was receiving. One of the search results led to the page which contained his order. By manipulating the URL from the browser's address bar, he could take a look at the orders of other customers who had placed them starting in June. There was no credit card information and the records were not cached by Google, but the names, billing addresses, phone numbers, item numbers, and e-mail addresses provide enough data for customers to be bombarded by spam. The issue was immediately resolved.
Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/BBC-America-Shop-Leaks-Customer-Orders-235748.shtml>
39. *November 20, Contra Costa Times* – (California) **Blaze destroys historic four-story building in Berkeley, destroying popular eateries and 39 apartments.** A five-alarm fire gutted a building in Berkeley, California, late November 18, destroying popular eateries and leaving dozens of residents without a home. The brick shell of the 4-story building that remained after the fire will have to come down, city officials said. The 1916 structure was home since the early 1980s to two Berkeley mainstays: Raleigh's, a popular bar, and Cafe Intermezzo, a restaurant. There were 39 apartment units above the restaurants and bar, all of which were destroyed. In addition, six apartment units in a neighboring building were evacuated out of concern the burned structure would collapse on it. The building, which had another, less severe fire in February, had a fire alarm but no sprinkler system, fire officials said. Roads were expected to be closed for days or weeks, but nearby businesses likely would be allowed to reopen soon, fire officials said. The cause of the fire may never be determined because investigators are unlikely to be able to enter the building, fire officials said.
Source: http://www.mercurynews.com/top-stories/ci_19373225
40. *November 19, Associated Press* – (Connecticut) **Yale tailgate party accident: Truck strikes Yale-Harvard tailgaters, killing 1.** A driver of a U-Haul truck carrying beer kegs through a tailgating area before the football game between Yale University and Harvard University in New Haven, Connecticut, November 19 suddenly accelerated, fatally striking a woman and injuring two other women, police said. It is not clear why the driver sped up, a New Haven police spokesman said. The truck then crashed into other U-Haul vans in the lot, an open playing field used for pre-game tailgating parties before Yale home games. A police official said the driver was taken into police custody. He said the woman who was killed was pronounced dead at about 10:15 a.m. at Yale-New Haven Hospital. A second woman, which Yale said was a student at its school of management, was listed in critical but stable condition at the hospital. The third woman suffered minor injuries.

Source: http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2011/11/19/yale-tailgate-party-accident_n_1102982.html

41. *November 19, Kansas City Star* – (Missouri) **Three-alarm apartment fire causes \$750,000 in damages.** A three-alarm fire at a 12-unit southeast Kansas City, Missouri apartment complex early November 19 caused \$750,000 in damages and forced eight families from their homes, a Kansas City Fire Department official said. A faulty gas fireplace insert caused the fire. On arrival, crews saw fire shooting through the roof on the north end of the wooden building. Strong wind blew embers and flames toward an adjacent building. Crews sprayed water on that building to keep it from catching fire. Source: <http://www.kansascity.com/2011/11/19/3274993/three-alarm-apartment-fire-causes.html>

For more stories, see items [1](#), [10](#), [19](#), and [44](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

National Monuments and Icons Sector

42. *November 20, Washington Post* – (District of Columbia) **Police arrest 13 as Occupy D.C. supporters take over Franklin School building.** Police arrested 13 people the evening of November 19 inside an abandoned historic building in downtown Washington, D.C., after sympathizers of the Occupy D.C. movement took over the former homeless shelter. The protesters entered the city-owned Franklin School about 3 p.m. and hung banners from the roof, reading “Public Property Under Community Control” and “Franklin for the 99 percent.” About 200 Occupy D.C. supporters quickly gathered around the school, at 13th and K streets, as dozens of police officers arrived. After a 3-hour standoff, D.C. firefighters broke through a door, and police entered. About 100 protesters formed a human chain in the alley behind the building. A D.C. police chief said officials “negotiated” with them to avoid further arrests. The school, which opened in 1869, is on the National Register of Historic Places. Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/police-arrest-11-as-occupy-dc-supporters-take-over-franklin-school-building/2011/11/19/gIQAiZvycN_story.html

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Dams Sector

43. *November 21, Everett Daily Herald* – (Washington) **With dam fixed, Lake 16 supplying Sultan with water again.** Sultan, Washington is getting its water again from Lake 16, the city's reservoir, which had been dry for about 7 months, the Everett Daily Herald reported November 21. The dam repair officially ended in late October, and water started flowing from the man-made reservoir into to the city the week of November 7, the city administrator said. In April, city workers found the dam reservoir had emptied because of a hole beneath its foundation. Sultan then started relying on water from Everett, which has an agreement to provide water to Sultan if needed. The cause of the hole was unknown. Crews from Harbor Pacific Contractors excavated

underneath the dam and filled the hole with large rocks. The gap between the rocks was covered with a substance similar to cement, the administrator said. During the work, old valves and pipes were replaced, concrete was repaired and a vault was built downstream to protect the valves, and to provide safe access for work crews. The estimated \$325,000 project was paid mostly by a state grant. Sultan gets 95 percent of its water from Lake 16. On a daily average, 4,918 people use about 538,000 gallons of water. The dam was built in 1949 and it dried up once before 7 years ago.

Source: <http://www.heraldnet.com/article/20111121/NEWS01/711219932>

44. *November 20, Associated Press* – (Louisiana) **Work on surge protection gate closes boat launch in St. Charles Parish until January.** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers closed a boat launch on the Sellers Canal in St. Charles Parish, Louisiana until January to ensure safety while a surge protection gate is built across Bayou Verret. The Pier 90 launch is close to U.S. Highway 90, near the Jefferson Parish line. The Corps said the sector gate across Bayou Verret is part of a \$140-million storm surge protection project. The work includes about 4.5 miles of levees and floodwalls along the Davis Pond Freshwater Diversion Canal and Outer Cataouatche Canal. The Corps also is building an elevated crossing at U.S. Highway 90, two railroad gates, and a second highway crossing that connects to the Mississippi River levee.

Source:

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/8575962649154bfc963f1785b528615e/LA--Boat-Launch-Closed/>

45. *November 18, New Orleans Times-Picayune* – (Louisiana) **Levee-fill debris includes shopping cart, water heater.** Test trenches cut into a problematic levee being raised south of Marrero in Jefferson parish, Louisiana, unearthed logs, concrete chunks, tires, hubcaps, a hot water tank, and a shopping cart, according to a report by the West Bank levee authority that questions the levee's structural integrity. The New Orleans Times-Picayune reported November 18 the testing also revealed sections of wet and poorly compacted clay that prompted a levee authority official to dub it the "jelly doughnut levee," the report said. The findings raise questions about whether the \$29 million project should be redone, said the president of the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-West Bank. A U.S. Army Corps of Engineers spokesman said some debris may be linked to an old dump in the area. About 40 test trenches have been dug by a team of corps engineers assembled after levee authority inspectors raised concerns about woody debris in clay used to raise the 3.5-mile levee that extends from the New Westwego Pumping Station to 1 mile east of the Westminster Pumping Station. A levee board member said he is concerned the unsuitable material will cause the levee to subside prematurely, leaving the levee authority or state on the hook for multimillion-dollar levee lifts.

Source:

http://www.nola.com/environment/index.ssf/2011/11/debris_including_a_shopping_cart.html

[\[Return to top\]](#)

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