



Homeland
Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report

18 October 2012

Top Stories

- Capital One Bank confirmed that its Web site was hit by another distributed denial-of-service (DDoS) attack October 16. The incident was the second attack allegedly waged by a hacktivist group against the bank, with the group threatening new attacks on banks October 16-18. – *BankInfoSecurity* (See item [11](#))
- Distributed denial-of-service (DDoS) attacks with an average bandwidth over 20Gbps have become commonplace in 2012, a 230 percent increase over 2011, according to new security research. High bandwidth attacks were previously isolated incidents, and few organizations have the infrastructure to handle such attacks. – *IDG News Service* (See item [33](#))
- Five people were found dead in a bar outside Denver where a fire broke out October 17. Police believe the blaze was set to cover up the murders. – *Associated Press* (See item [38](#))
- A study released by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers October 15 said the agency did what it could to manage the historic 2011 flooding on the Missouri River, but more repairs, research, and monitoring are needed to mitigate damage in future high flow years. – *Associated Press* (See item [42](#))

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

1. *October 17, Denver Post* – (Colorado) **About 11,000 homes still without power after wind storm.** A powerful windstorm October 16 knocked out power to 40,000 Xcel Energy customers, and many homes will be without power until October 17, officials said. About 9,800 homes in Denver and another 1,000 in the Greeley area are still without power, said a spokesman for Xcel Energy. The winds were blowing branches and uprooting trees that fell into electrical lines, he added. Extra crews were called in to restore lines and repair damage.
Source: http://www.denverpost.com/breakingnews/ci_21791511/about-11-000-homes-still-without-power-after

2. *October 16, Pasadena Star-News* – (California) **Power plant turbine explodes in Pasadena, no injuries reported.** A turbine at the Glenarm Power Plant in Pasadena, California, burst into flames October 16, fire department officials said. The flames were extinguished by the plant's fire suppression system, according to Pasadena Water and Power (PWP) officials. The fire was contained within the turbine's metal case and no injuries were reported, said a PWP spokeswoman. With a heat wave expected the week of October 15, PWP is looking at its energy supply — both from suppliers and its own production — to determine whether they will have enough. Only two of the plants five jet engine turbines are operating and no power outages have occurred, a PWP spokesman stated.
Source: http://www.pasadenastarnews.com/news/ci_21784721/power-plant-turbine-explodes-pasadena-no-injuries-reported

For another story, see item [4](#)

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

Chemical Industry Sector

Nothing to report

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

Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

3. *October 17, Nuclear Regulatory Commission* – (New Hampshire) **Earthquake causes small alert at power plant.** An Unusual Event – the lowest of four levels of emergency classification used by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) – was declared by the Seabrook nuclear power plant in Seabrook, New Hampshire, October 16 due to on-site ground motion resulting from an earthquake centered near Hollis, Maine, about 50 miles from the plant. The Seabrook plant was already shut down for a scheduled refueling and maintenance outage. Following procedures used when there is seismic activity affecting the plant, NextEra personnel conducted initial visual inspections and confirmed that all key safety systems were functioning properly and that there was no significant structural damage. The company will subsequently gather more seismic data and perform more detailed inspections. A NRC Resident Inspector assigned to Seabrook responded to the site to confirm that the plant was stable and that there were no immediate safety issues.

Source: <http://hampton-northhampton.patch.com/articles/earthquake-forces-seabrook-power-plant-shutdown>

4. *October 16, Reuters* – (National) **U.S. nuclear outages seen down a third next spring.** About 18,800 megawatts (MW) of power capacity at U.S. nuclear operators are expected to be offline at the peak of the 2013 spring refueling season, down roughly a third from the 2012 season, Reuters reported October 16. The data assumes units currently on extended outages, such as the two at Southern California Edison's 2,150-MW San Onofre plant in California, Progress Energy Florida's 860-MW Crystal River in Florida, and Omaha Public Power District's 478-MW Fort Calhoun in Nebraska, will still be shut. Nuclear outages over the past five years have averaged about 23,200 MW in spring and 22,200 MW in the autumn. Since 1999, spring outages have peaked near 32,800 MW in 2011 and bottomed at 16,100 MW in 2004. Autumn outages peaked near 27,200 MW in 2009 and bottomed at about 12,300 MW in 2004.

Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/business/sns-rt-us-utilities-nuclear-outages-springbre89f1cc-20121016,0,6387721.story>

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

Critical Manufacturing Sector

Nothing to report

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

Defense Industrial Base Sector

5. *October 17, Global Security Newswire* – (Tennessee) **Y-12 nuclear facility bolsters perimeter defenses.** Authorities are moving to bolster measures intended to prevent potential trespassers from entering the Y-12 National Security Complex in Tennessee, the Knoxville News Sentinel reported October 17. Announcement of the steps followed a July break-in at the atomic arms facility by the members of an antinuclear group. The three activists infiltrated the plant’s “Protected Area” — which houses atomic arms activities and bomb-grade uranium storage — and had time to allegedly pour out blood, put up signs, and paint on the sides of buildings before they were discovered and apprehended. The infiltrators faced few obstacles after clipping through fencing that constituted one component of the perimeter intrusion-detection and -assessment system close to the site’s Highly Enriched Uranium Materials Facility, according to some assessments of the incident. Sharp-edged wiring and additional impediments reportedly protected separate sections of the high-security area. “Enhancements continue in various places throughout the site. Additional barriers have been added in some areas to ensure a balanced approach to security,” a National Nuclear Security Administration spokesman told the News Sentinel. “Included in those enhancements is the addition of concertina wire to areas close to the [Highly Enriched Uranium Materials Facility],” he added. A spokeswoman for the plant’s contract operator said October 15 that an audible alarm system is “fully operational” following deployment at the site in September, the newspaper reported.

Source: <http://www.nti.org/gsn/article/y-12-plant-bolsters-perimeter-defenses/>

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

Banking and Finance Sector

6. *October 17, Naperville Sun* – (Illinois; California) **Men from Naperville, Lisle accused in \$28 million scam.** Two men were scheduled to be arraigned October 18 in U.S. District Court in Chicago on charges of running a \$28 million Ponzi-type scheme targeting investors primarily in Illinois and California, according to a statement from the U.S. attorney’s office. One man was a principal of USA Retirement Management Services, which had offices in Oakbrook Terrace, Illinois, and southern California. The other was a company salesman who conducted seminars attended by victims of the alleged scam. A third man also conducted estate planning seminars targeting primarily retirees. According to the indictment, the men between 2005 and 2010 offered and sold promissory notes, in which USA Retirement “absolutely and unconditionally” guaranteed investors rates of 4.75 to 11 percent annually. Two of the men “falsely claimed that the interest would be generated from investments in Turkish bonds,” the statement declared. Instead they used the money to pay some investors and themselves. The men falsely claimed that they had years of investment banking experience and had profited in investing in Turkish bonds. The men had no banking experience and did not make any investments. The company principal and salesman are charged with five counts of wire fraud and four counts of mail fraud. The man who conducted seminars is charged with three counts of wire fraud and three counts of mail fraud.

Source: <http://napervillesun.suntimes.com/news/15795027-418/men-from-naperville-lisle-accused-in-28-million-investment-scam.html>

7. *October 16, Atlanta Journal Constitution* – (Georgia) **Husband, wife convicted in tax scheme.** A Lawrenceville, Georgia couple was convicted for a tax defiance scheme after claiming that they were “American citizens” and not subject to federal income tax laws, the U.S. Attorney’s Office announced October 16. The husband and wife were found guilty by a federal jury of conspiring to defraud the United States and making false claims upon the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) by a federal jury. According to the information presented in court, the couple, who owned a yard furnishing store and general contracting business in Duluth, conspired to avoid taxes from 1999 to 2009 and submitted false claims for refunds. The couple stopped filing federal income tax returns in the 1990s, then hired the now-defunct American Rights Litigators (ARL) to fight the IRS on their behalf. ARL sold and promoted tax defiance schemes, authorities said. The husband and wife’s ploys to avoid taxes included sending “obstructive, frivolous, and harassing documents” to the IRS and Department of the Treasury, and establishing business bank accounts using fake tax identification numbers to hide money. In 2009, the couple submitted two fraudulent tax returns claiming more than \$420,000 in refunds. They also sent the government a bogus \$100 billion, private registered bond to pay off their debts.

Source: <http://www.ajc.com/news/news/local/husband-wife-convicted-in-tax-scheme/nSfTY/>

8. *October 16, Imperial Valley News* – (Idaho; California) **Former Elk Grove man arrested in Idaho for \$20 million investment fraud.** A California man was arrested October 15 on federal investment fraud and bankruptcy fraud charges in Caldwell, Idaho, involving a \$20 million investment fraud scheme. The man was charged in a 24-count indictment with wire fraud, false statements in bankruptcy, and bankruptcy bribery. The indictment alleges that he carried out an investment fraud through an entity known as the Perfect Financial Group. According to the indictment, he targeted 190 members of the ethnic Indian Fijian community. He told investors that he was using their money for hard money lending, but actually, he put it to other purposes. The indictment alleges that he lost \$12 million through gambling; diverted more than \$2 million to personal bank accounts and withdrew much of that in cash; spent \$880,000 on a film project; and spent more than \$1 million on other business ventures. He also used the money to pay other victims, falsely representing that the payments were profits from the short-term hard money lending business. According to court documents August 19, 2010, the man declared bankruptcy and committed fraud crimes in the bankruptcy. In the bankruptcy, he allegedly failed to disclose bank accounts and tried to induce his victims not to participate in the bankruptcy proceedings.

Source: <http://www.imperialvalleynews.com/index.php/news/latest-news/2000-former-elk-grove-man-arrested-in-idaho-for-20-million-investment-fraud.html>

9. *October 16, Boulder Daily Camera* – (Colorado) **Boulder ‘Face-Off Bandit,’ pleads guilty to aggravated robbery.** The “Face-Off Bandit” accused of robbing four banks in Boulder, Colorado, pleaded guilty to one count of aggravated robbery October 16. The robber was originally charged with four counts of aggravated robbery but had three

charges dropped as part of the plea deal. He was accused in bank robberies dating back to December 16, 2011 at a Great Western Bank; January 19 at a First Bank; February 15 at a Chase Bank; and March 8 at a First National Bank in Louisville. He also robbed a bank in Jefferson County. Authorities called him the “Face-Off Bandit” because he wore fake beards as disguises and left them as he fled.

Source: http://www.denverpost.com/opinion/ci_21783048/mark-edwards-boulder-face-off-bandit-pleads-guilty

10. *October 16, The H* – (International) **Santander’s online banking keeps passwords in cookies.** The retail Web site for Santander bank has been discovered to be keeping customer passwords in plain text in cookies held while the user is logged in, The H reported October 16. The discovery was revealed on the Full Disclosure mailing list when an anonymous user posted details of how credit card numbers and other information was stored in session cookies. According to the report, the “NewUniversalCookie” is base64 decoded to reveal an XML document which contains a name, alias, and user ID. In fact, the cookie contains multiple fields; the base64 encoded XML document was just one of them. The H found that, in at least one case, upon decoding an account the innocuously named “alias” field in fact contained a plain text version of the user’s password. The password alone is not sufficient to access a Santander account as there is another registration number that needs to be used with it, but the presence of a plain text password does raise questions about the security practices of the bank’s online site. A Santander spokesperson told The H: “The data items stored within our cookies, if compromised, would not allow access to our online services on their own and our primary login processes do not rely on cookie data.”
Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/Santander-s-online-banking-keeps-passwords-in-cookies-Update-1730364.html>
11. *October 16, BankInfoSecurity* – (International) **CapOne takes second DDoS hit.** Capital One confirmed that its Web site was hit by another distributed denial of service (DDoS) attack, October 16. The incident was the second attack allegedly waged in October by a hacktivist group against the bank. “Capital One is experiencing intermittent access to some online systems due to a denial of service attack,” a bank spokeswoman said. “There was minimal impact to the majority of our customers.” The same day, a post claiming to be from the hacktivist group appeared on Pastebin claiming new attacks against U.S. banks would be waged between October 16 and October 18. The group noted that this new wave of DDoS attacks is being initiated without advance warning. In earlier Pastebin posts, the group named the eight banks it eventually attacked. A financial fraud and security consultant with CEB TowerGroup said the October 9 attack against Capital One, appeared to be one of the most damaging. “With CapOne, they seemed to take a bigger hit than the others,” he said. “Other banks seemed to handle the attacks better.”
Source: <http://www.bankinfosecurity.com/capone-takes-second-ddos-hit-a-5203>

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

Transportation Sector

12. *October 17, Boston Globe* – (Utah) **‘Drunk’ man opens door on plane from Boston to Utah and furious passengers restrain him.** A drunk man on Delta Flight 1215 thought the plane was on fire when the aircraft landed in Salt Lake City October 16, triggering a frantic effort by the Ukrainian man to open the rear door of the aircraft, and a furious struggle with some passengers to restrain him. According to an FBI affidavit filed in federal court in Utah, the flight departed from Boston’s Logan Airport. The passenger told FBI agents that he was returning to Portland, Oregon, after visiting relatives in his native Ukraine. According to the FBI, when he ran to the rear of the aircraft, a flight attendant ordered him to stop, but was unable to prevent him from opening the emergency exit door on the starboard side of the plane. The man mishandled the door, causing it to malfunction, so it did not deploy the inflatable chute. At that point, the flight attendant asked for help from passengers. Several rushed into assist, according to the FBI. The disruptive passenger was scheduled to make an initial appearance in U.S. District Court in Salt Lake City October 17 on charges of attempting to disable an aircraft and assaulting and interfering with the flight crew on board Flight 1215. No passengers or flight crew needed medical attention.

Source: <http://www.boston.com/metrodesk/2012/10/17/drunken-man-opens-door-plane-from-boston-and-furious-passengers-try-restrain-him/dmhzatRjYaBLPgANNWxLKJ/story.html>

13. *October 16, Baltimore Sun* – (Maryland) **City school bus crash injures 13.** At least 13 people were injured in a collision involving a school bus and a minivan in Baltimore’s Oldtown neighborhood October 16, according to the Baltimore Fire Department. The bus was transporting the National Academy Foundation #421’s high school girls soccer team, which was en route to Baltimore Polytechnic Institute for a game, said the schools spokeswoman. Those injured in the accident, which occurred at the intersection of Ensor and East Madison streets, included 11 students on the bus, the driver, and a passenger in the minivan, said a fire department spokesman. None of the injuries were considered life-threatening, but students and others complaining of neck and back pains were treated on the scene and transported to local hospitals. The driver, van passenger, and all 11 students were transported to area hospitals. The bus is owned by AA Affordable Transportation, a contractor for the city school system.

Source: http://articles.baltimoresun.com/2012-10-16/news/bs-md-ci-school-bus-crash-20121016_1_school-bus-area-hospitals-chief-kevin-cartwright

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

Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to report

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

Agriculture and Food Sector

14. *October 17, Indiana Public Media* – (Indiana) **Indiana hog farmer fined for water contamination.** The Indiana Department of Environmental Management fined a Randolph County hog farmer for dumping 200,000 gallons of hog manure onto an open field, Indiana Public Media reported October 17. The manure from the farm eventually made its way into a local waterway, washed downstream, and killed more than 100,000 fish. The farmer must pay a \$1,000 fine and plant 550 trees. The Department of Natural Resources could implement a separate penalty for killing the fish.
Source: <http://indianapublicmedia.org/news/charge-farm-owner-draws-controversy-38161/>
15. *October 16, Food Safety News* – (Washington) **Salmonella outbreak at WA restaurant grows to 94.** At least 94 people were suspected to have been sickened with Salmonella from an On the Border restaurant in Vancouver, Washington, Food Safety News reported October 16. That number included 29 laboratory-confirmed cases and 65 probable cases. The bacteria strain at the center of the outbreak, Salmonella Virchow, is a relatively rare strain in the United States. The restaurant was allowed to reopen the week of October 15 after a temporary closure. Health officials stated that it may not be possible to determine the source of the outbreak.
Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2012/10/outbreak-cases-at-wa-restaurant-grow-to-94/>
16. *October 16, South Dakota State News* – (South Dakota) **Campylobacter bacteria found in raw milk produced by Black Hills Milk.** The South Dakota Department of Agriculture reported October 16 that Campylobacter bacteria was found in a sampling of raw milk from Black Hills Milk in Belle Fourche, South Dakota. The milk was sold at a retail outlet in Spearfish, a Black Hills Farmers Market, Founder’s Park in Rapid City, and other locations in the Black Hills.
Source: <http://news.sd.gov/newsitem.aspx?id=13701>
17. *October 16, U.S. Food and Drug Administration* – (National) **Torn and Glasser, Inc announces voluntary recall of Salted Virginia In-Shell Peanuts, and Organic Peanut Butter due to possible health risk.** Torn and Glasser, Inc., of Los Angeles, voluntarily recalled its Salted In-Shell product and one lot of Organic Peanut Butter because it has the potential to be contaminated with Salmonella. The Torn and Glasser recalled products contain peanuts supplied by Sunland. The product was distributed from November 9, 2011, to October 15, 2012, in 11 States. Product labels include: Gless Ranch, Sun Harvest, Tom and Glasser, and Sprouts.
Source: <http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/ucm324166.htm>
18. *October 16, WLUK 11 Green Bay* – (Wisconsin) **Fire causes \$1 million in damage to Rosendale Dairy.** Wisconsin’s largest dairy farm, Rosendale Dairy, suffered a barn fire October 16. Seven fire departments battled the blaze. Damages from the fire could exceed \$1 million. A spokesman for Milk Source LLC, which owns Rosendale Dairy, said the fire’s damage included an estimated \$500,000 in feed and the commodity shed, which has an estimated value between \$500,000 and \$1 million. According to the

spokesman, the fire started when a piece of farm equipment sparked and spread to grain in the barn. The farm produces 78,000 gallons daily, but the fire is not expected to interfere with the usual workload.

Source: http://www.fox11online.com/dpp/news/local/fox_cities/crews-battling-fire-at-rosendale-dairy

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

Water Sector

19. *October 17, KAYU 28 Spokane* – (Washington) **Contaminated water closes three schools, affects 1,600 homes.** Contaminated water within the Trentwood Irrigation District of Washington prompted the closure of three Spokane Valley Schools October 16, and affected 1,600 homes nearby. East Valley High School, East Valley Middle School, and Trentwood Elementary were all closed October 16, after Trentwood Irrigation notified the school district that a well pump malfunctioned, churning dirt into the water. While dirt was the only contaminant believed to be involved, Trentwood Irrigation recommended residents to boil their drinking water as a precaution, while water samples were tested. Residents living in the affected area told the media many of them were not notified of the contamination by the Trentwood Irrigation District, and felt they should have been. Trentwood Irrigation explained it does not have a mass-alert system, and relied on the school district and news reports to spread the word. Regardless of the results, school was back in session across the East Valley district October 17. The district would have bottled water on hand, just in case those test samples showed there was any cause for concern.
Source: <http://www.myfoxspokane.com/news/local-news/story/contaminated-water-closes-three-schools-affects-1600-homes>
20. *October 17, Associated Press* – (New York) **NY farmer, NJ company convicted of illegal dumping.** Federal authorities said a central New York farmer and a New Jersey waste management company owner were found guilty of conspiring to illegally dump tons of asbestos-contaminated construction debris on wetlands near New York's Mohawk River in 2006, the Associated Press reported October 17. Convicted of conspiracy to defraud the U.S. and violate the Clean Water Act and Superfund laws was the owner of the property in Frankfort, along with owner of Mazza & Sons Inc. A jury found them guilty October 16 after a 10-day trial in Utica, New York. Authorities said they were also convicted of obstructing justice and violating the Superfund law's requirement to report the release of toxic materials.
Source: <http://www.cnn.com/id/49446286>
21. *October 17, KSAT 12 San Antonio* – (Texas) **50,000 gallons of raw sewage spills on North Side.** Crews with San Antonio Water System (SAWS) were busy cleaning a sewage spill on the far North Side of San Antonio that fell over the recharge zone of the Edwards Aquifer, the city's main source of drinking water. The spill was reported October 15 near the Encino Rio Subdivision southwest of East Evans and Bulverde roads. SAWS said more than 50,000 gallons of raw sewage spilled into a dry creek bed after a pipe broke at a sewer lift station off Santa Lucia Road. Crews pumped the waste

out of the creek bed and hauled it away, but were expected to resume the cleanup process October 17.

Source: <http://www.ksat.com/news/50-000-gallons-of-raw-sewage-spills-on-North-Side/-/478452/17020662/-/ug634u/-/index.html>

22. *October 16, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency* – (New York) **EPA finalizes cleanup plan for Shenandoah Road Superfund site in East Fishkill, New York.** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) finalized its plan to clean up contaminated ground water at the Shenandoah Road Ground Water Contamination Superfund site in East Fishkill, New York, a press release October 16 stated. Past industrial activities contaminated the ground water with tetrachloroethene, commonly known as PCE, which is a volatile organic compound that can have serious health effects. The cleanup plan calls for the continued operation of a system that extracts and treats ground water coupled with natural processes to reduce the contaminants in the ground water. The ground water will continue to be periodically sampled to measure the effectiveness of both the ground water extraction and treatment system, and the natural processes. Land and ground water use restrictions will also be required. Between 1965 and 1975, Jack Manne Inc. rented the site in East Fishkill and operated a facility there to clean and repair computer chip racks supplied to it under a contract with International Business Machines Corp (IBM). In 2000, well sampling conducted by the New York State Department of Health indicated that residential wells in the vicinity of the facility were contaminated with PCE above the federal and State maximum contaminant levels. The Shenandoah Road site was placed on EPA's Superfund list of the nation's most hazardous waste sites in 2001, and EPA notified IBM and Jack Manne Inc. of their status as parties responsible for the cleanup.

Source:

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/d0cf6618525a9efb85257359003fb69d/65cd9259baa7188185257a99006043fb!OpenDocument>

23. *October 16, Environmental Protection* – (New York) **NYC commences huge upgrade of sewer and water infrastructure.** An infrastructure upgrade in New York City will cost \$69 million and is part of the Neighborhood Upgrade, which totals \$175 million in funds toward flood alleviation, Environmental Protection reported October 16. The project will include the installation of 84 catch basins, approximately 2.8 miles of new sewer lines, nearly 3 miles of water mains, new streets, and new sidewalks. The project will be managed by the City's Economic Development Corporation. Other tasks for the project include the creation of a Bluebelt, a wetland that both stores and treats stormwater runoff. Using green infrastructure principles, stormwater will be collected in the newly installed catch basins and discharged into wetlands where the water will be naturally filtered. All upgrades in Springfield Gardens are scheduled to be completed in 2014.

Source: <http://eponline.com/articles/2012/10/16/nyc-commences-huge-upgrade-of-sewer-and-water-infrastructure.aspx>

For another story, see item [14](#)

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

Public Health and Healthcare Sector

24. *October 17, Augusta Chronicle* – (Georgia) **1 dead; suspect in custody in University Hospital shooting.** A Lincolnton, Georgia man was shot twice and killed in a University Hospital room October 16, and a family member was taken into custody and charged with murder and possession of a firearm during the commission of a crime, according to a Richmond County sheriff's captain. Officials said the victim was the nephew of the suspect's wife, who was being treated for an undisclosed condition, and the two men had been involved in a longstanding dispute over family members. A hospital spokeswoman said the shooting took place after the victim and a male family member had an argument in a mutual relative's room on the hospital's general medicine floor. After the shooting, the suspect immediately put down the gun and surrendered to hospital security. He was in the custody of hospital security when sheriff's deputies arrived. There are no metal detectors or pat-downs to get into the hospital. University has its own security force, and its members were the first responders. The hospital will re-evaluate security procedures.

Source: <http://chronicle.augusta.com/news/crime-courts/2012-10-16/1-dead-suspect-custody-university-hospital-shooting?v=1350403825>

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

Government Facilities Sector

25. *October 17, Associated Press* – (International) **US Embassy Evacuated in Stockholm.** The U.S. Embassy in Stockholm, Sweden, was evacuated October 16 after receiving a letter containing an unknown substance, police said. Bomb disposal experts were sent to the embassy to remove the letter and analyze its contents. Streets around the embassy were closed, but reopened after police removed the letter. Police declined to give details on the content but a police spokesman told Swedish tabloid Expressen it contained some kind of "powder." It may have been dangerous, but it's not dangerous now," he added. An embassy spokesman said the embassy was evacuated and officials were investigating "a possible security incident" together with Swedish authorities, but declined to give other details.

Source: <http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/us-embassy-evacuated-stockholm-17497869#.UH60aKCBxII>

26. *October 17, Associated Press* – (Washington, International) **US-Canada crossing closed after agent shot.** A man driving a van with Washington State license plates shot and wounded a Canadian border guard October 16, then died of what police believe was a self-inflicted gunshot wound, a Canadian police official said. The shooting temporarily closed the Peace Arch crossing on the U.S.-Canada border. Drivers were diverted to other crossings. The officer was shot in the neck and suffered serious injuries, a Royal Canadian Mounted Police corporal told reporters. She was breathing and conscious when she was flown to a hospital. The man was attempting to cross into Canada from the United States, police said. The Canadian border officials will determine when the crossing will reopen, a Washington State Department of

Transportation spokeswoman said.

Source: <http://www.sfgate.com/news/article/US-Canada-crossing-closed-after-agent-shot-3953836.php>

27. *October 16, Associated Press* – (Washington) **Acid spill sends Spokane students home for day.** Fire officials in Spokane, Washington, said a hydrochloric acid spill in a stairwell sent students and staff members home October 16 from Lewis and Clark High School. A fire department HAZMAT crew responded and cleaned up the mess. The Spokane Spokesman-Review reported that a student science assistant was transporting the jug of the acid when the spill occurred. The assistant fire chief said the spill was likely inadvertent and there was no threat to students. There were no reported injuries or damage to the school. Classes resumed October 17.
Source:
http://seattletimes.com/html/localnews/2019448850_apwahighschoolacidspill.html

28. *October 16, KCEN 6 Temple* – (Texas) **Possible pipe bomb dismantled near Texas high school.** Deweyville High School in southeast Texas was evacuated October 16 after a possible pipe bomb was found within a half-mile of the school on a dirt road. Department of Public Safety troopers initially called it a pipe bomb, but later officials said they were not sure if the device was an explosive. The device was dismantled by agents from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, then sent to a lab to undergo testing.
Source: <http://www.kcentv.com/story/19836078/possible-pipe-bomb-demantled-near-texas-high-school>

For another story, see item [19](#)

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

Emergency Services Sector

29. *October 16, WXIN 59 Indianapolis* – (Indiana) **Delaware Co. officials work to fix emergency dispatch problem.** Delaware County, Indiana officials are working to fix a recurring problem with emergency communications between dispatchers and countywide fire departments. The latest problem occurred October 12 when a detached garage caught fire in Daleville. The Daleville fire chief said his volunteer department members never received any pages or calls about the fire. Nearby Yorktown firefighters also received no emergency tones. Ultimately, it was the Chesterfield Fire Department in neighboring Madison County who arrived after roughly 20 minutes had gone by. The garage was a total loss. The Delaware County 9-1-1 director said the 9-1-1 system was working fine. However, when dispatchers sent the call out to the fire departments, the call did not go through. He said a computer glitch had put a microwave transmitter on a Motorola tower into standby mode. So the Daleville and Yorktown Fire Departments never received the signal. The glitch also affected other fire departments and EMS services across the county. The director said the county tests the signal at 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. each day, so the glitch must have happened sometime during October 11 or October 12. After a second occurrence, the county is planning a new system to test and

confirm the emergency dispatch signal. Rather than twice a day, the signal will be tested once an hour.

Source: <http://www.fox59.com/news/wxin-delaware-co-officials-work-to-fix-emergency-dispatch-problem-20121016,0,1801112.column>

30. *October 16, USA Today* – (Texas) **Texas police buy high-flying, high-tech spy plane.** Texas has bought a \$7.4 million, high-flying surveillance aircraft, which State police claim will be used mostly for monitoring the Mexican border, according to the Center for Investigative Reporting, USA Today reported October 16. The Swiss-made Pilatus PC-12 NG Spectre, purchased in July, is being modified and will be delivered early 2013. Its surveillance gear is the same as that used by the pilotless U.S. drones in war zones and elsewhere around the globe. A Texas Department of Public Safety spokesman said the plane would operate mostly along the U.S.-Mexico border, and “serve as a tool in assisting specific joint operations that are clearly defined by area and duration.”

Source:

<http://www.democratandchronicle.com/usatoday/article/1637105?odyssey=mod|news|ell|text|Local News|s>

31. *October 16, Florida Today* – (Florida) **Misuse of 9-1-1 charge lands woman in jail, growing trend.** A woman was charged with six felony counts of misuse of 9-1-1 communications after dispatchers alerted the police to half a dozen calls placed October 13 in Brevard County, Florida. She remained at the Brevard County Jail October 16 on a \$3,000 bond. These calls are the latest in what 9-1-1 operators said is a growing trend of frivolous calls to the public service lifeline. They also are receiving accidental dials when a cell phone is involved. Last year, Palm Bay police reported handling 125,330 calls for service routed to the 9-1-1 dispatch center. Of those, 46,546 calls — including everything from shootings, robberies, heart attacks, and suspicious activities — came in on the 9-1-1 emergency lines. Then there are calls from citizens or bored children asking for directions, parade times, or other non-emergency inquiries, police said. The Brevard County State attorney’s office prosecuted 21 cases involving the deliberate misuse of 9-1-1 in 2011, statistics show. So far in 2012, the office has filed charges against 18 people with all of the cases pursued as misdemeanors, the State attorney’s office reports. A conviction could garner up to a year in jail.

Source: http://www.floridatoday.com/article/20121016/NEWS01/121016002/Misuse-9-1-1-charge-lands-woman-jail-growing-trend?gcheck=1&nlick_check=1

32. *October 15, Washington Post* – (National) **Prison crowding undermines safety, report says.** A recent Government Accountability Office (GAO) report on the Bureau of Prisons says inmate overcrowding undermines the safety of the agency’s staff, as well as that of the inmates, the Washington Post reported October 15. The prison facilities are crowded because the inmate population is growing faster than the bureau’s capacity. As the prison population grew 9.5 percent from 2006 through 2011, the agency’s capacity, increasing at 7 percent, did not keep up. Even with new facilities, the prison population grew from 136 percent of capacity to 139 percent, according to the GAO. While crowding has increased, the inmate-to-staff ratio has gone down. In fiscal year 2010, there were almost 1,700 assaults on bureau staff, according to an April

2011 GAO report.

Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/prison-crowding-undermines-safety-report-says/2012/10/15/ab77de02-16fc-11e2-a55c-39408f6e6a4b_story.html

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

Information Technology Sector

33. *October 17, IDG News Service* – (International) **High bandwidth DDoS attacks are now common, researcher says.** Distributed denial-of-service (DDoS) attacks with an average bandwidth over 20Gbps have become commonplace in 2012, according to researchers from DDoS mitigation vendor Prolexic. In 2011, such high-bandwidth attacks were isolated incidents, Prolexic’s president said October 16. Very few companies or organizations have the network infrastructure to handle such attacks. Prolexic released its global DDoS attack report for the third quarter October 17. According to the report, there is an 88 percent increase of attacks from the same quarter of 2011. However, compared to the second quarter of 2012, the number of attacks actually declined by 14 percent. The average attack bandwidth during the third quarter of 2012 was 4.9Gbps, which represents a 230 percent increase compared to 2011, and an 11 percent increase compared to the previous quarter. The average attack during the third quarter of 2012 lasted 19 hours, slightly longer than in the second quarter. The majority of attacks — over 81 percent — targeted the infrastructure layer, while 18.6 percent of attacks targeted the application layer. The top three countries where DDoS attacks originated were China with 35 percent of attacks, the United States with 28 percent, and India with 8 percent.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9232487/High_bandwidth_DDoS_attacks_are_now_common_researcher_says

34. *October 16, Softpedia* – (International) **Blackhole/Zeus threat comes via ‘You have blocked your Facebook account’ spam.** Malicious emails entitled “Verify your account” were spotted by security experts. The alerts are part of a cybercriminal campaign whose main goal is to lure users to Blackhole-infested, Zeus-serving Web sites. Fake Facebook notifications are becoming more and more interesting. Recently, instead of informing potential victims that their accounts were suspended by Facebook, spammers tell users they somehow blocked their own accounts. “You have blocked your Facebook account. You can reactivate your account whenever you wish by logging into Facebook with your former login email address and password” the shady emails read. GFI Labs experts indicate that the links from these messages are designed to take Internet users to compromised Web sites that further redirect them to fake Adobe Flash Player update sites.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/BlackHole-Zeus-Threat-Comes-Via-You-Have-Blocked-Your-Facebook-Account-Spam-299745.shtml>

35. *October 16, Threatpost* – (International) **Zero-day attacks thrive for months before disclosure.** Zero-day vulnerabilities and exploits dominate headlines and most heated information security discussions. However, there are relatively few of these attacks

hitting a small number of hosts, according to new research on the subject. Zero days get so much attention because of their effectiveness in compromising targets and avoiding detection. Two researchers from Symantec Research Labs examined a period of malware activity on a host of Symantec detection platforms from 2008 to 2011 and quantified the window of exposure organizations face from attacks that are active before vulnerabilities are publicly disclosed. The 18 attacks they discovered in that 3-year timespan lasted anywhere between 19 days and 30 months, an average of 312 days, or 10 months. That means organizations targeted by zero-day malware were likely compromised by a variety of malware attacking undisclosed vulnerabilities on a number of platforms. “For cyber criminals, unpatched vulnerabilities in popular software such as Microsoft Office or Adobe Flash represent a free pass to any target they might wish to attack, from Fortune 500 companies to millions of consumer PCs around the world,” the researchers wrote in a paper. Once zero-day vulnerabilities are publicly disclosed, attacks spike up, the researchers said, and most within 30 days of disclosure. “Cyber criminals watch closely the disclosure of new vulnerabilities in order to start exploiting them which causes a significant risk for end users,” the paper said.

Source: http://threatpost.com/en_us/blogs/zero-day-attacks-thrive-months-disclosure-101612

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

Nothing to report

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

Commercial Facilities Sector

36. *October 17, Augusta Chronicle* – (Georgia) **Bomb squad called to motel this morning; 1 arrested.** The Richmond County Bomb Squad was called to a Columbia County, Georgia hotel October 17 after police discovered a suspicious device. A Columbia County sheriff’s captain said officers were called to the Georgia Inn after a witness told police that a suspect showed her the explosive device and said she did not intend to use it at the hotel. It was intended use was against someone who killed a person in Hephzibah. After a prescription bottle with a .38 caliber bullet, potassium nitrate, matches, and wick were discovered a room, the building was evacuated. The Richmond County Bomb Squad was called to the scene to disengage the device and

render it safe. A Richmond county sheriff's captain said the results of the investigation were turned over to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. The suspect was charged with possession/manufacturing of a destructive device.

Source: <http://chronicle.augusta.com/news/crime-courts/2012-10-17/bomb-squad-called-motel-morning-1-arrested>

37. *October 17, Toledo Blade* – (Ohio) **3 killed, 2 wounded during domestic situation at Lake Township apartment complex.** Police in Lake Township, Ohio, shot and killed a gunman after he shot and killed his ex-girlfriend and their 3-year-old child October 16, in an incident in which two other people were wounded, the Lake Township police chief said. The adult victim and the suspect were pronounced dead at the scene, while the child was taken to an area hospital and later pronounced dead. Gunshots were heard and the crime was initially reported as a home invasion, the police chief said. When police arrived at the scene, an adult male was armed and outside the Eastpointe on the Mall complex on Laketon Terrace. The chief said through the investigation, authorities learned that the shooting incident began in a building off Lakepointe Drive.
Source: <http://www.toledoblade.com/Police-Fire/2012/10/17/5-people-shot-during-domestic-situation-at-Lake-Township-apartment-complex.html>
38. *October 17, Associated Press* – (Colorado) **5 dead in apparent arson-homicide at Denver bar.** Five people were found dead in a bar outside Denver where a fire broke out October 17, and police believed the blaze was set to cover up the murders. The fire at Fero's Bar & Grill was reported around closing time, the police chief said. Firefighters found four women and one man dead inside the bar. Police do not think they died in the fire. "The business has obviously been set on fire, an arson, I'm guessing, to mask the homicide that occurred inside," said a police commander. "There is just trauma, enough information to believe that we have a homicide that occurred here. They didn't perish in the fire," he said. The fire did not appear to be a very large one. No damage to the bar was visible from the street or aerial news coverage. The bar is located in a strip mall about five miles south of downtown Denver just outside of the Cherry Creek North shopping district on one of the city's busiest streets, Colorado Boulevard. Autopsies were expected to be conducted October 17.
Source: <http://www.seattlepi.com/news/article/5-dead-in-apparent-arson-homicide-at-Denver-bar-3956039.php>
39. *October 17, WCAU 10 Philadelphia* – (New York) **Bomb found at NY Home Depot part of extortion attempt: sources.** Law enforcement officials were investigating after someone left an explosive device at a Home Depot on Long Island, New York, and they are concerned the person may try to do it again, WNBC 4 New York reported October 17. The crude pipe bomb was left at the store on New York Avenue in Huntington as part of an extortion attempt, law enforcement sources said. A letter was also mailed there demanding money and describing where the bomb was inside the building. The letter had been sitting for some time in the store before it was opened October 15. It stated that if the money was not paid by Black Friday, November 23, more devices could be planted. Sources said the threat letter was mailed from Long Island. Responding police located the pipe bomb on a shelf behind some boxes. The pipe bomb was destroyed by the Suffolk County Bomb Squad October 15. Sources said

the bomb did not have a timer attached to it but if someone had opened the box containing the device, it could have detonated. The FBI joined Suffolk County Police in the investigation. They are working to find the suspect in case he or she tries to place other devices at other stores. Police across Long Island and in New York City have been made aware of the threat, as have Home Depot stores in the area, the sources said. Suffolk police said there were about 50 people in the store when it was shut down. Source: <http://www.nbcphiladelphia.com/news/national-international/Home-Depot-Pipe-Bomb-Huntington-Suffolk-County-New-York-Avenue-174451551.html>

40. *October 16, San Francisco Chronicle* – (California) **7 million damage in West Portal blaze.** The fire that burned through several buildings in San Francisco's West Portal neighborhood October 12, caused an estimated \$7.35 million in damages, fire officials said October 16. The fire was first reported at the Squat and Gobble restaurant, but it quickly spread to two neighboring buildings and disrupted the Muni train commute at the nearby station. The flames collapsed Squat and Gobble's attic, wreaking about \$900,000 in property damage and \$1 million in content damage, said a fire department spokeswoman. The building next door, which housed the wine bar Vin Debut, and an orthodontist's office, sustained about \$1.1 million in structural damage and \$3.5 million in content damage. The Ulloa Street building on the other side of Squat and Gobble was hit with about \$750,000 in property damage and \$100,000 in content damage. The building consisted of two businesses and several residential units, but nobody was displaced, according to the fire department. However, the two buildings on West Portal Avenue were red-tagged by the Department of Building Inspection and currently, no one is allowed inside. Two firefighters were injured in the fire. The cause of the blaze was still under investigation, but the spokeswoman said it did not appear to be suspicious. Source: <http://www.sfgate.com/bayarea/article/7-million-damage-in-West-Portal-blaze-3954297.php>

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

National Monuments and Icons Sector

41. *October 16, KVOA 4 Tucson* – (Arizona) **Wildfire forces closure of section of Tonto National Forest.** A section of Tonto National Forest in Arizona was temporarily closed while crews fought a wildfire that grew to an estimated 150 acres since it started October 14. The Big Canyon Fire was burning about 14 miles west of Payson and 2 miles west of the Tonto Fish Hatchery, in a rough and remote section of the Tonto National Forest. Forest Service officials said the fire was sparked by lightning. Additional ground and air resources arrived to fight the fire October 16. Officials expected the fire to be fully contained by October 28. Source: <http://www.kvoa.com/news/wildfire-forces-closure-of-section-of-tonto-national-forest/>

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

Dams Sector

42. *October 16, Associated Press* – (National) **Corps study cites vulnerabilities in wake of Missouri River flooding.** A study released by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers October 15, said the agency did what it could to manage the historic 2011 flooding on the Missouri River but that more repairs, research, and monitoring are needed to mitigate damage in future high flow years. The flooding began after the Corps released massive amounts of water from upstream reservoirs that had been filled with melting snow and heavy rains. The onslaught lasted for more than 100 days, busting levees, carving gouges up to 50 feet deep, and dumping debris on farmers' fields. The Corps said about \$400 million would be spent to fix damage along the Missouri River caused by the 2011 flooding. Most levee fixes are expected to be done before spring of 2013, with work on the dams expected to take longer. More funding might be required for the repairs, but the Corps said it was still evaluating the amount. The study also said more water gauges are needed on the Missouri River. It notes that between 1990 and 2010, 387 gauges that once were monitored by the U.S. Geological Survey were discontinued. Seventeen other gauges now provide less information.

Source: <http://www.columbiatribune.com/news/2012/oct/16/corps-study-cites-vulnerabilities-in-wake-of/>

[[Return to top](#)]



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