



Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report 23 October 2012

Top Stories

- Irish police caught a fugitive who was on the run for 3 years for \$75m mortgage fraud in the United States, the Irish Central reported October 22. Irish police caught the suspect peddling drugs in Dublin. – *Irish Central* (See item [8](#))
- Six employees of a Modesto, California bank were hospitalized October 19 after at least three of them broke out in hives shortly after a customer handed a bank teller money wrapped in a paper towel, authorities said. – *Modesto Bee* (See item [11](#))
- Authorities in Jordan disrupted a major terrorist plot by al-Qa’ida-linked operatives to launch near-simultaneous attacks on multiple civilian and government targets, reportedly including the U.S. Embassy in the capital, Amman, Western and Middle Eastern officials said October 22. – *Washington Post* (See item [20](#))
- A suspect shot seven women — killing three of them — inside the Azana Salon and Spa in Brookfield, Wisconsin, while using flammable liquid to fuel a fire, CNN reported October 22. – *CNN* (See item [35](#))

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Energy Sector

1. *October 21, KSLA 12 Shreveport* – (Louisiana) **Blown out gas well in Red River Parish shut in, evacuation lifted.** The evacuation of homes in Red River Parish, Louisiana, was lifted after a blown-out gas well was shut-in October 21. About 35 homes were evacuated within a 1 mile radius of the blowout. A Louisiana State Police trooper said it happened shortly before 7 p.m. October 21, near the intersection of Highways 71 and 514. A HAZMAT crew was called to the scene. No injuries were reported.
Source: <http://www.ksla.com/story/19876626/homes-evacuated-around-gas-well-blowout-in-red-river-parish>
2. *October 21, Associated Press* – (Pennsylvania) **Tornado confirmed in Pa. pavilion collapse.** Authorities confirmed that it was a tornado that blew through central Pennsylvania and caused a pavilion to collapse at a park, injuring 15 people and causing millions of dollars damage. The EF-1 tornado touched down October 19, and traveled about 16 miles from Fern Glen to Paradise in Lancaster County packing maximum winds of 100-110 mph, the National Weather Service said October 21. Officials said several dozen people attending a baseball game near Paradise sought shelter at the 40-foot by 40-foot pavilion, but high winds caused the structure to collapse. Police said 10-12 people were injured but the weather service put the injury total at 15. Authorities said most of the injuries were minor; one person had a broken bone. Officials said 50 structures were damaged. In Drumore Township, high-tension electrical towers bent to the ground left about 30,000 PPL customers without power, towers that PPL spokesman said were designed to hold up during heavy snow and strong winds. The tornado, which was up to 200 yards wide, was not on the ground the entire time, officials said.
Source: <http://www.timesunion.com/news/article/Tornado-confirmed-in-Pa-pavilion-collapse-3968877.php>

For more stories, see items [13](#) and [25](#)

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Chemical Industry Sector

3. *October 20, Associated Press* – (New Mexico) **Crews find chemicals in Albuquerque groundwater.** Crews working on an old Air Force fuel spill found potentially cancer-causing chemicals beneath a southeast Albuquerque, New Mexico neighborhood, Kirtland Air Force Base announced October 20. The New Mexico Environment Department said October 19 that Air Force crews found the pollutant Perchloroethylene, or PCE, in water around 500-feet underground while installing test wells. The department director said the chemicals likely came from a dry cleaner, and that the chemical is threatening groundwater and not residents in the neighborhood above the contamination. The discovery could trigger action under the federal Superfund law, a program aimed at the nation's most serious hazardous chemical

contamination problems.

Source: <http://www.sfgate.com/news/science/article/Crews-find-chemicals-in-Albuquerque-groundwater-3967009.php>

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

4. *October 22, Luzerne County Citizens Voice* – (Pennsylvania) **FEMA will conduct emergency drills at nuclear plant.** DHS's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will evaluate an emergency preparedness exercise at the Susquehanna Steam Electric Station in Salem Township, Pennsylvania, the week of October 22. The purpose of the exercise is to assess the State's ability to respond to an emergency at the nuclear facility. Within 90 days, FEMA will send its evaluation to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for use in licensing decisions. The final report will be available to the public approximately 120 days after the exercise. FEMA will present preliminary findings at a public meeting to be held October 26.
Source: <http://citizensvoice.com/news/fema-will-conduct-emergency-drills-at-nuclear-plant-1.1391598>
5. *October 22, Dominion; PRNewswire* – (Wisconsin) **Dominion to close, decommission Kewaunee Power Station.** October 22, Dominion said it plans to close and decommission its Kewaunee Power Station in Carlton, Wisconsin, after the company was unable to find a buyer for the 556-megawatt nuclear facility. Pending a grid reliability review by the Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator (MISO), the station was expected to cease power production in the second quarter of 2013 and move to safe shutdown. Dominion announced in April 2011 that it would seek to sell Kewaunee as part of a regular review of its portfolio of assets to determine which assets fit strategically and support its objectives to improve return on invested capital and shareholder value. The company was unable to find a buyer for the facility. The station will remain under the oversight of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) throughout the decommissioning process. Following station shutdown, Dominion plans to meet its obligations to the two utilities that purchase Kewaunee's generation through market purchases until the power purchase agreements expire in December 2013.
Source: <http://www.sacbee.com/2012/10/22/4929020/dominion-to-close-decommission.html>

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

6. *October 22, Reuters* – (National) **Nissan recalls new Altima in U.S. on loose steering bolts.** October 22, Reuters reported that Nissan is recalling 13,919 of its top-selling Altima sedans in the United States because bolts that may not have been tightened properly during production could fall off, increasing the risk of a crash, according to U.S. safety regulators. The Altima sedans are from the from the 2012 and 2013 model years and were made at the Nissan plant in Canton, Mississippi, from May 10 to July

26, Nissan North America told the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). “Some of the subject vehicles may have been manufactured with four transverse link bolts and two power steering rack bolts that were not torqued to the proper specification,” Nissan told regulators in a letter NHTSA showed on its Web site. As a result, the bolts may shake loose during driving, the letter states, and drivers may notice rattling noise. There was no mention of any injuries or crashes as a result of this issue on the NHTSA Web site. Altima owners will be asked to bring their cars into Nissan dealerships, where the bolts will be torqued to the proper specification, NHTSA said. The cars are under warranty protection.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/10/22/us-nissan-recall-altima-idUSBRE89L0LD20121022>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

7. *October 19, Nextgov* – (National) **Confused by Defense cyber threat alerts? A translation is on the way.** October 19, Nextgov reported that an expanded information-sharing program will potentially allow more than 2,600 defense suppliers access to classified Defense Department communications with select companies about indications of cyber threats, partly by adding context understandable to a wider audience, officials with the contractor responsible for the ramp-up said. The defense industrial base collaboration initiative started as a pilot program during summer 2011. In May, the Pentagon allowed the whole industry to join. Participants receive disclosures when the military detects signs of unfolding malicious campaigns so that their in-house technical teams can take protective measures. The Defense Department also distributes reports about breaches participating companies have suffered, after deleting identifying information to avoid exposing the weaknesses of competitors.

Source: <http://www.nextgov.com/cybersecurity/2012/10/confused-defense-cyber-threat-alerts-translation-way/58906/>

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Banking and Finance Sector

8. *October 22, Irish Central* – (California; International) **Police catch US soldier fugitive on run over \$75m mortgage fraud.** Irish police caught a fugitive who has been on the run for 3 years for \$75 million mortgage fraud in the U.S., Irish Central reported October 22. The former U.S. soldier will be deported back to the United States and into the custody of the FBI the week of October 22, the Irish Independent reported. Irish police caught him peddling drugs in Dublin. With an accomplice, he managed a finance company in Sacramento, California, and defrauded investors and mortgage companies of millions since 2006. They both vanished February 2, 2009. According to the Irish Independent, the former soldier traveled to Ireland with a false U.S. passport, and lived for a few years in rented apartments selling gold coins and precious metals over the Internet to reputable traders and dealers. He also later swapped his fake U.S. passport for a false Irish one under a synonym opened two bank accounts with Allied Irish bank

through which flowed tens of thousands of euros. After the gold ran out, he turned to drug dealing to make ends meet.

Source: <http://www.irishcentral.com/news/Police-catch-US-soldier-fugitive-on-run-over-75m-mortgage-fraud-175220331.html>

9. *October 21, Associated Press* – (Nebraska) **Neb. trio gets prison time for investment scheme.** Three people convicted October 17 in a fraudulent Nebraska investment scheme have been sentenced to prison and ordered to make restitution of more than \$16.6 million. Two were the principals of First Americans Insurance Service, which had been under investigation since a 2009 bankruptcy filing; one worked for them. First Americans, incorporated in 1980, had touted services to American Indian tribes in more than 20 States before it failed. Prosecutors said they solicited investments from private lenders who were told that their money was backed by secure annuities. Instead of buying annuities, the three used the money to support their business and personal expenses.

Source: <http://www.sfgate.com/news/article/3-Nebraskans-sent-to-prison-for-investment-scheme-3961665.php>

10. *October 19, U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation* – (Illinois; International) **Twin brothers indicted in \$7.2 million commodities fraud scheme.** Twin brothers who live in Russia were indicted on federal fraud charges for attempting to illegally turn a profit of \$7.2 million through manipulative trades in currency futures using the CME Group's electronic trading platform, the FBI announced October 19. The defendants allegedly engaged in matching trades using two different futures commission merchants in Chicago to obtain profits from one while not paying the corresponding losses to the other. They were each charged with 8 counts of wire fraud and 2 counts of commodities fraud in a 10-count indictment that was returned by a federal grand jury October 17 and announced October 19. Arrest warrants will be issued in the United States for both men.

Source: <http://www.loansafe.org/twin-brothers-indicted-in-7-2-million-commodities-fraud-scheme>

11. *October 19, Modesto Bee* – (California) **Hazmat scene at Modesto bank: 3 fall ill after man hands teller money.** Six employees of a Chase Bank in Modesto, California, were hospitalized October 19 after at least three of them broke out in hives shortly after a customer handed a bank teller money wrapped in a paper towel, authorities said. The man gave a teller a "large amount of money" to deposit in his account, according to a police sergeant. Minutes later, the teller broke out with hives and had trouble breathing. She came into contact with two other employees, who then exhibited similar symptoms. The county's Hazardous Materials Unit was called to the scene and the employees inside were isolated. Each employee was rinsed twice using fire hoses and then taken to hospitals. A fire department division chief said all six employees were improving that night. Two firefighters in "level A suits" entered the bank with sensitive equipment to test for gases, radiation, chemicals, and PH levels. They detected an unknown substance on the money, and at the teller's window where it was deposited. Determining the nature of the substance will require further testing at a lab, the division chief said. The police sergeant said detectives believed they identified

the man who brought the paper towel full of contaminated money to the bank, and an investigation into the case is ongoing.

Source: <http://www.modbee.com/2012/10/19/2420937/hazmat-scene-at-modesto-bank-3.html>

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Transportation Sector

12. *October 21, Chicago Sun-Times* – (Illinois; Michigan) **Amtrak train from Chicago derails in Michigan.** An Amtrak train headed from Chicago to Pontiac, Michigan, with 178 people onboard derailed October 21, reported the Chicago Sun-Times. Amtrak Wolverine Service Train 350 derailed about 2 miles east of Niles, Michigan, according to a release from Amtrak; no life-threatening injuries were reported. The train carried approximately 174 passengers and 4 crewmembers. Some non-life threatening injuries were reported and about a dozen people were taken to area hospitals, Amtrak said. All passengers and crew were evacuated from the train and transported from the scene, a release said. The train equipment was uprighted and put back on the tracks. Amtrak was investigating the incident to determine what occurred.
Source: <http://chicago.cbslocal.com/2012/10/21/amtrak-train-from-chicago-derails-in-michigan/>
13. *October 21, Associated Press* – (California) **Fuel spill causes morning LA commuter nightmare.** A fuel spill caused a morning commuter nightmare in Los Angeles. Something punctured a fuel tank on a northbound big-rig October 19, spilling diesel fuel across at least four freeway lanes. Road crews spread sand to soak up the fuel and all lanes reopened more than 4 hours later.
Source: http://www.mynews4.com/news/story/Fuel-spill-causes-morning-LA-commuter-nightmare/7z-Hzomi6EC4_YKt-35bzA.csp
14. *October 20, Associated Press* – (Arizona) **1 dead, 6 seriously injured in Arizona bus crash.** As a Silver State Trailways tour bus traveled northbound on Highway 93 and approached the Nevada State line, the driver suffered a medical episode and lost control of the bus, according to authorities, the Associated Press reported October 20. October 19, the vehicle hit a ravine, tore up a small hill, then bounced and lurched over rough terrain for more than 700 feet before stopping, investigators said. Silver State Trailways said their driver may have suffered a heart attack. The driver died and 48 passengers, mostly from Asia and Europe, were injured, authorities said. The six most seriously hurt were flown by helicopter to Las Vegas where a hospital spokeswoman said they were being treated for non-life-threatening injuries. The other 15 victims with less severe injuries were taken to area hospitals.
Source: <http://www.newstimes.com/news/us/article/1-dead-4-seriously-injured-in-Arizona-bus-crash-3966165.php>
15. *October 19, WTOP 103.5 FM Washington, D.C.* – (Maryland; Washington, D.C.) **Inner Loop reopens after 2 tractor-trailer accidents.** All lanes of Washington D.C.'s Capital Beltway's Inner Loop at Old Georgetown Road reopened after two tractor-

trailer accidents October 19. Authorities completely opened the lanes roughly 9 hours after the first accident and 5 1/2 hours after the second accident. The first tractor-trailer, which was hauling kitchen cabinets, hit the guardrail and jackknifed, according to the Maryland State Highway Administration. Maryland State Police said as the truck was being removed its fuel tank ruptured. As the second tractor-trailer approached the first accident scene, police said it then jackknifed. The accidents occurred between Old Georgetown Road and Md. 355. The fuel tank of the second tractor-trailer, which was hauling building materials, also ruptured.

Source: <http://www.wtop.com/41/3084617/Inner-Loop-closed-after-2-tractor-trailer-accidents>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to report

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Agriculture and Food Sector

16. *October 19, U.S. Food and Drug Administration* – (National) **The Raymond-Hadley Corporation expands allergy alert on undeclared milk contamination in Wegmans 17.2 oz. Gluten Free Double Chocolate Brownie Mix to include possible additional undeclared allergen contamination from pecans.** The Raymond-Hadley Corp. of Spencer, New York, expanded its recall October 19 of Wegmans Gluten Free Double Chocolate Brownie Mix 17.2-ounce, UPC 077890283363, to include possible contamination of the undeclared allergen pecans. The product was distributed in the United States through Wegmans retail stores. The mixes were packaged under the Wegmans brand in chipboard boxes with enjoy by dates between March 17, 2014, and October 30, 2014. As of October 12, 2012, two reports of rash were received.
Source: <http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/ucm324813.htm>
17. *October 18, U.S. Food and Drug Administration* – (National) **Gilster - Mary Lee Corp. issues allergy alert on undeclared tree nuts in Better Valu Fruit Whirls Ready to Eat Cereal.** Gilster-Mary Lee of Chester, Illinois, voluntarily recalled one lot of Better Valu Fruit Whirls cereal because it contains undeclared almond butter. The product is packaged in 28-ounce plastic bags, has a best by date of July 17, 2013, and UPC 79801-24630. The product was distributed between July 24 and October 16, 2012, to retail stores in 13 States. Gilster-Mary Lee Corp. became aware of the mis-packaging after receiving a customer complaint. Investigation into the complaint confirmed some bags of the Fruit Whirls inadvertently contained Honey Nut Toasted Oats cereal.
Source: <http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/ucm324750.htm>

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Water Sector

18. *October 22, WIFR 23 Rockville* – (Illinois) **Chemical found in Rockford water still present one year later.** A chemical found in well water on Rockford’s northwest side more than a year ago is still there, WIFR 23 Rockville reported October 21. The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) said they were currently working with legal teams to figure out the best way to remove the benzene. Last summer, the Winnebago County Health Department found water contamination in several private wells in the neighborhood east of the Cottonwood Airport. Residents were permanently hooked up to city water. The EPA spokespeople said there was still a potential hazard due to vapor seeping into buildings. However, they would not say whether there have been any reports of vapor in buildings.

Source: <http://www.wifr.com/news/headlines/Chemical-Found-in-Rockford-Water-Still-Present-One-Year-Later-175173791.html?ref=791>

19. *October 21, Alaska Dispatch* – (Alaska) **Lawyers clean up in Unalaska’s EPA wastewater fight.** The city of Unalaska, Alaska, paid more than a half-million dollars in legal fees fighting the federal lawsuit requiring the construction of a new sewage treatment plant, water treatment plant, and a new leachate tank, the Alaska Dispatch reported October 21. The city paid two law firms, one from Anchorage, Alaska, and one from Washington, D.C., a total of \$525,000. A city council member said the move saved the city money compared to the originally proposed fine of about \$150 million. The city instead paid a fine of \$340,000 for multiple violations of the federal Clean Water Act, under the terms of a consent decree with the U.S. Department of Justice, representing the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The consent decree, which avoids a trial, requires the city to spend tens of millions of dollars on new water and sewer facilities, and will require a steep increase in utility rates paid by property owners. The new sewage plant will provide an additional level of treatment, known as secondary treatment, a requirement of the consent decree, which avoided a “lengthy and expensive trial” for 4,870 violations of the Clean Water Act.

Source: <http://www.alaskadispatch.com/article/lawyers-clean-unalaskas-epa-wastewater-fight>

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

Nothing to report

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Government Facilities Sector

20. *October 22, Washington Post* – (International) **Jordan disrupts major al-Qaeda terrorist plot.** Authorities in Jordan disrupted a major terrorist plot by al-Qa’ida-linked operatives to launch near-simultaneous attacks on multiple civilian and government targets, reportedly including the U.S. Embassy in the capital, Amman, Jordan, Western and Middle Eastern officials said October 21. The Jordanian government issued a statement describing the plot and saying that 11 people with connections to al-Qa’ida’s affiliate in Iraq have been arrested. The foiled attack, described as the most serious plot uncovered in Jordan since at least 2005, was viewed with particular alarm by intelligence agencies because of its sophisticated design and the planned use of munitions intended for the Syrian conflict — a new sign that Syria’s troubles could be spilling over into neighboring countries, the officials said. The alleged plotters are Jordanian nationals. The officials said the group had amassed a stockpile of explosives and weapons from Syrian battlefields and devised a plan to use military-style tactics in a wave of attacks across Amman. The scheme called for multiple strikes on shopping centers and cafes as a diversionary tactic to draw the attention of police and security officials, allowing other operatives to launch attacks against the main targets, which included government buildings and embassies. A Western official briefed on details of the plot confirmed that the heavily fortified U.S. Embassy in Amman was among the targets. The Jordanian government’s statement said its intelligence service had broken up a cell that had been planning the attacks since June, arresting 11 people described as “supporters” of al-Qa’ida in Iraq. The State Department had no immediate comment on the plot and declined to confirm or deny that the U.S. Embassy in Amman had been on the target list.

Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/jordan-disrupts-major-al-qaeda-terrorist-plot/2012/10/21/e26354b4-1ba7-11e2-9cd5-b55c38388962_story.html?hpid=z3

21. *October 19, Huffington Post* – (Texas) **Bomb threat at Texas A&M University prompts evacuation.** Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas, was evacuated by administrators in response to a bomb threat October 19. The university alerted students electronically to the threat. Texas A&M spokesman told the Associated Press that an anonymous person called the university with the threat. All classes were cancelled for approximately 50,000 students.

Source: http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/10/19/bomb-threat-at-texas-am-u_n_1988015.html

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

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Emergency Services Sector

22. *October 22, Meadville Tribune* – (Pennsylvania) **Equipment stolen from Pennsylvania Fire Department.** More than \$25,000 in equipment was taken from

Greenwood Township Volunteer Fire Department in Pennsylvania. The theft at the department's fire hall was discovered October 18. Fire radios, lights, a thermal imaging camera system, a 42-inch flat screen TV from the fire hall lounge, and even one set of firefighter apparel and gear were taken, according to Pennsylvania State Police at Meadville. The break-in took place sometime between October 17 and October 18 when a back door of the fire hall was found forced open by one of the firemen, said the fire department chief.

Source: <http://www.officer.com/news/10817568/equipment-stolen-from-pennsylvania-fire-department>

23. *October 21, Associated Press; WFTV 9 Orlando* – (Florida) **Sheriff's helicopter pilots blinded by laser light.** The Seminole County, Florida Sheriff's Office said its helicopter pilots had to stop pursuing a burglary suspect because they were blinded by a laser pointer aimed at them from the ground, the Associated Press reported October 21. The chief pilot told WFTV 9 Orlando that the man said he shined the laser at the helicopter because he wanted to see how far the beam could stretch. The sheriff's office said the pilots were temporarily blinded as the laser flashed through the cockpit eight times. The helicopter was 800 feet off the ground. Authorities said the man faces multiple charges. The FBI and the Federal Aviation Administration also are investigating.

Source: <http://www.abc-7.com/story/19873330/sheriffs-helicopter-pilots-blinded-by-laser-light>

24. *October 21, Salt Lake City Deseret News* – (Utah) **Accident with stolen police car hospitalizes 4, including suspect.** A severe accident in Salt Lake City involving a stolen police car October 21 left four people hospitalized, including the suspect, and sparked three police investigations. The executive officer for the South Salt Lake Police Department said the man accused of stealing the car was taken from the scene in serious condition. The theft occurred at a cafe October 21. The officer exited the cafe and unlocked the vehicle using a key fob, he said. The suspect, who police said must have been hiding next to the police car, hopped in and immediately sped off. The officer called in the theft, starting an immediate pursuit by nearby police crews. The suspect was outpacing the pursuing officers when he crashed the vehicle minutes later, the executive officer said. Two cars were hit in the accident; the victims were all transported to a nearby hospital. According to the executive officer, three agencies will be investigating the incident: Salt Lake City Police, Utah Highway Patrol, and South Salt Lake City Police.

Source: <http://www.deseretnews.com/article/865564953/Accident-with-stolen-police-car-hospitalizes-4-including-suspect.html>

25. *October 21, Associated Press* – (Nebraska) **12 injured after gas leak at jail in Lincoln, Neb.** Officials were monitoring carbon monoxide levels at the Lancaster County jail after paramedics took 12 people to a hospital. The Lincoln Journal Star reported that paramedics were called to the jail in downtown Lincoln, Nebraska, October 21, after some people at the jail reported vomiting or feeling light-headed. Some of the victims were inmates, but they were all escorted to the hospital. The Lincoln Fire and Rescue battalion chief said none of the injuries appeared to be life-

threatening. He said malfunctioning equipment caused the jail's cafeteria to be flooded with carbon monoxide. The Lancaster County jail is part of the complex of buildings that includes courts and offices for city and county officials.

Source: <http://www.timesunion.com/news/article/12-injured-after-gas-leak-at-jail-in-Lincoln-Neb-3969508.php>

26. *October 20, WFAA 8 Dallas-Fort Worth* – (Texas) **Early morning siren malfunction still confounds Fort Worth officials.** Fort Worth, Texas officials are still trying to figure out what went wrong to cause the entire emergency warning siren system to activate October 18. City leaders said 153 sirens blared a false alarm across the city. October 19, officials continued to focus on a control box that monitors and controls the system. It sits in a rack of equipment in the Emergency Operations Center. The emergency management coordinator said they have been unable to replicate the problem. The city has sent data from the box to the manufacturer to be analyzed. If it cannot be diagnosed, the unit will be replaced. Meanwhile, the emergency management coordinator said the system would still function in case of a real emergency.
Source: <http://www.wfaa.com/news/local/Early-morning-siren-malfunction-still-confounds-Fort-Worth-officials-174990581.html>
27. *October 20, Associated Press; KTUU 2 Anchorage* – (Alaska) **Anchorage man charged for pitching drugs into prison.** Alaska State Troopers said a man has been charged with smuggling drugs into an Anchorage women's prison, the Associated Press and KTUU 2 Anchorage reported October 20. Officials at Hiland Mountain Correctional Center told troopers they intercepted a package thrown over the prison fence September 25 that contained heroin, syringes, and chewing tobacco. Troopers October 17 arrested a man and charged him with two counts of promoting contraband, two counts of drug misconduct, criminal trespass, and violating conditions of his release. He is being held at the Anchorage Jail with bail set at \$10,000. Investigators said he was attempting to get the package to a woman who was released from custody. Troopers said a warrant has been issued for her involvement in the case. She was charged with promoting contraband, attempted drug misconduct, and violating release conditions.
Source: <http://www.ktuu.com/news/ktuu-anchorage-man-charged-for-pitching-drugs-into-prison-20121020,0,5715199.story>

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Information Technology Sector

28. *October 22, Help Net Security* – (International) **Increase in drive-by attacks and infected emails.** In August and September, the research team from Eleven, a German email security provider, recorded a significant increase in malware sent via email. The most significant growth was reported for drive-by attacks in which emails link to manipulated Web sites that infect the users' computers when opened in a browser. Between August and September, the number of such attacks increased more than 80-fold and their share of overall spam levels increased from 0.1 percent to 9.5 percent. However, that growth was not at the expense of "classic" malware email, which

contains malware as an attachment: the number of malware emails increased by 119 percent in September and by 252.8 percent as compared to the same month in 2011. Virus outbreaks remained roughly at the previous month's level (-5.7 percent), but increased by 50.5 percent in August. The plus was 186.4 percent as compared to September 2011.

Source: http://www.net-security.org/malware_news.php?id=2299

29. *October 22, Softpedia* – (International) **Cybercriminals found to sell access to servers housed by Fortune 500 companies.** Security professionals often warn about the risks posed by using the Remote Desktop Protocol (RDP) service without making sure that it is properly secured. As it turns out, cybercriminals are relying on the service to compromise machines and sell access to them via underground markets. A security journalist discovered a Russian Web site called [dedicatexpress\(dot\)com](http://dedicatexpress.com), which claims to sell access to around 17,000 computers from all around the world. It appears these machines were compromised because their owners failed to set strong RDP passwords, allowing the attackers to easily take them over. [Dedicatexpress\(dot\)com](http://dedicatexpress.com) offers its services to anyone who is willing to contact the owner via instant messaging and pay a registration fee of \$20.
Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Cybercriminals-Found-to-Sell-Access-to-Servers-Housed-by-Fortune-500-Companies-301104.shtml>
30. *October 20, Softpedia* – (International) **Second DDoS attack hits GitHub, some repositories temporarily unavailable.** A second distributed denial-of-service (DDoS) attack has hit the popular code repository GitHub. This one came only hours after a similar cyberattack forced the site's services to go offline. "Pages is currently being hit with a DoS attack. We're working to mitigate the attack," GitHub representatives wrote on the status page. The incident caused "a small percentage" of repositories to become unavailable while a fileservers pair was being recovered. It appeared they were unable to implement the additional cyberattack mitigation strategies they mentioned after they stabilized the site's performance October 18. The first attack disrupted the site for around 1 1/2 hours and the second one caused an outage that lasted for approximately 2 hours. It is uncertain if the attacks are related in any way, but starting with October 14, GitHub representatives reported experiencing problems each day.
Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Second-DDOS-Attack-Hits-GitHub-Some-Repositories-Temporarily-Unavailable-300890.shtml>
31. *October 19, Softpedia* – (International) **Experts develop malware that's capable of bypassing antivirus solutions.** Security researchers developed a USB dropper/spreader capable of bypassing all of the popular commercial antivirus products utilized by Internet users worldwide. The antivirus programs that currently exist are designed to identify threats based on their signatures or on their behavior. Normally, if the malware gets by one system, the other one should detect it. However, researchers demonstrated there is a way to create malicious elements that can spread from one computer to the other without being detected. A security researcher specialized in reverse engineering and software security created a virus whose behavior is not cataloged by any antivirus solution as being malicious. The purpose of this test malware was to copy a presumably malicious file to a USB drive and create an autorun.inf file on the targeted device

without being detected. The “malicious element” would constantly search for the presence of removable disks. If one is found, it would be scanned to determine if it is already infected. If it is not, the autorun.inf file and a malicious executable would be copied onto it.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Experts-Develop-Malware-That-s-Capable-of-Bypassing-Antivirus-Solutions-300747.shtml>

32. *October 18, Ars Technica* – (International) **Demo of ‘serious’ networking vulnerabilities cancelled at HP’s request.** A presentation at the Toorcon 14 security conference October 20 was to highlight risks posed by gear from H3C and Huawei. A researcher identified security vulnerabilities in network equipment from Huawei and H3C, details he planned to publish at the conference. Two days earlier, H3C’s owners, HP, contacted the researcher by voicemail and email asking him to refrain from doing so. The researcher discovered the vulnerabilities in July and reported them in August, roughly in parallel with another researcher’s presentation on vulnerabilities in Huawei routers at Defcon. The first researcher assessed his independently discovered vulnerabilities as critical and planned to present workarounds enabling affected users to mitigate the risks in his presentation.

Source: <http://arstechnica.com/security/2012/10/demonstration-of-serious-networking-vulns-cancelled-at-hps-request/>

For another story, see item [36](#)

Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at sos@us-cert.gov or visit their Web site: <http://www.us-cert.gov>

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Web site: <https://www.it-isac.org>

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Communications Sector

33. *October 22, Computerworld; IDG News Service* – (International) **Huawei gear is secure, say U.S. network service providers.** Responding to a congressional report warning U.S. businesses not to buy equipment from Huawei Technologies or ZTE, three U.S.-based telecommunications companies that use Huawei products said they take strong precautions to safeguard their networks, Computerworld reported October 22. The report, by the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, said the possibility that the two Chinese companies have ties to the Chinese government raises the prospect that China is using their gear to conduct electronic espionage. After the report was issued, three Huawei customers — Clearwire, Cricket Communications, and Level 3 Communications — defended their choices. The Chinese government slammed the congressional report. A Commerce Ministry spokesman said in a statement that the report “was based on subjective suspicions and inaccuracies” and made “groundless accusations against China.”

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9232579/Huawei_gear_is_secure_say_U.S._network_service_providers?

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Commercial Facilities Sector

34. *October 22, WJBK 2 Detroit; Associated Press* – (Michigan) **Fire destroys 3 boats, damages 4th at Chesterfield Twp. marina.** Three boats were destroyed and a fourth damaged at a Macomb County, Michigan marina by an owner preparing his vessel for winter storage. Chesterfield Township police said shrink wrap was being applied to one boat October 21 when the fire started at the marina in Chesterfield Township. The fire captain told the Macomb Daily each of the boats were 30 feet and longer. Damage was estimated at \$500,000. The marina is northeast of Detroit. Firefighters from nearby Selfridge Air National Guard Base pumped about 200 gallons of foam to smother the blaze and soak up spilled fuel.
Source: <http://www.myfoxdetroit.com/story/19878320/fire-destroys-3-boats-damages-4th-at-chesterfield-twp-marina>
35. *October 22, CNN* – (Wisconsin) **Wisconsin police: After domestic violence arrest, suspect kills 3 — and himself.** A suspect gunned down seven women, killing three of them, inside the same Azana Salon and Spa in Brookfield, Wisconsin, while using flammable liquid to fuel a fire, CNN reported October 22. The building’s sprinkler system helped subdue that small blaze, the Brookfield Police chief said. As for the suspect, he apparently died from a self-inflicted gunshot wound. Authorities were still working to identify the victims, including trying to determine whether one of them was the suspect’s wife. The first calls came into police about an active shooter across from the Brookfield Square Mall and near the Westmoor Country Club, all about 11 miles west of Milwaukee. Law enforcement officers from various agencies soon converged on the scene. They found smoke in the building from a fire believed to be started by the suspect. Inside too was a small propane tank. The police chief said it was not clear whether the suspect left it there or whether it had been left by contractors working on the building. Four gunshot victims also soon got out of the salon and were transported to a hospital in Milwaukee. That medical facility was locked down as the manhunt continued for the shooting suspect. Hours later, authorities found the suspect’s body and declared the event over. Authorities described a contentious recent history between the suspect and his wife. A restraining order against him was filed 4 days after an October 4 tire slashing, with a 4-year restriction being dictated October 18.
Source: http://www.cnn.com/2012/10/21/us/wisconsin-shooting/index.html?hpt=ju_c2
36. *October 22, Softpedia* – (International) **Billabong hacked again, hackers claim to have obtained 37,000 account details.** Hackers from Goatse Security said they stole “valuable information” from the systems of BillaBong, a popular casual clothing and sportswear manufacturer. “We goatsesec hold valuable information from the Billabong database, we recently accessed the database from a PHP security flaw and figured that we’d exploit it,” the hackers wrote. “Also, more than 37,000 users are at risk due to this

attack, we have a little spoiler for you, hours from now or even DAYS you will see the damage that can be done to a website because they cannot secure themselves.” The “spoiler” consists of around a dozen usernames and password hashes, including ones that belong to the Web site’s administrators. If their claims are true, it would not be the first time when Billabong’s Web site was breached. In July, WikiBoat hackers penetrated the company’s systems and leaked some 20,000 email addresses, usernames, and passwords. At the time, the company’s representatives issued a statement, promising to reinforce their security measures to avoid future incidents.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Billabong-Hacked-Again-Hackers-Claim-to-Have-Obtained-37-000-Account-Details-301035.shtml>

37. *October 22, KNBC 4 Los Angeles* – (California) **Video released of firebomb attack in Long Beach.** October 21, police released surveillance video showing a brazen firebomb attack that left a man with burns from the waist down as he sat outside a busy market in Long Beach, California. Police released the video to see if they can find the person responsible for the October 19 attack. It occurred when the suspect threw a Molotov cocktail at the victim while he was outside El Paisano Ranch Market, said a Long Beach police sergeant. The video shows a ball of fire as a man was seen running from the scene. At the moment the bottle hits the ground, the fire explodes, barely missing a mother with a baby in a stroller. The firebombing victim was taken to the hospital where he was in serious condition, with serious burns to the lower part of his body, his hands, and his face, police said. Police said it did not appear the victim and suspect knew each other and the case is likely not gang related.

Source: <http://www.nbclosangeles.com/news/local/Video-Released-Firebomb-Attack-Long-Beach-175179331.html>

38. *October 22, Tallahassee Democrat* – (Florida) **Fla. penthouse floor collapse injures 55.** A party in an apartment complex penthouse in Tallahassee, Florida, turned into a scene of chaos when the floor collapsed, sending guests plummeting into the clubhouse below. Neighbors heard panicked screams October 21 when the floor gave way. Fifty-five people were injured, including many who fell through the floor. Officials have not determined why the floor collapsed in the four-bedroom apartment. Officials, including city inspectors, were scheduled to continue work October 22 to learn what happened. Estimated damage to the apartment was about \$250,000. About 100 party-goers were thought to have been in the apartment at the time of the collapse, based on witness accounts, said a spokesman with the Tallahassee Fire Department. A Tallahassee Police Department spokeswoman said none of the injuries were life threatening. She said the majority were “broken bones and sprains.” The fire department spokesman said a dozen people were transported to hospitals. “Due to the high number of patients, a mass-casualty plan was exercised and all responding agencies worked under a unified command to mitigate the incident safely and efficiently,” he said in a statement.

Source:

<http://www.coshoctontribune.com/usatoday/article/1648911?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|Frontpages>

39. *October 21, San Francisco Chronicle* – (California) **15 evacuated after apparent S.F. suicide.** Two four-story buildings in North Beach, California, were evacuated October

20 after a resident was found dead from inhaling poisonous gas. A third party called from outside the Bay Area alerted San Francisco police to a suicide attempt. Emergency responders were confronted by “a strong odor of rotten eggs, indicative of a deadly release of hydrogen sulfide,” said the San Francisco Fire Department battalion chief. The hazardous materials unit was summoned, and 15 residents were escorted outside, where they were comforted by Red Cross workers. “The release of this gas in such a densely populated area represented a potentially extreme hazard for many individuals,” the battalion chief said. After clearing the two buildings, firefighters in protective equipment entered the first-floor unit and found the victim. By midnight, the hazard was neutralized and removed, and residents were allowed to return to their units over 4 hours after the evacuation. Only the unit where the victim was found remained sealed-off pending investigation by the police homicide unit.

Source: <http://www.sfgate.com/bayarea/article/15-evacuated-after-apparent-S-F-suicide-3969530.php>

For another story, see item [2](#)

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

Nothing to report

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Dams Sector

40. *October 22, Sioux City Journal* – (National) **Corps progressing on Missouri River repairs.** In 2011, sections of Missouri River levees in southwest Iowa and northwest Missouri were in ruins. As soon as flood waters receded, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers began planning construction projects, and mild fall and winter weather allowed contractors to make critical repairs before the spring snow melt and runoff season, the Sioux City Journal reported October 22. Levee breaches near Percival, Hamburg, and Rockport, Missouri, were all fixed by March, said the chief of the Corps of Engineers’ Omaha District Systems Restoration Team. In December, Congress passed the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act, which provided \$1.7 billion to the corps for flood-related repairs. The Omaha District received \$534 million of that total. Levee rehabilitation is expected to be completed by March. The Corps has awarded 98 contracts totaling \$145 million for repairs to dams and navigation channel structures, with another four contracts expected to cost \$56 million yet to be awarded. The majority of work at the dam projects is expected to be done by the end of 2014. Channel-control structure repairs are expected to be done in 2015.

Source: http://siouxcityjournal.com/news/local/a1/corps-progressing-on-missouri-river-repairs/article_627265a9-49b5-52e3-8420-0dd068028d8d.html

41. *October 21, Fort Wayne Journal-Gazette* – (Indiana) **State disputes dam-risk rank.** In their role of protecting the public from a catastrophic dam breach, Indiana officials

have long known they had a credibility problem. As they prod the owners of private dams to make repairs, the State itself owns dams in various stages of decay, the Fort Wayne Journal Gazette reported October 21. In 2005, about half of the high- and significant-hazard dams owned by the State, those that could cause loss of life or property damage if breached, needed significant repairs or maintenance. State officials point to several measures they have taken to improve dam safety, especially among State-owned dams and they take issue with a recent report that ranks Indiana high for the number of regulated hazardous dams needing repairs. Of Indiana's 239 high-hazard dams, almost 8 in 10 are either fair or conditionally poor, according to data provided by the Department of Natural Resources. Only two, both in Johnson County south of Indianapolis, are listed as unsatisfactory. Of the 18 that are State-owned, 12 are fair or conditionally poor; 1 was listed in poor condition. More than half of Indiana's high-hazard dams are privately owned.

Source: <http://www.journalgazette.net/article/20121021/LOCAL/310219928>

42. *October 20, Michigan Capital Confidential* – (Michigan) **Dam removal mishap raises more questions, concerns.** Questions continue to swirl as to why the Brown River Dam removal process on Grand Traverse county's Boardman River in Michigan resulted in a breach early in October. The breach nearly drained the river above the dam, causing flood-damage to an estimated 53 homes downriver, deposited untold amounts of contaminated sediment downriver and, for some, called into question the wisdom of removing the dam in the first place, the Michigan Capital Confidential reported October 20. The drawdown of the Brown Bridge Pond occurred October 6. The two engineering firms contracted to remove the dam, AMEC and Traverse City's Molon Excavating, constructed a "dewatering structure" adjacent to the dam to drain the water upstream gradually over two weeks. "Instead, the entire pond rushed into the river in a few hours, raising the water level five feet and swamping at least 53 properties," according to the Traverse City Record-Eagle. The dam removal Implementation Team awarded a \$2.9 million contract to AMEC and Molon Excavating to proceed with the Brown River Dam removal. An official said the Department of Environmental Quality investigation would require a further drawdown of water above the Brown River dam to examine the dame structure.

Source: <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/17693>

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