



Homeland
Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report

24 October 2012

Top Stories

- The extended shutdown of a sister company of the pharmacy at the center of the deadly U.S. meningitis outbreak may exacerbate drug shortages for some hospitals and healthcare providers as the number of infection cases neared 300, U.S. health regulators said October 22. – *Reuters* (See item [18](#))
- Five Points Correctional Facility in Seneca County, New York, was put on lockdown after a riot the weekend of October 20 injured six officers. The lockdown was expected to last through the end of the week of October 22. – *WHAM 13 Rochester* (See item [22](#))
- A New York City Police Department (NYPD) officer admitted to stealing guns from police lockers and selling them to drug dealers to pay for his addiction to painkillers. He pleaded guilty October 22 to selling four stolen NYPD-issued guns and an additional pistol that belonged to him. – *Associated Press* (See item [23](#))
- Web sites that use Amazon’s AWS cloud-computing service for hosting were down as it experienced “degraded performance” in its northern Virginia zone October 22. The sites included Reddit, Coursera, Flipboard, FastCompany, Foursquare, Netflix, Pinterest, and Airbnb. – *Forbes* (See item [35](#))

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Energy Sector

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Chemical Industry Sector

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

1. *October 22, Associated Press* – (Washington) **Energy Dept.: Slow leak in Hanford waste tank.** There is a slow leak in the oldest double-shell waste tank at Hanford, Washington’s Hanford Nuclear Reservation that is allowing highly radioactive and hazardous waste to leak between the inner and outer shells, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) said October 22. No waste was believed to have leaked from the outer shell into the soil beneath the underground tank, the agency said. While the exact amount was not known, the agency said a couple tablespoons of additional waste was seen between October 18 and October 21. The tank is one of 28 double-shell containers used to hold waste from older, single-shell tanks. They hold 56 million gallons of radioactive waste from production of weapons plutonium until it can be treated for disposal. The tank is roughly 40 years old and contains about 850,000 gallons of sludge and liquid waste. Plans call for twice-weekly visual inspections using cameras and regular checks of liquid levels inside the primary tank, said the assistant manager for the Tank Farms Project. He added that his people are “working collaboratively” with the Washington Ecology Department to determine what to do next and to “ensure that we are effectively protecting the public and the environment.” Routine monitoring has

not detected leaks in any other double-shell tanks, DOE said.

Source: <http://www.timesunion.com/business/energy/article/Energy-Dept-slow-leak-in-Hanford-waste-tank-3972494.php>

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

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Banking and Finance Sector

2. *October 22, Reuters* – (International) **U.S. exchange flags internal trading discrepancy.** U.S. exchange operator Direct Edge said October 22 that it found a discrepancy between how a stock trades in certain circumstances compared with what its rules state, a contradiction at the center of a growing debate over market complexity and fairness. The discrepancy that Direct Edge found in its mid-point-match (MPM) order types has existed since trading platform EDGX officially launched as a national securities exchange in July 2010, the company said in a notice to traders. An order type is the set of instructions that govern the price and other variables in stock transactions. The discrepancy involves the exchange’s Rule 11.8(a)(2), which is supposed to assign priority to MPM orders over, among others, non-displayed limit orders. Direct Edge said EDGX usually assigns priority for MPM orders but it identified a circumstance in which the trading platform did not. In addition, the likelihood that MPM orders are executed and result in price improvement is higher because they automatically interact with displayed order flow. How often the trading priority that MPM was supposed to deliver but did not was not indicated in the trading notice.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/10/22/us-exchanges-directedge-idUSBRE89L15X20121022>

3. *October 21, KSWB 5 San Diego* – (California) **‘Chubby Bandit’ bank robbery suspect arrested.** A man suspected of being the “Chubby Bandit” was arrested October 21 for allegedly robbing a pharmacy and five banks in the San Diego area and an attempt to rob a sixth, law enforcement officials said. According to the FBI, the heavy-set man dubbed the “Chubby Bandit” first struck October 9, holding up a US Bank branch in Poway. He then allegedly robbed a CVS Pharmacy in San Marcos October 10, a Chase Bank branch in Carlsbad October 11, and attempted to rob another Chase Bank branch in Solana Beach October 13. The bandit then allegedly robbed a Wells Fargo Bank branch in Encinitas October 15, a US Bank branch in Carlsbad

October 16, and a Wells Fargo Bank in San Diego October 18. In all the robberies, the bandit used a demand note and said he had a gun, officials said.

Source: <http://www.fox5sandiego.com/news/kswb-chubby-bandit-arrested,0,3011373.story>

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Transportation Sector

4. *October 23, Associated Press* – (California) **Big-rigs collide in interstate truck tunnel.** Nine big-rigs collided in an Interstate 5 truck bypass tunnel in the Newhall Pass north of Los Angeles. Rainy weather may have been a factor in causing the October 23 jumble in the tunnel 25 miles north of downtown. A jackknifed big-rig in the tunnel apparently caused the chain-reaction crashes. KTTV 11 Los Angeles said firefighters had to pry a trucker out of his demolished rig. He was taken to a hospital. The California Highway Patrol said the southbound, two-lane truck bypass tunnel would likely be closed for about 7 hours, while wreckage was cleared and spilled diesel fuel was mopped up.
Source: <http://www.sacbee.com/2012/10/23/4931408/big-rigs-collide-in-interstate.html>
5. *October 23, Lynchburg News and Advance* – (Virginia) **School bus wreck sends seven children to hospital.** Seven children were transported to Danville Regional Medical Center (DRMC) October 23 after a driver of a car rear-ended a stopped school bus on Martinsville Highway near Brosville, Virginia. According to witnesses at the scene, the driver of the vehicle was weaving in and out of traffic before he hit the school bus, said a Virginia State Police trooper. The driver was also transported to DRMC with a head injury, the trooper said. His injuries were non-life threatening. A total of 16 children were on the bus, and 7 were transported with non-life threatening injuries. The other children were checked at the scene and were transported to school. The Pittsylvania County school superintendent said the remainder of the children who were being transported would be evaluated again by a nurse waiting at the school. Charges were pending against the car driver.
Source: <http://www2.newsadvance.com/news/2012/oct/23/school-bus-wreck-sends-seven-children-hospital-ar-2305023/>
6. *October 23, Homeland Security News Wire* – (National) **TSA replaces backscatter scanners with millimeter wave scanners at some airports.** The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) is replacing some backscatter scanners at large U.S. airports with millimeter wave scanners, Homeland Security News Wire reported October 23. Backscatter scanners have drawn the criticism of travelers since they debuted a several years ago. Many travelers felt the scanners invaded their privacy and others were concerned about the radiation levels the scanners emit. KNSD 7 San Diego reported that TSA said the scanners were being replaced to make way for more efficient machines in an effort to make security checks faster at some of the larger airports around the country. Backscatter scanners were removed from major airports including Los Angeles International Airport, Chicago's O'Hare International Airport, and New York's John F. Kennedy International Airport. The backscatter scanners were

still being used at some larger airports, but would mainly be relocated to smaller airports with less foot traffic. According to TSA, the new scanners — known as millimeter wave scanners — use a computer program to detect potential threats, while displaying an image of a traveler similar to a cartoon. TSA has insisted that the radiation the backscatter scanners emit have nothing to do with them being replaced; radiation experts believe the millimeter wave scanners are safer.

Source: <http://www.homelandsecuritynewswire.com/dr20121022-tsa-replaces-backscatter-scanners-with-millimeter-wave-scanners-at-some-airports>

7. *October 23, KTXL 40 Sacramento* – (California) **Westbound Interstate 80 closed at Truckee.** Heavy snowfall and an unfinished road construction project contributed to major traffic delays on westbound Interstate 80 in the Sierra October 22. The freeway was closed to westbound traffic at Truckee, California, because of multiple traffic problems between Truckee and Emigrant Gap. As of October 23, the closure was still in effect. Westbound traffic was limited to one lane for several miles between Donner Summit and Emigrant Gap because of a road construction project that was in progress when the snow started falling October 22. With only one lane open, vehicles, especially trucks, that got stuck in the snow ended up blocking the entire freeway until they could be towed or provided with tire chains. Traffic was simply not moving at all for several hours. Because of the traffic, plows could not access portions of the interstate to clear snow, making it even more difficult for cars that were stuck as the snow continued to fall.

Source: <http://fox40.com/2012/10/23/westbound-interstate-80-closed-at-truckee/>

8. *October 23, Homeland Security News Wire* – (National) **Analyzing the sound of rain falling on a bridge reveals bridge's health, stability.** A team of Brigham Young University (BYU) engineers found that by listening to how a highway bridge sings in the rain, they can determine serious flaws in the structure, Homeland Security News Wire reported October 23. Employing a method called impact-echo testing, a team of professors can diagnose the health of a bridge's deck based on the acoustic footprint produced by a small amount of water. Specifically, the sound created when a droplet makes impact can reveal hidden dangers in the bridge. A BYU release reported that the study, published in the October issue of *Non-Destructive Testing and Evaluation International*, presents a more efficient and cost-effective method to address the mounting safety concerns over bridge corrosion and aging across the United States and beyond. While impact-echo testing for bridges is not new, the BYU researchers were the first to use water droplets to produce acoustic responses. The most common method involves dragging a chain over a bridge and marking spots where dull, hollow sound is produced. This method, however, can take hours to carry out for a single bridge and requires lane closures that come with additional complications. Though the current research is preliminary, the researchers envision a day where bridge deck surveys would take only a few moments.

Source: <http://www.homelandsecuritynewswire.com/dr20121022-analyzing-the-sound-of-rain-falling-on-a-bridge-reveals-bridge-s-health-stability>

9. *October 22, Riverside Press-Enterprise* – (California) **S.B. Mountains: Runaway rig hits car, crash kills 2.** A mechanical inspection will be conducted on a three-axle

flatbed truck to determine whether its brakes failed prior to a wreck that closed Highway 330 between Highland, California, and the mountaintop town of Running Springs for 7 1/2 hours October 22. A truck driver jumped or fell to his death along a mountain highway, leaving a runaway rig to jackknife across an entire road until it crushed an oncoming car, killing that driver and injuring the passenger, investigators said. The car's passenger was taken to a hospital for treatment of chest and left leg pain and scrapes to her right hand, a California Highway Patrol officer said.

Source: <http://www.pe.com/local-news/san-bernardino-county/san-bernardino-county-headlines-index/20121022-s.b.-mountains-runaway-truck-crash-kills-2.ece>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to report

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Agriculture and Food Sector

10. *October 22, U.S. Department of Agriculture Food Safety and Inspection Service – (National) Recall notification report - Bob Evans Maple Links and Maple Patties.* October 22, BEF Foods Inc., a Columbus, Ohio corporation, recalled approximately 1,768,600-pounds of Bob Evans Maple Links and Maple Patties because they are misbranded in that they contain monosodium glutamate (MSG), which is incorrectly declared on the label. The products were available in 12-ounce packages, and have a use by date between October 14, 2012, and December 4, 2012. Frozen products may be identified by any of the following Julian codes: 0264 through 0365, 1001 through 1365, and 2001 through 2293. The problem was discovered by the company during a label audit, and found MSG was still a listed ingredient although the spice blend was previously reformulated without MSG.

Source: http://www.fsis.usda.gov/Fsis_Recalls/RNR_067_2012/index.asp

11. *October 22, U.S. Department of Agriculture Food Safety and Inspection Service – (Utah) Utah firm recalls ground beef products due to possible E. Coli O157:H7 contamination.* October 22, Main Street Quality Meats, a Salt Lake City, Utah establishment, recalled approximately 2,310-pounds of ground beef products that may be contaminated with E. coli O157:H7. The recall includes 10-pound cases of Ground Beef Bulk and 12-pound cases of Ground Beef Patties. Each case bears the establishment number EST. 19916 inside the U.S. Department of Agriculture mark of inspection, as well as any of the following identifying lot numbers: 1018121, 1019121, 1018122, or 1019122. The products were distributed to restaurants in Utah.

Source:

http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News_&_Events/Recall_068_2012_Release/index.asp

12. *October 22, U.S. Department of Agriculture Food Safety and Inspection Service – (Hawaii) Hawaii firm recalls ground beef products due to possible E. Coli*

O157:H7 contamination. October 22, Higa Meat & Pork Market, a Honolulu, Hawaii establishment, recalled approximately 4,100-pounds of ground beef products that may be contaminated with E. coli O157:H7. The recall includes 10-pound bags of Higa Market-Ground Beef Bulk which come in 1 to 6 bags per carton/case. Each case bears the establishment number EST. 12457M inside the U.S. Department of Agriculture mark of inspection, as well as the identifying case code number 291. The products were distributed to restaurants in the Oahu, Hawaii area. The problem occurred as a result of the products testing positive for E. coli O157:H7 and being shipped prior to the company receiving test results.

Source:

http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News_&_Events/Recall_069_2012_Release/index.asp

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Water Sector

13. *October 23, WBND 57 South Bend* – (Michigan) **EPA addresses concerns about Benton Harbor contamination site.** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) said vinyl chloride spreading in the groundwater beneath the Harbor Shores Golf Course in Michigan was part of a long term cleanup method. EPA officials scheduled a public meeting October 23 in Benton Harbor to discuss a new remediation plan for the aircraft components superfund site. The site is currently hole 14 on the course. The aircraft components plant was torn down in 1997 along the Paw Paw River and Northshore Drive. The EPA successfully cleaned radium from the surface but soil and groundwater still carries four different contaminants. The impact study showed the spread of vinyl chloride in the groundwater around the site from 2004-2012. Vinyl chloride is known to cause cancer. “You’re expanding the...vinyl chloride as part of the process,” said an EPA project manager. The current treatment methods at the site breakdown contaminants into vinyl chloride. She said the EPA expected the spread of the contamination plume. “No one is being exposed. Right now you’re not allowed to drill any wells there, nobody has any there,” the project manager said.
Source: <http://www.abc57.com/news/local/EPA-addresses-concerns-about-Benton-Harbor-contamination-site-175344911.html>
14. *October 23, Kankakee Daily Journal* – (Illinois) **Water main breaks in Momence; 24-hour boil order in effect.** A water main break occurred on East Washington Street in Momence, Illinois, the Kankakee Daily Journal reported October 23. “[Workers] had to reduce the amount of pressure to work on the break,” a spokesman said. To reduce the incoming water pressure to the broken main, workers first turned on nearby fire hydrants at about 2 p.m., but the shut-off valves still would not budge. Workers then stopped the wells from filling the water towers to drop pressure even further. Eventually, water pressure in the town dropped to 20 percent, a level that necessitated the boil order. The spokesman said the main was repaired, and water pressure in the town would quickly return to its usual level. He said residents were free to shower, bathe, do laundry, and use water otherwise as normal, but for safety reasons, the boil order would remain in effect until October 23. He did not know what caused the break,

but suspected it may have been the result of normal wear and tear.

Source: <http://daily-journal.com/archives/dj/display.php?id=498356>

15. *October 23, Pocono Record* – (Pennsylvania) **Monroe County streams found with fecal contamination.** One recently tested stream in Monroe County, Pennsylvania, had 85 times more waste than allowed by the State, the Pocono Record reported October 23. Other sites were found to be contaminated with fecal coliform, according to a State-funded water sampling program conducted during the summer of 2012 by the Brodhead Watershed Association. The worst site in the watershed was Forest Hills Run, which runs through Mount Pocono and Paradise Township. Testing of one sample showed 17,000 coliform-forming units per 100 milliliters (ml) of water. Four other samples exceeded the standard for swimming or other water activities. The maximum fecal coliform count allowed by state regulation from May 1-September 30 is 200 units per 100 ml of water. The rest of the year, the maximum permitted is 2,000 units per 100 ml. The Brodhead itself, at Glen Park in Stroudsburg, exceeded State limits, where 7 of 10 samples were in excess of the maximum acceptable fecal waste levels. While fecal coliform bacteria do not cause disease, its presence means human or animal fecal waste is in the water, and the waste may potentially contain disease-causing pathogens. The results were forwarded to the State. They were also sent to the affected municipalities, with suggestions for additional testing, according to the watershed association.

Source:

<http://www.poconorecord.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20121023/NEWS/210230337/-1/NEWS>

16. *October 23, Akron Beacon Journal* – (Ohio) **Boil alert for Hudson, Twinsburg water users.** A boil alert was issued for residents in the Hudson, Twinsburg, and Twinsburg Township areas of Ohio who get their water supply from Akron. A water main break was reported October 23 in Hudson, causing reduced water pressure. Customers should expect normal pressure to return later in the day, the city of Akron said in a news release. Customers in the affected area who are not served by Akron water and those residing south of the Ohio Turnpike are not under the boil alert. Affected customers should boil drinking water for a minimum of 2 minutes. This boil alert was expected to be in place for a minimum of 48 hours.

Source: <http://www.ohio.com/news/break-news/boil-alert-for-hudson-twinsburg-water-users-1.344359>

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

17. *October 22, Orlando Sentinel* – (Florida) **Ex-hospital employee pleads guilty to stealing patient information.** A former Florida Hospital employee pleaded guilty October 22 to stealing patient information that was used to solicit customers for lawyers and chiropractors, the U.S. Attorney's Office said. According to prosecutors, he worked as a registration representative in the emergency department at Florida

Hospital's Celebration location, where he registered patients as they came into the ER. From 2009 until July 2011, he illegally accessed data from thousands of patients at various Florida Hospital locations. He was paid by a co-conspirator to gather information from patients who had been involved in vehicle accidents. Patients received phone calls within a week of their hospital stay from someone who offered a referral to a chiropractor, and the callers knew specific information about the accident and the person's treatment at Florida Hospital. He faces up to 15 years in federal prison. He will be sentenced January 14.

Source: http://articles.orlandosentinel.com/2012-10-22/news/os-florida-hospital-patient-records-arrest-20121022_1_patient-data-disclosure-of-health-information-personal-information

18. *October 22, Reuters* – (National) **Meningitis probe could hit hospital drug supplies.** The extended shutdown of a sister company of the pharmacy at the center of the deadly U.S. meningitis outbreak may exacerbate drug shortages for some hospitals and healthcare providers as the number of infection cases neared 300, U.S. health regulators said October 22. Ameridose, a drug manufacturer owned by the same people who own New England Compounding Center, or NECC, has been closed since October 10. It will remain shuttered until November 5, while authorities inspect the plant, at least temporarily cutting off supplies to its customers. NECC shipped thousands of potentially contaminated vials of a steroid used for injections to treat severe back pain. Some 14,000 patients may have been exposed to the medicine that has so far led to 23 deaths. Twelve additional fungal meningitis cases were reported October 22, bringing the total to 294 in 16 States, plus 3 cases of peripheral joint infection likely linked to the tainted steroid, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Nine of the new cases were reported in Michigan, which has reported 63 infections and 5 deaths.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/10/22/us-usa-health-meningitis-shortages-idUSBRE89L18320121022>

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Government Facilities Sector

19. *October 23, Associated Press* – (Mississippi) **School gym damaged in fire.** Authorities were investigating a fire that damaged the gym at Winona Christian School in Winona, Mississippi, the Associated Press reported October 23. The fire caused school officials to cancel classes October 23. The headmaster of the school said a handful of children were in the gym when the fire started and they got out safely. The fire burned the roof, walls, and floor of the gym and left behind smoke damage to the bleachers and stage, he added. He said the fire may have been caused by an electrical problem in a wall. Classes are expected to resume October 24.
Source: <http://www.knoe.com/story/19888496/school-gym-damaged-in-fire>
20. *October 22, New Rochelle Patch* – (New York) **Bomb threat closes Solomon-Schechter school.** A bomb threat received via email shut the two campuses of the Solomon-Schechter School of Westchester, New York, October 22, sending students

home. The private Jewish school serves students from Kindergarten to 12th grade. The school has campuses in Hartsdale and White Plains. The Upper School, in Hartsdale serving students in grades 6 through 12, was evacuated, Greenburgh Police said. The Westchester County Bomb Squad responded to the incident, as well. Although no bomb was detected, the administration chose to keep the campus closed for the remainder of the day. The Lower School in White Plains was also closed due to the threat, according to published reports. The Solomon Schechter Headmaster said both schools would reopen October 23 at their regular time.

Source: <http://newrochelle.patch.com/articles/bomb-threat-closes-solomon-schechter-school-062d3c96>

21. *October 22, San Angelo Standard-Times* – (Texas) **Bomb threat evacuates Bronte schools.** A bomb threat via phone sent about 250 students in the Bronte, Texas Independent School District home October 22, the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) said. The elementary and high school students were taken to a local community center. Parents picked some of them up, and others were bused home later. An unknown individual called the school and said there was a bomb at the school, a Texas Department of Public Safety trooper said. The Coke County Sheriff's Office was investigating with the help of DPS, and a K-9 unit from Goodfellow Air Force Base was sent to search for bombs on the premises, the DPS trooper said. It took them about 2 1/2 hours to clear the buildings, he said. School would be in session October 23, the district's superintendent said. The call went to a school employee's cellphone, the DPS trooper said. Texas Rangers will assist in the investigation.

Source: <http://www.gosanangelo.com/news/2012/oct/22/bomb-threat-evacuates-bronte-schools/>

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Emergency Services Sector

22. *October 23, WHAM 13 Rochester* – (New York) **Prison in lockdown after riot.** Five Points Correctional Facility in Seneca County, New York, is on lockdown after a riot over the weekend of October 20. Officers at the prison tried to break up a fight between inmates October 21. Some of the inmates started to assault the staff — leading officers to use canisters of tear gas to get the situation under control. Six officers were hurt; two of them had to go to a hospital for treatment but were expected to be fine. Eight inmates were transferred to other correctional facilities in New York. The lockdown was expected to last through the end of the week of October 22.

Source: <http://www.13wham.com/news/state/story/Seneca-Co-Prison-In-Lockdown/D3KfvOGTlkWJl0NHozFmkg.csp>

23. *October 22, Associated Press* – (New York) **NYPD cop admits to stealing guns from precinct.** A New York City Police Department (NYPD) officer admitted to stealing guns from police lockers and selling them to drug dealers to pay for his addiction to painkillers. He pleaded guilty October 22 to selling four stolen NYPD-issued guns and

an additional pistol that belonged to him to a drug ring. The plea deal includes a 15-year prison term when he is sentenced November 7. The suspected dealer and three accomplices were arrested in July on charges including conspiracy and selling drugs and guns.

Source: <http://www.newsday.com/news/new-york/nypd-cop-admits-to-stealing-guns-from-precinct-1.4143307>

24. *October 22, Oklahoma City Oklahoman* – (Oklahoma) **Oklahoma City police cadet died from head trauma.** An Oklahoma City police recruit injured during training the week of October 8 died from “head trauma, blunt force,” according to the State medical examiner. The recruit received a head injury October 12 while working with an instructor on routine self-defense tactics and died October 13. A spokeswoman for the medical examiner released the cause of death October 19. The fatal injury occurred while the recruit was concluding a 78-hour course of defense training for cadets. The course culminates with a six-minute exam during which cadets are rigorously tested by different instructors on a host of techniques. During a rotation of simulated fights, he went to the ground several times with different instructors, police said. While it was not a violent hit, his unprotected head had hit the mat several times during the test, the police captain said. A new policy now requires that cadets wear protective head gear in the self-defense course.

Source: <http://www.officer.com/news/10818073/oklahoma-city-police-cadet-died-from-head-trauma>

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Information Technology Sector

25. *October 23, Softpedia* – (International) **Experts locate dropper of Japanese malware responsible for making death threats.** Approximately 10 days ago, a piece of malware making death and bomb threats online on behalf of its victims was discovered. Now, researchers from Symantec discovered the malicious element’s dropper. The dropper of Backdoor.Rabasheeta — the component responsible for installing the payload onto the victim’s computer — creates a registry to ensure that the main module is executed each time the device is activated. After it drops the main module and the configurations files that enable the threat to communicate with its command and control server, it removes itself from the infected computer. Backdoor.Rabasheeta has the capability to open a backdoor on the compromised device and allow its controller to take command of it.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Experts-Locate-Dropper-of-Japanese-Malware-Responsible-for-Making-Death-Threats-301400.shtml>

26. *October 23, The H* – (International) **CyanogenMod logged lockscreen swipe gestures.** A developer discovered that the popular modified Android firmware CyanogenMod apparently recorded swipe gestures used to unlock smartphones. The CyanogenMod project provides manufacturer-independent open source custom ROMs for Android devices. In August, an update was released which modified the fixed 3x3 grid format for lockscreen gestures to make the grid size configurable (by adding a

PATTERN_SIZE variable). In the process, a line of code to log gestures used was also added. A researcher now discovered this code. Logging unlock gestures is comparable to recording passwords entered by users. Neither represents a direct threat, as without access to the device, attackers cannot access the log file. However, it nonetheless poses an unnecessary risk that could allow data which should be confidential to fall into the wrong hands- - for example by compromising a backup saved to a PC.

Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/CyanogenMod-logged-lockscreenswipe-gestures-1734701.html>

27. *October 23, Help Net Security* – (International) **Malvertising on Yahoo Messenger hijacks browsers' start page.** Yahoo Messenger users who followed the link in an advertisement for Vietnamese Internet directory Web site LaBan(dot)vn and downloaded the offered executable installed a persistent application that repeatedly leads them to the Web site. “It is not yet clear whether the banner has reached YIM customers following a legit advertising campaign that was modified by the advertiser later, or if it is an abusive attack that exploits a bug in the Yahoo Ad services,” said a Bitdefender researcher, but the banner was displayed for 4 hours. The problem with the app is that it cannot be easily deleted. The app adds itself to the Windows startup entries in order to run after every system reboot, and it repeatedly changes the default start page of the browsers found on the affected computer. The researcher did not mention whether the LaBan(dot)vn Web site offers other malicious software except for this app.

Source: http://www.net-security.org/malware_news.php?id=2300

28. *October 23, The H* – (International) **Google Drive opens backdoor to Google accounts.** The Windows and Mac OS X desktop clients for Google's Drive file storage and synchronization service open a backdoor to users' Google accounts which could allow the curious to access a Drive user's email, contacts, and calendar entries. The sync tool includes a “Visit Google Drive on the web” link which opens Drive's Web interface in the default browser and automatically logs the user in. Somewhat problematic is the fact that this session can then be used to switch to other Google services such as Gmail and Google Calendar. Even if the user explicitly logs out of the Google sites by clicking the “Sign out” link, the Drive client will open a new session without requiring a password. The desktop clients request login credentials only once, when they are first installed and launched. The backdoor is particularly problematic where a user shares their account with others or where a computer is not password protected. The link also makes accessing a user's Google account unnecessarily simple for trojans.

Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/Google-Drive-opens-backdoor-to-Google-accounts-1735069.html>

29. *October 23, The H* – (International) **Security researcher experiments with patching Java.** With Oracle planning to wait until February 2013, a security researcher decided to take matters into his own hands by developing a patch for a critical security vulnerability he discovered in Java. He posted a report on his efforts to security mailing list Full Disclosure. However, the patch is not intended for publication — as this would reveal details of the vulnerability, which the researcher has kept hidden so far. Instead,

the researcher hopes his experiment will prompt Oracle to speed up its process for releasing official patches. He informed Oracle of the critical vulnerability in late September. It potentially enables an attacker to use a specially crafted applet to access assets on a system with user privileges. He was, however, too late for the company's October patch day. Oracle informed him that it was already in the final stages of testing its October patches and that any patch would have to be held over until the next critical patch update, scheduled for February 19, 2013. In order to estimate the amount of work involved, the security researcher then decided to develop a patch himself and found that fixing the vulnerability required changing just 25 characters of code in 30 minutes. According to the researcher, the patch has no discernible effect on the code logic, rendering extensive integration tests to check its effect on other programs superfluous. Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/Security-researcher-experiments-with-patching-Java-1735346.html>

30. *October 23, The H* – (International) **Adobe fixes critical Shockwave vulnerabilities.** Numerous critical flaws in Shockwave, which could allow an attacker to inject malicious code into a system, were closed by Adobe with the release of Shockwave Player 11.6.8.638 for Windows and Macintosh systems. Overall, the vulnerabilities have six CVE numbers assigned to them (CVE-2012-4172, CVE-2012-4173, CVE-2012-4174, CVE-2012-4175, CVE-2012-4176, CVE-2012-5273) and are mostly buffer overflows with one array out of bounds vulnerability. Adobe said the update is a priority 2 issue. The company recommends users update their installations as soon as is possible, but notes there are no known Shockware exploits in the wild for these flaws. Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/Adobe-fixes-critical-Shockwave-vulnerabilities-1735371.html>
31. *October 22, Computer Weekly* – (International) **XSS attacks remain top threat to Web applications.** Cross-site scripting (XSS) attacks remain the top threat to Web applications, databases, and Web sites, an analysis of 15 million cyberattacks in the third quarter of 2012 revealed. Other top attack techniques are directory traversals, SQL injections (SQLi), and cross-site request forgery (CSRF), according to the latest Web application attack report by cloud hosting firm FireHost. The increase in the number of cross-site attacks is one of the most significant changes in attack traffic between Q2 and Q3 2012, the report said. XSS and CSRF attacks rose to represent 64 percent of the group. XSS is now the most common attack type, with CSRF now in second. Source: <http://www.computerweekly.com/news/2240168930/XSS-attacks-remain-top-threat-to-web-applications>
32. *October 22, Infosecurity* – (International) **Cross-zone scripting vulnerabilities found in Dropbox and Drive.** "Exploiting this vulnerability," announced IBM's Application Security Insider blog, "an attacker could steal arbitrary files from a DropBox / Google Drive user by tricking him into viewing a malicious HTML file inside the mobile app." Applications such as Dropbox and Drive are of increasing relevance to business, and their security is of increasing importance. As the bring-your-own-device revolution gathers pace more and more employees are using such cloud storage services as a

simple means of transferring data from corporate servers to personal tablets or smartphones. The problem, according to an advisory released by a researcher, is that “the DropBox apps use an embedded browser window to render the locally stored HTML file.” The way this has been implemented would allow the execution of malicious Javascript code “to steal potentially valuable information from the DOM of the embedded browser, an attack dubbed Cross-Application Scripting (XAS).”
Source: <http://www.infosecurity-magazine.com/view/28915/crosszone-scripting-vulnerabilities-found-in-dropbox-and-drive/>

33. *October 22, Ars Technica* – (International) **Java still has a crucial role to play— despite security risks.** Java has its security flaws, but it is not going away any time soon — many important applications run on the technology, especially in business settings. Still, many users are worried enough about vulnerabilities that they restrict Java’s ability to run on their machines. That is what Ars Technica heard when it asked its readers October 19 whether they let Java run on their computers, and why. Some users disabled or uninstalled Java entirely. However, the most common solution for those worried about security risks is to leave the Java Runtime Environment in place on the desktop while disabling the browser plugins that allow Java applets to run on Web sites. Those plugins are often vulnerable to attacks involving remote code execution.
Source: <http://arstechnica.com/information-technology/2012/10/java-still-has-a-crucial-role-to-play-despite-security-risks/>

34. *October 22, U.S. Federal Trade Commission* – (International) **Tracking software company settles FTC charges that it deceived consumers and failed to safeguard sensitive data it collected.** Web analytics Compete Inc. agreed to settle Federal Trade Commission (FTC) charges that it violated federal law by using its Web-tracking software that collected personal data without disclosing the extent of the information that it was collecting. The company also allegedly failed to honor promises it made to protect the personal data it collected. Compete is a company that uses tracking software to collect data on the browsing behavior of millions of consumers, then uses the data to generate reports, which it sells to clients who want to improve their website traffic and sales. The proposed settlement will require that Compete obtain consumers’ express consent before collecting any data from Compete software downloaded onto consumers’ computers, that the company delete or anonymize the use of the consumer data it already has collected, and that it provide directions to consumers for uninstalling its software.
Source: <http://www.ftc.gov/opa/2012/10/compete.shtm>

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

35. *October 22, Forbes* – (International) **Amazon AWS goes down again, takes Reddit with it.** October 22, several Web sites that use Amazon’s AWS cloud-computing service for hosting, including Reddit, Coursera, Flipboard, FastCompany, Foursquare, Netflix, Pinterest, Airbnb, and more, were down as it experienced “degraded performance for a small number of EBS volumes in a single Availability Zone” in the northern Virginia zone. When problems began Amazon reported, “we are currently investigating degraded performance for a small number of EBS volumes in a single Availability Zone in the US-EAST-1 Region.” Then, about an hour later, the company updated its Service Health Dashboard: “We can confirm degraded performance for a small number of EBS volumes in a single Availability Zone in the US-EAST-1 Region. Instances using affected EBS volumes will also experience degraded performance.” Amazon updated their customers throughout October 22, before finally stating “we are continuing to restore impaired volumes and their attached instances.” While some Web sites, such as Reddit, were back up October 22, others that rely on AWS were reportedly still experiencing problems.
Source: <http://www.forbes.com/sites/kellyclay/2012/10/22/amazon-aws-goes-down-again-takes-reddit-with-it/>
36. *October 22, Threatpost* – (International) **HackRF Jawbreaker could bring low-cost wireless hacking to the masses.** A researcher created a new radio called HackRF that is a kind of all-in-one hacker’s dream with functionality to intercept and reverse-engineer traffic from a wide range of frequencies and sources. HackRF is the work of a researcher from Great Scott Gadgets, and the idea behind the project was to build a multipurpose transceiver that a user could attach to his computer and use as a “software-defined radio.” He released the hardware specifications and the software for the radio, called HackRF Jawbreaker, on Github. The device has the ability to transmit and receive over a wide range of frequencies, covering a huge number of commercial devices.
Source: http://threatpost.com/en_us/blogs/hackrf-jawbreaker-could-bring-low-cost-wireless-hacking-masses-102212

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Commercial Facilities Sector

37. *October 22, KXAS 5 Dallas-Fort Worth* – (Texas) **ATF probes molotov cocktail attack in Hurst.** Federal agents are trying to identify who threw small explosive devices at a lawyer’s office and an oil company in Hurst, Texas. Firefighters discovered Molotov cocktails when they responded to a report of a fire October 21, said a spokesman for the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF). ATF is leading the investigation, he said. The firebombs were hurled into the law firm and the neighboring Falcon Petroleum Resources. The device at the oil company did not ignite, but a fire did extensive damage. Evidence collected at the scene was sent to an ATF laboratory in California. Agents were also reviewing surveillance video in the

area, the spokesman said.

Source: <http://www.nbcdfw.com/news/local/ATF-Probes-Molotov-Cocktails-In-Hurst-175278621.html>

38. *October 22, Wilmington Star News* – (North Carolina) **Leland hotel target of sprinkler hoax again.** For the second time in 2012, a hotel in Leland, North Carolina, fell victim to a prankster who called and instructed a guest to dismantle the sprinkler in the room because of a gas leak. According to a Leland Police Department spokesman, an unknown caller contacted the front desk of the Best Western Hotel October 21 and asked to be transferred to a room. When the occupant of the room answered the phone, the caller directed the tenant to activate the fire sprinkler located in the room because there was a gas leak. After the occupant complied with the caller's directions and water filled the room, the caller disconnected. An estimate on damages was not immediately available. Authorities said the same prank was pulled on the Best Western in March. In that instance, the ensuing flood of water damaged 27 rooms. "Detectives are investigating any and all leads and are planning on possible collaboration with federal officials to aid in this investigation," authorities said October 22.
Source: <http://yellowtape.blogs.starnewsonline.com/21033/leland-hotel-target-of-vandal-a-second-time/?tc=ar>
39. *October 22, Citrus Daily* – (Florida) **Gas leak empties Inverness apartment complex.** No injuries were reported from a natural gas leak October 21 that caused the temporary evacuation of an apartment complex in Inverness, Florida. Citrus County Sheriff's Office, Division of Fire Rescue was dispatched to the site of the leak. First responders arrived on scene and found a natural gas leak coming out from the roadway in two different locations. According to the fire report, the gas line was hit by a contractor laying communications lines. An initial safety perimeter was established and residents at an apartment complex were evacuated due to being in close proximity to the leak. The gas company (Florida Public Utilities) was contacted and responded to secure the leak, and a HAZMAT unit was requested to respond for atmospheric monitoring of the area. There were two engines, two HAZMAT units, and the battalion chief assigned to the incident. The incident was brought under control, and all residents were allowed to return no more than 2 hours after the event.
Source: <http://www.citrusdaily.com/gas-leak-empties-inverness-apartment-complex/2012/10/22/107049.html>
40. *October 22, Kansas City Star* – (Missouri) **KC business owner shoots two in warehouse burglary.** A business owner in Kansas City, Missouri, shot and wounded two burglars who broke into his vacant warehouse October 21, police said. In September, the owner shot and wounded two different burglars inside the same warehouse. Burglars broke into the building five times in recent months. In the October 21 shooting, the owner responded to an alarm call and found two men inside the building stealing copper. The owner shot one man in the shoulder and arm. The second man suffered a gunshot wound to his back and collapsed around a bunch of hand tools and a cut piece of copper. When officers arrived at the scene, they found one of the wounded men in a parking lot behind the building. He initially told police he was cut by a fence, but he later said that he was shot and that his nephew was still inside the

building. Both men live in Kansas. September 25, the owner confronted two burglars inside the building. He shot one person in the leg and a second person in the abdomen. The vacant building is attached to another building that houses a company that makes baby furniture. The owner owns both buildings. Prosecutors were considering charges against the two burglary suspects.

Source: <http://www.kansascity.com/2012/10/22/3879640/kc-business-owner-shoots-two-in.html>

41. *October 22, North County Times* – (California) **Sewage spill closes water access at Powerhouse Park.** Residents were told to stay out of the water near Powerhouse Park, California, after 300 gallons of sewage spilled nearby. Sewage spilled from a manhole after an unknown substance blocked a sewer line October 20, according to a spokesman with Del Mar’s Public Works Department. The sewage seeped into a nearby storm drain that empties in the ocean near Powerhouse Park. Crews have since cleared the blockage. Until samples confirm the water is safe to use, signs would be posted 500 feet north and south of the park warning people of the spill, according to a news release.

Source: http://www.nctimes.com/news/local/del-mar/sewage-spill-closes-water-access-at-powerhouse-park/article_3d5d42b1-450f-5ae5-b7b1-d3bb068f2e88.html

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

Nothing to report

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Dams Sector

42. *October 23, Nanuet Patch* – (New York) **United Water replacing gates at Lake DeForest Dam.** United Water started the replacement of two gates at the Lake DeForest Dam in New York, the Nanuet Patch reported October 23. The company was replacing the gates, which respond to the level of water in the reservoir when there is a significant rainfall and more water flows into the reservoir. According to United Water, the 56-year-old gates help to protect the integrity of the dam. The original gates, designed specifically for the Lake DeForest water supply dam, will be replaced with similar gates. Upon completion of the 6-month project, the dam will continue to operate according to the same procedures which are currently in effect. “This project is a \$2.5 million investment in Rockland’s future,” said the United Water New York vice president and general manager. “It will help ensure that we can continue to deliver a reliable supply of water for homes, businesses, and firefighting.” Reservoir levels will be maintained throughout the project and customers will have an ample supply of water. United Water stated licensed professional engineers, who are dam experts, will supervise the work and it will comply with all applicable laws and regulations. United Water New York officials stated the company invests between \$25 and \$30 million each year in infrastructure improvements.

Source: <http://nanuet.patch.com/articles/united-water-replacing-gates-at-lake-deforest-dam>

43. *October 22, Houma Today* – (Louisiana) **Work starts this week on storm-damaged levee.** Work should begin the week of October 22 to repair a marsh-management levee in Montegut, Louisiana, which blew out during Hurricane Isaac, officials said. The storm’s tidal force destroyed one of the levee’s water-control structures, a type of gate that helps control salt water flowing through the Pointe-aux-Chenes Wildlife Management Area. The structure was washed away, leaving a 50-foot gap in the levee. A \$2.4 million Federal Emergency Management Agency project aimed at strengthening the levee’s second water-control structure with a bridge capable of supporting heavy equipment was nearly complete, and the Terrebonne levee director said he expects to be able to truck dirt onto the levee to begin closing the breach the week of October 22. “We expect by Wednesday or Thursday to begin hauling dirt into the area,” he said. “The repairs should be complete by the end of this year.” That project was unfinished when Hurricane Isaac struck. The vulnerable levee, which crosses open water in the Wildlife and Fisheries’ Pointe-aux-Chenes Wildlife Management Area, has caused repeated problems for the Terrebonne Levee District. The levee failed during nearly every storm that blew through the parish. Without a permanent fix, the Levee District will continue to spend millions on repeated repairs to the levee, the levee director said.

Source:

<http://www.houmatoday.com/article/20121022/ARTICLES/121029900?p=1&tc=pg>

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