Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report
31 October 2012

Top Stories

- Millions of people from Maine to the Carolinas awoke October 30 without electricity, and New York City was all but closed off by car, train, and air as superstorm Sandy steamed inland, still delivering punishing wind and rain. The U.S. death toll climbed to 39, many of the victims killed by falling trees. – *Associated Press* (See item **1**)

- High winds and heavy rain prompted the closing of the New Jersey Turnpike's Hudson County Extension between Exit 14 and the Holland Tunnel, the closing of the major toll road between Exit 8 and Exit 7, and speed restrictions of 45 mph for the nearly 100 miles below Exit 12, the Newark Star-Ledger reported October 30. – *Newark Star-Ledger* (See item **12**)

- Verizon Communications said October 30 that its wireline service was suffering as flooding in its central offices in lower Manhattan affected its back-up generators and batteries. – *Reuters* (See item **35**)

- A witness heard an explosion near his home in Pacific, Washington, October 28 that turned out be some kind of homemade explosive that destroyed an important U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) flood monitoring device on the flood prone White River. – *Northwest Cable News* (See item **42**)

Energy Sector

1. *October 30, Associated Press* – (National) **At least 39 dead, millions without power in Sandy's aftermath.** Millions of people from Maine to the Carolinas awoke October 30 without electricity, and New York City was all but closed off by car, train, and air as superstorm Sandy steamed inland, still delivering punishing wind and rain. The U.S. death toll climbed to 39, many of the victims killed by falling trees. The full extent of the damage in New Jersey, where the storm roared ashore October 29 with hurricane-force winds of 80 mph, was unclear. Police and fire officials, some with their own departments flooded, fanned out to rescue hundreds. More than 8.2 million people across the east were without power. Airlines canceled more than 15,000 flights around the world. The storm also disrupted the presidential campaign with just a week to go before Election Day. Lower Manhattan, which includes Wall Street, was among the hardest-hit areas after the storm sent a nearly 14-foot surge of seawater, a record, coursing over its seawalls and highways. The New York Stock Exchange was closed for a second day, and said it will reopen October 31. A huge fire destroyed as many as 100 houses in a flooded beachfront neighborhood October 30, an incident in which 3 people were injured. A huge swell of water swept over the small New Jersey town of Moonachie, near the Hackensack River, and authorities struggled to rescue about 800 people.
Source: http://www.foxnews.com/weather/2012/10/30/at-least-17-dead-millions-without-power-in-sandy-aftermath/

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Chemical Industry Sector

Nothing to report

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

2. *October 30, Associated Press* – (New York; New Jersey) **Nuclear plants shut down units as storm hits coast.** Parts of two nuclear power plants in New Jersey were shut down October 29 and October 30, while another plant in New York was put on alert after waters from Hurricane Sandy rose 6 feet above sea level. One of the units at New York's Indian Point was shut down October 29 because of external electrical grid issues, said Entergy Corp., which operates the plant. The company said there was no risk to employees or the public, and the plant was not at risk due to water levels from the Hudson River. One unit at the Salem plant in Hancocks Bridge, New Jersey, was shut down October 30 because four of its six circulating water pumps were no longer available, according to PSEG Nuclear. The pumps are used to condense steam on the non-nuclear side of the plant. New Jersey's Oyster Creek was already out of service for scheduled refueling. But high water levels at the facility, which sits along Barnegat Bay, prompted safety officials to declare an "unusual event". About two hours later, the situation was upgraded to an "alert," the second-lowest in a four-tiered warning system. Conditions were still safe at Oyster Creek, Indian Point, and all other U.S. nuclear plants, said the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). A rising tide, the direction of the wind and the storm's surge combined to raise water levels in Oyster Creek's intake structure, the NRC said. The agency said that water levels were expected to recede within hours and that the plant is watertight and capable of withstanding hurricane-force winds. The plant's owner, Exelon Corp., said power was also disrupted in the station's switchyard, but backup diesel generators were providing stable power, with more than two weeks of fuel on hand.
Source: http://www.ellwoodcityledger.com/news/business/nuclear-plants-shut-down-units-as-storm-hits-coast/article_0a59366a-2cfd-5556-b28d-c586e8ce7de1.html

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

3. *October 29, Softpedia* – (International) **Ford website hacked by NullCrew, user credentials leaked online.** The latest target of the hacker collective known as NullCrew was the Web site of car manufacturer Ford. The hackers claimed to have leveraged an SQL Injection vulnerability in order to gain access to the databases behind the social.ford.com subdomain. As a result of the breach, database and table names, customer usernames – represented by email addresses – and encrypted passwords were leaked. In total, 18 credential sets were published online. Most of the affected individuals appeared to be employed at an ad agency called Team Detroit. "No confidential information was compromised by the incident. Our teams have been working on determining how this happened and have changed all site passwords as a precaution," a Ford Global Digital Communications spokesman said.
Source: http://news.softpedia.com/news/Ford-Website-Hacked-by-NullCrew-User-Credentials-Leaked-Online-302688.shtml

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

4. *October 30, Global Security Newswire* – (Tennessee) **Y-12 operator takes over site defenses.** Y-12 National Security Complex security personnel previously overseen by a subcontractor are now under management of the nuclear arms facility's private operator, the Knoxville News Sentinel reported October 29. Babcock & Wilcox Technical Services Y-12 previously said it would cut ties with WSI-Oak Ridge, a division of G4S Government Solutions, and assume most of its site protection responsibilities. The move came after a July break-in by peace activists revealed a number of security lapses at the Tennessee complex. The firm said it took over protection duties during a 28-day changeover period.
Source: http://www.nti.org/gsn/article/y-12-operator-takes-over-site-defenses/

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Banking and Finance Sector

5. *October 30, Techworld* – (International) **Bank phishing gang arrested after hotel swoop.** U.K. police arrested three men accused of being involved in large-scale Trojan phishing attacks against a range of banks, Techworld reported October 30. Picked up in a London hotel after an operation described as "intelligence-led", the two unnamed Romanians and a Nigerian were arrested October 29 on suspicion of money laundering and conspiracy to defraud, police said. The men are alleged to be behind the appearance of 2,000 bogus bank login pages that had been part of a campaign to steal account details. The police press release did not go into much detail beyond confirming that the attacks had hit a sizable number of bank users, leading to the theft of money. Computers were seized while further searches are being carried out in London and the Midlands.
Source: http://news.techworld.com/security/3408031/bank-phishing-gang-arrested-after-hotel-swoop/

6. *October 29, Ventura County Star* – (California) **Ventura police identify 'wigout bandit' suspect in recent bank robberies.** Ventura, California police and the FBI October 29, identified a man dubbed the "wigout bandit," a suspect in recent bank robberies and other crimes. The suspect is wanted on suspicion of three robberies since August and got his nickname because he wore a different wig every time he robbed a bank, authorities said. The robberies occurred August 1 at a U.S. Bank, and August 23 at a Chase Bank, as well as at a Rabobank. The suspect is known to frequent hotels in Ventura, Oxnard, and Santa Barbara and is considered armed and dangerous, authorities said.
Source: http://www.vcstar.com/news/2012/oct/29/ventura-police-identify-man-allegedly-for-recent/

7. *October 29, Chicago Tribune* – (Illinois) **Elmer Fudd Bandit' hits 5th bank on northwest side.** A robber dubbed the "Elmer Fudd Bandit" — because of his cap and plaid flannel shirt — is suspected of hitting his fifth bank in the Chicago area since

mid-October, authorities said. In the most recent heist, the robber implied he had a gun when he entered a bank in the Oriole Park neighborhood October 29, according to a police official. The man approached a teller and presented a note demanding cash, according to a FBI spokeswoman. After receiving an undisclosed amount of money, the robber fled on foot, she said. The robber then got into a mid-sized car that sped away. The FBI said the same robber is believed to have struck four other times: a robbery October 13 at a TCF Bank in Chicago; an attempted robbery October 14 at a TCF Bank in Des Plaines; a robbery October 15 at a Charter One branch in Norridge; and the October 24 robbery of a TCF Bank branch in Stickney.
Source: http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/breaking/chi-police-report-northwest-side-bank-robbed-20121029,0,4144488.story

For more stories, see items **1** and **32**

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Transportation Sector

8. *October 30, Cherry Hill Courier-Post* – (New Jersey) **Garden State Parkway reopened.** The entire length of the Garden State Parkway reopened after a 129-mile stretch was closed in both directions from Woodbridge to the southern terminus because of flooding caused by Hurricane Sandy, the Cherry Hill Courier-Post reported October 30. The New Jersey governor said that motorists should not drive unless absolutely necessary because 200 other State roads remain closed. The Lincoln Tunnel was open, and the Holland Tunnel was closed under further notice. The George Washington Bridge, Goethals Bridge, Bayonne Bridge and Outerbridge Crossing were reported closed until further notice. All Delaware River Port Authority toll crossings reopened to traffic October 29.
Source:
http://www.courierpostonline.com/article/20121030/NEWS01/310300039/Garden-State-Parkway-reopened

9. *October 30, WOWK 13 Charleston* – (West Virginia) **Interstate 68 closed due to severe conditions.** According to a press release, the West Virginia Department of Transportation, the West Virginia Department of Homeland Security, and the Monongalia County Homeland Security closed Interstate 68 from Exit 10, the Cheat Lake exit, to the West Virginia and Maryland State line due to treacherous road conditions until further notice, WOWK 13 Charleston reported October 30. 9-1-1 dispatchers said several vehicles were stranded on the roadway. Emergency crews were on the scene.
Source: http://www.wowktv.com/story/19948994/interstate-68-closed-due-to-severe-conditions

10. *October 30, Associated Press* – (Maryland) **Bay Bridge reopens after storm.** The Bay Bridge in Maryland reopened October 30 after being closed for about 18 hours because of superstorm Sandy, according to the Maryland Transportation Authority. All the

major bridges and tunnels operated by the authority were open, although some remained under wind restrictions.
Source: http://www.sfgate.com/news/article/Bay-Bridge-reopens-after-storm-3993070.php

11. *October 30, WAVE 3 Louisville* – (Kentucky) **Two children dead, others injured after school bus crash.** Two children died and others were injured after a school bus crashed and rolled over in Carroll County, Kentucky. According to a Kentucky State Police trooper, nine children and two adults were on board bus number 140 when it crashed October 29. Two children were pronounced dead at the scene, and three were transported to a children's hospital. One child was transported to another hospital in Lexington, and an additional three children were released to their parents after the crash. The adult assistant on the bus was transported to a hospital. The driver was uninjured. The children's hospital stated they were treating children for broken bones and head injuries. The bus was equipped with seat belts, and police said it appears all the children were wearing their seat belts at the time of the crash. Police said they believe the bus veered off the road, partially overturned, and then slammed into a tree.
Source: http://www.wafb.com/story/19946187/school-bus-overturns-in-carroll-co-crash-possible-injuries

12. *October 30, Newark Star-Ledger* – (New Jersey) **Hurricane Sandy wreaks continued havoc on N.J. roads, public transit.** High winds and heavy rain prompted the closing of the New Jersey Turnpike's Hudson County Extension between Exit 14 (Newark Airport/I-78/Routes 1&9) and the Holland Tunnel, the closing of the major toll road between Exit 8 (Route 33/Hightstown/Freehold) and Exit 7 (Route 206/Bordentown/Trenton), and speed restrictions of 45 mph for the nearly 100 miles below Exit 12 (Carteret/Rahway), the Newark Star-Ledger reported October 30. A travel ban remained in effect in Atlantic County, and personal vehicles were barred from Jersey City and Hoboken. New Jersey Transit train and bus service remained suspended, and Port Authority Trans-Hudson trains were still not running. The New Jersey governor said October 29 that transportation officials would have to assess the flooding before making a decision on when commuters could again take trains and buses to work. The Bayonne and Goethals bridges and the Outerbridge Crossing — the three spans from New Jersey to Staten Island — were closed. The Interstate 95/Scudder Falls Bridge above Trenton was closed the overnight October 29 because of downed wires across the roadway, while Philadelphia area crossings over the Delaware River were restricted to emergency vehicles and essential personnel, officials said.
Source: http://www.nj.com/news/index.ssf/2012/10/hurricane_sandy_wreaks_continu.html#incart_river

13. *October 30, Reuters* – (New York) **Sandy leaves unprecedented challenges for New York City subways.** The giant storm Sandy wreaked havoc on the New York City subway system, flooding tunnels, garages, and rail yards, and threatening to paralyze the country's largest mass-transit system for days, Reuters reported October 30. All seven subway tunnels running under the East River from Manhattan to Queens and

Brooklyn took in water, and any resulting saltwater damage to the system's electrical components would have to be cleaned, in some cases off-site, before the system can be restored, a spokeswoman for the Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA) said October 30. The MTA's Metro North Railroad lost power on its suburban Hudson and New Haven lines, while there was flooding in an East River tunnel used by the Long Island Rail Road, the agency said. The city closed subway, bus, and commuter train systems October 28, a full day before Sandy — one of the biggest storms to ever hit the United States — made landfall October 29 in neighboring New Jersey. About 5.3 million people on average use the New York City's subway system during weekdays.
Source: http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/10/30/us-storm-sandy-subway-idUSBRE89T0SU20121030

For more stories, see items **1** and **18**

Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to report

Agriculture and Food Sector

14. *October 29, U.S. Food and Drug Administration* – (National) **BT McElrath Chocolatier, Inc. announces nationwide recall of peanut butter pave due to possible health risks.** McElrath Chocolatier, Inc. initated a voluntary recall of the seasonal peanut butter pave October 26 because it has potentially been contaminated with Salmonella due to the expanded Sunlad Inc. recall, the U.S. Food and Drug Admnistration announced in an update October 29. The recall included four best by dates and four lot numbers. The recalled UPC codes are 693868102117 and 69386905312. The products were distributed nationwide through retail stores, mail order, and direct sales.
Source: http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/ucm326118.htm

Water Sector

15. *October 30, Associated Press* – (Maryland) **Power loss causes sewage overflow in Md.** State officials said a power outage caused by superstorm Sandy at a water reclamation plant in Savage, Maryland, resulted in a sewage overflow of 2 million gallons per hour into the main stem of the Little Patuxent River, the Associated Press reported October 30. Officials said the overflow began October 29 when a storm-induced power supply loss from both electrical feeders caused the overflow. Crews with the Bureau of Utilities were working with utility BGE to restore power. Officials

said because of the severity of Hurricane Sandy, no action immediate action was taken to mitigate the damage.
Source: http://www.abc27.com/story/19949116/power-loss-causes-sewage-overflow-in-md

16. *October 30, Kingston Daily Freeman* – (New York) **Kingston sewage treatment plant shuts down after flooding, transformer failure.** Utility workers October 30 worked to repair a transformer at the Kingston, New York's wastewater treatment plant after the unit malfunctioned, forcing the plant to cease normal operations, according to the Alderman-at-Large. He expected the repair to made and the plant to be up and running again before the end of that day. He said the plant had ceased operations after the Rondout Creek, along which the plant sits, overflowed its banks and 7-foot-high berms around the plant. The breach occurred as Hurricane Sandy was making its way across the region. The water from the creek was pumped out of the plant, and the facility returned to normal operation about two hours later. Shortly after that, however, a transformer that also was flooded blew out, causing the plant to malfunction again. The disruption in the plant's operation meant untreated solid waste was going directly into the creek. He did not know how much untreated waste had gone into the creek. Other than the flooding along the Rondout, the city did not experience any serious damage from Sandy.
Source:
http://www.dailyfreeman.com/articles/2012/10/30/news/doc508fe60050066329969122.txt

17. *October 30, Associated Press* – (New York) **Sewage goes into Hudson from Yonkers NY plants.** Health officials in Westchester County, New York, said partially treated sewage has been entering the Hudson River from two plants in Yonkers. The county asked Con Edison to cut power to the Yonkers Wastewater Treatment Plant October 29. The decision was made to protect workers and equipment due to flooding. The plant was being pumped out overnight. Later that night, the North Yonkers station became flooded and its pumps went out of service. That allowed the release of screened raw sewage into the Hudson River.
Source: http://poststar.com/news/state-and-regional/sewage-goes-into-hudson-from-yonkers-ny-plants/article_2dab9009-732b-58a5-849c-bcd55581e18c.html

18. *October 30, Manasquan Patch* – (New Jersey) **Manasquan: Travel, water restrictions.** Due to the devastation caused by Hurricane Sandy and an initial review of the damage, Manasquan, New Jersey, enacted travel restrictions in several areas of town. In addition, officials received word from the South Monmouth Regional Sewage Authority (SMRSA) that their nine pump stations located throughout South Monmouth County were flooded and inaccessible, according to a borough release October 30. With the pump station down and inaccessible, sewerage could not be received, causing backups in residential sewerage lines and homes. "Please avoid using your water, sink, toilets, and bathtubs as best as possible," the release said. Once the flooding recedes crews would be able to access the pump stations and make them operable. Until SMRSA gains access, no municipality can address the issue.

Source: http://manasquan.patch.com/articles/travel-water-restrictions-in-place-in-manasquan

19. *October 30, Associated Press* – (New Jersey) **Tidal surge overruns 2 NJ towns with floodwaters.** A huge tidal surge sent water overflowing a creek and gushing out of storm drains in two northern New Jersey towns October 30, filling streets with up to 5 feet of water and setting off a frantic rescue effort by boats and trucks. In Moonachie a police spokesman said water rose to 5 feet within 45 minutes, making roads impassable and cutting off residents who thought the worst from superstorm Sandy was over. The floodwaters also knocked out the police and fire departments, forcing them to relocate to a business in a neighboring community. Rescuers had trouble using boats to carry out rescues because water levels were varying from several feet to only inches. Trucks were also used. In neighboring Little Ferry, residents reported water suddenly started gushing out of storm drains October 29, and that within 90 minutes there was four feet of water in the road and entering houses. Residents of Little Ferry, situated near the confluence of the Hackensack River and a major creek, had put out sandbags and said they thought they had escaped damage when the water started coming out of the storm drains. Rescued residents were taken to the gym at a vocational-technical school in neighboring Teterboro. Local and county officials reported during the night that a levee had broken but the governor said that turned out to be incorrect.
Source: http://www.wtop.com/1211/3099089/Levee-breaks-in-NJ-town

20. *October 29, Monroe News Star* – (Louisiana) **Hillside water system issues boil advisory.** The Hillside Park Subdivision Water System issued a boil advisory October 29 which was expected to remain in effect until October 30. The water system is operated by Liberty Water Company (LWC). Water system crews were taking samples in five different locations in western Ouachita Parish, which would be provided to the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality for testing October 29. LWC officials anticipated the boil advisory would be lifted sometime October 30. The Department of Health and Hospitals advised people under the boil advisory to disinfect their water prior to consumption by boiling or other methods listed in a statement.
Source: http://www.thenewsstar.com/article/20121029/NEWS01/121029026/Hillside-water-system-issues-boil-advisory

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

21. *October 30, Associated Press* – (New York) **NYC hospital evacuated.** A backup generator failed at the New York University Tisch Hospital October 29, forcing it to move out more than 200 patients, including 20 babies from neonatal intensive care. Dozens of ambulances lined up around the block as doctors and nurses began the slow process of evacuation. Some were on respirators operating on battery power. Without power, there were no elevators, so patients — some of whom are being treated for cancer and other serious illnesses — were carefully carried down staircases. Ambulances came from around the city to help transport the sick. Patients were taken

to other hospitals including Mount Sinai and the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer. Most of the power outages in lower Manhattan, where Tisch is located, were due to an explosion at an electrical substation, officials said.
Source: http://www.fox11online.com/dpp/news/NYC-hospital-evacuated

22. *October 30, New Jersey Journal* – (New Jersey) **Palisades Medical Center fully evacuated.** Palisades Medical Center was fully evacuated October 30, according to a North Bergen, New Jersey township spokesman. The medical center began evacuations after two generators failed around 11 p.m. October 29. Township police officers, firefighters, DPW workers, and public officials were able to get two new generators to the medical center. The medical center was able to evacuate 83 patients to Hackensack Medical Center, including 13 that were on life support. The effort was coordinated by the North Bergen Police Department along with EMS and McCabe ambulance.
Source: http://www.nj.com/hudson/index.ssf/2012/10/palisades_medical_center_fully.html

23. *October 29, McAllen Monitor* – (Texas) **Prison sentences, restitution ordered in Medicaid fraud case.** A U.S. District Judge sentenced the former owner of Sarah's Pharmacy to a two year prison term and ordered she pay $440,708 in restitution for Medicaid fraud, the McAllen Monitor reported October 29. Her assistant was also sentenced to 18 months in prison. According to court records, the women submitted false claims for prescriptions that were not dispensed or for drugs that patients were not prescribed. The women used the pharmacy's gift shop to hide the paper trail.
Source: http://www.themonitor.com/news/local/article_b9438044-2233-11e2-8016-0019bb30f31a.html

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Government Facilities Sector

24. *October 30, WIS 10 Columbia* – (South Carolina) **Security breach could cost State more than $12 million.** The security breach that put millions of South Carolinians' social security numbers and credit cards in jeopardy could cost the State more than $12 million in fees to companies that will be working to protect those citizens and investigate the data theft. The South Carolina governor said October 30 that the State negotiated a capped rate of $12 million with Experian, the company providing credit monitoring and lifetime fraud protection to those affected by the data breach. The State already paid $125,000 to Mandiant, which is investigating how the breach of the Department of Revenue's servers happened and how to protect the State's online systems in the future. The governor also noted that out the hundreds of thousands of credit card numbers that were taken, none of the unencrypted cards were active. Experts have told the State that it may take up to 6-8 months for those who have stolen social security numbers to start using them for fraudulent activity. Those same experts, according to the governor, said that after a year the likelihood for fraudulent activity goes way down. The governor said 533,000 people have called the hotline and 287,000 have signed up for the offered services.

25. *October 30, Associated Press* – (Texas) **Suspect charged in Texas A&M campus bomb threat.** A man was charged October 29 in a false bomb threat at Texas A&M and a female friend accused in a similar hoax at Texas State University in San Marcos is being investigated in both cases. Texas A&M police said October 30 that they both are in a relationship. Police allege he emailed a threat to A&M in College Station October 19. He was arrested hours later on unrelated fraud charges.
Source: http://www.star-telegram.com/2012/10/30/4373868/suspect-arrested-in-texas-am-campus.html

26. *October 29, Huntington Patch* – (New York) **Wind damages Whitman High School.** Several chunks of Whitman High School's roof blew off October 29 as Hurricane Sandy brought high winds and rain to the Suffolk, New York area. The school's north gym, a separate building, was serving as a Suffolk County Red Cross shelter; it was undamaged. The South Huntington schools superintendent announced that the district canceled classes October 30 because of concern about the weather.
Source: http://huntington.patch.com/articles/wind-damages-whitman-high-school

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Emergency Services Sector

27. *October 30, Philadelphia Main Line Times* – (Pennsylvania) **Hurricane Sandy coverage: Emergency personal will not respond in hurricane level winds.** The Chester County, Pennsylvania Emergency services for hurricane operations for police, fire, and EMS along with Lower Merion fire officials have said for the safety of the personnel, the organization will discontinue response to all calls when sustained wind speeds reach 50 mph or wind gusts are over 65 mph. When the order to cease response is given due to hazardous wind conditions, as reported by Philadelphia Main Line Times October 30. Operations during the period of the eye of the hurricane passes would be limited to re-securing the fire station. All operations during the eye of the hurricane will only be performed if they can be done safely. Personnel will help citizens who come to the station when it would be a danger to release them.
Source: http://mainlinemedianews.com/articles/2012/10/30/main_line_suburban_life/news/doc508ee58c96d41692867645.txt?viewmode=fullstory

28. *October 30, Associated Press* – (Arkansas) **Search under way for convicted killer who escaped from maximum-security prison in Arkansas.** Authorities continued to search for a convicted killer who escaped from a maximum-security prison in Arkansas. The search continued October 30 for the inmate who is serving a 40-year sentence at the Tucker Unit. A correction department spokeswoman said the inmate and another inmate escaped the prison October 29 by hiding in an empty water tank atop an 18-wheel tractor-trailer. The other inmate was back in custody October 29.

Source:
http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/a6569f40d54c44c2acf3b3f0560a6a8e/AR--Inmate-Escapes-Arkansas

For more stories, see items **1** and **19**

Information Technology Sector

29. *October 30, SC Magazine UK* – (International) **Hurricane Sandy could cause problems in cyber space.** With Hurricane Sandy colliding with the East Coast, cyber criminals are likely to take advantage of the historic storm to make money or steal personal information from the unsuspecting. Like with most major news events, users should be on the lookout for legitimate-looking scams that will use the hurricane's mainstream allure to dupe them. "If the past repeats itself, Facebook postings, tweets, emails and websites claiming to have exclusive video or pleading for donations for disaster relief efforts will appear shortly after the storm hits," security company Avast warned October 29. "These messages often include malicious code that attempt to infect computers with viruses, spyware or Trojan horses." Online vandals have also been known to bait users through a technique known as black-hat search engine optimization (SEO), in which search results are poisoned so the attackers' sites appear near the top of rankings. Natural disasters lend a particularly lucrative hand to cyber criminals because many users want to make donations to victims. As such, they can be easily tricked into giving their money away to bogus sites that appear to be charities, such as the American Red Cross.
Source: http://www.scmagazineuk.com/hurricane-sandy-could-cause-problems-in-cyber-space/article/265955/

30. *October 30, Threatpost* – (International) **EFF raises questions on privacy leaks in Ubuntu.** The Elonic Frontier Foundation (EFF) is warning users of Ubuntu's latest release that the open-source operating system sends their search queries to third parties, including Amazon, by default, and that some of their search results may be viewable by other users on the same network. The privacy leaks are present in Ubuntu 12.10 and the group says that Canonical, which runs the Ubuntu project, should disable the inclusion of online search results by default and make it clearer to users what is being done with their search queries and IP addresses. The issues that the EFF is raising are related to a feature called Dash in the Ubuntu Unity desktop that is designed to be a central search mechanism for documents, files, and other information both on the local machine and online. When a user searches for a given term, the query is sent to a Ubuntu server, and the query also includes his/her IP address. The search results, depending upon the query, may include products from Amazon related to the search term.
Source: http://threatpost.com/en_us/blogs/eff-raises-questions-privacy-leaks-ubuntu-103012

31. *October 30, The H* – (International) **ICS-CERT warns of increasing threat to industrial control systems.** The Industrial Control Systems Cyber Emergency Response Team (ICS-CERT) issued a warning about special tools and search engines that make attacks on systems and devices in infrastructures simple even for inexperienced attackers. Tools aimed at cracking digital control systems from companies such as GE, Rockwell Automation, Schneider Electric, and Koyo were released earlier in 2012. Tools for CoDeSys software from 3S Software also recently appeared. These tools lower the barriers for attackers by removing the need for specialist knowledge in order to carry out an attack. Special search engines such as the Shodan Computer Location Service and the Every Routable IP Project (ERIPP) are also making attacks simpler for attackers. One team of researchers told ICS-CERT that they used Shodan to discover more than 500,000 unsecured devices which use supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) and other industrial control systems (ICS).
Source: http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/ICS-CERT-warns-of-increasing-threat-to-industrial-control-systems-1739808.html

32. *October 30, Wired* – (International) **Oops, e-mail marketer left Walmart, Capital One and others open to easy spoofing.** Following a recent story about a widespread email vulnerability involving weak cryptographic keys, system administrators at many companies around the world began to check their DNS records to make sure that the DKIM keys they were using to authenticate their email were at least 1,024 bits in length — the recommended standard for secure authentication of email. No doubt, if they found they were using substandard keys, they replaced those keys with stronger ones to secure their corporate business email. However, according to one researcher, these companies may be overlooking third-party emailers who are responsible for sending out marketing newsletters and other communication to customers on their behalf. In fact, email marketing company Epsilon Interactive, which thought it fixed the problem a year ago, left Walmart, TD Ameritrade, TiVo, and others open to easy spoofing.
Source: http://www.wired.com/threatlevel/2012/10/dkim-third-party-emailers/

33. *October 30, Help Net Security* – (International) **Facebook investigates data leak from 1 million accounts.** Facebook will be launching an internal investigation following the revelation by Czech blogger that data belonging to over 1 million Facebook users was offered for sale for $5. The blogger bought the data, which contained full names, email addresses and Facebook profile URLs, examined it, and discovered that some of the data is accurate. After making the discovery public on his blog, the blogger said he was contacted by Facebook. The company asked the blogger to forward them the data, then delete the file in his possession, name the Web site from which he bought it, remove some details from his blog, and keep any correspondence between them a secret. "Facebook is vigilant about protecting our users from those who would try to expose any form of user information. In this case, it appears someone has attempted to scrape information from our site and combine the information with data publicly available elsewhere on the web," Facebook commented the situation for Ars Technica.
Source: http://www.net-security.org/secworld.php?id=13870

Communications Sector

34. *October 30, ZDNet* – (New York; National) **Hurricane Sandy knocks out NYC data centers: Websites, services down.** Hurricane Sandy-caused power outages have knocked much of the East Coast offline, but also preemptive substation shutdowns to prevent damage to electricity infrastructure substation equipment is affecting data centers and online services around the world, ZDNet reported October 30. New York City's Consolidated Edison shut down large portions of the power grid in lower Manhattan to prevent damage to underground equipment, leaving more than an estimated 1 million without power. Within minutes, Gawker.com and technology Web site Gizmodo.com crumbled, saying a data center battery failure forced the sites to fall down at their lower Manhattan data center. Also affected was Buzzfeed.com citing similar problems, and LiveStream.com said it was experiencing a "major outage." In spite of being on the other side of the Atlantic, many are affected by the outages. HuffingtonPost.com remains down for many, after the publication said it was experiencing "technical difficulties."
Source: http://www.zdnet.com/hurricane-sandy-knocks-out-nyc-data-centers-websites-services-down-7000006588/

35. *October 30, Reuters* – (National) **Hurricane Sandy disrupts Northeast US telecom networks.** Verizon Communications said October 30 that its wireline service was suffering as flooding in its central offices in lower Manhattan affected its back-up generators and batteries. The company said that its engineers were on site October 29 and were beginning to assess damage. Sprint Nextel said it was seeing outages at some cell sites because of the power outages across all the States in Sandy's path including New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Washington D.C., Maryland, northern Virginia, and New England. People complained of outages to their cable telephone, Internet, and television services from providers ranging from Comcast Corp, Cablevision Systems Corp, and Verizon in New Jersey, Connecticut, and New York. Cablevision said it was experiencing widespread service interruptions primarily related to loss of power. Cell phone service also appeared to be spotty for other top providers AT&T Inc and T-Mobile USA, a unit of Deutsche Telekom, according to some customers.
Source: http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/10/30/uk-storm-sandy-telecommunications-idUSLNE89T02220121030

Commercial Facilities Sector

36. *October 30, Associated Press* – (Virginia) **Alexandria braces for flooding, apartments damaged.** An Alexandria, Virginia apartment building had its roof torn open by strong winds from superstorm Sandy, and the city is bracing for possible flooding in Old Town, the Associated Press reported October 30. An Alexandria spokesman said about 20 people in a garden-style apartment building were evacuated when the roof was damaged by the wind. The building was condemned, and residents all found places to stay. Alexandria officials planned to distribute sandbags October 30 at Market Square in front of City Hall. He said the sandbags are primarily for business owners along the riverfront. Many homes in Alexandria had tree damage. About 11,000 Alexandria residents were without power. He said the city's infrastructure and historic sites were in good condition after the storm.
Source: http://www.wset.com/story/19950190/roofs-of-3-buildings-torn-by-wind-in-alexandria

37. *October 29, Associated Press* – (Florida) **One dead, one charged after apartment meth lab explosion.** One man was dead and another faced charges following what authorities believed was a meth lab explosion in Niceville, Florida, October 27. Officials said one suspect suffered severe burns on his face, neck, chest, and arms. He was taken to local hospital, where he later died. Police said the other suspect was arrested after being forcibly removed from the burning home. According to the Northwest Florida Daily News, neighbors told officers the suspect threatened to kill them for calling police. A police report said the suspect faced aggravated assault and resisting arrest charges. The exact cause of the fire remained under investigation, but investigators referred to the crime as an "alleged methamphetamine lab" explosion.
Source: http://www.wjhg.com/home/headlines/One-Dead-One-Charged-After-Apartment-Explosion-176318891.html

38. *October 29, Associated Press* – (California) **City sweeps up after rowdy Series celebration.** Police made dozens of arrest during a rowdy World Series celebration in the hours after the San Francisco Giants clinched the World Series. The San Francisco Police Department reported October 29 that 35 people were arrested, 22 on felony charges. Two people were arrested on gun charges. Bonfires of trash were lit in several intersections around the city, and a public transit bus was torched. Windows of several businesses and vehicles were broken, including a news van. Firefighters had police escorts as they fought fires fueled by couches, news racks, and other debris. Much of the vandalism occurred in the city's Mission District, where 24 of the arrests occurred.
Source: http://news.yahoo.com/city-sweeps-rowdy-series-celebration-180533442--spt.html

For more stories, see items **32** and **41**

National Monuments and Icons Sector

Nothing to report

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Dams Sector

39. *October 30, Nextgov* – (National) **Army Corps monitors Northeast rivers for flooding, provides critical support.** To help control flooding in New England in the wake of Hurricane Sandy, the Army Corps of Engineers would use 171 satellite monitoring stations to measure river levels and manage flood control dams, Nextgov reported October 30. A spokesman for the Corps' New England District said the monitoring stations can "record every drop of water" from the storm and transmit the information every 15 minutes via the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite. The Corps uses this information to help manage operation of its 35 flood control dams in New England, by closing or throttling back the flow of water through the dams. The Corps also operates hurricane surge barriers in New Bedford, Massachusetts; Providence, Rhodes Island; and Stamford, Connecticut. The barriers help control flooding.
Source: http://www.nextgov.com/defense/2012/10/army-corps-monitors-northeast-rivers-flooding-provides-critical-support/59119/

40. *October 29, Boston Herald* – (Massachusetts) **Waves spilling over Scituate seawall as Sandy hits early.** Hurricane Sandy started tossing waves over the Scituate, Massachusetts seawall about an hour earlier than town officials expected — a surprise they hoped would spur stubborn, weather-hardened coastal residents to heed an evacuation warning, the Boston Herald reported October 29. The storm began hurling water over the seawall two full hours before high tide. "As folks see that happening, they may decide it's time to evacuate to the shelter, or elsewhere with family and friends," a Town Administrator said of oceanfront residents. The town set up a pet-friendly shelter at Scituate High School, including 20 cots, lunch tables, and children's games. Only two evacuees had shown up when a Herald reporter checked in October 29.
Source: http://news.bostonherald.com/news/regional/view.bg?articleid=1061171152

41. *October 29, Cherry Hill Patch* – (New Jersey) **Mandatory evacuation ahead of possible dam failure.** Officials in Cherry Hill, New Jersey, ordered a mandatory evacuation for all residents along Park Boulevard near the Armory because of rising waters at the Evans Mill Dam and fears those conditions could cause a failure. This evacuation applied to residents of the Farrell Place mobile home park, the Habitat Apartments, and several homes between Sayre Avenue and the Park Place Condominiums. It does not include residents of the condominiums themselves. Police and the fire department were at the mobile home park to evacuate residents. Buses were available to whisk residents away from the area. Residents were urged first to try to

arrange stays with family or friends. An emergency shelter was also available at Cherry Hill High School East. Water had nearly topped the dam by late in the day, and the main spillway and overflows were torrents of whitewater.
Source: http://cherryhill.patch.com/articles/mandatory-evacuation-ahead-of-possible-dam-failure

42. *October 29, Northwest Cable News* – (Washington) **Bomb destroys flood gauge on eve of storm.** A witness heard an explosion near his home in Pacific, Washington, October 28 that turned out be some kind of homemade explosive that destroyed an important U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) flood monitoring device on the flood prone White River. The device uplinks critical river flow information to the Web for flood managers from several agencies. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers used it for the operation of the Howard Hanson Dam upstream. The agencies were expecting to use it during the upcoming rain storms forecasted for October 30 and the rest of the week. The box is so vital for flood protection that USGS technicians replaced it in a matter of a few hours. Pacific police were not commenting on the case, but did say they have not arrested anyone and have no suspects at this time. The boxes provide a network that give agencies an overall flood picture so they can evacuate homes and close streets if necessary hours before the flood waters arrive.
Source:
http://www.nwcn.com/home/?fId=176356601&fPath=/news/local&fDomain=10212

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