



Homeland
Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report

18 November 2013

Top Stories

- A punctured Chevron gas pipeline triggered an explosion that led to the evacuation of a nearby Texas town. – *Reuters* (See item [5](#))
- Pacific Gas and Electric Co. is investigating the cause of a blackout that left nearly 98,000 homes and businesses in Stockton, California, and surrounding areas without power for about 2 hours. – *Stockton Record* (See item [6](#))
- A man was found guilty in a charity fraud case where he stole \$100 million from the United States Navy Veterans Association. – *Associated Press* (See item [11](#))
- Estonia agreed to extradite three suspected DNSChanger cybercriminals to the U.S. who were allegedly involved in infecting 4 million computers and fraudulently obtaining over \$14 million. – *Softpedia* (See item [30](#))

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Energy Sector

1. *November 15, Associated Press* – (Mississippi) **1 killed in Mississippi refinery blast, fire.** One worker was killed after an explosion and fire at the Chevron-owned Cracking II Processing Unit in Sudduth November 15. Authorities are investigating the incident. Source: http://www.galvestondailynews.com/news_ap/nation/article_a7a85a00-5ed9-5772-8a4d-c922966ef35e.html
2. *November 15, Muscatine Journal* – (Iowa) **Area power plant closes; will be torn down.** The CIPCO Fair Station near Montpelier stopped burning its coal and shut down November 2. The generating station is in the process of decommissioning. Source: http://qctimes.com/business/area-power-plant-closes-down-will-be-torn-down-replaced/article_d03c629a-4deb-11e3-bf74-0019bb2963f4.html
3. *November 14, WMAQ 5 Chicago* – (Illinois) **Hundreds of underground tanks leaking in Chicago.** The city of Chicago reported that 3,353 leaking underground oil and gasoline storage tanks were reported as of 2012 to Chicago's Department of Public Health, and city officials estimated that nearly 1,800 still require clean up as they may be leaving toxic patches of soil in neighborhoods around northern Illinois. Source: <http://www.nbcchicago.com/news/local/Underground-Storage-Tanks-Creating-Toxic-Soil-231846081.html>
4. *November 14, Associated Press* – (Alabama; Kentucky) **TVA to close 8 coal-powered units in Ala., Ky.** Two coal-powered units in Kentucky were scheduled to be replaced with a natural gas plant while six coal-powered units in Alabama were slated to close as voted by the Tennessee Valley Authority's board November 14 due to increased environmental regulations and flat power demand. Source: <http://www.chieftain.com/news/nation/2011797-120/alabama-coal-plant-units>
5. *November 14, Reuters* – (Texas) **Texas town evacuated after gas pipeline explosion.** A Chevron liquefied petroleum gas pipeline was punctured by a drilling crew in Milford November 14 and triggered an explosion that led to an evacuation of a nearby town of 700 residents within a 1.5 mile zone. Officials allowed the flare to burn itself out to allow for repairs and expected the evacuation to last through November 15. Source: <http://news.msn.com/us/texas-town-evacuated-after-gas-pipeline-explosion>
6. *November 13, Stockton Record* – (California) **Blackout leaves thousands without power.** Nearly 98,000 homes and businesses lost power for about 2 hours November 12 from Stockton to Mother Lode. Pacific Gas and Electric Co. crews are investigating the cause of the blackout. Source: http://www.recordnet.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20131113/A_NEWS/311130315/-1/NEWSMAP

Chemical Industry Sector

7. *November 14, WWJ-TV 62 Detroit* – (Michigan) **HAZMAT team called to scene of chemical plant fire, homes evacuated.** A two-alarm fire and level three HAZMAT situation at Chemical Technology in Detroit caused the evacuation of a three-block radius of multiple homes for over 3 hours November 14.
Source: <http://detroit.cbslocal.com/2013/11/14/detroit-building-fire-prompts-home-business-evacuations/>

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector

8. *November 14, Las Vegas Sun* – (Nevada) **Potentially hazardous nuclear gauge missing in Las Vegas; reward offered.** A soil density and moisture gauge containing radioactive materials went missing in Las Vegas when it fell off of a truck November 12. Police asked for the public's help in recovering the device.
Source: <http://www.lasvegassun.com/news/2013/nov/14/radioactive-nuke-gauge-missing-las-vegas-reward-of/>

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

9. *November 15, Car Connection* – (National) **2013-2014 Chevrolet Malibu recalled for A/C software & electrical problems.** General Motors issued a recall of 46,326 model year 2013 and 2014 Chevrolet Malibu vehicles in the U.S. due to an HVAC software issue and an electrical wiring issue.
Source: http://www.thecarconnection.com/news/1088504_2013-2014-chevrolet-malibu-recalled-for-a-c-software-electrical-problems
10. *November 14, U.S. Department of Labor* – (Mississippi) **Trinity Yachts cited by U.S. Department of Labor's OSHA for repeat and serious violations; more than \$177,000 in fines proposed.** Trinity Yachts LLC was cited by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration with 4 repeat, 14 serious, and 2 other-than-serious safety and health violations at its Gulfport shipbuilding facility after an inspection resulting from a complaint. Proposed fines totaled \$177,100.
Source: https://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=NEWS_RELEASES&p_id=25098

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

Nothing to report

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Financial Services Sector

11. *November 14, Associated Press* – (National) **Jury convicts ex-fugitive in \$100M vets charity fraud case.** A man arrested in Portland, Oregon, was found guilty November 14 before a court in Cleveland, Ohio, for stealing \$100 million from the United States Navy Veterans Association, a charity he ran in Tampa, Florida.
Source: <http://www.militarytimes.com/article/20131114/NEWS06/311140010>
12. *November 14, Columbia The State* – (South Carolina) **RCSD: Nine arrested, 42 sought in massive bank fraud scheme.** The Richland County Sheriff's Department announced November 14 that four alleged ringleaders of a bank fraud scheme were arrested for allegedly recruiting up to 90 others to open bank accounts at Wells Fargo, TD Bank, and Woodforest Bank that were turned over to the ringleaders and used to fraudulently obtain more than \$100,000 in bad checks and ATM withdrawals.
Source: <http://www.thestate.com/2013/11/14/3098066/nine-arrested-42-sought-in-massive.html>
13. *November 14, Charleston Post and Courier* – (South Carolina) **Car damages BB&T bank building in Summerville.** A BB&T bank branch in Summerville was severely damaged when a car crashed into the building November 14.
Source: <http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20131114/PC16/131119695/1005/>
14. *November 13, Phoenix Business Journal* – (Arizona) **Credit card processing business owners indicted on fraud, money laundering charges.** Four executives and one employees of three Phoenix area credit card payment processing companies were indicted for allegedly misleading customers into signing leases for their services, forging up to 200 business owners' and managers' signatures, changing contract terms after clients signed agreements, and then transferring \$2.9 million of fraudulently obtained money into personal bank accounts.
Source: <http://www.bizjournals.com/phoenix/news/2013/11/13/credit-card-processing-business-owners.html?page=all>

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Transportation Systems Sector

15. *November 15, WKYT 27 Lexington* – (Kentucky) **Seven injured in Powell County crash.** A four-vehicle accident on Kentucky Highway 1057 in Powell County injured seven people, three critically, and closed the highway for several hours November 14. Kentucky State Police are investigating the crash.

Source: <http://www.wkyt.com/home/headlines/At-least-seven-injured-in-Powell-County-crash-231975511.html?ref=511>

16. *November 14, Associated Press* – (California) **Truck fire shuts down Southern California freeway.** A semi-truck carrying hydrogen that caught fire on State Route 60 in Hacienda Heights prompted authorities to order residents to stay indoors for several hours, and initially closed the freeway in both directions for about 5 hours until all but one eastbound lane was reopened after 7 hours November 14.
Source: <http://www.vcstar.com/news/2013/nov/14/truck-fire-shuts-down-southern-california/>

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Food and Agriculture Sector

17. *November 14, U.S. Food and Drug Administration* – (National) **Crunch Pak issues voluntary recall of limited quantities of Crunch Pak brand apple slices because of possible health risk.** Crunch Pak of Cashmere, Washington, voluntarily recalled 5,471 cases of Crunch Pak apple slices November 14 after the Minnesota Department of Agriculture tested a random sample of the product that came up positive for *Listeria monocytogenes*.
Source: <http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/ucm375135.htm>

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Water and Wastewater Systems Sector

18. *November 15, WFXL 31 Albany* – (Georgia) **Leaks cause WG&L Treatment Plant to shut down.** The Water, Gas & Light Treatment Plant in Albany, Georgia, shut down after an inspection found that the plant was leaking around 100,000 gallons per day, which could create a threat of undermining the plant's foundation if the leaks continued.
Source: <http://www.mysouthwestga.com/news/story.aspx?id=971511>
19. *November 14, Hendersonville Times-News* – (North Carolina) **Water main damaged on Spartanburg Highway.** About 300 customers in Henderson County lost water service November 14 after a water line broke. Service was expected to return by November 15.
Source: <http://www.blueridgenow.com/article/20131114/ARTICLES/131119948>

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Healthcare and Public Health Sector

20. *November 15, Dyersburg State Gazette* – (Tennessee) **DPD investigating burglary of local pharmacy.** Police are searching for two suspects in connection with stealing nearly a dozen bottles containing hundreds of hydrocodone pills November 9 from C&C Pharmacy in Dyersburg while the store was closed.

Source: <http://www.stategazette.com/story/2024128.html>

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Government Facilities Sector

21. *November 15, Softpedia* – (California) **10 fake websites shut down by California authorities.** Officials shut down 10 hoax Web sites imitating Covered California, the State's insurance marketplace for the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. The sites were shut down or redirected to the official site.
Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/10-Fake-Obamacare-Websites-Shut-Down-by-California-Authorities-400617.shtml>
22. *November 15, Fairbanks Daily News-Miner* – (Alaska) **Schools closed for Friday; thousands in Fairbanks region still without power due to winter storm.** The Fairbanks North Star Borough School District cancelled school November 13-15 due to potential staff shortages after a severe storm knocked out power to thousands of homes and businesses in the Fairbanks area.
Source: http://www.newsminer.com/news/local_news/schools-closed-thousands-without-power-as-winter-storm-blows-through/article_decb72ee-4d21-11e3-a581-0019bb30f31a.html
23. *November 14, Racine Journal Times* – (Wisconsin) **Power back on at city hall and police department.** Power was out November 14 in Racine, impacting the city hall, city hall annex, and the police department for several hours after contractors damaged a feed to a transformer outside the city annex.
Source: http://journaltimes.com/news/local/city-hall-and-police-department-have-power-outage/article_11d31a00-4d47-11e3-8061-001a4bcf887a.html
24. *November 14, KXAS 5 Fort Worth* – (Texas) **UNT area sees fifth gas leak within several weeks.** Kerr Hall, a dormitory at the University of North Texas, was evacuated for about 2 hours November 13 after a nearby gas leak occurred while Atmos Energy crews were working on replacing a pipeline. The incident was the fifth gas leak that has impacted the school over the past few weeks.
Source: <http://www.nbcdfw.com/news/local/UNT-Area-Sees-Fifth-Gas-Leak-Within-Several-Weeks-231986651.html>
25. *November 14, Morristown Daily Record* – (New Jersey) **Explosives scare at Denville school a false alarm.** The Lakeview School in Denville was evacuated and closed November 14 after an empty box with a label stating explosives was found in the cafeteria. Police searched the campus and gave an all clear once nothing suspicious was found.
Source: <http://www.dailyrecord.com/article/20131114/NJNEWS/311140027/Suspicious-package-under-investigation-Denville-school>

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Emergency Services Sector

Nothing to report

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Information Technology Sector

26. *November 15, Softpedia* – (International) **Linux machines exposed due to VMware Workstation host privilege escalation flaw.** VMware released updates for its VMware Workstation and VMware Player software, fixing a vulnerability in how shared libraries are handled that could allow an attacker to escalate their privileges to root.
Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Linux-Machines-Exposed-Due-to-VMware-Workstation-Host-Privilege-Escalation-Flaw-400690.shtml>
27. *November 15, Softpedia* – (International) **Arbor Networks analyzes Athena DDoS malware.** Arbor Networks published an analysis of the Athena malware, capable of launching distributed denial of service (DDoS) attacks, stealing information, and downloading other malware.
Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Arbor-Networks-Analyzes-Athena-DDOS-Malware-400363.shtml>
28. *November 15, Softpedia* – (International) **Google fixes critical Chrome flaw found by expert at Mobile Pwn2Own 2013.** Google released an update to its Chrome browser that closes two critical vulnerabilities identified at the Mobile Pwn2Own 2013 competition. An exploit developed by a competitor in the contest leveraged an integer overflow and a bug to achieve full sandbox escape.
Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Google-Fixes-Critical-Chrome-Flaw-Found-by-Expert-at-Mobile-Pwn2Own-2013-400471.shtml>
29. *November 15, Threatpost* – (International) **Apple iOS 7.04 fixes App Store purchase flaw.** Apple released an update for iOS 7, which closes a vulnerability that could allow a user to make app or in-app purchases without entering their password.
Source: <http://threatpost.com/apple-ios-7-04-fixes-app-store-purchase-flaw>
30. *November 15, Softpedia* – (International) **Estonia agrees to extradite alleged DNSChanger cybercriminals to the U.S.** Estonia agreed to extradite three suspects to the U.S. where they are charged with allegedly being involved in the DNSChanger malware campaign that infected 4 million computers and fraudulently obtain over \$14 million.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Estonia-Agrees-to-Extradite-3-Alleged-DNSChanger-Cybercriminals-to-the-US-AP-400627.shtml>

31. *November 14, IDG News Service* – (International) **Cybercriminals target Silverlight users with new exploit kit.** Researchers found that the creators of the Angler Exploit Kit added an exploit for a known Microsoft Silverlight plugin vulnerability to the exploit kit's capabilities.

Source: <http://www.networkworld.com/news/2013/111413-cybercriminals-target-silverlight-users-with-275993.html>

32. *November 14, WNIJ 89.5 FM DeKalb* – (Illinois) **Board finds safety “fell through the cracks” in '09 explosion.** A report by the U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazardous Investigation Board report on a 2009 explosion at a NDK Crystal plant in Belvidere, which manufactured artificial quartz for wireless devices and phones, found that the company ignored a safety auditor's warning and did not meet federal and State regulations at the facility prior to the explosion. The facility has not resumed operations since 2009.

Source: <http://northernpublicradio.org/post/board-finds-safety-fell-through-cracks-09-explosion>

Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@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: <http://www.it-isac.org>

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Communications Sector

Nothing to report

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Commercial Facilities Sector

33. *November 15, Albany Times Union* – (New York) **Chemical odor forces evacuation of Riverview Center in Menands.** The Riverview Center in Menands was evacuated November 14 due to a chemical odor that filtered into the building's ventilation system and spread throughout the fifth floor while work was being done to the roof. The building was scheduled to reopen November 15.

Source: <http://www.timesunion.com/local/article/Chemical-odor-forces-evacuation-of-Riverview-4984625.php>

34. *November 14, Wichita Eagle* – (Kansas) **Bomb threats made to three Wichita stores; no explosives found.** One Walgreens store and two Kmart stores in Wichita

were searched after they received phoned bomb threats November 14. Police searched all three businesses and cleared the buildings once nothing suspicious was found.

Source: <http://www.kansas.com/2013/11/14/3118088/bomb-threats-made-to-three-wichita.html>

For additional stories, see items [6](#), and [22](#)

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Dams Sector

Nothing to report

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Department of Homeland Security (DHS)
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