Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 8 September 2010

Current Nationwide Threat Level

ELEVATED

Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks

For information, click here: http://www.dhs.gov

Top Stories

- The Associated Press reports that a former Army soldier seeking help for mental problems at Winn Army Community Hospital on Fort Stewart in Georgia took three workers hostage at gunpoint Monday before authorities persuaded the gunman to surrender peacefully. (See item **35**)
- According to the Denver Post, wildfire fanned by heavy wind charred more than 3,500 acres in the foothills west of Boulder, forcing the evacuation of about 1,000 homes. More than 35 fire departments and agencies, including the U.S. Forest Service and the Colorado State Forest Service, responded to the blaze, which started about 10 a.m. Monday. (See item **60**)

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Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: ELEVATED, Cyber: ELEVATED
Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) - [http://www.esisac.com]

1. *September 7, Associated Press* – (Texas) **Tropical Storm Hermine crosses into Texas.** Hermine weakened September 7 but continued dumping heavy rains on a

northern crawl through Texas, barely holding on to tropical storm strength but leaving behind a path of widespread power outages and landslides in Mexico. Hermine continued dissolving just south of San Antonio and was expected to be downgraded into a tropical depression later September 7. Most of south Texas woke up to few signs that a tropical system had swept through, aside from scattered downed trees and power lines. As many as 35,000 homes were without power in the Rio Grande Valley early September 7, according to an online outage map of American Electric Power, the area's power utility.
Source:
http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5gVWjsPEiqe1tEu2mhBIRaxxGi8owD9I36AFO2

2. *September 7, WWL 105.3 New Orleans* – (Louisiana) **Chalmette Refining sets up claims number for powdery chemical release.** Chalmette Refining, LLC, has set up a toll free number for people to call in regards to powdery substance that coated many homes, cars and other property in St. Bernard Parish September 6. An electrical outage caused the refinery to release about 2,000 pounds of a spent catalyst. Officials say it is not harmful, but it did create a nuisance for many residents who had to spend their Labor Day cleaning it up. The St. Bernard Parish president said he is in contact with Chalmette Refining. The St. Bernard Parish fire chief said that despite assurances from the plant that the chemical is not dangerous, he said the sand-like nature of it could be enough to cause problems for people with severe respiratory illness.
Source: http://www.wwl.com/Chalmette-Refining-sets-up-claims-number-for-powde/8087670

3. *September 7, Reuters* – (National) **Hermine lashes south Texas, 3 other storms possible.** Hermine's path kept it away from major oil and gas installations in the Gulf of Mexico, and refineries in Texas were unaffected by the passage of the storm, operators said. The storm was expected to weaken during the next 48 hours and become a tropical depression later September 7. Thunderstorms and flooding rains, however, were expected to continue into the southern Plains and mid-Mississippi Valley before dissipating across the Ohio Valley, according to private forecaster Weather 2000. In addition, the NHC was monitoring three other tropical systems in the Atlantic basin, including the remnants of Tropical Storm Gaston, but it was too early to tell whether any of the systems might move into the Gulf and disrupt offshore energy production.
Source: http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE6850XX20100907

4. *September 3, Associated Press* – (North Dakota) **Texas firm temporarily plugs leaking ND oil well.** A ruptured oil well in western North Dakota was temporarily plugged on September 3 after leaking more than 2,400 barrels of crude and water, company officials said. A spokesman for Denbury Onshore LLC of Plano, Texas said the company had done a successful static kill by pumping heavy mud in the well that began leaking early September 1 about 2.5 miles southwest of Killdeer, North Dakota. Crews began pumping the mud into the well immediately after the spill was detected, and it stopped leaking at about 1 a.m. on September 3, he said.
Source: http://www.miamiherald.com/2010/09/03/1806874/texas-firm-temporarily-plugs-leaking.html

5. *September 3, Government Computer News* – (National) **NIST guidelines tackle the security issues that accompany smart grid.** A final set of guidelines for a smart-grid security architecture has been released by the National Institute of Standards and Technology, outlining how security requirements will be incorporated into the design of the nation's next-generation power distribution system. "The United States has embarked on a major transformation of its electric power infrastructure," the interagency report states. "This vast infrastructure upgrade — extending from homes and businesses to fossil-fuel-powered generating plants and wind farms, affecting nearly everyone and everything in between — is central to national efforts to increase energy efficiency, reliability, and security; to transition to renewable sources of energy; to reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and to build a sustainable economy that ensures future prosperity." But security challenges will come with the new intelligent infrastructure. "While integrating information technologies is essential to building the smart grid and realizing its benefits, the same networked technologies add complexity and also introduce new interdependencies and vulnerabilities," the report states. "Approaches to secure these technologies and to protect privacy must be designed and implemented early in the transition to the smart grid."
Source: http://gcn.com/articles/2010/09/03/nist-smart-grid-security-guidelines.aspx

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Chemical Industry Sector

6. *September 4, KOCO 5 Oklahoma City* – (Oklahoma) **Tanker crash closes Oklahoma highway.** A section of Oklahoma State Highway 136 about 3 miles north of Guymon in the Oklahoma Panhandle was closed September 4 following a tanker truck crash. Investigators said the nearby area is being evacuated because the truck was carrying anhydrous ammonia and the tanker has pop-off valves. The Guymon Fire Department has crews at the scene and said the driver was injured and pinned in the vehicle. The Department of Environmental Quality will also be coming to the crash site.
Source: http://www.koco.com/mostpopular/24884100/detail.html

7. *September 4, Northern Virginia Daily* – (Virginia) **Four firefighters hurt fighting blaze at Winchester plant.** Four firefighters were hurt combating a three-alarm fire at 806 N. Kent St. in Winchester, Virginia, early September 4. They were observed, and released about 3 1/2 hours after going to Winchester Medical Center. "We had several explosions," the fire chief said of the fire that was reported at 2:45 a.m. at Pacific Elastomers Co. Inc. The firefighters were not hurt by the explosion itself, but possibly by debris and chemicals that were inside the warehouse. The fire was reported by a passerby who heard an explosion and saw flames. Frederick County's and Winchester Fire and Rescue's fire marshal's offices are jointly investigating the fire. Clarke County also sent units to the scene, which was cleared at about 12:30 p.m.
Source: http://www.nvdaily.com/news/2010/09/four-firefighters-hurt-fighting-blaze-at-winchester-plant.php

8. *September 3, WLWT 5 Cincinnati* – (Indiana) **I-74 reopened following hazmat crash.** Interstate 74 in Indiana was closed for much of the day September 3 in Dearborn

and Ripley counties due to a tanker truck crash. The crash happened just before 7:30 a.m. in a construction zone near mile marker 159, dispatchers said. The driver told troopers that his liquid cargo began to slosh as he drove through uneven pavement in the construction area, causing the tanker to fall against the concrete barrier and overturn. A hazardous materials team was called to the scene because the overturned truck is carrying 4,000 gallons of phthalic anhydride molten, which is widely used in industry for the production of certain dyes. The chemical has some flammability, but is more dangerous to people exposed to it. Troopers said a few gallons had spilled, but the spill was quickly contained. A sergeant said that the material in the tanker was at a temperature of 300 degrees, and the material was being allowed to cool to 270 degrees before crews begin trying to remove it. The driver suffered a head injury and was airlifted to University Hospital. Westbound lanes were reopened about 1:30 p.m., but eastbound lanes remained closed until about 7 p.m.
Source: http://www.wlwt.com/traffic/24868006/detail.html

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

9. *September 7, Associated Press* – (Ohio) **NRC sets meeting to discuss Davis-Besse problems.** The Nuclear Regulatory Commission will host a meeting at 6 p.m. September 9 at Oak Harbor High School to discuss its special investigation into cracks found around reactor head nozzles at Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station. An NRC spokeswoman said such meetings are typically closed to the public, but because of local concern about Davis-Besse's safe operation, the agency decided to make the meeting open. On September 6, FirstEnergy Corp. announced it submitted an application to the NRC for the renewal of Davis-Besse's operating license. The 1970s-era plant is licensed to operate through 2017. If the NRC approves the extension, Davis-Besse would be licensed to operate through 2037.
Source: http://www.sanduskyregister.com/2010/sep/06/nrcpreviewsw090310xml

10. *September 4, Tennessean* – (Tennessee) **TN firm faces hefty fine for nuke operation lapses.** The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has proposed that a nuclear fuel processing company in Erwin, Tennessee be fined $140,000 for its lack of control of radioactive materials in an October 2009 event. A chemical reaction got out of hand last October at Nuclear Fuel Services, damaging pipes and forcing evacuation of a building, because multiple safeguards failed there, according to the NRC. "These failures were primarily attributable to a lack of management oversight, a lack of a questioning attitude, perceived production pressure and poor communication," the NRC Regional Administrator said in the announcement. The violations, the regional administrator wrote, "clearly demonstrate continuing poor performance" in management oversight, the process for making changes to systems and the facility's safety culture.
Source: http://www.tennessean.com/article/20100904/NEWS01/9040325/TN-firm-faces-hefty-fine-for-nuke-operation-lapses

11. *September 4, Idaho State Journal* – (Idaho) **Idaho Accelerator Center: Two quarter-size radiation sources misplaced.** Officials with the Idaho Accelerator Center in Pocatello have notified the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission that two small radiation sources have been misplaced, though they stressed there is no danger to human health. The missing transuranic material — with a higher atomic number than uranium — is likely still in one of the three Accelerator Center laboratories, said the director of the ISU-run facility. Several new safeguards have been implemented as a result of the incident, the director said. The missing items are called button sources and are about the size of a quarter. They are used for testing devices that detect for nuclear materials in laboratories. The button sources turned up missing in late July or early August. On August 19, the button sources were declared missing, and officials concluded September 2 the items would not be easily located, and it was time to notify the NRC. Protocol requires any scientist who checks out button sources to sign a form. The sources were last signed out about six months ago. To make certain nobody fails to sign for button sources in the future, the ISU director explained new rules require two signatures. Button sources are stored in a safe, and the number of researchers with keys to the safe has been reduced to six.
Source: http://www.idahostatejournal.com/news/online/article_fcb1ff1c-b805-11df-a6ee-001cc4c03286.html

12. *September 3, San Diego North County Times* – (California) **NRC says worker performance problems grow at nuke plant.** Government regulators say San Onofre Nuclear Generation Station has fallen further behind in identifying and solving problems involving the safety culture at the plant, despite previous assurances from top managers. A letter sent by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to Southern California Edison spells out the concerns, which will be discussed in a public meeting September 16 at a Dana Point hotel. The letter, made public September 3, comes days after Edison announced that the former plant chief had stepped down and would be replaced by an interim chief nuclear officer. Regulators have been steadily hammering the utility at public meetings since 2008. The most recent letter from the NRC indicates that the number of issues with problem identification and resolution have increased from 13 to 19.
Source: http://www.nctimes.com/news/local/sdcounty/article_934c6caa-bf61-5e12-a744-48b303b48710.html

13. *September 3, Palm Beach Post* – (Florida) **St. Lucie Unit 1 nuclear reactor to get more scrutiny, NRC says.** Florida Power & Light Co.'s St. Lucie Unit 1 reactor is in the "yellow" performance category, and a U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission team will be giving the reactor a detailed inspection later in September, the NRC reported September 3. The St. Lucie plant was first classified as yellow in April after air leaked into a cooling water system. An NRC Administrator said in April, "While there were no actual safety consequences, air in that system could have lessened its capacity to cool plant safety equipment." In a September 1 letter to FPL, the NRC Administrator said the NRC staff completed a performance review of the St. Lucie Nuclear Plant on August 11. The NRC will conduct an inspection to assess the company's evaluation of the causes and corrective actions for the air intrusion on September 27. In June, the NRC fined FPL $70,000 for three violations related to waste storage at Turkey Point.

NRC officials had learned in December that the neutron-absorbing material called boraflex in the Unit 3 spent fuel pool had degraded below the levels allowed. Although FPL had taken compensatory measures, it did not meet requirements that ensure the spent fuel pool remains safe, the agency said. The NRC issued the civil penalty because it said the company did not report the condition in a timely fashion.
Source: http://www.palmbeachpost.com/money/st-lucie-unit-1-nuclear-reactor-to-get-896427.html

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

14. *September 7, Associated Press* – (Ohio) **Ohio auto parts plant blast hurts 9 near Toledo.** An explosion at an auto parts plant in northern Ohio has injured nine people. Authorities just outside Toledo say all the injuries appear to be minor. The explosion happened September 7 at Faurecia Interior Systems in Northwood. The company makes doors for a nearby Chrysler plant. Authorities aren't sure what caused the explosion. Workers say they heard a loud pop and then saw thick, black smoke.
Source: http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5j3jA4HWnMdq0trCDZid5-tXngm7AD9I349RO0

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

15. *September 6, Associated Press* – (California) **Deal to clean up LA-area nuclear accident site.** More than five decades after a partial nuclear meltdown just outside Los Angeles, state and federal officials announced agreements September 3 to remove all contamination and return the atomic energy and rocket engine test site to its natural state. Residents who have fought for years for cleanup of the Santa Susana Field Laboratory heralded the agreements signed by the Department of Energy, NASA and state officials. The agreements, which commit to a 2017 cleanup date, must still go through a public review process before they are finalized. During the Cold War, workers at the site, then–operated by Rocketdyne, tested more than 30,000 rockets and experimented with nuclear reactors at the facility. Testing and several nuclear accidents since 1959 left a toxic stew of radioactive and chemical contamination. The cleanup has taken decades to hammer out, in part because of a complex web of owners and responsible parties. NASA owns the rocket–testing areas, the Department of Energy owns the buildings where the partial meltdown occurred, and Boeing owns much of the property underneath.
Source: http://technews.tmcnet.com/topics/associated-press/articles/99945-deal-clean-up-la-area-nuclear-accident-site.htm

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Banking and Finance Sector

16. *September 7, The New New Internet* – (International) **First suspects charged under Jamaica's new cyber law.** Two men in Jamaica have become the first individuals in the country to be arrested and charged under the new Cyber Crimes Act, which was passed last December. The men were charged last week following an investigation that started August 28, Jamaica Observer reports. Earlier that day, the accused men were seen acting suspiciously in a car in front of an ATM in Manchester, which is located in the west-central part of the island. When police searched the men and the vehicle, they found electronic devices used to intercept transactions and to duplicate the PIN and other personal information of customers using the ATM. The men were charged under sections 3, 6 and 8 of the Cyber Crimes Act, and are to appear in court August 8.
Source: http://www.thenewnewinternet.com/2010/09/07/first-suspects-charged-under-jamaicas-new-cyber-law/

17. *September 7, Sky News* – (International) **Fraud probe at UK money printing factory.** One of the world's biggest money printing factories is being probed by fraud investigators over dud banknote paper. De La Rue — which employs 600 people at its Overton factory in Hampshire, United Kingdom — has sent a file on some workers to the Serious Fraud Office. The probe will center on allegations staff faked certificates which verified the quality of banknote paper. The company has reported its findings to the relevant law enforcement agencies. The company said "appropriate disciplinary action" was being taken. The company is the world's biggest supplier of banknotes, and paper to print it on, and has customers in 150 countries.
Source: http://news.sky.com/skynews/Home/Business/De-La-Rue-Banknotes-Factory-Workers-Falsified-Quality-Certificates-At-Overton-Mill-Hampshire/Article/201009115718204?lpos=Business_Second_UK_News_Article_Teaser_Region_1&lid=ARTICLE_15718204_De_La_Rue_Banknotes_Fa

18. *September 7, Bank Info Security* – (National) **New vishing spree strikes U.S.** In July, two phone-based phishing, or vishing attacks, hit residents in Provo, Utah. In August, 10 additional attacks were reported, incorporating a combination of vishing and text-message-based smishing scams, aimed at various communities scattered throughout the United States. The common factor: Perpetrators targeting customers of community banking institutions. "Recently, we've seen them pop up in low-fraud, small places," hitting markets where consumers might not be so savvy or prepared for a socially engineered attack, says the individual who oversees client relations for FICO's Card Alert Service, which provides decision management and predictive analytics solutions for card issuers. Vishing and smishing have replaced the traditional e-mail phishing attacks that were more prevalent three years ago, he says. Since January, the documented number of traditional e-mail or phishing attacks has significantly dropped. "What's replacing them are these new waves of text and person-to-person scams," he says, "and they're not being tracked." August's vishing and smishing schemes hit residents in Elgin, Illinois.; Long Island, New York; Binghamton, New York; New York's Chautauqua and Cattaraugus counties; Bend, Oregon; Arkansas City, Arkansas; Rocky Mount and Henry County, Virginia; Auburn, Alabama; Texarkana, Texas; and Central Falls, Rhode Island. Rather than being generic, in most cases, the calls and texts identified specific institutions by name.
Source: http://www.bankinfosecurity.com/articles.php?art_id=2896

19. *September 7, The New New Internet* – (Virginia) **Stolen funds from University of Virginia recovered.** The nearly $1 million that was stolen from a satellite campus of The University of Virginia in late August has been recovered, according to the school's student newspaper. KrebsOnSecurity.com reported September 2 how thieves stole the funds after hacking the computer of the university's comptroller. The attackers used a virus to steal the online-banking credentials for the university's accounts at BB&T Bank, and initiated a fraudulent wire transfer in the amount of $996,000 to the Agricultural Bank of China. The student newspaper The Highland Cavalier reported September 3 that the vice chancellor for finance and administration had alerted faculty and staff in an e-mail on August 27 that a hacking incident had occurred on campus. He said that no personal data had been compromised. The college's director of news and media relations said the stolen funds have since been recovered. "No funds have been lost," she told The Highland Cavalier. "We caught it early on."
Source: http://www.thenewnewinternet.com/2010/09/07/stolen-funds-from-university-of-virginia-recovered/

For another story, see item **48**

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Transportation Sector

20. *September 6, Torrance Daily Breeze* – (California) **FAA plan hits turbulence in South Bay.** For months, local aviators have been in an uproar over a proposed change to air traffic patterns around Long Beach Airport that could seriously affect where and how they fly, especially in the South Bay. Many pilots in the region believe the Federal Aviation Administration's proposal — intended to reduce the risk of midair collisions between small aircraft and jetliners over densely populated areas — will instead put private aviators at risk. "It's going to force the little airplanes to fly around the airspace and through Palos Verdes," said the owner of Beach Cities Aviation Academy at Hawthorne Municipal Airport. The FAA proposal would more than triple the size of restricted airspace around Long Beach Airport and would require pilots entering the area to contact air traffic controllers in San Diego. The change was prompted by an increased number of alerts on anti-collision warning systems, FAA officials said. Critics say general aviation traffic and particularly student pilots will go around the new airspace, seeking to avoid communicating with controllers. That will create an unintended consequence of diverting small aircraft into narrow corridors, compressing pilots into an area between Los Angeles International Airport and San Pedro.
Source: http://www.dailybreeze.com/news/ci_16002211

21. *September 5, Jacksonville Daily News* – (North Carolina) **Ferry, yacht collide.** The Coast Guard is investigating the cause of a collision that occurred in the ferry channel in Ocracoke, North Carolina and involved a state ferry and private yacht. A N.C. Department of Transportation ferry, the Motor Vessel Carteret, was involved in an accident with a private boat September 4 according to Coast Guard and N.C. DOT news releases. The MV Carteret departed Ocracoke on its regularly scheduled 8:30 p.m. departure to Cedar Island with one vehicle, eight passengers and a crew of seven

onboard. According to officials, a 35-foot motor yacht crossed the bow of the ferry and the ferry collided with the yacht. A 25-foot response boat from Coast Guard Station Ocracoke responded and transferred the two crewmembers and two dogs from the yacht to Station Ocracoke , where Coast Guard emergency medical technicians were waiting. The individuals were released with no severe injuries, the Coast Guard said. As is standard procedure, Hyde county deputies and USCG personnel performed alcohol testing on ferry crewmembers, who tested negative. Drug testing will also be performed, the DOT said.
Source: http://www.jdnews.com/news/-82298--.html

22. *September 5, Syracuse Post-Standard* – (New York) **Barge breaks loose from moorings, hits seawall, blocks marina in Oswego.** Strong winds and large waves in Lake Ontario caused a 195-foot barge to break loose from its moorings early this morning and strike a wall in front of Patz Restaurant in Oswego, New York, according to the U.S. Coast Guard. No damage and no injuries were reported. However, the barge blocked the entrance to a marina on the east side of the Oswego River. U.S. Coast Guard crews, with help from the U.S. Border Patrol, tied the barge to the seawall and a pier about 12:30 a.m. today so it wouldn't drift any farther into the marina. About 11:15 a.m., Port Authority employees pulled the barge about 500 feet, back to its moorings.
Source: http://www.syracuse.com/news/index.ssf/2010/09/barge_breaks_loose_from_moorin.html

23. *September 4, Associated Press* – (California) **3 LAX terminals shut down after guard leaves post.** Officials say three terminals at the Los Angeles International Airport were briefly shut down after an airport contract worker left an exit from a secure area unattended. A Transportation Security Administration spokesman said an officer discovered about 4:30 a.m. September 4 that an exit from one of the terminals was unguarded. He says three checkpoints were closed and officers reviewed videotape from all three exits. The tapes showed no one entered the secure area through the exit while it was unguarded. An airport spokesman said all terminals are now open. He says five arrivals and three departures were slightly delayed.
Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/09/04/AR2010090401312.html

For more stories, see items **6**, **8**, **24**, and **25**

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Postal and Shipping Sector

24. *September 6, Air Transport World* – (International) **Investigators cite cockpit smoke in UPS 747-400F crash in Dubai.** The UPS 747-400 freighter that crashed 50 min. after takeoff from Dubai International Friday attempted to return to the airport after its pilots reported "smoke in the cockpit" and that they were "unable to maintain altitude," according to a preliminary report issued by crash investigators September 6. Both pilots

were killed when the aircraft went down in an "unpopulated area between the Emirates Road and Al Ain Highway" near the airport, said the UAE General Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA), which is leading the crash investigation. GCAA said Sunday it had recovered the cockpit voice recorder and was searching for the flight data recorder. According to UPS, the aircraft's tail number was N571UP. It took delivery of the freighter from Boeing in September 2007. "The airframe had flown 9,977 hours, completing 1,764 takeoffs and landings," it noted. "It was up to date on all maintenance, having just completed a major inspection in June 2010." One of 12 747-400Fs in UPS's fleet, the CF6-80C2B1F-powered aircraft had a payload capacity of nearly 258,000 lbs.
Source: http://atwonline.com/international-aviation-regulation/news/investigators-cite-cockpit-smoke-ups-747-400f-crash-dubai-090

25. *September 3, Associated Press* – (International) **6 US personnel quarantined over mail scare.** The U.S. Embassy in Ankara, Turkey, says six U.S. army post office personnel have been quarantined after handling a package containing a powdery substance at Istanbul's main airport. A U.S. Embassy spokeswoman said September 3 the six were quarantined pending laboratory results to determine whether the powder is a dangerous substance, such as anthrax. The results were expected September 11. The embassy spokeswoman said a health team has decontaminated the area and the six are being administered antibiotics as a precaution at a hospital in Istanbul. The personnel deliver U.S. diplomatic mail in Turkey.
Source: http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5i6Bh-b-fx2pu42ihmUv9g6UxuerwD9I0BUVG0

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Agriculture and Food Sector

26. *September 3, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration* – (National) **NOAA reopens more than 3,000 square miles in the Gulf to fishing.** NOAA reopened 3,114 square miles of Gulf waters offshore of the western Florida panhandle to commercial and recreational fishing September 3. The reopening was announced after consultation with FDA and under a re-opening protocol agreed to by NOAA, the FDA, and the Gulf states. Trajectory models show the area is at a low risk for future exposure to oil, and fish caught in the area and tested by NOAA experts have shown no signs of contamination. At its closest point, the area to be reopened is about 55 miles northeast of the Deepwater/BP wellhead. The total area is about one percent of federal waters in the Gulf of Mexico. Between August 20 and August 24, NOAA sampled the area for finfish such as tuna, swordfish, and mahi mahi. Sensory analyses of 104 samples and chemical analyses of 101 specimens that were composited into nine samples followed the methodology and procedures in the re-opening protocol, with sensory analysis finding no detectable oil or dispersant odors or flavors, and results of chemical analysis well below the levels of concern.
Source: http://www.noaanews.noaa.gov/stories2010/20100903_reopening.html

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Water Sector

27. *September 7, Tulsa World* – (Oklahoma) **Contaminated water widespread in state.** Nearly 140 public water supplies in Oklahoma are operating in consistent violation of state and federal drinking water codes, pumping water that contains chemicals linked to cancer, infant illness, and damage to the liver and nervous system. Nine public water sites serving about 16,000 customers in central Oklahoma have orders to resolve environmental compliance issues, records from the state Department of Environmental Quality show. The department regulates 1,582 public water systems. "The public has a right to know about the quality of their drinking water," a department spokeswoman said. "Some of these things might not hurt them for several decades, but they have the right to know."
Source: http://www.tulsaworld.com/news/article.aspx?subjectid=11&articleid=20100907_12_A4_CUTLIN249280

28. *September 7, Delmarva Media Group* – (Delaware) **Iron levels force delays at Frankford water plant.** The installation of an additional treatment system to reduce the levels of iron in Frankford, Delaware's municipal water supply will delay the opening of new water plant until October, officials said. While the plant met its July 31 substantial completion deadline, tests are still being conducted with the goal of reducing impurities, said the senior engineer for CABE Associates of Dover. The plant had been expected to begin distributing treated water to residents by August 30, he said. To do that, he said the town will have to purchase a polymer injection system. The equipment would treat the water with a chemical that causes the iron content to coagulate and settle to the bottom, he said. The ultimate goal is to reduce iron levels to .3 parts per million. According to the state Division of Public Health, June tests revealed total trihalomethane — a potentially carcinogenic byproduct formed when chlorine is used to disinfect water — levels of 92.1 parts per billion, an increase compared to March's levels of 48.7 ppb. The EPA standard for TTHMs is 80 ppb. In December, tests showed a result of 126.1 ppb.
Source: http://www.delmarvanow.com/article/20100907/DW01/9070310

29. *September 6, Associated Press* – (New Jersey) **Body found inside water tank at NJ site.** Authorities say the death of a man whose body was found inside a water tank at a central New Jersey industrial site appears to have been a suicide. Spotswood police say the man apparently had been inside the 40-foot tall tank for three days before being found September 4. Authorities searched the tank after a family friend noticed the man's car in the site's parking lot September 4. Crews found his body shortly after discovering that a 2-foot-square hatch near the top of the tank was open.
Source: http://cbs3.com/wireapnewsnj/Authorities.Death.of.2.1898797.html

30. *September 4, KPCC 89.3 Pasadena* – (California) **Water valve failure sends city fire tankers to La Tuna Canyon.** City fire tanker trucks were sent to a dry, brushy canyon September 4 in the eastern San Fernando Valley because a water pumping system failed, taking fire hydrants out of action during a wildfire alert. About 50 homes in La Tuna Canyon, and an unknown number of fire hydrants, lost their water supply when a

valve failed at a Department of Water and Power (DWP) pumping station, said a DWP spokeswoman. The city fire department moved water tanker trucks into the area as a precaution, as the area is a frequent scene of grassfires, and the risk of fire is high due to hot winds and low humidity. Water crews worked on the problem in the 9000 block of Sunland Boulevard, and near Sunland at Stonehurst Avenue, and service was restored around 1 p.m., she said. The water problems came as the area remained under a Red Flag Warning, with temperatures in the 100s, humidities in the single digits, and wind gusts above 25 mph predicted until 9 p.m.
Source: http://www.scpr.org/news/2010/09/04/water-valve-failure-sends-city-fire-takers-la-tuna/

31. *September 4, Middletown Patch* – (Rhode Island) **Major water line for Aquidneck Island bursts overnight.** A major water main line that serves all of Aquidneck Island broke late September 3 on West Main Road, Route 114, near the Valley Inn Restaurant and the Lawton Valley Reservoir in the southern section of town. Crews at the scene said they were called in about the break around 11:30 p.m. This water main is the major line feeding water to the communities of Portsmouth, Middletown and Newport, said a heavy equipment operator for Newport Water. "It's a major blowout," he said. "This is the main transmission line for the whole island." The break occurred on a 24-inch transition line that feeds water from the Laurent Valley Reservoir to the water plant at 2154 West Main Road, and all adjoining side streets. He said he was unsure about how many homes would be affected, but that it could be residences in all three communities. When asked what could have caused the break, the Newport Water employee said, "just age."
Source: http://middletown.patch.com/articles/major-water-line-for-aquidneck-island-bursts-overnight-2

32. *September 3, North Carolina State University* – (National) **Many urban streams harmful to aquatic life following winter pavement de-icing.** The use of salt to de-ice pavement can leave urban streams toxic to aquatic life, according to a new U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) study on the influence of winter runoff in northern U.S. cities, with a special focus on eastern Wisconsin and Milwaukee. More than half of the Milwaukee streams included in this study had samples that were toxic during winter de-icing. In eastern and southern Wisconsin, all streams studied had potentially toxic chloride concentrations during winter, with lingering effects into the summer at some streams. Nationally, samples from fifty-five percent of streams studied in 13 northern cities were potentially toxic; twenty-five percent of the streams had samples that exceeded acute water quality criteria. Toxicity was measured by direct testing of organisms in samples during the local study component; in the regional and the national study components, observed chloride levels were used to assess potential toxicity. "While winter driving and walking safety are the priority in treating pavements, this study suggests the need for advancements that will reduce salt loads to surface waters without compromising safety," said the USGS Associate Director for Water. This study shows that chloride contamination of urban streams is a problem in many places; it's not just a Milwaukee problem," he said. While road de-icing accounts for a significant portion of salt applications, it is not the only source. Salt is also used by many public and private organizations and individuals to de-ice parking lots, walkways and

driveways.
Source: http://www.usnews.com/science/articles/2010/09/03/many-urban-streams-harmful-to-aquatic-life-following-winter-pavement-de-icing.html

33. *August 3, WTVJ 6 Miami* – (Florida) **Water main break traps residents in homes.** People in Downtown Miami, Florida, are cleaning after a water main break forced water into homes and flooded streets. It happened at 25th St. and Biscayne Blvd. early September 3. Miami-Dade Water and Sewer officials say private contractors were making repairs when all of a sudden a 12 inch pipe burst this morning causing thousands of gallons of water to flood 25th and Biscayne down to the Biscayne Bay. "Definitely created a large gaping hole in the streets," said a lieutenant of Miami Fire Rescue.
Source: http://www.nbcmiami.com/news/local-beat/Water-Main-Break-Traps-Residents-in-Homes-102155779.html

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

34. *September 7, Annapolis Capital* – (Maryland) **Swine flu less severe, but still around.** Earlier this month, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared an end to the global pandemic of the virus, which officially is called H1N1. "The new H1N1 virus has largely run its course," said a WHO's director-general, But, she warned, that doesn't mean H1N1 is gone for good. It turns out that H1N1 may be turning into yet another strain of flu that circulates during flu season. "It's kind of run its course. Since we have some immunity in the population, it turns into any other seasonal influenza," said an acting deputy county health officer in Maryland.
Source: http://www.hometownannapolis.com/news/nbh/2010/09/07-09/Swine-flu-less-severe-but-still-around.html

35. *September 6, Associated Press* – (Georgia) **Army: Ex-soldier takes 3 hospital workers hostage.** A former Army soldier seeking help for mental problems at a Georgia military hospital took three workers hostage at gunpoint September 6 before authorities persuaded the gunman to surrender peacefully. A Fort Stewart spokesman said no one was hurt and no shots were fired in a short standoff at Winn Army Community Hospital on Fort Stewart, about 40 miles southwest of Savannah. Military officials said the hostages were able to calm the gunman and keep him away from patients until he surrendered. The gunman was arrested by military police. The gunman walked into the hospital's emergency room at about 4 a.m. carrying four guns — two handguns, a semiautomatic rifle, and a semiautomatic version of a submachine gun, a senior Fort Stewart commander said. He had seen nothing to indicate the former soldier had previously sought treatment at the Fort Stewart hospital.
Source:
http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5j6HgufyKkYWaB_j7NclbAIhjkWbwD9I2KSMO1

36. *September 4, Associated Press* – (California) **Planned Parenthood clinic in California damaged.** Federal and local authorities are investigating a fiery after-hours attack on a Planned Parenthood clinic in California. Madera police say someone threw a makeshift explosive through the clinic's window early the morning of September 2, breaking the glass and burning blinds. Police say this is the first violent crime they have seen against the clinic, which has been open for 20 years. A clinic spokeswoman says the office will remain closed through the Labor Day weekend and reopen September 7.
Source:
http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5ghCU3w53giat9KYAuazOFcJvuNeAD9I0M2E00

37. *September 4, Sun-Times Media Network* – (Illinois) **Hazardous materials scare at Edward.** Edward Hospital in Naperville was placed on a hazardous material alert September 3, after a plastic bottle containing an ammonia-based solution apparently exploded in the hands of a schoolgirl in Will County near Plainfield. The mother of the fifth-grader from Creekside Elementary School brought her daughter to the emergency room of the hospital. Preliminary reports indicated the girl and at least some emergency room personnel had been overcome by fumes or sickened by the contents of the bottle, which the girl's mother had brought into the building with her. A "Code Orange" alert was sounded over the hospital's intercom system. Naperville Fire Department officials then sent that agency's hazardous material truck to the hospital's emergency room parking area. A hospital spokeswoman confirmed at the scene a girl had been brought into the emergency room. The "Code Orange" alert was announced strictly as a precaution, and no patients or employees were endangered or injured during the emergency, she said.
Source:
http://www.suburbanchicagonews.com/napervillesun/news/2672596,Naperville-Edward-Hospital-hazmat_NA090410.article

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Government Facilities Sector

38. *September 7, Computerworld* – (Ohio) **Ohio bans offshoring as it gives tax relief to outsourcing firm.** Ohio's governor is delivering one of the strongest attacks yet on offshore outsourcing, calling it not only a threat to jobs but an IT security risk. The governor's criticism of offshore outsourcing was part of a recent order to state agencies prohibiting them from hiring any firm that sends work offshore. The agencies were ordered to be in compliance by last week. In his order, the governor said that the purchase of offshore services "has unacceptable business consequences," and among them were "unacceptable data security, and thus privacy and identity theft risks."
Source:
http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9183570/Ohio_bans_offshoring_as_it_gives_tax_relief_to_outsourcing_firm_?taxonomyId=72&pageNumber=1

39. *September 7, NextGov* – (National) **CBP failed to follow basic security practices to protect financial systems.** The Customs and Border Patrol bureau failed to properly

set computer controls that allow only authorized users to view financial data, and to certify networks complied with security standards, according to an audit released September 1 by the Homeland Security Department's inspector general. A number of problems the inspector general found in 2008 still were not fixed in fiscal 2009, according to the audit, which analyzed CBP's financial systems and was conducted by the accounting firm KPMG. "Although we noted improvement, CBP still faces challenges related to the merging of numerous IT functions, controls, processes and organizational resource shortages," the report stated. Specifically, administrators didn't regularly review changes to employees' access rights or enforce stringent password requirements. Also, systems were not configured to refuse a user to log on after failing a predetermined number of times, and the bureau didn't disable accounts after 45 days of inactivity, as required by department policy. CBP officials also failed to restrict what employees could access on the network to the least number of files required to perform their duties. According to a letter responding to the report, CBP officials said it is developing or putting in place actions to address the weaknesses KPMG identified.
Source: http://www.nextgov.com/nextgov/ng_20100902_6263.php

40. *September 3, Brownsville Herald* – (Texas) **'Suspicious item' leads to lockdown at TSTC.** Police locked down four buildings at Texas State Technical College September 3 as they investigated a suspicious object found inside a campus trash container. A campus groundskeeper discovered a "suspicious item" inside the large outdoor trash container at around 2 p.m. outside the school's Rep. Irma Rangel Science and Technology Building, the TSTC Police chief said. Campus police activated the school's emergency notification system and locked down four nearby campus buildings. Harlingen police and a Brownsville police bomb squad rushed to the scene and "deactivated" the device. He would not describe the object and would not give any indication whether it was, in fact, any type of explosive device. The case has been turned over to the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives for investigation. The lockdown lasted about a half-hour.
Source: http://www.brownsvilleherald.com/news/tstc-116345-harlingen-item.html

41. *September 3, InformationWeek* – (Virginia) **Virginia may lose data from outage.** IT operations in Virginia are more or less back to normal after an unprecedented network failure, but Virginia is still working "around the clock" to recover data, the state CIO and head at Virginia Information Technologies Agency (VITA) said. He said that data loss has been "minimal" but that hopefully all of it will be recovered once recovery operations are completed. A more than week-long disruption in IT operations and services for 27 state government agencies ended September 2. The ordeal started July 25 when an EMC DMX-3 storage area network (SAN) went down, taking 13 percent of the state's file servers with it. By August 27, VITA and Northrop Grumman, which partners with VITA to maintain IT networks for the state, had repaired the SAN. However, it took until August 31 for nearly all affected agencies to be back online and to business as usual. Even then, the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles, department of taxation and state board of elections still experienced disruptions. Officials said the complexity and size of their databases caused recovery to take longer for these agencies.

Source: http://www.informationweek.com/news/government/info-management/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=227300164&subSection=News

42. *September 2, WJXX 25 Jacksonville* – (Florida) **Teen girl arrested for St. Augustine High School bomb threat.** The 14-year-old suspect behind the August 31 bomb threat at a local high school has been arrested. The suspect was arrested September 1 after the investigation into the threat that led to the evacuation of St. Augustine High School. A caller September 31 told a school receptionist, "There is a bomb in the school," then hung up. Everyone in the school then spent more than two hours in the football stadium, some becoming affected by the heat and requiring medical attention. A student told officials at the school who made the call, but that person denied doing it and was released. Later, another student identified the same person as the caller. When questioned again, the girl admitted to making the call and was arrested. She was released to a parent. The teen faces a charge of making a false bomb threat.
Source: http://www.firstcoastnews.com/news/local/news-article.aspx?storyid=165291&catid=3

43. *September 2, The New New Internet* – (National) **Bids open for new cyber-insider threat program.** The week of August 30, the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency opened bids for a new Cyber Insider Threat program. The CINDER program arises from the military being targeted by a number of high-profile security breaches over the past few years. Rather than targeting only outside hackers, this program aims to prevent insiders from conducting in espionage, such as the recent posting of classified documents on WikiLeaks. According to FedBizOpps.gov, DARPA is looking for "novel approaches to insider-threat detection that greatly increase the accuracy, rate and speed of detection and that impede the ability of adversaries to operate within government and military interest networks." Proposals are currently under consideration and can be submitted to the agency until the August 25, 2011 deadline.
Source: http://www.thenewnewinternet.com/2010/09/02/bids-open-for-new-cyber-insider-threat-program/

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Emergency Services Sector

44. *September 7, Newsday* – (New York) **N.Y. passes new emergency light law.** In what the state's leading volunteer firefighters' group is hailing as a boon for rescuer safety, fire departments statewide can now put blue flashing lights on their emergency response vehicles so they can be seen from the rear, under just-signed state legislation. Backers of the law, which takes effect immediately, say the lights will protect rescuers at emergency scenes where they are especially vulnerable to being hit by passing motorists. The blue lights would be placed to be visible from the rear of fire vehicles, such as chiefs' vehicles, pumps, ladder trucks, apparatuses and ambulances, said a firefighter in upstate Whitesboro and president of the 138-year-old Firemen's Association of the State of New York, which lobbied for the new law. New York State law strictly regulates the lights' patterns and color palette from which police and fire agencies can choose. For example, the law allows the new blue lights only if the

vehicles "also display one or more red or combination red and white lights," the text of the bill states.
Source: http://www.firehouse.com/news/top-headlines/ny-passes-new-emergency-light-law

45. *September 6, KPAX 8 Missoula* – (Montana) **Man arrested after Missoula hazmat scare.** Police in Montana arrested a 24-year-old man after a three-hour long hazardous materials ordeal with a suspicious package in the Missoula Police Department parking lot. Hazmat technicians determined the package to be an iced tea container with some sort of liquid in it, but that the liquid, iced tea or not, was not a threat. The Missoula Police Department says the man who dropped the box later arrived on scene to confess, and was taken to a hospital for an evaluation, but he will be cited. The package was found around 5 p.m. September 6, and the regional hazmat team, as well as the Missoula city and Missoula County bomb squad were immediately assembled. The suspicious package was laced with threatening messages written on the box. While Missoula police would not comment on what exactly was written, one person on scene Monday night said the words "radioactive" were written on the box which naturally escalated the threat level.
Source: http://www.kxlh.com/news/man-arrested-after-missoula-hazmat-scare/

For another story, see item **37**

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Information Technology Sector

46. *September 7, SC Magazine UK* – (International) **Twitter fixes cross-site scripting vulnerability that was used to distribute compromised links.** Twitter has fixed a cross-site scripting (XSS) vulnerability that stole a user's cookie to distribute compromised links. It was detected by a senior security researcher at Kaspersky Lab. He said that the exploit steals the cookie of the Twitter user, which is transferred to two specific servers and essentially, any account that clicked on the malicious links is compromised. The bit.ly statistics for one of the malicious links show that more than 100,000 users clicked on the link. "All clues point to Brazil as the originating country for this attack. First, the two domain names used to get the stolen cookies are registered under Brazilian names. More than that, one of them is actually also hosted in Brazil," he said. The malicious scripts were detected by Kaspersky Lab as Exploit.JS.Twetti.a, and it has blacklisted the URLs used in this attack. Twitter commented that the vulnerability is now fixed.
Source: http://www.scmagazineuk.com/twitter-fixes-cross-site-scripting-vulnerability-that-was-used-to-distribute-compromised-links/article/178338/

47. *September 7, Computerworld* – (International) **Microsoft investigates two-year-old IE bug.** On August 3, Microsoft said it was looking into a long-known vulnerability in Internet Explorer (IE) that could be used to access users' data and Web-based accounts. The bug can allow hackers to hijack Web mail accounts, steal data and send illicit tweets, said a Google security engineer in a message posted on the Full Disclosure

mailing list. He also published a demonstration that showed how the flaw in IE8 could be used to commandeer a user's Twitter account and send unauthorized tweets. The vulnerability, known as a "CSS cross-origin theft" bug, has a long history. Researchers at Carnegie Mellon University, who recently published a paper on the subject, have traced it back as far as 2002. Those researchers will present their paper at the Conference on Computer and Communications Security in October. Although Microsoft has not patched the vulnerability in IE8, other browsers, including Firefox, Chrome, Safari and Opera, have fixed the flaw. Google patched the bug in Chrome last January, while Mozilla did the same in July with Firefox 3.6.7 and Firefox 3.5.11.
Source:
http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9183759/Microsoft_investigates_two_year_old_IE_bug

48. *September 6, Help Net Security* – (International) **Every week 57,000 fake Web addresses try to infect users.** Every week, hackers are creating 57,000 new Web addresses which they position and index on leading search engines in the hope that unwary users will click them by mistake. Those who do, will see their computers infected or any data they enter on these pages fall into the hands of criminals. To do this, they use an average of 375 company brands and names of private institutions from all over the world, all of them instantly recognizable. eBay, Western Union and Visa top the rankings of the most frequently used keywords; followed by Amazon, Bank of America, Paypal and the US revenue service. These are the conclusions of a study carried out by PandaLabs, which has monitored and analyzed the major blackhat SEO attacks of the last three months. Some 65 percent of these fake websites are positioned as belonging to banks. For the most part, they pose as banks in order to steal users' login credentials. Online stores and auction sites are also popular (27 percent), with eBay the most widely used. Other financial institutions (such as investment funds or stockbrokers) and government organizations occupy the following positions, with 2.3 percent and 1.9 percent respectively. The latter is largely accounted for by the US revenue service or other tax collecting agencies. Payment platforms, led by Paypal, and ISPs are in fifth and sixth place, while gaming sites — topped by World of Warcraft — complete the ranking.
Source: http://www.net-security.org/malware_news.php?id=1456

49. *September 6, Sophos* – (International) **TechCrunch Europe serves up malware attack.** The European website of TechCrunch (eu.techcrunch.com), one of the world's most popular blogs, appears to have fallen victim to hackers, who have planted a malicious script on their site, designed to infect unsuspecting visitors. TechCrunch Europe posted a message on its Twitter feed earlier today describing warnings about malware being distributed via the site as "annoying." Perhaps a rather unusual turn of phrase, which might suggest to observers that the warnings were erroneous rather than the result of a serious security problem. A closer examination of TechCrunch Europe's site reveals that the offending code — which uses a malicious iFrame — is found in a JavaScript file, used by the site as part of its WordPress infrastructure. This attempts to serve up a malicious PDF file, exploiting a vulnerability that brings to a computer a nasty infection from the ZBot (also known as Zeus) malware family. Users of some web browsers may also be protected — for instance, Firefox. An engineer who works

for TechCrunch in California contacted Sophos at about 10pm GMT August 6, to say that the malicious JavaScript code has been removed from the site, although it may take some time before browsers which rely on third-party blacklists stop warning about pages on the site.
Source: http://www.sophos.com/blogs/gc/g/2010/09/06/techcrunch-europe-serves-malware-attack

50. *September 6, All Facebook* – (International) **Massive new survey worm spreading on Facebook.** A group of developers have found a loophole in Facebook's application Platform which enables them to automatically post messages to a user's wall. This loophole does not require any action by the user, it simply posts to the user's wall the moment they load the application. Right now the messages being spread state "I thought this survey stuff was GARBAGE but i just went on a shopping spree at walmart thanks to FB." This happens to be one of the fastest spreading scams ever seen on Facebook to date, and also one of the largest security glitches in the Facebook Platform. While All Facebook is not aware of any viruses that result from the system, it appears to be the standard offers system which is driving this scam. There appears to be thousands of applications that have been used as part of this scam, which will make it much more time consuming for Facebook to shut down the scammers.
Source: http://www.allfacebook.com/alert-massive-new-survey-scam-spreading-on-facebook-2010-09

51. *September 6, The Register* – (International) **Browser security warning lookalike pushes malware.** Scareware peddlers have developed a new ruse that relies on mimicking browser warning pages. The malicious code — dubbed Zeven — auto-detects a user's browser before serving up a warning page that poses as the genuine pages generated by IE, Firefox or Chrome. Prospective marks are warned that their systems are riddled with malware to trick them into running a fake anti-virus software package, called Win7 AV. The warnings are generated from malicious scripts planted on compromised websites. The social engineering scam hinges on the fact a user is more likely to trust a warning and security recommendation ostensibly generated from their browser software than a random "your security is at risk" pop-up. The Win 7 AV scareware package at the center of the scam is served from a site designed to look like the genuine Microsoft Security Essentials website.
Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/09/06/scareware_fakes_browsers_warnings/

52. *September 6, The H Security* – (International) **Flash Player as a spy system.** If a forged certificate is accepted when accessing the Flash Player's Settings Manager, which is available exclusively online, attackers can potentially manipulate the player's website privacy settings. This allows a web page to access a computer's web cams and microphones and remotely turn the computer into a covert listening device or surveillance camera. At the "Meta Rhein Main Chaos Days 111b," a Fraunhofer SIT employee presented a scenario in which he used a man-in-the-middle attack (MiTM) to intercept the communication with Adobe's Settings Manager. The Settings Manager itself is a simple Flash applet, and the Adobe pages load it into the browser as an SWF file via HTTPS — a fixed link to it is encoded into the browser. However, the MiTM attack allows attackers to inject a specially crafted applet which manipulates the Flash

cookies (Local Shared Objects, LSOs) on the victim's computer. Adobe has been informed about the problem and is considering whether to release a new GUI for the Settings Manager.
Source: http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/Flash-Player-as-a-spy-system-1073161.html

For more stories, see items **41** and **55**

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

53. *September 7, Omaha World-Herald News Service* – (National) **FCC to finalize rules.** The U.S. Federal Communications Commission says it plans to finalize rules for the use of wireless Internet devices on unused TV airwaves, an initiative that has been touted by Google Inc., Microsoft Corp. and other technology companies. The FCC said that usage of so-called white-spaces spectrum is on its agenda for the commission's next open meeting September 23. While the use of white-spaces spectrum was approved by the FCC in 2008, the initiative has since bogged down as proponents and critics argued over the best way to use vacated airwaves without interfering with other signals. Use of the vacated white spaces became possible thanks to the transition to digital TV transmissions. Google has made a concerted effort to lobby for the use of the white spaces, which could provide stronger wireless-Internet access than what's currently available through Wi-Fi connections.
Source: http://www.omaha.com/article/20100907/MONEY/709079969

54. *September 3, Bloomfield Life* – (New Jersey) **Communications breakdown - in more ways than one.** The municipal building in Bloomfield, New Jersey, was without phone and Internet service for an entire day September 1, although local Verizon officials are not entirely sure why the outage occurred. Service was lost around 8 a.m. and did not return until after midnight on September 2, according to the director of the township's Information Systems Department. Municipal officials claim they were told a contractor accidentally cut through a fiber-optic line while digging in Morristown, causing the outage. But a media relations representative for Verizon said the company has no records of cables being cut. Verizon's account manager for Bloomfield will work with the municipality to determine the cause. Emergency police and fire phone connections were operational during the outage. Despite the lack of phone, Internet and e-mail access, employees were able to continue working.
Source: http://www.northjersey.com/news/102185494_Communications_breakdown_-_in_more_ways_than_one.html

55. *September 2, DarkReading* – (International) **IPv6 transition poses new security threats.** The countdown to the saturation of the IPv4 address supply is now down to a matter of months, and along with the vast address space of the next-generation IPv6 architecture comes more built-in network security as well as some new potential security threats. IPv6 has been in the works for over a decade now, but with the exhaustion of the IPv4 address space expected anywhere from spring to June of 2011, the long transition to the new IP may finally be on the radar screen for some organizations. Unlike its predecessor, the "new" protocol was built with security in mind: it comes with IPSec encryption, for instance, and its massive address space could help prevent worms from propagating, security experts say. But its adoption also poses new security issues, everything from distributed denial-of-service attacks to new vulnerabilities in IPv6 to misconfigurations that expose security holes.
Source: http://www.darkreading.com/vulnerability_management/security/perimeter/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=227300083&subSection=Perimeter+Security

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Commercial Facilities Sector

56. *September 7, News OK* – (Oklahoma) **Wildfire in northwestern Oklahoma leads to evacuation of 500.** A power line downed by high winds is being blamed for a wildfire that caused the evacuation of 27 homes and 110 camp sites August 6 near Guthrie, Oklahoma. Fire crews from several municipalities battled a grass fire fanned by high winds that burned a 30-acre area. The fire was contained quickly, he said, but fire crews remained on site to put out hot spots two hours after the first responders arrived. The fire started when a power pole snapped because of 40 mph winds. About 500 people were evacuated, and one abandoned mobile home was destroyed. Firefighters from Woodward, Fort Supply, Buffalo, Fargo, Gage and Tatesby fought the blaze.
Source: http://newsok.com/broken-power-pole-is-cited-in-wildfire/article/3492501

57. *September 7, Associated Press* – (California) **Protest over fatal shooting by LAPD turns violent.** A protest over the fatal police shooting of a Guatemalan immigrant turned violent when some demonstrators threw bottles at officers, set trash cans on fire and refused to disperse. The protest began in the afternoon with demonstrators marching back and forth between a bustling shopping area where the shooting occurred and the Rampart police station three blocks away. Television news footage showed people tossing the bottles and plastic crates at officers in riot gear late September 6 near MacArthur Park, a neighborhood with a large Central American population west of downtown Los Angeles, California. Police declared the protest an unlawful assembly around 10 p.m. and ordered the dozens of protesters to disperse. The majority of the crowd cleared out, but a small number lingered and caused trouble. Police arrested and booked four people on suspicion of inciting a riot. Three officers were bruised but did not require hospitalization and went back on duty, and the confrontation was over by about 2 a.m.
Source:

http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5gREzQQDTEsm9naE3aIZkpn_orNyAD9I34HL80

58. *September 6, Al.com* – (Alabama) **Roller derby dispute led Mobile woman to set off pipe bomb at rink, try to burn house, feds say.** A Mobile, Alabama, woman whose roommate was kicked off a women's roller derby team sought vengeance by setting off a pipe bomb at the skating rink and trying to set fire to a team member's home, federal investigators testified last week. According to testimony and an affidavit filed by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), the woman admitted to setting off a pipe bomb at the Dreamland Skate Center August 21. The blast damaged a 10-ton air conditioning unit but did not cause injuries. The affidavit alleges that the 32-year-old Mobile woman also admitted to making two other bombs — a Molotov cocktail that she set off at the rink July 7, and a pipe bomb that she threw into the driveway of a Mobile Roller Derby team member with the defendant's roommate. The woman told authorities that she did not know about the bomb, but ATF agents searched the area and found an explosive device in a neighbor's yard, according to court records. Source: http://blog.al.com/live/2010/09/federal_court_digest_mobile_wo.html

59. *September 5, Associated Press* – (Nevada) **Las Vegas casino evacuated after bomb threat.** A man claiming to have a bomb around his chest prompted an evacuation of a Las Vegas casino for several hours September 5. The Las Vegas Review-Journal and Las Vegas Sun report that the threat turned out to be a hoax and the man was arrested after the incident at Arizona Charlie's Hotel and Casino. Police say the man apparently wanted to commit "suicide by cop." Police say the man walked up to the security desk inside the casino and showed a security guard what he said was an explosive device. Guards persuaded him to go outside and evacuated the resort. The incident also prompted the temporary closure of the Boulder Highway outside the casino.
Source:
http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5iBwCZstEwJ1XckxGSpV3xVLjB8_wD9I1E67G0

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

60. *September 7, Denver Post* – (Colorado) **Blaze near Boulder ravages 3,500 acres, firefighters' homes.** Wildfire fanned by heavy wind charred more than 3,500 acres and an untold number of structures in the foothills west of Boulder on September 6, including the homes of four firefighters. A spokeswoman for the countywide coalition of fire departments tackling the blaze said the four firefighters had been relieved of duty. More than 35 fire departments and agencies, including the U.S. Forest Service and the Colorado State Forest Service, responded to the blaze, which started about 10 a.m. September 6 in the 7100 block of Fourmile Canyon Road, about 6 miles northwest of Boulder. About 100 fire crews were on the line September 6, with about 70 on standby. More local, state and federal aid was expected September 7, including four more air tankers to join the three that dropped fire retardant from about 5:15 to 8 p.m. September 6. Many structures were lost after winds gusting up to 45 mph buffeted

flames in a pine forest. About 1,000 homes were evacuated. Shelters were set up at the North Boulder Recreation Center, New Vista High School, Nederland Community Center, and the Coors Events Center at the University of Colorado. The night of September 6, FEMA authorized the use of federal funds to pay for up to 75 percent of the cost of fighting the Fourmile Canyon fire.
Source: http://www.denverpost.com/newsheadlines/ci_16007854

61. *September 7, Medford Mail Tribune* – (Oregon) **Crews surround Oak Flat fire.** Firefighters in Oregon expect to fully contain the 7,494-acre Oak Flat fire in the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest by sunset September 7. The fire burning some 20 miles southwest of Grants Pass in the Wild Rivers Ranger District was 95 percent contained late the afternoon of September 6, according to a U.S. Forest Service spokesman. "We anticipate 100 percent containment by 6 p.m. (September 7)," he said. "That means we have reasonable confidence with the established line that's around 100 percent of the perimeter, and that any large pocket of fuel inside the line has been burned out or managed." Cost of battling the blaze, believed to have been human caused, is now more than $17 million, he said. The fire was discovered August 13 near where Briggs Creek flows into the lower Illinois River. Rough, steep terrain, coupled with hot, blustery weather made a fighting the fire a real challenge. On September 6, 576 firefighters were on hand along with five helicopters. The focus was on mopping up hot spots along the northern perimeter of the fire and rehabilitating fire lines on the ridges in the Briggs Creek drainage. With cooling temperatures and the chance of showers September 7 and 8, chances are excellent the fire will soon become history, he said.
Source:
http://www.mailtribune.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20100907/NEWS/9070312

62. *September 6, Paradise Post* – (California) **Windy blaze grows to 100 acres.** The "Windy" Fire burning near Butte Meadows in California has now grown to 100 acres. Butte County CAL FIRE units are battling the Lassen National Forest incident, located in "Windy Cut" some 20 miles north of Paradise. Smoke jumpers, at least four engines, four helicopters and an air tanker were all called to the incident. Also, numbers of water tenders were called to the scene, other engines staged nearby. A fixed-wing aircraft was also launched to spot for the firefighters. The Lassen National Forest originally reported the fire at 12:30 p.m. and to the Butte unit. The fire was located near the "K Line" off Highway 32 above Soda Springs Road and 6 miles Northwest of Butte Meadows, a CAL FIRE spokesperson. Weather conditions were extremely dry and north winds were predicted for the north state September 6, she said. Cause of the fire or an estimate of containment was unavailable by press time.
Source: http://www.paradisepost.com/ci_16005101

63. *September 4, Helena Independent Record* – (Montana) **Officials ignored warnings before Davis fire.** Helena National Forest officials in Montana ignored some of their own fire behavior models, part of their own fire prescription, the advice from volunteer firefighters, and a National Weather Service warning before igniting what was to become the $2.2 million, 2,000-acre Davis wildfire last week. "There was absolutely no reason for this to happen," said the chief of the Tri-Lakes Fire Department and head of

the local fire council. The wildfire and events leading up to it are under investigation, both by a federal team and by the Lewis and Clark County sheriff. But documents that the Independent Record obtained from Helena National Forest authorities and others provide insight into what fire managers intended, and into what happened. The prescribed fire plan for what was called the Poorman Project was written in February 2009, reviewed and approved in July 2009, and again in March 2010 by a Lincoln district ranger. The main purpose for what was to be a 537-acre prescribed fire was to restore stands of white bark pine — an important food source for grizzly bears — and to limit encroachment of trees into a mountaintop meadow near Granite Butte. The burn was planned for a springtime ignition and was expected to take one to three days. The plan noted that the burn could be completed in the fall as well. According to other Forest Service documents, they were to notify the media about the planned burn, as well as nearby residents by going door to door, and post prescribed fire warning signs on Stemple Road. None of those recommended actions took place.
Source: http://billingsgazette.com/news/state-and-regional/montana/article_05368b6c-b8a1-11df-8c46-001cc4c03286.html

64. *September 3, Land Line Magazine* – (Arizona) **Arizona signs along I-8 warn of human, drug smuggling violence.** Truckers making their way east and west through Arizona may want to avoid areas near Interstate 8. The federal government has posted signs warning of violence and criminals tied to drug and human smuggling. The Bureau of Land Management posted signs this summer warning the public to avoid local routes off of Interstate 8. The highway links Tucson and San Diego, and is a major trucking route that is also used by human and drug smugglers, authorities say. A spokesman with the U.S. Department of the Interior's Bureau of Land Management said his agency put the signs out in June in response to increased danger in a 40-mile area south of I-8 near the Sonoran Desert National Monument. That 487,000-acre desert includes about 200,000 acres south of I-8 that have seen increased drug and human smuggling activity in recent months, the spokesman said September 2. Violence in the area has surged in recent months, though it has not become prevalent on the highway, he said. Instead, authorities are asking travelers to be careful and try to avoid access roads and other areas south of I-8.
Source: http://www.landlinemag.com/todays_news/Daily/2010/Sept10/083010/090310-04.htm

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Dams Sector

65. *September 7, Springfield Republican* – (Massachusetts) **Board delays action on old dam.** The Springfield, Massachusetts City Council once again postponed a vote on a resolution to save the Upper Roberts Meadow Reservoir Dam September 2 saying that the matter needs more public discussion. The resolution was on the August 19 council agenda, but the council continued the matter pending further study. The city-owned dam was built in 1883 to create a water supply for the city, but it has not served that purpose since 1905. The state Office of Dam Safety has given the structure its highest rating for danger, saying it could take out the next dam at Roberts Meadow Reservoir if

it breaches, endangering up to 280 homes in Leeds. However, the Friends of the Upper Roberts Meadow Reservoir Dam believes that low-lying farmland below the dam would serve as a floodplain, preventing the water from overwhelming the lower dam. The group has also identified the dam as a potential source of hydroelectric power that could provide enough electricity to serve 25 to 30 homes. In addition, supporters of the dam say it is core habitat for various species of salamanders, beetles and dragonflies, some of which are designated "of special concern." The Board of Public Works takes issue with some of the group's conclusions and says that performing the necessary studies to investigate them would cost the city $100,000 in engineering fees.
Source: http://www.masslive.com/hampfrank/republican/index.ssf?/base/news-28/1283845982220290.xml&coll=1

66. *September 6, Scripps Howard News Service* – (Washington) **In Wash. state, readying for largest dam-removal project ever in U.S.** The stage is set for the largest dam-removal project in U.S. history, including an unprecedented effort to restore the full range of Northwest salmon species to the Elwha River. About this time next year, contractors will begin "deconstruction" of the 108-foot-high Elwha Dam along with the 210-foot-high Glines Canyon Dam, which lies upstream in a steep canyon. The dams were built without fish ladders, so salmon have been confined to the lower five miles of the Elwha — the most degraded portion of the river. Once the dams are cleared out of the way, salmon and steelhead will be free to explore an estimated 70 miles of river and tributaries unused by migratory fish for nearly 100 years. Most of these streams run through prime old-growth forest nestled in the mountains of Olympic National Park. Dam removal will begin by digging a diversion channel around the Elwha Dam. At the same time, chunks of concrete will be removed from the top of the towering Glines Canyon Dam. Eventually, the river will be directed through notches in the dams to gradually wash downstream nearly 18 million cubic yards of silt, sand and gravel that have piled up behind the dams all these years.
Source: http://www.scrippsnews.com/node/56351

67. *September 6, New Orleans Times-Picayune* – (Louisiana) **Corps of Engineers is making plans to strengthen floodwalls and levees.** The Army Corps of Engineers has not made public the complete details of the plan to strengthen the floodwalls and levees lining outfall canals in New Orleans and East Jefferson so they are able to hold more storm surge without seeping, slipping, or breaking as happened during Hurricane Katrina. But newly released documents indicate the plan will rely heavily on using cement-like slurry injections, called deep soil mixing, to stabilize significant stretches of weak levee along both sides of the 17th Street Canal. The plan also calls for driving steel sheeting deep into clay layers along sections of the especially dangerous London Avenue Canal, as well as the relatively robust Orleans Avenue Canal. The document assesses the impacts of deep soil mixing, construction of sheet pile walls and other methods of remediation on the human and natural environment along the canals. Once the corps' district commander approves the document, which could happen as soon as mid-October, the remediation work will have the green light to proceed. The public will get a chance to question remediation methods during a September 16 community meeting the corps scheduled as part of the environmental process.
Source:

http://www.nola.com/hurricane/index.ssf/2010/09/corps_of_engineers_is_making_p.html

68. *September 3, Des Moines Register* – (Iowa) **Corps to cut back releases from Red Rock dam in Iowa.** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Iowa will cut back the amount of water released at the Lake Red Rock dam on September 7 to prepare for divers' inspection of the structure. The inspection is part of the work to prepare for the installation of gates as part of repairs ordered after the 2008 flood, a Corps spokesman announced. The dam will release 20,000 cubic feet per second, down from 25,000, to prepare for the dive. On September 8 flows will be cut to 8,000. By the end of September 9, the rate will be down to 2,500. September 10, the flow will increase to 23,000 cubic feet per second, after the inspection is completed.
Source: http://blogs.desmoinesregister.com/dmr/index.php/2010/09/03/corps-to-cut-back-releases-from-red-rock-dam-in-iowa/

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