



Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report 5 October 2012

Top Stories

- A blown fuse and a vehicle crash cut power to the heart of Corvallis, Oregon, for most of October 3, shutting down many schools and businesses, and creating big traffic problems. – *Corvallis Gazette-Times* (See item [3](#))
- Health officials have traced an outbreak of rare fungal meningitis that has sickened dozens and killed 4 people to a Framingham, Massachusetts specialty pharmacy that distributes a steroid injection commonly used to treat back pain. – *NBC News* (See item [33](#))
- More than 3 weeks after attacks in Benghazi killed the U.S. ambassador to Libya and three other Americans, sensitive documents remained only loosely secured in the wreckage of the U.S. mission. – *Washington Post* (See item [38](#))
- State dams' officials said a lack of resources and manpower has prevented timely upgrades to thousands of high-hazard structures in urgent need of repairs. – *Pew Center on the States* (See item [57](#))

Fast Jump Menu

PRODUCTION INDUSTRIES

- [Energy](#)
- [Chemical](#)
- [Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste](#)
- [Critical Manufacturing](#)
- [Defense Industrial Base](#)
- [Dams](#)

SUSTENANCE and HEALTH

- [Agriculture and Food](#)
- [Water](#)
- [Public Health and Healthcare](#)

SERVICE INDUSTRIES

- [Banking and Finance](#)
- [Transportation](#)
- [Postal and Shipping](#)
- [Information Technology](#)
- [Communications](#)
- [Commercial Facilities](#)

FEDERAL and STATE

- [Government Facilities](#)
 - [Emergency Services](#)
 - [National Monuments and Icons](#)
-

Energy Sector

1. *October 4, Anchorage Daily News* – (Alaska) **Shell Oil begins exploratory drilling in Alaska’s Beaufort Sea.** Alaska Shell Oil is now drilling wells in two Arctic seas off of Alaska’s northern coast. Drilling began October 3 in the Beaufort Sea after the end of an Inupiat whale hunt, according to a spokesman for Shell Alaska. The company resumed drilling in the Chukchi Sea September 23 after a 2-week suspension due to encroaching sea ice, he said. But Shell still will not be able to drill deep enough to reach oil in 2012. An oil spill containment dome, an essential piece of safety gear, was damaged during testing in September in a Bellingham shipyard. Shell investigated what went wrong in the testing of the dome, designed to be lowered over an out-of-control well to funnel oil, natural gas, and contaminated water back to the barge, the Arctic Challenger. It does not plan to release its findings to the public, a spokesman for Shell Alaska stated. However, it fully expects the containment system to be repaired and approved by regulators for deployment during the 2013 drilling season.
Source: <http://www.charlotteobserver.com/2012/10/04/3576617/shell-oil-begins-exploratory-drilling.html>
2. *October 4, Fuel Fix* – (Texas) **Fire at Exxon Mobil’s Baytown complex.** Exxon Mobil’s emergency teams battled a fire at its Baytown, Texas complex October 3, which includes one of the largest refineries in the world. The fire broke out and was confined to a process unit, an Exxon Mobil spokeswoman said in an email. No injuries were reported and all employees were accounted for, she said. The flames were extinguished about 4 hours later, a company statement said. A crew remained on the site October 3. It was not immediately clear what started the fire. Exxon Mobil’s Baytown complex houses refining and chemical plants and has a staff of 2,200 company employees and 2,100 contractors that keep it running 24 hours a day. It is capable of refining 573,000 barrels per day of crude oil.
Source: <http://fuelfix.com/blog/2012/10/04/fire-at-exxon-mobils-baytown-complex/>
3. *October 3, Corvallis Gazette-Times* – (Oregon) **Power outage affects heart of city for most of workday.** A blown fuse and a vehicle crash cut power to the heart of Corvallis, Oregon, for most of October 3, and affected schools, businesses, and traffic. Among the most impacted were businesses along Corvallis’ commercial district on Ninth Street, six schools, and Oregon State University, about 11,500 Pacific Power customers in all. The larger of two outages affected 10,864 customers in the core of the city and to the south and west, a Pacific Power spokesperson reported. Power was fully restored to all customers after several hours. A separate power outage, affecting 780 residences in north Corvallis, was caused by a vehicle hitting a power pole. Workers restored power to those customers a few hours later. About 20 buildings at Oregon State University were left without power.
Source: http://www.gazettetimes.com/news/local/power-outage-affects-heart-of-city-for-most-of-workday/article_eb833e58-0d8b-11e2-acfc-001a4bcf887a.html
4. *October 3, Easton Express-Times* – (Pennsylvania) **UGI, Pennsylvania utility regulators propose Allentown gas explosion settlement.** UGI Utilities Inc. agreed to pay the maximum fine it could face and accelerate cast-iron pipeline replacement to

settle allegations it ignored warning signs that could have prevented a fatal 2011 natural gas explosion in Allentown, Pennsylvania, the Easton Express-Times reported October 3. The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) filed a complaint against UGI in June after a 16-month investigation into the blast that killed 5 people and destroyed 8 houses. October 3, Reading, Pennsylvania-based UGI and the commission's bureau of investigation and enforcement submitted a joint settlement to an administrative law judge, who will review it and make a recommendation to the commission itself. UGI issued a statement October 3 confirming the filing of the settlement. The settlement is posted on the PUC Web site. UGI has agreed to significant safety upgrades, including speeding up the rate of replacement of cast-iron mains to 14 years, according to the settlement. UGI said in the settlement it had followed a 50-year replacement trend for cast iron. The February 9, 2011 blast was caused by a crack in a cast-iron natural gas main installed in 1928 underneath Allen Street. PUC documents reveal UGI recommended replacement of the same line in 1979 because it had experienced four breaks dating to 1974 but that the work was never done.

Source:

http://www.lehighvalleylive.com/allentown/index.ssf/2012/10/ugi_puc_propose_allentown_gas_1.html

5. *October 3, Associated Press* – (Michigan) **EPA: More cleanup needed in 2010 Enbridge spill.** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) October 3 told Enbridge Inc. that the pipeline company's massive 2010 oil spill in Michigan's Kalamazoo River system requires more cleanup work. The Calgary, Alberta-based company owns a 30-inch pipeline from Griffith, Indiana, to Sarnia, Ontario. The pipe burst near Marshall, Michigan, in July 2010, spewing oil into a Kalamazoo River tributary. The EPA said crews removed 1.1 million gallons of oil and 200,000 cubic yards of oil-contaminated sediment and debris. The agency said it informed Enbridge more work is needed upstream from the Ceresco and Battle Creek dams and Morrow Lake. It stated Enbridge has 10 days to request a conference about the proposed order. A company spokesman said the EPA's notice is not a formal directive and said Enbridge is reviewing it.

Source: http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-505245_162-57525489/epa-more-cleanup-needed-in-2010-enbridge-spill/

For another story, see item [15](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Chemical Industry Sector

6. *October 4, Green Bay Press-Gazette* – (Wisconsin) **Machine failure may have caused Marinette chemical leak.** A machine failure at the ChemDesign chemical plant may have caused the release of odors that forced the evacuation of nearby Marinette Marine Corp. workers October 2. The production line where the release occurred remained shut down late October 3, as workers inspected equipment and took steps to ensure the problem does not recur, said ChemDesign's director of environmental health and safety. However, the business continued to operate. It appears the motor stopped on a

“pre-scrubber” — a machine that controls chemical odors — and the smell escaped through a plant stack, the director said. Some Marinette Marine workers complained of nausea and headaches, and all workers from the shift at the firm that builds ships for the U.S. Navy were sent home early. The ChemDesign director said no actual chemicals were released. A county hazardous materials team responded and the release was confined to the ChemDesign and Marinette Marine sites, authorities said. The release at ChemDesign was stopped a little more than 3 hours after it was first reported, emergency officials said.

Source:

<http://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/article/20121004/GPG0101/310040303/Machine-failure-may-caused-Marinette-chemical-leak>

7. *October 4, Talladega Daily Home* – (Alabama) **ADEAM requests federal resources to address REEF issues.** The Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) said October 3 that it requested federal resources to resolve ongoing issues at REEF Environmental, a former industrial waste treatment facility in Sylacauga after unsuccessful attempts to develop a local solution. ADEM officials met with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to assess REEF, which left about 13 million gallons of untreated wastewater as well as hundreds of containers of chemicals on site when it ceased operations in 2010. The agencies will eventually develop a long-range plan to clean up the facility but are currently focusing on two time-critical issues, said an ADEM official. These include relieving a large gas bubble that formed under a tarp, which covers a basin of about 3 million gallons of wastewater, as well as controlling oily leakage flowing into Shirtee Creek from the same basin. The ADEM official said they have not recorded any elevated chemicals offsite, but onsite readings have been high. A 24/7 monitoring system was set-up as well as a unified command center with federal and State environmental officials, county and local emergency management, and public safety officials.

Source: http://www.dailyhome.com/view/full_story/20357895/article-ADEAM-requests-federal-resources-to-address-REEF-issues?instance=home_lead_story

For more stories, see items [2](#), [15](#), and [27](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

8. *October 4, Capitol Broadcasting Company* – (North Carolina) **Violations at Harris nuke plant bring more oversight.** The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) said October 4 that it has placed the Shearon Harris nuclear power plant in New Hill, North Carolina, under increased oversight because of internal safety violations. The violations were linked to the operation of ventilation systems for facilities at the plant that would be staffed during emergencies, officials said. One violation involved Progress Energy’s failure to maintain the Emergency Operations Facility ventilation system, which was out of service for extended periods over 2 years. Officials said there was no immediate safety concern because no emergencies requiring use of the facility occurred during that time. Progress was also cited for not notifying the NRC during the

times that the ventilation system was degraded or out of service. The findings mean the plant will be subject to additional NRC inspections beyond the baseline inspections that are conducted at all nuclear plants.

Source: <http://www.wral.com/violations-at-harris-nuke-plant-bring-more-oversight/11625019/>

9. *October 4, Los Angeles Times* – (California) **Edison wants to restart one of San Onofre’s nuclear reactors.** Southern California Edison wants to restart one of the two reactors at its San Onofre nuclear plant in San Onofre, California, which has been shuttered for 8 months over safety concerns, officials said October 4. The plant’s Unit 2 reactor was offline for routine inspections and maintenance when a steam generator tube in Unit 3 sprung a leak January 31. That led to the discovery that the tubes in the newly replaced steam generators were wearing out more quickly than expected. The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission dispatched a special inspection team to the plant and ordered Edison to keep the plant shut down until the company could show that it fully understood the cause of the issues and how to fix them. In a plan submitted October 4, Edison proposed to restart Unit 2 and run it at 70 percent of full power for 5 months before taking it offline for inspections to make sure the tube wear is not continuing. Unit 3, which had a more serious issue, would remain offline indefinitely. It is unclear when or if that reactor could start again. Edison said the unusual wear was a result of “fluid elastic instability” — high-velocity steam flow and low moisture in certain areas that caused the tubes to vibrate excessively and rub against each other. Running the plant at reduced power would reduce the steam velocity to an acceptable level, the company said.

Source: <http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/lanow/2012/10/san-onofre-restart-plan.html>

10. *October 4, Associated Press* – (International) **Report says EU nuclear plants need better safety.** The European Union (E.U.) energy commissioner said October 4 the cost of necessary improvements at the 145 nuclear reactors in the E.U. could be as high as \$32 billion in coming years. An EU report said stress tests carried out in the wake of the March 2011 Fukushima accident in Japan showed that almost all the plants need safety improvements. Officials said earlier that the tests did not reveal the need to close any plants immediately. E.U. leaders agreed in 2011 to put the reactors through the toughest security checks possible to gauge their ability to withstand accidents and natural disasters. The energy commissioner said that “nearly everywhere” there was potential for improvement to reach the highest level of safety, ranging from ensuring more time to react to an electricity blackout to adding more seismic equipment to detect earthquakes. The report criticized the authorities for not taking the latest standards into account to assess risks. For earthquake and flooding risk, standards now called for an assessment based on occurrences of the past 10,000 years, while many nuclear power plants use a shorter time frame. Equipment to fight severe accidents is not stored for quick retrieval in 56 percent of cases, and almost everywhere equipment to alert for earthquakes should be upgraded, or installed. In case of an electricity blackout, five reactors would not be able to cope for more than an hour without intervention.

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/world/2012/10/04/report-says-eu-nuclear-plants-need-better-safety/>

For another story, see item [32](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Critical Manufacturing Sector

11. *October 3, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission* – (National) **GE recalls front load washers due to injury hazard.** The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, in cooperation with GE Appliances, October 3 announced a voluntary recall of about 62,000 GE Profile Front Load Washers. Consumers should stop using recalled products immediately unless otherwise instructed. The washer's basket can separate during use and break the washer's top panel, posing an injury hazard to consumers. GE has received 19 reports of washer baskets separating, including 10 reports of top panel breakage. The dishwashers were sold at Best Buy, Lowe's, Sears, Home Depot and other department and retail stores nationwide, from July 2008 to August 2011. Consumers should immediately stop using the recalled washers and contact GE for a free repair.

Source: <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml13/13003.html>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Defense Industrial Base Sector

12. *October 4, Associated Press* – (Kentucky) **Larceny charges dismissed for Fort Knox soldier.** Military prosecutors dismissed charges of larceny and selling military property for the sale of body armor against a soldier at Fort Knox, Kentucky. The charges against the staff sergeant were dismissed October 3, according to a memorandum signed by the U.S. Army installation's commanding general, the same day the soldier's court-martial was scheduled to begin. He said he legally bought and sold the ballistic plates online for a profit, and said nothing he sold online was ever taken from any Army inventory or issued to him. He said the plates had no markings to indicate they were military property.

Source: <http://www.militarytimes.com/news/2012/10/ap-larceny-charges-dismissed-fort-knox-soldier-100412/>

For another story, see item [6](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Banking and Finance Sector

13. *October 2, U.S. Department of Justice* – (New York; National) **Residential Mortgage-Backed Securities Working Group members announce first legal action.** The Residential Mortgage Backed Securities (RMBS) Working Group members October 2 announced their first legal action since the working group formation earlier this year. In his role as a co-chair of the RMBS Working Group, the New York attorney general filed a Martin Act lawsuit against J.P. Morgan Securities LLC (formerly known as Bear

Stearns & Co. Inc.), JP Morgan Chase Bank N.A., and EMC Mortgage LLC (formerly known as EMC Mortgage Corporation) for making fraudulent misrepresentations and omissions to promote the sale of RMBS to investors. According to the lawsuit, the defendants deceived investors as to the care with which they evaluated the quality of mortgage loans packaged into residential mortgage-backed securities prior to Bear Stearns & Co.'s collapse in early 2008, incurring losses that have totaled about \$22.5 billion. The lawsuit is the first legal action from the RMBS Working Group, a State-federal task force created by the U.S. President earlier this year to investigate those responsible for misconduct contributing to the financial crisis through the pooling and sale of RMBS.

Source: <http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/2012/October/12-opa-1196.html>

For more stories, see items [41](#) and [47](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Transportation Sector

14. *October 4, WNBC 4 New York* – (New York) **School bus driver who crashed into house charged with DWI.** A mini school bus driver who authorities said passed out behind the wheel and crashed into a house on Long Island, New York, while children were aboard has been arrested and charged with driving while intoxicated, according to police. The driver was leaving a Catholic elementary school October 3 when he had what fire officials initially referred to as a “medical emergency of some kind” and veered into the house, authorities said. The five children that were on the bus attend St. Edward the Confessor School. The driver was airlifted to a medical center. He was later arrested and charged with five counts of aggravated driving while intoxicated under Leandra’s Law, five counts of endangering the welfare of a child, five counts of reckless endangerment, and two counts of driving while intoxicated.
Source: <http://www.nbcnewyork.com/news/local/School-Bus-Driver-Crash-Into-Long-Island-House-Arrest-172651191.html>
15. *October 3, Chesterton Tribune* – (Indiana) **Burns Harbor Fire Department contains 1000 gallons of sulfuric acid in Pilot parking lot.** Burns Harbor Fire Department (BHFD) firefighters successfully contained a release of 1,000 gallons of sulfuric acid October 2 in the parking lot of the Pilot Travel Center on U.S. Highway 20 in Burns Harbor, Indiana. The BHFD was dispatched to the scene, the fire chief said, after a trucker hauling ten 500-gallon containers of sulfuric acid reported a leak. The trucker said he had been on the road, was forced to brake hard, and felt his load shift. He then pulled into the Pilot center to check for damage to the containers and noticed acid pouring from the rear of his box truck. The acid was packaged in square plastic “totes” reinforced by a metal framework, but two of them were breached. The acid caused the asphalt in the parking lot to soften and bubble until a private contractor applied a chemical to neutralize it. The Pilot was evacuated until the BHFD monitored the air quality and gave the all-clear. For a time, U.S. 20 in front of the Pilot was closed to traffic. Also responding were a hazardous-materials team from the Porter County Environmental Department and an inspector from the U.S. Environmental Protection

Agency. The BHFD officially cleared the scene, but personnel were on site 7 hours later.

Source:

http://www.chestertontribune.com/PoliceFireEmergency/burns_harbor_fire_department_con.htm

For more stories, see items [3](#), [4](#), [5](#), [52](#), [55](#), and [56](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Postal and Shipping Sector

16. *October 4, KOTV 6 Tulsa* – (Oklahoma) **Chouteau woman arrested for stealing mail in Tulsa.** Police arrested a Chouteau, Oklahoma woman October 3 following an investigation into theft of mail from the South Utica neighborhood in Tulsa September 3. At the time of her arrest, police said she had mail from 15 different residences. Detectives have been able to contact at least 12 victims, but were asking residents living in the area of South Peoria and South Lewis who think they were also victims of mail theft to contact Tulsa police. She was booked into the Tulsa County jail on 12 complaints of being in possession of stolen property.
Source: <http://www.newson6.com/story/19734913/chouteau-woman-arrested-for-stealing-mail-in-tulsa>
17. *October 3, WBTV 3 Charlotte* – (South Carolina) **UPS driver charged with stealing packages while making deliveries.** A Lancaster, South Carolina driver for United Parcel Service was arrested in September after deputies said she was stealing packages that contained medication, WBTV 3 reported October 3. She was charged with three counts of theft of a controlled substance, according to a news release from the Lancaster County Sheriff's Office. The incidents occurred December 1, 2011, and September 18 and 21, 2012, according to the release.
Source: <http://www.wbtv.com/story/19725516/ups-driver-charged-with-stealing-packages-while-making-deliveries>
18. *October 3, New Haven Register* – (Connecticut) **New Haven man sentenced to 10 years in prison on mail robbery charge.** A New Haven, Connecticut man was sentenced October 3 to 10 years in prison on a mail robbery charge. He pleaded guilty in June to one count of robbery of the mail, money, or other property of the United States. According to a press release from a U.S. attorney, the New Haven man robbed a Postal Service contract station in East Haven January 22, 2011. He took \$1,413 and several pieces of mail. Officers searched his home 3 days later and seized some of the mail items, as well as the fake gun he used during the robbery. He is currently awaiting sentencing in seven convenience store robberies in Greater New Haven. The federal sentence will run concurrent to the sentence he receives from the State of Connecticut in those cases.
Source:
<http://nhregister.com/articles/2012/10/03/blotter/doc506ceb9710a84618515742.txt>

19. *October 3, Associated Press* – (Ohio) **Ohio postal worker indicted on mail theft charge.** A U.S. Postal Service worker was indicted on charges accusing him of stealing cash and gift cards from mail at a Columbus, Ohio processing center and assaulting officers, the Associated Press reported October 3. Federal authorities said Postal Service agents saw the service worker open envelopes and remove the contents while sorting mail in June at the center, and put mail in his sock and down his pants. Investigators said they recovered 71 first-class letters, 20 gift cards, and \$341 in cash when searching the service worker. He was indicted on 71 counts of mail theft, 12 counts of receiving stolen mail, and 2 counts of assaulting a federal officer.
Source: <http://www.reviewonline.com/page/content.detail/id/255446/Ohio-postal-worker-indicted-on-mail-theft-charge-.html?isap=1&nav=5038>
20. *October 3, KSDK 5 St. Louis* – (Missouri) **Mail carrier robbed in north St. Louis.** A U.S. Postal Service (USPS) mail carrier was robbed in a north St. Louis neighborhood October 3, the USPS said. The mail carrier was not injured, but a small amount of mail was stolen from her vehicle. The suspect did not display a weapon during the robbery.
Source: <http://www.ksdk.com/news/article/341529/3/Mail-carrier-robbed-at-gunpoint->

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Agriculture and Food Sector

21. *October 4, Food Safety News* – (National) **Costco recalls smoked salmon sold to quarter of a million customers.** Costco Wholesale — the only U.S. carrier of the European smoked salmon linked to hundreds of Salmonella illnesses in the Netherlands — issued a recall of the fish October 1, using its automated system to call the nearly 250,000 consumers who purchased the product over the past month. The smoked salmon was sold across the United States under two brands: Foppen and Kirkland Signature. Both products were manufactured by Foppen, a Netherlands-based company. The Foppen-branded fish was processed at a plant in Greece, while the Kirkland Signature-branded fish came from a plant in the Netherlands, said Costco’s director of food safety. So far, only the Foppen smoked salmon from the Greek facility tested positive for Salmonella; the Kirkland Signature fish was recalled out of extra precaution, the director said.
Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2012/10/costco-recalls-smoked-salmon-sold-to-quarter-of-a-million-customers/>
22. *October 4, Associated Press* – (Iowa; Nebraska) **Drought worsens in some key Midwest farming states.** A weekly drought report showed conditions worsened in some key Midwest farming States where the corn harvest is more than halfway completed. The U.S. Drought Monitor map released October 4 shows that 75 percent of Iowa, the nation’s biggest corn producer, is enduring extreme or exceptional drought, which are the two worst classifications. That is up roughly 10 percentage points from the week of September 24. The worse conditions will not make much difference to Iowa’s already withered corn crop, but it could affect crops such as winter wheat. Nearly 98 percent of neighboring Nebraska still falls into the two most severe drought categories. Overall drought conditions in the lower 48 States remained relatively

unchanged.

Source: http://wfcourier.com/news/national/drought-worsens-in-some-key-midwest-farming-states/article_9cd7878e-f7dd-57ad-8b2f-6a0f8a2aa58d.html

23. *October 3, Associated Press* – (Indiana; National) **FDA finds salmonella, unclean conditions at farm.** A federal inspector found two strains of salmonella and unclean conditions at an Indiana cantaloupe farm’s fruit-packing plant during visits following a deadly outbreak linked to its melons, the Associated Press reported October 3. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) posted a report on its Web site of the inspector’s findings during mid-August visits to Chamberlain Farm Produce Inc., in Owensville. The report includes improperly cleaned equipment and algae growing in standing water beneath conveyer belts in the plant. One of the two salmonella strains was found on cantaloupes that were processed and boxed. The FDA said the farm is the source of at least some of the salmonella outbreaks that sickened 270 people in 26 States during the summer. Officials said 101 people were hospitalized, and 3 deaths were reported in Kentucky.
Source: <http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/health/2012/10/03/fda-farm-salmonella-outbreak-unclean/1610277/>
24. *October 2, U.S. Food and Drug Administration* – (Texas) **Whole Foods Market voluntarily recalls Chicken Spring Rolls and Peanut Sesame Noodles containing peanuts due to possible health risk from one store.** October 2, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration reported that Whole Foods Market recalled two pre-made items — Chicken Spring Rolls and Peanut Sesame Noodles — sold in its prepared food department due to possible Salmonella contamination in the peanuts used as an ingredient. The recalled items were sold September 27 and 28 from a single store in Houston. This was in response to a recall by Sunland, Inc., whose recalled peanut butter has been connected to 30 illnesses in 19 States.
Source: <http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/ucm322443.htm>
25. *October 2, U.S. Food and Drug Administration* – (National) **Kasel Associated Industries recalls Nature’s Deli Chicken Jerky Dog Treats because of possible Salmonella health risk.** October 2, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) reported that Kasel Associated Industries of Denver voluntarily recalled its Nature’s Deli Chicken Jerky Dog Treats product because it may be contaminated with Salmonella. Infected but otherwise healthy pets can be carriers and infect other animals or humans. The recalled product was distributed to 57 Sam’s Club locations in 12 States. The product comes in a clear plastic bag with the Nature’s Deli logo containing 2.5-pounds chicken jerky marked with UPC bar code 647263800208. Kasel Industries recalled lot number best by 091913 DEN because this lot code tested positive for Salmonella by the FDA after a routine sampling.
Source: <http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/ucm322471.htm>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Water Sector

26. *October 4, Santa Maria Times* – (California) **Sanitation district hit with \$1.1M fine.** The Regional Water Quality Control Board October 3 fined taxpayers in the South San Luis Obispo County Sanitation District in California a little more than \$1.1 million, about one-third of its annual budget, for a raw sewage spill in Oceano during a flood December 19, 2010. The fines were reduced from a potential \$1.3 million after the board spent 6 hours deliberating the severity of many factors. Those included potential harm, cooperation and cleanup, the history of violations, the ability to pay and continue in business, and investigation costs. The board set the spill at about 674,000 gallons instead of the staff's estimate of a little more than 1.1 million gallons. There was no evidence that the spill caused any illnesses or environmental pollution.
Source: http://santamariatimes.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/sanitation-district-hit-with-m-fine/article_a3a5a758-0de3-11e2-9ab0-0019bb2963f4.html
27. *October 4, Associated Press* – (New York) **Cleanup set for Diaz Chemical in Holley.** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency finalized plans to clean up contaminated soil and ground water at the Diaz Chemical Corp. Superfund site, the Associated Press reported October 4. The plan called for using a heating technology to treat six areas and remove pollutants from the property in the Orleans County town of Holley, New York. Diaz manufactured specialty chemicals for the agricultural, pharmaceutical, photographic, color and dye, and personal care products industries at the site. Chemicals were released when a safety valve ruptured in 2002. The company left large volumes of chemicals behind when it abandoned the site after filing for bankruptcy in 2003. The cleanup is expected to take 2 to 3 years and cost about \$14.5 million.
Source: http://www.13wham.com/news/local/story/Cleanup-Set-For-Diaz-Chemical-In-Holley/uGus7Pb2FUG_iZEw0eJkKw.csp
28. *October 3, Chester Chronicle Newspaper* – (New York) **Water tank explodes in Chester.** Town residents of Chester, New York, living in an area devastated by Hurricane Irene came home to another water-related problem October 2, due to an explosion at a nearby water treatment plant, police said. Residents of the King Tract development had little to no running water October 2, after the pressurized tank that provided water to the surrounding community blew up, stated a release. Investigation by police ruled out any criminal activity, they said. The water system is privately owned by 473 West End Realty Corp., which said that drinking water would be available to the residents from a water tanker October 2.
Source:
<http://chroniclenewspaper.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20121003/NEWS01/121009993/Water-tank-explodes-in-Chester->
29. *October 3, WNCN 17 Goldsboro* – (North Carolina) **Third water line going to contaminated Wake Forest area.** A third water line was in the works for residents in a development in Wake Forest, North Carolina that has contaminated water, WNCN 17 Goldsboro reported October 3. Two water lines were already under construction to deliver water to some of the affected residents in the Stonewall development. The U.S.

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) said they were working with Aqua to install a third main water line that would allow all residents in the development to hook up to it. The cost was expected to be \$1.5 million. The water hook-up would be free for residents with contamination levels close to the EPA's threshold. An EPA spokesman said the agency was still in negotiations with Aqua. The goal is to begin construction within a few months.

Source: <http://www2.nbc17.com/news/2012/oct/03/third-water-line-going-contaminated-wake-forest-ar-ar-2661559/>

30. *October 3, Kalamazoo Gazette* – (Michigan) **Raw sewage spilling into drainage ditch near Lafayette Street and Fraternity Village Drive in Kalamazoo.** Authorities in Kalamazoo, Michigan warned people to avoid contact with surface water near a drainage ditch in the area of Lafayette Street and Fraternity Drive because of a raw sewage leak, the Kalamazoo Gazette reported October 3. A section of damaged sewer main along the north side of the railroad tracks southwest of Lafayette Street and southeast of Fraternity Drive allowed raw sewage to be released to an intermittent drainage ditch that discharges to Arcadia Creek, stated a press release from the City of Kalamazoo. The material was discharged from the sewer system at about 20 gallons per minute. Public services workers were determining the source of the discharge and how to repair it. They sampled the drainage ditch to determine the degree of impact to surface waters, stated the release. The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality and the county health department's environmental health division have been notified, as required by law.

Source:

http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2012/10/avoid_drainage_ditch_near_lafa.html#incart_river

31. *October 3, Columbia Daily Tribune* – (Missouri) **North-county break prompts boil advisory.** A water main break October 3 resulted in a boil advisory for some areas west of Centralia, Missouri through October 5. Boone County's Public Water Supply District 10 asked residents on several roads in north Boone County to boil their water through October 5, stated a news release. The area affected includes water district customers on Barnes, McLane-Dailing, Farwest School, Dowell, Wallace School, Lost Woods, Olson, and Adams roads. Residents were advised to boil any water to be consumed for 5 minutes and turn off ice makers.

Source: <http://www.columbiatribune.com/news/2012/oct/03/north-county-break-prompts-boil-advisory/>

For another story, see item [7](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Public Health and Healthcare Sector

32. *October 4, Associated Press* – (South Dakota) **SD hospital being fined for radiation mishap.** The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) planned to fine a Sioux Falls, South Dakota hospital \$11,200 for incidents in which a breast cancer patient

suffered skin burns during treatment, the Associated Press reported October 4. The commission said the incident at Avera McKennan Hospital involved brachytherapy, which irradiates cancerous tumors inside the body. The agency said the patient's skin was exposed directly to radiation twice in January because of a computer programming error. Avera McKennan issued a statement saying it took the incidents seriously and cooperated with the NRC. The NRC said Avera McKennan has taken steps that provide "reasonable assurance" that such an incident will not reoccur.

Source: <http://www.keloland.com/News/newsdetail6371.cfm/sd-hospital-being-fined-for-radiation-mishap/?id=138056>

33. *October 4, NBC News* – (National) **Fungal meningitis death toll may rise.** Health officials have traced an outbreak of rare fungal meningitis to a Framingham, Massachusetts specialty pharmacy that distributes a steroid injection commonly used to treat back pain, NBC News reported October 4. The pharmacy, which shipped 2,000 vials of the possibly contaminated steroid to one center in Tennessee alone, said it has recalled all of the product and is cooperating with federal officials, said the Associated Press. Doctors leading the investigation said they expect to find more cases, and if the pharmacy shipped product to many States, it is possible many more people across the country will become ill with the hard-to-treat infection. So far, 26 people have been diagnosed with fungal meningitis in 5 States and 4 of them have died. The Massachusetts health department said it was working with federal officials and said the New England Compounding Center had surrendered its license to operate.
Source: <http://vitals.nbcnews.com/news/2012/10/04/14219550-fungal-meningitis-death-toll-may-rise?lite>
34. *October 3, Providence Journal* – (Rhode Island) **Doctor's office displaced by fire at Woonsocket medical building.** An overnight fire October 3 at a Mendon Road medical building under renovation in Woonsocket, Rhode Island, did not appear suspicious, said a Woonsocket fire captain and an assistant deputy State fire marshal. The fire displaced a doctor's office, the only business that was operational in the building as it underwent construction. A preliminary investigation indicated the fire started in the main stairwell. The cause of the fire remained under investigation.
Source: <http://news.providencejournal.com/breaking-news/2012/10/woonsocket-fireready.html>
35. *October 3, Terrebonne Parish Houma Today* – (Louisiana) **Local nurse's Medicare fraud trial begins.** The Medicare fraud trial of a nurse from Gray, Louisiana, and four others began in federal court in Baton Rouge the week of October 1. The nurse is accused of exaggerating the care she gave to patients with a local home health care company when she billed Medicare so that employees of South Louisiana Home Health Inc., which had offices in Houma and New Orleans, could pocket the extra money and use it for kickbacks, according to the indictment against her and four New Orleans residents. Altogether, the company stole \$17.1 million from Medicare, according to court records that U.S. Justice prosecutors' filed in the Middle District of Louisiana. The nurse was indicted in 2011 as part of a nationwide crackdown that targeted 91 people in eight cities, the U.S. Department of Justice said.
Source: <http://www.houmatoday.com/article/20121003/ARTICLES/121009845?tc=ar>

Government Facilities Sector

36. *October 4, Nashville Tennessean* – (Tennessee; Arkansas) **Coffee Co. native charged with threatening TWRA officers, headquarters.** Threats to blow up the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency’s (TWRA) headquarters in Nashville and to kill several of its law enforcement officials and office employees could result in a prison sentence of more than 40 years for a Coffee County native. Several TWRA employees alleged that the man has threatened to kill them since March, when he was arrested on a boating under the influence charge connected with an accident that occurred on Tims Ford Lake in 2010. He also is accused of threatening to blow up the TWRA building on Edmondson Pike. Law enforcement agents had searched for the man since 2010. They caught up to him in March living in Fort Smith, Arkansas. He allegedly made the threats from Arkansas, resulting in the charges being made on the federal level. He is charged with a total of seven death threats against individuals.
Source: <http://www.tennessean.com/article/20121004/SPORTS11/310040033/TN-native-accused-of-threatening-to-bomb-TWRA-headquarters-kill-officers>
37. *October 3, KPRC 2 Houston* – (Texas) **Man accused of threatening to open fire on elementary school.** A Katy, Texas man was accused of threatening to open fire on a school campus and was charged with making a terroristic threat, KPRC 2 Houston reported October 3. Court documents said that he made the threats October 1 in an online chat room and that a witness in North Carolina notified the FBI in Washington, D.C. According to court documents, he said he would commit a shooting at an elementary school because they typically do not have police officers on campus. He also mentioned it would take a while for police to get there, so he would have time to shoot many people. He said the goal was not to survive but to send a message, according to court documents. He also said that he wanted to live stream the killings online, investigators said. While no specific school or district was named, the Katy Independent School District was made aware of the situation, according to the superintendent of the school district.
Source: <http://www.kcentv.com/story/19728054/man-accused-of-threatening-to-open-fire-on-elementary-school>
38. *October 3, Washington Post* – (International) **Sensitive documents left behind at U.S. diplomatic post in Libya.** More than 3 weeks after attacks in Benghazi killed the U.S. ambassador to Libya and three other Americans, sensitive documents remained only loosely secured in the wreckage of the U.S. mission, offering visitors easy access to delicate information about American operations in Libya, the Washington Post reported October 3. Sensitive documents were among the items scattered across the floors of the looted compound when a Washington Post reporter and an interpreter visited October 3. No government-provided security forces are guarding the compound, and Libyan investigators have visited just once, according to a member of the family who owns the compound and who allowed the journalists to enter October 3. “Securing the site has obviously been a challenge,” a deputy spokesman at the State Department said in response to questions about conditions at the Benghazi compound. “We had to evacuate

all U.S. government personnel the night of the attack. After the attack, we requested help securing the site, and we continue to work with the Libyan government on this front.”

Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/middle_east/sensitive-documents-left-behind-at-american-mission-in-libya/2012/10/03/11911498-0d7e-11e2-bd1a-b868e65d57eb_story.html

39. *October 3, Fort Worth Star-Telegram* – (Texas) **Decatur man charged with setting fire to Wise County courthouse.** A Decatur man who was facing a misdemeanor weapons charge left a death threat for a Wise County, Texas prosecutor on a wall and set a fire in a bathroom in the Wise County Courthouse in September, according to the Wise County Sheriff’s Office, the Fort Worth Star-Telegram reported October 3. Authorities said the suspect had his 9-month-old child with him at the time. He is charged with arson, endangering a child, and retaliation on the threat to the Wise County attorney. In an interview with a Texas ranger, the man confessed to setting the fire and writing the death threat on a bathroom wall in the Wise County courthouse, said a news release from the sheriff’s office. An informant told authorities that the man had a history of setting fires in Wise County, according to the affidavit. He would set a fire in one location as a diversion, then would go to another address to commit other criminal acts, according to the affidavit.

Source: <http://www.star-telegram.com/2012/10/03/4308864/decatour-man-charged-with-setting.html#storylink=cpy>

For another story, see item [3](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Emergency Services Sector

40. *October 4, Orange County Register* – (California) **Officers use beanbags to subdue woman outside police station.** A woman who police suspect of stealing from her grandmother was shot with beanbags in front of the Cypress, California police station October 3 after threatening officers and holding a knife against her own neck, authorities said. Hours after reporting a petty theft, a woman brought her granddaughter to the police station believing the 21-year-old had taken her property, a sergeant said. The grandmother had notified police she was coming to the station and officers were waiting in front of the building. The granddaughter got out of her grandmother’s vehicle with a “large knife” in her hand and began walking toward officers. Police said she ignored commands to drop the knife, instead placing it against her own neck and yelling at officers to shoot her. She then yelled at the officers that she had a gun and was going to kill them and began making “exaggerated furtive movements with her free hand down the front of her waistband,” the sergeant said. The officers fired two beanbags, striking the woman in the chest. She dropped the knife, fell to the ground, and was taken into custody.

Source: <http://www.ocregister.com/news/police-373520-officers-ezra.html>

41. *October 4, United Press International* – (California; International) **Sinaloa cartel leader tied to drug tunnels.** An indictment by U.S. authorities tied a top Mexican cartel member to two of the largest drug tunnels ever found under the San Diego-Tijuana border, an indictment indicated, United Press International reported October 4. Federal prosecutors in San Diego said the cartel member who was arrested in Mexico on money-laundering charges in January and faces extradition proceedings, is the highest-ranking member of the Sinaloa drug cartel ever charged in construction of underground tunnels, the Los Angeles Times reported October 4. The 13-count federal indictment was handed down by a grand jury in San Diego in February and unsealed October 3. Prosecutors allege the cartel member oversaw construction and operation of a 2,200-foot-long tunnel discovered in November 2010, and a similar underground passageway found in 2011. Prosecutors said he received frequent updates on construction work, controlled drug flow, and directed other traffickers to use the tunnels.
Source: http://www.upi.com/Top_News/US/2012/10/04/Sinaloa-cartel-leader-tied-to-drug-tunnels/UPI-37951349350206/?spt=hs&or=tn
42. *October 3, Associated Press; Salt Lake Tribune* – (Utah) **Utah inmate pleads guilty to killing prison guard with his own gun on way to medical exam.** A Utah inmate known for the neo-Nazi tattoos that cover his face and body pleaded guilty October 3 to murdering a prison guard in 2007. Under a plea deal with prosecutors to avoid a possible death penalty, the inmate agreed to a life sentence without the possibility of parole after pleading guilty to aggravated murder and other charges. Authorities said the inmate killed the prison guard who was shot with his own gun, while escorting him to a doctor's appointment June 26, 2007. While he was an inmate at the Utah State Prison on firearms violations, he fled the University of Utah medical facility on foot after the shooting. Authorities said he stole a vehicle and led police on a high-speed chase. When the vehicle was disabled, he ran into a restaurant, where a patron disarmed him.
Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/utah-inmate-pleads-guilty-to-killing-prison-guard-with-his-own-gun-on-way-to-medical-exam/2012/10/03/49073044-0d90-11e2-ba6c-07bd866eb71a_story.html
43. *October 3, NBC News; Reuters; Associated Press* – (International) **Mexican troops arrest 2 in killing of U.S. border agent.** Mexican troops have arrested two suspects in the killing of a U.S. Border Patrol agent and the wounding of a second officer in Naco, Arizona, Mexican security officials said October 3. The two suspects were detained in a Mexican military operation in the city of Agua Prieta, in Mexico's northern Sonora State, a few miles from the spot where the agent was shot dead October 2 while responding to a tripped ground sensor, a Mexican army officer told Reuters. A Mexican police official in Naco confirmed the arrests.
Source: <http://worldnews.nbcnews.com/news/2012/10/03/14206322-mexican-troops-arrest-2-in-killing-of-us-border-agent?chromedomain=usnews&lite>
44. *October 2, Associated Press* – (Nevada) **Inmate locks up deputy, flees in Virginia City.** Deputies searched mountain canyons and abandoned mine shafts around Virginia City, Nevada, October 2 after a prisoner escaped by locking a jailer in his cell October

1 and fled into the rugged hills surrounding the historic Comstock mining district. The prisoner was facing sentencing October 1 on a sexual assault charge when he escaped from Storey County Jail in Virginia City by hiding in the shadows of his cell and getting past the deputy who came to check on him. The sheriff said in a statement an internal investigation would determine if any breaches of protocol factored into the escape.

Source: <http://www.lvrj.com/news/inmate-locks-up-deputy-flees-in-virginia-city-172346421.html>

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

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Information Technology Sector

45. *October 4, The H* – (International) **New Oracle hacks revealed.** At the DerbyCon 2.0 conference, two security experts presented a range of attacks, some of which were previously unknown, on Oracle databases and SQL servers; they even released suitable tools to exploit them at the same time. In “Hacking the Oracle Client,” one of the researchers demonstrated that, although Oracle saves the user name and password for a database connection in encrypted form in the client’s main memory, this data remains in memory after the session ends, and can easily be decrypted. A trojan, for example, could exploit this to harvest plain-text passwords from the client, which was demonstrated by the ocioralog meterpreter extension. The experts also demonstrated how Oracle connections can be hijacked and exploited. Due to the unpatched TNS poisoning security vulnerability, the experts’ approach works with any standard Oracle database, unless special security measures for the TNS listener are in place. The presented pytnsproxy TNS proxy, combined with a suitable Metasploit module called tnspoisn, allows unauthenticated attackers to sniff-out or modify the connections to the database; arbitrary SQL commands can even be sent using the TNS proxy.
Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/New-Oracle-hacks-revealed-1723371.html>

46. *October 3, Threatpost* – (International) **Some Wordpress themes, thousands of sites open to XSS vulnerability.** A number of Wordpress themes being distributed by the developer Parallelus are vulnerable to cross-site scripting (XSS) attacks, reports said. Themes, bits of PHP, and HTML code that alter the look and functionality of sites are usually installed via Wordpress’ dashboard tool or by FTP. According to a Finnish product security professional and pentester, the XSS vulnerabilities lie in the Unite, Salutation, Intersect, and Traject themes. The themes cost around \$30-\$60 for a regular license on Themeforest.net, a Wordpress theme marketplace. The security professional noted that not all of the themes and templates associated with Parallelus are vulnerable, but thousands of sites — personal and business — could be affected.
Source: http://threatpost.com/en_us/blogs/some-wordpress-themes-thousands-sites-open-xss-vulnerabilities-100312

47. *October 3, Help Net Security* – (International) **Malicious spam campaign targets QuickBooks users.** Intuit-themed malicious spam campaigns appear every few months, given that the company’s tax preparation, accounting, financial management, and billing software and services are extremely popular in the United States and Canada. The latest one, spotted by GFI Software, tries to attract the users of Intuit’s QuickBooks — accounting software marketed to small business owners — with an offer of free shipping when ordering tax forms. For the recipients who click on them, the embedded links lead not to the ordering form, but to a page that shows a “Connecting to server...” message and eventually redirects them to another page hosting the Blackhole exploit kit.
Source: http://www.net-security.org/malware_news.php?id=2282
48. *October 2, V3.co.uk* – (International) **Blackhole responsible for a third of drive-by download attacks.** According to new research, malware created using the Blackhole toolkit can be found on nearly one third of all malicious Web links circulating in the wild. A team comprised of researchers at Google, the International Computer Science Institute, and several leading U.S. universities warned that so-called drive-by downloads are becoming cyber criminals’ attack of choice. The team studied more than 77,000 malicious URLs identified using Google’s Safe Browsing — a tool Google uses to identify sites carrying malicious payloads. They then attempted to analyze the code these sites were dispensing, analyzing the malware being distributed and the tools used to create it. Nearly half of all Web pages serving exploits were based on two toolkits: Blackhole and Incognito.
Source: <http://www.v3.co.uk/v3-uk/the-frontline-blog/2214082/blackhole-responsible-for-a-third-of-driveby-download-attacks>

For more stories, see items [49](#) and [54](#)

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>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Communications Sector

49. *October 4, Quincy Patriot-Ledger* – (Massachusetts) **Phone, internet service restored in Braintree.** Phone and Internet service in Braintree, Massachusetts, was restored October 4 after a severed fiber in Quincy knocked out service for hundreds of residents through most of October 3. A spokeswoman for the Braintree Electric Light Department, said a “major fiber cut” in Quincy disrupted service for about 3,200 Internet customers and close to 2,000 phone customers early October 3. Phone service was restored by the evening October 3, but Internet service remained off-line for many residents until October 4.

Source: <http://www.patriotledger.com/topstories/x383194682/Braintree-phones-back-on-Internet-still-out>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Commercial Facilities Sector

50. *October 4, Newark Star-Ledger* – (New Jersey) **Firefighters still at scene of blaze that destroyed New Brunswick silk flower warehouse.** Firefighters in New Brunswick, New Jersey remained at the scene October 4 of a warehouse fire that ravaged a silk-flower wholesale business October 3, a city fire official said. The one-story building was fully engulfed by the time firefighters arrived, 2 minutes after receiving the call, the deputy fire chief said. A nearby residence and business had minor damage, mostly cracked windows. Two firefighters were slightly injured, and both were taken to a local hospital in the city where they were treated and later released, the deputy chief added. The fire was under control October 4 and its cause was still under investigation. He said the roughly 13,000-square-foot warehouse that was home to the Ding & A Trading Corp. would likely be torn down.
Source: http://www.nj.com/middlesex/index.ssf/2012/10/firefighters_still_at_scene_of.html
51. *October 4, White Plains Journal-News* – (New York) **16 treated at hospitals after CO leak at Cross County Mall.** More than a dozen workers in the Cross County Mall in Yonkers, New York were taken to area hospitals October 3, after being exposed to carbon monoxide gas, officials said. The exposure was the result of a leak caused by a generator that was not properly venting the gas. Emergency responders arrived to the area and evacuated the stores nearest the leak, the Macy's department store and the Applebee's Restaurant, police said. Four workers were taken to a medical center for treatment. Twelve others were taken to other area hospitals, police said. The fire department eventually located the source of the leak and vented the gas.
Source: <http://www.lohud.com/article/20121004/NEWS02/310040084/16-treated-hospitals-after-CO-leak-Cross-County-Mall>
52. *October 4, WJZ 13 Baltimore* – (Maryland) **Owner devastated after 3-alarm fire at Fells Point liquor store.** More than 90 firefighters battled a three-alarm fire in the Fells Point neighborhood in Baltimore, WJZ 13 Baltimore reported October 4. They got to the scene to find heavy smoke coming from the first and second floors. The fire was knocked out on the second floor but it spread to the third floor and the roof collapsed. Due to unsafe conditions, firefighters evacuated the building and fought the fire from outside. One person was helped from the building and a firefighter suffered minor injuries. Multiple streets were closed in the area.
Source: <http://baltimore.cbslocal.com/2012/10/04/firefighters-battle-3-alarm-fire-at-fells-point-liquor-store/>
53. *October 3, KTVN 2 Reno* – (California) **South Lake Tahoe apartment fire after alleged drug lab explodes.** Police in South Lake Tahoe, California investigated an apartment fire allegedly caused by a drug lab explosion October 3. Authorities

responded to a report of a structure fire at the Forest Manor apartment complex. As firefighters extinguished the fire from the downstairs unit, the complex was evacuated. Crews found one suspect in the unit, where the fire started, with third degree burns to his face, arms, and upper body. He was flown by helicopter to a burn unit at a hospital. His friend, another suspect, was uninjured, but had a singed beard, hair, and eyebrows. Police later questioned the second suspect. He reportedly admitted using several cans of butane fuel to cook marijuana into a concentrated form, called “hashish,” and that caused the fire.

Source: <http://www.ktvn.com/story/19730496/apartment-fire-after-a>

54. *October 2, Forbes* – (International) **Hackers crack hotel room locks with with tool disguised as a dry erase marker.** A trio of hackers built a tool that appears to be a dry erase marker, but when inserted into the port on the bottom of a common form of hotel room keycard lock triggers the lock’s open mechanism in a fraction of a second. “I guess we wanted to show that this sort of attack can happen with a very small, concealable device,” said one of the three hotel lock hackers and a security researcher with the consultancy Trustwave. “Someone using this could be searched and even then it wouldn’t be obvious that this isn’t just a pen.”

Source: <http://www.forbes.com/sites/andygreenberg/2012/10/02/hackers-crack-hotel-room-locks-with-a-tool-disguised-as-a-dry-erase-marker/>

For another story, see item [3](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

National Monuments and Icons Sector

55. *October 4, Steamboat Springs Steamboat Today* – (Colorado) **600-acre fire burning northwest of Rifle could produce haze over Yampa Valley.** There was just one wildfire of significance burning October 4 in Colorado, according to the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), but that fire near Rifle has the potential to bring a familiar bluish haze to the skies over Routt County. The fire 15 miles northwest of Rifle and not far from Colorado Highway 13 had burned 600 acres in Garfield County as of October 4, according to a USFS report. The fire also was burning in areas of pinon and juniper trees. There was no estimate of any containment of the fire. A report from the Interagency Coordination Center, which tracks wildfires nationally, said structures were threatened and some road closures were in effect because of the fire. The Colorado Department of Transportation’s interactive highway conditions map did not indicate that Colorado Highway 13 was closed by the fire.

Source: <http://www.steamboattoday.com/news/2012/oct/04/six-hundred-acre-fire-burning-northwest-rifle-coul/>

56. *October 3, Ellensburg Daily Record-News* – (Washington) **More people allowed home in fire area.** More people were allowed to return home in the Table Mountain Fire area northwest of Ellensburg, Washington, and more State lands were to reopen to the public, the Ellensburg Daily Record-News reported October 3. Level 2 and 3 notifications were removed for the southern foothills area, according to a news release

from the Kittitas County Sheriff's office. Road closures remained in effect at the southern boundary line of the forest lands. All residences in the Liberty area were under a level 2 evacuation notice, which restricts access to local traffic and residents only. Level 1 and 2 evacuation notifications were removed for the U.S. Highway 97 corridor from the Lauderdale junction to Mineral Springs, including the Liberty Cafe area, on both sides of the highway. Many of the areas that were evacuated 2 weeks ago after the Table Mountain Fire, which was sparked by lightning September 8, increased in size. State lands were reopened east of Coleman Canyon Road to the intersection of Naneum Ridge Road. The Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest east of U.S. 97 to the Naneum State Forest also remained closed.

Source: http://www.dailyrecordnews.com/tablemountainfire/more-people-allowed-home-in-fire-area/article_26e921dc-0d9c-11e2-a764-0019bb2963f4.html

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Dams Sector

57. *October 4, Pew Center on the States* – (National) **Dam inspectors fear the deluge.** Extreme weather, shifting demographics, and the passage of time are teaming up to erode the condition of dams and increase the cost of their failure, often measured in millions of dollars and significant numbers of lives lost, the Pew Center of the States reported October 4. In 2011, States combined to employ just 422 full time workers to oversee 87,679 structures, averaging out to more than 200 per person. Of those dams, 11,388 were deemed “high-hazard,” a category quantified differently across States but associated with the likelihood that a failure will lead to fatalities. “They’re doing the best job they can. They just don’t have the resources,” said the executive director of the Association of State Dam Safety Officials. A 2009 study by the group estimated it would cost \$16 billion to make the most urgent repairs over the next 12 years. When the Senate reconvenes following the election, it will be asked to consider reviving the 2006 National Dam Safety Act, a measure tacked onto a larger bill that has passed in the House. The \$14 million yearly program, which expired in 2011, helped States retain staff, educate dam owners, and buy essential equipment. Since then, funding has trickled in from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, but it has fallen short of plugging the gap.

Source: <http://www.pewstates.org/projects/stateline/headlines/dam-inspectors-fear-the-deluge-85899420764>

[\[Return to top\]](#)



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To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Web page at www.us-cert.gov.

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