



Homeland
Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report

21 August 2012

Top Stories

- Lightning sparked a fire at a chemical plant in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana, triggering hundreds of evacuations, road closures, and a shutdown of marine traffic on the Mississippi River. – *New Orleans Times-Picayune* (See item [6](#))
- The Securities and Exchange Commission announced fraud charges against a company they said bilked more than 1 million investors out of \$600 million in an Internet Ponzi scheme. – *CNNMoney* (See item [14](#))
- The U.S. Coast Guard said responders rescued 72 people on a sightseeing vessel that began taking on water in Alaska’s Glacier Bay after reportedly striking a rock. – *Associated Press* (See item [15](#))
- A multistate outbreak of Salmonella linked to cantaloupes grown in southwestern Indiana has killed two people in Kentucky and sickened 141 people in 20 States, state and federal health officials said. – *Food Safety News* (See item [24](#))
- At least some of the seven people arrested in a fatal shootout with Louisiana deputies have been linked to violent anarchists on the FBI’s domestic terrorism watch lists, a sheriff said. – *Associated Press* (See item [37](#))
- Wildfires in California, Idaho, and Washington consumed dozens of square miles of public and private land, forced thousands of people to evacuate, destroyed many homes, and closed some roads. – *Associated Press* (See item [49](#))

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Energy Sector

1. *August 20, Los Angeles Times* – (California) **Big rig fuel spill closes lanes on 5 Freeway in Burbank.** Three lanes of the northbound 5 Freeway in Burbank, California, were closed August 20 after a big rig flipped onto its side and spilled about 1,000 gallons of diesel fuel, the California Highway Patrol (CHP) said. The accident occurred near the Scott Road exit, where about 15 feet of a nearby wall was missing, CHP officials said. About 20 minutes later, emergency workers had managed to move the truck upright, and the driver was out of the vehicle. Three of the four lanes were expected to be closed until the spill was cleaned up; one lane remained open, as of the morning of August 20.
Source: <http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/lanow/2012/08/about-1000-gallons-of-fuel-spills-onto-5-freeway-officials-say.html>
2. *August 17, Reuters* – (National) **US pipeline oversight to be toughened under proposed rules.** Oversight of the U.S. pipeline system will be toughened, including a doubling of fines for mishaps, under proposed rules announced by the Department of Transportation August 17. The proposed rules, which follow a number of high-profile oil leaks in the United States, are meant to implement the bipartisan pipeline safety act that Congress passed in 2011. The act authorizes the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration to double the maximum civil penalty to \$200,000 per violation per day. It also raises the fine for a series of related violations to \$2 million from \$1 million. The fine structure under the rule, which will be subject to a 30-day comment period, would be effective from January 3, 2012, the day the U.S. President signed the act into law.
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/08/17/usa-pipelines-rulemaking-idUSL2E8JHCVU20120817>
3. *August 17, Associated Press* – (Wyoming) **Sulfur processing unit at Sinclair Refinery damaged by power outage; plant restarts operations.** The Sinclair

Refinery in Sinclair, Wyoming, is gradually restarting operations after a power outage shut the plant down. Sinclair said the power outage occurred August 16 when it lost its electrical supply from two power plants. The company reported a sulfur processing unit was damaged. In addition, the plant had to flare hydrocarbons. But Sinclair said air monitors around the plant did not detect excessive sulfur dioxide, hydrogen sulfide, carbon monoxide, or combustible gases. Sinclair said it will take about a week to get the plant back up to normal operations.

Source:

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/bf647dff5c154d7c8a1059d4d0c53b63/WY--Sinclair-Refinery>

4. *August 17, CNNMoney* – (International) **Mexico's big oil problem.** Mexico, one of the largest suppliers of oil to the United States, is gradually declining in its production of crude oil. In 2008, the country's production peaked at 3.2 million barrels a day, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA). In 2011, it produced under 3 million a day. The reason is due to aging oil fields and years of underinvestment. Industry experts say Mexico could revive production if it allowed more investment from international oil companies. But under current policy, EIA says Mexico will have to start importing oil by 2020. For the United States, the decline in Mexico's oil industry means it will likely be buying more oil from Canada and Saudi Arabia, the number 1 and 2 sources of U.S. oil imports. The loss of Mexico's current exports of about 1 million barrels a day would be greater than the amount lost due to sanctions on Iran, albeit over a longer time period. Many experts blame the structure of Mexico's oil industry for the decline.

Source: http://money.cnn.com/2012/08/17/news/economy/mexico-oil/index.html?source=yahoo_quote

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Chemical Industry Sector

5. *August 18, Florida Times-Union* – (Florida) **Explosion rocks Lane Avenue chemical plant.** An explosion in a turpentine tank rocked the Iff Chemical Plant on Lane Avenue in Jacksonville, Florida, August 18, forcing authorities to shut down 10 blocks of the street for many hours. But the fire caused by the explosion was extinguished. The chief of operations for the Jacksonville Fire Rescue Department said the explosion occurred in a 250,000-gallon turpentine tank. The blast damaged the top of the tank, but did not harm other parts of the plant. The cause of the explosion was under investigation. Other parts of the plant were operating after the explosion, said the fire chief of operations. Source: <http://jacksonville.com/news/metro/2012-08-18/story/explosion-rocks-lane-avenue-chemical-plant>
6. *August 18, New Orleans Times-Picayune* – (Louisiana) **Belle Chasse evacuation order is lifted.** A mandatory evacuation order issued August 17 as a result of a chemical release at the Sun Drilling Products Corp. plant in the Belle Chasse community of Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana, was lifted and hundreds of residents were allowed to return home August 18. Lightning apparently struck a storage tank the afternoon of

August 17, sparking a fire that sent what officials feared was hazardous smoke over the community and triggering mandatory evacuations, road closures, and a shutdown of marine traffic on the Mississippi River. The strike occurred near the Belle Chasse ferry landing. The U.S. Coast Guard identified the burning material as divinylbenzene. Ferry service was halted and Louisiana 23, Plaquemines Parish's main thoroughfare, was closed. A 4-mile stretch of the Mississippi River, from mile marker 74 to mile marker 78, was closed to marine traffic the night of August 17.

Source:

http://www.nola.com/traffic/index.ssf/2012/08/belle_chasse_evacuation_order.html

7. *August 17, U.S. Department of Labor* – (New Jersey) **US Labor Department's OSHA proposes \$82,500 in fines to chemical manufacturer for workplace hazards at Newark, NJ, facility.** The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) cited Cardolite Corp. with one willful and 13 serious health and safety violations for exposing workers to chemical and other hazards at the company's Newark, New Jersey facility. OSHA initiated its March investigation at the plant that develops and manufactures products based on cashew nutshell liquid for the coating, friction material, and adhesives market in response to a complaint and also as part of the agency's national emphasis program on process safety management for covered chemical facilities. Proposed penalties total \$82,500. The willful violation is for failing to monitor employees' formaldehyde exposure at 6-month intervals. The serious violations include failing to ensure workers are not overexposed to formaldehyde, implement effective engineering controls and work practices to reduce formaldehyde exposure, provide a hazard analysis of the facility in the event of a chemical release and its impact, provide refresher training to chemical operators on the epichlorohydrin process, and inspect and test epichlorohydrin piping within the process building.

Source:

http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=NEWS_RELEASES&p_id=22866

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

8. *August 17, Kennewick Tri-City Herald* – (Washington) **Inner shell of Hanford double shell tank may have leaked.** Radioactive material was found between the inner and outer walls of an underground double shell tank at the Hanford Site in Hanford, Washington, for the first time, the Kennewick Tri-City Herald reported August 17. Hanford has 28 double shell tanks that are being used to hold radioactive waste emptied from Hanford's leak-prone single shell tanks until up to 56 million gallons of the waste can be treated for disposal. The Department of Energy (DOE) is investigating to determine whether the waste leaked out of the inner shell or came from another source, such as cross contamination. The DOE said the radioactive material found within the walls of the tank was dry and there was no current risk to the public, workers, or the

environment.

Source: <http://www.tri-cityherald.com/2012/08/17/2066103/hanford-double-shell-tank-may.html>

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

9. *August 20, Reuters* – (National) **Insight: Experts hope to shield cars from computer viruses.** Several companies and organizations are working to protect the computer systems of cars from compromise and attack, Reuters reported August 20. Intel's McAfee unit is one of a handful of firms that are looking to protect the dozens of tiny computers and electronic communications systems that are built into every modern car. Security experts said automakers have so far failed to adequately protect these systems, leaving them vulnerable to hacks by attackers looking to steal cars, eavesdrop on conversations, or even harm passengers by causing vehicles to crash. Several research papers also highlighted vulnerabilities including the dissemination of worms and trojans via wireless networks, onboard diagnostic ports, and CDs. To date there have been no reports of violent attacks on automobiles using a computer virus, according to SAE International. Yet, a Ford spokesman said his company had tasked its security engineers with making its Sync in-vehicle communications and entertainment system as resistant as possible to attack. Physical consequences are also among the possible risks, as one research group created a virus that can simultaneously shut off the car's lights, lock its doors, kill the engine, and release or slam on the brakes.
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/08/20/us-autos-hackers-idUSBRE87J03X20120820>
10. *August 20, U.S. Department of Transportation* – (National) **NHTSA recall notice - Suzuki Forenza and Reno headlamp wiring.** Suzuki announced August 20 the recall of 101,688 model year 2004-2006 Forenza and model year 2005-2006 Reno vehicles manufactured from September 23, 2003 through March 7, 2006. Increased resistance due to poor contact between the terminals of certain wires can generate heat that can melt the splice pack used to connect the power circuit wires for the headlamps. This can result in intermittent or total loss of low/high beam headlamp function. If the headlamps fail to function, this will lead to reduced driver visibility, increasing the risk of a crash. Suzuki will notify owners, and Suzuki dealers will reconnect the affected wires with two heat-shrink crimps.
Source: http://www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/recalls/recallresults.cfm?start=1&SearchType=QuickSearch&rel_ID=12V397000&summary=true&prod_id=205391&PrintVersion=YES
11. *August 19, Associated Press* – (International) **General Motors, Isuzu recalling 258,000 SUVs.** General Motors (GM) and Isuzu recalled more than 258,000 sport utility vehicles (SUVs) in the United States and Canada to fix short circuits in power window and door lock switches that can cause fires, the Associated Press reported August 19. The recall covers Chevrolet TrailBlazer, GMC Envoy, Buick Rainier, Isuzu Ascender, and Saab 97-X SUVs from the 2006 and 2007 model years. The SUVs were

sold or registered in 20 U.S. States, Washington, D.C., and Canada, where salt and other chemicals are used to clear roads in the winter. Fluid containing the road-clearing chemicals can get inside the driver's door and cause corrosion in the power window and door switch circuit boards. The corrosion can cause short circuits, knocking out the switches and causing fires. GM received reports of 28 fires. The recall affects SUVs sold or registered in: Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, West Virginia, and Wisconsin. Source: <http://www.freep.com/article/20120819/BUSINESS0104/308190155/General-Motors-Isuzu-recalling-258-000-SUVs>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

Nothing to report

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Banking and Finance Sector

12. *August 18, Associated Press* – (California) **FBI seeks bandit linked to LA-area bank heists.** The FBI is seeking a bank robber dubbed the “make it quick bandit” suspected of holding up banks inside grocery stores in the greater Los Angeles area, the Associated Press reported August 18. The FBI said the suspect has been linked to eight bank robberies since 2009 in the area south of Los Angeles. His modus operandi is to wander the aisles of the grocery store before holding up the bank teller. The robber advises the teller that people are waiting for him outside the store. The suspect's most recent heist was a bank in Torrance, his second in 2012. He is also suspected in five holdups in 2011, and one in 2009. Source: <http://www.sacbee.com/2012/08/18/4737351/fbi-seeks-bandit-linked-to-la.html>
13. *August 17, azfamily.com* – (Arizona) **‘Color Me Bad Bandit’ wanted in 4 bank robberies.** The FBI's Bank Robbery Task Force is asking for the public's help in identifying the “Color Me Bad Bandit,” who is suspected in the robberies of four credit unions in Mesa and Tempe, Arizona, azfamily.com reported August 17. Authorities said the female suspect has robbed four credit unions in July and August. During each incident, the suspect entered the credit union with a large bag and used a note to demand money and threaten employees. She then fled on foot. She consistently attempts to conceal her identity by wearing large scarves or hats and sunglasses. She has been dubbed the “Color Me Bad Bandit” due to her colorful disguises. Source: <http://www.azfamily.com/news/Color-Me-Bad-Bandit-wanted-in-4-bank-robberies-166596996.html>
14. *August 17, CNNMoney* – (International) **SEC shuts down alleged \$600 million Ponzi scheme.** The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) announced fraud charges August 17 against a company they said was operating a \$600 million Internet Ponzi

scheme “on the verge of collapse.” The SEC accused ZeekRewards.com, its parent company, Rex Venture Group, and Rex Venture’s leader of luring more than 1 million investors worldwide into the scheme, which began in early 2011. ZeekRewards is a companion to the penny auction site Zeekler.com. Visitors to the ZeekRewards site were told that by paying subscription fees and becoming “affiliates,” they could share in the company’s profits. In fact, the SEC said, the payouts the firm made came from the funds of new investors. The SEC said it froze the roughly \$225 million in investor funds that remain in the company’s bank accounts. So far, the agency said, ZeekRewards has paid out some \$375 million to investors, while the company’s leader allegedly siphoned off millions for himself in the process. He agreed to settle the SEC case without admitting or denying wrongdoing, paying a \$4 million penalty and forfeiting his stake in the firm, though he could still face further charges from subsequent criminal investigations.

Source: <http://money.cnn.com/2012/08/17/technology/zeek-rewards-ponzi-scheme/index.html>

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Transportation Sector

15. *August 20, Associated Press* – (Alaska) **Crews rescue 72 when Alaska sightseeing vessel takes on water.** The U.S. Coast Guard said responders rescued 72 people on a sightseeing vessel that began taking on water in Alaska’s Glacier Bay after reportedly striking a rock. A Coast Guard spokesman said there were reports of minor injuries in the incident August 19, which involved the 79-foot Baranof Wind. The Coast Guard said the flooding was contained and there were no immediate reports of pollution. Seventy people were transferred to the Holland America cruise ship Volendam, which was expected to transport them to Bartlett Cover. From there, another vessel took them to Juneau. Two others were taken aboard a National Park Service boat, and four crew members remained on board the Baranof Wind.

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/us/2012/08/19/crews-rescue-72-when-alaska-sightseeing-takes-on-water/>

16. *August 20, Mlive.com* – (Michigan) **Tanker spills 10,000-plus gallons on U.S. 127.** U.S. 127 was closed August 20 in both directions in Vevay Township, Michigan, after a tanker crashed and spilled its payload. The semi-truck crashed along the roadway south of Kipp Road, spilling 10,300 gallons of a liquid asphalt-type product, according to the Ingham County Sheriff’s Office. The tanker lost the entire volume of its trailer. The driver was taken to a hospital for minor injuries. The sheriff’s office closed U.S. 127 between Kipp and Barnes roads near Mason for cleanup. The roadway was expected to remain closed until August 21. The Mason Fire Department and Ingham County HAZMAT Team were at the scene awaiting assistance from an environmental cleanup company to remediate the impacted soil. Motorists were advised to avoid the area.

Source: http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2012/08/update_tanker_spills_10000-plu.html

17. *August 20, NBC News* – (New Jersey) **Two United flights forced to return to Newark.** Two United Airlines flights were forced to return to New Jersey’s Newark Liberty International Airport after takeoff, in separate incidents within a 24-hour period. In the first incident, a Berlin-bound United flight had to make an emergency landing August 18 because of an engine issue. A second United flight had to return to the airport August 19 because of a smoke condition in the cockpit, authorities said. United Flight 409, bound for Seattle, returned to Newark because of the smoke condition, which had dissipated by the time the plane landed, authorities said. United Flight 96 was headed toward Germany when the Boeing 757 experienced a mechanical issue, said an airline spokesman. August 19, the Federal Aviation Administration said one of the engines on Flight 96 apparently overheated during takeoff. Passengers were able to fly out to Berlin on another flight August 19. In a statement, United said Flight 409 “experienced an unusual smell in the cockpit, and out of an abundance of caution, returned to Newark.” The airline said they were “working to re-accommodate customers to their final destinations.”
Source: <http://www.nbcnewyork.com/news/local/United-Flight-96-Newark-Emergency-Landing-Berlin-Germany-Boeing-757-Engine-Issue-166664036.html>
18. *August 18, Munster Northwest Indiana Times* – (Indiana) **Smoke, fog lead to multiple collisions, one fatality on I-65.** Heavy early morning fog, and smoke from a dairy farm burning hay in Jasper County, Indiana, combined August 18 to reduce visibility on Interstate 65 to less than 30 feet, leading to multiple collisions and one fatality, police said. Indiana State Police identified 19 people from 6 States as either involved, injured, or dead in separate crashes in the northbound and southbound lanes of the interstate between the 227 and 228 mile markers in the area of DeMotte. Police said the smoke contributing to the reduced visibility came from the Fair Oaks Farms west of the interstate. A collision caused a chain reaction involving 16 motorists or passengers. Northbound left lanes were closed for 7.5 hours for removal of vehicles, cleanup, and medical helicopter landing, police said. Southbound left lanes were closed for 3.5 hours.
Source: http://www.nwitimes.com/news/local/jasper/smoke-fog-spark-multiple-collisions-one-fatality-on-i/article_86547990-42db-55fd-820c-c1befbd7d7ed.html
19. *August 17, KAKE 10 Wichita* – (Kansas) **Pratt County evacuations lifted after accident.** A stretch of highway reopened and evacuations were lifted several hours after an accident caused a chemical leak in Pratt County, Kansas, KAKE 10 Wichita reported August 17. Emergency crews were called to the scene on Highway 54 near Cullison. The Pratt County sheriff’s department said a truck hauling anhydrous ammonia collided with a semi. The truck carrying the ammonia flipped and the container ended up the middle of the highway. The pickup truck driver was taken to a hospital to be treated for accident-related and inhalation injuries. Officials closed the highway and evacuated the nearby town after finding a leak on the tank. Crews were concerned the tank could rupture, causing an explosion. The tank was moved off the highway to a nearby lawn. Authorities reopened the highway, but then were forced to close the road again after attempts to patch the leak failed. A crane was brought in to remove the tank safely.

Source: <http://www.kake.com/news/headlines/Pratt-County-Town-Evacuated--166542536.html>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to report

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Agriculture and Food Sector

20. *August 19, U.S. Food and Drug Administration* – (National; International) **Tanimura & Antle voluntarily recalls single lot of romaine lettuce because of possible health risk.** Tanimura & Antle Inc. voluntarily recalled a single lot of romaine lettuce because it may be contaminated with E. coli O157:H7 bacteria, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) reported August 19. The affected product is limited to Tanimura & Antle Field Fresh Wrapped Single Head Romaine. A total of 2,095 cases of potentially affected product were distributed throughout the United States and Canada starting August 2. A total of 1,969 cases were shipped to the following States: Alabama, Arkansas, Arizona, California, Georgia, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, North Carolina, New Mexico, Nevada, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Washington, and Puerto Rico. The recall was being conducted in consultation with FDA and was based on the testing of a single random sample by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency.
Source: <http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/ucm316256.htm>
21. *August 19, Food Safety News* – (California) **7th Heaven Gourmet spreads recalled for botulism risk.** The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) warned consumers not to eat certain 7th Heaven Gourmet spreads August 18 because they were processed in a manner that made them susceptible to contamination with Clostridium botulinum, the bacterium that causes botulism poisoning. 7th Heaven Gourmet of Hesperia, California, recalled its Pate Mediterraneo and Eggplant & Shitake Tapenade spreads packaged in 8-ounce glass jars with screw-on metal lids, which were available for purchase between September 2011 and July and sold at farmers markets in Victorville and Rancho Cucamonga.
Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2012/08/7th-heaven-gourmet-spreads-recalled-for-botulism-risk/#.UDIrO6C6TIY>
22. *August 19, Associated Press* – (International) **6 die, at least 100 sickened by pickles in Japan.** Health officials said 6 people have died and at least 100 others were sickened by pickles contaminated with E. coli bacteria in northern Japan. The officials in Hokkaido said August 18 that the pickled Chinese cabbage was made by two local producers and sold across the prefecture. Most victims were elderly people in nursing

homes, but a girl in Sapporo city died the week of August 13, a few days after eating the pickles. Pickled Chinese cabbage is a popular Japanese side dish. Most food poisoning cases in the past have involved meat or seafood. Officials were still investigating but suspect insufficient sterilization may have been the cause.

Source: <http://kstc45.com/article/stories/S2733777.shtml?cat=11582>

23. *August 18, U.S. Food and Drug Administration* – (National) **BI-LO issues recall on Southern Home brand of Cranberry Nut Antioxidant Blend Trail Mix.** August 17, BI-LO announced an immediate voluntary recall on Southern Home Cranberry Nut Antioxidant Blend Trail Mix. The product was being recalled in the States of Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee due to a potential, undeclared presence of soy lecithin, which is a processed soy product. The processing reduces the content of allergenic proteins; however, persons with a severe soy allergy may still have serious reactions to the reduced protein found in the soy lecithin.

Source: <http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/ucm316048.htm>

24. *August 18, Food Safety News* – (National) **Multistate Salmonella outbreak linked to Indiana cantaloupes.** A multistate outbreak of Salmonella Typhimurium linked to cantaloupes grown in southwestern Indiana has killed two people in Kentucky and sickened 141 people nationwide, the Kentucky Department for Public Health and the Indiana State Department of Health confirmed to Food Safety News. Thirty-one people have been hospitalized, according to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). A total of 20 States have been affected by the outbreak, FDA reported. Illnesses by State are as follows: Alabama (7), Arkansas (3), California, (2), Georgia (1), Illinois (17), Indiana (13), Iowa (7), Kentucky (50), Michigan (6), Minnesota (3), Missouri (9), Mississippi (2), New Jersey (1), North Carolina (3), Ohio (3), Pennsylvania (2), South Carolina (3), Tennessee (6), Texas (1), and Wisconsin (2). Illnesses began in early July, with new cases still likely to be reported in the coming weeks. The 22 percent victim hospitalization rate is unusually high for Salmonella. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) was collaborating with State health departments. A state laboratory in Kentucky genetically matched Salmonella found in cantaloupes from a southern Indiana farm to cases of Salmonella infection in Kentucky. August 18, Walmart Stores, Inc. instructed outlet managers to pull cantaloupes grown in Indiana from its shelves, Bloomberg reported.

Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2012/08/multistate-salmonella-outbreak-linked-to-cantaloupe-from-indiana/#.UDIrRaC6TIY>

25. *August 18, Associated Press* – (Wyoming) **Wyoming faces worst hay crop in decades.** Wyoming is facing one of its worst hay harvests in terms of acreage in nearly 80 years, according to new U.S. Agriculture Department (USDA) estimates, the Associated Press reported August 18. Hay is Wyoming's biggest cash crop, and it also is suffering the most from a lack of rain earlier in the season. USDA crop yield estimates released late the week of August 13 project Wyoming's overall hay harvest in 2012 to yield about 925,000 acres of hay. If realized, that would make 2012 the single worst year for Wyoming hay acreage since the Dust Bowl days of 1934. The overall tonnage of hay expected to be harvested in Wyoming is 1.82 million tons, down 23 percent from 2011 and the worst production since 2002. Other crops are faring better,

particularly sugar beets and dry edible beans. Yields are expected to rise by 23 and 36 percent, respectively. The poor hay crop has sent hay prices soaring, according to the director of the USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service office in Cheyenne. He said that 79 percent of the pasture and grazing lands in Wyoming are rated “poor” to “very poor.”

Source: http://trib.com/news/state-and-regional/wyoming-faces-worst-hay-crop-in-decades/article_b9a19955-6807-5190-9656-48f381fa97ae.html?comment_form=true

26. *August 16, U.S. Food and Drug Administration* – (National) **Pure Hothouse Foods Inc., announces a voluntary recall of fresh cut grilling trays because of possible health risk.** Pure Hothouse Foods Inc. voluntarily recalled a total of 1,402 cases and 8,412 individually distributed units of fresh cut grilling trays because they contain whole or sliced mushrooms which may be contaminated with *Listeria monocytogenes*, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration reported August 16. The voluntary recalled products were produced and distributed from Pure Hothouse in Leamington, Ontario, Canada to retailers in the following States: Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Kentucky. Pure Hothouse customer service representatives have already contacted all customers impacted and were in the process of confirming the recalled products were not in the stream of commerce.

Source: <http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/ucm316022.htm>

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Water Sector

27. *August 20, New City Patch* – (New York) **Boil water order lifted for Garnerville, still in effect for New City & Pomona.** United Water announced August 18 the boil water order for Garnerville, New York customers was lifted after it was notified of this by the Rockland County Health Department. However, about 400 customers in New City and Pomona were still under the order issued August 15, the New City Patch reported. The boil water order is a precautionary measure following damage caused to a fire hydrant on New Hempstead Road. Customers were notified of the boil water order by an automated phone alerts and will be advised the same way when the order is lifted. Source: <http://newcity.patch.com/articles/boil-water-order-lifted-for-garnerville-still-in-effect-for-new-city-pomona>
28. *August 18, Jamestown Sun* – (North Dakota) **Area water safe after sewage dump in Sheyenne.** The North Dakota Health Department said residents of Fargo should not worry about their tap water despite sewage begin dumped into the Sheyenne River August 16 and 17 in Valley City. The metro area takes in water from the river, but at the time of the event, Fargo water officials said they were not doing so. Valley City was rerouting sewage water from a malfunctioning lift station into the Sheyenne for about 30 hours starting the morning of August 16, but the issue was corrected by the afternoon of August 17. During routine maintenance on the city’s main sewage well, the plug on the master drain failed and flooded the station. Six pumps used to move

sewage from the well into the city's sewage lagoon were inundated causing major backups. Two of the pumps were fixed. If not for the "heroic" work of the staff on hand, an official said, hundreds of homes could have seen serious damage. To prevent this, they began pumping the contents of the flooded station into the Sheyenne, he said. Officials said increased water flows from Devils Lake helped to dilute the river water and decrease the impact of the sewage.

Source: <http://www.jamestownsun.com/event/article/id/167377/group/News/>

29. *August 17, WTXL 27 Tallahassee* – (Georgia) **Five million gallons of sewage spill in Lowndes County.** An estimated 5 million gallons of sewage spilled in Lowndes County, Georgia, after pumps failed at the Withlacoochee Water Pollution Control Plant August 16. Twelve hours after pumps stopped working, an emergency bypass pump system was placed into service and, as a result, the sewer spills stopped. Contractors were on site August 17 investigating the cause of the pump failure and making necessary repairs to the damaged equipment. Clean up and disinfection at affected spill locations were ongoing, and warning signs were posted at the spill sites and downstream public access points. A city of Valdosta spokeswoman said it should take about 1 week for the pumps to be repaired. All water restrictions for the city were lifted as of August 17.

Source: <http://www.wtxl.com/content/localnews/story/Five-million-gallons-of-sewage-spill-in-Lowndes/euYHyToBEUyLddg8qPN9sQ.csp>

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

30. *August 17, Houston Chronicle* – (Texas) **M.D. Anderson patient information compromised.** A flash drive containing confidential information on 2,200 patients of the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center has been lost, the second such security breach at the Houston institution in 2012. M.D. Anderson began mailing letters August 17 informing the patients of the loss, which occurred on a cancer center shuttle bus July 13. The center launched a search for the portable USB thumb drive July 14, but never found it. The data on the lost drive included patients' names, dates of birth, medical record numbers and diagnoses, and treatment and research information. It did not contain Social Security numbers or other financial information, M.D. Anderson said. The loss follows the theft in April of an M.D. Anderson laptop computer that contained information on 30,000 patients, one of the largest such incidents in the Texas Medical Center. In both cases, the patient information was not encrypted. The cancer center said it was enhancing its procedures regarding use of portable devices to transport patient data and had purchased "a significant number" of encrypted thumb drives.

Source: <http://www.chron.com/news/houston-texas/article/M-D-Anderson-patient-information-compromised-3796009.php>

31. *August 17, WFTV 9 Orlando* – (Florida) **Former employee arrested after FBI investigation into hospital security breach.** After a 10-month FBI investigation into a major security breach at Florida Hospital Celebration, WFTV 9 Orlando reported

August 17 agents have arrested a former hospital employee accused of accessing 760,000 patient records between 2009 and 2011 and then selling them. He worked in the emergency intake area of the Celebration, Florida hospital, but investigators said he accessed patient records from several different hospitals across the State. Investigators said the former employee helped himself to information mostly from car accident victims, and sold it to someone who passed it on to chiropractors and attorneys. Federal agents said the patients whose data he sold usually received a call within a week from an attorney or chiropractor hoping to drum up business. His job was to help register patients in the emergency room. During the 2-year period a typical employee in that position accessed 12,100 patient records, WFTV 9 Orlando reported. The hospital found the security breach after one of the phone calls was made to a hospital worker who knew the records should not be public record. In 2011, Florida Hospital placed a nondescript ad in the newspaper, warning that employees had “inappropriate access” to patient records, including dates of birth, Social Security numbers, and insurance information.

Source: <http://www.wftv.com/news/news/local/former-employee-arrested-after-fbi-investigation-h/nRD34/>

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Government Facilities Sector

32. *August 19, Cookeville Herald Citizen* – (Tennessee) **Data breach of security reported at Tennessee Tech.** Tennessee Tech University (TTU) sent letters to 42 former and current employees August 18 informing them of a security breach related to personally identifiable information. Through a cooperative effort between the university and the Cookeville Police Department, TTU learned that alleged criminal acts by a former TTU employee resulted in unauthorized access to personal information of 42 former, current, adjunct, and student university employees, according to TTU’s human resources director. TTU will assist the 42 notified by providing additional resources and reimbursement for a credit monitoring service for 1 year. The university also plans to set up an audit conducted by an outside agency, to evaluate processes and procedures related to handling personal information.

Source: http://www.herald-citizen.com/view/full_story/19845958/article-Data-breach-of-security-reported-at-Tennessee-Tech?instance=homefirstleft

33. *August 18, KTRK 13 Houston* – (Texas) **Acid leaks prompt evacuation of local high school.** Workers were evacuated August 18 from Stephen F. Austin High School in Houston after acid leaks were discovered. A man who was delivering a cabinet to the school said he was moving the cabinet inside when he first noticed the leak. Ten minutes later, there was some kind of cloud, he said. HAZMAT cleared the building. According to officials, they found three different kinds of acid leaking from containers that were being moved into the school for chemistry labs. Fire crews ventilated the school and said it would re-open at its regular time.

Source: <http://abclocal.go.com/ktrk/story?section=news/local&id=8778551>

34. *August 17, Southern California Press-Enterprise* – (California) **Murrieta: Teens arrested in plot against high school.** Two 15-year-old boys were arrested August 15 on suspicion of conspiracy to commit murder after police say they were involved in the planning of a “serious threat” against students and staff at Vista Murrieta High School in Riverside County, California. The teens were booked into Southwest Juvenile Hall, Murrieta police said. The FBI and the Riverside County Sheriff’s Department alerted the Murrieta Police Department August 8 to online threats, a police news release said. Police took over the investigation when it was discovered that the plot had focused on Vista Murrieta, according to a news release issued August 17. Both teens are students at Vista Murrieta and were still in custody August 17, said a spokeswoman for the Murrieta Valley Unified School District. “It was a very serious threat,” she said. “There was a specific date but it was not in the near future.” One of the students had apparently engaged in an online conversation about the planned attack with someone on the East Coast, she said. That person reported the conversation to authorities. The Vista Murrieta principal sent an automated phone message August 17 to parents notifying them of the incident and the arrests, she said.
Source: <http://www.pe.com/local-news/riverside-county/murrieta/murrieta-headlines-index/20120817-murrieta-two-teens-arrested-in-plot-against-school.ece>
35. *August 17, New Orleans Times-Picayune* – (Louisiana) **Threat of violence at Covington High School prompts extra security.** A call to a Crimestoppers hotline threatening violence August 17 at Covington High School in St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana, forced school system administrators to have extra security on hand from the Covington Police Department. District officials said students are safe, but they are giving parents the option to pick up their children from school if they choose. The threat comes a day after one Covington High student “received serious injuries” after a fight with another student, who was charged with attempted second-degree murder and was being held at the Florida Parishes Juvenile Detention Center, Covington police said. A spokeswoman for the school system said the system sent out a mass text around 6 a.m. August 17 alerting parents of the threat. Nonetheless, a large number of students were pulled from the school by their parents, said a Covington Police Department spokesman.
Source:
http://www.nola.com/education/index.ssf/2012/08/threat_of_violence_at_covingto.html

For another story, see item [8](#)

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Emergency Services Sector

36. *August 18, Fresno Bee* – (California) **One inmate still hospitalized after Corcoran prison riot.** An inmate remained hospitalized August 18 after a riot at the California Substance Abuse Treatment Facility and State Prison in Corcoran August 17, a prison lieutenant said. The inmate, who suffered head injuries, was one of nine inmates sent to the hospital after the riot, which began in the prison’s dining hall. The other eight inmates have returned to the prison. In all, 63 Hispanic inmates were involved in the

riot, the lieutenant said. Prison staff successfully stopped the riot shortly after it began, but many inmates were left with cuts and lacerations.

Source: <http://www.fresnobee.com/2012/08/18/2956990/one-inmate-still-hospitalized.html>

37. *August 18, Associated Press* – (Louisiana) **Suspects in deputy killings linked to extremists.** At least some of the seven people arrested in a fatal shootout with Louisiana deputies have been linked to violent anarchists on the FBI's domestic terrorism watch lists, a sheriff said August 18. Detectives had been monitoring the group before the August 16 shootout in Laplace in which two deputies were killed and two more wounded, said the DeSoto Parish sheriff. His detectives and other law enforcement discovered the suspects were heavily armed adherents to an ideology known as the "sovereign citizens" movement. The seven suspects have been charged in the shooting of a deputy, who survived. But authorities have said murder charges are pending. Arrested were the group's apparent leader, his wife, and his two sons. Also arrested were the girlfriend of one of the sons, a man, and a woman living with him. The Gage County, Nebraska, Sheriff's Office Web site listed one of the men among its most wanted fugitives, saying he is accused of making "terroristic threats" to patrons of a Nebraska bar and law enforcement officials.

Source: <http://news.yahoo.com/suspects-deputy-killings-linked-extremists-005244499.html>

38. *August 17, Boston Globe* – (Massachusetts) **Four Medford Fire Department employees punished for not responding to 911 call.** A Medford, Massachusetts fire alarm operator was suspended for 2 weeks without pay and 3 firefighters received written reprimands after the Medford Fire Department did not respond to a 9-1-1 call for a medical emergency July 13 that resulted in a fatality, the city announced August 17. An inquiry launched by the mayor and fire chief determined the fire alarm operator failed to send the proper alert, which would have triggered a loud alarm and lights to go off in a neighborhood fire station. He also recorded in a log that the fire department was on the scene when it was not, the statement from the city said. The fire alarm operator used the radio system to announce the call, but the three firefighters' radios were turned down too low and they did not hear the transmission, the city stated. Medford police, and Armstrong Ambulance, the city's private ambulance operator responded to the call, the city stated. As a result of the incident, the fire chief planned several reforms. They include instituting a "station watch" on every shift, so one person would be awake. Dispatching equipment will be tested twice per day, and computers will be modified to track where fire apparatus is sent, the release stated.

Source:

http://www.boston.com/yourtown/news/medford/2012/08/four_medford_fire_department_e.html

For more stories, see items [44](#) and [45](#)

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Information Technology Sector

39. *August 20, SecurityWeek* – (International) **AMD’s blog defaced and breached.** The weekend of August 18, a group known as R00tbeer targeted chipmaker AMD’s WordPress installation and managed to deface the domain as well as steal the SQL file used to manage the content management system. In addition to the defacement, the group published an SQL file with 185 accounts, complete with username, hashed password, and email. One of the accounts appeared to belong to AMD’s technology group’s general manager.
Source: <http://www.securityweek.com/amd%E2%80%99s-blog-defaced-and-breached>
40. *August 17, InformationWeek* – (International) **Security researcher uncovers Apple iOS SMS bug.** An Apple iOS security researcher discovered a vulnerability in Apple’s iOS platform. The bug is present in all versions of iOS up to and including iOS 6 beta 4. The bug allows hackers to spoof the reply-to number in a text message, which could allow them to send phishing messages via SMS. In one case, a person could receive a message that would appear to come from their bank, requesting information or sending them to a Web site. The researcher also explained that hackers could send spoofed messages to a user’s device that would appear to have come from the user themselves. This could allow hackers to plant false evidence on someone’s iPhone.
Source: <http://www.informationweek.com/security/mobile/security-researcher-uncovers-apple-ios-s/240005758>
41. *August 17, SecurityWeek* – (International) **Microsoft releases update that forces minimum certificate key length of 1024 bits.** August 14, Microsoft announced the availability of an update to Windows that restricts the use of any certificates with RSA keys less than 1,024 bits in length, SecurityWeek reported August 17. The reason for the change, Microsoft explained, is because weak certificates with keys less than 1,024 bits in length can be derived with few resources relatively quickly and could allow an attacker to duplicate the certificates and use them fraudulently to spoof content, perform phishing attacks, or perform man-in-the-middle attacks.
Source: <http://www.securityweek.com/microsoft-releases-update-forces-minimum-certificate-key-length-1024-bits>

For more stories, see items [9](#), [30](#), [31](#), and [32](#)

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

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Commercial Facilities Sector

42. *August 20, Associated Press* – (Ohio) **Hocking Co. church fire ruled arson.** Ohio Division of State Fire Marshal investigators determined an August 17 church fire in Hocking County, Ohio, was the result of arson. A reward of up to \$5,000 was posted for information leading to information about the person or persons responsible for the fire. The case is being investigated by the Division of State Fire Marshal, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Hocking County Sheriff's Office, and the Laurelville Fire Department. The pastor of the church said he believes the fire is related to the congregation's support for gays and lesbians. The pastor stated the congregation received threats in the past.
Source: <http://woub.org/2012/08/20/hocking-co-church-fire-ruled-arson>
43. *August 20, KVUE 24 Austin* – (Texas) **4 teens shot, 1 in custody after shooting at local Walmart.** Police in Cedar Park, Texas, investigated a shooting that happened August 19 in the parking lot of a Walmart. Police said four young men were shot by another teen. Police said a crowd of teenagers met in the middle of the parking lot at the Walmart ready to finish a fight they started earlier. The Cedar Park police chief said the male suspect pulled out a handgun and shot the four unidentified victims. He said the quick response of a police officer led to the suspect's arrest. Three of the four victims were in critical but stable condition at local hospitals. The fourth victim was treated and released. The suspect was also in the hospital being treated for a face injury that occurred during the fight; however, he was in police custody. He was charged with aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.
Source: <http://www.kvue.com/news/166697926.html>
44. *August 20, DNAINFO.com* – (New York) **Massive fire hurts 21 in Queens.** Twenty-one people, including 19 firefighters, were hurt in a massive fire in Flushing, New York, that burned through a 4-story building August 20, officials said. Most of the victims, to include 17 firefighters and 2 residents, were taken to a local hospital with serious injuries, the spokesman said. However, the injuries were not considered life-threatening, he said. The other victims were treated at the scene with minor injuries. The Bownie Restaurant on the ground floor of the building was also destroyed. The building's owner said six apartments there were destroyed by the fire and water damage. Thirteen people were left homeless in the fire. Taran Groceries, which is between the restaurant and a laundromat, was also gutted in the fire. The cause of the fire was under investigation, officials said. The department of buildings evacuated the building and checked its structural stability following the fire.
Source: <http://www.dnainfo.com/new-york/20120820/flushing/21-injured-massive-blaze-queens>

45. *August 19, WNBC 4 New York* – (New Jersey) **Hazmat crew called out to NJ building, 9 hospitalized.** A HAZMAT crew was called out to a building in Elizabeth, New Jersey, after several residents and emergency responders became ill from fumes believed to have come from chemicals used to kill bed bugs, WNBC 4 reported August 19. EMT and firefighters responded after receiving a report of a woman having a seizure. As they brought the woman down from her fourth floor apartment, the emergency responders noticed a strange odor. Suddenly, one of the EMTs could not breathe or feel their hands and a fire captain began vomiting, officials said. Others at the scene soon developed problems. In total, nine people were taken to the hospital for respiratory problems, officials said. A county HAZMAT crew responded to the scene and discovered the pesticide believed to have made everyone sick. Two apartments were decontaminated. Authorities did not evacuate the building, but residents were told to either stay in their apartments or outside of the building while the chemicals were dispersed with fans.
Source: <http://www.nbcnewyork.com/news/local/Hazmat-Crew-Called-Elizabeth-New-Jersey-Building-9-Hospitalized-166651696.html>
46. *August 19, Associated Press* – (Texas) **Man arrested in parking lot shooting at Texas mall.** Authorities said a suspect was arrested after a shooting in a Texas mall parking lot left one person dead and two injured. Police in Odessa said the suspect turned himself in August 18 at their west-Texas department. They said the suspect was charged with murder in an arrest warrant. Police said no other suspects were being sought. Officers headed to the Music City Mall August 18 after receiving reports about people refusing to leave a bar and grill. Then, several 9-1-1 calls were received about shots being fired in the mall parking lot. Police said one victim died at a hospital.
Source: <http://abcnews.go.com/US/wireStory/man-arrested-parking-lot-shooting-texas-mall-17035748#.UDJJb6Abamg>
47. *August 18, KOMO 4 Seattle* – (Washington) **Firefighters battle blaze inside Olympia hair salon.** Investigators tried to determine what caused a commercial complex in Olympia, Washington, to catch fire August 17. When crews arrived, they found heavy smoke and flames coming from inside and from the roof of the multi-business building. Officials stated they believe the fire started in the attic of the hair salon. Firefighters were able to keep the flames from spreading, but a musical instrument repair shop below the salon suffered water damage after a broken pipe was found inside. The businesses were closed at the time the fire started. Damage to the building is estimated at \$300,000.
Source: <http://olympia.komonews.com/news/911/775866-firefighters-battle-blaze-inside-olympia-hair-salon>
48. *August 17, New England Cable News* – (New Hampshire) **NH fireworks festival canceled due to bomb threat.** August 18, the Festival of Fireworks at Jaffrey Airport in Jaffrey, New Hampshire, was canceled for what authorities believed was a credible threat of violence. Police said threatening communications were sent to town officials, the Keene Sentinel newspaper, and the Jaffrey Chamber of Commerce, which organizes the annual event. The threat targeted people attending the show. In 2011, as many as 35,000 saw the fireworks at the airport. The show is the biggest fundraiser of the year

for the chamber of commerce and is staged by Atlas Fireworks, a Jaffrey-based company with international credentials. State and federal authorities were working closely with Jaffrey police, which canceled the fireworks because they felt they could not properly protect the crowd.

Source: http://www.necn.com/08/17/12/NH-fireworks-festival-canceled-due-to-bo/landing_newengland.html?blockID=758891&feedID=4206

For another story, see item [49](#)

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

49. *August 20, Associated Press* – (California; Idaho; Washington) **Northern California blaze forces thousands to flee.** Thousands of people were told to leave their homes as a wildfire burning August 19 in thick forest threatened rural communities in far northern California, the Associated Press reported August 20. The fire that sparked August 18 destroyed 4 homes and consumed nearly 19 square miles near the towns of Manton, Shingleton, and Viola, said a fire spokesman. About 3,500 homes spread out across a rural area along the border of Tehama and Shasta counties were threatened as the fire continued to expand, he said. Officials said the fire started after a series of lightning strikes. The Shasta County Sheriff’s Department declared a state of emergency, with evacuations expected to continue through August 19. The agency also closed some local roads. Another wildfire that started August 18 consumed about 1.5 square miles east of the Mendocino County community of Covelo. A third new fire scorched about half a square mile in a remote area of Shasta County. A wildfire in Lassen Volcanic National Park was 51 percent contained after consuming more than 43 square miles. Officials expected firefighters would have the blaze contained by August 21. In Idaho, about 1,100 firefighters worked to protect some 350 homes in the Featherville area under a mandatory evacuation as the Trinity Ridge Fire continued a slow approach toward the community. In Washington State, the Taylor Bridge fire burned across more than 23,000 acres in rural areas, but firefighters gained ground on the blaze that has scorched dozens of homes near Cle Elum, about 75 miles east of Seattle. In Utah, evacuation orders were lifted east of Park City as firefighters made progress on a wildfire near Jordanelle State Park.

Source: <http://www.news-leader.com/viewart/20120820/NEWS07/308200042/Northern-California-blaze-forces-thousands-to-flee>

50. *August 20, Mississippi Press* – (Mississippi) **Asbestos, possible mustard gas discoveries lead to closure of part of Horn Island.** The superintendent for Gulf Islands National Seashore announced August 20 that part of Horn Island near Ocean Springs, Mississippi, was closed to the public effectively because of the discovery of asbestos materials and possibly mustard gas, stated a news release. “We received confirmation Thursday that there are asbestos materials on the ground on the northwestern shore of the island in an area that contains the remains of a military facility that was active in the 1940s,” the seashore superintendent said in the release.

“A preliminary test also indicated the possible presence of a chemical agent known commonly as mustard gas. We are still awaiting confirmation of that.” The military facility was active during World War II and was decommissioned in the 1960s. Park rangers placed area closure signage around the perimeter around the site, about 1,000 feet in all directions.

Source: http://blog.gulfive.com/mississippi-press-news/2012/08/asbestos_possible_mustard_gas.html

51. *August 18, Associated Press* – (California) **Santa Barbara agencies raze mountain pot farms.** Authorities in Santa Barbara, California, cleared several marijuana farming camps nestled deep in Los Padres National Forest, the Associated Press reported August 18. The Santa Maria Times reported that the California Department of Justice’s Campaign Against Marijuana Planting seized more than 11,800 marijuana plants with an estimated street value of almost \$30 million. The sheriff’s department and forest service also found 38 pounds of processed marijuana worth about \$95,000, along with tents, tarps, chemicals including rat poison, and 2,300 pounds of trash. A handgun was also discovered at one location.

Source: http://www.mercurynews.com/breaking-news/ci_21344305/santa-barbara-agencies-raise-mountain-pot-farms

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Dams Sector

52. *August 20, Australian Broadcasting Corporation* – (International) **Private dam at risk of collapse.** Emergency crews were using an excavator to channel water out of the Plumpton dam in Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, as it was threatening to break its banks, the Australian Broadcasting Corporation reported August 20. The Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) said water began leaking out of cracks in the wall of the dam. A DSE spokesman said releasing the water could take some time. He said authorities were on standby to close the nearby Melton Highway if the dam were to fail.

Source: <http://au.news.yahoo.com/latest/a/-/article/14601264/private-dam-at-risk-of-collapse/>

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