



Homeland
Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report

20 November 2012

Top Stories

- The federal government entered a record \$497 million False Claims Act judgment against the now-defunct Westland/Hallmark Meat Co., the company that sparked the largest-ever meat recall after undercover abuse footage was made public in 2008. – *Food Safety News* (See item [12](#))
- Human waste has been pouring into New York Harbor from the fifth largest sewage treatment plant in the country since it was hit by Hurricane Sandy, and the operator of the plant cannot predict when it will stop, WNBC 4 New York reported November 16. – *WNBC 4 New York* (See item [21](#))
- Police are searching for a gunman who they say used the same weapon to kill three Brooklyn, New York shopkeepers since July. All three victims were of Middle Eastern descent and their stores are within a 5-mile radius. – *CBS News; Associated Press* (See item [38](#))
- A suspect in Bolivar, Missouri, was accused of planning a movie theater massacre at a screening of the final “Twilight” movie after police were alerted that he purchased 400 rounds of ammunition and two assault rifles for the planned attack. – *ABC News* (See item [42](#))

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Energy Sector

1. *November 19, Scranton Times-Tribune* – (Pennsylvania) **Sandy shuts NJ refineries; local Sheetz gas stations run out of gas.** Interruptions impacted Sheetz stations across eastern Pennsylvania, a Sheetz public relations manager said, according to the Scranton Times-Tribune November 19. Refineries in New Jersey shut down because of Superstorm Sandy, limiting the supply to Pennsylvania. She did not have a concrete timeline for full restoration, but she believed it would not take more than a few days. It was unclear why no other area stations were impacted, but the public relations manager speculated that the use of different suppliers and contract terms could be a part of the reason.
Source: <http://thetimes-tribune.com/news/sandy-shuts-nj-refineries-local-sheetz-gas-stations-run-out-of-gas-1.1405085>
2. *November 18, Occupational Health & Safety* – (Louisiana; International) **One dead, two still critical after offshore rig fire.** The U.S. Coast Guard confirmed a body was recovered near the oil platform off the coast of Louisiana that caught fire November 16, and the victim is believed to be one of two men who were missing, Occupational Health & Safety reported November 18. A worker used a cutting torch on a section of pipe that contained some oil and vapors, according to officials from the rig's operator, Black Elk Energy Offshore Operations, LLC of Houston. They also said the rig was shut in, with ordinary maintenance work taking place. Two workers remained in critical condition November 18. Eleven initially were transported to hospitals. The fire was extinguished within an hour on November 16. The platform is positioned 17 miles southeast of Grand Isle, Louisiana, in 56 feet of water. A statement posted by Black Elk Energy Offshore Operations said 22 workers were on the platform at the time of the incident, nine were injured, and 11 workers were safely evacuated.
Source: <http://ohsonline.com/articles/2012/11/17/gulf-coast-rig-erupts-in-flame.aspx?admgarea=news>

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Chemical Industry Sector

3. *November 19, WFAB 9 Baton Rouge* – (Louisiana) **Investigators try to find the cause of a huge plant fire.** A fire at a Slaughter, Louisiana chemical plant forced some people out of their homes November 19. The fire sparked at Monolyte Laboratory on LA 19 near Meadowood Drive in Slaughter. Nearby residents were evacuated from their homes, and the evacuation was lifted 3 hours later. Officials said the fire was mostly contained, but crews were still working on hotspots. The cause of the fire had not yet been determined. The mayor said the facility was a total loss, but no one was on site when the fire started and no injuries were reported. Investigators with the State fire marshal's office were on the scene, and fire crews from Zachary and Baton Rouge responded to assist with the fire. The facility is a biochemical research center that deals with mostly environmentally friendly chemicals.

Source: <http://www.wafb.com/story/20133212/huge-tanker-fire-leads-to-evacuations>

4. *November 17, KXAS 5 Dallas-Fort Worth* – (Texas) **Chemical facility on fire in Garland.** November 16, firefighters battled a large fire at Nexeo Solutions, a Garland, Texas chemical and plastics distribution facility. The fire was out later that night, but fire crews remained at the plant to monitor hot spots throughout the night. The fire contained mostly methanol, a highly flammable liquid used to produce materials such as plastics, paints, and fuels for cars. A high-powered solvent, toluene, was also in the fire. A Nexeo Solutions spokeswoman said all employees escaped the fire without injury. She said the cause of the fire had not been determined. Garland fire crews said initial Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) tests came back negative for any immediate danger. Firefighters allowed the fire to burn out and kept it from spreading. Nearby businesses within one-quarter of a mile of the facility were evacuated as a precaution. The evacuation was lifted by the morning of November 17.

Source: <http://www.nbcdfw.com/news/local/Industrial-Facility-on-Fire-in-Garland-179720031.html>

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

5. *November 17, Manchester Patch* – (New Jersey) **Oyster Creek to repair reactor nozzle after NRC inspection.** A reactor nozzle at Oyster Creek nuclear power plant in Lacey Township, New Jersey, will need repairs prior to restarting, a U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) spokesman said. The Manchester Patch reported November 17 that the plant was shut down in October for a refueling and maintenance outage in which numerous plant components and systems were inspected. During those inspections, two “indications” were identified on a nozzle attached to the reactor vessel. “An indication is not a crack but rather a flaw that, left unaddressed, could eventually develop into a crack,” the NRC spokesman said. The nozzle is associated with the plant’s control rod drive mechanisms. “An indication does not pose any risk of an accident or represent any immediate safety issues for the public or plant workers,” he

said. Oyster Creek specifically developed a plan to grind down the indications, he said, and as a precaution, will do a weld overlay.

Source: <http://manchester-nj.patch.com/articles/oyster-creek-to-repair-reactor-nozzle-after-nrc-inspection>

6. *November 16, Global Security Newswire* – (Wisconsin; International) **U.S. sets deal to advance medical isotope production without HEU.** The National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) said November 15 it would provide \$22.2 million to help a Wisconsin firm prepare to produce a key medical isotope without use of weapon-grade uranium. NorthStar Medical Radioisotopes will match the nuclear agency’s contribution as it moves forward with plans to employ accelerator-based systems for manufacturing molybdenum 99, according to an NNSA press release. Funds would be used to develop and build a production facility in Beloit, Wisconsin, NorthStar said in a separate press release. The decay of molybdenum 99 produces technetium 99m, which is employed widely in U.S. medical procedures, including for identifying heart ailments and cancer. The isotope is presently not produced in the United States, and is largely produced using highly enriched uranium by provider nations such as Canada. NorthStar would also fill an increasing gap in the domestic supply as some facilities in provider nations cease operations or stop manufacturing the Mo-99, the release states. There are also concerns that terrorists might target such civilian facilities in order to obtain nuclear weapon-usable uranium.

Source: <http://www.nti.org/gsn/article/us-sets-deal/>

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

7. *November 19, Elyria Chronicle-Telegram* – (Ohio) **Foundry fire damage estimate: \$5 million to \$10 million.** A fire at the Elyria Foundry in Elyria, Ohio, caused an estimated \$5 million to \$10 million in damage, the Elyria Chronicle-Telegram reported November 19. The fire was called in late November 16 and contained around early November 17, according to the assistant fire chief. The cause of the fire remained under investigation. The assistant fire chief said the fire began in a building which stores molds and patterns for forming liquid metals, and is attached to a warehouse, which he said contained sulfur dioxide tanks. Firefighters sprayed down the tanks during the fire. Firefighters had to wait about 2 hours before beginning a “surround and drown” attack because of the intensity of the flames and danger of water getting on metals in the foundry furnaces and causing a steam explosion. The foundry makes iron castings used for coal pulverizers and natural gas compression equipment.

Source: <http://chronicle.northcoastnow.com/2012/11/19/foundry-fire-damage-estimate-5-million-to-10-million/>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

8. *November 16, Reuters* – (National) **Lockheed’s F-35 logistics system revolutionary but risky.** When computer “hackers” working for the U.S. Navy succeeded in breaking into the computer logistics system that controls the Lockheed Martin Corp F-35 Joint Strike Fighter earlier this year, they did the company a favor by allowing it to fix a critical vulnerability in the \$396 billion program, Reuters reported November 16. Now, as the Marine Corps prepares to set up its first operational squadron of F-35s the week of November 19, some experts say other security risks may lurk within such a large and highly networked weapons support system. One concern is that the program has suppliers in nearly every U.S. State. But having such a large and widely dispersed group increases exposure to cyber attacks, said a national security investigator with the non-profit Project on Government Oversight.

Source: http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2012-11-16/business/sns-rt-us-lockheed-fighter-logisticsbre8af091-20121115_1_f-35-cyber-attacks-weapons-systems

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Banking and Finance Sector

9. *November 17, Bloomberg News* – (New York) **Ex-Refco lawyer guilty of aiding \$2.4 billion fraud.** Refco Inc.’s former outside lawyer whose 2009 fraud conviction was reversed in January was again found guilty by a jury in federal court in New York City, Bloomberg News reported November 17. Prosecutors claimed he helped Refco’s Chief Executive Officer and other executives defraud investors of \$2.4 billion. Jurors found the lawyer guilty of one count of conspiracy and two counts each of securities fraud, wire fraud, and filing false statements with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. The new trial had been granted by a U.S. appeals court, which ruled that the judge in the first trial improperly instructed a deliberating juror outside the presence of the accused’s lawyers. Prosecutors at the second trial accused him of helping New York-based Refco’s management hide transactions that concealed losses. ”Over and over and over again, [he] ignored his duties as an officer of the court by actively participating in the crimes of his client — telling blatant lies, falsifying important documents, and concealing others,” a U.S. Attorney said in a statement.

Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/news/2012-11-16/ex-refco-lawyer-guilty-of-aiding-2-dot-4-billion-fraud>

10. *November 17, Orange County Register* – (California) **FBI: ‘Don’t Even Bandit’ robs bank in Fullerton.** A man authorities believe to be the “Don’t Even Bandit” is suspected of robbing a Chase bank branch in Fullerton, California, November 16. A man walked into the bank branch, handed a teller a note demanding money, and left with an undisclosed amount of cash, police said. The robber is suspected of being the “Don’t Even Bandit,” a FBI special agent said. The “Don’t Even Bandit” is believed to have carried out at least six bank robberies in California, including a holdup at a Bank of America in Garden Grove in early October. According to news reports, he got his name after his threats to witnesses of earlier robberies included the words “don’t even.”

Source: <http://www.ocregister.com/news/bank-378024-don-bandit.html>

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Transportation Sector

11. *November 19, Associated Press* – (New York) **Fla.-bound plane held on NY LaGuardia tarmac after 1 passenger makes threat to another.** A plane destined for Fort Lauderdale, Florida, was held on a tarmac at New York’s LaGuardia International Airport while authorities investigated a comment by a passenger November 19. The Port Authority said the person was removed from the plane after making a remark to another passenger that was perceived as a threat. The person was in custody. The Spirit Airlines flight was expected to leave shortly after the incident.

Source:

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/a031804ecdb84897a81f7cb4f7b4970b/NY--Plane-Incident-LaGuardia>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to report

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Agriculture and Food Sector

12. *November 18, Food Safety News* – (National) **Landmark settlement reached in Westland-Hallmark Meat case.** The now defunct Westland/Hallmark Meat Co. sparked the largest-ever meat recall after undercover abuse footage was made public in 2008, and now the company has sparked the largest-ever judgement for an animal abuse case, Food Safety News reported November 18. The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) announced November 16 that it reached a partial settlement with two of the nine defendants in its False Claims Act lawsuit and that the federal government was entering a final judgement of \$497 million against the company. While the judgement is record-setting for an animal abuse case, the company will not actually pay the full fine to the government. According to HSUS, “The full judgment – which is the largest court judgment ever entered for animal abuse – cannot be collected in light of Hallmark’s insolvency, and is intended to deter future animal cruelty in the nation’s slaughterhouses.” Westland/Hallmark went out of business after the abuse footage—which showed “downer” cows (animals unable to walk) being dragged, violently prodded, and forklifted—caused national outrage. As a supplier to the National School Lunch Program NSLP, the company had agreed to follow strict animal welfare standards in its contract with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The litigation stems from the company failing to live up to that contract. Downer cows are not legally allowed to enter the food supply, in part because they are at increased risk for BSE, otherwise known as mad cow disease. Non-ambulatory animals are also more likely to be contaminated with fecal matter and disease-causing bacteria. The undercover abuse footage prompted a 143 million pound ground beef recall; the vast majority of the meat was already consumed by the time it was recalled.

Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2012/11/landmark-settlement-reached-in-westlandhallmark-meat-case/>

13. *November 17, U.S. Food and Drug Administration* – (California) **Tony's Import and Exports warns of Tahineh (sesame paste) contaminated with Salmonella.** Tony's Imports and Exports of Clovis, California, warned consumers, food distributors, and food processors not to consume or purchase certain containers of Al-Rabih Tahineh because they have the potential to be contaminated with Salmonella, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced in a November 17 update. A total of 141 pails of the product were stolen from the company's warehouse where it was awaiting destruction due to Salmonella contamination. The package states that it is a product of Lebanon and has a best before date of February 2014. The theft occurred in June but was not discovered until an FDA investigator visited the warehouse to witness the destruction of the tainted product.
Source: <http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/ucm328553.htm>
14. *November 17, U.S. Food and Drug Administration* – (National) **Focus Products Group International, LLC announces a nationwide recall of Cocoa Latte Hot Drink Makers due to possible lead risk.** Focus Products of Lincolnshire, Illinois, voluntarily recalled November 17 its Cocoa Latte Hot Drink Makers because a small bushing inside the container has the potential to leach lead. The affected products are the Cocoa Latte Hot Drink Makers West Bend and Back to Basics makes and includes various model numbers. The products were shipped nationwide from 2004 through October 12, 2012, and were sold primarily through retailers such as Bed Bath & Beyond, Amazon.com, and Focus Products' online store. The company's independent testing revealed the potential problem.
Source: <http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/ucm328554.htm>
15. *November 16, U.S. Food and Drug Administration* – (National) **Tri-union Seafoods issues voluntary recall on select 7-ounce solid white albacore tuna in water.** Tri-Union Seafoods LLC voluntarily recalled November 16 a limited amount of Chicken of the Sea Brand 7-ounce cans of solid white albacore tuna in water, reported the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. Due to a labeling error, the product label does not state that it "contains soy," a recognized allergen, in the ingredients listing. The product was distributed to Costco stores in 12 States with best by dates between October 1, 2016 through November 9, 2016.
Source: <http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/ucm328546.htm>
16. *November 15, U.S. Food and Drug Administration* – (National; Guam) **Berres Brothers coffee roasters issues allergy alert on possible nut flavoring in coffee.** Berres Brothers, Inc. of Watertown, Wisconsin, recalled its Berres Brothers Coffee Roasters, Chocolate & Peanut Butter and Berres Brother Coffee Roasters, Monkey Mocha, and Berres Brothers Lunch with Elvis regular and decaffeinated whole bean and ground coffees November 15. These products may contain an undeclared nut allergen. The products were distributed throughout the United States and Guam through grocery stores and mail order. The recall was initiated after it was discovered that product containing walnuts was distributed in packaging that did not reveal the

presence of walnuts.

Source: <http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/ucm328402.htm>

17. *November 15, U.S. Food and Drug Administration* – (Florida) **Publix issues voluntary recall multiple cake products.** Publix Super Markets November 15 issued a voluntary recall for 45 various cake products because they may contain *Listeria monocytogenes*. Publix received notification of the contamination from their supplier, Maplehurst. Product was distributed to Publix stores between November 11, 2012 through November 15, 2012 to 21 Florida counties.

Source: <http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/ucm328362.htm>

For another story, see item [21](#)

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Water Sector

18. *November 18, Kennewick Tri-City Herald* – (Washington) **Walla Walla manager gets community service for violations of Clean Water Act.** The manager of a Walla Walla, Washington plating company was sentenced to four months of home confinement and ordered to complete 200 hours of community service for federal violations to the Clean Water Act, the Kennewick Tri-City Herald reported November 18. The company, Smith Chrome Plating, also was ordered to pay a \$15,000 fine, the U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Washington said in a news release. The suspect pleaded guilty in U.S. District Court in Spokane to one felony Clean Water Act offense for making Clean Water Act false statements. He and the company also pleaded guilty to one misdemeanor Clean Water Act offense for violation of a requirement of a pretreatment program. The manager and the company also will be on probation for five years. The charges stem from violations of a State Waste Discharge Permit issued by the Washington State Department of Ecology from December 2009 to April 2010. The company and suspect, who handled the day-to-day operations, failed to monitor, report, take samples, or keep records of the discharges. Earlier in 2012, Smith Chrome was fined \$74,000 by the State Department of Ecology for the violations discovered during compliance inspections in 2010 and 2011.

Source: <http://www.bellinghamherald.com/2012/11/18/2771521/walla-walla-manager-gets-community.html>

19. *November 17, Grand Haven Tribune* – (Michigan) **Wastewater treatment plant storage tank ignites.** Firefighters responded to a facility in Grand Haven, Michigan, November 17 when flames started to light up the sky over a sludge storage building. Police evacuated nearby businesses as a precaution, closed nearby streets to traffic, and kept pedestrians out of the area, the Grand Haven Public Safety director said. The wastewater treatment plant director said the rectangular building was about half full of sludge. The open area above the sludge was full of methane gas, and somehow the gas ignited, with the flames shooting through the vent. Firefighters remained on the scene after the fire was out, dousing the roof and vent with water to cool it down. Assisting city firefighters at the scene were Grand Haven Township firefighters and the Ottawa

County Hazardous Materials Team.

Source: <http://www.grandhaventribune.com/article/policefire/234171>

20. *November 17, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* – (Pennsylvania) **Kittanning without drinking water.** Residents of Kittanning and surrounding municipalities in Pennsylvania remained without drinkable water because of problems at Pennsylvania American Water’s treatment plant. The water company issued a boil water order November 16 to the 2,100 households in Kittanning Borough, Applewold, and portions of Manor and Rayburn townships, Armstrong County. Those residents were warned not to use their tap water for drinking, cooking, brushing teeth, or bathing. A water company spokesman said the do-not-use warning was necessary because routine sampling tests the company did November 16 found the finished water in the system had extremely high pH levels that exceeded federal health standards. A Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection spokesman said the water company reported pH levels of 12.5, possibly due to a “caustic soda contamination,” but was able to isolate the high pH water at the treatment plant. The water company took corrective actions to address the problem, including flushing the system with fresh water and placing water tank trucks at three locations to provide alternative water supplies to its customers. Shutting down the treatment plant resulted in a loss in positive water pressure, which could have allowed contamination to enter the distribution system through backflow. Therefore, the company said, until further notice, customers would be under a boil water advisory. Source: <http://www.post-gazette.com/stories/local/region/kittanning-without-drinking-water-662485/>
21. *November 16, WNBC 4 New York* – (New York; New Jersey) **Human waste continues to pour into NY harbor after Sandy.** Human waste has been pouring into New York Harbor from the fifth largest sewage treatment plant in the country since it was hit by Hurricane Sandy, and the operator of the plant cannot predict when it will stop, WNBC 4 New York reported November 16. A 12-foot surge of water swamped the Newark, New Jersey plant that serves some three million people when Sandy struck October 29. The plant has pumped more than three billion gallons of untreated or partially treated wastewater into local waterways since then. The executive director of the Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission, only said “ASAP” when asked about when repairs to the sprawling facility could be made. Until then, the main outfall will continue dumping millions of gallons of partially treated human waste a day. Pathogens in partially treated waste are a health hazard and public safety threat, officials said. Fishing, crabbing, and shellfishing bans in the New Jersey waters of the harbor will remain in effect, said a Department of Environmental Protection spokesman. The New York City Department of Environmental Protection also issued an advisory to residents to avoid contact with the water. Source: <http://www.nbcnewyork.com/news/local/Passaic-Valley-Sewerage-Commission-Newark-Plant-Human-Waste-179571291.html>

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

22. *November 16, Federal Bureau of Investigation* – (Florida) **Program director and therapist from Miami-area mental health care corporation convicted for participating in \$205 million Medicare fraud scheme.** November 15, a federal jury convicted a Miami-area program director and a Miami-area therapist for their participation in a Medicare fraud scheme involving more than \$205 million in fraudulent billings by the mental health care corporation American Therapeutic Corporation (ATC), the FBI reported November 16. Each were found guilty of one count of conspiracy to commit health care fraud. Evidence at trial demonstrated that the defendants and their co-conspirators caused the submission of false and fraudulent claims to Medicare through ATC, a Florida corporation that operated purported partial hospitalization programs (PHPs) in seven different locations throughout south Florida and Orlando. The defendants and their co-conspirators also used a related company, American Sleep Institute (ASI), to submit fraudulent Medicare claims. Throughout the course of the fraud conspiracy, tens of millions of dollars in kickbacks were paid in exchange for Medicare beneficiaries, who did not qualify for PHP services, to attend treatment programs that were not legitimate PHP programs. Evidence further revealed that doctors at ATC signed patient files without reading them or seeing the patients. Included in these false and fraudulent submissions to Medicare were claims for patients in neuro-vegetative states, along with patients who were in the late stages of diseases causing permanent cognitive memory loss, and patients who were suffering from substance abuse addiction without a severe mental illness, all of whom were ineligible for PHP treatment.

Source: <http://www.fbi.gov/miami/press-releases/2012/program-director-and-therapist-from-miami-area-mental-health-care-corporation-convicted-for-participating-in-205-million-medicare-fraud-scheme>

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

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Government Facilities Sector

23. *November 17, KSL 5 Salt Lake City* – (Utah) **San Juan High School burns; two in custody for arson.** Two Blanding, Utah men were arrested in connection with the suspected arson and a rash of recent burglaries at the San Juan High School and nearby middle school November 17. Both are former students of San Juan High School. The San Juan School District superintendent said classes would not be held November 19 or November 20. The school will be closed for Thanksgiving recess the remainder of the week of November 19. The fire spread through the roof system and burned about 2 hours before it could be extinguished, a press release from the sheriff said. The fire caused an estimated \$500,000 in damage, according to the Blanding police chief. There have been five burglaries at the high school and Albert R. Lyman Middle School in recent weeks. Evidence connects the two suspects to the thefts, according to the sheriff's office. The district superintendent said the media center and its contents — books, computers, printers, and furniture — were a total loss.

Source: <http://www.ksl.com/?sid=23005273&nid=148>

24. *November 17, Softpedia* – (Alabama) **Two former Alabama court employees accused of stealing records database code.** Two suspects from Montgomery, Alabama, both former employees of the Alabama Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), were indicted for stealing the source code of Namemaster, a court records database, Softpedia reported November 17. The suspects are accused not only of stealing the source code, but also the schema which contains details on how the database is constructed. Prosecutors believe that one suspect – who is the former director of information systems for the AOC – and the other – a former database administrator for the AOC – gave the code, the schema, and hundreds of thousands of court records to software development company CyberBest Technology Inc.
Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Two-Former-Alabama-Court-Employees-Accused-of-Stealing-Records-Database-Code-307773.shtml>

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Emergency Services Sector

25. *November 18, Associated Press* – (California) **6 injured as police helicopters collide in LA area.** Federal officials are investigating a collision involving two police helicopters in the Los Angeles area that left five officers and a civilian with minor injuries. Investigators believe the November 17 crash occurred when the rotator blades of a chopper that was landing touched one that was taking off, a lieutenant said. The collision caused extensive damage to both aircrafts, crumpling the tail and breaking the blades of one, causing the blade to fall off and cause damage to the other. The injured were taken to hospitals for evaluation after the collision. The lieutenant said the injured included a pilot and an observer in each of the Bell OH-58A helicopters, and two officers on the ground. The Federal Aviation Administration and the National Transportation Safety Board are investigating.
Source: http://www.necn.com/11/18/12/6-injured-as-police-helicopters-collide-landing_nation.html?&apID=e859470f1df64b77857672257e6fe78c
26. *November 17, Monterey County Herald* – (California) **Soledad prison nurses under investigation for alleged wrongdoing.** State and federal officials are investigating alleged wrongdoing by a number of nurses at a Soledad, California prison, including one who was once embroiled in a legal tussle with Hartnell College and its former president, Monterey County Herald reported November 17. Parallel investigations are examining whistleblower accusations involving suspected payroll fraud, diversion of pharmaceutical narcotics, and falsification of medical records to cover missing drugs at Soledad's Correctional Training Facility, dating back as far as 2009. A spokeswoman for the federal receiver's office overseeing the prison's health care system confirmed the multi-level investigation November 15. One of the targets of the payroll investigation is a former nurse, who was fired from Hartnell College in 2003 for allegedly falsifying her time sheets to collect more than \$50,000 in unearned pay. Additionally, at least two licensed vocational nurses are suspected of diverting narcotic pharmaceuticals prescribed for inmates.
Source: http://www.montereyherald.com/local/ci_22018490/soledad-prison-nurses-under-investigation

27. *November 17, Wicked Local Concord* – (Massachusetts) **HAZMAT team called in to investigate substance at Emerson Hospital.** Emerson Hospital in Concord, Massachusetts' emergency department was on divert November 17 as it investigated a HAZMAT situation involving a patient. According to an email statement November 17 from a hospital spokesman, Emerson Hospital was proceeding with decontamination of five individuals after a patient inside the emergency room was at risk for the possible need to be decontaminated. An analysis of the potentially contaminated substance was identified as road salt, she confirmed, which the hospital said can cause burning to the skin. "Because of the way the patient presented and reported to hospital staff, we were advised by local authorities to follow best practice in a potential HAZMAT situation," she said. The walk-in triage department in the emergency department was back open after 2 and 1/2 hours.
Source: <http://www.wickedlocal.com/concord/news/x1233649314/Hazmat-team-called-in-to-investigate-substance-at-Emerson-Hospital#axzz2CgF7JZvl>
28. *November 16, Beverly Patch; Beverly Police Department* – (Massachusetts) **Beverly woman allegedly threatened to kill police officers, bomb city buildings.** Beverly, Massachusetts police arrested a woman November 14 after she allegedly sent several emails to city police and firefighters threatening to kill them and bomb several public buildings. A police spokesman said several Beverly Police officers received threatening emails from a Gmail account. The emails expressed an intent to kill police officers and damage police vehicles, and targeted nine specific officers, including the police chief. The suspect also sent the officers an email stating to "be warned because Beverly Hospital is also on the list to be blown up." She was eventually apprehended at the Beverly Public Library after sending the officers a picture of the inside of the library and instructions to drop off money there. She was taken into custody without incident and then agreed to speak to investigators, according to police. She is charged with ten counts of threats to kill, ten counts of threats of extortion, and one count each of threat to bomb a police station, threat to bomb a fire station, and threat to bomb a hospital.
Source: <http://beverly.patch.com/articles/beverly-woman-threatens-to-kill-police-officers-bomb-city-buildings>
29. *November 16, Associated Press* – (Illinois) **Another Chicago officer charged in towing scam.** A Chicago police officer became the tenth member of the force to be charged in what federal authorities said was a scheme to steer work to tow truck drivers in exchange for bribes. Federal prosecutors said November 16 that a grand jury indicted the officer. He was charged with mail fraud and attempted extortion. He allegedly defrauded two insurance companies by making a false police report of an accident and staging an accident. Authorities said he obtained extortion payments totaling \$2,200 from a cooperating tow truck driver in 2008. Charges are also pending against two other officers.
Source: <http://www.sfgate.com/news/crime/article/Another-Chicago-officer-charged-in-towing-scam-4044623.php>
30. *November 16, Associated Press; WBOY 12 Clarksburg* – (West Virginia) **3 arrested in W.Va. State Police break-in.** Three Wood County men were arrested in a break-in at a State Police office in Ritchie County, West Virginia, State Police said November 16.

Several items were stolen October 30 from an evidence room at the Harrisville detachment. The break-in was discovered October 31, a sergeant said. He said three men were arrested November 15. WBOY 12 Clarksburg reported the three also face charges stemming from the October 23 theft of cigarettes, money, and a gun at a store in Smithville.

Source: <http://www.timesunion.com/news/crime/article/3-arrested-in-W-Va-State-Police-break-in-4044242.php>

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Information Technology Sector

31. *November 19, The H* – (International) **Trojan uses Google Docs to communicate with its control server.** IT security firm Symantec discovered a trojan called Backdoor.Makadocs that hides in Rich Text Format (RTF) and Microsoft Word documents and injects malicious code via Trojan.Dropper. It uses the Google Docs service's Viewer feature to communicate with its command-and-control (C&C) server. Symantec currently rates the trojan's threat level as "very low". In a post on its blog, the company says that the carrier document appears to primarily target users in Brazil. The malware transfers information such as the infected computer's host name and operating system. Symantec says that it has already been updated for Microsoft's newly released Windows 8 and Windows Server 2012 operating systems. The unusual characteristic of the trojan is the use of Google Docs. Using the viewer to contact the trojan's C&C server prevents the data traffic between the infected system and the C&C server from being discovered as Google Docs connections are encrypted using HTTPS. However, the company added that Google could prevent the viewer from being misused by implementing a firewall.

Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/Trojan-uses-Google-Docs-to-communicate-with-its-control-server-1752343.html>

32. *November 19, Associated Press* – (National) **Judge approves FTC's \$22.5M fine of Google.** A federal judge approved a \$22.5 million fine to penalize Google for an alleged privacy breach, rejecting a consumer-rights group's plea for tougher punishment. The rebuke resolves allegations that Google duped millions of Web surfers using the Safari browser into believing their online activities could not be tracked by the company as long as they did not change the browser's privacy settings. That assurance was posted on Google's Web site earlier this year, even as the Internet search leader was inserting computer coding that bypassed Safari's automatic settings and enabled the company to peer into the online lives of the browser's users. The U.S. Federal Trade Commission concluded that the contradiction between Google's stealth tracking and its privacy assurances to Safari users violated a vow the company made in another settlement with the agency in 2011. Google had promised not to mislead people about its privacy practices.

Source: <http://www.boston.com/business/technology/2012/11/19/judge-approves-ftc-fine-google/aR6ovDPNRs0upay1mIDCGP/story.html>

33. *November 19, Help Net Security* – (International) **Google Chrome app grabs identities, forges blogs in victims’ name to promote scam.** A Google Chrome app that promises to change the color of Facebook accounts instead nabs authentication cookies and generates dozens of blogs registered to the victims’ Gmail address, Bitdefender warns. Once the malicious app is installed from Google’s Chrome Web Store, it starts displaying a large Google Ads banner redirecting users to a “work from home scam.” When clicking the sign-up link, users are redirected to a fraudulent Web site. The blogs generated under the email address of the victims, which are used in further disseminating the scam, have registered a large number of hits among users in the United States, the United Kingdom, Germany, Spain, Romania, and other countries. The app can also post wall messages on the victims’ account. The messages use friend tagging to convince the victim’s friends to visit the blog domains. Each time the app posts on a users’ timeline, it links to one of the auto-generated blogs to avoid blacklisting. According to Softpedia, the app in question - “Modify Your Facebook Color” - has been downloaded from the Play Store by over 38,000 users.
Source: [http://www.net-security.org/secworld.php?id=13977&utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed:+HelpNetSecurity+\(Help+Net+Security\)&utm_content=Google+Reader](http://www.net-security.org/secworld.php?id=13977&utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed:+HelpNetSecurity+(Help+Net+Security)&utm_content=Google+Reader)
34. *November 19, IDG News Service* – (International) **Hackers break into two FreeBSD Project servers using stolen SSH keys.** Hackers compromised two servers used by the FreeBSD Project to build third-party software packages. Anyone who has installed such packages since September 19 should completely reinstall their machines, the project’s security team warned. Intrusions on two machines within the FreeBSD.org cluster were detected November 11, the FreeBSD security team said November 17. The two compromised servers acted as nodes for the project’s legacy third-party package-building infrastructure. The incident only affected the collection of third-party software packages distributed by the project and not the operating system’s “base” components, such as the kernel, system libraries, compiler, or core command-line tools. The FreeBSD security team believes the intruders gained access to the servers using a legitimate SSH authentication key stolen from a developer, and not by exploiting a vulnerability in the operating system. The package sets currently available for all versions of FreeBSD have been validated and none of them have been altered in any way, the team said.
Source: [http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9233822/Hackers_break_into_two_FreeBSD_Project_servers_using_stolen_SSH_keys?source=rss_security&utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed:+computerworld/s/feed/topic/17+\(Computerworld+Security+News\)&utm](http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9233822/Hackers_break_into_two_FreeBSD_Project_servers_using_stolen_SSH_keys?source=rss_security&utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed:+computerworld/s/feed/topic/17+(Computerworld+Security+News)&utm)
35. *November 19, Threatpost* – (International) **Facebook enabling HTTPS by default for North American users.** Facebook the week of November 19 will begin turning on secure browsing by default for its millions of users in North America. The change will make HTTPS the default connection option for all Facebook sessions for those users, a shift that gives them a good baseline level of security and will help prevent some common attacks. Facebook users have had the option of turning on HTTPS since early

2011 when the company reacted to attention surrounding the Firesheep attacks. However, the technology was not enabled by default and users had to manually make the change in order to get the better protection of HTTPS. Now, users will have to manually turn HTTPS off if they do not want it, a distinction that is a major change, especially for Facebook's massive user base, which has become a major target for attackers.

Source: http://threatpost.com/en_us/blogs/facebook-enabling-https-default-north-american-users-111912

For another story, see item [24](#)

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

36. *November 19, Radio Ink* – (Ohio) **Two charged with stealing copper from Radio One.** Federal authorities in Cleveland charged a man and a woman with the malicious destruction of federally-licensed communications lines under the domestic terrorism provision of the law, Radio Ink reported November 19. The Radio One Cleveland chief engineer said the copper was stolen from WJMO 1300 AM Cleveland. He said thieves pulled up the four-inch copper strap surrounding all four antenna tuning units (dog houses) and disconnected all 480 ground radials in the process. The indictment charges that August 17 or August 18, the man and woman unlawfully entered the property of Radio One and willfully and maliciously destroyed and removed copper material from four radio-station towers situated on the property. Emergency repairs cost nearly \$11,000 while permanent repairs will cost an estimated \$125,000, according to the indictment.

Source: <http://www.radioink.com/Article.asp?id=2576604&spid=24698>

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Commercial Facilities Sector

37. *November 19, Tulsa World* – (Oklahoma) **Roof of Tulsa apartment complex collapses in fire.** Tulsa, Oklahoma firefighters responded to reports of a fire at Observation Point Apartments, Tulsa World reported November 19. Crews were met with heavy smoke and fire coming from a third-floor attic. While they were in the process of attempting to battle the fire, the roof partially collapsed. The fire affected 21 units at the complex, firefighters said. It took firefighters 30 minutes to contain the fire.

The Tulsa chapter of the American Red Cross was assisting several residents who were displaced by the fire. A preliminary damage estimate was about \$200,000, a fire captain said.

Source:

http://www.tulsaworld.com/news/article.aspx?subjectid=11&articleid=20121119_11_A13_CUTLIN701130

38. *November 19, CBS News; Associated Press* – (New York) **Brooklyn serial killer: Gunman sought in three shopkeeper slayings, NYPD says.** Police are searching for a gunman who they say used the same weapon to kill three Brooklyn, New York shopkeepers since July, CBS News and the Associated Press reported November 19. All three victims were of Middle Eastern descent. Their stores are within a 5-mile radius, and none of them have surveillance cameras. The last victim was killed at his store, She She, in Brooklyn's Flatbush section November 16. Police said that ballistics evidence connected the same gun to the shooting deaths of two other Brooklyn shopkeepers over the summer of 2012. A clothing store owner was killed inside Valentino Fashion in Bay Ridge July 6. Another victim was found dead August 2 at his Amazing 99 Cents Deal shop in Bensonhurst.

Source: http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-504083_162-57551667-504083/brooklyn-serial-killer-gunman-sought-in-three-shopkeeper-slayings-nypd-says/

39. *November 19, WOOD 8 Grand Rapids* – (Michigan) **Fire displaces 125 Kalamazoo tenants.** About 125 people were left temporarily without homes in Kalamazoo, Michigan, after a fire damaged their apartment complex November 18. Firefighters from the Kalamazoo Department of Public Safety, Comstock Township, Cooper Township, Kalamazoo Township, and Oshtemo Township were dispatched to the scene of the three-alarm fire. The fire started in a third-floor residence and spread to the apartment above it, resulting in the floor to the fourth-floor residence collapsing, according to a news release from the Kalamazoo Department of Public Safety. Seven residents were taken to hospitals after suffering minor smoke inhalation. The mayor said the other residents were put on city buses at the scene to stay warm. The residents were then transported to a shelter at a nearby church where they were cared for, a American Red Cross spokesman said. The Office of Emergency Management was also helping about 40 residents at the shelter. The other tenants sought shelter from family and friends.

Source: http://www.woodtv.com/dpp/news/local/kalamazoo_and_battle_creek/fire-at-kalamazoo-apartment-complex-november-19-2012

40. *November 18, Pasadena Star-News* – (California) **Nonprofit community center in Pasadena destroyed by fire.** A massive fire destroyed a nonprofit community center in Pasadena, California, November 17 officials said. The cause of the fire at the Neighbors Acting Together Helping All (NATHA) community center, in the rear parking lot of the Opportunities For Learning school building, was under investigation, according to Pasadena fire and police department officials. Arson, however, had been ruled out, a Pasadena police spokesman said. The possibility of collapse forced firefighters to “surround and drown” the massive fire from the perimeter. Pasadena and Los Angeles County firefighters extinguished the fire in about 45 minutes. Officials

estimated the damage to be \$1.75 million.

Source: http://www.pasadenastarnews.com/news/ci_22015593/private-pasadena-school-destroyed-by-fire

41. *November 18, Everett Herald* – (Washington) **700K in damage from Monroe storage facility fire.** A three-alarm fire that broke out at the Chain Lake Self Storage storage facility in Monroe, Washington, November 15 was estimated to have caused \$700,000 in damages. More than 60 firefighters from 11 fire departments fought the fire for more than 10 hours. The facility was protected with a fire alarm system but was not equipped with fire sprinklers. Fifty-five of the more than 500 storage units were destroyed and 130 were damaged by the fire.

Source: <http://heraldnet.com/article/20121118/NEWS01/711189883>

42. *November 16, ABC News* – (Missouri) **Cops stop alleged movie theater gun plot.** A suspect in Bolivar, Missouri, was accused of planning a movie theater massacre at a screening of the final “Twilight” movie. He was charged November 16 with first-degree assault, making a terroristic threat, and armed criminal action after his mother alerted police that he had purchased 400 rounds of ammunition and two assault rifles “very similar to the ones in Aurora, Colorado, movie theater shooting,” according to probable cause statement issued by the Bolivar Police Department. The suspect allegedly told the police that he had already purchased a ticket for the November 18 screening of “The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn — Part 2.” He said he also planned to shoot up a nearby Wal-Mart store, according to the statement. He had previously threatened to stab a Wal-Mart employee in 2009. Police characterized the suspect as “being off his medication,” but he was able to purchase the rifles November 12 and November 13.

Source: http://abcnews.go.com/US/cops-stop-alleged-movie-theater-gun-plot/story?id=17742369#.UKph_K7kGok

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

Nothing to report

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Dams Sector

43. *November 19, Erie Times News* – (Pennsylvania) **State to spend \$20 million for Tamarack, Pymatuning dams.** Repair of the leaking Tamarack Dam has been moved toward the top of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission to-do list. The Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA) approved an \$11.9 million grant to rebuild eroding dam embankments November 15. The authority also agreed on \$8.8 million for less-critical Pymatuning Dam improvements. The funding moves Tamarack ahead of a half-dozen other dams also included on the Fish and Boat Commission’s high-hazard/unsafe list. Tamarack Lake’s northern dam was discovered to be seeping during

a November 2011 inspection. The lake was drawn down 5 feet so that inspectors could get a better look at its eroding banks. It was drawn down an additional 5 feet in August when inspectors found that the erosion and seepage had worsened. The lake bottom is now visible in areas. Low water covers other parts of the lake bed. The two dam projects claimed the majority of the \$33.5 million awarded through the State's H2O Flood Control program November 15.

Source: [http://www.goerie.com/article/20121119/NEWS02/311189879/State-to-spend-\\$20-million-for-Tamarack-Pymatuning-dams](http://www.goerie.com/article/20121119/NEWS02/311189879/State-to-spend-$20-million-for-Tamarack-Pymatuning-dams)

44. *November 19, WABC 7 New York* – (New York) **Work begins to close Long Island barrier island breaches.** Work began November 19 to close the breaches on Long Island barrier islands in New York caused by Hurricane Sandy. The New York governor announced that New York has signed contracts with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which hired contractors to begin work immediately at Smith Point County Park and Cupsogue County Park in Suffolk County. Crews will use 200,000 cubic yards of sand to fill the holes. There is another breach at Fire Island that is still being evaluated.
Source:
http://abclocal.go.com/wabc/story?section=news/local/long_island&id=8890831
45. *November 18, Minneapolis Star Tribune; Associated Press* – (National) **Reservoir releases an attempt to raise Mississippi for barge traffic.** Water from Mississippi River reservoirs in Minnesota started heading downstream November 16 in an attempt to help ease the threat of low river levels to barge traffic south of St. Louis. The drawdown from Pokegama Lake, Lake Winnibigoshish, Leech Lake, Big Sandy Lake, and Gull Lake will continue for 3 weeks. Water in those lakes was held back at “summer recreation” levels since November 2 in anticipation of the current release, which is meant to cushion the effects of flow reduction from the Missouri River system, said a spokesman for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-St. Paul District. A barge industry trade group asked the U.S. President to intercede in order to keep the Missouri River water flowing downstream. The Corps spokesman said the Mississippi water from Minnesota would likely cut only three to six inches off the three-foot drop expected from the Missouri River flow reduction. A shutdown in the south, he added, would have drastic economic consequences, driving up shipping costs of all kinds of commodities. Barges there are already being required to carry less weight.
Source: <http://www.startribune.com/local/179802781.html?refer=y>
46. *November 18, Waterloo-Cedar Falls Courier* – (Iowa) **Waterloo disputes finding levees are ‘unacceptable’.** The 40-year-old structures that saved thousands of Waterloo, Iowa residents and their properties during record 2008 flooding were not favorably rated after being checked out by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Courier reported November 18. “It was determined that the maintenance condition of your levee system is considered unacceptable,” Corps officials said in an October 22 letter to the city. City officials acknowledged their levees need repair. However they are appealing many findings, noting the cited deficiencies --- trees planted on or too close to the levee, missing flap gates on discharge pipes, outdated instruction manuals --- were all part of the original system the

Corps built in the early 1970s. A city engineer noted the city is working on the unacceptable items as time and funding allows. A representative with the Corps of Engineers said there was no predetermined time for the improvements to be made. However, as long as the flood control system is rated “unacceptable” the city would not be eligible for funds to repair levees.

Source: http://wfcourier.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/waterloo-disputes-finding-levees-are-unacceptable/article_e59a6c2c-075b-563b-8cf5-36e6d4eae650.html

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