



Homeland  
Security

# Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report

## 17 May 2012

### Top Stories

- Lightning strikes ignited fires in two, 250,000 pound storage tanks containing flammable chemicals at a Dow chemical plant in Bristol Township, Pennsylvania. The fumes from the fire forced several schools to close down and caused breathing problems for people dozens of miles away. – *phillyBurbs.com* (See item [3](#))
- After an explosion damaged four acid plants at the site, LSB Industries Inc said it would close its biggest chemical manufacturing facility in El Dorado, Arkansas, for an indefinite period. – *Reuters* (See item [4](#))
- U.S. nuclear power regulators overhauled community emergency planning for the first time in more than 3 decades, requiring fewer exercises for major accidents and recommending that fewer people be evacuated immediately. – *Associated Press* (See item [7](#))
- Police in an Atlanta suburb were escorting school buses for six schools and guarding students at bus stops after a man aimed a rifle at a bus with children on board and dropped a notebook that listed bus numbers. – *Associated Press* (See item [14](#))

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## Energy Sector

**Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: LOW, Cyber: LOW**

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) -

<http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *May 16, Associated Press* – (New York; National) **Report: State regulations reduce impact of gas drilling in New York.** A study released May 15 by the University at Buffalo’s new shale gas institute concludes that State oversight of gas drilling has been effective at reducing environmental problems in Pennsylvania and will prevent major problems in New York if the State allows drilling to begin. The university-funded report examined almost 3,000 violations from nearly 4,000 gas wells in Pennsylvania since 2008. It found that 62 percent of the violations were administrative and 38 percent were environmental. The environmental violations stemmed from 845 events — 25 of them classified as “major,” defined as site restoration failures, serious contamination of water supplies, major land spills, blowouts, and venting and gas migration. The authors found that even as the overall number of violations increased as more wells were drilled, the percentage of environmental violations compared to the number of wells drilled fell from 58.2 percent in 2008 to 30.5 percent in 2010.  
Source: <http://www.marionstar.com/article/20120516/NEWS01/205160312/Report-State-regulations-reduce-impact-gas-drilling-New-York>
2. *May 16, Mason City Globe Gazette* – (Iowa) **Investigation continues in biodiesel plant explosion.** Fire investigators in Mason City, Iowa, May 16 were trying to determine the cause of an explosion at the Soy Energy plant that occurred May 15. The Mason City fire chief said no one was injured though seven or eight people were in the vicinity when the explosion occurred. There was no damage or smoke visible from the outside of the plant. Soy Energy produces soybean oil-based biodiesel and Corn Stillage Oil-based biodiesel.  
Source: [http://globegazette.com/news/local/no-one-reported-hurt-in-biodiesel-plant-explosion/article\\_522dc5ee-9ee0-11e1-bcf0-001a4bcf887a.html](http://globegazette.com/news/local/no-one-reported-hurt-in-biodiesel-plant-explosion/article_522dc5ee-9ee0-11e1-bcf0-001a4bcf887a.html)

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## Chemical Industry Sector

3. *May 16, phillyBurbs.com* – (Pennsylvania; New Jersey) **County, DEP: Air quality tests show chemical vapors at a ‘minimum’.** Lightning strikes early May 16 ignited fires in two, 250,000-pound storage tanks containing flammable chemicals at Dow Chemical’s Rohm & Haas plant in Bristol Township, Pennsylvania. The fires were extinguished after about 4 hours, but they put many chemicals in the air and the resultant fumes caused Bristol Township to close schools for the day, while an elementary school in Tullytown was dismissed early. The chemicals have a low-odor threshold, which means a small amount can be smelled at great distances. In this case, residents as far away as Lawrenceville, New Jersey, were reporting breathing problems from the vapors. When the tanks were breached, ethyl acrylate and butyl acrylate, both used in making acrylic paints, were released. The Bucks County emergency

management and health departments issued a press release saying the chemicals can cause minor throat or eye irritation, headaches and nausea. The county initially advised area residents to stay indoors with windows closed. But air quality tests conducted by the county hazardous material team and state environmental officials about 8 to 9 hours after the fire showed remaining vapors were at a minimum. Dow workers removed the materials from the protective dike around the storage tanks that contained the spilled chemicals, a Dow spokeswoman said. Three emergency responders suffered minor injuries while fighting the fire and went to area hospitals.

Source: [http://www.phillyburbs.com/news/local/the\\_intelligencer\\_news/dow-chemical-fumes-from-three-alarm-storage-tank-fire-not/article\\_5a669818-f229-52b4-b1e4-cc7a47aea8e3.html](http://www.phillyburbs.com/news/local/the_intelligencer_news/dow-chemical-fumes-from-three-alarm-storage-tank-fire-not/article_5a669818-f229-52b4-b1e4-cc7a47aea8e3.html)

4. *May 16, Reuters* – (Arkansas) **LSB Industries shuts Arkansas plant after explosion.** LSB Industries Inc said it would shut its biggest chemical manufacturing facility for an indefinite period after an explosion caused significant damage. LSB said the direct strong nitric acid plant, which represents about 20 percent of its El Dorado, Arkansas facility’s total capacity, was damaged when a reactor exploded May 15. The explosion also caused minor damage to the three other acid plants at the facility, LSB’s CEO said. LSB, which makes heating, ventilation, and air conditioning and nitrogen-based chemical products, said it cannot estimate the extent of the damages. The CEO said it remains unknown how long the El Dorado facility will be out of production as the control room was also damaged. The El Dorado plant produces and sells about 470,000 tons of nitrogen-based products per year, according to the company’s annual report filed February 28.

Source: <http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/BRE84E15B/US-LSBINDUSTRIES/>

5. *May 15, KPRC 2 Houston* – (Texas) **Suspicious packages found at chemical plant.** Four suspicious packages with a detonator marked “explosive” strapped to them were found at the INEOS Chocolate Bayou Plant in Brazoria County, Texas, May 15. The chemical plant’s 900 contract workers were sent home for the day, but the 350 full-time employees remained at the plant. Federal and local officials investigated for 3 hours and deemed the plant to be safe. Officials said the packages were a pallet of paint that arrived at the plant in the morning. A detonator marked “explosive” was strapped to the shipment and wrapped in plastic. Investigators said they know who sent the paint and are questioning that person. According to its Web site, the plant manufactures olefins and polypropylene.

Source: [http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/47432250/ns/local\\_news-houston\\_tx/](http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/47432250/ns/local_news-houston_tx/)

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## **Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector**

6. *May 16, CNN* – (New York) **Kodak confirms it had weapons-grade uranium in underground lab.** Kodak — the company known for decades for its cameras and film — confirmed the week of May 14 that it used weapons-grade uranium in an

underground lab near Rochester, New York, for upwards of 30 years. A company spokesman and a former scientist for the firm said there was not enough material to sustain a nuclear chain reaction. Kodak turned the material over to the government in 2007, under heavy security. The device was used for scanning and testing other materials. The device's primary source of neutron radiation was the radioactive element californium, but the stream of neutrons produced by the californium was multiplied by passing it through a lattice of 93.4 percent enriched uranium U-235, whose nuclear fission released additional neutrons. The amount of fuel was about 3.5 pounds. The facility containing the device did not have armed guards, though it did have security procedures in place and thick walls to block any radiation.

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2012/05/15/us/new-york-kodak-uranium/>

7. *May 16, Associated Press* – (National) **Evacs and drills pared near nuke plants.** The nation's nuclear power regulators have overhauled community emergency planning for the first time in more than three decades, requiring fewer exercises for major accidents and recommending that fewer people be evacuated right away, the Associated Press reported May 16. The revamp, the first since the program began after the Three Mile Island partial nuclear meltdown at a plant in Dauphin County, Pennsylvania in 1979, also eliminates a requirement that local responders always practice for a release of radiation. Under the new rules, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the Federal Emergency Management Agency, which run the program together, have added one new exercise: State and community police will now take part in exercises that prepare for a possible assault on their local plant. The change went into effect in December 2011.

Source: <http://www.chron.com/business/article/AP-IMPACT-Evacs-and-drills-pared-near-nuke-plants-3561560.php>

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## **Critical Manufacturing Sector**

Nothing to report

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## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

8. *May 16, WJXX 25/WLTV 12 Jacksonville* – (National) **U.S. defense secretary restricts F-22 flights due to oxygen system complaints.** May 15, the U.S. Secretary of Defense ordered the Air Force to restrict flights of its new F-22 stealth fighters because of continuing problems with the aircraft's oxygen system. At least 22 pilots have suffered from oxygen deprivation while in flight since April 2008. The secretary ordered that all F-22 flights remain within a "proximate distance" of an airfield in case a pilot should suffer from a hypoxia event and be forced to land. That will force an immediate end to F-22 patrol missions over Alaska. The secretary also ordered the Air Force to accelerate installment of a backup oxygen system in all F-22s and provide monthly progress reports on efforts to identify the problem with the current oxygen system. The Air Force does not expect to begin installing automatic backup oxygen systems until

December.

Source: <http://www.firstcoastnews.com/news/article/256711/6/Panetta-Restricts-F-22-Flights-Due-to-Oxygen-System-Complaints>

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## **Banking and Finance Sector**

9. *May 16, Jersey City Jersey Journal* – (New Jersey) **Man pleads guilty in scheme to steal credit card numbers from Jersey City diners.** A man arrested at a New York airport after being deported from Mexico in February pleaded guilty to his role in a credit card fraud ring that stole credit card information from diners at two restaurants in Jersey City and Newark, New Jersey, officials said. He pleaded guilty to one count of identity theft May 14, a Hudson County prosecutor said. He was one of four people charged in August 2009 with possession of a forgery device, identity theft, and conspiracy to commit identify theft. All have now pleaded guilty to various charges. The ring involved a waiter who used an electronic skimmer to steal credit card information. Tens of thousands of dollars were then stolen from at least 100 patrons of the restaurants where he worked, officials said. The stolen credit card information was forwarded to a Belleville location, where another device was used to load the information onto other cards, which were then used to make purchases, officials said. Investigators executing a search warrant in 2009 found scores of credit cards encoded with stolen account information and numerous retail gift cards.

Source:

[http://www.nj.com/hudson/index.ssf/2012/05/man\\_pleads\\_guilty\\_in\\_scheme\\_to.html](http://www.nj.com/hudson/index.ssf/2012/05/man_pleads_guilty_in_scheme_to.html)

10. *May 15, Governor of New York State's Press Office* – (New York) **Governor announces recovery of more than \$50 million in fraudulent unemployment insurance payments.** The governor of New York State May 15 announced \$51.2 million in fraudulently-collected unemployment insurance benefits were returned to New York State's Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund. The funds were recovered through the Treasury Offset Program (TOP), a State-federal partnership in which federal tax refunds are intercepted to cover delinquent debts. The program recovered the largest amount in the nation from more than 50,000 individuals. New York led the nation in recovery amounts by developing a low cost software tool that allows the state and federal collection systems to work together. This model has been shared with other States looking to participate in the TOP. The commissioner of Treasury's Financial Management Service, which operates the program, said the program has "collected \$174.9 million for the 14 participating states, including the District of Columbia." The \$51.2 million recovered was returned to the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund to pay benefits to unemployed New Yorkers.

Source: <http://www.governor.ny.gov/press/05152012-unemployment-insurance>

11. *May 15, Tampa Tribune* – (Virginia; Florida) **Businessmen accused of laundering money from fraudulent refunds.** Two Florida businessmen were named in a federal indictment unsealed May 15 accusing them of conspiring to profit from fraudulent tax refund checks. In connection with the indictment, federal prosecutors are seeking the

forfeiture of more than \$26 million obtained from or linked to the offenses. The defendants and a brother of one of the men are accused of involvement in a fraud using stolen personal information to file tax returns with bogus financial data used to get tax refunds. Two of the men own convenience stores in Tampa, Florida, and Virginia. The third defendant was arrested May 15 as federal agents searched his home and his Tampa car businesses. According to the indictment, the three men used their businesses to launder the proceeds of tax fraud. Authorities said they purchased fraudulent income tax return checks and checks issued for refund anticipation loans and then presented them for payment at financial institutions in Virginia, Florida, and elsewhere. In total, the three are accused of fraudulently depositing more than \$17.5 million. One of the defendants was recorded buying bogus U.S. Treasury checks from undercover detectives. In addition, agents analyzed 399 of the checks worth almost \$1.7 million deposited into the Virginia man's accounts, and found a majority of them were payable to out-of-State residents, primarily people in Tampa.

Source: <http://www2.tbo.com/news/news/2012/may/15/3/businessmen-accused-of-laundering-money-from-fraud-ar-404188/>

12. *May 15, Jacksonville Times-Union* – (Florida) **Bank robber sought by FBI after robberies in Duval, St. Johns, Volusia.** The FBI asked for the public's help in identifying a man believed responsible for at least three armed bank robberies in Florida's Duval, St. Johns, and Volusia counties in the past 2 weeks, the Jacksonville Times-Union reported May 15. He walked up to the tellers, gave them a note demanding money, and said he had a gun, according to the FBI. The robberies were May 1 at a Bank of America in Jacksonville and a Wells Fargo in St. Augustine, and May 3 at a Wells Fargo in Edgewater. The FBI said he may be involved in other robberies.

Source: <http://jacksonville.com/news/crime/2012-05-15/story/bank-robber-sought-fbi-after-robberies-duval-st-johns-volusia#ixzz1v2WYkLLg>

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## **Transportation Sector**

13. *May 16, Homeland Security News Wire* – (National) **FAA moves on integrating drones into U.S. airspace.** May 14, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) implemented rules that allow a government public safety agency and first responders to operate drones weighing 4.4 pounds or less in the U.S. air space, but under certain restrictions: these drones should be used for training and performance evaluation, they must be flown within the line of sight of the operator, less than 400 feet above the ground, during daylight conditions, inside Class G (uncontrolled) airspace, and more than 5 miles from any airport or other location with aviation activities. The FAA said if safety agencies then apply for a waiver, the agency will allow the operation of drones weighing up to 25 pounds. The FAA said it has been working to ensure the safe integration of unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) in the U.S. National Airspace System (NAS). Already, the agency said it achieved the first unmanned aircraft systems

milestone included in the 2012 FAA reauthorization bill — streamlining the process for public agencies to safely fly UAS in U.S. airspace. Federal, State, and local government authorities must obtain an FAA Certificate of Waiver or Authorization (COA) before flying drones in the national air space.

Source: <http://www.homelandsecuritynewswire.com/dr20120516-faa-moves-on-integrating-drones-into-u-s-airspace>

14. *May 16, Associated Press* – (Georgia) **Police near Atlanta escort school buses, guard students after man seen aiming rifle at bus.** After a man aimed a rifle at a school bus and dropped a notebook that listed bus numbers, police in an Atlanta suburb are escorting school buses and guarding students at bus stops. The man fled when witnesses confronted him May 14, but police recovered the rifle and notebook he dropped at the scene, just south of Atlanta. A Clayton County police officer said a witness saw the man pointing the rifle at a passing school bus. County school officials said another witness chased the man but stopped when the suspect fired a second gun at him. A school's spokesman said police are shadowing buses from six schools.

Source: [http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/police-near-atlanta-escort-school-buses-guard-students-after-man-seen-aiming-rifle-at-bus/2012/05/16/gIQA1M8mTU\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/police-near-atlanta-escort-school-buses-guard-students-after-man-seen-aiming-rifle-at-bus/2012/05/16/gIQA1M8mTU_story.html)

15. *May 15, San Antonio Express-News* – (Texas) **S.A. trucker dies; I-35 snarled.** Interstate 35 was closed to southbound traffic for hours May 15 in the wake of a fatal accident on the south side of New Braunfels, Texas. The trucker died after he lost control of the tractor-trailer he was driving south near Rusch Lane, New Braunfels police said. The cab was torn from the vehicle, and the tractor's undercarriage and the trailer swerved across the highway and caught fire, police said.

Source: [http://www.mysanantonio.com/news/local\\_news/article/S-A-trucker-dies-I-35-snarled-3559509.php](http://www.mysanantonio.com/news/local_news/article/S-A-trucker-dies-I-35-snarled-3559509.php)

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## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

Nothing to report

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## **Agriculture and Food Sector**

16. *May 16, Food Safety News* – (National; International) **Preliminary FDA inspection report cites flaws at Diamond Pet Foods plant.** Diamond Pet Foods, the company behind a massive recall of dry dog food due to Salmonella contamination that sickened at least 16 people, was not taking “all reasonable precautions” to ensure the safety of its product, according to a U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) inspection report. The report, posted by the FDA May 15, was the result of a week-long inspection that began April 12 after an outbreak of human Salmonella Infantis infection was traced to contaminated pet food manufactured at the Diamond Pet Foods plant in Gaston, South

Carolina. The report stated Diamond was using cardboard and duct tape on some equipment, and there were damaged paddles on the conveyor. The inspectors also noted some surfaces at the facility were encrusted with food residues. As of May 11, at least 15 people in 9 states and 1 person in Canada were confirmed infected with Salmonella from contact with the contaminated dry dog food or from contact with a pet that had eaten the tainted product, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Diamond Pet Foods recalled nine brands of dry pet foods manufactured at its Gaston plant between December 9, 2011 and April 7. Several other companies whose food was also produced in the facility joined the recall.

Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2012/05/preliminary-fda-inspection-report-cites-flaws-at-diamond-pet-foods-plant/>

17. *May 16, Pendleton East Oregonian* – (Oregon) **Ammonia leaks shuts down Lamb Weston plant in Boardman.** An anhydrous ammonia leak sent 7 people to a hospital May 15 at food processor Lamb Weston/ConAgra in Boardman, Oregon. The Morrow County undersheriff said emergency responders from Boardman, Irrigon, Hermiston, and Morrow County were summoned to the scene. A HAZMAT response unit from Hermiston Fire and Emergency Services also responded. Seven of the 11 who were feeling ill were treated at the hospital. The patients complained of varying degrees of respiratory distress and nausea. Those treated at the hospital were expected to be released within several hours, according to the undersheriff. Plant personnel contained the leak and the scene was cleared within a few hours.

Source: <http://www.thenewtribune.com/2012/05/16/2146859/ammonia-leaks-shuts-down-lamb.html>

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## **Water Sector**

18. *May 16, Dickinson Press* – (North Dakota) **Water project to provide high-quality water to NW ND.** A \$110 million pipeline project will bring high-quality drinking water to areas of northwest North Dakota that desperately need it, officials said May 15. The Western Area Water Supply Project pipeline between Crosby and Wildrose will bring high-quality, treated drinking water from the Missouri River to residents of Burke, Divide, McKenzie, Mountrail, and Williams counties where water quality is poor and in short supply. The project is projected to serve as many as 75,000 people over the next 20 years. It will be primarily completed by the end of 2014. The loans that launched the project will be repaid by selling extra water to oil companies for hydraulic fracturing.

Source: <http://www.thedickinsonpress.com/event/article/id/58060/>

19. *May 15, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency* – (California) **EPA reaches settlement for \$6.6 million for groundwater cleanup at San Gabriel Valley superfund site/ Cleanup has removed 4,600 lbs of contaminants from one of the most polluted sites in the U.S.** The U.S Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) entered into three

settlements totaling \$6,605,080 to help pay for groundwater cleanup at the south El Monte portion of the San Gabriel Valley Area 1 Superfund Site in Los Angeles May 15. Since the EPA began cleaning the site in 2008, about 4,600 pounds of contaminants have been removed. The \$6.6 million will pay for extraction and treatment of groundwater polluted with industrial solvents. The three settlement claims were brought by the U.S. Department of Justice on behalf of the EPA and the California Department of Toxic Substances Control against 11 current or former landowners and operators of business facilities that contributed to the contamination. The 11 responsible parties are Quaker Chemical Corporation; Art Weiss, Inc.; Astro Seal, Inc.; Craneveyor Corp.; EBA, Inc. D/b/a Earl Butler & Associates; M&T, LLC; Mary Brkich; New Air, Inc.; Pacific Coast Drum Co.; Seachrome Corporation; and Linderman Living Trust A. The EPA signed an interim Record of Decision with the goal of containing contaminated groundwater at the site in 2000, and issued an Explanation of Significant Differences to address new contaminants in 2005. The San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority implements the cleanup under a Cooperative Agreement.

Source:

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/0/855DD99D18CB078D852579FF0061D3F0>

20. *May 15, Associated Press* – (New Mexico) **Governor makes statewide drought declaration.** The governor of New Mexico issued a drought declaration for New Mexico May 15, allowing communities, farmers, and ranchers to secure federal funding. Maps by federal forecasters show the entire State experiencing some form of drought, from abnormally dry to exceptional. The governor said fire danger is high, reservoirs are low, and some communities have been forced to curtail their water use. The declaration also convenes the New Mexico Drought Task Force. The panel will look at ways the state can prepare for and mitigate the problems that occur due to persistent drought conditions.  
Source: <http://www.abqjournal.com/main/2012/05/15/abqnewsseeker/governor-makes-statewide-drought-declaration.html>
21. *May 12, Emporia Gazette* – (Kansas) **Council Grove stage four water restrictions lifted.** The Council Grove, Kansas, water superintendent lifted stage four water restrictions May 12 put in place as a result of the zebra mussel infestation. Crews worked from May 10 to install a temporary bypass around the restricted area at the water intake tower on the Council Grove City Lake, returning Council Grove's water distribution systems back to normal. Divers began inspections of the intake tower trying to determine the exact cause and location of the blockage to clear it.  
Source: <http://www.emporiagazette.com/news/2012/may/12/council-grove-stage-four-water-restrictions-lifted/>

For another story, see item [1](#)

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## Public Health and Healthcare Sector

22. *May 15, Becker's ASC Review* – (National) **90% of surgery centers experiencing drug shortage at least weekly.** Almost 90 percent of surgery center respondents are experiencing a drug shortage at least weekly, according to an ASC Association drug shortage survey, Becker's ASC Review reported May 15. In addition, more than 80 percent of respondents were never given advanced notice of the drug shortage. The survey found that half of respondents had to use an alternative level of sedation and/or alternative medications because of a drug shortage, which many respondents said led to an increase in patient nausea and vomiting. Over 10 percent of responding facilities had to reschedule a procedure due to a drug shortage, according to the survey.  
Source: <http://www.beckersasc.com/anesthesia/90-of-surgery-centers-experiencing-drug-shortage-at-least-weekly.html>
23. *May 15, Washington Times* – (Washington, D.C.) **Worker accused of selling health records.** Six weeks after Howard University Hospital in Washington D.C. told more than 34,000 patients that a contractor's laptop containing their personal health information had been stolen, federal authorities filed criminal charges against a hospital worker accused of selling people's medical records, the Washington Times reported May 15. Charging documents filed in federal court in Washington, D.C., said a technician in the surgery department sold patients' names, addresses, dates of birth, and Medicare numbers from August 2010 until December 2011. The court papers do not say how much money she received or what the buyer did with the information.  
Source: <http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2012/may/15/worker-accused-of-selling-health-records/>

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## Government Facilities Sector

24. *May 16, Associated Press* – (National) **Influential panel calls for steep reduction of U.S. nuclear weapons.** An influential panel is calling for an 80 percent reduction of U.S. nuclear weapons and an elimination of all nuclear armed intercontinental ballistic missiles, the Associated Press reported May 16. A report for the advocacy group Global Zero argues that the United States needs no more than 900 total nuclear weapons for its security in a post-Cold War world. The Presidential Administration is reportedly considering at least three options for lower total numbers of deployed strategic nuclear weapons: reducing their numbers to 1,000 to 1,100; 700 to 800; or 300 to 400. The Global Zero report calls for such weapons to be reduced to about 450, while maintaining an equal number of stored weapons. The proposal also calls for achieving the cuts over 10 years. At a time of tight defense spending, the authors also estimate that the cuts would save the U.S. \$100 billion over a decade.  
Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2012/05/16/influential-panel-calls-for-steep-reduction-us-nuclear-weapons/>

25. *May 16, Charlottesville Newsplex* – (Virginia) **5 in custody after gun allegedly pointed at Culpeper schools.** The Culpeper County, Virginia sheriff’s office arrested five people May 16 in connection to reports that a gun was pointed at two schools in the county. Authorities were called to A.G. Richardson Elementary School and Pearl Sample Elementary School on James Madison Highway May 16. Deputies determined the gun involved was a pellet gun. The sheriff released the following statement: “At no time were any school children in danger. We’re in the process of speaking with the individuals involved and will release further information as it becomes available.”  
Source: [http://www.newsplex.com/home/headlines/Culpeper\\_Schools\\_Incident\\_151718015.html](http://www.newsplex.com/home/headlines/Culpeper_Schools_Incident_151718015.html)
26. *May 15, WMGM 40 Wildwood* – (New Jersey) **Nine students receive medical care after incident at Atlantic County Institute of Technology.** Nine students from the Atlantic County Institute of Technology in Hamilton Township, New Jersey, have been taken to various hospitals for minor issues after a suspicious smell was reported inside the facility May 15. The school’s superintendent told an NBC 40 photographer at the scene that the students were treated at the nurse’s office for coughing and irritated eyes, then taken to various hospitals for further examination. A suspicious smell, possibly from chemicals, was coming from a second-floor bathroom. The building was evacuated for about an hour and a half. “We have been under construction for three years and we are looking at all possible sources but the irritant is gone. It has been checked out by the HAZMAT team from Atlantic County and it is clear for students to return,” said the superintendent of the Atlantic County Vocational School District.  
Source: <http://www.nbc40.net/news/22347/>

For more stories, see items [3](#), [10](#), and [14](#)

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## **Emergency Services Sector**

27. *May 16, Times of Trenton* – (New Jersey) **Trenton police issue \$20K reward after ambush on squad car.** Shots were fired on a police SUV May 14 in Trenton, New Jersey. Two Trenton officers riding on Stuyvesant Avenue escaped injury when a gunman armed with a rifle opened fire on them with at least seven shots, hitting the vehicle five times. While no description of the damage to the patrol SUV was made available, police said it was clear the gunman deliberately shot at police and intended the officers to be the targets of the shooting. The State chapter of the policemen’s benevolent association offered a \$20,000 reward for any information that leads to the apprehension of the shooter. A police director said that county, State, and federal agencies had all reached out and offered support and resources to the city, including assistance from the FBI in cultivating street-level informants.  
Source: [http://www.nj.com/mercer/index.ssf/2012/05/on\\_high\\_alert\\_trenton\\_police\\_i.html](http://www.nj.com/mercer/index.ssf/2012/05/on_high_alert_trenton_police_i.html)

28. *May 15, Associated Press; KHBS 40 Fort Smith; KHOG 29 Fayetteville* – (Arkansas) **Le Flore County 911 goes down.** Arkansas’ LeFlore County emergency manager said a fiber line in LeFlore County was severed resulting in no 9-1-1 services for the entire county May 15. 9-1-1 calls were being diverted and answered at the Sequoyah County 911 Center.  
Source: <http://www.4029tv.com/r/31067535/detail.html>

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## **Information Technology Sector**

29. *May 16, H Security* – (International) **Avira update fixes Service Pack bug.** Avira said it resolved the problems caused by a Service Pack released for its Windows products earlier the week of May 14. Users are advised to trigger a manual update to download the fix. Once installed, the update should prevent the program from blocking legitimate Windows applications on systems running Avira. May 14, Avira released “Service Pack 0” for all of its Windows products. Once the update was installed, the “ProActiv” behavioral monitoring component in Avira Antivirus Premium 2012 and Avira Internet Security 2012 blocked the execution of essential programs and trusted system processes. Those affected by the problem need to update Avira manually; once the update is installed, the ProActiv module can be reactivated.  
Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/Avira-update-fixes-Service-Pack-bug-1576614.html>
30. *May 16, Computerworld* – (International) **Google releases Chrome 19, adds tab sync and patches 20 bugs.** May 15, Google released Chrome 19, patching 20 vulnerabilities in the browser. Eight vulnerabilities were ranked “high,” seven were marked “medium,” and five were labeled “low.” Seven of the vulnerabilities were described in Google’s brief advisory as “out-of-bounds” read or write flaws, a category of memory bugs where a function does not check that input does not exceed allocated buffers. Google paid bounties to six researchers for reporting nine vulnerabilities, including two not strictly within Chrome. The 11 remaining bugs were uncovered by Google’s own security team or were credited to Microsoft, or were not significant enough to rate a bounty.  
Source:  
[http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9227196/Google\\_releases\\_Chrome\\_19\\_adds\\_tab\\_sync\\_and\\_patches\\_20\\_bugs](http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9227196/Google_releases_Chrome_19_adds_tab_sync_and_patches_20_bugs)
31. *May 16, H Security* – (International) **QuickTime for Windows update plugs security holes.** Version 7.7.2 of QuickTime for Windows was released to address 17 security vulnerabilities in the media player. According to Apple, these include integer, stack, and buffer overflows, as well as memory corruption issues, all of which could be exploited by an attacker to crash the application or execute arbitrary code on a victim’s system. For an attack to be successful, a user must first open a malicious Web site or a specially crafted file. The company notes that, on Mac OS X, many of the holes were

already fixed in Mac OS X 10.7.3 and 10.7.4 Lion, and Security Updates 2012-001 and 2012-002 for Mac OS X 10.6.8 Snow Leopard systems. A majority of these vulnerabilities were discovered by members of TippingPoint's Zero Day Initiative. Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/QuickTime-for-Windows-update-plugs-security-holes-1576777.html>

32. *May 16, Softpedia* – (International) **High-ranked sites blacklisted by Google after being hijacked.** Zscaler experts scanned the first 1 million Web sites found in Alexa's top listings and found 621 of them are blacklisted by Google, even though some of them are legitimate Web sites visited by numerous users every day. How can a legitimate Web site get on the Google Safe Browsing list? For instance, subtitleseeker(dot)com, a Web site that offers subtitles for movies and TV shows, is ranked 6,239. The site is not malicious in any way, though Google still cataloged it as such once it detected abnormal activity on it. According to Zscaler, Subtitle Seeker was compromised and altered to host a malicious JavaScript. Other examples include sites that promote "work from home" scams, adult content, and fake antivirus software, but the majority of them were altered to push malicious PDF files, adware, and other types of malware. Some sites were blacklisted because they were found to contain iframes and JavaScripts with malicious intent. Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/High-Ranked-Sites-Blacklisted-by-Google-After-Being-Hijacked-269879.shtml>
33. *May 15, The Register* – (International) **Scammers exploit wannabe demon-slayers hyped by Diablo III.** Cybercriminals targeted the release of Diablo III, May 14, with scams themed around the widely anticipated video game. Blizzard's games systems collapsed due to the higher than expected demand for the game, the London Guardian reported. The software company is attempting to stop pirates from stealing the new role-playing game by forcing users to log into its servers before they can start playing it. This created a bottleneck centered around log-in systems at Blizzard, which struggled to service demand. Technical glitches were an unexpected bonus for scammers, who launched scams featuring the promotion of bogus crack and key-gen sites. These fake sites might potentially be more attractive than they normally would be as gamers struggle to acquire legitimate content through regular channels. Some of the scam sites GFI Software identified included supposed online key purchasing sites that actually install malicious software. Other spam Diablo III-themed links collated by the security firm lead to unrelated flash games, spam linkdumps, and a "donation experiment" where installs of the software offered enter targets into a supposed prize draw giveaway. These various scams are being promoted through the Web at large and social media Web sites, including Facebook and Pinterest. Source: [http://www.theregister.co.uk/2012/05/15/diablo\\_3\\_scams/](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2012/05/15/diablo_3_scams/)
34. *May 15, Help Net Security* – (International) **Pinterest scam toolkits widen the pool of potential scammers.** Pinterest scam toolkits are available for sale to inexperienced scammers, according to McAfee. Usually sold on underground forums, these toolkits contain many tools. All actions needed to scam users are included and automated: creating Pinterest invites and mass comments on posts, mass creation of bit.ly links, and scraping Amazon for products based on given keywords and then submitting them

to Pinterest. Pinterest scams usually work by luring people in with offers of free gift cards, and the offered links land them either on sites hosting survey scams, on Amazon or other sites (which results in the scammers earning money by referral), or lead them to premium rate trojans (if the Pinterest visitor uses a mobile device to visit the site).  
Source: <http://www.net-security.org/secworld.php?id=12931&utm>

35. *May 15, IDG News Service* – (International) **Wikipedia warns users about malware injecting ads into its pages.** Visitors to Wikipedia who see advertisements on the site have most likely fallen victim to a browser-based malware infection, Wikimedia Foundation, the organization operating the Web site, said May 14. “We never run ads on Wikipedia,” said the director of community advocacy for the Wikimedia Foundation. “If you’re seeing advertisements for a for-profit industry ... or anything but our fundraiser, then your Web browser has likely been infected with malware.” One example of such malware is a rogue Google Chrome extension called “I want this,” the director said. However, similar malicious add-ons might also exist for Mozilla Firefox, Internet Explorer, and other browsers, he said. This type of malicious software is known as click fraud malware and can target multiple Web sites at once.  
Source: [http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9227179/Wikipedia\\_warns\\_users\\_about\\_malware\\_injecting\\_ads\\_into\\_its\\_pages](http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9227179/Wikipedia_warns_users_about_malware_injecting_ads_into_its_pages)
36. *May 15, Threatpost* – (International) **Stolen certificates found in malware possibly targeting Tibetan groups.** The recent trend of attackers using stolen digital certificates to make their malicious executables look legitimate is continuing unabated, with researchers now having come across a series of variants of the Etchfro trojan that are using certificates taken from several companies and issued by VeriSign, Thawte, and other certificate authorities. After looking at recent examples of malware signed with stolen certificates, researchers at Norman ASA, a security firm in Norway, noticed there was an aberrant string in one specific optional field included in the stolen certificates. It is unclear what, if any, purpose the string serves, but Norman researchers started searching the company’s malware database, looking for other samples with the same string. The search yielded more than 20 samples with the same atypical string, and each of them included a stolen digital certificate. All of the malware samples, except one, was some version of the Etchfro trojan. The other one is a version of the Gh0st RAT tool.  
Source: [http://threatpost.com/en\\_us/blogs/stolen-certificates-found-malware-possibly-targeting-tibetan-groups-051512](http://threatpost.com/en_us/blogs/stolen-certificates-found-malware-possibly-targeting-tibetan-groups-051512)

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### Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at [sos@us-cert.gov](mailto: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**

37. *May 16, LaSalle News Tribune* – (Illinois) **Severed fiber optic line cuts off communication in, out of Mendota.** A severed fiber-optic line a few miles west of Mendota, Illinois, at a bridge construction site cut off phone line and Internet communication into and out of the city for at least 6 hours May 15, Mendota police said. The city's mayor said Mendota businesses had difficulties with computers, e-mail, and other things that rely on phone lines. During the outage, Mendota Community Hospital had difficulty calling the downtown fire and police stations, so the Mendota Fire Department brought two portable radios for use by emergency room staff. Mendota police's land line was largely unavailable for out-of-town callers for about 6 hours. A Frontier Communications' customer care advocate confirmed a fiber optic line outside of Mendota was cut. Utility-company service relocation work has been going on in recent days to make way for the bridge project, an Illinois Department of Transportation district engineer said.

Source:

<http://newstrib.com/Main.asp?SectionID=2&SubSectionID=29&ArticleID=19387>

38. *May 15, Lincoln Journal Star* – (Nebraska) **Time Warner outage affects parts of Lincoln.** A private contractor accidentally cut an underground fiber bundle in downtown Lincoln, Nebraska, May 15, leading to outages for some Time Warner Cable customers. A Time Warner Cable spokesman said the outage affected about 10 percent of the company's customers. He said the company was working to remedy the problem and hoped to have cable service restored May 15. He said it affected parts of downtown.

Source: [http://journalstar.com/business/local/time-warner-outage-affects-parts-of-lincoln/article\\_36189195-53c8-5fbf-8a20-e8970b621442.html](http://journalstar.com/business/local/time-warner-outage-affects-parts-of-lincoln/article_36189195-53c8-5fbf-8a20-e8970b621442.html)

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## **Commercial Facilities Sector**

39. *May 16, U.S. Department of Labor* – (New York) **U.S. Labor Department's OSHA cites Rite Aid for fall, crushing, exit and electrical hazards at 3rd Avenue store in Brooklyn, NY.** The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration, May 16, cited Rite Aid of New York Inc. for alleged repeat and serious safety violations at a store in New York City. Several hazards were found at the Brooklyn location, similar to those cited during inspections of Rite Aid stores in Bronx and Rome, New York. The recurring violations included shelves and boxes stored that blocked and narrowed an emergency exit route; unsecured piles of boxes subject to collapse; and workers exposed to falls of up to 10 feet with stacking boxes and totes on the unguarded edges of stairs. Two serious safety citations were also issued for a locked exit and lights not protected from damage.

Source:

[http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show\\_document?p\\_table=NEWS\\_RELEASES&p\\_id=22392](http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=NEWS_RELEASES&p_id=22392)

40. *May 16, San Antonio Express-News* – (Texas) **Man jailed in H-E-B, Wal-Mart fires.** A man was arrested on charges of starting multiple fires at stores in San Antonio, the San Antonio Express-News reported May 16. The suspect was detained May 15 after a blaze at an H-E-B grocery store. The man was also accused of starting multiple fires at a Wal-Mart store earlier in May, which caused \$12,000 in damage. Source: [http://www.mysanantonio.com/news/local\\_news/article/Man-jailed-in-H-E-B-Wal-Mart-fires-3562681.php](http://www.mysanantonio.com/news/local_news/article/Man-jailed-in-H-E-B-Wal-Mart-fires-3562681.php)
41. *May 14, NewsCore* – (Minnesota) **Missouri man arrested in triple shooting at Minneapolis daycare center.** A Missouri man was charged with murder May 14 in connection with the fatal shooting of three people at a Brooklyn Park, Minnesota daycare center in April. Three people were found shot to death inside a Brooklyn Park home that doubled as Visions and Butterflies Child Care April 9. They were reportedly shot execution style, with the gun's barrel held directly to their heads. A suspect was seen fleeing the scene on a bicycle, prompting a manhunt. The man allegedly traveled from his hometown of St. Louis, Missouri, after making threats against a relative of his, whose daughter used to attend the daycare center. Source: <http://www.myfoxdc.com/story/18385310/missouri-man-arrested-in-triple-shooting-at-minneapolis-daycare-center>

For more stories, see items [9](#) and [37](#)

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## **National Monuments and Icons Sector**

42. *May 16, Los Angeles Times* – (Arizona; Colorado) **Arizona wildfires are growing; wind, low humidity add to trouble.** Wildfires continued to grow in Arizona, with the largest fire spreading to 12,000 acres, almost tripling in size in just 24 hours, officials said May 16. Even as the weather continued to be less than favorable for fighting the four major blazes in the State, containment was increasing, officials said. No deaths have been reported, and just three structures have reportedly been destroyed. The National Weather Service issued a hazardous weather outlook extending into the week of May 21 for the regions surrounding the four fires: Gladiator, Sunflower, Elwood, and Bull Flat. Low humidity and gusting winds of up to 40 mph were expected, which could hamper firefighting efforts. Overall, the four fires were burning on about 17,500 acres. That was an increase from about 12,705 acres May 15. The largest fire, Sunflower, was burning about 20 miles south of Payson in the Tonto National Forest. It grew to 12,000 acres overnight, from the 4,600 reported by officials May 14. Sunflower was about 7 percent contained early May 16, up from 5 percent May 15, officials said. In the closely watched Gladiator fire near the historic mining town of Crown King, about 2,000 acres burned, up from 1,600 the day before. The Gladiator blaze was caused by a house fire that ignited a propane tank. It was about 5 percent contained May 16. The Elwood fire, burning on the San Carlos Indian Reservation, consumed

more than 1,600 acres and was 5 percent contained. The Bull Flat fire, near the Canyon Creek Fish Hatchery on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation, shrunk by 3,100 acres to 1,900 acres but was still burning, May 16. In Colorado, the Hewlett fire near Fort Collins continued to burn on 400 acres. It was 5 percent contained.

Source: <http://www.latimes.com/news/nation/nationnow/la-na-nn-arizona-wildfires-20120516,0,6774405.story>

43. *May 15, Associated Press* – (National) **Mowing halted at national parks after fatal fall.** Mowing at all national parks has been suspended indefinitely because of safety concerns after a maintenance worker cutting grass along the Blue Ridge Parkway in North Carolina fell to his death, the Associated Press reported May 15. The National Park Service sent an order to its regional offices May 11 to halt mowing at its 397 parks that are spread across every state except Delaware. The seasonal worker's riding mower fell more than 140 feet down a boulder-strewn embankment May 7. It is unclear how long the grass will grow unchecked nationwide. A NPS spokesman said each park has a safety review checklist to complete before mowing can resume. The duration of the suspension will depend on the size of the park, the amount of equipment, and the number of employees.

Source: <http://www.kgwn.tv/story/18426074/mowing-halted-at-national-parks-after-fatal-fall>

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## **Dams Sector**

44. *May 16, WNEP 16 Scranton* – (Pennsylvania) **Wilkes-Barre's Brookside levee repair complete.** The Brookside levee system in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, that was heavily-damaged by the historic floods in September 2011, was restored, WNEP 16 Scranton reported May 16. Work began in April to repair the levee system, closing north Washington Street since May 2. The city said the next step in safeguarding the levee is an overhaul of the Weir Street Pump Station. The Wilkes-Barre mayor said the Brookside levee repair work is funded by both the state and federal emergency management agencies.
- Source: <http://wnep.com/2012/05/15/wilkes-barres-brookside-levee-repair-complete/>
45. *May 15, Associated Press* – (Michigan) **Dam removal set for lower Rouge River in SE Mich.** Plans are in the works to fully reopen the lower Rouge River in southeast Michigan to the Great Lakes this summer. The Detroit Free Press reported May 15 a \$1 million federal grant will be used to dismantle Wayne Dam, located in the Detroit suburb of Wayne. The dam is believed to have been built in the early 1900s for firefighting and to create a water supply. The dam currently blocks most fish and removing it will give bass, suckers, darters, and steelhead access to expanded spawning and feeding grounds. Removing the dam also will give people more access to the river for canoeing and kayaking.
- Source: <http://www.mlive.com/newsflash/index.ssf/story/dam-removal-set-for-lower-rouge-river-in-se-mich/07da4cad1e424d72bfe0ea6fce2c702c>

46. *May 15, Wausau Daily Herald* – (Wisconsin) **Dam repairs could take until late fall.** Repairs to the McDill Pond Dam in Portage County, Wisconsin, may not be complete until late fall 2012, and the pond might not be filled until 2013. Design plans began May 15 for the \$622,385 repairs but work will not begin until August or September after plans are approved by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. The dam began leaking in June 2011, and McDill Pond remains drawn down as a result. Stevens Point, Portage County, and the McDill Inland Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District agreed earlier this year to split the cost of repairs. The Lake District president said if repairs are not done until fall, it might make more sense to keep the pond drawn down to kill invasive plants.  
Source: <http://www.wausaudailyherald.com/article/20120516/WDH0101/205160462/Dam-repairs-could-take-until-late-fall?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|s>
47. *May 14, Meridan Record-Journal* – (Connecticut) **Hazardous dam due for repairs in Wallingford.** The Connecticut Bond Commission approved \$1.15 million for design work that will spur repairs at several State-owned dams such as the one on the North Farms Reservoir in Wallingford, Connecticut, the Meridan Record-Journal reported May 14. A Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection spokesman said the State was beginning to prioritize dams based on need.  
Source: [http://www.myrecordjournal.com/wallingford/article\\_290c5882-9e19-11e1-9089-001a4bcf887a.html](http://www.myrecordjournal.com/wallingford/article_290c5882-9e19-11e1-9089-001a4bcf887a.html)

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To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at [soc@us-cert.gov](mailto:soc@us-cert.gov) or visit their Web page at [www.us-cert.gov](http://www.us-cert.gov).

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