



Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 3 November 2008

Current Nationwide Threat Level is

ELEVATED
SIGNIFICANT RISK OF TERRORIST ATTACKS

[For info click here](http://www.dhs.gov/)
<http://www.dhs.gov/>

- According to the Associated Press, the European Union has agreed to meet U.S. standards for air cargo screening for half of the cargo on U.S.-bound passenger flights by February and all cargo on all flights by 2010. (See item [13](#))
- eWeek reports that Sony, Hewlett-Packard, Toshiba, and Dell are recalling as many as 100,000 laptops worldwide that used faulty Sony-made lithium-ion battery packs. In the United States, this could impact about 35,000 notebooks that were sold between 2004 and 2006. (See item [33](#))

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Fast Jump

Production Industries: [Energy](#); [Chemical](#); [Nuclear Reactors](#), [Materials and Waste](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#); [Dams](#)

Service Industries: [Banking and Finance](#); [Transportation](#); [Postal and Shipping](#); [Information Technology](#); [Communications](#); [Commercial Facilities](#)

Sustenance and Health: [Agriculture and Food](#); [Water](#); [Public Health and Healthcare](#)

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Energy Sector

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

1. *October 31, Associated Press* – (Minnesota) **Enbridge seeks extension on fine.**
Enbridge Energy is asking federal regulators for more time to decide whether to appeal a proposed fine for a fatal pipeline explosion. The company was cited early this month after the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration found Enbridge committed eight probable violations when an explosion killed two pipeline workers in Clearbrook, Minnesota. Enbridge is asking for another 30 days beyond Friday’s deadline to decide whether to appeal a proposed \$2.4 million fine. A company spokeswoman says they need more time to evaluate investigators’ findings. Enbridge is accused of operating the pipeline in excess of design pressure and having multiple

ignition sources while the pipeline was being repaired.

Source: <http://www.wctrib.com/ap/index.cfm?page=view&id=D945GRHO0>

2. *October 29, Associated Press* – (Hawaii) **Hawaii as clean energy hub for the U.S.?** Hawaiian Electric Co., Hawaii’s largest utility, and the governor signed an agreement earlier this month to move the state away from dependence on fossil fuels for electricity and ground transportation. The goal is to create 70 percent of Hawaii’s energy use from clean energy sources by 2030. Currently, the state gets about 10 percent of its energy from renewable sources. The accord seeks to make renewable energy easier to use by integrating it into the power grid. Under the agreement, Hawaiian Electric commits to not build any new coal plants, integrate up to 1,100 megawatts of renewable energy into the power grid, and convert existing fossil fuel generators to biofuels using locally grown crops. A U.S. senator said it is essential that Hawaii emphasize its energy independence efforts because of the state’s isolation and the steady long-term rise of oil prices. “It’s not going to be easy, but we must do it, because of all the 50 states in the union, our state is the most vulnerable,” the senator said. “We have no fossil fuels, so we have to manufacture our own energy.”

Source: <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/27340344/>

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Chemical Industry Sector

Nothing to report

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector

3. *October 31, Reuters* – (Minnesota) **Xcel Minn Prairie Isl 2 reactor shut during startup.** Xcel Energy Inc. shut Unit 2 at the Prairie Island nuclear power station in Minnesota on October 30 during start-up due to a failure in the rod control system, the company told the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission in a report. Electricity traders guessed the unit would return to service within a week since rod control issues are usually easy to fix. At the time of the reactor shutdown, the unit was operating at 1 percent power. It was not connected to the grid as it started to exit a refueling outage.
Source:
<http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssIndustryMaterialsUtilitiesNews/idUSN3135522220081031>
4. *October 31, Associated Press* – (Vermont) **Lawmakers concerned about nuke plant radiation.** Vermont lawmakers are still worried about the state Department of Health’s decision to change the way radiation from Vermont Yankee is measured. A special legislative panel heard testimony October 30 as it weighs whether to force the Health Department to revisit the way it now calculates the releases. A radiological health chief for the Health Department, says the Vermont nuclear plant releases 30 percent more radiation now than it did before boosting its power production by 20 percent in 2006.

The releases are still within state limits, however. A state representative says the panel may require the Health Department to go through the regulatory process some lawmakers say was ignored last year.

Source: <http://www.burlingtonfreepress.com/article/20081031/NEWS02/81031011>

5. *October 30, Platts* – (Massachusetts) **NRC rejects Pilgrim Watch argument in Pilgrim relicensing case.** A U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission administrative panel closed the Pilgrim relicensing proceeding after rejecting arguments from the group Pilgrim Watch. In an October 30 decision, a three-judge Atomic Safety and Licensing Board panel concluded that plant operator Entergy had “proven by a preponderance of the evidence that its aging management program” would provide reasonable assurance that certain underground pipes would be adequately managed during the 20-year license renewal period. Pilgrim Watch had challenged Entergy’s aging management program, saying it did not provide for monitoring wells to detect potential leakage from buried pipes and tanks that contained radioactively contaminated water.

Source:

<http://www.platts.com/Nuclear/News/7419186.xml?sub=Nuclear&p=Nuclear/News&?undefined&undefined>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

6. *October 31, U.S. Navy* – (National) **Carl Vinson Combat Systems begins Wave Guide Testing.** The USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70) Combat Systems Department is conducting its first wave guide tests in more than three years as the ship prepares to enter the final phases of its Refueling Complex Overhaul (RCOH) at Northrop Grumman Shipbuilding. The AN/SPS-43 and AN/SPS-67 wave guides, last operational in early 2005, allow the safe, mission-essential transmission of radio frequency (RF) signals throughout the ship. The Nimitz-class aircraft carrier utilizes RF signals for numerous radar functions on board, including air search, fire control, weathering, navigation, communications, and air traffic control applications at sea. Technicians described the testing as “absolutely mission-critical,” noting that without the radars the Vinson “can’t navigate or fly planes, and can’t defend [itself] from enemy threats.” While the division prepares the ship for sea trials, some of the fleet’s newest sailors are getting extensive hands-on, in-rate training for the very first time. USS Carl Vinson is currently undergoing its scheduled refueling complex overhaul (RCOH) at Northrop Grumman Newport News shipyard. The RCOH is an extensive yard period that all Nimitz-class aircraft carriers go through near the mid-point of their 50-year life cycle. Source: http://www.navy.mil/search/display.asp?story_id=40611

7. *October 31, Washington Technology* – (National) **Northrop to issue IDs compatible with PIV cards.** To address growing cyber threats effectively, federal contractors should deploy stronger identity management solutions that are interoperable or at least compatible with federal employee identification systems, a senior executive with Northrop Grumman Corp. advises. Northrop Grumman is preparing to issue its new OneBadge identification cards to thousands of its aerospace and defense employees. Its

design is compatible with the federal standards for Personal Identity Verification cards. The company expects to be one of the first federal contractors to use a centralized public-key infrastructure as part of its identity management program, according to a director of enterprise security and identity management at Northrop Grumman. Defense contractors must address new concerns about cyber threats that may affect their global supply chain. At any given time, in the aerospace and defense global supply chain, approximately 300,000 supplier companies are working on U.S. government contracts around the world, representing roughly 3 million to 4 million individuals, the senior executive said.

Source: http://www.washingtontechnology.com/online/1_1/33840-1.html?topic=&CMP=OTC-RSS

8. *October 30, Aviation Week* – (National) **Apache needs cockpit upgrades, AATD says.** If the U.S. Army's Apache AH-64D Longbow aircraft is to keep pace with its own manned-unmanned common architecture program, it will require extensive technological upgrades to the cockpit, according to the Army Aviation Applied Technology Directorate, a driving force behind the technology. The issue was raised October 29 during a presentation on the Apache modernization, which allows an Apache to receive streaming video from an unmanned aerial vehicle and is being tested in Iraq. Experts say that current technologies are pushing the limits of the Apache cockpit's capability, and that future upgrades might exceed it and overtax pilots. The Army representative and Apache program manager said simply that the Apache's cockpit "is what it is," in part because troops deployed with VUIT-2 have not had a chance to provide feedback on the system's performance in theater.

Source:

<http://aviationweek.com/aw/generic/story.jsp?id=news/APACHE103008.xml&headline=Apache%20Needs%20Cockpit%20Upgrades,%20AATD%20says&channel=defense>

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Banking and Finance Sector

9. *October 31, Boise 2 News* – (National) **DBSI accused of investment fraud, facing suit.** DBSI, one of the nation's leading real-estate investment companies based near Boise, Idaho, is accused of investment, and bank fraud and violating the Idaho Securities Act, in a \$2 billion class action lawsuit. Court documents claim, since 2003, DBSI has acquired 250 commercial properties in the U.S., worth more than \$2 billion dollars. The company allegedly sought 12,000 investors around the world. The suit claims DBSI made an illegal profit in excess of \$500 million dollars. An attorney for one of the plaintiffs says DBSI skirted securities laws requiring the disclosure of investment information that would have leveled the playing field for the average investor. There are 17 defendants named in the suit including three members of DBSI's executive team.

Source: <http://www.2news.tv/news/33620874.html>

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Transportation Sector

10. *October 30, Transportation Security Administration* – (New York) **TSA and Continental Airlines expand paperless boarding pass program to LaGuardia Airport.** The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) and Continental Airlines announced Thursday the rollout of the Paperless Boarding Pass pilot program to LaGuardia Airport. This innovative approach will allow passengers to receive boarding passes electronically on their cell phones or PDAs, which will then be scanned by TSA security officers at the checkpoint, eliminating the need for a paper boarding pass. Each paperless boarding pass will display an encrypted two-dimensional bar code along with passenger and flight information that will identify the traveler. TSA travel document checkers will use hand-held scanners to validate the authenticity of the paperless boarding pass sent to Continental passengers. The new technology heightens the ability to detect fraudulent boarding passes while improving customer service and reducing paper use. The federal security director of LaGuardia called the boarding passes “significant steps towards ensuring that fraudulent boarding passes cannot be used to gain access to the sterile side of airports.” The paperless boarding pass pilot is consistent with the global standard of the International Air Transport Association for bar coding of passenger boarding passes. This joint effort between Continental Airlines and TSA will enable the airline industry to look forward to a paperless check-in process.
Source: <http://www.tsa.gov/press/releases/2008/1030.shtm>
11. *October 30, Associated Press* – (Washington) **Sea-Tac airport reopens after security shutdown.** Seattle-Tacoma International Airport was briefly shut down on the morning of October 30 after the contents of a carry-on bag alarmed security guards and the owner of the bag could not be immediately found. The federal Transportation Security Administration (TSA) says the passenger was soon located and the items in the bag were deemed safe. A TSA spokesman said officials shut down the security checkpoint while the passenger was tracked down. Once guards found the passenger, they re-screened the bag and found the items to be “safe and appropriate.” Planes that had not left their gates were held from taking off during the shutdown, which lasted about an hour.
Source:
http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/travel/2008331111_webseataclockdown30.html
12. *October 30, San Diego Union-Tribune* – (California) **Airport cargo terminal bomb search for naught.** Lindbergh Field’s cargo terminal was closed for about three hours Thursday after bomb investigators examined a shipping container of airplane parts that had caught the attention of a bomb-sniffing dog. More than 30 workers were evacuated from the cargo terminal next to the commuter terminal, until about 6:30 p.m., when authorities determined there was no danger. Metro Arson Strike Team investigators opened three plywood boxes, five to eight feet long and two feet wide, and found Boeing aircraft landing gear parts, a San Diego Fire-Rescue Department spokesman said. Authorities tracked down the UCSD engineer who was expecting the parts delivery and determined that his description of the parts matched what they saw on X-

rays of the container contents. Local delivery and air shipment of bulk cargo was delayed during the evacuation, but passenger service was unaffected.

Source: <http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/metro/20081030-2002-bn30search.html>

13. *October 30, Associated Press* – (International) **U.S., EU agree on air cargo screening.** The European Union (EU) has agreed to meet U.S. standards for air cargo screening for half of the cargo on U.S.-bound passenger flights by February and all cargo on all flights by 2010. This fulfills an important recommendation intended to lower the threat of terrorists shipping dangerous items on commercial passenger flights. The agreement, long in the works, establishes consistent screening requirements for air cargo between the U.S. and the EU. For instance, the EU and the U.S. will use the same screening equipment, provide the same training to screeners and impose the same security requirements for the facilities where the cargo is screened. There are about 300 flights a day from EU countries to the U.S. Currently, 95 percent of flights within the U.S. and departing from the U.S. undergo cargo screening. For security reasons, officials would not say what percentage of EU flights are currently screened.

Source: <http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5j50X92W5lDhP-j1lxqjitZe0xCfAD94555JG1>

14. *October 30, National Transportation Safety Board* – (Louisiana) **NTSB determines high-risk maneuver caused 2007 Baton Rouge marine accident.** The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) has determined that the probable cause of the M/V Kition's collision with the Interstate Highway 10 bridge in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, was the pilot's attempt to execute the high-risk maneuver of turning at the dock immediately above the bridge rather than moving the vessel downriver through the bridge before turning, or taking it well upriver, then turning. "This accident...could have been catastrophic," said the NTSB's Acting Chairman. "It is imperative that we make sure that an accident like this does not happen again." On February 10, 2007, the Kition, a Bahamas-registered tanker, was scheduled to depart Port Allen, Louisiana, on the Mississippi River. A state-licensed pilot and three tug boats were on-hand to move the nearly 800-foot-long vessel away from its berth at the Apex Oil terminal and turn the vessel around to head downriver. During the maneuver to turn the vessel down river from the dock, its starboard bow struck the bridge pier, knocking out a section of concrete and severely damaging the bridge fenders. There were no injuries or pollution and the accident did not affect the safety of the bridge. However, the vessel did sustain damage to its hull. Officials said the accident could have been prevented by proper training.

Source: <http://www.nts.gov/Pressrel/2008/081030.html>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

15. *October 31, Foster's Daily Democrat* – (New Hampshire) **Rollinsford police seek prankster: Exploding bottle creates mess in school mailbox.** A plastic bottle filled with household cleaner popped open and created a small mess inside the mailbox of the Rollinsford Grade School on the evening of October 29. Police are now looking for

whoever stuffed the 12-ounce plastic bottle into the mailbox. On morning of October 30, the school custodian opened the mailbox and found the ruptured bottle containing household cleaner and a piece of metal. The mailbox was not damaged. The bottle apparently popped as a result of a chemical reaction between the metal and cleaner. The principal said the school was taking the prank seriously, but cautioned against any sense of panic.

Source:

http://www.fosters.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20081031/GJNEWS_01/710319905/-1/FOSNEWS

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Agriculture and Food Sector

16. *October 31, The Packer* – (National) **Higher scrutiny of food supply brings challenges.** The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention investigated 50 multistate food borne outbreaks three years ago and 100 last year. With more than two months left in 2008, the number was 120. The trend does not mean the nation’s food supply is increasingly unsafe. Instead, the CDC is becoming better at detecting outbreaks. That could mean more lawsuits, more negative news coverage and decreasing consumer confidence. A professor of food microbiology and director of the Center for Food Safety at the University of Georgia said the FDA, CDC and U.S. Department of Agriculture have gotten better at working together but still need to make more progress. He also called FDA’s Office of Regulatory Affairs — the division responsible for inspections — the “weakest link in the agency.” The chief of the OutbreakNet Team of the CDC’s Enteric Diseases Epidemiology Branch, said state and local public health agencies also need bigger budgets to speed up outbreak investigations. It can take up to three weeks from the time a person gets sick until a disease is reported. By that time contaminated product could be out of the supply chain. The acting director of the FDA’s Office of Food Defense, said traceability remains a hurdle for public health officials in outbreaks related to bulk produce items. She said that lack of standardization in industry paperwork, such as bills of lading, also complicates matters. Source: http://www.thepacker.com/icms/_dtaa2/content/wrapper.asp?alink=2008-113224-532.asp&styp=topnews&fb
17. *October 31, USAgNet* – (Wisconsin) **Milk specialties ordered to pay fines for polluting water.** A Wisconsin whey processing plant has agreed to pay \$75,000 in fines and penalties after violating the limits and restrictions in its wastewater discharge permit. According to the Wisconsin Department of Justice, Milk Specialties Company allowed pollutant discharges to the Adell Branch of the North Branch of the Milwaukee River over a six-day period in July 2007. The complaint charges that the company had turned off the alarm system which would have notified it of the problem, and that its response to the upset was untimely and inadequate, exacerbating the adverse impacts of the spill. In addition to the fines, the company also agreed to make a \$50,000 contribution to the Glacial Lakes Conservancy to be used for water quality improvement projects in the Milwaukee River-North Branch watershed – such as stream bank buffers, conservation easements, or wetland restoration. And they agreed

to submit a wastewater treatment capacity assessment to Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and accept DNR's proposed modifications to the company's WPDES permit.

Source: <http://www.usagnet.com/story-national.php?Id=2557&yr=2008>

18. *October 31, USAgNet* – (Nebraska) **Drought, grasshopper infestations make farmers eligible for USDA emergency loans.** The Farm Service Agency (FSA) State Executive Director announced Friday that family farmers in Dundy County, Nebraska are eligible to apply for low interest Emergency (EM) loans due to physical and production losses caused by drought conditions and grasshopper infestation that occurred from March 11, 2008, through August 26, 2008. Dundy County was designated on October 27, 2008, by the Secretary of Agriculture. In addition, Chase, Hayes, and Hitchcock counties were also named as areas where eligible family farmers may qualify for EM physical and production loss loan assistance.

Source: <http://www.usagnet.com/story-national.php?Id=2561&yr=2008>

19. *October 30, Associated Press* – (International) **China's animal feed tainted with melamins.** The industrial chemical melamine is commonly added to animal feed in China to make it appear higher in protein, state media reported, in what appeared to be a tacit admission by the government that contamination is widespread in the country's food supply. The practice of mixing melamine into animal feed is an "open secret" in the industry, the Nanfang Daily reported Thursday, describing a process of repackaging melamine scrap into an inexpensive product called "protein powder," which is then sold to feed suppliers. The deliberate addition of melamine to food and animal feed is forbidden in China. Chemical plants used to pay companies to treat and dispose of melamine scrap, but about five years ago began selling it to manufacturers who repackaged it as "protein powder," the Nanfang Daily reported, citing an unidentified chemical industry expert. The account was backed up by a manager at a feed company based in central China's Henan province, though he said the practice has been going on for even longer than reported, some seven or eight years. A professor of nutrition, food studies and public health at New York University, said it was unlikely that humans would get sick from eating meat from animals raised on melamine-tainted feed, because the amount of chemical contained in a few servings of meat would not be harmful.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/10/30/AR2008103001131.html>

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Water Sector

20. *October 31, KNTV 11 San Francisco* – (California) **Water worries: new warning issued.** The state said Thursday it would cut water deliveries to their second lowest level ever, prompting warnings of water rationing for cities and less planting by farmers. The Department of Water Resources announced it will deliver just 15 percent of the amount that local water agencies throughout California request every year. That marks the second lowest projection since the first State Water Project deliveries were

made in 1962. It could force farmers in the Central Valley to fallow fields and cities from the San Francisco Bay area to San Diego to impose mandatory water rationing. The state's reservoirs are low after two years of dry weather and court-ordered restrictions on water pumping out of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. This year, water agencies received just 35 percent of the water they requested. In Southern California, the Metropolitan Water District — the agency that supplies water to about half the state's population — has depleted more than a third of its water reserves. Source: <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/27459731>

21. *October 30, WSMV 4 Nashville* – (Tennessee) **Chlorine leak leads to hazmat scare.** A hazmat scare Thursday morning turned out to be a close call. Workers at the Harpeth Valley Utilities water treatment plant in west Nashville called 911 after smelling what they thought was chlorine. Emergency crews checked out the building. They did not find a chlorine leak, but they did find a puddle of chlorine on the floor of a nearby building. Some of the plant workers got sick from the smell but did not have to go to the hospital. Source: <http://www.wsmv.com/news/17848697/detail.html#->
22. *October 30, Associated Press* – (California) **SF officials approve upgrade to water system.** San Francisco officials have approved a \$4.4 billion plan to upgrade the Bay Area's largest drinking water system, which draws water from Hetch Hetchy Reservoir in Yosemite National Park. The city's planning and public utilities commissions approved the upgrade Thursday, saying it is needed to keep the system safe in case of a major earthquake or drought. The plan calls for numerous projects, including replacing a dam at the Calaveras Reservoir that is not seismically safe and laying more pipeline. It also calls for drawing more water from the Tuolumne River during droughts, a proposal that environmentalists do not support. Source: http://www.mercurynews.com/breakingnews/ci_10862247
23. *October 29, Capital Times* – (National) **McFarland company has an answer for drug-polluted water.** Since its founding in 2005, BioIonix has been working on using electrical current to kill bacteria and other contaminants in various types of liquid waste. So far, the BioIonix research has focused on treating municipal sewage, cooling water for food processing, or other industrial purposes. The firm has already teamed with the village of Jackson outside Milwaukee on sewage sludge. But the technology is also well suited for removing drug residues from the waste stream, a pitch BioIonix will make at the annual Wisconsin Early Stage Symposium. Its industrial patented water cleansing systems sell for anywhere from \$100,000 to \$400,000, depending on the size. BioIonix's process involves running wastewater through a high-frequency electromagnetic field that breaks apart the water molecules, creating H₂O₂, or hydrogen peroxide. The hydrogen peroxide kills any organic compounds, then breaks back down into water and oxygen, with clean H₂O flowing out the other end. Source: <http://www.madison.com/tct/business/311731>

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

24. *October 31, McKnight's Long-Term Care News* – (National) **Leavitt: Successor should continue pandemic flu preparations.** The Department of Health and Human Services Secretary said in a speech Wednesday that his successor should continue to prioritize preparations for a global flu epidemic. A combined effort between federal, state and local governments will be critical in the event of a pandemic. That is why the next person to head HHS should continue preparations, even in the face of restricted state budgets and an economic downturn, the secretary said. Building state and federal vaccine stockpiles and creating methods by which to distribute medicine are still challenges, he said.
Source: <http://www.mcknights.com/Leavitt-Successor-should-continue-pandemic-flu-preparations/article/120226/>
25. *October 31, Pittsburgh Tribune-Review* – (National) **Radiation exposure drug gets contract.** A drug that would protect people from radiation released by a “dirty” or nuclear bomb is just one success story emerging from the University of Pittsburgh. Pitt officials announced Thursday that the chairman of radiation oncology and a professor at the university’s School of Medicine and a team of researchers received a three-year, \$9.8 million contract from the federal Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority to develop the drug.
Source: http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/pittsburghtrib/news/health/s_596095.html
See also:
http://www.upi.com/Science_News/2008/10/30/Acute_radiation_drug_treatment_is_studied/UPI-42821225391256/
26. *October 31, Seattle Times* – (Washington) **King County’s tuberculosis infections spike.** The number of King County residents newly diagnosed with tuberculosis, a curable but expensive infectious disease, rose to 161 last year — the highest number since 1969. The actual number of new TB cases in King County typically rises and falls from year to year, and one of the reasons behind last year’s spike from 145 cases in 2006 was an outbreak among a local Pacific islander community that infected a dozen people. Public health officials are more concerned about a different figure: The proportion of county residents diagnosed with TB each year has climbed steadily for the past decade. King County had an active tuberculosis rate of 8.6 cases per 100,000 people in 2007, according to a report released Thursday by Public Health — Seattle & King County. That figure is up from 7.9 per 100,000 people in 2006, and puts the current rate on par with the rates seen in the early 1980s. King County’s TB rate is twice as high as that for the United States, which in 2007 recorded its lowest rate since national reporting began in 1953. Experts attribute that in part to this region’s relatively high share of foreign-born residents.
Source:
http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/localnews/2008333247_tuberculosis31m.html
27. *October 29, Colombia Tribune* – (Missouri) **Area hospitals drill for disaster.** Organizers said the first large-scale disaster exercise by Mid-Missouri hospitals was a

success. The drill, which took place Tuesday, was meant to simulate the chaotic aftermath of a tornado. Not everything went perfectly. Bar-coded wristbands intended to electronically track patient information malfunctioned, there was confusion at times over who was supposed to escort actor-patients from the outdoor triage area to indoor cots, and some “patients” were wrongly diagnosed, resulting in simulated death. Source: <http://www.columbiatribune.com/2008/Oct/20081029News006.asp>

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Government Facilities Sector

28. *October 31, Tri-City Herald* – (Washington) **PNNL taking day without cyberspace.** There will be no using the Internet or checking e-mail today at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory. It is a reminder to employees of the importance of maintaining computer security after some employees fell for a trick to download fake “malware,” or malicious software, as part of an audit of the lab’s cybersecurity. The national lab in Richland plans a computer stand-down October 31. Employees will spend much of October 31 in training sessions – in which they will be allowed to use their computers – and in meetings to learn how and why to protect the lab’s computer systems from intruders. The lab does classified work for the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Defense, and research it does for private industry may be proprietary. About 450 employees were sent an e-mail message that “looked very official.” Although the website appeared to be an official DOE site, it actually was an impostor site that ended with the suffix “.net” rather than the “.gov” used by DOE. Employees who clicked on the button allowed the DOE audit team broad access to the lab’s unclassified computer network. About 10 percent of those who received the fake e-mail fell for the ruse, said a lab spokeswoman. However, because it was only a test, there was no breach of security or loss of personal information. Source: http://www.tri-cityherald.com/kennewick_pasco_richland/story/368499.html
29. *October 30, Fort Mill Times* – (Idaho) **Nuclear employee files whistle-blower lawsuit.** An employee at a nuclear facility in eastern Idaho has filed a whistle-blower lawsuit in federal court, contending her employer retaliated against her for reporting safety violations. The employee earlier this month sued CWI, which is cleaning up radioactive waste at the U.S. Department of Energy’s Idaho National Laboratory. The lawsuit alleges that safety violations the employee reported included shipping contaminated materials, exposing workers to radiation, and using faulty equipment to measure radiation exposure. The suit contends that after the employee reported the problems, she was forced to transfer to a “less desirable position at a different work site.” Source: <http://www.fortmilltimes.com/124/story/342446.html>
30. *October 30, Associated Press* – (Colorado) **Officials: Nuke missile silo fire went undetected.** A fire caused \$1 million worth of damage at an unmanned underground nuclear launch site last spring, but the Air Force did not find out about it until five days later, an Air Force official said on October 30. The May 23 fire burned itself out after an hour or two, and multiple safety systems prevented any threat of an accidental

launch of the Minuteman III missile, a representative said. She said she was not allowed to say whether the missile was armed with a nuclear warhead at the time of the fire. The Air Force did not know a fire had occurred until May 28, when a repair crew went to the launch site because a trouble signal indicated a wiring problem. She said the flames never entered the launch tube where the missile stood and there was no danger of a radiation release. The fire, blamed on a faulty battery charger, burned a box of shotgun shells, a shotgun, and a shotgun case that were kept in the room. A shotgun is a standard security weapon at missile silos. The damage from the fire was estimated at \$1 million, including the cost of replacing damaged equipment and cleanup.

Source: <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/27463690/>

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Emergency Services Sector

31. *October 31, ABC 7 Denver* – (Colorado) **Ambulance delays to DIA investigated.** Officials are considering stationing an ambulance at or near Denver International Airport after a local news station investigation found long delays in emergency responses to the busy airfield. Denver city officials and Denver Health Medical Center administrators assembled a committee to determine the feasibility of a DIA ambulance. The committee is expected to make changes before Denver Health’s ambulance contract with the city expires in January. DIA is the fifth busiest airport in the United States but the only airport in the top five without an ambulance on-site.
Source: <http://www.thedenverchannel.com/news/17816263/detail.html>
32. *October 29, The Bulletin* – (Pennsylvania) **City’s digital billboards tested for emergencies.** The Philadelphia division of Clear Channel Outdoor, in conjunction with the city, tested eight new digital billboards posting emergency preparedness messages along major roadways Tuesday. Reading “Emergency - Testing! Good Morning Philadelphia. Tune to local news stations,” the billboard messages were displayed for 10 minutes at 11 a.m. As a free public service gesture, Clear Channel agreed to post messages on the city’s behalf, in the event of an emergency.
Source:
http://www.thebulletin.us/site/index.cfm?newsid=20181012&BRD=2737&PAG=461&dept_id=576361&rfi=8

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Information Technology

33. *October 30, eWeek* – (International) **Sony, HP, Dell, Toshiba recall thousands of faulty lithium-ion laptop batteries.** Sony, Hewlett-Packard, Toshiba and Dell are recalling as many as 100,000 laptops worldwide that used faulty Sony-made lithium-ion battery packs. In the United States, this could impact about 35,000 notebooks that were sold between 2004 and 2006. So far, the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) said there have been 19 incidents of overheating and two reported injuries. All together, the three notebook vendors and Sony are recalling about 100,000

notebook battery packs worldwide. To date, there have been 19 separate incidents of batteries overheating, according to the CPSC. Of those 19 incidents, 17 involved fire and flames, and 10 consumers also reported some minor property damage. At least two people suffered minor burns after the batteries caught on fire, according to the CPSC. Source: <http://www.eweek.com/c/a/Desktops-and-Notebooks/Sony-Notebook-Vendors-Recall-Thousands-of-Faulty-LithiumIon-Notebook-Batteries/>

34. *October 30, Dark Reading* – (International) **New phishing attacks target legitimate web domain owners.** A new brand of phishing attack now under way and aimed at legitimate Web site domain owners could be the result of efforts to shut down a notorious domain registrar popular among spammers and malware writers, security experts say. The phishing emails, pretending to be from legitimate registrars eNom and Network Solutions Inc., attempt to fool domain name owners into giving up their account credentials. The eNom phishing email claims that eNom will be conducting database and data center maintenance, while the fake Network Solutions message says the customer needs to renew his or her expired domain registration. Security experts say the timing of this phishing attack, complete with slick and authentic-looking messages and phony Web pages, is unlikely a coincidence.

Source:

<http://www.darkreading.com/security/attacks/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=211800362>

35. *October 30, SC Magazine* – (International) **Source of rogue malware tracked down.** Cybercriminals have unleashed a blizzard of rogue anti-virus software to plunder naive users. A director of malware research at SecureWorks, said one leading set of fake AV programs is Antivirus XP 2008 and its more recent edition, Antivirus XP 2009. Both are rogue AV programs put out by Russian company Bakasoftware and sold to English-speaking computer users. The director discovered that top earners are likely making up to \$5 million a year by controlling large botnets of infected computers and siphoning money into their own accounts, he told SCMagazineUS.com on October 30. Antivirus XP 2008 is the most prevalent rogue antivirus program right now, the director said. The director said he hopes his findings illustrate that users have to be suspicious of things popping up unexpectedly, which would indicate fake anti-virus software.

Source:

<http://www.scmagazineus.com/Source-of-rogue-malware-tracked-down/article/120204/>

Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Website: <http://www.us-cert.gov>.

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <https://www.it-isac.org/>.

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Communications Sector

36. *October 30, Bowling Green Daily News* – (Indiana; Kentucky; Tennessee) **Cut fiber optic line leads to phone outage in area.** Several Bowling Green businesses experienced a phone outage Wednesday morning as a result of a cut fiber optic line in the provider's main system. About 10,000 Norlight Inc. customers in Kentucky, Tennessee, and Indiana were without service for hours after a construction crew cut a line near the company's headquarters in Evansville, Indiana. The general manager of Norlight said he did not know the number of people affected in Bowling Green or Kentucky, but that Norlight was not the only company affected. Several carriers were struck by the cut line, which resulted in lost internet, cell phone and cable service, as well as land lines. In some areas, 911 emergency service also was lost.
Source: <http://bgdailynews.com/articles/2008/10/30/news/news7.txt>

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Commercial Facilities Sector

37. *October 31, Associated Press* – (Maine) **Gunman nabbed after holding students.** A gunman took 11 fifth-graders hostage at an elementary school in Maine on Friday and was tackled by a state trooper shortly after releasing them. The gunman was identified by police the 55-year-old man who fled police last week after pointing a gun at an officer during a traffic stop. The school in the small coastal town of Stockton Springs has about 80 students.
Source: <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/27471888/>
38. *October 30, Clovis News Journal* – (New Mexico) **Clovis police: Cannon experts called in for suspicious package.** Clovis police and Cannon Air Force Base explosive experts were called in Thursday night after a baseball team spotted a suspicious item at Bell Park. Officials were unable to determine if the package contained explosives. They disposed of the package on the scene. Police closed off more than a block of Ash Street along the entrance to the park. The Clovis High baseball team was practicing on the field when they noticed a package around 5:30 p.m.
Source:
http://www.cnjonline.com/news/police_30786_article.html/cannon_package.html

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National Monuments & Icons Sector

Nothing to report

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Dams Sector

39. *October 30, Sacramento Bee* – (California) **Sacramento Delta levees get FEMA scrutiny.** The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is again zeroing in on Sacramento Delta levees, seeking assurances from owners of about 85 miles of barriers that they will withstand a 100-year flood. The effort, under way in counties throughout

the region, stems from a 2005 policy requiring that local jurisdictions nationally verify that their levees can hold back a flood having a 1 percent chance of striking in a given year. Throughout Sacramento County, about a dozen reclamation districts, the city of Elk Grove, and owners of other publicly owned levees have until late January 2009 to vouch that they can give FEMA proof that their levees will withstand such flooding. Districts that cannot document their levees' integrity will be drawn into a FEMA flood hazard zone, requiring residents with federally backed loans to buy flood insurance and that any new construction be as much as 16 feet above ground. Business owners would face similar requirements. Producing documentation will be difficult for some reclamation districts that do not have the money to endure expensive engineering and structural work to meet FEMA certification by fall 2010. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers asked the district to correct its levee problems over a year ago, said the flood-risk manager for the Corps.

Source: <http://www.sacbee.com/101/story/1355326.html>

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