



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 24 August 2010

Current Nationwide Threat Level

ELEVATED

Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks

For information, click here:
<http://www.dhs.gov>

Top Stories

- According to the Atlanta Journal-Constitution, anti-government extremists who believe they are immune to state and federal laws, and also that banks cannot own land, have been using paper transactions to steal homes throughout Georgia. (See item [22](#))
- The Springfield News-Leader reports that the Springfield, Missouri Police Department is investigating the theft of nearly 6 tons of stainless steel from the Southwest Wastewater Treatment Plant. (See item [35](#))

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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. *August 23, Salt Lake Tribune* – (Utah) **Power outage: 3,300 Utahns still in the dark.** Rocky Mountain Power was still working the morning of August 23 to restore electricity to about 2,000 Utah customers. About 1,380 customers in the Farmington area had power restored at 11:05 a.m., said a power spokeswoman. The 2,000 still without power are scattered in Salt Lake County and other areas. The power went out during a rainstorm August 22. At least five power poles blew down in the Farmington

area. At the height of the storm, around 4 p.m., as many as 12,000 customers' homes and businesses were without power.

Source: <http://www.sltrib.com/sltrib/home/50152775-76/power-customers-farmington-3300.html.csp>

2. *August 23, Reuters* – (Illinois) **Conoco has weekend power failure at Wood River refinery.** ConocoPhillips reported emissions of sulfur dioxide late August 20 after a power failure at its 306,000 barrel per day Wood River refinery in Roxana, Illinois, according to a filing with regulators. The filing did not say what units were impacted by the outage or mention any impact on production.
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSN2317145620100823>

3. *August 21, Washington Post* – (Maryland) **Maryland officials are skeptical of Pepco's plan to deal with future outages.** Public officials in Maryland who have sharply criticized Pepco's response to storms are questioning the effectiveness of the utility company's new plan to reduce the frequency and duration of power outages. Pepco August 19 released a plan that it expects to implement over five years at a cost of \$256.3 million. The six-point reliability plan includes more tree trimming, the replacement of some underground cables, and selective changes to substations. Long-standing programs, such as evaluating the need to upgrade feeder lines, make up much of the plan, which would expand on some of those efforts, such as upgrading underground cables. Elected officials have given the plan a cool reception. "The overarching difficulty with the plan is we don't know where it gets us," said a Montgomery County Council member. A spokesman for the Maryland governor welcomed the effort, but he expressed doubt that Pepco would deliver on its promises without pressure from regulators.
Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/08/20/AR2010082005608.html>

4. *August 20, Columbus Dispatch* – (Ohio) **Refinery on notice over stench.** A Franklin County judge warned the operator of an East Side oil refinery August 19 that he will shut down the Columbus, Ohio plant if there are any more releases of chemical odors that have sickened workers in neighboring buildings. The order came after a two-hour emergency hearing during which the Ohio attorney general's office asked the environmental court judge to close the Heartland Petroleum Refinery until the odor problem can be corrected. The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services' safety coordinator said she received 18 incident reports about the odor from employees August 18. The chemicals causing the odor are hydrogen sulfide and sulfur dioxide, said the chief of the attorney general's environmental-enforcement section. Closing the plant would not necessarily stop the odor, the project engineer for Heartland told the judge. He testified that the source of the odor is a waste-water tank that becomes overpressurized and releases vapors through an emergency vent. He said the tank "would continue to breathe" even if the plant were closed.
Source: http://www.dispatch.com/live/content/local_news/stories/2010/08/20/refinery-on-notice-over-stench.html?sid=101

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Chemical Industry Sector

5. *August 23, KTRK 13 Houston* – (Texas) **Box of chlorine explodes inside hardware store.** Houston firefighters were called to a business in southeast Houston for a chemical leak August 22. It happened at the Handy Hardware Supply store on Tewanin near Nelms. Firefighters found a large pallet of boxed chlorine, which had spontaneously exploded. A high volume of chlorine filled the warehouse. More than 100 employees evacuated safely. A haz-mat team cleaned up the spill and the business reopened about two hours later.
Source: <http://abclocal.go.com/ktrk/story?section=news/local&id=7624058>

6. *August 22, Associated Press* – (Nebraska) **2 workers hurt in reported explosion at Nebraska plant.** An explosion August 22 at Koch (coke) Nitrogen Plant northwest of Beatrice, Nebraska, has sent two men to hospitals. Rescue crews were called to the plant about 9:30 a.m. Workers were evacuated from the southwest portion of the plant. One worker was flown to a Lincoln hospital with burns, and another was taken to a Beatrice hospital. A plant spokesman said their injuries do not appear to be life threatening. The Beatrice fire captain said the men were working on a tank 35 feet off the ground when it exploded. He said the men were blown off the tank, but their harnesses kept them from falling to the ground. The plant has been closed for cleaning and maintenance.
Source: http://www.siouxcityjournal.com/news/state-and-regional/nebraska/article_c5228762-ae21-11df-af8a-001cc4c002e0.html

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

7. *August 23, Nuclear Engineering International* – (Minnesota) **NRC approves Prairie Island uprate.** The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has approved a request by Northern States Power Company to increase the generating capacity of its Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant units 1 and 2 by 1.64 percent. The plant is located in Red Wing, Minnesota along the Mississippi River. The NRC staff determined that Northern States Power could safely increase the reactors' output primarily through more accurate means of measuring feedwater flow. The NRC safety evaluation of the plant's proposed power uprate focused on several areas, including the nuclear steam supply systems, instrumentation and control systems, electrical systems, accident evaluations, radiological consequences, fire protection, operations and training, testing, and technical specification changes.
Source: <http://www.neimagazine.com/story.asp?sectioncode=132&storyCode=2057267>

8. *August 23, New York Times* – (New York) **Indian Point nuclear plant's toll on river stirs debate.** Just beneath the wind-stippled surface of the Hudson River in Buchanan, New York, huge pipes suck enough water into the Indian Point nuclear plant every

second to fill three Olympic swimming pools. And each second they take in dozens of organisms — fish and crabs, but mostly larvae — that are at the center of a \$1.1 billion debate: should the plant have to put in cooling towers that would vastly reduce the intake of water? Yes, says New York State, which puts the annual death toll at nearly a billion organisms, and is withholding a water permit that the plant would need to extend its initial 40-year operating license. No, says Entergy, the plant owner, which argues that more fish could be saved by installing a different water-intake system. It warns that, if built, the cooling towers would pump tons of pollution into the air of New York's northern suburbs — and that Westchester County already fails to meet national air quality standards for particulates. But as with all things nuclear, the dispute transcends the issue immediately at hand, and some question whether the debate is really about water. New York State argued recently before the NRC that Indian Point poses such a safety risk that its two reactors should be shut down when their licenses expire in 2013 and 2015.

Source: http://www.nytimes.com/2010/08/23/science/earth/23cooling.html?_r=1

9. *August 22, Associated Press* – (Colorado) **Authorities: No radiation leak in Colo. car fire.** Authorities said a vehicle carrying a small amount of radioactive material in medical equipment caught fire in Durango, Colorado, but investigators said it does not appear any of the material escaped. The vehicle caught fire August 21 on U.S. 550. The driver pulled over and got out unharmed. A San Juan County sheriff's deputy said the amount of radioactive material was so small that the vehicle did not have to display a hazardous-materials placard. The highway was closed for about an hour. The cause of the fire has not been determined.

Source: <http://cbs4denver.com/news/Authorities.Vehicle.carrying.2.1873267.html>

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

10. *August 23, Space-Travel.com* – (National) **SpaceX's Dragon spacecraft completes high altitude drop test.** SpaceX has announced their Dragon spacecraft has successfully completed a high altitude drop test, meeting 100% of test objectives. This is the last in a series of tests to validate parachute deployment systems and recovery operations before the craft's first launch. During the August 12 test, a helicopter dropped a test article of the Dragon spacecraft from a height of 14,000 feet, roughly 9 miles off the coast of Morro Bay, California. In a carefully timed sequence of events, dual redundant drogue parachutes deployed first to stabilize and gently slow the craft before three main parachutes, 116 feet in diameter, further slowed the craft to a perfect landing. From there, recovery ships successfully returned the Dragon and parachutes to shore. While Dragon will initially be used to transport cargo, the spacecraft was designed to transport crew, and the parachute system validated during the test is the same system that would be used on a crew-carrying Dragon. SpaceX's Dragon spacecraft and its Falcon 9 launch vehicle have been selected by NASA to deliver supplies to and from the International Space Station starting in 2011.

Source: <http://www.space->

[travel.com/reports/SpaceX Dragon Spacecraft Completes High Altitude Drop Test_999.html](http://travel.com/reports/SpaceX_Dragon_Spacecraft_Completes_High_Alitude_Drop_Test_999.html)

11. *August 23, Fredericksburg Free Lance-Star* – (Virginia) **Trailer firm facing fines.** Five years after running afoul of state waste-handling rules, Carry-On Trailer Inc. is again facing a fine at its Westmoreland County plant. In a proposed consent order, the Virginia Waste Management Board has assessed a \$13,500 fine for violations dating to August 2009. A consent order is an agreement negotiated between the agency and the company to resolve the problems. The company operates a trailer manufacturing and coating plant at 159 Industrial Drive in Montross. It is regulated by the state as a “large-quantity generator” of hazardous waste. Based in Lavonia, Georgia, Carry-On Trailer moved into the industrial park in 2003 from a site in neighboring Northumberland County. The company’s trailers are sold at hardware and farm/home stores. The company generates waste paint and related materials such as rags, brushes, sludge and clean-up materials containing toluene, a solvent listed as a hazardous waste. In August of last year, according to the consent order, the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality received a tip about a spill of several hundred gallons of paint at the plant. About a week later, workers discovered paint residue in the stormwater collection system. A DEQ inspection that month also found waste improperly stored in drums. In September 2009, a company consultant disclosed two unreported paint discharges. In December 2009, Carry-On Trailer was cited by DEQ for unauthorized discharges, failure to close a hazardous-waste storage container, failure to meet hazardous-waste accumulation time requirements and failure to prevent hazardous-waste discharges. DEQ found that company employees might not have received appropriate training and that there was no documentation of training. Source: <http://fredericksburg.com/News/FLS/2010/082010/08232010/569569>

12. *August 20, Consumer Affairs* – (International) **Mazda plans recall of 2007-2008 Mazda3, Mazda5 models.** Flaws in the power-steering system are driving Mazda to recall more than half a million vehicles worldwide, the company announced. Mazda said it plans to recall 215,000 vehicles in the United States, and more than 10,000 in China. Additional recalls are being planned in Europe and Australia, bringing the total to about 514,000 vehicles, a company spokesman said. The affected models include the Mazda3 and Mazda5, as they are known in the U.S., manufactured in Japan from 2007 to 2008. The company said the vehicles could experience a sudden loss of power steering, increasing the risk of a crash. Three accidents have been attributed to the defect in the United States, none involving injuries or deaths. Source: http://www.consumeraffairs.com/news04/2010/08/mazda_recalls.html

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

13. *August 22, Yuma Sun* – (Arizona) **Jet engine damage prompts test site clean up.** Two squadrons from Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, in Yuma, Arizona, teamed up to remove debris from the flight line’s outdoor engine test areas to minimize damage. The

project should reduce the amount of damage inflicted on the station's Harrier fleet from foreign object debris, which can be anything from a stray rock to an unfortunate bird. Approximately 20 percent of the aircraft that use the test cells return with damaged engines, said the staff noncommissioned officer in charge. The test cells are used to test station aircraft for hardware or software problems and ensure new or recently repaired engines function properly before flying. The source of the problem is several piles of dirt and debris, which are the by-product of many construction projects over the years, located next to the testing area.

Source: <http://www.yumasun.com/news/test-63331-cells-station.html>

14. *August 20, Aviation Week* – (National) **STSS scoring incremental testing milestones.** After a rough start in orbit, two satellites launched last year to demonstrate the complex challenge of midcourse ballistic missile tracking are starting to achieve some successes, according to Northrop Grumman. Progress with the Missile Defense Agency's (MDA) Space Tracking and Surveillance System (STSS) is a significant step in the Pentagon's decades-long quest to track boosting ballistic missiles from "birth to death," or from launch to, ideally, intercept by U.S. defenses. The satellites were launched in September, and they initially had problems transmitting data. The sensor calibration trials have led to increasingly difficult tasks in orbit that will culminate in a major graduation exercise by year-end when both STSS satellites will be expected to acquire and track a boosting ballistic missile during an MDA flight trial. During two experiments last month, STSS Space Vehicle-2 achieved incremental milestones needed to achieve that graduation exercise. During the first on July 19, SV-2's tracking sensor detected and tracked a U.S.-owned satellite, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration 17. During another trial on July 23, SV-2's acquisition sensor detected a ground-based laser source from the Starfire Optical Range at Kirtland AFB, N.M. The sensor then handed off this target to the tracking sensor, which followed it as the satellite passed overhead.

Source:

http://www.aviationweek.com/aw/generic/story_channel.jsp?channel=defense&id=news/awst/2010/08/16/AW_08_16_2010_p21-247313.xml

15. *August 20, Aviation Week* – (National) **F-22 lessons drive faster F-35 testing.** Flight-testing of the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter at Edwards Air Force Base in California is running almost three times faster than expected, forcing program officials to accelerate follow-on support testing to keep pace. But program officials also confirm plans to add extra resources to tests to ensure the program stays on a revised schedule that extends development by 13 months. Since ferrying from Lockheed Martin's Fort Worth, Texas facility May 17, the two initial conventional-takeoff-and-landing (CTOL) F-35As have completed 53 sorties, 36 beyond the 17 they were slated to have finished by now. The commander of the Air Force Flight Test Center at Edwards said the F-35A is "exceeding expectations," and that the accelerated test rate is linked directly to aircraft performance and availability. As a result, tests of inlet rigs and weapons bay door opening will be conducted sooner than planned. The first two aircraft are focused on flight sciences objectives, including envelope expansion, loads testing, flutter clearance and flying qualities. "Our objective by the end of 2010 is to clear the envelope to

40,000 ft. subsonic with 80 percent of the potential design limit load,” the director said. In June, initial supersonic testing for loads and flutter was completed to Mach 1.2/580 KCAS and 39,000 ft. Air refueling clearance tests at 15,000 ft. are also getting underway.

Source:

http://www.aviationweek.com/aw/generic/story_generic.jsp?channel=awst&id=news/awst/2010/08/23/AW_08_23_2010_p31-249425.xml

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Banking and Finance Sector

16. *August 23, Washington Post* – (National) **Last phase of credit card reform law in place, taking aim at penalty fees.** The sweeping reform of the credit card industry was finally completed August 22 as the last pieces of the landmark federal law designed to stop unfair or deceptive practices took effect. The final phase restricts how much card issuers can charge in penalty fees compared with the amount of the violation. For example, if one is late paying a credit card bill with a \$10 minimum payment, the penalty charge cannot be more than \$10. In addition, new rules governing gift cards also took effect August 22 that require them to be honored for at least 5 years and allow only one fee per month. Congress passed the Credit CARD Act last year, which set up a rolling timetable to phase it in. The bulk of the law’s provisions took effect in February, and prevented issuers from raising interest rates on existing balances, among other changes. The American Bankers Association, an industry trade group, called the implementation of the law a “transformative process that signifies a fundamental change for both consumers and the industry.” A study by Pew Charitable Trusts released this summer showed that the largest card issuers have complied with the new regulations. However, Pew’s study pointed out that the new rules do not limit increases in penalty interest rates, only the amount of fees. It also found that some credit card agreements did not disclose the size of any penalty rate hikes. The group has urged the Federal Reserve to issue rules governing those increases as well.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/08/23/AR2010082302260.html?hpid=topnews>

17. *August 23, San Jose Business Journal* – (National) **Report: Calif. had most mortgage fraud in Q2.** California had the highest number of reported mortgage fraud cases in the second quarter, according to a report August 23. The 283 active cases in the Golden State involved about \$436 million in mortgages — more than any other state, according to the report FraudBlogger.com. Second highest was Florida, with 213 cases and about \$147 million in mortgages.

Source: <http://sanjose.bizjournals.com/sanjose/stories/2010/08/23/daily5.html>

18. *August 23, Dow Jones Newswires* – (International) **UPDATE: Barclays computer glitch hit customers Saturday.** U.K. bank Barclays PLC (BCS) confirmed that customers were unable to access their bank accounts and withdraw money for a time Saturday after cash machines went down during a short outage. Systems were hit at

1300 GMT by a 20-minute blackout caused by power outage. It is thought the problems were associated specifically with LINK ATMs, the system that connects the U.K.'s ATM network, allowing customers from various banks or building societies to use other bank's machines. A spokeswoman for Barclays said the bank became aware of the problem August 21 and it "was swiftly resolved," and the bank apologized to customers for the inconvenience. She said the company is still looking into the matter "as a matter of priority," adding any further comment without proper understanding of what cause the problems "would be inappropriate." The bank was unable to say how many customers had been affected.

Source: <http://online.wsj.com/article/BT-CO-20100823-707223.html>

19. *August 23, Help Net Security* – (National) **U.S. military personnel targeted by malware.** U.S. military personnel is again targeted by malware-peddling cybercriminals. Fake email purportedly coming from Bank of America is asking holders of Military Bank accounts to update them by following the given link. According to Trend Micro, the link takes them to a very faithfully recreated bank login page, where they must enter their account username and password. So far, there is no indication that this is an actual phishing page, but the possibility exists. In any case, whatever information the victims enter, clicking on the "Sign In" button will take them to a page where an "Update Tool" is offered: The provided executable file is actually a Zeus variant. But even if the victims choose not to download and install it because they became suspicious at the last moment, it may be already too late. The attack doesn't rely on manual download — it runs a multitude of browser exploits on the target systems as soon as the user lands on the page.

Source: http://www.net-security.org/malware_news.php?id=1439

20. *August 21, Bank Info Security* – (National) **Eight banks closed on Aug. 20.** Federal and state banking regulators closed eight banks August 20, raising the number of failed institutions to 132 so far in 2010. Two of the failed banks in Florida were purchased by a Florida bank. Another two in California were purchased by a California bank. The latest closings are: Imperial Savings and Loan Association, Martinsville, Virginia, was closed by the Office of Thrift Supervision (OTS), which appointed the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) as receiver. The FDIC arranged for the River Community Bank, National Association, Martinsville, to assume all deposit. The estimated cost to the Deposit Insurance Fund (DIF) will be \$3.5 million. Community National Bank At Bartow, Bartow, Florida, was closed by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC), which appointed FDIC as receiver. The FDIC arranged for CenterState Bank of Florida, National Association, Winter Haven to assume all deposits. CenterState Bank of Florida also bought Independent National Bank, Ocala, Florida. The estimated cost to the DIF for Community National Bank At Bartow will be \$10.3 million. The estimated cost to the DIF for Independent National Bank is \$23.2 million. ShoreBank, Chicago, was closed by the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation, which appointed FDIC as receiver. The FDIC arranged for Urban Partnership Bank, Chicago, to assume all deposits. The estimated cost to the DIF will be \$367.7 million. Butte Community Bank, Chico, California, was closed by the California Department of Financial Institutions (CDFI), which appointed FDIC as

receiver. The FDIC arranged with Rabobank, National Association, El Centro, California, to assume all deposits. Rabobank also assumed the assets of Pacific State Bank at the same time. The estimated cost to the DIF for Butte Community Bank will be \$17.4 million. Pacific State Bank, Stockton, California, was closed by CDFI. FDIC was appointed as receiver. Rabobank bought out Pacific's \$312.1 million in assets. Los Padres Bank, Solvang, California, was closed by OTS, which appointed FDIC as receiver. The FDIC arranged with Pacific Western Bank, San Diego, California, to assume all deposits. The estimated cost to the DIF will be \$8.7 million. Sonoma Valley Bank, Sonoma, California, was closed by CDFI, which appointed FDIC as receiver. The FDIC arranged for Westamerica Bank, San Rafael, California, to assume all deposits. The estimated cost to the DIF will be \$10.1 million.

Source: http://www.bankinfosecurity.com/articles.php?art_id=2859

21. *August 20, South Florida Sun Sentinel* – (Florida) **FBI offers \$25,000 in case of 'Brazen Bandit' bank robberies in Deerfield Beach, Boca Raton.** The FBI has announced a \$25,000 reward for information leading to the arrest of the "Brazen Bandit," who shot a Deerfield Beach, Florida bank customer August 18, and is also being sought for a bank heist in Boca Raton August 13. The shooting victim was taken to North Broward Medical Center, where he was listed August 20 in critical but stable condition. The victim was shot in the neck at the AmTrust Bank at 3600 W. Hillsboro Blvd., at 3:30 p.m. August 18 a FBI spokeswoman said. The gunman, who eluded a police dragnet, was dubbed the Brazen Bandit because of his bold behavior. He wore sunglasses, a black baseball cap, black shirt, blue jeans, latex gloves and a black bandana covering his mouth, the spokeswoman said. He is described as being 35 to 40, about 5 foot 8 inches tall and having a shaved head and athletic build. He jumped a bank counter and snatched money from several drawers, putting it in a black backpack. Then he fired a shot at the customer. He left the bank, dropping some cash, then fired several more shots, shattering the window of a nearby tax office. The FBI said he got away in a brown, possibly two-toned small pickup with tinted windows. No one else was hurt. On August 13, the same robber struck PNC Bank's southeast Mizner branch at 520 S. Federal Highway in Boca Raton, the FBI said. The robber walked up to a teller, placed a black backpack on the counter and demanded money. He exited the bank with an undetermined sum, officials said. No one was hurt.
Source: http://articles.sun-sentinel.com/2010-08-20/news/fl-boca-bandit-fbi-20100820_1_bank-counter-bank-heist-fbi-spokeswoman
22. *August 19, Atlanta Journal-Constitution* – (Georgia) **DA: Paper terrorists stealing homes.** When a new family moved into the mansion on South Goddard Road in south DeKalb County, Georgia residents just assumed they were "city folks" too busy to meet neighbors. Prosecutors said the \$1 million brick home is one of at least 19 properties that have been taken over by a sect of anti-government extremists involved in criminal behavior. They call themselves "sovereign citizens" and believe they are immune to state and federal laws. They assert, among other things, that banks can't own land and that any home owned by a bank — including the thousands throughout Georgia — is free for the taking. Police and prosecutors take a different view. The FBI has listed them on the domestic terrorist list, saying their crime of choice is paper terrorism and

attempting to disrupt the U.S. economy. Prosecutors said the local sovereign citizens are consistent with other anarchist movements, filing lawsuits and liens on police, government officials and anyone who questions them. They are all born in the U.S., but create their own drivers' licenses, complete with seals for fictitious nations. Many of the suspects have multiple names and a history of not paying taxes. Investigators in Georgia have tied the sovereign citizens to at least 19 property thefts in DeKalb, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry, Spalding, Newton and Richmond counties. They include mansions — some still under construction — and a shopping center in Buckhead valued at \$13 million. Police have charged six suspects with violating the Racketeer Influenced and Corruption Organizations Act. Warrants have been issued for another five suspects. Most of the properties are in foreclosure, but there also were some vacant homes for sale. In the case of the mansion, a 36-year-old and a 45-year-old suspect had created a phony quitclaim deed and moved into a foreclosed house, police said. They posted phony deeds in the window and used them to persuade utility workers to turn on the electricity and water. Investigators began pulling the bogus deeds, which had been filed with the superior court clerks in each county. They quickly saw that many of the deeds listed the same contract address. Investigators said the suspects had used fraudulent deeds to turn the properties over to themselves, and then filed them with court clerks throughout north Georgia. On the majority of the deeds, the price is listed as 21 silver dollars, which is consistent with other sovereign citizen schemes nationwide, prosecutors said. On others, the price is listed at “zero dollars.” The banks that owned the homes were unaware of the deed changes.

Source: <http://www.ajc.com/news/dekalb/da-paper-terrorists-stealing-595202.html>

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Transportation Sector

23. *August 23, Agence France-Presse* – (International) **Eight Hong Kong tourists killed in Philippine bus hijacking.** Philippine security forces stormed a bus packed with Hong Kong tourists August 23 to end a dramatic hostage crisis that unfolded live on global television, leaving eight people and the gunman dead. The day-long ordeal began when a disgruntled ex-policeman armed with an M-16 assault rifle and dressed in combat pants hijacked the bus in Manila's tourist district in a desperate bid to get his job back. Negotiations broke down after nightfall when the gunman, a former senior police inspector, began shooting and commandos were forced to storm the bus, firing dozens of bullets of their own into the vehicle. Police said a sniper shot the suspect dead after he used his captives as “human shields” in the final moments of the 12-hour standoff. Philippine's President said eight tourists were confirmed killed, while the Red Cross reported another seven were in hospital with unspecified injuries. Seven tourists, including children, and two Filipinos were freed at various times throughout the day from the bus that was parked at Rizal Park, a popular tourist destination just a few blocks from police headquarters. The killings added to a fast-growing number of attacks of foreigners in the Philippines. Gunmen shot dead a South Korean man in a separate attack August 23 in another section of Manila. Police said the incidents were not related. Last month, an American, a South African, a Briton and their Filipina

partners were killed in a spate of murder-robberies in Angeles City. The alleged killer was arrested.

Source:

http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20100823/wl_asia_afp/philippinescrimehijackhongkong

24. *August 23, Truckinginfo.com* – (Pennsylvania) **Nine charged in CDL scam in Pennsylvania.** A U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania charged nine defendants with knowingly producing, attempting to produce, conspiring to produce and aiding and abetting the production of false Pennsylvania commercial driver's licenses. The case names nine defendants, including the owners of International Training Academy (ITA), which provided training to those seeking Pennsylvania CDLs, according to court documents. Another defendant named in the case, provided training to ITA customers in commercial vehicles leased by ITA. Court documents said the defendants helped people obtain false CDLs under the auspices of ITA. The couple also conspired to provide false residency documents to individuals outside of the state, so they could first obtain Pennsylvania driver's licenses before applying for state CDLs. The defendants helped over 300 out-of-state applicants cheat on the written test, documents said. The defendants provided false Pennsylvania residency locations for customers of ITA to assist them in obtaining state driver's licenses.

Source: http://www.truckinginfo.com/news/news-detail.asp?news_id=71434

25. *August 22, Duluth News Tribune* – (Minnesota) **Duluth harbor airport has a rising concern.** The Federal Aviation Administration has repeatedly voiced concerns about the danger of trees encroaching on the flight path of airplanes using Duluth, Minnesota's Sky Harbor Airport. And for two years now, as part of an \$873,000 study, researchers have been weighing options that could bring the facility back into the feds' good graces. That study has narrowed 13 options down to two, both of which would involve cutting hundreds of trees in a neighboring old-growth forest and the airport spending millions of dollars to modify the runway. But a couple of Duluth city councilors also want to keep another option on the table: simply closing the airport's terrestrial landing strip and leaving it to operate exclusively as a seaplane facility. The councilors have asked city staff to study what it would take to close the airport. Both councilors said they are exploring the possibility of discontinuing Sky Harbor's land operations and haven't yet taken a stand. But both also share concerns about the potential sacrifice of trees for Sky Harbor's benefit. A retired St. Louis County forester and member of the tree commission, explained: "If you start removing trees and you open a stand up, there could be a lot of wind damage if you get a severe storm."

Source: <http://www.duluthnewstribune.com/event/article/id/176910/>

26. *August 22, Aviation Web* – (National) **FAA looks at space regs.** The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has partnered with eight universities to figure out how space tourism fits into the airspace and, in some ways, into society itself. The advent of regular launches to the edge of space or beyond raises technical, regulatory and even medical issues that haven't been considered before and the FAA said it wants to try and keep everyone safe without unduly impeding development of the industry. "We try to

be as flexible as we can, to be as safe as possible but also allow testing of (private spaceships and rockets),” a spokesman said. There are a host of areas that need to be fleshed out, from certification of private astronauts to design and operational standards for spaceports. Beyond those challenges, other scientists are looking at how to make commercial space travel accessible to as many of those who want to try it as possible. The current rules, essentially there for the safety of test crews, have fairly stringent medical and training requirements. That would shut out a large portion of the population, including those with chronic illnesses, and officials are looking at whether they, too, could be accommodated.

Source:

http://www.avweb.com/avwebflash/news/FAA_Looks_At_Space_Regs_203167-1.html

27. *August 20, United Press International* – (National) **Crack caused hole in Southwest jet: NTSB.** U.S. investigators are blaming a “fatigue crack” for a rupture that forced a Baltimore-bound Boeing 737 into an emergency landing last summer. A hole the size of a football appeared in the Southwest Airlines plane during a flight from Nashville to Baltimore, Maryland July 13, 2009. The cabin lost pressure, and the jet made an emergency landing in Charleston, West Virginia. No one aboard was hurt. The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) reported that the nearly 14-inch crack had been growing under the plane’s aluminum skin before the hole opened. The NTSB didn’t determine how the crack started or why it suddenly opened. It said Boeing and the Federal Aviation Administration both had called for more frequent inspections of the area. The NTSB report also didn’t say whether later inspections found other aircraft with the same problem. The jet had been flown by Southwest since 1994. The Dallas-based airline stated in a blog posting August 19 that it has learned from the incident and has stepped up maintenance.

Source: http://www.upi.com/Top_News/US/2010/08/20/Crack-caused-hole-in-Southwest-jet-NTSB/UPI-51441282319945/

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Postal and Shipping Sector

28. *August 22, Worcester Telegram & Gazette* – (Massachusetts) **No explosives found.** A Massachusetts trooper wearing a bomb suit checked out a suspicious suitcase that was left at the West Side Station Post Office on Chandler Street in Worcester August 22. The state trooper X-rayed the suitcase, examined it and determined there were no explosive components inside. Worcester police closed off the parking lot near the Rite Aid store. Traffic in the area was not affected, though a few passersby stopped to watch. An engine from the Worcester Fire Department and an ambulance also stood by as the state police worked. Police said the suitcase was suspicious because of the area where it was left. The blueish-colored case could be seen sitting not far from two outside mailboxes as the trooper worked. The suitcase was eventually opened and was

later taken away by Worcester police.

Source: <http://www.telegram.com/article/20100822/NEWS/100829935/1116>

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Agriculture and Food Sector

29. *August 22, Associated Press* – (National) **Supplier in egg recall has history of violations.** Two Iowa farms that together recalled more than half a billion potentially tainted eggs this August share close ties, including suppliers of chickens and feed. Both farms are linked to a businessman who has been cited for numerous health, safety and employment violations over the years. He owns Wright County Egg, the original farm that recalled 380 million eggs August 13 after they were linked to more than 1,000 reported cases of salmonella poisoning. Another of his companies, Quality Egg, supplies young chickens and feed to both Wright County Egg and Hillandale Farms, the second farm that recalled another 170 million eggs a week later. A spokeswoman for the egg industry said the two companies share other suppliers as well, but she did not name them. Almost 2,000 illnesses from the strain of salmonella linked to both recalls were reported between May and July, nearly 1,300 more than usual, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) said. No deaths have been reported.
Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,599962,00.html?test=latestnews>

30. *August 21, CNN* – (National) **Half a billion eggs have been recalled.** The number of eggs recalled in a nationwide salmonella scare has grown to more than half a billion. Iowa egg producer Hillandale Farms of Iowa is voluntarily recalling some 170.4 million eggs distributed to stores and companies that service, or are located in, 14 states, a spokeswoman at the Egg Safety Center said August 20. The Hillandale eggs were distributed under the Hillandale Farms, Sunny Farms, and Sunny Meadow brand names in six-egg cartons, dozen-egg cartons, 18-egg cartons, 30-egg packages, and five-dozen-egg cases, the Web site for the Egg Safety Center said. Loose eggs, which could be repackaged by customers, were packaged under the Wholesome Farms and West Creek brands in 15- and 30-dozen tray packs, according to the Egg Safety Center. The salmonella outbreak prompted Wright County Egg of Galt, Iowa, which began recalling eggs last week, to increase its recall to 380 million eggs August 18. The number of salmonella cases is expected to grow because infections after July 17 may not have been reported yet due to a two- to three-week lag between when a person becomes sick and when the case gets reported in the system, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) said.

Source:

<http://edition.cnn.com/2010/HEALTH/08/20/eggs.recall.salmonella/?hpt=Sbin#fbid=RvRBBEZyCwC&wom=false>

31. *August 21, Reuters* – (International) **China seized 100 tons of melamine-laced milk powder.** China has seized more than 100 tons of melamine-contaminated milk powder in its northern provinces, state media reported late August 20, the latest case of food safety problems in the world's most populous country. A total of 103 tons of milk

powder from four dairy brands in Hebei, Shanxi and Tianjin provinces were found to be laced with the industrial chemical melamine, the official Xinhua News Agency said. Authorities have detained 41 suspects. In July, samples of milk powder found in northwestern provinces Gansu and Qinghai had levels of the chemical melamine up to 500 times beyond the permitted limit. More than 124 tons of the milk powder in Qinghai have been seized since then, and six people have been arrested, Xinhua said. In 2008, melamine in Chinese milk powder, which caused the deaths of at least six children and made nearly 300,000 children ill, sparked global and national outrage. Melamine is an industrial chemical added to milk to fool inspectors by giving a misleadingly high protein level test reading.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTOE67K00N>

32. *August 21, Poughkeepsie Journal* – (New York) **Critical food violations at fairgrounds rise 146% in year.** The number of critical food-safety violations issued during Dutchess County Fairgrounds events in New York jumped by 146 percent from 2008 to 2009. In 2009, there were 37 critical, or “red,” violations, more than twice the 15 critical violations cited in reports in 2008, a Poughkeepsie Journal analysis of Dutchess County Department of Health inspection records found. Critical violations could lead directly to food-borne illness, health department officials said. An example would be cooked meat not kept at or above 140 degrees between being cooked and served. Despite the violations, the health department has no reports of illness from food at the fairgrounds. The fairgrounds manager said the health department had not made him aware of any food-safety issues. Two vendors accounted for 71 percent of the total food-safety code violations at the fairgrounds since 2008, according to inspection records. Vendor J&S Concessions, with four venues, had 50, food-safety code violations since 2008, according to inspection records. Poughkeepsie Journal analysis of those records found J&S Concessions was issued 46 percent of the 108 violations by 10 vendors cited since 2008 for practices that could cause a food-borne illness, health officials said.

Source:

<http://www.poughkeepsiejournal.com/article/20100821/NEWS01/8210330/Critical-food-violations-at-fairgrounds-rise-146--in-year>

33. *August 21, Food Safety News* – (Texas; Oregon) **Pistachios Recalled for Salmonella.** Two companies recalled pistachios for potential Salmonella contamination last week. AustiNuts Wholesale, Inc., of Manor, Texas, recalled its pistachio kernel products and GloryBee Foods, Inc., of Eugene, Oregon, recalled its Aunt Patty’s brand 5 pound bags of Whole Raw Pistachios and 25 pound boxes of Specialty Commodities brand Whole Raw Pistachios Kernels after the companies’ supplier, California Delights, Inc., recalled 2 shipments of pistachio kernels for possible Salmonella contamination. According to a press release issued by AustiNuts Wholesale, the following products are being recalled because they contain the recalled pistachio kernels: Pistachio Kernels - Raw or Salted: Only lot numbers ending with “SE” with packing codes of P1860 through P2080 (Lot numbers must end in “SE”); Deluxe Nut Mix, Salted: Only lot number P187013201AW through P207013201AW (Lot numbers must fall between P1870 and P2070); -Gourmet Nut Mix, Salted: Only lot number

P195014401AW through P201014401AW (Lot numbers must fall between P1950 and P2010).

Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2010/08/pistachios-recalled-for-salmonella/>

34. *August 19, Sleepy Eye Herald-Dispatch* – (Minnesota) **Alert for Sudden Death Syndrome in soybean.** Conditions have been conducive for Sudden Death Syndrome (SDS) in crops this year, and the Southern Research and Outreach Center in Waseca, Minnesota, reports SDS is more common this year in the Waseca area than ever before. SDS has the potential to lead to significant soybean yield losses, with documented losses ranging from 5 to 70%. As of June 2010, SDS has been confirmed in 23 Minnesota counties. Originally the disease was concentrated in south central Minnesota, but it could potentially occur almost anywhere in the state. SDS has not been confirmed in 7 counties in extreme southwestern Minnesota, although it may be present in some fields. This is a prime time for SDS symptoms to be showing up in soybean fields, and 2010 conditions, such as early planting and heavy and frequent rainfall in June and July, favor development of the disease. Other factors that favor disease development include compacted soil and poor drainage, high yield environments, high levels of soybean cyst nematode, and the planting of a susceptible variety (Note no varieties are completely resistant to SDS). Fields with a history of SDS are also likely candidates for a recurrence of the disease.
Source: <http://www.sleepyeyenews.com/news/x2023281479/Alert-for-Sudden-Death-Syndrome-in-Soybean>

For another story, see item [55](#)

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Water Sector

35. *August 21, Springfield News-Leader* – (Missouri) **Nearly 6 tons of steel stolen from plant.** The Springfield, Missouri Police Department is investigating the theft of nearly 6 tons of stainless steel from the Southwest Wastewater Treatment Plant. The materials were used parts that were being stored in an outdoor area, according to police. The city will not need to replace the parts, which have an approximate value of \$25,000. The materials include: 11 stainless steel hubs, 34 stainless steel blades, two stainless steel shafts and 480 stainless steel bolts. Parts began disappearing several weeks ago, but the bulk of the material appears to have been taken in recent days.
Source: <http://www.news-leader.com/article/20100821/NEWS01/8210342/Nearly-6-tons-of-steel-stolen-from-plant>
36. *August 20, Quad City Times* – (Iowa) **Wapello deals with water contamination.** Bacterial contamination in some Wapello, Iowa water lines might lead to several comprehensive water system improvements in the north end of the community in Iowa. The city council was told August 19 the contamination was limited to four dead-end lines, where the chlorine levels apparently dropped because of low water use. Officials said they would look at connecting the dead-end lines and

installing other improvements to prevent future contamination. Although positive tests for contamination were reported at only two sites, a boil-water advisory was issued for nine residences.

Source: http://qctimes.com/news/local/article_ad5805ec-ac66-11df-b737-001cc4c03286.html

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

37. *August 22, Associated Press* – (Kentucky) **Medical records stolen from Ky. hospital.** Medical records for more than 2,000 people were stolen from the University of Kentucky hospital, prompting the facility to issue an alert for identity theft. The Lexington Herald-Leader reports that the records were taken from the department of pediatrics newborn screening program. The university said it is notifying 2,027 people that a laptop containing patients' personal information was stolen between June 18 and June 21. That information included patient names, dates of birth, diagnoses, mothers' names and, in some cases, Social Security numbers of mothers in the program. The stolen laptop had been stored in a locked private office. The theft was reported to the university police department. A University of Kentucky spokesman said the investigation is ongoing.
Source: http://www2.wjtv.com/jtv/ap_exchange/special_-_medical/article/medical-records-stolen-from-ky-hospital/186343/

38. *August 21, Wall Street Journal* – (New York) **Tuberculosis reported at MTA site.** New York City's health department said August 20 it had confirmed that at least one Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) worker had tuberculosis, and that it was investigating the possibility that there might be more cases. In a statement, the health department said it "is continuing to investigate the case" and that it was "also aware of one suspected case" from the same site. The department will visit the site, which it did not name, August 23 to educate workers about the bacterial infection, which spreads through the air. New York City Transit declined to comment, and referred questions to the health department. The New York Post first reported the confirmed tuberculosis case, saying the testing was taking place at an MTA facility in Brooklyn. A health department spokeswoman declined to provide more details beyond the statement.
Source:
http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748703579804575442233400528318.html?mod=googlenews_wsj

39. *August 20, Associated Press* – (Illinois) **Laptop with patient info stolen.** Authorities said a laptop computer with personal information on 7,000 Cook County, Illinois health system patients has been stolen. A Cook County Health and Hospital System spokesman said the computer was stolen June 1, but its theft was not disclosed until August 20, after the completion of an internal investigation. He said the investigation determined the computer was password-protected and the information may have been

deleted from the computer. However, because of the uncertainty, officials are notifying patients their information may have been compromised. He said officials have not seen evidence any of the information has been accessed or distributed. Officials said the laptop was used to transmit data for Medicaid and Medicare reimbursements.

Source: <http://www.kwqc.com/Global/story.asp?S=13021306>

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Government Facilities Sector

40. *August 20, Federal Computer Week* – (National) **National Guard Bureau tells what not to write on Facebook.** The National Guard Bureau is giving guard members specific guidance on how to control their privacy settings on Facebook, and what to avoid publishing on social media sites. The guidance advises guard members to use “friends only” privacy settings on social networking sites. It also warns that members’ social network “friends” and “followers” could be factors in background investigations when the members apply for security clearances. “Remember, what happens online is available to everyone, everywhere,” wrote the bureau’s public affairs director, in an August 16 news release about the policy. “There should be no assumption of privacy when guard members begin to interact with others online.” The guidance prohibits members from publishing any content distributed internally by the guard that has not been officially approved for release to the public. The policy bans publishing internal “memos, e-mails, meeting notes, message traffic, white papers, public affairs guidance, pre-decisional materials, investigatory information and proprietary information” if those materials are not specifically authorized for release, according to the news release.
Source: <http://fcw.com/articles/2010/08/20/national-guard-bureau-gives-advice-on-what-not-to-write-on-facebook.aspx>
41. *August 20, Homeland Security Today* – (National) **Obama orders uniform access to classified info.** The White House this week ordered the Secretary of Homeland Security to issue guidance for the uniform handling of classified information shared by the federal government to state and local governments. In an executive order delivered August 18, the President tasked DHS with producing those procedures within 180 days after consulting with other top agencies, and the director of national intelligence. Once established, the DHS security secretary will continue to serve as executive agent for the classified information program, the order said. The order applies to state, local, tribal, and private sector entities that receive federal classified information. Those entities must handle that information under procedures stipulated in a number of executive orders dating back to 1993. The rules to be issued by DHS will ensure uniformity in following those orders. Designated individuals in state, local, tribal, and private sector entities may receive classified information under the order once they are determined eligible by a sponsoring federal agency, the order noted. Applicants must demonstrate a need for access to top secret, special access, or sensitive compartmented information. Clearances granted to all individuals representing such entities will receive reciprocity from other federal agencies, the order said. The organizations must properly protect any

classified information they receive.

Source: <http://www.hstoday.us/content/view/14425/128/>

42. *August 20, KPHO 5 Phoenix* – (Arizona) **Bomb threat closes a Peoria high school.** Peoria, Arizona police are investigating a bomb threat at Centennial High School, which has caused the evacuation of the school. A Peoria police spokesman said about 900 students were cleared from the school after a phoned-in bomb threat to the school around 9 a.m. August 19. The police spokesman said the evacuated students were taken to two nearby churches and another nearby high school. He said the campus was searched and no device was located. There were 40 evacuees who were evaluated by fire paramedics for heat injuries, and paramedics treated 12 of them on scene and took 3 to hospitals with heat-related issues, the spokesman said. The students were sent home by district officials and school was canceled for the day.

Source: <http://www.kpho.com/news/24703185/detail.html>

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Emergency Services Sector

43. *August 22, WSMV 4 Nashville* – (Tennessee) **FEMA center, mall reopen after hazmat scare.** A strange smell at the FEMA center in Antioch, Tennessee sent four people to the hospital August 21 and forced authorities to evacuate the building and Hickory Hollow Mall. The FEMA Center is in the old J.C. Penney building at the mall. Employees there told emergency medical workers they felt sick from a strange smell. Hazardous materials specialists and Homeland Security employees began evacuating the building and the mall at about 10:30 a.m. Agents searched for a cause of the odor but did not find anything. There was concern a gas leak may have occurred, but gas was not running to the building, authorities said. Four people went to the hospital. All but one were released.

Source: <http://www.wsmv.com/news/24712538/detail.html>

44. *August 21, Associated Press* – (Washington) **Sonic booms reveal bugs in emergency alert system.** When Pierce County officials were setting up their new automated alert system, they did not put sonic booms on the list of things that would prompt them to send out messages. This past week was a learning opportunity for them. Two sonic booms rocked Western Washington August 17 when military jets broke the sound barrier while responding to a security breach during the U.S. President's visit to Seattle. Pierce County's 911 operators were swamped with hundreds of calls from scared or curious residents, while authorities debated whether to send out a community alert. The message was not sent out until 90 minutes after the F-15s fly by. Now the county is reassessing its list of when to send out alerts.

Source:

http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/localnews/2012687154_apwamysteriousbooms.html

45. *August 20, Urbana Daily Citizen* – (Ohio) **Dayton Bomb Squad handles dangerous materials at Sheriff’s Office.** The Dayton Bomb Squad and the Bureau of Alcohol, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) were summoned to Champaign County, Ohio August 19 by the sheriff’s office concerning pieces of evidence deemed more dangerous than previously determined, possibly explosive. The items were seized by police officers on July 31 as evidence in an ongoing “possession of a dangerous ordnance” case, said the sheriff. The bomb squad and ATF arrived at the Miami Street, Urbana, Ohio location of the Champaign County Sheriff’s Office around 4 p.m. They provided assistance with the potentially explosive items, which deputies had planned to further examine but reconsidered due to the uncertainty of their contents. Deputies sealed off the majority of the block comprising the sheriff’s offices at 308 Miami St. A Dayton Bomb Squad emergency vehicle could be seen parked on Miami Street in front of the building. The bomb squad will relocate the items to a safer environment where it will determine the contents and “detonate” any explosives if necessary.

Source:

<http://www.urbanacitizen.com/main.asp?SectionID=3&SubSectionID=5&ArticleID=154668>

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Information Technology Sector

46. *August 23, ComputerWorld* – (International) **Researcher told Microsoft of Windows apps zero-day bugs 6 months ago.** Microsoft has known since at least February that dozens of Windows applications, including many of its own, harbor bugs that hackers can exploit to seize control of computers, an academic researcher said August 22. At least 19 of the bugs can be exploited remotely, a Ph.D. candidate at the University of California Davis said in a paper he published in February and presented last month at an international conference. The candidate added his voice to a growing chorus of researchers who claim that a large number of Windows programs are vulnerable to attack because of the way they load components. Recently, a U.S. researcher said he had found at least 40 vulnerable applications, including the Windows shell. Shortly thereafter, Slovenian security firm Acros announced its homegrown tool had uncovered more than 200 flawed Windows programs in an investigation that began 4 months ago.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9181358/Researcher_told_Microsoft_of_Windows_apps_zero_day_bugs_6_months_ago

47. *August 23, Krebs on Security* – (International) **Anti-virus products struggle against exploits.** Most anti-virus products designed for use in businesses do a poor job of detecting exploits that hacked and malicious Web use to foist malware, a new report concludes. Independent testing firm NSS Labs looked at the performance of 10 commercial anti-virus products to see how well they detected 123 client-side exploits, those typically used to attack vulnerabilities in Web browsers including Internet Explorer and Firefox, as well as common desktop applications, such as Adobe Flash, Reader, and Apple QuickTime. Roughly half of the exploits tested were exact copies of

the first exploit code to be made public against the vulnerability. NSS also tested detection for an equal number of exploit variants, those which exploit the same vulnerability but use slightly different entry points in the targeted system's memory. None of the exploits used evasion techniques commonly employed by real-life exploits to disguise themselves or hide from intrusion detection systems. Among all 10 products, NSS found that the average detection rate against original exploits was 76 percent, and that only 3 out of 10 products stopped all of the original exploits. The average detection against exploits variants was even lower, at 58 percent, NSS found. Source: <http://krebsonsecurity.com/2010/08/anti-virus-products-struggle-against-exploits/>

48. *August 23, Nextgov* – (International) **Intel's purchase of McAfee not a game changer for security.** Intel Corp.'s acquisition of antivirus software company McAfee Inc. will provide the computer chip manufacturer with real-time data about cyber threats that could influence how security is managed at the processor level, but it will have little direct impact on product development, according to security experts. Intel announced August 20 that it had agreed to pay \$7.68 billion in cash for McAfee, which will function as a wholly owned subsidiary of the leading chip producer. McAfee's existing software portfolio, which focuses on intrusion detection, antivirus, and firewall technology, offers little opportunity to enhance security features of the microprocessor, said the chairman and chief executive officer of security software company NetWitness and former director of the Homeland Security Department's National Cybersecurity Division.

Source: http://www.nextgov.com/nextgov/ng_20100820_2804.php?oref=topnews

49. *August 23, SC Magazine* – (International) **Blogger identifies privacy flaw in Facebook Places, as Foursquare co-founder calls the tool 'boring'.** The Facebook Places application has been accused of falling short when it comes to protecting its user's locational privacy. A information security blogger and assistant professor at the school of information studies at the University of Wisconsin claimed Facebook Places falls short on privacy as non-authorized check-ins by friends are visible. He said Facebook has tried to do a better job addressing privacy with Places compared to some previous launches of new "features." However, he noted that as he has played around with the service, he claimed to have uncovered a problem with Facebook's assertion that "no one can be checked in to a location without their explicit permission." He said: "While Places is largely an opt-in service — one needs to install and use it on a mobile device — anyone can be 'checked-in' to any place by a friend. This can happen regardless of whether you use the service yourself. If you get checked into a place by someone, and you haven't already authorized the service or these kinds of check-ins, you'll receive an e-mail asking if you want to allow check-ins by friends." He said that his wife had been "checked in" despite not authorizing use of the feature. If any of his friends looks at his Facebook feed, they will see the status update of his check-in at the store, with his wife's name there. Her name also appears with his check-in on the location's page, which is automatically generated by the places service.

Source: <http://www.scmagazineuk.com/blogger-identifies-privacy-flaw-in-facebook-places-as-foursquare-co-founder-calls-the-tool-boring/article/177307/>

50. *August 23, Help Net Security* – (International) **Trojan simulates MS Security Essentials Alert, peddles fake AV.** A Trojan imitating a Microsoft Security Essentials Alert has been spotted trying to convince users their computer is infected and that the only thing to do is to pay for one of the five fake antivirus solutions offered. Whether a user clicks on the “Clean computer” or the “Apply actions” button, she is told that the program cannot clean the computer and is prompted to use an online scanner, reports a researcher of Bleeping Computer. The computer is purportedly scanned by 35 antivirus solutions — 30 legitimate and 5 fake — but only the fake ones (Red Cross Antivirus, Peak Protection 2010, Pest Detector 4.1, Major Defense Kit, AntiSpySafeguard) “detect” the Trojan. In fact, all of these fake solutions are one and the same, but with different names and graphical user interfaces. Whichever one choose to install, it will reboot one’s computer, run automatically and begin a fake scan. The result is always the same: the computer is full of malware. The fake AV has managed to clean some of it, but there are still numerous infected files that only the full (paid) version can remove. The program also terminates some of the other programs a user may attempt to start, saying that they are also infected.

Source: http://www.net-security.org/malware_news.php?id=1438

51. *August 16, Help Net Security* – (International) **Who is the typical Russian hacker?** A security analyst and a senior researcher from security firm Coseinc that calls himself “Le Grugq” have spent 6 months on various Russian Web forums in order to discover just what kind of threat Russian hackers present to the world at large. Both of them fluent in the language, they managed to get more than just a glimpse into this underground culture and shared their knowledge with the attendees of the Hack in the Box conference, ENP reports. And according to them, businesses have little to worry about, since Russian hackers are usually attracted by money they can get their hands on simply and fast. Corporate secrets hold no appeal to them. The hackers often go for the easiest potential victims, such as careless individual users. This is because the typical Russian hacker is a student looking for some pocket money. His targets are individual users in the Western world and he has no qualms about fleecing them since he believes everybody is rich outside Russia — claims the analyst. Russian hackers are geeks, not gangsters. There is an entire underground economy that caters to these unprofessional criminals: they can buy or rent malware, use the services of supporting partners who will drive Internet traffic to the malicious sites, use the services of botnet masters who can execute DDoS attacks on rival Web sites and Twitter accounts. These hackers are interested in infecting individual computers and stealing the users’ credit card numbers, and using them in various ways. They usually refrain from ordering physical stuff online, since the delivery address would point to them.

Source: <http://www.net-security.org/secworld.php?id=9739>

Internet Alert Dashboard

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

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

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Communications Sector

52. *August 23, The H Security* – (International) **Police confiscate hardware from VPN provider.** VPN provider Perfect Privacy is reporting that August 20, police searched a house occupied by a Perfect Privacy network provider. The search warrant was reportedly issued on suspicion that unknown perpetrators may have routed potentially criminal communications via the servers in the German city of Erfurt. Perfect Privacy is an association of private individuals from all over the world who operate VPN servers and offer the service via a common interface. Users can pay to route their entire Web traffic in encrypted form through Perfect Privacy servers, thus reducing traceability. Perfect Privacy claims not to keep log files. Five PCs, including storage media, were confiscated, resulting in losses totalling 6000 to 6500 euros. The company is at pains to point out that computers used in connection with the VPN service are completely encrypted. According to Perfect Privacy, police did not confiscate the actual VPN servers, “Perfect Privacy’s servers in Erfurt are [...] still online, can be pinged, and Perfect Privacy continues to be in the possession of the root access and all administrative rights.” The company has nevertheless temporarily suspended the Erfurt servers to give members with “elevated security needs” time to be made aware of the ongoing police investigation. Why the police confiscated the administrator’s computers rather than the VPN servers and whether the police are implementing other measures such as eavesdropping on telecommunications are both unknown. Perfect Privacy is applying, through a lawyer, for leave to view the files relating to the case.
Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/Police-confiscate-hardware-from-VPN-provider-1063742.html>

53. *August 22, Canadian Press* – (International) **Ontario quake rattled websites more than the ground.** The June earthquake that shook parts of Quebec and Ontario rattled more than just the ground. Within minutes of the 5.0-magnitude quake, people were furiously posting accounts on social media sites like Twitter, but official information was impossible to access online. Natural Resources Canada’s earthquake information site was paralyzed by demand, documents released under access to information show. The agency was so overwhelmed with people trying to access the site that it had to enlist the help of the U.S. Geological Survey to get the information out to Canadians. The crash sent staffers scrambling for more than 2 hours to find a temporary solution and it took 4 hours before the whole site was back in full working order. An official with Natural Resources Canada admitted the crash raised questions about how well prepared the agency was to communicate with Canadians online in the event of a sudden natural disaster like an earthquake or tsunami. The first thing officials did was strip out all the unnecessary features on the site and disable anything like graphics that ate up bandwidth as they raced to double the capacity of their servers. Four hours later, the site was back up and working. The department is talking to commercial providers who specialize in providing back-up capacity for major events and whose services would only kick in when needed.

Source: <http://ottawa.ctv.ca/servlet/an/local/CTVNews/20100822/quake-rattled-websites-100822/20100822/?hub=OttawaHome>

54. *August 20, Associated Press* – (Missouri) **Phone outage in part of southwest Missouri's Polk County blamed on copper thieves.** Authorities in Polk County in a southwestern Missouri county said copper thieves were to blame for a loss of telephone service in some towns. KYTV reports that phone company crews worked August 20 to restore land-line service in the towns of Morrisville, Brighton and Pleasant Hope. Thieves had been cutting phone lines to sell the copper wire for several weeks in neighboring Greene County.

Source: <http://www.kplr11.com/news/sns-ap-mo--copperthieves-phones,0,6480317.story>

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Commercial Facilities Sector

55. *August 22, KTVA 11 Anchorage* – (Alaska) **Local Fred Meyer evacuated, hazmat scare.** The Anchorage Police Department (APD) said they evacuated the Fred Meyer store off of Northern Lights Boulevard and New Seward, after a chemically activated bomb went off during a late night back to school shopping session August 21. APD said no one was hurt, however the people who were out late that night back to school shopping, still got quite a scare. Police said just before 11 p.m., what looked like a plastic water container exploded from gas pressure in aisle four in the Fred Meyer store. APD said the store was evacuated for a period of time, but they are not sure exactly how long that was. Anchorage Fire Department officials said after everyone cleared out of harms way, they tested some samples from the bottle with their hazardous materials equipment. It tested 97 percent muriatic acid, a hydrochloric acid commonly used for industrial cleaning.

Source: http://www.ktva.com/ci_15860569?source=most_viewed

For another story, see item [43](#)

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

56. *August 22, KMGH 7 Denver* – (Colorado) **Wildfire burns In Larimer County.** A wildland fire was 75 percent contained late August 22 in Larimer County, Colorado. The Rennels Fire was reported near U.S. 287 and Red Mountain Road around noon. Livermore is about 30 miles northeast of Fort Collins. The Larimer County Sheriff's Office told 7NEWS about 400 acres have burned. Several agencies are helping fight the fire: Larimer County, Wellington, Poudre Fire, the U.S. Forest Service, the Colorado Forest Service and Glacier View. Two air tankers dropped fire retardant on the fire. No one was evacuated and no structures have been damaged, according to the Larimer

County Sheriff's Office. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

Source: <http://www.thedenverchannel.com/news/24721102/detail.html>

57. *August 22, Twins Fall Times-News* – (Idaho) **Fire's progress into Gooding County halted; fire now covers 215,000 acres.** As of 8:30 p.m. August 22, firefighters have halted the Long Butte Fire's progress into southern Gooding County near Hagerman, Idaho, according to reports from the scene. The massive blaze is now estimated to have consumed more than 215,000 acres in the southwestern Magic Valley, and at one point moved as fast as 30 miles per hour. It jumped the Snake River near the Bell Rapids area earlier in the evening. Three-fourths of the Hagerman Fossil Beds National Monument has likely burned in the fire, leading the monument to shut down earlier August 22, the site superintendent said. The latest acreage estimate was released the evening of August 22 at an organizational meeting of local and federal fire crews. Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Forest Service engines and bulldozers are being assisted by four single-engine air tankers and three heavy air tankers, while rural fire departments from Gooding, Hagerman, Bliss, Buhl, Wendell, Castleford and Mountain Home Air Force Base are also on scene.

Source: http://www.magicvalley.com/news/local/article_7ee61dae-ae21-11df-a444-001cc4c03286.html

58. *August 22, San Luis Obispo Tribune* – (California) **Crews gaining toward containment of Pozo fire.** Cal Fire and the U.S. Forest Service efforts brought containment of the Pozo fire in California to 62 percent by the evening of August 22, according to authorities. The fire has burned 1,263 acres since it started about 12:30 p.m. August 21 south of Highway 58, about 25 miles east of Santa Margarita near the town of Pozo, according to the Forest Service. About 1,018 firefighters and other staff are battling the blaze, including six helicopters, one airplane, 16 bulldozers, 12 water tenders, 37 crews and 22 engines, authorities said.

Source: <http://www.sanluisobispo.com/2010/08/21/1258778/at-least-250-acres-burned-in-brush.html>

59. *August 21, San Diego Union Tribune* – (California) **10 rescued from path of wildfires in Lakeside.** Two rock climbers and eight people in a cabin north of El Monte County Park in Lakeside, California were rescued by helicopter from the path of a brush fire that charred about 2,000 acres in 5 hours August 21, making it one of the county's largest wildfires this year. Flames broke out at 1 p.m. about a mile east of the park and quickly spread northeast, away from houses scattered along El Monte Road leading toward El Capitan Reservoir. Sheriff's deputies advised residents to evacuate, then closed off El Monte Road at Lake Jennings Park Road in Lakeside to anyone who did not live east of that intersection. A Cal Fire captain said eight residents were rescued by helicopter from a cabin on El Cajon Mountain Trail. Two rock climbers also were picked up by a sheriff's helicopter crew from the slope of El Cajon Mountain. Boaters and others at El Capitan Reservoir also were evacuated. The blaze was 5 to 10 percent contained as of August 21. There was no estimate on when there would be full containment. Cal Fire hit the blaze with 400 firefighters, 20 engines, four air tankers, four helicopters and two helitankers in the first hours as flames moved steadily

northeast, across rocky, rough terrain into the Cleveland National Forest. A Cal Fire spokeswoman said the blaze had the potential to burn 5,000 to 10,000 acres because of an abundance of grass, boosted by winter rains, that make fires easier to start and spread quickly.

Source: <http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/2010/aug/21/300-acre-fire-burning-near-el-monte-park-in-lakesi/>

60. *August 21, CNN* – (Wyoming) **Lightning-ignited fire at Yellowstone National Park still growing.** A fire at Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming continues to spread in the same area where a 2001 fire burned at the park. The fire grew to about 191 acres as of late August 20. No closures are in effect, a park official said in a statement. The fire started from a lightning strike around midnight August 18, about 2 miles southwest of the park’s east entrance. It is burning mostly within the perimeter of the 2001 “Arthur” fire, in fallen and standing dead trees.
Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2010/US/08/21/yellowstone.fire/>

61. *August 21, Associated Press* – (California) **Officials raid marijuana gardens in Tehama County.** Law enforcement officials have been busy raiding marijuana gardens on U.S. Forest Service lands in a remote area of Tehama County, California. Authorities said between August 16 and 20, California Department of Justice agents, along with Forest Service officials, California Highway Patrol officers and officers from other agencies raided about 20 marijuana gardens near Tomhead Mountain. The area is a rugged and heavily wooded area about 50 miles west of Red Bluff. More than 166,000 marijuana plants were seized during the raids, while agents also found about 100 pounds of processed marijuana. Three people were arrested. Agents also found a number of campsites that indicated that several people had been living at the sites.
Source: <http://www.sfexaminer.com/local/ap/officials-raid-marijuana-gardens-in-tehama-county-101233209.html>

62. *August 21, Portland Oregonian* – (Oregon) **Forest fire causes evacuation of Olallie Lake Resort, campgrounds in Mount Hood National Forest.** The string of bad luck continues for Olallie Lake Resort in Oregon. The View Lake forest fire, a lightning-caused blaze, is burning nearby and has caused Mount Hood National Forest officials to evacuate the resort and campgrounds in the Olallie Lake Scenic Area. The resort recently changed ownership after being closed for three summers. The 10 cabins and store were renovated and only opened this season on August 1. The fire started recently and has not been brought under control. View Lake is about 3 miles southwest of Olallie Lake Resort.
Source:
http://blog.oregonlive.com/terryrichard/2010/08/forest_fire_causes_evacuation.html

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Dams Sector

63. *August 23, WBKO 13 Bowling Green* – (International) **Flooding forces 250,000 to evacuate homes in China.** Heavy rain over the last few days caused the Yalu River to breach its banks, rising to its highest level in a decade. Four people have died after their homes were swept away by flash floods. Flooding has also affected communities across the border in North Korea. Soldiers have been reinforcing rivers and using sandbags to protect against the high flood waters. The recent flooding is the latest disaster in the country's worst flooding season in over a decade.
Source: <http://www.wbko.com/news/headlines/101289979.html>
64. *August 21, Associated Press* – (Iowa) **Expert: Effects of dam break to linger.** An Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) fisheries biologist said last month's flood along the Maquoketa River could threaten the long-term health and beauty of one of Iowa's premier streams. Heavy rains pushed the Maquoketa to record levels and washed away an earthen portion of the Lake Delhi dam in eastern Iowa. While flood debris can be removed, the DNR spokesman said sedimentation will be a chronic problem. Nearly a month after the dam failed, the river still runs a muddy brown color. That is preventing biologists from documenting the amount of rocky river bottom that has been covered with silt.
Source: <http://www.kcci.com/news/24713259/detail.html>

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