



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 27 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 New York Times, a United States Navy drone wandered into restricted airspace August 2, and flying at 2,000 feet, got within 40 miles of Washington D.C. before operators could stop it. A Navy spokesman could not say August 25 if anyone on the ground was alarmed by the drone. (See item [14](#))
- The city of Espanola, New Mexico shut down two wells this week after the state environment department found elevated levels of uranium in the water supply. (See item [33](#))

Fast Jump Menu

PRODUCTION INDUSTRIES

- [Energy](#)
- [Chemical](#)
- [Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste](#)
- [Critical Manufacturing](#)
- [Defense Industrial Base](#)
- [Dams](#)

SUSTENANCE and HEALTH

- [Agriculture and Food](#)
- [Water](#)
- [Public Health and Healthcare](#)

SERVICE INDUSTRIES

- [Banking and Finance](#)
- [Transportation](#)
- [Postal and Shipping](#)
- [Information Technology](#)
- [Communications](#)
- [Commercial Facilities](#)

FEDERAL and STATE

- [Government Facilities](#)
- [Emergency Services](#)
- [National Monuments and Icons](#)

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 26, Shreveport Times* – (Louisiana) **State police investigate explosion that injured man.** The Louisiana State Police hazardous materials unit will focus in the coming days on determining what sparked an explosion August 25 at a natural gas compression station near Shongaloo and the release of any hazardous materials that critically injured one man. The injured man remains in critical condition inside the burn

unit at LSU Hospital in Shreveport. He was burned when the explosion took place around 4 a.m. at the DCP, or Duke Energy, natural gas compressor station, south of state Highway 157 near Walker Road at Mulberry Road. Fewer than a dozen homes surround the area where the station is located, with only one of those homes in very close proximity to the station. Webster sheriff's hazardous materials officials determined no evacuations were necessary. Firefighters from Springhill and Shongaloo extinguished the blaze. They found two condensate tanks, a nearby nonresidential structure, and surrounding grounds were on fire when they arrived.

Source: <http://www.shreveporttimes.com/article/20100826/NEWS01/8260335/State-police-investigate-explosion-that-injured-man>

2. *August 25, Riverside Press-Enterprise* – (California) **Wild weather cuts power, sparks fires, creates flash floods.** Some wild weather made its way across the Inland region of Southwest Riverside County, California, creating flash floods, sparking lightning fires and bringing down power lines in a situation that could leave some Lake Elsinore residents without electricity for up to 2 days. But the whole thing was not atypical for Southern California in August, said weather and fire officials. A freak wind gust or lightning strike brought down an eight-block row of utility poles on Pottery Street in Lake Elsinore, causing live power lines to fall atop a small Riverside Transit Agency bus. The driver and 11 passengers were trapped inside for almost 2 hours, until Southern California Edison workers could cut the lines. The downed lines initially left 6,000 Edison customers without power, a company spokesman said. By 6:45 p.m., about 5,300 were back online. While an Edison spokesman expected most customers would have power restored quickly, he said it was possible some could be without electricity for up to 2 days.

Source: http://www.pe.com/localnews/stories/PE_News_Local_D_hot26.319c685.html

3. *August 25, Reuters* – (Michigan) **Enbridge pipeline restart unclear as test delayed.** An Enbridge Inc. pipeline that ruptured in Michigan more than 1 month ago will not resume oil shipments until at least next week, now that a key pressure test on the damaged section has been delayed until August 30. The line, which ruptured July 26, was expected to be put through a hydrostatic test early this week after a series of excavations to judge its safety. Regulators require the results of the test to rule on Enbridge's plan to restart oil flows. One of the dig sites near the rupture, south of Marshall, Michigan, is in a pond and it has taken longer than expected to pump out water, forcing the delay in testing, the Enbridge vice-president said August 25. The company requires a go-ahead from the U.S. Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration to perform the test, which will take about 8 hours.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSN25155223>

For another story, see item [39](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Chemical Industry Sector

4. *August 26, Associated Press* – (Nevada) **Sulfuric acid spill closes parts of I-515.** A sulfuric acid spill brought traffic to a halt August 25 on parts of Interstate 15 in Las Vegas, Nevada for almost 3 hours. A Las Vegas Fire Department spokesman said a 55-gallon drum containing the hazardous liquid began leaking from the back of a truck after 4 p.m. A driver who spotted the leak called 911 to alert authorities. Firefighters neutralized the acid by using another chemical. At first, traffic was blocked on both sides of I-515 near East Charleston Boulevard and Las Vegas Boulevard. But officials began allowing some traffic to move as the cleanup got under way. The entire roadway was reopened about 7 p.m.
Source: <http://www.ktnv.com/Global/story.asp?S=13047228>

5. *August 25, KATC 3 Lafayette* – (Louisiana) **Chemical spill in Patterson-HWY 90 West reopens.** Parts of Highway 90 in Patterson, Louisiana, were shut down and traffic was being diverted to HWY 182 August 25 because an 18 wheeler was leaking what the St. Mary Sheriff's Department believed to be aluminum chloride. A haz-mat team was dispatched to the scene. Westbound lanes have reopened. The eastbound lane is still closed. The 18 wheeler was leaking methanol with aluminum chloride onto the eastbound lane. Once officials realized what it was they reopened the westbound lane. Highway 90 East in Patterson was still closed as of the evening of August 25.
Source: <http://www.katc.com/news/chemical-spill-in-patterson-hwy-90-shut-down/>

6. *August 25, Tarrytown-Sleepy Hollow Patch* – (New York) **Gas leak leads to building evacuation.** A leaking hydrogen tank caused a hazardous material scare August 25 at an office building on Route 119 in Tarrytown, New York. The incident was reported just before 11:50 p.m. at the BASF office facility located at 540 White Plains Rd. BASF is the largest chemical manufacturing company in the world. "The potential could be an explosion or sickness if people are exposed to it (hydrogen)," Tarrytown Fire Department's chief engineer said. Two maintenance workers first noticed the leak, they evacuated the area and called 911. Tarrytown fire crews were on scene within 4 minutes. An adjacent building that houses the Visiting Nurse Association of the Hudson Valley and the Westchester Library System also had to be evacuated. The chief engineer said the air quality was compromised during the leak, however two fire crews, wearing protective gear, entered the building and were able to secure the leaking tank. They then monitored the amount of hydrogen until it was safely removed from the building through the exhaust system. All of Tarrytown's fire companies responded to the scene, along with firefighters from Elmsford and Irvington. Westchester County's hazardous material truck was also on the scene.
Source: <http://tarrytown.patch.com/articles/gas-leak-leads-to-building-evacuation>

7. *August 25, Kansas City Business Journal* – (Missouri) **Bayer CropScience settles allegations tied to Kansas City pesticide plant.** Allegations that it fell short with chemical accident procedures at its Kansas City, Missouri, pesticide-manufacturing site will cost Bayer CropScience LP nearly \$140,000. The Environmental Protection Agency said August 25 that Bayer agreed to pay the United States a \$37,790 civil penalty to settle allegations that it didn't go far enough with a risk-management program to prevent or handle chemical accidents and releases at the Kansas City

facility. In addition, Bayer agreed to spend \$100,000 to set up air monitors around the facility at 8400 Hawthorn Road. The monitors will help detect chemical releases from the plant, which produces more than 35 million pounds of pesticides a year. The company also will hire a third-party consultant to review accidents and chemical releases from the past 5 years.

Source: <http://kansascity.bizjournals.com/kansascity/stories/2010/08/23/daily20.html>

For more stories, see items [35](#) and [49](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

8. *August 26, MidHudsonNews.com* – (New York) **All Indian Point sirens sound during test.** All 172 sirens in the Indian Point nuclear power plant emergency planning zone sounded during the quarterly full volume test August 25, which has triggered federal approval to take apart the old siren system. The sirens are within a 10-mile radius of the Buchanan, New York plant in the counties of Westchester, Rockland, Orange, and Putnam. They were sounded for 4 minutes and all worked properly, said a spokesman. “Recently, the federal government gave us permission to dismantle the old system as it’s not in use anymore and the new system has demonstrated its reliability,” he said. The tests are conducted quarterly as per the instructions of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.
Source: http://www.midhudsonnews.com/News/2010/August/26/IP_siren_test-26Aug10.html
9. *August 26, San Luis Obispo Tribune* – (California) **NRC likely to review Diablo Canyon engineering documents.** The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is expected to discuss a review of engineering documents at Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant in San Luis Obispo, California that was prompted by a long-term failure by personnel to correct low-level safety problems. The meeting in San Luis Obispo is open to the public. The public will have an opportunity to comment and ask questions. The review will consist of a self-audit by plant personnel of the plant's design documentation, including its final safety analysis report, to ensure these documents accurately reflect the physical configuration of the plant, said a NRC spokesman.
Source: <http://www.sanluisobispo.com/2010/08/25/1263819/nrc-likely-to-review-diablo-canyon.html>
10. *August 25, Orange County Register* – (California) **New steam generators move closer to San Onofre.** Two new steam generators for the Unit 3 reactor at the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station near San Clemente, California arrived August 24 by barge at Camp Pendleton's Del Mar boat basin. The 640-ton generators, manufactured in Japan, were shipped to Long Beach, then to Camp Pendleton in San Diego County, where they will be transported to the power plant to be installed. Two other steam generators were installed in a similar fashion last winter for the Unit 2 reactor.
Source: <http://www.ocregister.com/news/generators-263596-steam-san.html>

Critical Manufacturing Sector

11. *August 26, KCTV 5 Kansas City* – (Kansas) **Fire burns trash compactor at GM Fairfax plant.** Workers at the General Motors Fairfax Plant in Kansas City, Kansas were on high alert the morning of August 26 as a trash compactor located on the northeast part of the facility caught fire. According to KCK fire officials, crews were called to the plant shortly after 2 a.m. on reports of a fire. Crews said the fire was contained and that it took them about 20 minutes to put the it out. Nobody was injured in the fire, and fire officials said they are investigating the cause of the fire. Workers at the Fairfax plant assemble the Buick Lacrosse and Chevy Malibu. The plant employs about 3,600 workers.
Source: <http://www.kctv5.com/news/24767672/detail.html>

12. *August 25, AINonline* – (National) **FAA changes rule on commercial parts.** Changes to the Federal Acquisition Regulation Part 21 manufacturing rule published last October 16 are slated to go into effect April 1, 2011, including a modification to the standards for manufacturing. Currently, only parts specifically manufactured for installation in type-certified aircraft are regulated by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), but the changes would expand the parts covered. “At issue are commercial parts, those parts that are made for other industries that are not regulated by the FAA at the point of manufacture but find their way legally into aircraft, such as small light bulbs and non-structural fasteners,” the general counsel for the Aviation Suppliers Association (ASA), told AIN. ”The new regulation expands the scope of parts that will be subject to the FAA’s PMA (Parts Manufacturing Approval rules. For example, if a light-bulb manufacturer sells its light bulbs to aviation-industry customers [or knows that its distributors make such sales], then the manufacturer should know that such articles are reasonably likely to be installed on aircraft. Under this situation, the manufacturer must obtain a PMA in order to continue making those articles,” he said. “I’m afraid what’s going to happen is a manufacturer of commercial parts will start labeling them as ‘not for use in aircraft.’ ”
Source: <http://www.ainonline.com/news/single-news-page/article/faa-changes-rule-on-commercial-parts-25858/>

13. *August 23, WJRT 12 Flint* – (Michigan) **11 arrested for metal theft.** Seven men have been accused of breaking into a building once owned by General Motors, stealing copper, and shooting at a security guard and sheriff's department deputies. The Genesee County sheriff said it happened August 17 and August 20 on Flint's north side. The charges against the men vary. Four juveniles were also taken into custody and will be charged. "They went in a hole and go up as high as they could, and they'd slide those copper bars down the fire hoses," the sheriff said. On August 17, a security guard saw what was happening. One of the men fired a number of shots at him. It happened again 2 days later when deputies were patrolling. A General Motors spokesman released this statement: "The safety of our employees and visitors is our highest priority, and we are working with the Sheriff's Department to ensure that the Flint North site remains

secure." Flint North is owned by Motors Liquidation Company, but GM has 480 employees at the site. Operations at Flint North will end, as previously announced, by the end of the year.

Source: <http://abclocal.go.com/wjrt/story?section=news/local&id=7625151>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Defense Industrial Base Sector

14. *August 25, New York Times* – (Maryland; District of Columbia) **Navy drone wanders into restricted airspace around Washington.** A United States Navy drone wandered into restricted airspace August 2 around Washington D.C. before operators could stop it. A Navy spokesman could not say August 25 if anyone on the ground was alarmed by the drone — officially an MQ-8B Fire Scout Vertical Takeoff and Landing unmanned aerial vehicle — which looks like a small windowless helicopter, and was flying at 2,000 feet. The Navy said the drone got within 40 miles of Washington before operators were able to re-establish communication and guide it back to its base in southern Maryland. The incident resulted in the grounding of all six of the Navy's Fire Scouts as well as an inquiry into what went wrong. The Navy is calling the problem a "software issue" that foiled the drone's operators. Navy spokesmen said the Fire Scout, made by Northrop Grumman, was a little more than 1 hour into a test flight operating out of Naval Air Station Patuxent River on the Chesapeake Bay when operators lost its control link. The drone then flew 23 miles on a north-by-northwest course to enter Washington's restricted airspace. A half-hour later, the Navy spokesman said, operators re-established control and the drone landed safely back at Patuxent.

Source:

http://www.nytimes.com/2010/08/26/us/26drone.html?_r=1&partner=rss&emc=rss

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Banking and Finance Sector

15. *August 25, WSB-TV 2 Atlanta* – (Georgia) **Police: Sovereign citizen busted with \$302 billion in fake bonds.** Investigators said a suspect tried to convince a Clayton County police officer that he did not have to follow any Georgia laws because he is a sovereign citizen. The officer pulled over the suspect's Chevy Avalanche in a traffic stop for speeding, but found he had no current tag, registration or insurance. A search of the truck found \$108,000 hidden under the cup holders, police said. Then officers located several envelopes containing 12 fake surety bonds. "Basically, it's the U.S. government guaranteeing that this particular money is in the bank," said a police lieutenant who showed an investigative reporter one of the fraudulent documents allegedly worth \$100 billion. The monetary total for all 12 fake bonds was \$302.7 billion, police said. Investigators believe the suspect was planning to use the documents to attempt to steal houses, which was reported happening in neighboring counties in Georgia.

Source: <http://www.wsbtv.com/news/24764950/detail.html>

16. *August 25, Worcester Telegram & Gazette* – (Massachusetts) **Former bank employee gets probation in mortgage scheme.** A former bank employee described by his lawyer as an unwitting participant in a mortgage fraud scheme was placed on probation August 25 after admitting in court in Worcester, Massachusetts he provided fraudulent financial documents to a mortgage broker. The 31-year-old suspect of Worcester, a former Bank of America employee, was placed on probation for 4 years after pleading guilty to 13 counts of publishing a false financial statement. Prosecutors said that while working at a Bank of America branch in Worcester, the suspect produced 13 verifications of deposit or VODs that enabled a mortgage broker of Marshfield, a co-defendant in the case, to create fraudulent loan applications resulting in more than \$1 million in loans. One of the fraudulent documents indicated a loan applicant had more than \$40,000 in her bank account when the account, which had been opened by the suspect, actually contained only \$25, according to the assistant attorney general. The two defendants were among five people indicted in 2008 in connection with what prosecutors called a “sophisticated mortgage fraud ring.”
Source: <http://www.telegram.com/article/20100825/NEWS/100829806/1116>
17. *August 24, WDBJ 7 Roanoke* – (Virginia) **Area authorities caution: Beware of banking scam.** Authorities are warning of a widespread scam in the Rocky Mount and Henry County, Virginia areas that could clean out customers' bank accounts. Sheriff's investigators and police said many of those targeted are members of the Martinsville DuPont Credit Union. Bank customers have been getting calls from an automated voice service claiming their debit card has been compromised. They are then asked to enter their card number in order to speak with the security department. Authorities remind, never give out personal banking information over the phone unless a customer has called the banking center directly. Between the credit union and authorities, they have been able to respond quickly, making sure that the few customers who did give out their information didn't lose money to the scammers. DuPont officials said the largest outage appears to be around \$600 as of August 25.
Source: <http://www.wdbj7.com/news/wdbj7-story-bank-scam-sites-082010,0,2566279.story>
18. *August 24, Associated Press* – (Georgia) **Man accused of threatening Aflac building in court.** A man accused of threatening to fly a plane into a Columbus, Georgia insurance building appeared in court August 24. According to an FBI affidavit, federal authorities allege the 61-year-old suspect told an Aflac customer service representative that if a claim was not settled quickly, he would bring a shotgun to the Columbus insurance company, and also that he suggested he would fly a plane into the building. Authorities said it stems from a May 24 phone conversation. Authorities allege the employee cautioned the suspect against what he said, but he repeated it. The suspect was arrested May 27 at his Houston, Texas home. He could face a maximum of 5 years in prison on a charge of extortion/interstate threatening communications.
Source: <http://www.wtvm.com/Global/story.asp?S=13037211>
19. *August 24, Aberdeen Press and Journal* – (International) **Twelve climate-change activists arrested in capital day of protest.** Twelve climate-change protesters were

arrested during a day of mass action in Edinburgh, Scotland August 23. About 500 activists set up a so-called Camp for Climate Action behind the Royal Bank of Scotland (RBS) headquarters in the capital 5 days ago to protest against its funding of fossil fuel companies that they say are destroying the planet. The bank — almost wholly owned by the U.K. government — advised many staffers to work from home. Activists brought traffic to a halt after they created an “oil slick” on two of the main routes into the city. Lothian and Borders Police said a substance similar to diesel or vegetable oil was poured on the A720 Edinburgh bypass at Bankhead, and the westbound A8. Activists were criticized by police and politicians, who said a peaceful protest had taken a sinister turn. Five other activists were charged after a protest at the capital headquarters of Forth Energy, the firm behind controversial plans to build a renewable energy plant in Dundee.

Source: <http://www.pressandjournal.co.uk/Article.aspx/1885300?UserKey=>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Transportation Sector

20. *August 26, Holtville Tribune Weekly-Chronicle* – (California) **CBP in San Diego makes largest methamphetamine seizure at sea.** U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) marine interdiction agents August 22 stopped a U.S. citizen with 144 pounds of methamphetamine and 10 pounds of cocaine in a hidden compartment under the deck of his boat. At about 12:30 p.m., CBP marine interdiction agents on routine patrol stopped a private pleasure craft, a 1994, 23-foot Bayliner with one male U.S. citizen on board, as it returned to the U.S. from Mexico. The CBP marine interdiction unit, joined by a back-up vessel and crew with additional marine interdiction agents and a CBP officer, performed a boarding just outside of Mission Bay before escorting the pleasure boat and sole occupant to the CBP dock.

Source: <http://tribwekchron.com/2010/08/cbp-in-san-diego-makes-largest-methamphetamine-seizure-at-sea/>

21. *August 26, Washington Post* – (District of Columbia) **Metro installing cameras on buses to monitor driving.** The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (Metro) is installing cameras on its entire fleet of 1,500 buses in Washington D.C. as part of a 5-year, \$3 million program to monitor driving by bus operators and improve safety, transit officials said August 25. The new camera system will be focused on drivers as well as activity outside the bus. The cameras record constantly during bus operations, but when a driver makes any extreme movement — such as turning the bus sharply or accelerating quickly — the cameras capture the 15 seconds before and after the incident. The video and audio of the incident is then automatically downloaded off the bus wirelessly when the bus returns to the garage. Metro already has security cameras installed on more than 1,000 buses aimed in front of the bus as well as at passenger areas, and are intended to document and deter accidents, crimes and conflicts. However, the existing cameras require that the video be retrieved within a few days or it is recorded over.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/08/26/AR2010082603710.html>

22. *August 26, Truckinginfo.com* – (International) **International enforcement effort cracks down on illegal Hazmat transport.** Enforcement agencies across the U.S. and Canada participated in a 2-day operation August 17-18 aimed at cracking down on the illegal transportation of hazardous materials. The operation focused on major transportation routes in the New York, Michigan and Ontario areas, according to a release by Interpol, an international police organization, with 188 member countries. During the 2-day blitz, the agencies checked 313 vehicles, identified 85 violations and launched two investigations. Led by officers from the Canadian and U.S. national environmental agencies (Environment Canada, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency), and supported by provincial and state environmental agencies, police and national customs authorities, the operation also involved Interpol's National Central Bureaus (NCBs) in Ottawa, Ontario, and Washington which provided secure police communication channels, access to a range of Interpol databases and analytical support. Source: http://www.truckinginfo.com/news/news-detail.asp?news_id=71475
23. *August 25, WBBM 2 Chicago* – (Illinois) **Suspicious package detonated outside 'L' stop.** the Chicago, Illinois police bomb and arson section responded around 10:35 p.m. August 24 to a report of a suspicious package in the street near the multi-level stop used by Green and Orange line 'L' trains and Red Line subway trains. Officers detonated the package, which was a suitcase, but it turned out there was nothing dangerous or explosive inside. Roosevelt Road was closed during the incident, but reopened by 1:40 a.m., a police news affairs officer said. The police activity forced disruptions in Chicago Transit Authority service. Source: <http://cbs2chicago.com/local/suspicious.package.detonated.2.1877906.html>
24. *August 23, WDRB 41 Louisville* – (Kentucky) **Police: Man cut railroad communication lines.** University of Louisville Police have arrested a man they say could potentially have caused a fatal train wreck. The 38-year-old homeless man was found on the CSX Transportation railroad tracks at the intersection of 3rd Street and Winkler Avenue in Louisville, Kentucky. Police said he was attempting to steal copper wire from the railroad, and had wire cutters in his possession. According to his arrest slip, the suspect "cut and stole communication lines, affecting train traffic across a multi-state area." The report goes on to state that his actions "had the potential of causing a train accident and derailment behind the University of Louisville, which could have led to a loss of life of the train crew and others." He has been charged with interference with railway communications, wanton endangerment, theft by unlawful taking, possession of burglary tools, fleeing police, and criminal trespassing. Officers requested that he not be allowed to post bail, as they consider him to be a flight risk. Source: <http://www.fox41.com/Global/story.asp?S=13027947>

For more stories, see items [1](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#), and [14](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Postal and Shipping Sector

25. *August 25, KCCI 8 Des Moines* – (Iowa) **Grand jury indicts man in threatening letters case.** A Winterset, Iowa man has been indicted by a grand jury after police said he sent threatening letters, including one containing a white powder. Authorities said the jury delivered a 10-count indictment against the suspect August 25. Authorities said the suspect sent the threatening communications to several individuals and organizations in February 2010. Investigators said the suspect mailed an envelope containing a written death threat and a white powder, with the intent to falsely convey the transfer of a harmful biological agent or toxin. They said he also separately mailed a letter threatening to injure a named individual to nine different individuals or organizations.

Source: <http://www.kcci.com/r/24762447/detail.html>

26. *August 25, San Antonio Express-News* – (Texas) **Mailed substance closes courthouse.** A state inmate wanted someone to listen to his claims that he was being poisoned at a Texas prison, so he mailed powdery substances to the federal courthouse in San Antonio. That forced the closure of the courthouse for an hour and a half August 25 while a hazardous-materials team with the San Antonio Fire Department (SAFD), clad in protective white suits, retrieved the powder and tested it. It was not toxic, said a SAFD Battalion Chief. "He believes he's been poisoned in the Connally Unit (in Huntsville) and has been sending food from the Connally Unit to law enforcement and judges so they could test it," the SAFD spokesman said. The material mailed to the courthouse was food and a healthcare product, said a SAFD spokesman. He did not elaborate. The SAFD spokesman said he was unsure if charges would be filed, and said U.S. marshals were investigating. Court proceedings continued, but most visitors were denied entry while the situation was resolved. The court reopened shortly before 1 p.m.

Source:

http://www.mysanantonio.com/news/local_news/mailed_substance_closes_courthouse_101503659.html

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Agriculture and Food Sector

27. *August 26, CNN* – (Mississippi) **Mississippi oysters safe to eat, experts say.** Federal and state experts have declared Mississippi oysters safe to eat after the oil spill that gushed for months in the Gulf of Mexico. The state's oyster season is closed during the summer and reopens in September or October. "Like all the seafood samples collected and tested from Mississippi territorial waters since the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, our Mississippi oyster tissue samples have undergone rigorous testing, and have been proven to be well below levels of concern for hydrocarbons," the fisheries director for the state department of marine resources said. The agency conducted the tests with the state department of environmental quality, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. The report was released

August 25.

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2010/US/08/26/mississippi.safe.oysters/?hpt=T1>

28. *August 26, Food Safety News* – (National) **Congress widens egg recall investigation.** Lawmakers are widening the scope of their investigation into the nationwide recall of over 500 million eggs. The House Energy and Commerce Committee August 25 asked both the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Department of Agriculture (USDA) for all inspection and testing records since 2007, related to Wright County Egg and Hillandale Farms, which are both at the center of the recall linked to at least 1,300 cases of Salmonella. The committee is also asking for copies of agreements, or memoranda of understanding between USDA and from Iowa state agencies that may be responsible for conducting inspections, including the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship and the Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals. A spokesman for the Iowa Department of Agriculture told Food Safety News that the state relies on FDA and USDA for egg facility inspections. The committee wrote to Wright County Egg and Hillandale Farms August 23, demanding more than 5 years of inspection records and internal protocol documents. Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2010/08/congress-widens-egg-recall-investigation/>
29. *August 24, Food Safety News* – (New York) **Botulism fears bring herring recall.** Brooklyn's NY Fish Inc. August 23 recalled its NY Fish Brand (cold) Smoked Herring for being un-eviscerated prior to processing. The recall came after a routine inspection by the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets Food Inspectors. No illnesses have been associated with the recall. NY Fish Inc. last year recalled smoked salmon and salted herring products for possible Listeria contamination, and a March 10, 2010 warning letter was sent to the company by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) about conditions inside the seafood-processing facility. The latest recalled herring may be contaminated with Clostridium botulinum spores, which can cause Botulism, a serious and potentially fatal foodborne illness. This product was sold in New York. The recalled NY Fish Brand Smoked Herring comes in a coded, plastic vacuum bag with code number 141. Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2010/08/botulism-fears-bring-herring-recall-1/>

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

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Water Sector

30. *August 26, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency* – (New York) **EPA issues order to Tonawanda Coke for Clean Water Act Violations.** In its ongoing efforts to require Tonawanda Coke Corporation (TCC) in New York to comply with environmental regulations, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has ordered the coke manufacturing facility to comply with its Clean Water Act permit. Among other

violations, TCC is discharging industrial wastewater containing cyanide in excess of its permit limits into the town of Tonawanda's sanitary sewer system, which ultimately discharges into the Niagara River from the town's wastewater treatment facility. Cyanide is a toxic chemical compound, and excessive amounts may adversely impact human health, fish and wildlife. EPA is also ordering TCC to properly monitor and treat the wastewater that results from the coke-making process. Under EPA's order, TCC is required to complete the overdue installation of pollution controls, improve monitoring, and provide additional information about operations at the facility.

Source:

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/0/348B56B5E62F2F4F8525778B004814C2>

31. *August 25, Oklahoman* – (Oklahoma) **Water main break in northeast Moore causes outage.** A water main break in northeast Moore, Oklahoma, left at least one neighborhood without water service August 25. The main broke that afternoon near the Signal Ridge subdivision along NE 27 between Eastern and Bryant avenues, a Moore utilities customer service worker said. Homes and businesses in the area do not have water service. No estimate of when the main would be repaired was available.
Source: http://www.newsok.com/water-main-break-in-northeast-moore-causes-outage/article/3488701?custom_click=headlines_widget

32. *August 25, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency* – (California) **U.S. EPA to establish nation's largest coastal no-sewage zone/ EPA to sign rule preventing large ships from discharging 20 million gallons of sewage along California's 1,624 mile coastline.** U.S. EPA's Pacific Southwest Regional administrator announced August 25 details of the Agency's proposal to ban all sewage discharges from large cruise ships and most other large ocean-going ships to the marine waters along California's entire coastline. This will establish the largest coastal "No Discharge Zone" in the United States and is expected to eliminate millions of gallons of sewage that large ships discharge every year into local waters. This action will strengthen protection for 5,222 square miles of California's ports and coastal waters, extending from the border with Mexico to Oregon and the waters surrounding major islands. The action proposes a new federal regulation to establish the sewage discharge ban. The ban will prohibit sewage discharges from all 300+ ton vessels, including cruise and cargo ships that operate in California waters. The proposed prohibition is unprecedented in geographical scope. In contrast to prior no-discharge zones under the Clean Water Act, which apply in very small areas, the new ban will apply to all coastal waters out to 3 miles from the coastline and all bays and estuaries subject to tidal influence. There are nine small no-discharge zones currently designated in California, which include the national marine sanctuaries.
Source:
<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/e77fdd4f5afd88a3852576b3005a604f/035d6a7b195f40428525778a0048d0b1!OpenDocument>

33. *August 24, Santa Fe New Mexican* – (New Mexico) **Uranium found seeping into wells.** Nature, not man, is the biggest source of uranium contamination in water around Espanola, Pojoaque, Nambe and Santa Fe, New Mexico. Several private water wells

around Pojoaque and Nambe have twice tested with uranium levels three to six times higher than the federal recommended levels for safe drinking water. Meanwhile, Espanola shut down two wells this week after the state environment department found elevated levels of uranium in the water supply. The Espanola city manager said the wells will not be a problem in the future. "We plan to shut them off completely and to blend other wells that we do have in this area," he said in a statement. Around Santa Fe, a test of 475 wells last year found several with elevated uranium, but nothing compared to wells tested subsequently in Nambe and Pojoaque. The testing and analysis were part of New Mexico Small Business Assistance project between LANL and the Good Water Company of Santa Fe, which designs, installs and services water-purification systems. High uranium levels found in a half-dozen wells around the Nambe and Pojoaque corridor, between the Rio Grande and the Sangre de Cristo Mountains, mirrored the results of a larger study conducted in 2005 by Santa Fe County and LANL. "One well in the corridor tested with 60 times the EPA maximum contamination level for uranium," said the owner of Good Water Company. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency set 30 micrograms per liter as the safe drinking-water standard. Wells in the Pojoaque and Nambe corridor measured with uranium levels from less than 30 to 1,800 micrograms per liter, according to a LANL groundwater chemist.

Source: [http://www.santafenewmexican.com/Local News/Uranium-found-seeping-into-wells](http://www.santafenewmexican.com/Local%20News/Uranium-found-seeping-into-wells)

34. *August 24, Yuma Sun* – (Arizona) **Employees put out fire at city water plant.** Employees at the Yuma, Arizona Water Treatment Plant put out a small fire August 24 at the facility's mechanic shop. "They knew where the fire extinguisher was located and were able to deploy it in a timely manner," said a spokesman for the Yuma Fire Department. "Fires grow quickly and give off toxic fumes and gases." Upon their arrival, firefighters were directed to the mechanic shop, which is housed in a separate building from the water treatment equipment. The spokesman said a shop rag was ignited by a grinder. Water plant employees acted quickly and knocked down the flames with a hand-held fire extinguisher. Firefighters made sure the fire was out and vented the remaining smoke from the building. There were no injuries, but a nearby machine tool was slightly damaged. There was no damage to equipment used in the water treatment process, and no disruption of service.

Source: <http://www.yumasun.com/news/fire-63370-erfert-water.html>

35. *August 24, KOLO 8 Reno* – (Nevada) **Fallon water safe to drink after acid spill.** Fallon, Nevada, is dealing with a pair of hydrochloric acid spills at its water treatment plant, and has shut the facility down temporarily. The acid is used in the water treatment process and the mayor said the spills did not get into the water supply. The water currently in homes is untreated, but officials are saying it is completely safe to drink, and no boil order has been issued. Haz-mat crews are working to clean up the spills and the water treatment plant should reopen August 26. But area residents are being asked to conserve water when possible, just in case the plant needs to stay closed longer.

Source: <http://www.kolotv.com/home/headlines/101441304.html?storySection=story>

Public Health and Healthcare Sector

36. *August 26, KHGI 13 Kearney* – (Nebraska) **Whooping cough cases on the rise.** Pertussis (whooping cough) has been on the rise. Through July 2010, several states have reported an increase in cases and/or localized outbreaks of pertussis. Within Nebraska, a total of 101 confirmed or probable cases have been reported since August 19. In Hall County, three confirmed cases have been reported, recently. Pertussis is a very contagious disease caused by a type of bacteria called Bordetella pertussis. Among vaccine-preventable diseases, pertussis is one of the most commonly occurring ones in the United States.
Source: <http://www.nebraska.tv/Global/story.asp?S=13048510>
37. *August 26, Associated Press* – (New York) **Snake in electrical box causes NY hospital outage.** A snake slithered into a switch box outside a New York hospital, where it caused a 10-hour power outage. Officials at Vassar Brothers Hospital in Poughkeepsie said backup generators kicked on August 24 when a common-variety snake got into the switch box and disrupted the hospital's main power supply. Workers found the dead snake inside the box. Hospital officials said there were no patient care disruptions caused by the outage, which lasted from 3 p.m. August 24 to 1 a.m. August 25. Some emergency room cases had to be diverted to other hospitals.
Source: http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/38863087/ns/us_news/
38. *August 25, WBRC 6 Birmingham* – (Alabama) **Homeland Security drill offers rare look at disaster preparedness.** The Anniston, Alabama Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP) recently held a disaster health-care exercise. In this scenario, health-care workers from throughout the United States acted out an explosion at a battery acid factory. Patients showed up bleeding and in various states of shock and hysteria at the Homeland Security facility. More and more casualties piled up and workers had to set up a decon station outside the emergency room. The CDP operates on the site of the old Fort McClellan Army base, and the exercise took place at the Noble Training Center, which was once the base hospital. The CDP was training first responders from all over the country on nightmare terrorism scenarios even before the 9/11 terrorist attacks, and teaches responders about everything else from hurricanes to methamphetamine labs in cars.
Source: <http://www.myfoxdal.com/Global/story.asp?S=13046557>
39. *August 25, San Francisco Examiner* – (California) **Copper theft causes blackout at UCSF Medical Center.** The University of California, San Francisco Medical Center at Mount Zion ran on backup generators for the majority of August 25 after thieves stole a copper ring from a transformer causing the main power generator to fail. According to a PG&E spokesman, the outage was isolated to the hospital, and crews on scene determined a copper ring essential to transferring power was stolen from the transformer. PG&E remains at the location to determine if the problem can be immediately fixed or if the utility company will have to bring in additional generators

to supply the hospital with power.

Source: <http://www.sfexaminer.com/local/Copper-theft-causes-blackout-at-UCSF-Medical-Center-101577753.html>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Government Facilities Sector

40. *August 26, Associated Press* – (Illinois) **About 70 students fall ill at Tuscola school.** The Tuscola, Illinois school district and the Douglas County Health Department are trying to find out what sickened some 70 students at a local elementary school. The students were sent home school sick August 25 from North Ward Elementary School, which has an enrollment of some 400 students. The interim school superintendent said symptoms reported by the students include vomiting, diarrhea and abdominal pain, but no fever. He said that if parents notice their children experiencing these symptoms, they should keep them home from school August 26. He said the health department was called in to investigate as soon as staff learned about the illnesses, and the department has been interviewing parents of the sick students to find out their symptoms and eating habits.

Source: <http://abclocal.go.com/wls/story?section=news/local/illinois&id=7631095>

41. *August 25, KTVI 2 St. Louis* – (Missouri) **Police have a suspect in the firebombing of Carnahan office.** New details involving the firebombing at a Missouri Congressman's South St. Louis campaign office came out August 25. Police now have a suspect in the case, but he has not been charged. The Congressman confirms that the suspect did briefly work for his campaign, but was fired for performance issues. The Congressman said he wants to see the suspect prosecuted.

Source: <http://www.fox2now.com/news/ktvi-suspect-firebombing-carnahan-office-082510,0,3669069.story>

42. *August 25, Arlington Heights Daily Herald* – (Illinois) **Student admits to owning ammo that caused Wheaton College evacuation.** An unidentified Wheaton College student admitted to owning ammunition found August 24 near a dormitory, which caused the Wheaton, Illinois campus to be locked down while police investigated, officials said. Police recovered a weapon and more ammunition from an off-campus location, but have not made an arrest, officials said August 25. Police said they were contacted by college public safety officials about 9:30 a.m. August 24 after the package was found outside Smith-Traber Hall along Howard Street. As a safety precaution, the dormitory, which houses freshmen and sophomores, was locked down and the entire building was searched, officials said in a statement. A nitrate-sniffing dog from the DuPage County Sheriff's Office assisted in the search. The search was completed around 2:30 p.m. and no weapon or other dangerous device was found. Students were allowed back into the dormitory. Wheaton detectives are continuing to investigate.

Source: <http://www.dailyherald.com/story/?id=403468&src=2>

43. *August 25, Associated Press* – (California) **Navy, Coast Guard trade blame for midair crash.** The Coast Guard said August 24 that a failure by the Navy to follow standard air traffic control procedures contributed to a midair collision that killed seven Coast Guard members and two Marines off the coast of San Diego, California last year, while the Navy insisted the pilots were responsible. The Navy called the collision of the Coast Guard C-130 plane and Marine Cobra helicopter "entirely preventable" and said it highlighted the need for better communication between air traffic controllers and pilots. A Navy report on the crash faulted the Coast Guard and Marine crews for failing to watch out for each other, saying it was their responsibility to avoid each other while flying even though a Navy controller was aware of their presence. The collision occurred about 50 miles off the coast. "Both aircraft were operating under visual flight rules and were ultimately responsible for their own safety, navigation and separation from other aircraft," the Navy report said. The Navy acknowledged that a controller at Naval Air Station North Island in Coronado, near San Diego, failed to alert the pilots. It said the controller was giving higher priority at the time to Navy F/A-18 fighter jets in the area. It recommended that a supervisor be assigned to provide additional oversight. The Coast Guard report, also released August 24, blamed Navy controllers for failing to recognize a formation of four Marine helicopters make a climbing right turn, one of which collided with the Coast Guard plane. It said it was in radio contact with Navy controllers for 2 1/2 hours before the crash, which may have led the Coast Guard crew to believe that it would be warned of any aircraft in the area.

Source:

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5gCJN2Wyd01AZIxo0IYmr3QOOzBAAD9HQ7O200>

44. *August 25, Associated Press* – (California) **Campus safe after bomb scare empties LA school.** Authorities said there is no threat and students were sent home after a pipe bomb scare forced the evacuation of a South Los Angeles, California high school. A Los Angeles school police spokesman said a bomb squad determined the device was safe about 3 hours after an employee found it in a girls' restroom at Manual Arts High August 25. The spokesman said investigators haven't said whether it was a bomb. Nearly 2,000 students and staff members spent much of the school day in the gymnasium and on the athletic field.

Source: <http://www.sacbee.com/2010/08/25/2982456/pipe-bomb-scare-empties-south.html#ixzz0xixNLJj>

45. *August 25, KPHO 5 Phoenix* – (Arizona) **Bomb squad detonates suspicious backpack.** The Maricopa County Sheriff's bomb squad blew up a suspicious backpack in the plaza of the Maricopa County complex at 201 W. Jefferson St. in Phoenix, Arizona August 25. Members of the squad have determined it was not a bomb. The Maricopa County Superior Court attorney said an investigation revealed there was no explosive inside the backpack. A sheriff's office spokesman said a call came into Phoenix police from a couple who said there was a bomb at the superior court building. Deputies checked and found a suspicious package in front of one of the entrances to the board of supervisors auditorium. The bomb squad was called in and technicians X-rayed the package and determined there was a circuit board inside. The bomb squad set

off a charge next to the package to open it. A further check determined there was no explosive.

Source: <http://www.kpho.com/news/24758551/detail.html>

46. *August 23, School Safety Partners* – (National) **New SWAT tactics for school shootings.** A full-scale exercise at a high school in Utah focused on the latest police and SWAT tactics for Columbine-style school shootings and intruder attacks. The federal training for school staff allows schools to partner up with local first responders and improve school safety. New technologies turn basic school radios and surveillance cameras into tools that help police and SWAT teams achieve the pinpoint accuracy of a smart bomb when it comes time to neutralize violent offenders. A video of the exercise was produced using only the unrehearsed radio dialog captured during the exercise and the synchronized video footage caught on eight different surveillance cameras mounted outside and in the school hallways. As one follows the shooters, one notices exercise facilitators operating the smoke machine and dispensing ammo to the perps as they take hostages. The maneuvers of the three law enforcement teams in the video are based on the information they receive moment-by-moment, with no scripting. The school principal also provides crucial behind-the-scenes support so teams can quickly box in the gunmen before rushing through the last door to take them down.

Source: <http://www.schoolsafetypartners.org/communications/679-New-SWAT-tactics-for-school-shootings.html>

For more stories, see items [26](#), [59](#), and [61](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Emergency Services Sector

47. *August 25, Hattiesburg American* – (Mississippi) **7 more arrested in HPD burglary.** Seven more people have been arrested and another is being sought in last week's break-in at the Hattiesburg, Mississippi Police Department (HPD), where suspects broke into a storage area and stole an undisclosed amount of marijuana. Two of the suspects, whose arrests were announced during a press conference August 24, were city employees. They join another city employee and an inmate who were earlier charged in the August's 19 break-in. Police also have issued a warrant for another man, who escaped from the Forrest County Community Work Center August 23. He is wanted on charges of commercial burglary, conspiracy to commit burglary, possession of a controlled substance with intent to deliver, and conspiracy to possess a controlled substance with intent to deliver. HPD's captain of detectives said he thought police recovered the stolen marijuana. HPD, the FBI, the Mississippi Bureau of Investigation, and the state attorney general's office were all involved in the case.

Source: <http://www.hattiesburgamerican.com/article/20100825/NEWS01/8250324>

48. *August 25, Sterling Journal-Advocate* – (Colorado) **Sterling Correctional Facility security to face scrutiny.** The inmate who had escaped three times from custody from the Sterling Correctional Facility in Sterling, Colorado broke out August 22 from what

was once believed, at least by many who live in the area, to be an escape-proof facility. He was then captured just before noon August 25 at a home northwest of Yuma by search teams after a manhunt that lasted about 62 hours. During an August 25 press conference from the Denver Women's Correctional Facility, the state director of prisons said how the convict escaped is still under investigation. However, he did confirm that the inmate breached perimeter fences.

Source: http://www.journal-advocate.com/sterling-local_news/ci_15892878

49. *August 25, Associated Press* – (Alabama) **OSHA eyes 45-minute time lag in Ala. ammonia leak.** Residents near an ammonia leak that sent 130 people to Mobile, Alabama-area hospitals did not get an official warning about what had happened for at least 45 minutes after the accident. Federal regulators said August 25 they are investigating the time lag before sirens went off at Theodore in coastal Alabama. But emergency officials said they acted as quickly as they could. Executives with the Nebraska-based company that operates the plant, Millard Refrigerated Services, also said officials responded quickly and appropriately. They said the plant was evacuated, the leak located and stopped, and authorities notified within 20 minutes. County officials said it took additional time for them to activate outdoor warning sirens because they had to assess what had occurred, notify the media, and turn on the system.

Source: <http://www.kcautv.com/Global/story.asp?S=13044497>

50. *August 22, Wisconsin State Journal* – (Wisconsin) **New radio system criticized as a waste.** Should terrorists attack or tornadoes rip through Wisconsin, improvements being made to emergency communications should one day help first responders throughout the state talk with each other. But today, if storms topple trees onto roads in Janesville, or if a semitrailer spills chemicals on a city street, police there can not use their radios to alert city public works employees. It is those kinds of everyday emergencies that most concern local officials, some of whom say a planned \$22 million statewide radio system is not needed and will not work with their existing radios, which rely on their own networks of towers, antennas, and frequencies. And while the system is intended to tie all law enforcement in the state together, many public safety officials said they do not plan to use the new network — known as the Wisconsin Interoperable System for Communications, or WisCom — and said it is sapping federal grant money that could be better spent at the local level.

Source: http://host.madison.com/wsj/news/local/govt_and_politics/article_7049724c-ad8a-11df-83a4-001cc4c03286.html

For another story, see item [46](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Information Technology Sector

51. *August 26, IDG News Service* – (International) **Scammers hit Twitter, Facebook, send free iPad spam.** Facebook and Twitter users are complaining about their accounts being compromised and then being used to spam friends with suspicious "free iPad

offers." Twitter warned users of the scam August 25, saying it was resetting passwords of affected users. "If you've received a message promising you a new iPad, not only is there no iPad, but also your friends have been hacked," Twitter said. The scam is also hitting Facebook users too, according to a company spokesman. "It's affecting an extremely small percentage of people on Facebook, but we take all threats seriously," he said via e-mail. A researcher discovered his Twitter account had been used to direct message contacts late August 25. He noted the scammers sent direct messages to his friends, that said, "u have to check out this website its glitchin right now and sending out ipads to everyone for free!" He said the messages continued, even after he changed his password. The messages his friends received contained a link to better-gifts.net. That Web site asks for personal information, and then directs the user to a variety of promotional offers from legitimate companies such as Netflix, the Doubleday Book Club, and Columbia House DVD. Online marketing programs pay cash for Web traffic, and hackers have found that by phishing victims and then using that information to break into legitimate Twitter and Facebook accounts, they can earn money.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9181958/Scammers_hit_Twitter_Facebook_s_end_free_iPad_spam

52. *August 26, Help Net Security* – (International) **25% of new worms are designed to spread through USB devices.** In 2010, 25 percent of new worms have been specifically designed to spread through USB storage devices connected to computers, according to PandaLabs. These types of threats can copy themselves to any device capable of storing information such as cell phones, external hard drives, DVDs, flash memories and MP3/4 players. The technique is highly effective. With survey responses from more than 10,470 companies across 20 countries, it was revealed that about 48 percent of SMBs (with up to 1,000 computers) admit to having been infected by some type of malware over the last year. And 27 percent confirmed the source of the infection was a USB device connected to a computer. "There are now so many devices on the market that can be connected via USB to a computer," said PandaLab's technical director. "This is convenient for users, but since all these devices have memory cards or internal memory, it is feasible they could be carrying a virus." There is an increasing amount of malware which, like the dangerous Conficker worm, spreads via removable devices and drives such as memory sticks, MP3 players and digital cameras. The basic technique used is as follows: Windows uses the Autorun.inf file on these drives or devices to know which action to take whenever they are connected to a computer. This file, which is on the root directory of the device, offers the option to automatically run part of the content on the device when it connects to a computer. By modifying Autorun.inf with specific commands, cyber-crooks can enable malware stored on the USB drive to run automatically when the device connects to a computer, thus immediately infecting the computer in question.

Source: http://www.net-security.org/malware_news.php?id=1444

53. *August 26, V3.co.uk* – (International) **Scareware hits U.K. airport terminals.** Security experts are warning users to exercise extreme caution when using publicly available Internet access terminals after malware was discovered on a terminal in a U.K. airport

lounge. In a blog post, a Symantec Hosted Services senior software engineer explained that on a recent trip he noticed one of the Internet-connected PCs in a “large airport in England” was infected with fake anti-virus software known as "Defense Center Installer." Such malware claims a user is infected with a virus, and encourages them to buy the full version of the software to clean the fictitious infection, he explained. "It's also common for this type of malware to try to uninstall legitimate anti-virus software, including Symantec's Norton Anti-Virus." He added that the scareware had also used Windows APIs to manipulate the information displayed in Windows Security Center, making it look like Windows is claiming there is no AV installed. The engineer argued that far more malicious threats than scareware could be present at such Internet-connected terminals including keyloggers, which could harvest sensitive user account information such as Web mail or online banking log-ins.

Source: <http://www.v3.co.uk/v3/news/2268766/scareware-hits-uk-airport>

54. *August 26, The Register* – (International) **Apple kills Jailbreakme Mac bug.** Apple has purged Mac OS X of a browse-and-get-hacked vulnerability that first came to light 3 weeks ago, when the popular Jailbreakme service used it to root fully patched versions of the iPhone. The buffer overflow flaw in an OS component that parses fonts was one of 13 vulnerabilities Apple fixed in an update released August 24. It allowed attackers to remotely execute malicious code on vulnerable machines simply by getting the user to view a booby-trapped PDF document. A related bug was patched 2 weeks ago in iOS, which powers the iPhone, the iPad and the iPod Touch. The vulnerability in the latter devices was being actively exploited by Jailbreakme, allowing users to jailbreak their device by doing nothing more than visiting the site and flicking a slider. There were no reports of the vulnerability being exploited in OS X. The update also patched a hole in CFNetwork that allowed attackers to bypass secure sockets layer protection, and it fixed a variety of third-party components including ClamAV, Samba and PHP.

Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/08/26/jailbreakme_bug_patch/

55. *August 26, The New New Internet* – (International) **Corporate ID theft used to jack code signing certificate.** Security researchers with F-Secure have found a new set of spammed malware that uses corporate identity theft to steal Authenticode code-signing certificates. The attack vector is new because of the use of legitimate contact information. “This is something we’ve seen before,” the researchers write. “But this case seemed odd because the contact information appeared very genuine. Usually a valid but malicious certificate uses clearly bogus or dubious details.” The use of legitimate contact information is particularly worrisome because it makes it difficult for certification authorities to discern legitimate requests. “When scammers have access to a company’s e-mail, it is very difficult for a CA to verify whether the request coming from the company is genuine,” the researchers write. “Mistakes will also happen in the future. It is very likely that we’ll see more of these cases in which an innocent company with a good reputation is used as a proxy for malware authors to get their hands on valid certificates.”

Source: <http://www.thenewnewinternet.com/2010/08/26/corporate-id-theft-used-to-jack-code-signing-certificate/>

56. *August 25, DarkReading* – (International) **Careful with that third-party Web widget.** Small- and mid-sized businesses use a lot of third-party Web applications: It saves them money and allows them to embed expertise that they might not otherwise have. But it can also open up their business and their customers to attack. The recent Network Solutions incident shows how this practice can go very wrong: Ten days ago, the Internet domain provider learned that a Web-services widget that it had placed on at least 120,000 parked Web pages was infecting visitors with malware. The firm reportedly downloaded the widget, known as the Small Business Success Index, on third-party online directory WidgetBox. As more businesses continue to use third-party code in their Web sites and import content from other sites, the security of their visitors increasingly relies on others. "Over the past five years, Web 2.0 has taken the world by storm," says the chief technology officer of Web scanning firm Dasient. "As a Web site administrator, your security is actually dependent on a bunch of third parties, so you should make sure to monitor all your code and widgets." Network Solutions is not the only Internet company to inadvertently host malicious code on its Web site. A year ago, The New York Times infected an unknown number of visitors with a rogue program after fraudsters posed as a legitimate advertiser and submitted a virus-laden ad to the news service. Other Web sites — such as Snapple.com, BusinessWeek and Fox News — have had to deal with similar problems.

Source: <http://www.darkreading.com/smb-security/security/app-security/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=227001110>

57. *August 25, Sophos* – (International) **Malicious spammers launch major fake anti-virus attack.** SophosLabs's worldwide network of email-monitoring stations has seen a tidal wave of malicious messages being spammed out with an attachment that redirects users' Web browsers to a fake anti-virus attack. The e-mails have subject names such as: Parking Permit and/or Benefit Card Order Receipt; You're invited to view my photos!; Appointment Confirmation; Your Bell e-bill is ready; Your Vistaprint Order Is Confirmed; and Vistaprint Canadian Tax Invoice. Opening the attached HTML file, however, redirects your Web browser to a hacked Web site containing a malicious iFrame (which Sophos detects as Troj/Iframe-FK). This, in turn, loads scripts from other Web sites that load a fake anti-virus attack that Sophos detects as Mal/FakeAV-EI. Mal/FakeAV-EI often disguises itself as a bogus version of McAfee VirusScan.

Source: <http://www.sophos.com/blogs/gc/g/2010/08/25/malicious-spammers-launch-major-fake-antivirus-attack/>

58. *August 25, V3.co.uk* – (International) **Cisco issues security advisory for UC products.** Cisco has released a security advisory to address vulnerabilities in a pair of its products. The company said that the update will plug security flaws in its Unified Communications Manager and Unified Presence lines. The US Computer Emergency Response Team (US-CERT) is advising administrators to review and install both updates. For the Unified Communications Manager, the update will patch a pair of security flaws that could allow denial-of-service attacks. Cisco said that an attacker could use a specially-crafted Session Initiation Protocol (SIP) message to trigger a processing error and bring down voice services on a targeted system. The Unified Presence patch also addresses the SIP-handling denial-of-service vulnerabilities within

the messaging platform. Cisco said that it has yet to receive any reports of exploitation in the wild. The company said that there are no known workarounds for the vulnerabilities, though a free update has been posted. Administrators can obtain the updates through their IT service providers or through the company's technical assistance center.

Source: <http://www.v3.co.uk/v3/news/2268746/cisco-issues-security-advisory>

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>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Communications Sector

59. *August 25, Des Moines Register* – (Iowa) **City of West Des Moines e-mail went down, should be back Monday.** The city of West Des Moines, Iowa, had trouble with e-mail the week of August 23, but officials said the problem should be fixed by August 30. The city's aging e-mail server crashed August 20, just as city staff were working to install a new server. The system's demise was hastened by the proliferation of smartphones among city staff because the phones constantly check in with the server. "That constant traffic just brought it to its knees, so to speak," the city's IT director said. New inboxes for city staff were up and running by August 23, but all previous e-mail was inaccessible. Replacing the servers had been in the city's budget this year, but had to be dropped as a cost-saving measure, the IT director said. When city staff realized a month ago the server would probably go down, they started to replace it anyway. The old one crashed as they were working on the new one. Residents who have not received a response to an e-mail to city staff should try to call, just in case their e-mail was lost or never reached the recipient.

Source: <http://blogs.desmoinesregister.com/dmr/index.php/2010/08/25/city-of-west-des-moines-e-mail-went-down-should-be-back-monday/>

60. *August 25, Colorado Springs Gazette* – (Colorado) **Man arrested for stealing thousands of feet of copper wiring.** Police in Colorado Springs, Colorado, arrested a man August 24 on suspicion of stealing thousands of feet of copper wiring. The 20-year-old suspect admitted taking more than 3,500 feet of copper wiring from the back lot of Qwest Communications, 2264 Naegele Road in west Colorado Springs, police said. Police first noticed something might be awry in the area when they spotted a vehicle backed into an alley behind the Qwest building. Looking closer, police found a woman and child in the vehicle, along with thousands of feet of copper wiring laying nearby. Much of it had been cut into smaller spools. A short time later, police spotted the suspect in front of the business. He was booked into the El Paso County jail on suspicion of theft, second degree criminal trespass, and possessing burglary tools.

Source: <http://www.gazette.com/articles/police-103573-wiring-feet.html#ixzz0xdOebpla>

61. *August 25, WGAL 8 Lancaster* – (Pennsylvania) **Internet outage hit most state Web sites.** It appears an Internet outage that affected most Pennsylvania government Web sites for hours August 25 has been fixed. Some of the key sites affected were: (1) State unemployment compensation system (unemployed could not file for claims online) (2) Department of Revenue (taxpayers could not make payments online). There is still no word at this time as to what caused the problem. Some state sites with independent servers, such as the Department of Public Welfare, Department of Transportation and the state's Megan's Law Web site, were able to remain up and running during the outage. The state's Internet access is handled by the office of information technology in the office of administration.

Source: <http://www.wgal.com/r/24757443/detail.html>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Commercial Facilities Sector

62. *August 26, WHDH 7 Boston* – (Massachusetts) **Crews work to repair a steam pipe in Boston.** Crews are working to repair a steam pipe underneath Milk Street, Boston, Massachusetts August 26 after the underground steam pipe burst in Boston's Post Office Square August 25. When the pipe burst open, steam broke through the pavement, sending dirt and gravel in all directions. The burst left a hole approximately 26 inches in diameter in the street. For several hours, hazardous materials crews were on standby, checking if high levels of asbestos had contaminated the area. Roads were shut and people were kept back. "It erupted, and put a pretty large hole in the street. Debris blown across the street. Thank goodness there wasn't no pedestrians or anybody out here..." said a representative of the Boston Fire Department.
- Source: <http://www1.whdh.com/news/articles/local/12002046415152/crews-work-to-repair-a-steam-pipe-in-boston/>

63. *August 25, Springfield Republican* – (Massachusetts) **All-clear given in wake of natural gas leak that prompted evacuation of hundreds of people near 916 Worthington St. in Springfield.** Hundreds of people evacuated from their homes and businesses August 25 when a contractor struck a natural gas main in Springfield, Massachusetts, have since been allowed to return. A fire department spokesman said the ruptured main prompted the evacuation of homes and businesses within a three-block radius. No injuries were reported. Baystate Gas repaired the ruptured main within 20 to 30 minutes, and people were allowed to return to their homes and businesses about 45 minutes later.
- Source: <http://www.masslive.com/news/index.ssf/2010/08/all-clear-given-in-wake-of-nat.html>

64. *August 25, WGAL 8 Lancaster* – (Pennsylvania) **Suspicious package prompted evacuation.** About a dozen stores in the Shoppes at Prospect shopping plaza in

Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, were evacuated for more than 2 hours August 25 because of a suspicious package. The West Hempfield Township police were called in to investigate. Officers found a large wooden box in a shopping cart. On top of the box was a white piece of paper with the number 14 written on it. Police X-rayed the box, but found nothing inside. The bomb squad removed the box.

Source: <http://www.wgal.com/r/24759646/detail.html>

65. *August 25, KTVB 7 Boise* – (Idaho) **Residents in parts of Valley County put on evacuation notice because of wildfire.** A wildfire burning in national forest land in Valley County, Idaho, is now within a mile of some residential areas. The Valley County Sheriff's Office said a Level 1 evacuation order has been issued for subdivisions along West Mountain Road from God's Acres and north to and including Tamarack Resort and Royal Scott subdivision 2, 5 & 6. That means the current threat is severe and residents should prepare to evacuate; especially people with special needs, pets, livestock and mobile property. A Type II Federal Incident Command Team has been assigned to the Hurd fire and is working with the Donnelly Fire Department and Valley County. Nearly 260 people are being told to gather important personal items, cars, pets and livestock.

Source: <http://www.ktvb.com/home/Residents-near-West-Mountain-put-on-evacuation-notice-because-of-fire-101511774.html>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

National Monuments and Icons Sector

66. *August 26, Honolulu Star-Advertiser* – (Hawaii) **Big Isle police arrest man in 1,300-acre brush fire.** Big Island police in Hawaii have arrested a 31-year-old Papaikou man in connection with a 1,300-acre brush fire that has closed Saddle Road since August 22, and drawn firefighters from three islands. Police said the man was found nearby after firefighters arrived to fight the blaze at about 9:30 a.m. The suspect was taken to Hilo Medical Center for treatment and released, then arrested August 23 on suspicion of first-degree arson. Police released him the morning of August 24, pending investigation. The fire began August 22 near Mauna Kea State park. No structures were threatened and no one has been injured, said a spokesman for the U.S. Army Garrison Hawaii. As of 11 a.m. August 24, fire officials revised the size of the fire from 2,000 acres to 1,300, and determined the blaze was about 55 percent contained. Yesterday, 85 firefighters were on the ground, including 14 state firefighters from Maui, five from Schofield Barracks and 66 state and federal firefighters from the Big Island. Six helicopters helped in the blaze, including two Hawaii Army National Guard Black Hawks, one Marine helicopter from Kaneohe, and three contractors.

Source:

http://www.staradvertiser.com/news/hawaiinews/20100825_Big_Isle_police_arrest_man_in_1300-acre_brush_fire.html

67. *August 25, Associated Press* – (California) **Agents destroy 21,000 pot plants in Nevada County.** Drug agents have pulled nearly 21,000 pot plants from the ground

during raids on three gardens in California's gold rush country. Law enforcement teams descended on the gardens in the Tahoe National Forest on August 23 and 24. When they arrived, a spokesman from Nevada County Sheriff's Department says agents seized about 21,000 marijuana plants. Several firearms and ammunition were also found. Some of the marijuana plants were six feet high and budding. Authorities say the harvest had begun, and workers appeared to have been preparing the buds for distribution. Sleeping and living areas had been set up at the gardens, though the sites had been recently abandoned. The growing operations were spotted from the air about four weeks ago.

Source: <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/n/a/2010/08/25/state/n160527D84.DTL&type=business>

68. *August 24, Merced Sun-Star* – (California) **Yosemite fire grows to 160 acres.** A lightning-caused fire in Yosemite National Park in California has consumed 160 acres near Lake Vernon, approximately three miles north of the Hetch Hetchy Reservoir. The Vernon fire, spotted August 9, is being managed by fire officials. Moderate smoke from the fire is visible from the Hetch Hetchy area. The trail from Tiltill Valley Trail Junction to Lake Vernon is closed. The Tiltill Valley Trail remains open. No park facilities are threatened by the fire.

Source: <http://www.mercedsunstar.com/2010/08/24/1541735/yosemite-fire-grows-to-160-acres.html>

For another story, see item [65](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Dams Sector

69. *August 26, Associated Press* – (International) **Pakistan floods threaten 3 towns as levee fails.** Pakistani officials urged anyone left in three southern towns on August 26 to evacuate immediately as floodwaters broke through a levee, endangering areas previously untouched by the country's almost month-long disaster. The swollen Indus River broke through the Sur Jani embankment in southern Sindh province late August 25 threatening the towns of Sujawal, Daro, and Mir Pur Batoro, said a top government official in Thatta district. Most of the 400,000 people who live in the area are thought to have evacuated already, but those remaining were warned to flee, he said. The floods that began almost a month ago with the onset of the monsoon have ravaged a massive swath of Pakistan, from the mountainous north through to its agricultural heartland. More than 8 million people are in need of emergency assistance, and the United States and other nations have pledged hundreds of millions of dollars in aid. The death toll in the floods stands around 1,500 people, but the disaster ranks as one of Pakistan's worst ever because of the scale and massive economic damage, especially to the country's vital agricultural sector. The U.N. said earlier this week that some 800,000 people are still cut off by the floods and accessible only by air.

Source: <http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2010/aug/26/pakistan-floods-threaten-3-towns-levee-fails/>

70. *August 25, KRGV 5 Rio Grande Valley* – (Texas) **Valley dams tested by floodwater.** Anzalduas Dam in Mission, Texas was considered by the state to be marginally safe 3 years ago. It has weeks of repairs ahead. Piles of silt block water flow downstream. Debris jams the gates. It's a dirty reminder of record flood levels. The International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC) must clean up the dam. This will be the second cleanup effort. In a 2007 inspection, expert engineers told workers to control the growth and remove sedimentation. "Anything downstream to a certain distance will impede the flow," said as spokesperson for IBWC. The same year, inspectors called Falcon Dam "conditionally unsafe." They questioned its stability, noted a history of water leaks and demanded action. Floodwater this year tested the stability of both dams. "It was tested and worked as designed," he said. No major issues were reported from either site. Workers inspected the dam components hourly, during flood stage. Now the water level has gone down, IBWC crews will continue to monitor on a weekly basis.

Source: http://www.krgv.com/news/local/story/Valley-Dams-Tested-by-Floodwater/WQuZ6Vth_0uQ-Fi0pgHzOQ.csp

71. *August 25, Waterloo Cedar Falls Courier* – (Iowa) **Lake Delhi dam owner plans to appeal FEMA denial.** The owner of the Lake Delhi dam in Delhi, Iowa will appeal a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) decision that the dam is not eligible for recovery assistance. "We feel the determination is not correct," the president of the Lake Delhi Recreation Association, which operates the dam, said August 25. An appeal through FEMA's administrative process is being pursued. The governor of Iowa, who called FEMA's denial an example of a federal agency changing the rules in the middle of a game, said he would support an appeal by the Combined Lake Delhi Benefited Recreational Lake and Water Quality District, which owns the dam. The decision by FEMA also jeopardizes \$7 million in FEMA funding for projects either completed or underway. FEMA determined Lake Delhi, which sustained damage in July 24 flooding, including the washout of a 200-foot earth-over-concrete dam, is not eligible for assistance to rebuild public infrastructure. A concrete portion of the dam remains intact. About half of the 1,000 homes around the lake southeast of Manchester were damaged by the flood that followed more than 15 inches of rain across the Maquoketa River watershed. The river reached 23.92 feet, which was more than 2 feet above the previous high water mark.

Source: http://wfcourier.com/news/local/article_685bfcae-b08b-11df-8043-001cc4c002e0.html

[\[Return to top\]](#)

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information

About the reports - The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is a daily [Monday through Friday] summary of open-source published information concerning significant critical infrastructure issues. The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is archived for ten days on the Department of Homeland Security Web site: <http://www.dhs.gov/iaipdailyreport>

Contact Information

Content and Suggestions:

Send mail to cikr.productfeedback@hq.dhs.gov or contact the DHS Daily Report Team at 703-872-2267

Subscribe to the Distribution List:

Visit the [DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report](#) and follow instructions to [Get e-mail updates when this information changes](#).

Removal from Distribution List:

Send mail to support@govdelivery.com.

Contact DHS

To report physical infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact the National Infrastructure Coordinating Center at nicc@dhs.gov or (202) 282-9201.

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Web page at www.us-cert.gov.

Department of Homeland Security Disclaimer

The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is a non-commercial publication intended to educate and inform personnel engaged in infrastructure protection. Further reproduction or redistribution is subject to original copyright restrictions. DHS provides no warranty of ownership of the copyright, or accuracy with respect to the original source material.