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# **North Dakota Homeland Security Anti-Terrorism Summary**



The North Dakota Open Source Anti-Terrorism Summary is a product of the North Dakota State and Local Intelligence Center (NDSLIC). It provides open source news articles and information on terrorism, crime, and potential destructive or damaging acts of nature or unintentional acts. Articles are placed in the Anti-Terrorism Summary to provide situational awareness for local law enforcement, first responders, government officials, and private/public infrastructure owners.

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## **NORTH DAKOTA**

**Cost to fix dam goes down.** Officials said the cost of repairing Clausen Springs Dam in Valley City, North Dakota has gotten more affordable. Renovation for the earthen dam near Kathryn is expected to cost about \$1.8 million. Engineers estimated earlier that repairing the dam would cost \$6 million due to poor soil conditions. Moore Engineering said the concrete structural spillway the company envisioned has now been replaced by less expensive concrete block and steel sheet piling. The 55 residents of Kathryn were evacuated for a few days in April 2009 after flooding began eroding the dam's spillway 6 miles west of the town. National Guard soldiers in helicopters dropped more than 100, 1-ton sandbags to shore it up. Source:

<http://www.crookstontimes.com/news/x718560045/Cost-to-fix-dam-goes-down>

**No injuries from acid leak.** No one was injured September 14 when a semi hauling hydrochloric acid overturned on Interstate 94 Exit 64 in Dickinson, North Dakota, though leaking acid ate a hole through the side of the aluminum trailer, officials said. A 30-year-old man of New Salem was carrying more than 2,100 gallons of the diluted chemical in a Midwest Motor Express truck, according to the Dickinson Fire Department. He was on the westbound ramp in east Dickinson at about 9:30 a.m. when the truck overturned, Dickinson's fire chief said. The acid was in liquid form in seven containers in the truck. One was damaged when the truck overturned and the chemical leaked out and some vaporized. Between 160 and 165 gallons, or about half the contents of the tank, leaked out. Authorities stopped traffic on Interstate 94 for about 10 minutes. The on and off ramps of Exit 64 were closed until mid-afternoon. Source:

<http://www.thedickinsonpress.com/event/article/id/39680/>

**North Dakota, South Dakota Guard to participate in exercise with civilian responders.** The North Dakota National Guard's 81st Civil Support Team and South Dakota's 82nd CST will participate in a multi-agency emergency response exercise with civilian responders at Camp Grafton Training Center, Devils Lake, North Dakota from September 13-17. The exercise will incorporate a variety of training scenarios designed to test security on Camp Grafton and the collective agencies' ability to respond to a chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear or high yield explosive incident. Civilian agencies participating in the exercise include the Devils Lake Fire Department, Grand Forks Fire Department, and Devils Lake Police Department. The North Dakota Air National Guard's 119th Emergency Management Flight will also take part in the exercise. North Dakota Army National Guard's 136th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion will support Roads Acting as Dams operations in another planned emergency response scenario. Source:

<http://www.jamestownsun.com/event/article/id/119004/group/News/>

## **REGIONAL**

**(Minnesota) Baggage claim reopened after evacuation.** A baggage claim area at the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport was partially evacuated September 13, after officials said three unattended

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bags were found near Carousel 8. An airport spokesman said the bags were apparently abandoned by a woman who traveled to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania September 13. He said it is not clear why she left them, but noted the lack of official luggage tags with bar codes indicated the bags had not been checked in. The area is now open and fully operational again. The Bloomington Bomb Squad was called in to evaluate the situation and removed the suspicious bags from the scene. Crews evacuated the area between Carousel 7 to 9 briefly while the bomb squad investigated. The partial evacuation did not affect flight operations. Source:

<http://wcco.com/local/minneapolis.airport.evacuation.2.1910555.html>

**(South Dakota) No red flags in inspections prior to SD dam breach.** The state of South Dakota said reports on the condition of Rose Hill Dam filed in 2007 and 2008 did not indicate the Hand County structure was at risk for failure. The earthen dam was breached during heavy rain in late July. Floodwaters swept away two men who had to cling to a tree until they could be rescued. One of the men had to be hospitalized. A State Game, Fish and Parks engineer said officials were satisfied with the condition of the dam during the earlier inspections. He said the breach was caused by an extraordinary natural event and not by structural weakness in the dam. The Daily Republic said an estimated 9 inches of rain fell during the storm. State officials estimate it could take \$1 million or more to rebuild the dam. Federal funding is possible. Source:

<http://www.ksfy.com/Global/story.asp?S=13165241>

## **NATIONAL**

**(California) Copycat suicide: Toxic fumes in car.** A man apparently killed himself with toxic fumes inside his car after posting warning signs in the windows September 18 in Carmel Mountain, California, in a copycat suicide of an incident in August, San Diego police said. Officers found the 46-year-old Mira Mesa man's body in his car, which was parked in the back corner of a strip mall parking lot on Carmel Mountain Road. Police evacuated the skate park as a precaution, cordoned off the parking lot, and called the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department and a hazardous materials crew. The man's family called police about 3:30 p.m. to report that he had been missing since noon September 17, a police lieutenant said. His cell phone signal led officers to the strip mall about 5 p.m., where they found the car with hand-written warning signs taped to the windows. The man had used common household chemicals, which, combined, filled the car with toxic gas. Hazardous materials crews removed the items. On August 14, a man committed suicide by creating a lethal hydrogen sulfide gas from common chemicals in his car at Black Mountain Park in Rancho Penasquitos. The man put a sign in his dashboard that said, "Don't open, Call hazmat or 911." The police lieutenant said he did some research after the first incident and learned this method of suicide had become prevalent in Japan, and now has spread to several cases across the United States. Source:

<http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/2010/sep/18/copycat-suicide-toxic-fumes-car/>

**(Kansas) Nine tornadoes reported in area storms; damage widespread.** Authorities around Wichita and south-central Kansas spent September 16 assessing the damage wrought by an outbreak of intense thunderstorms that delivered massive hail, a handful of brief tornadoes and potent winds to the region the previous night. Power outages caused by the storm closed all schools in Winfield and two schools in Haysville: Campus High School and Ruth Clark Elementary. "Hail was so large and heavy it came all the way through the roof" of the terminal building at Mid-Continent Airport, said the airport's air service and business development manager. The worst damage was in the concourse

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next to Gates 9, 11 and 12, she said. More stones punched holes in skylights above the ticketing area. Three aircraft — one each from Continental, United and Federal Express — were damaged by hail and need to be towed to their maintenance sheds for repairs, she said. A half-dozen vehicles in the long-term parking lot had windshields or back windows shattered by hail. Airport passengers and employees were sent to the terminal's basement storm shelter at the height of the storm, she said.

Source: <http://www.kansas.com/2010/09/17/1497645/ge-widespread.html>

**Plugs ordered on idle wells.** Oil and gas companies must permanently plug thousands of Gulf of Mexico wells idle for 5 years or more under a federal order issued September 15. The mandate could cost well owners billions of dollars, but it could also create jobs for rig workers idled by a federal clampdown on new offshore exploration. The U.S. Interior Department and its offshore-drilling oversight agency said companies must cement 3,500 wells that aren't producing oil or gas. Another 650 oil and gas platforms must be dismantled if they are no longer being used, the government said. The mandate becomes effective October 15. Owners of such wells would have to pay for the permanent sealing of the wells and abandon the opportunity of reopening them for production. The announcement boosted the stock prices of some oil-field service and offshore drilling companies, as investors bet the companies could profit from new government-mandated work. Source:

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB20001424052748703743504575493782591743858.html>

**DOT to propose plan to improve pipeline safety.** The Department of Transportation said September 15 it will propose pipeline safety legislation and strengthen its own rules following recent crude spills and California's deadly natural gas explosion. "The DOT's legislative proposal will complement its additional planned regulatory initiatives to continue to improve pipeline safety," said the Deputy Secretary of Transportation. "The department intends to take significant action to reassess its pipeline safety regulations to expand and strengthen them, as needed," he said. The calls to improve pipeline safety follow a deadly natural gas pipeline explosion in San Bruno, California last week on a duct owned by Pacific Gas & Electric Co. Canada's Enbridge had two leaks on pipelines bringing crude oil into the U.S. Midwest. Pipeline regulators said they were working to determine when the 670,000 barrel-per-day Illinois pipeline that was shut in due to a leak could restart. Source:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE68E3T520100915>

## INTERNATIONAL

**White powder sent to another embassy.** White powder was found in an envelope at an embassy in Tel Aviv, Israel — this time at the Turkish Embassy — for the fourth time in 1 week, officials said. Israeli firefighter teams and units specializing in dangerous substances were sent to the site. No injuries were reported, Ynetnews.com said. Embassy staffers opening mail discovered the white powder inside an envelope, the Web site said. It was the fourth time within 1 week that rescue forces were dispatched to Tel Aviv after suspicious envelopes were sent to foreign embassies, the report said. Last week, envelopes containing white powder and threats to the state of Israel were sent to the American, Spanish and Swedish embassies, the report said. Source:

[http://www.upi.com/Top\\_News/World-News/2010/09/20/White-powder-sent-to-another-embassy/UPI-17661284993138/](http://www.upi.com/Top_News/World-News/2010/09/20/White-powder-sent-to-another-embassy/UPI-17661284993138/)

**France warns of terror threat.** France is on heightened alert for possible terrorist attacks after receiving a tip-off that a female suicide bomber was planning to attack the transport system, a police

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source said September 20. The interior minister said France was facing a real terrorism threat as it faces a backlash from al Qaeda militants in North Africa and fears grow of an attack from home-grown cells within its borders. A police source told Reuters the authorities had been alerted from Algeria that there was a possible threat from a female suicide bomber to the Paris metro system. Citing unidentified security sources, French radio station RTL reported earlier in the day that the authorities had been informed of the possible bomber September 15. A spokesman for the public prosecutor said an investigation to determine the truth of the information was under way. "On Salafist websites, close to al Qaeda, there have been more calls against France and communication has been intercepted from (al Qaeda's) Abu Yahya al-Libi to AQIM to attack France as a priority," a spokesman for the International Terrorism Observatory in Paris told Reuters Television. The head of France's counter intelligence service has appeared in several interviews recently evoking the heightened alert. Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE68J3X120100920>

**Criminals stole Interpol chief's Facebook identity.** Criminals stole the Facebook identity of Interpol's head and used it to obtain information on an operation by the international police agency, he said. "Just recently Interpol's Information Security Incident Response Team discovered two Facebook profiles attempting to assume my identity as Interpol's secretary general," he told the first Interpol Information Security Conference in Hong Kong. "One of the impersonators was using this profile to obtain information on fugitives targeted during our recent Operation Infra Red." The operation brought together investigators from 29 member countries to target criminals on the run from justice for crimes including murder, pedophilia, drug trafficking and money laundering, Interpol's Web site said. Source:

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5h0Ym2JQp3rQqBVemA5tWciwTvQAg>

**Manchester Airport terminal reopens after evacuation.** Terminal One at Manchester Airport in England was reopened September 17 after being briefly evacuated because of a suspect package, police said. Police said they responded after reports of the suspect package going through security at the departures area of the terminal. They evacuated the terminal and bomb disposal officers examined the package, later confirming it posed no threat to the public. Officers spoke to the man who owns the package and said no offenses had been committed. Source:

<http://www.cnn.com/2010/WORLD/europe/09/17/uk.airport.evacuation/>

**Security at Germany's Oktoberfest to be toughest ever.** Anti-terrorist security and anti-crime surveillance at Oktoberfest in Germany which begins September 18, will be tougher than ever before, German police in Munich said September 14. A no-fly zone will apply in a radius of 3.7 kilometers from the central Munich site, while 50 heavy concrete pods will be placed on the fringes of the unfenced site to block potential car bombers. Streets near the site will be completely closed to private traffic and taxis, the police said. The force is to deploy 300 officers at the festival and keep a close eye on the crowds using 17 remote-controlled video cameras. There has not been any actual threat to disrupt the annual festival, but police "abstractly" perceived it as being vulnerable. Source:

[http://www.monstersandcritics.com/news/europe/news/article\\_1584513.php/Security-at-Germany-s-Oktoberfest-to-be-toughest-ever](http://www.monstersandcritics.com/news/europe/news/article_1584513.php/Security-at-Germany-s-Oktoberfest-to-be-toughest-ever)

**Eiffel tower reopens after bomb threat, evacuation.** Some 2,000 people were evacuated from around the Paris, France landmark, The Eiffel Tower, because of a bomb threat from an anonymous caller September 14. Explosives experts scoured the tower and Champs de Mars park overnight but

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found nothing suspicious. No one has claimed responsibility for the threats, but the French government had issued an increased alert about possible threats from al-Qaida in August and the first half of September. The false alarm also came on the same day France's Senate voted overwhelmingly to ban full Islamic veils in public. No additional security measures were in place the following day, several news outlets reported. The threat came in a phone call just after dark to a private company that runs security at the tower. Hours later, the Saint-Michel train station, the site of a deadly attack in 1995, was also briefly evacuated after a similar threat. Nothing was found there either. Source: <http://www.aolnews.com/world/article/eiffel-tower-reopens-after-bomb-threat-evacuation/19634279>

**N. Ireland dissidents threaten to attack bankers.** A dissident republican terror group in Northern Ireland threatened September 15 to target banks and bankers as it seeks to destabilize the peace process, in comments to a newspaper. The Real IRA launched a tirade at financial institutions in Great Britain's "colonial and capitalist" system, which it accused of leaving millions of victims, in remarks to Britain's Guardian daily. The threat is the latest attempt by the group, that formed after breaking away from the Provisional IRA when the latter was engaging in peace talks, to undermine British rule of the province. "We have a track record of attacking high-profile economic targets and financial institutions such as the City of London," said the group's leaders in a series of written responses to the paper. "The role of bankers and the institutions they serve in financing Britain's colonial and capitalist system has not gone unnoticed. Let's not forget that the bankers are the next-door neighbors of the politicians." But security sources in the British province played down the threat. They stressed that the Real IRA lacks the logistical resources of the Provisional IRA to carry out a bombing campaign similar to the ones that hit the London in the early 1990s. Source: <http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5gReAESVZrzOSfgN0Jt0u29YCpfxA>

**85 inmates escape Mexican prison near Texas.** A prison in a border state that already had a history of escapes suffered still another — perhaps the largest ever in Mexico — September 10 when 85 inmates used ladders to scale the 20-foot-tall walls and then disappeared. The Tamaulipas State public safety secretary said 66 of the inmates had been convicted of, or were on trial for, federal charges, like weapons possession or drugs. The others were convicted or accused of lesser offenses. He said 44 guards and employees of the prison, in the city of Reynosa, next to McAllen, Texas, were under investigation. "The guards evidently helped in the escape," he said. So far this year, 201 inmates have escaped from prisons in Tamaulipas. Less than 2 weeks earlier, 40 inmates escaped from a prison in Matamoros, a Tamaulipas city across the border from Brownsville, Texas. Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2010/09/12/world/americas/12Mexico.html? r=1>

## **BANKING AND FINANCE INDUSTRY**

**Emails containing Zeus malware detected, as removal tool announced.** Warnings have been made of a new wave of malicious e-mail messages that carry a Zeus payload. According to Websense Security Labs, the campaign is related to pharmaceutical spam messages, except it combines an HTML or ZIP attachment with a social engineering technique. Detection found in the case of an HTML attachment, criminals are using an obfuscated JavaScript, and content is encrypted with a commercially available HTML obfuscation tool. Websense said when viewing the deobfuscated content, it saw the script uses a meta refresh tag to redirect a user who views the attachment. The script checks what browser is used and only performs the redirection if Firefox, Chrome, or Safari is used. Someone using an

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affected browser will get redirected to a pharmaceutical site. The "label.zip" file contains "label.exe," which is a copy of Zeus. The malware copies itself to C:\Documents and Settings\user\Application Data\Ewca\refef.exe, and tries to access two sites located in the .ru zone. The announcement came as BitDefender released its Zbot/Zeus removal tool. Source: <http://www.scmagazineuk.com/emails-containing-zeus-malware-detected-as-removal-tool-announced/article/179033/>

**(Illinois) Cardholders missing thousands in bogus ATM withdrawals.** Thieves near Chicago, Illinois have stolen money through unauthorized ATM transactions more than 30 times since September 12, suburban police departments said. Buffalo Grove police said they have fielded 20 complaints from residents who have said they have lost thousands of dollars. "We are trying to get those cases together and find out if there is a commonality, is there a store involved, is there a certain ATM involved, is there a certain bank involved, and find out how these cases are all linked up together," said the Buffalo Grove police commander. There have also been at least 15 similar incidents reported in Wheeling, where account-holders noticed money missing from their accounts. Others have been reported in Harwood Heights. The withdrawals occurred in California, Ohio, Schaumburg, Melrose Park and Harwood Heights, police said. The most common place was California, where six of the incidents occurred. Police said they believe the thieves are using skimming devices. Source: <http://www.nbcchicago.com/news/local-beat/atm-thefts-102993929.html>

**U.S. lacking in credit card fraud protection.** The United States is a technological powerhouse but it is apparently lacking in the area of credit card fraud protection. Meanwhile, other developed countries are moving towards using more secure bank cards featuring extra layers of protection against fraud criminals. A few American banks are discreetly thinking about adopting the new technology for better credit card fraud protection, but are discouraged by the costs of overhauling point-of-sale terminals utilizing magnetic-stripe cards that have been used by the industry for decades. Canada, Europe, and advanced economies in Asia are adopting new technologies to safeguard transactions and consumer identities, but the United States has not kept pace with them and is becoming increasingly vulnerable. "The U.S. is becoming the most favored nation for credit card fraud," said a senior analyst with the Aite Group. Source: <http://seerpress.com/u-s-lacking-in-credit-card-fraud-protection/6711/>

Crypto weakness leaves online banking apps open to attack. **Flaws in the way** Web applications handle encrypted session cookies might leave online banking accounts open to attack. The security risk stems from a cryptographic weakness in Web applications developed using Microsoft's ASP.Net framework. ASP.Net uses the U.S. government-approved AES encryption algorithm to secure the cookies generated by applications during online banking sessions. However, implementation flaws in how ASP.NET handles errors when the encrypted data in a cookie has been modified give clues to a potential attacker that would allow him to narrow down the possible range of the keys used in an online banking session. Attacks based on this weakness might allow a hacker to decrypt sniffed cookies or forge authentications tickets, among other attacks. Two researchers have developed a Padding Oracle Exploit Tool to demonstrate the feasibility of the attack, an extension of their previous research on similar flaws in JavaServer Faces and other Web frameworks. Source: [http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/09/14/web\\_apps\\_crypto\\_flaw/](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/09/14/web_apps_crypto_flaw/)

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## **CHEMICAL AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SECTOR**

**Nuclear program has Air Force both worried and hopeful.** The commander of the U.S. Strategic Command expressed concern September 13 over several aspects of nuclear deterrent capabilities but praised the Nuclear Posture Review and the Administration's fiscal 2011 budget that requested a substantial funding increase to upgrade nuclear weapons facilities and modernize and sustain the weapons stockpile. An Air Force general also gave a strong endorsement of the New START arms control treaty, calling it a "strategy-based approach" to which his command contributed. Earlier in the day at the Air Force Association's conference at the National Harbor convention center in Maryland, a number of senior Air Force officers in nuclear deterrent commands noted the improvements made in the last 2 years to re-establish high standards of security and performance, and to start improvements in the aged nuclear weapons arsenal. In addressing the challenges to nuclear deterrence, the general warned that the critical capability to warn of a possible nuclear attack is eroding because of the continued failure of the Space Based Infrared missile launch warning system. He noted that he protested the lack of the SBIRS network of satellites in 2008 and 2009 and was assured both times that launch of the first satellites was imminent. But the program remains trapped in technical problems and threatened by massive cost overruns. Source:

<http://www.govexec.com/dailyfed/0910/091410cdam1.htm>

## **COMMERCIAL FACILITIES**

**(Tennessee) Businesses evacuated during bomb scare in Hohenwald.** Police said a man walked into a business in Hohenwald, Tennessee with a briefcase and said he had a bomb. The scare forced evacuations of 15 nearby businesses. Hohenwald police called Columbia's bomb squad into action. They arrived with their robot and opened the briefcase, but found nothing but papers. The man with the briefcase was charged with resisting arrest, disturbing the peace and carrying a prohibited weapon. Source: <http://www.newschannel5.com/Global/story.asp?S=13176190>

**(Colorado) Man arrested, bomb hoax forces Golden Hotel evacuation.** A 19-year-old Golden, Colorado, man was arrested in connection with the suspicious device "resembling a bomb" that was found in a stairwell in the Golden Hotel September 19, forcing the evacuation of about 40 guests. However, the suspect was released pending a decision on whether to file charges by the Jefferson County District Attorney's Office, police said. The Jefferson County sheriff's bomb squad responded to the scene and deployed a robot at one point. The suspicious device was determined to be a hoax and was removed from the hotel. Guests were then allowed to go back into the hotel. Source:

<http://www.thedenverchannel.com/news/25077327/detail.html>

**(Florida) Weston temples evacuated after bomb threats.** A pair of Weston, Florida temples were evacuated September 15 after someone called to say bombs had been planted at each location. According to the Broward sheriff's office, around 8:40 a.m., someone called the Temple Dor Dorim, located at 2360 Glades Circle, and said there was a bomb on the premises. The caller also said there was a second bomb at Temple Bnai Aviv on Indian Trace. Sheriff's deputies immediately went to both temples and evacuated them. Members of the department's bomb squad were then called in to check out the houses of worship before anyone was allowed back inside. "We had our bomb squad

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come out, homeland security, along with some other assets; they went through the buildings. At no time was anything found there was no danger. There's no harm here," said a spokesman for the Broward Sheriff Fire Rescue. Source: <http://cbs4.com/local/weston.temples.bomb.2.1914134.html>

**(Missouri) Reward offered in fire that levels rural Missouri church.** Fire investigators in Phelps County in south central Missouri with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives are offering a \$5,000 reward for information leading to an arrest associated with their investigation of a fire that destroyed the Calvary Fellowship Church. Officials said the fire was arson. Firefighters with the Duke Volunteer Fire Department arrived to find the structure fully involved, with the roof having already collapsed. The entire church and all of its contents were a total loss, although a dollar estimate has not yet been disclosed. Federal investigators were notified shortly after the suspicious nature of the fire was discovered. A potential suspect was identified but later ruled out according to the Phelps County sheriff. Source: <http://www.ksdk.com/news/local/story.aspx?storyid=216934&catid=3>

**(Texas) Threats prompt heightened security at North Arlington mosque.** Arlington, Texas police confirm they have stepped up patrols around the Dar El Salam Islamic Center after the mosque president and a spokesman for the Islamic community in Tarrant County, Texas, said at least three recent incidents raised concerns, including a note that was left at the mosque September 11. The representative for the Islamic association said both notes basically said something to similar to "die terrorists." In another incident several weeks ago, the president of the mosque said a man walked into the building and asked if "this is where Muslims are taught to kill Americans?" Police did not confirm that report. All this follows vandalism at a south Arlington mosque where the playground was torched, and a graphic anti-Islam cartoon was chalked onto the parking lot. A 10-foot brick wall is being installed around the Dar El Salam mosque to provide additional security. Source: <http://www.wfaa.com/news/local/Threats-prompt-heightened-security-at-North-Arlington-mosque-103014334.html>

**(California) Molotov cocktails thrown at North Long Beach duplex.** Two Molotov cocktails were thrown at a Long Beach, California, duplex September 13, and arson detectives were investigating the attacks. One of the attacks damaged a Nissan sedan. The first Molotov cocktail had been thrown 2 hours before firefighters were called. The damaged car was parked 10 feet from the home, and a resident and bystander kept flames from extending to the structure. No motive for the attacks was known. Source: [http://www.presstelegram.com/news/ci\\_16067259](http://www.presstelegram.com/news/ci_16067259)

**(Michigan) Wyandotte store evacuated after artillery shell found.** The Sav-A-Lot food store in Wyandotte, Michigan, was evacuated September 13 after an employee discovered an artillery shell left inside a shopping cart and promptly wheeled it outside. Wyandotte Police responded to the scene at 3901 Fort St. and notified the Michigan State Police bomb squad who advised that the building and parking lot be evacuated. A spokesman for the Wyandotte Police Department said Michigan State Police have X-rayed the shell to determine if it was live. The results have not been released. Source: <http://www.freep.com/article/20100913/NEWS02/100913068/Wyandotte-store-evacuated-after-artillery-shell-found>

**(Michigan) Flint restaurant firebombed for second time.** For the second time in one week, Atlas Coney Island, a restaurant in Flint, Michigan, has been firebombed. According to an employee, two

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Molotov cocktails were thrown at the restaurant September 13. One of them exploded, causing a small fire outside of the building, and the other firebomb landed on top of the roof. Police said the attack caused minor damage to the restaurant and nobody was injured. Employees said the restaurant was hit earlier in the week by similar firebombs. Arson investigators were at the eatery overnight speaking with employees. No arrests have been made in either incident. Source: <http://www.wnem.com/news/25000764/detail.html>

### **COMMUNICATIONS SECTOR**

**FCC broadband agenda for small businesses advances.** The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) chairman announced the next step in advancing the agency's small business broadband agenda, part of a broader FCC plan which includes connecting communities to broadband through the Universal Service Fund, promoting mobile connectivity by unleashing more spectrum, and, in partnership with the Small Business Administration, training small businesses to use digital tools to reach wider markets and improve their operations. He said the FCC will issue a Public Notice to help improve the FCC's understanding of business broadband needs, a key recommendation in the National Broadband Plan. Specifically, the FCC is seeking comment on questions including what transmission services, technologies or types of facilities are used in the business broadband marketplace are relevant to a full understanding of the marketplace, and what the overall size of the business broadband marketplace is today in terms of revenues and demand. The Public Notice stated the FCC understands that optical fiber facilities are increasingly being used for higher-capacity offerings, but that legacy copper facilities (with or without higher-layer communication protocols), co-axial cable facilities, and wireless spectrum remain highly desirable transmission media that are used in a wide variety of circumstances. Source: <http://www.eweek.com/c/a/Midmarket/FCC-Broadband-Agenda-for-Small-Businesses-Advances-444137/>

**(California) Chico Christian radio station reports huge copper wire theft.** Local Christian Talk radio station KKXX, with offices in Chico, California, has reported the theft of a large quantity of copper wire being used to ground its transmitter on the Paradise ridge. It is the second such loss suffered by the station in 2 years. After the radio station lost its mobile studio in the Humboldt Fire 2 years ago, thieves struck and stole 120 copper grounding wires, each about 250 feet in length. The radio station September 13 learned copper wire thieves had hit them again, this time taking about 22,000 feet of No. 10 wire, which was apparently bundled into lengths of 10 to 20 feet. The manager said the station was never knocked off the air. "They apparently knew what they were doing," he said. "They left just enough wire to allow us to broadcast." He noted thieves avoided a locked gate by taking a back road to the antenna. After the first theft in 2008, he said wires were replaced and a concrete footing was poured about every 10 to 15 feet along the length of the wire in hopes of discouraging future thefts. "They just cut the wires between the concrete and bundled it up," he said. The theft was reported to the Butte County Sheriff's Office. The wire is estimated to be worth between 20 and 30 cents per foot. Source: [http://www.chicoer.com/news/ci\\_16069054](http://www.chicoer.com/news/ci_16069054)

### **CRITICAL MANUFACTURING**

**(New Mexico) Boeing 787 suffers engine surge during flight tests.** Boeing and Rolls-Royce are investigating the causes of a Trent 1000 engine surge that has grounded flight tests of the first Boeing 787 at Roswell, New Mexico. Boeing also is assessing whether the latest incident may cause further

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slips in the hard-pressed 787 delivery schedule. The failure occurred September 10 during ground tests of the 78, ZA001, which was at Roswell for Block 1 rejected takeoff work, plus brake demonstration certification and stability and control tests. Boeing said ZA001 “experienced an engine surge during testing ... The event occurred prior to takeoff and the crew completed the appropriate maneuvers. Back-up systems performed as designed, and the crew and the aircraft were safe throughout the event.” The manufacturer adds that it is working with Rolls-Royce to “investigate the event and understand the root cause.” Boeing said that a flight test engine is available and that “the team is installing it in New Mexico and will resume testing soon.” Initial engine check-out flight tests are expected to take place as early as September 17. If the engine tests are satisfactory, the ZA001 test team expects to resume brake and stability and control tests the next day. Source:

[http://www.aviationweek.com/aw/generic/story\\_channel.jsp?channel=comm&id=news/avd/2010/09/16/02.xml](http://www.aviationweek.com/aw/generic/story_channel.jsp?channel=comm&id=news/avd/2010/09/16/02.xml)

**NHTSA probes F-150 fuel-tank straps.** The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) is investigating whether 1.4 million Ford F-150 vehicles should be recalled over concerns that fuel tank rust could pose a fire hazard. NHTSA said in a statement posted on its Web site that it has opened a preliminary investigation into 1997-2001 F-150 models after receiving 32 complaints alleging corrosion of the straps supporting the fuel tank. In 28 of the complaints, either one or both straps broke, allowing the tank to drop from the frame and either drag along the ground or completely detach from the vehicle. NHTSA said the issue could present “a fire hazard from leaking gasoline as well as an obstruction hazard to vehicles following the subject trucks.” The investigation is the latest sign NHTSA is moving much quicker to open investigations — even for vehicles nearly a decade old, and when no injuries have been reported. The stepped-up posture comes in the wake of strong criticism of the agency over its handling of sudden acceleration complaints in Toyota vehicles. Source:

<http://detnews.com/article/20100913/AUTO01/9130382/1478/rss>

## **DEFENSE/ INDUSTRY BASE SECTOR**

**(New Mexico) Former workers at Los Alamos charged with transmitting classified nuclear weapons data.** The Justice Department (DOJ) September 17 announced that a scientist and his wife, who both previously worked as contractors at the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) in New Mexico, have been indicted on charges of communicating classified nuclear weapons data to a person they believed to be a Venezuelan government official, and conspiring to participate in the development of an atomic weapon for Venezuela, among other violations. Both defendants were arrested by FBI agents September 17. If convicted of all the charges in the indictment, the defendants face a potential sentence of life in prison. The indictment does not allege that the government of Venezuela or anyone acting on its behalf sought or was passed any classified information, nor does it charge any Venezuelan government officials or anyone acting on their behalf with wrongdoing. Further, the indictment does not charge any individuals currently working at LANL with wrongdoing. According to the indictment, one of the defendants had a series of conversations in March 2008 with an undercover FBI agent posing as a Venezuelan government official. During these conversations, he discussed his program for developing nuclear weapons for Venezuela. Among other things, the suspect allegedly said he could help Venezuela develop a nuclear bomb within 10 years and that, under his program, Venezuela would use a secret, underground nuclear reactor to produce and enrich plutonium, and an open, above-ground reactor to produce nuclear energy. Source:

<http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/2010/September/10-nsd-1044.html>

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## **EMERGENCY SERVICES**

**To text or not to text during emergencies.** As part of National Preparedness Month, a group that promotes health and safety programs has launched an initiative to tell the public to use text messaging to communicate with friends and families immediately after an emergency or disaster before calling on the phone. But some telecommunications experts warn that might not be the best advice. Safe America Foundation, a nonprofit advocacy group based in Marietta, Georgia., kicked off its Text First, Talk Second campaign, saying texting is more efficient, and during an emergency not everybody can use voice lines. “We need to become more reliant on texting,” said the president and chief executive of the foundation. But other telecommunication’s experts said texting is not reliable during emergency situations and voice communication should be the first option, especially when calling 911. “Texting is a technology that was never designed for emergency communication,” said the chief executive of the National Emergency Number Association, which studies 911 policy, technology, operations and education issues. Source:

[http://www.nextgov.com/nextgov/ng\\_20100914\\_5986.php](http://www.nextgov.com/nextgov/ng_20100914_5986.php)

**(New Jersey) 2 state police suffer minor injuries trying to defuse explosive in Middletown.** Two members of the New Jersey State Police bomb squad were injured September 14 while trying to defuse an explosive device at a house in Middletown, New Jersey. The troopers drove themselves to Riverview Hospital, where they were treated and released. A source tells NBC New York the homeowner was injured as well when another device exploded earlier, which first brought police and the bomb squad to his house. There is no indication that this had anything to do with terrorists. While the homeowner’s injuries were described as serious, the two members of the bomb squad suffered only minor injuries and were treated and released from a local hospital. Source:

<http://www.nbcnewyork.com/news/local-beat/2-State-Police-Injured-Trying-to-Defuse-Explosive-Device-in-Middletown-102920199.html>

## **ENERGY**

**Aging gas pipes at risk of explosion nationwide.** An ominous theme has emerged from the wreckage of a deadly pipeline explosion in California: There are thousands of pipes just like it nationwide. The pipe was more than 50 years old — right around the life expectancy for steel pipes. It was part of a transmission line that had an “unacceptably high” risk of failure. And it was in a densely populated area. Thousands of pipelines nationwide fit the same bill, and they frequently experience mishaps. Federal officials have recorded 2,840 significant gas pipeline accidents since 1990, more than a third causing deaths and significant injuries. Utilities have been under pressure for years to better inspect and replace aging gas pipes many of them laid years before the suburbs expanded over them and now are at risk of leaking or erupting. But the effort has fallen short. Critics said the regulatory system is ripe for problems because the government leaves it up to the companies to do inspections, and utilities are reluctant to spend the money necessary to properly fix and replace decrepit pipelines. Source:

[http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/39159597/ns/us\\_news-life/](http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/39159597/ns/us_news-life/)

## **FOOD AND AGRICULTURE**

**Blocking E. coli before it moves in.** Scientists at the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) recently discovered key gene and chemical interactions that allow toxic Escherichia coli (commonly known as E. coli or O157:H7) bacteria to colonize in the guts of cattle. According to their research, the bovines not only host, but also can shed the deadly human pathogen. Many E. coli O157:H7 outbreaks have been associated with contaminated meat products and cross contamination of produce crops. Because the bacteria do not cause cattle to show clinical symptoms of illness, and due to other unknown variables, they can be hard to detect within the cattle as well as the environment. Researchers at the USDA Agricultural Research Service (ARS) and an animal scientist reported on how the E. coli bacteria are aware of a key chemical that plays a critical role in allowing the bacteria to colonize in cattle's gastrointestinal tracts. The scientist and the ARS Food and Feed Safety Research Unit, based out of College Station, Texas, published the study in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Science. Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2010/09/blocking-e-coli-before-it-moves-in/>

**(Oregon) Ore. company recalls crab meat products.** Hallmark Fisheries of Charleston, Oregon, is recalling several packaged crab meat products because they have the potential to be contaminated with Listeria monocytogenes. No illnesses have been reported. The crab meat is sold under the brands Hallmark, Peacock, Quality Ocean International and Yaquina Bay in 5-pound cans, 1-pound vacuum packs, 1-pound plastic tubs and 8-ounce plastic tubs. It was distributed in Washington, Nevada, Oregon and California, primarily to food service companies. Source: [http://www.seattlepi.com/local/6420ap\\_or\\_crab\\_meat\\_recall.html](http://www.seattlepi.com/local/6420ap_or_crab_meat_recall.html)

**(Michigan) Second cattle herd infected with bovine TB cause for concern.** In March 2010, the Michigan Department of Agriculture (MDA) found a bovine Tuberculosis positive herd in Emmet County, Michigan. One of their bulls was recently linked to a second farm, and that marks the second herd infected in Emmet County this year. That has some people worried because two more infected herds would mean tighter regulations for local farmers. It is also a public safety concern, since bovine TB can be transferred to humans through infected milk. "The main way to protect themselves is making sure they're drinking pasteurized milk because pasteurization kills the bacteria," the MDA bovine TB project coordinator said. The MDA met with local farms and community members to talk about bovine TB's impact. Source: <http://www.9and10news.com/Category/Story/?id=254474&cid=1>

**(Illinois) Mildew widespread in Ill. basil crop; state among the country's top growers.** A University of Illinois plant expert said the state's sizable basil crop is being hit hard by a disease called basil downy mildew. The plant pathologist said the disease is widespread in Illinois. The state grows about \$10 million worth of the leafy herb every year and is one of the country's top producers. He said September 16 the mildew spreads rapidly and can lead to total crop loss. The disease was first found in Illinois in 2009. He said he has worked on a regimen of fungicide spraying that so far has helped growers control the mildew. Source: <http://www.fox2now.com/news/sns-ap-il--basilmildew,0,5700456.story>

**Thousand Cankers Disease threatens Missouri black walnut industries.** Thousand Cankers Disease could cause walnut farmers in Missouri a thousand headaches if the invasive fungus makes its way

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from Tennessee to Missouri this fall. The disease, which is carried by the twig beetle, was originally confined to states in the West, but foresters in Tennessee discovered infected trees in Knoxville in July. Before the discovery, Colorado was the easternmost state with reported cases of the disease. This discovery has special significance for Missouri, which according to a press release from the University of Missouri, has more black walnut trees than any other state within the black walnut's natural range. Thousand Cankers can be identified by wilting leaves on black walnut trees that stay on branches near the canopy and spread down. By the time the first symptoms appear, the damage has been done and the tree dies. The beetle that carries the disease only attacks the black walnut wood. The nuts are safe to move and eat. The forest products program supervisor of the Missouri Department of Conservation said it would be "devastating" to Missouri's economy if the disease were to become an endemic. According to a 2009 report he co-authored, Missouri would lose more than \$30 million annually in wood production alone, plus another \$35 million in lost nut production. Urban walnut trees would require expensive removal, landscaping and replacement bringing annual losses to about \$65 million. The conservation department estimates a 20-year economic impact of more than \$850 million if the disease becomes widespread in Missouri. Source:

<http://www.columbiamissourian.com/stories/2010/09/12/thousand-cankers-threatens-black-walnut-population-missouri/>

**(Iowa) Investigators say egg company knew of salmonella.** Congressional investigators said Wright County Egg, the Iowa egg farm at the center of a massive salmonella outbreak, received hundreds of positive results for salmonella in the 2 years before its eggs sickened more than 1,500 people. In a letter September 14 to the company's owner, the House Energy and Commerce Committee said that investigators have obtained records showing that the company received 426 positive results for salmonella between 2008 and 2010. The committee said those results include 73 samples that were potentially positive for Salmonella Enteritidis, the strain responsible for the recent outbreak. The owner of Wright County Egg is scheduled to testify before the committee the week of September 20. Source: [http://www.abc2news.com/dpp/news/health/Tainted-Eggs\\_51881005-wxyz1284552834186](http://www.abc2news.com/dpp/news/health/Tainted-Eggs_51881005-wxyz1284552834186)

**Corned, shredded beef sold in Pennsylvania recalled.** Sampco, Inc., of Chicago, Illinois, is recalling approximately 258,000 pounds of cooked beef products that were imported from an ineligible Brazilian establishment, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) announced September 13. Brazilian establishment SIF 337 was delisted on May 6, 2010 after repeat violative levels of the animal drug Ivermectin were confirmed in its products. FSIS has recently determined that eight lots of product from Brazilian establishment SIF 337 have been shipped into commerce despite the firm's ineligible status. As a result, FSIS and Sampco, Inc. are taking action to remove the products from commerce. Consumers who have purchased any of these products should return them to their point of purchase. Source:

<http://pottsmmerc.com/articles/2010/09/14/news/doc4c8f7b1d5210c760623814.txt>

**(Louisiana) Huge fish kill reported in Plaquemines Parish.** Plaquemines Parish officials in Louisiana have asked state wildlife officials to investigate a massive fish kill they believe occurred September 10 at Bayou Chaland on the west side of the Mississippi River. Photographs the parish distributed of the area show an enormous amount of dead fish floating atop the water. The fish kill was reported to the Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries and the cause has not yet been determined, the parish said. The fish were found in an area that has been impacted by the oil from the BP oil spill, the parish said. The dead fish include pogies, redfish, drum, crabs, shrimp and freshwater eel, the parish said.

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The president of Plaquemines Parish said he has asked Wildlife & Fisheries for a quick determination of the cause. The parish has also requested testing by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. "We can't continue to see these fish kills," he said in a news release. "We need some additional tests to find out why these fish are dying in large numbers. If it is low oxygen, we need to identify the cause." A recent fish kill in nearby St. Bernard Parish was attributed to low oxygen levels in the water. Source:

[http://www.nola.com/news/index.ssf/2010/09/huge\\_fish\\_kill\\_reported\\_in\\_pla.html](http://www.nola.com/news/index.ssf/2010/09/huge_fish_kill_reported_in_pla.html)

## **GOVERNMENT SECTOR (INCLUDING SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES)**

**Panel recommends national disaster database for DOD.** A panel created by Congress recommended creating a central federal/defense data depository to track disaster response efforts, and nearly 40 other measures to improve how the Defense Department (DOD) supports civilian authorities for disaster responses. The panel, in a September 15 report, advised establishing a nationwide repository of data on federal military responses, developing a common operating picture to coordinate defense and civilian responses, encouraging sharing of response plans across jurisdictions, and increasing DOD's training and capacity for response to chemical, radiological, nuclear, biological and explosive disasters. Congress created the Advisory Panel on Department of Defense Capabilities for Support of Civil Authorities After Certain Incidents under the defense authorization law of 2008, as amended in 2009. The Rand Corporation provided research and administrative support. Source:

<http://fcw.com/articles/2010/09/16/expert-panel-recommends-more-defense-disaster-data-and-incident-awareness.aspx>

**GAO to look into FBI's handling of anthrax probe.** The investigative arm of Congress said it will review the scientific methods the FBI used when it concluded that an Army scientist acted alone in the 2001 anthrax mailings. In a letter to a Democratic Representative from New Jersey, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) said it will look into what scientific concerns and uncertainties, if any, remain in the case. The GAO also will examine how effective federal agencies are in monitoring high-containment laboratories in the United States and abroad. The National Academy of Sciences is conducting a separate, independent review due this fall of the scientific approaches the FBI employed in its anthrax probe. The GAO said it will review the academy's work in order to avoid duplication. Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/09/16/AR2010091603180.html>

**(Ohio) Police, FBI investigating letters sent to KinderCare centers.** Police and the FBI are investigating threatening letters sent to two KinderCare centers in Ohio, a KinderCare spokesman said September 15. "It's a very serious investigation," said an official with KinderCare, which operates about 1,700 facilities nationwide, including nearly a dozen in the greater Dayton area. "(Authorities) have told us they don't believe our centers were the target of the threat. KinderCare was not named in the letter." However, the letters did state that everyone at KinderCare centers should die in 9/11-style attacks," according to a release from Fairfield Township police in Butler County. A KinderCare center there received one of the letters. Another was delivered to a KinderCare center on North Dixie Drive in Butler Township. Although the letters arrived on different days, there was reason to believe they were sent the same day. The company "immediately notified the parents and we brought in extra security," the KinderCare official said. Source:

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<http://www.daytondailynews.com/news/crime/police-fbi-investigating-letters-sent-to-kindercare-centers-920389.html>

**(Michigan) Bomb threat prompts evacuation of county building, but nothing found.** A bomb threat September 15 prompted police to evacuate the building complex in downtown Lansing, Michigan, that houses the Ingham County Prosecutor's Office, and the Ingham County Circuit Court. Three Lansing police K-9 units were used to sweep both buildings and nothing was found, said a police spokesman. The threat was called in at about 1:47 p.m., police said, and the West Kalamazoo Street complex was evacuated soon after. The threat was directed at the Grady Porter Building, which houses the prosecutor's office as well as other court offices and the probation department. Attached to that building is the Veterans Memorial Courthouse. Both buildings were evacuated. The police spokesman said investigators have "a promising lead that we're hopeful will point us to the identity of the suspect." Source:

<http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/article/20100915/NEWS01/309150037/1002/NEWS01>

**(Missouri) Bomb threat forces evacuation at KCMO building.** Kansas City, Missouri, police September 15 investigated a bomb threat made at a building at 2300 Main St., but announced at 11:55 a.m. that no bomb was found. The threat was left on a voice mail at a first-floor office around 8:15 a.m., a source said. The source said the voice mail is believed to be from a disgruntled employee who was recently laid off, but police have not said anything about where the threat came from. Employees who were evacuated from the building said it houses several federal government offices including the Department of Labor and Occupational Safety and Health Administration. Workers were evacuated and later sent home for the day. The Department of Homeland Security, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, and Kansas City police were searching the building, room-by-room, with bomb-sniffing dogs. Source: <http://www.kctv5.com/news/25019326/detail.html>

**(District of Columbia) Gunman taken down by U.S. Capitol police in D.C. shooting incident.** Capitol Hill police (USCP) confirmed September 17 one man was shot by officers after being seen brandishing a weapon within walking distance of the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C. USCP said no officers were injured in the confrontation. They became aware of an armed man said to be walking around a Capitol Hill neighborhood at 5 a.m. "A few moment later, the suspect was observed brandishing a weapon directly at USCP officers at 2 & C St., SW. Fearing for their lives, officers fired their weapons," a USCP spokeswoman said in a statement. "The sole suspect in this isolated incident has been transported to an area hospital (status unknown). No other injuries were reported," she said. Reports from local station WTTG said the suspect was shot in the abdomen, but was still breathing and was transported to the hospital. Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/us/2010/09/17/gunman-taken-capitol-police-dc-shooting-incident/>

**Officials: Ex-NYC teacher attempted to send weapons to terror groups.** A former teacher at the prestigious Stuyvesant High School in Manhattan, New York was being held September 15 on charges he tried to send assault weapons to Mideast terror groups. Investigators said he also talked about killing cops and Jews. The suspect pleaded not guilty in Bronx Supreme Court to a multiple-count indictment September 15, officials said. According to prosecutors, they have video and audio surveillance showing the suspect inside a Bronx warehouse, trying to negotiate the sale of weapons to confidential informants who were working with state investigators. One investigator who worked on the case told PIX 11 News that the man talked about throwing hand grenades into a Jewish Center

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at 74th Street and Amsterdam Avenue, on Manhattan's Upper West Side. He also was caught talking about bombing a police precinct and for supporting the terror group, Hamas. Source:

<http://www.wpix.com/news/wpix-teacher-being-held-in-terror-weapons-plot,0,2761066.story>

**NSA product accreditations lag behind IT security advances.** The National Security Agency (NSA) wants to use commercially-built security products and the latest virtualization software. But the slow pace of getting products certified through NSA channels and the lightning-fast pace of change in the information technology industry is causing national-security heartburn. The high-tech spy agency, which also guides Defense Department information security, has become an enthusiastic proponent of open standards-based technologies such as Trusted Network Connect (TNC) and Trusted Platform Module (TPM) put forward by the organization Trusted Computing Group (which announced it expects to propose an end-to-end security framework for cloud computing around year-end). The NSA held its first conference related to its views on trusted computing the week of September 13. The NSA Trusted Computing Conference and Exposition in Orlando, Florida drew about 500 attendees and 39 exhibiting companies. The NSA chief of the network solutions office noted in his keynote that since May of this year, the national-security strategy has been "COTS [commercial off the shelf] first, not GOTS [government]." The chief of network solutions said the NSA wants to influence how commercial technologies are developed, and hopes "richer collaboration could further harden national-security systems" and give commercial systems some "government-like security." Source: [http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9185821/NSA\\_product\\_accreditations\\_lag\\_behind\\_IT\\_security\\_advances](http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9185821/NSA_product_accreditations_lag_behind_IT_security_advances)

**(Illinois) Headless body found near Ill. school after explosion is reported.** In the dead of night September 14, an explosion ripped through Fitzsimmons Park in Evanston, Illinois, shaking houses and waking residents blocks away. Responding to calls of a possible blown transformer, police searched but found nothing. More than an hour later that night, a resident who was walking his dog found a headless body. Nearby Nichols Middle School was forced to close, but some students still showed up for classes. Parents, children and school buses were waved off and sent away. After disabling the bomb, investigators were left to try to determine why the man, who was identified as a 21-year-old, had two explosive devices. Police said the male "was known" to another police agency in Illinois, but offered no details. They evacuated residents from an apartment building a block away where the male lived, and said they were working with the FBI to examine information stored on his computer. At the same time, some parents of Nichols students said they were angry it took 4 hours from the time of the first explosion for them to be notified. While the investigation continues, the middle school will remain closed September 15. Source:

<http://www.istockanalyst.com/article/viewiStockNews/articleid/4500985>

**(Tennessee) Another mysterious odor at Science Hill sends teachers, student to hospital.** Yet another strange odor inside Science Hill High School's Vocational-Technical Center in Johnson City, Tennessee sent four school employees and a student to the hospital September 10. The Johnson City city manager said the newly renovated building, which has a history of problems, is again responsible for a mysterious odor. "Some of the teachers up there are experiencing symptoms and we're trying to determine what it is," he said. "Hoarseness, eye irritation, there's some commonality among symptoms and then again, there are some very unique characteristics between the affected people." Johnson City firefighters and Kingsport Hazardous-Materials crews returned to Science Hill High School for the third time in 5 days September 14 to again test the air inside the building. According to

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the city manager, finding the cause of the smell and then eliminating it is now a top priority. He said school will continue as normal as investigators try to eliminate all possible causes. Source:

<http://www2.tricities.com/news/2010/sep/14/another-mysterious-odor-science-hill-sends-teacher-ar-505428/>

**(New Mexico) FBI: Shiprock school intentionally set on fire.** A Four Corners elementary school in Shiprock, New Mexico canceled classes for the rest of the week after someone intentionally set it on fire September 12. Eyewitness News 4 got a close look at the damage September 13 at the Mesa Elementary School library in Shiprock. "The library is pretty much a total loss so it's going to take a while," a Central Consolidated School District (CCSD) spokesman said. It is yet another costly setback for CCSD. In August, the district said two teens were arrested for vandalizing Nataani Nez Elementary School, a school that was closed earlier this year because of budget cuts. "It's unfortunate, but we're thankful to the San Juan County Fire Department for their quick response," the spokesman said, adding the damage estimate is at least \$100,000. Someone intentionally started the fire in the library, the San Juan County fire marshal said. He said flames were contained to the library, but there is smoke damage throughout the building. The FBI and Navajo Police were investigating the arson case. Nearly 450 students and staff will be out of school this week as crews try to clean up the damage. School days missed will be made up at the end of the school year; meanwhile, the district hopes classes will start back up September 20. Source:

<http://www.kob.com/article/stories/S1742001.shtml?cat=504>

**(Missouri) Bomb threat forces evacuation at KCMO building.** Kansas City, Missouri, police investigated a bomb threat made at a building at 2300 Main St., September 15, but announced at 11:55 a.m. that no bomb was found. The threat was left on a voice mail at a first-floor office around 8:15 a.m., a source said. The source said the voice mail is believed to be from a disgruntled employee who was recently laid off, but police have not said anything about where the threat came from. Employees who were evacuated from the building said it houses several federal government offices including the Department of Labor and Occupational Safety and Health Administration. Workers were originally evacuated to neighboring Union Station, but have since all been sent home for the day. Source: <http://www.kctv5.com/news/25019326/detail.html>

**3 embassies in Israel receive suspicious letters.** Israeli police said envelopes containing a suspicious white powder have been discovered at the American, Spanish and Swedish embassies in Tel Aviv. A police spokesman said workers at the three embassies alerted police after opening the envelopes September 14. The spokesman said the exact nature of the substance is still unclear. But he said police have said the substance was not poisonous since no one was hurt. Police are trying to find who sent the envelopes and determine whether the incidents were connected. Source:

[http://www.nytimes.com/aponline/2010/09/14/world/AP-ML-Israel-Suspicious-Letters.html?\\_r=1&partner=rss&emc=rss](http://www.nytimes.com/aponline/2010/09/14/world/AP-ML-Israel-Suspicious-Letters.html?_r=1&partner=rss&emc=rss)

**(District of Columbia) Police briefly evacuate House chamber.** Law enforcement officials briefly evacuated the area around the House of Representatives chamber in Washington D.C. September 13 after the discovery of a powdery substance, according to a spokeswoman for the Capitol Hill police. The area evacuated included both the House press galleries and the galleries used by tourists to watch congressional floor deliberations. The galleries were evacuated out of "an abundance of caution" while authorities investigated the incident, a spokeswoman said. Capitol Hill police later

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confirmed, however, that authorities had deemed the area safe, and that congressional staff and members of the media had been allowed to return. House members were scheduled to return from their summer recess at 2 p.m. September 14. Source:

<http://www.cnn.com/2010/US/09/13/house.chamber.evacuation/>

**(Pennsylvania) Death threat against White House official found in Antrim Twp.** Police have notified the FBI and Secret Service about a death threat against the White House press secretary that was found on a restroom door at the Interstate 81 welcome center in Antrim Township, Pennsylvania, a Pennsylvania state police spokesman said September 11. The vandalism was reported September 9 at the I-81 northbound welcome center just north of the Maryland/Pennsylvania state line, the spokesman said. According to a state police press release, the threat to assassinate the White House press secretary was written on the door of the women's restroom. The message was signed, but the last name could not be made out, troopers said. The spokesman said police talked to an FBI agent from Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, about the vandalism and the agent said it would be referred to the Secret Service as a precaution. Source: [http://www.herald-mail.com/?cmd=displaystory&story\\_id=252665&format=html](http://www.herald-mail.com/?cmd=displaystory&story_id=252665&format=html)

**(Massachusetts) Northeastern to review hazmat protocol after suspected cyanide suicide.** Northeastern University officials in Boston, Massachusetts said September 13 they are launching a review of protocols for handling hazardous materials in the wake of the suspected suicide by cyanide of a researcher found dead September 12 in her Milford, Massachusetts, home. The researcher, 30, a Northeastern graduate student and member of the Class of 2005, was found in her bedroom, where authorities located a bag of material labeled cyanide, said Milford's police chief. Police are probing whether the researcher smuggled the cyanide from Northeastern. "Although the University has protocols surrounding the use of hazardous materials, I am calling for an extensive review of these protocols," the Northeastern President said in a statement. The president said he asked the university's vice provost for research and a former Department of Homeland Security official, to conduct the review. Source: [http://www.bostonherald.com/news/regional/view/20100913northeastern\\_to\\_review\\_hazmat\\_protocol\\_after\\_suspected\\_cyanide\\_suicide/](http://www.bostonherald.com/news/regional/view/20100913northeastern_to_review_hazmat_protocol_after_suspected_cyanide_suicide/)

## **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**Forrester pushes 'zero trust' model for security.** Trust no one, not even end users: That's the underlying theme of a new security model proposed by Forrester Research called "Zero Trust," which calls for enterprises to inspect all network traffic, from the outside and on the inside. A senior analyst with Forrester said the current trust model in security is broken and the only way to fix it is to get rid of the idea of the trusted internal network and the untrusted external network. Instead consider all network traffic untrusted, he said. "Times have changed. You can't think about trusted and untrusted users" anymore, said the analyst, who gave more details on the model at Forrester's Security Forum in Boston, Massachusetts. The wave of damaging insider-borne breaches during the past few years illustrates the importance of being able to see everything going on in the network, he said. Zero Trust means inspecting all traffic in real time, and a new category of products called network analysis and visibility, which combines several niche tools — such as forensics, packet capture, meta data analysis, and network discovery flow analysis — such that they provide visibility and analysis of traffic and do not disrupt business processes. Source:

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<http://www.darkreading.com/insiderthreat/security/perimeter/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=227500145>

**HDCP master key confirmed; Blu-ray content vulnerable.** The leaked HDCP master key protecting millions of protected devices, including Blu-ray drives, that was posted to the Web has been confirmed as legitimate, Intel representatives said September 16. The disclosure means, in effect, that the content flowing over the encrypted HDMI connection may be recorded and authenticated using an unlicensed device. An Intel spokesman said after 2 days of investigation, the company had informed its partners and licensees that the key, which was posted online September 14, was indeed legitimate. As a practical matter, the most likely scenario for a hacker would be to create a computer chip with the master key embedded in it, that could be used to decode Blu-ray discs. A software decoder is unlikely, “but I’d never say never,” the Intel spokesman said. Source:

<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2369280,00.asp>

**Number of malware-infected websites tops 1 million mark.** According to a new report published in a blog September 15 by researchers at security firm Dasient, the number of Web sites infected by malware in the second quarter of 2010 spiked to more than 1.3 million — the first time that figure has ever topped 1 million. “That’s a jump of almost two times the number that we saw in the previous quarter,” said Dasient’s co-founder. “The numbers are really surprising.” Malware authors are becoming more efficient and creative in methods of attacking Web sites, Dasient said. For one thing, they are creating new malware at an exceedingly rapid rate: Dasient detected more than 58,000 new infections in Q2 alone, raising its comprehensive malware library to more than 200,000 different infections. Attackers are also becoming more crafty in the way they distribute their payloads, Dasient’s co-founder observed. For example, many malware authors have begun deploying new infections late on Friday afternoons, when they know most IT departmental resources will be at an ebb over the weekend. Source: <http://www.darkreading.com/smb-security/security/app-security/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=227400494>

**Facebook is the top source for malware infections.** The use of social networking during working hours is common (77 percent of employees do), and consequently, 33 percent said they have been infected by malware corporate network that has been distributed by these communities, according to Panda Security. Facebook is by far the most popular social media tool among SMBs: Sixty-nine percent of respondents reported that they have active accounts with this site, followed by Twitter (44 percent), YouTube (32 percent) and LinkedIn (23 percent). Facebook was cited as the top culprit for companies that experienced malware infection (71.6 percent) and privacy violations (73.2 percent). YouTube took the second spot for malware infection (41.2 percent), while Twitter contributed to a significant amount of privacy violations (51 percent). For companies suffering financial losses from employee privacy violations, Facebook was again cited as the most common social media site where these losses occurred (62 percent), followed by Twitter (38 percent), YouTube (24 percent) and LinkedIn (11 percent). Source: [http://www.net-security.org/malware\\_news.php?id=1466](http://www.net-security.org/malware_news.php?id=1466)

**Growing dangers of digital music and movies.** A growing number of cyber threats are associated with the popularity of online music and videos, according to a McAfee report. Researchers found that adding the word “free” to searches increases the risk of landing on a malicious site. McAfee also revealed that cybercriminals hide malicious content in music and movie-related sites, and even fan clubs sites. In recent years, as consumers have increasingly watched video or downloaded music

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online, cybercriminals have shifted their attacks to include more dangerous Web sites, malicious ads and video viewing tools. According to comScore, more than 177 million U.S. Internet users watched online video in June, up from 157 million 1 year ago. As downloading of digital content has increased, so have the dangers associated with it. The research found that adding the word “free” to a search for music ringtones resulted in a 300 percent increase in the riskiness of sites returned by major search engines in English. The word “free” in other languages yielded similar results. Searching for “MP3s” added risk to music search results, while searching for “free MP3s” made those searches even riskier. Even when a consumer indicated that they wanted to pay for the MP3 in their search, results still sent them to pirated content. McAfee also discovered thousands of malicious and highly suspicious URLs associated with fan clubs or comments made on social media sites, such as YouTube and Twitter. Source: [http://www.net-security.org/malware\\_news.php?id=1463](http://www.net-security.org/malware_news.php?id=1463)

**Mozilla halts Firefox security updates.** Mozilla has stopped providing security updates to Firefox users as it investigates a bug that caused computers to crash last week. A Computerworld blogger first reported on the problem September 5 after he tried to update older editions of Firefox on several different machines. When he asked Firefox 3.5.11, 3.6.3 and 3.6.8 if there was an update, the browsers told him no newer editions were available. Firefox’s up-to-date versions are 3.5.12 and 3.6.9, which Mozilla released 1 week ago when it patched 15 vulnerabilities, 11 of them labeled “critical.” Computerworld staffers reproduced the issue when they tried to update a copy of Firefox 3.6.6 on Windows Vista and Firefox 3.6.8 on a Mac. Normally, older versions of Firefox will automatically receive an update with 24-48 hours after it’s released, or when the user manually selects the “Check for Updates” from the Help menu. On September 13, Mozilla said it has stopped offering Firefox 3.5.12 and 3.6.9 because of a bug that crashed some users’ machines after they’d updated, then restarted the browser. Source: [http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9185398/Mozilla\\_halts\\_Firefox\\_security\\_updates](http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9185398/Mozilla_halts_Firefox_security_updates)

**Debunking the email privacy myth.** E-mail communications are inherently risky, and information transmitted by e-mail, including sensitive data and business-critical transactions, is more vulnerable than most users realize. “The reality is that anyone with access to a switch, router or hub between your outbox and your recipient’s inbox can read your unprotected e-mail,” said SECNAP’s CTO. “That could be your IT guy, or it could be hackers. To ensure information privacy, it’s vital that all parts of an e-mail and its attachments be encrypted from Point A to Point B, and everywhere in between. And that encryption has to work on smartphones, too.” Using a variety of smartphones for both their business and personal communications, executives and professionals regularly share confidential information over highly risky channels. Most are willing to sacrifice e-mail security and information privacy for the benefits of speed and convenience. “That’s a bad idea,” said the CTO. “Cyberspace is filled with individuals constantly on the hunt for information to exploit, and the easier it is, the more vulnerable you are.” A growing body of regulation in the United States requires organizations to safeguard the personally identifiable information (PII) of their customers, patients, vendors, students, employees, investors, and other stakeholders. Specific e-mail encryption requirements are now included in HITECH, HIPAA and GLBA regulations, and at least two states have also mandated encryption as a privacy measure. Source: <http://www.net-security.org/secworld.php?id=9868>

**Mehika Twitter botnet targets Twitter users.** Leveraging social networking sites to gain control of user systems, and to make them part of botnets is no longer a new tactic. In recent research, TrendLabs came across malware that uses a Twitter account to send out commands to the new

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Mehika Twitter botnet's zombies. But why are cybercriminals using a social networking site to send out commands to botnet zombies? The answer is simple. Using a social networking site does not require installation, configuration, and command-and-control (C&C) server management. Instead, posting messages in a specific account can instantly send out commands and instructions to zombies. Also, because social networking sites have thousands or even millions of user profiles, locating a suspicious account is difficult. Source: <http://blog.trendmicro.com/mehika-twitter-botnet-targets-twitter-users/>

**Critical Flash vuln under active attack, Adobe warns.** On September 13, Adobe Systems warned of a critical vulnerability in the most recent version of its Flash Player that is being actively exploited in the wild. The vulnerability affects Flash Player 10.1.82.76 for Windows, Macintosh, Linux, Solaris, and Android operating systems, Adobe said in an advisory. "There are reports that this vulnerability is being actively exploited in the wild against Adobe Flash Player on Windows," the warning said, without elaborating. The latest versions of Adobe's Reader and Acrobat applications are vulnerable to the same flaw, but there is no evidence they are being exploited. The advisory credited a researcher of the Shadowserver Foundation for working with Adobe's security team on the vulnerability. The disclosure means there are at least two unpatched flaws in widely used Adobe applications presently under attack. Source: [http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/09/13/adobe\\_flash\\_0day\\_vuln/](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/09/13/adobe_flash_0day_vuln/)

**Global botnet offering DDoS services.** Damballa discovered a botnet that offers pay-for-delivery DDoS attacks. The IMDDOS botnet, named after the commercial name on the botnet Web site, has grown to one of the largest active global botnets in less than 4 months from initial testing. The infected hosts used in the DDoS attacks have become unwitting participants in the botnet and are widespread. The vast majority of infected hosts are in China, with the United States being in the top 10 countries affected. ISPs worldwide were affected, including the majority of North American ISPs, and a number of major corporate networks are hosting bot agents for the IMDDOS botnet. The IMDDOS botnet offers a commercial service for delivering DDoS attacks against any desired target. Hosted in China, this publicly available service is available for lease to anyone willing to establish an online account, input the domain(s) they wish to attack, and pay for the service. Throughout the Damballa period of study, the botnet grew very quickly. Following testing by the criminal operators in April 2010, it reached a production peak of activity with 25,000 unique Recursive DNS (RDNS) lookups per hour attempting to resolve to the botnet's command-and-control (CnC) servers. Source: <http://www.net-security.org/secworld.php?id=9864>

## **NATIONAL MONUMENTS AND ICONS**

(Wyoming) **Lightning storms start fires in park, forest.** Fire season sputtered back to life the week of September 13 as several lightning storms ignited fires in Yellowstone National Park and on the Bridger-Teton National Forest in Wyoming. The fire danger is currently moderate on both the Bridger-Teton and in Yellowstone. Moderate is the second lowest of five fire danger levels from low to extreme. On the Buffalo Ranger District of the Bridger-Teton, a lightning storm started the Willow Draw Fire north of the old Colter Dump Road. The fire is one-tenth acre in size. "It's a lightning strike that hit the base of a [Douglas] fir," a fire prevention technician for the north zone of the Bridger-Teton said. "It's smoldering around the base of a tree." Fire officials said they will continue to monitor the blaze but have decided not to suppress it at this time. Lightning also started the Monument Fire, a quarter-acre blaze just north of Monument Ridge Prescribed Burn. Fire officials are suppressing the

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blaze because it is close to development. Source:

[http://www.jhnewsandguide.com/article.php?art\\_id=6464](http://www.jhnewsandguide.com/article.php?art_id=6464)

**(California) Fire in national parks continues to grow.** The Sheep fire in Sequoia and Kings Canyon national parks in California has grown to 5,765 acres, park officials said. As of September 8, the fire was at 4,857 acres. Lightning sparked the blaze July 16 in Kings Canyon and spread into Sequoia around August 19. Another blaze, the Marvin fire, has burned 15 acres in Sequoia National Forest at high elevation in the Jennie Lakes Wilderness. The Don Cecil Trail in Kings Canyon and Kanawyer Trail on U.S. Forest Service land are closed. The Forest Service has issued a temporary area closure for the Sheep fire on the Hume Lake Ranger District between Horse Corral Meadow and the Kings River, and from Boulder Creek east to the boundary with Kings Canyon National Park. Source:

<http://www.fresnobee.com/2010/09/14/2078172/fire-in-national-parks-continues.html>

## **POSTAL AND SHIPPING**

**(Missouri) Suspicious substance prompts lockdown.** A letter containing an unknown substance prompted a brief lockdown at a Jefferson City building that houses a Missouri state agency. The letter was delivered yesterday to the Missouri Division of Professional Registration and Licensing. KRCG-TV reported an employee had a skin reaction from opening the letter. A state department of public safety spokesman said preliminary tests indicated the substance was a prescription pain medication. The spokesman said police responded around 10:30 a.m., and the building returned to normal around 12:30 p.m. The office building is about 5 miles west of the state capitol. Source:

<http://www.columbiatribune.com/news/2010/sep/17/suspicious-substance-prompts-lockdown/>

**(Florida) Suspicious envelope prompts St. Pete police evacuation.** An envelope with a suspicious substance and a threatening note was found on the second floor of the St. Petersburg, Florida, Police Department downtown headquarters September 15, but the substance turned out to be harmless. The second floor was evacuated just after 8 p.m., shortly after officers found the envelope, police said. The U.S. Postal Service had delivered the letter to the building at 1300 First Avenue N. The St. Petersburg Fire Department's Hazardous Material Unit responded to the scene and evacuated the second floor of the building. The fire department investigated the substance but found it to be harmless, police said. At around 8:45 p.m., staff was allowed to return to the second floor. The evacuation did not disrupt police patrols, police said. The case remains under investigation. Source:

<http://www2.tbo.com/content/2010/sep/15/152234/suspicious-envelope-prompts-st-pete-police-evacuat/>

**Tighter curbs expected on lithium batteries.** Federal officials are poised to substantially tighten restrictions on transporting lithium batteries in U.S. cargo planes, according to people familiar with the details, after an apparent cargo fire resulted in the crash of a United Parcel Service Inc. jet in Dubai. The move, which would affect nearly all U.S. cargo carriers, could also force manufacturers and distributors of consumer electronics to alter their packaging and documentation procedures. Lithium batteries are used in a wide array of electronic devices, such as cell phones and laptop computers. The urgency of the new restrictions, which people familiar with the matter expect to be announced shortly, appear to be a response to signs that lithium batteries may have stoked the intense fire and dense smoke that filled the cockpit of the UPS Boeing 747 jumbo jet before it went down September 3, while trying to return to Dubai International Airport. Both pilots died in the

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accident, which has revived debate over the fire hazards of lithium batteries. They can burn intensely, and once on fire can be particularly difficult to extinguish. By requiring special packaging and other safeguards for lithium batteries and products containing them, the new restrictions would resolve long-running disputes between some airline-industry officials and pilot groups over the dangers posed by such cargo. It will likely be increasingly difficult to ship large volumes of batteries, by themselves, on a single plane, according to the people familiar with the details. Source:

[http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704285104575492212976583750.html?mod=google\\_news\\_wsj](http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704285104575492212976583750.html?mod=google_news_wsj)

## **PUBLIC HEALTH**

**Hospital violence on the rise, agency warns.** The shooting that left a doctor in critical condition September 16 at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland is only the latest example of a rising trend of violence in health care settings, experts said. "Once considered safe havens, health care institutions today are confronting steadily increasing rates of crime, including violent crime," said an alert issued in June by the Joint Commission, a national accrediting agency. A text message poll of 100 emergency room doctors, conducted by Truth On Call for msnbc.com found that 59 percent of doctors said violence in the health care setting is a growing concern; 41 percent said the September 16 shooting was an anomaly. Since 2004, the number of assaults, rapes and murders reported to the commission rose steadily, with the greatest number of reports in the last 3 years: There were 36 incidents nationwide in 2007, 41 in 2008 and 33 in 2009. According to the Joint Commission's voluntary reporting system, there were 256 assaults, rapes or homicides of patients and visitors at American health centers since 1995, with 110 of those acts occurring after 2007. Source: [http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/39213800/ns/health-health\\_care/](http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/39213800/ns/health-health_care/)

**(Michigan) Update: Whooping cough on the rise in Jackson, statewide.** A recent diagnosis of whooping cough — also known as pertussis — involving a student at Jackson's Cascades Elementary School in Jackson, Michigan is one of 15 confirmed cases in the county this year in addition to four "probable" cases, said the director of personal and preventative health services for the Jackson County Health Department. That's up from an average of 4.25 annually in the previous 4 years, she said. Statewide, 770 cases are reported this year, she said, compared to 543 for all of 2009. Health officials are unsure why cases are on the rise. In some cases, people who have been vaccinated against pertussis still get whooping cough. Source:

[http://www.mlive.com/news/jackson/index.ssf/2010/09/update\\_whooping\\_cough\\_on\\_the\\_r.html](http://www.mlive.com/news/jackson/index.ssf/2010/09/update_whooping_cough_on_the_r.html)

**Disinfecting hand gels don't affect swine flu infection rate.** The regular use of alcohol-based disinfecting hand gels authorities recommended during the A(H1N1) pandemic has little effect on the disease's infection rate, according to a study published September 12. The findings suggest that the pandemic virus and similar strains may be most effectively transmitted in the air, rather than by contact with infected surfaces, the authors of the University of Virginia study said. "An alcohol hand disinfectant with enhanced antiviral activity failed to significantly reduce the frequency of infection with either rhinovirus or influenza," wrote the authors of the study presented September 12 at the Interscience Conference on Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy in Boston, Massachusetts. Participants in the study disinfected their hands roughly every 3 hours over 10 weeks between August 25 and November 9, 2009. Of that group, 42 out of 100 contracted rhinovirus infections, compared to

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51 out of 100 in the control group. Source:

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5jLzqLORNVo7XqCkG6nKehH8cvoUg>

**(Maryland) Suspect in Johns Hopkins Hospital standoff fatally shoots self, mother.** A man suspected of shooting a doctor at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland September 16, has fatally shot himself and his mother, who had been hospitalized, according to Baltimore police. The shootings ended a 4-hour standoff at Hopkins' sprawling East Baltimore campus. The suspect had barricaded himself on the eighth floor of the hospital's Nelson Building. The doctor, whose identity has not been released, was shot in the abdomen. He is in surgery but his injuries are not life-threatening. According to a spokeswoman for the Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center, the victim holds a "faculty position" at Hopkins. Portions of the Nelson Building were placed on lockdown and other sections were evacuated. Police also shut down numerous roads. So many police officers responded, that the department had to call in officers from other districts and detective units to help answer other 911 calls. A nurse who said she was on the floor at the time of the shooting said the shooter was upset about the medical treatment of his mother. He was threatening to jump out of a window, she said. Hopkins sent out emergency e-mail and text advisories to staff at 11:15 a.m. stating "shooter on Nelson 8." An employee at the Hopkins School of Public Health, which is across Wolfe Street from the complex containing the Nelson building, said employees were told to stay in their offices. Source: <http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/nation/bs-md-ci-shooting-hopkins-20100916,0,4977336.story>

**(Vermont) Whooping cough cases on the rise in Vermont.** Nine cases of the highly-contagious lung disease pertussis, better known as whooping cough, have been reported in Vermont recently, including five in the past 2 weeks. The Vermont Department of Health has alerted health care providers statewide about an increase in the number of whooping cough cases. The infection usually begins with mild upper respiratory symptoms, and an irritating cough that gradually worsens to include whooping - short periods where those afflicted with the illness have difficulty breathing, or experience vomiting. The last widespread outbreak of pertussis in Vermont occurred in 1996 and 1997, according to the health department. A total of 280 cases were identified in 1996, including 171 cases in school-aged children in 69 Vermont schools. And in 1997, there were 283 additional cases. Source: <http://www.burlingtonfreepress.com/article/20100915/NEWS07/100915021/Whooping-cough-cases-on-the-rise-in-Vermont>

## **TRANSPORTATION**

**(California) Suspicious bag leads to evacuation of Metrolink train.** An unattended backpack prompted the evacuation of a San Bernardino, California-bound Metrolink train September 15. The conductor on train 800 discovered the bag between Riverside and San Bernardino, said a Metrolink spokeswoman. Metrolink officials received reports about the bag at 10:49 a.m. The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, which has jurisdiction over Metrolink incidents, used bomb-sniffing dogs to examine the backpack and the train after passengers were evacuated at the San Bernardino station. No information was available on what the backpack contained, but the train was eventually deemed safe. Source: [http://www.sbsun.com/news/ci\\_16083321](http://www.sbsun.com/news/ci_16083321)

**(Oregon) 8 injured when bus catches fire on U.S. 101 near Tillamook.** A bus traveling down an Oregon highway September 12 north of Tillamook caught fire, injuring eight people. One victim was

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taken by helicopter to Legacy Emanuel Hospital in Portland for burn and smoke inhalation injuries, Oregon State Police said. Seven others on board were treated at Tillamook General Hospital for minor injuries and released. The Raz Transportation tour bus carrying 33 passengers was southbound near milepost 64 when its driver saw smoke and flames coming from the front dash area. The driver pulled onto the shoulder and stopped. When the bus door opened, the fire quickly spread inside the bus, police said. The bus occupants fled through an emergency exit. Source:

[http://www.bendbulletin.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20100914/NEWS0107/9140353/1009/NEWS01&nav\\_category=NEWS01](http://www.bendbulletin.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20100914/NEWS0107/9140353/1009/NEWS01&nav_category=NEWS01)

**With 100 percent screening deadline met, air cargo industry eyes new hurdles.** Air cargo shippers and forwarders said the industry still has a long way to go in screening shipments after meeting a government mandate to screen 100 percent of all cargo on U.S. passenger aircraft by August 1, 2010 according to a report. Industry shipping executives said they fear the growing demand during the fall shipping season will press the limits of screening capabilities in coming months, including the ability to keep up this brisk screening pace integral to the time-sensitive nature of most air shipments. Many pre-implementation concerns, such as the handling of high-value or sensitive items, were alleviated with the Transportation Security Administration's (TSA) successful Certified Cargo Screening Program, which has so far authorized 1,041 companies to screen their own cargo. Although the TSA estimates 60 percent of inbound international cargo already is being scanned, an integrated, equivalent, international screening network is the next step in supply chain security, with a target implementation date of 2013. Source: <http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/with-100-percent-screening-deadline-met-air-cargo-industry-eyes-new-hurdles-102793944.html>

## WATER AND DAMS

**Report urges action to prevent U.S. water crisis.** A report outlining the challenges facing the U.S. freshwater supply was presented to the Presidential administration during a meeting of federal agencies convened by the White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) September 15, according to a press release. The report, titled "Charting New Waters: A Call to Action to Address U.S. Freshwater Challenges," represents consensus recommendations of diverse interests convened by The Johnson Foundation at Wingspread in Racine, Wisconsin. The report identifies serious challenges to the quality and supply of freshwater, such as pollution and scarcity; competing urban, rural and ecosystem water needs; climate change; environmental and public health impacts; and a variety of economic implications. The document offers actions to confront these threats and a plan to ensure that the nation's freshwater resources are secure for the 21st century, the release stated. The document is believed to be the first such comprehensive, cross-sector examination of U.S. freshwater challenges and solutions. Source: [http://watertechonline.com/news.asp?N\\_ID=74931](http://watertechonline.com/news.asp?N_ID=74931)

**(Florida) Missing: 254 manholes in North Miami Beach.** Over a 4-year period, the city of North Miami Beach, Florida, contracted with a construction company to build 254 manholes, 22,500 feet of water and sewer pipes, and 142 valves. No one knows when, where, or if the manholes, part of a \$2.2 million project, were ever built. The missing manholes are now part of a police investigation. A councilwoman said she was not aware of the content of a recent audit examining the procurement practices in the city's public services department. The city does not know if over 22,500 feet — more than 4 miles — of water-and-sewer pipes it paid for were ever laid. Or if the 142 valves used to shut off flow to water pipes were ever installed. The money for the project was paid to construction firm

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Jackson Land Development, based in Pompano Beach. Company officials did not return calls seeking comment. The mystery of the missing work arose after the city hired an engineering firm to examine the spending of the city's public services director who oversaw the water-and-sewer work now being questioned. The director resigned in May after admitting he approved purchase orders for services and materials that were not performed or delivered, according to city records. Source:

<http://www.floridatoday.com/article/20100914/BREAKINGNEWS/100914005/1006/NEWS01/Missing++254+manholes+in+North+Miami+Beach>

**Black & Veatch survey provides insights on stormwater infrastructure investments.** A knowledge resource for stormwater utilities that includes elements of how to address combined sewer overflows and data related to billing consumers was released September 13. The results of Black & Veatch's eighth Stormwater Utility Survey comes at a time when utilities and local governments wrestle with numerous pressures including climate change, aging infrastructure, water quality and access to capital. A key finding of the survey shows that 47 percent of participants believe funding for their respective stormwater utility only meets the utility's most urgent needs, and 10 percent stated that funding was not sufficient to meet their most urgent needs. Twenty-one percent of survey respondents indicated their utility is dealing with combined sewer overflow challenges. Of these respondents, only one-third currently recover costs associated with combined sewer overflow reduction in their stormwater user fee. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency estimates that more than 770 cities and town across the country have combined sewer systems. Source:

[http://www.watertechnonline.com/news.asp?N\\_ID=74897](http://www.watertechnonline.com/news.asp?N_ID=74897)

## **NORTH DAKOTA HOMELAND SECURITY CONTACTS**

To report a homeland security incident, please contact your local law enforcement agency or one of these agencies: **Fusion Center (24/7): 866-885-8295(IN ND ONLY)**; Email: [ndslic@nd.gov](mailto:ndslic@nd.gov) ; Fax: **701-328-8175**  
**State Radio: 800-472-2121 Bureau of Criminal Investigation: 701-328-5500 Highway Patrol: 701-328-2455**  
**US Attorney's Office Intel Analyst: 701-297-7400 Bismarck FBI: 701-223-4875 Fargo FBI: 701-232-7241**

To contribute to this summary or if you have questions or comments, please contact:

Kirk Hagel, ND Division of Homeland Security [kihagel@nd.gov](mailto:kihagel@nd.gov), 701-328-8168



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