

# *the* **Availability Digest**

[www.availabilitydigest.com](http://www.availabilitydigest.com)

## **@availabilitydig - The Twitter Feed of Outages**

October 2013

A challenge every issue for the Availability Digest is to determine which of the many availability topics out there win coveted status as Digest articles. We always regret not focusing our attention on the topics we bypass. With our new Twitter presence, we don't have to feel guilty. This article highlights some of the @availabilitydig tweets that made headlines in recent days.

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### **Snap, crackle, pop: Electrical troubles shed light on NSA's data center.**

Reports of "meltdowns," "flashes of lightning," and damaged equipment caused by arc faults have raised questions about the timetable for the data center's completion.

<http://shar.es/EDqQ3> via [@computerworld](https://twitter.com/computerworld)

### **Computer Glitch Blamed For Nationwide EBT System Shutdown.**

[A computer system upgrade shut down the Electronic Benefits Transfer System nationwide, leaving a countless number of shoppers stranded at the register.](#)

[cbsloc.al/17zk79A](http://cbsloc.al/17zk79A)

### **George Washington University hosted the Digest's "High Availability - Theory and Practice."**

We at the Availability Digest have created a series of seminars covering a wide range of topics concerning high availability, continuous availability, and active/active systems. Find other seminar topics here:

<http://www.availabilitydigest.com/seminars.htm>

### **Angry commuters ask why Metro-North power failed.**

An electrical fault cut power on a feeder cable while an alternate was out of service may disrupt one of the nation's busiest commuter rail lines for weeks.

[http://www.crainsnewyork.com/article/20130927/TRANSPORTATION/130929901 ...](http://www.crainsnewyork.com/article/20130927/TRANSPORTATION/130929901...) via [@CrainsNewYork](https://twitter.com/CrainsNewYork)

**A programming error causes Windows Azure to fail. From a recent Availability Digest seminar.**

Starting around midnight as the clock ticked to Leap Day, various subsystems of the Azure Cloud started to fail one-by-one.

<http://bit.ly/16CxXNI>

**Nasdaq Outage, OpenVMS emulation on PCs, Active/Active and Commodity Servers - Read Sept Availability Digest.**

The Availability Digest is a free, monthly publication that is published online for the convenience of subscribers.

<http://bit.ly/1dR2zdL>

**Digest Editor Dr. Bill Highleyman will present "High Availability - An Insider View" at the InNUG conference in Goa, India, on October 4th.**

In addition to speaking at conferences worldwide, Digest Managing Editor Bill Highleyman also offers a series of seminars on high- and continuous availability.

<http://www.availabilitydigest.com/seminars.htm>

**Lack of DNS redundancy takes down award-winning system.**

No matter how much cloud is used, if DNS is your single point of failure, you're going to have a bad time.

[tek.io/15rRrOF](http://tek.io/15rRrOF)

**Talk about the importance of redundancy! "Nuke That Fell on N.C. in 1961 Almost Exploded"**

A U.S. Air Force B-52 accidentally dropped two hydrogen bombs on North Carolina in 1961. One came very close to exploding and scattering radioactive fallout over the U.S. Eastern Seaboard.

<http://usat.ly/1abpaiV>