



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 20 January 2011

Current Nationwide Threat Level

ELEVATED

Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks

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

Top Stories

- According to NBC News, msnbc.com, and Associated Press, an explosion in a gas main in northeast Philadelphia, Pennsylvania spawned a three-alarm fire that left one person dead and five injured and prompted evacuation of several dozen residents January 18. (See item [4](#))
- The Spokane Spokesman-Review reports that an abandoned backpack found January 17 along the route of Spokane, Washington’s annual Martin Luther King Day march contained a bomb capable of inflicting “multiple casualties,” the FBI has confirmed. (See item [65](#))

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Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: ELEVATED, Cyber: ELEVATED

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) - <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *January 19, Bloomberg* – (National) **Tennessee gas pipeline may have leak, El Paso says.** El Paso Corp. is investigating a possible natural gas leak from a segment of the Tennessee Gas Pipeline Co. system in the West Delta area of the Gulf of Mexico,

according to El Paso. Any supply disruptions are “expected to be minimal,” El Paso said in an update on the pipeline’s electronic bulletin board. There have been no reports of injury or fire, the company said. A gas producer operating in the area alerted El Paso to the potential leak late January 18, said a spokesman for Houston-based El Paso. The West Delta area of the Gulf is south of New Orleans. “There’s no pollution that we know of,” he said. “There were some bubbles reported coming up to the surface, so we’re sending some divers down to investigate.” Tennessee Gas Pipeline, a major interstate pipeline system, transports natural gas from the Gulf region to New England. The system is 13,700 miles long and has a capacity 7.2 billion cubic feet per day. Source: <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-01-19/tennessee-gas-pipeline-co-reports-leak-in-west-delta-in-gulf-of-mexico.html>

2. *January 19, Coshocton Tribune* – (Ohio) **Gas service restored to 100 homes, work continues.** One hundred of the 460 Columbia Gas customers in Coshocton, Ohio left without heat after a waterline break flooded gas lines January 18 had service restored overnight. “We removed a large amount of water from our pipelines,” said a media spokesperson with Columbia Gas. “The quantities of water are really surprising.” Crews have cleared out the main line and are currently working to flush out a couple service lines, which run from the main to the home. It was 2 a.m. when air was removed from the main line and natural gas was reintroduced to the 100 households. The service and work to the lines will continue throughout the day. Two of the customers without service last night took advantage of the Red Cross Disaster Shelter set up at the Coshocton Senior Center. According to the Emergency Management Agency, both persons sought relief at the shelter until other arrangements to stay with family that night were made. The shelter closed at 10 p.m. and the EMA and Red Cross are monitoring the situation and will determine later today if they need to reopen the shelter. Source: <http://www.coshoctontribune.com/article/20110119/NEWS01/101190301/Gas-service-restored-to-100-homes-work-continues>
3. *January 19, Pittsburgh Leader Times* – (Pennsylvania) **Frozen coal behind Appewold derailment.** Railroad officials said frozen coal stuck to the sides of five coal hopper cars caused them to overturn and derail in Appewold, Pennsylvania in December. The president of Buffalo and Pittsburgh Railroad, called the derailment “unusual,” saying that frozen coal is not something that normally causes coal hoppers to derail. “Many times, coal is frozen in the bottom of the hoppers during the winter months and does not cause any problems,” he said. “In this case though, the coal froze to the sides of the cars, enough to change the center of gravity, and caused the cars to essentially fall over while negotiating the track.” In all, five cars derailed, including three cars at the southern end of Appewold Borough near the intersection of Hickory Street and Shady Lane, and two cars farther south in the area of Mile Long Hill Road in North Buffalo Township, under the Judge Frank Graff Bridge. Crews from R.J. Cornman Derailment Services of Meadowlands, Washington County, worked two days rerailing the five hopper cars. The rail line runs from the Allegheny Energy Reesedale power station in Washington Township to Freeport. The train was hauling empty coal hopper cars south toward Freeport when it derailed. The Buffalo and Pittsburgh Railroad is a 368-mile freight railroad that runs between Buffalo, New York, Erie,

Homer City, New Castle, Pittsburgh, Freeport, and Driftwood in Cameron County.
Source: http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/valleynewsdispatch/s_718839.html

4. *January 19, NBC; msnbc.com and Associated Press* – (Pennsylvania) **Gas explosion rocks Philadelphia neighborhood.** An explosion in a gas main in northeast Philadelphia, Pennsylvania spawned a three-alarm fire that left one person dead and five injured and prompted evacuation of several dozen residents. Fire dispatchers said a gas and water main break was reported at 6900 Torresdale Avenue in the Tacony neighborhood at about 7:19 p.m. January 18, and an explosion occurred at about 8:30 p.m. Dozens of people were evacuated from nearby homes and businesses, according to NBC Philadelphia. The cause of the blast was not immediately known. Authorities said the fire was brought under control just before 11 p.m. The executive fire chief told the Philadelphia Inquirer that the explosion set fire to at least two homes and a PGW truck. A water main also reportedly broke. Four other PGW employees and a firefighter were taken to nearby Torresdale Hospital, where a hospital spokeswoman said four were in critical condition. At least one had been transferred to a burn center. A PGW spokesman told the Inquirer that the injured firefighter was in stable condition.
Source: http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/41146412/ns/us_news-life/
5. *January 18, Associated Press* – (California) **Electrical explosion at LA building.** At least 30 people have been evacuated from a Los Angeles, California building after an explosion in an electrical vault. A fire department spokesman said the blast was reported January 18 in an above-ground parking area. He said the explosion was electrical in nature and there was smoke but no flames. The Department of Water and Power has turned off electricity to the multi-story building, which houses both residential and commercial properties. No injuries have been reported.
Source: http://www.mercurynews.com/news/ci_17132100?nclink_check=1
6. *January 18, Associated Press* – (Louisiana; National) **Gas leak forces evacuation of offshore platform; undersea robot investigating.** A natural gas leak has forced the evacuation of an offshore platform in the Gulf of Mexico, and an undersea robot is being used to investigate the source. The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement said the platform has not been in production for nearly a decade. It was being used to process natural gas and condensate from other offshore sites. It is located about 93 miles south of Lake Charles, Louisiana in about 173 feet of water. Investigators said the leak was discovered January 16 when workers on an Apache Corp. crew spotted bubbling near the platform. The pipelines from other platforms have been cut off. The federal agency said Apache is using a robotic vehicle to see if the platform can be reboarded safely. If not, authorities said a relief well will be drilled.
Source: <http://www.latimes.com/business/nationworld/wire/sns-ap-us-gulf-gas-leak,0,7055350.story>
7. *January 16, WYFF 4 Greenville* – (South Carolina) **Attempted copper theft causes fire at substation.** An attempted copper theft left more than 2,000 people without power January 15, according to officials from two power companies. The Laurens County Sheriff's Department reported that a fire at an electrical substation shared by

Duke Energy and Laurens Electrical Cooperative forced a service interruption January 16. At approximately 4:30 a.m., thieves attempted to remove copper from substation equipment located at Highway 76 and James Elledge Road near the Hickory Tavern community in Laurens county, deputies said. Copper cut from the site was found stacked at the substation. Apparently, the cutting of ground wires leading to the equipment resulted in a fire at the site, according to the Sheriff's Office. A Duke Energy representative confirmed that the outage affected 1,587 customers. He said that damage at the substation made it necessary to de-energize a major power transfer line in order to make repairs. He said customers had their power restored by about 12:45 p.m. A Laurens Electrical Cooperative spokesman said the outage affected 440 customers. He said power was restored to them by about 9:30 a.m.

Source: <http://www.wyff4.com/r/26504742/detail.html>

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Chemical Industry Sector

8. *January 19, KTXS 12 Abilene* – (Texas) **Chemical spill closes access to several block area In South Abilene.** Abilene, Texas, firefighters and haz-mat crews responded to a chemical spill January 18 at a business on Crawford Drive. A pallet holding several drums of an agricultural chemical tipped over and spilled about 100 gallons of the chemical. Police closed off access to the area just after 7:30 p.m. and crews were on the scene for several hours trying to contain and cleanup the spill. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality has been notified.

Source: <http://www.ktxs.com/news/26535126/detail.html>

9. *January 18, Enid News and Eagle* – (Oklahoma) **Minor fire hits Koch plant.** Koch Nitrogen employees put out a small fire at the plant east of Enid, Oklahoma, January 18. The director of public affairs for Koch Industries said there were no injuries in the blaze, which happened at about 2:30 p.m. The fire was “extinguished by staff” and the equipment involved was shut down and “is in safe mode,” she said. The cause of the fire was under investigation that afternoon. The plant still was in operation after the fire. The Enid Fire Department (EFD) was called out to stand by if needed. The fire marshal said there appeared to be a leak in a high-pressure hydrogen line. “They had the problem under control when we got there. We stood by in case they needed us,” he said. EFD dispatched six units to the scene. The plant has about 100 employees. It is a subsidiary of Koch Industries, based in Wichita, Kansas. The plant and its affiliates produce and distribute nitrogen fertilizer around the world. Together, they produce about 7.5 million metric tons of nitrogen products annually.

Source: <http://enidnews.com/localnews/x530794732/Minor-fire-hits-Koch-plant>

10. *January 18, United Press International* – (National) **States to tackle chemical safety issues.** Legislators in 30 states said they will announce bills to protect children and families from harmful chemicals in household products. Bills to be considered include bans on Bisphenol A, or BPA, and dangerous flame retardants in consumer products, requirements about chemicals used in manufacturing products intended for children, and resolutions calling on Congress to overhaul the 1976 Toxic Substances Control

Act, a release from the group Safer Chemicals, Healthy Families said January 18. Health advocates said the state efforts are a response to congressional inaction on chemical safety.

Source: http://www.upi.com/Science_News/2011/01/18/States-to-tackle-chemical-safety-issues/UPI-64421295394225/

11. *January 18, Baltimore Sun* – (Maryland) **Service restored on MARC Camden Line after possible leak.** Service on the Maryland Area Regional Commuter Camden train line was restored January 18 between Washington, D.C., and Baltimore while Anne Arundel County firefighters investigated possible chemical leaks on a mile-long CSX train, fire and transit officials said. A Maryland Transit Administration spokesman said Train 853 would leave Dorsey about 45 minutes behind schedule. The CSX train was stopped at Montevideo Road at the Anne Arundel-Howard County line in Maryland about 1:40 p.m., said the division chief, an Anne Arundel fire spokesman. Just after 3 p.m., hazardous-materials teams from fire units of Anne Arundel and Howard counties and Fort Meade were checking the train's cars for potential leaks. Only 4 of the 14 cars carrying hazardous materials on the 98-car train were full, he said. Ten others were not full but did have residual product. No one was treated for injuries by Arundel emergency personnel. CSX officials decided to stop the train, headed north from Washington, after it crossed the Anacostia River Bridge and contractors working there began to suffer from respiratory symptoms and illness. "There is nothing to indicate there is any kind of leak." He said there was no danger to anyone in homes or businesses in the area where the train was stopped.

Source: http://articles.baltimoresun.com/2011-01-18/news/bs-md-ar-marc-csx-20110118_1_marc-camden-line-marc-s-camden-line-csx-officials

12. *January 18, WRC 4 Washington* – (Maryland) **Embalming fluid spilled in Rt. 70 crash.** Embalming fluid and other dangerous liquids slicked Route 70 in Maryland, January 18 after a tractor-trailer crash. The driver of the truck received only minor injuries in the crash. The incident happened in the early morning hours on an icy stretch of the highway. The tractor trailer lost traction and jack-knifed out of control, and then flipped over on its side. Embalming fluid, wood preservative, and refrigerants were all part of the truck's cargo. As the trailer overturned, 50-gallon-drums containing the hazardous materials slipped off the back and spilled onto the roadway. Haz-mat teams were called to the scene and Route 70 was closed for hours during the cleanup. Morning commute traffic was diverted onto Route 144. Troopers from the Westminster barracks of the Maryland State Police are leading the investigation. According to the Mount Airy Volunteer Fire Department, the stretch of road is dangerous even under normal conditions.

Source: <http://www.nbcwashington.com/news/local-beat/DC-Embalming-Fluid-Spilled-in-Rt-70-Crash-114140189.html>

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

13. *January 19, Idaho Statesman* – (Idaho) **Bipartisan unity on nuke waste crumbles in Idaho.** A former Idaho democratic governor said a deal to change the state’s 1995 nuclear waste agreement with the federal government sets up Idaho to become the final resting place for hazardous material he and others in the state have worked so long to keep out. “It’s troubling to me that while the state is more than willing to be a tough public negotiator with the federal government over wolves or health care reform or the excesses of the Environmental Protection Agency, it will not say no to nuclear waste storage that will impact the state for years,” the former governor wrote the current Republican governor January 11. The current governor, and another former Republican governor and Department of Energy officials said the relatively small shipments — 880 pounds annually — will be used in research and to replace federal waste already approved for shipment to Idaho. All 300 tons of spent fuel at the Idaho National Laboratory in eastern Idaho would be required to be shipped out of the state by 2035 as dictated by the 1995 Batt agreement. But now that the Yucca Mountain nuclear waste site in Nevada is slated to be abandoned, the former Democratic said the new deal could just stick Idaho with more potential danger. The former Democratic governor, and the former Republican governor have stood shoulder to shoulder on the nuclear waste issue since 1995. But this time, the former Republican governor backed the current Republican governor.
Source: <http://www.idahostatesman.com/2011/01/19/1493589/bipartisan-unity-on-nuke-waste.html>

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

14. *January 19, Crystal Lake Northwest Herald* – (Illinois) **Burglary foiled at factory.** Police said they stopped a burglary operation at a Union, Illinois metal factory where four men tried to steal tens of thousands of pounds of aluminum. About 8 a.m. January 16, the McHenry County Sheriff’s Office received information from the Wood Dale and Crystal Lake police departments about a possible burglary at the factory. After deploying to the scene, officers observed a dark-colored SUV driving in the area displaying suspicious behavior. Shortly after, the SUV was seen escorting a semi-tractor trailer to the business New Dimensions at 6614 S. Union Road, police said. The tractor trailer was seen backing into an open bay door. The door closed, and the SUV continued to drive in the area while the tractor trailer was inside. Police stopped the SUV, and a Chicago man was taken into custody. A perimeter was established around the business, and when the tractor trailer began to move, the alleged driver, a Westchester man, was approached and apprehended. Two other men were later found in the area and arrested. The tractor trailer had been stolen from the Bensenville area January 15, and tens of thousands of pounds of aluminum were found inside, police said. The men had used forklifts inside the business to load the trailer. The four men were charged with burglary, theft, and conspiracy.
Source: <http://www.nwherald.com/2011/01/18/burglary-foiled-at-factory/ahoummv/>
15. *January 19, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission* – (National) **LED lamps recalled by Eco-Story due to fire hazard.** Eco-Story, of Portland, Maine, announced

the recall of about 42,000 LED lamps January 19. When used without a Class II transformer, the lamp can overheat, posing a fire hazard. The company has received two reports of overheated lamps. No injuries have been reported. The recall involves the LED 12-volt lamps with UL number E316865. The lamps were sold to commercial locations, primarily restaurants, from December 2007 through August, 2010. The lamps were not sold directly to consumers.

Source: <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml11/11716.html>

16. *January 19, WYFF 4 Greenville* – (South Carolina) **Business explosion sparks fire, injures 3.** An explosion January 19 at a factory in Spartanburg County, South Carolina, sent three employees to the hospital, an official at the scene said. According to a spokesman from Spartanburg County Emergency Management, the explosion happened in a manufacturing area at 7:30 a.m. at Odermath USA along New Cut Road near Blackstock Road. He said the blast led to a fire, and crews from multiple departments were sent to the scene. North Spartanburg, Westview, and Hilltop fire departments were all called. According to the spokesman, the chemical reacted with water, which forced firefighters to rely on large quantities of a dry powder extinguisher. New Cut Road remained closed throughout the morning because of the large amount of manpower on the scene. He said the three employees appeared to have non-life-threatening injuries and were being treated at Spartanburg Regional Medical Center. The spokesman said the air quality was being monitored, but there was no immediate threat to people in the area. The factory itself was the only building evacuated. Odermath is a Geman company that makes specialty wiring at its Spartanburg plant and employs 12 people, according to published reports.

Source: <http://www.wyff4.com/r/26539272/detail.html>

17. *January 18, Portland Tribune* – (Oregon) **Firefighters battle tricky blaze at ESCO.** Firefighters in Portland, Oregon, were forced to battle a blaze in a confined space January 17 at the ESCO Corp. manufacturing plant in the Northwest part of the city. According to a Portland Fire Bureau spokesman, the potentially dangerous fire broke out at about 7 p.m. in a pit covered by heavy steel plates. When firefighters arrived, power was shut off to the building to eliminate electrical hazards. That caused another problem, because the large cranes used to lift the plates were not operating. As a result, firefighters were forced to enter the covered pit from one side to battle the fire. Special air monitoring requirements and the use of a rapid intervention team were used as additional safety precautions because the fire was in a confined space. With the assistance of ESCO employees, firefighters were able to extinguish the blaze by 7:43 p.m. It was caused by hot metal igniting wood debris and a rubber conveyor belt. Equipment and personnel dispatched to the fire included 4 engines, 2 ladder trucks and 30 people, including 1 squad of firefighters and 2 chief officers. ESCO manufactures heavy equipment parts at its Portland facility, located at 2141 N.W. 25th Ave.

Source: http://portlandtribune.com/news/story.php?story_id=129537188426519600

18. *January 18, NY1 News* – (New York) **Hazardous materials fuel eight-alarm fire in Queens ironworks factory.** Firefighters spent more than half a day at the site of a massive, eight-alarm fire at an ironworks company in Queens, New York, that burned overnight from January 17 into January 18. The call came in shortly after 6 p.m. at the

1-story JSJ Iron Works at 150th Street and 95th Avenue. The building was filled with hazardous materials, causing the fire to grow rapidly. Fire officials said insulation and melting tar may also have fed the flames, which spread to an adjacent building. They are still determining exactly what was stored in the building. Firefighters were pulled from the building when it became too dangerous to fight the flames from inside. “We pulled everyone out due to structural concerns...,” said the New York City Fire Department Deputy Chief. “It was difficult for us to get penetration with our large-caliber streams.” Seven firefighters were injured when a ceiling came down on top of them. One was taken to Weill Cornell Medical Center with facial burns and the others were taken to nearby hospitals with minor injuries. All are expected to recover. After more than 10 hours, the fire was brought under control shortly before 5 a.m., but small pockets of flames still burned in the building. Fire officials said no people or buildings were in imminent danger, other than the neighboring structure that caught fire. Officials are still investigating the cause of the fire, but do not believe the blaze was suspicious. Source: http://www.nyl.com/content/top_stories/132359/eight-alarm-queens-fire-under-control/

19. *January 18, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission* – (National) **Schneider Electric recalls Xantrex GT Series grid tie solar inverters due to injury hazard.** Xantrex Technology, Inc., a subsidiary of Schneider Electric, of Livermore, California, announced a recall of about 25,000 grid tie solar converters January 18. A component of the inverter can degrade, causing out gassing within the wiring compartment of the inverter. When arcing occurs, gasses could build and force the compartment cover to be blown off. If the cover is blown off with sufficient force it can injure the user or person, or cause damage to property in close proximity to the inverter. Schneider Electric has received five reports of wiring compartment covers being blown off. No injuries or property damage have been reported. The recalled inverter converts solar photovoltaic voltages into utility grid voltages; allowing the owner to feed power into the electrical grid. The recalled units were manufactured between September 2005 and August 2010. These products were sold under the Xantrex, Sunpower, and General Electric brands. The solar distributors and system integrators were sold throughout the United States and in Canada from September 2005 through January 2011. Source: <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml11/11099.html>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

20. *January 19, Vancouver Columbian* – (Washington) **Brief fire squelched at WaferTech plant.** A small fire at one of the largest employers in Clark County, Washington, caused little damage January 18 in a close call that packed the potential to register a multimillion-dollar impact. Firefighters were dispatched at about 2:30 p.m. to the WaferTech plant, 5509 N.W. Parker St. in Camas for a two-alarm fire. But the small fire in a first floor air duct of WaferTech’s 5-story fabrication plant was quickly quashed. The impact to the massive integrated circuit, semiconductor foundry was negligible. Fire crews from Camas and Vancouver responded to the fire that a WaferTech spokesman said was under control in about 15 minutes. Embers smoldered

and remained warm until about 4 p.m. About 120 employees and contractors were evacuated from the main fabrication building, and they returned to work about 5 p.m., the spokesman said. WaferTech etches mazelike circuits into silicon wafers to make microchips. A subsidiary of Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co., WaferTech is Clark County's fourth-largest private employer, with about 1,030 workers.

Source: <http://www.columbian.com/news/2011/jan/18/WaferTech-fire-air-duct/>

21. *January 18, MilitaryTimes* – (National) **New problems disclosed on 2 models of F-35.** The F-35 Lightning II strike fighter has previously undisclosed problems with its handling, avionics, afterburner, and helmet-mounted display, according to a January report by the Pentagon's director of operational test and evaluation. Both the Air Force F-35A variant and Marine Corps' F-35B model experienced "transonic wing roll-off, [and] greater than expected sideslip during medium angle-of-attack testing," the report said. The report also said various components are not as reliable as expected.

Source: <http://www.militarytimes.com/news/2011/01/military-f-35-report-reveals-new-issues-011811w/>

22. *January 18, Associated Press* – (Montana) **Malfunction causes explosion during rocket test at US facility; no one injured.** A rocket malfunctioned during a test January 18, causing an explosion at an aerospace facility outside Butte, Montana. The president of the Montana Aerospace Development Association told KXLF-TV that no one was injured in the explosion at the AeroTec facility. He would not release any information on possible damages. He said facility officials are investigating the explosion's cause and plan to meet with city-county officials January 19 in Butte to brief them on the explosion. AeroTec offers a place for companies and universities to test rockets and jet engines.

Source:

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/canadianpress/article/ALeqM5gNM8Wu7pCeh8o dFrLK5hCkHZCLdg?docId=5689949>

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Banking and Finance Sector

23. *January 19, Glendale News-Press* – (California) **The heat is on the 'Cooler Bandit'.** FBI officials said a man who allegedly tried to rob Wells Fargo Bank on Brand Boulevard in Glendale, California, January 14 may be the so-called "Cooler Bandit." The unidentified robber entered the bank on the 500 block of North Brand Boulevard at 10:15 a.m., approached a teller and passed a demand note, police said. When the teller had trouble reading the writing, she left the booth to talk with a supervisor, so the robber told her to "give me the money," FBI officials said. At that point, the man abandoned his plans and fled on foot. No one was injured and no cash was stolen, police said. Witnesses described the man as possibly being in his teens. A FBI spokeswoman said the man's description fits that of the "Cooler Bandit" because of the lunch pail that he carries to store cash from every robbery. The bandit is known to have allegedly robbed banks in Industry and Marina del Rey, she added. The robber has been described as a young black or Latino man with a slender build, she said.

Source: <http://www.glendalenewspress.com/news/tn-gnp-safetybriefs-20110119,0,4638054.story>

24. *January 18, eNews Park Forest* – (Illinois) **FBI says former Chicago hedge fund manager allegedly swindled more than \$3.5 million from 48 victims in investment fraud scheme.** A former Chicago, Illinois hedge fund manager was taken into federal custody January 18 after he turned himself in for allegedly engaging in an investment fraud scheme in which he swindled more than \$3.5 million from approximately 48 victims who invested in funds he purported to operate. The defendant was charged with mail fraud in a criminal complaint filed in U.S. district court. The man obtained about \$4.7 million from 48 high net worth investors since 2003 for purported managed futures trading accounts and a commodity pool investment. He provided about \$1.1 million in investor redemptions, and allegedly lost roughly half of the total invested funds through trading, and misused most of the remaining funds for his own benefit. Most of the misappropriated funds were spent.

Source: <http://www.ewsp.com/latest-news/human-interest/21158-fbi-says-former-chicago-hedge-fund-manager-allegedly-swindled-more-than-35-million-from-48-victims-in-investment-fraud-scheme.html>

25. *January 17, Help Net Security* – (International) **Banking Trojan incorporates legitimate remote control software.** An ESET researcher has recently received a sample of the Sheldor Trojan, which was found by Group-IB investigators while they were inspecting the systems of a major Russian company that fell prey to theft through unauthorized accounting transactions. This particular piece of malware incorporates the well-known TeamViewer remote control software, in order to allow the attacker to start a command shell on the compromised machine in order to control it, to toggle monitoring, to shut down Windows or to log off the user, and - if need be - to remove all traces of the bot. “The dropper installs a backdoor in %WINDIR% and runs as server in console mod,” the researcher explained. “One component of TeamViewer is modified in order to inject code into tv.dll, communicating through the administrative control panel.” In this case, the TeamViewer component was obviously use to circumvent additional authentication mechanism that some banks use.

Source: http://www.net-security.org/malware_news.php?id=1591

26. *January 17, Help Net Security* – (International) **Toolkit merging Zeus and SpyEye already on the market.** When the alleged Zeus-SpyEye merger became news last October, a lot of people wondered what new capabilities we could expect of this new toolkit. According to a McAfee analyst, the latest version of the SpyEye toolkit has seemingly been offered on sale on the black market: New or improved capabilities include: ZeuS killing, cookies and session cleaning, brute force password breaking, Jabber notification, VNC module, auto-spreading, auto-update, unique stub generator for FUD and evasion, and a new screenshot system — all for \$800. There is no proof the offer is true, since the source code is not available for testing. The McAfee analyst casts a doubt on the veracity of the offer by comparing the price with one that was asked by the SpyEye maker from a buyer last November and reached \$4,000 for the complete package.

Source: http://www.net-security.org/malware_news.php?id=1590

27. *January 17, WMTV 15 Madison* – (Wisconsin) **Man robs Whitewater bank; claims to have bomb.** Officers responded to a robbery January 14 at 7:26 p.m. at the Commercial Bank Westside Branch located in the Sentry Grocery Store at 1260 West Main Street in Whitewater, Wisconsin. The suspect robbed the bank of an undisclosed amount of money after he told the teller he had a bomb. The suspect was carrying a brown paper bag with a Sentry logo on it and a red computer type bag with black straps that contained two blue cylinders that the suspect proclaimed was a bomb. After robbing the teller, the suspect fled via the east entry/exit door. He is described as a male White or Hispanic, approximately 50 years old, 5 feet and 10 inches, 200 pounds, with a deep voice. He was wearing a blue fur lined ear flap hat, blue or black scarf, with a blue hoodie underneath, a tan Carhatt type coat, light colored blue jeans, and tan boots. At this point the robbery does not appear to match any other bank robberies in southeastern Wisconsin. Agents from the FBI are assisting Whitewater police in this investigation.

Source:

http://www.nbc15.com/home/headlines/CrimeTracker_15_Man_Robs_Whitewater_Bank_Claims_to_Have_Bomb_114044214.html

28. *January 14, Oklahoma City Oklahoman* – (Oklahoma) **FDIC warns of fake e-mails.** The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) is warning consumers of a fraudulent e-mail that appears to be from the FDIC. The fake e-mail says the agency “in cooperation with the Department of Homeland Security, federal, state and local governments” has withdrawn deposit insurance from the recipient’s account “due to account activity that violates the Patriot Act.” The e-mail also contains a link that the recipient is directed to use to verify identity and account information. However, the e-mail and link are bogus, the FDIC said. “It was not sent by the FDIC,” the agency said in a news release. “It is an attempt to obtain personal information from consumers. Financial institutions and consumers should not access the link provided within the body of the e-mail and should not under any circumstances provide any personal information through this media.” The FDIC said it is trying to identify the source of the e-mails, and advised consumers to report any similar attempts by sending information to alert@fdic.gov.

Source: <http://newsok.com/fdic-warns-of-fake-e-mails/article/3532188>

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Transportation Sector

29. *January 19, Towanda Daily Review* – (Pennsylvania) **Route 220 closed after roll-over crash.** State Route 220 north of Old Bernice Road in Cherry Township, Pennsylvania, was closed for 4 hours for a hazardous materials clean-up of oxygen bottles following a one-vehicle, roll-over crash January 18, said state police at Laporte. The vehicle involved in the accident, a 2006 Chevrolet utility box truck, was carrying 100 bottles of oxygen, and the scene was declared a hazardous materials scene. Police said the roadway was closed until all the bottles could be safely removed. Police said the driver,

42, of Bloomsburg, was driving the vehicle north on Route 220, which was partially snow covered. According to police, he was negotiating a left hand, downhill curve, and his vehicle's rear tires broke traction with the roadway. Police said his vehicle rotated counterclockwise and exited the west berm and spun 180 degrees and rode up on a dirt embankment. Then, it spun back onto the roadway and flipped onto its passenger side and came to final rest in the southbound lane of Route 220, police said. Dushore Fire and Ambulance, Mildred Fire and Ambulance, and Fulmer's Towing assisted at the scene.

Source: <http://thedailyreview.com/news/route-220-closed-after-roll-over-crash-1.1092348>

30. *January 19, Associated Press* – (National) **FAA: Laser incidents soar, threaten planes.** Federal officials said incidents in which lasers have been pointed at planes nearly doubled in 2010, with Los Angeles and Chicago recording the most incidents. The transportation secretary said January 19 that there were 2,836 incidents reported in 2010 in which lasers were pointed at aircraft, compared with 1,527 in 2009. Many of the incidents involve airliners that were in the midst of takeoffs or landings, critical phases of flight when pilots need to be at their most alert. The lasers can temporarily blind pilots. The Federal Aviation Administration said there were 108 laser incidents at Los Angeles International Airport, more than any other airport. Chicago's O'Hare International Airport was next, with 98, followed by airports in Phoenix's Sky Harbor International Airport and San Jose, California, both with 80.

Source:

http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/nationworld/2013975458_apusfaalasers.html

31. *January 18, Associated Press* – (National) **An East Coast tired of snow adds sleet and ice.** A mix of snow, sleet, and freezing rain iced up roads and runways from the nation's capital all the way to northern New England January 18, making for messy driving and delaying flights for tens of thousands of travelers. The ice soon faded as the day warmed up, but northern New England was expected to get hit with several inches of snow late January 18 and into January 19. The icy blast closed hundreds of schools and delayed or canceled flights throughout the region. In Wallingford, Connecticut, about 90 passengers on an Amtrak train were put on buses January 18 after it struck a FedEx delivery truck that became stuck on the tracks. No injuries were reported in the low-speed crash, which left packages strewn on the slushy pavement near the damaged truck. Several airports remained open January 18 but delayed or canceled flights, including airports serving New York, New Jersey, Baltimore, and Washington, D.C., as well as Connecticut's Bradley International Airport. More than 400 flights were canceled at New York's three main airports.

Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20110118/ap_on_bi_ge/us_winter_weather

32. *January 18, Christian Science Monitor* – (International) **TSA looks to expedite screening for air cargo on US-bound passenger planes.** Air freight forwarders and members of the global shipping industry learned January 14 TSA appears poised to require them to screen, by year's end, 100 percent of such cargo bound for the United States. TSA is looking to accelerate the timetable after the terrorist bombing attempt in late October, in which explosives were secreted inside printer cartridges sent from

Yemen to Chicago -- and were intended to blow up in cargo holds of passenger jets while they were in the air. Carriers now have 45 days to comment on the proposed mandate, with TSA reviewing industry comments before it makes the rule final. A push to screen all cargo was a response to “the latest threats and the considerable progress made by industry in screening international inbound cargo,” a TSA spokesman, wrote in an e-mail. “TSA’s mission is to ensure the safety of the traveling public.... After the thwarted attempt by terrorists to ship explosives aboard aircraft headed to this country last October, TSA immediately took a number of steps to enhance security by tightening existing air cargo.” Among those steps for US-bound international flights, TSA ordered a ban on any cargo designated as “high risk.” Other safeguards, meanwhile, heavily restricted small packages sent by mail, which often travel in the cargo holds of passenger aircraft.

Source: <http://www.csmonitor.com/USA/2011/0118/TSA-looks-to-expedite-screening-for-air-cargo-on-US-bound-passenger-planes>

For more stories, see items [1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [11](#), and [12](#)

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Postal and Shipping Sector

33. *January 19, Associated Press* – (Maryland) **FBI links three fiery packages.** The FBI said initial forensic tests have linked the three fiery packages sent to federal and Maryland government officials. The Special Agent in charge of the Baltimore field office said January 18 that while investigators believed they were linked before, they have determined the letters that smoked and popped when opened were manufactured in the same manner. Because the message inside the first two letters got out, the FBI Special Agent said there were concerns the third letter found a day later might be a copycat. He said fingerprint and fiber analysis is expected soon. The FBI Special Agent said investigators are chasing down more than 100 leads in the case and a separate “red cell” team of investigators is exploring what could have motivated the sender.
Source: <http://voices.washingtonpost.com/crime-scene/update-on-the-news/fbi-links-three-fiery-packages.html>
34. *January 19, CNN* – (New York) **Suspected NYC letter bomb may have been greeting card, authorities say.** Police investigated a possible letter bomb at a bank in New York, New York, January 19, according to a department spokesman. No letter bomb was found at the Israeli owned Bank Hapoalim, which is located on the 11th floor of a skyscraper on Sixth Avenue in Midtown Manhattan. The authorities made the determination that there was not a bomb on the bank’s premises after X-raying the suspicious package. The letter had no return address and the name of the bank officer to whom it was addressed was misspelled, raising suspicions among bank employees, authorities said. There were wires and a battery in the 6-by-3-inch envelope, but authorities said the envelope may contain an electronic or musical greeting card. It is not clear whether employees who were evacuated from the building have been able to re-enter it. The area was not evacuated.

Source: <http://news.blogs.cnn.com/2011/01/19/nyc-police-investigate-possible-letter-bomb-at-israeli-bank/?hpt=T2>

35. *January 18, WHNT 19 Huntsville* – (Alabama) **HAZMAT teams testing envelopes delivered to Huntsville attorney’s office.** Police have a man in custody after a situation at a local office complex in Huntsville, Alabama. They said the man dropped off several envelopes to his attorney at 600 Boulevard South January 18. The incident happened around 1:30 p.m. Police said the envelopes were labeled “Cure to Anthrax,” “Cure to Smallpox,” and “Cure to Staph Infections”. The attorney’s office immediately notified police, due to the labeling on the envelopes. The hazmat team has the envelopes and is working to determine what actually is in each envelope. Police said it appears one of the envelopes only had only small twigs inside. They said the man will be taken for a mental evaluation. The FBI is also involved.

Source: <http://www.whnt.com/news/huntsvilleandmadisoncounty/whnt-hazmat-teams-respond-to-sitation-at-huntsville-office-complex-01182011,0,6108330.story>

36. *January 18, Issaquah Press* – (Washington) **Investigators probe suspicious package at office building.** Issaquah Police Department and federal agents continue to probe a suspicious package delivered to a North Issaquah, Washington office building. Police said emergency crews mobilized at about 2 p.m. January 13 after receiving reports of a package containing a suspicious powder. Eastside Fire and Rescue (EFR) and Issaquah Police Department teams responded to the building in the 1600 block of Northwest Sammamish Road, after workers reported concerns about the contents in a package sent to the business. EFR sent a hazardous materials team to retrieve and remove the package. Officials also locked down the building and cordoned off the area for several hours. Responders said three or four workers reported headaches and sore throats. EFR did not transport any workers for medical treatment and the affected workers recovered not long after emergency crews arrived. Crews ended the lock down and allowed workers inside the building to depart at about 5:15 p.m. Investigators interviewed some workers at the scene. The investigation expanded to include the police department, the FBI and the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, the agency responsible for mail-related crimes. Officials had not yet determined the contents of the package. The incident occurred at the Lake Place Office Center near Costco and Costco headquarters.

Source: <http://www.issaquahpress.com/2011/01/18/investigators-probe-suspicious-package-at-office-building/>

For another story, see item [32](#)

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Agriculture and Food Sector

37. *January 19, Yankton Press & Dakotan* – (South Dakota; Nebraska) **Bird deaths linked to poison.** Local officials said January 18 that a poison that poses no risk to humans or pets is believed to be the cause of a large bird die-off in Yankton, South Dakota. More than 300 dead starlings have been found in downtown Yankton since January 17. At a media conference January 18, a Yankton Animal Control officer said DRC-1339, a bird

poison used by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), was the probable source of the deaths. She said a USDA official contacted her January 18 after seeing news of the dead birds. In an interview with the Press & Dakotan, a wildlife biologist confirmed that he was involved with dispersing DRC-1339 at a cattle feedlot in Nebraska about 10 miles south of Yankton. He is with the USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service Wildlife Services and is based in Lincoln, Nebraska. He said starlings at the livestock facility were targeted for eradication when the poison was put out January 13. Besides starlings, DRC-1339 — which can only be sold to government agencies and qualified pest control officers — is also effective on birds such as crows and blackbirds. It does not affect birds of prey who may eat the poisoned animals.

Source:

<http://www.yankton.net/articles/2011/01/19/community/doc4d36568a9e0bf182406588.txt>

38. *January 19, Food Safety News* – (California) **Accidental beef shipment retrieved.** United Food Group, a Vernon, California, company said it has retrieved approximately 7,875 pounds of cooked, ready-to-eat ground beef patties that may have been contaminated with *Listeria monocytogenes* and inadvertently distributed, according to a U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) news release. The company recalled 22.5-pound cases of "Fully Cooked Black Angus Ground Beef Steak Patties." Each case contained 75 individual 4.8-ounce patties. Each package had the establishment number "EST. 31835" inside the USDA mark of inspection, a use-by date of "10-11-2011," and was marked with either "LINE #31" or "LINE #32." The product subject to recall was produced on October 11, 2010, and shipped to a single distributor in California for further distribution to institutional users, the FSIS. Although the FSIS characterized this as a Class I recall, the agency's news release said "it should be noted that the product has been used and is no longer available in commerce."
Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/01/listeria-prompts-recall-of-angus-beef-patties/>
39. *January 18, Fairbanks Daily News-Miner* – (Alaska) **Study: sulfolane found in North Pole vegetables gardens.** The Alaska Division of Health and Social Services advised residents not to use sulfolane-tainted water in their gardens in a report issued January 18. Fruit and vegetables retain trace levels of sulfolane in their edible parts, according to a state study of North Pole gardens. The report showed that lettuce, tomatoes, snap peas, and other plants can store sulfolane in their fruits, leaves, roots, or flowers. The levels are unlikely to pose health risks, the health department said. But a person's exposure depends on many factors, such as how much water a garden receives and how much homegrown food a person eats. Because so little is known about sulfolane, eating such tainted vegetation is not worth the risk, officials say. No studies have been conducted on the long-term effects of low levels of sulfolane on humans. High levels have been shown to harm or kill animals but in doses at least several hundred times higher than those in North Pole wells. About 200 wells in and around North Pole are contaminated with sulfolane, an industrial solvent used to refine oil.
Source: <http://newsminer.com/bookmark/11055316-Study-Sulfolane-found-in-North-Pole-vegetables-gardens>

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Water Sector

40. *January 17, San Mateo Daily Journal* – (California) **Sewage pipe break linked to pressure.** Nearly 6 months after thousands of gallons of raw sewage poured in the Redwood Shores, California, lagoon from a ruptured pipeline, the waters are clear and officials believe a pressure change was behind the break. “All we really have is speculation. We hired an outside engineering consultant who estimates it was some sort of transient pressure created in the pipe which is not uncommon,” said the public works service director. On August 25, the break in a pressurized sewer pipe dumped 48,000 gallons of matter into the lagoon and into six residential garages in the area of Davit Lane and Anchor Circle. Crews spent the next day diverting sewage into trucks for transport to a nearby treatment facility and fixing the break, followed by cleanup and repair to the garages and landscaping. The spill caused the Redwood City Council to declare a local emergency and authorize more than \$100,000 in cleanup costs. The regional water quality control board expects to return its evaluation of the city’s findings and corrective actions at the end of this month.
Source: [http://www.smdailyjournal.com/article_preview.php?id=150556&title=Sewage pipe break linked to pressure](http://www.smdailyjournal.com/article_preview.php?id=150556&title=Sewage+pipe+break+linked+to+pressure)

41. *January 15, Corpus Christi Caller-Times* – (Texas) **Arsenic levels in rural community exceed federal limits.** Some residents in the northwestern reaches of Nueces County, Texas, are paying for well water that contains levels of arsenic above what the federal government says is safe to drink. An estimated 60 residents in Cindy Park, a low-income community of about 200 people, receive drinking water from Cyndie Park II Water Supply Cooperative, a volunteer-run water system. Some who have lived there for years and use the water to drink, cook and bathe are unaware of the high levels of arsenic, a naturally occurring toxin found in groundwater. They say they have never seen a notice or been informed by the water co-op, as required by the state. Long-term exposure can cause cancer and circulatory problems that mimic the effects of diabetes. Cyndie Park II is one of 121 public water systems in Texas serving more than 130,000 people drinking water that violates a federal arsenic rule that went into effect in 2001. Clusters of counties in the Rio Grande Valley, Gulf Coast, and West Texas have water systems out of compliance, according to information from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. It is not the only water system in the Coastal Bend struggling with arsenic levels. In Duval County, the cities of Freer and Benavides, which collectively serve 5,000 people, have arsenic levels at 45 micrograms per liter (mpl). Across the state, there are municipalities, school districts, and a state prison in Navasota out of compliance. Arsenic levels for those systems range from 11 mpl to 102 mpl. Small water systems, like Cyndie Park, that serve fewer than 3,300 people received an extension to 2015 from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
Source: <http://www.caller.com/news/2011/jan/15/arsenic-levels-in-rural-community-exceed-federal/>

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

42. *January 19, The Register* – (International) **UK doctor loses unencrypted laptop containing patient data.** A United Kingdom doctor faces a disciplinary inquiry after an unencrypted laptop containing confidential patient data was stolen from his home. The unnamed junior medic acted against regulations set by the Hull and East Yorkshire Hospitals NHS Trust, his employers. The doctor took unencrypted patient information — including names, dates of birth, the treatments — on 1,147 patients and loaded it onto his laptop, which was stolen in November. The medic waited for two weeks before informing his superiors about the theft. Hospital bosses have written to orthopedic patients in order to apologize. The medic was temporally suspended as a result of the incident but has now returned to work pending the results of a disciplinary hearing.
Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/01/19/hull_hospital_data_breach_flap/
43. *January 17, Boston Globe* – (National) **1b effort yields no bioterror defenses.** The Pentagon is scaling back one of its largest efforts to develop treatments for troops and civilians infected in a germ warfare attack after a \$1 billion, five-year program fell short of its primary goal. Researchers were unable to break through the limitations of genetic science, according to government officials and specialists in biological terrorism. The Pentagon's next \$1 billion for the Transformational Medical Technologies program will focus on better ways to identify mutant versions of Ebola, Marburg, and other deadly viruses. Those are among the genetically modified agents that officials fear could be used by terrorists or rogue states against urban or military targets. The continued flow of money, even with the shift in strategy, should help states retain jobs and research labs focused on this arena. The new strategy represents a return to the drawing board for an ambitious program conceived after the mailing of anthrax to members of Congress and media organizations. Scientists initially set out to develop new medicines capable of attacking viruses that might be altered by terrorists to make them more deadly. After more than 50 research projects by more than 100 contractors, only two experimental medicines have shown promise. Even those are far from being ready for limited clinical tests. A hurdle in the government's effort is that treatments cannot be tested in human clinical trials because it is unethical to expose people to deadly virus in such a study, requiring animals with similar traits as humans to serve as surrogates.
Source:
http://www.boston.com/lifestyle/health/articles/2011/01/17/after_1b_spent_pentagon_shifts_strategy_on_bioterror_threats/?page=full
44. *January 13, Associated Press* – (Kentucky) **West Kentucky patients' private information found on Web.** A database containing private information for thousands of patients at a western Kentucky health department has been secured after having been available on the Web for months. Names, Social Security numbers, and dates of birth

for at least 9,986 patients at the Green River District Health Department were available on the link since October, The Messenger-Inquirer reported. The Owensboro newspaper said the company that maintains the database, Integranetics, corrected the problem immediately January 12 after being notified of the problem. The Integranetics president said he did not know what caused the information to go public, but it was not done intentionally.

Source: <http://www.courierpress.com/news/2011/jan/13/west-kentucky-patients-private-information-found-w/>

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Government Facilities Sector

45. *January 19, Associated Press* – (California) **2 injured in school shooting.** A gun in a 10th-grader's backpack discharged January 18 when he dropped the bag, wounding two students at Gardena High School, including one who remained in critical condition, the police said. Both teens were hit with the same bullet, Los Angeles deputy police chief said. The deputy superintendent of the Los Angeles Unified School District said there was no indication the student with the backpack had touched the gun before it discharged. The police chief said the student apologized before running to another classroom. Still, a Los Angeles police lieutenant said it was a crime to bring a gun to campus. The unidentified student was arrested and charges were pending, he said. A 15-year-old girl suffered a skull fracture and bruising to the brain and developed a significant blood clot when the bullet grazed her skull. A 15-year-old boy was in fair condition after being shot in the neck. The shooting occurred in a classroom at the school, where the principal said students were on a break at the time. The campus was locked down after the incident. The police initially reported a shooter was at large.
Source: <http://www.concordmonitor.com/article/234999/2-injured-in-school-shooting>

46. *January 18, Miami Herald* – (Florida) **Political 'hacktivists' attack city websites in North Miami, Hillsboro Beach.** Over the weekend of January 14, anti-Israeli hackers sidestepped ineffective firewalls and redirected visitors to a jarring note on North Miami, Florida's official Web site: "God d*** Murderer Israel and ABD [an Arabic slur meaning subordinate]. I am protesting the israel.I am near the PALESTINE people." The note, which was later taken down, was signed SLYHACKER. Thirty-five miles to the north, Hillsboro Beach officials had a similar headache January 18, as they were forced to scrub cyber graffiti from their own site. A pro-Iranian hacker had inserted a map of the Middle Eastern nation and its flag, as well as three words in bold type: MCSM IRAN HACKING. It's not clear if — and given the vast number of Internet troublemakers around the globe, it is unlikely that — the two incidents were at all connected. In North Miami, the security breach was the latest in a series of recent hacking incidents, according to a city spokeswoman. They began a few months back, and crop up at least once a week. The city's information technology specialists have tried to minimize the attacks, from moving the hosting sites to changing passwords twice a day.
Source: <http://www.miamiherald.com/2011/01/18/2022549/political-hacktivists-attack-city.html>

47. *January 18, WPTV 5 West Palm Beach* – (Florida) **Officials investigate threat against State Representative William Snyder.** The Martin County Sheriff’s Office in Florida, along with other law enforcement agencies, is investigating a threat against a state representative. The representative and law enforcement would not comment on the details of the investigation, only saying a threat was made against the lawmaker and his family. “Certainly a threat against me is something I contend with easily,” he said. “It’s just a fact of life. I think 33 years in law enforcement, I’m not as jittery as some people might be, but a threat against my family, you saw my grandson here today, I took that very seriously.” The representative is in support of a bill similar to Arizona’s immigration law.
Source: <http://www.wptv.com/dpp/news/officials-investigate-threat-against-state-representative-william-snyder>
48. *January 18, Norfolk Virginian-Pilot* – (North Carolina) **Elizabeth City man charged in school shooting threats.** A 24-year-old man was charged January 18 in connection with threats of “shooting up” a North Carolina school after firearms and up to 400 rounds of ammunition were found in his home in Elizabeth City. The suspect was charged with possession of firearms in and affecting commerce by a person addicted to controlled substances, the Pasquotank County sheriff said. Local federal officers found firearms and 200 to 400 rounds of ammunition after searching his home. Police received tips January 13 that a man had threatened to “shoot up” a school and that he referred to the mass shooting at Columbine High School in Colorado in 1999. Security was then beefed up at all schools in Pasquotank County. Officers from the Elizabeth City Police Department and the Pasquotank County Sheriff’s Office searched his home. Local officers called for Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives officers to assist in the case. The suspect admitted January 14 to having three handguns and two rifles, according to the affidavit. He said he had purchased them all legally.
Source: <http://hamptonroads.com/2011/01/elizabeth-city-man-charged-school-shooting-threats>
49. *January 18, WEWS 5 Cleveland* – (Ohio) **Cleveland City Councilman gets police attention after death threats.** A Cleveland city councilman in Ohio is getting police attention after receiving death threats. “It reached its highest point where there was actually a death threat,” the city councilman said about threats on his life. He said Cleveland police will give special attention to his home and ward 8 office. The councilman has been at the center of security and policing debates in Cleveland’s downtown Warehouse District and said the threats stem from the controversy.
Source: http://www.newsnet5.com/dpp/news/local_news/cleveland_metro/cleveland-city-councilman-gets-police-attention-after-death-threats
50. *January 18, WSPA 7 Spartanburg* – (South Carolina) **SC agency says hacker may have accessed personal info of thousands.** The director of the South Carolina Budget and Control Board’s Employee Insurance Program (EIP) says a hacker got into an agency computer last November and may have accessed the personal information of about 5,600 people. The program provides insurance for state employees, including teachers, as well as retirees and their families. The program director said the hack occurred within ten days before November 18, 2010, which is when it was discovered.

An employee with the EIP opened an email with an attachment and the attachment launched a hacker virus. The program director said the hacker may have accessed people's names, addresses, Social Security numbers, dates of birth, and benefits ID numbers, but no health or medical records. The attack was limited to one computer, not a server or the entire program. The program sent letters on January 14 to the people whose records may have been accessed letting them know how to put a free security freeze on their credit report and how to get a free copy of their credit report. The agency also reported the hack to the credit bureaus.

Source: <http://www2.wspa.com/news/2011/jan/18/2/sc-agency-says-hacker-may-have-accessed-personal-i-ar-1357115/>

51. *January 17, Softpedia* – (Nebraska) **Omaha Public Schools notifies current and former employees of possible data breach.** Omaha Public Schools, the largest school district in Nebraska, notified over 4,300 current and former employees that their information might have been compromised by hackers. The attack was discovered December 21 and affected the database of the Omaha School Employees' Retirement System. The computer forensics firm contracted to investigate the incident was unable to determine if the personal details stored within were accessed or copied. "While we are unable to confirm that unauthorized access actually occurred, we are concerned that it did," the system's executive director told the Omaha World-Herald. With the impact unclear the district had to assume the worse and treat this as a data breach and notify the affected individuals that their records were exposed. The database, which has since been taken offline, contained names, dates of birth, Social Security numbers, years of service, and beneficiaries. Bank or credit card information was not affected.
Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Omaha-Public-Schools-Notifies-Current-and-Former-Employees-of-Possible-Data-Breach-178569.shtml>
52. *January 16, Associated Press* – (Kentucky) **Teen arrested in western Ky. school threat.** A 16-year-old has been arrested in what law enforcement officials described as a shooting threat at Graves County High School in western Kentucky. The Graves County sheriff told WPSD-TV in Paducah that the teen was arrested January 14 and charged with felony terroristic threatening and misdemeanor disorderly conduct. The threat arose when the teen and another student got into a fight, and the teen threatened to bring a gun to Graves County High School. There was never a gun on school property. The superintendent said about 500 students, one-third of the total student body, were absent or left early that day. Those absences will be excused. The teen is due in court in McCracken County on January 20.
Source: http://www.necn.com/01/16/11/Teen-arrested-in-western-Ky-school-threa/landing_nation.html?&blockID=3&apID=4501467ce6064f9eacc89c54f54fc8f5
53. *January 15, Hattiesburg American* – (Mississippi) **2 schools evacuated after bomb threats.** Officials are working to find the sources of threatening messages left at two Pine Belt, Mississippi, high schools. Students at Oak Grove and Forrest County Agricultural high schools were evacuated January 14 after bomb threats were received. Searches for explosives at both schools turned up nothing. A voicemail message left at Oak Grove High at about 10:30 p.m. January 13 warned of a bomb in the building, while a student at Forrest County Agricultural High School found a note in the hallway

January 14 making similar claims. Oak Grove was evacuated shortly after 8 a.m. following the receipt of the message, and FCAHS emptied its halls around 11:30 a.m. After officials searched the OGHS campus and a bomb-sniffing dog combed the area, students were able to return to the school after lunch. The FCAHS principal said the nearly 600 high school students were evacuated to the football stadium without incident. She said the Forrest County Sheriff's Office assisted school resource officers in searching the premises.

Source:

<http://www.hattiesburgamerican.com/article/20110115/NEWS01/101150322/1002/rss>

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Emergency Services Sector

54. *January 18, Bergen County Record* – (New Jersey) **Cellphones give feds insight into criminal activity.** When FBI agents wanted to reconstruct the movements of a rogue New York City cop who staged a \$1 million perfume heist in Carlstadt, New Jersey, last February, they turned to cellphone records to trace his steps. Using a computer mapping program and “call detail” logs obtained from Sprint Nextel, agents plotted the locations of 42 cell sites in Bergen and Hudson counties and New York to track the suspect’s movements as the armed robbery plot unfolded. He was convicted in December 2010. Cellular tracking of criminals — including those who use prepaid mobile phones that cannot easily be traced because there is no subscriber contract — has become a cottage industry for the FBI. Based on current cellphone and texting patterns, cell site data for a typical adult user will reveal between 20 and 55 location points a day — enough to plot his or her movements hour by hour, a federal magistrate judge in Houston noted in October in denying a bid for cell records. The demand for cell site records has drawn criticism from civil libertarians, prompting some courts to take a new look at the legal ground rules for granting access to such data. The Stored Communications Act of 1986 allows prosecutors to obtain court orders for cell site logs merely by showing that the tracking information is “relevant and material” to an ongoing criminal probe. That is a much lower burden than the probable cause standard required under the Fourth Amendment, which guarantees the right of the people to be secure against unreasonable searches and seizures.

Source:

http://www.northjersey.com/news/114072489_Feds_dialed_in_to_criminals.html?page=all

55. *January 18, Hanover Evening Sun* – (Pennsylvania) **Faulty 911 radio system continues to irk Pa. firefighters.** A presentation at the January 17 Penn Township, Pennsylvania, commissioners meeting highlighted a back-and-forth between York County emergency officials and about 30 Hanover-area residents, who filed in to discuss a county radio system that nearly all in the crowd said is not working like it should. For almost 3 hours, the fire chief, township commissioners, and citizens fired off questions to the executive director of the York County Department of Emergency

Services. Those at the meeting complained about a system they say has a history of dropped or missed radio calls and pages, and that most recently failed at the scene of a December fire in West Manheim Township, leaving responders to communicate via cell phones. He told the crowd that issue occurred when county dispatch tried to patch together the radio frequencies of three counties — York, Adams, and Carroll County, Maryland. It was the third such failure when trying to patch together three counties, he said, and since that time, technicians have worked and are now able to isolate the problem. A fix should be on the way soon, he said, and in the meantime the county is not attempting such patches, asking firefighters to revert to their older radios or use a manual radio fix at the fire scene. The \$36 million radio project — which actually cost the county about \$68 million, including the cost of a new building and other related expenses — has drawn the criticism of Hanover-area responders for the last 18 months. Source: <http://www.firerescue1.com/fire-products/communications/articles/957782-Faulty-911-radio-system-continues-to-irk-Pa-firefighters/>

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Information Technology Sector

56. *January 19, Federal Bureau of Investigation* – (International) **Maryland man indicted for copyright infringement of commercial software programs.** A federal grand jury indicted a Baltimore, Maryland man, age 30, January 18 for illegally reproducing and distributing over 100 copyrighted commercial software programs. “The illicit proceeds from counterfeiting are routinely used to support other criminal activities in the United States and around the world,” according to the Special Agent in Charge of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Homeland Security Investigations in Baltimore. According to the one count indictment, from February 2004 to April 2008, the man infringed copyrights by reproducing and distributing over 100 copyrighted commercial software programs for which he received over \$265,000. The copyrighted works are estimated to be worth millions of dollars. He allegedly advertised through his Internet Web site and sold infringing copyrighted commercial software at prices well below the suggested retail prices of legitimate, authorized copies of the software. The man used computers in Bel Air, Maryland, and other computers to contact and control his computer server. He is presently a fugitive and believed to be in Pakistan.

Source:

http://7thspace.com/headlines/370079/maryland_man_indicted_for_copyright_infringement_of_commercial_software_programs_.html

57. *January 18, H Security* – (International) **Sybase plugs holes in application server.** A security update to EAServer from the SAP company Sybase closes two vulnerabilities that could be remotely exploited. According to the manufacturer’s report, attackers could exploit a directory traversal vulnerability to read arbitrary files on the server. Sybase states it would also be possible to install unauthorized Web services on EAServer, making it possible to gain control of the server. Updates are available to correct the problem on the affected versions of EAServer: 5.x and 6.x, on all supported platforms. Registered Sybase users can apply the updates through Sybase EBF’s after logging in to the EBF Download Area of the Sybase Web site or by downloading full

versions from the Sybase Product Download Center. Other products, such as Sybase Appeon 6.x, Sybase Replication Server 15.x and Sybase WorkSpace 2.x, are also affected as these include EAServer.

Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/Sybase-plugs-holes-in-Application-Server-1171090.html>

58. *January 17, eSecurity Planet* – (International) **Porn malware snares 2,500 victims.** Trend Micro researchers report a Russian ransom worm that locks users out of their files has snared at least 2,500 victims. “The malware is identified by Trend Micro as Worm_Rixobot.A, which says it has been spreading in recent weeks using infected porn websites, instant messaging applications and even infected USB drives, hence its designation as a worm rather than a Trojan,” according to a writer for PCWorld. “After taking over a user’s PC, terminating a range of Windows and security programs and blocking access to websites, a splash screen demands that users pay the Russian ruble equivalent of \$12 by texting a premium-rate SMS number in order to receive an unlock key,” he wrote.
Source: <http://www.esecurityplanet.com/headlines/article.php/3920911/article.htm>
59. *January 17, Gamasutra* – (International) **Hacker steals Frogster user data, threatens to shut down servers.** An anonymous attacker claims to have stolen log-in data for 3.5 million Frogster accounts, threatening to release user information and shut down the game’s servers unless the publisher meets certain demands. In a now-deleted posting on Frogster’s message boards, captured by gaming blog Kotaku, a user with the handle Augustus87 demands the Berlin-based company stop closing forum threads, offer more transparency to customers, secure its game clients and user info, and cease its alleged spying of workers’ online activities. Augustus87 said if these demands are not met in 2 weeks, he will release information from a collection of 3.5 million accounts for Runes of Magic, Bounty Bay Online, TERA, and other free-to-play games from Frogster. He claims 500,000 of those accounts have been “hacked and verified” so far. Frogster said the data released so far comprises “outdated log-in data from 2007,” before its “comprehensive reset initiative.” The company has informed the German State Office of Criminal Investigation about the breach, and has formed a task force to determine how the incident occurred.
Source:
http://www.gamasutra.com/view/news/32484/Hacker_Steals_Frogster_User_Data_Threatens_To_Shut_Down_Servers.php
60. *January 17, Softpedia* – (International) **Critical security update released for Tor.** The Tor Project has released version 0.2.1.29 of its anonymization software to address several security issues including a critical vulnerability that can potentially result in arbitrary code execution. Identified as CVE-2011-0427, the critical flaw consists of a heap overflow bug which can be exploited remotely to crash the program and execute malicious code. Tor maintainers credit a researcher named “debugger” with reporting this issue that was also patched in the older 0.1.2.10-rc branch. This new security update comes after a similar heap overflow vulnerability (CVE-2010-1676) was addressed in version 0.2.1.28 a month ago. The new 0.2.1.29 version also resolves a flaw with the zlib data compression library that can result in a denial-of-service

condition (DoS). The release contains four other major bug fixes to prevent severe stability problems, as well as six minor ones in various components.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Critical-Security-Update-Released-for-Tor-178686.shtml>

Internet Alert Dashboard

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

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Communications Sector

61. *January 18, WSYR 9 Syracuse* – (New York) **Time Warner Cable says Digital Phone outages now fixed: the real deal.** Almost twelve hours after the first reports of intermittent outages with their Digital Phone system throughout New York state, Time Warner Cable reports that regular service is now restored. A company spokesperson made the announcement January 18. The spokesperson had no details available about what caused the problem, but said the company's first priority is making sure it does not happen again. Staff are continuing to investigate the cause of the outages. Time Warner Cable confirmed an intermittent problem impacting their Digital Phone customers. Some were not able to make or receive calls. The problems began around January 18.

Source: <http://www.9wsyr.com/mostpopular/story/Time-Warner-Cable-says-Digital-Phone-outages-now/mi8ZKjmOQEmtE2VCTrJ2pw.csp>

62. *January 17, Softpedia* – (National) **cPanel vulnerability abused to misuse high profile domains.** Spammers have exploited a cPanel vulnerability at a hosting company in order to abuse high profile domains belonging to educational, financial, and public institutions. The compromises began in April 2010 at Hostmonster, an Utah-based hosting company owned by Bluehost, and lasted until earlier this month. Bluehost co-founder told Krebs on Security that an attacker exploited the vulnerability to create rogue subdomains on dozens of domain names hosted by the company. The subdomains pointed to pages used in black hat search engine optimization (BHSEO) campaigns to poison search results. This method involves creating pages filled with keywords for a particular search topic, a technique referred to as keyword stuffing, on domains with a solid PageRank. According to Krebs on Security, the affected domains included accessbank.com, a financial institution in Nebraska; bankler.com, the U.S. Senate Whitewater Committee's investigative tax accountant; ejercito.mil.do, the Army of the Dominican Republic; sacmetrofire.ca.gov, the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District, and wi.edu, The Wright Institute. The spammer was able to create subdomains between April and July 2010, when the company addressed the security issue, but they remained online until recently. Cloud security vendor Zscaler recently warned about a wave of hijacked domains including .EDU and .GOV ones that were abused to promote

online pirated software stores.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/cPanel-Vulnerability-Abused-to-Misuse-High-Profile-Domains-178497.shtml>

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Commercial Facilities Sector

63. *January 19, Florida Today* – (Florida) **Fire at Viera Walmart causes \$25K in damage.** Shoppers returned to Walmart nearly 1 hour after fire at the onsite McDonald's restaurant prompted an evacuation and left behind \$25,000 in damage. "The manager finished her protocols and folks are being let back in," said a spokesman for Brevard County Fire-Rescue. The store, at 8500 N. Wickham Road in Viera, Florida, reopened just before 10:30 a.m. The fire began about 9:30 a.m., shortly after a brief power outage in an office near the kitchen area of the McDonald's, officials reported. A fire burned through an electrical area, setting several books on fire and causing smoke to fill the building, officials reported. An evacuation of shoppers was ordered as several fire engines raced into the parking lot. Firefighters then found a small smoldering fire in a computer area of the McDonald's restaurant. No injuries were reported. The fire was out within 20 minutes, officials reported. "The kitchen area will have to be completely cleaned. There was about \$25,000 in material damage, from hamburgers and other items. We have a fire inspector on the way right now," the spokesman said.
Source: <http://www.floridatoday.com/article/20110119/BREAKINGNEWS/110119010/1006/N EWS01/Fire++smoke+prompt+evacuation+of+Walmart+in+Viera>
64. *January 18, Associated Press* – (Nevada) **Hazmat team handles acid leak at Vegas ice rink.** A fire department hazardous materials team has given the all-clear after a pre-dawn acid spill at a Las Vegas, Nevada, casino ice skating rink. No injuries and no damage were reported, and hotel guests and casino patrons were not affected by the report of a hydrochloric acid leak early January 18 at the Orleans Arena. A scheduled Las Vegas Wranglers minor league hockey game was not affected. A fire official tells KLAS-TV that arena employees noticed an acid smell when they arrived for work before 5 a.m. and summoned firefighters. Officials say the corrosive acid is used in the production of ice at the arena.
Source: <http://www.ktvn.com/Global/story.asp?S=13860707>
65. *January 18, Spokane Spokesman-Review* – (Washington) **Bomb found on Spokane parade route was lethal, FBI says.** An abandoned backpack found January 17 along the route of Spokane, Washington's annual Martin Luther King Day march contained a bomb capable of inflicting "multiple casualties," the FBI has confirmed. The bureau's terrorism task force is offering a \$20,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible for planting the bomb. The FBI special agent in charge of the Spokane office would not discuss what specifically made the bomb so dangerous but said the investigation has become a top priority. "It definitely was, by all early analysis, a viable device that was very lethal and had the potential to inflict

multiple casualties,” he said. “Clearly, the timing and placement of a device — secreted in a backpack — with the Martin Luther King parade is not coincidental. We are doing everything humanly possible to identify the individuals or individual who constructed and placed this device.” Two security sources told The Spokesman-Review they received a briefing suggesting the bomb was designed to detonate by a remote device, such as a keyless entry remote for a vehicle or a garage-door opener. The bomb apparently also had its own shrapnel that could have caused significant injuries to anyone near the blast. The bomb was discovered in a Swiss Army-brand backpack that was placed on a park bench at the northeast corner of North Washington Street and West Main Avenue. Two T-shirts were in the bag. One reads “Stevens County Relay For Life June 25th-26th 2010” and another shirt reads “Treasure Island Spring 2009.” The FBI is working with other federal agencies and virtually all local police agencies with the investigation as part of the Northwest Joint Terrorism Task Force.

Source:

http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/localnews/2013970542_paradebomb19.html

66. *January 17, Associated Press* – (Minnesota) **Man caught with 2 guns at Rochester mall.** A 23-year-old Rochester man is in jail after police say he was caught with two handguns in a duffel bag at Apache Mall in Rochester, Minnesota. Police say one of the guns was loaded. The man told police he was looking to take the guns elsewhere for target practice. A police captain tells the Post-Bulletin it did not appear the man had any criminal intent. But he said the man has a previous conviction that prohibits him from carrying a firearm. The man met a friend who works at the mall Sunday and told him he had two handguns, briefly showing one to the friend, who notified mall security. Security officers detained the man without incident and took the bag away from him before police arrived. The man has not been formally charged.

Source:

<http://www.startribune.com/local/113969464.html?elr=KArks7PYDiaK7DUqEiaDUiD3aPc:Yyc:aU7DYaGEP7vDEh7P:DiUs>

67. *January 15, Fort Worth Star-Telegram* – (Texas) **Laptop theft did not compromise security, NFL says.** The theft of an NFL employee’s laptop containing artwork that was to appear on credentials for the Super Bowl does not compromise security for the game, an NFL spokesman said January 15. The laptop was among the items stolen from the employee’s vehicle January 11 outside a Joe’s Crab Shack in Arlington, Texas, police said. On the computer was artwork for “pre-event and event” credentials, said a police spokeswoman. The credentials had not been printed, so new artwork was created and will appear on the credentials, rendering the information on the laptop “worthless,” she said. “The laptop in question contained no other Super Bowl plans or documents,” she said. An NFL spokesman said the laptop also contained no information about any individuals. He credited Arlington police with helping make sure no security information was compromised. He said the NFL takes “multiple anti-counterfeiting measures with respect to Super Bowl credentials to mitigate these kinds of concerns.” Police have made arrests but offered no details on the suspects. The laptop has not been recovered.

Source: <http://www.star-telegram.com/2011/01/15/2771939/laptop-theft-did-not-compromise.html>

68. *January 13, BBC News* – (International) **Olympic Games to be policed at ‘severe’ threat level.** The London Olympics is to be policed at “severe” threat level, the senior officer coordinating security has said. The Assistant Commissioner said the threat of international terrorism was expected to remain at severe when the games starts next year. Up to 12,000 officers will be on duty to ensure the safety of athletes, spectators and guests. Events will be held in 34 venues across England with more than 14,000 athletes from 205 nations taking part. Speaking at the new National Olympic Coordination Centre at New Scotland Yard, he said plans for the Olympics were being revised daily. Senior officers are preparing for terrorists who may target crowded venues and VIPs, as well as organized crooks and petty criminals. The security operations will be coordinated from refurbished offices on the 12th floor of New Scotland Yard. Officials from the police, government, Olympic authorities, and emergency services will work around the clock during the 64-day event. A total of £600m has been set aside to pay for security, but ministers have said they hope this could be cut by £125m.

Source: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-london-12187056>

For more stories, see items [34](#), [35](#), and [36](#)

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

69. *January 18, Billings Gazette* – (Montana) **More snow increases avalanche danger in Cooke City-area mountains.** With another 6 to 8 inches of snow overnight and continued strong wind gusts, the avalanche warning for the mountains around Cooke City, Montana, was bumped to high January 18 on wind-loaded slopes. According to a spokesman with the Gallatin National Forest Avalanche Center, ridge-top winds averaged 25-30 mph with gusts exceeding 40 mph. More snow is expected by January 19. The mountains around Cooke City collected almost 3 feet of new snow in the 72 hours ending mid-day January 18. “With even more snow and strong west to northwest winds, I’m betting that there are many natural avalanches on wind-loaded slopes today which have a high avalanche danger,” the spokesman wrote in the morning report. “All other slopes have a considerable danger.”

Source: http://billingsgazette.com/news/state-and-regional/montana/article_305ff38d-1dfc-58ef-8f41-b4556cf49047.html

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Dams Sector

70. *January 19, Eugene Register-Guard* – (National) **Crews work to remove Leaburg Dam debris.** Eugene Water & Electric Board (EWEB) crews were expected to work through January 18 and into the morning of January 19 to remove debris blocking one of three roll gates at the utility’s Leaburg Dam. The debris, including large logs and root wads, began gathering against the dam’s No. 1 roll gate January 16 after heavy rains, unseasonably warm temperatures, and rapid mountain snowmelt caused a

substantial rise in water levels. McKenzie River volume peaked at almost 35,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) January 17. Normal flow for this time of year is 4,000 to 5,000 cfs. Since January 17, EWEB crews were able to remove about two-thirds of the debris stacked up against the dam. However, the weight of the debris blocking the No. 1 roll gate coupled with the water pressure of the swollen river frustrated efforts to remove the remainder of the timber. Road access over the dam will be closed during the work, with brief openings to allow some traffic to pass. EWEB said it is concerned that as river levels continue to drop, the inability to close the blocked gate will cause Leaburg Lake to drop below its normal elevation level of 742 feet. The lake supplies water not only to fish ladders, but to the fish hatchery immediately below and south of the dam. In order to maintain adequate water flow to the state Department of Fish & Wildlife's Leaburg Fish Hatchery, EWEB has installed pumps capable of delivering 30 cfs to the hatchery, which keeps adequate fresh water and oxygen available for the fish.

Source: <http://www.registerguard.com/csp/cms/sites/web/news/cityregion/25790592-41/dam-fish-debris-eweb-hatchery.csp>

71. *January 19, Bloomberg* – (International) **Australian floods prompt evacuation of towns in Victoria as levees weaken.** Towns in the Australian state of Victoria were evacuated as levees were weakened or breached, becoming the latest areas touched by almost 2 months of floods enveloping the east coast after the wettest summer on record. Water breached sections of a levee in Kerang, 15 miles south of the New South Wales border, threatening 1,500 properties should it collapse, a spokesman for the state emergency Service said by telephone January 19. There is a risk the barrier may deteriorate, the police said in a statement. The rains drenching the country are linked to a La Nina weather event, according to the bureau of meteorology. La Nina, a cooling of the tropical ocean, occurs every 3 to 5 years and will bring more rain, the bureau said. Source: <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-01-19/australian-floods-prompt-evacuation-of-towns-in-victoria-as-levies-weaken.html>

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