



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 24 January 2011

Current Nationwide Threat Level

ELEVATED

Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks

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

Top Stories

- Heavy smoke underneath a train in Boston, Massachusetts, resulted in 40 firefighters having to use small ladders to evacuate about 300 people, according to New England Cable News. (See item [25](#))
- United Press International reports a Florida man was charged with impersonating a federal agent after deputies found 30 counterfeit badges in his apartment for agencies ranging from the FBI to the Federal Aviation Administration. (See item [46](#))

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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 21, Bloomberg* – (California) **Exxon’s California refinery has process unit leak.** Exxon Mobil Corp.’s Torrance refinery in California had a leak from a process unit resulting in the flaring of gases January 20, according to a filing with state regulators. About 100 pounds of hydrogen sulfide were released as a result of the incident, according to the report made with the California Emergency Management Agency. The refinery continues to operate and production was not affected. Exxon’s

Torrance plant also reported the flaring with the South Coast Air Quality Management District. The emissions were not associated with a breakdown. The refinery has a capacity of 155,800 barrels per day.

Source: <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-01-21/exxon-torrance-refinery-has-process-unit-leak-nrc-filing-shows.html>

2. *January 20, KOMO 4 Seattle* – (Washington) **Transformer explodes at Chehalis power plant.** No one was injured when a transformer exploded January 20 at a natural gas-fueled power plant in Chehalis, Washington. Officials said no natural gas was involved in the explosion, which could be heard by residents throughout the area. A PacifiCorp spokeswoman said damage was limited to the transformer on the edge of the property, The plant about 90 miles south of Seattle was not operating at the time of the explosion at 4:15 a.m. The 520-megawatt plant opened in 2003 and is owned by PacifiCorp of Portland, Oregon.
Source: <http://www.komonews.com/news/local/114272084.html>

3. *January 20, Catskill Daily Mail* – (New York) **Transformer failure causes fire at Athens Generating.** A transformer failure at the Athens Generating plant caused a fire January 18, but no injuries were reported and the incident was contained immediately. The problem occurred shortly after 11 p.m. with officials from Greene County Emergency Services and the West Athens-Lime Street and Catskill Fire Departments rushing to the scene. While the fire was contained immediately, on January 21 the transformer continued to smolder, but plant officials said it is completely contained and the incident did not cause a hazardous condition for the public. The transformer is located outside the main turbine hall on the grounds of Athens Generating. The cause of the problem is not yet known. Because mineral oil is inside each transformer, fire and company officials worked to contain that as well, and there is no danger to the community. Athens Generating produces and sells electricity to the Mid-Hudson Valley, southeastern New York and the New York City regions, according to the company's Web site.
Source:
http://www.thedailyemail.net/articles/2011/01/20/greene_county/news/doc4d30ad749ebb867389871.txt

4. *January 20, CNN* – (National) **U.S. splits up offshore regulators after oil disaster.** U.S. Interior Department officials announced an extensive restructuring of the agencies that oversee offshore oil drilling January 20, pledging “fundamental change” for a system widely criticized after the worst oil spill in U.S. history. The expected moves split the since-renamed Minerals Management Service (MMS) into separate agencies, with one responsible for approving offshore leases and another to enforce safety and environmental laws. The head of the current Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation, and Enforcement, told reporters the reorganization is aimed at beefing up safety after “decades of neglect” and conflicts of interest among regulators. The Interior Department said it planned to have its newly created Bureau of Ocean Energy Management and Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement up and running by October 1, 2011. A separate agency to collect revenues from leases was

spun off from MMS in 2010. Before the April 2010 disaster in the Gulf of Mexico off the coast of Louisiana, internal watchdog reports criticized MMS inspectors for accepting meals and tickets to sporting events from oil companies they monitored in the Gulf, and found regulators in the agency's Colorado office received improper gifts, engaged in illegal drug use, and had inappropriate sexual relationships with energy industry representatives.

Source: <http://edition.cnn.com/2011/US/01/19/offshore.drilling/>

5. *January 19, Meriden Record-Journal* – (Connecticut) **13,000 Meridenites, 3,000 in Cheshire lost power.** Ice brought down wires throughout parts of Connecticut and left more than 16,000 residents without electricity January 18. Power was restored January 19 for most, but up to 7 inches of snow was expected January 21, the region's third storm in less than 2 weeks. Electricity was out for about 13,000 customers in Meriden, 3,000 in Cheshire and more than 100 in Wallingford at the peak of the outages. The weight of ice brought down a traffic light pole in Cheshire, blocking Route 10 at the Maple Avenue intersection. The state department of transportation was called in to clear the road, and the police sergeant said all roads were open around 10 a.m. January 19. In addition to unusual light displays, branches weighed down by ice closed roads and started minor fires in Cheshire, Meriden, Wallingford, and Southington. "It far outstripped our manpower," the sergeant said of the call volume. Extra officers were brought in to handle the call load.

Source: http://www.myrecordjournal.com/state/article_ac58c5e4-244a-11e0-b343-001cc4c002e0.html

6. *January 18, Reuters* – (International) **Nigerian militants threaten attacks on oil sector.** A Nigerian militant group January 18 threatened attacks on fuel depots, telling residents and workers to move away and saying it would also hit vehicles transporting petroleum products. The Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND) warned in a statement e-mailed to news organizations of a "ferocious attack" in response to "the handling of the arrest and detention of our respected brothers". The group was behind years of attacks on Africa's biggest oil and gas industry but many of its commanders accepted an amnesty in 2009, and it was unclear what operational capacity it had left. Not all previous threats have been carried out. "Advance warning for immediate evacuation is hereby issued to residents in close proximity to depots storing petroleum products such as aviation fuel, diesel, kerosene, petrol, propane gas and engine oil," the MEND statement said. MEND was for years the main militant group in the Niger Delta, blowing up pipelines and other installations in what it said was a struggle for a greater local share of the natural wealth. The group's suspected mastermind is held in South Africa for his alleged involvement in the October 1, 2010 bombings.

Source: <http://www.trust.org/alertnet/news/update-1-nigerian-militants-threaten-attacks-on-oil-sector>

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Chemical Industry Sector

7. *January 21, Salt Lake Tribune* – (Utah) **Chemical spills on I-215 ramp.** A west-side Salt Lake City Interstate 215 exit was shut down January 20 because of a small chemical spill, the Utah Highway Patrol (UHP) said. A UHP trooper said the freeway’s northbound off-ramp to California Ave. (1300 South) was shut down while EnviroCare cleaned up sodium hydrosulfide. The Salt Lake City fire captain said about 5 gallons of the chemical leaked from a truck that had originated in Tooele and was about to make a delivery to a local business. “There were no injuries, and this spill was small enough that it doesn’t pose a public health hazard. It smells like rotten eggs, though, and in larger amounts can cause skin and eye irritation,” he said. Police said the chemical could damage the roadway if not cleaned up. The 12:30 p.m. spill extended over a large area, from the off-ramp onto California Avenue, making cleanup efforts painstakingly slow. The truck driver noticed the top of the load was not secure and pulled to the side of the road to fix it when he noticed the spill, police said.
Source: <http://www.sltrib.com/sltrib/home/51089772-76/chemical-lake-ramp-salt.html.csp>

8. *January 20, KTVI 2 St. Louis* – (Missouri) **Fire crews converge on Elantas chemical plant in North St. Louis.** A mass of firefighters has converged on a chemical plant in St. Louis, Missouri, January 20. Fire crews and hazardous materials experts responded to the Elantas company on North 2nd street. Officials said there was a report of either a chemical fire or what has been called a steam valve release at the plant, prompting the large response from the St. Louis Fire Department.
Source: <http://www.kplr11.com/news/ktvi-fire-at-elantas-chemical-plant-01202011,0,1145203.story>

9. *January 20, Salt Lake Tribune* – (Utah) **EPA fines Salt Lake City chemical company.** Thatcher Chemical Co. acknowledged it did not have proper risk management plans in place and now has reached agreement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to pay fines and make improvements that will reduce air emissions at its Salt Lake City, Utah, plant. The EPA said January 20 the company will settle a series of alleged violations of the Clean Air Act for \$181,428. The violations were discovered during two compliance inspections last year. The civil penalty is \$12,500. The company also will spend about \$168,928 on emissions-control equipment to cut air-pollution releases to levels below what is allowed under its permits. In addition, Thatcher is required under the settlement to improve maintenance and internal auditing of its hazardous chemical handling. It also must do a better job of documenting employee training.
Source: <http://www.sltrib.com/sltrib/home/51090409-76/company-epa-risk-thatcher.html.csp>

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

10. *January 20, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission* – (National) **Poulan Pro Generators recalled by Husqvarna Professional Products due to fire hazard.** Husqvarna Professional Products Inc., of Charlotte, North, Carolina, announced a recall of about 600 Poulan Pro Generators January 20. The carburetor can fail allowing gasoline to leak, posing a fire hazard to consumers. The firm has received four reports of fuel leakage. No injuries have been reported. The recall involves gas-powered Poulan Pro Generators designed for residential use. Models included in the recall are: PP4300, PP6600, PP6600E, and PP7600E, all serial numbers. The generators were sold by Poulan Pro and Husqvarna authorized dealers nationwide from July 2010 through September 2010.
Source: <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml11/11717.html>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

11. *January 20, Oshkosh Northwestern* – (Wisconsin) **No injuries in acetylene tank fire this morning at Oshkosh Corporation.** No injuries were reported after an acetylene tank caught on fire January 20 at the Oshkosh Corporation Defense Plant, 2737 Harrison St. in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. A spokesman for the Oshkosh Fire Department said the acetylene tank was inside the building located on the city's north side. Firefighters took the acetylene tank outside and let it burn itself off. Those in the building were evacuated. The fire department received the call at 9:51 a.m. The cause of the fire is under investigation.
Source: <http://www.thenorthwestern.com/article/20110120/OSH0101/110120061/No-injuries-in-acetylene-tank-fire-this-morning-at-Oshkosh-Corporation>
12. *January 20, Associated Press* – (International) **Ohio man admits illegal military export shipment.** A former NASA employee in Ohio has pleaded guilty to illegally shipping night-vision rifle scope equipment to South Korean companies. The 66-year-old of Avon Lake entered the plea January 20 to two counts in Cleveland federal court. Sentencing is scheduled for April 14. He admits exporting defense items on the U.S. munitions list without federal approval. He also admitted making a false individual income tax return. The Korean-born U.S. citizen is a former employee at the NASA Glenn Research Center in Cleveland. Authorities said he was not accused of taking technology from the center.
Source: <http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2011/01/20/ap/national/main7265720.shtml>

13. *January 20, KXLV 4 Butte* – (Montana) **Rocket test explosion under investigation.** A hardware failure is to blame for an explosion January 18 at the AeroTech rocket testing facility in Butte, Montana, that destroyed a rocket motor and the steel building that housed it. It was the very first test of a 24-inch diameter rocket motor at the site. The facility it was being tested in was just built last summer, and now it is no longer intact. “The experience was a loud noise followed by a flash that didn’t last very long actually was a really short event,” the Space Propulsion Group president said. “Walls, ceiling, and structural members of the building were lost as well as the motor,” the Montana Aerospace Development Association president said. Twenty people were on site at the time of the explosion, 5 of whom were part of the failed test. No one was injured.
Source: <http://www.ktvq.com/news/rocket-test-explosion-under-investigation/>

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Banking and Finance Sector

14. *January 21, Fox 5 Atlanta* – (Georgia) **Armored car guard shot at Wells Fargo Bank.** The FBI said an armored car guard was shot at a bank in Stone Mountain, Georgia, January 21. The shooting happened at the Wells Fargo Bank on Redan Road. DeKalb police said the guard was restocking an ATM when an unknown black male approached him and shot the guard several times. The suspect then grabbed a money bag and jumped into a white SUV. The guard was transported to Grady Hospital with non life-threatening injuries. DeKalb police said the guard’s bulletproof vest may have saved his life. DeKalb police also said they had a robbery at a nearby Radio Shack a short time later. They said the suspects were also in a white van. The suspects were quickly apprehended. Police said they may be connected to the armored car robbery and are being questioned.
Source: http://www.myfoxatlanta.com/dpp/news/local_news/Armored-Car-Guard-Shot-at-Bank-20110121-am-sd
15. *January 21, Sierra Madre Patch* – (California) **EVG scam hits nearly 500 with losses totalling more than \$172,000.** Though the number of Sierra Madre, California residents reporting fraudulent credit card charges from the shuttered EVG Quality Gas station on Baldwin Avenue is beginning to decrease, police said they are still receiving reports at a rate of about three to five per day. As of January 20, the total number of victims to file claims with the department has risen to 497, the police chief told the Patch. The total dollar amount lost in the credit and debit card “skimming” scam has now reached \$172,437. The number of reports filed in the case have started to taper off, however, with complaints coming in at a slower pace than in the weeks following the initial announcement by police that residents should check their bank statements and report suspicious charges. The week of January 9, the local police department turned over control of the property on which the abandoned EVG station sits to the property owner. The release of the property follows a completed investigation of the premises by Sierra Madre Police and the U. S. Secret Service, who joined the investigation earlier in January.

Source: <http://sierramadre.patch.com/articles/evg-scam-hits-nearly-500-with-losses-totalling-more-than-172000>

16. *January 21, WSB 750AM Atlanta; Associated Press* – (Georgia) **FBI: Bank robber wanted TARP money back.** Federal authorities are seeking a man they say robbed three banks in Atlanta, Georgia. An FBI Special agent told WSB Radio that the man said during one of the robberies, “I just want my TARP money back,” apparently referring to taxpayer-funded federal bailout of some financial institutions. During another robbery, he apologized to customers, saying he just wanted the bank’s money. The FBI Special Agent said the man robbed a bank in Atlanta September 30, another bank in Atlanta November 30, and a bank in Chamblee December 3. He got money from tellers during the first two robberies but left the last one empty-handed. The FBI said the man threatened to shoot people during the second robbery. The FBI describes the suspect as a black man between 35 and 45 years old. His height is between 6-feet and 6-feet 4-inches, and he weights between 220 and 250 pounds.
Source: <http://wsbradio.com/localnews/2011/01/fbi-bank-robber-wanted-tarp-mo.html>

17. *January 20, H Security* – (International) **Online banking trojan developing fast.** Trojan construction kit Carberp, which first emerged in the autumn, appears to be undergoing rapid development, according to reports from sources that include security services provider Seculert. An F-Secure analyst is already calling it the rising star of the banking trojan world. Where the first versions of Carberp were very simple in their construction, newer versions are equipped with a more impressive list of features. It now runs on all versions of Windows, including Windows 7, where, according to TrustDefender, it is able to do its work without requiring administrator privileges. The latest version encrypts stolen data prior to transfer using a random key, which the client registers with the control server. These functions have been added to Carberp over a period of just a few months.
Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/Online-banking-trojan-developing-fast-1172452.html>

18. *January 20, Help Net Security* – (International) **Zeus malware now targets online payment providers.** The Zeus malware continues to evolve, diversifying away from its target bank sites and their customers, and over to sites with user credentials that allow assets that have a financial value. Money Bookers is an online payment provider allowing users to make online payments without submitting personal information each time. Twenty-six different Zeus configurations targeting Money Bookers have been found. This number does not fall short of some of the highly targeted banks and brands in the world. Another target is Web Money. This is another online payment solution that claims to have more than 12 million active users. Web Money is targeted by 13 different Zeus configurations, with the last one released January 16. As with all the other online payment providers, Zeus steals log-in information and other sensitive information of Web Money users.
Source: http://www.net-security.org/malware_news.php?id=1600

19. *January 20, KGET 17 Bakersfield* – (California) **Crisp and Cole arrested in huge federal mortgage fraud case.** After years of investigation, federal agents January 21 arrested two male suspects and at least nine others alleged to have been part of a real estate empire that, prosecutors said, systematically cheated banks and mortgage companies out of tens of millions of dollars. One suspect and his wife were arrested at their home in San Diego, California. The second male suspect also was arrested January 20 somewhere near his Ventura County home. A major case related announcement, including details on the allegations, was expected to be made January 21.
Source: http://www.kget.com/news/local/story/Crisp-and-Cole-arrested-in-huge-federal-mortgage/83JN9CRS_kWp8HZZbQhhUA.csp
20. *January 19, Softpedia* – (International) **Brazilian phishing scam targets MasterCard reward program.** Security researchers warn of a new phishing attack that targets Brazilian credit card owners by spoofing e-mails from MasterCard’s Surpreenda (surprise) program. The new campaign was spotted by spam analysts from Commtouch, who notes that unlike classic phishing schemes where users are threatened into exposing their sensitive information, this attack tries to lure them with rewards. In order to achieve this they spoof communications related to MasterCard Surpreenda, an advantage program that lets credit card owners earn reward points when making purchases. These points can then be spent in “pay one, take two” promotions, where the second product can be sent as a gift to someone. The rogue e-mails purport to come from surpreenda@redecards.com.br and bear a title of “Participate in the MasterCard Surprise Promotion - RedeCard” [translated]. It is likely the phishers hijacked a legit e-mail advertising the program and only changed the destination of the link inside.
Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Brazilian-Phishing-Scam-Targets-MasterCard-Surprise-Program-179345.shtml>

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Transportation Sector

21. *January 21, Great Falls Tribune* – (Montana) **West wind whips up region, forces road closures.** The Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) closed sections of several roads in northcentral Montana because high winds caused blowing and drifting snow. Among the impacted roads were U.S. Highway 89 from Dupuyer to St. Mary, which was closed with barricades at Babb; and Montana Highway 44 at the junction with U.S. 89 to Valier. An MDT spokeswoman said the highways were closed because of high winds, drifting snow, zero visibility, and snow and ice on the roadways. Road conditions on MDT’s Web site said wind was hazardous on Interstate 15 from Dearborn to the Canadian border, and on Montana Highway 21 from Simms to Augusta. Driving conditions on U.S. Highway 2 from the east side of Marias Pass to the junction with Secondary Highway 444 were listed as “severe.”
Source:

<http://www.greatfallstribune.com/article/20110121/NEWS01/101210325/West-wind-whips-up-region-forces-road-closures>

22. *January 21, Gothamist* – (International) **Man finds plane bathroom blocked, freaks out.** A passenger from a flight from Rio de Janeiro, Brazil to John F. Kennedy International Airport in Queens, New York, was taken to the hospital for a psych exam after allegedly attacking a flight attendant. The New York Post’s sources said the passenger “went berserk aboard a JFK-bound flight yesterday after he found his path to the bathroom blocked by a beverage cart — kicking it over and punching a flight attendant in the stomach.” The 63-year-old suspect was on American Airlines flight 256 when he allegedly confronted the cart and kicked it so it toppled over. The flight attendant reportedly “grabbed his arm,” and was allegedly hit twice. Two attendants and a passenger wrestled him to the ground and placed plastic cuffs on him.
Source: http://gothamist.com/2011/01/21/man_finds_plane_bathroom_blocked_fr.php

23. *January 21, KDVR 31 Denver* – (Colorado) **Dangerous lasers light up cockpits of planes flying over Denver.** The FBI in Denver, Colorado, is investigating two separate cases of lasers being pointed into the cockpit of airplanes at Denver International Airport (DIA). Both incidents happened the weekend of January 14. The Federal Aviation Administration told FOX31 News the first one happened January 14, when an Airbus A320 reported a green laser illuminating its cockpit at 13,000 feet. The second incident happened January 17, when an Embraer E170 inbound to Denver reported the same thing. No damage or injuries were reported. Denver was ranked 10th in the country by the FAA in 2010 for the number of laser incidents at DIA.
Source: <http://www.kdvr.com/news/kdvr-dia-lasers-20110121,0,315871.story>

24. *January 21, Buffalo News* – (New York) **Federal truck safety inspector accused of taking bribes from company officials.** A truck safety supervisor for the U.S. Department of Transportation was arrested by federal agents January 20 on charges he took thousands of dollars in bribes from trucking company officials. The 44-year-old employee, of Delevan, New York, was charged with felony counts of bribe-taking and conspiracy. The U. S. Attorney’s Office identified him as a Buffalo, New York, supervisor with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, which is part of the DOT. He was investigated by agents from the DOT Inspector General’s Office and the Buffalo, New York FBI Office.
Source: <http://www.buffalonews.com/city/communities/buffalo/article319054.ece>

25. *January 20, New England Cable News* – (Massachusetts) **Nearly 300 evacuated after smoke on Orange Line.** An Orange Line Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) train had progressed just 200 feet from the North Station platform in Boston, Massachusetts, when billowing smoke led the driver to bring the 6-car T to a halt just before 11 a.m. January 21. About 40 firefighters ran down into the tunnel to get what firefighters now say was about 300 people off the train. Boston fire said in a tweet that rescuers were using small ladders to get to people. They were all safely brought back to the platform, including a blind man who needed careful attention. Both Boston Fire and the MBTA said nobody was injured, but news reporters did see one man being put into

an ambulance in the middle of the rescue. Although some passengers said they saw fire underneath the train, firefighters said there was never any flame to their knowledge. MBTA officials said a small hose that carries grease for the wheels came loose and the grease created the smoke.

Source: http://www.necn.com/01/20/11/Nearly-300-evacuated-after-smoke-on-Oran/landing_newengland.html?blockID=394907&feedID=4206

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Postal and Shipping Sector

26. *January 20, Danbury News-Times* – (Connecticut) **Suspicious package leads to 4-hour shut-down at Danbury post office.** A nervous woman. A wary clerk. And a package bound for Israel that, according to X-rays, contained what appeared to be a bomb. Those elements combined to close the Danbury, Connecticut, post office on Backus Avenue for more than 4 hours January 20, forcing postal officials to clear the facility and station Danbury police at driveways leading to the building, where they turned away scores of potential customers who had gone there to mail letters and buy stamps. It was not until investigators located the woman and got her permission to open the parcel that they discovered it held a flashlight, wiring and a cell phone, objects a U.S. Postal Inspector said were suspicious but were not harmful by themselves. The inspector also became concerned because the shape of the contents did not match the description of the items listed on the customs form. The Danbury scare is the latest in a series of incidents involving suspicious packages found in the mailstream in post offices across the country this month.

Source: <http://www.newstimes.com/news/article/Suspicious-package-leads-to-4-hour-shut-down-at-968603.php>

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Agriculture and Food Sector

27. *January 21, Associated Press* – (Illinois; National) **Website allows Illinois farmers to protect sensitive crops from pesticide applications.** Illinois officials are promoting an interactive Internet tool to help protect the state's sensitive crops from drifting pesticides. Organic and specialty growers may enter the locations of their fields on the "Driftwatch" site and pesticide applicators can use the maps to prevent spread of nearby chemical applications. The bureau chief for environmental programs for the Illinois Department of Agriculture said the project requires "shared responsibility" between growers and applicators. He said farmers must accurately register their fields, and applicators must check the site before spraying pesticides. Purdue University developed "Driftwatch" for use in Indiana. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency funds paid for its introduction in Illinois. Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin are starting the program in 2011. Ohio will begin in 2012.

Source: <http://www.fox59.com/news/sns-ap-il--illinoisfarming-pesticides,0,3114022.story>

28. *January 21, Alexandria Echo Press* – (Minnesota) **Four more departments called to SunOpta fire.** Four additional fire departments were called January 21 to help fight an industrial fire at SunOpta in Alexandria, Minnesota. SunOpta is the largest producer of shelf-stable soy-based beverages in the United States. Five departments initially responded – Alexandria, Carlos, Forada, Garfield, and Osakis. Shortly before 10 a.m., two other departments, Brandon, and Miltona, were called in to provide more equipment and people. Firefighters in Evansville, Kensington, Parkers Prairie, and Glenwood were contacted to provide extra manpower. This brings the number of departments battling the fire to 11. Firefighters were urged to take breaks in the fire station and rehydrate as they contended with 30-below windchills. The fire was under control, but smoke continued to pour out of the heavily damaged structure. An Alexandria Police Department news release said the damage to the commercial building is “in excess of millions.” The initial call came in at 1 a.m. The fire was located in the warehouse area. Chemical response teams from as far away as St. Paul and Morris were called in to assess chemical dangers. An official on the scene said no dangerous chemicals were released during the fire and the potentially hazardous materials had been moved away from the fire zone.

Source: <http://www.echopress.com/event/article/id/81621/group/homepage/>

29. *January 20, Northern Virginia Daily* – (Virginia) **Two suffer carbon monoxide poisoning.** Carbon monoxide poisoning sent two people to area hospitals January 20, according to the Shenandoah County, Virginia, fire marshal. One person was first sent to Shenandoah Memorial Hospital and then to Winchester Medical Center, while the other was flown to University of Virginia Medical Center after passing out in a chicken house around 9:27 a.m. at 279 Stultz Gap Road, the fire marshal said. The injuries were initially thought to be from an ammonia leak. The Woodstock Fire Department first came in for an odor that smelled of ammonia, but when emergency officials arrived gas readings found high levels of carbon monoxide. The source of the gas is still under investigation by the fire marshal. After the building was ventilated, gas readings confirmed that all of the carbon monoxide had been cleared.

Source: <http://www.nvdaily.com/news/2011/01/2-exposed-to-ammonia-aircare-helicopters-enroute.php>

30. *January 20, Ocala Star-Banner* – (Florida) **Florida’s non-citrus crop losses from cold could total \$370M.** The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services has estimated 2.5 million cartons or cases of fruits and vegetables were lost due to extremely cold weather during December — not including processed citrus. Officials said another 4 million cartons of produce are expected to be lost before the end of March. Those losses translate into more than \$150 million of lost cash sales so far, according to an agriculture department spokesman. In an e-mail January 20, the spokesman said the total losses between December and March will likely top \$150 million in cash sales losses, which will result in total economic losses of \$370 million. The total estimated losses include expenses for items like labor and fuel that are needed

to grow a crop. Some of the heaviest losses have been reported by those growing bell peppers, cucumbers, eggplant, and sweet corn. The preliminary estimates show nearly 1 million bushels of bell peppers alone were lost to the cold.

Source: <http://www.ocala.com/article/20110120/ARTICLES/110129993/-1/NEWS?Title=Florida-8217-s-non-citrus-crop-losses-from-cold-could-total-370M&tc=ar>

31. *January 20, St. Louis Post-Dispatch* – (Missouri) **Stolen car wrecks, causes explosion at Hooters in downtown St. Louis.** Police said a stolen car crashed into a parked car, causing a small explosion and fire January 20 at the Hooters restaurant at the corner of 7th Street and Chestnut in St. Louis, Missouri. The fire started when a car that had been carjacked slammed into a parked car, sending the parked car into the side of the restaurant about 9:15 p.m. Witnesses said the driver of the stolen car ran from the scene. The collision destroyed part of the building and burned the restaurant's orange awnings. The parked car burst into flames upon impact, witnesses said, and firefighters doused the flames. A witness said about 40 patrons were inside the restaurant at the time.

Source: http://www.stltoday.com/news/local/crime-and-courts/article_7f32085e-2513-11e0-966a-00127992bc8b.html

32. *January 20, Florida Times-Union* – (Florida) **More charges filed in multiple truck thefts in Northeast Florida and state.** New charges were filed the week of January 17 against a theft ring that stole up to 25 trucks and trailers full of rice, sugar, and other items from Jacksonville, Nassau County, and three other major Florida cities. Additional grand theft and cargo theft charges were added against three of four South Florida men and one woman originally arrested October 10 in Jacksonville after an investigation that involved the FBI, Florida Highway Patrol, and Florida Department of Transportation. One more had been arrested a month earlier in Miami. The arrests and subsequent added charges will clear all but one of Jacksonville's 2010 commercial truck thefts, a sheriff's office spokeswoman said. A joint task force began investigating truck thefts in Jacksonville and elsewhere in October. A tip led them to conduct undercover surveillance near a truck depot on Somers Road and catch two thefts in progress, she said. "We got a call that they were headed into Jacksonville," the spokeswoman said. "One trailer had 144, 55-inch televisions and the other was a Macy's trailer, and they believed it to be close to \$500,000 worth of merchandise. ... This group of people was our issue."

Source: <http://jacksonville.com/news/crime/2011-01-20/story/more-charges-filed-multiple-truck-thefts-northeast-florida-and-state>

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Water Sector

33. *January 20, Kennewick Tri-City Herald* – (Washington) **Hanford plant removing chromium from ground water.** The first of two new water treatment plants along the Columbia River at Hanford, Washington, has begun removing chromium from

groundwater. When both are operating, the treatment capacity along the river will be tripled, according to contractor CH2M Hill Plateau Remediation Co. The Department of Energy (DOE) used federal economic stimulus money to build the first of the two plants, which is near the D and DR reactors. The second is under construction just down river near the H Reactor. Together they cost about \$45 million. They will treat a plume of contamination that has spread between the two reactor areas at the horn of the river as it cuts through the nuclear reservation. Chromium was added to cooling water at Hanford's plutonium-production reactors to prevent corrosion. The water with the chromium then was discharged into the soil and more of it leaked from piping, staining the soil bright yellow. It can cause cancer in humans and is particularly toxic to fish and other aquatic life. DOE plans to restore the groundwater to federal drinking water standards within a decade.

Source: <http://www.tri-cityherald.com/2011/01/20/1333885/treatment-plant-ay-hanford-now.html>

34. *January 20, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency* – (Alaska) **Usibelli Coal Mine, near Healy, Alaska, agrees to pay \$60,000 EPA penalty for Clean Water Act violations.** According to documents associated with the case, Usibelli Coal Mine, near Healy, Alaska, had 11 unpermitted discharges into the Nenana River, Hoseanna Creek, Sanderson Creek, and Francis Creek between April 2007 and July 2010. During that time, they also had 10 violations of their discharge permit limit, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) said. According to the director of EPA's regional office of compliance and enforcement, mining responsibly means paying attention and looking ahead to prevent future problems. Sanderson Creek, Hoseanna Creek, Francis Creek, and nearby gravel ponds are all classified by the State of Alaska as suitable for use as water supply, water recreation, and growth and propagation of fish, shellfish, other aquatic life, and wildlife. Usibelli has 30 days from the signature date to pay the fine and settle the case.

Source:

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/0/E8887310A95A422B8525781E006943C9>

35. *January 19, Lafayette Journal and Courier* – (Indiana) **Elliott Ditch spill cleared.** A Lafayette, Indiana, ditch that saw oily water spill into it as the result of an industrial accident the week of January 10 has been fully cleaned, environmental officials said January 19. Elliott Ditch was declared free of contaminants around 9 a.m., an on-scene coordinator with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) said. The ditch was the site of cleanup efforts after officials announced January 15 that an accident at Alcoa Lafayette Operations had resulted in the spilling of about 1,600 gallons of oily water into the ditch. An EPA report said the discharge, which contained about 2 percent oil, spilled out of a broken or dislodged transfer hose. The oily water — typically treated in the company's wastewater treatment facility — then entered a sewer that empties into the ditch. Alcoa's preliminary findings indicated the discharge came from the industrial plant's Unit 2 extrusion building, an Alcoa spokeswoman said. The oil and water mixture that leaked into the ditch is used during aluminum extrusion. As a precaution, Alcoa and EPA conducted tests on the well water of 22 households abutting the ditch. The results have showed no detectable amount of chemicals.

Source: <http://www.jconline.com/article/20110119/NEWS09/110119015/Officials--Elliott-Ditch-spill-cleared>

36. *January 18, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency* – (Texas) **U.S. takes action to protect public health and enforce EPA imminent and substantial endangerments order in southern Parker County.** The U.S. Department of Justice filed a complaint January 18 against Range Production Company and Range Resources Corporation in federal district court, seeking enforcement of a December 7, 2010, emergency order issued by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) against the companies. In the order, the EPA determined Range had caused or contributed to the contamination of a drinking water aquifer in Parker County, Texas. The complaint asks the Dallas court to direct the companies to comply with portions of the order and to pay a civil penalty of up to \$16,500 per day of violation. The order follows an investigation into complaints from residents about methane contamination in their private drinking water wells. According to allegations in the complaint, testing confirmed the presence of methane gas, and of other contaminants, including benzene, a known human carcinogen, in the well water. Residents noticed problems with their wells soon after Range completed drilling and well stimulation operations on two natural gas wells located near the residents' water wells. During the course of its investigation and while consulting with various state authorities, EPA determined the risk of explosion warranted the issuance of an emergency order.

Source: http://www.epa.gov/region6/6xa/range_011811.htm

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

37. *January 21, MedCity News* – (National) **St. Jude Medical pays \$16 million to end investigation into kickbacks.** St. Jude Medical in Minnesota said January 20 it paid \$16 million to end a government investigation determining whether the company paid doctors who put its heart device in their patients. The payout ends a 5-year Department of Justice investigation connected to a whistleblower complaint that claimed the company paid kickbacks of up to \$2,000 per patient to help market its products. The former St. Jude technician who spurred the investigation said the payments were for fake research studies on the devices. “The company maintains that its post-market studies and registries are legitimate clinical studies designed to gather important scientific data and St. Jude Medical does not admit liability or wrongdoing by entering into this agreement,” St. Jude Medical said in a statement. “The company entered into a settlement agreement to avoid the potential costs and risks associated with litigation. This settlement brings the previously reported post-market study investigation to a close.” St. Jude in the middle of last year paid \$3.7 million to settle a similar case where it made illegal payments to hospitals in Kentucky and Ohio that used its heart products.

Source: <http://www.medcitynews.com/2011/01/st-jude-medical-pays-16-million-to-end-investigation-into-kickbacks/>

38. *January 21, Cypress Times* – (Texas) **Two owners of Houston health care company plead guilty to alleged \$5.2 million Medicare fraud scheme.** Two owners of a Houston, Texas, health care company pleaded guilty January 20 in connection with an alleged \$5.2 million Medicare fraud scheme, the Departments of Justice and Health and Human Services (HHS) announced. Each pleaded guilty before a U.S. District Court judge in Houston to one count of conspiracy to commit health care fraud, one count of conspiracy to pay kickbacks, and 16 counts of payment of kickbacks to Medicare beneficiary recruiters. According to court documents, the two were owners and operators of Family Healthcare Group (Family Group), a home health care company. Family Group purported to provide skilled nursing to Medicare beneficiaries. They hired co-conspirators to recruit Medicare beneficiaries for the purpose of filing claims with Medicare for skilled nursing that was medically unnecessary and/or not provided. They previously pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit health care fraud related to their ownership of another Houston health care company, Family Healthcare Services (Family Services). Family Services submitted approximately \$1.1 million in fraudulent claims to Medicare for the costs of durable medical equipment. They each face a maximum sentence of 10 years in prison for each health care fraud conspiracy count, 5 years in prison for each kickback conspiracy count, and 5 years in prison for each kickback count.

Source:

http://www.thecypresstimes.com/article/News/National_News/TWO_OWNERS_OF_HOUSTON_HEALTH_CARE_COMPANY_PLEAD_GUILTY_TO_ALLEGED_52_MILLION_MEDICARE_FRAUD_SCHEME/39132

39. *January 21, KTLA 5 Los Angeles* – (California) **1 dead, 2 hurt after chemical accident inside medical storage tank.** One man is dead and two others are in “very serious condition” after being overcome by chemical fumes inside a storage tank at a medical facility in the Atwater Village area of Los Angeles, California, fire officials said January 21. The incident was reported shortly before 4 a.m. at the Baxter Healthcare Corp. manufacturing plant in the 4500 block of Colorado Blvd. Two workers were cleaning the tank, which is used to store blood, when they were overcome by fumes. A third worker was overcome when he entered the tank and tried to help. When fire officials arrived, they found three victims, one of whom had no pulse and required CPR, a Los Angeles Fire Department spokesperson said. All three were transported to local hospitals in critical condition. One man was later pronounced dead, fire officials said. Investigators said the tank, about 5 feet in diameter and 4 feet tall, is used to store blood. Ethanol is used to separate the blood plasma. The workers were cleaning the tank with detergent when they were overcome by chemical fumes, a fire department official said. An investigation was expected to determine whether the plant was obeying health and safety laws.

Source: <http://www.ktla.com/news/landing/ktla-atwater-village-medical-tank-rescue,0,2316112.story>

40. *January 18, RedOrbit* – (California; Texas) **Notice concerning Abbott Medical Optics.** Baylor College of Medicine Department of Ophthalmology has been notified by Abbott Medical Optics (AMO) that certain backup tapes of information from

equipment utilized by the department of ophthalmology were taken from AMO's Malpitas, California location. AMO representatives reported they do not know who took the backup tapes or when they were taken. The information on the backup tapes was collected by AMO service representatives while providing maintenance checks to equipment used to measure eye contours of patients in preparation for Lasik surgery. The tapes were known to include only eye contour measurement charts, patient names, and the names of physicians. No other information was known to be included on the backup tapes. Although Baylor College of Medicine believes there is no risk of identity theft based upon the information provided by AMO, Texas law requires notice when a medical provider becomes aware of any unauthorized acquisition of computerized data that compromises the security, confidentiality, or integrity of sensitive personal information.

Source:

http://www.redorbit.com/news/science/1981232/notice_concerning_abbott_medical_optics/index.html

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Government Facilities Sector

41. *January 21, Winona Daily News* – (Minnesota) **School building evacuated for the second time this school year.** Officials evacuated a Caledonia, Minnesota, school for the second time this school year January 20 after finding a written bomb threat. A note found at the combined public high school and middle school building said a bomb would go off at 12:40 p.m., the superintendent said. A similar note was found at the school in October. Caledonia district administrators were meeting at 10 a.m. at district offices, which are in the elementary school, when the high school principal got a call about the threat. The principal went to the building, while bus services were called. The high school-middle school was evacuated, and students were brought to the elementary school in about 15 minutes. Police and first responders arrived at the school, and a bomb-sniffing dog searched the building. No explosives were found, and students returned to the school by 1 p.m.

Source: http://www.winonadailynews.com/news/article_22a916c2-2518-11e0-99d5-001cc4c002e0.html

42. *January 20, Associated Press* – (South Dakota) **Teen pleads guilty in SD school threat case.** The South Dakota attorney general said a high school senior who plotted an attack on Sisseton High School in northeast South Dakota pleaded guilty to the sale, transport, or possession of a destructive device. The attorney general said January 20 the 18-year-old suspect of Claire City faces up to 10 years in prison on each count at his February 17 sentencing. The suspect had been charged with a third count of unauthorized possession of a substance with intent to make a destructive device. He was arrested last August after someone told a police school resource officer the suspect had talked about an attack at Sisseton High School. Court files said he wrote about wanting to “become the world’s most infamous sociopath.”

Source: http://www.necn.com/01/20/11/Teen-pleads-guilty-in-SD-school-threat-c/landing_nation.html?&blockID=3&apID=d432a163e89d441dbc02bbde66851c8d

43. *January 20, Associated Press* – (Louisiana) **Teen at Richwood High booked with terrorism.** A student at Richwood High School in Richwood, Louisiana was taken into custody and booked with terrorism for an alleged threat to a fellow student. The 17-year-old suspect is accused of threatening a female student in class, according to the News-Star of Monroe. According to the arrest affidavit, the victim reported the student threatened her by saying, “that’s how you’re going to mess around and get shot” after she asked him to be quiet when he used an expletive. A major from the Ouachita Parish Sheriff’s Office said the student had been searched daily at the school because of a January 7 gun-related complaint against him.

Source:

<http://content.usatoday.net/dist/custom/gci/InsidePage.aspx?cId=thetowntalk&sParam=35581883.story>

44. *January 20, Baltimore Sun* – (Maryland) **Naval Academy buildings evacuated after suspicious package found.** Several buildings at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, were evacuated for nearly 2 hours January 19 after a suspicious package was found just outside of the downtown campus, according to a Naval Academy spokeswoman. The package was found outside of Gate 3 on Maryland Avenue about 1:30 p.m., the Naval Academy spokeswoman said. Four buildings were evacuated, including administrative offices and the Naval Academy Club. Staff were allowed to return to their offices shortly after 3 p.m. The Naval Academy Police assisted Annapolis Police in the investigation.

Source: http://articles.baltimoresun.com/2011-01-20/news/bs-md-ar-naval-academy-20110120_1_suspicious-package-annapolis-police-naval-academy-buildings

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Emergency Services Sector

45. *January 20, WTOP 103.9 FM District of Columbia* – (District of Columbia) **D.C. wants access to thousands more surveillance cameras.** Washington, D.C.’s homeland security department is pressing for access to more security cameras, including ones owned by private businesses and Metro. The D.C. Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency submitted a plan to tap into private cameras, such as those found at banks or outside office buildings, as well as those at public housing developments, the Washington Examiner reported. The agency already has access to more than 4,500 cameras owned by D.C. transportation and school systems. If approved, the plan would grant the homeland security department access to thousands of more cameras. Officials at the department’s joint all-hazards operations center watch the centralized feed from all of the cameras 24 hours per day. By extending the access to surveillance cameras, D.C. joins a number of other major cities, including New York

and Baltimore, that already use cameras to fight crime. In the United Kingdom., CCTV, or closed-circuit television, commonly uses surveillance cameras to monitor public spaces and public transportation in an effort to deter crime. There are reportedly more cameras per person in the U.K. than in any other country in the world. While most district surveillance cameras make recordings of the areas they monitor, those recordings are only kept for about 10 days.

Source: <http://www.wtop.com/?nid=596&sid=2241997>

46. *January 20, United Press International* – (Florida) **Florida man posing as FBI agent arrested.** A Florida man was charged with impersonating a federal agent after deputies found law enforcement badges and weapons in his Weston, Florida apartment. Authorities said the 48-year-old told the apartment manager he was an FBI agent after the manager noticed he was wearing a gun when she went to investigate a water leak in the apartment, the South Florida Sun-Sentinel reported January 19. The manager became suspicious and called sheriff's deputies, the newspaper said. Prosecutors said he identified himself to deputies as an FBI agent and was carrying a Glock handgun and counterfeit FBI credentials bearing his name and photograph. In the apartment, deputies found two fake FBI badges, and 28 other counterfeit federal badges from agencies including the U.S. Secret Service, U.S. Marshals Service, Drug Enforcement Administration, and the Federal Aviation Administration, authorities said. He was arrested and booked at the Broward County jail and released after posting bond. If convicted, he could face as long as 3 years in prison on each count of impersonation, and 6 months on each count of possession of federal agency badges and credentials. Source: http://www.upi.com/Top_News/US/2011/01/20/Florida-man-posing-as-FBI-agent-arrested/UPI-56361295551401/

47. *January 20, Associated Press* – (Florida) **Man faces 20 years in pointing laser at helicopter.** A central Florida man faces 20 years in federal prison for shining a laser pointer into the cockpit of an Orange County Sheriff's Office helicopter. As part of a plea agreement reached last month, the 43-year-old man pleaded guilty January 20 to one count of interfering with the operation of an aircraft. Authorities said he temporarily blinded the helicopter pilot with a laser device last April. The man, the owner of a private security business, was stopped by deputies, who found the laser on the road nearby. He is scheduled to be sentenced April 20. Source: <http://www.miamiherald.com/2011/01/20/2025702/man-faces-20-years-in-pointing.html>

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Information Technology Sector

48. *January 20, Help Net Security* – (International) **Fake Facebook password change notification leads to malware.** An e-mail purportedly sent by Facebook has been hitting inboxes around the world. An attached .zip file that supposedly contains a new password actually contains a backdoor that downloads a MS Word document and opens it. According to Avira, the document contains a few words in Russian and is written in

Cyrillic. While users are preoccupied looking at the document and figuring out what it means, a fake AV solution misappropriating the name of Microsoft's Security Essentials solution is downloaded, installed on the system, and starts showing false warnings about the computer being infected.

Source: http://www.net-security.org/malware_news.php?id=1599

49. *January 20, The Register* – (International) **Chinese Trojan blocks cloud-based security defenses.** A Trojan has been released that is specifically designed to disable cloud-based anti-virus security defenses. The Bohu blocks connections from infected Windows devices and cloud anti-virus services. Bohu — which was spotted by anti-virus researchers working for Microsoft in China — is hardwired to block access to cloud-based net services from Kingsoft, Qihoo, and Rising. All three firms are based in China. The malware poses as a video codec. If installed, Bohu applies a filter that blocks traffic between the infected machines and service provider. The malware also includes routines to hide its presence on infected machines.
Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/01/20/chinese_cloud_busting_trojan/

50. *January 20, H Security* – (International) **Hacking with USB keyboard emulators.** Modified USB devices can pose as keyboards and immediately pass keystrokes to a victim's system. Depending on the operating system, just a few emulated keystrokes can be enough to sabotage or infect a system — mouse emulation is also possible. In contrast to USB flash drives, when a keyboard is connected the operating system will not usually display a window requesting permission to use the device. A user may not even be aware a modified USB device posing as a human interface device (HID) has been connected to the system. Under Windows, a pop-up window is briefly displayed, but under Linux, only a glance at the logs will reveal this has occurred. Until recently, hackers were using micro-controller boards with USB support, such as the Teensy USB Development Board, for such attacks. At a recent Black Hat Conference, however, security specialists presented a talk on how to hack PCs without the aid of specialist hardware. By applying a simple modification to the USB stack on an Android mobile, they were able to make it pose as a keyboard when connected to a computer.
Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/Hacking-with-USB-keyboard-emulators-1172612.html>

51. *January 20, Computerworld* – (International) **Trapster hack may have exposed millions of iPhone, Android passwords.** Millions of e-mail addresses and passwords may have been stolen from Trapster, an online service that warns iPhone, Android, and BlackBerry owners of police speed traps, the company announced January 19. California-based Trapster has begun alerting its registered users and has published a short FAQ on the breach. "If you've registered your account with Trapster, then it's best to assume that your e-mail address and password were included among the compromised data," the FAQ stated. Trapster downplayed the threat, saying it was unsure the addresses and passwords were actually harvested. "While we know that we experienced a security incident, it is not clear that the hackers successfully captured any e-mail addresses or passwords, and we have nothing to suggest that this information

has been used,” Trapster said.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9205660/Trapster_hack_may_have_exposed_millions_of_iPhone_Android_passwords

52. *January 19, Government Computer News* – (International) **PDF vulnerability found in BlackBerry Attachment Service.** Research In Motion has issued a security alert acknowledging a vulnerability in the PDF distiller of the BlackBerry Attachment Service for the BlackBerry Enterprise Server. The vulnerability is rated 9.3 (out of 10) on the Common Vulnerability Scoring System (CVSS). That is considered “high” in the National Vulnerability Database severity ratings. The advisory is intended for BlackBerry Enterprise Server (BES) administrators, who are the recommended persons to apply the RIM-supplied fix. The vulnerability affects BES Exchange, IMB Lotus Domino and Novell GroupWise versions 4.1.6, 4.1.7, 5.0.0 and 5.0.1. BES Exchange and IMB Lotus Domino versions 5.0.2 and the Exchange-only 5.0.2 are also affected. Source: <http://gcn.com/articles/2011/01/19/vulnerability-in-blackberry-attachment-service.aspx>
53. *January 19, The Register* – (International) **Bot attacks Linux and Mac but can’t lock down its booty.** Researchers from Symantec have detected a Trojan that targets Windows, Mac, and Linux computers and contains gaping security vulnerabilities that allow rival criminal gangs to commandeer the infected machines. Known as Trojan.Jnanabot, or alternately as OSX/Koobface.A or trojan.osx.boonana.a, the bot made waves in October when researchers discovered its Java-based makeup allowed it to attack Mac and Linux machines, not just Windows PCs as is the case with most malware. Once installed, the trojan components are stored in an invisible folder and use strong encryption to keep communications private. The bot can force its host to take instructions through Internet relay chat, perform DDoS attacks, and post fraudulent messages to the victim’s Facebook account, among other things. Now, Symantec researchers have uncovered weaknesses in the bot’s peer-to-peer functionality that allow rival criminals to remotely steal or plant files on the victim’s hard drive. That means the gang that took the trouble to spread the infection in the first place risks having their botnet stolen from under their noses. Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/01/19/mac_linux_bot_vulnerabilities/

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Internet Alert Dashboard

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

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

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Communications Sector

54. *January 20, Huntington News.Net* – (West Virginia) **Comcast Internet outages concern Huntington City Council.** Internet disruptions January 19 and 20 have three Huntington City Council members in West Virginia complaining about the Comcast service. On January 20, the Internet was working, but went off shortly after 11 a.m. Due to the outage, Huntington City Hall was without e-mail service. The council chairman said, “I had several business owners that rely on Comcast Internet and cannot get Frontier DSL. The Internet connection has been going randomly up and down unpredictable, if you will.”
Source: <http://www.huntingtonnews.net/987>
55. *January 20, Mobyedia* – (Washington) **Source of Windows Phone 7 glitch discovered.** Microsoft has pinpointed an unnamed third-party software developer as the source of a recent bug in its Windows Phone 7 smartphone operating system, which racked up “phantom data” charges on the phone bills of some of its users. “We have determined that a third-party solution commonly accessed from Windows Phones is configured in a manner that potentially causes larger than expected data downloads,” a Microsoft spokesperson said. “We are in contact with the third-party to assist them in making the necessary fixes, and are also pursuing potential workarounds to address the configuration issue in case those are needed.” The original “phantom data” glitch was discovered when Windows Phone 7 users were hit with higher-than-usual data charges, resulting from phones transmitting and downloading data without users’ knowledge. The flaw caused some users to run over bandwidth caps on network usage, as much as 50-gigabytes per day in some extreme situations.
Source: <http://www.mobiledia.com/news/80363.html>
56. *January 20, The Register* – (National) **WikiLeaky phone scam targets unwary in U.S.** A new voicemail phishing scam uses the threat of non-existent fines for visiting WikiLeaks to pry money out of panicked marks. Prospective marks are robo-dialed by an automated system that states their computer and IP address “had been noted as having visited the Wikileaks site, and that there were grave consequences for this, including a \$250,000 or \$25,000 fine, perhaps imprisonment.” Potentially panicked victims are given a number to phone to discuss payment options. The scam, which involves the use of spoofed phone numbers, takes advantages of VoIP systems to minimize the cost of calls to crooks, who are probably using stolen access to corporate PBX systems.
Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/01/20/wikileak_vishing_scam/

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Commercial Facilities Sector

57. *January 21, Amherst Bulletin* – (Massachusetts) **Explosives found in Belchertown storage unit.** Local and state police and the FBI are continuing an investigation of a cache of weapons and explosives discovered January 17 at the Amherst Self-Storage Facility on Route 9 in Massachusetts. The Belchertown Police chief said a couple who had recently purchased the facility at an auction reported the find at approximately 1:30 p.m. “When they opened the place up, there were some items found that were disturbing to them,” he said. Items found in one of the storage units at the facility included gunpowder, fireworks, firearms, and some electrical wiring. Belchertown police contacted the state police firearms unit and the bomb squad, as well as the FBI for assistance.
Source: <http://www.amherstbulletin.com/story/id/195901/>
58. *January 20, WLS 7 Chicago* – (Illinois) **None injured in Chicago Heights church fire.** Investigators are trying to figure out what sparked a fire at a church in the south suburbs. Firefighters climbed a roof in the back of the True Foundation Church to put out the flames before they spread January 20 at 14th and Washington in Chicago Heights, Illinois. There were people inside the building at the time, but everyone escaped unharmed.
Source: <http://abclocal.go.com/wls/story?section=news/local&id=7910204>
59. *January 20, KRCR 7 Redding* – (California) **Pipe bomb found in Red Bluff apartment.** A pipe bomb was discovered at an apartment in Red Bluff, California, January 20. Police were called to the complex at 740 Ash Street after the apartment manager found the bomb inside a vacant apartment. The area was evacuated and closed off for several hours while the bomb squad was called in. The squad exploded the bomb around 8:30 p.m. in the evening.
Source: <http://www.krcrtv.com/news/26567679/detail.html>
60. *January 20, Associated Press* – (Minnesota) **Fire prompts evacuation of part of Mystic Lake casino.** A fire sparked by a construction worker prompted an evacuation of part of Mystic Lake Casino Hotel in Prior Lake, Minnesota. There were no injuries when the fire started about 9:30 a.m. January 20 in an area of the casino that is being remodeled. The Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community tribal administrator said the area was already off limits to customers due to the construction. But customers in nearby areas were moved to another part of the casino. A Mystic Lake Casino spokesman said several hundred people were evacuated from about half of the casino’s gaming area. The rest of the facility was not impacted. The fire started when a worker was cutting steel, and a spark ignited roof insulation. By 10:15 a.m., crews were already cleaning up.
Source: http://www.winonadailynews.com/news/state-and-regional/mn/article_57c72270-d51c-5b85-bf91-1ec522de9084.html
61. *January 20, Associated Press* – (District of Columbia) **Hotel in D.C. evacuated for possible hazmat case.** A Washington, D.C. hotel was evacuated, and a hazardous-materials team was on the scene to investigate a possible chemical reaction that sent fumes through the building. A D.C. fire department spokesman said the Washington

Marriott Hotel was evacuated about 4 p.m. January 20 in the city's Foggy Bottom neighborhood. Several streets also were closed in the area, which could have disrupted rush hour traffic. The spokesman said one person was evaluated by medics. Firefighters believed the chemical reaction started in the hotel's trash compactor.

Source: <http://www.wtop.com/?nid=25&sid=2242537>

62. *January 20, KCBD 11 Lubbock* – (Texas) **Apartments evacuated, Red Cross responds to large fire.** Lubbock, Texas firefighters responded to the Twin Oaks Apartments in the 5800 block of 22nd street January 20 in Lubbock, Texas. Thirty apartment units, with an estimated 40 residents were displaced. Fire was seen shooting through the roof and heavy black smoke could be seen from miles around. There were no reports of injuries, and residents were evacuated from the building for safety. As the fire spread, it caused a roof collapse. On the scene accounts indicated one building on the complex was completely destroyed. The Red Cross responded and a spokesman said this is the biggest fire he has ever worked as a Red Cross volunteer. During the fire, video showed residents helping firefighters lug water hoses from the fire trucks to fire hydrants. In at least one case, a citizen was helping direct traffic around firetrucks. Also during the fire, traffic was backed up on West Loop 289 in the area near the fire and officials were diverting traffic.

Source: <http://www.kcbd.com/Global/story.asp?S=13877524>

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

63. *January 20, KVEC 920 AM San Luis Obispo* – (California) **Pot growing operation may have been owned by Mexican mafia.** San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's Deputies in California cleared out a major marijuana growing operation located less than 1 mile from Highway 101. San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's Deputies believe the Mexican mafia was behind the 7,000-plant grow. It was located in the Los Padres National Forest about a quarter mile off the highway, near Santa Margarita. The plants were removed back in August, but deputies spent January 19 cleaning up the mess that operation left behind. A National Guard helicopter helped deputies remove pounds of trash, irrigation tubing, fertilizers and camping equipment from the former grow site. Deputies said the operation's reach extends far beyond local land. Nearly 98 percent of these local operations are run by Mexican National Drug Trafficking Organizations. Deputies still have not found the people who were running this grow, so no arrests have been made.

Source: <http://920kvec.com/Pot-Growing-Operation-May-Have-Been-Owned-By-Mexic/9025697>

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Dams Sector

64. *January 20, Business Spectator* – (International) **Engineer warned on dam 10 years ago: report.** Wivenhoe Dam in Australia, the dam that has been at the center of debates over Queensland's handling of the severe flooding, was reportedly the subject of a recommendation a decade ago by Brisbane City Council's top flood engineer to ensure a much larger buffer against flooding, according to the Australian. The city's top flood engineer at the time reportedly warned the existing policy for the dam compromised its capacity to protect against flooding, and that area residents were not properly informed on the flood risks. Australia's premier has already said the government-owned Wivenhoe Dam will be the subject of a close examination by the commission of inquiry established to investigate the Queensland floods. Engineers and hydrology experts examining river height, dam flow rates, and weather systems have suggested the dam was storing too much water in the days leading up to flooding of Brisbane earlier this month, according to the Australian.
Source: <http://www.businessspectator.com.au/bs.nsf/Article/Engineer-warned-on-Wivenhoe-10-years-ago-report-pd20110119-D9NYQ?OpenDocument&src=hp12>
65. *January 19, WDAY 6 Fargo* – (Minnesota) **Oslo city leaders expecting another round of flooding.** City leaders in Oslo, Minnesota, will look into declaring a state of emergency in February because of expected flooding. This comes after the National Weather Service's latest predictions showed a better than 50-50 chance of major flooding in many northern Red River Valley communities. Oslo's mayor said the town will most likely become an island again this year. In the past few years, all the roads leading into town have been closed because of flooding. In Drayton, people are thankful for a new bridge that will stay open longer during flooding than the last bridge because it is built higher. People in town said they would like to have some type of flood protection so they do not have to worry about the river flooding. Crews said they are ready to build up a dike in Drayton again this year.
Source: <http://www.wday.com/event/article/id/42906/group/Weather/>

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