



# Homeland Security

## Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 25 January 2011

**Current Nationwide Threat Level**

**ELEVATED**

**Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks**

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

### Top Stories

- NBC News reports a bomb detonated by a suicide bomber ripped through the arrivals hall at Domodedovo airport in Moscow, Russia, January 24, killing 35 people and wounding 130. (See item [24](#))
- Four Detroit, Michigan, police officers were wounded and their assailant killed January 23, after a man walked into a precinct and began shooting indiscriminately, according to the New York Times. (See item [50](#))

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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 24, CNN* – (Ohio) **Gas line pressure increase causes 9 house fires in Ohio village.** At least nine homes in the Ohio village of Fairport Harbor caught fire January 24 after an increase in gas line pressure, the mayor’s office said. Authorities scrambled to shut off gas service amid reports of gas fumes in the air. A Lake County sheriff said that as of about 8:40 a.m., gas service had been shut off and all the fires were believed to be out. Police initially had said they would attempt to evacuate up to 3,000 people in

the village. However, a police major called off the evacuation, saying it would be too chaotic to get residents out of the village through only three exits. Residents were asked to turn off their gas from the outside and remain in their homes, the statement said. Gas began flowing at a higher rate than normal because of a problem in the pressure line, and that caused the fires, the mayor's office said in a written statement. There were no immediate reports of injuries. All 17 of the county's fire departments were called out. The initial call came in about 7 a.m., the major said.

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2011/US/01/24/ohio.fire.evacuations/index.html?hpt=T2>

2. *January 23, Washington Post* – (Virginia) **Mineral oil leaks from Pepco facility.** More than 5,000 gallons of mineral oil leaked from a transformer at a Pepco facility in Alexandria, Virginia, January 24, and some went into the Potomac River, the utility said. Pepco said a pipe separated from a transformer at a company switch yard, allowing the nontoxic oil to flow into an emergency containment reservoir. Oil that reached the river was contained by booms, and removal from the contained area was to go on overnight, Pepco said. The utility said the oil that leaked onto land around the transformer was contained and most of it cleaned up. According to Pepco, the transformer was in a Pepco switch yard adjacent to the power station owned by GenOn. Besides serving as a coolant and insulator, mineral oil, a byproduct of petroleum distillation, has many other uses, including as a laxative.  
Source: <http://voices.washingtonpost.com/local-breaking-news/dc/mineral-oil-leaks-from-pepco-f.html>
3. *January 23, Beckley Register-Herald* – (West Virginia) **Fire consumes Wyoming warehouse.** No injuries were reported as a result of a three-alarm fire January 22 in Wyoming County, West Virginia. Upper Laurel, Pineville and Oceana volunteer fire departments were dispatched to the Penn-Virginia Oil and Gas Corp. warehouse just after 3 p.m., the Wyoming County Emergency Services director said. The fire consumed the structure, he said. There were no official reports of propane tanks exploding. A hazardous materials team from Bluefield was dispatched January 22 because of a large amount of oil on the ground, the director noted. Additionally, the road was closed for several hours as a result of the fire and because water from the fire trucks was freezing across the roadway in the frigid temperatures, he added. The cause of the fire was not immediately known and the investigation is continuing.  
Source: <http://www.firefightingnews.com/article-us.cfm?articleID=89788>
4. *January 23, Waterbury Republican-American* – (Connecticut) **Contractor arrested for causing Canaan gas leak.** A gas leak that occurred January 22 and forced the evacuation of 500 homes in Canaan, Connecticut, was caused by faulty work on the gas lines by an unlicensed contractor, state police said January 23. The contractor was charged with reckless endangerment and violation of the Connecticut gas piping codes. State police said the contractor recently installed the 30,000-gallon propane tank at Speciality Minerals on Daisy Hill Road. Firefighters responded January 22 to a leak there and had to close a valve underneath the tank. The contractor was released on \$5,000 bond and is scheduled to appear in Bantam Superior Court February 14. No one

was hurt and no further arrests are expected, police said.

Source: <http://www.rep-am.com/news/local/534881.txt>

5. *January 22, United Press International* – (California) **Pipeline explosion caused by bad welding.** An inferior weld caused a San Bruno, California, gas pipeline explosion that killed eight people and destroyed 38 homes in September 2010, officials said. The metallurgical report released January 22 by federal transportation safety officials identified for the first time a particular seam weld as the cause of the rupture in the September 9, 2010, explosion, the San Francisco Chronicle reported. The weld was just half as thick as it should have been, the report said. Experts said the flaw would have been exposed during high-pressure water testing inspections the utility, Pacific Gas & Electric, had ruled out as expensive and burdensome. The utility company's records, found by investigators to be wrong, indicated the pipeline carrying the gas was seamless. Instead, the San Bruno site was part of a cobbled assortment of potentially inferior 4-foot seamed pipes of possibly unknown origin. The January 22 report by the National Transportation Safety Board said the pipe developed a crack "consistent with ductile overstress from the root of the weld."

Source: [http://www.upi.com/Top\\_News/US/2011/01/22/Pipeline-explosion-caused-by-bad-welding/UPI-44931295723585/](http://www.upi.com/Top_News/US/2011/01/22/Pipeline-explosion-caused-by-bad-welding/UPI-44931295723585/)

6. *January 20, KATU 2 Portland* – (Oregon) **Power restored to washed-out Lolo Pass Road residents.** The power has been restored to hundreds of Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) customers January 20, largely in the dark after flooding the weekend of January 15 and January 16 washed out roads and communications lines to many in the Mount Hood community near Welches, Oregon. A spokesman for PG&E said about 350 customers were without power. Meanwhile, the Hoodland Fire District warned of fire dangers in homes where electricity has just been restored. The fire district still has limited fire suppression capabilities in the washed-out area, but has set up a temporary fire and medical reporting point on Lolo Pass Road near Briarwood Road. On January 18, the Clackamas County Board of Commissioners declared a "state of emergency" for this unincorporated area of the county. The declaration, when granted, gave the county the ability to evacuate people as needed, seek "mutual" aid, and redirect funds to deal with emergency response and support.

Source: <http://www.katu.com/news/local/114318734.html>

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## **Chemical Industry Sector**

7. *January 24, Toledo Blade* – (Michigan) **Toxic leak evacuates Adrian, Mich., plant, puts schools on delay.** A toxic leak at a chemical manufacturing plant in Adrian, Michigan, January 24 caused plant evacuation and put city schools on delay, authorities said. The Chemtura Corp. plant at 1400 East Michigan St. was evacuated after a leak of liquid bromine was discovered about 5:30 a.m., according to the Adrian fire department. Adrian Public Schools were on a 1-hour delay because of the leak. There were no reports of injuries, a fire dispatcher said. The company specializes in plastic

additives, according to its Web site.

Source: <http://toledoblade.com/article/20110124/NEWS16/110129761>

8. *January 22, Fort Morgan Times* – (Colorado) **Acid spill shuts down Highway 144 Acid spill closes highway.** Highway 144 was shut down about 4 miles east of Weldona, Colorado, January 20 following a hazardous materials spill, the Colorado State Patrol reported. About 12 to 15 batteries spilled from a trailer with a load of batteries, and some of them broke, spilling acid on the road. The road was completely shut down for about 1.5 hours, then traffic was limited to one lane for about 1.5 more hours while a state patrol hazardous materials team and members of the Fort Morgan Volunteer Fire Department cleaned up the spill. Traffic was routed along County Roads 12 and W.5 during the cleanup.

Source: [http://www.fortmorgantimes.com/ci\\_17161710](http://www.fortmorgantimes.com/ci_17161710)

9. *January 22, KMOV 4 St. Louis* – (Missouri) **Truck catches fire, spreads to chemical building.** A building at a company in St. Louis, Missouri, that makes explosive chemicals caught fire after a nearby truck erupted in to flames January 22. Fire crews were called to scene on Chouteau Avenue. The building belongs to a chemical company named Superior Solvents. Crews worked cautiously because the company produces explosive chemicals like paint thinner, printing solvents, and acetone. It is not clear if the building housed these chemicals. According to authorities, the fire started in a semi truck parked next to the building and the fire quickly spread. The fire captain said sprinklers kept the fire at bay and damage was limited to the building entrance. No injuries were reported.

Source: <http://www.kmov.com/news/local/Truck-catches-fire-spreads-to-chemical-building-114425384.html>

10. *January 21, Orlando Sentinel* – (Florida) **Hundreds evacuated after fire at Deerfield Beach cosmetics firm.** The tiny glitter found in women's eye shadow is suspected to have caused a chemical fire at a cosmetics factory in Deerfield Beach, Florida, January 21, sending nine people to the hospital. Dozens more, including about nine pregnant women, were treated at the scene with complaints of headaches and nausea caused by the chemical fumes. Those transported to local hospitals, including a firefighter, were treated and released later in the day. The fire began before 10 a.m. at Oxygen Development LLC, on W. Newport Center Drive. The company manufactures cosmetics, skin care, hair care and over-the-counter pharmacology products. More than 200 employees were evacuated. Workers standing outside after the fire, said the fire started in a area called "hot powder" where workers grind down materials used for cosmetics. Firefighters found a small fire inside a 55-gallon drum, the assistant chief of Deerfield Beach Fire Rescue said. Rescue workers took the drum out of the building, but not before it left a trail of toxic smoke. The cause of the fire has not been officially determined, but investigators think it was caused by an aluminum-like material that was being ground to create "glitter" for cosmetics. The particles caused some type of friction and created sparks that ignited the fire.

Source: <http://www.orlandosentinel.com/news/local/fl-deerfield-fire-20110121,0,7947074.story>

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## **Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector**

11. *January 23, United Press International* – (Washington) **Nuclear cleanup plant questioned.** A costly U.S. environmental project, meant to deal with millions of gallons of nuclear waste, is over budget and faces technical and safety issues, critics said. The Department of Energy (DOE) is building a facility at the Hanford, Washington, nuclear reservation to clean up 53 million gallons of radioactive waste left over from 40 years of nuclear weapons production currently stored in aging, leaking tanks, but cost estimates have nearly tripled to \$12.2 billion and its builders have yet to settle some vexing problems with design, the Seattle Times reported January 23. Some critics said they worry the final plant may be dangerous and will not be able to treat as much waste as expected, could pose environmental dangers, and might take billions of more dollars to get right. The plant is being built even though details of the final design have yet to be worked out, they said. The government’s own tests show equipment might fail or pipes might clog in parts of the facility so radioactive with nuclear waste no human or machine could ever get in and make repairs. The plant is scheduled to begin operating in 2019, a decade behind schedule.

Source: [http://www.upi.com/Science\\_News/2011/01/23/Nuclear-cleanup-plant-questioned/UPI-52391295813251/](http://www.upi.com/Science_News/2011/01/23/Nuclear-cleanup-plant-questioned/UPI-52391295813251/)

12. *January 21, Reuters* – (Vermont) **Entergy again finds tritium at Vermont Yankee.** Radioactive tritium has been found in a water sample from a monitoring well at Entergy Corp’s Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant in Vernon, Vermont, the company said January 21, a year after the isotope was identified in a leak at the facility. “This week, Vermont Yankee received positive indications for tritium in a previously unaffected monitoring well located about 150 feet to the north of the area affected by the leak that was identified in January 2010,” the plant spokesman said in an e-mail.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSN2120870420110121>

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## **Critical Manufacturing Sector**

Nothing to report

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## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

13. *January 23, Associated Press* – (International) **Sentencing due in China military secrets case.** A former B-2 stealth bomber engineer convicted of selling military secrets to China is due to be sentenced in federal court in Honolulu, Hawaii, January 24. The man faces up to life in prison for his conviction on 14 counts, including conspiracy, communicating national defense information to aid a foreign nation, and

violating the arms export control act. He has been in custody without bail since his 2005 arrest. Prosecutors said the engineer helped China design a stealth cruise missile, and demonstrated how its design would be effective against U.S. air-to-air missiles. They said he was paid at least \$110,000 from the sale of military secrets.

Source: <http://www.militarytimes.com/news/2011/01/ap-china-military-secrets-case-sentencing-012311/>

14. *January 23, Associated Press* – (International) **China’s new stealth fighter may use US technology.** Chinese officials recently unveiled a new, high-tech stealth fighter that could pose a significant threat to American air superiority — and some of its technology may well have come from the U.S. itself. Balkan military officials and other experts told the Associated Press that in all probability the Chinese gleaned some of their technological know-how from an American F-117 Nighthawk shot down over Serbia in 1999. “At the time, our intelligence reports told of Chinese agents crisscrossing the region where the F-117 disintegrated, buying up parts of the plane from local farmers,” said a man who was Croatia’s military chief of staff during the Kosovo war. “We believe the Chinese used those materials to gain an insight into secret stealth technologies ... and to reverse-engineer them,” he said. A senior Serbian military official confirmed pieces of the wreckage were removed by souvenir collectors, and that some ended up “in the hands of foreign military attaches.”

Source:

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5iE3jMTTaEhm5I8l63W9OzWiji0-Q?docId=e8f4fe6f3cc042d8af123a99e96b2a96>

15. *January 21, Aviation Week* – (National) **Pentagon questions LPD-17 survivability.** The U.S. Navy’s San Antonio Class Amphibious Transport Dock ships operate perfectly well in safe seas, but questions still exist about the fleet’s worth during more risky operations, the Pentagon’s Director of Operational, Test and Evaluation (DOT&E) said in a report. It is a longstanding DOT&E criticism that has rankled the Navy, which notes the ship is not meant to operate alone in contested waters, and has already completed missions successfully at sea. “LPD-17 is capable of conducting amphibious operations in a benign environment,” the DOT&E says, “but is not operationally effective, suitable, or survivable in a hostile environment. Various LPD-17 self-defense systems also have failed to demonstrate adequate capability. Also, “serious fabrication and production deficiencies” were found prior to the full ship shock trial in LPD-19 and during LPD-17’s deployment, according to the report.

Source:

[http://www.aviationweek.com/aw/generic/story.jsp?id=news/asd/2011/01/21/12.xml&headline=Pentagon Questions LPD-17 Survivability&channel=defense](http://www.aviationweek.com/aw/generic/story.jsp?id=news/asd/2011/01/21/12.xml&headline=Pentagon%20Questions%20LPD-17%20Survivability&channel=defense)

16. *January 21, WJXT 4 Jacksonville* – (Florida) **Frigate, pier damaged at drydock.** A Navy guided missile frigate sold to the Pakistani navy earlier this year was damaged January 21, along with the pier of a Northside shipyard in Jacksonville, Florida, where the ship is undergoing repairs. The USS McInerney was transferred in August and renamed the PNS Alamgir. It was at BAE Drydock — formerly Atlantic Drydock — in the 8500 block of Heckscher Drive for renovations before it was to steam for Pakistan

next week. The U.S. Coast Guard said the ship's engines were being tested when it lurched forward, slamming into the pier causing heavy damage to the pier and the bow of the ship. There was no oil or fuel spill, but the hull was crumpled.

Source: <http://www.news4jax.com/news/26574162/detail.html>

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## **Banking and Finance Sector**

17. *January 22, BankInfoSecurity.com* – (National) **4 banks closed on Jan. 21.** United Western Bank, Denver, Colorado, was the largest of four institutions closed by federal and state regulators January 21. The \$2.05 billion bank was acquired by First-Citizens Bank & Trust Company, Raleigh, North Carolina, which assumes all deposits of United Western. The eight branches of United Western will reopen January 24 as branches of First-Citizens. These latest announcements of failed institutions raise the total to 7 so far in 2011. The latest failures: The Bank of Asheville, Asheville, North Carolina, was closed by the North Carolina Office of Commissioner of Banks, which appointed the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) as receiver. FDIC entered into an agreement with First Bank, Troy, North Carolina, to have it assume all deposits. The five branches of the Bank of Asheville will reopen as branches of First Bank. FDIC estimates the cost to the Depositors Insurance Fund (DIF) will be \$56.2 million. The CommunitySouth Bank and Trust, Easley, South Carolina was closed by the South Carolina State Board of Financial Institutions, which appointed FDIC as receiver. FDIC entered into an agreement with CertusBank, National Association, Easley, South Carolina to have it assume all deposits. The six branches of CommunitySouth will reopen as branches of CertusBank. FDIC estimates the cost to the DIF will be \$46.3 million. The Enterprise Banking Company, McDonough, Georgia was closed by the Georgia Department of Banking and Finance, which appointed FDIC as receiver. FDIC created the Deposit Insurance National Bank of McDonough to protect depositors. The new institution will remain open until January 28 to allow depositors access to their insured deposits and time to open accounts at other insured institutions.

Source: [http://www.bankinfosecurity.com/articles.php?art\\_id=3289](http://www.bankinfosecurity.com/articles.php?art_id=3289)

18. *January 21, WAFF 48 Hunstville* – (South Carolina) **Florence bank robbery suspect caught in South Carolina.** A suspect in the robbery of a Florence, Alabama bank was caught in South Carolina after leading authorities on a chase January 21. The Spartanburg County Sheriff Department caught the 26-year-old after he allegedly robbed the First Citizens Bank in Spartanburg. Officers said the suspect led them on a chase through two counties, but he later gave himself up. The suspect is connected to the January 7 Compass Bank robbery in Florence. His wife was arrested as she was leaving the scene of that robbery. An off-duty officer tackled her. FBI investigators believe the couple may be responsible for robberies in Alabama and Florida.

Source: <http://www.waff.com/Global/story.asp?S=13887088>

19. *January 20, KXXV 25 Waco* – (Texas) **ZZ Top bank bandit may have switched to George Bush mask.** Sources said the FBI is investigating whether the serial bank

robber known as the ZZ Top bandit is the man responsible for two holdups in Austin, Texas, in October and November of 2010. The Compass Bank at 4100 N. Lamar was robbed October 7, and then again November 12 by a man wearing a mask resembling the 43rd U.S. President which covered his entire head. If the suspect was indeed the ZZ Top bandit, it would signify a change in tactics and disguise for the man who has eluded authorities for 7 years. He is also known as the “Interstate Bandit” because many of the banks he has robbed are close to Interstate 35 or other highways, allowing him a quick escape.

Source: <http://www.kxxv.com/Global/story.asp?S=13879715>

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## **Transportation Sector**

20. *January 24, Aviation Week* – (Texas) **ST Aerospace comes under fire.** Just as ST Aerospace faces a \$1.025-million civil penalty proposed by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) against its subsidiary in San Antonio, Texas, the maintenance, repair, and overhaul giant finds itself the subject of a television expose questioning its business practices. The FAA alleged January 20 that ST Aerospace violated U.S. Transportation Department Workplace Drug and Alcohol Testing program procedures between March 27, 2007, and May 8, 2008. During this 14-month period, FAA charges, the subsidiary brought 90 employees on board without properly testing them for drug and alcohol use and let more than a quarter of them perform safety-sensitive tasks before receiving the results of any tests.  
Source: [http://www.aviationweek.com/aw/generic/story.jsp?id=news/avd/2011/01/24/08.xml&headline=ST Aerospace Comes Under Fire&channel=mro](http://www.aviationweek.com/aw/generic/story.jsp?id=news/avd/2011/01/24/08.xml&headline=ST+Aerospace+Comes+Under+Fire&channel=mro)
21. *January 24, Associated Press* – (New Jersey; New York) **Engine trouble stalls Amtrak train.** A disabled Amtrak train caused delays along the Northeast Corridor in New Jersey January 24. An Amtrak spokesman said the train broke down because of engine problems in West Windsor. He said 50 passengers were transferred to another train. The breakdown caused delays for New Jersey Transit trains in and out of New York City.  
Source: <http://www.newsday.com/news/region-state/engine-trouble-stalls-amtrak-train-1.2632519>
22. *January 24, Associated Press* – (International) **London-bound flight diverted after threat.** British authorities said a Heathrow Airport-bound flight from Abu Dhabi was diverted and given a fighter escort after a passenger began making threats. Britain’s military said two Royal Air Force jets were scrambled to accompany the Etihad flight as it was diverted to Stansted airport, north of London. Police said a 37-year-old British man was arrested January 24, but gave no further details.  
Source: [http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2011/01/24/AR2011012401947.html?nav=ft\\_world](http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2011/01/24/AR2011012401947.html?nav=ft_world)



23. *January 24, Albany Times-Union* – (National) **Cold freezes Amtrak service.** Frigid temperatures caused Amtrak to temporarily suspend all trains running in both directions between New York City and Albany, New York. An Amtrak spokesperson said frozen pieces of equipment and parts of the track prompted the rail service to cancel all of its trains running between Albany and New York City beginning January 24. The Amtrak spokesperson said the service will be suspended until further notice, but said Amtrak hoped to have at least limited service back up by later the afternoon of January 24. Amtrak offered alternate bus service in New York City and Albany. Any customers who purchased a ticket for a suspended rail can either take a bus free of charge or wait for a later train.

Source: <http://www.timesunion.com/local/article/Cold-freezes-Amtrak-service-974181.php>

24. *January 24, msnbc.com; Reuters; NBC News; Associated Press* – (International) **Officials: 35 dead in Moscow bomb blast.** An explosion ripped through the arrivals hall at Domodedovo airport in Moscow, Russia, January 24, killing 35 people and wounding about 130, officials said. An analyst told NBC News the blast was “almost certainly” the work of Islamist militants from Russia’s North Caucasus region. The state-run news agency RIA Novosti said preliminary reports suggest a bomb was detonated by a suicide bomber as people emerged from the international arrivals zone. The bomb was packed with metal objects to cause maximum damage, according to law enforcement authorities. Planes from London, Brussels, Greece, Ukraine and Egypt had landed in the 30 minutes before the attack, RIA Novosti reported. Russian investigators told the Associated Press that two British citizens were among the dead. The Russian Emergency Ministry said 51 people were hospitalized after the blast with 35 of those in serious condition, NBC News reported. International flights continued to arrive at Domodedovo after the blast at first, but were later diverted to Sheremetyevo airport, Interfax reported. Moscow police were checking the city’s subway and other places where large numbers of people gather to try to avert possible follow-on attacks, the news agency said. Interfax also said security had been stepped up at Sheremetyevo and Vnukovo airports. Domodedovo is generally regarded as Moscow’s most up-to-date airport, but its security procedures have been called into question.

Source: [http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/41231668/ns/world\\_news-europe/?gt1=43001](http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/41231668/ns/world_news-europe/?gt1=43001)

For more stories, see items [4](#), [5](#), [8](#), [27](#), and [34](#)

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## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

25. *January 23, WLS 7 Chicago* – (Illinois) **Threatening letter sent to driver’s license office.** Police are investigating a threatening letter sent to employees at an Illinois Secretary of State’s driver’s license office. The unsigned letter was sent January 10 to the Chicago Heights Secretary of State’s Office. Investigators said the writer threatened to do harm to those who work at the facility, but did not single anyone out by name.

Source: <http://abclocal.go.com/wls/story?section=news/local&id=7914540>

26. *January 23, WPVI 6 Philadelphia* – (Pennsylvania) **Powder prompts hazmat at state police barracks.** Hazmat crews, along with police and fire officials, were called out to the state police barracks in the Wynnefield Heights section of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania January 23. According to police sources, a Pennsylvania State Trooper opened up a threatening letter at the Troop K barracks on Belmont Avenue. Also inside the envelope was a white powder. At 1 p.m., hazmat crews were called to the barracks to identify the powder. The investigation determined the powder to be cornstarch. There is no word on if police plan to press charges against anyone.  
Source: <http://abclocal.go.com/wpvi/story?section=news/local&id=7913979>

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## **Agriculture and Food Sector**

27. *January 24, St. Paul Pioneer Press* – (Minnesota) **Big rig with load of French fries rolls, catches fire in north metro.** A semi driver suffered minor injuries January 24 when a truck carrying French fries went off the road in Mounds View, Minnesota, overturned, and burst into flames, the Minnesota State Patrol said. The crash happened around 12:45 a.m., closing the ramp from eastbound U.S. 10 to southbound Interstate 35W. The ramp was closed for several hours after the accident.  
Source: [http://www.twincities.com/ci\\_17183088?nclick\\_check=1](http://www.twincities.com/ci_17183088?nclick_check=1)
28. *January 24, New York Daily News* – (New York) **Worker at Brooklyn tortilla factory crushed to death after fall into mixing machine.** A 22-year-old man was killed January 24 in a workplace incident — crushed after falling into a mixer at a Brooklyn, New York, tortilla factory, police said. The worker fell into a waist-high tub that was mixing dough about 2:25 a.m. at the Tortilleria Chinantla. It was not immediately clear how he fell. A co-worker called 911, but the unidentified victim could not be saved. Police do not suspect foul play.  
Source: [http://www.nydailynews.com/ny\\_local/2011/01/24/2011-01-24\\_worker\\_at\\_brooklyn\\_tortilla\\_factory\\_crushed\\_to\\_death\\_after\\_fall\\_into\\_mixing\\_machine.html](http://www.nydailynews.com/ny_local/2011/01/24/2011-01-24_worker_at_brooklyn_tortilla_factory_crushed_to_death_after_fall_into_mixing_machine.html)
29. *January 24, Baltimore Sun* – (Maryland) **Researchers find virus plaguing soft-crab businesses.** Scientists with the University of Maryland’s Institute of Marine and Environmental Technology and a worker in the crab business have found a virus in Chesapeake Bay blue crabs that they believe routinely kills a quarter or more of all soft crabs produced baywide before the premium seafood can get to market. They hope the discovery will lead to a way to spot and screen out infected animals, making soft-crab businesses more profitable while easing harvest pressure on the bay’s iconic crustacean. Published in the December issue of the journal *Diseases of Aquatic Organisms*, the findings go a long way toward explaining the significant die-off seen in soft-crab shedding operations, a research assistant professor with UM’s Center for Environmental Science at the Inner Harbor institute said. The researcher said the virus appears to affect only blue crabs, and there is no evidence it poses any hazard to humans. In any case, he pointed out, pathogens would be eliminated when the crabs are

cooked. Until now, most watermen had written off the crabs' demise to poor water quality or the stress and injuries they get in being caught, handled, and kept in captivity.

Source: <http://www.baltimoresun.com/features/green/bs-gr-soft-crab-virus-20110124,0,4994579.story>

30. *January 23, Associated Press* – (Oregon; International) **Australian apple moth found in Oregon.** Oregon Department of Agriculture officials said a light brown apple moth has been trapped at a Polk County nursery, the first time it has been found in the state. The Salem Statesman Journal said the bug is a native of Australia that can harm orchards, trees, and ornamental plants. The department said it likely came to Oregon on imported nursery stock. The moth has the potential to be a highly destructive pest. A spokesman from the Oregon Agriculture Department said there is no indication a breeding population of the moth is in the state. The state will put out more traps in Polk County in February.  
Source: <http://www.mycentraloregon.com/news/state/ap/523242/Australian-apple-moth-found-in-Oregon.html>
31. *January 23, Florida Times-Union* – (Florida) **Explosive device removed from neighborhood store.** Investigators are trying to determine if an explosive device placed inside Aron Food Mart in Jacksonville, Florida, January 22 was part of a prank or an effort to harm people and property, police said. The suspicious device was discovered around 6:20 p.m. The owner said he immediately called the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office, which responded with squad cars and a bomb squad technician. A police lieutenant described the device as an "acid bomb similar to what kids might make with a soda bottle." A bomb squad technician responded, and the device was secured and removed from the store.  
Source: <http://jacksonville.com/news/crime/2011-01-23/story/law-disorder-explosive-device-removed-neighborhood-store>
32. *January 22, Wassau Daily Herald* – (Wisconsin) **Smoldering corn causes flare-ups at Brokaw grain bin fire.** A grain bin fire in Brokaw, Wisconsin, continued to flare up January 22 as emergency teams remove about 250,000 bushels of corn from the bin, the captain of the town of Maine Fire Department said. "We were removing the product and they got into a hot pocket and it flared up," he said. Emergency teams responded January 21 to the explosion at Wisconsin Rapids Grain around noon. About 8 to 10 workers were working when the explosion happened, but no one was injured. The damage from the flare-up was limited to the corn. Officials said the flare-ups could continue into the week of January 24, until crews were able to remove all the corn and extinguish it outside. Crews made holes in the bin and are using heavy equipment similar to a backhoe to remove the corn.  
Source:  
<http://www.wausaudailyherald.com/article/20110122/WDH01/110122004/Fire-continues-at-Brokaw-grain-bin>

33. *January 21, WXYZ 7 Detroit* – (Michigan) **Details on Kroger store evacuation after shopper said he had a bomb and demanded Vicodin.** A shopper at the Kroger supermarket in Independence Township, Michigan, demanded the prescription painkiller Vicodin and told a clerk he had a bomb January 20. The Oakland County Sheriff's Office released images January 21 of the man taken from store security video. The images show the man pushing a shopping cart. Investigators said the man dropped a package, which was made to look like a bomb on the pharmacy counter. It had wires, spark plugs, and duct tape. A clerk threw a bottle of Vicodin at the man and he left. The store was then evacuated. The bomb squad determined the package was not a bomb. Businesses in the same busy shopping center were not evacuated.  
Source: [http://www.wxyz.com/dpp/news/region/oakland\\_county/details-on-kroger-store-evacuation-after-shopper-said-he-had-a-bomb-and-demanded-vicodin](http://www.wxyz.com/dpp/news/region/oakland_county/details-on-kroger-store-evacuation-after-shopper-said-he-had-a-bomb-and-demanded-vicodin)

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## **Water Sector**

34. *January 24, Washington Post* – (Maryland) **Water main break closes part of Beltway.** A 54-inch major distribution water main break closed the I-495 Capital Beltway's inner loop at Route 214 (Central Avenue) in Prince George's County, Maryland, January 24, creating a major problem for the rush-hour commute. All southbound lanes of I-95 were closed for several hours. With pre-dawn temperatures at 10 degrees, the spilled water rapidly turned into ice on the highway, according to live reports from the scene. Salt and sand trucks were sent to treat icy areas. Major traffic backups were reported as a result of the break, which the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) said occurred about 3:50 a.m. Cars were rerouted onto Central Avenue westbound, to Hampton Park Boulevard, to Richie Marlboro Road, then back onto the Beltway. The U.S. Census Bureau closed its Suitland headquarters because the building had no water. Bishop McNamara High School in Forestville also announced it would close. Crews were trying to locate the exact site of the break, which appeared to be a short distance from the Beltway, with water flowing down a slight incline onto the highway. The cause of the break was not immediately clear. Customers living south of Central Avenue were experiencing low water pressure and WSSC issued a boil water advisory for a broad swath of Prince George's County as a result of the break. At 11:40 a.m. the Maryland State Highway Administration said the two left lanes of the inner loop of the I-495 Capital Beltway had reopened at Central Avenue.  
Source: <http://voices.washingtonpost.com/local-breaking-news/maryland/water-main-break-closes-beltwa.html?hpid=dynamiclead>
35. *January 24, Associated Press* – (Oklahoma) **Problems at \$9 million water plant could be costly for SW Oklahoma town.** Problems at a \$9 million water plant that came online in Altus, Oklahoma, in 2006 could end up costing the southwestern Oklahoma town hundreds of thousands of dollars. The city's director of public works, told the Lawton Constitution that plans originally called for the reverse osmosis plant to be exclusively used for 8 months of the year, and used along with the city's old treatment facilities during the four peak usage months. However, he said the new plant

has not produced enough water to take the old plant offline for any period of time. He said the ultrafilters and membranes at the new plant were supposed to last 5 to 7 years but must be replaced before the 5-year mark, which could cost Altus more than \$1.2 million.

Source: <http://www.kfor.com/news/sns-ap-ok--altuswater,0,1621105.story>

36. *January 24, WFXT 25 Boston* – (Massachusetts) **Coast Guard: Diesel fuel spill has dissipated.** The Coast Guard said the diesel fuel spill in the Mystic River in Everett, Massachusetts, has dissipated. Coast Guard boats were on the scene of the spill that put a sheen of oil 800 feet long on the river. Exxon Mobil officials said there was no sign that the leak was coming from their gasoline terminal in Everett. Company officials cooperated with the Coast Guard as they conducted a full survey of the vessels that were in the terminal at the time. There is still no indication of the source of the leak.  
Source: <http://www.myfoxboston.com/dpp/news/local/coast-guard-diesel-fuel-spill-has-dissipated-20110123>
37. *January 23, WALB 10 Albany* – (Georgia) **Valdosta flushes water system.** On January 23, the city of Valdosta, Georgia, flushed out thousands of gallons of water from fire hydrants to get chlorine levels to where they were prior to a power failure that left more than 23,000 customers without water for several hours January 22. Water was restored that afternoon when a temporary bypass line was put in place while crews worked to fix a faulty switch which prevented generators from starting at the water treatment facility. Workers started opening hydrants closest to the treatment plant and gradually worked outward testing the water for minimum chlorine level. The entire city was still under a boil water advisory January 23 for any water used for consumption.  
Source: <http://www.walb.com/Global/story.asp?S=13893216>

For another story, see item [12](#)

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## **Public Health and Healthcare Sector**

38. *January 24, KTRV 12 Nampa* – (Idaho) **Fire brings delays at St. Luke’s Hospital.** Surgeries were put on hold at St. Luke’s Hospital in Boise, Idaho, in response to a fire January 21. A spokesman for St. Luke’s said a vacuum pump overheated in the sub-basement of the east annex and caught fire. The fire was quickly extinguished, but because oil was involved, it created a lot of smoke. Around two dozen staff members were evacuated, but no one was seriously injured, but the commotion did cause some slowdowns. A hospital spokesperson said, “We did delay some of our surgeries until we were able to get the all clear from the fire department and get down there and get systems back up and do some work on the pump.” The hospital plans to do more work on the pump system the weekend of January 22 to get everything running at full capacity. Leaders said until then, they are properly equipped with portable and back-up pumps.  
Source: <http://www.fox12idaho.com/Global/story.asp?S=13887993>

39. *January 24, WPTV 5 West Palm Beach* – (Florida) **20 residents evacuated during fire at assisted living facility in West Palm Beach.** Firefighters from West Palm Beach, Florida, were called to the Fountain View assisted living facility at 101 Executive Center Dr at 6:09 a.m. January 24. Firefighters on scene said a small suspicious fire started on the third floor hallway. Most of the damage to the building was caused by smoke and water from the building's sprinklers. Approximately 20 residents had to be moved from their residences by firefighters. Arson investigators from West Palm Beach Fire Rescue are investigating the fire.  
Source: <http://www.palmbeachpost.com/news/20-residents-evacuated-during-fire-at-assisted-living-1205609.html>
40. *January 23, Associated Press* – (International) **Investigation shows fraud plagues health fund.** A \$21.7 billion development fund backed by celebrities and hailed as an alternative to the bureaucracy of the United Nations sees as much as two-thirds of some grants eaten up by corruption, the Associated Press has learned. Much of the money is accounted for with forged documents or improper bookkeeping, indicating it was pocketed, investigators for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria said. Donated prescription drugs wind up being sold on the black market. The fund's newly reinforced inspector general's office, which uncovered the corruption, cannot give an overall accounting because it has examined only a tiny fraction of the \$10 billion the fund has spent since its creation in 2002. Sixty-seven percent of money spent on an anti-AIDS program in Mauritania was misspent, the investigators told the fund's board of directors. So was 36 percent of the money spent on a program in Mali to fight tuberculosis and malaria, and 30 percent of grants to Djibouti. The fund is pulling or suspending grants from nations where corruption is found, and demanding recipients return millions of dollars of misspent money. To date, the United States, the European Union, and other major donors have pledged \$21.7 billion to the fund, the dominant financier of efforts to fight the three diseases. The fund finances programs in 150 nations.  
Source: <http://www.deseretnews.com/article/700103392/Investigation-shows-fraud-plagues-health-fund.html>
41. *January 22, Madison Capital Times* – (Wisconsin) **Fire damages fire alarm panel at medical building.** A fire inside an electrical equipment room at the medical building at 20 S. Park St. in Madison, Wisconsin caused extensive damage January 21 to the building's fire alarm control panel, the Madison Fire Department reported. No injuries were reported in the fire that was reported shortly after 3 p.m. Fire crews checking the building discovered a fire inside a small room on the basement level of the parking ramp. It was quickly extinguished, but crews remained on the scene for several hours ventilating smoke and gasoline vapors from the building, according to a fire department news release. The fire caused heat and smoke damage in the electrical room and took the fire alarm system out of service, the fire department reported. A fire watch will be maintained in the building until the alarm system is fully functional. The fire investigator is looking at a motorized cart in the electrical room as the possible cause of the fire, the release said. A leaking fuel tank on the cart was the source of the gasoline vapors in the building.

Source: [http://host.madison.com/wsj/news/local/crime\\_and\\_courts/article\\_0e61b980-2653-11e0-a0ad-001cc4c002e0.html](http://host.madison.com/wsj/news/local/crime_and_courts/article_0e61b980-2653-11e0-a0ad-001cc4c002e0.html)

42. *January 20, KGO 7 San Francisco* – (California) **State working on Napa Hospital safety issues.** Workers at Napa State Hospital in Napa, California said they want to be able to go to their jobs without fearing for their lives. The California Department of Mental Health has responded to their demands. Eighty percent of patients at Napa State Hospital have been charged or convicted of a crime. ABC7 has been covering the story for months, and almost every worker interviewed said they have been a victim of an attack by a violent patient. A spokeswoman for the agency that runs Napa State and four other hospitals said they now have workers patrolling the forensics section, the most dangerous area, where the criminally insane are housed, adding workers are being trained to deal with aggressive patients. But the attacks by violent patients continue even though it has been 3 months since a psych tech was murdered at the hospital. Workers said what they really want are hospital police stationed permanently in the forensics units. Now when emergencies happen, police respond from outside the barbed wire fence. The spokeswoman said those decisions depend on their budget.

Source: [http://abclocal.go.com/kgo/story?section=news/local/north\\_bay&id=7910641](http://abclocal.go.com/kgo/story?section=news/local/north_bay&id=7910641)

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## **Government Facilities Sector**

43. *January 24, WTVD 11 Durham* – (North Carolina) **Drill to simulate active shooter scenario.** The Wake County Public School System in Raleigh, North Carolina, along with 15 law enforcement and emergency response agencies and organizations, were slated to test combined planning and reaction capacities in a simulated attack January 24 on a combined elementary and middle school campus. No students will be at the schools during the drill because the day was scheduled as a teacher workday. The Wake County Sheriff's Office said the drill will simulate a major crisis with an active shooter at the schools. The exercise will test agencies' abilities to communicate and execute responsibilities during a serious incident. "Our security team has been working with other agencies for many months to plan this exercise," the Wake County Public School System's interim superintendent said. Agencies and organizations participating in the drill include Cary Police, Fire and EMS, the North Carolina State Highway Patrol, Wake County Sheriff's Department, Wake County EMS, Emergency Management, Raleigh Police and Fire Departments, and Rocky Mount Police.

Source: <http://abclocal.go.com/wtvd/story?section=news/local&id=7915203>

44. *January 24, ITProPortal* – (National) **Hacker selling access to government, military and education sites.** The security firm Imperva has uncovered a hacker selling access to U.S. government, military, and education Web sites on the cheap. "The victims' vulnerabilities were probably obtained by SQL injection vulnerability automatic scanner and exploited in automatic manner, as the hacker published his methods in a post in some hacker forum," the company explained. The unknown hacker is offering access to U.S. and European government, military, and education sites for anything

between \$55 to \$499. Access to the U.S. Army and National Guard Web sites is up for sale for around \$499 each, while those belonging to the U.S. Department of Defense are accessible for \$399 per site. The hacker is also offering whole databases of personal user data, complete with names, telephone numbers, and addresses, for as low as \$20 per 1,000 names. Other services include a \$2 full Web site vulnerabilities scan, hacking of a “normal” Web site for \$10, hacking of a “high-profile” site for \$10+ and 3MB of information taken from random hacked user accounts for \$65.

Source: <http://www.itproportal.com/2011/01/24/hacker-selling-access-government-military-and-education-sites/>

45. *January 24, Associated Press* – (Alaska) **Fire destroys Galena school shop building.** The entire village of Galena, Alaska, pitched in to help fight a fire January 22 that destroyed a school shop, even as temperatures plunged to 50 degrees below zero. The unattached 2-story shop building at the Sidney C. Huntington School caught fire, the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner reported. The city manager said nearly all the village’s 600 residents helped firefighters, mostly by helping them keep warm. Villagers brought their vehicles to give fire crews a place to warm up. The village’s tanker truck had to be heated and resupplied by another truck that shuttled water from a source several thousand feet away. The 5,000-square-foot shop was built in the late 1990s and did not have a sprinkler system.

Source: <http://www.adn.com/2011/01/24/1664258/fire-destroys-galena-school-shop.html>

46. *January 22, Associated Press* – (Georgia) **Army Ranger accused of hiding explosives.** A U.S. Army Ranger from Fort Benning in Georgia has been accused of hiding explosives near his home and lying to investigators about it. The ranger was arrested January 20 by federal agents and will receive a preliminary court hearing the week of January 24. An agent for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives said he received a tip in January from an informant who said he had seen the suspect with a fragmentation grenade. The investigator said the suspect told the informant that he also had other grenades, explosives, and flash-bang grenades at his Columbus home. The man denied those allegations during an interview with federal agents. But authorities said they found a fragmentation grenade, two flash-bang grenades, and a military flare in the woods behind his apartment.

Source: <http://www.ajc.com/news/army-ranger-accused-of-812355.html>

47. *January 22, Des Moines Register* – (Iowa) **‘Bottle bomb’ likely work of prankster in Waterloo library explosion.** A small homemade bomb exploded January 22 at the Waterloo Public Library in Iowa at about 5 p.m., just as the building was closing for the day. The blast did little more than make a loud bang — there were no injuries or major damage — but it has left library officials frustrated, the executive director said. The director described the device as a “bottle bomb,” a noisy but not necessarily destructive annoyance often associated with adolescent pranksters. At first employees thought a bookcase had fallen over, but they soon realized someone had set off a homemade bomb. Waterloo Police Department’s Bomb Squad responded and swept the building and found only one device, a detonated chemical bomb. The chemicals inside the



improvised bomb had damaged a square foot of carpet. Video footage has been handed over to Waterloo police, and the incident remains under investigation.

Source: <http://blogs.desmoinesregister.com/dmr/index.php/2011/01/22/bottle-bomb-likely-work-of-prankster-in-waterloo-library-explosion/>

48. *January 21, KGBT 4 Harlingen* – (Texas) **Multiple bomb threats prompt evacuation of middle school in La Feria.** Police in La Feria, Texas, are tracing the origin of multiple bomb threats phoned into W.B. Green Middle School January 21. Police responded to the campus shortly after the calls came in around 2:30 p.m., the police chief said. Police officers worked with school employees to secure the students before conducting a room-by-room search for any evidence of explosives. None were found. Investigators are working with the phone company to see where the calls were made from. Students were picked up from a field next to the school.  
Source: <http://www.valleycentral.com/news/story.aspx?id=570790>

For more stories, see items [7](#), [11](#), [14](#), [16](#), [25](#), and [34](#)

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## **Emergency Services Sector**

49. *January 24, Latin American Herald Tribune* – (International) **One dead, 7 injured in Mexico explosions.** A police commander was killed, and seven others – four officers and three teenage boys – were injured in two separate explosions in different parts of Mexico, officials said January 22. The three boys were injured by a grenade hurled during a clash between army soldiers and suspected cartel hit men in the northern industrial city of Monterrey. The gun battle erupted when a military convoy came upon several SUVs carrying at least five armed men. The clash left one gunman dead and two soldiers wounded, officials said. The other four suspected cartel enforcers were wounded but managed to flee on foot. Separately, a car exploded January 22 in the central town of Tula. That state’s public safety secretariat, which is still investigating the blast, said the police were alerted to the presence of an abandoned vehicle and that it exploded upon their arrival. A police commander died of injuries suffered in the blast at a hospital in Hidalgo’s capital, Pachuca. Four other officers were wounded in the blast, but their injuries are not serious.  
Source: <http://www.laht.com/article.asp?ArticleId=384820&CategoryId=14091>

50. *January 23, New York Times* – (Michigan) **Four Detroit police injured in department shootout.** Four police officers were slightly wounded and their assailant killed January 23, after a man walked into the 6th police precinct in Detroit, Michigan, and “began shooting indiscriminately,” a spokeswoman for the mayor said. She said the incident began about 4:30 p.m. when the man opened fire with a pistol-grip shotgun. The man was able to shoot four officers before one or more officers returned fire, killing him. The most seriously injured police officer was the precinct’s commander, who was hit in the lower back, she said. He underwent surgery at Sinai Grace Hospital January 23. “His condition is critical, but he is expected to pull through,” the

spokeswoman said. Two other male officers were hospitalized but expected to be released January 24. A female officer was hit in the chest, but the bulletproof vest she was wearing prevented her from being injured. Police said it was unclear whether the gunman had previous contact with the precinct or was targeting any specific officers. The police station is one of the department's eight district offices. Members of the public who enter the station do not pass through metal detectors or otherwise undergo a security screening.

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2011/01/24/us/24detroit.html?src=twrhp>

51. *January 22, KFOX 14 El Paso* – (Texas) **Explosive brought to police regional command.** The El Paso, Texas bomb squad was called out to a police command center January 22 after someone brought in an explosive device. Police said while clearing out a storage unit, a resident discovered a grenade with a pin still in it and took it to the Pebble Hills station. Police immediately secured the scene and the resident's car that still had the explosive inside. Authorities said they were glad the person turned the grenade in. An El Paso police spokesperson said, "Our best practice is to simply leave the device, secure the area, and notify the police department right away." Police closed down operations at the Pebble Hills station until the bomb squad arrived and disposed of the device. Police advise residents to never try and handle an explosive themselves. Source: <http://www.kfoxtv.com/news/26584803/detail.html>

For more stories, see items [33](#) and [43](#)

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## **Information Technology Sector**

52. *January 24, H Security* – (International) **VLC Media Player 1.1.6 fixes critical vulnerabilities.** VideoLAN project developers have announced the release of version 1.1.6 of their VLC Media Player. The seventh release of the 1.1.x branch of VLC is a maintenance and security update that includes various bug fixes and improvements. VLC 1.1.6 addresses security issues in the Real demuxer, the subtitle decoder, and two previously reported critical heap corruption vulnerabilities; these are in the relatively rarely used CDG format decoder. Using VLC to play manipulated video in this format could cause heap corruption, which could in turn be exploited to inject and execute malicious code. Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/VLC-Media-Player-1-1-6-fixes-critical-vulnerabilities-1175821.html>
53. *January 24, H Security* – (International) **Critical vulnerability in Opera web browser.** French security services provider VUPEN has reported a critical security vulnerability in Opera which could allow crafted Web pages to infect Windows systems with malware. The problem is said to be caused by a bug in opera.dll when processing HTML files containing selected elements that have a large number of child elements. The bug was first reported by a security researcher in early January, but he only succeeded in exploiting it to crash the browser. VUPEN appears to have

succeeded in developing an exploit to inject and execute code and has therefore classified the problem as critical. The bug has been confirmed in Opera 11.00 and earlier, and 10.63 and earlier for Windows 7 and XP SP3. Currently, there is no patch or update for the problem.

Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/Critical-vulnerability-in-Opera-web-browser-1175689.html>

54. *January 24, Softpedia* – (International) **‘Guy Kills Girlfriend’ scams spread virally on Facebook.** Security researchers warn of several Facebook scams that lure users onto deceptive survey pages via fake news headlines about a man killing his girlfriend. The links take users to pages promoting rogue Facebook apps. In one case, the page promotes a fake news application and displays a message reading “She had forgotten to close her session on the world’s biggest social network. Her boyfriend came back home early and found this message in her inbox...” This is meant to peak the user’s interest and is followed by a “Click here to read the story” link. Doing so prompts a permission dialog from the rogue application asking for permission to post on their wall. The apps are the propagation mechanisms behind these scams and will spam the victim’s friends without their knowledge. Users who end up installing them are then asked to complete surveys, usually under the pretense of security verifications, in order to see the promised content.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Guy-Kills-Girlfriend-Scams-Spread-Virally-on-Facebook-180115.shtml>

55. *January 21, H Security* – (International) **Twitter scareware wave.** An apparently large number of links leading to scareware sites were spread via Twitter January 20. The page links were disguised using short URLs from goo.gl and advertised as “Cool”, “Very Nice,” or “Google’s search page has done it again” in varying tweets by different users. Clicking on the link transferred users to a Web site that pretended to find numerous viruses after performing a bogus scan on a Windows PC. According to the Internet Storm Center, one of the files offered to solve the alleged problem contained in the SecurityShieldFraud scareware. Once installed, the malware contacted other servers; no further functional details have become available yet. It remains unknown how many Windows users have fallen victim to the attack. Whether the attackers used hacked accounts or stolen access data to send out the links via Twitter, or exploited existing Twitter accounts on infected PCs, is yet unclear. All scareware sites discovered in connection with this attack have now been shut down.

Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/Twitter-scareware-wave-1174562.html>

56. *January 21, Softpedia* – (International) **Twitter flooded with free iPhone survey scams.** Security researchers warn that waves of spam messages offering free iPhones and iPads have been flooding Twitter recently and lead users to various online scams. According to the GFI Software researchers who analyzed the attacks, the spam messages appear to be sent from both fake and compromised accounts. At their peak, the spam messages were coming in at a rate of over 1,300 per hour and read “want to find out how to get a free iphone? [link]” or “I just won a free iphone and ipad! [link].”

Some of the rogue links are displayed in full, while others are shortened via bit.ly. The links take users to pages inviting them to a trial program, which involves testing an iPhone and getting to keep it. In order to sign up for the alleged program, the site asks users to disclose their e-mail address and personal information.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Twitter-Flooded-with-Free-iPhone-Survey-Scams-179756.shtml>

For another story, see item [44](#)

### Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at [sos@us-cert.gov](mailto: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

Nothing to report

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## Commercial Facilities Sector

57. *January 24, KMGH 7 Denver* – (Colorado) **Hotel partially evacuated over suspected meth material.** A Ramada Inn in Wheat Ridge, Colorado, was partially evacuated January 23 after housekeeping staff found the suspected remnants of a methamphetamine laboratory in a room, authorities said. The hazardous materials were discovered about 8:45 a.m. as housekeepers cleaned a vacant room at the Ramada at 4700 Kipling St., a Wheat Ridge police spokeswoman said. Wheat Ridge police, an Arvada fire hazardous materials team, and paramedics responded and the north section of the hotel was evacuated, she said. The housekeeping employees were decontaminated as a precaution and released at the scene, an Arvada fire spokesman said. A hotel guest was treated at a local hospital for a condition unrelated to the hazardous materials incident. West Metro Drug Task Force investigators were analyzing the suspected drug lab materials.

Source: <http://www.thedenverchannel.com/news/26591178/detail.html>

58. *January 24, Seattle-Tacoma News Tribune* – (Washington) **2 injured, 2 dead in Walmart shooting.** Two people died and two Kitsap County sheriff's deputies were wounded January 23 after a shootout in a Walmart parking lot in Port Orchard, Washington. A third deputy shot and killed the man who unexpectedly opened fire on the deputies, a sheriff's spokesman said. Witnesses said a woman apparently tried to run to the man's aid – and directly into the line of fire – and was struck. It is unclear

whether the deputies or the gunman shot the woman. She died at Tacoma General Hospital. The wounded deputies were shot in the torso and listed in stable condition. Deputies were called about 3:40 p.m. to the Walmart at 3497 Bethel Road S.E. after someone reported a suspicious man. Two deputies approached the man, who was standing outside the store, and began talking to him. Witnesses said the man was walking with them to their patrol car and was about to be put in handcuffs when he broke free and began sprinting across the parking lot toward the woods. A witness said the man did not turn around when he fired several rounds, striking both deputies. A third deputy coming around the south side of the building fired at the fleeing gunman after seeing her colleagues were down, the spokesman said. Witnesses said dozens of people ran into the store seeking cover. Walmart employees immediately placed the store on lockdown. Walmart reopened its doors shortly after 7:30 p.m.

Source: <http://www.thenewstribune.com/2011/01/24/1514865/2-injured-2-dead-in-walmart-shooting.html>

59. *January 24, Chicago Tribune* – (Illinois) **Athletic center in Aurora evacuated.** An athletic facility in Aurora, Illinois, was evacuated January 24 for a hazardous material situation, a police spokesman said. The incident happened at about 9:15 a.m. at the Vaughn Athletic Center, 2121 W. Indian Trail, after a worker was mixing chemicals that caused an adverse reaction, a spokesman said. A few people were treated at the scene, but they did not need to be taken to hospitals, he said. It was not immediately clear what sort of chemicals were being mixed.

Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/breaking/chibrknews-athletic-center-in-aurora-evac-01242011,0,1180497.story>

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## **National Monuments and Icons Sector**

60. *January 24, Associated Press* – (South Carolina) **175-year-old building burns in Winnsboro.** A fire January 23 heavily damaged a 175-year-old building in Winnsboro, South Carolina that was listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The fire at the Thespian Hall started around 1 a.m. The brick building housed a restaurant on the ground floor and had storage on the second floor. It took more than 45 firefighters about 4 hours to get the fire under control. The cause of the fire is still under investigation.

Source: <http://www.thestate.com/2011/01/24/1661003/175-year-old-building-burns-in.html>

61. *January 24, Nashville Tennessean* – (Tennessee) **Fire damages historic Nashville home used as Civil War hospital.** A Franklin Pike historic home in Nashville, Tennessee that served as a hospital during the Civil War sustained fire damage January 23. The fire at Glen Leven, which was built in 1857, was contained to a hallway in the back of the building. The fire was reported at 9 a.m. The cause was a tree falling on the back of the property, striking an electrical wire, according to the Nashville Fire Department. Glen Leven served as a hospital for Union troops during the Battle of

Nashville.

Source: <http://www.tennessean.com/article/20110124/NEWS01/101240315/Fire-damages-historic-Nashville-home-used-as-Civil-War-hospital>

62. *January 23, AccessNorthGA.com* – (Georgia) **Several acres of forest burning in NE Georgia.** White County officials in Georgia said anywhere from 4 to 6 acres of forest have been burning off of Highway 129, near the Lumpkin County line. The fire has been burning since around 5 p.m. January 22 and is expected to burn for the next couple of days. The blaze is under control and is currently being manned by the U.S. Forest Service. Georgia Forestry initially began fighting the fire before handing it over to the federal agency.

Source: <http://www.accessnorthga.com/detail.php?n=235537>

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## Dams Sector

63. *January 24, WCHS 8 Charleston* – (Kentucky) **New tactic in dam fix will take more time, money.** Fixing Wolf Creek Dam in Russell County, Kentucky, will take more time and money than earlier thought. One spot in the nearly- 4,000-foot-long earthen part of the dam is proving difficult to repair. A contractor began work 18 months ago to seal off seepage at the dam, which impounds Lake Cumberland. Should the dam fail, it would cause the Cumberland River to flood downstream into Tennessee, threatening cities including Nashville. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers project manager said that where the earth dam meets a concrete section, a concrete barrier wall must be poured within the dam. He said the work will go slower and the price is expected to go up. The Corps does not have a new cost estimate or completion date.

Source: <http://www.wchstv.com/newsroom/ky/news4.shtml>

64. *January 22, San Gabriel Valley Tribune* – (California) **Santa Fe Dam deemed potentially unsafe by Army Corps.** The Santa Fe Dam in Irwindale, California, has been given the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' second-worst designation after a team of engineers found it was potentially dangerous. The earthen barrier protects hundreds of thousands of people in El Monte, Baldwin Park, South El Monte, La Puente, Bassett, and unincorporated Whittier from floods that deluged communities along the San Gabriel River until the Santa Fe and Whittier Narrows dams were built in the 1940s and '50s. The Santa Fe Dam in 2009 was given the Dam Safety Action Class II rating, which means "the combination of life or economic consequences with probability of failure is very high," according to Army Corps guidelines. The Whittier Narrows Dam a few miles to the south — which protects 500,000 people — earned the same designation in 2006, Army Corps officials revealed in November. Engineers said they found no major flaws in the Santa Fe Dam, but a major earthquake or massive flood could damage the earth-and-stone barrier, a dam safety officer of the Army Corps' Los Angeles District said. A new team is expected to conduct a thorough inspection of the dam in September 2011.

Source: [http://www.sgvtribune.com/news/ci\\_17168051](http://www.sgvtribune.com/news/ci_17168051)

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