



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 7 March 2011

Current Nationwide Threat Level

ELEVATED

Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks

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

Top Stories

- Agence France-Presse reports that a U.S. Navy intelligence specialist was charged March 3 with espionage after he allegedly tried to sell classified information to an undercover FBI agent. (See item [38](#))
- According to Associated Press, a heavily armed man who crashed his pickup truck in Bellmore, New York, then shot an emergency medical technician, appeared to be planning a mass killing, police said March 2. (See item [43](#))

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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. *March 4, United Press International* – (California) **San Bruno explosion may usher in new rules.** Officials probing a deadly September gas explosion in California said they hoped 3 days of hearings would usher in new safety regulations for the industry. The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) wrapped up the hearings the week of February 28 into the San Bruno natural gas pipeline explosion. Executives at Pacific Gas and Electric, the utility company responsible for the San Bruno pipeline, said they

were working on internal reforms to reduce safety risks. A federal report from January found the San Bruno pipeline was plagued by flaws in the weld seams. A vice president at the American Gas Association, said those flaws were not industry-wide problems, suggesting the San Bruno pipeline was “an anomaly.” But regulators at the NTSB said the industry needed to examine its safety records to alleviate the risk to the public, the San Jose Mercury News reported. NTSB officials said they could start calling for better pipeline shutoff valves, including remote-controlled shutoff valves that were not installed in the San Bruno line. So-called smart pigs could be placed in a pipeline to check for internal problems while awareness campaigns could better alert the public. Source: http://www.upi.com/Science_News/Resource-Wars/2011/03/04/San-Bruno-explosion-may-ushe-in-new-rules/UPI-19981299246929/

2. *March 4, San Jose Mercury News* – (California) **PG&E replaced San Bruno pipelines in 1993, but stopped one block short of doomed section.** Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) officials were so concerned about the risk of their natural gas transmission lines bursting during an earthquake that, in 1993 and 1994, they replaced 5 miles of aging underground steel pipes in San Bruno, California. However, the utility’s construction crews ended the job less than 300 yards from Glenview Drive and Earl Avenue, the site of the deadly explosion that killed eight people last September, new documents released by the National Transportation Safety Board show. Had PG&E funded a more complete seismic safety upgrade of the 1956-era pipeline, known as line 132, its workers 17 years ago would have dug up and replaced the flawed section that exploded — a section that federal investigators later found contained more than 150 welding defects. A spokesman said he does not know why PG&E did not replace the rest of line 132 as part of the job. PG&E documents show a section of line 132 at Glenview Drive and Plymouth Way was replaced, and a section of line 109, at Glenview Drive and San Bruno Avenue, less than half a mile away from the blast site, also was replaced. Source: http://www.mercurynews.com/bay-area-news/ci_17534589?nclick_check=1
3. *March 3, PIX 11 New York* – (New York) **LIE drag race ends with gas station explosion.** A March 3 drag race in Islandia, New York, where speeds reportedly reached 145 miles per hour, left one driver injured and a gas station up in flames, police said. The deputy sheriff who was parked on the Long Island Expressway looking for speeders flipped on his lights, but he was not able to catch the the two dragsters. As officers chased the racers, one vehicle spun out of control near exit 58, crashing through a fence and into the gas pumps of a Gulf gas station, sparking an explosion seconds later. Witnesses said the driver and passengers, all in their 20’s, managed to flee the vehicle before it went up in flames. The drivers of both cars were arrested and charged with engaging in an unlawful speed contest, reckless endangerment, reckless driving, criminal mischief, and fleeing from a police officer. One of the passengers was injured. Source: <http://www.wpix.com/wpix-drag-race-leaves-1-injured-gas-station-fire,0,2791992.story>

4. *March 3, Ogden Standard-Examiner* – (Utah) **Storm cuts power to over 12,000 in Weber County cities.** Power has been restored to more than 12,600 customers who were left in the dark March 3 after a storm created a problem at a substation in Ogden, Utah. Power was restored just before 9 a.m. to all customers. A spokesman for Rocky Mountain Power said a lightning strike or other weather event caused the outage. That particular substation also services other stations in the area, including the West Roy, Lincoln, Taylor, and Newgate stations, which cover Roy and Ogden cities. Crews are investigating the damage and are working to repair it.
Source: <http://www.standard.net/topics/weather/2011/03/03/storm-cuts-power-over-12000-weber-county-cities>

For more stories, see items [18](#) and [62](#)

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Chemical Industry Sector

5. *March 4, Washington Post* – (National) **Scientists want to help regulators decide safety of chemicals.** Groups representing 40,000 researchers and clinicians are urging federal agencies responsible for the safety of chemicals to examine the subtle impact a chemical might have on the human body rather than simply ask whether it is toxic. In an open letter to the Food and Drug Administration and the Environmental Protection Agency to be published March 4 in the journal *Science*, the scientists said regulatory agencies must tap into genetics, developmental biology, endocrinology, and other disciplines when they analyze the safety of chemicals used in everyday products. “Although chemical testing and risk assessment have long been the domain of toxicologists, it is clear the development of improved testing guidelines and better methods of assessing risks posed by common chemicals to which all Americans are exposed requires the expertise of a broad range of scientific and clinical disciplines,” said the letter, which was signed by eight scientific societies.
Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2011/03/03/AR2011030306639.html>
6. *March 3, GreenBiz* – (National) **BPA-free plastic may release chemicals with estrogenic activity.** The estrogenic chemical bisphenol-A (BPA) has been villified in recent years for its ubiquitous presence in numerous consumer products. But even plastic-containing products claiming to be BPA-free can leach chemicals with estrogenic activity (EA), according to a new study published in the *Environmental Health Perspectives Journal*. The leaching can get worse during regular types of use, such as microwaving or dishwashing. Researchers at Georgetown University, PlastiPure, a Texas-based plastic maker, and CertiChem, a chemical testing firm, purchased 455 plastic products made to contain food, including baby bottles, water bottles, bags and deli containers. The resin type varied, but nearly all tested positive for the leaching of chemicals with detectable levels of EA. Studies suggest exposure to EA can change the structure of many types of human cells, raising concern about adverse impacts on infants and children, including birth defects and behavioral disorders.

However, researchers contend EA-free plastic can be commercially produced at a cost in line with conventional plastic. “Many scientists believe that it is not appropriate to bet our health and that of future generations on an assumption that known cellular effects of chemicals having EA released from most plastics will have no severe adverse health effects,” researchers wrote. “Since we can identify existing, relatively-inexpensive monomers and additives that do not exhibit estrogenic activity, even when stressed, we believe that plastics having comparable physical properties but that do not release chemicals having detectable EA could be produced at minimal additional cost.” Source: <https://www.greenbiz.com/news/2011/03/03/bpa-free-plastics-release-chemicals-estrogenic-activity>

7. *March 3, KYTV 3 Springfield* – (Missouri) **Fire crews prepare for potential rail chemical spill in Springfield.** Firefighters in Springfield, Missouri, are preparing for the possibility of a railroad chemical spill. Being a railroad center means the city sees a large amount of hazardous cargo rolling through. Some of the more common chemicals shipped by train are ammonia, chlorine, and different types of fuels. Fire crews, emergency responders, and BNSF Railway are conducting training drills this month using a railroad tank car. The exercise lets agencies coordinate procedures when it comes to stopping spills and making evacuations. Source: http://articles.ky3.com/2011-03-03/chemical-spill_28652384

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

8. *March 4, Bloomberg* – (Pennsylvania) **U.S. nuclear output decreases as PPL slows Susquehanna reactor.** U.S. nuclear-power output fell 1.1 percent March 4 as PPL Corp. slowed the Susquehanna 1 reactor in Berwick, Pennsylvania, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) said. Production declined by 1,027 megawatts from March 3 to 92,023, or 91 percent of capacity, according to the NRC and data compiled by Bloomberg. Nine reactors were offline. PPL reduced production from the 1,149-megawatt Susquehanna 1 to 20 percent of capacity from 99 percent March 3 after a suspected steam leak was found, the NRC said. Another reactor at the site, the 1,140-megawatt Susquehanna 2, was operating at 94 percent of capacity. Source: <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-03-04/u-s-nuclear-output-decreases-as-ppl-slows-susquehanna-reactor.html>

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

9. *March 3, Associated Press* – (National) **Automakers monitor Michigan auto parts plant fire; GM cancels shifts, makes other changes.** General Motors Co. (GM) canceled production shifts at assembly plants in Flint, Michigan, and Lordstown, Ohio,

and made changes at several others because of a March 2 fire at the Magna auto parts plant in Howell Township, Michigan that makes interior components for a number of automakers, the company said March 3. About a quarter of the production floor and about 40 percent of the total plant was affected by the fire, said a company spokeswoman. Production was temporarily halted at the plant that makes dashboards, consoles, door panels, and other parts for GM, Ford, Chrysler, Nissan, and Mazda vehicles. Other GM plants affected by the fire March 2 include Arlington, Texas; Detroit-Hamtramck; Lansing Delta Township in Michigan; Fort Wayne, Indiana; and Oshawa Consolidated in Canada. GM said it was running shorter shifts, rescheduling production, and changing overtime plans at plants. Ford Motor Co. and Chrysler LLC said March 3 they did not have production issues related to the fire, but were monitoring the situation.

Source: <http://www.orlandosentinel.com/business/nationworld/sns-ap-us-auto-supplier-fire,0,3404978.story>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

10. *March 4, Associated Press* – (California) **NASA satellite launch goes awry.** A rocket carrying an Earth-observation satellite likely is in the Pacific Ocean after a failed launch attempt, NASA officials said March 4. The Taurus XL rocket carrying the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Glory satellite lifted off around 2:10 a.m. Pacific time from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California. Officials explained at a news conference that a protective shell or fairing atop the rocket did not separate from the satellite as it should have about 3 minutes after the launch. That left the Glory spacecraft without the velocity to reach orbit.

Source:

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748703580004576180252332597670.html>

11. *March 4, Guam News* – (International) **Guam shipyard to inspect damage on 'refloated' dry dock.** Guam Shipyard has released a statement March 4 saying their dry dock "Big Blue" has been "refloated," and it will be inspected for damage that may have occurred after its compartments were sunk in salt water for the past 2 months. The dry dock sank January 2 after workers left hatches open during a high surf advisory that allowed water to get into the dry dock and partially sink it. As Pacific News Center News reported March 3, Guam Economic Development Authority's (GEDA) acting administrator said he was informed March 3 by the Guam Shipyard president that it took about 12 hours to pump out enough water from the flooded compartments to get Big Blue back above its water line again. The acting administrator said the shipyard president told him there was still about 3 feet of water still in the tanks that must be pumped out over the next few days to dry them out and make them repairable.

Source:

http://www.pacificnewscenter.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=

[12081:guam-shipyard-to-inspect-damage-on-qrefloatedq-dry-dock&catid=45:guam-news&Itemid=156](#)

12. *March 3, New Castle News Journal* – (International) **Delaware courts: Man gets probation in Iranian sales case.** A Fountain Hills, Arizona man who attempted to sell prohibited items to the Islamic Republic of Iran has been fined \$100,000 and sentenced to 3 years' probation in U.S. District Court, the New Castle News Journal reported March 3. The man admitted guilt in November 2010 to one count of violating the International Emergency Economic Powers Act. The case against the man came as a direct result of a massive sting operation — involving Delaware and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania-based federal authorities — that resulted in the 2007 arrest of an Iranian arms merchant in the Republic of Georgia. Investigators found e-mails on the arms merchant's computer from the Arizona man involving negotiations to buy items that could not be sold to Iran under U.S. law and had military applications, including digital microwave radios. An undercover agent took over posing as an agent for Iran, and eventually, the Arizona man arranged for two shipments for approximately \$15,900 to Slovenia and Denmark, with the stated intention that this was a ruse and that the radios would then be shipped on to Iran.
Source: <http://www.delawareonline.com/article/20110304/NEWS01/103040354/Man-gets-probation-Iranian-sales-case>

For another story, see item [36](#)

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Banking and Finance Sector

13. *March 3, WFTS 29 Tampa* – (Florida) **Search for Bank Bag Bandit goes public.** Surveillance pictures were released March 2 of a man wanted by the FBI and local authorities in Tampa, Florida, for at least three bank robberies in three counties dating back to November 2010. The man dubbed the “Bank Bag Bandit” is wanted for robbing the First Citrus Bank in Tampa, Superior Bank in Spring Hill, and BB&T Bank in Pasco County. During each of the robberies, the suspect threatened the tellers with a handgun and demanded money. He wore a dark colored hat, sunglasses, mask over his face, and a dark colored jacket. According to a report, the Bank Bag Bandit fled in a gray or silver Ford F150 pick-up truck, Lariat Edition.
Source: http://www.abcactionnews.com/dpp/news/region_hillsborough/detectives-searching-for-bank-bag-bandit
14. *March 3, Boulder Daily Camera and Longmont Times-Call* – (Colorado) **Suspects arrested in Boulder, Longmont bank robberies.** Suspects are under arrest in bank robberies in Boulder and Longmont, Colorado, as investigators continue to look for any links between those crimes and two other bank robberies in Boulder the week of February 28. Boulder police issued an arrest warrant March 3 for a man on suspicion of robbing the Wells Fargo at 1690 Canyon Boulevard February 28. Also March 3, Longmont police arrested a 34-year-old Kansas man, on suspicion of robbing the Wells

Fargo bank in the Safeway at 1050 Ken Pratt Boulevard just after 6 p.m. March 1. Investigators believe he was in the state just to rob banks, a Longmont police spokesman said. The FBI and Boulder police have been investigating 3 robberies that occurred in a 24-hour period, 2 February 28 — at the Wells Fargo and a Circle K convenience store — and one March 1 at the Boulder Valley Credit Union.
Source: http://www.coloradodaily.com/cu-boulder/ci_17536139#axzz1FeAw51aG

15. *March 3, IDG News Service* – (National) **Cybercriminals targeting point-of-sale devices.** Point-of-sale (POS) payment processing devices for credit and debit cards are proving to be rich targets for cybercriminals due to lax security controls, particularly among small businesses, according to a report from Trustwave. Trustwave, which investigates payment card breaches for companies such as American Express, Visa, and MasterCard, conducted 220 investigations worldwide involving data breaches in 2010. The vast majority of those cases came down to weaknesses in POS devices. “Representing many targets and due to well-known vulnerabilities, POS systems continue to be the easiest method for criminals to obtain the data necessary to commit payment card fraud,” according to Trustwave’s Global Security Report 2011. POS devices read the magnetic stripe on the back of a card that contains account information, which is then transmitted for payment processing. Although there are rules for security controls developers should use for the devices, such as the Payment Application Data Security standard (PA-DSS), Trustwave said “these controls are rarely implemented properly.” POS devices are an attractive target for cybercriminals since the data they access from the cards is more complete, Trustwave said.
Source: http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9212882/Cybercriminals_targeting_point_of_sale_devices
16. *March 2, Cleveland Plain Dealer* – (National) **9 indicted in collapse of St. Paul Croatian Credit Union.** Nine people were indicted March 2 by a federal grand jury in Cleveland, Ohio on charges of fraud stemming from the collapse of the St. Paul Croatian Credit Union last April. Federal law enforcement officials described it as one of the largest credit union failures in American history. It cost the National Credit Union Share Insurance Fund \$170 million. Among those charged were the credit union’s chief operating officer, according to prosecutors. The man was initially charged in January with bank fraud and money-laundering and has been in jail since then. The indictment, March 2 added more charges, including bank bribery. More than 1,000 fraudulent loans, totaling more than \$70 million, to more than 300 account-holders at the credit union between 2000 and 2010, were issued, the indictment said. To conceal his scheme and to prevent the loans from appearing on the books as delinquent, the man rewrote the loans with new repayment terms using fictitious names and names of credit union members without their knowledge, the indictment said.
Source: http://blog.cleveland.com/metro/2011/03/9_indicted_in_collapse_of_east.html
17. *March 2, Minnesota Star Tribune* – (Minnesota) **Masked gunman robs third bank.** A masked gunman robbed the TCF Bank in St. Anthony, Minnesota March 1 and is suspected of a similar robbery February 28, and another January 3, the FBI said. The

suspect robbed the TCF Bank on Silver Lake Road about 7 p.m. He displayed a handgun in the lobby, ordered everyone to lie on the floor and demanded money from a teller, according to an FBI news release. He fled on foot. The man is also suspected of robbing the TCF Bank on Suburban Avenue in St. Paul February 28. He also brandished a gun in that incident. He is also a suspect in the TCF Bank robbery in West St. Paul January 3. The suspect is described as an Asian man, 5 foot 7, wearing all black clothes and a black mask.

Source: <http://www.startribune.com/local/stpaul/117266618.html>

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Transportation Sector

18. *March 4, Bloomberg* – (Texas) **Houston pilots halt vessel boarding as fog cuts visibility.** Houston Ship Channel pilots halted boarding inbound and outbound vessels in Houston, Texas, March 4 after fog limited visibility on the approach to the largest U.S. petroleum port, according to the Coast Guard Vessel Traffic Service. Boarding stopped at 12:15 a.m. local time when the fog reduced visibility, a watch supervisor with the service said in a telephone interview. As of 6 a.m., 15 Houston-bound vessels were waiting to enter the channel and 9 vessels in Houston were waiting to leave, he said. Dense fog limiting visibility to about a quarter-mile was expected to blanket the area until 8 a.m. with areas of fog persisting until 10 a.m., the U.S. National Weather Service said in a statement. Tankers use the channel connecting the Gulf of Mexico to the Port of Houston to deliver crude oil to refineries in the Houston-Texas City-Baytown area. A prolonged halt may force refiners to reduce operating rates, possibly increasing prices for refined products as companies turn to spot markets for oil.
Source: <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-03-04/houston-pilots-halt-vessel-boarding-as-fog-cuts-visibility-1-.html>

19. *March 4, KIII 3 Corpus Christi* – (Texas) **Amtrak passenger train collides with 18 wheeler in Beaumont.** Old Sour Lake Road in Beaumont Texas was reopened late March 4, after being closed for hours following the collision of an Amtrak train and an 18-wheel truck. The train is now on its way to New Orleans, although the railroad crossing is still closed. The accident was reported just before 7:30 am on tracks near Meeker Road and old Sour Lake Road. A Jefferson County Sheriff's Office spokesman said the 18 wheeler was transporting oil field equipment and pipe. The flatbed truck attempted to drive over the steep railway crossing and was stuck. The train slowed down and was nearly stopped when it collided with the truck, giving the truck driver time to escape before the impact. Though the train was full of passengers, nobody was hurt. Crews remained on the scene late March 4, cleaning up pipe the wrecked truck was transporting.
Source: <http://www.kiiitv.com/Global/story.asp?S=14186558>

20. *March 3, BBC News* – (International) **US and Mexico reach proposed deal over trucking dispute.** The U.S. President said March 3 the United States and Mexico had reached a deal that would allow Mexican trucks to cross the U.S. border, ending a long standing dispute. “After nearly 20 years, we finally have found a clear path to resolving the dispute over trucking between our two countries,” the U.S. President said after his fifth meeting with the Mexican president. As part of the 1994 North American Free Trade Agreement, the U.S. vowed to let Mexican haulers deliver goods across the border. But the issue has been the subject of fierce political wrangling, with U.S. truckers arguing it would cost jobs in southwestern states, and expressing fears over border security. Importers, meanwhile, argue the deal would throw open opportunities for new cross-border business. A pilot project that allowed trucks to cross the 2,000-mile frontier was scrapped in 2009, leading Mexico to impose retaliatory sanctions on nearly 90 U.S. products.

Source: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-us-canada-12640830>

21. *March 3, WXXA 23 Albany* – (New York) **Scare at Albany International Airport.** A scare at Albany International Airport in Albany, New York, March 3 led to the evacuation of part of the main terminal due to a noxious odor. Just before noon, employees noticed the smell of acid coming from the airport’s communications room, which houses the back up power supply for the airport’s entire phone system. Several fire departments and rescue crews were called to the scene, including the Albany haz-mat team. They discovered that eight batteries, the size of those found in a car, were cracked. The baggage claim area was closed down while crews cleared the scene, causing some delays for passengers waiting for their luggage. All together, passengers from about a dozen flights had to wait for their bags. The airport was given the green light to reopen baggage claim just after 2 p.m.

Source: <http://www.fox23news.com/news/local/story/Scare-at-Albany-International-Airport/Ii8VJDeQ9kGLx5y3thnoeg.csp>

For another story, see item [1](#)

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Postal and Shipping Sector

22. *March 4, Press of Atlantic City* – (New Jersey) **Trump Plaza, Tropicana report suspicious letters to police.** Two letters caused a small security alert March 2 at two Atlantic City, New Jersey, casinos, but officials determined there was no threat to the public. Trump Plaza Hotel and Casino received a suspicious letter shortly after 9:30 a.m. from a northern New Jersey resident who wrote several handwritten pages, city police said. The letter was deemed suspicious because it was not addressed to anyone at the casino and there was no return address, police said. A member of the police department’s bomb squad retrieved the letter and transported it to police headquarters for further analysis. Tropicana Casino and Resort received a letter an hour later, shortly after 10:30 a.m., from a person who complained about a recent trip to Atlantic City, police said. Casino officials contacted police because of the letter delivered to Trump

Plaza. A police spokesperson said neither letter contained threats nor demands, and police do not believe the same person wrote the letters. The letters did not cause any evacuations or disruptions at the casinos, she said.

Source: http://www.pressofatlanticcity.com/news/press/atlantic_city/trump-plaza-tropicana-report-suspicious-letters-to-police/article_5830eb6e-45f0-11e0-a20b-001cc4c002e0.html

23. *March 4, WAFF 48 Huntsville* – (Alabama) **UNA building re-opens after hazmat investigation.** Stevens Hall on the campus of University of North Alabama (UNA) in Florence, Alabama reopened March 4 after it was closed due to a hazmat investigation March 3. Stevens Hall and three UNA staff members were decontaminated and cleared following an investigation of a suspicious substance found in the building. UNA police were notified of a threatening letter addressed to a UNA faculty member and containing a suspicious substance that was delivered to the fifth floor. The building was quickly cleared, ventilation systems shut down and the campus community notified of the situation via the university's Lion Alert system. Three staff members were held for decontamination. The UNA Police worked on the case in cooperation with Colbert County Hazmat, the Florence Police Department, the Florence Fire Department, the FBI, the county emergency management agency, DHS, and the Alabama Department of Public Health. The letter and envelope containing the suspicious substance were sent to a forensic lab for further investigation.

Source: <http://www.waff.com/Global/story.asp?S=14186819>

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Agriculture and Food Sector

24. *March 4, Associated Press* – (Oregon; International) **Monem, in Iran, calls bribes a 'mistake'.** An Oregon fugitive accused of taking bribes as a state official and now believed to be hiding in Iran has told a Portland newspaper he is willing to serve a short prison sentence for what he called a "mistake" in one of the largest public corruption cases in state history. The 52-year-old suspect is wanted on federal charges he took \$1.2 million in kickbacks from vendors selling distressed foods to the state corrections department, the Oregonian reported. In recent e-mails to the newspaper, the man said he never cheated the state. Court records show the man took kickbacks from five vendors from 2000 to 2006. The vendors sold foods pulled out of normal distribution channels because expiration dates were reached, packaging was wrong, or manufacturers were overstocked. The foods were deeply discounted, and allowed the suspect to drive down the costs of feeding Oregon's 14,000 inmates. Vendors paid bribes to the man in cash, delivered to his Salem home by courier, or given to him directly during trips to Las Vegas, Nevada. Federal agents found more than \$500,000 in cash when they searched the man's home and safe deposit boxes in early 2007.

Source:

http://www.bendbulletin.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20110304/NEWS0107/103040394/1009/NEWS01&nav_category=NEWS01

25. *March 3, NJtoday.net* – (New Jersey) **Customs officials discover destructive beetle larva.** U.S. Customs and Border Protection agriculture specialists discovered Khapra Beetle larva while inspecting a ship’s cargo at the port in Elizabeth, New Jersey, officials announced March 2. The Khapra Beetle is one of the world’s most destructive pests of grain products and seeds. During a February 15 inspection of the vessel’s dry provisions stores, a small unlabeled plastic bag of dried black beans showed signs of infestation. An adult insect, casts, and several live larvae were found inside the bag, officials said. A sample was collected and sent to U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) entomologists for final determination. USDA identified the sample as *Trogoderma granarium*. Treatment according to USDA standards must be performed on the vessel before it can return to a U.S. port. A Customs official will board the vessel upon arrival, and proof of treatment must be made available.
Source: <http://njtoday.net/2011/03/03/customs-officials-discover-destructive-beetle-larva/>
26. *March 2, The Packer* – (Florida) **Avocado pest found near south Florida production area.** Agriculture inspectors have spotted the presence of a tree-killing disease close to south Florida’s avocado production region. The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services has discovered laurel wilt disease, a fungus that destroys red bay and avocado trees, on three swamp bay trees in south Miami-Dade County. The finding is 7 miles north of the state’s commercial avocado production region near Homestead and Florida City. An administrator of the Florida Avocado Administrative Committee, Homestead, said the finding was not too far south of where trappers in 2010 spotted the bug in the central-west side of Miami-Dade County. “No one is panicking,” the administrator said. “It’s not near the growing area yet and (the finding) is just an informational thing.” The public information director with the Tallahassee-based agency said inspectors will begin aerial surveys to determine how far the disease has spread. She said the department met with an industry working group February 25 to address concerns on what the agency is doing to increase trapping and prevent the advance of the disease, which is spread by the redbay ambrosia beetle.
Source: <http://thepacker.com/Avocado-pest-found-near-south-Florida-production-area/Article.aspx?oid=1310342&fid=PACKER-CROPS-AND-MARKETS&aid=657>

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Water Sector

27. *March 3, Atlanta Journal-Constitution* – (Georgia) **Sewage spills reported in Snapfinger, Indian creeks.** Almost 15,000 gallons of raw sewage spilled into DeKalb County, Georgia, waters March 2, county reports show. The county’s watershed management department reported an 11,390-gallon spill into the Indian Creek. The spill occurred in the 3400 block of Kensington Road in Decatur, officials said. About 3,360 gallons of raw sewage also spilled into Snapfinger Creek in the 4100 block of Rockbridge Heights Drive in Stone Mountain. In December, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency mandated DeKalb upgrade its sewer system after the county

reported more than 800 raw sewage spills in 5 years.

Source: <http://www.ajc.com/news/dekalb/sewage-spills-reported-in-859559.html>

28. *March 2, WIS 10 Columbia* – (South Carolina) **DHEC: Grease which clogged sewer line may have been intentionally dumped.** The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) is trying to figure out exactly how much sewage ended up in Stoops Creek, and eventually into the Congaree River after the latest sewer overflow from Alpine Utilities. DHEC said their best estimate puts the spill at more than 5,000 gallons. DHEC wants to know how so much grease got into a sewage line that it totally clogged the system. It happened March 1 when DHEC said an Alpine Utilities worker noticed one of the plant's intake lines had run dry. A huge grease clog inside a main sewage line that dumps raw sewage into the treatment plant clogged the system. DHEC said one possibility is rain water washed down grease balls from residential drains, which collected in the main line all at once. "Another thing that we look at is, could this have been something that was deliberately put into the line," he said. "We've had situations in parts of the state where grease haulers, or septic tank haulers who didn't want to pay to have the waste properly treated, may open up a manhole cover somewhere and empty their tank just by putting their line into that manhole and pumping out," he said.

Source: <http://www.wistv.com/Global/story.asp?S=14175215>

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

29. *March 4, Associated Press* – (West Virginia) **Huntington hospital says some patients exposed to higher than recommended radiation.** Officials at a Huntington, West Virginia, hospital said some patients were exposed to higher than recommended levels of radiation between October 2009 and November 2010. Cabell Huntington Hospital administrators declined to say how many patients undergoing a CT angiography procedure were exposed to the high radiation levels. They said in a written statement that all the patients have been contacted and advised to discuss the matter with their primary care physicians. According to the Charleston Gazette, the hospital said side effects can include reddening of the scalp and temporary, localized hair loss, but there is no immediate danger to the patients' health.

Source:

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/2ca3588c90964522b15be927fdda62bb/WV--Hospital-Radiation/>

30. *March 4, Global Security Newswire* – (National) **Auditors call for U.S. biodefense coordinator.** The White House should weigh establishing a mechanism for coordinating the nation's widely dispersed biological defense initiatives, the U.S. Government Accountability Office asserted in a report released March 1. While a number of federal entities and more than 20 political appointees assume some role in countering the potential deliberate or natural spread of hazardous biological agents, "there is no individual or entity with responsibility, authority, and accountability for

overseeing the entire biodefense enterprise,” the Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy quoted the assessment as saying. Different sets of government organizations help the nation meet goals in each of four primary biological defense objectives, identified by congressional investigators as “threat awareness,” “prevention and protection,” “surveillance and detection,” and “response and recovery.” A central planning entity and overarching plan would help streamline federal biological defense efforts and ensure they meet goals, the report said.

Source: http://gsn.nti.org/gsn/nw_20110304_1526.php

31. *March 4, CNN* – (Massachusetts) **Doctor accused of giving drugs that led to deaths of 6 men.** A Massachusetts doctor and his nurse face charges they conspired to distribute controlled substances, a practice authorities claimed led to the deaths of six patients, according to a criminal indictment released March 3. The two — both of whom practiced in Needham — appeared in a federal court March 3. They will be charged with one count of conspiracy to distribute methadone, oxycodone, and fentanyl, as well as seven counts for the distribution of controlled substances. Six men died between February 2004 and September 2006 after overdosing on methadone prescriptions. The men ranged in age from 26 to 49 at the times of their deaths, according to the indictment. Many of the prescriptions were given despite indications the patients were abusing, misusing, or illegally distributing drugs, the indictment alleges. Prosecutors further contend the distribution of the drugs led to the addiction, deteriorated health, overdoses and — ultimately — deaths of the men.
Source: <http://edition.cnn.com/2011/CRIME/03/03/massachusetts.medical.deaths/>
32. *March 3, Los Angeles Daily News* – (California) **Fire forces some 100 patients to evacuate at Garfield Medical Center.** About 100 patients were evacuated March 3 when an electrical fire broke out at Garfield Medical Center in Monterey Park, California, but no one was hurt, a fire captain said. The smoky fire was reported in a third-floor utility at 7:21 a.m. at the hospital at 525 N. Garfield Avenue, and firefighters put it out in 13 minutes, a Monterey Park fire official said. Smoke was reported on the third and fourth floors, but the fire was confined to the utility room. About 70 patients were evacuated from the third floor, and about 30 patients were evacuated from the fourth floor, he said.
Source: http://www.dailynews.com/news/ci_17530168
33. *March 3, Honolulu Civil Beat* – (Hawaii) **State investigating violations related to medical waste.** The Hawaii Department of Health is conducting an investigation involving medical waste records, a spokeswoman told Civil Beat. The handling of medical waste at Honolulu’s landfill became a public concern 7 weeks ago when landfill operators released contaminated stormwater from Waimanalo Gulch into the ocean. Health officials said the medical waste that washed ashore beaches as a result was non-infectious, and assured the public it had been sanitized. The department told Civil Beat in January it had reviewed records showing medical waste had been sanitized but did not retain them. On March 1, a Health Department spokeswoman sent an e-mail saying the department now had the records, and that they are part of a health department investigation and possible enforcement case.

Source: <http://www.civilbeat.com/posts/2011/03/03/9399-state-investigating-violations-related-to-medical-waste/>

34. *March 2, Miami Herald* – (Florida) **Second case of locally acquired dengue fever confirmed in Miami-Dade.** A second case of locally acquired dengue fever has been confirmed, the Miami-Dade County, Florida, Health Department said March 2. The person who contracted the illness has fully recovered, the health department said. The first locally acquired case in the county in 50 years was confirmed in November.
Source: <http://www.miamiherald.com/2011/03/02/2094205/second-case-of-locally-acquired.html>

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Government Facilities Sector

35. *March 4, BBC News* – (International) **South Korea hit by cyber attacks.** South Korea has been hit by a series of cyber attacks that targeted some of the country's leading Web sites. Government ministries, the national assembly, the military headquarters, U.S. military forces in Korea, and major banks were among those hit. It is believed the attackers injected malware into two peer-to-peer file-sharing Web sites. The attacks are similar to those that targeted South Korean Web sites in July 2009. Some 29 institutions were affected by so-called distributed denial-of-service attacks (DDoS), which overload a site with data causing it to fall over. The Web page of the financial services commission, the country's financial regulator, was overloaded and an online stock trading system was shut down for a few minutes, but both soon recovered, according to government sources. South Korean security firm AhnLab expected another wave of attacks March 4, targeting up to 40 government and corporate Web sites. It estimates that up to 11,000 personal computers were infected by malware and recruited for the attack. It is distributing free software to clean PCs. The South Korean cyber investigation unit has sent investigators to the two file-sharing sites believed to have spread the malicious code, according to the national police agency.
Source: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-12646052>
36. *March 4, Salt Lake City Deseret News* – (Utah) **Army to use chamber to safely blow up unstable chemical munitions stored in Tooele.** High-tech equipment has arrived in Utah that is intended to give the U.S. Army a safe way to blow up corroded chemical munitions with no harm to people or the environment. The plan to blow-up about 300 artillery shells and mortar rounds that contain mustard agent is a big change of direction at the Deseret Chemical Depot incinerator complex, where for 15 years the Army has been destroying Utah's share of the nation's chemical weapons stockpile — 1.1 million weapons containing lethal chemical agents. The primary technique has been to cut the munitions open, drain the agents and send the materials into two separate furnaces. That process will be finished later in 2011. But the plant's operators were surprised to discover several hundred munitions that were considered too corroded and too unstable to put through the incinerator process. The solution they found is to wrap the munitions with explosives and detonate them inside a chamber engineered to safely

contain the explosion. The detonation chamber is expected to be moved to Tooele County, Utah, over the weekend of March 5. Testing is planned to take place in the summer, and detonations are expected in September. The plan is still awaiting final approval from state and federal agencies.

Source: <http://www.deseretnews.com/article/705367985/Army-to-use-chamber-to-safely-blow-up-unstable-chemical-munitions-stored-in-Tooele.html>

37. *March 3, KDFW 4 Dallas-Forth Worth* – (Texas) **Student poisoned teacher, investigators say.** A teacher from Plumb Creek Elementary in Joshua, Texas is recovering after drinking some tainted tea. Law enforcement officials said she was poisoned by one of her students. The sixth grade teacher became violently ill the night of March 1. The same day, investigators from the Johnson County Sheriff's Department said one of her students spiked her drink with a chemical used in detergents. "The student was able to obtain sodium carbonate from a science kit in a small quantity and put it into tea the teacher was drinking," a police captain said. In a small dose, the chemical can make a person sick; in large doses it can be deadly. When the teacher did not show up at school March 2, some of her students became concerned because they had heard about the poisoning plot, so they told administrators. The police captain said initially the 12-year-old boy responsible denied it. But eventually he admitted putting the sodium carbonate in the drink. The boy is being held in a juvenile detention facility. He is charged with assault on a public servant.

Source: <http://www.myfoxdfw.com/dpp/news/education/030311-student-poisoned-teacher,-investigators-say>

38. *March 3, Agence France-Presse* – (National) **U.S. Navy officer charged with espionage.** A U.S. Navy intelligence specialist was charged March 3 with espionage after he allegedly tried to sell classified information to an undercover FBI agent, officials said. The Specialist 2nd Class faced charges of attempting to forward classified information to a person not authorized to receive such information, the U.S. Navy said in a statement. A court-martial date has not yet been set, but the man was charged with 4 specifications of attempted espionage, and 11 specifications of mishandling classified information. FBI and Naval Criminal Investigative Service agents apprehended the man December 1 in Fayetteville, North Carolina, after being suspected of trying to sell information marked "secret" and "top secret." He is currently held at Naval Brig Norfolk in Virginia. All charges stemmed from incidents that took place when the man was assigned to the Expeditionary Combat Readiness Center at Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek in Fort Story, Virginia, according to the Navy.

Source:

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5iInttW6TvVzQ2pZV5SAPFcNTHosg?docId=CNG.392b3b6876d28b9fdef7cc1c3a51c09d.2b1>

39. *March 3, KSMU 91.1 FM Springfield* – (Missouri) **Security breach leads to over 6,000 MSU students' personal information appearing online.** Students and Missouri State University officials are on high alert after a recent information security breach at the university's college of education. In October and November of 2010, the college prepared a list of students by semester in preparation for its accreditation process. The

lists included the names and Social Security numbers of students for nine semesters between 2005 and 2009 and were intended to be available to university personnel on secure servers. However, according to a university press release, it was discovered February 22 that at some point in October or November all 9 lists, containing 6,030 students, were accidentally posted on Google by a university employee. “We had an individual that was on Google searching for a classmate that all of the sudden got a hit on their name and the list came up and she felt obligated to call us and let us know,” the chief information officer at Missouri State said. While attempting to contact the students, the university has worked closely with Google to remove all nine lists. Missouri State officials have also offered to pay consumer identity theft protection insurance.

Source: <http://www.ksmu.org/content/view/8209/2/>

40. *March 3, Associated Press* – (Wisconsin) **Wisconsin Senate Dems threatened with police roundup, worker layoffs if they fail to return.** Wisconsin’s governor threatened March 3 to issue thousands of layoff notices within 24 hours if Senate Democrats who fled to Illinois fail to return for a vote on a measure that would cripple public unions, and their Republican colleagues also stepped up the pressure by authorizing police to round up the missing lawmakers. The efforts marked the most drastic steps in the standoff that has extended more than 2 weeks, halting action on the governor’s plan to end most collective bargaining for state workers, which he said is critical to solving the state’s budget crisis. Also March 3, police said they found 41 rounds of .22-caliber rifle ammunition scattered at several locations outside the capitol. The revelation came during a court hearing over public access to the building, and a county judge signaled he would order 100 protesters who had been spending the night there for weeks to leave by that evening.

Source: <http://www.newser.com/article/d9lo2nvg0/wisconsin-senate-dems-threatened-with-police-roundup-worker-layoffs-if-they-fail-to-return.html>

41. *March 3, Los Angeles Times* – (National) **Soldier in WikiLeaks case charged with aiding the enemy.** The U.S. Army has charged the soldier suspected of leaking thousands of documents published by WikiLeaks, with aiding and giving intelligence to the enemy, a significant escalation of the government’s prosecution of the junior intelligence analyst. As part of 22 additional counts filed against the suspect, Army prosecutors said he “wrongfully and wantonly” caused intelligence to be published on the Internet, with the knowledge it would be “accessible to the enemy.” Aiding the enemy is a capital offense under the Uniform Code of Military Justice. In a March 2 statement, the Army said prosecutors did not plan to recommend the suspect receive the death penalty if convicted. But he could face life in prison. The new charges reflect the expanding U.S. investigation into the disclosures, which U.S. officials said is aimed at punishing not only those who provided the information to WikiLeaks, but also members of the secretive organization, including its founder. The suspect remains the only person charged in the case, but U.S. officials said the Justice Department is examining possible charges in civilian courts in connection with the disclosures.

Source: <http://articles.latimes.com/2011/mar/03/nation/la-na-wikileaks-manning-20110303>

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Emergency Services Sector

42. *March 4, Associated Press* – (Nebraska) **Firefighters taken to hospital after explosion in Lincoln.** Fire officials said 18 firefighters were taken to a hospital March 3 for a possible chemical exposure after an explosion inside a business that applies spray-on truck bed liners in Lincoln, Nebraska. The acting battalion chief stated it is a precautionary move, and the firefighters will be observed for several hours to make sure they are alright. The blast at Line-X happened just before noon. Officials said a vehicle was on fire inside the business. The fire was contained by a sprinkler system and extinguished. Officials said there is a concern some of the chemical used in the spraying process may have been in the smoke from the fire, and that some firefighters may have been exposed to it. The cause of the fire is under investigation.
Source: <http://www.action3news.com/Global/story.asp?S=14185362>
43. *March 3, Associated Press* – (New York) **N.Y. police: Gunman had planned mass murder.** A heavily armed man who crashed his pickup truck in Bellmore, New York, then shot an emergency medical technician (EMT) responding to the accident before being killed by police, appeared to be planning a mass killing, police said March 2. The man had a rifle strapped to his chest, and extra ammunition inserted in elongated wristbands on his arms, the Nassau County Police Commissioner told reporters. He had six weapons in his possession, including a Tec-9 automatic pistol. Shooting erupted at about 10 p.m. March 1, after the man hit a utility pole with his truck. When the volunteer ambulance crew arrived, he fired at least eight shots at them from an assault rifle, wounding the EMT. Police responding to the crash then fatally shot the man when he threatened them.
Source: <http://officer.com/online/article.jsp?siteSection=1&id=57108>
44. *March 3, Bakersfield Californian* – (California) **Bakersfield man charged with lasering sheriff's helicopter.** A federal grand jury in Fresno, California, returned an indictment March 3 charging a man from Bakersfield with interfering with the safe operation of a Kern County Sheriff's Department helicopter by shining a hand-held laser into the cockpit, a U.S. attorney announced in a release. The case is the product of a joint investigation conducted by the FBI, the Bakersfield Police Department, and the Kern County Sheriff's Office, as part of the Bakersfield Laser Strike Working Group. Court documents and hearings in the case indicate a powerful green laser beam tracked a Kern County Sheriff's Department helicopter during a routine patrol over Bakersfield November 6, 2010. The beam struck the cockpit four times while the aircraft was flying 500 feet above the ground and temporarily blinded and disoriented the pilot and spotter, causing the aircraft to veer off course. The pilot and spotter were able to pinpoint the origin of the laser beam to the suspect's residence, where Bakersfield Police officers found the suspect, who retrieved the laser from within his residence and handed it to the officers. The suspect remains in custody. If convicted, he faces a maximum prison

sentence of 20 years and a \$250,000 fine.

Source: http://www.bakersfield.com/blogs/breaking_news/x2098053019/Bakersfield-man-charged-with-lasering-sheriffs-helicopter

45. *March 1, WTVJ 6 Miami* – (Florida) **Rescue me: Firefighters targeted by ID thief.** A South Florida man has been arrested in what authorities said is a scheme to steal the identities of hundreds of firefighters in the area, WTVJ reported March 1. The suspect was charged with 12 counts of using another person's identity without their consent after police discovered nearly 20 pre-paid debit cards in his car, most with the names of firefighters on them. He is likely just one part of a band of thieves who hacked into a local firefighter database and stole personal information of hundreds of local heroes. So far, 31 Oakland Park firefighters said they were victimized by an ID thief who filed false tax returns and collected the cash. The victims found out when they tried to file legitimate tax returns this year. Delray Beach firefighters were also scammed. Federal agents said the common link is the two fire departments use the same retirement plan administrator. The suspect was caught at an ATM withdrawing \$400 with a fraudulent debit card. Police officers linked to the retirement funds are also at risk, agents said.
Source: <http://www.nbcmiami.com/news/local/Firefighters-Victims-Of-Mass-ID-Theft-117097383.html>

46. *March 1, Pryor Daily Times* – (Oklahoma) **Explosives plot exposed.** A lengthy investigation unveiled a plot to blow up a Pryor, Oklahoma detective's home, the Pryor Daily Times reported March 1. As a result, a suspect has been charged with planning a cause of action to cause serious bodily harm or death. According to the probable cause affidavit for the arrest, law enforcement first suspected the plot when a Pryor police detective received a note January 27 from a Mayes County inmate. The note said the suspect was planning to retrieve hidden explosives, blasting caps, and electronic detonators when he got out of jail. The inmate said the suspect planned to use the explosives to blow up the detective's home. According to the affidavit, the inmate had knowledge of the location of C4 explosives because he had hidden them under a concrete slab behind his mother's house. The inmate said he and another individual put the C4 under the slab 10 years ago, and the suspect had gotten word on the location of the explosives. Authorities continue to search for the explosives, but the evidence was sufficient to charge the suspect.
Source: <http://pryordailytimes.com/local/x186204403/Explosives-plot-exposed>

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Information Technology Sector

47. *March 4, Help Net Security* – (International) **Trojans still top malware threat.** Continuing a trend observed since the summer of 2010, the same types of Trojan horse programs have persistently dominated the threat landscape through February 2011, according to GFI Software. Statistics show Trojans made up 6 of the

top 10 malware threats of February. Trojans detected as Trojan(dot)Win32(dot)Generic!BT continue to be the number one threat, accounting for 22.97 percent of total detections. This is an increase from the 21.38 percent in January and 21.93 percent in December of total threats detected. These Trojans are downloaders associated with rogue security programs known as “scareware.” Once they are on a user’s system, these programs perform a fake scan of a victim’s computer for malware then display false warnings that the machine is infected in an attempt to convince victims to purchase fake security software.

Source: http://www.net-security.org/malware_news.php?id=1655

48. *March 4, V3.co.uk* – (International) **DroidDream Android malware contains hidden payload.** A closer analysis of the DroidDream malware found embedded in applications on the Android Market shows a second payload that may cause further security problems. The chief technical officer at Lookout, told V3.co.uk that the DroidDream software searches for a specific package named com(dot)android.providers(dot)downloadsmanager. If this is not present, it installs a second piece of code. Analysis of this second payload is continuing, but could be the underpinnings to create a botnet. “We’re still analyzing the application, so I’ll draw a line between what we know for sure. So far this code has used an exploit to route the phone and break out of the security sandbox,” Lookout’s chief technical officer said. Source: <http://www.v3.co.uk/v3/news/2275100/droiddream-android-malware>

49. *March 3, Darkreading* – (International) **WordPress hit by multigigabit DDoS attack.** The WordPress blog hosting service came back online March 3 after several hours of pummeling by a relentless distributed denial-of-service (DDoS) attack that either slowed or knocked offline its 18 million blogs. This was the largest DDoS attack ever against WordPress, reaching the capacity of multigigabits per second and tens of millions of packets per second, according to WordPress’ Twitter update. The attack took its toll on all three of the site’s data centers, which are based in Chicago, Illinois, and San Antonio and Dallas, Texas. WordPress told Sophos it received outside help in thwarting the attack. “The DDoS is too large for us to mitigate directly, so we’ve been collaborating with our upstream providers and relying on their intervention. This is a precision interventional, so potentially the attack could be shifted around it,” according to WordPress. “This is the largest and most sustained attack we’ve seen in our 6-year history. We suspect it may have been politically motivated against one of our non-English blogs, but we’re still investigating and have no definitive evidence yet,” WordPress’s founder told CNET. Source: <http://www.darkreading.com/security-monitoring/167901086/security/attacks-breaches/229300167/wordpress-hit-by-multigigabit-ddos-attack.html>

50. *March 3, Computerworld* – (International) **Microsoft pushes anti-AutoRun update at XP, Vista users.** Microsoft the week of February 21 changed how it delivers an update that disables AutoRun, a Windows feature worms, including Conficker and Stuxnet, have used to infect millions of PCs. The company is now pushing the update to Windows XP and Vista users automatically. When Microsoft first deployed the update February 8, it said the patch would be offered as an optional download. To retrieve it,

users had to manually checkmark the “KB971029” update in the “Software, Optional” section of Windows Update in XP, or in Vista’s Windows Update panel under “Important.” But the week of February 21, Microsoft changed those rules and began feeding users the update through the Automatic Updates feature of Windows Update, which automatically downloads and installs hotfixes and other software upgrades. Microsoft’s move to cripple AutoRun is a response to the malware’s continued reliance on infection tactics that abuse AutoRun and AutoPlay, the technologies that automatically launch executable files on removable media, especially USB flash drives.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9212938/Microsoft_pushes_anti_AutoRun_update_at_XP_Vista_users

51. *March 2, The Register* – (International) **Rogue AV pimps finally show love for alternative browsers.** Mozilla Firefox, Google Chrome, and Apple Safari are beginning to see ad distributing malware that are disguised as legitimate antivirus programs with the look and feel of the browser itself. A security researcher from Zscaler recently uncovered a campaign tailored to the browser that the intended victim is using. Those with Internet Explorer (IE) will see the same graphic depicting a Windows 7 security alert, but when a person is using Firefox, the image contains internal Firefox elements in the source code and also spoofs the security warning the browser shows when users attempt to navigate to an address known to be malicious, a senior security researcher at Zscaler said. When the intended target visits the page with Chrome, the ruse looks altogether different. The first screen shows a warning window bearing the browser’s distinctive logo and the words “Chrome Security has found critical process activity on your system and will perform fast scan of system files.” The user then sees what purports to be a Chrome window showing a virus scan. Safari is also spoofed, although with significantly less effort. The scan page defaults to the look and feel of IE. The ads are an attempt to trick visitors into believing they have infections that can be cured by the software being offered in the ad.
- Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/03/02/rogue_av_mimics_firefox/

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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

52. *March 4, Broadbandbreakfast.com* – (Texas; National) **Feds arrest operator of Web site accused of pirating live streams of copyrighted sporting events.** Federal

authorities March 3 followed up their previous technical attempt to curtail online piracy with the confiscation of domain names by arresting a man accused of operating the Web site at one of those domains. Federal authorities are charging the suspect, 32, of Deer Park, Texas, of pirating live streams of sporting events and pay-per-view programs at [channelsurfing\(dot\)net](http://channelsurfing(dot)net). The feds said March 3, that a Homeland Security investigation found the suspect made more than \$90,000 in profits from online merchants who paid to advertise on the site. [Channelsurfing\(dot\)net](http://channelsurfing(dot)net) was an online portal to pirated telecasts of games owned by the National Football League, the National Basketball Association, the National Hockey League, World Wrestling Entertainment, and Ultimate Fighting Championship, according to the criminal complaint unsealed March 3, in a federal district court in New York. If convicted, the suspect faces a maximum prison sentence of 5 years.

Source: <http://broadbandbreakfast.com/2011/03/feds-arrest-operator-of-web-site-accused-of-pirating-live-streams-of-copyrighted-sporting-events/>

53. *March 3, National Journal* – (National) **FCC votes to review TV retransmissionnegotiation rules.** The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) made no immediate changes to retransmission rules March 3, but the panel’s members warned broadcasters and cable companies not to use the FCC’s decision to review the rules as an excuse to back out of negotiations. The commission unanimously voted to consider and seek comment on potential changes to TV retransmission rules, which govern how cable companies or other video distributors retransmit broadcast stations. Recent high-profile disputes between cable and satellite TV carriers and broadcasters have led to millions of viewers in the dark when programming is pulled. And right now a spat between Dish Network Corp. and Lin TV Corp. is threatening to cause another “blackout.” Among the potential changes to be examined are measures that would provide more guidance about good-faith negotiating requirements, improve notice requirements for consumers, and eliminating rules that provide for contract enforcement through the FCC, rather than through the courts.

Source: <http://techdailydose.nationaljournal.com/2011/03/fcc-votes-to-review-tv-retrans.php>

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Commercial Facilities Sector

54. *March 4, Homeland Security News Wire* – (International) **Building codes increasingly unable to withstand extreme weather.** Basic infrastructure around the world has had increasing difficulty in withstanding more extreme weather patterns. With record snow falls in the Northeastern United States, hundreds of roofs have collapsed under the weight of snow showering bystanders with debris and even crushing cows and tractors. In a high profile case, the Metrodome collapsed after 18 inches of heavy snow fell in Minneapolis, while in Hungary, several weeks of sustained rainfall caused a wall holding toxic red sludge to collapse, sending a torrent of toxic waste into nearby villages. The increasing prevalence of these types of infrastructure failures has engineers and insurers worried. Many believe global warming is behind the increasing

frequency of extreme weather events such as floods, storms, and droughts that have strained infrastructure. According to Munich Re, one of the world's largest insurance companies, weather-related incidents serious enough to cause property damage have risen sharply since 1980. The company said that extreme floods and windstorms have approximately tripled, while the number of days with heavy rainfall in South America, North America, and parts of Europe has also increased.

Source: <http://homelandsecuritynewswire.com/building-codes-increasingly-unable-withstand-extreme-weather>

55. *March 4, WPIX 11 New York* – (New York) **4-alarm fire consumes church, 3 firefighters injured.** A four-alarm fire erupted at a Brooklyn, New York church March 4, consuming it and spreading to four neighboring buildings. Fire officials said the blaze was reported just before 5 a.m. at the MT Horeb Spiritual Baptist Church, located at 1108 Clarkson Avenue in Brownsville. The intense fire quickly spread to two buildings on the left and two buildings on the right of it. About 150 firefighters fought the blaze, and at least three firefighters sustained minor injuries. There were no reports of injuries to any of the residents.

Source: <http://www.wpix.com/wpix-brownsville-fire-0304,0,2026838.story>

56. *March 4, Portland Press Herald* – (Maine) **Officials scramble after roof collapse.** Kennebec Ice Arena officials scrambled March 3 to gather information on the roof collapse that destroyed their building March 2. An aerial photo taken March 3 shows the collapsed roof of the Kennebec Ice Arena in Hallowell, Maine. No one was injured when the roof fell onto the ice rink, apparently as a thickening snowpack overburdened the roof. Three people escaped as the roof caved in during a scheduled break between events. An oil- and hazardous-materials specialist for the Maine Department of Environmental Protection said 400 pounds of ammonia gas remained in the arena's refrigeration system. He said it is difficult to line up equipment to remove ammonia, which is used to freeze the ice, and the unstable structure made the job too dangerous March 3. A specialist was at the arena March 4 to isolate valves, which greatly decreased the potential for an ammonia leak, he said. Propane and oil have been removed.

Source: http://www.pressherald.com/news/officials-scramble-after-roof-collapse_2011-03-04.html

57. *March 3, Associated Press* – (Colorado) **California man accused of making false report of explosives to Steamboat ski area in Colorado.** A former Steamboat Ski and Resort Corp. employee has been arrested on suspicion of sending the Colorado Springs, Colorado resort an e-mail implying there were explosives on a ski lift. The Routt County sheriff said March 3 the 25-year-old California man allegedly confessed to sending the anonymous e-mail January 15. The sheriff told the Steamboat Pilot & Today the man was intoxicated and upset about a girlfriend breaking up with him. Prosecutors have filed felony charges of menacing and making a false report of explosives, plus misdemeanor charges of computer crime, harassment, and false reporting to authorities.

Source: <http://www.kdvr.com/news/sns-ap-co--skiresortthreat,0,3670.story>

58. *March 3, FoxNews.com* – (Illinois) **Chicago retail stores on high alert for thefts.** Chicago, Illinois retail stores were being advised to look out for unruly groups of teens who have been entering businesses, creating disturbances, and then escaping with stolen merchandise. In recent weeks, three stores were targeted by these so-called teen “flash mobs,” who coordinate their plans through Twitter, CBS Chicago reports. At a North Face store, a group of teens entered and started yelling — before they knocked over displays and grabbed nearly \$3,000 worth of clothes. The CEO and president of the Greater North Michigan Avenue Association, who oversees a popular shopping district in Chicago, said he arranged a meeting March 1 with law enforcement and representatives from 70 stores to discuss the incidents. Police said they have increased patrols near areas where teens gather and have told them they will be arrested for loitering if they do not leave the areas. Teens identified from recent incidents were charged with retail theft and reckless conduct.
Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/us/2011/03/03/chicago-retail-stores-high-alert-flash-theft-mobs/>

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

59. *March 4, Vermont Public Radio* – (Vermont) **U.S. Forest Service investigates fire.** The U.S. Forest Service (USFS) is investigating a fire that destroyed a hiking shelter March 2 on the Long Trail about a mile from Sherburne Pass in Rutland County, Vermont. The Tucker-Johnson Shelter is a lean-to structure near the intersection of the Long Trail and the Appalachian Trail in Mendon. USFS officials would not say how they found out about the fire or if they have any leads. The inn is a popular stopping place for hikers and the shelter is located in a heavily traveled area. The Tucker-Johnson shelter was built in 1969.
Source: http://www.vpr.net/news_detail/90217/
60. *March 3, Salt Lake Tribune* – (Arizona) **4 boats burn at Wahweap Marina.** The National Park Service is investigating a fire that destroyed 4 houseboats March 2 at the Wahweap Marina in Glen Canyon National Recreation area near Page, Arizona. Firefighters found the boats engulfed in flames about 4:36 p.m. A new fireboat was used to fight the flames and tow the burning boats from their marina slips to prevent the fire from spreading to neighboring vessels, according to a news release. No injuries were reported and it is believed no one was aboard any of the boats. The Glen Canyon superintendent said the fire also destroyed a personal watercraft, and a fifth houseboat sustained some damage. Preliminary damage estimates to the property and dock total \$1 million. The burned vessels were towed to the Wahweap launch ramp, which is closed to the public. The Stateline launch ramp has been opened for public use.
Source: <http://www.sltrib.com/sltrib/home/51357423-76/fire-wahweap-boats-flames.html.csp>

61. *March 3, Gainesville Sun* – (Florida) **Ocala forest fire 80 percent contained, but other fires ignite.** The Ocala National Forest wildfire in Florida was largely controlled March 3, while new — but much smaller — blazes ignited throughout the region as conditions remained prime for the land-charring fires. A spokesperson with the Ocala National Forest said March 3 the fire had burned almost 700 acres and was 80 to 85 percent contained. Meanwhile, a fire that ignited in a Gilchrist County shed burned 50 acres of grass, the Gilchrist County fire chief said. The cause of the fire is unknown. The owner of the property told firefighters the destroyed shed contained some acetylene tanks, adding that the property was being rented to someone. A brush fire broke out March 3 on Alachua County Road 237 north of Hague, with Alachua County Fire Rescue, LaCrosse firefighters, and the Florida Division of Forestry responding. Source: <http://www.gainesville.com/article/20110303/ARTICLES/110309772/-1/news?Title=Ocala-forest-fire-80-percent-contained-but-other-fires-ignite>

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Dams Sector

62. *March 4, Associated Press* – (North Carolina) **Alcoa says contested NC dams generated \$8M profit.** Alcoa Inc. said a series of North Carolina hydroelectric dams the company is fighting to continue operating generated \$8 million in profit from electricity sales last year. The company planned to release financial statements March 4 that show its Yadkin River dams have returned profits of between \$8 million and \$7.3 million in the past 3, recession-scarred years on electricity sales that have averaged around \$30 million since 2007. The figures, audited by accounting firm PricewaterhouseCoopers, and comments by an Alcoa executive offer insight into why the company is waging a determined fight with state officials for a renewed operating license of up to 50 years for its 4 dams on the Yadkin River in central North Carolina. The governor is trying to block Alcoa's federal license renewal, anticipating the river's waters may be needed by humans in the decades ahead. Officials also believe they could spur local job growth by attracting industries with dam-generated electricity. Pittsburgh-based Alcoa and its predecessors built the Yadkin River dams decades ago to supply electricity to a Stanly County aluminum smelter that once employed hundreds but has been closed for years. Alcoa now sells the electricity to commercial customers. Alcoa said those sales have been down from \$47 million in 2005 because of reduced rainfall and lower electricity demand and prices resulting from the recession. Source: <http://www.fox12idaho.com/Global/story.asp?S=14185937>
63. *March 3, Kent Reporter* – (Washington) **Army Corps begins to fill reservoir at Howard Hanson Dam.** Water managers for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers have begun slowly filling the reservoir at Howard Hanson Dam at the headwaters of the Green River in King County, Washington. As is typical, the Seattle District of the Corps slowly begins in early March allowing water levels to rise within the dam's reservoir for the annual spring fill, according to a March 2 Corps media release. During the roughly 3-month refill period, the Corps will conduct testing and in-depth investigations of the dam's current effectiveness. The current plan targets a maximum

pool elevation of 1,167 feet, unless engineers, geologists, and other scientific experts on the ground see anything troubling, in which case the reservoir level can be reduced as appropriate. Additionally, throughout the reservoir fill, the Corps will constantly monitor the operations of the facility, including special observations and tests to measure the effects of the pool on the right abutment. The Corps continues to work to repair the dam after a January 2009 storm damaged the right abutment next to the dam that limited the capacity of the dam's reservoir. The Corps expects to complete repairs by the end of 2012.

Source: http://www.pnwlocalnews.com/south_king/ken/news/117279478.html

64. *March 3, Grass Valley Union* – (California) **Details released on \$100K dam study.** As California's wild salmon population is undergoing a massive rebound, local groups backing efforts to restore the fish to its historic Yuba River habitats are anxiously waiting for an announced government study. On March 2, the Army Corps of Engineers released the details of a planned \$100,000 study of two dams on the Yuba — Daguerre Point Dam in Yuba County and Englebright Dam in western Nevada County. The purpose of the proposed \$100,000 study, to be completed in 2012, is to “investigate the needs and opportunities for ecosystem restoration to improve fish passage” at the dams “thus contributing to population recovery,” according to the report. Currently there is no way for fish to bypass Englebright. Historic studies point to salmon making their way upstream on the Yuba's south fork to Hoyt's Crossing, near the Highway 49 bridge, and steelhead as far east as the town of Washington. There is a fish ladder at Daguerre — which allows fish to ascend over a dam on a series of terraced pools — but it will be assessed in the study because it may not be adequate, the Army Corps report said.

Source:

<http://www.theunion.com/article/20110303/NEWS/110309943/1053&parentprofile=1>

65. *March 3, BBC News* – (International) **Brazil court reverses Amazon Monte Belo dam suspension.** A court in Brazil has approved a controversial hydro-electric project in the Amazon rainforest, overturning an earlier ruling. The week of February 21, a judge blocked construction of the Belo Monte dam, saying it did not meet environmental standards. But a higher court March 3 said there was no need for all conditions to be met for work to begin. Critics say the project threatens wildlife and will make thousands of people homeless. Licenses still have to be granted for the actual building of the plant, but in January, Brazilian environment agency Ibama gave the go-ahead to clear land at the site. The government said the dam is crucial for development and will create jobs, as well as provide electricity to 23 million homes. The 11,000-megawatt dam would be the third biggest in the world — after the Three Gorges in China and Itaipu, which is jointly run by Brazil and Paraguay. It has long been a source of controversy, with bidding halted three times before the state-owned Companhia Hidro Eletrica do Sao Francisco was awarded the contract last year. They say the 3.7-mile dam will threaten the survival of many indigenous groups and could make 50,000 people homeless, as 190 square miles of land would be flooded.

Source: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-latin-america-12643261>

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