



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 11 March 2011

Current Nationwide Threat Level

ELEVATED

Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks

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

Top Stories

- The Wall Street Journal reports U.S. prosecutors charged a Pakistani man with running a smuggling operation that shipped materials and equipment to agencies operating Pakistan’s nuclear program. (See item [6](#))
- According to Reuters, a Colville, Washington, man was arrested and charged with attempting to place a bomb along the parade route of a Martin Luther King Jr. holiday celebration in Spokane. (See item [54](#))

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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 10, Mobile Press Register* – (Alabama) **Theodore tornado had 120 mph winds; injury total rises to 4.** A tornado struck the intersection of Theodore Dawes and Old Pascagoula roads in Theodore, Alabama about 9 a.m. March 9. The Theodore tornado, and a damaging storm in Silverhill in Baldwin County, highlighted a day of harsh weather in southern and central Alabama that caused substantial flooding and power outages. The governor issued an emergency declaration, opening the way for the

state to aid stricken communities and seek federal assistance. The tornado flipped and smashed cars, downed power lines and ripped the awning and roof off a BP gas station. Three of the injured were inside the station, police said. An Alabama Power Co. spokesman said that at the peak, about 17,000 customers in the Mobile area were without power because of the storms. By 2 p.m., about 4,600 customers still had no power, including about 1,080 who live in the immediate vicinity of where the tornado touched down. The spokesman said power was expected to be restored to all customers by midnight.

Source: http://blog.al.com/live/2011/03/theodore_tornado_had_120_mph_winds.html

2. *March 10, Chattanooga Times Free Press* – (Tennessee) **Bledsoe diesel spill.** An environmental cleanup crew is soaking up the remains of a 200-gallon diesel spill that happened in Bledsoe County, Tennessee, when a tractor-trailer flipped over on a hairpin curve. Tennessee Highway Patrol officials were unable to provide a report or any details about the accident March 9, but environmental crews were on the scene March 9 cleaning up the mess, located less than a mile from the Sequatchie River. The spill is not believed to pose any danger to nearby residents or local water supplies, said a geologist with Chattanooga-based Marion Environmental Inc., which was called to the scene by the trucking company's insurance carrier. A spokesman said a truck hauling about 7,000 gallons of diesel fuel overturned as it climbed a steep hill on McWilliams Road just north of the county line. The spokesman said the accident could have been far worse if the tanker had burst open and lost all 7,000 gallons, or if the fuel spill had been gasoline rather than diesel.
Source: <http://timesfreepress.com/news/2011/mar/10/bledsoe-diesel-spill/>
3. *March 10, Bergen County Record* – (New Jersey) **Faulty transformer knocks out power.** A massive power outage left much of southern Bergen County, New Jersey, without electricity for about an hour March 9, authorities said. About 60,000 Public Service Electric and Gas Co. customers were affected by the outage, which happened about 9 a.m. The utility said it appeared a transformer failed at a Ridgely substation and caused several 230,000-volt transmission lines to trip, shutting substations in Ridgely and Leonia. Power was restored just before 10:10 a.m. Fort Lee was hit hardest, with more than 10,000 people and many businesses without power. The power was out for about 45 minutes in Fort Lee schools, and teachers kept students in classrooms while the schools were dark. In Teaneck, the outage was confined to the southeast quadrant, where police officers staffed major intersections because the traffic lights were out, the chief said.
Source: <http://www.istockanalyst.com/business/news/4958074/faulty-transformer-knocks-out-power>
4. *March 9, New Orleans Times-Picayune* – (Louisiana) **Ash Wednesday rainstorm floods streets, downs power lines.** The rain came March 9, hitting communities from St. Charles and Jefferson parishes through New Orleans, Louisiana, with street flooding and high winds and leaving more than 12,000 homes temporarily without power. The epicenter of the damage reported on the south shore appeared to be in and around the Grandlake neighborhood of Kenner, where downed power lines and heavy rains

knocked out electricity and flooded streets.

Source:

[http://www.nola.com/weather/index.ssf/2011/03/ash_wednesday_rainstorm_floods.htm](http://www.nola.com/weather/index.ssf/2011/03/ash_wednesday_rainstorm_floods.html)
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Chemical Industry Sector

5. *March 9, WALB 10 Albany* – (Georgia) **First responders train for chemical warfare.** At a drill at the Marine Corps Logistics Base in Albany, Georgia, first responders trained on chemical warfare, WALB reported March 9. Marine Base Police wore chemical suits and air masks as they shut down Albany's base. Georgia State Patrol troopers and ambulances were involved as well. The exercise was a simulated Fourth of July celebration with hundreds of South Georgians at the base. "A crop duster, which is not unusual around the area ... came across this ground and sprayed a chemical agent on the ground," the Dougherty County Emergency Management Agency deputy director said. Marine Corps officials said they wanted this drill to be as big as possible. Troopers escorted vans full of people to the emergency rooms, where hospital officials were working on their role in the drill.

Source: <http://www.walb.com/Global/story.asp?S=14221309>

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

6. *March 9, Wall Street Journal* – (International) **Pakistani man charged over shipments to Pakistan's nuclear program.** U.S. prosecutors March 9 charged a Pakistani man with running a smuggling operation that shipped materials and equipment to the agencies operating Pakistan's nuclear program. A grand-jury indictment in Baltimore, Maryland, accuses the 45-year-old man, who operated an export firm in Maryland, of obtaining the items from U.S. companies in North Dakota and Massachusetts and illegally exporting them to agencies on a U.S. Commerce Department blacklist. Prosecutors said the materials included radiation-detection devices, calibration equipment, and nuclear-grade resins that can be used "directly or indirectly in activities related to nuclear reactors and the processing and production of nuclear-related materials." The suspect made a first appearance in court March 9 and was ordered detained pending a hearing March 10. The indictment alleged the suspect worked with another man, not identified in the indictment. This man directed the suspect with a shopping list and told him how to conceal where items were being shipped, the indictment said. The unidentified man, also charged, is believed to be in Pakistan and out of reach of U.S. authorities, according to court papers. The indictment

said the men paid U.S. suppliers with funds transferred from Pakistan via Dubai to U.S. bank accounts, including the suspect's personal accounts. The Pakistani agencies receiving the equipment include the space and upper atmosphere research commission and the Chasma Nuclear Power Plant, the U.S. alleged. Both are banned from receiving certain items from the United States for national-security reasons.

Source:

http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748703453804576191150399064860.html?mod=googlenews_wsj

7. *March 9, Platts* – (National) **NRC says 89 of 104 US nuclear power plants got top marks in 2010.** The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has issued its annual assessment letters for nuclear power plant licensees, the agency said March 8. Some 89 of the 104 operating nuclear units in the United States “performed at the highest level” in 2010 and received normal, or baseline, inspections, the agency said. In the 5-column action matrix of NRC’s reactor oversight process, Column 1 plants require the least amount of agency oversight, while plants in Column 4 receive the most NRC attention short of a mandated shutdown under “unacceptable performance” criteria of Column 5. Nine power reactors were in Column 2, “needing to resolve one or two items of low safety significance,” the agency said. Those units were Brunswick-1 and -2; Calvert Cliffs-2; Farley-1; Ginna; North Anna-2; Susquehanna-1; and Turkey Point-3 and -4. Six units were in Column 3 “with one degraded safety cornerstone,” requiring “more NRC inspections, senior management attention and oversight focused on the cause of the degraded performance,” the agency said. These units were Oconee-1, -2 and -3; Fort Calhoun; Robinson-2; and Wolf Creek. No reactors were in Column 4 or 5.

Source:

<http://www.platts.com/RSSFeedDetailedNews/RSSFeed/ElectricPower/8634731>

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

8. *March 10, Dunkirk Observer* – (New York) **Small chemical spill cleaned up.** The Dunkirk Fire Department, the Chautauqua County Hazardous Materials Team, and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) were all called to Dunkirk Specialty Steel on Brigham Road in Dunkirk, New York, March 9 to control and clean up a small chemical spill. “They had a malfunction of one of their systems that they caught fairly quickly,” the Dunkirk fire chief said. “Specialty Steel notified the fire department, we notified the haz-mat team, Specialty Steel had notified the DEC. We had contained most of it to one certain area. They were able to stop the flow and they hired a company to come in and pump it out and take it away,” he said. The chief said the chemicals involved were a combination of hydrochloric and sulfuric acid which is used in Specialty’s pickling process. The spill made its way out of the building and into a nearby creek, but the chief said DEC and the City of Dunkirk took readings downstream and only trace amounts of chemicals were detected.

Source: <http://www.observertoday.com/page/content.detail/id/556892/Small-chemical-spill-cleaned-up.html?nav=5007>

9. *March 9, U.S. Department of Labor* – (Colorado) **US Department of Labor’s OSHA cites Evraz Rocky Mountain Steel in Pueblo, Colo., for safety violations following inspection of seamless tube mill.** The U.S. Department of Labor’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration March 9 has cited Evraz Rocky Mountain Steel in Pueblo, Colorado, alleging one repeat, five serious, and two other-than-serious violations following a safety inspection of the company’s seamless tube mill. Proposed fines total \$49,900. The repeat violation involves employee exposure to amputation hazards from rotating machine parts. Evraz was cited for a similar hazard in July 2009. The serious violations involve failing to properly implement a lockout/tagout program for energy sources, provide adequate guarding of belts and pulleys, provide proper storage of flammable materials, and protect workers from exposure to electrical hazards.

Source:

http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=NEWS_RELEASES&p_id=19380

10. *March 9, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission* – (National) **Global Industrial recalls workbench components due to electrical shock hazard.** Global Equipment Company, of Port Washington, New York, doing business as Global Industrial, issued a recall March 9 for about 5,000 Global Workbench power risers, power aprons, and power shelves. Misrouted wiring in the electrical outlets on the workbench risers, aprons, and shelves, and reverse polarity in some workbench power cords pose an electric shock hazard. The manufacturer has received eight reports of misrouted wires. Global Industrial sold the workbench components through its catalogs and on the Internet, from January 9, 2009 to December 24, 2010.

Source: <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml11/11724.html>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

11. *March 10, Newport News Daily Press* – (Virginia) **Criminal charges filed against ex-inspector at Newport News shipyard.** The U.S. government has filed criminal charges against a former Newport News, Virginia shipyard inspector, accusing him of lying about certifying welds on U.S. Navy ships he did not inspect, the Daily Press reported March 10. The man, of Portsmouth, was accused of knowingly making a false and fraudulent statement to Naval Criminal Investigative Service agents in May 2009, when he told them he “only falsified certifications on welds” on one unit of one ship. The second of two criminal counts filed March 7 in the Newport News division of Norfolk’s federal court asserts in July 2007, the man knowingly signed off on a certification of a pipe joint weld he did not inspect. By putting his signature and employee ID number on the record of the pipe joint, the man indicated he inspected the weld on “Ship 780” when he knew he had not inspected that joint, the court filing said.

Although the filing did not identify the vessel, the SSN-780 is the USS Missouri submarine, the seventh Virginia class submarine.

Source: <http://www.dailypress.com/business/dp-nws-shipyard-inspector-20110310,0,5437362.story>

12. *March 10, Associated Press* – (Colorado) **Damage to Army helo in crash: \$25.8M.** A U.S. Army helicopter that crash-landed during a high-altitude training mission in Colorado in 2010 suffered \$25.8 million in damage, officials revealed the week of March 6. The replacement price for the AH-64D Longbow helicopter from the 10th Mountain Division at Fort Drum, New York, is between \$25 million and \$30 million, the Army said. It was not immediately known whether the Army would try to repair the aircraft. The helicopter was attempting to land at about 12,200 feet above sea level June 30, 2010, when it crashed.

Source: [http://www.wvlp.com/dpps/military/Damage-to-Army-helicopter-in-Colo-crash-\\$25-8M_3742535](http://www.wvlp.com/dpps/military/Damage-to-Army-helicopter-in-Colo-crash-$25-8M_3742535)

13. *March 9, Navy Times* – (New Jersey) **Navy to correct delayed aircraft launch system.** The new Electromagnetic Aircraft Launch System (EMALS) under development for the U.S. Navy took a “pause” to correct problems that appeared after the first test launch in December, a top Navy official said March 9. The Navy conducted its first test launch of the system using a real aircraft, rather than a test load, December 21 at its catapult testing facility in Lakehurst, New Jersey. But no further flights have been made since the successful launch of an F/A-18E Super Hornet. The problem, said the Navy’s top acquisition official, was a “gap” between the motors as the system worked to accelerate the aircraft to launch speed. The EMALS consists of a number of linear motors in series, he explained. “In the handoff from motor to motor, as the aircraft is accelerating, there is a gap. That needs to be tuned.” The Navy and contractor General Atomics have been working on software to cure the problem, he said.

Source: <http://www.navytimes.com/news/2011/03/defense-aircraft-launch-system-coming-back-after-pause-030911/>

14. *March 9, Global Security Newswire* – (International) **Report: U.S. might be giving away sensitive military technology.** Sensitive military technology might be slipping into enemy hands, in part because of a dramatic decline in the number of foreign workers that the Commerce Department screens, according to a Government Accountability Office report released March 7. For national security purposes, the United States controls the export of so-called dual-use technologies — items that have both civilian and military uses, including computer security tools — to countries of concern, including Iran and North Korea. One way to restrict the transfer of such technology is for Commerce to screen visa applications from foreign nationals who wish to work at U.S. high-tech companies. But Commerce, the agency responsible for checking visa applications to identify potential unlicensed exports, is not screening thousands of those forms, according to the report.

Source: http://www.globalsecuritynewswire.org/gsn/nw_20110309_5952.php

15. *March 9, Talking Points Memo* – (National) **Counterfeit electronic parts ending up in DoD weapons systems.** Faulty counterfeit electronic parts are ending up in the Defense Department’s (DOD) weapons systems, and the problem poses a critical risk to national security, according to the U.S. Senate Armed Services Committee. The chairman and ranking member of the committee called the presence of counterfeit electronic parts in the DOD’s supply chain a “growing problem” March 9, and announced an investigation into just how they are ending up there. Over the course of its investigation, the committee plans to determine the source and extent of the problem and identify possible solutions. A report by the Department of Commerce in January 2010 found that 39 percent of electronics companies contracted by the Defense Department encountered counterfeit electronics from subcontractors, more than doubling from 2005 to 2008. The semiconductor industry also has expressed concerns that counterfeit chips mislabeled as military-grade can lead to fatal malfunctions in military and aerospace parts.
Source: <http://tpmdc.talkingpointsmemo.com/2011/03/counterfeit-electronic-parts-ending-up-in-dod-weapons-systems.php>

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Banking and Finance Sector

16. *March 10, WFXT 25 Boston* – (Massachusetts) **‘Copycat bank robber’ caught in the act.** The man federal agents said is the “copycat bank robber” has been caught in the act. The FBI was tailing the two suspects when they learned the pair were allegedly about to rob another bank in Massachusetts. Agents arrested the men March 9, just feet from the Bank of America on Canal Street in Boston. In court documents, one suspect admitted to agents he was the man caught by security cameras robbing banks in Everett and Winthrop the week of February 28. During the arrest, agents reportedly found a fake pipe bomb on him. Similar devices were shown at both bank robberies the week of February 28.
Source: http://www.myfoxboston.com/dpp/news/crime_files/crime_watch/copycat-bank-robber-caught-in-the-act-20110310
17. *March 9, Minneapolis Star Tribune* – (Minnesota) **Cologne bank robber is suspect in recent Orono heist, FBI says.** A man who robbed a bank March 9 in Cologne, Minnesota, is suspected in a February 17 bank robbery in Orono and possibly as many as four others, the FBI said. A masked man waited in the foyer of Kline Branch Bank and surprised an employee when she arrived to open the office for business, the FBI said. The suspect threatened her with a knife and demanded that she bring him to the vault. He showed a gun and said he would shoot her if she did not cooperate, the FBI said. The robber took an undisclosed amount of money and fled on foot. Based on suspect descriptions and robbery methods, investigators are “fairly certain” that the suspect also robbed the First National Bank of the Lakes branch in Orono February 17, said a Minneapolis FBI spokesman. The suspect also may be linked to three or four

other metro-area bank robberies in the past 2 months, he said. The suspect in the Cologne robbery was described as about 6 feet tall, 200 pounds, in his late 30s or early 40s. He wore a tan- or wheat-colored coat, black pants, gloves, and a black mask, the FBI said.

Source: <http://www.startribune.com/local/117677628.html>

18. *March 9, Associated Press* – (Minnesota) **12 indicted in Minn. in alleged \$10M bank fraud ring.** Twelve people have been charged in a \$10 million bank fraud conspiracy that authorities said depended on identity theft by employees in some of America’s largest banks, according to a federal indictment unsealed March 9. The indictment accused the defendants of buying and selling identifications and using them to create phony bank and credit card accounts, apply for loans, and get cash. Authorities said the network operated in many states, and bank employees in Minnesota and elsewhere were recruited to obtain customer information and conduct phony transactions. One defendant, the manager of a Wells Fargo branch, had bank account information for several people in her car and at her home when she was arrested March 9, authorities said. “There’s a severe risk to the community regarding the buying and selling of people’s personal information,” an assistant U.S. attorney said.

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/us/2011/03/09/12-indicted-minn-alleged-10m-bank-fraud-ring/>

19. *March 9, Federal Bureau of Investigation* – (Connecticut) **Man charged in Connecticut with operating credit ‘bust-out’ scheme.** The United States Attorney for the District of Connecticut, and the special agent in charge of the New Haven Division of the FBI announced March 9 a suspect was arrested March 7, on a federal criminal complaint charging him with engaging in a credit card “bust-out” scheme. According to the allegations set forth in the criminal complaint, the suspect, for a fee, assisted individuals in obtaining money from their credit cards and credit accounts far beyond their credit limits. It is alleged the suspect instructed individuals to charge all of their credit accounts up to or over their available credit limit and then provide their account information to him. He then assisted individuals with the submission of fraudulent or insufficiently funded checks to the credit issuers. Once received by the credit issuers, and the payments were posted to the individuals’ accounts, their credit balance was temporarily reduced, thereby allowing the individuals to draw on the credit lines further before credit issuers discovered the posted payments were fraudulent. After the individuals’ credit was fully “busted out,” the individuals often fled the country. It is alleged credit providers have lost approximately \$465,000 as a result of this scheme. If convicted of the charges, the suspect faces a maximum term of imprisonment of 20 years.

Source:

http://7thspace.com/headlines/375081/man_charged_in_connecticut_with_operating_credit_bust_out_scheme.html

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Transportation Sector

20. *March 10, Associated Press* – (International) **Heathrow terminal reopens after partial evacuation.** A security alert that prompted a partial evacuation of Heathrow Airport in London, England has been resolved with no arrests, police said March 10. A small section of the departures area in Heathrow's Terminal 5 had been evacuated while police spoke to an individual and investigated an item. Police said the issue had been resolved and the terminal was reopening. The evacuation started at around 12:50 p.m. Heathrow confirmed the evacuation, but a spokesman said flights were unaffected. Terminal 5 is used exclusively by British Airways.
Source: <http://www.miamiherald.com/2011/03/10/2107582/partial-evacuation-under-way-at.html>
21. *March 9, Associated Press* – (Montana) **Freight train derails near Montana's Glacier park.** Nineteen cars of a freight train derailed near Glacier National Park in Montana, forcing Amtrak to bus passengers around the blocked track. A Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway spokesman said the derailment shortly before noon March 9 started with the 33rd car of a 115-car train bound for Pasco, Washington. The train derailed near Essex, about 45 miles east of Whitefish, affecting cars carrying lumber, paper, plastics, boat, and agricultural products. No one was injured. The spokesman said some cars will be re-railed and others will be pushed aside so repairs can be made. The derailment was initially believed to be caused by snow slide, but it is under investigation. An Amtrak spokesman said buses will make all scheduled stops along the Empire Builder's route between Havre and Whitefish.
Source: http://www.seattlepi.com/local/6420ap_us_montana_train_derailment.html
22. *March 9, Washington Post* – (District of Columbia; Maryland; Virginia) **Allegations scaled back for Virginia man indicted in Metro bomb threat on Facebook.** An Arlington County, Virginia man who had been charged with threatening on his Facebook page to put pipe bombs on Metro cars or in Georgetown at rush hour pleaded guilty March 9 to making a threat against another person on the Internet, after the allegations against him were scaled back. The suspect, 25, had pleaded not guilty to one count of making a threat via interstate communications. But federal agents searched his home and found nothing that would have allowed him to carry out that threat, lawyers said in court. The suspect's attorney said his client had "no intention of ever harming anyone." "The court and the government acknowledged that this was an isolated heated exchange with no actual or intended harm to anyone," the suspect's lawyer said. The judge ordered the suspect to serve 2 years of supervised release and credited him for having served 3 months in jail.
Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2011/03/09/AR2011030904445.html>
23. *March 9, Associated Press* – (International) **Pirate skiff nears twice-attacked Maersk Alabama.** The European Union Naval Force said a suspected pirate skiff approached the American ship Maersk Alabama but turned back after a security team onboard fired warning shots March 8. The wing commander said March 9 that the Maersk Alabama was approached by a skiff about 200 miles north of Madagascar. No shots were fired by the suspected pirates. The incident was classified as a suspicious approach rather

than an attack. The Maersk Alabama has been attacked twice in the past.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2011/03/09/AR2011030901197.html>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

24. *March 10, WAPT 16 Jackson* – (Mississippi) **Bomb squad destroys packages at Jackson Post Office.** Jackson, Mississippi, police said the bomb squad was called out March 9 to investigate mysterious packages at a post office. Police said they were called to the Medgar Evers Post Office at about 6 p.m. Officers blocked off the streets surrounding the building as the bomb squad worked inside. Investigators said the bomb squad examined four boxes that showed wires in them when scanned. The bomb squad destroyed the packages as a precaution. Police said those boxes were not explosive. The post office reopened March 10.

Source: <http://www.wapt.com/news/27142049/detail.html>

25. *March 9, Huntsville Times* – (Alabama) **Suspicious package forces evacuation 20/20 Eyecare Centers in Huntsville.** Hazmat teams evacuated the 20/20 Eyecare Centers in Huntsville, Alabama, March 9, after fumes from a “suspicious package” affected two employees. Haz-mat units, Huntsville Fire and Rescue, and the HEMSI ambulance service responded to the call. Hazmat set up a decontamination unit to treat two employees who came in contact with the packages, according to the district chief for Huntsville Fire and Rescue. The employees were cleaned and taken to Huntsville Hospital for evaluation and treatment. According to an employee, the package smelled like kerosene. He said it gave him a headache and he felt lightheaded. The two employees were complaining of nausea and headaches. It appeared as if something spilled onto the package, perhaps in the delivery truck that delivered it. The package contained frames and frame cases and the contents were not disturbed. Initial tests on the package by Huntsville Fire and Rescue failed to register on instruments.

Source: http://blog.al.com/breaking/2011/03/2020_eyecare_centers_in_huntsv.html

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Agriculture and Food Sector

26. *March 9, Associated Press* – (New York) **NY meat maker recalls bologna products.** The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) said March 9 Zweigle’s Inc. of Rochester, New York, recalled about 3,000 pounds of bologna products that may be contaminated with bacteria. The company recalled cases containing 2, 10-pound packages of “Price Chopper German Brand Bologna Made With Pork & Chicken.” The maker of hot dogs, sausages and deli products said the bologna products were packaged January 7, and each package has the

establishment number “EST. 5333” within the USDA mark of inspection. A smokehouse malfunction created the potential production of staphylococcus aureus enterotoxin, which can cause nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, and abdominal cramping. Source: <http://online.wsj.com/article/APa88cd31a5a58467f90b280fe87d170b5.html>

27. *March 9, McClatchy Newspapers* – (Alaska) **Seafood company fined for polluting water in Aleutians.** Seattle, Washington-based seafood company UniSea will pay \$1.9 million in penalties as well as cleanup costs for ammonia and other waste it discharged from its processing plant in the Aleutians in Alaska. The company agreed to the fine to settle allegations it violated federal and state environmental laws, a U.S. attorney said March 9. Beginning in 2005, the government said, UniSea discharged ammonia and other pollutants from its facility in Dutch Harbor into surrounding waters. It did so without a permit, in violation of the Clean Water Act, the Justice Department said. The company agreed it failed to notify authorities of two large releases of ammonia from its facility in December 2007. The Japanese company Nippon Suisan Kaisha owns UniSea. At no time were any employees at risk or its seafood products, the company said. The company spent \$1.6 million to upgrade its refrigeration systems, UniSea said in its statement. To comply with the settlement, UniSea must survey the seafloor to see what sort of damage the ammonia discharge caused. That testing, which the EPA will oversee, will determine what sort of cleanup is required, including of the processing site’s fish waste pile. UniSea must implement a comprehensive environmental compliance plan to prevent further violations. Source: <http://www.mcclatchydc.com/2011/03/09/110077/seafood-company-fined-for-polluting.html>
28. *March 9, KDVR 31 Denver* – (Colorado) **Restaurant fire forces evacuations in Boulder.** Fire crews from across Boulder Valley in Colorado battled a fire March 9 at a popular Pearl Street Mall restaurant. The fire at Oak at Fourteenth was first reported on the roof at about 10:30 a.m. Nearby businesses and section of the popular pedestrian mall were evacuated as more than 60 firefighters from Boulder, Lafayette, Louisville, Mountain View, and the Boulder Rural Fire districts battled the flames. A co-owner of the restaurant told the Boulder Daily Camera that a chef first noticed the flames coming down a chimney before the restaurant opened for business. About 15 employees fled the restaurant immediately. The fire was declared under control before 1 p.m. Crews were in “overhaul mode” where they were searching for any remaining hot spots or embers. Flames were contained to the two-story building. No serious injuries were reported. The cause of the fire remains under investigation. Source: <http://www.kdvr.com/news/kdvr-fire-evacuation-boulder-20110309,0,1821289.story>
29. *March 9, Hagerstown Herald-Mail* – (Maryland) **Greensburg Farm Market building appears to be total loss after fire.** Fire poured through the Greensburg Farm Market March 8 southwest of Hagerstown, Maryland, sending heavy flames and embers into the night sky. Firefighters had the fire under control in about 30 minutes, said the assistant fire chief of the Volunteer Fire Co. of Halfway, Maryland. A Maryland state fire marshal arrived at the scene at 8:45 a.m. March 9, and sifted through the charred

remains of the building. The fire was in the store part of the business, where jellies, juices, snacks, and produce were sold. The building appeared to be a total loss. The cause of the fire has not been determined. Firefighters from Halfway, Williamsport, Funkstown, and Hagerstown responded, a 911 dispatcher said. Also responding were Washington County Special Operations, the county's rehab and air units, and ambulances from Halfway and Williamsport, the dispatcher said.

Source: <http://www.herald-mail.com/news/hm-firefighters-battling-fire-at-greensburg-farm-market-20110308,0,4426238.story>

30. *March 8, Superior Telegram* – (National) **EPA pledges ballast rules to thwart invasive species.** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will develop new regulations on ballast water in ships to help thwart the invasion of foreign invasive species. The move was announced March 8 as part of an out-of-court settlement of a lawsuit brought by a dozen environmental, conservation and fishing groups that demanded the federal government enact a strong, specific level for sterilization of ballast water before it is discharged. The agreement was filed March 8 in federal appeals court in Washington, D.C. EPA has agreed to publish a draft of the new regulations, called a Vessel General Permit, by November. The rules would become final by late 2012 and would take effect January 1, 2014. The new federal regulations would override state rules and voluntary international shipping standards.

Source: <http://www.superiortelegram.com/event/article/id/51356/group/News/>

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Water Sector

31. *March 10, Anderson Independent Mail* – (South Carolina) **Rains bring sanitary sewer spills in Toccoa, but no advisories needed about drinking water.** Recent rains led to three separate sanitary sewer spills in Toccoa, South Carolina. Around 1 p.m. March 9, a city employee came upon an activated high-level alarm at the Ward Creek Liftstation and an overflow condition. The overflow of untreated sewage was from a manhole just outside the fenced area of the liftstation on Fern Valley Drive. Around 8 p.m., the overflow stopped. The total overflow may have been as high as 8,500 gallons, the chief wastewater plant operator said. Around 2:30 p.m. March 9, a manhole near 12 Poplar Train was reported to be overflowing. City work crews dislodged an obstruction, and the overflow stopped. The overflow lasted about an hour, and the amount may have been as much as 500 gallons. It entered a tributary to Eastanollee Creek and Hartwell Lake. Around 4:45 p.m. March 9, a manhole near 239 Green Valley Drive was reported overflowing. City work crews dislodged an obstruction, and the overflow stopped. The overflow lasted 20 minutes, and the amount that overflowed may have been as much as 250 gallons. The overflow entered Toccoa Creek and Hartwell Lake. There are no known points within 20 miles of any of the three spills where the overflow could have entered the drinking water supply, officials said. The Stephens County Health Department has been notified.

Source: <http://www.independentmail.com/news/2011/mar/10/rains-bring-sanitary-sewer-spills-toccoa-no-adviso/>

32. *March 10, Associated Press* – (California) **Aerospace firms agree to pay \$4M for water cleanup.** Federal regulators said six aerospace companies have agreed to pay nearly \$4 million to investigate contamination and expand treatment capacity at two San Fernando Valley, California, groundwater sites, Associated Press reported March 10. The North Hollywood and Glendale aquifers supply drinking water to more than 800,000 people. Chemicals used as industrial solvents were found in water supplies in 1980. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) said Honeywell International and Lockheed Martin agreed to pay \$2.2 million to help expand the capacity of equipment removing trichloroethylene in the 4-square-mile North Hollywood site. EPA also reached a \$1 million settlement with Goodrich, ITT, Lockheed, and PRC DeSoto that will pay for an investigation of chromium contamination in Glendale groundwater. They will also pay \$750,000 for their share of EPA's past costs.
Source: <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/n/a/2011/03/10/state/n070656S91.DTL>
33. *March 9, Associated Press* – (Michigan) **Contamination cleanup in Ann Arbor area updated.** A plan to deal with groundwater contamination in the Ann Arbor, Michigan, area caused by the disposal of chemicals used to manufacture medical filters is being updated, Associated Press reported March 9. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment said cleanup requirements have been changed for Pall Life Sciences. A Washtenaw County judge approved the agreement March 8 to deal with groundwater contaminated with 1,4-dioxane, a suspected carcinogen. The contamination in parts of Ann Arbor and neighboring Scio and Ann Arbor townships is from Gelman Sciences, Pall's predecessor, and was found in the mid-1980s. Changes include the installation of more monitoring wells and an expansion of the area where officials said people should not drink well water.
Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/chi-ap-mi-contaminationclea,0,898234.story>
34. *March 8, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency* – (Puerto Rico) **EPA adds two Puerto Rico sites to the Superfund List.** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has added the Cabo Rojo Ground Water Contamination site in Cabo Rojo, Puerto Rico, and the Hormigas Ground Water Plume site in Caguas to its Superfund National Priorities List of the country's most hazardous waste sites. Sampling at the sites found chemical contamination that is impacting wells once used to supply drinking water to the local communities. Residents of the Cabo Rojo and Hormigas communities currently receive drinking water from different sources that is safe to consume. The Cabo Rojo Urbano public water system has 6 drinking water wells that serve about 48,500 people. Groundwater samples collected found tetrachloroethylene and trichloroethylene, solvents used in industrial processes. In an effort to identify the source of contamination, EPA conducted investigations at 68 facilities and collected soil and ground water samples from 13 facilities. EPA's investigation has not yet identified the source of groundwater contamination in the drinking water wells and

further investigations will be conducted. The contamination detected in the Cabo Rojo wells that are still in operation is below levels of concern.

Source:

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/0/AD5F88CB0FFA2AFC8525784D006C99A9>

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

35. *March 10, Minneapolis Star Tribune* – (Minnesota) **Woman admits posing as hospital employee, siphoning IV drugs.** A former nurse from Superior, Wisconsin, admitted March 9 that she sneaked into a Coon Rapids, Minnesota, hospital in May 2010 and siphoned painkilling medications out of patients' IV bags to feed her own addiction. The 27-year-old woman pleaded guilty in federal court in Minneapolis, Minnesota to entering Mercy Hospital May 5, when she was still a licensed registered nurse, and posing as an employee to steal the morphine derivative hydromorphone hydrochloride. She faces a maximum sentence of 4 years in prison. A sentencing date has not been set.
Source: <http://www.startribune.com/local/north/117664643.html>
36. *March 9, Bloomberg* – (National) **CVS accused in suit of selling customer data to drugmakers.** CVS Caremark Corp., the largest U.S. provider of prescription drugs, was sued over claims it used confidential prescription information to push products on behalf of pharmaceutical makers. CVS violated the privacy and rights of consumers by sending letters to customers' physicians promoting specific medications, according to a complaint filed March 7 in state court in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. CVS allegedly identified consumers by name, date of birth, and medications taken, drawing on information obtained through CVS pharmacy services. CVS was paid for the promotion of drugs by Merck & Co., AstraZeneca Plc (AZN), and Bayer AG (BAYN), according to the complaint filed by a Richboro, Pennsylvania, resident and the Philadelphia Federation of Teachers Health and Welfare Fund. "While touted as an 'RxReview Program' by defendant CVS Caremark, in reality the physician communications were nothing more than a profit-making opportunity," he said in the complaint.
Source: <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-03-09/cvs-accused-in-suit-of-using-customers-pharmacy-data-for-drug-companies.html>
37. *March 9, WXIN 59 Indianapolis* – (Indiana) **Downtown medical building evacuated due to broken gas line.** Around 40 people were evacuated March 9 at the Indiana University Family Practice Center medical building after an outside gas line was ruptured and fumes entered the building. A utility crew from Indianapolis Power and Light had been working on relocating power lines in the area near 15th and Senate Avenue when the 1-inch main was broken. A vent from the building picked up the fumes and carried them inside the 2-story building. The building was evacuated as a

precaution while firefighters quickly arrived to take readings inside. Citizen's Gas shut off the ruptured line.

Source: <http://www.fox59.com/news/wxin-gas-leak-downtown-medical-building-evacuated-due-to-broken-gas-line-20110309,0,4063375.story>

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Government Facilities Sector

38. *March 10, Reuters* – (Texas) **Federal grand jury indicts Saudi accused in U.S. bomb plot.** A federal grand jury March 9 indicted a 20-year-old Saudi student accused in a bomb plot with targets including the Dallas, Texas home of a former U.S. President. Jurors determined federal authorities had enough evidence to take the suspect to trial on a charge of attempting to use a weapon of mass destruction. If convicted, the former chemical engineering exchange student could face up to life in prison. The U.S. district judge issued a gag order in the case March 9, barring the suspect and attorneys involved in the case from talking to the media. Federal investigators accused the man of investigating dams, nuclear power plants, nightclubs, and the former President's home as targets, and of purchasing chemicals to build a bomb in his second-floor apartment across from the Texas Tech University campus. Tips from a North Carolina chemical company and a Lubbock, Texas, freight company alerted the FBI, according to court documents. The suspect was arrested February 28.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/03/10/us-texas-bomb-plot-idUSTRE7290DP20110310?feedType=RSS&feedName=domesticNews>

39. *March 9, Softpedia* – (Virginia) **Pentagon takes Anonymous threats seriously.** A new operation launched by members of the Anonymous collective has captured the attention of Pentagon officials who asked law enforcement agencies to investigate the group's actions. According to a Forbes report, Anonymous hackers threatened to harass the Department of Defense press secretary and chief warrant officer in retaliation to how a Private First Class (PFC) was being treated at the Quantico Brig in Virginia.

Anonymous members launched an offense called Operation Bradical and warned they will "ruin" the lives of their targets if their demands are not met. The PFC "must be given sheets, blankets, any religious texts he desires, adequate reading material, clothes, and a ball," Anonymous said. "One week. Otherwise, we continue to dox and ruin those responsible for keeping him naked, without bedding, without any of the basic amenities that were provided even to captured Nazis in WWII," the group said.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Pentagon-Takes-Anonymous-Threats-Seriously-188464.shtml>

40. *March 9, Reuters* – (International) **U.S. charges 10 in Ciudad Juarez killings.** U.S. authorities said March 9 that they have charged 10 alleged Mexican gang members with murdering two Americans and a Mexican man who had ties to the U.S. consulate in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico. A U.S. Consulate employee and her American husband were

gunned down in broad daylight March 13, 2010 as they left an event sponsored by the consulate, which is located just across the border from El Paso, Texas. The suspects, part of the Barrio Azteca gang, were also accused of murdering a Mexican man married to another consulate employee, around the same time in another part of the city after they left the same event. Seven of the 10 defendants are in custody in Mexico, and the United States is working with Mexican authorities to extradite them for prosecution, the Justice Department said.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2011/03/09/AR2011030905231.html>

41. *March 8, Chattanooga Chattanooga* – (Tennessee) **6 indicted in scheme to issue fake Tennessee drivers licenses.** A federal grand jury in Chattanooga, Tennessee, returned a two-count indictment against six individuals involved in a scheme to produce fake drivers licenses. Those indicted include a 48-year-old employee of the driver testing site. Authorities said the employee accepted cash for providing fake licenses. Also charged were a 27-year-old and 35-year-old of Guatemala; a 43-year-old of Cleveland, Tennessee; a 45-year-old of Monterey, Tennessee; and a suspect of Gainesville, Georgia. They were indicted for conspiring to unlawfully produce Tennessee drivers licenses. The indictment alleges that between July 2009 and January 2011, the individuals “agreed with one another to transport ineligible applicants to the drivers license testing site on Bonny Oaks Drive. The applicants presented counterfeit documents to the Department of Motor Vehicles employee, who in exchange for cash, unlawfully produced Tennessee drivers licenses.”

Source: http://www.chattanooga.com/articles/article_196265.asp

42. *March 8, WDIV 4 Detroit* – (Michigan) **Explosion sends Southfield students to hospital.** Southfield Lathrup High School in Southfield, Michigan, was evacuated March 8 because of an explosion in a chemistry classroom. The Southfield Public Schools deputy superintendent said 11 students and the school’s assistant principal were being checked by health professionals after an experiment went awry and produced noxious fumes. Three were taken to the hospital for complaints of breathing problems and minor burns. The 11th-grade students were working with a potassium nitrate and sugar mixture, used to make a smoke bomb, when it exploded and scorched a hole in a ceiling tile, he said. The school was evacuated and was let out for the day because the building needed to be aired out. Southfield Fire Department’s battalion chief said the explosion could have had a much more serious outcome. The school has about 1,300 students.

Source: <http://www.clickondetroit.com/news/27117592/detail.html>

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Emergency Services Sector

43. *March 9, Jax Air News* – (Florida) **‘Operation Railcar’ tests multi-agency emergency responders.** The City of Jacksonville, Florida’s Emergency Operations Center, NAS Jacksonville, CSX Transportation, Amtrak, and other agencies participated in a multi-agency emergency response exercise March 3 that simulated a chemical tank truck being struck by an Amtrak passenger train at a railroad crossing. The resulting derailment caused a chemical leak and mass injuries. “This full-scale operation is an excellent opportunity for local, state and federal responders to interact and implement our emergency response plans,” said the Duval County Emergency Management chief. Also taking part in the exercise were Soldiers and Airmen of Georgia National Guard Joint Task Force (JTF) 781, one of the state’s Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosive (CBRNE) Enhanced Response Force Package (CERFP) units. CERFP personnel help remove victims from a contaminated environment, perform mass casualty decontamination, and provide treatment as necessary to stabilize patients for evacuation.
Source: <http://jaxairnews.jacksonville.com/military/jax-air-news/2011-03-09/story/%E2%80%98operation-railcar%E2%80%99-tests-multi-agency-emergency-responders>
44. *March 9, City of Joplin* – (Missouri) **Some 911 calls to Joplin dispatch getting cut off after 30 seconds.** The City of Joplin, Missouri’s dispatch center has contacted AT&T to evaluate their cellular service in the Joplin metropolitan area to learn what would cause 9-1-1 calls to be dropped from cell phone callers after approximately 30 seconds. When Joplin’s communications manager recognized this issue, she immediately contacted AT&T about the interrupted service. She stressed that until a solution is reached, callers contacting 9-1-1 who may get disconnected should call back as soon as possible. Dispatch operators were available to respond to calls, officials said. City officials said they will keep the public apprised of the progress made in addressing the issue.
Source: <http://www.koamtv.com/Global/story.asp?S=14221755>
45. *March 8, Los Angeles Times* – (International) **U.S. agents short-staffed and under the gun in Mexico.** U.S. authorities in Mexico charged with stemming the flow of U.S. weapons to drug cartels have been hampered by shortfalls in staffing, agents with limited Spanish skills, and the difficulty of recruiting new agents to the dangerous posting because they cannot officially carry weapons, current and former staff members said. Facing new accusations that investigators with the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) allowed buyers to funnel high-powered assault weapons into Mexico, a senior agent posted to Mexico before 2010 said the agency had not fielded the resources necessary to block mass movements of weapons across the border. These movements have come under scrutiny amid revelations ATF investigators delayed for months the arrests of suspected cartel gun buyers, allowing the flow of hundreds of weapons to Mexico in the hope of catching bigger buyers. The policy has outraged many agents and prompted a U.S. Senate investigation. A former ATF attache in Mexico City and deputy attache in Ciudad Juarez said March 7 that agents in Mexico did not have the resources to effectively run down gun smugglers.
Source: <http://articles.latimes.com/2011/mar/08/nation/la-na-mexico-guns-20110308>

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Information Technology Sector

46. *March 10, The Register* – (International) **Apple security update leaves iPhone 3G users unprotected.** Apple is leaving some of its older mobile devices unprotected with its latest patch batch. An iOS 4.3 update, which includes a number of critical security fixes, is incompatible with the widely used iPhone 3G, and older versions of the iPod Touch. The latest version of Apple’s mobile software can only be applied on the iPhone 3GSs and later models; the iPod Touch 3rd generation and later models; as well as all versions of the iPad. Security firm Sophos warned the omission of the fixes leaves users of older iPhone and iPod Touches at heightened risk of drive-by download attacks from harmful Web sites.
Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/03/10/apple_update_omits_iphone3g/

47. *March 10, IDG News Service* – (International) **Symantec finds fake Google Android update.** Google’s latest update for its Android mobile OS appears to already have been subverted by hackers, according to the security vendor Symantec. Symantec found an application called the “Android Market Security Tool” that is a repackaged version of the legitimate update by the same name that removed the DroidDream malware from infected devices. The fake security tool sends SMSes to a command-and-control server, wrote a Symantec representative. The company is still analyzing the code, which it found on a third-party application market targeted at Chinese users. “What is shocking is that the threat’s code seems to be based on a project hosted on Google Code and licensed under the Apache License,” the Symantec representative wrote.
Source:
http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9214023/Symantec_finds_fake_Google_Android_update

48. *March 10, H Security* – (International) **Apple’s iOS 4.3 fixes security holes.** Apple has released version 4.3 of its iOS mobile operating system, an update that adds several new features to its mobile devices and closes a number of security holes. According to Apple, the iOS update corrects multiple vulnerabilities in the FreeType rendering library for TrueType and PostScript fonts used by CoreGraphics, buffer overflow issues in ImageIO, and a remote code execution hole in the libxml library, as well as a bug in iOS networking that could allow a server to identify a device across connections. Other fixes correct problems in the mobile version of the Safari Web browser that could, for example, cause it to exit on launch or prevent cookies from being cleared via the Safari settings.
Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/Apple-s-iOS-4-3-fixes-security-holes-1205360.html>

49. *March 10, The Register* – (International) **Router-rooting malware pawns Linux-based network devices.** Security researchers have discovered a rare strain of router-

rooting malware that targets network devices running either Linux or Unix. The malware, which poses as an Executable and Linkable Format (ELF) file, carries out a brute-force attack on router user name-password pairs from compromised PCs. If successful, the malware sets up an IRC backdoor onto compromised systems. Early tests by net security firm Trend Micro have confirmed the malware works on routers from D-Link. Other systems may also be affected. Trend reported the malware (dubbed ELF_Tsunami-R) is circulating in Latin America. While incidents of the malware are low, the damage potential is high, Trend Micro warned.

Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/03/10/router_rooting_malware/

50. *March 9, Softpedia* – (International) **New ‘open source’ exploit toolkit identified.** Researchers from security vendor M86 Security have identified a new exploit toolkit being distributed on the underground market for free and being worked on as a community effort. Called k0desploit, the new toolkit is based on the notorious Eleonore exploit pack commonly used in drive-by download attacks. The k0desploit admin panel log-in page displays the text “K0de(dot)org Open Source Exploits.” M86 researchers found forum posts by the original author explaining the toolkit is an improved version of the Eleonore mod posted by Blackdevil. He said preliminary tests done on 1,000 computers revealed an infection rate of 9.6 percent, significantly more than the original 3.5 percent the Eleonore mod had. The developer also noted most successful attacks were for the Microsoft Data Access Components and Internet Explorer vulnerabilities, not Java as previous research suggested. He also claimed he got the exploits to partially work via Firefox and Chrome.
- Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/New-Open-Source-Exploit-Toolkit-Found-188651.shtml>
51. *March 9, The Register* – (International) **DDoS malware comes with self-destruct payload.** Attacks that have wreaked havoc on dozens of South Korean government Web sites over the past week include a malicious payload that causes the infected machines recruited to carry out the assaults to spontaneously self-destruct. The distributed denial-of-service (DDoS) attacks were first spotted March 4 hitting Web sites including South Korea’s president, national intelligence service, and foreign ministry. A McAfee researcher reported the infected computers used in the attacks are programmed to destroy sensitive system files, a blow that can incapacitate machines. He wrote “[The malware] uses resilience techniques to avoid a takedown and even has destructive capabilities.” Resilience techniques refers to a multi-stage command-and-control (C&C) structure, which spreads malicious instructions into two layers to make it harder for white hats to reverse engineer the system. The first stage contains an encrypted list of servers to a second set of C&C machines, which issue attack commands. Also, the first layer of servers are physically distributed in dozens of countries, providing backup in the event some are taken down. Once infected bots reach the second stage, they receive the list of sites to attack. But they also receive commands to self-destruct by overwriting master boot records of primary hard drives.
- Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/03/09/ddos_bots_self_destruct/

52. *March 9, Computerworld* – (International) **Apple patches 62 bugs in massive Safari update.** Apple March 9 patched a record 62 vulnerabilities in Safari 5, updating the Mac and Windows browser to version 5.0.4. All but 6 of the 62 vulnerabilities patched were accompanied by the phrase “arbitrary code execution,” Apple’s term for rating the flaws as “critical.” According to Apple’s advisory, 57 of the 62 bugs can be exploited by “drive-by” attacks that execute as soon as a victim browses to a malicious Web site with an unpatched edition of Safari. Most of the vulnerabilities patched were in WebKit.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9213939/Apple_patches_62_bugs_in_massive_Safari_update

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

53. *March 9, Mount Vernon News* – (Ohio) **FCC to look at city’s satellite dish ban.** The city of Mount Vernon, Ohio’s recent announcement it would begin enforcing a ban on satellite dish antennae in front yards of properties within the city might get a close look from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), Mount Vernon News reported March 9. City ordinance Chapter 1177 regulates the location and construction of dish-type satellite signal receiving antennae within the city. The stated purpose of the regulation is to protect the public health, safety, and welfare of residents. It points specifically to the maintenance of utility easements, fire safety access, prevention of accumulation of noxious weeds and debris, and the reasonable aesthetic concerns of neighborhood property owners. The FCC has rules in place governing what a local governmental group can and cannot do as far as regulating the installation of these types of dish antennae. The FCC Web site on the subject states the commission was directed by Congress in section 207 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 to regulate installations of video-receiving antennae. The commission enforces the law through its Over-the-Air Reception Devices rule that has been in effect since October 1996.

Source: <http://www.mountvernonnews.com/local/11/03/09/fcc-to-look-at-city-satellite-dish-ban>

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Commercial Facilities Sector

54. *March 9, Reuters* – (Washington) **U.S. arrests man in Martin Luther King Day bomb plot.** A Colville, Washington, man was arrested and charged with attempting to place a bomb along the parade route of a Martin Luther King Jr. holiday celebration in Spokane January 17, the U.S. Justice Department said March 10. The 36-year-old man was charged with one count of attempting to use a weapon of mass destruction, which carries a maximum penalty of life in prison. The other count charges him with illegally possessing an explosive device, which carries up to 10 years in prison. He appeared in federal court in Spokane March 9, and is being held in the Spokane County Jail until an arraignment, tentatively scheduled for March 23, authorities told Reuters. A grand jury is set to meet to consider the charges March 22. A federal law enforcement official said authorities were investigating whether the suspect had ties to white supremacists. Officials from the Southern Poverty Law Center, an Alabama-based civil rights group, said the suspect had been a member of the neo-Nazi National Alliance in 2004. A spokesman for Joint Base Lewis-McChord, the U.S. Army/Air Force base in Washington state, confirmed he served at the former Fort Lewis Army base from 1996 to 1999 as a fire support specialist. The MLK day parade, attended by about 1,500 people, was quickly rerouted while the city’s bomb disposal unit was summoned and safely “neutralized the device,” the FBI said at the time. Chemical analysis of the homemade bomb remains “ongoing,” the FBI supervisory resident agent told Reuters, declining to confirm reports the bomb contained a white powder anticoagulant chemical similar to rat poison.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/03/10/us-usa-crime-parade-idUSTRE7287A020110310?feedType=RSS&feedName=domesticNews>

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

55. *March 10, Chicago Sun-Times Media* – (Illinois) **Historic bridge crumbles.** The Seven Arch Stone Bridge, which is on the National Register of Historic Places, sustained serious damage, with a large part of the structure’s south side crumbling into Deep Run Creek in Lockport, Illinois. The bridge was no longer in use. The communications company AT&T had five cables attached to the bridge, a spokeswoman for AT&T said. AT&T will reroute the cables. “The cables are still fully functioning, and we don’t believe any customers have been impacted,” she said. The city received a call March 8 regarding damage to the historic bridge, the mayor said. Police and a public works crew assessed the damage March 9. The city is concerned about water backing up behind the crumbled portion of the bridge, the mayor said. The city is working with Chevron Corp. — which owns the former Texaco property to the north — to determine if some of the water can be diverted to the Illinois & Michigan Canal. That canal is east of the creek.

Source: <http://heraldnews.suntimes.com/news/4231538-418/historic-bridge-crumbles.html>

56. *March 9, Texas Forest Service* – (Texas) **Current Texas wildfire status.** As of March 9, the Texas Forest Service (TFS) responded to 44 fires burning 6,511 acres in the previous 7 days. TFS responded March 8 to 3 fires burning 99 acres, including a 93-acre fire in Coke County, where 2 homes were saved. The Abilene strike team assisted on a 5-acre fire in Jones County that threatened 50 homes, a school, and numerous commercial buildings. And the Pinon Fire in Pecos County was contained at 4,575 acres.

Source: <http://www.gosanangelo.com/news/2011/mar/09/current-texas-wildfire-status--march-9-2011/>

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Dams Sector

57. *March 10, Boston Herald* – (Massachusetts) **Dam plug fails, Weston street flooded.** The Massachusetts Water Resource Authority (WMRA) was in “clean-up mode” March 10 after a plug in part of its reservoir system in Weston failed and flooded a street and at least one home, the authority’s executive director said. A temporary plug in a dam gave way from an overflow pond connected to an MWRA reservoir in Weston that morning, sending water gushing down Oak Street and flooding at least one basement, the executive director said. The flowing water was first noticed around 4 a.m. “We have now replugged that drain so the flow has stopped. We are now in clean up mode. The road is now starting to show,” he said. A river approximately 50 feet wide and 6 inches deep flowed down the street before clean up started. The street was shut down to through traffic, police said. The temporary plug had been in place for about a year while a contractor worked on a major aquaduct.

Source:

http://www.bostonherald.com/news/regional/view/2011_0310dam_plug_fails_weston_street_flooded/

58. *March 9, Big Bear Grizzly* – (California) **Wall threatens to sail away.** The Big Bear Municipal Water District (MWD) in California has been releasing water from Big Bear Lake since the first major storm of the season in December. Despite the continuous trickle of water, the lake level remains near the top, with a mere 8 inches to spare before the water starts flowing over the dam. “It’s been full for a while now,” the MWD general manager said. The district is working to maintain the lake level within 7 or 8 inches from full, he said. While the high lake level is a good thing for boaters, it is not so good for the shoreline. Serious erosion problems are popping up, most notably at Ski Beach. San Bernardino County risk management officials have examined the damage. The plan is to repair the seawall as soon as the snow is gone. A fence will be constructed to prevent people from using the area until repairs are completed. “We’ll file a claim to see if we can get funds,” the general manager for the Big Bear Valley Recreation and Park District said. “We may fix it differently than how it used to be. In another 2 weeks, we should be able to get going on it.” The park district may be required to bring in the Army Corp of Engineers on the project.

Source: http://www.bigbeargrizzly.net/news/article_78ed7bca-4a09-11e0-904c-001cc4c002e0.html

59. *March 9, WHIO 7 Dayton* – (Ohio) **Miami Conservance dams well below capacity.** Rain that fell March 9 will likely delay rivers around the Miami Valley in Ohio from going down, forcing the dams to keep working to hold back high water. At one point, the Englewood Dam was storing and draining nearly 10 billion gallons of water flowing from the north. That is more than any other dam in the Miami Valley, and it is still in storage mode. The dam is working as it was designed. For nearly 90 years, a network of five dams has helped protect the Miami Valley from major flooding. Most recently, they held back nearly 17 million gallons of water, but that is just a fraction of what they can hold. However, the dams cannot protect everyone and everything in the region. Some roads close to the river went under water.

Source: <http://www.whiotv.com/news/27137444/detail.html>

60. *March 2, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Little Rock District* – (Arkansas) **One lane across Greers Ferry Dam to close.** One lane of the Highway 25 Bridge across Greers Ferry Dam in Heber Springs, Arkansas, will close temporarily for about 4 months beginning March 7 while crews perform routine maintenance on the dam's gates. Traffic signals will be positioned at each end of the dam to direct traffic. Also, early in the maintenance process, the bridge will be completely closed for about 8 hours on one day. The 1-day closure is necessary so heavy equipment can install a "floating bulkhead." The floating bulkhead keeps water off the gates while they are being worked on. The closure is being coordinated with emergency services and law enforcement agencies.

Source: <http://www.swl.usace.army.mil/news&info/news/2011/009-11.html>

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