



# Homeland Security

## Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 17 March 2011

**Current Nationwide Threat Level**

**ELEVATED**

*Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks*

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

### Top Stories

- WXIA reports an armored car courier was shot to death in a robbery in Atlanta, Georgia, the seventh such robbery committed by the same crew, officials said. (See item [21](#))
- According to CNN, the U.S. military has blocked access to a range of popular commercial Web sites to free up bandwidth for use in Japan earthquake recovery efforts. (See item [58](#))

### Fast Jump Menu

#### PRODUCTION INDUSTRIES

- [Energy](#)
- [Chemical](#)
- [Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste](#)
- [Critical Manufacturing](#)
- [Defense Industrial Base](#)
- [Dams](#)

#### SUSTENANCE and HEALTH

- [Agriculture and Food](#)
- [Water](#)
- [Public Health and Healthcare](#)

#### SERVICE INDUSTRIES

- [Banking and Finance](#)
- [Transportation](#)
- [Postal and Shipping](#)
- [Information Technology](#)
- [Communications](#)
- [Commercial Facilities](#)

#### FEDERAL and STATE

- [Government Facilities](#)
- [Emergency Services](#)
- [National Monuments and Icons](#)

### 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 16, Associated Press* – (California) **Utility: Paperwork for segment in fatal gas explosion among missing safety records for pipes.** A California utility under fire for a deadly natural gas explosion near San Francisco is missing 8 percent of key safety records required for high-pressure pipelines, including for some segments along the line that blew up, the company said March 15. State regulators announced a proposal almost immediately to force Pacific Gas & Electric Co. (PG&E) to provide detailed safety updates, including data about how the utility was prioritizing work on high-risk lines during the next 4 years. The California Public Utilities Commission also was

expected to decide March 16 whether PG&E should have to conduct expensive, time-consuming tests on its transmission lines, which run through some of the state's most populated areas. PG&E released its results after staging a massive operation the past 2 weeks, with employees sorting through mountains of paper records inside a hulking concert venue the company rented for the job. Company engineers, estimators, mappers, information technology specialists, and managers — as well as a number of outside contractors — went through more than 1.25 million individual gas transmission records hauled out from branch offices and storage facilities. Overall, 10 percent of aging lines installed before 1961 were missing test records or other documents showing historical pressure levels, as were 3 percent of the lines laid from 1961 to 1970, PG&E found.

Source: [http://www.washingtonpost.com/business/pgande-says-its-missing-8-percent-of-key-safety-records-for-california-gas-lines/2011/03/15/ABUoVfZ\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/business/pgande-says-its-missing-8-percent-of-key-safety-records-for-california-gas-lines/2011/03/15/ABUoVfZ_story.html)

2. *March 15, Associated Press* – (North Carolina) **Worker killed in explosion at NC power plant.** Officials said an explosion at a coal-fired power plant in Wilmington, North Carolina has killed one worker. Progress Energy Inc. said the explosion March 15 killed a 24-year-old technician at the L.V. Sutton Steam Electric Plant. The company said the worker was performing maintenance on one of the plant's units that was offline. Local, state, and federal officials are investigating. The company said there was no fire at the site, no threat to the public, and no impact on the reliability of the electricity system. Progress previously announced plans to retire the plant's coal-fired units and replace them with a new plant scheduled to begin operations in 2014.  
Source: [http://www.forbes.com/feeds/ap/2011/03/15/general-multiutilities-us-coal-plant-explosion\\_8357911.html](http://www.forbes.com/feeds/ap/2011/03/15/general-multiutilities-us-coal-plant-explosion_8357911.html)
3. *March 15, WGAL 8 Lancaster* – (Pennsylvania) **Propane truck flips onto side.** In Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, a tanker truck filled with propane crashed March 15 in Christiana Borough. The crash happened around 10:30 a.m. on North Bridge Street and Sadsbury Avenue. The truck, which was carrying 8,000 gallons of fuel, overturned and brought down power lines. It took fire crews an hour to get the driver out. He was treated and released from the hospital. About 40 homes in the area were evacuated as a precaution, and hundreds of nearby homes lost power.  
Source: <http://www.wgal.com/r/27206254/detail.html>
4. *March 15, Poughkeepsie Journal* – (New York) **Rhinebeck evacuates over 100 in propane gas leak.** More than 100 people were evacuated from their homes March 14 while emergency crews worked to control a propane gas leak in the middle of Rhinebeck, New York. No one was injured, said the emergency management coordinator for the town and village of Rhinebeck and the Rhinebeck Fire Department. About 7:50 p.m., the fire department was alerted to a gas leak behind 53 E. Market Street. Residents of apartments above the stores were told to leave, as were residents along Livingston Street nearby, because that was where wind was carrying the potentially explosive vapors, the spokesman said. He said Paraco Gas Co. of Pine Plains had been working on the 500-gallon tank. "Their crew was working on the unit during the day for a minor leak and in the process of fixing it, one of the valves froze in

an open position,” he said. “That’s what created the major release.” Fire crews laid down a fog spray to help disperse the heavy vapors as they emerged from the valve, he said.

Source:

<http://www.poughkeepsiejournal.com/article/20110315/NEWS01/110315003/0/NEWS01/Rhinebeck-evacuates-over-100-propane-gas-leak?odyssey=nav|head>

5. *March 15, KEZI 9 Eugene* – (Oregon) **Over 6,000 people still in the dark.** Nearly 2 days after a wild windstorm rolled through western Oregon, thousands of people were still in the dark. As of March 16, the Eugene Water & Electric Board (EWEB) reported about 850 customers were without power in the McKenzie River Valley. Crews returned to work March 16 at 6 a.m, and will work through the day to try to restore electricity to all EWEB customers. About 2,500 Pacific Power customers in Roseburg and Lebanon were still without electricity. Local crews made repairs and the utility brought in contract crews. Emerald People’s Utility District (EPUD) crews worked from March 13 to 8 p.m. March 14, and again through the night March 15. They had restored power to all but 1,200 customers in Dexter, Marcola, Lost Creek, Creswell, and Saginaw. More than 1,500 people were still without power across Lane Electric’s service area. Lane had five crews working to restore power in Eugene, Springfield, Oakridge, Lowell, Blue River, Veneta, Dorena, Creswell, and Cottage Grove.

Source: <http://kezi.com/news/local/207062>

6. *March 12, WCAU 10 Philadelphia* – (Pennsylvania) **Cause of Tacony explosion revealed.** Philadelphia, Pennsylvania fire officials said it was natural gas and a furnace glow plug that caused January’s fatal explosion in the Tacony section. The explosion and fire that followed killed a PGW worker and lit up the 6900 block of Torresdale Avenue. PGW crews had been working to patch a high-pressure gas main break just before the explosion. Fire officials said the cause of the explosion was an accumulation of natural gas within a building which was then ignited by a furnace glow plug.

Source: <http://www.nbcphiladelphia.com/news/local/Cause-of-Tacony-Explosion-Revealed-117820153.html>

For another story, see item [70](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## Chemical Industry Sector

7. *March 16, Louisville Courier Dispatch* – (Kentucky) **Left lane of Interstate 71 reopens in Oldham County after tractor-trailer fire.** The left lane of Interstate 71 reopened in Oldham County, Kentucky, after the highway was closed for several hours following a tractor trailer fire March 16, according to the state department of highways. The truck was carrying Zamak No. 3, a lead alloy, but none of the chemical leaked from the truck and there was no immediate danger to the surrounding areas, the director of Oldham County Emergency Management said. He said that for an unknown reason, the truck caught on fire, which spread to the trailer. The driver was not hurt, but was

taken to a hospital because of a medical reason unrelated to the incident. No other vehicles were involved. It was reported just after 2:30 a.m., and the interstate was closed shortly before 3 a.m. The director said it likely would be some time before all lanes were open.

Source: <http://www.courier-journal.com/article/20110316/NEWS01/303160069/1078/SPORTS11/I-71-south-near-Pendleton-Oldham-shut-down-after-tractor-trailer-carrying-chemicals-catches-fire?odyssey=nav|head>

8. *March 16, KTRK 13 Houston* – (Texas) **Fire breaks out at Pasadena chemical plant.** Firefighters knocked out a fire at a chemical plant in the Pasadena, Texas, area March 16. The fire broke out at the Ablemarle plant on South Street around 2 a.m. Police said the chemical di-mythl-aluminum chloride was released into the air. However, the smoke cloud does not pose any danger. The chemical is used in the making of plastics. There was no shelter in place or evacuations ordered. There were no reports of injuries.  
Source: <http://abclocal.go.com/ktrk/story?section=news/local&id=8016090>
  
9. *March 15, KCEN 6 Temple* – (Texas) **Temple chemical spill prompts evacuation.** Workers were back inside the AkzoNoble manufacturing plant in Temple, Texas, the night of March 15 after a dangerous chemical spill. Firefighters arrived just after 10:30 a.m. in the 3400 block of Lucius McCelvey Drive. Initially, around 50 gallons of Xylene overflowed from a mixing tank. It happened in a room designed to contain spills. It has a concrete barrier like a small swimming pool, and specialized ventilation. Around 40 workers evacuated while haz-mat crews worked to contain the spill. No one was hurt, though paramedics checked out four workers after they inhaled fumes, but they did not need treatment. Once inside, haz-mat crews found another leak in the mixing tank from a tap in the bottom. Another 100 gallons spilled out while crews worked to pump the Xylene into separate tanks so they could fix the leak in the tap. An environmental services company from Waco also helped with the clean-up. The spill was cleaned up around 6 p.m., and an all-clear was given to re-enter the building.  
Source: <http://www.centralexasnow.com/Global/story.asp?S=14255825>
  
10. *March 15, Longview Daily News* – (Washington) **Small industrial spill forces evacuation at Kelso plant.** About 25 workers were evacuated and 1 was taken to the hospital around 11 a.m. March 15, when a small quantity of industrial cleaner leaked at the Stowe Woodward plant at 2209 Talley Way in Kelso, Washington, according to Cowlitz 2 Fire & Rescue. The benzene-based cleaner leaked out of a pump, and the spill amounted to less than a gallon. Fumes overpowered a worker, who was taken to St. John Medical Center, where he was examined and released, the assistant fire chief said. Stowe “has been at the forefront of fabricating rubber, polyurethane, ceramic and composite covers for the steel rolls used in the most demanding applications of paper making and other industries,” according to the firm’s Web site. The plant was evacuated largely as a precaution. Benzene once was a common additive to gasoline, but its use has been curtailed because it is a carcinogen. It still is an important industrial solvent. Stowe hired Cowlitz Clean Sweep Inc. to clean the spill up. Cowlitz 2 Fire and

Rescue sent a fire engine, a medic unit, a chief officer, and a hazardous materials response vehicle to the plant.

Source: [http://tdn.com/news/local/article\\_1d855bf6-4f7f-11e0-b445-001cc4c002e0.html](http://tdn.com/news/local/article_1d855bf6-4f7f-11e0-b445-001cc4c002e0.html)

For more stories, see items [39](#) and [57](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

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

11. *March 16, Boston Globe* – (Vermont) **Vermont Yankee license on hold.** The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) March 15 put a temporary hold on a 20-year license extension for the Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant. NRC had instructed its staff to issue the renewal March 10, the day before the massive earthquake and tsunami in Japan. An NRC spokesman attributed the delay to the fact manpower is short while the agency focuses resources on helping Japan deal with the unfolding nuclear crisis. Opponents of the nearly 40-year-old plant, who note it is the same design as the most compromised reactor in Japan, said the delay should be far longer — until the agency can assure the public the plant is safe. Vermont Yankee, in Vernon near the Massachusetts border, has suffered a series of problems in recent years that have frayed the public trust, including the collapse of a cooling tower and leaks of tritium into groundwater from underground pipes that company officials initially said were not there. A Vermont Yankee spokesman said March 15 it was his understanding the delay was merely a temporary one and the license would be issued soon.

Source:

[http://www.boston.com/news/world/asia/articles/2011/03/16/vermont\\_yankee\\_license\\_extension\\_on\\_hold/](http://www.boston.com/news/world/asia/articles/2011/03/16/vermont_yankee_license_extension_on_hold/)

12. *March 16, Bloomberg* – (International) **Pools storing spent fuel may present biggest risk at Fukushima.** According to officials, pools containing spent fuel rods at the Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear plant in Japan have been heating up at three of the plant's six reactors, Bloomberg reported March 16. Water in the spent fuel pool at the number 4 reactor may be boiling, Japan's Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency said March 15. Temperatures in the spent fuel pools of the shuttered number 5 and number 6 reactors rose to as high as 145 degrees Fahrenheit at 2 p.m. March 15, up from 140 degrees at 7 a.m., a Tokyo electric official said. Left unchecked, that risks fire and possibly a nuclear reaction that spews radiation into the atmosphere, said an engineer who used to lead the Nuclear Emergency Response at Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico. Japanese authorities were concerned about the condition of the pools of units 3 and 4, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) said March 15. Military helicopters may be used to drop water on unit 3 and workers were planning to spray water into unit 4, according to the IAEA. Tokyo Electric said March 15 the containment chamber at the unit 2 reactor may have been breached because pressure dropped suddenly. Clouds of steam were seen rising from the reactor building after a fire at the number 4 reactor. The 50 workers remaining at the plant were pulled out

March 15 after radiation temporarily rose to unsafe levels. They later returned. Tokyo Electric is building a cable to supply power to the plant's cooling systems, a spokesman said. The systems were knocked out by the March 11 earthquake and tsunami, and the company has been pumping seawater into the reactors to keep them from melting down. The highest measurement of radiation so far taken at the plant was 400 millisieverts, 20 times the annual limit for nuclear industry employees and uranium miners, according to the World Nuclear Association.

Source: <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-03-16/pools-storing-spent-fuel-may-present-biggest-risk-at-fukushima.html>

13. *March 15, Dow Jones Newswires* – (Florida) **Progress Energy: Florida nuclear plant restart delayed on repairs.** Progress Energy Corp. (PGN) is delaying the restart of its Crystal River, Florida nuclear plant to perform repairs on the containment building's structure, Dow Jones reported March 15. The single reactor, capable of generating 860 megawatts of power, is housed in a concrete building embedded with steel tendons, a safety measure that can be tightened to control pressure. There are new indications portions of the concrete have separated and additional repairs are needed. PGN informed federal and state regulators "final retensioning of tendons" has been suspended, which is expected to delay the planned restart of the power plant. The company was planning to restart the plant in April, but it is unclear how long repairs will take. "This has been a first-of-a-kind repair and we will continue to move forward cautiously and deliberately," said the chief executive of PGN's Florida division. Data from monitoring equipment is being investigated. The plant remains offline and there is no impact to public safety. Repair work is "probably on the order of months," a Nuclear Regulatory Commission spokesman said.

Source: <http://www.smartmoney.com/news/ON/?story=ON-20110315-000515&>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Critical Manufacturing Sector**

14. *March 16, Reuters* – (International) **Toyota says to keep 12 assembly plants shut to Mar 22.** Toyota Motor said it will keep all of its 12 main assembly plants in Japan closed through March 22 following the devastating earthquake March 11. Closure of the factories since March 14 has already resulted in lost production of 40,000 vehicles. Toyota also said March 16 it would restart production of spare parts March 17 at 7 plants near its base in Toyota City, central Japan, to be shipped to service centers for repairs to Toyota vehicles already on the road. From March 21, Toyota will also begin making car parts at the same plant for assembly factories overseas, the company said.  
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/03/16/japan-quake-toyota-closures-idUSTKZ00685020110316>
15. *March 15, Associated Press* – (International) **Subaru, Toyota curb output at N. American plants.** Two Japanese automakers are scaling back production at North American plants as they assess their ability to get parts from Japan after that country's devastating earthquake and tsunami, the Associated Press reported March 15. Subaru of

America said March 14 it suspended overtime at its only North American plant in Lafayette, Indiana. Toyota Motor Corp. also said it was suspending overtime and Saturday production at its 10 plants in the region. So far, other Japanese automakers said their North American plants are unaffected. Nissan Motor Co., Honda Motor Co., Mitsubishi Motors, and Mazda Motor Corp. all said they have not changed their production plans. But that could change if lingering damage from the earthquake prevents parts shipments. While Japanese automakers with North American plants use locally-based suppliers for many of their parts, others still come from Japan. According to the senior vice president of industry analysis and economics for the Original Equipment Suppliers Association, some parts had been in short supply before the earthquake, including semiconductors, precision bearings, and tires. He estimated that most automakers have a 3- to 4-week inventory of parts in the pipeline. "Once those start to dry out, that's where you see the shortages in the assembly plants," he said. Source: <http://abcnews.go.com/Business/wireStory?id=13142993&page=1>

16. *March 15, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission* – (National) **American Suzuki Motor Corp. recalls QuadSport ATVs due to crash hazard.** Suzuki Motor Corporation has issued a recall March 15 of about 1,350 Suzuki QuadSport ATVs. Distributors, including American Suzuki Motor Corp., of Brea, California; Montgomery Motors Ltd., of Honolulu, Hawaii; and Suzuki del Caribe Inc., of Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico. The regulator/rectifier circuit board can fail and cause the engine to stall during riding due to an insufficient battery charge, increasing the risk of a crash. American Suzuki has received 11 reports of regulator/rectifier failure. No injuries have been reported. The ATVs were sold at Suzuki ATV dealers nationwide from September 2008 through February 2011. Source: <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml11/11728.html>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

17. *March 15, Defense News* – (California) **Some JSFs return to flying, others remain grounded.** Seven test versions of the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter (JSF) have been cleared to resume flight testing, but others remain grounded while investigators work to determine why one aircraft's primary generators failed the week of March 6, the program's top official told the U.S. Congress March 15. The oldest Air Force F-35A, numbered AF-1, returned to the air March 14, the program executive officer for the JSF program said at a House Armed Services subcommittee hearing. Two other F-35As and four F-35B short take-off or vertical landing test planes have also been given the go-ahead to resume flying. The entire fleet of F-35 system development and demonstration aircraft was grounded March 9 after an F-35A suffered a dual generator failure and oil leak during a test flight from Edwards Air Force Base in California. Investigators from the Navy and Air Force, along with prime contractor Lockheed Martin, determined the failure was from a "design artifact unique to a newer configuration of the generator," the program office said in a statement released March 15. Source: <http://www.defensenews.com/story.php?i=5971384&c=AME&s=AIR>

18. *March 14, Associated Press* – (California) **Pilot recovering from El Segundo chopper crash.** Authorities said a pilot is recovering from injuries sustained when his helicopter crashed while he was removing an air conditioning unit from the roof of a Raytheon Space and Airborne Systems warehouse in El Segundo, California, March 13. Officials told KABC-TV the injuries were not life-threatening. The crash started a fire on the first and second floors of the building. Firefighters from several departments put it out in about 30 minutes. The Federal Aviation Administration said March 14 that the National Transportation Safety Board was investigating. A Raytheon spokeswoman said there are 13,000 employees at the plant, but few were working March 13.  
Source: [http://www.mercurynews.com/news/ci\\_17612262?nclick\\_check=1](http://www.mercurynews.com/news/ci_17612262?nclick_check=1)
19. *March 14, Space.com* – (Florida) **Space shuttle worker dies in fall at launch pad.** A space shuttle technician fell to his death March 14 from a launch pad at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, Florida. The 53-year-old man, who was a swing arm engineer for NASA contractor United Space Alliance, fell from an elevated level on Launch Pad 39A, where the space shuttle Endeavour is being prepped for launch, about 7:40 a.m., the space agency said. He died shortly afterward. Further details were not immediately available. A NASA spokesman said the agency has begun an official investigation into the incident.  
Source: [http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/42072452/ns/technology\\_and\\_science-space/?GT1=43001](http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/42072452/ns/technology_and_science-space/?GT1=43001)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Banking and Finance Sector**

20. *March 15, GovInfoSecurity.com* – (National) **IRS financial systems vulnerable to insider threats.** The Internal Revenue Service has been inconsistent in implementing IT security controls to prevent, limit, and detect unauthorized access to its financial systems and information, making them vulnerable to malicious insiders, government auditors said March 15. The IRS failed to restrict sufficiently users' access to databases to only the access needed to perform their jobs; secure the system employed to support and manage its computer access request, approval, and review processes; update database software residing on servers that support its general ledger system; and enable certain auditing features on databases supporting several key systems, according to a Government Accountability Office (GAO) report. In addition, GAO said, 65 of 88, or nearly three quarters of previously reported weaknesses, remain unresolved or unmitigated. GAO said the IRS has not fully implemented key components of its comprehensive information security program. Although IRS has processes in place intended to monitor and assess its internal controls, auditors said, these processes were not always effective.  
Source: [http://www.govinfosecurity.com/articles.php?art\\_id=3431](http://www.govinfosecurity.com/articles.php?art_id=3431)
21. *March 15, WXIA 11 Atlanta* – (Georgia) **Courier killed in Toco Hills armored car robbery.** An armored car courier was shot to death during a robbery in front of a



Kroger store in the Toco Hills Shopping Center in Atlanta, Georgia, just after noon March 15. FBI investigators said the Garda Armored Car courier was walking back to his truck when a gunman walked up and shot him three times. The gunman then grabbed an undisclosed amount of money, hopped in a car and fled the scene in a car police said had been carjacked in Snellville March 14. The courier was taken to Grady Memorial Hospital in Atlanta, where he later died. Garda is offering a \$100,000 reward for information leading to the conviction of those responsible for the robbery. Investigators said surveillance video relating to the incident would not be released because of its graphic nature. "There was no provocation, there was no mercy," an FBI Special Agent said. The FBI said it was the seventh time the same violent robbing crew has targeted armored car couriers. "They fire on these guards without any provocation, I think that is paramount," the Agent said.  
Source: <http://www.11alive.com/news/local/story.aspx?storyid=182763&catid=3>

22. *March 15, WEWS 5 Cleveland* – (Ohio) **Two charged with robbing Twinsburg bank, more robberies under investigation.** Two men suspected in multiple bank robberies in Northern Ohio were arrested and charged March 15. The two were charged with one count each of federal bank robbery. The Key Bank on East Aurora Road in Twinsburg was robbed March 14. According to a release from the FBI, a man passed the teller a demand note. After receiving cash, he fled the bank and got away in car waiting outside. A witness to the robbery called 911, and reported the vehicle's location and description. The FBI said Oakwood Village police followed the car during a high-speed chase, until it crashed in Garfield Heights. The FBI said the duo are suspects in bank robberies across Cuyahoga, Summit and Lake counties, including one the week of March 7 in North Olmsted. These other robberies remain under investigation. One of the perpetrators was set to appear in federal court March 15, while the second man remains hospitalized at MetroHealth Medical Center.

Source: [http://www.newsnet5.com/dpp/news/local\\_news/cleveland\\_metro/Two-charged-with-robbing-Twinsburg-bank-more-robberies-under-investigation](http://www.newsnet5.com/dpp/news/local_news/cleveland_metro/Two-charged-with-robbing-Twinsburg-bank-more-robberies-under-investigation)

23. *March 15, WSBTV 2 Atlanta* – (National) **Security guard foils fake credit card ring.** A security staffer at a retail store helped break up an interstate crime ring that used counterfeit credit cards from Georgia to Ohio, police said. Three men were arrested after a loss-prevention manager at a Meijer store in Lexington, Kentucky reported they were acting strangely while buying iPods. The men are believed to be Chinese citizens who have used faked credit cards in at least five states, a Lexington police spokeswoman said. Lexington police were called by the Meijer employee March 11, she said. The employee gave police a description of the men and their car, and the car was stopped and police found iPods and 86 fake credit cards, police said. According to court records, the men also had \$5,200 worth of phone cards, and at least \$4,700. The men were charged with 86 counts of criminal possession of a forged instrument and one count each of false making or embossing of a credit card, and receiving goods by fraud under \$10,000. It appeared the men flew to Atlanta from California and drove north along Interstate 75, using the cards in Georgia, Ohio, and Indiana, police said.

Source: <http://www.wsbtv.com/news/27203362/detail.html>

24. *March 15, Las Vegas Review-Journal* – (National; International) **Man guilty of securities fraud sentenced to prison, ordered to repay \$23.5 million.** A former Clark County, Nevada man who stole more than \$26 million through mining and real estate investment scams was sentenced March 15 to more than 6 years in federal prison and ordered to pay his victims \$23.5 million in restitution. The man created a number of false business fronts from 2001 through 2007, then “told investors that he and his companies were engaged in exploring and developing a series of lucrative mining claims in Peru, Guyana, California and Nevada,” according to a statement from a U.S. Attorney. The stocks he sold were worthless because the mining projects never existed, the statement said. The man reportedly purchased a 6,000-square-foot home in Lake Las Vegas, and several luxury automobiles, according to the U.S. Attorney’s office. All of those assets were seized by the government. The man reportedly told investors in North America and the Middle East he needed their money to fund a water delivery system for an Arizona real estate project. That development, like the mines, was a product of his imagination. According to the U.S. Attorney, he used the ill-gotten gains from the real estate scam to pay his mortgage, make “lavish” home improvements and pay for a riding stable. The judge found the defendant was “delusional and not generally remorseful.”

Source: <http://www.lvrj.com/news/man-guilty-of-securities-fraud-sentenced-to-prison-ordered-to-repay-23-5-million-118047039.html?ref=039>

25. *March 9, San Jose Mercury News* – (California) **Police crack credit card skimming scam in Mountain View, Los Altos.** Authorities thwarted a sophisticated scheme to capture the credit card numbers of gas station patrons in Mountain View and Los Altos, California, the Santa Clara County District Attorney’s Office announced March 8. Skimming devices allegedly installed inside gas station pumps by 2 men collected more than 3,600 credit card numbers. However, police arrested the Glendale, California duo before they could retrieve the information. The men face charges including conspiracy, altering a computer, and acquiring credit card information with the intent to defraud, according to the district attorney’s office. An attendant at a gas station in Mountain View first called police December 6, after opening up a pump to investigate an error message. Inside, the attendant found a small device attached to a circuit board. Mountain View police then set up an alarm system to signal officers when the pump was reopened. On December 17, the duo set off the alarm and were arrested. Police searched the duo’s van and found keys that opened the gas pump and notes with addresses, which led police to other stations. In Mountain View, credit card skimmers were found at four stations in addition to one found at a Chevron in Los Altos.

Source: [http://www.mercurynews.com/breaking-news/ci\\_17569451?nclick\\_check=1](http://www.mercurynews.com/breaking-news/ci_17569451?nclick_check=1)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Transportation Sector**

26. *March 16, Associated Press* – (Pennsylvania) **2 out-of-state men charged in Amtrak attack.** Two out-of-state men were charged after one of them allegedly punched an Amtrak train conductor during a stop in western Pennsylvania. Connellsville police

said the 22-year-old man, of White Plains, Maryland, and a 27-year-old man, of Washington, D.C., were arrested when the train stopped March 14 about 35 miles southeast of Pittsburgh. The conductor told police both men were drinking on the train and became unruly. The conductor said the 22-year-old punched him when he tried to subdue him. The man is charged with simple assault, delaying the train and public drunkenness, among other crimes. The 27-year-old faces similar charges, except for assault.

Source: <http://www.wfmj.com/Global/story.asp?S=14262013>

27. *March 16, Salt Lake Tribune* – (Utah) **Train cars derail in downtown SLC, no injuries reported.** Four Union Pacific Railroad cars derailed in Salt Lake City, Utah, March 16, but no injuries were reported. A Union Pacific (UP) spokesman said the accident occurred about 5:45 a.m. and UP crews were dispatched to get the cars back onto the rails to clear a crossing near 800 South and 600 West. Salt Lake City police provided traffic control, urging motorists to find alternate routes around the site until it was cleared about 8 a.m. The spokesman said none of the derailed cars overturned, and none were carrying hazardous materials. “They were carrying loads of cement,” he said. The spokesman said the cause of the derailment was being investigated.

Source: <http://www.sltrib.com/sltrib/home/51443075-76/cars-hunt-lake-salt.html.csp>

28. *March 15, CNN* – (International) **Canadians facing terror charges in 2009 N.Y. subway plot.** Alleged trainers who authorities said played a key role in a 2009 al Qaeda plot to blow up packed New York subway cars were facing charges in Canada, police said March 15, although their whereabouts were unknown. At a news conference in Winnipeg, Canadian police accused the suspect, a former student at the University of Manitoba, of training the Afghanistan-born New Yorker who has pleaded guilty to trying to bomb the city’s subway system. The suspect was identified by the New York plotters as a weapons instructor who went by the name of “Youseff,” police said. “This extensive and thorough national security investigation has provided us with the evidence we require to lay criminal charges,” said assistant commissioner with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. The suspect, 30, is charged with instructing to carry out terrorist activity and conspiracy to participate in the activity of a terrorist group. Another Canadian man, 27, was charged with conspiracy to participate in activity of a terrorist group and participation in the activity of terrorism. He is also a former student at the University of Manitoba.

Source:

<http://www.cnn.com/2011/WORLD/americas/03/15/canada.new.york.plot/index.html>

29. *March 15, KMGH 7 Denver* – (Colorado) **Semi involved in oversized load crash violated highway permit.** A semitrailer hauling an oversized dump truck bucket was in violation of its Colorado transportation permit when it was crashed into by another semi around 5 a.m. March 14. The oversized load was pulled over on Interstate 25, south of Castle Rock, when another semi slammed into it and one of the pilot cars escorting the oversized load. The crash closed southbound I-25 for more than 3 hours through the morning rush hour. A Colorado State Patrol Trooper told 7NEWS the oversized load and escort car were parked on the right shoulder of the interstate, where

it transitions from three lanes down to two lanes. According to the trooper, the bucket stuck out into the second lane by about 6 feet. According to the permit, the truck was traveling from Aurora to Climax. The permit included special restrictions that included traveling in the Denver region only between 9 p.m. and 5 a.m., and driving in daylight hours only in other regions, including where it pulled over in Castle Rock. Firefighters were able to free the driver of the semi from the mangled wreck and fly him to Swedish Medical Center. Southbound traffic was forced off at the Plum Creek Parkway during the I-25 closure. Hazardous materials crews were called to the crash scene to clean up a diesel spill. The crash is still under investigation.

Source: <http://www.thedenverchannel.com/news/27198839/detail.html>

For more stories, see items [1](#), [6](#), [7](#), [34](#), [35](#), and [47](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## Postal and Shipping Sector

30. *March 16, Green Bay Press-Gazette* – (Wisconsin) **Biohazard drill at post office gets area agencies in sync.** Dozens of postal employees and emergency responders took part March 15 in a drill designed to prepare them in case biotoxins are found in a piece of mail. The exercise at the John W. Byrnes Main Post Office in Green Bay, Wisconsin, simulated what would happen if anthrax or another dangerous substances was detected in one of the 600,000 to 700,00 pieces of mail that passes through the facility each day. “In an actual emergency, there would be no time to huddle up and plan what to do, so we conduct exercises like this,” said an assistant team leader for training for the Brown County Hazardous Materials Response Team. His team, postal employees, and personnel from many agencies, including the Green Bay Fire Department, Brown County Health Department, Green Bay Metro transit system, and Northeast Wisconsin Technical College (NWTC) walked through the steps they would follow if a biohazard alarm was triggered at the postal facility. Postal employees were taken through a decontamination process, then were bused to NWTC for medical examinations while emergency crews made sure the building was vented properly. The Green Bay facility remained open to the public during the more than 2-hour drill. Signs explained the presence of emergency crews.

Source:

<http://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/article/20110316/GPG0101/103160749/2071/GPG1009/Biohazard-drill-post-office-gets-area-agencies-sync?odyssey=nav|head>

31. *March 15, Medford Mail Tribune* – (Oregon) **Elderly woman crashes into Talent Post Office.** The Talent, Oregon Post Office was back open March 15 after a 75-year-old Talent woman crashed her car into the building March 14, closing the office until officials could assess the damage. “When she got up to the building, she still had her foot on the accelerator and was burning rubber,” said the Talent Post Office Manager. “It’s pretty extensive damage. We had to lock the building down and move everybody out.” She said walls inside the building were shifted forward with the force of the crash, which occurred shortly before 1 p.m. The top of the walls are still connected to the

ceiling, but the lower part of one wall has detached from the floor. No one at the post office was injured and the woman was not issued a citation, though police will send a request to driver and motor vehicle services to reexamine her.

Source:

<http://www.mailtribune.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20110315/NEWS07/103150336/-1/NEWSMAP>

32. *March 15, WCBS 2 New York* – (New York) **Muggers targeting postal workers in the Bronx.** Mail carriers in the Bronx, New York were on high alert after a rash of muggings that sent four postal workers to the hospital, according to information released March 15. The attackers targeted letter carriers at least four times over the last year, and twice in the last 3 months alone in various neighborhoods. Each time, the New York City Police Department (NYPD) said, they shoved the unarmed postal worker to the ground and stole a master mailbox key that provides access to dozens of mailboxes. In at least one case, attackers threatened their victim at gunpoint. Police believe a group of several men was behind the assaults. They released a sketch of a suspect in the most recent incident, described to investigators as a black man between 18 and 22 years of age, about 5 feet 6 inches and weighing around 175 pounds.

Source: <http://newyork.cbslocal.com/2011/03/15/nyc-mail-carriers-attacked-in-the-bronx/>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Agriculture and Food Sector**

33. *March 16, Associated Press* – (Indiana) **Forklift accident kills worker at Indy plant.** Fire officials in Indianapolis, Indiana, said a forklift operator was killed March 16 when a floor collapsed beneath the machine at Royal Food Products, a food manufacturing plant. The fire captain said the accident occurred about 7 a.m. on Indianapolis' southeast side. The worker apparently drove onto a section of concrete floor that was not reinforced, and it collapsed beneath the forklift, sending it plunging 14 feet into the basement. The worker and machine were trapped in debris. The company, which makes salad dressing, sauces, and other products, shut down for the day.
- Source: <http://www.fox19.com/Global/story.asp?S=14261218>
34. *March 16, Muncie Star Press* – (Indiana) **Barn fire shuts down U.S. 35.** A barn fire March 15 in Delaware County, Indiana, shut down U.S. 35 for hours, destroying the building and the farm equipment inside. The owner of Seldom Rest Farms said he lost a tractor, a truck, four or five pieces of tillage equipment, a manure spreader, and 500 bales of straw. The fire started around 5:30 a.m. at a Whitehead property on U.S. 35 near the Henry County line that is the site of the storage barn that burned, a grain silo and a 600-head hog barn. The cause of the fire is under investigation. Nobody was hurt, and firefighters were thankful that the blaze did not spread to a house across the highway, the hog barn, or the grain silo, which they said could have exploded. U.S. 35 was shut down until 11 a.m. About 60 firefighters from Blountsville, Hamilton

Township, Liberty Township, Losantville, Modoc, Parker City, Cowan, Mooreland, Prairie Township, and Millville responded, as did Delaware County EMS and the sheriff's office.

Source: <http://www.thestarpress.com/article/20110316/NEWS01/103160305/Barn-fire-shuts-down-U-S-35>

35. *March 15, Elk Grove Citizen* – (California) **Big rig left hanging on I-5 bridge.** A two-trailer, corn delivery truck crashed into a center divide wall along Interstate-5 and was left dangling March 15 on a freeway bridge outside Laguna, California. The driver was hospitalized for minor injuries after his cab sunk into the creek below. Cosumnes firefighters worked under heavy rainfall to contain the truck's motor oil and fuel that leaked into Stone Lake Creek, which is connected to the Stone Lake wildlife preserve. The incident occurred around 4 p.m. north of Interstate-5's Laguna Boulevard exit. Traffic was slowed to a crawl on northbound 5. The truck held about 100 gallons of fuel, the Cosumnes Fire battalion chief said at the scene. California Highway Patrol officers at the scene did not know the cause of the crash. The California Department of Fish and Game, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Coast Guard, and Sacramento County's hazardous materials unit were notified about the incident.

Source:

[http://www.egcitizen.com/articles/2011/03/15/feature\\_story/doc4d801f24bb293395050640.txt](http://www.egcitizen.com/articles/2011/03/15/feature_story/doc4d801f24bb293395050640.txt)

36. *March 13, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* – (International) **Live carp smuggled into Canada.** Smugglers continue to haul live Asian carp from Southern U.S. fish farms bound for food markets in Toronto, Canada, even as the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers studies how to keep the fish from swimming into the Great Lakes through the back door — the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal. Three times in recent months, Canadian officials have caught truck drivers with thousands of pounds of live bighead carp, which Canada banned in 2005. The first bust November 4 resulted in a \$50,000 fine. A February 18 seizure netted 6,000 pounds of the remarkably fecund fish and landed an Indiana fish hauler a \$20,000 fine. A third case is pending. All of this comes as the Corps of Engineers is plowing ahead on a \$15 million study to figure out how to keep Asian carp out of the Great Lakes, by somehow plugging the Chicago, Illinois, canal system that has destroyed the natural ecological barrier between Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River over a century ago.

Source: <http://www.jsonline.com/news/wisconsin/117829248.html>

For more stories, see items [21](#) and [59](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## Water Sector

37. *March 16, WFIE 14 Madisonville* – (Indiana) **First round of tests came back clean, boil advisory could be lifted Wednesday afternoon.** Samples from the Evansville, Indiana, water system continue to show no contamination. An Evansville Water and

Sewer Plant spokesman said complete results would be in around 4:30 p.m., March 16, and that it was possible the boil advisory would be lifted by 5. “It’s a good first step a good indication we are close to the end of this,” he said. “Nonetheless, folks need to continue to boil their water if they are going to consume it, and be safe about this until we lift the advisory.” Tests were taken from 67 locations March 15 and Louisville water officials arrived in the Tri-State to help with sample collection. They took some samples back to their lab, which is better able to detect certain bacteria. A boil advisory was issued March 14 after river water seeped into a clean water tank at the filtration plant. Officials blamed the problem on a mechanical failure combined with high river levels.

Source: <http://www.14wfie.com/story/14249688/entire-city-of-evansville-under-boil-advisory>

38. *March 16, Atlanta Journal-Constitution* – (Georgia) **Four sewage spills reported in DeKalb.** Four raw sewage spills were reported in DeKalb County, Georgia, March 15. More than 16,600 gallons of raw sewage spilled into Doolittle Creek from a grease blockage on Battle Forrest Drive in Decatur, according to county water reports. A 4,600-gallon spill was also reported on Rue Andeleys in Stone Mountain, and a 4,300-gallon spill occurred on Norman Road in Clarkston March 15. Both spills were in Snapfinger Creek. County officials also reported a spill at the Timber Trace Apartments on Gladeview Parkway in Stone Mountain. The amount of sewage that spilled into Mountain Creek was unavailable, county officials said.

Source: <http://www.ajc.com/news/dekalb/four-sewage-spills-reported-874418.html>

39. *March 15, KGET 17 Bakersfield* – (California) **Troubled chemical plant can remain open, for now.** The Kern County Board of Supervisors said a troubled chemical plant west of Bakersfield, California, can stay open, for now. Hondo Chemical has been under fire for illegally dumping hazardous waste. Three weeks ago, the board said it would close down the facility if the owner did not clean up his act. At a meeting March 15, county supervisors said Hondo Chemical can remain open because the facility has made significant progress in cleaning up the property. And, if the owner hits certain marks in the next 30 days, the plant can remain open. The owner said he has spent the past 3 weeks going one by one through his violations, which could cost him more than \$1 million in fines. Since 2007, Hondo has been charged multiple times for illegally dumping contaminated water in an area used to charge groundwater. But, there was some good news released March 15. The health department tested the water and said all groundwater samples came back negative for contamination. The board said the owner has until April 12 to fix four remaining violations from the health department, and 2 years to get the remaining fly ash off his property. The Kern County Fire Department also has a list of five violations that must be corrected. The department is also requiring the facility to install a fire suppression system, following a fire that broke out at the plant in February due to sulfur stored in a cement pump. The board said it wants a report in 15 days, detailing the progress made towards meeting the fire department’s requirements. And, in 30 days it wants a report on the overall cleanup effort.

Source: <http://www.kget.com/news/local/story/Troubled-chemical-plant-can-remain-open-for-now/e9enIEpwbk-6MfsnDAeNeA.csp>

40. *March 15, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency* – (California) **Bay area municipalities ordered to protect San Francisco Bay from sewage discharges.** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Justice Department, California Water Boards, and San Francisco Baykeeper announced March 15 a stipulated order that will settle a Clean Water Act enforcement action against seven municipalities in the East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD). The settlement is part of a broader enforcement strategy to address sewage overflows to the San Francisco Bay, especially during rain events. During this most recent rainy season, which began in October 2010, nearly 125 million gallons of untreated or partially treated sewage from EBMUD’s wet weather facilities overflowed into the San Francisco Bay during wet weather. Among other things, the seven municipalities listed as defendants in the order have cooperatively agreed to update aging infrastructure and collection systems that have been major contributors to the overflows.

Source:

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/0/c221b52e5e4823d58525785300718f88?OpenDocument>

41. *March 14, St. Joseph’s News-Press Now* – (Missouri) **Pump failure contributes to city wastewater release.** A pump failure March 11 contributed to the release of an estimated 1.2 million gallons of partially treated wastewater from the St. Joseph, Missouri wastewater treatment system. The Missouri Department of Natural Resources said March 14 the release was combined with increased stormwater runoff. City officials notified the department March 12, reporting a pump in a pump station between the primary and secondary treatment facilities malfunctioned a day earlier. The malfunction allowed the partially treated wastewater to overflow to the Missouri River. Since the wastewater was already partially treated — and because of the increase of stormwater contributing to the overflow — the release was not expected to affect drinking water systems down river, according to officials.

Source: <http://www.newspressnow.com/localnews/27191944/detail.html>

For another story, see item [35](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Public Health and Healthcare Sector**

42. *March 15, iHealthBeat* – (National) **Study: Medical identity theft has affected nearly 1.5M residents.** Nearly 1.5 million U.S. residents have been affected by medical identity theft, but few consumers take steps to avoid such incidents, according to a new study from the Ponemon Institute, Healthcare IT News reports. The study — sponsored by data protection firm Experian — found resolving cases of medical identity theft costs an average of \$20,663 in 2011, up from \$20,160 in 2010. The study also found that: 50 percent of those affected by medical identity theft did not report the incident to law enforcement officials, up from 46 percent in 2010; 49 percent of those affected by medical identity theft took no new action to protect themselves from future incidents; 36 percent of medical identity theft incidents occurred between family



members; and only 5 percent of those affected by medical identity theft learned about the incident from an organization's official data breach notification.

Source: <http://www.ihealthbeat.org/articles/2011/3/15/study-medical-identity-theft-has-affected-nearly-15m-residents.aspx>

43. *March 15, WXII 12 Winston-Salem* – (North Carolina) **Arson cause of fire at nursing home.** A fire at the Cornerstone Living Center in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, March 14, was intentionally set, Winston-Salem fire officials said March 15. Crews were called to the nursing home off Reynolds Park Drive just before 4 a.m. and found smoke coming from a kitchen window. An administrator at the home said the fire was contained and no residents or staff members were injured. The kitchen was rendered unusable, she said. She said 65 residents were staying at the home when the fire broke out. The fire caused \$70,000 in damage.

Source: <http://www.wxii12.com/news/27205696/detail.html>

44. *March 15, Wall Street Journal* – (National) **Potassium iodide runs low as Americans seek it out.** Supplies of potassium iodide, a preventive against radiation poisoning of the thyroid gland, were running low at some manufacturers, as Americans sought protection amid fears that radiation from Japan could head to the United States, according to the companies. One leading supplier, Anbex Inc., quickly sold out of its supply of more than 10,000 14-tablet packages March 12, the president of the Williamsburg, Virginia, company said. He said the firm was getting about 3 orders per minute for \$10 packages of its Iosat pills, up from as few as 3 per week normally. Interest is also high at Fleming Pharmaceuticals, a St. Louis, Missouri company that makes potassium iodide in liquid form. The owner estimated the firm is getting dozens of calls an hour, along with e-mails, requesting the 45-milliliter ThyroShield bottles. Fleming still has supply, but it expected to run out the week of March 14, she said. It is already planning to make a new round of the bottles, and to order the eyedroppers needed to dispense the solution. Fleming has received orders from some states worried because their stockpiles of potassium iodide will expire in the near future, she said. Also making orders, she added, were hospitals and pharmacies. The risk is thought to be low that radiation released in Japan would reach the United States at dangerous levels.

Source:

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748703363904576201013720213564.html>

For another story, see item [62](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Government Facilities Sector**

45. *March 15, InformationWeek* – (National) **DOD taking steps to prevent another Cablegate.** The Department of Defense (DOD) is taking decisive action to secure department networks to prevent an incident like the Cablegate scandal of 2010, the new

DOD CIO said the week of March 7. Speaking to the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs committee, the DOD CIO said the department is in the midst of deploying new security technology to the DOD classified network, SIPRNet, to prevent future insider breaches. “The unauthorized release of U.S. information by WikiLeaks has adversely affected our global engagement and national security and endangered the lives of individuals who have sought to cooperate with the United States,” she said. After conducting studies on how it can improve network security, the DOD has begun to implement a Host Based Security System (HBBS) to all of its workstations to prevent people from removing large amounts of data from SIPRNet by rewriting it to a removable storage device, said the DOD CIO, whose testimony is available online. Although the system will allow the removal of data from some machines, HBSS will report in real time each operation, she said. It also will report every unauthorized attempt to move data and rewrite it. The DoD also has a back-up plan to ensure another Cablegate will not happen while it waits for a full deployment of the new system, she added.

Source:

[http://www.informationweek.com/news/government/security/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=229300963&cid=RSSfeed\\_IWK\\_All](http://www.informationweek.com/news/government/security/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=229300963&cid=RSSfeed_IWK_All)

46. *March 15, Associated Press* – (International) **More U.S. relief crews exposed to radiation in Japan.** More U.S. military crews were exposed to radiation March 15 as the Pentagon ramped up relief flights over a Japan reeling from an earthquake, tsunami, and nuclear crisis. The Defense Department said the Navy started giving anti-radiation pills to some of those exposed, and Americans on two military bases south of Tokyo were advised to stay indoors as much as possible. Meanwhile, U.S. aviation and energy officials also worked with Japanese counterparts on the nuclear developments. The U.S. Navy said it was redirecting three ships to work in the Sea of Japan on the country’s west coast rather than risk the hazards of radiation and the debris field in the waters off the east coast. Sensitive air monitoring equipment on the aircraft carrier USS George Washington detected low levels of radioactivity from the Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear power plant as the carrier sat pier-side at Yokosuka, a spokesman for the U.S. 7th Fleet said March 15.

Source: [http://www.forbes.com/feeds/ap/2011/03/15/general-us-us-japan\\_8357194.html](http://www.forbes.com/feeds/ap/2011/03/15/general-us-us-japan_8357194.html)

47. *March 15, Carroll Eagle* – (Maryland) **Woman arrested in Carroll County court house bomb threat case.** Maryland State Police (MSP) arrested a 30-year-old Westminster, Maryland, woman and charged her in connection with a bomb threat phoned in to the Carroll County Circuit and District courts March 14. The suspect was arrested that night and charged with, “false statement, destructive device,” according to police. Both court houses at 101 N. Court St., Westminster were closed for several hours as a result of the threat, which proved to be false. According to a Carroll County Sheriff’s Office spokesperson, 911 officials received an anonymous telephone call claiming an explosive device had been left in one of the court buildings. Both court houses were evacuated and traffic within the immediate area stopped while law enforcement officers from the Carroll County Sheriff’s Office, MSP, and Westminster

police used explosive detection canine teams to inspect the buildings. The investigation from the Westminster Barrack Criminal Investigation Section and the MSP Statewide Apprehension Team determined the caller was female, according to a MSP release March 15. The woman was arrested at a relative's residence without incident, police said.

Source: <http://www.explore Carroll.com/news/5259/woman-arrested-carroll-county-court-house-bomb-threat-case/>

48. *March 15, Associated Press* – (Indiana) **Notre Dame at fault in Sullivan death.** The University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Indiana, responded March 15 to an investigation by the Indiana Occupational Safety and Health Administration (IOSHA) that concluded the school was at fault for a student's death after he fell from a hydraulic lift October 27, 2010. IOSHA levied \$77,500 in fines after determining the university ignored industry standards that led to the death of the 20-year-old junior from Long Grove, Illinois, while he was filming football practice. School officials said the school would publicly release findings from its investigation in 4 to 6 weeks. IOSHA handed down the fines March 15 after completing a 5-month investigation. Source: <http://msn.foxsports.com/collegefootball/story/Notre-Dame-at-fault-in-Sullivan-death-031511?GT1=39002>

For another story, see item [20](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Emergency Services Sector**

49. *March 16, Naperville Sun* – (Illinois) **Emergency radio system under fire.** Naperville, Illinois officials were asked March 15 to examine and resolve what some police officers, firefighters, and members of the public believe are potentially fatal flaws in the new emergency radio broadcasting system shared by Naperville and Aurora. A city manager agreed the radio system “is currently not operating at an acceptable level.” Areas of concern raised by police include frequent loss of contact with police and firefighters, based on “dead spots” within the city limits; garbled or incoherent transmissions based on the digital system and how it interprets the human voice; interference with other emergency equipment inside vehicles such as lights and sirens; and the inability to maintain contact once structures are entered. “The problems with our current radio system are very alarming, and the safety of our employees (and) the public needs to be addressed by every member” of the city council,” said a police officer and president of Naperville Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 42. An official said lodge members have “joined forces with the Naperville Firefighters Local 4302, in an attempt to educate the public and the city staff on the problems associated” with the system. Source: <http://napervillesun.suntimes.com/news/4337273-418/emergency-radio-system-under-fire.html>

50. *March 15, New York One News* – (New York) **EMT who posted picture of strangling victim online surrenders license.** A Staten Island, New York emergency medical technician (EMT) who pleaded guilty to official misconduct after posting a picture of a strangling victim on his Facebook page is now surrendering his license. Under a plea deal, the EMT agreed to complete 200 hours of community service, give up his license, and agree not to reapply for a new one in the future. A Staten Island district attorney said the EMT also waived his right to appeal. He has also been fired from his job at Richmond University Medical Center in West New Brighton. Authorities said the EMT took a picture of 26-year-old victim’s body after she was strangled in 2009. This is considered a violation of general regulations for emergency medical services workers. Source: [http://www.ny1.com/content/top\\_stories/135581/emt-who-posted-picture-of-strangling-victim-online-surrenders-license](http://www.ny1.com/content/top_stories/135581/emt-who-posted-picture-of-strangling-victim-online-surrenders-license)
51. *March 15, Associated Press* – (National) **Napolitano: U.S. drills for disasters like Japan’s.** U.S. emergency agencies constantly rehearse for a disaster like the one unfolding in Japan, and American first responders will learn from the experience of their Japanese counterparts, the Homeland Security Secretary said March 15. Speaking at a conference in Denver, Colorado, she said the United States was already planning a drill based on a hypothetical major earthquake along the New Madrid fault in the central United States when the earthquake, tsunami, and nuclear-reactor crisis struck Japan. “We are constantly practicing, using scenarios that are worst-case scenarios, to make sure we are as prepared and as up-to-date and as ready to go as we can be in any kind of a crisis,” she said. The DHS Secretary also added that it is too early to say whether U.S. practices or preparations will change because of the disasters in Japan. But she said the U.S. will learn from Japan’s experience, as it did from Hurricane Katrina in 2005, and the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico last year. The DHS Secretary spoke at a conference on the U.S. network of “fusion centers,” which gather and share federal, state, and local intelligence on terrorism and other threats. She said terrorist plots by U.S. residents or citizens are increasing, and the centers are a key part of the U.S. counter-terrorism strategy. There are about 70 fusion centers nationwide. Source: <http://www.homeland1.com/disaster-preparedness/articles/992767-Napolitano-US-drills-for-disasters-like-Japans/>

For another story, see item [30](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Information Technology Sector**

52. *March 16, Help Net Security* – (International) **LotusCMS multiple vulnerabilities.** A weakness and multiple vulnerabilities have been discovered in LotusCMS, which can be exploited by malicious users to disclose sensitive information and compromise a vulnerable system, and by malicious people to conduct cross-site scripting and request forgery attacks, disclose sensitive information, and compromise a vulnerable system, according to Secunia. Successful exploitation of this vulnerability requires that “magic\_quotes\_gpc” is disabled. The vulnerabilities are confirmed in version 3.0.3.

Other versions may also be affected.

Source: <http://www.net-security.org/secworld.php?id=10748>

53. *March 16, The Register* – (International) **RIM tells users of bloodied BlackBerry to disable JavaScript.** Research in Motion (RIM) has suggested BlackBerry users disable JavaScript to protect themselves against a critical vulnerability that allows attackers to remotely execute malicious code and access confidential data stored on the phone. The recommendation issued March 14 came 4 days after contestants in an annual hacking competition exposed a serious security vulnerability in a fully patched BlackBerry Torch 9800. By exploiting a bug in the phone's Web browser, they were able to write a file to its storage system and steal a complete list of contacts and a cache of pictures stored on the device. "Users of BlackBerry Device Software version 6.0 and later can disable the use of JavaScript in the BlackBerry Browser to prevent exploitation of the vulnerability," RIM said in the advisory. "The issue is not in JavaScript but the use of JavaScript is necessary to exploit the vulnerability."

Source: [http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/03/16/blackberry\\_security\\_advisory/](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/03/16/blackberry_security_advisory/)

54. *March 16, H Security* – (International) **Twitter adds 'Always use HTTPS' option.** The Twitter micro-blogging service has added a new setting that allows users to always use HTTPS when accessing Twitter.com, sending secure data transmissions via SSL, not only during log-in, but also for its other pages. This means that even cookies are now transmitted in encrypted form and can no longer be read and exploited for fraudulent activities by attackers using such tools as the Firesheep extension for Firefox.

Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/Twitter-adds-Always-use-HTTPS-option-1209032.html>

55. *March 15, Computerworld Hong Kong* – (International) **Quake damages plants of Fujitsu and Canon.** The 8.9 magnitude earthquake in Japan the week of March 6 damaged six plants of the Fujitsu Group and several facilities of Canon. Four of the Fujitsu Group plants with building and equipment damage are in the Fukushima Prefecture plagued by nuclear plant blasts after the quake, while the other two are in the Iwate Prefecture and the Miyagi Prefecture, according to the vendor in a statement March 14. These plants are respective facilities of Fujitsu Semiconductor, Fujitsu Semiconductor Technology, Fujitsu Integrated Microtechnology, and Fujitsu Isotec. Canon reported March 13 severe damage at Fukushima Canon and the Utsunomiya Office that houses an optics R&D center and two plants. While there are 15 cases of injury at the Utsunomiya Office, production at offices and plants in the hard-hit northern Honshu area has been suspended until further notice, the company noted. Companies including Sony and Panasonic also announced suspension at some of their plants earlier.

Source:

[http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9214640/Quake\\_damages\\_plants\\_of\\_Fujitsu\\_and\\_Canon](http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9214640/Quake_damages_plants_of_Fujitsu_and_Canon)

56. *March 15, IDG News Service* – (International) **Intel targets security in the cloud with McAfee.** Intel March 15 said it will use assets acquired from McAfee to provide cloud security services to protect the growing number of mobile devices that face malware and cyberattack threats. Intel will first offer security products through software and services and later offer security features via hardware, with a heavy focus on providing cloud security services, said the senior vice president and general manager at Intel's Software and Services Group. He also said mobile devices such as tablets and smartphones are increasingly vulnerable to malware and cyberattacks. Intel wants to design security management capabilities into hardware that activate features on mobile devices to communicate in real time with cloud-based consoles and provide security capabilities such as tackling malware, authenticating users, and verifying Internet Protocol addresses or Web sites, he said.  
Source:  
[http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9214607/Intel\\_targets\\_security\\_in\\_the\\_cloud\\_with\\_McAfee](http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9214607/Intel_targets_security_in_the_cloud_with_McAfee)

57. *March 15, Beverly Hills Courier* – (California) **Monterey Park chemical leak prompts hazardous materials response.** A chemical leak March 15 at a computer chip manufacturing company in Monterey Park, California, prompted a hazardous-materials response, but no one was hurt, authorities said. The problem was reported at about 3:30 a.m. at Kotura Inc., the Monterey Park fire captain said. He stated firefighters determined the leak involve hydrogen bromide and ammonia, which are used in the manufacturing process. A part of the commercial complex was isolated while crews worked to handle the problem, he said. There were no evacuations, but people were kept away from the area. By 7:30 a.m., the all-clear was given, but Kotura remained closed while an investigation was conducted.  
Source:  
[http://www.bhcourier.com/article/Local\\_News/Local\\_News/Monterey\\_Park\\_Chemical\\_Leak\\_Prompts\\_Hazardous\\_Materials\\_Response/75118](http://www.bhcourier.com/article/Local_News/Local_News/Monterey_Park_Chemical_Leak_Prompts_Hazardous_Materials_Response/75118)

### Internet Alert Dashboard

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

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

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## Communications Sector

58. *March 16, CNN* – (International) **U.S. military blocks websites to help Japan recovery efforts.** The U.S. military has blocked access to a range of popular commercial Web sites in order to free up bandwidth for use in Japan recovery efforts, according to an e-mail obtained by CNN and confirmed by a spokesman for U.S. Strategic Command. The sites — including YouTube, ESPN, Amazon, eBay and MTV

— were chosen not because of the content, but because their popularity among users of military computers account for significant bandwidth, according to Strategic Command spokesman. The block, instituted March 14, is intended “to make sure bandwidth was available in Japan for military operations” as the United States helps in the aftermath of the March 11 deadly earthquake and tsunami, the spokesman explained. U.S. Pacific Command made the request to free up the bandwidth. The sites, 13 in all, are blocked across the Department of Defense’s .mil computer system. “This is a response to a time of extreme demand for networks,” The spokesman said. He emphasized that it was a temporary measure. “This blockage will be of a temporary nature and may increase or decrease in the size and scope as necessary,” according to the message distributed to military announcing the move. “We are doing this to facilitate the recovery efforts under way in Japan,” The spokesman explained. “We are trying to make sure we are giving them as many avenues and as much support as we can.”

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2011/US/03/15/us.military.websites/index.html>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Commercial Facilities Sector**

59. *March 16, Kennebec Journal* – (Maine) **Bomb threat forces evacuation of 425.** A caller to the Augusta Civic Center in Augusta, Maine, who said three bombs — two fake and one real — had been placed there cleared the building of more than 425 visitors and staff around noon March 15. Police using bomb-sniffing dogs found no evidence of bombs. Two events — an Associated Grocers of Maine spring trade show that attracted about 400 people, and a Fred Pryor seminar for about two dozen people — resumed about 2 hours after the building was cleared. A civic center director said the threatening call came into the front desk at the civic center. “A gentleman on the other end said, ‘I’ve warned you before. You have three bombs in the building; two are fake and one is real,’” the director said. The director called police and had people evacuate the building and go across the parking lot to a hotel. The vice president of the Gardiner-based Associated Grocers group said the hiatus caused about 100 to 150 people, including some vendors, to leave early. The civic center, which has a 8,000-seat main auditorium and numerous other, smaller rooms for conferences and banquets, is owned and operated by the city of Augusta. The Augusta Fire Department battalion chief said his department sent all companies, including two engines, a ladder truck, and an ambulance. The center director said it was the first bomb threat he could recall in his 15 years as director of the facility.

Source: [http://www.kjonline.com/news/bomb-threat-forces-evacuation-of-425-visitors-at-augusta-civic-center\\_2011-03-15.html?searchterm=civic+center](http://www.kjonline.com/news/bomb-threat-forces-evacuation-of-425-visitors-at-augusta-civic-center_2011-03-15.html?searchterm=civic+center)

60. *March 15, Associated Press* – (Iowa) **Police say apartment blast caused by meth cook.** Authorities said an explosion that forced the evacuation of an Iowa City, Iowa apartment complex March 14 was caused by methamphetamine production. Police have arrested and charged a woman and a man with first-degree arson following an investigation into the blast. Officials said the occupants of the apartment, which included the accused woman, fled before firefighters arrived. The woman eventually

returned to the scene and spoke to members of the Johnson County Drug Task Force. That led authorities to a separate Iowa City residence where they found the accused male, who they said was wearing clothes present during the explosion.

Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/chi-ap-ia-iowacity-apartmen,0,1379952.story>

61. *March 15, Charlotte Observer* – (North Carolina) **Pipe bombs, chemicals found in towed car.** A Charlotte, North Carolina towing company was evacuated March 15 after employees found explosive chemicals and a small pipe bomb in the trunk of an impounded car. Employees at the Southern Star towing company on Orr Road called 911 to report the finding. The explosives were stabilized and no one was injured, though the towing company was evacuated and Orr Road was briefly closed, police said. The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department's (CMPD) bomb squad, the fire department's hazardous materials team, and paramedics responded to the scene. CMPD and the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives will conduct an investigation. Investigators said there appears to be no link to terrorism. Police said the car was towed from the Somerstone at Winding Trails Apartment complex after officers arrested a man for breaking into coin-operated machines. One person was arrested in the burglary case and a second suspect fled the scene before police arrived. The department's investigation into the explosives found will focus on the arrested suspect. The man told officers he drove the car to the apartment complex, and his friend got away.

Source: <http://www.charlotteobserver.com/2011/03/15/2142716/pipe-bombs-explosive-chemicals.html>

62. *March 15, KSL 5 Salt Lake City* – (Utah) **26 employees fall ill at North Salt Lake business; 9 hospitalized.** Hazardous materials crews and health department officials are investigating the sudden illness of 26 employees at a law office and call center March 15 in North Salt Lake, Utah. The incident is not being called a haz-mat situation, though, as chemical detectors ruled out anything that could cause such illnesses, said a deputy fire chief with South Davis Metro Fire. About 8:15 a.m., South Davis Metro Fire crews were called to the law office, where several employees were complaining of flu-like symptoms — nausea, vomiting, and dizziness. Crews evacuated the building, treated those who were sick and began searching for possible causes. Carbon monoxide poisoning was ruled out, as was a type of gas leak or freon leak in the air-conditioning units. Nine people were taken to Lakeview Hospital in Bountiful after being examined by medical personnel. As of 2:45 p.m., all of those patients had been treated and released, according to a news release from the hospital. The illness was isolated to the second-floor call center on the east side of the building. No other buildings in the area were evacuated.

Source: <http://www.ksl.com/?nid=148&sid=14740201>

63. *March 15, LaSalle News Tribune* – (Illinois) **Peru Mall opens back up after carbon monoxide leak.** Peru Mall in Peru, Illinois, reopened at 2:30 p.m. after closing at 11 a.m. March 15 because of a carbon monoxide leak, which sent more than 12 people to the hospital with headaches, the Peru police chief said. By 12:15 p.m., the leak had



been detected and shut off near J.C. Penney on the north end of the mall, but technicians were still getting significant readings of carbon monoxide inside the mall, the chief said. When the News Tribune was notified of the leak at 10:30 a.m. by a mall store employee, the mall remained open, but J.C. Penney was closed. A 911 call went out at 10:56 a.m., police said, and the entire mall was closed to shoppers. Police, fire, and ambulance crews responded. Firemen stopped the leak and a repair service repaired the leak, blamed on a boiler, police said. Ambulances took 12 people with headaches to the hospital, and others drove themselves to the hospital, he said.

Source:

<http://www.newstrib.com/articles/news/local/default.asp?article=26494&aname=CO+leak+leads+to+mall+evacuation>

64. *March 15, Brigham Young University Daily Universe* – (Utah) **2 dead in Provo fire; woman arrested.** Two women were killed March 14 in a fire at an apartment complex in Provo, Utah. Another woman was injured as she jumped out a window to escape the fire. According to a Deseret News article, the woman who allegedly started the fire was booked into the Utah County Jail March 15 by Provo police for investigation of aggravated arson and two counts of manslaughter. The fire started about 9 p.m. at The Boulders Apartments. Provo Fire and Rescue responded and worked to extinguish the fire. They discovered the bodies of two women. Two other female residents were forced to jump out of their second-story window. One of the women who jumped was hospitalized at University Hospital Burn Center in Salt Lake City with a broken pelvis and burns over 16 percent of her body.

Source: <http://universe.byu.edu/node/14782>

For another story, see item [4](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **National Monuments and Icons Sector**

65. *March 16, Arizona Daily Sun* – (Arizona) **Forest Service errs in igniting toxins.** U.S. Forest Service (USFS) employees conducting a prescribed fire in February also set an estimated thousands of chemically treated railroad ties on fire southwest of Tusayan, Arizona. The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) is investigating the fire, as the Kaibab National Forest would have needed special permission to dispose of the creosote-treated wood. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) considers creosote a possible cancer-causing agent and warns the public not to burn it in fireplaces at home due to risk of releasing “toxic chemicals.” Creosote-treated wood poses possible risks when used as landscaping, or if in contact with drinking water, EPA warns. Fire officers disposed of these railroad ties by adding them to a slash-burning fire, said a Kaibab National Forest spokeswoman. “They thought they were doing a good thing by removing fuels that could have posed a lot of problems were they to catch fire during fire season,” she said. ADEQ called on a report that the fire was still smoldering more than a week later, and USFS learned it had erred, she said.

Source: [http://www.azdailysun.com/news/local/article\\_f0b8da5a-21d1-5c40-a58f-fad951a55a20.html](http://www.azdailysun.com/news/local/article_f0b8da5a-21d1-5c40-a58f-fad951a55a20.html)

66. *March 15, Fort Collins Coloradoan* – (Colorado) **Firefighters say Grey Rock fire west of Fort Collins now 75 percent contained.** The 17-acre Grey Rock Fire burning in the Poudre Canyon northwest of Fort Collins, Colorado, is 75 percent contained, firefighters said. Firefighters and a helicopter continue working to bring it under control. Authorities said about 100 people were fighting the blaze, the cause of which remains under investigation. Several trails were closed in the area: Greyrock, Greyrock Meadows, and Hewlett Gulch. The fire is approximately one mile south-southeast of Grey Rock Mountain in the Roosevelt National Forest.

Source:

<http://www.coloradoan.com/article/20110315/UPDATES01/110315005/1002/news01/Grey-Rock-fire-northwest-Fort-Collins-grows-15-acres-overnight>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Dams Sector**

67. *March 16, Baton Rouge Advocate* – (Louisiana) **River levels spark levee inspections.** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will be inspecting Mississippi River levees from Baton Rouge to Venice in Louisiana twice a week because of rising water. This first phase of the Corps' flood-fight procedures started March 14 after water levels at the Carrollton gauge in New Orleans reached 11 feet. Water levels are forecast to continue rising. On March 15, the water at Carrollton was 11.6 feet and expected to rise to 14.5 feet by April 2, according to a news release from the Corps. The river stage at Baton Rouge was 30.36 feet at 1 p.m. March 15, and is expected to rise until reaching a crest of 35 feet — flood stage at this site — March 25, according to the National Weather Service. These inspections are expected to be along the Atchafalaya River levees and parts of the Mississippi River levees north of Baton Rouge in the next few weeks, according to the Corps.

Source: <http://www.2theadvocate.com/news/River-levels-spark-levee-inspections-.html>

68. *March 15, Zanesville Times Recorder* – (Ohio) **Dam system holding back floodwaters, corps says.** The Muskingum River at Zanesville, Ohio, is expected to crest at 19.2 feet, below the 25-foot flood stage, and begin dropping March 16. Despite reaching record levels again, dams operated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in the Muskingum Basin are holding floodwaters back, according to a news release posted on the Corps Web site. There have been concerns voiced by some area residents regarding the stability of these dams, the release states. The Corps stresses these projects are working as designed, the release said. Water levels at dams are being closely monitored and personnel are on site to perform instrumentation monitoring and general surveillance at the projects. If an emergency were to arise, the Corps would work closely with the local offices of emergency services to alert citizens of any danger.

Source:

<http://www.zanesvilletimesrecorder.com/article/20110315/NEWS01/110315005/-1/newsfront2/Dam-system-holding-back-floodwaters-corps-says>

69. *March 15, Fairport-East Rochester Post* – (New York) **Part of canal wall collapses in Fairport.** Crews were working March 15 to repair a stretch of the Erie Canal in Fairport, New York, after a piece of canal wall fell into it March 14. About 12 feet of the wall collapsed. As a result, a portion of the walking path was closed. The canal path by that stretch has been closed. No injuries were reported, and the New York State Canal Authority has been notified of the damage and will oversee its repair.  
Source: <http://www.fairport-erpost.com/latestnews/x698049204/Part-of-canal-wall-collapses-in-Fairport>
70. *March 14, Associated Press* – (Minnesota) **Work begins on levee to protect Moorhead plant.** Work has started on a clay levee to protect the Moorhead Power plant in Moorhead, Minnesota from spring flooding on the Red River. The Forum newspaper reported Moorhead Public Service began constructing the levee March 14. The plant houses electric distribution equipment and provides Moorhead with backup power generation. Moorhead Public Service said its plan is to provide electric and water services to customers throughout any flood.  
Source: [http://www.twincities.com/localnews/ci\\_17613805?nclick\\_check=1](http://www.twincities.com/localnews/ci_17613805?nclick_check=1)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information**

**About the reports** - The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is a daily [Monday through Friday] summary of open-source published information concerning significant critical infrastructure issues. The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is archived for ten days on the Department of Homeland Security Web site: <http://www.dhs.gov/iaipdailyreport>

### **Contact Information**

Content and Suggestions:

Send mail to [cikr.productfeedback@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:cikr.productfeedback@hq.dhs.gov) or contact the DHS Daily Report Team at (703)387-2267

Subscribe to the Distribution List:

Visit the [DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report](#) and follow instructions to [Get e-mail updates when this information changes](#).

Removal from Distribution List:

Send mail to [support@govdelivery.com](mailto:support@govdelivery.com).

---

### **Contact DHS**

To report physical infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact the National Infrastructure Coordinating Center at [nicc@dhs.gov](mailto:nicc@dhs.gov) or (202) 282-9201.

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at [soc@us-cert.gov](mailto:soc@us-cert.gov) or visit their Web page at [www.us-cert.gov](http://www.us-cert.gov).

### **Department of Homeland Security Disclaimer**

The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is a non-commercial publication intended to educate and inform personnel engaged in infrastructure protection. Further reproduction or redistribution is subject to original copyright restrictions. DHS provides no warranty of ownership of the copyright, or accuracy with respect to the original source material.