



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 4 April 2011

Current Nationwide Threat Level

ELEVATED

Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks

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

Top Stories

- Associated Press reports a U.S. Congressman said Mexican drug cartel members threatened to kill U.S. agents working on the American side of the border in March. (See item [44](#))
- According to TG Daily, more than 1 million Web pages have been compromised by a cyberattack that suddenly ramped up in 1 day to become one of the biggest mass-injection attacks ever seen. (See item [45](#))

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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. *April 1, KJTV 34 Lubbock* – (Texas) **Firefighters battle flames following oil well explosion in Shallowater.** Fire crews are keeping an eye on an area in Shallowater, Texas, that burned after an oil well explosion. It happened April 1 in the 8300 block of FM 2641. The Lubbock Sheriff’s Office was called out to assist volunteer firefighters. Crews from Shallowater and West Carlisle worked to put out flames that spread to grass surrounding the area. Supply from the pump had to be shut off so crews could contain the blaze. A firefighter on-scene said fires like this one often start with

lightning, but said the cause may have been a mechanical malfunction.

Source: <http://www.myfoxlubbock.com/news/local/story/Oil-well-explosion-Shallowater/BuuNR8b68EOBu0gHwcz9DA.csp?rss=2345>

2. *April 1, Associated Press* – (Colorado) **Truck crash spills 7,000 gallons of fuel in creeks.** Water officials in Denver, Colorado, are monitoring the damage from a tanker truck accident that injured the two people in the truck, and dumped about 7,000 gallons of gas and diesel in creeks flowing into Denver's watershed. The Colorado State Patrol said the tanker did not make a turn and went off the road March 31 in Park County, about 65 miles southwest of Denver. The trailer cut loose and spilled its contents — 2,000 gallons of diesel and 5,000 gallons of gasoline. One man was thrown from the truck, and the other was trapped underneath. The Denver Post reported Park County and state patrol crews hurried to contain the spill in the creeks by building a berm. Denver Water has sent technicians to the site to monitor the spill and take samples.
Source: <http://www.newsfirst5.com/news/truck-crash-spills-7-000-gallons-of-fuel-in-creeks/>

3. *March 31, Lafayette Advertiser* – (Louisiana) **One dead after wellhead explosion in Maurice.** Hilcorp Energy Company had an incident around 12:30 p.m. March 31 where an oil well head exploded at an Oil and Gas Production Facility near Lafayette, Louisiana. While information regarding the incident is still being gathered, initial reports indicated there was one fatality and one person with injuries. The cause of the incident has not been determined pending a full investigation. The incident appeared to have involved operations being conducted on a gas well. Hilcorp said it would continue to work closely with all federal, state, and local agencies involved in the investigation.
Source: <http://www.theadvertiser.com/article/20110331/NEWS01/110331015/1046/-Wall-Street-dropped-steeply-/One-dead-after-wellhead-explosion-Maurice?odyssey=nav|head>

4. *March 31, msnbc.com; Reuters; Associated Press* – (Florida) **Small planes flipped over in Fla.** Windy, rainy weather furiously swept through central Florida March 31, knocking out power to tens of thousands of people, flooding roads and toppling trucks and small planes. A spokesman for the National Weather Service told Reuters a tornado had tracked along Florida's Highway 60 crossing the Lake Wales area, dipping up and down. By 2 p.m., about 88,000 Tampa Electric Company customers were without power. Downed power lines were spotted in several counties and in the city of Tampa. Wind gusts of up to 90 miles per hour were felt in Tampa, and emergency crews were responding to a report of a commercial building collapse with no injuries. A few small planes flipped over at the St. Petersburg-Clearwater Airport. Large traffic jams happened on a bridge when a tractor-trailer truck flipped onto two cars — people in all the vehicles refused medical treatment. Strong winds blew a Carnival cruise ship from its dock at Cape Canaveral March 30, and flipped a tractor-trailer on its side while it drove on Interstate 95 in Brevard County. The truck driver suffered minor injuries and was treated at a Titusville hospital. In Tarpon Springs on the Gulf of Mexico, officials were handing out sand bags because of fears about flooding at high tide.
Source: <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/42360543/ns/weather/>

5. *April 1, United Press International* – (Louisiana) **No pollution seen at Louisiana pipeline.** The U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) announced there were no visible signs of oil observed during overflights of the area where a barge struck a pipeline in Cameron, Louisiana, United Press International reported April 1. USCG said a dredging barge reported a 12-inch condensate oil and natural gas pipeline ruptured during dredging operations in a ship canal. The agency said in a statement its latest monitoring from a helicopter found no “visible signs of condensate oil pollution in the water.” Canadian pipeline operator Enbridge said it shut down a section of the pipeline until further notice. A spokeswoman for Enbridge said the pipeline ruptured at a gathering system that feeds the Stingray pipeline system. The spokeswoman told Bloomberg it was only targeting the damaged section of the pipeline. USCG said it established a 2-mile safety zone around the damaged pipeline and closed the canal to shipping traffic.
Source: http://www.upi.com/Science_News/Resource-Wars/2011/04/01/No-pollution-seen-at-Louisiana-pipeline/UPI-68531301657127/

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Chemical Industry Sector

6. *April 1, Reuters* – (International) **U.N. suggests pesticides, chemicals for watch list.** The United Nations (U.N.) has suggested three pesticides and three industrial chemicals be put on a trade “watch list” because they can threaten human health and the environment, the U.N.’s Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) said April 1. U.N. chemical experts have proposed pesticides endosulfan and azinphos methyl, and the hazardous pesticide formulation Gramoxone Super be added to the Rotterdam Convention’s Prior Informed Consent procedure, the FAO said. The U.N.-backed Convention prevents unwanted trade in chemicals included in the legally binding procedure. It does not introduce bans, but helps members make informed decisions on trade in hazardous chemicals. The FAO said chemical experts had recommended three industrial chemicals be added to the list — perfluorooctane sulfonate, its salts and precursors; pentaBDE commercial mixtures; and octaBDE commercial mixtures. It said they based recommendations on regulatory actions taken by the European Union, Japan, Canada, and other countries to ban or restrict the use of chemicals that pose an unacceptable risk to human health and the environment. The Rotterdam Convention is due to meet in June.
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/04/01/us-pesticides-un-idUSTRE7303IT20110401>
7. *April 1, Associated Press* – (Nevada) **Acid spill at Sparks lab causes street closures.** Emergency crews evacuated a building that housed several businesses in Sparks, Nevada, and closed off two blocks in an industrial area in response to an acid spill at a laboratory, but no injuries were reported, and the spill soon was contained. Sparks firefighters responded to the Process Stainless Lab on Coney Island Drive near East McCarran Boulevard just after 9 a.m. March 31. Fire officials said an estimated

250 gallons of acid leaked from several 55-gallon drums. Crews set up barriers to prevent the acid from spreading and had it contained before 11 a.m. The lab uses the acid for polishing medical equipment, as well as parts for aircraft and submarines. It is in the same industrial park where a nitric acid leak at Advanced Composite Technologies caused evacuations and street closures in January.

Source: <http://www.rgj.com/article/20110401/NEWS/104010339/-1/TT/Acid-spill-Sparks-lab-causes-street-closures?odyssey=nav/head>

8. *April 1, Beaumont Enterprise* – (Texas) **One dead, three injured after flash fire at Port Arthur plant.** Authorities will continue to investigate April 1 how a highly flammable solvent remained in a pipeline workers were welding March 31 at a Port Arthur, Texas chemical plant when it erupted in a deadly flash fire and blast. One worker died and three others were seriously injured at the KMTEX Chemical Plant on Gulfway Drive on the Intracoastal Waterway. Witnesses said one of the workers was welding a pipeline that contained coal tar naphtha solvent when the fire occurred around 2 p.m. Workers thought all of the solvent was evacuated from the line, a Jefferson County Sheriff's Office deputy said. When Port Arthur firefighters arrived shortly after 2:15 p.m., the fire had burned out. A byproduct of refined crude oil, naphtha is highly flammable and can be ignited by heat, sparks, and open flames, according to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. A helicopter flew two injured workers to the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston. One of the workers suffered trauma to his head; the other had fractured legs, authorities said. A third person received a concussion and was taken to Christus St. Mary's Hospital in Port Arthur. A portion of South Gulfway Drive was closed for a time March 31 so helicopters could land to transport injured workers, and crews could check for hazardous materials danger, the sheriff's office said. The Port Arthur Fire Department ruled out any hazmat dangers.

Source: <http://www.beaumontenterprise.com/news/article/UPDATE-Details-released-on-flash-fire-that-1316837.php>

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

9. *March 31, Homeland Security News Wire* – (National) **U.S. reactors have weaker back-up batteries than Fukushima Daiichi had.** Almost all American nuclear power plants have backup batteries that would last only half as long as those at Japan's troubled Fukushima Daiichi plant did after a tsunami knocked out power there, an expert testified March 29 at a U.S. Senate committee briefing on nuclear safety. An industry official, addressing the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, conceded battery life was "one of the obvious places" nuclear operators would examine for potential improvements. The New York Times reported a nuclear expert at the Union of Concerned Scientists, which generally takes a critical tone toward reactors, said that just 11 of the nation's 104 plants had 8-hour batteries, and 93 had 4-hour

batteries. The batteries are not powerful enough to run pumps that direct cooling water, but they can operate valves and power instruments that give readings of water levels, flow, and temperatures. After the March 11 tsunami disabled the local electricity grid at the Fukushima plant and the plant's emergency diesel generators, the failure of batteries deprived operators of the crucial measurements. The senior vice president and chief nuclear officer of the Nuclear Energy Institute, the industry trade group, also addressed the committee. "To get to 48 hours, or 72 hours, pick a number," he said of the backup batteries. "We're going to have to take a hard look and see what resources would be required." The New York Times said after the hearing, he said an alternative to adding long-lasting batteries could be having portable diesel generators available for quick dispatch to a reactor. Some equipment intended to cope with a severe accident or terrorist attack is already centrally stockpiled, he said.

Source: <http://homelandsecuritynewswire.com/us-reactors-have-weaker-back-batteries-fukushima-daiichi-had>

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

10. *April 1, Associated Press* – (Kentucky) **1 killed in AK Steel's Ashland plant.** One person has died in an explosion and fire March 31 at the AK Steel Corp. coke plant in Ashland, Kentucky. The Ashland Fire Department battalion chief said the blast happened around noon. He said officials do not yet know the cause of the incident, which is being investigated by the state fire marshal's office as well as the plant. He said the fire happened in the plant's byproducts area. He said there were no other injuries as far as he knew. The person who died was a contractor working at the plant, according to a statement from the chairman, president and CEO of AK Steel. The steelmaker is based in West Chester Township.

Source:

<http://communitypress.cincinnati.com/article/AB/20110401/NEWS0103/304010052/1196/NEWS010702/1-killed-AK-Steel-s-Ashland-plant?odyssey=nav|head>

11. *April 1, Bucyrus Telegraph-Forum* – (Ohio) **Security tightened at Bucyrus GE plant.** Some remarks made by an employee March 29 triggered GE Lighting officials to add extra security to the Bucyrus Lamp Plant on South Walnut Street in Ohio. A GE Lighting spokeswoman said the company is approaching the situation with caution. "An employee made some remarks that gave us concern," she said. "An investigation is being conducted to determine what happened." She said the employee, and other workers are being questioned. Bucyrus police reported GE made authorities aware of the situation. However, the company is conducting the investigation on its own. "The plant is not on lockdown," the spokeswoman said. "Employees continue to exit and enter the plant and deliveries continue to be made. We have put extra security measures in place. The safety of our employees, facility and the Bucyrus community are our first priority," she said. The spokeswoman said extra security measures at the plant will continue until the incident is resolved.

Source:

<http://www.bucyrustelegraphforum.com/article/20110401/NEWS01/104010303/Security-tightened-GE-plant?odyssey=nav|head>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

12. *April 1, MMD Newswire* – (International) **4 Tennessee men plead guilty in international arms trafficking case.** Four former officers of Nashville, Tennessee arms manufacturer Sabre Defence Industries, LLC (SDI-US), pleaded guilty March 28 to conspiring to defraud the United States and to violations of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), following an investigation by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement’s (ICE) Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) ,and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). The four men, along with co-conspirators SDI-US and a citizen of the United Kingdom and owner of SDI-US, were indicted in January for conspiracy to defraud the United States, conspiracy to commit mail fraud and wire fraud, making false statements on export and import documents, and for conspiracy to violate the AECA. “The national security implications of this case cannot be underestimated,” said the special agent in charge of ICE HSI in New Orleans, Louisiana. “HSI agents in Nashville foiled a potentially dangerous smuggling scheme. In the wrong hands, technology like this could be used to inflict harm upon America or its allies.” According to the indictment the men conspired to illegally import and export regulated firearms and firearm components and technology to and from the United States.
Source: <http://www.mmdnewswire.com/guilty-in-international-arms-trafficking-case-34778.html>

13. *March 31, Associated Press* – (Tennessee) **Report: Errors likely worsened flare plant blast.** State investigators have found no definitive cause for a September 14, 2010 explosion and fire that seriously burned three workers at Kilgore Flares in Toone, Tennessee, but their report said the problems were likely made worse by employees overloading their work stations with flammable materials. The report from the Tennessee Occupational Safety and Health Administration (TOSHA) was released March 30 and reported in the Jackson Sun. In the report, the state determined overloading assembly booths was a recurring problem. But “the TOSHA inspection did not formulate any theories as to the fire’s origin or initiation source,” the study stated. The flare materials are highly flammable and can be ignited by static electricity, which is what investigators have said they suspect caused the explosion and fire. Investigations into previous fires and explosions at the company have pointed to friction, impact, and electrostatic discharge as likely causes. The TOSHA report was heavily redacted because of concerns about exposing the company’s proprietary information and endangering national security. Kilgore makes decoy flares to guide heat-seeking missiles away from aircraft and ships.
Source: <http://www.newstimes.com/default/article/Report-Errors-likely-worsened-flare-plant-blast-1316923.php>

14. *March 31, Los Angeles Times* – (California) **Explosion of Marine jet aboard the John C. Stennis blamed on debris in engine.** The two most seriously injured of the 11 people who were hurt when a Marine fighter jet caught fire on the flight deck of the carrier John C. Stennis off the southern coast of California were hurt when an engine exploded and spewed out parts, the carrier’s commanding officer said March 31. One sailor suffered a fractured femur when he was hit by engine parts flying out of an F/A-18C Hornet that had a “catastrophic” engine failure 10 seconds before being launched. A captain said the fire and explosion appear to have been caused by debris that was loose in one of the engines. The explosion severed a fuel line, sending fire and thick, black smoke over the deck, he said.
Source: <http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/lanow/2011/03/the-most-seriously-injured-of-the-11-people-hurt-when-a-marine-fighter-jet-got-caught-on-the-flight-deck-of-the-carrier-john.html>

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Banking and Finance Sector

15. *April 1, Associated Press* – (Florida) **SEC claims Fla. couple ran \$30M Ponzi scheme.** The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) claims in a lawsuit a Florida couple ran a \$30 million Ponzi scheme involving fake foreign currency investments. The SEC lawsuit was filed the week of March 28 in federal court in Fort Lauderdale against the two suspects. They ran a group of companies under the name MRT or Maximum Return Transaction. SEC said the couple told investors their money was used to trade in foreign currency or invest in foreign products. Instead, the lawsuit said most of the money went to pay off older investors in classic Ponzi fashion or fund a lavish lifestyle for the couple. SEC is seeking to force the couple to forfeit ill-gotten gains.
Source: <http://www.miamiherald.com/2011/04/01/2144818/sec-claims-fla-couple-ran-30m.html>
16. *March 31, Burlington County Times* – (Ohio) **Suspected bank bandit arrested in Burlington City.** A man suspected of robbing several Ohio banks was arrested in Burlington City, New Jersey, minutes after the FBI had notified the department the suspect was possibly in the area, police said. According to investigators, the 38-year-old man of Hamilton, Ohio, was wanted by the FBI and Ohio authorities for 4 bank robberies. The FBI notified Burlington City police March 31 the man, who has family in the county, was believed to be in the area. A short time later, officers with the department’s special enforcement unit spotted the suspect at a bus stop at the corner of West Federal and High streets and took him into custody without incident. The man, who was believed to have traveled to the city from Camden, was found in possession of an undisclosed amount of heroin and a hypodermic needle, police said. He was charged with drug and paraphernalia possession and was placed in Burlington County Jail in Mount Holly pending extradition proceedings. His bail was set at \$100,000.

Source:

http://www.phillyburbs.com/news/local/burlington_county_times_news/suspected-bank-bandit-arrested-in-burlington-city/article_fd55dcee-5bdf-11e0-826f-0019bb30f31a.html

17. *March 31, Federal Bureau of Investigation* – (National) **Former TBW financial analyst pleads guilty in \$1.5 billion fraud scheme.** A former senior financial analyst at Taylor, Bean and Whitaker (TBW), pleaded guilty March 31 to conspiring to commit bank and wire fraud for his role in a scheme that defrauded approximately \$1.5 billion from financial investors in TBW’s mortgage lending facility, Ocala Funding. The 37-year-old analyst, of San Antonio, Texas, pleaded guilty in the Eastern District of Virginia. He faces a maximum penalty of 5 years in prison when he is sentenced June 21. According to a statement of facts submitted with his plea agreement, in 2005 TBW established a wholly owned lending facility called Ocala Funding. The facility was managed by TBW. The man had tracking and reporting responsibilities with respect to Ocala, and he admitted that from 2006 through August 2009, he and other co-conspirators engaged in a scheme to mislead investors and auditors as to the financial health of the lending facility. According to court records, shortly after Ocala was established, he learned there were inadequate assets backing its commercial paper. He tracked this deficiency, which was referred to internally at TBW as a “hole” in Ocala. He reported the status of the “hole” to senior TBW executives, including its CEO and CFO. He was also aware TBW co-conspirators were improperly transferring hundreds of millions of dollars from Ocala to TBW accounts. At the time TBW ceased operations, the hole was about \$1.5 billion. He admitted he prepared documents that inaccurately and intentionally inflated figures representing the aggregate value of the loans held in Ocala, or under-reported the amount of outstanding commercial paper. He sent this false data to investors, other third parties, and an outside audit firm.

Source: <http://washingtondc.fbi.gov/dojpressrel/pressrel11/wfo033111.htm>

18. *March 31, Springfield Connection* – (Virginia) **Springfield loan officer charged in mortgage-fraud scheme.** A 48-year-old Springfield, Virginia man was arrested March 25 and charged with conspiracy to commit mortgage-fraud involving about 15 homes in the Northern Virginia area. According to court documents, the total amount of loans approved exceeded \$6.5 million. According to the 5-count federal indictment returned March 24, he is charged with engaging in a conspiracy to defraud financial institutions into making fraudulent loans and profiting from salary, commissions, bonuses and incentives. The conspiracy allegedly involved four loan officers and two loan officer assistants, previously employed in the Falls Church, Virginia branch of SunTrust Mortgage, who prepared and approved fraudulent loan applications. The indictment alleged the suspects prepared and submitted false, fraudulent and misleading loan applications for unqualified buyers — individuals who lacked the finances, credit rating, or legal status to obtain a certain loan amount. The fraudulent applications contained false data regarding the applicant’s employment, income, assets, immigration status, and intent to live in the property as a primary residence.

Source:

<http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/article.asp?article=349474&paper=72&cat=104>

19. *March 31, Gulf Coast Business Review* – (Florida) **Orion Bank’s Williams indicted.** Prosecutors unveiled a federal grand jury’s indictment of the former chairman, CEO, and president of Orion Bank in Naples, Florida, charging him with bank fraud and deceiving state and federal bank examiners. Before regulators shut it down in late fall 2009, Orion was the second-largest bank headquartered on the Gulf Coast. The grand jury indicted the man on 13 counts, including bank fraud, misapplication of bank funds, making false bank entries, making false statements, and wire and mail fraud. The indictment alleged the man orchestrated a complex scheme in 2009 to fraudulently raise capital and falsify bank records to mislead regulators as to the true financial condition of the bank.
Source: <http://www.review.net/section/detail/3-31-2011-orion-banks-williams-indicted/>

20. *March 29, Greenwich Time* – (Connecticut) **Guilty plea in Fairfield County ATM-skimming scheme.** A Queens, New York, woman arrested last year for her part in a widespread ATM scam affecting parts of Fairfield County, Connecticut, pleaded guilty March 28 in U.S. District Court to one count of conspiracy to commit bank fraud. The 22-year-old entered the plea before a United States District Judge. She faces up to 30 years in prison and a fine of up to \$1 million. Her plea came a week after a man believed to be at the center of the plot was indicted. The 33-year-old man, also known as “Tarzan,” was charged the week of March 21 with one count of conspiracy to commit bank fraud, four counts of bank fraud and four counts of aggravated identity theft. Federal officials believe the man and woman, and two other women, conspired to install “skimming” devices at ATM and card-swipe access devices used by banks to control access to ATM lobby doors. The group targeted People’s United Bank locations in Connecticut, including in Darien, Stamford, and Greenwich. The three women in the plot were arrested by the Connecticut Financial Crimes Task Force April 22, 2010 outside a Darien shopping center, where they were attempting to make withdrawals using bank account information they obtained from skimming operations set up throughout the region. Federal authorities said the man who masterminded the plot directed the women to use a PIN-capturing device at a People’s in Cos Cob in March 2010 to create counterfeit bank cards that allowed them to withdraw funds from accounts.
Source: <http://www.greenwichtime.com/local/article/Guilty-plea-in-Fairfield-County-ATM-skimming-1313383.php>

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Transportation Sector

21. *April 1, Postmedia News* – (International) **Cargo ship blocking St. Lawrence Seaway freed.** A 138-meter ship that wedged itself in the St. Lawrence Seaway in Montreal, Canada, March 31 has been freed. The operation to unwedge the massive vessel began around 1 p.m. and concluded roughly 25 minutes later. The commercial ship became

stuck between the Jacques-Cartier and Victoria bridges, completely blocking the waterway. The BBC Steinhoeft, carrying 1,000 tons of cargo, was bound for Philadelphia, Pennsylvania when it ran aground March 31.

Source:

<http://www.canada.com/Cargo+ship+blocking+Lawrence+Seaway+freed/4541785/story.html>

22. *March 31, KIRO 7 Seattle* – (Washington) **U.S. 2 at Stevens Pass closed till at least noon Friday due to avalanche.** An avalanche on U.S. 2 at Stevens Pass March 31 partially buried a Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) worker. As a result, the pass is closed until at least noon April 1. The worker was clearing snow from another avalanche that shut down the highway earlier in the day, WSDOT said. The driver is OK, but crews were not slated to be back to clear the slides until 8 a.m. April 1, WSDOT said. When crews return April 1, they will do some avalanche control, assess conditions, and resume their clean-up. The first snow slide spilled about 15 feet of snow over the road, closing it beginning at about 5 a.m. from mile post 58 to milepost 65.

Source: <http://www.kirotv.com/traffic/27384192/detail.html>

23. *March 31, Associated Press* – (Wyoming) **High winds force closure of I-25 to trucks south of Cheyenne.** High winds forced the closure of Interstate 25 to lightweight, high-profile vehicles from Cheyenne, Wyoming, south to the Colorado border. A truck was blown over on the interstate March 31 as winds gusted to nearly 60 mph. The Wyoming Department of Transportation said forecasts called for increasing winds until midnight. The interstate remained open to passenger vehicles and trucks with heavier loads March 31. Officials said it would reopen to lightweight and high-profile vehicles when gusts diminished for at least 30 minutes. Several highways in Wyoming have been under a “no light trailer” advisory since March 30 when wind gusts began to exceed 45 mph. A windstorm in mid-February caused at least six truck blow-over crashes in southeastern Wyoming. The driver of one truck was killed.

Source:

<http://www.greenfieldreporter.com/view/story/c96c1995471b491db831f89e7666631a/WY--Interstate-Closed/>

24. *March 31, Charleston Regional Business Journal* – (International) **Agencies adding radiation screening procedures for U.S. ports.** Federal agencies are implementing more radiation screening procedures for ships coming from or passing near Japan, though they do not expect to see hazardous levels of radiation stateside, according to a letter from DHS. The U.S. Coast Guard will stop vessels that have traveled within 50 miles of the crippled Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant before the vessel enters a U.S. port. U.S. Customs and Border Protection is also monitoring vessels from Japan and will send agents to perform additional screening when those vessels dock. Those agents will screen cargo while it is off-loaded, and if they detect radiation, they will do a second screening to determine the level and type of radiation present. The Port of Charleston in South Carolina has radiation detectors in place that screen cargo as trucks pull it from the port. When those detect radiation, a Customs agent checks the cargo

with a handheld detector. A port spokesman said the port has not seen any impact from the damaged nuclear plant.

Source: <http://www.charlestonbusiness.com/news/38971-agencies-adding-radiation-screening-procedures-for-u-s-ports?rss=0>

25. *March 31, Reuters* – (Illinois) **Barge mishap shuts segment of Upper Mississippi River.** The U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) said it halted navigation on the upper Mississippi River on a 43-mile stretch near the southern tip of Illinois after a barge tow struck a bridge March 30. The vessel, the Jay Luhr, had 25 rock barges in tow when it struck a rail bridge at Thebes at about 10 p.m., a USCG spokeswoman said. All the barges broke loose and one sank. USCG closed the river March 30 between mile marker 43 at Thebes and mile 0 at Cairo, Illinois. As of March 31, two southbound vessels were waiting to pass through the area.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/03/31/us-usa-rivers-berge-idUSTRE72U5TN20110331>

For more stories, see items [4](#), [5](#), [7](#), and [8](#)

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Postal and Shipping Sector

26. *April 1, Agence France-Presse* – (International) **Italian officer injured in parcel bomb explosion.** An Italian military officer was injured March 31 when a letter-bomb apparently sent by anarchists exploded in an army barracks in the Tuscan port of Livorno, authorities said. The “Informal Anarchist Federation” (FAI) was written on the envelope of the letter which exploded when opened, according to Italian intelligence services. The FAI was behind the sending of booby-trapped parcels to the Swiss, Chilean, and Greek embassies in Rome at Christmas. “The military officer was in his office when he opened a package which exploded and injured his face and hands. He was immediately given first aid and taken to hospital,” the defense ministry statement said. the victim was later flown by helicopter to A hospital in Florence. He was reported to have lost three fingers and suffered severe eye damage that could leave him partially or wholly blind. Italian intelligence services drew a parallel between the attack and similar bombings in Greece and Switzerland the same day, blaming the violence on anarchists.

Source:

http://www.straitstimes.com/BreakingNews/World/Story/STIStory_651781.html

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Agriculture and Food Sector

27. *April 1, Food Safety News* – (Maryland) **Salmonella outbreak traced to pancake breakfast.** Eight people are confirmed to have Salmonella infections in an outbreak traced to a March 5 pancake breakfast in Thurmont, Maryland. Source of the illnesses

is said to be contaminated sausage. The implicated sausage was purchased at a 4-H “Country Butchering” event held January 27, according to the Frederick County Health Department. All of those sickened had attended the fundraising breakfast at the Trinity United Church of Christ and became ill a few days later. On March 11, Frederick Memorial Hospital staff received lab results indicating the case patients tested positive for *Salmonella infantis*. Although there was no sausage left over from the breakfast to test, samples of the sausage sold at the local butchering event were analyzed by the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and found to contain the outbreak strain of *Salmonella*, the local health department said. State and local health departments are working with the U.S. Department of Agriculture to determine how the sausage became contaminated.

Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/04/eight-ill-from-salmonella-tainted-sausage/>

28. *March 31, KSPR 33 Springfield* – (Missouri) **Thousands of turkeys will be euthanized in Polk County, officials investigating avian influenza.** About 14,000 to 15,000 young turkeys will be euthanized after the Missouri Department of Agriculture found a possible case of Avian Influenza in Polk County. Cargill’s director of communications said routine testing discovered antibodies in the turkey’s immune systems tested positive for Avian Influenza H7N3. The owner of the farm said he was instructed by Cargill not to speak with the media. Cargill owns the turkeys. The farm owner manages the birds and grows them to maturity. Neighbors said their chickens will be tested next. Because young turkeys were exposed, they will be euthanized because it is protocol. “We do not want those animals around for several months to potentially become ill or potentially spread influenza,” the director said. All flocks within a 6-mile radius will be tested. The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service is involved in the investigation. The National Veterinary Services Laboratory is providing virus isolation and confirmatory testing. The Missouri Department of Agriculture said this type of avian influenza rarely affects humans. They said it is low pathogenic, which means it is not likely to spread.
Source: <http://www.kspr.com/news/local/kspr-thousands-of-turkeys-will-be-euthanized-in-polk-county-officials-investigating-avian-influenza-20110331,0,7789252.story>

29. *March 31, WMTV 15 Madison* – (Alabama; National) **Frozen chicken fillet recall.** Wayne Farms, of Decatur, Alabama, recalled approximately 53,210 pounds of frozen, breaded, fully cooked Italian-style chicken breast fillet products because they contain an undeclared allergen, egg, which is not noted on the label. The products subject to recall include: 10-pound cases of: Thumann’s “The Deli Best” Fully Cook Breaded Italian Style Chicken Breast Fillet W/Rib Meat with each case containing bulk packed 7-oz. chicken fillets; Dutch Quality House Dist. Breaded Fully Cooked Italian Style Chicken Breast Fillet W/Rib Meat with each case containing bulk packed 7-oz. chicken fillets; and non-branded Breaded Fully Cooked Italian Style Chicken Breast Fillet With Rib Meat with each case containing bulk packed 7-oz. chicken fillets. The products were produced between August 3, 2010 and November 13, 2010 and were shipped for foodservice use nationwide and to distribution centers in New Jersey and

Massachusetts.

Source:

http://www.nbc15.com/health/headlines/Frozen_Chicken_Fillet_Recall_119028869.html

30. *March 31, WPTV 5 West Palm Beach* – (Florida) **Crop duster chemicals drift over school.** Spray from a crop duster drifted across Gove Elementary School in Belle Glade, Florida, March 31. Palm Beach Fire Rescue said Glades Ag Service was spraying a combination of insecticide, fungicide, and pesticide at the time. The company said it did not spray the school, but a change in wind likely pushed the cloud toward school grounds. At least one administrator was outside at the time. Some of the students reported itchy skin and watery eyes, but all were OK. They were contained inside their classrooms. The Palm Beach County School District said 32 people complained of burning or itching eyes, or said they did not feel well. No one was transported for treatment. The students were told to wash their hands and faces while at school. Parents were asked to wash the clothes that kids wore to school separately from other laundry. The school began cleaning all surfaces and classrooms as a precaution. Classes were expected to resume as scheduled April 1.
Source: http://www.wptv.com/dpp/news/region_the_glades/belle_glade/crop-duster-accidentally-sprays-school-

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Water Sector

31. *April 1, Associated Press* – (Michigan) **Judge OKs \$26.5M water contamination settlement.** A federal judge approved a \$26.5 million settlement for a central Michigan community whose water supply was contaminated by a chemical company in the 1950s and 1960s. A U.S. District court judge in Bay City signed an order approving the deal March 31. The city of St. Louis, Michigan, hopes the settlement with Rosemont, Illinois-based Velsicol Chemical Co. will help pay to replace the water system that serves the area, which is contaminated with a byproduct of the pesticide DDT. The settlement of the 2007 lawsuit was approved the week of March 28 by the city council. The city said money for the settlement includes \$20.5 million from an insurance company for Velsicol, and \$6 million from a trust related to a former parent company.
Source: <http://abcnews.go.com/Business/wireStory?id=13273533>
32. *March 31, San Mateo Daily Journal* – (California) **Water supply fix under way.** A massive \$320 million public works project is launching in San Mateo County, California, to improve the Hetch Hetchy Regional Water System and water deliveries for more than 2.4 million people living in the Bay Area. The four projects beginning construction on the Peninsula are part of the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission's \$4.6 billion Water System Improvement Program and include upgrades to the Crystal Springs reservoir system, water treatment plant, and regional pipelines. Work on the projects should take 4 years to complete.

Source: [http://www.smdailyjournal.com/article_preview.php?id=155684&title=Water supply fix under way](http://www.smdailyjournal.com/article_preview.php?id=155684&title=Water%20supply%20fix%20under%20way)

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

33. *March 31, Associated Press* – (Nevada) **2nd Vegas doctor reports he reused biopsy devices.** A second Las Vegas, Nevada physician notified patients he will pay for them to get HIV and hepatitis tests after he improperly reused medical devices during biopsy procedures. The Nevada State Medical Board said the doctor voluntarily reported he had been sterilizing and reusing single-use plastic endocavity needle guides. The board executive told the Las Vegas Review-Journal the doctor reported reusing devices during 150 prostate biopsies over 3 years. The executive said it was not clear whether the doctor will face board discipline. The board recently suspended another urologist after finding he improperly reused the guides from December 20 to March 11. The Southern Nevada Health District has not identified infections due to the reused devices, but it is notifying more than 100 of the doctor's patients to get tested.

Source: http://www.necn.com/03/31/11/2nd-Vegas-doctor-reports-he-reused-biops/landing_health.html?&blockID=3&apID=8608b675f58f45bf8edacb8154ca8b79

34. *March 29, Reuters* – (National) **Johnson and Johnson recalling more Tylenol from closed plant.** Johnson and Johnson (J&J) said it was recalling more than 700,000 bottles or packages of Tylenol and other consumer medicines made at a now-closed plant, the latest in a litany of recalls by the company. The company's McNeil Consumer Healthcare unit recalled one lot of Tylenol 8 Hour Extended Release Caplets, or 34,056 bottles, from retailers, the company said. The company cited a musty odor that has prompted many other J&J recalls. The product was made at its Fort Washington, Pennsylvania plant before J&J closed the facility in April 2010. Separately, McNeil added 10 lots of other products, amounting to 717,696 bottles or packages, to a wholesale level recall it initiated January 14. Those products included various forms of pain reliever Tylenol, as well as allergy drug Benadryl and cough/cold medicine Sudafed. In that recall, McNeil said it was taking precautions after a review of records found instances where equipment cleaning procedures were insufficient or cleaning was not adequately documented, although it said it was unlikely to have hurt product quality. J&J has recalled more than 300 million bottles and packages of adult and children's consumer medicines in the past 15 months. No injuries have been linked to the recalls.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/03/29/us-johnsonandjohnson-idUSTRE72S6DO20110329>

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Government Facilities Sector

35. *April 1, Marshalltown Times Republican* – (Iowa) **School discovers 2 bomb threats in 3 days.** For the second time in three days, a bomb threat was discovered at a South Tama school in Iowa. A written threat on a wall at the elementary school in Tama was found March 31 after a threat occurred March 29 at the middle school canceling classes districtwide for March 30. The elementary students were evacuated to the high school gym after 9 a.m. March 31 while the Tama Police and Fire Department investigated the threat and consulted with the Cedar Rapids Bomb Squad. Some instruction continued in the gym with the teachers and students while they waited to get back into the elementary school. When the elementary building was deemed safe, the students were let back into the school just before lunch time. Some of the students were released to their parent or guardian, who found out about the alert on the South Tama Web site. Investigations are continuing into both threats.
Source: <http://www.timesrepublican.com/page/content.detail/id/538505/School-discovers-2-bomb-threats-in-3-days.html?nav=5005>
36. *April 1, CNN* – (Wisconsin) **Woman faces charges for alleged threats to kill Wisconsin lawmakers.** A 26-year-old Cross Plains, Wisconsin woman, apparently enraged over the new state law that limits collective bargaining for government workers, is accused of sending e-mails to 16 Republican state senators threatening to kill them. The suspect faces four counts of using a computer to threaten, injure, or harm, and creating a bomb scare, authorities said. A criminal complaint released by the Dane County District Attorney's Office alleged the woman admitted to the threats. She said she sent the e-mails because she was angry at lawmakers who voted to limit collective bargaining for about 300,000 state workers. The woman, according to the complaint, used two separate e-mail accounts to send e-mails to the Republican state senators. So far, the woman has not been arrested. She will likely be served with a subpoena April 1, Dane County's district attorney told CNN affiliate WKOW.
Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2011/CRIME/04/01/wisconsin.budget.death.threats/index.html?iref=NS1>
37. *April 1, Associated Press* – (Pennsylvania) **SUV crashes into law school building at University of Pittsburgh, prompts evacuation.** Police said a University of Pittsburgh law school building in Pennsylvania had to be evacuated March 31 after a woman crashed her sport utility vehicle through one of its walls. University police said the SUV jumped a curb, careened down a stairway, then smashed an 8-foot hole in the side of the building. The building was briefly evacuated over concerns the crash had left it structurally unstable. The building was declared safe around 11 p.m. and was slated to reopen April 1. The woman behind the wheel of the SUV was transported to a hospital for evaluation. University of Pittsburgh police said charges could be filed.
Source: <http://www.greenfieldreporter.com/view/story/d0f574a82c9d48ee9c3a2a23bd9d5b06/P-A--Car-Into-Law-School/>
38. *April 1, WMAR 2 Baltimore* – (Maryland) **Teen girls charged with calling in bomb threats to Harford County schools.** Three teen girls were charged for calling in bomb

threats March 28 to five public schools in Harford County, Maryland. According to the Harford County Sheriff's Office, calls were made to Bel Air Middle School, Bel Air High School, Fallston High School, Southampton Middle School, and Patterson Mill High School. The sheriff's office worked with the school's office of safety and security and were able to identify three female students at Bel Air High School between 14- and 15-years-old as suspects. All were arrested and charged March 31. All were released back to their parents. The teens are facing up to \$10,000 in fines and 10 years in prison for many charges, including five counts of disturbing school operations, and five counts of making a statement/rumor as to a destructive device.

Source:

http://www.abc2news.com/dpp/news/crime_checker/harford_county_crime/teen-girls-charged-with-calling-in-bomb-threats-to-harford-county-schools

39. *March 31, Associated Press* – (Tennessee) **Soldier convicted of video threat on Internet against East Tenn judge in child visitation case.** A federal jury in East Tennessee convicted a soldier March 31 of putting on the Internet a video threat against a Knox County judge days before a hearing on child visitation. Jurors convicted the U.S. Army sergeant of threatening a federal judge. The suspect was charged with transmitting a threat in interstate commerce because prosecutors said it was in a video he put on the Internet. The conviction carries a maximum possible sentence of 5 years in prison. The man has been in custody since July. Sentencing is scheduled for May 9.

Source:

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/71549c8bf5d046a4b8c86489fff28460/TN--Judge-Video-Threat/>

40. *March 31, WLTX 19 Columbia* – (South Carolina) **15-year-old taken from Fort Jackson, robbed.** A 15-year-old family member of someone who lives at Fort Jackson in South Carolina was abducted and robbed March 30, authorities said. Investigators said the crime happened at about 6 p.m. at the Coleman Gymnasium when the robber took the victim off the base, robbed, and left the victim in a parking lot. No further information was released regarding the incident. Authorities with the Fort Jackson Criminal Investigation Command and the FBI are investigating the crime.

Source: <http://www.wltx.com/news/article/130776/2/15-year-old-Taken-from-Fort-Jackson-Robbed>

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Emergency Services Sector

41. *April 1, Springfield Republican* – (Massachusetts) **2 East Longmeadow police officers injured when rifle explodes during training.** Two police officers, training on patrol rifles at the Smith & Wesson shooting range in Springfield, Massachusetts, suffered injuries March 30 when one of the firearms exploded. One officer, who had been firing the rifle, suffered burns and trauma to his left hand. The other officer, a 20-year-veteran

was struck in the shoulder by a piece of the exploding firearm and suffered a minor laceration. Both officers are expected to fully recover. Smith & Wesson and East Longmeadow police are attempting to determine what caused the rifle to explode. The director of marketing and customer service at Smith & Wesson said an initial on-site inspection of the firearm indicated the explosion was not due to a defect in it. The weapon in question is an M&P 15, a police sergeant said, adding the department has had them since 2008. The department has taken its rifles out of service while it probes the malfunction. The sergeant said the department had been on its third day of training at Smith & Wesson and the rifle in question had been used in prior training sessions. The rifle had probably been fired 80 to 100 times that morning. The explosion caused the rifle to break into two large pieces and several smaller pieces, the sergeant said, adding both officers had been standing at the time.

Source:

http://www.masslive.com/news/index.ssf/2011/04/2_east_longmeadow_police_offic.html

42. *April 1, Associated Press* – (North Carolina) **NC governor signs crime lab bill into law.** The North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation lab is changing its name and purpose in legislation signed by the state's governor March 31. The law also makes clear it is a crime for lab workers to withhold results. The measure resulted largely from a scandal that started with the exoneration of a man convicted of murder. Then former FBI officials reviewing the lab's blood unit identified more than 200 cases improperly handled by lab workers during a 16-year period ending in 2003. The law changes the lab's name to the North Carolina State Crime Laboratory and makes clear the lab serves the public and the justice system, not just prosecutors. The legislation also creates a panel of scientists to review lab practices.
Source: <http://www.wect.com/Global/story.asp?S=14365131>
43. *April 1, KRQE 13 Albuquerque* – (New Mexico) **Explosion rips Rio Rancho police car.** Local and federal agents are actively investigating the detonation of an explosive inside a Rio Rancho, New Mexico police car March 31. At about 7 a.m., a Rio Rancho police officer found one busted out window, and others shattered on his marked cruiser parked at the Eagle Ranch Luxury Apartments in northwest Albuquerque. No injuries or other damage were reported. The Albuquerque Police Department bomb squad, and the FBI are working the case. An Albuquerque police sergeant said detectives did not know if the 5-year patrol sergeant was a specific or random target. The spokeswoman said the bomb exploded before the sergeant even walked out of his apartment located in the Paradise Hills area.
Source: <http://www.krqe.com/dpp/news/crime/explosion-rips-rio-rancho-police-car>
44. *March 31, Associated Press* – (International) **Texas rep says drug cartels threatening US agents.** Mexican drug cartel members threatened to kill U.S. agents working on the American side of the border in March, a U.S. Congressman from Texas said March 31. The Republican said a law enforcement bulletin was issued in March warning that Mexican gangsters were overheard plotting to kill Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents and Texas Rangers stationed along the border. The Congressman

did not identify which cartels or what agency issued the bulletin. The executive director of the Texas Border Sheriff's Coalition, said threats against American law enforcement officials along the border are nothing new. The latest bulletin warned of a plot to shoot at the agents with AK-47 assault rifles from the Mexican side of the border into the United States. The executive director said he could not comment on the specific threat the Congressman mentioned, but said it was proof that a serious security threat remains along the border. Members of Congress have asked the Presidential administration to get what they call "operational control" of the Mexican and Canadian borders. But they define that as meaning no "unlawful entries into the United States," including drugs, terrorists, and illegal immigrants, a definition DHS has said is unrealistic.

Source: <http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5g19Mj-Gh1vKWJvCgOCIKV3OTuZww?docId=d7fbf36c2f4e431b8f1e11be02a20174>

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Information Technology Sector

45. *April 1, TG Daily* – (International) **Mass injection attack hits a million websites.** More than 1 million URLs were compromised by a cyberattack that has suddenly ramped up in the last 24 hours to become one of the biggest mass-injection attacks ever seen. The trojan, dubbed Lizamoon, redirects Web surfers to a fake antivirus Web site via malicious JavaScript code injected into Web pages. Discovered March 30, it has escalated rapidly. Around half the victims appear to be located in the United States. A number of iTunes pages appear to be affected, although the way these pages are set up prevents the code from automatically executing on users' computers. Security firm Websense said it has detected a number of other injected URLs on top of the original Lizamoon, meaning the attack is even bigger than first thought. "The Rogue AV software that is installed is called Windows Stability Center, and the file that is downloaded is currently detected by 13/43 anti-virus engines, according to VirusTotal," Websense said. The affected sites appear to be using Microsoft SQL Server 2003 and 2005; probably not because of a vulnerability in SQL Server itself, noted Websense, but because of weaknesses in the content management systems the sites are using.
Source: <http://www.tgdaily.com/security-features/55124-mass-injection-attack-hits-a-million-websites>

46. *April 1, Softpedia* – (International) **VMware fixes local privilege escalation vulnerability in Linux products.** VMware has released security updates for its VMware Workstation and VMware VIX API products to address a local privilege escalation vulnerability. The flaw, identified as CVE-2011-1126, is located in the vmrun utility which is used to perform tasks on virtual machines. Since vmrun is a Linux-only utility, only Linux versions of VMware Workstation and VMware VIX API are vulnerable. The vmrun utility requires the VIX libraries and is installed by default by VMware Workstation, but its exploitation requires a non-standard filesystem configuration. "In non-standard filesystem configurations, an attacker with the ability to place files into a predefined library path, could take execution control of vmrun," the

vendor explained in its advisory.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/VMware-Fixes-Local-Privilege-Escalation-Vulnerability-in-Linux-Products-192532.shtml>

47. *March 31, Infosecurity* – (International) **Vulnerability disclosures reach highest level in history, says IBM.** Vulnerability disclosures increased 27 percent in 2010, reaching their highest level in history, according to the IBM X-Force 2010 Trend and Risk Report. The increase has had a “significant impact” on IT professionals managing large IT infrastructures, according to the IBM report. Close to half of vulnerability disclosures in 2010 were Web application flaws, mostly resulting from cross site scripting and SQL injections. These two methods were also cited in the 2009 report as the most popular for exploiting Web application flaws. IBM X-Force said many exploits are publicly released months after the public disclosure of the vulnerabilities they target, suggesting attackers are able to use exploit code after patches have been made available. The SQL Slammer worm, which first emerged in January 2003, continues to be the most common source of malicious Internet traffic, the report said. The use of the term “advanced persistent threat” became widespread in 2010, after high-profile attacks on corporate enterprises by sophisticated targeted attackers. In addition, botnet activity continued to grow in 2010.

Source: <http://www.infosecurity-us.com/view/16994/vulnerability-disclosures-reach-highest-level-in-history-says-ibm/>

48. *March 31, CNET* – (International) **Phishing scam masquerades as Adobe upgrade.** Phishers are using spam that tries to trick people by offering an upgrade to Adobe Acrobat. Detailed by security provider Cloudmark, this type of advertising spam e-mails users a notice to upgrade to the new Adobe Acrobat Reader. Those who click on the link are directed to a Web site touting the benefits of the software. The Web site domain name contains the word “adobe,” said Cloudmark, as an attempt to give it some kind of legitimacy. However, it is just another malicious site designed to capture personal information. Once on the phony site, the user is prompted to provide contact details and credit card information, which then fall into the hands of cybercrooks.

Source: http://news.cnet.com/8301-1009_3-20049199-83.html

49. *March 31, Help Net Security* – (International) **Vulnerabilities in common Web applications escalate.** A new Cenzic report reveals widespread Web application vulnerabilities, with 2,155 discovered — a third of which have both no known solution and an exploit code publicly available. The report also revealed aggressive campaigns by Web browser makers including Google, Microsoft, and Mozilla to improve the security of their Web navigation products. Among the published Web vulnerabilities in Commercial Off The Shelf (COTS) software, Cross Site Scripting (XSS) and SQL injection dominated, accounting for 54 percent of the total number of Web vulnerabilities in the second half of 2010. Cenzic also analyzed vulnerabilities in various Web browsers, detecting many security vulnerabilities yet aggressive campaigns by manufacturers to improve their safety. Google’s Chrome browser had the most vulnerabilities detected — 89 — due to its aggressive campaign to offer cash rewards for any discovered. In the end, the company fixed 88 of the vulnerabilities

quickly and efficiently, the report noted.

Source: <http://www.net-security.org/secworld.php?id=10834>

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

50. *March 31, Channel Partners* – (National) **Responding to network attack, TelePacific agents reach out to customers via Twitter, Facebook.** The power of social media was on display the week of March 21 when TelePacific Communications, a Los Angeles, California-based phone service provider suffered an external network attack that left most of its “SmartVoice” customers without the ability to make and receive calls. A TelePacific spokeswoman credited TelePacific’s agents for responding to customers on the company’s Facebook and Twitter pages while also keeping their customers apprised of the situation via e-mail. “Since the outage they [agents] have been instrumental in minimizing customer concerns by proactively addressing our mutual customers,” the spokeswoman said. Individuals who have addressed customer issues have included agent managers and directors as well as TelePacific’s CEO ,and the company’s channel chief, the spokeswoman said. “We proactively reached out to all of our top agents along with many subs to address concerns head on and again have been truly thankful for their positive responses to TelePacific on the heels of the attack,” she said. In a letter sent to SmartVoice customers, the TelePacific CEO said the “unprecedented attack” on the network occurred March 24 and March 25. The company has engaged the FBI’s cyber attack division to attempt to identify the source of the attack, he said.

Source: <http://www.channelpartnersonline.com/news/2011/03/responding-to-network-attack-telepacific-agents-r.aspx>

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Commercial Facilities Sector

51. *April 1, Des Moines Register* – (Iowa) **Fire damage on south side is estimated at \$225,000.** Fire swept through a residential and commercial building near Lincoln High School in Des Moines, Iowa, March 31, consuming most of the contents and leveling the building. There were no injuries. The American Red Cross was on the scene March 31 helping those displaced by the blaze. The Des Moines Fire Department captain said building damage was estimated at \$225,000, and loss of contents at another \$40,000. Most of the damage occurred at the back of the 8-unit building on Southwest Ninth

Street, just north of the high school. The fire department has not released a cause of the fire. A police detective said there were four commercial units on the first floor, and four residential units on the second floor. A cursory inspection indicated the fire could have started under a first-floor staircase near a utility room.

Source: <http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20110401/NEWS01/104010347/-1/politics/Fire-damage-south-side-estimated-225-000>

52. *April 1, Detroit Free Press* – (Michigan) **Hamtramck blast damages buildings; cause of explosion under investigation.** A man sleeping in his Hamtramck, Michigan, apartment survived an explosion April 1 that blew the walls and roof off the building. Fire crews found the man, in his 30s, standing in the second-floor apartment at the back of 11431 Jos. Campau after the 2 a.m. blast, a Hamtramck Fire Department official said. “He was a little confused, but he wasn’t injured,” he said. “He had a few minor abrasions.” Hamtramck’s fire marshal and investigators from DTE were on the scene, trying to determine if a gas leak led to the explosion. The travel agency in the building’s first floor was destroyed. And the blast blew out windows at two adjacent vacant buildings, sending glass flying across the street.

Source: <http://www.freep.com/article/20110401/NEWS02/110401005/Hamtramck-blast-damages-buildings-cause-explosion-under-investigation?odyssey=nav/head>

53. *March 31, KOAM 7 Pittsburg* – (Missouri) **Joplin man and woman accused of starting Carthage hotel fire.** A man and woman were charged in Carthage, Missouri, March 31 with first degree arson and manufacture of a controlled substance. Investigators believe a meth lab started a fire March 30 at Precious Moments Hotel. The pair were spotted fleeing on foot and were subsequently arrested. A spokesman for the Carthage Police Department said these types of fires can be a little more complicated to handle. “They are obviously dangerous because of the fire hazard, but also the toxic chemicals and toxic fumes that come off when they process the methamphetamine, so its obviously a considerable health risk,” the officer said. The man arrested was treated for minor burns to his hands and arm. The two are currently in custody at the Jasper County jail.

Source: <http://www.koamtv.com/Global/story.asp?S=14361455>

54. *March 31, San Diego Union-Tribune* – (California) **Fumes beneath hotel send four to hospital.** Hazardous materials crews at a hotel near the Del Mar Fairgrounds in San Diego, California, were continuing the afternoon of March 31 to investigate the source of noxious fumes and a powder that sent four people to a hospital for decontamination, officials said. The fumes may have been sewer gas, a San Diego Fire-Rescue Department battalion chief said. Three men who were working beneath the Hilton San Diego/Del Mar hotel on Jimmy Durante Boulevard started having trouble breathing, and paramedics were called about 9:40 a.m., March 31, fire officials said. When the workers came out from under the building, they were covered in a white powder, possibly lime that had been spread on the dirt a year ago to absorb moisture. The chief said the workers complained of burning lungs and eyes, and one vomited. The workers were admitted to the hospital for treatment, but were expected to be released soon. The San Diego County Hazardous Incident Response Team was planning to conduct tests

on the powder and the atmosphere beneath the Hilton.

Source: <http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/2011/mar/31/fumes-beneath-hotel-send-four-hospital/>

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

55. *March 31, Associated Press* – (Utah) **Report: Lamp started massive Provo Tabernacle fire.** A 300-watt lamp left on after a rehearsal started a massive fire December 16 that destroyed the historic Provo Tabernacle in Provo, Utah, according to a report released March 31. A 3-month investigation by the Provo Police Department found the fire began in the Tabernacle attic, where a lamp on a wood speaker was left on after a dress rehearsal for a choir concert. Police said it was largely human error that caused the fire, first by leaving the lamp unattended, then by turning off the fire alarm instead of calling authorities. Investigators also found smoke detectors were not properly placed around the building. The report said the fire quickly spread, fueled by Styrofoam arches that carried the flames into the choir loft and throughout the building. An off-duty Provo police officer working security at the Tabernacle that night silenced the alarm rather than calling authorities, the report said. He did not realize it was a fire alarm. The blaze then raged for more than an hour until smoke was visible, and the officer called the fire department. The building dated to the 1890s, and was as a meeting house for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The tabernacle also was used for cultural and choir performances and was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1975.
Source: <http://www.mysanantonio.com/news/article/Report-Lamp-started-massive-Provo-Tabernacle-fire-1317393.php>
56. *March 31, Florida Times-Union* – (Georgia) **Rain big help to contain Georgia wildfires.** Steady rain March 30 helped firefighters who were optimistic that major wildfires in Southeast Georgia could be fully contained by the weekend of April 2 and 3. “We’re pretty close to having the fires fully contained in the next day or two,” a Georgia Forestry Commission spokesman said. Since the week of March 21, wildfires have burned almost 39,000 acres in Bacon, Ware, Clinch, Coffee, and Long counties. But the damp weather that began March 27, higher humidity, and cooler temperatures allowed firefighters to get the upper-hand. “There are still pockets burning actively that our crews are spraying water on,” especially in Arabia Bay where nearly 12,500 acres burned in Clinch County, the spokesman said. Both the Arabia Bay and the Sessoms community fire burning along the Bacon-Ware county line were about 55 percent contained March 30. The Sessoms fire has burned an estimated 22,246 acres. In Coffee County, the Mosley Road fire is 100 percent contained after burning about 1,600 acres. The Long County fire near Ludowici, which burned about 4,035 acres and destroyed three homes, was about 90 percent contained. However, the forecast calls for rising temperatures and dry conditions in the coming week, which could rekindle the fires.

Source: <http://jacksonville.com/news/georgia/2011-03-31/story/rain-big-help-contain-georgia-wildfires>

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Dams Sector

57. *April 1, International Water Power and Dam Construction* – (National) **Report reveals hydro potential at existing dams in the US.** According to an internal study by the U.S. Department of the Interior, up to 1 million megawatt hours of electricity could be generated annually, and 1,200 jobs created, by adding hydropower capacity to 70 existing dam facilities, International Water Power and Dam Construction reported April 1. The report, Hydropower Resource Assessment at Existing Reclamation Facilities, estimates the additional hydropower capabilities could create enough clean, renewable energy to annually power more than 85,000 households. The Bureau of Reclamation developed the report as part of the U.S. President's initiative to develop a comprehensive renewable energy portfolio and to meet 80 percent of the United State's energy needs with clean sources by 2035. The report studied 530 sites under Reclamation's jurisdiction — including dams, diversion structures, and some canals and tunnels. Of those sites, the assessment made a preliminary identification of 70 facilities with the most potential to add hydropower. These 70 facilities are located in 14 states. Colorado, Utah, Montana, Texas, and Arizona have the most hydropower potential. Facilities with additional hydropower potential are also found in California, Idaho, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, South Dakota, Washington, and Wyoming.

Source:

<http://www.waterpowermagazine.com/story.asp?sectioncode=130&storyCode=2059275>

58. *April 1, Associated Press* – (North Dakota) **Emergency repairs completed at damaged Clausen Springs Dam in southeast North Dakota.** Emergency repairs have been completed at a damaged dam in southeast North Dakota, Associated Press reported April 1. The project engineer said about 2,000 cubic yards of rock and other material have been placed along the Clausen Springs Dam's eroded spillway. He said the work by the Fargo company was completed the week of March 28. The first phase of a \$1.8 million renovation of the dam 6 miles uphill from Kathryn was supposed to have been completed months ago to protect the town from flooding. But officials said a Minnesota company hired to do the work had not done anything since December.

Source:

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/402f76eaf4184d8f8ccc1e0d366f1f70/ND--Damaged-Dam-Repairs/>

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