



Homeland
Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report

14 March 2014

Top Stories

- A severe winter storm dumped heavy snow and brought high winds in the Midwest and Northeast March 12, wreaking havoc on the regions. – *Associated Press* (See item [1](#))
- More than 4,000 people in Long Island, New York, were alerted March 11 that they could have been infected with HIV while being treated for diabetes. – *WCBS 2 New York City* (See item [16](#))
- Two people were killed and 23 others were injured after a motorist fleeing from police plowed through barricades and into a crowd in front of a nightclub at the South by Southwest festival in Austin, Texas, March 13. – *Associated Press* (See item [31](#))
- Rescuers continued to search March 13 for at least 5 people unaccounted for after a suspected gas line explosion killed 7 and injured more than 60 people in two New York City apartment buildings March 12. – *Reuters* (See item [32](#))

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Energy Sector

1. *March 13, Associated Press* – (National) **Northeast digs out from late winter storm.** A severe winter storm dumped heavy snow and brought high winds in the Midwest and Northeast March 12, causing tens of thousands of homes and businesses to lose power, hundreds of flight cancellations, and a pileup involving at least 50 vehicles on the Ohio Turnpike that left 3 people dead.
Source: <http://news.msn.com/us/late-winter-storm-hits-midwest-northeast>
2. *March 12, Forum of Fargo-Moorhead* – (Minnesota) **Mechanical failure to blame for Fergus Falls ethanol plant fire.** The Fergus Falls fire chief reported March 12 that a mechanical failure caused a fire and explosion March 10 at the Green Plains Renewable Energy ethanol plant in Minnesota. A hydraulic pump used to control the damper in the dryer building of the plant failed, an investigation uncovered.
Source: <http://www.inforum.com/event/article/id/429105/>

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Chemical Industry Sector

3. *March 12, Charleston Gazette* – (West Virginia) **DEP: Freedom in compliance with demolition schedule.** The West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection released Freedom Industries' plan March 12 detailing how the company will dismantle and remove chemical storage tanks from its Elk River facility. The company agreed to begin demolishing the site March 15 after a January chemical spill that contaminated the water supply of 300,000 West Virginia residents.
Source: <http://www.wvgazette.com/News/201403120155>

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector

Nothing to report

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

Nothing to Report

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

4. *March 12, SpaceNews* – (National) **Bad soldering pushes 3rd MUOS satellite toward end of the launch queue.** Lockheed Martin and Boeing Space and Intelligence Systems officials stated March 12 that a soldering problem with a payload was discovered during testing and has delayed completion of the third satellite in the U.S. Navy's Mobile User Objective System satellite communications system. The satellite was pulled from the assembly line, and production of a fourth satellite has been expedited to maintain the current launch schedule.
Source: <http://www.spacenews.com/article/military-space/39833bad-soldering-pushes-3rd-muos-satellite-toward-end-of-the-launch-queue>

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Financial Services Sector

5. *March 13, Softpedia* – (International) **PayPal rewards researcher for finding EL injection vulnerability in Zong.** A researcher identified and reported an Expression Language (EL) vulnerability in mobile payments processor Zong which could be used for code execution and other tasks. PayPal then issued a reward to the researcher after verifying the finding.
Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/PayPal-Rewards-Researcher-for-Finding-EL-Injection-Vulnerability-in-Zong-431930.shtml>
6. *March 12, Trumbull Patch* – (Connecticut) **Trumbull man admits to straw buyer mortgage scheme.** A Trumbull man pleaded guilty March 12 to running a straw buyer real estate scheme involving several properties in Fairfield County, many of which went into default and cost lenders over \$7 million.
Source: <http://trumbull.patch.com/groups/police-and-fire/p/trumbull-man-admits-to-straw-buyer-mortgage-scheme>
7. *March 12, KTVU 2 Oakland* – (California) **Petaluma real estate agent pleads no contest to securities fraud.** A Petaluma real estate agent pleaded guilty to running a Ponzi scheme through his business, Baccala Realty, which defrauded investors of \$20 million.
Source: <http://www.ktvu.com/news/news/crime-law/petaluma-real-estate-agent-pleads-no-contest-secur/nfBms/>

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Transportation Systems Sector

8. *March 13, Newark Star Ledger; Associated Press* – (New Jersey) **Tanker crash delays trains in New Jersey.** Route 21 in Newark was closed for an unspecified amount of time after a semi-truck traveling parallel to an Amtrak rail line on McCarter Highway in Newark while carrying 8,500 gallons of fuel burst into flames March 13 after colliding with a car. No injuries were reported but Amtrak trains experienced a roughly

45 minute delay.

Source: http://www.nj.com/essex/index.ssf/2014/03/tanker_explosion_in_newark_closes_route_21_delays_trains.html

9. *March 12, Hillsboro Times Gazette* – (Ohio) **Highway, rail line reopened after gas leak forces closure.** State Road 28 and a railroad line in East Monroe, Ohio, were closed for at least 4 hours after a 1,000 gallon propane tank leaked and caused a dense black cloud to hover over the road March 12.

Source: http://www.timesgazette.com/news/home_top-news/3884767/Highway-rail-line-reopened-after-gas-leak-forces-closure

10. *March 12, Los Angeles Times* – (California) **Northbound 5 Freeway near Castaic down to one lane after truck crash.** Three of four lanes were closed on the northbound 5 Freeway near Castaic, causing traffic to back up for several miles after a traffic incident with a semi-truck spilled diesel fuel on the road.

Source: <http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-ln-5-freeway-castaic-closed-collision-20140312,0,250577.story>

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Food and Agriculture Sector

11. *March 13, Associated Press* – (New Mexico; Texas) **7 counties in New Mexico, Texas receive disaster designations from USDA due to drought.** The U.S. Department of Agriculture declared six New Mexico counties and one Texas county as natural disaster areas March 12 due to a drought.

Source:

<http://www.tribtown.com/view/story/88291954f7f843ed946b4790a037bea0/NM--Counties-Drought>

12. *March 13, Food Safety News* – (National) **Oregon Freeze Dry recalls sliced fruit due to Salmonella concerns.** Oregon Freeze Dry, Inc., voluntarily recalled its Kirkland Signature Real Sliced Fruit products distributed to Costco stores due to possible Salmonella contamination.

Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2014/03/oregon-freeze-dry-recalls-sliced-fruit-due-to-salmonella-concerns>

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Water and Wastewater Systems Sector

13. *March 12, San Francisco Chronicle* – (California) **Emergency water supply used to fight San Francisco fire.** San Francisco firefighters were forced to tap into the city's

emergency backup water supply to fight a large fire at an under-construction apartment complex March 12 after the regular sources proved inadequate.

Source: <http://www.sfgate.com/bayarea/article/Emergency-water-supply-used-to-fight-San-5312636.php>

14. *March 11, Des Moines Register* – (Iowa) **EPA fines northwest Iowa dairy \$75,000.** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Double V Dairy reached a \$75,000 settlement over the dairy's alleged violations of the Clean Water Act when the dairy discharged manure into Rogg Creek and its tributaries between 2010 and 2013.
Source: <http://www.desmoinesregister.com/viewart/20140311/BUSINESS/303110093/Business-Briefs-EPA-fines-northwest-Iowa-dairy-75-000?Business>

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Healthcare and Public Health Sector

15. *March 12, Pittsburgh Tribune-Review* – (Pennsylvania) **Security breach compromises credit-card info at Bloomfield medical practice.** Partners in Nephrology & Endocrinology in Pittsburgh confirmed March 12 that an attacker hacked into a vendor's system that processes credit card payments for the practice and potentially accessed credit card numbers and personal information of about 5,000 patients in November 2013. Authorities are investigating the incident.
Source: <http://triblive.com/news/adminpage/5753432-74/card-credit-practice>
16. *March 11, WCBS 2 New York City* – (New York) **L.I. hospital: Reused insulin pen part may mean hepatitis, HIV risk for patients.** South Nassau Communities Hospital in Oceanside, New York, recommended more than 4,000 patients get tested for hepatitis B, hepatitis C, and HIV after it learned that patients being treated for diabetes may have received insulin injections from a pen reservoir that may have been used on more than one patient. The hospital has since banned the use of insulin pens and now only permits single-patient-use vials.
Source: <http://newyork.cbslocal.com/2014/03/11/l-i-hospital-reused-insulin-pen-part-may-mean-hepatitis-hiv-risk-for-patients/>
17. *March 11, WEAU 13 Eau Claire* – (Wisconsin) **Sparta clinic closes due to water damage.** Gundersen Health System reported March 11 that Gundersen Sparta Clinic in La Crosse would be closed for several days due to water damage caused by a frozen sewer line that damaged the lobby and several exam rooms and offices.
Source: <http://www.weau.com/home/headlines/Sparta-clinic-closes-due-to-water-damage-249628961.html>

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Government Facilities Sector

18. *March 12, Softpedia* – (International) **Harvard Law National Security Journal hacked, abused to promote rogue pharmacies.** Harvard representatives stated that they are investigating after the Harvard Law School National Security Journal Web site was compromised and attackers used the site to promote various rogue pharmacies. Officials reported that the problem remains unresolved but they are working to fix the issue.
Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Harvard-Law-National-Security-Journal-Hacked-Abused-to-Promote-Rogue-Pharmacies-431767.shtml>
19. *March 12, Associated Press* – (Kansas) **Fire at Fort Riley burns 2,500 acres.** A fire burned 2,500 acres of grass at Fort Riley in Kansas during a military training exercise on the northwest side of the post March 11.
Source: <http://cjonline.com/news/2014-03-12/fire-fort-riley-burns-2500-acres>
20. *March 12, KWGN 2 Denver* – (Colorado) **Falcon Middle School evacuated due to natural gas leak.** Students were evacuated from Falcon Middle School in Peyton and classes were dismissed March 12 after a natural gas leak caused a strong odor in the building. Officials stated that repairs and inspections would continue after the smell diminished and classes would resume March 13.
Source: <http://kwgn.com/2014/03/12/falcon-middle-school-evacuated-due-to-natural-gas-leak/>
21. *March 12, WFSB 3 Hartford* – (Connecticut) **4 students injured in school bus crash in Enfield.** Four CREC Museum Academy students were injured and transported to an area hospital after their school bus crashed into a tree in Enfield March 12. The cause of the accident is under investigation.
Source: <http://www.wfsb.com/story/24957636/school-bus-crash-closes-moody-road-in-enfield>
22. *March 12, Chicago Tribune* – (Illinois) **Power outages, snow close some Orland schools.** Several Orland Park schools in Illinois were closed March 12 due to power outages and snow after a severe storm knocked out electricity to 45,000 Commonwealth Edison customers.
Source: http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/suburbs/orland_park_homer_glen/ct-orland-schools-close-power-tl-ssw-20140312,0,7046861.story

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Emergency Services Sector

23. *March 12, Glens Falls Post-Star* – (New York) **Former firefighter pleads guilty to fire station blaze.** A former firefighter pleaded guilty March 12 to an arson charge in connection to an August 2012 fire at the West Glens Falls Fire Department station.
Source: http://poststar.com/former-firefighter-pleads-guilty-to-fire-station-blaze/article_b1966540-a9e7-11e3-9697-0019bb2963f4.html

24. *March 12, WVEC 13 Hampton* – (Virginia) **Drugs stolen from Virginia Beach ambulances.** Virginia Beach Police are investigating after drugs were found missing from drug boxes on three different Princess Anne Courthouse Rescue Squad ambulances March 11.
Source: <http://www.wvec.com/news/Thieves-steal-drugs-from-Virginia-Beach-ambulances-249923741.html>
25. *March 12, Associated Press* – (Mississippi) **9 plead guilty in Adams County prison riot.** Nine Adams County Correctional Facility inmates pleaded guilty March 11 to participating in the May 2012 Natchez prison riot that left 1 guard dead and 20 others injured while causing an estimated \$1.3 million in damage.
Source: <http://www.greenwichtime.com/news/crime/article/9-plead-guilty-in-Adams-County-prison-riot-5310699.php>
26. *March 12, WTXF 29 Philadelphia* – (Pennsylvania) **Police cars vandalized in police parking lot.** Officers arrested a man after he vandalized at least 14 police cars in the parking lot of Philadelphia's 6th District March 12 near the city's Chinatown section.
Source: <http://www.myfoxphilly.com/story/24951725/police-cars-vandalized-in-police-parking-lot>

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Information Technology Sector

27. *March 13, The Register* – (International) **Ethical hacker backer hacked, warns of email ransack.** The EC-Council, which runs the Certified Ethical Hacker program, notified its members that attackers who defaced its Web site in February also gained access to the site's control panel, allowing them access to the organization's email system. The EC-Council is continuing to investigate and notified members as a precaution.
Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2014/03/13/ethical_hacker_cert_org_pwned/
28. *March 13, Softpedia* – (International) **Pwn2Own 2014: Firefox, Internet Explorer and Safari hacked on day one.** The first day of the 2014 Pwn2Own security competition resulted in researchers identifying vulnerabilities in Internet Explorer, Firefox, Safari, and Adobe Flash and Reader, with participants being awarded \$400,000 in total for the discoveries.
Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Pwn2Own-2014-Firefox-Internet-Explorer-and-Safari-Hacked-on-Day-One-432001.shtml>
29. *March 13, Help Net Security* – (International) **Rbrute trojan hacks Wi-Fi routers to help spread Salty.** Researchers at Dr. Web identified and analyzed a trojan dubbed Rbrute, which compromises Wi-Fi routers in order to spread the Salty malware family.
Source: http://www.net-security.org/malware_news.php?id=2731
30. *March 12, Computerworld* – (International) **Twitter crashed – again – on Tuesday.**

Twitter was down for around 1 hour March 11 due to unexpected issues arising from a planned deployment of an upgrade. The social media network experienced a similar disruption March 2.

Source: <http://www.networkworld.com/news/2014/031214-twitter-crashed----again----279654.html>

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Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@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: <http://www.it-isac.org>

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Communications Sector

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Commercial Facilities Sector

31. *March 13, Associated Press* – (Texas) **Police: 1 man, 1 woman died at South by Southwest.** Two people were killed and 23 others were injured after a motorist fleeing from police plowed through barricades and into a crowd in front of a nightclub at the South by Southwest festival in Austin March 13. The suspect was allegedly intoxicated and taken into custody at the scene.

Source: <http://news.msn.com/us/police-driver-kills-2-at-south-by-southwest>

32. *March 13, Reuters* – (New York) **Rescuers search site of NY building collapse; seven dead.** Rescuers continued to search March 13 for at least five people unaccounted for after a suspected gas line explosion caused two apartment buildings in New York City's Harlem area to collapse March 12. At least 7 people were killed and more than 60 others were injured.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/03/13/us-usa-newyork-collapse-idUSBREA2B11D20140313>

33. *March 13, New Jersey Herald* – (New Jersey) **High winds rip off roof of Mount Olive store.** A Bed Bath & Beyond store in Mount Olive closed indefinitely for repairs March 13 after high winds blew off part of the store's roof and caused a gas line to rupture, sparking a small fire in an air conditioning system. A nearby store was temporarily closed while gas service in the area was shut off.

Source: <http://www.njherald.com/story/24963133/2014/03/13/high-winds-rip-off-roof-of-mount-olive-store>

34. *March 13, WUSA 9 Washington, D.C.* – (Virginia) **Alexandria apt. building condemned after wall collapse.** A partial wall collapse at an Alexandria, Virginia apartment complex forced residents from 19 units to evacuate and prompted officials to condemn the building March 13. Estimated damage to the building was approximately \$150,000.
Source: <http://www.wusa9.com/story/news/local/2014/03/13/alexandria-wall-apartment-building/6361975/>
35. *March 12, Fort Lauderdale Sun-Sentinel* – (Florida) **Broward man used bomb threats to try to extort \$50 million from Publix, feds say.** A Florida man was charged March 12 after sending emailed bomb threats to Publix company officials between January 2013 and March 2013 in an effort to extort up to \$50 million from the supermarket chain. Officials believe the suspect is connected to a pipe bomb that detonated at a Publix store in Dania Beach in May 2013, which may have been planted months earlier.
Source: <http://www.sun-sentinel.com/news/local/crime/fl-publix-bomb-threats-20140312,0,1606317.story>
36. *March 11, KARE 11 Minneapolis* – (Minnesota) **Brooklyn Park Caribou reopens after norovirus outbreak.** A Caribou Coffee in Brooklyn Park, Minnesota, reopened March 10 after store officials decided to close the location March 7 due to an apparent norovirus outbreak that sickened 7 employees and 6 customers. The entire facility underwent a thorough cleaning before reopening.
Source: <http://www.kare11.com/story/news/health/2014/03/11/brooklyn-park-caribou-reopens-after-outbreak-of-norovirus/6291583/>

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

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Dams Sector

37. *March 12, Imperial Valley Press* – (California) **Water release may revive Colorado River Delta.** U.S. and Mexican officials will release more than 105,000 acre-feet of water over an 8 week period in a “pulse-flow” through the Morelos dam beginning March 23 in an attempt to replenish the Colorado River Delta.
Source: http://www.ivpressonline.com/news/local/water-release-may-revive-colorado-river-delta/article_71dc0d4e-a9a4-11e3-a952-0017a43b2370.html
38. *March 12, Contra Costa Times* – (California) **Dams could be constructed to block saltwater creep into Delta’s fresh water.** The California Department of Water Resources is rushing to create temporary dams in the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta to prevent San Francisco Bay seawater from intruding and compromising water quality to an area that supplies drinking water. The temporary dams could be established as early as May 1.

Source: http://www.contracostatimes.com/news/ci_25331310/dams-could-be-constructed-block-saltwater-creep-into

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Department of Homeland Security (DHS)
DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information

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Contact DHS

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To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Web page at www.us-cert.gov.

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