



## Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report 19 December 2014

### Top Stories

- About 25 families in eastern Ohio remained displaced December 17 following a natural gas leak from a fracking well that prompted houses within a 1.5-mile radius to evacuate December 13. – *Columbus Dispatch* (See item [1](#))
- New York based cosmetics company, Avon Products Inc., agreed to pay \$67 million to settle criminal and civil charges by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission after its China division pleaded guilty December 17 to violating the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA). – *U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission* (See item [5](#))
- Ten passengers on board a New Jersey Transit bus were injured following a multi-vehicle accident involving 3 semi-trucks December 17 that shut down northbound lanes of the New Jersey Turnpike near Linden for nearly 5 hours. – *NJ.com* (See item [7](#))
- A Chicago, Illinois businessman and his wife were convicted December 17 on more than one dozen counts including conspiracy, mail fraud, and money laundering for stealing \$3.4 million in grants through the Illinois Department of Public Health for personal expenses. – *Associated Press* (See item [16](#))

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### Fast Jump Menu

#### PRODUCTION INDUSTRIES

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

#### SUSTENANCE and HEALTH

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

#### SERVICE INDUSTRIES

- [Financial Services](#)
- [Transportation Systems](#)
- [Information Technology](#)
- [Communications](#)
- [Commercial Facilities](#)

#### FEDERAL and STATE

- [Government Facilities](#)
  - [Emergency Services](#)
-

## **Energy Sector**

1. *December 17, Columbus Dispatch* – (Ohio) **Families flee out-of-control natural gas leak at eastern Ohio fracking well.** About 25 families in eastern Ohio remained displaced December 17 due to a natural gas leak after crews resumed operations at a temporarily plugged fracking well in Monroe County that began to flow uncontrollably, prompting the evacuation of houses within a 1.5-mile radius of the well December 13.  
Source: <http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/local/2014/12/17/families-flee-out-of-control-natural-gas-leak.html>
2. *December 16, Austin American-Statesman* – (Texas) **Austin Energy employees accused of stealing copper wire.** Two Austin Energy employees and at least seven other people were charged December 15 of stealing thousands of pounds of copper as part of an alleged metal theft ring after investigators discovered thousands of pounds of copper were stolen and recycled for money. The total value of copper that was stolen was estimated at \$100,000.  
Source: <http://www.statesman.com/news/news/crime-law/austin-energy-employees-accused-of-stealing-copper/njTG8/>

For another story, see item [24](#)

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

## **Chemical Industry Sector**

Nothing to report

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

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

3. *December 18, Associated Press* – (Nebraska) **Nebraska power plant taken temporarily offline.** The operators of the Fort Calhoun nuclear power plant in Nebraska took the plant offline December 17 due to a lockout of the main generator. The plant remains at normal operating pressure and temperature while generation is offline as workers are investigating the cause of the lockout.  
Source: <http://www.1011now.com/news/headlines/Nebraska-Power-Plant-Taken-Temporarily-Offline-286217561.html>

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

## **Critical Manufacturing Sector**

4. *December 18, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission* – (National) **Schneider Electric recalls PowerPact J-Frame Circuit Breakers due to fire, burn, electrical shock hazards.** Schneider Electric announced a recall for about 62,500 PowerPact J-Frame Circuit Breakers due to the potential for the breakers to fail to trip during an

overload posing fire, burn, and electric shock versions.

Source: <http://www.cpsc.gov/en/Recalls/2015/Schneider-Electric-Recalls-PowerPact-J-Frame-Circuit-Breakers/>

For another story, see item [24](#)

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

## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

Nothing to report

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

## **Financial Services Sector**

5. *December 17, U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission* – (International) **SEC charges Avon Products, Inc. with Fcpa violations.** Avon Products Inc. agreed to pay \$67 million in disgorgement and interest to settle charges filed December 17 by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission accusing the beauty products company of violating the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA) by failing to put in place controls that could have detected and prevented \$8 million in payments to Chinese government officials by employees and consultants at the company's Chinese subsidiary between 2004 and 2008.

Source: <http://www.sec.gov/litigation/litreleases/2014/lr23159.htm>

6. *December 16, Richmond Times-Dispatch* – (Virginia) **Data compromised at Union First Market Bank.** Richmond-based Union First Market Bank stated that they shut off all ATM capabilities for their customers' debit cards after discovering skimming activities that affected over 3,000 customers' cards. Affected customers were being contacted by the bank and issued new debit cards

Source: [http://www.roanoke.com/business/news/union-first-market-data-breach-affects-more-than-debit-cards/article\\_93a64ccc-855e-5448-8021-cd70803622f3.html](http://www.roanoke.com/business/news/union-first-market-data-breach-affects-more-than-debit-cards/article_93a64ccc-855e-5448-8021-cd70803622f3.html)

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

## **Transportation Systems Sector**

7. *December 17, NJ.com* – (New Jersey) **10 injured in NJ Transit bus, tractor-trailer crash on Turnpike in Linden.** A 4- vehicle collision closed several lanes of the New Jersey Turnpike outer roadway near Linden for approximately 5 hours December 17 after a semi-truck attempted to change lanes and struck the rear of a NJ Transit bus with 61 passengers on board. Ten bus passengers were transported to an area hospital with injuries.

Source:

[http://www.nj.com/union/index.ssf/2014/12/4\\_seriously\\_injured\\_in\\_nj\\_transit\\_bus\\_tractor-trailer\\_crash\\_on\\_turnpike\\_in\\_linden.html](http://www.nj.com/union/index.ssf/2014/12/4_seriously_injured_in_nj_transit_bus_tractor-trailer_crash_on_turnpike_in_linden.html)

8. *December 17, KTEN 10 Ada* – (Texas) **One dead in wreck on Highway 82 in Fannin County.** A head-on collision on eastbound U. S. Highway 82 in Savoy left one person dead and several others injured December 17 and prompted the road to close for several hours while crews cleared the scene.  
Source: <http://www.kten.com/story/27651470/one-dead-in-wreck-on-highway-82-in-fannin-county>
9. *December 17, Cleveland Plain Dealer*– (Ohio) **United Airlines plane makes emergency landing in Cleveland after report of smoke in cockpit.** A United Airlines plane en route to Newark, New Jersey, from Los Angeles was diverted to Cleveland Hopkins International Airport in Ohio December 17 after smoke was reported in the cabin. The plane landed safely and the passengers continued to Newark on other flights.  
Source: [http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2014/12/united\\_airlines\\_plane\\_makes\\_em.html](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2014/12/united_airlines_plane_makes_em.html)
10. *December 17, Reuters* – (International) **U.S.-bound United Airlines lands back in London after ‘maintenance issue’.** A United Airlines flight that departed Heathrow Airport in London, England, to Newark, New Jersey, December 17 was forced to circle the English Channel for approximately 5 hours before it returned to Heathrow Airport due to a maintenance issue. The flight landed safely and the aircraft was inspected while the 227 passengers and 13 crew members on board were provided alternative travel arrangements.  
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/12/17/britain-airplane-unitedairlines-idUSL6N0U13L220141217>
11. *December 17, WKMG 6 Orlando* – (Florida) **Volusia County deputies bust mail theft ring.** Four suspects in a mail theft ring that affected four counties and resulted in more than \$30,000 in check fraud were arrested December 17 in Volusia County and charged with organized scheme to defraud and passing counterfeit checks. Authorities reported that an investigation found that 15 people were connected to the theft ring, including a fifth suspect that was previously arrested on similar charges.  
Source: <http://www.clickorlando.com/news/volusia-county-deputies-bust-mail-theft-ring/30281616>

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

## **Food and Agriculture Sector**

12. *December 17, KWCH 12 Hutchinson* – (Kansas) **Barn fire destroys farm equipment in Cheney.** A barn fire on a Cheney, Kansas farm December 17 caused several propane tanks that were stored inside the building to explode and caused an estimated \$150,000 in damage to the structure and to several pieces of heavy farm machinery that was stored inside of the barn. The cause of the fire is under investigation.  
Source: <http://www.kwch.com/news/local-news/Barn-fire-destroys-farm-equipment-in-Cheney/30272788>

13. *December 17, U.S. Food and Drug Administration* – (California) **Bleating Heart Cheese issues voluntary recall of various cheeses due to possible health risk.** The U.S. Food and Drug Administration reported December 17 that Bleating Heart Cheese issued a recall in cooperation with the California Departments of Food & Agriculture and Public Health for three types of its sheep milk and cow's milk cheese products due to possible *Listeria monocytogenes* contamination. The products were shipped and sold to distributors servicing retail food shops, restaurants, and stores in the San Francisco Bay area beginning in October.  
Source: <http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/ucm427328.htm>
14. *December 17, Food Safety News* – (National) **CDC update: 111 sickened in Salmonella outbreak linked to bean sprouts.** The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued a report December 16 on a Salmonella outbreak linked to Wonton Foods-produced bean sprouts that sickened 111 people in 12 States, reflecting 24 new reported illnesses since December 4. Wonton Foods agreed November 21 to destroy any remaining bean sprout products and completed a sanitation process of its facility before it resumed production November 24 and shipments November 29.  
Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2014/12/cdc-update-111-sick-in-salmonella-outbreak-linked-to-bean-sprouts>

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

## **Water and Wastewater Systems Sector**

15. *December 17, Tri-County Times* – (Michigan) **15,000 gallons of sewage dumped into Shiawassee River.** An estimated 15,000 gallons of untreated sanitary sewer water discharged into the Shiawassee River in Fenton December 15 due to a construction accident that caused a sewer pipe to break. The pipe was repaired and samples were taken to test for E.coli while the city advised area residents to avoid contact with the river.  
Source: [http://www.tctimes.com/news/gallons-of-sewage-dumped-into-shiawassee-river/article\\_6aa4dc8e-8600-11e4-aae3-c75beba19a37.html](http://www.tctimes.com/news/gallons-of-sewage-dumped-into-shiawassee-river/article_6aa4dc8e-8600-11e4-aae3-c75beba19a37.html)

For another story, see item [18](#)

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

## **Healthcare and Public Health Sector**

16. *December 17, Associated Press* – (Illinois) **Couple convicted of stealing grants.** A Chicago businessman and his wife were convicted December 17 on more than a dozen counts including conspiracy, mail fraud, and money laundering for stealing \$3.4 million in grants through the Illinois Department of Public Health intended for AIDS awareness and other health campaigns that they instead used for personal expenses.  
Source: <http://www.nwherald.com/2014/12/18/couple-convicted-of-stealing-grants/axewh6/>

17. *December 16, Johnson City Press* – (Tennessee) **Computer outage at MSHA leaves staff off network.** Mountain States Health Alliance’s health systems network experienced an unplanned shutdown for 4 hours December 16 prompting staff to manually record patient information after routine maintenance to emergency generators caused a network outage that affected 14 hospitals and dozens of other facilities throughout the region.  
Source: <http://www.johnsoncitypress.com/article/122919/computer-outage-at-msha-leaves-staff-off-network>

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

## **Government Facilities Sector**

18. *December 18, WTTG 5 Washington, D.C.* – (Washington, D.C.) **Contaminated water issues close 3 schools; do-not-drink advisory for Shaw neighborhood continues.** Three elementary schools in the Shaw neighborhood north of downtown Washington, D.C., were closed December 18 amid a do-not-drink water advisory issued December 17 due to petroleum contamination in the water system. Crews were working to flush water out of the system  
Source: <http://www.myfoxdc.com/story/27653900/dc-water-issues-do-not-drink-advisory-shaw-neighborhood-nw-dc>
19. *December 17, New Haven Register* – (Connecticut) **1,000 lose power in West Haven, high school dismisses early.** Two West Haven schools were without power December 17 due to a power outage that affected more than 1,000 United Illuminating customers for several hours after a transformer went offline. The city’s high school began dismissing students early while students at the Mackrille Elementary School remained in class through the outage.  
Source: <http://www.nhregister.com/general-news/20141217/1000-lose-power-in-west-haven-high-school-dismisses-early>
20. *December 16, Santa Barbara Noozhawk*– (California) **Los Padres’ Goleta office closed after flooding.** The U.S. Forest Service office for the Los Padres National Forest in Goleta was expected to be closed for 6 to 8 weeks as crews work to repair extensive damage after water and mud breached a large part of the office building from a December 12 storm.  
Source: [http://www.noozhawk.com/article/los\\_padres\\_goleta\\_office\\_closed\\_after\\_flooding](http://www.noozhawk.com/article/los_padres_goleta_office_closed_after_flooding)

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

## **Emergency Services Sector**

21. *December 17, Pittsburgh Tribune-Review* – (Pennsylvania) **No guns sold in state for 2 hours while background checks unavailable.** Pennsylvania State Police experienced a statewide outage December 17 that affected all State Police Internet-based systems

including background checks, and email and telephone systems at the State Police headquarters after a backup battery in the State Police's Instant Check System exploded. The outage halted the sales of firearms for 2 hours.

Source: <http://triblive.com/news/adminpage/7398350-74/system-state-firearms>

22. *December 16, KATV 7 Little Rock* – (Arkansas) **3 injured after police car and MEMS Ambulance crash** Three people were injured in Maumelle December 16 when a Maumelle Police vehicle collided with an ambulance at the intersection of Highway 100 and Edgewood Drive. The damages were estimated to be worth up to \$95,000.

Source: <http://www.katv.com/story/27645051/3-injured-after-police-car-and-mems-ambulance-crash>

23. *December 15, Harlingen Valley Morning Star* – (Texas) **Official charged after smuggling investigation.** A U.S. Customs and Border Protection officer in Brownsville was arrested December 12 for allegedly helping a drug smuggler transport 3,000 pounds of marijuana into the county in exchange for money and was charged with conspiracy to process with intent to distribute more than 1,000 kilograms and bribery.

Source: [http://www.valleymorningstar.com/news/local\\_news/article\\_2a25c1d6-84cb-11e4-9f09-ff56b6b95f02.html](http://www.valleymorningstar.com/news/local_news/article_2a25c1d6-84cb-11e4-9f09-ff56b6b95f02.html)

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

## **Information Technology Sector**

24. *December 18, Securityweek* – (International) **Serious vulnerabilities found in Schneider Electric's ProClima solution.** An advisory from the Industrial Control Systems Computer Emergency Response Team (ICS-CERT) December 16 warned that five vulnerabilities in the Schneider Electric ProClima thermal management software were identified and reported by researchers and could be remotely exploited. The software is used in industries such as manufacturing, energy, and commercial facilities and affects ProClima versions 6.0.1 and earlier.

Source: <http://www.securityweek.com/serious-vulnerabilities-found-schneider-electrics-proclima-solution>

25. *December 18, Securityweek* – (International) **"USBdriveby" emulates mouse and keyboard to hijack computers.** A researcher demonstrated an attack method known as USBdriveby that can use a USB-based microcontroller to emulate a mouse and keyboard to run several tasks including disabling security measures, opening backdoors, and changing DNS settings due to many systems trusting USB devices by default. The researcher tested the method on an OS X device but believes that it can be used on Windows and Unix operating systems, and the source code and operations for the attack were made public.

Source: <http://www.securityweek.com/usbdiveby-emulates-mouse-and-keyboard-hijack-computers>

26. *December 18, Help Net Security* – (International) **ICANN systems breached via**



**spear-phishing emails.** The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) stated December 16 that it was compromised via spearphishing emails during November and attackers were potentially able to access Centralized Zone Data System (CZDS) files and salted and hashed user information and credentials. ICANN deactivated all CZDS passwords as a precaution and notified all potentially affected users.

Source: <http://www.net-security.org/secworld.php?id=17769>

27. *December 18, Softpedia* – (International) **Syrian Electronic Army hacks website of International Business Times.** Hacktivists claiming affiliation with the Syrian Electronic Army group claimed responsibility for defacing the Web site of the International Business Times December 17.  
Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Syrian-Electronic-Army-Hacks-Website-of-International-Business-Times-467827.shtml>
28. *December 18, Help Net Security* – (International) **Researcher publishes JavaScript DoS tool.** A researcher with WhiteHat Security published a prototype denial of service (DoS) attack script named FlashFlood written in JavaScript December 16. The code could be used by attackers in DoS attacks or to trick victims into executing the code.  
Source: <http://www.net-security.org/secworld.php?id=17771>
29. *December 18, Help Net Security* – (International) **Ars Technica readers urged to change passwords in wake of hack.** Ars Technica advised its registered readers to change their passwords as a precaution after an attacker briefly gained access to one of the site's Web servers December 14. The site stated that the attacker may have been able to access hashed email addresses and passwords.  
Source: <http://www.net-security.org/secworld.php?id=17768>
30. *December 17, Securityweek* – (International) **Backdoor found in Android phones manufactured by Coolpad: Research.** Researchers with Palo Alto Networks reported that at least 24 models of Android devices manufactured by Coolpad contained a backdoor that could active applications, install unwanted applications, and upload device information and location data.  
Source: <http://www.securityweek.com/backdoor-found-android-phones-manufactured-coolpad-research>
31. *December 17, Securityweek* – (International) **Xsser malware targeting iOS, Android devices.** Researchers with Akamai identified a new mobile remote access trojan (mRAT) known as Xsser that is spread through phishing and man-in-the-middle (MitM) attacks and can steal credentials, execute code, and hijack browser sessions on Android and iOS devices. The researchers found that the mRAT is being used by an organized group currently targeting specific devices and software vendors, software-as-a-service (SaaS) providers, and Internet service providers mainly in Asia.  
Source: <http://www.securityweek.com/xsser-malware-targeting-ios-android-devices>



## Internet Alert Dashboard

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 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>

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

### Communications Sector

32. *December 18, The Register* – (International) **URL LOL: Delta splats web flight boarding pass snoop bug.** Delta Airlines patched a security vulnerability in its paperless boarding pass system that allowed hackers to access information on unknown individuals' flights by adjusting the URLs used to serve digital copies of boarding passes to smart phones that appear as QR codes which are scanned at the gate.  
Source: [http://www.theregister.co.uk/2014/12/18/delta\\_fixes\\_flaw\\_that\\_allowed\\_hacker\\_pass\\_to\\_any\\_flight\\_anywhere\\_any\\_class/](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2014/12/18/delta_fixes_flaw_that_allowed_hacker_pass_to_any_flight_anywhere_any_class/)
33. *December 17, WQAD 8 Quad Cities* – (Illinois) **Internet outage reported for some Mediacom Quad Cities-area customers.** An equipment failure caused an Internet outage December 17 for Mediacom customers in four areas of Illinois. A Mediacom representative reported that a microchip was not functioning properly and was replaced to restore service.  
Source: <http://wqad.com/2014/12/17/internet-outage-reported-for-some-mediacom-customers-in-milan-and-rock-island/>
34. *December 17, International Data Group* – (National) **US Agency sues Sprint for alleged unauthorized charges.** The U.S. Consumer Financial Protection Bureau announced December 17 that it filed a lawsuit against Sprint for allegedly billing cellular phone customers for tens of millions of dollars in unauthorized services from third-parties. Related charges by the U.S. Federal Communications Commission are pending.  
Source: <http://www.networkworld.com/article/2860774/us-agency-sues-sprint-for-alleged-unauthorized-charges.html>
35. *December 16, Scranton Times-Tribune* – (Pennsylvania) **WARM Radio back on the air, now with sports.** WARM 590 AM Scranton returned to the air December 15 after going off air September 15 due to a failed transmitter caused by antiquated equipment. The equipment was updated and technical issues were resolved before operations were restored.  
Source: <http://thetimes-tribune.com/news/warm-radio-back-on-the-air-now-with-sports-1.1803282>

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

## **Commercial Facilities Sector**

36. *December 18, Valdosta Daily Times* – (National) **Bomb threats evacuate Walmarts.** At least 10 Walmart stores across the southeast region of the U.S., including several Georgia stores, were evacuated while police investigated a string of bomb threats that were phoned into police December 17.  
Source: [http://www.valdostadailytimes.com/news/local\\_news/bomb-threats-evacuate-walmarts/article\\_4b2abad8-865d-11e4-a913-7701115a194b.html](http://www.valdostadailytimes.com/news/local_news/bomb-threats-evacuate-walmarts/article_4b2abad8-865d-11e4-a913-7701115a194b.html)
37. *December 18, Reuters* – (California) **Three killed, several injured in crash outside California church.** Three individuals were killed and at least nine others were injured December 17 when a driver lost control of her vehicle and crashed into a crowd that was exiting a concert at St. James Catholic Church in Redondo Beach before colliding with another car. Police arrested the driver on charges of driving under the influence and manslaughter.  
Source: <http://www.msn.com/en-us/news/us/three-killed-several-injured-in-crash-outside-california-church/ar-BBgWxRQ>
38. *December 18, Associated Press* – (Texas) **Central Texas TV meteorologist shot; gunman sought.** A gunman opened fire and wounded a meteorologist with KCEN 6 Temple following an altercation in the parking lot of the central Texas news studio December 17. The victim was transported to an area hospital for treatment and police are searching for the shooter who fled the scene.  
Source: <http://www.msn.com/en-us/news/crime/central-texas-tv-meteorologist-shot-gunman-sought/ar-BBgVJi0>
39. *December 17, Associated Press* – (Delaware) **Boxes fall on Dollar Tree worker, OSHA issues \$103K fine.** The Occupational Safety and Health Administration cited Dollar Tree Stores, Inc., for one willful and one repeat safety violation at a New Castle, Delaware store following a June inspection that revealed improperly stored boxes including one that fell onto an employee during the inspection. Proposed fines total \$103,000.  
Source:  
<http://www.13newsnow.com/story/news/local/mycity/chesapeake/2014/12/17/dollar-tree-fined/20536813/>
40. *December 17, WEWS 5 Cleveland* – (Ohio) **Target at Eastwood Mall in Trumbull County reopens after threat.** A Target store at the Eastwood Mall in Niles, Ohio, was evacuated December 17 while police investigated a bomb threat that was found written in a bathroom stall. The store reopened about 2 hours after police searched and cleared the scene.  
Source: <http://www.newsnet5.com/news/eastwood-mall-in-trumbull-county-evacuated-due-to-bomb-threat>

For another story, see item [24](#)

## **Dams Sector**

Nothing to report

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



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

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**Contact DHS**

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

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